

# §1 Sets, Functions, and Sequences

- A **set** is a **well-defined collection of distinct objects**.
- An **element** of a set is any object **in the set**.
  - $\in$  - "belongs to" or "is an element of" or "is in"
  - $\notin$  - "does not belong to" or "is not an element of" or "is not in"
- The **cardinality** of a set  $S$ , denoted by  $|S|$ , is the **number of elements** in  $S$ .

**Example.** Some commonly-used sets in our number system:

- $\mathbb{N}$  - the set of *natural numbers*  $0, 1, 2, 3, \dots$
- $\mathbb{Z}$  - the set of *integers* (whole numbers)  $\dots, -3, -2, -1, 0, 1, 2, 3, \dots$
- $\mathbb{Q}$  - the set of *rational numbers* (fractions)  $\dots, -1, 0, 1, 2, \frac{1}{2}, 3, \frac{1}{3}, \frac{2}{3}, \dots$
- $\mathbb{R}$  - the set of *real numbers*, which includes all rational numbers as well as *irrational numbers* such as  $\pi$ ,  $e$ , and  $\sqrt{2}$
- $\mathbb{R}^+$  - the set of all *positive real numbers*

**Example.** We can specify a set by listing its elements between curly brackets, separated by commas:

$$S = \{b, c\}.$$

The elements of  $S$  are  $b$  and  $c$ . Thus  $|S| = 2$ .

We can write  $b \in S$ ,  $c \in S$ , and  $d \notin S$ , for instance.

**Example.** We can specify a set by some property that all elements must have:

$$S = \{x \in \mathbb{Z} \mid x^2 \leq 4\}$$

$$(\text{or } S = \{x \in \mathbb{Z} : x^2 \leq 4\}).$$

The elements of  $S$  are  $-2, -1, 0, 1$  and  $2$ . Thus  $|S| = 5$ .

Also  $S = \{-2, -1, 0, 1, 2\}$ .

We can write  $-2 \in S$ ,  $-1 \in S$ ,  $0 \in S$ ,  $1 \in S$ , and  $4 \notin S$ , for instance.

**Exercise.** Let  $A = \{\{a\}, a\}$ . What are the elements of  $A$ ? What is  $|A|$ ?

- Two sets  $S$  and  $T$  are **equal**, denoted by  $S = T$ , if and only if (written i )
  - (i) every element of  $S$  is also an element of  $T$ , and
  - (ii) every element of  $T$  is also an element of  $S$ .
 i.e., when they have precisely the same elements.
- The **empty set**, denoted by  $\emptyset$ , is a set which has no elements.  $\emptyset \subseteq S$  for any set  $S$ .

Exercise. Are any of the following sets equal?

$$A = \{2, 3, 4, 5\}, \quad C = \{2, 2, 3, 3, 4, 5\},$$

$$B = \{5, 4, 3, 2\}, \quad D = \{x \in \mathbb{N} \mid 2 \leq x \leq 5\}.$$

Exercise. What is the difference between the sets  $\{\emptyset\}$  and  $\{\emptyset, \{\emptyset\}\}$ ?

- Loosely speaking, a **subset** is a part of a set. More precisely, a set  $S$  is a **subset** of a set  $T$  if and only if each element of  $S$  is also an element of  $T$ .
  - $\subseteq$  - "is a subset of",  $\not\subseteq$  - "is not a subset of"
  - $S = T$  if and only if  $S \subseteq T$  and  $T \subseteq S$ .
- A set  $S$  is a **proper subset** of a set  $T$  if  $S$  is a subset of  $T$  and  $S \neq T$ .
  - We then write  $S \subset T$  (or sometimes  $S \subsetneq T$ ).
  - $S$  is a proper subset of any non-empty set.
  - Any non-empty set is an improper subset of itself.
- The **power set**  $P(S)$  of a set  $S$  is the set of all possible subsets of  $S$ .
  - For any set  $S$ , we have  $\emptyset \subseteq S$  and  $S \subseteq S$ .
  - For any set  $S$ , we have  $\emptyset \in P(S)$  and  $S \in P(S)$ .
- The number of subsets of  $S$  is  $|P(S)| = 2^{|S|}$ . (Why?)

Example.  $\mathbb{N} \subseteq \mathbb{Z} \subseteq \mathbb{Q} \subseteq \mathbb{R}$

**Example.** Let  $S = \{a, b, c\}$ . The subsets of  $S$  are:

$$\emptyset, \{a\}, \{b\}, \{c\}, \{a, b\}, \{a, c\}, \{b, c\}, \{a, b, c\}.$$

$S$  has 8 subsets. We can write  $\emptyset \subseteq S, \{b\} \subseteq S, \{a, c\} \subseteq S, \{a, b, c\} \subseteq S$ , etc.  
The power set of  $S$  is

$$P(S) = \{ \emptyset, \{a\}, \{b\}, \{c\}, \{a, b\}, \{a, c\}, \{b, c\}, \{a, b, c\} \}.$$

and  $|P(S)| = 2^3 = 8$ .

We can write  $\emptyset \in P(S), \{b\} \in P(S), \{a, c\} \in P(S), \{a, b, c\} \in P(S)$ , etc.

**Exercise.** Let  $A = P(P(\{1\}))$ . Find  $A$  and  $|A|$ .

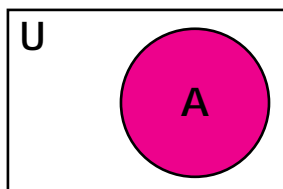
**Exercise.** For  $B = \{ \emptyset, 0, \{1\} \}$ , are the following statements true or false?

