
Math Prep Camp: Sets and Functions

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Exercise sheet 2

1. Describing a map.

Let $A := \{0, 1, 2\}$ and $B := \{X, Y\}$ be sets.

Which of the following lines describe a map $g : A \rightarrow B$? If not, why?

(a) $g(2) = X, g(0) = Y, g(1) = X$

(b) $g(0) = X, g(2) = Y, g(0) = X$

(c) $g(0) = X, g(2) = Y, g(0) = Y$

(d) $g(0) = Y, g(1) = Y, g(2) = Y$

2. Image and preimage.

Consider the function $f : \mathbb{R} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}, x \mapsto x^2$.

(a) What is the image of 3 under f ?

(b) What is the image of $1 + x$ under f for $x \in \mathbb{R}$?

(c) What is the image of the interval $[2, 3]$ under f ?

(d) What are the preimages of 4 under f ?

(e) What is the preimage of the interval $[1, 4]$ under f ?

3. Graphs.

(a) Sketch the graph of the function $f : [-2, 2] \rightarrow [0, 4], x \mapsto x^2$ (in the standard way: x -axis to the right, y -axis up).

(b) Reflect your sketch at the line $x = y$ (i.e. swap x - and y -axis). Do you still have the graph of a function? Why?

4. Injectivity, surjectivity, bijectivity.

For each of the following functions, state if they are injective, surjective or bijective (or none of these).

(a) $f : \mathbb{R} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}, x \mapsto x^2$

(b) $f : \mathbb{R}_{\geq 0} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}, x \mapsto x^2$

(c) $f : \mathbb{R}_{\geq 0} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}_{\geq 0}, x \mapsto x^2$

(d) $f : \mathbb{R} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}_{\geq 0}, x \mapsto x^2$

Here $\mathbb{R}_{\geq 0} = \{x \in \mathbb{R} \mid x \geq 0\}$.

5. Composition.

(a) Let $f : \mathbb{R} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}, x \mapsto x^2$ and $g : \mathbb{R} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}, x \mapsto x + 1$. For $x \in \mathbb{R}$, compute $(f \circ g)(x) = f(g(x))$ and $(g \circ f)(x) = g(f(x))$.

(b) Let $f : \mathbb{R} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}_{\geq 0}, x \mapsto x^2$ and $g : \mathbb{R}_{\geq 0} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}, x \mapsto \sqrt{x}$. For $x \in \mathbb{R}$, compute $(f \circ g)(x) = f(g(x))$ and $(g \circ f)(x) = g(f(x))$.

6. Inverse map.

Compute the inverse of each of the following bijective maps.

(a) $f : \mathbb{R}_{\geq 0} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}_{\geq 0}, x \mapsto x^2$

(b) Let $A := \{0, 1, 2\}$, $b := \{a, b, c\}$ and let $f : A \rightarrow B$ be given by $f(0) = b, f(1) = a, f(2) = c$.

7. *Injectivity, surjectivity, bijectivity (2).*

Let $A = \{1, 2, 3, 4, 5\}$ and $B = \{a, b, c, d\}$.

- Describe a surjective map from A to B .
- Describe a map from A to B which is neither surjective nor injective.
- Does there exist an injective map from A to B ? Why?
- Describe an injective map from B to A .
- Describe a map from B to A which is neither surjective nor injective.
- Does there exist a surjective map from B to A ? Why?

8. *Domain, image, preimage*

- Let f be a map from \mathbb{N} to \mathbb{Z} defined by $f(n) = n^3$ and g a map from \mathbb{Z} to \mathbb{N} defined by $g(n) = n^2$. Calculate the image of 2 under f and determine $f \circ g$.
- Let f be a map from $E = \{1, 2, 3, 4\}$ to $F = \{0, 1, 3, 5, 7, 10\}$ such that $f(1) = 3$, $f(2) = 5$, $f(3) = 5$ and $f(4) = 0$. Determine $f(\{2, 3\})$, $\text{im}(f)$. Determine $f^{-1}(\{5\})$, $f^{-1}(\{0, 1, 3\})$ and $f^{-1}(\{1, 10\})$. Is f injective, surjective, bijective?

9. *More on injectivity, surjectivity, bijectivity.*

- Find an injective but not bijective map from \mathbb{N} to \mathbb{N} .
- Find a surjective but not bijective map from \mathbb{N} to \mathbb{N} .
- Find a bijection between \mathbb{Z} and \mathbb{N} .

10. *Some proofs concerning maps.*

Let A, B, C be sets and $f : A \rightarrow B$ and $g : B \rightarrow C$ maps. Prove:

- If f and g are both injective (resp. surjective, resp. bijective), then $g \circ f$ is injective (resp. surjective, resp. bijective).
- If $g \circ f$ is injective, then f is injective.
- If $g \circ f$ is surjective, then g is surjective.
- Suppose that both f and g are bijective with inverses f^{-1} and g^{-1} , respectively. Then $(g \circ f)^{-1} = f^{-1} \circ g^{-1}$.

11. *Invertibility*

Consider the function

$$f : \mathbb{R} \rightarrow \mathbb{R} : x \mapsto \begin{cases} |x + 1| & \text{if } x < 0 \\ |x - 1| & \text{if } x \geq 0. \end{cases}$$

Make a sketch of f .

- Is the function f a bijection?
- Find the biggest closed interval $[a, 10] \subseteq \mathbb{R}$ such that f restricted to $[a, 10]$ is injective.
- Write $g : [a, 10] \rightarrow f([a, 10])$ for the restriction of f to $[a, 10]$ with a from (b). Now g is bijective. Describe the inverse of g explicitly.

12. *Involution*

Let E be a set and $f : E \rightarrow E$ a map such that: $f \circ f = \text{id}_E$.

Prove that f is bijective.

What is its inverse?

13. *Sine function*

Let $\sin : \mathbb{R} \rightarrow [-1, 1]$ be the sine function (known from school):

(a) Is \sin bijective?

(b) Describe the preimage $\sin^{-1}(\{0\})$.

(c) Describe the preimage $\sin^{-1}(\{1\})$.

14. *Maps and power sets.*

Let E be a non-empty set, $\mathcal{P}(E)$ its power set, and $A, B \in \mathcal{P}(E)$. One defines

$$f : \mathcal{P}(E) \rightarrow \mathcal{P}(E) : X \mapsto (A \cap X) \cup (B \cap \overline{X}^E),$$

where $\overline{X}^E = E \setminus X$ is the complement of X in E .

Analyse the equality $f(X) = \emptyset$.

Deduce a necessary condition for f to be bijective.

15. *Increasing maps.*

Let $I \subseteq \mathbb{R}$ and $J \subseteq \mathbb{R}$ be two intervals in \mathbb{R} . Let $f : I \rightarrow J$ be a strictly increasing function.

(a) Show that f is injective.

(b) Determine the unique subset $K \subseteq J$ such that $f : I \rightarrow K$ is bijective.

16. *Maps from \mathbb{N} to \mathbb{N}*

Consider a map $u : \mathbb{N} \rightarrow \mathbb{N}$ and assume that

$$\forall k \in \mathbb{N} : u(k+1) > u(k).$$

(a) Show rigorously (justifying each step of your argument) that for any $k, l \in \mathbb{N}$ with $k < l$, one has $u(k) < u(l)$.

(b) Is u necessarily injective? Justify your answer by a precise argument or by a counter-example.

(c) Is u necessarily surjective? Justify your answer by a precise argument or by a counter-example.