

Ch 12 Quadratic Functions

(Note Ch 9 has content about quadratic functions too, considered prerequisite.)

What is a quadratic function?

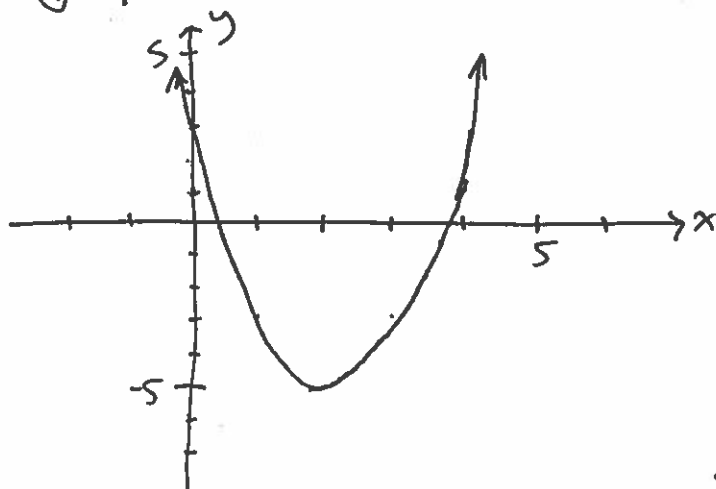
Like $f(x) = 2x^2 - 8x + 3$

must have a "quadratic" term

a polynomial with up to three terms

might also have linear and constant terms

Consider f 's graph (with GeoGebra)



- Evaluate $f(4)$
 $f(4) = 3$

- Solve $f(x) = -1$
 $x \approx 0.5857...$
and
 $x \approx 3.414...$

- Solve $f(x) \leq 3$
 $[0, 4]$

- Find its vertex.
 $(2, -5)$

- Find its horizontal intercepts.
 $\approx (0.4188..., 0)$
and
 $\approx (3.581..., 0)$

- Find its vertical intercept
 $(0, 3)$

< Examine example 12.1.3 >

Vertex Form

A quadratic function might come to you like $f(x) = 2x^2 - 8x + 3$

"standard form" : $ax^2 + bx + c$

Note the 2 and -8 aren't apparent in f 's graph. The 3 is there in the y-intercept at (0, 3).

You can also have "vertex form", like:

$$f(x) = 2(x-2)^2 - 5$$

First, expand this...

$$\begin{aligned} f(x) &= 2(x^2 - 4x + 4) - 5 \\ &= 2x^2 - 8x + 8 - 5 \\ &= 2x^2 - 8x + 3 \end{aligned}$$

← same as before... so vertex form is not a new function, just a new way to write it.

(More generally,
 $f(x) = a(x-h)^2 + k$)

Why "vertex"?

Note the vertex was at (2, -5)

If $x \neq 2$, then $2(x-2)^2$ is positive, so output will be greater than -5.

So (2, -5) is an extremum. It's the vertex.

$$f(x) = 2(x-2)^2 - 5$$

2 is what annihilates this whole section of the formula.

2 goes in

-5 comes out.

Vertex form $a(x-h)^2 + k$

h used to annihilate this section...

h is vertex's x-coordinate

k is vertex's y-coordinate

< See Checkpoint 12.1.12 >

Now find a formula for f given information...

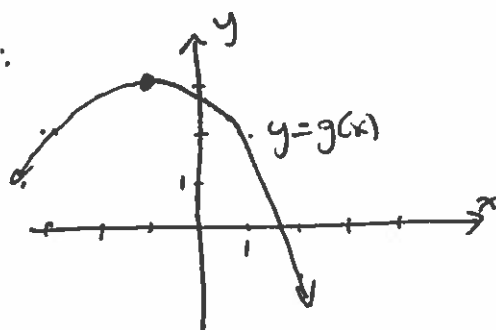
Ex f 's vertex is at $(7, -2)$ and f has $a = 3$

Find a formula for f .

$$f(x) = 3(x-7)^2 - 2$$

Ex g 's graph is:

and g has $a = -\frac{1}{2}$



See Vertex is at $(-1, 3)$

Find a formula for g .

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

Ex h 's graph is

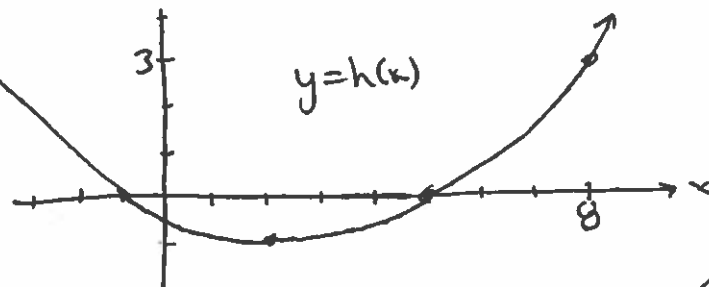
Find a formula

for h .

vertex at $(2, -1)$ so

$$h(x) = a(x-2)^2 - 1 \dots \text{but what is } a?$$

$y = h(x)$



Find some other point, like $(8, 3)$.

$$\text{So } h(8) = 3.$$

$$\text{So } a(8-2)^2 - 1 = 3$$

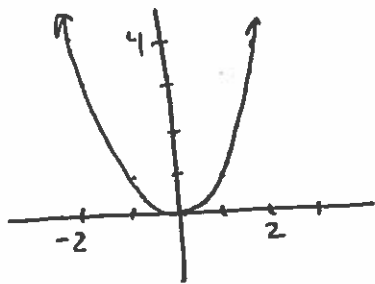
$$a(6)^2 = 4$$

$$a \cdot 36 = 4$$

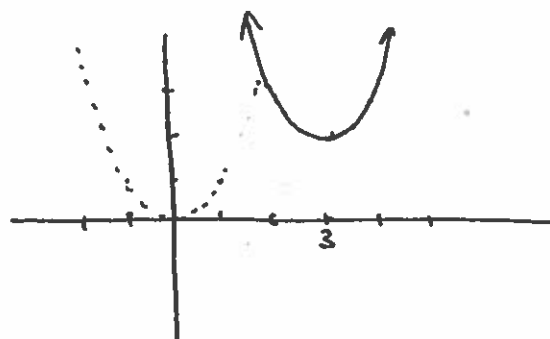
$$a = \frac{1}{9}$$

$$\text{And: } h(x) = \frac{1}{9}(x-2)^2 - 1$$

We know $y = x^2$:



Now we know vertex form,
so we know $y = (x-3)^2 + 2$



Note that it's like $y = x^2$ was shifted right 3, up 2.

Fact: with $y = (x-h)^2 + k$

you can perceive that as $y = x^2$ was shifted
right h units, up k units.

(if h or k is negative, left or down)

A quadratic function

→ standard form $ax^2 + bx + c$

↓
shows you
y-intercept

Ex $f(x) = x^2 + 3x - 18$

$$f(x) = (x+6)(x-3)$$

↙ ↘
-6 3

there are x-intercepts
at $(-6, 0)$ and $(3, 0)$.

→ vertex form $a(x-h)^2 + k$

↓ ↓
show you the vertex

→ factored form $a(x-r_1)(x-r_2)$

↓ ↓
show you the
x-intercepts
(what number to use to
make the output be 0)