

9/18/25

- One-to-one function, inverse functions

Warm up:

Question For each of the following functions determine if they are 1-1 and if so find their inverse.

a) $f(x) = 3x - 5$

b) $g(x) = x^3 - 5$

c) $h(x) = x^2 + 1$

d) $f(x) = \frac{x+1}{2x-3}$

e) $g(x) = x^2$ with domain $(-\infty, 0]$

$$\begin{array}{l} y = f(x) \\ x = f^{-1}(y) \end{array}$$

Answer: To check if a fn is 1-1 we try to find the inverse. (solve for x).

a) $y = 3x - 5 \Leftrightarrow \frac{y+5}{3} = \frac{3x}{3}$

$$\Leftrightarrow \frac{y+5}{3} = x$$

$$f^{-1}(y) = \frac{y+5}{3}$$

$$f^{-1}(x) = \frac{x+5}{3}$$

Yes 1-1

b) $y = x^3 - 5 \Leftrightarrow y + 5 = x^3$

$$\Leftrightarrow \sqrt[3]{y+5} = x$$

Yes 1-1

$$g^{-1}(y) = \sqrt[3]{y+5}$$

$$\text{or } g^{-1}(x) = \sqrt[3]{x+5}$$

$$c) y = x^2 + 1 \Leftrightarrow y - 1 = x^2$$

$$\Leftrightarrow \pm \sqrt{y-1} = x$$

NOT UNIQUE
SOLUTION

so NOT 1-1

$$d) y = \frac{x+1}{2x-3} \Leftrightarrow y(2x-3) = x+1$$

$$\Leftrightarrow 2yx - 3y = x + 1$$

$$\Leftrightarrow 2yx - x = 3y + 1$$

$$\Leftrightarrow x \frac{(2y-1)}{2y-1} = \frac{3y+1}{2y-1}$$

~~YES~~

$$\Leftrightarrow x = \frac{3y+1}{2y-1}$$

YES 1-1

$$h^{-1}(y) = \frac{3y+1}{2y-1}$$

or $h^{-1}(x) = \frac{3x+1}{2x-1}$

$$e) y = x^2 \Leftrightarrow -\sqrt{y} = x$$

domain $x \leq 0$
 $(-\infty, 0]$

In general

$$y = x^2 \Leftrightarrow x = \pm \sqrt{y}$$

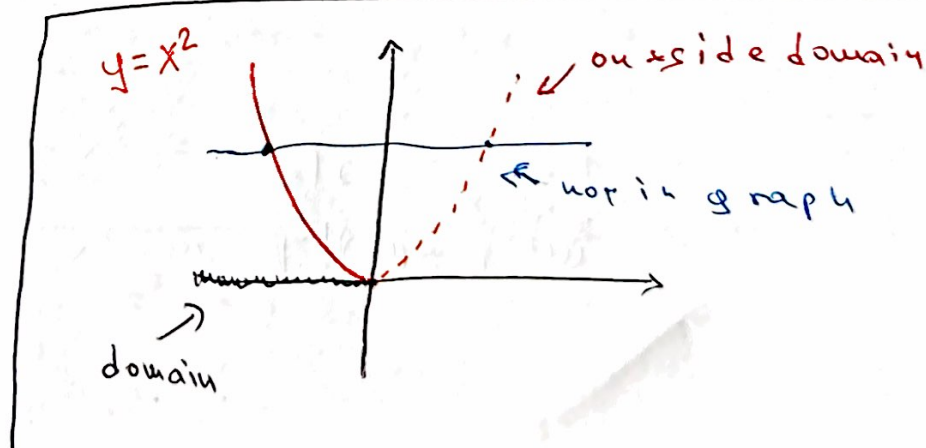
one negative, one positive
ONLY NEGATIVE x are
allowed

YES INVERTIBLE

$$g^{-1}(y) = -\sqrt{y}$$

OR

$$g^{-1}(x) = -\sqrt{x}$$



Range of f = Domain of f^{-1}

Domain of f = Range of f^{-1}

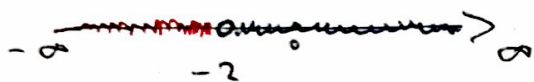
Example Let $f(x) = \frac{3x-1}{x+2} \rightarrow \neq 0$

Find domain and range.

