

Lecture 16 Inverses and bijections (Ch 9.)
(HW Due Thursday)

Last time.

* $f: X \rightarrow Y$ is a bijection.

\Leftrightarrow
 f is surjective and injective.

* $g: Y \rightarrow Z$ then

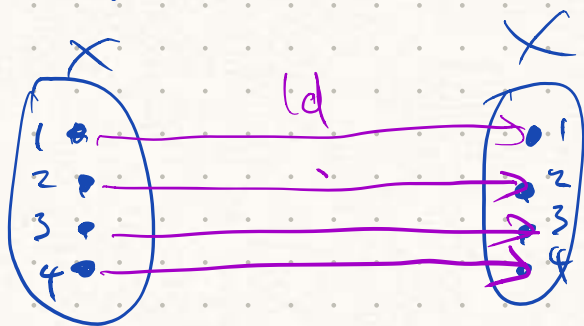
$g \circ f$ is a new function,

$$g \circ f: X \rightarrow Z.$$

* $\text{Id}_X: X \rightarrow X$ is the function

$$\text{Id}_X(a) = a \quad \text{for } a \in X$$

Picture:



* $g: X \rightarrow X$ is a left inverse to

$f: X \rightarrow Y$ if

$$g \circ f = \text{Id}_X.$$

i.e.

