

L'Hôpital's Rule:

Warm Up → Announcements

L'Hôpital's Rule:

GOAL: Evaluate limits when $\frac{0}{0}$ or $\frac{\infty}{\infty}$

TOOL: Derivative

Ex: $\lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} \frac{\ln(x)}{x-1} = \frac{\infty}{\infty}$ Indeterminate
Need to do more

But what? — Factor?
— conjugate?
— algebra?

L'Hôpital's Rule:

Idea: Take the derivative of top + bottom

$$\lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} \frac{\ln(x)}{x-1} \stackrel{L}{=} \lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} \frac{\frac{d}{dx}(\ln(x))}{\frac{d}{dx}(x-1)} = \lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} \frac{\frac{1}{x}}{1}$$

$$= \lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} \frac{1}{x} = 0$$

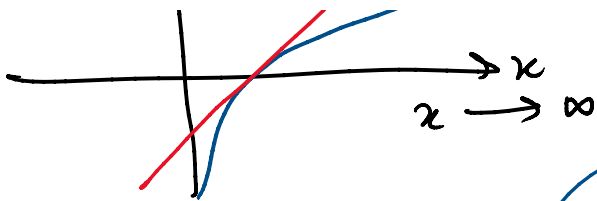
$$\lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} \frac{\ln(x)}{x-1} = 0$$

Q: Why does this work?



$$\lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} \frac{\ln(x) \rightarrow \infty}{x-1 \rightarrow \infty}$$

$x-1$ grows faster



$x-1$ grows faster
than $\ln(x)$

ratio of $\ln(x)/(x-1)$
goes to zero

use the derivative to
compare the rates of change

L'Hopital's Rule:

$$\text{if } \lim_{x \rightarrow a} \frac{f(x)}{g(x)} \rightarrow \frac{0}{0} \text{ or } \frac{\infty}{\infty}$$

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

Other Indeterminate Forms:

$$\infty - \infty, \quad \infty \cdot 0, \quad 1^\infty$$

Ex: $\lim_{x \rightarrow 0^+} \left(\frac{1}{x} - \frac{1}{e^x - 1} \right) \rightarrow \frac{1}{0} - \frac{1}{1-1} = \infty - \infty \neq 0$
Indeterminate

Want to transform this into $\frac{0}{0}$ or $\frac{\infty}{\infty}$

Find the common denominator

$$= \lim_{x \rightarrow 0^+} \left(\frac{1}{x} \frac{(e^x - 1)}{(e^x - 1)} - \frac{1}{e^x - 1} \frac{(x)}{(x)} \right)$$

$$= \lim_{x \rightarrow 0^+} \left(\frac{e^x - 1 - x}{x(e^x - 1)} \right) \rightarrow \frac{e^0 - 1 - 0}{0(e^0 - 1)} = \frac{0}{0}$$

$$\textcircled{L} \lim_{x \rightarrow 0^+} \frac{\frac{d}{dx}(e^x - 1 - x)}{\frac{d}{dx}(x(e^x - 1))} = \lim_{x \rightarrow 0^+} \frac{e^x - 1}{1 + x + x(e^x + 1)}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \textcircled{L} \quad & \lim_{x \rightarrow 0^+} \frac{\frac{d}{dx}(e^{-1-x})}{\frac{d}{dx}(x(e^x-1))} = \lim_{x \rightarrow 0^+} \frac{-e^{-1-x}}{1 + x(e^x-1)} \\ & = \lim_{x \rightarrow 0^+} \frac{e^x - 1}{1 + (e^x - 1) + x(e^x)} \quad \rightarrow \frac{e^0 - 1}{1 + e^0 + 0(e-1)} \\ & = \frac{e^0 - 1}{1 + (e^0 - 1) + 0(e^0)} = \frac{0}{0} \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \textcircled{L} \quad & \lim_{x \rightarrow 0^+} \frac{\frac{d}{dx}(e^x - 1)}{\frac{d}{dx}(e^x - 1 + xe^x)} = \lim_{x \rightarrow 0^+} \frac{e^x}{e^x + 1 \cdot e^x + xe^x} \\ & = \frac{e^0}{e^0 + e^0 + 0} = \frac{1}{1+1} = \frac{1}{2} \end{aligned}$$

$$\boxed{\lim_{x \rightarrow 0^+} \left(\frac{1}{x} - \frac{1}{e^x - 1} \right) = \frac{1}{2}}$$

Ex: $\lim_{x \rightarrow 0^+} x \ln(x) \rightarrow 0 \cdot (-\infty)$ Indeterminate
 Want to rearrange so $\frac{0}{0}$ or $\frac{\infty}{\infty}$
 Rewrite $x = \frac{1}{\left(\frac{1}{x}\right)}$

$$= \lim_{x \rightarrow 0^+} \frac{\ln(x)}{\left(\frac{1}{x}\right)} \rightarrow \frac{-\infty}{\infty} \quad \text{L'Hôpital's}$$

$$\textcircled{L} \quad \lim_{x \rightarrow 0^+} \frac{\frac{1}{x}}{\left(\frac{-1}{x^2}\right)} = \lim_{x \rightarrow 0^+} (-x) = \boxed{0}$$

Q? $\lim_{x \rightarrow 0^+} 1 \cdot \ln(x) + x \left(\frac{1}{x}\right) = -\infty$

$x \rightarrow 0^-$

Ex: $\lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} \left(1 + \frac{1}{x}\right)^x \rightarrow 1^\infty$ Indeterminate

Want to rewrite this in a way $\frac{0}{0}$ or $\frac{\infty}{\infty}$ to apply L'Hôpital's Rule

But $f(x)^{g(x)} \rightarrow$ use $\ln()$

$$e^{\ln\left(\lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} \left(1 + \frac{1}{x}\right)^x\right)} = \ln(L) = L$$

$$L = e^{\ln\left(\lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} \left(1 + \frac{1}{x}\right)^x\right)}$$

$$= e^{\lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} \ln\left[\left(1 + \frac{1}{x}\right)^x\right]}$$

$$= e^{\lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} x \ln\left(1 + \frac{1}{x}\right)}$$

$\rightarrow e^{\infty \cdot 0}$ Indeterminate
Want $e^{\frac{0}{0}}$ or $e^{\frac{\infty}{\infty}}$
 $x = \frac{1}{\frac{1}{x}}$

$$= e^{\lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} \frac{\ln\left(1 + \frac{1}{x}\right)}{\left(\frac{1}{x}\right)} \rightarrow \frac{0}{0}}$$

$$= e^{\lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} \frac{\frac{1}{1 + \frac{1}{x}} \cdot \left(-\frac{1}{x^2}\right)}{\left(-\frac{1}{x^2}\right)}} = e^{\lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} \frac{1}{1 + \frac{1}{x}}} = e^1$$

(4)

$$= e$$

$$\boxed{\lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} \left(1 + \frac{1}{x}\right)^x = e}$$

