



# Inverses of Functions

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# Objective

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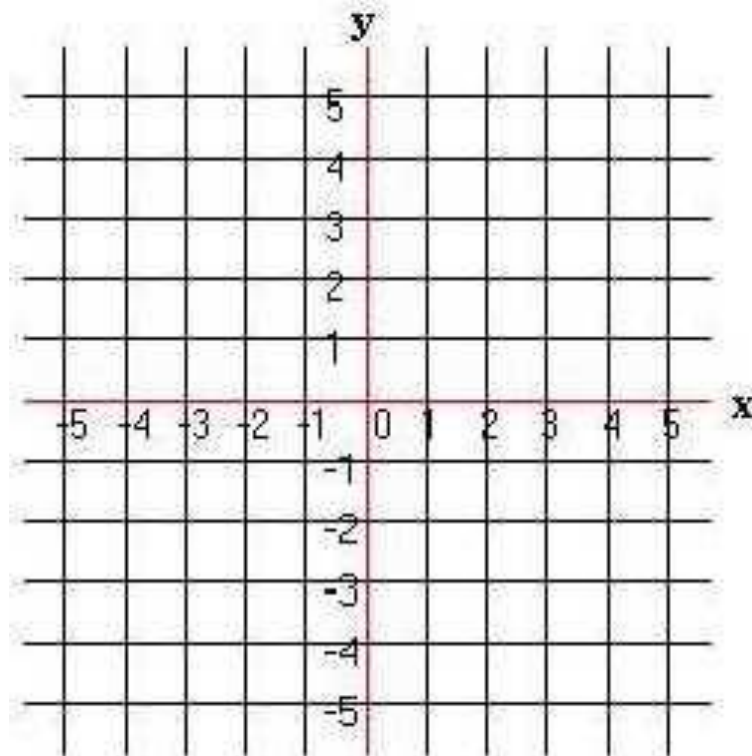
- To be able to find inverses of functions.



Warm Up: Graph & give the  
domain & range.

$$f(x) = \begin{cases} x+5, & x < -3 \\ -2, & -3 < x < 1 \\ x-4, & x \geq 1 \end{cases}$$

**Answer on Next Slide**

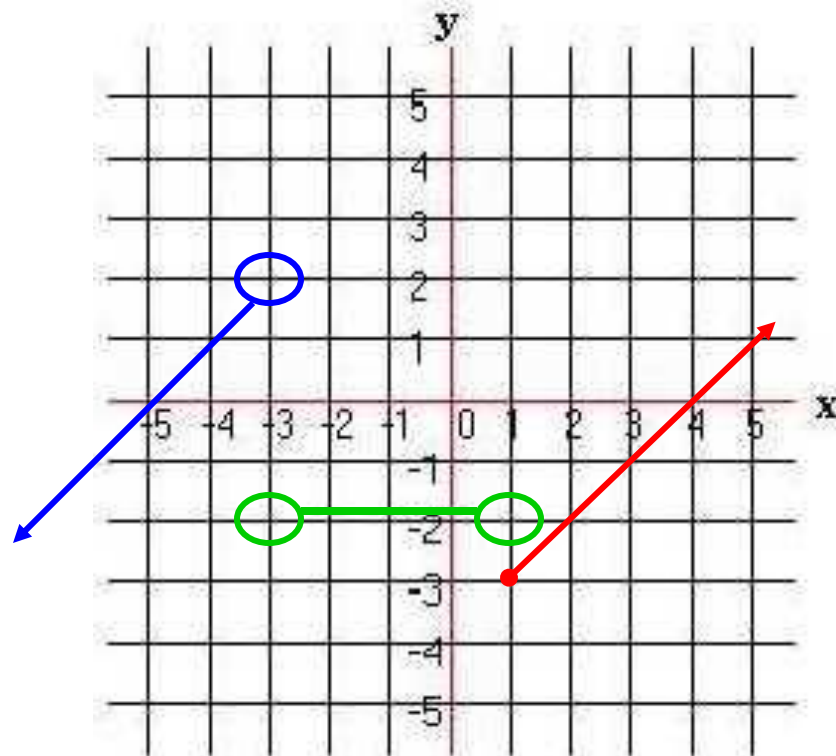


## Warm Up #3: Graph & give the domain & range.

$$f(x) = \begin{cases} x+5, & x < -3 \\ -2, & -3 < x < 1 \\ x-4, & x \geq 1 \end{cases}$$

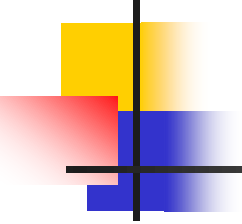
x	y
-3	2
-4	1
-5	0

x	y
1	-3
2	-2
3	-1
4	0



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

$$R : (-\infty, -\infty)$$

- 
- 
- If  $f$  is a function from  $a$  to  $b$ ,  $f(a) = b$  we write  $f: a \rightarrow b$ . We say that  $f$  maps  $a$  to  $b$
  - If  $f$  is a function from  $x$  to  $y$ ,  $f(x) = y$  we write  $f: x \rightarrow y$ . We say that  $f$  maps  $x$  to  $y$

