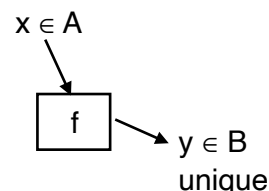


CS1231 Chapter 7

Functions



7.1 Basics

every element of A is
related to exactly one B

Let A, B be sets. A **function** or a **map** from A to B is a relation f from A to B such that **any element of A is f -related to a unique element of B** , i.e.,

(F1) **every element of A is f -related to at least one element of B** , or in symbols,

$$\forall x \in A \quad \exists y \in B \quad (x, y) \in f; \quad \text{every } A \text{ has at least one arrow going out of it}$$

$y = f(x)$

(F2) **every element of A is f -related to at most one element of B** , or in symbols,

$$\forall x \in A \quad \forall y_1, y_2 \in B \quad ((x, y_1) \in f \wedge (x, y_2) \in f \Rightarrow y_1 = y_2). \quad \text{every } A \text{ has at most one arrow going out of it}$$

We write $f: A \rightarrow B$ for “ f is a function from A to B ”. Here A is called the **domain** of f , and B is called the **codomain** of f .

codomain contains set of all outputs AND can have others

The negations of (F1) and (F2) can be expressed respectively as

(\neg F1) $\exists x \in A \quad \forall y \in B \quad (x, y) \notin f$; and

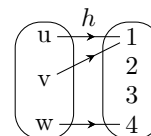
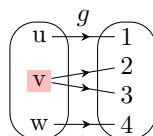
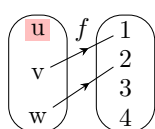
(\neg F2) $\exists x \in A \quad \exists y_1, y_2 \in B \quad ((x, y_1) \in f \wedge (x, y_2) \in f \wedge y_1 \neq y_2)$.

Let $A = \{u, v, w\}$ and $B = \{1, 2, 3, 4\}$.

(1) $f = \{(v, 1), (w, 2)\}$ is *not* a function $A \rightarrow B$ because $u \in A$ such that no $y \in B$ makes $(u, y) \in f$, violating (F1).

(2) $g = \{(u, 1), (v, 2), (v, 3), (w, 4)\}$ is *not* a function $A \rightarrow B$ because $v \in A$ and $2, 3 \in B$ such that $(v, 2), (v, 3) \in g$ but $2 \neq 3$, violating (F2).

(3) $h = \{(u, 1), (v, 1), (w, 4)\}$ is a function $A \rightarrow B$ because both (F1) and (F2) are satisfied.

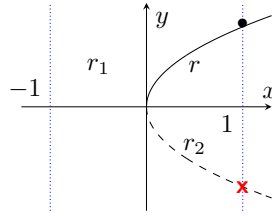


(1) $r = \{(x, y) \in \mathbb{R}_{\geq 0} \times \mathbb{R}_{\geq 0} : x = y^2\}$ is a function $\mathbb{R}_{\geq 0} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}_{\geq 0}$ because for every $x \in \mathbb{R}_{\geq 0}$, there is a unique $y \in \mathbb{R}_{\geq 0}$ such that $(x, y) \in r$, namely $y = \sqrt{x}$.

(2) $r_1 = \{(x, y) \in \mathbb{R} \times \mathbb{R}_{\geq 0} : x = y^2\}$ is *not* a function $\mathbb{R} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}_{\geq 0}$ because $-1 \in \mathbb{R}$ that is not equal to y^2 for any $y \in \mathbb{R}_{\geq 0}$, violating (F1).

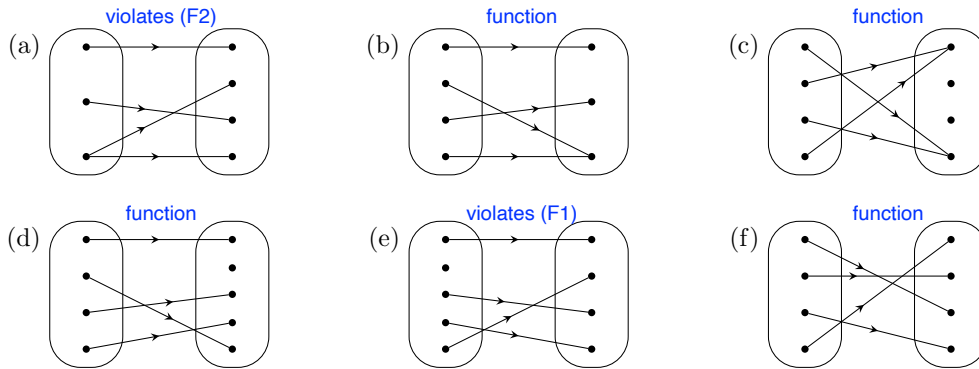
when $x = -1$, there is no y such that $y^2 = -1$
violates (F1)

