

Write all responses on separate paper. Remember to organize your work clearly. You may *not* use your books, notes, or any calculator on this exam.

1. (21 points) Solve each equation for  $y$  by extracting roots:

(a)  $y^2 - 3 = 0$

**Solution:**

$$y^2 = 3 \Leftrightarrow y = \pm\sqrt{3}$$

(b)  $\left(y - \frac{1}{3}\right)^2 = \frac{1}{4}$

$$y = \frac{1}{3} \pm \frac{1}{2} = \begin{cases} -\frac{1}{6} \\ \frac{5}{6} \end{cases}$$

(c)  $(y - x)^2 = 5$

**Solution:**

$$y = x \pm \sqrt{5}$$

2. (21 points) Decide whether to solve by factoring or completing the square and then solve.

(a)  $(v - 6)(v + 11) = -30$

**Solution:** Start by writing the equation in standard form. This means expanding the product on the left side and combining like terms:  $v^2 + 5v - 66 = -30$  and then adding 30 to both sides to get zero on one side:  $v^2 + 5v - 36 = 0$ . Now the middle term can be split up as  $5v = 9v - 4v$  which makes a good substitution since  $9(-4) = -36$ . After splitting the middle term this way, the expression factors by grouping like so:

$$v^2 + 5v - 36 = 0$$

$$v^2 + 9v - 4v - 36 = 0$$

$$v(v + 9) - 4(v + 9) = 0$$

$$(v - 4)(v + 9) = 0$$

Alternatively, one can complete the square, like so

$$v^2 + 5v = 36$$

$$v^2 + 5v + \left(\frac{5}{2}\right)^2 = 36 + \left(\frac{5}{2}\right)^2$$

$$\left(v + \frac{5}{2}\right)^2 = 36 + \frac{25}{4}$$

$$v + \frac{5}{2} = \pm\frac{13}{2}$$

$$v = -\frac{5}{2} \pm \frac{13}{2}$$

Either way, the solutions are  $v = 4$  or  $v = -9$ .

(b)  $x^2 + x - \frac{3}{4} = \frac{13}{36}$

**Solution:** This one looks like a good candidate for completing the square. By adding 1 to both sides, we get  $x^2 + x + \frac{1}{4} = \frac{49}{36} \Leftrightarrow \left(x + \frac{1}{2}\right)^2 = \frac{49}{36} \Leftrightarrow x + \frac{1}{2} = \pm\frac{7}{6} \Leftrightarrow x = \frac{-3 \pm 7}{6}$

Evidently, the solutions are rational numbers, so we could have solved by factoring. To do this, it may help to first clear out the fractions by multiplying both sides by 36:

$$\begin{aligned} 36x^2 + 36x - 27 &= 13 \\ 36x^2 + 36x - 40 &= 0 \\ 9x^2 + 9x - 10 &= 0 \\ 9x^2 + 15x - 6x - 10 &= 0 \\ 3x(3x + 5) - 2(3x + 5) &= 0 \\ (3x - 2)(3x + 5) &= 0 \end{aligned}$$

Either way, the solutions are  $x = \frac{-5}{3}$  and  $x = \frac{2}{3}$

(c)  $z(6z + 30) = (z - 15)^2$

**Solution:** First, this needs to be put in standard form: This is a good candidate for completing the square:

$$\begin{aligned} z(6z + 30) &= (z - 15)^2 & z^2 + 12z &= 45 \\ 6z^2 + 30z &= z^2 - 30z + 225 & z^2 + 12z + 6^2 &= 45 + 36 \\ 5z^2 + 60z - 225 &= 0 & (z + 6)^2 &= 85 \\ z^2 + 12z - 45 &= 0 & z + 6 &= \pm\sqrt{81} \\ & & z &= -6 \pm 9 \end{aligned}$$

This too could have been solved by factoring:  $z^2 + 12z - 45 = (z + 15)(z - 3) = 0 \Leftrightarrow z = -15$  or  $z = 3$

3. (29 points) Let  $y = 225 - x^2$ .

(a) Find the coordinates of the  $x$ -intercepts of the graph. **Solution:**  $(-15, 0), (15, 0)$

(b) Find the coordinates of the vertex of the graph. **Solution:**  $(0, 225)$

(c) Make a table of at least five  $(x, y)$  solutions and use these to graph the parabola.

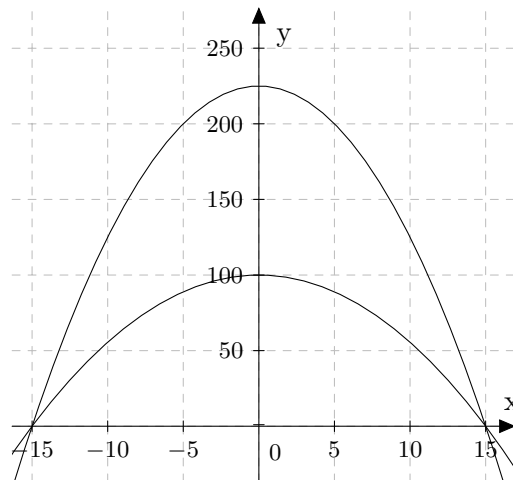
$x$	-15	-5	0	5	15
$y$	0	200	225	200	0

(d) Find the  $x$ -intercepts and vertex of  $y = 100 - \frac{4}{9}x^2$  and sketch its graph together with the graph of the other parabola. What do you notice?

