



**NANYANG  
TECHNOLOGICAL  
UNIVERSITY**  
SINGAPORE

# Discrete Mathematics

## MH1812

### Topic 8 - Relations Summary

# Example

$$R \subseteq A \times B$$

Consider the relation  $R = \{(1,1), (1,2), (2,3)\}$  on the set  $A = \{1,2,3\}$ .

$$\subseteq A \times A$$

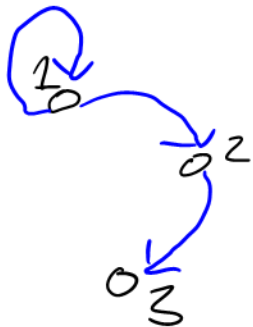
- Is it Reflexive? Symmetric? Anti-symmetric? Transitive?

Reflexive? No,  $(2,2) \notin R$ .

$$\forall x \in A, (x,x) \in R$$

symmetric? No,  $(1,2) \in R$  but  $(2,1) \notin R$

$$\forall x, y \in A, (x,y) \in R \rightarrow (y,x) \in R$$



Anti-symmetric? Yes, check everything.

$$\forall x, y \in A, (x, y) \in R \wedge (y, x) \in R \rightarrow x = y$$

$x$	$y$	$(x, y) \in R \wedge (y, x) \in R$	$x = y$	$(x, y) \in R \wedge (y, x) \in R \rightarrow x = y$
1	1		T	T
1	2			T
1	3			...
2	1			...
2	2			T
2	3			...
3	1			T
3	2			T
3	3			T

Transitive? No,  $(1,2) \in R \wedge (2,3) \in R$  but  $(1,3) \notin R$

$\forall x, y, z \in A, (x, y) \in R \wedge (y, z) \in R \rightarrow (x, z) \in R$

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if  $|A| \leq 2 \Rightarrow \forall$  relation is  
symmetric  
or anti symmetric?

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(there exists)

Not reflexive



Not symmetric

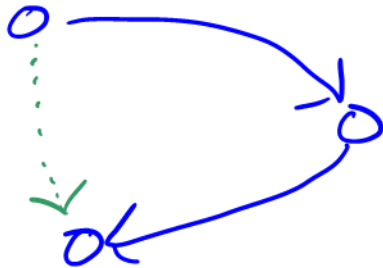


Not anti-symmetric

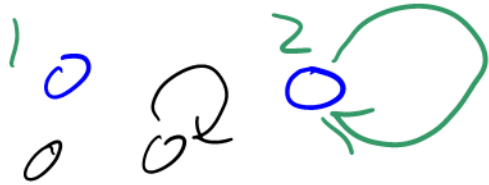


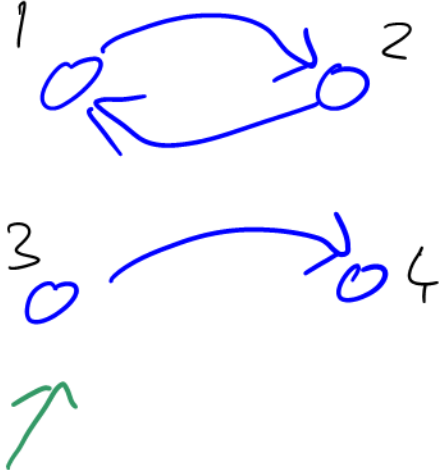


Not transitive

no arrow in  
given direction



# Symmetry vs anti-symmetry

	Anti symmetric	Not anti-symmetric
Symmetric		
Not symmetric		

Symmetric/anti-sym

$$A = \{1, 2\} \quad R = \{(2, 2)\}$$

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

Symm

$$\forall x, y \in A, (x, y) \in R \rightarrow (y, x) \in R$$

$x$	$y$	$(x, y) \in R$	$(y, x) \in R$	$(x, y) \in R \rightarrow (y, x) \in R$
1	2	T	T	T
2	1	T	T	T
2	2	T	T	T

# Example

Let relation  $R$  be defined on set  $A = \{a, b, c, d\}$  and  $R = \{(a, b), (b, a), (b, c), (c, d)\}$ .

- Find  $R^{-1}$  and  $R^t$ .

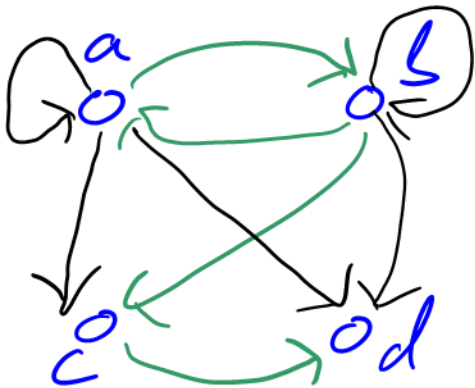
$$R^{-1} = \{(b, a), (a, b), (c, b), (d, c)\}$$

- Is  $R^t$  an equivalence relation, a partial order?

No

"add shortcuts"

$$\underline{R^t} = \{(a, b), (b, a), (b, c), (c, d), (a, a), (a, c), (a, d), (b, b), (b, d)\}$$





# Example

Consider the relation  $R = \{(x, y) \mid x \equiv y \pmod{2}\}$  on the set  $A = \mathbb{N}$ .

- Show that  $R$  is an equivalence relation.
- Show that the equivalence classes of  $R$  partition the set  $A$ .



compare to online video lessons.