

Relations

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Cartesian Product

- If we want to describe a relationship between elements of two sets A and B , we use a relation.
- For Relations we require a cartesian product
- **Definition:** The Cartesian product of A and B is denoted by $A \times B$ and equals $\{(a, b) : a \in A \text{ and } b \in B\}$. The elements of $A \times B$ are ordered pairs. The elements of $A_1 \times A_2 \times \dots \times A_n$ are ordered n -tuples.
- Eg.1: $A = \{1, 2, 3\}$ $B = \{a, b\}$ $A \times B = ?$, $B \times B$, B^3
- Eg.2 : $A = \text{Real Set}$ $B = \text{Real Set}$; $A \times B =$
- Eg.3: $A = B = \{x \in \mathbb{R} : -1 \leq x \leq 1\}$
- Eg.4: For any set A , $A \times \emptyset = \emptyset$. Likewise, $\emptyset \times A = \emptyset$.
- $|A \times B| = |A| \times |B|$ or $\#(A \times B) = \#(A) \times \#(B)$

Relations

- If we want to describe a relationship between elements of two sets A and B , we can use **ordered pairs** with their first element taken from A and their second element taken from B .
- Since this is a relation between **two sets**, it is called a **binary relation**.
- **Definition:** Let A and B be sets. A binary relation from A to B is a subset of $A \times B$.
- In other words, for a binary relation R we have $R \subseteq A \times B$. We use the notation aRb to denote that $(a, b) \in R$ and $a(\text{not}R)b$ to denote that $(a, b) \notin R$.

Relations

- When (a, b) belongs to R , a is said to be **related** to b by R .
- **Example:** Let P be a set of people, C be a set of cars, and D be the relation describing which person drives which car(s).
- $P = \{\text{Carl, Suzanne, Peter, Carla}\},$
- $C = \{\text{Mercedes, BMW, tricycle}\}$
- $D = \{(\text{Carl, Mercedes}), (\text{Suzanne, Mercedes}),$
 $(\text{Suzanne, BMW}), (\text{Peter, tricycle})\}$
- This means that Carl drives a Mercedes,
- Suzanne drives a Mercedes and a BMW,
- Peter drives a tricycle, and
- Carla does not drive any of these vehicles.

Relations on a Set

- **Definition:** A relation on the set A is a relation from A to A .
- In other words, a relation on the set A is a subset of $A \times A$.
- Eg1.: $A = \{2, 4, 6, 8\}$ $R = \{(x, y) : x \text{ divides } y \text{ and } x, y \in A\}$?
- Eg2: $A = \mathbb{N}$; $R = \{(x, y) : x \text{ and } y \text{ have the same remainder when divided by } y\} = ?$
- **Eg3:** Let $A = \{1, 2, 3, 4\}$. Which ordered pairs are in the relation $R = \{(a, b) \mid a < b\}$?

Domain, Range, Field of a Relation

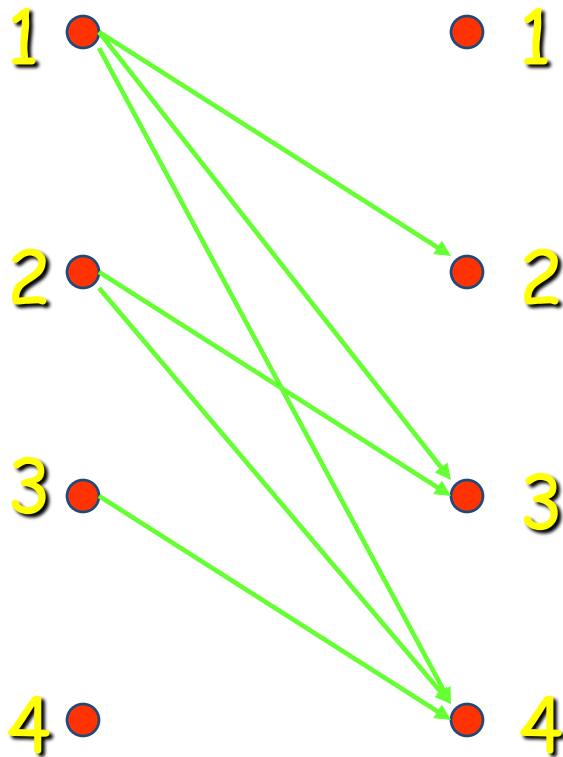
- $\text{Dom} (R) = \{ x : (x,y) \in R \}$
- $\text{Ran} (R) = \{ y : (x,y) \in R \}$
- $\text{Fld} (R) = \text{Dom} (R) \cup \text{Ran} (R)$
- Eg1.
- $R1 = \{(-1,3), (2,0), (2,5), (-3,2)\}$
- $\text{Dom } R1 = \{-1, 2, -3\}$
- $\text{Ran } R1 = \{ 3, 0, 5, 2\}$
- $\text{Fld } R1 = \{ -3, -1, 0, 2, 3, 5\}$

