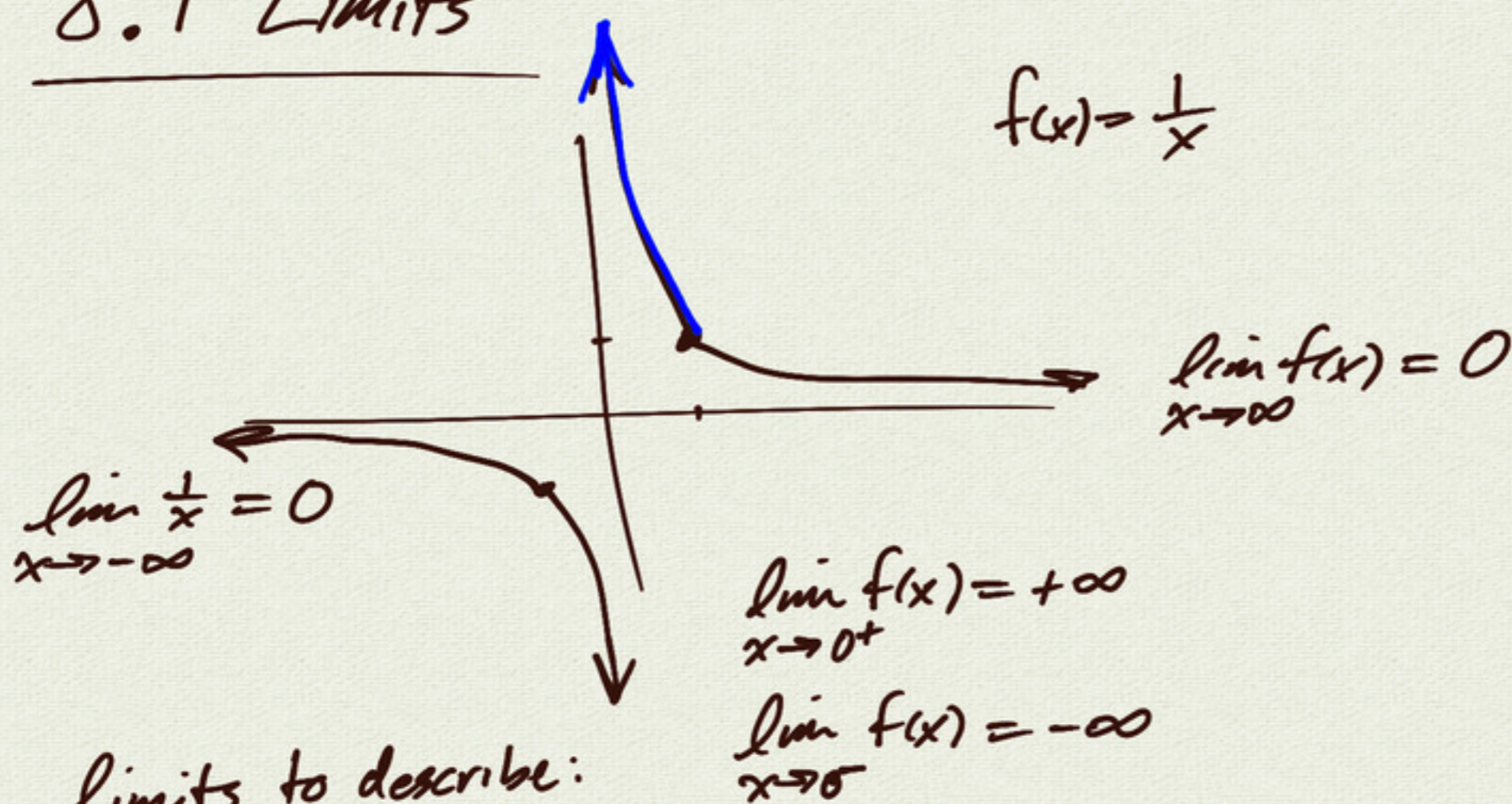


8.1 Limits



- limits to describe:
- end behavior
 - behavior near (vertical) asymptotes

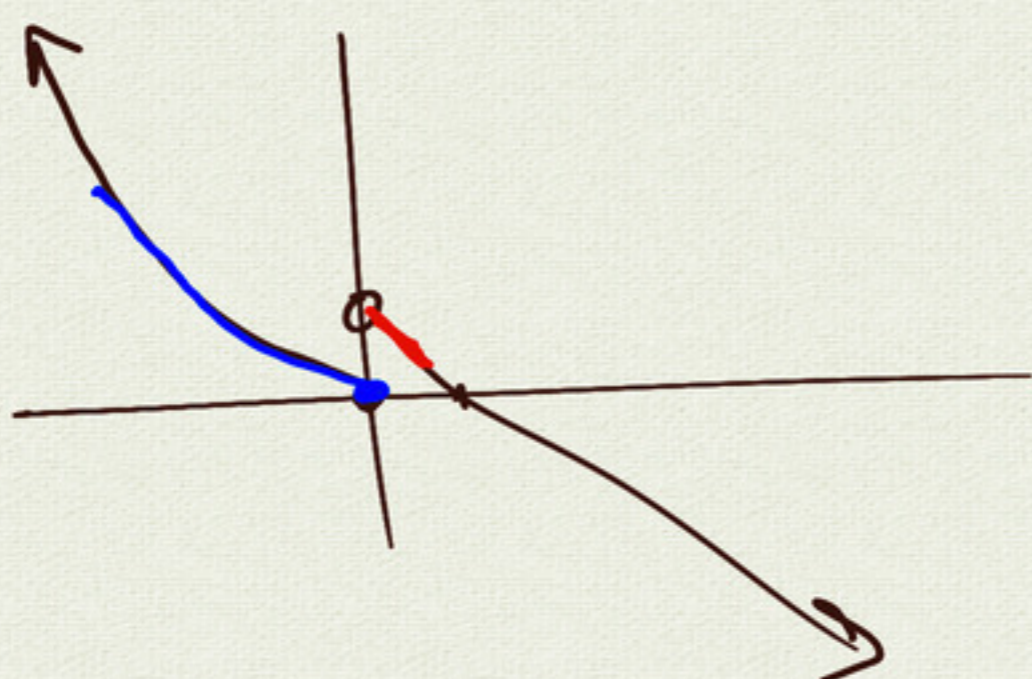
$\lim_{x \rightarrow a} f(x) = L$

