

The Weekly Rigor

No. 25

“A mathematician is a machine for turning coffee into theorems.”

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51 Problems in Calculating Limits Using L’Hôpital’s Rule with Solutions (Part 6)

41. Let $y = (1 + \sin(4x))^{\cot(x)}$.

Hence, $\ln(y) = \ln[(1 + \sin(4x))^{\cot(x)}] = \cot(x) \ln(1 + \sin(4x))$.

So, $\lim_{x \rightarrow 0^+} \ln(y) = \lim_{x \rightarrow 0^+} \cot(x) \ln(1 + \sin(4x)) = \lim_{x \rightarrow 0^+} \frac{\ln(1 + \sin(4x))}{\tan(x)} \stackrel{LH}{=} \lim_{x \rightarrow 0^+} \frac{\left(\frac{4 \cos(4x)}{1 + \sin(4x)}\right)}{\sec^2(x)} = \frac{\left(\frac{4 \cos(0)}{1 + \sin(0)}\right)}{\sec^2(0)} = \frac{\left(\frac{4(1)}{1}\right)}{1} = \frac{\left(\frac{4}{1}\right)}{1} = 4$. That is, $\lim_{x \rightarrow 0^+} \ln(y) = 4$.

Now $y = y \Leftrightarrow \ln(y) = \ln(y) \Leftrightarrow e^{\ln(y)} = y$. Therefore, $\lim_{x \rightarrow 0^+} (1 + \sin(4x))^{\cot(x)} = \lim_{x \rightarrow 0^+} y = \lim_{x \rightarrow 0^+} e^{\ln(y)} = e^{\lim_{x \rightarrow 0^+} \ln(y)} = e^4$.

42. Let $y = x^x$.

Hence, $\ln(y) = \ln(x^x) = x \ln(x)$.

So, $\lim_{x \rightarrow 0^+} \ln(y) = \lim_{x \rightarrow 0^+} x \ln(x) = \lim_{x \rightarrow 0^+} \frac{\ln(x)}{\left(\frac{1}{x}\right)} = \lim_{x \rightarrow 0^+} \frac{\ln(x)}{x^{-1}} \stackrel{LH}{=} \lim_{x \rightarrow 0^+} \frac{\left(\frac{1}{x}\right)}{-x^{-2}} = \lim_{x \rightarrow 0^+} \frac{\left(\frac{1}{x}\right)}{\left(\frac{-1}{x^2}\right)} = \lim_{x \rightarrow 0^+} \frac{1}{x} \cdot \frac{x^2}{-1} = \lim_{x \rightarrow 0^+} -x = 0$. That is, $\lim_{x \rightarrow 0^+} \ln(y) = 0$.

Now $y = y \Leftrightarrow \ln(y) = \ln(y) \Leftrightarrow e^{\ln(y)} = y$. Therefore, $\lim_{x \rightarrow 0^+} x^x = \lim_{x \rightarrow 0^+} y = \lim_{x \rightarrow 0^+} e^{\ln(y)} = e^{\lim_{x \rightarrow 0^+} \ln(y)} = e^0 = 1$.

43. Let $y = (1 + x)^{\frac{1}{x}}$.

$$\text{Hence, } \ln(y) = \ln\left[(1 + x)^{\frac{1}{x}}\right] = \frac{1}{x} \ln(1 + x) = \frac{\ln(1 + x)}{x}.$$

So, $\lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \ln(y) = \lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \frac{\ln(1+x)}{x} \stackrel{LH}{=} \lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \frac{1}{1+x} = \frac{1}{1+0} = 1$. That is, $\lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \ln(y) = 1$.

Now $y = y \Leftrightarrow \ln(y) = \ln(y) \Leftrightarrow e^{\ln(y)} = y$. Therefore, $\lim_{x \rightarrow 0} (1 + x)^{\frac{1}{x}} = \lim_{x \rightarrow 0} y =$

$$= \lim_{x \rightarrow 0} e^{\ln(y)} = e^{\lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \ln(y)} = e^1 = e.$$

44. Let $y = x^{\frac{1}{1-x}}$.

$$\text{Hence, } \ln(y) = \ln\left(x^{\frac{1}{1-x}}\right) = \frac{1}{1-x} \ln(x) = \frac{\ln(x)}{1-x}.$$

So, $\lim_{x \rightarrow 1^+} \ln(y) = \lim_{x \rightarrow 1^+} \frac{\ln(x)}{1-x} \stackrel{LH}{=} \lim_{x \rightarrow 1^+} \frac{\frac{1}{x}}{-1} = \frac{\frac{1}{1}}{-1} = -1$. That is, $\lim_{x \rightarrow 1^+} \ln(y) = -1$.

Now $y = y \Leftrightarrow \ln(y) = \ln(y) \Leftrightarrow e^{\ln(y)} = y$. Therefore, $\lim_{x \rightarrow 1^+} x^{\frac{1}{1-x}} = \lim_{x \rightarrow 1^+} y =$

$$= \lim_{x \rightarrow 1^+} e^{\ln(y)} = e^{\lim_{x \rightarrow 1^+} \ln(y)} = e^{-1} = \frac{1}{e}.$$

45. Let $y = [\ln(x)]^{\frac{1}{x}}$.

$$\text{Hence, } \ln(y) = \ln\left[[\ln(x)]^{\frac{1}{x}}\right] = \frac{1}{x} \ln[\ln(x)] = \frac{\ln[\ln(x)]}{x}.$$

So, $\lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} \ln(y) = \lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} \frac{\ln[\ln(x)]}{x} \stackrel{LH}{=} \lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} \frac{\frac{1}{\ln(x)} \cdot \frac{1}{x}}{1} = \frac{0}{1} = 0$. That is, $\lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} \ln(y) = 0$.

Now $y = y \Leftrightarrow \ln(y) = \ln(y) \Leftrightarrow e^{\ln(y)} = y$. Therefore, $\lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} [\ln(x)]^{\frac{1}{x}} = \lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} y =$

$$= \lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} e^{\ln(y)} = e^{\lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} \ln(y)} = e^0 = 1.$$

“Only he who never plays, never loses.”