

# Introduction To Model Theory

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## 1 Back-and-forth Equivalence

Convention: Relations and functions are sets of pairs  $(x, y)$

**Definition 1.1.** A **binary relation** is a pair  $(E, R)$  where  $E$  is a set and  $R \subseteq E^2$ . We call  $E$  the **universe** of the relation. For  $a, b \in E$ , write  $aEb$  if  $(a, b) \in R$

We abbreviate  $(E, R)$  as  $R$  or  $E$ , if  $E$  or  $R$  is clear

**Example 1.1.**  $(\mathbb{R}, <)$ ,  $(\mathbb{R}, =)$ ,  $(\mathbb{R}, \geq)$ ,  $(\mathbb{Z}, <)$

**Definition 1.2.** A binary relation  $R$  is said to be

- **reflexive** if  $aRa$  ( $\forall a \in E$ )
- **symmetric** if  $aRb \Rightarrow bRa$  ( $\forall a, b \in E$ )
- **transitive** if  $aRb \wedge bRc \Rightarrow aRc$  ( $\forall a, b, c \in E$ )
- **antisymmetric** if  $aRb \wedge bRa \Rightarrow a = b$  ( $\forall a, b \in E$ )
- **total** if  $aRb \vee bRa$  ( $\forall a, b \in E$ )
- an **equivalence relation** if it's reflexive, symmetric and transitive
- a **partial order** if it's reflexive, antisymmetric and transitive

- a **linear order** if it's a total partial order

**Example 1.2.**  $=$  is an equivalence relation

$\subseteq$  is a partial order

$\leq$  is a linear order

**Definition 1.3.** An **isomorphism** from  $(E, R)$  to  $(E', R')$  is a bijection  $f : E \rightarrow E'$  s.t. for any  $a, b \in E$ ,  $aRb \Leftrightarrow f(a)R'f(b)$ . Two binary relations  $(E, R)$  and  $(E', R')$  are **isomorphic** ( $\cong$ ) if there is an isomorphism between them

**Example 1.3.**  $f : (\mathbb{Z}, <) \rightarrow (2\mathbb{Z}, >)$  and  $f(x) = -2x$  is an isomorphism.  
 $x < y \Leftrightarrow -2x > -2y$

$\cong$  is an equivalence relation

**Definition 1.4.** A **local isomorphism** from  $R$  to  $R'$  is an isomorphism from a finite restriction of  $R$  to a finite restriction of  $R'$ . The set of local isomorphisms from  $R$  to  $R'$  is denoted  $S_0(R, R')$ . For  $f \in S_0(R, R')$ ,  $\text{dom}(f)$  and  $\text{im}(f)$  denote the domain and range of  $f$

**Example 1.4.**  $(\mathbb{Z}, <)$  is a restriction of  $(\mathbb{R}, <)$

**Example 1.5.** Suppose  $R = R' = (\mathbb{Z}, <)$ , there is  $f \in S_0(R, R')$  given by  $\text{dom}(f) = \{1, 2, 3\}$  and  $\text{im}(f) = \{10, 20, 30\}$  and  $f(1) = 10, f(2) = 20, f(3) = 30$

**Definition 1.5.** Let  $f, g$  be local isomorphisms from  $R$  to  $R'$ . Then  $f$  is a **restriction** of  $g$  if  $f \subseteq g$  and  $f$  is an **extension** of  $g$  if  $g \subseteq f$ .

**Example 1.6.**  $g : \{0, 1, 2, 3\} \rightarrow \{5, 10, 20, 30\}$ ,  $g$  extends  $f$  in the previous example

**Definition 1.6.** Let  $R, R'$  be binary relations with universe  $E, E'$ . A **Karpian family** for  $(R, R')$  is a set  $K \subseteq S_0(R, R')$  satisfying the following two conditions for any  $f \in K$

1. (**forth**) if  $a \in E$  then there is  $g \in K$  with  $g \supseteq f$  and  $a \in \text{dom}(g)$
2. (**back**) if  $b \in E'$  then there is  $g \in K$  with  $g \supseteq f$  and  $b \in \text{im}(g)$

$R$  and  $R'$  are  **$\infty$ -equivalent**, write  $R \sim_\infty R'$ , if there is a non-empty Karpian family

**Proposition 1.7.** If  $f : (E, R) \rightarrow (E', R')$  an isomorphism and  $K = \{g \subseteq f : g \text{ is finite}\}$ , then  $K$  is Karpian and  $R \sim_\infty R'$

