# **Discrete Mathematics for Computer Science**

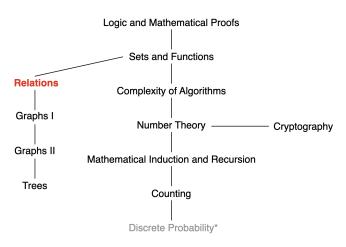
Lecture 15-2: Relation

Dr. Ming Tang

Department of Computer Science and Engineering Southern University of Science and Technology (SUSTech) Email: tangm3@sustech.edu.cn



#### This Lecture





### Cartesian Product

Let  $A = \{a_1, a_2, ..., a_m\}$  and  $B = \{b_1, b_2, ..., b_n\}$ , the Cartesian product  $A \times B$  is the set of pairs

$$\{(a_1,b_1),(a_2,b_2),...,(a_1,b_n),...,(a_m,b_n)\}.$$

Cartesian product defines a set of all ordered arrangements of elements in the two sets.

A subset R of the Cartesian product  $A \times B$  is called a relation from the set A to the set B.



# Binary Relation

**Definition**: Let A and B be two sets. A binary relation from A to B is a subset of a Cartesian product  $A \times B$ .

Let  $R \subseteq A \times B$  denote R is a set of ordered pairs of the form (a, b) where  $a \in A$  and  $b \in B$ .

We use the notation aRb to denote  $(a, b) \in R$ , and  $a \not Rb$  to denote  $(a, b) \notin R$ .

**Example:** Let  $A = \{a, b, c\}$  and  $B = \{1, 2, 3\}$ 

- Is  $R = \{(a, 1), (b, 2), (c, 2)\}$  a relation from A to B?
- Is  $Q = \{(1, a), (2, b)\}$  a relation from A to B?
- Is  $P = \{(a, a), (b, c), (b, a)\}$  a relation from A to A?

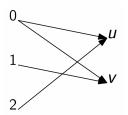


# Representing Binary Relations

We can graphically represent a binary relation R as:

if aRb, then we draw an arrow from a to b:  $a \rightarrow b$ 

**Example:** Let  $A = \{0, 1, 2\}$  and  $B = \{u, v\}$ , and  $R = \{(0, u), (0, v), (1, v), (2, u)\}$ .  $(R \subseteq A \times B)$ 





# Representing Binary Relations

We can also represent a binary relation R by a table showing the ordered pairs of R.

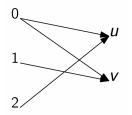
**Example:** Let  $A = \{0, 1, 2\}$  and  $B = \{u, v\}$ , and  $R = \{(0, u), (0, v), (1, v), (2, u)\}$ .  $(R \subseteq A \times B)$ 

R	и	v
0	×	×
1	×	
2		×



### Representing Binary Relations

Relations represent one to many relationships between elements in A and B.



What is the difference between a relation and a function from A to B?



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#### Relation on the Set

**Definition**: A relation on the set A is a relation from A to itself.

**Example:** Let  $A = \{1, 2, 3, 4\}$  and  $R_{div} = \{(a, b) : a \text{ divides } b\}$ . What does  $R_{div}$  consist of?

$$R_{div} = \{(1,1), (1,2), (1,3), (1,4), (2,2), (2,4), (3,3), (4,4)\}.$$





# Number of Binary Relations

**Theorem**: The number of binary relations on a set A, where |A| = n, is  $2^{n^2}$ .

**Proof**: If |A| = n, then the cardinality of the Cartesian product  $|A \times A| = n^2$ .

R is a binary relation on A if  $R \subseteq A \times A$  (R is subset).

The number of subsets of a set with k elements is  $2^k$ .



# Properties of Relations

- Reflexive Relation
- Irreflexive Relation
- Symmetric Relation
- Antisymmetric Relation
- Transitive Relation



### Properties of Relations: Reflexive Relation

**Reflexive Relation:** A relation R on a set A is called reflexive if  $(a, a) \in R$  for every element  $a \in A$ .

**Example:** Assume that  $R_{div} = \{(a, b) : a \text{ divides } b\}$  on  $A = \{1, 2, 3, 4\}$ :

$$R_{div} = \{(1,1), (1,2), (1,3), (1,4), (2,2), (2,4), (3,3), (4,4)\}.$$

Is  $R_{div}$  reflexive?

Yes. 
$$(1,1),(2,2),(3,3),(4,4) \in R_{div}$$
.



