

# CM 1606 Computational Mathematics

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## Functions

Week 3 | Ganesha Thondilege

# Learning Outcomes

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- Covers LO1 for CM1606
- On completion of this lecture, students are expected to be able to:
  - identify the rule of a function.
  - determine domain, codomain and range of a function.
  - Identify single valued functions.
  - construct compositions of functions.
  - construct the inverse of a function.
  - recognize special features of several types of functions.
  - Critical value analysis for quadratic functions

# CONTENT

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- Components of a function
- Range of a function
- Graph of a function
- Vertical line test – single valued functions
- Addition and subtraction of functions
- Composition of functions
- Inverse of a function
- Graph of the inverse rule
- Several categories of functions
- Critical values of quadratic functions

# Components of a function

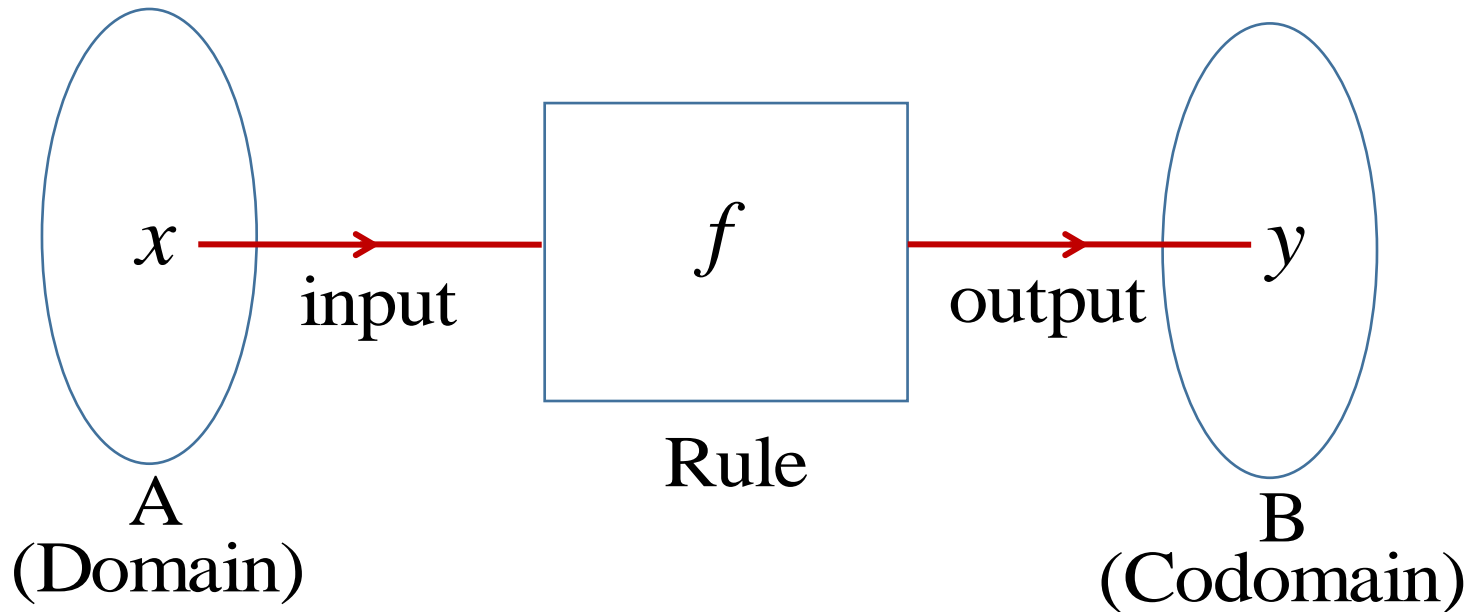
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- Let  $A$  and  $B$  be non-empty sets.

**“Each element in  $A$  is assigned by a certain rule to a  
unique (Single valued) element in  $B$ ”**

- This assignment is called a function (mapping) from  $A$  to  $B$ .
- Then, the set  $A$  is called the domain
- The set  $B$  is called the codomain.
- The rule that assigns elements from  $A$  to  $B$  is considered as the rule of the function.

# Components of a function ctd.



Notation :

$$f : A \rightarrow B \text{ or } A \xrightarrow{f} B$$

eg. Rule of raising to the power 2 (or squaring)



# Components of a function ctd.

So, rule can be expressed as  $f(x) = x^2$ , where generally,

$f(x)$  is for "function of  $x$ ".

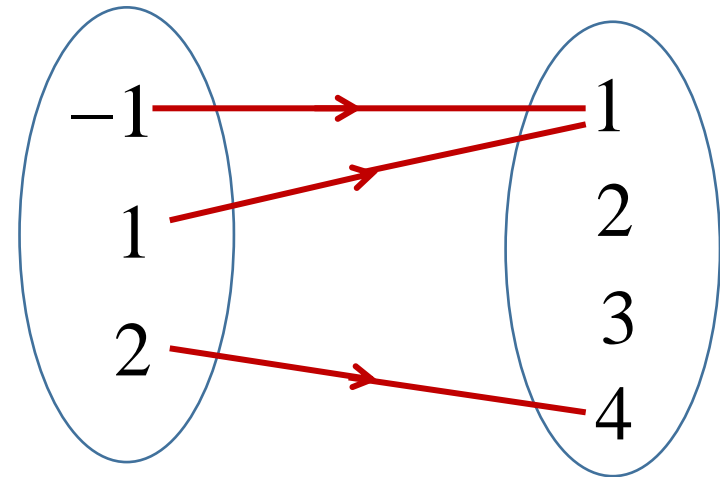
Alternatively it can be denoted by

$x \mapsto x^2$  as well.

