### Functions Part Two

## Outline for Today

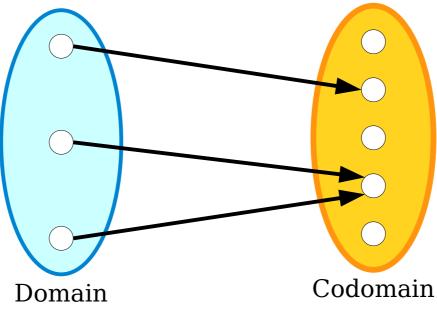
- Recap from Last Time
  - Where are we, again?
- A Proof About Birds
  - Trust me, it's relevant.
- Assuming vs Proving
  - Two different roles to watch for.
- Connecting Function Types
  - Relating the topics from last time.

### Recap from Last Time

## Domains and Codomains

- Every function *f* has two sets associated with it: its *domain* and its *codomain*.
- A function f can only be applied to elements of its domain. For any x in the domain, f(x) belongs to the codomain.
- We write  $f : A \rightarrow B$  to indicate that f is a function whose domain is A and whose codomain is B.

The function must be defined for each element of its domain.



The output of the function must always be in the codomain, but not all elements of the codomain need to be producable.

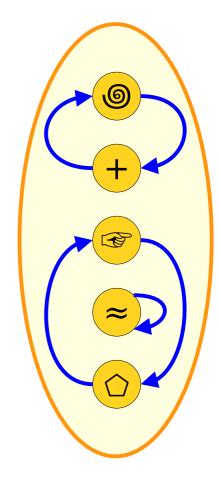
### Involutions

• A function  $f: A \rightarrow A$  from a set back to itself is called an *involution* when the following first-order logic statement is true about f:

 $\forall x \in A. f(f(x)) = x.$ 

("Applying f twice is equivalent to not applying f at all.")

• For example,  $f : \mathbb{R} \to \mathbb{R}$ defined as f(x) = -x is an involution.



## **Injective Functions**

- A function  $f: A \rightarrow B$  is called *injective* (or *one-to-one*) when different inputs always map to different outputs.
  - A function with this property is called an *injection*.
- Formally,  $f : A \rightarrow B$  is an injection when this FOL statement is true:

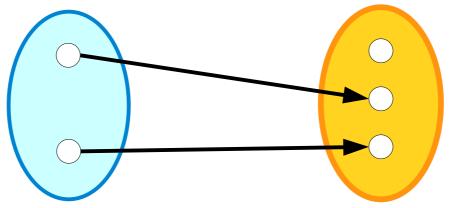
 $\forall a_1 \in A. \ \forall a_2 \in A. \ (a_1 \neq a_2 \rightarrow f(a_1) \neq f(a_2))$ 

("If the inputs are different, the outputs are different")

• Equivalently:

#### $\forall a_1 \in A. \ \forall a_2 \in A. \ (f(a_1) = f(a_2) \rightarrow a_1 = a_2)$

("If the outputs are the same, the inputs are the same")



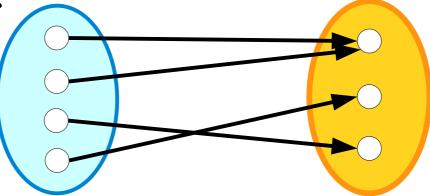
## Surjective Functions

• A function  $f : A \rightarrow B$  is called *surjective* (or *onto*) when this first-order logic statement is true about f:

#### $\forall b \in B. \exists a \in A. f(a) = b$

("For every possible output, there's an input that produces it.")

• A function with this property is called a *surjection*.



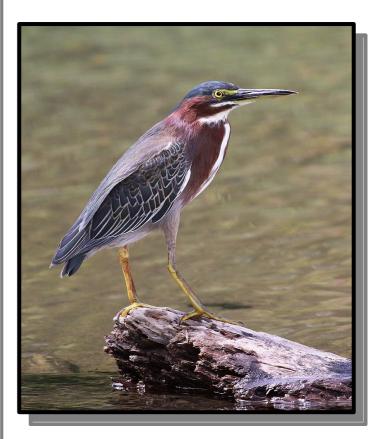
	To <b>prove</b> that this is true
$\forall x. A$	Have the reader pick an arbitrary <i>x</i> . We then prove <i>A</i> is true for that choice of <i>x</i> .
$\exists x. A$	Find an x where A is true. Then prove that A is true for that specific choice of x.
$A \rightarrow B$	Assume <i>A</i> is true, then prove <i>B</i> is true.
$A \land B$	Prove A. Also prove B.
$A \lor B$	Either prove $\neg A \rightarrow B$ or prove $\neg B \rightarrow A$ . (Why does this work?)
$A \leftrightarrow B$	Prove $A \rightarrow B$ and $B \rightarrow A$ .
$\neg A$	Simplify the negation, then consult this table on the result.

#### New Stuff!

#### A Proof About Birds







Given the predicates

Bird(b), which says b is a bird; Heron(h), which says h is a heron; and Feathers(x), which says x has feathers,

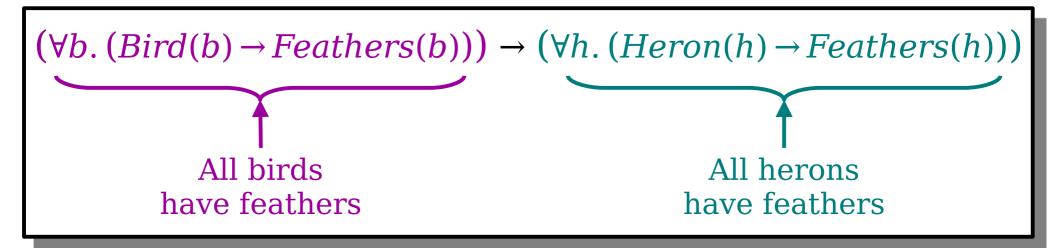
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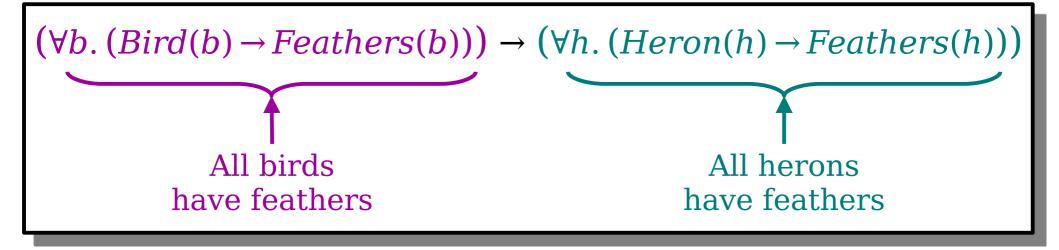
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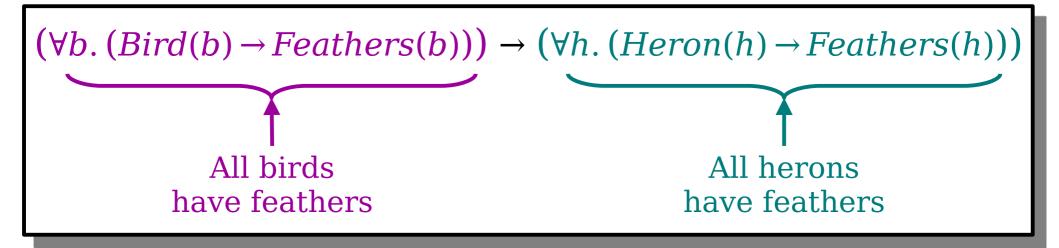
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$(\forall b. (Bird(b) \rightarrow Feathers(b))) \rightarrow (\forall h. (Heron(h) \rightarrow Feathers(h)))$		
All birds		All herons
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**Proof:** Assume that all birds have feathers. We will show that all herons have feathers.



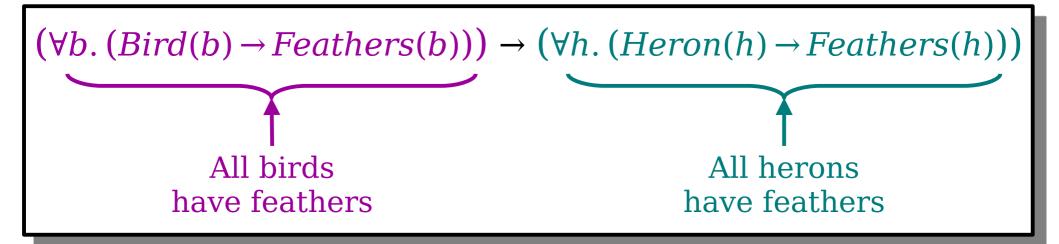
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Answer at

https://cs103.stanford.edu/pollev

Which makes more sense as the next step in this proof?

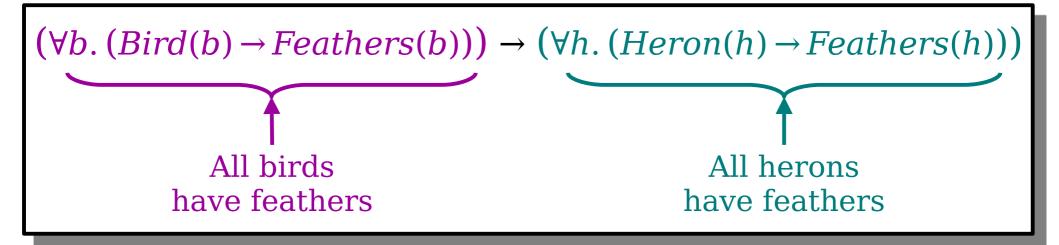
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 Consider an arbitrary heron h.



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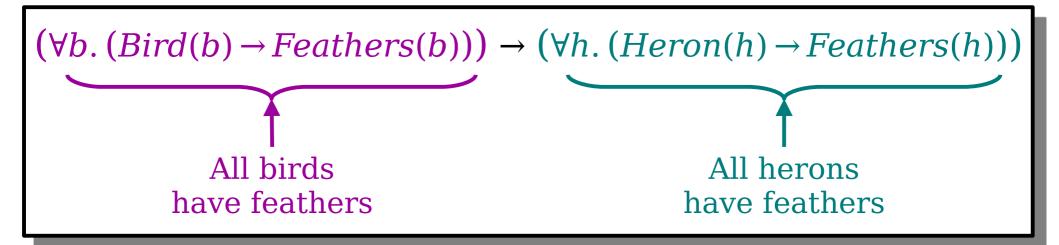
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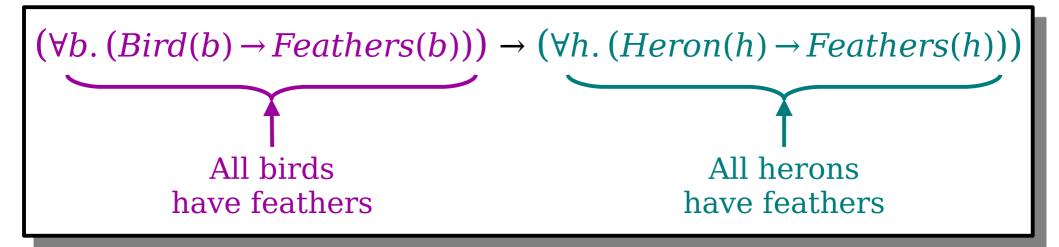
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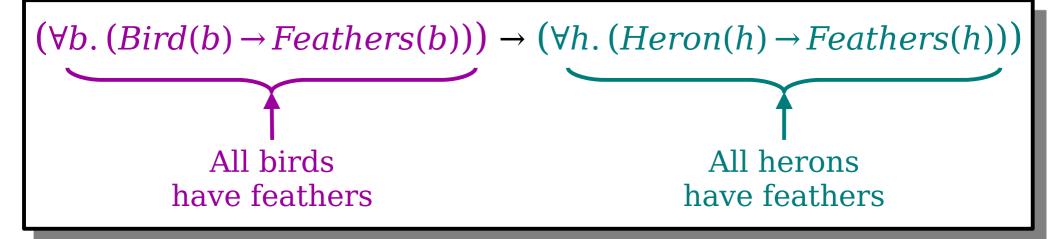
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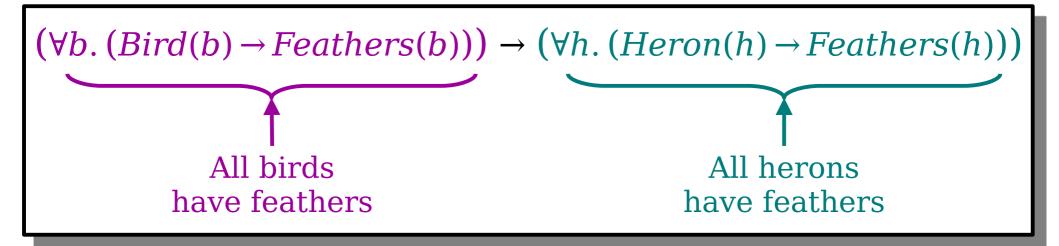
Consider an arbitrary bird b. Since b is a bird, b has feathers. [ and now we're stuck! we are interested in herons, but b might not be one. It could be a hummingbird, for example! ]