### Reflexive Relation

**Example:** Assume that  $R_{div} = \{(a, b) : a \text{ divides } b\}$  on  $A = \{1, 2, 3, 4\}$ :

$$R_{div} = \{(1,1), (1,2), (1,3), (1,4), (2,2), (2,4), (3,3), (4,4)\}.$$

Is  $R_{div}$  reflexive?

Yes. 
$$(1,1),(2,2),(3,3),(4,4) \in R_{div}$$
.

Relation Matrix (binary matrix):

A relation *R* is reflexive if and only if *MR* has 1 in every position on its main diagonal.

## **Examples**

Consider the set of integers:

$$R_1 = \{(a, b) \mid a \le b\},\$$

$$R_2 = \{(a, b) \mid a > b\},\$$

$$R_3 = \{(a, b) \mid a = b \text{ or } a = -b\},\$$

$$R_4 = \{(a, b) \mid a = b\},\$$

$$R_5 = \{(a, b) \mid a = b + 1\},\$$

$$R_6 = \{(a, b) \mid a + b \le 3\}.$$

Which of these relations reflexive?

 $R_1$ ,  $R_3$ , and  $R_4$ .



### Number of Reflexive Relations

**Theorem**: The number of reflexive relations on a set A with |A| = n is  $2^{n(n-1)}$ .

**Proof**: A reflexive relation R on A must contain all pairs (a, a) for every  $a \in A$ .

All other pairs in R are of the form (a, b) with  $a \neq b$ , s.t.  $a, b \in A$ .

How many of these pairs are there? n(n-1)

How many subsets on n(n-1) elements are there?  $2^{n(n-1)}$ 



## Properties of Relations: Irreflexive Relation

**Irreflexive Relation:** A relation R on a set A is called irreflexive if  $(a, a) \notin R$  for every element  $a \in A$ .

**Example:** Assume that  $R_{\neq} = \{(a, b) : a \neq b\}$  on  $A = \{1, 2, 3, 4\}$ .

Is  $R_{\neq}$  irreflexive?

$$R_{\neq} = \{(1,2), (1,3), (1,4), (2,1), (2,3), (2,4), \\ (3,1), (3,2), (3,4), (4,1), (4,2), (4,3)\}.$$

Yes.  $(1,1),(2,2),(3,3),(4,4) \notin R_{\neq}$ .



### Irreflexive Relation

**Example:** Assume that  $R_{\neq} = \{(a, b) : a \neq b\}$  on  $A = \{1, 2, 3, 4\}$ .

Is  $R_{\neq}$  irreflexive?

$$R_{\neq} = \{(1,2), (1,3), (1,4), (2,1), (2,3), (2,4), \\ (3,1), (3,2), (3,4), (4,1), (4,2), (4,3)\}.$$

A relation R is irreflexive if and only if MR has 0 in every position on its main diagonal.

## **Examples**

Consider the set of integers:

$$R_1 = \{(a, b) \mid a \le b\},\$$

$$R_2 = \{(a, b) \mid a > b\},\$$

$$R_3 = \{(a, b) \mid a = b \text{ or } a = -b\},\$$

$$R_4 = \{(a, b) \mid a = b\},\$$

$$R_5 = \{(a, b) \mid a = b + 1\},\$$

$$R_6 = \{(a, b) \mid a + b \le 3\}.$$

Which of these relations irreflexive?

 $R_2$  and  $R_5$ .



## Properties of Relations: Symmetric Relation

**Symmetric Relation:** A relation R on a set A is called symmetric if  $(b, a) \in R$  whenever  $(a, b) \in R$  for all  $a, b \in A$ .

Example: Assume that  $R_{div} = \{(a, b) : a \text{ divides } b\}$  on  $A = \{1, 2, 3, 4\}$ .

$$R_{div} = \{(1,1), (1,2), (1,3), (1,4), (2,2), (2,4), (3,3), (4,4)\}.$$

Is  $R_{div}$  symmetric?

No.  $(1,2) \in R_{div}$  but  $(2,1) \notin R$ .



# Symmetric Relation

**Example:** Assume that  $R_{\neq} = \{(a,b) : a \neq b\}$  on  $A = \{1,2,3,4\}$ .  $R_{\neq} = \{(1,2),(1,3),(1,4),(2,1),(2,3),(2,4),$   $(3,1),(3,2),(3,4),(4,1),(4,2),(4,3)\}$ .

