

# Lecture 1: Review of Precalculus

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# Overview

- ① Understanding Functions (UF)
- ② Review of Famous Functions (ROFF)

## Understanding Functions (UF)

“For each input, exactly ~~one~~  
one output”

## Definition

- **function:** a relation between sets where for each input, there is exactly one output → Vertical line test
- **domain:** the set of the inputs of a function
- **range:** the set of the outputs of a function

### Tips

- domain : shadow of graph on horizontal ground
- range : shadow of graph on vertical wall

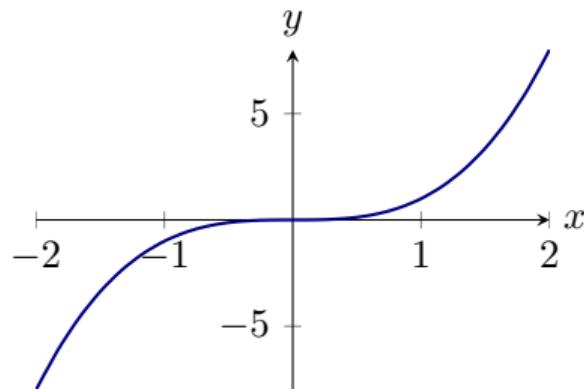
# Representation of functions

- formula:  $f(x) = x^3$

- table:

input	1	-2	1.5	...
output	1	-8	3.375	...

- graph:



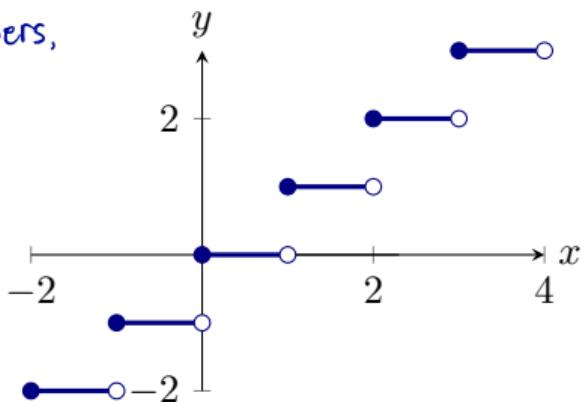
## Example: Greatest Integer Function

- maps any real number  $x$  to the greatest integer less than or equal to  $x$ .
- a.k.a. *floor function*
- denoted by  $\lfloor x \rfloor$
- many inputs to one output

domain: all real numbers,

$$(-\infty, \infty)$$

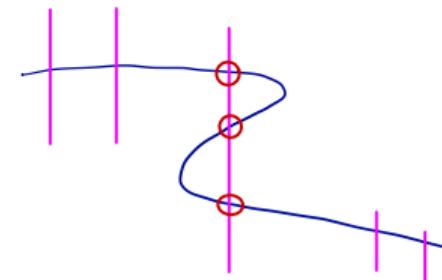
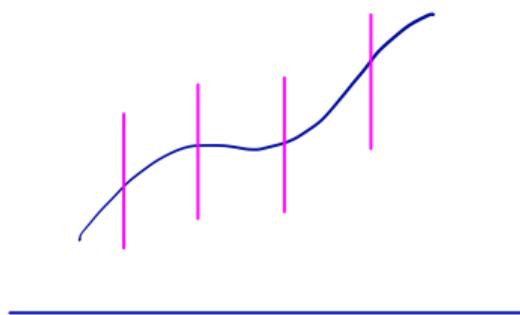
range: all integers



## Theorem (Vertical line test)

The curve  $y = f(x)$  represents  $y$  as a function of  $x$  at  $x = a$  if and only if the vertical line  $x = a$  intersects the curve  $y = f(x)$  at exactly one point. This is called the **vertical line test**.

Recall : "for each input, exactly one output"



↑  
For this input,  
three outputs!

## Distinguishing two functions

- Do they have the same domain?
- Do they display the same relation?

**Question.** Determine if the two function are the same.

①  $f(x) = \sqrt{x^2}$  and  $g(x) = |x|$

Both are defined on all real numbers, i.e., they share the same domain.

Moreover, since  $\sqrt{x^2} = |x|$ , they follow the same rule. So the two are the same.

②  $f(x) = \frac{x^2 - 3x + 2}{x - 2}$  and  $g(x) = x - 1$

$f$  is defined for all real numbers except for 2, i.e.,  $(-\infty, 2) \cup (2, \infty)$  while  $g$  is defined for the entire real numbers. So they are different.

Note: For  $x \neq 2$ ,  $f(x) = \frac{(x-2)(x-1)}{x-2} = x-1 = g(x)$ .

