

# Transcendental Functions

[Don't satisfy an identity of the form  $\sum c_{ij} x^i f(x)^j = 0$  where not all  $c_{ij} = 0$ ].

algebraic

$$f(x) = \frac{1}{x^2 + 1}$$

not

transcendental

$$f(x)(x^2 + 1) - 1 = 0.$$

So algebraic means  $\sum c_{ij} x^i f(x)^j = 0$  where the  $c_{ij}$  are not all 0.

polynomials are algebraic:

$$f(x) - \sum a_i x^i = 0.$$

all rational functions are algebraic.

$$f(x) = \frac{\sum a_i x^i}{\sum b_j x^j} \quad \begin{array}{l} a_i \text{ not all } 0 \\ b_j \text{ not all } 0. \end{array}$$

radical functions are algebraic

For example if  $f(x) = \sqrt[3]{x}$  then

$$f(x)^3 - x = 0, \quad f(x) = \sqrt{x^2 + 1} \Rightarrow$$

$$f(x)^2 - x^2 - 1 = 0.$$

Trigonometric and exponential functions are transcendental. (Need more than 1st yr. calculus to prove this. Methods from Math 46, 146 sequence needed. See the course directory file transcendentals.pdf.)

OBJECTIVES OF CHAPTER 9

- I Find antiderivative of  $\frac{1}{x}$ .
- II Differentiate the exponential power fun.  
 $a^x$ , where  $a > 1$ . Likewise for  $\log_a x$   
 $\arcsin x$ ,  $\arctan x$ ,  $\arccos x$ , ...

Note:  $\arcsin x$  is the unique  $\theta$  such that  $-\frac{\pi}{2} \leq \theta \leq \frac{\pi}{2}$  and  $x = \sin \theta$ . This is only defined if  $-1 \leq x \leq 1$ .

# Need to analyze inverse functions

$y = f(x)$  inverse function means

$f(x)$  is 1-1:  $x \neq x' \Rightarrow f(x) \neq f(x')$ .

$$x = g(y) \iff y = f(x)$$

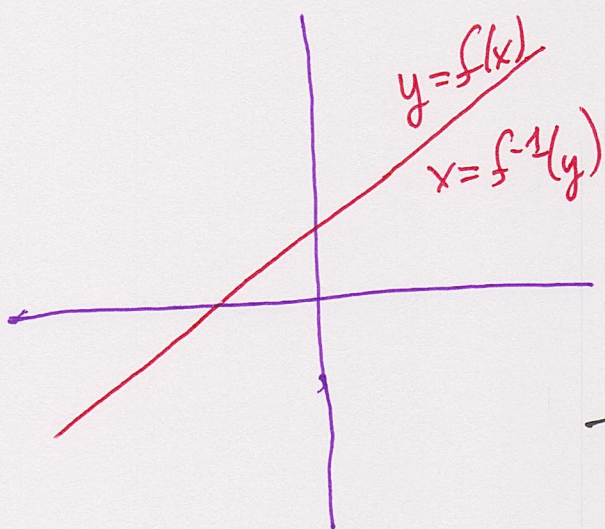
$$g = f^{-1}$$

need  $f$  to be 1-1 in order for this to work.

If  $f(x_1) = f(x_2) = y$  but  $x_1 \neq x_2$ , have two choices for  $g(y)$ . Functions are single-valued.

## Examples

linear function  $y = ax + b = f(x)$   
 $a \neq 0$



Notice  $x < x' \Rightarrow f(x) < f(x')$   
so  $f(x)$  is 1-1.

To find  $g = f^{-1}$ , solve for  $y$  in terms of  $x$ :

$$x = \frac{y}{a} - \frac{b}{a}$$

Note that  $g(f(x)) = x,$

for  $x = g(y) \iff y = f(x) \implies$

$x = g(f(x)).$  Likewise,  $f(g(y)) = y.$

VERIFY THESE WHEN  $f(x) = ax + b$   
WHERE  $a \neq 0.$

Other examples

$f(x) = x^n$        $f^{-1}(x) = \sqrt[n]{x}$        $\left\{ \begin{array}{l} \text{all } x, \text{ odd} \\ x \geq 0, \text{ even} \\ (\text{no real } \sqrt{-1}). \end{array} \right.$

$f(x) = 10^x$        $f^{-1}(x) = \log_{10} x.$

$f(x) = \sin x$        $f^{-1}(x) = \arcsin x$        $-\frac{\pi}{2} \leq x \leq \frac{\pi}{2}$

$f(x) = \cos x$        $f^{-1}(x) = \arccos x$        $0 \leq x \leq \pi.$

↑  
need a range  
where  $f$  is 1-1.

