

# Equations in One Variable I

An *equation in one variable* is an equation of the form  $f(x) = g(x)$  where  $f(x)$  and  $g(x)$  are functions.

## Examples.

- $x^2 - 3x + 2 = \log_e(x)$  is an equation in one variable. Both  $x^2 - 3x + 2$  and  $\log_e(x)$  are functions.
- $x - 3 = 2$  is an equation in one variable. Both  $x - 3$  and  $2$  are functions. The latter is a constant function.
- $\sqrt{x} = 15x - 4$  is an equation in one variable.
- $\frac{x^2+7}{x-1} + 27x - 3 = e^{x^3-18}$  is an equation in one variable.

All of the examples above are *equations*, because they are mathematical formulas that use an equal sign. They are *in one variable*, because there is a single variable used in each equation. In all of the examples above,  $x$  is the only variable. We'll continue to use  $x$  as the only variable for a while, but keep in mind that it's just a variable, and that we could use any variable instead. For example, there really isn't any difference between the equation  $x - 3 = 2$  and the equation  $w - 3 = 2$ . The only difference is the name that we gave the variable,  $x$  or  $w$ , but otherwise the equations are the same.

## Domain of an equation

If  $f(x) = g(x)$  is an equation in one variable, then the *implied domain* of the equation is the set of all real numbers that are in both the implied domain of  $f$  and the implied domain of  $g$ .

## Examples.

- The implied domain of the equation  $x^3 - 2x + 1 = 3x - 9$  is  $\mathbb{R}$ . That's because  $x^3 - 2x + 1$  and  $3x - 9$  are each polynomials, so they each have  $\mathbb{R}$  as their implied domains.
- The equation  $\sqrt{x} = 4$  has an implied domain of  $[0, \infty)$ . That's because  $\sqrt{x}$  has an implied domain of  $[0, \infty)$ , while the constant function  $4$  has an implied domain of  $\mathbb{R}$ . Therefore, the implied domain of  $\sqrt{x} = 4$  is the

set of all real numbers that are in the set  $[0, \infty)$  and in the set  $\mathbb{R}$ , or in other words, the implied domain of  $\sqrt{x} = 4$  is the set  $[0, \infty)$ .

- The implied domain of the equation  $\log_e(x) + \log_e(x - 2) = 1$  is  $(2, \infty)$ . The implied domain of the constant function 1 is  $\mathbb{R}$ . The implied domain of  $\log_e(x) + \log_e(x - 2)$  is a little more tricky. We can only take the logarithm of a positive number. That means that we want  $x > 0$  and that we want  $x - 2 > 0$ , or equivalently, that  $x > 2$ . Of course asking that  $x > 0$  and  $x > 2$  is the same as just asking that  $x > 2$ , so the implied domain for the function  $\log_e(x) + \log_e(x - 2)$  is  $(2, \infty)$ .

- The implied domain of the equation  $\sqrt{x} = \frac{3x}{x-5}$  is  $[0, \infty) - \{5\}$ . We can only take the square-root of a number if it is greater than or equal to 0, so  $x \geq 0$ . We can never divide by 0, so  $x - 5 \neq 0$ , or equivalently  $x \neq 5$ . The set of all real numbers  $x$  with  $x \geq 0$  and  $x \neq 5$  is the set  $[0, \infty) - \{5\}$ .

- $[3, 5)$  is the implied domain of the equation  $\log_e(5 - x) = \sqrt{x - 3}$ . We can only take the logarithm of a number if it is positive, so  $5 - x > 0$ , or equivalently,  $5 > x$ . We can only take the square-root of a number if it is greater than or equal to 0, so  $x - 3 \geq 0$ , or equivalently,  $x \geq 3$ . The set of all real numbers  $x$  with  $5 > x$  and  $x \geq 3$  is exactly  $[3, 5)$ .

Sometimes, you will be given an explicit domain for an equation. For example, you might be asked to examine the equation  $x^2 - 3x + 1 = e^x$  for  $x \in [0, 10]$ . This means that the domain of the equation is the restricted domain  $[0, 10]$ . The domain is restricted, because the implied domain of the equation  $x^2 - 3x + 1 = e^x$  would have been  $\mathbb{R}$  if we hadn't been told otherwise, but we have been told otherwise. We are told here that the domain of the equation is just the set  $[0, 10]$ .

## Solutions of equations

If someone writes an equation such as  $3x - 2 = 4$ , they are not saying that  $3x - 2$  is the same function as the constant function 4. They are clearly not the same function. One is a constant function and the other one isn't. Rather, they are asking you to find the set of all numbers that can be substituted in for  $x$  to make the equation true. For example, we can substitute 2 in the place of  $x$  and we'd be left with the equation  $3(2) - 2 = 4$ , which is true, as you can check. The equation usually won't be true for every number that you substitute for  $x$  as we can see by substituting the number 0 in the place of  $x$ .

That would leave us with  $3(0) - 2 = 4$ , which is clearly false. The numbers that can be substituted for  $x$  to make an equation true are called *solutions* of the equation.

