

**Exercise 1** It is a well known fact that  $\lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} \left( \left( 1 + \frac{1}{x} \right)^x \right) = \lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \left( (1+x)^{1/x} \right) = e$ . Find

$$\lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \left( \frac{\ln(1+x)}{x} \right) = \boxed{1}.$$

**Hint:** Recall that  $\lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} \left( \left( 1 + \frac{1}{x} \right)^x \right) = e$  and, equivalently,  $\lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \left( (1+x)^{1/x} \right) = e$ .

Observe that we can rewrite this in a more illuminating way as  $\frac{\ln(1+x)}{x} = x^{-1} \ln(1+x)$ . Apply some properties of logarithms to this.

**Hint:** We know, from the properties of logarithms, that  $b \ln(a) = \ln(a^b)$  when  $a > 0$ . Hence,  $x^{-1} \ln(1+x) = \ln((1+x)^{1/x})$  for  $x > -1$  (and, of course,  $x^{-1} = \frac{1}{x}$ ). Hence,  $\ln((1+x)^{1/x}) = \frac{\ln(1+x)}{x}$  when  $x \neq 0$ . So  $\lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \left( \ln((1+x)^{1/x}) \right) = \lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \left( \frac{\ln(1+x)}{x} \right)$ . Recall that  $\ln(x)$  is continuous everywhere besides  $x = 0$ . What can you say about  $\lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \ln((1+x)^{1/x})$ ?

**Hint:** Let  $y = (1+x)^{1/x}$ . Then, since  $\lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \left( (1+x)^{1/x} \right) = e$ , and  $\ln(x)$  is continuous at  $e$ , it follows that  $\lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \left( \ln((1+x)^{1/x}) \right) = \lim_{y \rightarrow e} (\ln(y)) = 1$  and, hence, that  $\lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \left( \frac{\ln(1+x)}{x} \right) = 1$ .

---