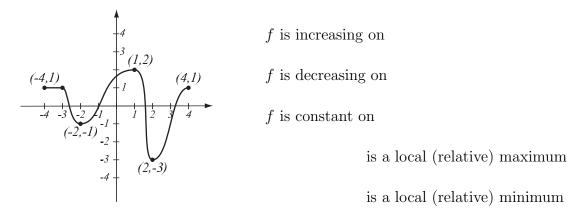
# 2.1 Increasing and Decreasing Functions

**Example.** On the graph of the function, observe where it is rising (increasing) and falling (decreasing).



#### Definition.

f(c) is a local maximum if there is an open interval I around c so that f(x) < f(c) for all x in I,  $x \neq c$ .

f(c) is a local minimum if there is an open interval I around c so that f(x) > f(c) for all x in I,  $x \neq c$ .

**Example.** Sketch the graph of  $f(x) = x^3 - 5x^2 + 2x - 5$ .

- a) Find its local maxima and minima.
- b) Find the intervals of increase and decrease.

#### Piecewise defined functions

Example. Sketch the graph of the function

$$f(x) = \begin{cases} -3x + 6, & \text{if } x < 3\\ 2x - 7, & \text{if } x \ge 3 \end{cases}$$

College Algebra — Handout MAT 140, Spring 2025 — D. Ivanšić

## Max and Min Applications

**Example.** Farmer Bill has 300 meters of fencing. He would like to enclose a rectangular plot of land so that its area is the largest possible.

- a) Draw three different rectangular enclosures that Bill could make and compute their areas.
- b) Express the area of the enclosure as a function of the length of one of the sides x. What is the domain of this function?
- c) Graph the function in order to find the maximum. What are the dimensions of the enclosure that has the greatest area?

**Example.** Farmer Hyacinth wants to fence a rectangular area of 4km<sup>2</sup> and then divide it in half with a fence parallel to a side of the rectangle. She wishes to do this so the cost of the fence is minimal (thus, the length of fence is minimal).

- a) Draw three different rectangular enclosures that Hyacinth could make and compute the length of fence used.
- b) Express the length of fence used as a function of the length of one of the sides x. What is the domain of this function?
- c) Graph the function in order to find the minimum. What are the dimensions of the enclosure that has the smallest length of fence?

## 2.2, 2.3 Algebra of Functions, Composition

When we have two functions there are various ways to combine them.

**Example.** Let 
$$f(x) = \frac{1}{x-2}$$
 and  $g(x) = \sqrt{x+4}$ .

We can define new functions f + g, f - g,  $f \cdot g$ ,  $\frac{f}{g}$ .

$$(f+g)(6) = (f-g)(6) =$$

$$(f \cdot g)(6) = \frac{f}{g}(6) =$$

Or, in general:

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

$$(f \cdot g)(x) = \frac{f}{g}(x) =$$

Domain of functions  $f+g,\,f-g,\,f\cdot g$  is the intersection of domains of f and g.

Find the domains of  $f+g,\,f-g,\,f\cdot g$  in this example.

Domain of  $\frac{f}{g}$  is the intersection of domains of f and g, with any x-values for which g(x)=0 excluded.

Find the domain of  $\frac{f}{g}$  in this example.

## Composition of functions

**Example.** A car is moving east from an intersection at 35mph. Express the distance of the car to a point P that is 1 mile north of the intersection as a function of time t.

**Example.** Let  $f(x) = \frac{1}{x-2}$  and  $g(x) = \sqrt{x+4}$ .

$$1 \stackrel{g}{\longmapsto} \qquad \stackrel{f}{\longmapsto}$$

$$-2 \stackrel{g}{\longmapsto} \qquad \stackrel{f}{\longmapsto}$$

$$x \stackrel{g}{\longmapsto} \qquad \stackrel{f}{\longmapsto}$$

We got a new function f(g(x)), denoted  $(f \circ g)(x)$ , called the composite of functions f and g.

**Example.** Find the composites of the functions below.

$$f(x) = x^2 - 3x + 5$$

$$g(x) = \frac{1}{x}$$

$$h(x) = \sqrt{2x - 7}$$

$$(f \circ g)(x) =$$

$$(g \circ f)(x) =$$

$$(h \circ g)(x) =$$

$$(h \circ h)(x) =$$

$$(g \circ g)(x) =$$

$$(h \circ f)(x) =$$

**Example.** Consider the functions below and find **two** different solutions to the following problem: find functions f and g so that f(g(x)) is the given function.