eg. Let  $A = \{-1, 1, 2\}$ ,  $B = \{1, 2, 3, 4\}$

$$f: A \rightarrow B$$

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



# Range of a function

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Let  $f$  be a function with  $f:A \rightarrow B$ . Suppose  $a \in A$  is assigned to  $b \in B$  by  $f$  ( ie.  $f(a)=b$ ).

Then  $b$  is called the image of  $a$ .

Set of all images of the elements in the domain is called the range of the function.

Usually, it is denoted by  $f(A)$ .

Note that  $f(A) \subseteq B$ .

# Range of a function ctd.

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eg. Let  $A = \{-1, 1, 2\}$  ,  $B = \{1, 2, 3, 4\}$

$$f : A \rightarrow B$$

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

Image of  $-1$  is  $f(-1) = 1$

Image of  $1$  is  $f(1) = 1$

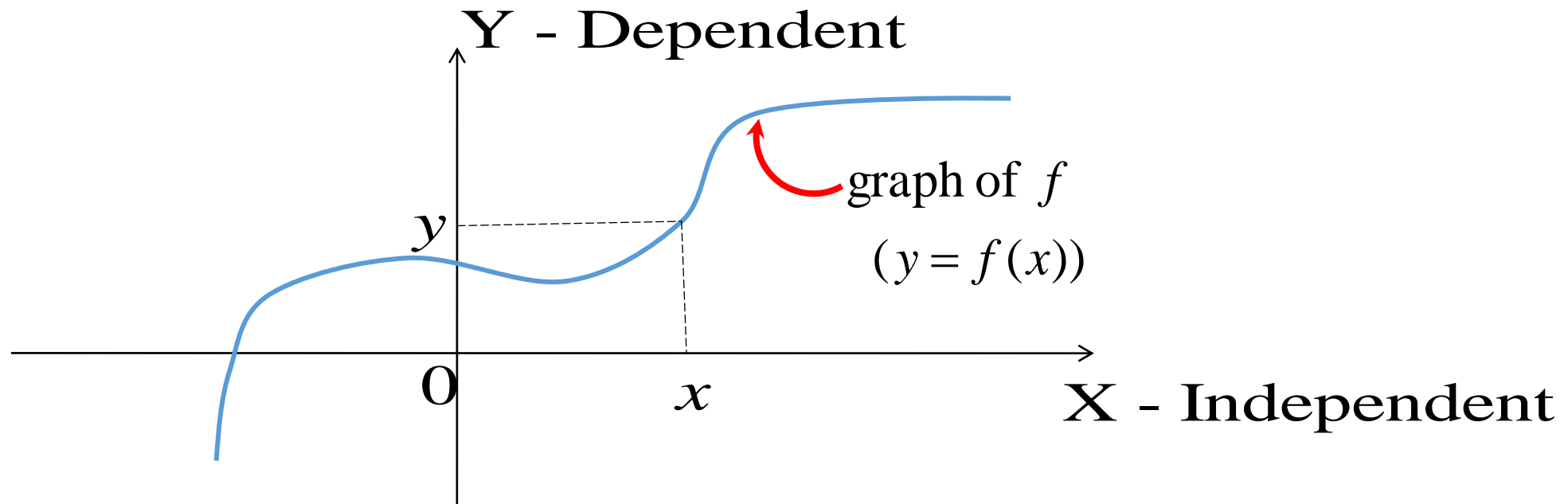
Image of  $2$  is  $f(2) = 4$

So, Range of  $f = \{1, 4\}$



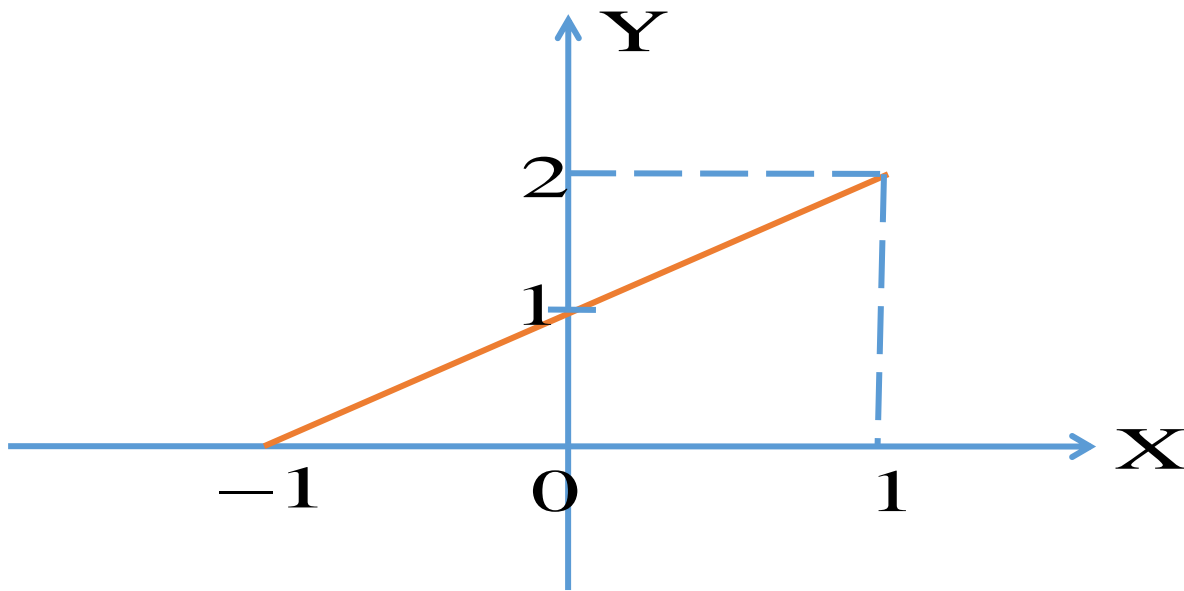
