

Proof of $1/0 = \infty$

Maitri Joshi

Main Proof of $1/0 = \infty$

We have,

$$(1+x)^n = 1 + \frac{nx}{1!} + \frac{n(n-1)x^2}{2!} + \dots \infty$$

[From Theory of Binomial Index]

Now, putting $x = -1$ & $n = -1$, i.e.,

$$(1-1)^{-1} = 1 + \frac{(-1)1}{1!} + \frac{(-1)(-2)1^2}{2!} + \frac{(-1)(-2)(-3)1^3}{3!} + \dots \infty$$

$$\therefore \frac{1}{0} = 1 + 1 + 1 + 1 + \dots \infty$$

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

Hence Proved

Note: This Proof Includes claiming that the limit of x should be $|x| \leq 1$ in Binomial Expansion for any index.

\therefore We can say that,

$$\frac{1}{0} = \infty \text{ \& \ } \frac{-1}{0} = -\infty$$

Supporting Proofs

Proof of Binomial Expansion for any Index (With the help of Maclaurin's Series):

$$f(x) = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \frac{f^{(n)}(0)}{n!} (x)^n$$

$$f(x) = f(0) + f'(0)x + \frac{f''(0)x^2}{2!} + \dots \infty$$

Now, let $(1+x)^n$, $n \in \mathbb{Q}$

$$\therefore f(x) = (1+x)^n \Rightarrow f(0) = 1$$

$$f'(x) = n(1+x)^{n-1} \Rightarrow f'(0) = n(1+0) = n$$

$$f''(x) = n(n-1)(1+x)^{n-2} \Rightarrow f''(0) = n(n-1)$$

$$f'''(0) = n(n-1)(n-2) \text{ \& So on...}$$

$$\therefore f(x) = 1 + \frac{nx}{1!} + \frac{n(n-1)x^2}{2!} + \dots \infty$$

Here, if $|x| > 1$, then fractional power for any **-ve** number in the base will not be possible, i.e. like for $x = -2$,

$(1-2)^{1/2}$ or $(1-100)^{3/2}$ will not be possible for real numbers, its possible in **Complex Region**.

So, they might have taken condition that $|x| \leq 1$.

- But, in $(1+x)^n$, if we put $x=1$ or -1 , it satisfies all the values & $(1-1)^{-1}$ gives the proof of $1/0 = \infty$.
 \Rightarrow The condition should be $|x| \leq 1$.
- Also, $1/0$ itself is a proof of $1/0 = \infty$, if we see the graph of $1/x$.

Conditions to Satisfy $|x| \leq 1$:

For $x = 1$ & $x = -1$:

$$\bullet (1+x)^n = 1 + \frac{nx}{1!} + \frac{n(n-1)x^2}{2!} + \dots \infty$$

Now, it is true for $|x| < 1$.

Now For $x = 1$:

$$\bullet (1+1)^1 = 1 + \frac{1(1)}{1!} + \frac{1(1-1)1^2}{2!} + \dots \infty$$

$$= 1 + 1 + 0 + 0 + \dots \infty$$

$$= 2$$

$$\therefore (1+1)^1 = 2 \quad \text{Satisfied}$$

$$\bullet (1+1)^{-1} = 1 + \frac{(-1)1}{1!} + \frac{(-1)(-1-1)1^2}{2!} + \dots \infty$$

