

Exercise 10.1

Find the domain, the vertical asymptotes, and removable discontinuities of the functions:

$$\begin{array}{ll} \text{a) } f(x) = \frac{2}{x-2} & \text{b) } f(x) = \frac{x^2+2}{x^2-6x+8} \\ \text{c) } f(x) = \frac{3x+6}{x^3-4x} & \text{d) } f(x) = \frac{(x-2)(x+3)(x+4)}{(x-2)^2(x+3)(x-5)} \\ \text{e) } f(x) = \frac{x-1}{x^3-1} & \text{f) } f(x) = \frac{2}{x^3-2x^2-x+2} \end{array}$$

Sol a) $f(x) = \frac{2}{x-2}$

Domain: All real numbers but $x \neq 2$ (since $x=2$ makes f undefined)

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

Vertical Asymptote(s): The V.A. is located at the zero of denominator

$$\text{of } f: x-2=0 \Rightarrow x=2 \Rightarrow \text{V.A. is the line } x=2$$

No removable discontinuities.

$$\text{b) } f(x) = \frac{x^2+2}{x^2-6x+8} = \frac{x^2+2}{(x-2)(x-4)}$$

Domain: All real numbers but $x \neq 2$ and $x \neq 4$ (since $x=2$ and $x=4$ makes f undefined)

$$\Rightarrow (-\infty, 2) \cup (2, 4) \cup (4, \infty)$$

V.A.: The V.A. is located at the zero of denominator of f .

$$x-2=0 \text{ and } x-4=0 \Rightarrow x=2 \text{ and } x=4$$

$$\Rightarrow \text{V.A. are } x=2 \text{ and } x=4$$

$$\text{c) } f(x) = \frac{3x+6}{x^3-4x} = \frac{3x+6}{x(x+2)(x-2)} = \frac{3(x+2)}{x(x+2)(x-2)}$$

Domain: All real number but $x \neq 0$, $x \neq -2$, $x \neq 2$

$$\Rightarrow (-\infty, -2) \cup (-2, 0) \cup (0, 2) \cup (2, \infty)$$

Removable discontinuity: $x+2=0 \Rightarrow x=-2$

V.A.: The V.A. is located at the zero of denominator of f :

$$x=0 \text{ and } x-2=0 \Rightarrow x=0 \text{ and } x=2$$

\Rightarrow V.A. are the line $x=0$, $x=2$.

$$d) f(x) = \frac{(x-2)(x+3)(x+4)}{(x-2)^2(x+3)(x-5)} = \frac{\boxed{(x-2)}\boxed{(x+3)}\boxed{(x+4)}}{\boxed{(x-2)}\boxed{(x-2)}\boxed{(x+3)}(x-5)}$$

Domain: All real numbers but $x \neq 2$, $x \neq -3$, $x \neq 5$

$$\Rightarrow x \in (-\infty, -3) \cup (-3, 2) \cup (2, 5)$$

V.A.: After cancelation, $f(x) = \frac{x+4}{(x-2)(x-5)} \Rightarrow x-2=0$, $x-5=0$

$\Rightarrow x=2$, $x=5 \Rightarrow$ V.A. are line $x=2$ and $x=5$

Removable discontinuity: $x+3=0 \Rightarrow x=-3$

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

Domain: All real numbers but $x \neq 1$ ($x^2+x+1 > 0$)

$$\Rightarrow x \in (-\infty, 1) \cup (1, \infty)$$

V.A.: $f(x) = \frac{1}{x^2+x+1} \Rightarrow$ NO Vertical Asymptote.

Removable discontinuity: $x-1=0 \Rightarrow x=1$

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

Domain: All real numbers but $x \neq -1$, $x \neq 1$, $x=2 \Rightarrow$

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

V.A.: The V.A. is located at the zero of denominator of $f \Rightarrow$

$$x-2=0, x+1=0, x-1=0 \Rightarrow x=2, x=-1, x=1$$

\Rightarrow V.A. are lines $x=2$, $x=-1$, $x=1$.

No Removable discontinuity.

