Function Operations

To combine two functions, $f(x)$ and $g(x)$, add or subtract as follows:

Sum of Functions	*Difference of Functions*
$h(x) = f(x) + g(x)$	$h(x) = f(x) - g(x)$
$h(x) = (f + g)(x)$	$h(x) = (f - g)(x)$

Example: Given $f(x) = x^2$ and $g(x) = x - 2$

① Find $h(x) = (f+g)(x)$

$h(x) = f(x) + g(x)$

$h(x) = x^2 + x - 2$

② Find $k(x) = (f-g)(x)$

$k(x) = f(x) - g(x)$

$k(x) = x^2 - (x-2)$ Remember to distribute the negative

$k(x) = x^2 - x + 2$

Key Ideas

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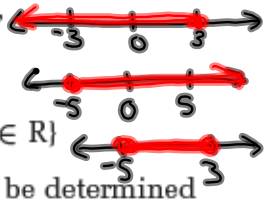
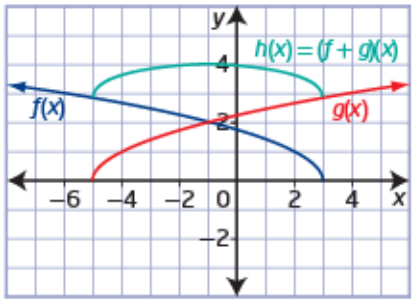
- You can add two functions, $f(x)$ and $g(x)$, to form the combined function $h(x) = (f + g)(x)$.
- You can subtract two functions, $f(x)$ and $g(x)$, to form the combined function $h(x) = (f - g)(x)$.
- The domain of the combined function formed by the sum or difference of two functions is the domain common to the individual functions. For example,

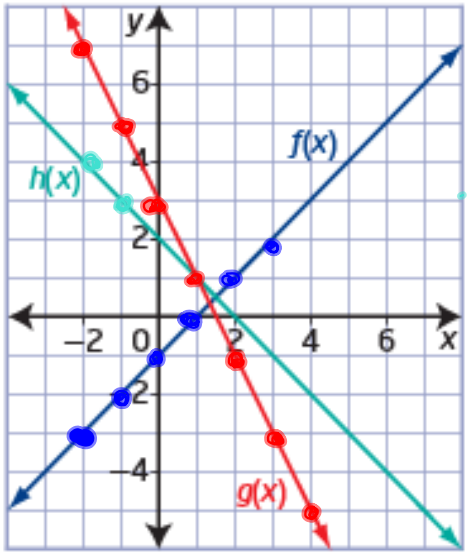
  Domain of $f(x)$: $\{x \mid x \leq 3, x \in \mathrm{R}\}$
  Domain of $g(x)$: $\{x \mid x \geq -5, x \in \mathrm{R}\}$
  Domain of $h(x)$: $\{x \mid -5 \leq x \leq 3, x \in \mathrm{R}\}$





- The range of a combined function can be determined using its graph.
- To sketch the graph of a sum or difference of two functions given their graphs, add or subtract the y-coordinates at each point.

1. Consider the graphs of the functions $f(x)$, $g(x)$, and $h(x)$.



a) Copy the table and use the graph of each function to complete the columns.

x	$f(x)$	$g(x)$	$h(x)$
−2	-3	7	4
−1	-2	5	3
0	-1	3	2
1	0	1	1
2	1	-1	0
3	2	-3	-1
4	3	-5	-2

We added f(x) to g(x)

b) What do you notice about the relationship between each value of $h(x)$ and the corresponding values of $f(x)$ and $g(x)$?

Example 1

Determine the Sum of Two Functions

Consider the functions $f(x) = 2x + 1$ and $g(x) = x^2$.

a) Determine the equation of the function $h(x) = (f + g)(x)$.

b) Sketch the graphs of $f(x)$, $g(x)$, and $h(x)$ on the same set of coordinate axes.

c) State the domain and range of $h(x)$.

d) Determine the values of $f(x)$, $g(x)$, and $h(x)$ when $x = 4$.

Solution

a) Add $f(x)$ and $g(x)$ to determine the equation of the function $h(x) = (f + g)(x)$.

