

## Week 9

### Sections 3.6, 4.1, 4.2

HW8: 34, 38, 44, 52 (p. 309)

8, 12, 24, 30 (p. 336-337)

26, 28 (p. 342)

#### Review Exercises

Find all horizontal and vertical asymptotes (if any).

$$f(x) = \frac{x^3 - 8x}{x^4 - 16}$$

#### Solution

1. Find the vertical asymptotes (by setting the denominator equal to zero).

$$x^4 - 16 = 0$$

$$(x^2 + 4)(x^2 - 4) = 0$$

$$x^2 + 4 = 0 \quad \text{or} \quad x^2 - 4 = 0$$

$$x^2 = -4 \quad \text{or} \quad (x + 2)(x - 2) = 0$$

$$\text{No solution} \quad \text{or} \quad x + 2 = 0 \quad \text{or} \quad x - 2 = 0$$

$$x = -2 \quad \text{or} \quad x = 2$$

The vertical asymptotes are  $x = -2$  and  $x = 2$ .

2. Find the horizontal asymptote.

The horizontal asymptote is  $y = 0$   
(because the exponent on the numerator is less than the exponent on the denominator).

Find all horizontal and vertical asymptotes (if any).

$$f(x) = \frac{(x + 1)(2x - 3)}{(x - 2)(4x + 7)}$$

Solution

1. Find the vertical asymptotes (by setting the denominator equal to zero).

$$\begin{aligned}(x - 2)(4x + 7) &= 0 \\ x - 2 = 0 \quad \text{or} \quad 4x + 7 &= 0 \\ x = 2 \quad \text{or} \quad 4x &= -7 \\ x = 2 \quad \text{or} \quad x &= -\frac{7}{4}\end{aligned}$$

The vertical asymptotes are:

$$x = 2 \quad \text{and} \quad x = -\frac{7}{4}$$

2. Find the horizontal asymptote.

$$\text{The numerator: } (x + 1)(2x - 3) = 2x^2 - x - 3$$

The highest exponent is 2.

The leading coefficient is **2**.

$$\text{The denominator: } (x - 2)(4x + 7) = 4x^2 - x - 14$$

The highest exponent is 2.

The leading coefficient is **4**.

Because both exponents of the numerator and the denominator are the same, we need to divide the coefficients to find the horizontal asymptote.

$$y = \frac{2}{4}$$

$$y = \frac{1}{2}$$

Find the intercepts and asymptotes, and then sketch a graph of the rational function and state the domain and range.

$$f(x) = \frac{4x - 4}{x + 2}$$

Solution

1. Find the x-intercepts.

Replace  $y$  with 0.

$$\frac{4x - 4}{x + 2} = 0$$

A fraction is equal to zero only because the numerator is equal to zero:

$$4x - 4 = 0$$

$$4x = 4$$

$$x = 1$$

The x-intercept is 1

2. Find the y-intercept.

Replace  $x$  with 0.

$$y = \frac{4 \cdot 0 - 4}{0 + 2}$$

$$y = -\frac{4}{2}$$

$$y = -2$$

The y-intercept is  $-2$ .

3. Find the vertical asymptotes (by setting the denominator equal to zero).

$$x + 2 = 0$$

$$x = -2$$

The vertical asymptote is:  $x = -2$

4. Find the horizontal asymptote.

Because both exponents of the numerator and the denominator are the same, we need to divide the leading coefficients to find the horizontal asymptote.

