Functions and Cardinality

CS 55 - Spring 2016 - Pomona College Michael J Bannister

From last time: Prove the Following

1.
$$A \cap (B \cup C) = (A \cap B) \cup (A \cap C)$$

2.
$$\overline{A \cup B} = \overline{A} \cap \overline{B}$$

3.
$$A \cap \bar{A} = \emptyset$$

4.
$$A \cap B \subseteq A$$

5. If
$$A \cup B = A$$
, then $B \subseteq A$.

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

Functions

Let A and B be sets. A *function* 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 unique element of B assigned by the function f to the element a of A.

If f is a function from A to B, we write $f : A \rightarrow B$.

Function Vocab

- Let f: A -> B.
- A is called the *domain* of f
- B is called the codomain of f
- The image (or range) of f is the set
 {b in B | exists a in A with f(a) = b}

Injective Functions

A function f is said to be *injective* (or 1-1), if and only if f(x) = f(y) implies x = y for all x and y.

Surjective Functions

A function f from A to B is called *surjective* (or onto), if and only if for every element b in B, there exists an element a in A with f(a) = b.

Bijective Functions

A functions that is both injective and surjective is said to be *bijective*.

Inverse Functions

Let f be a bijection from A to B. The inverse of f is the function g from B to A such that g(b) = a, if and only if, f(a) = b.

The function g is often written as f-1.

Why is it important that f be a bijection?

Cardinality

Two finite sets are said to have the same *cardinality* (or size) if they have the same number of elements.

Two infinite sets are said to have the same *cardinality* (or size) if there is a bijective function between them.

Cardinality Examples

- The sets N, Z and Q have the same cardinality
- A set and its power set never have the same cardinality!