

Supplement 1 for Section 2.2

This material should come after Example 11 in Section 2.2 on page 53 of the text.

Example 12. For each x_0 ,

(a) $\lim_{x \rightarrow x_0} \sin x = \sin x_0$ and

(b) $\lim_{x \rightarrow x_0} \cos x = \cos x_0$.

Solution.

$$\begin{aligned} \text{(a)} \quad \lim_{x \rightarrow x_0} \sin x &= \lim_{x \rightarrow x_0} \sin(x - x_0 + x_0) \\ &= \lim_{x \rightarrow x_0} \left(\sin(x - x_0) \cos x_0 + \cos(x - x_0) \sin x_0 \right) \\ &= \cos x_0 \lim_{x \rightarrow x_0} \sin(x - x_0) + \sin x_0 \lim_{x \rightarrow x_0} \cos(x - x_0). \end{aligned}$$

As x tends to x_0 , the difference $x - x_0$ tends to 0. Consequently by the result of Example 11,

$$\lim_{x \rightarrow x_0} \sin(x - x_0) = 0 \quad \text{and} \quad \lim_{x \rightarrow x_0} \cos(x - x_0) = 1.$$

Thus $\lim_{x \rightarrow x_0} \sin x = \sin x_0$. □

As similar argument using the formula for the cosine of the sum of two numbers can be used to prove (b).