

# Set Theory

## Functions



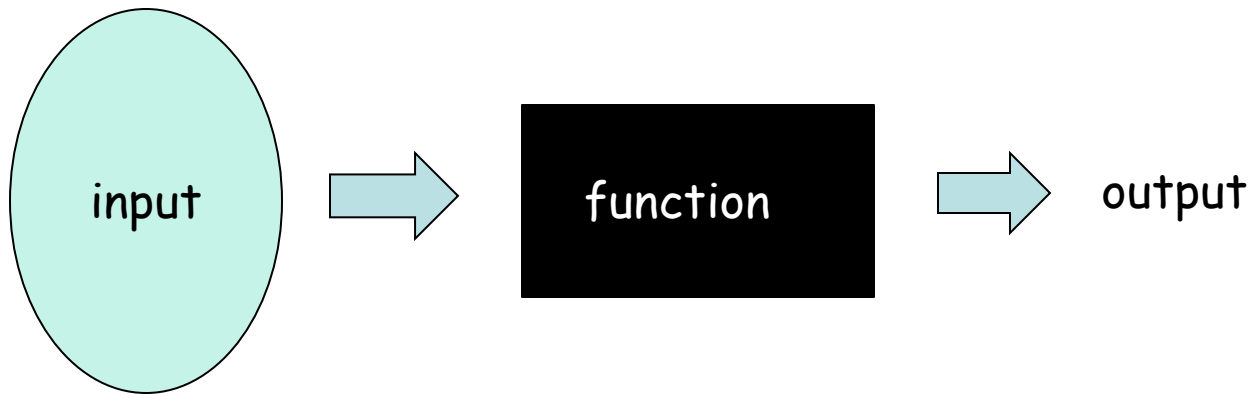
# Content

- Concepts
- Properties of functions
- Composition of functions



# Functions

Informally, we are given an “input set”,  
and a function gives us an output for each possible input.



The important point is that there is only one output for each input.

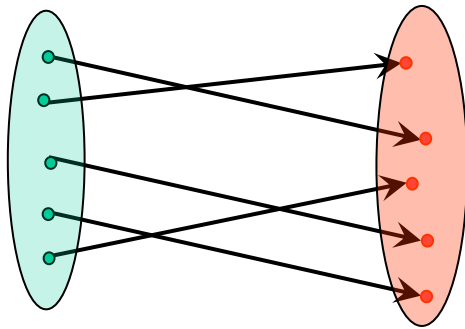
We say a function  $f$  “maps” the element of an input set  $A$   
to the elements of an output set  $B$ .



# Functions

More formally, we write  $f : A \rightarrow B$

to represent that  $f$  is a function from set  $A$  to set  $B$ , which associates an element  $f(a) \in B$  with an element  $a \in A$ .



The *domain (input)* of  $f$  is  $A$ .

The *codomain (output)* of  $f$  is  $B$ .

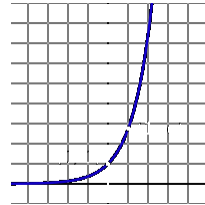
**Definition:** For every input there is **exactly one** output.

Note: the input set can be the same as the output set, e.g. both are integers.



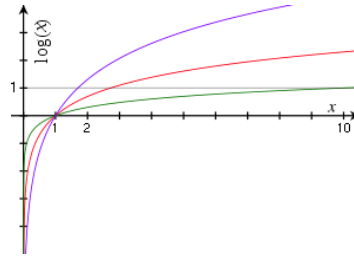
# Examples of Functions

$$f(x) = e^x$$



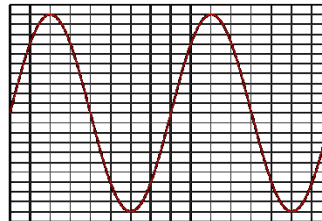
domain =  $\mathbb{R}$   
codomain =  $\mathbb{R}_{>0}$

$$f(x) = \log(x)$$



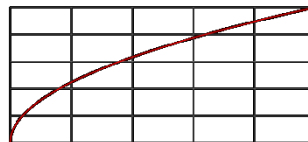
domain =  $\mathbb{R}_{>0}$   
codomain =  $\mathbb{R}$

$$f(x) = \sin(x)$$



domain =  $\mathbb{R}$   
codomain =  $[-1, 1]$

$$f(x) = \sqrt{x}$$



domain =  $\mathbb{R}_{\geq 0}$   
codomain =  $\mathbb{R}_{\geq 0}$



# Examples of Functions

$$f(S) = |S|$$

domain = the set of all finite sets  
codomain = non-negative integers

$$f(\text{string}) = \text{length}(\text{string})$$

domain = the set of all finite strings  
codomain = non-negative integers

$$f(\text{student-name}) = \text{student-ID}$$

**not** a function,  
since one input could have  
more than one output

$$f(x) = \text{is-prime}(x)$$

domain = positive integers  
codomain =  $\{T, F\}$



# Functions

- A **function**  $f$  from a set  $A$  to a set  $B$  is an **assignment** of exactly one element of  $B$  to each element of  $A$ .
- We write  $f(a) = b$  if  $b$  is the unique element of  $B$  assigned by the function  $f$  to the element  $a$  of  $A$ .
- If  $f$  is a function from  $A$  to  $B$ , we write  $f: A \rightarrow B$
- (note: Here, " $\rightarrow$ " has nothing to do with if... then)



# Functions

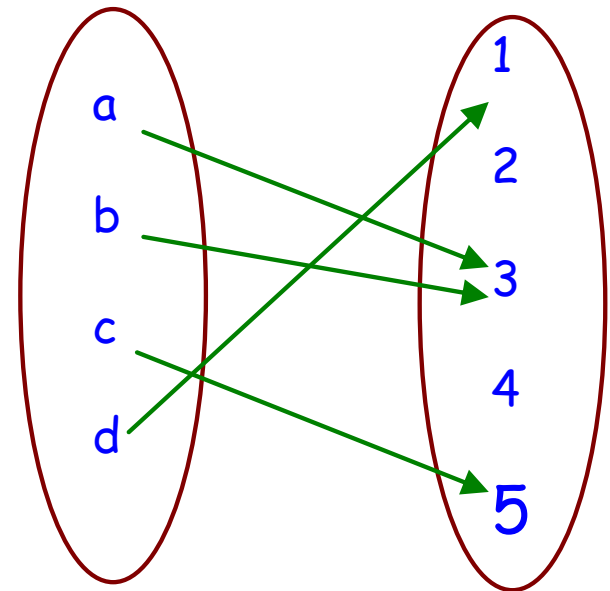
- If  $f:A\rightarrow B$ , we say that  $A$  is the **domain** of  $f$  and  $B$  is the **codomain** of  $f$ .
- If  $f(a) = b$ , we say that  $b$  is the **image** of  $a$  and  $a$  is the **pre-image** of  $b$ .
- The **range** of  $f:A\rightarrow B$  is the set of all images of elements of  $A$ .
- We say that  $f:A\rightarrow B$  **maps**  $A$  to  $B$ .





# Functions

- A function  $f$  from  $X$  to  $Y$  (in symbols  $f : X \rightarrow Y$ ) is a relation from  $X$  to  $Y$  such that  $\text{Dom}(f) = X$  and if two pairs  $(x,y)$  and  $(x,y') \in f$ , then  $y = y'$
- **Example:**
  - $\text{Dom}(f) = X = \{a, b, c, d\}$ ,
  - $\text{Rng}(f) = \{1, 3, 5\}$
  - $f(a) = f(b) = 3, f(c) = 5, f(d) = 1$ .



