

Bachelor of Computer Application

Computational Mathematics

LECTURE 7 NOTES

Functions-Introduction



- **Function As a Special Kind of Relation**

- Let A and B be two non-empty sets. A relation f from A to B, to, a sub-set of $A \times B$, is called a function (or a mapping or a map) from A to B, if

- (i) for each $a \in A$ there exists be B such that $(a, b) \in f$
- (ii) $(a, b) \in f$ and $(a, c) \in f \Rightarrow b=c$.

Thus, a non-void subset f of $A \times B$ is a function from A to B if each element of A appears in some ordered pair in f and no two ordered pairs in f have the same first element.

If $(a, b) \in f$, then b is called the image of a under f.

- **Example 1:** Let $A = \{1, 2, 3\}$, $B = \{1, 2, 3, 4\}$ and f_1 , f_2 and f_3 are three subsets of $A \times B$ as given below:

$f_1 = \{(1, 2), (2, 3), (3, 4)\}$ $f_2 = \{(1, 2), (1, 3), (2, 3), (3, 4)\}$. $f_3 = \{(1, 3), (2, 4)\}$.

- Then, f_1 is a function from A to B but f_2 and f_3 are not functions from A to B. f_2 is not a function from A to B, because $1 \in A$ has two images 2 and 3 in B and f_3 is not a function from A to B because $3 \in A$ has no image in B.

If a function f is expressed as the set of ordered pairs, the domain of f is the set of all first components of members of f and the range of f is the set of second components of members of f

i.e., Domain of $f = \{a: (a, b) \in f\}$, and Range of $f = \{b: (a, b) \in f\}$

- **Example 2:** If $x, y \in \{1, 2, 3, 4\}$, then which of the following are functions in the given set?

(a) $f_1 = \{(x, y): y = x + 1\}$

(b) $f_2 = \{(x, y): x + y > 4\}$

(c) $f_3 = \{(x, y): y < x\}$

(d) $f_4 = \{(x, y): x + y = 5\}$

Also, in case of a function give its range.

- **Solution:**

If we express f_1 , f_2 , f_3 and f_4 as sets of ordered pairs, then we have

$f_1 = \{(1, 2), (2, 3), (3, 4)\}$

$$f_2 = \{(1, 4), (4, 1), (2, 3), (3, 2), (2, 4), (4, 2), (3, 4), (4, 3)\}$$

$$f_3 = \{(2, 1), (3, 1), (4, 1), (3, 2), (4, 2), (4, 3)\} \text{ and } f_4 = \{(1, 4), (2, 3), (3, 2), (4, 1)\}$$

(a) We have, $f_1 = \{(1, 2), (2, 3), (3, 4)\}$

We observe that an element 4 of the given set has not appeared in first place of any ordered pair of f_1 . So, f_1 is not a function from the given set to itself.

(b) We have, $f_2 = \{(1, 4), (4, 1), (2, 3), (3, 2), (2, 4), (4, 2), (3, 4), (4, 3)\}$

We observe that 2, 3, 4 have appeared more than once as first components of the ordered pairs in f_2 . So, f_2 is not a function.

(c) We have, $f_3 = \{(2, 1), (3, 1), (4, 1), (3, 2), (4, 2), (4, 3)\}$.

We observe that 3 and 4 have appeared more than once as first components of the ordered pairs in f_3 . So, f_3 is not a function.

(d) We have, $f_4 = \{(1, 4), (2, 3), (3, 2), (4, 1)\}$

We observe that each element of the given set has appeared as first components in same and one ordered pair of f_4 . So, f_4 is a function in the given set. In this case, Range of $f = \{1, 2, 3, 4\}$

- **Example 3: Let f be a relation on the set N of natural numbers defined by $f = \{(n, 3n): n \in N\}$. Is f a function from N to N . If so, find the range of f .**

- **Solution:**

Since for each $n \in N$, there exists a unique $3n \in N$ such that $(n, 3n) \in f$. Therefore, f is a function from N to N .

Clearly, Range of $f = \{f(n): n \in N\} = \{3n: n \in N\}$

• Function As a Correspondence

- Let A and B be two non-empty sets. Then a function “ f ” from set A to set B is a rule or method or correspondence which associates elements of set A to elements of set B such that:

(i) all elements of set A are associated to elements in set B .