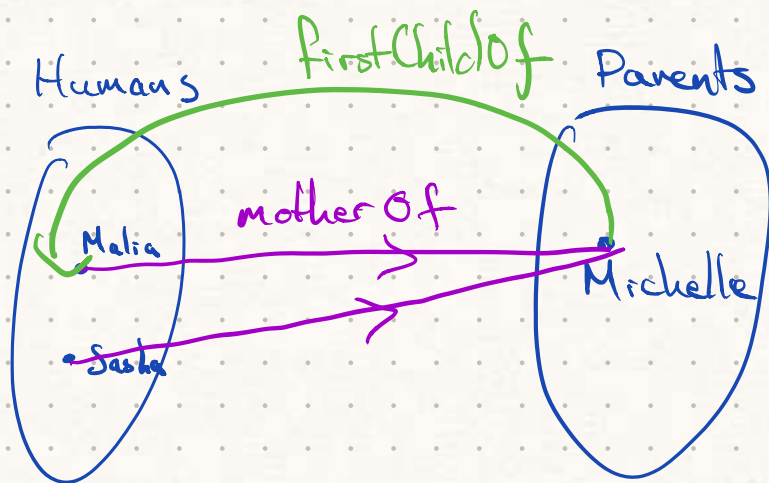
For all $a \in X$
 $g(f(a)) = a$

Example firstChildOf: Parent \rightarrow Human

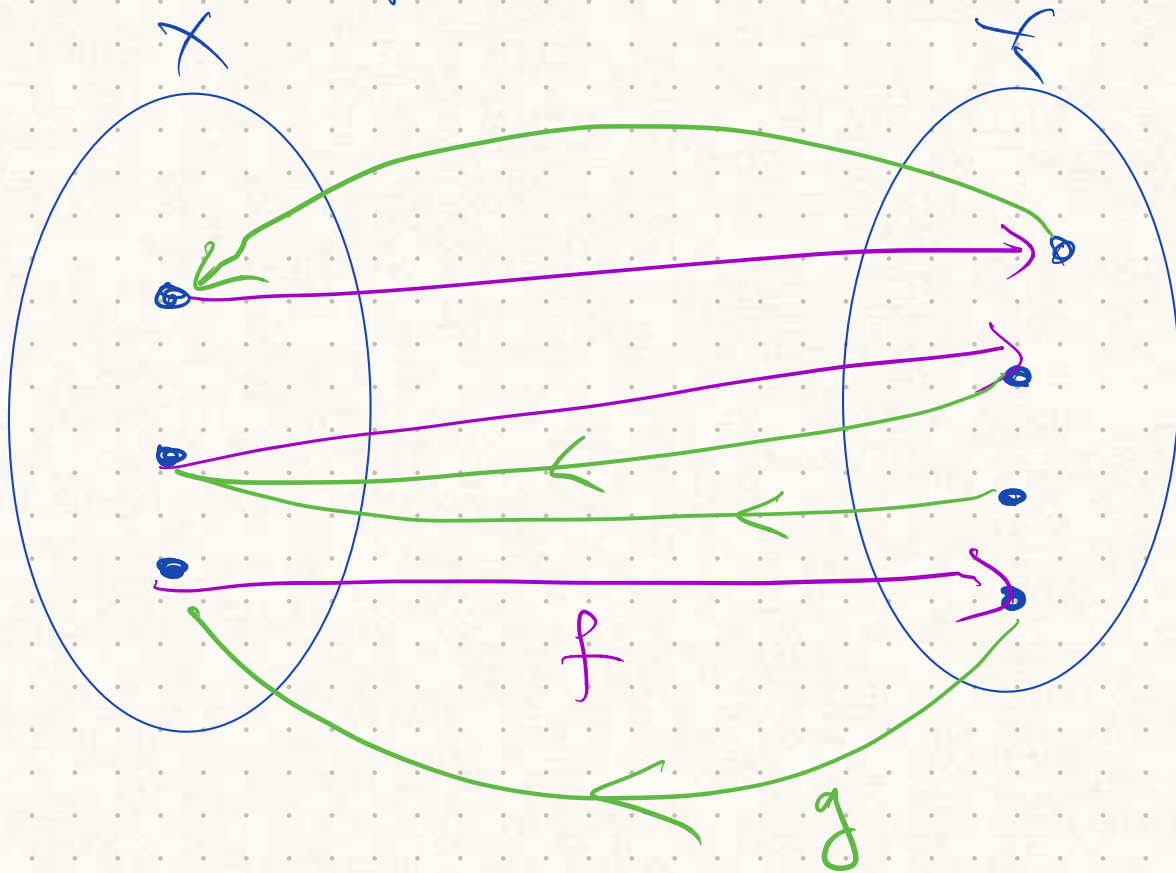
motherOf: Humans \rightarrow Parents

firstChildOf is not left inverse
of motherOf, because

firstChildOf (motherOf (Sasha))
= firstChildOf (Michelle) = Malia



Pictorial interpretation of left inverse:

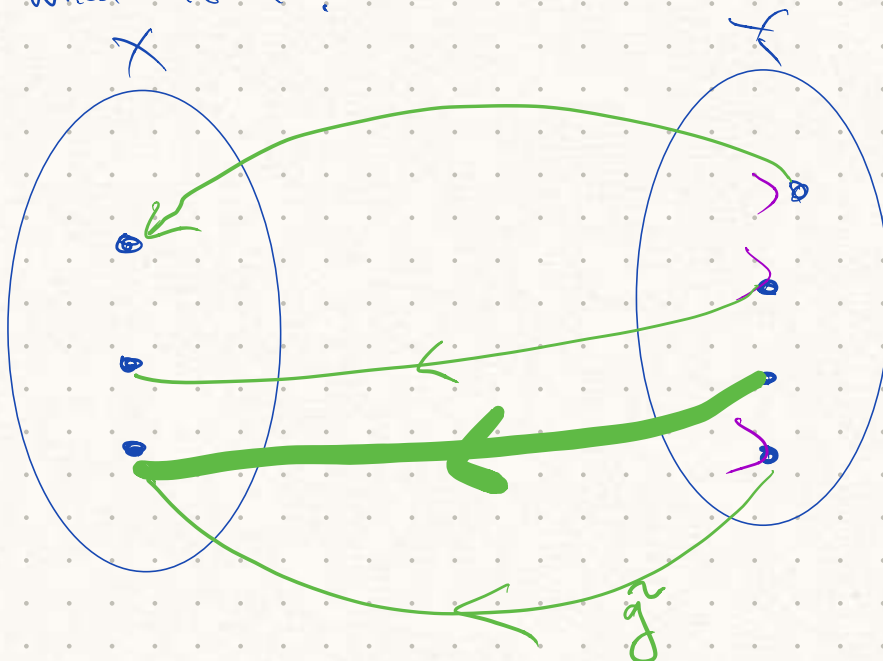


$g \circ f = \text{id}_X$, so g is a left inverse to f .

Exercise

There is a different left inverse for f . What is it?

Answer:



$g \circ f = \text{id}_X$,
so g is another left inverse of f .

Another example:

$$f: \mathbb{R} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}_{\geq 0}, \quad f(x) = x^2$$

$$g: \mathbb{R}_{\geq 0} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}, \quad g(x) = +\sqrt{x}$$

Is f a left inverse for g ?