$X = \text{Dom}(f)$     $Y = \text{Rng}(f)$



# Functions

- **Example:** Let us take a look at the function  $f:P \rightarrow C$  with
  - $P = \{\text{Linda, Max, Kathy, Peter}\}$
  - $C = \{\text{Boston, New York, Hong Kong, Moscow}\}$
  - $f(\text{Linda}) = \text{Moscow}$
  - $f(\text{Max}) = \text{Boston}$
  - $f(\text{Kathy}) = \text{Hong Kong}$
  - $f(\text{Peter}) = \text{New York}$
  - Here, the range of  $f$  is  $C$ .



# Functions

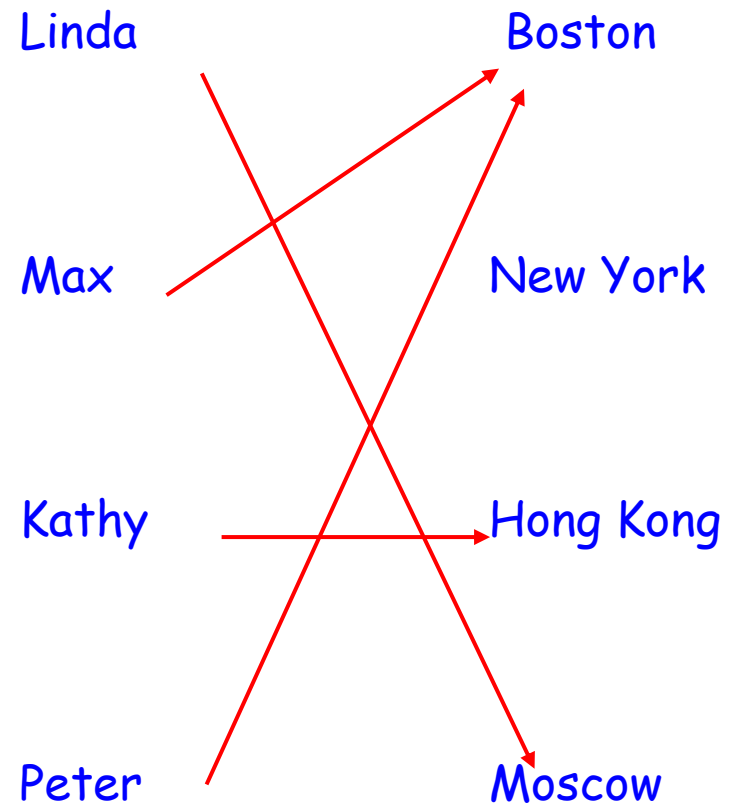
- Let us re-specify  $f$  as follows:
  - $f(\text{Linda}) = \text{Moscow}$
  - $f(\text{Max}) = \text{Boston}$
  - $f(\text{Kathy}) = \text{Hong Kong}$
  - $f(\text{Peter}) = \text{Boston}$
  - Is  $f$  still a function?
    - yes
  - What is its range?
    - $\{\text{Moscow}, \text{Boston}, \text{Hong Kong}\}$



# Functions

- Other ways to represent  $f$ :

$x$	$f(x)$
Linda	Moscow
Max	Boston
Kathy	Hong Kong
Peter	Boston



# Functions

- If the domain of our function  $f$  is large, it is convenient to specify  $f$  with a **formula**, e.g.:

$$f:\mathbf{R}\rightarrow\mathbf{R}$$

$$f(x) = 2x$$

- This leads to:

$$f(1) = 2$$

$$f(3) = 6$$

$$f(-3) = -6$$



# Functions

- Let  $f_1$  and  $f_2$  be functions from  $A$  to  $\mathbf{R}$ . Then the **sum** and the **product** of  $f_1$  and  $f_2$  are also functions from  $A$  to  $\mathbf{R}$  defined by:

$$(f_1 + f_2)(x) = f_1(x) + f_2(x)$$

$$(f_1 f_2)(x) = f_1(x) f_2(x)$$

- Example:**

$$f_1(x) = 3x, \quad f_2(x) = x + 5$$

$$(f_1 + f_2)(x) = f_1(x) + f_2(x) = 3x + x + 5 = 4x + 5$$

$$(f_1 f_2)(x) = f_1(x) f_2(x) = 3x(x + 5) = 3x^2 + 15x$$



# Functions

- We already know that the **range** of a function  $f:A \rightarrow B$  is the set of all images of elements  $a \in A$ .
- If we only regard a **subset**  $S \subseteq A$ , the set of all images of elements  $s \in S$  is called the **image** of  $S$ .
- We denote the image of  $S$  by  $f(S)$ :
- $f(S) = \{f(s) \mid s \in S\}$



# Functions

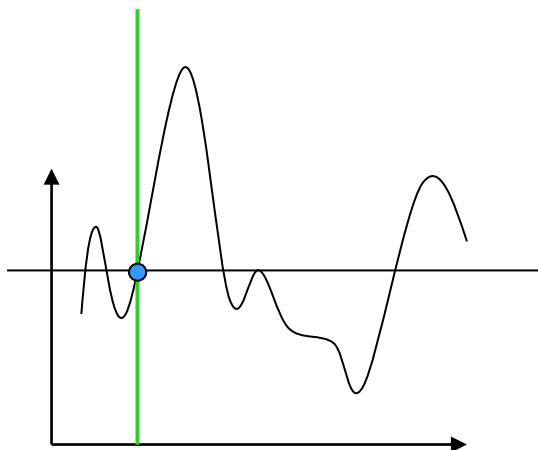
- Let us look at the following well-known function:  
     $f(\text{Linda}) = \text{Moscow}$   
     $f(\text{Max}) = \text{Boston}$   
     $f(\text{Kathy}) = \text{Hong Kong}$   
     $f(\text{Peter}) = \text{Boston}$
- What is the image of  $S = \{\text{Linda}, \text{Max}\}$  ?  
     $f(S) = \{\text{Moscow}, \text{Boston}\}$
- What is the image of  $S = \{\text{Max}, \text{Peter}\}$  ?  
     $f(S) = \{\text{Boston}\}$





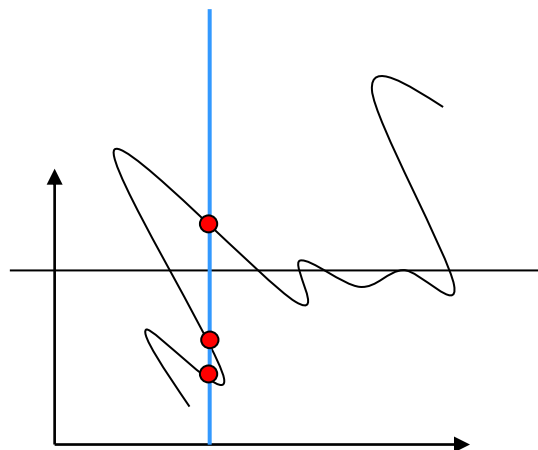
# Algebraically speaking

- Note that such definitions on functions are consistent with what you have seen in your Calculus courses.



function

→ 1 intersection



not a function

→ violations when  $> 1$



# Properties of Functions

- A function  $f:A \rightarrow B$  is said to be **one-to-one** (or **injective** (单射) ), if and only if  $\forall x, y \in A (f(x) = f(y) \rightarrow x = y)$
- **In other words:**  $f$  is one-to-one if and only if it does not map two distinct elements of  $A$  onto the same element of  $B$ .



# Properties of Functions

And again...

