

5.1 - Vertical and Horizontal Shifts

Translations of a Function and Its Graph

If $y = g(x)$ is a function and k is a constant, then the graph of

- $y = g(x) + k$ is the graph of $y = g(x)$ shifted vertically $|k|$ units. If k is positive, the shift is up; if k is negative, the shift is down.
- $y = g(x + k)$ is the graph of $y = g(x)$ shifted horizontally $|k|$ units. If k is positive, the shift is to the left; if k is negative, the shift is to the right.

A vertical or horizontal shift of the graph of a function is called a *translation* because it does not change the shape of the graph, but simply translates it to another position in the plane. Shifts or translations are the simplest examples of *transformations* of a function.

Inside and Outside Changes

Since $y = g(x+k)$ involves a change to the input value, x , it is called an *inside change* to g . Similarly, since $y = g(x) + k$ involves a change to the output value, $g(x)$, it is called an *outside change*. In general, an inside change in a function results in a horizontal change in its graph, whereas an outside change results in a vertical change.

For the function $Q = f(t)$, a change inside the function's parentheses can be called an "inside change" and a change outside the function's parentheses can be called an "outside change".

Example 5 on pg. 197 in Text

If $n = f(A)$ gives the number of gallons of paint needed to cover a house of area A ft² explain the meaning of $n = f(A+10)$ and $n = f(A)+10$ in the context of painting.

Example 9 on pg. 199 in Text

A graph of $f(x) = x^2$ is in figure 5.5 below. Define g by shifting the graph of f . Find a formula for g in terms of f .

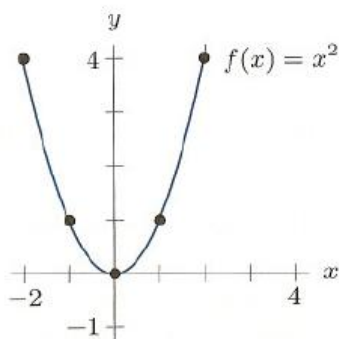


Figure 5.5: The graph of $f(x) = x^2$

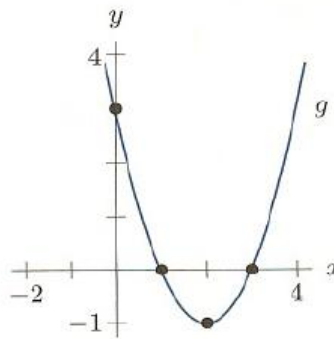
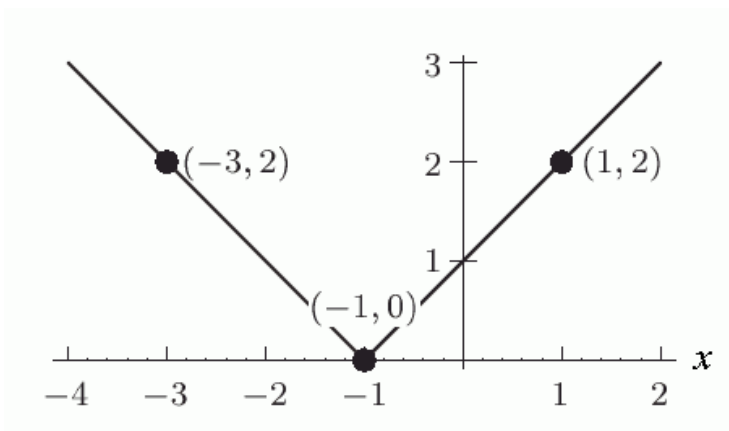


Figure 5.6: The graph of g , a transformation of f

5.1 Examples:

1. If $f(x) = 3x^2 + 4x$ and $h(x) = f(x) - 3$, what is $h(3)$?
2. If $r(t) = e^t$ for $t > 0$, what is the formula for $s(t) = r(t-1)$?
3. If $f(x) = 3x^2 + 3x$ what is the formula for $g(x) = f(x-4)$?
4. Let $f(x) = \ln x$ and $g(x) = \ln(x+5)$ for $x > 0$. How does the graph of $g(x)$ compare to the graph of $f(x)$?
5. Given $f(x) = |x|$, what does the following figure show, give a formula?



5.2 - Reflections and Symmetry

In this section we consider the effect of reflecting a function's graph about the x or y -axis. A reflection about the x -axis corresponds to an outside change to the function's formula; a reflection about the y -axis corresponds to an inside change.

