

TICKET-IN-THE-DOOR

In order to be prepared for class you must watch the module and complete the following activity. This is due first thing when you get to class.

Define a rational function

Any function that can be written as a quotient of 2 polynomials is called "Rational function". i.e., $\frac{P}{Q}$; $Q \neq 0$

Check your understanding:

1. Which of the following are rational functions:

A) $y = \frac{x^2 - 2}{x^5} - \frac{1}{2x^2}$

B) $y = \frac{2^x - 5}{4^x}$

C) $y = \frac{2\sqrt{x} + 5}{x^4 - 2}$

D) $y = \frac{2x^{-5}}{4 + x^2} + \frac{x^{-2}}{1 - x^{-4}}$

2. Find the long-run behavior of the function $y = \frac{x^2 - 3}{x^3} - \frac{1}{5x^2} = \frac{5(x^3 - 3)}{5x^3} - \frac{1(x)}{5x^3 \cdot x} = \frac{5x^3 - x - 15}{5x^3} \Rightarrow \frac{5x^3}{5x^3}$

3. Determine the vertical and horizontal asymptotes, if they exist, of the function

(a) V.A. = set the denominator to zero.

$4x + 36 = 0$; $5x^4 = 0$

$x = -9$

$x = 0$

$y = 6 - \frac{14}{4x + 36} + \frac{1}{5x^4}$

$y = \frac{6(20)(x^4)(x+9) - 14(5)(x^4) + 1(4)(x+36)}{20x^4(x+36)} = \frac{120x^5 + 1080x^4 - 70x^4 + 4x + 144}{20x^5 + 720x^4}$

$y = 1$

4. The profit earned by a producer to manufacture and sell n units of a good is given by

$P(n) = 11n - 2343$. The average profit for n units is given by $A(n) = \frac{P(n)}{n}$.

a. Compute $A(1)$, $A(213)$, $A(280)$. $A(1) = \frac{11(1) - 2343}{1} = -2332$

b. In practical terms what of the values in part (A). $A(213) = 0$
Average profit per unit. $A(280) = 2.63$

c. What trend do you notice in the values of $A(n)$ as n gets large?

as $n \rightarrow \infty$, $A(n) \rightarrow 11.00$

H.A. $\Rightarrow \frac{120x^5}{20x^5} \Rightarrow y = 6$

Chapter 11 – Section 11.5 The Short-Run Behavior Functions

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Describe in words how to find:

- Zeros of the rational function $R(x) = \frac{P(x)}{Q(x)}$ Set the $f(x)$ or $y=0$ and solve for x .
- Vertical asymptote: Set the denominator to zero.
- Horizontal asymptote Long-run behavior = $\frac{\text{leading coeff. of } P(x)}{\text{leading coeff. of } Q(x)}$

Check your understanding:

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

1. For the given rational function find, if possible the following.

a. x-intercept(s) $0 = \frac{x^2 - 9}{x^2 + 6x} \Rightarrow x^2 - 9 = 0 \Rightarrow x = \pm 3; \boxed{(3, 0) \text{ \& } (-3, 0)}$

b. y-intercept $f(0) = \frac{(0)^2 - 9}{(0)^2 + 6(0)}$; undefined

c. vertical asymptotes $x^2 + 6x = 0 \Rightarrow x(x + 6) \Rightarrow \boxed{x = 0} \text{ or } \boxed{x = -6}$

d. horizontal asymptotes $f(x) = \frac{\text{leading coeff. of } P(x)}{\text{leading coeff. of } Q(x)} = \frac{x^2}{x^2} \Rightarrow \boxed{y = 1}$

2. For the given rational function $f(x) = \frac{x}{x^2 - 3x + 2}$ find, if possible the following.

a. x-intercept(s) $0 = \frac{x}{x^2 - 3x + 2} \Rightarrow \boxed{x = 0}; \boxed{(0, 0)}$

b. y-intercept $f(0) = \frac{0}{(0)^2 - 3(0) + 2} = \frac{0}{2} = \boxed{0}; \boxed{(0, 0)}$

c. vertical asymptotes $x^2 - 3x + 2 = 0 \Rightarrow (x - 2)(x - 1) = 0 \Rightarrow \boxed{x = 2} \text{ or } \boxed{x = 1}$

d. horizontal asymptotes $f(x) = \frac{x}{x^2} \text{ as } x \rightarrow \infty, f(x) \rightarrow 0 \Rightarrow \boxed{y = 0}$

3. Write a function that has a graph with vertical asymptotes at $x = 3$ and $x = 5$, a horizontal asymptote at $y = 1$, and touches the x -axis at $x = 2$?

Sol. $f(x) = k \cdot \frac{(x - 2)^2}{(x - 3)(x - 5)} = \boxed{\frac{(x - 2)^2}{(x - 3)(x - 5)}}$