

4 Rational Functions

4.1 Introduction to Rational Functions

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4.1:19

19. The cost C in dollars to remove $p\%$ of the invasive species of Ippizuti fish from Sasquatch Pond is given by

$$C(p) = \frac{1770p}{100 - p}, \quad 0 \leq p < 100$$

- (a) Find and interpret $C(25)$ and $C(95)$.
 (b) What does the vertical asymptote at $p = 100$ mean within the context of the problem?
 (c) What percentage of the Ippizuti fish can you remove for \$40000?

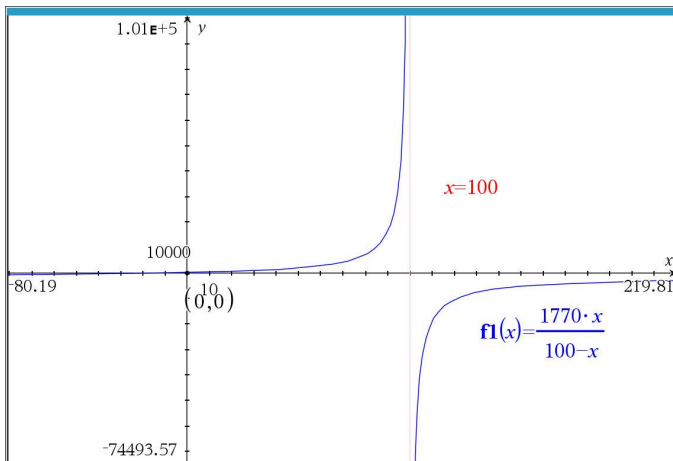
$$\text{a) } C(25) = \frac{1770(25)}{100 - 25} = 590$$

$$1770 \cdot 25 / (100 - 25) = 590$$

$$1770 \cdot 25 / 100 - 25 = 417.5 \text{ (wrong, use PEMDAS)}$$

interpret

It costs \$590 to remove 25% of the fish.



$$C(p) = 40000$$

Find p

$$\frac{1770p}{100 - p} = 40,000$$

$$\frac{1770p}{100-p} = 40,000$$

Gemini

2.5 Flash

The cost C in dollars to remove $p\%$ of the invasive species of Ippizuti fish from Sasquatch Pond is given by

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(a) Find and interpret $C(25)$ and $C(95)$.
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Analysis

This is a problem involving a rational function that models the cost of removing an invasive fish species. I'll break down the solution into the three parts requested.

The cost C in dollars to remove $p\%$ of the invasive species of Ippizuti fish from Sasquatch Pond is given by:

$$C(p) = \frac{1770p}{100-p}, \quad 0 \leq p < 100$$

(a) Find and Interpret $C(25)$ and $C(95)$

To find $C(25)$ and $C(95)$, we substitute $p = 25$ and $p = 95$ into the function.

Calculation of $C(25)$

$$C(25) = \frac{1770(25)}{100-25} = \frac{44250}{75} = 590$$

Interpretation of $C(25)$:

$C(25) = 590$ means that the **cost to remove** 25% of the Ippizuti fish from Sasquatch Pond is \$590.

Calculation of $C(95)$

$$C(95) = \frac{1770(95)}{100-95} = \frac{168150}{5} = 33630$$

Interpretation of $C(95)$:

$C(95) = 33630$ means that the **cost to remove** 95% of the Ippizuti fish from Sasquatch Pond is \$33,630.

(b) What does the vertical asymptote at $p = 100$ mean within the context of the problem?

A **vertical asymptote** occurs where the denominator of a rational function is zero, provided the numerator is not also zero at that value. In this case, the denominator is $100 - p$.

Setting the denominator to zero:

$$100 - p = 0 \implies p = 100$$

Since the numerator, $1770p$, is $1770(100) = 177,000 \neq 0$ when $p = 100$, the function has a vertical asymptote at $p = 100$.

The vertical asymptote at $p = 100$ means that as the percentage of fish removed, p , gets **closer and closer to 100%**, the cost $C(p)$ **increases without bound** (approaches infinity).

