

# Relations

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## Relation

A relation  $R$  between  $A$  and  $B$  is a subset of  $A \times B$   
Recall  $A \times B = \{(a, b) \mid a \in A, b \in B\}$  order pairs  
If  $A, B$  are finite, then  $|A \times B| = |A| \cdot |B|$   
 $A$ : domain of  $R$ .  $B$ : codomain of  $R$   
If  $A = B$ , then  $R$  is a relation on  $A$   
If  $A = B$ , then  $R$  is a relation on  $A$   
Notation:  $(a, b) \in R$  or  $aRb$

How many relations on  $A$  are there if  $|A| = n$ ? i.e.  $|\mathcal{P}(A \times A)|$   
 $= 2^{|A|^2} = 2^{n^2}$

## Examples

The examples below are relations on integers (i.e.,  $A = \mathbb{Z}$ ) unless otherwise specified.

- $R_1 = \{(1, 1), (1, 2), (2, 1), (3, 3), (2, 2)\}$
- $R_2 = \{(1, 1), (1, 2), (1, 3), (1, 4), (2, 2), (2, 4), (3, 3), (4, 4)\}$  - if  $A = \{1, 2, 3, 4\}$ .  
then  $R_2 = \{(a, b) \mid A|b\}$ .
- $R_3 = \{(a, b) \mid a \leq b\}$
- $R_4 = \{(a, b) \mid a > b\}$
- $R_5 = \{(a, b) \mid a = b \text{ or } a = -b\}$
- $R_6 = \{(a, b) \mid a \mid b\} \rightarrow a \text{ divides } b \text{ i.e. } \exists k \in \mathbb{Z}, \text{ s.t. } b = a \cdot k.$
- $R_7 = \{(a, b) \mid a + b \leq 3\}$
- $R_8 = \{(a, b) \mid a \equiv_4 b\}$  where  $A = \{0, 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9\}$

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## Congruence modulo $m$

$a \equiv b \pmod{m}$  or  $a \equiv_m b$

$$\Leftrightarrow m \mid (a - b)$$

$$\Leftrightarrow a \bmod m = b \bmod m$$

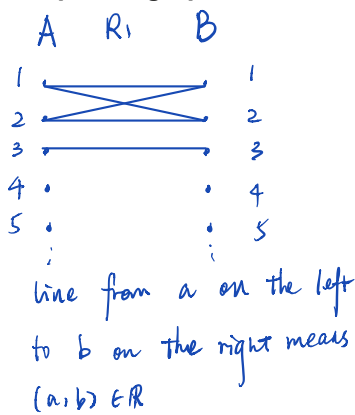
i.e.  $a$  and  $b$  have the same remainder when divided by  $m$

Example  $A = \{0, 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9\}$

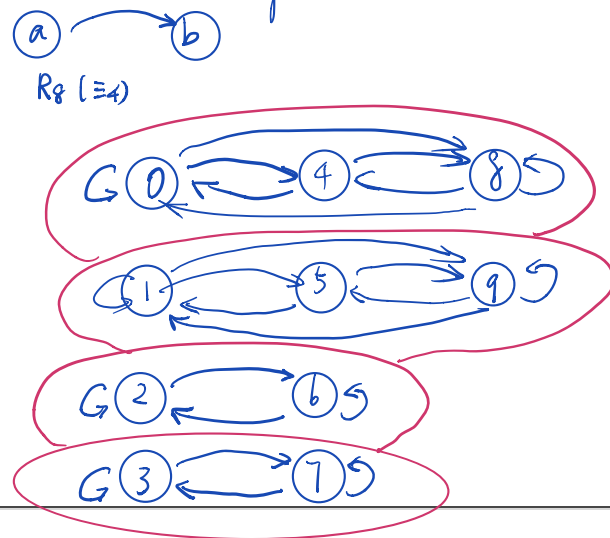
$$1 \equiv_4 b \quad b = 4n + 1$$

## Representing relations

### Bipartite graph

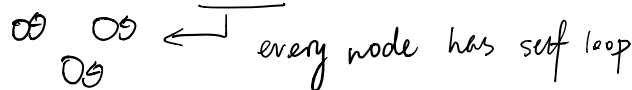


### Directed graph *only when $A=B$ .*



## Properties of relations

**reflexive** : A relation  $R$  on a set  $A$  is **reflexive** iff  $(\forall a \in A) aRa$  i.e.  $(a, a) \in R$



**antireflexive** : A relation  $R$  on a set  $A$  is **antireflexive** iff  $(\forall a \in A) \neg(aRa)$  i.e.  $(a, a) \notin R$ .  
 direct graph has no self loops at all.

