

# Vector Calculus Function Glossary

Dr. Paul L. Bailey  
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The notation  $f : X \rightarrow Y$  means the  $f$  is a function from a set  $X$  to a set  $Y$ .

Let  $f : X \rightarrow Y$  and  $g : Y \rightarrow Z$ .

Let  $A \subset X$  and  $B \subset Y$ .

- The *domain* of  $f$  is the set

$$\text{dom}(f) = X.$$

- The *codomain* of  $f$  is the set

$$\text{codom}(f) = Y.$$

- The *range* of  $f$  is the set

$$\text{range}(f) = \{y \in Y \mid y = f(x) \text{ for some } x \in X\}.$$

- The *image* of  $A$  under  $f$  is the set

$$f(A) = \{y \in Y \mid y = f(a) \text{ for some } a \in A\}.$$

- The *preimage* of  $B$  under  $f$  is the set

$$f^{-1}(B) = \{x \in X \mid f(x) \in B\}.$$

- We say that  $f$  is *injective* if

$$f(x_1) = f(x_2) \quad \Rightarrow \quad x_1 = x_2.$$

- We say that  $f$  is *surjective* if

for every  $y \in Y$  there exists  $x \in X$  such that  $f(x) = y$ .

- We say that  $f$  is *bijective* if  $f$  is injective and surjective.

- The *composition* of  $f$  and  $g$  is

$$g \circ f : X \rightarrow Z \quad \text{given by} \quad g \circ f(x) = g(f(x)).$$

- The *identity function* on  $X$  is

$$\text{id}_X : X \rightarrow X \text{ such that } \text{id}_X(x) = x \text{ for all } x \in X.$$

- The *inverse function* of  $f$  is a function  $g : Y \rightarrow X$  such that

$$g(f(x)) = x \quad \text{and} \quad f(g(y)) = y \quad \text{for all } x \in X \text{ and } y \in Y.$$

Equivalently,  $g$  is the inverse of  $f$  if

$$g(y) = x \quad \Leftrightarrow \quad f(x) = y.$$

Equivalently,  $g$  is the inverse of  $f$  if

$$g \circ f = \text{id}_X \quad \text{and} \quad f \circ g = \text{id}_Y.$$