

Diff. Calculus

Indeterminate Forms

$$\frac{0}{0}, \frac{\infty}{\infty}, 0 \times \infty, \infty - \infty, 0^0, 1^\infty, \infty^0$$

L' Hospital's rule

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

provided the latter limit exists

1. Evaluate $\lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \frac{\sin x}{x}$.

Soln The given term = $\lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \frac{\sin x}{x}$ [$\frac{0}{0}$ form]

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

$$= \lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \cos x = 1$$

2. Evaluate $\lim_{x \rightarrow 1} \frac{\log x}{x-1}$.

Soln $\lim_{x \rightarrow 1} \frac{\log x}{x-1}$ [$\frac{0}{0}$ form]

$$= \lim_{x \rightarrow 1} \frac{\frac{d}{dx}(\log x)}{\frac{d}{dx}(x-1)} = \lim_{x \rightarrow 1} \frac{\frac{1}{x}}{1} = \lim_{x \rightarrow 1} \frac{1}{x} = 1$$

$$3. \quad \lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \frac{\sin 5x}{\sin 2x} \quad \left[\frac{0}{0} \text{ form} \right]$$

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

$$= \lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \frac{5 \cos 5x}{2 \cos 2x} = \frac{5}{2} \cdot \frac{\lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \cos 5x}{\lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \cos 2x}$$

$$= \frac{5}{2} \times \frac{1}{1} = \frac{5}{2}$$

$$4. \quad \lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \frac{a^x - 1}{x} \quad \left[\frac{0}{0} \right]$$

$$= \lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \frac{\frac{d}{dx} (a^x - 1)}{\frac{d}{dx} (x)}$$

$$= \lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \frac{a^x \log_e a}{1} = a^0 \log_e a = \log_e a$$

$$5. \quad \lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \frac{x - \tan x}{x^3} \quad \left[\frac{0}{0} \right]$$

$$= \lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \frac{\frac{d}{dx} (x - \tan x)}{\frac{d}{dx} (x^3)} = \lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \frac{1 - \sec^2 x}{3x^2} \quad \left[\frac{0}{0} \right]$$

$$= \lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \frac{\frac{d}{dx} (1 - \sec^2 x)}{\frac{d}{dx} (3x^2)} = \lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \frac{-2 \sec^2 x \tan x}{6x} \quad \left[\frac{0}{0} \right]$$

$$= \lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \frac{-2 (2 \sec^2 x \tan x + \sec^4 x)}{6} = \frac{-2}{6} (2 \times 0 + 1) = \frac{-1}{3}$$