

CHAPTER

6

Indeterminate Forms: L'Hospital's Rule

6.1 INTRODUCTION

Let $f(x)$ and $g(x)$ be two functions then the ratio $\frac{f(x)}{g(x)}$ is undefined at $x = a$ if $g(a) = 0$. If $g(a) = f(a) = 0$, then the ratio $f(x)/g(x)$ has the indeterminate form $\frac{0}{0}$ at $x = a$ but $f(x)/g(x)$ may have a definite value as $x \rightarrow a$. Other indeterminate forms are ∞/∞ , $\infty - \infty$, $0 \times \infty$, 0^0 , ∞^0 and 1^∞ . We now discuss some of these forms below.

6.2 THE FORM $\left(\frac{0}{0}\right)$; L' HOSPITAL'S RULE

If $f(x)$ and $g(x)$ be two functions such that

(i) both are continuous in $a \leq x \leq a + h$

(ii) both are derivable in $a < x \leq a + h$

and (iii) $f(a) = g(a) = 0$,

then
$$\lim_{x \rightarrow a} \frac{f(x)}{g(x)} = \lim_{x \rightarrow a} \frac{f'(x)}{g'(x)} = \frac{f'(a)}{g'(a)} \text{ provided } g'(a) \neq 0$$

This rule admits of the following generalization: If $f(x)$ and $g(x)$ be two functions such that

(i) $f^{(n-1)}(x)$ and $g^{(n-1)}(x)$ are continuous at $x = a$

(ii) $f^{(n)}(x)$ and $g^{(n)}(x)$ both exist at $x = a$

and (iii) $f(a) = f'(a) = \dots = f^{(n-1)}(a) = 0$ and $g(a) = g'(a) = \dots = g^{(n-1)}(a) = 0$,

then
$$\lim_{x \rightarrow a} \frac{f(x)}{g(x)} = \lim_{x \rightarrow a} \frac{f^{(n)}(x)}{g^{(n)}(x)} = \frac{f^{(n)}(a)}{g^{(n)}(a)} \text{ provided } g^{(n)}(a) \neq 0$$

The proofs of the both are outside the scope of this text.

$$\log 1 = 0$$

Example 1: Evaluate $\lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \frac{e^x - e^{\sin x}}{x - \sin x}$

Solution: Here $\lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \frac{e^x - e^{\sin x}}{x - \sin x}$ $\left(\frac{0}{0} \text{ form}\right)$

$$= \lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \frac{e^x - e^{\sin x} \cos x}{1 - \cos x} \quad [\text{By L'Hospital rule}]$$

$$= \lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \frac{e^x - \cos x e^{\sin x}}{1 - \cos x} \quad \left(\frac{0}{0} \text{ form}\right)$$

$$= \lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \frac{e^x - e^{\sin x} \cos^2 x + \sin x e^{\sin x}}{\sin x} \quad [\text{By L'Hospital rule}]$$

$$= \lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \frac{e^x - e^{\sin x} \cos^2 x + e^{\sin x} \sin x}{\sin x} \quad \left(\frac{0}{0} \text{ form}\right)$$

$$= \lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \frac{e^x - e^{\sin x} \cos^3 x + e^{\sin x} 2 \cos x \sin x + e^{\sin x} \cos x + e^{\sin x} \sin x \cos x}{\cos x}$$

[By L'Hospital rule]

$$= \frac{1 - 1 + 0 + 1 + 0}{1} = \frac{1}{1} = 1$$

Example 2: Evaluate $\lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \frac{\tan x - x}{x - \sin x}$

Solution: Here $\lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \frac{\tan x - x}{x - \sin x}$ $\left(\frac{0}{0} \text{ form}\right)$

$$= \lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \frac{\sec^2 x - 1}{1 - \cos x} \quad [\text{By L'Hospital rule}] \left(\frac{0}{0} \text{ form}\right)$$

$$= \lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \frac{2 \sec^2 x \tan x}{\sin x} \quad [\text{By L'Hospital rule}] \left(\text{again } \frac{0}{0} \text{ form}\right)$$

$$= \lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \frac{2 \sec^4 x + 4 \sec^2 x \tan^2 x}{\cos x} \quad [\text{By L'Hospital rule}]$$

$$= \frac{2 + 0}{1} = 2.$$

Example 3: Evaluate $\lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \frac{x \cos x - \log(1+x)}{x^2}$.

Solution: Here $\lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \frac{x \cos x - \log(1+x)}{x^2}$ $\left(\frac{0}{0} \text{ form}\right)$

$$= \lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \frac{\cos x - x \sin x - \frac{1}{1+x}}{2x} \quad [\text{By L'Hospital rule}] \left(\frac{0}{0} \text{ form}\right)$$

$$= \lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \frac{-\sin x - \sin x - x \cos x + \left(\frac{1}{1+x}\right)^2}{2} \quad [\text{By L'Hospital rule}]$$

$$= \frac{-0 - 0 - 0 + 1}{2} = \frac{1}{2}$$

Example 4: Evaluate $\lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \frac{x - \sin x}{x^3}$.

Solution: Here $\lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \frac{x - \sin x}{x^3}$ $\left(\frac{0}{0} \text{ form}\right)$

$$= \lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \frac{1 - \cos x}{3x^2} = \lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \frac{+\sin x}{6x} \quad [\text{By L'Hospital rule}] \left(\frac{0}{0} \text{ form}\right)$$

$$= \lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \frac{\cos x}{6} = \frac{1}{6} \quad [\text{By L'Hospital rule}]$$

Example 5: Evaluate $\lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \frac{e^x + \sin x - 1}{\log(1+x)}$.

Solution: Here $\lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \frac{e^x + \sin x - 1}{\log(1+x)}$ $\left(\frac{0}{0} \text{ form}\right)$

$$= \lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \frac{e^x + \cos x}{\frac{1}{1+x}} \quad [\text{By L'Hospital rule}] = \frac{1+1}{\frac{1}{1+0}} = \frac{2}{1} = 2$$

6.3 THE FORM $\frac{\infty}{\infty}$

Let $f(x)$ and $g(x)$ be the two functions such that

- (i) both are continuous in $a \leq x \leq a + h$,
 (ii) both are derivable in $a < x \leq a + h$,
 (iii) $\lim_{x \rightarrow a} f(x) = \infty = \lim_{x \rightarrow a} g(x)$,

and (iv) $\lim_{x \rightarrow a} \frac{f'(x)}{g'(x)} = l < \infty$, then $\lim_{x \rightarrow a} \frac{f(x)}{g(x)} = l$.