✓ Exercise 10.2

Find the horizontal asymptotes of the functions:

$$\text{a) } f(x) = \frac{8x^2+2x+1}{2x^2+3x-2} \quad \text{b) } f(x) = \frac{1}{(x-3)^2}$$

$$\text{c) } f(x) = \frac{x^2+3x+2}{x-1} \quad \text{d) } f(x) = \frac{12x^3-4x+2}{-3x^3+2x^2+1}$$

Sol: a) Let $p(x) = 8x^2+2x+1$, $q(x) = 2x^2+3x-2 = (x+2)(2x-1)$, $f(x) = \frac{p(x)}{q(x)}$

Since $\deg(p) = 2 = \deg(q)$, then

H.A. is the line $y = \frac{\text{leading coeff. of } P}{\text{leading coeff. of } q} = \frac{8}{2} \Rightarrow \boxed{y=4}$

b) Let $p(x) = 1$, $q(x) = (x-3)^2 = x^2-6x+9$, $f(x) = \frac{p(x)}{q(x)}$

Since $\deg(p) = 0 < \deg(q) = 2$, then H.A. is the line $\boxed{y=0}$

c) Let $p(x) = x^2+3x+2 = (x+1)(x+2)$, $q(x) = x-1$, $f(x) = \frac{p(x)}{q(x)}$

Since there is **NO** common factor of $p(x)$ and $q(x)$, and $\deg(p(x)) = 2 < \deg(q(x)) = 1$, then there is **NO** H.A.

d) Let $p(x) = 12x^3-4x+2$, $q(x) = -3x^3+2x^2+1 = (x-1)(-3x^2-x-1)$, $f(x) = \frac{p(x)}{q(x)}$

Since there is **NO** common factor of $p(x)$ and $q(x)$,

and $\deg(p(x)) = 3 = \deg(q(x)) = 3$, then

H.A. is the line $y = \frac{\text{leading coeff. of } P}{\text{leading coeff. of } q} = \frac{12}{-3} = -4 \Rightarrow \boxed{y=-4}$

$$\begin{array}{r|rrrr} 1 & 3 & 2 & 0 & 1 \\ & & -3 & -1 & -1 \\ \hline & -3 & -1 & -1 & 0 \end{array}$$

Exercise 10.3

Find the x - and y -intercepts of the functions:

a) $f(x) = \frac{x-3}{x-1}$

b) $f(x) = \frac{x^3-4x}{x^2-8x+15}$

c) $f(x) = \frac{(x-3)(x-1)(x+4)}{(x-2)(x-5)}$

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

Sol (a) $f(x) = \frac{x-3}{x-1}$

x -intercept(s): $0 = f(x) = \frac{x-3}{x-1} \Rightarrow x-3=0 \Rightarrow x=3 \Rightarrow (3, 0)$

y -intercept(s): $f(0) = \frac{0-3}{0-1} = \frac{-3}{-1} = 3 \Rightarrow (0, 3)$

(b) $f(x) = \frac{x^3-4x}{x^2-8x+15} = \frac{x(x+2)(x-2)}{(x-3)(x-5)}$

x -intercepts: $0 = f(x) = \frac{x(x+2)(x-2)}{(x-3)(x-5)} \Rightarrow x(x+2)(x-2) = 0$

$\Rightarrow x=0, x+2=0, x-2=0 \Rightarrow x=0, x=-2, x=2$

$\Rightarrow (0, 0), (-2, 0), (2, 0)$

y -intercept: $f(0) = \frac{(0)^3-4(0)}{(0)^2-8(0)+15} = \frac{0}{15} = 0 \Rightarrow (0, 0)$

(c) $f(x) = \frac{(x-3)(x-1)(x+4)}{(x-2)(x-5)}$

x -intercepts: $0 = f(x) = \frac{(x-3)(x-1)(x+4)}{(x-2)(x-5)} \Rightarrow (x-3)(x-1)(x+4) = 0$

$\Rightarrow x-3=0, x-1=0, x+4=0 \Rightarrow x=3, x=1, x=-4$

$\Rightarrow (3, 0), (1, 0), (-4, 0)$

y -intercept: $f(0) = \frac{(0-3)(0-1)(0+4)}{(0-2)(0-5)} = \frac{(-3) \cdot (-1) \cdot 4}{(-2) \cdot (-5)} = \frac{12}{10} = \frac{6}{5}$

$\Rightarrow (0, \frac{6}{5})$

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

x -intercept: $0 = f(x) = \frac{x+3}{x} \Rightarrow x+3=0 \Rightarrow x=-3 \Rightarrow (-3, 0)$

y-intercept: x cannot be 0 since $x=0$ is a V.A.
 \Rightarrow NO y-intercept.

