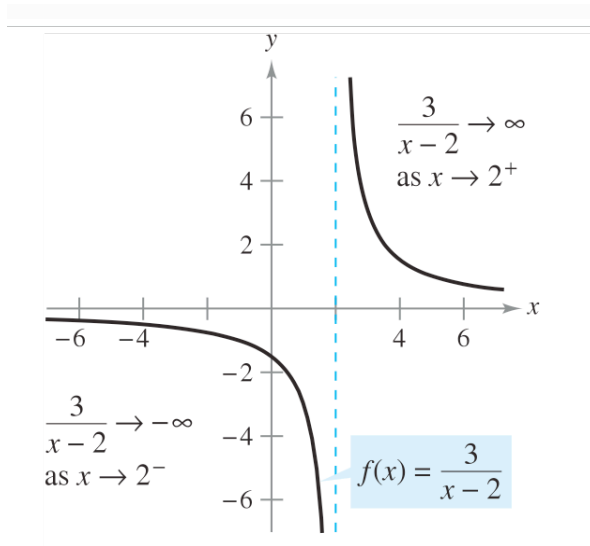
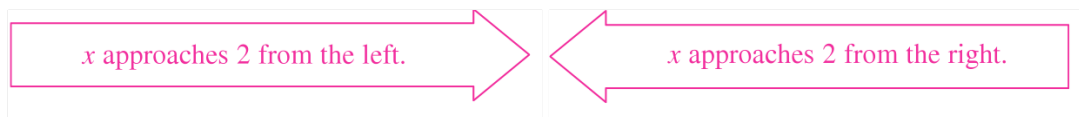


Section 1.5 Infinite Limits

Consider the function $f(x) = \frac{3}{x-2}$. In this case, we say that $f(x)$ *decreases without bound as x approaches 2 from the left*, and $f(x)$ *increases without bound as x approaches 2 from the right*.



$f(x)$ increases and decreases without bound as x approaches 2.



| | | | | | | | | | |
|--------|-----|-----|------|-------|---|-------|------|-----|-----|
| x | 1.5 | 1.9 | 1.99 | 1.999 | 2 | 2.001 | 2.01 | 2.1 | 2.5 |
| $f(x)$ | -6 | -30 | -300 | -3000 | ? | 3000 | 300 | 30 | 6 |



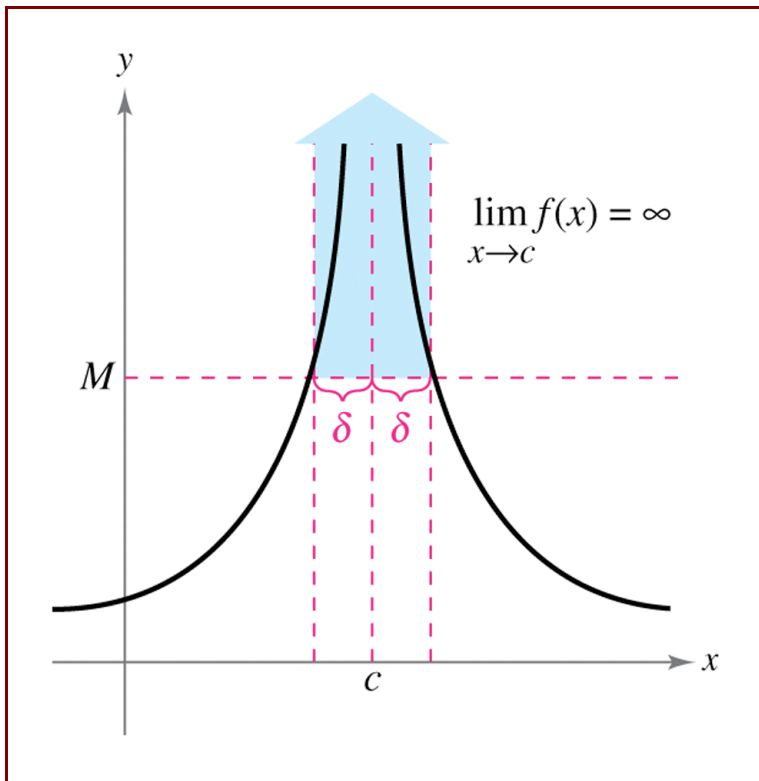
$$\lim_{x \rightarrow 2^-} \frac{3}{x-2} = -\infty$$

$f(x)$ decreases without bound as x approaches 2 from the left.

and

$$\lim_{x \rightarrow 2^+} \frac{3}{x-2} = \infty$$

$f(x)$ increases without bound as x approaches 2 from the right.