# Graph of a function

- Let the rule of a function denoted as  $y=f(x)$
- The graph or the curve of  $f$  is given by the points  $(x,y)$
- Domain in  $x$  axis and range in  $y$  axis



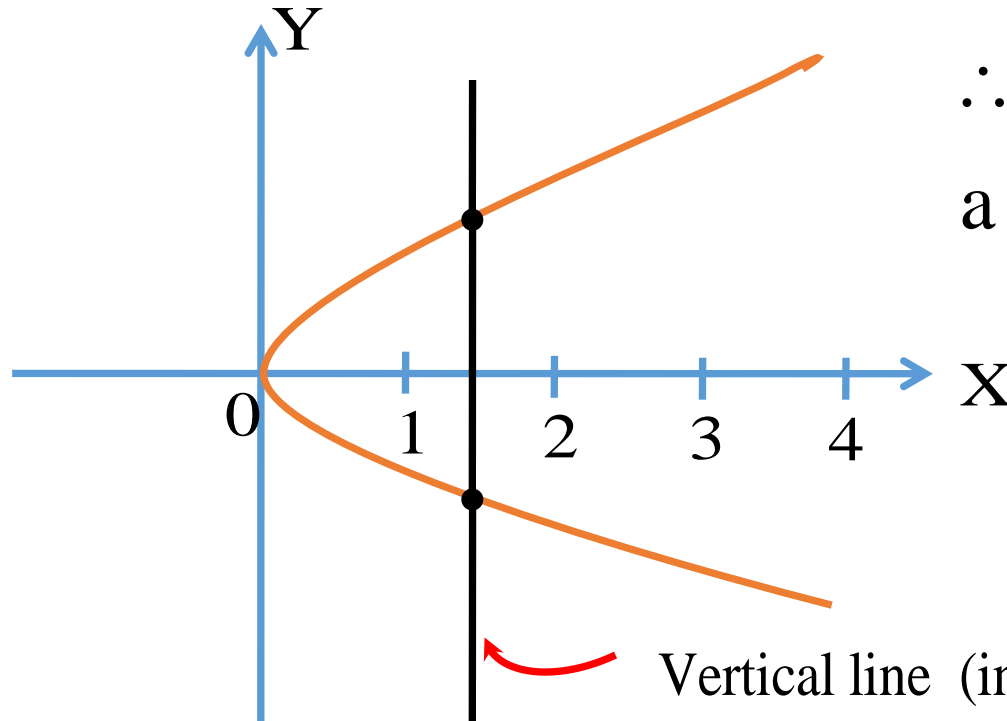
# Example

What is the rule of the function plotted in the following figure ?  
Determine the domain and the range.



# Vertical line test – Single valued feature

Consider the graph of  $y = \pm\sqrt{x}$



$\therefore y = \pm\sqrt{x}$  cannot be a rule of a function.

# Addition and subtraction of functions

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- Consider two functions  $f(x) = x^2 + 5$  and  $g(x) = -2x^2 - 3$

- $\lambda f(x) \pm \mu g(x) = (\lambda f \pm \mu g)(x)$

$$i)(f + g)(x) = -x^2 + 2$$

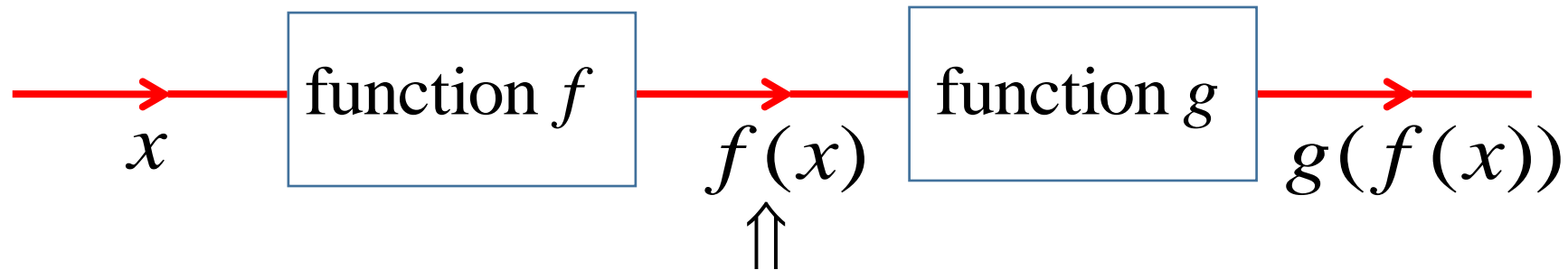
$$iii)(f + g)(0) = 2$$

$$ii)(f - g)(x) = 3x^2 + 8$$

$$iv)(f - g)(1) = 11$$

# Composition of functions

- Chain of functions can be built up where,  
output of one function forms the input to the next function



