# Introduction to Topology 

## George Voutsadakis ${ }^{1}$

${ }^{1}$ Mathematics and Computer Science
Lake Superior State University

LSSU Math 400

Theory of Sets

- Introduction
- Sets and Subsets
- Set Operations
- Indexed Families of Sets
- Products of Sets
- Functions
- Relations
- Composition and Diagrams
- Inverse Functions, Extensions and Restrictions
- Arbitrary Products

Subsection 1

## Introduction

## The Peano Axioms for the Natural Numbers

- The set of positive integers or natural numbers is a collection of objects $\mathbb{N}$ on which there is defined a function $s$, called the successor function, satisfying the conditions:

For each $x$ in $\mathbb{N}$, there is one and only one $y$ in $\mathbb{N}$ such that $y=s(x)$;
2. Given objects $x$ and $y$ in $\mathbb{N}$ such that $s(x)=s(y)$, then $x=y$;
3. There is one and only one object in $\mathbb{N}$, denoted by 1 , which is not the successor of an object in $\mathbb{N}$, i.e., $1 \neq s(x)$, for each $x$ in $\mathbb{N}$;
4. Given a collection $T$ of objects in $\mathbb{N}$, such that:

- 1 is in $T$ and
- for each $x$ in $T, s(x)$ is also in $T$,
then $T=\mathbb{N}$.
- The four conditions are the Peano's axioms for the natural numbers.
- The fourth is called the Principle of Mathematical Induction.


## Commutative Fields

- A commutative field is a collection of objects $\mathbb{F}$ and two functions that associate to each pair $a, b$ of objects from $\mathbb{F}$
- an element $a+b$ of $\mathbb{F}$, called their sum;
- an element $a \cdot b$ of $\mathbb{F}$, called their product, satisfying the conditions:

For each $a, b$ in $\mathbb{F}, a+b=b+a$;
2. For each $a, b, c$ in $\mathbb{F}, a+(b+c)=(a+b)+c$;
3. There is a unique object in $\mathbb{F}$, denoted by 0 , such that
$a+0=0+a=a$, for each $a$ in $\mathbb{F}$;
4. For each $a$ in $\mathbb{F}$, there is a unique object $a^{\prime}$ in $\mathbb{F}$, such that
$a+a^{\prime}=a^{\prime}+a=0$;
5. For each $a, b$ in $\mathbb{F}, a \cdot b=b \cdot a$;
6. For each $a, b, c$ in $\mathbb{F}, a \cdot(b \cdot c)=(a \cdot b) \cdot c$;
7. There is a unique object in $\mathbb{F}$, different from 0 , denoted by 1 , such that $a \cdot 1=1 \cdot a=a$ for each $a$ in $\mathbb{F}$;
8. For each $a$ in $\mathbb{F}$, if $a$ is different from 0 , there is a unique object $a^{*}$ in F such that $a \cdot a^{*}=a^{*} \cdot a=1$;
9. For each $a, b, c$ in $\mathbb{F}, a \cdot(b+c)=a \cdot b+a \cdot c$.

## Linearly Ordered and Complete Fields

- A field $\mathbb{F}$ is called linearly ordered if it has as additional structure a relation " $<$ " which satisfies the conditions:

1. For each pair of objects $x, y$ in $\mathbb{F}$, one and only one of the three statements, $x<y, x=y, y<x$, is true;
2. For each object $z$ in $\mathbb{F}, x<y$ implies $x+z<y+z$;
3. For each object $z$ in $\mathbb{F}$ such that $0<z, x<y$ implies $x \cdot z<y \cdot z$.

- Let $T$ be a subcollection of objects from a linearly ordered field $\mathbb{F}$.
- An object $b$ in $\mathbb{F}$ is called an upper bound of $T$ if for each $x$ in $T$, either $x<b$ or $x=b$.
- An object $a$ in $\mathbb{F}$ is called a least upper bound of $T$, if $a$ is an upper bound of $T$ and if $a<b$, for any other upper bound $b$ of $T$.
- A linearly ordered field $\mathbb{F}$ is called complete if every non-empty subcollection $T$ of $\mathbb{F}$ that has an upper bound also has a least upper bound.


## The Real Number System

- The real number system is a collection $\mathbb{R}$ of objects together with operations of addition and multiplication and a relation < such that the collection $\mathbb{R}$, together with this structure, is a complete, linearly ordered, commutative field.
- Even though there are many real number systems, it is implicitly asserted that the conditions imposed on the collection $\mathbb{R}$ are categorical:
Any two instances of the real number system are indistinguishable, apart from the names or notation used to denote the objects.