Exercise 10.4

Sketch a complete graph of the function f . To this end, calculate the domain of f , the horizontal and vertical asymptotes, the removable singularities, the x - and y -intercepts of the function, and graph the function with the graphing calculator.

✓ a) $f(x) = \frac{7x+2}{3x-5}$

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

Sol: a) $f(x) = \frac{7x+2}{3x-5}$, let $p(x) = 7x+2$, $q(x) = 3x-5$

Domain: All real numbers but $3x-5 \neq 0$, ($x \neq \frac{5}{3}$)
 $\Rightarrow x \in (-\infty, \frac{5}{3}) \cup (\frac{5}{3}, \infty)$

H.A. Since $\deg(p(x)) = 1 = \deg(q(x))$, then

H.A. is the line $y = \frac{\text{leading coeff. of } p}{\text{leading coeff. of } q} = \frac{7}{3} \Rightarrow y = \frac{7}{3}$

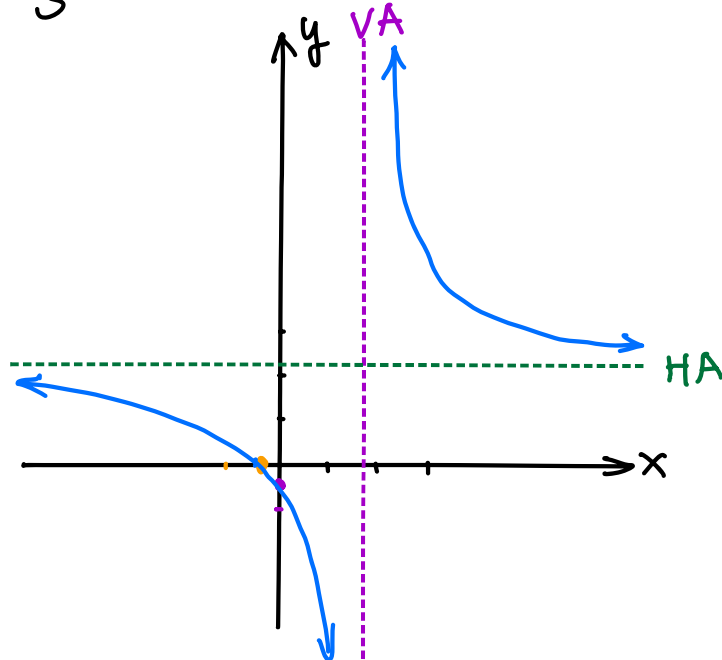
V.A.: V.A. occurs at $3x-5=0 \Rightarrow x = \frac{5}{3} \Rightarrow$

V.A. is the line $x = \frac{5}{3}$

x-intercept: $0 = f(x) = \frac{7x+2}{3x-5} \Rightarrow 7x+2=0 \Rightarrow x = -\frac{2}{7} \Rightarrow (-\frac{2}{7}, 0)$

y-intercept: $f(0) = \frac{7 \cdot 0 + 2}{3 \cdot 0 - 5} = \frac{2}{-5} = -\frac{2}{5} \Rightarrow (0, -\frac{2}{5})$

Graph



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

Domain: All real numbers but $x \neq -3$, $x \neq 1 \Rightarrow x \in (-\infty, -3) \cup (-3, 1) \cup (1, \infty)$

H.A. Let $p(x) = x^2 - x - 2$, $q(x) = x^2 + 2x - 3$.

Since there is **NO** factor of p and q , and $\deg(p(x)) = 2 = \deg(q)$, then

H.A. is the line $y = \frac{\text{leading coeff. of } p}{\text{leading coeff. of } q} = \frac{1}{1} \Rightarrow y = 1$

V.A. V.A. occurs at $(x+3)(x-1) = 0 \Rightarrow x+3=0$, $x-1=0$

V.A. are lines $x = -3$, $x = 1$.

x-intercept: $0 = f(x) = \frac{(x-2)(x+1)}{(x+3)(x-1)} \Rightarrow (x-2)(x+1) = 0 \Rightarrow x-2=0$, $x+1=0$

$\Rightarrow x=2$, $x=-1 \Rightarrow (2, 0)$, $(-1, 0)$

y-intercept: $f(0) = \frac{(0)^2 - (0) - 2}{(0)^2 + 2(0) - 3} = \frac{-2}{-3} = \frac{2}{3} \Rightarrow (0, \frac{2}{3})$

Graph:

