

**Tonight's Class:**

- 9.1 Exploring Rational Functions
- 9.2 Analyzing Rational Functions

**Coming up**

- Monday, June 12
  - o Test 6 (8.2-8.4, 9.1-9.2)
  - o Chapter 8 Hand-in due
- Thursday, June 15
  - o Chapter 9 Hand-in due
- Tuesday, June 20
  - o Test 7 (9.3, G.1-G.4)
  - o Chapter G (10) Hand-in due
- Wednesday, June 21
  - o Rewrite day (optional, can do up to 2 test rewrites)

**CHAPTER 9**

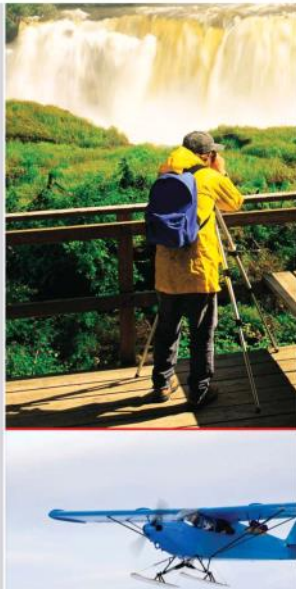
## Rational Functions

Why does the lens on a camera need to move to focus on objects that are nearer or farther away? What is the relationship between the travel time for a plane and the velocity of the wind in which it is flying? How can you relate the amount of light from a source to the distance from the source? The mathematics behind all of these situations involves rational functions.

A simple rational function is used to relate **distance, time, and speed**. More complicated rational functions may be used in a business to model average costs of production or by a doctor to predict the amount of medication remaining in a patient's bloodstream.

In this chapter, you will explore a variety of rational functions. You have used the term *rational* before, with rational numbers and rational expressions, so what is a rational *function*?

**Key Terms**  
rational function      point of discontinuity

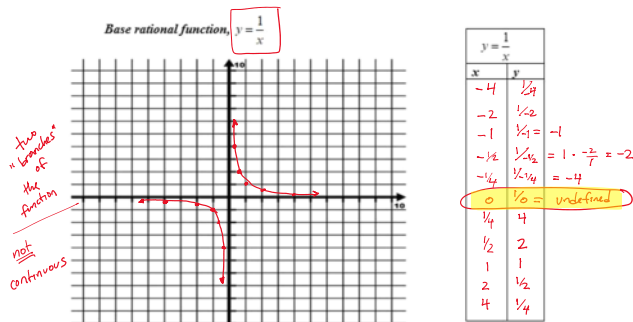


## Chapter 9: Rational Functions

### 9.1 Exploring Rational Functions Using Transformations

Rational function are functions that can be written in the form  $y = \frac{p(x)}{q(x)}$  where  $p(x)$  and  $q(x)$  are polynomials and  $q(x) \neq 0$ .

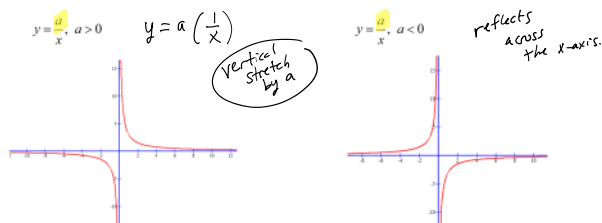
#### Rational Functions with Linear Numerators and Denominators



$y = \frac{1}{x}$

Non-permissible value (NPV) <i>any x-value that makes denominator equal 0</i>	$x = 0$
End behavior As $ x $ becomes very large, what does $y$ do?	$y$ approaches zero $y \rightarrow 0$
Domain	$\{x \mid x \neq 0, x \in \mathbb{R}\}$
Range	$\{y \mid y \neq 0, y \in \mathbb{R}\}$
Equation of vertical asymptote	$x = 0$
Equation of horizontal asymptote	$y = 0$

In general, these are the *simplest* rational function equations, together with their graphs:

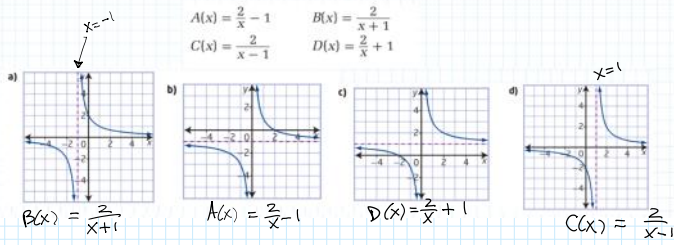


#### Transformations of $y = \frac{1}{x}$

For  $y = \frac{a}{x-h} + k$ , complete the table below.

