

Math 48A, Lesson 13: Inverse Functions

1. MORE PRACTICE COMBINING FUNCTIONS

Consider the following functions

$$f(x) = x - 3$$

and

$$g(x) = x^2 - 9$$

Please find each of the following:

✓ 1A. $(g - f)(x)$

- 1B. $(f \div g)(x) = \frac{f}{g}(x)$

1C. $f \circ g(x) = f(g(x))$

1D. $g \circ f(x) = g(f(x))$

↑ Homework

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Show your work and simplify whenever you can.

Problem 1A: Step 1

Understand the Problem

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

$$= x^2 - 9 - (x - 3)$$

$$= x^2 - 9 - x + 3$$

$$= x^2 - x - 6$$

$$ax^2 + bx + c$$

Standard form
of a quadratic
function

$$= 1x^2 + -1x + -6$$

$(a=1)$

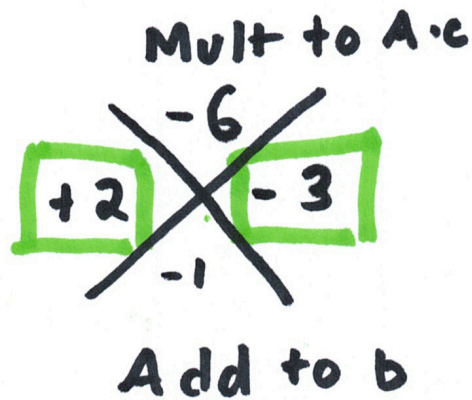
$(b=-1)$

$(c=-6)$

①

Factor by AC method

Step 1: Form the AC Diamond



Conjectures

$$\text{No } -6 = -1 \cdot 6$$

$$\begin{aligned} -1 + 6 &\neq 4 \\ 1 + -6 &\neq -5 \end{aligned}$$

$$-6 = -2 \cdot 3$$

$$-2 + 3 \neq 1$$

$$\boxed{2 + -3 = -1}$$

Step 2: Split the middle term

$$-1 = +2 - 3$$

$$\Rightarrow -1 \cdot x = (2 - 3) \cdot x$$

$$\Rightarrow -x = \boxed{2 \cdot x - 3 \cdot x}$$

$$x^2 \boxed{-x} - 6$$

↙ ↘

$$= \boxed{x^2 + 2x} - \boxed{3x - 6}$$

Step 3: Factor by grouping

$$= x \cdot \boxed{(x+2)} - 3 \cdot \boxed{(x+2)}$$

$$= (x-3) \boxed{(x+2)}$$

$$\Rightarrow x^2 - x - 6 = (x-3) \cdot (x+2)$$

$$\Rightarrow \boxed{(g-f)(x) = (x-3)(x+2)}$$
$$= x^2 - x - 6$$

Problem 1B

$$(f \div g)(x) = \frac{f(x)}{g(x)}$$

$$= \frac{x-3}{x^2-9}$$

difference of squares

$$\begin{aligned} \square x^2 - a^2 &= (x-a)(x+a) \\ &= x^2 - ax + ax - a^2 \\ &= x^2 - a^2 \end{aligned}$$

$$\square x^2 - a^2 = (x-a)(x+a)$$

$$= \frac{(x-3) \cdot 1}{(x-3) \cdot (x+3)}$$

$$= \frac{\cancel{(x-3)}}{\cancel{(x-3)} \cdot (x+3)} \cdot \frac{1}{1}$$

$$= 1 \cdot \frac{1}{x+3}$$

$$= \frac{1}{x+3} \quad \text{if } x \neq 3$$

Note:

$$\frac{A \cdot C}{B \cdot D} = \frac{A}{B} \cdot \frac{C}{D}$$

$$\frac{A}{A} = 1 \quad \text{if } A \neq 0$$

$$\text{if } x-3 \neq 0$$

$$x^2 - 9 = 1x^2 + 0x + -9$$

$$ax^2 + bx + c \quad \text{standard form}$$

Step 1: Form the AC Diamond

Mult to AC

$$\begin{array}{ccc} & -9 & \\ \diagdown & & \diagup \\ \boxed{3} & & \boxed{-3} \\ \diagup & & \diagdown \\ & 0 & \end{array}$$

