

# 7.4: Function Operations and Composition of Functions

[Algebra 2(Y)]

## HCPS III

- **Standard 9:** Patterns, Functions, and Algebra: PATTERNS AND FUNCTIONAL RELATIONSHIPS: Understand various types of patterns and functional relationships.
- **Benchmark MA.All.9.4:** Use the appropriate terminology and notation to define functions and their properties (e.g., domain, range, function composition, inverse, zeros).

**Goal:** Perform operations with functions, including composition of functions.

## Operations on Functions

### Operations on Functions

Let  $f(x)$  and  $g(x)$  be any two functions. You can add, subtract, multiply, or divide  $f(x)$  and  $g(x)$  to form a new function  $h(x)$ .

Operation	Definition	Example
Addition	$h(x) = f(x) + g(x)$	Let $f(x) = 2x$ and $g(x) = x + 1$ . $h(x) = 2x + (x + 1) = 3x + 1$
Subtraction	$h(x) = f(x) - g(x)$	$h(x) = 2x - (x + 1) = x - 1$
Multiplication	$h(x) = f(x) \cdot g(x)$	$h(x) = (2x)(x + 1) = 2x^2 + 2x$
Division	$h(x) = \frac{f(x)}{g(x)}, g(x) \neq 0$	$h(x) = \frac{2x}{x + 1}, x \neq -1$

The domain of  $h$  consists of the  $x$ -values that are in the domains of both  $f$  and  $g$ . When  $h$  involves division, the domain does not include  $x$ -values for which the denominator is equal to zero.

### Example 1: Add and Subtract Functions

Let  $f(x) = 3x^2$  and  $g(x) = x - 1$ . Find  $h(x)$  and state its domain.

a.)  $h(x) = f(x) + g(x)$

$$= 3x^2 + (x - 1)$$

$$= 3x^2 + x - 1$$

b.)  $h(x) = f(x) - g(x)$

$$= 3x^2 - (x - 1)$$

$$= 3x^2 - x + 1$$

The domains of  $f+g$  and  $f-g$  are all real #'s.

### Extra Example 1: Add and Subtract Functions

Let  $f(x) = 4x^2$  and  $g(x) = x + 1$ . Find  $h(x)$  and state its domain.

a.)  $h(x) = f(x) + g(x)$

$$= 4x^2 + (x + 1)$$

$$= 4x^2 + x + 1$$

b.)  $h(x) = f(x) - g(x)$

$$= 4x^2 - (x + 1)$$

$$= 4x^2 - x - 1$$

The domains of  $f$  and  $g$  are all real #'s.  
The domain of  $h$  is all real #'s

### Example 2: Multiply and Divide Functions

Let  $f(x) = x^4$  and  $g(x) = 3x$ . Find  $h(x)$  and state its domain.

a.)  $h(x) = f(x) \cdot g(x)$

$$= (x^4)(3x)$$

$$= 3x^5$$

The domains of  $f \cdot g$   
is all real #'s.

b.)  $h(x) = \frac{f(x)}{g(x)}$

$$= \frac{x^4}{3x}$$

$$= \frac{x^3}{3} \text{ or } \frac{1}{3}x^3$$

The domain of  $\frac{f}{g}$  is all  
real #'s except 0.

## Extra Example 2: Multiply and Divide Functions

Let  $f(x) = x^3$  and  $g(x) = 2x$ . Find  $h(x)$  and state its domain.

a.)  $h(x) = f(x) \cdot g(x)$

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

$$= 2x^4$$

The domains of both  $f$  and  $g$  are all real #'s.  
So, the domain of  $h(x)$  is all real #'s.

b.)  $h(x) = \frac{f(x)}{g(x)}$

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

$$= \frac{x^2}{2} \text{ or } \frac{1}{2}x^2$$

The domain is all real #'s except 0.

## Composition of Functions

Composition of Functions: replacing the variable of a function with an entirely different function.

e.g., let  $f(x) = 2x$  and  $g(x) = 5x + 3$

The composition of  $f$  with  $g$  is:

$$\begin{aligned} f(g(x)) &= f(5x + 3) \\ &= 2(5x + 3) \\ &= 10x + 6 \end{aligned}$$

The composition of  $g$  with  $f$  is:

$$\begin{aligned} g(f(x)) &= g(2x) \\ &= 5(2x) + 3 \\ &= 10x + 3 \end{aligned}$$

### Example 3: Write a Composition of Functions

Let  $f(x) = x^2$  and  $g(x) = 3x - 1$ . Find the following.

a.)  $f(g(x))$

$$= f(3x-1)$$

$$= (3x-1)^2$$

$$= 9x^2 - 6x + 1$$

b.)  $g(f(x))$

$$= g(x^2)$$

$$= 3(x^2) - 1$$

$$= 3x^2 - 1$$

c.) the domain of each composition.

[ The domain of  $f(g(x))$  is all real #'s.  
The domain of  $g(f(x))$  is all real #'s ]

### Extra Example 3: Write a Composition of Functions

Let  $f(x) = x^2$  and  $g(x) = 2x + 3$ . Find the following.

a.)  $f(g(x))$

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

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

$$= 4x^2 + 12x + 9$$

b.)  $g(f(x))$

$$= g(x^2)$$

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

$$= 2x^2 + 3$$

c.) the domain of each composition.

The domain of the composition is all real #'s.

### Example 4: Evaluate a Composition of Functions

a.) Let  $f(x) = x^2 - 4$  and  $g(x) = 4x$ . Evaluate  $f(g(2))$ .

① Find  $g(2)$

$$\begin{aligned}g(2) &= 4x \\ &= 4(2) \\ &= 8\end{aligned}$$

② Substitute  $g(2)$  into  $f(g(2))$ .

$$\begin{aligned}f(g(2)) &= x^2 - 4 \\ &= (8)^2 - 4 \\ &= 64 - 4 \\ &= 60\end{aligned}$$

b.) Let  $f(x) = x^2 + 3$  and  $g(x) = 5x$ . Evaluate  $f(g(2))$ .

① Find  $g(2)$

$$\begin{aligned}g(2) &= 5x \\ &= 5(2) \\ &= 10\end{aligned}$$

② Substitute  $g(2)$  into  $f(g(2))$ .

$$\begin{aligned}f(g(2)) &= x^2 + 3 \\ &= (10)^2 + 3 \\ &= 100 + 3 \\ &= 103\end{aligned}$$

### Example 5: Model a Real-World Situation

You have a coupon for \$15 off all Spring clothes over \$50. For this weekend only, the department store is offering an additional 20% off all purchases. Let  $x$  be the cost of your purchases. Then  $f(x) = x - 15$  and  $g(x) = 0.80x$ . Find  $g(f(x))$ . Tell what it represents.

$$\begin{aligned}g(f(x)) &= g(x - 15) \\ &= 0.80(x - 15) \\ &= 0.80x - 12\end{aligned}$$

It represents the cost of your purchase when the \$15 coupon is applied before the 20% discount.