

Problems in Mathematics & Experiments with Mathematica

2. Elementary functions

2.10 Other transformations: $|f(x)|$, $\frac{1}{f(x)}$, $f\left(\frac{1}{x}\right)$

Theory

Formula	Transformation
$ f(x) $	The negative part ($y < 0$) is mirrored to the x - axis.
$\frac{1}{f(x)}$	Applies the reciprocal for the value of the function.
$f\left(\frac{1}{x}\right)$	Exchanges the definition on $(0, 1)$ and $[1, \infty)$.

Simple exercises, problems

■ Mathematica initialization

```
<< "Graphics`Graphics`"
```

SOLVED PROBLEM 2.10.1 The graph of $|f(x)|$

Plot the graph of the function

$$f(x) := |(x - 1)(x - 2)|;$$

○ SOLUTION

The negative part of the graph of the function

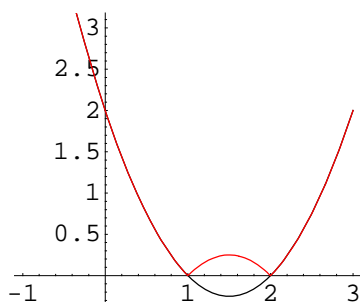
$$g(x) := (x - 1)(x - 2);$$

is mirrored to the x -axis. Plot the original and the transformed functions:

```

x0 = -1; x1 = 3; Plot[{g[x], Abs[g[x]]}, {x, x0, x1},
  AspectRatio → Automatic,
  PlotStyle → {{Hue[1, 1, 0]}, {Hue[1]}}];

```



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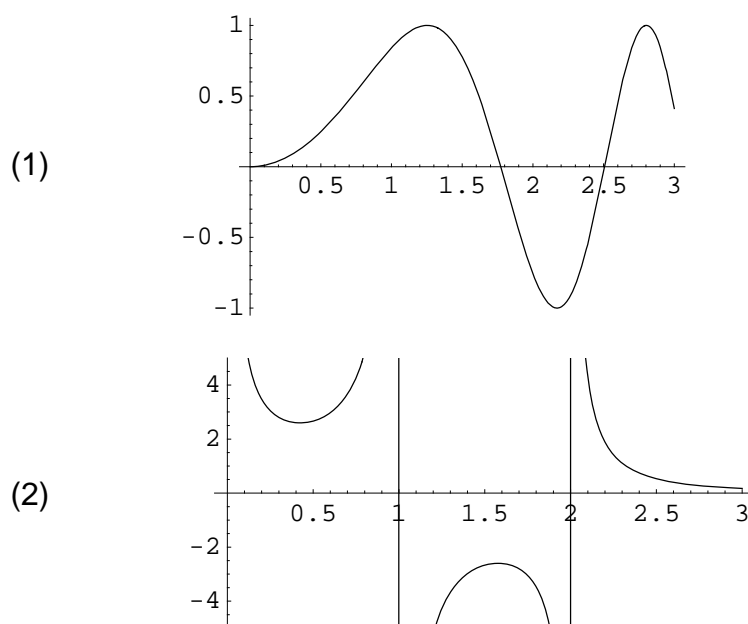
PROBLEM 2.10.2

Plot the absolute value of the following functions.

- (1) $g(x) := \log_2(x)$;
- (2) $g(x) := (x + 2)(x - 1)(x - 3)$;
- (3) $g(x) := \sin(x)$;
- (4) $g(x) := \tan(x)$;
- (5) $g(x) := \frac{x - 1}{x - 2}$;

PROBLEM 2.10.3

Plot the absolute value of the following functions.



SOLVED PROBLEM 2.10.4 The transformation $\frac{1}{f(x)}$

Plot the graph of the function

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

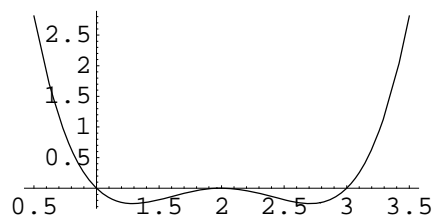
◦ SOLUTION

Take the reciprocal of the function to obtain the graph of $f(x)$.

$$g(x) := (x-1)(x-2)^2(x-3)$$

Plot the original function:

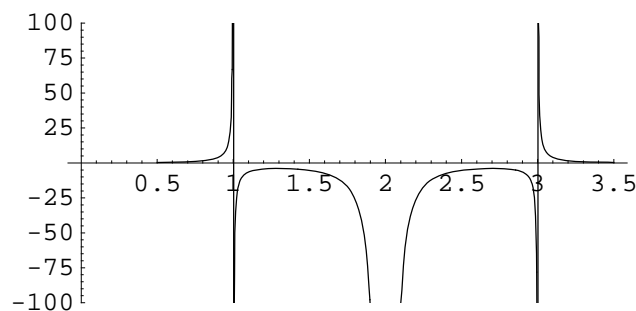
```
x0 = 0.5; x1 = 3.5; Plot[{g[x]}, {x, x0, x1},
  AspectRatio -> 1/2, PlotRange -> All,
  PlotStyle -> {Hue[1, 1, 0]}];
```



Be careful! The zeros of $g(x)$ are critical. The function $\frac{1}{g(x)}$ is not defined, and the graph is broken at these places. Observe that $g(x)$ changes the sign from + to - at 1, from - to + at 3, and it does not change the sign at 2.

