

# Functions

Def. Let  $A$  and  $B$  be two nonempty sets. A function, denoted by  $f$ , from  $A$  to  $B$  is an assignment of a unique element of  $B$  to each element of  $A$ .

We write  $f(a) = b$  and  $f: A \rightarrow B$

$a (a, b) \in f \leftarrow$  Function is a special kind of relation

Formula  $f(x) = x + 1$  assumes  $A = B = \mathbb{R}$  (reals)

Def Let  $f$  be a function from  $A$  to  $B$

$A$  is called the domain of  $f$

$B$  is called the codomain of  $f$

If  $f(a) = b$ ,  $b$  is the image of  $a$ ;  $a$  is the preimage of  $b$ .

The range of  $f$  is the set of all images of elements of the domain,  $A$ .

$f$  "maps"  $A$  to  $B$

Ex The following are relations from  $A$  to  $B$ . Which ones are functions from  $A$  to  $B$ ?

$$A = \{a, b, c\} \quad B = \{1, 2, 3\}$$

$$R_1: \begin{array}{l} a \rightarrow 1 \\ a \rightarrow 2 \\ b \rightarrow 3 \\ c \rightarrow 3 \end{array}$$

Not a function

$$R_2: \begin{array}{l} a \rightarrow 1 \\ b \rightarrow 2 \end{array}$$

Not a function

$$R_3: \begin{array}{l} a \rightarrow 1 \\ b \rightarrow 1 \\ c \rightarrow 1 \end{array}$$

function

$$R_4: \begin{array}{l} a \rightarrow 1 \\ b \rightarrow 2 \\ c \rightarrow 3 \end{array}$$

function.

Def. Let  $f$  be a function from  $A$  to  $B$ . Let  $S \subseteq A$ . The image of  $S$ , denoted  $f(S)$  is the subset of  $B$  which consists of the images of the elements of  $S$

$$f(S) = \{f(s) \mid s \in S\}$$

Ex let  $A = \{a, b, c, d, e\}$   $B = \{1, 2, 3, 4\}$

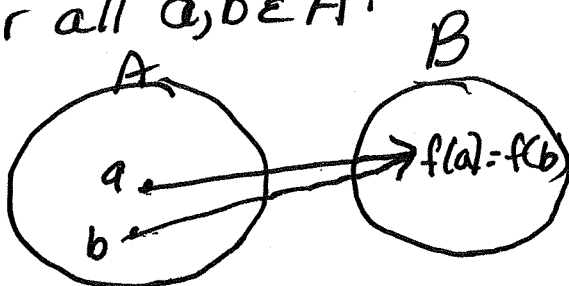
$f$   
 $a \rightarrow 2$   
 $b \rightarrow 1$   
 $c \rightarrow 4$   
 $d \rightarrow 1$   
 $e \rightarrow 1$

let  $S = \{b, c, d\}$   $f(S) = \{1, 4\}$   
 $A = \{a, b, c, d, e\}$   $f(A) = \{1, 2, 4\}$   
 (range)

Properties of a function  $f: A \rightarrow B$

Def.  $f$  is one-to-one, 1:1, or injective if  $a \neq b$  implies  $f(a) \neq f(b)$  for all  $a, b \in A$ .

Counterexample:



Ex  $A = \{a, b, c, d\}$   $B = \{1, 2, 3, 4\}$

$f_1$   
 $a \rightarrow 1$   
 $b \rightarrow 1$   
 $c \rightarrow 2$   
 $d \rightarrow 3$

Not 1:1  
 $f(a) = f(b) = 1$

$f_2$   
 $a \rightarrow 1$   
 $b \rightarrow 2$   
 $c \rightarrow 3$   
 $d \rightarrow 4$   
 Is 1:1

