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SUBJECT: MATHEMATICS
F.Y.B.Sc. SEM-1 (CBCS)
CH:2 INDETERMINANT FORM



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SHREE H.N. SHUKLA GROUP OF COLLEGES

CHAPTER 1 : "INDETERMINATE FORMS"

Definition: Suppose we want to find the limiting value of a function $F(x) = \frac{f(x)}{g(x)}$ at $x = a$, when direct substitution of $x = a$ gives the form $\frac{0}{0}$, i.e. at $x = a$, $f(x) = 0$ and $g(x) = 0$.

The form $\frac{0}{0}$ is called an indeterminate form. The other types of indeterminate forms are $\frac{\infty}{\infty}$, $0 \times \infty$, $\infty - \infty$, 0^0 , ∞^0 and 1^∞ .

THE INDETERMINATE FORM $\frac{0}{0}$

L' HOSPITAL'S RULE:

Let the functions f and g be differentiable at every point than possibly ' a ' in some interval, with $g'(x) \neq 0$, if $x \neq a$.

If $\lim_{x \rightarrow a} f(x) = 0 = \lim_{x \rightarrow a} g(x)$, then $\lim_{x \rightarrow a} \frac{f(x)}{g(x)} = \lim_{x \rightarrow a} \frac{f'(x)}{g'(x)}$

Example - Evaluate $\lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \frac{e^x + e^{-x} - x^2 - 2}{\sin^2 x - x^2}$

[3 Marks] [Step 1: 1 marks; Step 2: 1 marks; Step 3: 1 marks]

⇒ **Solution:**

⇒ **Step 1:**

When $x \rightarrow 0$, both numerator and denominator approach to 0. Therefore we apply L' Hospital's rule.

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Let } L &= \lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \frac{e^x + e^{-x} - x^2 - 2}{\sin^2 x - x^2} \\ &= \lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \frac{e^x - e^{-x} - 2x}{\sin 2x - 2x} \left(\frac{0}{0} \right) \end{aligned}$$

Step 2:

$$L = \lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \frac{e^x + e^{-x} - 2}{2\cos 2x - 2} \left(\frac{0}{0} \right)$$
$$= \lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \frac{e^x - e^{-x}}{-4\sin 2x} \left(\frac{0}{0} \right)$$

Step 3:

$$L = \lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \frac{e^x + e^{-x}}{-8\cos 2x}$$
$$= -\frac{1}{4}$$

Example - Evaluate $\lim_{x \rightarrow 1} \frac{x^x - x}{x - 1 - \log x}$

⇒ Solution:

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

⇒ Solution:

Example - Evaluate $\lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \frac{\tan x - \sin x}{\sin^3 x}$

⇒ Solution:

THE INDETERMINATE FORM $\frac{\infty}{\infty}$:

If $\lim_{x \rightarrow a} f(x) = \infty$ and $\lim_{x \rightarrow a} g(x) = \infty$, then $\lim_{x \rightarrow a} \frac{f(x)}{g(x)}$ becomes $\frac{\infty}{\infty}$

In this case we write $\frac{f(x)}{g(x)}$ as $\frac{1/g(x)}{1/f(x)}$ in which case the form reduces to $\frac{0}{0}$ and L'

Hospital's rule is applicable.

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

[3 Marks] [Step 1: 1 mark; Step 2: 1 marks; Step 3: 1 marks]

⇒ **Solution:**

Step 1:

As x approaches to $\frac{\pi}{2}$, the fraction $\frac{\log(x - \frac{\pi}{2})}{\tan x}$ assumes the indeterminate form $\frac{\infty}{\infty}$.