$f(\text{Linda}) = \text{Moscow}$

$f(\text{Max}) = \text{Boston}$

$f(\text{Kathy}) = \text{Hong Kong}$

$f(\text{Peter}) = \text{Boston}$

Is  $f$  one-to-one?

$g(\text{Linda}) = \text{Moscow}$

$g(\text{Max}) = \text{Boston}$

$g(\text{Kathy}) = \text{Hong Kong}$

$g(\text{Peter}) = \text{New York}$

Is  $g$  one-to-one?

No, Max and Peter are mapped onto the same element of the image.

Yes, each element is assigned a unique element of the image.



# Properties of Functions

- How can we prove that a function  $f$  is one-to-one?
  - Whenever you want to prove something, first take a look at the relevant definition(s):

$$\forall x, y \in A (f(x) = f(y) \rightarrow x = y)$$

- Example:

$$f: \mathbb{R} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$$

$$f(x) = x^2$$

- Disproof by counterexample:

$f(3) = f(-3)$ , but  $3 \neq -3$ , so  $f$  is not one-to-one.



# Properties of Functions

- ... and yet another example:

$$f: \mathbb{R} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$$

$$f(x) = 3x$$

One-to-one:  $\forall x, y \in A (f(x) = f(y) \rightarrow x = y)$

To show:  $f(x) \neq f(y)$  whenever  $x \neq y$

$$x \neq y$$

$$3x \neq 3y$$

$$f(x) \neq f(y),$$

so if  $x \neq y$ , then  $f(x) \neq f(y)$ , that is,  $f$  is one-to-one.



# Properties of Functions

- A function  $f:A \rightarrow B$  with  $A, B \subseteq \mathbb{R}$  is called **strictly increasing**, if
$$\forall x, y \in A \ (x < y \rightarrow f(x) < f(y)),$$
and **strictly decreasing**, if
$$\forall x, y \in A \ (x < y \rightarrow f(x) > f(y)).$$
- Obviously, a function that is either strictly increasing or strictly decreasing is **one-to-one**



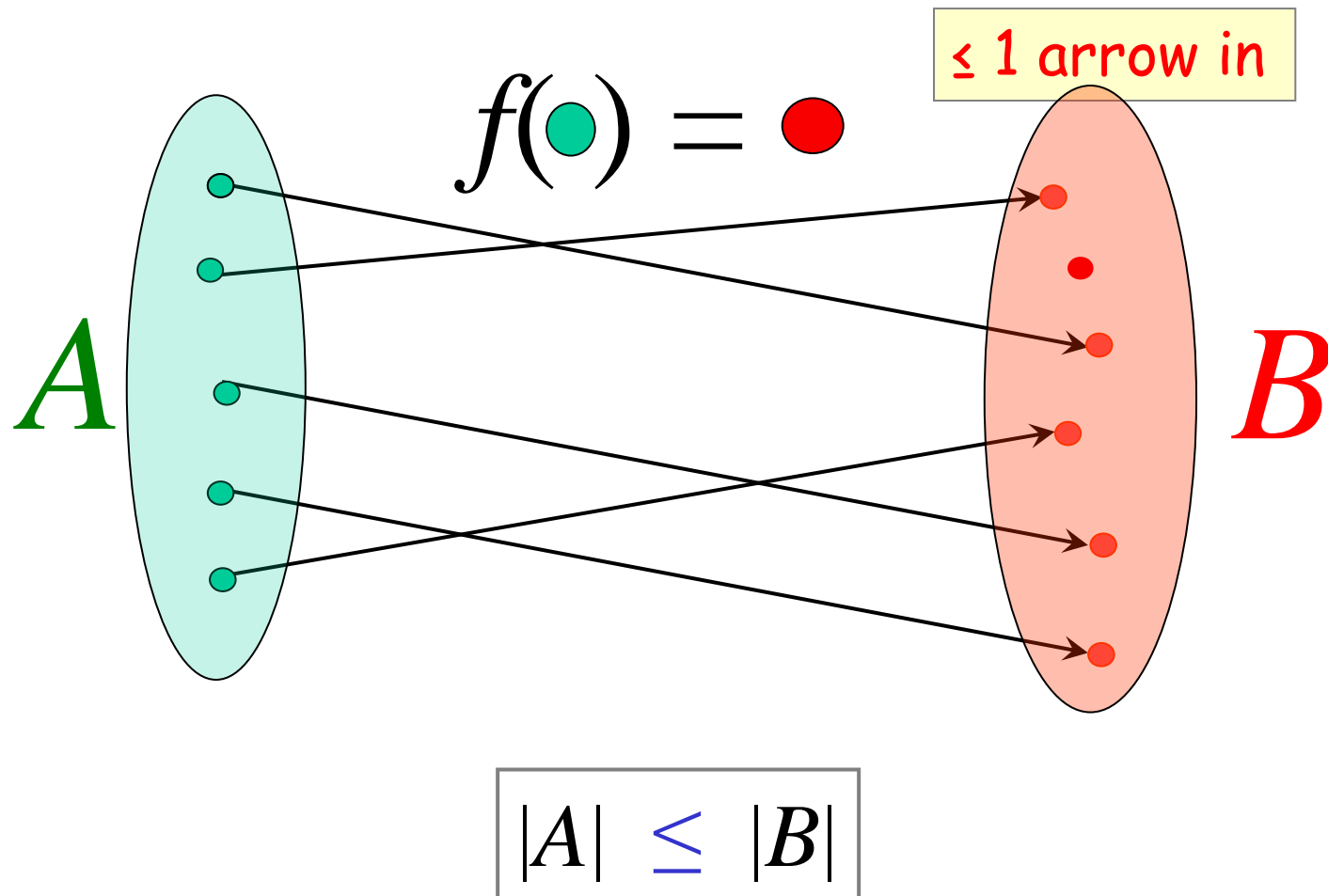
# Properties of Functions

- A function  $f:A \rightarrow B$  is called **onto**, or **surjective** (满射), if and only if for every element  $b \in B$  there is an element  $a \in A$  with  $f(a) = b$ .
  - In other words,  $f$  is onto if and only if its **range** is its **entire codomain**.
- A function  $f: A \rightarrow B$  is a **one-to-one correspondence**, or a **bijection** (双射), if and only if it is both one-to-one and onto.
  - Obviously, if  $f$  is a bijection and  $A$  and  $B$  are finite sets, then  $|A| = |B|$ .



