

# Chapter 1

## Sets, relations and applications

Notations :

$::=$	means "define";	$\in$	means "belongs to" $a \in S$ means that "a is an element in $S$ .";
$\exists$	means "there exists";	$\exists!$	means "there exists a unique";
$\forall$	"for all";	$\notin$	"does not belong to";
$\subset$	"contained in";	$\subseteq$	"content or equal to";
$\not\subset$	is not contained in;	$\forall$	means "for all";
$\Rightarrow$	means "implies";	$\iff$	means "if and only if."

You already know a some famous sets :

- Set of Natural Numbers is denoted by  $\mathbb{N}$  ( $\mathbb{N} = \{0, 1, 2, 3, \dots\}$ ).
- Set of Integers is denoted by  $\mathbb{Z}$  ( $\mathbb{Z} = \{\dots, -2, -1, 0, 1, 2, \dots\}$ ).
- Set of Rational Numbers is denoted by  $\mathbb{Q}$  ( $\mathbb{Q} = \left\{ \frac{p}{q} \middle/ p \in \mathbb{Z}, q \in (\mathbb{N}^*) \right\}$ ).
- Set of Real Numbers is denoted by  $\mathbb{R}$  for example :  $1, \sqrt{3}, \Pi, \ln 3, \dots$
- The set of complex numbers  $\mathbb{C}$  for example :  $1 + 3i, \dots$

We will try to see the properties of sets, without focusing on a particular example. You will quickly realize that what is at least as important as sets are the relations between sets : this will be the notion of application (or function) between two sets.

## 1.1 Sets

### 1.1.1 Define sets

► A set is a collection of objects that verify certain properties. An object which satisfies the needed rules is called element of the set. If the set is denoted by  $A$  and  $x$  is an element of  $A$  we say  $x$  belongs to  $A$  and we write  $x \in A$

**Example 1.1.1** (i)  $A = \{0, 1\}$ . This means that the set  $A$  consists of two elements, 0 and 1.

(ii)  $B = \{x \in \mathbb{R} : -3 < x \leq 2\} = ]-3, 2]$ .

(iii)  $C = \{0, \{1\}, \{0, 1\}\}$ . The set  $C$  contains three elements: the number 0; the set  $\{1\}$  containing one element, namely the number 1; and the set containing two elements, the numbers 0 and 1.

► The order in which the elements are listed is not important. Like this  $\{0, 1\} = \{1, 0\}$ . An element may occur more than once. So  $\{1, 2, 1\} = \{1, 2\}$ . But  $\{1, 2, \{1\}\} \neq \{1, 2\}$ !

A set can be also specified by an elementhood test.

### 1.1.2 cardinality of a finite set

If a set  $A$  contains a finite number of elements it is said to be finite, otherwise it is said to be infinite. If  $A$  is finite and it contains  $n \in \mathbb{N}$  elements, then  $n$  is called the cardinality of  $A$  we write  $\text{card } A = n$  or  $|A| = n$ . If  $n = 0$  the set  $A$  is called an empty set and is denoted by  $\emptyset$  and we have  $\text{card } A = 0$ .

**Definition 1.1.2** The empty set is the set which contains no elements, and is denoted by  $\emptyset$ .

In the previous example  $B$  is infinite set,  $|A| = 2$  and  $|C| = 3$ .

### 1.1.3 Operations on sets

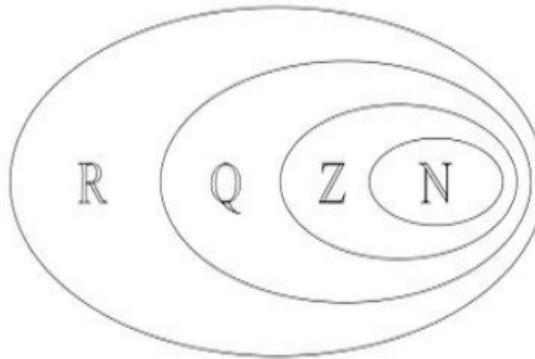
Now we introduce operations on sets. The main operations are: Inclusion, union, intersection, difference and symmetric difference.

**Definition 1.1.3** 1. A set  $A$  is a subset of  $B$ ,  $A \subset B$ , if every element of  $A$  is in  $B$ . Given  $A \subset B$ , if  $a \in A \implies a \in B$ .

2. Two sets  $A$  and  $B$  are equal,  $A = B$ , if  $A \subset B$  and  $B \subset A$ .
3. A set  $A$  is a proper subset of  $B$ ,  $A \subsetneq B$  if  $A \subset B$  and  $A \neq B$

Thus, one way to show that two sets,  $A$  and  $B$ , coincide is to show that each element in  $A$  is contained in  $B$  and vice-versa.

**Example 1.1.4** We have  $\mathbb{N} \subset \mathbb{Z} \subset \mathbb{Q} \subset \mathbb{R}$

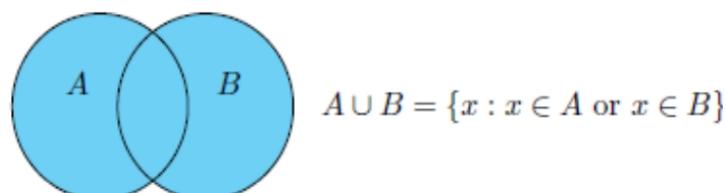


**Definition 1.1.5** The union of sets  $A$  and  $B$  is the set containing the elements of  $A$  and the elements of  $B$ , and no other elements.

**Notation 1** We denote the union of  $A$  and  $B$  by  $A \cup B$ .

**Note:** existence of the union for arbitrary  $A$  and  $B$  is accepted as an axiom.  
For arbitrary  $x$  and arbitrary  $A$  and  $B$  the following proposition is true.

