

Discrete Mathematics

Functions

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**“Go Down Deep Enough into Anything and You Will
Find Mathematics!”**

-Dean Schlicter-

Functions

- A way of transforming objects of one type into objects of another type.
- Imagine

{Set of Strings}

└─────────> Length(w) → produces its length

Where w is a string.

e.g. $\text{length}(\textit{smile})=5$.

Functions

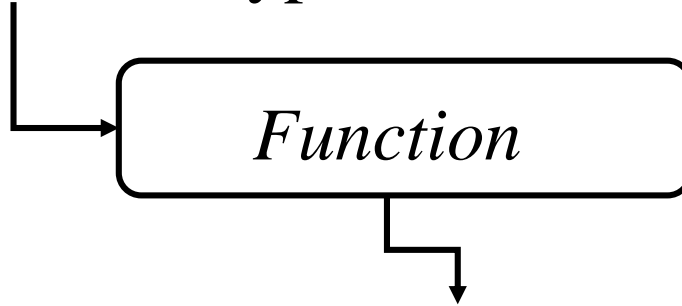
- Question that we might want to discuss when studying functions.
 - ☐ Means by which a function is computed?
 - ☐ Are there different ways?
 - ☐ Are some worse than others?
 - ☐ Are there different ways to represent a function?

Functions

- But we are mainly interested in the following.
 - ❑ What exactly is a function
 - ❑ How can we classify function into different kinds
 - ❑ How can we build new functions from the existing ones?

