

# CSN-106 Discrete Structures

# INDIAN INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY ROORKEE

NAME OF DEPT/CENTRE: **Computer Science and Engineering**

1. Subject Code: **CS - 106** Course Title: **Discrete Structures**

2. Contact Hours: **L: 3 T: 1 P: 0**

3. Examination Duration (Hrs.): **Theory**

0	3
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**Practical**

0	0
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4. Relative Weight: **CWS**

25
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**PRS**

00
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**MTE**

25
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**ETE**

50
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**PRE**

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5. Credits: 

0	4
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6. Semester **Spring**

7. Pre-requisite: **NIL**

8. Subject Area: **DCC**

9. Objective: To introduce to the students the fundamental discrete structures used in computer science.

10. Details of the Course:

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#### 10. Details of the Course:

Sl. No.	Contents	Contact Hours
1.	<b>Sets:</b> Properties, relations, functions, finite and infinite sets, lattice.	6
2.	<b>Graphs:</b> Directed, undirected, directed acyclic, and bipartite graphs; Connected components, Eulerian graphs, Hamiltonian cycles; Some fundamental theorems, applications.	10
3.	<b>Logic:</b> Propositional and predicate logic; Syntax, semantics, resolution principle, soundness, completeness, unification, inferencing; Applications.	10
4.	<b>Abstract Algebra:</b> Groups, rings, fields, Galois field, Euler's phi function, Fermat's theorem, discrete logarithm, applications.	10
5.	<b>Introduction to Number Theory:</b> Remainder theorem, gcd, factorization theorem.	6
	<b>Total</b>	<b>42</b>

## 11. Suggested Books:

<b>Sl. No.</b>	<b>Name of Books/Authors</b>	<b>Year of Publication</b>
1.	Herstein, I., “Abstract Algebra”, Pearson Education.	2005
2.	Harary, F., “Graph Theory”, Narosa Publishing House.	2001
3.	Huth, M. and Ryan, M., “Logic in Computer Science: Modeling and Reasoning About Systems”, Cambridge University Press.	2005



# Basic Definitions

- **Set** - Collection of objects, usually denoted by capital letter
- **Member, element** - Object in a set, usually denoted by lower case letter
- **Set Membership** -  $a \in A$  denotes that  $a$  is an element of set  $A$
- **Cardinality** of a set - Number of elements in a set, denoted  $|S|$

# Special Sets

- $\mathbb{N}$  - set of natural numbers =  $\{1, 2, 3, 4, \dots\}$
- $\mathbb{P}$  or  $\mathbb{Z}_+$  - set of positive integers =  $\{1, 2, 3, 4, \dots\}$
- $\mathbb{Z}$  - set of all integers, positive, negative and zero
- $\mathbb{R}$  - set of all real numbers
- $\emptyset$  or  $\{ \}$  - empty set
- $U$  - Universal set, set containing all elements under consideration

# Set Builder Notation

Format:

“such that”

$\{ [\text{element structure}] \mid [\text{necessary properties to be members}] \}$

Examples:

- $Q = \{ m/n \mid m, n \in \mathbb{Z}, n \neq 0 \}$ 
  - $Q$  is set of all rational numbers
  - Elements have structure  $m/n$ ; must satisfy properties after the  $\mid$  to be set members.
- $\{ x \in \mathbb{R} \mid x^2 = 1 \}$ 
  - $\{-1, 1\}$

# Subsets

- $S \subseteq T$  ( $S$  is a subset of  $T$ )
  - Every element of  $S$  is in  $T$
  - $\forall x(x \in S \rightarrow x \in T)$
- $S = T$  ( $S$  equals  $T$ )
  - Exactly same elements in  $S$  and  $T$
  - $(S \subseteq T) \wedge (T \subseteq S)$  *Important for proofs!*
- $S \subset T$  ( $S$  is a proper subset of  $T$ )
  - $S$  is a subset of  $T$  but  $S \neq T$
  - $(S \subseteq T) \wedge (S \neq T)$



# Interval Notation - Special notation for subset of $\mathbb{R}$

- $[a,b] = \{x \in \mathbb{R} \mid a \leq x \leq b\}$
- $(a,b) = \{x \in \mathbb{R} \mid a < x < b\}$
- $[a,b) = \{x \in \mathbb{R} \mid a \leq x < b\}$
- $(a,b] = \{x \in \mathbb{R} \mid a < x \leq b\}$

How many elements in  $[0,1]$ ?

In  $(0,1)$ ?

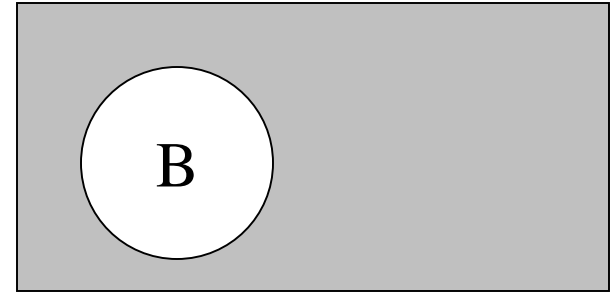
In  $\{0,1\}$

# Set Operations

- $\overline{B}$  (B complement)

- $\{x \mid x \in U \wedge x \notin B\}$

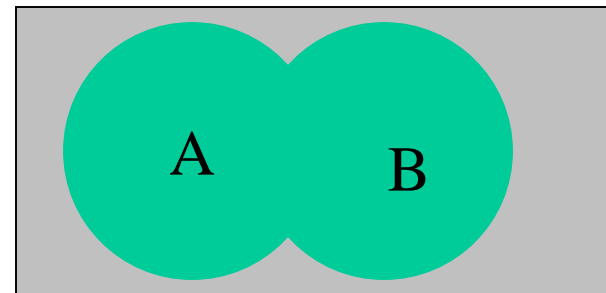
- Everything in the Universal set that is not in B



- $A \cup B$  (A union B)

- $\{x \mid x \in A \vee x \in B\}$

- Like inclusive or, can be in A or B or both



# More Set Operations

- $A \cap B$  (A intersect B)
  - $\{x \mid x \in A \wedge x \in B\}$
  - A and B are disjoint if  $A \cap B = \emptyset$
- $A - B$  (A minus B or difference)
  - $\{x \mid x \in A \wedge x \notin B\}$
  - $A - B = A \cap \overline{B}$
- $A \oplus B$  (symmetric difference)
  - $\{x \mid x \in A \oplus x \in B\} = (A \cup B) - (A \cap B)$
  - We have overloaded the symbol  $\oplus$ . Used in logic to mean exclusive or and in sets to mean symmetric difference