Subsection 2

## Sets and Subsets

## Objects, Sets and Membership

- We assume that the terms "object", "set" and the relation "is a member of" are familiar concepts.
- We use these concepts in a manner that is in agreement with the ordinary usage of these terms.
- If an object $A$ belongs to a set $S$, we write $A \in S$ (read, " $A$ in $S$ ").
- If an object $A$ does not belong to a set $S$, we write $A \notin S$ (read, " $A$ not in $\left.S^{\prime \prime}\right)$.
- If $A_{1}, \ldots, A_{n}$ are objects, the set consisting of precisely these objects will be written $\left\{A_{1}, \ldots, A_{n}\right\}$.
- It is necessary to distinguish the set $\{A\}$, consisting of precisely one object $A$, from the object $A$ itself.
- $A \in\{A\}$ is a true statement;
- $A=\{A\}$ is a false statement.
- We stipulate that there exists a set that has no members, the so-called null or empty set. The symbol for this set is $\emptyset$.


## Subsets

- Let $A$ and $B$ be sets. If, for each object $x \in A$, it is true that $x \in B$, we say that $A$ is a subset of $B$. In this event, we shall also say that $A$ is contained in $B$, which we write $A \subseteq B$. Equivalently, $B$ contains $A$, which we write $B \supseteq A$.
- In accordance with the definition of subset:
- A set $A$ is always a subset of itself: $A \subseteq A$;
- The empty set is a subset of $A: \emptyset \subseteq A$.

These two subsets, $A$ and $\emptyset$, of $A$ are called improper subsets.
Any other subset is called a proper subset.

- Example: For each pair of real numbers $a, b$ with $a<b$,
- the set of all real numbers $x$, such that $a \leq x \leq b$ is called the closed interval from $a$ to $b$ and is denoted by $[a, b]$;
- the set of all real numbers $x$, such that $a<x<b$ is called the open interval from $a$ to $b$ and is denoted by $(a, b)$.
We thus have $(a, b) \subseteq[a, b] \subseteq \mathbb{R}$, where $\mathbb{R}$ is the set of real numbers.


## Equality and Powersets

- Two sets are identical if they have precisely the same members. Thus, if $A$ and $B$ are sets, $A=B$ if and only if $A \subseteq B$ and $B \subseteq A$.
- Sets may themselves be objects belonging to other sets. Example: $\{\{1,3,5,7\},\{2,4,6\}\}$ is a set to which there belong two objects, these two objects being
- the set of odd positive integers less than 8 and
- the set of even positive integers less than 8 .
- If $A$ is any set, the collection of subsets of $A$ consists of objects that may be used to constitute a new set.
- In particular, for each set $A$, there is a set, denoted by $\mathcal{P}(A)$ or $2^{A}$, called the powerset of $A$, whose members are the subsets of $A$. Thus, for each set $A$, we have
$B \in \mathcal{P}(A)$ if and only if $B \subseteq A$.


## Subsection 3

## Set Operations

## Intersection and Union

- If $x$ is an object, $A$ a set and $x \in A$, we shall say that $x$ is an element, member, or point of $A$.
- Let $A$ and $B$ be sets. The intersection of the sets $A$ and $B$ is the set whose members are those objects $x$, such that $x \in A$ and $x \in B$. The intersection of $A$ and $B$ is denoted by $A \cap B$ (read, " $A$ intersect $B$ ").
- The union of the sets $A$ and $B$ is the set whose members are those objects $x$, such that $x$ belongs to at least one of the two sets $A, B$, i.e., $x \in A$ or $x \in B$. The union of $A$ and $B$ is denoted by $A \cup B$ (read, " $A$ union $B$ ").



## Complement

- Let $A \subseteq S$. The complement of $A$ in $S$ is the set of elements that belong to $S$ but not to $A$. The complement of $A$ in $S$ is denoted by $C_{S}(A)$ or by $S-A$.

- The set $S$ may be fixed throughout a given discussion, in which case the complement of $A$ in $S$ may simply be called the complement of $A$ and denoted by $C(A)$.
- $C(A)$ is again a subset of $S$ and one may take its complement. The complement of the complement of $A$ is $A$, i.e., $C(C(A))=A$.


## DeMorgan's Laws

## Theorem (DeMorgan's Laws)

Let $A \subseteq S, B \subseteq S$. Then

$$
C(A \cup B)=C(A) \cap C(B) \quad \text { and } \quad C(A \cap B)=C(A) \cup C(B) .
$$

- Suppose $x \in C(A \cup B)$. Then $x \in S$ and $x \notin A \cup B$. Thus, $x \notin A$ and $x \notin B$, or $x \in C(A)$ and $x \in C(B)$. Therefore $x \in C(A) \cap C(B)$ and, consequently, $C(A \cup B) \subseteq C(A) \cap C(B)$
Conversely, suppose $x \in C(A) \cap C(B)$. Then $x \in S$ and $x \in C(A)$ and $x \in C(B)$. Thus, $x \notin A$ and $x \notin B$, and, therefore, $x \notin A \cup B$. It follows that $x \in C(A \cup B)$ and, thus, $C(A) \cap C(B) \subseteq C(A \cup B)$.
We have shown that $C(A) \cap C(B)=C(A \cup B)$.
For the second identity, apply the preceding one to the two subsets
$C(A)$ and $C(B)$ of $S$ :
$C(C(A) \cup C(B))=C(C(A)) \cap C(C(B))=A \cap B$. Taking complements, $C(A) \cup C(B)=C(C(C(A) \cup C(B)))=C(A \cap B)$.

