

# BIJECTION TYPE FOR JULIA

## FUNDAMENTALS

This is documentation for a `Bijection` datatype in Julia. A `Bijection` behaves like an extension of a `Dict` but we ensure that the mapping from keys to values is one-to-one and we provide an efficient way to map backwards from values to keys.

To get this module, do this (one time):

```
Pkg.clone("https://github.com/scheinerman/Bijections.jl.git")
```

Then using `Bijections` each session to load this module.

To create a `Bijection` we do this:

```
julia> b = Bijection()
```

in which the domain and range can be `Any`. Alternatively, to specify the types of the domain and range, use something like this:

```
julia> b = Bijection{Int, String}()
```

To add pairs to `b`, we can use the usual square bracket notation:

```
julia> b[5] = "hello"
```

```
julia> b[0] = "what?"
```

We cannot now define `b[0]` to have another value, nor can we define `b[1]` to be an existing range element:

```
julia> b[5] = "bye"
```

```
ERROR: One of x or y already in this Bijection  
in setindex! at .....
```

```
julia> b[1] = "hello"
```

```
ERROR: One of x or y already in this Bijection  
in setindex! at .....
```

To get the value associated with a given key, we use the usual square brackets:

```
julia> print(b[0])  
what?
```

Because distinct keys map to distinct values, we can invert from values to keys:

```
julia> inverse(b, "hello")  
5
```

If we want to change the mapping of 5 to hello we need to first delete the pair and redefine `b[5]` like this:

```
julia> delete!(b, 5)  
[(0, "what?")]
```

```
julia> b[5] = "bye"  
"bye"
```

## USER METHODS

These are the methods that users should use. Other methods in the file support the implementation and need not be (should not be) used.

- **Bijection**: This is the constructor used like this:

```
b = Bijection{S,T}()
```

where *S* and *T* are types. One can also use `b = Bijection()` which is equivalent to `b = Bijection{Any,Any}()`.

There is one other form: `b = Bijection(x,y)` where *x* and *y* are any two objects. This sets up *b* in which the domain elements have the same type as *x* and whose range elements have the same type as *y*. And this initializes *b* with the pair (*x*,*y*).

- **setindex!**: This is used to add a key-value pair to a bijection using the syntax `b[x] = y`. If *x* is already in the domain or *y* is already in the range, then an error is raised.
- **getindex**: This is used to query the value associated with a given key using the syntax `b[x]`. If *x* is not in the domain, an error is raised.
- **inverse**: This is used for the inverse mapping from values to keys. Syntax is `inverse(b,y)` to get the key *x* such that `b[x]==y`. If *y* is not in the range, then an error is raised.
- **delete!**: This is used to remove a key-value pair from a bijection. If *x* is in the domain, use `delete!(b,x)`.
- **length**: Give the number of elements in the bijection. Syntax is `length(b)`.
- **isempty**: Invoking `isempty(b)` returns `true` if *b* has no elements; otherwise it returns `false`.
- **collect**: Returns the pairs in a bijection as an `Array` of tuples.
- **domain**: Return, as an `Array`, the elements of the domain of a bijection (the keys).
- **range**: Return, as an `Array`, the elements of the range of a bijection (the values).