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Let } L &= \lim_{x \rightarrow \frac{\pi}{2}} \frac{\log(x - \frac{\pi}{2})}{\tan x} \\ &= \lim_{x \rightarrow \frac{\pi}{2}} \frac{1}{\sec^2 x} \left(\frac{0}{0} \right) \end{aligned}$$

Step 2:

$$\begin{aligned} L &= \lim_{x \rightarrow \frac{\pi}{2}} \frac{x - \frac{\pi}{2}}{\cos^2 x} \\ &= \lim_{x \rightarrow \frac{\pi}{2}} \frac{\cos^2 x}{x - \frac{\pi}{2}} \left(\frac{0}{0} \right) \end{aligned}$$

Step 3:

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

$$\therefore L = 0$$

Example: Evaluate $\lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} x^n e^{-ax}$, n being a positive integer and $a > 0$.

⇒ **Solution:**

Example: Evaluate $\lim_{x \rightarrow a} \frac{\log(x-a)}{\log(e^x - e^a)}$

⇒ **Solution:**

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

⇒ **Solution:**

THE INDETERMINATE FORM $0 \times \infty$:

If $\lim_{x \rightarrow a} f(x) = 0$ and $\lim_{x \rightarrow a} g(x) = \infty$, then $\lim_{x \rightarrow a} f(x) \cdot g(x)$ becomes $0 \times \infty$

In this case we write $f(x) \cdot g(x)$ as $\frac{f(x)}{1/g(x)}$ and the form reduces to $\frac{0}{0}$, Where L' Hospital's rule is applicable.

Example: Evaluate $\lim_{x \rightarrow \frac{\pi}{4}} (1 - \tan x) \sec 2x$

[3 Marks] [Step 1: 1 mark; Step 2: 2 marks]

⇒ **Solution:**

Step 1:

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Let } L &= \lim_{x \rightarrow \frac{\pi}{4}} (1 - \tan x) \sec 2x \\ &= \lim_{x \rightarrow \frac{\pi}{4}} \frac{1 - \tan x}{\cos 2x} \left(\frac{0}{0} \right) \end{aligned}$$

Step 2:

$$\begin{aligned} L &= \lim_{x \rightarrow \frac{\pi}{4}} \frac{-\sec^2 x}{-2 \sin 2x} \\ &= \lim_{x \rightarrow \frac{\pi}{4}} \frac{-\sec^2 x}{-2 \sin x \cdot \cos x} \end{aligned}$$

$$\therefore L = 1$$

Example: Evaluate $\lim_{x \rightarrow a} \log \left(2 - \frac{x}{a} \right) \cot(x - a)$

⇒ **Solution:**

Example: Evaluate $\lim_{x \rightarrow 1} (x^2 - 1) \tan \left(\frac{\pi x}{2} \right)$

⇒ **Solution:**

Example: Evaluate $\lim_{x \rightarrow 1} \log(1 - x) \cot \frac{\pi x}{2}$

⇒ **Solution:**

THE INDETERMINATE FORM $\infty - \infty$:

If $\lim_{x \rightarrow a} f(x) = \infty$ and $\lim_{x \rightarrow a} g(x) = \infty$, then $\lim_{x \rightarrow a} [f(x) - g(x)]$ becomes $\infty - \infty$

The form $\infty - \infty$ reduces to $\frac{0}{0}$ or $\frac{\infty}{\infty}$, for $f(x) - g(x) = \frac{\frac{1}{g(x)} - \frac{1}{f(x)}}{\frac{1}{f(x) \cdot g(x)}}$

When limits are taken, then the R.H.S. of above form is reduced to the form $\frac{0}{0}$ and L' Hospital's rule is applicable.

Example: Evaluate $\lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \frac{a}{x} - \cot \frac{x}{a}$

[4 Marks] [Step 1: 1 mark; Step 2: 1 marks; Step 2: 2 marks]

⇒ **Solution:**

Step 1:

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Let } L &= \lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \frac{a}{x} - \cot \frac{x}{a} \\ &= \lim_{t \rightarrow 0} \frac{1}{t} - \cot t \quad (\infty - \infty), \text{ Where } t = \frac{x}{a} \\ &= \lim_{t \rightarrow 0} \frac{\tan t - t}{t \cdot \tan t} \left(\frac{0}{0} \right) \end{aligned}$$