- (3) $r_2 = \{(x, y) \in \mathbb{R}_{\geq 0} \times \mathbb{R} : x = y^2\}$ is **not** a function $\mathbb{R}_{\geq 0} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ because $1 \in \mathbb{R}_{\geq 0}$ and $-1, 1 \in \mathbb{R}$ such that $1 = (-1)^2$ and $1 = 1^2$ but $-1 \neq 1$, violating (F2).



when $x = 1$, y can be both 1 or -1
violates (F2)
 $(1, -1) \in r_2$,
 $(1, 1) \in r_2$

Which of the arrow diagrams below represent a function from the LHS set to the RHS set? 7a



7.2 Images

Let $f: A \rightarrow B$.

$$y = f(x)$$

- If $x \in A$, then $f(x)$ denotes the unique element $y \in B$ such that $(x, y) \in f$. We call $f(x)$ the **image of x** under f .
- The **range of f** , denoted $\text{range}(f)$, is defined by

$$\text{range}(f) = \{f(x) : x \in A\}.$$

It follows from the **definition of images** that if $f: A \rightarrow B$ and $x \in A$, then for all $y \in B$,

$$\begin{array}{c} \text{input} \quad \text{output} \\ (x, y) \in f \\ \text{function} \end{array} \Leftrightarrow \begin{array}{c} \text{output} \quad \text{input} \\ y = f(x) \\ \text{function} \end{array}.$$

IMPORTANT!

- The **range** of a function is the set that **contains all the outputs** of the function **and nothing else**, while the **codomain** is the set associated to the function as part of its specification that **contains all the outputs but maybe also other objects**.
- For any function, the **range is a subset of the codomain**.

The function $r: \mathbb{R}_{\geq 0} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}_{\geq 0}$ in Example 7.1.4(1) satisfies

$$\forall x, y \in \mathbb{R}_{\geq 0} \quad (y = r(x) \Leftrightarrow x = y^2).$$

Note that $\text{range}(r) \supseteq \mathbb{R}_{\geq 0}$, because for every $y \in \mathbb{R}_{\geq 0}$, there is $x \in \mathbb{R}_{\geq 0}$ such that $y = r(x)$, namely $x = y^2$. So $\text{range}(r) = \mathbb{R}_{\geq 0}$ by Remark 7.2.3(2).

A **Boolean function** is a function $\{T, F\}^n \rightarrow \{T, F\}$ where $n \in \mathbb{Z}^+$.

We can represent the compound expression $p \vee q$, where p, q are propositional variables, using the Boolean function $d: \{T, F\}^2 \rightarrow \{T, F\}$ where, for all $p_0, q_0 \in \{T, F\}$,

$d(p_0, q_0)$ is the truth value that $p \vee q$ evaluates to when one substitutes propositions of truth values p_0 and q_0 into the propositional variables p and q respectively.

For instance, we have $d(T, T) = T$ and $d(F, F) = F$. Hence $\text{range}(d) = \{T, F\}$ by Remark 7.2.3(2).

Let $f, g: A \rightarrow B$. Then $f = g$ if and only if $f(x) = g(x)$ for all $x \in A$.

(\Rightarrow) Assume $f = g$. Let $x \in A$. Then

	$(x, f(x)) \in f$	by the \Leftarrow part of Remark 7.2.2.
\therefore	$(x, f(x)) \in g$	as $f = g$.
\therefore	$f(x) = g(x)$	by the \Rightarrow part of Remark 7.2.2.

(\Leftarrow) Assume $f(x) = g(x)$ for all $x \in A$. For each $x \in A$ and each $y \in B$,

$(x, y) \in f$	\Leftrightarrow	$y = f(x)$	by Remark 7.2.2;
	\Leftrightarrow	$y = g(x)$	by our assumption;
	\Leftrightarrow	$(x, y) \in g$	by Remark 7.2.2.

So $f = g$. □

The descriptions of r and d in Examples 7.2.4 and 7.2.6 in terms of $r(x)$ and $d(p, q)$ uniquely characterize these functions by Proposition 7.2.7, and can thus serve as definitions of r and d .