**Proof:** Assume that all birds have feathers. We will show that all herons have feathers.

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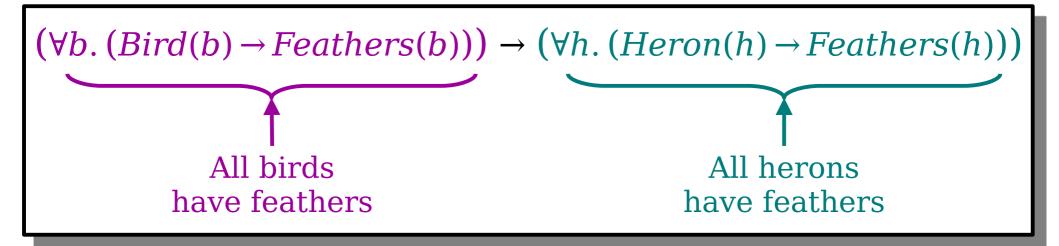
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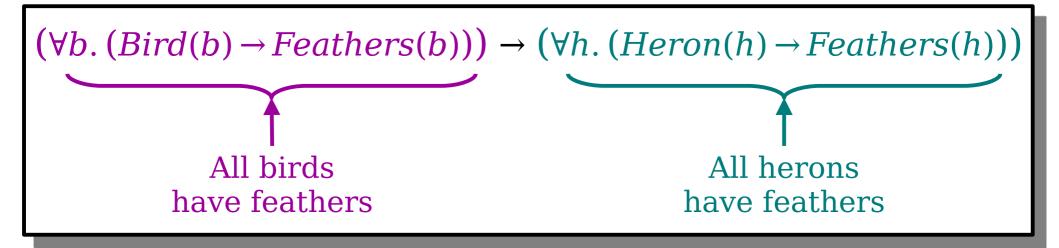
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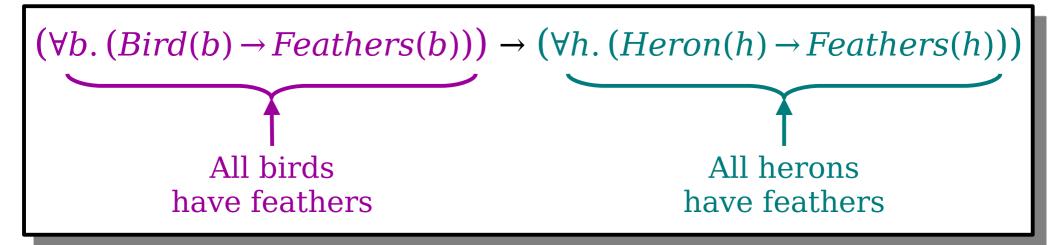


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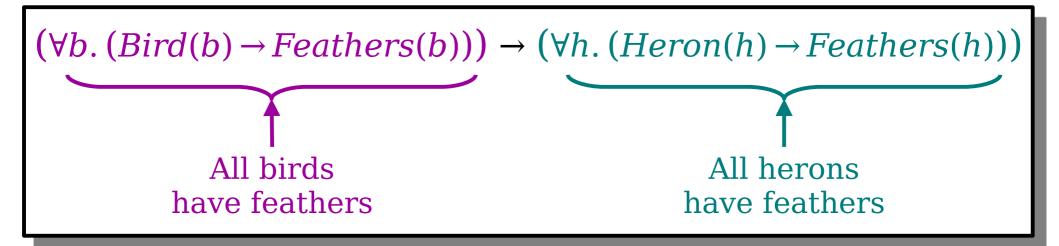
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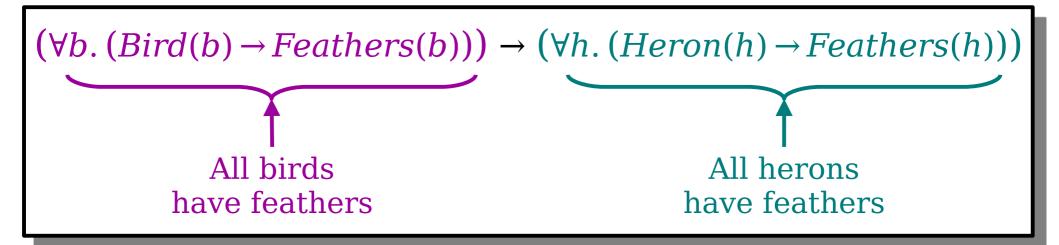
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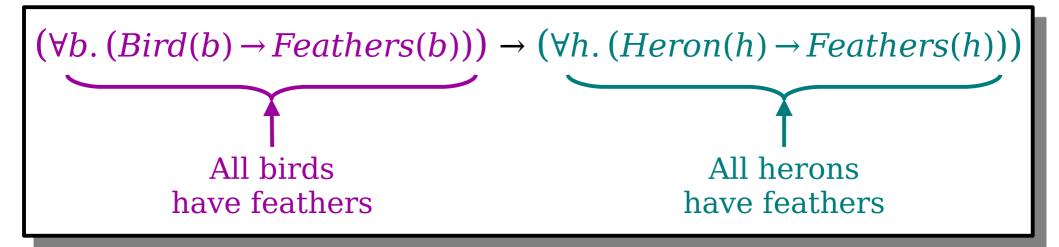
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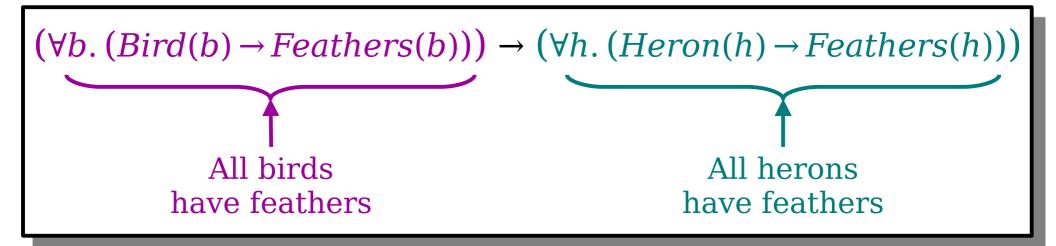
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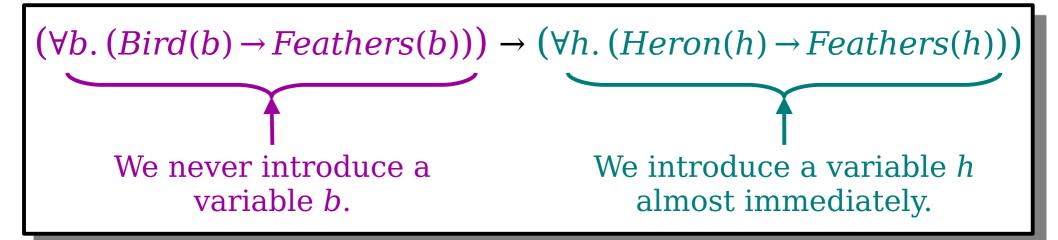
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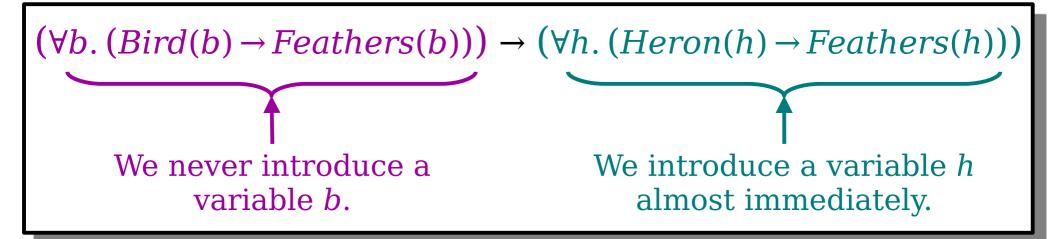
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## Proving vs. Assuming

- In the context of a proof, you will need to assume some statements and prove others.
  - Here, we *assumed* all birds have feathers.
  - Here, we **proved** all herons have feathers.
- Statements behave differently based on whether you're assuming or proving them.

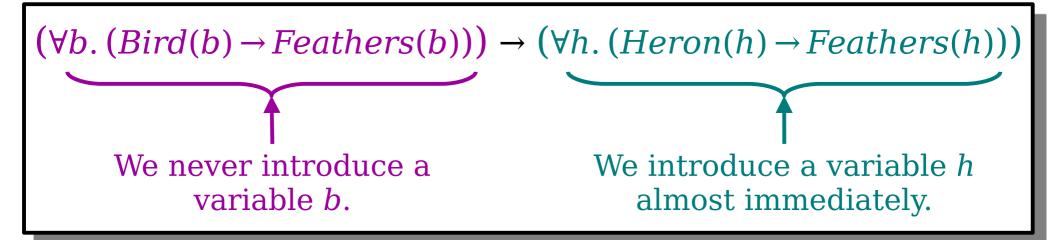


## Proving vs. Assuming

• To **prove** the universally-quantified statement  $\forall x. P(x)$ 

we introduce a new variable *x* representing some arbitrarily-chosen value.

- Then, we prove that P(x) is true for that variable x.
- That's why we introduced a variable *h* in this proof representing a heron.



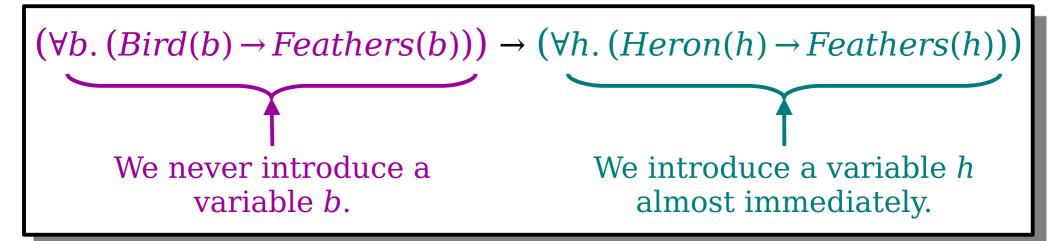
## Proving vs. Assuming

• If we *assume* the statement

 $\forall x. P(x)$ 

we **do not** introduce a variable *x*.

- Rather, if we find a relevant value z somewhere else in the proof, we can conclude that P(z) is true.
- That's why we didn't introduce a variable *b* in our proof, and why we concluded that *h*, our heron, have feathers.