Definition of Infinite Limits

Let f be a function that is defined at every real number in some open interval containing c (except possibly at c itself). The statement

$$\lim_{x \rightarrow c} f(x) = \infty$$

means that for each $M > 0$ there exists a $\delta > 0$ such that $f(x) > M$ whenever $0 < |x - c| < \delta$ (see Figure 1.40). Similarly, the statement

$$\lim_{x \rightarrow c} f(x) = -\infty$$

means that for each $N < 0$ there exists a $\delta > 0$ such that $f(x) < N$ whenever $0 < |x - c| < \delta$. To define the **infinite limit from the left**, replace $0 < |x - c| < \delta$ by $c - \delta < x < c$. To define the **infinite limit from the right**, replace $0 < |x - c| < \delta$ by $c < x < c + \delta$.

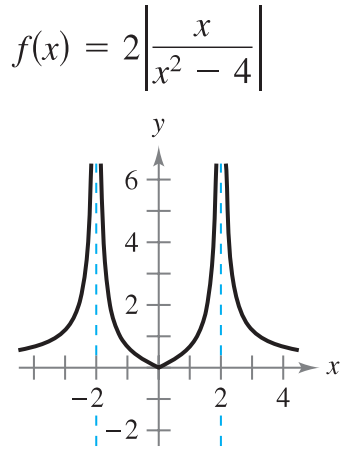
The symbols ∞ and $-\infty$ do not represent real numbers. They are convenient symbols used to describe unbounded conditions more concisely.

A limit in which $f(x)$ increases or decreases without bound as x approaches c is called an **infinite limit**.

Be sure that you see the equal sign in the statement $\lim f(x) = \infty$ does not mean that the limit exists! On the contrary, it tells us how the limit **fails to exist** by denoting the unbounded behavior of $f(x)$ as x approaches c .

Determine whether $f(x)$ approaches ∞ or $-\infty$ as x approaches -2 from the left and from the right.

Ex.1



$$\lim_{x \rightarrow -2} f(x) = \lim_{x \rightarrow -2} 2 \left| \frac{x}{x^2 - 4} \right| = \infty$$

The function shows unbounded behavior upward on both sides of -2 . These

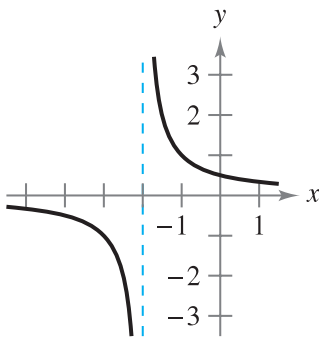
$$\lim_{x \rightarrow -2^-} 2 \left| \frac{x}{x^2 - 4} \right| = \infty$$

$$\text{and } \lim_{x \rightarrow -2^+} 2 \left| \frac{x}{x^2 - 4} \right| = \infty$$

} These limits do not exist.

Ex.2

$$f(x) = \frac{1}{x+2}$$



$\lim_{x \rightarrow -2} \frac{1}{x+2}$ does not exist,
since $\lim_{x \rightarrow -2^-} \frac{1}{x+2} \neq \lim_{x \rightarrow -2^+} \frac{1}{x+2}$.
"Disagree"

$$\lim_{x \rightarrow -2^-} \frac{1}{x+2} = -\infty$$

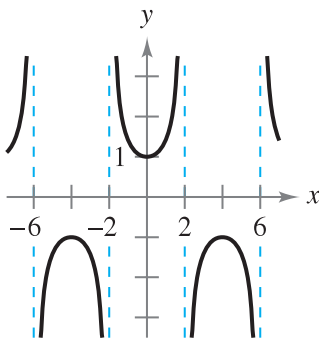
$$\lim_{x \rightarrow -2^+} \frac{1}{x+2} = +\infty$$

We are seeing unbounded function behavior.

} These limits do not exist.

