

FUNCTION DIAGRAMS

Why

We want to visualize function composition.

Definition

A function diagram is a finite directed graph with map from vertices the powerset of a set and a map from edges to functions between the sets of the incident vertices.

Example

For example, let A and R be sets and let $i: A \to A$, $f: A \to R$ and $g: R \to A$ be functions. We can consider the diagram whose graph is $(\{1,2,3\},\{(1,2),(2,3),(1,3)\})$, with vertices one and three corresponding to A, vertex 2 corresponding to R, edge (1,2) corresponding to f, edge (2,3) corresponding to f and edge (1,3) corresponding to f.

Path composition

The function associated with a path (or *path composition*) is the composition of the functions corresponding to the edges along the path. The digram is *commutative* if the composition of any two paths between any two vertices result in identical functions.

 $^{^1{\}rm Future}$ editions will include the highly important figures associated with function diagrams.