Step 2:

$$\begin{aligned} L &= \lim_{t \rightarrow 0} \left(\frac{\tan t - t}{t^2} \right) \left(\frac{t}{\tan t} \right) \\ &= \left(\lim_{t \rightarrow 0} \frac{\tan t - t}{t^2} \right) \left(\lim_{t \rightarrow 0} \frac{t}{\tan t} \right) \\ &= \lim_{t \rightarrow 0} \frac{\tan t - t}{t^2} \left(\frac{0}{0} \right) \left[\because \lim_{t \rightarrow 0} \frac{t}{\tan t} = 0 \right] \end{aligned}$$

Step 2:

$$\begin{aligned} L &= \lim_{t \rightarrow 0} \frac{\sec^2 t - 1}{2t} \left(\frac{0}{0} \right) \\ &= \lim_{t \rightarrow 0} \frac{\tan^2 t}{2t} \left(\frac{0}{0} \right) \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
&= \lim_{t \rightarrow 0} \frac{1}{2} \cdot \left(\frac{\tan t}{t} \right) \tan t \\
&= \frac{1}{2} (1)(0) \left[\because \lim_{t \rightarrow 0} \frac{\tan t}{t} = 0 \right] \\
&= 0
\end{aligned}$$

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

⇒ **Solution:**

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

⇒ **Solution:**

THE INDETERMINATE FORMS 0^0 , ∞^0 , 1^∞ :

Given $\lim_{x \rightarrow a} \{f(x)\}^{g(x)}$, where

$$\lim_{x \rightarrow a} f(x) = 0 \text{ and } \lim_{x \rightarrow a} g(x) = 0,$$

Or

$$\lim_{x \rightarrow a} f(x) = \infty \text{ and } \lim_{x \rightarrow a} g(x) = 0$$

Or

$$\lim_{x \rightarrow a} f(x) = 1 \text{ and } \lim_{x \rightarrow a} g(x) = \infty$$

In this case put $y = \{f(x)\}^{g(x)}$

Taking logarithm on both sides, we get

$$\log y = g(x) \cdot \log f(x)$$

$$\text{Let } \lim_{x \rightarrow a} g(x) \cdot \log f(x) = l$$

$$\text{Then } \lim_{x \rightarrow a} \log y = l$$

$$\text{Hence } \lim_{x \rightarrow a} y = e^l$$

$$\lim_{x \rightarrow a} \{f(x)\}^{g(x)} = e^l$$

Example: Evaluate $\lim_{x \rightarrow 0^+} x^{\sin x} (0^0)$

[4 Marks] [Step 1: 1 mark; Step 2: 2 marks; Step 3: 1 marks]

⇒ **Solution:**

Step 1:

$$\text{Let } y = x^{\sin x}$$

$$\therefore \log y = \sin x \cdot \log x = \frac{\log x}{\operatorname{cosec} x} \text{ has an indeterminate form } \frac{\infty}{\infty}$$

$$\therefore \lim_{x \rightarrow 0^+} \log y = \lim_{x \rightarrow 0^+} \frac{\log x}{\operatorname{cosec} x}$$

Step 2:

$$\begin{aligned} \therefore \lim_{x \rightarrow 0^+} \log y &= \lim_{x \rightarrow 0^+} \frac{\frac{1}{x}}{-\operatorname{cosec} x \cdot \cot x} \\ &= \lim_{x \rightarrow 0^+} \frac{\sin^2 x}{-x \cdot \cos x} \\ &= \lim_{x \rightarrow 0^+} \frac{2 \sin x \cdot \cos x}{-x \cdot \sin x - \cos x} \\ &= 0 \end{aligned}$$

Step 3:

$$\therefore \lim_{x \rightarrow 0^+} y = \lim_{x \rightarrow 0^+} x^{\sin x} = e^0 = 1$$

$$\therefore \lim_{x \rightarrow 0^+} x^{\sin x} = 1$$

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

⇒ **Solution:**

Example: Evaluate $\lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \left(\frac{1}{x}\right)^{1-\cos x} (\infty^0)$