If  $f(x) = g(x)$  is an equation in one variable, and if the equation has the set  $D$  as its domain, then the set of solutions of  $f(x) = g(x)$  is the set

$$S = \{ \alpha \in D \mid f(\alpha) = g(\alpha) \}$$

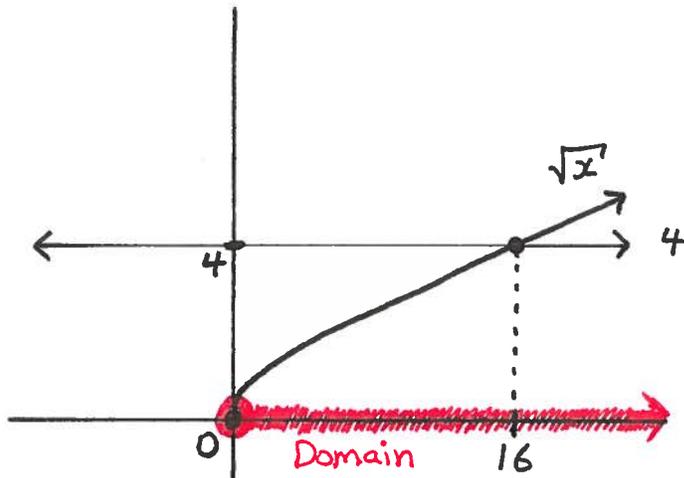
Returning to the example above, if  $S$  is the set of solutions of the equation  $3x - 2 = 4$ , then  $2 \in S$ , but  $0 \notin S$ . We'd speak this as 2 is a solution of  $3x - 2 = 4$ , but that 0 is not a solution of  $3x - 2 = 4$ .

### Examples.

- Suppose that  $S$  is the set of solutions of the equation  $\sqrt{x} = 4$ . We saw above that this equation has a domain of  $[0, \infty)$ , so

$$S = \{ \alpha \in [0, \infty) \mid \sqrt{\alpha} = 4 \}$$

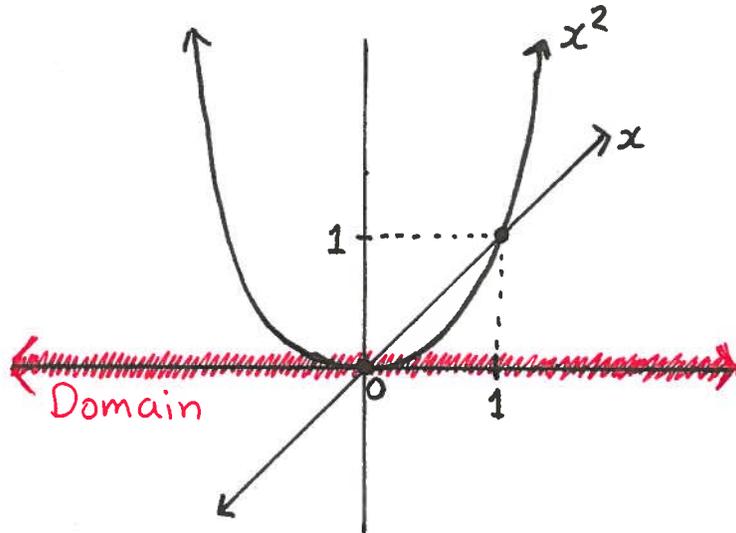
We see that  $16 \in S$ , since  $16 \in [0, \infty)$  and  $\sqrt{16} = 4$ . However,  $-10 \notin S$  since  $-10 \notin [0, \infty)$ , and  $25 \notin S$ , since  $\sqrt{25} \neq 4$ .



- Now suppose that  $S$  is the set of the solutions for the equation  $x^2 = x$ . Both  $x^2$  and  $x$  are polynomials, so the domain of the equation is  $\mathbb{R}$  and

$$S = \{ \alpha \in \mathbb{R} \mid \alpha^2 = \alpha \}$$

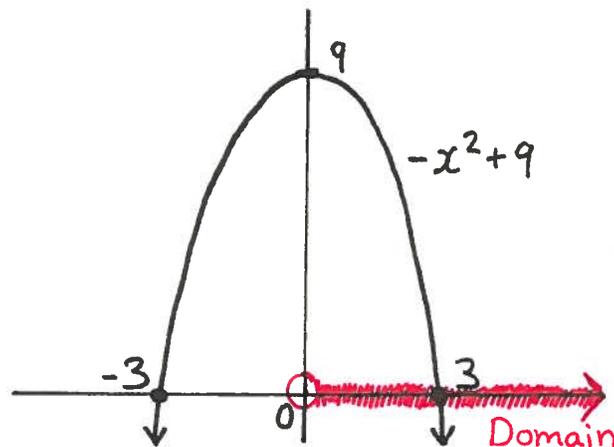
Then  $0, 1 \in S$  because 0 and 1 are both real numbers and  $0^2 = 0$  and  $1^2 = 1$ . However,  $3 \notin S$  because  $3^2 \neq 3$ .