Is  $R_{\neq}$  symmetric?

Yes. If  $(a, b) \in R_{\neq}$  then  $(b, a) \in R_{\neq}$ .

A relation R is symmetric if and only if MR is symmetric.



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## **Examples**

#### Consider the set of integers:

$$R_1 = \{(a, b) \mid a \le b\},\$$

$$R_2 = \{(a, b) \mid a > b\},\$$

$$R_3 = \{(a, b) \mid a = b \text{ or } a = -b\},\$$

$$R_4 = \{(a, b) \mid a = b\},\$$

$$R_5 = \{(a, b) \mid a = b + 1\},\$$

$$R_6 = \{(a, b) \mid a + b \le 3\}.$$

Which of these relations symmetric?

 $R_3$ ,  $R_4$ , and  $R_6$ .



## Properties of Relations: Antisymmetric Relation

**Antisymmetric Relation:** A relation R on a set A is called antisymmetric if  $(b, a) \in R$  and  $(a, b) \in R$  implies a = b for all  $a, b \in A$ .

**Example**: Assume that  $R = \{(1,2), (2,2), (3,3)\}$  on  $A = \{1,2,3,4\}$ .

Is R antisymmetric? Yes.

$$MR = \begin{array}{ccccccc} 0 & & 1 & & 0 & & 0 \\ 0 & & 1 & & 0 & & 0 \\ 0 & & 0 & & 1 & & 0 \\ 0 & & 0 & & 0 & & 0 \end{array}$$

A relation R is antisymmetric if and only if  $m_{ij} = 1$  implies  $m_{ji} = 0$  for  $i \neq j$ .



## **Examples**

#### Consider the set of integers:

$$R_1 = \{(a, b) \mid a \le b\},\$$

$$R_2 = \{(a, b) \mid a > b\},\$$

$$R_3 = \{(a, b) \mid a = b \text{ or } a = -b\},\$$

$$R_4 = \{(a, b) \mid a = b\},\$$

$$R_5 = \{(a, b) \mid a = b + 1\},\$$

$$R_6 = \{(a, b) \mid a + b \le 3\}.$$

Which of these relations antisymmetric?

 $R_1$ ,  $R_2$ ,  $R_4$  and  $R_5$ .



# Symmetric Relation

The number of symmetric relations on set A, where A has n elements, is  $2^{n(n+1)/2}$ .

**Proof**: When relation R is symmetric, it contains two types of elements (or pair of elements) from  $A \times A$ :

- (a, a) with  $a \in A$ : n such tuples in  $A \times A$
- both (a,b) and (b,a), with  $a,b\in A$  and  $a\neq b$ : C(n,2) such tuples in  $A\times A$

Each of these elements (or pair of elements) can be either in R or not. Thus, there are  $2^{n(n-1)/2+n}=2^{n(n+1)/2}$  symmetric relations.



# Antisymmetric Relation

The number of antisymmetric relations on set A, where A has n elements, is  $2^n 3^{n(n-1)/2}$ .

**Proof**: Consider the following two types of elements in  $A \times A$ :

- (a, a) with  $a \in A$ : There are n such tuples in  $A \times A$ . Each tuple can be either in R or not in R. Thus, there are  $2^n$  possibilities.
- (a, b) or (b, a), with  $a, b \in A$  and  $a \neq b$ : There are C(n, 2) pairs of a and b. For each of such pairs, there are three cases:
  - $(a, b) \in R$  and  $(b, a) \notin R$ ;
  - $(a,b) \notin R$  and  $(b,a) \in R$ ;
  - $(a,b) \notin R$  and  $(b,a) \notin R$ .

Thus, there are  $3^{n(n-1)/2}$  possibilities.

Using product rule, there are  $2^n 3^{n(n-1)/2}$  such relations.



### Properties of Relations: Transitive Relation

**Transitive Relation:** A relation R on a set A is called transitive if  $(a,b) \in R$  and  $(b,c) \in R$  implies  $(a,c) \in R$  for all  $a,b,c \in A$ .

**Example:** Assume that  $R_{div} = \{(a, b) : a \text{ divides } b\}$  on  $A = \{1, 2, 3, 4\}$ :

$$R_{div} = \{(1,1), (1,2), (1,3), (1,4), (2,2), (2,4), (3,3), (4,4)\}.$$

Is  $R_{div}$  transitive?

Yes. If a|b and b|c, then a|c.



