

Prove transitive closure is transitive. (Huanyu Li)

For each $(x, y), (y, z) \in U_{n \in \mathbb{Z}^+} R^n$.

there exists a i and a j satisfy that $(x, y) \in R^i$ and $(y, z) \in R^j$

Because $U_{n \in \mathbb{Z}^+} R^n = R \cup R^2 \cup R^3 \cup \dots \cup R^i \cup \dots \cup R^j \cup \dots \cup R^n$

Then we can get $R^i \circ R^j = \{(x, z)\}$ based on the composition definition.

since $R^{n+1} = R^n \circ R$ ($n \in \mathbb{N}$)

Then we can get

$$\begin{aligned} R^{i+j} &= R^{i+j-1} \circ R \\ &= R^{i+j-2} \circ R \circ R \\ &\vdots \\ &= R^{i+j-(i+j-1)} \circ \underbrace{R \circ \dots \circ R}_{i+j-1} \\ &= \underbrace{R \circ R \circ \dots \circ R}_{i+j} \end{aligned}$$

With the similar step, we can get

$$R^i = \underbrace{R \circ R \circ \dots \circ R}_i, \quad R^j = \underbrace{R \circ R \circ \dots \circ R}_j$$

$$\text{Then } R^i \circ R^j = \underbrace{R \circ R \circ \dots \circ R}_{i+j} = R^{i+j}$$

$$i+j \in \mathbb{Z}^+ \quad \therefore (x, z) \in U_{n \in \mathbb{Z}^+} R^n$$

No we can conclude that for each $(x, y), (y, z) \in U_{n \in \mathbb{Z}^+} R^n$ it has $(x, z) \in U_{n \in \mathbb{Z}^+} R^n$ so R^+ is transitive.