66% True

Answer:

Want to check if

$$f \circ g = \text{Id}_{\mathbb{R}_{\geq 0}} \quad \checkmark$$

i.e.

$$f(g(x)) = x \quad \text{for } x \in \mathbb{R}_{\geq 0}$$

$$(+\sqrt{x})^2 = x \quad \checkmark$$

So f is a left inverse
for g .

Is g a left inverse for f ?

66% No

Answer = No.

$$g(f(x)) = x \quad ?$$

$$+\sqrt{x^2} = x \quad ?$$

Not true, take $x = -1$.

Exercise

Is `motherOf: Humans → Parents` a
left inverse of

`firstChildOf: Parents → Humans`?

Answer: No.

Exercise

Is `motherOf: Humans → Mothers` a
left inverse of

`firstChildOf: Mothers → Humans`?

Answer: Yes.

Definition

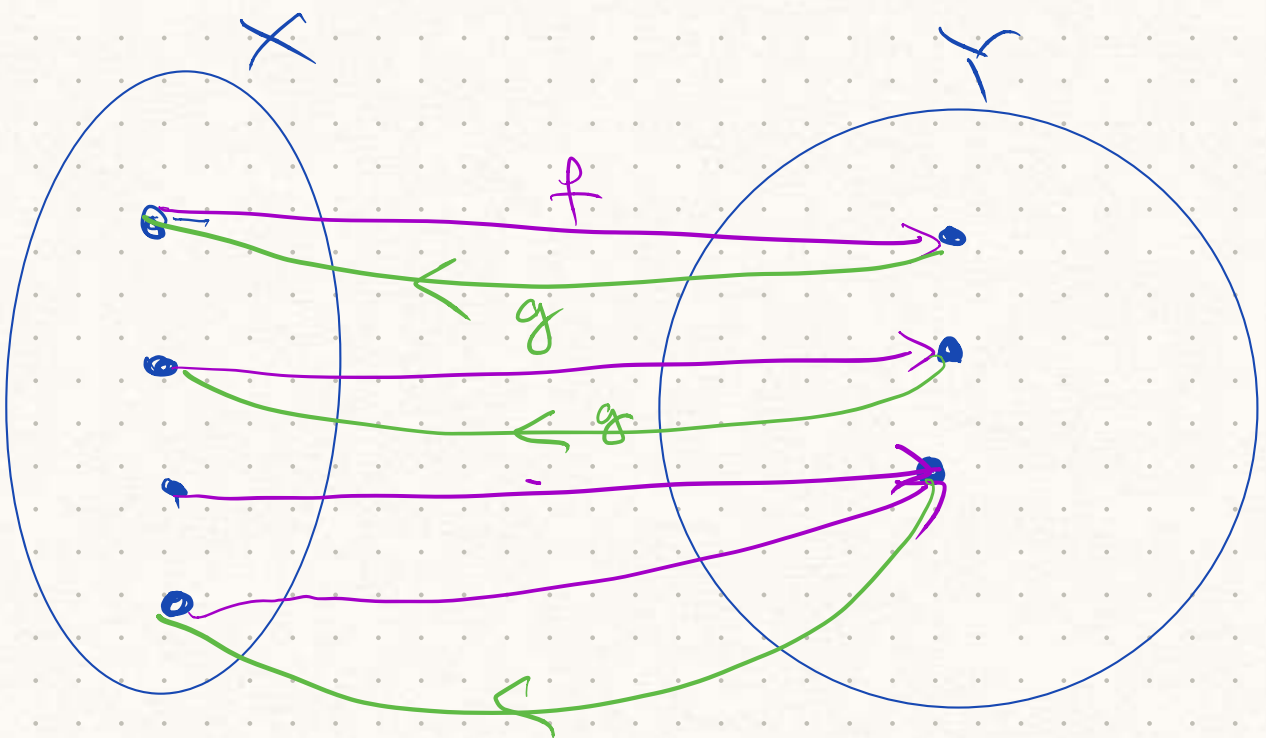
$g: Y \rightarrow X$ is right inverse of