# Injectons

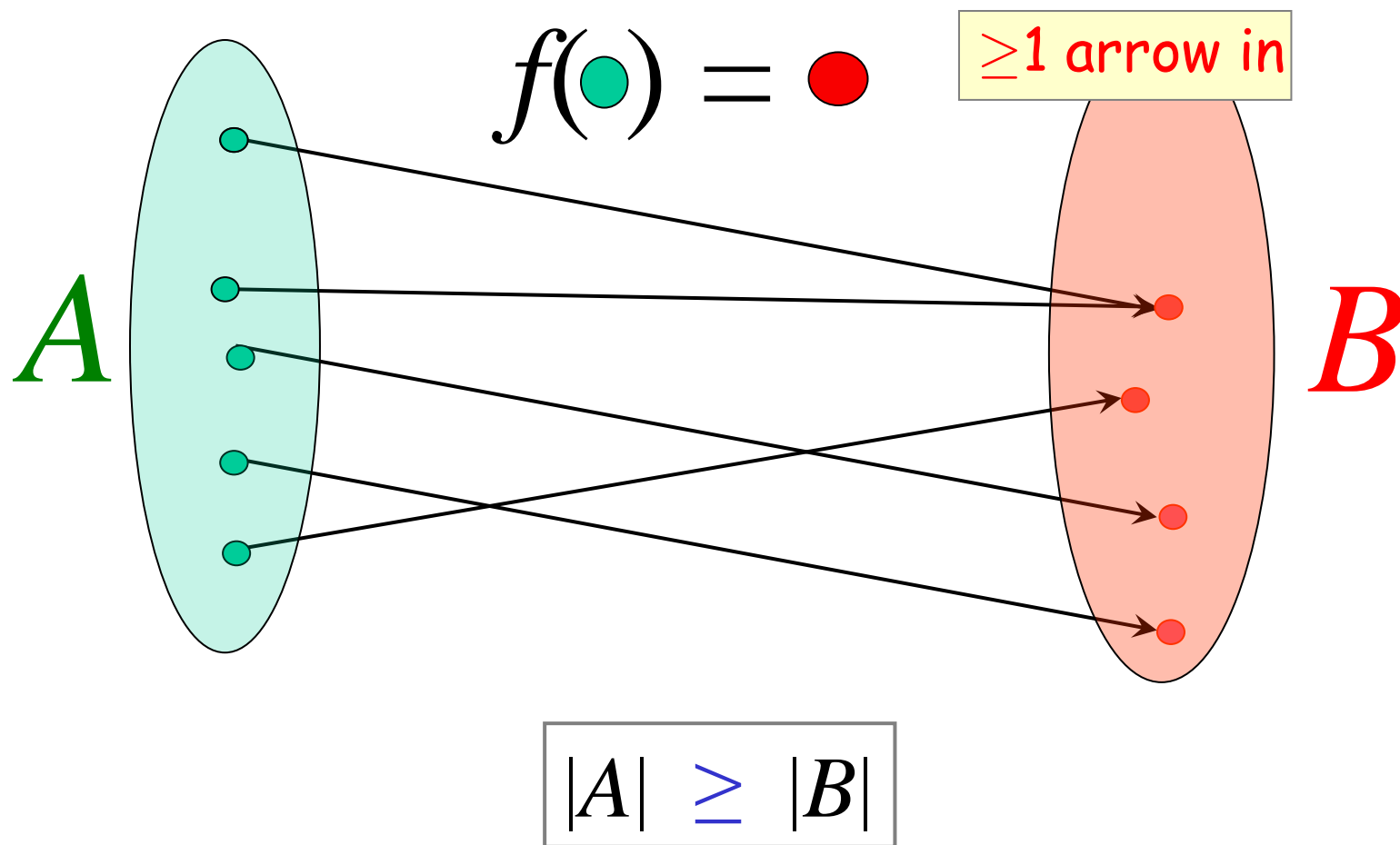
$f : A \rightarrow B$  is an *injection* if no two inputs have the same output.





# Surjections

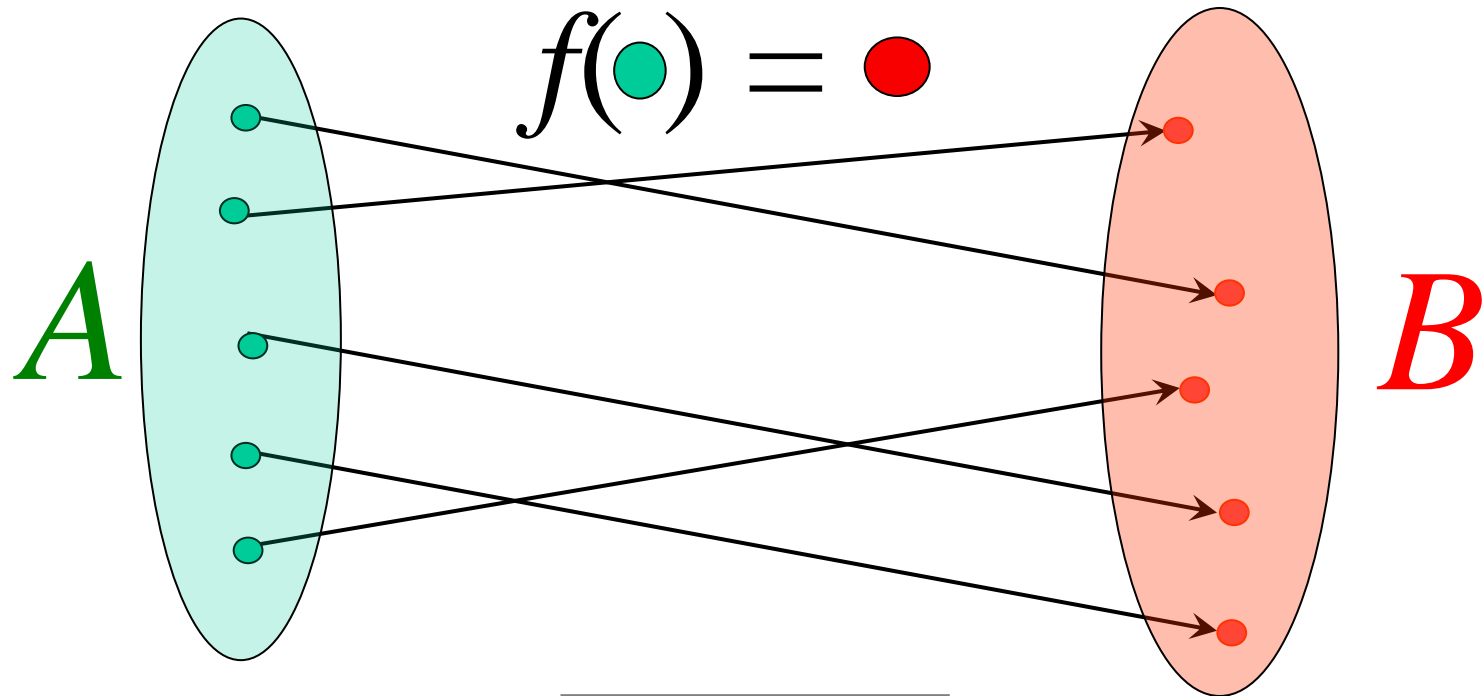
$f : A \rightarrow B$  is a *surjection* if every output is possible.



# Bijections

$f : A \rightarrow B$  is a *bijection* if it is surjection and injection.

exactly one arrow in



$$|A| = |B|$$

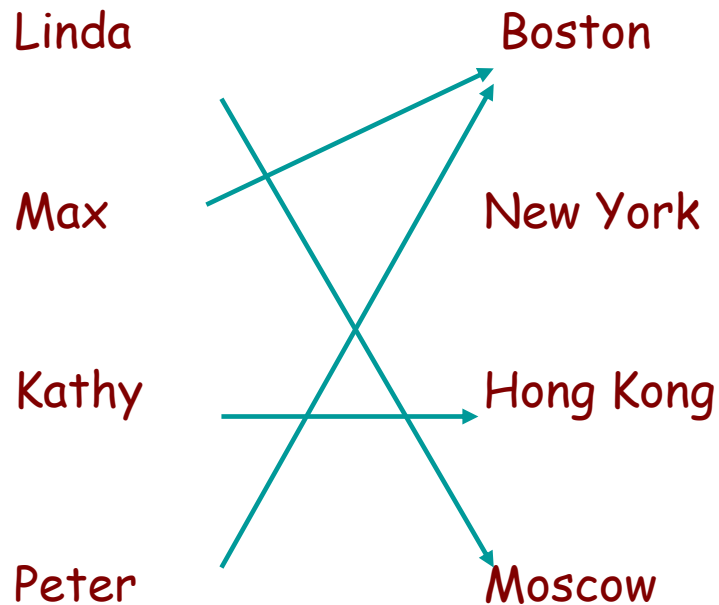


# Properties of Functions

- **Examples:**
  - In the following examples, we use the arrow representation to illustrate functions  $f:A \rightarrow B$ .
  - In each example, the complete sets  $A$  and  $B$  are shown.



