

Week 4: Composition and Logarithms

MA161/MA1161: Semester 1 Calculus.

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Function Yoga

- There are many ways to obtain **new functions from old** ones.

- We can obtain a **new function** $g(x)$ from a given function $f(x)$ by
 - **shifting**
 - **stretching**
 - **reflecting**the graph of $f(x)$.

- This allows us to **quickly sketch the graphs** of many functions.

- Two functions $f(x)$ and $g(x)$ can be combined by elementary **arithmetic operations** ($+$, $-$, \times , \div) into a new function $h(x)$.
- The **composition** $f \circ g$ of functions f and g applies g first, then f to the result, i.e. f **after** g .

- We will later use these ideas to **decompose** a complex function into **simpler parts**.

Translations.

For $c > 0$, the graph of

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

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

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

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

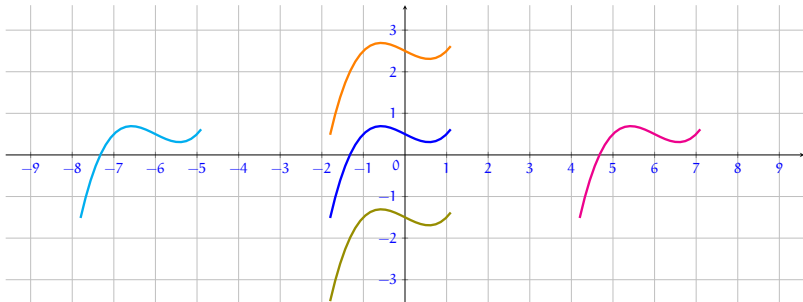
is the **graph** of $f(x)$

shifted by c units **upward**

shifted by c units **downward**

shifted by c units to the **right**

shifted by c units to the **left**



Example: Completing the Square.

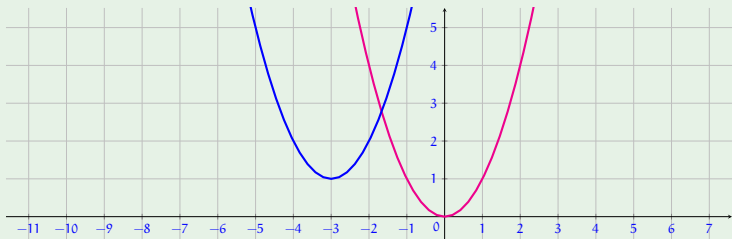
- **Sketch** the graph of the function $f(x) = x^2 + 6x + 10$.

- **Solution:** By **completing the square**

$$f(x) = (x^2 + 6x) + 10 = (x + 3)^2 - 9 + 10 = (x + 3)^2 + 1.$$

- Hence, if $g(x) = x^2$ then $f(x) = g(x + 3) + 1$.

- The **graph** of $f(x)$ is obtained by **shifting** the **parabola** $y = x^2$ by **3 units to the left** and by **1 unit upwards**.



