

Course Algebra 1 : Chapter 2, **Sets and Applications**

1st year Licence LMD **Informatique**

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Chapter 2

Sets and Applications

2.1 Sets : Definitions, properties et examples

2.1.1 Definitions

Definition 1.

1. A **set** is a collection or gathering of distinct objects or elements. It is usually denoted by a capital letter E, F, A, B, \dots or by enclosing its constituent elements in braces $\{\dots\}$.

Example 1. \mathbb{R} : Set of real numbers, $\{5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10\}$: Set of natural numbers between 5 and 10, E : Set of vectors of the plane, $\mathbf{K}[X]$: Set of polynomials with one variable X ,

2. If a set is determined by enumerating its elements, we say that the set is defined in **Roster method** (in french : **en extension**).

Example 2. $\{0, 1, 2, 3, 4, 5\}$ is the set of natural numbers less or equal to 5.

3. If a set is determined by a characteristic property of its elements, we say that the set is defined by **abstraction method** (in french : **en compréhension**).

Example 3. $E = \{n \in \mathbb{N}, n \text{ is divisible by } 2\}$ designates the set of numbers n belonging to \mathbb{N} (natural numbers) that are divisible by 2, i.e. even numbers.

4. If a set E contains a finite number n of elements, then E is said to be a **finite set** and n is its **cardinal**, which is denoted by $\text{Card}E = n$.

Example 4. The set of natural numbers between 5 and 10, from the previous example has the cardinal $\text{Card}\{5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10\} = 6$.

Definition 2.

1. If a is one of the elements making up the set E , we say that a belongs to E or that a is an element of E , and we denote $a \in E$. Otherwise, a is said not to belong to E , and we denote $a \notin E$.

Example 5. $2 \in \mathbb{N}$ because 2 is an element of \mathbb{N} . $\pi \notin \mathbb{Q}$, because π is an irrational number.

2. If the set E contains only one element a , i.e. $E = \{a\}$, it is called a **singleton**.
3. If E contains no elements, it is called an **empty set** and is denoted \emptyset or $\{\}$.

Definition 3. Given two sets E and F , if all the elements of E also belong to F , and we write :

$$\forall x \in E, x \in F$$

we then say that E **is included in** F or that E is **a subset** of F , or that E is **a part** of F , or that F **contains** E . This inclusion is denoted by

$$E \subset F$$

The negation of the inclusion is :

$$E \not\subset F$$

therefore expressed as :

$$\exists x \in E, x \notin F.$$

Example 6. $\mathbb{N} \subset \mathbb{Z}$. $\{-1, \sqrt{2}, 3\} \not\subset \mathbb{Z}$.

Properties 1.

1. $\forall E, \emptyset \subset E$: the empty set \emptyset is included in all sets.
2. $\forall E, E \subset E$: any set is included in itself.
3. $E = F \Leftrightarrow (E \subset F \wedge F \subset E)$.
4. $(E \subset F \wedge F \subset G) \implies E \subset G$: the inclusion is transitive.

Remark 1. Belonging, whose symbol is \in , of an element in a set should not be confused with inclusion, whose symbol is \subset , of a set in another set.

Example 7.

$$2 \in \mathbb{N} \quad \text{and} \quad \{2\} \subset \mathbb{N}$$

Definition 4. Given a set E , the **set of parts of set** E , denoted $\mathcal{P}(E)$, is defined as the set containing all the subsets of E . $\text{card}\mathcal{P}(E) = 2^n$ where $n = \text{card}(E)$.

Example 8. Let E be the set defined by :

$$E = \{-1, 0, 2\}$$

The subsets that can be constructed from E are then :

$$\{-1\}, \{0\}, \{2\}, \{-1, 0\}, \{-1, 2\}, \{0, 2\} \text{ but also } \{-1, 0, 2\} = E, \emptyset$$

So

$$\mathcal{P}(E) = \{\{-1\}, \{0\}, \{2\}, \{-1, 0\}, \{-1, 2\}, \{0, 2\}, E, \emptyset\}$$

Clearly $\text{card}\mathcal{P}(E) = 2^3 = 8$.

Remark 2. $\mathcal{P}(E)$ is a set whose elements are also sets. We deduce that a given subset of E **belongs** (\in) to $\mathcal{P}(E)$. We therefore have the following relations:

$$a \in E \Leftrightarrow \{a\} \subset E \Leftrightarrow \{a\} \in \mathcal{P}(E)$$

2.1.2 Sets Operations

Diagrams representing sets can be used to make certain concepts easier to understand.

Let E be a set and A, B two subsets of E . The following operations are defined :

I. Union

The union of the two sets A and B is the set C of elements belonging to A or B , written as :

$$C = A \cup B$$

we read: C equals A union B . So we write :

$$C = A \cup B = \{x \in E, x \in A \text{ or } x \in B\}$$

C is also a subset of E .