# Properties of Functions



Is  $f$  injective?

No.

Is  $f$  surjective?

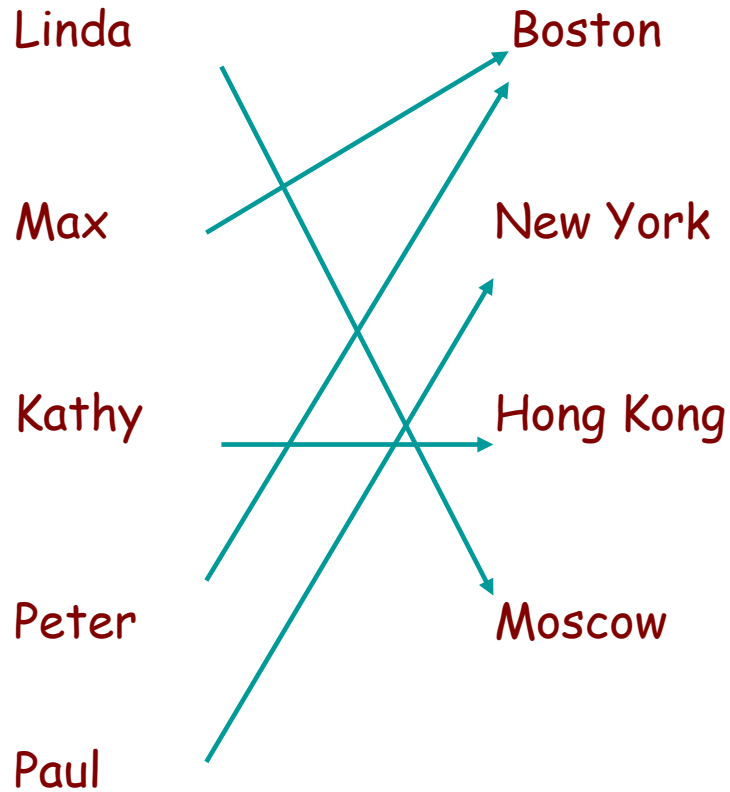
No.

Is  $f$  bijective?

No.



# Properties of Functions



Is  $f$  injective?

No.

Is  $f$  surjective?

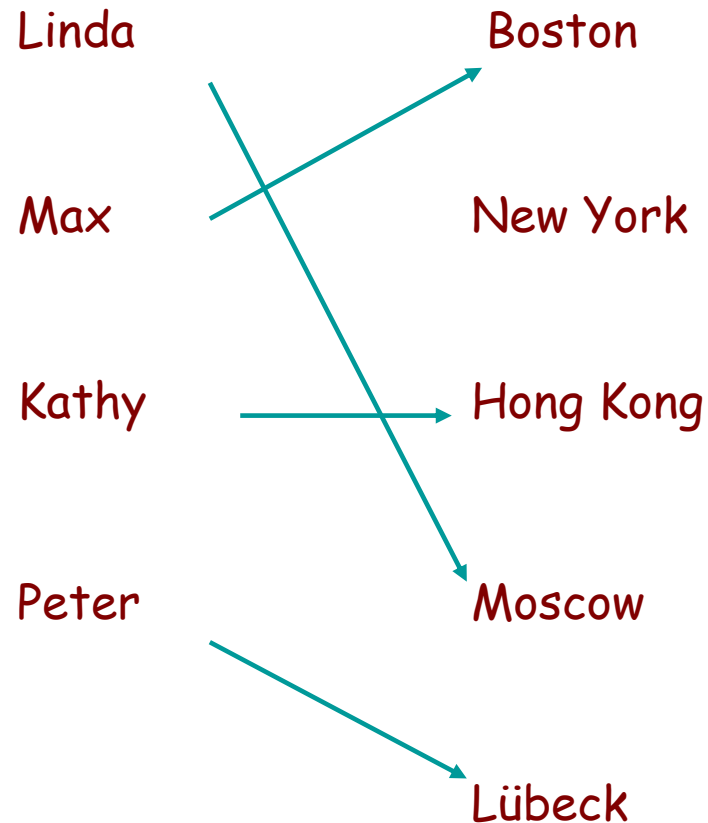
Yes.

Is  $f$  bijective?

No.



# Properties of Functions



Is  $f$  injective?

Yes.

Is  $f$  surjective?

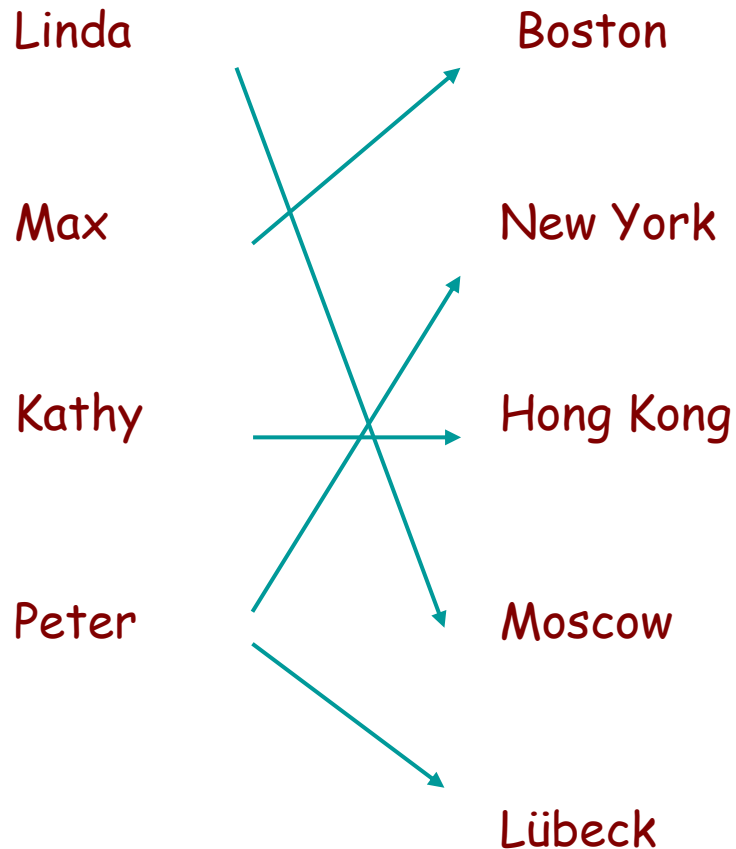
No.

Is  $f$  bijective?

No.



