

Relations

Mairead Meagher

Waterford Institute of Technology,

2017



Waterford Institute *of* Technology
INSTITIÚID TEICNEOLAÍOCHTA PHORT LÁIRGE

- The study of sets so far has been limited by an inability to relate sets to one another.
- Forming their union or intersection is not relating them.
- The concept of a relation is fundamental to set theory and to Z.
- An ordered pair is a couple of objects, say

(Jim, Joe)

in which the order of the objects is significant

(Jim, Joe) \neq (Joe, Jim)

What is a Relation

- A relation is a set of ordered pairs. It may be finite or infinite but its most important feature is that it is a set.
- In particular one relation can be a subset of another.
- The set

$$R = \{(a,2), (a, 3), (b,4), (c, 3), (d, 1)\}$$

is a relation

Venn Diagram

Arrows may be used with Venn diagrams to denote relations. With the above relation R . It maps elements of the set containing letters to elements of the number set:

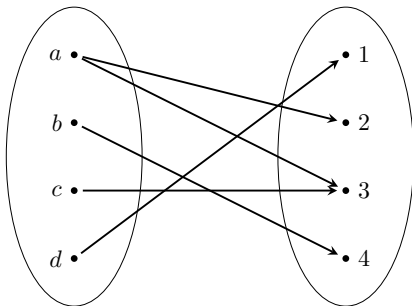


Figure 1: Relation

$$R = \{(a,2), (a, 3), (b,4), (c, 3), (d, 1)\}$$

- Each ordered pair can be represented by a maplet, for which the symbol is \mapsto .
- Thus (x, y) and $x \mapsto y$ are the same thing.

Cartesian Product

- The cartesian product of two sets X and Y is the set of all ordered pairs whose first components come from X and second component comes from Y .

$$X \times Y = \{x : X; y : Y \bullet (x, y)\}$$

- A relation R from X to Y is a subset of $X \times Y$.
- A cartesian product may have more than two components. For example, the cartesian product

$$X \times Y \times Z = \{x : X; y : Y; z : Z \bullet (x, y, z)\}$$

is a set of ordered triples. These can also be called 3-tuples

- Sets of ordered n -tuples are defined similarly.

Declaring a Relation

If

$$R \subseteq X \times Y$$

then

$$R \in \mathbb{P}(X \times Y)$$

Since every powerset in Z is by convention a type:

$$R : \mathbb{P}(X \times Y)$$

or, we say:

$$R \text{ has type } \mathbb{P}(X \times Y)$$

- Syntactic sugar is a nicer ('sweeter') way of describing something
- Another notation for $\mathbb{P}(X \times Y)$ is $X \leftrightarrow Y$. Hence, we say

$$R : X \leftrightarrow Y$$

- **Note:** This is the notation we usually use.

Infix Notation

- Using infix notation, operators are written in-between their operands, e.g. $A + B$.

9 isSquareof 3
fish menuForDay Tuesday

- Mathematical symbols are not underlined.

$(50, x) \in >$

may be written as

$50 > x$

but not as

$50 \leq x$

Naming Relations

It is good practice to use a concatenated word suggesting the kinds of entities involved in the relation. Example:

$$isSquareOf : \mathbb{N} \leftrightarrow \mathbb{N}$$

$$isSquareOf = \{(1, 1), (1, -1), (4, 2), (9, 3), (400, -20)\}$$

Note : In checking is the name a good one for a relation, try using it in an infix manner, so as well as saying

$$(1, 1) \in isSquareOf$$

We can say (using *infix*)

$$1 \text{ isSquareOf } 1$$

If this describes the relationship clearly, then the name is good.

- Some relations such as \leq have constant effect, which can be described symbolically.
- This makes possible an axiomatic definition of the relation, using low-line characters $_$ for the components, for example

$$\begin{array}{|l} _ \leq _ : \mathbb{N} \leftrightarrow \mathbb{N} \\ \hline \forall m, n : \mathbb{N} \bullet \\ \quad m \leq n \Leftrightarrow \exists k : \mathbb{N} \bullet m + k = n \end{array}$$

Target and Source, Domain and Range

Diagrammatically, for $R : X \leftrightarrow Y$.

