

The Amazing Graph of $y = (-1)^x$

I looked at the equation $y = (-1)^x$ and found some fascinating results!

$$(-1)^0 = 1, \quad (-1)^{1/2} = i, \quad (-1)^1 = -1, \quad (-1)^{1 1/2} = -i$$

$$(-1)^2 = 1, \quad (-1)^{2 1/2} = i, \quad (-1)^3 = -1, \quad (-1)^{3 1/2} = -i$$

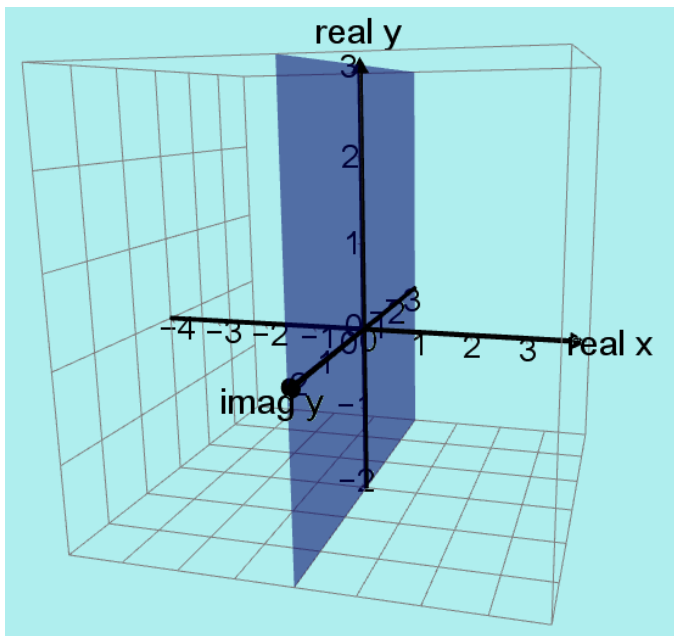
$$(-1)^4 = 1, \quad (-1)^{4 1/2} = i, \quad (-1)^5 = -1, \quad (-1)^{5 1/2} = -i$$

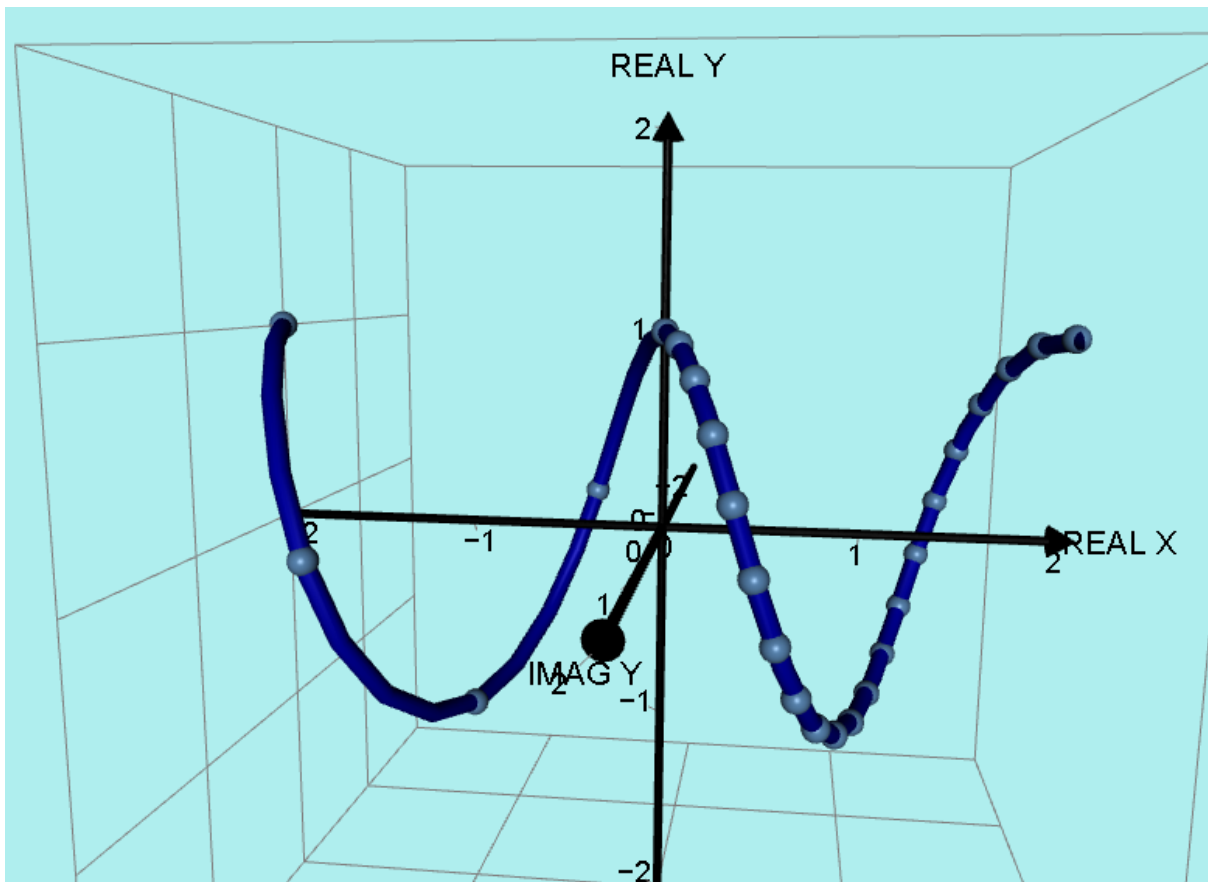
But the value of $y = (-1)^x$ does not just jump from **1** to ***i*** to **-1** to ***-i***
It takes all the values in between!

