

# Notes

Pre-Calculus

Sec. 1.8

Inverse Functions

# Definition of the Inverse Function

Given  $f(x)$  and  $g(x)$ :

SHOW OR PROVE OR DECIDE INVERSES:

$$\text{If } f(g(x)) = x \text{ and } g(f(x)) = x,$$

then the function  $g$  is the inverse of the function  $f$ .

↙ inverse function

NOT SWITCHING!!  
BY X & Y !!

We use  $f^{-1}(x)$  as inverse notation.

The domain of  $f$  is equal to the range of  $f^{-1}$ , and vice versa.

(Because  $x$  &  $y$  are switched.)

A function that has an inverse<sup>function</sup> is also called a

one-to-one function (passes both the VLT and the HLT).

↖ Vertical  
line  
test

Horizontal  
line  
test ↗

To find the inverse of a set of points: switch x with y.

ie.  $\{(1, 2), (3, 4)\} \longrightarrow \{(2, 1), (4, 3)\}$

$$f(x)$$

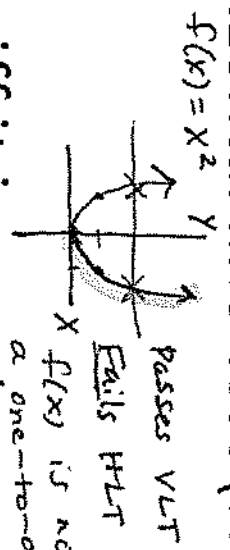
$$f^{-1}(x)$$

*y's do not repeat*

One-to-One Function: a  $f$  (which already passes the vertical

line test) must also pass the horizontal line test (HLT)

(Now  $Y$ 's do not repeat either).



A function  $f$  has an inverse ( $f^{-1}$ ), iff it is one-to-one (passes both the VLT and the HLT) *(if and only if)*

*a one-to-one function, the inverse is NOT a function.*

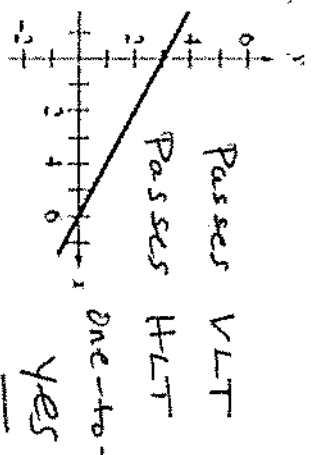
⊗ If a domain restriction is added ie.  $x \geq 0$   $f(x)$  will be one-to-one.

To "find" the inverse of an equation, that is a one-to-one function, you will switch  $x$  &  $y$ , then solve for  $y$ .

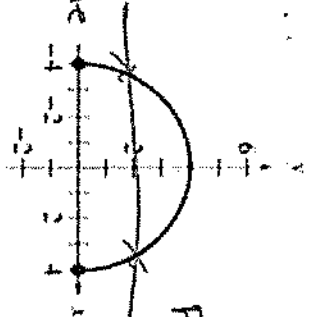
# EX.1

## Horizontal Line Test and One-to-One Functions

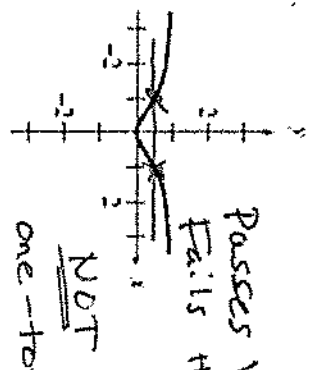
Part 1 - Does this function have an inverse function? (I.E. Is it One-to-One?)



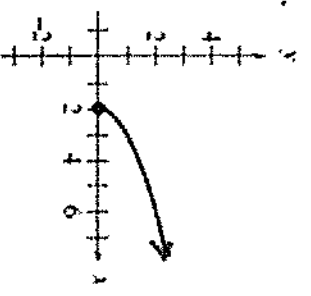
one-to-one  
YES



NOT one-to-one  
NO



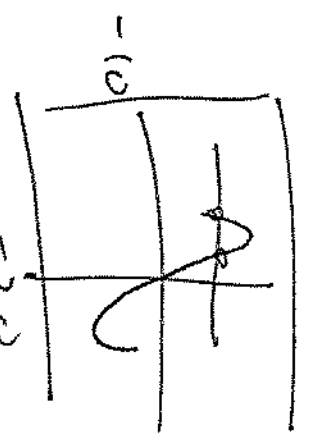
NOT one-to-one  
NO



one-to-one  
YES

Part 2 - Use a graphing calculator to graph the function and determine if it is One-To-One (I.E. It has an inverse function)

$$h(x) = -2x\sqrt{16-x^2}$$



$h(x)$   
Passes VLT and

Fails HLT  
∴ NOT one-to-one

EX.2

$f \circ g(x) = x$   
and  $g \circ f(x) = x$

~~Not necessary~~ (a) show that  $f$  and  $g$  are inverse functions algebraically and (b) ~~use a table~~ <sup>(by hand)</sup> ~~numerically~~ create a table of values for each function to numerically show that  $f$  and  $g$  are inverse functions.

