

Lecture 15

Section 4.7 Vertical and Horizontal Asymptotes; Vertical Tangents and Cusps

Jiwen He

Department of Mathematics, University of Houston

`jiwenhe@math.uh.edu`
`math.uh.edu/~jiwenhe/Math1431`



Test 2

- Test 2: November 1-4 in CASA
- Login to CourseWare to reserve your time to take the exam.



Review for Test 2

- Review for Test 2 by the College Success Program.
- Friday, October 24 2:30–3:30pm in the basement of the library by the C-site.



Grade Information

- 300 points determined by exams 1, 2 and 3
- 100 points determined by lab work, written quizzes, homework, daily grades and online quizzes.
- 200 points determined by the final exam
- 600 points total



More Grade Information

- 90% and above - A
- at least 80% and below 90% - B
- at least 70% and below 80% - C
- at least 60% and below 70% - D
- below 60% - F



Online Quizzes

- Online Quizzes are available on CourseWare.
- If you fail to reach 70% during three weeks of the semester, I have the option to drop you from the course!!!.



Dropping Course

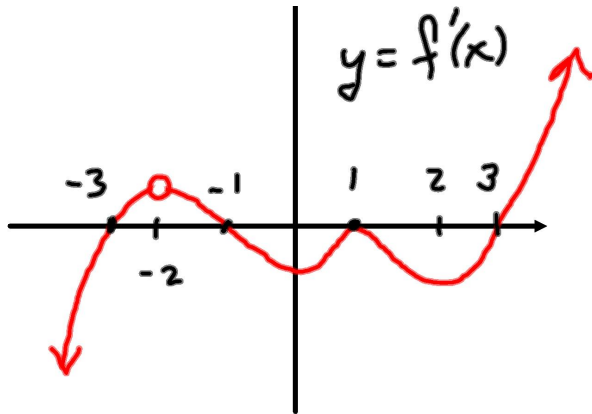
- Tuesday, November 4, 2008
- Last day to drop a course or withdraw with a “W” (must be by 5 pm)



Quiz 1

Assume the domain of f is all real numbers. The graph of $f'(x)$ is shown below. Give the number of critical values of f .

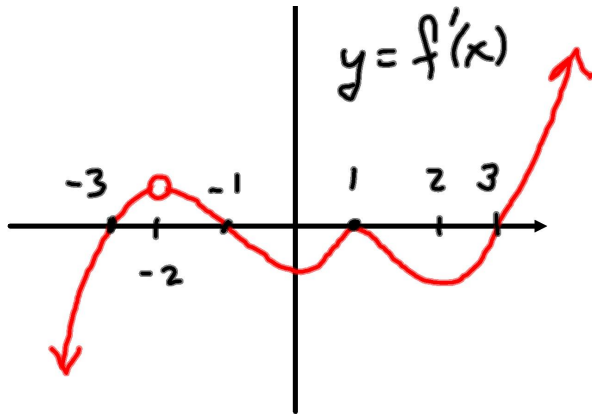
- a. 2
- b. 3
- c. 4
- d. 5
- e. None of these



Quiz 2

Assume the domain of f is all real numbers. The graph of $f'(x)$ is shown below. Give the number of intervals of increase of f .

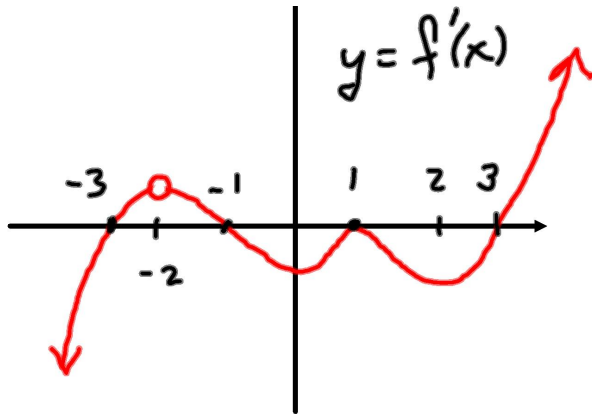
- a. 1
- b. 2
- c. 3
- d. 4
- e. None of these