We have the equivalence :

$$x \in A \cup B \Leftrightarrow (x \in A \text{ or } x \in B)$$

Example 9.

Let be $E = \{-3, -1, 0, 2\}$ and $F = \{-3, 0, 5, 10, 25\}$, then $E \cup F = \{-3, -1, 0, 2, 5, 10, 25\}$.

II. Intersection

The intersection of the two sets A and B is the set D of the elements belonging to A and B , we write :

$$D = A \cap B$$

we read : D equals A inter B . We therefore write :

$$D = A \cap B = \{x \in E, x \in A \text{ and } x \in B\}$$

D is also a subset of E .

The equivalence is :

$$x \in A \cap B \Leftrightarrow (x \in A \text{ and } x \in B)$$

Example 10.

Let be $E =]-\infty, -1.5[$ and $F = [-3, 7]$, then $E \cap F = [-3, -1.5[$.

III. Set difference

The set difference A minus B is the set F of elements that **belong** to A and **do not belong** to B , written as :

$$F = A - B \text{ or } A \setminus B$$

We read : F equals A minus B . So we write :

$$F = A - B = \{x \in E, x \in A \text{ and } x \notin B\}$$

F is also a subset of E .

The equivalence is :

$$x \in A - B \Leftrightarrow (x \in A \text{ and } x \notin B)$$

Example 11.

Let be $E = \mathbb{Z}$ and $F = \{0\}$, then $E \setminus F = \mathbb{Z}^*$.

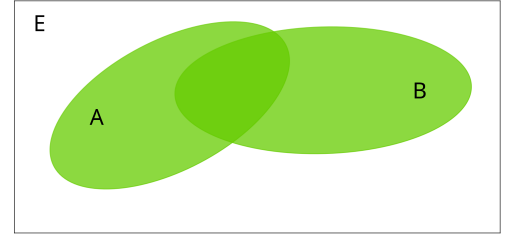


Figure 2.1: Diagram of Union. The set $C = A \cup B$ is the green part.

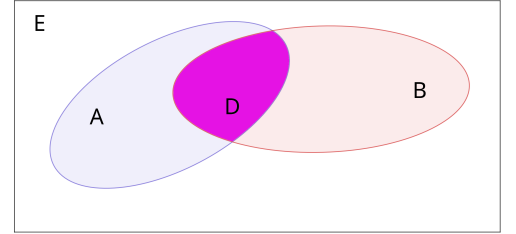


Figure 2.2: Diagram of the intersection. The set $D = A \cap B$ is the purple part.

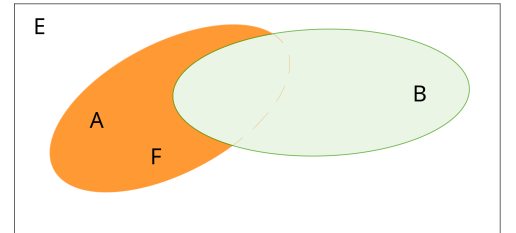


Figure 2.3: Diagram of the set difference $A - B$. The set $F = A - B$ is the orange part (which is not A).

IV. Symmetrical difference

The symmetrical difference of A and B is the set G of elements belonging to one and only one of the sets A and B , written as :

$$G = A \Delta B$$

We read : G equals the symmetrical difference between A and B . We therefore write :

$$G = A \Delta B = \{x \in E, x \in A \text{ or } x \in B \text{ and } x \notin A \cap B\}$$

G is also a subset of E .

We have the equivalence :

$$x \in A \Delta B \Leftrightarrow (x \in A \text{ or } x \in B \text{ and } x \notin A \cap B)$$

Example 12.

Let be $E = [-5, 2]$ and $F =]0, 10]$, then $E \Delta F = [-5, 0[\cup]2, 10]$.

2.1.3 The Complement

The two subsets A and B of a set E are called complementary, if their union is the set E and their intersection the empty set \emptyset , we write :

$$B = \complement_E A \text{ or } A^c \text{ or } \overline{A}$$

We read : B equals the complement of A in E . So we write

$$B = \complement_E A = \{x \in E, x \notin A\}$$

$\complement_E A$ is also a subset of E .

We have the equivalence :

$$x \in \complement_E A \Leftrightarrow x \notin A$$

Example 13. $\complement_{\mathbb{Z}} \mathbb{Z}_- = \mathbb{Z}_+^*$.

2.1.4 Union and intersection of parts of a set

Definition 5. Let I be a part of \mathbb{N} and $(E_i)_{i \in I}$ a family of parts of E . We Note :

$$\bigcup_{i \in I} E_i = \{x \in E, \exists i \in I, x \in E_i\}$$

$$\bigcap_{i \in I} E_i = \{x \in E, \forall i \in I, x \in E_i\}$$

Example 14. Let be the set : $E = \{0, 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10\}$ and $I = \{0, 1, 2\}$ such that :

$$E_0 = \{0, 1, 3\}, E_1 = \{3, 5, 8, 10\}, E_2 = \{3, 6\}$$

then $(E_i)_{i \in I} = \{E_0, E_1, E_2\}$ is a family of parts of E . We have then :

$$\bigcup_{i \in I} E_i = E_0 \cup E_1 \cup E_2 = \{0, 1, 3, 5, 6, 8, 10\}$$

we can see that $0, 1, 3 \in E_0$, $5, 8, 10 \in E_1$ and $6 \in E_2$.

