

Relations and Functions

CS 2LC3

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- For expressions b and c , the 2-tuple (b, c) (or $\langle b, c \rangle$) is called an *ordered pair*, or simply a *pair*.
- Defining ordered pairs with sets: for any expressions b and c :

Ordered pair: $(b, c) = \{\{b\}, \{b, c\}\}.$

- $(c, b) = \{\{c\}, \{b, c\}\} \neq \{\{b\}, \{b, c\}\} = (b, c)$
 $(a, a) = \{\{a\}\}$

- Alternative (logical) approach:

Axiom, Pair equality: $(b, c) = (b', c') \equiv b = b' \wedge c = c'$

Cartesian (Cross) Product

- *Cartesian product* $S \times T$ of two sets S and T is the set of pairs (b, c) such that b is in S and c is in T .

Axiom, Cartesian product:

$$S \times T = \{b, c \mid b \in S \wedge c \in T : (b, c)\}$$

- Alternative, more popular notation

$$S \times T = \{(b, c) \mid b \in S \wedge c \in T\}$$

- For example:

$$\{2, 5\} \times \{1, 2, 3\} = \{(2, 1), (2, 2), (2, 3), (5, 1), (5, 2), (5, 3)\}.$$

Theorems for Cartesian Product (Numbers from Textbook)

$$(14.4) \quad \textbf{Membership: } \langle x, y \rangle \in S \times T \equiv x \in S \wedge y \in T$$

$$(14.5) \quad \langle x, y \rangle \in S \times T \equiv \langle y, x \rangle \in T \times S$$

$$(14.6) \quad S = \emptyset \Rightarrow S \times T = T \times S = \emptyset$$

$$(14.7) \quad S \times T = T \times S \equiv S = \emptyset \vee T = \emptyset \vee S = T$$

$$(14.8) \quad \textbf{Distributivity of } \times \textbf{ over } \cup :$$

$$S \times (T \cup U) = (S \times T) \cup (S \times U)$$

$$(S \cup T) \times U = (S \times U) \cup (T \times U)$$

$$(14.9) \quad \textbf{Distributivity of } \times \textbf{ over } \cap :$$

$$S \times (T \cap U) = (S \times T) \cap (S \times U)$$

$$(S \cap T) \times U = (S \times U) \cap (T \times U)$$

$$(14.10) \quad \textbf{Distributivity of } \times \textbf{ over } - :$$

$$S \times (T - U) = (S \times T) - (S \times U)$$

Theorems for Cartesian Product and Extension from 2 to n

$$(14.11) \text{ Monotonicity: } T \subseteq U \Rightarrow S \times T \subseteq S \times U$$

$$(14.12) S \subseteq U \wedge T \subseteq V \Rightarrow S \times T \subseteq U \times V$$

$$(14.13) S \times T \subseteq S \times U \wedge S \neq \emptyset \Rightarrow T \subseteq U$$

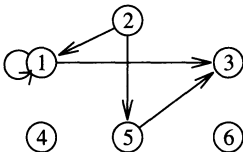
$$(14.14) (S \cap T) \times (U \cap V) = (S \times U) \cap (T \times V)$$

$$(14.15) \text{ For finite } S \text{ and } T, \#(S \times T) = \#S \cdot \#T$$

- We can extend the notion of a Cartesian product from two sets to n sets.
- For example, $\mathbb{Z} \times \mathbb{N} \times \{3, 4, 5\}$ is the set of triples (x, y, z) where x is an integer, y is a natural number, and $z \in \{3, 4, 5\}$.
- The theorems shown for the Cartesian product of two sets extend to theorems for the Cartesian product of n sets in the expected way.

Relations

- A *relation* on a Cartesian product $B_1 \times \dots \times B_n$ is simply a subset of $B_1 \times \dots \times B_n$.
- Thus, a relation is a set of n -tuples (for some fixed n).
- A *binary relation* over $B \times C$ is a subset of $B \times C$.
- If B and C are the same, so that the relation is on $B \times B$, we call it simply a (binary) relation on B .
- Any binary relation can be described by a *directed graph*. The graph has one *vertex* for each element of the set, and there is a directed edge from vertex b (say) to vertex c iff (b, c) is in the binary relation.