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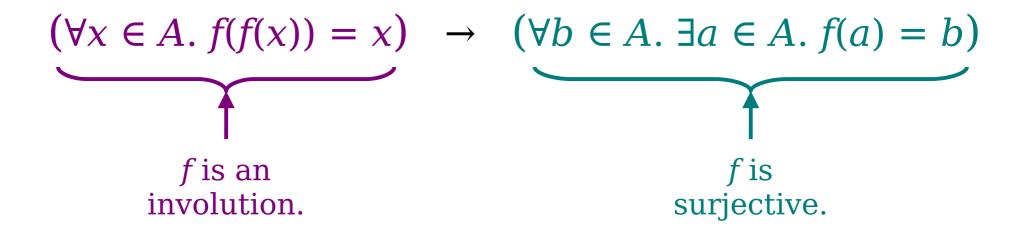
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$\exists x. A$	Introduce a variable x into your proof that has property A.	Find an x where A is true. Then prove that A is true for that specific choice of x.
$A \rightarrow B$	Initially, <b>do nothing</b> . Once you know A is true, you can conclude B is also true.	Assume <i>A</i> is true, then prove <i>B</i> is true.
$A \land B$	Assume A. Also assume B.	Prove A. Also prove B.
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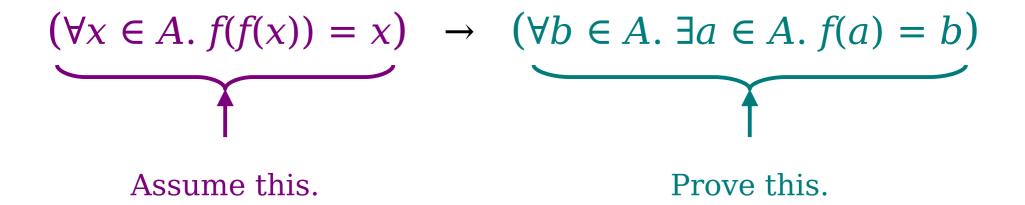
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$A \lor B$	Consider two cases. Case 1: A is true. Case 2: B is true.	Either prove $\neg A \rightarrow B$ or prove $\neg B \rightarrow A$ . (Why does this work?)
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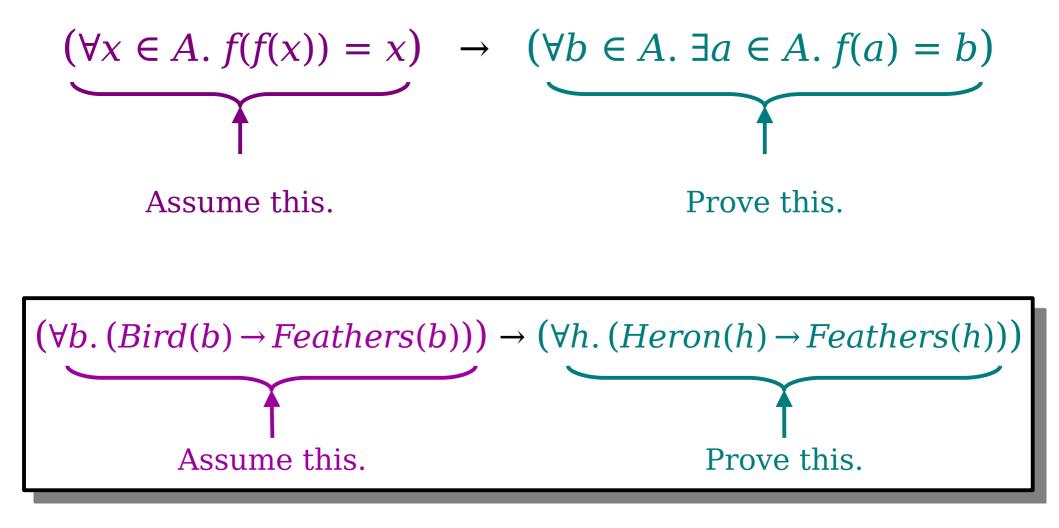
# **Connecting Function Types**

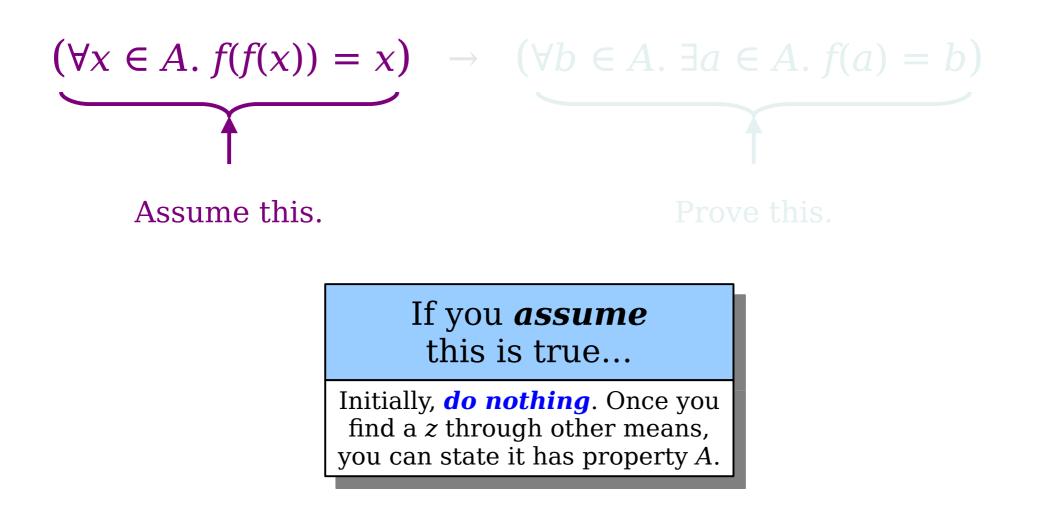
# Types of Functions

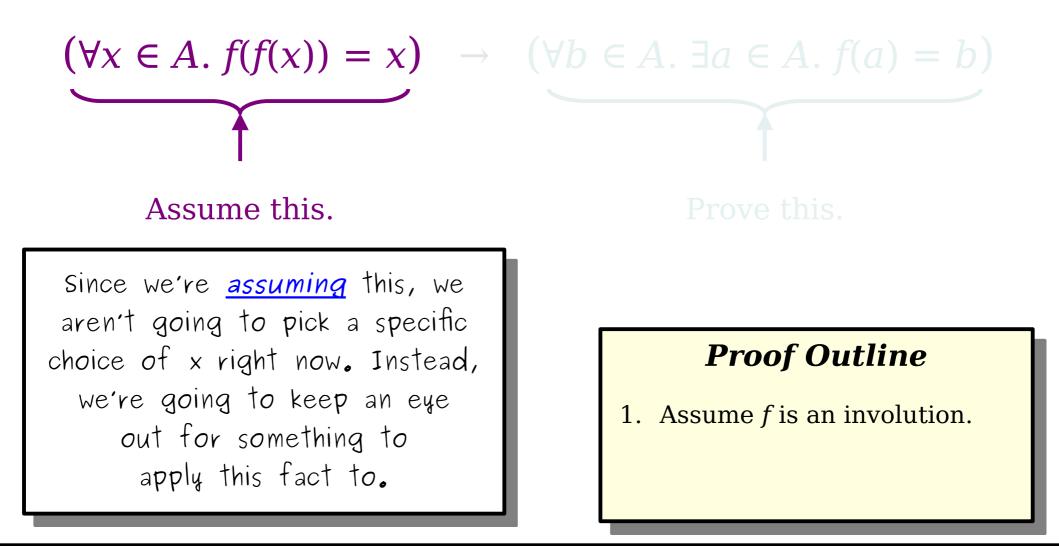
- We now have three special types of functions:
  - *involutions*, functions that undo themselves;
  - *injections*, functions where different inputs go to different outputs; and
  - *surjections*, functions that cover their whole codomain.
- *Question:* How do these three classes of functions relate to one another?

