

Section 3.6 Continued. Last time $f(x) = ax^2 + c$

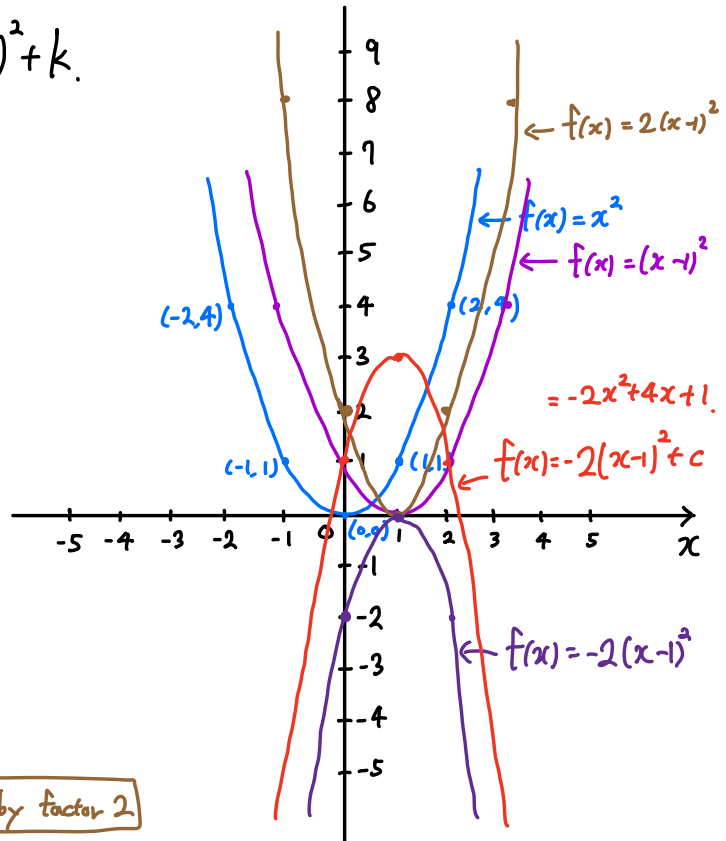
HWS: due this Friday at 1pm

Given a quadratic function $f(x) = ax^2 + bx + c$, we want to rewrite in the form $f(x) = a(x-h)^2 + k$.

Ex $f(x) = -2x^2 + 4x + 1$

$$\begin{aligned} &= (-2x^2 + 4x) + 1 \\ &= -2(x^2 - 2x) + 1 \\ &= 2\left(\frac{x^2 - 2x + 1 - 1}{(x-1)^2}\right) + 1 \\ &= \frac{-2((x-1)^2 - 1)}{(x-1)^2} + 1 \\ &= -2(x-1)^2 + 2 + 1 \\ &= -2(x-1)^2 + 3 \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} x^2 - 2x + b &= (x+c)^2 \\ &= x^2 + 2cx + c^2 \\ \downarrow & \quad \downarrow \\ -2 = 2c, \quad b = c^2 \\ \downarrow & \quad \downarrow \\ c = -1 \quad b = (-1)^2 \\ &= 1 \\ \Rightarrow x^2 - 2x + 1 &= (x-1)^2 \end{aligned}$$



Stretch the graph vertically by factor 2

$$f(x) = x^2 \rightarrow f(x) = (x-1)^2 \rightarrow f(x) = 2(x-1)^2 \rightarrow f(x) = -2(x-1)^2 \rightarrow f(x) = -2(x-1)^2 + 3$$

Move the graph \rightarrow 1 unit

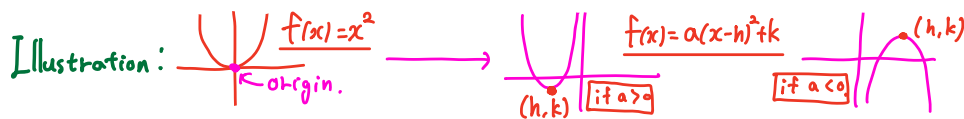
Reflect the graph through x-axis

Move the graph \uparrow 3 units

Standard Equation of a Parabola with Vertical Axis:

The graph of the equation $y = a(x-h)^2 + k$ for $a \neq 0$ is a parabola that has vertex $V(h, k)$ and a vertical axis.

