



# STUDY MATERIAL

**VIVEKANANDA COLLEGE**

**THAKURPUKUR**

NAAC ACCREDITED GRADE—'A'

# Mathematics (Honours) Algebra

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# Core Course- II

## Algebra

### Unit-2

#### Relation

Let  $S$  and  $T$  be two non-empty sets. Intuitively a relation  $\rho$  between  $S$  and  $T$  is a rule that associates some or all of the elements of  $S$  and with the elements of  $T$ .

**Definition.** Let  $S$  and  $T$  be two non-empty sets. A binary relation  $\rho$  between  $S$  and  $T$  is a subset of  $S \times T$ .

If the ordered pair  $(s,t) \in \rho$ , then the element  $s$  of the set  $S$  is said to be related to the element  $t$  of the set by the relation  $\rho$ .

If  $(s,t) \in (S \times T) - \rho$ , then  $s$  is said to be not related to  $t$  by the relation  $\rho$ .

#### Examples.

1. Let  $S = \{2,3,4,5\}$ ,  $T = \{11,12,13,14\}$ . A relation  $\rho$  between  $S$  and  $T$  is defined by specifying that an element  $s$  in  $S$  is related to an element  $t$  in  $T$  if  $s$  is a divisor of  $t$ . Then  $\rho = \{(2,12), (2,14), (3,12), (4,12)\}$ .

$(2,11) \in (S \times T)$  but  $(2,11)$  does not belong to  $\rho$ .

**Definition.** Let  $\rho$  be a relation between the sets  $A$  and  $B$ . The inverse of the relation  $\rho$ , denoted by  $\rho^{-1}$ , is a relation between the sets  $B$  and  $A$  and is defined by  $\rho^{-1} = \{(b, a) : (a, b) \in \rho\}$ .

#### Equivalence relation.

Let  $S$  be a nonempty set and  $\rho$  be a binary relation on  $S$ .

The relation  $\rho$  is said to be reflexive if  $(a,a) \in \rho$  for all  $a$  in  $S$ , i.e,  $a\rho a$  holds for all in  $S$ .

The relation  $\rho$  is said to be symmetric if for any two elements  $a, b$  in  $S$ ,  $(a,b) \in \rho \Rightarrow (b,a) \in \rho$ , i.e,  $a\rho b \Rightarrow b\rho a$ . The relation  $\rho$  is said to be transitive if for any three elements  $a, b, c$  in  $S$ ,  $(a,b) \in \rho$  and  $(b,c) \in \rho \Rightarrow (a,c) \in \rho$ , i.e,  $a\rho b$  and  $b\rho c \Rightarrow a\rho c$ .

The relation  $\rho$  on  $S$  is said to be an equivalence relation on  $S$  if  $\rho$  is reflexive, symmetric and transitive.

**Example1.**

A relation  $\rho$  is defined on the set  $Z$  by “ $a\rho b$  if and only if  $a-b$  is divisible by 5” for  $a, b \in Z$ . Examine if  $\rho$  is an equivalence on  $Z$ .

- (i) Let  $a \in Z$ . Then  $a-a$  is divisible by 5. Therefore  $a\rho a$  holds for all  $a$  in  $Z$ . and  $\rho$  is reflexive.
- (ii) Let  $a, b \in Z$  and  $a\rho b$  hold. Then  $a-b$  is divisible by 5 and therefore  $b-a$  is divisible by 5. Thus  $a\rho b \Rightarrow b\rho a$  and therefore  $\rho$  is symmetric.
- (iii) Let  $a, b, c \in Z$  and  $a\rho b, b\rho c$  both hold. Then  $a-b$  and  $b-c$  are both divisible by 5. Therefore  $a-c=(a-b)+(b-c)$  is divisible by 5. Thus  $a\rho b$  and  $b\rho c \Rightarrow a\rho c$  and therefore  $\rho$  is transitive. Since  $\rho$  is reflexive, symmetric and transitive,  $\rho$  is an equivalence relation.

Remark. This relation  $\rho$  is said to be the relation of congruence (mod 5), and is expressed as ‘ $a \equiv b \pmod{5}$ ’.

**Definition**

Let  $\rho$  be an equivalence relation on a set  $S$ . Let  $a \in S$ . Let  $cl(a)$  be a subset of  $S$  defined by  $cl(a)=\{x \in S : x\rho a\}$ .

$cl(a)$  is a non-empty subset of  $S$  since  $a \in cl(a)$ .  $cl(a)$  is said to be the  $\rho$ -equivalence class of  $a$  and each element of  $cl(a)$  is said to be  $\rho$ -equivalent to  $a$ .

**Theorem 1.** Let  $\rho$  be an equivalence relation on a set  $S$  and  $a, b \in S$ . Then  $cl(a)=cl(b)$  if and only if  $a\rho b$ .

Proof. Let  $cl(a)=cl(b)$  and let  $x \in cl(a)$ . Then  $x \in cl(b)$  also.

