Problem 1 Course - SOEN 6011, Professor - Pankaj Kamthan

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1 Function 9: Power Function

1.1 Description

A power function is of the form:

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

where y is a real number.

1.2 Domain

- 1. When y is a non-negative integer, the domain is all real numbers: $(-\infty,\infty)$
- 2. When y is a negative integer, the domain is all real numbers excluding zero ((- ∞ , 0) \cup (0, ∞)
- 3. When y is a irrational number and y > 0, the domain is all non-negative real numbers.
- 4. When y is a irrational number and y < 0, the domain is all positive real numbers.

1.3 Characteristics of Power Function.

- 1. The behaviour of power function depends on whether the y is a positive or a negative number.
- 2. The behaviour of power function depends on whether the y is even or odd.
- 3. Also, the power function behaves differently for fractional powers and specifically for negative or positive fractional powers.