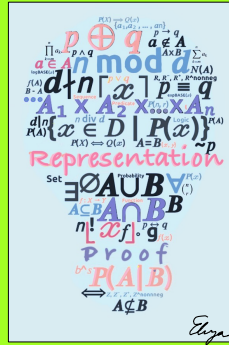


# Discrete Structures



## Lecture 16: Proofs about functions

Susan L. Epstein



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## Last time

### ★ Functions are ubiquitous and powerful

- Functions can be defined on more than numbers
- Special properties of functions impact computation and storage

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## Today's outline

- Composition of functions
- Cardinality and its properties
- Infinite sets



Simple examples yield intuition for hypotheses



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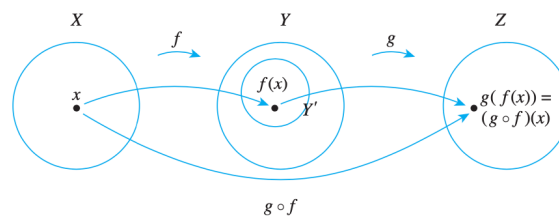
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## Composition

For functions  $f: X \rightarrow Y$  and  $g: Y' \rightarrow Z$  where the range of  $f$  is  $Y' \subseteq Y$ ,  
 $(g \circ f)(x) = g(f(x))$  for all  $x \in X$  is the **composition** of  $g$  and  $f$

Read " $g$  circle  $f$ " or " $g$  composed with  $f$ " or " $g$  of  $f$ "



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## 2 ways to define a composition

By formula:

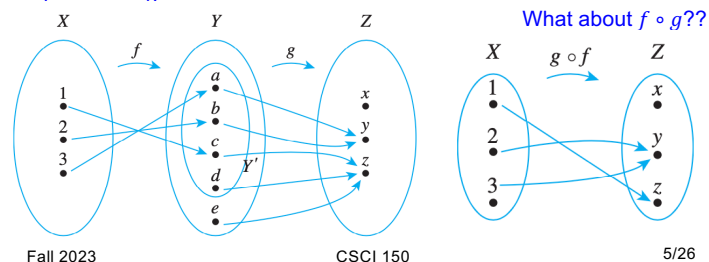
For  $f: \mathbb{Z} \rightarrow \mathbb{Z}$  with rule  $f(n) = n + 3$  and  $g: \mathbb{Z} \rightarrow \mathbb{Z}$  with rule  $g(n) = n^2$ ,

$$(g \circ f)(n) = g(f(n)) = g(n + 3) = (n + 3)^2 \quad \forall n \in \mathbb{Z}$$

$$(f \circ g)(n) = f(g(n)) = f(n^2) = n^2 + 3 \quad \forall n \in \mathbb{Z}$$

**Note that**  $(g \circ f)(n) \neq (f \circ g)(n)$

By arrow diagram:



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## Composition with the identity function

**Theorem:** For function  $f: X \rightarrow Y$  and **identity functions**  $I_X: X \rightarrow X$  and  $I_Y: Y \rightarrow Y$ ,  $f \circ I_X = f$  and  $I_Y \circ f = f$ .

**Proof:**

**We must show that** for any  $x \in X$ ,  $(f \circ I_X)(x) = f(x)$  and  $(I_Y \circ f)(y) = y$ .

**Let**  $x$  be any element of  $X$ .

**By definition** of composition and identity functions,

$$(f \circ I_X)(x) = f(I_X(x)) = f(x)$$

and similarly

$$(I_Y \circ f)(y) = I_Y(f(y)) = f(y).$$

**QED**

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### Intuition on inverses of functions

Recall: If  $f: X \rightarrow Y$ ,  $f^{-1}: Y \rightarrow X$  such that  $f^{-1}(y) = x$  iff  $f(x) = y$

$X \xrightarrow{f} Y$

$Y \xrightarrow{f^{-1}} X$

So what do  $f \circ f^{-1}$  and  $f^{-1} \circ f$  look like?