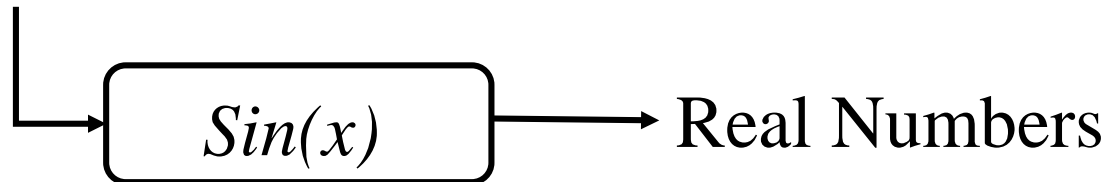
Functions – Basic Definitions

Object of one type

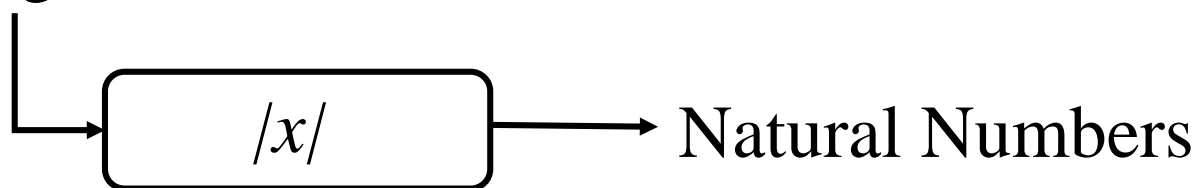


Object of another type

(a): Real Numbers

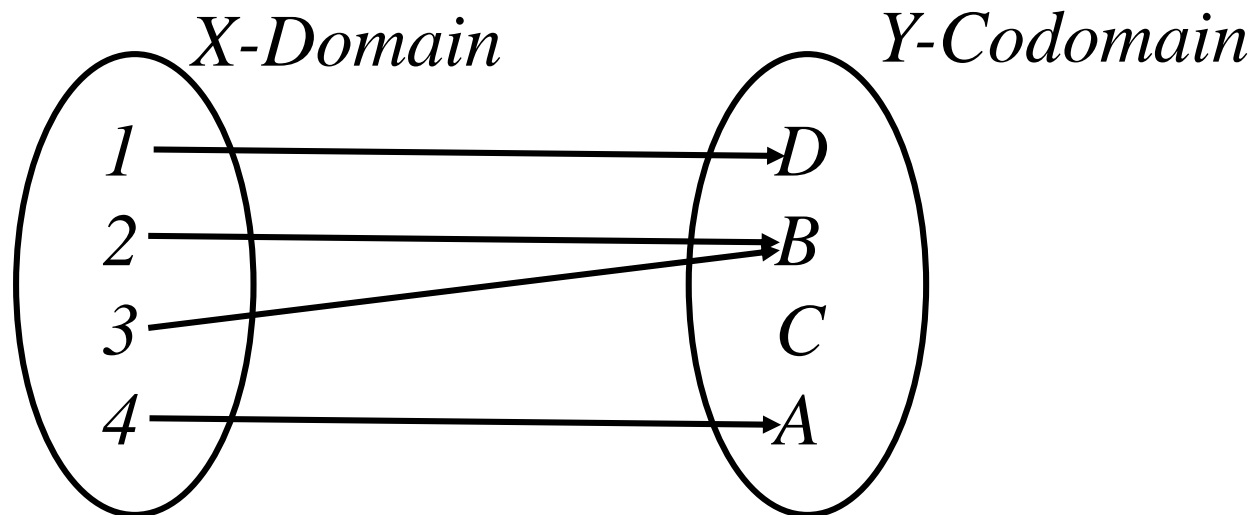


(b): Integer



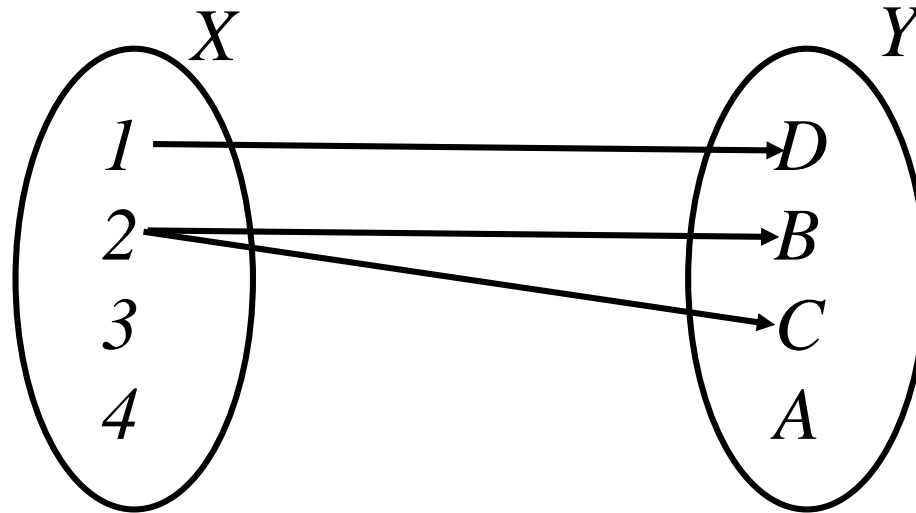
Functions – Basic Definitions—Cont.

- Let **A and B** be arbitrary sets
- f : a function from **A to B**.
- Associates every element of A with a single element in B .
- **Example:**
- f : from X to Y



Functions – Example

- An other Example:



- What do you think?
- Can this mapping be produced by a function?
- What about the **function** \sqrt{x} from $R \rightarrow R$?

Functions – Basic Definitions—Cont.

- Sometimes, you will hear the term “range” of a function
- **Range: set of all possible outputs of a function**
- We will touch this topic a little later in this lecture

Functions – Defining a Function

- The function definition should have enough details to unambiguously define
 - The domain and codomain
 - The output for every input
- **For Example**
 - $f:N \rightarrow N$, where $f(n)=n^2$.
 - On the other hand $f(x) = x^2$ is a bit less precise.

Functions – Defining a Function

- Why the function definition $f(x) = x^2$ is less precise?

