

# Understanding Function Notation:

functions within expressions or with expressions within the function

↕ opening and closing delimiters for argument

$f(x) = 2x^2 - 1$  ← formula defining rule of function

↑ dummy variable standing for input  
 ↑ name of function

"enter x, square it, double result, subtract 1"  
 $f(t) = 2t^2 - 1$  just as good

value of functions on input x

unwritten parentheses are understood to surround the input variable in the function within its formula, and to surround the function expression itself if it occurs inside a larger formula:

$(f(x)) = (2(x)^2 - 1)$

[parentheses control the order of operations in mathematical expressions]

to make sure operations are applied correctly to arguments which are themselves expressions

to make sure operations are applied correctly to this expression when inside a larger expression

$f(x) = 2(x)^2 - 1$

add to value of function  
 ↓

$f(x+1) = 2(x+1)^2 - 1$  ← add to argument of function

$f(x) + 1 = (2(x)^2 - 1) + 1$

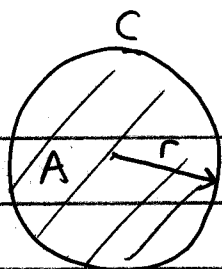
$f(x+1) - f(x) = (2(x+1)^2 - 1) - (2(x)^2 - 1)$

what is "inside" and "outside" of the original function delimiters cannot be combined by any rule of algebra:

$\frac{1}{2} f(2x) \neq f(x)$

$f(x+1) - 1 \neq f(x)$

# FUNCTIONAL RELATIONSHIPS



On the circle the 3 variables  $r$  (radius),  $C$  (circumference), and  $A$  (area) are all related to each other — each can be expressed in terms of either of the other two variables — only one is "independent."

$$\begin{aligned} C = 2\pi r &\rightarrow r = C/2\pi \rightarrow A = \pi \left(\frac{C}{2\pi}\right)^2 = \frac{C^2}{4\pi} \\ A = \pi r^2 &\rightarrow r = \sqrt{A/\pi} \rightarrow C = \sqrt{2\pi} \sqrt{A/\pi} = 2\sqrt{\pi A} \end{aligned}$$

$r \geq 0, C \geq 0, A \geq 0$   
physical dimensions

**Summary**

$$\begin{aligned} A &= \underbrace{\pi r^2}_{f(r)} = \underbrace{\frac{C^2}{4\pi}}_{h(C)} \\ C &= \underbrace{2\pi r}_{g(r)} = \underbrace{2\sqrt{\pi A}}_{k(A)} \\ r &= \underbrace{\frac{C}{2\pi}}_{j(C)} = \underbrace{\sqrt{\frac{A}{\pi}}}_{l(A)} \end{aligned}$$

inverse function pairs

$$\begin{aligned} f(x) &= \pi x^2 \\ g(x) &= 2\pi x \\ h(x) &= \frac{x^2}{4\pi} \\ j(x) &= \frac{x}{2\pi} \\ k(x) &= 2\sqrt{\pi x} \\ l(x) &= \sqrt{\frac{x}{\pi}} \end{aligned}$$

conclusions:

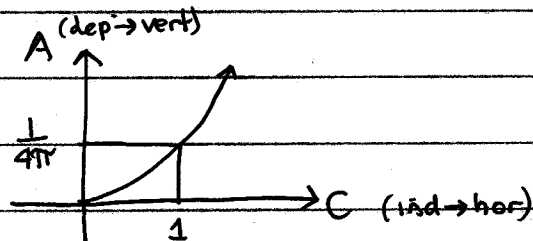
$$\begin{aligned} A &= f(r) & C &= g(r) & A &= h(C) \\ r &= l(A) & r &= j(C) & C &= k(A) \end{aligned}$$

$\therefore f$  and  $l$  are inverses     $\therefore g$  and  $j$  are inverses     $\therefore h$  and  $k$  are inverses

6 different functions describe the relationships among these 3 variables.

parametrized curve interpretation (eliminate  $r$ )

ind.  $C = 2\pi r \rightarrow r = C/2\pi$   
dep.  $A = \pi r^2 \rightarrow A = \pi \left(\frac{C}{2\pi}\right)^2 = \frac{C^2}{4\pi}$



or

ind.  $A = \pi r^2 \rightarrow r = \sqrt{A/\pi}$   
dep.  $C = 2\pi r \rightarrow C = 2\sqrt{\pi A}$   
 $C^2 = 4\pi A, C = \sqrt{4\pi A} = 2\sqrt{\pi A}$

