

CHAPTER 4: QUADRATIC FUNCTIONS

4.1 • Variable Rates of Change

Objectives:

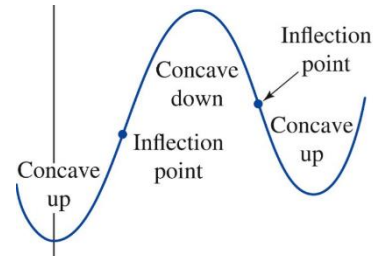
- ❖ Determine if a quadratic equation represents a data set
- ❖ Determine the concavity and increasing/decreasing behavior of a function from a table

❖ Variable Rate of Change

- Any function whose rate of change is not constant is said to have a variable rate of change.

❖ Successive Differences of Functions

- Analyzing First Differences
 - **LINEAR** – constant rate of change (first differences)
 - **CONCAVE UP** – rate of change (first differences) increases
 - **CONCAVE DOWN** – rate of change (first differences) decreases
- Analyzing Second Differences
 - **QUADRATIC** – constant second differences



$$ROC = \frac{y_2 - y_1}{x_2 - x_1}$$

x	$R(x) = -x^2 + 40.50x$	First Differences	Second Differences
0	0		
1	39.50	39.50	-2
2	77.00	37.50	-2
3	112.50	35.50	

EQUALLY SPACED INPUT VALUES

CONSTANT SECOND DIFFERENCES THE FUNCTION IS QUADRATIC

OUTPUTS ARE INCREASING - $R(x)$ IS AN INCREASING FUNCTION

THE FUNCTION IS CONCAVE DOWN BECAUSE THE 1ST DIFFERENCES ARE DECREASING

Examples: Numerical representations of a function are shown in a table. Identify whether the function is linear or quadratic; its increasing/decreasing intervals; and its concavity.

1. $f(x)$

x	$f(x)$	FIRST DIFFERENCES	SECOND DIFFERENCES
-2	20		
-1	2	_____	_____
0	0	_____	
1	14		

LINEAR OR QUADRATIC?

INCREASING INTERVAL: _____ < x < _____

DECREASING INTERVAL: _____ < x < _____

CONCAVE UP / CONCAVE DOWN / NEITHER

2. $g(x)$

x	$g(x)$	FIRST DIFFERENCES	SECOND DIFFERENCES
-3	8		
-2	6	_____	_____
-1	4	_____	
0	2		

LINEAR OR QUADRATIC?

INCREASING INTERVAL: _____ < x < _____

DECREASING INTERVAL: _____ < x < _____

CONCAVE UP / CONCAVE DOWN / NEITHER

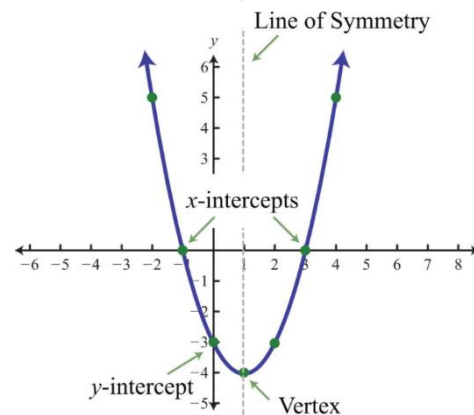
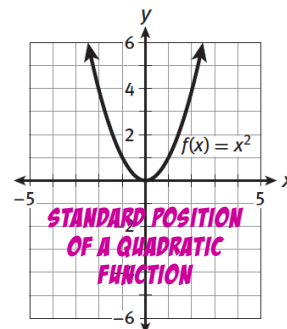
4.3.D1 • Intro to Quadratic Functions

Objectives:

- ❖ Determine the properties and characteristics of a quadratic function given graphically, numerically, and algebraically

❖ Quadratic Functions

- The graph of any quadratic function is called a **PARABOLA**.
 - Its graph is either concave up ($a > 0$) or concave down ($a < 0$).
 - The **VERTEX** (h, k) is the turning point and, also, where a maximum or minimum value of the function occurs.
 - The y -value of the vertex is the maximum or minimum of the function.
 - The vertical line that passes through the vertex of a parabola and divides the parabola into two symmetrical parts is the **AXIS OF SYMMETRY**.
- **Intercepts**
 - Quadratic functions may have two, one, or no **X-INTERCEPTS**. The x -intercept(s) can be found algebraically by solving $f(x) = 0$ or identified from the graph where the parabola crosses or touches the x -axis.
 - The **Y-INTERCEPT** can be found by evaluating $f(0)$ or identified from the graph where the parabola crosses the y -axis.



