

Definitions about Relations

Janet Davis, from VanDrunen (2013), Chapter 5

November 3, 2017

5.1

(p. 197) A binary **relation** R from X to Y is a subset of $X \times Y$. X and Y are the **domains** of R .

5.3

(p. 202) The **image** of an element $a \in X$ under a relation R from X to Y is defined as

$$\mathcal{I}_R(a) = \{b \in Y \mid (a, b) \in R\}$$

(p. 202) The **image** of a set $A \subseteq X$ under a relation R from X to Y is defined as

$$\mathcal{I}_R(A) = \{b \in Y \mid \exists a \in A \mid (a, b) \in R\}$$

(p. 202) The **inverse** of a relation R from X to Y is the relation

$$R^{-1} = \{(b, a) \in Y \times X \mid (a, b) \in R\}$$

(p. 203) The **composition** of a relation R from X to Y and a relation S from Y to Z is the relation

$$S \circ R = \{(a, c) \in X \times Z \mid \exists b \in Y \mid (a, b) \in R \wedge (b, c) \in S\}$$

(p. 205, ex. 5.3.9) The **identity relation** on a set X is defined as

$$i_x = \{(x, x) \mid x \in X\}$$

5.4

(p. 205) A relation R on a set X is **reflexive** if every element is related to itself:

$$\forall x \in X, (x, x) \in R$$

(p. 206) A relation R on a set X is **symmetric** if for every pair in the relation, the inverse of the pair is also in the relation:

$$\forall x, y \in X, \text{ if } (x, y) \in R \text{ then } (y, x) \in R$$

(p. 207) A relation R on a set X is **transitive** if any time one element is related to a second and the second is related to a third, then the first is also related to the third:

$$\forall x, y, z \in X, \text{ if } (x, y) \in R \wedge (y, z) \in R \text{ then } (x, z) \in R$$

5.5

(p. 209) An **equivalence relation** is a relation that is reflexive, symmetric, and transitive.

(p. 211) For an equivalence relation R on X , let $[x]$ denote the image of a given $x \in X$ under R . We call $[x]$ the **equivalence class** of x under R .

(p. 211) Let X be a set, and let $P = \{X_1, X_2, \dots, X_n\}$ be a partition of X . Let R be the relation on X defined so that $(x, y) \in R$ if there exists $X_i \in P$ such that $x, y \in X_i$. We call R the **relation induced** by the partition.

5.7

(p.219) If R is a relation, then R^T is the **transitive closure** of R if

1. R^T is transitive;
2. $R \subseteq R^T$
3. If S is a relation such that $R \subseteq S$ and S is transitive, then $R^T \subseteq S$.

(p. 220) The **reflexive closure** and **symmetric closure** have similar definitions, replacing “transitive” with “reflexive” or “symmetric.”

(p. 220) R^i is R composed with itself i times.

(p. 221) The **iterated union** of sets A_1, A_2, \dots, A_i is defined as

$$\bigcup_{i=1}^n A_i = A_1 \cup A_2 \cup \dots \cup A_n$$