$x\rho a$  and  $x\rho b \Rightarrow a\rho x$  and  $x\rho b$ , since  $\rho$  is symmetric.

$\Rightarrow a\rho b$ , since  $\rho$  is transitive.

Therefore  $cl(a)=cl(b) \Rightarrow a\rho b$ .

Conversely, let  $a\rho b$ . Let  $x \in cl(a)$ . Then  $x\rho a$  holds.

$x \in cl(a)$  and  $a\rho b \Rightarrow x\rho a$  and  $a\rho b$

$\Rightarrow x\rho b$ , since  $\rho$  is transitive.

$\Rightarrow x \in cl(b)$ . This proves that  $cl(a) \subset cl(b)$ . Similarly  $cl(b) \subset cl(a)$ . It follows that  $cl(a)=cl(b)$ . Thus  $a\rho b \Rightarrow cl(a)=cl(b)$  and this proves the theorem.

**Theorem 2.** Let  $\rho$  be an equivalence relation on a set  $S$  and  $a, b \in S$ . If  $a\not\rho b$  then  $cl(a)$  and  $cl(b)$  are disjoint.

Proof. If possible, let  $cl(a) \cap cl(b) \neq \emptyset$  and  $x \in cl(a) \cap cl(b)$ .  $x \in cl(a) \Rightarrow x\rho a$ ,  $x \in cl(b) \Rightarrow x\rho b$ .

$x\rho a$  and  $x\rho b \Rightarrow a\rho x$  and  $x\rho b$ , since  $\rho$  is symmetric.

$\Rightarrow apb$ , since  $\rho$  is transitive. This is a contradiction. Therefore  $cl(a) \cap cl(b) = \emptyset$ .

**Theorem 3.** Let  $\rho$  be an equivalence relation on a set  $S$  and  $a, b \in S$ . Then the classes  $cl(a)$  and  $cl(b)$  are either equal or disjoint.

Proof. Since  $a, b \in S$ ,  $(a,b) \in S \times S$ . Since  $\rho$  is a binary relation on  $S$ , either  $(a,b) \in \rho$  or  $(a,b) \notin \rho$ .

Let  $(a,b) \in \rho$ . Then  $apb$  holds. We have  $cl(a) = cl(b)$ , by Theorem 1.

Let  $(a,b) \notin \rho$ . Then  $cl(a)$  and  $cl(b)$  are disjoint, by Theorem 2. Consequently, either  $cl(a) = cl(b)$  or  $cl(a) \cap cl(b) = \emptyset$ .

### Partition of a set.

Let  $S$  be a non-empty set. A family of non-empty subsets  $\{S_\alpha : \alpha \in I\}$ ,  $I$  being the index set, is said to form a partition of  $S$  if (i)  $\cup S_\alpha = S$ ,  $\alpha \in I$  and (ii)  $S_\alpha \cap S_\beta = \emptyset$  for  $\alpha, \beta \in I$  and  $\alpha \neq \beta$ .

If  $\rho$  be an equivalence relation on a set  $S$  then the family of distinct  $\rho$ -equivalence classes is such that

- (i) each class in the family is non-empty,
- (ii) the union of the family of classes is the set  $S$  and
- (iii) the classes are pairwise disjoint.

Therefore the distinct  $\rho$ -equivalence classes form a partition of the set  $S$ .

### Example.

Find the equivalence classes determined by the equivalence relation  $\rho$  on  $Z$  defined by “ $apb$  if and only if  $a-b$  is divisible by 5” for  $a, b \in Z$ .

There are five distinct equivalence classes. They are

$$Cl(0) = \{5n : n \text{ is an integer}\},$$

$$Cl(1) = \{5n+1 : n \text{ is an integer}\},$$

$$Cl(2) = \{5n+2 : n \text{ is an integer}\},$$

$$Cl(3) = \{5n+3 : n \text{ is an integer}\},$$

$$Cl(4) = \{5n+4 : n \text{ is an integer}\}.$$

The classes  $cl(0)$ ,  $cl(1)$ ,  $cl(2)$ ,  $cl(3)$ ,  $cl(4)$  are called the classes of residues of  $Z(\text{mod } 5)$ .

**Theorem 4.** An equivalence relation  $\rho$  on a set  $S$  determines a partition of  $S$ . Conversely, each partition of  $S$  yields an equivalence relation on  $S$ .

Proof. Each element of  $S$  belongs to a  $\rho$ -equivalence class, because if  $p \in S$  then  $p \in \text{cl}(p)$ . If  $a, b$  be elements of  $S$  then the  $\rho$ -equivalence classes  $\text{cl}(a)$  and  $\text{cl}(b)$  are either disjoint or equal.

If we consider the family of distinct  $\rho$ -equivalence classes we observe that (i) each class in the family is non-empty, (ii) the union of the family of classes is the set  $S$  and (iii) the classes are pairwise disjoint.

Therefore the family of distinct  $\rho$ -equivalence classes form a partition of the set  $S$ .

Conversely, let there be a partition  $P$  of the set  $S$  into subsets.

