**<u>Ex</u>** Suppose T = f(x) represents the temperature in a rod a position x. Suppose we take a temperature measurement and want to know the position based on that temperature.

ie. x is now a function of x. Mathematically:

**<u>Def</u>** A function g is the <u>INVERSE FUNCTION</u> of the function f if

Notation: The inverse function is denoted by

So to show that 2 functions are inverses of each other, you must show that the definition is satisfied, i.e.:

(1). Both cancelation equations are satisfied:

(2). The domain and range must interchange: ie.

**<u>Ex</u>** Verify the  $f(x) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{x-2}}$  has the inverse  $f^{-1} = \frac{1}{x^2} + 2$ . (And find the domain and range of both.) Important:

Since the domain and range interchange  $\implies$  If the point (a, b) is on f, then the point is on  $f^{-1}$ .

**<u>Ex</u>** Use this fact to sketch the inverse of f(x).



Will a function f always have an inverse function?

<u>**Ex</u>** Given the graph of  $f(x) = x^2 + 1$  below, sketch its reflection through the line y = x. Is the reflection a function?</u>

**Def** A function is called <u>ONE-TO-ONE</u> if

 $\underline{\mathbf{Ex}}$  Determine whether the following functions will have an inverse.



Steps for finding and inverse of f(x)



- **0**. Verify that an inverse exists.
- **1**. Write y = f(x).
- **2**. Solve for x in terms of y (if possible).
- **3**. Interchange x and y and write  $y = f^{-1}(x)$ .
- **4**. Define dom $(f^{-1})$  as the range of f.

If not, how can we tell?