

5.3 Graphs of the form: $f(x) = \frac{ax + b}{cx + d}$

Math Learning Target:



"I can easily determine horizontal asymptotes when the function is of the above form. Moreover, I can graph functions of the above form."

Ex.1: Graph $y = \frac{6x - 1}{2x - 3}$

H.A. ∵ degree of numerator = degree of denominator
 $\therefore y = \frac{6}{2} (\frac{x}{x})$
 $y = 3$ is the H.A.

Restriction: $2x - 3 \neq 0$
 $x \neq \frac{3}{2}$

$f(\frac{3}{2}) = \frac{6(\frac{3}{2}) - 1}{2(\frac{3}{2}) - 3}$
 $= \frac{8}{0}$

∴ No hole
 ∴ V.A.: $x = \frac{3}{2}$

$f(2) = \frac{6(2) - 1}{2(2) - 3}$
 $= \frac{11}{1}$
 $= 11$

$f(-1) = \frac{6(-1) - 1}{2(-1) - 3}$
 $= \frac{5}{-5}$
 $= -1$

$y = \frac{6x - 1}{2x - 3}$ does not simplify

y-int, let $x = 0$
 $f(0) = \frac{6(0) - 1}{2(0) - 3}$
 $= \frac{1}{3}$

x-int, let $y = 0$
 $0 = \frac{6x - 1}{2x - 3}$
 $0 = 6x - 1$
 $x = \frac{1}{6}$

$x = \frac{1}{6}$

$f(-100)$
 $= \frac{-601}{-203}$
 ≈ 2.96

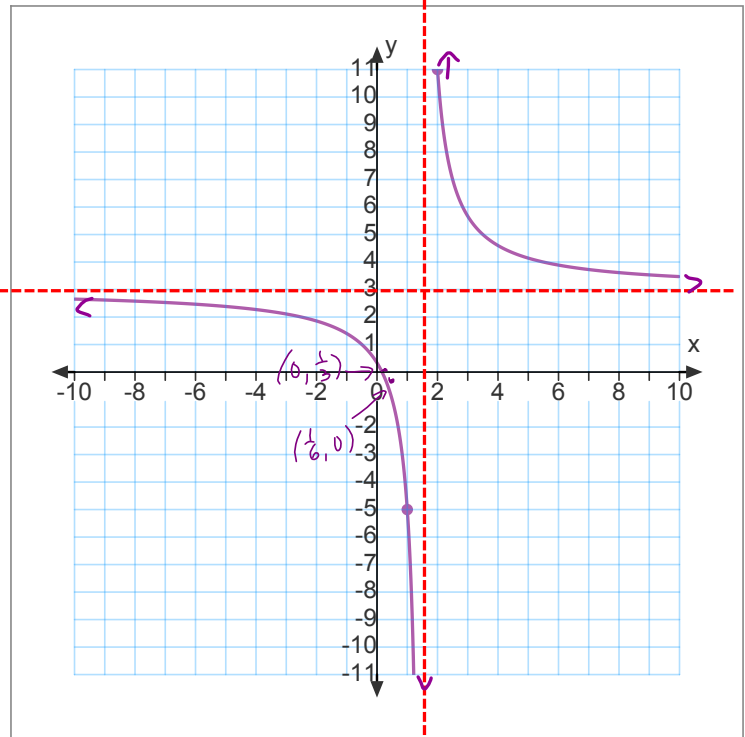
(below H.A.)

$x = \frac{3}{2}$
 Near
 $f(1.49)$
 $= -397$

$f(1.51)$
 $= \frac{6(1.51) - 1}{2(1.51) - 3}$
 $= \frac{8.06}{0.02}$
 $= 403$

$f(100) = \frac{599}{197}$
 ≈ 3.04

(above H.A.)



Entertainment: p. 272 #1, 5ad, 6, 8*, 9, 10**

Enrich Yourself... p. 274 #12, 13, 14***

Answers that need to be corrected in the text:

8* $f(x)$ has a VA at $x=1$; $g(x)$ has a HA at $y=0.5$.

Also, $f(x)$ has a HA at $y=3$; $g(x)$ has a VA at $x=-1.5$

10** The concentration increases over the 24 h period and approaches approx. 1.85 mg/L

14***a) $f(x)$ and $m(x)$

b) $g(x)$

Find the equation of the H.A. for $f(x) = \frac{ax+b}{cx+d}$

We know a horizontal asymptote exists for the above function, since the degree of the numerator is the same as the degree of the denominator.

Now any HA exists only as $x \rightarrow \infty$, and/or $x \rightarrow -\infty$.

$$y = \frac{ax+b}{cx+d} \quad \left. \begin{array}{l} \div x \\ \div x \end{array} \right\} \begin{array}{l} \text{allowed, since } x \rightarrow \pm\infty \\ \text{i.e. } x \neq 0 \end{array}$$

$$= \frac{\frac{ax}{x} + \frac{b}{x}}{\frac{cx}{x} + \frac{d}{x}}$$

$$= \frac{a + \frac{b}{x}}{c + \frac{d}{x}}$$

$$\text{As } x \rightarrow \pm\infty, \frac{b}{x} \rightarrow 0$$

$$y = \frac{a+0}{c+0}$$

$$= \frac{a}{c} \therefore \text{the H.A.}$$