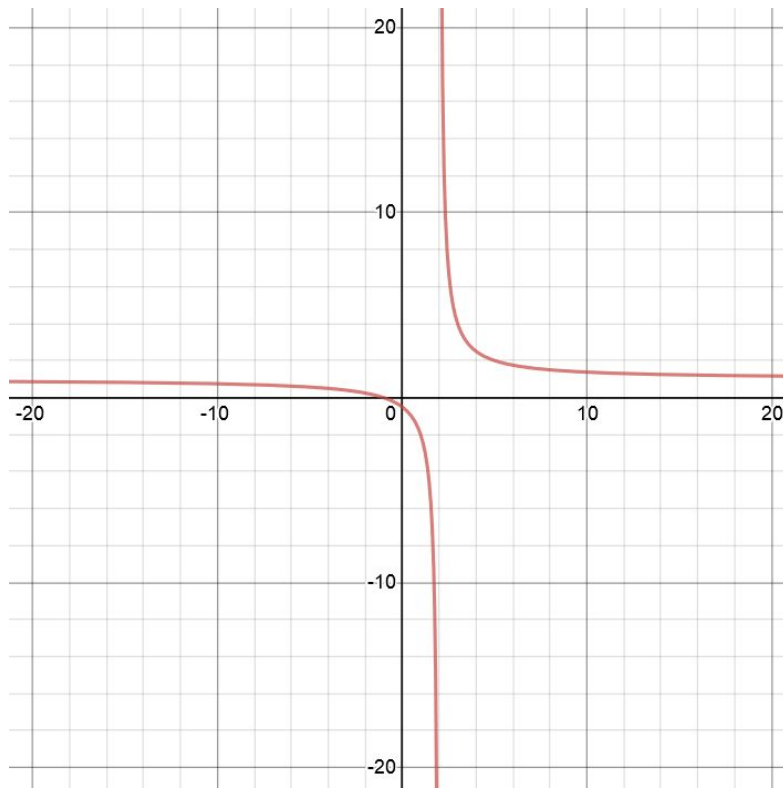


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14.1c Finding the x- and y-intercepts of the equation  $y = \frac{x+1}{x-2}$  is rather simple; to find the x-intercept, replace y with 0, and to find the y-intercept replace x with 0. This gives us an x-intercept of  $y = -1$  and a y-intercept of  $-0.5$ . The graph of this function looks like this:



Finding the vertical asymptote is similarly simple: whatever value of x gives the denominator a value of 0 is the vertical asymptote, which in this case happens to be  $x = 2$ . Finding the horizontal asymptote is a bit more difficult, but thanks to the book doing a bit of algebraic manipulation, we can say that the horizontal asymptote of a function is  $\frac{a}{c}$ , which in this case is  $\frac{1}{1}$ . These are visible on the graph as the two lines converge on  $x = 2$  and  $y = 1$ .

14.5 To find the equation that passes through these points, one method we can use is something that haunts my nightmares: a three-way system of equations. In short, this looks like:

$$f(1) = 1 = \frac{a(1)+b}{(1)+c} ;$$

$$g(5) = 2 = \frac{a(5)+b}{(5)+c} ;$$

$$h(20) = 3 = \frac{a(20)+b}{(20)+c} ;$$

Solving this system of equations for the assorted variables, we arrive at the final equation

$$f(x) = \frac{41x+35}{11x+65} .$$
 Recalling from 14.1c that the horizontal asymptote of a function of this sort is

$$\frac{a}{c} ,$$
 we can say that the horizontal asymptote for this function is  $y = \frac{41}{11}$ .