# Summary of Halmos' Naive Set Theory

Robin Adams

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# Primitive Terms and Axioms

Let there be sets. We assume that everything is a set.

Let there be a binary relation of membership,  $\in$ . If  $x \in A$  we say that x belongs to A, x is an element of A, or x is contained in A. If this does not hold we write  $x \notin A$ .

**Axiom 1.1** (Axiom of Extensionality). Two sets are equal if and only if they have the same elements.

**Axiom 1.2** (Axiom of Comprehension, Aussonderungsaxiom). To every set A and to every condition S(x) there corresponds a set B whose elements are exactly those elements x of A for which S(x) holds.

Axiom 1.3. A set exists.

**Axiom 1.4** (Axiom of Pairing). For any two sets, there exists a set that they both belong to.

**Axiom 1.5** (Union Axiom). For every set A, there exists a set that contains all the elements that belong to at least one element of A.

**Definition 1.6** (Subset). Let A and B be sets. We say that A is a *subset* of B, or B includes A, and write  $A \subseteq B$  or  $B \supseteq A$ , iff every element of A is an element of B.

**Axiom 1.7** (Power Set Axiom). For any set A, there exists a set that contains all the subsets of A.

# The Subset Relation

**Theorem 2.1.** For any set A, we have  $A \subseteq A$ .

PROOF: Every element of A is an element of A.  $\square$ 

**Theorem 2.2.** For any sets A, B and C, if  $A \subseteq B$  and  $B \subseteq C$  then  $A \subseteq C$ .

PROOF: If every element of A is an element of B, and every element of B is an element of C, then every element of A is an element of C.  $\Box$ 

**Theorem 2.3.** For any sets A and B, if  $A \subseteq B$  and  $B \subseteq A$  then A = B.

PROOF: If every element of A is an element of B, and every element of B is an element of A, then A and B have the same elements, and therefore are equal by the Axiom of Extensionality.  $\square$ 

**Definition 2.4** (Proper Subset). Let A and B be sets. We say that A is a *proper* subset of B, or B properly includes A, and write  $A \subseteq B$  or  $B \supseteq A$ , iff  $A \subseteq B$  and  $A \neq B$ .

# Comprehension Notation

**Definition 3.1.** Given a set A and a condition S(x), we write  $\{x \in A : S(x)\}$  for the set whose elements are exactly those elements x of A for which S(x) holds.

PROOF: This exists by the Axiom of Comprehension and is unique by the Axiom of Extensionality.  $\Box$ 

**Theorem 3.2.** There is no set that contains every set.

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Proof:
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\(\frac{1}{1}\)1. Let: A be a set.

Prove: There exists a set B such that B \notin A.
\(\frac{1}{2}\)2. Let: B = \{x \in A : x \notin x\}
\(\frac{1}{3}\)3. If B \in A then we have B \in B if and only if B \notin B.
\(\frac{1}{4}\)4. B \notin A
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# **Unordered Pairs**

<b>Theorem 4.1.</b> There exists a set with no elements.
PROOF: Pick a set $A$ by Axiom 1.3. Then the set $\{x \in A : x \neq x\}$ has no elements. $\square$
<b>Definition 4.2</b> (Empty Set). The <i>empty set</i> $\emptyset$ is the set with no elements.
<b>Theorem 4.3.</b> For any set A we have $\emptyset \subset A$ .
Proof: Vacuous.
<b>Definition 4.4</b> ((Unordered) Pair). For any sets $a$ and $b$ , the (unordered) pair $\{a,b\}$ is the set whose elements are just $a$ and $b$ .
Proof: This exists by the Axioms of Pairing and Comprehension, and is unique by the Axiom of Extensionality. $\Box$
<b>Definition 4.5</b> (Singleton). For any set $a$ , the $singleton \{a\}$ is defined to be $\{a,a\}$ .

# Unions

**Definition 5.1** (Union). For any set C, the *union* of C,  $\bigcup C$ , is the set whose elements are the elements of the elements of C.

