

# CH 19 Functions

mrevanishere

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## 1 Function

DEFINITION (Function): Let  $S$  and  $T$  be sets. A function from  $S$  to  $T$  is a rule that assigns to each  $s \in S$  a single ele of  $T$ , denoted by  $f(s)$ . We write

$$f : S \rightarrow T$$

to mean that  $f$  is a funtion from  $S$  to  $T$ . If  $f(s) = t$ , we often say  $f$  sends  $s \rightarrow t$ .

DEFINITION (Image): ilf  $f : S \rightarrow T$  is a function, the image of  $f$  is the set of all ele of  $T$  that are equal to  $f(s)$  for some  $s \in S$ . We write  $f(S)$  for the image of  $f$ . Thus

$$f(S) = \{f(s) | s \in S\}$$

example

## 2 Important Functions

(I) We say  $f$  is onto if the image  $f(S) = T$ ; if for every  $t \in T$  there exists  $s \in S$  such that  $f(s) = t$

(II) We say  $f$  is one-to-one if whenever  $s_1, s_2 \in S$  with  $s_1 \neq s_2$ , then  $f(s_1) \neq f(s_2)$ ;  $f$  is 1-1 if  $f$  sends different elements of  $S$  to different elements of  $T$ . Or for all  $s_1, s_2 \in S$

$$f(s_1) = f(s_2) \Rightarrow s_1 = s_2$$

(III) We say that  $f$  is a bijection if  $f$  is both onto and 1-1

onto or surjective functions or surjections

1-1 or injective functions or injections

PROPOSITION 19.1: Let  $f : S \rightarrow T$  be a function, where  $S$  and  $T$  are finite sets.

(i) If  $f$  is onto, then  $|S| \geq |T|$ .

(ii) If  $f$  is 1-1, then  $|S| \leq |T|$ .

(iii) If  $f$  is a bijection, then  $|S| = |T|$ .

### 3 Pigeonhole Principle

If we put  $n+1$  or more pigeons into  $n$  pigeonholes, then there must be a pigeonhole containing more than one pigeon.

### 4 Inverse Functions

DEFINITION: Let  $f : S \rightarrow T$  be a bijection. The inverse function of  $f$  is the function from  $T \rightarrow S$  that sends each  $t \in T$  to the unique  $s \in S$  such that  $f(s) = t$ . We denote the inverse function by  $f^{-1} : T \rightarrow S$ . Thus, for  $s \in S, t \in T$ ,

$$\begin{aligned} f^{-1}(t) = s &\Leftrightarrow f(s) &&= t \\ f^{-1}(f(s)) = s \text{ and } f(f^{-1}(t)) &&&= t \end{aligned}$$

### 5 Composition of Functions

DEFINITION: Let  $S, T, U$  be sets, and let  $f : S \rightarrow T$  and  $g : T \rightarrow U$  be functions. The composition of  $f$  and  $g$  is the function  $g \circ f : S \rightarrow U$ , which is defined:

$$(g \circ f)(s) = g(f(s)) \text{ for all } s \in S$$

Identity functions:

$$f^{-1} \circ f = \iota_S, f \circ f^{-1} = \iota_T$$

PROPOSITION 19.2: Let  $S, T, U$  be sets, and let  $f : S \rightarrow T$  and  $g : T \rightarrow U$  be functions. Then:

- (i) if  $f$  and  $g$  are both 1-1, so is  $g \circ f$
- (ii) if  $f$  and  $g$  are both onto, so is  $g \circ f$
- (iii) if  $f$  and  $g$  are both bijections, so is  $g \circ f$ .

### 6 Counting Functions

PROPOSITION 19.3: Let  $S, T$  be finite sets, with  $|S| = m, |T| = n$ . Then the number of functions from  $S$  to  $T$  is equal to  $n^m$ .