# Simple Examples

Let  $A = \{n^2 \mid n \in P \wedge n \leq 4\} = \{1, 4, 9, 16\}$

Let  $B = \{n^4 \mid n \in P \wedge n \leq 4\} = \{1, 16, 81, 256\}$

- $A \cup B = \{1, 4, 9, 16, 81, 256\}$
- $A \cap B = \{1, 16\}$
- $A - B = \{4, 9\}$
- $B - A = \{81, 256\}$
- $A \oplus B = \{4, 9, 81, 256\}$

# Approaches to Proofs

- Membership tables (similar to truth tables)
- Convert to a problem in propositional logic, prove, then convert back
- Use set identities for a tabular proof (similar to what we did for the propositional logic examples but using set identities)
- Do a logical (sentence-type) argument (similar to what we did for the number theory examples)

Prove  $(A \cap B) \cup (\overline{A} \cap B) = B$

A	B	$(A \cap B)$	$(\overline{A} \cap B)$	$(A \cap B) \cup (\overline{A} \cap B)$
1	1	1	0	1
1	0	0	0	0
0	1	0	1	1
0	0	0	0	0

Prove  $(A \cap B) \cup (\overline{A} \cap B) = B$

$$(A \cap B) \cup (\overline{A} \cap B)$$

$$= \{x \mid x \in (A \cap B) \cup (\overline{A} \cap B)\} \quad \text{Set builder notation}$$

$$= \{x \mid x \in (A \cap B) \vee x \in (\overline{A} \cap B)\} \quad \text{Def of } \cup$$

$$= \{x \mid (x \in A \wedge x \in B) \vee (x \notin A \wedge x \in B)\} \quad \begin{array}{l} \text{Def of } \cap \text{ and} \\ \text{Def of complement} \end{array}$$

$$= \{x \mid (x \in B \wedge x \in A) \vee (x \in B \wedge x \notin A)\} \quad \text{Commutative x2}$$

$$= \{x \mid (x \in B \wedge (x \in A \vee x \notin A))\} \quad \text{Distributive}$$

$$= \{x \mid (x \in B \wedge T)\} \quad \text{Or tautology}$$

$$= \{x \mid (x \in B)\} \quad \text{Identity}$$

$$= B \quad \text{Set Builder notation}$$

# Set Identities (Rosen, p. 89)

$$A \cup \emptyset = A$$

$$A \cap U = A$$

Identity Laws

$$A \cup U = U$$

$$A \cap \emptyset = \emptyset$$

Domination Laws

$$A \cup A = A$$

$$A \cap A = A$$

Idempotent Laws

$$\overline{\overline{A}} = A$$

Complementation Law



# Set Identities (cont.)

$$A \cup B = B \cup A$$

$$A \cap B = B \cap A$$

Commutative Laws

$$A \cup (B \cup C) = (A \cup B) \cup C$$

$$A \cap (B \cap C) = (A \cap B) \cap C$$

Associative Laws

$$A \cap (B \cup C) = (A \cap B) \cup (A \cap C)$$

$$A \cup (B \cap C) = (A \cup B) \cap (A \cup C)$$

Distributive Laws

$$\overline{A \cup B} = \overline{A} \cap \overline{B}$$

$$\overline{A \cap B} = \overline{A} \cup \overline{B}$$

De Morgan's Laws

Prove  $(A \cap B) \cup (\bar{A} \cap B) = B$

$$(A \cap B) \cup (\bar{A} \cap B) =$$

$$(B \cap A) \cup (B \cap \bar{A}) \quad \text{Commutative Law x2}$$

$$= B \cap (A \cup \bar{A}) \quad \text{Distributive Law}$$

$$= B \cap U \quad \text{Definition of U}$$

$$= B \quad \text{Identity Law}$$

Prove  $(A \cap B) \cup (\overline{A} \cap B) = B$

Proof: We must show that  $(A \cap B) \cup (\overline{A} \cap B) \subseteq B$  and that  $B \subseteq (A \cap B) \cup (\overline{A} \cap B)$ .

First we will show that  $(A \cap B) \cup (\overline{A} \cap B) \subseteq B$ .

Let  $e$  be an arbitrary element of  $(A \cap B) \cup (\overline{A} \cap B)$ . Then either  $e \in (A \cap B)$  or  $e \in (\overline{A} \cap B)$ . If  $e \in (A \cap B)$ , then  $e \in B$  and  $e \in A$ . If  $e \in (\overline{A} \cap B)$ , then  $e \in B$  and  $e \in \overline{A}$ . In either case  $e \in B$ .

Prove  $(A \cap B) \cup (\overline{A} \cap B) = B$

Now we will show that  $B \subseteq (A \cap B) \cup (\overline{A} \cap B)$ .

Let  $e$  be an arbitrary element of  $B$ . Then  
either  $e \in A \cap B$  or  $e \in \overline{A} \cap B$ . Since  $e$  is in  
one or the other, then  $e \in (A \cap B) \cup (\overline{A} \cap B)$ .

Prove:  $[A \cup B \subseteq A \cap B] \rightarrow [A = B]$

Proof: We must show that when  $A \cup B \subseteq A \cap B$  is true then  $A=B$  is true. (Proof by contradiction) Assume that  $A \cup B \subseteq A \cap B$  is true but  $A \neq B$ . If  $A \neq B$  then this means that either  $\exists x \in A$  but  $x \notin B$ , or  $\exists x \in B$  but  $x \notin A$ . If  $\exists x \in A$  but  $x \notin B$ , then  $x \in A \cup B$  but  $x \notin A \cap B$  so  $A \cup B$  is not a subset of  $A \cap B$  and we have a contradiction to our original assumption. By a similar argument  $A \cup B$  is not a subset of  $A \cap B$  if  $\exists x \in B$  but  $x \notin A$ .

Therefore  $[A \cup B \subseteq A \cap B] \rightarrow [A = B]$ .

# Prove or Disprove

$$[A \cap B = A \cap C] \rightarrow [B = C]$$

False!  $A = \emptyset$ ,  $B = \{a\}$ ,  $C = \{b\}$

$$[A \cup B = A \cup C] \rightarrow [B = C]$$

False!  $A = \{a\}$ ,  $B = \emptyset$ ,  $C = \{a\}$

# Ordered n-tuple

The ordered n-tuple  $(a_1, a_2, \dots, a_n)$  is the ordered collection that has  $a_1$  as its first element,  $a_2$  as its second element . . . And  $a_n$  as its  $n$ th element.

