

# Math 1050 ~ College Algebra

## 5 Inverses of Functions

$$\begin{aligned} -3x + 4y &= 5 \\ 2x - y &= -10 \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{bmatrix} -3 & 4 \\ 2 & -1 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} x \\ y \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 5 \\ -10 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$\sum_{k=1}^m k = \frac{m(m+1)}{2}$$

$$\sum_{k=0}^n z^k = \frac{1-z^{n+1}}{1-z}$$

### Learning Objectives

- Verify that two functions are inverses of each other.
- Determine if a function is one-to-one.
- Use the graph of a one-to-one function to graph its inverse function.
- Find the inverse of a one-to-one function.

### Inverse Function

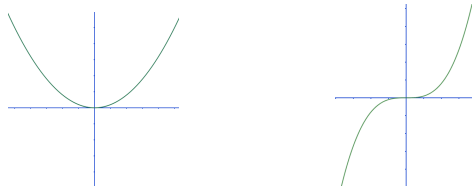
If  $f$  and  $g$  are functions such that

- $(f \circ g)(x) = x$  for all  $x$  in the domain of  $g$
- $(g \circ f)(x) = x$  for all  $x$  in the domain of  $f$

then  $f$  and  $g$  are inverses of each other.

This is written  $f^{-1}(x) = g(x)$  and  $g^{-1}(x) = f(x)$ .

To have an inverse, a function must be one-to-one, that is for each output there must be exactly one input.



## **Finding an Inverse Function**

Strategy

Ex 1: For  $f(x)$ , find the inverse function,  $f^{-1}(x)$ .

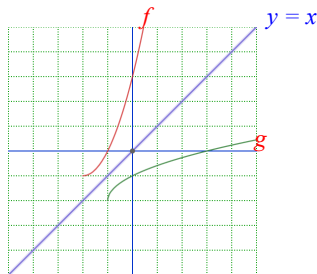
a)  $f(x) = \frac{x^5 - 1}{3}$

b)  $f(x) = \sqrt[3]{x+2} + 1$

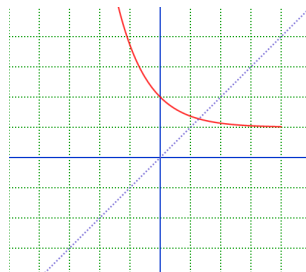
### **Graphical Properties of Inverse Functions**

Assume  $f$  and  $g$  are inverse functions.

- The domain of  $f$  is the range of  $g$  and the domain of  $g$  is the range of  $f$ .
- $f(a) = b$  if and only if  $g(b) = a$ .
- $(a, b)$  is on the graph of  $f$  if and only if  $(b, a)$  is on the graph of  $g$ .
- $f$  and  $g$  are symmetric about the line  $y = x$ .



Ex 2: Sketch the inverse,  $f^{-1}$ , of  $f$  on the same axes. State the domain and range of each.

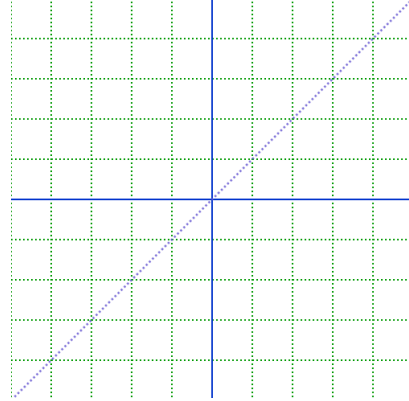


Ex 3: Show that these two functions are inverses in two ways.

$$g(x) = \frac{1-x}{x}, \quad 0 < x \leq 1 \quad f(x) = \frac{1}{1+x}, \quad x \geq 0$$

a) Algebraically

b) Graphically



Ex 4: Find the inverse of  $f(x) = \frac{x-3}{x+2}$ .