$$= 1 - 1 + 1 - 1 + \dots \infty$$

$$\therefore (1+1)^{-1} = S_1 = 1 - 1 + 1 - 1 + 1 - 1 + 1 - 1 + \dots \infty$$

$$\text{Now, } 1 - S_1 = 1 - (1 - 1 + 1 - 1 + 1 - 1 + 1 - 1 + \dots \infty)$$

$$= 1 - 1 + 1 - 1 + 1 - 1 + 1 - 1 + \dots \infty$$

$$= S_1$$

Volume 11 Issue 2, February 2022

www.ijsr.net

Licensed Under Creative Commons Attribution CC BY

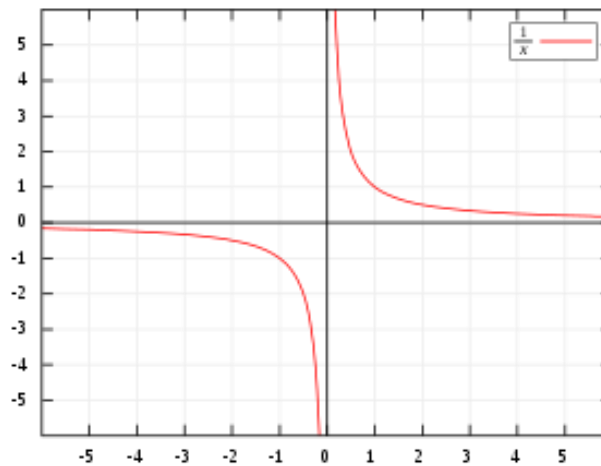
- $\therefore 1 - S_1 = S_1 \implies 1 = 2S_1$
 $\therefore S_1 = 1/2$ \rightarrow Result (1)
 $\therefore (1+1)^{-1} = 1/2$ *Satisfied*
- $(1-1)^1 = 1 + \frac{1(-1)}{1!} + \frac{1(1-1)1^2}{2!} + \dots\infty$
 $= 1 - 1 + 0 + 0 + \dots\infty$
 $= 0$
 $\therefore (1-1)^1 = 0$ *Satisfied*
- $(1-1)^{1/2} = 1 + \frac{(1/2)(-1)}{1!} + \frac{(1/2)(-1/2)(-1)^2}{2!} + \dots\infty$
 Now, it will become 0, after round about 50 terms, derived from calculations.
 $\therefore (1-1)^{1/2} = 0$ *Satisfied*
- $(1+1)^{1/2} =$
 $1 + \frac{(1/2)1}{1!} + \frac{(1/2)(-1/2)1^2}{2!} + \frac{(1/2)(-3/2)(-3/2)1^3}{3!} + \dots\infty$
 $= 1 + 0.5 - 0.125 + 0.0625 - 0.0390625 + \dots\infty$
 \approx Remains near the value of 1.41
 $\therefore (1+1)^{1/2} \approx 1.41$ *Satisfied*
- $(1+1)^{-1/2} = 1 + \frac{(-1/2)1}{1!} + \frac{(-1/2)(-3/2)1^2}{2!} + \dots\infty$
 $= 1 - 0.5 + 0.375 - 0.3125 + 0.2734375 - \dots\infty$
 \approx Remains near to 0.7 after number of terms
 $\therefore (1+1)^{-1/2} \approx 0.7 (= 1/\sqrt{2})$ *Satisfied*
- $(1+1)^{3/2} = 1 + \frac{(3/2)1}{1!} + \frac{(3/2)(1/2)1^2}{2!} + \dots\infty$
 $= 1 + 1.5 + 0.375 - 0.0625 + 0.0234375 - \dots\infty$
 \approx Remains exactly constant near 2.82 & doesn't change
 $\therefore (1+1)^{3/2} \approx 2.82 (= 2\sqrt{2})$ *Satisfied*
- $(1+1)^{-3/2} = 1 + \frac{(-3/2)1}{1!} + \frac{(-3/2)(-5/2)1^2}{2!} + \dots\infty$
 $= 1 - 1.5 + 1.875 - 2.1875 + 2.4609375 - \dots\infty$
 \approx Will slowly decrease to 0.35355 and will become constant to it, after number of terms
 $\therefore (1+1)^{-3/2} \approx 0.3535$ *Satisfied*
- $(1+1)^{-2} = 1 + \frac{(-2)1}{1!} + \frac{(-2)(-3)1^2}{2!} + \frac{(-2)(-3)(-4)1^3}{3!} + \dots\infty$
 $= 1 - 2 + 3 - 4 + 5 - 6 + \dots\infty$
 $\therefore S_2 = 1 - 2 + 3 - 4 + 5 - 6 + \dots\infty$
 $S_2 = 1 - 2 + 3 - 4 + 5 - 6 + \dots\infty$
 $\therefore 2S_2 = 1 - 1 + 1 - 1 + \dots\infty$ [\because Adding S_2 twice]
 $\therefore 2S_2 = 1/2$ [From Result (1) (Pg. 03)]
 $\therefore S_2 = 1/4$
 $\therefore (1+1)^{-2} = 1/4$ *Satisfied*
- $(1-1)^{-1} = 1 + \frac{(-1)1}{1!} + \frac{(-1)(-2)1^2}{2!} + \frac{(-1)(-2)(-3)1^3}{3!} + \dots\infty$
 $\therefore \frac{1}{0} = 1 + 1 + 1 + 1 + \dots\infty$
 $\therefore \frac{1}{0} = \infty$ *Satisfied*
- $(1-1)^{-1/2} = 1 + \frac{(-1/2)(-1)}{1!} + \frac{(-1/2)(-3/2)(-1)^2}{2!} + \dots\infty$
 $\approx \infty$
 $\therefore (1-1)^{-1/2} \approx \infty$ *Satisfied*