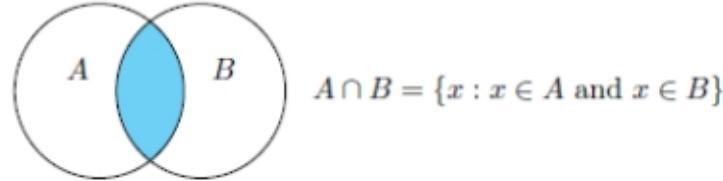
$$(x \in A \cup B) \Leftrightarrow (x \in A) \vee (x \in B).$$



**Definition 1.1.6** The intersection of sets  $A$  and  $B$  is the set containing the elements which are elements of both  $A$  and  $B$ , and no other elements.

We denote the intersection of  $A$  and  $B$  by  $A \cap B$ . Thus for arbitrary  $x$  and arbitrary  $A$  and  $B$  the following proposition is true.

$$(x \in A \cap B) \Leftrightarrow (x \in A) \wedge (x \in B).$$

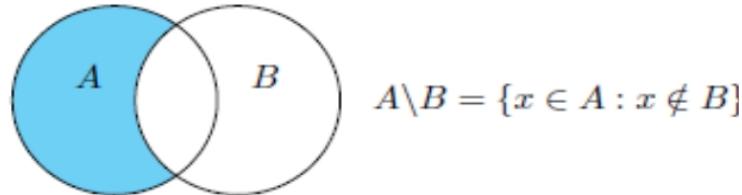


**Note:** When  $A \cap B = \emptyset$ , then  $A$  and  $B$  are said to be disjoint.

**Definition 1.1.7** *The difference of sets  $A$  and  $B$  is the set containing the elements of  $A$  which do not belong to  $B$ .*

We use the notation  $A - B$  for the difference or the complement of  $B$  with respect to  $A$  ( $A \setminus B$ ). The following is true for arbitrary  $x$  and arbitrary  $A$  and  $B$  :

$$(x \in A - B) \Leftrightarrow [(x \in A) \wedge (x \notin B)].$$



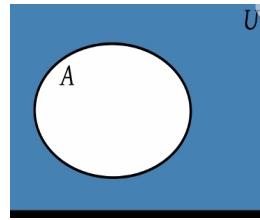
**Definition 1.1.8** *The symmetric difference of the sets  $A$  and  $B$  is defined by*

$$A \Delta B = (A - B) \cup (B - A).$$



**Definition 1.1.9** *Suppose that  $A \subset U$ . The complement of the set  $A$  in  $U$  denoted by  $A^c$ ,  $\complement_U(A)$  or  $\bar{A}$ , is the set of all elements of  $U$  that are not in  $A$ . That is  $A^c = \{x \in U, x \notin A\}$ .*

Let us illustrate these operations with a simple example.



**Example 1.1.10** Let  $U = \mathbb{N}$ ,  $A = \{0, 1, 2, 3, 4, 5\}$  and  $B = \{1, 3, 5, 7, 9\}$ . Then

$$\begin{aligned}
 A \cup B &= \{0, 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 7, 9\}. \\
 A \cap B &= \{1, 3, 5\}. \\
 A - B &= \{0, 2, 4\}. \\
 B - A &= \{7, 9\}. \\
 A \Delta B &= \{0, 2, 4, 7, 9\}. \\
 A^c &= \{k : k \in \mathbb{N} \text{ and } k \geq 6\} = \{6, 7, \dots\}
 \end{aligned}$$

Note that

$$A \cup B = (A \cap B) \cup (A \Delta B)$$

#### 1.1.4 Laws for operations on sets

Let  $A, B$  be subsets of an universal set  $U$

<b>Idempotent Laws</b>	(a) $A \cup A = A$	(b) $A \cap A = A$
<b>Associative Laws</b>	(a) $(A \cup B) \cup C = A \cup (B \cup C)$	(b) $(A \cap B) \cap C = A \cap (B \cap C)$
<b>Commutative Laws</b>	(a) $A \cup B = B \cup A$	(b) $A \cap B = B \cap A$
<b>Distributive Laws</b>	(a) $A \cup (B \cap C) = (A \cup B) \cap (A \cup C)$	(b) $A \cap (B \cup C) = (A \cap B) \cup (A \cap C)$
<b>De Morgan's Laws</b>	(a) $(A \cup B)^c = A^c \cap B^c$	(b) $(A \cap B)^c = A^c \cup B^c$
<b>Identity Laws</b>	(a) $A \cup \emptyset = A$ (b) $A \cup U = U$	(c) $A \cap U = A$ (d) $A \cap \emptyset = \emptyset$
<b>Complement Laws</b>	(a) $A \cup A^c = U$ (b) $A \cap A^c = \emptyset$	(c) $U^c = \emptyset$ (d) $\emptyset^c = U$
<b>Involution Law</b>	(a) $(A^c)^c = A$	

**A few demonstrations** \*  $A \cap (B \cup C) = (A \cap B) \cup (A \cap C)$ ?

$$\begin{aligned}
 x \in A \cap (B \cup C) &\Leftrightarrow (x \in A \text{ and } x \in (B \cup C)) \\
 &\Leftrightarrow (x \in A \text{ and } (x \in B \text{ or } x \in C)) \\
 &\Leftrightarrow ((x \in A \text{ and } x \in B) \text{ or } (x \in A \text{ and } x \in C)) \\
 &\Leftrightarrow ((x \in A \cap B) \text{ or } (x \in A \cap C)) \\
 &\Leftrightarrow x \in (A \cap B) \cup (A \cap C).
 \end{aligned}$$

Then  $A \cap (B \cup C) = (A \cap B) \cup (A \cap C)$ .