Stretches

For $c > 1$, the graph of _____ is the **graph** of $f(x)$

$$g(x) = c f(x)$$

stretched by a factor c **vertically**

$$g(x) = \frac{1}{c} f(x)$$

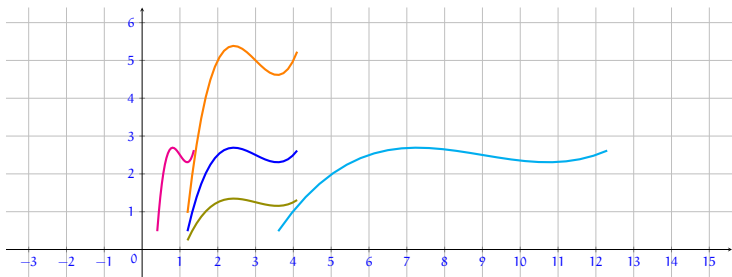
shrunk by a factor c **vertically**

$$g(x) = f(cx)$$

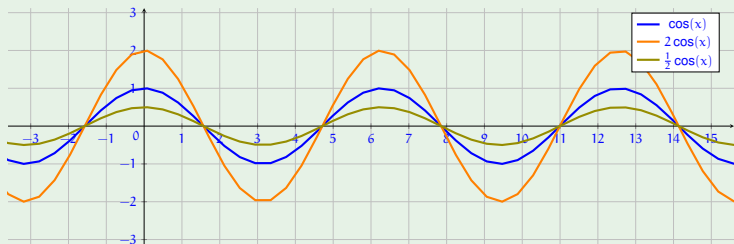
shrunk by a factor c **horizontally**

$$g(x) = f\left(\frac{1}{c}x\right)$$

stretched by a factor c **horizontally**



Example: Stretching $\cos(x)$. AM vs. FM



Reflections

The graph of

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

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

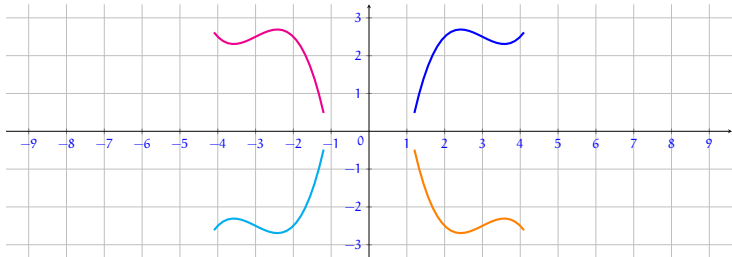
$$g(x) = -f(-x)$$

is the **graph** of $f(x)$

reflected about the **x-axis**

reflected about the **y-axis**

rotated by π about the **origin**



- **Recall:** A function f with $f(-x) = f(x)$ is an **even** function.
- A function f with $-f(-x) = f(x)$ is an **odd** function.

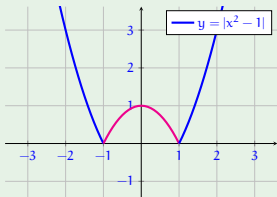
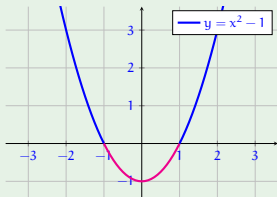
Example: Absolute Value

- The **absolute value** of a function $f(x)$ is the function

$$g(x) = |f(x)| = \begin{cases} f(x) & \text{if } f(x) \geq 0 \\ -f(x) & \text{if } f(x) < 0 \end{cases}$$

- To obtain the graph of $|f(x)|$, **reflect** the part of the graph of $f(x)$ that lies below the x -axis about the x -axis.

- Sketch** the graph of the function $g(x) = |x^2 - 1|$.



Function Arithmetic

- The **sum** $f + g$, **difference** $f - g$, **product** $f \cdot g$ and **quotient** f/g of functions f and g are defined by

$$\begin{aligned}(f + g)(x) &= f(x) + g(x), & (f - g)(x) &= f(x) - g(x), \\ (f \cdot g)(x) &= f(x) \cdot g(x), & (f/g)(x) &= f(x)/g(x),\end{aligned}$$

for any x in the domain.

- Suppose that f has domain $A \subseteq \mathbb{R}$ and that g has domain $B \subseteq \mathbb{R}$.
- The domain of $f + g$, $f - g$ and $f \cdot g$ is the **intersection** $A \cap B$.
- The domain of f/g is $\{x \in A \cap B \mid g(x) \neq 0\}$.

- If $f(x) = \sqrt{x}$ and $g(x) = \sqrt{2-x}$ then $(f + g)(x) = \sqrt{x} + \sqrt{2-x}$ has domain $[0, \infty) \cap (-\infty, 2] = [0, 2]$.
- $(f/g)(x) = \frac{\sqrt{x}}{\sqrt{2-x}}$ has domain $\{x \in [0, 2] \mid x \neq 2\} = [0, 2)$.

Composition of Functions.

- Suppose that $y = f(u) = \sqrt{u}$ and that $u = g(x) = x^2 + 1$.
- Then y is a function of u which is a function of x .
- Ultimately, y is a function of x :

$$y = f(u) = f(g(x)) = f(x^2 + 1) = \sqrt{x^2 + 1}.$$

- This procedure is called **composition** of functions.

- The **composite** $f \circ g$ of two functions f and g is defined by
$$(f \circ g)(x) = f(g(x)).$$
- We say “ f after g ” for $f \circ g$, and pronounce $f(g(x))$ as “ f of g of x ”.
- It means that we first apply g to x and then apply f to the result:
 f after g , for short.

Examples of Composites.

- **Example.** If $f(x) = x^2$ and $g(x) = x - 3$, find the composite functions $f \circ g$ and $g \circ f$.

- **Solution:** $(f \circ g)(x) = f(g(x)) = f(x - 3) = (x - 3)^2$.
 $(g \circ f)(x) = g(f(x)) = g(x^2) = x^2 - 3$.

