

03.21.22

Lesson 23

## Summary of Curve sketching

Today we put together

- x & y intercepts
- Increasing / Decreasing intervals
- concavity / Inflection points
- Horizontal, vertical and Slant Asymptotes

To sketch an accurate graph of a function

Example 1 sketch a graph for

$$f(x) = \frac{x^2 - 6x + 12}{x - 3}$$

by finding the following information.

x-intercept:  $f(x) = \frac{x^2 - 6x + 12}{x - 3} = 0$

(crosses x-axis)

only happens when  $x^2 - 6x + 12 = 0$

(quadratic formula)

$$x = \frac{-(-6) \pm \sqrt{36 - 4(1)(12)}}{2(1)} \leftarrow \sqrt{-12}$$

no real solutions so no x-intercepts

Example 1 ... continued 1

Y-intercept: When  $x=0$

(crosses y axis)

$$f(0) = \frac{12}{-3} = -4$$

$$\boxed{(0, -4)}$$

Vertical asymptote:  $x=3$

(Domain or Division by zero issues)

Horizontal asymptote:

$$\lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} \frac{x^2 - 6x + 12}{x - 3} = \lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} \frac{x^2}{x} = \infty$$

$$\lim_{x \rightarrow -\infty} \frac{x^2 - 6x + 12}{x - 3} = \lim_{x \rightarrow -\infty} \frac{x^2}{x} = -\infty$$

So No Horizontal asymptotes

Slant asymptotes

$$f(x) = \frac{x^2 - 6x + 12}{x - 3}$$

because the top is one degree higher than the bottom, we have a slant asymptote.

## Example 1 ... continued

To find the slant asymptote, we use polynomial long division.

$$\begin{array}{r} x-3 \leftarrow \text{slant asymptote} \\ x-3 \overline{) x^2 - 6x + 12} \\ \underline{-(x^2 - 3x)} \phantom{+ 12} \\ -3x + 12 \\ \underline{-(-3x + 9)} \\ 3 \leftarrow \text{remainder} \end{array}$$

$$f(x) = \frac{x^2 - 6x + 12}{x-3} = x-3 + \frac{3}{x-3}$$

$\frac{3}{x-3}$  remainder  $\rightarrow 0$   
as  $x \rightarrow \pm\infty$

$y = x-3$  is the slant asymptote.

## Increasing / Decreasing

$$\begin{aligned} f'(x) &= \frac{(2x-6)(x-3) - (x^2-6x+12)(1)}{(x-3)^2} \\ &= \frac{2x^2 - 12x + 18 - x^2 + 6x - 12}{(x-3)^2} = \frac{x^2 - 6x + 6}{(x-3)^2} \end{aligned}$$

... continued!

set  $f'(x)=0$  to find Critical Numbers

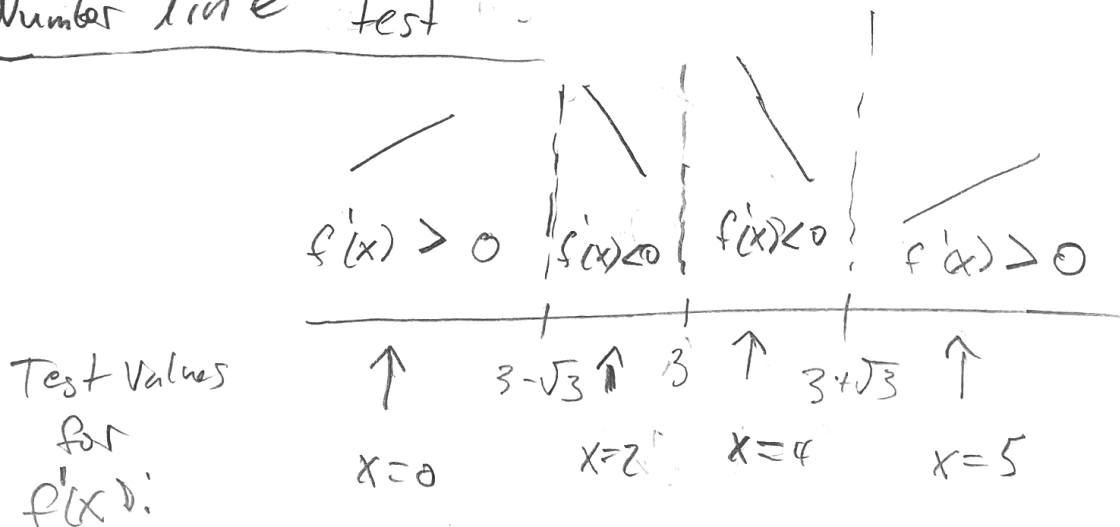
$$f'(x) = \frac{x^2 - 6x + 6}{(x-3)^2} = 0, \text{ only when}$$

$$x^2 - 6x + 6 = 0$$

$$x = \frac{-(-6) \pm \sqrt{36 - 4(1)(6)}}{2(1)} = \frac{6 \pm \sqrt{12}}{2} = \frac{6 \pm 2\sqrt{3}}{2} = 3 + \sqrt{3} \text{ \& } 3 - \sqrt{3}$$

C.N.  $x = 3 + \sqrt{3}$  and  $x = 3 - \sqrt{3}$ . We also add  $x = 3$  to the number line because  $f(3)$  DNE. (Note:  $x = 3$  is not a C.N.)