output of  $f$   
becomes input for  $g$

# Composition of functions ctd.

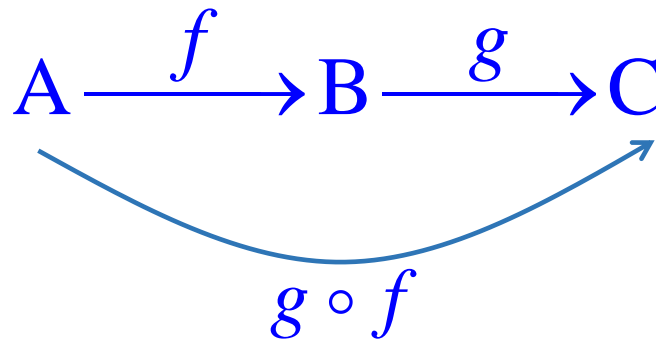
For two functions  $f : A \rightarrow B$  and  $g : B \rightarrow C$ , the composition

of  $f$  and  $g$ , denoted by  $g \circ f$

is the function  $g \circ f : A \rightarrow C$  defined by

$$(g \circ f)(x) \equiv g(f(x)).$$

We read  $g \circ f$  as "g circle f" or "g of f".



# Example

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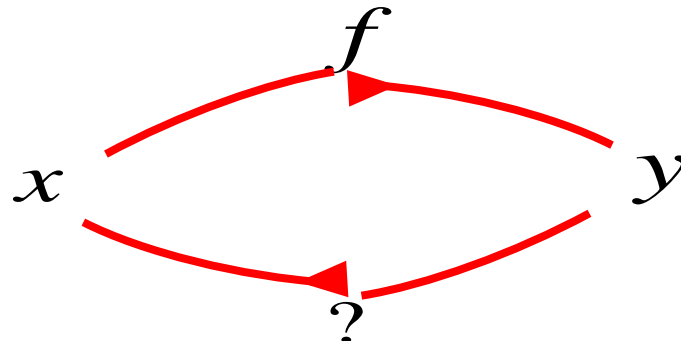
- 1) If the rules are given by  $f(x) = x + 1$  and  $g(x) = x^2$ ,  
then find the composed rules for  $g \circ f$  and  $f \circ g$ .
- 2) Find composed rules with  $f(x) = \frac{1}{x}$  and  $g(x) = x^2$   
in both ways.

**Result :** Let  $f:A \rightarrow B$  ,  $g:B \rightarrow C$  ,  $h:C \rightarrow D$  .

$$\text{Then } h \circ (g \circ f) = (h \circ g) \circ f$$

# Inverse of a function

- For the function  $y=f(x)$ , what is the rule from  $y$  to  $x$ ?

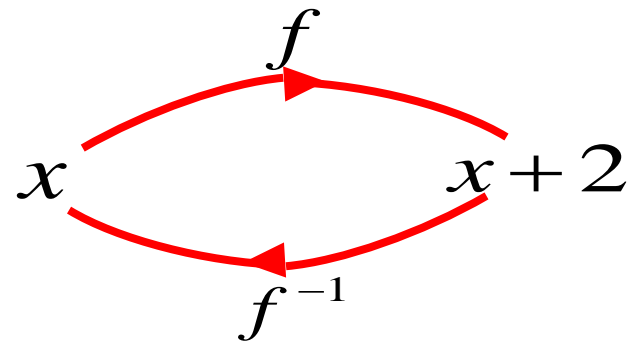


- This reverse process is called as the inversion
- The required rule is called as the inverse function
- Denoted as  $f^{-1}(x)$



# Example

1) What is the rule of the inverse for  $f(x) = x + 2$  ?