$y = \frac{a}{x-h} + k$

Non-permissible value (NPV) <i>* look at the denominator</i>	$x = h$
End behavior As $ x $ becomes very large, what does $y$ do?	$y$ approaching $k$
Domain	$\{x \mid x \neq h, x \in \mathbb{R}\}$
Range	$\{y \mid y \neq k, y \in \mathbb{R}\}$
Equation of vertical asymptote	$x = h$
Equation of horizontal asymptote	$y = k$



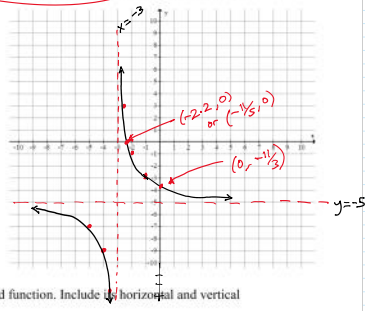
To Try

1. Given the original rational function  $y = \frac{1}{x}$  and the transformed function,  $y = \frac{4}{x+3} - 5$ :

a) Complete the tables below. For the first table, give 6 points found on the graph of the original function  $y = \frac{1}{x}$ . In the final table, give the image points that result after the transformations have occurred. Write the mapping notation in the heading of that table.  $(x, y) \rightarrow (x-3, y-5)$

$y = \frac{1}{x}$      $y = \frac{4}{x+3} - 5$

x	y	x-3	y-5
-2	-1/2	-5	-7
-1	-1	-4	-9
-1/2	-2	-3 1/2	-13
1/2	2	-2 1/2	3
1	1	-2	-1
2	1/2	-1	-3



b) Accurately sketch the final transformed function. Include the horizontal and vertical asymptotes, drawn with dotted lines.

c) Give the equations of the asymptotes.   
 horizontal asymptote  $y = -5$     vertical asymptote  $x = -3$

d) Use algebra to find the coordinates of the final graph's x-intercept and y-intercept.

x-intercept, let  $y = 0$

$$y = \frac{4}{x+3} - 5$$

$$0 = \frac{4}{x+3} - 5$$

$$(x+3)5 = \frac{4}{x+3} (x+3)$$

$$5(x+3) = 4$$

$$5x+15 = 4$$

$$5x = -11$$

$$x = -\frac{11}{5}$$

$(-\frac{11}{5}, 0)$

---

y-intercept, let  $x = 0$

$$y = \frac{4}{x+3} - 5$$

$$y = \frac{4}{0+3} - 5$$

$$y = \frac{4}{3} - \frac{5 \cdot 3}{3}$$

$$y = \frac{4}{3} - \frac{15}{3}$$

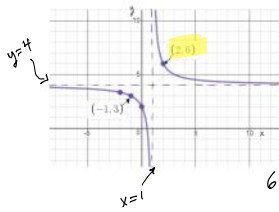
$$y = -\frac{11}{3}$$

$(0, -\frac{11}{3})$

It will be in this format →

$$y = \frac{a}{x-h} + k$$

2. Find the equation of the rational function graphed below.



$$y = \frac{a}{x-1} + 4$$

Use (2,6) in the equation:

$$6 = \frac{a}{2-1} + 4$$

$$6 = \frac{a}{1} + 4$$

$$2 = a$$

1) Use the asymptotes from the graph to figure out "h" and "k"

2) see if there's a stretch, by putting "a" into your equation and replacing x and y with the values from a point on the graph. Solve, to find the a-value.

$$y = \frac{2}{x-1} + 4$$

Example

Given the rational function  $y = \frac{-4x+3}{x+2}$

Find its NPVs, intercepts, and asymptote equations.

1) NPVs

denom = 0  
 $x+2 = 0$   
 $x = -2$

3) Vertical asymptote

denom = 0  
 $x+2 = 0$   
 $x = -2$

2) x-int

let  $y = 0$   $(x+2)(0) = \frac{-4x+3}{x+2} (x+2)$   
 $0 = -4x+3$   
 $4x = 3$   
 $x = \frac{3}{4}$   
 $(\frac{3}{4}, 0)$

horizontal asymptote

as x-values get HUGE, what are the y-values approaching?