Let us define a relation  $\rho$  on the set  $S$  to mean that  $a\rho b$  holds if  $a$  and  $b$  belong to one and the same subset of the partition  $P$ .

Let  $a \in S$ . Then  $a\rho a$  holds since  $a$  and  $a$  belong to one and the same subset of the partition  $P$ . Therefore  $\rho$  is reflexive.

Let  $a, b \in S$  and  $a\rho b$ . Then  $a$  and  $b$  belong to one and the same subset of the partition  $P$  and therefore  $b$  and  $a$  belong to the same subset of  $P$ . That is,  $a\rho b \Rightarrow b\rho a$ . Therefore  $\rho$  is symmetric.

Let  $a, b, c \in S$  and  $a\rho b, b\rho c$  both hold. Then  $a$  and  $b$  belong to one and the same subset, say  $S_1$  of  $P$ ;  $b$  and  $c$  belong to one and the same subset, say  $S_2$  of  $P$ .

Now  $S_1$  and  $S_2$  being subsets of a partition, must be either identical or disjoint. Since  $b \in S_1 \cap S_2$ , it follows that  $S_1 = S_2$  and consequently,  $a$  and  $c$  belong to one and the same subset of  $P$ . That is,  $a\rho b$  and  $b\rho c \Rightarrow a\rho c$ . Therefore  $\rho$  is transitive.

Thus  $\rho$  is a equivalence relation on  $S$ . This completes the proof.

**Example 1.** A relation  $R$  is defined on the set  $A = \{1,2,3,4\}$  by  $R = \{(1,1),(1,3),(2,2),(2,4),(3,1),(4,2),(4,4)\}$ . Show that  $R$  is an equivalence relation. Describe the  $R$ -equivalence classes.

(i)  $A = \{(1,1),(2,2),(3,3),(4,4)\}$ .  $A$  is a subset of  $R$ . So  $R$  is reflexive.

(ii)  $R^{-1} = \{(1,1),(3,1),(2,2),(4,2),(1,3),(2,4),(4,4)\}$ .  $R^{-1} = R$ . So  $R$  is symmetric.

(iii)  $R \circ R = \{(1,1),(1,3),(2,2),(2,4),(3,1),(3,3),(4,2),(4,4)\}$ .  $R \circ R$  is a subset of  $R$ . So  $R$  is transitive.

(iv) Consequently,  $R$  is an equivalence relation.

$$\text{cl}(1) = \{x \in S : (1,x) \in R\} = \{1,3\}.$$

$$\text{cl}(2) = \{x \in S : (2,x) \in R\} = \{2,4\}.$$

$$\text{cl}(3) = \{x \in S : (3,x) \in R\} = \{3,1\}.$$

$$\text{cl}(4) = \{x \in S : (4,x) \in R\} = \{4,2\}. \text{ The } R\text{-equivalence classes are } \text{cl}(1)=\text{cl}(3)=\{1,3\}, \text{cl}(2)=\text{cl}(4)=\{2,4\}.$$

### Partial order relation

**Definition.** Let  $S$  be a non-empty set. A relation  $\rho$  on the set  $S$  is said to be antisymmetric if  $a\rho b$  and  $b\rho a \Rightarrow a=b$  for  $a, b \in S$ .

**Example 1.** The relation  $\rho$  defined on  $\mathbb{R}$  by “ $x\rho y$  if and only if  $x \leq y$ ” for  $x, y \in \mathbb{R}$  is antisymmetric.

**Example 2.** Let  $X$  be a non-empty set. The relation  $\rho$  defined on  $P(X)$  by “ $A\rho B$  if and only if  $A$  is a subset of  $B$ ” for  $A, B \in P(X)$  is antisymmetric.

**Definition.** Let  $S$  be a non-empty set. A relation  $\rho$  on  $S$  is said to be a partial order relation if  $\rho$  is reflexive, antisymmetric and transitive.

A relation of partial order is often denoted by ‘ $\leq$ ’, even if it is not “less than”.

**Poset.** A nonempty set  $S$  together with a relation of partial order  $\leq$  on  $S$  is called a Post (Partially Ordered set) and is denoted by  $(S, \leq)$ .

**Examples.**

$(\mathbb{R}, \leq)$  is a poset where  $x \leq y$  means “ $x$  is less than or equal to  $y$ ” for  $x, y \in \mathbb{R}$ .

Let  $X$  be a non-empty set and  $P(X)$  be the power set of  $X$ .  $(P(X), \leq)$  is a poset where  $A \leq B$  means “ $A$  is a subset of  $B$ ”.

**Linear order relation.**

If  $R$  is a partial ordering of non-empty set  $A$ , then we usually write  $a \leq b$  in place  $(a, b) \in R$ .

Elements  $a, b \in A$  are said to be comparable, provided  $a \leq b$  or  $b \leq a$ . However, two given elements of a partially ordered set need not be comparable. A partial ordering of a set  $A$  such that any two elements are comparable is called linear ordering.

