

# Algebra review

## 1. Trigonometry

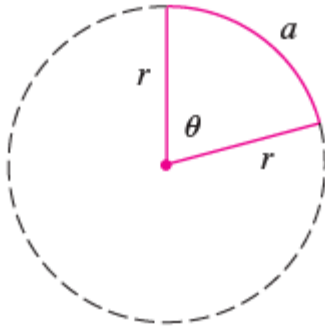


FIGURE 1

### 1.1 Angles

$$\theta = \frac{a}{r}$$

$$a = \theta r$$

### 1.2 The Trigonometric functions

$$\sin \theta = \frac{y}{r}, \quad \csc \theta = \frac{r}{y},$$

$$\cos \theta = \frac{x}{r}, \quad \sec \theta = \frac{r}{x},$$

$$\tan \theta = \frac{y}{x}, \quad \cot \theta = \frac{x}{y}$$

### 1.3 Trigonometric identities

Function	Identity
$\csc \theta$	$\frac{1}{\sin \theta}$
$\sec \theta$	$\frac{1}{\cos \theta}$
$\cot \theta$	$\frac{1}{\tan \theta}$
$\tan \theta$	$\frac{\sin \theta}{\cos \theta}$
$\cot \theta$	$\frac{\cos \theta}{\sin \theta}$

Identity	Equation
Pythagorean Identity 1	$\sin^2 \theta + \cos^2 \theta = 1$
Pythagorean Identity 2	$\tan^2 \theta + 1 = \sec^2 \theta$
Pythagorean Identity 3	$1 + \cot^2 \theta = \csc^2 \theta$

- Sum and Difference Formulas**

$$\sin(x + y) = \sin x \cos y + \cos x \sin y$$

$$\sin(x - y) = \sin x \cos y - \cos x \sin y$$

$$\cos(x + y) = \cos x \cos y - \sin x \sin y$$

$$\cos(x - y) = \cos x \cos y + \sin x \sin y$$

$$\tan(x + y) = \frac{\tan x + \tan y}{1 - \tan x \tan y}$$

$$\tan(x - y) = \frac{\tan x - \tan y}{1 + \tan x \tan y}$$

- Double-Angle Identities**

$$\sin(2\theta) = 2 \sin \theta \cos \theta$$

$$\cos(2\theta) = \cos^2 \theta - \sin^2 \theta$$

$$= 2 \cos^2 \theta - 1$$

$$= 1 - 2 \sin^2 \theta$$

$$\tan(2\theta) = \frac{2 \tan \theta}{1 - \tan^2 \theta}$$

- Half-Angle Identities**

$$\begin{aligned}\sin\left(\frac{\theta}{2}\right) &= \pm\sqrt{\frac{1-\cos\theta}{2}} \\ \cos\left(\frac{\theta}{2}\right) &= \pm\sqrt{\frac{1+\cos\theta}{2}} \\ \tan\left(\frac{\theta}{2}\right) &= \pm\sqrt{\frac{1-\cos\theta}{1+\cos\theta}} \\ &= \frac{\sin\theta}{1+\cos\theta} \\ &= \frac{1-\cos\theta}{\sin\theta}\end{aligned}$$

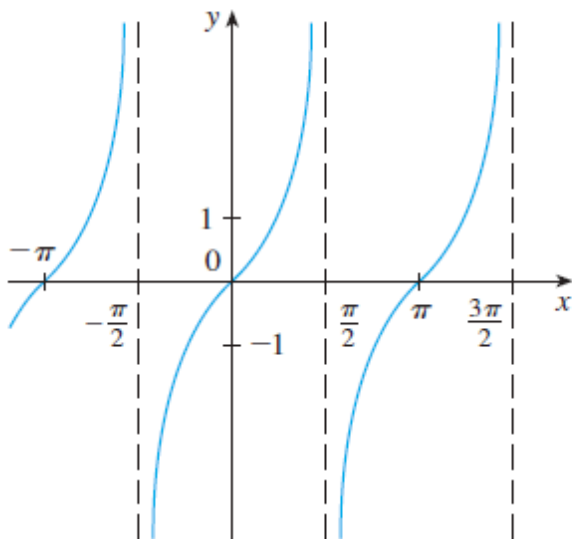
- **product formulas**

$$\begin{aligned}\sin x \sin y &= \frac{1}{2}[\cos(x-y) - \cos(x+y)] \\ \cos x \cos y &= \frac{1}{2}[\cos(x-y) + \cos(x+y)] \\ \sin x \cos y &= \frac{1}{2}[\sin(x+y) + \sin(x-y)] \\ \cos x \sin y &= \frac{1}{2}[\sin(x+y) - \sin(x-y)]\end{aligned}$$