Ex.3

$$f(x) = \sec \frac{\pi x}{4}$$



$$\lim_{x \rightarrow -2^-} \sec \left(\frac{\pi x}{4} \right) = -\infty$$

$$\lim_{x \rightarrow -2^+} \sec \left(\frac{\pi x}{4} \right) = +\infty$$

$\lim_{x \rightarrow -2} \sec \left(\frac{\pi x}{4} \right)$ does not exist

because $\lim_{x \rightarrow -2^-} \sec \left(\frac{\pi x}{4} \right) \neq \lim_{x \rightarrow -2^+} \sec \left(\frac{\pi x}{4} \right)$

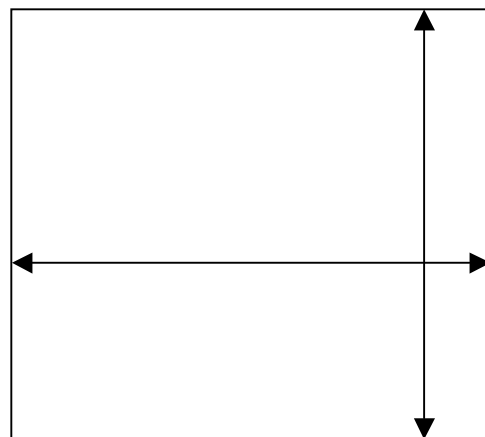
By completing the table, determine whether $f(x)$ approaches ∞ or $-\infty$ as x approaches -3 from the left and from the right. Graph the function to confirm your result.

Ex.4 $f(x) = \frac{x^2}{x^2 - 9}$

| | | | | |
|--------|------|------|-------|--------|
| x | -3.5 | -3.1 | -3.01 | -3.001 |
| $f(x)$ | | | | |

| | | | | |
|--------|--------|-------|------|------|
| x | -2.999 | -2.99 | -2.9 | -2.5 |
| $f(x)$ | | | | |

$\lim_{x \rightarrow -3} \frac{x^2}{x^2 - 9} = \text{"Does Not Exist"}$
 "Disagree"
 because
 $\lim_{x \rightarrow -3^-} \frac{x^2}{x^2 - 9} = +\infty$



$\neq -\infty = \lim_{x \rightarrow -3^+} \frac{x^2}{x^2 - 9}$

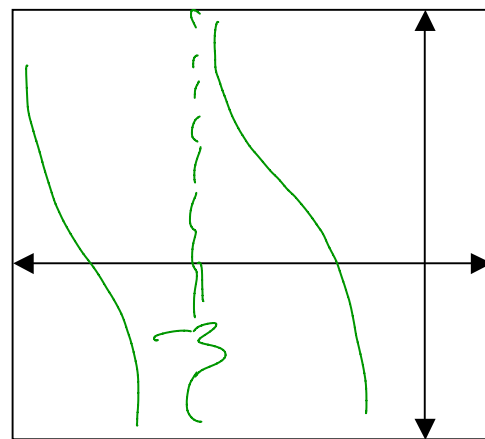
Ex.5 $f(x) = \cot\left(\frac{\pi x}{3}\right)$

| | | | | |
|--------|------|------|-------|--------|
| x | -3.5 | -3.1 | -3.01 | -3.001 |
| $f(x)$ | | | | |

| | | | | |
|--------|--------|-------|------|------|
| x | -2.999 | -2.99 | -2.9 | -2.5 |
| $f(x)$ | | | | |

$\lim_{x \rightarrow -3^-} \cot\left(\frac{\pi x}{3}\right) = -\infty$

$\lim_{x \rightarrow -3^+} \cot\left(\frac{\pi x}{3}\right) = +\infty$



$x = -3$
V.A.

Definition of Vertical Asymptote

If $f(x)$ approaches infinity (or negative infinity) as x approaches c from the right or the left, then the line $x = c$ is a **vertical asymptote** of the graph of f .

THEOREM 1.14 Vertical Asymptotes

Let f and g be continuous on an open interval containing c . If $f(c) \neq 0$, $g(c) = 0$, and there exists an open interval containing c such that $g(x) \neq 0$ for all $x \neq c$ in the interval, then the graph of the function given by

$$h(x) = \frac{f(x)}{g(x)}$$

has a vertical asymptote at $x = c$.

Find the vertical asymptotes of the graph of the function. Graph the function to confirm your result.

