

Some Applications of Differentiation

IV L' Hôpital's Rule

This rule determines the limit of rational functions if the direct substitution gives the indeterminate values $\frac{0}{0}$ or $\frac{\pm\infty}{\pm\infty}$.

* Indeterminate values
 $\frac{0}{0}$, $\frac{\infty}{\infty}$, $\infty - \infty$, $0 \times \infty$, 0^0 , 1^∞ , ∞^0

L' Hôpital's Rule

suppose that we have one of the following cases,

$$\lim_{x \rightarrow a} \frac{f(x)}{g(x)} = \frac{0}{0} \text{ OR } \lim_{x \rightarrow a} \frac{f(x)}{g(x)} = \frac{\pm\infty}{\pm\infty}$$

where a can be any real number, infinity or negative infinity.

In this Cases we have

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

Examples: Evaluate:

$$\textcircled{1} \lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \frac{x \cos(x) + \tan(2x)}{x \sec(x) + \sin(4x)}$$

by direct substitution

$$\lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \frac{x \cos(x) + \tan(2x)}{x \sec(x) + \sin(4x)} = \frac{0}{0}$$

$$= \lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \frac{x(-\sin(x)) + \cos(x) + 2\sec^2(2x)}{x(\sec(x)\tan(x)) + \sec(x) + 4\cos(4x)}$$

$$= \frac{1+2}{1+4} = \frac{3}{5}$$

$$\begin{aligned}\sin(0) &= 0 \\ \tan(0) &= 0\end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}\cos(0) &= 1 \\ \sec(0) &= \frac{1}{\cos(0)} = 1\end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}\sin(0) &= 0 \\ \tan(0) &= 0\end{aligned}$$

$$\textcircled{2} \lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \frac{\sqrt{4+\tan(3x)} - 2\sqrt{1-\sin^{-1}(5x)}}{x}$$

by direct substitution

$$\lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \frac{\sqrt{4+\tan(3x)} - 2\sqrt{1-\sin^{-1}(5x)}}{x} = \frac{2-2}{0} = \frac{0}{0}$$

$$= \lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \frac{\frac{3\sec^2(3x)}{2\sqrt{4+\tan(3x)}} - \frac{2}{2\sqrt{1-\sin^{-1}(5x)}} \cdot \frac{-5}{\sqrt{1-(5x)^2}}}{1}$$

$$= \frac{3}{2\sqrt{4}} - \frac{-5}{1} = \frac{3}{4} + 5 = \frac{23}{4}$$

$$\sin^{-1}(0) = 0$$

$$\textcircled{3} \lim_{x \rightarrow 0} (\operatorname{Cosec}(x) - \cot(x))$$

by direct substitution

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

$$\begin{aligned} \operatorname{Cosec}(0) &= \frac{1}{\sin(0)} \\ &= \frac{1}{0} = \infty \\ \cot(0) &= \frac{1}{\tan 0} = \frac{1}{0} \\ &= \infty \end{aligned}$$

$$= \lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \left(\frac{1}{\sin(x)} - \frac{\cos(x)}{\sin(x)} \right)$$

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

$$= \lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \frac{\sin(x)}{\cos(x)} = \frac{0}{1} = 0$$

$$\textcircled{4} \lim_{x \rightarrow 1} (1-x) \tan\left(\frac{\pi}{2}x\right)$$

by direct substitution

$$\lim_{x \rightarrow 1} (1-x) \tan\left(\frac{\pi}{2}x\right) = 0 \times \infty$$

$$= \lim_{x \rightarrow 1} \frac{1-x}{\cot\left(\frac{\pi}{2}x\right)} = \frac{1-1}{\cot\left(\frac{\pi}{2}\right)} = \frac{0}{0}$$

$$= \lim_{x \rightarrow 1} \frac{-1}{-\operatorname{Cosec}^2\left(\frac{\pi}{2}x\right) \cdot \left(\frac{\pi}{2}\right)} = \frac{-1}{-\left(\frac{\pi}{2}\right)} = \frac{2}{\pi}$$

$$\textcircled{5} \lim_{x \rightarrow \frac{\pi}{2}} \cot(x) \cdot \ln(\sec x)$$

by direct substitution

$$\lim_{x \rightarrow \frac{\pi}{2}} \cot(x) \cdot \ln(\sec x) = 0 \times \infty$$

$$= \lim_{x \rightarrow \frac{\pi}{2}} \frac{\ln(\sec x)}{\tan(x)} = \frac{\infty}{\infty}$$

$$= \lim_{x \rightarrow \frac{\pi}{2}} \frac{\frac{\sec(x) \tan(x)}{\sec(x)}}{\sec^2(x)} = \lim_{x \rightarrow \frac{\pi}{2}} \frac{\tan x}{\sec^2 x}$$

$$= \lim_{x \rightarrow \frac{\pi}{2}} \frac{\sin x}{\cos x} \cdot \cos^2 x = 0$$

$$\textcircled{6} \lim_{x \rightarrow 0} (\cos x)^{\frac{1}{x^2}}$$

by direct substitution

$$\lim_{x \rightarrow 0} (\cos x)^{\frac{1}{x^2}} = 1^\infty$$

When the power is variable, we will use the Logarithm, as follows:

$$\text{Put } y = \lim_{x \rightarrow 0} (\cos x)^{\frac{1}{x^2}}$$

Take ln to both sides

$$\therefore \ln y = \lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \ln (\cos x)^{\frac{1}{x^2}}$$

$$= \lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \frac{1}{x^2} \ln (\cos x) \quad \text{rational function}$$

$$= \lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \frac{\ln (\cos x)}{x^2} = \frac{0}{0}$$