general: describe behavior of $f(x)$ as $x \rightarrow a$

$f(x)$ approaches L "is close to" as $x \rightarrow a$

piecewise function:

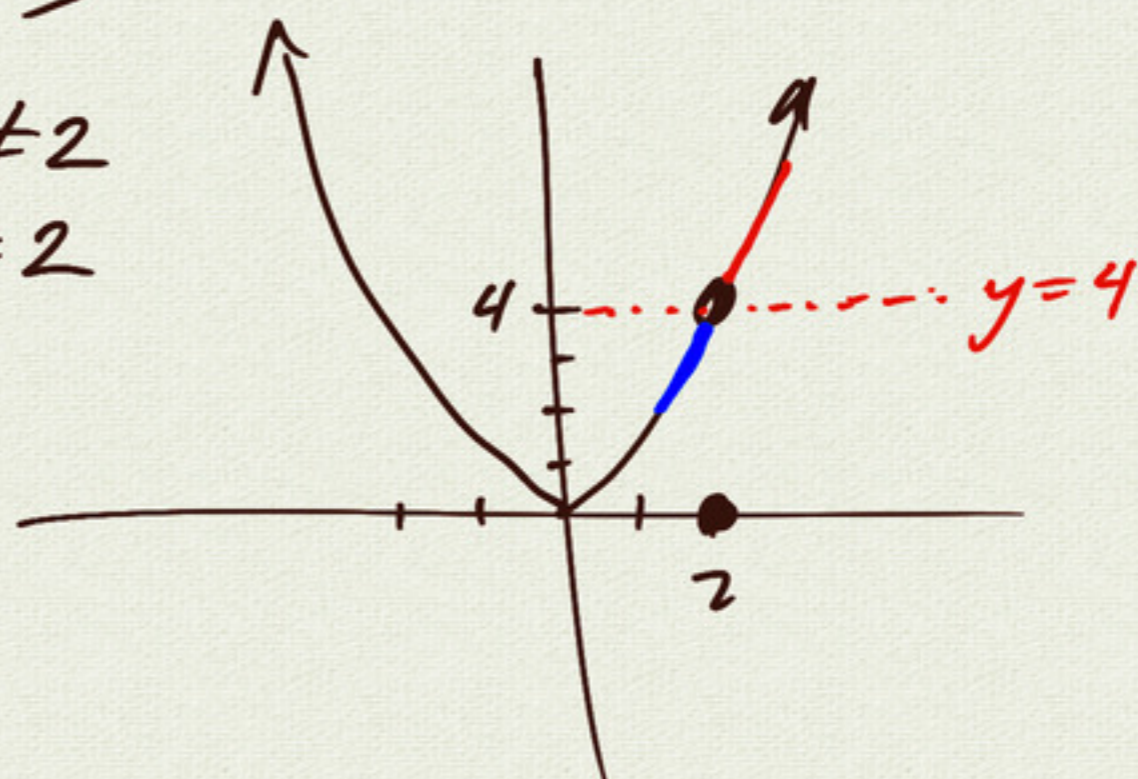
$$f(x) = \begin{cases} x^2 & \text{if } x \leq 0 \\ 1-x & \text{if } x > 0 \end{cases}$$



