

Translations of Sine and Cosine Curves

The constant h in the general equations

$$y = a \sin(b(x - h)) \text{ and } y = a \cos(b(x - h))$$

creates *horizontal translations* (shifts) of the basic sine and cosine curves. Comparing $y = a \sin(bx)$ with $y = a \sin(b(x - h))$, you find that the graph of $y = a \sin(b(x - h))$ completes one cycle from $b(x - h) = 0$ to $b(x - h) = 2\pi$. By solving for x , you can find the interval for one cycle to be

$$\begin{array}{ccc} \text{Left endpoint} & \text{Right endpoint} & \\ \underbrace{\hspace{1.5cm}} & \underbrace{\hspace{1.5cm}} & \\ h \leq x \leq h + \underbrace{\frac{2\pi}{b}}_{\text{Period}}. & & \end{array}$$

This implies that the period of $y = a \sin(b(x - h))$ is $2\pi/b$, and the graph of $y = a \sin(bx)$ is shifted by an amount h . The number h is the **phase shift**.

Graphs of Sine and Cosine Functions

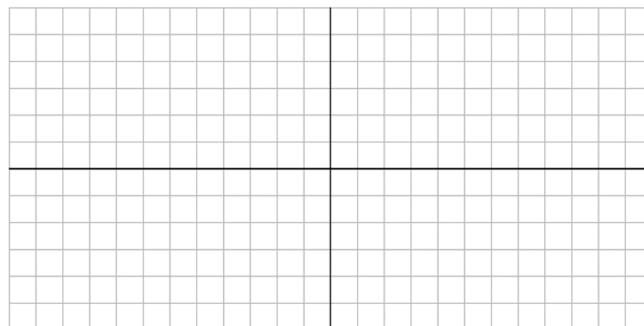
The graphs of $y = a \sin(b(x - h))$ and $y = a \cos(b(x - h))$ have the following characteristics. (Assume $b > 0$.)

$$\text{amplitude} = |a| \quad \text{period} = 2\pi/b$$

The left and right endpoints of a one-cycle interval can be determined by solving the equations $b(x - h) = 0$ and $b(x - h) = 2\pi$.

Example 1

Sketch the graph of the function $y = -3\cos(6x + \pi)$ by hand. (Include a maximum of two full periods.) Identify the amplitude, period, and phase shift of the graph.



The final type of transformation is the *vertical translation* caused by the constant k in the equations

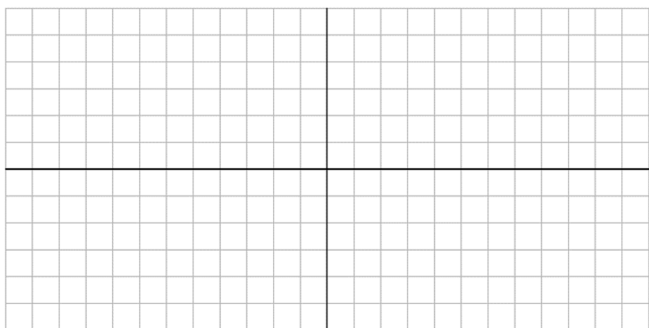
$$y = a \sin(b(x - h)) + k \text{ and } y = a \cos(b(x - h)) + k.$$

The shift is k units upward for $k > 0$ and k units downward for $k < 0$. In other words, the graph oscillates about the horizontal line $y = k$ instead of about the x -axis.

Example 2

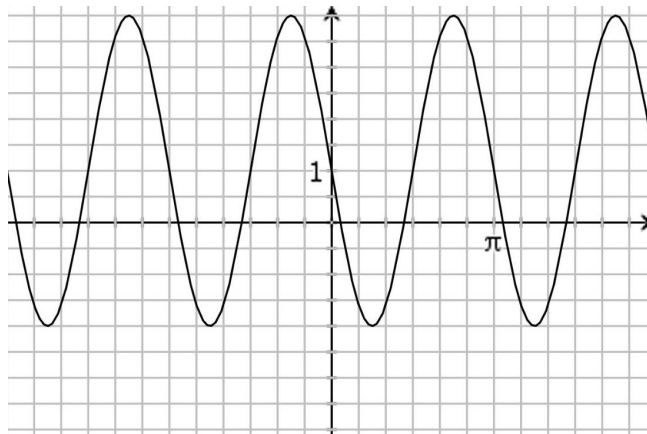
Sketch the graph of the function $y = 5 \cos\left(\frac{2x}{3}\right) - 4$ by hand.