We write  $\bigcup_{X \in \mathcal{A}} t[X]$  for  $\bigcup \{t[X] \mid X \in \mathcal{A}\}.$ 

PROOF: This exists by the Union Axiom and Comprehension Axiom, and is unique by the Axiom of Extensionality.  $\Box$ 

Proposition 5.2.

$$\bigcup \emptyset = \emptyset$$

PROOF: There is no set that is an element of an element of  $\emptyset$ .  $\square$ 

**Proposition 5.3.** For any set A, we have  $\bigcup \{A\} = A$ .

PROOF: For any x, we have x is an element of an element of  $\{A\}$  if and only if x is an element of A.  $\square$ 

**Definition 5.4.** We write  $A \cup B$  for  $\bigcup \{A, B\}$ .

**Proposition 5.5.** For any set A, we have  $A \cup \emptyset = A$ .

PROOF:  $x \in A \cup \emptyset$  iff  $x \in A$  or  $x \in \emptyset$ , iff  $x \in A$ .  $\square$ 

**Proposition 5.6** (Commutativity). For any sets A and B, we have  $A \cup B = B \cup A$ .

PROOF:  $x \in A \cup B$  iff  $x \in A$  or  $x \in B$ , iff  $x \in B$  or  $x \in A$ , iff  $x \in B \cup A$ .  $\square$ 

**Proposition 5.7** (Associativity). For any sets A, B and C, we have  $A \cup (B \cup C) = (A \cup B) \cup C$ .

PROOF: Each is the set of all x such that  $x \in A$  or  $x \in B$  or  $x \in C$ .  $\square$ 

**Proposition 5.8** (Idempotence). For any set A, we have  $A \cup A = A$ .

PROOF:  $x \in A$  or  $x \in A$  is equivalent to  $x \in A$ .  $\square$ 

**Proposition 5.9.** For any sets A and B, we have  $A \subseteq B$  if and only if  $A \cup B = B$ .

PROOF: For any x, the statement "if  $x \in A$  then  $x \in B$ " is equivalent to " $x \in A$  or  $x \in B$  if and only if  $x \in B$ ".  $\square$ 

**Proposition 5.10.** For any sets a and b, we have  $\{a\} \cup \{b\} = \{a,b\}$ .

Proof: Immediate from definitions.  $\Box$ 

### Intersections

**Definition 6.1** (Intersection). For any sets A and B, the intersection  $A \cap B$  is defined to be  $\{x \in A : x \in B\}$ .

**Proposition 6.2.** For any set A, we have  $A \cap \emptyset = \emptyset$ .

PROOF: There is no x such that  $x \in A$  and  $x \in \emptyset$ .  $\square$ 

**Proposition 6.3.** For any sets A and B, we have

$$A \cap B = B \cap A$$
.

PROOF:  $x \in A$  and  $x \in B$  if and only if  $x \in B$  and  $x \in A$ .  $\square$ 

**Proposition 6.4.** For any sets A, B and C, we have

$$A \cap (B \cap C) = (A \cap B) \cap C$$
.

PROOF: Each is the set of all x such that  $x \in A$  and  $x \in B$  and  $x \in C$ .  $\square$ 

**Proposition 6.5.** For any set A, we have

$$A \cap A = A$$
 .

PROOF: We have  $x \in A$  and  $x \in A$  if and only if  $x \in A$ .  $\square$ 

**Proposition 6.6.** For any sets A and B, we have  $A \subseteq B$  if and only if  $A \cap B = A$ .

PROOF: For any x, the statement "if  $x \in A$  then  $x \in B$ " is equivalent to " $x \in A$  and  $x \in B$  if and only if  $x \in A$ ".  $\square$ 

**Proposition 6.7** (Distributive Law). For any sets A, B and C, we have

$$A \cap (B \cup C) = (A \cap B) \cup (A \cap C)$$

PROOF:

$$x \in A \land (x \in B \lor x \in C) \Leftrightarrow (x \in A \land x \in B) \lor (x \in A \land x \in C)$$
.

**Proposition 6.8** (Distributive Law). For any sets A, B and C, we have

$$A \cup (B \cap C) = (A \cup B) \cap (A \cup C)$$

Proof:

$$x \in A \lor (x \in B \land x \in C) \Leftrightarrow (x \in A \lor x \in B) \land (x \in A \lor x \in C)$$
.

