

## §5 Inverse function Theorem

WEEK 4

### §5.1 Inverse functions

Def<sup>n</sup> 5.1.1 Let  $f: U \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  and let  $V = f(U)$  be the image, then  $f$  is invertible if  $\exists g: V \rightarrow U (\subseteq \mathbb{R})$  such that  $g \circ f(x) \stackrel{\text{DEF}}{=} g(f(x)) = x, \forall x \in U$  and  $f \circ g(y) = y, \forall y \in V$ .  
 $g$  is called the inverse function of  $f$  and denoted by

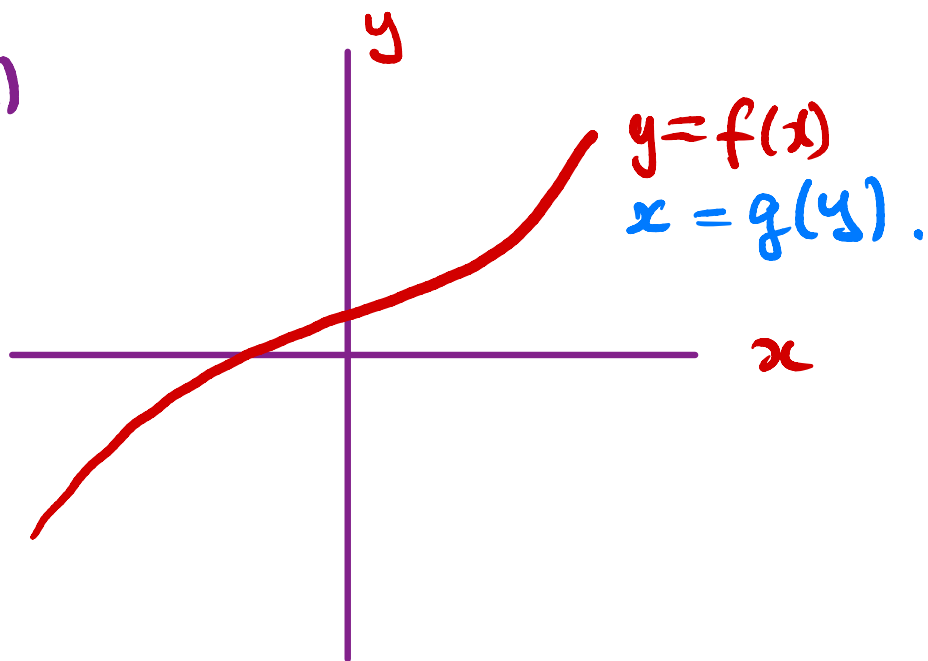
~~$f$~~   $f^{-1}$ : i.e.  $f^{-1}(y) = x$  if  ~~$u = g(y) \rightarrow f(x) = y$~~   
 $g(x) = x$ .

Theorem 5.1.2 (Properties of the inverse)

- (i) The inverse is unique. Hence we will write  $g = f^{-1}$
- (ii) If  $f$  is invertible, then  $f^{-1} (= g)$  is invertible.

$$\text{i.e. } (f^{-1})^{-1}(x) = f(x)$$

$$y = f(x)$$



## Proof

(i) Let  $V = f(U)$  and  $g_1, g_2 : V \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  be inverses of function  $f$ , then  $x = g_1(f(x)) = g_1(y)$ ,  $x = g_2(f(x)) = g_2(y)$ .

Therefore  $g_1(y) = g_2(y) \quad \forall y \in V$ , and so  $g_1 = g_2$   $(\forall x \in U)$

(ii) Note  $g^{-1} = f : g^{-1}(x) = y$  given by  $x = g(y)$  ( $f \circ f^{-1}(y) = f(x) = y$ )