~~Min~~  $f(x) = \frac{x-9}{4}$ ,  $g(x) = 4x + 9$

$\begin{aligned} \text{(a) } f \circ g(x) &= f(g(x)) \\ &= f(4x+9) \\ &= \frac{(4x+9)-9}{4} \\ &= \frac{4x}{4} \\ &= x \end{aligned}$	$\begin{aligned} g \circ f(x) &= g(f(x)) \\ &= g\left(\frac{x-9}{4}\right) \\ &= 4\left(\frac{x-9}{4}\right) + 9 \\ &= x - 9 + 9 \\ &= x \end{aligned}$
---	---

$f \circ g(x) = x = g \circ f(x)$   
∴  $f$  and  $g$  are inverses.

(b) Numerically (table)

$x$	9	13	10
$f(x)$	0	1	$\frac{1}{4}$

↓ ↓ ↓

$x$	0	1	$\frac{1}{4}$
$g(x)$	9	13	10

↻

∴  $f(x)$  &  $g(x)$  are inverses.

EX.3

**(a)** ~~Verify algebraically~~ show that  $f$  and  $g$  are inverse functions algebraically. ~~Use graphing window~~ <sup>By hand</sup> graph  $f$  and  $g$  in the same viewing window. Describe the relationship between the graphs.

~~Verify~~  $f(x) = 9 - x^2$ ,  $x \geq 0$ ;  $g(x) = \sqrt{9 - x}$   $f(x) = 9 - x^2$   
 $= -x^2 + 9$ ;  $x \geq 0$

(b) Graph

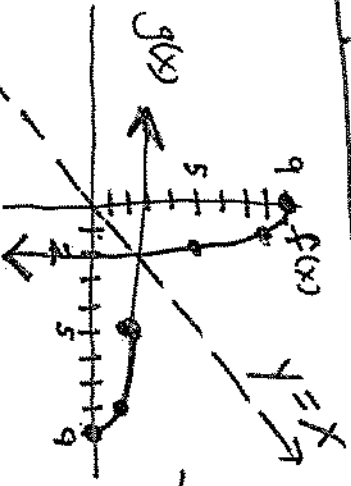
(a)

$f \circ g(x)$	$g \circ f(x)$
$f(g(x))$	$g(f(x))$
$= f(\sqrt{9-x})$	$= g(9-x^2)$
$= 9 - (\sqrt{9-x})^2$	$= \sqrt{9 - (9-x^2)}$
$= 9 - (9-x)$	$= \sqrt{9-9+x^2}$
$= 9-9+x$	$= \sqrt{x^2}$
$= x$	$=  x $

$f \circ g(x) = x = g \circ f(x) \therefore f(x) \text{ \& } g(x) \text{ are inverses.}$

• look at domain and result inside function

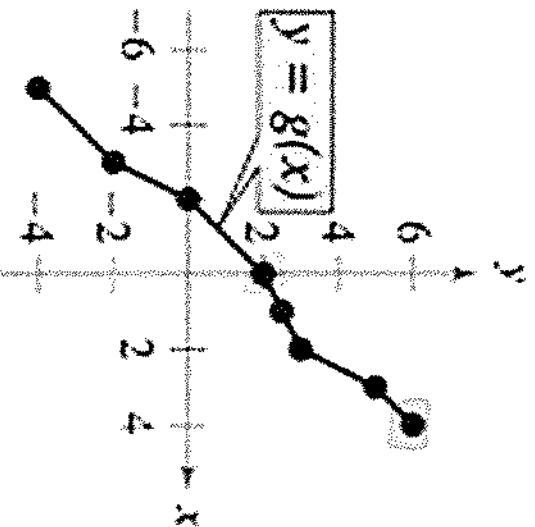
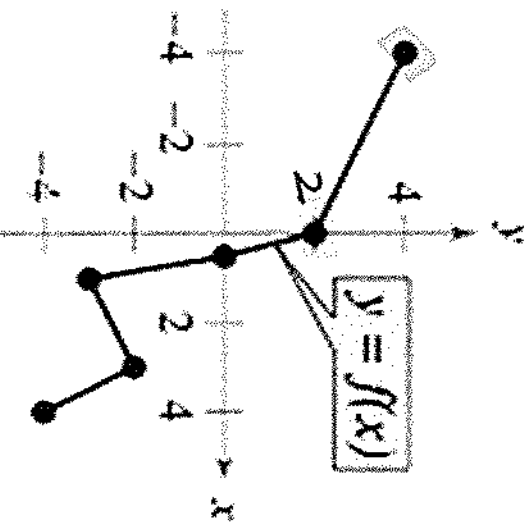
X	0	1	2
f(x)	9	8	5
g(x)	0	1	2