❖ Formulas for Quadratic Functions

Standard Form
 $f(x) = ax^2 + bx + c$

Factored/Intercept Form
 $f(x) = a(x - p)(x - q)$

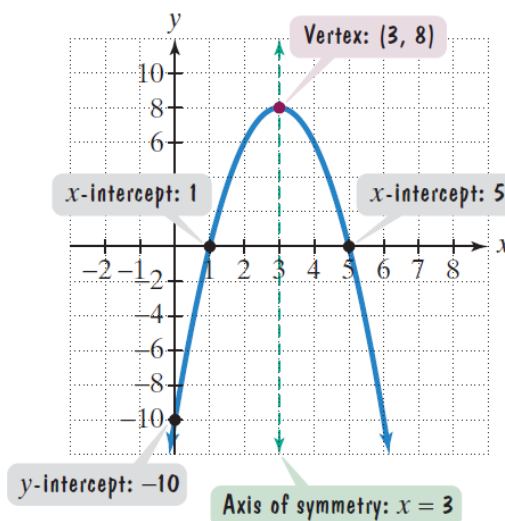
Vertex Form
 $f(x) = a(x - h)^2 + k$

$$f(x) = -2x^2 + 12x - 10$$

$$f(x) = -2(x - 1)(x - 5)$$

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

x	$f(x)$
0	-10
1	0
2	6
3	8
4	6
5	0
6	-10



The same quadratic function is given graphically, numerically (table), and algebraically with a function formula in standard, factored, and vertex form. Look for the graph's key characteristics – vertex, x -intercepts, y -intercept, and axis of symmetry – in the table and function formulas. Where do you see these characteristics within the table and function formulas?

Identify the vertex, x-intercepts, y-intercept, and axis of symmetry of each quadratic function.

1.

x	$f(x)$
-8	6
-6	0
-5	-1.5
-4	-2
-3	-1.5
-2	0
0	6

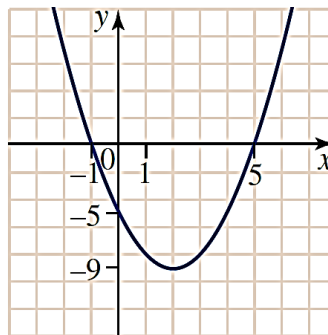
VERTEX:

X-INTERCEPTS:

Y-INTERCEPT:

AXIS OF SYMMETRY:

2.



VERTEX:

X-INTERCEPTS:

Y-INTERCEPT:

AXIS OF SYMMETRY:

SUMMARIZE: Identify the features of the graph of a quadratic function that can be determined from the quadratic function's formula given in...

STANDARD FORM $f(x) = ax^2 + bx + c$	VERTEX FORM $f(x) = a(x - h)^2 + k$	INTERCEPT FORM $f(x) = a(x - p)(x - q)$

FEATURES INCLUDE: DIRECTION OF OPENING, ZEROS/X-INTERCEPTS, Y-INTERCEPT, AXIS OF SYMMETRY & VERTEX.

<<Prep Work>> INVESTIGATION: Quadratic Function Forms

Consider the following quadratic functions: Identify the feature(s) you KNOW the graph will have based on the function formula ALONE.

$y = x^2 + 2x - 35$	$y = (x + 4)^2 - 1$	$y = (x - 4)(x - 4)$
$y = -(x - 4)^2 + 1$	$y = -x^2 - 6x - 16$	$y = -\frac{1}{2}(x - 3)(x - 5)$

4.3.D2 • Intercepts of Quadratic Functions

Objectives:

- ❖ Determine the intercepts of a quadratic function given its equation
- ❖ Write the formula of a quadratic function given analytically, graphically, numerically, and verbally

❖ Factored/Intercept Form: $f(x) = a(x - p)(x - q)$

- The x -intercepts are $(p, 0)$ & $(q, 0)$
 - Use the **ZERO PRODUCT PROPERTY**
 - Let a and b be real numbers. If $ab = 0$, then $a = 0$ or $b = 0$.
 - Set each factor equal to 0 and solve.
- Find the y -intercept by computing $f(0)$.

