

Discrete Maths : Relations

- ▶ A relation R from a set A to a set B is a subset of the **cartesian product** $A \times B$.
- ▶ Thus R is a set of **ordered pairs** where the first element comes from A and the second element comes from B i.e. (a, b)

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- ▶ If $(a, b) \in R$ we say that a is related to b and write aRb .
- ▶ If $(a, b) \notin R$, we say that a is not related to b and write $a \not R b$. CHECK
- ▶ If R is a relation from a set A to itself then we say that “ R is a relation on A ”.

Example

- ▶ Let $A = \{2, 3, 4, 6\}$ and $B = \{4, 6, 9\}$
- ▶ Let R be the relation from A to B defined by **xRy** if x divides y exactly.

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- ▶ Let R be the relation from A to B defined by **xRy** if x divides y exactly.
- ▶ Then

$$R = (2, 4), (2, 6), (3, 6), (3, 9), (4, 4), (6, 6)$$