Example 1: Evaluate $\lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} \frac{2x^2 - 4}{x^2 + 2x + 3}$.

Solution: Here $\lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} \frac{2x^2 - 4}{x^2 + 2x + 3}$ $\left(\frac{\infty}{\infty} \text{ form}\right)$

$$= \lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} \frac{4x}{2x + 2} \quad \left(\frac{\infty}{\infty} \text{ form}\right)$$

$$= \lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} \frac{4}{2} = 2.$$

Example 2: Evaluate $\lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} \frac{\log x}{x}$.

Solution: Here $\lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} \frac{\log x}{x}$ $\left(\frac{\infty}{\infty} \text{ form}\right)$

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

$\log \infty = \infty$

$\frac{1}{\infty} = 0$

Example 3: Evaluate $\lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \frac{\log \sin x}{\cot x}$.

Solution: Here $\lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \frac{\log \sin x}{\cot x}$ $\left(\frac{\infty}{\infty} \text{ form}\right) = \lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \frac{\frac{\cos x}{\sin x}}{-\operatorname{cosec}^2 x}$

$\log 0 = \text{undefined}$

$$= \lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \frac{\cos x}{-\operatorname{cosec} x} = \lim_{x \rightarrow 0} -\frac{1}{2} 2 \sin x \cos x$$

$$= \lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \left(\frac{1}{2}\right) \sin 2x = 0.$$

Example 4: Evaluate $\lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} \frac{x^n}{e^x} (n > 0)$.

Solution: Here $\lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} \frac{x^n}{e^x}$ $\left(\frac{\infty}{\infty} \text{ form}\right) = \lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} \frac{n x^{n-1}}{e^x}$ $\left(\frac{\infty}{\infty} \text{ form}\right)$

$$\lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} \frac{n(n-1) x^{n-2}}{e^x} \quad \left(\text{Again } \frac{\infty}{\infty} \text{ form}\right) = \dots =$$

$$= \lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} \frac{n(n-1)(n-2) \dots 3.2.1}{e^x} = \frac{n!}{\infty} = 0.$$

6.4 THE FORM $(0 \cdot \infty)$

The form $0 \cdot \infty$ can be reduced to either $\frac{0}{0}$ or $\frac{\infty}{\infty}$. Let $\lim_{x \rightarrow a} f(x) = 0$ and $\lim_{x \rightarrow a} g(x) = \infty$, then

$\lim_{x \rightarrow a} f(x) \cdot g(x)$ ($0 \cdot \infty$ form) can be written as $\lim_{x \rightarrow a} \frac{f(x)}{\frac{1}{g(x)}}$

$$\left(\frac{0}{0} \text{ form}\right) \text{ or } \lim_{x \rightarrow a} \frac{g(x)}{\frac{1}{f(x)}} \left(\frac{\infty}{\infty} \text{ form}\right)$$

Example 1: Evaluate $\lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \cot x \log \left(\frac{1+x}{1-x}\right)$.

Solution: Here $\lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \cot x \log \left(\frac{1+x}{1-x}\right)$ ($0 \cdot \infty$ form)

$$= \lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \frac{\log(1+x) - \log(1-x)}{\tan x} \quad \left(\frac{0}{0} \text{ form}\right)$$

$$= \lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \frac{\frac{1}{1+x} + \frac{1}{1-x}}{\sec^2 x}$$

[By L'Hospital rule]

$$= \frac{\frac{1}{1+0} + \frac{1}{1-0}}{1} = \frac{1+1}{1} = 2.$$

Example 2: Evaluate $\lim_{x \rightarrow 0} x \log \tan x$.

Solution: Here $\lim_{x \rightarrow 0} x \log \tan x$ ($0 \cdot \infty$ form)

$$\log 0 = \infty$$

$$\begin{aligned}
&= \lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \frac{\log \tan x}{1/x} \quad \left(\frac{\infty}{\infty} \text{ form} \right) \\
&= \lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \frac{\sec^2 x / \tan x}{-\frac{1}{x^2}} = \lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \frac{-x^2 \sec^2 x}{\tan x} = \lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \frac{-x^2}{\cos^2 x \frac{\sin x}{\cos x}} \\
&= \lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \frac{-2x^2}{\sin 2x} \quad \left(\frac{0}{0} \text{ form} \right) \\
&= \lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \frac{-4x}{2 \cos 2x} \quad [\text{By L'Hospital rule}] = \frac{-4 \cdot 0}{2} = 0
\end{aligned}$$

Example 3: Evaluate $\lim_{x \rightarrow 0} x^2 \log(x^2)$.

Solution: Here $\lim_{x \rightarrow 0} x^2 \log(x^2)$ $(0 \cdot \infty \text{ form})$

$$\begin{aligned}
&= \lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \frac{\log(x^2)}{\frac{1}{x^2}} \quad \left(\frac{\infty}{\infty} \text{ form} \right) \\
&= \lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \frac{\frac{1}{x^2} 2x}{-\frac{2}{x^3}} = \lim_{x \rightarrow 0} -x^2 = 0.
\end{aligned}$$

Example 4: Evaluate $\lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \sin x \log(x^2)$.

Solution: Here $\lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \sin x \log(x^2)$ $(0 \cdot \infty \text{ form})$

$$\begin{aligned}
&= \lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \frac{\log x^2}{\operatorname{cosec} x} \quad \left(\frac{\infty}{\infty} \text{ form} \right) \\
&= \lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \frac{\frac{2x}{x^2}}{-\operatorname{cosec} x \cdot \cot x} = \lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \frac{-2 \sin^2 x}{x \cos x} = \lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \frac{-2 \sin x \tan x}{x} \quad \left(\frac{0}{0} \text{ form} \right) \\
&= \lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \frac{-2 \cos x \tan x - 2 \sin x \sec^2 x}{1} \quad (\text{By L'Hospital rule}) \\
&= \frac{0 - 0}{1} = 0.
\end{aligned}$$

6.5 THE FORM $(\infty - \infty)$

The form $\infty - \infty$ can be reduced to $\frac{0}{0}$ form, then we apply the L'Hospital rule.