We have too :

$$\bigcap_{i \in I} E_i = E_0 \cap E_1 \cap E_2 = \{3\}$$

we can see that $3 \in E_0$, $3 \in E_1$ and $3 \in E_2$.

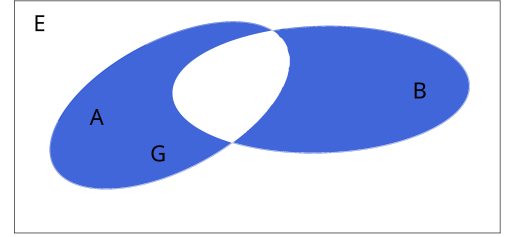


Figure 2.4: Diagram of the Symmetric Difference $A \Delta B$. the set $G = A \Delta B$ is the blue part.

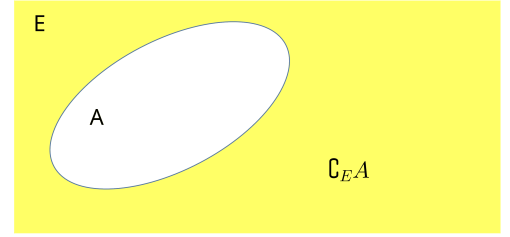


Figure 2.5: Diagram of the complement $\complement_E A$. The set $B = \complement_E A$ is the part in yellow colour.

Remark 3. We have then, for all x of E :

$$x \in \bigcup_{i \in I} E_i \iff \exists i \in I, x \in E_i$$

$$x \in \bigcap_{i \in I} E_i \iff \forall i \in I, x \in E_i$$

Definition 6. Let I be a part of \mathbb{N} and $(E_i)_{i \in I}$ a family of non-empty parts of E . We say that this family forms a **partition** of E if :

$$\begin{cases} \bigcup_{i \in I} E_i = E \\ \forall (i, j) \in I^2, i \neq j \implies E_i \cap E_j = \emptyset \end{cases}$$

Example 15.

1. Let be the set :

$$E = \{0, 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10\}$$

- The family : $\{\{0\}, \{1, 2, 3\}, \{4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9\}\}$ forms a partition of E .
- The family : $\{\{0, 1\}, \{2, 3, 4, 5\}, \{6, 7, 8, 9\}\}$ also forms a partition of E .

2. The part made up of even integers and the part made up of odd integers form a partition of \mathbb{Z} .

2.1.5 Some properties

Let A, B and C be subsets of E , then we have the following properties :

1. **Commutativity** $A \cup B = B \cup A$ and $A \cap B = B \cap A$.
2. **Associativity** $(A \cup B) \cup C = A \cup (B \cup C)$ and $(A \cap B) \cap C = A \cap (B \cap C)$.
3. **Distributivity** $A \cup (B \cap C) = (A \cup B) \cap (A \cup C)$ and $A \cap (B \cup C) = (A \cap B) \cup (A \cap C)$.
4. **Idempotency** $A \cup A = A$ et $A \cap A = A$.
5. **De Morgan's laws** $\complement_E(A \cup B) = \complement_E A \cap \complement_E B$ and $\complement_E(A \cap B) = \complement_E A \cup \complement_E B$.
6. $A \cap E = A$ and $A \cup E = E$.
7. $A \cap B = B \iff B \subset A$ and $A \cup B = A \iff B \subset A$
8. $A \subset A \cup K$ for any K subset of E .

2.1.6 Examples : Famous sets

The usual sets are denoted by a capital letter in double bar (Blackboard Bold) \mathbb{E} . If a star is added to the power \mathbb{E}^* this denotes the same set \mathbb{E} but without the null element. If the symbol $+$ (respectively $-$) is added to the subscript, this denotes the subset of \mathbb{E} whose elements are of positive (resp. negative) sign or equal to zero :

\mathbb{N} : The set of natural numbers : $0, 1, 2, 3, \dots$

\mathbb{Z} : The set of integers : $\dots, -5, -4, -3, -2, -1, 0, 1, 2, 3, \dots$

\mathbb{Q} : The set of rational numbers : $\left(\frac{p}{q}, p \in \mathbb{Z}, q \in \mathbb{Z}^*\right)$.

\mathbb{R} : The set of real numbers : $\dots, -3.1, \dots, -1, \dots, 0, \dots, \pi, \dots, 10, \dots$

\mathbb{C} : The set of complex numbers : $(a + i \cdot b, a, b \in \mathbb{R})$.