*Proof.* Suppose  $g \in K$

- (forth) Suppose  $a \in E$ , take  $b = f(a)$  and let  $h = g \cup \{(a, b)\}$ . Then  $h \subseteq f$ , so  $h \in K$ ,  $h \supseteq g$ ,  $a \in \text{dom}(h)$
- (back) similarly

□

**Proposition 1.8.** *If  $(E, R)$  and  $(E', R')$  are countable and  $R \sim_\infty R'$ , then  $R \cong R'$*

*Proof.* Let  $K \subseteq S_0(R, R')$  be Karpian,  $K \neq \emptyset$ ,  $E = \{e_1, e_2, e_3, \dots\}$ ,  $E' = \{e'_1, e'_2, e'_3, \dots\}$

Recursively build  $f_1 \subseteq f_2 \subseteq \dots$ ,  $f_i \in K$

Let  $f_1$  be anything in  $K$  as  $K$  is non-empty.

$f_{2i}$  some extension of  $f_{2i-1}$  with  $e_i \in \text{dom}(f_{2i})$

$f_{2i+1}$  some extension of  $f_{2i}$  with  $e'_i \in \text{im}(f_{2i+1})$

Now let  $g = \bigcup_{i=1}^\infty f_i$ , then  $g$  is an isomorphism

□

**Definition 1.9.** A dense linear order without endpoints (DLO) is a linear order  $(C, \leq)$  satisfying

1.  $C \neq \emptyset$
2.  $\forall x, y \in C, x < y \Rightarrow \exists z \in C, x < z < y$
3.  $\forall x \in C, \exists y, z \in C, y < x < z$

**Example 1.7.**  $(\mathbb{Q}, \leq)$ ,  $(\mathbb{R}, \leq)$

non-example:  $(\mathbb{Z}, \leq)$ ,  $([0, 1], \leq)$

**Proposition 1.10.** *Let  $(C, \leq)$  and  $(C', \leq)$  be DLO's. Then  $S_0(C, C')$  is Karpian. So  $C \sim_\infty C'$*

*Proof.* Let  $f \in S_0(C, C')$ ,  $\text{dom}(f) = \{a_1, \dots, a_n\}$ ,  $a_1 < \dots < a_n$  and  $\text{im}(f) = \{b_1, \dots, b_n\}$ ,  $b_1 < \dots < b_n$ . Since  $f$  is a local isomorphism,  $f(a_i) = b_i$

- (forth) Suppose  $a \in C$ . We want  $b \in C'$  s.t.  $f \cup \{(a, b)\} \in S_0(C, C')$ .
  - if  $a_i < a < a_{i+1}$ . We take  $b \in C'$  s.t.  $b_i < b < b_{i+1}$  since dense
  - if  $a < a_1$ . We take  $b \in C'$  s.t.  $b < b_1$  since no endpoints
  - if  $a > a_n$ , take  $b \in C'$  s.t.  $b > b_n$
  - if  $a = a_i$ , take  $b = b_i$

- (back) similar

□

**Proposition 1.11.** *If  $(C, \leq)$  and  $(C', \leq)$  are countable DLOs, then  $C \sim_\infty C'$ , so  $C \cong C'$*

Hence

$$\begin{aligned} (\mathbb{Q}, \leq) &\cong (\mathbb{Q} \setminus \{0\}, \leq) \\ &\cong (\mathbb{Q} \cup \{\sqrt{2}\}, \leq) \\ &\cong (\mathbb{Q} \cap (0, 1), \leq) \end{aligned}$$

**Definition 1.12.** Let  $R, R'$  be binary relations with universe  $E, E'$

- A **0-isomorphism** from  $R$  to  $R'$  is a local isomorphism from  $R$  to  $R'$
- For  $p > 0$ , a  **$p$ -isomorphism** from  $R$  to  $R'$  is a local isomorphism  $f$  from  $R$  to  $R'$  satisfying the following two conditions
  1. (**forth**) For any  $a \in E$ , there is a  $(p-1)$ -isomorphism  $g \supseteq f$  with  $a \in \text{dom}(g)$
  2. (**back**) For any  $b \in E'$ , there is a  $(p-1)$ -isomorphism  $g \supseteq f$  with  $b \in \text{im}(g)$
- An  **$\omega$ -isomorphism** from  $R$  to  $R'$  is a local isomorphism  $f$  from  $R$  to  $R'$  s.t.  $f$  is a  $p$ -isomorphism for all  $p < \omega$

The set of  $p$ -isomorphisms from  $R$  to  $R'$  is denoted  $S_p(R, R')$

**Example 1.8.** Suppose  $R = R' = (\mathbb{Z}, <)$ ,  $f : \{2, 4\} \rightarrow \{1, 2\}$  is a local isomorphism with  $f(2) = 1$  and  $f(4) = 2$ . Then  $f \notin S_1(\mathbb{Z}, \mathbb{Z})$  (forth) fails. For  $a = 3$ , there is no  $b$  s.t.  $1 < b < 2$

