

Examine the limits below.

" $\frac{0}{0}$ "
indeterminant
form

$$\lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \frac{\sin(x) - x}{x^3} \quad \leftarrow \text{Not so easy.}$$

" $\frac{0}{0}$ "
indeterminant
form

$$\lim_{x \rightarrow 2} \frac{x^2 - 4}{x - 2} = \lim_{x \rightarrow 2} \frac{\cancel{(x-2)}(x+2)}{\cancel{x-2}} = \underline{\underline{4}}$$

These are examples of
 $0/0$ indeterminant forms.

Why is $0/0$ called an indeterminate form?

"0/0"

$$\lim_{x \rightarrow 1} \frac{17(x-1)}{x-1} = 17$$

$$\lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \frac{\sin(2x)}{5x} = \frac{2}{5}$$

"0/0"

"0/0"

$$\lim_{x \rightarrow 1} \frac{17(x-1)}{x^2-1} = \frac{17}{2}$$

$(x-1)(x+1)$

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

"0/0"

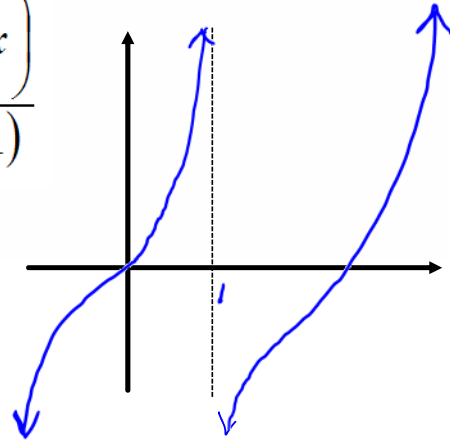
Bottom Line: "0/0" can lead to anything.

What is an (∞/∞) indeterminate form?

Example:

$$\lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} \frac{3x - 2}{2x + 1} = \frac{3}{2}$$

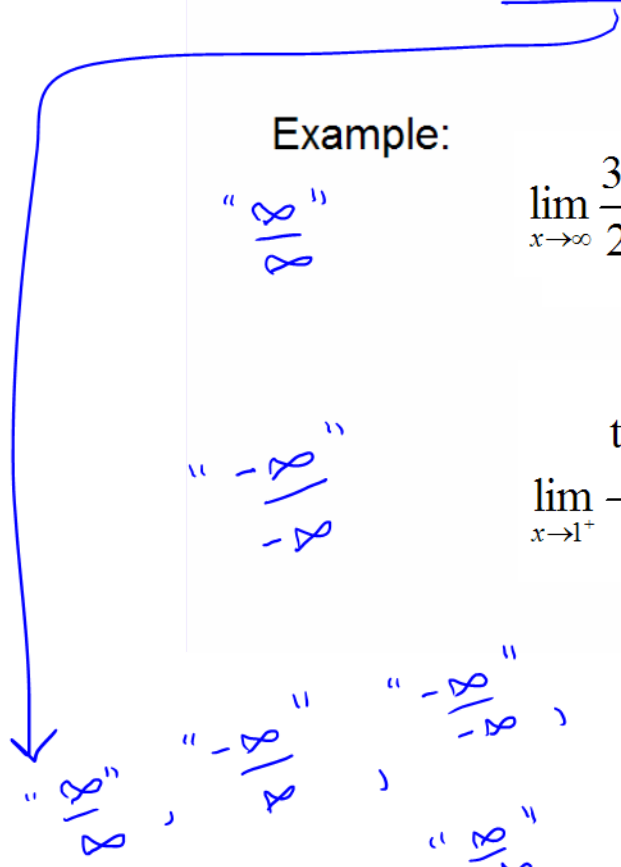
$$\lim_{x \rightarrow 1^+} \frac{\tan\left(\frac{\pi}{2}x\right)}{\ln(x-1)}$$



" ∞/∞ "

" ∞/∞ "

" ∞/∞ " = " ∞/∞ " = " ∞/∞ " = " ∞/∞ "



Why is (∞/∞) called an indeterminate form?

Answer: It can be almost anything!

$$\lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} \frac{3x-2}{2x+1}$$

$$\parallel$$
$$\frac{3}{2}$$

$$\lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} \frac{x^2}{x+1}$$

$$\parallel$$
$$\infty$$
$$\underline{\underline{DNE}}$$

$$\lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} \frac{x^2}{x^3+1} = 0$$

L'Hospital's Rule...

$$\lim_{x \rightarrow c} \frac{f(x)}{g(x)}$$

Two Cases:

1. $(0/0)$
2. (∞/∞)

These are both “indeterminant forms.”

L'Hospital's Rule: (0/0) Case.

Theorem Suppose that f and g are differentiable functions with $g'(x) \neq 0$, and suppose

$$f(x) \rightarrow 0 \text{ and } g(x) \rightarrow 0$$

" $\frac{0}{0}$ " ind. form

as $x \rightarrow c^+, c^-, c, \infty, -\infty$. Let L be a real number or $\pm\infty$.

$$\text{If } \frac{f'(x)}{g'(x)} \rightarrow L \text{ then } \frac{f(x)}{g(x)} \rightarrow L$$

i.e.

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

...when we have a 0/0 indeterminate form!!

Caution: " $\frac{0}{0}$ " ind form is important.

