

## SECTION 4.8 L'HÔPITAL'S RULE (DAY 2)

1. L'Hôpital's Rule (again but even better)...

If  $\lim_{x \rightarrow a} \frac{f(x)}{g(x)}$  has the form  $\frac{0}{0}$  or  $\frac{\infty}{\infty}$

then  $\lim_{x \rightarrow a} \frac{f(x)}{g(x)} \stackrel{\textcircled{H}}{=} \lim_{x \rightarrow a} \frac{f'(x)}{g'(x)}$  provided the 2<sup>nd</sup> limit exists or is  $\pm\infty$

(Also  $a$  can be  $\pm\infty$ .)

2. Evaluate the following limits using any appropriate method.

$$(a) \lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} \frac{\ln(x)}{\sqrt{x}} \stackrel{\textcircled{H}}{=} \lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} \frac{\frac{1}{x}}{\frac{1}{2}x^{-1/2}} = \lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} \frac{2\sqrt{x}}{x} = \lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} \frac{2}{\sqrt{x}} = 0$$

$\downarrow$   
 form  $\frac{\infty}{\infty}$

$$(b) \lim_{x \rightarrow 2} \frac{x^2 - 4}{x^2 - 2x} \stackrel{\textcircled{H}}{=} \lim_{x \rightarrow 2} \frac{2x}{2x - 2} = \frac{4}{4 - 2} = 2$$

$\downarrow$   
 form  $\frac{0}{0}$

$$(c) \lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} \frac{2e^x + 1}{1 - 3e^x} \stackrel{\textcircled{H}}{=} \lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} \frac{2e^x}{-3e^x} = \lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} \frac{-2}{3} = \frac{-2}{3}$$

$\downarrow$   
 form  $\frac{\infty}{\infty}$

$$(d) \lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \frac{\cos(4x)}{3e^{3x}} = \frac{1}{3}$$

$\nearrow$   
 Can't use  
 L'Hôpital  
 for every thing.

3. Now for some more sophisticated applications.

$$(a) \lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} x \sin\left(\frac{\pi}{x}\right) = \lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} \frac{\sin(\pi x^{-1})}{x^{-1}} = \lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} \frac{\cos(\pi x^{-1}) (-1 \cdot \pi x^{-2})}{-x^{-2}} = \lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} \pi \cos\left(\frac{\pi}{x}\right) = \pi$$

$\infty \cdot 0$        $\underbrace{\hspace{10em}}_{\text{form } \frac{0}{0}}$

use  $x = \frac{1}{\frac{1}{x}} = \frac{1}{x^{-1}}$

$$(b) \lim_{x \rightarrow 0^+} (1+x)^{1/x} = \boxed{e}$$

① transform problem:  
 old  $y = (1+x)^{1/x}$   
 new  $\ln y = \frac{1}{x} \ln(1+x) = \frac{\ln(1+x)}{x}$

② Find limit of new problem:  
 $\lim_{x \rightarrow 0^+} \frac{\ln(1+x)}{x} \stackrel{(4)}{=} \lim_{x \rightarrow 0^+} \frac{\frac{1}{1+x} \cdot 1}{1} = \lim_{x \rightarrow 0^+} \frac{1}{1+x} = \frac{1}{1} = 1$

③ Undo transformation from ①:  
 We found  $\lim_{x \rightarrow 0^+} \ln(y) = 1$   
 So  $\lim_{x \rightarrow 0^+} y = e^1 = e$

use ①  $e^{\ln(y)} = y$   
 ② if  $a=b$  then  $e^a = e^b$

$$(c) \lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} \frac{e^{x/10}}{x^2} \stackrel{(4)}{=} \lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} \frac{\frac{1}{10} e^{x/10}}{2x} \stackrel{(4)}{=} \lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} \frac{\frac{1}{100} e^{x/10}}{2} = \infty$$

$\underbrace{\hspace{10em}}_{\text{form } \frac{\infty}{\infty}}$        $\underbrace{\hspace{10em}}_{\text{form } \frac{\infty}{\infty}}$

$$(d) \lim_{x \rightarrow 1^+} (\ln(x^4 - 1) - \ln(x^9 - 1)) = \lim_{x \rightarrow 1^+} \left( \ln\left(\frac{x^4 - 1}{x^9 - 1}\right) \right) = \ln \left[ \lim_{x \rightarrow 1^+} \underbrace{\left(\frac{x^4 - 1}{x^9 - 1}\right)}_{\text{form } \frac{0}{0}} \right]$$

$$\stackrel{(4)}{=} \ln \left[ \lim_{x \rightarrow 1^+} \frac{4x^3}{9x^8} \right] = \ln \left( \frac{4}{9} \right)$$