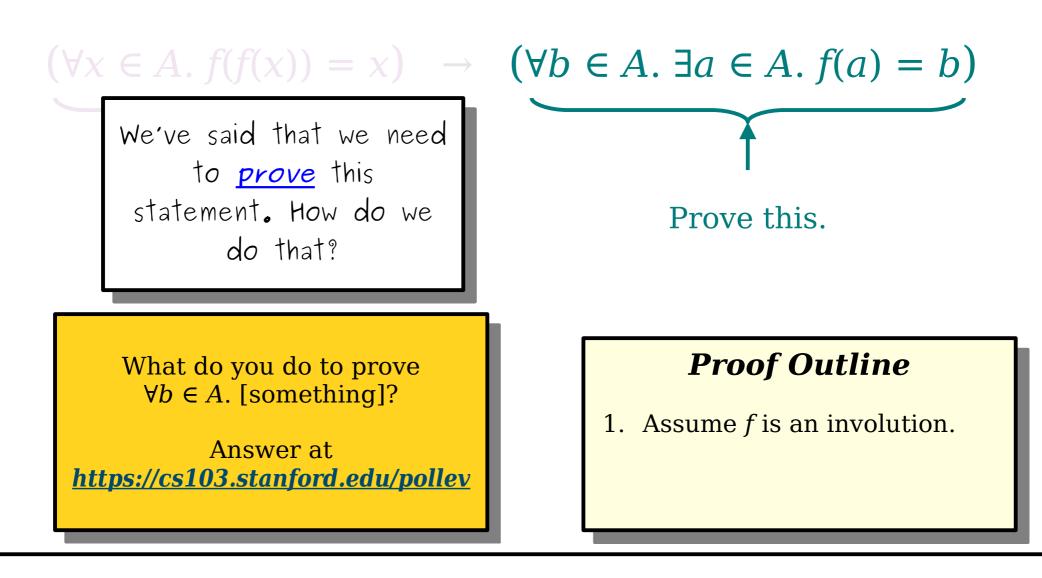


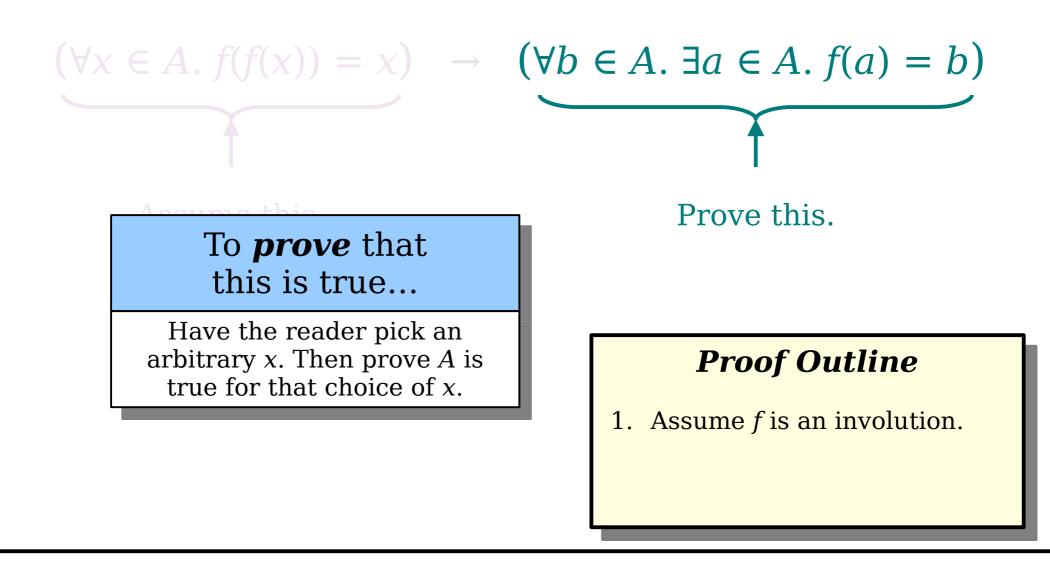


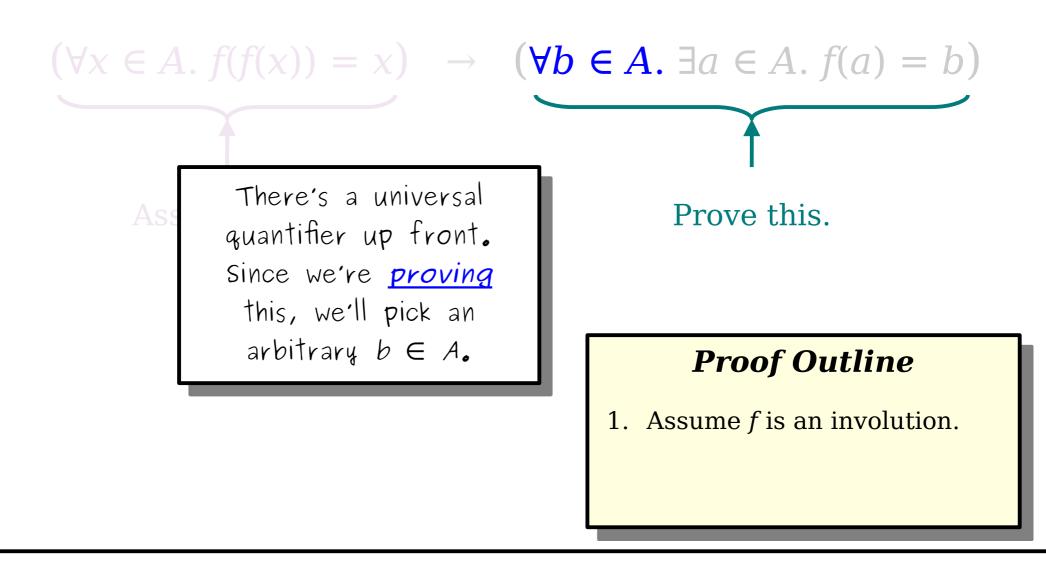


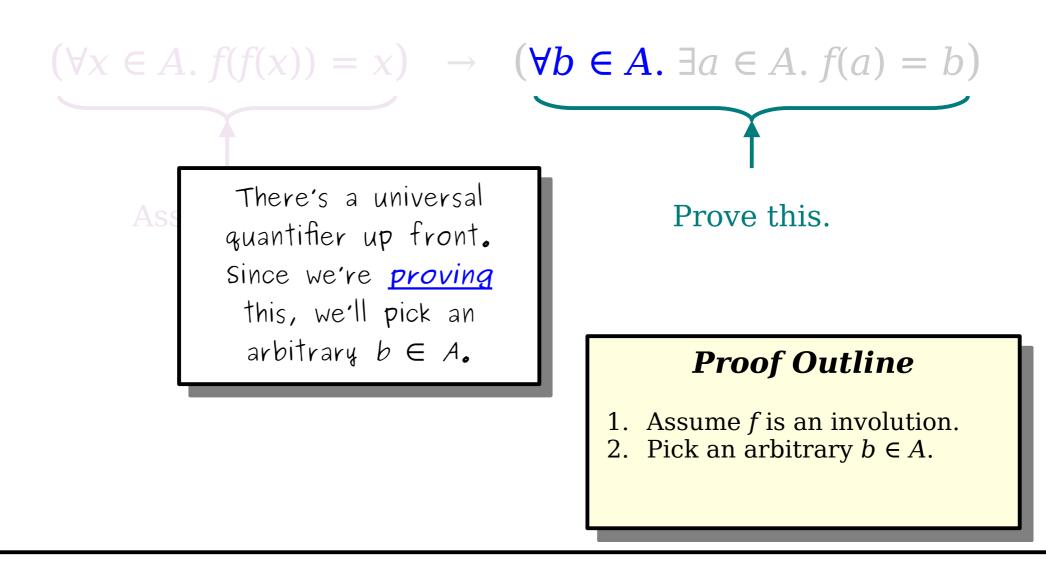


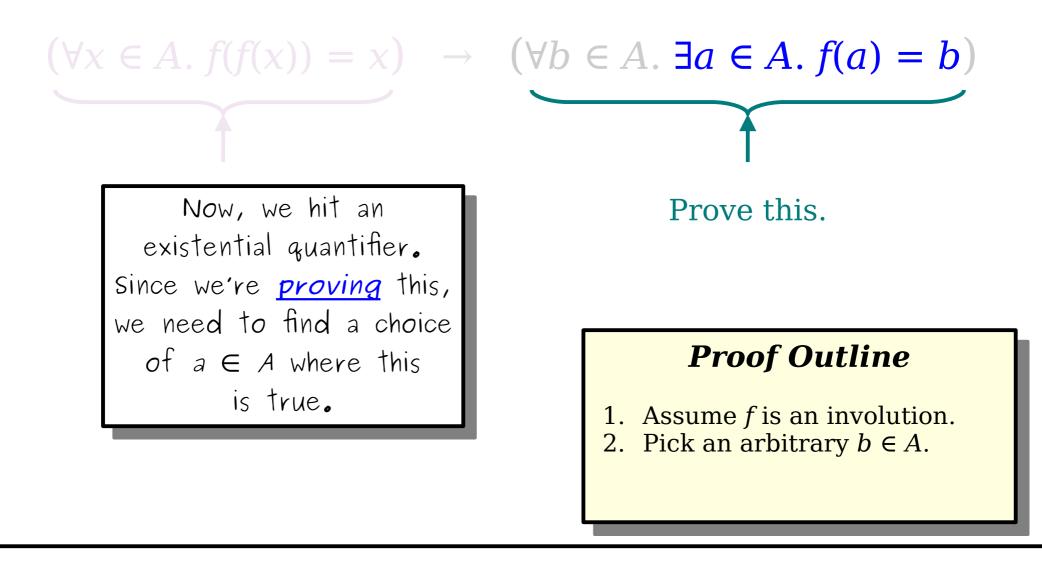


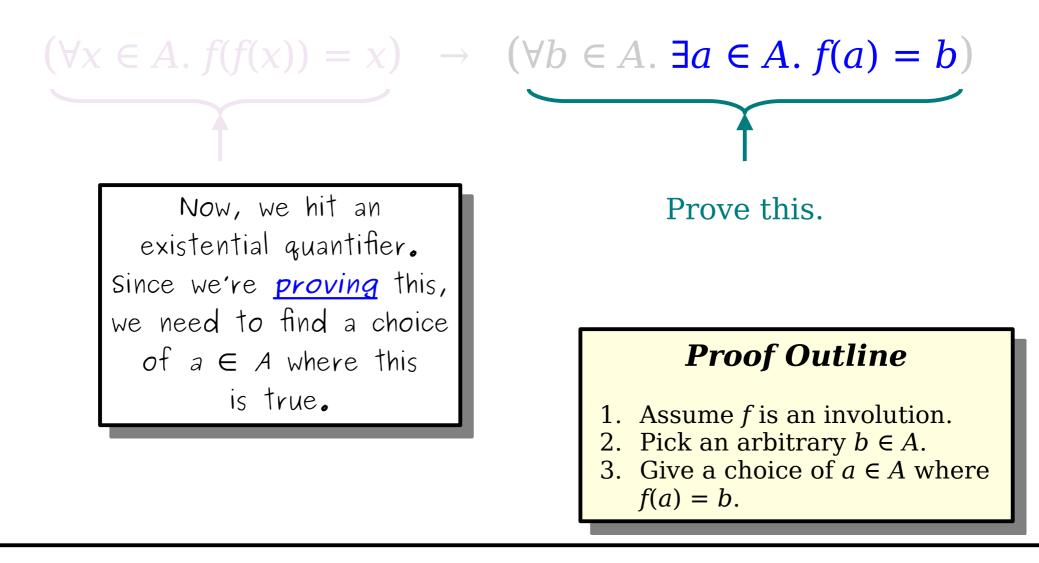


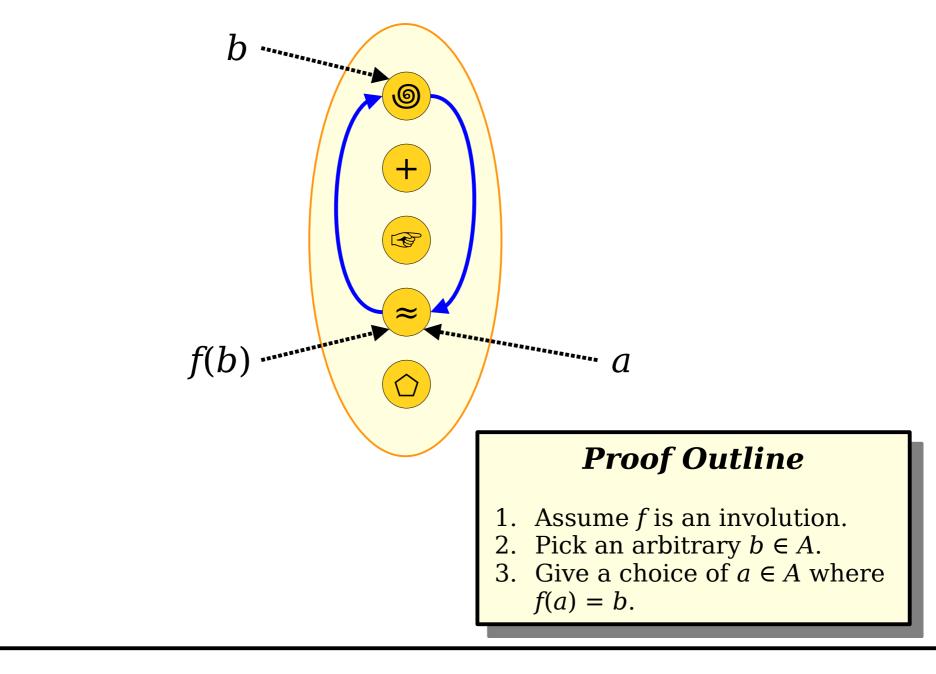












- 1. Assume *f* is an involution.
- 2. Pick an arbitrary  $b \in A$ .
- 3. Give a choice of  $a \in A$  where f(a) = b.

**Proof:** 

- 1. Assume *f* is an involution.
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- Pick an arbitrary  $b \in A$ . Give a choice of  $a \in A$  where 3. f(a) = b.

**Proof:** Pick any involution  $f : A \rightarrow A$ .

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**Proof:** Pick any involution  $f : A \rightarrow A$ . We will prove that *f* is surjective.

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**Proof:** Pick any involution  $f : A \rightarrow A$ . We will prove that f is surjective. To do so, pick an arbitrary  $b \in A$ . We need to show that there is an  $a \in A$  where f(a) = b.

Specifically, pick a = f(b). This means that f(a) = f(f(b)), and since f is an involution we know that f(f(b)) = b. Putting this together, we see that f(a) = b, which is what we needed to show.

This proof contains no first-order logic syntax (quantifiers, connectives, etc.). It's written in plain English, just as usual.

# The Two-Column Proof Organizer

#### What We're Assuming

 $f: A \to A$  is an involution.  $\forall z \in A. f(f(z)) = z.$ 

> We're *assuming* this universally-quantified statement, so we won't introduce a variable for what's here.

#### What We Need to Prove

```
f is injective.
```

```
\forall a_1 \in A. \ \forall a_2 \in A. \ (f(a_1) = f(a_2) \rightarrow a_1 = a_2
```

We need to prove this universallyquantified statement. So let's introduce arbitrarily-chosen values.

#### What We're Assuming

 $f: A \to A$  is an involution.  $\forall z \in A. f(f(z)) = z.$ 

 $a_1 \in A$ 

 $a_2 \in A$ 

# What We Need to Prove f is injective. $\forall a_1 \in A. \forall a_2 \in A. (f(a_1) = f(a_2) \rightarrow a_1 = a_2)$

#### What We're Assuming

 $f: A \rightarrow A$  is an involution.  $\forall z \in A. f(f(z)) = z.$ 

 $a_1 \in A$ 

 $a_2 \in A$ 

# What We Need to Prove

f is injective.

 $\forall a_1 \in A. \ \forall a_2 \in A. \ (f(a_1) = f(a_2) \rightarrow a_1 = a_2 )$ 

We need to prove this implication. So we assume the antecedent and prove the consequent.