Ex.6 $f(x) = \frac{x^2 - 9}{x^3 + 3x^2 - x - 3}$

$$f(x) = \frac{(x-3)(x+3)}{x^2(x+3) - 1(x+3)}$$

$$f(x) = \frac{(x-3)(x+3)}{(x^2-1)(x+3)}$$

$$f(x) = \frac{(x-3)(x+3)}{(x+3)(x+1)(x-1)}$$

Hole at $x = -3$

$$f(-3) = \frac{(-3)-3}{(-3+1)(-3-1)}$$

$$f(-3) = \frac{-6}{(-2)(-4)} = -\frac{3}{4}$$

$$x^3 + 3x^2 - x - 3 = 0$$

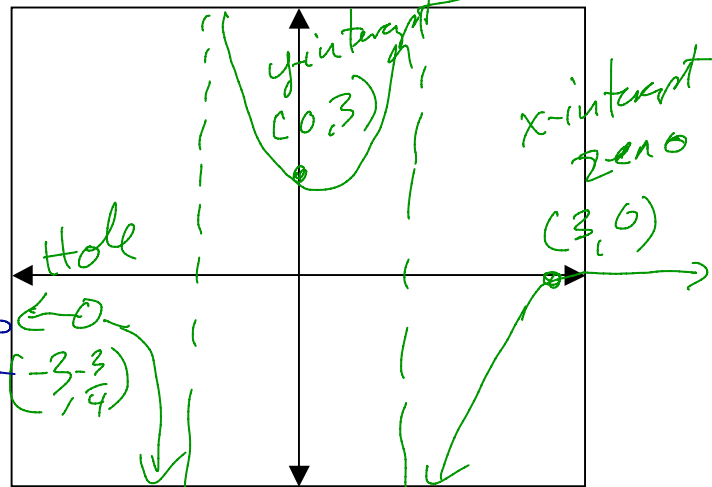
$$(x^2 - 1)(x + 3) = 0$$

$$x + 3 = 0$$

$$x = -3$$

$$x - 3 = (-3) - 3$$

$$= -6 \neq 0$$



$$(x^3 + 3x^2) - x - 3 = x^2(\cancel{x+3}) - 1(\cancel{x+3})$$

Common factor

$$= (x+3)(x^2 - 1)$$

$$A(B+C) = B \cdot A + C \cdot A$$

$$f(x) = \frac{\sin(\pi x)}{\cos(\pi x)}$$

$$\cos(\pi x) = 0$$

$$\pi x = \frac{\pi}{2}$$

$$\sin(\pi(\frac{1}{2})) = \sin(\frac{\pi}{2}) = 1 \neq 0$$

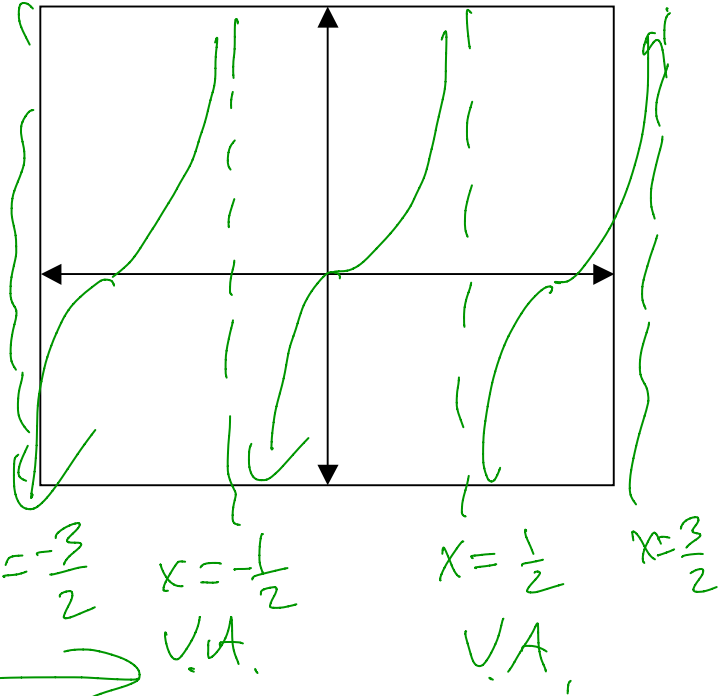
Ex.7 $f(x) = \tan(\pi x)$

$$x = \frac{1}{2}$$

$$\lim_{x \rightarrow \frac{1}{2}^-} \tan(\pi x) = +\infty$$

$$\lim_{x \rightarrow \frac{1}{2}^-} \tan(\pi x) = +\infty$$

$$\lim_{x \rightarrow \frac{1}{2}^+} \tan(\pi x) = -\infty$$



Determine whether the function has a vertical asymptote, or a removable discontinuity at $x = -1$. Graph the function to confirm your result.