$f: X \rightarrow Y$ if

$$f \circ g = \text{Id}_Y.$$

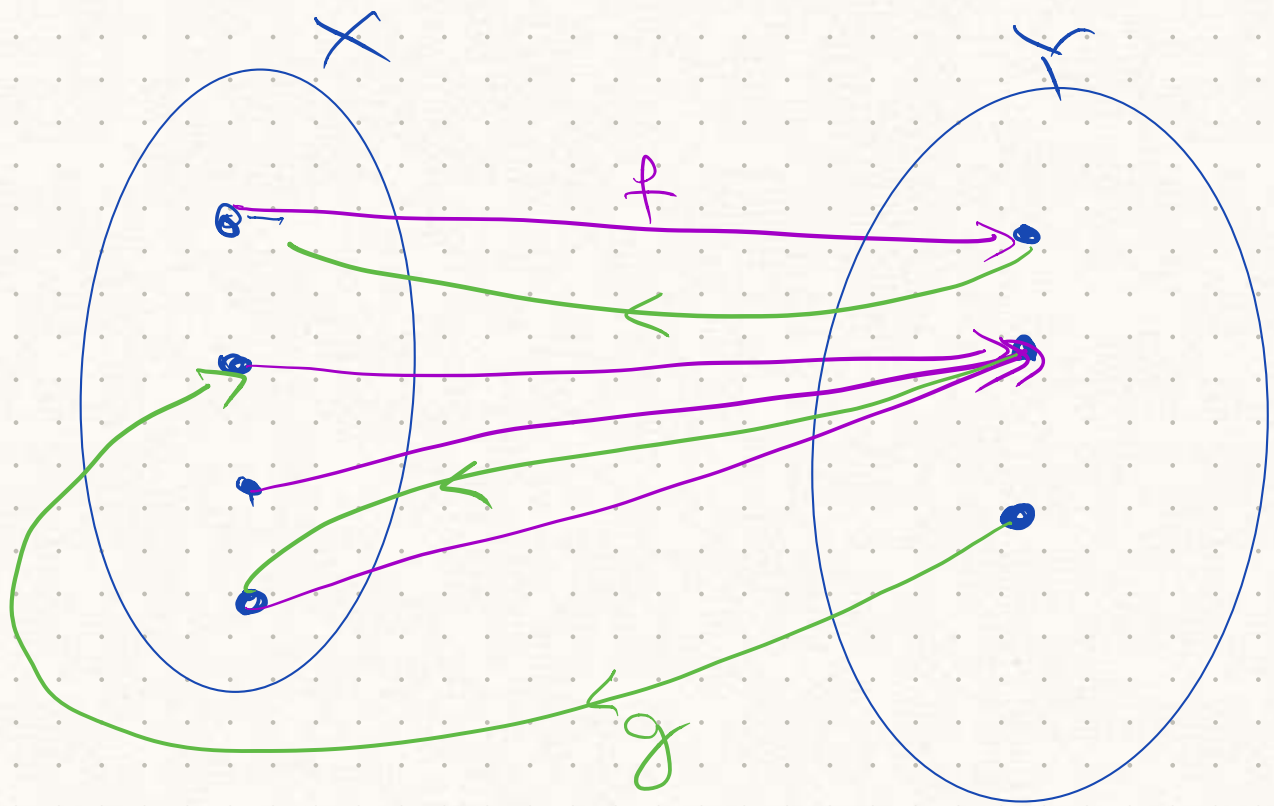
Exercise: Replace left with right, in previous examples.

Picture of right inverse



$f \circ g = \text{Id}_Y$, so g is a right inverse for f .

Consider the modified f :



Find a right inverse for f .

This is impossible because f is not surjective.

Theorem If f is not surjective,
 f does not have a right
inverse

Theorem If f is not injective,
 f does not have a
left inverse.

Theorem If f has a right inverse
 f is surjective.

Theorem If f has a left inverse,
then f is injective.

Definition $f: X \rightarrow Y$ is an inverse
for $g: Y \rightarrow X$ if (f is
a left inverse for g) and
(f is a right inverse for g).

