

Inverses and Functions

Key Concepts

In this session we will focus on summarising what you need to know about:

- How to find an inverse.
- How to sketch the inverse of a graph.
- How to restrict the domain of a function so the inverse is a function.

Terminology & definitions

From our understanding of symmetry that f^{-1} is the reflection of f about the line $y=x$.
 f^{-1} is undoing what f does.

Symbols, Units & Equations

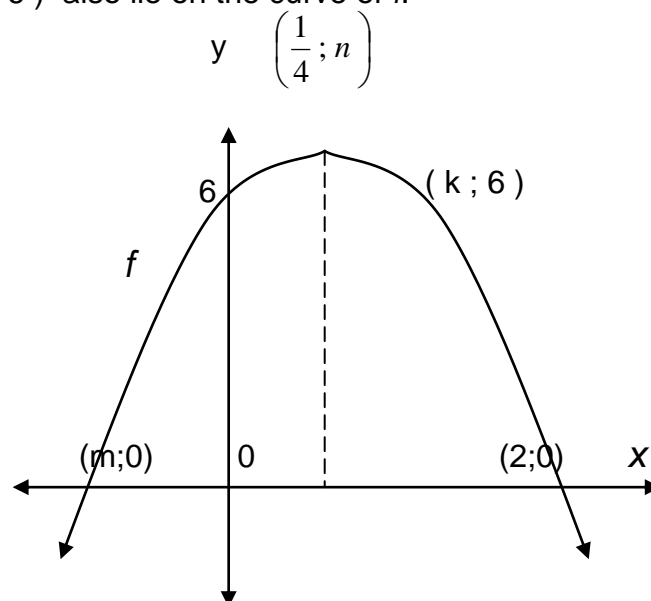
f^{-1} is used to indicate the inverse of f .

X-planation

- **When finding the equation of f^{-1} we simply swap the x and y values around and work the new equation into y form.**
- **When sketching f^{-1} we take the coordinates of f and interchange the x and y and then plot these new points to get the graph of the inverse.**

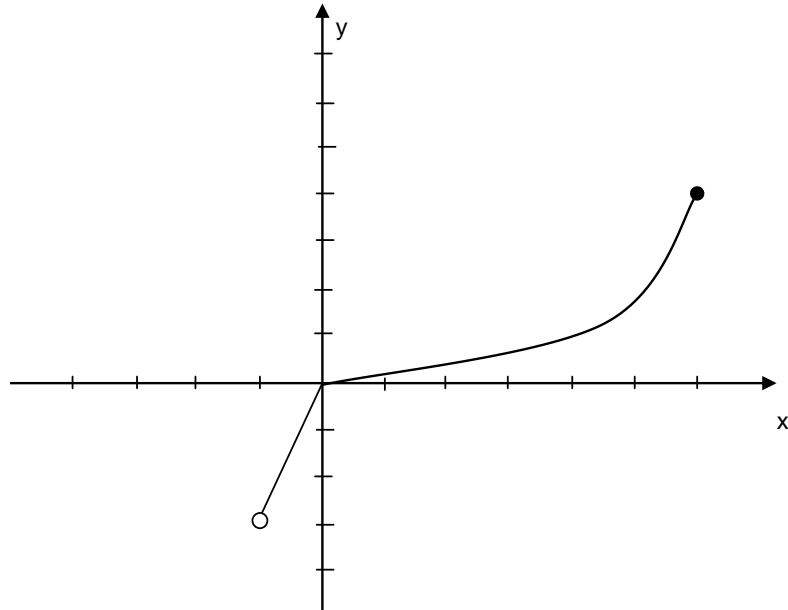
X-ample Questions

1. The inverse of a function is $f^{-1}(x) = 2x - 4$. What is the function $f(x)$?
(3)
2. The sketch represents the graph of the parabola f , which intersects the x -axis at $(m; 0)$ and $(2; 0)$. It is further given that $(\frac{1}{4}; n)$ is the turning point of the parabola. Points $(0; 6)$ and $(k; 6)$ also lie on the curve of f .



