

I. Introduction to Relations

A. Definition: If A and B are sets a **binary relation from A to B** is a subset of $A \times B$.

B. Recall: $A \times B$, or the **Cartesian product** of A and B , is the set of **ordered** pairs (a, b) , where $a \in A$ and $b \in B$.

1. If $A = \{1, 2\}$ and $B = \{x, y, z\}$ then

a. $A \times B = \{(1, x), (1, y), (1, z), (2, x), (2, y), (2, z)\}$

b. $B \times A = \{(x, 1), (x, 2), (y, 1), (y, 2), (z, 1), (z, 2)\}$

2. Note that: $A \times B \neq B \times A$ unless $A = \emptyset, B = \emptyset$,
or $A = B$

C. Second Definition: A binary relation R from A to B is a set R of ordered pairs (a, b) in which $a \in A$ and $b \in B$.

1. Notation: $a R b$ denotes that $(a, b) \in R$

2. If $(a, b) \in R$ then a is said to be related to b by R .

D. Example 1: Let A be the set of students at CWRU and B the set of courses offered at CWRU. Then let R be the relation that consists of all ordered pairs (a, b) where a is a CWRU student and b a course in which a is enrolled.

1. If Sam and Mary are enrolled in EECS 302 then

$$(Sam, EECS\ 302)$$

and

$$(Mary, EECS\ 302)$$

are elements of R .

2. Note 1: If a student is not enrolled in any course then there are no pairs in $A \times B$ with that student's name as the first element.

3. Note 2: If a particular course is not offered then there are no pairs in $A \times B$ with that course as the second element.

E. Example 2: Let Z be the set of all integers. Then let E be a relation from Z to Z such that :

1. $m, n \in Z$
2. $m E n \equiv m - n$ is even
3. $4 E 0$ because $4 - 0 = 4$ which is even
4. $(5, 2) \notin E$ because $5 - 2 = 3$ which is not even

F. Example Problem: Prove that if n is any odd integer then $n E 1$

1. If n is odd then $n = 2 \times k + 1$ where k is some integer.
2. Then: $n - 1 = (2 \times k + 1) - 1 = 2 \times k$
3. $2 \times k$ is even by definition.
4. Therefore: If n is any odd integer then $n E 1$

G. Variation on the Example Problem: ($\% \equiv$ modulus)

Prove that $n E m$ if and only if $m E n$

1. For any integer l , either $l \% 2 = 0$ or $l \% 2 = 1$
 If $l \% 2 = 0$ then l is even and
 if $l \% 2 = 1$ then l is odd
2. If $n E m$ then $n - m$ is even
 and $n - m = 2 \times k$
 - a. Therefore $-(n - m) = -2 \times k$
 - b. So: $m - n = 2 \times -k$
 - c. Therefore: $m - n$ is even.
 - d. Therefore: $m E n$

3. If $m E n$ then $m - n$ is even
and $m - n = 2 \times j$
 - a. Therefore $-(m - n) = -2 \times j$
 - b. So: $n - m = 2 \times -j$
 - c. Therefore: $n - m$ is even.
 - d. Therefore: $n E m$
4. Therefore: $m E n \rightarrow n E m$ and $n E m \rightarrow m E n$
so: $n E m \leftrightarrow m E n$

H. Example of a Relation on a Power Set.

1. Let $X = \{a, b, c\}$
2. Then:
 $P(X) = \{\emptyset, \{a\}, \{b\}, \{c\}, \{a, b\}, \{a, c\}, \{b, c\}, \{a, b, c\}\}$
3. Then if A and B are subsets of $P(X)$ we define the relation \mathcal{S} as
 $A \mathcal{S} B \equiv A$ has at least as many elements as B
4. Therefore:
 - a. $\{a, b\} \mathcal{S} \{c\}$
 - b. $\{a, b, c\} \mathcal{S} x$ where $x \in P(X)$
 - c. $(\{c\}, \{a, b, c\}) \notin \mathcal{S}$

I. Cardinality of Relations.

1. Recall: If A and B sets a **binary relation from A to B** is a subset of $A \times B$.
2. Therefore a relation R on a set A is a subset of $A \times A$
3. If $|A| = n$ then $|A \times A| = n^2$
4. The number of subsets of A is 2^n and the number of subsets of $A \times A$ is 2^{n^2}
5. Therefore: $|R| \leq 2^{n^2}$

II. Relations versus Functions

A. Recall:

1. $f : A \rightarrow B$ assigns exactly one element of the codomain B to each element of the domain A .
 - a. If $a \in A$ then $f(a) = b \in B$
 - b. Therefore: A function is a subset of $A \times B$
2. Hence: A function is a relation.

