

**CS1231S: Discrete Structures**  
**Tutorial #6: Functions**  
**(Week 8: 3 – 7 October 2022)**

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**I. Discussion Questions**

These are meant for you to discuss on Canvas. No answers will be provided.

D1. Which of the following is a function? If it is not a function, explain.

- (a) Define  $f: \mathbb{Z} \rightarrow \mathbb{Z}$  by  $\forall z \in \mathbb{Z}, f(z) = \begin{cases} 1, & \text{if } 2 \mid z, \\ 2, & \text{if } 3 \mid z. \end{cases}$
- (b) Define  $f: \mathbb{Z} \rightarrow \mathbb{Z}$  by  $\forall z \in \mathbb{Z}, f(z) = \begin{cases} 1, & \text{if } 2 \mid z, \\ 2, & \text{if } 2 \nmid z. \end{cases}$
- (c) Define  $f: \mathbb{R} \rightarrow \mathbb{Z}$  by  $\forall x \in \mathbb{R}, f(x) = 2x$ .
- (d) Define  $f: \mathbb{Z} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  by  $\forall x \in \mathbb{Z}, f(x) = 2x$ .

D2. Let function  $f: \mathbb{Z} \times \mathbb{Z} \rightarrow \mathbb{Q}$  be defined by setting,  $\forall x, y \in \mathbb{Z}, f(x, y) = \frac{x+y}{3}$ .  
Find three distinct pre-images of 2.

D3. Definitions: Given any real number  $x$ ,

- (1) the **floor** of  $x$ , denoted  $\lfloor x \rfloor$ , is the unique integer  $n$  such that  $n \leq x < n + 1$ ;
- (2) the **ceiling** of  $x$ , denoted  $\lceil x \rceil$ , is the unique integer  $n$  such that  $n - 1 < x \leq n$ .

Let  $f, g: \mathbb{Q} \rightarrow \mathbb{Q}$  be defined by setting, for each  $x \in \mathbb{Q}$ ,

$$f(x) = \lfloor x \rfloor + 1 \quad \text{and} \quad g(x) = \lceil x \rceil.$$

What is the range of  $f$ ? What is the range of  $g$ ? Is  $f = g$ ? Why?

D4. To prove that a composition of two surjections is a surjection, Aiken wrote:

- 1. Suppose  $f: X \rightarrow Y$  and  $g: Y \rightarrow Z$  are surjections.
- 2. Then  $\forall y \in Y \exists x \in X$  such that  $f(x) = y$  as  $f$  is surjective,
- 3. and  $\forall z \in Z \exists y \in Y$  such that  $g(y) = z$  as  $g$  is surjective.
- 4. So  $(g \circ f)(x) = g(f(x)) = g(y) = z$ .
- 5. Hence  $g \circ f$  is a surjection.

Explain the mistakes in this “proof”.

## II. Tutorial Questions

1. Define the following relations on  $\mathbb{N}$ :

$$\forall x, y \in \mathbb{N} (x R_1 y \Leftrightarrow x^2 = y^2);$$

$$\forall x, y \in \mathbb{N} (x R_2 y \Leftrightarrow y \mid x);$$

$$\forall x, y \in \mathbb{N} (x R_3 y \Leftrightarrow y = x + 1).$$

Are the relations  $R_1$ ,  $R_2$  and  $R_3$  functions? Prove or disprove.

2. Define  $f: \mathbb{R} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  and  $g: \mathbb{R} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  by

$$f(x) = x + 3, \quad \text{and} \quad g(x) = -x, \quad \text{for all } x \in \mathbb{R}.$$

Prove that (a)  $f$  is a bijection, (b)  $g$  is a bijection, and (c)  $(g \circ f)^{-1} = f^{-1} \circ g^{-1}$ .

3. Let  $A = \{a, b\}$  and  $S$  be the set of all strings over  $A$ . (See Lecture 7 for the definition of string.)

Define a concatenate-by- $a$ -on-the-left function  $C: S \rightarrow S$  by  $C(s) = as$  for all  $s \in S$ .

(a) Is  $C$  an injection? Prove or give a counterexample.

(b) Is  $C$  a surjection? Prove or give a counterexample.