$$(-1)^0 = 1 \text{ and } (-1)^{1/2} = i \text{ but } (-1)^{1/3} = \frac{1}{2} + i\frac{\sqrt{3}}{2} \text{ and } (-1)^{1/4} = \frac{\sqrt{2}}{2} + i\frac{\sqrt{2}}{2}$$

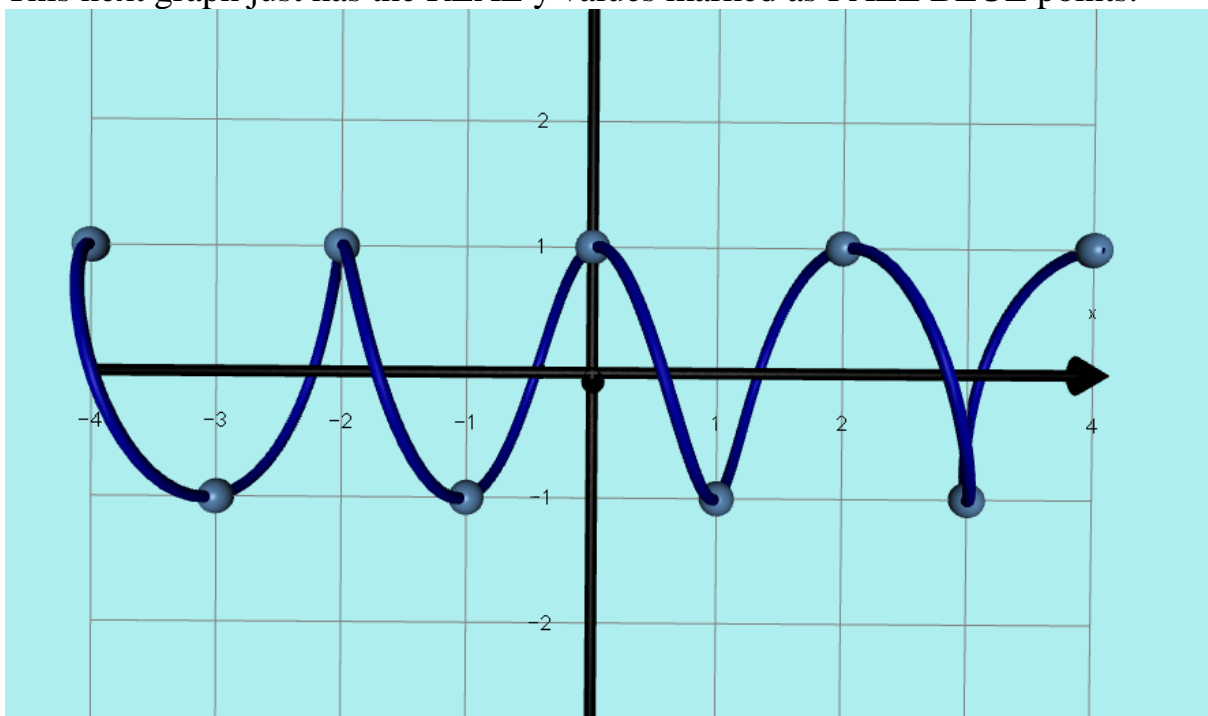
$$\text{and } (-1)^{3/4} = -\frac{\sqrt{2}}{2} + i\frac{\sqrt{2}}{2}$$

The graph of $y = (-1)^x$ in order to accommodate **real** and **imaginary** y values
needs to have an ordinary x axis for real numbers only but a complex y plane.