Representation of Relations

- Let $A = \{1, 2, 3, 4\}$. Which ordered pairs are in the relation $R = \{(a, b) \mid a < b\}$
- 1) Set of Ordered Pairs:
 - $R = \{(1,2), (1,3), (1,4), (2,3), (2,4), (3,4)\}$
- 2) Arrow Diagram :
- 3) Table :
- 4) Matrix :
- 5) Directed Graph :
- 6) Algebraic Equation:
 - $y = x^2; R = \{(x,y) : y=x^2 \text{ for all } x,y \in \mathbb{R}\}$
- 7) Verbal Sentence:
 - $A = \mathbb{R} \quad B = \mathbb{R} \quad x \in A, y \in B, x \text{ is related to } y \text{ such that } R \text{ consists of all points on the parabola } y = x^2$

Relations on a Set: Ordered Pairs, Arrow Diagram, Table

•**Solution:** $R = \{ (1, 2), (1, 3), (1, 4), (2, 3), (2, 4), (3, 4) \}$



R	1	2	3	4
1		X	X	X
2			X	X
3				X
4				

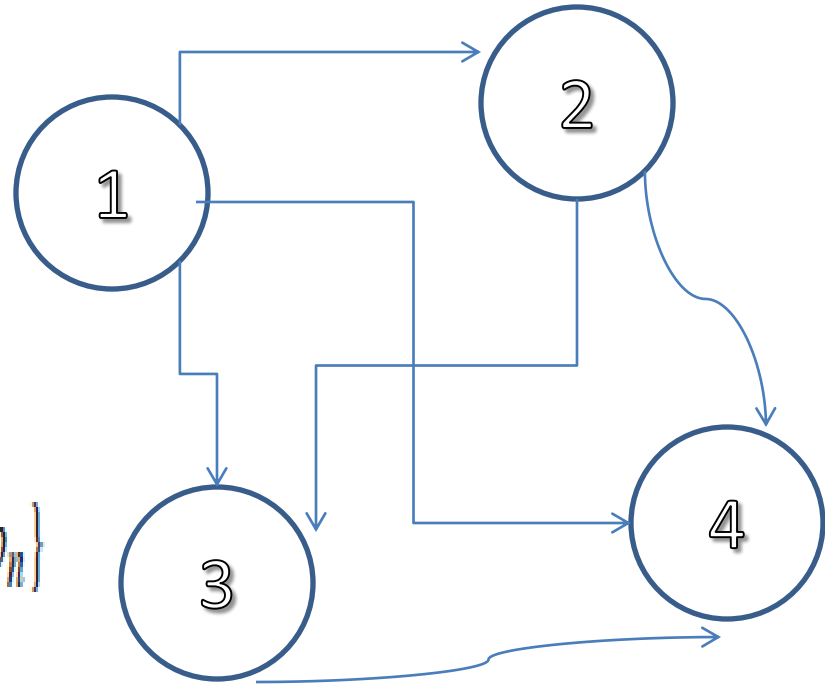
Matrix, Directed Graph

$$M_R = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 1 & 1 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix}$$

$$A = \{a_1, a_2, \dots, a_m\} \text{ to } B = \{b_1, b_2, \dots, b_n\}$$

$$M_R = [m_{ij}]$$

$$m_{ij} = \begin{cases} 1 & \text{if } (a_i, b_j) \in R, \\ 0 & \text{if } (a_i, b_j) \notin R. \end{cases}$$