Example: For the quadratic function, determine the direction of opening and find the zeros (if any) and the y -intercept.

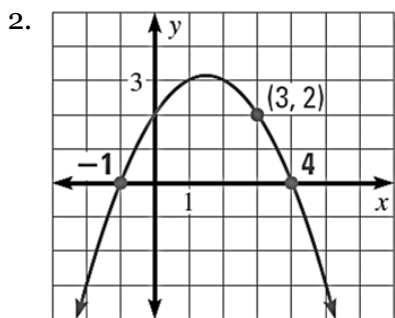
1. $h(x) = -3(x - 2)(4x + 3)$ DIRECTION OF OPENING: ZERO(S): Y-INTERCEPT:

❖ Writing Equations of Quadratic Functions

- If the x -intercepts, p and q , and one other point on the graph (x, y) of a parabola are known, you can write the equation of the parabola in factored form.
 - Substitute these values into the factored form of the equation and solve for a .

$$y = a(x - p)(x - q)$$
 - Write the equation using only a , p , and q .

Examples: Write a quadratic function, in factored form, for the parabola shown or described.



3. x -intercepts are at $x = -1$ & $x = 2$ and $(-2, 16)$ is on the function's graph.

❖ **Standard Form of a Quadratic Function:** $f(x) = ax^2 + bx + c$

➤ Finding Intercepts of Quadratic Functions in Standard Form

- Find any x -intercepts by solving $f(x) = 0$
 - Solve using the **QUADRATIC FORMULA**

$$ax^2 + bx + c = 0 \rightarrow x = \frac{-b \pm \sqrt{b^2 - 4ac}}{2a}$$

➤ Vertical/ y -intercept: $(0, c)$

Examples: For the quadratic function, find the x -intercepts (rounded to 2 decimal places, if necessary) & the y -intercept.

4. $f(x) = -x^2 + 8x + 22$

5. $g(x) = 3x^2 + 3x - 16$

X-INTERCEPTS:

Y-INTERCEPT:

X-INTERCEPTS:

Y-INTERCEPT:

❖ **Vertex Form of a Quadratic Function:** $f(x) = a(x - h)^2 + k$

➤ Finding Intercepts of Quadratic Functions in Vertex Form

- Find any x -intercepts by solving $f(x) = 0$
- Use the **SQUARE ROOT PROPERTY**
 - Set the function equal to 0: $a(x - h)^2 + k = 0$
Isolate the quadratic expression on one side of the equation
Take the square root of both sides. **Don't forget the \pm !**
Solve for x and simplify.

$$(x - 5)^2 = 9$$

$$x - 5 = \pm\sqrt{9}$$

$$x - 5 = \pm 3$$

$$x = 5 \pm 3$$

$$x = 8 \text{ or } x = 2$$

Examples: For the quadratic function, find the x -intercepts (rounded to 2 decimal places, if necessary) & the y -intercept.

6. $f(x) = 2(x + 4)^2 - 50$

7. $f(x) = -2(x + 5)^2 + 10$

X-INTERCEPTS:

Y-INTERCEPT:

X-INTERCEPTS:

Y-INTERCEPT:

4.3.D3 • Intercepts & Factoring

Objectives:

- ❖ Convert quadratic functions in standard form to intercept form and find x-intercepts
- ❖ Factor trinomials of the form $x^2 + bx + c$ and $ax^2 + bx + c$

❖ FACTORING A DIFFERENCE OF TWO SQUARES: $a^2 - b^2$

$$\triangleright a^2 - b^2 = (a + b)(a - b)$$

REMEMBER TO ALWAYS LOOK FOR COMMON FACTORS FIRST!

Examples: Write the quadratic function in factored form.

