

Calculus - Single Variable Part1 -Functions

1. What is the domain of the function $\sqrt{2x - x^3}$?

Sol:

The value inside square root must be positive or 0

$$\Rightarrow 2x - x^3 \geq 0$$

$$\Rightarrow -x(x^2 - 2) \geq 0$$

$$\Rightarrow -x(x - \sqrt{2})(x + \sqrt{2}) \geq 0$$

$$\Rightarrow x(x - \sqrt{2})(x + \sqrt{2}) \leq 0$$

$$\Rightarrow x \in (-\infty, -\sqrt{2}] \text{ or } x \in (0, \sqrt{2}]$$

2. What is the domain of the function $\frac{x-3}{x^2-4} \ln x$?

Sol:

The denominator part must be non-zero by the rule of division. (2-a)

In addition, x must be > 0 for logarithmic function $\ln x$. (2-b)

$$\Rightarrow \text{From (2-a), we have } x^2 - 4 \neq 0$$

$$\Rightarrow (x - 2)(x + 2) \neq 0$$

$$\Rightarrow x \neq 2 \text{ and } x \neq -2$$

$$\Rightarrow \text{From (2-b), we have } x > 0$$

$$\Rightarrow \text{From the result of (2-a) and (2-b), we have } x \in (0, 2) \cup (2, \infty)$$

3. What is the domain of the function $\arcsin \frac{x-2}{3}$?

Sol:

Recall that the range of $\sin(x)$ is $[-1, 1]$.

Therefore, the domain function inverse $\arcsin(x)$ is $[-1, 1]$

$$\Rightarrow -1 \leq \frac{x-2}{3} \leq 1$$

\Rightarrow we have $-1 \leq \frac{x-2}{3}$ on the left-hand side, and $\frac{x-2}{3} \leq 1$ on the right-hand side.

$\Rightarrow -1 \leq x$ on the left-hand side, and $x \leq 5$ on the right-hand side.

\Rightarrow Put them together, we get $x \in [-1, 5]$

4. What is the range of the function $-x^2 + 1$?

Sol:

$f(x) = -x^2 + 1 \leq 1$, and $f(x)$ goes lower when $x \neq 0$

$\Rightarrow f(x) \in (-\infty, 1)$

5. What is range of the function $\ln(1 + x^2)$?

Sol:

Recall the logarithmic function $\ln x$ is increasing function from negative infinity to positive infinity.

From $1 + x^2$, we have minimize value 1, and $1 + x^2$ goes upper when $x \neq 0$

=> minimal value of $\ln(1 + x^2) = \ln(1) = 0$

=> Thus, we have $f(x) \in [0, \infty)$

6. What is the range of the function $\arctan(\cos(x))$?

(i.e., the inverse of the tangent function with the parameter $\cos x$)

Recall the domain of $\tan(x)$ is $x \in \{x | x \neq k\pi + \frac{\pi}{2}, k \in \mathbb{Z}\}$.

Also, the range of $\cos(x)$ is $[-1, 1]$

=> With the rule of thumb, $\tan\left(\frac{\pi}{4}\right) = 1$ and $\tan\left(\frac{-\pi}{4}\right) = -1$

=> Range of $\arctan(\cos(x)) \in \left[-\frac{\pi}{4}, \frac{\pi}{4}\right]$

7. If $f(x) = 4x^3 + 1$ and $g(x) = \sqrt{x+3}$, compute $(f \circ g)(x)$ and $(g \circ f)(x)$,

Sol:

$$(f \circ g)(x) = f(g(x)) = f(\sqrt{x+3}) = 4(\sqrt{x+3})^3 + 1 = 4(x+3)^{\frac{3}{2}} + 1$$

$$(g \circ f)(x) = g(f(x)) = g(4x^3 + 1) = \sqrt{(4x^3 + 1) + 3} = \sqrt{4x^3 + 4} = \sqrt{4(x^3 + 1)}$$

$$= 2\sqrt{x^3 + 1} = 2 \cdot (x^3 + 1)^{\frac{1}{2}}$$

8. What is the inverse function $f(x) = e^{2x}$?

Sol:

$$y = e^{2x}$$

$$\Rightarrow \ln y = \ln e^{2x} = 2x$$

$$\Rightarrow x = \frac{\ln y}{2} = \frac{1}{2} \ln y = \ln y^{\frac{1}{2}} = \ln \sqrt{y}$$

$$\Rightarrow f^{-1}(x) = \frac{1}{2} \ln x = \ln \sqrt{x}$$