- |                                     |                                   |
|-------------------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| 1. $\emptyset \in B$                | 8. $\{\{0\}\} \subseteq P(B)$     |
| 2. $\emptyset \subseteq B$          | 9. $1 \in B$                      |
| 3. $\{ \emptyset \} \in B$          | 10. $\{1\} \subseteq B$           |
| 4. $\{ \emptyset \} \subseteq P(B)$ | 11. $\{1\} \in P(B)$              |
| 5. $\{0\} \in P(B)$                 | 12. $\{\{1\}\} \subseteq P(B)$    |
| 6. $\{ \emptyset \} \subseteq B$    | 13. $\emptyset \in P(P(P(P(B))))$ |
| 7. $\{ \emptyset \} \in P(B)$       |                                   |

- It is often convenient to work inside a specified **universal set**, denoted by  **$U$** , which is assumed to contain **everything that is relevant**.

- Venn diagrams** are visualizations of sets as regions in the plane.

For instance, here is a Venn diagram of a universal set  $U$  containing a set  $A$ :

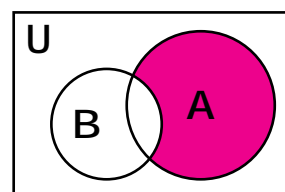


- Set operations and set algebra:

~ illustrated by Venn diagrams ~

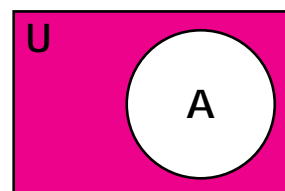
- difference** ( $-$ ,  $\setminus$ ) - "but not"

$$A - B = A \setminus B = \{x \in U \mid x \in A \text{ and } x \notin B\}$$



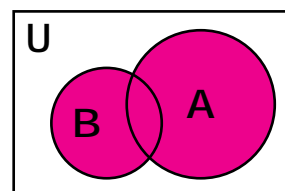
- complement** ( $^c$ ,  $\overline{\phantom{x}}$ ) - "not"

$$A^c = \overline{A} = U \setminus A = \{x \in U \mid x \notin A\}$$



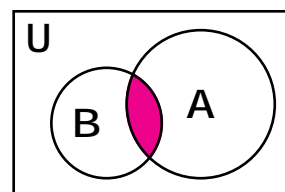
- union** ( $\cup$ ) - "or" meaning "one or other or both"

$$A \cup B = \{x \in U \mid x \in A \text{ or } x \in B\}$$



- intersection** ( $\cap$ ) - "and"

$$A \cap B = \{x \in U \mid x \in A \text{ and } x \in B\}$$



- Two sets  $A$  and  $B$  are **disjoint** if  $A \cap B = \emptyset$ .

- The **Inclusion-Exclusion Principle**:  $|A \cup B| = |A| + |B| - |A \cap B|$ .

**Example.** Set  $U = \{1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6\}$ ,  $A = \{1, 3, 5\}$ , and  $B = \{1, 2\}$ .

Then

$$A^c = \{2, 4, 6\} \quad A \cap B = \{1\} \quad A \cup B = \{1, 2, 3, 5\} \quad A - B = \{3, 5\}.$$

**Exercise.** Given  $U = \{0, 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9\}$ ,

$$A = \{x \in U \mid x \text{ is odd}\}$$

$$B = \{x \in U \mid x \text{ is even}\}$$

$$C = \{x \in U \mid x \text{ is a multiple of 3}\}$$

$$D = \{x \in U \mid x \text{ is prime}\}$$

determine the following sets:

$$A \cap C$$

$$B - D$$

$$B \cup D$$

$$A^c$$

$$(A \cap C) - D$$

**Exercise.** Determine the sets  $A$  and  $B$ , where

$$A - B = \{a, c\}, B - A = \{b, f, g\}, \text{ and } A \cap B = \{d, e\}.$$

**Example.** In a survey of 100 students majoring in computer science, the following information was obtained:

17 can program in C++, Java, and Visual Basic.

22 can program in C++ and Java, but not Visual Basic.

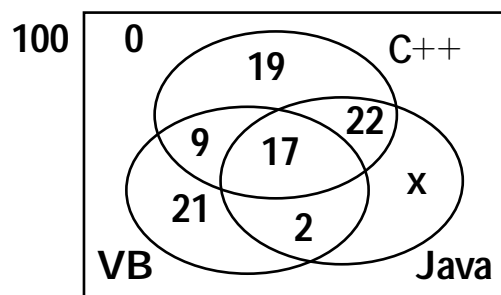
9 can program in C++ and Visual Basic, but not Java.

2 can program in Java and Visual Basic, but not C++.

19 can program in C++, but not Visual Basic or Java.

21 can program in Visual Basic, but not C++ or Java.

Also, all of the 100 students can program in at least one of these three languages. How many students can program in Java, but not C++ or Visual Basic?



$$x = 100 - (17 + 22 + 9 + 2 + 19 + 21 + 0) = 10$$

**Exercise.** In a survey of 200 people asked about whether they like apples (A), bananas (B), and cherries (C), the following data was obtained:

$$\begin{aligned} |A| &= 112, & |B| &= 89, & |C| &= 71, \\ |A \cap B| &= 32, & |A \cap C| &= 26, & |B \cap C| &= 43, \\ |A \cap B \cap C| &= 20. \end{aligned}$$

- a) How many people like apples or bananas?
- b) How many people like exactly one of these fruit?
- c) How many people like none of these fruit?

● Hints for proofs:

- To prove that  $S \subseteq T$ , we assume that  $x \in S$  and show that  $x \in T$ .
- To prove that  $S = T$ , we show that  $S \subseteq T$  and  $T \subseteq S$ .

**Example.** We prove that if  $A \subseteq C$  and  $B \subseteq C$ , then  $A \cup B \subseteq C$ .

**Proof.** Let  $A \subseteq C$  and  $B \subseteq C$  and suppose that  $x \in A \cup B$ .

Then either  $x \in A$  or  $x \in B$  (maybe both).

If  $x \in A$ , then  $x \in C$ , because  $A \subseteq C$ .

Likewise, if  $x \in B$ , then  $x \in C$ , since  $B \subseteq C$ .

