

3 Definitions

- surjective (onto)
- injective (one-to-one)
- bijective (both - invertible)

Surjections

Def: Let $f: A \rightarrow B$ be a function.

We say f is a surjection if for all $y \in B$, there exists $x \in A$ such that $f(x) = y$.

Also say f is surjective, f is onto.

Equivalently, $f: A \rightarrow B$ is surjective

$$\Leftrightarrow \text{Rng}(f) = B$$

$$\{y \in B \mid y = f(x) \text{ for some } x \in A\}$$

Injections

Def: A function $f: A \rightarrow B$ is an injection if for all $x_1, x_2 \in A$,
if $f(x_1) = f(x_2)$, then $x_1 = x_2$

Also, say f is injective or f is one-to-one.

Equivalently, if $x_1 \neq x_2$, then $f(x_1) \neq f(x_2)$.

Bijections

Def: A function $f: A \rightarrow B$ is a bijection (also say " f is bijective") if it is both a surjection and an injection.

Examples

Ex: $f: \mathbb{R} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$
 $x \mapsto x^3$ } \rightarrow short for $f(x) = x^3$.

• f is a surjection

$$\begin{aligned} \bullet \operatorname{Rng}(f) &= \mathbb{R} \\ &\stackrel{\subseteq \vee}{=} \\ &= \end{aligned}$$

• i.e., every $y \in \mathbb{R}$ is equal to $f(x)$ for some $x \in \mathbb{R}$.

Proof: Let $y \in \mathbb{R}$.

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Set } x &= \sqrt[3]{y} \in \mathbb{R}. \text{ Then } f(x) = f(\sqrt[3]{y}) \\ &= (\sqrt[3]{y})^3 = y. \end{aligned}$$

So $y \in \operatorname{Rng}(f)$, showing f is surjective. \blacksquare

• f is injective.

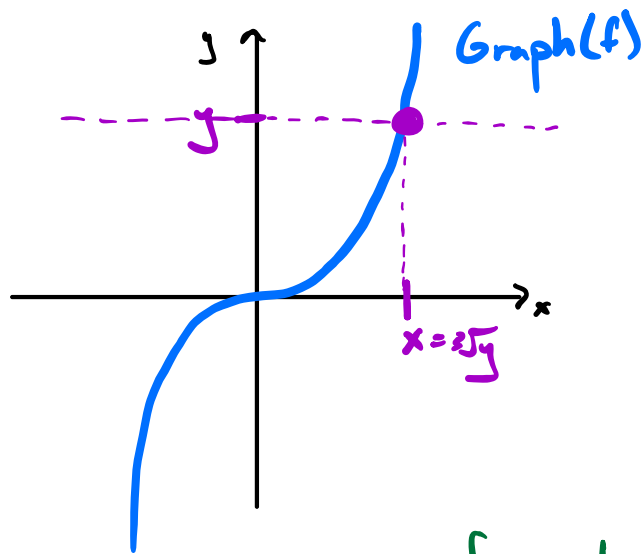
$$\bullet f(x) = f(x_2) \Rightarrow x_1 = x_2$$

Proof: Let $x_1, x_2 \in \mathbb{R}$ and suppose $f(x_1) = f(x_2)$.

$$\begin{aligned} \text{That is } x_1^3 &= x_2^3. \text{ Then } \sqrt[3]{x_1^3} = \sqrt[3]{x_2^3} \\ x_1 &= x_2. \end{aligned}$$

\blacksquare

Picture:



• f surjective
 \Leftrightarrow every $y \in \mathbb{R}$ is
in the range, i.e.
 $y = f(x)$ for some x

\Leftrightarrow every horizontal
line intersects
graph.

• f injective

$$\Leftrightarrow \underbrace{f(x_1) = f(x_2)}_{=y} \Rightarrow x_1 = x_2$$

\Leftrightarrow each horizontal line intersects
the graph at most once

So $f: \mathbb{R} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$
 $x \mapsto x^3$ is a bijection.

