

Math 1090 ~ Business Algebra

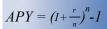
Section 3.5 Rational Functions

Objectives:

- Identify a rational function.
- Determine the domain and intercepts of a rational function.
- Determine vertical and horizontal asymptotes.
- Sketch a rational function.







Definition

Rational Function
$$f(x) = \frac{n(x)}{d(x)}$$

where n(x) and d(x) are polynomials.

Asymptotes

Vertical asymptotes

$$\stackrel{\text{def}}{=} \bigcirc f(x) = \frac{x}{x-2}$$
a) f

$$VA: x=2$$

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

$$= \frac{x+3}{x+2} ; x \neq 1$$

$$VA: x=-2 \qquad y=1$$

$$hole: (P x=1 (1, \frac{y}{3}), \frac{1+3}{1+2})$$

$$Horizontal asymptotes$$

$$(1) f(x) = \frac{2x}{x+5}$$

$$As x gets huge \rightarrow \pm\infty$$

$$f(x) \sim \frac{2x}{x} = 2$$

$$\Rightarrow HA: y=2$$

$$(2) f(x) = \frac{x+3}{3x^2+5x-7}$$

$$As x gets huge, x \rightarrow \pm\infty$$

$$We get g(x) \sim \frac{x}{3x^2} = \frac{1}{3x} \rightarrow 0$$

$$\Rightarrow HA: y=0$$

$$\underbrace{ex}_{x} (x) = \frac{3x+5}{x^{2}-1}$$

$$\underbrace{ex}_{x} (x) = \frac{1}{x^{3}+2x}$$

How to graph a rational function

3) Plot intercept points and at least one point on all sides of the vertical asymptotes.

4) Fill in the graph with smooth curves that approach the asymptotes.

Ex 1: Analyze and graph.

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

domain: $x \neq 1$
VA: $x = 1$
HA: $y = -1$
as $x \rightarrow \pm \infty$
 $f(x) \sim \frac{x}{-x} = -1$
 x -intercepts: $(-2, \infty)$
 $y = \frac{2+0}{1-0} = 2$
 $x = -2$
 $x = -2$

b) $f(x) = \frac{10}{x^2 + 2}$ clomatic: $x \in \mathbb{R}$ VA: none HA: y = 0as $x \to \pm \infty$ $f(x) \sim \frac{10}{x^2} \to 0$ $(\pm 1, \frac{10}{3})$ $y: \frac{10}{1+2}$

