

**MAT 101**  
**MATHEMATICS FOR SOCIAL SCIENCES**

**FUNCTIONS AND GRAPHS**  
**Solutions of Selected Problems from Sections 2.1-2.4**

---

**Problem 2.1** (page 81)

Suggested Problems: 1-42

2. The functions are different because they have different domains. The domain of  $G(x)$  is  $[-1, \infty)$  (all real numbers  $\geq -1$ ) because you can only take the square root of a non-negative number, while the domain of  $H(x)$  is all real numbers.

4. The functions are equal. For  $x = 3$  we have  $f(3) = 2$  and  $g(3) = 3 - 1 = 2$ , hence  $f(3) = g(3)$ . For  $x \neq 3$ , we have

$$f(x) = \frac{x^2 - 4x + 3}{x - 3} = \frac{(x - 3)(x - 1)}{x - 3} = x - 1.$$

Note that we can cancel the  $x - 3$  because we are assuming  $x \neq 3$  and so  $x - 3 \neq 0$ . Thus for  $x \neq 3$   $f(x) = x - 1 = g(x)$ .  
 $f(x) = g(x)$  for all real numbers and they have the same domains, thus the functions are equal.

6. Any real number can be used for  $x$ .  
Answer: all real numbers

8. For  $\sqrt{z-1}$  to be real,  $z - 1 \geq 0$ , so  $z \geq 1$ . We exclude values of  $z$  for which  $\sqrt{z-1} = 0$ , so  $z - 1 = 0$ , thus  $z = 1$ .  
Answer: all real numbers  $> 1$

10. We exclude values of  $x$  for which  
 $x + 8 = 0$   
 $x = -8$   
Answer: all real numbers except  $-8$

14. We exclude values of  $x$  for which  
 $x^2 + x - 6 = 0$   
 $(x + 3)(x - 2) = 0$   
 $x = -3, 2$   
Answer: all real numbers except  $-3$  and  $2$

16.  $r^2 + 1$  is never 0.

Answer: all real numbers

18.  $H(s) = 5s^2 - 3$

$$H(4) = 5(4)^2 - 3 = 80 - 3 = 77$$

$$H(\sqrt{2}) = 5(\sqrt{2})^2 - 3 = 10 - 3 = 7$$

$$H\left(\frac{2}{3}\right) = 5\left(\frac{2}{3}\right)^2 - 3 = \frac{20}{9} - 3 = -\frac{7}{9}$$

22.  $h(v) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{v}}$

$$h(16) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{16}} = \frac{1}{4}$$

$$h\left(\frac{1}{4}\right) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{\frac{1}{4}}} = \frac{1}{\frac{1}{2}} = 2$$

$$h(1-x) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{1-x}}$$

24.  $H(x) = (x+4)^2$

$$H(0) = (0+4)^2 = 16$$

$$H(2) = (2+4)^2 = 6^2 = 36$$

$$H(t-4) = [(t-4)+4]^2 = t^2$$

26.  $k(x) = \sqrt{x-3}$

$$k(4) = \sqrt{4-3} = \sqrt{1} = 1$$

$$k(3) = \sqrt{3-3} = \sqrt{0} = 0$$

$$\begin{aligned} k(x+1) - k(x) &= \sqrt{(x+1)-3} - \sqrt{x-3} \\ &= \sqrt{x-2} - \sqrt{x-3} \end{aligned}$$

34.  $f(x) = x^3$

a.  $f(x+h) = (x+h)^3 = x^3 + 3x^2h + 3xh^2 + h^3$

b.  $\frac{f(x+h) - f(x)}{h} = \frac{(x^3 + 3x^2h + 3xh^2 + h^3) - x^3}{h} = \frac{3x^2h + 3xh^2 + h^3}{h} = 3x^2 + 3xh + h^2$

36.  $f(x) = \frac{x+8}{x}$

a.  $f(x+h) = \frac{(x+h)+8}{x+h} = \frac{x+h+8}{x+h}$

b. 
$$\frac{f(x+h) - f(x)}{h} = \frac{\frac{x+h+8}{x+h} - \frac{x+8}{x}}{h} = \frac{x(x+h) \left( \frac{x+h+8}{x+h} - \frac{x+8}{x} \right)}{x(x+h)h} = \frac{x(x+h+8) - (x+h)(x+8)}{x(x+h)h}$$

$$= \frac{x^2 + xh + 8x - x^2 - hx - 8x - 8h}{x(x+h)h} = \frac{-8h}{x(x+h)h} = -\frac{8}{x(x+h)}$$

40.  $x^2 + y = 0$

The form  $y = -x^2$  shows that for each input  $x$  there is exactly one output,  $-x^2$ . Thus  $y$  is a function of  $x$ . Solving for  $x$  gives  $x = \pm\sqrt{-y}$ . If, for example,  $y = -1$ , then  $x = \pm 1$ , so  $x$  is not a function of  $y$ .

42.  $x^2 + y^2 = 1$

Solving for  $y$  we have  $y = \pm\sqrt{1-x^2}$ . If  $x = 0$ , then  $y = \pm 1$ , so  $y$  is not a function of  $x$ . Solving for  $x$  gives  $x = \pm\sqrt{1-y^2}$ . If  $y = 0$ , then  $x = \pm 1$ , so  $x$  is not a function of  $y$ .