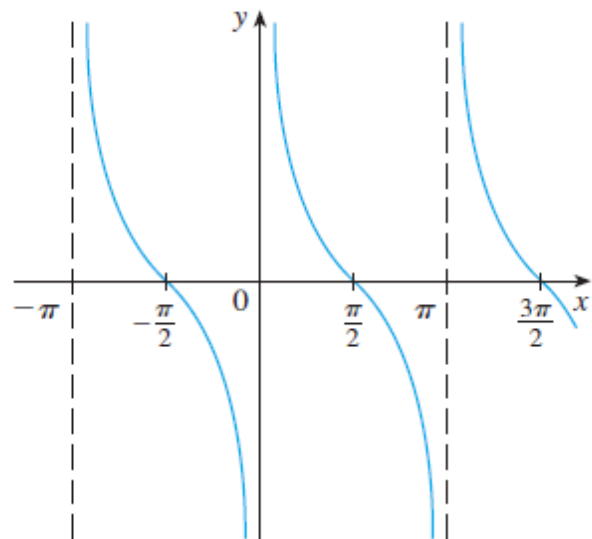
$$\begin{aligned}\sin x + \sin y &= 2 \sin\left(\frac{x+y}{2}\right) \cos\left(\frac{x-y}{2}\right) \\ \sin x - \sin y &= 2 \cos\left(\frac{x+y}{2}\right) \sin\left(\frac{x-y}{2}\right) \\ \cos x + \cos y &= 2 \cos\left(\frac{x+y}{2}\right) \cos\left(\frac{x-y}{2}\right) \\ \cos x - \cos y &= -2 \sin\left(\frac{x+y}{2}\right) \sin\left(\frac{x-y}{2}\right)\end{aligned}$$

\*Hint:

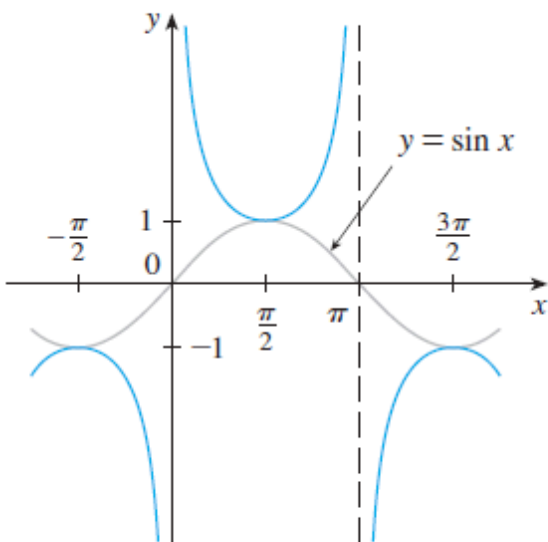
$$\sin x = \sin\left(\frac{x+y}{2} + \frac{x-y}{2}\right), \quad \sin y = \sin\left(\frac{x+y}{2} - \frac{x-y}{2}\right)$$



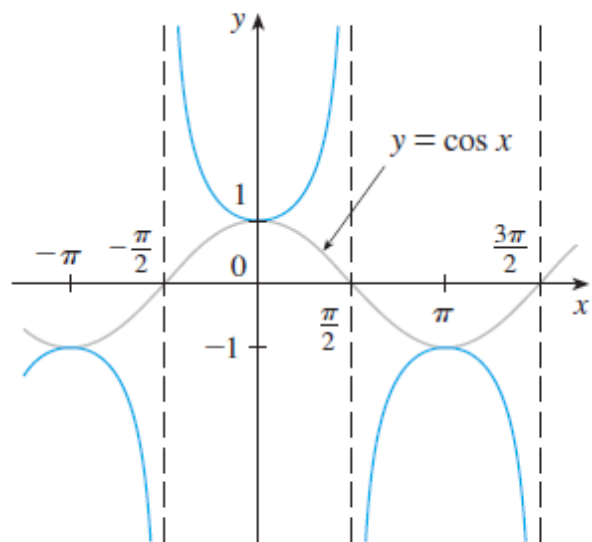
(a)  $y = \tan x$



(b)  $y = \cot x$



(c)  $y = \csc x$



(d)  $y = \sec x$

## 2. Sigma Notations

### Theorem: Properties of Summation

Let  $c$  be a constant. Then:

