

	Expression	$\lim_{x \rightarrow u} f(x)$	$\lim_{x \rightarrow u} g(x)$	Indeterminate Form
(1)	$\frac{f(x)}{g(x)}$	0	0	$\frac{0}{0}$
(2)	$\frac{f(x)}{g(x)}$	∞	∞	$\frac{\infty}{\infty}$
(3)	$f(x) \cdot g(x)$	0	∞	$0 \cdot \infty$
(4)	$f(x) - g(x)$	∞	∞	$\infty - \infty$
(5)	$[f(x)]^{g(x)}$	0	0	0^0
(6)	$[f(x)]^{g(x)}$	∞	0	∞^0
(7)	$[f(x)]^{g(x)}$	1	∞	1^∞

Here the limit can be any of: $\lim_{x \rightarrow a}$ $\lim_{x \rightarrow a^-}$ $\lim_{x \rightarrow a^+}$ $\lim_{x \rightarrow -\infty}$ $\lim_{x \rightarrow +\infty}$.

L'Hôpital's Rule

(For expressions (1) and (2))

If $\frac{f(x)}{g(x)}$ has the indeterminate form $\frac{0}{0}$ or $\frac{\infty}{\infty}$ at u and $\lim_{x \rightarrow u} \frac{f'(x)}{g'(x)}$ exists (i.e. this limit is a finite number or $-\infty$ or ∞)

then

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

For expression (3)

If $f(x) \cdot g(x)$ has the indeterminate form $0 \cdot \infty$ at u , then rewrite:

$$f(x) \cdot g(x) = \frac{f(x)}{1/g(x)}, \text{ which has the indeterminate form } \frac{0}{0} \text{ at } u$$

or

$$f(x) \cdot g(x) = \frac{g(x)}{1/f(x)}, \text{ which has the indeterminate form } \frac{\infty}{\infty} \text{ at } u$$

and then apply L'Hôpital's Rule.

For Expression **(4)**

If $f(x) - g(x)$ has the indeterminate form $\boxed{\infty - \infty}$ at u ,

then use algebraic manipulation to convert $f(x) - g(x)$

into a form of the type $\boxed{\frac{0}{0}}$ or $\boxed{\frac{\infty}{\infty}}$

and then apply L'Hôpital's Rule.

For expression **(5)**

If $[f(x)]^{g(x)}$ has the indeterminate form $\boxed{0^0}$ at u , then follow these steps:

Let

$$y = [f(x)]^{g(x)}$$

So

$$\ln y = \ln \left([f(x)]^{g(x)} \right)$$

Next, simplify

$$\ln y = g(x) \ln (f(x))$$

Note that $\ln y = g(x) \ln (f(x))$ has the indeterminate form $\boxed{0 \cdot -\infty}$ as $x \rightarrow u$.

Using an appropriate above method (i.e. **(3)**), evaluate

$$\lim_{x \rightarrow u} \ln y = L .$$

Conclude

$$\lim_{x \rightarrow u} \ln [f(x)]^{g(x)} = L \quad \implies \quad \lim_{x \rightarrow u} [f(x)]^{g(x)} = e^L .$$

For expressions **(6)** and **(7)**

If $[f(x)]^{g(x)}$ has the indeterminate form $\boxed{\infty^0}$ or $\boxed{1^\infty}$, then proceed similarly as in **(5)**.

Note that $\ln y = g(x) \ln (f(x))$ will have the indeterminate form

(6) $\boxed{0 \cdot \infty}$ as $x \rightarrow u$

(7) $\boxed{\infty \cdot 0}$ as $x \rightarrow u$.