Let $f(x)$ and $g(x) \rightarrow \infty$ as $x \rightarrow a$, then $\lim_{x \rightarrow a} \{f(x) - g(x)\}$ ($\infty - \infty$ form) can be

written as
$$\lim_{x \rightarrow a} \frac{\frac{1}{g(x)} - \frac{1}{f(x)}}{\frac{1}{f(x)} \cdot \frac{1}{g(x)}} \quad \left(\frac{0}{0} \text{ form}\right)$$

Example 1: Evaluate $\lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \left(\frac{1}{x} - \frac{1}{\sin x} \right)$.

Solution: Here $\lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \left(\frac{1}{x} - \frac{1}{\sin x} \right)$ ($\infty - \infty$ form)

$$= \lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \frac{\sin x - x}{x \sin x} \quad \left(\frac{0}{0} \text{ form}\right)$$

$$= \lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \frac{\cos x - 1}{\sin x + x \cos x} \quad [\text{By L'Hospital rule}] \quad \left(\text{again } \frac{0}{0} \text{ form}\right)$$

$$= \lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \frac{-\sin x}{\cos x - x \sin x + \cos x} \quad [\text{By L'Hospital rule}]$$

$$= \frac{0}{1 - 0 + 1} = \frac{0}{2} = 0.$$

Example 2: Evaluate $\lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \left(\frac{1}{x^2} - \frac{1}{\sin^2 x} \right)$.

Solution: Here $\lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \left(\frac{1}{x^2} - \frac{1}{\sin^2 x} \right)$ ($\infty - \infty$ form)

$$= \lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \frac{\sin^2 x - x^2}{x^2 \sin^2 x} \quad \left(\frac{0}{0} \text{ form}\right)$$

$$= \lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \frac{2 \sin x \cos x - 2x}{2x \sin^2 x + 2 \sin x \cos x x^2} \quad [\text{By L'Hospital rule}]$$

$$= \lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \frac{\sin 2x - 2x}{2x \sin^2 x + \sin 2x x^2} \quad \left(\frac{0}{0} \text{ form}\right)$$

$$\begin{aligned}
&= \lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \frac{2 \cos 2x - 2}{2 \sin^2 x + 4x \sin x \cos x + 2 \cos 2x x^2 + 2x \sin 2x} \\
&\quad \text{[By L'Hospital rule] } \left(\text{again } \frac{0}{0} \text{ form} \right) \\
&= \lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \frac{-4 \sin 2x}{2 \sin 2x + 4[\sin 2x + 2x \cos 2x] + [4x \cos 2x - 4x^2 \sin 2x]} \\
&\quad \text{[By L'Hospital rule]} \\
&= \lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \frac{-4 \sin 2x}{6 \sin 2x + 12x \cos 2x - 4x^2 \sin 2x} \quad \left(\frac{0}{0} \text{ form} \right) \\
&= \lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \frac{-8 \cos 2x}{12 \cos 2x + 12 \cos 2x - 24x \sin 2x - 8x \sin 2x - 8x^2 \cos 2x} \\
&\quad \text{[By L'Hospital rule]} \\
&= \frac{-8}{12 + 12 - 0 - 0 - 0} = \frac{-8}{24} = \frac{-1}{3}
\end{aligned}$$

Example 3: Evaluate $\lim_{x \rightarrow \frac{\pi}{2}} (\sec x - \tan x)$

Solution: Here $\lim_{x \rightarrow \frac{\pi}{2}} (\sec x - \tan x)$ $(\infty - \infty \text{ form})$

$$\begin{aligned}
&= \lim_{x \rightarrow \frac{\pi}{2}} \left(\frac{1}{\cos x} - \frac{\sin x}{\cos x} \right) = \lim_{x \rightarrow \frac{\pi}{2}} \frac{1 - \sin x}{\cos x} \quad \left(\frac{0}{0} \text{ form} \right) \\
&= \lim_{x \rightarrow \frac{\pi}{2}} \frac{-\cos x}{-\sin x} \quad \text{[By L'Hospital rule]} = 0
\end{aligned}$$

Example 4: Evaluate $\lim_{x \rightarrow 1} \left\{ \frac{x}{x-1} - \frac{1}{\log x} \right\}$.

Solution: Here $\lim_{x \rightarrow 1} \left\{ \frac{x}{x-1} - \frac{1}{\log x} \right\}$ $(\infty - \infty \text{ form})$

$$\begin{aligned}
&= \lim_{x \rightarrow 1} \frac{x \log x - (x-1)}{(x-1) \log x} \quad \left(\frac{0}{0} \text{ form} \right) \\
&= \lim_{x \rightarrow 1} \frac{\frac{x}{x} + \log x - 1}{\log x + \frac{x-1}{x}} \quad \text{[By L'Hospital rule]}
\end{aligned}$$

$$= \lim_{x \rightarrow 1} \frac{x \log x}{x \log x + x - 1} \quad \left(\frac{0}{0} \text{ form} \right)$$

$$= \lim_{x \rightarrow 1} \frac{\frac{x}{x} + \log x}{\frac{x}{x} + \log x + 1} \quad [\text{By L'Hospital rule}]$$

$$= \lim_{x \rightarrow 1} \frac{1 + \log x}{2 + \log x} = \frac{1}{2}.$$

Example 5: Evaluate $\lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \left\{ \frac{1}{x} - \frac{\log(1+x)}{x^2} \right\}$

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Solution: Here $\lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \left\{ \frac{1}{x} - \frac{\log(1+x)}{x^2} \right\} \quad (\infty - \infty \text{ form})$

$$= \lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \frac{x - \log(1+x)}{x^2} \quad \left(\frac{0}{0} \text{ form} \right)$$

$$= \lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \frac{1 - \frac{1}{1+x}}{2x} \quad [\text{By L'Hospital rule}]$$

$$= \lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \frac{x}{2x(1+x)} = \lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \frac{1}{2(1+x)} = \frac{1}{2}.$$