In other words,

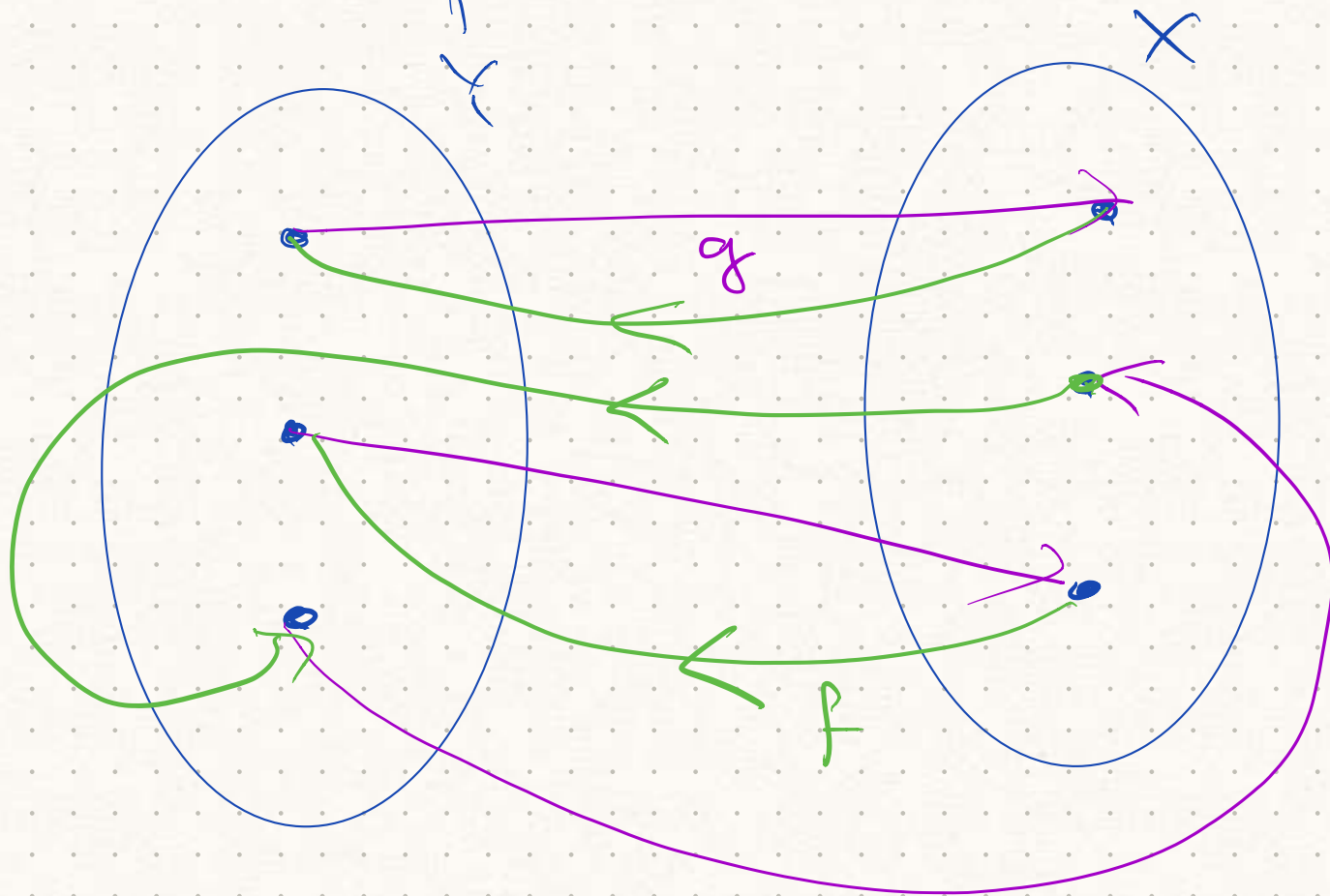
$$f(g(y)) = y$$

for all $y \in Y$

$$g(f(x)) = x$$

and $x \in X$.

Pictorial interpretation:



Are there any other inverses to g ?

No.

Theorem: if $g: Y \rightarrow X$ has an inverse, it has a unique inverse.

Proof: Let $f: X \rightarrow Y$ be an inverse to g . Let $\tilde{f}: X \rightarrow Y$ be another inverse to g . Goal: show that $f = \tilde{f}$.

First, note that

$$g \circ f = g \circ \tilde{f}$$

(both are equal to id_X),
because f, \tilde{f}
are inverse to g .

So

$$g(f(x)) = g(\tilde{f}(x)) \quad \text{for all } x \in X$$

by definition of
function composition
and function
equality.

