

# **Seminar Notes** Learning Guides 5 & 6



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# Topic 1 Quadratics

# A quadratic is a function where the x value is squared. The simplest quadratic is $f(x) = x^2$



- The graph of a quadratic function is a parabola
- The lowest or highest point on the graph is the vertex
- The axis of symmetry divides the graph into mirror images and its' equation corresponds to thecoordinate of the vertex

Quadratic Functions can be written in vertex form or standard form. Vertex form is useful for graphing.



stretch/shrink opens up or down f(x) =

The effects of a, p & q on the function

vertex (p, q)

1. Basic Parabola 
$$y = x^2$$

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







- first:
  - (0, 0) (0, 0) (1, 1) (1, 2) (-1, 1) •••• (-1, 2) (2, 4) (2, 8) (-2, 4) ----- (-2, 8)

# Example 1 (cont.)

Method 1: Sketch using Transformations

- 2. Translate the graph
  - Use the values of p and q to give the vertical and horizontal translation



- p = -1, so the graph is translated one unit left
- q = -2, so the graph is translated two units down

# Example 1 (cont.)

Method 2: Sketch using Points and Symmetry

- Plot the vertex, (-1, -3), and draw the axis of symmetry, x = -1
- determine the coordinates of at least 4 more points



a) Let 
$$x = 0$$
  
 $y = 2(0+1)^2 - 3$   
 $y = 2(1)^2 - 3$ 

#### y = -1

The point is (0, -1) and there is a matching point across the axis of symmetry at (-2, -1)

Try: Determine the following for each function:• the vertex• the domain and range• the direction of the opening• the equation of the axis of symmetrya) 
$$y = \frac{1}{2}(x-2)^2 - 4$$
b)  $y = -3(x+1)^2 + 3$ Vertex:D:R:Direction Opening:Equ. of Axis of Symm:Equ. of Axis of Symm:

#### Determine a Quadratic Function Given Its Graph

Example: Determine a quadratic function in vertex form for the following graph.



Use Points and Substitution

- Use the coordinates of the vertex and one other point: vertex (5, -4) and P (2, -1)
- 2. Substitute 5 and -4 for p and q into the vertex form of the equation.

$$f(x) = a(x - p)^{2} + q$$
  

$$f(x) = a(x - 5)^{2} + (-4)$$
  

$$f(x) = a(x - 5)^{2} - 4$$

## Example 2 cont.

- 3. Solve the equation for *a* by substituting (2, -1) for *x* and *y*   $f(x) = a(x-5)^2 - 4$   $-1 = a(2-5)^2 - 4$   $-1 = a(-3)^2 - 4$  -1 = a(-9) - 4 3 = 9a $\frac{1}{3} = a$
- 4. Rewrite equation with using a, p and q (but not x and y)

$$f(x) = a(x-p)^{2} + q$$
$$f(x) = \frac{1}{3}(x-5)^{2} - 4$$

**Try:** Determine a quadratic function in vertex form for the following graphs.





#### Determine the Number of x-intercepts Using a and q

Example: Determine the number of x-intercepts for each quadratic function:

a)  $f(x) = 0.8x^2 - 3$  b)  $f(x) = 2(x-1)^2$  c)  $f(x) = -3(x+2)^2 - 1$ 

You need to know:

- the value of a to determine if the graph opens up or down
- the value of q to determine if the vertex is above, below or on the x-axis
  - **a)**  $f(x) = 0.8x^2 3$

Value of a	Value of q	Visualize the Graph	Number of <i>x</i> -Intercepts
a > 0 the graph opens upward	q < 0 the vertex is below the <i>x</i> -axis		2 crosses the <i>x</i> -axis <i>twice</i> , since it opens <i>upward</i> from a vertex <i>below</i> the <i>x</i> -axis

**b)**  $f(x) = 2(x - 1)^2$ 

Value of a	Value of q	Visualize the Graph	Number of x-Intercepts
a > 0 the graph opens upward	q = 0 the vertex is on the <i>x</i> -axis		1 touches the <i>x</i> -axis <i>once</i> , since the vertex is <i>on</i> the <i>x</i> -axis

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c) f(x) = -3(x+2)^2 - 1
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Value of a	Value of q	Visualize the Graph	Number of x-Intercepts
a < 0	q < 0		0
the graph	the vertex		does not cross the <i>x</i> -axis,
opens	is below the		since it opens <i>down</i> from a
downward	<i>x</i> -axis		vertex <i>below</i> the <i>x</i> -axis