- Note that, in general, $f \circ g \neq g \circ f$.
- It is possible to **compose three or more** functions, e. g.,

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

- **Example.** Given $F(x) = \cos^2(x + 9)$, find functions f , g and h such that $F = f \circ g \circ h$.

- **Solution:** Let $f(x) = x^2$, $g(x) = \cos x$, $h(x) = x + 9$.
- Then $f(g(h(x))) = f(g(x + 9)) = f(\cos(x + 9)) = \cos^2(x + 9)$.

One-to-One Functions.

- **Example.** Size N of a bacteria culture over time (t in hours):

t	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
$N(t)$	100	168	259	358	445	509	550	573	586

- Time t required for the population N to reach a certain size:

N	100	168	259	358	445	509	550	573	586
$t(N)$	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8

- A change of viewpoint is possible because at different points in time the populations differ in size: $N = f(t)$ becomes $t = f^{-1}(N)$.

- A function $f: D \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ is called a **one-to-one function** if it never takes on the same value twice, that is

$$f(x_1) \neq f(x_2) \text{ whenever } x_1 \neq x_2 \text{ in } D.$$

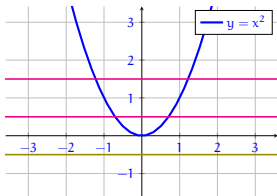
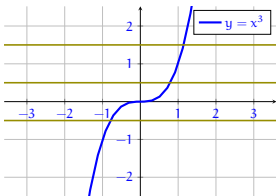
- A function is one-to-one if it passes the **horizontal line test**.

Horizontal Line Test.

- **Example.** Is the function $f(x) = x^3$ one-to-one?
- **Solution:** Two different numbers cannot have the same cube: if $x_1 \neq x_2$ then $x_1^3 \neq x_2^3$. Therefore, $f(x) = x^3$ **is one-to-one.**

- **Example.** Is the function $g(x) = x^2$ one-to-one?
- **Solution:** For instance, $g(1) = 1 = g(-1)$. Therefore, $g(x) = x^2$ **is not one-to-one.**

- **Horizontal Line Test:**



Inverse Functions.

- Suppose f is a **one-to-one** function with **domain** A and **range** B . Then its **inverse function** f^{-1} has **domain** B and **range** A and it is defined by

$$f^{-1}(x) = y \iff f(y) = x, \quad \text{for any } x \in B.$$

- **Do not confuse** $f^{-1}(x)$ with the **reciprocal** $f(x)^{-1} = \frac{1}{f(x)}$.
- Not every function has an inverse.

- **Find** the inverse function of
- **Solution:** Write
- Solve for x :
- Swap x and y :
- Therefore

$$f(x) = x^3 + 2.$$

$$y = x^3 + 2.$$

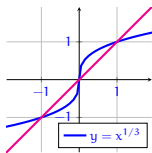
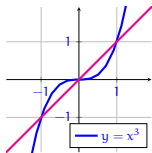
$$x = \sqrt[3]{y-2}.$$

$$y = \sqrt[3]{x-2}.$$

$$f^{-1}(x) = \sqrt[3]{x-2}.$$

Reflection, Inverse Yoga, Cancellation.

- The graph of $f^{-1}(x)$ is obtained by **reflecting** the graph of $f(x)$ about the line $y = x$.

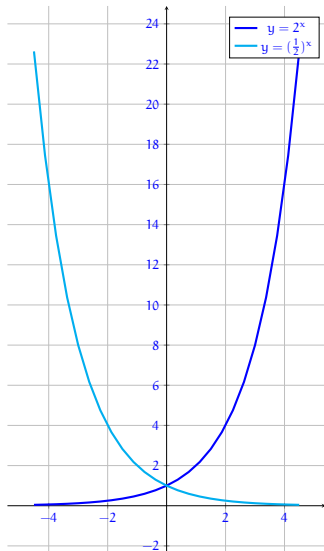


- The inverse of $f(x) = x + 5$ is $f^{-1}(x) = x - 5$.
- The inverse of $g(x) = 3x$ is $g^{-1}(x) = \frac{1}{3}x$.
- The inverse of $m(x) = -x$ is $m^{-1}(x) = -x$: thus $m^{-1} = m$.
- The inverse of $v(x) = \frac{1}{x}$ is $v^{-1}(x) = \frac{1}{x}$: thus $v^{-1} = v$.