**Example.** Let  $A$  be the power set of  $\{1, 2, 3, 4, 5\}$ . Define  $C \leq D$  if and only if  $C \subset D$ . Then  $A$  is partially ordered, but not linearly ordered (for example,  $\{1, 2\}$  and  $\{3, 4\}$  are not comparable).

**Exercise 1**

1. Determine the nature of the following relations  $\rho$  on the set  $Z$ .

- (i)  $a\rho b$  if and only if  $a, b \in Z$  and  $a^2 + b^2$  is a multiple of 2.
- (ii)  $a\rho b$  if and only if  $a, b \in Z$  and  $2a+3b$  is divisible by 5.
- (iii)  $a\rho b$  if and only if  $a, b \in Z$  and  $a-b < 3$ .

**Mapping**

**Definition.** Let  $A$  and  $B$  be two non-empty sets. A mapping  $f$  from  $A$  to  $B$  is a rule that assigns to each element  $x$  of  $A$  a definite element  $y$  in  $B$ .

A is said to be the domain of  $f$  and  $B$  is said to be the co-domain  $B$  is displayed symbolically by  $f : A \rightarrow B$ .

A mapping  $f$  is also called a function, or a transformation, or a map or an operator.

Let  $f : A \rightarrow B$  be a mapping and  $x \in A$ . Then the unique element  $y$  of  $B$  that corresponds to  $x$  by the mapping  $f$  is called the  $f$ -image of  $x$  and is denoted by  $f(x)$ . If  $f(x)=y$ , we often say that 'f maps  $x$  to  $y$ '.

The set of all  $f$ -images, i.e,  $\{f(x) : x \in A\}$  is denoted by  $f(A)$  and is said to be the image set of  $f$  (denoted by  $\text{im } f$ ) or the range set of  $f$ .

**Example 1.** Let  $f = \{(x,y) \in \mathbb{R} \times \mathbb{R} : y=1/x\}$ . Let us examine if  $f$  is a mapping from  $\mathbb{R}$  to  $\mathbb{R}$ . The element 0 in the domain set  $\mathbb{R}$  is not related to an element of the co-domain set. Therefore  $f$  is not mapping from  $\mathbb{R}$  to  $\mathbb{R}$ .

Let  $S = \mathbb{R} - \{0\}$ . Then  $f = \{(x,y) \in S \times \mathbb{R} : y=1/x\}$  is a mapping from  $S$  to  $\mathbb{R}$ . It is written in the form " $f : S \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  is defined by  $f(x) = 1/x, x \in S$ ".

#### Definitions.

1. A mapping  $f : A \rightarrow B$  is said to be into mapping if  $f(A)$  is a proper subset of  $B$ .
2. A mapping  $f : A \rightarrow B$  is said to be an onto mapping if  $f(A) = B$ .

#### Examples.

3. Let  $f : \mathbb{Z} \rightarrow \mathbb{Z}$  be defined by  $f(x) = 2x, x \in \mathbb{Z}$ . Then  $f$  is an into mapping because  $f(\mathbb{Z})$  is a proper subset of the co-domain set  $\mathbb{Z}$ .
4. Let  $f : \mathbb{Z} \rightarrow \mathbb{Z}$  be defined by  $f(x) = |x|, x \in \mathbb{Z}$ . Then  $f$  is an into mapping because  $f(\mathbb{Z})$  is a proper subset of the co-domain set  $\mathbb{Z}$ .
5. Let  $f : \mathbb{Z} \rightarrow \mathbb{Z}$  be defined by  $f(x) = x+1, x \in \mathbb{Z}$ . Then every element  $y$  in the co-domain set  $\mathbb{Z}$  has pre-image  $y-1$  in the domain set  $\mathbb{Z}$ . Therefore  $f(\mathbb{Z}) = \mathbb{Z}$  and  $f$  is onto mapping.

#### Definitions.

6. A mapping  $f : A \rightarrow B$  is said to be injective (or one-to-one ) if for each pair of distinct elements of  $A$ , their  $f$ -images are distinct.
7. A mapping  $f : A \rightarrow B$  is said to be surjective (or onto) if  $f(A) = B$ .
8. A mapping  $f : A \rightarrow B$  is said to be bijective if  $f$  is both injective and surjective.

Thus  $f : A \rightarrow B$  is injective if  $x_1 \neq x_2$  in  $A$  implies  $f(x_1) \neq f(x_2)$  in  $B$ . In this case , each element of  $B$  has at most one pre-image.

If  $f$  is surjective, each element of  $B$  has at least one pre-image.

If  $f$  is bijective, each element of  $B$  has exactly one pre-image.

9. A mapping  $f : A \rightarrow B$  is said to be a constant mapping if  $f$  maps each element of  $A$  to one and the same element of  $B$ , i.e,  $f(A)$  is a singleton set.

For example, the mapping  $f : \mathbb{R} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  defined by  $f(x) = 2, x \in \mathbb{R}$  is a constant mapping.