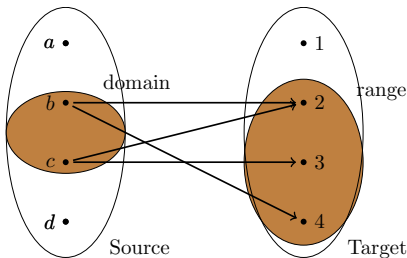


Figure 2: Source and Target, domain and range

- X is the source set or *from-set*
- Y is the target or *to-set*
- R acts only on a subset (the Domain) of the Source
- R maps the domain to a subset (the Range) of the Target

- The domain is the set of first components in the ordered pairs of R .
- Consider the relation as shown in Figure 2:
- The domain of the relation, written $\text{dom } R$ is defined as follows:

$$\text{dom } R = \{x : X; y : Y \mid (x, y) \in R \bullet x\}$$

- Analogously, the range of a relation is the set of second components in the ordered pairs of R .
- Again, consider the relation as shown in figure 2:
- The range of the relation, written $\text{ran } R$ is defined as follows:

$$\text{ran } R = \{x : X; y : Y \mid (x, y) \in R\}$$

Relational Image

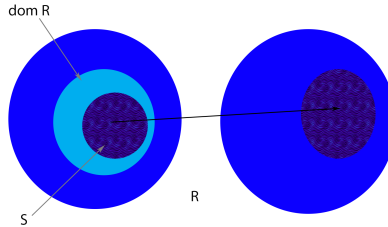


Figure 3: Relational Image

$$R \langle S \rangle$$

By definition,

$$R \langle S \rangle = \{x : X; y : Y \mid (x, y) \in R \wedge x \in S \bullet y\}$$

This is an extremely useful operation

- There are four important operators on a relation in Z which restrict its sphere of influence.
- For the definitions, we will use the following

$R : X \leftrightarrow Y$ and

$S : \mathbb{P} X$ and

$T : \mathbb{P} Y$

- **Domain Restriction**

The definition of domain restriction is:

$$S \triangleleft R = \{x : X; y : Y \mid (x, y) \in R \wedge x \in S \bullet (x, y)\}$$

- **Domain Anti-Restriction**

If $S \subseteq \text{dom } R$, then $S \triangleleft R$ is the complement of $S \triangleleft$ in R . The definition of domain anti-restriction (Also called domain subtraction) is:

$$S \triangleleft R = \{x : X; y : Y \mid (x, y) \in R \wedge x \notin S \bullet (x, y)\}$$

- **Range Restriction** The definition of range restriction is:

$$R \triangleright S = \{x : X; y : Y \mid (x, y) \in R \wedge y \in T \bullet (x, y)\}$$

- **Range Anti-Restriction**

The definition of range anti-restriction is:

$$R \triangleright S = \{x : X; y : Y \mid (x, y) \in R \wedge y \notin T \bullet (x, y)\}$$

If $R : X \leftrightarrow Y$

then R^\sim is the set of inverse ordered pairs

$$R^\sim = \{x : X; y : Y \mid (x, y) \in R \bullet (y, x)\}$$

Example

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

then

$$R^\sim = \{(1, a), (2, b), (4, a)\}$$

Identity of a Relation

$$\text{id } R == \{x : X \bullet (x, x)\}$$

We can apply Id to any type,

Examples

$$\text{id } PERSON == \{x : PERSON \bullet (x, x)\}$$

$$\text{id } \mathbb{Z} == \{x : \mathbb{Z} \bullet (x, x)\}$$

Composition

To compose two relations R and T means to activate one, and then the other using the result of the first.

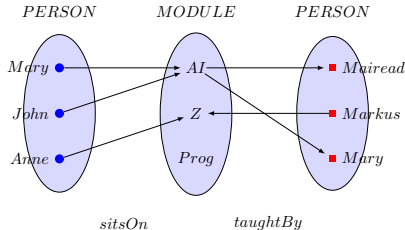


Figure 4: Relational Composition

Who teaches whom?

$(Mary \mapsto AI) \in sitsOn$ and $(AI \mapsto Markus) \in taughtBy$

so we can say

$(Mary \mapsto Markus) \in sitsOn ; taughtBy$

- In general

$$R \circ T$$

means : **Do R first and then do T.**

- In order for this to be allowed, the Target of R **must** be the same as the Source of T (As in Figure 4)

Repeated Composition

A homogeneous relation is one where the Source and Target have the same type. It may be possible to compose such a function with itself.