Mirror  
images

$$\text{graph}(f) = \{(x, f(x)), x \in U\} = \{(x, y) \mid x \in U, y \in V\}$$

$$\text{graph}(g) = \{(y, g(y)), y \in V\} = \{(y, x) \mid y \in V, x \in U\}$$

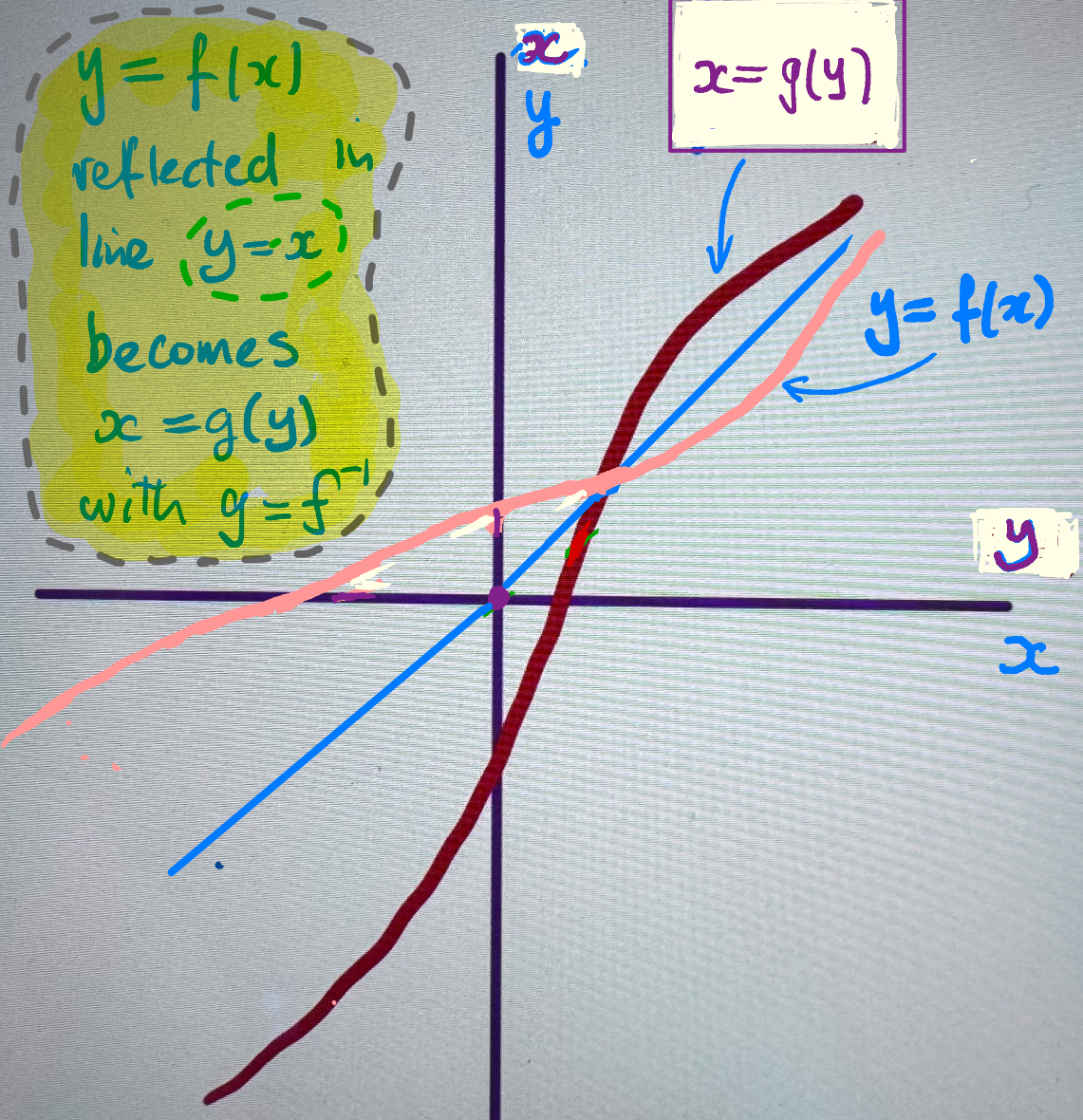
$y = f(x)$   
reflected in  
line  $(y=x)$   
becomes  
 $x = g(y)$   
with  $g = f^{-1}$

$x$   
 $y$

$x = g(y)$

$y = f(x)$

$y$   
 $x$



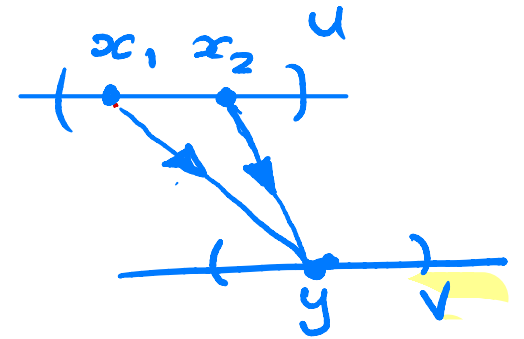
Theorem 5.1.3 A function is invertible if and only if  $f$  is injective.

Proof Let  $f: U \rightarrow V$  be invertible, i.e. an inverse function exists.

Suppose  $f(x_1) = f(x_2)$ , then

$$x_1 = f^{-1}(f(x_1)) = f^{-1}(f(x_2)) = x_2$$

$\Rightarrow f$  is injective.



Let  $f$  be injective and  $V = f(U) \Rightarrow$   
that if  $y \in V = f(U)$ , then  $\exists$  unique  $x \in U$ , such that  
 $f(x) = y$ . Define  $f^{-1}(y) = x$ , this is well-defined.

If  $g(y) = x_1$  and  $g(y) = x_2$ , then  $f(x_1) = f(x_2) = y$

$\Rightarrow x_1 = x_2$  (by injectivity).



# Examples

$$f: \mathbb{R} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^+ \cup \{0\}; f(x) = x^2$$



**f does not have an inverse**

$$g: \mathbb{R}^+ \cup \{0\} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$$

because  $f$  is non-injective

e.g.  $f(-3) = f(3) = 9$  so,

def<sup>n</sup> of  $f^{-1}(9)$  would be ambiguous.

However, partial inverses can be constructed

$$g: \mathbb{R}^+ \cup \{0\} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^+ \cup \{0\}$$

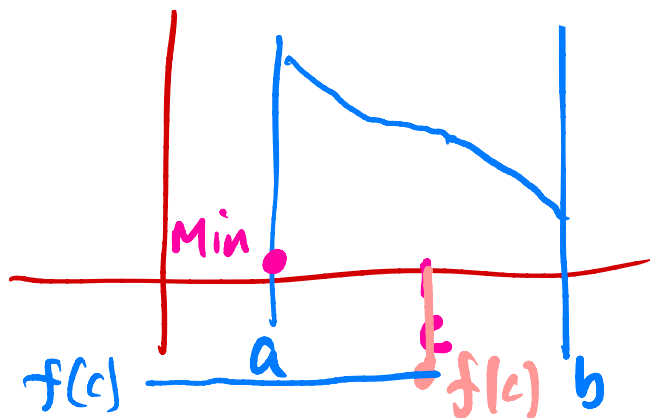
$$\text{where } g(y) = +\sqrt{y}$$

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

$$= g(x^2) = +\sqrt{x^2} = x, \text{ for } x > 0.$$

$$\text{Also } f: \mathbb{R}^- \cup \{0\} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^+ \cup \{0\}$$
$$x \mapsto x^2 = y$$

$$f^{-1}(y) = -\sqrt{y}$$



Theorem 5.1.4. Let  $f: [a, b] \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  be continuous and **injective**. Then  $f$  attains its minimum or maximum at  $a$  or  $b$ .