$$\sum_{i=m}^n ca_i = c \sum_{i=m}^n a_i$$

$$\sum_{i=m}^n (a_i + b_i) = \sum_{i=m}^n a_i + \sum_{i=m}^n b_i$$

$$\sum_{i=m}^n (a_i - b_i) = \sum_{i=m}^n a_i - \sum_{i=m}^n b_i$$

## Theorem: Common Summation Formulas

Let  $c$  be a constant and  $n$  a positive integer. Then:

$$1. \sum_{i=1}^n 1 = n$$

$$2. \sum_{i=1}^n c = nc$$

$$3. \sum_{i=1}^n i = \frac{n(n+1)}{2}$$

$$4. \sum_{i=1}^n i^2 = \frac{n(n+1)(2n+1)}{6}$$

$$5. \sum_{i=1}^n i^3 = \left( \frac{n(n+1)}{2} \right)^2$$

### 5. Proof by Mathematical Induction

We want to prove:  $\sum_{i=1}^n i^3 = \left( \frac{n(n+1)}{2} \right)^2$

#### Step 1: Base Case ( $n = 1$ )

Left-hand side (LHS):  $\sum_{i=1}^1 i^3 = 1^3 = 1$

Right-hand side (RHS):  $\left( \frac{1(1+1)}{2} \right)^2 = \left( \frac{2}{2} \right)^2 = 1$

✓ LHS = RHS, so the base case holds.

#### Step 2: Inductive Hypothesis

Assume that the formula holds for ( $n = k$ ), i.e.,

$$\sum_{i=1}^k i^3 = \left( \frac{k(k+1)}{2} \right)^2$$

We need to prove that it also holds for ( $n = k + 1$ ), i.e.,

$$\sum_{i=1}^{k+1} i^3 = \left( \frac{(k+1)(k+2)}{2} \right)^2$$

### Step 3: Inductive Step

Start with the left-hand side for  $n = k + 1$  :  $\sum_{i=1}^{k+1} i^3 = \left( \sum_{i=1}^k i^3 \right) + (k + 1)^3$

Use the inductive hypothesis:

$$= \left( \frac{k(k+1)}{2} \right)^2 + (k+1)^3 = (k+1)^2 \left[ \left( \frac{k}{2} \right)^2 + (k+1) \right]$$

Simplify inside the brackets:

$$= (k+1)^2 \left[ \frac{k^2}{4} + (k+1) \right] = (k+1)^2 \left[ \frac{k^2 + 4k + 4}{4} \right] = (k+1)^2 \cdot \frac{(k+2)^2}{4}$$

So we have:

$$\sum_{i=1}^{k+1} i^3 = \left( \frac{(k+1)(k+2)}{2} \right)^2$$

✓ This matches the desired formula for (  $n = k + 1$  ).

**By the principle of mathematical induction, the identity**

$$\sum_{i=1}^n i^3 = \left( \frac{n(n+1)}{2} \right)^2$$

**holds for all positive integers  $n$ .**

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## 3. Equations, Inequalities, and Polynomials

### 3.1 Key Topics

#### 3.1.1 Polynomial Equations

- **Forms:**
  - Linear:  $ax + b = 0$
  - Quadratic:  $ax^2 + bx + c = 0$
  - Higher-degree:  $ax^n + \dots + k = 0$
- **Solving Methods:**
  - Factoring (common factors, difference of squares, trinomial patterns)
  - Quadratic Formula:

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

- Completing the Square
- Polynomial Division (Long Division or Synthetic Division)
- Rational Root Theorem: test rational values  $\pm \frac{p}{q}$
- Descartes' Rule of Signs: estimate number of positive/negative real roots
- Graphical methods

## ***Rational Root Theorem (Rational Zero Test)***

Let the polynomial be:

$$P(x) = a_n x^n + \cdots + a_1 x + a_0$$

### **Theorem:**

If a rational number  $\frac{p}{q}$  (in lowest terms) is a root of the polynomial, then:

- $p$  must divide the **constant term**  $a_0$
- $q$  must divide the **leading coefficient**  $a_n$

### **Steps to Use the Rational Root Theorem:**

1. **List all possible rational root candidates:**

$$\text{Candidates} = \pm \frac{\text{factors of } a_0}{\text{factors of } a_n}$$

2. **Test each candidate**

### **Example:**

Let:

$$P(x) = 2x^3 - 3x^2 - 11x + 6$$

- Constant term:  $a_0 = 6 \rightarrow$  factors:  $\pm 1, \pm 2, \pm 3, \pm 6$
- Leading coefficient:  $a_n = 2 \rightarrow$  factors:  $\pm 1, \pm 2$
- Possible rational roots:

$$\pm 1, \pm 2, \pm 3, \pm 6, \pm \frac{1}{2}, \pm \frac{3}{2}$$

### Test roots:

Assume we find (  $x = 2$  ) is a root.

