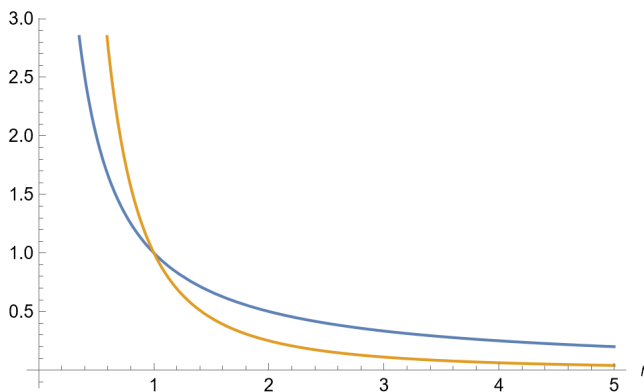


On the same axes, sketch:

- $1/r$
- $1/r^2$
- $1/r + 1/r^2$

**Solution** When making a "sketch" you are expected to get the general shape and important features of the graph correct, without having all of the details that a formal graph would have. Look at limiting cases (like very large or very small values of the variable) to determine the overall trends. Your sketches should include the following features.

- For the sketch of  $1/r$  (blue), the function goes to infinity when  $r$  is very small and goes to zero when  $r$  is very large.
- For the sketch of  $1/r^2$  (orange), the function also goes to infinity when  $r$  is very small and goes to zero when  $r$  is very large. The important point here is to pay attention to which function is larger in which region. For small values of  $r$ , the function  $1/r^2$  is larger. (Plug in  $r=0.01$  to convince yourself.) For large values of  $r$ , the function  $1/r$  is larger. (Plug in  $r=100$  to convince yourself.)
- The functions  $1/r$  and  $1/r^2$  are both equal to 1 when  $r = 1$ , so the graphs cross at that point.



- To sketch the function  $1/r + 1/r^2$  (green), you must add the previous functions pointwise, which means to pick a value for  $r$  and evaluate  $1/r$  and  $1/r^2$  separately, add these values together and plot the sum. For example the function  $1/r + 1/r^2$  evaluated at  $r = 1$  is 2.
- For very small values of the function  $1/r + 1/r^2$ , the term  $1/r^2$  dominates, more and more so as  $r$  gets smaller and smaller, so that the green graph approaches the orange one, asymptotically.
- For very large values of the function  $1/r + 1/r^2$ , the term  $1/r$  dominates, more and more so as  $r$  gets larger and larger, so that the green graph approaches the blue one, asymptotically.