# Composition of functions

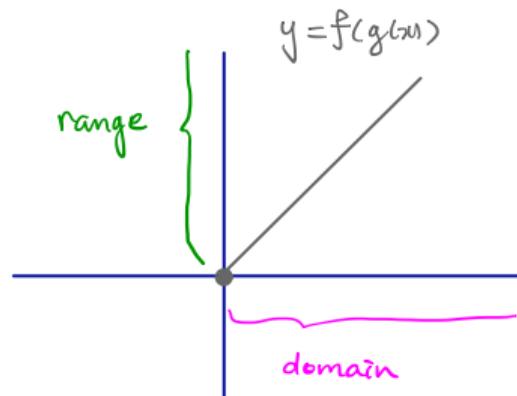
## Composite functions

- can be thought of as putting one function inside another
- **Notation:**  $(f \circ g)(x) = f(g(x))$
- **Warning:** The range of inner function must be contained in the domain of outer function.

**Question.** Study the composition  $f \circ g$  where

$$\begin{array}{ll} f(x) = x^2 & \text{for } -\infty < x < \infty, \\ g(x) = \sqrt{x} & \text{for } 0 \leq x < \infty. \end{array}$$

- The range of  $g$  is  $[0, \infty)$ , which is contained in the domain of  $f$ . So the domain of  $f \circ g$  is also  $[0, \infty)$ .
- The range of  $f \circ g$  is  $[0, \infty)$
- $f \circ g(x) = f(g(x))$   
 $= f(\sqrt{x})$   
 $= \sqrt{x^2} = x.$



**Question.** Study the composition  $f \circ g$ .

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

for  $0 \leq x < \infty$ ,

$$g(x) = x^2$$

for  $-\infty < x < \infty$ .

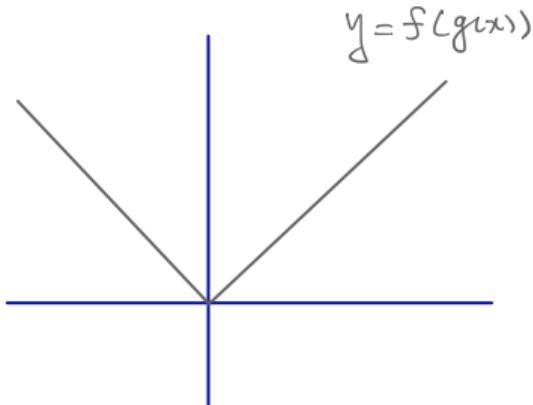
- The range of  $g$  is  $[0, \infty)$ , which coincides with the domain of  $f$ . So the domain of  $f \circ g$  is the entire domain of  $g$ , that is,  $(-\infty, \infty)$

- The range of  $f \circ g$  is  $[0, \infty)$

- $f \circ g(u) = f(g(u))$

$$= f(x^2)$$

$$= \sqrt{x^2} = |x|$$



$$y = f(g(x))$$

# Inverses of functions

## Definition

Let  $f$  be a function with domain  $A$  and range  $B$ :

$$f : A \rightarrow B$$

Let  $g$  be a function with domain  $B$  and range  $A$ :

$$g : B \rightarrow A$$

We say that  $f$  and  $g$  are **inverses** of each other if  $f(g(b)) = b$  for all  $b$  in  $B$ , and also  $g(f(a)) = a$  for all  $a$  in  $A$ . Sometimes we write  $g = f^{-1}$  in this case.

We could rephrase these conditions as

$$f(f^{-1}(x)) = x \quad \text{and} \quad f^{-1}(f(x)) = x.$$

## Warning: notations

Pay attention to where we put the superscript:

$f^{-1}(x)$  = the inverse function of  $f(x)$ .

$f(x)^{-1}$  = the reciprocal of  $f(x)$ .

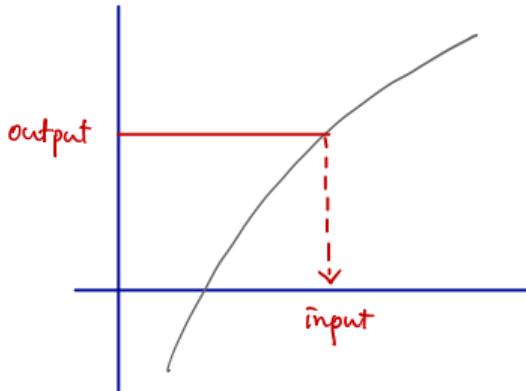
$$\hookrightarrow \frac{1}{f(x)}$$

$$f^{-1}(x) \neq \frac{1}{f(x)} !!!$$

## Definition

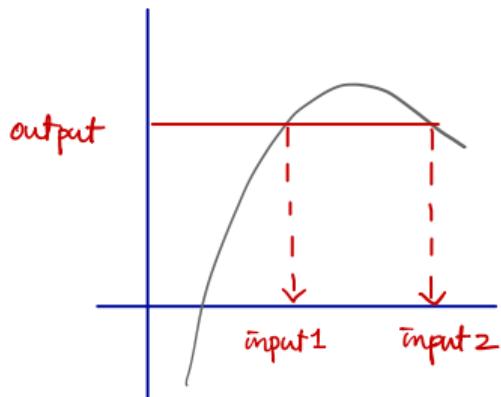
A function is called **one-to-one** if each output value corresponds to exactly one input value.

