

Lecture 2

More functions, and more details

① New functions from old.

(i) Piecewise functions

$$\text{e.g. } f(x) = \begin{cases} 1/x & \text{if } x > 0 \\ 0 & \text{if } x = 0 \\ -1/x & \text{if } x < 0 \end{cases}$$

$$\text{or } |x| = \begin{cases} x & \text{if } x \geq 0 \\ -x & \text{if } x < 0 \end{cases}$$

(ii) Sums Given f, g (with same domain and codomain) define

$$h(x) = f(x) + g(x) \quad (\text{Sum of } f \text{ and } g)$$

$$\text{Ex } f(x) + 7 \quad (\text{Shift graph } \uparrow \text{ by 7 units})$$

(iii) Products: $h(x) = f(x) \cdot g(x)$

$$\text{Ex } \cdot 2 \cdot f(x)$$

$$\cdot -f(x)$$

(vertical rescaling by factor 2)
(reflect in x -axis)

(iv) Quotients $h(x) = \frac{f(x)}{g(x)}$ (different domain!)

$$\text{Ex } \text{csc}(x) = \frac{1}{\sin x}$$

(v) Composition $(f \circ g)(x) = f(g(x))$

Ex $f(x) = 3^x$ $g(x) = x - 4$

$f \circ g$ is $(f \circ g)(x) = 3^{x-4}$
(shift 4 units to the right)

Ex $f(x) = \sin(x)$ $g(t) = 2\pi t$

$(f \circ g)(t) = \sin(2\pi t)$

(vi) Inverse. Idea: given f , find a function g which "undoes" f , in the sense that

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

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

Equiv: $y = f(x) \iff x = g(y)$

Notation: $g = f^{-1}$.

Ex $f(x) = \frac{x+3}{x-4}$. Find f^{-1} (if it exists)

Sol $y = \frac{x+3}{x-4}$ $x \neq 4 \implies (x-4)y = x+3$
 $\implies xy - 4y = x+3$
 $\implies xy - x = 3 + 4y$
 $\implies x(y-1) = 3 + 4y$
 $\implies x = \frac{3+4y}{y-1}$ $y \neq 1$.

Ex $f(x) = e^x$. Then $f^{-1}(x) = \ln(x)$

① Properties of functions

$$\text{Let } f: A \rightarrow B \\ A, B \subseteq \mathbb{R}$$

- (i) f is continuous if the graph of f does not have any "jumps". We make a rigorous definition later.
- (ii) f is differentiable if for each $x \in A$, the graph of f has a well-defined slope at x .
- (iii) f is increasing / decreasing if for all $x < y$ we have $f(x) < f(y)$ / $f(x) > f(y)$
- (iv) f is even / odd if $f(x) = f(-x)$ / $f(x) = -f(-x)$
- (v) f is periodic if there is a number P with $f(x+P) = f(x)$ for all $x \in A$.
- (vi) f is one-to-one (also: injective) if $x \neq y \implies f(x) \neq f(y)$ for all $x, y \in A$
- In other words: f is injective if different inputs always result in different outputs.
- Ex $f(x) = x^3 - 3$ is injective, but $g(x) = x^2 - 3$ is not.