

Abelson and Sussman *Structure and Interpretation of Computer Programs 2nd Edition*.  
Exercise 2.5.

SOLUTION

We show that  $f : \mathbb{Z} \times \mathbb{Z} \rightarrow \mathbb{Z}$  defined by  $f(a, b) = 2^a 3^b$ , is 1-1.

Suppose that  $f(a, b) = f(c, d)$ . Then  $2^a 3^b = 2^c 3^d$ . Assume, for the sake of obtaining a contradiction, that  $a \neq c$ . Then without loss of generality we may suppose that  $a > c$ . This implies that  $2^{a-c} 3^b = 3^d$  is even, since  $a - c > 0$ . This is our contradiction. Hence  $a = c$ . It follows immediately that  $b = d$ . Hence  $f$  is 1-1.