

1 (10 pts). Find the two functions defined implicitly by the equation

$$y^2 + xy = -16.$$

Simplify your functions and give the domain of each.

1.(Source: 2.7.23)

Applying the quadratic formula to the equation

$$y^2 + xy + 16 = 0$$

with $a = 1$, $b = x$ and $c = 16$, we arrive at the solutions

$$y = \frac{-x \pm \sqrt{x^2 - 4 \cdot 16}}{2} = \frac{-x \pm \sqrt{x^2 - 64}}{2}$$

The two functions are

$$y = f(x) = \frac{1}{2} \left(-x + \sqrt{x^2 - 64} \right)$$

and

$$y = g(x) = \frac{1}{2} \left(-x - \sqrt{x^2 - 64} \right).$$

These have the same domain, since both require that $0 \leq x^2 - 64 = (x + 8)(x - 8)$. Sign chart:

$x + 8 :$	-----0+++++
$x - 8 :$	-----0+++++
$x^2 - 64 :$	+++++0-----0+++++
$x :$	-8 8

The domain of f and of g is the solution set to $x^2 - 64 \geq 0$, or $(-\infty, -8] \cup [8, \infty)$. (done)

Comments:

1. The goal in this problem—and of every problem in section 2.7—is to represent the graph of the given xy -equation as the graphs of several functions $y = f(x)$. This requires **solving** for y , i.e., finding an equivalent equation in which y appears alone on one side and nowhere on the other side.
2. The most reliable way to solve a nonlinear inequality in general is with a sign chart. Ignore this advice at your own risk.
3. Finally, remember

$\sqrt{a \pm b}$ does **not** equal $\sqrt{a} \pm \sqrt{b}$.