One - to - one



For each output, exactly one input!

NOT one - to - one



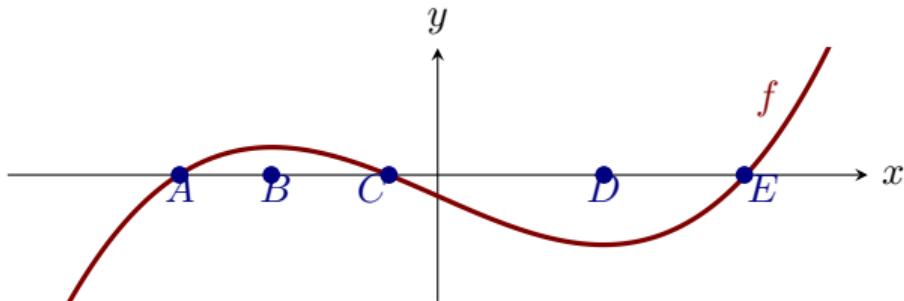
Two distinct inputs giving rise  
to the same output.

## Theorem (Horizontal line test)

A function is one-to-one at  $x = a$  if the horizontal line  $y = f(a)$  intersects the curve  $y = f(x)$  in exactly one point. This is called the **horizontal line test**.

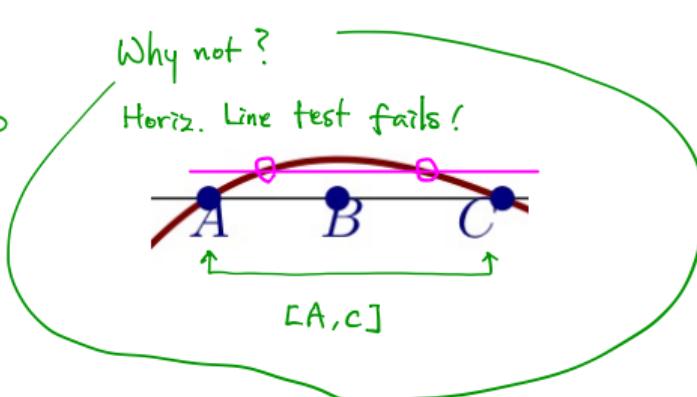
See illustrations on the previous slide.

**Question.** Consider the graph of the function  $f$  below:



On which of the following intervals is  $f$  one-to-one?

- ①  $[A, B]$  : Yes
- ②  $[A, C]$  : No
- ③  $[B, D]$  : Yes
- ④  $[C, E]$  : No
- ⑤  $[C, D]$  : Yes



Ans. : ①, ③, ⑤

## Review of Famous Functions (ROFF)

These are important functions for Math 1151:

- polynomial functions
- rational functions
- trigonometric functions and their inverses
- exponential and logarithmic functions

## Calculus 1

↳ branch of maths

which studies the nature  
of functions

# Polynomial functions

$a_j x^j \rightarrow$  non-negative integers.

## Definition

A **polynomial function** in the variable  $x$  is a function which can be written in the form

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

where the  $a_i$ 's are all constants (called the **coefficients**) and  $n$  is a whole number (called the **degree** when  $n \neq 0$ ). The domain of a polynomial function is  $(-\infty, \infty)$ .

Yes

- $f(x) = 5$  (constant)
- $f(x) = 2x - 1$  (linear)
- $f(x) = x^2 + 2x - 5$  (quadratic)

No

not an integer

$$\bullet f(x) = \underbrace{x^{1/2}}_{\text{square root}} + 3x^{\frac{1}{2}}$$
$$\bullet f(x) = x^{-2} + x^{-1} - \pi^7$$

$\frac{1}{x^2}$  negative integers

**Question.** Which of the following are polynomial functions?

①  $f(x) = 7$  Yes (constant function)

②  $f(x) = 3x + 1$  Yes (linear function)

③  $f(x) = x^{1/2} - x + 8$  No, because of  $x^{1/2}$ . (fractional power)