Quiz 3

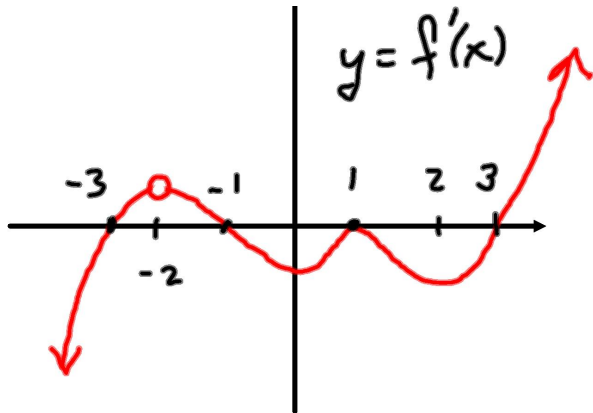
Assume the domain of f is all real numbers. The graph of $f'(x)$ is shown below. Give the number of intervals of decrease of f .

- a. 1
- b. 2
- c. 3
- d. 4
- e. None of these



Quiz 4

Assume the domain of f is all real numbers. The graph of $f'(x)$ is shown below. Classify the smallest critical number of f

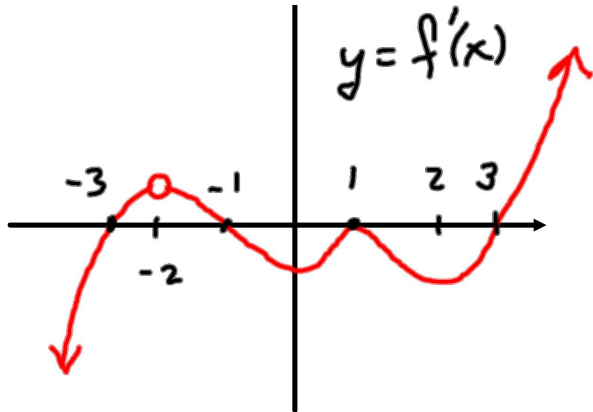


- a. local maximum
- b. local minimum
- c. neither



Quiz 5

Assume the domain of f is all real numbers. The graph of $f'(x)$ is shown below. Classify the critical number of f between 0 and 2.



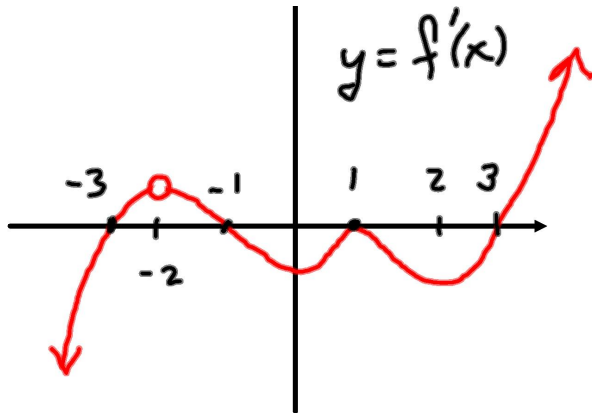
- a. local maximum
- b. local minimum
- c. neither



Quiz 6

Assume the domain of f is all real numbers. The graph of $f'(x)$ is shown below. Give the number of intervals where the graph of f is concave up.

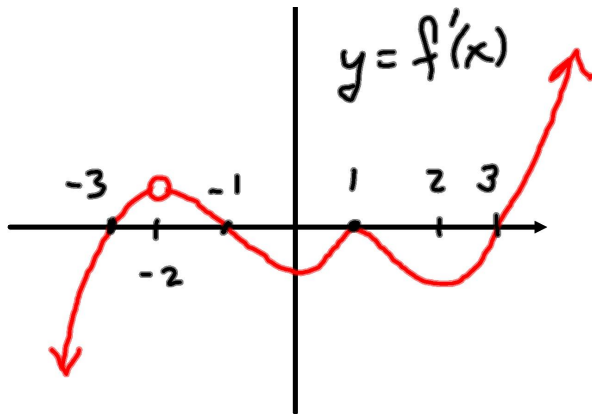
- a. 1
- b. 2
- c. 3
- d. 4
- e. None of these



Quiz 7

Assume the domain of f is all real numbers. The graph of $f'(x)$ is shown below. Give the number of intervals where the graph of f is concave down.