Then use **polynomial division** to factor:

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

## Descartes' Rule of Signs — Explanation

**Descartes' Rule of Signs** is a method to estimate the number of **positive** and **negative** real roots of a polynomial equation by examining the signs of its coefficients.

Consider a polynomial:

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

### i. Positive Real Roots

1. Count the number of **sign changes** in the coefficients of  $P(x)$   
(A sign change occurs when consecutive coefficients have opposite signs, e.g., from + to - or - to +.)
2. The number of **positive real roots** is **equal to the number of sign changes or less than that by an even number** (i.e., number of sign changes  $- 2k$ , where  $k \geq 0$ ).

### ii. Negative Real Roots

1. Substitute  $x \rightarrow -x$  to get  $P(-x)$
2. Count the number of **sign changes** in the coefficients of  $P(-x)$
3. The number of **negative real roots** is equal to the number of sign changes in  $P(-x)$  or less by an even number.

## Example

Let:

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

- Coefficients of  $P(x)$  are  $[+1, -4, +5, -2]$ 
  - Number of sign changes: 3
  - Possible positive roots: 3 or 1 (3 minus an even number)



Compute

$$P(-x) = -x^3 - 4x^2 - 5x - 2$$

- Coefficients of  $P(-x)$  are  $[-1, -4, -5, -2]$ 
  - Number of sign changes: 0
  - Possible negative roots: 0

## Summary

- Sign changes in  $P(x)$  give possible positive roots.
  - Sign changes in  $P(-x)$  give possible negative roots.
  - The actual number of roots is the count or less by an even number.
- 

### 3.1.2 Fundamental Theorem of Algebra

- Every non-zero single-variable polynomial of degree  $n$  has exactly  $n$  complex roots (counting multiplicity).
- **Corollary:** A real polynomial can be factored into linear and/or irreducible quadratic factors over the reals.

### 3.1.3 Inequalities

- **Linear/Quadratic Inequalities:**
  - Solve like equations and test intervals (sign charts)
  - Use parabola shape and x-intercepts to determine sign regions
- **Polynomial/Rational Inequalities:**
  - Identify critical points (roots and undefined points)
  - Use sign charts or test points to determine solution intervals
  - Always consider open vs closed intervals based on inequality symbols
  - Write solution sets in interval notation

### 3.1.4 Special Polynomial Types

- **Even and Odd degree:** affects end behavior
  - **Symmetric Polynomials:** e.g., palindromic or reciprocal polynomials
  - **Monic Polynomials:** leading coefficient is 1
  - **Factored Form:** Useful for analyzing roots and graphing
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## 3.2 Connections to Calculus

- **Graphing:**
  - Roots are x-intercepts
  - Multiplicity affects whether graph crosses or touches x-axis
  - End behavior determined by degree and leading coefficient

- **Limits & Asymptotic Behavior:**

Let  $P(x)$  and  $Q(x)$  be polynomials. As  $x \rightarrow \infty$ :

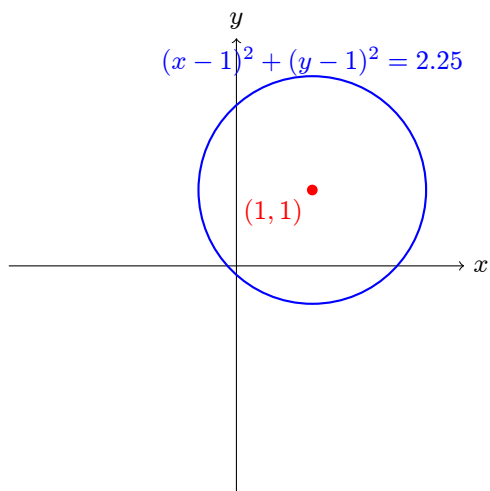
- If  $\deg(P) < \deg(Q)$ :  $\lim \frac{P(x)}{Q(x)} = 0$
  - If  $\deg(P) = \deg(Q)$ : limit is the ratio of leading coefficients
  - If  $\deg(P) > \deg(Q)$ :  $\lim \frac{P(x)}{Q(x)} = \infty$  or DNE (slant asymptote may exist)
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## 4. Graphs of Second-Degree Equations