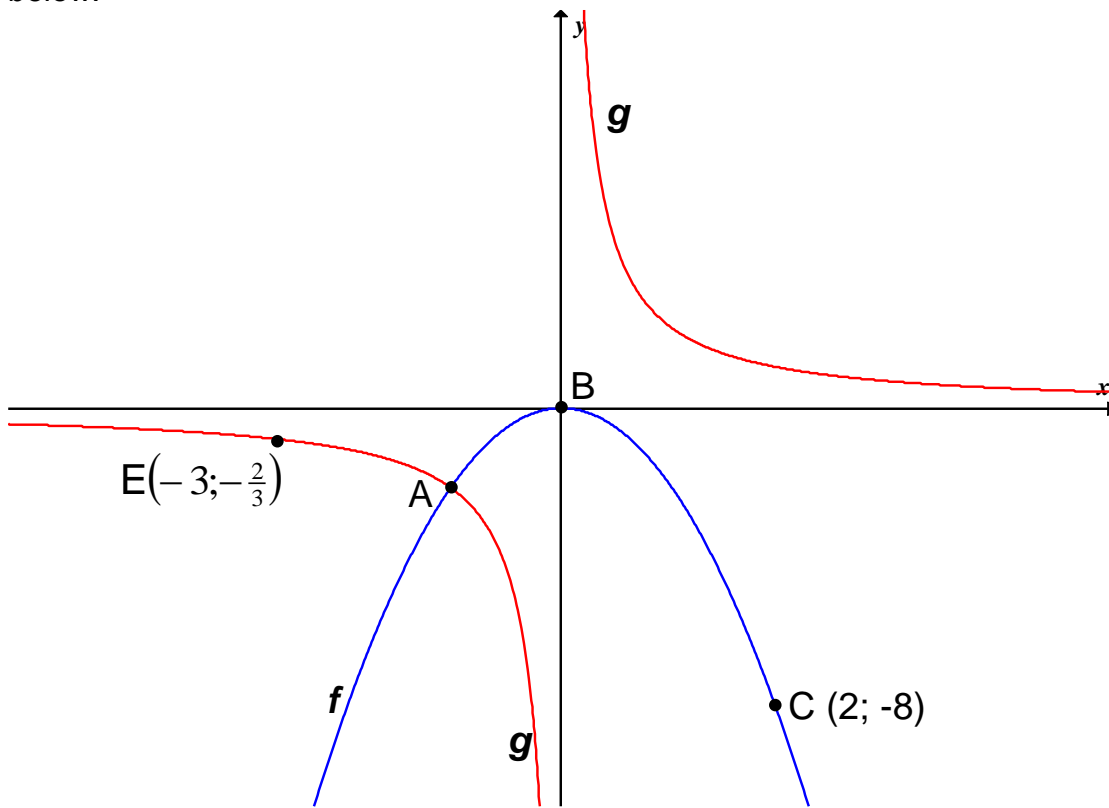
- (a) the value of k (1)
- (b) the value of m (1)
- (c) the value of n , showing all working detail. (5)
- (d) the restriction on the range so that the inverse of f is a function. (1)

3. The graph of function g is shown below.



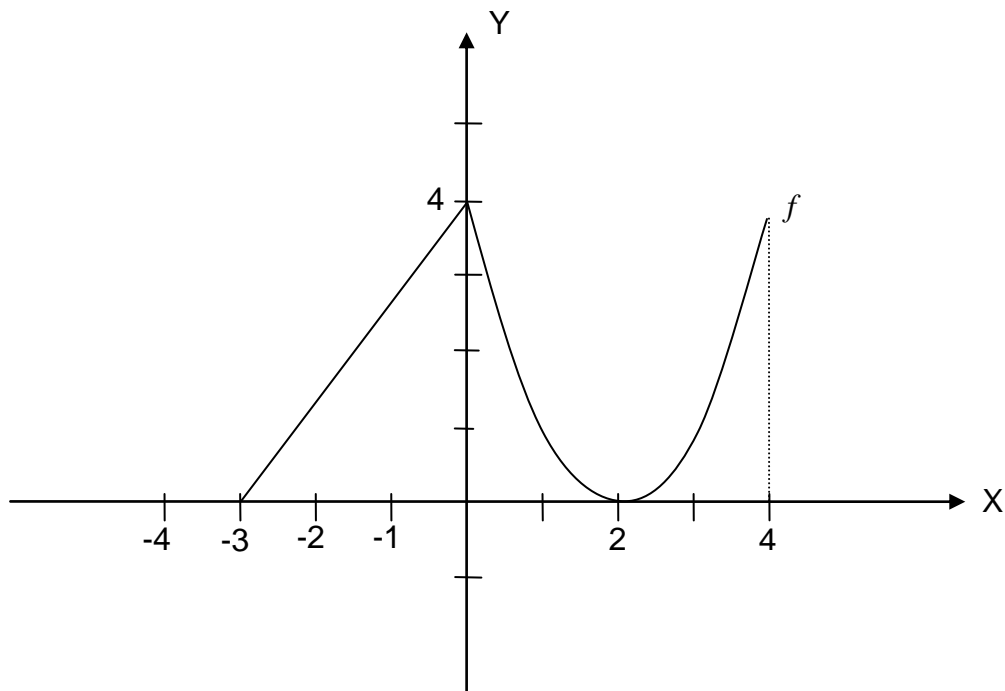
- (a) Give the domain and range of the function. (2)
- (b) Draw a neat sketch graph of the inverse function of g . (3)
- (c) Explain why this inverse is a function. (2)

