

# Inverse functions

## Functions

- vertical line test
- each  $x$  value produces only one  $y$  value

## One to one functions

- $f(x)$  is *one to one* if  $f(a) \neq f(b)$  if  $a, b \in \text{dom}(f)$  and  $a \neq b$
- i.e. unique  $y$  for each  $x$  ( $\sin x$  is not 1:1,  $x^3$  is)
- horizontal line test
- if not one to one, it is many to one

## Inverse functions $f^{-1}$

- if  $f(g(x)) = x$ , then  $g$  is the inverse of  $f$
- reflection across  $y = x$
- $\text{ran } f = \text{dom } f^{-1}$ ,  $\text{dom } f = \text{ran } f^{-1}$
- inverse  $\neq$  inverse *function* (i.e. inverse must pass vertical line test)
- $- \implies f^{-1}(x)$  exists  $\iff f(x)$  is one to one
- $f^{-1}(x) = f(x)$  intersections may lie on line  $y = x$

Requirements for showing working for  $f^{-1}$ :

- start with “let  $y = f(x)$ ”
- must state “take inverse” for line where  $y$  and  $x$  are swapped
- do all working in terms of  $y = \dots$
- for square root, state  $\pm$  solutions then show restricted
- for inverse *function*, state in function notation