

The composite function $f(g(t))$ uses the output of function g as the new input of function f .

This composite function is defined for all values of t that are the domain of g .

Example

Let $f(x) = \cos(x) + 3$ and $g(x) = x^3 + 5$

$$f(g(x)) = f(x^3 + 5) = \cos(x^3 + 5) + 3$$

$$g(f(x)) = g(\cos x + 3) = (\cos x + 3)^3 + 5$$

$$f(g(1)) = \cos(1^3 + 5) + 3 = \cos(6) + 3$$

Decomposition of functions

Example Consider a function of the form $f(g(x)) = e^{\sqrt{x} + 3}$
 Find possible formulas for $f(x)$ and $g(x)$.

$$g(x) = \sqrt{x}$$

$$f(x) = e^{x+3}$$

check: $f(g(x)) = e^{\sqrt{x} + 3} = f(g(x)) \checkmark$

OR $f(x) = e^x$
 $g(x) = \sqrt{x} + 3$ } $f(g(x)) = f(\sqrt{x} + 3) = e^{\sqrt{x} + 3} = f(g(x)) \checkmark$

Example $g(h(w(z))) = (\sin(\ln(z)))^2$

Find $g(z)$, $h(z)$, $w(z)$:

$$w(z) = \ln(z)$$

$$h(z) = \sin(z)$$

$$g(z) = z^2$$

Example $j(k(x)) = \sqrt{\ln(x^2 + 4)}$

Find $j(x)$ and $k(x)$:

$$k(x) = x^2 + 4$$

$$j(x) = \sqrt{\ln(x)}$$

$$j(k(x)) = j(x^2 + 4) = \sqrt{\ln(x^2 + 4)}$$

OR

$$k(x) = \ln(x^2 + 4)$$

$$j(x) = \sqrt{x}$$

$$j(k(x)) = j(\ln(x^2 + 4)) = \sqrt{\ln(x^2 + 4)}$$