Example 6: Evaluate $\lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \left\{ \frac{1}{x} - \frac{2}{x(e^x + 1)} \right\}.$

Solution: Here $\lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \left\{ \frac{1}{x} - \frac{2}{x(e^x + 1)} \right\} \quad (\infty - \infty \text{ form})$

$$= \lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \frac{(e^x + 1) - 2}{x(e^x + 1)} = \lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \frac{e^x - 1}{x(e^x + 1)} \quad \left(\frac{0}{0} \text{ form} \right)$$

$$= \lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \frac{e^x}{(e^x + 1) + xe^x} \quad [\text{By L'Hospital rule}]$$

$$= \frac{1}{1+1} = \frac{1}{2}.$$

6.6 THE FORMS 0^0 , $1^{\pm\infty}$ AND ∞^0

For the three exponential forms 0^0 , $1^{\pm\infty}$ and ∞^0 , we find the limits of the functions of the form $y = \{f(x)\}^{g(x)}$ as $x \rightarrow a$ [That is when (i) both $f(x)$ and $g(x) \rightarrow 0$ as $x \rightarrow a$, (ii) $f(x) \rightarrow 1$ and $g(x) \rightarrow \pm\infty$ as $x \rightarrow a$, (iii) $f(x) \rightarrow \infty$ and $g(x) \rightarrow 0$ as $x \rightarrow a$] by taking their logarithms and reducing it to the form $0 \cdot \infty$.

Example 1: Evaluate $\lim_{x \rightarrow 0} (\sin x)^{2 \tan x}$.

Solution: Let $y = (\sin x)^{2 \tan x}$, then $\log y = 2 \tan x \log \sin x$

$$\therefore \lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \log y = \lim_{x \rightarrow 0} 2 \tan x \log \sin x \quad (0 \cdot \infty \text{ form})$$

$$= \lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \frac{2 \log \sin x}{\cot x} \quad \left(\frac{\infty}{\infty} \text{ form} \right)$$

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

$$= \lim_{x \rightarrow 0} -2 \sin x \cos x = \lim_{x \rightarrow 0} -\sin 2x = 0$$

$$\text{Since } \lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \log y = \log \left(\lim_{x \rightarrow 0} y \right), \text{ then } \log \left(\lim_{x \rightarrow 0} y \right) = 0 = \log 1$$

$$\therefore \lim_{x \rightarrow 0} y = 1$$

$$\text{or } \lim_{x \rightarrow 0} (\sin x)^{2 \tan x} = 1.$$

Example 2: Evaluate: $\lim_{x \rightarrow \frac{\pi}{2}} (\cos x)^{\frac{\pi}{2} - x}$

Solution: Let $y = (\cos x)^{\frac{\pi}{2} - x}$, then $\log y = \left(\frac{\pi}{2} - x \right) \log \cos x$

$$\therefore \lim_{x \rightarrow \frac{\pi}{2}} \log y = \lim_{x \rightarrow \frac{\pi}{2}} \left(\frac{\pi}{2} - x \right) \log \cos x \quad (0 \cdot \infty \text{ form})$$

$$= \lim_{x \rightarrow \frac{\pi}{2}} \frac{\log \cos x}{\frac{\frac{\pi}{2} - x}{1}} \quad \left(\frac{\infty}{\infty} \text{ form} \right)$$

$$= \lim_{x \rightarrow \frac{\pi}{2}} \frac{-\frac{\sin x}{\cos x}}{\left(\frac{1}{\frac{\pi}{2} - x}\right)^2} = \lim_{x \rightarrow \frac{\pi}{2}} \frac{-\sin x \left(\frac{\pi}{2} - x\right)^2}{\cos x} = \frac{0}{1} = 0$$

Since $\lim_{x \rightarrow \frac{\pi}{2}} \log y = \log \left(\lim_{x \rightarrow \frac{\pi}{2}} y \right)$, then $\log \left(\lim_{x \rightarrow \frac{\pi}{2}} y \right) = 0 = \log 1$

$$\lim_{x \rightarrow \frac{\pi}{2}} 4 = 1 \text{ or } \lim_{x \rightarrow \frac{\pi}{2}} (\cos x)^{\frac{\pi}{2} - x} = 1$$

Example 3: Evaluate $\lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \left(\frac{\tan x}{x} \right)^{\frac{1}{x}}$.

Solution: Let $y = \left(\frac{\tan x}{x} \right)^{\frac{1}{x}}$, then $\log y = \frac{1}{x} \log \left(\frac{\tan x}{x} \right)$

$$\therefore \lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \log y = \lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \frac{\log \left(\frac{\tan x}{x} \right)}{x} \quad \left(\frac{0}{0} \text{ form} \right)$$

$$= \lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \frac{\left(\frac{x}{\tan x} \cdot \frac{x \sec^2 x - \tan x}{x^2} \right)}{1} \quad [\text{By L'Hospital rule}]$$

$$= \lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \frac{2x - \sin 2x}{x \sin 2x} \quad \left(\frac{0}{0} \text{ form} \right)$$

$$= \lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \frac{2 - 2 \cos 2x}{\sin 2x + 2x \cos 2x} \quad [\text{By L'Hospital rule}] \quad \left(\frac{0}{0} \text{ form} \right)$$

$$= \lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \frac{4 \sin 2x}{2 \cos 2x + 2 \cos 2x - 4x \sin 2x} \quad [\text{By L'Hospital rule}]$$

$$= \frac{0}{2 + 2 - 0} = \frac{0}{4} = 0$$

Since $\lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \log y = \log \left(\lim_{x \rightarrow 0} y \right)$, then $\log \left(\lim_{x \rightarrow 0} y \right) = 0 = \log 1$

$$\therefore \lim_{x \rightarrow 0} y = 1 \Rightarrow \lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \left(\frac{\tan x}{x} \right)^{\frac{1}{x}} = 1.$$

Example 4: Evaluate $\lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \left(\frac{\sin x}{x} \right)^{\frac{1}{x}}$.