$f \circ f^{-1} = I_Y$   
 $f^{-1} \circ f = I_X$

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### Composition with the inverse of a function

**Theorem:** For one-to-one and onto function  $f: X \rightarrow Y$  with inverse  $f^{-1}: Y \rightarrow X$  and **identity function**  $I_Y: Y \rightarrow Y$ ,  $f^{-1} \circ f = I_X$  and  $f \circ f^{-1} = I_Y$ .

$X = \text{domain of } f$        $Y = \text{co-domain of } f$

**Proof:**

**We must show that** for any  $x \in X$ ,  $(f^{-1} \circ f)(x) = I_X(x)$  and for any  $y \in Y$ ,  $(f \circ f^{-1})(y) = I_Y(y)$ .

**Let**  $x$  be any element of  $X$  such that  $f(x) = y$  where  $y \in Y$ .

**By definition** of inverse,  $f^{-1}(y) = x$ .

**By definition** of composition,  $(f^{-1} \circ f)(x) = f^{-1}(f(x)) = f^{-1}(y) = x = I_X(x)$  **by definition** of the identity.

**Let**  $y$  be any element of  $Y$  such that  $f^{-1}(y) = x$  where  $x \in X$ .

**By definition** of inverse,  $f^{-1}(y) = x$ . **By definition** of composition,  $(f \circ f^{-1})(y) = f(f^{-1}(y)) = f(x) = y = I_Y(y)$  **by definition** of the identity.

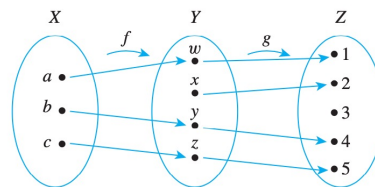
**QED**

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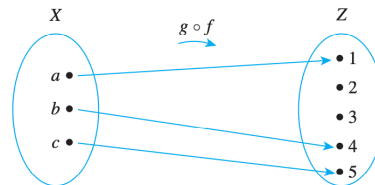
## Intuition about one-to-one functions

Recall:  $f: X \rightarrow Y$  is **one-to-one** iff  $\forall x_1, x_2 \in X$ , if  $f(x_1) = f(x_2)$  then  $x_1 = x_2$



So is  $g \circ f$  one-to-one?

And what about  $f \circ g$ ?



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## Composition of one-to-one functions

**Theorem:** If  $f: X \rightarrow Y$  and  $g: Y \rightarrow Z$  are both one-to-one functions, then  $g \circ f$  is also a one-to-one function.

**Proof:**

We must show that for

$g \circ f: X \rightarrow Z$ , all elements in  $X$  have different images in  $Z$ .

Assume not, that is, let  $x_1$  and  $x_2$

be distinct elements of  $X$  such that  $(g \circ f)(x_1) = (g \circ f)(x_2)$ .

We will show that this assumption logically leads to a contradiction.

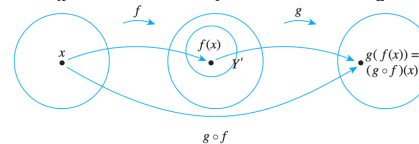
By definition of composition,  $(g \circ f)(x)$  so  $(g(f(x_1))) = g(f(x_2))$ .

Because  $g$  is one-to-one,  $f(x_1) = f(x_2)$

and because  $f$  is one-to-one  $x_1 = x_2$ .

**Contradiction.** Because the assumption led to a contradiction,  $g \circ f$  is also one-to-one.

**QED**



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### Intuition about onto functions

**Recall:**  $f: X \rightarrow Y$  is **onto** iff  $\forall y \in Y \exists x \in X$  such that  $f(x) = y$

So is  $g \circ f$  onto?

And what about  $f \circ g$ ?

$X$ 
 $\xrightarrow{f}$ 
 $Y$ 
 $\xrightarrow{g}$ 
 $Z$

$X$ 
 $\xrightarrow{g \circ f}$ 
 $Z$

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### Composition of onto functions

**Theorem:** If  $f: X \rightarrow Y$  and  $g: Y \rightarrow Z$  are both onto functions then  $g \circ f$  is also an onto function.