In all possible cases, we have  $x \in C$ , which proves that  $A \cup B \subseteq C$ .

**Exercise.** Prove that if  $A \subseteq B$  and  $A \subseteq C$ , then  $A \subseteq B \cap C$ .

**Exercise.** Prove that if  $A \subseteq B$ , then  $A \cap B = A$ .

**Exercise.** Prove that if  $A \cap B = A$ , then  $A \subseteq B$ .

Thus, putting these last two examples together, we can say  
 $A \cap B = A$  if and only if  $A \subseteq B$ .

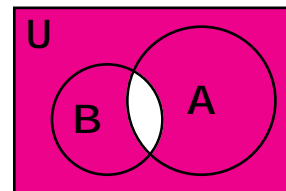
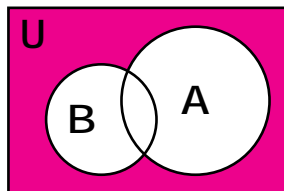
**Exercise.** Is the statement  $A \cap (B \cup C) = (A \cap B) \cup C$  true (for all sets  $A, B, C$ )? Provide a proof if it is true or give a counter example if it is false.

A wrong answer is "False: because LHS is  $(A \cap B) \cup (A \cap C)$  not  $(A \cap B) \cup C$ ."

**Exercise.** Is the statement  $A - (B - C) = (A - B) - C$  true? Provide a proof if it is true or give a counter example if it is false.

● **Laws of set algebra:**

- **Commutative** laws  $A \cap B = B \cap A$   
 $A \cup B = B \cup A$
- **Associative** laws  $A \cap (B \cap C) = (A \cap B) \cap C$   
 $A \cup (B \cup C) = (A \cup B) \cup C$
- **Distributive** laws  $A \cap (B \cup C) = (A \cap B) \cup (A \cap C)$   
 $A \cup (B \cap C) = (A \cup B) \cap (A \cup C)$
- **Absorption** laws  $A \cap (A \cup B) = A$   
 $A \cup (A \cap B) = A$
- **Identity** laws  $A \cap U = U \cap A = A$   
 $A \cup \emptyset = \emptyset \cup A = A$
- **Idempotent** laws  $A \cap A = A$   
 $A \cup A = A$
- **Double complement** law  $(A^c)^c = A$
- **Difference** law  $A - B = A \cap B^c$
- **Domination** or **universal bound** laws  $A \cap \emptyset = \emptyset \cap A = \emptyset$   
 $A \cup U = U \cup A = U$
- **Intersection and union with complement**  $A \cap A^c = A^c \cap A = \emptyset$   
 $A \cup A^c = A^c \cup A = U$
- **De Morgan's** Laws  $(A \cup B)^c = A^c \cap B^c$   $(A \cap B)^c = A^c \cup B^c$



**Proof of De Morgan's law  $(A \cup B)^c = A^c \cap B^c$  :**

(i) Suppose that  $x \in (A \cup B)^c$ . Then we have  $x \notin A \cup B$ , so  $x \notin A$  and  $x \notin B$ .  
Thus,  $x \in A^c$  and  $x \in B^c$ , so  $x \in A^c \cap B^c$ .  
This proves that  $(A \cup B)^c \subseteq A^c \cap B^c$ .

(ii) Suppose now that  $x \in A^c \cap B^c$ . Then  $x \in A^c$  and  $x \in B^c$ , so  $x \notin A$  and  $x \notin B$ .  
Thus,  $x \notin A \cup B$ , so  $x \in (A \cup B)^c$ .  
This proves that  $A^c \cap B^c \subseteq (A \cup B)^c$ .

Combining (i) and (ii), we conclude that  $(A \cup B)^c = A^c \cap B^c$ .



**Example.** We can use the laws of set algebra to simplify  $(A^c \cap B)^c \cup B$ :

$(A^c \cap B)^c \cup B$	$= ((A^c)^c \cup B^c) \cup B$	De Morgan's law
	$= (A \cup B^c) \cup B$	Double complement law
	$= A \cup (B^c \cup B)$	Associative law
	$= A \cup U$	Union with complement
	$= U$	Domination

**Exercise.** Use the laws of set algebra to simplify  $(A \cap (A \cap B)^c) \cup B^c$ :

**Exercise.** Use the laws of set algebra to simplify

$$([(A \cup B)^c \cup C] \cup B^c)^c$$

**Challenge:** Prove the result (*uniqueness of complement*):

**If  $A \cup B = U$  and  $A \cap B = \emptyset$  then  $B = A^c$ .**

● **Principal of Duality:**

For a set identity involving only unions, intersections and complements, its **dual** is obtained by replacing  $\cap$  with  $\cup$ ,  $\cup$  with  $\cap$ ,  $\bar{\phantom{x}}$  with  $\phantom{x}$ , and  $\phantom{x}$  with  $\bar{\phantom{x}}$ .

As all the relevant laws of set algebra come in dual pairs, then **the dual of any true set identity is also true.**

The duals of the last 3 examples are:

● **Generalized set operations:**

$$\bigcup_{i=1}^n A_i = A_1 \cup A_2 \cup \cdots \cup A_n \quad \text{and} \quad \bigcap_{i=1}^n A_i = A_1 \cap A_2 \cap \cdots \cap A_n$$

**Example.** If  $A_k = \{k, k + 1\}$  for every positive integer  $k$ , then

$$\bigcup_{k=1}^3 A_k = A_1 \cup A_2 \cup A_3 = \{1, 2\} \cup \{2, 3\} \cup \{3, 4\} = \{1, 2, 3, 4\}$$

$$\bigcap_{k=1}^3 A_k =$$

● Let  $I$  be an (index) set. For each  $i \in I$ , let  $A_i$  be a subset of a given set  $A$ .

