

UNIT 7: WORKING WITH FUNCTIONS
COMPOSITE FUNCTIONS

Definition of a Composite Function

For two functions f and g , the composite function $f(g(x))$ is formed by evaluating f at g . This new **composite function** $f \circ g$, is called the **composition of f and g** , and is defined by $(f \circ g)(x) = f(g(x))$. In this situation, the domain of f is the range of g , provided that g is defined.

Ex. 1. Let $f = \{(3,2), (5,1), (7,4), (9,3), (11,5)\}$ and $g = \{(1,3), (2,5), (3,7), (4,9), (5,6)\}$. Determine

a) $(f \circ g)(3)$
 $= f(g(3))$
 $= f(7)$
 $= 4$

b) $(g \circ f)(3)$
 $= g(f(3))$
 $= g(2)$
 $= 5$

c) $(f \circ f)(9)$
 $= f(f(9))$
 $= f(3)$
 $= 2$

d) $(g \circ g)(3)$
 $= g(g(3))$
 $= g(7)$
 d.n.e.
 or undefined.

e) $f \circ g$ ↖ all x's.
 $= f(g(x))$

$= \{(1,2), (2,1), (3,4), (4,3)\}$

f) $D_{f \circ g} : \{1, 2, 3, 4\}$

Ex. 2. If $f(x) = \sqrt{x}$, $g(x) = x + 5$ and $h(x) = x^2 - \frac{1}{x}$, find each of the following:

a) $(f \circ g)(4)$
 $= f(g(4))$
 $= f(9)$
 $= \sqrt{9}$
 $= 3$

b) $(g \circ f)(4)$
 $= g(f(4))$
 $= g(2)$
 $= 7$

c) $(h \circ f \circ g)(-5)$
 $= h(f(g(-5)))$
 $= h(f(0))$
 $= h(0)$
 d.n.e or undefined

d) $(f \circ g)(x)$
 $= f(g(x))$
 $= f(x+5)$

$\therefore (f \circ g)(x) = \sqrt{x+5}$

e) $g \circ f$
 $= g(f(x))$
 $= g(\sqrt{x})$
 $= \sqrt{x} + 5$

f) $h \circ g$
 $= h(g(x))$
 $= h(x+5)$
 $= (x+5)^2 - \frac{1}{x+5}$

or $\frac{(x+5)^3 - 1}{x+5}$
 $= \frac{x^3 + 15x^2 + 75x + 124}{x+5}$

$(x+5)^3 = (x+5)(x+5)(x+5)$
 $= (x+5)(x^2 + 10x + 25)$
 $= x^3 + 15x^2 + 75x + 125$

Recall: $f(x) = \sqrt{x}$, $g(x) = x+5$ and $h(x) = x^2 - \frac{1}{x}$

g) x , if $(f \circ g)(x) = (g \circ f)(x)$ from d) & e) h) x , if $(h \circ g)(x) = 0$ from f)

$$\begin{aligned} \sqrt{x+5} &= \sqrt{x} + 5 \\ \text{square both sides} \\ x+5 &= (\sqrt{x}+5)(\sqrt{x}+5) \\ x+5 &= x + 10\sqrt{x} + 25 \\ -20 &= 10\sqrt{x} \\ -2 &= \sqrt{x} \\ \text{square both sides} \\ 4 &= x \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} (x+5)^2 - \frac{1}{x+5} &= 0 \\ (x+5)^2 &= \frac{1}{x+5} \\ \sqrt[3]{(x+5)^3} &= \sqrt[3]{1} \\ x+5 &= 1 \\ x &= -4 \end{aligned}$$

Check: $LS = \sqrt{4+5} = \sqrt{9} = 3$ $RS = \sqrt{4} + 5 = 2 + 5 = 7$

$\therefore LS \neq RS$

$\therefore x=4$ is an extraneous root
 \therefore there is no solution

Ex. 3. From the functions listed in the box, find two whose composite function is $h(x)$.

