

## 5-3: Graphing Rational Functions

Objectives:

$$\frac{1}{x}$$

$$\frac{2x+9}{x+7}$$

$$\frac{\quad}{x^2 + \dots}$$

1. I can find the x and y intercepts of a rational function
2. I can find the vertical and horizontal asymptotes of a rational function
3. I can find the holes of a rational function
4. I can analyze a graph of a rational function
5. I can graph a rational function by hand

## X and Y Intercepts

Y intercepts,  $x = 0$ 

$$f(x) = \frac{3x-12}{x^2-5x-6}$$

 $(0, 2)$ • where  $x = 0$ • change  $x$  to 0 and solve

$$y = \frac{3(0)-12}{0^2-5(0)-6} = \frac{-12}{-6} = 2$$

• coordinate  $(0, y)$ X intercepts,  $y = 0$ 

$$f(x) = \frac{3x-12}{x^2-5x-6}$$

$$0 = \frac{3x-12}{x^2-5x-6}$$

• where  $y = 0$ • change  $y$  to 0 and solve

$$0 = 3x - 12$$

$$+12 \quad +12$$

$$\frac{12}{3} = \frac{3x}{3} \quad x = 4$$

 $(4, 0)$ • coordinate  $(x, 0)$ 

• denominator doesn't matter

Find the x and y intercepts of the following functions:

$$f(x) = \frac{(x-3)(x+1)}{x+2}$$

~~$$f(x) = \frac{3x-5}{(x-2)(x-3)}$$~~

x-int:

$$0 = \frac{(x-3)(x+1)}{x+2} \quad x=3, -1$$

$$\boxed{(3, 0) (-1, 0)}$$

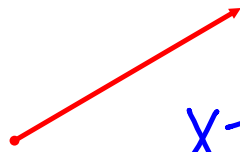
y-int:

$$y = \frac{(0-3)(0+1)}{0+2} = \frac{-3 \cdot 1}{2} = -\frac{3}{2}$$


$$\boxed{(0, -\frac{3}{2})}$$

## Review of Vertical Asymptotes

$$f(x) = \frac{2}{x+3}$$


$$x = -3$$

Set the denominator = 0, then solve for x

- write as  $x =$
- excluded values
- makes denominator = 0
- 

Find the vertical asymptotes:

a.  $y = \frac{3x-5}{(x-2)(x+2)}$

$x = -2, 2$

b.  $y = \frac{2x^3}{x-5}$

$x = 5$

c.  $y = \frac{5x}{x+2}$

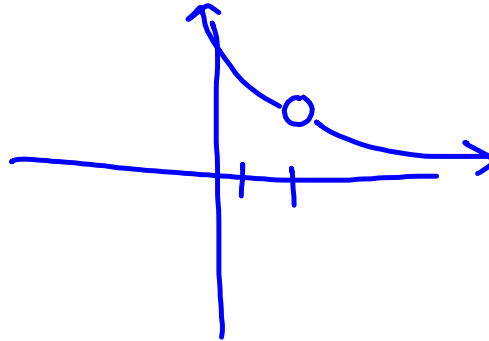
$x = -2$

~~Asymptotes:~~ Holes

check for holes before VA!! (by reducing the fraction if possible)

$$f(x) = \frac{(x-3)(x-2)}{(x-2)} \text{ Hole @ } x=2$$

- WOULD BE asymptotes BUT
- matching factors on top & bottom
- write  $x =$



vertical (VA): caused by dividing by 0

the graph approaches  $-\infty$  OR  $\infty$

on each side of the asymptote

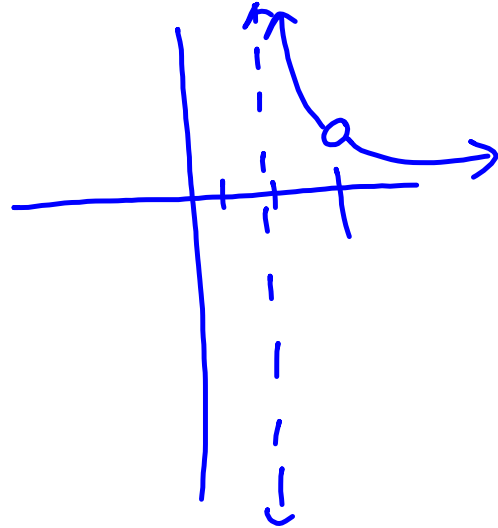
find the asymptote set den = 0 and solve