Ex.8 $f(x) = \frac{x^2 - 2x - 8}{x + 1}$

$$f(x) = \frac{(x+2)(x-4)}{(x+1)}$$

$$x + 1 = 0$$

$$x = -1$$

V.A. at $x = -1$

Non-removable

Discontinuity at $x = -1$

Slant Asymptote at $y = x - 3$

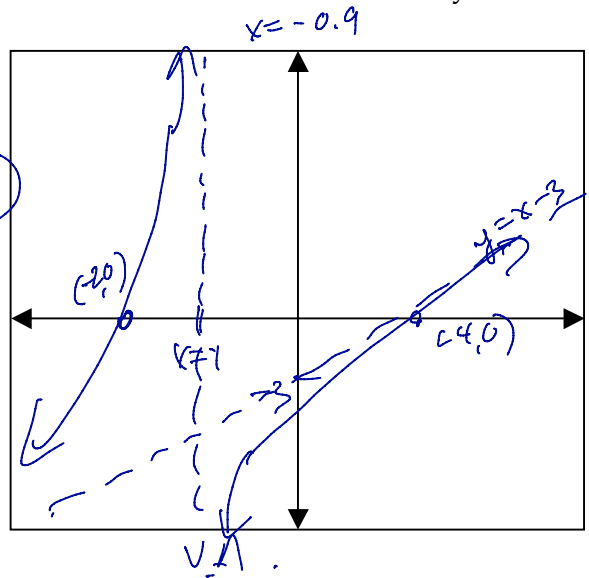
$$(-1)^2 - 2(-1) - 8$$

$$= 1 + 2 - 8$$

$$= -5 \neq 0$$

$$\frac{x^2 - 2x - 8}{x + 1} = \frac{x^2 - 2x - 8}{x + 1}$$

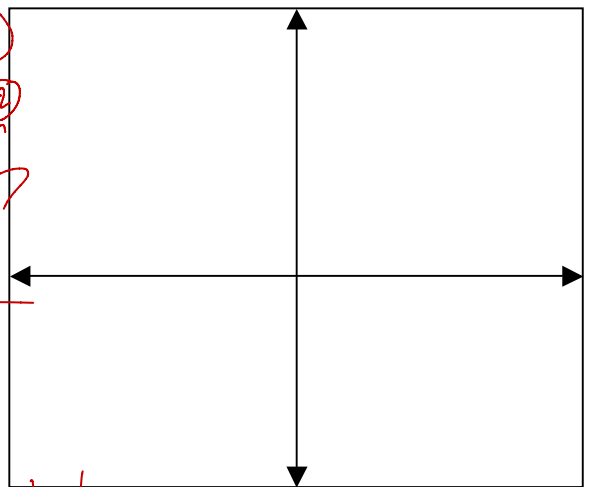
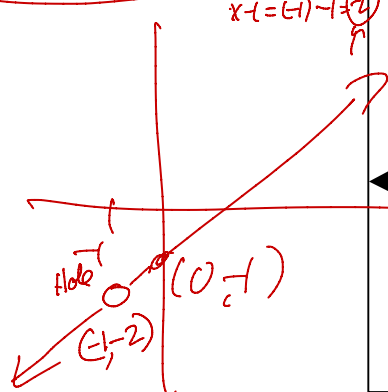
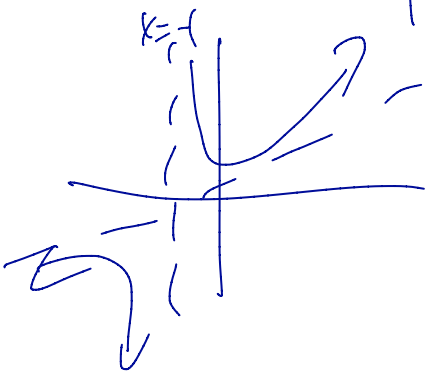
$$\begin{array}{r} x - 3 \\ -(x^2 + x) \\ \hline -3x - 8 \\ -3x - 3 \\ \hline -5 \end{array}$$