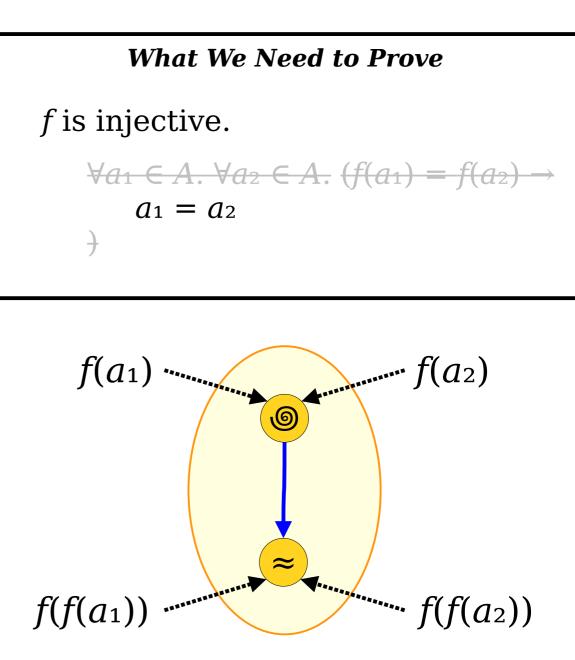
#### What We're Assuming

 $f: A \to A$  is an involution.  $\forall z \in A. f(f(z)) = z.$ 

 $a_1 \in A$ 

 $a_2 \in A$ 

 $f(a_1) = f(a_2)$ 



#### What We're Assuming

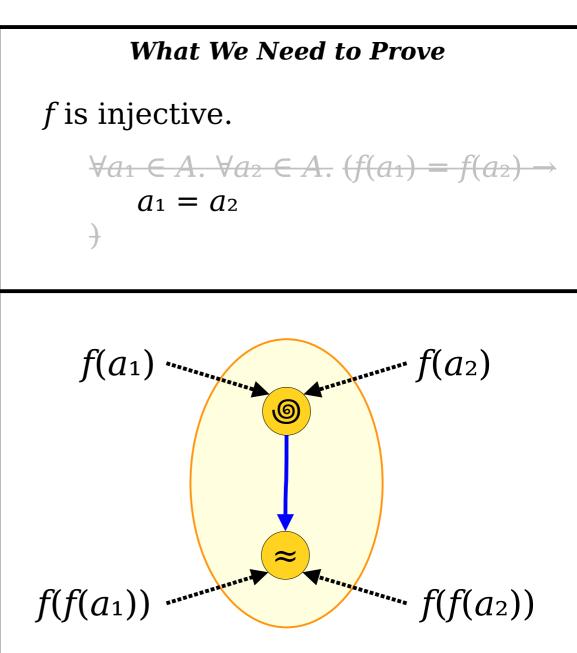
 $f: A \to A$  is an involution.  $\forall z \in A. f(f(z)) = z.$ 

 $a_1 \in A$ 

 $a_2 \in A$ 

 $f(a_1) = f(a_2)$ 

 $f(f(a_1)) = f(f(a_2))$ 



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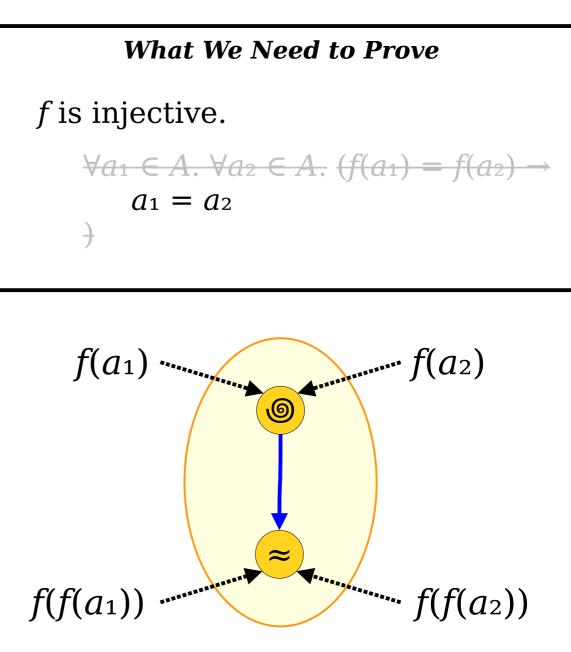
 $a_1 \in A$ 

 $a_2 \in A$ 

 $f(a_1) = f(a_2)$ 

 $f(f(a_1)) = f(f(a_2))$ 

 $f(f(a_1)) = a_1$ 



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 $f: A \to A$  is an involution.  $\forall z \in A. f(f(z)) = z.$ 

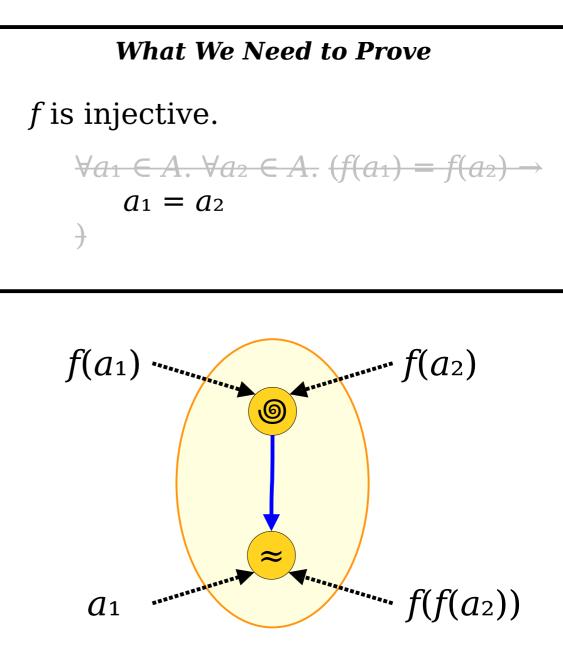
 $a_1 \in A$ 

 $a_2 \in A$ 

 $f(a_1) = f(a_2)$ 

 $f(f(a_1)) = f(f(a_2))$ 

 $f(f(a_1)) = a_1$ 



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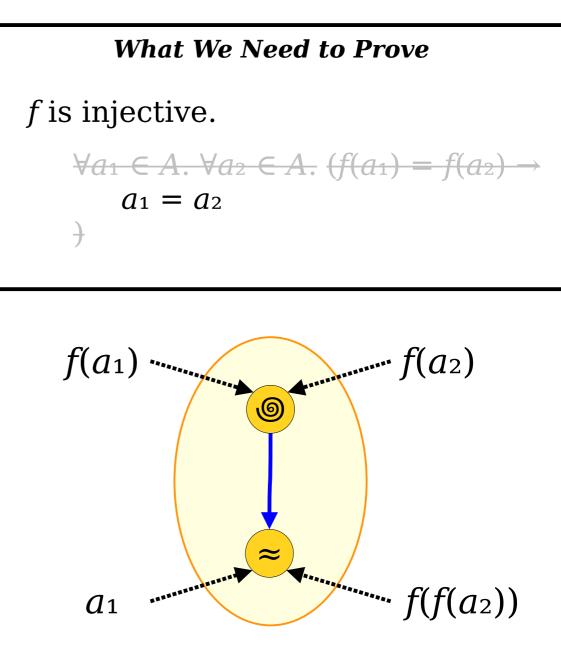
 $a_2 \in A$ 

 $f(a_1) = f(a_2)$ 

 $f(f(a_1)) = f(f(a_2))$ 

 $f(f(a_1)) = a_1$ 

 $f(f(a_2)) = a_2$ 



#### What We're Assuming

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 $a_1 \in A$ 

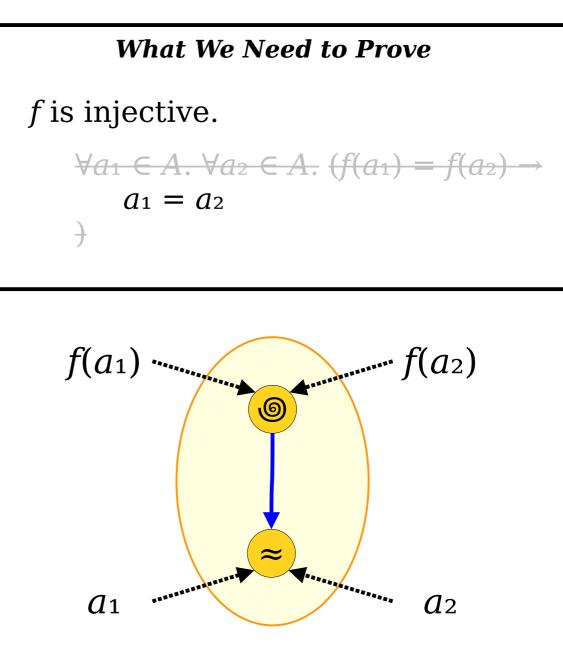
 $a_2 \in A$ 

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 $f(f(a_1)) = f(f(a_2))$ 

 $f(f(a_1)) = a_1$ 

 $f(f(a_2)) = a_2$ 



**Proof:** 

**Proof:** Choose any  $a_1, a_2 \in A$  where  $f(a_1) = f(a_2)$ .

**Proof:** Choose any  $a_1, a_2 \in A$  where  $f(a_1) = f(a_2)$ . We need to show that  $a_1 = a_2$ .

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Since  $f(a_1) = f(a_2)$ , we know that  $f(f(a_1)) = f(f(a_2))$ .

**Proof:** Choose any  $a_1, a_2 \in A$  where  $f(a_1) = f(a_2)$ . We need to show that  $a_1 = a_2$ .

Since  $f(a_1) = f(a_2)$ , we know that  $f(f(a_1)) = f(f(a_2))$ . Because f is an involution, we see  $a_1 = f(f(a_1))$  and that  $f(f(a_2)) = a_2$ .

**Proof:** Choose any  $a_1, a_2 \in A$  where  $f(a_1) = f(a_2)$ . We need to show that  $a_1 = a_2$ .

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$$a_1 = f(f(a_1)) = f(f(a_2)) = a_2,$$

so  $a_1 = a_2$ , as needed.

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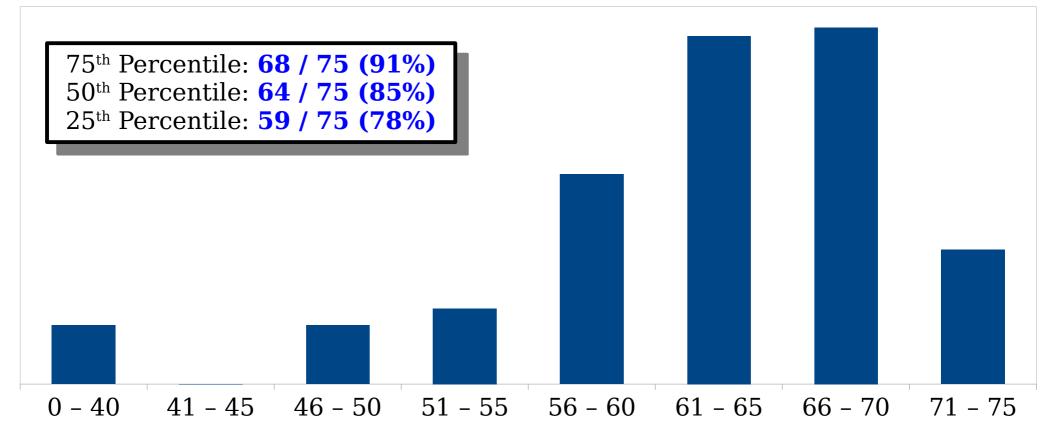
$$a_1 = f(f(a_1)) = f(f(a_2)) = a_2,$$

so  $a_1 = a_2$ , as needed.

This proof contains no first-order logic syntax (quantifiers, connectives, etc.). It's written in plain English, just as usual.