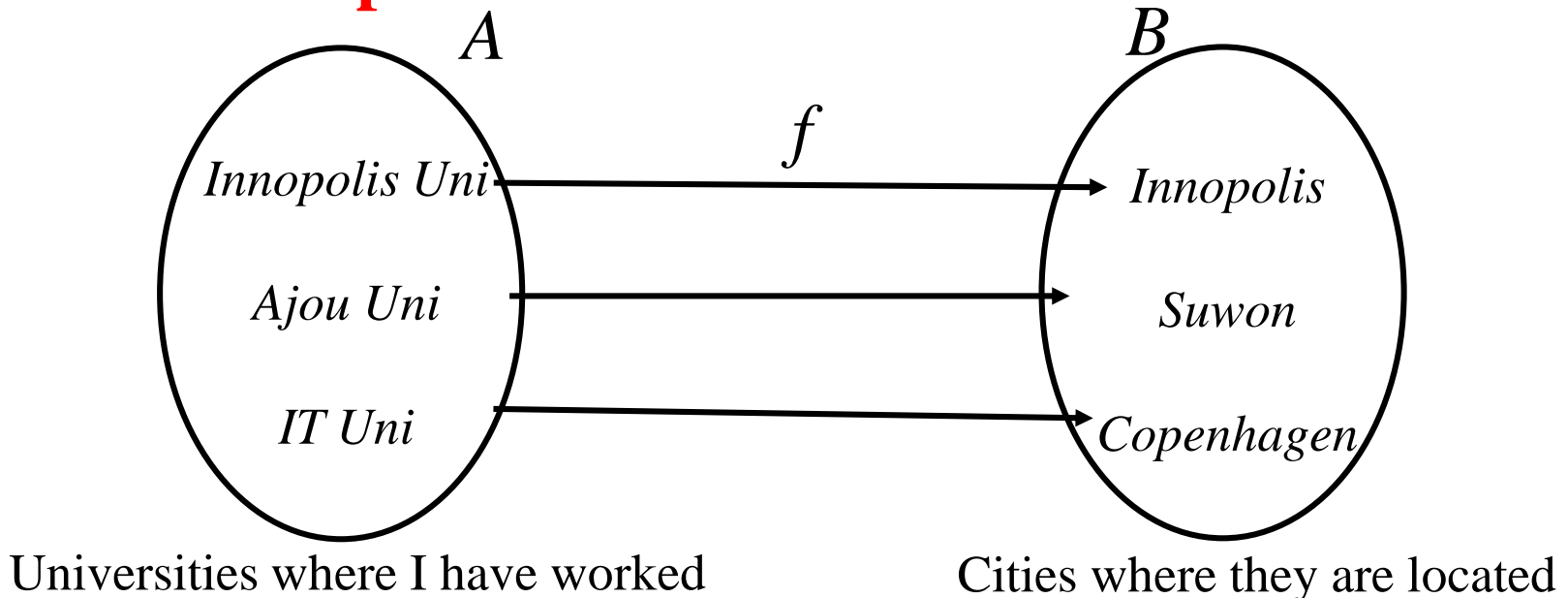
$$f:N \rightarrow N \qquad f:Z \rightarrow N$$

$$f:Z \rightarrow Z \qquad f:R \rightarrow R$$

- All four are valid, however, the properties of the function will be widely different
- For example, if $f:N \rightarrow N$, then f has the property that if $f(x) < f(y)$, then $x < y$
- Isn't true for $f:Z \rightarrow Z$

Defining Functions by a Picture

- When the domain and codomains are finite sets
- We can often define the function by drawing a picture
- **For Example:**



Defining Function – Cont.

- Another way often used to define a function is by specifying a variety of different rules to the input giving conditions under which each rule should be applied.
- These are often called piecewise functions.
- **For Example:**

$$|x| = \begin{cases} x & \text{if } x > 0 \\ -x & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

Piecewise Functions

- When defining such functions, it is important to ensure that
- Every possible input falls into at least one of the cases
- If an input falls into multiple cases, each case produces the same output.
- **For Example:**

$$|x| = \begin{cases} x & \text{if } x \geq 0 \\ -x & \text{if } x \leq 0 \end{cases} \quad \text{VS} \quad |x| = \begin{cases} x & \text{if } x > 0 \\ -x & \text{if } x < 0 \end{cases}$$

Functions with multiple inputs

- When programming we often use functions like these
- ```
int raiseToPower (int x, int y) {
 int result = 1;
 for (int i = 0; i < y, i++) {
 result *= x;
 }
 return result;
}
```
- How can we define such functions mathematically? – **because in our definition, a function takes only one argument, i.e., an element of the domain**

# Functions with multiple inputs - Cont

- Lets assume only natural numbers as input
- We can think of the above function, which appears to take in two arguments, as a functions that takes in just one argument.



