Exercise 37

In Exercises 29-40, test for symmetry with respect to each axis and to the origin.

$$y = \frac{x}{x^2 + 1}$$

Solution

Replacing x with -x changes the equation, so there's no symmetry with respect to the y-axis.

$$y = \frac{-x}{(-x)^2 + 1} = \frac{-x}{x^2 + 1} = -\frac{x}{x^2 + 1}$$

Replacing y with -y changes the equation, so there's no symmetry with respect to the x-axis.

$$-y = \frac{x}{x^2 + 1} \quad \to \quad y = -\frac{x}{x^2 + 1}$$

Replacing x with -x and y with -y does not change the equation, so there is symmetry with respect to the origin.

$$-y = \frac{-x}{(-x)^2 + 1}$$
 \to $-y = \frac{-x}{x^2 + 1}$ \to $y = \frac{x}{x^2 + 1}$

