

L'Hôpital's Rule

 ∞ -VERSION:

$$\text{IF } \lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} \frac{f'(x)}{g'(x)} \text{ EXISTS,}$$

$$\text{THEN } \lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} \frac{f(x)}{g(x)} \text{ EXISTS AND}$$

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

$$\lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} \frac{f'(x)}{g'(x)} = \lim_{t \rightarrow 0^+} \frac{f'(\frac{1}{t})}{g'(\frac{1}{t})}$$

$$\lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} \frac{f(x)}{g(x)} = \lim_{t \rightarrow 0^+} \frac{f(\frac{1}{t})}{g(\frac{1}{t})}$$

By chain rule, $\frac{d}{dt} \left(f\left(\frac{1}{t}\right) \right) = f'\left(\frac{1}{t}\right) \cdot \left(-\frac{1}{t^2}\right)$

$$\frac{d}{dt} \left(g\left(\frac{1}{t}\right) \right) = g'\left(\frac{1}{t}\right) \cdot \left(-\frac{1}{t^2}\right)$$

$$\begin{aligned} \Rightarrow \lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} \frac{f(x)}{g(x)} &= \lim_{t \rightarrow 0^+} \frac{f'(\frac{1}{t})}{g'(\frac{1}{t})} = \lim_{t \rightarrow 0^+} \frac{f(\frac{1}{t})}{g(\frac{1}{t})} \\ &= \lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} \frac{f(x)}{g(x)} \end{aligned}$$

REMARK:

NEED

$$\lim_{x \rightarrow a} f(x) = 0 = \lim_{x \rightarrow a} g(x)$$

$$\text{or } \left\{ \begin{array}{l} \lim_{x \rightarrow a} f(x) \rightarrow \infty \\ \lim_{x \rightarrow a} g(x) \rightarrow \infty \end{array} \right.$$

PROOF OF L'HÔPITAL'S RULE.

$$\lim_{x \rightarrow a} f(x) = 0 = \lim_{x \rightarrow a} g(x)$$

ALTHOUGH WE DON'T NEED TO ASSUME f, g ARE DEFINED AT $x=a$, LET'S EXTEND THEM TO BE CONTINUOUS THERE;

$$f(a) = g(a) = 0.$$

$$\begin{aligned} \text{By MVT, we can find } g'(u_x) (f(x) - f(a)) &= \\ = f'(u_x) [g(x) - g(a)], & \text{ } u_x \text{ is between } a \text{ and } x \end{aligned}$$

Given $\epsilon > 0$, $\exists \delta > 0 : |b-a| < \delta \Rightarrow \left| \frac{f'(x)}{g'(x)} - L \right| < \epsilon$

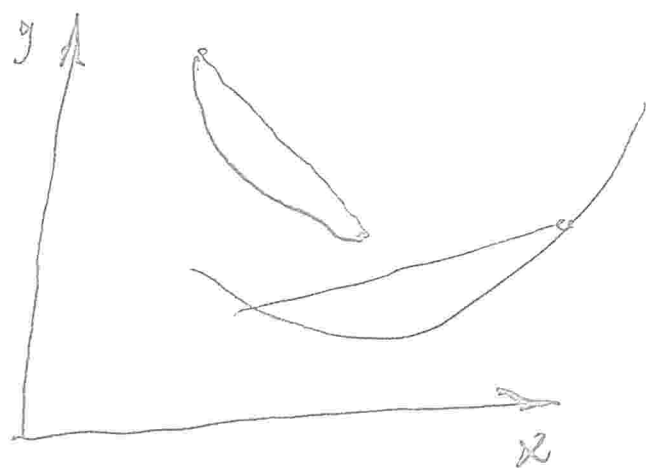
if $|x-a| < \delta$, then $|u_x - a| < \delta$ AND

$\left| \frac{f'(u_x)}{g'(u_x)} - L \right| < \epsilon$, so $\frac{f'(u_x)}{g'(u_x)} \rightarrow \lim_{x \rightarrow a} \frac{f'(x)}{g'(x)}$

$\frac{f'(u_x)}{g'(u_x)} = \frac{f(x) - f(a)}{g(x) - g(a)}$

$\lim_{x \rightarrow a} \frac{f'(x)}{g'(x)}$ exists $\Rightarrow g' \neq 0$ near a .

CONVEXITY



DEFINITION

$f(x)$ is CONVEX ON AN INTERVAL IF FOR ANY $a < x < b$ IN THE INTERVAL,

$$f(x) \leq \frac{f(b) - f(a)}{b - a} (x - a) + f(a)$$

IF $f(x) > \frac{f(b) - f(a)}{b - a} (x - a) + f(a)$, f is CONCAVE ON AN INTERVAL



CONCAVE DOWN

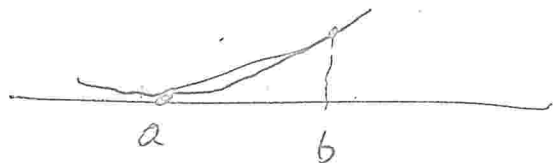


CONCAVE UP

THEOREM

If f is convex and differentiable
at $x=a$, then the graph of $f(x)$
lies above the tangent line at
 $x=a$, except right at the point of
contact $(a, f(a))$

PROOF



$$\lim_{y \rightarrow a} \frac{f(y) - f(a)}{y - a} = f'(a)$$

EXERCISE