Proof Assume  $f(a) < f(b)$ .

Suppose  $\exists c, a < c < b$ , such that  $f(c) < f(a) < f(b)$

By the intermediate value theorem (IVT)  $\exists d$

such that  $f(d) = f(a)$  &  $d \neq a$  because

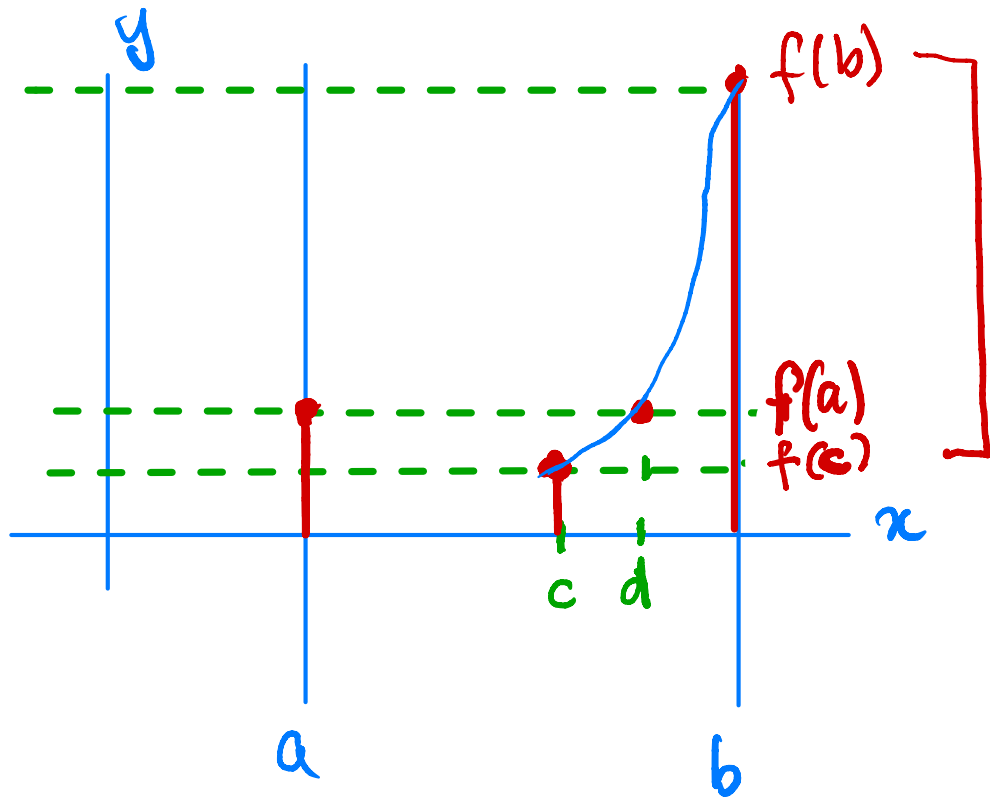
$$a < c < d < b$$

$\therefore f$  is not injective

⊗ contradiction

$\therefore f(c) \neq f(a)$ .

Similarly  $f(c) \neq f(b)$ .



$f$  is continuous on  $[a, b]$   
 and  $\therefore$  on  $[c, b]$   
 Assume  $\exists c \in (a, b)$  s.t.  
 $f(c) < f(a) < f(b)$   
 $\therefore$  IVT gives a  $d \in (c, b)$   
 such that  $f(d) = f(a)$   
 and  $a \neq d$  ( $a < c < d$ )

$\therefore f$  is not injective  $\otimes$   
 (contrary to assumption)

Note assume  $f(c) > f(b)$  and show  $\exists e$  s.t.  
 $a < e < c < b$  with  $f(e) = f(b)$  and  $e \neq b$ .

Trivial observation -

consider  $f(x) = mx + c$ , let  $y = f(x)$ , then

$$y = mx + c \Rightarrow x = \frac{y - c}{m}, \text{ for } m \neq 0 \text{ (note } m = f'(x)\text{)}$$

So inverse exists for  $m \neq 0$ , and if  $g(y) = \frac{y - c}{m}$

$$g'(y) = \frac{1}{m} = \frac{1}{f'(x)}$$

We prove a result like this for functions  $f$  with

non-zero derivative.



## §5.2 Inverse function theorem

Note a linear function  $y = mx + c$  can be "inverted" to give  $x = (y - c)/m$ , provided  $m \neq 0$  and " $m = \frac{dy}{dx}$ ".

Let  $f$  be an injective function on an open interval  $I$ .

We can show that:

$f$  is strictly increasing or decreasing on  $I$ , &

The image is an interval  $J$ ,  $I, J \subseteq \mathbb{R}$

$$f^{-1} \circ f(x) = x \quad \forall x \in I, \text{ and}$$

$$f \circ f^{-1}(y) = y \quad \forall y \in J$$

Prod of numbers

Differentiating with respect to  $x$  gives

$$g'(y) \cdot f'(x) \Rightarrow (f^{-1})'(f(x)) \cdot f'(x) = \frac{d}{dx}(x) = 1 \quad \forall x \in I$$

"IF  $f^{-1}$  and  $f$  ARE DIFFERENTIABLE"

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

comp of fns

If  $x_0 \in I$ , then

$$(f^{-1})'(f(x_0)) = \frac{1}{f'(x_0)}, \quad f'(x_0) \neq 0$$

We assumed  $f^{-1}$  is differentiable here, can we prove it?