**Proof:**

**We must show that** under  $g \circ f: X \rightarrow Z$  every element in  $Z$  is the image of some element in  $X$ .

**Let**  $z$  be any element in  $Z$ .

**By definition** of onto, there is some  $y \in Y$  such that  $g(y) = z$ .

**By definition** of onto, there is some  $x \in X$  such that  $f(x) = y$ .

**By definition** of composition,  $(g \circ f)(x) = g(f(x))$ , and by substitution  $(g \circ f)(x) = g(f(x)) = g(y) = z$

**QED**

Any questions?

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## Today's outline

- ✓ Composition of functions
- Cardinality and its properties
- Infinite sets

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## Definitions

- A set is **finite** iff it is empty or can be put in one-to-one correspondence with a set of the form  $\{1, 2, \dots, n\}$
- An **infinite** set is a non-empty set that cannot be put in one-to-one correspondence with a set of the form  $\{1, 2, \dots, n\}$
- Any sets  $A$  and  $B$  have the **same cardinality**  $|A| = |B|$  iff there is a function from  $A$  to  $B$  that is one-to-one and onto
- An **equivalence relation**  $\mathcal{R}(x, y)$  is a binary relation that is reflexive, symmetric, and transitive on its domain
  - $\mathcal{R}$  is **reflexive** on a set  $S$  iff  $\forall s \in S, (s, s) \in \mathcal{R}$   $\leq$  on  $N$
  - $\mathcal{R}$  is **symmetric** on a set  $S$  iff  $\forall s, t \in S, (s, t) \in \mathcal{R}, (t, s) \in \mathcal{R}$   $=$  on  $Z$
  - $\mathcal{R}$  is **transitive** on a set  $S$  iff  $\forall s, t, u \in S, (s, t), (t, u) \in \mathcal{R}, (s, u) \in \mathcal{R}$   $>$  on  $R$

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## Cardinality is reflexive

Binary relation  $\mathcal{R}$  is **reflexive** on a set  $S$  iff  $\forall s \in S (s, s) \in \mathcal{R}$  ≤ on  $\mathbb{N}$

**Theorem:** For any set  $A$ , cardinality is reflexive, that is,  $|A| = |A|$ .

**Proof:** We must show that there is a one-to-one onto function from  $A$  to  $A$ .

Let  $x, y$  be any elements of  $A$  and consider the identity function  $I_A: A \rightarrow A$ .

By definition of an identity function,  $I_A(x) = x$  and  $I_A(y) = y$ .

If  $I_A(x) = I_A(y)$ , by substitution  $x = y$ , so  $I_A$  is one-to-one.

Let  $y$  be any element of  $A$ .

Because  $I_A(y) = y$ , so  $I_A$  is onto.

Thus  $I_A$  is a one-to-one onto function from  $A$  to  $A$ , and  $|A| = |A|$ .

**QED**

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## Cardinality is symmetric

Binary relation  $\mathcal{R}$  is **symmetric** on a set  $S$   $\forall s, t \in S, (s, t) \in \mathcal{R}$ ,  
iff  $(t, s) \in \mathcal{R}$  = on  $\mathbb{Z}$

**Lemma:** Any one-to-one onto function between 2 sets has an inverse.

**Proof:**

Let  $X$  and  $Y$  be any sets with 1-to-1 correspondence  $f: X \rightarrow Y$ .

Define  $f^{-1}: Y \rightarrow X$  as  $f^{-1}(y) = x$  iff  $f(x) = y$ .

$f^{-1}$  is a function because  $f$  is onto.

Because  $f$  is one-to-one,  $x$  is unique, and  $f^{-1}$  is  $f$ 's inverse. **QED**

**Theorem 15-22** (lecture 15, slide 22): For sets  $X$  and  $Y$  the inverse of any one-to-one correspondence is also a one-to-one correspondence.

**Theorem:** For any set  $A$ , cardinality is symmetric, that is, if  $|A| = |B|$  then  $|B| = |A|$ .

**Proof:** We must show that there is a one-to-one correspondence from  $B$  to  $A$ .

By definition of equal cardinality,  $\exists$  a one-to-one onto function  $f$  from  $A$  to  $B$ .

