Functions

Discrete Mathematics
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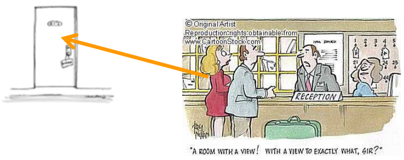
Previous Lecture

- Equivalence relations
- Partitions
- Partial orders
- Diagrams of partial orders

Functions

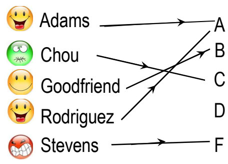
- In many instances we assign to each element of a set a particular element of a second set.
- For example , assign rooms to people in a hotel



- Or we may assign a grade to each student from a class
- What we get is a set of pairs (Person, Door) or (Student, Grade), that is, a relation, but a very particular one

Functions (cntd)

- A relation R from A to B is called a function from A to B, if for every $a \in A$ there is exactly one $b \in B$ such that $(a,b) \in R$. (Also mappings, transformations)



We use f,g,h to denote functions

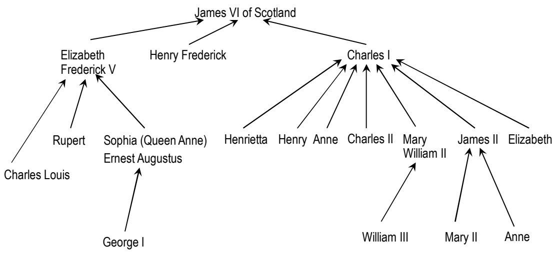
$f: A \to B$ $f(a) = b$

f(Rodriguez) = A

Example

- Consider the function from the set People to People:

  f(a) = b if b is the father of a.



(http://www.royal.gov.uk)

Domain and Codomain

- Let $f: A \to B$ be a function from A to B. Then A is called the domain of f, and B is called the codomain of f.

- If f(a) = b, then b is called the image of a, and a is called the preimage of b.
- Also we say that f maps A to B

Domain and Codomain (cntd)

- The range of f is the set of all images of elements of A
  range(f) = { b ∈ B | ∃a ∈ A f(a) = b }

- In our example:
  domain = { Adams, Chou, Goodfriend, Rodriguez, Stevens }
  codomain = { A, B, C, D, F }
  range = { A, B, C, F }

Restrictions and Extensions

- Let f: A → B be a function and C ⊆ A. The set
  f(C) = { b ∈ B | b = f(a) for some a ∈ C }
  is called the image of C.
- Example: f({Adams, Rodriguez}) = {A}
  f({Chou, Goodfriend, Stevens}) = {B,C,F}
- Let f: A → B be a function and C ⊆ A. A function $f|_C$: C → B is called a restriction of f to C if $f|_C(a)$ = f(a) for all a ∈ C
- Example: Let C = {Chou, Goodfriend, Stevens}. Then the function

Chou	A
	B
Goodfriend	C
	D
Stevens	F

is a restriction of f

Restrictions and Extensions (cntd)

- Let C ⊆ A and f: C → B. Any function g: A → B such that g(a) = f(a) for all a ∈ C is called an extension of f.
- Let A = $\mathbb{R}$, B = $\mathbb{Z}$, C = $\mathbb{Z}$, and f: $\mathbb{Z} \to \mathbb{Z}$ is defined as follows:
  f(a) = a
  Let g be the floor function:
  g(x) = $\lfloor x \rfloor$ = the greatest integer less than or equal to x
  Clearly, g: $\mathbb{R} \to \mathbb{Z}$, and g(a) = a = f(a) for any integer a.
  Thus, g is an extension of f

Describing Functions

- Function is a relation, therefore we can use all methods of describing relations. Although the graph and the matrix are not very economical.
  { (Adams,A), (Chou,C), (Goodfriend,B), (Rodriguez,A), (Stevens,F)}
- Function table

Student	Grade
Adams	A
Chou	C
Goodfriend	B
Rodriguez	A
Stevens	F

Describing Functions (cntd)

- Numerical functions can be computed using a formula
  $f(x) = x^2$
  range(f) = { 0, 4, 9, …} – non-negative integers that are perfect squares
- The most general way is to use some algorithm to compute a function
  `The letter grade is A, if the numerical mark is in between 100 and 85; the letter grade is B, if …
  Functions in programming languages:
  int **floor**(float real) {…} in Java
  function floor(x: **real**): **integer** in Pascal

One-to-One Functions

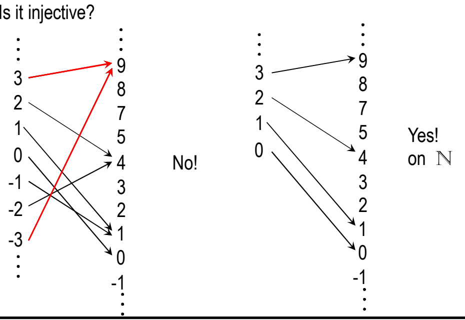
- A function f is said to be one-to-one, or injective, if and only if f(a) = f(b) implies a = b.
  In other words no two elements are mapped into the same image.
  Contrapositive: if a ≠ b then f(a) ≠ f(b).
  Symbolically: ∀a ∀b (f(a) = f(b) → a = b)
- Is this function injective?

Adams	A
Chou	B
Goodfriend	C
Rodriguez	D
Stevens	F

No!

One-to-One Functions (cntd)

- Let's consider the function $f(x) = x^2$ on $\mathbb{Z}$
  Is it injective?