Apply f to both
sides:

$$f(g(\underline{f(x)})) = f(g(\underline{\tilde{f}(x)})) \quad \text{for all } x \in X$$

So

$$f(x) = \tilde{f}(x) \quad \text{for all } x \in X$$

Because $f(g(a)) = a$
for all a .

$$\text{So } f = \tilde{f}.$$



Examples:

* The inverse of
 $\exp: \mathbb{R} \rightarrow (0, \infty)$

is
 $\log: (0, \infty) \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$

* The inverse of
 $\sin: \left[-\frac{\pi}{2}, \frac{\pi}{2}\right] \rightarrow [-1, 1]$

is
 $\arcsin: [-1, 1] \rightarrow \left[-\frac{\pi}{2}, \frac{\pi}{2}\right]$

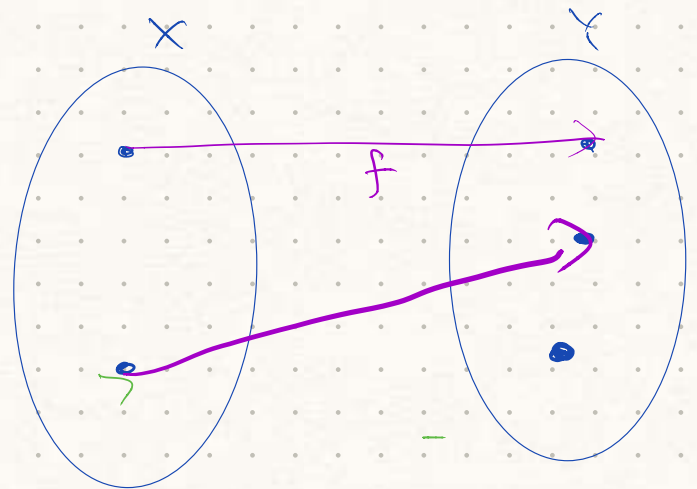
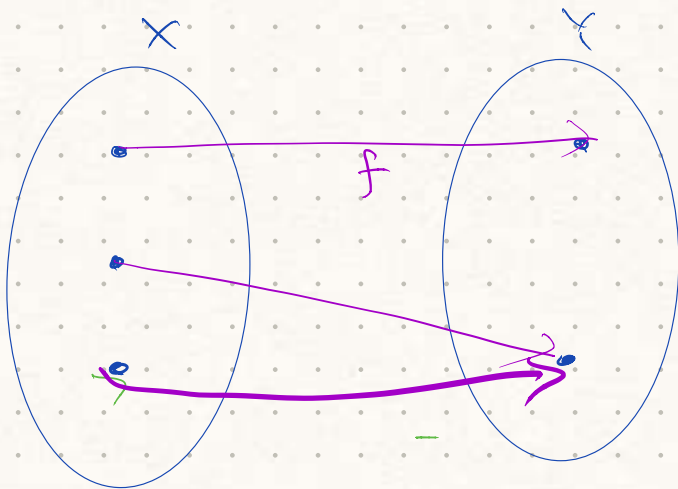
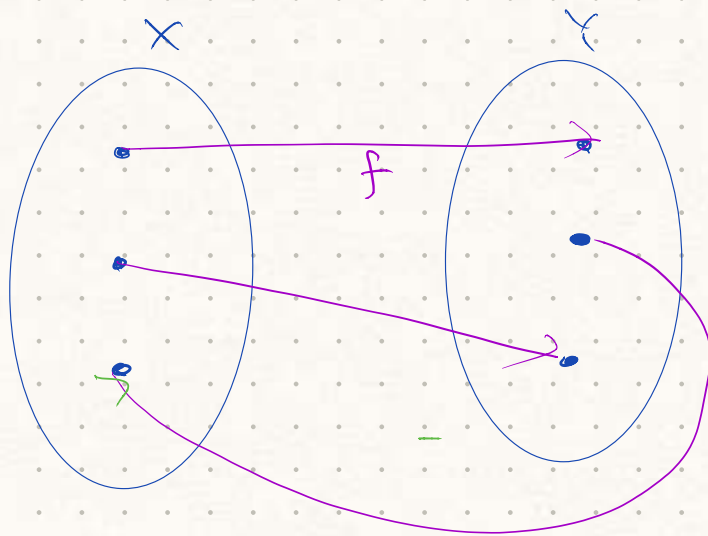
Inverses and bijections.

Definition $f: X \rightarrow Y$ is called invertible
if it has an inverse.

Exercise Show that $f: \mathbb{R} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$
 $f(x) = x^2$
is not invertible.

Theorem f is invertible
 \iff
 f is a bijection.

Consequently, to prove that f is a bijection, suffices to find an inverse for f .
(See HW Problem 4 and 5).



Exercise: Which ones are bijective?
Which ones have inverses?