

#### [4.1] Plot "vertical" lines on graph screen

A vertical line is not a function, and the Y= Editor only plots functions, so you can't really plot a vertical line. There are at least three ways to plot a nearly vertical line as Y= function.

##### *Method 1*

Define a function like this:

$$y1=1E100*(x-n)$$

where  $n$  is the x-coordinate at which to draw the vertical line. To see how this works, consider that we are just plotting the line

$$y = B(x-n) = Bx - Bn$$

At  $x = n$ ,  $y = 0$ . Since  $B$  is very large, the slope of the line is very large, and the line will appear to be vertical.  $B$  must be much larger than the range of interest of  $x$ .

##### *Method 2*

A variation on this theme defines  $B$  as global variable `_vert`, like this:

$$1E100 \rightarrow \_vert$$

then you can define various vertical lines in the Y= Editor:

```
y1={function to be plotted}
y2=_vert(x-0)
y3=_vert(x-3)
```

This will plot the function, and vertical lines at  $x = 0$  and  $x = 3$

##### *Method 3*

Use the expression

$$\text{when}(x < n, -9E999, 9E999)$$

to plot a vertical line at  $x=n$ . This method may be the best because it eliminates the question of just how big to make the constant  $1E100$  in methods 1 and 2. For example, to plot a vertical line at  $x = 7$ , use

$$y1=\text{when}(x < 7, -9E999, 9E999)$$

*(Credit to Kevin Kofler; other credit declined)*