“An ordered pair of natural numbers”

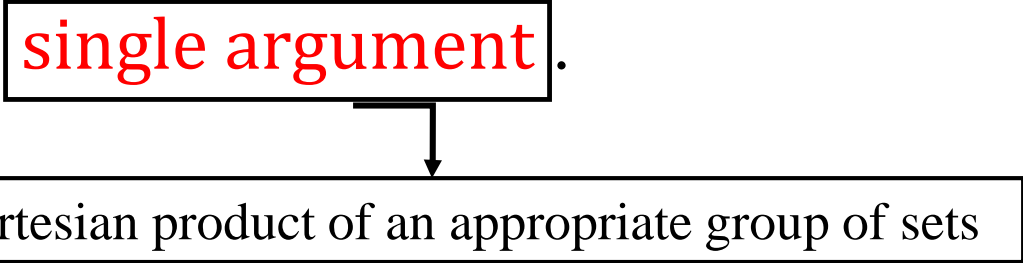
- **Mathematically;**

Raise To Power:  $\mathbb{N} * \mathbb{N} \rightarrow \mathbb{N}$  where

$$\text{Raise To Power } ((x, y)) = x^y$$

# Functions with multiple inputs-Cont

- More generally,
- We can always model an **n – argument** function as a function containing a **single argument**.



n-way Cartesian product of an appropriate group of sets



# Functions with multiple inputs-Cont

- More generally,
- We can always **model** an **n – argument** function as a function containing a **single argument**.

n-way Cartesian product of an appropriate group of sets

- How will you represent a function that **adds** together **three real numbers** and **an integer**?

# Functions with multiple inputs-Cont

- More generally,
- We can always model an n – argument function as a function containing a single argument.

n-way Cartesian product of an appropriate group of sets

- How will you represent a function that adds together three real numbers and an integer?
- **Final Comment:**

if  $f: A_1 * \dots * A_n \rightarrow B$ , then we denote  $f((x_1, \dots, x_n))$  by  $f(x_1, \dots, x_n)$

# Injection, Surjection, and Bijection

- Functions come in different shapes and size
- But these are certain types of functions that appear more frequently than others
  1. Surjections (**Onto**)
  2. Injections (**One to One**)
  3. Bijections (**Both**)

# Surjections

- Lets consider a problem
- You are in charge of distributing a bunch of **fruit baskets** among **student groups** at IU.  
Student groups {BS1, BS2, BS3, BS4, MS1, MS2}.
- You want to do it such that every group gets at least one fruit basket.

# Surjections – Cont.

- Mathematically, you can think of this as a function
- $f: B \rightarrow G$ , where  $B$  be the set of fruit baskets and  $G$  be the set of student groups.
- “for every  $g \in G$ , there is some fruit basket  $b \in B$  such that  $f(b) = g$ ”
- Such a function is called surjection.

# Surjections – Cont.

- More generally;
- $f: A \rightarrow B$  , is a surjection if for any  $b \in B$ , there is some  $a \in A$  such that

$$f(a) = b$$

- Also called an **Onto function**.

If we represent such a function with a picture, what will it look like?

# Surjections – Cont.

- Which of these are Surjections??
- $f(x) = x$  , over real numbers
- $f(x) = x^2$  , over real numbers

# Injectons (One to One)

- Now suppose you are the head of a student group
- You get a fruit basket
- Now you want to distribute among students
- In other words, you want to find a function  $f: F \rightarrow S$

where  $F$  and  $S$  represents the set of fruits and set of students.



# Injectons (One to One)

- Unfortunately, there are not enough fruits, so you want to be fair,
- Thus you define
- $f: F \rightarrow S$ 
  - With the condition that every one should get at most one fruit.
- Such a function is calls injection.

# Injectons (One to One)

- More generally,
- $f: A \rightarrow B$  is an injection if for any  $x_1, x_2 \in A$ , if  $f(x_1) = f(x_2)$ , then  $x_1 = x_2$
- Equivalently,  
for any  $x_1, x_2 \in A$  if  $x_1 \neq x_2$  then  
$$f(x_1) \neq f(x_2)$$
- Also called a **One to One** function.

If we represent such a function with a picture, what will it look like?

# Injections – Cont.

- Which of these are Injections??
- $f(x) = x$  , over real numbers
- $f(x) = x^2$  , over real numbers

**Some more concepts related to  
Surjections and Injections, before  
we move on to Bijections!**

# Functions and Sets

## ❖ Images:

- If  $f: A \rightarrow B$  and  $X \subseteq A$ , the image of  $X$  under  $f$  is the set

$$f[X] = \{f(x) / x \in X\}$$

- Set of elements that we would get if we applied  $f$  to every element of  $X$ .

# Functions and Sets – Cont.

## ❖ Images:

- What is the image of  $X = [-1, 3]$  under

$$f: R \rightarrow R \text{ where } f(x) = x^2 ??$$

# Functions and Sets – Cont.

## ❖ Image of the Entire Domain:

- $f: A \rightarrow B$

$$f[A] = \{f(a)/a \in A\}$$

where  $\{f(a)/a \in A\}$  consists of all the possible outputs of a function.

