Unit 8 Lesson 1: Inverses, Inverse Sine & Compositions

Inverse Sine Function:

Opening Activity – Review Inverse Functions

Find the inverse of the following linear function:

Remember that domains and ranges switch from an original relation/function to its inverse (x and y switch). Also remember from Unit 5 that inverse relations/functions are symmetric over the line y=x.

$$y = f(x) = \frac{4x - 1}{3}$$

Method 1:

$$y = f(x) = \frac{4x - 1}{3}$$

$$\downarrow \bullet 4 \qquad \uparrow \div 4 \Rightarrow \frac{3x + 1}{4} \qquad \therefore f^{-1}(x) = \frac{3x + 1}{4}$$

$$\downarrow -1 \qquad \uparrow +1 \Rightarrow 3x + 1$$

$$\downarrow \div 3 \qquad \uparrow \bullet 3 \Rightarrow 3x$$

Method 2:

$$y = \frac{4x - 1}{3} \Rightarrow \text{Switch y with x and solve for y}$$
$$x = \frac{4y - 1}{3} \Rightarrow 3x = 4y - 1 \Rightarrow 4y = 3x + 1 \Rightarrow y^{-1} = \frac{3x + 1}{4}$$

Observe the calculator graph of the linear function and its inverse function below:



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Find $(f \circ f^{-1})(x)$ and $(f^{-1} \circ f)(x)$ for the sample problem:

$$(f \circ f^{-1})(x) = \frac{4\left(\frac{3x+1}{4}\right) - 1}{3} = x$$
$$(f^{-1} \circ f)(x) = \frac{3\left(\frac{4x-1}{3}\right) + 1}{4} = x$$

Inverse Sine:

Graph the sine function on your graphics calculator using the range -2π to 2π



Is it a function?

Answer: Yes, because it passes the vertical line test and one element in the domain does not map to more than one element in the range.

Is it a one-to-one function? Answer: No, because it fails the horizontal line test and its inverse is not a function.

Could we restrict the domain of the sine function to form a region that is one-to-one?

Observe various correct choices:



What is the restricted region closest to the origin (yet avoids as many negative values as possible) that allows the inverse to become a function?

Try starting at the origin:



Inverse Sine is defined as follows:

The best way to confine the sine function (that is closest to the origin) is between

$$\frac{-\pi}{2}$$
 and $\frac{\pi}{2}$

Therefore:

$$y = \sin^{-1} x$$
 or $y = \operatorname{Arcsin}(x)$ iff $\sin y = x$ and $\frac{-\pi}{2} \le y \le \frac{\pi}{2}$ and $-1 \le x \le 1$

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Observe the graph of sine, inverse sine and y=x:



Refer to "Handout Unit – 8 Lesson 1".

Arcsin Exact Values:



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