\*  $A \cup (B \cap C) = (A \cup B) \cap (A \cup C)$ ?

$$\begin{aligned}
 (x \in A \cup (B \cap C)) &\Leftrightarrow (x \in A \text{ or } x \in B \cap C) \\
 &\Leftrightarrow (x \in A \text{ or } (x \in B \text{ and } x \in C)) \\
 &\Leftrightarrow ((x \in A \text{ or } x \in B) \text{ and } (x \in A \text{ or } x \in C)) \\
 &\Leftrightarrow (x \in A \cup B \text{ and } x \in A \cup C) \\
 &\Leftrightarrow x \in (A \cup B) \cap (A \cup C)
 \end{aligned}$$

Then  $A \cup (B \cap C) = (A \cup B) \cap (A \cup C)$

\*  $C_U(A \cap B) = C_U(A) \cup C_U(B)$  and  $C_U(A \cup B) = C_U(A) \cap C_U(B)$ ?

$$\begin{aligned}
- (x \in \complement_U(A \cap B)) &\Leftrightarrow (x \notin A \cap B) \Leftrightarrow (x \notin A \text{ or } x \notin B) \\
&\Leftrightarrow (x \in \complement_U(A) \text{ or } x \in \complement_U(B)) \\
&\Leftrightarrow (x \in \complement_U(A) \cup \complement_U(B))
\end{aligned}$$

Therefore  $\complement_U(A \cap B) = \complement_U(A) \cup \complement_U(B)$

$$\begin{aligned}
- (x \in \complement_U(A \cup B)) &\Leftrightarrow (x \notin A \cup B) \Leftrightarrow (x \notin A \text{ and } x \notin B) \\
&\Leftrightarrow (x \in \complement_U(A) \text{ and } x \in \complement_U(B)) \\
&\Leftrightarrow (x \in \complement_U(A) \cap \complement_U(B)).
\end{aligned}$$

Therefore  $\complement_U(A \cup B) = \complement_U(A) \cap \complement_U(B)$ .

\*  $\complement_U(\complement_U(A)) = A$ ?

$$\begin{aligned}
(x \in \complement_U(\complement_U(A))) &\Leftrightarrow (x \notin (\complement_U(A))) \Leftrightarrow \overline{(x \in \complement_U(A))} \\
&\Leftrightarrow \overline{(x \notin A)} \\
&\Leftrightarrow x \in A.
\end{aligned}$$

### 1.1.5 Set of parts.

**Definition 1.1.11** Let  $E$  be a set, we form a set called the set of parts of  $E$ , denoted  $P(E)$  which is characterized by the following relation  $P(E) = \{A : A \subset E\}$

**Example 1.1.12** Let  $E = \{0, 1, 2\}$ . Then

$$P(E) = \{\emptyset, \{0\}, \{1\}, \{2\}, \{0, 1\}, \{0, 2\}, \{1, 2\}, \{0, 1, 2\}\}.$$

**Remark 1.1.13** If  $\text{card}(A) = n$  then  $\text{card}(P(A)) = 2^n$ .

**Example 1.1.14** - If  $E = \{a, b\}$ , then

$$P(E) = \{\emptyset, \{a\}, \{b\}, \{a, b\}\},$$

as  $\text{card}(E) = 2$ , then  $\text{card}(P(E)) = 2^2 = 4$

- If  $E = \{a\}$ , then  $P(A) = \{\emptyset, \{a\}\}$ .

### 1.1.6 Cartesian product

**Definition 1.1.15** . Let  $A$  and  $B$  be sets. The Cartesian product of  $A$  and  $B$ , denoted by  $A \times B$ , is the set of all ordered pairs  $(a, b)$  in which  $a \in A$  and  $b \in B$ , i.e.

$$A \times B = \{(a, b) : (a \in A) \wedge (b \in B)\}.$$

Thus

$$(p \in A \times B) \Leftrightarrow \{(\exists a \in A)(\exists b \in B)[p = (a, b)]\}.$$

**Example 1.1.16** (i) If  $A = \{\text{red, green}\}$  and  $B = \{1, 2, 3\}$  then

$$A \times B = \{(\text{red}, 1), (\text{red}, 2), (\text{red}, 3), (\text{green}, 1), (\text{green}, 2), (\text{green}, 3)\}.$$

(ii)  $\mathbb{Z} \times \mathbb{Z} = \{(x, y) \mid x \text{ and } y \text{ are integers}\}$ . This is the set of integer coordinates points in the  $x, y$ -plane. The notation  $\mathbb{Z}^2$  is usually used for this set.

**Example 1.1.17** If  $E = \{1, 2\}$  and  $F = \{3, 5\}$ , then

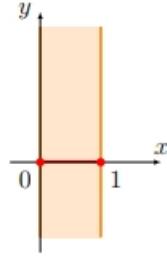
$$E \times F = \{(1, 3), (1, 5), (2, 3), (2, 5)\}$$

$$F \times E = \{(3, 1), (3, 2), (5, 1), (5, 2)\}$$

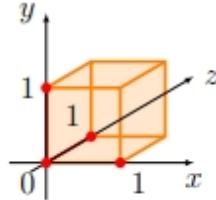
$$E \times F \neq F \times E$$

**Example 1.1.18** 1)  $\mathbb{R}^2 = \mathbb{R} \times \mathbb{R} = \{(x, y) : x, y \in \mathbb{R}\}$

2)  $[0, 1] \times \mathbb{R} = \{(x, y) : 0 \leq x \leq 1, y \in \mathbb{R}\}$



**Example 1.1.19**  $[0, 1] \times [0, 1] \times [0, 1] = \{(x, y, z) : 0 \leq x, y, z \leq 1\}$



**Notation 2** Let  $E^2$  be the Cartesian square of  $E$ . More generally, we define the Cartesian product of  $n$  sets  $E_1, E_2, \dots, E_n$  by

$$E_1 \times E_2 \times \dots \times E_n = \{(x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n) : x_i \in E_i \text{ for } i = 1, \dots, n\}.$$

**Example 1.1.20** If  $E = \{1, 2\}$ , then

$$E^2 = E \times E = \{(1, 1), (1, 2), (2, 1), (2, 2)\}$$

$$E^3 = E \times E \times E = \{(1, 1, 1), (1, 1, 2), (1, 2, 1), (1, 2, 2), (2, 1, 1), (2, 2, 1), (2, 1, 2), (2, 2, 2)\}$$

**Proposition 1.1.21** let  $E$  and  $F$  be two finite sets. Then

$$\text{card } (E \times F) = \text{card } (E) \times \text{card } (F)$$

The following theorem provides some basic properties of the Cartesian product.