Subsection 4

## Indexed Families of Sets

## Indexed Families of Sets

- Let $I$ be a set. For each $\alpha \in I$, let $A_{\alpha}$ be a subset of a given set $S$. We call $I$ an indexing set and the collection of subsets of $S$ indexed by the elements of $I$ is called an indexed family of subsets of $S$. We denote this indexed family of subsets of $S$ by $\left(A_{\alpha}\right)_{\alpha \in I}$.
- Indexed families of subsets allow for a more general formation of unions and intersections of sets.
- Let $\left(A_{\alpha}\right)_{\alpha \in I}$ be an indexed family of subsets of a set $S$.
- The union of this indexed family, written $\bigcup_{\alpha \in I} A_{\alpha}$, is the set of all elements $x \in S$, such that $x \in A_{\beta}$, for at least one index $\beta \in I$.
- The intersection of this indexed family, written $\bigcap_{\alpha \in I} A_{\alpha}$, is the set of all elements $x \in S$, such that $x \in A_{\beta}$, for all $\beta \in I$.
- Note that $\bigcup_{\alpha \in I} A_{\alpha}=\bigcup_{\gamma \in I} A_{\gamma}$, for which reason the two occurrences of " $\alpha$ " in the expression $\bigcup_{\alpha \in I} A_{\alpha}$ are referred to as dummy indices.


## Example and Special Cases

- Let $A_{1}, A_{2}, A_{3}, A_{4}$ be respectively the set of freshmen, sophomores, juniors, and seniors in some specified college. Here we have $I=\{1,2,3,4\}$ as an indexing set.
- $\bigcup_{\alpha \in I} A_{\alpha}$ is the set of undergraduates;
- $\bigcap_{\alpha \in I} A_{\alpha}=\emptyset$.
- If the indexing set I contains precisely two distinct indices, then the union (intersection) over $\alpha$ in $I$ of $A_{\alpha}$ is the same as the union (intersection) of two sets, i.e.,

$$
\bigcup_{\alpha \in\{i, j\}} A_{\alpha}=A_{i} \cup A_{j} \quad \text { and } \bigcap_{\alpha \in\{i, j\}} A_{\alpha}=A_{i} \cap A_{j} .
$$

- In case $I=\emptyset$, we get

$$
\bigcup_{\alpha \in \emptyset} A_{\alpha}=\emptyset \quad \text { and } \quad \bigcap_{\alpha \in \emptyset} A_{n}=S .
$$

## Generalized DeMorgan's Laws

## Theorem

Let $\left(A_{\alpha}\right)_{\alpha \in I}$ be an indexed family of subsets of a set $S$. Then

$$
C\left(\bigcup_{\alpha \in I} A_{\alpha}\right)=\bigcap_{\alpha \in I} C\left(A_{\alpha}\right) \quad \text { and } \quad C\left(\bigcap_{\alpha \in I} A_{\alpha}\right)=\bigcup_{\alpha \in I} C\left(A_{\alpha}\right) .
$$

- Suppose $x \in C\left(\bigcup_{\alpha \in I} A_{\alpha}\right)$. Then $x \notin \bigcup_{\alpha \in I} A_{\alpha}$, i.e., $x \notin A_{\beta}$, for each index $\beta \in I$. Thus $x \in C\left(A_{\beta}\right)$, for each index $\beta \in I$, and $x \in \bigcap_{\alpha \in I} C\left(A_{\alpha}\right)$. Therefore, $C\left(\bigcup_{\alpha \in I} A_{\alpha}\right) \subseteq \bigcap_{\alpha \in I} C\left(A_{\alpha}\right)$.
Conversely, suppose that $x \in \bigcap_{\alpha \in I} C\left(A_{\alpha}\right)$. Then $x \in C\left(A_{\beta}\right)$, for each index $\beta \in I$. Thus $x \notin A_{\beta}$, for each index $\beta \in I$, i.e., $x \notin \bigcup_{\alpha \in I} A_{\alpha}$. Therefore, $x \in C\left(\bigcup_{\alpha \in I} A_{\alpha}\right)$ and $\bigcap_{\alpha \in I} C\left(A_{\alpha}\right) \subseteq C\left(\bigcup_{\alpha \in I} A_{i}\right)$.
The second law can be proved similarly.


## Unions and Intersections of Indexed Families

- Given any collection of subsets of a set $S$, the concept of indexed family of subsets allows us to define the union or intersection of these subsets by constructing some convenient indexing set.
- If the collection of subsets is finite, the finite set $\{1,2, \ldots, n\}$ of integers is a convenient indexing set.
- Given subsets $A_{1}, A_{2}, \ldots, A_{n}$ of $S$, we write $A_{1} \cup A_{2} \cup \cdots \cup A_{n}$ or $\bigcup_{i=1}^{n} A_{i}$ for $\bigcup_{\alpha \in\{1,2, \ldots, n\}} A_{\alpha}$.
- Similarly, $A_{1} \cap A_{2} \cap \cdots \cap A_{n}$ or $\bigcap_{i=1}^{n} A_{i}$ are used in place of $\bigcap_{\alpha \in\{1,2, \ldots, n\}} A_{\alpha}$.