Interpretation in Context:

It implies that it is **impossible** to remove **exactly** 100% of the invasive Ippizuti fish, or that doing so would require an **infinite** (or prohibitively large) cost. The closer you get to complete removal, the exponentially more expensive the operation becomes.

(c) What percentage of the Ippizuti fish can you remove for \$40,000?

Here, we are given the cost $C(p) = 40000$ and need to solve for the percentage p .

$$\$40,000 = \frac{1770p}{100 - p}$$

1. **Multiply both sides** by the denominator $(100 - p)$:

$$40000(100 - p) = 1770p$$

2. **Distribute** on the left side:

$$4000000 - 40000p = 1770p$$

3. **Add $40000p$** to both sides to gather the p terms:

$$4000000 = 1770p + 40000p$$

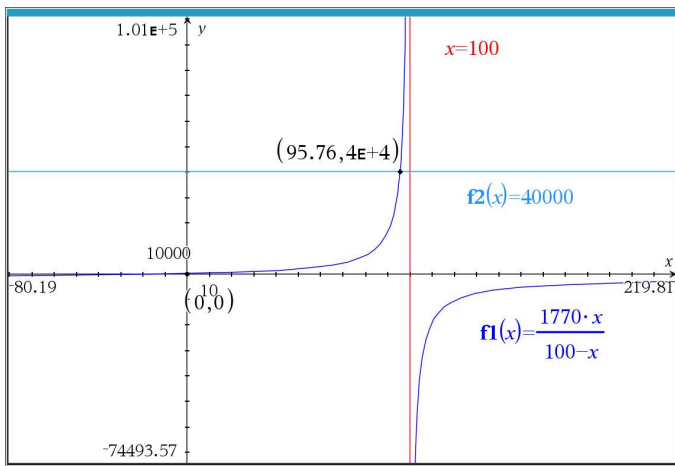
$$4000000 = 41770p$$

4. **Solve for p :**

$$p = \frac{4000000}{41770} \approx 95.7625\%$$

Rounding to two decimal places, we get $p \approx 95.76\%$.

For \$40,000, you can remove approximately 95.76% of the Ippizuti fish. This makes sense as it's greater than the 95% removal cost of \$33,630 we calculated in part (a).



$$p \approx 95.76$$

For \$40,000, we can remove about 95.76% of the fish.

4.2

Memorize this technique

Steps for Constructing a Sign Diagram for a Rational Function

Suppose r is a rational function.

1. Place any values excluded from the domain of r on the number line with an ‘?’ above them.
2. Find the zeros of r and place them on the number line with the number 0 above them.
3. Choose a test value in each of the intervals determined in steps 1 and 2.
4. Determine the sign of $r(x)$ for each test value in step 3, and write that sign above the corresponding interval.

Steps for Graphing Rational Functions

Suppose r is a rational function.

1. Find the domain of r .
2. Reduce $r(x)$ to lowest terms, if applicable. *or check for holes/vertical asymptotes*
3. Find the x - and y -intercepts of the graph of $y = r(x)$, if they exist.
4. Determine the location of any vertical asymptotes or holes in the graph, if they exist. Analyze the behavior of r on either side of the vertical asymptotes, if applicable.
5. Analyze the end behavior of r . Find the horizontal or slant asymptote, if one exists.
6. Use a sign diagram and plot additional points, as needed, to sketch the graph of $y = r(x)$.

