

# Math 48A, Lesson 11 Solutions

Recall from Lesson 10: if  $c > 0$

vertical  
upward shift

$$g(x) = \underbrace{f(x)}_{\text{output}} + c$$

input inside parenthesis

this graph shifts up vertically by  $c$  units

addition happens outside parentheses (shifts the output)

□ Addition/subtraction outside the parentheses affects y-axis placement

vertical  
downward shift

$$g(x) = \underbrace{f(x)}_{\text{output}} - c$$

input inside parenthesis

the graph of  $f(x)$  is shifted vertically downward by  $c$  units

subtraction happens outside parentheses

## Horizontal Shift:

### Horizontal Right Shift

$$g(x) = f(x - c)$$

↑  
subtraction  
happens inside  
parenthesis  
(affects the input)

inside the parenthesis,  
subtract moves  
graph horizontally  
towards the right

### Horizontal Left Shift

$$g(x) = f(x + c) = f(x - (-c))$$

↑  
addition happens  
inside the parenthesis

inside the parenthesis,  
addition moves the graph  
horizontally toward the left

Note:  $+c = -(-c)$

If the plus or minus are inside the parenthesis, then that determines whether the curve goes left or right

Math 48A, Lesson 11: Transformations of Functions (Part 2)

1. COMBINE HORIZONTAL AND VERTICAL SHIFTS

1A. Consider the following quadratic functions

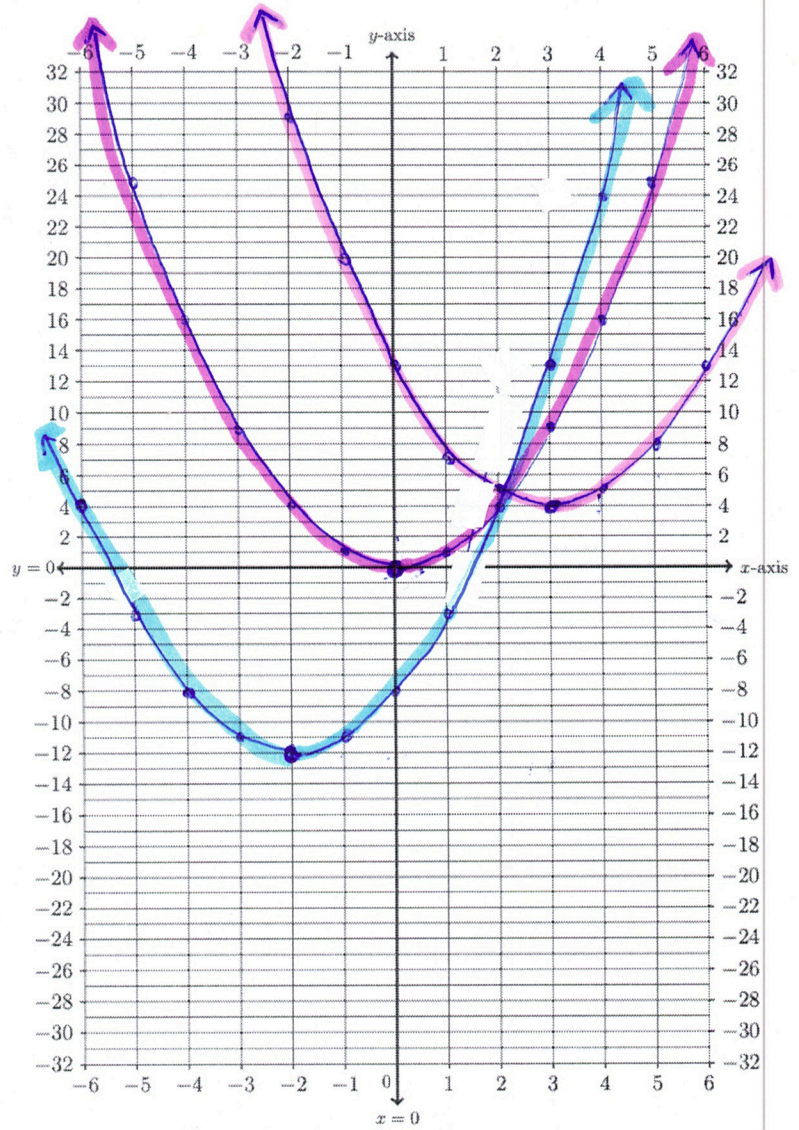
$$f(x) = x^2, \quad g(x) = f(x - 3) + 4, \quad h(x) = f(x + 2) - 12$$

right shift
up shift
left shift

down shift

Create a table of values and graph the resulting parabolas on these axes below.