$\lim_{x \rightarrow 0^-} f(x) = 0$

$\lim_{x \rightarrow 0^+} f(x) = 1$

$$g(x) = \begin{cases} x^2 & \text{if } x \neq 2 \\ 0 & \text{if } x = 2 \end{cases}$$



$\lim_{x \rightarrow 2^-} g(x) = 4$

$\lim_{x \rightarrow 2^+} g(x) = 4$

$\lim_{x \rightarrow 2} g(x) = 4$

(2 sided limit exists)

(left limit = right limit)

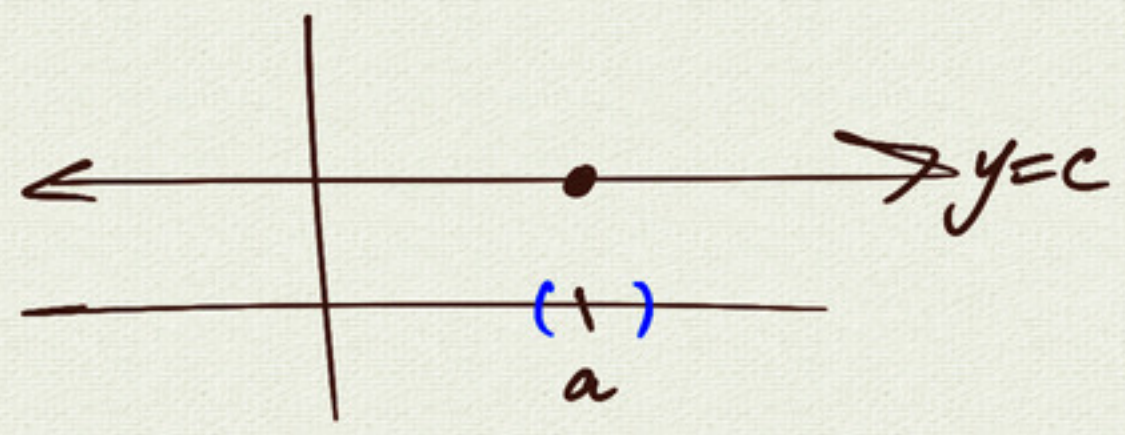
$$\lim_{x \rightarrow a} f(x) = L$$

"f(x) gets close to L as x approaches a"