**Try:** Determine the number of *x*-intercepts without graphing (use a and q) a)  $f(x) = 0.5x^2 - 7$  b)  $f(x) = -2(x+1)^2$ Example 4 Model Problems Using Quadratic Functions in Vertex Form Example: The deck of a bridge is supported by 2 main cables attached to the tops of two towers. The cables are shaped like parabolas, with the lowest point approximately 67 m above the water. The towers are 111 m tall and 472 m apart. a) Model the shape of the cables with a quadratic function in vertex form 1. Draw a labelled diagram place the vertex at the cables' low f(x) (-236, 44)(236, 44) point & make it the origin put in the x and y-axes label the coordinates of the tops of the towers with respect to 472 m the vertex 2. Determine the form of the equation. • Since a and q are both 0, the function will have the form  $f(x) = ax^2$ 3. Determine the equation. • Substitute the coordinates of one the towers into  $f(x) = ax^2$  and solve for a  $f(x) = ax^2$  $44 = a(236)^2$ 44 = 55696a $\frac{44}{55696} = \frac{55696}{55696}a$  $\frac{1}{13924} = a$ 3. Re-write the equation with *a* in place  $f(x) = \frac{11}{13924}x^2$ 

## Example 4 cont.

- b) Determine the height above the surface of the water of a point on the cables that is 90 m horizontally from one of the towers.
  - 1. Determine the distance of the point from the vertex.
    - A point 90 m from one of the towers is 236-90, or 146 m horizontally from the vertex
  - 2. Use the equation for the function to determine f(146)

$$f(x) = \frac{11}{13924} x^{2}$$

$$f(146) = \frac{11}{13924} (146)^{2}$$

$$f(146) = \frac{11}{13924} (21316)$$

$$f(146) = 16.839... \leftarrow$$

This is approximately 16.8 m above the low point in the cables which are 67 m above the water. The height above the water is 67 + 16.8 = 83.8 m

# Try: A parabolic archway has a width of 280 cm and a height of 216 cm at its highest point.

- a) Write a quadratic function in vertex form that models the shape of the archway
- b) Determine the height of the archway at a point 50 cm from its outer edge.





### Analysing a Quadratic Function

**Example:** A frog jumps into a pond. The height, h, in cm, of the frog above the water is a function of time, t, in seconds can be modeled by the function:  $h(t) = -490t^2 + 150t + 25$ Answer the following:

a) Graph the function - use a graphing calculator





b) Find the y-intercept. What does it represent?



2. The y-intercept is (0, 25) or 25 \*note that this is the constant term in the equation

$$h(t) = -490t^2 + 150t + 25$$

3. The y-intercept tells us that the height of the frog at the start of its jump was 25cm.



don't make sense for height in this case.





#### Convert to Vertex Form and Verify

**Example:** Convert the function  $y = 4x^2 - 28x - 23$  to vertex form.

A good strategy for solving this type where you can't factor to get  $x^2$  is use  $x = \frac{-b}{2a}$ \*\*just remember x = p and y = q in the vertex form:  $y = a(x - p)^2 + q$ 

$$a = 4$$
  

$$b = -28$$

$$x = \frac{-(-28)}{2(4)}$$

$$x = \frac{28}{8} = \frac{7}{2} \therefore p = \frac{7}{2}$$

To find q, plug the x value you found above into the original equation  $y = 4x^2 - 28x - 23$ 

$$y = 4\left(\frac{7}{2}\right)^2 - 28\left(\frac{7}{2}\right) - 23$$
  $y = -72$   $\therefore$   $q = -72$ 

Now plug in the *a*, *p* and *q* into  $y = a(x - p)^2 + q$ 

$$y = 4\left(x - \frac{7}{2}\right)^2 - 72$$

### Try: Convert into vertex form.

a)  $y = -3x^2 - 27x + 13$ 

### Write a Quadratic Model Function

Example: Last year photo sessions were \$10 and 400 sessions were booked. It is estimated that for every \$1 increase in price, 20 fewer sessions will be booked.

a) Write a function to model the situation



b) Complete to find the maximum revenue and the price that brings that revenue

$$R = -20n^{2} + 200n + 4000$$

$$R = -20(n^{2} + 10n) + 4000$$

$$R = -20(n^{2} + 10n - 25 - 25) + 4000$$

$$R = -20[(n^{2} + 10n - 25) - 25] + 4000$$

$$R = -20[(n - 5)^{2} - 25] + 4000$$

$$R = -20(n - 5)^{2} + 500 + 4000$$

$$R = -20(n - 5)^{2} + 4500$$

The vertex is (5, 4500). The maximum revenue will be \$4500 when n = 5 (when there are 5 price increases of \$1). So the price should go up \$5 to \$15.

