

<b>Complete solutions to Exercise 3(b)</b>
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1. (a)  $f^{-1}(x) = \frac{x+2}{7}$       (b)  $f^{-1}(x) = \frac{1}{x}$  (provided  $x \neq 0$ )      (c)  $f^{-1}(x) = 1-x$   
 (d)  $f^{-1}(x) = 5 - \frac{3}{x}$  ( $x \neq 0$ )

2. (a) Let  $y = \frac{t}{t+2}$  ( $t \neq -2$ ). Then we need to obtain  $t = \dots$  Multiplying both sides by  $(t+2)$ :

$$(t+2)y = t$$

Expanding the Left Hand Side gives:

$$ty + 2y = t$$

Collecting the  $t$ 's on one side:

$$2y = t - ty$$

Factorizing the Right Hand Side:

$$2y = t(1-y)$$

How do we remove  $1-y$  on the Right Hand Side to obtain  $t$  on its own? Divide both sides by  $1-y$ :

$$t = \frac{2y}{1-y} \quad (\text{provided } 1-y \neq 0)$$

So the inverse function is

$$g^{-1}(t) = \frac{2t}{1-t} \quad (\text{provided } 1-t \neq 0)$$

(b) and (c) can be obtained in a similar way. We have:

(b)  $h^{-1}(x) = \frac{2x+1}{x+1}$  ( $x \neq -1$ ) and (c)  $f^{-1}(x) = \frac{x+1}{2-x}$  ( $x \neq 2$ ).

3. (i) Similar to above.

(ii) Note that  $g(t) = f^{-1}(t)$  where  $f^{-1}$  is same as part (i).

Remember you are taking the inverse of the inverse so it must go back to the start,

$$g^{-1}(t) = \frac{t+1}{3t+1} = f(t).$$

4. (i) Let  $y = \frac{x^3+3}{2-x^3}$  (provided  $2-x^3 \neq 0$ ) We need to make  $x$  the subject of the formula,  $x = \dots$  Multiply both sides by  $2-x^3$ :

$$y(2-x^3) = x^3+3$$

Expanding the Left Hand Side gives:

$$2y - x^3y = x^3 + 3$$

Collecting the  $x^3$ 's on one side:

$$\begin{aligned} 2y - 3 &= x^3 + x^3y \\ &= x^3(1+y) \end{aligned}$$

How do you find  $x$  on its own?

Divide both sides by  $(1+y)$  where  $y \neq -1$ :

$$x^3 = \frac{2y-3}{1+y}$$

Take the cube root of both sides:

$$x = \sqrt[3]{\frac{2y-3}{1+y}} = \left(\frac{2y-3}{1+y}\right)^{\frac{1}{3}}$$

Replacing  $y$  with  $x$  gives the inverse function  $f^{-1}(x) = \left(\frac{2x-3}{1+x}\right)^{\frac{1}{3}}$

(provided  $x \neq -1$ ).

(ii) Note that  $g(t) = f^{-1}(t)$  where  $f^{-1}$  is same as part (i):

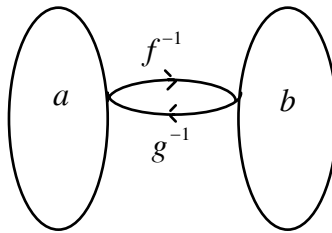
$$f^{-1}(t) = \left(\frac{2t-3}{1+t}\right)^{\frac{1}{3}} \quad (\text{provided } 1+t \neq 0)$$

Hence  $g^{-1}(t)$  must reverse the whole process so we end up at the start with

$$g^{-1}(t) = \frac{t^3+3}{2-t^3} = f(t) \quad (\text{provided } 2-t^3 \neq 0)$$

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5. In both cases we have:



$f^{-1}$  takes  $a$  to  $b$  but  $g$  takes  $b$  back to  $a$ , so our  $g^{-1}$  is the inverse of the inverse,  $g^{-1} = (f^{-1})^{-1}$ .

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