2-tuples are called ordered pairs.

# Cartesian Product of A and B

Let A and B be sets. The Cartesian product of A and B, denoted  $A \times B$  is the set of all ordered pairs  $(a,b)$  where  $a \in A$  and  $b \in B$ . Hence

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

The Cartesian product of the sets  $A_1, A_2, \dots, A_n$  denoted by  $A_1 \times A_2 \times \dots \times A_n$  is the set of ordered n-tuples  $(a_1, a_2, \dots, a_n)$  where  $a_i$  belongs to  $A_i$  for  $i = 1, 2, \dots, n$ .

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



Prove  $(A \oplus B) \oplus B = A$

A	B	$A \oplus B$	$(A \oplus B) \oplus B$
1	1	0	1
1	0	1	1
0	1	1	0
0	0	0	0

Prove  $(A \oplus B) \oplus B = A$

Proof: We must show that  $(A \oplus B) \oplus B \subseteq A$   
and that  $A \subseteq (A \oplus B) \oplus B$ .

First we will show that  $(A \oplus B) \oplus B \subseteq A$ . Let  $e \in (A \oplus B) \oplus B$ . Then  $e \in (A \oplus B)$  or  $e \in B$  but not both. If  $e \in (A \oplus B)$ , then either  $e \in A$  or  $e \in B$ . If  $e \in A$  and  $e \notin B$  then we are done. If  $e \in B$ , and  $e \notin A$ , then  $e \in (A \oplus B)$  but can not be an element of  $(A \oplus B) \oplus B$  by definition so this case can not exist.

## Proof of $(A \oplus B) \oplus B = A$ , cont.

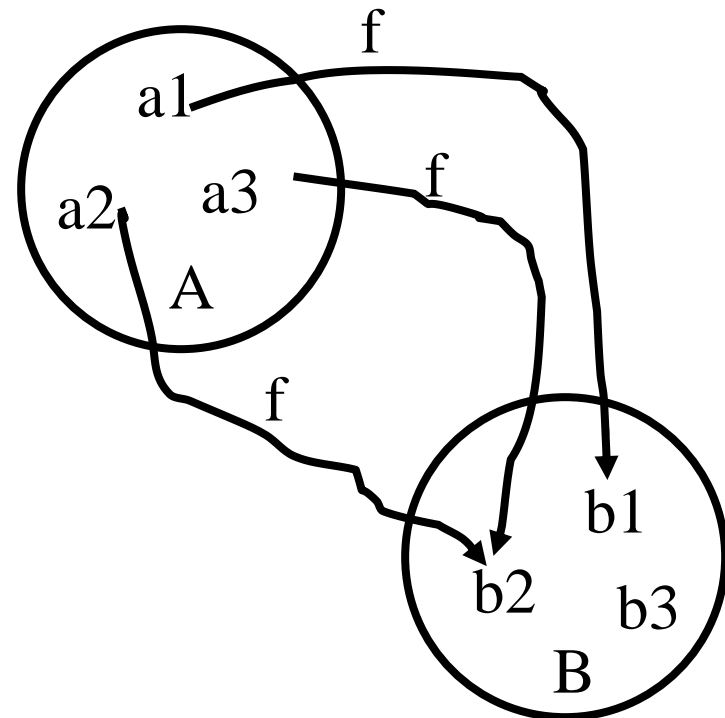
Now we will show that  $A \subseteq (A \oplus B) \oplus B$ . Let  $e \in A$ . Either  $e$  is also  $\in B$  or  $e \notin B$ . If  $e \in B$ , then  $e \notin (A \oplus B)$  so  $e$  is an element of  $(A \oplus B) \oplus B$ . If  $e \notin B$ ,  $e$  is an element of  $(A \oplus B)$  and  $e$  must be an element of  $(A \oplus B) \oplus B$ .

Thus  $(A \oplus B) \oplus B = A$ .

# Definition of Function

Let  $A$  and  $B$  be sets.

- A **function**  $f$  from  $A$  to  $B$  is an assignment of exactly one element of  $B$  to each element of  $A$ .
- We write  $f(a) = b$  if  $b$  is the only element of  $B$  assigned by the function,  $f$ , to the element of  $A$ .
- If  $f$  is a function from  $A$  to  $B$ , we write  $f:A \rightarrow B$ .



# Addition and Multiplication

Let  $f_1$  and  $f_2$  be functions from  $A$  to  $\mathbf{R}$  (real numbers). Then

- $f_1 + f_2$  is defined as  $(f_1 + f_2)(x) = f_1(x) + f_2(x)$ .
- $f_1 f_2$  is defined as  $(f_1 f_2)(x) = f_1(x) f_2(x)$ .

And both of these are also from  $A$  to  $\mathbf{R}$ .

(Two real valued functions with the same domain can be added and multiplied.)

- **Example:**  $f_1(x) = x^2$ ;  $f_2 = x + x^2$
- $(f_1 + f_2)(a) = a^2 + a + a^2 = 2a^2 + a$
- $f_1 f_2(a) = (a^2)(a + a^2) = a^3 + a^4$

