

Remember to show all of your work.

Problem 1. Find $\lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} \frac{3x^2}{(2x-1)^2}$

Sample Solution: Consider

$$\lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} f(x) = \lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} \frac{3x^2}{(2x-1)^2} = \lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} \frac{3x^2}{4x^2 - 4x + 1}$$

Now, trying direct substitution yields $\frac{\infty}{\infty}$, so we have to simplify a bit more. Here, we'll utilize the trick of dividing by the highest power of x in the problem, which here is x^2 . We have

$$\lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} \frac{3x^2}{4x^2 - 4x + 1} = \lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} \frac{\frac{3x^2}{x^2}}{\frac{4x^2 - 4x + 1}{x^2}} = \lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} \frac{\frac{3x^2}{x^2}}{\frac{4x^2}{x^2} - \frac{4x}{x^2} + \frac{1}{x^2}} = \lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} \frac{3}{4 - \frac{4}{x} + \frac{1}{x^2}}$$

Note that as $x \rightarrow \infty$, $\frac{4}{x} \rightarrow 0$ and $\frac{1}{x^2} \rightarrow 0$, and thus

$$\lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} \frac{3}{4 - \frac{4}{x} + \frac{1}{x^2}} = \frac{3}{4 - 0 - 0} = \frac{3}{4}$$

Problem 2. Given $s(t) = t^2 + 5$, find

- The average velocity from $t = 3$ to $t = 4$
- The instantaneous velocity at $t = 3$.

Sample Solution: First, we utilize the formula for average velocity: $\frac{s(b) - s(a)}{b - a}$. Based on the problem, we have

- $a = 3$
- $b = 4$
- $s(a) = s(3) = 3^2 + 5 = 14$
- $s(b) = s(4) = 4^2 + 5 = 21$

And thus, plugging in to the formula gives

$$\frac{s(b) - s(a)}{b - a} = \frac{21 - 14}{4 - 3} = \frac{7}{1} = 7$$

So the average velocity from $t = 3$ to $t = 4$ is 7.

Option 1: Now, to find instantaneous velocity we utilize the formula $\lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \frac{s(t+h) - s(t)}{h}$ (you may have seen this formula before with Δx and f ; this is the same formula, just using the variables given in the problem.) We have:

$$\begin{aligned} \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \frac{s(t+h) - s(t)}{h} &= \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \frac{[(t+h)^2 + 5] - [t^2 + 5]}{h} \\ &= \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \frac{[t^2 + 2th + h^2 + 5] - [t^2 + 5]}{h} \\ &= \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \frac{t^2 + 2th + h^2 + 5 - t^2 - 5}{h} \\ &= \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \frac{2th + h^2}{h} \\ &= \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} 2t + h \\ &= 2t \end{aligned}$$

But now, remember that the problem is asking about time $t = 3$. Therefore, the instantaneous velocity at $t = 3$ is 6.

Option 2: Now, to find instantaneous velocity we utilize the formula $\lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \frac{s(t+h) - s(t)}{h}$ at time $t = 3$ (you may have seen this formula before with Δx and f ; this is the same formula, just using the variables given in the problem.) We have:

$$\begin{aligned} \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \frac{s(3+h) - s(3)}{h} &= \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \frac{[(3+h)^2 + 5] - [3^2 + 5]}{h} \\ &= \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \frac{[3^2 + 6h + h^2 + 5] - [3^2 + 5]}{h} \\ &= \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \frac{9 + 6h + h^2 + 5 - 9 - 5}{h} \\ &= \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \frac{6h + h^2}{h} \\ &= \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} 6 + h \\ &= 6 \end{aligned}$$

Therefore, the instantaneous velocity at $t = 3$ is 6.