

§2.7 "Combining Functions"

Given functions  $f, g$

2/18/2011  
Section 12

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

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

$$(f \cdot g)(x) = f(x) \cdot g(x)$$

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

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

Given the domain of  $f$ , domain of  $g$ ,


What can we conclude about the domain of  $f \pm g, f \cdot g, f/g$ ?

Example 4: Find the domain of  $f+g, f-g, f \cdot g, f/g, g/f$ .

(a)  $f(x) = \sqrt{9-x}$

Dom f:  $9-x \geq 0, 9 \geq x$  

$g(x) = \frac{x}{x^2-1}$

Dom g:  $x^2-1 \neq 0, x \neq \pm 1$  

Dom f+g:

Dom f-g:

Dom f \cdot g:

↑  
Same!  
↓



"common values"

$(-\infty, -1) \cup (-1, 1) \cup (1, 9]$

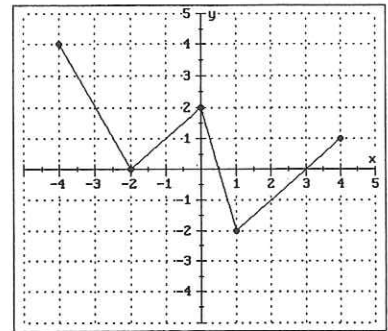
**Worksheet - Combining Functions (section 1.6)**

