

## 2.2 More about Functions-Reading

**Notebook:** Discrete Mathematics [CM1020]

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**Author:** SUKHJIT MANN

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### Cornell Notes

#### Topic:

2.2 More about functions-  
Reading

Course: BSc Computer Science

Class: Discrete Mathematics-  
Reading

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### Essential Question:

What is function composition? Alongside this, what are the floor, ceiling and partial functions ?

### Questions/Cues:

- What is function composition?
- What is the identify function in terms of function composition?
- What is the graph of a function?
- What are floor and ceiling functions?
- What is a partial function?

### Notes

- Let  $g:A \rightarrow B$  and  $f:B \rightarrow C$ , composition of f and g denoted for all  $a \in A$  by  $f \circ g$  is:  $(f \circ g)(a) = f(g(a))$ 
  - In this case  $f \circ g$  cannot be unless range of g is subset of domain f
  - composition of functions not commutative
- Identity function :

$$(f^{-1} \circ f)(a) = f^{-1}(f(a)) = f^{-1}(b) = a$$
$$(f \circ f^{-1})(b) = f(f^{-1}(b)) = f(a) = b$$

- That is,  $(f^{-1})^{-1} = f$

Let  $f$  be a function from the set  $A$  to the set  $B$ . The *graph* of the function  $f$  is the set of ordered pairs  $\{(a, b) \mid a \in A \text{ and } f(a) = b\}$ .

The *floor function* assigns to the real number  $x$  the largest integer that is less than or equal to  $x$ . The value of the floor function at  $x$  is denoted by  $\lfloor x \rfloor$ . The *ceiling function* assigns to the real number  $x$  the smallest integer that is greater than or equal to  $x$ . The value of the ceiling function at  $x$  is denoted by  $\lceil x \rceil$ .

- Floor function often also called greatest integer function, denoted by  $\lfloor x \rfloor$

**TABLE 1 Useful Properties of the Floor and Ceiling Functions.**

( $n$  is an integer,  $x$  is a real number)

(1a)  $\lfloor x \rfloor = n$  if and only if  $n \leq x < n + 1$

(1b)  $\lceil x \rceil = n$  if and only if  $n - 1 < x \leq n$

(1c)  $\lfloor x \rfloor = n$  if and only if  $x - 1 < n \leq x$

(1d)  $\lceil x \rceil = n$  if and only if  $x \leq n < x + 1$

(2)  $x - 1 < \lfloor x \rfloor \leq x \leq \lceil x \rceil < x + 1$

(3a)  $\lfloor -x \rfloor = -\lceil x \rceil$

(3b)  $\lceil -x \rceil = -\lfloor x \rfloor$

(4a)  $\lfloor x + n \rfloor = \lfloor x \rfloor + n$

(4b)  $\lceil x + n \rceil = \lceil x \rceil + n$

A *partial function*  $f$  from a set  $A$  to a set  $B$  is an assignment to each element  $a$  in a subset of  $A$ , called the *domain of definition* of  $f$ , of a unique element  $b$  in  $B$ . The sets  $A$  and  $B$  are called the *domain* and *codomain* of  $f$ , respectively. We say that  $f$  is *undefined* for elements in  $A$  that are not in the domain of definition of  $f$ . When the domain of definition of  $f$  equals  $A$ , we say that  $f$  is a *total function*.

- We write  $f: A \rightarrow B$ , denoting  $f$  is partial function from  $A$  to  $B$ , same notation used for functions, context is different; determines whether  $f$  is a partial or total function

**EXAMPLE 32** The function  $f: \mathbb{Z} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  where  $f(n) = \sqrt{n}$  is a partial function from  $\mathbb{Z}$  to  $\mathbb{R}$  where the domain of definition is the set of nonnegative integers. Note that  $f$  is undefined for negative integers. ◀

## Summary

In this week, we learned what function composition is and what it means for a function to be partial. Also, we looked at the floor and ceiling functions.