

Section 3.3:

Motivation: Graph $f(x) = \frac{x^2}{(x-2)(x+2)}$

To find vertical asymptotes,

find all $a \in \mathcal{R}$ such that

$\lim_{x \rightarrow a^-} f(x) = \pm\infty$ and/or $\lim_{x \rightarrow a^+} f(x) = \pm\infty$

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

Horizontal asymptotes/limits at infinity

To find horizontal asymptotes:

calculate $\lim_{x \rightarrow +\infty} f(x)$ and $\lim_{x \rightarrow -\infty} f(x)$

IF $\lim_{x \rightarrow +\infty} f(x) = L$ where L is a finite real number, then $y = L$ is a horizontal asymptote.

IF $\lim_{x \rightarrow -\infty} f(x) = K$ where K is a finite real number, then $y = K$ is a horizontal asymptote.

$$\text{Ex: } f(x) = \frac{2x^3 - x^2 + 1}{8x^3 + x + 3}$$

$$\lim_{x \rightarrow +\infty} \frac{2x^3 - x^2 + 1}{8x^3 + x + 3} =$$

$$\text{Similarly, } \lim_{x \rightarrow -\infty} \frac{2x^3 - x^2 + 1}{8x^3 + x + 3} =$$

Horizontal asymptote(s):

$$\text{Ex: } f(x) = \frac{x^2+1}{2x^5+x^2-3}$$

$$\lim_{x \rightarrow +\infty} \frac{x^2+1}{2x^5+x^2-3} =$$

$$\text{Similarly, } \lim_{x \rightarrow -\infty} \frac{x^2+1}{2x^5+x^2-3} =$$

Horizontal asymptote(s):

$$\text{Ex: } f(x) = \frac{2x^5+x^2-3}{x^2+1}$$

$$\lim_{x \rightarrow +\infty} \frac{2x^5+x^2-3}{x^2+1} =$$

$$\text{Also, } \lim_{x \rightarrow -\infty} \frac{2x^5+x^2-3}{x^2+1} =$$

Horizontal asymptote(s):

$$\text{Ex: } f(x) = \frac{2x}{\sqrt{x^2+1}}$$

$$\lim_{x \rightarrow +\infty} \frac{2x}{\sqrt{x^2+1}} =$$

$$\lim_{x \rightarrow -\infty} \frac{2x}{\sqrt{x^2+1}} =$$

Horizontal asymptote(s):

Ex: $f(x) = x^2 - x^3$

$$\lim_{x \rightarrow +\infty} x^2 - x^3 =$$

$$\lim_{x \rightarrow -\infty} x^2 - x^3 =$$

Horizontal asymptote(s):

Ex: $f(x) = x^{\frac{2}{3}} - x$

$$\lim_{x \rightarrow +\infty} x^{\frac{2}{3}} - x =$$

$$\lim_{x \rightarrow -\infty} x^{\frac{2}{3}} - x =$$

Horizontal asymptote(s):