Examples of Binary Relations

Examples of (binary) relations

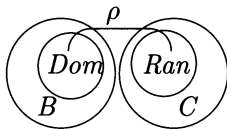
- (a) The *empty relation* on $B \times C$ is the empty set, \emptyset .
- (b) The *identity relation* ι_B on B is $\{x \mid x \in B : \langle x, x \rangle\}$.
- (c) Relation *parent* on the set of people is the set of pairs $\langle b, c \rangle$ such that b is a parent of c . Relation *child* on the set of people is the set of pairs $\langle b, c \rangle$ such that b is a child of c . Relation *sister* on the set of people is the set of pairs $\langle b, c \rangle$ such that b is a sister of c .
- (d) Relation *pred* (for predecessor) on \mathbb{Z} is the set of pairs $\langle b-1, b \rangle$ for integers b , $\text{pred} = \{b:\mathbb{Z} \mid \langle b-1, b \rangle\}$. Relation *succ* (for successor) is defined by $\text{succ} = \{b:\mathbb{Z} \mid \langle b+1, b \rangle\}$.
- (e) Relation *sqrt* on \mathbb{R} is the set $\{b, c:\mathbb{R} \mid b^2 = c : \langle b, c \rangle\}$.
- (f) An algorithm P can be viewed as a relation on states. A pair $\langle b, c \rangle$ is in the relation iff some execution of P begun in state b terminates in state c . □

Notations, Domain and Range of Relations

- **Notations:** Let $R \subseteq B \times C$ be a binary relation. We may write

$$bRc \text{ or } (b, c) \in R.$$

- For example: $x < y$ or $(x, y) \in <$ (or sometimes $(x, y) \in R_<$).
- We have $bR_1cR_2d \equiv bR_1c \wedge cR_2d$, etc.
- The *domain* $Dom.R$ (or $Dom(R)$) and *range* $Ran.R$ (or $Ran(R)$) of the relation R on $B \times C$ are defined by:
$$Dom.R = \{b : B \mid (\exists c \mid bRc)\} = \{b \mid \exists c \in C (b, c) \in R\}$$
$$Ran.R = \{c : C \mid (\exists b \mid bRc)\} = \{c \mid \exists b \in B (b, c) \in R\}$$
- B and $Dom.R$ need not to be the same!



Operations on Relations: $\cup, \cap, \setminus, \sim, ^{-1}$

- Suppose R and Q are relations on $B \times C$.
- Since a relation is a set, $R \cup Q$, $R \cap Q$, $R \setminus Q$, and $\sim R$ (where $\sim R = (B \times C) \setminus R$) are also relations on $B \times C$.
- The *inverse* R^{-1} of a relation R on $B \times C$ is the relation defined by:

$$(b, c) \in R^{-1} \equiv (c, b) \in R \text{ (for all } b \in B, c \in C).$$

- Properties of inverse

- (a) $Dom(R^{-1}) = Ran(R)$, $Ran(R^{-1}) = Dom(R)$
- (b) $R \subseteq B \times C \implies R^{-1} \subseteq C \times B$
- (c) $(R^{-1})^{-1} = R$
- (d) $R \subseteq Q \equiv R^{-1} \subseteq Q^{-1}$

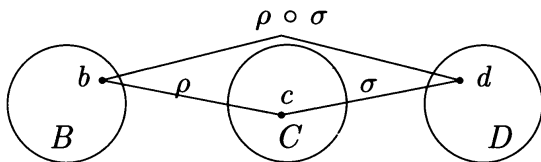
Operations on Relations: composition/product

- Let R be a relation on $B \times C$ and Q be a relation on $C \times D$.
- The *composition* or *product* of R and Q , denoted by $R \circ Q$, is the relation defined by

$$(b, d) \in R \circ Q \equiv (\exists c \mid c \in C : (b, c) \in R \wedge (c, d) \in Q),$$

or, using the alternative notation, by

$$b(R \circ Q)d \equiv (\exists c \mid bRcQd).$$



$b (\rho \circ \sigma) d$ holds iff $b \rho c \sigma d$ holds for some c .

