

Asymptotes of Rational Functions

State the domain using interval notation. For any  $x$ -value excluded from the domain, state whether the graph has a vertical asymptote or a "hole" at that  $x$ -value. Use a graphing calculator to check your answer.

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

D:  $(-\infty, -1) \cup (-1, \infty)$

VA:  $x = -1$

2.  $f(x) = \frac{x^2 + 2x - 3}{x^2 - 4x + 3}$

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

D:  $(-\infty, 1) \cup (1, 3) \cup (3, \infty)$

hole:  $x = 1$   
VA:  $x = 3$

Find any holes, asymptotes, and intercepts and state the end behavior.

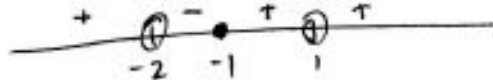
3.  $f(x) = \frac{x-1}{(x+3)(x-2)}$

VA:  $x = 3, 2$      $x$ -int:  $(1, 0)$   
HA:  $y = 0$          $y$ -int:  $(0, 1/6)$   
 $\lim_{x \rightarrow \pm\infty} f(x) = 0$

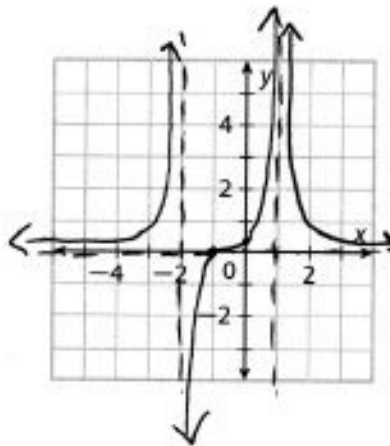
7.  $f(x) = \frac{x-1}{x+1}$

VA:  $x = -1$      $x$ -int:  $(1, 0)$   
HA:  $y = 1$       $y$ -int:  $(0, -1)$   
 $\lim_{x \rightarrow \pm\infty} f(x) = 1$

Sketch the graph of the given rational function. Also state the function's domain and range using interval notation. Find any  $x$  and  $y$  intercepts, state the end behavior, and behavior around the asymptotes.



8.  $f(x) = \frac{x+1}{(x-1)^2(x+2)}$



Domain:  $(-\infty, -2) \cup (-2, 1) \cup (1, \infty)$

Range:  $(-\infty, \infty)$

X-intercept:  $(-1, 0)$

Y-intercept:  $(0, 1/2)$

V Asymptote:  $x = 1, -2$

Hole: n/a

increasing:  $(-\infty, -2) \cup (-2, 1)$

decreasing:  $(1, \infty)$

End Behavior:

$\lim_{x \rightarrow \pm\infty} f(x) = 0$

Asymptotes Behavior:  $\lim_{x \rightarrow -2^+} f(x) = -\infty$      $\lim_{x \rightarrow 1^+} f(x) = \infty$   
 $\lim_{x \rightarrow -2^-} f(x) = \infty$          $\lim_{x \rightarrow 1^-} f(x) = \infty$

$$9. f(x) = \frac{(x+3)\cancel{(x-1)}}{\frac{x^2+2x-3}{x^2+x-2}} = \frac{(x+3)\cancel{(x-1)}}{(x+2)\cancel{(x-1)}}$$

hole @  $(1, 4/3)$

Domain:  $(-\infty, -2) \cup (-2, 1) \cup (1, \infty)$

Range:  $(-\infty, 1) \cup (1, 4/3) \cup (4/3, \infty)$

X-intercept:  $(-3, 0)$

Y-intercept:  $(0, 3/2)$

V Asymptote:  $x = -2$

Hole:  $x = 1$

increasing:  $n/a$

decreasing:  $(-\infty, -2) \cup (-2, 1) \cup (1, \infty)$

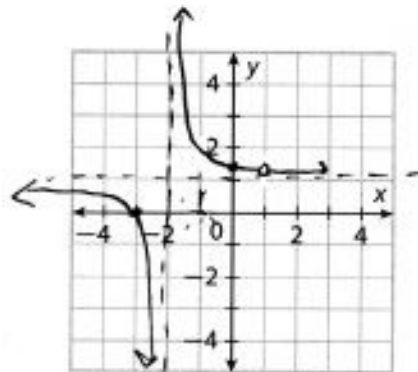
End Behavior:

$$\lim_{x \rightarrow \pm \infty} f(x) = 1$$

Asymptotes Behavior:

$$\lim_{x \rightarrow -2^-} f(x) = -\infty$$

$$\lim_{x \rightarrow -2^+} f(x) = \infty$$



$$10. f(x) = \frac{-3x\cancel{(x-2)}}{\cancel{(x-2)}(x+2)}$$

Domain:  $(-\infty, -2) \cup (-2, 2) \cup (2, \infty)$

Range:  $(-\infty, -3) \cup (-3, -3/2) \cup (-3/2, \infty)$

X-intercept:  $(0, 0)$

Y-intercept:  $(0, 0)$

V Asymptote:  $x = -2$

Hole:  $x = 2$

Increasing:  $n/a$

Decreasing:  $(-\infty, -2) \cup (-2, 2) \cup (2, \infty)$

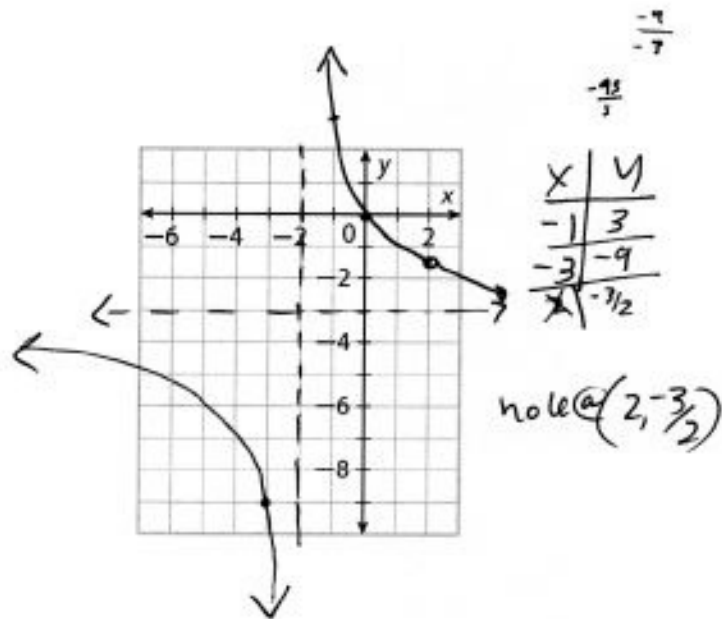
End Behavior:

$$\lim_{x \rightarrow \pm \infty} f(x) = -3$$

Asymptotes Behavior:

$$\lim_{x \rightarrow -2^-} f(x) = -\infty$$

$$\lim_{x \rightarrow -2^+} f(x) = \infty$$



$$11. f(x) = \frac{x^2-1}{x+2} = \frac{(x+1)(x-1)}{(x+2)}$$

Domain:  $(-\infty, -2) \cup (-2, \infty)$

Range:  $(-\infty, -7.5) \cup (-0.5, \infty)$

X-intercept:  $(1, 0), (-1, 0)$

Y-intercept:  $(0, -1/2)$

V Asymptote:  $x = -2$

Hole:  $n/a$

increasing:  $(-\infty, -3.7) \cup (-0.3, \infty)$

decreasing:  $(-3.7, -2) \cup (-2, -0.3)$

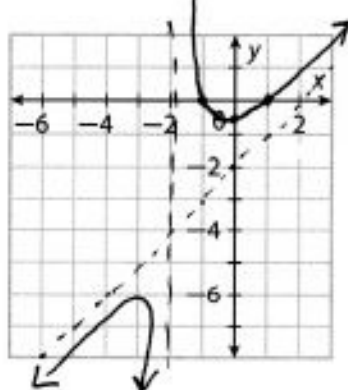
End Behavior:

$\lim_{x \rightarrow -\infty} f(x) = -\infty$      $\lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} f(x) = \infty$

Asymptotes Behavior:

$\lim_{x \rightarrow -2^-} f(x) = -\infty$      $\lim_{x \rightarrow -2^+} f(x) = \infty$

$$\begin{array}{r} x-2 + \frac{3}{x+2} \\ x+2 \overline{) x^2+0x-1} \\ \underline{-(x^2+2x)} \phantom{-1} \\ -2x-1 \\ \underline{-(-2x-4)} \\ 3 \end{array}$$



$$\begin{array}{r} -2 \overline{) 1 \ 0 \ -1} \\ \underline{1 \ -2} \phantom{-1} \\ 1 \ -2 \ -1 \\ \underline{1 \ -2} \phantom{-1} \\ -1 \end{array}$$

18. Draw Conclusions For what value(s) of  $a$  does the graph of  $f(x) = \frac{x+a}{x^2+4x+3}$  have a "hole"? Explain. Then, for each value of  $a$ , state the domain and the range of  $f(x)$  using interval notation.

$a = 3, 1$

D:  $(-\infty, -3) \cup (-3, \infty)$

R:  $(-\infty, -1/2) \cup (-1/2, 0) \cup (0, \infty)$

D:  $(-\infty, -1) \cup (-1, \infty)$

R:  $(-\infty, 0) \cup (0, 1/2) \cup (1/2, \infty)$

19. Critique Reasoning A student claims that the functions  $f(x) = \frac{4x^2-1}{4x+2}$  and  $g(x) = \frac{4x+2}{4x^2-1}$  have different domains but identical ranges. Which part of the student's claim is correct, and which is false? Explain.

Correct    False

D:  $(-\infty, -1/2) \cup (-1/2, 1/2) \cup (1/2, \infty)$

R:  $(-\infty, -1) \cup (-1, 0) \cup (0, \infty)$

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

D:  $(-\infty, -1/2) \cup (-1/2, \infty)$

R:  $(-\infty, 0) \cup (0, \infty)$

### Review

Simplify the following rational expressions \* change to division

1.  $\frac{2}{x^2-x-2} \div \frac{10}{x^2+2x-8}$

$x \neq 2, -1, -4$

$\frac{1}{(x-2)(x+1)} \cdot \frac{(x+4)(x-2)}{5(x+1)} = \frac{x+4}{5(x+1)}$

2.  $\frac{x}{x^2-6x+8} \div \frac{1}{x^2-x-12}$

$x \neq 2, 4, -3$

$\frac{x}{(x-4)(x-2)} \cdot \frac{(x-4)(x+3)}{1} = \frac{x(x+3)}{(x-2)}$