Identify any holes, then find all vertical asymptotes

$$f(x) = \frac{(x-3)(x+3)}{\underline{\underline{(x-2)(x-3)}}$$

Hole :  $x=3$

Asymp :  $x=2$

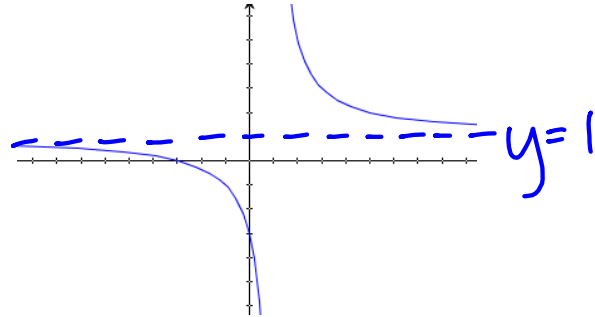


## Horizontal Asymptotes

Look at the graphs, see if you can find the horizontal asymptote. Are there any patterns?

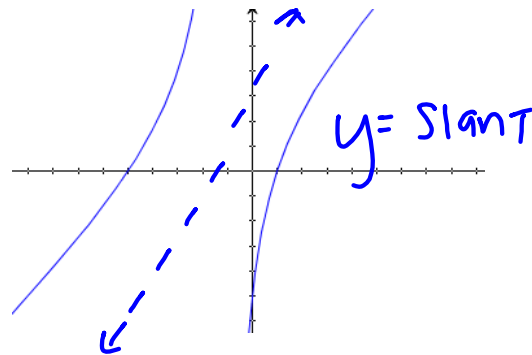
$$f(x) = \frac{x+3}{x-1}$$

equal degree



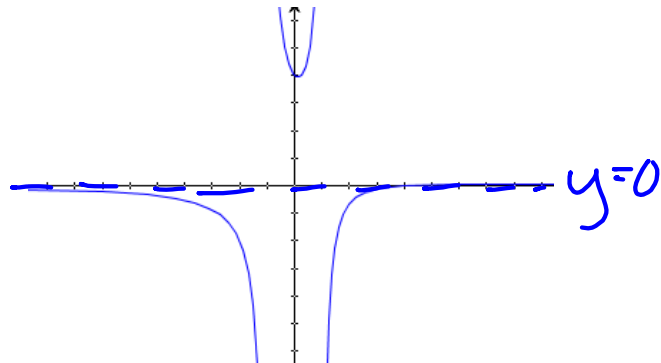
$$f(x) = \frac{(x+5)(x-1)}{x+1}$$

Top Heavy



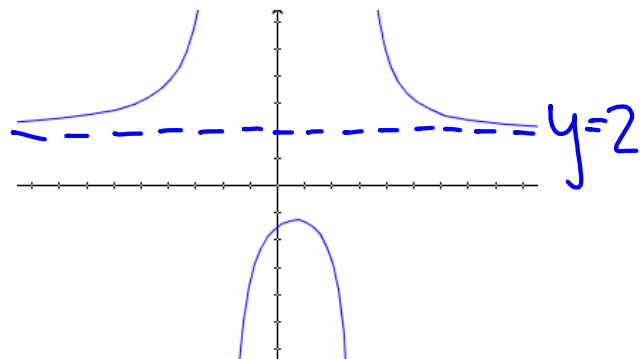
$$f(x) = \frac{x-4}{(x+1)(x-1)}$$

Bottom Heavy



$$f(x) = \frac{2x^2 - \cancel{x} + 9}{x^2 - x - 6}$$

equal degree





Top Heavy:  $y = \text{slant}$   $\frac{x^3}{x}$   
 Bottom Heavy:  $y = 0$   $\frac{x}{x^2}$   
 Equal deg:  $y = \frac{\text{DIVIDE}}{\text{LEAD}} \text{ COEFFICIENTS}$   $\frac{2x}{x}$  ,  $\frac{3x^2+5}{x^2-x}$   
 $y=2$   $y=3$