Ex.9 $f(x) = \frac{x^2 + 1}{x + 1}$

$$g(x) = \frac{x^2 + 1}{x + 1} = \frac{(x+1)(x-1) + 2}{x + 1} = x - 1 + \frac{2}{x + 1}$$

$$x - 1 = (-1) - 1 = -2$$



Nonremovable

Removable

THEOREM 1.15 Properties of Infinite Limits

Let c and L be real numbers and let f and g be functions such that

$$\lim_{x \rightarrow c} f(x) = \infty \quad \text{and} \quad \lim_{x \rightarrow c} g(x) = L.$$

1. Sum or difference: $\lim_{x \rightarrow c} [f(x) \pm g(x)] = \infty$
2. Product: $\lim_{x \rightarrow c} [f(x)g(x)] = \infty, \quad L > 0$
 $\lim_{x \rightarrow c} [f(x)g(x)] = -\infty, \quad L < 0$
3. Quotient: $\lim_{x \rightarrow c} \frac{g(x)}{f(x)} = 0$

Similar properties hold for one-sided limits and for functions for which the limit of $f(x)$ as x approaches c is $-\infty$.

Find the one-sided limit. If it does not exist, explain why.

Ex.10 $\lim_{x \rightarrow -\frac{1}{2}^+} \frac{6x^2 + x - 1}{4x^2 - 4x - 3}$

$$= \lim_{x \rightarrow -\frac{1}{2}^+} \frac{(2x+1)(3x-1)}{(2x+1)(2x-3)}$$

$$= \lim_{x \rightarrow -\frac{1}{2}^+} \frac{(3x-1)}{(2x-3)}$$

$$= \frac{\lim_{x \rightarrow -\frac{1}{2}^+} (3x-1)}{\lim_{x \rightarrow -\frac{1}{2}^+} (2x-3)}$$