Number line test



$$f'(0) = \frac{6}{(-3)^2} > 0, \quad f'(4) = \frac{16 - 24 + 6}{(4-3)^2} = -2 < 0$$

$$f'(5) = \frac{25 - 30 + 6}{(5-3)^2} = \frac{1}{(2)^2} > 0, \quad f'(2) = \frac{4 - 12 + 6}{(2-3)^2} < 0$$

... continued,

rel. max at  $x = 3 - \sqrt{3}$       increasing  $(-\infty, 3 - \sqrt{3})$  and

rel. min at  $x = 3 + \sqrt{3}$        $(3 + \sqrt{3}, \infty)$

Decreasing  $(3 - \sqrt{3}, 3)$  and

$(3, 3 + \sqrt{3})$

Concavity (Need  $f''(x)$ )

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

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

$$(x-3)^3$$

$$= \frac{2x^2 - 12x + 18 - 2x^2 + 12x - 12}{(x-3)^3}$$

$$(x-3)^3$$

$$= \frac{6}{(x-3)^3}$$

The numerator is never zero, but the concavity can change when  $f''(x)$  DNE at  $x=3$

$$\begin{array}{c} \text{---} \\ \text{---} \end{array} \quad \begin{array}{c} \text{---} \\ \text{---} \end{array}$$

$f''(x) < 0$        $f''(x) > 0$

$$f''(0) = \frac{6}{(-3)^3} < 0$$

$$f''(4) = \frac{6}{1^3} > 0$$

Test Values  
for  $f''(x)$

$$x=0$$

$$x=3$$

$$x=4$$

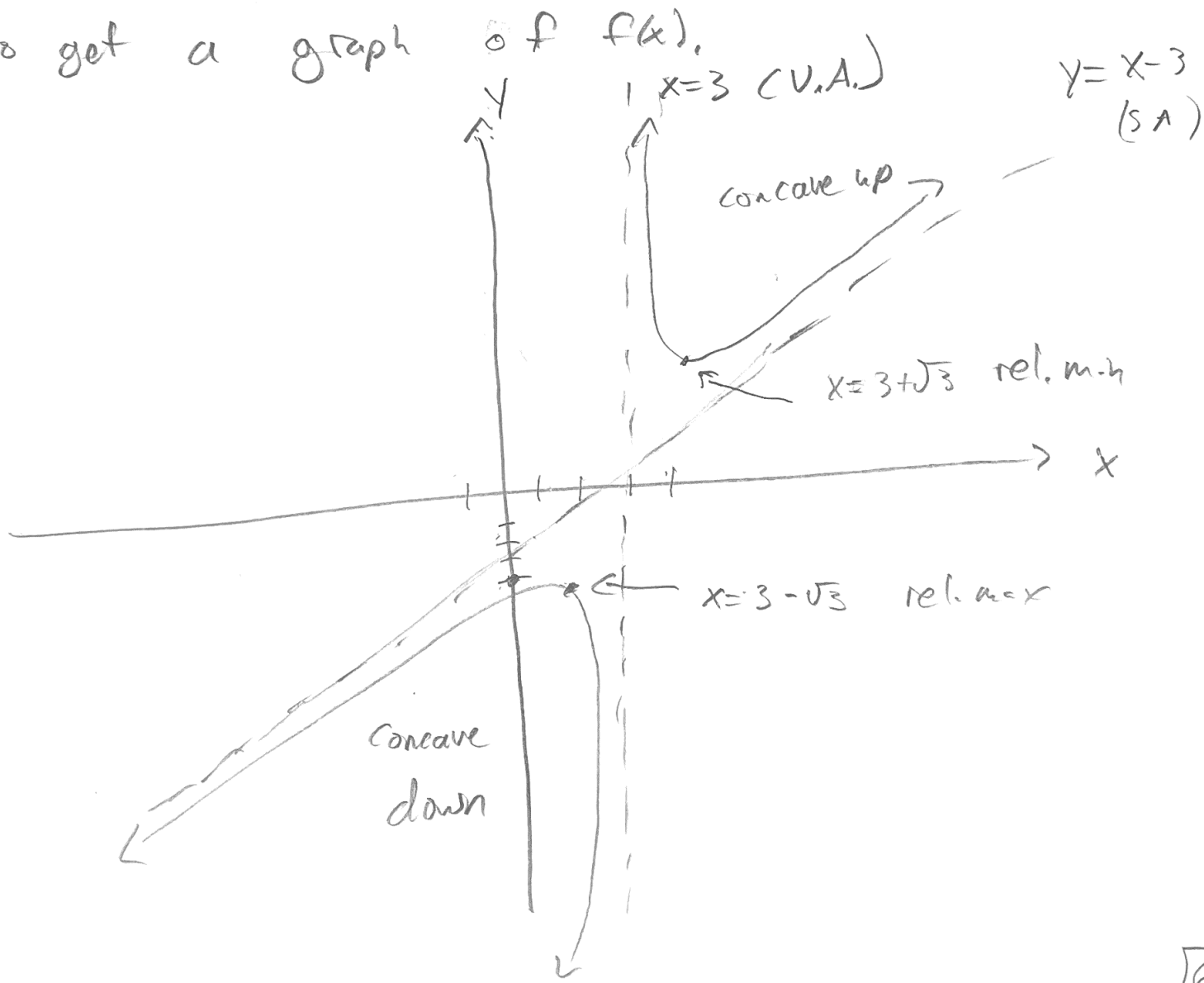
... continued )

