

L'Hospital's rule

L'Hospital's rule is a method for evaluating limits of indeterminate form which means when you solve the limit you get an answer like $\frac{0}{0}$ or $\frac{\infty}{\infty}$ we apply L'Hospital's rule by taking the derivative of the top and the bottom **do not apply the quotient rule**

$$\lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \frac{f(x)}{g(x)} = \frac{0}{0} \text{ or } \frac{\infty}{\infty} \Rightarrow \lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \frac{f'(x)}{g'(x)}$$

If you apply L'Hospital's rule and you still are getting a indeterminate form feel free to apply it again until you get a reasonable answer L'Hospital's rule can be applied more than once on the same problem **you must show that you got a indeterminate form first before applying L'Hospital's rule**

types of indeterminate forms

• $\frac{0}{0}$, $\frac{\infty}{\infty}$

• $0 \cdot \infty$, 1^∞ , 0^0 , $\infty \cdot \infty$: when you have a limit that results in any one of these you must transform it to become $\frac{\infty}{\infty}$ or $\frac{0}{0}$ or in other words return the entire limit to a Fraction if this is not done you cannot apply L'Hospital's rule

Examples

applying L'Hospital's rule

$$\lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} \frac{2x^2 - 5x + 1}{3 + x + 6x^2} = \frac{2(\infty)^2 - 5(\infty) + 1}{3 + (\infty) + 6(\infty)^2} = \frac{\infty}{\infty}$$

$$\lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} \frac{\frac{d}{dx} [2x^2 - 5x + 1]}{\frac{d}{dx} [3 + x + 6x^2]} = \frac{4x - 5}{1 + 12x}$$

applying L'Hospital's rule again

$$\lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} \frac{4(\infty) - 5}{1 + 12(\infty)} = \frac{\infty}{\infty}$$

L'Hospital's rule again

$$\frac{\frac{d}{dx} [4x - 5]}{\frac{d}{dx} [1 + 12x]} = \frac{4}{12} = \boxed{\frac{1}{3}}$$

the quotient rule was not applied here we only took the derivative of the numerator if the product rule need to be applied you can apply but you cannot treat the as if its a quotient rule

$$\lim_{x \rightarrow 0} (\csc x - \cot x)$$

$$\lim_{x \rightarrow 0} (\csc(0) - \cot(0)) = \infty - \infty$$

you cannot apply L'Hospital's rule you need to get this into $\frac{a}{b}$ form

$$\lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \left[\frac{1}{\sin x} - \frac{\cos x}{\sin x} \right] \Rightarrow \lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \left[\frac{1 - \cos x}{\sin x} \right] \text{ take the derivative}$$

$$\lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \frac{\sin x}{\cos x} = \frac{0}{1} \text{ this is not in } \frac{\infty}{\infty} \text{ or } \frac{0}{0} \text{ so this will be our answer} = \boxed{0}$$