

4.7 4.1 Group Activity Problems

THEOREM 4.12 L'Hôpital's Rule

Suppose f and g are differentiable on an open interval I containing a with $g'(x) \neq 0$ on I when $x \neq a$. If $\lim_{x \rightarrow a} f(x) = \lim_{x \rightarrow a} g(x) = 0$, then

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

provided the limit on the right exists (or is $\pm \infty$). The rule also applies if $x \rightarrow a$ is replaced with $x \rightarrow \pm \infty$, $x \rightarrow a^+$, or $x \rightarrow a^-$.

THEOREM 4.13 L'Hôpital's Rule (∞/∞)

Suppose f and g are differentiable on an open interval I containing a , with $g'(x) \neq 0$ on I when $x \neq a$. If $\lim_{x \rightarrow a} f(x) = \pm \infty$ and $\lim_{x \rightarrow a} g(x) = \pm \infty$, then

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

provided the limit on the right exists (or is $\pm \infty$). The rule also applies for $x \rightarrow \pm \infty$, $x \rightarrow a^+$, or $x \rightarrow a^-$.



(Other/Secondary) Indeterminate Forms
 $1^\infty, 0^0, \infty^0$ $\infty - \infty$ $0 \cdot \infty$
 use ln properties

Procedure:

- 1) "OSP" to obtain an indeterminate form
- 2) Re-write "other indeterminate forms" into "primary indeterminate form"
- 3) Use L.R.

6. Which of the following limits can be evaluated without l'Hôpital's Rule? Evaluate each limit.

a. $\lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \frac{\sin x}{x^3 + 2x + 1}$ b. $\lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \frac{\sin x}{x^3 + 2x}$

17–83. Limits Evaluate the following limits. Use l'Hôpital's Rule when it is convenient and applicable.

22. $\lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \frac{e^x - 1}{x^2 + 3x}$

24. $\lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} \frac{4x^3 - 2x^2 + 6}{\pi x^3 + 4}$

44. $\lim_{x \rightarrow 1} \frac{x^n - 1}{x - 1}$, n is a positive integer

51. $\lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} \frac{x^2 - \ln(2/x)}{3x^2 + 2x}$

52. $\lim_{x \rightarrow 1^+} \left(\frac{1}{x - 1} - \frac{1}{\sqrt{x - 1}} \right)$

80. $\lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} \left(1 + \frac{a}{x} \right)^x$, for a constant a

81. $\lim_{x \rightarrow 0} (e^{ax} + x)^{1/x}$, for a constant a

93. $\lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \frac{a^x - b^x}{x}$, for positive constants a and b Hint: $(a^x)' = a^x \cdot \ln a$

94. $\lim_{x \rightarrow 0} (1 + ax)^{b/x}$, for positive constants a and b

105. Explain why or why not Determine whether the following statements are true and give an explanation or counterexample.

a. By l'Hôpital's Rule, $\lim_{x \rightarrow 2} \frac{x - 2}{x^2 - 1} = \lim_{x \rightarrow 2} \frac{1}{2x} = \frac{1}{4}$.

b. $\lim_{x \rightarrow 0} x \sin x = \lim_{x \rightarrow 0} f(x)g(x) = \lim_{x \rightarrow 0} f'(x) \lim_{x \rightarrow 0} g'(x) =$
 $(\lim_{x \rightarrow 0} 1)(\lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \cos x) = 1$.

c. $\lim_{x \rightarrow 0^+} x^{1/x}$ is an indeterminate form.