Def.  $f$  is onto or surjective if  $f(A) = B$

Note:  $f(A) \subseteq B$  for all functions  $f: A \rightarrow B$

To prove  $f$  is onto, prove  $B \subseteq f(A)$ :  
 Take  $b \in B$ , find an  $a \in A$  with  $b = f(a)$

Ex.  $A = \{a, b, c, d\}$      $B = \{1, 2, 3\}$

$f_1$   
 $a \rightarrow 1$   
 $b \rightarrow 2$   
 $c \rightarrow 3$   
 $d \rightarrow 1$

$f$  is onto  
 $f(A) = B$

$f_2$   
 $a \rightarrow 1$   
 $b \rightarrow 2$   
 $c \rightarrow 1$   
 $d \rightarrow 2$

$f$  is not onto  
 $3 \notin f(A)$

Ex. 1.  $f: \mathbb{N} \rightarrow \mathbb{N}$   $f(x) = x^2$   
 $\because n_1 \neq n_2 \Rightarrow n_1^2 \neq n_2^2 \quad (n_1, n_2 \in \mathbb{N}) \Rightarrow f(n_1) \neq f(n_2)$   
 Not onto  $2 \notin f(\mathbb{N})$  etc.

2.  $f: \mathbb{Z} \rightarrow \mathbb{Z}$   $f(x) = x^2$   
 Not 1:1  $f(-1) = f(1) = 1$   
 Not onto  $-3 \notin f(\mathbb{Z})$

3.  $f: \mathbb{N} \rightarrow \mathbb{N}$   $f(x) = x+1$   
 $\because n_1 \neq n_2 \Rightarrow n_1+1 \neq n_2+1 \Rightarrow f(n_1) \neq f(n_2) \quad n_1, n_2 \in \mathbb{N}$   
 Not onto  $0 \notin f(\mathbb{N})$

4.  $f: \mathbb{Z} \rightarrow \mathbb{Z}$   $f(x) = x+1$   
 $\because z_1 \neq z_2 \Rightarrow z_1+1 \neq z_2+1 \Rightarrow f(z_1) \neq f(z_2) \quad z_1, z_2 \in \mathbb{Z}$   
 Onto For  $z \in \mathbb{Z}$ ,  $z-1 \in \mathbb{Z}$ ,  $f(z-1) = z-1+1 = z$

5.  $f: \mathbb{N} \rightarrow \mathbb{N}_e$  ( $\mathbb{N}_e = \{0, 2, 4, 6, \dots\}$ )  $f(x) = 2x$   
 $\because n_1 \neq n_2 \Rightarrow 2n_1 \neq 2n_2 \Rightarrow f(n_1) \neq f(n_2) \quad n_1, n_2 \in \mathbb{N}$   
 Onto  $n_e \in \mathbb{N}_e \quad n_e = f(\frac{n_e}{2})$  ( $\frac{n_e}{2} \in \mathbb{N}$  since  $n_e$  even)

6.  $f: \mathbb{N} \times \mathbb{N} \rightarrow \mathbb{N}$   $f(x, y) = x \cdot y$   
 Not 1:1  $f(2, 3) = f(3, 2) = f(6, 1) = 6$   
 Onto  $n \in \mathbb{N}$ ,  $(n, 1) \in \mathbb{N} \times \mathbb{N}$ ,  $f(n, 1) = n \cdot 1 = n$

Def. A function  $f$  is called a bijection, or a one-to-one correspondence if it is both one-to-one and onto.

Def. Let  $A$  be a set. The identity function on  $A$  is the function  $i_A: A \rightarrow A$ ,  $i_A(x) = x$ .

