

Joseph Maher

joseph.maher@csi.cuny.edu

web page:

<http://www.math.csi.cuny.edu/~maher>

office 15-222

office hours

M 12:20 - 2:15

W 1:25 - 2:15

- math tutoring: 15-214

- students with disabilities

Text: Precalculus, Stewart, Redlin, Watson, 6th ed.

webAssign: csi.cuny 0155 4835

www.webassign.net

§2.1 Functions and domains

Example USPS letter postage: weight(w) $w < 1 \quad 1 \leq w < 2 \quad 2 \leq w < 3 \quad \dots$

- your height function of time/age.
cost ($\$$) $0.49 \quad 0.70 \quad 0.91 \quad 1.12$
- temperature function of time.

Defn: need 3 things: name / rule f notation: $f: A \rightarrow B$
 input / domain A name \uparrow
 output / range B domain \uparrow
 $x \mapsto f(x)$

key property: for each $x \in A$, there is exactly one $f(x) \in B$.

Example $f: [0, 3.5] \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$

↑
interval: all
numbers $x \in \mathbb{R}$
with $0 \leq x \leq 3.5$



$$f(w) = \begin{cases} 0.49 & \text{if } w < 1 \\ 0.70 & \text{if } 1 \leq w < 2 \\ 0.91 & \text{if } 2 \leq w < 3 \\ 1.12 & \text{if } 3 \leq w < 3.5 \end{cases}$$

Note: weight is not a function of cost!

Different ways to think of a function:

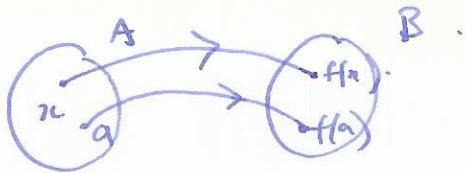
• rule/machine

$$x \mapsto \boxed{f} \mapsto f(x)$$

input output

e.g.: \sqrt{x} on your calculator

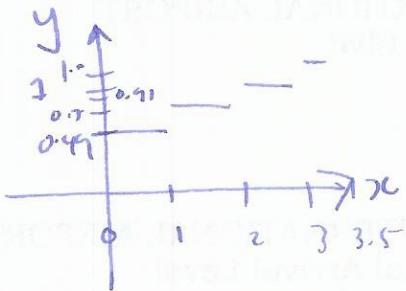
• arrow diagram



e.g. $\{ \text{people} \} \rightarrow \{ \text{heights} \}$ (2)
 $\{ \text{Alice} \} \mapsto 5'2'' \text{ red}$
 $\{ \text{Bob} \} \mapsto 5'4'' \text{ green}$

• graph $f: \mathbb{R} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$
 $x \mapsto f(x)$

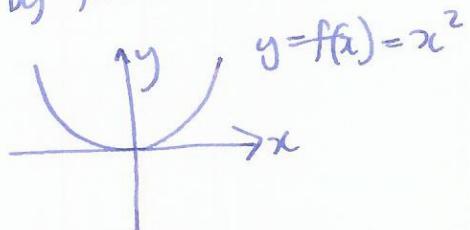
draw graph $y = f(x)$
 notation $\begin{matrix} \uparrow & \text{(independent)} \\ \downarrow & \text{variable} \\ \text{dependent} \\ \text{variable} \end{matrix}$



$$y = \text{cost}(\text{weight})$$

Note: name of dependent Example function given by formula.

e.g. $f: \mathbb{R} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ or $f(x) = x^2$ can draw graph



Note: name of dependent variable doesn't matter.

$$\begin{array}{ll} f: \mathbb{R} \rightarrow \mathbb{R} & f: \mathbb{R} \rightarrow \mathbb{R} \\ f(x) = x^2 & f(t) = t^2 \end{array} \quad \left. \begin{array}{l} \text{same function!} \end{array} \right\}$$

Defn function $f: A \rightarrow B$ Q: what do we mean by rule?

Don't need a formula (description), just a subset of $A \times B$ such that
 for each $x \in A$ there is ~~at most one~~ ^{exactly one} $(x, b) \in A \times B$.

Example $\{ \text{Alice}, \text{Bob} \} \rightarrow \{ \text{red}, \text{green} \}$

A B.

$$A \times B = \{ (\text{Alice}, \text{red}), (\text{Alice}, \text{green}), (\text{Bob}, \text{red}), (\text{Bob}, \text{green}) \}$$

In this case lots of functions will be given by formulae.

Example $f: \mathbb{R} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ $f(x) = 4x^2 - 12x + 3$.

formulas are useful because we can evaluate them.

$$f(2) = 4(2)^2 - 12(2) + 3 = \frac{16}{4 \times 4} - \frac{-24}{-12 \cdot 2} + \frac{3}{+3} = -5.$$

$$\begin{aligned} f(a+b) &= 4(a+b)^2 - 12(a+b) + 3 = 4(a^2 + 2ab + b^2) - 12(a+b) + 3 \\ &= 4a^2 + 8ab + 4b^2 - 12a - 12b + 3. \end{aligned}$$

$f(x-2x^2)$?

Warning : sometimes people just give a formula, without domain or range
 remember : $f: A \rightarrow B$.

$t(x) = \sqrt{x}$ ← you are meant to work out domain and range

$f: \mathbb{R} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$
 $[0, \infty)$.

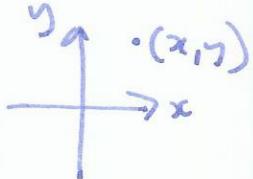
Example $f(x) = \frac{1}{x^2 - 2x}$ find domain.

§2.2 Graphs of functions

$A \rightarrow B$.
 $f: \mathbb{R} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$
 $x \mapsto f(x)$

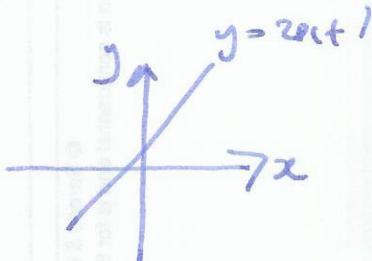
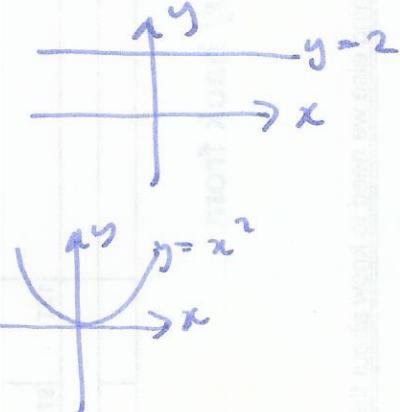
the graph of f is the set of pairs $(x, f(x))$

If $f: \mathbb{R} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ then this is a subset of the plane \mathbb{R}^2



Examples

- constant function $f(x) = 2$
- straight line function $f(x) = 2x + 1$
- quadratic function $f(x) = x^2$



Plotting by hand: make a table

x	-2	-1	0	1	2
$f(x) = x^2$	4	1	0	1	4

more detail

x	0	$\frac{1}{2}$	$\frac{3}{4}$	1
x^2	0	$\frac{1}{16}$	$\frac{9}{16}$	1