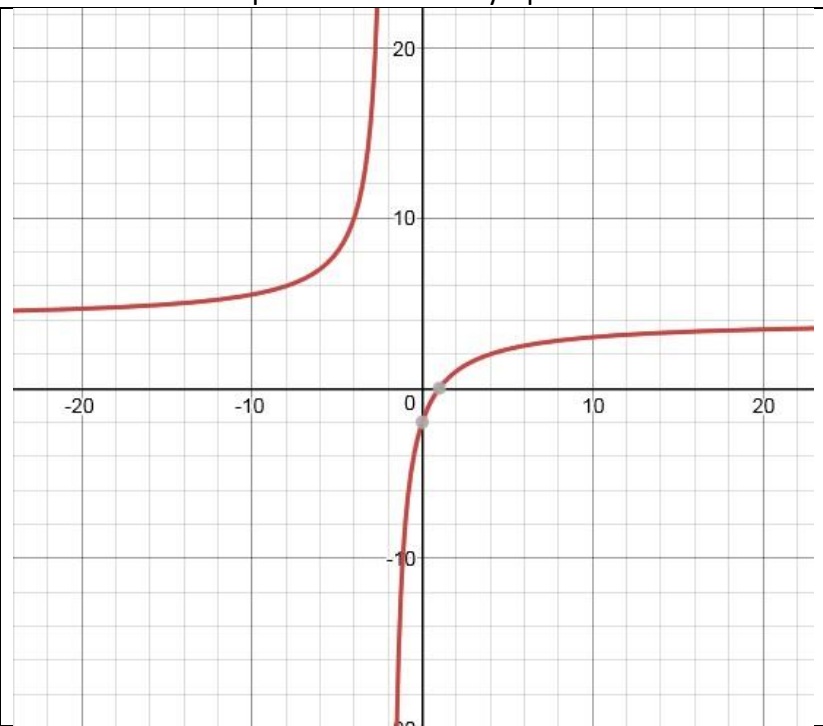
$$y = \frac{4}{1} = 4$$

The horizontal asymptote is:  $y = 4$

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5. Get additional points between the intercepts and vertical asymptotes.

$x$	$y$
-3	16
-1	-8
2	1
3	1.6



Domain:  $(-\infty, -2) \cup (-2, \infty)$

Range:  $(-\infty, 4) \cup (4, \infty)$

Find the intercepts and asymptotes, and then sketch a graph of the rational function and state the domain and range.

$$f(x) = \frac{4x - 8}{(x - 4)(x + 1)}$$

Solution

1. Find the x-intercepts.

Replace  $y$  with 0.

$$\frac{4x - 8}{(x - 4)(x + 1)} = 0$$

A fraction is equal to zero only because the numerator is equal to zero:

$$4x - 8 = 0$$

$$4x = 8$$

$$x = 2$$

The x-intercept is 2

2. Find the y-intercept.

Replace  $x$  with 0.

$$y = \frac{4 \cdot 0 - 8}{(0 - 4)(0 + 1)}$$

$$y = \frac{-8}{-4}$$

$$y = 2$$

The y-intercept is 2.

