

Transformations of Functions

Part 1: Horizontal and Vertical Translations

J. Garvin

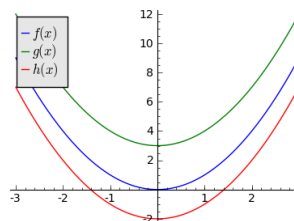


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Vertical Translations

Investigate (Part 1)

On the same grid, graph the functions $f(x) = x^2$, $g(x) = x^2 + 3$ and $h(x) = x^2 - 2$.

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Vertical Translations

A *vertical translation* is a transformation that shifts the graph of a function up or down.

Vertical translations do not change the shape of the graph, just its position.

Vertical translations have the form $g(x) = f(x) + k$.

- If $k > 0$, the graph shifts up k units.
- If $k < 0$, the graph shifts down k units.

The range of the transformed function can be determined by translating all discontinuities (holes, asymptotes) by k units.

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Vertical Translations

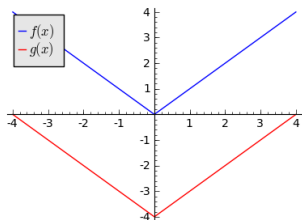
Example

Graph the functions $f(x) = |x|$ and $g(x) = |x| - 4$, and state the domain and range of $g(x)$.

x	Point	Image
-2	(-2, 2)	(-2, -2)
-1	(-1, 1)	(-1, -3)
0	(0, 0)	(0, -4)
1	(1, 1)	(1, -3)
2	(2, 2)	(2, -2)

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Vertical Translations



Domain: $\{x \in \mathbb{R}\}$

Range: $\{g(x) \in \mathbb{R} \mid g(x) \geq -4\}$

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Vertical Translations

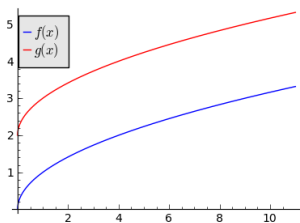
Example

Graph the functions $f(x) = \sqrt{x}$ and $g(x) = \sqrt{x} + 2$, and state the domain and range of $g(x)$.

x	Point	Image
0	(0, 0)	(0, 2)
1	(1, 1)	(1, 3)
4	(4, 2)	(4, 4)
9	(9, 3)	(9, 5)

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Vertical Translations



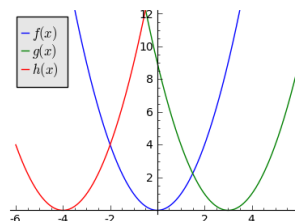
$$\text{Domain: } \{x \in \mathbb{R} \mid x \geq 0\}$$

$$\text{Range: } \{g(x) \in \mathbb{R} \mid g(x) \geq 2\}$$

Horizontal Translations

Investigate (Part 2)

On the same grid, graph the functions $f(x) = x^2$, $g(x) = (x - 3)^2$ and $h(x) = (x + 4)^2$.



Horizontal Translations

A *horizontal translation* is a transformation that shifts the graph of a function left or right.

Like vertical translations, horizontal translations change only a graph's position.

Horizontal translations have the form $g(x) = f(x - h)$.

- If $h > 0$, the graph shifts right h units.
- If $h < 0$, the graph shifts left h units.

The domain of the transformed function can be determined by translating all discontinuities (holes, asymptotes) by h units.

Horizontal Translations

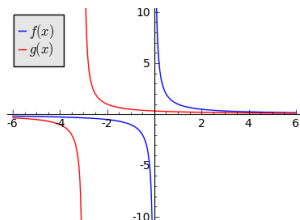
Example

Graph the functions $f(x) = \frac{1}{x}$ and $g(x) = \frac{1}{x + 3}$, and state the domain and range of $g(x)$.

The vertical asymptote shifts 3 units left, to $x = -3$. The horizontal asymptote remains unchanged at $y = 0$.

x	Point	Image
-1	(-1, -1)	(-4, -1)
1	(1, 1)	(-2, 1)

Horizontal Translations



$$\text{Domain: } \{x \in \mathbb{R} \mid x \neq -3\}$$

$$\text{Range: } \{g(x) \in \mathbb{R} \mid g(x) \neq 0\}$$

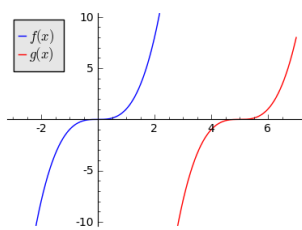
Horizontal Translations

Example

Graph the functions $f(x) = x^3$ and $g(x) = (x - 5)^3$, and state the domain and range of $g(x)$.

x	Point	Image
-2	(-2, -8)	(3, -8)
-1	(-1, -1)	(4, -1)
0	(0, 0)	(5, 0)
1	(1, 1)	(6, 1)
2	(2, 8)	(7, 8)

Horizontal Translations



Domain: $\{x \in \mathbb{R}\}$
 Range: $\{g(x) \in \mathbb{R}\}$

Vertical and Horizontal Translations

Example

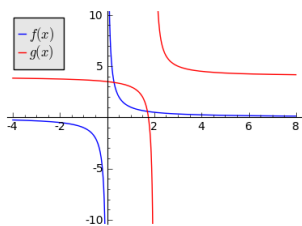
For the function $g(x) = \frac{1}{x-2} + 4$:

- State the parent function.
- Describe the transformations.
- Sketch a graph.
- Determine the domain and range.

The parent function is $f(x) = \frac{1}{x}$.

There is a vertical translation 4 units up, and a horizontal translation 2 units right.

Vertical and Horizontal Translations



Domain: $\{x \in \mathbb{R} \mid x \neq 2\}$
 Range: $\{g(x) \in \mathbb{R} \mid g(x) \neq 4\}$

Questions?