$p(x) = x - 3$	$f(x) = x^2$
$g(x) = \sqrt{x}$	$q(x) = x + 1$

a) $h(x) = (x+1)^2$
 $h(x) = f(q(x))$

b) $h(x) = \sqrt{x-3}$
 $h(x) = g(p(x))$

c) $h(x) = x^2 - 6x + 9$
 $h(x) = (x-3)^2$
 $h(x) = f(p(x))$

Ex. 2. Express h as the composition of two functions f and g , such that $h(x) = f(g(x))$.

a) $h(x) = \sqrt{x^2 - 4}$
 $g(x) = x^2 - 4$
 $f(x) = \sqrt{x}$

b) $h(x) = 2\sin^2 x - 3\sin x + 1$
 $g(x) = \sin x$
 $f(x) = 2x^2 - 3x + 1$

c) $h(x) = \frac{1}{1-x^2}$
 $g(x) = 1-x^2$
 $f(x) = \frac{1}{x}$

d) $h(x) = 2^{(6x+7)}$
 $g(x) = 6x+7$
 $f(x) = 2^x$

Definition of a Composite Function

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Ex. 1. State the domain and range of f and g . Use the graphs of f and g to evaluate each expression, if it exists. If it does not exist, explain why.

$$D_f = \{x \in \mathbb{R} \mid -3 \leq x \leq 3\}$$

$$D_g = \{x \in \mathbb{R} \mid -3 \leq x \leq 1\}$$

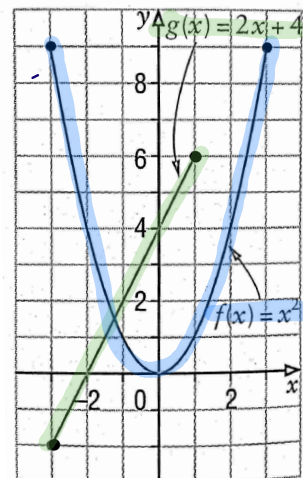
$$R_f = \{y \in \mathbb{R} \mid 0 \leq y \leq 9\}$$

$$R_g = \{y \in \mathbb{R} \mid -2 \leq y \leq 6\}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \text{a) } (g \circ f)(-1) &= g(f(-1)) \\ &= g(1) \\ &= 6 \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \text{b) } (g \circ g)(-2) &= g(g(-2)) \\ &= g(0) \\ &= 4 \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \text{c) } (f \circ g)(0) &= f(g(0)) \\ &= f(4) \\ &= \text{undefined/d.n.e} \\ & \text{(4 is not in the domain of } f) \end{aligned}$$



Ex. 2. If $f(x) = 2x - 1$, $h(x) = x^2 - 2x$, $g(x) = \ln(x - 1)$ and $p(x) = \cos x$ determine:

$$\text{a) } f^{-1}(x)$$

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Let } y &= 2x - 1 \\ \text{For inverse,} \\ x &= 2y - 1 \\ \text{to solve for } y \\ 2y &= x + 1 \\ y &= \frac{x + 1}{2} \\ \therefore f^{-1}(x) &= \frac{x + 1}{2} \end{aligned}$$

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

$$\begin{aligned} &= f(f^{-1}(x)) \\ &= f\left(\frac{x+1}{2}\right) \\ &= 2\left(\frac{x+1}{2}\right) - 1 \\ &= x + 1 - 1 \\ &= x \end{aligned}$$

$$\text{b) } g^{-1}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Let } y &= \ln(x - 1) \\ \text{For inverse:} \\ x &= \ln(y - 1) \\ e^x &= y - 1 \\ y &= e^x + 1 \\ \therefore g^{-1}(x) &= e^x + 1 \end{aligned}$$

$$\text{d) } g^{-1} \circ g$$

$$\begin{aligned} &= g^{-1}(g(x)) \\ &= g^{-1}(\ln(x - 1)) \\ &= e^{\ln(x - 1)} + 1 \\ &= x - 1 + 1 \\ &= x \end{aligned}$$

