

Determine $\lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \frac{\sqrt{a+h} - \sqrt{a}}{h\sqrt{a}}$.

Solution:

$$\begin{aligned} \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \frac{\sqrt{a+h} - \sqrt{a}}{h\sqrt{a}} &= \frac{1}{\sqrt{a}} \cdot \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \frac{\sqrt{a+h} - \sqrt{a}}{h} \\ &= \frac{1}{\sqrt{a}} \cdot \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \frac{\sqrt{a+h} - \sqrt{a}}{h} \cdot \frac{\sqrt{a+h} + \sqrt{a}}{\sqrt{a+h} + \sqrt{a}} \end{aligned}$$

← Rationalize the numerator

$$= \frac{1}{\sqrt{a}} \cdot \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \frac{a+h-a}{h(\sqrt{a+h} + \sqrt{a})}$$

$$= \frac{1}{\sqrt{a}} \cdot \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \frac{h}{h(\sqrt{a+h} + \sqrt{a})}$$

$$= \frac{1}{\sqrt{a}} \cdot \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \frac{1}{\sqrt{a+h} + \sqrt{a}}$$

$$= \frac{1}{\sqrt{a}} \cdot \frac{1}{\sqrt{a+0} + \sqrt{a}}$$

$$= \frac{1}{\sqrt{a}} \cdot \frac{1}{2\sqrt{a}}$$

$$= \frac{1}{2a} \checkmark$$