

Unit 3: Characteristics of a Real Function

$$f(x) = \{ (x, y) \in ]-3, 3] \times \mathbb{R} \mid y = -x^2 + 1 \}$$

Recall:

Domain  $]-3, 3]$

Range  $[-6, 1]$  ← y values

axis of symmetry  $x=0$

Vertex / max/min point

y-int  $(0, y)$   $(3, -6)$

$f(0)$   $\{ \}$  x-value

increasing interval of the function,

• where y increases as x increases

• reading left to right, the graph goes up

$]-3, 0[$

decreasing interval of the f

as x increases, y decreases

$]0, 3]$

positive interval of the function,

• where the y-values are positive

• where the graph is above the x-axis

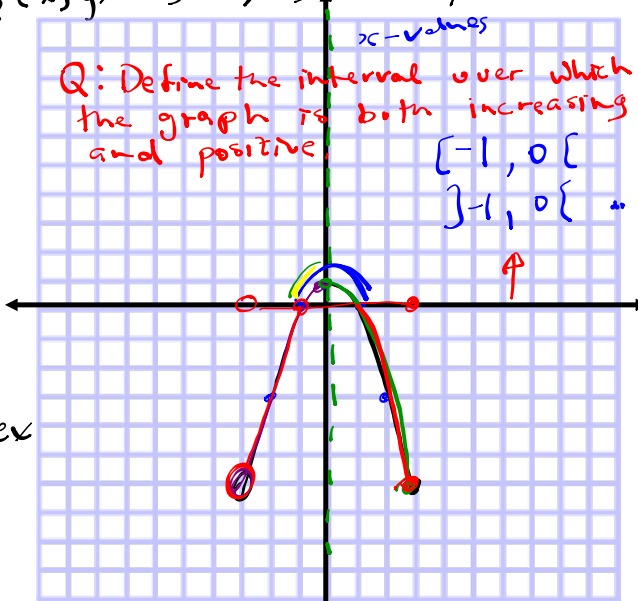
$] -1, 1[$

Solutions / like zeros / x-int(s)

$$(x, 0) \quad f(x) = 0$$

asymptotes

slope / m / rate of change



negative interval  
• the y-values are negative  
• below the x-axis.

$] -3, -1[ \cup ] 1, 3]$

Typical Exam Question:

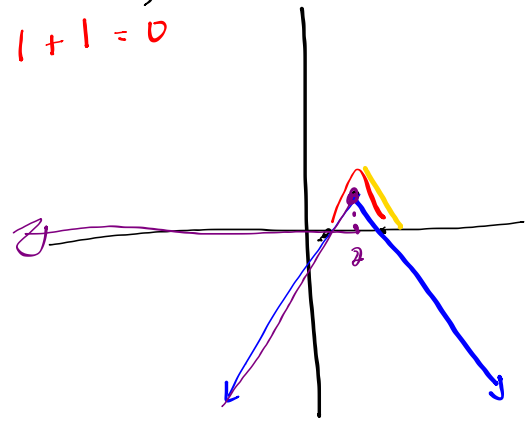
if  $f(x) = -|x-2| + 1$   
 $f(x) = a|b(x-h)| + k$

- ⌋ Determine  $f(0)$  "find y when  $x=0$ "  $f(0) = -|0-2| + 1$
- ⌋ Determine  $f(2) = 1$   $f(0) = -| -2 | + 1$
- ⌋ Determine the increasing interval  $f(0) = -1(-2) + 1$
- ⌋ Determine the interval over which the function is positive  $f(0) = -2 + 1$
- ⌋ and decreasing.  $f(0) = -1$

2, 1

x	y
3	-1
2	1
1	0

$-|3-2| + 1 = -|1| + 1 = 0$

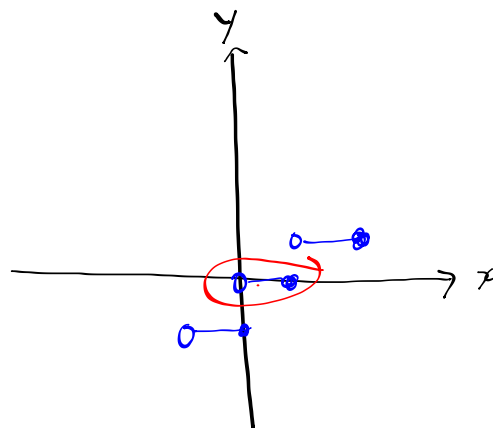


$$\text{if } f(x) = -2 \left[ -\frac{1}{4}(x+2) \right] - 3$$

- Range
- increasing and negative
- Determine  $f(3)$
- slope.

Unit 4: Solving the Equations of a Real Function (aka finding the  $x$ -ints  
 also known as zeros solutions  
 $y=0$  find  $x$ .