(ii) an element of set A is associated to a unique element in set B.

In other words, a function 'f' from a set A to a set B associates each element of set A to a unique element of set B

Terms such as "map" (or "mapping"), "correspondence" are used as synonyms for "function" f. If f is a function from a set A to a set B, then we write $f: A \rightarrow B$ or $A \rightarrow B$, which is read as f is function from A to B or f maps A to B.

If an element $a \in A$ is associated to an element $b \in B$, then b is called 'the f-image of a' or 'image of a under f' or 'the value of the function f at a'. Also, a is called the pre-image of b under the function.

We write it as: $b = f(a)$

❖ **Exercise:**

1. Let $A = \{-2, -1, 0, 1, 2\}$ and $f: A \rightarrow \mathbb{Z}$ be a function defined by $f(x) = x^2 - 2x - 3$. Find:

(i) range of f ie. $f(A)$ (ii) pre-images of 6, -3 and 5.

2. If a function $f: \mathbb{R} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ be defined by

$$f(x) = \begin{cases} 3x-2, & x < 0 \\ 1, & x = 0 \\ 4x+1, & x > 0 \end{cases}$$

Find: $f(1)$, $f(-1)$, $f(0)$, $f(2)$.

3. A function $f: \mathbb{R} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ is defined by $f(x) = x^2$. Determine

(i) range of f (ii) $\{x: f(x) = 4\}$ (iii) $\{y: f(y) = -1\}$

4. Let $f: \mathbb{R}^+ \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$, where \mathbb{R}^+ is the set of all positive real numbers, be such that $f(x) = \log_e x$. Determine

(i) the image set of the domain of f
(ii) $\{x: f(x) = -2\}$
(iii) whether $f(xy) = f(x) + f(y)$ holds.

$$\therefore \begin{aligned} f(-2) &= (-2)^2 - 2(-2) - 3 = 5, & f(-1) &= (-1)^2 - 2(-2) - 3 = 0, & f(0) &= -3 \\ f(1) &= 1^2 - 2 \times 1 - 3 = -4 \text{ and } & f(2) &= 2^2 - 2 \times 2 - 3 = -3 \end{aligned}$$

So, $\text{range}(f) = \{f(-2), f(-1), f(0), f(1), f(2)\} = \{0, 5, -3, -4\}$

(ii) Let x be a pre-image of 6. Then,

$$f(x) = 6 \Rightarrow x^2 - 2x - 3 = 6 \Rightarrow x^2 - 2x - 9 = 0 \Rightarrow x = 1 \pm \sqrt{10}$$

Since $x = 1 \pm \sqrt{10} \notin A$. So, there is no pre-image of 6. Let x be a pre-image of -3. Then,

$$f(x) = -3 \Rightarrow x^2 - 2x - 3 = -3 \Rightarrow x^2 - 2x = 0 \Rightarrow x = 0, 2$$

Clearly, $0, 2 \in A$. So, 0 and 2 are pre-images of -3. Let x be a pre-image of 5. Then

$$f(x) = 5 \Rightarrow x^2 - 2x - 3 = 5 \Rightarrow x^2 - 2x - 8 = 0 \Rightarrow (x-4)(x+2) = 0 \Rightarrow x = 4, -2$$

Since $-2 \in A$ but $4 \notin A$. So, -2 is a pre-image of 5.

• Equal Functions

- The functions f and g are said to be equal if

(i) domain of f = domain of g

(ii) co-domain of f = co-domain of g and,

(iii) $f(x) = g(x)$ for every x belonging to their common domain.

If two functions f and g are equal, then we write $f = g$.

▪ Example 1:

Let $A = \{1, 2\}$, $B = \{3, 6\}$ and $f: A \rightarrow B$ given by $f(x) = x^2 + 2$ and $g: A \rightarrow B$ given by $g(x) = 3x$. Then, we observe that f and g have the same domain and co-domain. Also we have $f(1) = 3 = g(1)$ and $f(2) = 6 = g(2)$. Hence, $f = g$

▪ Example 2:

Let $f: \mathbb{R} - \{2\} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ be defined by $f(x) = \frac{x^2 - 4}{x - 2}$ and $g: \mathbb{R} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ be defined by

$g(x) = x + 2$. Find whether $f = g$ or not.