- If a function f has domain A , range B and inverse f^{-1} then:
- $f^{-1}(f(x)) = x$ for every $x \in A$, i.e., $f^{-1} \circ f$ is the **identity** on A .
- $f(f^{-1}(x)) = x$ for every $x \in B$, i.e., $f \circ f^{-1}$ is the **identity** on B .

Exponential Functions.

- The function $f(x) = 2^x$ is called an **exponential** function, because the variable, x , is the **exponent**.
- **Not to be confused** with the power function $f(x) = x^2$, where x is in the **base**.
- One characteristic of an exponential function like $f(x) = 2^x$ is that $f(x)$ **grows very rapidly** as x increases.
- It can thus be used to model situations, where things are **doubling all the time**: 1, 2, 4, 8, 16, 32, 64, 128, ...



Properties of The Exponential Function $f(x) = a^x$.

- $f(0) = a^0 = 1$.
- if $x = n \in \mathbb{N}$ then

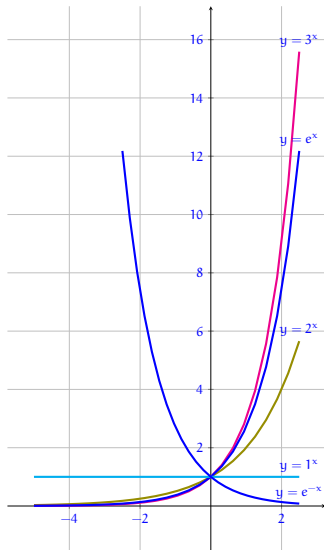
$$f(x) = a^n = \underbrace{a \cdot a \cdot \dots \cdot a}_{n \text{ factors}}$$
- $f(1/x) = a^{1/x} = \sqrt[x]{a}$.
- If $x = p/q \in \mathbb{Q}$ then

$$f(x) = \sqrt[q]{a^p} = (\sqrt[q]{a})^p$$
- $f(-x) = a^{-x} = 1/a^x = (\frac{1}{a})^x$.

- Laws of Exponents:

$$a^{x+y} = a^x a^y, \quad a^{x-y} = \frac{a^x}{a^y},$$

$$a^{xy} = (a^x)^y, \quad (ab)^x = a^x b^x.$$



Application: Bacterial Growth.

- During the so-called **log phase** of bacterial growth in batch culture, in a controlled environment a Cyanobacteria population will double in size four times every day.
- **Show** that the population at time t , measured in hours, can be modelled as

$$p(t) = 1000 \cdot 2^{t/6}.$$

if at time $t = 0$ the population is $p(0) = 1000$ cells.

- **Solution:**

$$p(0) = 1000 = 1 \cdot 1000 = 1000 \cdot 2^{0/6}$$

$$p(6) = 2p(0) = 2 \cdot 1000 = 1000 \cdot 2^{6/6}$$

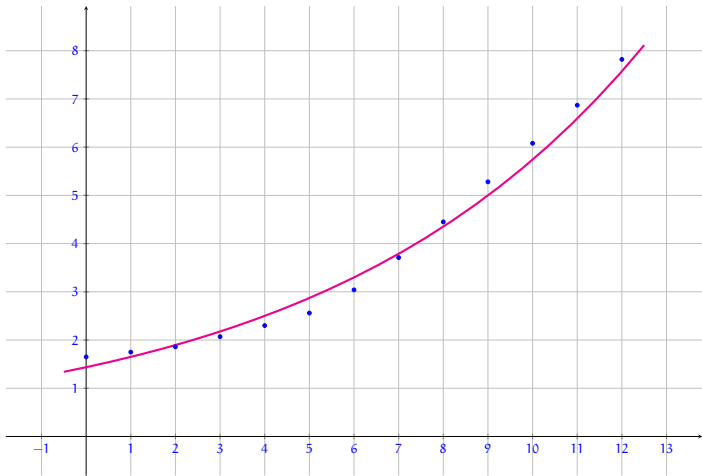
$$p(12) = 2p(6) = 2^2 \cdot 1000 = 1000 \cdot 2^{12/6}$$

$$p(18) = 2p(12) = 2^3 \cdot 1000 = 1000 \cdot 2^{18/6}$$

$$\vdots$$

$$p(t) = 1000 \cdot 2^{t/6}$$

Exponential Regression: World Population



- $P(t) = 1.43653 \cdot (1.14859)^t$... doubling every 50 years ...

Application: Radioactive Decay.