Thm. The identity function,  $i_A: A \rightarrow A$ ,  $i_A(x) = x$  is a bijection:

Proof. 1:1  $x_1 \neq x_2 \Rightarrow i_A(x_1) \neq i_A(x_2)$  for  $x_1, x_2 \in A$

Onto Take  $x \in A$   $x = i_A(x)$

If a function is not both 1:1 and onto, there is no inverse function:

EX  $A = \{1, 2, 3\}$   $B = \{a, b\}$

$f$   
 $1 \rightarrow a$   
 $2 \rightarrow b$   
 $3 \rightarrow a$

$a \rightarrow 1$   
 $b \rightarrow 2$   
 $a \rightarrow 3$

Not a function  
 $A \rightarrow B$

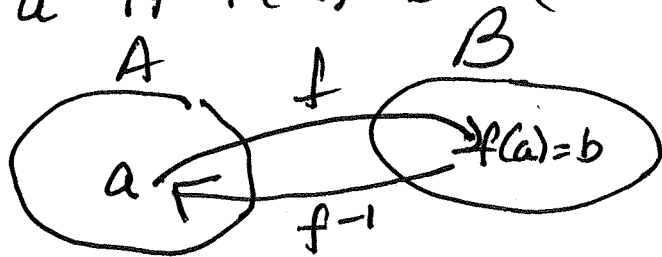
$A = \{1, 2\}$   $B = \{a, b, c\}$

$f$   
 $1 \rightarrow a$   
 $2 \rightarrow b$

$a \rightarrow 1$   
 $b \rightarrow 2$

Not a function  
 $B \rightarrow A$

Def. Let  $f$  be a bijection from  $A$  to  $B$ . The inverse function,  $f^{-1}: B \rightarrow A$  is defined by  $f^{-1}(b) = a$  if  $f(a) = b$  ( $f$  is called invertible)



EX.  $A = \{1, 2, 3\}$   $B = \{a, b, c\}$

$$\begin{array}{l} f \\ 1 \rightarrow a \\ 2 \rightarrow b \\ 3 \rightarrow c \end{array} \quad \begin{array}{l} f^{-1} \\ a \rightarrow 1 \\ b \rightarrow 2 \\ c \rightarrow 3 \end{array}$$

EX.  $f: \mathbb{N} \rightarrow \mathbb{N}$   $f(x) = 2x$  is a bijection

To find the inverse function,  $f^{-1}$ ,

① let  $y = f(x)$

$$y = 2x$$

② Switch  $x$  &  $y$

$$x = 2y$$

③ Solve for  $y$

$$y = \frac{x}{2}$$

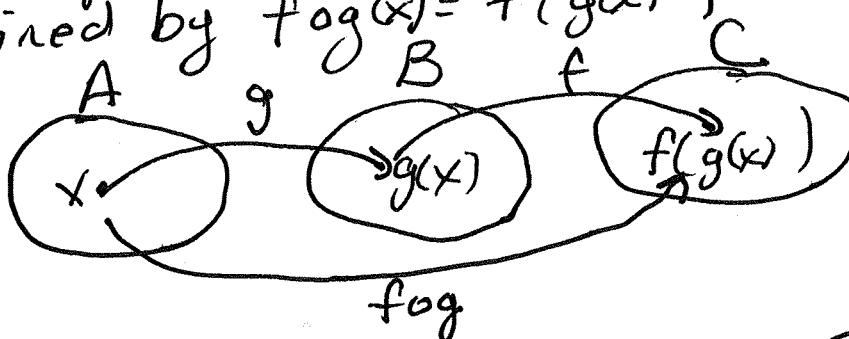
④  $y = f^{-1}(x)$

$$f^{-1}(x) = \frac{x}{2}$$

⑤ Switch domain and codomain

$$f^{-1}: \mathbb{N} \rightarrow \mathbb{N}$$

Def. Let  $g: A \rightarrow B$ ,  $f: B \rightarrow C$  be functions  
the composition of  $f$  with  $g$ ,  $f \circ g: A \rightarrow C$   
is defined by  $f \circ g(x) = f(g(x))$



