

Graphing Lines: A Poem

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Cover Page Footnote

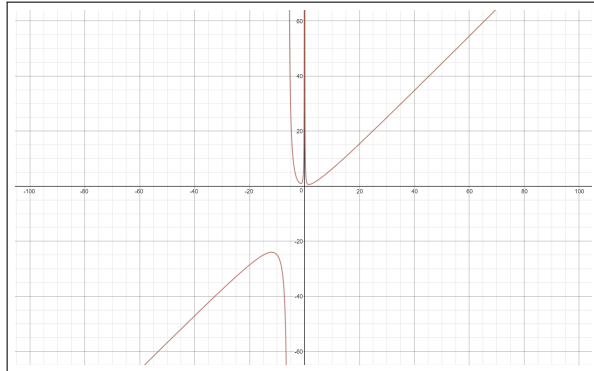
Special thanks to Dr. Maria Droujkova for her constant encouragement, Kalid Azad for helping me with calculus, and my husband Russell Nash for giving me the time to play with math.

Graphing Lines: A Poem

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$$y = \frac{(x^4 + 5)}{x^3 + 6x^2}$$



Graphing lines
coming together
to show the tension and grace
Of their powers.
the exponents pulling, pulling
Forming an entirely new shape
The struggle of powers
Births an entirely new creation
With a beauty, grace, and wonder
All its own.

Graceful, fluid, moving
Now toward infinity, now away
Now toward zero, now away
But it can never arrive.
There are limits to its
Powers, curves and grace—
Even empty spaces at times.

What a beautiful pattern
Of numbers, space, and time.
What lovely art and joy.
Graphing lines.