- 
- 
- If  $g(x) = x^2 + 9x - 5$  we write

$$g: x \rightarrow x^2 + 9x - 5$$

- If  $f(x) = 4x^2 - x$  we write

$$f: x \rightarrow 4x^2 - x$$

- If  $f(x) = 17$  we write

$$f: x \rightarrow 17$$

- 
- 
- If  $l(x) = \cos(x)$  we write

$$l : x \rightarrow \cos(x)$$

- If  $f(3x) = 4x^2$  we write

$$f : 3x \rightarrow 4x^2$$

- If  $f : x \rightarrow 1/x$  we write

$$f(x) = 1/x$$



# Vertical Line Test

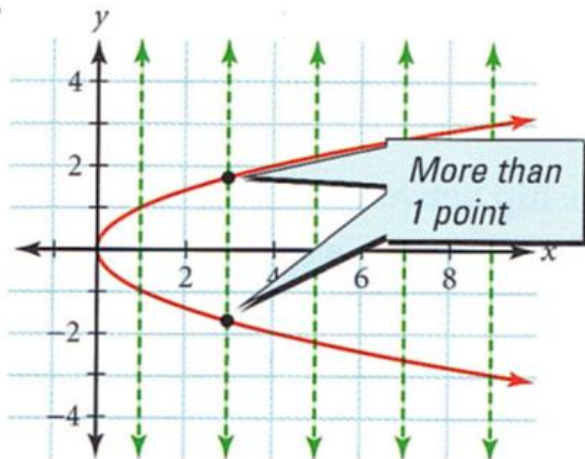
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- Recall that a **function** passes the vertical line test.

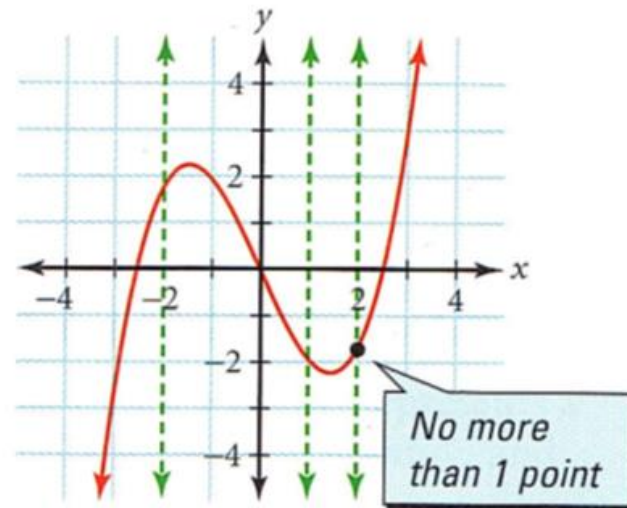


# Vertical Line Test

- Used to determine if a graph is a function.
- If a vertical line intersects the graph at more than one point, then the graph is **NOT** a function.

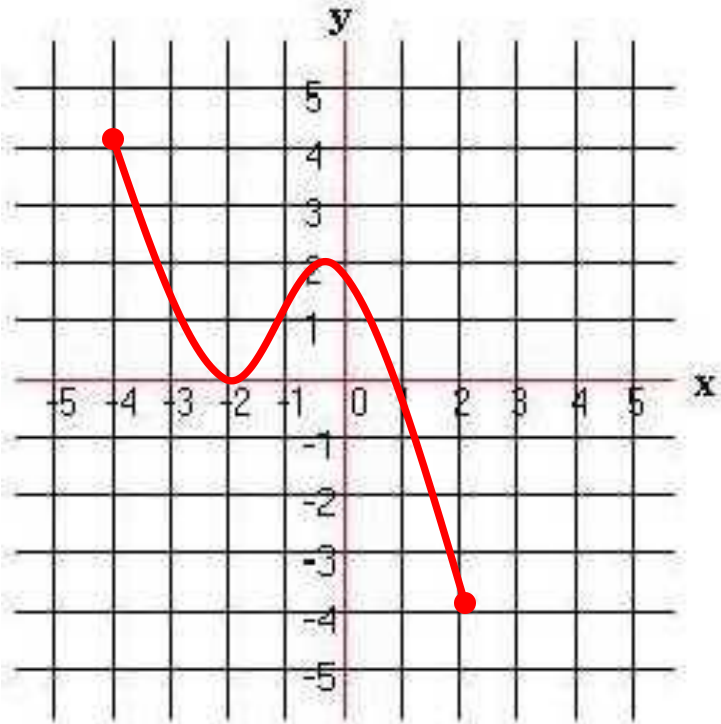


NOT a Function



Is it a function? Give the domain and range.

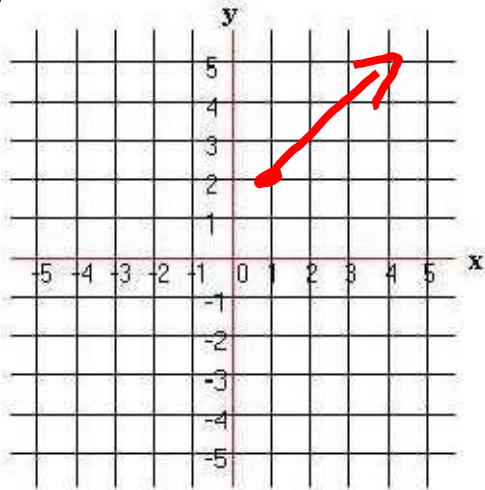
***FUNCTION***



*Domain :  $[-4, 2]$*

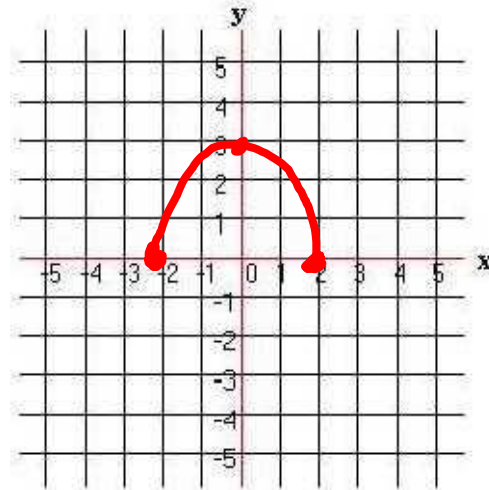
*Range :  $[-4, 4]$*

# Give the Domain and Range.



*Domain :  $x \geq 1$*

*Range :  $y \geq 2$*



*Domain :  $-2 \leq x \leq 2$*

*Range :  $0 \leq y \leq 3$*

# Polynomial Functions

## Definition of a Polynomial Function

### Polynomial Function

A **polynomial function of degree  $n$**  is defined by

$$f(x) = a_n x^n + a_{n-1} x^{n-1} + \cdots + a_1 x + a_0,$$

for real numbers  $a_n, a_{n-1}, \dots, a_1$ , and  $a_0$ , where  $n$  is a whole number.

