

NAME: Answer Key

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Quiz 1 MAC-2311 Fall 2016

1. (10 pts) Compute each limit. If the limit does not exist or is infinite specify so (2.5 pts each).

$$(a) \lim_{x \rightarrow -1} \frac{x^2 - 2x - 3}{3x^2 - x^3} = \frac{(-1)^2 - 2(-1) - 3}{3(-1)^2 - (-1)^3} =$$

↑  
limit properties

$$= \frac{1 + 2 - 3}{3 + 1} = \frac{0}{4} = \boxed{0}$$

$$(b) \lim_{x \rightarrow 3} \frac{x^2 - 2x - 3}{3x^2 - x^3} =$$

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

$$= \frac{4}{-3^2} = \boxed{-\frac{4}{9}}$$

$$(c) \lim_{x \rightarrow +\infty} \frac{x^2 - 2x - 3}{3x^2 - x^3} =$$

$$\uparrow \lim_{x \rightarrow +\infty} \frac{x^2}{-x^3} = \lim_{x \rightarrow +\infty} \left(-\frac{1}{x}\right) = 0$$

↑  
L'Hopital's Rule

$$(d) \lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \frac{x^2 - 2x - 3}{3x^2 - x^3} = \frac{-3}{0}$$

$$= \lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \frac{(x-3)(x+1)}{-x^2(x-3)} =$$

$$= \frac{1}{0^-} = \boxed{-\infty}$$

The denominator is a small negative number

2. (Bonus 2 pts) Write the equations of horizontal or vertical asymptotes (if any) of  $f(x) = \frac{x^2 - 2x - 3}{3x^2 - x^3}$ .

Note that in Pb. 1, you computed some limits of this function.

$y=0$  is a H.A. for both  $x \rightarrow +\infty$  and  $x \rightarrow -\infty$

$x=0$  is a V.A. as the limit in (d) shows.

But  $x=3$  is not a V.A. (as shown in part (b))