At 
$$x = u$$
, has the indeterminate form if  $\lim_{x \to u} f(x) =$  and  $\lim_{x \to u} g(x) =$ 

(1) 
$$\frac{f(x)}{g(x)}$$

$$\frac{0}{0}$$

(2) 
$$\frac{f(x)}{g(x)}$$

$$\frac{\infty}{\infty}$$

$$\infty$$

$$\infty$$

$$(3) f(x) \cdot g(x)$$

$$0 \cdot \infty$$

$$\infty$$

$$(4) f(x) - g(x)$$

$$\infty - \infty$$

$$\infty$$

$$\infty$$

$$(5) \qquad [f(x)]^{g(x)}$$

$$0^0$$

(6) 
$$[f(x)]^{g(x)}$$

$$\infty^0$$

$$\infty$$

$$(7) \qquad [f(x)]^{g(x)}$$

$$1^{\infty}$$

$$\infty$$

HERE: u stands for any of the symbols  $a, a^-, a^+, -\infty, +\infty$ .

## L'Hôpital's Rule

(1) and (2)

If:

•  $\frac{f(x)}{g(x)}$  has the indeterminate form  $\begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}$  or  $\begin{bmatrix} \infty \\ \infty \end{bmatrix}$  at u

and

•  $\lim_{x\to u} \frac{f'(x)}{g'(x)}$  exists (i.e. this limit is a finite number or  $-\infty$  or  $\infty$ )

then

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

(3)

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

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

or

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

and then apply L'Hôpital's Rule.

(4)

If f(x) - g(x) has the interdeterminate form  $[\infty - \infty]$  at u,

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

into a form of the type  $\left[\begin{array}{c} 0 \\ \overline{0} \end{array}\right]$  or  $\left[\begin{array}{c} \infty \\ \infty \end{array}\right]$ 

and then apply L'Hôpital's Rule.

(5)

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

Let

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

So

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

Next, simplify

$$ln y = [g(x)] \cdot ln [f(x)] .$$

Note that  $\ln y = [g(x)] \cdot \ln [f(x)]$  has the interdeterminate form  $0 \cdot -\infty$  at u.

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

$$\lim_{x \to u} \, \ln y \, \, \equiv \, \, L \, \, .$$

Conclude

$$\lim_{x \to u} \ \ln \left[ f(x) \right]^{g(x)} \ = \ L \qquad \Longrightarrow \qquad \lim_{x \to u} \left[ f(x) \right]^{g(x)} \ = \ e^L \ .$$

(6) and (7)

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

Note that  $\ln y = [g(x)] \cdot \ln [f(x)]$  will have the interdeterminate form

- (6)  $0 \cdot \infty$  at u
- (7)  $\boxed{\infty \cdot 0}$  at u.