Input	Output		
$x$	$f(x)$	$g(x)$	$h(x)$
-6	36	85	4
-5	25	68	-3
-4	16	53	-8
-3	9	40	-11
-2	4	29	-12 vertex
-1	1	20	-11
0	0 vertex	13	-8
1	1	8	-3
2	4	5	4
3	9	4 vertex	13
4	16	5	24
5	25	8	37
6	36	13	52



Problem 1A) Let  $f(x) = x^2$

Then  $f(\square) = (\square)^2$

whatever is on the inside

we take the given input and square it

Consider

$$g(x) = f(x-3) + 4$$

subtraction on inside of parenthesis shifts the graph of  $f(x)$  3 units to the right

addition on outside of parenthesis shifts graph 4 units upward

$$\Rightarrow g(x) = f(x-3) + 4$$

we take this expression inside the parenthesis and square it

$$= (x-3)^2 + 4$$

1B. Make a conjecture (a mathematical guess) about what happens in the following scenario:

Assume we have a function  $f(x)$  and constants  $h, k > 0$ .

Suppose we define functions

$$g(x) = f(x - h) + k$$

↑ subtraction inside
↖ addition outside

What is the relationship between  $f(x)$  and  $g(x)$ ? What happens if constant  $h$  is positive or negative? What happens if constant  $k$  is positive or negative?

Let's define  $h, k > 0$  and let

$$g(x) = f(x - h) + k$$

subtraction on the inside shifts graph of  $f(x)$  to the right by  $h$  units

addition on the outside of the parenthesis shifts graph of  $f(x)$  up by  $k$  units

- If  $h < 0$ , then we move  $f(x)$  right by a negative number which is equivalent to moving  $f(x)$  left  $|h|$  units (where we take absolute value  $|h|$  to transform  $-$  to  $+$ ).

- if  $k < 0$ , then we move  $f(x)$  up by a negative number or, in other words, we move  $f(x)$  down by  $|k|$  units.

↑ here we take the absolute value to turn a  $-$  into a  $+$

## 2. REFLECTING GRAPHS ABOUT THE X-AXIS

2A. Let's consider how to "reflect" the graph of a function about the  $x$ -axis. To do so, consider the following functions

