

**Question:** Solve the inequality:  $(|x^2 - 81|) / (x^2 - 36x) < 0$ . Put your answer in  $\boxed{\quad}$

**Correct Answer:**  $(0,9) \cup (9,36)$

### Round 1

Model 1: Factored  $|x^2 - 81| = |(x - 9)(x + 9)|$  and  $x^2 - 36x = x(x - 36)$ , ..., the answer is  $\boxed{(-\infty, -9) \cup (-9, 0) \cup (9, 36)}$

Model 2: Case 1:  $x^2 - 81 \geq 0 \rightarrow x \leq -9$  or  $x \geq 9$ ; Case 2:  $x^2 - 81 < 0 \rightarrow -9 < x < 9$ , ...,  $\boxed{(0,9)}$

Model 3: Found roots:  $x = \pm 9$  (numerator),  $x = 0$  and  $36$  (denominator), ..., the answer is  $\boxed{(0,9)}$

### Round 2

Model 1: Re-analyzed sign of  $|x^2 - 81|$ : positive outside  $(-9, 9)$ , ..., the answer is  $\boxed{(-\infty, -9) \cup (-9, 0) \cup (9, 36)}$

Model 2: When numerator is positive and denominator negative.  $|x^2 - 81| > 0$  when  $x < -9$  or  $x > 9$ , Denominator  $< 0$ , ..,  $(0, 9)$  is the correct answer

Model 3: Analyzed sign of numerator: negative when  $-9 < x < 9$ , ...,  $\boxed{(-\infty, -9) \cup (-9, 0) \cup (0, 36) \cup (36, \infty)}$