Subsection 5

## Products of Sets

## Ordered Pairs and Cartesian Products

- Let $x$ and $y$ be objects. The ordered pair $(x, y)$ is a sequence of two objects,
- the first object of the sequence being $x$;
- the second object of the sequence being $y$.
- Let $A$ and $B$ be sets. The Cartesian product of $A$ and $B$, written $A \times B$, (read " $A$ cross $B$ ") is the set whose elements are all the ordered pairs $(x, y)$, such that $x \in A$ and $y \in B$.


## Examples:

1. The coordinate plane of analytical geometry is the Cartesian product of two lines.
2. The possible outcomes of the throw of a pair of dice is the Cartesian product of two sets, each of which is comprised of the numbers $1,2,3,4,5,6$.

- The two Cartesian products $A \times B$ and $B \times A$ are distinct unless $A=B$.


## Direct Product of a Sequence of Sets

- A generalization of the Cartesian product of two sets is the direct product of a sequence of sets.
- Let $A_{1}, A_{2}, \ldots, A_{n}$ be a finite sequence of sets, indexed by $\{1,2, \ldots, n\}$. The direct product of $A_{1}, A_{2}, \ldots, A_{n}$, written

$$
\prod_{i=1}^{n} A_{i}
$$

is the set consisting of all sequences $\left(a_{1}, a_{2}, \ldots, a_{n}\right)$, such that $a_{1} \in A_{1}, a_{2} \in A_{2}, \ldots, a_{n} \in A_{n}$.

- As a particular case, $\prod_{i=1}^{2} A_{i}=A_{1} \times A_{2}$.
- For this reason we often write $A_{1} \times A_{2} \times \cdots \times A_{n}$ for $\prod_{i=1}^{n} A_{i}$.


## Direct Products of Infinite Sequences of Sets

- The concept of direct product may be extended to an infinite sequence $A_{1}, A_{2}, \ldots, A_{n}, \ldots$ of sets, indexed by the positive integers.
- The direct product of $A_{1}, A_{2}, \ldots, A_{n}, \ldots$, written $\prod_{i=1}^{\infty} A_{i}$ or $A_{1} \times A_{2} \times \cdots \times A_{n} \times \cdots$, is the set whose elements are all infinite sequences $\left(a_{1}, a_{2}, \ldots, a_{n}, \ldots\right)$, such that $a_{i} \in A_{i}$, for each positive integer $i$.
- Example: The set of points of Euclidean $n$-space yields an example of a direct product of sets. If for $i=1,2, \ldots, n$, we have $A_{i}=\mathbb{R}$, where $\mathbb{R}$ is the set of real numbers, then $\mathbb{R}^{n}=\prod_{i=1}^{n} A_{i}$ is the set of points of a Euclidean $n$-space. An element $x \in \mathbb{R}^{n}$ is a sequence $x=\left(x_{1}, x_{2}, \ldots, x_{n}\right)$ of real numbers.
- In general, if the sets $A_{1}, A_{2}, \ldots, A_{n}$ are all equal to the same set $A$, we write $A^{n}=\prod_{i=1}^{n} A_{i}$ and call an element $a=\left(a_{1}, a_{2}, \ldots, a_{n}\right) \in A^{n}$ an $n$-tuple.

Subsection 6

## Functions

## Functions and Graphs

## Definition (Function)

Let $A$ and $B$ be sets. A correspondence that associates with each element $x \in A$ an element $f(x) \in B$ is called a function from $A$ to $B$. We write $f: A \rightarrow B$ or $A \xrightarrow{f} B$ to denote the function.

## Definition (Graph of a Function)

Let $f: A \rightarrow B$. The subset $\Gamma_{f} \subseteq A \times B$, which consists of all ordered pairs of the form $(a, f(a))$, is called the graph of $f: A \rightarrow B$.

- Let $A$ and $B$ be sets. Given a subset $\Gamma$ of $A \times B$, there is a function $f: A \rightarrow B$, such that $\Gamma$ is the graph of $f: A \rightarrow B$, if, for each $x \in A$, there is one and only one element of the form $(x, y) \in \Gamma$.


## Image, Inverse Image, Domain and Range

## Definition (Image and Inverse Image)

Let $f: A \rightarrow B$ be given. For each subset $X$ of $A$, the subset of $B$ whose elements are the points $f(x)$, such that $x \in X$, is denoted by $f(X) . f(X)$ is called the image of $X$.
For each subset $Y$ of $B$, the subset of $A$ whose elements are the points $x \in A$, such that $f(x) \in Y$ is denoted by $f^{-1}(Y) . f^{-1}(Y)$ is called the inverse image of $Y$ or $f$ inverse of $Y$.

## Definition (Domain and Range)

Let $f: A \rightarrow B$ be given.
$A$ is called the domain of $f$.
$f(A)$ is called the range of $f$.