Let $f: \{0, 2\} \rightarrow \mathbb{Z}$ and $g: \{0, 2\} \rightarrow \mathbb{Z}$ defined by setting, for all $x \in \{0, 2\}$,
 $f(x) = 2x$ and $g(x) = x^2$.

Then $f = g$ by Proposition 7.2.7, because $f(x) = g(x)$ for every $x \in \{0, 2\}$.

Let $f: \mathbb{Z} \rightarrow \mathbb{Z}$ and $g: \mathbb{Q} \rightarrow \mathbb{Q}$ defined by

$\forall x \in \mathbb{Z} \ (f(x) = x^3)$ and $\forall x \in \mathbb{Q} \ (g(x) = x^3)$.

Then $f \neq g$ because $(1/2, 1/8)$ is an element of g but not of f .

7.3 Composition

Let $f: A \rightarrow B$ and $g: B \rightarrow C$. Then $g \circ f$ is a function $A \rightarrow C$.
 Moreover, for every $x \in A$,
 $(g \circ f)(x) = g(f(x))$.

(F1) Let $x \in A$. Use (F1) for f to find $y \in B$ such that $(x, y) \in f$. Use (F1) for g to find $z \in C$ such that $(y, z) \in g$. Then $(x, z) \in g \circ f$ by the definition of $g \circ f$.

(F2) Let $x \in A$ and $z_1, z_2 \in C$ such that $(x, z_1), (x, z_2) \in g \circ f$. Use the definition of $g \circ f$ to find $y_1, y_2 \in B$ such that $(x, y_1), (x, y_2) \in f$ and $(y_1, z_1), (y_2, z_2) \in g$. Then (F2) for f implies $y_1 = y_2$. So $z_1 = z_2$ as g satisfies (F2).

These show $g \circ f$ is a function $A \rightarrow C$. Now, for every $x \in A$,

(image)	$(x, f(x)) \in f$ and $(f(x), g(f(x))) \in g$	by the \Leftarrow part of Remark 7.2.2;
\therefore	$(x, g(f(x))) \in g \circ f$	by the definition of $g \circ f$;
\therefore	$g(f(x)) = (g \circ f)(x)$	by the \Rightarrow part of Remark 7.2.2. □

(F2)
 there is at most one way to go from A to B,
 one at most one way to go from B to C
 Therefore, at most one way to go from A to C

Noncommutativity of function composition

Let $f, g: \mathbb{Z} \rightarrow \mathbb{Z}$ such that for every $x \in \mathbb{Z}$,

$$f(x) = 3x \quad \text{and} \quad g(x) = x + 1.$$

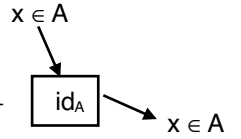
By Proposition 7.3.1, for every $x \in \mathbb{Z}$,

$$(g \circ f)(x) = g(f(x)) = g(3x) = \underline{3x + 1} \quad \text{and} \quad (f \circ g)(x) = f(g(x)) = f(x + 1) = \underline{3(x + 1)}.$$

Note $(g \circ f)(0) = 1 \neq 3 = (f \circ g)(0)$. So $\underline{g \circ f \neq f \circ g}$ by Proposition 7.2.7.

Let A be a set. Then the **identity function** on A , denoted id_A , is the function $A \rightarrow A$ which satisfies, for all $x \in A$,

$$\text{id}_A(x) = x.$$



Let $f: A \rightarrow B$. Then $f \circ \text{id}_A = f$ by Proposition 7.2.7, because Proposition 7.3.1 implies

- $f \circ \text{id}_A$ is a function $A \rightarrow B$; and
- $(f \circ \text{id}_A)(x) = f(\text{id}_A(x)) = f(x)$ for all $x \in A$.

Prove that $\text{id}_B \circ f = f$ for all functions $f: A \rightarrow B$.

7b

Which of the following define a function $f: \mathbb{Z} \rightarrow \mathbb{Z}$ that satisfies $f \circ f = f$? 7c

- (1) $f(x) = 1231$ for all $x \in \mathbb{Z}$. idempotent
- (2) $f(x) = x$ for all $x \in \mathbb{Z}$.
- (3) $f(x) = -x$ for all $x \in \mathbb{Z}$.
- (4) $f(x) = 3x + 1$ for all $x \in \mathbb{Z}$.
- (5) $f(x) = x^2$ for all $x \in \mathbb{Z}$.

