Why

If x is related to y, the y is related to x, but how?

Definition

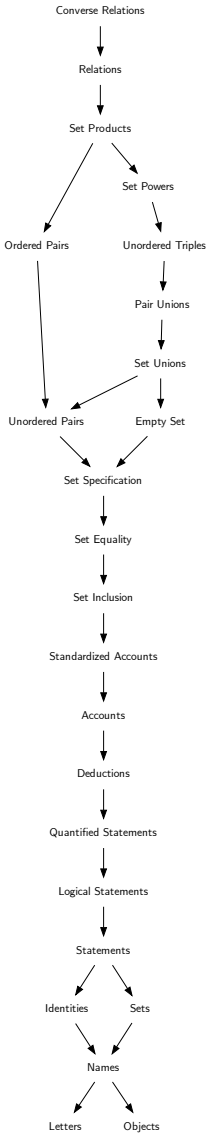
If R is a relation between X and Y, then the *converse* or *inverse* relation of R is a relation on Y and X relating $y \in Y$ to $x \in X$ if and only if $x\,R\,y$. If $R = R^{-1}$ then R is symmetric.

Notation

We denote the converse relation of R by R^{-1}.

Example

Let X be the set of people and let R be a relation in X. If R is "is a father of", then R^{-1} is "is a son of". If R is "is a mother of", then R^{-1} is "is a daughter of". If R is "is a brother of", then R^{-1} is "is a brother of". The relation "is a brother of" is symmetric.


Converse Relations
Relations
Set Products
Set Powers
Ordered Pairs
Unordered Triples
Pair Unions
Set Unions
Unordered Pairs
Empty Set
Set Specification
Set Equality
Set Inclusion
Standardized Accounts
Accounts
Deductions
Quantified Statements
Logical Statements
Statements
Identities
Sets
Names
Letters
Objects