

Back to
Naive Set Theory
Relations

Product of multiple sets

Direct product (Kartesisches Produkt)

$$A \times B = \{(x, y) \mid x \in A \text{ and } y \in B\}$$

ordered pairs

$$(A \times B) \times C \neq A \times (B \times C)$$

Therefore, we define

$$A \times B \times C = \{(x, y, z) \mid x \in A \text{ and } y \in B \text{ and } z \in C\}$$

if $A_i = A$ for all i ,
then the product is
denoted A^n

sequence of
length n

In general, for sets A_1, A_2, \dots, A_n with $n \geq 1$,

$$A_1 \times A_2 \times \dots \times A_n = \prod_{1 \leq i \leq n} A_i = \{(x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n) \mid x_i \in A_i \text{ for } 1 \leq i \leq n\}$$

Relations

Def. If A and B are sets, then any subset $R \subseteq A \times B$ is a (binary) relation between A and B

similarly, unary relation (subset), n-ary relation...

Def. R is a relation on A if $R \subseteq A \times A$

some relations are special

Special relations

A relation $R \subseteq A \times A$ is:

reflexive	iff	for all $a \in A$, $(a,a) \in R$
symmetric	iff	for all $a,b \in A$, if $(a,b) \in R$, then $(b,a) \in R$
transitive	iff	for all $a,b,c \in A$, if $(a,b) \in R$ and $(b,c) \in R$, then $(a,c) \in R$
irreflexive	iff	for all $a \in A$, $(a,a) \notin R$
antisymmetric	iff	for all $a,b \in A$, if $(a,b) \in R$ and $(b,a) \in R$ then $a = b$
asymmetric	iff	for all $a,b \in A$, if $(a,b) \in R$, then $(b,a) \notin R$
total	iff	for all $a,b \in A$, $(a,b) \in R$ or $(b,a) \in R$

(infix) notation aRb for $(a,b) \in R$

Special relations

A relation R on A , i.e., $R \subseteq A \times A$ is:

- | | | |
|-------------------------|-----|---|
| equivalence | iff | R is reflexive, symmetric, and transitive |
| partial order | iff | R is reflexive, antisymmetric, and transitive |
| strict order | iff | R is irreflexive and transitive |
| preorder | iff | R is reflexive and transitive |
| total (linear)
order | iff | R is a total partial order |

Obvious properties

1. Every partial order is a preorder.
2. Every total order is a partial order.
3. Every total order is a preorder.
4. If $R \subseteq A \times A$ is a relation such that there are $a, b \in A$ with
 $a \neq b, (a,b) \in R$ and $(b,a) \in R$,
then R is not a partial order, nor a total order, nor a strict order.