

Task.

Determine the limit:

$$\lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \frac{4e^x - 2e^{-x} - 2}{x}$$

Solution. Recall that the L'Hôpital's rule claims that if f and g are two differentiable functions at $x = 0$ such that $f(0) = g(0) = 0$, then

$$\lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \frac{f(x)}{g(x)} = \frac{f'(x)}{g'(x)}.$$

In our case put $f(x) = 4e^x - 2e^{-x} - 2$, and $g(x) = x$. Then

$$f(0) = 4 - 2 - 2 = 0, \quad g(0) = 0,$$

whence we can apply L'Hôpital's rule as follows:

$$\begin{aligned} \lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \frac{4e^x - 2e^{-x} - 2}{x} &= \lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \frac{f(x)}{g(x)} = \lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \frac{f'(x)}{g'(x)} = \lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \frac{(4e^x - 2e^{-x} - 2)'}{x'} \\ &= \lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \frac{4e^x + 2e^{-x}}{1} = \lim_{x \rightarrow 0} (4e^x + 2e^{-x}) = 4 + 2 = 6. \end{aligned}$$