4.2

4.2.1 EXERCISES

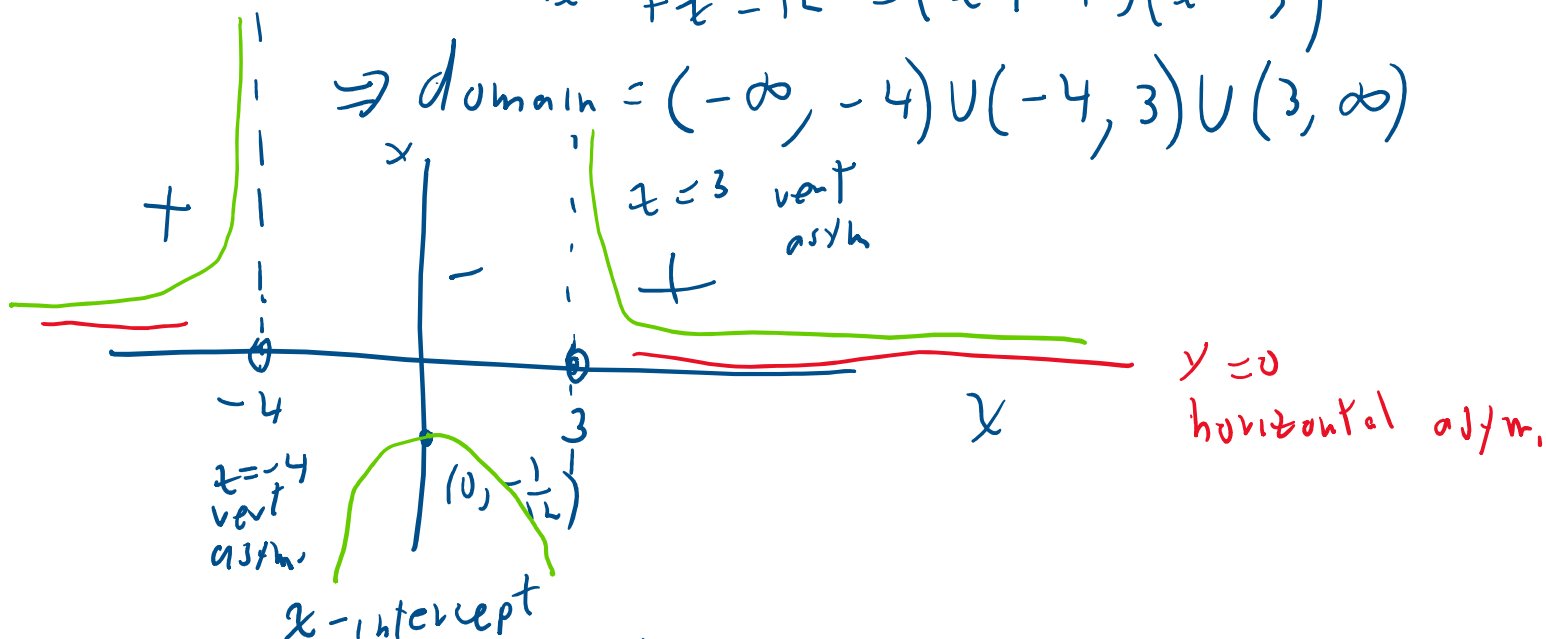
In Exercises 1 - 16, use the six-step procedure to graph the rational function. Be sure to draw any asymptotes as dashed lines.

$$4. f(x) = \frac{1}{x^2 + x - 12}$$

$$x^2 + x - 12 = (x + 4)(x - 3)$$

$$x^2 + x - 12 = (x + 4)(x - 3)$$

$$\Rightarrow \text{domain} = (-\infty, -4) \cup (-4, 3) \cup (3, \infty)$$



x-intercept

set $y = 0$ solve for x

$$\frac{1}{x^2 + x - 12} = 0$$

$1 \neq 0$
 $\therefore$ no x-intercept

$$y\text{-intercept } f(0) = \frac{1}{0^2 + 0 - 12} = -\frac{1}{12}$$

$$f(0) = -\frac{1}{12} < 0$$

$$f(-5) = \frac{1}{(-5)^2 - 5 - 12} = \frac{1}{25 - 17} > 0$$

$$f(4) = \frac{1}{4^2 + 4 - 12} = \frac{1}{20 - 12} > 0$$

horizontal or slant asymptote?

no x^3 in numerator $\Rightarrow$ no slant asy.