10. A mapping  $f : A \rightarrow A$  is said to be the identity mapping on  $A$  if  $f(x) = x, x \in A$ . The identity mapping on  $A$  is denoted by  $i_A$ .

11. Let  $f : \mathbb{R} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  be defined by  $f(x) = \sin x, x \in \mathbb{R}$ . This mapping is neither surjective nor injective. If we reduce the co-domain to  $T = \{x \in \mathbb{R} : -1 \leq x \leq 1\}$ , then the mapping  $f : \mathbb{R} \rightarrow T$  defined by  $f(x) = \sin x, x \in \mathbb{R}$  is surjective, but not injective.

12. Let  $f : \mathbb{R} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  be defined by  $f(x) = 3x+1, x \in \mathbb{R}$ . Examine if  $f$  is (i) injective, (ii) surjective.

(i) Let us take two distinct elements  $x_1, x_2$  in  $\mathbb{R}$ , the domain of  $f$ .  $f(x_1) = 3x_1+1, f(x_2) = 3x_2+1$ .

$f(x_1) - f(x_2) = 3(x_1 - x_2) \neq 0$ , since  $x_1 \neq x_2$ . Since  $x_1 \neq x_2 \Rightarrow f(x_1) \neq f(x_2)$ ,  $f$  is injective.

(ii) Let us take an arbitrary element  $y$  in the set  $\mathbb{R}$ , the co-domain of  $f$ ; and let us examine if  $y$  has a pre-image  $x$  in the domain of  $f$ . Then  $f(x) = y$  and therefore  $3x+1 = y$  or,  $x = \frac{y-1}{3}$ . Since  $y \in \mathbb{R}, \frac{y-1}{3} \in \mathbb{R}$ . Therefore  $y$  has a pre-image  $\frac{y-1}{3}$  in the domain of  $f$ . Since  $y$  is arbitrary, each element in the co-domain of  $f$  has a pre-image under  $f$ . Therefore  $f$  is surjective.

13. Let  $f : \mathbb{R} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  be defined by  $f(x) = x^2, x \in \mathbb{R}$ . Examine if  $f$  is (i) injective, (ii) surjective.

(i)  $f(2) = 4, f(-2) = 4$ .  $f$  is not injective, since two distinct elements 2 and -2 in the domain of  $f$  have the same image.

(ii)  $f$  is not surjective, since -1 in the co-domain of  $f$  has no pre-image in the domain of  $f$ .

### Composition of mappings.

Let  $f : A \rightarrow B$  and  $g : C \rightarrow D$  be two mappings such that  $f(A)$  is a subset of  $C$ .

Let  $x \in A$ . The  $f$  maps  $x$  to an element  $y$  in  $f(A) \subset C$  and since  $y \in f(A) \subset C, g$  maps  $y$  to an element  $z$  in  $D$ . We conceive of a mapping  $h : A \rightarrow D$  defined by  $h(x) = g(f(x)), x \in A$ . The mapping  $h : A \rightarrow D$  is said to be the composite of  $f$  and  $g$  and is denoted by  $g \circ f$ .

**Example 14.** Let  $f : \mathbb{Z} \rightarrow \mathbb{Q}$  and  $g : \mathbb{Q} \rightarrow \mathbb{Q}$  be defined by  $f(x) = \frac{1}{2}x, x \in \mathbb{Z}$  and  $g(x) = x^2, x \in \mathbb{Q}$ .

$g \circ f : \mathbb{Z} \rightarrow \mathbb{Q}$  is defined by  $(g \circ f)(x) = g(\frac{1}{2}x) = \frac{1}{4}x^2, x \in \mathbb{Z}$ .

**Theorem 5.** Let  $f : A \rightarrow B, g : B \rightarrow C, h : C \rightarrow D$  be three mappings. Then  $h \circ (g \circ f) = (h \circ g) \circ f$ .

Proof. Here the composite mappings  $g \circ f, h \circ g$  are defined because the range  $f \subset \text{dom } g$  and the range  $g \subset \text{dom } h$ . The composite mappings  $h \circ (g \circ f), (h \circ g) \circ f$  are defined because the range  $g \circ f \subset \text{dom } h$  and the range  $f \subset \text{dom } h \circ g$ .

We shall now prove the equality of the mappings  $h \circ (g \circ f) : A \rightarrow D$  and  $(h \circ g) \circ f : A \rightarrow D$ .

Let  $x$  be an element of  $A$  and let  $f(x) = y$ ,  $g(y) = z$ ,  $h(z) = w$ . Then  $(g \circ f)(x) = g(y) = z$ ,  $(h \circ g)(y) = h(z) = w$ .

$h \circ (g \circ f) : A \rightarrow D$  is defined by  $h \circ (g \circ f)(x) = h(z) = w$ ,  $x \in A$ ,

$(h \circ g) \circ f : A \rightarrow D$  is defined by  $(h \circ g) \circ f(x) = (h \circ g)(y) = w$ ,  $x \in A$ .