**Proposition 6.9.** For any sets A, B and C, we have  $C \subseteq A$  if and only if  $(A \cap B) \cup C = A \cap (B \cup C)$ .

PROOF: The statement "if  $x \in C$  then  $x \in A$ " is equivalent to the statement " $((x \in A \land x \in B) \lor x \in C) \Leftrightarrow (x \in A \land (x \in B \lor x \in C))$ ".  $\square$ 

**Definition 6.10** (Disjoint). Two sets A and B are disjoint if and only if  $A \cap B = \emptyset$ .

**Definition 6.11** (Pairwise Disjoint). Let A be a set. We say the elements of A are *pairwise disjoint* if and only if, for all  $x, y \in A$ , if  $x \cap y \neq \emptyset$  then x = y.

**Definition 6.12** (Intersection). For any nonempty set  $\mathcal{C}$ , the *intersection* of  $\mathcal{C}$ ,  $\bigcap \mathcal{C}$ , is the set that contains exactly those sets that belong to every element of  $\mathcal{C}$ .

We write  $\bigcap_{X \in \mathcal{A}} t[X]$  for  $\bigcap \{t[X] \mid X \in \mathcal{A}\}.$ 

#### Proof:

- $\langle 1 \rangle 1$ . Let: C be a nonempty set.
- $\langle 1 \rangle 2$ . There exists a set I whose elements are exactly the sets that belong to every element of C.

PROOF: Pick  $A \in \mathcal{C}$ , and take  $I = \{x \in A : \forall X \in \mathcal{C}.x \in X\}$ .

 $\langle 1 \rangle 3$ . For any sets  $I,\ J,$  if the elements of I and J are exactly the sets that belong to every element of  $\mathcal C$  then I=J.

Proof: Axiom of Extensionality.  $\Box$ 

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# **Unordered Triples**

**Definition 7.1** ((Unordered) Triple). Given sets  $a_1, \ldots, a_n$ , define the (unordered) n-tuple  $\{a_1, \ldots, a_n\}$  to be

$$\{a_1,\ldots,a_n\} := \{a_1\} \cup \cdots \cup \{a_n\}$$
.

# Relative Complements

**Definition 8.1** (Relative Complement). For any sets A and B, the difference or relative complement A-B is defined to be

$$A - B := \{ x \in A : x \notin B \} .$$

**Proposition 8.2.** For any sets A and E, we have  $A \subseteq E$  if and only if

$$E - (E - A) = A$$

Proof:

 $\langle 1 \rangle 1$ . Let: A and E be sets.

 $\langle 1 \rangle 2$ . If  $A \subseteq E$  then E - (E - A) = A

 $\langle 2 \rangle 1$ . Assume:  $A \subseteq E$ 

 $\langle 2 \rangle 2$ .  $E - (E - A) \subseteq A$ 

PROOF: If  $x \in E$  and  $x \notin E - A$  then  $x \in A$ .

 $\langle 2 \rangle 3$ .  $A \subseteq E - (E - A)$ 

PROOF: If  $x \in A$  then  $x \in E$  and  $x \notin E - A$ .

 $\langle 1 \rangle 3$ . If E - (E - A) = A then  $A \subseteq E$ .

PROOF: Since  $E - (E - A) \subseteq E$ .

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**Proposition 8.3.** For any set E we have

$$E - \emptyset = E$$

PROOF:  $x \in E$  if and only if  $x \in E$  and  $x \notin \emptyset$ .  $\square$ 

**Proposition 8.4.** For any set E we have

$$E - E = \emptyset$$
 .

PROOF: There is no x such that  $x \in E$  and  $x \notin E$ .  $\square$ 

**Proposition 8.5.** For any sets A and E, we have

$$A \cap (E - A) = \emptyset$$
.

PROOF: There is no x such that  $x \in A$  and  $x \in E - A$ .  $\square$ 

**Proposition 8.6.** Let A and E be sets. Then  $A \subseteq E$  if and only if

$$A \cup (E - A) = E$$
.

Proof:

- $\langle 1 \rangle 1$ . Let: A and E be sets.
- $\langle 1 \rangle 2$ . If  $A \subseteq E$  then  $A \cup (E A) = E$ .
  - $\langle 2 \rangle 1$ . Assume:  $A \subseteq E$
  - $\langle 2 \rangle 2$ .  $A \cup (E A) \subseteq E$

PROOF: If  $x \in A$  or  $x \in E - A$  then  $x \in E$ .

