

1. A **relation** R on A is a subset of $A \times A$.

Notation: The words “ a relates to b ” or “the ordered pair (a, b) is in the relation can be written $(a, b) \in R$ or $a R b$. The same for **not** in R .

2. Examples

(a) R is a relation on \mathbb{Z} where $R = \{(0, 0), (0, 5), (-3, 7), 4, 17)\}$.

(b) R is a relation on \mathbb{Z} where $(a, b) \in R$ if $a \leq b - 2$

(c) R is a relation on \mathbb{R} where $(x, y) \in R$ if $x^2 = y$

(d) R is a relation on $\mathbb{N} \times \mathbb{N}$ where $(a, b) R (c, d)$ if $ad = bc$.

3. Suppose R is a relation on the set A .

(a) We say R is **symmetric** if $(a, b) \in R$ implies $(b, a) \in R$.

(b) We say R is **reflexive** if for every $a \in A$, $(a, a) \in R$.

(c) We say R is **transitive** if $(a, b) \in R$ and $(b, c) \in R$ implies $(a, c) \in R$.

4. Let R be the relation on $A = \{0, 1, 2, 3, 4\}$ defined as $a R b$ if $a \mid b$. List all the elements in R . What is the smallest positive number you could add to the set A that would increase the order R as much as possible?

$$R = \{(0, 0), (1, 0), (2, 0), (3, 0), (4, 0), (1, 1), (1, 2), (1, 3), (1, 4), (2, 2), (2, 4), (3, 3), (4, 4)\}$$

By inspection, it is reflexive and transitive. It is not symmetric since $(0, 1) \in R$ but $(1, 0) \notin R$.

Add 12 since all elements of A will divide it.

5. Let R be a relation on $A = \mathbb{Z}$ defined by $a R b$ if $a \equiv b \pmod{3}$. Find three elements of R that contain zero in the first coordinate, find three elements of R that contain 1 in the second coordinate, and find three ordered pairs in $\mathbb{Z} \times \mathbb{Z}$ that are not in R .

Some things in R : $(0, 3), (0, -3), (0, 18), (4, 1), (19, 1), (-2, 1)$

Not in R : $(0, 1), (4, 2), (12, 98)$

Reflexive: Since $3 \mid 0$, for every $n \in \mathbb{Z}$, $3 \mid (n - n)$. Thus, for every $n \in \mathbb{Z}$, $n \equiv n \pmod{3}$. Thus, for every n , $(n, n) \in R$.

Symmetric: Suppose $(a, b) \in R$. Then $a \equiv b \pmod{3}$. So $3 \mid (a - b)$ or, equivalently there exists some integer k such that $ck = a - b$. Now, $c(-k) = b - a$, where $-k$ is an integer. So, $c \mid (b - a)$. So $(b, a) \in R$.

Transitive: Suppose $(a, b) \in R$ and $(b, c) \in R$. Thus, there are integers k and ℓ such that $3k = a - b$ and $3\ell = b - c$. Adding the previous two equations gives us $3(k + \ell) = a - c$. Thus, $3 \mid (a - c)$ and $(a, c) \in R$.

6. Suppose R is a relation on $\mathcal{P}(A)$ where $A = \{0, 1, 2, 3, 4\}$ defined as $X R Y$ if $X \cap Y \neq \emptyset$.

Some things in R : $(\{0, 1\}, \{1, 2\}), (A, A), (\{0, 1\}, \{1, 2, 3\}), (\{2, 3, 4\}, \{1, 2, 3\}), (A, \{1, 2, 3\})$

Not in R : $(\emptyset, A), (\{0\}, \{1\}), (\{1, 2, 3\}, \{0, 4\})$

Reflexive: No. $(\emptyset, \emptyset) \notin R$

Symmetric: Yes. Suppose $(X, Y) \in R$. Then, $X \cap Y \neq \emptyset$. Since $X \cap Y = Y \cap X$, it follows $Y \cap X \neq \emptyset$ and hence $(Y, X) \in R$.

Transitive: No. Consider the elements $X = \{0, 1\}, Y = \{1, 2\}$ and $Z = \{2, 3\}$. We see that $X \cap Y$ and $Y \cap Z$ are both nonempty but $X \cap Z = \emptyset$. So, $(X, Y), (Y, Z) \in R$ but $(X, Z) \notin R$.