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Solution: Let $y = \left(\frac{\sin x}{x} \right)^{\frac{1}{x}}$. Then $\log y = \frac{1}{x} \log \left(\frac{\sin x}{x} \right)$

$$\therefore \lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \log y = \lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \frac{1}{x} \log \left(\frac{\sin x}{x} \right) = \lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \frac{\log \left(\frac{\sin x}{x} \right)}{x} \quad \left(\frac{0}{0} \text{ form} \right)$$

$$= \lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \frac{\left[\left(\frac{x}{\sin x} \right) \frac{x \cos x - \sin x}{x^2} \right]}{1} \quad [\text{By L'Hospital rule}]$$

$$= \lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \frac{x \cos x - \sin x}{x \sin x} \quad \left(\frac{0}{0} \text{ form} \right)$$

$$= \lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \frac{\cos x - x \sin x - \cos x}{\sin x + x \cos x} \quad [\text{By L'Hospital rule}]$$

$$= \lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \frac{-x \sin x}{\sin x + x \cos x} \quad \left(\frac{0}{0} \text{ form} \right)$$

$$= \lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \frac{-\sin x - x \cos x}{\cos x + \cos x - x \sin x} \quad [\text{By L'Hospital rule}]$$

$$= \frac{0 - 0}{1 + 1 - 0} = \frac{0}{2} = 0$$

Since $\lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \log y = \log \left(\lim_{x \rightarrow 0} y \right)$, then $\log \left(\lim_{x \rightarrow 0} y \right) = 0 = \log 1$

$$\therefore \lim_{x \rightarrow 0} y = 1 \Rightarrow \lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \left(\frac{\sin x}{x} \right)^{\frac{1}{x}} = 1.$$

Example 5: Evaluate $\lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \left(1 + \frac{1}{x} \right)^x$.

$$\log 1 = 0, \log 0 = -\infty, \log \infty = \infty$$

Solution: Let $y = \left(1 + \frac{1}{x}\right)^x$, then $\log y = x \log \left(1 + \frac{1}{x}\right) = \frac{\log(x+1) - \log x}{\frac{1}{x}}$

$$\therefore \lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \log y = \lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \frac{\log(x+1) - \log(x)}{\frac{1}{x}} \quad \left(\frac{\infty}{\infty} \text{ form}\right)$$

$$= \lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \frac{\frac{1}{x+1} - \frac{1}{x}}{\frac{-1}{x^2}} = \lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \left(-\frac{x^2}{1+x} + x\right) = 0$$

Since $\lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \log y = \log \left(\lim_{x \rightarrow 0} y\right)$, then $\log \left(\lim_{x \rightarrow 0} y\right) = 0 = \log 1$

$$\therefore \lim_{x \rightarrow 0} y = 1 \Rightarrow \lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \left(1 + \frac{1}{x}\right)^x = 1.$$

Example 6: Evaluate $\lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \left(\frac{1}{x^2}\right)^{\tan x}$.

Solution: Let $y = \left(\frac{1}{x^2}\right)^{\tan x}$, then $\log y = \tan x \log \left(\frac{1}{x^2}\right) = \frac{-\log x^2}{\cot x}$

$$\therefore \lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \log y = \lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \frac{-2 \log x}{\cot x} \quad \left(\frac{\infty}{\infty} \text{ form}\right)$$

$$= -2 \lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \frac{\frac{1}{x}}{(-\operatorname{cosec}^2 x)} = 2 \lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \frac{\sin^2 x}{x}$$

$$= 2 \lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \frac{\sin x}{x} \cdot \frac{\sin x}{x} \cdot x = 2 \cdot 1 \cdot 1 \cdot 0 = 0$$

Since $\lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \log y = \log \left(\lim_{x \rightarrow 0} y\right)$, $\log \left(\lim_{x \rightarrow 0} y\right) = 0 = \log 1$

$$\therefore \lim_{x \rightarrow 0} y = 1 \Rightarrow \lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \left(\frac{1}{x^2}\right)^{\tan x} = 1.$$

Example 7: Find the values of a , b and c such that

$$\lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \frac{ae^x - b \cos x + ce^{-x}}{x \sin x} = 2, \text{ applying L'Hospital rule.}$$

Solution: Since the given function has finite limit as $x \rightarrow 0$, and denominator $\rightarrow 0$ as $x \rightarrow 0$, the numerator should also $\rightarrow 0$ as $x \rightarrow 0$ which gives

$$a - b + c = 0 \quad \dots(1)$$

$$\therefore \lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \frac{ae^x - b \cos x + ce^{-x}}{x \sin x} \quad \left(\frac{0}{0} \text{ form}\right)$$

$$= \lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \frac{ae^x + b \sin x - ce^{-x}}{\sin x + x \cos x} \quad [\text{By L'Hospital rule}] = 2$$

Again, this function has finite limit 2 as $x \rightarrow 0$ and the denominator $\rightarrow 0$ as $x \rightarrow 0$, then the numerator should also $\rightarrow 0$ as $x \rightarrow 0$ which gives

$$a - c = 0 \quad \dots(2)$$

$$\therefore \lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \frac{ae^x + b \sin x - ce^{-x}}{\sin x + x \cos x} \quad \left(\frac{0}{0} \text{ form}\right)$$

$$= \lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \frac{e^x a + b \cos x + ce^{-x}}{\cos x + \cos x - x \sin x} \quad [\text{By L'Hospital rule}]$$

$$= \frac{a + b + c}{2} = 2 \quad (\because \text{given limit is } 2)$$

$$\therefore a + b + c = 4 \quad \dots(3)$$

$$\text{From (1) and (2), we get } a + c = b \Rightarrow b = 2a (\because a = c) \quad \dots(4)$$

$$\text{From (2), (3) and (4), we get } a + 2a + a = 4 \Rightarrow a = 1$$

$$\therefore b = 2 \text{ and } c = 1$$

Hence, $a = 1$, $b = 2$ and $c = 1$.

