

Section 9.3: 1-45 e.o.o., 39

1.  $e^x$  vs.  $x^3 - 3x + 1$

$$\lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} \frac{e^x}{x^3 - 3x + 1} = \frac{\infty}{\infty} \rightarrow \lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} \frac{e^x}{3x^2 - 3} = \frac{\infty}{\infty} \rightarrow \lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} \frac{e^x}{6x} = \frac{\infty}{\infty}$$

$$\lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} \frac{e^x}{6} = \frac{\infty}{6} = \boxed{\infty}, \text{ so } \boxed{e^x: \text{faster}} \\ \boxed{x^3 - 3x + 1: \text{slower}}$$

5.  $\ln x$  vs.  $x - \ln x$

$$\lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} \frac{\ln x}{x - \ln x} \rightarrow \lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} \frac{1/x}{1 - 1/x} = \frac{1/\infty}{1 - 1/\infty} = \frac{0}{1 - 0} = \frac{0}{1} = \boxed{0}, \text{ so } \boxed{\ln x: \text{slower}} \\ \boxed{x - \ln x: \text{faster}}$$

9.  $x^2$  vs.  $x^2 + 4x$

$$\lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} \frac{x^2}{x^2 + 4x} = \frac{\infty}{\infty} \rightarrow \lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} \frac{2x}{2x + 4} = \frac{\infty}{\infty} \rightarrow \lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} \frac{2}{2} = \boxed{1}, \text{ so } \boxed{x^2 \& x^2 + 4x: \text{same}}$$

13.  $\ln x$  vs.  $\log \sqrt{x}$

$$\log \sqrt{x} = \log x^{1/2} = \frac{1}{2} \log x = \frac{1}{2} \log_{10} x = \frac{1}{2} \left( \frac{\ln x}{\ln 10} \right) = \frac{1}{2 \ln 10} \cdot \ln x$$

$$\lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} \frac{\log \sqrt{x}}{\ln x} = \lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} \frac{\frac{1}{2 \ln 10} \cdot \ln x}{\ln x} = \boxed{\frac{1}{2 \ln 10}}, \text{ so } \boxed{\ln x \& \log \sqrt{x}: \text{same}}$$

17.  $e^x$  vs.  $x \ln x - x$

$$\lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} \frac{x \ln x - x}{e^x} \rightarrow \lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} \frac{\cancel{x} \cdot \frac{1}{x} + \ln x \cdot 1 - 1}{e^x} = \lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} \frac{1 + \ln x - 1}{e^x} = \lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} \frac{\ln x}{e^x} = \frac{\infty}{\infty}$$

$$\lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} \frac{1/x}{e^x} = \lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} \frac{1}{x e^x} = \frac{1}{\infty e^{\infty}} = \frac{1}{\infty} = \boxed{0}, \text{ so } \boxed{x \ln x - x: \text{slower}} \\ \boxed{e^x: \text{faster}}$$

21.  $x^2$  vs.  $x^3 + 3$

$$\lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} \frac{x^2}{x^3 + 3} = \frac{\infty}{\infty} \rightarrow \lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} \frac{2x}{3x^2} = \lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} \frac{2}{3x} = \frac{2}{\infty} = \boxed{0}, \text{ so } \boxed{x^2: \text{slower}} \\ \boxed{x^3 + 3: \text{faster}}$$

25.  $\ln x$  vs.  $\log_2 x^2$

$$\log_2 x^2 = 2 \log_2 x = 2 \left( \frac{\ln x}{\ln 2} \right) = \frac{2}{\ln 2} \cdot \ln x$$

$$\lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} \frac{\log_2 x^2}{\ln x} = \lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} \frac{\frac{2}{\ln 2} \cdot \ln x}{\ln x} = \boxed{\frac{2}{\ln 2}}, \text{ so } \boxed{\ln x \& \log_2 x^2: \text{same}}$$

$$29. e^x, x^x, (\ln x)^x, e^{x/2}$$

$$\lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} \frac{e^x}{e^{x/2}} = \lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} e^x - e^{x/2} = \lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} e^{x/2} = e^{x/2 \rightarrow \infty} = \boxed{\infty} \rightarrow \begin{array}{l} e^x: \text{faster} \\ e^{x/2}: \text{slower} \end{array} \quad e^{x/2} < e^x$$

$$\lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} \frac{(\ln x)^x}{x^x} = \lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} \left(\frac{\ln x}{x}\right)^x \rightarrow \lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} \left(\frac{1/x}{1}\right)^x = \left(\frac{0}{1}\right)^\infty = 0^\infty = \boxed{0} \rightarrow \begin{array}{l} (\ln x)^x: \text{slower} \\ x^x: \text{faster} \end{array}$$

$$\lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} \frac{(\ln x)^x}{e^x} = \lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} \left(\frac{\ln x}{e}\right)^x = \left(\frac{\infty}{e}\right)^\infty = \infty^\infty = \boxed{\infty} \rightarrow \begin{array}{l} (\ln x)^x: \text{faster} \\ e^x: \text{slower} \end{array} \quad \begin{array}{l} (\ln x)^x < x^x \\ e^x < (\ln x)^x \end{array}$$

$$\boxed{e^{x/2} < e^x < (\ln x)^x, x^x}$$

$$33. f_1(x) = 3^x, f_2(x) = \sqrt{9^x + 2^x}, f_3(x) = \sqrt{9^x - 4^x}$$

$f_1(x)$  &  $f_2(x)$ :