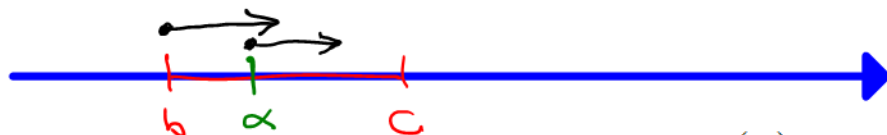
ex. $\lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \frac{3x-1}{2x+6} = -\frac{1}{6}$.

Note: If you wrongly apply L-H rule (b/c we do not have a " $\frac{0}{0}$ " ind. form), then you get $\frac{3}{2}$. WRONG.

Why does this work?

Since $f(x) \rightarrow 0$ and $g(x) \rightarrow 0$ as $x \rightarrow c$, we can assume

$f(c) = g(c) = 0$. Assume f, g are diff.



Pick any value $b < c$, and define $h(x) = f(x) - \frac{f(b)}{g(b)}g(x)$.

Note: $h(b) = h(c) = 0$

$$h(b) = f(b) - \frac{f(b)}{g(b)}g(b) = 0$$

$$h(c) = f(c) - \frac{f(b)}{g(b)}g(c) = 0$$

\therefore by Rolle's Thm there is α so that $b < \alpha < c$ and $h'(\alpha) = 0$.

Note: $h'(x) = f'(x) - \frac{f(b)}{g(b)}g'(x)$

Then $h'(\alpha) = 0$ iff $f'(\alpha) - \frac{f(b)}{g(b)}g'(\alpha) = 0$

i.e. $\frac{f'(\alpha)}{g'(\alpha)} = \frac{f(b)}{g(b)}$

So, when $b \rightarrow c^-$, we get $\alpha \rightarrow c^-$, and $\frac{f'(\alpha)}{g'(\alpha)} \rightarrow L \Rightarrow \frac{f(b)}{g(b)} \rightarrow L$.

L'Hospital's Rule: (∞/∞) Case.

Theorem Suppose that f and g are differentiable functions with $g'(x) \neq 0$, and suppose

$$f(x) \rightarrow \pm\infty \text{ and } g(x) \rightarrow \pm\infty$$

as $x \rightarrow c^+, c^-, c, \infty, -\infty$. Let L be a real number or $\pm\infty$.

" $\frac{\infty}{\infty}$ " ind. form

$$\text{If } \frac{f'(x)}{g'(x)} \rightarrow L \text{ then } \frac{f(x)}{g(x)} \rightarrow L$$

i.e.

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

...provided we have an ∞/∞ indeterminate form!!!

Example: $\lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \frac{2 \cos(x) - 2 + 3x^2}{x^2} = 2$

" $\frac{0}{0}$ " ind. form.

Try L-H:

$\lim_{x \rightarrow 0}$

$\frac{-2 \sin(x) + 6x}{2x} = 2$

New limit problem

" $\frac{0}{0}$ " ind form

Try L-H

$\lim_{x \rightarrow 0}$

$\frac{-2 \cos(x) + 6}{2} = 2$

$\lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \left(-\frac{\sin(x)}{x} + 3 \right) = 2$

Revisit...

$$\lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \frac{\sin(x) - x}{x^3} = -\frac{1}{6}$$

" $\frac{0}{0}$ " ind. form

Try L-H: $\lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \frac{\cos(x) - 1}{3x^2} = -\frac{1}{6}$

New limit problem

" $\frac{0}{0}$ " ind. form AGAIN

Try L-H: $\lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \frac{-\sin(x)}{6x} = \lim_{x \rightarrow 0} -\frac{1}{6} \cdot \frac{\sin(x)}{x}$

$= -\frac{1}{6}$

Example: $\lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} \frac{x^2}{e^x} = 0$ ← we know this.

But, let's suppose you aren't thinking.

" $\frac{\infty}{\infty}$ " ind. form.

Try L-H: $\lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} \frac{2x}{e^x} = 0$

" $\frac{\infty}{\infty}$ " ind. form

~~Try L-H:~~ $\lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} \frac{2}{e^x} = 0$

Example: $\lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} \frac{\ln(x)}{x} = 0$ ← you know this.

BUT, let's suppose you aren't thinking.

" $\frac{\infty}{\infty}$ " ind. form.

Try L-H: $\lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} \frac{1/x}{1} = \lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} \frac{1}{x} = 0$

Example: $\lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} \frac{\ln(x)}{x^{0.0000001}}$

$= 0$

you know this.

But, if you aren't thinking ...

" $\frac{\infty}{\infty}$ " ind. form

Try L-H: $\lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} \frac{1/x}{0.0000001 x^{(0.0000001 - 1)}}$

$= \lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} \frac{1}{0.0000001 x} = 0$

What is wrong with the following argument?

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

0
//

Check ind. forms?

$\frac{0}{0}$ ✓

$\frac{0}{1}$

Not an ind. form.

⇒ this is invalid.

Example: $\lim_{x \rightarrow 0^+} (e^x + 2x)^{1/x} = e^3$ "1 ∞ " ind. form.

Note $(e^x + 2x)^{1/x} = e^{\ln((e^x + 2x)^{1/x})}$
 $= e^{\frac{\ln(e^x + 2x)}{x}} \rightarrow e^3$

$\lim_{x \rightarrow 0^+} \frac{\ln(e^x + 2x)}{x}$ "0/0" ind. form
 Try L-H: $\lim_{x \rightarrow 0^+} \frac{e^x + 2}{e^x + 2x} = \frac{3}{1} = 3$