4. The graphs of $g(x) = \frac{2}{x}$ and $f(x) = -2x^2$ are drawn on the same set of axes below.



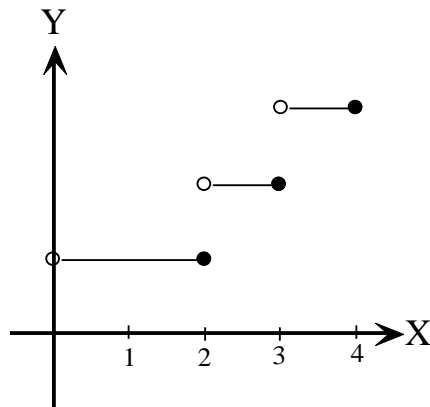
- (a) Write the equation of f^{-1} in the form $y = \dots\dots\dots$. (3)
- (b) Restrict the domain of f so that f^{-1} is a function. (1)
- (c) Write the equation of g^{-1} in the form $y = \dots\dots\dots$ (2)
- (d) What do you notice about g and g^{-1} (1)

5. Study the sketch below, then answer the questions that follow:



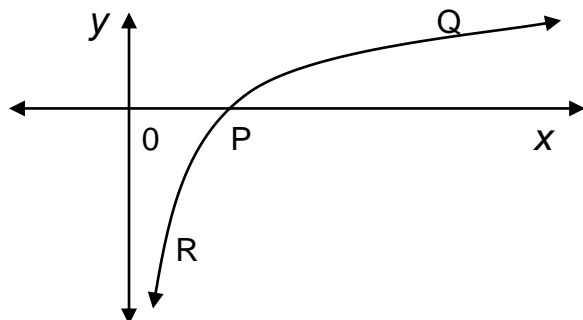
- (a) Describe the domain of f . (2)
- (b) Sketch the graph of the inverse of f , on the set of axes provided. (4)
- (c) Is f^{-1} a function or a non-function? Explain. (2)
- (d) For the straight line f , when $x \in [-3;0]$, write down the equation of $f^{-1}(x)$, in the form: $f^{-1}(x) = \dots\dots\dots$ (2)
- (e) If the equation of f , when $x \in (0;4]$ is: $f(x) = (x-2)^2 + 0$, write down the equation of $g(x)$ which is the reflection of f about the x -axis. (2)

6. Use the given sketch of a function k to answer the following questions:



- 1) Why does k represent a function? (1)
 - 2) Is k one-to-one or a many-to-one function? Explain. (2)
 - 3) What is the range of k^{-1} ? (2)
 - 4) Will k^{-1} represent a function? Explain. (2)
7. Sketch the graph of $y = f(x) = 3^x$.
- (a) Label at least two defining points clearly. (2)
 - (b) Determine the inverse of f and write it in the form $f^{-1}(x) = \dots\dots\dots$ (1)
 - (c) Sketch the graph of f^{-1} on the same set of axes as f . Label at least two defining points clearly. (2)
 - (d) Is f^{-1} a function? Give a reason for your answer. (2)
 - (e) If $g(x) = f(x - 4) - 3$
 - (i) Describe the transformation of f to g . (1)
 - (ii) Sketch the graph of g . Show any new asymptotes and label at least two defining points clearly. (3)

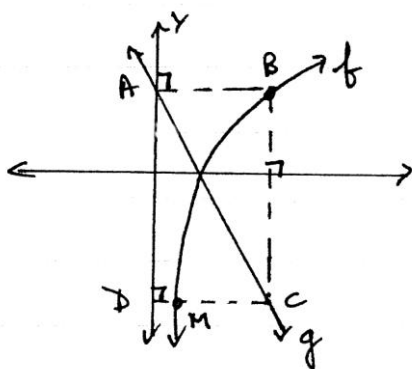
8. The graph is represented by $y = \log_a x$.