Apply L'Hôpital

$$= \lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \frac{\frac{-\sin x}{\cos x}}{2x} = \frac{0}{0}$$

$$= \lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \frac{-\tan x}{2x} = \lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \frac{-\sec^2 x}{2}$$

$$= \frac{-1}{2}$$

$$\therefore \ln y = \frac{-1}{2} \Rightarrow e^{\ln y} = e^{-\frac{1}{2}}$$

$$y = \lim_{x \rightarrow 0} (\cos x)^{\frac{1}{x^2}} = e^{-\frac{1}{2}} \quad \checkmark$$

$$\textcircled{7} \lim_{x \rightarrow 0} (1 + \tan^{-1}(2x))^{\operatorname{cosec}(3x)}$$

by direct substitution

$$\lim_{x \rightarrow 0} (1 + \tan^{-1}(2x))^{\operatorname{cosec}(3x)} = 1^{\infty}$$

$$\text{Put } y = \lim_{x \rightarrow 0} (1 + \tan^{-1}(2x))^{\operatorname{Cosec}(3x)}$$

$$\ln y = \lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \ln (1 + \tan^{-1}(2x))^{\operatorname{Cosec}(3x)}$$

$$= \lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \operatorname{Cosec}(3x) \cdot \ln (1 + \tan^{-1}(2x))$$

$$= \lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \frac{\ln(1 + \tan^{-1}(2x))}{\sin(3x)} = \frac{0}{0}$$

$$= \lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \frac{\frac{1}{1 + \tan^{-1}(2x)} \cdot \frac{2}{1 + (2x)^2}}{3 \cos(3x)}$$

$$= \frac{2}{3}$$

$$\therefore \ln y = \frac{2}{3} \rightarrow e^{\ln y} = e^{\frac{2}{3}}$$

$$\therefore y = \lim_{x \rightarrow 0} (1 + \tan^{-1}(2x))^{\operatorname{Cosec}(3x)} = e^{\frac{2}{3}}$$

$$\textcircled{8} \quad \lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} \left(\frac{2x-5}{2x+1} \right)^{3x+4}$$

by direct substitution

$$\lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} \left(\frac{2x-5}{2x+1} \right)^{3x+4} = 1^{\infty}$$

$$\begin{aligned} & \lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} \left(\frac{2x-5}{2x+1} \right) \\ &= \frac{\text{Coeff. of } x}{\text{Coeff. of } x} \quad \begin{array}{l} \text{polyn. of degree 1} \\ \text{poly. of deg 1} \end{array} \\ &= \frac{2}{2} = 1 \end{aligned}$$

$$\text{Put } y = \lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} \left(\frac{2x+5}{2x+1} \right)^{3x+4}$$

Take \ln to both sides

$$\therefore \ln y = \lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} \ln \left(\frac{2x+5}{2x+1} \right)^{3x+4}$$

$$\ln y = \lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} (3x+4) \ln \left(\frac{2x+5}{2x+1} \right)$$

$$= \lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} \frac{\ln \left(\frac{2x+5}{2x+1} \right)}{\frac{1}{3x+4}} = \frac{0}{0}$$

$$= \lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} \frac{\ln(2x+5) - \ln(2x+1)}{\frac{1}{3x+4}}$$

$$= \lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} \frac{\frac{2}{2x+5} - \frac{2}{2x+1}}{-\frac{3}{(3x+4)^2}} \quad \begin{aligned} &\rightarrow \frac{d}{dx} (3x+4)^{-1} \\ &= -(3x+4)^{-2} (3) \\ &= \frac{-3}{(3x+4)^2} \end{aligned}$$

$$= \frac{2}{-3} \lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} (3x+4)^2 \left[\frac{1}{2x+5} - \frac{1}{2x+1} \right] \quad \left| \begin{array}{l} \lim_{x \rightarrow a} K P(x) \\ = K \lim_{x \rightarrow a} P(x) \\ \text{K is a const.} \end{array} \right.$$

$$= \frac{-2}{3} \lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} (3x+4)^2 \left[\frac{2x+1 - (2x+5)}{(2x+5)(2x+1)} \right]$$

$$= \frac{-2}{3} \lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} \frac{6(9x^2 + 24x + 16)}{4x^2 - 8x - 5}$$

$$= \frac{-2 \times 6}{3} \lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} \frac{9x^2 + 24x + 16}{4x^2 - 8x - 5}$$

$$= -4 \times \frac{9}{4} = -9$$

$$\ln y = -9$$

$$\therefore e^{\ln y} = e^{-9}$$

$$\therefore y = \lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} \left(\frac{2x-5}{2x+1} \right)^{3x+4} = e^{-9}$$
