

sec. 4.7 Indeterminate forms & L'Hopital's Rule

If $\lim_{x \rightarrow c} \frac{f(x)}{g(x)}$ produce the indeterminate form $\frac{0}{0}$, then $\lim_{x \rightarrow c} \frac{f(x)}{g(x)} = \lim_{x \rightarrow c} \frac{f'(x)}{g'(x)}$.

provided the limit on the right exists (or is infinite).

Other indeterminate forms that allow you to apply L'Hopital's Rule:

$$\frac{\infty}{\infty}, \frac{-\infty}{\infty}, \frac{\infty}{-\infty}, \text{ or } \frac{-\infty}{-\infty}.$$

Alternate form of L'Hopital: $\lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} \frac{f(x)}{g(x)} = \lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} \frac{f'(x)}{g'(x)}$ provided

$\frac{f(x)}{g(x)} = \frac{0}{0}$ or $\frac{\infty}{\infty}$ and the limit on the right exists.

You may encounter forms such as $0 \cdot \infty$, 1^∞ , ∞^0 , 0^0 , or $\infty - \infty$. Your approach here is to algebraically manipulate the problem so it converts to $\frac{0}{0}$ or $\frac{\infty}{\infty}$.

$$4) \lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \frac{\sin 4x}{2x} \text{ using } \lim_{\theta \rightarrow 0} \frac{\sin \theta}{\theta} = 1$$

$$2 \lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \frac{\sin 4x}{4x} = 2(1) = \underline{\underline{2}} \quad (\text{Cal I})$$

$$8) \lim_{x \rightarrow -1} \frac{x^2 - x - 2}{x + 1}$$

$$\lim_{x \rightarrow -1} \frac{(x+1)(x-2)}{x+1} = \underline{\underline{-3}}$$

$$14) \lim_{x \rightarrow 1} \frac{\ln x}{x^2 - 1} = \frac{0}{0} \text{ use L'Hopital's}$$

$$\lim_{x \rightarrow 1} \frac{\frac{1}{x}}{2x} = \underline{\underline{\frac{1}{2}}}$$

$$20) \lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} \frac{x-1}{x^2+2x+3} = \frac{\infty}{\infty} \text{ use L'Hopital}$$

$$\lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} \frac{1}{2x+2} = \frac{1}{\infty} = \underline{\underline{0}}$$

$$30) \lim_{x \rightarrow 0^+} x^2 \cot x = 0 \cdot \infty$$

$$\lim_{x \rightarrow 0^+} \frac{x^2}{\tan x} = \frac{0}{0}$$

$$\lim_{x \rightarrow 0^+} \frac{2x}{\sec^2 x} = \frac{0}{1} = \underline{\underline{0}}$$

$$32) \lim_{x \rightarrow 0^+} (e^x + x)^{\frac{1}{x}} = 1^\infty$$

$$\text{Let } y = \lim_{x \rightarrow 0^+} (e^x + x)^{\frac{1}{x}}$$

$$\text{then } \ln y = \lim_{x \rightarrow 0^+} \ln (e^x + x)^{\frac{1}{x}}$$

$$\ln y = \lim_{x \rightarrow 0^+} \frac{1}{x} \ln (e^x + x) = \frac{0}{0}$$

$$\ln y = \lim_{x \rightarrow 0^+} \frac{\frac{1}{e^x + x} \cdot e^x + 1}{1} = \frac{2}{1}$$

$$\ln y = 2$$

$$y = \underline{\underline{e^2}}$$

$$40) \lim_{x \rightarrow 0^+} \left(\frac{1}{x} - \frac{1}{x^2} \right) = \infty - \infty$$

$$\lim_{x \rightarrow 0^+} \left(\frac{x-1}{x^2} \right) = \frac{-1}{0} = \underline{\underline{-\infty}}$$

$$44) \lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} \frac{x^3}{e^{2x}} = \frac{\infty}{\infty}$$

$$\lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} \frac{3x^2}{2e^{2x}} = \frac{\infty}{\infty}$$

$$\lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} \frac{6x}{4e^{2x}} = \frac{\infty}{\infty}$$

$$\lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} \frac{6}{8e^{2x}} = \frac{6}{\infty} = \underline{\underline{0}}$$