④  $f(x) = x^{-4} - 3x^{-2} + 7 + 12x^3$  No, because of  $x^{-4}$  and  $x^{-2}$ . (neg. <sup>powers</sup>)

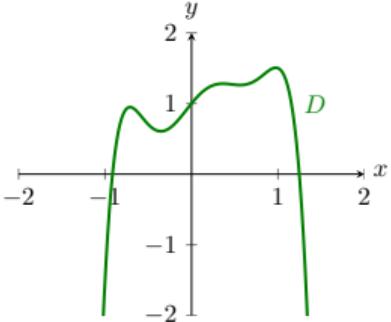
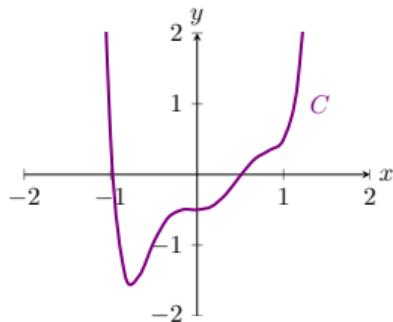
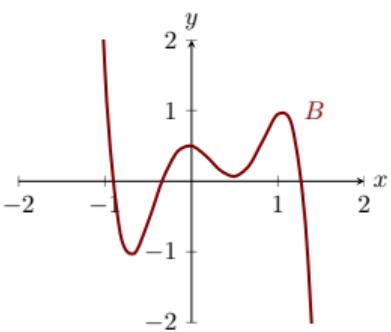
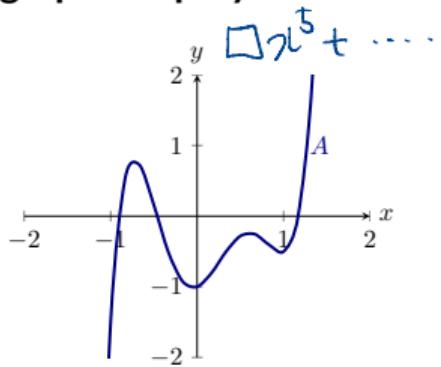
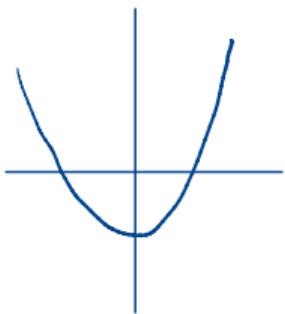
⑤  $f(x) = (x + \pi)(x - \pi) + e^x - e^x = x^2 - \pi^2$ , so Yes.

⑥  $f(x) = \frac{x^2 - 3x + 2}{x - 2}$  No, not in the form (☺).

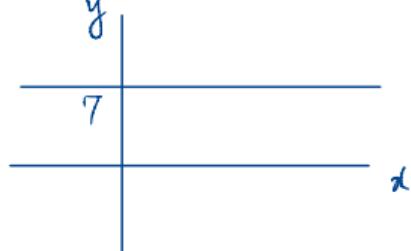
⑦  $f(x) = x^7 - 32x^6 - \pi x^3 + 3/7$  Yes.

## Some possible graphs of polynomials.

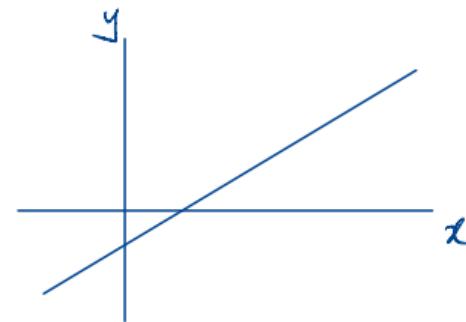
quadratic



Const.  $f(x) = 7$



linear  $f(x) = 2x - 1$



# Rational functions

## Definition

A **rational function** in the variable  $x$  is a function of the form

$$f(x) = \frac{p(x)}{q(x)}$$

where  $p$  and  $q$  are polynomial functions. The domain of a rational function is all real numbers except for where the denominator is equal to zero.

✓  $x^{-2} = \frac{1}{x^2}$  (rational function)

Yes  $f(x) = \frac{x - \frac{1}{2}}{2x^2 - 3x + 4}$  ← linear quad.

Note: All polynomials are rational functions since

$$p(x) = \frac{p(x)}{1}$$

No  $f(x) = \frac{(x+1)^{\frac{1}{3}} - e}{(x+1)^3 + e}$

$$f(x) = \frac{\sin(x)}{\ln(x)}$$

frac'l power

**Question.** Which of the following are rational functions?

①  $f(x) = 0$  Yes. See note on the previous page.

②  $f(x) = \frac{3x + 1}{x^2 - 4x + 5}$  Yes.

③  $f(x) = e^x$  No.