## Theorem 5.2.1 (Inverse function Theorem)

Let  $f$  be an injective continuous function on an open interval  $I$  and let  $J = f(I)$ . If

$f$  is differentiable at  $x_0 \in I$ , and  $f'(x_0) \neq 0$ , then  $f^{-1}$  is differentiable at  $y_0 = f(x_0)$  and

$$(f^{-1})'(y_0) = \frac{1}{f'(x_0)}.$$

Proof Note  $I$  is an open interval and we have

$$\lim_{x \rightarrow x_0} \frac{f(x) - f(x_0)}{x - x_0} = f'(x_0) \neq 0$$
$$\therefore \lim_{x \rightarrow x_0} \frac{x - x_0}{f(x) - f(x_0)} = \frac{1}{f'(x_0)} \neq 0$$

$$x = f^{-1}(y), \quad x_0 = f^{-1}(y_0)$$

$$\Rightarrow \lim_{x \rightarrow x_0} \frac{f^{-1}(y) - f^{-1}(y_0)}{y - y_0} \stackrel{*}{=} \frac{1}{f'(x_0)}$$

But  $f$  is differentiable and therefore continuous

So as  $x \rightarrow x_0, y \rightarrow y_0$

$$\stackrel{*}{=} \lim_{y \rightarrow y_0} \frac{f^{-1}(y) - f^{-1}(y_0)}{y - y_0} = (f^{-1})'(y_0) = \frac{1}{f'(x_0)} = \frac{1}{f'(g(y_0))}$$

$\therefore g = f^{-1}$  is differentiable at  $y = y_0$ ,  $g'(y_0)$  exists

Note  $g \circ f(x) = g(y) = x$  and  $f \circ g(y) = f(x) = y$

$$\therefore f^{-1} = g, \quad g^{-1} = f$$

Corollary If  $f: U \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  is strictly increasing (decreasing),  
then  $f$  is invertible.

Corollary If  $f: U \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  is strictly increasing (decreasing),  
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## Example 5.2.2.

$$\begin{aligned} |x+1| &= x+1 & x+1 > 0 \\ &= -(x+1) & x+1 < 0 \\ f(x) &= |x+1| \\ & \quad x=0. \end{aligned}$$

(i) Let  $f(x) = x^{1/2}$ ,  $x \in (0, \infty)$

Then  $f$  is injective (why?), continuous and differentiable  $\forall x \in (0, \infty)$ . Check!

$$f'(x) = \frac{1}{2x^{1/2}} (\neq 0, \text{ for } x > 0).$$

Also  $f'(x) > 0$ , and so  $f(x)$  is strictly increasing on  $(0, \infty)$ .

By the IVT, for  $y_0 = f(x_0)$ ,  $y_0 = x_0^{1/2}$

$$(f^{-1})'(y) = \frac{1}{1/2x_0^{1/2}} = 2x_0^{1/2} = 2y_0$$

Note:  $f^{-1}(y_0) = y_0^2$  and  $(f^{-1})'(y_0) = 2y_0$ ,  
as expected!

Note  
differentiable  
 $\Downarrow$   $\Uparrow$   
continuous

$$\begin{aligned} g(y) &= x = y^2 \\ g'(y) &= 2y \\ y_0 &= x_0^{1/2} \\ x_0 &= y_0^2 \end{aligned}$$

$$(g \circ f)'(x) = g'(f(x)) f'(x) \quad \checkmark \checkmark$$

$$g = f^{-1} \quad (g \circ f)(x) = x$$

Let  $y = f(x)$ ,  $x = g(y)$ ,  $g = f^{-1}$ .

$$g'(y) \cdot f'(x) = 1$$

$$g'(y) = \frac{1}{f'(x)}$$

(ii) Let  $f(x) = e^x$  ( $> 0$ ).  $\therefore f'(x) = e^x > 0 \Rightarrow$   
 $f$  is differentiable, injective and <sup>strictly</sup> increasing.

By IVT  $(f^{-1})'(y) = \frac{1}{f'(x)} = \frac{1}{e^x} = \frac{1}{y}$ .

Note  $f^{-1}(y) = \ln(y)$ ,  $(f^{-1})'(y) = \frac{1}{y}$ , as expected!



(iii) Consider  $f(x) = \frac{1}{1-x}$ ,  $f: \mathbb{R} \setminus \{1\} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ .

$$y = f(x)$$

$$x = g(y)$$

$$g'(y) = \frac{dx}{dy}$$

Use Inv. Fn. Thm:

$$(f^{-1})'(y) = 1 / f'(x) = 1 / \left[ - \frac{(-1)}{(1-x)^2} \right] = (1-x)^2 = \frac{1}{y^2}$$

$$\therefore (f^{-1})'(y) = \frac{1}{y^2}$$

CHK:  $y = \frac{1}{1-x} \Rightarrow x = 1 - \frac{1}{y}$

$$\frac{dx}{dy} = \frac{1}{y^2}$$

(iv)  $f(x) = \sin(x)$ ,  $x \in (-\frac{\pi}{2}, \frac{\pi}{2})$

By IVT:  $(f^{-1})'(y) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{1-y^2}}$

C+IK: ?

