

2.7 Inverse of a Function

$f^{-1}(x)$ "f inverse at x"

Determine the inverse of a function given:

- Ordered Pairs**

- interchange the x and y coordinates

$f(x) = \{(0, -2), (1, 1), (2, 4), (3, -2)\}$

function? **yes**

$D = \{0, 1, 2, 3\}$

$R = \{-2, 1, 4\}$

Invariant

$f^{-1}(x) = \{(-2, 0), (1, 1), (4, 2), (-2, 3)\}$ function? **NO**

\therefore Inverses may not be functions

$D = \{-2, 1, 4\}$

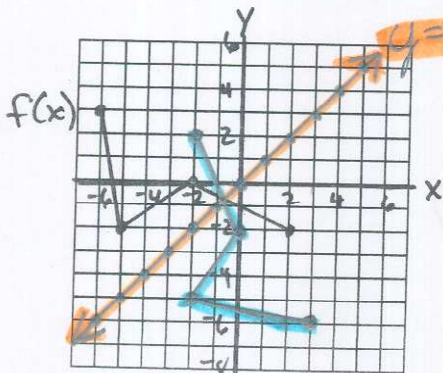
$R = \{0, 1, 2, 3\}$

** Domain of $f(x)$ is the Range of $f^{-1}(x)$
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** **Invariant points** are points that are unchanged from the original function to the inverse function. These are points whose x and y coordinates are the same

- Graph**

- interchange the x and y coordinates of a given function to obtain the coordinates of the inverse.



Find the coordinates of all the **turning points** and interchange the coordinates of each point to obtain the new turning points

Join the new turning points in the correct order.

$y = x$ is the axis of reflection

$f(x)$	$f^{-1}(x)$
$(-6, 3)$	$(3, -6)$
$(-5, -2)$	$(-2, -5)$
$(-2, 0)$	$(0, -2)$
$(2, -2)$	$(-2, 2)$

• Equations

- interchange x and y variables in the equation and solve for y \Rightarrow then rename y with y^{-1} .

Ex. $f(x) = 2x - 7$, find

a) $f(3)$

$$\begin{aligned} f(3) &= 2(3) - 7 \\ &= 6 - 7 \\ &= -1 \end{aligned}$$

b) $f^{-1}(x)$

$$\begin{aligned} x &= 2y - 7 \\ x + 7 &= 2y \\ y^{-1} &= \frac{x+7}{2} \\ f^{-1}(x) &= \frac{x+7}{2} \end{aligned}$$

c) $f^{-1}(13)$

$$\begin{aligned} f^{-1}(13) &= \frac{13+7}{2} \\ &= \frac{20}{2} \\ &= 10 \end{aligned}$$

