

Section 4.5

I. Indeterminate Forms

A. $0/0$ ∞/∞

B. 1^∞ $0 \cdot \infty$ 0^0 ∞^0 $\infty - \infty$

Examples

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

$$\lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \frac{x \sin x}{1 - \cos x}$$

$$\lim_{x \rightarrow 2} \frac{x^2 - 3x + 2}{x^2 - 4}$$

$$\lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \frac{1 - e^{-x}}{\sin x}$$

$$\lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} \frac{\ln x}{x}$$

$$\lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} \frac{x}{e^x}$$

$$\lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} \frac{x^2 - 3x + 2}{x^2 - 4}$$

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

$$\lim_{x \rightarrow 0^+} x \ln x$$

$$\lim_{x \rightarrow 0^+} (x^2 + x)^{\sin 3x}$$

$$\lim_{x \rightarrow 0^+} (\ln x)^{\tan x}$$

$$\lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} \sqrt{x^2 + 4x} - x$$

Non-Examples

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

$$\lim_{x \rightarrow 0^+} \frac{x^2 + x + 1}{3x^2 + x}$$

$$\lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} x - \sin x$$

$$\lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} x \sin x$$

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

$$\lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} x \tan^{-1} x$$

$$\lim_{x \rightarrow \pi} \frac{1 - \cos x}{x}$$

II. L'Hôpital's Rule

A. Theorem Let I be an open interval and let $c \in I$. Let f and g be differentiable on I such that $g'(x) \neq 0$ for $x \neq c$. Suppose that either

$$(i) f(c) = g(c) = 0$$

or

$$(ii) \lim_{x \rightarrow c} f(x) = \lim_{x \rightarrow c} g(x) = \infty$$

Then,

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

if the latter limit exists.

Additional Examples

$$\lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \frac{x - \sin x}{x^3}$$

$$\lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \frac{x - \tan x}{\sin x - x}$$

$$\lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} x e^{-3x}$$

$$\lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \frac{1}{\sin x} - \frac{1}{x}$$

$$\lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \frac{e^x - 1 - x}{x^2}$$

$$\lim_{x \rightarrow 1} \frac{x^6 - 2x^5 + 2x^3 - x^2}{x^5 - 3x^4 + 4x^3 - 4x^2 + 3x - 1}$$

$$\lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} \frac{x^n}{e^{ax}}, \quad n > 0, a > 0$$

$$\lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} \frac{\ln x}{x^a}, \quad a > 0$$