

L'Hôpital's Rule

If f and g are differentiable and $g'(x) \neq 0$ on an interval containing a (except possibly at $x = a$). If $\lim_{x \rightarrow a} f(x) = 0$ and $\lim_{x \rightarrow a} g(x) = 0$ then

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

so long as the right-hand limit exists, or is $\pm\infty$. Moreover, the same technique can be used

- if $\lim_{x \rightarrow a} f(x) = \pm\infty$ and $\lim_{x \rightarrow a} g(x) = \pm\infty$,
- for one-sided limits,
- for limits at infinity.

Compute the following limits.

$$1. \lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \frac{\sin(5x)}{\sin(3x)} \stackrel{\frac{0}{0}}{=} \lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \frac{5 \cos(5x)}{3 \cos(3x)} = \frac{5 \cdot \cos(0)}{3 \cdot \cos(0)} = \frac{5 \cdot 1}{3 \cdot 1} = \frac{5}{3}$$

$$2. \lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \frac{\cos(x) - 1}{x} \stackrel{\frac{0}{0}}{=} \lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \frac{-\sin(x)}{1} = -\sin(0) = 0$$

$$\begin{aligned}
 3. \lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \frac{\cos(x) - 1}{x^2} &= \lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \frac{-\sin(x)}{2x} = \lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \frac{-\cos(x)}{2} \\
 \frac{0}{0} & \qquad \qquad \qquad \frac{0}{0} \\
 &= \frac{-\cos(0)}{2} = -\frac{1}{2}
 \end{aligned}$$

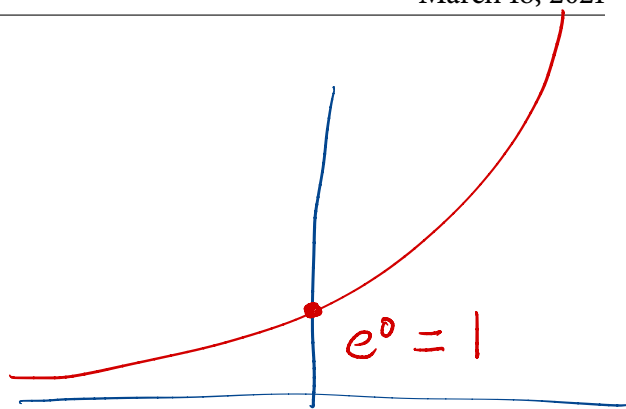
$$\begin{aligned}
 4. \lim_{x \rightarrow -\infty} x e^x &= \lim_{x \rightarrow -\infty} \frac{x}{1/e^x} = \lim_{x \rightarrow -\infty} \frac{x}{e^{-x}} \\
 \downarrow & \qquad \qquad \qquad \frac{-\infty}{\infty} \\
 -\infty \cdot 0 & \\
 &= \lim_{x \rightarrow -\infty} \frac{1}{-e^{-x}} \\
 &= \lim_{x \rightarrow -\infty} -e^x \\
 &= -\infty = 0
 \end{aligned}$$

$$5. \lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \frac{\arcsin(x)}{x}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
 \lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \frac{\arcsin(x)}{x} &= \lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \frac{\frac{1}{\sqrt{1-x^2}}}{1} = \lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \frac{1}{\sqrt{1-x^2}} \\
 &= \frac{1}{\sqrt{1-0^2}} = 1
 \end{aligned}$$

6. $\lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \frac{e^x}{x+3}$. Careful!!

$$\lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \frac{e^x}{x+3} = \frac{e^0}{0+3} = \frac{1}{3}$$



$$\begin{aligned} 7. \lim_{x \rightarrow 0^+} \frac{e^{1/x}}{\ln x} &= \lim_{x \rightarrow 0^+} \frac{e^{1/x} \cdot \left(-\frac{1}{x^2}\right)}{\frac{1}{x}} = \lim_{x \rightarrow 0^+} \frac{-x}{x^2} e^{1/x} \\ &= \lim_{x \rightarrow 0^+} \frac{1}{x} e^{1/x} \\ &= \infty \end{aligned}$$

8. $\lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} \left(1 + \frac{5}{x}\right)^x$.

$$\begin{aligned} a) \lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} \ln \left(\left(1 + \frac{5}{x}\right)^x \right) &= \lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} x \ln \left(1 + \frac{5}{x}\right) \\ &= \lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} \frac{\ln \left(1 + \frac{5}{x}\right)}{\frac{1}{x}} \\ &= \lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} \frac{\frac{1}{1+5/x} \cdot \left(-\frac{5}{x^2}\right)}{\left(-\frac{1}{x^2}\right)} = \frac{5}{1+0} = 5 \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \text{b) } \lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} \left(1 + \frac{5}{x}\right)^x &= \lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} e^{\ln \left(\left(1 + \frac{5}{x}\right)^x \right)} \\ &= e^{\lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} \ln \left(\left(1 + \frac{5}{x}\right)^x \right)} \\ &= \boxed{e^5} \end{aligned}$$