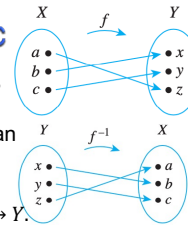
By the lemma,  $f^{-1}$ , the inverse of  $f$ , exists. By Theorem 15-22  $f^{-1}$  is also one-to-one and onto. Thus  $f^{-1}$  is the desired function.

**QED**

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## Cardinality is transitive

$\mathcal{R}$  is **transitive** on a set  $S$  iff  $\forall s, t, u \in S, (s, t), (t, u) \in \mathcal{R}, (s, u) \in \mathcal{R}$

**Theorem 15-22** (lecture 15, slide 22): For sets  $X$  and  $Y$  the inverse of any one-to-one correspondence is also a one-to-one correspondence.

**Theorem:** For any sets  $A, B, C$ , cardinality is transitive, that is, if  $|A| = |B|$  and  $|B| = |C|$  then  $|A| = |C|$ .

**Proof:** We must show that there is a one-to-one correspondence from  $A$  to  $C$ .

By definition of equal cardinality, there is a one-to-one onto function  $f$  from  $A$  to  $B$  and a one-to-one onto function  $g$  from  $B$  to  $C$ .

Because (slide 10) the composition of two one-to-one functions is one-to-one,  $g \circ f$  is one-to-one.

Because (slide 12) the composition of two onto functions is onto,  $g \circ f$  is onto.

Thus  $g \circ f$  is both onto and one-to-one and is the desired function.

**QED**

Hence cardinality is an equivalence relation

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## Today's outline

- ✓ Composition of functions
- ✓ Cardinality and its properties
- Infinite sets

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## Brace yourselves...

**An infinite set and its proper subset can have the same cardinality**

Consider  $\mathbb{Z}$  and its proper subset  $\mathbb{Z}^{even} = \{0, 2, 4, \dots\}$ .

Define the function  $f: \mathbb{Z} \rightarrow \mathbb{Z}^{even}$  by the rule  $f(n) = 2n$ .

$$\begin{array}{ccccccccc} \dots & -4, & & -2, & & 0, & & 2, & & 4, & \dots \\ & \downarrow & & \downarrow & & \downarrow & & \downarrow & & \downarrow & \\ \dots & -2, & & -1, & & 0, & & 1, & & 2, & \dots \end{array}$$

Let  $a, b \in \mathbb{Z}$  such that  $f(a) = f(b)$ . Then  $2a = 2b$ , so  $a = b$  and  $f$  is one-to-one.

Let  $c$  be any element of  $\mathbb{Z}^{even}$ .

Then  $c$  is even and by definition of even,  $c = 2m$  for some  $m \in \mathbb{N}$ , so

$f(m) = c$  and  $f$  is onto.

Thus  $f$  establishes a one-to-one correspondence between  $\mathbb{N}$  and its proper subset  $\mathbb{Z}^{even}$  and  $|\mathbb{Z}| = |\mathbb{Z}^{even}|$

But just because 2 sets are both infinite does not mean that they have the same cardinality...you have to **find the function that is a one-to-one correspondence** between them.

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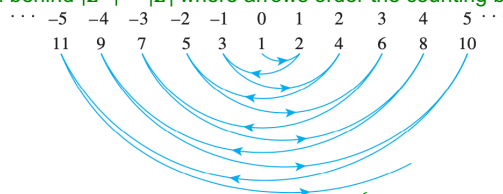
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## Countability

- The paradigm for countability is the positive integers  $\mathbb{Z}^+$
- A set is said to be **countably infinite** iff it has the same cardinality as  $\mathbb{Z}^+$
- A set is said to be **countable** iff it is finite or countably infinite