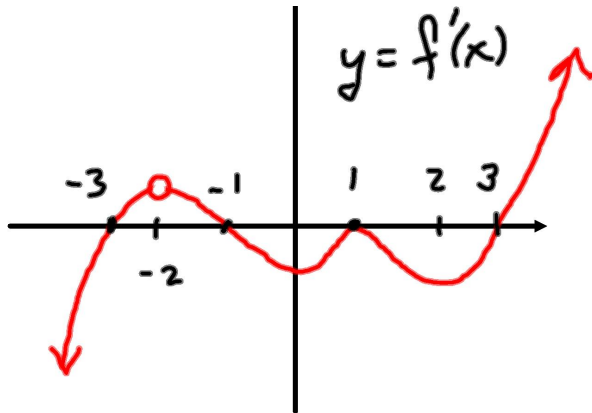
- a. 1
- b. 2
- c. 3
- d. 4
- e. None of these



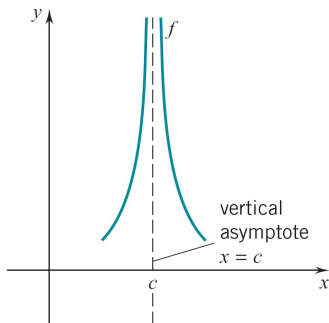
Quiz 8

Assume the domain of f is all real numbers. The graph of $f'(x)$ is shown below. Give the number of the points of inflection of the graph of f .

- a. 1
- b. 2
- c. 3
- d. 4
- e. None of these



Vertical Aymptotes: Example 1

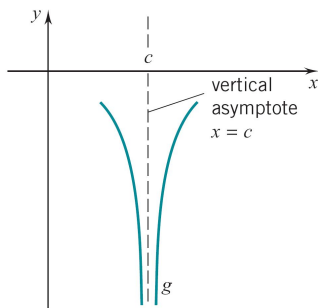


The line $x = c$ is a **vertical asymptote** for the function f :

$$f(x) \rightarrow \infty \quad \text{as } x \rightarrow c.$$



Vertical Aymptotes: Example 2

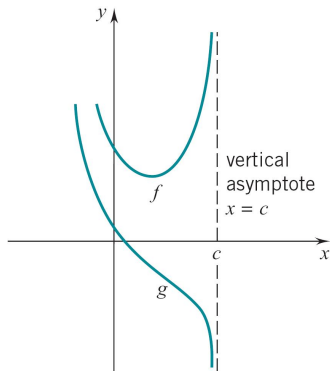


The line $x = c$ is a **vertical asymptote** for the function f :

$$f(x) \rightarrow -\infty \quad \text{as } x \rightarrow c.$$



Vertical Aymptotes: Example 3

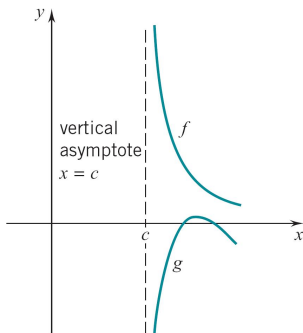


The line $x = c$ is a **vertical asymptote** for both functions f and g :

$$f(x) \rightarrow \infty \text{ and } g(x) \rightarrow -\infty \quad \text{as } x \rightarrow c^-.$$



Vertical Aymptotes: Example 4



The line $x = c$ is a **vertical asymptote** for both functions f and g :

$$f(x) \rightarrow \infty \text{ and } g(x) \rightarrow -\infty \text{ as } x \rightarrow c^+.$$



How to locate Vertical Aymptotes

Typically, to locate the vertical asymptotes for a function f ,

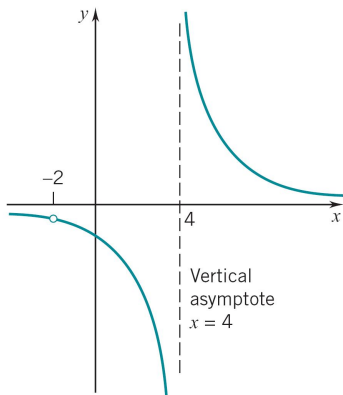
- find the values $x = c$ at which f is discontinuous
- and determine the behavior of f as x approaches c .