▪ **Solution:**

▪ We have, $f(x) = \frac{x^2 - 4}{x - 2}, x \neq 2$

$$\Rightarrow \frac{(x-2)(x+2)}{x-2} = x+2 \text{ for all } x \neq 2$$

$$\Rightarrow f(x) = g(x) \text{ for all } x \neq 2$$

Thus, $f(x) = g(x)$ for all $x \in \mathbb{R} - \{2\}$. But $f(x)$ and $g(x)$ have different domains. Infact, domain of $f = \mathbb{R} - \{2\}$ and domain of $g = \mathbb{R}$. Therefore, $f \neq g$.

• **Real Functions**

- A function $f: A \rightarrow B$ is called a real valued function, if B is a subset of \mathbb{R} (set of all real numbers).

If A and B both are subsets of \mathbb{R} , then f is called a real function.

▪ **Example:**

Let N be the set of natural numbers. Define a real valued function $f: N \rightarrow N$ by $f(x) = 2x + 1$. Using this definition, complete the table given below.

x	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
y	$f(1) = \dots$.	$f(2) = \dots$.	$f(3) = \dots$.	$f(4) = \dots$.	$f(5) = \dots$..	$f(6) = \dots$.	$f(7) = \dots$..

- **Solution:** The completed table is given by

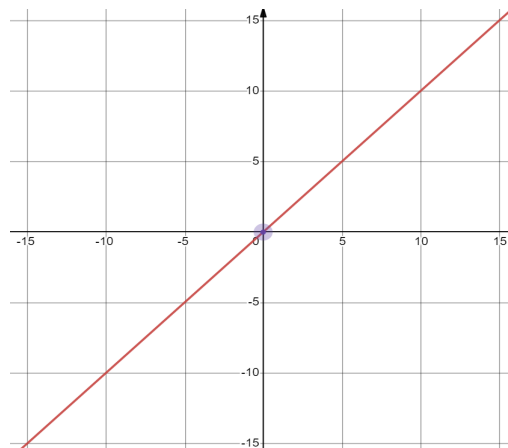
x	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
y	f(1)= 3	f(2)= 5	f(3)= 9	f(4)=1 1	f(5)=1 3	f(6)=1 5	f(7)=1 7

• Some Functions and Their Graphs

1. Identity function:

Let R be the set of real numbers. Define the real valued function $f : R \rightarrow R$ by $y = f(x) = x$ for each $x \in R$. Such a function is called the identity function. Here the domain and range of f are R .

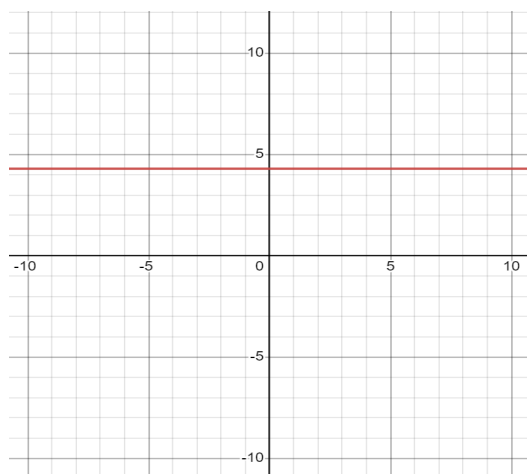
The graph is a straight line as shown in Fig. It passes through the origin.



2. Constant function:

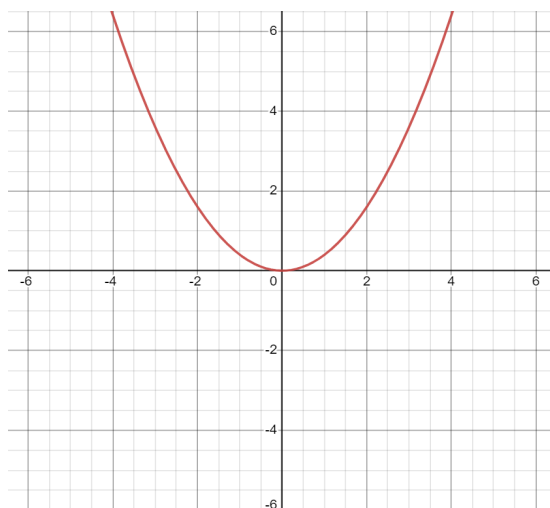
Define the function $f : R \rightarrow R$ by $y = f(x) = c$, $x \in R$ where c is a constant and each $x \in R$. Here domain of f is R and its range is $\{c\}$.