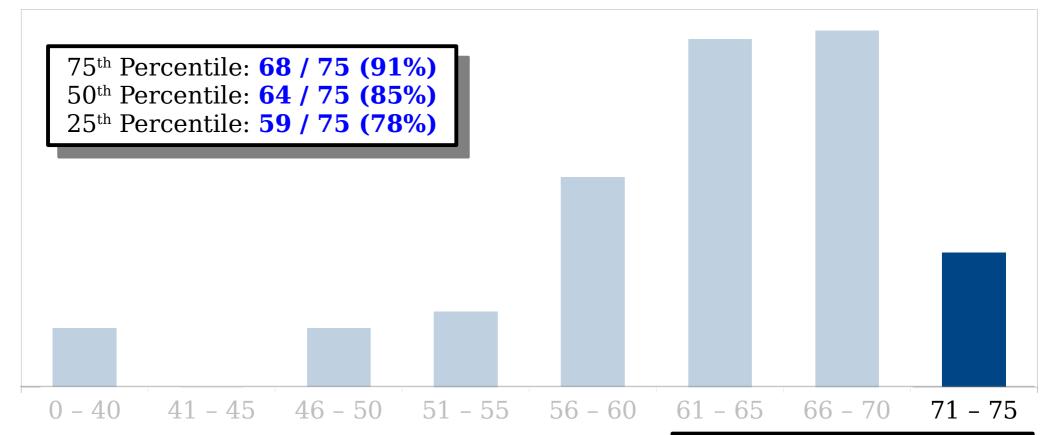
### Time-Out for Announcements!

- Your wonderful TAs have finished grading Problem Set One.
- Grades and feedback are up on the Gradescope.
- Solutions are available online on the course website (visit the page for PS1 to get the link).

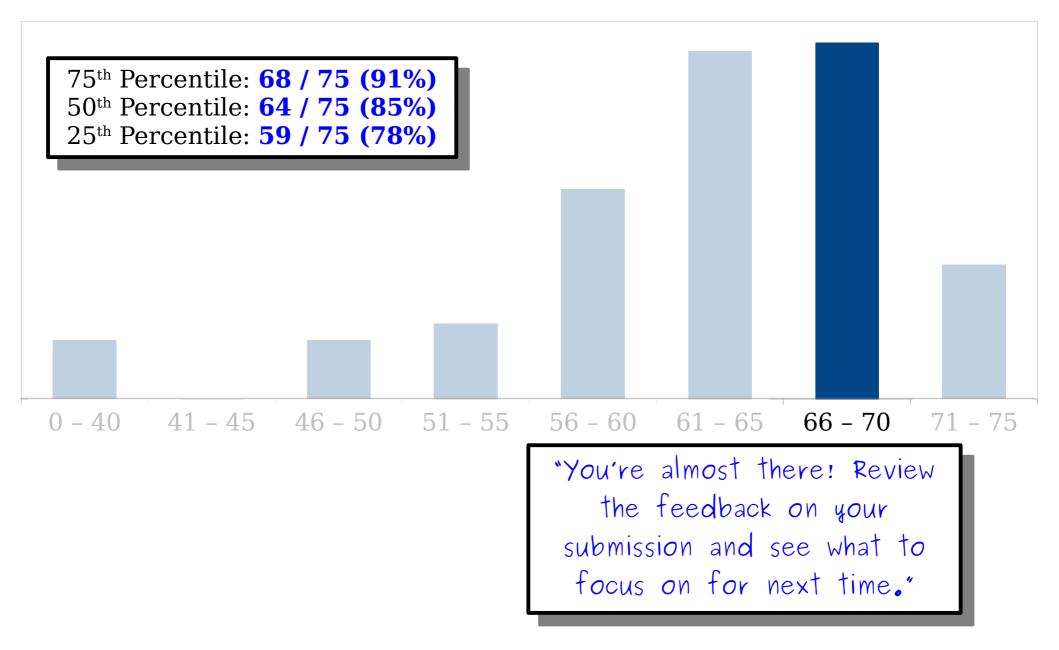


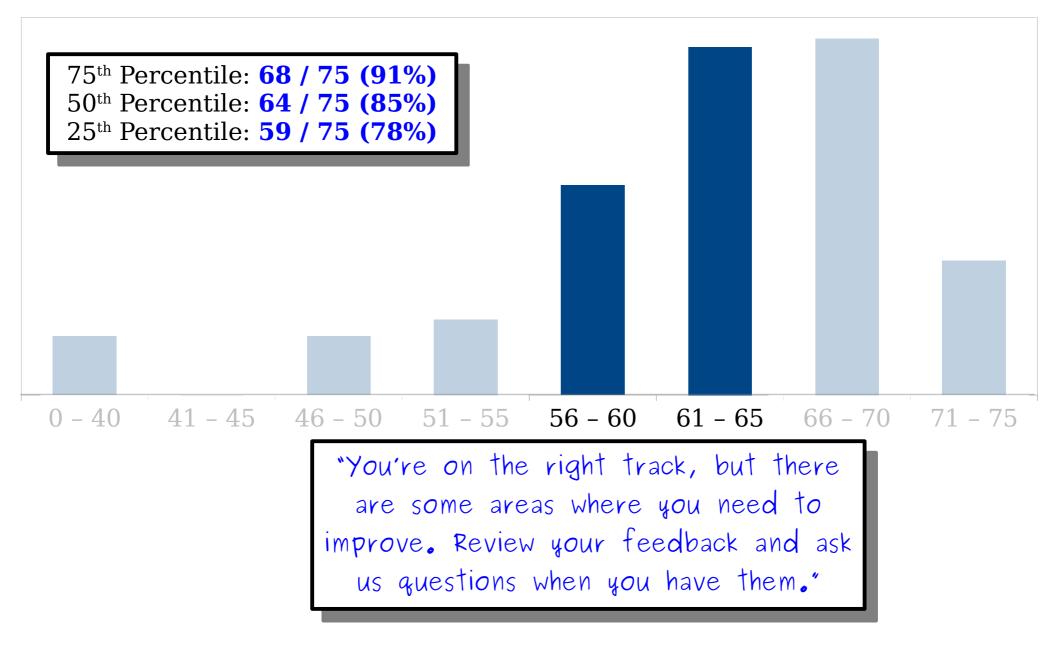
Pro tips when reading a grading distribution:

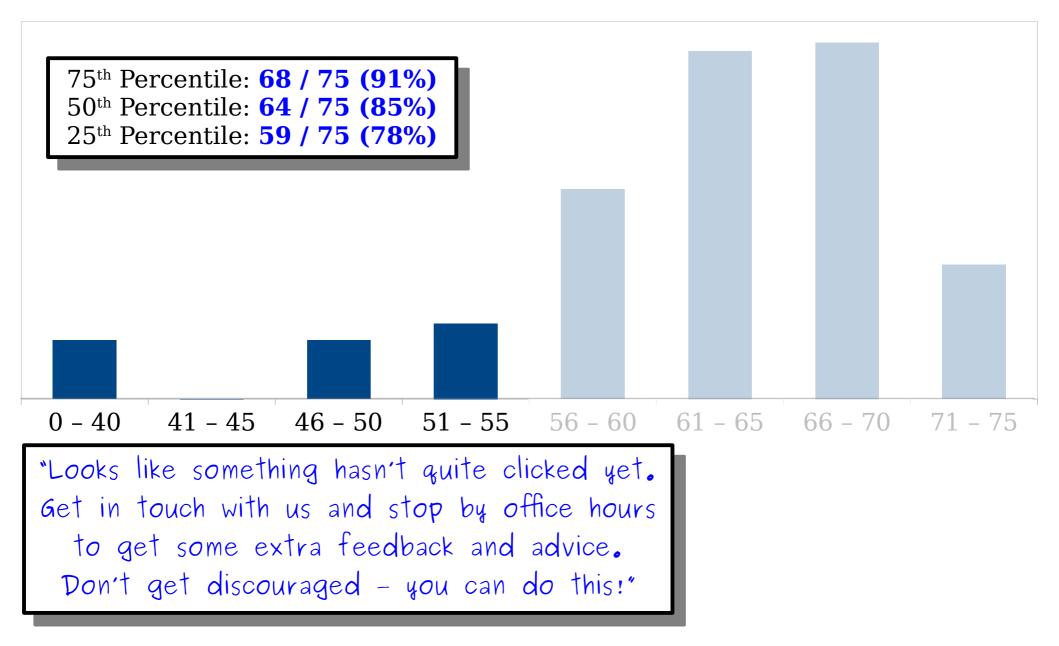
- 1. Standard deviations are *unhelpful and discouraging*. Ignore them.
- 2. The average score is a *unhelpful*. Ignore it.
- 3. Raw scores are *unhelpful and discouraging*. Ignore them.



"Great job: Look over your feedback for some tips on how to tweak things for next time."







# What Not to Think

- "Well, I guess I'm just not good at math."
  - For most of you, this is your first time doing any rigorous proof-based math.
  - Don't judge your future performance based on a single data point.
  - Life advice: have a growth mindset!
- "Hey, I did above the median. That's good enough."
  - There's always some area where you can improve. Take the time to see what that is.

# Regrade Requests

- We're human. We make mistakes. And we're happy to correct them!
- Regrades will open on Gradescope 48 hours after grades are released. They close one week after grades are released.
- Notes on regrades:
  - Please be civil. We make mistakes. We're happy to correct them.
  - We have to grade what you submitted; we can't take any clarifications into account during regrades.
  - Regrades are for where we made deductions we shouldn't have, rather than for the magnitude of deductions.

# **Essential Action Items**

### • Review your feedback.

• Don't just look at the raw score. Make sure you really, truly understand where you need to improve.

### • Read the solutions in depth.

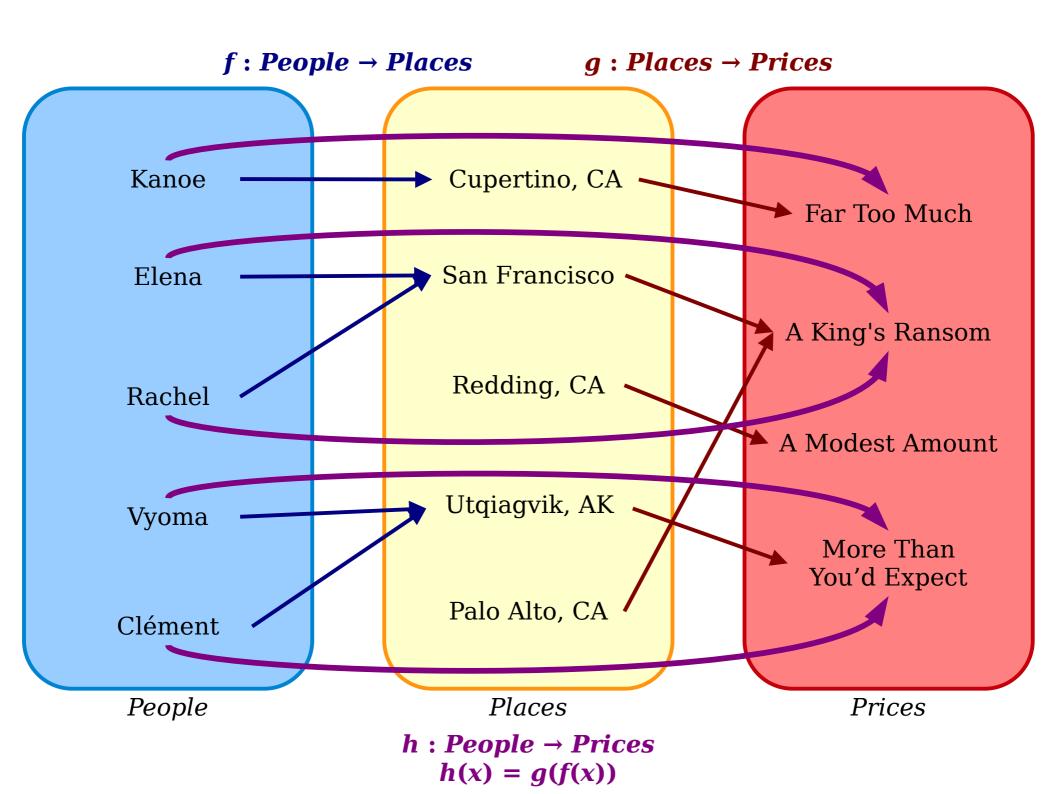
- Make sure you understand what we were asking, why we asked it, and what we wanted you to take away.
- (Especially for Q8, Q10) Look at our solutions and see if there's any neat lessons you can draw from them.