# Identifying Polynomial Functions

**Circle only the polynomial functions.**

$$f(x) = x^2 + 3x + 2$$

$$f(x) = \sqrt{x^5} + 3x^2 + 6$$

$$f(x) = \frac{3}{4}x^3 + 9x^2 + 10x$$

$$y = 2$$

$$y = \frac{3x^2 + 6x + 10}{2x}$$

# Polynomial Functions

## EXAMPLE

## Evaluating Polynomial Functions

Let  $f(x) = 4x^3 - 5x^2 + 7$ . Find each value.

(b)  $f(-3)$

$$f(x) = 4x^3 - 5x^2 + 7$$

$$f(-3) = 4 \cdot (-3)^3 - 5 \cdot (-3)^2 + 7$$

$$= 4 \cdot (-27) - 5 \cdot 9 + 7$$

$$= -108 - 45 + 7$$

$$= -146$$

# Polynomial Functions

## Adding and Subtracting Functions

### Adding and Subtracting Functions

If  $f(x)$  and  $g(x)$  define functions, then

$$(f + g)(x) = f(x) + g(x) \quad \text{Sum function}$$

and

$$(f - g)(x) = f(x) - g(x). \quad \text{Difference function}$$

In each case, the domain of the new function is the intersection of the domains of  $f(x)$  and  $g(x)$ .

# Polynomial Functions

## EXAMPLE

## Adding and Subtracting Functions

For the polynomial functions defined by

$$f(x) = 2x^2 - 3x + 4 \quad \text{and} \quad g(x) = x^2 + 9x - 5,$$

find **(a)** the sum and **(b)** the difference.

$$\text{(a)} \quad (f + g)(x) = f(x) + g(x) \quad \text{Use the definition.}$$

$$= (2x^2 - 3x + 4) + (x^2 + 9x - 5) \quad \text{Substitute.}$$

$$= 3x^2 + 6x - 1 \quad \text{Add the polynomials.}$$

$$\text{(b)} \quad (f - g)(x) = f(x) - g(x) \quad \text{Use the definition.}$$

$$= (2x^2 - 3x + 4) - (x^2 + 9x - 5) \quad \text{Substitute.}$$

$$= x^2 - 12x + 9 \quad \text{Add.}$$



# Polynomial Functions

## EXAMPLE

## Adding and Subtracting Functions

For the polynomial functions defined by

$$f(x) = 4x^2 - x \quad \text{and} \quad g(x) = 3x,$$

find each of the following.

**(a)**  $(f + g)(5)$

$$(f + g)(5) = f(5) + g(5) \quad \text{Use the definition.}$$

$$= [4(5)^2 - 5] + 3(5) \quad \text{Substitute.}$$

$$= 110$$

# Polynomial Functions

## EXAMPLE

## Adding and Subtracting Functions

For the polynomial functions defined by  
 $f(x) = 4x^2 - x$  and  $g(x) = 3x$ ,  
find each of the following.

**(a)**  $(f + g)(5)$

Alternatively, we could first find  $(f + g)(x)$ .

$$(f + g)(x) = f(x) + g(x)$$

Use the definition.

$$= (4x^2 - x) + 3x$$

Substitute.

$$= 4x^2 + 2x$$

# Polynomial Functions

## EXAMPLE

## Adding and Subtracting Functions

For the polynomial functions defined by

$$f(x) = 4x^2 - x \quad \text{and} \quad g(x) = 3x,$$

find each of the following.

**(b)**  $(f - g)(x)$  and  $(f - g)(3)$

$$(f - g)(x) = f(x) - g(x)$$

Use the definition.

$$= (4x^2 - x) - 3x$$

Substitute.

$$= 4x^2 - 4x$$

Combine like terms.

Then,

$$(f - g)(3) = 4(3)^2 - 4(3) = 24.$$

Substitute.

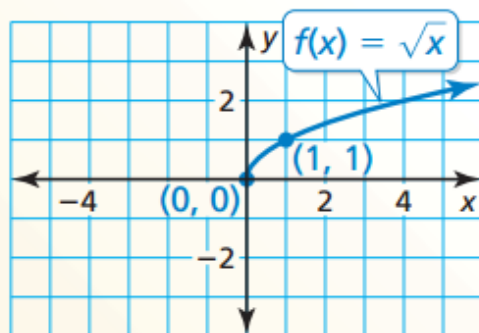
Confirm that  $f(3) - g(3)$  gives the same result.

A power function of degree  $n$  is a function of the form

### Core Concept

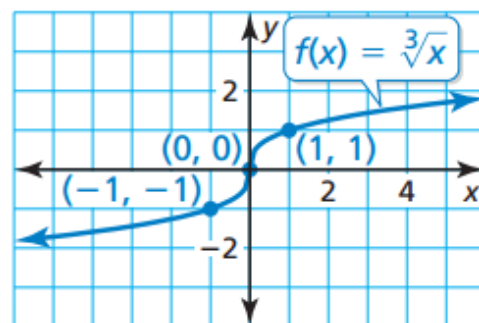
#### Parent Functions for Square Root and Cube Root Functions

The parent function for the family of square root functions is  $f(x) = \sqrt{x}$ .