**theorem 1.1.22** Let  $A, B, C, D$  be sets. Then

- a)  $A \times (B \cap C) = (A \times B) \cap (A \times C)$ ,
- b)  $A \times (B \cup C) = (A \times B) \cup (A \times C)$ ,
- c)  $(A \times B) \cap (C \times D) = (A \cap C) \times (B \cap D)$ ,
- d)  $(A \times B) \cup (C \times D) \subseteq (A \cup C) \times (B \cup D)$ ,
- e) If  $A$  or  $B$  are empty sets ( $(A = \emptyset \text{ and } B \neq \emptyset)$  or  $(B = \emptyset \text{ and } A \neq \emptyset)$  or  $(A = \emptyset \text{ and } B = \emptyset)$ ), then  $A \times B = \emptyset$ .

**proof.** (a) ( $\Rightarrow$ )

Let  $p \in A \times (B \cap C)$ . Then

$$(\exists a \in A)(\exists x \in B \cap C)[p = (a, x)]$$

In particular,

$$(\exists a \in A)(\exists x \in B)[p = (a, x)] \text{ and } (\exists a \in A)(\exists x \in C)[p = (a, x)]$$

So  $p \in (A \times B) \cap (A \times C)$ .

(a) ( $\Leftarrow$ )

Let  $p \in (A \times B) \cap (A \times C)$ . Then

$$p \in (A \times B) \text{ and } p \in (A \times C).$$

So

$$(\exists a \in A)(\exists b \in B)[p = (a, b)] \text{ and } (\exists a \in A)(\exists c \in C)[p = (a, c)]$$

But then  $(a, b) = p = (a, c)$  and hence  $a = a$  and  $b = c$ . Thus  $p = (a, x)$  for some  $a \in A$  and  $x \in B \cap C$ , i.e.  $p \in A \times (B \cap C)$ . This proves (a). ■

The proof of (b), (c), (d) and (e) are left as exercises.

## 1.2 Relations, Equivalence Relation

### 1.2.1 Relations

**Definition 1.2.1** We call the relation  $\mathcal{R}$  from  $E$  to  $F$  any part of the Cartesian product  $E \times F$ . The domain of  $\mathcal{R}$  is the set

$$D(\mathcal{R}) = \{x \in E : \exists y \in F [(x, y) \in \mathcal{R}]\}.$$

The range of  $\mathcal{R}$  is the set

$$Ran(\mathcal{R}) = \{y \in F : \exists x \in E[(x, y) \in \mathcal{R}]\}.$$

If  $E = F$ , we say that  $\mathcal{R}$  is a binary relation on  $E$ .

The inverse of  $\mathcal{R}$  is the relation  $\mathcal{R}^{-1}$  from  $F$  to  $E$  defined as follows

$$\mathcal{R}^{-1} = \{(y, x) \in F \times E : (x, y) \in \mathcal{R}\}.$$

The graph of this relation is:

$$G_{\mathcal{R}} = \{(x, y) \in E \times F : x \mathcal{R} y\}$$

**Example 1.2.2 (i)** Let  $A = \{1, 2, 3\}$ ,  $B = \{3, 4, 5\}$ . The set  $\mathcal{R} = \{(1, 3), (1, 5), (3, 3)\}$  is a relation from  $A$  to  $B$  since  $\mathcal{R} \subseteq A \times B$ .

**(ii)**  $G = \{(x, y) \in \mathbb{Z} \times \mathbb{Z} : x > y\}$  is a relation from  $\mathbb{Z}$  to  $\mathbb{Z}$ .

**Example 1.2.3** Let  $A = \{1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6\}$  a set and the relation  $\mathcal{R}$  defined by

$$x \mathcal{R} y \Leftrightarrow x \text{ divide } y \text{ (in } \mathbb{Z})$$

$$\begin{aligned} G_{\mathcal{R}} &= \{(x, y) \in A \times A, x \text{ divide } y\} \\ &= \{(1, 1), (1, 2), (1, 3), (1, 4), (1, 5), (1, 6), (2, 2), (2, 4), (2, 6), (3, 3), (3, 6), (4, 4), (5, 5), (6, 6)\}. \end{aligned}$$

**Definition 1.2.4** Let  $\mathcal{R}$  be a binary relation over a set  $E$ . For all  $x, y, z \in E$ , we say that  $\mathcal{R}$  is

**(1) Reflexives**, if each element is related to itself, i.e

$$x \mathcal{R} x, \forall x \in E$$

**(2) Symmetric**, if for all  $x, y \in E$ , if  $x$  is related to  $y$  then  $y$  is related to  $x$ , i.e.  $x \mathcal{R} y \Rightarrow y \mathcal{R} x, \forall x, y \in E$ .

**(3) Transitive**, if for all  $x, y, z \in E$ , if  $x$  is in relation to  $y$  and  $y$  in relation to  $z$  then  $x$  is in relation to  $z$ , i.e.  $(x \mathcal{R} y \text{ and } y \mathcal{R} z) \Rightarrow x \mathcal{R} z, \forall x, y, z \in E$ .

**(4) Anti-symmetric**, if two elements are related to each other, then they are equal, i.e.

$$(x \mathcal{R} y \text{ and } y \mathcal{R} x) \Rightarrow x = y, \forall x, y \in E.$$

A particularly important class of relations are equivalence relations.

### 1.2.2 Equivalence Relation

**Definition 1.2.5** A relation  $\mathcal{R}$  on  $E$  is called equivalence relation if it is reflexive, symmetric and transitive.

