

## Rationalize trick

$$\lim_{x \rightarrow 9} \frac{\sqrt{x} - 3}{x - 9} \rightarrow \frac{\sqrt{9} - 3}{9 - 9} = \frac{0}{0}$$

go back & simplify

$$\downarrow$$
$$\lim_{x \rightarrow 9} \frac{\sqrt{x} - 3}{x - 9} \cdot \frac{\sqrt{x} + 3}{\sqrt{x} + 3} = \lim_{x \rightarrow 9} \frac{(\sqrt{x} - 3)(\sqrt{x} + 3)}{(x - 9)(\sqrt{x} + 3)}$$

$$= \lim_{x \rightarrow 9} \frac{\sqrt{x}\sqrt{x} - 9}{(x - 9)(\sqrt{x} + 3)} = \lim_{x \rightarrow 9} \frac{\cancel{x} - 9}{(\cancel{x} - 9)(\sqrt{x} + 3)}$$

$$= \lim_{x \rightarrow 9} \frac{1}{\sqrt{x} + 3} = \frac{1}{\sqrt{9} + 3} = \frac{1}{3 + 3} = \frac{1}{6}$$

Try

$$\lim_{x \rightarrow 1} \frac{\sqrt{3+x} - 2}{x - 1} = \lim_{x \rightarrow 1} \frac{\sqrt{3+x} - 2}{x - 1} \cdot \frac{\sqrt{3+x} + 2}{\sqrt{3+x} + 2}$$

$$= \lim_{x \rightarrow 1} \frac{(3+x) - 4}{(x-1)(\sqrt{3+x} + 2)} = \lim_{x \rightarrow 1} \frac{\cancel{x} - 1}{(\cancel{x} - 1)(\sqrt{3+x} + 2)}$$

$$= \lim_{x \rightarrow 1} \frac{1}{\sqrt{3+x} + 2} = \frac{1}{\sqrt{3+1} + 2} = \left(\frac{1}{4}\right)$$

$$\lim_{x \rightarrow -1} \frac{x^2 - 1}{\sqrt{x^2 + 8} - 3} \cdot \frac{\sqrt{x^2 + 8} + 3}{\sqrt{x^2 + 8} + 3}$$

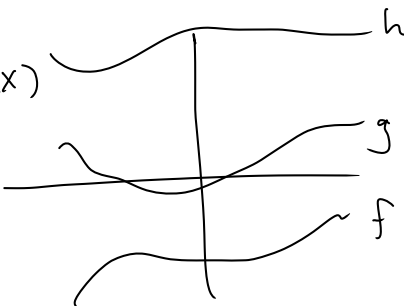
$$= \lim_{x \rightarrow -1} \frac{(x^2 - 1)(\sqrt{x^2 + 8} + 3)}{x^2 + 8 - 9} = \lim_{x \rightarrow -1} \frac{\cancel{x^2} - 1}{\cancel{x^2} - 1} (\sqrt{x^2 + 8} + 3)$$

$$= \lim_{x \rightarrow -1} \sqrt{x^2 + 8} + 3 = \sqrt{9} + 3 = 6$$


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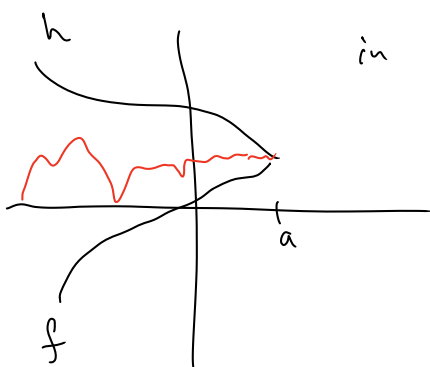
## The Squeeze Theorem

If:  $f(x) \leq g(x) \leq h(x)$



"Squeeze" is when

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



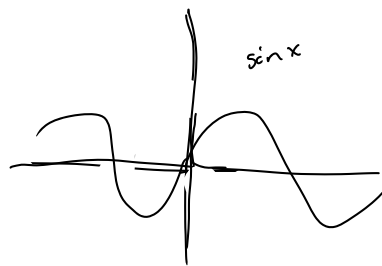
in that case,  $g$  must have the same limit.