### 4.1 circles

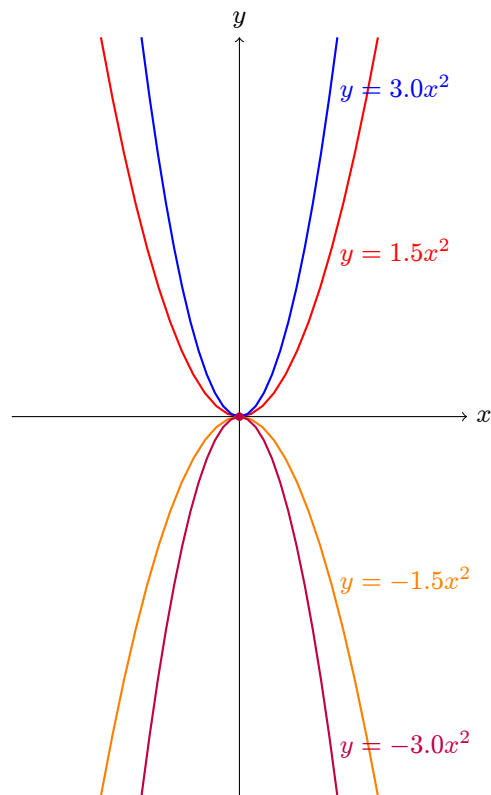
Equation of a Circle :

$$(x - a)^2 + (y - b)^2 = r^2$$

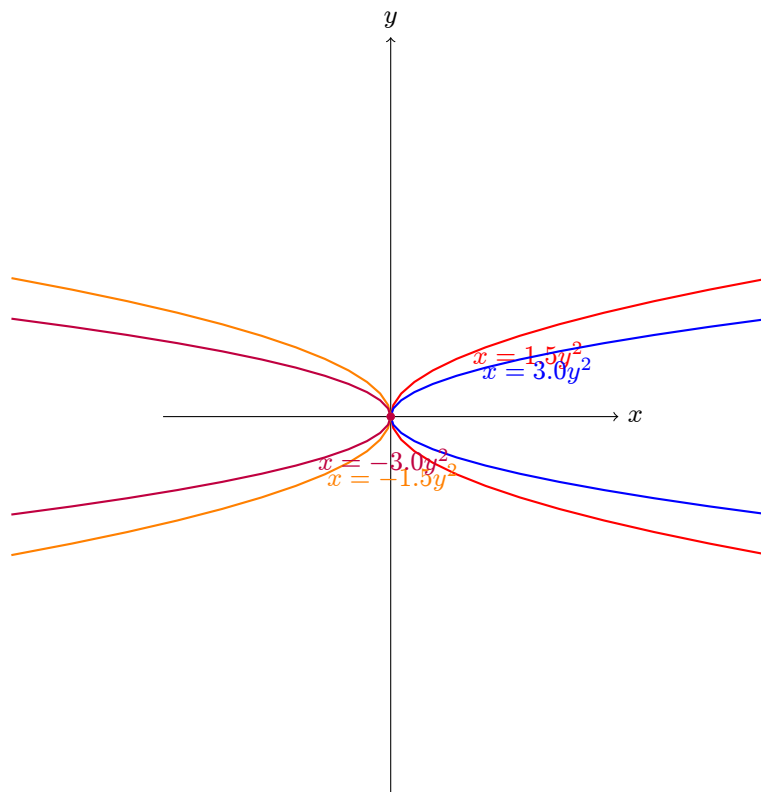


### 4.2 Parabolas

- $y = ax^2$



- $x = ay^2$

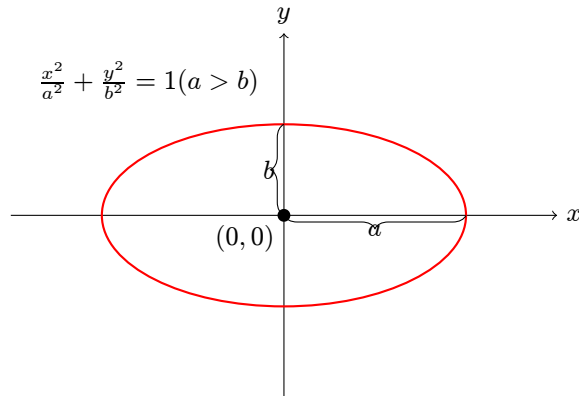


"The larger the value of  $a$ , the narrower the opening."