rules for limits

$$f(x) = c \text{ (const.)}$$

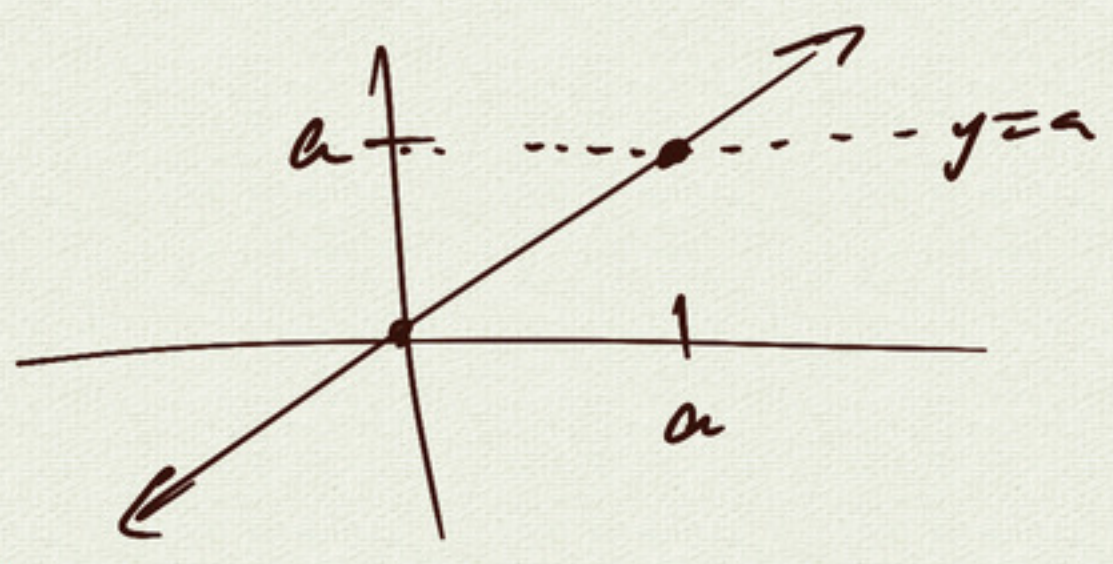
$$\lim_{x \rightarrow a} f(x) = c$$



$$f(x) = x$$

$$\lim_{x \rightarrow a} f(x) = a$$

$$\lim_{x \rightarrow a} x = a$$

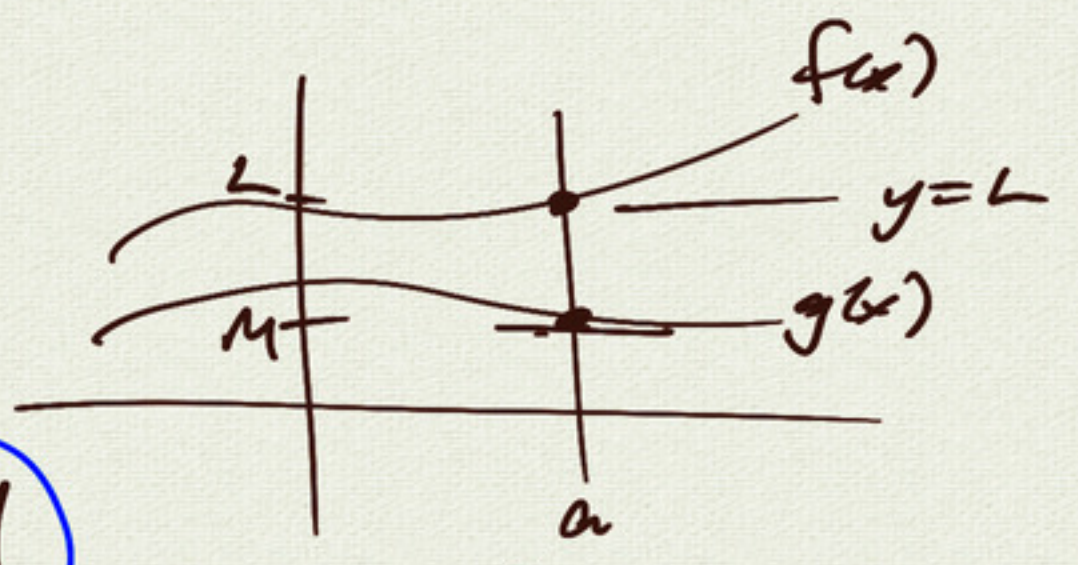


$$\lim_{x \rightarrow a} f(x) = L$$

$$\lim_{x \rightarrow a} g(x) = M$$

$$\lim_{x \rightarrow a} (f+g)(x) = L+M$$

(limits add)



also:

