

Objectives: Evaluate combinations & compositions of functions.
State the domain of combinations & compositions

TS: Explicitly assess information & draw conclusions

Combinations of Functions

Let f and g be two functions with overlapping domains. Then, for all x common to both domains, the sum, difference, product and quotient of f and g are:

1.) Sum: $(f + g)(x) = f(x) + g(x)$

2.) Difference: $(f - g)(x) = f(x) - g(x)$

3.) Product: $(fg)(x) = f(x) \cdot g(x)$

4.) Quotient: $\left(\frac{f}{g}\right)(x) = \frac{f(x)}{g(x)}, \quad g(x) \neq 0$

Example 1: Evaluate each combination of f and g . State the domain of the combination. (scroll down)

$$f(x) = 2x + 1 \quad g(x) = x^2 - 4$$

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

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

$$\boxed{x^2 + 2x - 3}$$

$$\underline{\text{DOM}}: (-\infty, \infty)$$

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

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

$$\boxed{-x^2 + 2x + 5}$$

$$\underline{\text{DOM}}: (-\infty, \infty)$$

c.) $(fg)(x) = f(x) \cdot g(x)$

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

$$2x^3 + x^2 - 8x - 4$$

$$\underline{\text{DOM}}: (-\infty, \infty)$$

d.) $\left(\frac{f}{g}\right)(x)$

$$\frac{2x + 1}{x^2 - 4}$$

$$\{x: x \neq \pm 2\}$$

$$\underline{\text{DOM}}: (-\infty, -2) \cup (-2, 2) \cup (2, \infty)$$

e.) $(fg)(3) =$

2 Methods:

$$\textcircled{1} 2(3)^3 + (3)^2 - 8(3) - 4 = \textcircled{35}$$

$$\textcircled{2} f(3) \cdot g(3) = 7 \cdot 5 = \textcircled{35}$$

f.) $(f - g)(-2) =$

2 Methods:

$$\textcircled{1} -(-2)^2 + 2(-2) + 5 = \textcircled{-3}$$

$$\textcircled{2} f(-2) - g(-2) = -3 - 0 = \textcircled{-3}$$

Example 2: Graphs of combinations using the calculator.

Enter: $Y_1 = 2x + 1$

$$Y_2 = x^2 - 4$$

$$Y_3 = Y_1 Y_2$$

Only highlight Y_3 and we will see the graph of the product $(fg)(x)$.

Use the value feature to evaluate:

$$(fg)(3) =$$

$$(fg)(-2) =$$

$$(fg)(0.5) =$$

Compositions of Functions

The composition of the function f with g is

$$(f \circ g)(x) = f(g(x))$$

The domain of the composition is the set of all x in the domain of g such that $g(x)$ is in the domain of f .

Domain: ① domain of function going in?
② domain of final answer?

Example 3: Evaluate each composition and state the domain of the composition.

$$f(x) = x^2 - 9 \quad g(x) = \sqrt{9 - x^2}$$

a.) $(f \circ g)(x) = f(g(x))$

$$= f(\sqrt{9 - x^2})$$

Dom? $[-3, 3]$ $= (\sqrt{9 - x^2})^2 - 9$

$$= 9 - x^2 - 9$$

$$(f \circ g)(x) = -x^2, -3 \leq x \leq 3$$

b.) $(g \circ f)(x) = g(f(x))$
 $= g(x^2 - 9)$

$$(g \circ f)(x) = \sqrt{9 - (x^2 - 9)^2}$$

$$9 - (x^2 - 9)^2 \geq 0 \quad \downarrow \text{Dom}$$

$$[-\sqrt{12}, -\sqrt{6}] \cup [\sqrt{6}, \sqrt{12}]$$

OR use calc



$$[-3.464, -2.449] \cup [2.449, 3.464]$$

Example 4: Evaluate the composition & state the domain of the composition.

$$f(x) = \frac{1}{x-2} \quad g(x) = \sqrt{x}$$

$$\text{a.) } f(g(x)) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{x}-2} ; [0, 4) \cup (4, \infty)$$

$$x \geq 0, x \neq 4$$

Example 5: Decompose. Find two functions f and g such that

$$(f \circ g)(x) = h(x)$$

$$h(x) = \frac{4}{(5x+2)^2}$$

$$\boxed{\begin{aligned} f(x) &= \frac{4}{x^2} \\ g(x) &= 5x+2 \end{aligned}}$$

OR

$$\boxed{\begin{aligned} f(x) &= \frac{4}{(x+2)^2} \\ g(x) &= 5x \end{aligned}}$$