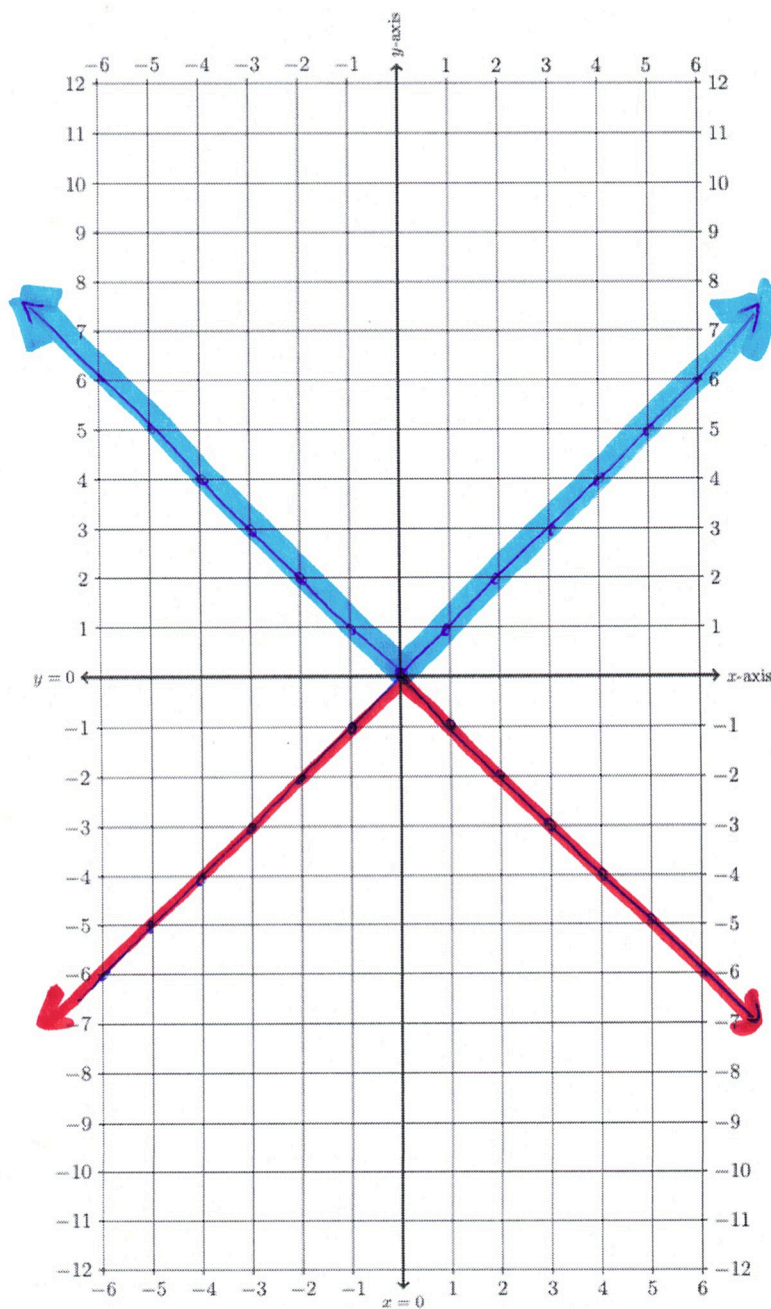
$$f(x) = |x|$$

and

$$g(x) = -f(x) = -|x|$$

Create a table of values and graph the resulting curves on these axes below.

Input	Output	
$x$	$f(x)$	$g(x)$
-6	6	-6
-5	5	-5
-4	4	-4
-3	3	-3
-2	2	-2
-1	1	-1
0	0 vertex	0 vertex
1	1	-1
2	2	-2
3	3	-3
4	4	-4
5	5	-5
6	6	-6



2B. Let's consider how to "reflect" the graph of a function about the  $x$ -axis. To do so, consider the following functions