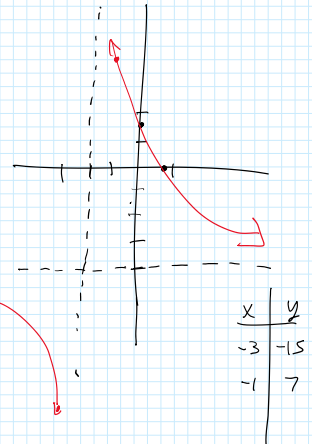
$$y = \frac{-4x+3}{x+2}$$

try plugging in x = BIG number

$$y = \frac{-4(\text{billion})+3}{(\text{billion})+2}$$

$$y \approx -4$$

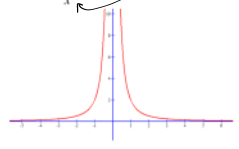
$y = -4$  is the equation of horizontal asymptote



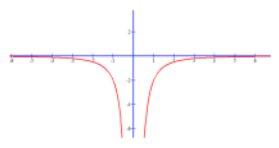
$$\frac{3}{-1} = \frac{1.5}{-1} = -1.5$$

Rational Functions with Quadratic Term in Denominator, no other x's

$$y = \frac{a}{x^2}, a > 0$$



$$y = \frac{a}{x^2}, a < 0$$



Non-permissible value (NPV)	$x = 0$
Domain	$\{x   x \neq 0, x \in \mathbb{R}\}$
Range	$a > 0 \{y   y > 0, y \in \mathbb{R}\}$ $a < 0 \{y   y < 0, y \in \mathbb{R}\}$
Equation of vertical asymptote	$x = 0$
Equation of horizontal asymptote	$y = 0$

Transformations of  $y = \frac{1}{x^2}$

For  $y = \frac{a}{(x-h)^2} + k$  complete the table below.

Non-permissible value (NPV)	$x = h$
Domain	$\{x   x \neq h, x \in \mathbb{R}\}$
Range	$a > 0 \{y   y > k, y \in \mathbb{R}\}$ $a < 0 \{y   y < k, y \in \mathbb{R}\}$
Equation of vertical asymptote	$x = h$
Equation of horizontal asymptote	$y = k$

**Example (TB p 445, #18)**

Two stores rent bikes. The first store charges a fixed fee of \$20 plus \$4/h, and the second store charges a fixed fee of \$10 plus \$5/h.

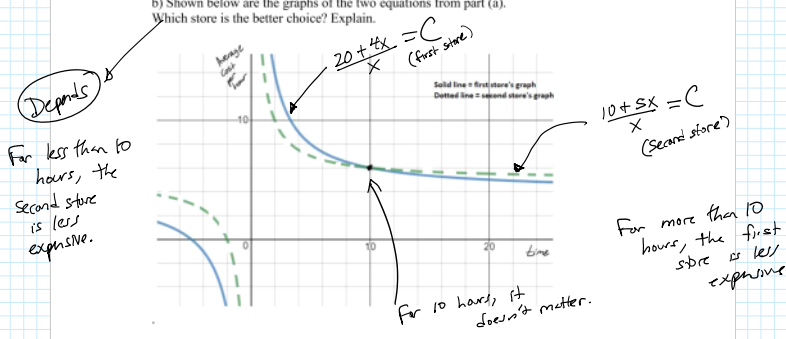
a) Write equations for the average cost per hour for each store as a function of the rental time in hours.

Let  $x = \#$  of hours the bike is rented

Store 1 : Average cost per hour =  $\frac{20 + 4x}{x}$

Store 2 : Avg cost per hour =  $\frac{10 + 5x}{x}$

b) Shown below are the graphs of the two equations from part (a). Which store is the better choice? Explain.



Whiteboards - rational functions so far ("simplify" questions only)

### 9.2 Analyzing Rational Functions

Some rational function equations are more complicated. To analyze and graph them, we factor and simplify their equations.

#### Example

Consider the rational function:  $f(x) = \frac{x^2 + 7x + 12}{x + 4}$

a) Factor and simplify the function's equation.

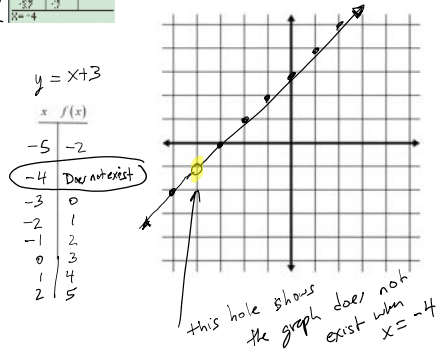
$f(x) = \frac{(x+3)(x+4)}{x+4}$  *include this!*

$f(x) = x+3, \text{ where } x \neq -4$

b) NPV(non-permissible value) = -4  
How does the graph behave near its NPV?