Ans Domain Need $x+2 \neq 0 \Leftrightarrow \boxed{x \neq -2}$

In interval notation $(-\infty, -2) \cup (-2, \infty)$

$(-\infty, -2) \cup (-2, \infty)$



To find range we find f^{-1} and its domain.

$$y = \frac{3x-1}{x+2} \Leftrightarrow y(x+2) = 3x-1$$

$$\Leftrightarrow yx + 2y = 3x - 1$$

$$\Leftrightarrow yx - 3x = -2y - 1$$

$$\Leftrightarrow x(y-3) = -2y-1$$

$$\Leftrightarrow x = \frac{-2y-1}{y-3}$$

So $f^{-1}(y) = \frac{-2y-1}{y-3}$

Domain of f^{-1} :

Need $y-3 \neq 0$

$$\Leftrightarrow y \neq 3$$

$(-\infty, 3) \cup (3, \infty)$

So Range of f is $(-\infty, 3) \cup (3, \infty)$

Composition of functions

f, g

$$f \circ g(x) = f(g(x))$$

$$(a+b)^2 = a^2 + 2ab + b^2$$

$$g \circ f(x) = g(f(x))$$

Ex. 1 $f(x) = x^2 - 3$, $g(x) = 2x + 1$

$$\begin{aligned} f \circ g(x) &= (2x+1)^2 - 3 \\ &= 4x^2 + 4x + 1 - 3 \\ &= \boxed{4x^2 + 4x - 2} \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} g \circ f(x) &= 2(x^2 - 3) + 1 \\ &= 2x^2 - 6 + 1 \\ &= \boxed{2x^2 - 5} \end{aligned}$$

Composition of f 's is not commutative (in general).

Ex 2

$$f(x) = 3x, \quad g(x) = 5x.$$

$$\begin{aligned} f \circ g(x) &= 3(5x) \\ &= \boxed{15x} \end{aligned} \quad \left| \quad \begin{aligned} g \circ f(x) &= 5(3x) \\ &= \boxed{15x} \end{aligned} \right.$$

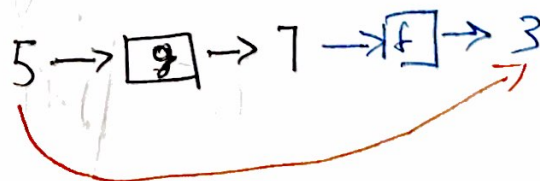
In this case $f \circ g = g \circ f$. $\leftarrow$ This is rare

Given

Ex 3 $f(3) = 5$, $g(5) = 7$, $f(7) = 3$

Find $f \circ g(5) = f(g(5))$

$$\begin{aligned} g \circ f(3) &= g(f(3)) \\ &= g(5) \\ &= \boxed{7} \end{aligned} \quad \left| \quad \begin{aligned} &= f(7) \\ &= 3 \end{aligned} \right.$$



①

$$\boxed{f \circ f^{-1}(x) = x \quad \text{and} \quad f^{-1} \circ f(x) = x}$$

identity fu $\boxed{f(x) = x}$

Ex. $f(x) = 3x$, $f^{-1}(x) = \frac{x}{3}$

~~$f \circ f^{-1}(x)$~~

$$\begin{aligned} f \circ f^{-1}(x) &= f\left(f^{-1}(x)\right) \\ &= 3\left(\frac{x}{3}\right) \end{aligned}$$

$$f^{-1} \circ f(x) = \frac{(3x)}{3}$$

$$= x$$

Show $= x$

Verify

Ex Prove that $f(x) = 3x - 5$ and $g(x) = \frac{x+5}{3}$ is a pair of inverse functions.

Sol Verify two things

$$f \circ g(x) = x$$

$$g \circ f(x) = x$$

$$\begin{aligned} f \circ g(x) &= f(g(x)) \\ &= 3\left(\frac{x+5}{3}\right) - 5 \\ &= (x+5) - 5 \\ &= x \quad \checkmark \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} g \circ f(x) &= g(f(x)) \\ &= \frac{(3x-5)+5}{3} \\ &= \frac{3x}{3} \\ &= x \quad \checkmark \end{aligned}$$

Done!