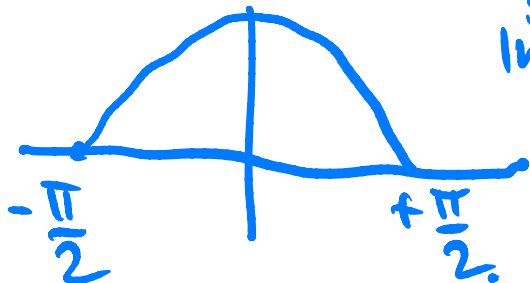
Note  $f^{-1}(y) = \arcsin(y)$

$f(x) = \sin(x)$

$x = g(y)$

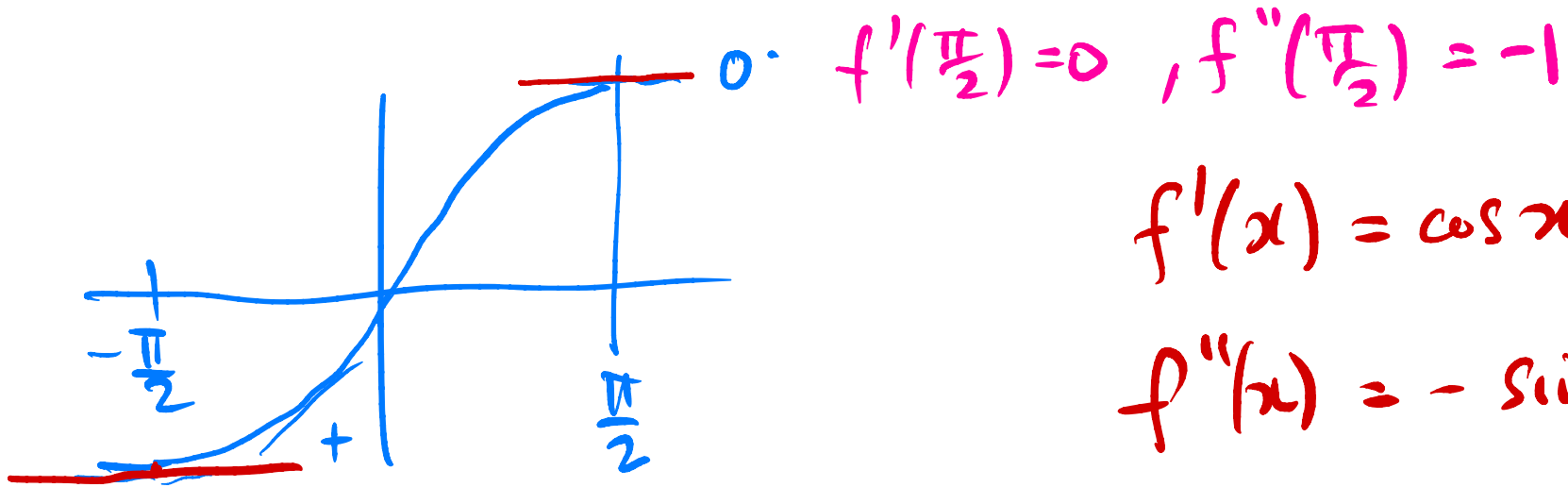
$f'(x) = \cos(x) > 0$   
strictly increasing fun.

$g = f^{-1} = \arcsin (= (\sin^{-1})(y))$   
 $f = \sin$



END OF WEEK 4





$$f'(x) = \cos x$$

$$f''(x) = -\sin x.$$

$$f''(\frac{\pi}{2}) =$$

$$(\sin^{-1}) \circ \sin(x) = x$$

$$(\sin^{-1})'(\sin x) \cdot \sin'(x) = 1$$

Let  $y = \sin x$  ✓

$$\arcsin'(y) \cdot \sin'(x) = 1$$

$$\arcsin'(y) = \frac{1}{\cos x} = \frac{1}{\sqrt{1 - \sin^2 x}}$$

$> 0$

$$y \in \left(-\frac{\pi}{2}, \frac{\pi}{2}\right)$$

Exercises Investigate differentiability of

$$f: \mathbb{R} \rightarrow \mathbb{R} \quad x \mapsto (x+1)|x|$$

$$g: \mathbb{R} \rightarrow \mathbb{R} \quad x \mapsto (x-1)|x-1|$$

Note:  $|x| = \begin{cases} x & | x \geq 0 \\ -x & | x < 0 \end{cases}$

$$\therefore f(x) = \begin{cases} (x+1)x, & x > 0 \\ -(x+1)x, & x < 0 \end{cases}$$

$$f'(x) = \begin{cases} 2x+1, & x > 0 \\ -2x-1, & x < 0 \end{cases}$$

Note  $f'(x) \rightarrow 1$  as  $x \rightarrow 0^+$   
 $f'(x) \rightarrow -1$  as  $x \rightarrow 0^-$

$$\therefore f'(0) \nexists$$

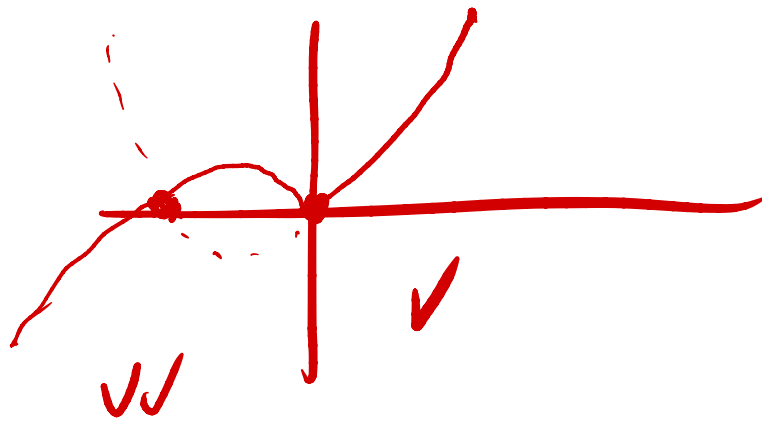
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$$g(x) = \begin{cases} (x-1)(x-1), & x > 1 \\ -(x-1)(x-1), & x < 1 \end{cases} \Rightarrow g'(x) = \begin{cases} 2x-2, & x > 1 \\ -2x+2, & x < 1 \end{cases}$$

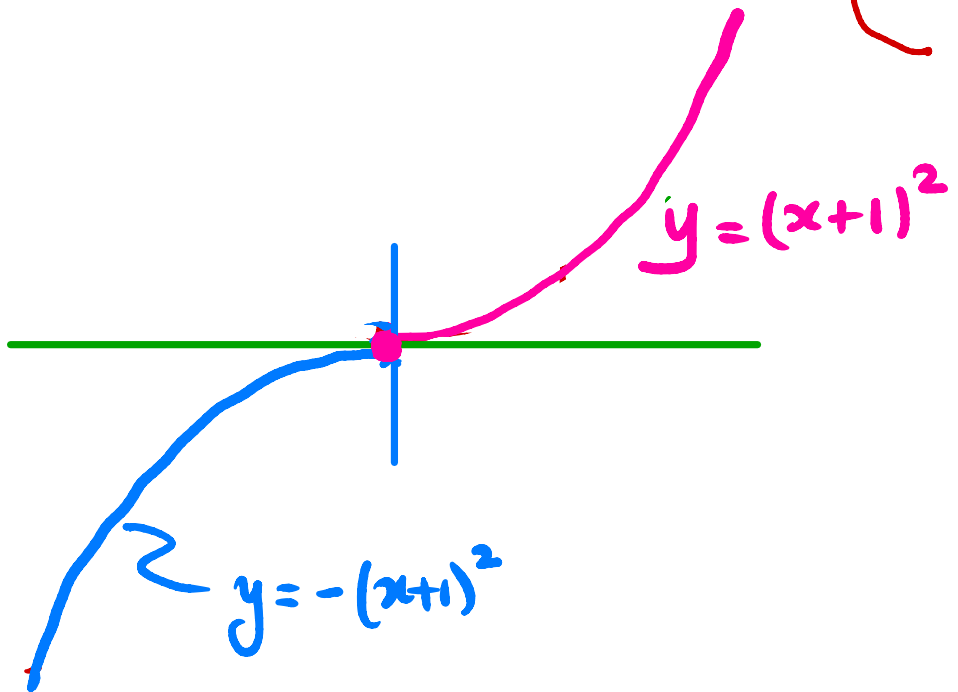
$$g'(1^-) = 0, \quad g'(1^+) = 0 \quad \therefore g'(0) = 0.$$

$$x^2 + x \quad x > 0 \checkmark$$

$$-x^2 - x \quad x < 0 \checkmark \checkmark$$



$$g(x) = (x+1) |x+1| = \begin{cases} (x+1)^2 & x+1 > 0, \quad x > -1 \\ -(x+1)^2 & x+1 < 0, \quad x < -1 \end{cases}$$



$$f'(-1^-) = 0$$

$$f'(-1^+) = 0$$

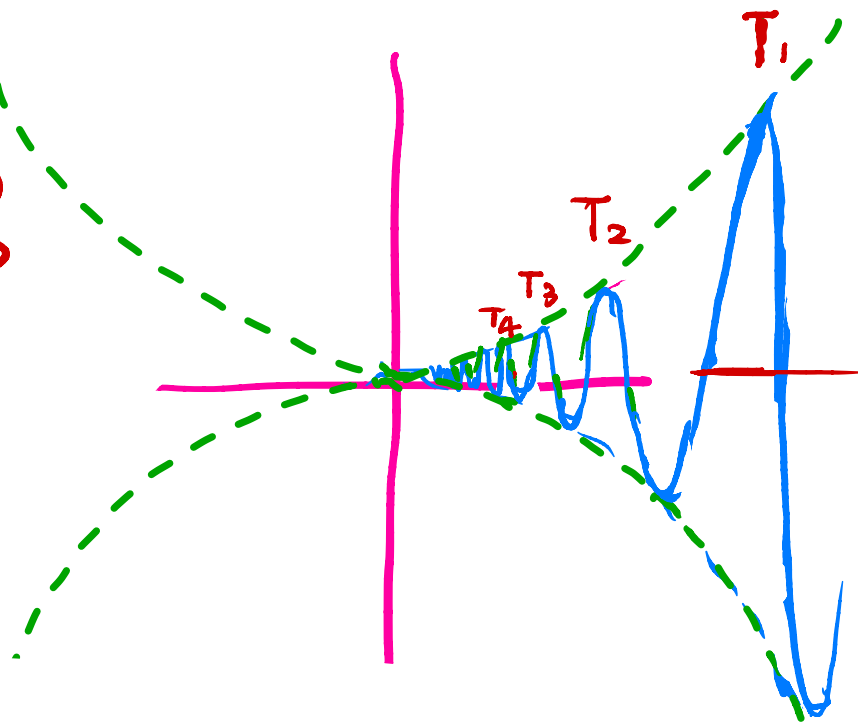
$$\therefore f'(-1) = 0$$

Note some function can be differentiable but the derivative need not be differentiable

$$\text{Consider } f(x) = \begin{cases} x^2 \sin\left(\frac{1}{x}\right), & x \neq 0 \\ 0, & x = 0 \end{cases}$$

$$f'(0) = 0 \quad (\text{see earlier})$$

$$\begin{aligned} f'(x) &= 2x \sin\left(\frac{1}{x}\right) + x^2 \cos\left(\frac{1}{x}\right) \left(-\frac{1}{x^2}\right) \\ &= 2x \sin\left(\frac{1}{x}\right) + \cos\left(\frac{1}{x}\right) \end{aligned}$$