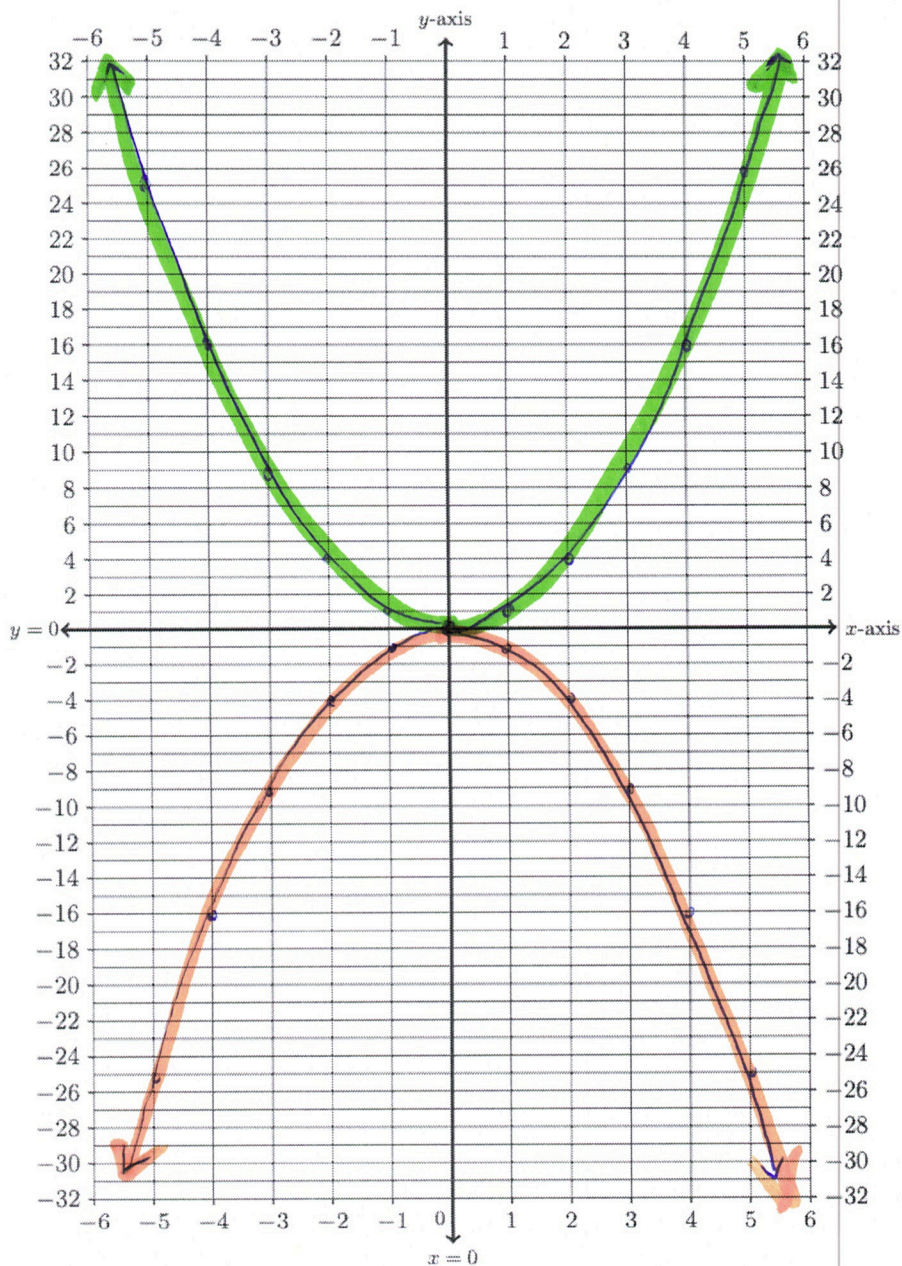
$$f(x) = x^2$$

and

$$g(x) = -f(x).$$

Create a table of values and graph the resulting curves on these axes below.

Input	Output	
$x$	$f(x)$	$g(x)$
-6	36	-36
-5	25	-25
-4	16	-16
-3	9	-9
-2	4	-4
-1	1	-1
0	0	0
1	1	-1
2	4	-4
3	9	-9
4	16	-16
5	25	-25
6	36	-36



2C. Suppose we have a function  $f(x)$  and we define a new function  $g(x) = -f(x)$ . Based on your work in Problems 2A and 2B, make a conjecture about the relationship between the graphs of  $f(x)$  and  $g(x)$ . Explain why you think your conjecture might be true.

Notice that if we define

$$\underbrace{g(x)}_{\substack{\text{the output} \\ \text{of } g}} = - \underbrace{f(x)}_{\substack{\text{the output} \\ \text{of } f}}$$