$\therefore 1 < 2 \Rightarrow$ horizontal asy $y = 0$

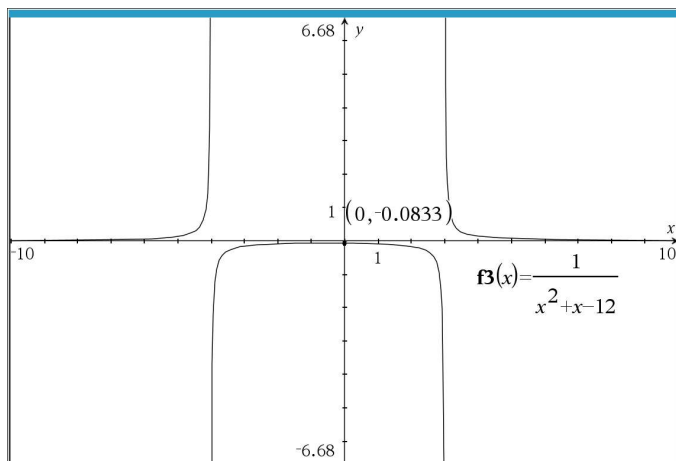
no x in numerator

deg 1 < 2 $\Rightarrow$ horizontal asymptote $y=0$

end behavior

$$x \rightarrow -\infty \Rightarrow f(x) \rightarrow 0$$

$$x \rightarrow \infty \Rightarrow f(x) \rightarrow 0$$



4.3

Memorize

Definition 4.5. Suppose x , y and z are variable quantities. We say

- y **varies directly with** (or is **directly proportional to**) x if there is a constant k such that $y = kx$.
- y **varies inversely with** (or is **inversely proportional to**) x if there is a constant k such that $y = \frac{k}{x}$. $\Leftrightarrow xy = k$
- z **varies jointly with** (or is **jointly proportional to**) x and y if there is a constant k such that $z = kxy$.

The constant k in the above definitions is called the **constant of proportionality**.

Example 4.3.6. Translate the following into mathematical equations using Definition 4.5.

1. Hooke's Law: The force F exerted on a spring is directly proportional the extension x of the spring.

$$F = kx$$

4.3: 3

In Exercises 1 - 6, solve the rational equation. Be sure to check for extraneous solutions.

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

Note! $x \neq \pm 3$

$$x = 3 \quad | \quad x = -3 \quad | \quad x = 1 \quad | \quad x = -1$$

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

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

$$x-3 + x+3 = x^2-9$$

$$2x = x^2 - 9$$

$$x^2 - 2x - 9 = 0$$

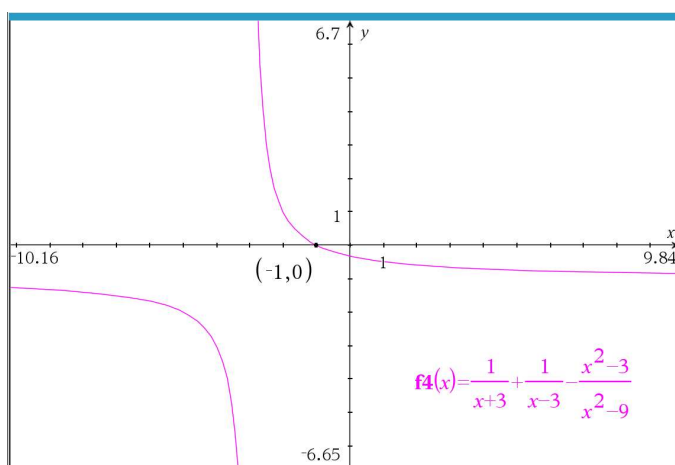
$$(x-3)(x+3) = 0$$

$$\boxed{x = 3, -1}$$

$x \neq \pm 3 \Rightarrow x = 3$ is an extraneous solution

$$\therefore \boxed{x = -1}$$

The graph agrees with our manual (analytic) calculation.



In Exercises 7 - 20, solve the rational inequality. Express your answer using interval notation.

