

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

How to graph a rational function

Vertical asymptotes

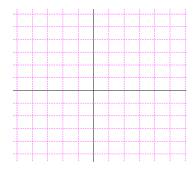
- 1) find the domain
 - a) find VA
 - b) find HA
- 2) Find x and y-intercepts

Horizontal asymptotes

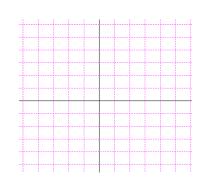
- 3) Plot intercept points and at least one point on all sides of the vertical asymptotes.
- 4) Fill in the graph with smooth curves that approach the asymptotes.

Ex 1: Analyze and graph.

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



b)
$$f(x) = \frac{10}{x^2 + 2}$$



Ex 2: Analyze and graph.

$$g(x) = \frac{x-3}{2x^2 - 5x - 3}$$