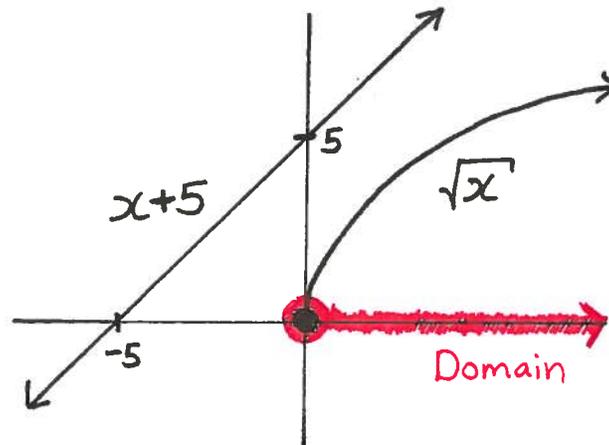
• Let's look at an equation with a restricted domain. Let's look at the equation  $-x^2 + 9 = 0$  for  $x \in (0, \infty)$ . We are told here that the domain is  $(0, \infty)$ , which means that we are only interested in finding solutions to the equation if those solutions are positive numbers. That is, if  $S$  is the set of solutions, then

$$S = \{ \alpha \in (0, \infty) \mid -\alpha^2 + 9 = 0 \}$$

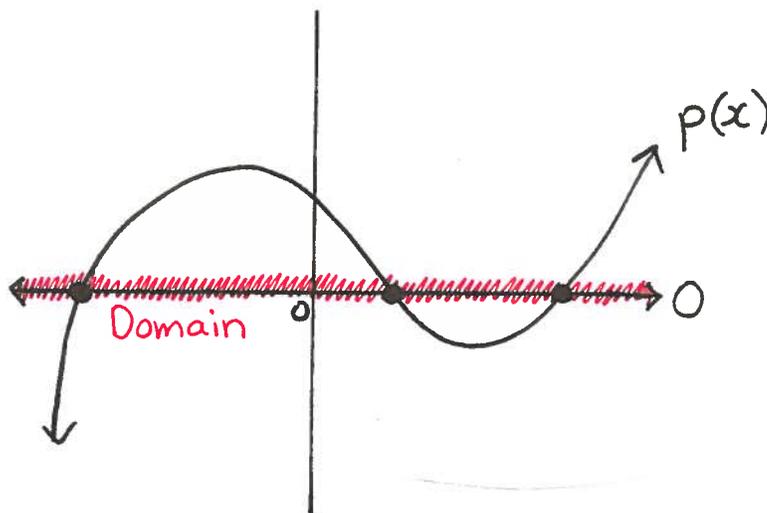
Notice that  $S$  is the set of all positive numbers that are also roots of the quadratic polynomial  $-x^2 + 9 = 0$ . We know how to find roots of quadratic polynomials, and the roots of  $-x^2 + 9$  are  $-3$  and  $3$ . Of these two roots, only  $3$  is in the domain of the equation. That is, only  $3$  is positive. Therefore,  $S = \{3\}$ .



- The equation  $\sqrt{x} = x + 5$  has an implied domain of  $[0, \infty)$ , since we can't take the square-root of a negative number. We can see below that the graphs of  $\sqrt{x}$  and  $x + 5$  do not intersect. That means there isn't a number  $\alpha$  with  $\sqrt{\alpha} = \alpha + 5$ . That is to say, there aren't any solutions of the equation  $\sqrt{x} = x + 5$ . The set of solutions is  $\emptyset$ .



- An important general example is if  $p(x)$  is a polynomial and our equation is  $p(x) = 0$ . Then the set of solutions for this equation is exactly the set of roots of the polynomial  $p(x)$ . We know how to find roots of any linear and quadratic polynomial, but it is extremely difficult to find roots of most polynomials. A polynomial equation  $p(x) = 0$  is about as nice of an equation as we can hope to have, and even finding its solutions can be a nearly impossible task.



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In the remainder of this chapter, we'll cover a few basic rules of algebra that can be used to help us find solutions of equations. We'll learn when equations are equivalent — either by addition, multiplication, or invertible functions — and we'll see that equivalent equations have the same solutions. That will allow us to find solutions of equations by creating a sequence of equivalent equations that terminates in an equation that's easy for us to solve.

## Equations equivalent by addition

In the definition below,  $D$  is a set of real numbers. That is,  $D \subseteq \mathbb{R}$ .

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The equation

$$f(x) + h(x) = g(x) \quad \text{with domain } D$$

is *equivalent* to the equation

$$f(x) = g(x) - h(x) \quad \text{with domain } D$$

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### Examples.

- The equation  $x^2 + 3x = e^x$  with domain  $\mathbb{R}$  is equivalent to the equation  $x^2 = e^x - 3x$  with domain  $\mathbb{R}$ . Here we are just using the rule above with  $f(x) = x^2$ ,  $h(x) = 3x$ , and  $g(x) = e^x$ .

- The domains of two equivalent equations must be the same. The equation  $x^2 + 3x = e^x$  with the restricted domain  $(0, \infty)$  is equivalent to the equation  $x^2 = e^x - 3x$  with the restricted domain  $(0, \infty)$ .

- To repeat, the domains of two equivalent equations are equal. The equation  $x^2 + 3x = e^x$  with domain  $[-3, 10]$  is equivalent to the equation  $x^2 = e^x - 3x$  with domain  $[-3, 10]$ . Compare this example to the previous two examples. Equivalent equations have the same domain.

- $x^2 - \log_e(x) = 0$  is equivalent to  $x^2 = \log_e(x)$ . To see this, just subtract  $-\log_e(x)$  (or add  $\log_e(x)$ ) to both sides of the equation  $x^2 - \log_e(x) = 0$ . Both

equations in this example have an implied domain of  $(0, \infty)$ , because we can only take the logarithm of a positive number.