### • Come to us with questions.

• Anything you're not sure about? That's what we're here for! Come to office hours, ask questions on EdStem, etc.

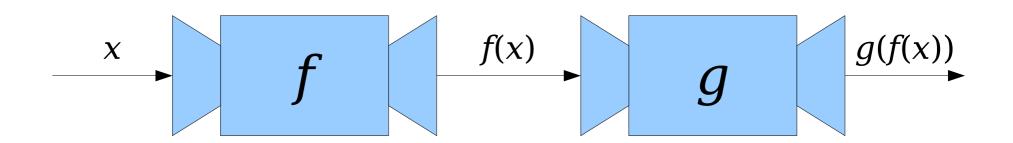
Back to CS103!

## **Function Composition**



# **Function Composition**

- Suppose that we have two functions  $f: A \rightarrow B$  and  $g: B \rightarrow C$ .
- Notice that the codomain of *f* is the domain of *g*. This means that we can use outputs from *f* as inputs to *g*.



# Function Composition

- Suppose that we have two functions  $f: A \rightarrow B$ and  $g: B \rightarrow C$ .
- The *composition of f and g*, denoted *g f*, is a function where
  - $g \circ f : A \to C$ , and
  - $(g \circ f)(x) = g(f(x)).$
- A few things to notice:

The name of the function is  $g \circ f$ . When we apply it to an input x, we write  $(g \circ f)(x)$ . I don't know why, but that's what we do.

- The domain of  $g \circ f$  is the domain of f. Its codomain is the codomain of g.
- Even though the composition is written  $g \circ f$ , when evaluating  $(g \circ f)(x)$ , the function f is evaluated first.

## **Properties of Composition**

#### What We're Assuming

- $f: A \to B \text{ is an injection.}$  $\forall x \in A. \ \forall y \in A. \ (x \neq y \to f(x) \neq f(y))$
- $g: B \rightarrow C$  is an injection.

 $\forall x \in B. \ \forall y \in B. \ (x \neq y \rightarrow g(x) \neq g(y)$ 

We're assuming these universally-quantified statements, so we won't introduce any variables for what's here.

#### What We Need to Prove

 $g \circ f$  is an injection.

 $\forall a_1 \in A. \ \forall a_2 \in A. \ (a_1 \neq a_2 \rightarrow (g \circ f)(a_1) \neq (g \circ f)(a_2)$ 

We need to prove this universallyquantified statement. So let's introduce arbitrarily-chosen values.

#### What We're Assuming

- $$\begin{split} f: A \to B \text{ is an injection.} \\ \forall x \in A. \; \forall y \in A. \; (x \neq y \to f(x) \neq f(y)) \\ \end{split}$$
- $g: B \to C \text{ is an injection.}$  $\forall x \in B. \ \forall y \in B. \ (x \neq y \to g(x) \neq g(y))$

 $a_1 \in A$  is arbitrarily-chosen.  $a_2 \in A$  is arbitrarily-chosen.

#### What We Need to Prove

 $g \circ f$  is an injection.

 $\forall a_1 \in A. \ \forall a_2 \in A. \ (a_1 \neq a_2 \rightarrow (g \circ f)(a_1) \neq (g \circ f)(a_2)$ 

We need to prove this universally quantified statement. So let's introduce arbitrarily—chosen values.

#### What We're Assuming

- $$\begin{split} f: A \to B \text{ is an injection.} \\ \forall x \in A. \ \forall y \in A. \ (x \neq y \to f(x) \neq f(y)) \\ \end{split}$$
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 $a_1 \neq a_2$ 

### What We Need to Prove

 $g \circ f$  is an injection.

 $\forall a_1 \in A. \ \forall a_2 \in A. \ (a_1 \neq a_2 \rightarrow (g \circ f)(a_1) \neq (g \circ f)(a_2)$ 

Now we're looking at an implication. Let's assume the antecedent and prove the consequent.

### What We're Assuming

- $$\begin{split} f: A \to B \text{ is an injection.} \\ \forall x \in A. \ \forall y \in A. \ (x \neq y \to f(x) \neq f(y)) \\ \end{split}$$
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 $g \circ f$  is an injection.

 $\forall a_1 \in A. \ \forall a_2 \in A. \ (a_1 \neq a_2 \rightarrow (g \circ f)(a_1) \neq (g \circ f)(a_2)$ 

Let's write this out separately and simplify things a bit.

### What We're Assuming

- $f: A \to B \text{ is an injection.}$  $\forall x \in A. \ \forall y \in A. \ (x \neq y \to f(x) \neq f(y))$
- $g: B \to C \text{ is an injection.}$  $\forall x \in B. \ \forall y \in B. \ (x \neq y \to g(x) \neq g(y))$

 $a_1 \in A$  is arbitrarily-chosen.  $a_2 \in A$  is arbitrarily-chosen.

 $a_1 \neq a_2$ 

### What We Need to Prove

```
g \circ f is an injection.
```

 $\forall a_1 \in A. \ \forall a_2 \in A. \ (a_1 \neq a_2 \rightarrow (g \circ f)(a_1) \neq (g \circ f)(a_2)$ 

### $(g \circ f)(a_1) \neq (g \circ f)(a_2)$

### What We're Assuming

- $f: A \to B \text{ is an injection.}$  $\forall x \in A. \ \forall y \in A. \ (x \neq y \to f(x) \neq f(y))$
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### What We Need to Prove

```
g \circ f is an injection.

\forall a_1 \in A. \ \forall a_2 \in A. \ (a_1 \neq a_2 \rightarrow (g \circ f)(a_1) \neq (g \circ f)(a_2))
```

```
g(f(a_1)) \neq g(f(a_2))
```

**Theorem:** If  $f : A \to B$  is an injection and  $g : B \to C$  is an injection, then the function  $g \circ f : A \to C$  is an injection.

#### What We're Assuming

- $f: A \to B \text{ is an injection.}$  $\forall x \in A. \ \forall y \in A. \ (x \neq y \to f(x) \neq f(y))$
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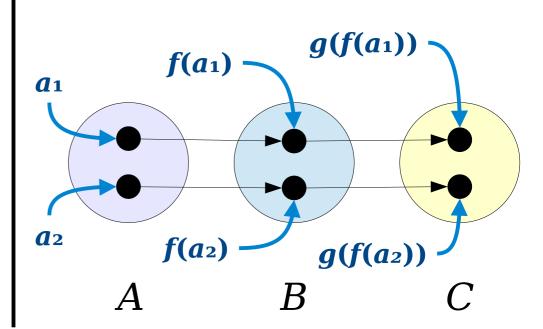
 $a_1 \neq a_2$ 

### What We Need to Prove

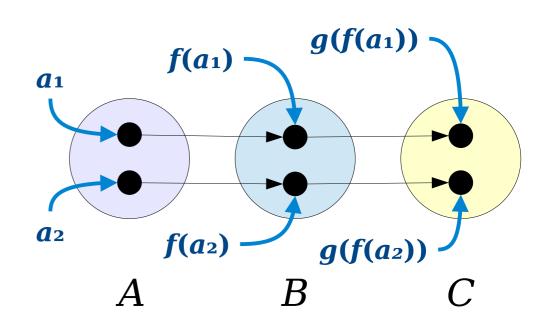
 $g \circ f$  is an injection.

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 $g(f(a_1)) \neq g(f(a_2))$ 

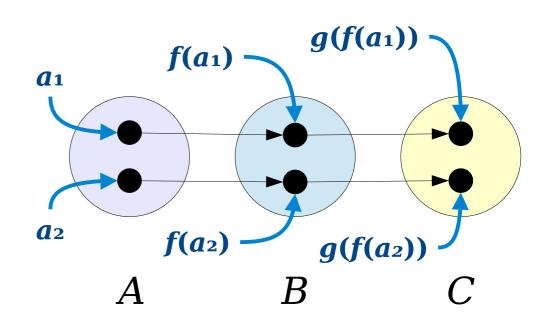


**Theorem:** If  $f : A \to B$  is an injection and  $g : B \to C$  is an injection, then the function  $g \circ f : A \to C$  is also an injection.



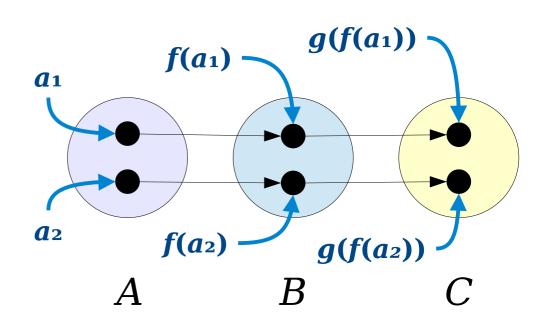
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**Proof:** 

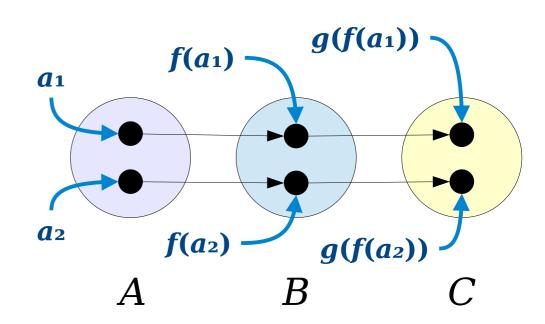


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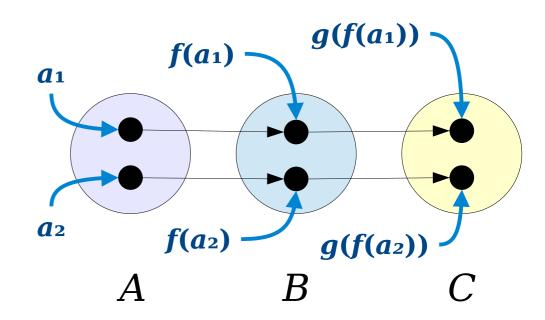
**Proof:** Let  $f : A \to B$  and  $g : B \to C$  be arbitrary injections.



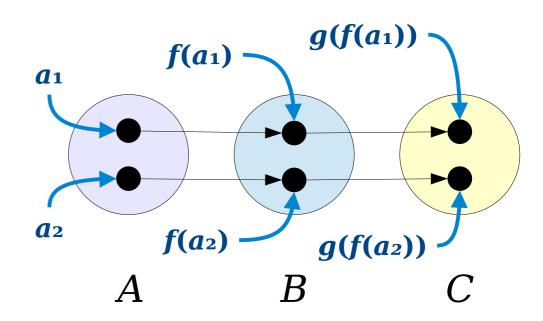
- **Theorem:** If  $f : A \to B$  is an injection and  $g : B \to C$  is an injection, then the function  $g \circ f : A \to C$  is also an injection.
- **Proof:** Let  $f : A \to B$  and  $g : B \to C$  be arbitrary injections. We will prove that the function  $g \circ f : A \to C$  is also injective.



