MA 1101: Mathematics I

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Solution 1.

Let $X, Y, Z \neq \emptyset$, let $f: X \to Y$ and let $g: Y \to Z$. We have

$$g \circ f : X \to Z,$$

 $x \mapsto g(f(x))$

(i) If f and g are injective, for arbitrary $x_1, x_2 \in X$,

$$(g \circ f)(x_1) = (g \circ f)(x_2)$$

$$\Rightarrow g(f(x_1)) = g(f(x_2))$$

$$\Rightarrow f(x_1) = f(x_2) \qquad \text{(Injectivity of } g)$$

$$\Rightarrow x_1 = x_2 \qquad \text{(Injectivity of } f)$$

Hence, $g \circ f$ is injective.

- (ii) If g is surjective, it follows that for all $z_i \in Z$, there exists $y_i \in Y$ such that $g(y_i) = z_i$. If f is also surjective, it follows that for all these y_i , there exists $x_i \in X$ such that $f(x_i) = y_1$. Hence, for all $z_i \in Z$, there exists $x_i \in X$ such that $(g \circ f)(x_i) = g(f(x_i)) = z_i$. Therefore, $g \circ f$ is surjective. \square
- (iii) If f and g are bijective, $g \circ f$ must be injective from (i) and surjective from (ii). Therefore, $g \circ f$ is bijective.
- (iv) If $g \circ f$ is surjective, it follows that for all $z_i \in Z$, there exists $x_i \in X$ such that $g(f(x_i)) = z_i$. Since f is a function, for all these x_i , there must exist $y_i \in Y$ such that $f(x_i) = y_i$. Hence, for all $z_i \in Z$, there exists $y_i \in Y$ such that $g(y_i) = z_i$. Therefore, g is surjective. \Box Consider

$$f: \{0, 1, 2\} \to \{0, 1\},$$

$$x \mapsto 0.$$

$$g: \{0, 1\} \to \{0\},$$

$$x \mapsto 0.$$

Clearly, we have $g \circ f : \{0, 1, 2\} \to \{0\}, x \mapsto 0$ is surjective, yet f is not surjective since there is no $x \in \{0, 1, 2\}$ such that f(x) = 1.

(v) Let $x_1, x_2 \in X$ such that $x_1 \neq x_2$. We have two cases: $f(x_1) = f(x_2)$ or $f(x_1) \neq f(x_2)$. If $f(x_1) = f(x_2) = y \in Y$, we must have $(g \circ f)(x_1) = g(f(x_1)) = g(f(x_2)) = (g \circ f)(x_2)$. This contradicts the injectivity of $g \circ f$. Hence, we must have $f(x_1) \neq f(x_2)$. Therefore, f is injective. \square Consider

$$\begin{split} f: \{0\} &\to \{0,1\}, \\ x &\mapsto 0. \\ g: \{0,1\} &\to \{0\}, \\ x &\mapsto 0. \end{split}$$

Clearly, we have $g \circ f : \{0\} \to \{0\}, x \mapsto 0$ is injective, yet g is not injective since g(0) = g(1) = 0.

(vi) We have $g \circ f$ is injective and f is surjective. Let $y_1, y_2 \in Y$ such that $g(y_1) = g(y_2)$. The surjectivity of f implies that there exist $x_1, x_2 \in X$ such that $f(x_1) = y_1$ and $f(x_2) = y_2$. Hence, we have $g(f(x_1)) = g(f(x_2)) \Leftrightarrow (g \circ f)(x_1) = (g \circ f)(x_2)$. The injectivity of $g \circ f$ implies $x_1 = x_2$, from which we have $y_1 = y_2$. Therefore, g is surjective.

Solution 2.

Let $W, X, Y, Z \neq \emptyset$, and let $f: W \to X, g: X \to Y$ and $h: Y \to Z$. We will show that

$$(h \circ g) \circ f = h \circ (g \circ f).$$

Clearly, we have $h \circ g : X \to Z$, hence $(h \circ g) \circ f : W \to Z$. Also, $g \circ f : W \to Y$, hence $h \circ (g \circ f) : W \to Z$. Thus, the domains and codomains of both these functions are equal.

Let $w \in W$, $x = f(w) \in X$, $y = g(x) \in Y$, $z = h(y) \in Z$. Thus, $(h \circ g)(x) = h(g(x)) = h(y) = z$, so $((h \circ g) \circ f)(w) = (h \circ g)(f(w)) = (h \circ g)(x) = z$.

Again, $(g \circ f)(w) = g(f(w)) = g(x) = y$, so $(h \circ (g \circ f))(w) = h((g \circ f)(w)) = h(y) = z$.

Hence, for all $w \in W$, $((h \circ g) \circ f)(w) = (h \circ (g \circ f))(w) \in Z$. Therefore, these two functions are equal. \square

Solution 3.

(i) We examine

$$f: \mathbb{R} \to \mathbb{R},$$
$$x \mapsto x^2 + x.$$

Clearly, f is not injective, since f(0) = f(-1) = 0.

Note that for all $x \in \mathbb{R}$,

$$f(x) = x^2 + x = \left(x + \frac{1}{2}\right)^2 - \frac{1}{4} \ge -\frac{1}{4}$$

Hence, for all y < -1/4, e.g., y = -1, there is no $x \in \mathbb{R}$ such that f(x) = y.

Therefore, f is neither injective, nor surjective.

(ii) We examine

$$f: \mathbb{N} \to \mathbb{N},$$

$$n \mapsto \left\lfloor \frac{n+1}{2} \right\rfloor.$$

Clearly, f is not injective, since f(1) = f(2) = 1.

