

NOV 3, 2016

Vertical and horizontal asymptotes

↓
Where function goes to infinity

↓
function blows up. (Singularity)

↓
behavior of function at infinity

Vertical asymptote

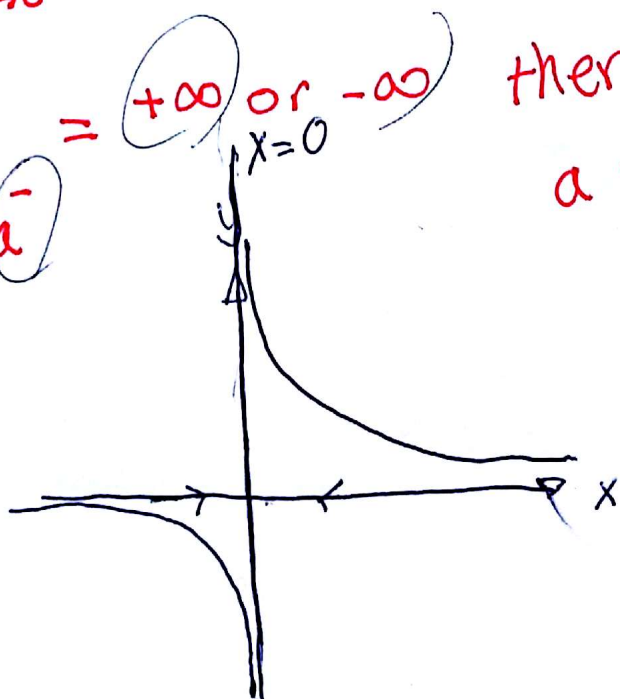
$\lim_{x \rightarrow 0^+} \frac{1}{x} = \infty$

-0.1	-0.01	-0.001	-0.0001	$x=0$	0.0001	0.001	0.01	0.1
-10	-100	-1000	-10000		10000	1000	100	10

$\lim_{x \rightarrow 0^-} \frac{1}{x} = -\infty$

$\frac{1}{0^+} = \infty$
 $\frac{1}{0^-} = -\infty$

if $\lim_{x \rightarrow a^+ \text{ or } a^-} f(x) = +\infty \text{ or } -\infty$ then $x=a$ is a vertical asymptote.



if $\frac{\text{number} \neq 0}{0} = \pm \infty$

$$\lim_{x \rightarrow 0^+} \frac{\cos x}{x(x - \pi/2)} = \frac{1}{0^+ (-\pi/2)} = \frac{1}{0^-} = -\infty$$

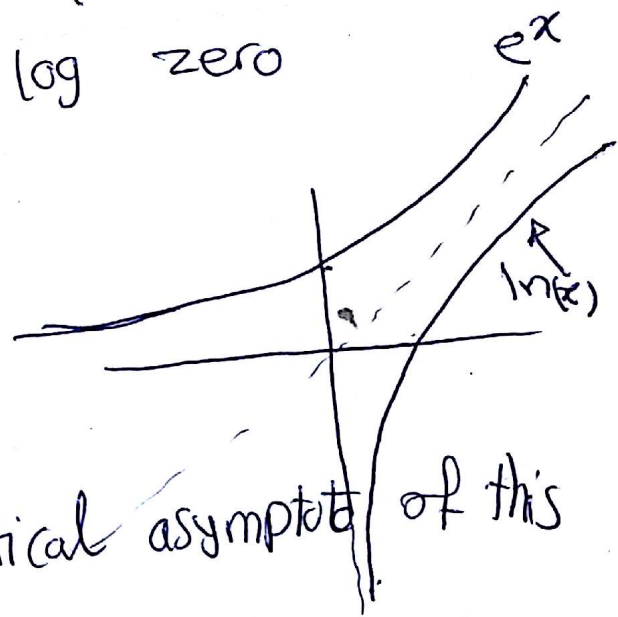
$$\lim_{x \rightarrow 0^-} \frac{\cos x}{x(x - \pi/2)} = \frac{1}{0^- (-\pi/2)} = \frac{1}{0^+} = +\infty$$

In General, when looking for vertical asymptotes, your candidates are

* points that make 'denom. zero.'

