Exercise 18

Find the limit.

$$\lim_{x\to\infty}e^{x-x^2}$$

Solution

Evaluate this limit by writing the difference as a quotient. Note that since the exponential function is continuous, the limit can be brought inside.

$$\lim_{x \to \infty} e^{x - x^2} = \exp\left[\lim_{x \to \infty} (x - x^2)\right]$$

$$= \exp\left[\lim_{x \to \infty} (x - x^2) \times \frac{x + x^2}{x + x^2}\right]$$

$$= \exp\left[\lim_{x \to \infty} \frac{(x - x^2)(x + x^2)}{x + x^2}\right]$$

$$= \exp\left[\lim_{x \to \infty} \frac{x^2 - x^4}{x + x^2}\right]$$

$$= \exp\left[\lim_{x \to \infty} \frac{x^2(1 - x^2)}{x^2(\frac{1}{x} + 1)}\right]$$

$$= \exp\left(\lim_{x \to \infty} \frac{1 - x^2}{\frac{1}{x} + 1}\right)$$

$$= \exp\left(\frac{1 - \infty}{0 + 1}\right)$$

$$= e^{-\infty}$$

$$= 0$$