# **Rational Functions**

#### **KNOW**

How to identify points of discontinuity, zeros, and horizontal asymptotes of a rational function.

## DO

Graph a rational function accurately. Determine the equation to a rational function. Identify the transformations that took place when working with  $\frac{mx+b}{mx+b}$ 

#### **UNDERSTAND**

Function Characteristics:

Horizontal asymptotes are not values removed from the range, but trends as  $x \to \infty$ . Removeable discontinuities can be filled in. *Transformations*:

Can explain why horizontal and vertical stretches are equivalent in  $\frac{1}{r}$ 

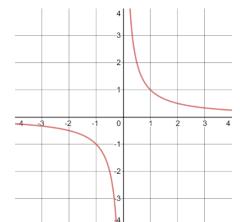
### **Vocab & Notation**

- Discontinuity
- Removeable discontinuity

We want to consider the functions of the form:

$$\frac{p(x)}{q(x)} = \frac{ax^n + \cdots}{bx^m + \cdots}$$

To get to that point, let's consider the basic function:  $f(x) = \frac{1}{x}$ 



Major characteristics:

If we were to transform it:

**Example**: Given the function  $p(x) = \frac{2x}{x+2}$ , identify the transformations that occurred from  $\frac{1}{x}$ 

When we look at the rational function

$$\frac{p(x)}{q(x)} = \frac{ax^n + \dots}{bx^m + \dots} = A \frac{(x - \alpha) \dots (x - \beta)}{(x - \varphi) \dots (x - \omega)}$$

We are going to use the factored form to graph it when it goes beyond a degree 1 polynomial over a degree 1 polynomial.

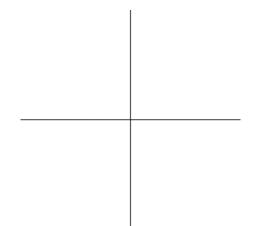
# 1. Discontinuities

$$y = \frac{3}{x(x+4)^2(x-3)}$$



$$y = \frac{-4(x-3)}{(x-2)(x-3)(x+1)^2}$$

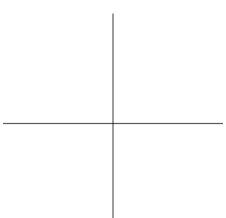
$$y = \frac{-x(x+2)^3(x-3)^2}{x(x+6)^2(x-1)^5}$$

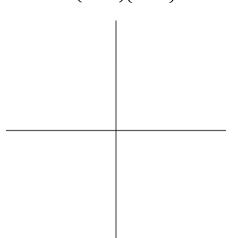


# 3. Horizontal asymptotes:

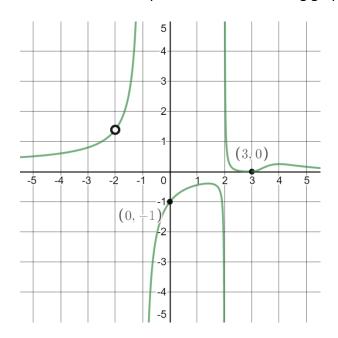
$$y = \frac{3(x+1)(x+2)}{(x-2)^2}$$

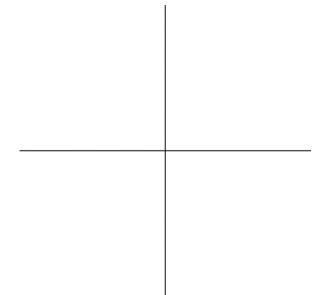
$$y = \frac{-(x+3)(x-1)^2}{(x+3)(x+2)}$$





**Practice**: Build an equation for the following graph and sketch the function





$$y = -\frac{2(x-3)(x-2)(x+1)}{(x-1)^2(x-3)}$$