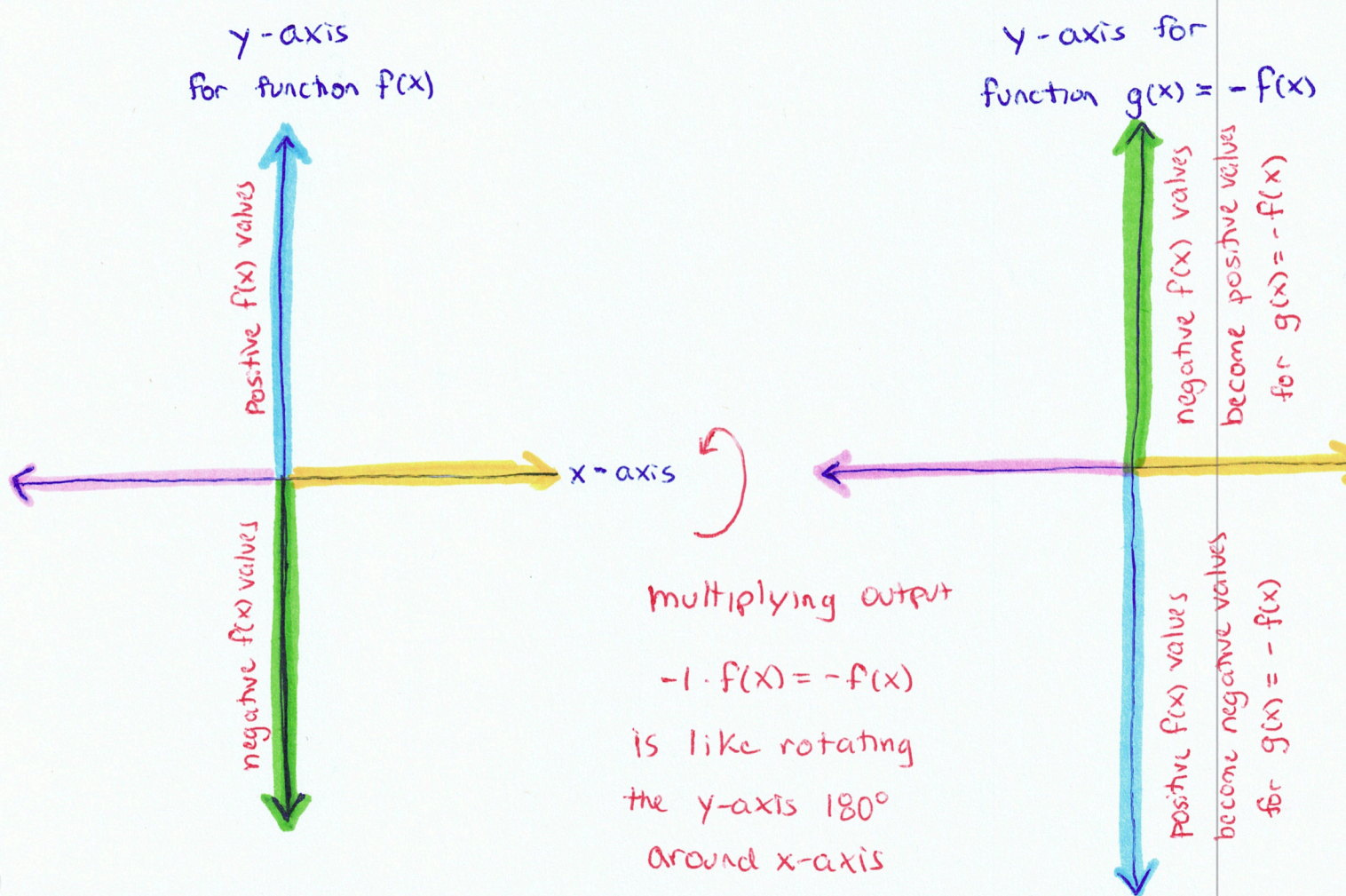
then the negative sign on  $f(x)$  flips the sign so that the output of  $g(x)$  has the exact opposite sign as the corresponding output of  $f(x)$ .

sign of output of $f(x)$		sign of output of $g(x) = -f(x)$	
positive	+	-	negative
zero	0	0	zero
negative	-	+	positive



In other words, when we transform the output of function  $f(x)$  by multiplying by  $-1$ , we effectively rotate the  $y$ -axis  $180^\circ$  so that the negatives become positive and vice versa.

