Functions

Section 2.3

Announcement

- Midterm One: Thursday, 3/6/2014

Section Summary

- Definition of a Function.
  - Domain, Cdomain
  - Image, Preimage
- Injection, Surjection, Bijection
- Inverse Function
- Function Composition
- Graphing Functions
- Floor, Ceiling, Factorial
- Partial Functions (optional)

Functions

- A function $f: A \rightarrow B$ can also be defined as a subset of $A \times B$ (a relation). This subset is restricted to be a relation where no two elements of the relation have the same first element.
- Specifically, a function f from A to B contains one, and only one ordered pair (a, b) for every element $a \in A$.

$$\forall x[x \in A \rightarrow \exists y[y \in B \wedge (x, y) \in f]]$$

and

$$\forall x, y_1, y_2[[(x, y_1) \in f \wedge (x, y_2)] \rightarrow y_1 = y_2]$$

Some Important Functions

- The *floor* function, denoted

$$f(x) = \lfloor x \rfloor$$

is the largest integer less than or equal to *x*.

- The *ceiling* function, denoted

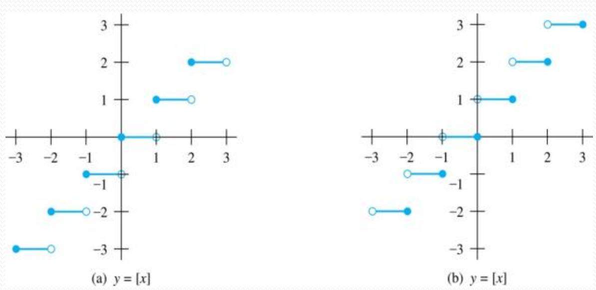
$$f(x) = \lceil x \rceil$$

is the smallest integer greater than or equal to *x*

Example: $\lceil 3.5 \rceil = 4$ $\lfloor 3.5 \rfloor = 3$

$\lceil -1.5 \rceil = -1$ $\lfloor -1.5 \rfloor = -2$

Floor and Ceiling Functions



Graph of (a) Floor and (b) Ceiling Functions

Floor and Ceiling Functions

TABLE 1 **Useful Properties of the Floor and Ceiling Functions.**
(n is an integer, x is a real number)

(1a)	$\lfloor x \rfloor = n$ if and only if $n \le x < n + 1$
(1b)	$\lceil x \rceil = n$ if and only if $n - 1 < x \le n$
(1c)	$\lfloor x \rfloor = n$ if and only if $x - 1 < n \le x$
(1d)	$\lceil x \rceil = n$ if and only if $x \le n < x + 1$
(2)	$x - 1 < \lfloor x \rfloor \le x \le \lceil x \rceil < x + 1$
(3a)	$\lfloor -x \rfloor = -\lceil x \rceil$
(3b)	$\lceil -x \rceil = -\lfloor x \rfloor$
(4a)	$\lfloor x + n \rfloor = \lfloor x \rfloor + n$
(4b)	$\lceil x + n \rceil = \lceil x \rceil + n$

Proving Properties of Functions

Example: Prove that x is a real number, then

$$\lfloor 2x \rfloor = \lfloor x \rfloor + \lfloor x + 1/2 \rfloor$$

Solution: Let $x = n + \varepsilon$, where n is an integer and $0 \le \varepsilon < 1$.

Case 1: $\varepsilon < ½$

- $2x = 2n + 2\varepsilon$ and $\lfloor 2x \rfloor = 2n$, since $0 \le 2\varepsilon < 1$.
- $\lfloor x + 1/2 \rfloor = n$, since $x + ½ = n + (1/2 + \varepsilon)$ and $0 \le ½ + \varepsilon < 1$.
- Hence, $\lfloor 2x \rfloor = 2n$ and $\lfloor x \rfloor + \lfloor x + 1/2 \rfloor = n + n = 2n$.

Case 2: $\varepsilon \ge ½$

- $2x = 2n + 2\varepsilon = (2n + 1) + (2\varepsilon - 1)$ and $\lfloor 2x \rfloor = 2n + 1$, since $0 \le 2\varepsilon - 1 < 1$.
- $\lfloor x + 1/2 \rfloor = \lfloor n + (1/2 + \varepsilon) \rfloor = \lfloor n + 1 + (\varepsilon - 1/2) \rfloor = n + 1$ since $0 \le \varepsilon - 1/2 < 1$.
- Hence, $\lfloor 2x \rfloor = 2n + 1$ and $\lfloor x \rfloor + \lfloor x + 1/2 \rfloor = n + (n + 1) = 2n + 1$. ◀

Factorial Function

Definition: f: **N** → **Z**$^+$, denoted by $f(n) = n!$ is the product of the first n positive integers when n is a nonnegative integer.

$f(n) = 1 \cdot 2 \cdots (n-1) \cdot n, \qquad f(0) = 0! = 1$

Examples:

$f(1) = 1! = 1$

$f(2) = 2! = 1 \cdot 2 = 2$

$f(6) = 6! = 1 \cdot 2 \cdot 3 \cdot 4 \cdot 5 \cdot 6 = 720$

$f(20) = 2{,}432{,}902{,}008{,}176{,}640{,}000.$

Stirling's Formula:

$$n! \sim \sqrt{2\pi n}(n/e)^n$$

$$f(n) \sim g(n) \doteq lim_{n\to\infty} f(n)/g(n) = 1$$

Partial Functions (*optional*)

Definition: A *partial function* f from a set A to a set B is an assignment to each element a in a subset of A, called the *domain of definition* of f, of a unique element b in B.

- The sets A and B are called the *domain* and *codomain* of f, respectively.
- We say that f is *undefined* for elements in A that are not in the domain of definition of f.
- When the domain of definition of f equals A, we say that f is a *total function*.

Example: f: **N** → **R** where $f(n) = \sqrt{n}$ is a partial function from **Z** to **R** where the domain of definition is the set of nonnegative integers. Note that f is undefined for negative integers.