2.1.7 Cartesian product

Definition 7. Let A and B be two sets. The set of pairs (a, b) where $a \in A$ and $b \in B$, is called the **Cartesian product** of sets A and B . It is denoted by :

$$A \times B$$

If $A \neq B$, then $A \times B \neq B \times A$.

If $A = B$ then, $A \times B = A \times A = A^2$.

If A and B are finite sets, then the cardinal is : $\text{card}(A \times B) = \text{card}A \times \text{card}B$.

Example 16.

$$\mathbb{R} \times \mathbb{R} = \mathbb{R}^2$$

is the set of pairs (x, y) where $x \in \mathbb{R}$ and $y \in \mathbb{R}$.

Similarly

$$\mathbb{R} \times \mathbb{R} \times \dots \times \mathbb{R} = \mathbb{R}^n$$

is the set of families with n elements (x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n) where $x_1 \in \mathbb{R}, x_2 \in \mathbb{R}, \dots, x_n \in \mathbb{R}$.

2.2 Applications

Definition 8. Let E and F be two sets.

An **application** from E to F is any correspondence f associating **each** element x of E a **single** element y of F .

E is the **starting set**. An element of E , usually x , is an **antecedent** or a **pre-image**.

F is the **arrival set**. An element of F , usually y , which is associated with x by the application f is the **image of x by f** . All this is denoted by :

$$f : E \rightarrow F$$

$$x \mapsto y = f(x)$$

The set of all applications from E into F is denoted by : F^E .

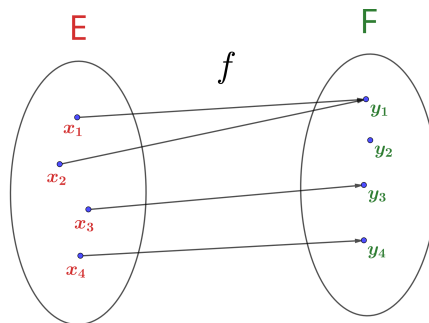


Figure 2.6: Schema of an application f from a set E to a set F

Remark 4.

1. An application is a **function** whose domain of definition is the entire starting set.
2. The **graph** of an application $f : E \rightarrow F$ is the set : $\Gamma_f = \{(x, f(x)) \in E \times F, x \in E\}$

Example 17.

1. Let be the application f and its schema :

$$\begin{aligned} f : \mathbb{N} &\rightarrow \mathbb{N} \\ n &\mapsto y = f(n) = 2n \end{aligned}$$

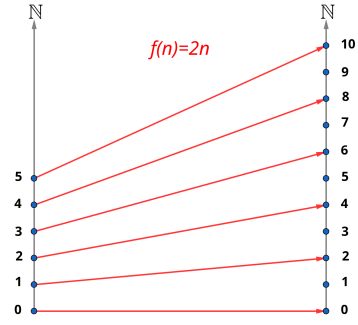


Figure 2.7: Schema of the application f

2. The application :

$$\begin{aligned} f : E &\rightarrow E \\ x &\mapsto y = f(x) = x \end{aligned}$$

is called the **identity application** in E and is denoted : Id_E .

3. Let $A \subset E$. The application :

$$\begin{aligned} f : E &\rightarrow \{0, 1\} \\ x &\mapsto \begin{cases} 1 & \text{si } x \in A \\ 0 & \text{si } x \in \complement_E A \end{cases} \end{aligned}$$

is called the **indicator** or **characteristic application** of part A and is denoted by : 1_A or χ_A .

Definition 9. Let E and F be two sets and f an application from E to F .

(a) For any part A of E , the **direct image** of A by f , denoted $f(A)$, is defined by :

$$f(A) = \{f(x) \in F, x \in A\}$$

i.e.: the images, of all elements x of A , which belong to F . We have $f(A) \subset F$.

(b) For any part B of F , we define the **reciprocal image** of B by f , denoted $f^{-1}(B)$, by :

$$f^{-1}(B) = \{x \in E, f(x) \in B\}$$

i.e.: The elements of E (not necessarily all of them) whose images $f(x)$ belong to B . We have $f^{-1}(B) \subset E$.

Example 18. Let f be the following application :

$$\begin{aligned} f :]-\sqrt{3}, +\infty[&\rightarrow \mathbb{R}_+ \\ x &\mapsto f(x) = x^2 - 3 \end{aligned}$$

1. Determine the direct image of the set $A = \{-\sqrt{2}, 3, 0.5, \pi, 8\}$ by the application f .

2. Determine the reciprocal image of the set $B = [0, 1]$ by the application f .

Solution.