# Calculus and inverse functions

- (1) Test when a function has an inverse.
- (2) Derivative of  $f^{-1}$  in terms of the derivative of  $f$  (if  $f'$  exists).

Strictly increasing / decreasing functions

provided  $f'(x)$  always positive / negative

Conversely,  $f'$  exists &  $f$  is 1-1  $\Rightarrow f$  incr / dect.

Example  $f(x) = x^3$  1-1 increasing  
but  $f'(0) = 0$ .

Inverse Function Theorem  $f' \neq 0$ ,

$$g = f^{-1} \Rightarrow g'(y) = \frac{1}{f'(g(y))}$$

easier to remember  $\frac{dx}{dy} = \frac{1}{\left(\frac{dy}{dx}\right)}$ .

Proof Use Chain Rule:

$$y = f(g(y)) \Rightarrow$$

$$1 = \frac{d}{dy} f(g(y)) = f'(g(y)) \cdot g'(y)$$

Now  $f' \neq 0$  everywhere, so we  
can divide by  $f'(g(y))$ .

WARNING It is not always possible to find a decent formula for  $f^{-1}(x)$  even if  $f$  is a fairly simple looking polynomial.

Book's example  $x^5 + x^3 + x + 1$

IMPACT Often  $f^{-1}(x)$  can only be studied numerically.

Typical problem: Let  $f(x) = x^3 + x$ . Prove

$f$  has an inverse  $g$ , and find  $g'(2)$ .

Solution <sup>Monic</sup> odd degree polys satisfy

$\lim_{x \rightarrow \pm\infty} f(x) = \pm\infty$ . Check  $f$  is increasing

$$f'(x) = 3x^2 + 1 \geq 1 \implies f'(x) > 0 \text{ all } x.$$

Hence  $g$  exists (but there is no simple formula).

MONIC:  
TOP  
DEG  
TERM  
HAS  
COEFF  
= 1

Find  $g'(2)$ .

$$g'(2) = \frac{1}{f'(g(2))}$$

Need to find  $g(2) = x$ , or solve

$$2 = x^3 + x. \quad \text{Easy in this case: } x = 1.$$

$$\text{Hence } g'(2) = \frac{1}{f'(1)}.$$

$$\text{But } f'(1) = 3x^2 + 1 \Big|_{x=1} = 4.$$

$$\text{Hence } g'(2) = \frac{1}{4}.$$



Abstract "example"

$y = f(x) = x^2$        $x > 0$

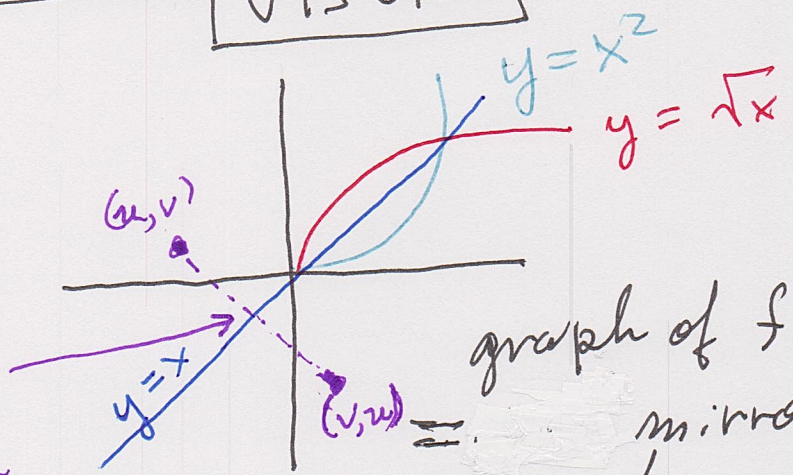
$g(y) = \sqrt{y} = x$        $g'(y) = \frac{d}{dy} \sqrt{y}$

$g'(y) = \frac{1}{f'(g(y))}$

$= \frac{1}{2 \cdot g(y)} = \frac{1}{2\sqrt{y}}$ , which

is the same answer we obtained from the formula for  $\frac{d}{dy} y^{1/2}$ .

**VISUAL**



$(u, v)$  and  $(v, u)$  are mirror images of each other.

graph of  $f^{-1}(x)$  = mirror image of graph of  $f(x)$  with respect to line  $x = y$