$f(x) \text{ \& } g(x)$  are reflections over the line  $y=x \therefore f(x) \text{ \& } g(x)$  are inverses.

EX.4

~~With~~ use the graphs of  $y = f(x)$  and  $y = g(x)$  to evaluate the function.



84.  $g(\underline{f(-4)})$

$= g(\underline{4})$

$= \underline{6}$

Find  $f(-4) = 4$

87.  $(g \circ f^{-1})(2)$

$= g(\underline{f^{-1}(2)})$

$= g(0) = \underline{2}$

Find  $f^{-1}(2)$

$(2, 0)$

So...

on  $f(x)$

$(0, 2)$

↓  
y-value

Ex.5 a) Find the inverse of:

$$f(x) = \frac{3}{2+5x}$$

- Switch  $x$ 's  $y$
- Then solve for  $y$ .

switch:  $\frac{x}{1} = \frac{3}{2+5y}$

distribute:  $x(2+5y) = 3$

$$2x + 5xy = 3$$

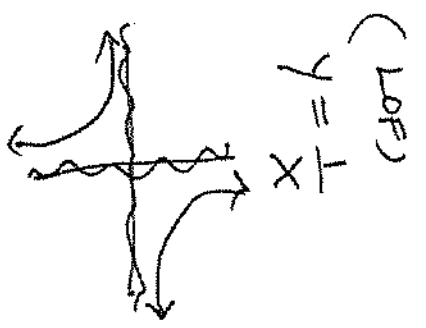
$$\frac{5xy}{5x} = \frac{3-2x}{5x}$$

$$y = \frac{3-2x}{5x}$$

no complex fractions!

use inverse function notation

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



b) Give the domain and range of  $f(x)$  and  $f^{-1}(x)$  in interval notation.

notation.  $f(x) = \frac{3}{2+5x}$

HA:  $y=0$        $2+5x=0$

$5x = -2$   
 $x \neq -\frac{2}{5}$

$f(x)$ :

D:  $(-\infty, -\frac{2}{5}) \cup (-\frac{2}{5}, \infty)$

R:  $(-\infty, 0) \cup (0, \infty)$

$f^{-1}(x)$ :

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

HA:  $y = -\frac{2}{5}$

domain:  $5x \neq 0$   
 $x \neq 0$

D:  $(-\infty, 0) \cup (0, \infty)$

R:  $(-\infty, -\frac{2}{5}) \cup (-\frac{2}{5}, \infty)$



Ex.6 a) Find  $f^{-1}(x)$  for

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

$$x \neq \frac{2y+3}{y-1}$$

$$x(y-1) = 2y+3$$

$$xy - x = 2y + 3$$

$$xy - 2y = x + 3$$

Factor  $y(x-2) = x+3$

$$y = \frac{x+3}{x-2}$$

$$y = \frac{\ominus x \ominus 3}{\ominus x + 2} = \frac{\neq (x+3)}{\neq (x-2)}$$

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

b) Give the domain and range of  $f(x)$  and  $f^{-1}(x)$  in interval notation.

$$f(x) = \frac{2x+3}{x-1} \quad x-1 \neq 0 \quad x \neq 1$$

BOB0  
BOTN  
EANS DC  
HA:  $y=2$

$$D: (-\infty, 1) \cup (1, \infty)$$

$$R: (-\infty, 2) \cup (2, \infty)$$

$$f^{-1}(x) = \frac{x+3}{x-2} \quad x-2 \neq 0 \quad x \neq 2$$

$$D: (-\infty, 2) \cup (2, \infty)$$

$$R: (-\infty, 1) \cup (1, \infty)$$

Ex.7 a) Find the inverse of

$$f(x) = \sqrt{5-x}$$

$$(x)^2 = (\sqrt{5-y})^2$$

$$x^2 = 5-y$$

$$x^2 - 5 = -y$$

$$-x^2 + 5 = y$$

$$f^{-1}(x) = -x^2 + 5 ; x \geq 0$$

must add  
a restriction  
to be one-to-one

b) Give the domain and range of  $f(x)$  and  $f^{-1}(x)$  in interval notation.