Recall: $f(x) = 2x - 1$, $h(x) = x^2 - 2x$, $g(x) = \ln(x - 1)$ and $p(x) = \cos x$

e) $h \circ f$

$$\begin{aligned} &= h(f(x)) \\ &= h(2x - 1) \\ &= (2x - 1)^2 - 2(2x - 1) \\ &= (2x - 1)(2x - 1) - 2(2x - 1) \\ &= 4x^2 - 4x + 1 - 4x + 2 \\ &= 4x^2 - 8x + 3 \end{aligned}$$

f) $(h \circ p)\left(\frac{\pi}{4}\right)$

$$\begin{aligned} &= h\left(p\left(\frac{\pi}{4}\right)\right) \\ &= h\left(\cos\frac{\pi}{4}\right) \\ &= h\left(\frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}\right) \\ &= \left(\frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}\right)^2 - 2\left(\frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}\right) \\ &= \frac{1}{2} - \frac{2}{\sqrt{2}} \cdot \frac{\sqrt{2}}{\sqrt{2}} \\ &= \frac{1}{2} - \frac{2\sqrt{2}}{2} \\ &= \frac{1 - 2\sqrt{2}}{2} \end{aligned}$$

g) x , if $(h \circ g)(x) = 0$

$$\begin{aligned} h(g(x)) &= 0 \\ h(\ln(x-1)) &= 0 \\ [\ln(x-1)]^2 - 2[\ln(x-1)] &= 0 \\ \text{let } a &= \ln(x-1) \\ a^2 - 2a &= 0 \\ a(a-2) &= 0 \end{aligned}$$

$$a = 0 \quad \text{or} \quad a = 2$$

$$\begin{aligned} \ln(x-1) = 0 & & \ln(x-1) = 2 \\ x-1 = e^0 & & x-1 = e^2 \\ x-1 = 1 & & x = e^2 + 1 \\ \therefore x = 2 & & \end{aligned}$$

$$\therefore x = 2 \quad \text{or} \quad x = e^2 + 1$$

h) x , for $0 \leq x \leq 2\pi$ if

$$\begin{aligned} (f \circ p)(x) &= -2 \\ f(p(x)) &= -2 \\ f(\cos x) &= -2 \\ 2\cos x - 1 &= -2 \\ \cos x &= -\frac{1}{2} \\ \text{raa} &= \frac{\pi}{3} \end{aligned}$$

$$\text{In } Q\text{II}: x = \frac{2\pi}{3}$$

$$\text{In } Q\text{III}: x = \frac{4\pi}{3}$$

$$\therefore x = \frac{2\pi}{3} \quad \text{or} \quad x = \frac{4\pi}{3}$$

review
your
special Δ 's.

Date: _____

WARMUP

1. Given $f(x) = \log_3 x$ and $g(x) = x^3 - 5x^2 + 2x + 8$, determine

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

$$h(x) = f(g(x))$$

$$h(x) = f(x^3 - 5x^2 + 2x + 8)$$

$$h(x) = \log_3(x^3 - 5x^2 + 2x + 8)$$

$\therefore g(-1) = 0 \therefore x+1$ is a factor

$$\begin{array}{r} x^2 - 6x + 8 \\ x+1 \overline{) x^3 - 5x^2 + 2x + 8} \\ \underline{x^3 + x^2} \\ -6x^2 + 2x \\ \underline{-6x^2 - 6x} \\ 8x + 8 \\ \underline{8x + 8} \\ 0 \end{array}$$

b) D_h For domain of $h(x)$

$$x^3 - 5x^2 + 2x + 8 > 0$$

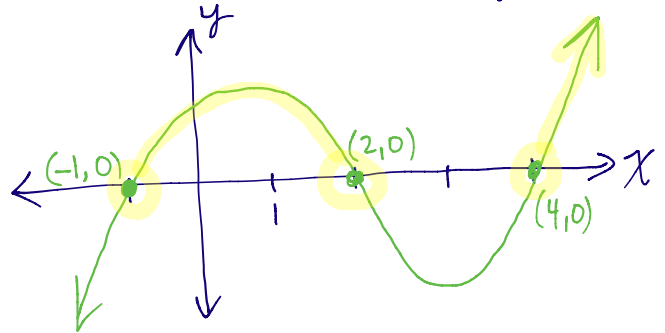
Let $g(x) = x^3 - 5x^2 + 2x + 8$

$$g(x) = (x+1)(x^2 - 6x + 8)$$

$$g(x) = (x+1)(x-4)(x-2)$$

$\therefore x$ -ints are $-1, 2, 4$ (all single)