$g : \{2, 4\} \rightarrow \{1, 5\}$  is a 1-isomorphism but not a 2-isomorphism

**Proposition 1.13.** *If  $f \in S_p(R, R')$  and  $g \subseteq f$ , then  $g \in S_p(R, R')$*

*Proof.* if  $p = 0$  easy

if  $p > 0$  (forward),  $\forall a \in E, \exists h \in S_{p-1}(R, R')$  has  $a \in \text{dom}(h)$  and  $h \supseteq f \supseteq g$  □

**Proposition 1.14.**  $S_p(R, R') \neq \emptyset$  iff  $\emptyset \in S_p(R, R')$

*Proof.*  $\Leftarrow$  immediate

$\Rightarrow$ . Suppose  $f \in S_p(R, R')$ . Then  $\emptyset \subseteq f$ . Hence  $\emptyset \in S_p(R, R')$ . □

**Definition 1.15.**  $R$  and  $R'$  are  $p$ -**equivalent**, written  $R \sim_p R'$ , if there is a  $p$ -isomorphism from  $R \rightarrow R'$

$R$  and  $R'$  are  $\omega$ -**equivalent** or **elementarily equivalent**, written  $R \sim_\omega R'$  or  $R \equiv R'$ , if there is an  $\omega$ -isomorphism from  $R$  to  $R'$

Note:  $R \sim_\omega R'$  iff  $S_\omega(R, R') \neq \emptyset$  iff  $\emptyset \in S_\omega(R, R')$  iff  $\forall p \emptyset \in S_p(R, R')$  iff  $\forall p R \sim_p R'$

**Definition 1.16.** Let  $R, R'$  be binary relations with universe  $E, E'$ . The Ehrenfeucht-Fraïssé game of length  $n$ , denoted  $EF_n(R, R')$  is played as follows

- There are two players, the Duplicator and Spoiler
- There are  $n$  rounds
- In the  $i$ th round, the Spoiler chooses either an  $a_i \in E$  or a  $b_i \in E'$
- The Duplicator responds with a  $b_i \in E'$  or an  $a_i \in E$  respectively
- At the ends of the game, the Duplicator wins

$$\{(a_i, b_i), \dots, (a_n, b_n)\}$$

is a local isomorphism from  $R$  to  $R'$

- Otherwise, the Spoiler wins

**Example 1.9.** For  $EF_3(\mathbb{Q}, \mathbb{R})$

$\mathbb{Q}$	$\mathbb{R}$
S: $a_1 = 7$	D: $b_1 = 7$
D: $a_2 = 1.4$	S: $b_2 = \sqrt{2}$
D: $a_3 = -10$	S: $b_3 = 1.41$

So  $D$  wins

**Example 1.10.**  $EF_3(\mathbb{R}, \mathbb{Z})$

$\mathbb{R}$	$\mathbb{Z}$
D: $a_1 = 1$	S: $b_1 = 1$
D: $a_2 = 1.1$	S: $b_2 = 2$
S: $a_3 = 1.01$	

$D$  fails

**Proposition 1.17.**  $EF_n(R, R')$  is a win for Duplicator iff  $R \sim_n R'$

**Proposition 1.18.** In  $EF_n(R, R')$  if moves so far are  $a_1, b_1, \dots, a_i, b_i$ ,  $p = n - 1$ ,  $f = \{(a_1, b_1), \dots, (a_i, b_i)\}$ . Then Duplicator wins iff  $f \in S_p(R, R')$

## A Metric Spaces

$\mathbb{R}_{\geq 0}$  denotes  $[0, +\infty] = \{x \in \mathbb{R} : x \geq 0\}$

**Definition A.1.** A **metric** on a set  $M$  is a function  $d : M \times M \rightarrow \mathbb{R}_{\geq 0}$  satisfying the following properties

1.  $d(x, y) = 0 \Leftrightarrow x = y$
2.  $d(x, y) = d(y, x)$
3.  $d(x, z) \leq d(x, y) + d(y, z)$