Since  $h \circ (g \circ f)(x) = (h \circ g) \circ f(x)$  for all  $x \in A$ , we have  $h \circ (g \circ f) = (h \circ g) \circ f$ .

**Theorem 6.** If  $f : A \rightarrow B$  and  $g : B \rightarrow C$  be both injective mappings then the composite mappings  $g \circ f : A \rightarrow C$  is injective.

Proof. Let  $x_1, x_2$  be two distinct elements of  $A$ .

Let  $f(x_1) = y_1$ ,  $f(x_2) = y_2$ .

Since  $f$  is injective,  $y_1$  and  $y_2$  are distinct elements of  $B$ .

Let  $g(x_1) = z_1$ ,  $g(x_2) = z_2$ .

Since  $g$  is injective,  $z_1$  and  $z_2$  are distinct elements of  $C$ .

Now  $(g \circ f)(x_1) = g(y_1) = z_1$ ,  $(g \circ f)(x_2) = g(y_2) = z_2$  and  $x_1 \neq x_2$  in  $A \Rightarrow z_1 \neq z_2$  in  $C$ . Therefore  $g \circ f$  is injective.

**Remark.** The converse of the theorem is not true. However if  $g \circ f$  is injective then  $f$  is injective (while  $g$  need not be).

For example, let  $f : \mathbb{R} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  be defined by  $f(x) = e^x$ ,  $x \in \mathbb{R}$  and  $g : \mathbb{R} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  be defined by  $g(x) = x^2$ ,  $x \in \mathbb{R}$ .

Here  $g \circ f : \mathbb{R} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  is defined by  $g \circ f(x) = e^{2x}$ ,  $x \in \mathbb{R}$ .  $g \circ f$  is injective but  $g$  is not injective.

**Theorem 7.** If  $f : A \rightarrow B$  and  $g : B \rightarrow C$  be two mappings such that  $g \circ f : A \rightarrow C$  is injective then  $f$  is injective.

Proof. Let  $f(x_1) = f(x_2)$  for some  $x_1, x_2$  in  $A$ . Then  $g(f(x_1)) = g(f(x_2))$ , since  $g$  is a mapping. So  $(g \circ f)(x_1) = (g \circ f)(x_2)$ . Because  $g \circ f$  is injective,  $(g \circ f)(x_1) = (g \circ f)(x_2)$  implies  $x_1 = x_2$  and therefore  $f$  is injective.

**Theorem 8.** If  $f : A \rightarrow B$  and  $g : B \rightarrow C$  be both surjective mappings then the composite mappings  $g \circ f : A \rightarrow C$  is surjective.

Proof. Let  $z$  be an element of  $C$ .

Since  $g$  is surjective, there is at least one pre-image of  $z$  in  $B$ . Let one such be  $y$ . Then  $y \in B$  and  $g(y) = z$ . Since  $f$  is surjective and  $y \in B$ , there is at least one pre-image of  $y$  in  $A$ . Let one such be  $x$ . Then  $x \in A$  and  $f(x) = y$ .

$(g \circ f)(x) = g(y) = z$ . This implies that  $z$  has a pre-image  $x$  in  $A$  under the mapping  $g \circ f$ . Since  $z$  is arbitrary,  $g \circ f$  is surjective.

**Remark.** The converse of the theorem is not true. However if  $g \circ f$  is surjective then  $g$  is surjective (while  $f$  need not be).

For example, let  $f : Z \rightarrow Z$  be defined by  $f(x) = 2x$ ,  $x \in Z$  and  $g : Z \rightarrow Z$  be defined by  $g(x) = \lfloor \frac{x}{2} \rfloor$ ,  $x \in Z$ .  $\lfloor x \rfloor$  denotes the greatest integer  $\leq x$ . Then  $g \circ f : Z \rightarrow Z$  is defined by  $(g \circ f)(x) = x$ ,  $x \in Z$ .

$g \circ f = i_Z$  and is, therefore, surjective; but  $f$  is not surjective.

**Theorem 9.** If  $f : A \rightarrow B$  and  $g : B \rightarrow C$  be two mappings such that  $g \circ f : A \rightarrow C$  is surjective then  $g$  is surjective.

Proof. Let  $z$  be an element of  $C$ .

Since  $g \circ f$  is surjective there is an element  $x$  in  $A$  such that  $(g \circ f)(x) = z$ . Therefore  $g(f(x)) = z$ .

This shows that  $z$  has a pre-image  $f(x)$  in  $B$  under the mapping  $g$ . Since  $z$  is arbitrary,  $g$  is surjective.

**Theorem 10.** If  $f : A \rightarrow B$  and  $g : B \rightarrow C$  be both bijective mappings then the composite mappings  $g \circ f : A \rightarrow C$  is bijective.

This is combination of the Theorems 6 and 8.

### Inverse mapping.

**Definition.** Let  $f : A \rightarrow B$  be a mapping. If there exists a mapping  $g : B \rightarrow A$  such that  $g \circ f = i_A$  then  $g$  is said to be a left inverse (invertible) of  $f$ . If there exists a mapping  $h : B \rightarrow A$  such that  $f \circ h = i_B$  then  $h$  is said to be a right inverse (invertible) of  $f$ .