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

2) For  $f(x) = 2x - 1 \Rightarrow y = 2x - 1$

$$2x = y + 1$$

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

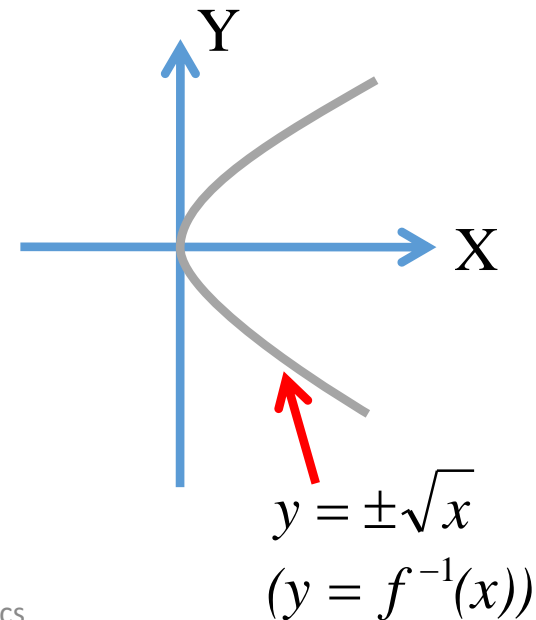
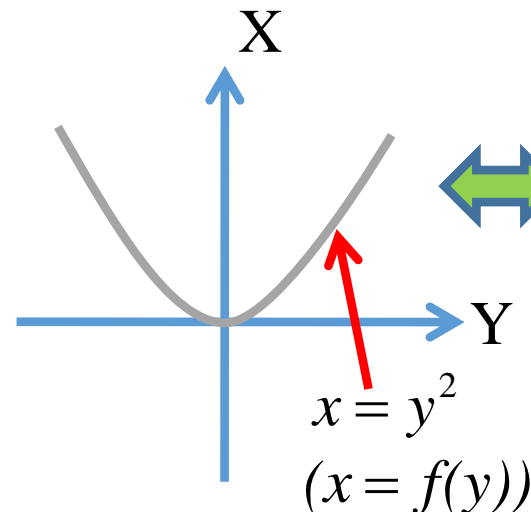
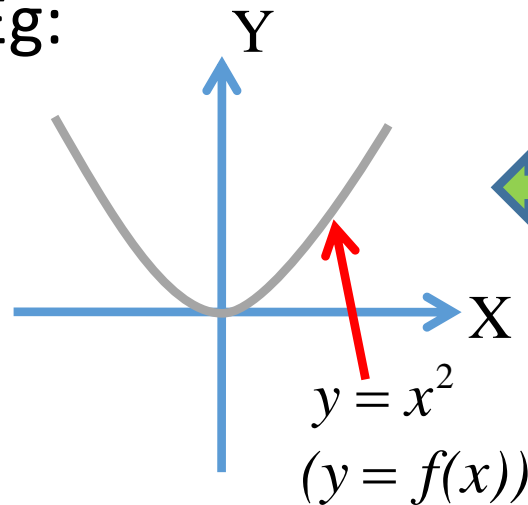
Then,  $f^{-1}(y) = \frac{y + 1}{2}$  or identically we have  $f^{-1}(x) = \frac{x + 1}{2}$ .

# Graph of the inverse rule

- Rule of  $f^{-1}(x)$  can be plotted using the graph of  $f(x)$  by interchanging X and Y axes appropriately.
- That interchange is based on the following implication.

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

- Eg:

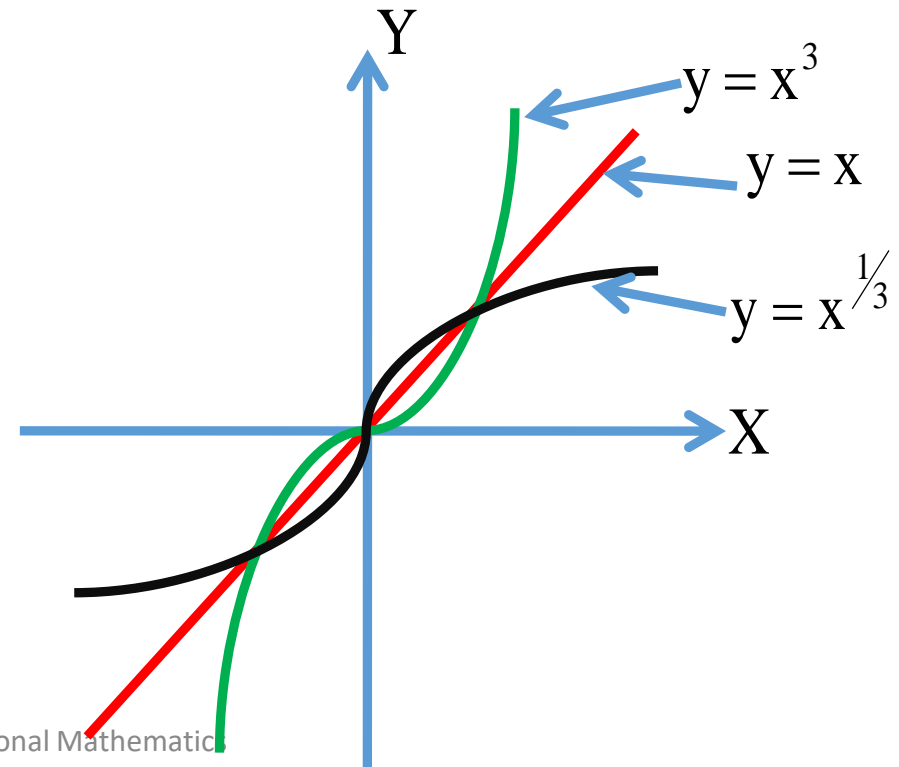


# Graph of the inverse rule ctd.

- Alternatively, graph of  $f^{-1}(x)$  can be taken as the reflection (mirror image) of the graph of  $f(x)$  over the line  $y = x$ .