**Example 1.2.6 (i)** Let  $E$  be a set of students. A relation on  $E \times E$ : “to be friends”. It is reflexive (I presume that everyone is a friend to himself / herself). It is symmetric. But it’s not transitive.

(ii) Let  $E = \mathbb{Z}, a \in \mathbb{N}$ . Define  $\mathcal{R} \subseteq E \times E$  as

$$\mathcal{R} = \{(x, y) : |x - y| \leq a\}.$$

$\mathcal{R}$  is reflexive, symmetric, but not transitive.

(iii) Let  $E = \mathbb{Z}, m \in \mathbb{N}$ . Define the congruence mod  $m$  on  $E \times E$  as follows:

$$x \equiv y \text{ if } (\exists k \in \mathbb{Z} : x - y = km).$$

This is an equivalence relation on  $E$ .

**Definition 1.2.7** Let  $\mathcal{R}$  be an equivalence relation on  $E$ .

1. The equivalence class of an element  $x$  in  $E$  is the set of all elements  $y \in E$  that are in relation with  $x$  we denote this set by  $\dot{x}$  or  $\bar{x}$  or  $\mathcal{C}(x)$ , and we write it as follow

$$\dot{x} = \bar{x} = \mathcal{C}(x) = \{y \in E : y \mathcal{R} x\}.$$

2.  $\bar{x}$  is a representative of the equivalence class  $\mathcal{C}(x)$ .

3. The set of equivalence classes for all elements in  $E$  is called the “quotient set” of  $E$  for the equivalence relation  $\mathcal{R}$ . It is denoted as  $E/\mathcal{R}$ , and written as follows:

$$E/\mathcal{R} = \{\mathcal{C}(x) : x \in E\}.$$

**Example 1.2.8** In  $\mathbb{R}$  we define the relation  $\mathcal{R}$  by:

$$x \mathcal{R} y \Leftrightarrow x - y \in \mathbb{Z}.$$

This relation is indeed a relation of equivalence. Indeed,

- For  $x \in \mathbb{R} : x \mathcal{R} x \Leftrightarrow 0 \in \mathbb{Z}$ , as  $0 \in \mathbb{Z}$ , then  $x \mathcal{R} x, \forall x \in \mathbb{R}$ , so  $\mathcal{R}$  is a reflexive relation.
- For  $x, y \in \mathbb{R}$ , we have  $(x \mathcal{R} y) \Leftrightarrow (x - y \in \mathbb{Z}) \Leftrightarrow (y - x \in \mathbb{Z}) \Rightarrow y \mathcal{R} x$ , then  $\mathcal{R}$  is a symmetric relation.
- For  $x, y, z \in \mathbb{R}$ , we have

$$\begin{aligned} (x \mathcal{R} y \text{ and } y \mathcal{R} z) &\Rightarrow (x - y \in \mathbb{Z} \text{ and } y - z \in \mathbb{Z}) \\ &\Rightarrow (x - y + y - z \in \mathbb{Z}) \\ &\Rightarrow (x - z \in \mathbb{Z}) \Rightarrow (x \mathcal{R} z), \end{aligned}$$

then  $\mathcal{R}$  is a transitive relation.

Therefore, the set of equivalence classes  $\mathcal{C}(x)$  is the set

$$\begin{aligned}
 \mathcal{C}(x) &= \{y \in \mathbb{R} : y - x \in \mathbb{Z}\} \\
 &= \{y \in \mathbb{R} : y \in x + \mathbb{Z}\} \\
 &= \{y \in \mathbb{R} : y = k + x : k \in \mathbb{Z}\} \\
 &= \{k + x : k \in \mathbb{Z}\},
 \end{aligned}$$

if  $x \in \mathbb{Z}$ , we have  $\mathcal{C}(x) = \mathbb{Z}$ .

**Example 1.2.9** Let us consider the relation  $\mathcal{R}$  defined on  $\mathbb{R}$  by :

$$\forall x, y \in \mathbb{R}, \ x \mathcal{R} y \Leftrightarrow xe^y = ye^x$$

Prove that  $\mathcal{R}$  is an equivalence relation.

**Solution 1.2.10** show that  $\mathcal{R}$  is reflexive, symmetric and transitive.

1.  $\forall x \in \mathbb{R}$  on a  $xe^x = xe^x$ . In other words, we have  $x\mathcal{R}x$  and then  $\mathcal{R}$  is reflexive.
2.  $\mathcal{R}$  is symmetric. In fact, let  $x, y \in \mathbb{R}$ , such that  $x\mathcal{R}y$ , hence we have

$$\begin{aligned} x\mathcal{R}y &\Rightarrow xe^y = ye^x, \\ &\Rightarrow ye^x = xe^y, \\ &\Rightarrow y\mathcal{R}x, \end{aligned}$$

3.  $\mathcal{R}$  is transitive because for all  $x, y, z \in \mathbb{R}$ , such that  $[(x\mathcal{R}y) \wedge (y\mathcal{R}z)]$ ,

on a :

$$x\mathcal{R}y \Rightarrow xe^y = ye^x \dots \dots \dots (1)$$

(2) gives  $y = \frac{ze^y}{e^z}$ , moreover, using (1) and by substituting  $y$  we have  $xe^y = \frac{ze^y}{e^z}e^x$  hence  $xe^y e^z = ze^y e^x$ . Since  $e^y \neq 0$  Thus  $xe^z = ze^x$ , which implies  $x \mathcal{R} z$ .

4.  $\mathcal{R}$  is reflexive, symmetric and transitive then it is an equivalence relation.