4. Let  $A = \{s, u\}$ . Define a function  $len: A^* \rightarrow \mathbb{Z}_{\geq 0}$  by setting  $len(\sigma)$  to be the length of  $\sigma$  for each  $\sigma \in A^*$ .

(a) What is  $len(suu)$ ?

(b) What is  $len(\{\epsilon, ss, uu, ssss\})$ ?

(c) What is  $len^{-1}(\{3\})$ ?

(d) Does  $len^{-1}$  exist? Explain your answer.

5. Which of the functions defined in the following are injective? Which are surjective? Prove that your answers are correct. If a function defined below is both injective and surjective, then find a formula for the inverse of the function. Here we denote by  $Bool$  the set **{true, false}**.

(a)  $f: \mathbb{Q} \rightarrow \mathbb{Q}$ ;

$$x \mapsto 12x + 31.$$

(b)  $g: Bool^2 \rightarrow Bool$ ;

$$(p, q) \mapsto p \wedge \sim q.$$

(c)  $h: Bool^2 \rightarrow Bool^2$ ;

$$(p, q) \mapsto (p \wedge q, p \vee q).$$

(d)  $k: \mathbb{Z} \rightarrow \mathbb{Z}$ ;

$$x \mapsto \begin{cases} x, & \text{if } x \text{ is even;} \\ 2x - 1, & \text{if } x \text{ is odd.} \end{cases}$$

6. We have shown in Theorem 7.3.3 that if  $f: X \rightarrow Y$  and  $g: Y \rightarrow Z$  are both injective, then  $g \circ f$  is injective.

Now, let  $f: B \rightarrow C$ . Suppose we have a function  $g$  with domain  $C$  such that  $g \circ f$  is injective. Show that  $f$  is injective.

7. We have shown in Theorem 7.3.4 that if  $f: X \rightarrow Y$  and  $g: Y \rightarrow Z$  are both surjective, then  $g \circ f$  is surjective.

Now, let  $f: B \rightarrow C$ . Suppose we have a function  $e$  with codomain  $B$  such that  $f \circ e$  is surjective. Show that  $f$  is surjective.

8. Let  $A = \{1, 2, 3\}$ . The **order** of a bijection  $f: A \rightarrow A$  is defined to be the smallest  $n \in \mathbb{Z}^+$  such that

$$\underbrace{f \circ f \circ \cdots \circ f}_{n\text{-many } f\text{'s}} = id_A.$$

Define functions  $g, h: A \rightarrow A$  by setting, for all  $x \in A$ ,

$$g(x) = \begin{cases} 1, & \text{if } x = 2; \\ 2, & \text{if } x = 1; \\ x, & \text{otherwise,} \end{cases} \quad h(x) = \begin{cases} 2, & \text{if } x = 3; \\ 3, & \text{if } x = 2; \\ x, & \text{otherwise.} \end{cases}$$

Find the orders of  $g, h, g \circ h$ , and  $h \circ g$ .

9. Let  $f: A \rightarrow B$  be a function. Let  $X \subseteq A$  and  $Y \subseteq B$ . Justify your answers for the following:

- (a) Is it always the case that  $X \subseteq f^{-1}(f(X))$ ? Is it always the case that  $f^{-1}(f(X)) \subseteq X$ ?  
 (b) Is it always the case that  $Y \subseteq f(f^{-1}(Y))$ ? Is it always the case that  $f(f^{-1}(Y)) \subseteq Y$ ?

10. [Optional question]

Consider the equivalence relation  $\sim$  on  $\mathbb{Q}$  defined by setting, for all  $x, y \in \mathbb{Q}$ ,

$$x \sim y \Leftrightarrow x - y \in \mathbb{Z}.$$

Define addition and multiplication on  $\mathbb{Q}/\sim$  as follows: whenever  $[x], [y] \in \mathbb{Q}/\sim$ ,

$$[x] + [y] = [x + y] \quad \text{and} \quad [x] \cdot [y] = [x \cdot y].$$

- (a) Is  $+$  well defined on  $\mathbb{Q}/\sim$ ?  
 (b) Is  $\cdot$  well defined on  $\mathbb{Q}/\sim$ ?

Prove that your answers are correct.