Horizontal Asymptotes

**end behavior:**(horizontal (HA) or oblique (OA)):

to find the asymptote - compare the degrees of the numerator and denominator if:

top heavy (OA):

bottom heavy (HEB):  $y = 0$

equal (HA): divide coefficients

$x \rightarrow \infty$        $y \rightarrow$  Horizontal asymptote  
 $x \rightarrow -\infty$        $y \rightarrow$  Horizontal asymptote

Ex

Bottom Heavy

$$\frac{(x+5)}{(x+1)(x-3)}, \text{ H.A. } y=0$$

$$\begin{array}{l} x \rightarrow \infty \quad y \rightarrow 0 \\ x \rightarrow -\infty \quad y \rightarrow 0 \end{array}$$

Identify the x and y intercepts, vertical and horizontal asymptotes, end behavior, and then graph.

~~$f(x) = \frac{-3}{x-1}$~~

Xint - DNE

$0 = \frac{-3}{x-1}$

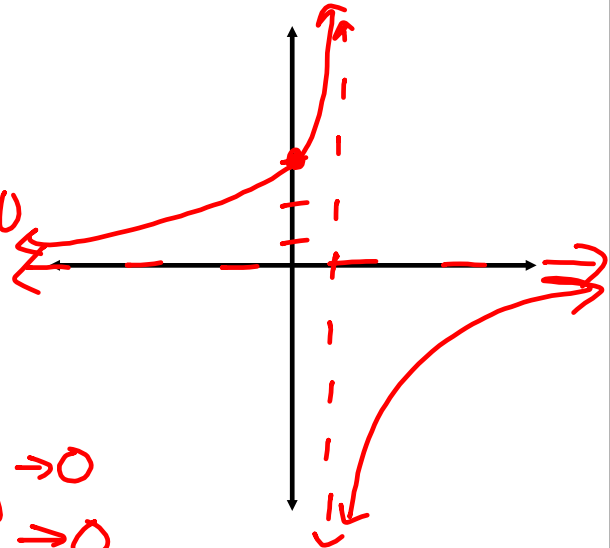
Yint - (0, 3)

$y = \frac{-3}{0-1} = 3$

VA  $x = 1$

HA:  $y = 0$   
Bottom Heavy

EB:  
 $x \rightarrow \infty$   $y \rightarrow 0$   
 $x \rightarrow -\infty$   $y \rightarrow 0$



Holes: None

~~$f(x) = \frac{3x-7}{x-2}$~~

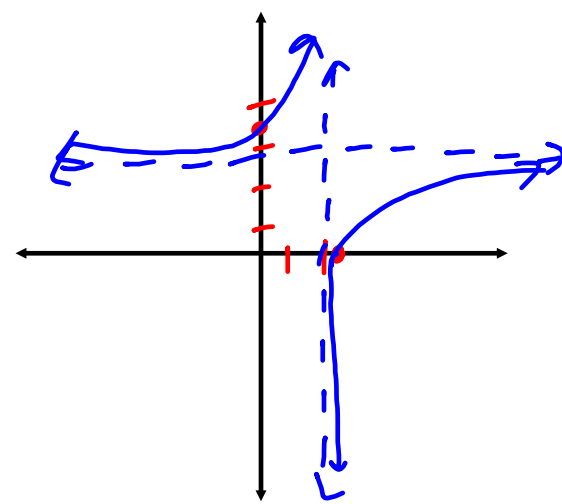
Xint: (2.3, 0)