Example 8: Find the values of a and b such that

$$\lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \frac{x(1 - a \cos x) + b \sin x}{x^3} = \frac{1}{3} \quad (\text{Assume that L'Hospital's rule is applicable})$$

$$\text{Solution: Here } \lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \frac{x(1 - a \cos x) + b \sin x}{x^3} \quad \left(\frac{0}{0} \text{ form}\right)$$

$$= \lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \frac{(1 - a \cos x) + ax \sin x + b \cos x}{3x^2} \quad [\text{By L'Hospital rule}]$$

Since this function has finite limit $\frac{1}{3}$ as $x \rightarrow 0$ and denominator $\rightarrow 0$ as $x \rightarrow 0$, numerator should also $\rightarrow 0$ as $x \rightarrow 0$ which gives

$$1 - a + b = 0 \quad \dots(1)$$

$$\therefore \lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \frac{(1 - a \cos x) + ax \sin x + b \cos x}{3x^2} \quad \left(\frac{0}{0} \text{ form} \right)$$

$$= \lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \frac{a \sin x + a \sin x + ax \cos x - b \sin x}{6x}$$

[By L'Hospital rule] $\left(\text{again } \frac{0}{0} \text{ form} \right)$

$$= \lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \frac{2a \cos x + a \cos x - ax \sin x - b \cos x}{6} \quad [\text{By L'Hospital rule}]$$

$$= \frac{3a - b}{6} = \frac{1}{3} \quad \left(\because \text{Given limit is } \frac{1}{3} \right)$$

or $3a - b = 2$

From (1) and (2), we get $1 - a + 3a - 2 = 0$ or $a = 1/2$

$$\therefore b = a - 1 = \frac{1}{2} - 1 = -\frac{1}{2}$$

$$a = \frac{1}{2} \text{ and } b = -\frac{1}{2}$$

...(2)

6.7 MISCELLANEOUS EXAMPLES

Example 1: Find the following limit:

$$(i) \lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \frac{e^{2x} - 1}{\log(1+x)}$$

$$(ii) \lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \frac{2 \sin x - \sin 2x}{\tan^3 x}$$

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

$$(iv) \lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \frac{\sin \log(1+x)}{\log(1+\sin x)}$$

Solution: (i) $\lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \frac{e^{2x} - 1}{\log(1+x)} \quad \left(\frac{0}{0} \text{ form} \right)$

$$= \lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \frac{2e^{2x}}{1+x} \quad [\text{By L'Hospital rule}]$$

$$= \lim_{x \rightarrow 0} 2(1+x)e^{2x} = 2(1+0)e^0 = 2$$

$$(ii) \lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \frac{2 \sin x - \sin 2x}{\tan^3 x} \quad \left(\frac{0}{0} \text{ form} \right)$$

$$= \lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \frac{2 \cos x - 2 \cos 2x}{3 \tan^2 x \sec^2 x} \quad [\text{By L'Hospital rule}] \left(\frac{0}{0} \text{ form} \right)$$

$$= \lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \frac{-2 \sin x + 4 \sin 2x}{6 \tan x \sec^4 x + 6 \tan^3 x \sec x}$$

$$= \lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \frac{-2 \sin x + 8 \sin x \cos x}{6 \frac{\sin x}{\cos x} \sec^4 x + 6 \tan^2 x \frac{\sin x}{\cos x} \sec x}$$

$$= \lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \frac{-2 + 8 \cos x}{6 \sec^5 x + 6 \tan^2 x \sec^2 x} = \frac{-2 + 8}{6 + 0} = \frac{6}{6} = 1$$

$$(iii) \quad \lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \frac{x - \sin^{-1} x}{\sin^3 x} \quad \left(\frac{0}{0} \text{ form} \right)$$

$$= \lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \frac{1 - \frac{1}{\sqrt{1-x^2}}}{3 \sin^2 x \cos x}$$

[By L'Hospital rule]

$$= \lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \frac{1 - (1-x^2)^{-\frac{1}{2}}}{3 \sin^2 x \cos x} \quad \left(\frac{0}{0} \text{ form} \right)$$

$$= \lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \frac{-x (1-x^2)^{-\frac{3}{2}}}{2.3. \sin x \cos^2 x - 3 \sin^3 x} \quad \left(\frac{0}{0} \text{ form} \right)$$

[By L'Hospital rule]

$$= \lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \frac{-(1-x^2)^{-\frac{3}{2}} - 3x^2 (1-x^2)^{-\frac{5}{2}}}{6 \cos^3 x - 12 \cos x \sin^2 x - 9 \sin^2 x \cos x}$$

$$= \frac{-1 - 0}{6.1 - 12.0 - 9.0} = \frac{-1}{6}$$

$$(iv) \quad \lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \frac{\sin \log(1+x)}{\log(1+\sin x)} \quad \left(\frac{0}{0} \text{ form} \right)$$

$$= \lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \frac{\cos \log(1+x)}{(1+x) \cdot \frac{1}{1+\sin x} \cdot \cos x}$$

[By L'Hospital rule]

$$= \lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \frac{(1+\sin x) \cos \log(1+x)}{(1+x) \cos x} = \frac{(1+0) \cos 0}{(1+0) \cos 0} = 1.$$

Example 2: Show that $\lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \log_{\tan^2 x} \tan^2 2x = 1$

Solution: Since $\log_n m = \frac{\log_e m}{\log_e n}$, the required limit

$$= \lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \frac{\log(\tan^2 2x)}{\log(\tan^2 x)} = \lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \frac{2 \log(\tan 2x)}{2 \log(\tan x)} \quad \left(\frac{0}{0} \text{ form} \right)$$

$$= \lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \frac{2 \sec^2 2x}{\tan 2x} \times \frac{\tan x}{\sec^2 x} = \lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \frac{\sec^2 2x}{\sec^2 x} \cdot \frac{\frac{\tan x}{x}}{\frac{\tan 2x}{2x}} \quad [\text{By L'Hospital rule}]$$

$$= 1 \times 1 \left(\because \lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \frac{\tan x}{x} = 1 \right)$$

$$= 1$$

Example 3: Show that $\lim_{x \rightarrow 0} x \log \sin^2 x = 0$

Solution: Now $\lim_{x \rightarrow 0} x \log \sin^2 x$ ($0 \times \infty$ form)

$$= \lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \frac{\log \sin^2 x}{\frac{1}{x}} \quad \left(\frac{\infty}{\infty} \text{ form} \right)$$

$$= \lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \frac{\frac{2 \sin x \cos x}{\sin^2 x}}{-\frac{1}{x^2}} \quad [\text{By L'Hospital rule}]$$

$$= \lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \left\{ -2 \frac{\cos x}{\sin x} \times x^2 \right\} = \lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \left\{ x \cos x \frac{1}{\frac{\sin x}{x}} (-2) \right\}$$

$$= (-2) (0 \cdot 1) \frac{1}{1} = 0.$$

Example 4. Show that (i) $\lim_{x \rightarrow \frac{\pi}{2}} (\sin x)^{\tan x} = 1$ (ii) $\lim_{x \rightarrow 0} (\cot^2 x)^{\sin x} = 1$

$$(iii) \lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \left(\frac{\tan x}{x} \right)^{1/x^2} = e^{1/3} \quad (iv) \lim_{x \rightarrow 0} (\cos x)^{\cot^2 x} = e^{-\frac{1}{2}}.$$