7.4 Inverse and bijectivity

Let $f: A \rightarrow B$.

- (1) f is **surjective** or **onto** if

$$\forall y \in B \quad \exists x \in A \quad y = f(x).$$

for every dot on the right, it must have an arrow pointing towards it

$$(F^{-1}1)$$

A **surjection** is a **surjective function**. surjective & function!

- (2) f is **injective** or **one-to-one** if

$$\forall x_1, x_2 \in A \quad (f(x_1) = f(x_2) \Rightarrow x_1 = x_2).$$

can't have two different dots on the left pointing to same dot on the right $(F^{-1}2)$

An **injection** is an injective function.

- (3) f is **bijective** if it is both **surjective** and **injective**. A **bijection** is a bijective function.

In view of Remark 7.2.2, one can formulate $(F^{-1}1)$ and $(F^{-1}2)$ for a general relation f from A to B as follows:

$$(F^{-1}1) \quad \forall y \in B \quad \exists x \in A \quad (x, y) \in f;$$

$$(F^{-1}2) \quad \forall x_1, x_2 \in A \quad \forall y \in B \quad ((x_1, y) \in f \wedge (x_2, y) \in f \Rightarrow x_1 = x_2).$$

By the **definition** of f^{-1} , these are equivalent respectively to **(F1)** and **(F2)** for f^{-1} , i.e.,



Figure 7.1: Surjectivity (left) and injectivity (right)

- $\forall y \in B \exists x \in A (y, x) \in f^{-1}$; and
- $\forall x_1, x_2 \in A \forall y \in B ((y, x_1) \in f^{-1} \wedge (y, x_2) \in f^{-1} \Rightarrow x_1 = x_2)$.

So f^{-1} is a function $B \rightarrow A$ if and only if f satisfies the relational version of (F⁻¹1) and (F⁻¹2). Similarly, the conditions (F1) and (F2) are equivalent to (F⁻¹1) and (F⁻¹2) for f^{-1} .

Proposition 7.4.3 If f is a bijection $A \rightarrow B$, then f^{-1} is a bijection $B \rightarrow A$.

In view of the discussion in Remark 7.4.2, conditions (F1), (F2), (1), and (2) for f are equivalent respectively to conditions (1), (2), (F1), and (F2) for f^{-1} . \square

The function $f: \mathbb{Q} \rightarrow \mathbb{Q}$, defined by setting $f(x) = 3x + 1$ for all $x \in \mathbb{Q}$, is **surjective**.

usual proof of surjectivity : Take any $y \in \mathbb{Q}$. Let $x = (y - 1)/3$. Then $x \in \mathbb{Q}$ and $f(x) = 3x + 1 = y$. \square

Remark : A function $f: A \rightarrow B$ is **not surjective** if and only if

$$\exists y \in B \forall x \in A (y \neq f(x)). \quad \text{negation of surjective}$$

Example : Define $g: \mathbb{Z} \rightarrow \mathbb{Z}$ by setting $g(x) = x^2$ for every $x \in \mathbb{Z}$. Then g is not surjective.

Proof : Note $g(x) = x^2 \geq 0 > -1$ for all $x \in \mathbb{Z}$. So $g(x) \neq -1$ for all $x \in \mathbb{Z}$, although $-1 \in \mathbb{Z}$. \square

Injectivity

As in Example 7.4.4, define $f: \mathbb{Q} \rightarrow \mathbb{Q}$ by setting $f(x) = 3x + 1$ for all $x \in \mathbb{Q}$. Then f is **injective**.

Proof : Let $x_1, x_2 \in \mathbb{Q}$ such that $f(x_1) = f(x_2)$. Then $3x_1 + 1 = 3x_2 + 1$. So $x_1 = x_2$. \square

Remark : A function $f: A \rightarrow B$ is **not injective** if and only if

$$\exists x_1, x_2 \in A (f(x_1) = f(x_2) \wedge x_1 \neq x_2).$$

Example : As in Example 7.4.6, define $g: \mathbb{Z} \rightarrow \mathbb{Z}$ by setting $g(x) = x^2$ for every $x \in \mathbb{Z}$. Then g is **not injective**.

Note $g(1) = 1^2 = 1 = (-1)^2 = g(-1)$, although $1 \neq -1$. \square

Amongst the arrow diagrams in Question 7.1.5 that represent a function, 7d which ones represent injections, which ones represent surjections, and which ones represent bijections?