$$\sqrt{x^2 - x + 6}$$

$$g(x) =$$

$$g(x) =$$

$$f(x) =$$

$$f(x) =$$

$$\sqrt{x+3} + 12$$

$$g(x) =$$

$$g(x) =$$

$$f(x) =$$

$$f(x) =$$

$$\frac{6}{2x+3}$$

$$g(x) =$$

$$g(x) =$$

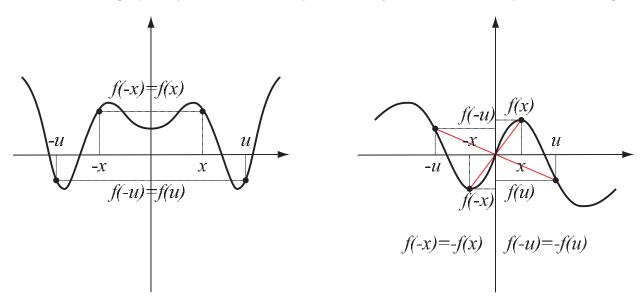
$$f(x) =$$

$$f(x) =$$

2.4 Even and Odd Functions

Graphs of functions can be symmetric with respect to the y-axis and with respect to the origin. Note they cannot be symmetric with respect to the x axis, because they would fail the vertical line test.

Consider these graphs, symmetric with respect to the y-axis and with respect to the origin.



Definition.

A function f is even if f(-x) = f(x) (symmetric with respect to the y-axis). A function f is odd if f(-x) = -f(x) (symmetric with respect to the origin).

**Example.** For the following functions:

- a) determine algebraically whether they are odd, even, or neither
- b) use the calculator to draw their graphs here and verify your conclusions by stating symmetry.

$$f(x) = x^4 - 3x^2$$

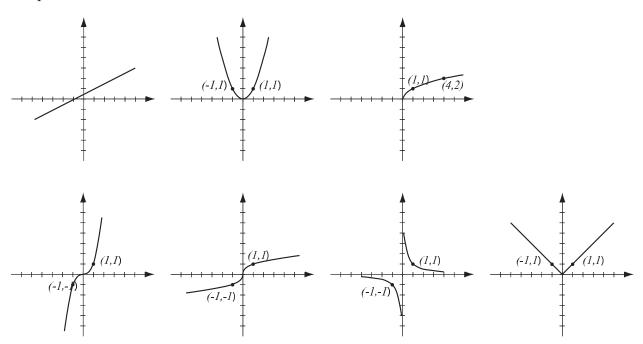
$$f(x) = x^4 - 3x^2$$
  $g(x) = x^5 - 3x^2 + x$   $h(x) = x^5 - 5x^3 + 4x$ 

$$h(x) = x^5 - 5x^3 + 4x$$

g, h have form f(x) + b g, h have form f(x + d)

 $\frac{2.5~\mathrm{Transformations}}{\mathrm{of~Graphs}}$ 

Graphs of basic functions:



In each of the examples below, use your calculator to help you draw the graphs of the functions f, g, and h on paper (all three on one coordinate system). Explain how the three graphs are related, in other words, how to get the graphs of g and h from the graph of f?

# Example Example Example $f(x) = x^2$ $f(x) = x^3$ $f(x) = x^3 - 7x^2 + 10x$ $g(x) = x^2 + 3 = f(x) + 3$ $g(x) = (x+5)^3 = f(x+5)$ $g(x) = -(x^3 - 7x^2 + 10x) = -f(x)$ $h(x) = x^2 - 1 = f(x) - 1$ $h(x) = (x-2)^3 = f(x-2)$ $h(x) = (-x)^3 - 7(-x)^2 + 10(-x) = f(-x)$

In each of the examples below, use your calculator to help you draw the graphs of the functions f, g, and h on paper (all three on one coordinate system). Pay special attention to x- and y-intercepts and local minima. Explain how the three graphs are related, in other words, how to get the graphs of g and h from the graph of f?

## Example

$$f(x) = x^{2} - 2x - 3$$

$$g(x) = 2(x^{2} - 2x - 3) = 2f(x)$$

$$h(x) = \frac{1}{2}(x^{2} - 2x - 3) = \frac{1}{2}f(x)$$

$$g, h \text{ have form } af(x)$$

## Example

$$f(x) = x^{2} - 2x - 3$$

$$g(x) = (2x)^{2} - 2(2x) - 3 = f(2x)$$

$$h(x) = (\frac{1}{2}x)^{2} - 2(\frac{1}{2}x) - 3 = f(\frac{1}{2}x)$$

$$g, h \text{ have form } f(cx)$$

Fill in the following table with your findings from the examples on this sheet.

To get graph of	Do this to graph of $f$	How coordinates on graph change
y = f(x) + b		
y = f(x+d)		
y = -f(x)		
y = f(-x)		
y = af(x),  a > 0		
y = f(cx), c > 0		