eg.  $f(x) = x^3$

$$f^{-1}(x) = x^{1/3}$$



# Polynomial functions

- $n^{\text{th}}$  degree polynomial

$$f(x) = a_n x^n + a_{n-1} x^{n-1} + \cdots + a_2 x^2 + a_1 x + a_0 \quad ; \quad a_n \neq 0$$

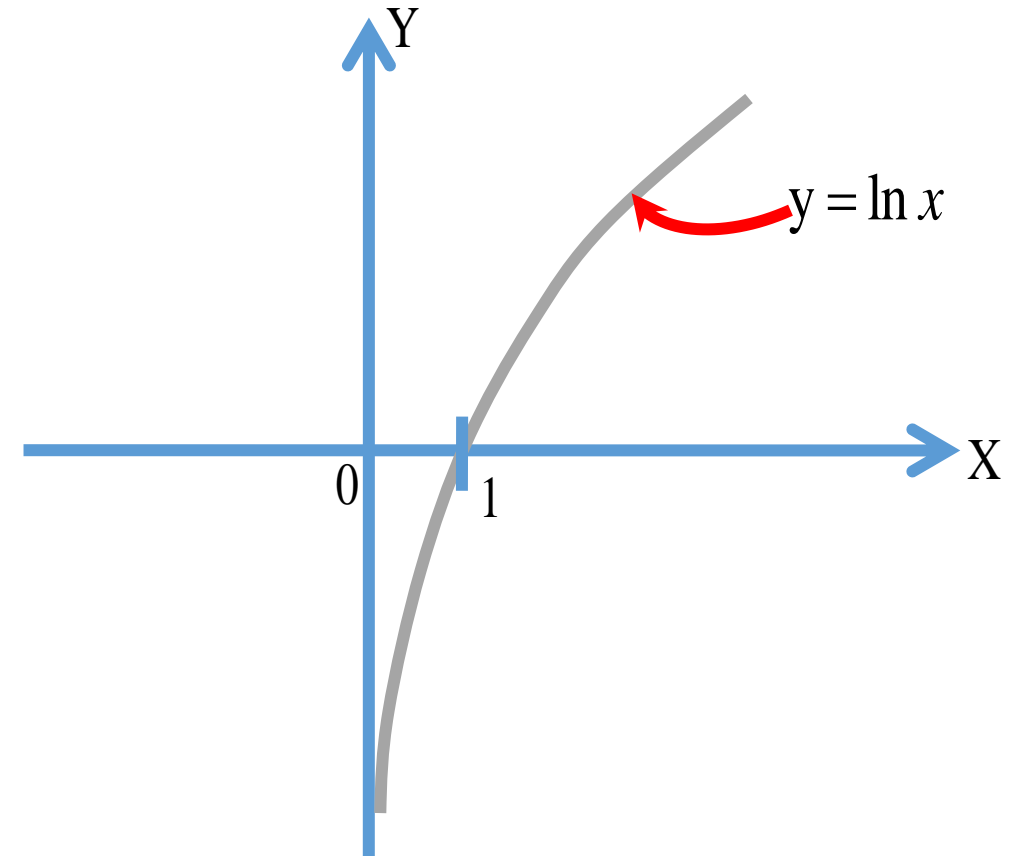
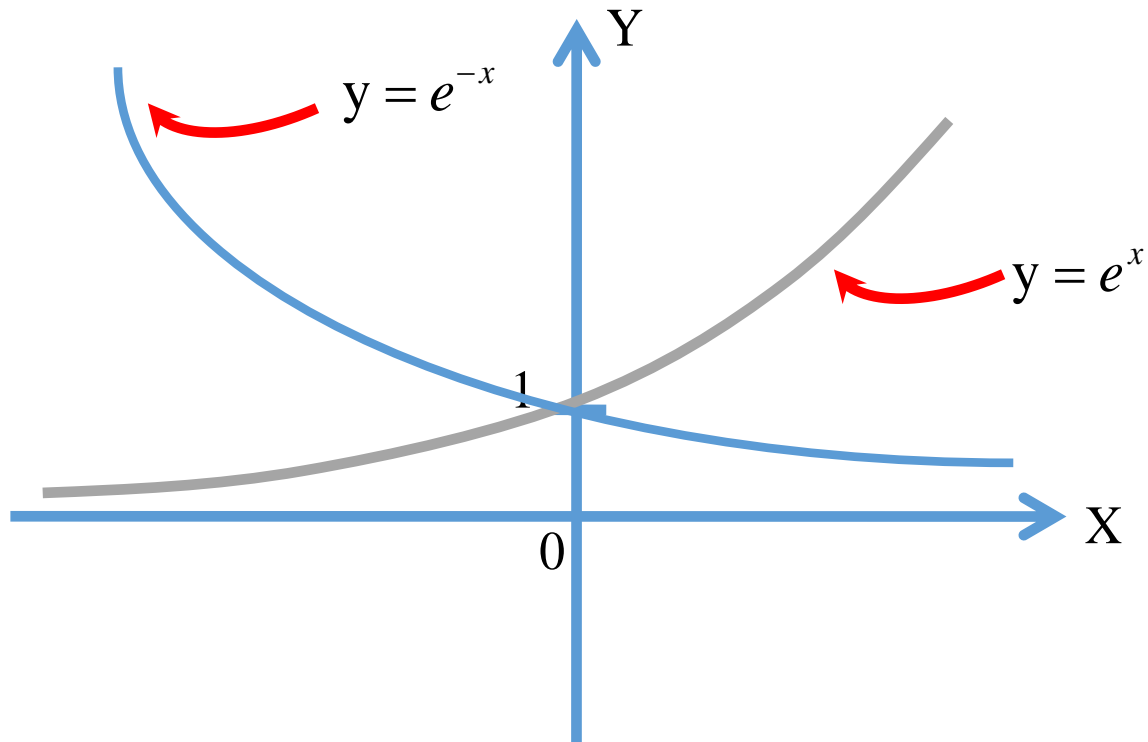
$n$  is a non-negative integer and all  $a_i$ 's are constants