Note that for all $k \in \mathbb{N}$, f(2k-1) = k. Also, $2k-1 \in \mathbb{N}$.

Therefore, f is not injective, but is surjective.

(iii) We examine

$$f: \mathbb{R} \to \mathbb{R},$$

 $x \mapsto x + |x|.$

Let $x_1, x_2 \in \mathbb{R}$. Thus,

$$f(x_1) = f(x_2)$$

$$\Rightarrow x_1 + \lfloor x_1 \rfloor = x_2 + \lfloor x_2 \rfloor$$

$$\Rightarrow x_1 - x_2 = -|x_1| + |x_2|$$

It follows that $k = x_1 - x_2 \in \mathbb{Z}$, so

$$\begin{bmatrix} x_1 \end{bmatrix} = \lfloor k + x_2 \rfloor
= k + \lfloor x_2 \rfloor
= x_1 - x_2 + \lfloor x_2 \rfloor
x_1 - x_2 = |x_1| - |x_2|$$

Hence, we have $x_1 = x_2$. Therefore, f is injective.

For $f(x) = 2k + 1 \in \mathbb{Z} \subset \mathbb{R}$, $k \in \mathbb{Z}$, we must have $x + \lfloor x \rfloor = 2k + 1$, so $x \in \mathbb{Z}$. Thus, $f(x) = 2x = 2k + 1 \Rightarrow x = k + \frac{1}{2} \notin \mathbb{Z}$, a contradiction. Hence, there is no $x \in \mathbb{R}$ such that f(x) = 2k + 1, $k \in \mathbb{Z}$. Therefore, f is injective, but not surjective.

(iv) We examine

$$f: \mathbb{R} \to \mathbb{R},$$

$$x \mapsto x - \lfloor x \rfloor.$$

Clearly, f is not injective, since f(0) = f(1) = 0.

Note that $\lfloor x \rfloor$ is the *greatest* integer less than or equal to x. Let $x - \lfloor x \rfloor = \delta$, where $\delta \in \mathbb{R}$. We must have $\lfloor x \rfloor \leq x$, so $\delta \geq 0$. If $\delta \geq 1$, we would have $x - (1 + \lfloor x \rfloor) = \delta - 1 \geq 0 \Rightarrow x \geq 1 + \lfloor x \rfloor$, a contradiction. Hence, $\delta < 1$, and f(x) < 1 for all $x \in \mathbb{R}$, i.e., there is no $x \in \mathbb{R}$ such that f(x) = 2. Therefore, f is neither injective, nor surjective.

(v) We examine

$$f: \mathbb{R} \setminus \{1\} \to \mathbb{R},$$

 $x \mapsto \frac{x+1}{x-1}.$

Let $x_1, x_2 \in \mathbb{R} \setminus \{1\}$. Thus,

$$f(x_1) = f(x_2)$$

$$\Rightarrow \frac{x_1 + 1}{x_1 - 1} = \frac{x_2 + 1}{x_2 - 1}$$

$$\Rightarrow (x_1 + 1)(x_2 - 1) = (x_1 - 1)(x_2 + 1)$$

$$\Rightarrow x_1 x_2 - x_1 + x_2 - 1 = x_1 x_2 + x_1 - x_2 - 1$$

$$\Rightarrow x_1 = x_2$$

$$(x \neq 1)$$

Hence, we have $x_1 = x_2$. Therefore, f is injective.

Note that for $f(x) = 1 \in \mathbb{R}$, we require x + 1 = x - 1, a contradiction. Hence, there is no $x \in \mathbb{R} \setminus \{1\}$ such that f(x) = 1.

Therefore, f is injective, but not surjective.

(vi) We examine

$$f: (-1,1) \to \mathbb{R},$$

 $x \mapsto \frac{x}{1-|x|}.$

Let $x_1, x_2 \in (-1, 1)$. Thus,

$$f(x_1) = f(x_2)$$

$$\Rightarrow \frac{x_1}{1 - |x_1|} = \frac{x_2}{1 - |x_2|}$$

$$\Rightarrow x_1(1 - |x_2|) = x_2(1 - |x_1|) \qquad (|x| \neq 1)$$

$$\Rightarrow x_1 - x_2 = x_1|x_2| - x_2|x_1|$$

If either x_1 or x_2 , we are forced to have $x_1 = x_2 = 0$.

Note that x_1 and x_2 cannot have opposite signs, since 1 - |x| > 0 for all $x \in (-1, +1)$.

We are left with x_1 and x_2 sharing the same sign. Thus, we have $x_1/|x_1| = x_2/|x_2| = \pm 1$, so $x_1|x_2| = x_2|x_1|$, and $x_1 = x_2$.

In all cases, we have $x_1 = x_2$. Therefore, f is injective.

We will now show that f is surjective. Let $y = f(x) \in \mathbb{R}$.

For y = 0, we have x = 0.

For y > 0, we have x > 0, so

$$y = \frac{x}{1-x} \Rightarrow x = \frac{y}{1+y} < 1$$
 $(1+y > y > 0)$

Clearly, for every y>0, there exists $x\in(0,1)$ such that f(x)=y. For y<0, we have x<0, so

$$y = \frac{x}{1+x} \Rightarrow x = \frac{y}{1-y} > -1$$
 $(0 > y > y - 1)$

Again, for every y < 0, there exists $x \in (-1,0)$ such that f(x) = y. Therefore, f is both injective and surjective.