The parabola open upward if $a > 0$ or downward if $a < 0$.



Finding a standard equation of a parabola

Ex Express $y = -2x^2 + 8x + 10$ as a standard equation of a parabola

with a vertical axis. Find the vertex and sketch the graph.

$y = -2x^2 + 8x + 10$ \rightarrow x-intercept: Set $y=0$: $0 = -2x^2 + 8x + 10$

$y = (-2x^2 + 8x) + 10$ \rightarrow y-intercept: Set $x=0$: $y=10$. $\Rightarrow (0, 10)$

$y = -2(x^2 - 4x) + 10$
 $y = -2(x^2 - 4x + b - b) + 10$

$x^2 - 4x + b = (x+c)^2$
 $= x^2 + 2cx + c^2$
 $-4 = 2c \rightarrow c = -2$
 $b = c^2 \rightarrow b = 4$
 $x^2 - 4x + 4 = (x-2)^2$

$x^2 - 4x - 5 = 0$
 $(x-5)(x+1) = 0$
 $x-5=0$ or $x+1=0$
 $x=5$ or $x=-1$
 $\Rightarrow (5, 0)$ and $(-1, 0)$

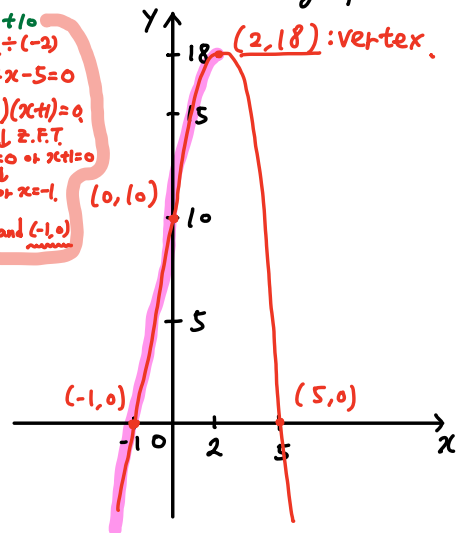
$y = -2((x-2)^2 - 4) + 10$

$y = -2(x-2)^2 + 8 + 10$

$y = -2(x-2)^2 + 18$. \rightarrow Vertex: $(2, 18)$

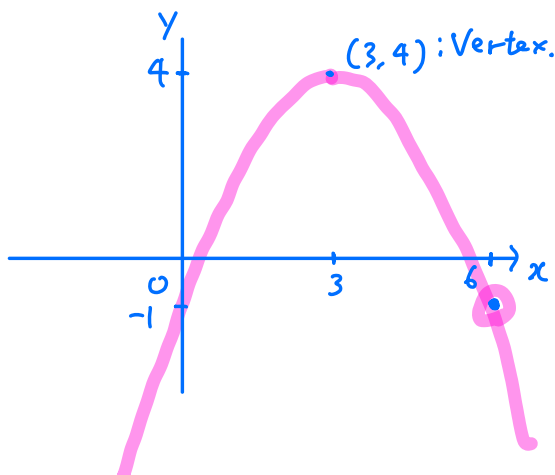
Domain: $(-\infty, \infty)$, Increasing: $(-\infty, 2]$

Range: $(-\infty, 18]$, Decreasing: $[2, \infty)$



Ex Find an equation of parabola that has vertex $V(3, 4)$ and

a vertical axis and passes through the point $(6, -1)$.



$y = a(x-h)^2 + k$

: Vertex is (h, k) .

$y = a(x-3)^2 + 4 \dots (*)$

$(6, -1)$ satisfies the equation $(*)$.

\Rightarrow Replace x by 6 in $(*)$
 y by -1

→ Replace a by $-\frac{5}{9}$
 $\Rightarrow y = -\frac{5}{9}(x-3)^2 + 4$

$-1 = a \cdot (6-3)^2 + 4 \rightarrow 9a = -5$
 $-1 = a \cdot 9 + 4 \rightarrow a = -\frac{5}{9}$

Q: Given a parabola $y = ax^2 + bx + c$, is there an easy way to find a vertex of it?

A: Yes!