Operational Inverse

Let $f: A \rightarrow B$ and $g: B \rightarrow A$. Then

$$g = f^{-1} \Leftrightarrow \forall x \in A \forall y \in B (g(y) = x \Leftrightarrow y = f(x)).$$

$$\begin{aligned}
g = f^{-1} &\Leftrightarrow \forall y \in B \quad \forall x \in A \quad ((y, x) \in g \Leftrightarrow (y, x) \in f^{-1}) && \text{as } g, f^{-1} \subseteq B \times A; \\
&\Leftrightarrow \forall x \in A \quad \forall y \in B \quad ((y, x) \in g \Leftrightarrow (x, y) \in f) && \text{by the definition of } f^{-1}; \\
&\Leftrightarrow \forall x \in A \quad \forall y \in B \quad (g(y) = x \Leftrightarrow y = f(x)) && \text{by Remark 7.2.2.} \quad \square
\end{aligned}$$

As in Example 7.4.7, define $f: \mathbb{Q} \rightarrow \mathbb{Q}$ by setting $f(x) = 3x + 1$ for all $x \in \mathbb{Q}$. Note that for all $x, y \in \mathbb{Q}$,

$$y = 3x + 1 \Leftrightarrow x = (y - 1)/3.$$

Let $g: \mathbb{Q} \rightarrow \mathbb{Q}$ such that $g(y) = (y - 1)/3$ for all $y \in \mathbb{Q}$. The equivalence above implies

$$\forall x, y \in \mathbb{Q} \quad (y = f(x) \Leftrightarrow x = g(y)).$$

So Proposition 7.4.11 tells us $g = f^{-1}$.


Note 7.4.13: Unlike in Example 7.4.12, in general we are *not* guaranteed a description of the inverse of a bijection f that is significantly different from the trivial description that it is the inverse of f .

Let f be a bijection $A \rightarrow B$. Then $f^{-1} \circ f = \text{id}_A$ and $f \circ f^{-1} = \text{id}_B$.

We know f^{-1} is a function by Proposition 7.4.3, because f is bijection. For the first part, let $x \in A$. Define $y = f(x)$. Then

$$\begin{aligned}
(f^{-1} \circ f)(x) &= f^{-1}(f(x)) && \text{by Proposition 7.3.1;} \\
&= f^{-1}(y) && \text{by the definition of } y; \\
&= x && \text{by Proposition 7.4.11, as } y = f(x); \\
&= \text{id}_A(x) && \text{by the definition of } \text{id}_A.
\end{aligned}$$

So $f^{-1} \circ f = \text{id}_A$ by Proposition 7.2.7.

The proof of the second part is similar, and is left as an exercise. □  7e

Tutorial exercises

- 7.1. Which of the following conditions are equivalent to the surjectivity of a function $f: A \rightarrow B$? For each positive answer, give a brief explanation. For each negative answer, give a function $f: \{a, b\} \rightarrow \{0, 1\}$ that demonstrates the non-equivalence.
 - (a) For any $x \in A$, there is $y \in B$ such that $y = f(x)$.
 - (b) Some $y \in B$ is equal to $f(x)$ for some $x \in A$.
 - (c) All $f(x)$'s, where $x \in A$, are equal to the same $y \in B$.
 - (d) No $y \in B$ is different from all the $f(x)$'s where $x \in A$.
- 7.2. Which of the following conditions are equivalent to the injectivity of a function $f: A \rightarrow B$? For each positive answer, give a brief explanation. For each negative answer, give a function $f: \{a, b\} \rightarrow \{0, 1\}$ that demonstrates the non-equivalence.
 - (a) For all $x_1, x_2 \in A$, whenever $x_1 = x_2$, we have $f(x_1) = f(x_2)$.
 - (b) For all $x_1, x_2 \in A$, whenever $x_1 \neq x_2$, we have $f(x_1) \neq f(x_2)$.
 - (c) There are no elements $x_1, x_2 \in A$ such that $x_1 \neq x_2$ and $f(x_1) = f(x_2)$.

- (d) There are distinct $x_1, x_2 \in A$ that make $f(x_1) = f(x_2)$.

7.3. For all $A, B \subseteq \mathbb{Z}$, define

$$R_{A,B} = \{(x, y) \in A \times B : y = x^2 - 1\}$$

considered as a relation from A to B .