→ * Points that a log zero

$$\lim_{x \rightarrow 0^+} \ln x = -\infty$$



~~find~~ $\frac{x-2}{x^2-4}$, find vertical asymptote of this function

Candidates

$$x^2 - 4 = 0 \rightarrow x^2 = 4 \rightarrow x = \pm 2$$

$$\lim_{x \rightarrow -2^+} \frac{x-2}{x^2-4} = \lim_{x \rightarrow -2^+} \frac{-4}{(x-2)(x+2)} = \frac{-4}{(-4)(0^+)} = \frac{=4}{0^-} = \infty$$

$$\lim_{x \rightarrow -2^-} \frac{x-2}{x^2-4} = \lim_{x \rightarrow -2^-} \frac{x-2}{(x-2)(x+2)} = \frac{-4}{(-4)(0^-)} = \frac{-4}{0^+} = -\infty$$

$$\lim_{x \rightarrow +2^+} \frac{x-2}{x^2-4} = \frac{0}{0} = \lim_{x \rightarrow +2^+} \frac{(x-2)}{(x-2)(x+2)} = \lim_{x \rightarrow +2^+} \frac{1}{x+2} = \frac{1}{4}$$

$x = -2$ is vertical asymptote

$x = 2$ is NOT vertical asymptote

Horizontal asymptote

$$\lim_{x \rightarrow +\infty} f(x) = L_1$$

\rightarrow

$y = L_1$ is a horizontal asymptote

$$\lim_{x \rightarrow -\infty} f(x) = L_2$$

\rightarrow

$y = L_2$ is a horizontal asymptote.

$$\lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} \frac{1}{x^r} = 0 \text{ for any } r > 0$$

$$\lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} \frac{1}{x} = 0$$

$$\frac{\text{Number}}{\infty} = 0$$

$$\frac{\infty}{\infty} = \text{simplification}$$

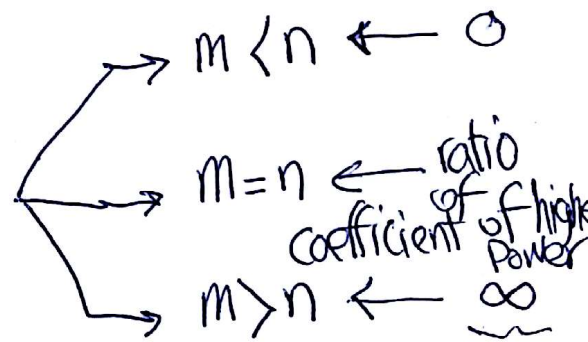
$$\frac{\infty - \infty}{\infty} = \text{simplification}$$

$$\lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} \frac{x^2 - 3x + 4}{3x^2 - 8x + 1} = \lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} \frac{x^2(1 - \frac{3}{x} + \frac{4}{x^2})}{x^2(3 - \frac{8}{x} + \frac{1}{x^2})} =$$

$$\lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} \frac{x^2}{3x^2} = \frac{1}{3}$$

$y = \frac{1}{3}$ is a horizontal asymptote for this function.

$$\lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} \frac{(\text{Polynomial}) \text{ of order } m}{(\text{Polynomial}) \text{ of order } n}$$



$$\lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} \frac{x^3}{x^2} = x \rightarrow \infty$$

$$\lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} \frac{x^2}{x^3} = \lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} \frac{1}{x} = 0$$

$$\lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} \frac{x^n - 1}{x^2 + 1}$$

determine n , so that the limit exists and has a non-zero answer.

$$\lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} \frac{x^2 - 1}{x^2 + 1} \quad n=2 = \lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} \frac{x^2(1 - \frac{1}{x^2})}{x^2(1 + \frac{1}{x^2})} = \lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} \frac{x^2}{x^2} = 1$$

$$\lim_{x \rightarrow +\infty} \frac{\sqrt{4x^2 + 1}}{5x - 1} = \lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} \frac{\sqrt{4x^2(1 + \frac{1}{4x^2})}}{x(5 - \frac{1}{x})} = \lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} \frac{\sqrt{4x^2}}{5x} = \lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} \frac{2x}{5x} = \frac{2}{5}$$

$$\lim_{x \rightarrow -\infty} \frac{\sqrt{4x^2 + 1}}{5x - 1} = \lim_{x \rightarrow -\infty} \frac{\sqrt{4x^2}}{5x} = \lim_{x \rightarrow -\infty} \frac{-2x}{5x} = \frac{-2}{5}$$

$$\lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} \frac{x^2 - \sqrt{x^4 - x^3}}{x-1} = \lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} \frac{x^2 \left(1 - \sqrt{1 - \frac{1}{x}}\right)}{x-1} \quad \infty \cdot 0$$

$$\begin{aligned} x^2 - \sqrt{x^4 - x^3} &= x^2 - \sqrt{x^4 \left(1 - \frac{1}{x}\right)} = \\ &= x^2 - x^2 \sqrt{1 - \frac{1}{x}} = \\ &= x^2 \left(1 - \sqrt{1 - \frac{1}{x}}\right) \end{aligned}$$

$$\lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} \frac{x^2 - \sqrt{x^4 - x^3}}{x-1} \cdot \frac{x^2 + \sqrt{x^4 - x^3}}{x^2 + \sqrt{x^4 - x^3}} =$$

$$\begin{aligned} \lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} \frac{x^4 - (x^4 - x^3)}{(x-1)(x^2 + \sqrt{x^4 - x^3})} &= \lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} \frac{x^3}{2x^3} \\ &= \frac{1}{2} \end{aligned}$$