$$\bigcup_{i \in I} A_i = \bigcup_{i \in I} A_i = \{a \in A \mid a \in A_i \text{ for some } i \in I\}$$

$$\bigcap_{i \in I} A_i = \bigcap_{i \in I} A_i = \{a \in A \mid a \in A_i \text{ for every } i \in I\}$$

**Example.**

Let  $I = \{1, 2, 3, \dots\}$  be the index set. For each  $i \in I$  let

$A_i = [0, \frac{1}{i}] \subseteq \mathbb{R}$  be the set of real numbers between 0 and  $\frac{1}{i}$  including 0 and  $\frac{1}{i}$ .

$$\bigcup_{i \in I} A_i = [0, 1] \cup [0, \frac{1}{2}] \cup [0, \frac{1}{3}] \cup \dots =$$

$$\bigcap_{i \in I} A_i = [0, 1] \cap [0, \frac{1}{2}] \cap [0, \frac{1}{3}] \cap \dots =$$

**Example.** (*The Barber Puzzle*) In a certain town there is a barber (\*) who shaves all those men, and only those, who do not shave themselves. Does the barber shave himself?

**Problem:** If he shaves himself, (\*)  $\implies$  he doesn't shave himself.

If he doesn't shave himself, (\*)  $\implies$  he shaves himself.

**CONTRADICTION!**

**Solution:**

The paradox occurred because a self-referential statement was used. The "themself" in (\*) could also refer to the barber unless our above solution is imposed.

### Example. (*Russell's Paradox*)

- Let  $U$  be the set of all sets.
- First weird phenomenon: then  $U \in U$ .
- Even worse, we have *Russell's paradox*. Let

$$S = \{A \in U \mid A \notin A\}.$$

Is  $S$  an element of itself?

- If  $S \in S$ , then the definition of  $S$  implies that  $S \notin S$ , a contradiction.
- If  $S \notin S$ , then the definition of  $S$  implies that  $S \in S$ , also a contradiction.

Hence neither  $S \in S$  nor  $S \notin S$ .

Usual Solution:

**Key Point:** The notion of set and set theory is very subtle. We will for the most part ignore these subtleties.

- An **ordered pair** is a **collection of two objects in a specified order**. We use round brackets to denote ordered pairs; e.g.,  $(a, b)$  is an ordered pair.
  - Note that  $(a, b)$  and  $(b, a)$  are different ordered pairs, whereas  $\{a, b\}$  and  $\{b, a\}$  are the same set.
- An **ordered  $n$ -tuple** is a **collection of  $n$  objects in a specified order**; e.g.,  $(a_1, a_2, \dots, a_n)$  is an ordered  $n$ -tuple.
  - Two ordered  $n$ -tuples  $(a_1, a_2, \dots, a_n)$  and  $(b_1, b_2, \dots, b_n)$  are **equal** if and only if  **$a_i = b_i$  for all  $i = 1, 2, \dots, n$** .
- The **Cartesian product** of two sets  $A$  and  $B$ , denoted by  $A \times B$ , is the **set of all ordered pairs, the first from  $A$ , the second from  $B$** :

$$A \times B = \{(a, b) \mid a \in A \text{ and } b \in B\}$$

If  $|A| = m$  and  $|B| = n$ , then we have  $|A \times B| =$

- The **Cartesian product** of  $n$  sets  $A_1, A_2, \dots, A_n$  is the **set of all ordered  $n$ -tuples  $(a_1, a_2, \dots, a_n)$  such that  $a_i \in A_i$  for all  $i = 1, 2, \dots, n$** :

$$A_1 \times A_2 \times \dots \times A_n = \{(a_1, a_2, \dots, a_n) \mid a_i \in A_i \text{ for all } i = 1, 2, \dots, n\}$$

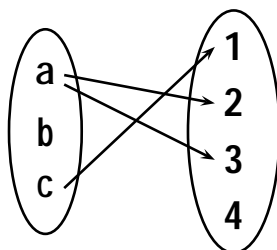
**Example.** Let  $A = \{a, b\}$  and  $B = \{1, 2, 3\}$ . Then

$$A \times B = \{(a, 1), (a, 2), (a, 3), (b, 1), (b, 2), (b, 3)\}.$$

**Exercise.** For  $A$  in the above example, find  $A \times A$ .

- When  $X$  and  $Y$  are small finite sets, we can use an **arrow diagram** to represent a subset  $S$  of  $X \times Y$ : we list the elements of  $X$  and the elements of  $Y$ , and then we draw an arrow from  $x$  to  $y$  for each pair  $(x, y) \in S$ .

**Example.** Let  $X = \{a, b, c\}$ ,  $Y = \{1, 2, 3, 4\}$ , and  $S = \{(a, 2), (a, 3), (c, 1)\}$  which is a subset of  $X \times Y$ , then the arrow diagram for  $S$  is



- A **function**  $f$  from a set  $X$  to a set  $Y$  is a subset of  $X \times Y$  such that for every  $x \in X$  there is exactly one  $y \in Y$  for which  $(x, y)$  belongs to  $f$ .
  - We write  $f : X \rightarrow Y$  and say that " $f$  is a function from  $X$  to  $Y$ ".
  - $X$  is the **domain** of  $f$ ,  $Y$  is the **codomain** of  $f$ .
  - For any  $x \in X$ , there is a unique  $y \in Y$  for which  $(x, y)$  belongs to  $f$ .
    - We write  $f(x) = y$  or  $f : x \mapsto y$ .
    - We call  $y$  "the **image** of  $x$  under  $f$ " or "the **value** of  $f$  at  $x$ ".
  - The **range** of  $f$  is the set of all values of  $f$ , that is
 
$$f(X) = \{y \in Y \mid y = f(x) \text{ for some } x \in X\}.$$
- This definition of a function corresponds to what is normally thought of as the **graph** of a function, with an  $x$ -axis and a  $y$ -axis.

How does this relate to the definition of a function given in Calculus in MATH1131/1141/1151?