### Problem 2.2 (p. 85)

Suggested Problems: 1-28

2.  $f(x) = \frac{x^3 + 7x - 3}{3} = \frac{1}{3}x^3 + \frac{7}{3}x - 1$ , which is a polynomial function.

4. yes

8.  $g(x) = 4x^{-4} = \frac{4}{x^4}$ , which is a rational function.

10. all real numbers

12. all  $x$  such that  $1 \leq x \leq 3$

18.  $g(x) = |x-3|$   
 $g(10) = |10-3| = |7| = 7$   
 $g(3) = |3-3| = |0| = 0$   
 $g(-3) = |-3-3| = |-6| = 6$

22.  $F(3) = 3^2 - 3(3) + 1 = 1$   
 $F(-3) = 2(-3) - 5 = -11$   
 $F(2)$  is not defined.

28.  $\frac{8!}{5!(8-5)!} = \frac{8!}{5! \cdot 3!}$   
 $= \frac{8 \cdot 7 \cdot 6 \cdot 5 \cdot 4 \cdot 3 \cdot 2 \cdot 1}{(5 \cdot 4 \cdot 3 \cdot 2 \cdot 1)(3 \cdot 2 \cdot 1)}$   
 $= \frac{8 \cdot 7 \cdot 6}{3 \cdot 2 \cdot 1}$   
 $= 8 \cdot 7$   
 $= 56$

### Problem 2.3 (p. 90)

Suggested Problems: 1-16

2.  $f(x) = 2x$ ,  $g(x) = 6 + x$

a.  $(f+g)(x) = f(x) + g(x)$   
 $= (2x) + (6+x)$   
 $= 3x+6$

b.  $(f-g)(x) = f(x) - g(x)$   
 $= (2x) - (6+x)$   
 $= x-6$

c.  $(f-g)(4) = (4) - 6 = -2$

d.  $(fg)(x) = f(x)g(x) = 2x(6+x) = 12x + 2x^2$

e.  $\frac{f}{g}(x) = \frac{f(x)}{g(x)} = \frac{2x}{6+x}$

f.  $\frac{f}{g}(2) = \frac{2(2)}{6+2} = \frac{4}{8} = \frac{1}{2}$

g.  $(f \circ g)(x) = f(g(x))$   
 $= f(6+x)$   
 $= 2(6+x)$   
 $= 12+2x$

h.  $(g \circ f)(x) = g(f(x)) = g(2x) = 6 + 2x$

i.  $(g \circ f)(2) = 6 + 2(2) = 6 + 4 = 10$

$$\begin{aligned}
 6. \quad (f \circ g)(p) &= f(g(p)) \\
 &= f\left(\frac{p-2}{3}\right) \\
 &= \frac{4}{\frac{p-2}{3}} \\
 &= \frac{12}{p-2} \\
 (g \circ f)(p) &= g(f(p)) = g\left(\frac{4}{p}\right) = \frac{\frac{4}{p}-2}{3} = \frac{4-2p}{3p}
 \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
 8. \quad (F \circ G)(t) &= F(G(t)) \\
 &= F(3t^2 + 4t + 2) \\
 &= \sqrt{3t^2 + 4t + 2} \\
 (G \circ F)(t) &= G(F(t)) \\
 &= G(\sqrt{t}) \\
 &= 3(\sqrt{t})^2 + 4(\sqrt{t}) + 2 \\
 &= 3t + 4\sqrt{t} + 2
 \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
 12. \quad \text{Let } g(x) &= x^2 - 2 \text{ and } f(x) = \sqrt{x}. \text{ Then} \\
 h(x) &= \sqrt{x^2 - 2} = \sqrt{g(x)} = f(g(x))
 \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
 14. \quad \text{Let } g(x) &= 9x^3 - 5x \text{ and } f(x) = x^3 - x^2 + 11. \\
 \text{Then } h(x) &= [g(x)]^3 - [g(x)]^2 + 11 = f(g(x))
 \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
 16. \quad \text{Let } g(x) &= 3x - 5 \text{ and } f(x) = \frac{2-x}{x^2+2}. \text{ Then} \\
 h(x) &= \frac{2-(3x-5)}{(3x-5)^2+2} = f(g(x)).
 \end{aligned}$$

**Problem 2.4 (p. 93)**

Suggested Problems: 1-12

$$2. \quad g^{-1}(x) = \frac{x}{2} - \frac{1}{2}$$

$$4. \quad f^{-1}(x) = \frac{\sqrt{x}}{4} + \frac{5}{4}$$

$$6. \quad r(V) = \sqrt[3]{\frac{3V}{4\pi}}$$

8.  $g(x) = (5x+12)^2$  is not one-to-one, because  $g(x_1) = g(x_2)$  does not imply  $x_1 = x_2$ . For

example,  $g\left(-\frac{11}{5}\right) = g\left(-\frac{13}{5}\right) = 1$ .

10.  $F(x) = |x-9|$  is not one-to-one, because

$F(x_1) = F(x_2)$  does not imply  $x_1 = x_2$ . For example,  $F(8) = F(10) = 1$ .

12. The inverse of  $V(r) = \frac{4}{3}\pi r^3$  is  $r(V) = \sqrt[3]{\frac{3V}{4\pi}}$ , so

the solution is  $r(100) = \sqrt[3]{\frac{3(100)}{4\pi}}$ .