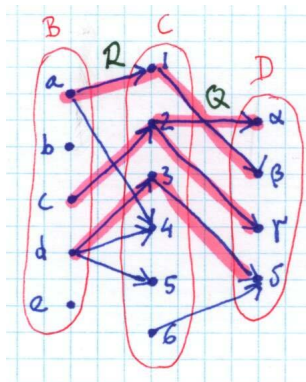
Example of Composition

$B = \{a, b, c, d, e\}$, $C = \{1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6\}$, $D = \{\alpha, \beta, \gamma, \delta\}$,

$R = \{(a, 1), (a, 4), (c, 2), (d, 3), (d, 4), (d, 5)\} \subseteq B \times C$,

$Q = \{(1, \beta), (2, \alpha), (2, \gamma), (3, \delta), (6, \delta)\} \subseteq C \times D$,

$R \circ Q = \{(a, \beta), (c, \alpha), (c, \gamma), (d, \delta)\} \subseteq B \times D$.



- The figure above represents another useful representation of composition of finite relations.

Properties of Composition/Product of Relations

- **Associativity of \circ :** $R \circ (Q \circ S) = (R \circ Q) \circ S$
- **Distributivity of \circ over \cup :** $R \circ (Q \cup S) = R \circ Q \cup R \circ S$
 $(Q \cup S) \circ R = Q \circ R \cup S \circ R$
- **Distributivity of \circ over \cap :** $R \circ (Q \cap S) \subseteq R \circ Q \cap R \circ S$
 $(Q \cap S) \circ R \subseteq Q \circ R \cap S \circ R$

- Let $R \subseteq B \times B$ be a relation. The relation $R \circ R$ is often written as R^2 , $R \circ R \circ R$ as R^3 , etc.
- Formally, R^n , $n \geq 0$ can be defined as follows:
$$R^0 = id_B = \{(b, b) \mid b \in B\} \text{ (identity on } B, \text{ diagonal of } B)$$
$$R^{n+1} = R^n \circ R \text{ (for } n \geq 0)$$
- Properties of powers:
 - (a) $R^m \circ R^n = R^{m+n}$ (for $m \geq 0, n \geq 0$)
 - (b) $(R^m)^n = R^{m \cdot n}$ (for $m \geq 0, n \geq 0$)

- **Definition.** A binary relation f on $B \times C$ is called a **function** iff it is *determinate*:

Determinate: $(\forall b, c, c' \mid bfc \wedge bfc' : c = c')$

or, using more traditional notation:

$\forall b, c, c' (bfc \wedge bfc' \implies c = c')$.

- **Definition.** A function f on $B \times C$ is *total* if

Total: $B = \text{Dom}(f)$;

otherwise it *partial*.

- We write $f : B \rightarrow C$ for the type of f if f is *total*.
- We write $f : B \rightsquigarrow C$ (or $f : B \rightharpoonup C$, $f : B \hookrightarrow C$, $f : B \rightarrowtail C$, or just $f : B \rightarrow C$ and a comment “partial”) if f is *partial*.
- Composition of partial functions might be *undefined*!
- For each partial function $f : B \rightsquigarrow C$, the function $f : \text{Dom}(f) \rightarrow C$ is total.

Examples of Functions as Relations

- (a) Binary relation $<$ is not a function, because it is not determinate —both $1 < 2$ and $1 < 3$ hold.
- (b) Identity relation ι_B over B is a total function $\iota_B : B \rightarrow B$; $\iota.b = b$ for all b in B .
- (c) Total function $f: \mathbb{N} \rightarrow \mathbb{N}$ defined by $f(n) = n + 1$ is the relation $\{\langle 0, 1 \rangle, \langle 1, 2 \rangle, \langle 2, 3 \rangle, \dots\}$.
- (d) Partial function $f: \mathbb{N} \rightsquigarrow \mathbb{Q}$ defined by $f(n) = 1/n$ is the relation $\{\langle 1, 1/1 \rangle, \langle 2, 1/2 \rangle, \langle 3, 1/3 \rangle, \dots\}$. It is partial because $f.0$ is not defined.
- (e) Function $f: \mathbb{Z}^+ \rightarrow \mathbb{Q}$ defined by $f(b) = 1/b$ is total, since $f.b$ is defined for all elements of \mathbb{Z}^+ , the positive integers. However, $g: \mathbb{N} \rightsquigarrow \mathbb{Q}$ defined by $g.b = 1/b$ is partial because $g.0$ is not defined.
- (f) The partial function f that takes each lower-case character to the next character can be defined by a finite number of pairs: $\{\langle 'a', 'b' \rangle, \langle 'b', 'c' \rangle, \dots, \langle 'y', 'z' \rangle\}$. It is partial because there is no pair whose first component is $'z'$. \square

