

One-to-One Functions

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- Use WLOG to simplify proofs.

When is a function one-to-one?

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Definition

A function is **one-to-one** if every element in the co-domain has at most one pre-image.

Size Requirements, and Pigeons in Holes

Theorem (Pigeonhole Principle)

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Corollary

Given a function $f : A \rightarrow B$, if $|A| > |B|$, then f is not one-to-one.

What if a function is both onto and one-to-one?

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Definition

A function is called a **bijection** if it is both onto and one-to-one.

Counting One-to-One Functions

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- $f : A \rightarrow B, |A| = k, |B| = n$
- $P(n, k) = \frac{n!}{(n-k)!}$
- If $k = n$, $n!$ permutations (one-to-one functions *and* bijections)

Proving one-to-one

Universal claim:

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Example

$$f : \mathbb{Z} \rightarrow \mathbb{Z}, f(n) = 2n - 1$$

Proving not one-to-one

Existential claim:

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Example

$$h : \mathbb{Z} \rightarrow \mathbb{Z}, h(n) = n^2$$

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- Tool for combining cases in proofs
- Example: Prove $\forall x, y \in \mathbb{R}, |x + y| \leq |x| + |y|$.
- Non-example: Prove that for all $x \in \mathbb{Z}$, $x(x + 1)$ is even.

Recap: Learning Objectives

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