3. Find the vertical asymptotes (by setting the denominator equal to zero).

$$(x - 4)(x + 1) = 0$$

$$x - 4 = 0 \quad \text{or} \quad x + 1 = 0$$

$$x = 4 \quad \text{or} \quad x = -1$$

The vertical asymptotes are:  $x = 4$  and  $x = -1$

4. Find the horizontal asymptote.

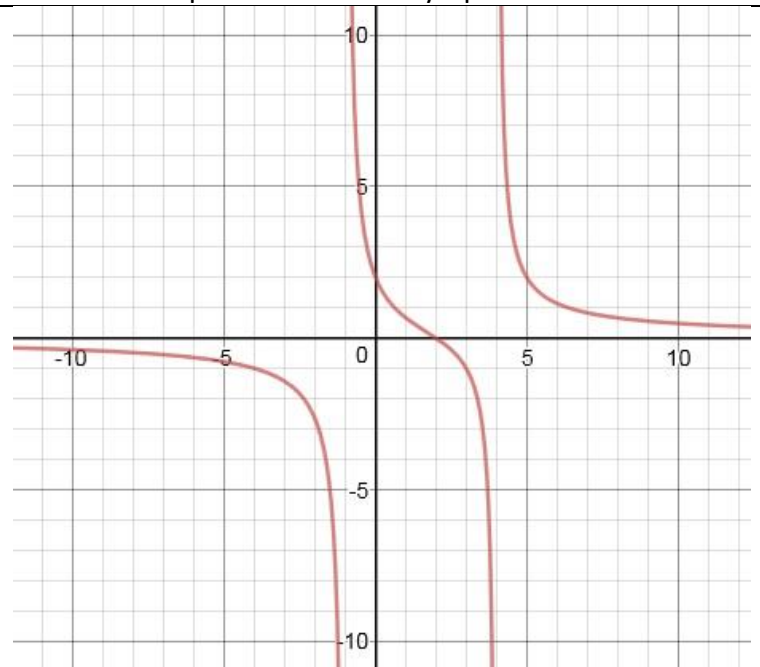
The horizontal asymptote is  $y = 0$

(because the exponent on the numerator is less than the exponent on the denominator).

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5. Get additional points between the intercepts and vertical asymptotes.

$x$	$y$
-3	-1.4
-2	-2.7
0	2
3	-1
5	2



Domain:  $(-\infty, -1) \cup (-1, 4) \cup (4, \infty)$   
 Range:  $(-\infty, \infty)$

Use a calculator to evaluate the function at the indicated values. Round your answers to three decimals (that is three digits after the decimal point).

$$f(x) = 2^{x-3}$$

$$f\left(\frac{1}{2}\right), \quad f(2.5), \quad f(-1), \quad f\left(\frac{1}{4}\right)$$

Solution

$$f\left(\frac{1}{2}\right) = 2^{\frac{1}{2}-3} \approx 0.17677669 \dots \approx 0.177$$

$$f(2.5) = 2^{2.5-3} \approx 0.7071067 \dots \approx 0.707$$

$$f(-1) = 2^{-1-3} = 0.0625 \approx 0.063$$

$$f\left(\frac{1}{4}\right) = 2^{\frac{1}{4}-3} \approx 0.14865 \dots \approx 0.149$$

Note:

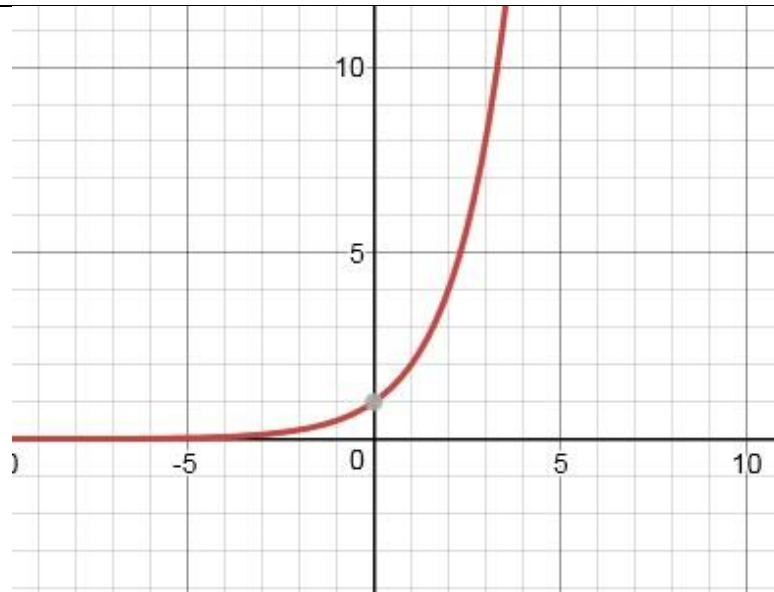
On some of the calculators you may have to type the exponent in parentheses. For example:  $2^{(1/2-3)}$

Sketch the graph of the function by making a table of values. Use a calculator if necessary.