# Properties of Functions

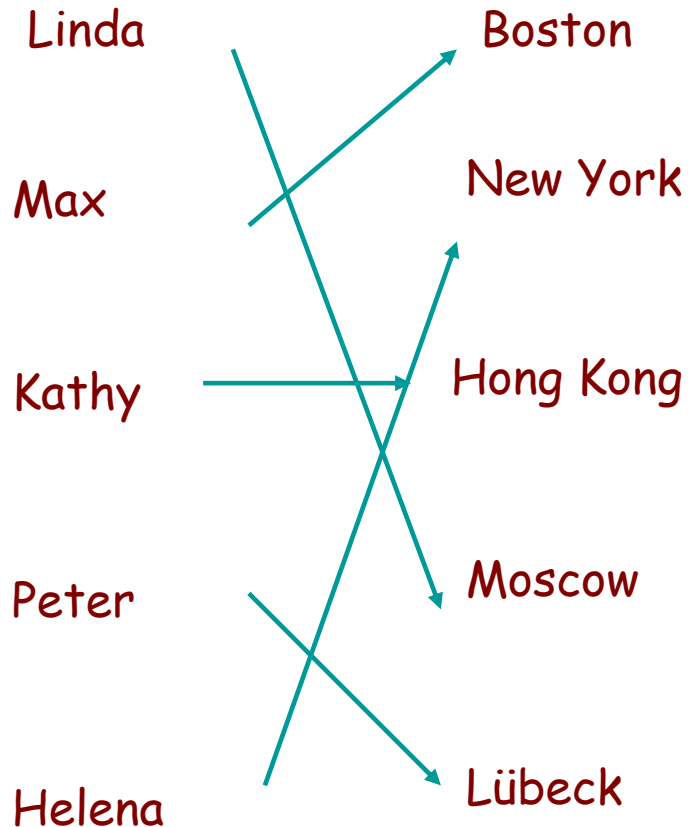


Is  $f$  injective?

No!  $f$  is not even a function!



# Properties of Functions



Is  $f$  injective?

Yes.

Is  $f$  surjective?

Yes.

Is  $f$  bijective?

Yes.





# Operators on Functions

- Inversion
- Composition

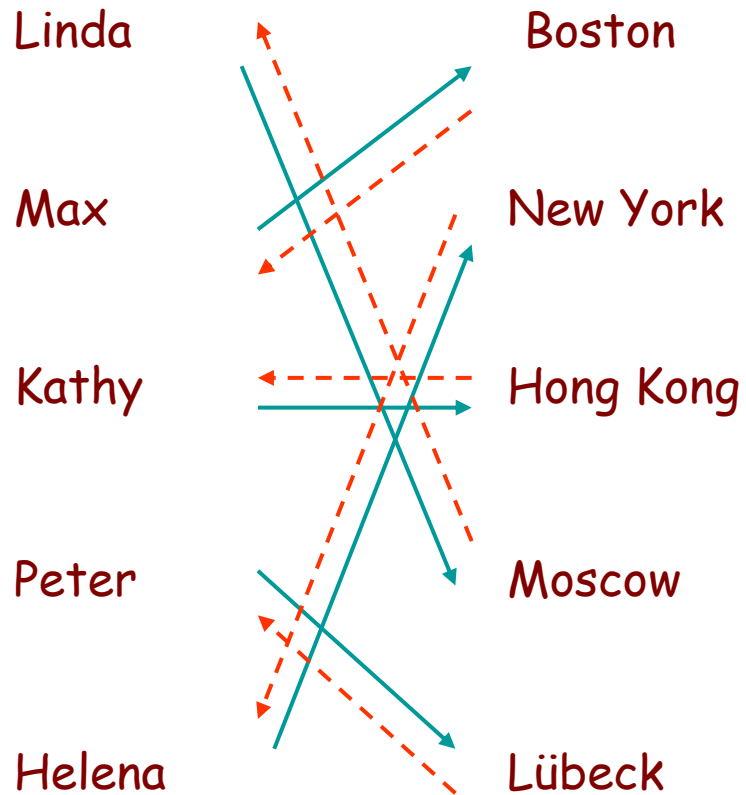


# Inversion

- An interesting property of bijections is that they have an **inverse function**.
- The **inverse function** of the bijection  $f:A\rightarrow B$  is the function  $f^{-1}:B\rightarrow A$  with  $f^{-1}(b) = a$  whenever  $f(a) = b$ .



# Inversion



$f$  

$f^{-1}$  



# Inversion

## Example:

$f(\text{Linda}) = \text{Moscow}$

$f(\text{Max}) = \text{Boston}$

$f(\text{Kathy}) = \text{Hong Kong}$

$f(\text{Peter}) = \text{Lübeck}$

$f(\text{Helena}) = \text{New York}$

Clearly,  $f$  is bijective.

The inverse function  $f^{-1}$  is given by:

$f^{-1}(\text{Moscow}) = \text{Linda}$

$f^{-1}(\text{Boston}) = \text{Max}$

$f^{-1}(\text{Hong Kong}) = \text{Kathy}$

$f^{-1}(\text{Lübeck}) = \text{Peter}$

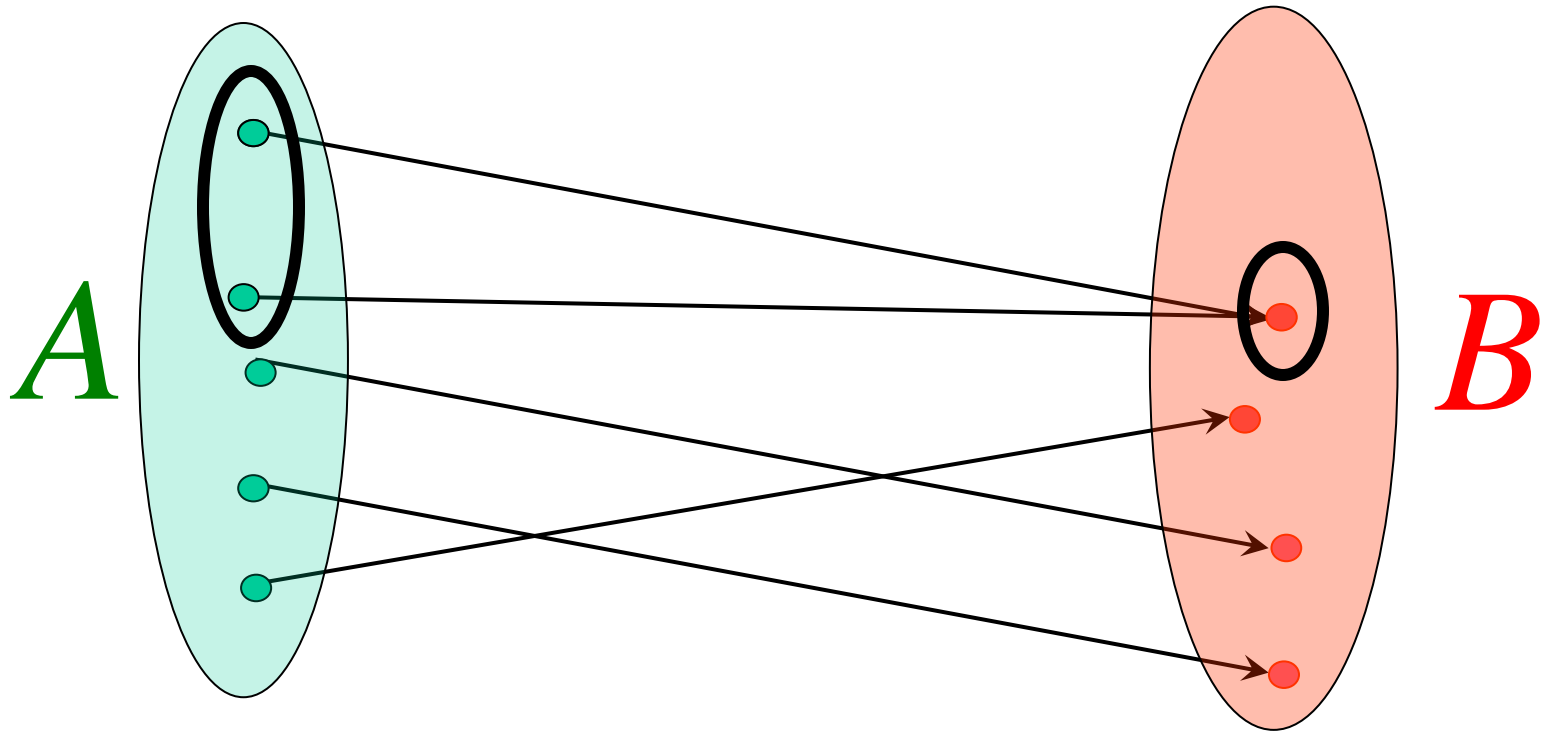
$f^{-1}(\text{New York}) = \text{Helena}$

