

The Quotient Rule

Name Solutions

Find the critical points of the rational function as well as the equation of the tangent line at a given point when asked.

1) a) Find the critical points indicating a maximum or a minimum for the graph of $y = \frac{2x-9}{x^2+3}$

$$f = 2x-9 \quad g = x^2+3$$

$$f' = 2 \quad g' = 2x$$

$$y' = \frac{2(x^2+3) - 2x(2x-9)}{(x^2+3)^2} = \frac{2x^2+6-4x^2+18x}{(x^2+3)^2} = \frac{-2x^2+18x+6}{(x^2+3)^2} = 0$$

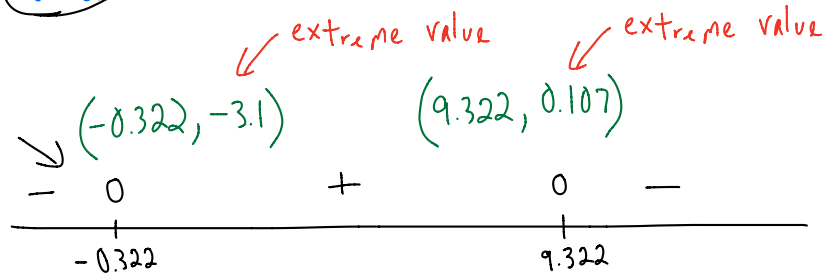
↑ never = 0
but needs quadratic formula and calculator

$$-2x^2+18x+6 = -2(x^2-9x-3)$$

$$x = \frac{9 \pm \sqrt{81+12}}{2}$$

$$= \frac{9 \pm \sqrt{93}}{2}$$

$$\frac{9+\sqrt{93}}{2} \approx 9.322 \quad \frac{9-\sqrt{93}}{2} \approx -0.322$$



b) Find the equation of the tangent line at $x = -1$

$M_T \Rightarrow$ plug $x = -1$ into y'

$$M_T = \frac{-2x^2+18x+6}{(x^2+3)^2} = \frac{-2(1)^2+18(1)+6}{(1^2+3)^2} = \frac{-2-18+6}{16} = \frac{-14}{16} = -\frac{7}{8}$$

at $x = -1$ $y = \frac{2(-1)-9}{(-1)^2+3} = \frac{-11}{4}$

Point-Slope
 $y = -\frac{7}{8}(x+1) - \frac{11}{4}$

2) a) Find the critical points indicating a maximum or a minimum for the graph of $y = \frac{x^2 + 5}{x + 2}$

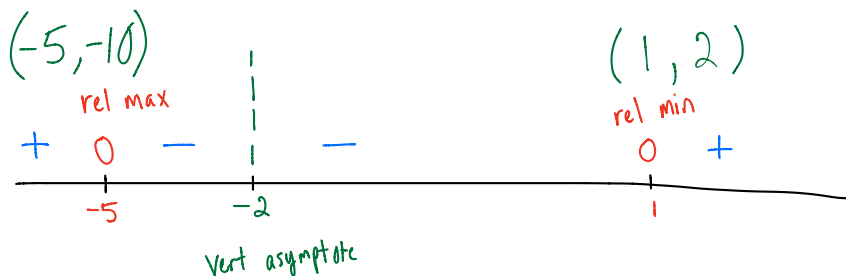
$$f = x^2 + 5 \quad g = x + 2$$

$$f' = 2x \quad g' = 1$$

$$y = \frac{2x(x+2) - 1(x^2+5)}{(x+2)^2} = \frac{2x^2 + 4x - x^2 - 5}{(x+2)^2} = \frac{x^2 + 4x - 5}{(x+2)^2} = 0 \quad \text{or undef}$$

$$= 0 = \underline{x^2 + 4x - 5} = (x+5)(x-1) \quad x = -5, 1$$

$$= \text{undef} \Rightarrow \underline{(x+2)^2} = 0 \quad x = -2$$



b) Find the equation of the tangent line at $x = 0$

$m_T \Rightarrow$ plug $x=0$ into y'

$$m_T = \frac{x^2 + 4x - 5}{(x+2)^2} = \frac{0^2 + 4(0) - 5}{(0+2)^2} = \frac{-5}{4}$$

$$x=0 \quad y = \frac{0^2 + 5}{0+2} = \frac{5}{2}$$

point-slope

$$y = -\frac{5}{4}(x-0) + \frac{5}{2}$$

or

$$y = -\frac{5}{4}x + \frac{5}{2}$$

3) Given $y = \frac{1}{x^4 + x^2 + 1}$ find y'

$$f = 1 \quad g = x^4 + x^2 + 1$$

$$f' = 0 \quad g' = 4x^3 + 2x$$

$$y' = \frac{0(x^4 + x^2 + 1) - 1(4x^3 + 2x)}{(x^4 + x^2 + 1)^2}$$

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