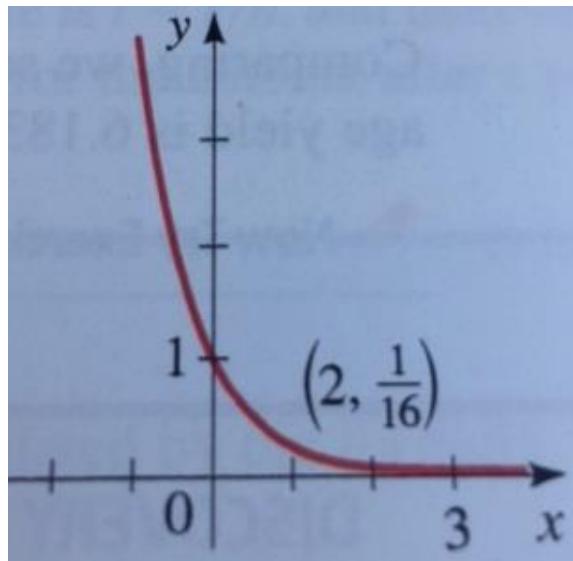
$$f(x) = 2^x$$

Solution

$x$	$y$
-4	$\frac{1}{16}$
-2	$\frac{1}{4}$
0	1
2	4
4	16



Find the exponential function  $f(x) = a^x$  whose graph is given.



Solution

The graph has the point:  $(2, \frac{1}{16})$

$$x = 2, \quad y = \frac{1}{16}$$

Use these numbers to find  $a$ .

$$a^x = y$$

$$a^2 = \frac{1}{16}$$

$$a = \sqrt{\frac{1}{16}}$$

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

So, the exponential function is:

$$f(x) = \left(\frac{1}{4}\right)^x$$

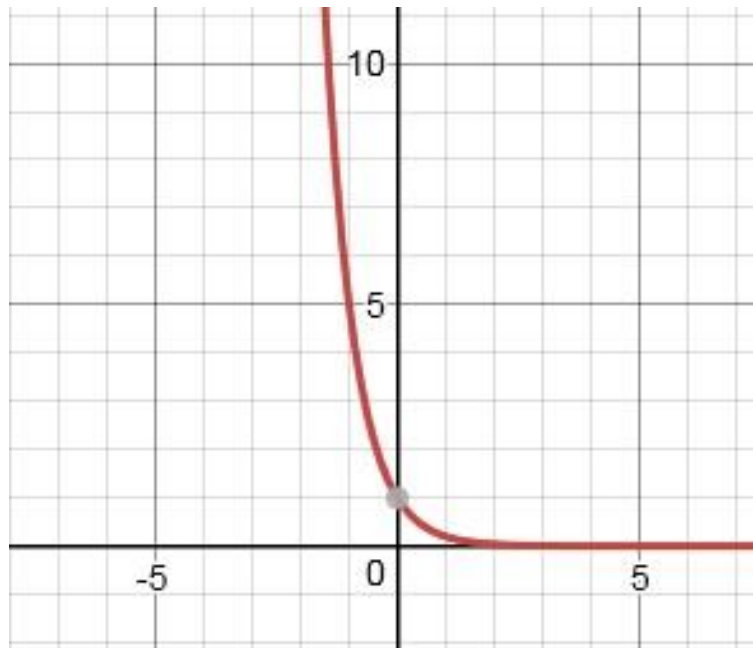


Graph the function not by plotting the points, but by starting from the basic exponential function. State the domain, range and asymptote.

$$f(x) = 5^{-x}$$

Solution

The graph of  $f(x) = 5^{-x}$  is obtained by reflecting the graph of  $y = 5^x$  about the y-axis.



*Domain:*  $(-\infty, \infty)$

*Range:*  $(0, \infty)$

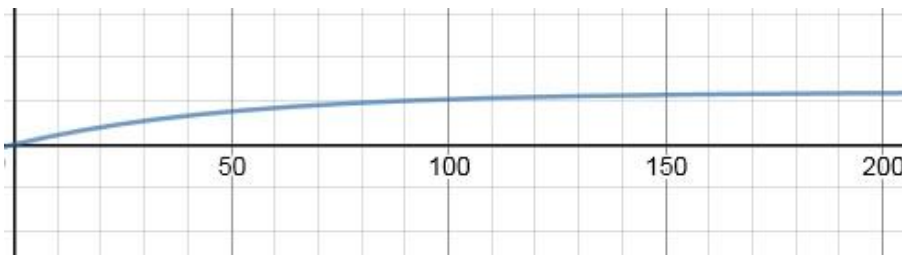
*Asymptote:*  $y = 0$

The amount of salt in a barrel at time  $t$  is given by  $Q(t) = 12(1 - e^{-0.02t})$  where  $t$  is measured in minutes and  $Q(t)$  is measured in pounds.