- The **half-life** of Strontium-90 is 25 years.
- (a) **Find** an expression for the mass $m(t)$ that remains after t years of a sample of 24 mg of Strontium-90.
- (b) **Determine** the mass remaining after 40 years.
- (c) **Estimate** the time t required for the mass to be reduced to 5 mg.

• **Solution:** $m(0) = 24$.

(a) $m(25) = \frac{1}{2}m(0) = 12 = 24 \cdot 2^{-1} = 24 \cdot 2^{-25/25}$.

$$m(50) = \frac{1}{2}m(25) = 6 = 24 \cdot 2^{-2} = 24 \cdot 2^{-50/25}$$

$$m(t) = 24 \cdot 2^{-t/25}.$$

(b) $m(40) = 24 \cdot 2^{-40/25} = 7.917$ mg

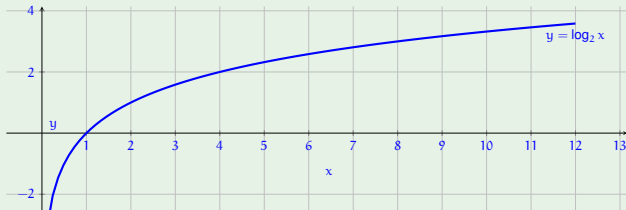
(c) $m(50) = 6$, $m(75) = 3$: between 50 and 75 years ...

Logarithmic Functions.

- Recall: The **logarithmic function** \log_a , with **base** $a > 1$, is the **inverse** of the **exponential function** a^x , with **base** a :

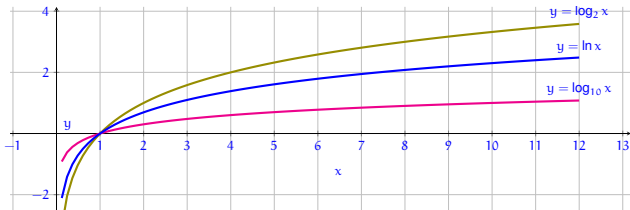
$$y = \log_a x \iff a^y = x.$$

- $\log_2 x$ is the inverse of $f(x) = 2^x$; e.g., $\log_2(8) = 3$ since $2^3 = 8$.



- $\log_{10}(x)$ is the **power** into which to raise 10 in order to get x :
 $\log_{10}(1\,000\,000) = \log_{10}(10^6) = 6$; $\log_{10}(0.001) = -3$.
- $\log_{10}(n)$ is, roughly, the **number of digits** of $n \in \mathbb{N}$.

Properties of Logarithmic Functions.



- **Cancellation:**

$$\log_a(a^x) = x \text{ for all } x \in \mathbb{R}. \quad a^{\log_a(x)} = x \text{ for } x > 0.$$

- **Logarithm Laws:**

$$\log_a(xy) = \log_a(x) + \log_a(y), \quad \log_a(x/y) = \log_a(x) - \log_a(y),$$
$$\log_a(x^r) = r \log_a(x).$$

- $\log_2 80 - \log_2 5 = \log_2 \frac{80}{5} = \log_2 16 = 4.$

The Natural Logarithm.

- Logarithm to **base 10** relates to **decimal representation** of numbers: $\log_{10} 10^n = n$.
- Logarithm to **base 2** relates to **binary representation** of numbers: $64 = 2^6 = (1\,000\,000)_2 \implies \log_2 64 = 6$.
- The **natural logarithm** is $\ln x := \log_e x$, inverse to e^x .
Here, $e = 2.71828182845905\dots$ is **Euler's number**.

- **Change of Base Formula:** $\log_a(x) = \frac{\ln x}{\ln a}$.

- **Proof:** If $y = \log_a x$ then $x = a^y$ whence $\ln x = y \ln a$.

- **Find $\log_8 5$.** **Solution:** $\log_8 5 = \frac{\ln 5}{\ln 8} \approx 0.773976$.

Applications.

- **Solve** $e^{5-3x} = 10$.
- **Solution:** Apply \ln to get $5 - 3x = \ln 10$.
Hence $x = \frac{1}{3}(5 - \ln 10) \approx 0.8991$.

- **Bacterial Growth revisited.** A population of Cyanobacteria can double four times every day. If at time $t = 0$ the population is $p(0) = 1,000$ cells, the population after t hours is modelled as

$$p(t) = 1000 \cdot 2^{t/6}.$$

After how many hours does the population reach 250,000?