# Functions and Sets – Cont.

- $f[A]$  is the same as codomain of  $f$ ??
- Not necessarily!
- For Example:  $f: R \rightarrow R$  where  $f(a) = \sin(a)$

then  $f[R] = ??$

- Also referred to as the range of the function.

**Range**  $\rightarrow$  Values in the codomain that can actually be produced by the function.



# Functions and Sets – Cont.

## ❖ An other Important Question:

- When are the range and codomain the same and when are they different??
  - $\text{Range} = \text{Codomain}$
- When every possible value of the codomain can be produced by the function as its output on some input.

Which functions have this property?

# Functions and Sets – Cont.

❖ **Theorem:** If  $f: A \rightarrow B$ , then  $f[A] = B$  if and only if  $f$  is surjective.

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- **Proof: (a):** If  $f[A] = B$  then  $f$  is surjective.

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consider any  $b \in B$

Since  $f[A] = B$  then  $b \in f[A]$

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Therefore, there exists some  $a \in A$  where  
 $f(a) = b$

Since our choice of  $b$  was arbitrary, thus  $f$  is surjective.

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# Functions and Sets – Cont.

- **Proof: (b):** If  $f$  is surjective, then  $f[A] = B$



# Functions and Sets – Cont.

- **Proof: (b):** If  $f$  is surjective, then  $f[A] = B$ 
  - We have  $f: A \rightarrow B$ ,

# Functions and Sets – Cont.

- **Proof: (b):** If  $f$  is surjective, then  $f[A] = B$ 
  - We have  $f: A \rightarrow B$ ,
  - We know that every element of  $f[A]$  is an element of  $B$ . What we need to show now is that  $B \subseteq f[A]$ .

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From **(a)** and **(b)**: If  $f: A \rightarrow B$ , then  $f[A] = B$  if and only if  $f$  is surjective.

# Functions and Sets – Cont.

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# Functions and Sets – Cont.

## ❖ Preimage:

- If  $f: A \rightarrow B$  and  $Y \subseteq B$ , then the preimage of  $Y$  under  $f$  is the set
  - $f^{-1}[Y] = \{x \in A / f(x) \in Y\}$

where  $\{x \in A / f(x) \in Y\}$  is a set of all the element of  $A$  (domain) that map into set  $Y$ , where  $Y \subseteq B$ .



# Functions and Sets – Cont.

## ❖ Preimage – Cont.

- What is  $f^{-1}[Y]$  in the following case?
  - If  $f: R \rightarrow R$ , where  $f(x) = 2x$ ,  
$$Y = [1, 3]$$
  - If  $f: R \rightarrow R$ , where  $f(x) = x^2$ ,  
$$Y = [4, 9]$$
  - If  $f: R \rightarrow R$ , where  $f(x) = x^2 + 2$ ,  
$$Y = [0, 1], Y = [0, 2]$$

# Functions and Sets – Cont.

## ❖ Preimage and Injections

- Just as images and surjections are related, so are preimages and injections.

# Functions and Sets – Cont.

## ❖ Preimage and Injections

- Just as images and surjections are related, so are preimages and injections.
- Let  $f: A \rightarrow B$  be an injection
  - This means that every  $b \in B$  has either 0 or 1 elements mapping to it.
  - Therefore  $f^{-1}[\{b\}]$  should either contain 0 or 1 elements.

# Functions and Sets – Cont.

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- Just as images and surjections are related, so are preimages and injections.
- Let  $f: A \rightarrow B$  be an injection
  - This means that every  $b \in B$  has either 0 or 1 elements mapping to it.
  - Therefore  $f^{-1}[\{b\}]$  should either contain 0 or 1 elements.
  - **In other words if  $f$  is injective then,**

$$|f^{-1}[\{b\}]| \leq 1$$

# Functions and Sets – Cont.

## ❖ Bijections

- A function is called a bijection if it is injection and surjection.
- For every element of the codomain, there is a unique element of the domain mapping to it.