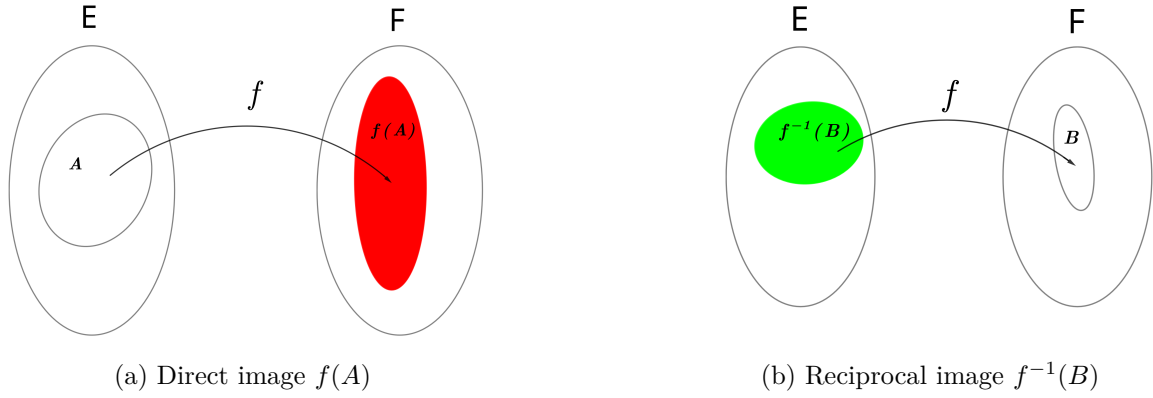


Figure 2.8: Direct and reciprocal images

1. $f(A) = \{f(x) \in \mathbb{R}_+, x \in A\}.$

The elements x of A being : $-\sqrt{2}, 3, 0.5, \pi, 8$ let's calculate their images by the application f :
 $f(-\sqrt{2}) = -1$, $f(3) = 6$, $f(0.5) = -2.75$, $f(\pi) = \pi - 3$, $f(8) = 61$ but $f(-\sqrt{2}) = -1 \notin \mathbb{R}_+$
and $f(0.5) = -2.75 \notin \mathbb{R}_+$ and all the other images belong to \mathbb{R}_+ . So :

$$\begin{aligned} f(A) &= \{f(3), f(\pi), f(8)\} \\ &= \{6, \pi - 3, 61\} \end{aligned}$$

2. $f^{-1}(B) = \{x \in]-\sqrt{3}, +\infty[, f(x) \in B\}.$

Let $x \in]-\sqrt{3}, +\infty[$,

$$\begin{aligned} f(x) \in B &\iff f(x) \in [0, 1] \\ &\iff 0 \leq f(x) \leq 1 \\ &\iff 0 \leq x^2 - 3 \leq 1 \\ &\iff 3 \leq x^2 \leq 4 \\ &\iff -\sqrt{3} \leq x \leq -2 \text{ ou } 2 \leq x \leq \sqrt{3} \\ &\iff x \in [-\sqrt{3}, -2] \cup [2, \sqrt{3}] \end{aligned}$$

but $-\sqrt{3} \notin]-\sqrt{3}, +\infty[$ Therefore

$$f^{-1}(B) =]-\sqrt{3}, -2] \cup [2, \sqrt{3}]$$

2.2.1 Injection

Let f be an application from E to F . If for each two (distinct) elements of E there correspond, through f , two distinct elements of F , we say that f realizes an **injection** from E into F or that f is an **injective application** (also called a **one-to-one application**), then we have :

$$\forall x_1, x_2 \in E \quad x_1 \neq x_2 \implies f(x_1) \neq f(x_2)$$

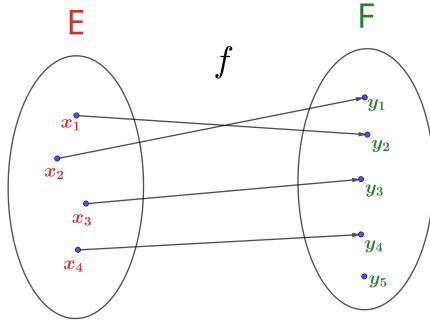
or what amounts to the same thing :

$$\forall x_1, x_2 \in E \quad f(x_1) = f(x_2) \implies x_1 = x_2$$

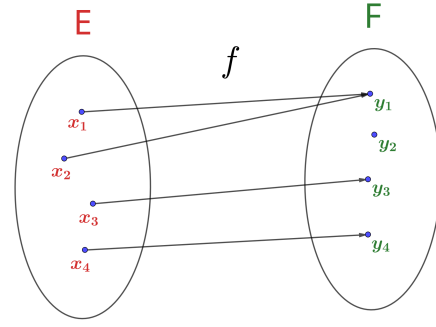
The application f is **non-injective** if the negation of the previous statement is verified i.e.

$$\exists x_1, x_2 \in E \quad f(x_1) = f(x_2) \text{ and } x_1 \neq x_2$$

Example 19.



(a) Injective application



(b) Non-injective application

Figure 2.9: In figure (b), the two elements x_1, x_2 have the same image y_1 , which makes the application f non-injective.

1. Let be the following application :

$$\begin{aligned} f : \mathbb{R} &\longrightarrow \mathbb{R} \\ x &\mapsto f(x) = x + 1 \end{aligned}$$

Show that f is an injective application.