The vertical line $x = c$ is a vertical asymptote for f if any one of the following conditions holds

- $f(x) \rightarrow \infty$ or $-\infty$ as $x \rightarrow c^+$;
- $f(x) \rightarrow \infty$ or $-\infty$ as $x \rightarrow c^-$;
- $f(x) \rightarrow \infty$ or $-\infty$ as $x \rightarrow c$.



Vertical Aymptotes: Rational Function

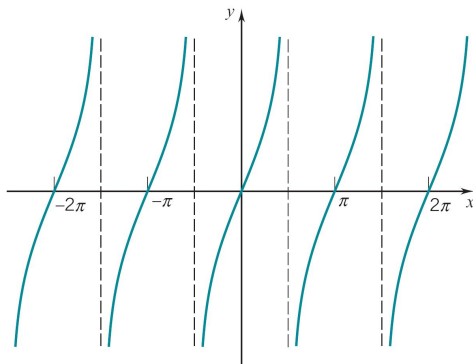


The line $x = 4$ is a **vertical asymptote** for

$$f(x) = \frac{3x + 6}{x^2 - 2x - 8} = \frac{3(x + 2)}{(x + 2)(x - 4)}.$$



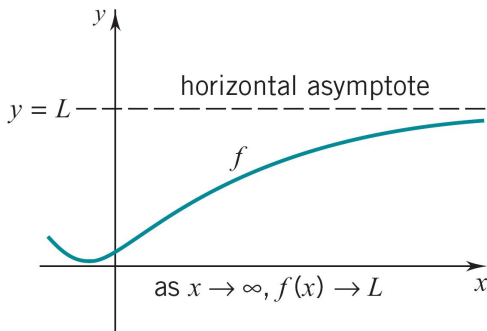
Vertical Aymptotes: Tangent Function



The line $x = \pm\pi/2, \pm3\pi/2, \pm5\pi/2, \dots$, are **vertical asymptotes** for the tangent function.



Horizontal Asymptote: Example 1

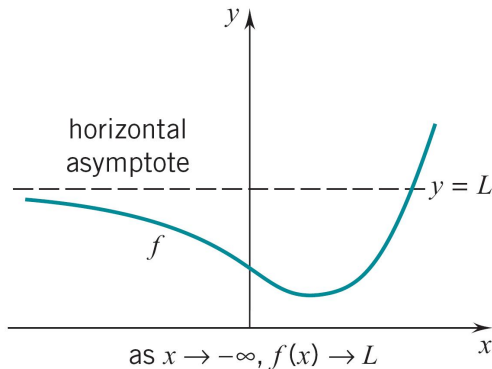


The line $y = L$ is a **horizontal asymptote** for the function f :

$$f(x) \rightarrow L \quad \text{as } x \rightarrow \infty.$$



Horizontal Asymptote: Example 2

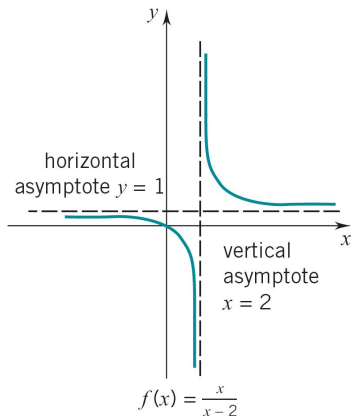


The line $y = L$ is a **horizontal asymptote** for the function f :

$$f(x) \rightarrow L \quad \text{as } x \rightarrow -\infty.$$



Asymptotes: Rational Function $f(x) = \frac{x}{x-2}$



- The line $x = 2$ is a **vertical asymptote**.
- The line $y = 1$ is a **horizontal asymptote**.