- linear function
  - quadratic fi
  - step function
  - (given a graph/ find  $x$ -ints)
  - rational function
  - absolute
  - square root
- }  $y=0$   
find  $x$



ex. Determine the solutions  
(x, 0)

$$y = 2x - 4$$

$$0 = 2x - 4$$

Solve:

$$\rightarrow \frac{4}{2} = \frac{2x}{2}$$

$$x = 2$$

(2, 0)

Step ① Put  $y = 0$

Step ② Find  $x$  by isolating it by performing opposite operations to both sides.

$$\text{Solve: } 4 + 2x = 4x$$

$$\frac{4}{2} = \frac{2x}{2} \quad x = 2$$

P 4.16

Find the x-ints

$$y = ax^2 + bx + c$$

$$y = x^2 - x - 12$$

-12

1 -12

-1 12

2 -6

-2 6

-4 3

$$0 = x^2 - x - 12$$

$$0 = x^2 - 4x + 3x - 12$$

$$0 = x(x-4) + 3(x-4)$$

$$0 = (x-4)(x+3)$$

$$x-4=0$$

$$x=4$$

$$x+3=0$$

$$x=-3$$

$$a=1$$

$$b=-1$$

$$c=-12$$

$$x = \frac{-b \pm \sqrt{b^2 - 4ac}}{2a}$$

$$x = \frac{-(-1) + 7}{2(1)}$$

$$x = 4$$

or

$$x = \frac{1-7}{2}$$

$$x = -3$$

Step ① Put  $y=0$

Step ②: Find what  $x$  equal by using quadratic formula.

$$x = \frac{-b \pm \sqrt{\Delta}}{2a}$$

$$\Delta = b^2 - 4ac$$

- or - factor!

\* if  $\Delta > 0 \rightarrow 2$  x-ints  
 $\Delta = 0 \rightarrow 1$  x-int  
 $\Delta < 0 \rightarrow$  no x-int  
 (don't do the quad formula)

$$\Delta = b^2 - 4ac$$

$$\Delta = (-1)^2 - 4(1)(-12)$$

$$\Delta = 49$$

Determine the solutions of an irrational function

ex  $y = \frac{1}{x-2} + 4$

$0 = \frac{1}{x-2} + 4$

$-4 = \frac{1}{x-2}$

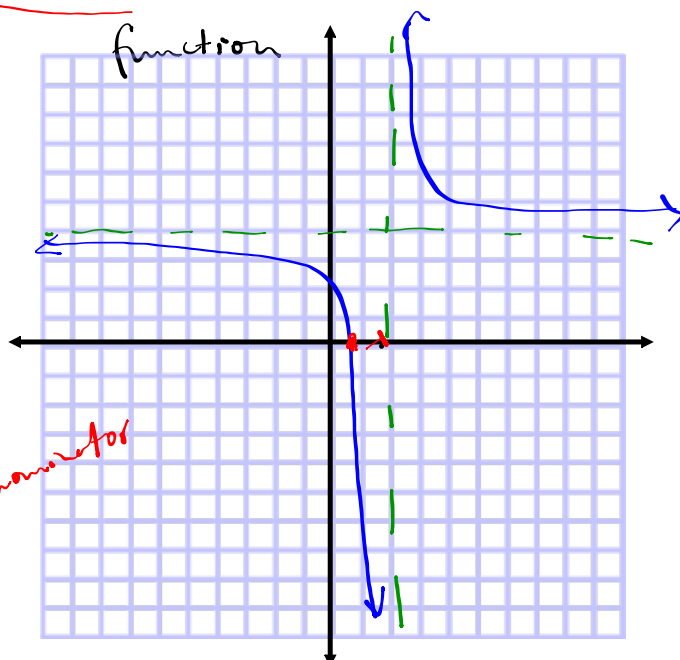
$-4(x-2) = 1$

$-4x + 8 = 1$

$\frac{-4x}{-4} = \frac{-7}{-4}$

$x = \frac{7}{4}$

*Cross multiply to get x out of denominator*



Find x-ints

$y = \frac{-1}{x+3} + 2$

Finding the Solutions of an absolute value function  $y = a|b(x-h)| + k$   
 $\Delta = \frac{-k}{a}$

ex  $f(x) = a|b(x-h)| + k$

$f(x) = 2|x+3| - 8$

$0 = 2|x+3| - 8$

$\frac{8}{2} = \frac{2|x+3|}{2}$

$4 = |x+3|$

$4 = +(x+3)$     -or-     $4 = -(x+3)$   
 $4 = x+3$              $4 = -x-3$   
 $x = 1$                   $7 = -x$   
 $x = -7$

step ①: put  $y=0$

step ②: isolate the  $x$  bracket by performing opposite operations to both sides.

step ③: Consider  $\Delta$  (or the # after you isolate the bracket)

$\Delta > 0 \rightarrow 2$  solutions

$\Delta = 0 \rightarrow 1$  solution

$\Delta < 0 \rightarrow$  no solutions

↳ if so, stop!!

step ④ Drop bracket by doing cases

Find the x-ints

$y = |x-1| + 1$

Solve

$3 = 3|2x-6| - 3$



$\Delta = 2$  Finding the zeros for a square root function

$\Delta = 2$   
 ↳ 1 solution  
 - all systems go

$f(x) = a\sqrt{b(x-h)} + k$

ex.  $f(x) = 4\sqrt{x-2} - 8$

$0 = 4\sqrt{x-2} - 8 + 8$

$8 = 4\sqrt{x-2}$

$(2) = (\sqrt{x-2})^2$

$4 = x - 2$

$x = 6$

$\therefore x = 6 \in D$

$\therefore$  it's a good  $x$ -int.

$f(x) = a\sqrt{b(x-h)} + k$

$\Delta = -\frac{k}{a}$

step ①

$y = 0$

step ②  
 isolate the square root sign

$\Delta \geq 0 \rightarrow 1$  solution

$\Delta < 0 \rightarrow$  no solution

(stop!!!)

Step ③

consider  $\Delta$  isolate  $\rightarrow$  and continue to isolate  $x$ .

Step ④: Calculate the domain

$[b(x-h) \geq 0]$  and make sure your  $x$ -value belongs to the domain

$x - 2 \geq 0$   
 $x \geq 2$

Domain  $[2, \infty)$

Find the zeros/sketch  
 $f(x) = -3\sqrt{6(3-x)} + 9$