1. $q(x) = x^2 - 64$

2. $u(x) = -2x^2 + 162$

3. $a(x) = 4x^2 - 36$

❖ Finding Zeros via Factoring: $y = x^2 + bx + c$

\triangleright An example:

$$\begin{array}{r|l} y = x^2 + 5x - 24 & \\ \hline -24 & \\ 8 \& -3 & 5 \end{array}$$

$$y = (x + 8)(x - 3)$$

$$x + 8 = 0$$

$$x = -8$$

$$x - 3 = 0$$

$$x = 3$$

FIND THE FACTORS OF C THAT ADD UP THE TO BE THE MIDDLE TERM B

WRITE AS A PRODUCT OF TWO BINOMIALS

USE THE ZERO PRODUCT PROPERTY TO FIND THE ZEROS.
SET EACH FACTOR EQUAL TO ZERO & SOLVE FOR X.

REMEMBER TO ALWAYS LOOK FOR COMMON FACTORS FIRST!

Examples: Write the quadratic function in factored form and then find its x-intercepts using the Zero Product Property.

4. $d(x) = x^2 + 8x - 20$

5. $r(x) = -x^2 - 7x - 10$

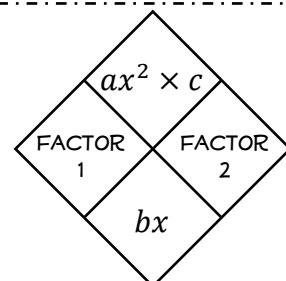
6. $t(x) = 2x^2 - 20x + 50$

❖ Finding Zeros via Factoring: $y = ax^2 + bx + c$

\triangleright DEFOIL/A-C METHOD

- Multiply the first and last terms: $ax^2 \times c$
- Find the factors that multiply to be the product (in step 1) and that add to be the middle term: bx
- Replace the middle term with these factors
- Factor by grouping

Organize this information with an X-box \rightarrow

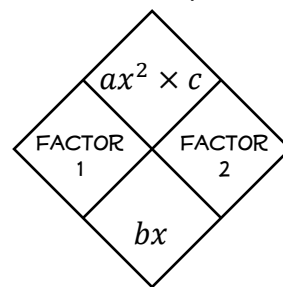


REMEMBER TO ALWAYS LOOK FOR COMMON FACTORS FIRST!

➤ **THE BOX METHOD**

1. Multiply the first and last terms: $ax^2 \times c$
2. Find the factors that multiply to be the product (in step 1) and that add to be the middle term: bx
3. Draw a 2×2 square
4. Put the first term of the trinomial ax^2 in the upper-left corner and the constant term, c , in the lower-right corner.
5. Put the factors (from step 2) in the two remaining squares.
6. Find the GCF of each row & each column
7. Write the result as a product of two binomials.

Organize this information with an X-box →



ax^2	FACTOR 1	GCF of row 1
FACTOR 2	c	GCF of row 2
GCF of column 1	GCF of column 2	

AN EXAMPLE: $3x^2 - 4x - 7$

BOX METHOD

$3x^2$	$-7x$	x
$3x$	-7	1
$3x$	-7	

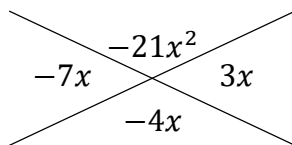
$(3x - 7)(x + 1)$

$$3x - 7 = 0$$

$$x = \frac{7}{3}$$

1st 2 steps are the same

1. MULTIPLY THE FIRST & LAST TERMS
2. FIND THE FACTORS (OF THE PRODUCT IN STEP 1) THAT ADD UP TO BE THE MIDDLE TERM



$$x + 1 = 0$$

$$x = -1$$

USE THE ZERO PRODUCT PROPERTY TO FIND THE ZEROS. SET EACH FACTOR EQUAL TO ZERO & SOLVE FOR X.

DEFOIL/A-C METHOD

3. REPLACE THE MIDDLE TERM WITH THESE FACTORS
4. FACTOR BY GROUPING

$$3x^2 - 7x + 3x - 7$$

$$(3x^2 - 7x) + (3x - 7)$$

$$x(3x - 7) + 1(3x - 7)$$

$$(3x - 7)(x + 1)$$

REMEMBER TO ALWAYS LOOK FOR COMMON FACTORS FIRST!