**Definition.** Let  $f : A \rightarrow B$  be a mapping.  $f$  is said to be invertible if there exists a mapping  $g : B \rightarrow A$  such that  $g \circ f = i_A$  and  $f \circ g = i_B$ . In this case  $g$  is said to be an inverse of  $f$ .

**Theorem 10.** If  $f : A \rightarrow B$  is invertible then its inverse is unique.

Proof. Since  $f : A \rightarrow B$  is invertible, there exists a mapping  $g : B \rightarrow A$  such that  $g \circ f = i_A$  and  $f \circ g = i_B$ .

If possible, let there exists another mapping  $h : B \rightarrow A$  such that  $h \circ f = i_A$  and  $f \circ h = i_B$ .

$h \circ (f \circ g) = (h \circ f) \circ g$ , since composition of mappings is associative. Therefore  $h \circ i_B = i_A \circ g$ , i.e,  $h = g$ . This proves that  $g$  is unique.

### Examples.

1. Let  $f : R \rightarrow Z$  be defined by  $f(x) = |x|$ ,  $x \in R$  and  $g : Z \rightarrow R$  be denoted by  $g(x) = x + \frac{1}{2}$ ,  $x \in Z$ .

$f \circ g : Z \rightarrow Z$  is defined by  $(f \circ g)(x) = f(x + \frac{1}{2}) = [x + \frac{1}{2}] = x, x \in Z$ .

$g \circ f : R \rightarrow R$  is defined by  $(g \circ f)(x) = g[x] = [x] + \frac{1}{2} = x, x \in R$ .

Here  $f \circ g = i_Z, g \circ f \neq i_R$ .

Therefore  $g$  is a right inverse of  $f$ , but not a left inverse of  $f$ .

Let  $h : Z \rightarrow R$  be defined by  $h(x) = x + \frac{1}{3}, x \in Z$ . Then  $f \circ h = i_Z$  and therefore  $h$  is a right inverse of  $f$ .

2. Let  $f : R \rightarrow R$  be defined by  $f(x) = 3x, x \in R$  and  $g : R \rightarrow R$  be denoted by  $g(x) = \frac{x}{3}, x \in R$ .

$g \circ f : R \rightarrow R$  is defined by  $(g \circ f)(x) = g(3x) = x, x \in R$ .

$f \circ g : R \rightarrow R$  is defined by  $(f \circ g)(x) = f(\frac{x}{3}) = x, x \in R$ .

Here  $f \circ g = i_R = g \circ f$ . Therefore  $g$  is the inverse of  $f$ .

**Theorem 11.** Let  $f : A \rightarrow B$  be a mapping. Then the following assertions hold.

- (i)  $f$  is injective if and only if  $f$  is left invertible.
- (ii)  $f$  is surjective if and only if  $f$  is right invertible.
- (iii)  $f$  is bijective if and only if  $f$  is invertible.

Proof. (i) Suppose  $f$  is left invertible. Then there exists  $g : B \rightarrow A$  such that  $g \circ f = i_A$ . Let  $x, y \in A$  be such that  $f(x) = f(y)$ . Then  $g(f(x)) = g(f(y))$  or  $(g \circ f)(x) = (g \circ f)(y)$ . Hence,  $i_A(x) = i_A(y)$ , i.e,  $x = y$ . Thus  $f$  is injective.

Conversely, suppose  $f$  is injective. Then for  $y \in B$ , either  $y$  has no pre-image or there exists a unique  $x_y \in A$  such that  $f(x_y) = y$ . Fix  $x \in A$ . Define  $g : B \rightarrow A$  by

$$g(y) = \begin{cases} x & \text{if } y \text{ has no preimage under } f \\ x_y & \text{if } y \text{ has a preimage under } f \text{ and } f(x_y) = y \end{cases}$$

for all  $y \in B$ . By the definition of  $D(g) = B$ . To show that  $g$  is well defined, suppose  $y, \hat{y} \in B$  and  $y = \hat{y}$ . Then either both  $y$  and  $\hat{y}$  have no pre-images or there exists  $x_y, x_{\hat{y}} \in A$  such that  $f(x_y) = y$  and  $f(x_{\hat{y}}) = \hat{y}$ . Suppose both  $y$  and  $\hat{y}$  have no pre-images. Then  $g(y) = x = g(\hat{y})$ . Now suppose there exists unique  $x_y, x_{\hat{y}} \in A$  such that  $f(x_y) = y$  and  $f(x_{\hat{y}}) = \hat{y}$ . Thus,  $g(y) = x_y$  and  $g(\hat{y}) = x_{\hat{y}}$ . Since  $y = \hat{y}$ , we have  $f(x_y) = f(x_{\hat{y}})$ . Since  $f$  is injective  $x_y = x_{\hat{y}}$  and so  $g(y) = g(\hat{y})$ . We have thus shown that  $g$  is well defined and so  $g$  is a mapping. We now show that  $g \circ f = i_A$ . Let  $u \in A$  and suppose  $f(u) = v$  for some  $v \in B$ . Then by the definition of  $g(v) = u$ . Thus,

$$(g \circ f)(u) = g(f(u)) = g(v) = i_A(u). \text{ Hence, } g \circ f = i_A.$$

- (iii) Suppose  $f$  is right invertible. Then there exists  $g : B \rightarrow A$  such  $f \circ g = i_B$ . Let  $y \in B$ . Let  $x = g(y) \in A$ . Now  $y = i_B(y) = (f \circ g)(y) = f(g(y)) = f(x)$ . Hence  $f$  is surjective.