# Are $f_1+f_2$ and $f_1f_2$ Commutative?

**Prove:**  $(f_1+f_2)(x) = (f_2+f_1)x$  where  $x \in R$

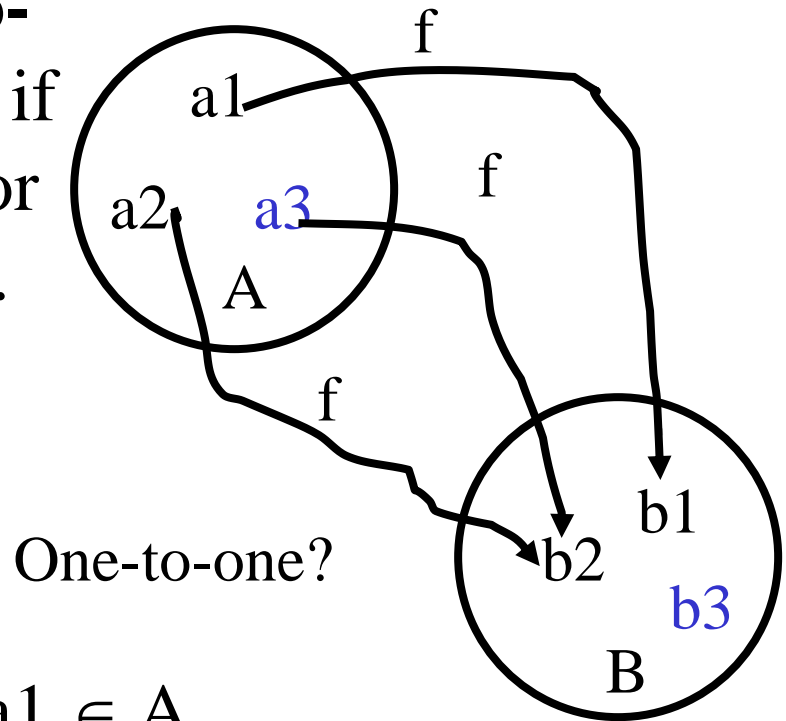
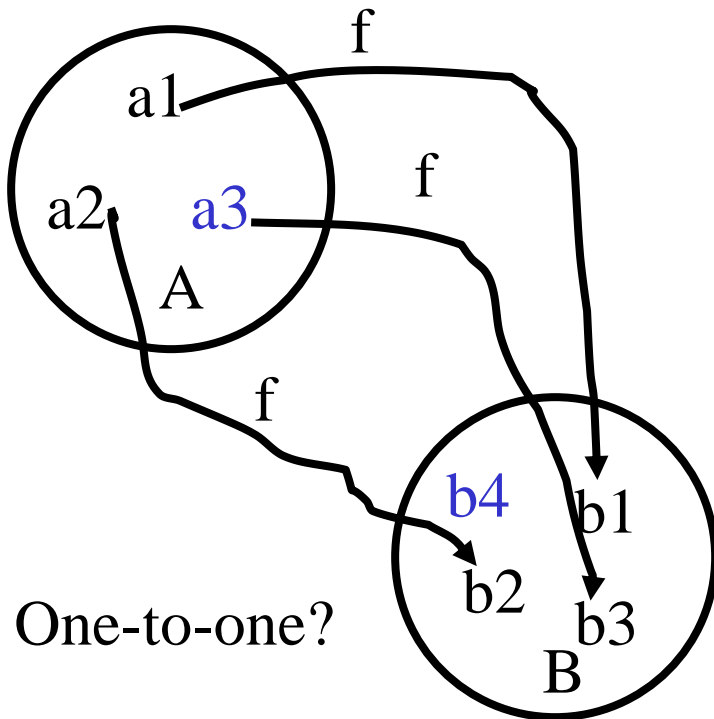
**Proof:** Let  $x \in R$  be an arbitrary element in the domain of  $f_1$  and  $f_2$ . Then  $(f_1+f_2)(x) = f_1(x) + f_2(x) = f_2(x) + f_1(x) = (f_2+f_1)(x)$ .

**Prove:**  $(f_1f_2)(x) = (f_2f_1)(x)$  where  $x \in R$

**Proof:** Let  $x \in R$  be an arbitrary element in the domain of  $f_1$  and  $f_2$ . Then  $(f_1f_2)(x) = f_1(x)f_2(x) = f_2(x)f_1(x) = (f_2f_1)(x)$ .

# One-to-one function

A function  $f$  is said to be **one-to-one**, or **injective**, if and only if  $f(x) = f(y)$  implies that  $x=y$  for all  $x$  and  $y$  in the domain of  $f$ .



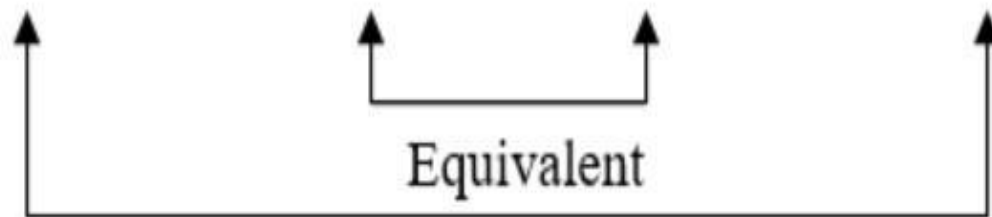
$$\forall a_0, a_1 \in A$$

$$[f(a_0) = f(a_1)] \rightarrow [a_0 = a_1]$$

OR

$$[a_0 \neq a_1] \rightarrow [f(a_0) \neq f(a_1)]$$

		Conditional	Converse	Inverse	Contrapositive
$p$	$q$	$p \rightarrow q$	$q \rightarrow p$	$\sim p \rightarrow \sim q$	$\sim q \rightarrow \sim p$
T	T	T	T	T	T
T	F	F	T	T	F
F	T	T	F	F	T
F	F	T	T	T	T





Let  $f: \mathbb{Z} \rightarrow \mathbb{Z}$ , where  $f(x) = 2x$

**Prove that  $f$  is one-to-one**

**Proof:** We must show that  $\forall x_0, x_1 \in \mathbb{Z} [f(x_0) = f(x_1) \rightarrow x_0 = x_1]$ .

Consider arbitrary  $x_0$  and  $x_1$  that satisfy  $f(x_0) = f(x_1)$ .

By the function's definition we know that  $2x_0 = 2x_1$ . Dividing both sides by 2, we get  $x_0 = x_1$ .

Therefore  $f$  is one-to-one.

Let  $g:\mathbb{Z}\rightarrow\mathbb{Z}$ , where  $g(x) = x^2-x-2$

**Is  $g$  one-to-one?**

No! To prove a function is not one-to-one it is enough to give a counter example such that  $f(x_1) = f(x_2)$  and  $x_1 \neq x_2$ .

