Inverses

Suppose $f : A \rightarrow B$. An inverse for f is a function $g : B \rightarrow A$ such that

Suppose $f : A \rightarrow B$. An inverse for f is a function $g : B \rightarrow A$ such that g(f(a)) = a for all $a \in A$, and

```
Suppose f : A \to B. An inverse for f is a function g : B \to A such that g(f(a)) = a for all a \in A, and f(g(b)) = b for all b \in B.
```







If *f* has an inverse, it is unique, so we can talk about the inverse of *f*.



If *f* has an inverse, it is unique, so we can talk about the inverse of *f*. We write the inverse of *f* as f^{-1} .

 $f : \mathbb{R} \to \mathbb{R}$ defined by f(x) = 4 - 3x.

 $f : \mathbb{R} \to \mathbb{R}$ defined by f(x) = 4 - 3x.

Define $g: \mathbb{R} \to \mathbb{R}$ by $g(x) = \frac{4-x}{3}$.

 $f : \mathbb{R} \to \mathbb{R}$ defined by f(x) = 4 - 3x.

Define $g:\mathbb{R} o \mathbb{R}$ by $g(x) = rac{4-x}{3}$. Then

 $f : \mathbb{R} \to \mathbb{R}$ defined by f(x) = 4 - 3x.

Define
$$g:\mathbb{R}\to\mathbb{R}$$
 by $g(x)=rac{4-x}{3}$. Then

$$g(f(x)) = g(4 - 3x) = \frac{4 - (4 - 3x)}{3} = x$$

 $f : \mathbb{R} \to \mathbb{R}$ defined by f(x) = 4 - 3x.

Define
$$g:\mathbb{R} o \mathbb{R}$$
 by $g(x) = rac{4-x}{3}$. Then

$$g(f(x)) = g(4 - 3x) = \frac{4 - (4 - 3x)}{3} = x$$

$$f(g(x)) = f\left(\frac{4-x}{3}\right) = 4 - 3\frac{4-x}{3} = x$$

 $f : \mathbb{R} \to \mathbb{R}$ defined by f(x) = 4 - 3x.

Define
$$g:\mathbb{R} o \mathbb{R}$$
 by $g(x) = rac{4-x}{3}$. Then

$$g(f(x)) = g(4 - 3x) = \frac{4 - (4 - 3x)}{3} = x$$

$$f(g(x)) = f\left(\frac{4-x}{3}\right) = 4 - 3\frac{4-x}{3} = x$$

so g is an inverse for f.

$$f:(0,\infty) \to (0,\infty)$$
 defined by $f(x) = \frac{3}{x}$.

$$f: (0,\infty) \to (0,\infty)$$
 defined by $f(x) = \frac{3}{x}$.

Then *f* is its own inverse:

$$f: (0,\infty) \to (0,\infty)$$
 defined by $f(x) = \frac{3}{x}$.

Then *f* is its own inverse:

$$f(f(x)) = f\left(\frac{3}{x}\right) = \frac{3}{3/x} = x.$$

 $f : \mathbb{N} \to \mathbb{N}$ defined by f(n) = n + 1.

 $f : \mathbb{N} \to \mathbb{N}$ defined by f(n) = n + 1.

Then we could define $g:\mathbb{N} o\mathbb{N}$ by

$$g(n) = \begin{cases} n-1 & \text{if } n > 1 \\ 1 & \text{if } n = 1. \end{cases}$$

 $f : \mathbb{N} \to \mathbb{N}$ defined by f(n) = n + 1.

Then we could define $g:\mathbb{N} o\mathbb{N}$ by

$$g(n) = \begin{cases} n-1 & \text{if } n > 1 \\ 1 & \text{if } n = 1. \end{cases}$$

Then g(f(n)) = n for every $n \in \mathbb{N}$.

 $f : \mathbb{N} \to \mathbb{N}$ defined by f(n) = n + 1.

Then we could define $g:\mathbb{N} o\mathbb{N}$ by

$$g(n) = \begin{cases} n-1 & \text{if } n > 1 \\ 1 & \text{if } n = 1. \end{cases}$$

Then g(f(n)) = n for every $n \in \mathbb{N}$. But *g* is not an inverse for *f*, because $f(g(1)) \neq 1$.

 $f : \mathbb{N} \to \mathbb{N}$ defined by f(n) = n + 1.

Then we could define $g:\mathbb{N} o\mathbb{N}$ by

$$g(n) = \begin{cases} n-1 & \text{if } n > 1 \\ 1 & \text{if } n = 1. \end{cases}$$

Then g(f(n)) = n for every $n \in \mathbb{N}$. But *g* is not an inverse for *f*, because $f(g(1)) \neq 1$.

f has no inverse: there is no $n \in \mathbb{N}$ such that f(n) = 1, so it's impossible to satisfy the condition f(g(1)) = 1.

 $f: \mathbb{R} \to \mathbb{R}$ defined by $f(x) = x^3 - x$.

 $f : \mathbb{R} \to \mathbb{R}$ defined by $f(x) = x^3 - x$.

f has no inverse: if g(f(x)) = x for all x, then

f(0) = f(1)

 $f : \mathbb{R} \to \mathbb{R}$ defined by $f(x) = x^3 - x$.

f has no inverse: if g(f(x)) = x for all x, then

f(0) = f(1)

so

$$g(f(0)) = g(f(1))$$

 $f: \mathbb{R} \to \mathbb{R}$ defined by $f(x) = x^3 - x$.

f has no inverse: if g(f(x)) = x for all x, then

f(0) = f(1)

SO

SO

$$g(f(0)) = g(f(1))$$

 $0 = 1 4$

Theorem: $f : A \rightarrow B$ has an inverse if and only if it is bijective.