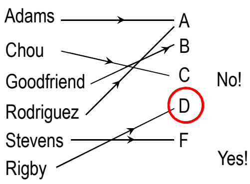


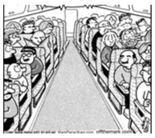
Onto Functions

- A function f from A to B is called onto, or surjective, if and only if for every element $b \in B$ there is an element $a \in A$ with $f(a) = b$. A function is called a surjection if it is onto.
  Symbolically: $\forall b \, \exists a \, (f(a) = b)$
- Examples:
  - $f(x) = x + 1$
    Yes, because for any $b \in \mathbb{Z}$ there is $a \in \mathbb{Z}$ such that $a + 1 = b$
  - $f(x) = x^2$ on $\mathbb{Z}$
    No, because $\sqrt{2}$ is not an integer
  - What about the same function on $\mathbb{R}^+$
    Yes, the square root of a real number is a real number

Onto Functions (cntd)

- More examples



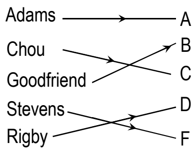


This mapping was onto!

- $f(a) = b$ if b is the father of a

Bijections

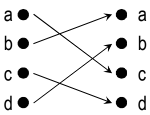
- A function f is a one-to-one correspondence, or a bijection, if it is both one-to-one and onto.

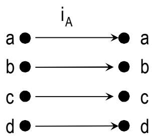


- If there is a bijection from a set A to a set B, then these sets in a certain sense are equal or identical.

Bijections (cntd)

- Numerical functions:
  - $f(x) = x + 1$ is a bijection on $\mathbb{Z}, \mathbb{Q}, \mathbb{R}$, but not on $\mathbb{N}$
  - $f(x) = x^2$ is a bijection on $\mathbb{R}^+$, but is not on any other numerical set
- A bijection from a set A to the same set A is called a permutation of A

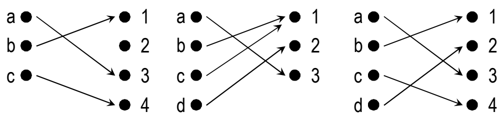




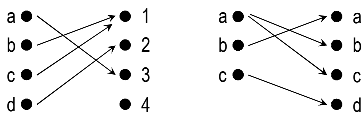
- The identity function on a set A is the function $i_A : A \to A$, where $i_A(x) = x$

Functions and Properties

- Examples of different types of correspondences



one-to-one, not onto | onto, not one-to-one | one-to-one and onto

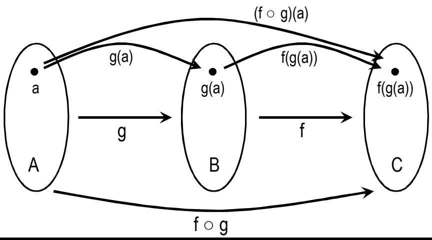


neither one-to-one nor onto | not a function

Composition of Functions

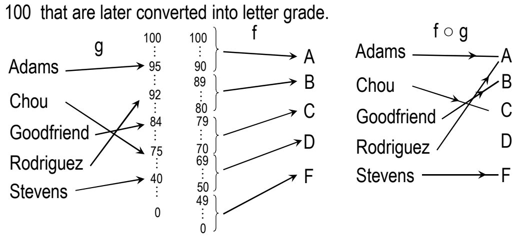
- Let g be a function from A to B and let f be a function from B to C. The **composition** of the functions f and g, denoted by $f \circ g$, is the function from A to C defined by

$$(f \circ g)(a) = f(g(a))$$



Composition of Functions (cntd)

- Suppose that the students first get numerical grades from 0 to 100 that are later converted into letter grade.



- Let f(a) = b mean `b is the father of a'. What is $f \circ f$?

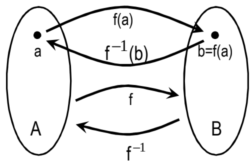
Composition of Numerical Functions

- Let $g(x) = x^2$ and $f(x) = x + 1$. Then $(f \circ g)(x) = f(g(x)) = g(x) + 1 = x^2 + 1$

- Thus, to find the composition of numerical functions f and g given by formulas we have to substitute g(x) instead of x in f(x).

Inverse Functions

- Let f be a one-to-one correspondence from the set A to the set B. The **inverse function** of f is the function that assigns to an element $b \in B$ the unique element $a \in A$ such that $f(a) = b$.
  The inverse function is denoted by f^{-1}.
  Thus, $f^{-1}(b) = a$ if and only if $f(a) = b$



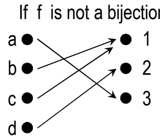
Note! f^{-1} does not mean $\frac{1}{f(x)}$

$f \circ f^{-1} = i_B$

$f^{-1} \circ f = i_A$

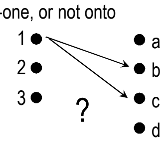
Inverse Functions (cntd)

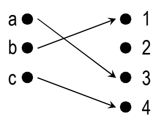
- If a function f is not a bijection, the inverse function does not exist. Why?
- If f is not a bijection, it is either not one-to-one, or not onto



onto, not one-to-one

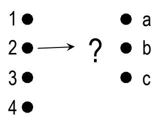
$f^{-1}(1) = ?$





one-to-one, not onto

$f^{-1}(2) = ?$



Homework

Exercises from the Book:
No. 1, 2, 6a,15, 16ace, 18 (page 258)