

Feb. 22, 2017

Sects. 4-1  $\frac{1}{2}$  2

Rational Functions

Defn.

Basic Shape

Vertical Asymptote / Hole (Domain)

Horiz. Asym

Oblique Asym

Defn.

$$R(x) = \frac{N(x)}{D(x)}$$

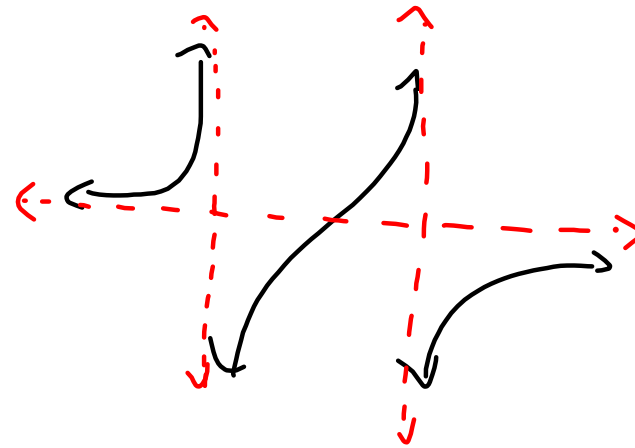
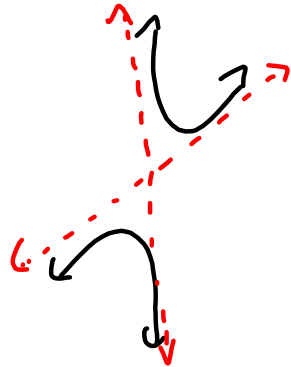
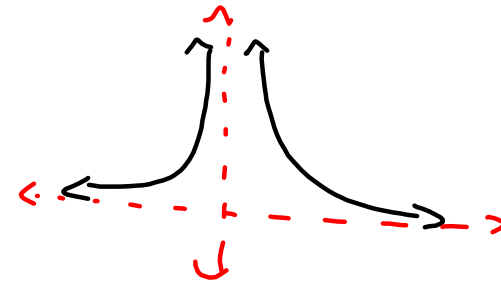
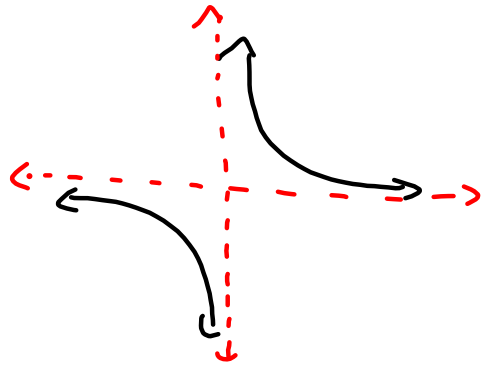
Must have a variable  
in the denominator.

Ex:  $f(x) = \frac{1}{x}$

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

$$h(x) = \frac{3x^2 + 2x - 5}{x+6}$$

# Basic Graph Shape



Vert. Asym / Hole

Where? When denom = 0

And numer  $\neq 0$

Find eq. of V.A. of  $f(x) = \frac{1}{x}$

$$x = 0$$

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$$f(x) = \frac{x+6}{x-3}$$

$$\text{V.A.: } x = 3$$

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

$$\text{V.A. : } x^2 - 3x + 2 = 0$$

$$(x-2)(x-1) = 0$$

$$x = 2 \text{ or } x = 1$$

$$2 - 1 = 1 \neq 0$$

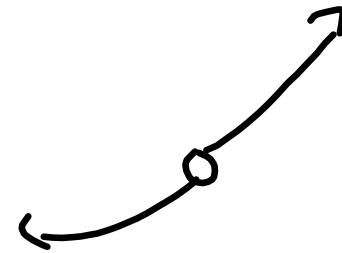
Vert. Asym

$$1 - 1 = 0$$

Hole

$$\text{V.A. : } x = 2$$

Hole @  $x = 1$



$$f(x) = \frac{x-1}{x^2-3x+2} \quad \text{Find the domain of } f(x).$$

$$\text{V.A.: } x=2 \quad \text{Hole @ } x=1$$

$$\text{Domain } \{x \mid x \neq 1, 2\}$$

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

## Vocab

$$\text{Degree: } 2x^3 \quad \text{deg } 3$$

$$-5x^2 \quad \text{deg } 2$$

$$4x^2 + 3x - 6 \quad \text{deg } 2$$

Leading Coefficient: The coeff. of the highest deg. term

$$2x^2 + 3x - 5 \quad \text{l.c.} = 2$$

$$4x - 5x^2 + 1 \quad \text{l.c.} = -5$$

## Horiz. Asym

Not every rat. fract. has one.

1. If  $\deg D > \deg N$  then  
H.A. :  $y = 0$  ( $x$ -axis)
2. If  $\deg D = \deg N$  then  
H.A. :  $y = \frac{\text{l.c.}}{\text{l.c.}}$
3. If  $\deg D < \deg N$  then  
No H.A.



Find the eqn. of H.A.

$$f(x) = \frac{2x+3}{x^2-5} \quad \text{H.A.} : y=0$$

$$f(x) = \frac{6+5x}{2x-3} \quad \text{H.A.} : y = \frac{5}{2}$$

$$f(x) = \frac{3x^2+2x-5}{x+6} \quad \text{None}$$

Oblique Asym.

If the  $\deg N$  is exactly one more than  $\deg D$  then obl. asym.

Find it? Do the division

O.A.:  $y = \text{quotient}$

$$f(x) = \frac{3x^2 + 2x - 5}{x + 6}$$

$$\begin{array}{r|rr} -6 & 3 & 2 & -5 \\ & \downarrow & -18 & 96 \\ \hline & 3 & -16 & \text{Don't care} \end{array}$$

$$\text{O.A. : } y = 3x - 16$$