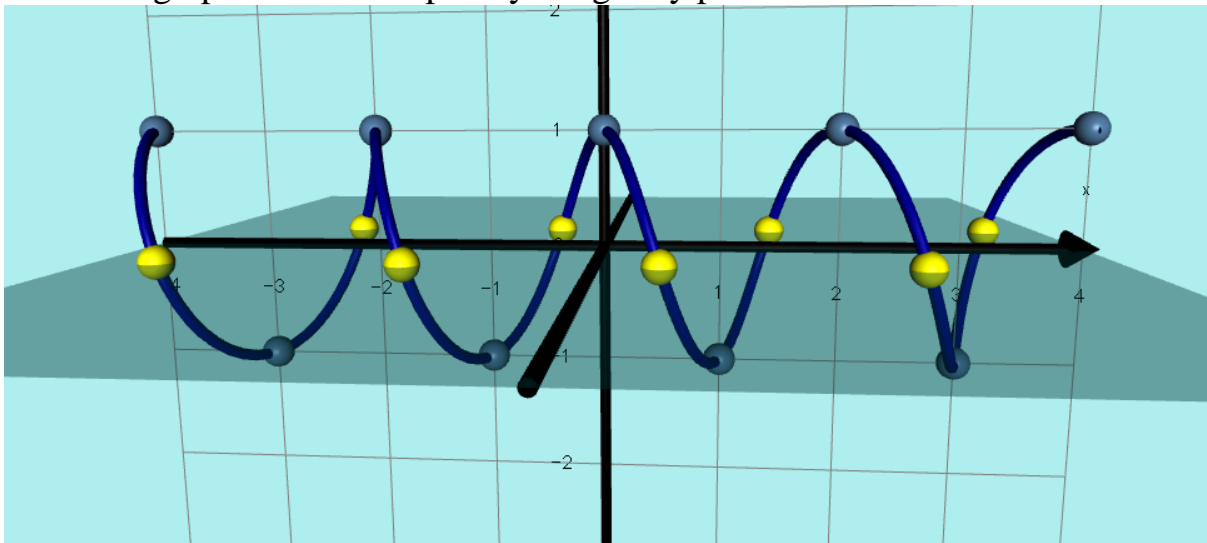




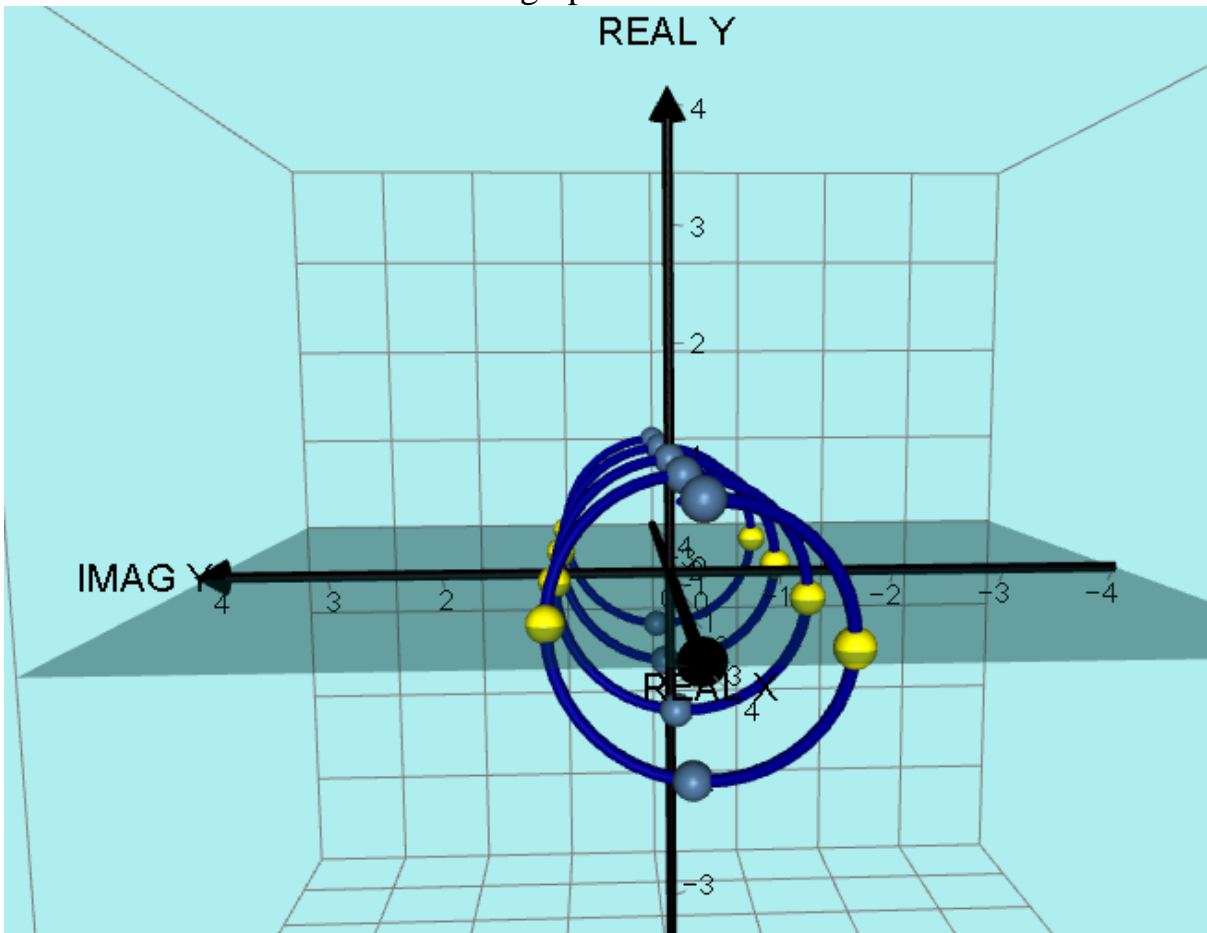
This next graph just has the REAL y values marked as PALE BLUE points.