$$R : X \leftrightarrow X$$

$$R \circ R : X \leftrightarrow X$$

For example if the relation is

$$\text{addOne} : \mathbb{Z} \leftrightarrow \mathbb{Z}$$

$$\text{addOne} == \{x : \mathbb{Z} \bullet (x, x + 1)\}$$

so that

$$6 \text{ addOne } 7 \text{ and}$$

$$7 \text{ addOne } 8 \text{ etc.}$$

then

$$6 \text{ addOne \circ addOne } 8 \text{ and}$$

$$6 \text{ addOne \circ addOne \circ addOne } 9 \text{ etc}$$

Repeated Composition

We have a shorthand way of writing these repeated compositions:

$addOne^2 == addOne \circ addOne$ so
 $addOne^3 == addOne^2 \circ addOne$
and so on

So,

$6 \text{ } \underline{addOne} \text{ } 7$ and
 $6 \text{ } \underline{addOne^2} \text{ } 8$ and

and so on..

In general

$$R^+ = R \cup R^2 \cup R^3 \cup R^4 \dots R^n \dots$$

These may be empty for $n \geq 2$.

$$\begin{aligned} addOne^+ = addOne \cup addOne^2 \cup addOne^3 \\ \cup addOne^4 \dots addOne^n \dots \end{aligned}$$

So :

$$x \text{ addOne } y$$

means that '*there exists a repeated composition of addOne which maps x to y* '.

This means that $addOne^+$ is another name for the relation $<$.

Reflexive Relation

A relation R is reflexive if $(a, a) \in R$ for every $a \in R$.

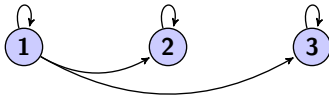


Figure 5: Reflexive Composition

When we add a loop to each element in $\text{dom}R^+$, we have the reflexive-transitive closure R^* . (We can also call id R^0). Then

$$R^* = \text{id} \cup R^+$$

Returning to addOne ,

$$\text{addOne}^* = \text{addOne}^+ \cup \text{id} \mathbb{Z}$$

so this is another name for \leq

We will use the examples below during our exercises.

- Modular system
- Borders
- Journeys between Airports
- Citing of academic papers
- Family relationships

Modular System

A student 'studies' (possibly many) modules. A module is 'studied' by (possibly many) students:

$[PERSON, MODULE]$

The set of all persons, modules.

ModuleSys

$studies : PERSON \leftrightarrow MODULE$

$students : \mathbb{P} PERSON$

The set of all registered students.

$degModules : \mathbb{P} MODULE$

The set of all degree modules.

$\text{dom } studies \subseteq students$

$\text{ran } studies \subseteq degModules$

The invariants state that :

- 1 Only registered students can 'take' a module;
- 2 Only degree modules can be 'studied'.

Borders

Countries are related by the relation borders if they share a border:

[*COUNTRY*]

borders : *COUNTRY* \leftrightarrow *COUNTRY*

e.g.

borders =

{ ... (*france*, *switzerland*), (*switzerland*, *austria*), (*austria*, *hungary*),
(*hungary*, *romania*), (*romania*, *bulgaria*), (*bulgaria*, *turkey*),
(*turkey*, *iran*) ... , (*peru*, *brazil*), (*brazil*, *paraguay*),
(*paraguay*, *chile*)
... }

So, you can see that

france *borders*⁺ *iran*

Borders contd.

- This is another way of stating that france is directly bordering iran or is bordering a country which is bordering a country ... which is bordering iran.
- So, we can reach iran from france (i.e. it is on the same landmass).
- We can also see that

peru borders⁺ chile

so peru and chile are on the same landmass.

- but

(france, peru) $\not\in$ borders⁺

which means that they are not on the same landmass.

- This concept of connectivity is central to the idea of transitive closure. We can model clusters of connected elements by using transitive closure.

Given

[AIRPORT]

connected : AIRPORT \leftrightarrow AIRPORT

...

connected = { ... (lhr, dublin), (dublin, jfk), (jfk, rome) ... }

If we wish to state that we can get to rome from lhr, then we state that

lhr connected⁺ rome

This does not give us any hint as to how many trips we need, just that it is possible to get there.

We will revisit this example later when we look at building a route from one airport to another.

In this example, we model how we cite academic research papers.
Given

$[PAPER]$
 $cites : PAPER \leftrightarrow PAPER$ and
...
 $(paper1, paper2) \in cites$

This has the meaning that *paper1* cites *paper2*.

- Given

[PERSON]

parent : PERSON \leftrightarrow PERSON

and

male, female : \mathbb{P} PERSON

and that $(abe, homer) \in parent$ means that abe is homers parent.

- We do much modelling of these kinds of relationships.

Any questions?