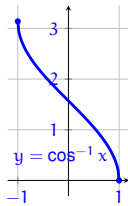
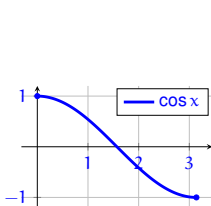
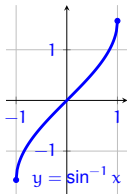
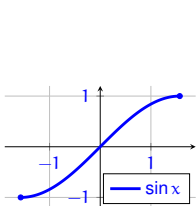
- **Solution:** $250000 = 1000 \cdot 2^{t/6} \iff 2^{t/6} = 250$
 $\iff t/6 = \log_2(250) \iff t = 6 \log_2(250) \approx 48$ hours.
- **In general,**

$$t(p) = 6 \log_2(p/1000).$$

Inverse Sine and Cosine.

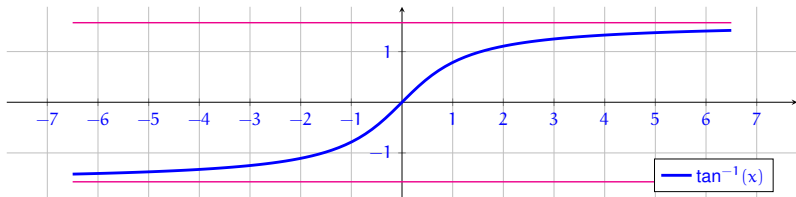
- $\sin x$ and $\cos x$ are made one-to-one by **restricting the domain**.

- The function $f(x) = \sin x$ for $x \in [-\frac{\pi}{2}, \frac{\pi}{2}]$ is **one-to-one**.
- Its inverse is the **inverse sine** function, denoted by $\sin^{-1}(x)$, or $\arcsin(x)$, with **domain** $[-1, 1]$ and **range** $[-\frac{\pi}{2}, \frac{\pi}{2}]$.
- The function $f(x) = \cos x$ for $x \in [0, \pi]$ is **one-to-one**.
- Its inverse is the **inverse cosine** function, denoted by $\cos^{-1}(x)$, or $\arccos(x)$, with **domain** $[-1, 1]$ and **range** $[0, \pi]$.



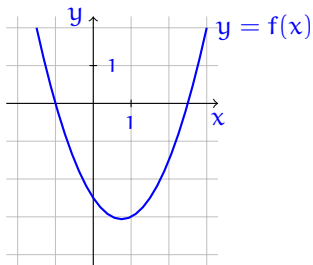
Inverse Tangent.

- The function $f(x) = \tan x$ for $x \in (-\frac{\pi}{2}, \frac{\pi}{2})$ is **one-to-one**.
- Its inverse is the **inverse tangent** function, denoted by $\tan^{-1}(x)$, or $\arctan(x)$, with **domain** \mathbb{R} and **range** $(-\frac{\pi}{2}, \frac{\pi}{2})$.



Exercises.

1. Here is the graph of a quadratic polynomial. What is its equation?

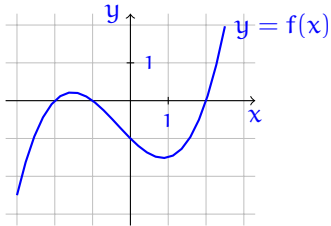


2. Find (a) $\log_{10} 1\,000\,000$,
(b) $\log_2 1024$, (c) $\log_3 6561$.

3. The following graph is that of a cubic polynomial with equation

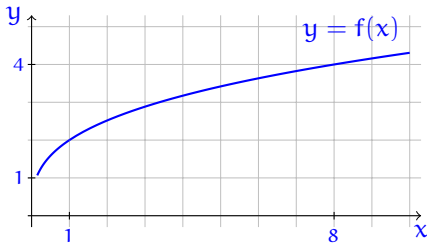
$$f(x) = K(x - a)(x - b)(x - c).$$

Find a , b , c , and K .



Exercises.

4. Here is the graph of the power function $f(x) = 2x^{1/n}$, where n is a natural number. What is the value of n ?



5. (MA160/MA161 Paper 1, 2012/13) A biologist estimates that there are currently 500 zebra mussels in Lough Corrib, and that this number is doubling every year.
- Show that the population can be modelled as $P(t) = 500 \times 2^t$, where t is time in years, and $t = 0$ represents the current time.
 - Find P_0 and k such that the formula can be expressed as $P(t) = P_0 e^{kt}$.
6. Find, correct to 3 decimal places, (a) $\log_2 15$, (b) $\log_2 56.25$, (c) $\log_3 16$.