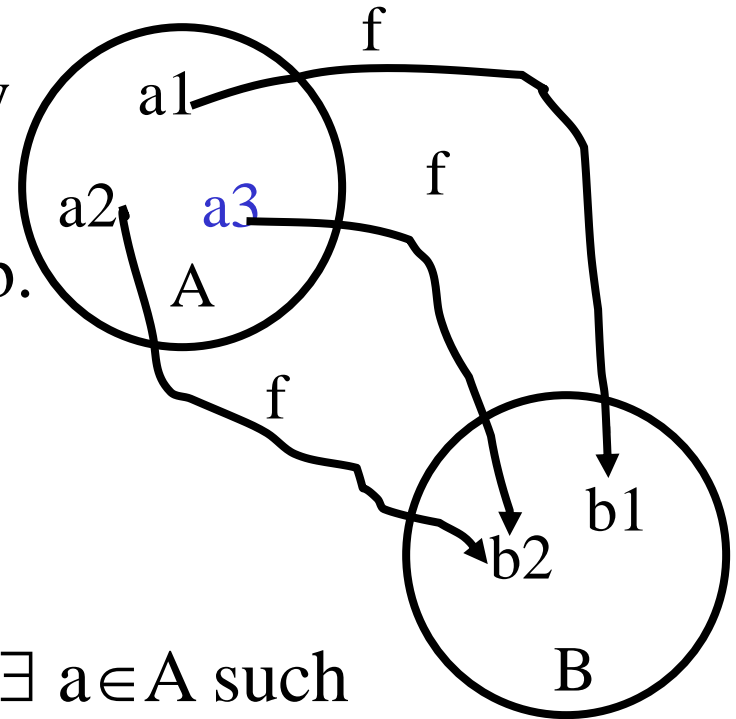
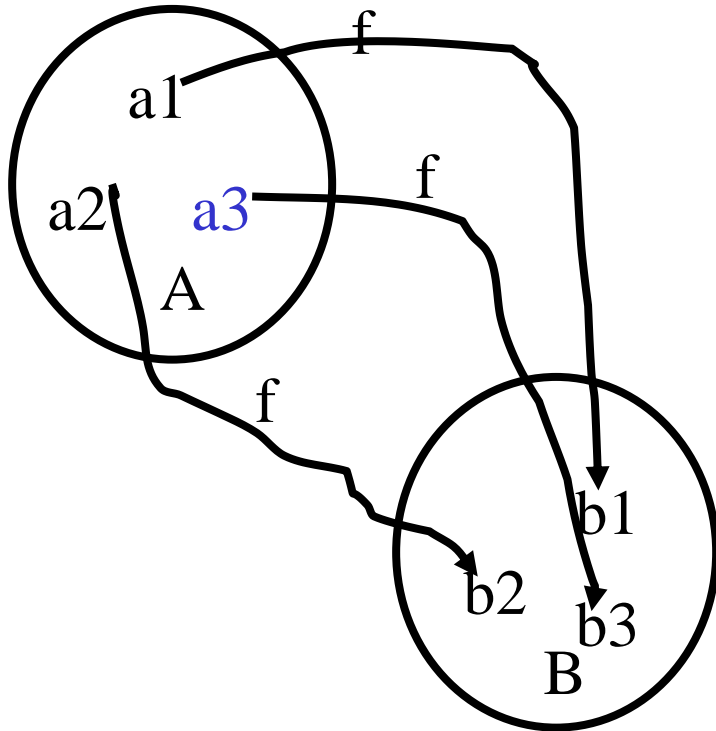
**Counter Example:** Consider  $x_1 = 2$  and  $x_2 = -1$ .

Then  $g(2) = 2^2-2-2 = 0 = g(-1) = (-1)^2 + 1 -2$ .

Since  $g(2) = g(-1)$  and  $2 \neq -1$ ,  $g$  is not one-to-one.

# Onto Function

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  $f(a) = b$ .



$\forall b \in B \exists a \in A$  such  
that  $f(a) = b$

Let  $f:\mathbb{R}\rightarrow\mathbb{R}$ , where  $f(x) = x^2+1$

**Prove or disprove:**  $f$  is onto

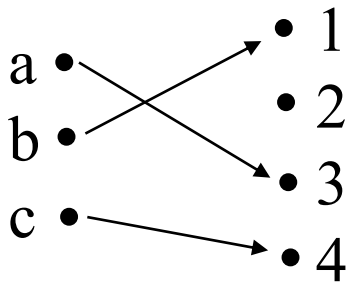
**Counter Example:** Let  $f = 0$ , then there does not exist an  $x$  such that  $f(x) = x^2 + 1$  since  $x^2$  is always positive.

Let  $g:\mathbb{R}\rightarrow\mathbb{R}$ , where  $g(x) = 3x-5$

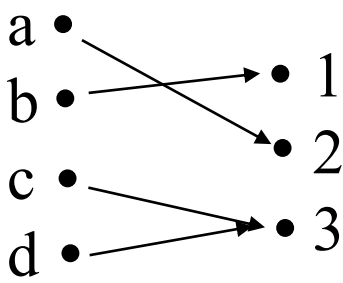
**Prove:**  $g(x)$  is onto.

**Proof:** Let  $y$  be an arbitrary real number (in  $\mathbb{R}$ ). For  $g$  to be onto, there must be an  $x\in\mathbb{R}$  such that  $y = 3x-5$ . Solving for  $x$ ,  $x = (y+5)/3$  which is a real number. Since  $x$  exists, then  $g$  is onto.

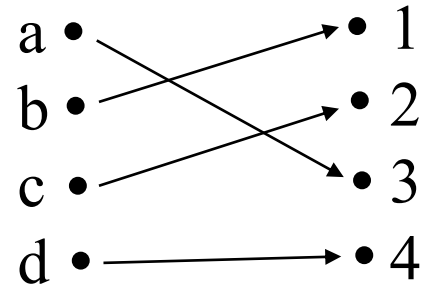
# Correspondence Diagrams: One-to-One or Onto?



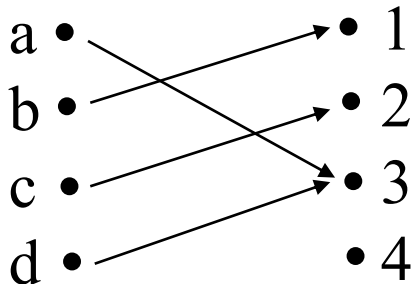
One-to-one,  
not onto



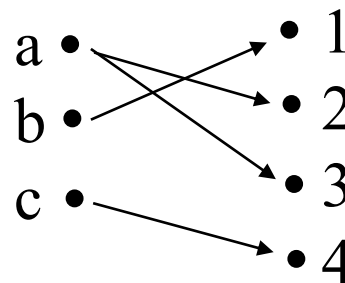
Onto, not one-  
to-one



One-to-one,  
and onto



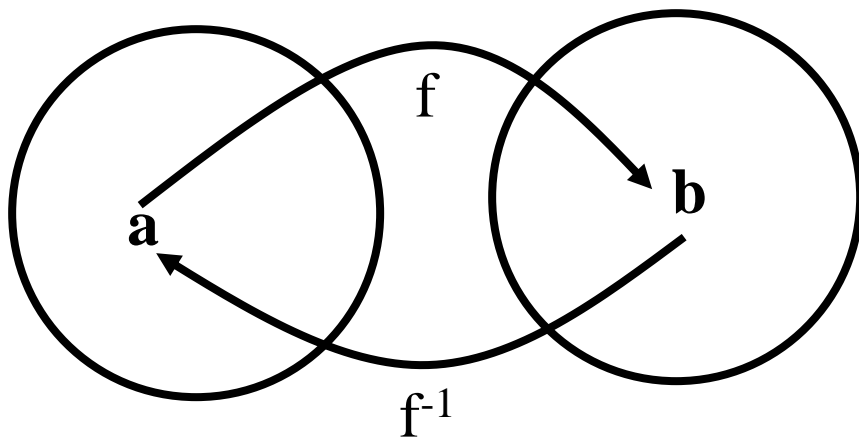
Neither one-to-  
one nor onto



Not a function!

