

For any finite set A and full relation R on A , there is a Hamilton path in R .

Proof: We must show the for any finite set A and full relation R on A , then there exists a Hamilton path in R . Suppose A is an arbitrary set, $|A| = k$, and R is a full relation on A . We must show there exists a Hamilton path in R . By definition of a Hamilton path, we must show that there is a non-repeating R -path through every element in A . Assume for contradiction that the longest R -path does not include every element in A . Let (a_1, \dots, a_t) be the longest R -path, where $t < k$. Therefore exists an element $a^* \in A$ such that $a^* \notin (a_1, \dots, a_t)$. Since R is full, then there exists 4 cases of how a^* relates to a_1 and a_t :

- a^*Ra_1, a^*Ra_t
Since a^*Ra_1 , a^* can be appended onto the beginning of (a_1, \dots, a_t) and form a valid R -path, contradicting our previous assumption.
- a^*Ra_1, a_tRa^*
Since a^*Ra_1 , a^* can be appended onto the beginning of (a_1, \dots, a_t) and form a valid R -path, contradicting our previous assumption.
- a_1Ra^*, a_tRa^*
Since a_tRa^* , a^* can be appended onto the end of (a_1, \dots, a_t) and form a valid R -path, contradicting our previous assumption.
- a_1Ra^*, a^*Ra_t
Since these two relations don't provide a clear insertion point for a^* , then we must look at the orbit of a^* : $O^* = \{a \in A : a^*Ra\}$. Since a_1Ra^* , we have at least one element that is in O^* . Since the relation is full by definition $A = O^* + O^{*c}$. Therefore since there exists elements of both O^* and O^{*c} that lie in (a_1, \dots, a_t) , then there must exists an element in O^{*c} next to an element from O^* . Suppose the element from O^{*c} occurs at index i . Therefore since a_iRa^* and a^*Ra_i , then a^* may be inserted at i , forming a valid R -path.

Therefore since all of the cases result in a contradiction, then $t = k$, and R has a Hamilton path.