④  $f(x) = \frac{\sin(x)}{\cos(x)}$  No. Though it assume a fractional structure,  
numer. and denom. are not polyom.

⑤  $f(x) = -4x^{-3} + 5x^{-1} + 7 - 18x^2$  Yes, upon combining terms using common  
denominator.

⑥  $f(x) = x^{1/2} - x + 8$  No, because of  $x^{1/2}$ .

⑦  $f(x) = \frac{\sqrt{x}}{x^3 - x}$  No, because of  $\sqrt{x}$ .

Q. Why is ⑤ a rational function?

⑤  $f(x) = -4x^{-3} + 5x^{-1} + 7 - 18x^2$

$$= -\frac{4}{x^3} + \frac{5}{x} + 7 - 18x^2$$

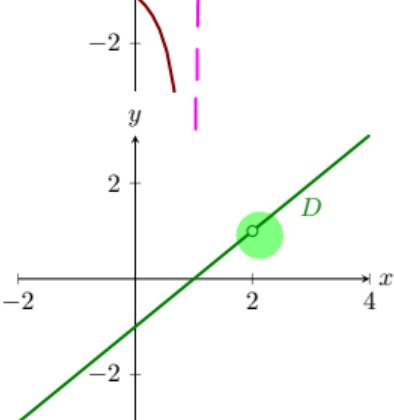
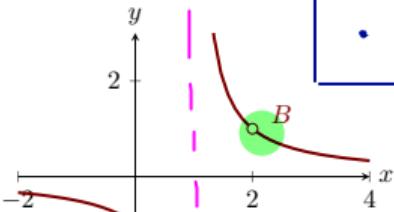
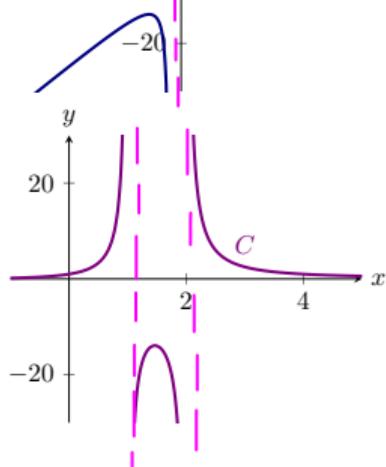
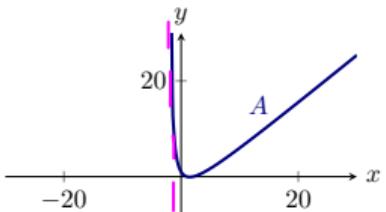
$$= \frac{-4 + 5x^2 + 7x^3 - 18x^5}{x^3}$$

→ polynom.

→ polynom.

Yes, it is a rational function!

## Some possible graphs of rational functions.

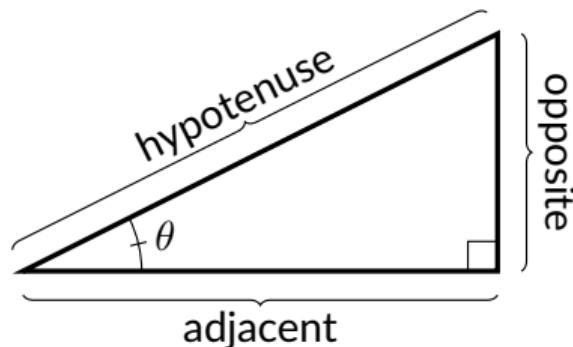


Notable features

- Asymptotes
- "holes" on graphs

# Trigonometric functions

A **trigonometric function** is a function that relates a measure of an angle of a right triangle to a ratio of the triangle's sides.



In America, "SOH CAH TOA" is a famous mnemonic for trig. def'n.

## Definition

The trigonometric functions are:

$$\cos(\theta) = \frac{\text{adj}}{\text{hyp}}$$

$$\sin(\theta) = \frac{\text{opp}}{\text{hyp}}$$

$$\tan(\theta) = \frac{\sin(\theta)}{\cos(\theta)}$$

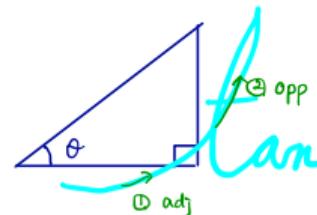
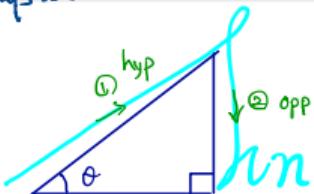
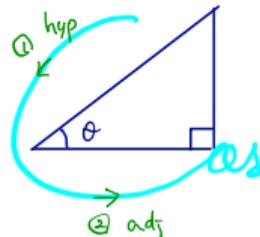
$$\sec(\theta) = \frac{1}{\cos(\theta)}$$

$$\csc(\theta) = \frac{1}{\sin(\theta)}$$

$$\cot(\theta) = \frac{\cos(\theta)}{\sin(\theta)}$$

where the domain of sine and cosine is all real numbers, and the other are defined precisely when their denominators are nonzero.