### 1.2.3 Order Relation

**Definition 1.2.11** A binary relation  $\mathcal{R}$  over  $E$  is said to be an order relation if it is antisymmetric, transitive and reflexive

**Example 1.2.12** On  $\mathbb{R}$  the relation  $\leq$  is an order relation. In fact

-  $\mathcal{R}$  reflexive

$$\forall x \in \mathbb{R}, x \mathcal{R} x \Leftrightarrow x = x.$$

-  $\mathcal{R}$  antisymmetric, if only if:

$$\forall (x, y) \in \mathbb{R} \times \mathbb{R}; (x \mathcal{R} y \Leftrightarrow x \leq y) \text{ and } (y \mathcal{R} x \Leftrightarrow y \leq x) \Leftrightarrow x = y.$$

-  $\mathcal{R}$  transitive, if only if :

$$\forall (x, y, z) \in \mathbb{R} \times \mathbb{R} \times \mathbb{R}; (x \mathcal{R} y \Leftrightarrow x \leq y) \text{ and } (y \mathcal{R} z \Leftrightarrow y \leq z) \Leftrightarrow x \leq z \Leftrightarrow x \mathcal{R} z.$$

- In  $\mathbb{R}$ , the relation  $<$  is not a relation of order ( is not reflexive.)

### 1.2.4 Total order and partial order

**Definition 1.2.13** Let  $\mathcal{R}$  be a relation of order defined on a set  $E$ , we say that  $\mathcal{R}$  is total, if for all  $x, y \in E$ , we have

$$x \mathcal{R} y \text{ or } y \mathcal{R} x.$$

Otherwise, we say that  $\mathcal{R}$  is partial, i.e.

$$\exists x, y \in E : \text{neither } x \mathcal{R} y \text{ nor } y \mathcal{R} x$$

**Example 1.2.14**  $A = \{1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6\}$  with

$$a \mathcal{R} b \Leftrightarrow a \text{ divide } b$$

is a partial order relation (is not total)

Indeed 2 and 3, for example, are not comparable : 2 does not divide 3 and 3 does not divide 2.

**Example 1.2.15** Let  $A$  be a non-empty set and  $\mathcal{R}$  a relation on  $A$  defined by :

$$\forall a, b \in A, a \mathcal{R} b \Leftrightarrow a = b.$$

$\mathcal{R}$  is a an order relation on  $A$ .

If  $A$  is a singleton, then the order is total. If not, the order is partial.

## 1.3 Applications

### 1.3.1 Denition of an application

**Definition 1.3.1** Let  $E$  and  $F$  be given sets, we call the application of  $E$  in  $F$ , any correspondence  $f$  between the elements of  $E$  and those of  $F$  which associates to any element of  $E$  one and only element of  $F$ , we write

$$\begin{aligned} f : & E \rightarrow F \\ & x \longrightarrow f(x) \end{aligned}$$

or  $f$  ( application )  $\Leftrightarrow (\forall x \in E)(\exists!y \in F) : y = f(x)$

The set  $E$  is said to be the starting set and  $F$  is said to be the end set.

The element  $x$  is said to be the antecedent and  $y$  is said to be the image of  $x$  by  $f$ .

The map  $f$  is said to be a function if, for each  $x \in E$ , there exists at most  $y \in F$  such that  $f(x) = y$ .

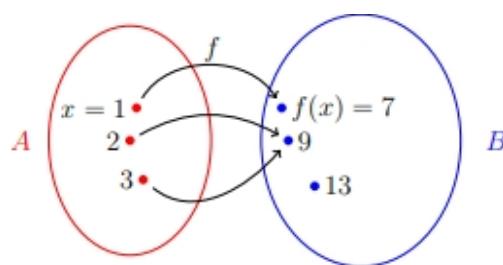
**Remark 1.3.2 (1)** The application from  $E$  to  $F$  is that  $\Leftrightarrow$  every element  $x$  of  $E$  has a unique image in  $F$ .

(2) If  $f$  is an application from  $E$  to  $F$ , then the element  $y$  of  $F$  can have more than one precedent in  $E$ .

(3) We must defferentiate between  $f(x)$  and  $f$  : we have  $f(x) \in F$ , while  $f$  represents the application as a whole, and it belongs to the space of applications defened from  $E$  to  $F$ .

**Example 1.3.3** We have  $A = \{1, 2, 3\}$  and  $B = \{7, 9, 13\}$ .

- We have  $f(3) = 9$ ,  $f(2) = 9$ ;  $f(1) = 7$ .
- $f$  application from  $A$  to  $B$  every element  $x$  of  $A$  has a unique image in  $B$ .



- This element 13 has no precedent according to the application.
- This element 9 has two precedent : 2 and 3.

**Definition 1.3.4** (*Graph*). Let  $E$  and  $F$  be given sets. The graph of a map  $f : E \rightarrow F$  is

$$G_f := \{(x, f(x)) : x \in E\} \subset E \times F.$$

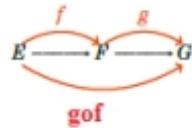
**Definition 1.3.5** (*Equality*). Let  $f, g : E \rightarrow F$  be the applications. We say that  $f, g$  are equal if and only if for all  $x \in E$  :  $f(x) = g(x)$ . We then write  $f = g$ .

**Definition 1.3.6** (*Composition*). Let  $E, F$  and  $G$  be three sets and  $f$  and  $g$  two maps such as

$$E \xrightarrow{f} F \xrightarrow{g} G$$

We can deduce from this a map of  $E$  in  $G$  denoted  $g \circ f$  and called a map composed of  $f$  and  $g$ , by

$$(g \circ f)(x) = g(f(x)), \quad \text{for all } x \in E.$$



**Example 1.3.7** Let  $f : Z \rightarrow Z$ ,  $g : Z \rightarrow Z$ ,

$$f(x) = x^2 + 2, \quad g(x) = 2x - 1.$$

Find  $(f \circ g)(x)$  and  $(g \circ f)(x)$ .

*Solution* : we have

$$\begin{aligned} (f \circ g)(x) &= f(g(x)) = g(x)^2 + 2 = 4x^2 - 4x + 3, \\ (g \circ f)(x) &= g(f(x)) = 2f(x) - 1 = 2x^2 + 3. \end{aligned}$$

As you clearly see from the above,  $f \circ g \neq g \circ f$  in general.