# Inverse Function, $f^{-1}$

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  $b$  belonging to  $B$  the unique element  $a$  in  $A$  such that if  $f(a) = b$ , then  $f^{-1}(b) = a$ .



Example:

$$f(a) = 3(a-1)$$

$$f^{-1}(b) = (b/3)+1$$

Let  $f$  be an invertible function from  $A$  to  $B$ . Let  $S$  be a subset of  $B$ . Show that  $f^{-1}(\overline{S}) = \overline{f^{-1}(S)}$

Proof: We must show that  $f^{-1}(\overline{S}) \subseteq \overline{f^{-1}(S)}$  and that  $\overline{f^{-1}(S)} \subseteq f^{-1}(\overline{S})$ .

Let  $x \in f^{-1}(\overline{S})$ . Then  $x \in A$  and  $f(x) \in \overline{S}$ . Since  $f(x) \notin S$ ,  $x \notin f^{-1}(S)$ . Therefore  $x \in \overline{f^{-1}(S)}$ .

Now let  $x \in \overline{f^{-1}(S)}$ . Then  $x \notin f^{-1}(S)$  which implies that  $f(x) \notin S$ . Therefore  $f(x) \in \overline{S}$  and  $x \in f^{-1}(\overline{S})$ .



Let  $f$  be an invertible function from  $A$  to  $B$ . Let  $S$  be a subset of  $B$ . Show that  $f^{-1}(\overline{S}) = \overline{f^{-1}(S)}$

Proof:

$f^{-1}(\overline{S}) = \{x \in A \mid f(x) \notin S\}$	Set builder notation
$= \{x \in A \mid \overline{f(x) \in S}\}$	Def of Complement
$= \overline{f^{-1}(S)}$	Def of Complement

# Sequence

- A sequence is a discrete structure used to represent an ordered list.
- A sequence is a function from a subset of the set of integers (usually either the set  $\{0, 1, 2, \dots\}$  or  $\{1, 2, 3, \dots\}$ ) to a set  $S$ .
- We use the notation  $a_n$  to denote the image of the integer  $n$ . We call  $a_n$  a term of the sequence.
- Notation to represent sequence is  $\{a_n\}$

# Examples

- $\{1, 1/2, 1/3, 1/4, \dots\}$  or the sequence  $\{a_n\}$  where  $a_n = 1/n, n \in \mathbb{Z}^+$ .
- $\{1, 2, 4, 8, 16, \dots\} = \{a_n\}$  where  $a_n = 2^n, n \in \mathbb{N}$ .
- $\{1^2, 2^2, 3^2, 4^2, \dots\} = \{a_n\}$  where  $a_n = n^2, n \in \mathbb{Z}^+$

# Summations

- Notation for describing the sum of the terms  $a_m, a_{m+1}, \dots, a_n$  from the sequence,  $\{a_n\}$

$$a_m + a_{m+1} + \dots + a_n = \sum_{j=m}^n a_j$$

- $j$  is the index of summation (dummy variable)
- The index of summation runs through all integers from its lower limit,  $m$ , to its upper limit,  $n$ .

Summations follow all the rules  
of multiplication and addition!

$$c \sum_{j=1}^n j = \sum_{j=1}^n cj = c(1+2+\dots+n) = c + 2c + \dots + nc$$

$$r \sum_{j=0}^n ar^j = \sum_{j=0}^n ar^{j+1} = \sum_{k=1}^{n+1} ar^k =$$

$$ar^{n+1} + \sum_{k=1}^n ar^k = ar^{n+1} - a + \sum_{k=0}^n ar^k$$

# Telescoping Sums

$$\sum_{j=1}^n (a_j - a_{j-1}) = (a_1 - a_0) + (a_2 - a_1) +$$

$$(a_3 - a_2) + \dots + (a_n - a_{n-1}) = a_n - a_0$$

Example

$$\sum_{k=1}^4 [k^2 - (k-1)^2] =$$

$$(1^2 - 0^2) + (2^2 - 1^2) + (3^2 - 2^2) + (4^2 - 3^2)$$

$$4^2 = 16 - 0 = 16$$

# Closed Form Solutions

A simple formula that can be used to calculate a sum without doing all the additions.

Example:

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

**Proof:** First we note that  $k^2 - (k-1)^2 = k^2 - (k^2 - 2k + 1) = 2k - 1$ .

Since  $k^2 - (k-1)^2 = 2k - 1$ , then we can sum each side from  $k=1$  to  $k=n$