$h(x) = (f + g)(x)$
$h(x) = f(x) + g(x)$
$h(x) = 2x + 1 + x^2$
$h(x) = x^2 + 2x + 1$

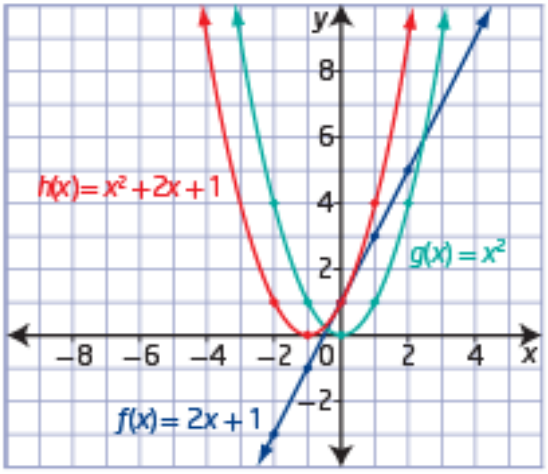
Is the function $(f + g)(x)$ the same as $(g + f)(x)$? Will this always be true?

yes → not the same if subtracting

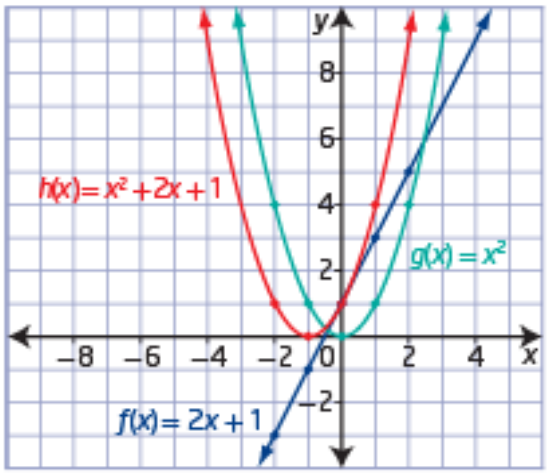
b) Method 1: Use Paper and Pencil

x	$f(x) = 2x + 1$	$g(x) = x^2$	$h(x) = x^2 + 2x + 1$
−2	−3	4	1
−1	−1	1	0
0	1	0	1
1	3	1	4
2	5	4	9

How could you use the values in the columns for $f(x)$ and $g(x)$ to determine the values in the column for $h(x)$?



How are the y-coordinates of points on the graph of $h(x)$ related to those on the graphs of $f(x)$ and $g(x)$?



How are the y-coordinates of points on the graph of $h(x)$ related to those on the graphs of $f(x)$ and $g(x)$?

c) The function $f(x) = 2x + 1$ has domain $\{x \mid x \in \mathrm{R}\}$.
The function $g(x) = x^2$ has domain $\{x \mid x \in \mathrm{R}\}$.
The function $h(x) = (f + g)(x)$ has domain $\{x \mid x \in \mathrm{R}\}$, which consists of all values that are in both the domain of $f(x)$ and the domain of $g(x)$.
The range of $h(x)$ is

d) Substitute $x = 4$ into $f(x)$, $g(x)$, and $h(x)$.

$f(x) = 2x + 1$	$g(x) = x^2$	$h(x) = x^2 + 2x + 1$
$f(4) = 2(4) + 1$	$g(4) = 4^2$	$h(4) = 4^2 + 2(4) + 1$
$f(4) = 8 + 1$	$g(4) = 16$	$h(4) = 16 + 8 + 1$
$f(4) = 9$		$h(4) = 25$

Example 2

Determine the Difference of Two Functions

Consider the functions $f(x) = \sqrt{x-1}$ and $g(x) = x - 2$.

a) Determine the equation of the function $h(x) = (f - g)(x)$.

b) Sketch the graphs of $f(x)$, $g(x)$, and $h(x)$ on the same set of coordinate axes.

c) State the domain of $h(x)$.

d) Use the graph to approximate the range of $h(x)$.

Solution

a) Subtract $g(x)$ from $f(x)$ to determine the equation of the function $h(x) = (f - g)(x)$.