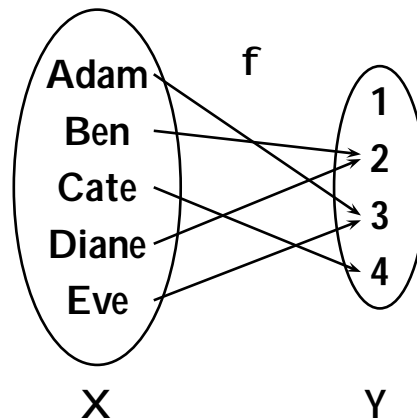
**Example.** Adam, Ben, Cate, Diane, and Eve were each given a mark out of 4. Their marks define a function  $f : X \rightarrow Y$  as follows:

domain  $X = \{\text{Adam, Ben, Cate, Diane, and Eve}\}$

codomain  $Y = \{1, 2, 3, 4\}$ ,

and suppose  $f = \{(\text{Adam}, 3), (\text{Ben}, 2), (\text{Cate}, 4), (\text{Diane}, 2), (\text{Eve}, 3)\}$ .

The arrow diagram for this function is



This is a function because every person has exactly one mark.

The range of this function is  $\{2, 3, 4\}$ .

**Exercise.** Let  $X = \{a, b, c\}$  and  $Y = \{1, 2, 3, 4, 5\}$ .

Determine whether or not each of the following is a function from  $X$  to  $Y$ . If it is, then write down its range.

$$f = \{(a, 2), (a, 4), (b, 3), (c, 5)\},$$

$$g = \{(b, 1), (c, 3)\},$$

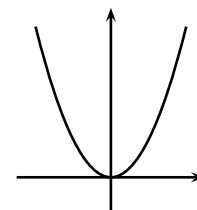
$$h = \{(a, 5), (b, 2), (c, 2)\}.$$

**Example.** The *square* function  $f : \mathbb{R} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  is defined by set of the pairs

$$\{(x, y) \in \mathbb{R} \times \mathbb{R} \mid y = x^2\}.$$

The function  $f : \mathbb{R} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  can also be specified by

$$f(x) = x^2 \quad \text{or} \quad f : x \mapsto x^2.$$



The domain of  $f$  is  $\mathbb{R}$ ; the codomain of  $f$  is  $\mathbb{R}$ ; and the range of  $f$  is

$$\{y \in \mathbb{R} \mid y = x^2 \text{ for some } x \in \mathbb{R}\} = \{y \in \mathbb{R} \mid y \geq 0\} = \mathbb{R}^+ \cup \{0\}.$$

- The **floor** function: (round down)  
for any  $x \in \mathbb{R}$ , we denote by  $\lfloor x \rfloor$  the largest integer less than or equal to  $x$ .
- The **ceiling** function: (round up)  
for any  $x \in \mathbb{R}$ , we denote by  $\lceil x \rceil$  the smallest integer greater than or equal to  $x$ .

**Exercise.** Evaluate the following:

$$\begin{array}{llll} \lfloor 3.7 \rfloor = & \lfloor -3.7 \rfloor = & \lfloor 3 \rfloor = & \lfloor -3 \rfloor = \\ \lceil 3.7 \rceil = & \lceil -3.7 \rceil = & \lceil 3 \rceil = & \lceil -3 \rceil = \end{array}$$

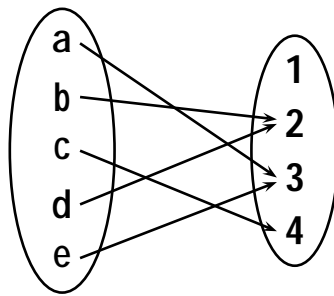
**Exercise.** What are the ranges of the floor and ceiling functions?  
Plot the graphs of the floor and the ceiling functions.

**Exercise.** Determine whether or not each of the following definitions corresponds to a function. If it does, then write down its range.

$$\begin{array}{ll} f : \mathbb{R} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}, & f(x) = \frac{1}{x} \\ g : \mathbb{R}^+ \rightarrow \mathbb{R}, & g(x) = \frac{1}{x} \\ h : \mathbb{R} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}, & h(x) = \lfloor x^2 - x \rfloor \\ j : \mathbb{R} \rightarrow \mathbb{Z} & j(x) = 2x \end{array}$$

- The **image** of a set  $A \subseteq X$  under a function  $f : X \rightarrow Y$  is  
 $f(A) = \{y \in Y \mid y = f(x) \text{ for some } x \in A\} = \{f(x) \mid x \in A\} \subseteq Y.$
- The **inverse image** of a set  $B \subseteq Y$  under a function  $f : X \rightarrow Y$  is  
 $f^{-1}(B) = \{x \in X \mid f(x) \in B\} \subseteq X.$

**Example.** Let the function  $f$  be defined by the arrow diagram



The image of  $\{a, b, e\}$  under  $f$  is  $f(\{a, b, e\}) = \{f(a), f(b), f(e)\} = \{2, 3\}$ .

The inverse image of  $\{1, 2\}$  under  $f$  is  $f^{-1}(\{1, 2\}) = \{b, d\}$ .

**Exercise.** Let  $f : \mathbb{R} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  be given by  $f(x) = x^2$ . Find

- The image of the set  $\{2, -2, \sqrt{2}\}$  under  $f$ .
- The inverse image of the set  $\{9, -9\}$  under  $f$
- The inverse image of the set  $\{-2, -9\}$  under  $f$ .