Behavior of Rational Function as $x \rightarrow \pm\infty$

Let

$$R(x) = \frac{a_n x^n + \cdots + a_1 x + a_0}{b_k x^k + \cdots + b_1 x + b_0}$$

be a rational function. Then

- if $n < k$,

$$R(x) \rightarrow 0 \quad \text{as} \quad x \rightarrow \pm\infty;$$

- if $n = k$,

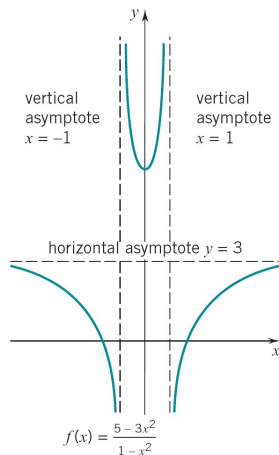
$$R(x) \rightarrow \frac{a_n}{b_n} \quad \text{as} \quad x \rightarrow \pm\infty;$$

- if $n > k$,

$$R(x) \rightarrow \pm\infty \quad \text{as} \quad x \rightarrow \pm\infty.$$



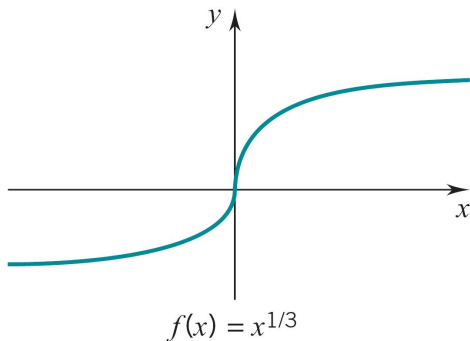
Asymptotes: Rational Function $f(x) = \frac{5-3x^2}{1-x^2}$



- The lines $x = \pm 1$ are **vertical asymptotes**.
- The line $y = 3$ is a **horizontal asymptote**.



Vertical Tangent: Rational Power $f(x) = x^{1/3}$

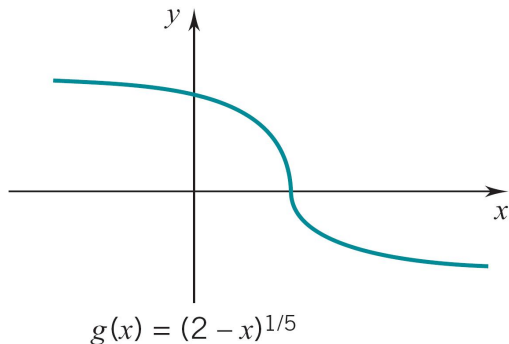


The graph of $f(x) = x^{1/3}$ has a **vertical tangent** at the point (0, 0) since

$$f'(x) = \frac{1}{3}x^{-2/3} \rightarrow \infty \quad \text{as } x \rightarrow 0.$$



Vertical Tangent: Rational Power $g(x) = (2 - x)^{1/5}$

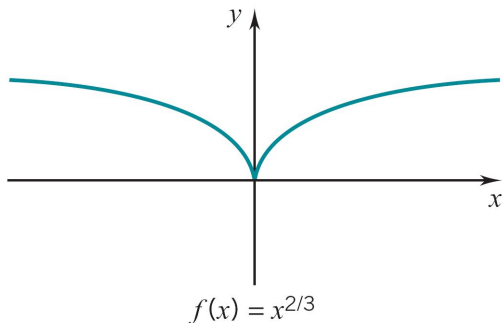


The graph of $g(x) = (2 - x)^{1/5}$ has a **vertical tangent** at the point $(2, 0)$ since

$$g'(x) = -\frac{1}{5}(2-x)^{-4/5} \rightarrow -\infty \quad \text{as } x \rightarrow 2.$$