Add to B

$$\begin{aligned} \Rightarrow -9 &= -1 \cdot 9 && \text{NO} \\ &= -3 \cdot 3 \end{aligned}$$

$$-3 + 3 = 0$$

Step 2: Split the middle term

$$0 = 3 - 3$$

$$\Rightarrow 0 \cdot x = (3 - 3) \cdot x$$

$$\Rightarrow \boxed{0} = 3x - 3x$$

$$\Rightarrow x^2 - \boxed{0x} - 9$$

$$= \boxed{x^2 + 3x} - \boxed{3x - 9}$$

Group 1 Group 2

Step 3: Factor by grouping

$$= x \cdot \boxed{(x+3)} - 3 \cdot \boxed{(x+3)}$$

$$= (x-3)(x+3)$$

$$\Rightarrow x^2 - 9 = x^2 - 3^2$$
$$= (x-3) \cdot (x+3)$$

Math 12	Tattoo?
$x^2 - a^2 = (x-a)(x+a)$	

2. EXAMPLES OF FORWARD AND BACKWARD PROBLEMS
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For each function below, consider solve each of the pairs of problems. As you solve each problem, specifically identify:

- A. What is the input and what is the output?
- B. What are the known values?
- C. What are the unknown values?
- D. How many solutions are there?
- E. How are the forward and backward problems related?

FUNCTION	FORWARD PROBLEM	BACKWARD PROBLEM
$f(x) = 5 + x$	$5 + 7 = y$	$5 + x = 12$
$g(x) = 4 \cdot x$	$4 \cdot 5 = y$	$4 \cdot x = 20$
$h(x) = x^2$	$9^2 = y$	$x^2 = 81$
$j(x) = x^3$	$(-3)^3 = y$	$x^3 = -27$
$k(x) = x $	$ -5 = y$	$ x = 5$
$m(x) = 2^x$	$2^6 = y$	$2^x = 64$

Let's color code our work :

Black be pre-defined

Blue be "given" as a known input

Red be unknown and desired output

Let's look at function $f(x)$:

$$f(x) = 5 + x$$

Forward problem: Given input $x = 7$

$$\Rightarrow 5 + \boxed{7} = \boxed{Y}$$

given input unknown output

function evaluation

Backward problem:

$$\Rightarrow 5 + \boxed{X} = \boxed{12}$$

unknown output given input

algebraic equation

- The **given input** of the forward problem is **unknown output** of backward problem
- The **unknown output** of the forward problem is the **given input** of the backward problem

Let's look at the function

$$g(x) = 4 \cdot x$$

Forward Problem:

$$4 \cdot \boxed{5} = \boxed{y}$$

given input unknown output

function evaluation

Backward Problem

$$4 \cdot \boxed{x} = \boxed{20}$$

unknown output given input

algebraic equation

□ The roles of x and y flip when we move from forward to backward problem.

Let's look at the function

$$m(x) = 2^x = y$$

Forward Problem: *gives input*

$$2^{\boxed{6}} = \boxed{y}$$

Unknown output

Evaluate function

Backward Problem: *unknown output*

$$2^{\boxed{x}} = \boxed{64}$$

given input

Algebraic equation

Think about this:

given input

Forward Problem

$$2 \quad \boxed{x} = \boxed{y}$$

desired output

Function evaluation

↑
inverse

Backward Problem

desired output

$$2 \quad \boxed{y} = \boxed{x}$$

given input

algebraic equation

□ In order to transform a forward problem to a backward problem

we switch the \boxed{y} and \boxed{x}

□ to find an inverse function

we switch the \boxed{x} and \boxed{y}