

# Lecture plan Mandag 15 februar 2016: Relations

Definition: For sets  $A$  and  $B$ , the Cartesian product (= cross product) is defined by

pag 274

$$A \times B = \{(a, b) \mid a \in A, b \in B\}$$

The elements of  $A \times B$  are ordered pairs. They are exactly all combinations of elements of  $A$  and elements of  $B$ .

Example:

$$A = \{1, 2, 3\} \quad B = \{1, x\}$$

$$A \times B = \{(1, 1), (1, x), (2, 1), (2, x), (3, 1), (3, x)\}$$

Example:

$$\mathbb{Z}^+ \times \mathbb{Z}^+ = \{(a, b) \mid a \in \mathbb{Z}^+, b \in \mathbb{Z}^+\}$$



Remark:

$A \times B$  and  $B \times A$  are generally not equal. In fact, they are equal if and only if  $A = B$ .

Remark:

If  $A$  and  $B$  are finite, then  $|A \times B| = |A| \cdot |B|$  by rule of product

Remark:

If  $n \in \mathbb{Z}^+$  and  $A_1, A_2, \dots, A_n$  are sets, with  $n \geq 3$ , we can define  $A_1 \times A_2 \times \dots \times A_n = \{(a_1, a_2, \dots, a_n) \mid a_i \in A_i \text{ for } i=1, \dots, n\}$   
The element  $(a_1, a_2, \dots, a_n)$  is called an  $n$ -tuple.

Theorem 1:  
pag 277

For any sets  $A, B$  and  $C$  in a universe  $\mathcal{U}$ :

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

Proof:

We prove only part (a) here.

Suppose  $x \in A \times (B \cap C)$ . Then  $x$  has the form  $x = (a, b)$  where  $a \in A$  and  $b \in B \cap C$ . Since  $a \in A$  and  $b \in B$ ,  $x \in A \times B$ . Since  $a \in A$  and  $b \in C$ ,  $x \in A \times C$ . Hence  $x \in (A \times B) \cap (A \times C)$ .

This proves that  $A \times (B \cap C) \subseteq (A \times B) \cap (A \times C)$ .

Now suppose  $y \in (A \times B) \cap (A \times C)$ . Then  $y \in A \times B$  and  $y \in A \times C$ .

As  $y \in A \times B$ ,  $y$  has the form  $y = (a, b)$  with  $a \in A$  and  $b \in B$ .

As  $y = (a, b)$  and  $y \in A \times C$ , we find  $b \in C$ . Since  $b \in B$  and  $b \in C$ , we have  $b \in B \cap C$ . Hence  $y = (a, b) \in A \times (B \cap C)$ .

This proves that  $(A \times B) \cap (A \times C) \subseteq A \times (B \cap C)$ .

Together, this proves (a).

Remark:

For any set  $A$ ,  $A \times \emptyset = \emptyset$  and  $\emptyset \times A = \emptyset$ .

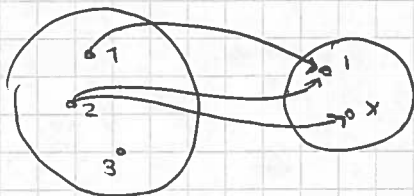
Definition:  
pag 276

For sets  $A$  and  $B$ , a (binary) relation from  $A$  to  $B$  is a subset  $R \subseteq A \times B$ .

For a set  $A$ , a (binary) relation on  $A$  is a subset  $R \subseteq A \times A$ .

Example:

$$A = \{1, 2, 3\} \quad B = \{1, x\} \quad R = \{(1, 1), (2, 1), (2, x)\}$$



Example:

$$\begin{aligned} A &= \{\text{students at NTNU}\} \\ B &= \{\text{courses at NTNU}\} \\ R &= \{(s, c) \mid s \in A, c \in B, \text{student } s \text{ takes course } c\} \end{aligned}$$

Remark:

For finite sets  $A$  and  $B$  with  $|A|=m$  and  $|B|=n$ :

$$\begin{aligned} \#\{\text{relations from } A \text{ to } B\} &= \#\{\text{subsets of } A \times B\} \\ &= 2^{m \cdot n} \quad \text{since } |A \times B| = |A| \cdot |B| = mn \end{aligned}$$

$$\text{likewise } \#\{\text{relations from } B \text{ to } A\} = 2^{n \cdot m} = 2^{mn}$$

If  $R$  is a relation from  $A$  to  $B$ , we can use  $R$  to construct a relation from  $B$  to  $A$ :

$$\{(b, a) \in B \times A \mid (a, b) \in R\} \text{ is a relation from } B \text{ to } A.$$

We'll mainly discuss relations on some set  $A$ , so let us build a collection of standard examples

Examples:

1)  $A_1 = \mathbb{Z}$ ,  $R_1 = \{(x, y) \in \mathbb{Z}^2 \mid x \leq y\}$

2)  $A_2 = \mathbb{Z}$ ,  $R_2 = \{(x, y) \in \mathbb{Z}^2 \mid x < y\}$

3)  $U$  universe,  $A_3 = \mathcal{P}(U)$ ,  $R_3 = \{(X, Y) \in \mathcal{P}(U)^2 \mid X \subseteq Y\}$