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

$$\lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} \sqrt{\frac{9^x + 2^x}{9^x}} = \lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} \sqrt{1 + \left(\frac{2}{9}\right)^x} = \sqrt{1 + \left(\frac{2}{9}\right)^\infty} = \sqrt{1 + 0} = \sqrt{1} = \boxed{1}, \text{ so } \boxed{f_1 \text{ \& } f_2: \text{same}}$$

$f_1(x)$  &  $f_3(x)$ :

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

$$\lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} \sqrt{\frac{9^x - 4^x}{9^x}} = \lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} \sqrt{1 - \left(\frac{4}{9}\right)^x} = \sqrt{1 - \left(\frac{4}{9}\right)^\infty} = \sqrt{1 - 0} = \sqrt{1} = \boxed{1}, \text{ so } \boxed{f_1 \text{ \& } f_3: \text{same}}$$

If  $f_1$  &  $f_2$  grow at the same rate, and  $f_1$  &  $f_3$  grow at the same rate, then  $f_2$  &  $f_3$  must also grow at the same rate.

$$37. \lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} \frac{f(x)}{g(x)} = \text{constant (non-zero)}, \text{ so } f \text{ \& } g \text{ grow at the } \boxed{\text{same}} \text{ rate.}$$

$$39. a) \lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} \frac{e^x}{x^n} = \frac{\infty}{\infty}, \text{ but the numerator will always be } e^x, \text{ while eventually the denominator will be a constant.}$$

$$\lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} \frac{e^x}{\text{constant}} = \frac{\infty}{c} = \boxed{\infty}, \text{ so } \boxed{e^x: \text{faster \& } x^n: \text{slower}}$$

39. b)  $\lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} \frac{a^x}{x^n} = \frac{\infty}{\infty}$ , but the numerator will always be a power, while eventually the denominator will be a constant.

$$\lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} \frac{a^x}{\text{constant}} = \frac{\infty}{c} = \boxed{\infty}, \text{ so } \boxed{a^x: \text{faster \& } x^n: \text{slower}}$$

$$41. a) \lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} \frac{\ln x}{x^{1/n}} = \frac{\infty}{\infty}$$

$$\lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} \frac{1/x}{\frac{1}{n} \cdot x^{\frac{1}{n}-1}} = \lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} \frac{n x^{-1}}{x^{\frac{1}{n}-1}} = \lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} n x^{-1-(\frac{1}{n}-1)} = \lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} n x^{-1/n} = \lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} \frac{n}{x^{1/n}}$$

$$\lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} \frac{n}{x^{1/n}} = \frac{n}{\infty^{1/n}} = \frac{n}{\infty} = \boxed{0}, \text{ so } \boxed{\ln x: \text{slower \& } x^{1/n}: \text{faster}}$$

$$b) \lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} \frac{\ln x}{x^a} = \frac{\infty}{\infty}$$

$$\lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} \frac{1/x}{a x^{a-1}} = \lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} \frac{x^{-1}}{a x^{a-1}} = \lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} \frac{1}{a} \cdot x^{-1-(a-1)} = \lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} \frac{1}{a} \cdot x^{-a} = \lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} \frac{1}{a x^a}$$

$$\lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} \frac{1}{a x^a} = \frac{1}{a \cdot \infty^a} = \frac{1}{\infty} = \boxed{0}, \text{ so } \boxed{\ln x: \text{slower \& } x^a: \text{faster}}$$

45. If polynomials  $p(x)$  and  $q(x)$  grow at the same rate, then

$\lim_{x \rightarrow \pm \infty} \frac{p(x)}{q(x)}$  is a constant number. If the polynomials grow

at the same rate, then they must be the same degree;

otherwise  $\lim_{x \rightarrow \pm \infty} \frac{p(x)}{q(x)}$  would be  $\infty$  or  $0$ .  $\lim_{x \rightarrow \pm \infty} \frac{p(x)}{q(x)}$  is

equivalent to the ratio of the leading coefficients.

$$\text{For example, } \lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} \frac{2x^2 + x - 3}{5x^2 + 13x + 100} = \lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} \frac{2x^{\cancel{2}}}{5x^{\cancel{2}}} = \frac{2}{5}.$$