- Whenever you add or subtract a function from both sides of an equation, you'll obtain an equivalent equation. Thus,  $7x^3 - 5 = x^2 + 2x$  is equivalent to  $7x^3 - x^2 - 2x - 5 = 0$ . Just subtract  $x^2 + 2x$  from both sides of  $7x^3 - 5 = x^2 + 2x$ .

- $\sqrt{3x} = 2x^2$  is equivalent to  $\sqrt{3x} + x - 2 = 2x^2 + x - 2$ . Just add  $x - 2$  to both sides of  $\sqrt{3x} = 2x^2$ .

The importance of equivalent equations is that they have the same sets of solutions.

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Equivalent equations  
have the same sets of solutions.

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### Examples.

- The equations  $x^2 = -x + 5$  and  $x^2 + x - 5 = 0$  are equivalent. To get the second equation from the first, just add the function  $x - 5$ .

Because these two equations are equivalent, they have the same set of solutions. We know how to find the solutions of  $x^2 + x - 5 = 0$ . These are just the roots of the quadratic polynomial  $x^2 + x - 5$ , which are  $\frac{1}{2}(-1 - \sqrt{21})$  and  $\frac{1}{2}(-1 + \sqrt{21})$ . In other words, the set of solutions of the equation  $x^2 + x - 5 = 0$  is the set  $\{\frac{1}{2}(-1 - \sqrt{21}), \frac{1}{2}(-1 + \sqrt{21})\}$ . Therefore, the set of solutions of  $x^2 = -x + 5$  is also  $\{\frac{1}{2}(-1 - \sqrt{21}), \frac{1}{2}(-1 + \sqrt{21})\}$ .

- To find the set of solutions of  $x^2 + x - 4 = x^2$ , just subtract  $x^2$  from both sides of the equation. We'll be left with the equivalent equation  $x - 4 = 0$ . The set of solutions of this latter equation is  $\{4\}$ . Because the two equations in this example are equivalent, the set of solutions of  $x^2 + x - 4 = x^2$  is also  $\{4\}$ .

- To find the solutions of  $\sqrt{x} - x = 5$ , we can add the function  $x$  to both sides of the equation and we'd be left with the equivalent equation  $\sqrt{x} = x + 5$ . We saw earlier in this chapter that  $\sqrt{x} = x + 5$  has no solutions. Therefore,  $\sqrt{x} - x = 5$  has no solutions.

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## Equations equivalent by multiplication

We say that the number  $\alpha \in \mathbb{R}$  is a *zero* of the function  $h(x)$  if  $h(\alpha) = 0$ .

### Examples.

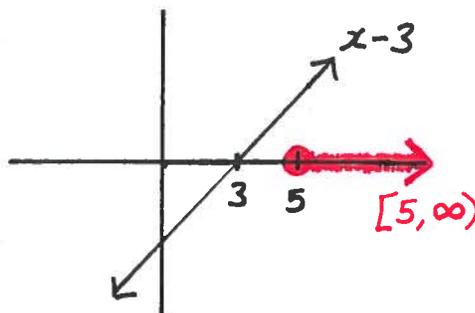
- 2 is a zero of  $h(x) = x^2 - 4$  because  $h(2) = 2^2 - 4 = 0$ . The number  $-2$  is also a zero of  $h(x) = x^2 - 4$ .
- 3 is a zero of  $h(x) = x - 3$  since  $h(3) = 3 - 3 = 0$ .
- In the previous two examples,  $h(x)$  was a polynomial. If  $h(x)$  is a polynomial then we usually call a zero of  $h(x)$  a *root* of  $h(x)$  instead. It's just a different name for the same thing.
- 5 is a zero of  $\sqrt{x - 5}$  because  $\sqrt{5 - 5} = \sqrt{0} = 0$ .
- 1 is a zero of  $\log_e(x)$ .
- 4 is *not* a zero of  $2x - 5$  because  $2(4) - 5 = 8 - 5 = 3 \neq 0$ .

We say that  $h(x)$  has *no zeros in* a set  $D \subseteq \mathbb{R}$  if none of the numbers in  $D$  is a zero for  $h(x)$ .

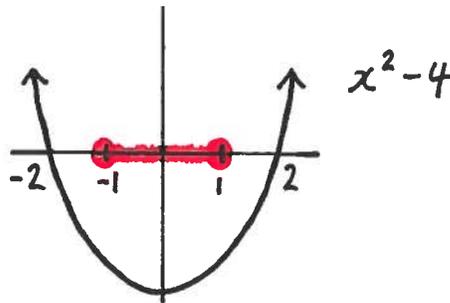
### Examples.

• The linear polynomial  $h(x) = x - 3$  has no zeros in  $[5, \infty)$ . That's because if  $\alpha \in [5, \infty)$ , then  $\alpha \geq 5$ . Therefore,  $h(\alpha) = \alpha - 3 \geq 5 - 3 = 2$ , and if  $h(\alpha) \geq 2$ , then  $h(\alpha) \neq 0$ . That is,  $\alpha$  is not a zero of  $h(x)$  if  $\alpha \in [5, \infty)$ .

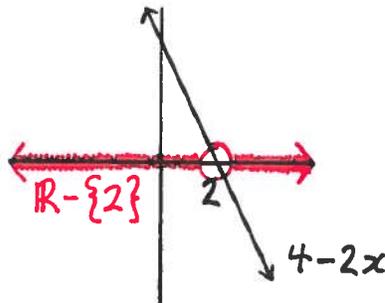
The function  $h(x) = x - 3$  does have a zero. It's 3. But  $h(x)$  has no zeros in  $[5, \infty)$ .