## An Example

- Let $f: \mathbb{R} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}, \mathbb{R}$ the set of real numbers, be the function such that, for each $x \in \mathbb{R}$,

$$
f(x)=x^{2}-x-2
$$

- If $X$ is the closed interval $[1,2]$, then $f(X)=[-2,0]$.
- If $Z$ is the open interval $(-1,1)$, then $f(Z)=\left[-\frac{9}{4}, 0\right)$.
- $f^{-1}([-2,0])=[1,2] \cup[-1,0]$.
- $f^{-1}(\{0\})=\{2,-1\}$ is the set of roots of the polynomial $x^{2}-x-2$.

- $f^{-1}([-5,-4])=\emptyset$.


## A Mapping or Transformation in Pictures

- A function $f: A \rightarrow B$ is also called a mapping or transformation of $A$ into $B$. We may think of such a function as carrying each point $x \in A$ into its corresponding point $f(x) \in B:$

- $f: A \rightarrow B$ carries each subset $X$ of $A$ onto the subset $f(X)$ of $B$
- $f^{-1}$ of a subset $Y$ of $B$ is the set of all $x \in A$ that are carried into points of $Y$.



## One-to-One and Onto Functions

## Definition (One-to-One Function)

A function $f: A \rightarrow B$ is called one-one if whenever $f(a)=f\left(a^{\prime}\right)$, for $a, a^{\prime} \in A$, then $a=a^{\prime}$.

- Thus, $f: A \rightarrow B$ is one-one if, for each $b \in f(A)$, there is only one $a \in A$, such that $f(a)=b$.
- Equivalently, by contraposition, $f: A \rightarrow B$ is one-one if, for all $a, a^{\prime} \in A$, if $a \neq a^{\prime}$ then $f(a) \neq f\left(a^{\prime}\right)$.


## Definition (Onto Function)

A function $f: A \rightarrow B$ is called onto if $B=f(A)$.

## Constant and Identity Functions

- Certain particular types of functions are frequently considered:


## Definition (Constant Function)

A function $f: A \rightarrow B$ is called a constant function if there is a point $b \in B$, such that $f(x)=b$, for all $x \in A$.

## Definition (Identity Function)

A function $f: A \rightarrow A$ is called the identity function (on $A$ ) if $f(x)=x$, for all $x \in A$.

Subsection 7

## Relations

## Relations

- A function may be viewed as a special case of what is called a relation. E.g., to say that the number 2 is less than the number 3 , or $2<3$, is to say that $(2,3)$ is one of the number pairs $(x, y)$ for which the relation "less than" is true.


## Definition (Relation)

A relation $R$ from the elements of a set $A$ to the elements of a set $B$ is a subset of $A \times B$.
A relation $R$ on a set $E$ is a subset of $E \times E$.

- If $(x, y) \in R \subseteq A \times B$, one frequently writes a $R$.


## Reflexivity, Symmetry and Transitivity

- We define certain properties that a relation on a set $E$ may or may not have:


## Definition (Reflexivity, Symmetry and Transitivity)

A relation $R$ on a set $E$ is called

- reflexive if a $R$ a is true for all $a \in E$;
- symmetric if, whenever a $R b$, also $b R$;
- transitive if, whenever a $R$ b and $b R c$, then a $R c$.
- Example:
- Let $<$ be the pairs of real numbers $(x, y)$, such that $x<y$. Then $<$ is a transitive relation on the set $E$ of real numbers, but $<$ is not reflexive and not symmetric.
- Let $R$ be the pairs of real numbers $(x, y)$, such that $|x-y|<1$. Then $R$ is reflexive and symmetric, but not transitive.
- Let $\Lambda$ be the pairs of real numbers $(x, y)$, such that $x-y$ is an integer. Then $\Lambda$ is reflexive, symmetric, and transitive.


## Equivalence Relations and Equivalence Classes

## Definition (Equivalence Relation)

A relation $R$ on a set $E$ which is reflexive, symmetric, and transitive is called an equivalence relation.

## Definition (Equivalence Class)

Let $R$ be an equivalence relation on a set $E$. For each $a \in E$, the equivalence class of $a$, denoted by $\pi(a)$, is the subset of $E$ consisting of all $x$, such that a $R x$.

- Two equivalence classes are either disjoint or identical.


## Lemma

Let $R$ be an equivalence relation on a set $E$ and let $\pi(a) \cap \pi(b) \neq \emptyset$, for $a, b \in E$. Then $\pi(a)=\pi(b)$.

## Quotients and Projections

## Lemma

Let $R$ be an equivalence relation on a set $E$ and let $\pi(a) \cap \pi(b) \neq \emptyset$, for $a, b \in E$. Then $\pi(a)=\pi(b)$.

- Let $c \in \pi(a) \cap \pi(b)$. Then a $R c$ and $b R$. Suppose $x \in \pi(a)$ so that a $R x$. c $R$ a by symmetry, so $c R \times$ by transitivity. Another application of transitivity yields $b R x$, so $x \in \pi(b)$. Thus $\pi(a) \subseteq \pi(b)$. Similarly, $\pi(b) \subseteq \pi(a)$.
- By the reflexive property, $a \in \pi(a)$ is always true.
- So the equivalence classes are non-empty and disjoint.
- Let $E / R$ be the set of equivalence classes. Then $\pi: E \rightarrow E / R$ is an onto function. $E / R$ is sometimes called the quotient of $E$ by the relation $R$, and $\pi$ is called the projection.