Theorem for locating the Vertex of a Parabola:

The vertex of the parabola $y = ax^2 + bx + c$ has x-coordinate $-\frac{b}{2a}$

Why? Let $y = ax^2 + bx + c = (ax^2 + bx) + c$

$$= a\left(x^2 + \frac{b}{a}x\right) + c$$

$$= a\left(x^2 + \frac{b}{a}x + \frac{b^2}{4a^2} - \frac{b^2}{4a^2}\right) + c$$

$$= a\left(\left(x + \frac{b}{2a}\right)^2 - \frac{b^2}{4a^2}\right) + c = a\left(x + \frac{b}{2a}\right)^2 - \frac{b^2}{4a} + c$$

$x^2 + \frac{b}{a}x + c = (x+d)^2$
 $x^2 + \frac{b}{a}x + c = x^2 + 2dx + d^2$
 $2d = \frac{b}{a} \Rightarrow d = \frac{b}{2a}$
 $c = d^2 \Rightarrow c = \left(\frac{b}{2a}\right)^2 = \frac{b^2}{4a^2}$
 $\Rightarrow x^2 + \frac{b}{a}x + \frac{b^2}{4a^2} = \left(x + \frac{b}{2a}\right)^2$
 $\left(x - \left(-\frac{b}{2a}\right)\right)^2$
 x-coordinate of the vertex!

Ex Find the vertex of the parabola $y = 3x^2 - 4x + 2$

By the theorem $-\frac{b}{2a} = -\frac{(-4)}{2 \cdot 3} = \frac{4}{6} = \frac{2}{3}$ is the x-coordinate of the vertex.

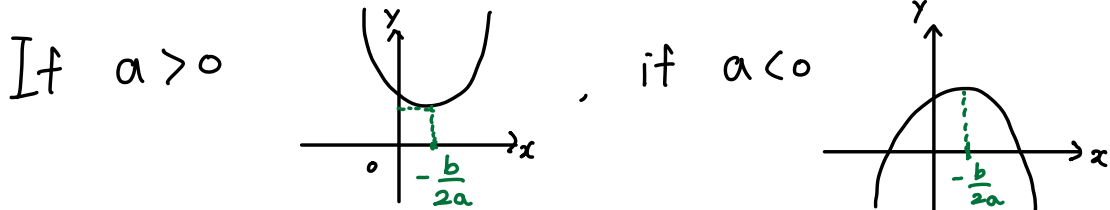
Replace x by $\frac{2}{3} \Rightarrow y = 3 \cdot \left(\frac{2}{3}\right)^2 - 4 \cdot \left(\frac{2}{3}\right) + 2$

$$= 3 \cdot \frac{4}{9} - \frac{8}{3} + 2 = \frac{4}{3} - \frac{8}{3} + \frac{6}{3} = \frac{2}{3}$$

\Rightarrow Vertex is $\left(\frac{2}{3}, \frac{2}{3}\right)$

What can we say about the vertex of the quadratic function

$$f(x) = ax^2 + bx + c?$$



From the previous theorem, we know that the x-coordinate of the vertex of $y = ax^2 + bx + c$ is $-\frac{b}{2a}$.

Hence, we have...

Theorem on the Maximum or Minimum Value of a Quadratic Function:

If $f(x) = ax^2 + bx + c$, where $a \neq 0$, then $f(-\frac{b}{2a})$ is

(1) the maximum value of f if $a < 0$

(2) the minimum value of f if $a > 0$

Ex Find the maximum value of the function $f(x) = -x^2 + 5x + 7$

$$x = -\frac{b}{2a} = -\frac{5}{2 \cdot (-1)} = -\frac{5}{-2} = \frac{5}{2}$$

$$\begin{aligned} a &= -1 & b &= 5 & c &= 7. \\ a &< 0 \end{aligned}$$

$$f\left(\frac{5}{2}\right) = -\left(\frac{5}{2}\right)^2 + 5 \cdot \frac{5}{2} + 7 = -\frac{25}{4} + \frac{25}{2} + 7 = -\frac{25}{4} + \frac{50}{4} + \frac{28}{4} = \frac{53}{4}$$

Maximum because $a = -1 < 0$.