Composition of Total Functions

- **Theorem.** Let $f : B \rightarrow C$ and $g : C \rightarrow D$. We have:

$$(f \circ g)(b) = g(f(b)), \text{ for all } b \in B.$$

The proof is simple:

$$\begin{aligned} & (f \circ g)(b) \\ = & \langle f \circ g \text{ as a relation} \rangle \\ & b(f \circ g)d \\ = & \langle \text{Definition of composition for relations} \rangle \\ & (\exists c \mid bfc \wedge cgd) \\ = & \langle f, g \text{ are total functions} \rangle \\ & (\exists c \mid f(b) = c \wedge g(c) = d) \\ = & \langle \text{Trading} \rangle \\ & (\exists c \mid c = f(b) \wedge d = g(c)) \\ = & \langle \text{One-point rule for quantifiers} \rangle \\ & g(f(b)) \end{aligned}$$

- **Definition.** For functions f and g , $f \bullet g = g \circ f$.

- The theory of binary relations tells us that function composition is associative: $(f \bullet g) \bullet h = f \bullet (g \bullet h)$.
- Powers of a function $f : B \rightarrow B$ are defined as follows:
 - f^0 is the *identity function*: $f^0(b) = b$,
 - $f^{n+1}(b) = f(f^n(b))$, for all $n \geq 0$.

- Let $f : B \rightarrow C$ and $g : B \rightarrow C$ be total functions.
- The relation $f \cap g$ is a *partial* function $(f \cup g) : C \rightsquigarrow B$, unless $f = g$. Moreover

$$(f \cap g)(x) = \begin{cases} f(x) & \text{if } f(x) = g(x) \\ \text{undefined} & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

- If $f \neq g$ then the relation $f \cup g$ is *never a function*, even partial. If $f \neq g$ then there is at least one x such that $f(x) \neq g(x)$, so we have $(x, f(x)) \in f \cup g$ and $(x, g(x)) \in f \cup g$, so $f \cup g$ is not determinate.
- Example: $f(x) = 5 \cdot x$, $g(x) = x^2$. then $\{(2, 10), (2, 4)\} \subseteq f \cup g$.

Basic Classes of Relations

- A few classes of relations that enjoy certain properties are used frequently.
- The most popular properties are given below, in two equivalent forms.

Name	Property	Alternative
(a) reflexive	$(\forall b \mid: b \rho b)$	$\iota_B \subseteq \rho$
(b) irreflexive	$(\forall b \mid: \neg(b \rho b))$	$\iota_B \cap \rho = \emptyset$
(c) symmetric	$(\forall b, c \mid: b \rho c \equiv c \rho b)$	$\rho^{-1} = \rho$
(d) antisymmetric	$(\forall b, c \mid: b \rho c \wedge c \rho b \Rightarrow b = c)$	$\rho \cap \rho^{-1} \subseteq \iota_B$
(e) asymmetric	$(\forall b, c \mid: b \rho c \Rightarrow \neg(c \rho b))$	$\rho \cap \rho^{-1} = \emptyset$
(f) transitive	$(\forall b, c, d \mid: b \rho c \wedge c \rho d \Rightarrow b \rho d)$	$\rho = (\cup_i \mid i > 0 : \rho^i)$

Examples of Classes Of Relations

- (a) Relation \leq on \mathbb{Z} is reflexive, since $b \leq b$ holds for all integers b . It is not irreflexive. Relation $<$ on \mathbb{Z} is not reflexive, since $2 < 2$ is false. It is irreflexive.
- (b) Consider relation *square* on \mathbb{Z} that is defined by b *square* c iff $b = c \cdot c$. It is not reflexive because it does not contain the pair $\langle 2, 2 \rangle$. It is not irreflexive because it does contain the pair $\langle 1, 1 \rangle$. Thus, a relation that is not reflexive need not be irreflexive.
- (c) Relation $=$ on the integers is symmetric, since $b = c \equiv c = b$. Relation $<$ is not symmetric.
- (d) Relation \leq is antisymmetric since $b \leq c \wedge c \leq b \Rightarrow b = c$. Relation $<$ is antisymmetric: since $b < c \wedge c < b$ is always *false*, we have $b < c \wedge c < b \Rightarrow b = c$ for all b, c . Relation \neq is not antisymmetric.
- (e) Relation $<$ is asymmetric, since $b < c$ implies $\neg(c < b)$. Relation \leq is not asymmetric.
- (f) Relation $<$ is transitive, since if $b < c$ and $c < d$ then $b < d$. Relation *parent* is not transitive. However, relation *ancestor* is transitive, where b *ancestor* c holds if b is an ancestor of c . \square

