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Chapter 3. Functions

3.4 The inverse of a function3.5 Composition of functions

3.4 The inverse of a function

Let *f* be a one-to-one (injective) function, $f : \mathbf{A} \to \mathbf{B}$. The inverse function of *f* is the function that assigns to an element $b \in \mathbf{B}$ the unique element $a \in \mathbf{A}$, such that f(a) = b.

denotation: f⁻¹

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A one-to-one function is invertible because we can define an inverse on it.

A function is not invertible, when we cannot define an inverse (it happens when the function is not one-to-one).

Example 1:

Let f be a function, $f:\{a,b,c\} \rightarrow \{1,2,3\}$, with f(a) = 1, f(b) = 3, f(c) = 2. Is f invertible? If it is, define its inverse.

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y = 2x-3

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Solution:

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f(-1) = f(1) = 3

Therefore, the function is not one-to-one, hence doesn't have an inverse.

Let f be a function, f:
$$\mathbf{R} \rightarrow \mathbf{R}$$

Function *f* is increasing if for any $x, y \in \mathbf{R}$, where x < y the following inequality holds: $f(x) \le f(y)$.

$$\forall x \forall y \ (x < y \rightarrow f(x) \le f(y))$$

Function *f* is strictly increasing if for any $x, y \in \mathbf{R}$, where x < y the following inequality holds: f(x) < f(y).

 $\forall x \forall y \ (x < y \rightarrow f(x) < f(y))$

Function *f* is decreasing if for any $x,y \in \mathbf{R}$, where x < y the following inequality holds: $f(x) \ge f(y)$.

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Function *f* is strictly decreasing if for any $x,y \in \mathbf{R}$, where x < y the following inequality holds: f(x) > f(y).

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Theorem

If function is strictly increasing or strictly decreasing, then it is one-to-one.

However a function that is increasing or decreasing (but not strictly) is not necessary one-to-one.

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Example 7:



Let f_1 and f_2 be functions from A to **R**. Then $f_1 + f_2$ and $f_1 f_2$ are also functions from A to **R**, defined by

 $(f_1 + f_2)(x) = f_1(x) + f_2(x)$ $(f_1 f_2)(x) = f_1(x) f_2(x)$

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Example 2:

Let $f_1(x) = x^3 + 3$, $f_1: \mathbb{R} \to \mathbb{R}$ and $f_2(x) = -x + 5$, $f_2: \mathbb{R} \to \mathbb{R}$ What are functions $f_1 + f_2$, and $f_1 f_2$?

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<u>Solution</u>: $(f_1 + f_2)(x) = (x^3 + 3) + (-x + 5) = x^3 - x + 8$

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<u>Solution</u>: $(f_1 + f_2)(x) = (x^3 + 3) + (-x + 5) = x^3 - x + 8$ $(f_1 f_2)(x) = (x^3 + 3) (-x + 5) = -x^4 + 5x^3 - 3x + 15$

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Solution: $(f_1 + f_2)(x) = (x^3 + 3) + (-x + 5) = x^3 - x + 8$ $(f_1 f_2)(x) = (x^3 + 3) (-x + 5) = -x^4 + 5x^3 - 3x + 15$

<u>Answer</u>: $(f_1 + f_2)(x) = x^3 - x + 8$, and $(f_1 f_2)(x) = -x^4 + 5x^3 - 3x + 15$

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Let *f* and *g* be functions, $g : \mathbf{A} \to \mathbf{B}$, $f : \mathbf{B} \to \mathbf{C}$. Then $f \circ g$ is the composition of two functions, defined by $(f \circ g)(x) = f(g(x))$

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Let g be a function, $g : \{a,b,c\} \rightarrow \{1,2,3\}$, and f be a function, $f : \{1,2,3\} \rightarrow \{k,l,m\}$, with g(a) = 1, g(b) = 1, g(c) = 3, f(1) = l, f(2) = k, f(3) = m. What are the functions f ° g and g ° f?

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Solution:

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$$(f \circ g)(x) = f(g(x)), f \circ g: \{a, b, c\} \rightarrow \{k, l, m\};$$

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)(x) = $f(g(x))$, $f \circ g$: { a,b,c } → { k,l,m };
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 $(f \circ g)(c) = f(g(c)) = f(3) = m$
2. $(g \circ f)(x) = g(f(x)), g \circ f: \{1,2,3\} \rightarrow ?$

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Let *f* and *g* be functions, $g : \mathbf{A} \to \mathbf{B}$, $f : \mathbf{B} \to \mathbf{C}$. Then $f \circ g$ is the composition of two functions, defined by $(f \circ g)(x) = f(g(x))$

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2. $(g \circ f)(x) = g(f(x)), g \circ f: \{1,2,3\} \to ?$ undefined
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Example 5:

Let *f* and *g* be functions, $g : \mathbb{Z} \to \mathbb{Z}$, $f : \mathbb{Z} \to \mathbb{Z}$. f(x) = 3x+5, g(x) = x-3Find f ° g and g ° f.

Example 5:

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Solution:

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Solution:

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Solution:

1. $(f \circ g)(x) = f(g(x)) = f(x-3) = 3(x-3) + 5 = 3x-9+5 = 3x-4$

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Let *f* and *g* be functions, $g : \mathbb{Z} \to \mathbb{Z}$, $f : \mathbb{Z} \to \mathbb{Z}$. f(x) = 3x+5, g(x) = x-3Find f ° g and g ° f.

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We can associate a set of pairs $A \times B$ to each *function* from A to B. This set of pairs is called the graph of a function and is often displayed pictorially to aid in understanding the behavior of the function.

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Solution: a) f(x) = 3x-3 $x \quad 3x-3$ 0 1 2 -1 -2

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