Concave up :  $(3, \infty)$

Concave down!  $(-\infty, 3)$

- since  $f(3)$  DNE,  $f(x)$  has no inflection points.

We can finally put all the info together to get a graph of  $f(x)$ .



Note when drawing the graph it is easier to add the intercepts and asymptotes first.

Example 2

$$f(x) = \frac{x-5}{x+2}$$

Sketch a graph by finding the following info.

x-int:  $x = 5$  ;  $(5, 0)$

y-int:  $f(0) = \frac{-5}{2}$  ;  $(0, \frac{-5}{2})$

V.A.:  $x = -2$

H.A.:  $y = 1$

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

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

S.A.: None because the degree of the top and bottom match.

Example 2 ... cont.

increasing / decreasing

$$f'(x) = \frac{(x+2)(1) - (x-5)(1)}{(x+2)^2} = \frac{7}{(x+2)^2} \neq 0$$

There are no c.N. because  $f'(x)$  never equals 0, and  $f(x)$  DNE at  $x = -2$ . But we still need to check if  $f(x)$  changes from increasing / decreasing at  $x = -2$

$f'(x) > 0$		$f'(x) > 0$
Test Values	↑	↑
for $f'(x)$	$x = -3$	$x = 0$

$$f'(-3) = \frac{7}{(-3+2)^2} > 0$$

$$f'(0) = \frac{7}{(2)^2} > 0$$

So  $f(x)$  is increasing on  $(-\infty, -2) \cup (-2, \infty)$  and decreasing nowhere.



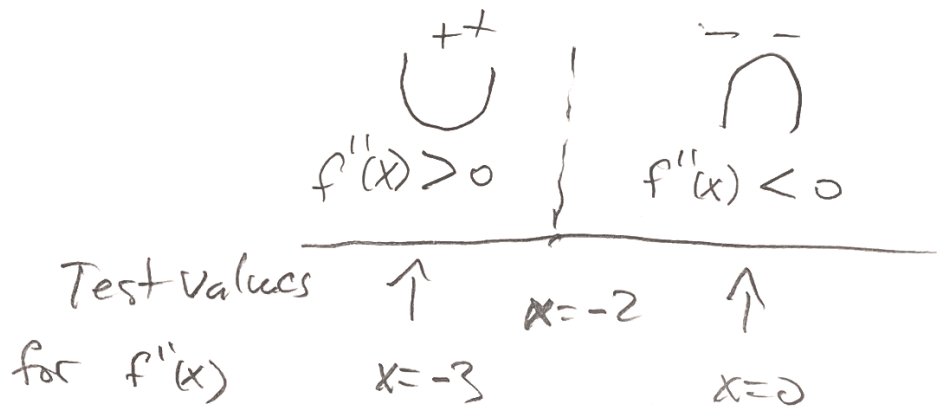
## Example 2 cont.

### Concavity

$$f''(x) = 7(-2)(x+2)^{-3} = \frac{-14}{(x+2)^3}$$

No inflection points because the numerator is never 0 but we need to check if

Concavity changes at  $x = -2$  because  $f''(-2)$  DNE and  $f(-2)$  DNE.



$$f''(-3) = \frac{-14}{(-3+2)^3} = \frac{-14}{(-1)^3} = \frac{-14}{-1} = 14 > 0$$

$$f''(0) = \frac{-14}{2^3} < 0$$

Concave up:  $(-\infty, -2)$

Concave down:  $(-2, \infty)$

Example 2 (cont.)