**symmetric** : A relation  $R$  on a set  $A$  is **symmetric** iff  $(\forall a, b \in A) aRb \Rightarrow bRa$  i.e.  $(a, b) \in R \Leftrightarrow (b, a) \in R$ .



**antisymmetric** : A relation  $R$  on a set  $A$  is **antisymmetric** iff

$$(\forall a, b \in A) (aRb \wedge bRa) \Rightarrow (a = b) \quad \text{i.e. } ((a, b) \in R \wedge (b, a) \in R) \Rightarrow (a = b)$$



**transitive** : A relation  $R$  on a set  $A$  is **transitive** iff

Recall:  $P \Rightarrow Q \Leftrightarrow \neg P \vee Q$   
 so  $(\forall a, b \in A) (aRb \notin R \vee (b, a) \notin R \vee a=b)$   
 Consider   
 both symmetric and antisymmetric

**Examples** : Consider the examples above where we further restrict the domain of  $R_1$  to  $A = \{1, 2, 3\}$  and the domain of  $R_2$  to  $A = \{1, 2, 3, 4\}$ . Which of the examples are:

- reflexive  $R_1, R_2, R_3, R_5, R_6, R_8$
  - antireflexive  $R_4$
  - symmetric  $R_1, R_5, R_7, R_8$
  - antisymmetric  $R_2, R_3, R_4, (R_6 \text{ if } A = \mathbb{Z}^+)$
  - transitive
- $\} R_7 \text{ is neither.}$

$R_6$ : if  $A = \mathbb{Z}$ , neither symmetric or antisymmetric  
 $= \mathbb{Z}^+$ , antisymmetric  
 $\mathbb{Z}/2, -\mathbb{Z}/2$

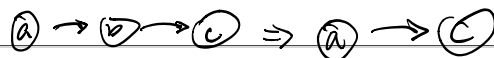
# Equivalence and Order Relations

**Examples :** The examples below are relations on integers (i.e.,  $A = \mathbb{Z}$ ) unless otherwise specified.

- $R_1 = \{ (1, 1), (1, 2), (2, 1), (3, 3), (2, 2) \}$  where  $A = \{1, 2, 3\}$
- $R_2 = \{ (1, 1), (1, 2), (1, 3), (1, 4), (2, 2), (2, 4), (3, 3), (4, 4) \}$  where  $A = \{1, 2, 3, 4\}$
- $R_3 = \{ (a, b) \mid a \leq b \}$
- $R_4 = \{ (a, b) \mid a > b \}$
- $R_5 = \{ (a, b) \mid a = b \text{ or } a = -b \}$
- $R_6 = \{ (a, b) \mid a \mid b \}$  where  $A = \mathbb{Z}^+$
- $R_7 = \{ (a, b) \mid a + b \leq 3 \}$
- $R_8 = \{ (a, b) \mid a \equiv_4 b \}$  where  $A = \{0, 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9\}$

## Properties of relations

- reflexive :  $(\forall a \in A) aRa$   $R_1, R_2, R_3, R_5, R_6, R_8$
- antireflexive :  $(\forall a \in A) \neg(aRa)$   $R_4$
- symmetric :  $(\forall a, b \in A) aRb \iff bRa$   $R_1, R_5, R_7, R_8$
- antisymmetric :  $(\forall a, b \in A) (aRb \wedge bRa) \implies (a = b)$   $R_2, R_3, R_4, R_6$
- transitive :  $(\forall a, b, c \in A) (aRb \wedge bRc) \implies aRc$   $R_1, R_2, R_3, R_4, R_5, R_6, R_8$   
i.e.  $(a,b) \in R \wedge (b,c) \in R \implies (a,c) \in R$ .