**Solution:** The  $x$ -intercepts are at  $(-15, 0), (15, 0)$  and the vertex is at  $(0, 100)$  It's a vertically compressed form

of the the other parabola, since

$$\frac{4}{9}(225 - x^2) = 100 - \frac{4}{9}x^2$$



4. (29 points) Let  $y = x^2 - 5x$

(a) Find the coordinates of the  $x$ -intercepts of the graph. **Solution:**  $(0, 0), (5, 0)$

(b) Find the coordinates of the vertex of the graph. **Solution:** The  $x$ -coordinate is halfway between the two intercepts, or you could use the formula,

$$x_v = -\frac{b}{2a} = \frac{5}{2}. \text{ Plugging this into the equation yields } y_v = \frac{25}{4} - \frac{25}{2} = -\frac{25}{4}$$

So the vertex is at  $\left(\frac{5}{2}, -\frac{25}{4}\right)$ .

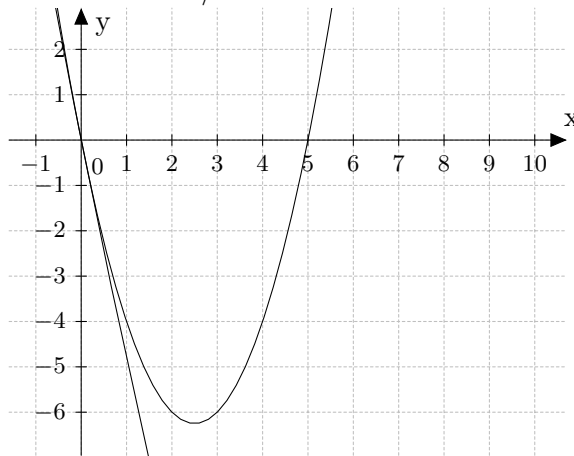
(c) Make a table of at least five  $(x, y)$  solutions and use these to graph the parabola.

$x$	0	1	2	$5/2$	3	4	5
$y$	0	-4	-6	-6.25	-6	-4	0

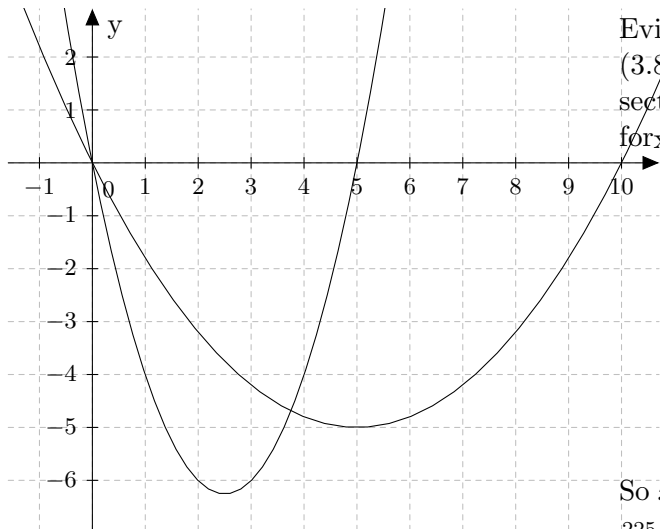
(d) Find the  $x$ -intercepts and vertex for  $y = \frac{1}{5}x^2 - 5x$  and sketch its graph together

with the graph of the other parabola. Use the graph to estimate the coordinates where the two parabolas intersect.

**Solution:** The intercepts are at  $(0, 0), (25, 0)$  and the vertex is where  $x_v = -\frac{b}{2a} = \frac{5}{2/5} = \frac{25}{2}$  and  $y_v = -\frac{125}{4}$ .



Problem 4d actually had a typo in it, which explains why it seems a bit odd. The second parabola's equation should have been  $y = \frac{1}{5}x^2 - 2x$  so that its intercepts are at  $(0, 0), (10, 0)$  and the vertex is at  $(5, -5)$  and when the two parabolas are graphed together, we see this:



Evidently, the point of intersection is near  $(3.8, -4.7)$ . To find the exact point of intersection, set the  $y$ -coordinates equal and solve for  $x$ :

$$\begin{aligned} y &= y \\ x^2 - 5x &= \frac{1}{5}x^2 - 2x \\ 5x^2 - 25x &= x^2 - 10x \\ 4x^2 - 15x &= 0 \\ x(4x - 15) &= 0 \end{aligned}$$

So  $x = \frac{15}{4} = 3.75$  making  $y = \left(\frac{15}{4}\right)^2 - 5\left(\frac{15}{4}\right) = \frac{225}{16} - \frac{75}{4} = -\frac{75}{16} = -4.625$