

Supplementary handout on the one-to-one, onto maps and one-to-one correspondences

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This handout contains the definitions and statements required for the course that are not covered by the Otto Bretscher's book.

Definition 1 (informal). *A function from the set X to the set Y is a rule assigning exactly one element of Y to each element of X .*

For a function from X to Y we use a notation

$$f: X \rightarrow Y.$$

Definition 2. *Let $f: X \rightarrow Y$ be a function.*

- *The set X is called the domain of f ;*
- *The set Y is called the codomain of f .*
- *The set $f(X) = \{f(x) : x \in X\}$ is called the image (or the range) of f .*

The last definition is illustrated in Figure 1.

Definition 3. *A function from the set X to the set Y is called*

- *one-to-one, if distinct elements of X are mapped to distinct elements of Y . I.e. if $x_1 \neq x_2$ are different elements of X , then $f(x_1) \neq f(x_2)$;*
- *onto, if for each $y \in Y$ there is $x \in X$ such that $f(x) = y$;*
- *one-to-one correspondence if it is both one-to-one and onto.*

The examples illustrating the above notions are shown in Figure 2.

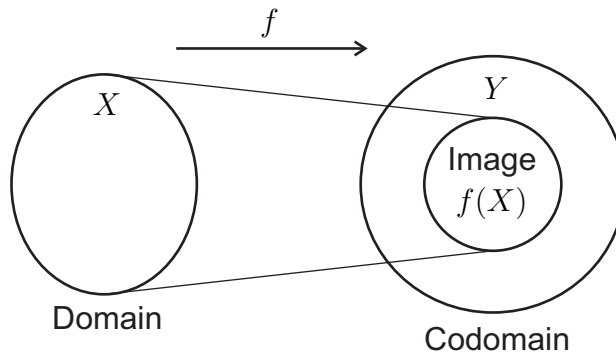


Figure 1: Relations between domain, codomain and the image

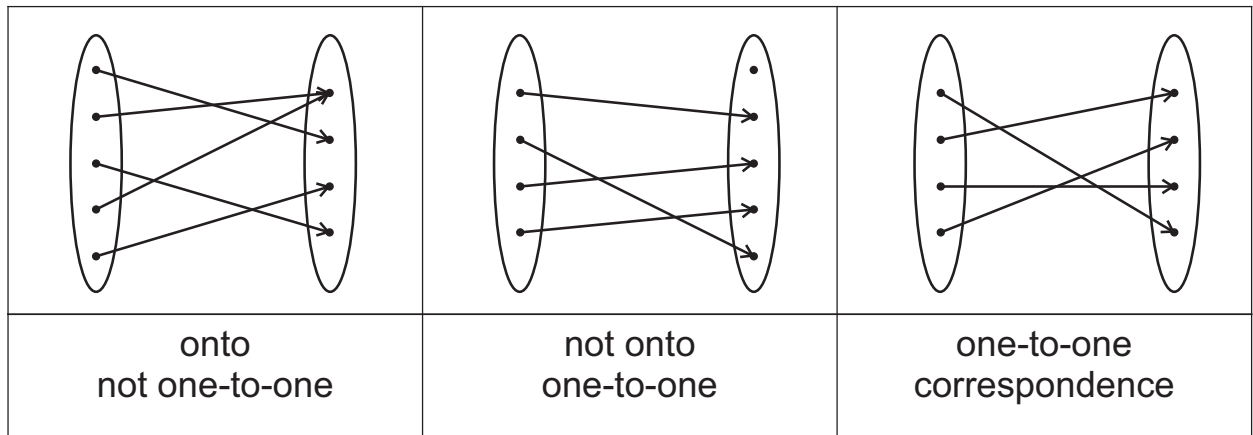


Figure 2: Examples of functions

Example 1.

- $f: \mathbb{R} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ defined by $f(x) = x^2$ is neither one-to-one ($f(-1) = f(1) = 1$) nor onto (there is no $x \in \mathbb{R}$ such that $f(x) = -1$)
- $f: [0, \infty) \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ defined by $f(x) = x^2$ is one-to-one, but not onto (there is no $x \in [0, \infty)$ such that $f(x) = -1$)
- $f: \mathbb{R} \rightarrow [0, \infty)$ defined by $f(x) = x^2$ is onto, but not one-to-one ($f(-1) = f(1) = 1$)
- $f: [0, \infty) \rightarrow [0, \infty)$ defined by $f(x) = x^2$ is both one-to-one and onto, so is a one-to-one correspondence

Definition 4. Suppose $f: X \rightarrow Y$ is a one-to-one correspondence. The function $f^{-1}: Y \rightarrow X$, sending each $y \in Y$ to the unique $x \in X$ such that $f(x) = y$, is called the inverse function to the function f .

Proposition 2. Let $f: X \rightarrow Y$ be a one-to-one correspondence, and let $f^{-1}: Y \rightarrow X$ be its inverse function. Then

- (i) $f^{-1}(f(x)) = x$ for each $x \in X$;
- (ii) $f(f^{-1}(y)) = y$ for each $y \in Y$;
- (iii) f is the inverse function to f^{-1} .

Proposition 3. Let $T: \mathbb{R}^n \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^m$ be a linear transformation defined by an $m \times n$ matrix A . Then

- (i) T is one-to-one $\Leftrightarrow \text{rank}(A) = n$ (number of columns of A);
- (ii) T is onto $\Leftrightarrow \text{rank}(A) = m$ (number of rows of A);
- (iii) T is one-to-one correspondence $\Leftrightarrow m = \text{rank}(A) = n$ (in particular, A is a square matrix).

Proof. (i) T is one-to-one $\Leftrightarrow T(\bar{x}) = \bar{b}$ has at most one solution for each $\bar{b} \in \mathbb{R}^m \Leftrightarrow A\bar{x} = \bar{b}$ has at most one solution for each $\bar{b} \in \mathbb{R}^m \Leftrightarrow \text{rank}A = n$ (the system does not have free variables)

(ii) T is onto $\Leftrightarrow T(\bar{x}) = \bar{b}$ has a solution for each $\bar{b} \in \mathbb{R}^m \Leftrightarrow A\bar{x} = \bar{b}$ has a solution for each $\bar{b} \in \mathbb{R}^m \Leftrightarrow \text{rank}A = m$ (last column of $\text{ref}(A)$ cannot be pivot)

(iii) follows from (i) and (ii). □