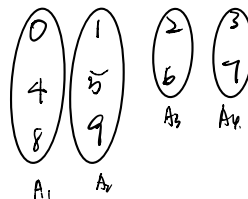
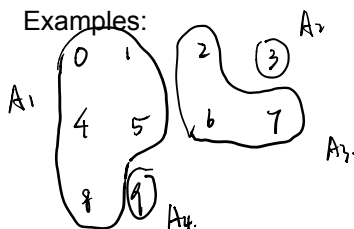
## Equivalence relations

**equivalence relation (on A)** = a relation which is reflexive, symmetric & transitive.

Examples:  $R_1, R_5, R_8, =, <=>, \equiv, \equiv_n$

**partition of a set A** = collection of subsets of A,  $A_1, A_2, \dots$  - s.t.  $\bigcup_i A_i = A$   
and  $A_i \cap A_j = \emptyset$  if  $i \neq j$  (i.e.  $A_i$  are pairwise disjoint).  
each  $A_i$  is a cluster or a partition class

Examples:



**equivalence class** (given an equivalence relation R)  $[a] = \{b \in A \mid aRb\}$ .

Examples: Consider  $\equiv_4 (R_8)$   $A = \{0, 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9\}$ .

$$[0] = \{0, 4, 8\} = [4] = [8]$$

$$[1] = \{1, 5, 9\} = [5] = [9]$$

$$[2] = \{2, 6\} = [6]$$

$$[3] = \{3, 7\} = [7]$$

## Relationship between partitions and equivalence classes

- Given a partition  $A_1, A_2, A_3, \dots$  of  $A$ . Let  $R$  be the relation:  $aRb$  (i.e.  $(a,b) \in R$ )  
iff  $a$  &  $b$  belong to the same partition class (same  $A_i$ ).  
Then  $R$  is an equivalence relation.
- Given an equivalence relation  $R$  on  $A$ . Then  $\mathcal{P} = \{[a] \mid a \in A\}$  is a partition.
- Given an equivalence relation  $R$  on  $A$ . Then
  - $(\forall a \in A) a \in [a]$
  - $(\forall a, b \in A) aRb \Rightarrow [a] = [b]$
  - $(\forall a, b \in A) \neg (aRb) \Rightarrow ([a] \cap [b]) = \emptyset$ .

What are the equivalence classes for  $R_1$ ?

$$\begin{array}{l} \text{1, 2} \\ \text{3} \end{array} \quad \begin{array}{l} [1] = \{1, 2\} = [2] \\ [3] = \{3\} \end{array}$$

What are the equivalence classes for  $R_5$ ?

$$\begin{array}{l} [1] = \{1, -1\} \\ [2] = \{2, -2\} \\ [3] = \{3, -3\} \end{array} \quad [0] = \{0\}$$

## Order Relations

order relation = a relation that is antisymmetric & transitive.

$R_2, R_3, R_4, R_6, <, \succ, \leq, \geq, \subseteq, \supseteq$  (divides).

partial order = an order relation that is reflexive.

$R_2, R_3, R_6, \leq, \geq, \subseteq$  canonical example  $\leq$ .

partially ordered set (poset)  $(S, R) =$  a set  $S$  along with partial order  $R$  and  $S$ .  
 $(\mathbb{Z}, \leq) \quad (\mathbb{Z}^+, \leq)$  divides.

strict order = an order relation that is antireflexive.

$R_4, <, \succ, \subset$  canonical example:  $<$ .

total order = an order relation  $R$  with the property

$$(\forall a, b \in A) a \neq b \Rightarrow (aRb \vee bRa).$$

i.e. all elems in  $A$  can be compared with each other via  $R$ .  
& put "in order"

$R_3, R_4$  are total orders

$R_6$  (divides) is not a total order:

$$7 \nmid 2, 2 \nmid 7, (7, 2) \notin R_6, (2, 7) \notin R_6.$$

$R_2 \nmid \mathbb{N}_0$ , because  $(2, 3) \notin R_2$  and  $(3, 2) \notin R_2$ .

"happens before" relation in computer systems.

$A \rightarrow B$  means memory written by stat  $A$  is visible to stat  $B$

i.e. A completes its write to memory before B starts its read from memory.