Dr Oliver Mathematics Asymptotes: Part 1

1. What are the asymptotes of the graph of the parametric equations

$$x = \frac{1}{t}, y = \frac{t}{t+1}, t \in \mathbb{R}, t \neq -1, t \neq 0$$
?

Solution

$$y = \frac{t}{t+1}$$

$$= \frac{\frac{1}{x}}{\frac{1}{x}+1}$$

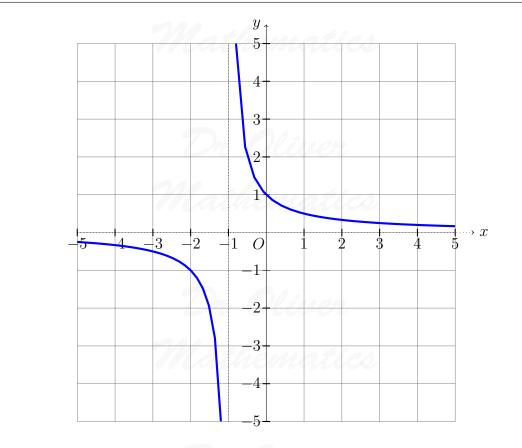
$$= \frac{\frac{1}{x}}{\frac{1}{x}+1} \times \frac{x}{x}$$

$$= \frac{1}{1+x}.$$

Hence, it is $y = \frac{1}{x}$ shifted one unit to the left in the x-direction.

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Hence, the asymptotes are

 $\underline{\underline{x} = -1 \text{ and } y = 0}.$

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