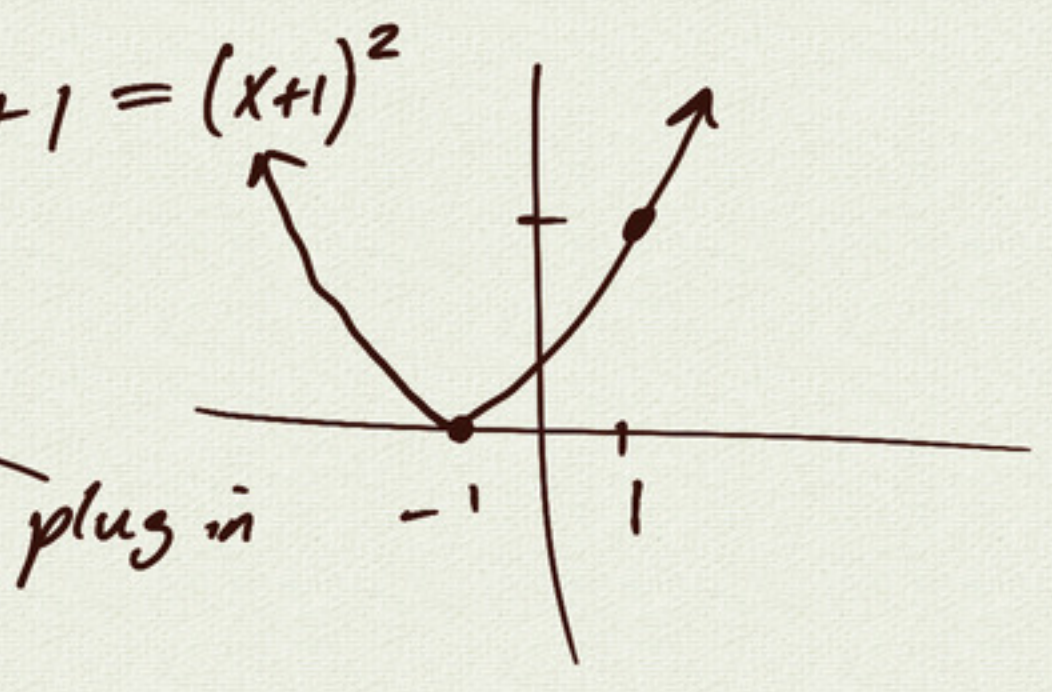
$$\lim_{x \rightarrow a} (fg)(x) = LM$$

$$\lim_{x \rightarrow a} (f/g)(x) = L/M \text{ (as long as } M \neq 0)$$

example: $p(x) = x^2 + 2x + 1 = (x+1)^2$

$$\lim_{x \rightarrow 1} p(x) = p(1) = 4$$

$$\lim_{x \rightarrow -1} p(x) = 0$$

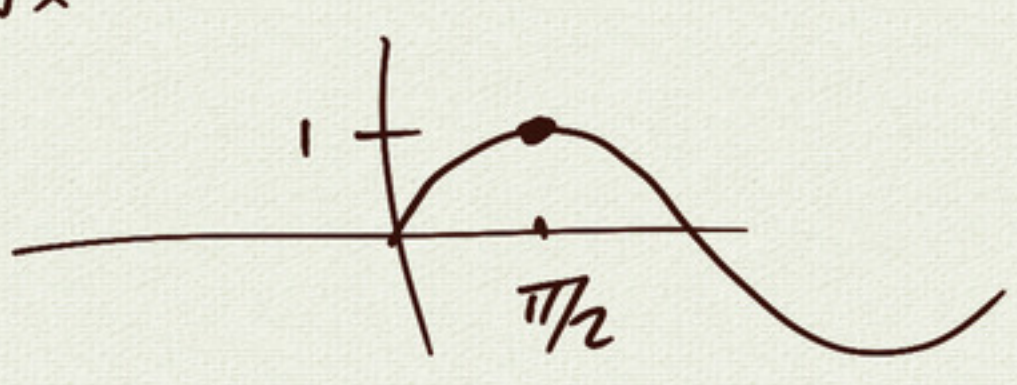


when can we plug in?

- polynomials
- rational functions
- trig functions
- exp/log
- $\sqrt[n]{x}$

continuous functions

$$\lim_{x \rightarrow \pi/2} \sin(x) = 1$$



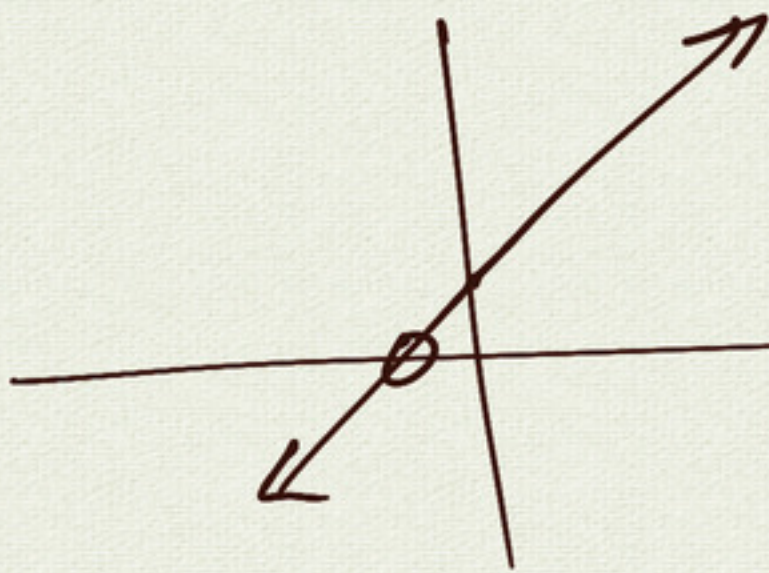
example:

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

$$\lim_{x \rightarrow -1} f(x) = \frac{0}{0} \quad] ?$$

$$f(x) = \frac{(x+1)^2}{(x+1)} = \begin{cases} x+1 & x+1 \neq 0 \\ & x \neq -1 \\ \text{undef} & x = -1 \end{cases}$$

cancel,
plug in

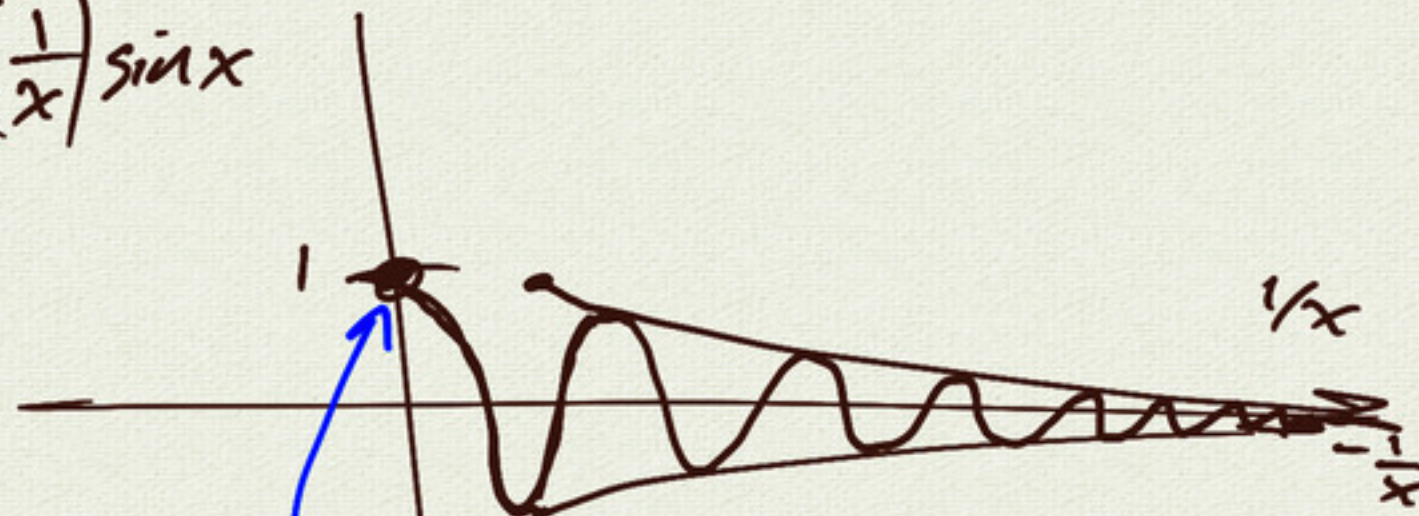


$$\lim_{x \rightarrow -1} f(x) = 0$$

example:

$$f(x) = \frac{\sin x}{x} = \left(\frac{1}{x}\right) \sin x$$

($x \rightarrow \infty$)



near $x=0$?

$$\lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \frac{\sin x}{x} = \frac{0}{0} = ?$$