The graph is a line parallel to x -axis. For example, if $f(x)=3$ for each $x \in R$, then its graph will be a line as shown in the Fig.



3. Polynomial function:

A function $f : \mathbb{R} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ is said to be polynomial function if for each x in \mathbb{R} , $y = f(x) = a_0 + a_1x + a_2x^2 + \dots + a_nx^n$, where n is a non-negative integer and $a_0, a_1, a_2, \dots, a_n \in \mathbb{R}$.



- **Example:** The functions defined by $f(x) = x^3 - x^2 + 2$, and $g(x) = x^4 + \sqrt{2}x$ are some examples of polynomial functions, whereas the function h defined by $h(x) = x^{2/3} + 2x$ is not a polynomial function
- **Example:**
Define the function $f: \mathbb{R} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ by $y = f(x) = x^2$, $x \in \mathbb{R}$. Complete the Table given below by

using this definition. What is the domain and range of this function? Draw the graph of f .

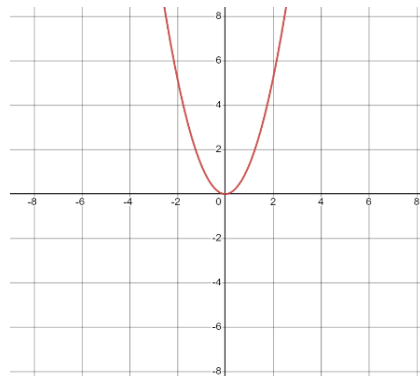
x	-4	-3	-2	-1	0	1	2	3	4
$y = f(x) = x^2$									

▪ **Solution:** The completed Table is given below:

x	-4	-3	-2	-1	0	1	2	3	4
$y = f(x) = x^2$	16	9	4	1	0	1	4	9	16

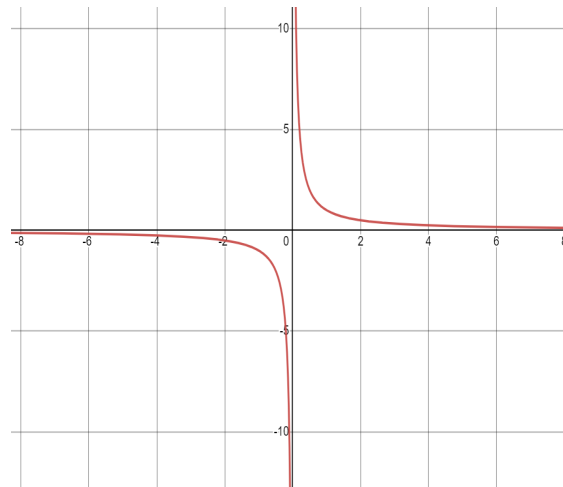
Domain of $f = \{x : x \in \mathbb{R}\}$. Range of $f = \{x^2 : x \in \mathbb{R}\}$.

The graph of f is given by Fig.



4. Rational functions:

Rational Functions are functions of the type, where $f(x)$ and $g(x)$ are polynomial functions of x defined in a domain, where $g(x) \neq 0$.



▪ **Example:**

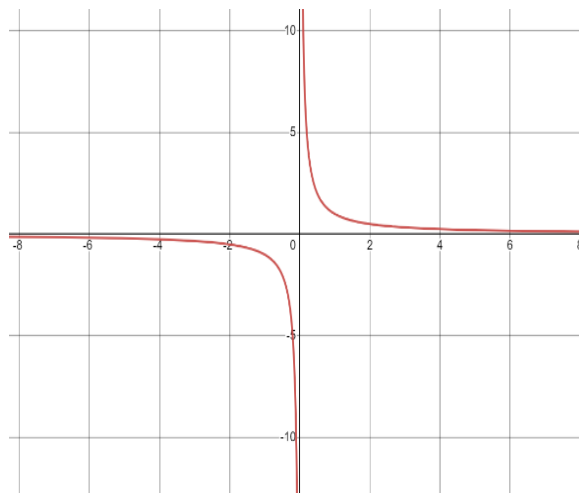
Define the real valued function $f : \mathbb{R} - \{0\} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ defined by $f(x) = 1/x$, $x \in \mathbb{R} - \{0\}$. Complete the Table given below using this definition. What is the domain and range of this function?