Solution: (i) Let $y = (\sin x)^{\tan x} \therefore \log y = \tan x \log \sin x$

$$\therefore \lim_{x \rightarrow \frac{\pi}{2}} \log y = \lim_{x \rightarrow \frac{\pi}{2}} \tan x \log \sin x$$

$$= \lim_{x \rightarrow \frac{\pi}{2}} \frac{\log \sin x}{\cot x}$$

$\left(\frac{0}{0} \text{ form}\right)$

$$= \lim_{x \rightarrow \frac{\pi}{2}} \frac{\cot x}{-\operatorname{cosec}^2 x}$$

[By L'Hospital rule]

$$= \lim_{x \rightarrow \frac{\pi}{2}} \sin x \cos x = 0$$

$$\therefore \lim_{x \rightarrow \frac{\pi}{2}} \log y = \log \left(\lim_{x \rightarrow \frac{\pi}{2}} y \right)$$

$$\therefore \log \left(\lim_{x \rightarrow \frac{\pi}{2}} y \right) = 0 = \log 1$$

or $\lim_{x \rightarrow \frac{\pi}{2}} y = 1$

or $\lim_{x \rightarrow \frac{\pi}{2}} (\sin x)^{\tan x} = 1$

(ii) Let $y = (\cot^2 x)^{\sin x} \therefore \log y = \sin x \log \cot^2 x$

$$\therefore \lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \log y = \lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \sin x \log \cot^2 x$$

$$= \lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \frac{\log \cot^2 x}{\operatorname{cosec} x}$$

$\left(\frac{\infty}{\infty} \text{ form}\right)$

$$= \lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \frac{\frac{2}{\cot x} (-\operatorname{cosec}^2 x)}{-\operatorname{cosec} x \cot x} = \lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \frac{2 \operatorname{cosec} x}{\cot^2 x}$$

$$= \lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \frac{2 \sin x}{\cos^2 x} = 0$$

Since $\lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \log y = \log \left(\lim_{x \rightarrow 0} y \right)$, we have

$$\log \left(\lim_{x \rightarrow 0} y \right) = 0 = \log 1$$

or $\lim_{x \rightarrow 0} y = 1$ or $\lim_{x \rightarrow 0} (\cot^2 x)^{\sin x} = 1$

(iii) Let $y = \left(\frac{\tan x}{x} \right)^{\frac{1}{x^2}}$ $\therefore \log y = \frac{1}{x^2} \log \left(\frac{\tan x}{x} \right)$

$$\therefore \lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \frac{\log \left(\frac{\tan x}{x} \right)}{x^2} \left[\frac{0}{0} \text{ Form, } \because \lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \frac{\tan x}{x} = 1 \right]$$

[By L'Hospital rule]

$$= \lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \frac{\frac{x}{\tan x} \times \frac{x \sec^2 x - \tan x}{x^2}}{2x} = \lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \frac{x - \frac{1}{2} \sin 2x}{x^2 \sin 2x} \left(\frac{0}{0} \text{ form} \right)$$

$$= \lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \frac{1 - \cos 2x}{2x^2 \cos 2x + 2x \sin 2x} \quad [\text{By L'Hospital rule}] \left(\frac{0}{0} \text{ form} \right)$$

$$= \lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \frac{2 \sin 2x}{-4x^2 \sin 2x + 4x \cos 2x + 2 \sin 2x + 4x \cos 2x}$$

[By L'Hospital rule] $\left(\frac{0}{0} \text{ form} \right)$

$$= \lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \frac{4 \cos 2x}{-8x^2 \cos 2x - 8x \sin 2x + 8 \cos 2x - 16x \sin 2x + 4 \cos 2x}$$

[By L'Hospital rule]

$$= \frac{4}{8+4} = \frac{1}{3}$$

$$\therefore \lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \log y = \log \left(\lim_{x \rightarrow 0} y \right), \therefore \log \left(\lim_{x \rightarrow 0} y \right) = \frac{1}{3}$$

$$\therefore \lim_{x \rightarrow 0} y = \lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \left(\frac{\tan x}{x} \right)^{\frac{1}{x^2}} = e^{\frac{1}{3}}$$

(iv) Let $y = (\cos x)^{\cot^2 x}$, $\log y = \cot^2 x \log \cos x$

$$\begin{aligned}
 \therefore \lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \log y &= \lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \cot^2 x \log \cos x \\
 &= \lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \frac{\log \cos x}{\tan^2 x} \quad \left(\frac{0}{0} \text{ form} \right) \\
 &= \lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \frac{-\tan x}{2 \tan x \sec^2 x} \quad [\text{By L'Hospital rule}] \\
 &= \lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \frac{-1}{2 \sec^2 x} = -\frac{1}{2}
 \end{aligned}$$

$$\therefore \lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \log y = \log \left(\lim_{x \rightarrow 0} y \right)$$

$$\therefore \log \left(\lim_{x \rightarrow 0} y \right) = -\frac{1}{2} \text{ or } \lim_{x \rightarrow 0} y = e^{-\frac{1}{2}}$$

$$\text{or } \lim_{x \rightarrow 0} (\cos x)^{\cot^2 x} = e^{-\frac{1}{2}}$$

Example 5: If $\lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \frac{a \sin x - \sin 2x}{\tan^3 x}$ is finite, find the value of a , and the limit.

