

## Correct Handling of Complex Limit Substitutions

$$\lim_{x\to\infty}\frac{-2}{1-\sqrt{1-\frac{1}{x}}}$$

If we think ahead on this problem we realize that

$$1/x \to 0$$
 so  $1-1/x \to 1$  and  $\sqrt{1-1/x} \to 1$  and  $1-\sqrt{1-1/x} \to 0$  so

 $1/(1-\sqrt{1-1/x})\to\infty$ 

but we don't know if that is positive, negative, or undefined (both). What we are doing mentally are the sequence of substitutions below.

That is the final substitution, so this complex limit is  $-\infty$ .