Let x_1, x_2 be any two elements of \mathbb{R} .

$$\begin{aligned} f(x_1) = f(x_2) &\implies x_1 + 1 = x_2 + 1 \\ &\implies x_1 = x_2 \end{aligned}$$

then f is injective.

2. Let be the application :

$$\begin{aligned} g : \mathbb{R} &\longrightarrow \mathbb{R} \\ x &\mapsto g(x) = x^2 \end{aligned}$$

Is g injective?

Method 1 : Note that since 2 and -2 are both elements of \mathbb{R} , we can calculate $g(2) = 2^2 = 4$ and $g(-2) = (-2)^2 = 4$, hence $g(2) = g(-2)$ and $2 \neq -2$ and this is a negation of the definition, which is $\exists x_1, x_2 \in \mathbb{R}, g(x_1) = g(x_2)$ and $x_1 \neq x_2$, hence g is not injective.

Method 2 : Try to show that g is injective, using the definition :

Let $x_1, x_2 \in \mathbb{R}, g(x_1) = g(x_2)$.

$$\begin{aligned} g(x_1) = g(x_2) &\iff x_1^2 = x_2^2 \\ &\implies x_1 = x_2 \text{ or } x_1 = -x_2 \end{aligned}$$

and so g is not injective, because $x_1 = -x_2$ means that there are $x_1, x_2 \in \mathbb{R}$ which are not equal and which have the same image by g .

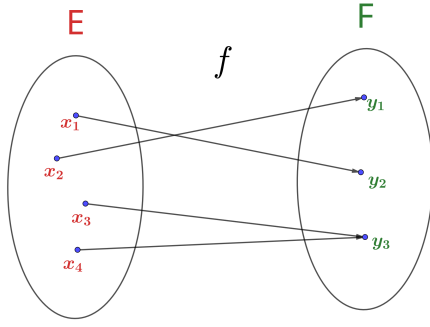
2.2.2 Surjection

Let f be an application from E to F . If any element of F is the image by the application f of **at least** one element of E , then we say that f is a **surjection** of E onto F or that f is a **surjective application**. Then we have :

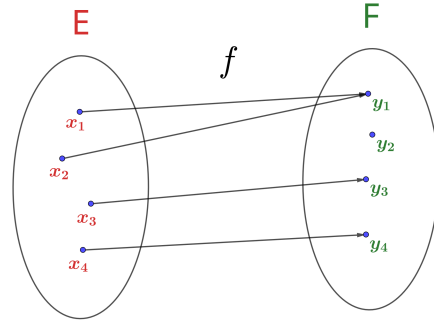
$$\forall y \in F, \exists x \in E, y = f(x)$$

The application f is **non-surjective** if we have the negation of the previous statement :

$$\exists y \in F, \forall x \in E, y \neq f(x)$$



(a) Surjective application



(b) Non-surjective application

Figure 2.10: In figure (b), the element y_2 has no antecedent, which makes the application f non-surjective.

Example 20.

1. Let be the application :

$$f : [-1, 0] \longrightarrow [0, 1]$$

$$x \mapsto f(x) = \sqrt{x+1}$$

Is f surjective?

Let $y \in [0, 1]$, check if there is an $x \in [-1, 0]$ such that y is its image by f . Let's assume that this x exists. y is the image of x by f , which means : $y = f(x)$

$$y = f(x) \iff y = \sqrt{x+1}$$

$$\implies y^2 = x+1 \text{ because } y \geq 0$$

$$\implies x = y^2 - 1 \in [-1, 0] \text{ because } y \in [0, 1] \text{ and then } y^2 \in [0, 1]$$

hence f is surjective.

2. Let be the application :

$$g : \mathbb{R}^* \longrightarrow \mathbb{R}$$

$$x \mapsto \frac{1}{x}$$

Is g surjective?

Method 1 : Note that :

$$\forall x \in \mathbb{R}^*, g(x) = \frac{1}{x} \neq 0$$

but the $0 \in \mathbb{R}$, this means that the 0 has no antecedent in \mathbb{R}^* . So g is not surjective.

Method 2 : Try to show that g is surjective.

Let $y \in \mathbb{R}$, check if there is an $x \in \mathbb{R}^*$ such that y is its image by g . Let's assume that this x exists. y is the image of x by g , which means : $y = g(x)$

$$y = g(x) \iff y = \frac{1}{x}$$

$$\implies x = \frac{1}{y} \text{ for } y \neq 0$$

If $y = 0$ then we cannot find an $x = \frac{1}{y}$, which means that $y = 0$ has no antecedent, hence g is not surjective.