Thm If  $f(x) \leq g(x) \leq h(x)$  and  $\lim_{x \rightarrow a} f(x) = \lim_{x \rightarrow a} h(x)$ ,

$$\text{then } \lim_{x \rightarrow a} g(x) = \lim_{x \rightarrow a} f(x) = \lim_{x \rightarrow a} h(x).$$

We can use this to find weird limits by squeezing the function

Ex1  $\lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \frac{\sin x}{x} \rightarrow \frac{\sin 0}{0} = \frac{0}{0}$



Let's squeeze it!

$$\cos x \leq \frac{\sin x}{x} \leq 1$$

but  $\lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \cos x = \cos 0 = 1$

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

Two outer limits are both 1,  
so the inside is also 1.

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

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What a limit really means

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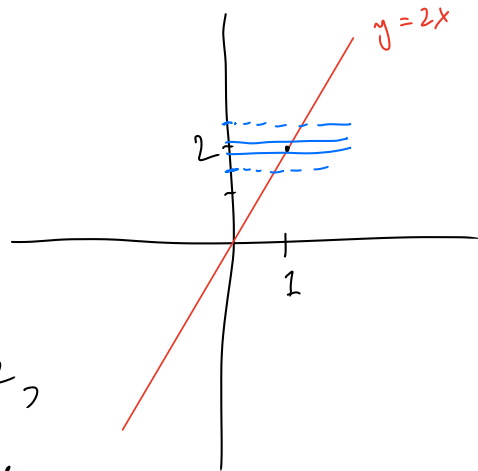
$$\lim_{x \rightarrow a} f(x) = L$$

When  $x$  is really really close to  $a$ ,  
then  $f(x)$  is really close to  $L$

When  $x$  approaches  $a$ , ...

Not a real definition!

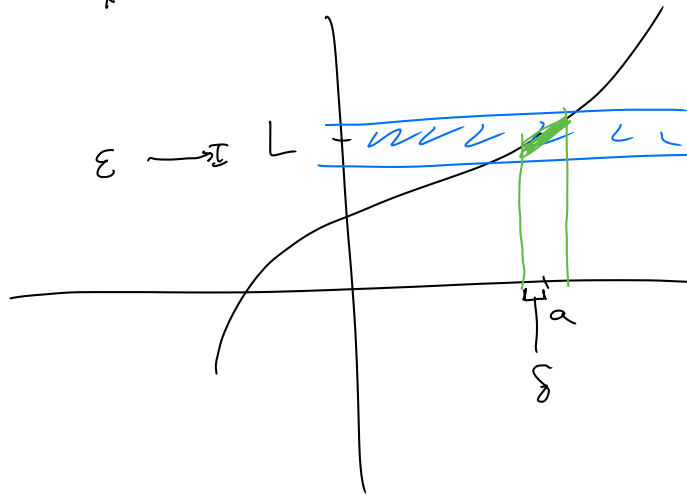
$$\lim_{x \rightarrow 1} 2x = 2$$



The y-values will get  
as close as you want to 2,  
provided that the x value  
is close enough to 1.

However close you want the y to be to 2,  
there is some distance around x where  
this happens.

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



No matter how small  
the blue window,  
I can make a  
green window  
which lands inside  
the blue.

