

## Lesson #15 Section 4.4

Aim: What ARE Rational Functions?

Note: Rational = fraction

Do Now: Find the domain, x-intercepts and y-intercepts

a)  $f(x) = \frac{1}{x^2}$

b)  $g(x) = \frac{x^2 + 3x + 1}{x^2 - x - 6}$

$x^2 - x - 6 = (x+2)(x-3) = 0$

Domain: all real numbers  
except zero

x-intercept: no

All real numbers except  
 $x = -2$  and  $x = +3$ x-intercept ( $y = 0$ )

$(-2.618, 0)$

$(-0.382, 0)$

$$\frac{0}{1} = \frac{x^2 + 3x + 1}{x^2 - x - 6}$$

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

$$x^2 + 3x + \frac{9}{4} - \frac{9}{4} + \frac{1}{4} = -\frac{5}{4}$$

$$0 = \left(x + \frac{3}{2}\right)^2 - \frac{5}{4}$$

$$\sqrt{\frac{5}{4}} = x + \frac{3}{2}$$

$$= x$$

$$-0.382 \approx \frac{+\sqrt{5}-3}{2}$$

$$-2.618 = \frac{-\sqrt{5}-3}{2}$$



## I- Rational functions ?

- 1) Rational function is a quotient (Division/Fraction) of two polynomials
- 2) Domain: SET of all REAL NUMBERS that ARE NOT a ZERO FOR its DENOMINATOR
- 3) Y-intercept is at  $f(0)$
- 4) X-intercept: ZEROS FOR the NUMERATOR but NOT ZEROS FOR the DENOMINATOR

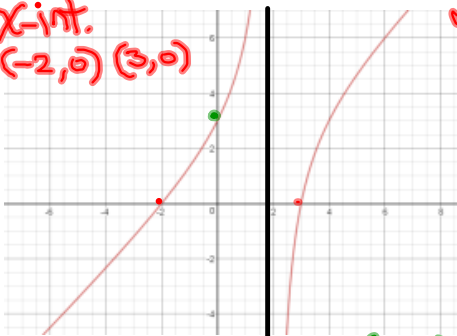
examples | find the Domain / x / y intercepts

a)  $f(x) = \frac{x^2 - x - 6}{x - 2}$

b)  $g(x) = \frac{x + 2}{3x - 9}$

Domain: All real #s except  $x = 2$

x-int.  
 $(-2, 0)$   $(3, 0)$



y-int.  
 $(0, 3)$

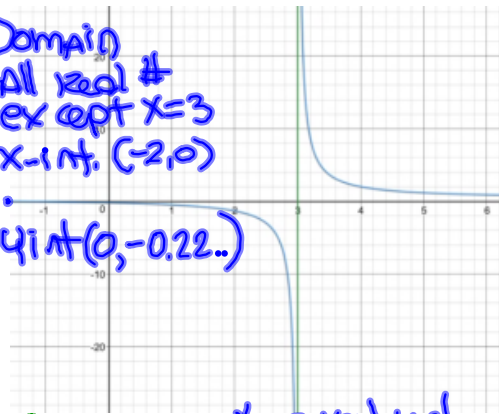
$x = 2$  (vertical Asymptote)

notation (Limit)

$\lim_{x \rightarrow 3} f(x) = +\infty$

Domain  
 All real #  
 except  $x = 3$   
 x-int.  $(-2, 0)$

y-int.  $(0, -0.22..)$



$x = 3$  vertical Asympt.

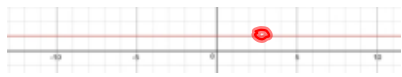
Note:

- a)  $g(x)$  increases without a bound as  $x$  approaches  $x = 3$  from the right side
- b)  $g(x)$  decreases w/o a bound as  $x$  approaches  $x = 3$  from the left side

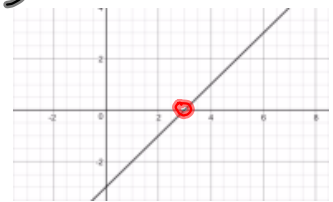
example 2 please indicate the differences with their graphs

a)  $f_1(x) = \frac{x-3}{x-3}$

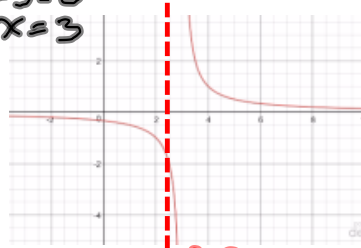
b)  $f_2(x) = \frac{\cancel{(x-3)}(x-3)}{\cancel{x-3}}$



Common  
hole at  $x=3$



c)  $f_3(x) = \frac{\cancel{x-3}}{(\cancel{x-3})(x-3)}$   $\begin{matrix} \nearrow x=c \\ x-3=0 \\ x=3 \end{matrix}$



Note 1: At  $x=c$  if  $c$  is a zero of the denominator but not of the numerator  $\Rightarrow$  vertical asymptote

Note 2: At  $x=c$  if  $c$  is a zero for both denominator and numerator then  $c$  is a hole

$$f(x) = \frac{g(x)}{h(x)} = \frac{(x+3)(x+3)}{(x+3)}$$

multiplicity	
$\frac{2}{1}$	$2 \geq 1$
	hole
	<u>at c</u>

begin H.W #15