EX  $f: \mathbb{R} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$   $f(x) = 2x + 3$ ;  $g: \mathbb{R} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$   $g(x) = x^2$

$$f \circ g(x) = f(g(x)) = f(x^2) = 2x^2 + 3$$

$$g \circ f(x) = g(f(x)) = g(2x + 3) = (2x + 3)^2 = 4x^2 + 12x + 9$$

Thm Say  $f$  is invertible  $f: A \rightarrow B$  then

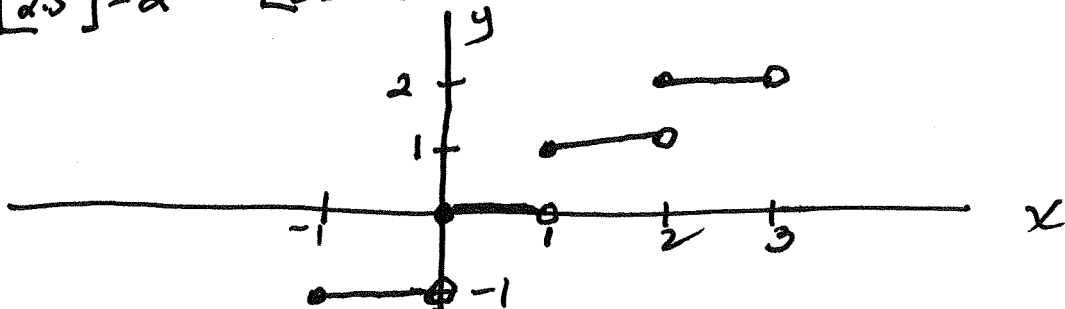
$$f^{-1} \circ f = i_A \quad \text{and} \quad f \circ f^{-1} = i_B$$

Proof  $f^{-1} \circ f(a) = f^{-1}(f(a)) = f^{-1}(b) = a$   $f^{-1} \circ f = i_A \quad a \in A$   
 $f \circ f^{-1}(b) = f(f^{-1}(b)) = f(a) = b$   $f \circ f^{-1} = i_B \quad b \in B$

EX.  $f: \mathbb{R} \rightarrow \mathbb{Z}$   $f(x) = \lfloor x \rfloor = [x]$

floor function; greatest integer function  
 (defined as the greatest integer less than or equal to  $x$ )

$[2.5] = 2$     $[3] = 3$     $[-3] = -3$     $[-3.5] = -4$



Def. A sequence is a function whose domain is  $\mathbb{N} = \{0, 1, 2, \dots\}$  or  $\mathbb{P} = \{1, 2, 3, \dots\}$

$a_n = f(n)$  ( $n^{\text{th}}$  term of sequence)

EX  $f: \mathbb{P} \rightarrow \mathbb{Q}$     $a_n = \frac{1}{n}$     $1, \frac{1}{2}, \frac{1}{3}, \dots, \frac{1}{n}, \dots$

$f: \mathbb{N} \rightarrow \mathbb{Z}$     $b_n = (-1)^n$     $1, -1, 1, -1, 1, \dots$

$f: \mathbb{N} \rightarrow \mathbb{Z}$     $c_n = 5^n$     $1, 5, 25, 125, \dots$

Def. Summation Notation

$\sum_{j=m}^n a_j = a_m + a_{m+1} + \dots + a_n$     $a_j = f(j)$

$n = \text{upper limit}$     $m = \text{lower limit}$     $m, n \in \mathbb{Z}, m \leq n$

EX  $\sum_{j=1}^5 \frac{1}{j} = 1 + \frac{1}{2} + \frac{1}{3} + \frac{1}{4} + \frac{1}{5}$     $\sum_{j=1}^5 6 = 6 + 6 + 6 + 6 + 6$

Def. Product Notation

$\prod_{j=m}^n a_j = (a_m)(a_{m+1}) \dots (a_n)$     $m, n \in \mathbb{Z}, m \leq n$

EX  $\prod_{j=1}^5 j^2 = 1^2 \cdot 2^2 \cdot 3^2 \cdot 4^2 \cdot 5^2$