#### **Functions**

Dr. Constantinos Constantinides, P.Eng.

Department of Computer Science and Software Engineering Concordia University Montreal, Canada

January 21, 2021

## Functions: Some terminology

▶ For sets A and B, a function from A to B, denoted as

$$f:A\rightarrow B$$

is an assignment (mapping) of each element of (source set) A to exactly one element of (target set) B.

▶ For a unique  $b \in B$  assigned by f to  $a \in A$  we write

$$f(a) = b$$

- ▶ A is the domain of f, and B is the codomain of f.
- ▶ In f(a) = b, b is the image of a, and a is the pre-image of b.
- The set of all images is the range of f. The range, R, is the particular set of values in the codomain that the function actually maps elements of the domain to, i.e.
  R ⊂ B of f.

#### Functions: Domain and codomain

- ▶ We have already seen propositional functions in predicate logic, e.g. P(x): "x is an island" is a function from objects to propositions, e.g.
  - $P: \mathsf{Object} \to \mathsf{Proposition}.$
- ▶ For example: P(Montreal) = "Montreal is an island."
- A propositional operator can be viewed as a function from ordered pairs of Boolean values to a Boolean value, e.g.
   ∧ : Boolean × Boolean → Boolean.
- ▶ Example:  $\wedge ((T, F)) = F$ .

#### Partial functions

► A partial function from (source set) A to (target set) B denoted as

$$f: A \rightarrow B$$

is a function defined for some subset A' of A, i.e. it does not force the mapping for every element of A to an element of B, i.e.

$$dom f \subset A$$

as opposed to a *total function* where dom f = A.

# One-to-one (injective) functions

f is one-to-one (or injective) if each element of the codomain is mapped to by at most one element of the domain (never maps distinct elements of its domain to the same element of its codomain), i.e.

$$\forall a, b (a \neq b \rightarrow f(a) \neq f(b))$$

in the domain of f.

- ▶ Is  $f(x) = x^2$  one-to-one? (Note: The domain is the set of integers.)
- ▶ No since f(1) = f(-1) = 1, but  $1 \neq -1$ .

# Onto (surjective) functions

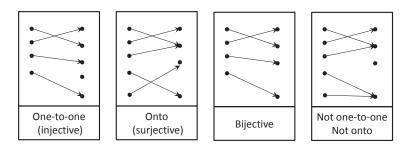
▶ f is onto (or surjective) if each element of the codomain is mapped to by at least one element of the domain, iff for every  $b \in B$  there is an  $a \in A$  with f(a) = b, i.e.

$$\forall b \exists a (f(a) = b)$$

## Bijective functions

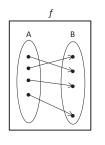
► *f* is *one-to-one correspondence* (or *bijection*) if it is both one-to-one and onto.

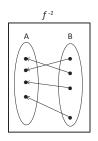
# Visualization of function types



#### Inverse functions

If f is a bijection such that f: A → B, then there is a function from B to A that maps each element of B back to its corresponding element in A.





► This is called the inverse function for f, denoted by  $f^{-1}: B \to A$ .

### Composition of functions

▶ If  $f: A \rightarrow B$  and  $g: B \rightarrow C$  are functions, then  $g \circ f$  is a composite relation between A and C such that

$$g \circ f : A \to C$$

given by

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

▶ Note that  $ran f \subseteq dom g$ .

### Example: Composition of functions

Consider the following:

$$\forall x \in \mathbb{N} \bullet f(x) = x + 1 \land g(x) = 5x$$

$$g(f(3)) = g(4) = 20, or(g \circ f)(3) = 20$$

▶ Note that  $dom(g \circ f) \subseteq dom f$ .

## Modeling functions by product sets

▶ For example, for function with  $dom f = \{1, 2, 3, 4\}$  and  $\forall x \in dom f \bullet f(x) = x(x-2)$ , we often write

$$f = \{(1, -1), (2, 0), (3, 3), (4, 8)\}$$

- Note on notation: Ordered pairs are often represented using maplet notation, e.g. the pair (x, y) is written as  $x \mapsto y$ .
- We often talk about the set which models a function as actually being the function itself.