Domain:  $x \geq 0$ , Range:  $y \geq 0$

The parent function for the family of cube root functions is  $f(x) = \sqrt[3]{x}$ .



Domain and range: All real numbers



# Exponential Functions

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- A polynomial function has the basic form:  $f(x) = x^3$
- An exponential function has the basic form:  $f(x) = 3^x$
- An exponential function has the variable in the exponent, not in the base.
- General Form of an Exponential Function:  
$$f(x) = N^x, N > 0$$



# The Number $e$

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A base often associated with exponential functions is:

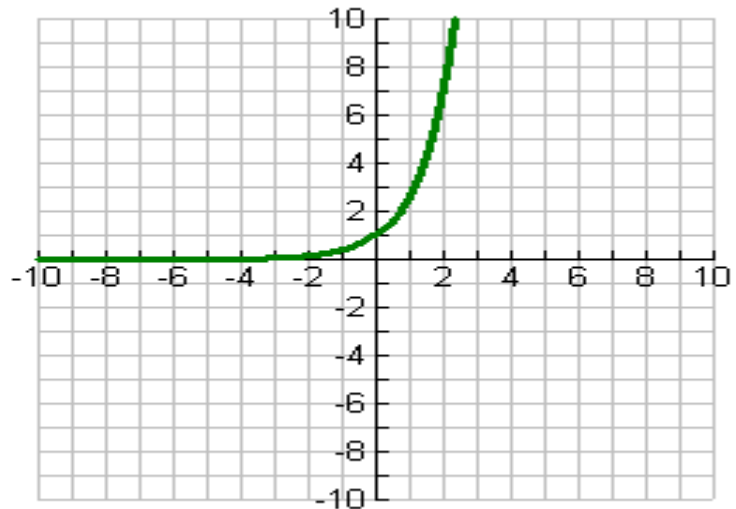
$$e \approx 2.71828169$$



# The Exponential Function

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$$f(x) = e^x$$





# Rational Functions

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**Rational functions** are quotients of polynomial functions. This means that rational functions can be expressed as

$$f(x) = \frac{p(x)}{q(x)}$$

where  $p(x)$  and  $q(x)$  are polynomial functions and  $q(x) \neq 0$ . The **domain** of a rational function is the set of all real numbers except the  $x$ -values that make the denominator zero. For example, the domain of the rational function

$$f(x) = \frac{x^2 + 7x + 9}{x(x - 2)(x + 5)}$$

This is  $p(x)$ .

This is  $q(x)$ .

is the set of all real numbers except 0, 2, and -5.



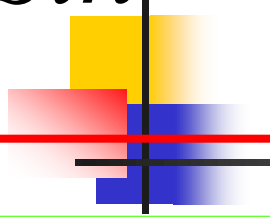


# Definition: Logarithmic Function

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- For  $x > 0$ ,  $b > 0$  and  $b$  not equal to 1 the logarithm of  $x$  with base  $b$  is defined by the following:

$$\log_b x = y \Leftrightarrow x = b^y$$


$$\sin = \frac{\text{Opp Leg}}{\text{Hyp}}$$

$$\cos = \frac{\text{Adj Leg}}{\text{Hyp}}$$

$$\tan = \frac{\text{Opp Leg}}{\text{Adj Leg}}$$



# Inverse Trigonometric Function

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- $y = \sin x$  has a unique inverse function called the **inverse sine function**. It is denoted by
- $y = \arcsin x$  or  $y = \sin^{-1} x$ .
- The notation  $\sin^{-1} x$  is consistent with the inverse function notation  $f^{-1}(x)$ .

When we are trying to find a  
**side**

we use  $\sin$ ,  $\cos$ , or  $\tan$ .

When we are trying to find an  
**angle**

we use  $\sin^{-1}$ ,  $\cos^{-1}$ , or  $\tan^{-1}$ .



# Special Functions

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# Evaluating Piecewise Functions

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- Piecewise functions are functions defined by **at least two equations**, each of which applies to a different part of the domain
- A piecewise function

$$f(x) := \begin{cases} x + 3 & x > 0 \\ 2x - 1 & x \leq 0 \end{cases}$$

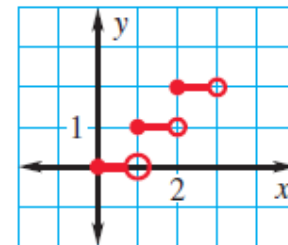
# Step Functions

Looks like a flight of stairs

An example of a step function:

$$f(x) = \begin{cases} 0, & \text{if } 0 \leq x < 1 \\ 1, & \text{if } 1 \leq x < 2 \\ 2, & \text{if } 2 \leq x < 3 \end{cases}$$

Graphically, the equation would look like this:



# Absolute Value Function is a Piecewise Function

$$\text{Graph of } f(x) = |x| = \begin{cases} x, & x \geq 0 \\ -x, & x < 0 \end{cases}$$

