

Worksheet 9.1-3

Max's Lecture
MATH 55

July 29, 2019

Exercise A. For every function $f : A \rightarrow B$, the set of ordered pairs $(a, f(a))$ is a binary relation from A to B .

1. Give an example of such a relation.
2. Are there relations that cannot be expressed in this way?

1. One example is the relation on \mathbb{R} consisting of ordered pairs (x, y) where $y = x^2$.

2. Yes! For example - the relation R on \mathbb{R} where

$$(x, y) \in R \text{ iff } x \leq y.$$

$(1, 2)$ and $(1, 3)$ are both in the relation,

but it is impossible for a function to assign 1 to both 2 and 3

(goes against the definition of a function)

I like to think of relations as kind of a generalization of functions. We are still pairing elements together but with less restrictions.

Let S be this set.

Exercise B. 1. How many relations are there on a set of n elements?

2. How many reflexive relations are there?

3. How many symmetric relations are there?

1. 2^{n^2} . This is because there are n^2 ordered pairs in $S \times S$. For each ordered pair, we have 2 options: whether or not to put it in the relation.
So there are 2^{n^2} ways to build a relation.

2. We know that all the ~~ordered~~ ordered pairs of the form (x, x) have to be in R . There are n of these. Thus, there are $n^2 - n$ ~~ordered~~ choices we still have to make. (as in decide whether or not the ordered pair is in R ~~or not~~).
So there are $2^{n^2 - n}$ ways to build such a relation.

3. For $x \neq y$, if (x, y) is in R so is (y, x) . So instead of choosing which ordered pairs are in the relation, we choose which unordered pairs are in the relation. There are $2^{\binom{n}{2}}$ to do this.
We also have to choose which of the pairs of the form (x, x) are in R . there are 2^n ways to do this.

Putting this together, we have

$$\begin{aligned} & 2^n 2^{\binom{n}{2}} \text{ symmetric relations} \\ & = 2^{n + \binom{n}{2}} \end{aligned}$$

Exercise C. Determine whether the relation R on the set of all integers is reflexive, symmetric, antisymmetric, and/or transitive, where $(x, y) \in R$ if and only if:

1. $x \neq y$ symmetric.
2. $xy \geq 1$ symmetric, transitive
3. $x = y + 1$ or $x = y - 1$ symmetric
4. $x \equiv y \pmod{7}$ sym, reflexive, transitive
5. $y = x^2$ antisymmetric.

I will justify #2, let me know if you have questions about any of the others.

This relation is symmetric because since $xy \geq 1$ if $xy \geq 1$ then $yx \geq 1$.

This relation is transitive because since the domain is positive integers, $xy \geq 1$ precisely when x, y are both positive or both negative. If $(x, y), (y, z) \in R$, x, y are both positive, y, z are both positive, so x, z are both positive. Thus, $(x, z) \in R$.

This relation is not antisymmetric since $(1, 3), (3, 1)$ are both in R , but $1 \neq 3$.

This relation is not transitive since $(0, 0) \notin R$.

or base set
↓

The domain is very important here.