x	-2	-1.5	-1	-0.5	0.25	0.5	1	1.5	2
$y = 1/x$									

▪ **Solution:** The completed Table is given by

x	-2	-1.5	-1	-0.5	0.25	0.5	1	1.5	2
y = 1/x	-0.5	-0.67	-1	-2	4	2	1	0.67	0.5

- The domain is all real numbers except 0 and its range is also all real numbers except 0. The graph of f is given in Fig.



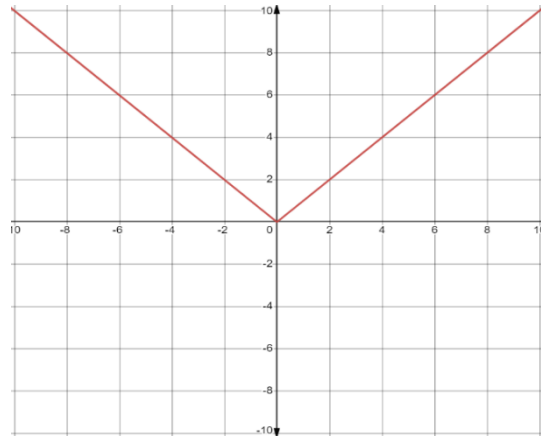
5. **Modulus Function:**

The Modulus function $f: \mathbb{R} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ defined by $f(x) = |x|$ for each $x \in \mathbb{R}$ is called modulus function. For each non-negative value of x , $f(x)$ is equal to x .

But for negative values of x , the value of $f(x)$ is the negative of the value of x , i.e.,

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

The graph of the modulus function is given in Fig.

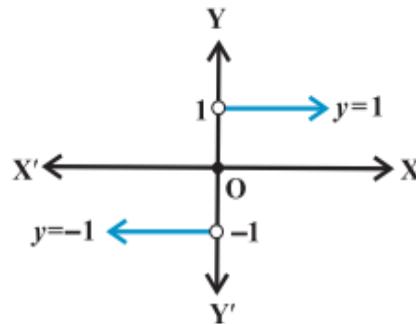


6. Signum function:

The function $f: \mathbb{R} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ defined by

$$f(x) = \begin{cases} 1, & \text{if } x > 0 \\ 0, & \text{if } x = 0 \\ -1, & \text{if } x < 0 \end{cases}$$

is called the signum function. The domain of the signum function is \mathbb{R} and the range is the set $\{-1, 0, 1\}$. The graph of the signum function is given by the Fig.



7. Greatest integer fu

$$f(x) = \frac{|x|}{x}, x \neq 0 \text{ and } 0 \text{ for } x = 0$$

The function $f: \mathbb{R} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ defined by $f(x) = [x]$, $x \in \mathbb{R}$ assumes the value of the greatest integer, less than or equal to x . Such a function is called the greatest integer function.

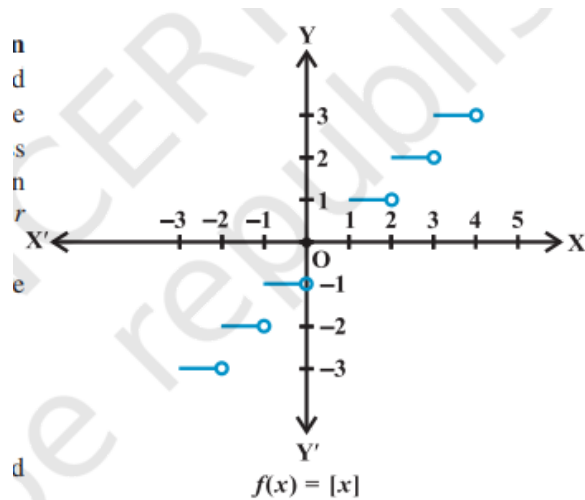
From the definition of $[x]$, we can see that

$$[x] = -1 \text{ for } -1 \leq x < 0$$

$$[x] = 0 \text{ for } 0 \leq x < 1$$

$[x] = 1$ for $1 \leq x < 2$
 $[x] = 2$ for $2 \leq x < 3$ and so on.