 $\langle 2 \rangle 3. \ E \subseteq A \cup (E - A)$ 

PROOF: If  $x \in E$  then either  $x \in A$  or  $x \notin A$ . In the latter case,  $x \in E - A$ .

 $\langle 1 \rangle 3$ . If  $A \cup (E - A) = E$  then  $A \subseteq E$ 

PROOF: Since  $A \subseteq A \cup (E - A)$ .

**Proposition 8.7.** Let A, B and E be sets. Then:

- 1. If  $A \subseteq B$  then  $E B \subseteq E A$ .
- 2. If  $A \subseteq E$  and  $E B \subseteq E A$  then  $A \subseteq B$ .

PROOF:

- $\langle 1 \rangle 1$ . Let: A, B and E be sets.
- $\langle 1 \rangle 2$ . If  $A \subseteq B$  then  $E B \subseteq E A$ .

PROOF: If  $A \subseteq B$ ,  $x \in E$  and  $x \notin B$ , then we have  $x \in E$  and  $x \notin A$ .

- $\langle 1 \rangle 3$ . If  $A \subseteq E$  and  $E B \subseteq E A$  then  $A \subseteq B$ .
  - $\langle 2 \rangle 1$ . Assume:  $A \subseteq E$
  - $\langle 2 \rangle 2$ . Assume:  $E B \subseteq E A$
  - $\langle 2 \rangle 3$ . Let:  $x \in A$
  - $\langle 2 \rangle 4. \ x \in E$
  - $\langle 2 \rangle 5. \ x \notin E A$
  - $\langle 2 \rangle 6. \ x \notin E B$
- $\langle 2 \rangle 7. \ x \in B$

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**Example 8.8.** We cannot remove the hypothesis  $A \subseteq E$  in item 2 above. Let  $E = \emptyset$ ,  $A = \{\emptyset\}$  and  $B = \emptyset$ . Then  $E - B = E - A = \emptyset$  but  $A \not\subseteq B$ .

**Proposition 8.9** (De Morgan's Law). For any sets A, B and E, we have  $E - (A \cup B) = (E - A) \cap (E - B)$ .

PROOF:  $(x \in E \land \neg (x \in A \lor x \in B)) \Leftrightarrow (x \in E \land x \notin A \land x \in E \land x \notin B)$ .  $\square$ 

**Proposition 8.10** (De Morgan's Law). For any sets A, B and E, we have  $E - (A \cap B) = (E - A) \cup (E - B)$ .

PROOF:  $(x \in E \lor \neg (x \in A \land x \in B)) \Leftrightarrow (x \in E \land x \notin A) \lor (x \in E \land x \notin B)$ .  $\square$ 

**Proposition 8.11.** For any sets A, B and E, if  $A \subseteq E$  then

$$A - B = A \cap (E - B) .$$

PROOF: If  $A \subseteq E$  then we have  $(x \in A \land x \notin B) \Leftrightarrow (x \in A \land x \in E \land x \notin B)$ .  $\square$ 

**Proposition 8.12.** For any sets A and B, we have  $A \subseteq B$  if and only if  $A - B = \emptyset$ .

PROOF: Both are equivalent to the statement that there is no x such that  $x \in A$  and  $x \notin B$ .  $\square$ 

**Proposition 8.13.** For any sets A and B, we have

$$A - (A - B) = A \cap B .$$

PROOF:  $(x \in A \land \neg (x \in A \land x \notin B)) \Leftrightarrow x \in A \land x \in B$ .  $\square$ 

**Proposition 8.14.** For any sets A, B and C, we have

$$A \cap (B - C) = (A \cap B) - (A \cap C) .$$

PROOF:  $(x \in A \land x \in B \land x \notin C) \Leftrightarrow (x \in A \land x \in B \land \neg (x \in A \land x \in C))$ .

**Proposition 8.15.** For any sets A, B, C and E, if  $(A \cap B) - C \subseteq E$  then we have

$$A\cap B\subseteq (A\cap C)\cup (B\cap (E-C))$$
 .