1. Use the functions
- $f(x)$
- ,
- $g(x)$
- , and
- $h(x)$
- given below to determine the following:

$$f(x) = 3x^2 - 7$$

$$\downarrow$$

$x$	-2	0	3	4
$g(x)$	4	-3	6	1

 $h(x)$ 

a)  $f(0) = -7$

b)  $g(0) = -3$

c)  $h(0)$

$= 2$

d)  $g(0) + h(0) = -3 + 2 = -1$

2. Use the functions
- $r(x)$
- and
- $n(x)$
- below to determine the following, if possible:

$x$	-1	0	1	2	3
$r(x)$	2	-1	3	1	2

$x$	-1	0	1	2	3
$n(x)$	0	-2	2	-1	1

a)  $(r+n)(-1)$

$= r(-1) + n(-1) = 2 + 0 = 2$

b)  $(n-r)(0)$

$n(0) - r(0) = -2 - (-1) = -1$

c)  $\left(\frac{r}{n}\right)(-1)$

$= \frac{r(-1)}{n(-1)} = \frac{2}{0}$  undefined

d)  $(rn)(2)$

$r(2)n(2) = (1)(-1) = -1$

e)  $\left(\frac{n}{r}\right)(-1)$

$= 0$

f)  $(n(r(3)))$

$= n(2) = -1$

g)  $(r \circ r)(0)$

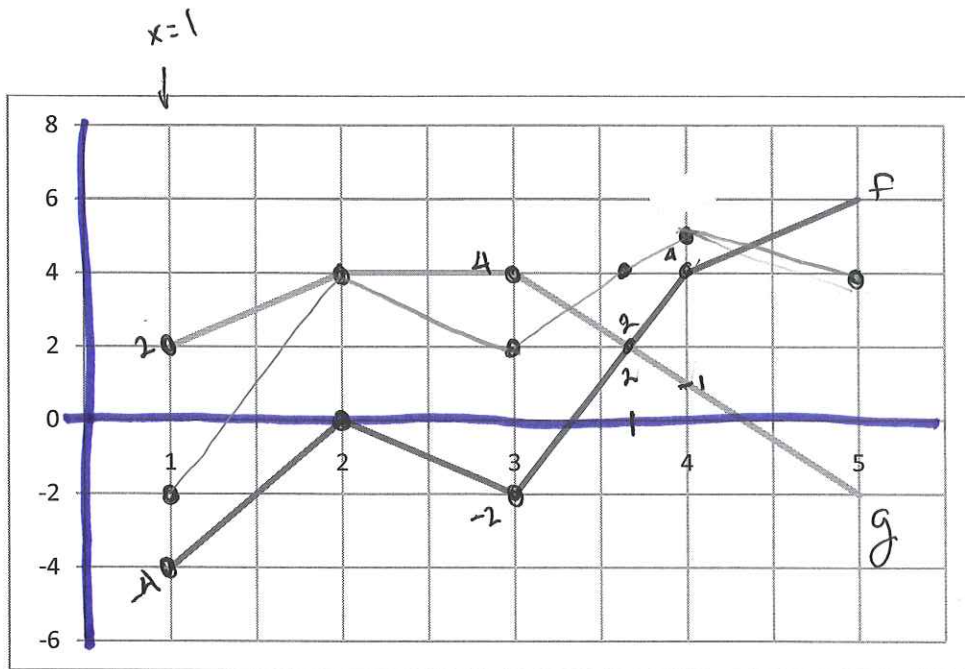
$r(r(0))$   
 $= r(-1)$

$= 2$

h)  $(n \circ n)(1)$

$n(n(1))$   
 $= n(2)$

67  $= -1$



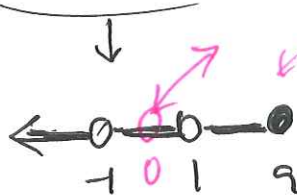
Sketch a graph of  $(f + g)(x)$  on the axes above. ← add y-values -

||  
 $f(x) + g(x)$   
 ↑    ↑  
 vertical values -

Dom  $f/g$  :

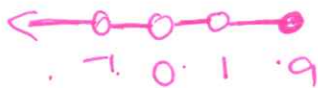
Common values in  
dom  $f$ , dom  $g$   
(like before)

without  $g(x) = 0$ .



$$\frac{x}{x^2-1} \neq 0$$

$$x \neq 0$$

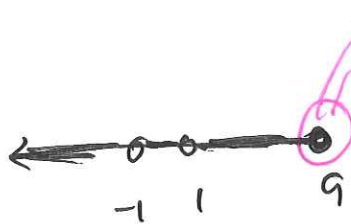


$$(-\infty, -1) \cup (-1, 0) \cup (0, 1) \cup (1, 9]$$

Dom  $g/f$  :

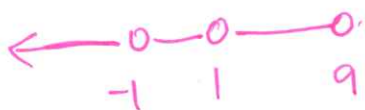
Common values  
in dom  $f$ , dom  $g$

without  $f(x) = 0$ .



$$\sqrt{9-x} \neq 0$$

$$x \neq 9$$



$$(-\infty, -1) \cup (-1, 1) \cup (1, 9)$$

Composition: "Plug one function into another"

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

↑  
Step 1 / inside  
function

↑  
Step 2 / outside  
function.

Example 4.5: Evaluate:  
 $f(x) = x^2 + 1$

(a)  $f \circ g(x) = f(g(x))$   
 $= f\left(\frac{x}{x+1}\right)$   
 $= \left[\left(\frac{x}{x+1}\right)^2 + 1\right]$

(c)  $g(g(x)) = g\left(\frac{x}{x+1}\right)$   
 $= \frac{\left(\frac{x}{x+1}\right)(x+1)}{\left[\left(\frac{x}{x+1}\right) + 1\right](x+1)}$   
 $= \frac{x}{x + x + 1}$   
 $= \frac{x}{2x + 1}$

$$g(x) = \frac{x}{x+1}$$

(b)  $g \circ f(x) = g(f(x))$   
 $= g(x^2 + 1)$   
 $\neq \frac{x^2 + 1}{x^2 + 1}$

## Decomposition:

$f \circ g(x)$  is a decomp of  $h(x)$  if

$$h(x) = f(g(x)).$$

Example 5: Decompose  $h(x) = f(g(x))$  -  $\left( \begin{array}{l} f(x) \neq x \\ g(x) \neq x. \end{array} \right)$

(a)  $h(x) = \sqrt{x^2 + 5}$

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

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

OR

$$g(x) = x^2 + 5$$

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

(b)  $h(x) = \left( (x+2)^2 - 10 \right)^{4/3}$

OR

$$g(x) = (x+2)^2$$
$$f(x) = (x-10)^{4/3}$$

OR

$$g(x) = x+2$$
$$f(x) = (x^2-10)^{4/3}$$

OR

$$g(x) = (x+2)^2 - 10$$
$$f(x) = x^{4/3}$$

OR

$$g(x) = \left( (x+2)^2 - 10 \right)^{1/3}$$

$$f(x) = x^4$$

OR

$$g(x) = \left( (x+2)^2 - 10 \right)^4$$

$$f(x) = x^{1/3}$$