- Trigonometric functions
- Exponential and logarithmic functions

$$y = e^x \quad \Leftrightarrow \quad x = \log_e y \quad (\text{or } \ln y)$$

Thus exponential and logarithmic functions are inverse of each other (**mutual inverses**).

# Graph of $f(x) = e^x$ and $\ln x$



# Logistic function

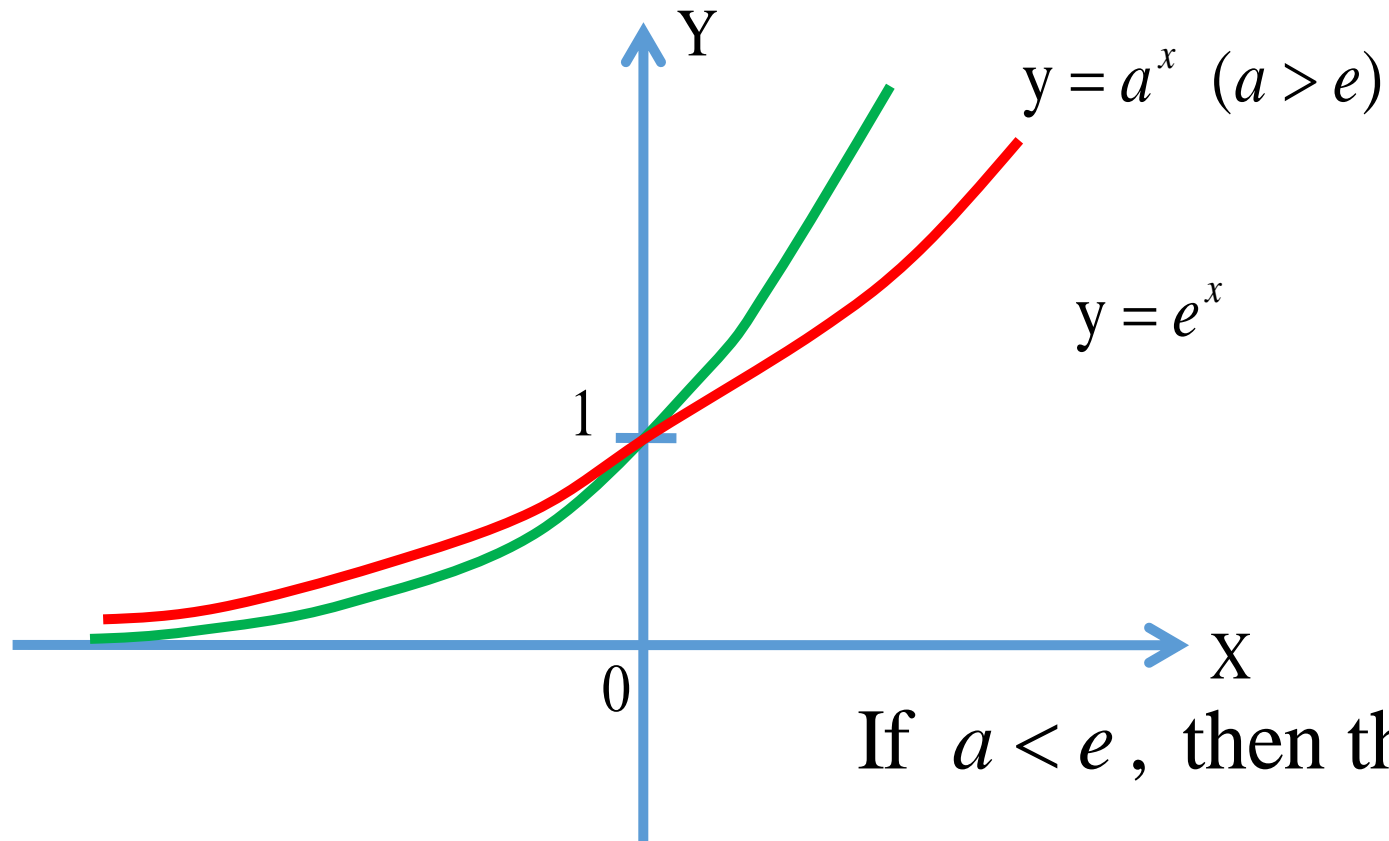
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- Basic form:  $y = \frac{1}{1+e^{-x}}$

Ex:

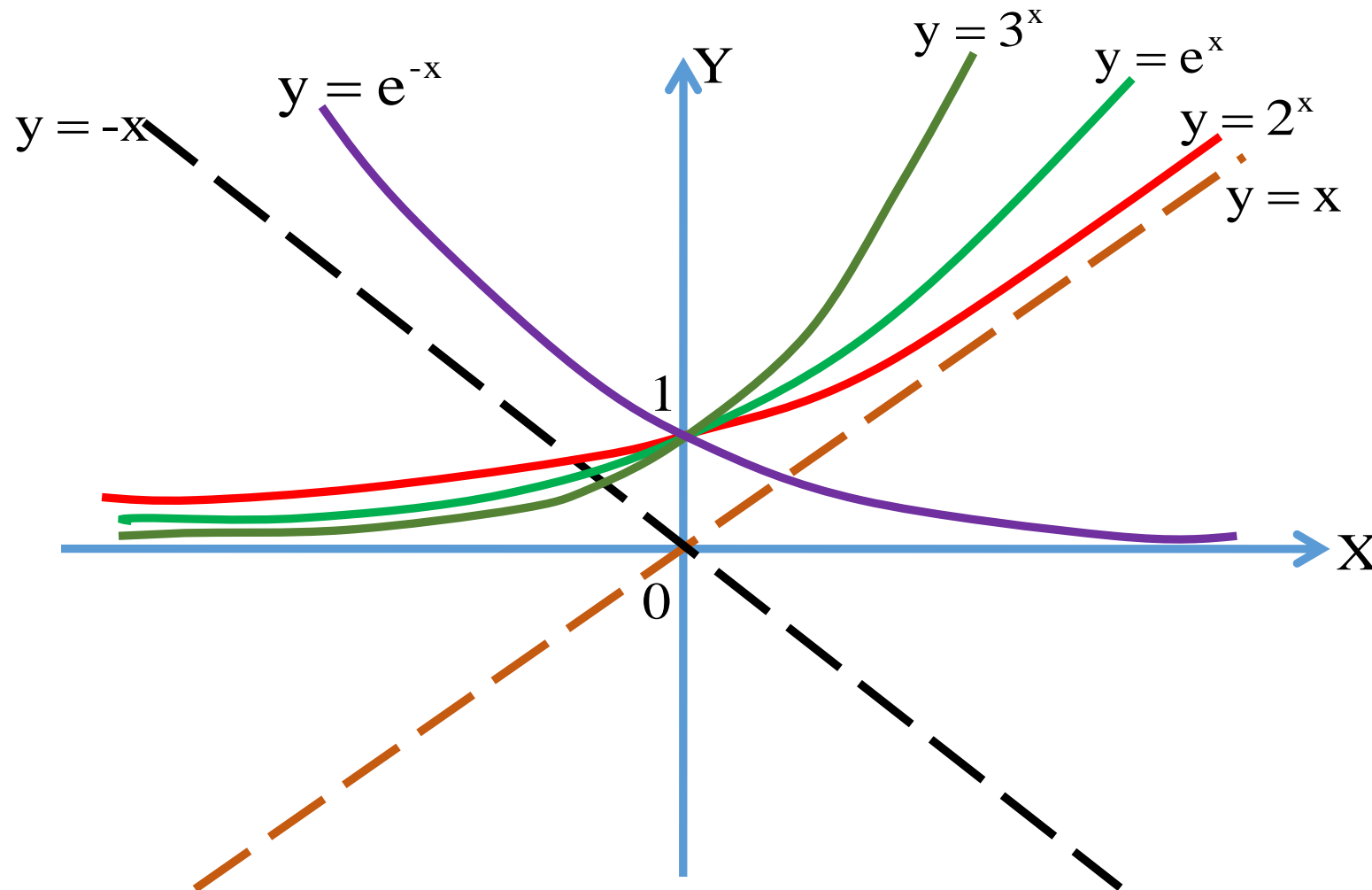
Find the maximum and minimum value for this function and sketch the function (Hint: Refer  $y = e^{-x}$ )

# Special features



If  $a < e$ , then the graph of  $a^x$  increases less quickly than the graph of  $e^x$ .

# Special features





# Critical Values of Quadratic functions

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- Consider the function

$$f(x) = x^2 + 2x + 1$$

- By the method of completing squares

$$f(x) = x^2 + 2x + 1 = (x + 1)^2$$

*Note :*

$$f(x) = x^2 \pm bx + c = \left(x \pm \frac{b}{2}\right)^2 + c - \left(\frac{b}{2}\right)^2 = \left(x \pm \frac{b}{2}\right)^2 \pm d$$

# Critical Values of Quadratic functions ctd.

*Note :*

$$f(x) = x^2 \pm bx + c = \left(x \pm \frac{b}{2}\right)^2 + c - \left(\frac{b}{2}\right)^2 = \left(x \pm \frac{b}{2}\right)^2 \pm d$$

Eg: Find the minimum value of the function  $f(x) = x^2 + 6x + 15; x \in \mathbb{R}$

$$f(x) = x^2 + 6x + 15$$

$$= (x + 3)^2 + 6$$

$$\text{So } \min f(x) = 6$$

$$\text{when } x = -3$$