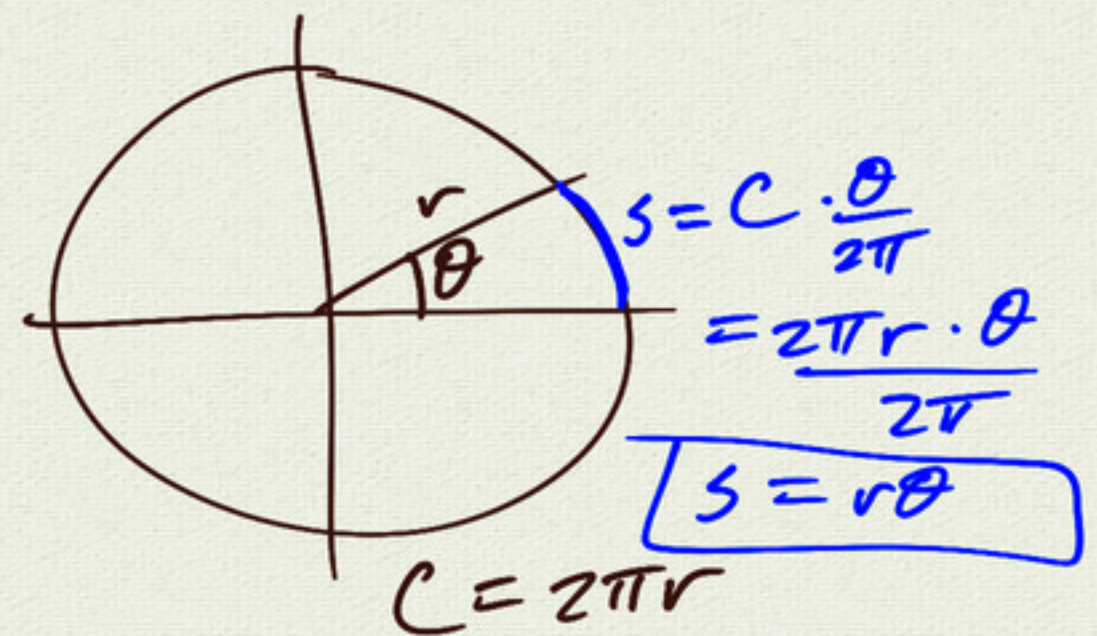
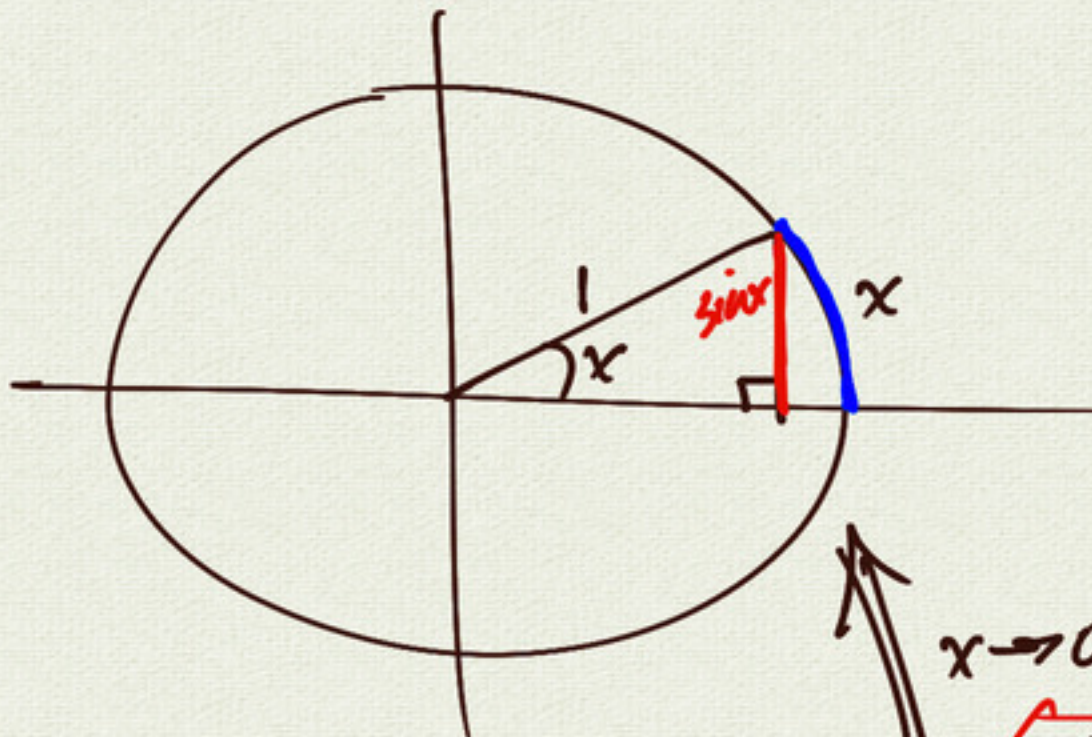
$$\lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} \frac{\sin x}{x} = 0$$

reasonable
discuss.

by "squeeze theorem"
"sandwich theorem"

special limit: $\lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \frac{\sin x}{x} = 1$

why?



$$\sin x \approx x$$

$$\frac{\sin x}{x} \approx 1$$

$$\lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \frac{\sin x}{x} = 1$$