$$\sum_{k=1}^n [k^2 - (k-1)^2] = \sum_{k=1}^n (2k - 1)$$

# Proof (cont.)

$$\sum_{k=1}^n [k^2 - (k-1)^2] = \sum_{k=1}^n (2k-1)$$

$$\sum_{k=1}^n [k^2 - (k-1)^2] = \sum_{k=1}^n 2k + \sum_{k=1}^n (-1)$$

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

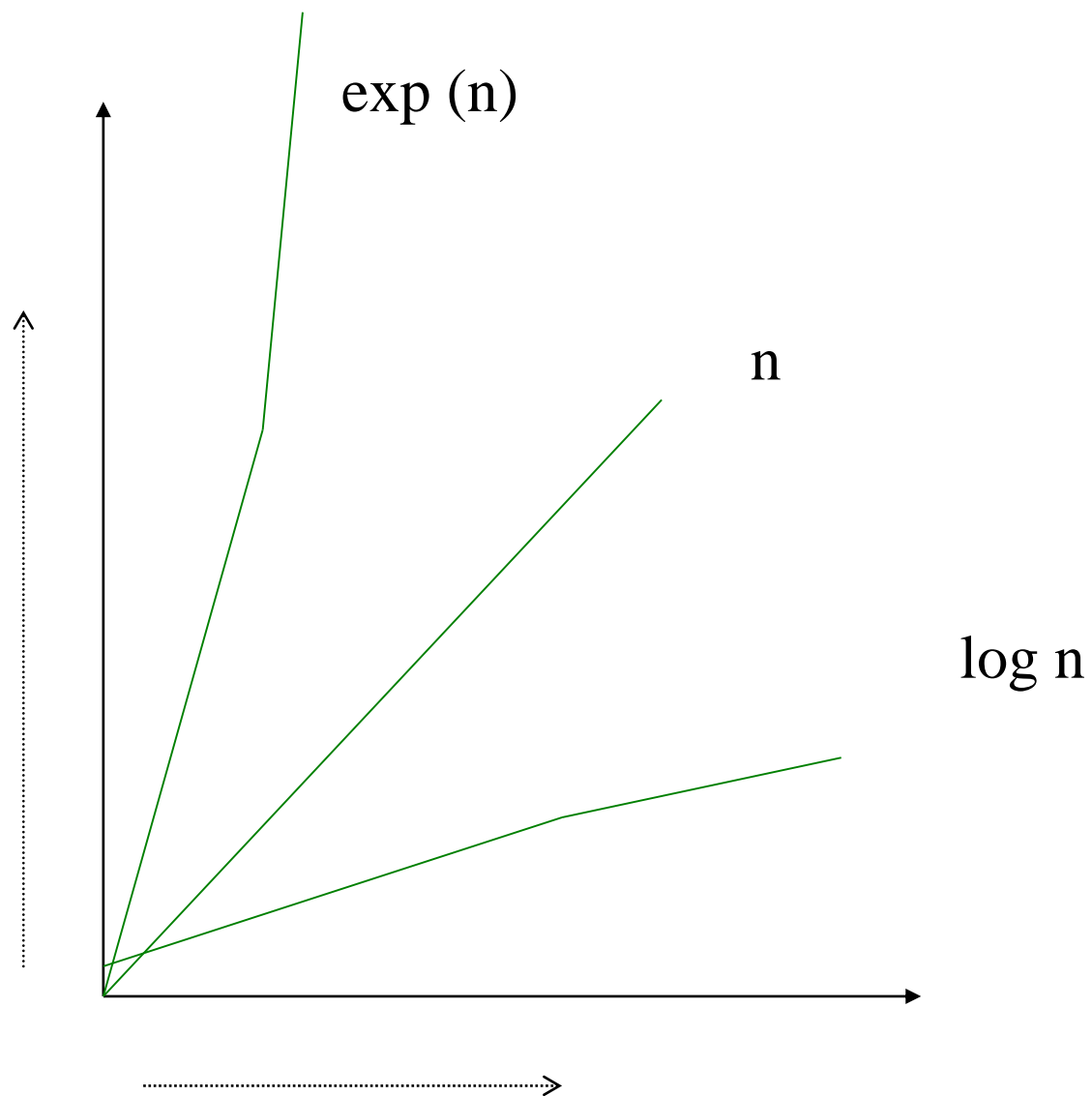
$$n^2 + n = 2 \sum_{k=1}^n (k)$$

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



# Big-O Notation

- Let  $f$  and  $g$  be functions from the set of integers or the set of real numbers to the set of real numbers. We say that  $f(x)$  is  $O(g(x))$  if there are constants  $C \in \mathbf{R}$  and  $k \in \mathbf{R}$  such that  $|f(x)| \leq C|g(x)|$  whenever  $x > k$ .
- We say “ $f(x)$  is big-oh of  $g(x)$ ”.
- The intuitive meaning is that as  $x$  gets large, the values of  $f(x)$  are no larger than a constant time the values of  $g(x)$ , or  $f(x)$  is growing no faster than  $g(x)$ .
- The supposition is that  $x$  gets large, it will approach a simplified limit.



Show that  $3x^3+2x^2+7x+9$  is  $O(x^3)$

Proof: We must show that  $\exists$  constants  $C \in \mathbf{R}$   
and  $k \in \mathbf{R}$  such that  $|3x^3+2x^2+7x+9| \leq C|x^3|$   
whenever  $x > k$ .

Choose  $k = 1$  then

$$3x^3+2x^2+7x+9 \leq 3x^3+2x^3+7x^3+9x^3 = 21x^3$$

So let  $C = 21$ .

Then  $3x^3+2x^2+7x+9 \leq 21 x^3$  when  $x \geq 1$ .

Show that  $n!$  is  $O(n^n)$

**Proof:** We must show that  $\exists$  constants  $C \in \mathbf{R}$  and  $k \in \mathbf{R}$  such that  $|n!| \leq C|n^n|$  whenever  $n > k$ .

$$\begin{aligned} n! &= n(n-1)(n-2)(n-3)\dots(3)(2)(1) \\ &\leq n(n)(n)(n)\dots(n)(n)(n) \quad n \text{ times} \\ &= n^n \end{aligned}$$

So choose  $k = 0$  and  $C = 1$

# General Rules

- Multiplication by a constant does not change the rate of growth. If  $f(n) = kg(n)$  where  $k$  is a constant, then  $f$  is  $O(g)$  and  $g$  is  $O(f)$ .
- The above means that there are an infinite number of pairs  $C, k$  that satisfy the Big-O definition.
- Addition of smaller terms does not change the rate of growth. If  $f(n) = g(n) + \text{smaller order terms}$ , then  $f$  is  $O(g)$  and  $g$  is  $O(f)$ .

Ex.:  $f(n) = 4n^6 + 3n^5 + 100n^2 + 2$  is  $O(n^6)$ .

# General Rules (cont.)

- If  $f_1(x)$  is  $O(g_1(x))$  and  $f_2(x)$  is  $O(g_2(x))$ , then  $f_1(x)f_2(x)$  is  $O(g_1(x)g_2(x))$ .

- Examples:

$10x\log_2 x$  is  $O(x\log_2 x)$

$n!6n^3$  is  $O(n!n^3)$

$=O(n^{n+3})$

# Example: Big-Oh Not Symmetric

- Order matters in big-oh. Sometimes  $f$  is  $O(g)$  and  $g$  is  $O(f)$ , but in general big-oh is not symmetric.

Consider  $f(n) = 4n$  and  $g(n) = n^2$ .  $f$  is  $O(g)$ .

- Can we prove that  $g$  is  $O(f)$ ? Formally,  $\exists$  constants  $C \in \mathbf{R}$  and  $k \in \mathbf{R}$  such that  $|n^2| \leq C|4n|$  whenever  $n > k$ ?
- No. To show this, we must prove that negation is true for all  $C$  and  $k$ .  $\forall C \in \mathbf{R}$ ,  $\forall k \in \mathbf{R}$ ,  $\exists n > k$  such that  $n^2 > C|4n|$ .