Conversely, suppose  $f$  is surjective. Let  $y \in B$ . Since  $f$  is surjective, there exists  $x \in A$  such that  $f(x) = y$ . Let  $A_y = \{x \in A : f(x) = y\}$ . Then  $A_y \neq \emptyset$ . Choose  $x_y \in A_y$  for all  $y \in B$ . Define  $h : B \rightarrow A$  such that  $h(y) = x_y$  for all  $y \in B$ . Then  $h$  is a mapping. Let  $y \in B$ . Then  $(f \circ h)(y) = f(h(y)) = f(x_y) = y = i_B(y)$ . Hence,  $f \circ h = i_B$  and so  $f$  is right invertible.

- (iv) The result here follows from (i) and (ii).

**Theorem 12.** Let  $A$  be a set and  $f : A \rightarrow A$  be injective. Then  $f^n : A \rightarrow A$  is injective for all integers  $n \geq 1$ .

Proof. Suppose there exists  $n > 1$  such that  $f^n$  is not injective. Then there exists  $x, y \in A$  such that  $x \neq y$  and  $f^n(x) = f^n(y)$ . But then  $f(f^{n-1}(x)) = f(f^{n-1}(y))$  and hence  $f^{n-1}(x) = f^{n-1}(y)$  since  $f$  is injective. Now since  $n$  is the smallest positive integer such that  $f^n$  is not injective,  $f^{n-1}$  is injective. Hence,  $x = y$ , which is a contradiction. Thus,  $f^n$  is injective for all  $n \geq 1$ .

**Theorem 13.** Let  $A$  be a finite set. If  $f : A \rightarrow A$  be injective, then  $f$  is surjective.

Proof. Let  $y \in A$ . Now  $f^n(y) \in A$  for all  $n \geq 1$ . Hence,  $\{y, f(y), f^2(y), \dots\} \subset A$ . Since  $A$  is finite, all elements of the set  $\{y, f(y), f^2(y), \dots\}$  cannot be distinct. Thus, there exist positive integers  $s$  and  $t$  such that  $s > t$  and  $f^s(y) = f^t(y)$ . Then  $f^t(f^{s-t}(y)) = f^t(y)$ . Hence,  $f^{s-t}(y) = y$  since by Theorem 12,  $f^t$  is injective. Let  $x = f^{s-t-1}(y) \in A$ . Then  $f(x) = y$ . Hence,  $f$  is surjective.

### Exercise.

1. Given  $f : X \rightarrow Y$  and  $A, B \subset X$ , prove that

(i)  $f(A \cup B) = f(A) \cup f(B)$ ,

(ii)  $f(A \cap B) \subset f(A) \cap f(B)$ ,

(iii)  $f(A \setminus B) \subset f(A) \setminus f(B)$  if  $f$  is injective.

2. Given  $f : X \rightarrow Y$ . Let  $S \subset Y$ . Define  $f^{-1}(S) = \{x \in X : f(x) \in S\}$ . Let  $A, B \subset Y$ . Prove that

(i)  $f^{-1}(A \cup B) = f^{-1}(A) \cup f^{-1}(B)$ ,

(ii)  $f^{-1}(A \cap B) = f^{-1}(A) \cap f^{-1}(B)$ ,

(iii)  $f^{-1}(A \setminus B) = f^{-1}(A) \setminus f^{-1}(B)$ .

Let  $f : Z \rightarrow Z$  be a mapping defined by  $f(x) = \begin{cases} x & \text{if } x \text{ is even} \\ 2x + 1 & \text{if } x \text{ is odd} \end{cases}$

3. for all  $x \in Z$ . Find a left inverse of  $f$  if one exists.  
 4. Let  $f : Z \rightarrow Z$  be a mapping defined by  $f(x) = x + |x|$  for all  $x \in Z$ . Find a right inverse of  $f$  if one exists.

Let  $X$  and  $Y$  be nonempty sets and  $f : X \rightarrow Y$ . If  $T \subset X$ , then  $f(T)$  denotes the set  $\{ f(x) : x \in T \}$ .  $f(T)$  is called the image set of  $T$  under  $f$ . Prove that  $f$  is injective if and only if  $f(A \cap B) = f(A) \cap f(B)$  for all nonempty sets  $A$  and  $B$  of  $X$ .

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