Theorem: $f : A \rightarrow B$ has an inverse if and only if it is bijective.

Proof of the 'if' part:

Theorem: $f : A \rightarrow B$ has an inverse if and only if it is bijective.

Proof of the 'if' part: Suppose *f* is injective and surjective.

Theorem: $f : A \rightarrow B$ has an inverse if and only if it is bijective.

Proof of the 'if' part:

Suppose f is injective and surjective. Need to construct an inverse g.

Theorem: $f : A \rightarrow B$ has an inverse if and only if it is bijective.

Proof of the 'if' part:

Suppose f is injective and surjective. Need to construct an inverse g.

Given $b \in B$, there is $a \in A$ such that f(a) = b (because g is surjective). Choose such an a, and let g(b) = a.

Theorem: $f : A \rightarrow B$ has an inverse if and only if it is bijective.

Proof of the 'if' part:

Suppose f is injective and surjective. Need to construct an inverse g.

Given $b \in B$, there is $a \in A$ such that f(a) = b (because g is surjective). Choose such an a, and let g(b) = a.

Then need to check that g is an inverse ...

Suppose $f : A \rightarrow B$ is a function, and $D \subseteq A$.

Suppose $f : A \to B$ is a function, and $D \subseteq A$. The restriction of f to D is the function $g : D \to B$ defined by g(d) = f(d) for all $d \in D$.

Suppose $f : A \to B$ is a function, and $D \subseteq A$. The restriction of f to D is the function $g : D \to B$ defined by g(d) = f(d) for all $d \in D$.

We write $f|_D$ for the restriction of f to D.

Suppose $f : A \to B$ is a function, and $D \subseteq A$. The restriction of f to D is the function $g : D \to B$ defined by g(d) = f(d) for all $d \in D$.

We write $f|_D$ for the restriction of f to D.

For example, let $f : \{1, 2, 3, 4\} \rightarrow \{\text{red}, \text{green}, \text{blue}\}$ be defined by

 $1\mapsto \text{green},\qquad 2\mapsto \text{red},\qquad 3\mapsto \text{red},\qquad 4\mapsto \text{blue}.$

Suppose $f : A \to B$ is a function, and $D \subseteq A$. The restriction of f to D is the function $g : D \to B$ defined by g(d) = f(d) for all $d \in D$.

We write $f|_D$ for the restriction of f to D.

For example, let $f : \{1, 2, 3, 4\} \rightarrow \{\text{red}, \text{green}, \text{blue}\}$ be defined by

 $1\mapsto \text{green},\qquad 2\mapsto \text{red},\qquad 3\mapsto \text{red},\qquad 4\mapsto \text{blue}.$

If we let $D = \{1, 3\}$, then $f|_D : \{1, 3\} \rightarrow \{\text{red}, \text{green}, \text{blue}\}$ is given by

 $1 \mapsto \text{green}, \quad 3 \mapsto \text{red}.$

Suppose $f : A \to B$ is a function, and $D \subseteq A$. The restriction of f to D is the function $g : D \to B$ defined by g(d) = f(d) for all $d \in D$.

We write $f|_D$ for the restriction of f to D.

For example, let $f : \{1, 2, 3, 4\} \rightarrow \{\text{red}, \text{green}, \text{blue}\}$ be defined by

 $1\mapsto \text{green},\qquad 2\mapsto \text{red},\qquad 3\mapsto \text{red},\qquad 4\mapsto \text{blue}.$

If we let $D = \{1, 3\}$, then $f|_D : \{1, 3\} \rightarrow \{\text{red}, \text{green}, \text{blue}\}$ is given by

 $1 \mapsto \text{green}, \quad 3 \mapsto \text{red}.$

(n.b. *f* is surjective but not injective, $f|_D$ is injective but not surjective.)

Suppose $f : A \rightarrow B$ and $g : B \rightarrow C$ are functions.

Suppose $f : A \to B$ and $g : B \to C$ are functions. The composition of f and g is the function $h : A \to C$ defined by h(a) = g(f(a)) for all $a \in A$.

Suppose $f : A \to B$ and $g : B \to C$ are functions. The composition of f and g is the function $h : A \to C$ defined by h(a) = g(f(a)) for all $a \in A$.

We write $g \circ f$ for the composition of f and g.

Suppose $f : A \to B$ and $g : B \to C$ are functions. The composition of f and g is the function $h : A \to C$ defined by h(a) = g(f(a)) for all $a \in A$.

We write $g \circ f$ for the composition of f and g.

 $g \circ f$ means "do f then g".

Define

 $f: \mathbb{R} \to [0, \infty)$ by $f(x) = x^2$ $g: [0, \infty) \to \mathbb{R}$ by $g(x) = \sqrt{x}$.

Define

$$f:\mathbb{R} o [0,\infty)$$
 by $f(x)=x^2$
 $g:[0,\infty) o \mathbb{R}$ by $g(x)=\sqrt{x}.$

Then

Define

$$f:\mathbb{R} o [0,\infty)$$
 by $f(x)=x^2$
 $g:[0,\infty) o \mathbb{R}$ by $g(x)=\sqrt{x}.$

Then

$$f \circ g : [0, \infty) \rightarrow [0, \infty)$$
 is given by $x \mapsto x$.

Define

$$f:\mathbb{R} o [0,\infty) ext{ by } f(x)=x^2 \ g:[0,\infty) o \mathbb{R} ext{ by } g(x)=\sqrt{x}.$$

Then

$$f \circ g : [0, \infty) \rightarrow [0, \infty)$$
 is given by $x \mapsto x$.

 $g \circ f : \mathbb{R} \to \mathbb{R}$ is given by $x \mapsto |x|$.