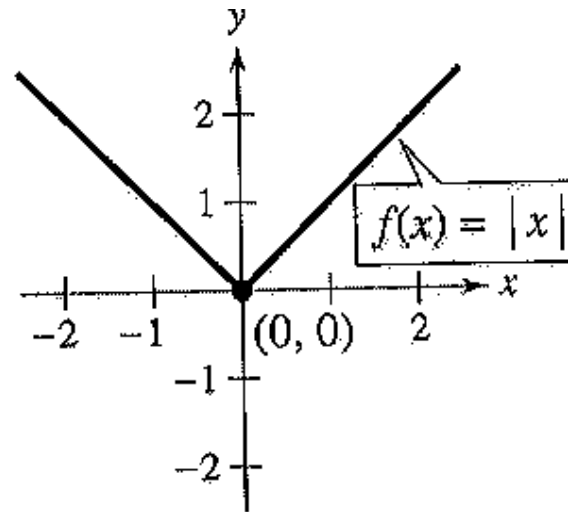
Domain:  $(-\infty, \infty)$

Range:  $[0, \infty)$

Intercept:  $(0, 0)$

Decreasing on  $(-\infty, 0)$

Increasing on  $(0, \infty)$







# Greatest Integer Function

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The **greatest integer function**, usually written  $f(x) = \lfloor x \rfloor$ , is defined as follows:

$\lfloor x \rfloor$  denotes the largest integer that is less than or equal to  $x$ .

For example,

$$\lfloor 9 \rfloor = 9, \quad \lfloor -3.8 \rfloor = -4, \quad \lfloor 5.7 \rfloor = 5.$$

# Additional Graphs of Functions; Composition

## EXAMPLE

## Graphing the Greatest Integer Function

Graph  $f(x) = \lfloor x \rfloor$ .

For  $\lfloor x \rfloor$ ,

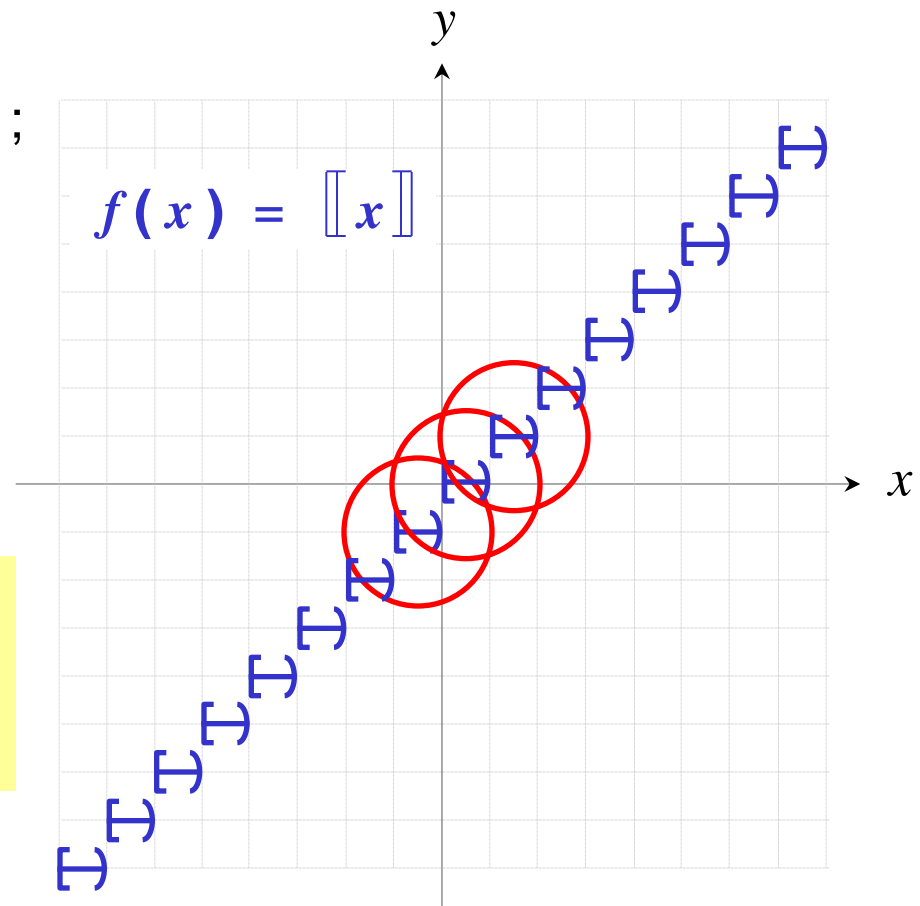
if  $-1 \leq x < 0$ , then  $\lfloor x \rfloor = -1$ ;

if  $0 \leq x < 1$ , then  $\lfloor x \rfloor = 0$ ;

if  $1 \leq x < 2$ , then  $\lfloor x \rfloor = 1$ ,

and so on.

The appearance of the graph is the reason that this function is called a **step function**.



# Additional Graphs of Functions; Composition

## Composition of Functions

### Composition of Functions

If  $f$  and  $g$  are functions, then the **composite function**, or **composition**, of  $g$  and  $f$  is defined by

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

for all  $x$  in the domain of  $f$  such that  $f(x)$  is in the domain of  $g$ .

# Additional Graphs of Functions; Composition

## EXAMPLE

## Evaluating a Composite Function

Let  $f(x) = 3x^2 + 5$  and  $g(x) = x - 7$ . Find  $(f \circ g)(2)$ .

$$(f \circ g)(2) = f(g(2)) \quad \text{Definition}$$

$$= f(2 - 7) \quad \text{Use the rule for } g(x); g(2) = 2 - 7.$$

$$= f(-5) \quad \text{Subtract.}$$

$$= 3(-5)^2 + 5 \quad \text{Use the rule for } f(x); f(-5) = 3(-5)^2 + 5.$$

$$= 80$$

# Additional Graphs of Functions; Composition

## EXAMPLE

## Evaluating a Composite Function

Let  $f(x) = 3x^2 + 5$  and  $g(x) = x - 7$ . Now find  $(g \circ f)(2)$ .

