

# 1 Section 2.5 Properties of Graphs

## Symmetry

The graph of an equation is symmetric with respect to

The y-axis if the replacement of  $x$  with  $-x$  leaves the equation unaltered.

The x-axis if the replacement of  $y$  with  $-y$  leaves the equation unaltered.

**Example 1** Determine whether the graph of the given equations has symmetry with respect to either the  $x$ - or the  $y$ -axis. 1)  $x + y^2 = 4$     2)  $|x| + y = 4$

A graph is symmetric with respect to a point  $Q$  if for each point  $P$  on the graph, there is a point  $P'$  on the graph such that  $Q$  is the midpoint of the line segment  $PP'$ .

The graph of an equation is symmetric with respect to the origin if the replacement of  $x$  with  $-x$  and of  $y$  with  $-y$  leaves the equation unaltered.

**Example 2** Determine whether the graph of each equation has symmetry with respect to the origin? 1)  $xy = 4$     2)  $y = x^3 + 1$     3)  $|x| + |y| = 2$

**Example 3** Plot the image of the point  $Q(-4, 1)$  with respect to the 1)  $y$ -axis 2)  $x$ -axis 3) origin.

## Even and Odd Functions

The function  $f$  is an even function if  $f(-x) = f(x)$  for all  $x$  in the domain.

The function  $f$  is an odd function if  $f(-x) = -f(x)$  for all  $x$  in the domain.

**Example 4** Determine whether each function is even, odd or neither. 1)  $f(x) = 4x^5 + 5x$     2)  $f(x) = |3x|$     3)  $f(x) = x^3 + 2x^2$

Note that the graph of an even function is symmetric with respect to the  $y$ -axis and the graph of an odd function is symmetric with respect to the origin.

## Translations of Graphs      Vertical Translations

If  $f$  is a function and  $c$  is a positive constant, then the graph of  $y = f(x) + c$  is the graph of  $y = f(x)$  shifted up vertically  $c$  units.

The graph of  $y = f(x) - c$  is the graph of  $y = f(x)$  shifted down  $c$  units.

## Horizontal Translations

If  $f$  is a function and  $c$  is a positive constant, then the graph of  $y = f(x + c)$  is the graph of  $y = f(x)$  shifted left horizontally  $c$  units

The graph of  $y = f(x - c)$  is the graph of  $y = f(x)$  shifted right  $c$  units

**Example 5** Graph each of the following using vertical and horizontal translations of the graph of  $f(x) = x^2$ .

$$1) g(x) = x^2 + 1 \quad 2) h(x) = (x - 2)^2 \quad 3) p(x) = (x - 2)^2 + 1$$

## Reflections of graphs

The graph of  $y = -f(x)$  is the graph of  $y = f(x)$  reflected across the  $x$ -axis.

The graph of  $y = f(-x)$  is the graph of  $y = f(x)$  reflected across the  $y$ -axis.

**Example 6** Use reflections of the graph of  $f(x) = |x - 2| + 3$  to graph 1)  $g(x) = -(|x - 2| + 3)$  2)  $h(x) = |-x + 2| + 3$

**Shrinking and stretching of graphs**

**Vertical shrinking and stretching**

If  $0 < c < 1$ , then the graph of  $y = cf(x)$  is obtained by shrinking  $y = f(x)$

If  $c > 1$ , then the graph of  $y = cf(x)$  is obtained by stretching  $y = f(x)$

**Example 7** Graph 1)  $H(x) = \frac{1}{2}|x| + 2$  2)  $G(x) = 3|x| + 2$

**Horizontal shrinking and stretching**

If  $a > 0$  and the graph of  $y = f(x)$  contains the point  $(x, y)$ , then the graph of  $y = f(ax)$  contains the point  $(\frac{1}{a}x, y)$ .

If  $a > 1$ , then the graph of  $y = f(ax)$  is a horizontal shrinking of  $y = f(x)$ .

If  $0 < a < 1$ , then the graph of  $y = f(ax)$  is a horizontal stretching of  $y = f(x)$ .

**Example 8** Use the graph of  $y = f(x)$  to graph 1)  $y = f(2x)$  2)  $y = f(\frac{1}{3}x)$

**Exercise 9** Determine whether the graph of each equation has a symmetry with respect to the  $x$ -axis, the  $y$ -axis or the origin.

1)  $|xy| + |x|y = 1$  2)  $|y| = \frac{|x+2|}{x^2}$  3)  $|x| = |x - y|$  4)  $y^2 = |x + 1| - 3x^2$   
 5)  $(xy)^2 - 2xy = 3$  6)  $x^2 = |x - y^3|$  7)  $y = \frac{x^2 - 3}{2x}$

**Exercise 10** Determine whether each function is even, odd or neither.

1)  $f(x) = x|x|$  2)  $f(x) = 5$  3)  $g(x) = \frac{1}{2}[f(x) + f(-x)]$  for any nonzero function  $f$ .  
 4)  $f(x) = \sqrt{3 - x^2}$  5)  $g(x) = \frac{x^3}{x^2 + 1}$  6)  $h(x) = 2 + x + x^2$

**Exercise 11** Which translations should be applied to obtain the graph of the equation  $y = |x + 3| - 2$  from the graph of  $y = |x - 1| + 3$

**Exercise 12** Which translations should be applied to obtain the graph of the equation  $y^2 - 2y - 4x - 7 = 0$  from the graph of  $y^2 = 4x$ .

**Exercise 13** What is the resulting function of shifting the graph of the equation  $x = y^2 + y$  one unit to the left and two units upward

**Exercise 14** What is the resulting function of shifting the graph of the equation  $y = \frac{x+2}{x-1}$  one unit to the right and three units downward

**Exercise 15** How can we obtain the graph of the equation  $g(x) = \sqrt{-x - 1} + 2$  from the graph of  $f(x) = \sqrt{x}$

**Exercise 16** The graph of a function  $y = f(x)$  is shown in the adjacent figure. Find the Domain and the Range of the function  $y = -f(x + 1) + 2$ .