This next graph has the completely imaginary points marked in YELLOW



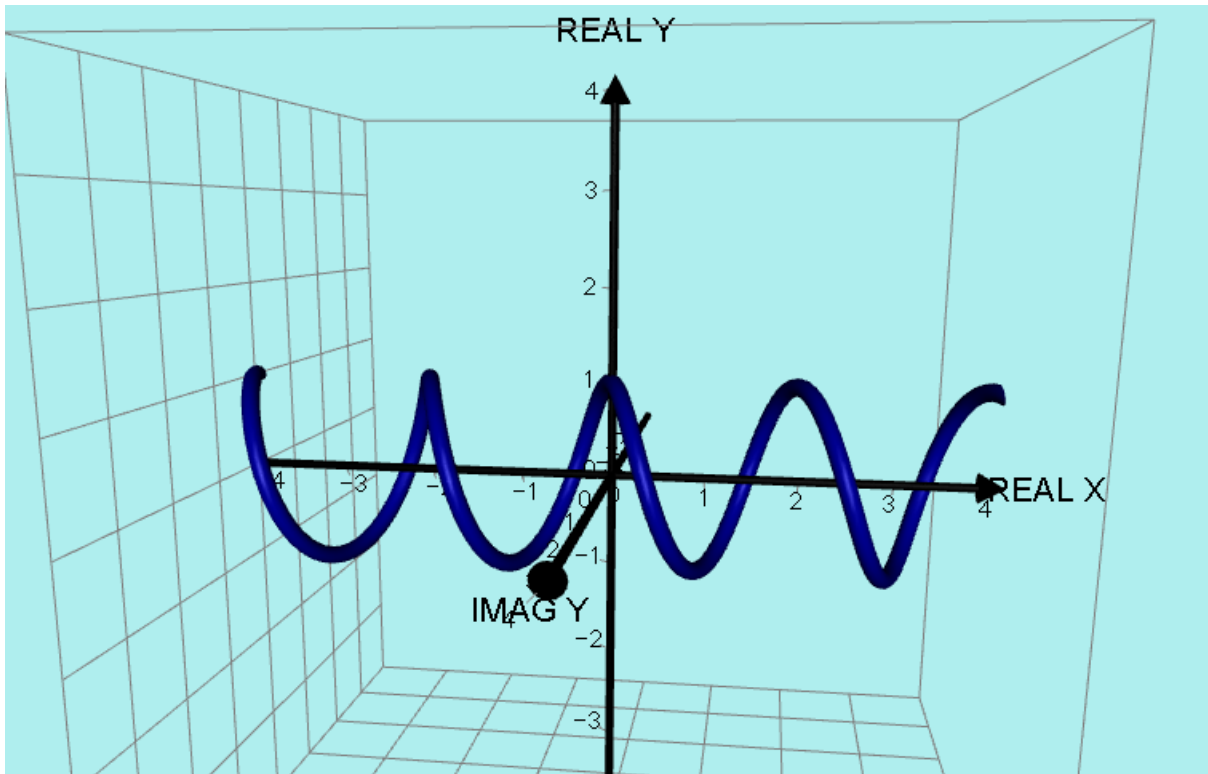
This is an END view of the above graph:



As you can see the values do not just jump between 1 to i to -1 to $-i$. It is continuous!

The result is this beautiful HELIX.

Here is just the plain graph:



You can see more on this type of concept on my website.....

www.phantomgraphs.weebly.com