PROOF:

 $\langle 1 \rangle 1$ . Let:  $x \in A \cap B$ 

PROVE:  $x \in (A \cap C) \cup (B \cap (E - C))$ 

 $\langle 1 \rangle 2$ . Case:  $x \in C$ 

PROOF: Then  $x \in A \cap C$ .

 $\langle 1 \rangle 3$ . Case:  $x \notin C$ 

PROOF: Then  $x \in E$  and so  $x \in B \cap (E - C)$ .

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**Proposition 8.16.** For any sets A, B, C and E, we have

$$(A \cup C) \cap (B \cup (E - C)) \subseteq A \cup B$$
.

PROOF: The statement  $(x \in A \lor x \in C) \land (x \in B \lor (x \in E \land x \notin C))$  implies  $x \in A \lor x \in B$ .  $\square$ 

**Proposition 8.17** (De Morgan's Law). Let E be a set and C a nonempty set. Then

$$E - \bigcup \mathcal{C} = \bigcap_{X \in \mathcal{C}} (E - X) .$$

Proof: Easy.  $\square$ 

**Proposition 8.18** (De Morgan's Law). Let E be a set and C a nonempty set. Then

$$E - \bigcap \mathcal{C} = \bigcup_{X \in \mathcal{C}} (E - X)$$
.

Proof: Easy.

# Symmetric Difference

**Definition 9.1** (Symmetric Difference). For any sets A and B, the *symmetric difference* A+B is defined to be

$$A+B:=(A-B)\cup(B-A).$$

**Proposition 9.2.** For any sets A and B, we have

$$A + B = B + A$$

PROOF: From the commutativity of union.  $\Box$ 

**Proposition 9.3.** For any sets A, B and C, we have

$$A + (B + C) = (A + B) + C$$
.

PROOF: Each is the set of all x that belong to either exactly one or all three of  $A,\,B$  and C.  $\Box$ 

**Proposition 9.4.** For any set A, we have

$$A + \emptyset = A$$
.

Proof:

$$A + \emptyset = (A - \emptyset) \cup (\emptyset - A)$$
$$= A \cup \emptyset$$
$$= A$$

**Proposition 9.5.** For any set A we have

$$A + A = \emptyset$$
.

Proof:

$$A + A = (A - A) \cup (A - A)$$
$$= \emptyset \cup \emptyset$$
$$= \emptyset$$

# Power Sets

**Definition 10.1** (Power Set). For any set A, the *power set* of A,  $\mathcal{P}A$ , is the set whose elements are exactly the subsets of A.

PROOF: This exists by the Power Set Axiom and Axiom of Comprehension, and is unique by the Axiom of Extensionality.  $\Box$ 

Proposition 10.2.

$$\mathcal{P}\emptyset = \{\emptyset\}$$

PROOF: The only subset of  $\emptyset$  is  $\emptyset$ .

**Proposition 10.3.** For any set a, we have

$$\mathcal{P}\{a\} = \{\emptyset, \{a\}\} .$$

PROOF: The only subsets of  $\{a\}$  are  $\emptyset$  and  $\{a\}$ .  $\square$ 

**Proposition 10.4.** For any sets a and b, we have

$$\mathcal{P}{a,b} = {\emptyset, \{a\}, \{b\}, \{a,b\}\}}$$
.

PROOF: The only subsets of  $\{a,b\}$  are  $\emptyset$ ,  $\{a\}$ ,  $\{b\}$  and  $\{a,b\}$ .  $\square$ 

**Proposition 10.5.** For any nonempty set C we have

$$\bigcap_{X \in \mathcal{C}} \mathcal{P}X = \mathcal{P}\left(\bigcap \mathcal{C}\right) .$$

Proof:

$$x \in \bigcup_{X \in \mathcal{C}} \mathcal{P}X \Leftrightarrow \forall X \in \mathcal{C}.x \subseteq X$$
$$\Leftrightarrow \forall X \in \mathcal{C}.\forall y \in x.y \in X$$
$$\Leftrightarrow \forall y \in x.\forall X \in mathcalC.y \in X$$
$$\Leftrightarrow x \subseteq \bigcap \mathcal{C}$$