$$(g \circ f)(2) = g(f(2)) \quad \text{Definition}$$

$$= g(3(2)^2 + 5) \quad \text{Use the rule for } f(x); f(2) = 3(2)^2 + 5.$$

$$= g(17) \quad \text{Square, multiply, and then add.}$$

$$= 17 - 7 \quad \text{Use the rule for } g(x); g(17) = 17 - 7.$$

$$= 10$$

# Additional Graphs of Functions; Composition

## EXAMPLE

## Evaluating a Composite Function

Let  $f(x) = 3x^2 + 5$  and  $g(x) = x - 7$ . Notice that  $(f \circ g)(2) \neq (g \circ f)(2)$ .

$$(f \circ g)(2) = f[g(2)]$$

$$= f(2 - 7)$$

$$= f(-5)$$

$$= 3(-5)^2 + 5$$

$$= 80$$

$$(g \circ f)(2) = g[f(2)]$$

$$= g(3(2)^2 + 5)$$

$$= g(17)$$

$$= 17 - 7$$

$$= 10$$

In general,  $(f \circ g)(2) \neq (g \circ f)(2)$ .

# Additional Graphs of Functions; Composition

## EXAMPLE

## Finding Composite Functions

Let  $f(x) = 5x + 1$  and  $g(x) = x^2 - 4$ . Find each of the following.

(a)  $(f \circ g)(-3)$

$$(f \circ g)(-3) = f[g(-3)]$$

$$= f((-3)^2 - 4) \qquad g(x) = x^2 - 4$$

$$= f(5)$$

$$= 5(5) + 1 \qquad f(x) = 5x + 1$$

$$= 26$$

# Additional Graphs of Functions; Composition

## EXAMPLE

## Finding Composite Functions

Let  $f(x) = 5x + 1$  and  $g(x) = x^2 - 4$ . Find each of the following.

(b)  $(f \circ g)(n)$

$$(f \circ g)(n) = f[g(n)]$$

$$= f(n^2 - 4)$$

$$g(x) = x^2 - 4$$

$$= 5(n^2 - 4) + 1$$

$$f(x) = 5x + 1$$

$$= 5n^2 - 19$$



# Additional Graphs of Functions; Composition

## EXAMPLE

## Finding Composite Functions

Let  $f(x) = 5x + 1$  and  $g(x) = x^2 - 4$ . Find each of the following.

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

$$(g \circ f)(n) = g[f(n)]$$

$$= g(5n + 1)$$

$$f(x) = 5x + 1$$

$$= (5n + 1)^2 - 4$$

$$g(x) = x^2 - 4$$

$$= 25n^2 + 10n + 1 - 4$$

$$= 25n^2 + 10n - 3$$



# Intro to Inverses

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- A function describes the relationship between 2 variables, applying a rule to an input that generates exactly one output.
- For such relationships, we are often compelled to “reverse” or “undo” the rule.



# Progress of Inverses Throughout Math

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- Learned Addition and then its inverse operation Subtraction.
- Learned Multiplication and then its inverse operation Division.
- Learning Perfect Squares connects with extracting Square Roots
- **Basically – Inverses are a second operation that reverses the first one!**



# Calculator Inverses

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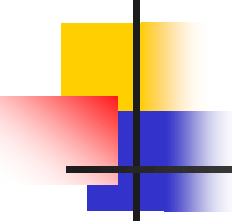
- Take a look at your GDC's and observe the keys.
- Do you notice that inverse operations of many calculator commands are "second" functions?
- A calculator key pairs an operation or function with its inverse.



# Inverse of a relation

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- The inverse of the ordered pairs ( $x$ ,  $y$ ) is the set of all ordered pairs ( $y$ ,  $x$ ).
- The Domain of the function is the range of the inverse and the Range of the function is the Domain of the inverse.
- Symbol:  $f^{-1}(x)$  **In other words, switch the x's and y's!**



**Example:**  $\{(1,2), (2, 4), (3, 6), (4, 8)\}$

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**Inverse:**

$$\{(2,1), (4,2), (6,3), (8,4)\}$$



# To find an inverse...

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- Switch the  $x$ 's and  $y$ 's.
- Solve for  $y$ .
- Change to functional notation.



**Find Inverse:**

$$f(x) = 8x - 1$$

$$f(x) = 8x - 1$$

$$y = 8x - 1$$

$$x = 8y - 1$$

$$8y = x + 1$$

$$y = \frac{x + 1}{8}$$

$$f^{-1}(x) = \frac{x + 1}{8}$$





Find Inverse:  $f(x) = 8x - 2$

$$f(x) = 8x - 2$$

$$y = 8x - 2$$

$$x = 8y - 2$$

$$8y = x + 2$$

$$y = \frac{x + 2}{8}$$

$$f^{-1} = \frac{x + 2}{8}$$



Find Inverse:

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

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

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

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

$$3y + 1 = 2x$$

$$3y = 2x - 1$$

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

$$f^{-1} = \frac{2x - 1}{3}$$



Find Inverse:

