

Inverse functions and more with composition

Inverse functions:

The typical inverse function definition uses composition to define it: f and g are inverse functions if:

$$f \circ g(x) = x \text{ and } g \circ f(y) = y$$

We're using x and y as the inputs, but that doesn't mean that the inputs have to be real numbers: x and y could be standing for any element of a set, even an ordered pair.

Examples:

$f : \mathbb{R}^2 \rightarrow \mathbb{C}$ such that $f(x, y) = x + yi$ and $g : \mathbb{C} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^2$ such that $g(a + bi) = (a, b)$ are inverse functions: $f \circ g(a + bi) = f(a, b) = a + bi$ $g \circ f(x, y) = g(x + yi) = (x, y)$	$f : \mathbb{R} \rightarrow [0, \infty)$ such that $f(x) = x^2$ and $g : [0, \infty) \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ such that $g(y) = \sqrt{y}$ are not inverse functions because $g \circ f(-2) = g(4) = 2 \neq -2$
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1. In order for the composition $f \circ g(x) = x$ to make sense, what has to be true about domains and codomains?
2. In order for the composition $g \circ f(y) = y$ to make sense, what has to be true about domains and codomains?
3. If $f : D \rightarrow C$ is not an onto function, is it possible for f to have an inverse function? Why or why not?
4. If $f : D \rightarrow C$ is not one-to-one, is it possible for f to have an inverse function? Why or why not?
5. If $f : D \rightarrow C$ is both one-to-one and onto, does f always have an inverse function? Why or why not?

Example:

$f : \mathbb{R}^2 \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^2$ such that $f(x, y) = (x, 2 - y)$ is one-to-one.

$g : \mathbb{R}^2 \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^3$ such that $g(a, b) = (a, b, 1)$

And $g \circ f : \mathbb{R}^2 \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^3$ such that $g \circ f(x, y) = g(x, 2 - y) = (x, 2 - y, 1)$ is one-to one.

6. If f and g are both one-to-one functions, and the codomain of f is the domain of g
Is $g \circ f$ always one-to one? Why or why not?

Example:

$f : \mathbb{R}^2 \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^2$ such that $f(x, y) = (x, 2 - y)$ is onto.

$g : \mathbb{R}^2 \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ such that $g(a, b) = b$ is onto

And $g \circ f : \mathbb{R}^2 \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ $g \circ f(x, y) = g(x, 2 - y) = 2 - y$ is onto.

7. If f and g are both onto, and the codomain of f is the domain of g
Is $g \circ f$ always onto? Why or why not?