#### Transitive Relation

**Example:** Assume that 
$$R_{\neq} = \{(a, b) : a \neq b\}$$
 on  $A = \{1, 2, 3, 4\}$ .  $R_{\neq} = \{(1, 2), (1, 3), (1, 4), (2, 1), (2, 3), (2, 4), (3, 1), (3, 2), (3, 4), (4, 1), (4, 2), (4, 3)\}$ .

Is  $R_{\neq}$  transitive?

No. 
$$(1,2),(2,1) \in R_{\neq}$$
 but  $(1,1) \notin R_{\neq}$ .



#### Transitive Relation

**Example:** Assume that  $R = \{(1,2), (2,2), (3,3)\}$  on  $A = \{1,2,3,4\}$ .

Is R transitive?

Yes.



## **Examples**

#### Consider the set of integers:

$$R_1 = \{(a, b) \mid a \le b\},\$$

$$R_2 = \{(a, b) \mid a > b\},\$$

$$R_3 = \{(a, b) \mid a = b \text{ or } a = -b\},\$$

$$R_4 = \{(a, b) \mid a = b\},\$$

$$R_5 = \{(a, b) \mid a = b + 1\},\$$

$$R_6 = \{(a, b) \mid a + b \le 3\}.$$

Which of these relations transitive?

 $R_1$ ,  $R_2$ ,  $R_3$  and  $R_4$ .



# Summary on Properties of Relations

- Reflexive Relation: A relation R on a set A is called reflexive if  $(a, a) \in R$  for every element  $a \in A$ .
- Irreflexive Relation: A relation R on a set A is called irreflexive if  $(a, a) \notin R$  for every element  $a \in A$ .
- Symmetric Relation: A relation R on a set A is called symmetric if  $(b, a) \in R$  whenever  $(a, b) \in R$  for all  $a, b \in A$ .
- Antisymmetric Relation: A relation R on a set A is called antisymmetric if  $(b, a) \in R$  and  $(a, b) \in R$  implies a = b for all  $a, b \in A$ .
- Transitive Relation: A relation R on a set A is called transitive if  $(a,b) \in R$  and  $(b,c) \in R$  implies  $(a,c) \in R$  for all  $a,b,c \in A$ .



# **Combining Relations**

Since relations are sets, we can combine relations via set operations.

Set operations: union, intersection, difference, etc.

**Example:** Let 
$$A = \{1, 2, 3\}$$
,  $B = \{u, v\}$ , and  $R_1 = \{(1, u), (2, u), (2, v), (3, u)\}$ ,  $R_2 = \{(1, v), (3, u), (3, v)\}$ 

What is 
$$R_1 \cup R_2$$
,  $R_1 \cap R_2$ ,  $R_1 - R_2$ ,  $R_2 - R_1$ ?



# **Combining Relations**

**Example**:  $R_1 = \{(x,y)|x < y\}$  and  $R_2 = \{(x,y)|x > y\}$ . What are  $R_1 \cup R_2$ ,  $R_1 \cap R_2$ ,  $R_1 - R_2$ ,  $R_2 - R_1$ , and  $R_1 \oplus R_2$ ?

- $R_1 \cup R_2 = \{(x,y)|x \neq y\}$
- $R_1 \cap R_2 = \emptyset$
- $R_1 R_2 = R_1$
- $R_2 R_1 = R_2$
- $R_1 \oplus R_2 = \{(x,y)|x \neq y\}$



## Composite of Relations

**Definition:** Let R be a relation from a set A to a set B and S be a relation from B to C. The composite of R and S is the relation consisting of the ordered pairs (a,c) where  $a \in A$  and  $c \in C$  and for which there is a  $b \in B$  such that  $(a,b) \in R$  and  $(b,c) \in S$ .

We denote the composite of R and S by  $S \circ R$ .