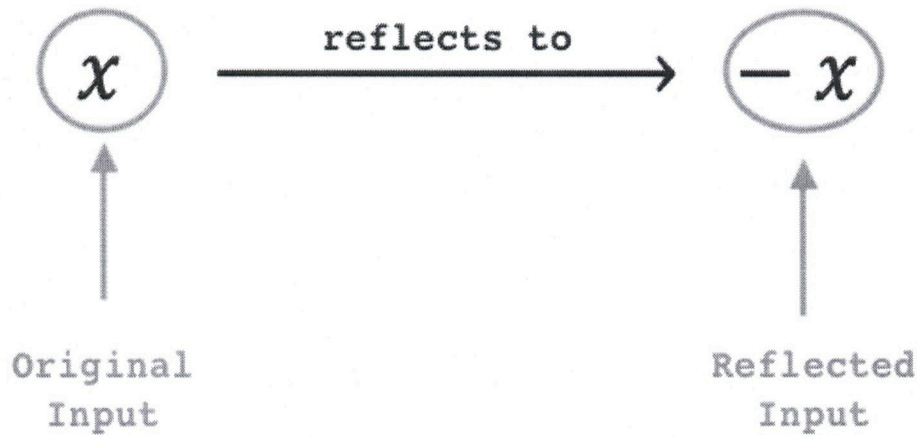
Let's visualize this on a graph



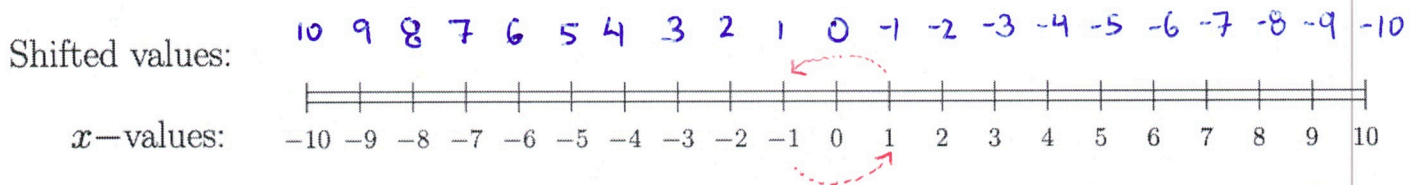
### 3. REFLECTION ABOUT VERTICAL AXIS

#### Homework

Consider the following shifts of the input variable



Draw the effect of this shift on the real number line ( $x$ -axis) below:



What do you notice about the reflexed input  $-x$  versus the original input  $x$ ?

When we transform the input  $x$  into input  $-x$ , we flip the sign of these inputs:

sign of original input value $x$	sign of transformed input $-x$
positive +	- negative
zero 0	0 zero
negative -	+ positive

**4. REFLECTING GRAPHS ABOUT THE Y-AXIS**

4A. Let's consider how to "reflect" the graph of a function about the  $x$ -axis. To do so, consider the following functions

$$f(x) = \sqrt{x}$$

and

$$g(x) = f(-x).$$

Create a table of values and graph the resulting curves using Desmos.com

see next page for desmos graph and table.



For  $g(x) = f(-x)$ , we flip the sign for input to  $f(x)$  which, geometrically, is identical to rotating the graph of  $f(x)$   $180^\circ$  around y-axis. Look at the graph above and rotate the red curve  $\sqrt{x}$  around y-axis  $180^\circ$  to produce the blue curve for  $\sqrt{-x}$

4B. Let's consider how to "reflect" the graph of a function about the  $x$ -axis. To do so, consider the following functions

$$f(x) = x^3$$

and

$$g(x) = f(-x).$$

Create a table of values and graph the resulting curves using Desmos.com

See next page for desmos graph and table



When we define  $g(x) = f(-x)$  it's as if we rotate the x-axis  $180^\circ$  around the y-axis. Indeed, if you take the green curve and rotate  $180^\circ$  around y-axis (spin horizontally), you'd get the orange curve.

*spin  $180^\circ$  this way*

4C. Suppose we have a function  $f(x)$  and we define a new function  $g(x) = f(-x)$ . Based on your work in Problems 4A and 4B, make a conjecture about the relationship between the graphs of  $f(x)$  and  $g(x)$ . Explain why you think your conjecture might be true.

When we transform the input to function  $f(x)$  by multiplying by  $-1$ , we can think of this as a rotation of the  $x$ -axis  $180^\circ$  around the  $y$ -axis so that negative inputs become positive and vice versa.

Let's visualize this on a graph:

