

§ 2. 1 - Functions

1. Definition of a function.
2. Finding the domain of a function.
3. Finding Function values.
4. Application of functions.

1 - Definition of a function

A function from a set X to a set Y is an assignment (rule) that tells how one element x in X is related to only one element y in Y .

Notation:

- $f: X \rightarrow Y$.
- $y = f(x)$ "f of x"
- x is the input ^(independent variable) and $y = f(x)$ is the output ^(dependent variable).
- The set X is called the domain (input) and the set Y is called the co-domain. while the set of all output is called the range.

Question: How to describe a function? "by the formula"

Example 0.1: $f: \mathbb{R} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$

$$x \mapsto 3x+1$$

or $f(x) = 3x+1$ --- this is how we describe it.

- $f(1) = 3(1)+1 = 4$
- $f(0) = 3(0)+1 = 1$
- $f(-2) = 3(-2)+1 = -5$
- $f(-7) = 3(-7)+1 = -20$...

Example 0.2: $f: \mathbb{R} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$

$$x \mapsto x^2$$

$$f(x) = x^2$$

- $f(0) = 0$
- $f(1) = 1$
- $f(3) = 9$
- $f(-1) = 1$
- $f(-9) = 81$
- $f(-2) = 4$

Domain = \mathbb{R}

co-domain = \mathbb{R} -- fixed

range = $\{y \mid y \geq 0\} = [0, \infty)$.

Example 0.3: $f: \mathbb{R} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$

$$x \mapsto \frac{1}{x}$$

- $f(1) = \frac{1}{1} = 1$
- $f(2) = \frac{1}{2}$
- $f(0) = \frac{1}{0}$ ← problem, so we have to exclude 0 from the domain

domain = $\{x \mid x \neq 0\}$.

2- Finding the domain of functions

Recall:

Domain of f is the set of all x such that $f(x)$ make sense (i.e., no problems like zero in the denominator or negative inside even root, etc).

Domain of $f = \{ x \mid f(x) \text{ makes sense} \}$.

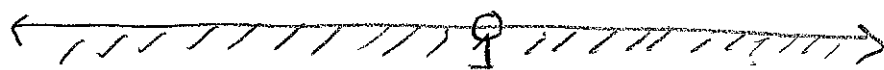
Example 1: Find the domain of $f(x) = \frac{3}{x-1}$
(zero denominator)

Here we would have problems only if the denominator is equal to zero, so we need to find those values and exclude them. so we solve

$$x-1=0 \Rightarrow x=1$$

So the domain of f is all the values except $x=1$.

Domain of $f = \{ x \mid x \neq 1 \} =$



$$(-\infty, 1) \cup (1, \infty)$$

Exercise: Find the domain of $f(x) = \frac{2x+1}{3x+8}$

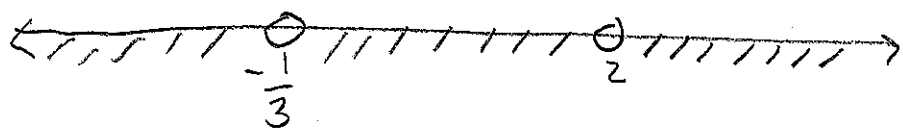
Example 2: Find the domain of $f(x) = \frac{x^2 - 1}{3x^2 - 5x - 2}$

Similarly to the previous example, we find all the values that make the denominator equal to zero

$$3x^2 - 5x - 2 = 0$$

$$x = 2 \quad \text{or} \quad x = -\frac{1}{3} \quad \left(\text{§ 0.8 by the formula} \right)$$

Domain of $f = \left\{ x \mid x \neq 2 \text{ and } x \neq -\frac{1}{3} \right\}$



$$\left(-\infty, -\frac{1}{3}\right) \cup \left(-\frac{1}{3}, 2\right) \cup (2, \infty)$$

Exercise $g(y) = \frac{1}{y^2 + 3}$

Example 3 (Negative inside the root) Find the domain of

$$f(x) = \sqrt{2x - 4}$$

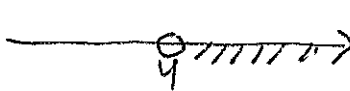
Here we would have problem only if there is negative inside the square root, so we have to find all values that make $2x - 4$ greater than or equal to 0, i.e.

$$2x - 4 \geq 0 \rightarrow x \geq 2 \rightarrow \text{Domain} = \{x \mid x \geq 2\}$$



Example 4: $f(x) = \frac{3}{\sqrt{x-4}}$

Here we would have problem if we have negative in the root and zero in the denominator, so we find all the values that gives only positive values, so

$$x-4 > 0 \rightarrow x > 4 \rightsquigarrow \text{Domain} = \{x \mid x > 4\}$$


$(4, \infty)$

Exercise: $f(x) = \frac{3x^2+1}{\sqrt{3x+6}}$

3 - Finding Function Values

Recall: $(a \pm b)^2 = a^2 \pm 2ab + b^2$

Example 5: Let $g(x) = x^2 - 2$, Find

• $g(2) = (2)^2 - 2 = 4 - 2 = 2$

"we replace each x by 2"

• $g(4) = 4^2 - 2$

• $g(u^2) = (u^2)^2 - 2 = u^4 - 2$

• $g(u+1) = (u+1)^2 - 2 = u^2 + 2u + 1 - 2 = u^2 + 2u - 1$

Exercise let $f(x) = \frac{x-5}{x^2+3}$

• $f(5)$ • $f(2x)$ • $f(x+h)$ • $f(17)$

Example 60 $f(x) = x^2 + 2x$

• $f(x+h) = (x+h)^2 + 2(x+h) = x^2 + 2xh + h^2 + 2x + 2h$

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

$= \frac{x^2 + 2xh + h^2 + 2x + 2h - x^2 - 2x}{h}$

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

$= 2x + h + 2$

Exercise 0 Find $\frac{f(x) - f(2)}{x-2}$ if $f(x) = 2x^2 - x + 1$.

[Example]

4- Application of functions

Example 7 (Demand function)

$$P = \frac{120}{q}$$

price per unit \rightarrow P \leftarrow q \leftarrow # of units

If the price is 60 per unit, how many units we have?

$$60 = \frac{120}{q} \rightarrow q = \frac{120}{60} = \underline{\underline{2}}$$

Example 8:

A company has capital of 7000 BD and weekly income of 320 BD and weekly expenses of 210 BD. Find the value V of the company in term of $t = \#$ of weeks.

$$V = 7000 + (320 - 210)t$$

$$V = 7000 + 110t$$

Exam Question 1 Find the domain

(a) $f(x) = 2x + 5$

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

(c) $h(x) = \sqrt{3x + 7}$

2 Demand function

$p = \frac{165}{q} + 4$, Find the least

number of units to get revenue