## Subsection 8

## Composition and Diagrams

## Composition of Functions

## Definition (Composition)

Let $f: A \rightarrow B$ and $g: B \rightarrow C$ be given. The composition of $f: A \rightarrow B$ and $g: B \rightarrow C$ is the correspondence that associates with each element $a \in A$, the element $g(f(a)) \in C$. This function is written $g f: A \rightarrow C$, or $A \xrightarrow{g f} C$

- A function $h: A \rightarrow C$ is, therefore, the composition of $f: A \rightarrow B$ and $g: B \rightarrow C$, abbreviated $h=g f$, if for each $a \in A, h(a)=g(f(a))$. I.e., $h=g f$ when these functions behave as follows:



## Composition of a Finite Number of Functions

## Definition

Let $f_{1}: A_{1} \rightarrow A_{2}, f_{2}: A_{2} \rightarrow A_{3}, \ldots, f_{n}: A_{n} \rightarrow A_{n+1}$ be given. The composition of $f_{1}: A_{1} \rightarrow A_{2}, f_{2}: A_{2} \rightarrow A_{3}, \ldots, f_{n}: A_{n} \rightarrow A_{n+1}$ is the correspondence that associates with each element $x \in A_{1}$ the element $f_{n}\left(\cdots f_{2}\left(f_{1}(x)\right) \cdots\right) \in A_{n+1}$. We write $f_{n} \cdots f_{2} f_{1}: A_{1} \rightarrow A_{n+1}$ or $A_{1} \xrightarrow{f_{n} \cdots f_{2} f_{1}} A_{n+1}$ for this function.

- Given $f: A \rightarrow B, g: B \rightarrow C$ and $h: C \rightarrow D$, consider:
- hgf : $A \rightarrow D$;
- $g f: A \rightarrow C$ composed with $h: C \rightarrow D: h(g f): A \rightarrow D$.
- Similarly, (hg) $f: A \rightarrow D$.

We compute:

$$
\begin{aligned}
& -(h g f)(x)=h(g(f(x))) ; \\
& \cdot(h(g f))(x)=h((g f)(x))=h(g(f(x))) ; \\
& \cdot((h g) f)(x)=(h g)(f(x))=h(g(f(x))) .
\end{aligned}
$$

Since the three functions are equal, parenthesis may be dropped.

## Triangles

- Suppose we are given three functions $f: A \rightarrow B, g: B \rightarrow C$ and $k: A \rightarrow C$.
- The existence of these three functions may be indicated by a diagram:

- The letters $A, B, C$ stand for the various sets, and an arrow leading from one set to another indicates a function from the first set to the second.
- The fact that we may form the composition of two functions (such as $g f: A \rightarrow C$ in the above diagram) is represented by a path in the direction of the arrows that goes from one set to a second and from the second set to a third.


## Diagrams and Functions

- By a diagram we shall mean a figure consisting of several symbols denoting sets and arrows leading from one symbol to another, each arrow leading from a set $X$ to a set $Y$ having an associated symbol $t$, the arrow and its symbol representing a given function $t: X \rightarrow Y$.
- Example:


> This diagram indicates the existence of given functions $f: A \rightarrow B, g: A \rightarrow C, k: B \rightarrow$ $D, h: C \rightarrow D$. The diagram shows that by composing functions we may obtain two functions from $A$ to $D k f, h g: A \rightarrow D$.

- In any diagram, a path from $X$ to $Y$ consisting of a sequence of arrows leading from $X$ to $Y$ indicates the existence of a function from $X$ to $Y$ obtained by composing the functions represented by these arrows in the order of their occurrence, starting at $X$ and terminating at $Y$.


## Commutative Diagrams

- In the diagram

it may or may not be true that $k f=h g$. In the event that $k f=h g$ we say that the diagram (or the rectangle) commutes or is commutative.
- In general, a diagram is said to commute or to be commutative if for each $X$ and $Y$ in the diagram that represent sets, and for any two paths in the diagram beginning at $X$ and ending at $Y$, the two functions from $X$ to $Y$ so represented are equal.
- Example: Consider he diagram


The statement that "this diagram is commutative" means that: $f=j h ; k=g j$; $k h=g j h=g f$.

It is worth noting that the first two equalities imply the third.