**Proposition 10.6.** For any set C we have

$$\bigcup_{X\in\mathcal{C}}\mathcal{P}X\subseteq\mathcal{P}\bigcup\mathcal{C}\ .$$

PROOF: If there exists  $X \in \mathcal{C}$  such that  $x \subseteq X$  then  $x \subseteq \bigcup \mathcal{C}$ .  $\square$ 

**Proposition 10.7.** For any set E, we have

$$\bigcap \mathcal{P}E = \emptyset \ .$$

PROOF: Since  $\emptyset \in \mathcal{P}E$ .  $\square$ 

**Proposition 10.8.** For any sets E and F, if  $E \subseteq F$  then  $\mathcal{P}E \subseteq \mathcal{P}F$ .

PROOF: If  $E \subseteq F$  and  $X \subseteq E$  then  $X \subseteq F$ .  $\square$ 

### **Ordered Pairs**

**Definition 11.1** (Ordered Pair). For any sets a and b, the *ordered pair* (a,b) is defined by

$$(a,b) := \{\{a\}, \{a,b\}\}$$
 .

**Proposition 11.2.** For any sets a, b, x and y, if (a,b) = (x,y) then a = x and b = y.

Proof:

- $\langle 1 \rangle 1$ . Let: a, b, x and y be sets.
- $\langle 1 \rangle 2$ . Assume: (a,b) = (x,y)
- $\langle 1 \rangle 3. \ a = x$

Proof:  $\{a\} = \bigcap (a,b) = \bigcap (x,y) = \{x\}.$ 

- $\langle 1 \rangle 4. \ \{a,b\} = \{x,y\}$
- $\langle 1 \rangle$ 5. Case: a = b
  - $\langle 2 \rangle 1. \ x = y$

PROOF: Since  $\{x, y\} = \{a, b\}$  is a singleton.

 $\langle 2 \rangle 2. \ b = y$ 

Proof: b = a = x = y

- $\langle 1 \rangle 6$ . Case:  $a \neq b$ 
  - $\langle 2 \rangle 1. \ x \neq y$

PROOF: Since  $\{x, y\} = \{a, b\}$  is not a singleton.

 $\langle 2 \rangle 2. \ b = y$ 

PROOF:  $\{b\} = \{a, b\} - \{a\} = \{x, y\} - \{x\} = \{y\}.$ 

**Definition 11.3** (Cartesian Product). For any sets A and B, the Cartesian product  $A \times B$  is

$$A \times B := \{ p \in \mathcal{PP}(A \cup B) : \exists a \in A.\exists b \in B.p = (a,b) \} .$$

**Proposition 11.4.** For any sets A, B and X, we have

$$(A \cup B) \times X = (A \times X) \cup (B \times X)$$
.

Proof: Easy.

**Proposition 11.5.** For any sets A, B, X and Y, we have

$$(A \cap B) \times (X \cap Y) = (A \times X) \cap (B \times Y) .$$

Proof: Easy.  $\square$ 

**Proposition 11.6.** For any sets A, B and X, we have

$$(A - B) \times X = (A \times X) - (B \times X) .$$

Proof: Easy.

**Proposition 11.7.** For any sets A and B, we have  $A \times B = \emptyset$  if and only if  $A = \emptyset$  or  $B = \emptyset$ .

Proof: Easy.  $\square$ 

**Proposition 11.8.** For any sets A, B, X and Y, if  $A \subseteq X$  and  $B \subseteq Y$  then  $A \times B \subseteq X \times Y$ . The converse holds assuming  $A \neq \emptyset$  and  $B \neq \emptyset$ .

Proof: Easy.  $\square$ 

# Relations

**Definition 12.1** (Relation). A *relation* is a set of ordered pairs. If R is a relation, we write xRy for  $(x, y) \in R$ .

**Definition 12.2** (Domain). The *domain* of a relation R is the set

$$\operatorname{dom} R := \{ x \in \bigcup \bigcup R : \exists y . (x, y) \in R \} .$$

**Definition 12.3** (Range). The range of a relation R is the set

$$\operatorname{ran} R := \{y \in \bigcup \bigcup R : \exists x. (x,y) \in R\} \ .$$