**Definition 1.3.8** Let  $E$  be a set, we call an identity map, denoted  $Id_E : E \rightarrow E$  is the map that verifies  $Id_E(x) = x$ ,  $\forall x \in E$ .

**Definition 1.3.9** Let  $f : E \rightarrow F$  be a function. The domain of definition of  $f$ , denoted  $D_f$ , is the set of elements  $x \in E$  in which there exists a single element  $y \in F$ , such that  $y = f(x)$ .

**Example 1.3.10** Let  $f : \mathbb{R} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  denoted by  $f(x) = \sqrt{x+1}$ , then

$$D_f = \{x \in \mathbb{R} : x + 1 \geq 0\} = [-1, +\infty[.$$

### 1.3.2 Restricting and extending an application

**Definition 1.3.11** Let  $A \subset E$  and  $f : E \rightarrow F$  be an application. We call the restriction from  $f$  to  $A$ , the map  $f_{/A} : A \rightarrow F$  defined by

$$f_{/A}(x) = f(x), \text{ for all } x \in A.$$

**Definition 1.3.12** Let  $E \subset G$  and  $f : E \rightarrow F$  a map. We call an extension from  $f$  to  $G$ , any map  $g$  from  $G$  to  $F$  whose restriction to  $E$  is  $f$ .

**Example 1.3.13** Given the application  $f$ :

$$\begin{aligned} f : \mathbb{R}_+^* &\rightarrow R \\ x &\rightarrow \ln x \end{aligned},$$

then

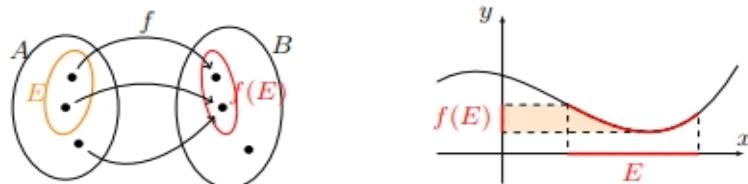
$$\begin{aligned} g : \mathbb{R}^* &\rightarrow R & h : \mathbb{R}^* &\rightarrow R \\ x &\rightarrow \ln|x| & x &\rightarrow \ln(|3x| - 2x) \end{aligned},$$

are two different extensions of  $f$  to  $\mathbb{R}^*$ .

### 1.3.3 Direct image and inverse image

**Definition 1.3.14** Let  $A, B$  be non-empty sets. Let  $E$  be a subset of  $A$ , and  $f : A \rightarrow B$  be application. The direct image of the set  $E$  is defined by :

$$f(E) = \{f(x) : x \in E\}$$



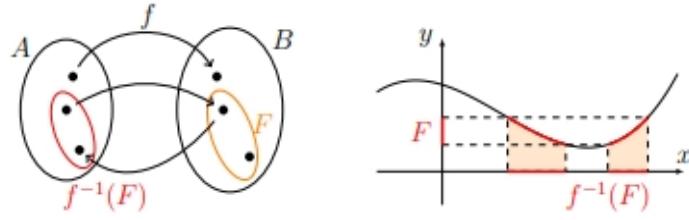
**Example 1.3.15** Let  $f : \mathbb{Z} \rightarrow \mathbb{Z}$  defined by  $f(x) = x^2$ . Let

$$A = \{x \in \mathbb{Z} : 0 \leq x \leq 2\}.$$

Then  $f(A) = \{0, 1, 4\}$ .

**Definition 1.3.16** Let  $A, B$  be non-empty sets, let  $F$  be a subset of  $B$ , and  $f : A \rightarrow B$  be application. The inverse image of the set  $F$  is defined by :

$$f^{-1}(F) = \{x \in A : f(x) \in F\}$$



**Example 1.3.17** Let  $f : Z \rightarrow Z$  defined by  $f(x) = x^2$ , let  $B = \{y \in Z : y \leq 10\}$ . Then  $f^{-1}(B) = \{-3, -2, -1, 0, 1, 2, 3\}$ .

**theorem 1.3.18** Let  $f : X \rightarrow Y$  and  $A_1 \subset X$ ,  $A_2 \subset X$ ,  $B_1 \subset Y$ ,  $B_2 \subset Y$ . Then

- (i)  $A_1 \subset A_2 \Rightarrow f(A_1) \subset f(A_2)$  and  $B_1 \subset B_2 \Rightarrow f^{-1}(B_1) \subset f^{-1}(B_2)$ .
- (ii)  $f(A_1 \cap A_2) \subset f(A_1) \cap f(A_2)$  and  $f^{-1}(B_1 \cap B_2) = f^{-1}(B_1) \cap f^{-1}(B_2)$ .
- (iii)  $f(A_1 \cup A_2) = f(A_1) \cup f(A_2)$  and  $f^{-1}(B_1 \cup B_2) = f^{-1}(B_1) \cup f^{-1}(B_2)$ .
- (iv)  $A_1 \subset f^{-1}(f(A_1))$  and  $f(f^{-1}(B_1)) \subset B_1$ .

#### 1.3.4 Injective, surjective and bijective application

**Definition 1.3.19** Let  $f : E \rightarrow F$ .  $f$  is said to be injective if and only if :

$$\forall (x_1, x_2) \in E^2 : f(x_1) = f(x_2) \Rightarrow x_1 = x_2$$

**Example 1.3.20**

$$\begin{aligned} f : \mathbb{R}^+ / \{2\} &\longrightarrow \mathbb{R} \\ x &\longrightarrow \frac{1}{x^2 - 4} \end{aligned}$$

is an injective application because we have :

$$\forall (x_1, x_2) \in (\mathbb{R}^+ / \{2\})^2 : f(x_1) = f(x_2) \Leftrightarrow \frac{1}{x_1^2 - 4} = \frac{1}{x_2^2 - 4} \Leftrightarrow x_1^2 = x_2^2 \Leftrightarrow x_1 = \pm x_2,$$

but as  $x_1, x_2 \in \mathbb{R}^+ / \{2\}$  then  $x_1 = x_2$ .