$$f(x) = x^2 + 4$$

$$f(x) = x^2 + 4$$

$$y = x^2 + 4$$

$$x = y^2 + 4$$

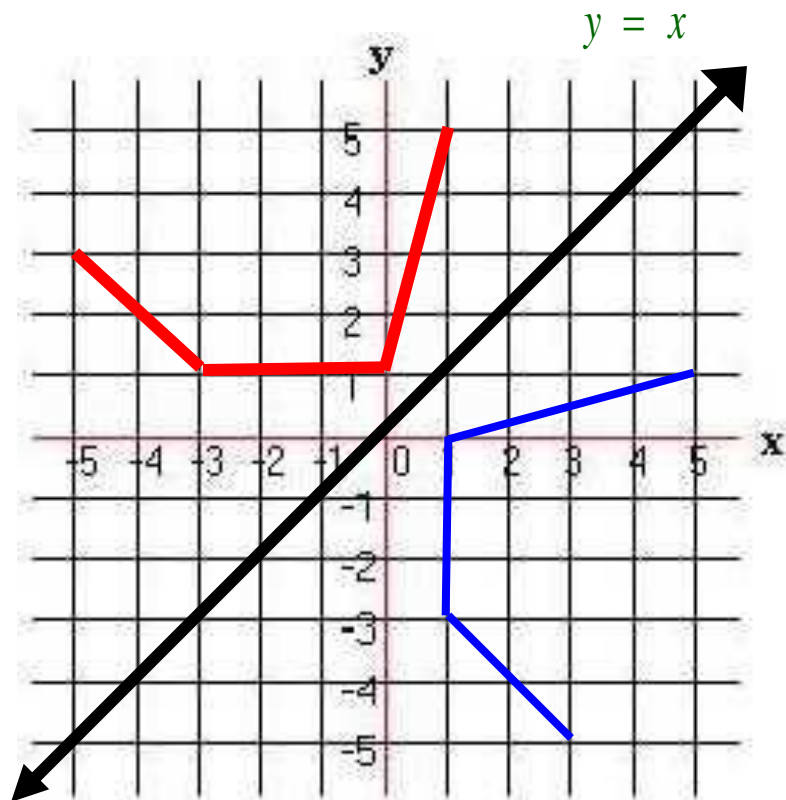
$$y^2 = x - 4$$

$$y = \sqrt{x - 4}$$

$$f^{-1}(x) = \pm \sqrt{x - 4}$$

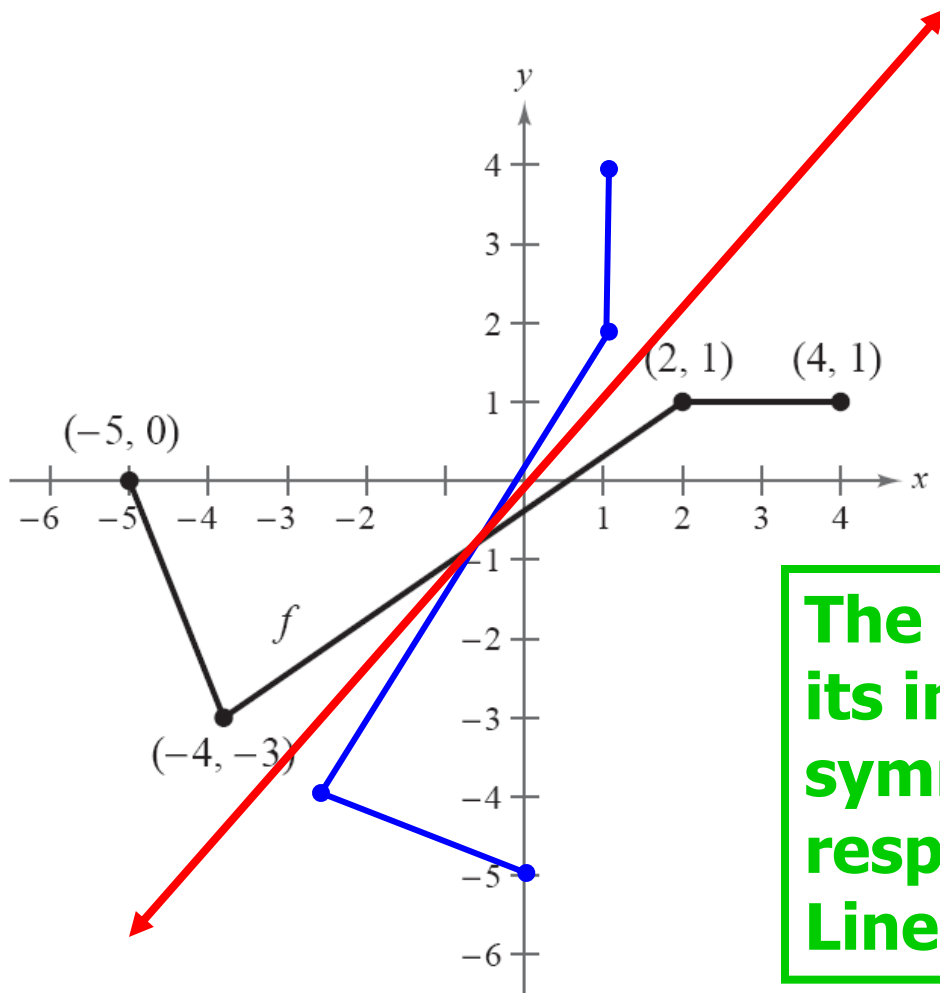
**Draw the inverse. Compare to the line  $y = x$ . What do you notice?**

$(-5,3)$   
 $(-4,2)$   
 $(-3,1)$   
 $(-2,1)$   
 $(-1,1)$   
 $(0,1)$   
 $(1,5)$



$(3,-5)$   
 $(2,-4)$   
 $(1,-3)$   
 $(1,-2)$   
 $(1,-1)$   
 $(1,0)$   
 $(5,1)$

Graph the inverse of the following:



The function and its inverse are symmetric with respect to the Line  $y = x$ .

x	y
0	-5
-3	-4
1	2
1	4



# Things to note..

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- The domain of  $f^{-1}(x)$  is the range of  $f(x)$ .
- The graph of an inverse function can be found by reflecting a function in the line  $y=x$ .