- (a) Determine the value of a if Q is the point $(8; \frac{3}{2})$ (3)
- (b) If $a = 4$, determine the value of b if R is the point $(b; -2)$ (3)
- (c) The inverse of the graph above is translated up by two units and to the left by one unit. Give the equation of the new graph in the form $y = \dots$ (3)

X-ercise

1.

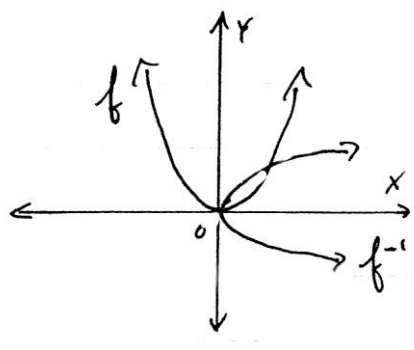


The graphs of $f: y = \log_2 x$ and $g: 2x + y = 2$ are shown on the sketch. A and C are points on g and M and B are points on f . A is on the y -axis and $ABCD$ is a rectangle.

Determine:

- a) the equation of g^{-1} , the inverse of g , in the form $y = \dots$ (2)
- b) the co-ordinates of A and hence the co-ordinates of B . (3)
- c) the co-ordinates of M . (3)

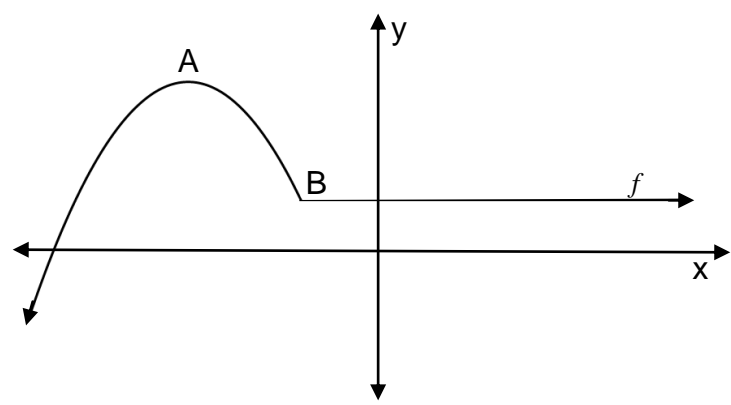
2.



The sketch represents f and f^{-1}

- a) f^{-1} is a non-function. Explain this. (1)
- b) Determine a way in which the domain of f should be restricted so that f^{-1} will be a function. (2)
- 3. If $f(x) = \frac{1}{4}x^2$, give the equation of f^{-1} in the form $y =$ (2)
- 4. The following functions are given : $f(x) = \log_3 x$ and $g(x) = \frac{1}{x-1}$
 - (a) Sketch $f(x)$ and $g(x)$ on the same set of axes. Label all the intercepts with the axes as well as the asymptotes where applicable. (5)
 - (b) Determine the equation of the inverse of $f(x)$ in the form $f^{-1}(x) = \dots$ (2)
 - (c) Determine the equation of the inverse of $g(x)$ in the form $g^{-1}(x) = \dots$ (3)

5. Below is a sketch of f . A is a turning point with coordinates $(-5;6)$. B is the point where the parabolic curve and the straight line meet. The coordinates of B are $(-1;2)$.



- (a) Is f a function? Explain. (2)
- (b) Give the values of x for which f is strictly increasing. (2)
- (c) Determine the range of f . (2)
- (d) Give one possible restriction on the domain that would ensure that f^{-1} is a function. (2)
- (e) Determine $f(3)$. (1)

Answers

1a) $y = -\frac{1}{2}x + 1$

1b) $A (0; 2)$

$B (4; 2)$

1c) $x = \frac{1}{64}$

2a) Yes it is a function the x values are not repeated

2b) Either $x \leq 0$ or $x \geq 0$

3 $y = \pm 2\sqrt{x}$

4a) See attached sheet

4b) $f^{-1}(x) = 3^x$

4c) $g^{-1}(x) = \frac{1}{x} + 1$

5a) Yes it is a function the x values do not repeat.

5b) $x \in (-\infty; -5)$

5c) $y \in (-\infty; 6)$

5d) $x \leq -5$ or $-5 \leq x \leq -1$

5e) $f(3) = 2$