

Math 151 Quiz #3 Solutions

1. Note that $f(x) = \frac{3x+5}{x^2-x-6} = \frac{3x+5}{(x-3)(x+2)}$ (Factored as much as possible.)

From this, we can see that $f(x)$ has the vertical asymptotes $x = 3$ and $x = -2$.

To find the horizontal asymptotes, consider that $\lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} \frac{3x+5}{x^2-x-6} = 0$ and $\lim_{x \rightarrow -\infty} \frac{3x+5}{x^2-x-6} = 0$.

Thus, $f(x)$ has the horizontal asymptote $y = 0$.

2. (a) $\lim_{t \rightarrow -\infty} \frac{-t^5 + 8}{4t^5 - 10t^2 + 8} = -\frac{1}{4}$ since the degree in the numerator is equal to the degree in the denominator.

$$(b) \lim_{x \rightarrow -2} \frac{x+3}{\sqrt{\sin(\pi x) + x^2}} = \frac{-2+3}{\sqrt{\sin(-2\pi) + (-2)^2}} = \frac{1}{\sqrt{0+4}} = \frac{1}{2}$$

3. We can use either definition.

$$\begin{aligned} \bullet \text{ Slope of the tangent at } x = 2 &= f'(2) = \lim_{x \rightarrow 2} \frac{f(x) - f(2)}{x - 2} = \lim_{x \rightarrow 2} \frac{3x^2 + x - (3(2)^2 + 2)}{x - 2} \\ &= \lim_{x \rightarrow 2} \frac{3x^2 + x - 14}{x - 2} \\ &= \lim_{x \rightarrow 2} \frac{(3x + 7)(x - 2)}{x - 2} \\ &= \lim_{x \rightarrow 2} 3x + 7 \\ &= 3(2) + 7 \\ &= 13 \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Slope of the tangent at } x = 2 &= f'(2) = \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \frac{f(2+h) - f(2)}{h} = \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \frac{3(2+h)^2 + 2 + h - (3(2)^2 + 2)}{h} \\ &= \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \frac{3(4 + 4h + h^2) + 2 + h - 14}{h} \\ &= \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \frac{13h + 3h^2}{h} \\ &= \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} 13 + 3h \\ &= 13 + 3(0) \\ &= 13 \end{aligned}$$

So, the slope of the tangent is 13.