Examples: Write the quadratic function in factored form and then find its x -intercepts using the Zero Product Property.

7. $q(x) = 2x^2 + 13x + 21$

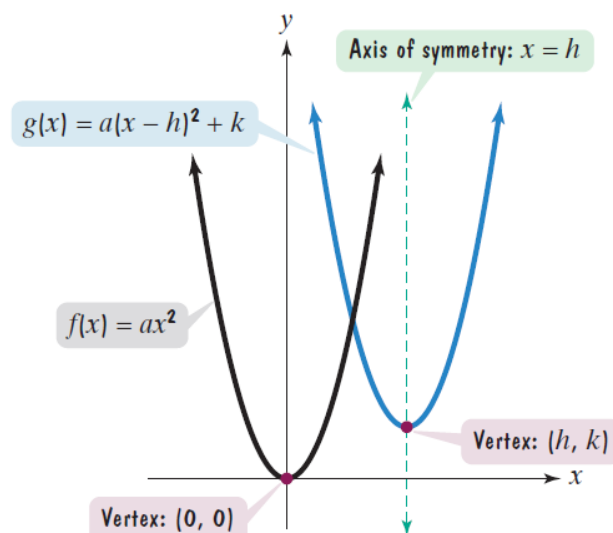
8. $c(x) = 6x^2 - 21x + 9$

4.3.D4 • The Vertex of a Quadratic Function

Objectives:

- ❖ Determine the properties and characteristics of a quadratic function given its equation in vertex form
- ❖ Write equations of quadratic functions using its vertex and a point on its graph

❖ Vertex Form of a Quadratic Function: $f(x) = a(x - h)^2 + k$, where $a \neq 0$



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

VERTEX: (h, k)

AXIS OF SYMMETRY: $x = h$

Y-INTERCEPT: evaluate $f(0)$

DIRECTION OF OPENING/MAX OR MIN/RANGE:

$a > 0$	$a < 0$
Opens up	Opens down
Min of k @ $x = h$	Max of k @ $x = h$
range = $[k, \infty)$	range = $(-\infty, k]$

Example 1: Consider the quadratic function $f(x) = -2(x + 5)^2 + 10$.

- What is the function's axis of symmetry?
- What is the function's vertex?
- What is the function's range?
- Does the function have a maximum or minimum value? What is that value and where is it located?
- On what interval is the function increasing?
- On what interval is the function decreasing?

❖ Writing Equations of Quadratic Functions

- If the vertex (h, k) and one other point on the graph (x, y) of a parabola are known, you can write the equation of the parabola in vertex form.
 - Substitute these values into the vertex form of the equation and solve for a .

$$y = a(x - h)^2 + k$$
 - Write the equation using only a , h , and k .

Example 2: Write an equation for the parabola whose vertex is at $(-1, 4)$ and passes through $(2, 1)$.

❖ Standard Form of a Quadratic Function

➤ Complete the square to write the function in its corresponding vertex form.

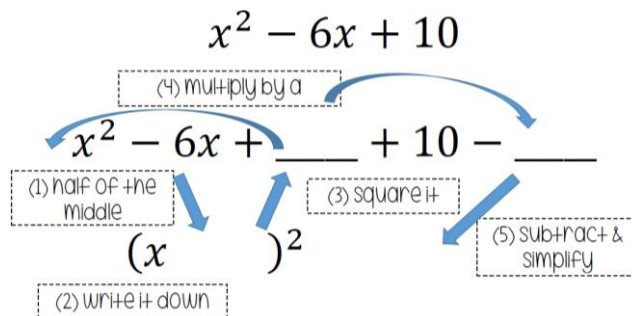
❖ Standard Form → Vertex Form: completing the square ($a = 1$)

Getting Ready:

Sort/organize leaving a positive blank after the linear term and a negative blank after the constant term AND set up the binomial square.

Completing the Square:

1. Half the middle
2. Write it down
3. Square it
4. Multiply by a
5. Subtract & simplify



Example: Write the quadratic function in vertex form. Then determine the following characteristics: the direction in which the parabola opens, the coordinates of the vertex, the y -intercept, and the range.