Unit 2: Day 4



$$\therefore D_h = \{x \in \mathbb{R} \mid -1 < x < 2, x > 4\}$$

2. Given $f(x) = \frac{1}{x}$ and $g(x) = \sqrt{x+2}$, determine

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

$$h(x) = g(f(x))$$

$$h(x) = g\left(\frac{1}{x}\right)$$

$$h(x) = \sqrt{\frac{1}{x} + 2}$$

$$h(x) = \sqrt{\frac{1+2x}{x}}$$

b) D_h

For the domain:

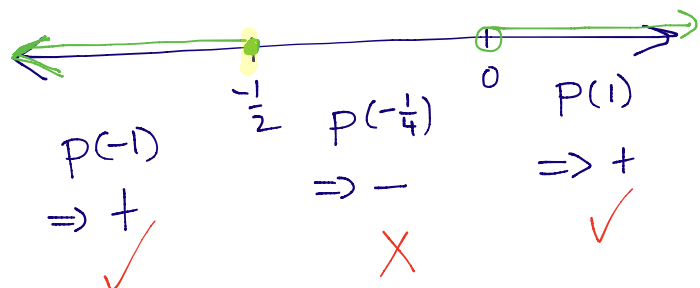
$$\frac{1+2x}{x} \geq 0, x \neq 0$$

Let $p(x) = \frac{1+2x}{x}$

x -int is $-\frac{1}{2}$,

restriction: $x \neq 0$

Unit 2: Day 4.5



$$\therefore D_h = \{x \in \mathbb{R} \mid x \leq -\frac{1}{2} \text{ or } x > 0\}$$

APPLICATIONS OF COMPOSITE FUNCTIONS

Ex. 1. Refrigeration slows down the growth of bacteria in food. The number of bacteria in a certain food is approximated by $B(T) = 15T^2 - 70T + 600$, where T represents the temperature in degrees Celsius and $3 \leq T \leq 12$. Once the food is removed from refrigeration, the temperature, $T(t)$, is given by $T(t) = 3.5t + 3$, where t is the time in hours and $0 \leq t \leq 3$.

- a) Write the expression for the number of bacteria in the food, t hours after it is removed from refrigeration.

$$\begin{aligned} B(t) &= (B \circ T)(t) \\ &= B(T(t)) \\ &= B(3.5t + 3) \\ &= 15(3.5t + 3)^2 - 70(3.5t + 3) + 600 \\ &= 15(3.5t + 3)(3.5t + 3) - 70(3.5t + 3) + 600 \\ \therefore B(t) &= 183.75t^2 + 70t + 525 \end{aligned}$$

- b) At 1.5 h, about how many bacteria are in the food?

$$\begin{aligned} B(1.5) &= 183.75(1.5)^2 + 70(1.5) + 525 \\ &\approx 1043 \end{aligned}$$

\therefore there are approximately 1043 bacteria.

- c) When will the bacteria count reach about 1200?

Find t when $B(t) = 1200$

$$183.75t^2 + 70t + 525 = 1200$$

$$183.75t^2 + 70t - 675 = 0$$

$$t = \frac{-b \pm \sqrt{b^2 - 4ac}}{2a}$$

$$t = \frac{-70 \pm \sqrt{(70)^2 - 4(183.75)(-675)}}{2(183.75)}$$

$$t = \frac{-70 \pm \sqrt{501025}}{367.5}$$

$$t = \frac{-70 - \sqrt{501025}}{367.5}$$

inadmissible

$$\therefore 0 \leq t \leq 3$$

$$\text{or } t = \frac{-70 + \sqrt{501025}}{367.5}$$

$$t \approx 1.74$$

\therefore the bacteria count will reach about 1200 after approximately 1 hour & 45 minutes

Ex. 2. A circle has radius r .

a) Write a function for the circle's area in terms of r .

Formula: $A = \pi r^2$ Function: $A(r) = \pi r^2$

b) Write a function for the radius in terms of the circumference, C .