4)  $U$  universe,  $S \subseteq U$ ,  $A_4 = \mathcal{P}(U)$

$$R_5 = \{(X, Y) \in \mathcal{P}(U)^2 \mid X \cap S = Y \cap S\}$$

5)  $A_5 = \mathbb{Z}^+$ ,  $R_5 = \{(x, y) \in \mathbb{Z}^+ \times \mathbb{Z}^+ \mid x \mid y\}$

$$= \{(x, y) \in \mathbb{Z}^+ \times \mathbb{Z}^+ \mid \exists c \in \mathbb{Z}^+, y = cx\}$$

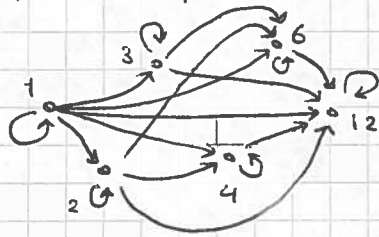
6)  $A_6 = \{1, 2, 3, 4, 6, 12\} = \{\text{positive integers that divide } 12\}$

$$R_6 = \{(x, y) \in A_6 \times A_6 \mid x \mid y\}$$

7)  $A_7 = \mathbb{Z}$ ,  $R_7 = \{(x, y) \in \mathbb{Z} \times \mathbb{Z} \mid 5 \mid x - y\}$

Notation: If  $R$  is a relation from  $A$  to  $B$ , we write:  
 $a R b$  if  $(a, b) \in R$   
 $a \not R b$  if  $(a, b) \notin R$ .

Drawing: We can represent a relation using a directed graph.  
 See for example  $R_6$  on  $A_6$ :



We draw an arrow from  $x$  to  $y$  if and only if  $(x, y) \in R$

These arrows are called directed edges  
 The points are called vertices

Properties that relations may satisfy:

Definition: A relation  $R$  on a set  $A$  is called reflexive if for all  $x \in A$  we have  $(x, x) \in R$

Examples: 1, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 are reflexive, while 2 is not.

Counting: If  $A$  is a finite set with  $n$  elements, there are  $2^{n^2}$  relations on  $A$ .  
 How many of those are reflexive?  
 A relation  $R$  on  $A$  is a subset of  $A \times A$ . To be reflexive,  $R$  has to contain the  $n$  elements of the form  $(x, x)$  with  $x \in A$ .  
 The other  $n^2 - n$  elements of  $A \times A$  may or may not be included in  $R$ .  
 By rule of product, this gives  $2^{n^2 - n}$  relations that are reflexive.

Definition: A relation  $R$  on a set  $A$  is called symmetric if for all  $x, y \in A$  we have  $(x, y) \in R \Rightarrow (y, x) \in R$

Examples: 4 and 7 are symmetric; 1, 2, 3, 5, and 6 are not

Remark: When drawing a graph for a relation: if  $(x, y)$  and  $(y, x)$  are both in  $R$ , we draw an undirected edge:



Counting: If  $A$  is finite and  $|A| = n$ , how many symmetric relations are there on  $A$ ?

$A \times A$  has  $n$  elements of the form  $(x, x)$  with  $x \in A$  and  $n(n-1)$  elements of the form  $(x, y)$  with  $x, y \in A$  and  $x \neq y$ .  
 These last elements can be paired up:  $(x, y)$  &  $(y, x)$ .

~~There are~~ There are  $n(n-1)/2$  such pairs.

To have a symmetric relation in  $R$ , you must include the whole pair, or no elements of the pair.

So we have  $2^{\frac{n(n-1)}{2}}$  options to choose which pairs to include, and then  $2^n$  options to choose which elements of the form  $(x, x)$  we include.

So there are  $2^{\frac{n^2 - n}{2}} \cdot 2^n = 2^{\frac{n^2 + n}{2}}$  symmetric relations on  $A$ .

Counting:

We can also count the symmetric reflexive relations on a set  $A$  with  $n$  elements.

In this case, we must include the  $n$  elements of the form  $(x, x)$ .

So we can only choose which pairs to include.

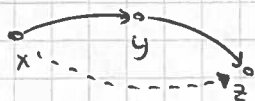
This gives  $\frac{n^2-n}{2}$  options.

2

Definition:

A relation  $R$  on a set  $A$  is called transitive if

$$\forall x, y, z \in A, [(x, y) \in R \wedge (y, z) \in R \Rightarrow (x, z) \in R]$$



Examples:

All the examples 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 are transitive.

Counting:

There is no known general formula to count the number of transitive relations on a finite set  $A$ .

Definition:

A relation  $R$  on a set  $A$  is called antisymmetric if  $\forall x, y \in A$ : if  $(x, y) \in R$  and  $(y, x) \in R$ , then  $x = y$ .

Examples:

1, 2, 3, 5 and 6 are antisymmetric, while 4 and 7 are not

Remark:

Relations can also be both symmetric and antisymmetric, or not symmetric and not antisymmetric. See Kahed.

Counting:

Let's count the anti-symmetric relations on a set  $A$  with  $n$  elements.

$A \times A$  contained elements  $(x, x)$  with  $x \in A$  and elements of the form  $(x, y)$  with  $x, y \in A$  and  $x \neq y$ .

The first type of element is irrelevant for anti-symmetry.

The elements of the second type come in pairs  $(x, y)$  &  $(y, x)$ .

There are  $n(n-1)/2$  such pairs. Of each pair, an anti-symmetric relation may contain at most one element.

This gives 3 options ( $(x, y)$ ,  $(y, x)$  or none).

So we have  $3^{n(n-1)/2}$  ways to choose from the pairs,

and  $2^n$  ways to choose from the elements of the first type.

This gives  $2^n \cdot 3^{n(n-1)/2}$  possible anti-symmetric relations.