$(13, 10) \rightarrow f^{-1}(x)$
 $(10, 13) \rightarrow f(x)$

Inverse of Linear Functions

Determine the inverse of

a) $f(x) = 3x - 2$ and graph

$$x = 3y - 2$$

$$x + 2 = 3y$$

$$y^{-1} = \frac{x+2}{3}$$

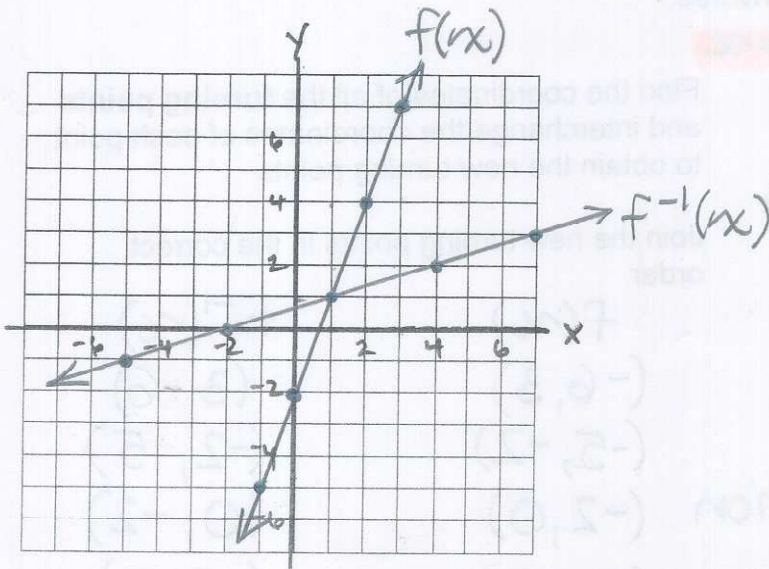
b) $g(x) = \frac{2}{3}x + 5$

$$x = \frac{2}{3}y + 5$$

$$x - 5 = \frac{2}{3}y$$

$$\frac{3}{2}(x - 5) = y$$

$$y^{-1} = \frac{3}{2}(x - 5)$$



Inverse of Quadratic Functions

Determine the inverse of the function

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

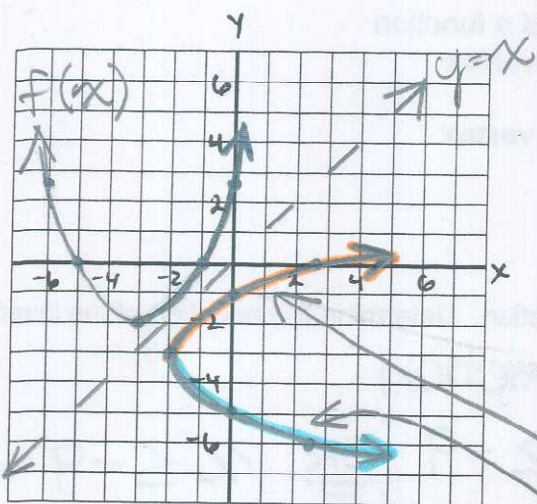
$$x = \frac{1}{2}(y+3)^2 - 2$$

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

$$\pm \sqrt{2(x+2)} = \sqrt{(y+3)^2}$$

$$y+3 = \pm \sqrt{2(x+2)}$$

$$y^{-1} = \pm \sqrt{2(x+2)} - 3$$



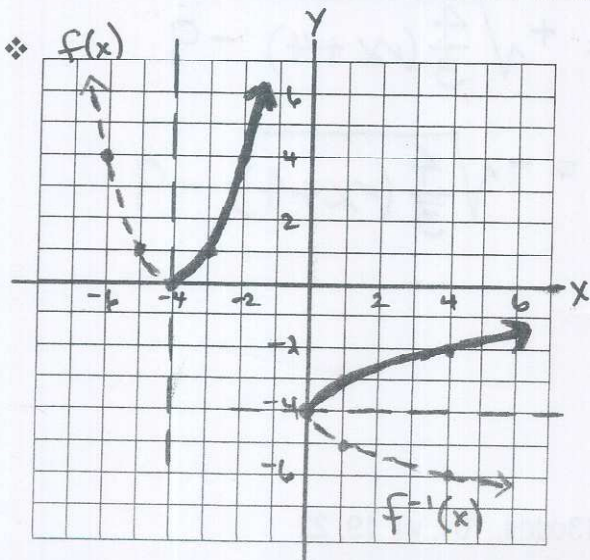
graph vertex $(-3, -2)$

step $\frac{1}{2}, \frac{3}{2}, \frac{5}{2} \dots$

$$y^{-1} = +\sqrt{2(x+2)} - 3$$

$$y^{-1} = -\sqrt{2(x+2)} - 3$$

- ❖ The inverse of a quadratic function is not a function.
- ❖ We can **restrict the domain** of the original function so that the inverse is a function.



For $f(x)$ where $D = \{x \in \mathbb{R} \mid x \geq -4\}$
 we get the right hand (Bold) half of the
 parabola and its inverse is $y^{-1} = +\sqrt{\dots}$

For $f(x)$ where $D = \{x \in \mathbb{R} \mid x \leq -4\}$
 We get the left hand (dotted) half of the
 parabola and its inverse is $y^{-1} = -\sqrt{\dots}$

Restrictions:

For the inverse of $f(x) = a[b(x-h)]^2 + k$ to be a function only one half of the $f(x)$ can be used, either the left side of the axis of symmetry or the right side of the axis of symmetry.

To restrict the domain of $f(x)$ so that $f^{-1}(x)$ is a function

Either $x \geq$ **x coordinate of the vertex**

Or $x \leq$ **x coordinate of the vertex**

Ex. Restrict the domain of $g(x)$ so its inverse is a function. Determine the equation of the inverse.

$$g(x) = \frac{3}{4}(x+9)^2 - 4$$

Restriction

$$x \geq -9 \quad \underline{\text{OR}} \quad x \leq -9$$

$$x = \frac{3}{4}(y+9)^2 - 4$$

$$\frac{4}{3}(x+4) = (y+9)^2$$

$$y+9 = \pm \sqrt{\frac{4}{3}(x+4)}$$

$$y^{-1} = \pm \sqrt{\frac{4}{3}(x+4)} - 9$$

$$\text{if } x \geq -9 \quad g^{-1}(x) = +\sqrt{\frac{4}{3}(x+4)} - 9$$

$$\underline{\text{OR}} \quad \text{if } x \leq -9 \quad g^{-1}(x) = -\sqrt{\frac{4}{3}(x+4)} - 9$$