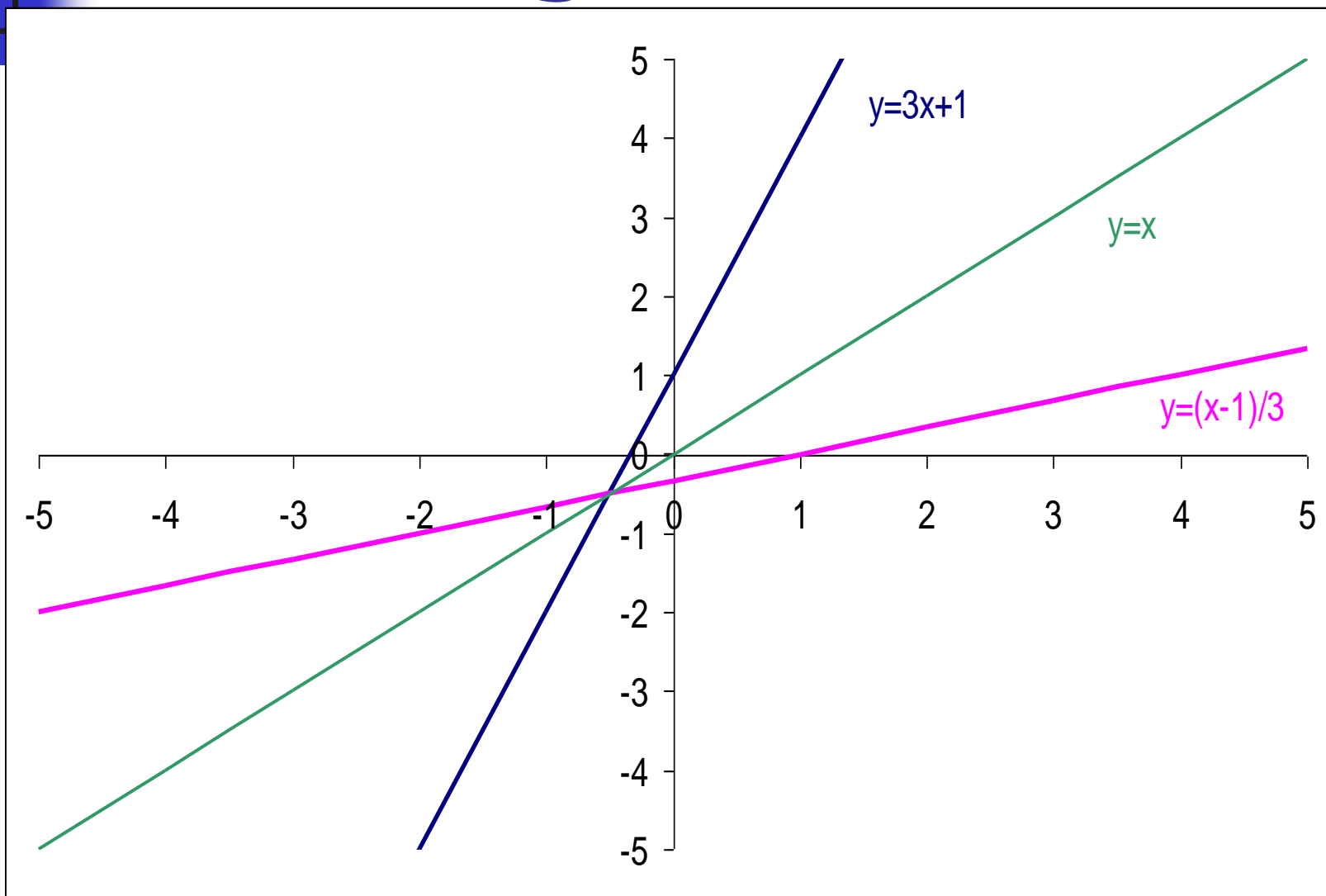
Check this by plotting  $y = 3x + 1$  and

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

**Take a look**



# Reflecting..





# Composition and Inverses

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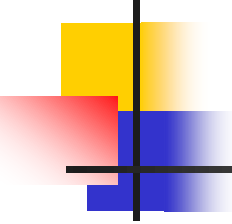
- If  $f$  and  $g$  are functions and

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

then  $f$  and  $g$  are inverses of one another.







Example: Show that the following are inverses of each other.

---

$$f(x) = 7x - 2 \text{ and } g(x) = \frac{1}{7}x + \frac{2}{7}$$

$$\begin{aligned}(f \circ g)(x) &= 7\left(\frac{1}{7}x + \frac{2}{7}\right) - 2 \\ &= x + 2 - 2 \\ &= x\end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}(g \circ f)(x) &= \frac{1}{7}(7x - 2) + \frac{2}{7} \\ &= x - \frac{2}{7} + \frac{2}{7} \\ &= x\end{aligned}$$

**The composition of each both produce a value of x; Therefore, they are inverses of each other.**

Are f & g inverses?

$$f(x) = x^3 - 4$$

$$g(x) = \sqrt[3]{x+4}$$

$$\begin{aligned}(f \circ g)(x) &= \left(\sqrt[3]{x+4}\right)^3 - 4 \\ &= x + 4 - 4 \\ &= x\end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}(g \circ f)(x) &= \sqrt[3]{x^3 - 4 + 4} \\ &= \sqrt[3]{x^3} \\ &= x\end{aligned}$$

***YES!***



## You Try....

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- Show that

$$f(x) = 4x - 3 \text{ and } g(x) = \frac{1}{4}x + \frac{3}{4}$$

- are inverses of each other.

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

*Therefore, they ARE  
inverses of each other.*

Are f & g inverses?

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

$$(f \circ g)(x) = 3\left(\frac{x + 2}{3}\right) - 2$$
$$= x + 2 - 2$$
$$= x$$

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

***YES!***