

Challenge-Proof (Second Try :)

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I will first show the following:

$$p \text{ transitive} \Rightarrow p^n \subseteq p$$

$$p^n \subseteq p \stackrel{\text{def}}{\Leftrightarrow} \underbrace{(a,b) \in p^n \Rightarrow (a,b) \in p}_{\text{to show}}$$

Assuming p is transitive

I will proceed via induction:

$$\text{Base case: } n=1 \Rightarrow p^1 \subseteq p \checkmark$$

$$\text{Induction hypothesis: } p^n \subseteq p \text{ for some } n \in \mathbb{N} \setminus \{0\}$$

$$\text{Induction step: } p^{n+1} \subseteq p$$

$$(a,b) \in p^{n+1}$$

$$\Rightarrow (a,c) \in p \wedge (c,b) \in p^n \text{ (def. } p^n)$$

$$\Rightarrow (a,c) \in p \wedge (c,b) \in p \text{ (I.H., since } (x,y) \in p^n \Rightarrow (x,y) \in p)$$

$$\Rightarrow (a,b) \in p \text{ (transitivity of } p)$$

So $p^n \subseteq p$, if p is transitive, for all $n \in \mathbb{N} \setminus \{0\}$

$$\text{We have } p^* = p \cup p^2 \cup \dots \cup p^n$$

We want to show $p^* = p$, if p is transitive:

$$\text{So we get (1) } p \subseteq p^* \wedge^{(2)} p^* \subseteq p$$

$$(1) p \subseteq p^*, \text{ follows from definition of } p^* (p^* = p \cup \dots)$$

$$(2) p^* \subseteq p \leftarrow \text{This is to be shown}$$

$$p^* = \bigcup_{n=1}^{\infty} p^n, \text{ since } \forall n (p^n \subseteq p), n \in \mathbb{N} \setminus \{0\}$$

this means, that

$$p^* \subseteq p$$

(1), (2) can conclude the proof

So we showed $p^* = p$ if p is transitive