- (a) Let $A = \{-2, -1, 0, 1, 2\}$ and $B = \{0, 1, 2, 3\}$. Is $R_{A,B}$ a function $A \rightarrow B$? Briefly explain your answer.
- (b) Let $A = \{-2, -1, 0, 1, 2\}$. Give an example of $B \subseteq \{-4, -3, \dots, 3, 4\}$ such that $R_{A,B}$ is a surjection $A \rightarrow B$.
- (c) Let $B = \{0, 1, 2, 3\}$. Give an example of $A \subseteq \{-4, -3, \dots, 3, 4\}$ such that $R_{A,B}$ is an injection $A \rightarrow B$.

7.4. Let $f = \{(n, x) \in \mathbb{Z}^2 : n = 2x \text{ or } n = 2x + 1\}$, viewed as a relation from \mathbb{Z} to \mathbb{Z} .

- (a) Prove that f is a function $\mathbb{Z} \rightarrow \mathbb{Z}$.
- (b) Is f surjective? Prove that your answer is correct.
- (c) Is f injective? Prove that your answer is correct.
- (d) Determine the range of f .

7.5. Define a Boolean function $g: \{T, F\}^3 \rightarrow \{T, F\}$ by setting $g(p_0, q_0, r_0)$ to be the truth value that the compound expression $p \vee q \rightarrow \neg r$ evaluates to when one substitutes propositions of truth values p_0, q_0 and r_0 into the propositional variables p, q and r respectively, for all $p_0, q_0, r_0 \in \{T, F\}$.

- (a) Is g surjective? Prove that your answer is correct.
- (b) Is g injective? Prove that your answer is correct.
- (c) Give an example of a function $f: \{T, F\} \rightarrow \{T, F\}^3$ such that $g \circ f = \text{id}_{\{T, F\}}$.

7.6. We encountered several situations, e.g., in Proposition 7.4.14, where we can compose one function with another to give an identity function. When we can compose one function f with another function g to get an identity function, we can find out a lot of information about f from g . This question gives one example of this phenomenon.

Let $f: A \rightarrow B$ and $g: B \rightarrow A$. Prove that if f is surjective and $g \circ f = \text{id}_A$, then g is injective.

7.7. (Induction corner) Someone attempts to prove that all people on the NUS campus have the same birthday as follows.

Let $P(n)$ be the sentence

if the NUS campus has exactly n people in it, then all these n people have the same birthday.

$P(1)$ is true because if the NUS campus has exactly 1 person in it, then clearly all people on the NUS campus have the same birthday.

Let $k \in \mathbb{Z}^+$ such that $P(k)$ is true. Suppose the NUS campus now has exactly $k + 1$ people in it. Pick two different people a, b on the NUS campus. Ask a to leave the campus. Since there are k people left on the NUS campus, by the induction hypothesis, all the remaining people have the same birthday, including b . Tell a to come back to campus, and then ask b to leave the campus. Since there are k people left on the NUS campus, by the induction hypothesis, all the remaining people have the same birthday, including a . The people who stayed on the campus throughout have the same birthday as both a and b . So a and b have the same birthday. This shows $P(k + 1)$ is true.

Hence $\forall n \in \mathbb{Z}^+ \quad P(n)$ is true by MI.

What is wrong with this proof?

Extra exercises

- 7.8. Let $f = \{(x, y) \in \mathbb{Q}^2 : y = \pm x\}$ and $g = \{(x, y) \in \mathbb{Q}^2 : y(x^2 + 1) = 1\}$, viewed as relations from \mathbb{Q} to \mathbb{Q} . Is f a function $\mathbb{Q} \rightarrow \mathbb{Q}$? Is g a function $\mathbb{Q} \rightarrow \mathbb{Q}$?
- 7.9. In this exercise, we prove a strong converse to Proposition 7.4.3.
Let $f: A \rightarrow B$. Prove that, if the relation f^{-1} is a function $B \rightarrow A$, then f is bijective.
- 7.10. Let f be as defined in Tutorial Exercise 7.4. Define $g = \{(x, n) \in \mathbb{Z}^2 : n = 2x\}$, viewed as a relation from \mathbb{Z} to \mathbb{Z} .
- (a) Prove that g is a function $\mathbb{Z} \rightarrow \mathbb{Z}$.
 - (b) Is g surjective? Prove that your answer is correct.
 - (c) Is g injective? Prove that your answer is correct.
 - (d) Prove that $f \circ g = \text{id}_{\mathbb{Z}}$ but $g \circ f \neq \text{id}_{\mathbb{Z}}$.
 - (e) Is $g = f^{-1}$? Explain your answer.