## 4.3 Ellipses

- Horizontal major axis:

$$\frac{x^2}{a^2} + \frac{y^2}{b^2} = 1 \quad (a > b)$$



- **Vertical major axis:**

$$\frac{x^2}{b^2} + \frac{y^2}{a^2} = 1 \quad (a > b)$$

- **centered at (h, k):**  $\boxed{\frac{(x-h)^2}{a^2} + \frac{(y-k)^2}{b^2} = 1}$

## 5. Elementary Functions

### 5.1 Core Function Types

#### 5.1.1 Exponential Functions

- **Definition:**  $f(x) = a^x$  where  $a > 0$  ( $a \neq 1$ )
- **Key Example:**  $e^x$  (natural exponential)
- **Properties:**
  - Domain:  $\mathbb{R}$
  - Range:  $(0, +\infty)$
  - Always increasing if  $a > 1$
  - Horizontal asymptote:  $y = 0$

### *Natural Exponential Function*

#### **Definition**

The natural exponential function is defined as:

$$y = e^x$$

where:

- $e \approx 2.71828$  (Euler's number)
- The function equals its own derivative:  $\frac{dy}{dx} = e^x$

## Key Properties

1. **Domain:**  $(-\infty, \infty)$
2. **Range:**  $(0, \infty)$
3. **y-intercept:**  $(0, 1)$
4. **Asymptote:**  $y=0$  (horizontal)
5. **Always increasing**
6. **Concave up everywhere**

## Special Property at (0,1)

The tangent line at  $x=0$  has:

- Slope =  $e^0 = 1$
- Equation:  $y = x + 1$

## Graph Visualization

### 5.1.2 Logarithmic Functions

- **Definition:**  $f(x) = \log_a x$  (inverse of  $a^x$ )
- **Key Example:**  $\ln x$  (natural log, base  $e$ )
- **Properties:**
  - Domain:  $(0, +\infty)$
  - Range:  $\mathbb{R}$
  - Vertical asymptote:  $x = 0$

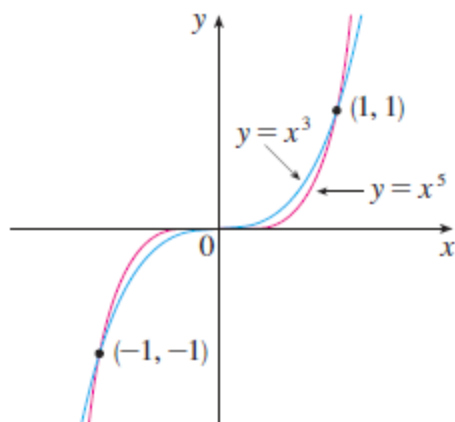
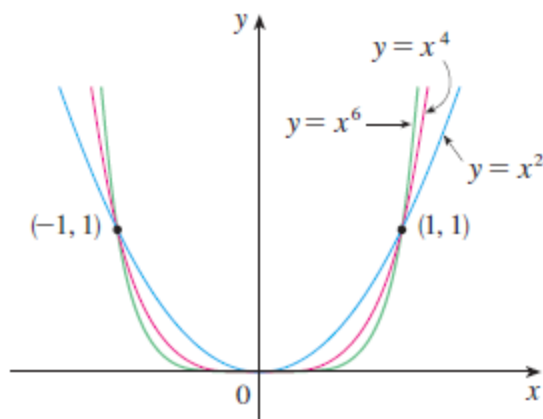
### 5.1.3 Trigonometric Functions

- **Key Examples:**
  - $\sin x$ : Periodic with period  $2\pi$ , range  $[-1, 1]$
  - $\cos x, \tan x$  (similar analysis)
- **Properties:**
  - Amplitude (height):  $|A|$  in  $A \sin(Bx)$
  - Period:  $\frac{2\pi}{|B|}$

## 5.1.4 Power Functions

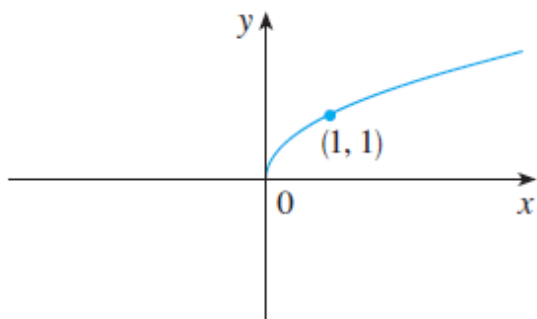
- **Definition:**  $f(x) = x^n$  ( $n \in \mathbb{R}$ )
- **Examples:**
  - $x^2$ : Parabola, domain  $\mathbb{R}$ , range  $[0, +\infty)$
  - $\sqrt{x} = x^{1/2}$ : Domain  $[0, +\infty)$