Plot the transformed function:

```
x0 = 0.5; x1 = 3.5;
Plot[{1/g[x]}, {x, x0, x1},
  AspectRatio -> 1/2, PlotRange -> {-100, 100},
  PlotStyle -> {Hue[1, 1, 0]}];
```



◦

PROBLEM 2.10.5

Plot the graph of the reciprocal of the following functions:

- (1) $f(x) := x^3 - 1$; $g(x) := \log_{\frac{1}{2}}(x)$;
- (2) $f(x) := 2^{(x+1)}$; $g(x) := (1-x^2)(x-2)$;
- (3) $f(x) := x^2 \cos(x)$; $g(x) := \sin(x)$;

SOLVED PROBLEM 2.10.6 Transformation $f(\frac{1}{x})$, inversion

Plot the graph of the function

$$f(x) := \sin\left(\frac{1}{x}\right);$$

◦ SOLUTION

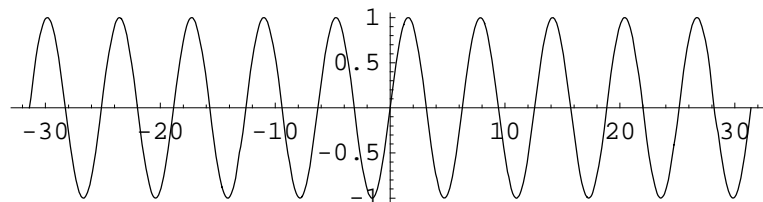
To obtain the graph of $f(x)$, the definition of

$$g[x] := \text{Sin}[x]$$

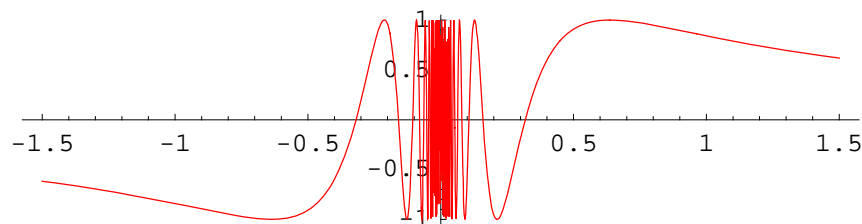
on $[1, \infty)$ and $(0, 1]$ are exchanged. The graph of $g(x)$ close to zero will be the graph of $f(x)$ close to infinity and vica versa.

Plot the original and the transformed functions separately:

```
x0 = -10 π; x1 = 10 π;
Plot[{g[x]}, {x, x0, x1},
  AspectRatio → 1 / 4, PlotRange -> All,
  PlotStyle → {Hue[1, 1, 0]};
```



```
x0 = -1.5; x1 = 1.5;
Plot[g[1 / x], {x, x0, x1},
  AspectRatio → 1 / 4, PlotRange -> All, PlotPoints -> 100,
  PlotStyle → {Hue[1]}];
```

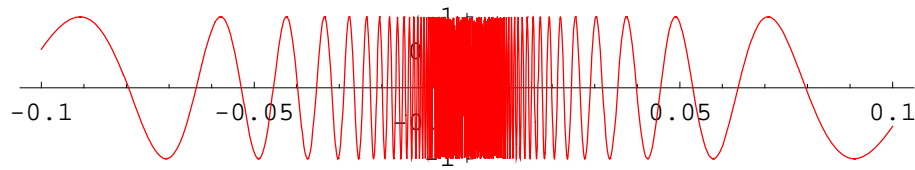


The graph on $[1, 1.5]$ is clear. This corresponds to the interval $[2/3, 1]$ of the graph of $g(x)$. But the interval $[-1, 1]$ is a little bit messy. Really, since the places $n\pi$ ($n=0, \pm 1, \pm 2, \pm 3, \dots$) are the zeros of $g(x)$, the places $(n=\pm 1, \pm 1/2, \pm 1/3, \dots)$ are the zeros of $g(1/x)$. Since $g(x)$ has infinitely many waves on $[1, \infty)$, and $g(1/x)$ has infinitely many waves on $(0, 1]$. Zoom in a neighborhood of the origin:

```

x0 = -0.1; x1 = 0.1;
Plot[g[1/x], {x, x0, x1},
  AspectRatio → 1/6, PlotRange → All, PlotPoints → 200,
  PlotStyle → {Hue[1]}];

```



Enlarge the image to find a better resolution: select the graph and the drag one of the corners of the bounding box. An even better resolution can be obtained by increasing the [PlotPoints](#).

○

PROBLEM 2.10.7

Plot the graph of $f(\frac{1}{x})$ and $g(\frac{1}{x})$ for the following functions.

- (1) $f(x) := \tan(x)$; $g(x) := \cos(3x)$;
- (2) $f(x) := \cos\left(\frac{1}{x}\right)$; $g(x) := x^3 - 1$;
- (3) $f(x) := \sqrt{x} + 3$; $g(x) := \sqrt[3]{x-1}$;
- (4) $f(x) := \log_3(x)$; $g(x) := \log_3(-x)$;
- (5) $f(x) := 2^{-x}$; $g(x) := 2^x$;

PROBLEM 2.10.8

Plot the graph of $f(\frac{1}{x})$, $f(|x|)$ and $f(x)^2$ for the following functions.