$\forall C \in \mathbf{R}, \forall k \in \mathbf{R}, \exists n > k$  such that  $n^2 > 4nC$ .

- To prove that negation is true, start with arbitrary  $C$  and  $k$ . Must show/construct an  $n > k$  such that  $n^2 > 4nC$
- Easy to satisfy  $n > k$ , then
- To satisfy  $n^2 > 4nC$ , divide both sides by  $n$  to get  $n > 4C$ . Pick  $n = \max(4C+1, k+1)$ , which proves the negation.



- If  $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} f(n)/g(n)$  exists and is finite, then  $f(n)$  is  $O(g(n))$

# Example Functions

$\text{sqrt}(n)$  ,  $n$ ,  $2n$ ,  $\ln n$ ,  $\exp(n)$ ,  $n + \text{sqrt}(n)$  ,  $n + n^2$

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \text{sqrt}(n) / n = 0,$$

$\text{sqrt}(n)$  is  $O(n)$

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} n / \text{sqrt}(n) = \text{infinity},$$

$n$  is not  $O(\text{sqrt}(n))$

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} n / 2n = 1/2,$$

$n$  is  $O(2n)$

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} 2n / n = 2,$$

$2n$  is  $O(n)$

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \ln(n) / n = 0,$$

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} n / \ln(n) = \text{infinity},$$

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \exp(n) / n = \text{infinity},$$

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} n / \exp(n) = 0,$$

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} (n + \sqrt{n}) / n = 1,$$

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} n / (\sqrt{n} + n) = 1,$$

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} (n + n^2) / n = \text{infinity},$$

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} n / (n + n^2) = 0,$$

$\ln(n)$  is  $O(n)$

$n$  is not  $O(\ln(n))$

$\exp(n)$  is not  $O(n)$

$n$  is  $O(\exp(n))$

$n + \sqrt{n}$  is  $O(n)$

$n$  is  $O(n + \sqrt{n})$

$n + n^2$  is not  $O(n)$

$n$  is  $O(n + n^2)$

# Steps in an Induction Proof

1. Basis step : The proposition is shown to be true for  $n=1$  (or, more generally, the first element in the set)
2. Inductive step: The implication  $P(n) \rightarrow P(n+1)$  is shown to be true for every positive integer  $n$ .

For  $n \in \mathbb{Z}^+$

$$[P(1) \wedge \forall n(P(n) \rightarrow P(n+1))] \rightarrow \forall n P(n)$$

**Example 1:** If  $p(n)$  is the proposition that the sum of the first  $n$  positive integers is  $n(n+1)/2$ , prove  $p(n)$  for  $n \in \mathbb{Z}^+$ .

Basis Step: We will show  $p(1)$  is true.

$$p(1) = 1(1+1)/2 = 2/2 = 1$$

Inductive Step:

We want to show that  $p(n) \rightarrow p(n+1)$

Assume  $1+2+3+4+\dots+n = n(n+1)/2$

Then  $1+2+3+4+\dots+n + (n+1) = n(n+1)/2 + n+1 = n(n+1)/2 + (n+1)(2/2) =$

$$[n(n+1) + 2(n+1)]/2 = [n^2 + 3n + 2]/2 = [(n+1)(n+2)]/2$$

Since  $p(1)$  is true and  $p(n) \rightarrow p(n+1)$ , then  $p(n)$  is true for all positive integers  $n$ .

**Example 2:** If  $p(n)$  is the proposition that the sum of the first  $n$  odd integers is  $n^2$ , prove  $p(n)$  for  $n \in \mathbb{Z}^+$

### **Induction Proof**

Basis Step: We will show that  $p(1)$  is true.

$$1 = 1^2$$

Inductive Step

We want to show that  $p(n) \rightarrow p(n+1)$

Assume  $1 + 3 + 5 + 7 + \dots + (2n-1) = n^2$

Then  $1 + 3 + 5 + 7 + \dots + (2n-1) + (2n + 1) = n^2 + 2n + 1 = (n+1)^2$

Since  $p(1)$  is true and  $p(n) \rightarrow p(n+1)$ , then  $p(n)$  is true for all positive integers  $n$ .

**Example 3:** If  $p(n)$  is the proposition that  $\sum_{j=0}^n 2^j = 2^{n+1} - 1$  prove  $p(n)$  when  $n$  is a non-negative integer.

### **Inductive Proof**

Basis Step: We will show  $p(0)$  is true.

$$2^0 = 1 = 2 - 1 = 2^{0+1} - 1$$

Inductive step: We want to show that  $p(n) \rightarrow p(n+1)$

Assume  $2^0 + 2^1 + 2^2 + 2^3 + \dots + 2^n = 2^{n+1} - 1$ , then

$$\begin{aligned} 2^0 + 2^1 + 2^2 + 2^3 + \dots + 2^n + 2^{n+1} &= 2^{n+1} - 1 + 2^{n+1} \\ &= 2(2^{n+1}) - 1 = 2^{n+2} - 1 \end{aligned}$$

Since  $p(0)$  is true and  $p(n) \rightarrow p(n+1)$ , then  $p(n)$  is true for all nonnegative integers  $n$ .

**Example 4:** Prove that  $\sum_{j=n}^{2n-1} (2j+1) = 3n^2$   
whenever  $n$  is a positive integer.

Proof:

Basis Case: Let  $n = 1$ , then

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



Prove that  $\sum_{j=n}^{2n-1} (2j+1) = 3n^2$  whenever  $n$  is a positive integer.

Inductive Case:

Assume that the expression is true for  $n$ ,

i.e., that 
$$\sum_{j=n}^{2n-1} (2j+1) = 3n^2$$

Then we must show that:

$$\sum_{j=n+1}^{2(n+1)-1} (2j+1) = 3(n+1)^2$$

$$\begin{aligned}
& \sum_{j=n+1}^{2(n+1)-1} (2j+1) = \sum_{j=n+1}^{2n+1} (2j+1) \\
&= \sum_{j=n}^{2n-1} (2j+1) - (2n+1) + (2(2n)+1) + (2(2n+1)+1) \\
&= 3n^2 - (2n+1) + (2(2n)+1) + (2(2n+1)+1) \\
&= 3n^2 - 2n - 1 + 4n + 1 + 4n + 3 \\
&= 3n^2 + 6n + 3 = 3(n^2 + 2n + 1) \\
&= 3(n+1)^2
\end{aligned}$$