B. If A and B are sets a **binary relation from A to B** is a subset of $A \times B$.

1. If $A = \{a, b, c\}$ and $B = \{1, 2, 3\}$ then a relation R could be $R = \{(a, 1), (a, 2), (a, 3)\}$
2. In the language of functions, element a of the domain is being assigned to three elements of the codomain
3. Hence, R cannot be a function.

C. So: All functions are relations but not all relations are functions.

III. Properties of Relations: Reflexivity

A. Definition:

1. A relation R on a set A is called **reflexive** if and only if $(a, a) \in R$ for all $a \in A$
- or
2. A relation R on a set A is called **reflexive** if and only if $a R a$ for all $a \in A$
- or
3. A relation R on a set A is called **reflexive** if and only if each element of A is related to itself.
- or
4. A relation R on a set A is called **reflexive** if and only if $\forall a \in A ((a, a) \in R)$

B. Example 1:

If $A = \{a, b, c\}$ and
 $R = \{(a, a), (a, b), (a, c), (b, b), (b, c), (c, c)\}$
 then R is reflexive because each element is related to itself.

C. Example 2:

If $A =$ is the set of all integers then $R \equiv a$ divides y is reflexive
 because each integer divides itself, or $\frac{x}{x} = 1$.

D. Example Problem: How many reflexive relations are there on a set S
 where $|S| = n$

1. R is a subset of $S \times S$
2. Therefore the relation is determined by choosing ordered pairs from the n^2 ordered pairs that are the elements of $S \times S$
3. If R is reflexive, each of the pairs (x, x) must be elements of R .
4. Each of the other $n \times (n - 1)$ ordered pairs may or may not be elements R .
5. The number of ways to choose an ordered pair with x as the first element from S and the second element $y \neq x$ is the number of ways to pick an ordered pair from $S \times (S - x)$ or $2^{n(n-1)}$

IV. Properties of Relations: Symmetry

A. Definition:

1. A relation R on a set A is called **symmetric** if and only if for all $x, y \in A$ if $x R y$ then $y R X$
 or
2. A relation R on a set A is called **symmetric** if and only if for all $x, y \in A$ if $(x, y) \in R$ y then $(y, x) \in R$
 or
3. A relation R on a set A is called **symmetric** if and only if any one element is related to any other element then the second element is related to the first.
 or
4. A relation R on a set A is called **symmetric** if and only if
 $\forall x \forall y ((x, y) \in R \rightarrow (y, x) \in R)$

B. Examples:

1. If $x, y \in Z$, the set of all integers, and $R \equiv x + y \leq 6$ then R is symmetric because if $x + y \leq 6$ then $y + x \leq 6$
2. If $A = \{1, 2, 3, 4\}$ and $R = \{(1, 1), (1, 2), (2, 1)\}$ then R is symmetric because whenever $(x, y) \in R$ we have that $(y, x) \in R$

V. Properties of Relations: AntiSymmetry

A. Definition:

1. A relation R on a set A is called **antisymmetric** if and only if for all $x, y \in A$ if $x R y$ and $y R x$ then $x = y$
or
2. A relation R on a set A is called **antisymmetric** if and only if for all $x, y \in A$ if $(x, y) \in R$ and $(y, x) \in R$ then $x = y$
or
3. A relation R on a set A is called **antisymmetric** if and only if the only way to have x related to y and y related to x is if $x = y$
or
4. A relation R on a set A is called **antiymmetric** if and only if $\forall x \forall y ((x, y) \in R \wedge (y, x) \in R) \rightarrow x = y$

B. Example: If $A = Z$, the set of all integers then

1. $R_1 = \{(a, b) \mid a \leq b\}$ is antisymmetric because

$$a \leq b \wedge a \leq b \rightarrow a = b$$

2. $R_2 = \{(a, b) \mid a = b + 1\}$ is antisymmetric because

$$a = b + 1 \rightarrow a \neq b$$

VI. Properties of Relations: Transitivity**A. Definition:**

1. A relation R on a set A is called **transitive** if and only if for all $x, y, z \in A$ if $x R y$ and $y R z$ then $x R z$
or
2. A relation R on a set A is called **transitive** if and only if for all $x, y \in A$ if $(x, y) \in R$ and $(y, z) \in R$ then $(x, z) \in R$
or
3. A relation R on a set A is called **transitive** if one element x is related to any other element y and the second element y is related to a third element z then the first element x must be related to the third element z .
or
4. A relation R on a set A is called **transitive** if and only if $\forall x \forall y ((x, y) \in R \wedge (y, z) \in R) \rightarrow (x, z) \in R$

B. Examples:

1. $R = \{(x, y) \mid x \leq y\}$ is transitive since

$$x \leq y \wedge y \leq z \rightarrow x \leq z$$

2. Suppose: $R \equiv x \% y = 0$ or y divides x with no remainder.
 - a. $x \% y = 0$ means that $x = i \times y$
 - b. $y \% z = 0$ means that $y = k \times z$
 - c. Therefore: $x = i \times y = i \times k \times z = j \times z$
 - d. Therefore: $x \% z = 0$
 - e. So: $(x \% y = 0) \wedge (y \% z = 0) \rightarrow x \% z = 0$

VII. Equivalence Relations

A. Definition: If A is a set and R a relation on A , R is an equivalence relation if and only if R is reflexive, symmetric, and transitive.

