

## Lesson 9 – Compositions of Functions

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### Opening Example

- Consider the functions  $f(x) = \sqrt{x-1}$  and  $g(x) = \ln(x)$
- State the domains & ranges of each function
- PREDICT the domain of  $y = f \circ g(x)$  and  $y = g \circ f(x)$
- Explain/show WHY you picked the domain you did.
- Use your TI-84 to compose the functions and verify your predictions

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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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### (A) Composition of Functions – Example 1

- 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  $g \circ g(1)$

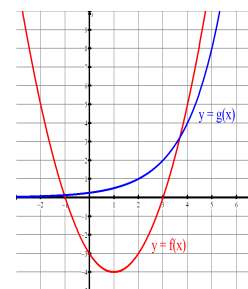
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### (A) Composition of Functions – Example 2

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



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## (A) Composition of Functions – Example 3

- 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) “Existence of Composite”

- Use DESMOS to graph the following functions:  

$$f(x) = \sqrt{x-1} \text{ and } g(x) = \ln(x)$$
- State the DOMAIN & RANGE of each  $f(x)$  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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## (C) 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  $\{x \in \mathbb{R} | x > 0\}$ )

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



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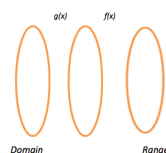
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## (C) Composition of Functions – Explaining “Existence of Composite”

2. Sometimes functions undergo **more than one** mapping or transformation  $\rightarrow$  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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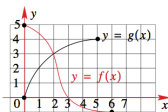
## Composition, Existence &amp; Domains of Existence

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

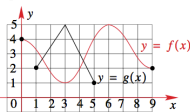
16. For each of the following functions

- determine if  $fog$  exists and sketch the graph of  $fog$  when it exists.
- determine if  $gof$  exists and sketch the graph of  $gof$  when it exists.

i.



ii.



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## Composition, Existence &amp; 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  $g(x) = x^2 + 1$ .
- Show that  $fog$  is defined.
  - Find  $(fog)(x)$  and determine its range.

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

- Sketch the graph of  $f$ .
- Define the composition  $fof$ , justifying its existence.
- Sketch the graph of  $fof$ , 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)  $f(x) = 3x - 6$  and  $g(x) = \frac{1}{3}x + 2$

■ (b) Determine  $g \circ f(x)$

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

■ (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)  $f(x) = 3 - (x+2)^2$  where  $x \geq -2$   
and  $g(x) = \sqrt{3-x} - 2$

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

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