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Mathematical Situations: Tools for looking at the Mathematical Knowledge of Teaching

I. Mathematical Knowledge related to the situation from a methods course about the ideas of inverse.

Representation of functions

Structure of mathematics

Notation

Mathematical concepts:

Additive inverse

Multiplicative inverse

Multiplicative inverse

Identities

Inverse of a function

Function as a mapping

Reciprocal

Doing and undoing

Symmetry in Cartesian plane

Reflection about the line $f(x) = x$

II. Things a mathematics teacher would need to know that would not be important to most mathematicians.

Multiple ways to represent the inverse of a function

Importance of precise vocabulary

Ways to form questions that would help students see the differences between the ideas of inverse operations and inverse functions.

Examples that highlight the nature of inverse functions.

Examples that illustrate a variety of inverse operations.

Use of a graphing calculator/computer to dynamically illustrate inverse functions.