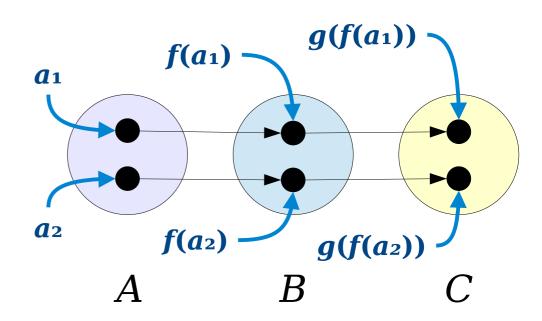
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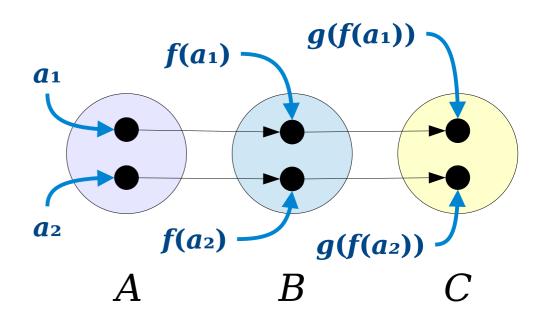


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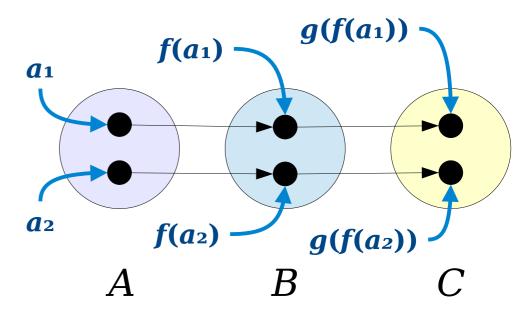


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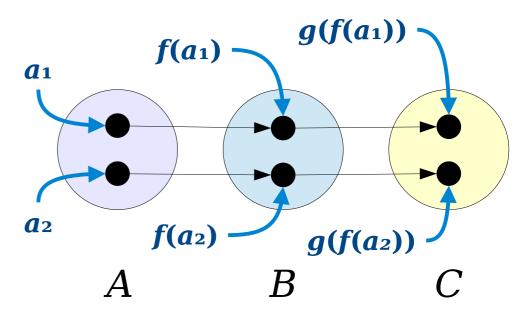
Since *f* is injective and  $a_1 \neq a_2$ , we see that  $f(a_1) \neq f(a_2)$ .



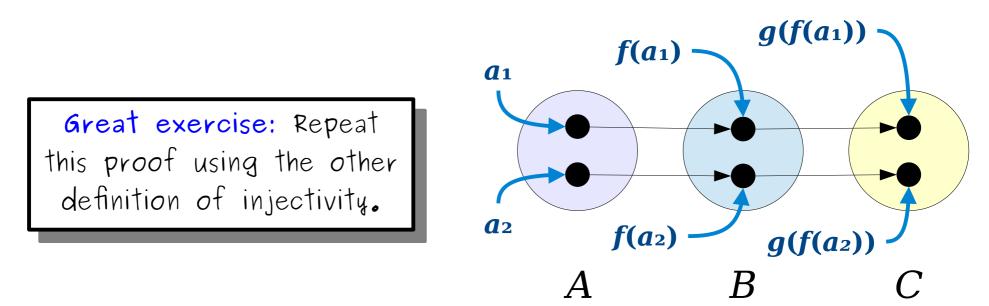
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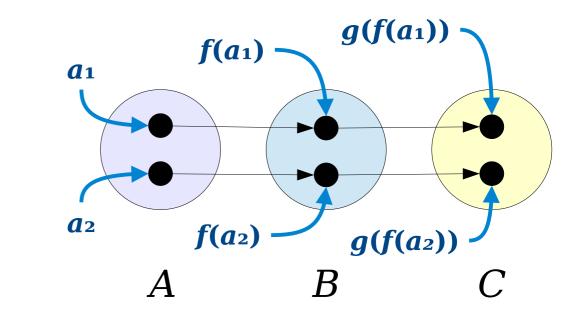


- **Theorem:** If  $f : A \to B$  is an injection and  $g : B \to C$  is an injection, then the function  $g \circ f : A \to C$  is also an injection.
- **Proof:** Let  $f : A \to B$  and  $g : B \to C$  be arbitrary injections. We will prove that the function  $g \circ f : A \to C$  is also injective. To do so, consider any  $a_1, a_2 \in A$  where  $a_1 \neq a_2$ . We will prove that  $(g \circ f)(a_1) \neq (g \circ f)(a_2)$ . Equivalently, we need to show that  $g(f(a_1)) \neq g(f(a_2))$ .



- **Theorem:** If  $f : A \to B$  is an injection and  $g : B \to C$  is an injection, then the function  $g \circ f : A \to C$  is also an injection.
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This proof contains no first-order logic syntax (quantifiers, connectives, etc.). It's written in plain English, just as usual.



**Theorem:** If  $f : A \to B$  is a surjection and  $g : B \to C$  is a surjection, then the function  $g \circ f : A \to C$  is a surjection.

**Proof:** In the appendix!

# Major Ideas From Today

- Proofs involving first-order definitions are heavily based on the structure of those definitions, yet FOL notation itself does *not* appear in the proof.
- Statements behave differently based on whether you're *assuming* or *proving* them.
- When you *assume* a universally-quantified statement, initially, do nothing. Instead, keep an eye out for a place to apply the statement more specifically.
- When you *prove* a universally-quantified statement, pick an arbitrary value and try to prove it has the needed property.

	If you <b>assume</b> this is true	To <b>prove</b> that this is true
$\forall x. A$	Initially, <b>do nothing</b> . Once you find a <i>z</i> through other means, you can state it has property <i>A</i> .	Have the reader pick an arbitrary <i>x</i> . We then prove <i>A</i> is true for that choice of <i>x</i> .
$\exists x. A$	Introduce a variable x into your proof that has property A.	Find an x where A is true. Then prove that A is true for that specific choice of x.
$A \rightarrow B$	Initially, <i>do nothing</i> . Once you know <i>A</i> is true, you can conclude <i>B</i> is also true.	Assume <i>A</i> is true, then prove <i>B</i> is true.
$A \land B$	Assume A. Also assume B.	Prove A. Also prove B.
$A \lor B$	Consider two cases. Case 1: A is true. Case 2: B is true.	Either prove $\neg A \rightarrow B$ or prove $\neg B \rightarrow A$ . (Why does this work?)
$A \leftrightarrow B$	Assume $A \rightarrow B$ and $B \rightarrow A$ .	Prove $A \rightarrow B$ and $B \rightarrow A$ .
$\neg A$	Simplify the negation, then consult this table on the result.	Simplify the negation, then consult this table on the result.

## Next Time

- Set Theory Revisited
  - Formalizing our definitions.
- Proofs on Sets
  - How to rigorously establish set-theoretic results.

### **Appendix:** Additional Function Proofs

**Proof:** Composing surjections yields a surjection.

**Proof:** 

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What does it mean for  $g \circ f : A \rightarrow C$  to be surjective?  $\forall c \in C. \exists a \in A. (g \circ f)(a) = c$ 

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What does it mean for  $g \circ f : A \rightarrow C$  to be surjective?  $\forall c \in C. \exists a \in A. (g \circ f)(a) = c$ Therefore, we'll choose an arbitrary  $c \in C$  and prove that there is some  $a \in A$  such that  $(g \circ f)(a) = c$ .

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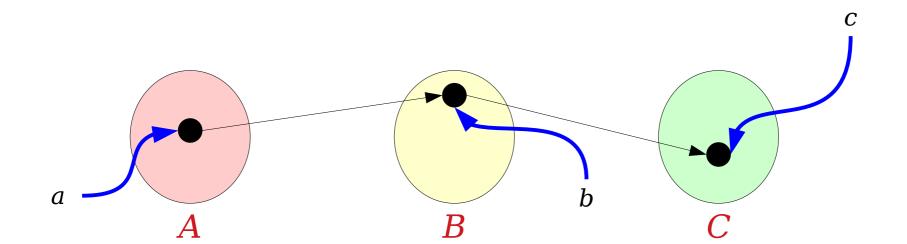
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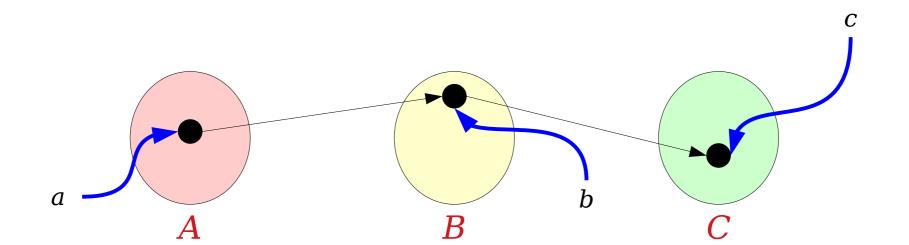
**Proof:** Let  $f : A \to B$  and  $g : B \to C$  be arbitrary surjections. We will prove that the function  $g \circ f : A \to C$  is also surjective. To do so, we will prove that for any  $c \in C$ , there is some  $a \in A$  such that  $(g \circ f)(a) = c$ .

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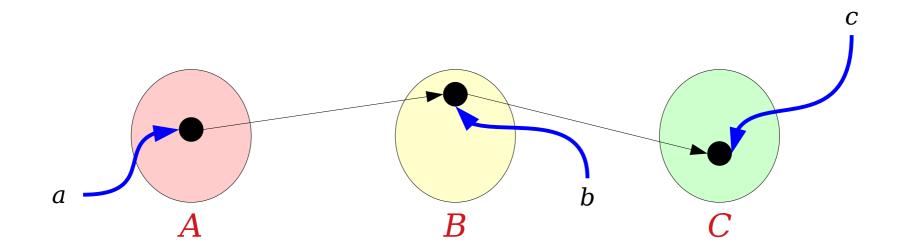
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Consider any  $c \in C$ .



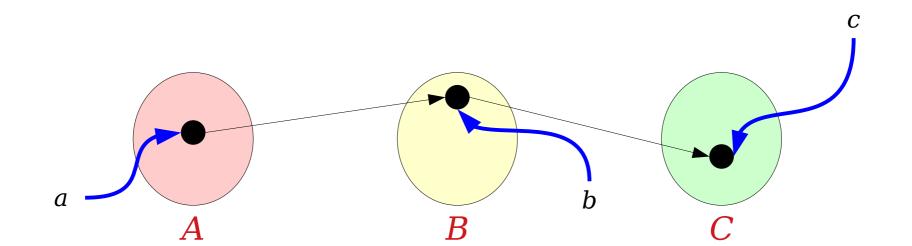
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Consider any  $c \in C$ . Since  $g : B \to C$  is surjective, there is some  $b \in B$  such that g(b) = c.



**Proof:** Let  $f : A \to B$  and  $g : B \to C$  be arbitrary surjections. We will prove that the function  $g \circ f : A \to C$  is also surjective. To do so, we will prove that for any  $c \in C$ , there is some  $a \in A$  such that  $(g \circ f)(a) = c$ . Equivalently, we will prove that for any  $c \in C$ , there is some  $a \in A$  such that g(f(a)) = c.

Consider any  $c \in C$ . Since  $g : B \to C$  is surjective, there is some  $b \in B$  such that g(b) = c. Similarly, since  $f : A \to B$  is surjective, there is some  $a \in A$  such that f(a) = b.



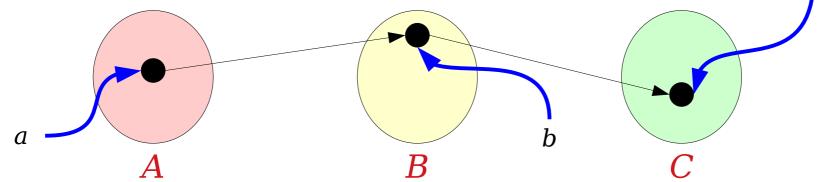
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g(f(a)) = g(b) = c,

С

which is what we needed to show.



**Proof:** Let  $f : A \to B$  and  $g : B \to C$  be arbitrary surjections. We will prove that the function  $g \circ f : A \to C$  is also surjective. To do so, we will prove that for any  $c \in C$ , there is some  $a \in A$  such that  $(g \circ f)(a) = c$ . Equivalently, we will prove that for any  $c \in C$ , there is some  $a \in A$  such that g(f(a)) = c.

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