(i)  $a = n$ , where  $n$  is a positive integer:

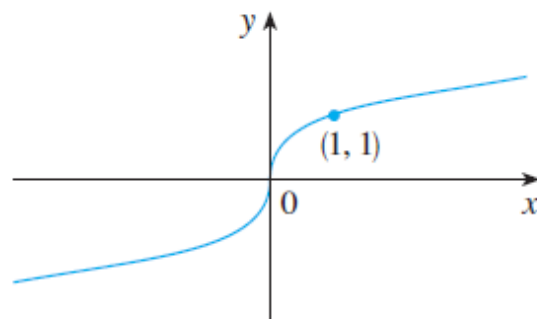


(ii)  $a = \frac{1}{n}$ , where  $n$  is a positive integer:

- The function  $f(x) = x^{\frac{1}{n}} = \sqrt[n]{x}$  is a root function



(a)  $f(x) = \sqrt{x}$



(b)  $f(x) = \sqrt[3]{x}$

(iii)  $a = -1$ :

- **reciprocal function:**  $f(x) = x^{-1} = \frac{1}{x}$

## 5.2 Function Transformations

For any function  $y = f(x)$ :

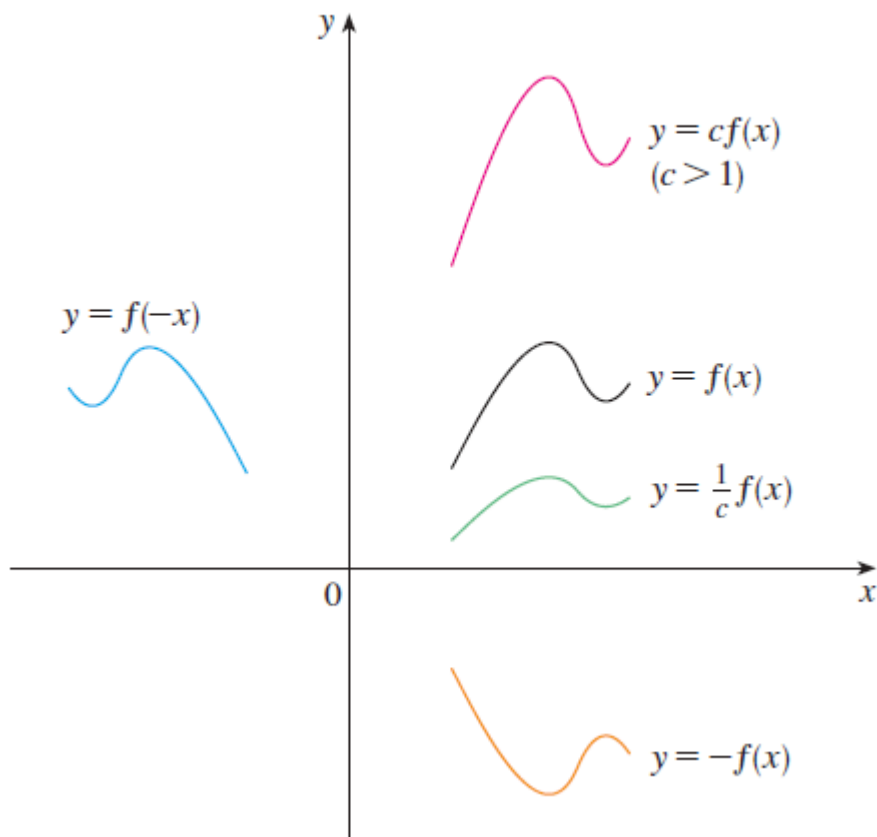
1. **Vertical Shift:**  $y = f(x) + k$ 
  - Up if  $k > 0$ , down if  $k < 0$

1. **Horizontal Shift:**  $y = f(x - h)$

- Right if  $h > 0$ , left if  $h < 0$

1. **Scaling:**

- Vertical:  $y = Af(x)$  (stretch if  $|A| > 1$ , shrink if  $0 < |A| < 1$ )
- Horizontal:  $y = f(Bx)$  (compressed if  $|B| > 1$ , stretched if  $0 < |B| < 1$ )



2. **Reflection:**

- $y = -f(x)$  (flip vertically)
- $y = f(-x)$  (flip horizontally)

## 5.3 inverse functions and Logarithms

### Definition 1

A function  $f$  is called a **one-to-one function** if it never takes on the same value twice; that is:

$$f(x_1) \neq f(x_2) \quad \text{whenever } x_1 \neq x_2$$

**Horizontal Line Test** A function is one-to-one if and only if no horizontal line intersects its graph more than once.

## Definition 2

Let  $f$  be a one-to-one function with domain  $A$  and range  $B$ .