- How much salt is in the barrel after 5 minutes?
- How much salt is in the barrel after 10 minutes?
- Draw a graph of the function  $Q(t)$ ?
- Use the graph in part (c) to determine the value that the amount of salt in the barrel approaches as  $t$  becomes large. Is this what you would expect?

Solution

- $Q(5) = 12(1 - e^{-0.02 \cdot 5}) \approx 1.142$
- $Q(10) = 12(1 - e^{-0.02 \cdot 10}) \approx 2.175$



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- The amount of salt of salt approaches 12 lb.

The population of a certain species of bird behaves according to the logistic growth model

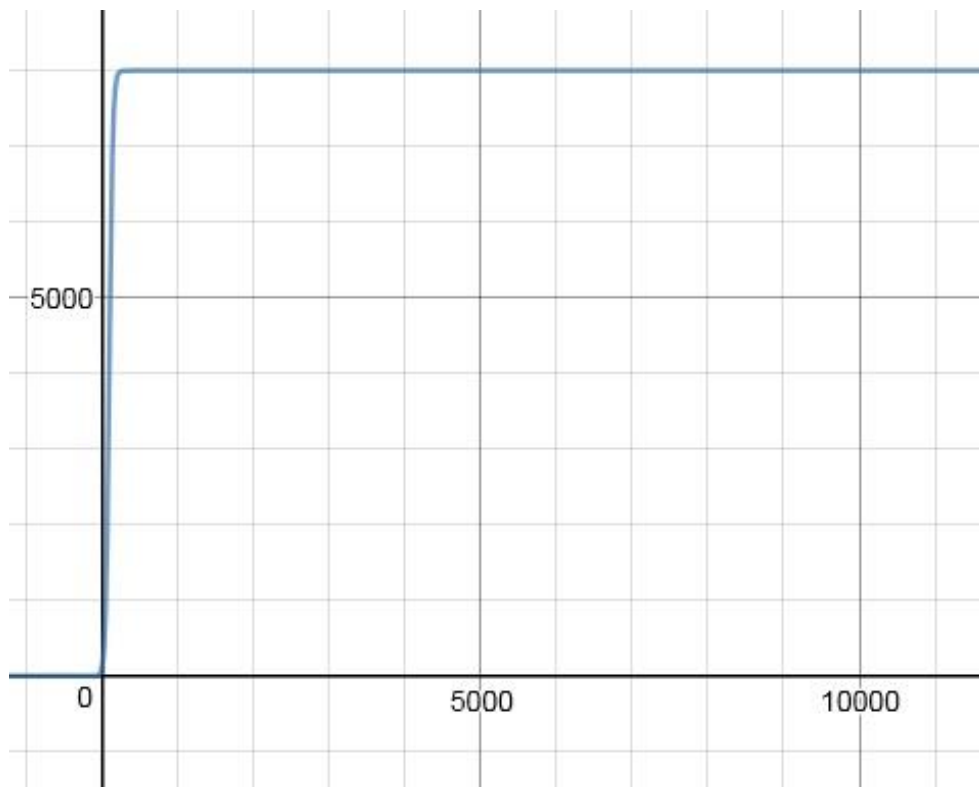
$$n(t) = \frac{4000}{0.5 + 26.4e^{-0.044t}}$$

where  $t$  is measured in years.

- Find the initial bird population.
- Draw a graph of the function  $n(t)$ .
- What size does the population approaches time goes on?

Solution

a.  $n(0) = \frac{4000}{0.5 + 26.4e^{-0.044 \cdot 0}} = 148.7$



- b.
- c. From the graph, the population approaches 8000 birds as  $t$  increases.