

College Algebra, Section 4.1, #64  
Transformation of Graphs and Symmetry

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**Mortgages** The balance owed  $y$  on a \$50,000 mortgage after  $x$  monthly payments is shown in the table that follows. The function that models the data is <sup>1</sup>

$$y = 4700\sqrt{110 - x}$$

Monthly Payments	Balance Owed (\$)
12	47,243
24	44,136
48	36,693
72	27,241
96	15,239
108	8074

a. Is this a shifted root function?

Let's take a look at the data and the given function,  $y = 4700\sqrt{110 - x}$ .



From this we can see that basic function for this graph is  $y = \sqrt{x}$  and we can say, yes, this is a shifted square root function.

b. What is the domain of the function in the context of this application?

The domain of the function is all values that  $x$  can take on while still making sense in the context of the application. Since  $x$  represents the number of monthly payments, we can say that  $x$  is zero or more. That is,  $x \geq 0$ .

But, we also want the radicand,  $110 - x$ , to be non-negative and algebraically we say,

$$\begin{aligned} 110 - x &\geq 0 \\ -x &\geq -110 \\ x &\leq 110 \end{aligned}$$

So  $x$  is restricted to values greater than or equal to 0 and, at the same time, less than or equal to 110 and we can write,  $0 \leq x \leq 110$ .

The domain of the function in the context of this application is  $[0, 110]$ .

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<sup>1</sup>Harshbarger/Yocco, *College Algebra In Context*, 5e, p. 261, #64.

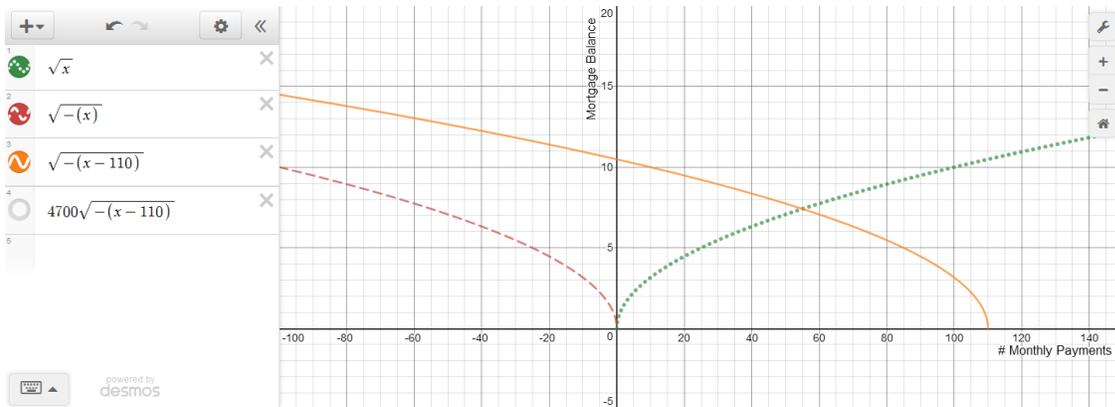
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c. Describe the transformations needed to obtain the graph from the graph of  $y = \sqrt{x}$ .

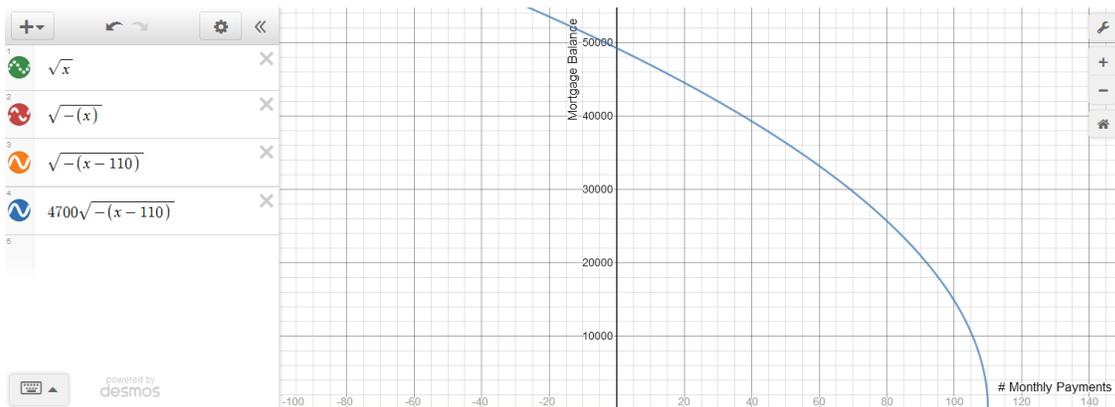
Let's start with the graph of  $y = \sqrt{x}$  and transform it to get the graph of  $y = 4700\sqrt{110 - x}$ .

$y = \sqrt{x}$	The basic function. Shown in <b>green dots</b> .
$y = \sqrt{-(x)}$	Reflection across the $y$ -axis. Shown in <b>red dashes</b> .
$y = \sqrt{-(x - 110)}$	Shift 110 units to the right. Shown in <b>solid orange</b> .



Finally,  $y = \sqrt{-(x - 110)}$  is stretched vertically by a factor of 4700. I had to change the scale on the  $y$ -axis so the graph would show and the resulting equation,

$$y = 4700\sqrt{-(x - 110)}, \text{ is shown below in solid blue.}$$



In short, the transformations are: a reflection across the  $y$ -axis, a horizontal shift 110 units to the right, and a vertical stretch using a factor of 4700.