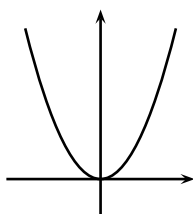
- Recall that if  $f$  is a function from  $X$  to  $Y$ , then
  - for every  $x \in X$ , there is exactly one  $y \in Y$  such that  $f(x) = y$ .
- We say that a function  $f : X \rightarrow Y$  is **injective** or **one-to-one** i
  - for every  $y \in Y$ , there is at most one  $x \in X$  such that  $f(x) = y$ .
  - OR equivalently, for all  $x_1, x_2 \in X$ , if  $f(x_1) = f(x_2)$  then  $x_1 = x_2$ .
  - OR equivalently, for all  $x_1, x_2 \in X$ , if  $x_1 \neq x_2$  then  $f(x_1) \neq f(x_2)$ .
- We say that a function  $f : X \rightarrow Y$  is **surjective** or **onto** i
  - for every  $y \in Y$ , there is at least one  $x \in X$  such that  $f(x) = y$ .
  - the range of  $f$  is the same as the codomain of  $f$ .
- We say that a function  $f : X \rightarrow Y$  is **bijective** i
  - $f$  is both **injective** and **surjective** (one-to-one and onto).
  - for every  $y \in Y$ , there is exactly one  $x \in X$  such that  $f(x) = y$ .



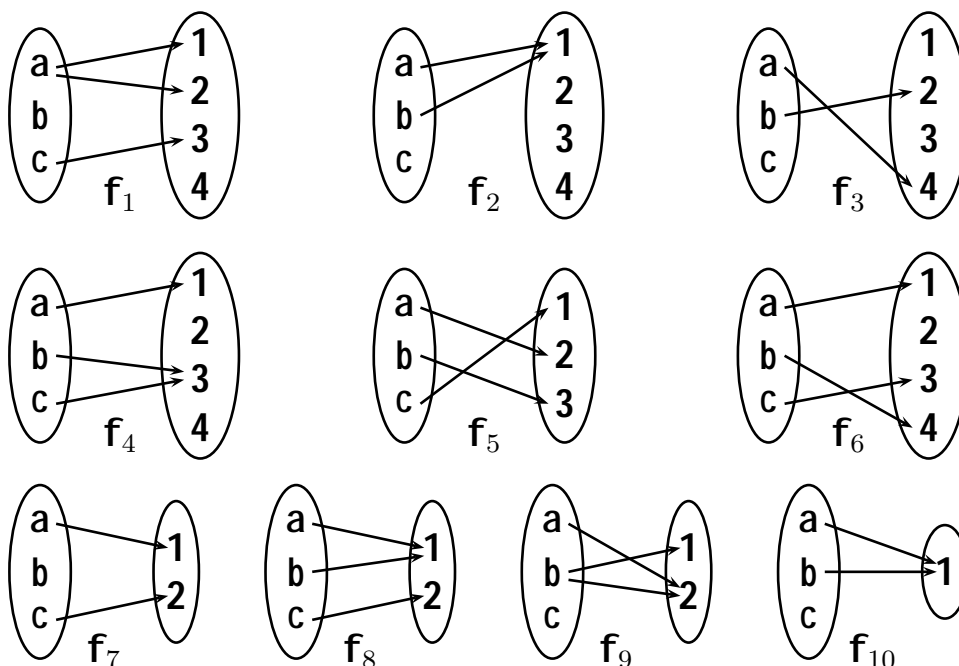
● In terms of arrow diagrams and graphs...

	The arrow diagram for $f : X \rightarrow Y$	The graph for $f : \mathbb{R} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$
<b>function</b>	has <b>exactly one outgoing</b> arrow for each element of $X$	intersects each <b>vertical</b> line in <b>exactly one</b> point
<b>injective</b> one-to-one	has <b>at most one incoming</b> arrow for each element of $Y$	intersects each <b>horizontal</b> line in <b>at most one</b> point
<b>surjective</b> onto	has <b>at least one incoming</b> arrow for each element of $Y$	intersects each <b>horizontal</b> line in <b>at least one</b> point
<b>bijective</b>	has <b>exactly one incoming</b> arrow for each element of $Y$	intersects each <b>horizontal</b> line in <b>exactly one</b> point

**Example.** The function  $f : \mathbb{R} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ ,  $f(x) = x^2$  is neither injective nor surjective.



**Exercise.** Determine whether or not each of the following arrow diagrams corresponds to a function. If it does, then determine whether or not it is injective, surjective, or bijective.



	$f_1$	$f_2$	$f_3$	$f_4$	$f_5$	$f_6$	$f_7$	$f_8$	$f_9$	$f_{10}$
function injective surjective bijective										

**Exercise.** Which of the following definitions correspond to functions?  
Which of the functions are injective? surjective? bijective?

$$\begin{aligned}
 f_1 : \mathbb{R} &\rightarrow \mathbb{R}, & f_1(x) &= \sqrt{x} \\
 f_2 : \mathbb{R} &\rightarrow \mathbb{R}, & f_2(x) &= x^2 \\
 f_3 : \mathbb{R} &\rightarrow (\mathbb{R}^+ \cup \{0\}), & f_3(x) &= x^2 \\
 f_4 : \mathbb{R}^+ &\rightarrow \mathbb{R}^+, & f_4(x) &= x^2 \\
 f_5 : (\mathbb{R} - \{0\}) &\rightarrow \mathbb{R}, & f_5(x) &= \frac{1}{x} \\
 f_6 : \mathbb{R} &\rightarrow \mathbb{R}, & f_6(x) &= x^2 - 2x - 2
 \end{aligned}$$

Plot the graph in each case, and give reasons for your answers.

	$f_1$	$f_2$	$f_3$	$f_4$	$f_5$	$f_6$
function injective surjective bijective						

- For functions  $f : X \rightarrow Y$  and  $g : Y \rightarrow Z$ , the **composite** of  $f$  and  $g$  is the function  $g \circ f : X \rightarrow Z$  defined by  $(g \circ f)(x) = g(f(x))$  for all  $x \in X$ .
- In general,  $g \circ f$  and  $f \circ g$  are not the same composite functions.
- **Associativity** of composition (assuming they exist):  $h \circ (g \circ f) = (h \circ g) \circ f$ .