The term  $\cos\left(\frac{1}{x}\right)$  oscillates infinitely often between  $1 \geq -1$  as  $x \rightarrow 0$

whereas  $|2x \sin\left(\frac{1}{x}\right)|$  is bounded by  $2|x|$  so for  $2|x| \text{ say } < \frac{1}{2}$

$f'(x)$  oscillates infinitely between  $> \frac{1}{2}$  and  $< -\frac{1}{2}$  as  $x \rightarrow 0$

$\therefore f'$  not continuous.

# COURSEWORK

## 4.1

1) Let the function  $f: (0, \pi) \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  be given by  $x \mapsto \cos(x)$ . Show that  $f$  is invertible and that the inverse  $g(y) = f^{-1}(y)$  is differentiable. Find the derivative  $g'$ .

Compute the Taylor polynomial  $T_{1,0}(y)$  about zero of degree one for  $g$ . What is the remainder term in the Lagrange form?

Hence show that for  $|y| \leq 1/2$

$$|g(y) - \pi/2 + y| \leq \sqrt{3}/18 \approx 0.096.$$

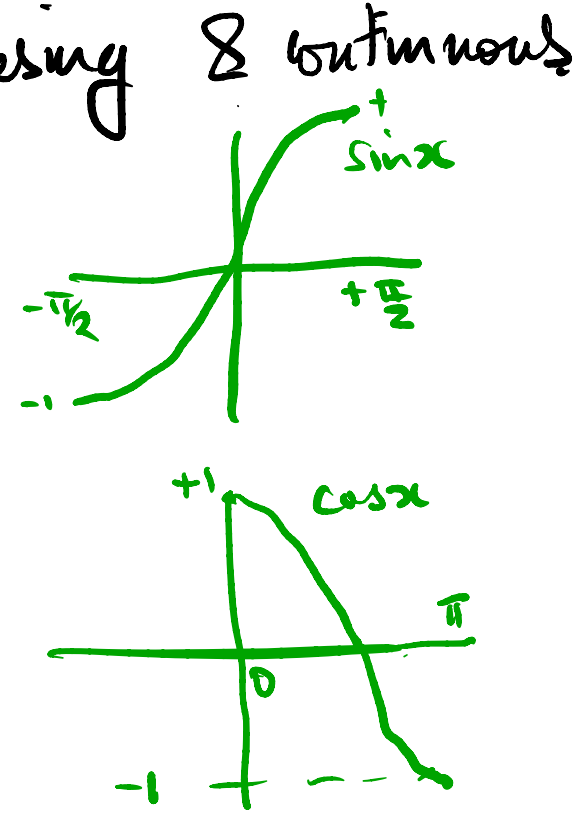
$$f: \mathbb{R} \rightarrow \mathbb{R} \quad f(x) = \cos(x), \quad f'(x) = -\sin(x), \quad x \in (0, \pi)$$
$$x \mapsto \cos(x)$$

$\sin(x) > 0$  for  $x \in (0, \pi) \therefore f$  is strictly decreasing & continuous  
and so  $f$  is invertible on its co-domain

$$f(0, \pi) = (-1, 1)$$

$$g = f^{-1} \text{ exists as } g: (-1, 1) \rightarrow (0, \pi)$$

$$g \circ f(x) = x, \quad \forall x \in (0, \pi)$$



$$g'(f(x)) (f'(x)) = 1 = g'(y) \cdot f'(x)$$

$$\text{Let } y \in (-1, 1), g'(y) \cdot f'(x) = 1 \Rightarrow g'(y) = \frac{1}{f'(x)}$$

$$\text{i.e. } g'(y) = \frac{1}{(-\sin x)} = -\frac{1}{\sqrt{1-\cos^2(x)}} = -\frac{1}{\sqrt{1-y^2}}$$

$$\begin{aligned} g(0) &= \frac{\pi}{2} \\ f\left(\frac{\pi}{2}\right) &= 0 \end{aligned}$$

$$T_{(1,0)} f(x) = 1 + \frac{-\sin(0)}{1} x = \underline{1} + 0 \cdot x = \underline{1}$$

$$R_{(1,0)} f(x) = \frac{x^2}{2!} f^{(2)}(c) = \frac{x^2}{2!} (-\sin(c)), \quad c \in (0, x)$$

$$g(y) = T_{(1,0)} g(y) = g(0) + \frac{y}{1!} g'(0) = \frac{\pi}{2} + y(-1) + R$$

$$\left. \frac{-1}{\sqrt{1-y^2}} \right|_{y=0} = -1$$

$$R_{(1,0)} g(y) = \frac{y^2}{2!} g''(c), \quad 0 < c < x$$

$$g'(c) = \frac{-1}{\sqrt{1-y^2}}, \quad g''(c) = (-1)\left(-\frac{1}{2}\right)(1-y^2)^{-3/2} \cdot (-2y) \Big|_c, \quad 0 < c < y$$