Now, according to result of $(1+1)^{-2}$, all the results for **negative integral power** of $(1+1)$ i.e., for power of 2, can be proved. And for positive integral power, Binomial Theorem is always applicable & can be proved by the same method of Binomial Index.

Therefore, now, basically we can say that, the condition or limit of x as $|x| \leq 1$ also satisfies the Binomial Expansion for any index. Hence, Proof of $1/0 = \infty$ can be also given.

Graphical Interpretation

\rightarrow The Graph of $1/x$ itself explains that $1/0 = \infty$



Here, the graph of $1/x$ does not intersect at $x=0$. But approaches higher values.

Now, ∞ is something greater than any highest imagination. It is higher than any highest number one can imagine.

∞ is larger than limit of Imagination.

So, basically in this graph, we can deduce that, $f(x) = 1/x$ intersects $x = 0$ at ∞ OR approaches ∞ , if $x > 0$ and $f(x)$ approaches to $-\infty$ if $x < 0$ (i.e., $-1/0 = -\infty$).

Theoretically & Practically “1/0”

→ $1/4 = 0.25$ i.e., “4th part of 1”.

Similarly, $1/2 = 0.5$ i.e., “2nd part of 1”.

Also, by definition, “ $1/x$ is the x^{th} part of 1”.

→ Now, Similarly, if we apply $1/0.5 = 2$, then we can say “2 is a number whose (0.5)th part is 1”. Also, for $1/0.25 = 4$, we can say, “4 is a number whose (0.25)th part is 1”.

→ Now, $1/x$, $x \in \mathbb{N}$, then this is applicable in real life or it makes practical sense.

Like if we divide 1 pen in 2 parts, it makes 0.5(half) pen i.e., $1/2 \text{ pen} = 0.5 \text{ pen}$.

→ But, in the same way, if we apply this to $1/x$, $x \in \mathbb{Q}$, then it doesn't make any sense or it is impractical.

Like, if we divide 1 pen in 0.25 parts, it wont make 4 pens i.e., $1/(0.25) \text{ pen} = 4 \text{ pens}$.

→ So, as we can see, $1/x$, $x \in \mathbb{Q}$ doesn't make any sense in practical life.

Similarly, if we do $1/0 = \infty$, it means “0th part of ∞ is 1”.

It shows that ∞ is too large that its 0th part is 1.

→ So, if we see, $1/0$ is not undefined. It has some meaning like $1/2$, $1/4$, $1/0.5$, etc.

→ Therefore, basically, we can conclude that $1/x$, $x \in \mathbb{Q}$ & $1/0$ both of them don't (and also do) have a practical meaning. But they do possess a theoretical meaning.

→ At last, I want to conclude that behaviour of 0 & ∞ is highly similar upto great extent in Mathematics.

$$(0 * x = 0 \Rightarrow \infty * x = \infty, x - 0 = x \Rightarrow \infty - x = \infty,$$

$$x + 0 = x \Rightarrow \infty + x = \infty, 0/x = 0 \Rightarrow \infty/x = \infty)$$

So, as operations with 0 are considered in Mathematics, operations of ∞ should also be considered.

And Proof of $1/0 = \infty$ should be considered.

Being inexperienced, I will very highly value any piece of advice you give me.