*x-values that are close to the NPV*

x	f(x)
-4.5	-1.5
-4.2	-0.8
-4.1	-0.7
-4.01	-0.699
-4	-0.7
-3.99	-0.701
-3.9	-0.701
-3.5	-0.75



**Point of Discontinuity (POD)** - an ordered pair where the graph of a function does not exist. It occurs whenever the equation's numerator and denominator have a common factor that includes a variable.

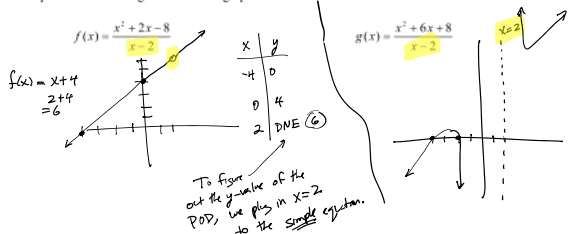
POD

#### Example

a) Complete the table, with the characteristics of the two graphs.

	$f(x) = \frac{x^2 + 2x - 8}{x - 2}$	$g(x) = \frac{x^2 + 6x + 8}{x - 2}$
Non-permissible value(s)	$x = 2$	$x = 2$
Simplified form of equation	$f(x) = \frac{(x-2)(x+4)}{x-2}$ $f(x) = x+4, \text{ where } x \neq 2$	$g(x) = \frac{(x+2)(x+4)}{x-2}$ <i>no simplification can happen. there is NO POD.</i>
Coordinates of x- and y-intercepts	<i>Can use the simplified version of the equation</i> $y = x+4$ $0 = x+4$ $x = -4$ $(-4, 0)$	<i>Can use the simplified version of the equation</i> $y = \frac{(x+2)(x+4)}{x-2}$ $0 = \frac{(x+2)(x+4)}{x-2}$ $0 = (x+2)(x+4)$ $x = -2 \text{ or } x = -4$ $(-2, 0)$ and $(-4, 0)$

b) Graph these rational functions (same as the ones above) using technology. Below each equation draw a rough sketch of its graph.



When does a rational function have

- a point of discontinuity
- a vertical asymptote?

if there's an NPV where the factor does NOT cancel

if a factor containing x exists in both numerator + denominator, that are exactly the same

**Key Ideas for Rational Function Graphs**

**1) Horizontal Asymptotes**

Find the degree of the numerator and denominator.

Numerator degree < Denominator degree <i>horizontal asymptote equation:</i> $y = 0$	<i>Example</i> $y = \frac{2x}{3x^2+4}$ h.a. $y = 0$	$y = \frac{5}{x} + 3$ h.a. $y =$ ↑ simplified up
Numerator degree = Denominator degree <i>horizontal asymptote equation:</i> $y = \frac{\text{leading coefficient of num.}}{\text{leading coefficient of denom.}}$	$y = \frac{5x^2-7}{2x^2+3}$ h.a. $y = \frac{5}{2}$	
Numerator degree > Denominator degree Graph will have a <i>slant asymptote</i>	$y = \frac{5x^3}{2x}$ slant asymptote	

**2) NPVs, PODs, and vertical asymptotes**

Factor numerator and denominator completely.

- Set **each factor of the denominator** = 0, to get all NPVs.
  - Is there a factor that cancels with a factor in the numerator? It gives the x-value of a POD.
  - Is there a factor that doesn't cancel with a numerator factor? It gives the location of a vertical asymptote.

**3) Intercepts**

- y-intercepts** – substitute  $x = 0$  into the function (either the original or the simplified form) and solve for  $y$
- x-intercepts** – set each factor of the simplified numerator = 0 and solve for  $x$

**4) Sketch**

- Plot all x-intercepts and y-intercepts
- Show points of discontinuity (PODs) as “holes”, using an open circle
- Show all asymptotes as dotted lines.
- Find more points on the graph, as needed, by substituting into its equation.
- Make sure graph does not cross any vertical asymptotes.

For next class

- Complete Chapter 8 Hand-in
- Complete Chapter 9 Hand-in, #1-3
- Prepare for Week 6 Test
- See optional worksheets on website, in both the Unit 3 and Unit 4 sections.
- More log scale questions:
  - o TB p 401: 13bc, 16bc
  - o TB p 417: 15, 17
  - o TB p 419: 6, 15