3. $f(x) = x^2 + 18x + 84$

DIRECTION OF OPENING:

VERTEX:

Y-INTERCEPT:

RANGE:

❖ Standard Form → Vertex Form: completing the square ($a \neq 1$)

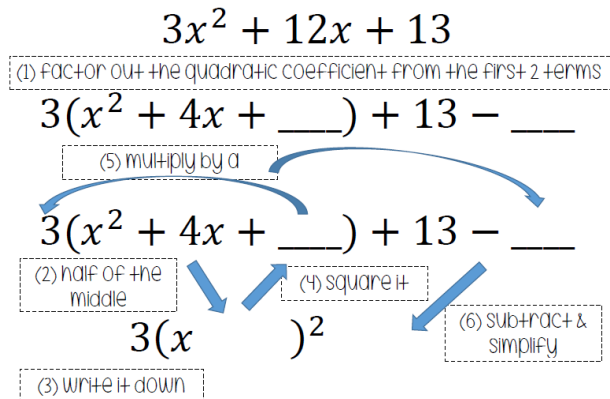
Getting Ready:

Factor out the quadratic coefficient from the first two terms.

Sort/organize leaving a positive blank after the linear term and a negative blank after the constant term AND set up the binomial square.

Completing the Square:

1. Half the middle
2. Write it down
3. Square it
4. Multiply by a
5. Subtract & simplify



Examples: Write the quadratic function in vertex form. Then determine the vertex and the range.

4. $f(x) = 2x^2 - 16x + 27$

5. $g(x) = -4x^2 + 8x + 2$

VERTEX:

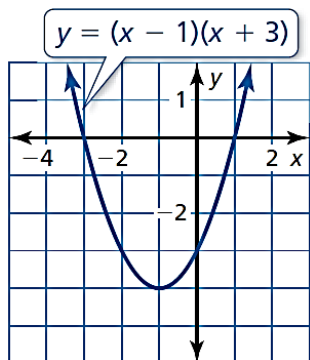
RANGE:

VERTEX:

RANGE:

❖ Factored/Intercept Form of a Quadratic Function

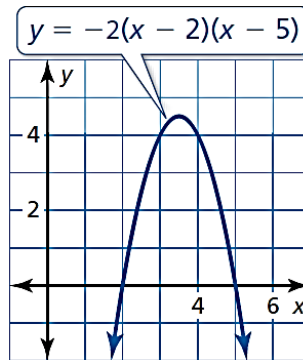
- Identify the x -intercepts, the coordinates of the vertex and the equation of the axis of symmetry from the graph.



X-INTERCEPTS:

VERTEX:

AXIS OF SYMMETRY:



X-INTERCEPTS:

VERTEX:

AXIS OF SYMMETRY:

summarize your findings: How can we find the axis of symmetry and vertex of a parabola if we know its x -intercepts: p & q ?

Examples: Determine the following characteristics: the direction in which the parabola opens, the equation of the axis of symmetry, the coordinates of the vertex, and the range.

6. $g(x) = 5(x + 1)(x + 2)$

7. $h(x) = -4(x - 7)(x - 3)$

DIRECTION OF OPENING:

AXIS OF SYMMETRY:

DIRECTION OF OPENING:

AXIS OF SYMMETRY:

VERTEX:

RANGE:

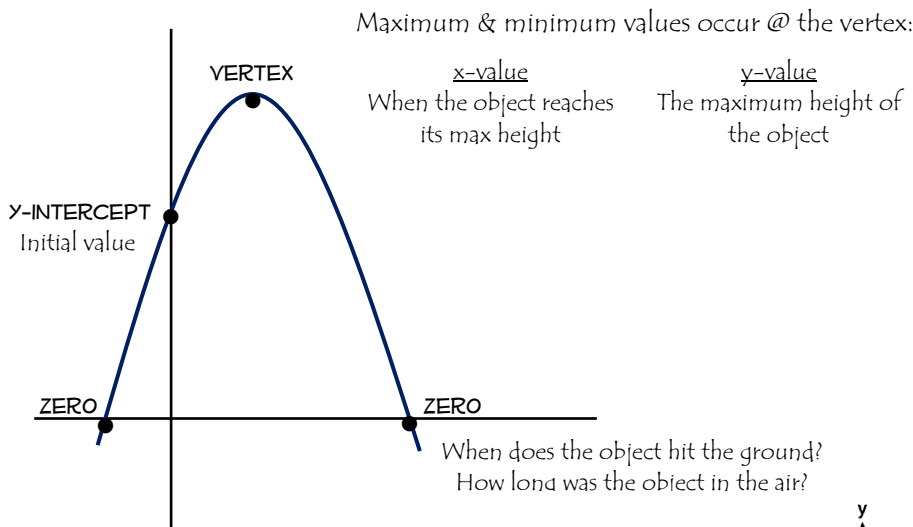
VERTEX:

