

Lesson 3.1.2

Saturday, February 4, 2017 4:39 PM

PREC 11

3.1 (cont.) Investigating Quadratic Functions in Vertex Form

To find the equation of a quadratic function given the vertex and a point, substitute the values into the formula:

$$y = a(x - p)^2 + q$$

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

Example 1: Find an equation of a quadratic function with vertex (1, -2) which passes through (3, -4).

$$y = a(x - 1)^2 - 2 \quad \begin{matrix} \text{thick/thin} \\ \text{direction} \\ \text{of opening} \end{matrix} \quad \begin{matrix} \text{left/right} \\ \text{up/down} \end{matrix}$$

$$-4 = a(3 - 1)^2 - 2 \quad \begin{matrix} p = 1 \\ q = -2 \end{matrix}$$

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

$$-4 = 4a - 2$$

$$-2 = 4a$$

$$a = -0.5 \text{ or } -\frac{1}{2}$$

$$\therefore y = -0.5(x - 1)^2 - 2$$

Example 2: Find an equation of a quadratic function with vertex (4, -1) that opens down and is congruent to $y = 2x^2$.

means equal to
same shape
same size

$$y = a(x - 4)^2 - 1$$

$$y = -2(x - 4)^2 - 1$$

$$\begin{matrix} \uparrow & \uparrow \\ p = 4 & q = -1 \end{matrix} \quad a = \text{negative}$$

You can determine the number of x -intercepts for a quadratic function if you know the location of the vertex and the direction of opening.

Example 3: Determine the number of x -intercepts for each quadratic function without graphing:

a. $f(x) = 0.5x^2 - 7$

\uparrow vertex (0, -7)
opens up below x -axis

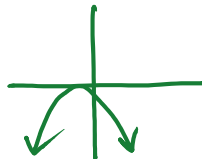
$\therefore 2$ x -intercepts



b. $f(x) = -2(x + 1)^2$

\uparrow vertex (-1, 0)
opens down on x -axis

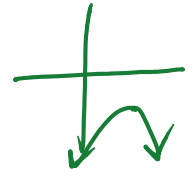
$\therefore 1$ x -intercept



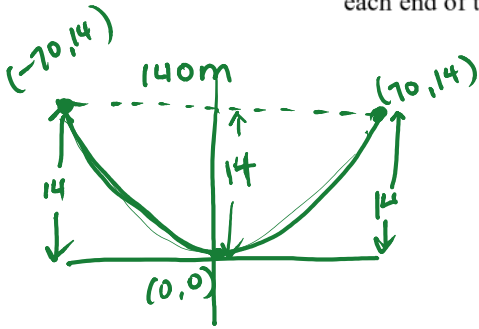
c. $f(x) = -\frac{1}{6}(x - 5)^2 - 11$

\uparrow vertex (5, -11)
opens down below x -axis

\therefore No x -intercept



Example 4: A cable that supports a suspension bridge is parabolic. The horizontal distance between the ends of the cable is 140 m. The midpoint of the cable is 14 m below each end of the cable. Determine an equation to model the cable.



$$y = a(x - p)^2 + q$$

$$y = ax^2$$

$$14 = a(70)^2$$

$$14 = a 4900$$

$$\frac{14}{4900} = a$$

$$\frac{2}{700} = \frac{1}{350} = a$$

* Keep "a"
in lowest terms.

$$y = \frac{1}{350} x^2$$

Assignment: pg. 158 #7, 9, 10, 12, 13, 15, 17, 21

7acd, 9ad, 10, 12, 13, 17, 21, 23