$$\begin{aligned}
 \text{Solution: } \lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \frac{a \sin x - \sin 2x}{\tan^3 x} &\quad \left(\frac{0}{0} \text{ form} \right) \\
 = \lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \frac{a \cos x - 2 \cos 2x}{3 \tan^2 x \sec^2 x} &\quad [\text{By L'Hospital rule}]
 \end{aligned}$$

When $x \rightarrow 0$, the denominator $3 \tan^2 x \sec^2 x \rightarrow 0$; since the given limit is finite, the numerator $(a \cos x - 2 \cos 2x)$ should tend to zero as $x \rightarrow 0$.

$$\therefore a - 2 = 0, \text{ i.e., } a = 2$$

Putting $a = 2$, the given limit becomes

$$\begin{aligned}
 &= \lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \frac{2 \cos x - 2 \cos 2x}{3 \tan^2 x (1 + \tan^2 x)} \\
 &= \lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \frac{2 \cos x - 2 \cos 2x}{3 \tan^2 x + 3 \tan^4 x} \quad \left(\frac{0}{0} \text{ form} \right) \\
 &= \lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \frac{-2 \sin x + 4 \sin 2x}{6 \tan x \sec^2 x + 12 \tan^3 x \sec^2 x} \quad [\text{By L'Hospital rule}] \\
 &= \lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \frac{-\sin x + 2 \sin 2x}{(1 + \tan^2 x) (3 \tan x + 6 \tan^3 x)} \quad \left(\frac{0}{0} \text{ form} \right)
 \end{aligned}$$

$$= \lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \frac{-\cos x + 4 \cos 2x}{3 \sec^2 x + \text{terms involving product of } \tan x \text{ and its higher power}}$$

$$= \frac{-1 + 4}{3} = 1.$$

Example 6: Find the values of a and b in order that

$$\lim_{\theta \rightarrow 0} \frac{\theta(1 + a \cos \theta) - b \sin \theta}{\theta^3} = 1.$$

Solution:
$$\lim_{\theta \rightarrow 0} \frac{\theta(1 + a \cos \theta) - b \sin \theta}{\theta^3} \quad \left(\frac{0}{0} \text{ form}\right)$$

$$= \lim_{\theta \rightarrow 0} \frac{(1 + a \cos \theta) - a \theta \sin \theta - b \cos \theta}{3\theta^2} \quad \dots(A)$$

When $\theta \rightarrow 0$, the denominator $3\theta^2 \rightarrow 0$, since the given limit is finite, then numerator $(1 + a \cos \theta) - a \theta \sin \theta - b \cos \theta$ should be zero as $\theta \rightarrow 0$, we get

$$1 + a - 0 - b = 0 \text{ or } 1 + a - b = 0 \quad \dots(1)$$

and hence by L'Hospital rule, then (A) becomes

$$= \lim_{\theta \rightarrow 0} \frac{-a \sin \theta - a \sin \theta - a \theta \cos \theta + b \sin \theta}{6\theta} \quad \left(\frac{0}{0} \text{ form}\right)$$

$$= \lim_{\theta \rightarrow 0} \frac{-2a \cos \theta - a \cos \theta + a \theta \sin \theta + b \cos \theta}{6}$$

[By L'Hospital rule]

$$= \frac{-3a + b}{6}$$

$$\therefore \lim_{\theta \rightarrow 0} \frac{\theta(1 + a \cos \theta) - b \sin \theta}{\theta^3} = 1 \therefore \frac{-3a + b}{6} = 1$$

$$\text{or} \quad -3a + b = 6 \quad \dots(2)$$

$$\text{From (1) and (2), } -3a + 1 + a = 6, \Rightarrow a = -\frac{5}{2}$$

$$\text{and} \quad b = 1 + a = 1 - \frac{5}{2} = \frac{-3}{2}$$

$$\therefore \quad a = \frac{-5}{2} \text{ and } b = \frac{-3}{2}.$$

EXERCISES

Evaluate the following limits:

1. $\lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \frac{x - \sin x \cos x}{x^3}$
2. $\lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \frac{e^x + e^{-x} - 2 \cos x}{x \sin x}$
3. $\lim_{x \rightarrow 1} \operatorname{cosec}(\pi x) \log x$
4. $\lim_{x \rightarrow 2} \left(\frac{4}{x^2 - 4} - \frac{1}{x - 2} \right)$
5. $\lim_{x \rightarrow 0} x^{2 \sin x}$
6. $\lim_{x \rightarrow 1-} (1 - x^2)^{\frac{1}{\log(1-x)}}$
7. $\lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} \left(1 + \frac{1}{x^2} \right)^x$
8. $\lim_{x \rightarrow 0} x^{2x}$
9. $\lim_{x \rightarrow \frac{\pi}{2}} (\sec x - \tan x)$
10. $\lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \left(\frac{1}{e^x - 1} - \frac{1}{x} \right)$
11. $\lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} \left\{ x - x^2 \log \left(1 + \frac{1}{x} \right) \right\}$
12. $\lim_{x \rightarrow 1} x^{\frac{1}{1-x}}$
13. $\lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \frac{\log \sin 2x}{\log \sin x}$
14. $\lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \frac{\log \sin x}{\cot x}$
15. $\lim_{x \rightarrow 0} (1 + \sin x)^{\cot x}$
16. $\lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \frac{x \cos x - \log(1 + x)}{x^2}$
17. $\lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \left(\frac{1}{x} - \cot x \right)$
18. $\lim_{x \rightarrow 0+} \frac{\log x - \cot \frac{\pi x}{2}}{\cot \pi x}$
19. $\lim_{x \rightarrow \frac{\pi}{2}} (\cos x)^{\cos^2 x}$

Answers

- | | | | | | |
|------------------|-------|----------------------------------|--------------------------------|-------------------|-------------------|
| 1. $\frac{2}{3}$ | 2. 2 | 3. $\left(-\frac{1}{\pi}\right)$ | 4. $\left(-\frac{1}{4}\right)$ | 5. 1 | 6. e |
| 7. 1 | 8. 1 | 9. 0 | 10. $-\frac{1}{3}$ | 11. $\frac{1}{2}$ | 12. $\frac{1}{e}$ |
| 13. 1 | 14. 0 | 15. 1 | 16. $\frac{1}{2}$ | 17. 0 | 18. 2 |
| 19. 1 | | | | | |