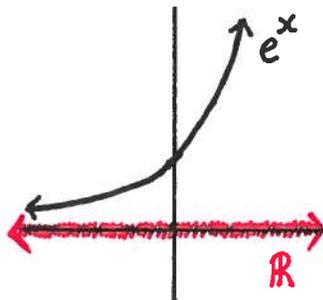
- The function  $h(x) = x^2 - 4$  has two zeros, 2 and  $-2$ . Neither of these zeros are in the set  $[-1, 1]$ , so  $h(x) = x^2 - 4$  has no zeros in  $[-1, 1]$ .



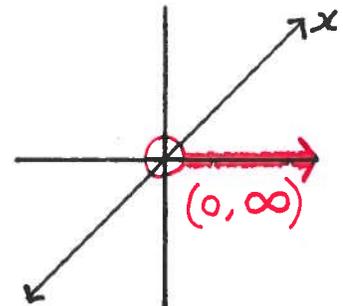
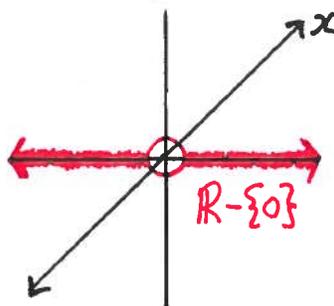
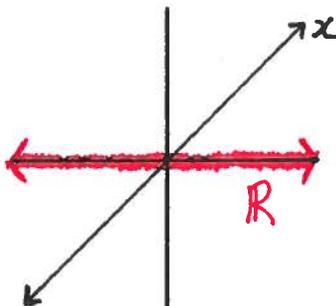
- $4 - 2x$  has exactly one zero, the number 2. Because 2 is the only zero,  $4 - 2x$  has no zeros in  $\mathbb{R} - \{2\}$ .



- $e^x$  has no zeros. It has no zeros in  $\mathbb{R}$ .



- $x$  is a function. It's the identity function. It only has one zero, the number 0 itself. Thus,  $x$  has a zero in  $\mathbb{R}$ , but it has no zeros in  $\mathbb{R} - \{0\}$ . Neither does it have zeros in  $(0, \infty)$ , for example.



In the definition below,  $D$  is a subset of real numbers.

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The equation

$$h(x)f(x) = g(x) \quad \text{with domain } D$$

is *equivalent* to the equation

$$f(x) = \frac{g(x)}{h(x)} \quad \text{with domain } D$$

as long as  $h(x)$  has no zeros in  $D$ .

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The definition above tells us that we can multiply or divide both sides of an equation by a function—as long as the function has no zeros in the domain—and obtain an equivalent equation.

### Examples.

- If  $h(x)$  is a constant function, and not the constant 0, then it has no zeros. Therefore, we can always divide both sides of an equation by  $h(x)$  to obtain an equivalent equation. Thus,  $3x = x^4 + 1$  is equivalent to  $x = \frac{x^4+1}{3}$ . The equation  $2\sqrt{x} = 8$  is equivalent to  $\sqrt{x} = 4$ .

- If we multiply both sides of an equation by a constant that's not zero then we'll also obtain an equivalent equation.  $\frac{x}{4} = \log_5(x)$  is equivalent to  $x = 4 \log_5(x)$ .  $\frac{1}{3}\sqrt{x} = 4$  is equivalent to  $\sqrt{x} = 12$ .

- The equation  $x \log_e(x) = x$  has a domain of  $(0, \infty)$ . Because the function  $x$  has no zeros in  $(0, \infty)$ , we can divide both sides of the equation  $x \log_e(x) = x$  by  $x$  to obtain the equivalent equation  $\log_e(x) = 1$ .

- This is an example of something that can't be done. If you have the equation  $x^2 = x$ , then you might be inclined to divide by  $x$ , similar to the previous example. We can't do that here though. The implied domain of the equation  $x^2 = x$  is  $\mathbb{R}$ , and  $x$  has a zero in  $\mathbb{R}$ . It has the number 0 as its zero.

The two equations  $x^2 = x$  and  $x = 1$  (which is what we would get by dividing  $x^2 = x$  by  $x$ ) are very different equations. The former has two solutions, 0 and 1, while the latter has a single solution, 1.

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Equivalent equations  
have the same solutions.

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### Examples.

• The equation  $2\sqrt{x} = 8$  is equivalent by multiplication to  $\sqrt{x} = 4$ . We know the set of solutions of  $\sqrt{x} = 4$  is  $\{2\}$ , so  $2\sqrt{x} = 8$  also has 2 as its only solution.

• The equation  $x \log_e(x) = x$  is equivalent to  $\log_e(x) = 1$ . The only solution of  $\log_e(x) = 1$  is the number  $e$ . Therefore,  $e$  is the only solution of the equation  $x \log_e(x) = x$ .

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### Equations equivalent by invertible function

Once again, in the definition below  $D \subseteq \mathbb{R}$ .

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The equation

$$h(f(x)) = g(x) \quad \text{with domain } D$$

is *equivalent* to the equation

$$f(x) = h^{-1}(g(x)) \quad \text{with domain } D$$

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The above definition says that we can erase a function,  $h$ , on one side of an equation if we apply its inverse,  $h^{-1}$  to the other side of the equation. Both equations have to have the same domain. Equivalent equations always have the same domain.