$h(x) = (f - g)(x)$

$h(x) = f(x) - g(x)$

$h(x) = \sqrt{x-1} - (x - 2)$

$h(x) = \sqrt{x-1} - x + 2$

Domain of $f(x)$: $\{x \mid x \geq 1, x \in \mathbb{R}\}$

Domain of $g(x)$: $\{x \mid x \in \mathbb{R}\}$

Domain of $h(x)$: $\{x \mid x \geq 1, x \in \mathbb{R}\}$

$x - 1 \geq 0$

$x \geq 1$

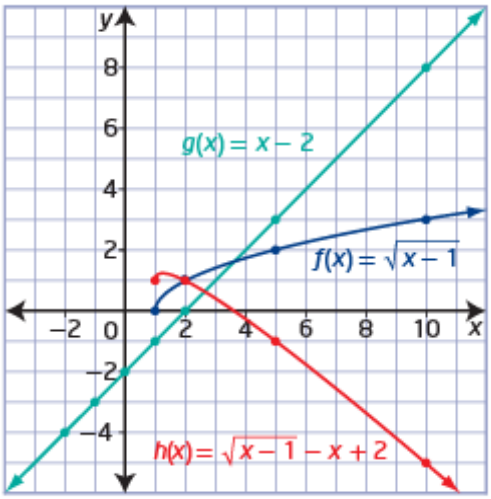
b) Method 1: Use Paper and Pencil

For the function $f(x) = \sqrt{x-1}$, the value of the radicand must be greater than or equal to zero: $x - 1 \geq 0$ or $x \geq 1$.

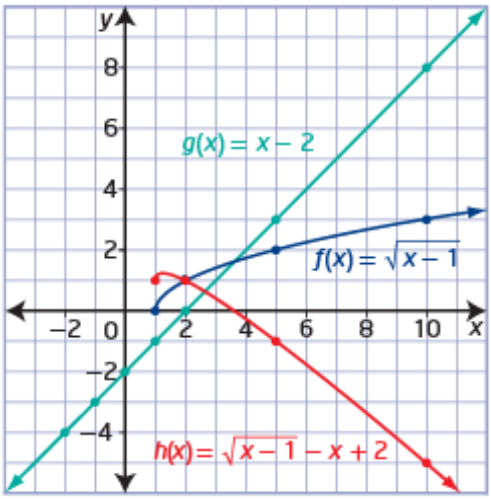
x	$f(x) = \sqrt{x-1}$	$g(x) = x - 2$	$h(x) = \sqrt{x-1} - x + 2$
−2	undefined	−4	undefined
−1	undefined	−3	undefined
0	undefined	−2	undefined
1	0	−1	1
2	1	0	1
5	2	3	−1
10	3	8	−5

Why is the function $h(x)$ undefined when $x < 1$?

How could you use the values in the columns for $f(x)$ and $g(x)$ to determine the values in the column for $h(x)$?

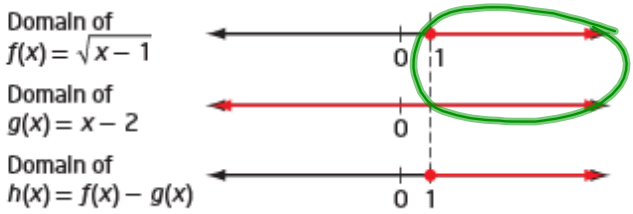


How could you use the y-coordinates of points on the graphs of $f(x)$ and $g(x)$ to create the graph of $h(x)$?



How could you use the *y*-coordinates of points on the graphs of $f(x)$ and $g(x)$ to create the graph of $h(x)$?

c) The function $f(x) = \sqrt{x-1}$ has domain $\{x \mid x \geq 1, x \in \mathrm{R}\}$. or $[1, \infty)$
The function $g(x) = x - 2$ has domain $\{x \mid x \in \mathrm{R}\}$. or $(-\infty, \infty)$
The function $h(x) = (f - g)(x)$ has domain $\{x \mid x \geq 1, x \in \mathrm{R}\}$, which consists of all values that are in both the domain of $f(x)$ and the domain of $g(x)$.



What values of *x* belong to the domains of both $f(x)$ and $g(x)$?

d) From the graph, the range of $h(x)$ appears to be approximately $\{y \mid y \leq 1.2, y \in \mathrm{R}\}$.

How can you use a graphing calculator to verify the range?