**Example A.1.**  $M = \mathbb{R}^2$ ,  $d(x, y)$  = (the distance from  $x$  to  $y$ )

$$d(x_1, x_2; y_1, y_2) = \sqrt{(x_1 - y_1)^2 + (x_2 - y_2)^2}$$

**Example A.2.** The **Manhattan metric** on  $\mathbb{R}^2$  is given by

$$d(x_1, x_2; y_1, y_2) = |x_1 - y_1| + |x_2 - y_2|$$

measure distances in a city grid

**Example A.3.** Let  $M$  be the set of strings. The **edit distance** from  $x$  to  $y$  is the minimum number of intersections, deletions, and substitutions to go from  $x$  to  $y$

$$\begin{aligned} d(\text{drip}, \text{rope}) &= 3 \\ \text{drip} &\mapsto \text{drop} \mapsto \text{rop} \mapsto \text{rope} \end{aligned}$$

Edit distance is a metric on  $M$

**Definition A.2.** A **metric space** is a pair  $(M, d)$  where  $M$  is a set and  $d$  is a metric space

- $(\mathbb{R}^n, d_{\text{Euclidean}})$  where  $d_{\text{Euclidean}}$  is the usual Euclidean distance
- $(\mathbb{R}^2, d_{\text{Manhattan}})$  where  $d_{\text{Manhattan}}$  is the Manhattan distance

Often we abbreviate  $(M, d)$  as  $M$ , when  $d$  is clear

Fix a metric space  $(M, d)$

**Definition A.3.** If  $p \in M$  and  $\epsilon > 0$ , then

$$B_\epsilon(p) = \{x \in M : d(x, p) < \epsilon\}$$

$$\bar{B}_\epsilon(p) = \{x \in M : d(x, p) \leq \epsilon\}$$

$B_\epsilon(p)$  and  $\bar{B}_\epsilon(p)$  are called the **open** and **closed** balls of radius  $\epsilon$  around  $p$

**Example A.4.** In  $\mathbb{R}^2$  with the Euclidean metric, the open ball of radius 2 around  $(0, 0)$  the open disk

$$\{(x, y) \in \mathbb{R}^2 : x^2 + y^2 < 2^2\}$$

**Example A.5.** In  $\mathbb{R}^2$  with the Manhattan metric, the open ball of radius 1 around  $(0, 0)$  the open disk

$$\{(x, y) \in \mathbb{R}^2 : |x| + |y| \leq 1\}$$

Suppose  $p \in M$  and  $X \subseteq M$

**Definition A.4.**  $p$  is an **interior point** of  $X$  if  $X$  contains an open ball of positive radius around  $p$

In particular,  $p$  must be an element of  $X$

**Example A.6.** If  $X = [-1, 1] \times [-1, 1]$ , then  $(0, 0)$  is an interior point of  $X$ , but  $(1, 0)$  and  $(0, 2)$  are not

**Definition A.5.** The **interior**  $\text{int}(X)$  is the set of interior points

Warning: There are metric spaces where the interior of  $\bar{B}_\epsilon(p)$  isn't  $B_\epsilon(p)$

**Definition A.6.** A set  $X \subseteq M$  is **open** if  $X = \text{int}(X)$ , i.e., every point of  $X$  is an interior point of  $X$

**Example A.7** (in  $\mathbb{R}$ ). The set  $(-1, 2)$  is open. The sets  $[-1, 2]$  and  $[-1, 2)$  are not; they have interior  $(-1, 2)$

Fact: the interior  $\text{int}(X)$  is the unique largest open set contained in  $X$

Let  $a_1, a_2, \dots$  be a sequence in a metric space  $(M, d)$  and let  $p$  be a point

**Definition A.7.** " $\lim_{i \rightarrow \infty} a_i = p$ " if for every  $\epsilon > 0$ , there is  $n$  s.t.

$$\{a_n, a_{n+1}, a_{n+2}, \dots\} \subseteq B_\epsilon(p)$$

**Example A.8.** Work in  $\mathbb{R}$  with the usual distance. Let  $a_n = 1/n$ . Then  $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} a_n = 0$  but  $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} a_n \neq 1$

Fact: For any sequence  $a_1, a_2, a_3, \dots$  in  $(M, d)$ , there is at most one point  $p$  s.t.  $\lim_{i \rightarrow \infty} a_i = p$

If such a  $p$  exists, it is called the **limit**, and written  $\lim_{i \rightarrow \infty} a_i$

let  $X$  be a set and  $p$  be a point in a metric space  $(M, d)$

**Definition A.8.**  $p$  is an **accumulation point** of  $X$  if  $p = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} a_n$  for some sequence  $a_n$  in  $X$

Equivalently

**Definition A.9.**  $p$  is an accumulation point of  $X$  if for every  $\epsilon > 0$ , we have  $B_\epsilon(p) \cap X \neq \emptyset$

**Definition A.10.** The **closure** of  $X$ , written  $\text{cl}(X)$  or  $\bar{X}$ , is the set of accumulation points