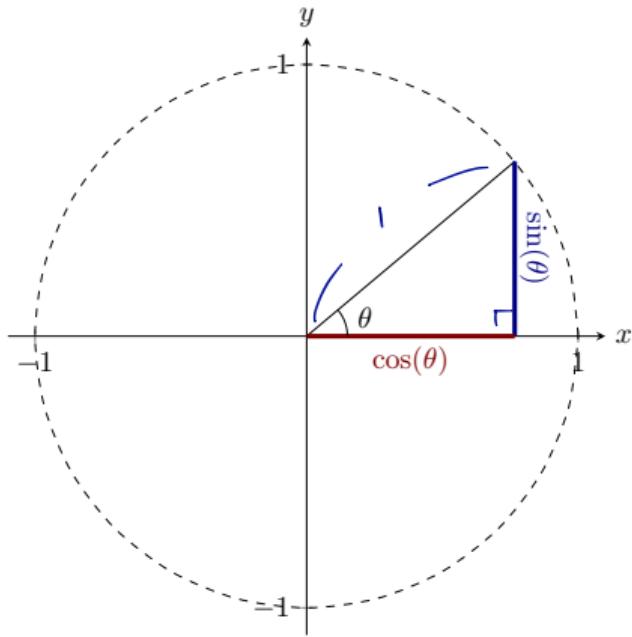
How I learned back in the days...



Cultural Note

In many asian languages, denom. comes before numer.,  
e.g. "오분의 삼" or "五分之三", which reads "out of 5, 3".