$0 = 3x - 7$   $7 = 3x$   $x = 7/3$

Yint: (0, 3.5)

$y = \frac{3(0) - 7}{0 - 2} = \frac{-7}{-2} = 3.5$

2 | 3 - 7



VA:  $x = 2$

Holes: DNE

HA: equal  $y = 3$   
deg

EB  
 $x \rightarrow \infty$   $y \rightarrow 3$   
 $x \rightarrow -\infty$   $y \rightarrow 3$

Identify the x and y intercepts, vertical and horizontal asymptotes, end behavior, and then graph.

$$f(x) = \frac{3x-2}{x-1}$$

xint  $(\frac{2}{3}, 0)$

$$0 = \frac{3x-2}{x-1} \quad \frac{2}{3} = \frac{3x}{3} \quad x = \frac{2}{3}$$

yint  $(0, 2)$

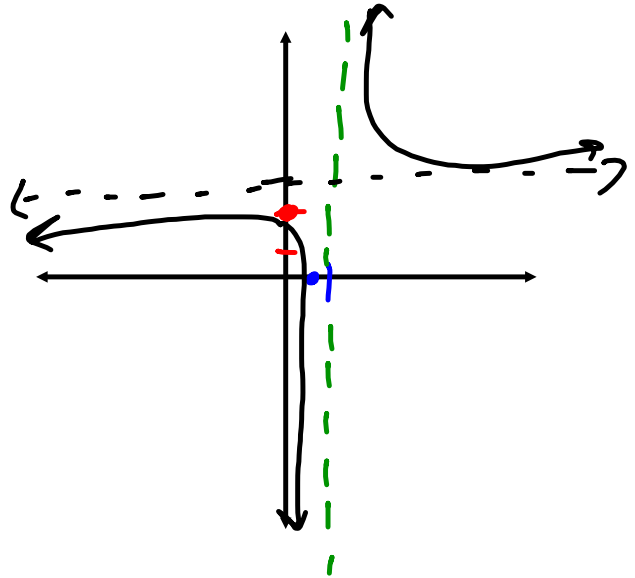
$$y = \frac{3(0)-2}{0-1} = \frac{-2}{-1} = 2$$

VA  $x = 1$

Holes: DNE

HA: = deg  $y = \frac{3}{1} = 3$

EB:  $x \rightarrow \infty \quad y \rightarrow 3$   
 $x \rightarrow -\infty \quad y \rightarrow 3$



Find the intercepts, asymptotes, limits at vertical asymptotes, analyze and draw the graph of

