

L'Hôpital's rule:

Theorem: Let $f(x)$ and $g(x)$ be the functions that are differentiable on an open interval (a,b) containing c . Assume that $g'(x) \neq 0$ for all x in (a,b) . If the limit of $\frac{f(x)}{g(x)}$ as x approaches c produces the indeterminate form $\lim \frac{0}{0}$,

$\lim \frac{\infty}{\infty}$, and $\lim 0 \cdot \infty$, then

$$\lim_{x \rightarrow c} \frac{f(x)}{g(x)} = \lim_{x \rightarrow c} \frac{f'(x)}{g'(x)}$$

Proof: Suppose $f(x)$ and $g(x)$ are differentiable function for $x \in \mathbb{R}$.

and $f(c) = g(c) = 0$. ($\lim_{x \rightarrow c} \frac{f(x)}{g(x)} = \frac{0}{0}$)

$$f(x) \approx L(x) = f'(c)(x-c) + f(c)$$

$$g(x) \approx G(x) = g'(c)(x-c) + g(c)$$

$$\Rightarrow \lim_{x \rightarrow c} \frac{f(x)}{g(x)} = \lim_{x \rightarrow c} \frac{L(x)}{G(x)} = \lim_{x \rightarrow c} \frac{f'(c)(x-c) + f(c)}{g'(c)(x-c) + g(c)} = \lim_{x \rightarrow c} \frac{f'(c)(x-c)}{g'(c)(x-c)}$$

$$\therefore \lim_{x \rightarrow c} \frac{f(x)}{g(x)} = \lim_{x \rightarrow c} \frac{f'(x)}{g'(x)} = \frac{f'(c)}{g'(c)}$$

Example 1) $\lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \frac{\sin x}{x} \left(\frac{0}{0} \right)$

$$= \lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \frac{\cos x}{1} = \frac{1}{1} = \boxed{1}$$

Example 2) $\lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} \frac{2x^2 - 3x + 1}{3x^2 + 5x - 2} \left(\frac{\infty}{\infty} \right)$

$$= \lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} \frac{4x - 3}{6x + 5} \left(\frac{\infty}{\infty} \right) = \lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} \frac{4}{6} = \boxed{\frac{2}{3}}$$

Example 3) $\lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \frac{(1 - \cos x) \sin 4x}{x^3 \cos x} = \lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \frac{(1 - \cos x)}{x^2} \lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \frac{\sin 4x}{x} \cdot \lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \frac{1}{\cos x}$

$$= \lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \frac{\sin x}{2x} \lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \frac{4 \cos 4x}{1} \cdot 1$$

Example 4) $\lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} x \sin \frac{1}{x} \left(\infty \cdot \sin \frac{1}{\infty} \right) \Rightarrow \left(\infty \cdot 0 \right)$

$\left(u = \frac{1}{x} \Rightarrow x = \frac{1}{u} \right) \Rightarrow \lim_{u \rightarrow 0} \frac{1}{u} \sin u = \lim_{u \rightarrow 0} \frac{\sin u}{u} \left(\frac{0}{0} \right) = \lim_{u \rightarrow 0} \frac{\cos u}{1} = 1$

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$$= \lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \frac{\sin x}{2x} \lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \frac{4 \cos 4x}{1} \cdot 1$$

Example 4) $\lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} x \sin \frac{1}{x}$

$$\left(\infty \cdot \sin \frac{1}{\infty} \right) \Rightarrow \left(\infty \cdot 0 \right)$$

$$= \lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} \frac{\cos x}{2} \cdot 4 \cdot 1 = \frac{1}{2} \cdot 4 \cdot 1 = \boxed{2}$$

$$\left(u = \frac{1}{x} \Rightarrow x = \frac{1}{u} \right) \Rightarrow \lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} \frac{1}{4} \sin u = \lim_{u \rightarrow 0} \frac{\sin u}{4} \left(\frac{0}{0} \right) = \lim_{u \rightarrow 0} \frac{\cos u}{4} = \frac{1}{4}$$

Example 5) $\lim_{x \rightarrow +\infty} (1 + \frac{1}{x})^x = \ln L$

$\lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} \ln(1 + \frac{1}{x}) = \ln L$

$= \lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} x \ln(1 + \frac{1}{x}) = \ln L$

$= \lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} \frac{\ln(1 + \frac{1}{x})}{\frac{1}{x}} = \lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} \frac{\ln(1 + \frac{1}{\infty})}{\frac{1}{\infty}} = \lim \frac{0}{0}$

$= \lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} \frac{(\ln(1 + \frac{1}{x}))'}{(\frac{1}{x})'} = \lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} \frac{\frac{1}{1 + \frac{1}{x}} \cdot (-\frac{1}{x^2})}{\frac{-1}{x^2}} = \lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} \frac{1}{1 + \frac{1}{x}} = \frac{1}{1 + \frac{1}{\infty}} = 1 = \ln L$

$L = e$

Use l'Hopital's rule to find each limit. Show your work clearly and circle your final answer.

1. $\lim_{x \rightarrow 1} \frac{x^3 - 1}{x^2 - 1}$

2. $\lim_{x \rightarrow 3} \frac{x^3 - 27}{x^2 - 9}$

3. $\lim_{x \rightarrow 1} \frac{x^{10} - 1}{x - 1}$

4. $\lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \frac{1 - \cos^2 x}{\sin^3 x}$

5. $\lim_{t \rightarrow \pi} \frac{\cos \frac{\pi}{2}}{\pi - x}$

6. $\lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \frac{1 - \cos x}{x^2}$

7. $\lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \frac{\sin 3x \sin 2x}{x \sin 4x}$

8. $\lim_{x \rightarrow +\infty} (1 + \frac{1}{2x})^{3x}$

9. $\lim_{x \rightarrow -\infty} (1 - \frac{3}{x})^{2x}$

10. $\lim_{t \rightarrow \infty} (e^t + t)^{1/t}$

11. $\lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} (1 + \frac{1}{5x})^{-x}$

12. $\lim_{x \rightarrow +\infty} (1 + x)^{1/x}$

13. $\lim_{x \rightarrow +\infty} (7 - \frac{1}{x})^{6x}$