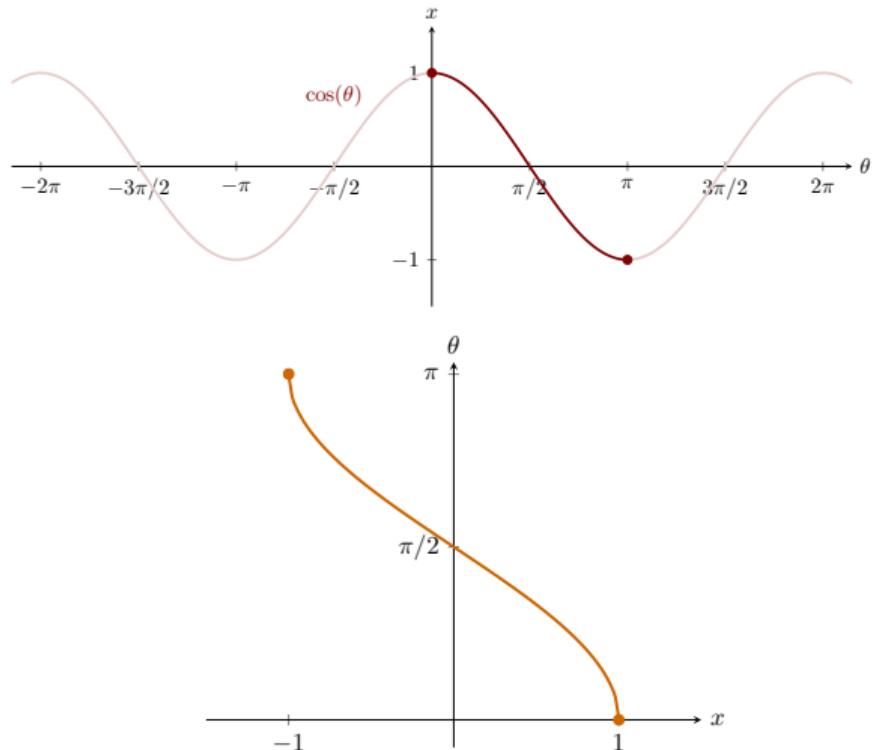
## The unit circle and trig functions



Applying Pythagorean theorem, we obtain

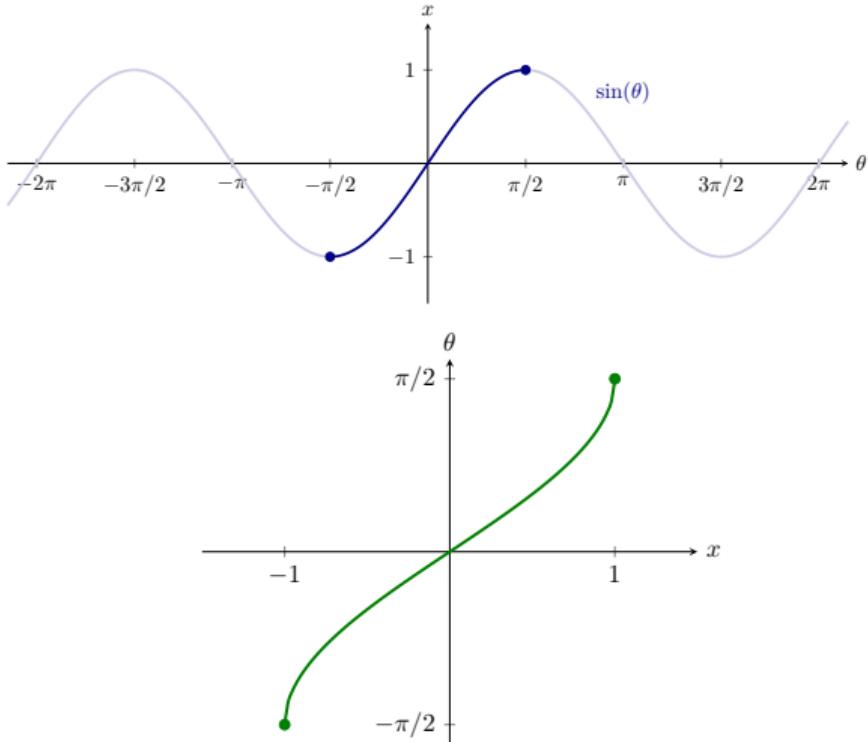
$$1^2 = \cos^2 \theta + \sin^2 \theta$$

## Cosine and its inverse.



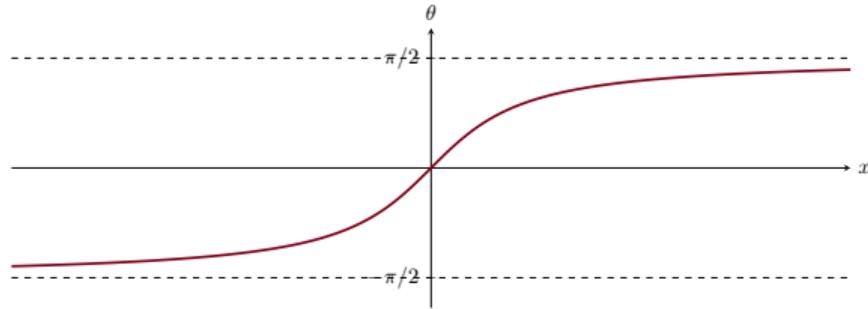
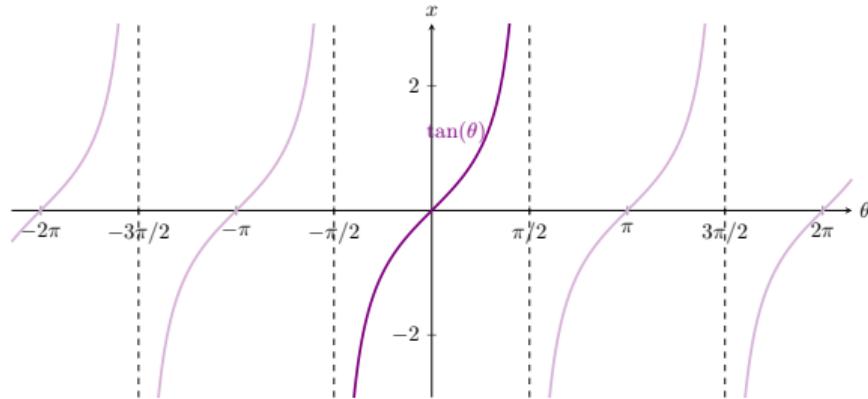
Here we see a plot of  $\arccos(x)$ , the inverse function of  $\cos(\theta)$  when the domain is restricted to the interval  $[0, \pi]$ .

## Sine and its inverse.



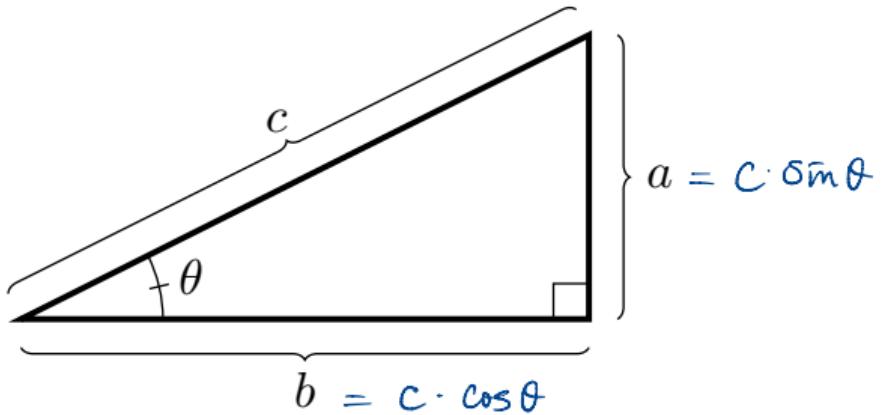
Here we see a plot of  $\arcsin(x)$ , the inverse function of  $\sin(\theta)$  when the domain is restricted to the interval  $[-\pi/2, \pi/2]$ .