## Examples.

•  $\log_e(x) = 5$  has an implied domain of  $(0, \infty)$ , because we can only take the logarithm of a positive number. We could erase logarithm base  $e$  on the left side of  $\log_e(x) = 5$  by applying its inverse, exponential base  $e$  to the right side. We'd be left with the equation  $x = e^5$  with the same domain that we started with, the set  $(0, \infty)$ . These two equations,  $\log_e(x) = 5$  and  $x = e^5$ , with the same domain,  $(0, \infty)$ , are equivalent.

Equivalent equations always have the same domain.

• The functions  $\sqrt[3]{x}$  and  $x^3$  are inverse functions. Therefore,  $\sqrt[3]{x-2} = 7$  is equivalent to  $x-2 = 7^3$ . (Both equations have a domain of  $\mathbb{R}$  because we can cube or cube-root any number.) We erased the cube root from the left side of  $\sqrt[3]{x-2} = 7$  by applying its inverse to the right side.

Again, what's important about equivalent equations is the following fact:

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Equivalent equations  
have the same solutions

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## Example.

• We'll continue from the previous example. If we have the equation  $\sqrt[3]{x-2} = 7$ , then we know it's equivalent to the equation  $x-2 = 7^3$ . Now  $7^3 = 343$ , so the previous equation is  $x-2 = 343$ . The only solution of this equation is  $x = 343 + 2 = 345$ .

Because  $\sqrt[3]{x-2} = 7$  and  $x-2 = 343$  are equivalent, they have the same solutions. Therefore, 345 is the only solution of  $\sqrt[3]{x-2} = 7$ .

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## Finding solutions of equations

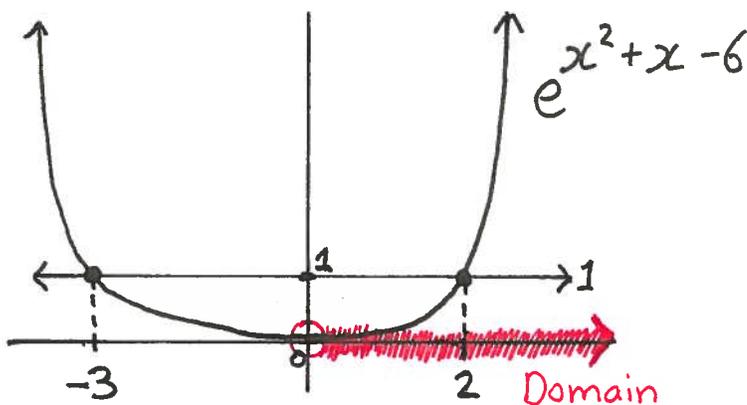
To find the solutions of an equation  $f(x) = g(x)$ , first write down its domain  $D$ . Next, find a sequence of equivalent equations, either equivalent by addition, or by multiplication, or by invertible function. The goal is to have the last equation in this sequence have a set of solutions that is easy to

find. It might be really easy, such as in the equation  $x = 2$ , or it might be somewhat easy to find, as in the equation  $x^2 + 2x - 5 = 0$ , where you can apply the quadratic formula to the quadratic polynomial  $x^2 + 2x - 5$ . Whatever easy equation you are left with, find its set of solutions  $S$ , but remember to only include in the set  $S$  those solutions that are in the domain  $D$  of your original equation. Because equivalent equations have the same set of solutions,  $S$  will be the set of solutions of your original equation  $f(x) = g(x)$ .

### Examples.

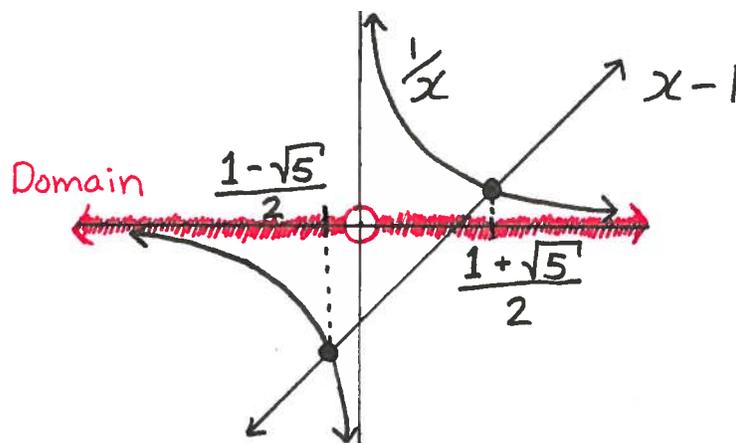
- Let's find the solutions of the equation  $e^{x^2+x-6} = 1$  where the domain of the equation is the set  $D = (0, \infty)$ . That means we are only interested in those solution of  $e^{x^2+x-6} = 1$  that are positive.