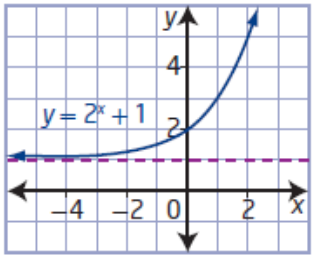
Homework

finish #1-11 on page 483-484

10.1 Sums and Differences of Functions, pages 483 to 487

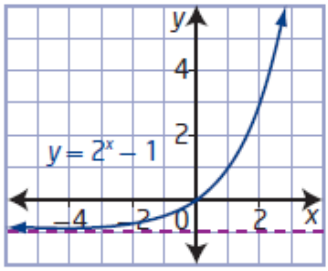
1. **a)** $h(x) = |x - 3| + 4$ **b)** $h(x) = 2x - 3$
   c) $h(x) = 2x^2 + 3x + 2$ **d)** $h(x) = x^2 + 5x + 4$
2. **a)** $h(x) = 5x + 2$ **b)** $h(x) = -3x^2 - 4x + 9$
   c) $h(x) = -x^2 - 3x + 12$ **d)** $h(x) = \cos x - 4$
3. **a)** $h(x) = x^2 - 6x + 1$; $h(2) = -7$
   b) $m(x) = -x^2 - 6x + 1$; $m(1) = -6$
   c) $p(x) = x^2 + 6x - 1$; $p(1) = 6$
4. **a)** $y = 3x^2 + 2 + \sqrt{x + 4}$; domain $\{x \mid x \geq -4, x \in \mathrm{R}\}$
   b) $y = 4x - 2 - \sqrt{x + 4}$; domain $\{x \mid x \geq -4, x \in \mathrm{R}\}$
   c) $y = \sqrt{x + 4} - 4x + 2$; domain $\{x \mid x \geq -4, x \in \mathrm{R}\}$
   d) $y = 3x^2 + 4x$; domain $\{x \mid x \in \mathrm{R}\}$

5. **a)**



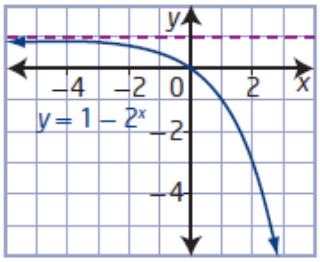
domain $\{x \mid x \in \mathrm{R}\}$, range $\{y \mid y > 1, y \in \mathrm{R}\}$

b)



domain $\{x \mid x \in \mathrm{R}\}$, range $\{y \mid y > -1, y \in \mathrm{R}\}$

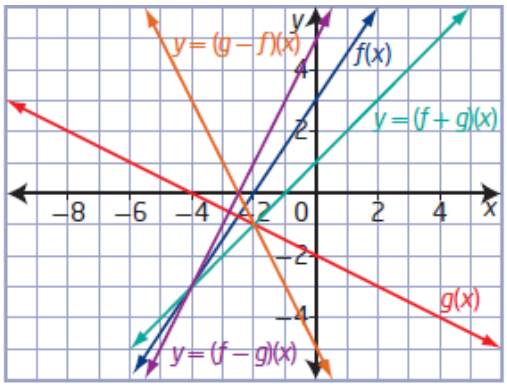
c)



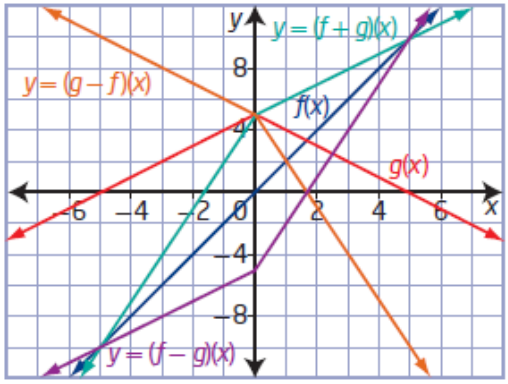
domain $\{x \mid x \in \mathrm{R}\}$, range $\{y \mid y < 1, y \in \mathrm{R}\}$

6. **a)** 8 **b)** 6 **c)** 7
   d) not in the domain
7. **a)** B **b)** C **c)** A

8. a)



b)



9. a) $y = 3x^2 + 11x + 1$ **b)** $y = 3x^2 - 3x + 3$
c) $y = 3x^2 + 3x + 1$ **d)** $y = 3x^2 - 11x + 3$

10. a) $g(x) = x^2$ **b)** $g(x) = \sqrt{x + 7}$
c) $g(x) = -3x + 1$ **d)** $g(x) = 3x^2 - x - 4$

11. a) $g(x) = x^2 - 1$ **b)** $g(x) = -\sqrt{x - 4}$
c) $g(x) = 8x - 9$ **d)** $g(x) = 2x^2 - 11x - 6$