# Functions and Sets – Cont.

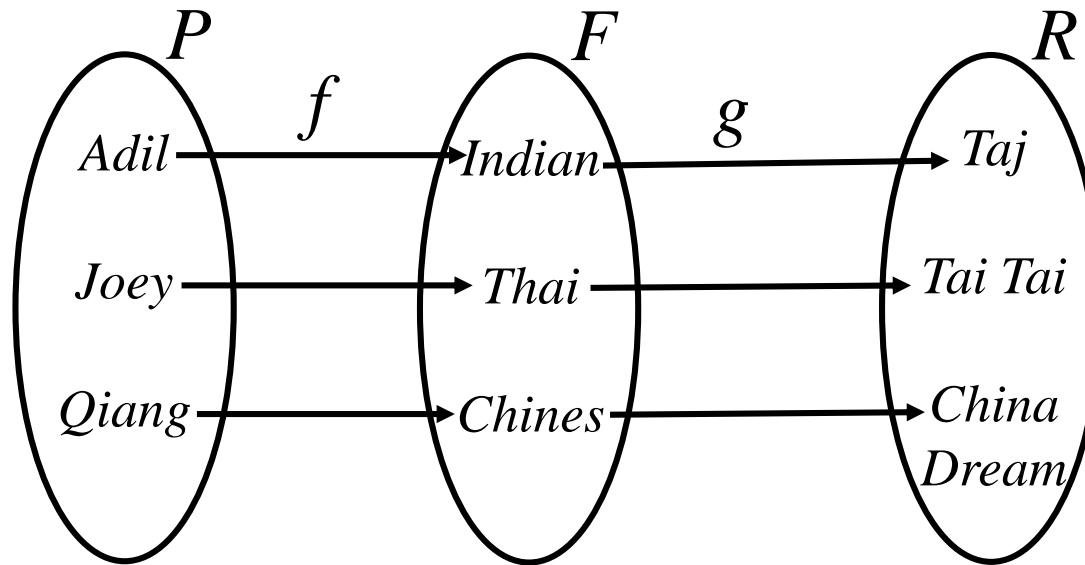
## ❖ Bijections

- For Example:
  - $f: R \rightarrow R$ , where  $f(x) = x^3$
  - $f: S \rightarrow S$ , where  $f(x) = x$
- What about
  - $f: R \rightarrow R$ , where  $f(x) = x^2$

# Functions and Sets – Cont.

## ❖ Transformations on Functions

- $P$ : set of people
- $F$ : Set of different types of food
- $R$ : Set of restaurants



- $f: P \rightarrow F$
- $g: F \rightarrow R$

# Functions and Sets – Cont.

## ❖ Transformations on Functions – Cont.

- We want to tell people in which restaurant they can find their favorite food.
- This is, we want to find a new function
  - $m: P \rightarrow R$
  - How to define this function??



# Functions and Sets – Cont.

## ❖ Transformations on Functions – Cont.

- $m$  must glue together  $f$  and  $g$ .
- That is
  - $M(p) = b(f(p)), p \in P$
- It is very common to join function like this. It is called **composition** of the functions.

# Functions and Sets – Cont.

## ❖ Transformations on Functions – Cont.

- More formally,
  - Let  $f: A \rightarrow B$  and  $g: B \rightarrow C$ .
  - Define a new function  $g \circ f: A \rightarrow C$  as follows
  - $(g \circ f)(a) = g(f(a))$  for all  $a \in A$

# Functions and Sets – Cont.

## ❖ Transformations on Functions – Cont.

- Given two functions  $f$  and  $g$ , is  $\boxed{g \circ f}$  or  $\boxed{f \circ g}$  always guaranteed??
- NO!
- For Example:
  - Let  $g: F \rightarrow R$  (from previous example)
  - Let  $h: R \rightarrow R$  where  $h(x) = x^3$
  - Can we do  $\boxed{g \circ f}$  or  $\boxed{f \circ g}$  ??
  - Their  $\boxed{\text{domains}}$  and codomains are  $\boxed{\text{incomparable}}!$

# Functions and Sets – Cont.

## ❖ Composition of Injections, Surjections, and Bijections.

**Theorem:** Let  $f: A \rightarrow B$  and  $g: B \rightarrow C$  be injections. Then  $g \circ f: A \rightarrow C$  is an injection.

# Functions and Sets – Cont.

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**Proof:** Consider any  $x, y \in A$  where  $x \neq y$

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**Proof:** Consider any  $x, y \in A$  where  $x \neq y$

- Since  $x \neq y$ ,  $f(x) \neq f(y)$  as  $f$  is an injection.