**Definition 1.3.21** Let  $f : E \rightarrow F$ . We say that  $f$  is surjective if and only if: for all  $y \in F$ , there exists  $x \in E$  such that  $f(x) = y$ , i.e.

$$\forall y \in F, \exists x \in E : y = f(x).$$

**Example 1.3.22** Let  $f : \mathbb{Z} \rightarrow \mathbb{N}$  be the map defined by  $f(x) = |x|$ , then  $f$  is surjective. Indeed, let  $y \in \mathbb{N}$ , for  $x = y$  or  $x = -y$ , we have  $x \in \mathbb{Z}$  and  $f(x) = |x| = y$ , so there exists  $x \in \mathbb{Z}$  such that  $y = f(x)$ .

**Definition 1.3.23** Let  $f : E \rightarrow F$ .  $f$  is said to be bijective if and only if:  $f$  is both injective and surjective. This is equivalent to : for all  $y \in F$  there exists a unique  $x \in E$  such that  $y = f(x)$ . In other words:

$$\forall y \in F, \exists!x \in E : y = f(x).$$

**Example 1.3.24** Let  $f : \mathbb{R} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ , defined by  $f(x) = x + 1$ , then  $f$  is bijective. Indeed, let  $y \in \mathbb{R}$ , such that  $f(x) = y$ , then  $x = y - 1$ , so there exists a unique  $x$  in  $\mathbb{R}$  such that  $y = f(x)$ .

**Remark 1.3.25** If the application  $f$  is bijective, then to every  $y \in F$  we match a single element  $x \in E$ .

**Definition 1.3.26** Let  $f : E \rightarrow F$  be a bijective function. We define the function  $f^{-1} : F \rightarrow E$ , called the reciprocal function of  $f$ , given by  $f^{-1}(x) = y$  if and only if  $f(y) = x$ .

**Example 1.3.27** Let  $f$  be the map defined by  $f(x) = x^2 + 1$  of  $\mathbb{R}^+ \rightarrow [1, +\infty[$ , then  $f$  is bijective, because for all  $y \in [1, \infty[$ , the equation  $y = f(x)$  admits a single solution  $x = \sqrt{y - 1}$ . The reciprocal bijection is  $f^{-1} : [1, +\infty[ \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^+$  defined by:

$$f^{-1}(x) = \sqrt{x - 1} \text{ for all } x \in [1, +\infty[.$$

**Proposition 1.3.28** Let  $E, F$  be sets and  $f : E \rightarrow F$  an application.

- The map  $f$  is bijective if and only if there is a map  $g : F \rightarrow E$  such that

$$f \circ g = Id_F \text{ and } g \circ f = Id_E.$$

- Let  $f : E \rightarrow F$  and  $g : F \rightarrow G$  be bijective maps. The map  $g \circ f$  is bijective and its reciprocal bijection is

$$(g \circ f)^{-1} = f^{-1} \circ g^{-1}.$$

## 1.4 Some methods of proof

1. First we discuss a couple of widely used methods of proof: contrapositive proof and proof

by contradiction.

The idea of contrapositive proof is the following equivalence

$$(A \Rightarrow B) \Leftrightarrow (\bar{B} \Rightarrow \bar{A}).$$

So to prove that  $A \Rightarrow B$  is true is the same as to prove that  $\bar{B} \Rightarrow \bar{A}$  is true.

**Example 1.4.1** For integers  $m$  and  $n$ , if  $mn$  is odd then so are  $m$  and  $n$ .

**proof.** We have to prove that

$$(\forall m, n \in \mathbb{Z}_+)(mn \text{ is odd}) \Rightarrow [(m \text{ is odd}) \wedge (n \text{ is odd})],$$

which is the same as to prove that

$$[(m \text{ is even}) \vee (n \text{ is even})] \Rightarrow (mn \text{ is even})$$

The latter is evident. ■

The idea of proof by contradiction is the following equivalence

$$(A \Rightarrow B) \Leftrightarrow (\bar{A} \vee B) \Leftrightarrow \overline{(A \wedge \bar{B})}$$

So to prove that  $A \Rightarrow B$  is true is the same as to prove that  $\bar{A} \vee B$  is true or else that  $A \wedge \bar{B}$  is false.

2 The Principle of Mathematical Induction is often used when one needs to prove statements of the form

$$(\forall n \in \mathbb{N}) P(n).$$

Thus one can show that 1 has property  $P$  and that whenever one adds 1 to a number that has property  $P$ , the resulting number also has property  $P$ .

**Principle of Mathematical Induction.** If for a statement  $P(n)$

- (i)  $P(1)$  is true,
- (ii)  $[P(n) \Rightarrow P(n+1)]$  is true,

then  $(\forall n \in \mathbb{N}) P(n)$  is true.

Part (i) is called the base case; (ii) is called the induction step.

**Example 1.4.2** Prove that

$$\forall n \in \mathbb{N} : 1^2 + 2^2 + 3^2 + \dots + n^2 = \frac{n(n+1)(2n+1)}{6}.$$

*Solution: Base case:  $n = 1$ .  $1^2 = \frac{1 \cdot 2 \cdot 3}{6}$  is true.*

*Induction step: Suppose that the statement is true for  $n = k$  ( $k \geq 1$ ). We have to prove that it is true for  $n = k + 1$ . So our assumption is*

$$1^2 + 2^2 + 3^2 + \dots + k^2 = \frac{k(k+1)(2k+1)}{6}.$$

*Therefore we have 1*

$$1^2 + 2^2 + 3^2 + \dots + k^2 + (k+1)^2 = \frac{(k+1)(k+2)(2k+3)}{6},$$

*which proves the statement for  $n = k + 1$ . By the principle of mathematical induction the statement is true for all  $n \in \mathbb{N}$ .*