$$\text{i.e. } g''(c) = \left(\frac{1}{2}\right) \frac{1}{(1-y^2)^{3/2}} (-2y) \Big|_c =$$

$$\begin{aligned} \therefore |R_{(1,0)} g(y)| &= \frac{y^2}{2} \frac{c}{(1-c^2)^{3/2}} && |y| < \frac{1}{2} \\ &< \frac{\left(\frac{1}{2}\right)^2}{2} \frac{\left(\frac{1}{2}\right)}{\left(1-\left(\frac{1}{2}\right)^2\right)^{3/2}} && \therefore |c| < \frac{1}{2} \quad \times \\ &= \frac{1}{16} \frac{1}{\left(\frac{3}{4}\right)^{3/2}} = \frac{1 \cdot 8}{16 \cdot 3\sqrt{3}} = \frac{1}{6\sqrt{3}} \end{aligned}$$

If  $c^2 < \frac{1}{4}$

$$\Rightarrow -\frac{1}{4} < -c^2$$

$$\Rightarrow 1 - \frac{1}{4} < 1 - c^2$$

$$\frac{1}{1 - \frac{1}{4}} < \frac{1}{1 - c^2} = \frac{4}{3}$$

$$\therefore \left| g(y) - \frac{\pi}{2} + y \right| = |R_{(1,0)} g(y)| < \frac{1}{6\sqrt{3}} = \frac{\sqrt{3}}{18}$$

## COURSEWORK 4.2

2) Let  $f : (-1, \infty) \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ ,  $x \mapsto \sin(\pi\sqrt{1+x})$ . Show that

$$4(1+x)f''(x) + 2f'(x) + \pi^2 f(x) = 0.$$

Show that for all  $n \in \mathbb{N}$

$$4f^{(n+2)}(0) + 2(2n+1)f^{(n+1)}(0) + \pi^2 f^{(n)}(0) = 0.$$

Hence find the Taylor polynomial  $T_{4,0}(x)$  for  $\sin(\pi\sqrt{1+x})$ .

*Hint: If you wish you may use Leibniz's formula for the derivative of a product of  $n$ -times differentiable functions  $g$  and  $h$ ,  $(gh)^{(n)} = \sum_{k=0}^n \binom{n}{k} g^{(n-k)} h^{(k)}$ .*

$$f(x) = \sin(\pi\sqrt{1+x})$$

$$f^{(1)}(x) = \cos(\pi\sqrt{1+x}) \cdot \frac{\pi}{2} \cdot \frac{1}{\sqrt{1+x}}$$

$$f^{(2)}(x) = \frac{-\pi^2}{4} \sin(\pi\sqrt{1+x}) \left(\frac{1}{\sqrt{1+x}}\right)^2 + \cos(\pi\sqrt{1+x}) \left(-\frac{\pi}{4} (1+x)^{-3/2}\right)$$

$\equiv \frac{1}{(1+x)}$



$$4(1+x) f^{(2)}(x) = -\pi^2 \sin(\pi \sqrt{1+x}) + \cos(\pi \sqrt{1+x}) \left( -\pi \frac{1}{\sqrt{1+x}} \right)$$

$$\text{"} \quad -\pi^2 f^{(0)}(x) \quad -2f^{(1)}(x)$$

$$4(1+x) f^{(2)}(x) + \underline{2 \cdot f^{(1)}(x)} + \pi^2 f(x) \quad n=0 \quad \text{as req'd.}$$

Diff:

$$4(1+x) f^{(3)}(x) + \underline{4f^{(2)}(x) + 2f^{(2)}(x)} + \pi^2 f^{(1)}(x) = 0 \quad n=1$$

$$4(1+x) f^{(4)} + \underline{4f^{(3)}(x) + 4f^{(3)}(x) + 2f^{(3)}(x)} + \pi^2 f^{(2)}(x) = 0 \quad n=2$$

For general n:

$$4(1+x) f^{(n+2)}(x) + 2(2n+1) f^{(n+1)}(x) + \pi^2 f^{(n)}(x) = 0$$

Evaluate  $f(0)$  &  $f^{(n)}(0)$ , then use recursion

$$4f^{(n+2)}(0) + 2(2n+1) f^{(n+1)}(0) + \pi^2 f^{(n)}(0) = 0.$$

Exercises Investigate differentiability of

$$f: \mathbb{R} \rightarrow \mathbb{R} \quad x \mapsto (x+1)|x|$$

$$g: \mathbb{R} \rightarrow \mathbb{R} \quad x \mapsto (x-1)|x-1|$$

Note:  $|x| = \begin{cases} x & | x \geq 0 \\ -x & | x < 0 \end{cases} \quad \therefore f(x) = \begin{cases} (x+1)x, & x > 0 \\ -(x+1)x, & x < 0 \end{cases}$

$$f'(x) = \begin{cases} 2x+1, & x > 0 \\ -2x-1, & x < 0 \end{cases}$$

Note  $f'(x) \rightarrow 1$  as  $x \rightarrow 0^+$

$f'(x) \rightarrow -1$  as  $x \rightarrow 0^-$

$\therefore f'(0) \nexists$

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$$g(x) = \begin{cases} (x-1)(x-1), & x > 1 \\ -(x-1)(x-1), & x < 1 \end{cases}$$

$$\Rightarrow g'(x) = \begin{cases} 2x-2, & x > 1 \\ -2x+2, & x < 1 \end{cases}$$

$g'(1^-) = 0, g'(1^+) = 0 \quad \therefore g'(1) = 0.$