Using  $\log_e$ , the inverse function of exponential base  $e$ , the equation  $e^{x^2+x-6} = 1$  is equivalent to  $x^2 + x - 6 = \log_e(1)$ , which is the equation  $x^2 + x - 6 = 0$ . To find the solutions of this quadratic equation, we use the quadratic formula to find the roots of the quadratic polynomial  $x^2 + x - 6$ . In doing so, we would find that the solutions of  $x^2 + x - 6 = 0$  are  $-3$  and  $2$ . However, the domain of our original equation is  $(0, \infty)$ , and  $-3 \notin (0, \infty)$ . Therefore, the only relevant solution for us is  $2$ , because  $2 \in (0, \infty)$ . That means that  $S = \{2\}$  is the set of solutions for our original equation  $e^{x^2+x-6} = 1$  with a domain of  $(0, \infty)$ .



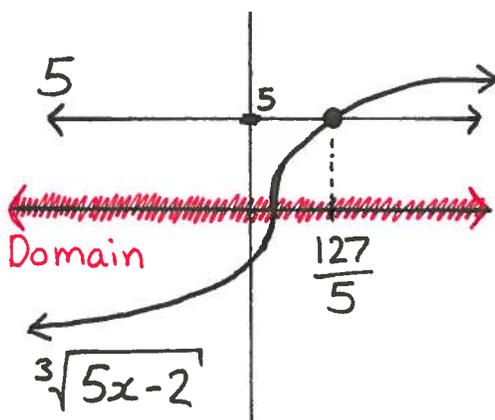
- Let's find the solutions of  $x - 1 = \frac{1}{x}$ . If we aren't told what the domain of the equation is, then we have to find its implied domain. For this equation, the implied domain is  $\mathbb{R} - \{0\}$ , because we can't divide by 0. That means that we should only search for solutions of the equation that aren't zero.

We can multiply by the function  $x$  to obtain the equivalent equation  $x^2 - x = 1$ . We can add  $-1$  to obtain the equivalent equation  $x^2 - x - 1 = 0$ . The quadratic formula tells us that the solutions to this quadratic equation are  $\frac{1}{2}(1 - \sqrt{5})$  and  $\frac{1}{2}(1 + \sqrt{5})$ . Neither of these numbers are 0, so they are both in the domain of our original equation, and they are both solutions of our original equation,  $x - 1 = \frac{1}{x}$ . They are the only solutions of  $x - 1 = \frac{1}{x}$ .

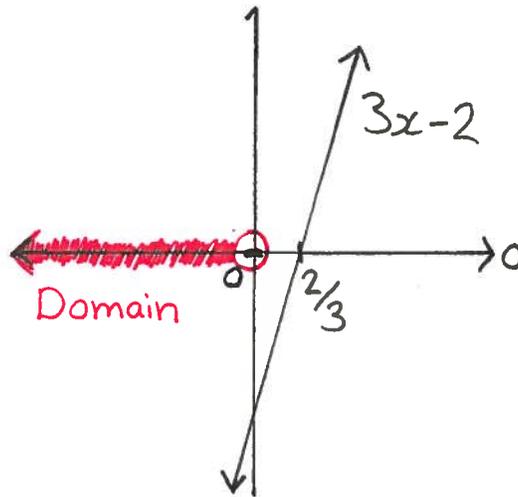


- The equation  $\sqrt[3]{5x - 2} = 5$  has an implied domain of  $\mathbb{R}$ . We can obtain the equivalent equation  $5x - 2 = 5^3 = 125$  by erasing the cube-root from the left and applying the cube to the right. Now we can add 2 to obtain  $5x = 127$ , and divide by 5 to have  $x = \frac{127}{5}$ .

Of course  $\frac{127}{5}$  is in the domain of our original function, since  $\frac{127}{5}$  is a real number. Therefore, the only solution of  $\sqrt[3]{5x - 2} = 5$  is  $\frac{127}{5}$ .



• The equation  $3x - 2 = 0$ , has a solution. It's  $\frac{2}{3}$ . However, if we are told to find the solutions of  $3x - 2 = 0$  with a domain of  $(-\infty, 0)$ , then there are no solutions. The set of solutions is  $\emptyset$ . That's because  $\frac{2}{3}$  isn't a negative number.



# Exercises

For #1-13, match the numbered equations on the left to their lettered implied domains on the right.

- |  |                           |
|--|---------------------------|
| 1.) $\log_e(x) - \log_e(x) = 4$            | A.) $\mathbb{R}$          |
| 2.) $x^2 - 45 = x^7 - 3x - 6$              | B.) $(0, \infty)$         |
| 3.) $e^{-7x^2-3x} = x^3$                   | C.) $[0, \infty)$         |
| 4.) $\frac{\sqrt{x}}{\sqrt{x}} = 3x - 2$   | D.) $[2, \infty)$         |
| 5.) $\log_e(x - 5) = 23x^9$                | E.) $[0, \infty) - \{2\}$ |
| 6.) $\sqrt[171]{3x - 5} = 2x + 3$          | F.) $(5, \infty)$         |
| 7.) $\frac{2x^2-7x+3}{x-5} = 3x + 4$       | G.) $\mathbb{R} - \{5\}$  |
| 8.) $\log_e(x + 7) = \sqrt{x - 2}$         |                           |
| 9.) $\sqrt[3]{x - 7} = 3x + 4$             |                           |
| 10.) $x^5 + \frac{7x+3}{x^2-4} = \sqrt{x}$ |                           |
| 11.) $\sqrt[20]{x - 2} = 3x + 6$           |                           |
| 12.) $3x - 4x^6 = x^3 - 13x + 56$          |                           |
| 13.) $\sqrt{x} = 3x^2 - 5$                 |                           |

For #14-19, match the numbered equations on the left to their lettered sets of solutions on the right.