Intuition behind  $|\mathbb{Z}^+| = |\mathbb{Z}|$  where arrows order the counting by  $\mathbb{Z}^+$



$$\text{For } n \in \mathbb{Z}, f: \mathbb{Z} \rightarrow \mathbb{Z}^+ \quad f(n) = \begin{cases} 2n & \text{if } n \in \mathbb{Z}^+ \\ 2n + 1 & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

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## Many sets are countably infinite

- $|N| = |N^{even}|$  even though  $N^{even} \subset N$
- $|N| = |N^{odd}|$
- $|N| = |Z|$  even though  $N \subset Z$
- Let  $A = \{x | x \in Z \text{ and } x \bmod 3 = 0\}$ .  $|A| = |Z|$
- Let  $B = \{x | x \in Z \text{ and } x \bmod 1000 = 0\}$ .  $|A| = |Z|$
- $|A| = |B|$

Cardinality equivalence proof always finds a function that is a one-to-one correspondence between two sets

Can you think of a set with cardinality larger than  $Z^+$ ?

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## $Q$ is countable

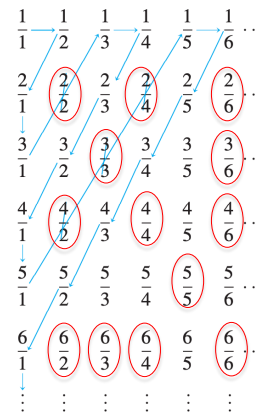
This diagram describes a one-to-one onto function that maps  $Z^+ \rightarrow Q^+$  so  $|Q^+| = |Z^+|$ . Follow the arrows and skip over any equivalent fractions that have already been assigned.

But  $|Z^+| = |Z|$ , so  $|Q^+| = |Z|$

What about  $|Q|$ ?

Not surprisingly,  $|Q| = |Q^+|$

Are there uncountably infinite sets ?



## Cardinalities and infinite sets

- Any subset of a countable set is countable
- 1874 Georg Cantor proved that  $\mathbf{R}$  is uncountably infinite
- Other uncountably infinite sets
  - Number of real numbers within any interval of the real number line
  - Any set with an uncountable subset
- Cardinalities of infinite sets have assigned symbols
  - $|\mathbf{N}| = \aleph_0$  read as "aleph null"
  - $|\mathbf{R}| = \aleph_1$  read as "aleph one"
  - $\aleph_0 < \aleph_1$
- For any set  $S$ ,  $|S| < |\mathcal{P}(S)|$  even if  $S = \emptyset$ ?
- Thus  $|\mathbf{Z}| < |\mathcal{P}(\mathbf{Z})| < |\mathcal{P}(\mathcal{P}(\mathbf{Z}))| < |\mathcal{P}(\mathcal{P}(\mathcal{P}(\mathbf{Z})))| < \dots$
- This leads to infinitely many symbols for infinite cardinality
  - $\aleph_0 < \aleph_1 < \aleph_2 < \dots$

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## Applications

- The set of all strings on a finite alphabet is countable (Hint: put them in alphabetical order)
- The set of all computer programs in a given programming language is countable (because they are just strings on a finite alphabet)
- The set of all functions from  $\mathbf{N}^+$  to  $\{0,1,2,3,4,5,6,7,8,9\}$  is uncountable (proof in your text)
- Together these indicate that

There are non-computable functions

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## Proof methods (so far)

Truth table  
 Sequence of statements with reasons  
 Logic (modus ponens, modus tollens,...)  
 Predicate logic (quantification, vacuous truth)  
 Generalization from the generic particular  
 Proof by contradiction  
 Proof by contraposition  
 Proof by cases  
 Mathematical induction  
 Strong mathematical induction  
 Proof by set element  
 Algebraic set proof  
 Algebraic proof by properties of functions  
 Cardinality proof by one-to-one correspondence

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## What you should know

### ★ Simple examples yield intuition for hypotheses

- How compositionality works
- How to build proofs with one-to-one functions, onto functions, and one-to-one correspondences
- What cardinality is
- How to measure the size of infinite sets



**Next up: Counting and probability**

**Time to finish up that Opening sheet!**

**Problem set 15,16 is due on Monday, November 6 at 11PM**

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