$C = 2\pi r$ Function: $r(c) = \frac{C}{2\pi}$
 $r = \frac{C}{2\pi}$

c) Determine $(A \circ r)(C)$.

$A(r(c))$
 $= A\left(\frac{C}{2\pi}\right)$
 $= \pi \left(\frac{C}{2\pi}\right)^2$
 $= \frac{\cancel{\pi} \cdot C^2}{1 \cdot 4\pi^2}$

$\rightarrow \therefore A(c) = \frac{C^2}{4\pi}$

d) A tree's circumference is 3.6 m. What is the area of the cross section?

$A(3.6) = \frac{(3.6)^2}{4\pi}$
 ≈ 1.03

\therefore the area is approximately 1.03 m^2 .

Ex. 3. A spherical hailstone grows in a cloud. The hailstone maintains a spherical shape while its radius increases at a rate of 0.2 mm/min.

a) Express the radius, r , in millimetres, of the hailstone, as a function of the time, t , in minutes.

$r(t) = 0.2t$

b) Express the volume, V , in cubic millimetres, of the hailstone, in terms of r .

$V = \frac{4}{3}\pi r^3$ or $V(r) = \frac{4}{3}\pi r^3$

c) Determine $(V \circ r)(t)$ and explain what it means.

$V(t) = V(r(t))$
 $= V(0.2t)$
 $= \frac{4}{3}\pi \left(\frac{1}{5}t\right)^3$
 $= \frac{4}{3}\pi \cdot \frac{1}{125}t^3$

$\rightarrow \therefore V(t) = \frac{4\pi}{375}t^3$

gives the volume of the hailstone after t minutes.

d) What is the volume of the hailstone 1 h after it begins to form?

$V(60) = \frac{4\pi}{375}(60)^3$
 $\approx 7238 \text{ mm}^3$

\therefore the hailstone is approx. 7238 mm^3 .

$7238 \text{ mm}^3 \div 10^3$
 $= 7.238 \text{ cm}^3$

Date: _____

WARMUP

Ex. 1. Given $f(x) = \frac{1}{x}$ and $g(x) = \sqrt{x+2}$, find

a) $h(x) = (f \circ g)(x)$, graph and state the domain and range.

$$h(x) = f(g(x))$$

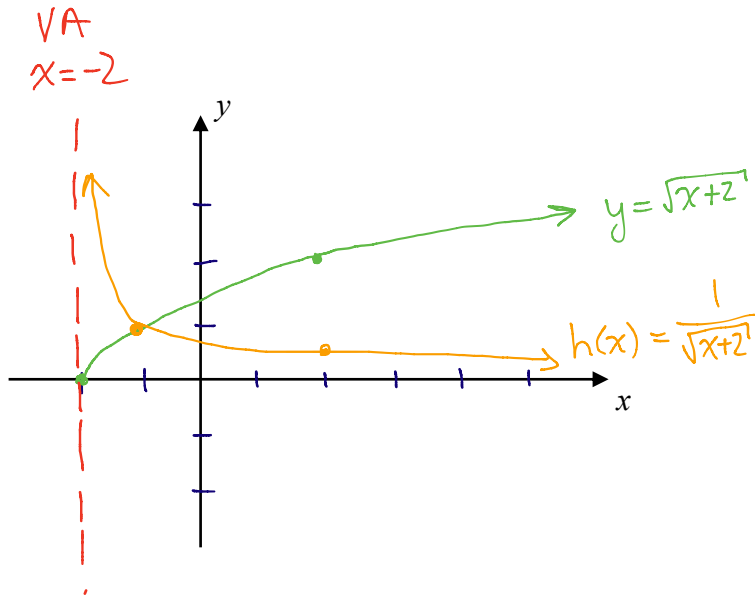
$$h(x) = f(\sqrt{x+2})$$

$$h(x) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{x+2}}$$

① Graph $y = \sqrt{x+2}$

$$D_h: \{x \in \mathbb{R} \mid x > -2\}$$

$$R_h: \{y \in \mathbb{R} \mid y > 0\}$$



b) x , if $f(x) = g(x)$ and illustrate your solution graphically.