Relations on a Set

- **How many different relations can we define on a set A with n elements?**
- A relation on a set A is a subset of $A \times A$.
- How many elements are in $A \times A$?
- There are n^2 elements in $A \times A$, so how many subsets (= relations on A) does $A \times A$ have?
- The number of subsets that we can form out of a set with m elements is 2^m . Therefore, 2^{n^2} subsets can be formed out of $A \times A$.
- **Answer:** We can define 2^{n^2} different relations on A .

Properties of Relations : REFLEXIVE

- We will now look at some useful ways to classify relations.
- **Definition:** A relation R on a set A is called **reflexive** if $(a, a) \in R$ for every element $a \in A$.
- Symbolically, $\forall a \in A, (a, a) \in R$
- Are the following relations on $\{1, 2, 3, 4\}$ reflexive?

$$R = \{(1, 1), (1, 2), (2, 3), (3, 3), (4, 4)\}$$

No.

$$R = \{(1, 1), (2, 2), (2, 3), (3, 3), (4, 4)\}$$

Yes.

$$R = \{(1, 1), (2, 2), (3, 3)\}$$

No.

Definition: A relation on a set A is called **irreflexive** if $(a, a) \notin R$ for every element $a \in A$.

Properties of Relations : SYMMETRIC

•Definitions:

- A relation R on a set A is called **symmetric** if $(b, a) \in R$ whenever $(a, b) \in R$ for all $a, b \in A$.
 - $\forall a, b \in A, ((a, b) \in R \rightarrow (b, a) \in R)$
- A relation R on a set A is called **antisymmetric** if $a = b$ whenever $(a, b) \in R$ and $(b, a) \in R$.
 - $\forall a, b \in A, ((a, b) \in R \wedge (b, a) \in R \rightarrow (a=b))$
- A relation R on a set A is called **asymmetric** if $(a, b) \in R$ implies that $(b, a) \notin R$ for all $a, b \in A$.
 - $\forall a, b \in A, ((a, b) \in R \rightarrow (b, a) \notin R)$

Properties of Relations

- Are the following relations on $\{1, 2, 3, 4\}$ symmetric, antisymmetric, or asymmetric?

$$R = \{(1, 1), (1, 2), (2, 1), (3, 3), (4, 4)\}$$

symmetric
sym. and
antisym.

$$R = \{(1, 1)\}$$

$$R = \{(1, 3), (3, 2), (2, 1)\}$$

antisym.
and asym.

$$R = \{(4, 4), (3, 3), (1, 4)\}$$

antisym.

Properties of Relations : TRANSITIVE

- **Definition:** A relation R on a set A is called **transitive** if whenever $(a, b) \in R$ and $(b, c) \in R$, then $(a, c) \in R$ for $a, b, c \in A$.
- $\forall a, b, c \in A, ((a, b) \in R \wedge (b, c) \in R \rightarrow (a, c) \in R)$
- Are the following relations on $\{1, 2, 3, 4\}$ transitive?

$R = \{(1, 1), (1, 2), (2, 2), (2, 1), (3, 3)\}$ **Yes.**

$R = \{(1, 3), (3, 2), (2, 1)\}$ **No.**

$R = \{(2, 4), (4, 3), (2, 3), (4, 1)\}$ **No.**

Relations

- **Inverse of a Relation** : Let R be a relation from a set A to a set B . The inverse relation from B to A , denoted by R^{-1} , is the set of ordered pairs $\{ (b,a) : (a,b) \in R \}$
- **Complimentary Relation** : R^c is the set of ordered pairs $\{ (a,b) : (a,b) \notin R \}$
- Eg: $A = \{1,2,3\}$ $B = \{1,2,3,4\}$
- $R_1 = \{ (1,1), (2,2), (3,3) \}$
- $R_2 = \{ (1,1), (1,2), (1,3), (1,4) \}$
- $R_1^{-1} = \{ (1,1), (2,2), (3,3) \}$
- $R_1(\text{BAR}) = \{ (1,2), (1,3), (1,4), (2,1), (2,3), (2,4), (3,1), (3,2), (3,4) \}$

Counting Relations

•**Example:** How many different reflexive relations can be defined on a set A containing n elements?