Vertical Cusp: Rational Power $f(x) = x^{2/3}$

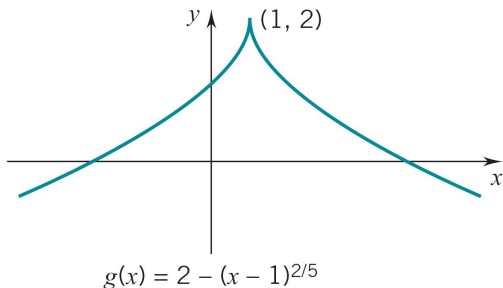


The graph of $f(x) = x^{2/3}$ has a **vertical cusp** at the point $(0,0)$ since $f'(x) = \frac{2}{3}x^{-1/3}$ and

$$f'(x) \rightarrow -\infty \text{ as } x \rightarrow 0^-, \quad \text{and} \quad f'(x) \rightarrow \infty \text{ as } x \rightarrow 0^+.$$



Vertical Cusp: Rational Power $g(x) = 2 - (x - 1)^{2/5}$

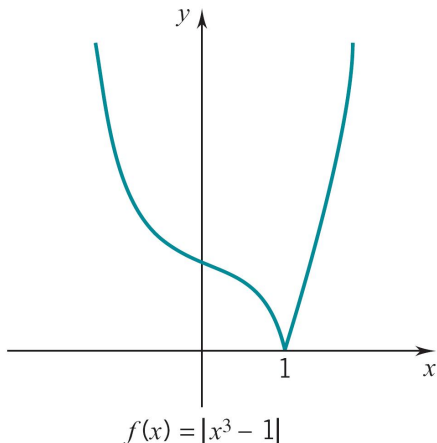


The graph of $g(x) = 2 - (x - 1)^{2/5}$ has a **vertical cusp** at the point $(1, 2)$ since $g'(x) = -\frac{2}{5}(x - 1)^{-3/5}$ and

$$g'(x) \rightarrow \infty \text{ as } x \rightarrow 1^-, \quad \text{and} \quad g'(x) \rightarrow -\infty \text{ as } x \rightarrow 1^+.$$



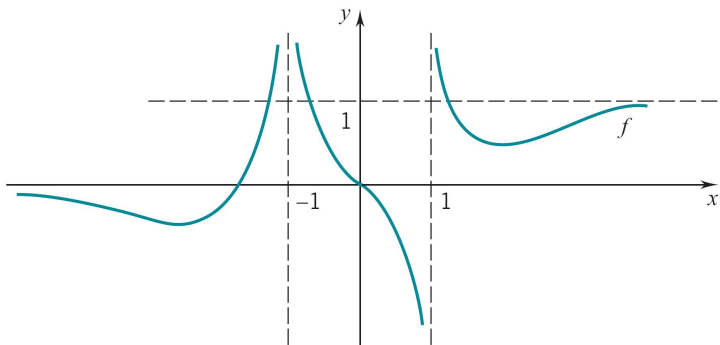
Example: $f(x) = |x^3 - 1|$



Is there a vertical cusp for the graph of $f(x) = |x^3 - 1|$?



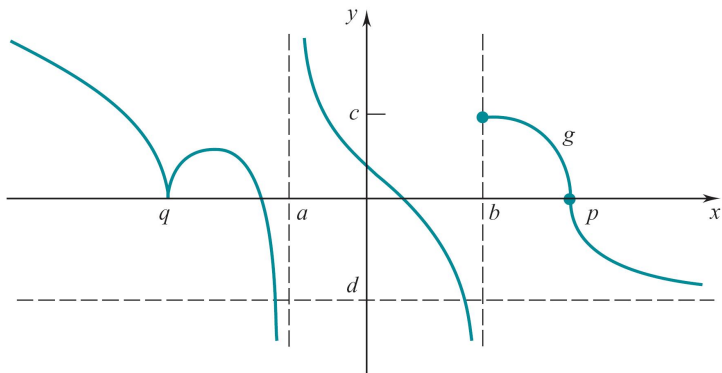
Example



- Give the equations of the vertical asymptotes, if any.
- Give the equations of the horizontal asymptotes, if any.



Example



- Give the equations of the vertical asymptotes, if any.
- Give the equations of the horizontal asymptotes, if any.
- Give the number c , if any, at which the graph has a vertical cusp.