$$= \frac{3(-\frac{1}{2}) - 1}{2(-\frac{1}{2}) - 3}$$

$$= \frac{-\frac{3}{2} - 1}{-1 - 3}$$

$$= \frac{-\frac{5}{2}}{4}$$

$$= \frac{5}{2} \cdot \frac{1}{4}$$

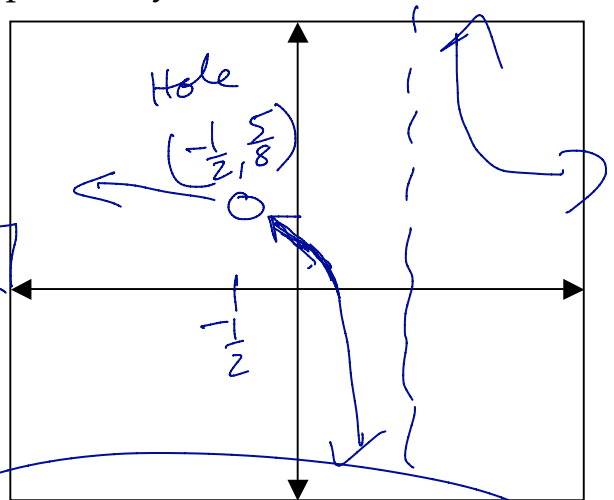
$$= \frac{5}{8}$$

Hole at $x = -\frac{1}{2}$

$$2x+1=0$$

$$2x=-1$$

$$x = -\frac{1}{2}$$



$$2x - 3 = 0$$

$$x = \frac{3}{2}$$

$$2x = 3$$

V.A

$$x = \frac{3}{2}$$

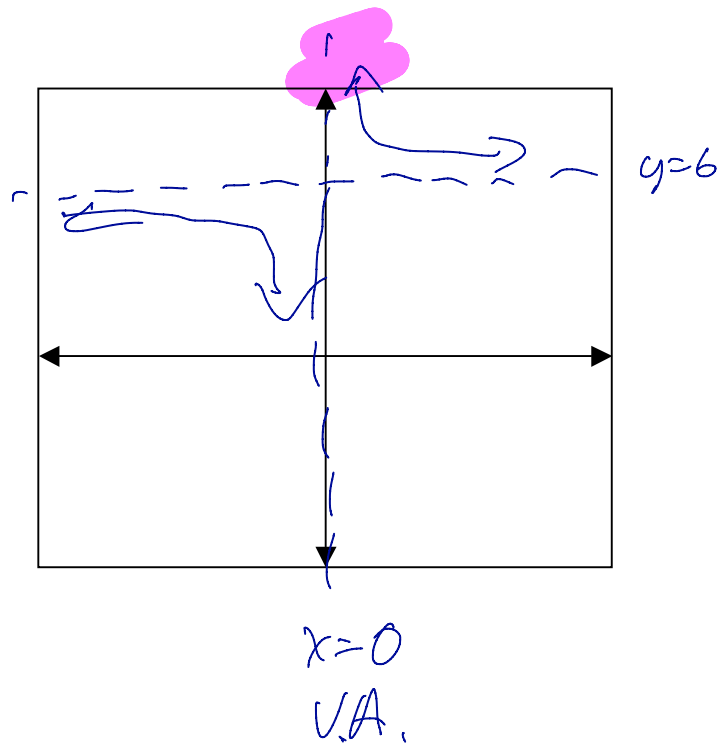
Ex.11 $\lim_{x \rightarrow 0^+} \left(6 + \frac{1}{x^3} \right)$

$= \lim_{x \rightarrow 0^+} 6 + \lim_{x \rightarrow 0^+} \frac{1}{x^3}$

$= 6 + \infty$

$= \infty$

D.N.E.



Ex.12 $\lim_{x \rightarrow 3^+} \left(\frac{x}{3} + \cot\left(\frac{\pi x}{2}\right) \right)$

$= \lim_{x \rightarrow 3^+} \frac{x}{3} + \lim_{x \rightarrow 3^+} \cot\left(\frac{\pi x}{2}\right)$

$= \frac{3}{3} + \lim_{x \rightarrow 3^+} \frac{\cos\left(\frac{\pi x}{2}\right)}{\sin\left(\frac{\pi x}{2}\right)}$

$= 1 + \frac{\lim_{x \rightarrow 3^+} \cos\left(\frac{\pi x}{2}\right)}{\lim_{x \rightarrow 3^+} \sin\left(\frac{\pi x}{2}\right)}$

