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1. Compute the following limit.

$$\lim_{x \rightarrow 0^+} (1 + \tan(2x))^{\cot(2x)}$$

Proof. Let $y = f(x) = (1 + \tan(2x))^{\cot(2x)}$. Then, after taking $\ln(x)$, we have $\dots$

$$\ln(f(x)) = \ln(1 + \tan(2x))^{\cot(2x)} = \cot(2x) \ln(1 + \tan(2x)) = \frac{\ln(1 + \tan(2x))}{\tan(2x)},$$

since $\cot(2x) = \frac{1}{\tan(2x)}$. Recall the L'Hôpital's rule.

Suppose that

$$\lim_{x \rightarrow a} \frac{f(x)}{g(x)} = \frac{0}{0} \quad \text{or} \quad \frac{\pm\infty}{\pm\infty}$$

and that the derivatives $f'(x)$ and $g'(x)$ exist near $x = a$, and $g'(x) \neq 0$ near $x = a$, except possibly at a . If the limit

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

exists (or is $\pm\infty$), then

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

In this case, since both $\tan(2x)$ and $\ln(1 + \tan(2x))$ are closer to 0 when x goes to 0, we can apply L'Hôpital's Rule in this case. Then, we can compute that

$$\begin{aligned} \lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \ln f(x) &= \lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \frac{\ln(1 + \tan(2x))}{\tan(2x)} = \lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \frac{((\ln(1 + \tan(2x))))'}{(\tan(2x))'} \\ &= \lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \frac{\frac{2\sec^2(2x)}{1 + \tan(2x)}}{2\sec^2(2x)} \\ &= \lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \frac{2\sec^2(2x)}{1 + \tan(2x)} \cdot \frac{1}{2\sec^2(2x)} \\ &= \lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \frac{1}{1 + \tan(2x)} \\ &= \frac{1}{1 + 0} \\ &= 1 \end{aligned}$$

Thus, this means $\lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \ln(f(x)) = 1$ **which means** $\lim_{x \rightarrow 0} f(x) = e$.

What I want to say about the L'Hôpital's rule is **to be careful when we use that**. We can apply this rule **only if they satisfies this condition**.

$$\lim_{x \rightarrow a} \frac{f(x)}{g(x)} = \frac{0}{0} \quad \text{or} \quad \frac{\pm\infty}{\pm\infty}$$

□

2. Find the inflection points of $y = x^4 - 4x^2 + 4$.

Proof. We can find the inflection points by using the condition $f''(x) = 0$ and comparing its sign. First, say $f(x) = x^4 - 4x^2 + 4$ and we have $\dots$

$$f''(x) = (x^4 - 4x^2 + 4)'' = (4x^3 - 8x)' = 12x^2 - 8.$$

Once we set $f''(x) = 0$, then we can get inflection points which are $\sqrt{\frac{2}{3}}$ and $-\sqrt{\frac{2}{3}}$. □