

Reciprocal graphs

Starter

1. **(Review of last lesson)** State what happens to the coordinates of the points on the curve $y = f(x)$ when it undergoes these transformations:

(a) $y = f(4x)$ (b) $y = -f(x)$ (c) $y = f(x) + 3$
 (d) $y = f(-x)$ (e) $y = f(x + 5)$ (f) $y = 7f(x)$

Working: (a) $y = f(4x)$ is a horizontal stretch, factor $\frac{1}{4}$.
 Multiply the x -coordinates by $\frac{1}{4}$.

(b) $y = -f(x)$ is a reflection in the x -axis.
 Change the sign of the y -coordinates.

(c) $y = f(x) + 3$ is a vertical translation, 3 units up.
 Add 3 to the y -coordinates.

(d) $y = f(-x)$ is a reflection in the y -axis.
 Change the sign of the x -coordinates.

(e) $y = f(x + 5)$ is a horizontal translation, 5 units left.
 Subtract 5 from the x -coordinates.

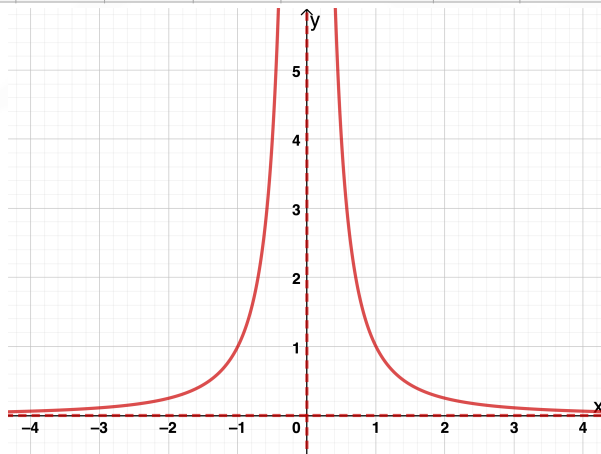
(f) $y = 7f(x)$ is a vertical stretch, factor 7.
 Multiply the y -coordinates by 7.

2. Complete the table of values for the curve $y = \frac{1}{x^2}$ and hence sketch the curve:

x	-4	-3	-2	-1	0	1	2	3	4
y									

Working:

x	-4	-3	-2	-1	0	1	2	3	4
y	0.0625	0.1	0.25	1	undefined	1	0.25	0.1	0.0625



E.g. 1 State the equations of the asymptotes of these curves.

(a) $y = \frac{1}{x} + 4$ (b) $y = \frac{1}{(x - 2)^2}$ (c) $y = \frac{1}{3x^2}$ (d) $y = \frac{7}{x}$

Working: (a) $y = \frac{1}{x} + 4$ is a vertical translation, 4 units up
The equations of the asymptotes are $x = 0$ and $y = 4$.

(b) $y = \frac{1}{(x - 2)^2}$ is a horizontal translation, 2 units right
The equations of the asymptotes are $x = 2$ and $y = 0$.

(c) $y = \frac{1}{3x^2}$ is a stretch, which does not affect the asymptotes
The equations of the asymptotes remain $x = 0$ and $y = 0$.

(d) $y = \frac{7}{x}$ is a stretch, which does not affect the asymptotes
The equations of the asymptotes remain $x = 0$ and $y = 0$.

Video: [Sketching reciprocal curves](#)

[Solutions to Starter and E.g.s](#)

Exercise

p78 5D Qu 1-4, (5 red)