

Lesson 9 – Compositions of Functions

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The **BIG** Picture

- And we are studying this because?
- Functions will be a unifying theme throughout the course
→ so a solid understanding of **what** functions are and **why** they are used and **how** they are used will be very important!
- Sometimes, complicated looking equations can be easier to understand as being combinations of simpler, parent functions

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(A) Function Composition

- So we have a way of creating a new function
→ we can **compose** two functions which is basically a **substitution of one function into another**.
- we have a notation that communicates this idea → if $f(x)$ is one functions and $g(x)$ is a second function, then the composition notation is → **$f \circ g(x)$**

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(B) Composition of Functions – Example

- We will now define f and g as follows:
- $f = \{(3,2), (5,1), (7,4), (9,3), (11,5)\}$
- $g = \{(1,3), (2,5), (3,7), (4,9), (5,10)\}$
- We will now work with the composition of these two functions:
 - (i) We will evaluate $f \circ g(3)$ (or $f(g(3))$) and $f \circ g(1)$
 - (ii) evaluate $f \circ g(5)$ and see what happens → why?
 - (iii) How does our answer in Q(ii) help explain the idea of "existence"?
 - (iv) evaluate $g \circ f(9)$ and $g(f(7))$ and $g \circ g(1)$

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(B) Composition of Functions – Example

- We can define f and g differently, this time as formulas:
- $f(x) = x^2 - 3$ and $g(x) = 2x + 7$
- We will try the following:
 - (i) $f(g(3))$ or $fog(3)$
 - (ii) $gof(3)$ or $g(f(3))$
 - (ii) $fog(x)$ and $gof(x)$
 - (ii) evaluate $fog(5)$
 - (iii) evaluate $gof(9)$ and $g(f(7))$ and $gog(1)$

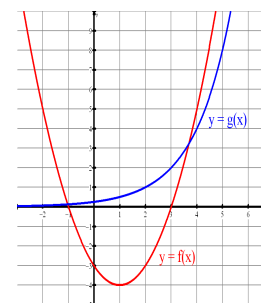
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(B) Composition of Functions – Example

- We can define f and g differently, this time as graphs:
- We will try the following:
 - (i) $f(g(3))$ or $fog(3)$
 - (ii) $gof(3)$ or $g(f(3))$
 - (iii) evaluate $fog(2)$ and $fog(-1)$
 - (iv) evaluate $gof(0)$ and $g(f(1))$ and $gog(2)$



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(C) “Existence of Composite”

- Use DESMOS to graph the following functions:
 $f(x) = \sqrt{x-1}$ and $g(x) = \ln(x)$
- State the RANGE of $f(x)$ and of $g(x)$.
- Determine the equation for $fog(x)$
- Graph the composite function, $fog(x)$ and determine its DOMAIN
- Q(a)? Does $fog(x)$ exist \rightarrow Why is the answer NO!?!?!?
- Q(b)? Under what domain conditions of $g(x)$ does $fog(x)$ exist

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(D) Composition of Functions – Explaining “Existence of Composite”

- Back to our opening example $f(x) = \sqrt{x-1}$ and $g(x) = \ln(x)$

1. Let's consider a mapping diagram. Complete the mapping diagram for the function:

$g(x) = \ln(x)$, where the Domain = $\{0.1, 0.5, 1, 2, e, 5, 8\}$ (ideally $\{x \in \mathbb{R} \mid x \geq 0\}$)

What is the Range of $g(x)$ (use calculator) _____ ? (ideally $\{y \in \mathbb{R}\}$)



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(D) Composition of Functions – Explaining “Existence of Composite”

2. Sometimes functions undergo **more than one** mapping or transformation → we will do $f \circ g(x)$

Let's consider these two functions: $f(x) = \sqrt{x-1}$ and $g(x) = \ln(x)$, what would this mapping look like below.

Let the Domain = $\{0.1, 0.5, 1, 2, e, 5, 8\}$, as before

Determine the Range _____

If our data is mapped via $g(x)$ and then mapped by $f(x)$, the question then remains:

(1) When does this doubling mapping work & when doesn't it?

(2) What is the new equation of the twice mapped data that will allow us to get the same result in 1 step?

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Composition, Existence & Domains of Existence

15. Given the functions $f(x) = \sqrt{x^2-9}, x \in S$ and $g(x) = |x-3|, x \in T$, find the largest positive subsets of \mathbb{R} so that (a) $g \circ f$ exists (b) $f \circ g$ exists.

16. For each of the following functions

(a) determine if $f \circ g$ exists and sketch the graph of $f \circ g$ when it exists.

(b) determine if $g \circ f$ exists and sketch the graph of $g \circ f$ when it exists.

i.

ii.

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Composition, Existence & Domains of Existence

18. The functions f and g are given by $f(x) = \begin{cases} \sqrt{x-1} & \text{if } x \geq 1 \\ x-1 & \text{if } 0 < x < 1 \end{cases}$ and $g(x) = x^2 + 1$.

(a) Show that $f \circ g$ is defined. (b) Find $(f \circ g)(x)$ and determine its range.

19. Let $f: \mathbb{R}^+ \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^+$ where $f(x) = \begin{cases} \frac{1}{x^2}, & 0 < x \leq 1 \\ \frac{1}{\sqrt{x}}, & x > 1 \end{cases}$.

(a) Sketch the graph of f .

(b) Define the composition $f \circ f$, justifying its existence.

(c) Sketch the graph of $f \circ f$, giving its range.

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Composition, Existence & Domains of Existence

3. All of the following functions are mappings of $\mathbb{R} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ unless otherwise stated.

(a) Determine the composite functions $(f \circ g)(x)$ and $(g \circ f)(x)$, if they exist.

(b) For the composite functions in (a) that do exist, find their range.

i. $f(x) = x + 1, g(x) = x^3$ ii. $f(x) = x^2 + 1, g(x) = \sqrt{x}, x \geq 0$

iii. $f(x) = (x+2)^2, g(x) = x-2$ iv. $f(x) = \frac{1}{x}, x \neq 0, g(x) = \frac{1}{x^2}, x \neq 0$

v. $f(x) = x^2, g(x) = \sqrt{x}, x \geq 0$ vi. $f(x) = x^2 - 1, g(x) = \frac{1}{x}, x \neq 0$

vii. $f(x) = \frac{1}{x^2}, x \neq 0, g(x) = \frac{1}{x^2}, x \neq 0$ viii. $f(x) = x - 4, g(x) = |x|$

ix. $f(x) = x^3 - 2, g(x) = |x+2|$ x. $f(x) = \sqrt{4-x}, x \leq 4, g(x) = x^2$

xi. $f(x) = \frac{x}{x+1}, x \neq -1, g(x) = x^2$ xii. $f(x) = x^2 + x + 1, g(x) = |x|$

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(F) Composition of Functions – Example

- For the following pairs of functions

- (a) Determine $f \circ g(x)$

$$(a) f(x) = 3x - 6 \quad \text{and} \quad g(x) = \frac{1}{3}x + 2$$

- (b) Determine $g \circ f(x)$

$$(b) f(x) = \frac{1}{x+3} \quad \text{and} \quad g(x) = \frac{1-3x}{x}$$

- (c) Graph the original two functions in a square view window & make observations about the graph → then relate these observations back to the composition result

$$(c) f(x) = 3 - (x+2)^2 \quad \text{where } x \geq -2$$

$$\text{and } g(x) = \sqrt{3-x} - 2$$

$$(d) f(x) = e^{2x-1} \quad \text{and} \quad g(x) = \frac{1}{2}(\ln(x)-1)$$