Sequences and functions

As outcomes, Year 8 pupils should, for example:

Given inputs and outputs, find the function. Given a linear function, put random data in order and use difference patterns to help find the function. For example, find the rule:



Reorganise the data:
Input (x) 1 2 3 4 5
Output (y) 3 5 7 9 11
Difference 2 2 2 2

Recognise differences of 2. Try $x \rightarrow 2x + c$. From the first entry, find that c = 1. Check other values.



Reorganise the data:

Input (x) 3 5 7 11 15 Output (y) 11 15 19 27 35 Difference 4 4 8 8

Recognise that the first two differences are 4, where x is increasing by 2 each time.

Try $x \rightarrow 2x + c$. From the first entry, find that c = 5. Check other values.

Link linear functions to linear sequences, particularly difference patterns (pages 148–51).

Know some properties of functions produced by combining number operations. For example:

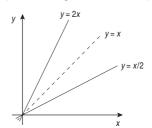
- Two additions, two subtractions, or an addition with a subtraction, will simplify to a single addition or subtraction.
- Two multiplications, two divisions, or a multiplication with a division, will simplify to a single multiplication or division.
- A function may often be expressed in more than one way, e.g.
 - $x \rightarrow 2x 2$ is equivalent to $x \rightarrow 2(x 1)$.
- Changing the order of two operations will often change the function, e.g.
 - $x \rightarrow 3x 4$ is different from $x \rightarrow 3(x 4)$.
- The inverse of two combined operations is found by inverting the operations and reversing the order,

the inverse of $x \rightarrow 2(x-1)$ is $x \rightarrow x/2 + 1$.

Link to inverse operations, equations and formulae (pages 114–15).

As outcomes, Year 9 pupils should, for example:

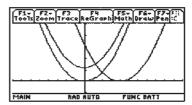
Plot the graph of a linear function, together with its inverse, on paper or using ICT. For example:



Observe the relationship between the two graphs: each is the reflection of the other in the line y = x.

Know some properties of quadratic functions and features of their graphs. For example:

- The graph is a curve, symmetrical about the vertical line through its turning point.
- The value of the y-coordinate at the turning point is either a maximum or a minimum value of the function.



Link to properties of quadratic sequences (pages 152–3), and plotting graphs of simple quadratic and cubic functions (pages 170–1).

© Crown copyright 2001 Y789 examples 163