## Diagrams with Multiple Occurrences of a Set

- A given set $A$ may occur more than once in a diagram.
- Example: Let $A$ be the set of positive real numbers and $\mathbb{R}$ the set of real numbers. Let $f: A \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ be defined by the correspondence

$$
f(x)=\ln x, \quad x \in A
$$

and let $g: \mathbb{R} \rightarrow A$ be defined by the correspondence

$$
g(x)=e^{x}, \quad x \in \mathbb{R} .
$$

Let $i_{A}: A \rightarrow A$ be the identity function. Then, since $(g f)(x)=e^{\ln x}=x=i_{A}(x)$, the following diagram is commutative:


## Subsection 9

## Inverse Functions, Extensions and Restrictions

## Inverse Functions

## Definition (Inverse Functions)

Let $f: A \rightarrow B$ and $g: B \rightarrow A$ be given. The function $f: A \rightarrow B$ is called the inverse of $g: B \rightarrow A$ and the function $g: B \rightarrow A$ is called the inverse of $f: A \rightarrow B$ if $g(f(a))=a$, for each $a \in A$, and $f(g(b))=b$, for each $b \in B$.
In this event we also say that $f: A \rightarrow B$ and $g: B \rightarrow A$ are inverse functions and that each of them is invertible.

- Let $i_{A}: A \rightarrow A$ and $i_{B}: B \rightarrow B$ be identity functions. The statement that $f: A \rightarrow B$ and $g: B \rightarrow A$ are inverse functions is equivalent to the statement that the two diagrams

are commutative.


## Invertibility Implies Bijectivity

## Theorem

If $f: A \rightarrow B$ and $g: B \rightarrow A$ are inverse functions, then both functions are one-one and onto.

- Suppose $f(x)=f(y)$. Then $x=g(f(x))=g(f(y))=y$. Therefore, $f$ is one-one.
To show that $f$ is onto, let $b \in B$. We have $f(g(b))=b$. Therefore, if we set $a=g(b)$, we have $b=f(a)$ and $f$ is onto.
The roles of the two functions may be interchanged, since the definition of inverse functions imposes conditions symmetrical with regard to the two functions.
Therefore, $g: B \rightarrow A$ is also one-one and onto.


## Bijectivity Implies Invertibility

- We have shown that, given a function $h: X \rightarrow Y$, a necessary condition that this function be invertible is that the function be one-one and onto. This condition is also sufficient.


## Theorem

Let $f: A \rightarrow B$ be one-one and onto. Then there exists a function $g: B \rightarrow A$, such that these two functions are inverse functions.

- We shall first define $g: B \rightarrow A$. Given $b \in B$, we may write $b=f(a)$, for some $a \in A$, since $f$ is onto. Furthermore, since $f$ is one-one, there is only one element such that $f(a)=b$. We define $g(b)=a$. The correspondence that associates with each $b \in B$ the element $a \in A$, as defined above, is a function $g: B \rightarrow A$.
We have $f(g(b))=b$, for each $b \in B$, by the definition of $g: B \rightarrow A$.
Given $a \in A$, let $a^{\prime}=g(f(a))$. Then $f\left(a^{\prime}\right)=f(g(f(a)))=f(a)$, by the remark just made. Since $f: A \rightarrow B$ is one-one, $a=a^{\prime}=g(f(a))$. Thus, $f: A \rightarrow B$ and $g: B \rightarrow A$ are inverse functions.


## Uniqueness of Inverses

- If a function $f: A \rightarrow B$ has an inverse $g: B \rightarrow A$, the function $g: B \rightarrow A$ is uniquely determined.


## Theorem

Let $f: A \rightarrow B, g: B \rightarrow A$ be inverse functions and let $f: A \rightarrow B$ and $g^{\prime}: B \rightarrow A$ be inverse functions. Then $g: B \rightarrow A$ and $g^{\prime}: B \rightarrow A$ are equal.

- We show $g(b)=g^{\prime}(b)$, for each $b \in B$. We know $b=f(g(b))$. Thus, $g^{\prime}(b)=g^{\prime}(f(g(b)))=g(b)$.
- The proof of this last theorem may also be viewed as a direct consequence of the commutativity of the diagram



## Extensions and Restrictions

## Definition (Extensions and Restrictions)

Let $A \subseteq X$. Let $f: A \rightarrow Y$ and $F: X \rightarrow Y$. If for each $x \in A$, $f(x)=F(x)$, we say that $F$ is an extension of $f$ to $X$ or that $f$ is a restriction of $F$ to $A$. In this event we shall write $f=\left.F\right|_{A}$.

- Example: Let $A$ be the open interval $\left(0, \frac{\pi}{2}\right)$. For each $\theta \in A$, let $\Delta_{\theta}$ be a right triangle one of whose acute angles is $\theta$ radians, and let $f(\theta)=\frac{y}{r}$ be the ratio of the length $y$ of the side of this triangle opposite the angle of magnitude $\theta$ to the length $r$ of the hypotenuse of $\Delta_{\theta}$. Thus, $f: A \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$.



## Example of an Extension (Cont'd)

- For each $\theta \in \mathbb{R}$, let $(a, b)_{\theta}$ be the point of the plane $\mathbb{R}^{2}$ whose distance from the origin is 1 and such that the rotation about the origin of the line segment whose end points are the origin and $(1,0)$ to the position of the line segment whose end points are the origin and $(a, b)_{\theta}$ represents an angle of magnitude $\theta$ radians.