A Formula for Reflection

For a function f

- The graph of $y = -f(x)$ is a reflection of the graph of $y = f(x)$ about the x -axis.
- The graph of $y = f(-x)$ is a reflection of the graph of $y = f(x)$ about the y -axis.

Symmetry About the y -Axis

In general:

If f is a function, then f is called an **even function** if, for all values of x in the domain of f ,

$$f(-x) = f(x).$$

The graph of f is symmetric about the y -axis.

Symmetry About the Origin

In general:

If f is a function, then f is called an **odd function** if, for all values of x in the domain of f ,

$$f(-x) = -f(x).$$

The graph of f is symmetric about the origin.

Example 1 on pg. 203 in Text

Find a formula in terms of f using the table below for (see text for the graphs):

- $y = g(x)$
- $y = h(x)$
- $y = k(x)$

| | | | | | | | |
|--------|-----|-----|-----|----|-----|-----|-----|
| x | -3 | -2 | -1 | 0 | 1 | 2 | 3 |
| $f(x)$ | 1 | 2 | 4 | 8 | 16 | 32 | 64 |
| $g(x)$ | -1 | -2 | -4 | -8 | -16 | -32 | -64 |
| $h(x)$ | 64 | 32 | 16 | 8 | 4 | 2 | 1 |
| $k(x)$ | -64 | -32 | -16 | -8 | -4 | -2 | -1 |

Example 2 on pg. 205 in Text

For the function $p(x) = x^2$, check algebraically that $p(-x) = p(x)$ for all x .

Example 3 on pg. 206 in Text

For the function $q(x) = x^3$, check algebraically that $q(-x) = -q(x)$ for all x .

Example 4 on pg. 207 in Text

Determine whether the following functions are symmetric about the y-axis, the origin, or neither.

a. $f(x) = |x|$ b. $g(x) = \frac{1}{x}$ c. $h(x) = -x^3 - 3x^2 + 2$

Examples:

1.

| | | | | | | | |
|---------|----|----|----|---|---|----|----|
| x | -3 | -2 | -1 | 0 | 1 | 2 | 3 |
| $f(x)$ | -4 | -1 | 2 | 3 | 0 | -3 | -6 |
| $f(-x)$ | | | | | | | |
| $-f(x)$ | | | | | | | |

2. Show that the function $f(x) = x^4 - x^2 + 7$ is even, odd, or neither and explain.

3. If $m(n) = n^2 + n - 3$, give a *formula* and explain the transformation $y = -m(-n) - 4$

5.3 - Vertical Stretches and Compressions

Formula for Vertical Stretch or Compression

In general:

If f is a function and k is a constant, then the graph of $y = k \cdot f(x)$ is the graph of $y = f(x)$

- Vertically stretched by a factor of k , if $k > 1$.
- Vertically compressed by a factor of k , if $0 < k < 1$.
- Vertically stretched or compressed by a factor $|k|$ and reflected across the x-axis, if $k < 0$.

Stretch Factors and Average Rates of Change

Stretching or compressing a function vertically does not change the intervals on which the function increases or decreases. However, the average rate of change of a function, visible in the steepness of the graph, is altered by a vertical stretch or compression.

In general:

If $g(x) = k \cdot f(x)$, then on any interval:

$$\text{Average rate of change of } g = k \cdot (\text{Average rate of change of } f).$$

Example 3 on pg. 215 in Text

Consider the function $y = f(x) = x^2$, graph the function $g(x) = -\frac{1}{2}f(x+3) - 1$.

Examples:

1. The following table gives values for a function f . Fill in the blanks of the table for which you have sufficient information.

| | | | | | | | |
|-----------|-----|----|----|---|---|----|----|
| x | -3 | -2 | -1 | 0 | 1 | 2 | 3 |
| $f(x)$ | -10 | -5 | 4 | 1 | 0 | -2 | -8 |
| $f(x+1)$ | | | | | | | |
| $f(x)+3$ | | | | | | | |
| $-f(x)$ | | | | | | | |
| $f(-x)-2$ | | | | | | | |
| $3f(x)$ | | | | | | | |

2. A carpenter currently builds k chairs per week at a cost of $f(k)$. What do the following expressions represent?

- a. $f(k + 10)$
- b. $f(k) + 10$
- c. $2f(k)$
- d. $f(2k)$

3. Using the graph of $f(x)$, write formulas for functions in (a) to (d) and explain the transformation.