15. $\frac{3x-1}{x^2+1} \leq 1$

$$\frac{3x-1}{x^2+1} - 1 \leq 0$$

$$x^2+1 \neq 0$$

$$\text{solve } \frac{3x-1}{x^2+1} - 1 = 0$$

$$\Rightarrow \left(\frac{3x-1}{x^2+1} \right) (x^2+1) - 1(x^2+1) = 0(x^2+1)$$

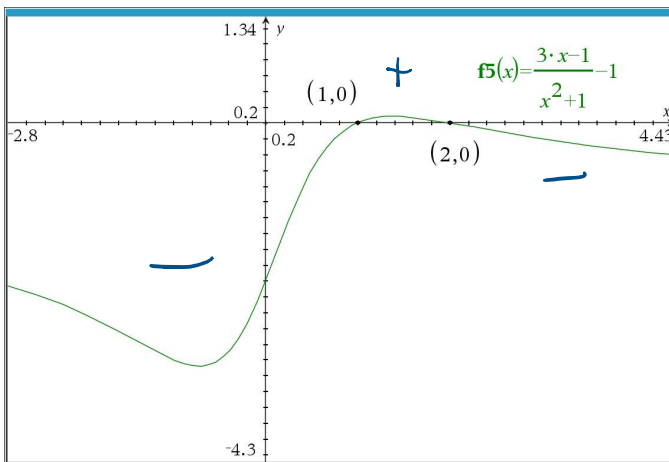
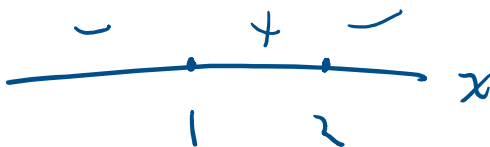
$$3x - 1 - x^2 - 1 = 0$$

$$-x^2 + 3x - 2 = 0$$

$$x^2 - 3x + 2 = 0$$

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

$$\boxed{x=2, 1}$$



solution set
[1, 2]

$$14. \frac{x^2 + 5x + 6}{x^2 - 1} > 0$$

$$\text{Let } f(x) = \frac{x^2 + 5x + 6}{x^2 - 1}$$

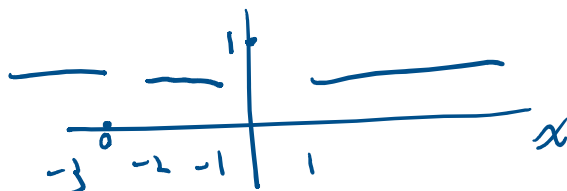
$$\text{solve } f(x) > 0$$

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

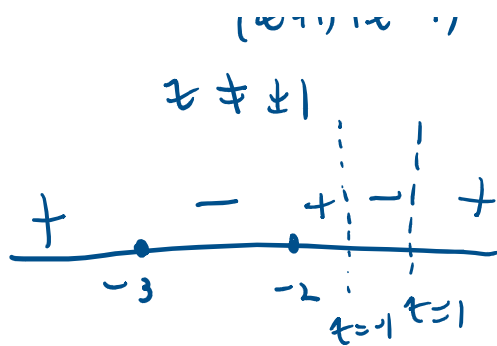
$$x \neq \pm 1$$

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$$Y_1 = \frac{x^2 + 5x + 6}{x^2 - 1} > 0$$



... ..



solution set
 $(-\infty, -3) \cup (-2, -1) \cup (1, \infty)$

$$f(-4) = \frac{(-4+3)(-4+2)}{(-4+1)(-4-1)} = \frac{(-)(-)}{(-)(-)} > 0$$

$$f\left(-\frac{5}{2}\right) = \frac{\left(-\frac{5}{2}+3\right)\left(-\frac{5}{2}+2\right)}{\left(-\frac{5}{2}+1\right)\left(-\frac{5}{2}-1\right)} = \frac{(+)(-)}{(-)(-)} < 0$$

$$f\left(-\frac{3}{2}\right) = \frac{\left(-\frac{3}{2}+3\right)\left(-\frac{3}{2}+2\right)}{\left(-\frac{3}{2}+1\right)\left(-\frac{3}{2}-1\right)} = \frac{(+)(+)}{(-)(-)} > 0$$

$$f(0) = \frac{(0+3)(0+2)}{(0+1)(0-1)} = \frac{(+)(+)}{(+)(-)} < 0$$

$$f(2) = \frac{(2+3)(2+2)}{(2+1)(2-1)} = \frac{(+)(+)}{(+)(+)} > 0$$

