

Remember to show all of your work.

**Problem 1.** (5 points) Determine the following limits, or write DNE:

$$(a) \lim_{x \rightarrow 2} \frac{x^2 - x - 2}{x - 2}$$

This problem is an application of factoring and canceling:

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

$$(b) \lim_{x \rightarrow 1} \frac{4}{(x - 1)^2}$$

**Sample Solution:** Here we have to check the left- and right-hand limits separately.

Consider  $\lim_{x \rightarrow 1^-} \frac{4}{(x - 1)^2}$ . We'll take  $x = 0.5, 0.9$ , and  $0.99$ .

$$\text{Let } x = 0.5, \text{ then } \frac{4}{(x - 1)^2} = \frac{4}{(0.5 - 1)^2} = \frac{4}{(-0.5)^2} = \frac{4}{0.25} = 16.$$

$$\text{Let } x = 0.9, \text{ then } \frac{4}{(x - 1)^2} = \frac{4}{(0.9 - 1)^2} = \frac{4}{(-0.1)^2} = \frac{4}{0.01} = 400.$$

$$\text{Let } x = 0.99, \text{ then } \frac{4}{(x - 1)^2} = \frac{4}{(0.99 - 1)^2} = \frac{4}{(-0.01)^2} = \frac{4}{0.0001} = 40000.$$

Repeating this process gives  $\lim_{x \rightarrow 1^-} \frac{4}{(x - 1)^2} = \infty$

Now consider  $\lim_{x \rightarrow 1^+} \frac{4}{(x - 1)^2}$ . We'll take  $x = 1.5, 1.1$ , and  $1.01$ .

$$\text{Let } x = 1.5, \text{ then } \frac{4}{(x - 1)^2} = \frac{4}{(1.5 - 1)^2} = \frac{4}{(0.5)^2} = \frac{4}{0.25} = 16.$$

$$\text{Let } x = 1.1, \text{ then } \frac{4}{(x - 1)^2} = \frac{4}{(1.1 - 1)^2} = \frac{4}{(0.1)^2} = \frac{4}{0.01} = 400.$$

$$\text{Let } x = 1.01, \text{ then } \frac{4}{(x - 1)^2} = \frac{4}{(1.01 - 1)^2} = \frac{4}{(0.01)^2} = \frac{4}{0.0001} = 40000.$$

Repeating this process gives  $\lim_{x \rightarrow 1^+} \frac{4}{(x - 1)^2} = \infty$

Thus,

$$\lim_{x \rightarrow 1^-} \frac{4}{(x - 1)^2} = \infty = \lim_{x \rightarrow 1^+} \frac{4}{(x - 1)^2}$$

and because the left- and right-hand limits are the same,  $\lim_{x \rightarrow 1} \frac{4}{(x - 1)^2} = \infty$ .

**Problem 2.** (5 points)

Let  $\lim_{x \rightarrow a} f(x) = 1$ ,  $\lim_{x \rightarrow a} g(x) = 2$ ,  $\lim_{x \rightarrow a} h(x) = 3$ , and  $\lim_{x \rightarrow a} j(x) = 4$ . Calculate the following:

$$\lim_{x \rightarrow a} \left[ \frac{f(x) - 2g(x) + (h(x))^2}{g(x) + j(x)} \right]$$

**Sample Solution:** Here we'll utilize limit laws. We have:

$$\begin{aligned} \lim_{x \rightarrow a} \left[ \frac{f(x) - 2g(x) + (h(x))^2}{g(x) + j(x)} \right] &= \frac{\lim_{x \rightarrow a} [f(x)] - \lim_{x \rightarrow a} [2g(x)] + \lim_{x \rightarrow a} [(h(x))^2]}{\lim_{x \rightarrow a} [g(x)] + \lim_{x \rightarrow a} [j(x)]} \\ &= \frac{\lim_{x \rightarrow a} [f(x)] - 2 \left[ \lim_{x \rightarrow a} [g(x)] \right] + \left[ \lim_{x \rightarrow a} [h(x)] \right]^2}{\lim_{x \rightarrow a} [g(x)] + \lim_{x \rightarrow a} [j(x)]} \\ &= \frac{1 - 2(2) + (3)^2}{2 + 4} \\ &= \frac{1 - 4 + 9}{6} \\ &= \frac{6}{6} \\ &= 1 \end{aligned}$$