

To receive credit you MUST SHOW ALL YOUR WORK.

1. Compute each of the following limits. If the limit does not exist or is infinite, specify so (2.5 pts each).

$$(a) \lim_{x \rightarrow 3} \frac{x^3 - 9x}{x^2 - 4x + 3} = \frac{0}{0}$$

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

$$= \frac{3 \cdot 6}{2} = \boxed{9}$$

$$(b) \lim_{x \rightarrow -\infty} \frac{x^3 - 9x}{x^2 - 4x + 3} = \frac{\infty}{\infty}$$

l'Hôpital's Rule

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

$$(c) \lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \frac{1 - \cos(3x)}{x^2} = \frac{0}{0}$$

$$= \lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \frac{(1 - \cos(3x))(1 + \cos(3x))}{x^2(1 + \cos(3x))} =$$

$$= \lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \frac{\sin^2(3x)}{x^2(1 + \cos(3x))} = \lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \frac{\sin^2(3x) \cdot 9x^2}{x^2(1 + \cos(3x))}$$

$$= \frac{1 \cdot 9}{2} = \boxed{\frac{9}{2}}$$

$$(d) \lim_{x \rightarrow 2} \frac{2x - 7}{x^2 - 4x + 4} = \frac{-3}{0}$$

$$= \lim_{x \rightarrow 2} \frac{2x - 7}{(x-2)^2}$$

So the denominator is a positive number both when $x < 2$ or $x > 2$

$$\frac{-3}{0^+} = \boxed{-\infty}$$

2. (Bonus 2 pts) Does the function $f(x) = \frac{x^3 - 9x}{x^2 - 4x + 3}$ have any vertical or horizontal asymptotes?

Briefly justify. Note that in Pb. 1 (a), (b), you computed some limits of this function.

As in (b), $\lim_{x \rightarrow +\infty} \frac{x^3 - 9x}{x^2 - 4x + 3} = \lim_{x \rightarrow +\infty} \frac{x^3}{x^2} = +\infty$

So $f(x)$ has no horizontal asymptotes (as both $\lim_{x \rightarrow +\infty} f(x)$ and $\lim_{x \rightarrow -\infty} f(x)$ are infinite)

$f(x) = \frac{x(x-3)(x+3)}{(x-3)(x-1)}$, so, by (a), $x=3$ is NOT a vertical asymptote ($x=3$ is a removable discontinuity for $f(x)$)

$x=1$ is a vertical asymptote

$$\lim_{x \rightarrow 1^+} \frac{x(x-3)(x+3)}{(x-3)(x-1)} = \frac{3}{0^+} = +\infty, \quad \lim_{x \rightarrow 1^-} \frac{x(x-3)(x+3)}{(x-3)(x-1)} = \frac{3}{0^-} = -\infty$$