[3 Marks] [Step 1: 1 mark; Step 2: 2 marks]

⇒ **Solution:**

Step 1:

$$\text{Let } y = \left(\frac{1}{x}\right)^{1-\cos x}$$

$$\therefore \log y = (1 - \cos x) \cdot \log\left(\frac{1}{x}\right)$$

$$\begin{aligned} \lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \log y &= \lim_{x \rightarrow 0} -\left(2\sin^2 \frac{x}{2}\right) \log x \\ &= \lim_{x \rightarrow 0} -\frac{2 \log x}{\operatorname{cosec}^2 \frac{x}{2}} \end{aligned}$$

Step 2:

$$\begin{aligned} \lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \log y &= \lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \frac{-\frac{2}{x}}{-2 \operatorname{cosec}^2 \frac{x}{2} \cdot \cot \frac{x}{2} \cdot \frac{1}{2}} \\ &= \lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \frac{2 \sin^3 \frac{x}{2}}{x \cdot \cos \frac{x}{2}} \\ &= \lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \left(\frac{\tan \frac{x}{2}}{\frac{x}{2}}\right) \cdot \sin^2 \frac{x}{2} \\ &= 1 \times 0 \quad \left[\because \lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \left(\frac{\tan \frac{x}{2}}{\frac{x}{2}}\right) = 1 \right] \\ &= 0 \end{aligned}$$

Example: Evaluate $\lim_{x \rightarrow 0} (\cot x)^{\frac{1}{\log x}}$ (∞^0)

⇒ **Solution:**

⇒ **Example:** Evaluate $\lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \left(\frac{a^x + b^x + c^x}{3}\right)^{\frac{1}{x}}$ (1^∞)

[3 Marks] [Step 1: 1 mark; Step 2: 2 marks]

⇒ **Solution:**

Step 1:

$$\text{Let } L = \lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \left(\frac{a^x + b^x + c^x}{3}\right)^{\frac{1}{x}}$$

$$\therefore \log L = \lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \frac{\log(a^x + b^x + c^x) - \log 3}{x} \left(\frac{0}{0}\right)$$

Step 2:

$$\begin{aligned}\therefore \log L &= \lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \frac{a^x \log a + b^x \log b + c^x \log c}{a^x + b^x + c^x} \\ &= \frac{1}{1+1+1} (\log a + \log b + \log c) \\ &= \frac{1}{3} \log(abc)\end{aligned}$$

$$\therefore \log L = \log(abc)^{\frac{1}{3}}$$

$$\therefore L = (abc)^{\frac{1}{3}}$$

Example: Evaluate $\lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \left(\frac{\sinh x}{x} \right)^{\frac{1}{x^2}} (1)^\infty$

⇒ **Solution:**

ASSIGNMENT

Q. 1 $\lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \frac{1}{x} (1 - x \cot x)$

Q. 2 $\lim_{\theta \rightarrow \alpha} \frac{1 - \cos(\theta - \alpha)}{(\sin \theta - \sin \alpha)^2}$

Q. 3 $\lim_{x \rightarrow a} \frac{\log(x-a)}{\log(a^x - a^a)}$

Q. 4 $\lim_{x \rightarrow y} \frac{x^y - y^x}{x^x - y^y}$

Q. 5 $\lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} (\cosh^{-1} x - \log x)$

Q. 6 $\lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \frac{a^x - b^x}{x}$

Q. 7 $\lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} x^2 e^{-x}$

Q. 8 $\lim_{x \rightarrow 0} (1 + \sin x)^{\cot x}$

Q. 9 $\lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} \left(\frac{ax+1}{ax-1} \right)^x$

Q.10 $\lim_{x \rightarrow 0} (\sin x)^{\tan x}$

Q. 11 $\lim_{x \rightarrow 0} (a^x + x)^{\frac{1}{x}}$

Q.12 $\lim_{x \rightarrow 0} (\cos x)^{\frac{1}{x^2}}$

Q. 13 $\lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \left(\frac{\tan x}{x} \right)^{\frac{1}{x^2}}$

