

MATH 7: HOMEWORK 20

Parabolas, adding graphs.

March 30, 2025

1. Quadratic function (revisited +)

Quadratic equation in a standard form: $ax^2 + bx + c = 0$

- a, b, c – coefficients, determinant D : $D = b^2 - 4ac$, solutions (roots): $x_{1,2} = \frac{-b \pm \sqrt{D}}{2a}$
- D determines the number of roots! ($D < 0$ no solutions, $D = 0$ one solution, $D > 0$ two solutions)

Quadratic function in a factored form: $y = a(x - x_1)(x - x_2)$, where

- roots: the numbers x_1 and x_2 – solutions of the quadratic equation ($y = 0$)
- **Vieta's formulas:** The roots are related to the coefficients: $x_1 x_2 = \frac{c}{a}$ and $x_1 + x_2 = -\frac{b}{a}$

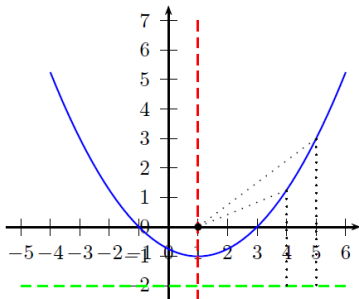
Quadratic function in a vertex form: $y = a(x - h)^2 + k$

- **Method 1: completing the square.** Use the formulas for fast multiplication.
- **Method 2: find the vertex.** Determine the coefficients a, b, c . Find the vertex x - and y - coordinates
 $x_v = h = -\frac{b}{2a}$. $y_v = k = y(x_v) = ax_v^2 + bx_v + c$

Modified vertex form: rewrite the equation into separate y – and x – part $4p(y - k) = (x - h)^2$

Distance from any point on the parabola to focus and directrix: $p = \frac{1}{4a}$

Vertex $V(h, k)$ Focus $F(h, k + p)$ directrix $y = k - p$



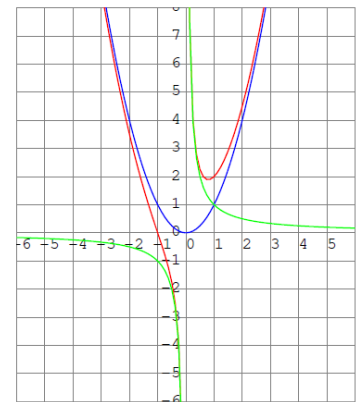
NEW: Parabola is the set of all points in a plane that are equally distant from a given point and a given line (see black dotted lines). This given point is called **the focus** (black dot) of the parabola and the line is called **the directrix** (green line).

- If the parabola is of the form $(x - h)^2 = 4p(y - k)$, the vertex is (h, k) , the focus is $(h, k + p)$ and directrix is $y = k - p$.

2. Adding Graphs

Now that we know how to draw a lot of basic graphs and how to use transformations, we can draw more complicated graphs — that is, graphs that we get by adding two functions. For example, if we want to draw a graph of a function $y = x^2 + \frac{1}{x}$

We can carefully examine two separate graphs of $y = x^2$ (blue) and $y = \frac{1}{x}$ (green), and then see what happens if one adds these two graphs (red) by adding their y -values for every x .



Homework problems

- Graph $x^2 = 4y$. What is the focus, directrix and vertex of the parabola?
- Sketch the following functions by first drawing the graph of each addend function and then adding the y-values for a few x-values.
 - $y = |x| + |x + 1|$
 - $y = |x - 1| + |x + 1|$
 - $y = |x - 1| - |x + 1|$
 - $|y| = x$
- Sketch the following functions by first drawing the graph of each addend function and then adding the y-values for a few x-values.
 - $y = x + \frac{1}{|x|}$
 - $y = \sqrt{x} + \frac{1}{x}$
 - $y = x - \frac{1}{x^2}$
- Find all intersection points of the parabola $y = x^2$ and the circle with radius $\sqrt{6}$ and center at (0,4).
- Graph $y = (\sqrt{x})^2$ Note $x \geq 0$
- Sketch graphs of the following functions:
 - $y = (x - 1)^2 + 1$
 - $y = \frac{1}{x+2} + 1$
 - $y = \frac{1}{2-x}$
 - $y = \frac{x+2}{x+1}$
 - $y = \left| \frac{1}{x-1} + 1 \right|$