2.2.3 Bijection

If f is both **injective** and **surjective**, we say that f makes a **bijection** from E to F , or that f is a **bijection application**. This is expressed as :

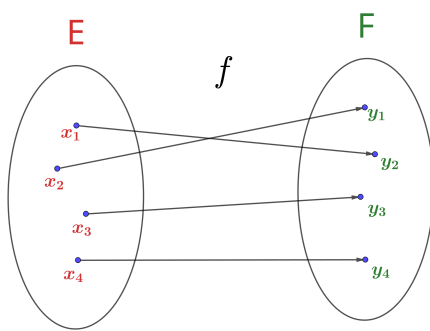
Any element $y \in F$ is the image of a unique element $x \in E$.
f surjective f injective

$$\forall y \in F, \exists! x \in E, y = f(x)$$

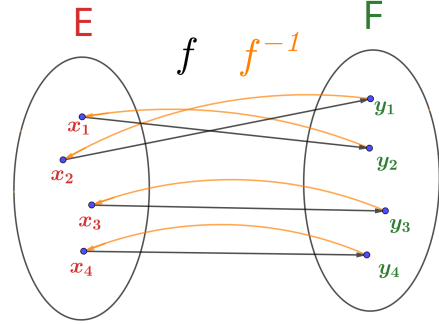
Since each element $y \in F$ can be associated with a single element $x \in E$, we can then define an application from F to E , called the **inverse** or **reciprocal application** of f and denoted f^{-1} . This application is characterised by :

$$\forall x \in E, \forall y \in F, y = f(x) \Leftrightarrow x = f^{-1}(y)$$

Remark 5. The reciprocal application f^{-1} , which only exists if f is bijective, should not be confused with the reciprocal image of a set B , $f^{-1}(B)$, which is a set and always exists.



(a) Bijective application



(b) Bijective application and its inverse

Example 21.

Let f be the following application :

$$\begin{aligned} f : \mathbb{R} &\longrightarrow \mathbb{R}_+^* \\ x &\mapsto f(x) = e^x \end{aligned}$$

Is f bijective? If so, determine its reciprocal.

Let $y \in \mathbb{R}_+^*$, check if there is a unique $x \in \mathbb{R}$ such that y is its image by f . Assume that x exists. y is the image of x by f , which means that $y = f(x)$.

$$\begin{aligned} y = f(x) &\Leftrightarrow y = e^x \\ &\Leftrightarrow \ln y = \ln e^x \text{ since } y > 0 \\ &\Leftrightarrow x = \ln y \in \mathbb{R} \end{aligned}$$

hence f is bijective.

Since the application f is bijective, we can define its reciprocal application as follows :

$$\begin{aligned} f^{-1} : \mathbb{R}_+^* &\longrightarrow \mathbb{R} \\ y &\mapsto f^{-1}(y) = \ln y. \end{aligned}$$

Remark 6. Let $f : E \longrightarrow F$ be an application

1. f is surjective if and only if $f(E) = F$.
2. If f is strictly monotonic on E then it is injective.

2.2.4 Applications composition

Let $f : E \longrightarrow F$ and $g : F \longrightarrow G$ be two applications.

We define the **composite application** :

$$g \circ f : E \longrightarrow G$$

$$x \mapsto y = (g \circ f)(x) = g(f(x))$$

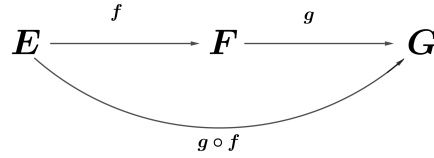


Figure 2.12: Applications composition

Example 22. Let be the following two applications :

$$f : \mathbb{R} \longrightarrow \mathbb{R}_+$$

$$x \longrightarrow e^x$$

$$g : \mathbb{R}_+ \longrightarrow \mathbb{R}_+$$

$$x \longrightarrow \sqrt{x}$$

then the composite application $g \circ f$ is defined as follows :

$$g \circ f : \mathbb{R} \longrightarrow \mathbb{R}_+$$

$$x \mapsto (g \circ f)(x) = g(f(x)) = \sqrt{e^x}.$$

Properties 2.

1. For all applications : $f : E \longrightarrow F$, $g : F \longrightarrow G$ and $h : G \longrightarrow H$, we have :

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

2. The composite of two injective (resp. surjective) applications is an injective (resp. surjective) application.

3. The composite of two bijective applications is a bijective application, and we have :

$$(g \circ f)^{-1} = f^{-1} \circ g^{-1}$$

4. For $f : E \longrightarrow F$ bijective, we have :

$$f^{-1} \circ f = Id_E \quad \text{and} \quad f \circ f^{-1} = Id_F$$

$$\text{and } (f^{-1})^{-1} = f.$$

Definition 10. The applications $f : E \longrightarrow F$, and $g : G \longrightarrow H$ are said to be equal if :

$$E = G, \quad F = H, \quad \text{and} \quad \forall x \in E = G, \quad f(x) = g(x).$$

Definition 11. Let $f : E \longrightarrow F$ be an application :

1. Let $A \subset E$ and $g : A \longrightarrow F$ an application. If for all $x \in A$, $g(x) = f(x)$, then the application g is the **restriction** of f to A and is denoted $f|_A$.

