

Sketch the graph of $f(x) = \frac{x^2+x-1}{x+2}$ giving the equations of any asymptotes and the coordinates of the x and y intercepts as well as any stationary points

$f(x) = \frac{x^2+x-1}{x+2}$ has a vertical asymptote where $x + 2 = 0$

Vertical asymptote at $x = -2$

Check for any common factors with numerator and denominator.

Let $g(x) = x^2 + x - 1$

$g(-2) = (-2)^2 + (-2) - 1 = 1$

Therefore, $x + 2$ is not a factor of $x^2 + x - 1$

Find the equation of the oblique asymptote

$$\begin{array}{r} x+2 \overline{) x^2+x-1} \\ \underline{x^2+2x} \\ -x-1 \\ \underline{-x-2} \\ 1 \end{array}$$

$f(x) = x - 1 + \frac{1}{x+2}$

Asymptote at $y = x - 1$

Find the y intercept

$y = \frac{0^2 + 0 - 1}{0 + 2}$

$y = -\frac{1}{2}$

y intercept at $(0, -\frac{1}{2})$

Find the x intercepts

$\frac{x^2+x-1}{x+2} = 0, x \neq -2$

$x^2 + x - 1 = 0$

$$x = \frac{-1 \pm \sqrt{1^2 - 4(1)(-1)}}{2}$$

$$x = \frac{-1 \pm \sqrt{5}}{2}$$

x intercepts at $\left(\frac{-1-\sqrt{5}}{2}, 0\right)$ and $\left(\frac{-1+\sqrt{5}}{2}, 0\right)$

Find any stationary points

Solve $f'(x) = 0$

$$f(x) = x - 1 + \frac{1}{x+2}$$

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

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

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

$$(x+2)^2 = 1$$

$$x = -2 \pm 1$$

$$x = -3, -1$$

$$f(-3) = -3 - 1 + \frac{1}{-3+2} = -5$$

$$f(-1) = -1 - 1 + \frac{1}{-1+2} = -1$$

Stationary points at $(-3, -5)$ and $(-1, -1)$