## Tangent and its inverse.



Here we see a plot of  $\arctan(x)$ , the inverse function of  $\tan(\theta)$  when the domain is restricted to the interval  $(-\pi/2, \pi/2)$ .

## Pythagorean theorem and identities.



Pythagorean theorem:

$$\bullet a^2 + b^2 = c^2$$

Using  $a = c \sin \theta$ ,  $b = c \cos \theta$ ,

$$a^2 + b^2 = c^2 \sin^2 \theta + c^2 \cos^2 \theta$$

$$= c^2 (\underline{\sin^2 \theta + \cos^2 \theta} = 1) = c^2$$

Pythagorean identities:

$$\begin{aligned} &\bullet \cos^2 \theta + \sin^2 \theta = 1 \\ &\bullet 1 + \tan^2 \theta = \sec^2 \theta \\ &\bullet \cot^2 \theta + 1 = \csc^2 \theta \end{aligned}$$

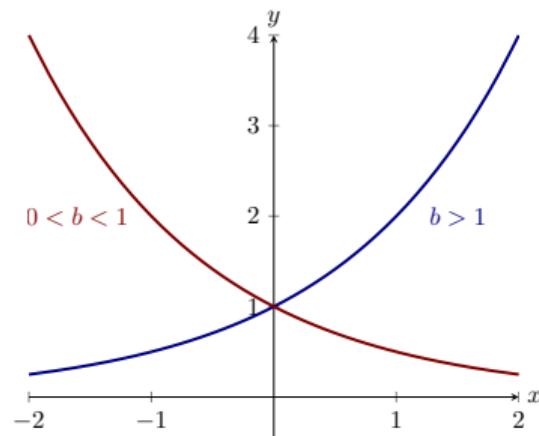
# Exponential and logarithmic functions

## Definition

An **exponential function** is a function of the form

$$f(x) = b^x$$

where  $b \neq 1$  is a positive real number. The domain of an exponential function is  $(-\infty, \infty)$ . (Special:  $f(x) = e^x$ .)

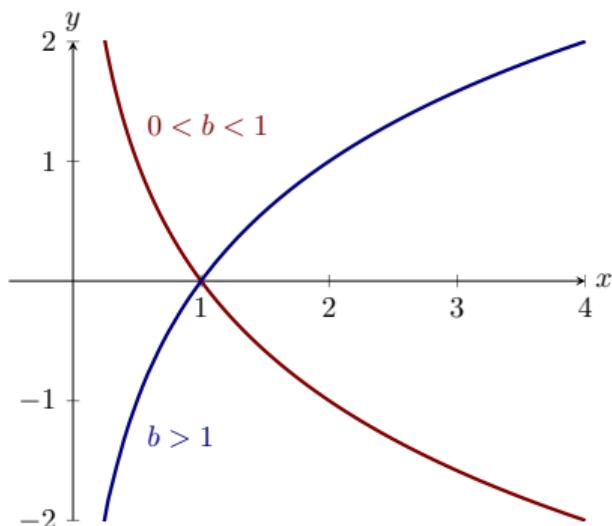


## Definition

A **logarithmic function** is a function defined as follows

$$\log_b(x) = y \quad \text{means that} \quad b^y = x$$

where  $b \neq 1$  is a positive real number. The domain of a logarithmic function is  $(0, \infty)$ . (Special:  $f(x) = \ln(x)$ .)



## Properties of exponents

Let  $b$  be a positive real number with  $b \neq 1$ .

- $b^m \cdot b^n = b^{m+n}$
- $b^{-1} = \frac{1}{b}$
- $(b^m)^n = b^{mn}$

## Properties of logarithms

Let  $b$  be a positive real number with  $b \neq 1$ .

- $\log_b(m \cdot n) = \log_b(m) + \log_b(n)$
- $\log_b(m^n) = n \cdot \log_b(m)$
- $\log_b(1/m) = \log_b(m^{-1}) = -\log_b(m)$
- $\log_a(m) = \frac{\log_b(m)}{\log_b(a)}$