2. Let G be a set such that $E \subset G$ and $h : G \longrightarrow F$ an application. If for all $x \in G$, $h(x) = f(x)$ then the application h is called: the **extension** of f to G .

Example 23. Let be the application :

$$\begin{aligned} f : \mathbb{R}_+ &\longrightarrow \mathbb{R} \\ x &\mapsto f(x) = x^2. \end{aligned}$$

The application :

$$\begin{aligned} g : \mathbb{R} &\longrightarrow \mathbb{R} \\ x &\mapsto g(x) = x^2. \end{aligned}$$

is the extension of the application f to \mathbb{R} ,
and the application

$$\begin{aligned} h : \mathbb{R}_+^* &\longrightarrow \mathbb{R} \\ x &\mapsto h(x) = x^2. \end{aligned}$$

is the restriction of the application f to \mathbb{R}_+^* .

Definition 12. A part A of a set E is said to be **stable** by an application $f : E \longrightarrow E$ if and only if :

$$\forall x \in A, f(x) \in A.$$

Properties 3. Let $f : E \longrightarrow F$ be an application

1. For all parts A, B of E , we have :

- (a) $A \subset B \implies f(A) \subset f(B)$
- (b) $f(A \cup B) = f(A) \cup f(B)$
- (c) $f(A \cap B) \subset f(A) \cap f(B)$

2. For all parts C, D of F , we have :

- (a) $C \subset D \implies f^{-1}(C) \subset f^{-1}(D)$
- (b) $f^{-1}(C \cup D) = f^{-1}(C) \cup f^{-1}(D)$
- (c) $f^{-1}(C \cap D) = f^{-1}(C) \cap f^{-1}(D)$
- (d) $f^{-1}(\mathfrak{C}_F C) = \mathfrak{C}_E f^{-1}(C)$

Proof.

1. Let's show the property $A \subset B \implies f(A) \subset f(B)$

Assume that $A \subset B$ and let's show that $f(A) \subset f(B)$. Let $y \in f(A)$.

$$\begin{aligned} y \in f(A) &\implies \exists x \in A, y = f(x) \text{ from the definition of the direct image } f(A). \\ &\implies \exists x \in B, y = f(x) \text{ because } A \subset B \\ &\implies y \in f(B) \text{ from the definition of the direct image } f(B). \end{aligned}$$

so $f(A) \subset f(B)$.

2. Let us show the property $f(A \cap B) \subset f(A) \cap f(B)$.

Let $y \in f(A \cap B)$.

$$\begin{aligned} y \in f(A \cap B) &\implies \exists x \in (A \cap B), y = f(x) \\ &\implies (\exists x \in A, y = f(x)) \text{ and } (\exists x \in B, y = f(x)) \\ &\implies (y \in f(A)) \text{ and } (y \in f(B)) \\ &\implies y \in (f(A) \cap f(B)) \end{aligned}$$

then $f(A \cap B) \subset f(A) \cap f(B)$.

Example 24. Let the application : $f : \mathbb{R} \longrightarrow \mathbb{R}$ be defined by : $\forall x \in \mathbb{R}, f(x) = x^2$ and the subsets of \mathbb{R} , $A = [0, 1]$ and $B = [-1, 0]$. We then have :

$f(A) = f(B) = [0, 1]$ hence $f(A) \cap f(B) = [0, 1]$, but $A \cap B = \{0\}$, hence $f(A \cap B) = f(\{0\}) = \{0\}$ so $f(A \cap B) \subset f(A) \cap f(B)$ only without equality.

Let us show that the inverse inclusion occurs if f is injective.

Let $y \in f(A) \cap f(B)$.

$$\begin{aligned} y \in f(A) \cap f(B) &\implies y \in f(A) \text{ and } y \in f(B) \\ &\implies (\exists x_1 \in A, y = f(x_1)) \text{ and } (\exists x_2 \in B, y = f(x_2)), \text{ if } f \text{ is injective then } x_1 = x_2 \\ &\implies x_1 \in B \text{ too and } x_2 \in A \text{ too.} \\ &\implies x_1 = x_2 \in A \cap B \\ &\implies y = f(x_1) = f(x_2) \in f(A \cap B) \end{aligned}$$

so $f(A) \cap f(B) \subset f(A \cap B)$ if f is injective.

Conclusion : If f is injective, then $f(A \cap B) = f(A) \cap f(B)$.

3. Let us show the property : $C \subset D \implies f^{-1}(C) \subset f^{-1}(D)$.

Let $x \in f^{-1}(C)$.

$$\begin{aligned} x \in f^{-1}(C) &\implies f(x) \in C \\ &\implies f(x) \in D \text{ because } C \subset D \\ &\implies x \in f^{-1}(D) \end{aligned}$$

so $f^{-1}(C) \subset f^{-1}(D)$.