B. Example: Let S be the set of all digital circuits with a fixed number n of inputs.

Let the relation E be defined for all circuits $C_1, C_2 \in S$ as $C_1 E C_2 \equiv C_1$ has the same input/output table as C_2

1. E is reflexive, or $C E C$ for any digital circuit C .

This is true because any circuit C has the same input/output table as itself.

2. E is transitive, or $C_1 E C_2 \wedge C_2 E C_3 \rightarrow C_1 E C_3$

a. $C_1 E C_2$ means that C_1 has the same input/output table as C_2

and

b. $C_2 E C_3$ means that C_2 has the same input/output table as C_3 .

c. Hence, we must have that C_1 has the same input/output table as C_3 .

d. Therefore $C_1 E C_3$

e. Hence: $C_1 E C_2 \wedge C_2 E C_3 \rightarrow C_1 E C_3$

f. Therefore E is transitive.

2. E is symmetric, or $C_1 E C_2 \rightarrow C_2 E C_1$
 - a. Suppose $C_1 E C_2$
 - b. Therefore C_1 has the same input/output table as C_2 .
 - c. Since C_1 has the same input/output table as C_2 the two input/output tables must be the same.
 - d. Therefore C_2 has the same input/output table as C_1 .
 - e. Therefore E is symmetric.
3. Since E is reflexive, transitive, and symmetric E is an equivalence relation.

VIII. Combining Relations or Composite Relations

- A. Definition 1: If R is a relation from the set A to a set B and S is a relation from the set B to a set C then the **composite of R and S** is a relation consisting of ordered pairs (a, c) where $a \in A$ and $c \in C$ and for which there exists an element $b \in B$ such that $(a, b) \in R$.

The composite of R and S is denoted by $S \circ R$

- B. Methodology: Computing the composite of two relations R and S requires that one finds elements that are the second element of ordered pairs in the first relation and first element of ordered pairs in the second relation

C. Example:

1. Let:

$$\text{a. } A = \{1, 2, 3\} \quad \text{and} \quad B = \{a, b, c, d\} \quad \text{and} \\ C = \{0, 1, 2\}$$

$$\text{b. } \text{Let } R = \{(1, a), (1, d), (2, c), (3, a), (3, d)\}$$

$$\text{c. } \text{Let } S = \{(a, 0), (b, 0), (c, 1), (c, 2), (d, 1)\}$$

2. $S \circ R$ is computed by finding all ordered pairs in S where the second element of the ordered pair in R agrees with the first element of the ordered pair in S .

$$\text{3. } \text{Then : } S \circ R = \{(1, 0), (1, 1), (2, 2), (3, 0), (3, 1)\}$$

C. Definition 2:

Since relations from A to B are subsets of $A \times B$ two relations R and S can be combined in any way that two sets can be combined.

1. Example 1:

$$\text{a. } \text{Let: } A = \{1, 2, 3\} \quad \text{and} \quad B = \{1, 2, 3, 4\}$$

$$\text{b. } \text{Let: } R_1 = \{(1, 1), (2, 2), (3, 3)\} \quad \text{and}$$

$$R_2 = \{(1, 1), (1, 2), (1, 3), (1, 4)\}$$

$$\text{c. } \text{Then } R_1 \cup R_2 = \{(1, 1), (1, 2), (1, 3), (1, 4), (2, 2), (3, 3)\}$$

2. Example 2:

$$\text{a. } \text{Let: } A = \text{the set of all students at CWRU} \quad \text{and} \\ B = \text{the set of all courses at CWRU}$$

$$\text{b. } \text{Let: } R_1 = \text{all ordered pairs } (a, b) \text{ where } a \in A \text{ is a} \\ \text{student who has taken course } b \in B \\ \text{and}$$

$$R_2 = \text{all ordered pairs } (a, b) \text{ where } a \text{ is a student} \\ \text{who requires course } b \text{ to graduate.}$$

$$\text{c. } \text{Then } R_1 \cap R_2 = \text{is the set of all ordered pairs } (a, b) \\ \text{where } a \text{ is a student who has taken course } b \text{ and needs this} \\ \text{course to graduate.}$$