Define $F(\theta)=b$. Then $F: \mathbb{R} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$. $F$ is an extension of $f$ to $\mathbb{R}$ as is easily seen if one recognizes:

- $f: A \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ as the sine function, defined for acute angles by means of right triangles;
- $F: \mathbb{R} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ as the sine function defined for angles of arbitrary magnitude by means of the unit circle.


## Inclusion Mappings

## Definition (Inclusion Mapping)

Let $A \subseteq X$. The function $i: A \rightarrow X$, defined by the correspondence $i(x)=x$, for each $x \in A$, is called an inclusion mapping or function.

- Let $A \subseteq X$ and $F: X \rightarrow Y$. Then $F$ is an extension of $f$ if and only if the diagram

is commutative, where $i: A \rightarrow X$ is an inclusion mapping.
- Given $F: X \rightarrow Y$, there are as many restrictions of $F: X \rightarrow Y$ as there are subsets of $X$. Given a subset $A \subseteq X$, we may obtain the restriction of $F$ to $A$ by forming the composition of the inclusion mapping $i: A \rightarrow X$ and $F: X \rightarrow Y$. Thus, we have $\left.F\right|_{A}=F i$.


## Subsection 10

## Arbitrary Products

## Points in Product Spaces Viewed as Functions

- Let $X_{1}, \ldots, X_{n}$ be sets.

We have defined a point $x=\left(x_{1}, \ldots, x_{n}\right) \in \prod_{i=1}^{n} X_{i}$ as an ordered sequence such that $x_{i} \in X_{i}$.

- Given such a point, by setting $x(i)=x_{i}$ we obtain a function $x$ which associates to each integer $i, 1 \leq i \leq n$, the element $x(i) \in X_{i}$.
- Conversely, given a function $x$ which associates to each integer $i, 1 \leq i \leq n$, an element $x(i) \in X_{i}$, we obtain the point $(x(1), \ldots, x(n)) \in \prod_{i=1}^{n} X_{i}$.
It is easily seen that this correspondence between points of $\prod_{i=1}^{n} X_{i}$ and functions of the above type is one-one and onto.
- Thus, a point of $\prod_{i=1}^{n} X_{i}$ may also be defined as a function $x$ which associates to each integer $i, 1 \leq i \leq n$, a point $x(i) \in X_{i}$.
- The advantage of this second point of view is that it allows us to define the product of an arbitrary family of sets.


## Product of Indexed Family of Sets

## Definition (Product of an Indexed Family of Sets)

Let $\left\{X_{\alpha}\right\}_{\alpha \in I}$ be an indexed family of sets. The product of the sets $\left\{X_{\alpha}\right\}_{\alpha \in I}$, written $\prod_{\alpha \in I} X_{\alpha}$, consists of all functions $x$, with domain the indexing set $I$, having the property that for each $\alpha \in I, x(\alpha) \in X_{\alpha}$.

- Given a point $x \in \prod_{\alpha \in I} X_{\alpha}$, one may refer to $x(\alpha)$ as the $\alpha$ th coordinate of $x$.
- Unless the indexing set has been ordered in some fashion, there is no first coordinate, second coordinate, and so on.


## Definition (Projections)

Let $x \in \prod_{\alpha \in I} X_{\alpha}$. The function $p_{\alpha}: \prod_{\alpha \in I} X_{\alpha} \rightarrow X_{\alpha}$, defined by $p_{\alpha}(x)=x(\alpha)$, is called the $\alpha$ th projection.

- Clearly two points $x, x^{\prime} \in \prod_{\alpha \in I} X_{\alpha}$ are identical if and only if, for each $\alpha \in I, p_{\alpha}(x)=p_{\alpha}\left(x^{\prime}\right)$, i.e., $x(\alpha)=x^{\prime}(\alpha)$.


## Axiom of Choice and Surjectivity of Projections

- In dealing with product spaces, we use the Axiom of Choice:

Axiom of Choice: If, for all $\alpha \in I$, we can choose $x_{\alpha} \in X_{\alpha}$, then we may construct a point (function) $x \in \prod_{\alpha \in I} X_{\alpha}$ by setting $x(\alpha)=x_{\alpha}$.

- This is equivalent to the statement:

The product of non-empty sets is non-empty.

- Using the axiom of choice we may prove:


## Proposition (Projections of Nonempty Products are Onto)

If for each $\alpha \in I, X_{\alpha}$ is non-empty, then each of the projection maps $p_{\alpha}: \prod_{\alpha \in I} X_{\alpha} \rightarrow X_{\alpha}$ is onto.

- Let $x_{\alpha} \in X_{\alpha}$ be given. Set $x(\alpha)=x_{\alpha}$. Suppose $\beta \in I, \beta \neq \alpha$. Since $X_{\beta}$ is non-empty, choose a point $x(\beta) \in X_{\beta}$. Then $x \in \prod_{\alpha \in I} X_{\alpha}$ and $p_{\alpha}(x)=x(\alpha)=x_{\alpha}$. Hence $p_{\alpha}$ is onto.
- If $B \subseteq X_{\alpha}$, then $x \in p_{\alpha}^{-1}(B)$ means that the $\alpha$ th coordinate of $x$ lies in $B$ with all other coordinates unrestricted.