14.)  $4x - 3 = 0$

A.)  $\{\frac{3}{4}\}$

15.)  $2x - 6 = 0$

B.)  $\{-1 - 2\sqrt{2}, -1 + 2\sqrt{2}\}$

16.)  $x + 4 = 0$

C.)  $\emptyset$

17.)  $x^2 - 2x + 3 = 0$

D.)  $\{-4\}$

18.)  $2x^2 - 12x + 18 = 0$

E.)  $\{3\}$

19.)  $-x^2 - 2x + 7 = 0$

For #20-24, match the numbered equations on the left to the lettered equations on the right that they are equivalent to by addition.

20.)  $x^2 + x = 3$

A.)  $5 = 3x + \sqrt{x} + 2$

21.)  $\log_e(x) + 2x - 3 = 0$

B.)  $2x^2 - 7x + 3 = 0$

22.)  $5 - \sqrt{x} = 3x + 2$

C.)  $x^2 + x - 3 = 0$

23.)  $3x^2 - 4x + 5 = x^2 + 3x + 2$

D.)  $-x^2 - 3x + 3 = 0$

24.)  $-x^2 - 4 = 3x - 7$

E.)  $2x - 3 = -\log_e(x)$

If you ever have an equation  $p(x) = q(x)$  where both  $p(x)$  and  $q(x)$  are polynomials, it's almost always best to begin by writing the equivalent equation  $p(x) - q(x) = 0$ , and then to search for solutions of  $p(x) - q(x) = 0$ . Use this method to find the solutions of the equations in problems #25-28.

25.)  $x^2 - 3x + 2 = 3x^2 + x - 4$

26.)  $x^3 + 3x - 2 = x^3 + x^2 + x + 1$

27.)  $x^2 - 2x + 3 = x^2 - x + 4$

28.)  $x - 2 = 3x^2 - 5x + 1$

For #29-35, match the numbered functions on the left with their lettered set of zeros on the right.

29.)  $x - 7$

A.)  $\{-1, 1\}$

30.)  $x + 5$

B.)  $\{0\}$

31.)  $x^2 - 1$

C.)  $\{-5\}$

32.)  $\log_e(x)$

D.)  $\{1\}$

33.)  $\sqrt{x}$

E.)  $\emptyset$

34.)  $x^2 + 1$

F.)  $\{7\}$

35.)  $x$

For each equation given in #36-40, decide whether dividing by the function  $x$  on both sides of the equation would result in an equivalent equation. For each of these, you'll want to check whether  $x$  has zeros in the implied domain of the given equation.

$$36.) 3x^2 - 5 = 2x + 8$$

$$37.) \log_e(x) = 3x - 5$$

$$38.) \frac{1}{x-7} = 3x$$

$$39.) \sqrt{-x} = 4x^3 - 5x$$

$$40.) x^2(x - 7) = x(x - 7)^2$$

For each equation given in #41-45, decide whether dividing by the function  $x - 7$  on both sides of the equation would result in an equivalent equation. For each of these, you'll want to check whether  $x - 7$  has zeros in the implied domain of the given equation.

$$41.) 3x^2 - 5 = 2x + 8$$

$$42.) \log_e(x) = 3x - 5$$

$$43.) \frac{1}{x-7} = 3x$$

$$44.) \sqrt{-x} = 4x^3 - 5x$$

$$45.) x^2(x - 7) = x(x - 7)^2$$

For #46-48, match the numbered equations on the left to the lettered equations on the right that they are equivalent to by multiplication.

$$46.) x^2 + x = 3$$

$$A.) \frac{5-\sqrt{x}}{x+2} = \frac{3x+2}{x+2}$$

$$47.) \log_e(x) = 2$$

$$B.) \frac{1}{x} \log_e(x) = \frac{2}{x}$$

$$48.) 5 - \sqrt{x} = 3x + 2$$

$$C.) e^x(x^2 + x) = 3e^x$$

For #49-52, match the numbered equations on the left to the lettered equations on the right that they are equivalent to by invertible function.

$$49.) e^{3x+5} = e^{2x-3}$$

$$A.) 3x + 5 = x^{\frac{2}{3}}$$

$$50.) \log_e(x^2 + 1) = 2$$

$$B.) x^2 - 3x + 1 = 8x^3$$

$$51.) (3x + 5)^3 = x^2$$

$$C.) 3x + 5 = 2x - 3$$

$$52.) \sqrt[3]{x^2 - 3x + 1} = 2x$$

$$D.) x^2 + 1 = e^2$$

Find the set of solutions of each of the equations given in #53-61.

$$53.) x^2 - 3 = x^2 + x$$

$$54.) \log_e(x^2) = 2 \text{ where } x \in [0, \infty)$$

$$55.) 4x^2 + 2x + 3 = 3x^2 + 2x + 2$$

$$56.) \sqrt[3]{4x + 2} = 4$$

$$57.) 3x^2 - 6 = x^2 - 4x \text{ with } x > 10$$

$$58.) e^{3x+3} = 1$$

$$59.) x^5(x^2 + 3x - 2) = 0 \text{ where } x < 0$$

$$60.) (\log_2(2x + 1))^3 = 8$$

$$61.) \frac{455}{x^2-9} = 5 \text{ where } x < 5$$