$$\frac{1}{x} = \sqrt{x+2}$$

Square both sides

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

$$1 = x^3 + 2x^2$$

$$0 = x^3 + 2x^2 - 1$$

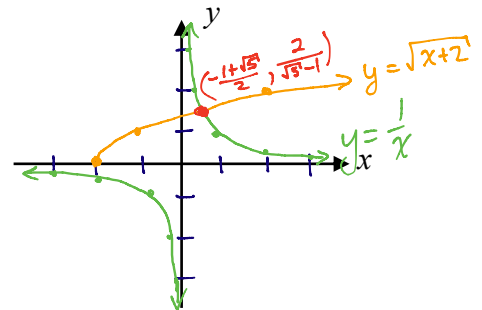
$$0 = (x+1)(x^2+x-1)$$

$$x+1=0 \quad x = \frac{-1 \pm \sqrt{(1)^2 - 4(1)(-1)}}{2(1)}$$

$$x = -1 \quad x = \frac{-1 \pm \sqrt{5}}{2}$$

$$x = -\frac{1+\sqrt{5}}{2} \text{ or } x = -\frac{1-\sqrt{5}}{2}$$

$\therefore x = -1, -\frac{1+\sqrt{5}}{2}, -\frac{1-\sqrt{5}}{2}$
 extraneous roots



\therefore the solution for $f(x) = g(x)$ is $x = \frac{-1+\sqrt{5}}{2}$

Let $p(x) = x^3 + 2x^2 - 1$
 $\therefore p(-1) = 0$
 $\therefore x+1$ is a factor

$$\begin{array}{r} x^2+x-1 \\ x+1 \overline{) x^3+2x^2+0x-1} \\ \underline{x^3+x^2} \\ x^2+0x \\ \underline{x^2+x} \\ -x-1 \\ \underline{-x-1} \\ 0 \end{array}$$

Ex. 2. Given $f(x) = \frac{x}{x+2}$ and $g(x) = 2x+1$, determine:

a) $g^{-1}(x)$

Let $y = 2x+1$.
For the inverse,

$$x = 2y + 1$$

$$x - 1 = 2y$$

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

$$\therefore g^{-1}(x) = \frac{x-1}{2}$$

b) $f^{-1}(x)$

Let $y = \frac{x}{x+2}$
For the inverse:

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

$$x(y+2) = y$$

$$xy + 2x = y$$

$$xy - y = -2x$$

$$y(x-1) = -2x$$

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

$$\therefore f^{-1}(x) = \frac{-2x}{x-1}$$

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

$$g(f(x)) = g\left(\frac{x}{x+2}\right)$$

$$= 2\left(\frac{x}{x+2}\right) + 1$$

$$= \frac{2x}{x+2} + \frac{x+2}{x+2}$$

$$\therefore (g \circ f)(x) = \frac{3x+2}{x+2}$$

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

$$\text{Let } y = \frac{3x+2}{x+2}$$

For the inverse:

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

$$x(y+2) = 3y+2$$

$$xy + 2x = 3y+2$$

$$xy - 3y = 2 - 2x$$

$$y(x-3) = 2 - 2x$$

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

$$\therefore (g \circ f)^{-1}(x) = \frac{2-2x}{x-3}$$

or

$$(g \circ f)^{-1}(x) = \frac{2x-2}{3-x}$$

Ex. 3. A company produces a product for \$9.45 per unit, plus a fixed operating cost of \$52 000. The company sells the product for \$15.80 per unit.

a) Determine a function, $C(x)$, to represent the cost of producing x units, in dollars.

$$C(x) = 9.45x + 52000$$

b) Determine a function, $R(x)$, to represent the revenue generated by selling x units, in dollars.

$$R(x) = 15.8x$$

c) Determine a function, $P(x)$, that represents profit.

$$P(x) = R(x) - C(x)$$

$$P(x) = 15.8x - (9.45x + 52000)$$

$$\therefore P(x) = 6.35x - 52000$$

HW. Using your answers to Ex. 2., show that $(g \circ f)^{-1} = f^{-1} \circ g^{-1}$.

More Applications of Composite Functions Worksheet