$= 1 + \frac{0}{\sin\left(\frac{3\pi}{2}\right)}$

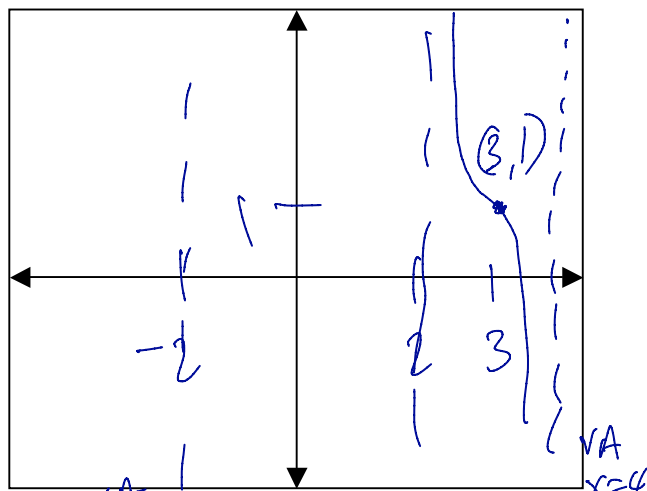
$= 1 + 0$

$= 1$

$\cos\left(\frac{\pi x}{2}\right) = 0$

$\frac{\pi x}{2} = \frac{3\pi}{2}$

$x = 3$



$V.A. \ x=2$

$\sin\left(\frac{\pi x}{2}\right) = 0$

$\frac{\pi x}{2} = 0$

$x=0$

or

$\frac{\pi}{2} x = \pi$

$x=2$

$(V.A.) \ x=4$

$V.A. \ x=4$

Ex.13

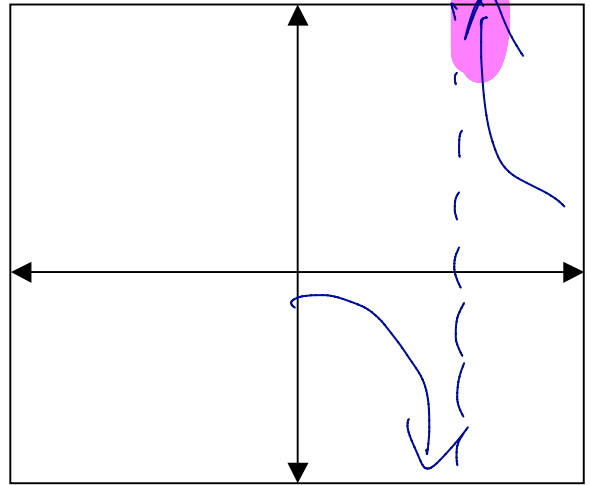
$$\lim_{x \rightarrow \frac{\pi}{2}^+} \frac{-2}{\cos(x)} =$$

$f \infty$

$$\cos\left(\frac{\pi}{2}\right) = 0$$

$$\begin{aligned} &= \lim_{x \rightarrow \frac{\pi}{2}^+} \frac{-2}{\cos(x)} \\ &= \frac{-2}{0} \\ &= +\infty \end{aligned}$$

WRONG



$x = \frac{\pi}{2}$

$$\cos\left(\frac{\pi}{2}\right) = 0 \quad \& \quad \cos\left(-\frac{\pi}{2}\right) = 0$$

VA

VA

$$x = -\frac{\pi}{2}$$

$$x = \frac{\pi}{2}$$

$$\cot(x) = \frac{\cos(x)}{\sin(x)}$$

Ex.14 $\lim_{x \rightarrow 0^-} \frac{x+2}{\cot(x)} = 0$

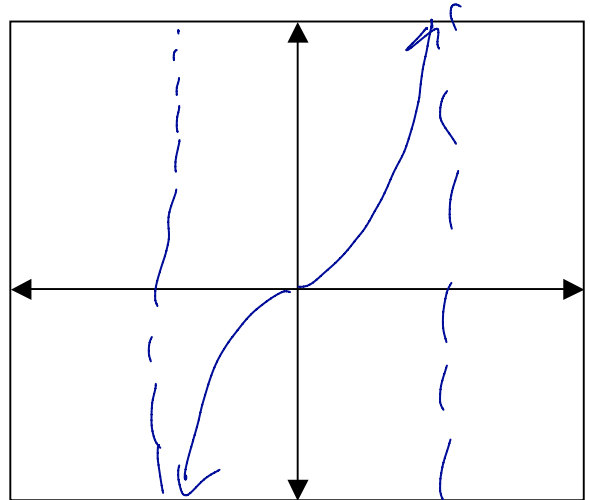
$$= \lim_{x \rightarrow 0^-} (x+2) \cdot \lim_{x \rightarrow 0^-} \tan(x)$$

$$= (0+2) \cdot \lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \frac{\sin(x)}{\cos(x)}$$

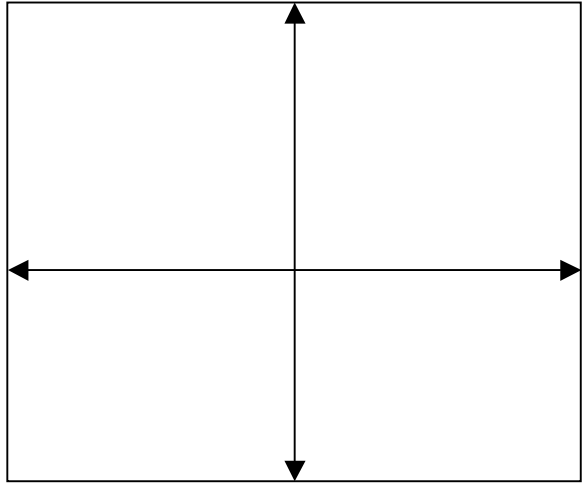
$$= 2 \cdot \frac{\lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \sin(x)}{\lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \cos(x)}$$

$$= \frac{2 \cdot 0}{1}$$

$$= 0$$



Ex.15 $\lim_{x \rightarrow \frac{1}{2}^+} x^2 \tan(\pi x)$



Ex.15 $\lim_{x \rightarrow \frac{1}{2}^+} x^2 \tan(\pi x)$