- The *closure* of a relation R with respect to some property (e.g. reflexivity) is the *smallest* relation that both has that property and contains R .
- To construct a closure, add pairs to R , but not too many, until it has the property.
- For example, the reflexive closure of $<$ over the integers is the relation constructed by adding to relation $<$ all pairs (b, b) for b an integer.
- Therefore, \leq is the *reflexive closure* of $<$.
- The construction of a closure does not always make sense.
- For example, the irreflexive closure of a relation containing $(1, 1)$ doesn't exist, since it is precisely the *presence* of this pair that makes the relation not irreflexive.

Definition (14.30 in the textbook)

Let R be a relation, $R \subseteq B \times B$. The *reflexive* (*symmetric*, *transitive*, etc.,) closure of R is the relation $R' \subseteq B \times B$ that satisfies:

- (a) *reflexive* (*symmetric*, *transitive*, etc.,),
- (b) $R \subseteq R'$,
- (c) If R'' is *reflexive* (*symmetric*, *transitive*, etc.,) and $R'' \subseteq R$, then $R' \subseteq R''$.

Notation:

- $r(R)$ - the reflexive closure of R ;
- $s(R)$ - the symmetric closure;
- R^+ - the transitive closure;
- R^* - the reflexive transitive closure.

Examples and Simple Properties of Closures

- (a) The reflexive closure $r(<)$ of $<$ on the integers is \leq .
- (b) The symmetric closure $s(\text{parent})$ of parent is $\text{parent} \cup \text{child}$, since if $\langle b, c \rangle$ is in the symmetric closure, then so is $\langle c, b \rangle$.
- (c) The transitive closure parent^+ of parent is ancestor , since whenever $\langle b, c \rangle$ and $\langle c, d \rangle$ are in the transitive closure, then so is $\langle b, d \rangle$.
- (d) The reflexive transitive closure parent^* of parent is the relation *ancestor-or-self*. □

Theorem

*A reflexive relation is its own reflexive closure;
a symmetric relation is its own symmetric closure;
and a transitive relation is its own transitive closure.*

Alternative Explicit Definitions of Closures

Theorem

Let $R \subseteq B \times b$. Then

(a) $r(R) = R \cup id_B$, where id_B is the identity relation on B .

(b) $s(R) = R \cup R^{-1}$.

(c) $R^+ = \bigcup (i \mid 0 < i : R^i)$, or equivalently $R^+ = \bigcup_{i=1}^{\infty} R^i$.

(d) $R^* = R^+ \cup id_B = \bigcup (i \mid 0 \leq i : R^i)$, or equivalently

$$R^* = \bigcup_{i=0}^{\infty} R^i.$$

Proof.

We will prove only (c) as this is the only one that is non trivial.
Our proof will be a little bit of high level, a very detailed low level proof in in the textbook. ■

Proof.

We will prove: $R^+ = \bigcup (i \mid 0 < i : R^i)$, or $R^+ = \bigcup_{i=1}^{\infty} R^i$, is a transitive closure according to Definition from page 22.

(a) We need to show that R^+ is transitive. Assume bR^+c and cR^+d . This means there are $i_1 > 0$ and $i_2 > 0$ such that $bR^{i_1}c$ and $cR^{i_2}d$. Hence $bR^{i_1}c \circ R^{i_2}d = bR^{i_1+i_2}d \Rightarrow bR^+d$. So R^+ is transitive.

(b) Clearly $R \subseteq R^+ = R \cup R^2 \cup R^3 \cup \dots$

(c) Assume R' is transitive and $R \subseteq R'$. We will show that

$R^+ \subseteq R'$. Since $R^+ = \bigcup_{i=1}^{\infty} R^i$, it suffices to show that $R^i \subseteq R'$ for

all $i \geq 1$. First note that if a relation Q is transitive then $Q^i \subseteq Q$. This just follows from the fact that

$b_0 Q b_1 Q b_2 \dots b_{i-1} Q b_i \Rightarrow b_0 Q b_i$ for any transitive relation Q .

Since $R \subseteq R'$, then $R^i \subseteq (R')^i \subseteq R'$, so we are done. ■