$$f(x) = \frac{x-1}{(x-4)(x+3)}$$

Domain

Range

x-intercepts

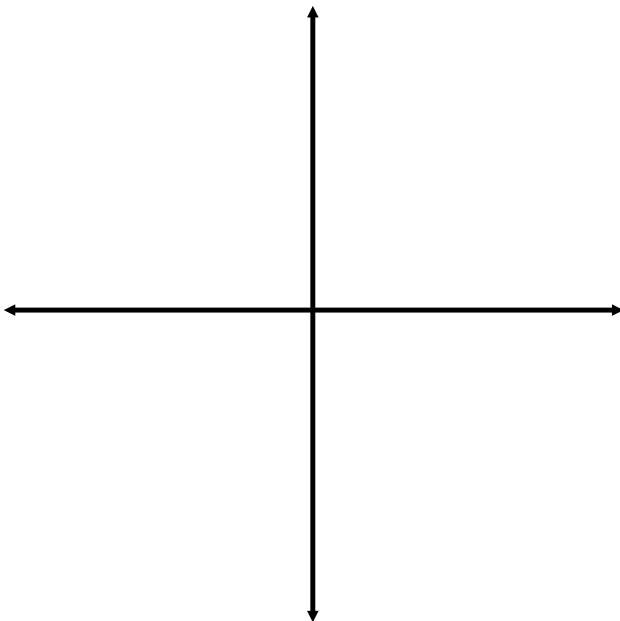
y-intercepts

VA

HA

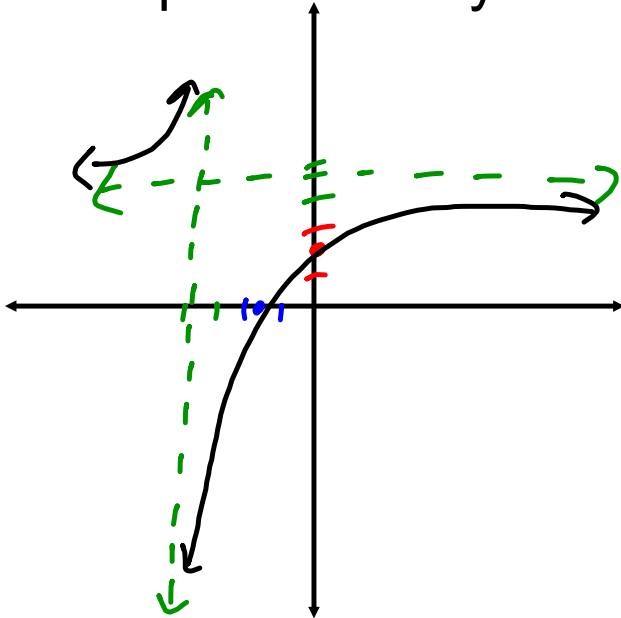
Asymptote Behavior

End Behavior



Graph and analyze

$$f(x) = \frac{4x+7}{x+4}$$



Domain

Range

x-intercepts

y-intercepts

VA

HA

Asymptote Behavior

End Behavior

xint (-1.75, 0)

$$0 = \frac{4x+7}{x+4} \quad -7 = \frac{4x}{x+4} \quad x = -\frac{7}{4}$$

yint (0, 1.75)

$$y = \frac{4(0)+7}{0+4} = \frac{7}{4} = 1.75$$

Holes: DNE

VA:  $x = -4$ HA:  $= \deg y = \frac{4}{1} = 4$ 

EB  $x \rightarrow \infty y \rightarrow 4$   
 $x \rightarrow -\infty y \rightarrow 4$

Graph and Analyze  $f(x) = \frac{x+1}{(x+3)(x-4)}$

Domain

Range

x-intercepts

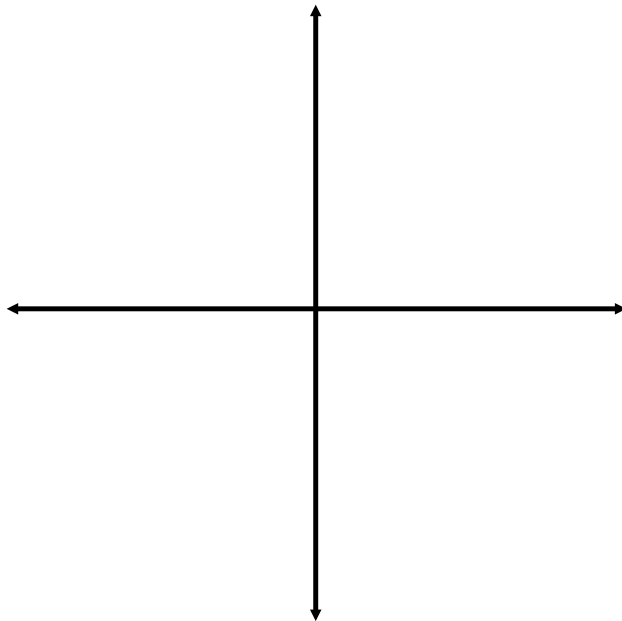
y-intercepts

VA

HA

Asymptote Behavior

End Behavior



Graph and analyze  $f(x) = \frac{4x - 4}{x + 2}$

Domain

Range

x-intercepts

y-intercepts

VA

HA

Asymptote Behavior

End Behavior