**Example.** Let  $f$  and  $g$  be functions defined by

$$f : \mathbb{N} \rightarrow \mathbb{Z}, f(x) = x + 3 \quad \text{and} \quad g : \mathbb{Z} \rightarrow \mathbb{Z}, g(y) = y^2.$$

Then the composite function  $g \circ f : \mathbb{N} \rightarrow \mathbb{Z}$  exists because  
codomain of  $f = \mathbb{Z} = \text{domain of } g$ .

It is given by

$$(g \circ f)(x) = g(f(x)) = g(x + 3) = (x + 3)^2 = x^2 + 6x + 9.$$

Technically,  $f \circ g$  is not defined as codomain of  $g = \mathbb{Z} \neq \mathbb{N} = \text{domain of } f$ .

**BUT**, range of  $g \subseteq \mathbb{N}$  so if we re-define  $g$  to be closely related function  
 $g : \mathbb{Z} \rightarrow \mathbb{N} : y \mapsto y^2$  then,  
with this sleight of hand  $f \circ g$  is defined and

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

Note  $f \circ g \neq g \circ f$  and they do not even have the same domains.

**Exercise.** Let  $A = \{1, 2\}$  and  $f : A \rightarrow A$  be defined by

$$f = \{(1, 2), (2, 1)\}.$$

Find the composite  $f \circ f : A \rightarrow A$ .

- The **identity** function on a set  $X$  is the function  $\text{id}_X : X \rightarrow X$ ,  $\text{id}_X(x) = x$ .
- For any function  $f : X \rightarrow Y$ , we have  $f \circ \text{id}_X = f = \text{id}_Y \circ f$ .
- A function  $g : Y \rightarrow X$  is an **inverse** of  $f : X \rightarrow Y$  if and only if

$$g(f(x)) = x \text{ for all } x \in X, \text{ and } f(g(y)) = y \text{ for all } y \in Y,$$

or equivalently,  $g \circ f = \text{id}_X$  and  $f \circ g = \text{id}_Y$ .

- Thus  $x = g(y)$  "solves"  $f(x) = y$
- **THEOREM: A function can have at most one inverse.**
- If  $f : X \rightarrow Y$  has an inverse, then we say that  $f$  is **invertible**, and we denote the inverse of  $f$  by  $f^{-1}$ . Thus,  $f^{-1} \circ f = \text{id}_X$  and  $f \circ f^{-1} = \text{id}_Y$ .
- If  $g$  is the inverse of  $f$ , then  $f$  is the inverse of  $g$ . Thus,  $(f^{-1})^{-1} = f$ .
- **THEOREM: A function is invertible if and only if it is bijective.**
- **THEOREM: If  $f : X \rightarrow Y$  and  $g : Y \rightarrow Z$  are invertible, then so is  $g \circ f : X \rightarrow Z$ , and the inverse of  $g \circ f$  is  $f^{-1} \circ g^{-1}$ .**

**Example.** Let  $f : \mathbb{R} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  be defined by  $f(x) = 2x - 5$ .

To find the inverse  $f^{-1}$ , solve the equation  $y = f(x)$  with respect to  $x$ :

$$y = 2x - 5 \quad \Rightarrow \quad x = \frac{y+5}{2}.$$

Thus,  $f^{-1} : \mathbb{R} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  is given by  $f^{-1}(y) = \frac{y+5}{2}$ .

**Exercise.** For each of the following functions, find its inverse if it is invertible.

$$\begin{aligned} f : \mathbb{R} &\rightarrow \mathbb{Z}, & f(x) &= \lfloor x \rfloor \\ g : \mathbb{R} &\rightarrow \mathbb{R}^+, & g(x) &= e^{3x-2} \\ h : \{1, 2, 3\} &\rightarrow \{a, b, c\}, & h &= \{(1, b), (2, c), (3, a)\}. \end{aligned}$$

**Example.** Prove that a function has at most one inverse.

**Proof.** Suppose that  $f : X \rightarrow Y$  has two inverses  $g_1 : Y \rightarrow X$  and  $g_2 : Y \rightarrow X$ .

Then

$g_1$	$= g_1 \circ \text{id}_Y$	by property of identity
	$= g_1 \circ (f \circ g_2)$	by definition of inverse
	$= (g_1 \circ f) \circ g_2$	by associativity of composition
	$= \text{id}_X \circ g_2$	by definition of inverse
	$= g_2$	by property of identity

Hence, if  $f$  has an inverse, then it is unique.

**Exercise.** Prove that a function has an inverse if and only if it is bijective.

**Exercise.** Prove that if  $f : X \rightarrow Y$  and  $g : Y \rightarrow Z$  are invertible, then so is  $g \circ f : X \rightarrow Z$ , and the inverse of  $g \circ f$  is  $f^{-1} \circ g^{-1}$ .

- Informally speaking, a **sequence** is an **ordered list of objects**,

$$a_0, a_1, a_2, \dots, a_k, \dots,$$

where each object  $a_k$  is called a **term**, and the subscript  $k$  is called an **index** (typically starting from 0 or 1). We denote the sequence by  $\{a_k\}$ .

- If all terms  $a_k$  lie in a set  $A$ , we can think of the sequence as a function  $a : \mathbb{N} \rightarrow A : k \mapsto a_k$ .

