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symmetric inverse semigroup

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Entry type	Definition
Classification	msc 20M18
Defines	partial map
Defines	composition of partial maps
Defines	symmetric inverse semigroup

Let  $X$  be a set. A *partial map* on  $X$  is an application defined from a subset of  $X$  into  $X$ . We denote by  $\mathfrak{F}(X)$  the set of partial map on  $X$ . Given  $\alpha \in \mathfrak{F}(X)$ , we denote by  $\text{dom}(\alpha)$  and  $\text{ran}(\alpha)$  respectively the domain and the range of  $\alpha$ , i.e.

$$\text{dom}(\alpha), \text{ran}\alpha \subseteq X, \quad \alpha : \text{dom}(\alpha) \rightarrow X, \quad \alpha(\text{dom}(\alpha)) = \text{ran}(\alpha).$$

We define the composition of two partial map  $\alpha, \beta \in \mathfrak{F}(X)$  as the partial map  $\alpha \circ \beta \in \mathfrak{F}(X)$  with domain

$$\text{dom}(\alpha \circ \beta) = \beta^{-1}(\text{ran}(\beta) \cap \text{dom}(\alpha)) = \{x \in \text{dom}(\beta) \mid \alpha(x) \in \text{dom}(\beta)\}$$

defined by the common rule

$$\alpha \circ \beta(x) = \alpha(\beta(x)), \quad \forall x \in \text{dom}(\alpha \circ \beta).$$

It is easily verified that the  $\mathfrak{F}(X)$  with the composition  $\circ$  is a semigroup.

A partial map  $\alpha \in \mathfrak{F}(X)$  is said *bijective* when it is bijective as a map  $\alpha : \text{ran}(\alpha) \rightarrow \text{dom}(\alpha)$ . It can be proved that the subset  $\mathfrak{I}(X) \subseteq \mathfrak{F}(X)$  of the partial bijective maps on  $X$  is an inverse semigroup (with the composition  $\circ$ ), that is called *symmetric inverse semigroup* on  $X$ . Note that the symmetric group on  $X$  is a subgroup of  $\mathfrak{I}(X)$ .