•**Solution:** Relations on R are subsets of $A \times A$, which contains n^2 elements.

•Therefore, different relations on A can be generated by choosing different subsets out of these n^2 elements, so there are 2^{n^2} relations.

•A **reflexive** relation, however, **must** contain the n elements (a, a) for every $a \in A$.

•Consequently, we can only choose among $n^2 - n = n(n - 1)$ elements to generate reflexive relations, so there are $2^{n(n - 1)}$ of them.

Combining Relations: Operations on Relations

- Relations are sets, and therefore, we can apply the usual **set operations** to them.
- If we have two relations R_1 and R_2 , and both of them are from a set A to a set B , then we can combine them to have (union) $R_1 \cup R_2$, (Intersection) $R_1 \cap R_2$, (Difference) $R_1 - R_2$, or (Symmetric Difference) $R_1 \Delta R_2$.
- $R_1 - R_2 = R_1 \cap R_2^c$
- $R_1 \Delta R_2 = (R_1 \cup R_2) - (R_1 \cap R_2)$
- In each case, the result will be **another relation from A to B**.

Combining Relations : Composition

- ... and there is another important way to combine relations.

- Definition:** Let R be a relation from a set A to a set B and S a relation from B to a set C . The **composite** of R and S is the relation consisting of ordered pairs (a, c) , where $a \in A$, $c \in C$, and for which there exists an element $b \in B$ such that $(a, b) \in R$ and $(b, c) \in S$. We denote the composite of R and S by **$S \circ R$** .

- In other words, if relation R contains a pair (a, b) and relation S contains a pair (b, c) , then $S \circ R$ contains a pair (a, c) .

Combining Relations

- **Example:** Let D and S be relations on $A = \{1, 2, 3, 4\}$.
- $D = \{(a, b) \mid b = 5 - a\}$ “ b equals $(5 - a)$ ”
- $S = \{(a, b) \mid a < b\}$ “ a is smaller than b ”
- $D = \{(1, 4), (2, 3), (3, 2), (4, 1)\}$
- $S = \{(1, 2), (1, 3), (1, 4), (2, 3), (2, 4), (3, 4)\}$
- $S \circ D = \{(2, 4), (3, 3), (3, 4), (4, 2), (4, 3), (4, 4)\}$

D maps an element a to the element $(5 - a)$, and afterwards S maps $(5 - a)$ to all elements larger than $(5 - a)$, resulting in **$S \circ D = \{(a, b) \mid b > 5 - a\}$** or **$S \circ D = \{(a, b) \mid a + b > 5\}$** .

Combining Relations

• **Definition:** Let R be a relation on the set A . The powers R^n , $n = 1, 2, 3, \dots$, are defined inductively by

- $R^1 = R$

- $R^{n+1} = R^n \circ R$

- In other words:

- $R^n = R \circ R \circ \dots \circ R$ (n times the letter R)

Combining Relations

- Theorem:** The relation R on a set A is transitive if and only if $R^n \subseteq R$ for all positive integers n .
- Remember the definition of transitivity:
- Definition:** A relation R on a set A is called transitive if whenever $(a, b) \in R$ and $(b, c) \in R$, then $(a, c) \in R$ for $a, b, c \in A$.
- The composite of R with itself contains exactly these pairs (a, c) .
- Therefore, for a transitive relation R , $R \circ R$ does not contain any pairs that are not in R , so $R \circ R \subseteq R$.
- Since $R \circ R$ does not introduce any pairs that are not already in R , it must also be true that $(R \circ R) \circ R \subseteq R$, and so on, so that $R^n \subseteq R$.