$f(x)$ :

$$D: (-\infty, 5]$$

$$R: [0, \infty)$$

$$f(x) = \sqrt{5-x}$$

$$5-x \geq 0$$

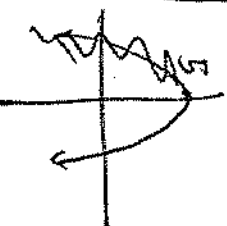
$$-x \geq -5$$

$$x \leq 5$$

$f^{-1}(x)$

$$D: [0, \infty)$$

$$R: (-\infty, 5]$$



Ex. 8 Given:

$$f(x) = \frac{1}{8}x - 3, \quad g(x) = x^3, \quad h(x) = 2x + 1$$

a) Find  $(f \circ g)^{-1}(5)$

Need  $(f \circ g)(x)$  to find  $(f \circ g)^{-1}(x)$

$$\begin{aligned}(f \circ g)(x) &= f(g(x)) \\ &= f(x^3) \\ &= \frac{1}{8}(x^3) - 3\end{aligned}$$

$$(f \circ g)(x) = \frac{x^3}{8} - 3$$

Substit  
x & y  
to find  
 $(f \circ g)^{-1}(x)$

$$x = \frac{y^3}{8} - 3$$

$$8(x+3) = \frac{y^3}{8}$$

$$\sqrt[3]{y^3} = \sqrt[3]{8 \cdot (x+3)}$$

$$y = 2\sqrt[3]{x+3}$$

$$(f \circ g)^{-1}(x) = 2\sqrt[3]{x+3}$$

All reals

Inside:  $g(x) = x^3$  All reals

$$(f \circ g)^{-1}(5) = 2\sqrt[3]{5+3}$$

$$= 2\sqrt[3]{8}$$

$$= 2 \cdot 2$$

$$= \boxed{4}$$

$$f(x) = \frac{1}{8}x - 3, \quad g(x) = x^3, \quad h(x) = 2x + 1$$

b) Find  $h(g(f(8)))$

$$= h(\underline{g(-2)})$$

$$= h(-8)$$

$$= 2(-8) + 1$$

$$= -16 + 1$$

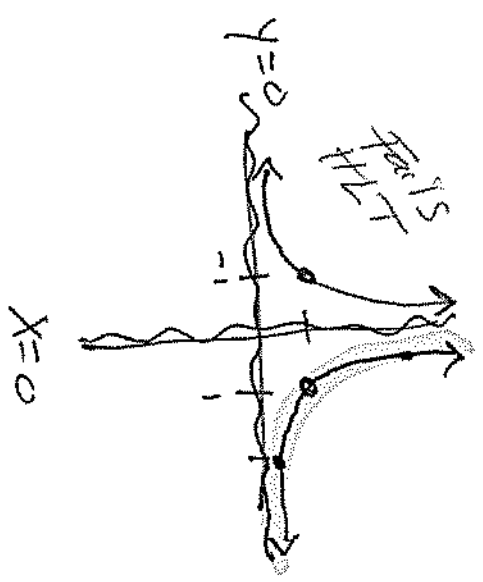
$$= \boxed{-15}$$

1<sup>st</sup> find:  $f(8) = \frac{1}{8}(8) - 3$

$$= \boxed{-2}$$

Now find  $g(-2) = (-2)^3 = \boxed{-8}$

Ex 9) Find the inverse of  $f(x) = \frac{1}{x^2}, x > 0$



HA:  $y=0$

$y = \frac{1}{x^2}, x > 0$   
 $x \neq 0$  even power

$f(x):$

~~$\frac{x}{1} = \frac{x}{y^2}$~~   
 $D: (0, \infty)$

$xy^2 = 1$   $R: (0, \infty)$

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

$y = \sqrt{\frac{1}{x}}$

not one-to-one

add a restriction

$f^{-1}(x) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{x}}, x > 0$

~~$D: (0, \infty)$~~   
 ~~$R: (0, \infty)$~~