**Inversion is only possible for  
bijections**

**(= invertible functions)**



# Inverse Sets



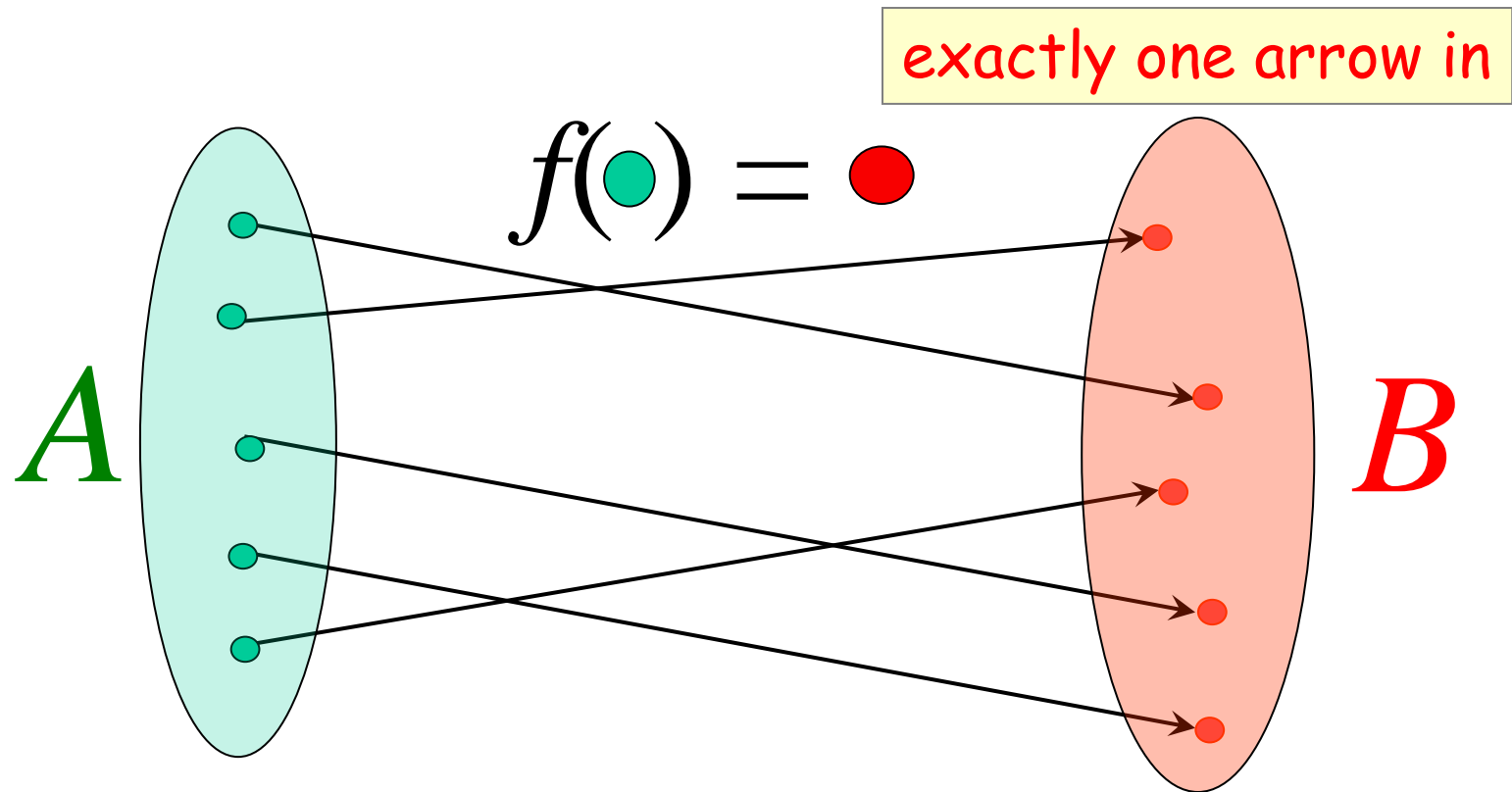
Given an element  $y$  in  $B$ , the **inverse set** of  $y := f^{-1}(y) = \{x \text{ in } A \mid f(x) = y\}$ .  
In words, this is the set of inputs that are mapped to  $y$ .

More generally, for a subset  $Y$  of  $B$ ,  
the **inverse set** of  $Y := f^{-1}(Y) = \{x \text{ in } A \mid f(x) \text{ in } Y\}$ .



# Inverse Function

Informally, an inverse function  $f^{-1}$  is to “undo” the operation of function  $f$ .



There is an inverse function  $f^{-1}$  for  $f$  if and only if  $f$  is a bijection.



# Composition

- The **composition** of two functions  $g:A \rightarrow B$  and  $f:B \rightarrow C$ , denoted by  $f \circ g$ , is defined by  $(f \circ g)(a) = f(g(a))$
- This means that
  - **first**, function  $g$  is applied to element  $a \in A$ , mapping it onto an element of  $B$ ,
  - **then**, function  $f$  is applied to this element of  $B$ , mapping it onto an element of  $C$ .
  - **Therefore**, the composite function maps from  $A$  to  $C$ .



# Composition

- Example:

$$f(x) = 7x - 4, g(x) = 3x,$$

$$f:\mathbf{R}\rightarrow\mathbf{R}, g:\mathbf{R}\rightarrow\mathbf{R}$$

$$(f\circ g)(5) = f(g(5)) = f(15) = 105 - 4 = 101$$

$$(f\circ g)(x) = f(g(x)) = f(3x) = 21x - 4$$





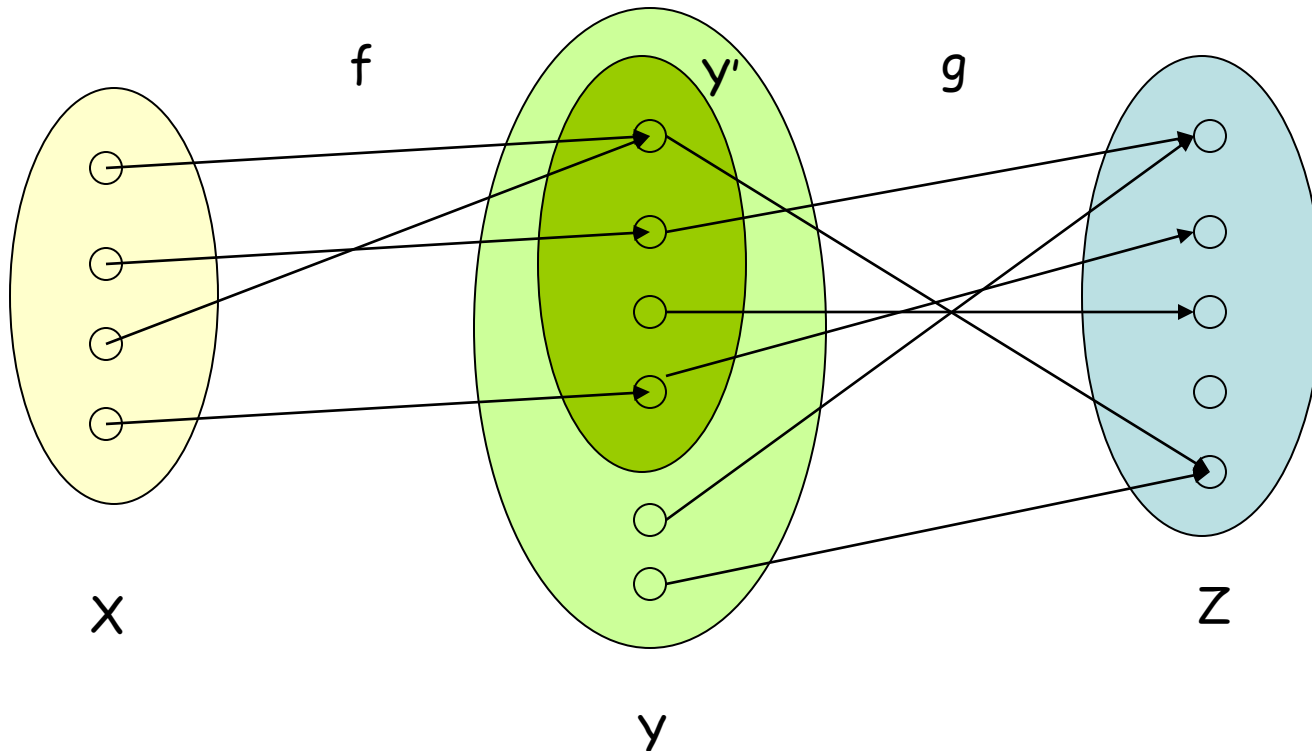
# Composition

- Composition of a function and its inverse:
  - $(f^{-1} \circ f)(x) = f^{-1}(f(x)) = x$
- The composition of a function and its inverse is the identity function  $i(x) = x$ .



# Composition of Functions

Two functions  $f: X \rightarrow Y'$ ,  $g: Y \rightarrow Z$  so that  $Y'$  is a subset of  $Y$ ,  
then the composition of  $f$  and  $g$  is the function  $g \circ f: X \rightarrow Z$ , where  
$$g \circ f(x) = g(f(x)).$$



# Review: One-to-one functions

- A function  $f : X \rightarrow Y$  is one-to-one  $\Leftrightarrow$  for each  $y \in Y$  there exists at most one  $x \in X$  with  $f(x) = y$ . (therefore,  $f(x) = c$  is out of play)
- Alternative definition:  $f : X \rightarrow Y$  is one-to-one  $\Leftrightarrow$  for each pair of distinct elements  $x_1, x_2 \in X$  there exist two distinct elements  $y_1, y_2 \in Y$  such that  $f(x_1) = y_1$  and  $f(x_2) = y_2$ .



# Review: One-to-one functions

- **Examples:**

1. The function  $f(x) = 2^x$  from the set of real numbers to itself is one-to-one.
2. The function  $f : \mathbb{R} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  defined by  $f(x) = x^2$  is not one-to-one, since for every real number  $x$ ,  $f(x) = f(-x)$ .



# Review: Onto functions

- A function  $f : X \rightarrow Y$  is **onto** (or, surjective)  $\Leftrightarrow$  for each  $y \in Y$  there exists at least one  $x \in X$  with  $f(x) = y$ , i.e.  $\text{Rng}(f) = Y$ .
  - **Example:** The function  $f = \{ (1,a), (2,c), (3,b) \}$  from  $X = \{1,2,3\}$  to  $Y = \{a,b,c\}$  is 1-to-1 and onto. If  $Y = \{a,b,c,d\}$ , then still 1-to-1, but not onto.



## Review: Onto functions

- **Example:** The function  $f(x) = e^x$  from the set of real numbers to itself is not onto  $Y$  (= the set of all real numbers). However, if  $Y$  is restricted to  $\text{Rng}(f) = \mathbb{R}^+$ , the set of positive real numbers, then  $f(x)$  is onto. Why?
- You need to look at the visual examples



# Review: Bijective functions

- A function  $f : X \rightarrow Y$  is bijective  $\Leftrightarrow f$  is one-to-one and onto.
  - **Examples:**
    1. Is A linear function  $f(x) = ax + b$  a bijective function from the set of real numbers to itself. Why?
    2. Is the function  $f(x) = x^3$  a bijective from the set of real numbers to itself. Why?



## Review: Inverse function

- Given a function  $y = f(x)$ , the inverse  $f^{-1}$  is the set  $\{(y, x) \mid y = f(x)\}$ .
- The inverse  $f^{-1}$  of  $f$  is not necessarily a function.
  - **Example:** if  $f(x) = x^2$ , then  $f^{-1}(4) = \sqrt{4} = \pm 2$ , not a unique value and therefore  $f^{-1}$  is not a function.
- However, if  $f$  is a bijective function, it can be shown that  $f^{-1}$  is a function.





# Review: Composition of functions

- Given two functions  $g : X \rightarrow Y$  and  $f : Y \rightarrow Z$ , the composition  $f \circ g$  is defined as follows:  
 $f \circ g (x) = f(g(x))$  for every  $x \in X$ .
  - **Example:**  $f(x) = x^2 - 1$ ,  $g(x) = 3x + 5$ . Then  
 $f \circ g(x) = f(g(x)) = f(3x + 5) = (3x + 5)^2 - 1$
- Composition of functions is **associative**:  
 $f \circ (g \circ h) = (f \circ g) \circ h$ ,
- But, in general, it is **not commutative**:  
 $f \circ g \neq g \circ f$ .



# Summary

- $f, g$  injective,  $f \circ g$  injective
- $f, g$  surjective,  $f \circ g$  surjective
- $f, g$  bijective,  $f \circ g$  bijective



# Exponential and logarithmic functions

- Let  $f(x) = 2^x$  and  $g(x) = \log_2 x = \lg x$ 
  - $f \circ g(x) = f(g(x)) = f(\lg x) = 2^{\lg x} = x$
  - $g \circ f(x) = g(f(x)) = g(2^x) = \lg 2^x = x$
- Therefore, the exponential and logarithmic functions are inverses of each other.



# Unary operators (一元运算)

- A **unary operator** on a set  $X$  associates each single element of  $X$  to one element of  $X$ .

- **Examples:**

1. Let  $X = U$  be a universal set and  $P(U)$  the power set of  $U$ . Define  $f : P(U) \rightarrow P(U)$  the function defined by  $f(A) = A'$ , the set complement of  $A$  in  $U$ , for every  $A \subseteq U$ . Then  $f$  defines a unary operator on  $P(U)$ . (The operator here is the "complement" itself).



# Binary operators (二元运算)

- A **binary operator** on a set  $X$  is a function  $f$  that associates a single element of  $X$  to every pair of elements in  $X$ , i.e.  $f : X \times X \rightarrow X$  and  $f(x_1, x_2) \in X$  for every pair of elements  $x_1, x_2$ .
- Examples of binary operators are addition, subtraction and multiplication of real numbers, taking unions or intersections of sets, concatenation of two strings over a set  $X$ , etc.



# Modulus operator (模运算)

- Let  $x$  be a nonnegative integer and  $y$  a positive integer
- $r = x \bmod y$  is the **remainder** when  $x$  is divided by  $y$ 
  - **Examples:**
    - $1 = 13 \bmod 3$
    - $6 = 234 \bmod 19$
    - $4 = 2002 \bmod 111$
  - Basically, remove the complete  $y$ 's and count what's left
  - **mod** is called the **modulus operator**



The End