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- Since  $x \neq y$ ,  $f(x) \neq f(y)$  as  $f$  is an injection.
- Since  $f(x) \neq f(y)$  and  $g$  is an injection, therefore,  
$$(g \circ f)(x) \neq (g \circ f)(y)$$

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$$(g \circ f)(x) \neq (g \circ f)(y)$$
- Since our choice of  $x$  and  $y$  was arbitrary, This means that for any  $x, y \in A$  where,  $x \neq y$ ,  $(g \circ f)(x) \neq (g \circ f)(y)$ , so  $g \circ f$  is injective.



# Functions and Sets – Cont.

## ❖ Composition of Injections, Surjections, and Bijections.

**Theorem:** Let  $f: A \rightarrow B$  and  $g: B \rightarrow C$  are surjections. Then  $g \circ f: A \rightarrow C$  is an surjection.

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**Proof:** Consider any  $c \in C$

- Since  $g$  is surjective, there exists, some  $b \in B$  such that  $g(b) = c$ .

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**Proof:** Consider any  $c \in C$

- Since  $g$  is surjective, there exists, some  $b \in B$  such that  $g(b) = c$ .
- Similarly, since  $f$  is surjective, there exists, some  $a \in A$  such that  $f(a) = b$ .

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- Then  $(g \circ f)(a) = g(f(a)) = g(b) = c$

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- Similarly, since  $f$  is surjective, there exists, some  $a \in A$  such that  $f(a) = b$ .
- Then  $(g \circ f)(a) = g(f(a)) = g(b) = c$
- Thus, for any  $c \in C$ , there is an  $a \in A$ . Therefore  $\boxed{g \circ f}$  is surjective.

# Functions and Sets – Cont.

## ❖ Composition of Injections, Surjections, and Bijections.

- **Theorem:** Let  $f: A \rightarrow B$  and  $g: B \rightarrow C$  are bijections, then  $g \circ f: A \rightarrow C$  is a bijection.
- **Proof:**

**“What do you guys think??”**

**“What is the proof?”**

# Relation Between Exponential And Logarithmic Functions

- For positive numbers  $b \neq 1$ , the exponential function with base  $b$ , denoted  $\exp_b$ , is the function from  $\mathbb{R}$  to  $\mathbb{R}^+$  defined as follows:

- For all real numbers  $x$ ,

$$\exp_b(x) = b^x$$

- where  $b^0 = 1$  and  $b^{-x} = \frac{1}{b^x}$ .



# Relation Between Exponential And Logarithmic Functions

- When working with the exponential function, it is useful to recall the laws of exponents from elementary algebra.

## Laws of Exponents

If  $b$  and  $c$  are any positive real numbers and  $u$  and  $v$  are any real numbers, the following laws of exponents hold true:

$$b^u b^v = b^{u+v} \quad 7.2.1$$

$$(b^u)^v = b^{uv} \quad 7.2.2$$

$$\frac{b^u}{b^v} = b^{u-v} \quad 7.2.3$$

$$(bc)^u = b^u c^u \quad 7.2.4$$

# Relation Between Exponential And Logarithmic Functions

- Equivalently, for each positive real number  $x$  and real number  $y$ ,

$$\log_b x = y \Leftrightarrow b^y = x.$$

- It can be shown using calculus that both the exponential and logarithmic functions are one-to-one and onto.
- Therefore, by definition of one-to-one, the following properties hold true:

For any positive real number  $b$  with  $b \neq 1$ ,

if  $b^u = b^v$  then  $u = v$  for all real numbers  $u$  and  $v$ , 7.2.5

and

if  $\log_b u = \log_b v$  then  $u = v$  for all positive real numbers  $u$  and  $v$ . 7.2.6

# Relation Between Exponential And Logarithmic Functions

- These properties are used to derive many additional facts about exponents and logarithms. In particular we have the following properties of logarithms.

## Theorem 7.2.1 Properties of Logarithms

For any positive real numbers  $b$ ,  $c$  and  $x$  with  $b \neq 1$  and  $c \neq 1$ :

a.  $\log_b(xy) = \log_b x + \log_b y$

b.  $\log_b \left( \frac{x}{y} \right) = \log_b x - \log_b y$

c.  $\log_b(x^a) = a \log_b x$

d.  $\log_c x = \frac{\log_b x}{\log_b c}$