Identify the amplitude, period, phase shift, and vertical shift of the graph.



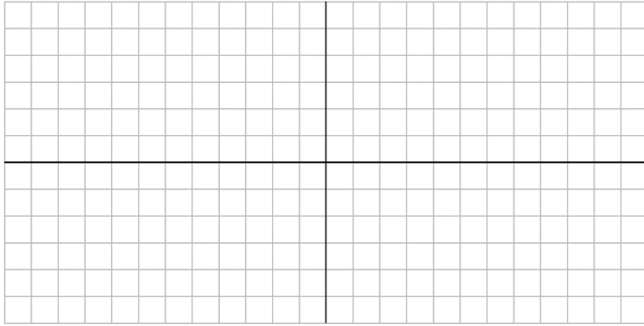
Example 3

Find a , b , h , and k for the function $f(x) = a \sin(b(x - h)) + k$ such that the graph of f matches the graph shown.

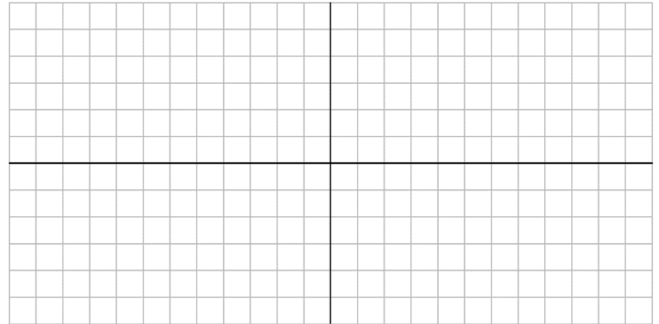


In Exercises 1-3, sketch the graph of the function by hand. (Include a maximum of two full periods.) Identify the amplitude, period, phase shift, and vertical shift of the graph.

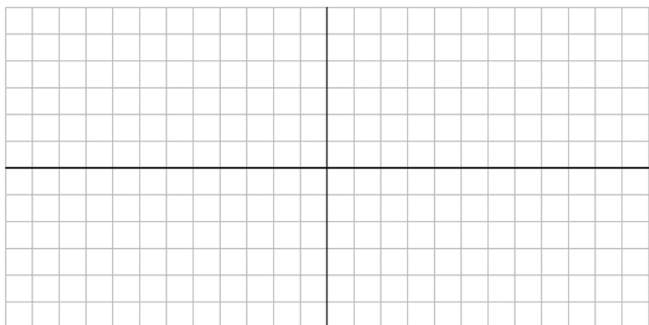
1. $y = \sin\left(x - \frac{\pi}{6}\right) + 2$



2. $y = \frac{3}{2} \cos\left(4x - \frac{2\pi}{3}\right)$

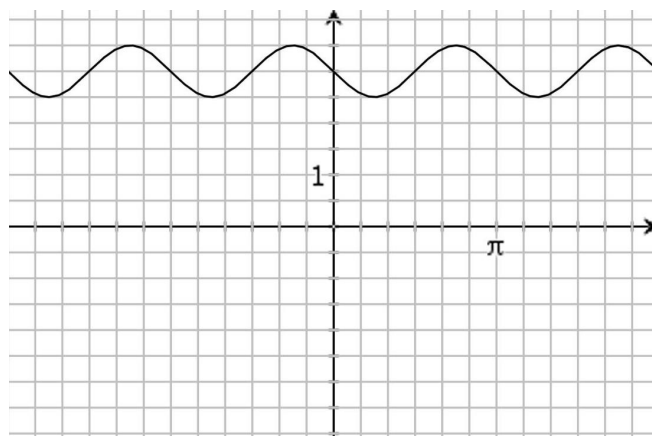


3. $y = -\frac{1}{2}\sin\left(2x + \frac{4\pi}{3}\right) + 1$



In Exercises 4-5, find a , b , h , and k for the function $f(x) = a \sin(b(x-h)) + k$ such that the graph of f matches the graph shown.

4.



5.