The graph of the function is shown in Fig



• Algebra of Real Functions

1. Addition of two real functions

Let $f : X \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ and $g : X \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ be any two real functions, where $X \subset \mathbb{R}$.

Then, we define $(f + g) : X \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ by

$$(f + g)(x) = f(x) + g(x), \text{ for all } x \in X.$$

2. Subtraction of a real function from another

Let $f : X \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ and $g : X \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ be any two real functions, where $X \subset \mathbb{R}$. Then, we define $(f - g) : X \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ by

$$(f - g)(x) = f(x) - g(x), \text{ for all } x \in X.$$

3. Multiplication by a scalar

Let $f : X \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ be a real valued function and α be a scalar. Here by scalar, we mean a real number. Then the product αf is a function from X to \mathbb{R} defined by

$$(\alpha f)(x) = \alpha f(x), x \in X.$$

4. Multiplication of two real functions

The product (or multiplication) of two real functions $f: X \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ and $g: X \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ is a function $fg: X \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ defined by

$$(fg)(x) = f(x)g(x), \text{ for all } x \in X.$$

This is also called pointwise multiplication.

5. Quotient of two real functions

Let f and g be two real functions defined from $X \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$, where $X \subset \mathbb{R}$. The quotient of f by g denoted by f/g is a function defined by

$$\left(\frac{f}{g}\right)(x) = \frac{f(x)}{g(x)}, \text{ provided } g(x) \neq 0, x \in X$$

❖ Examples:

▪ Example 1:

Let $f(x) = x^2$ and $g(x) = 2x + 1$ be two real functions.

Find

$$(f + g)(x), (f - g)(x), (fg)(x), \left(\frac{f}{g}\right)(x)$$

▪ Solution: We have,

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

$$(fg)(x) = x^2(2x + 1) = 2x^3 + \left(\frac{f}{g}\right)(x) = \frac{x^2}{2x + 1}, x \neq -\frac{1}{2}$$

▪ Example 2:

Let $f(x) = \sqrt{x}$ and $g(x) = x$ be two functions defined over the set of nonnegative real numbers.

Find $(f + g)(x)$, $(f - g)(x)$, $(fg)(x)$ and $\left(\frac{f}{g}\right)(x)$

▪ **Solution:**

We have

$$(f + g)(x) = \sqrt{x + x}, (f - g)(x) = x - x,$$

$$(fg)(x) = \sqrt{x(x)} = x^{\frac{3}{2}} \text{ and } \left(\frac{f}{g}\right)(x) = x^{-\frac{1}{2}}, x \neq 0$$

❖ **Exercise:**

- Which of the following relations are functions? Give reasons. If it is a function, determine its domain and range.

(i) $\{(2,1), (5,1), (8,1), (11,1), (14,1), (17,1)\}$

(ii) $\{(2,1), (4,2), (6,3), (8,4), (10,5), (12,6), (14,7)\}$

(iii) $\{(1,3), (1,5), (2,5)\}$

- Find the domain and range of the following real functions:

(i) $f(x) = -|x|$

(ii) $f(x) = \sqrt{9 - x^2}$

- A function f is defined by $f(x) = 2x - 5$. Write down the values of

(i) $f(0)$, (ii) $f(7)$, (iii) $f(-3)$.

- The function 't' which maps temperature in degree Celsius into temperature in degree Fahrenheit is defined by $t(C) = 9C + 32$. Find

(i) $t(0)$

(ii) $t(28)$

(iii) $t(-10)$

(iv) The value of C , when $t(C) =$

212.

5. Find the range of each of the following functions.

(i) $f(x) = 2 - 3x$, $x \in \mathbb{R}$, $x > 0$.

(ii) $f(x) = x^2 + 2$, x is a real number.

(iii) $f(x) = x$, x is a real number.