**Example.**

- An **arithmetic progression** is a sequence  $\{b_k\}$  where  $b_k = a + kd$  for all  $k \in \mathbb{N}$  for some fixed numbers  $a \in \mathbb{R}$  and  $d \in \mathbb{R}$ . Its terms are

$$a, a + d, a + 2d, a + 3d, \dots$$

- A **geometric progression** is a sequence  $\{c_k\}$  defined by  $c_k = ar^k$  for all  $k \in \mathbb{N}$  for some fixed numbers  $a \in \mathbb{R}$  and  $r \in \mathbb{R}$ . Its terms are

$$a, ar, ar^2, ar^3, \dots$$

● **Summation notation:** for  $m \leq n$ ,

$$\sum_{k=m}^n a_k = a_m + a_{m+1} + a_{m+2} + \cdots + a_n .$$

● **Properties of summation:**

$$\sum_{k=m}^n (a_k + b_k) = \sum_{k=m}^n a_k + \sum_{k=m}^n b_k \quad \text{and} \quad \sum_{k=m}^n (c a_k) = c \sum_{k=m}^n a_k ,$$

but in general

$$\sum_{k=m}^n a_k b_k \neq \left( \sum_{k=m}^n a_k \right) \left( \sum_{k=m}^n b_k \right) .$$

**Example.** The sum of the first  $n+1$  terms of the arithmetic progression  $\{a + kd\}$  is

$$\sum_{k=0}^n (a + kd) = a + (a+d) + (a+2d) + \cdots + (a+nd) = \frac{(2a+nd)(n+1)}{2} .$$

**Why?**

We find a formula for the sum of the first  $n$  positive integers, by setting  $a = 0$  and  $d = 1$ :

$$1 + 2 + \cdots + n = 0 + 1 + 2 + \cdots + n = \sum_{k=0}^n k = \frac{n(n+1)}{2} .$$

**Example.** The sum of the first  $n+1$  terms of the geometric progression  $\{ar^k\}$  is

$$\sum_{k=0}^n ar^k = a + ar + ar^2 + \cdots + ar^n = \frac{a(r^{n+1} - 1)}{r - 1} .$$

**Why?**

**Exercise.** Given the formulas

$$\sum_{k=1}^n k = \frac{n(n+1)}{2} \quad \text{and} \quad \sum_{k=1}^n k^2 = \frac{n(n+1)(2n+1)}{6},$$

**evaluate**

$$\sum_{k=1}^{10} (k-3)(k+2)$$

**Exercise.** Use the formula for the geometric progression to evaluate

$$\sum_{k=11}^{40} (3^k + 2)^2$$



**Example.** (Change of summation index)

The sum

$$\sum_{k=1}^5 \frac{1}{k+2}$$

can be transformed by a change of variable like  $j = k + 2$  as follows:

Lower limit: when  $k = 1$ , we have  $j = 1 + 2 = 3$ .

Upper limit: when  $k = 5$ , we have  $j = 5 + 2 = 7$ .

General term: we have  $\frac{1}{k+2} = \frac{1}{j}$ .

Thus, we obtain

$$\sum_{k=1}^5 \frac{1}{k+2} = \sum_{j=3}^7 \frac{1}{j}.$$

We could now replace the variable  $j$  by the variable  $k$  (if this is preferred):

$$\sum_{k=1}^5 \frac{1}{k+2} = \sum_{k=3}^7 \frac{1}{k}.$$

More generally, for any sequence  $\{a_k\}$  and any integer  $d$  we have

$$\boxed{\sum_{k=m}^n a_k = \sum_{k=m+d}^{n+d} a_{k-d}}.$$

For example,

$$a_1 + a_2 + a_3 = \sum_{k=1}^3 a_k = \sum_{k=2}^4 a_{k-1} = \sum_{k=0}^2 a_{k+1} = \dots$$

**Exercise.** Simplify

$$\sum_{k=2}^{n+1} x^{k-2} - \sum_{k=1}^{n-1} x^k + \sum_{k=0}^{n-1} x^{k+1}$$

**Example.** (A telescoping sum)

Using the identity  $\frac{3}{k(k+3)} = \frac{1}{k} - \frac{1}{k+3}$  for  $k \geq 1$ , we can write

$$\begin{aligned} \sum_{k=1}^n \frac{3}{k(k+3)} &= \sum_{k=1}^n \left( \frac{1}{k} - \frac{1}{k+3} \right) \\ &= \left( 1 - \frac{1}{4} \right) + \left( \frac{1}{2} - \frac{1}{5} \right) + \left( \frac{1}{3} - \frac{1}{6} \right) + \left( \frac{1}{4} - \frac{1}{7} \right) + \cdots + \left( \frac{1}{n} - \frac{1}{n+3} \right). \end{aligned}$$

This is an example of a *telescoping sum*:  $\sum a_k$ , where  $a_k = b_k - b_{k+d}$ .

By changing the summation index, we see that

$$\begin{aligned} \sum_{k=1}^n \frac{3}{k(k+3)} &= \sum_{k=1}^n \frac{1}{k} - \sum_{k=1}^n \frac{1}{k+3} = \sum_{k=1}^n \frac{1}{k} - \sum_{k=4}^{n+3} \frac{1}{k} \\ &= \left( \sum_{k=1}^3 \frac{1}{k} + \sum_{k=4}^n \frac{1}{k} \right) - \left( \sum_{k=4}^n \frac{1}{k} + \sum_{k=n+1}^{n+3} \frac{1}{k} \right) \\ &= 1 + \frac{1}{2} + \frac{1}{3} - \frac{1}{n+1} - \frac{1}{n+2} - \frac{1}{n+3}. \end{aligned}$$

**Exercise.** Use the identity  $\frac{2}{k(k+1)(k+2)} = \frac{1}{k} - \frac{2}{k+1} + \frac{1}{k+2}$  for  $k \geq 1$  to simplify

$$\sum_{k=1}^n \frac{2}{k(k+1)(k+2)}$$

● Product notation: for  $m \leq n$ ,

$$\prod_{k=m}^n a_k = a_m \cdot a_{m+1} \cdot a_{m+2} \cdots a_n.$$

● Properties of product:

$$\prod_{k=m}^n a_k b_k = \left( \prod_{k=m}^n a_k \right) \left( \prod_{k=m}^n b_k \right) \quad \text{but} \quad \prod_{k=m}^n (a_k + b_k) \neq \prod_{k=m}^n a_k + \prod_{k=m}^n b_k.$$

**Exercise. Simplify**

$$\prod_{k=1}^n \frac{k}{k+3}$$