**Definition A.11.** A set  $X \subseteq M$  is **closed** if  $X = \text{cl}(X)$

Fact: The closure  $\text{cl}(X)$  is the unique smallest closed set containing  $X$

**Example A.9.** Work in  $\mathbb{R}$  with the distance  $d(x, y) = |x - y|$

$\mathbb{Q}$  is neither closed nor open

$\mathbb{R}$  is both closed and open, so is *emptyset*

Let  $X^c$  denote the complement  $M \setminus X$

Fact:  $X$  is closed iff  $X^c$  is open

Fact:  $\text{int}(X) = \text{cl}(X^c)^c$  and  $\text{cl}(X) = \text{int}(X^c)^c$

Let  $(M, d)$  and  $(M', d)$  be metric spaces. Let  $f : M \rightarrow M'$  be a function

**Definition A.12.**  $f$  is **continuous** if

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} a_n = p \Rightarrow \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} f(a_n) = f(p)$$

for  $a_1, a_2, a_3, \dots, p \in M$

idea:  $f$  is continuous iff  $f$  preserves limits

**Example A.10.** Let  $f : \mathbb{R} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  be given by

$$f(x) = \begin{cases} 1 & \text{if } x > 0 \\ -1 & \text{if } x \leq 0 \end{cases}$$

Then  $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} 1/n = 0$ , but

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} f(1/n) = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} 1 = 1 \neq -1 = f(0)$$



**Proposition A.13.** Fix  $f : (M, d) \rightarrow (M', d)$ . The following are equivalent

1.  $f$  is continuous
2. For every open set  $U \subseteq M'$ , the preimage  $f^{-1}(U)$  is open
3. For every  $p \in M$ , for every  $\epsilon > 0$ , there is  $\delta > 0$  s.t. for every  $x \in M$ ,

$$d(x, p) < \delta \Rightarrow d(f(x), f(p)) < \epsilon$$

Fact: The functions  $\sin$ ,  $\cos$ ,  $\exp$ ,  $\sqrt[3]{\phantom{x}}$  and polynomials are continuous

**Proposition A.14.** If  $f, g : \mathbb{R} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  are continuous, then  $f + g, f \cdot g, f - g, f \circ g$  are continuous

**Proposition A.15.** If  $f : \mathbb{R} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  is continuous and  $f(x) \neq 0$  for all  $x$ , then  $1/f(x)$  is continuous. If  $f(x) \geq 0$  for all  $x$ , then  $\sqrt{f(x)}$  is continuous

**Example A.11.** This function is continuous

$$h(x) = \exp\left(\frac{1}{1+x^2}\right) - \frac{1}{17 + \sin(\sqrt[3]{x})}$$

**Definition A.16.** A function  $f : M \rightarrow M'$  is **Lipschitz continuous** if there is  $c \in \mathbb{R}$  s.t. for any  $x, y \in M$

$$d(f(x), f(y)) \leq c \cdot d(x, y)$$

**Example A.12** (In  $\mathbb{R}$ ). The function  $f(x) = |x| + |x - 1|$  is Lipschitz continuous with  $c = 2$

**Proposition A.17.** If  $f$  is Lipschitz continuous, then  $f$  is continuous

**Example A.13.** The function  $f(x) = x^2$  is continuous but not Lipschitz continuous

**Definition A.18.** Let  $(M, d)$  be a metric space and  $S \subseteq M$  be a set. Then  $(S, d')$  is a metric space, where  $d'(x, y) = d(x, y)$  for  $x, y \in S$

- $d'$  is the restriction of  $d$  to  $S \times S$
- We say that  $(S, d')$  is a **subspace** of  $(M, d)$

Let  $(M, d), (M', d)$  be metric spaces,  $S \subseteq M$  and  $f : S \rightarrow M'$  be a function

**Definition A.19.**  $f$  is **continuous** if  $f$  is continuous as a map from the subspace  $(S, d')$  to  $(M', d)$

**Example A.14** (in  $\mathbb{R}$ ). Let  $f : (-\infty, 0) \cup (0, \infty) \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  be given by  $f(x) = 1/x$ . Then  $f$  is continuous

**Definition A.20.** An **isometry** or **isomorphism** from  $(M, d)$  to  $(M', d')$  is a bijection  $f : M \rightarrow M'$  s.t. for any  $x, y \in M$

$$d(x, y) = d'(f(x), f(y))$$

**Example A.15** (in  $\mathbb{R}^2$ ). The map  $(x, y) \mapsto (x + 1, y - 7)$  is an isometry  
So is the map  $(x, y) \mapsto (3/5x + 4/5y, -4/5x + 3/5y)$