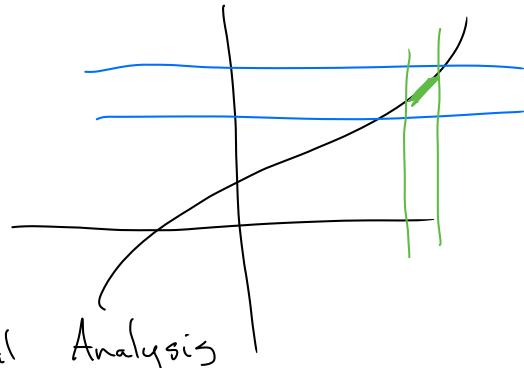
# The True Definition:

For any  $\epsilon > 0$ , there exists some  $\delta > 0$  such that if  $|x-a| < \delta$ , then  $|f(x) - L| < \epsilon$

discovered in 1800s

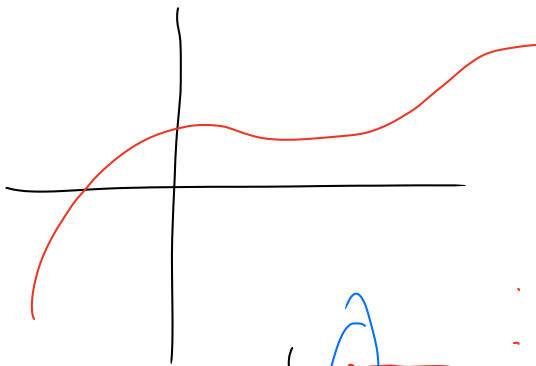
if  $x$  is inside the green

$y$  is inside the blue.

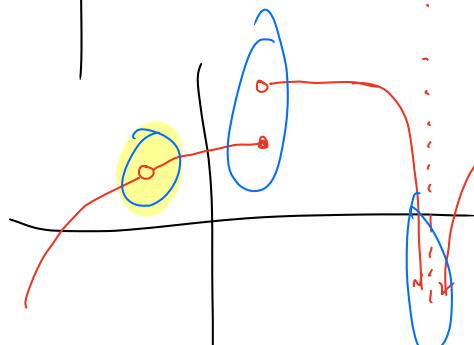


More on this in Math 3371 - Real Analysis

## Continuity



is continuous  
it's all nice-like



not continuous because of blue spots

For the kids: Continuous means you can draw the graph without lifting your pencil.

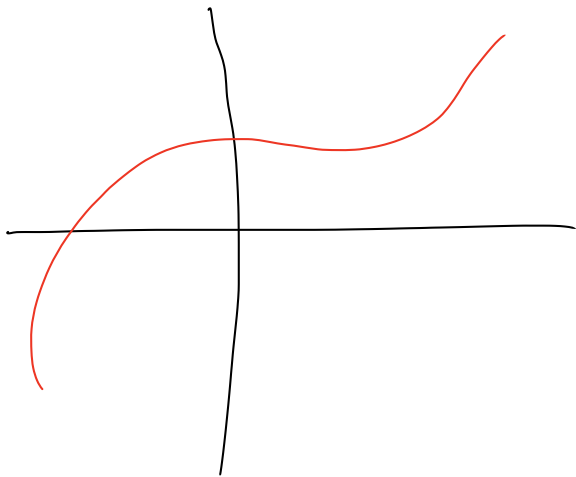
Real definition:  $f(x)$  is continuous at some point  $x=a$

means:

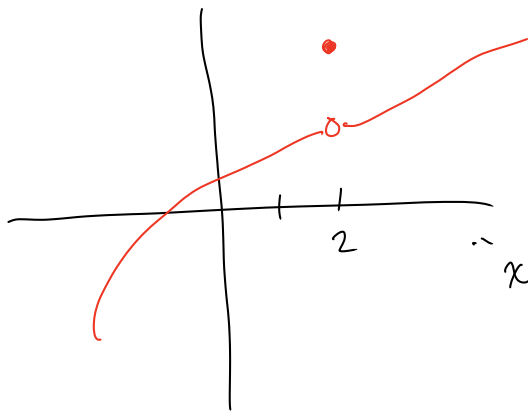
$$\lim_{x \rightarrow a} f(x) = f(a)$$

i.e.

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



this is continuous for all real #s.



This is continuous at  
all real #s except 2.

" $x=2$  is a discontinuity point"