Then its **inverse function**  $f^{-1}$  has domain  $B$  and range  $A$ , and is defined by

$$f^{-1}(y) = x \quad \text{if and only if} \quad f(x) = y$$

for any  $y \in B$ .

## Definition 3

- $f^{-1}(x) = y \iff f(y) = x$

## Definition 4: cancellation equation

- $f^{-1}(f(x)) = x$  for every  $x \in A$
- $f(f^{-1}(x)) = x$  for every  $x \in B$

## How to Find the Inverse Function of a One-to-One Function $f$

**Step 1:** Write the equation

$$y = f(x)$$

**Step 2:** Solve this equation for  $x$  in terms of  $y$  (if possible):  $f(y) = x$

**Step 3:** Interchange  $x$  and  $y$  to express  $f^{-1}$  as a function of  $x$ :

$$y = f^{-1}(x)$$

## Example

Find the inverse function of  $f(x) = x^3 + 2$ .

## Solution

According to the inverse function process:

- Write  $y = x^3 + 2$
- Solve for  $x$  in terms of  $y$ :  $x^3 = y - 2$ ,  $x = \sqrt[3]{y - 2}$
- Interchange  $x$  and  $y$ :  $y = \sqrt[3]{x - 2}$

Therefore, the inverse function is:

$$f^{-1}(x) = \sqrt[3]{x - 2}$$

## Definition of Logarithm and its Inverse Relationship

- $\log_b x = y \iff b^y = x$
- $\log_b(b^x) = x$  for every  $x \in \mathbb{R}$



- $b^{\log_b x} = x$  for every  $x > 0$

## Laws of Logarithms

If  $x$  and  $y$  are **positive numbers**, and  $r$  is any **real number**, then:

1.  $\log_b(xy) = \log_b x + \log_b y$
2.  $\log_b\left(\frac{x}{y}\right) = \log_b x - \log_b y$
3.  $\log_b(x^r) = r \log_b x$

### *Natural Logarithm and Its Inverse*

- $\log_e x = \ln x$
- $\ln x = y \iff e^y = x$
- $\ln(e^x) = x$  for every  $x \in \mathbb{R}$
- $e^{\ln x} = x$  for every  $x > 0$
- $\ln e = 1$

## inverse Trigonometric functions

### 1. $\arcsin x$

- **Definition:**  
 $y = \arcsin x \iff \sin y = x$
- **Domain:**  $[-1, 1]$
- **Range:**  $\left[-\frac{\pi}{2}, \frac{\pi}{2}\right]$

### 2. $\arccos x$

- **Definition:**  
 $y = \arccos x \iff \cos y = x$
- **Domain:**  $[-1, 1]$
- **Range:**  $[0, \pi]$

### 3. $\arctan x$

- **Definition:**  
 $y = \arctan x \iff \tan y = x$
- **Domain:**  $\mathbb{R}$
- **Range:**  $\left(-\frac{\pi}{2}, \frac{\pi}{2}\right)$

- **The inverse cosecant function:**

$$y = \csc^{-1}(x) \quad (|x| > 1) \quad \Leftrightarrow \quad \csc(y) = x, \quad y \in \left[0, \frac{\pi}{2}\right) \cup \left(\frac{\pi}{2}, \pi\right]$$

- **The inverse secant function:**

$$y = \sec^{-1}(x) \quad (|x| > 1) \quad \Leftrightarrow \quad \sec(y) = x, \quad y \in \left[0, \frac{\pi}{2}\right) \cup \left(\frac{\pi}{2}, \pi\right]$$

- **The inverse cotangent function:**

$$y = \cot^{-1}(x) \quad (x \in \mathbb{R}) \quad \Leftrightarrow \quad \cot(y) = x, \quad y \in (0, \pi)$$

## Key Connections to Calculus

- **Derivatives:**

- $\frac{d}{dx} e^x = e^x$
- $\frac{d}{dx} \ln x = \frac{1}{x}$
- $\frac{d}{dx} \sin x = \cos x$

- **Limits:**

- $\lim_{x \rightarrow -\infty} e^x = 0$
- $\lim_{x \rightarrow 0^+} \ln x = -\infty$