Ex: $g: \mathbb{R} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$
 $x \mapsto x^2$

• g is not surjective

$$\text{Rang}(g) \neq \mathbb{R}$$

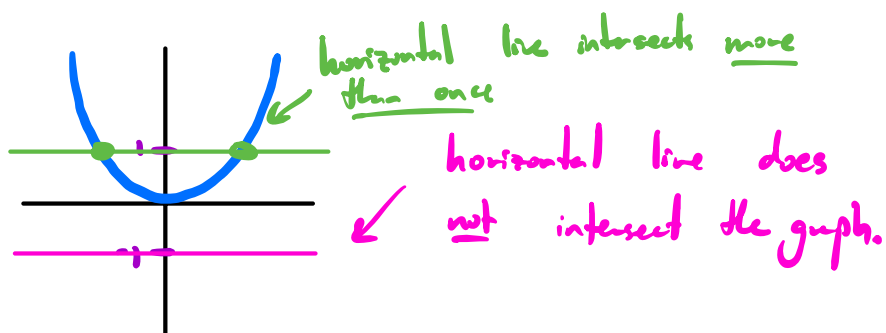
i.e. some $y \in \mathbb{R}$ is not in the range.

Proof: Let $y = -1 \in \mathbb{R}$.

Then for all $x \in \mathbb{R}$,

$$g(x) = x^2 \neq -1. \text{ So } -1 \notin \text{Rang}(g).$$

Graph:



• g is not injective $\Rightarrow (\forall x_1, x_2) (f(x_1) = f(x_2) \Rightarrow x_1 = x_2)$
 $\equiv (\exists x_1, x_2 \in \mathbb{R}) (f(x_1) = f(x_2) \text{ but } x_1 \neq x_2)$

Proof: Consider $1, -1 \in \mathbb{R}$.

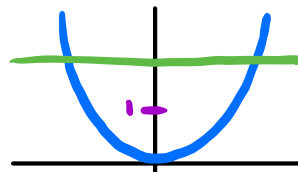
$$g(1) = 1^2 = 1 = (-1)^2 = g(-1), \text{ but } 1 \neq -1.$$

So g is not injective. \square

How can we make g surjective?

Easy fix: Change codomain to be range.

$$g: \mathbb{R} \rightarrow [0, \infty)$$
$$x \mapsto x^2$$

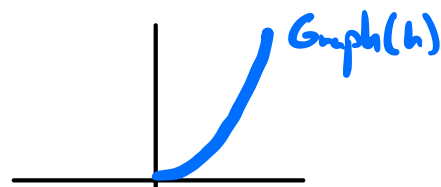


any $y \in [0, \infty)$
corresponds to a horiz.
line intersects graph

still not injective.

To make it injective, restrict domain

$$h: [0, \infty) \rightarrow [0, \infty)$$
$$x \mapsto x^2$$



Summary $f: A \rightarrow B$

• f surjective $\Leftrightarrow (\forall y \in B)(\exists x \in A)(f(x) = y)$

f not surjective $\Leftrightarrow (\exists y \in B)(\forall x \in A)(f(x) \neq y)$

• f injective $\Leftrightarrow (\forall x_1, x_2 \in A)[f(x_1) = f(x_2) \Rightarrow x_1 = x_2]$
 $\Leftrightarrow (\forall x_1, x_2 \in A)[x_1 \neq x_2 \Rightarrow f(x_1) \neq f(x_2)]$

f not injective $\Leftrightarrow (\exists x_1, x_2 \in A)[x_1 \neq x_2 \text{ and } f(x_1) = f(x_2)]$.

Together,

Lemma: Let $f: A \rightarrow B$ be a function. Then f is a bijection if and only if

for every $y \in B$, there exists a unique $x \in A$ such that $f(x) = y$.

i.e. f is a bijection $\Leftrightarrow (\forall y \in B)(\exists! x \in A)(f(x) = y)$

- existence is surjectivity
- uniqueness is injectivity