RANGE:

4.2 • Modeling With Quadratic Functions

Objective:

- ❖ Construct and use quadratic models to predict unknown results and interpret these findings in a real-world context



Examples:

1. A swim team member performs a dive from a 14-foot-high springboard. The quadratic function $h = -x^2 + 6x + 14$ and the parabola (at right) shows the path of her dive.

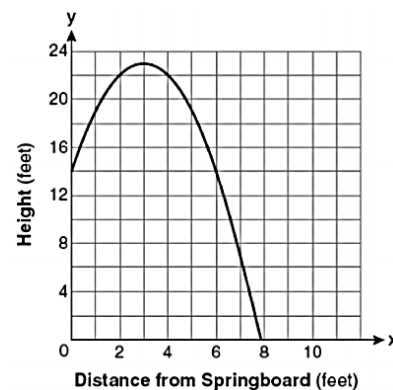
- a. What is the diver's maximum height? At what distance from the springboard does the diver reach that height?

What parabolic property would you need to identify?

x -intercepts y -intercept vertex

How would you identify this feature, algebraically, using the function formula?

Answer the problem:



- b. What is the diver's horizontal distance from the springboard when she hits the surface of the water?

What parabolic property would you need to identify?

x -intercepts y -intercept vertex

How would you identify this feature, algebraically, using the function formula?

Answer the problem:

- c. Identify a reasonable domain – the x -values that make sense for the given scenario.

What parabolic property would you need to identify?

x -intercepts y -intercept vertex

Answer the problem:

- d. Identify a reasonable range – the y -values that make sense for the given scenario.

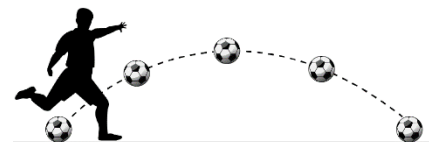
What parabolic property would you need to identify?

x -intercepts y -intercept vertex

Answer the problem:

❖ Vertical Motion Problems

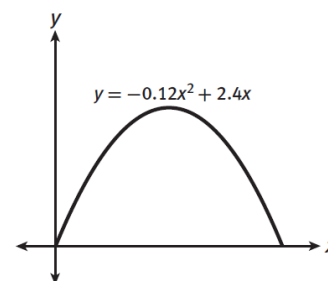
- Height of a **DROPPED OBJECT**: $h = -16t^2 + h_0$
 - h_0 is the initial height
- Height of an **OBJECT LAUNCHED OR THROWN**: $h = -16t^2 + v_0t + h_0$
 - v_0 is the initial velocity



Examples:

2. A soccer player passes the ball to a teammate with an initial velocity of 16 feet per second, and the teammate kicks the ball from a height of 4 feet.
 - a. Write a function that represents the height of the ball (in feet) t seconds after it is kicked.
 - b. Calculate the time at which the ball reaches its maximum height.
 - c. What is the maximum height of the ball?
 - d. Assuming no one touches the ball after it is kicked, determine the time when the ball falls to the ground.
 - e. Identify a reasonable domain for the function.
 - f. Identify a reasonable range for the function.
 - g. Determine the times when the ball is higher than 6 feet.

3. An architect is designing a tunnel and is using the function $y = -0.12x^2 + 2.4x$ to determine the shape of the tunnel's entrance, as shown in the figure. In this model, y is the height of the entrance (in feet) and x is the distance (in feet) from one end of the entrance.



- a. How wide is the tunnel's entrance at its base?
- b. What is the vertex? What does it represent?
- c. Could a truck that is 14 feet tall pass through the tunnel? Explain.