**Example:** Let  $A = \{1, 2, 3\}$ ,  $B = \{0, 1, 2\}$ , and  $C = \{a, b\}$ :

- $R = \{(1,0), (1,2), (3,1), (3,2)\}$
- $S = \{(0,b), (1,a), (2,b)\}$
- $S \circ R = \{(1, b), (3, a), (3, b)\}$



### Power of a Relation

**Definition**: Let R be a relation on A. The powers  $R^n$ , for n = 1, 2, 3, ..., is defined inductively by

$$R^1 = R$$
 and  $R^{n+1} = R^n \circ R$ 

**Example:** Let  $A = \{1, 2, 3, 4\}$ , and  $R = \{(1, 2), (2, 3), (2, 4), (3, 3)\}$ 

- $R^1 = R$
- $R^2 = R \circ R = \{(1,3), (1,4), (2,3), (3,3)\}$
- $R^3 = R^2 \circ R = \{(1,3), (2,3), (3,3)\}$
- $R^4 = R^3 \circ R = \{(1,3), (2,3), (3,3)\}$
- $R^k = ?$  for k > 3



### Transitive Relation and $R^n$

**Theorem**: The relation R on a set A is transitive if and only if  $R^n \subseteq R$  for n = 1, 2, 3, ...

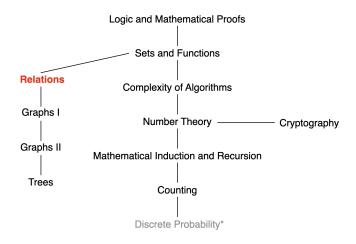
#### **Proof:**

- "if" part: In particular,  $R^2 \subseteq R$ . If  $(a, b) \in R$  and  $(b, c) \in R$ , then by the definition of composition, we have  $(a, c) \in R^2 \subseteq R$ .
- "only if: part: by induction.

  - ▶ Suppose  $R^n \subseteq R$ :
    - **★** Consider  $(a, c) \in R^{n+1} \triangleq R^n \circ R$ : there is a  $b \in A$  such that  $(a, b) \in R$  and  $(b, c) \in R^n \subseteq R$
    - ★ Since R is transitive,  $(a, b) \in R$  and  $(b, c) \in R^n \subseteq R$  implies that  $(a, c) \in R$ .
    - **★** Thus,  $R^{n+1} \subseteq R$



#### This Lecture



Relation, *n*-ary Relations, Representing Relations, Closures of Relations, ...



## Representing Relations

Some ways to represent *n*-ary relations:

- with an explicit list or table of its tuples
- with a function from the domain to  $\{T, F\}$

Some special ways to represent binary relations:

- with a zero-one matrix
- with a directed graph



#### Zero-One Matrix

$$m_{ij} = \begin{cases} 1, & (a_i, b_j) \in R \\ 0, & (a_i, b_j) \notin R \end{cases}$$
 (1)

**Example**: Suppose that  $A = \{1, 2, 3\}$  and  $B = \{1, 2\}$ . Let R be the relation from A to B containing (a, b) if  $a \in A$ ,  $b \in B$ , and a > b.

What is the matrix representing R if  $a_1=1$ ,  $a_2=2$ , and  $a_3=3$ , and  $b_1=1$  and  $b_2=2$ ?

**Solution**:  $R = \{(2,1), (3,1), (3,2)\}$ 

$$\mathbf{M}_R = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 0 \\ 1 & 0 \\ 1 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$$



### Zero-One Matrix







Reflexive

Symmetric

Antisymmetric

**Example**: Suppose that the relation R on a set is represented by the matrix

$$\mathbf{M}_R = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 1 & 0 \\ 1 & 1 & 1 \\ 0 & 1 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

Is *R* reflexive, symmetric, and/or antisymmetric? Reflexive, symmetric. Not antisymmetric.



### Zero-One Matrix: Join and Meet

Let  $A = [a_{ij}]$  and  $B = [b_{ij}]$  be  $m \times n$  zero—one matrices.

The join of A and B is the zero—one matrix with (i, j)-th entry  $a_{ij} \vee b_{ij}$ . The join of A and B is denoted by  $A \vee B$ .

The meet of A and B is the zero—one matrix with (i,j)-th entry  $a_{ij} \wedge b_{ij}$ . The meet of A and B is denoted by  $A \wedge B$ .



### Zero-One Matrix: Join and Meet

Consider relations  $R_1$  and  $R_2$  on a set A:

$$M_{R_1 \cup R_2} = M_{R_1} \vee M_{R_2}$$
  
 $M_{R_1 \cap R_2} = M_{R_1} \wedge M_{R_2}$ 

**Example**: Suppose that the relations  $R_1$  and  $R_2$  on a set A are represented by the matrices

$$\mathbf{M}_{R_1} = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & 1 \\ 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 \end{bmatrix} \quad \mathbf{M}_{R_2} = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 1 & 1 \\ 1 & 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

What are the matrices representing  $R_1 \cup R_2$  and  $R_1 \cap R_2$ ?



## Zero-One Matrix: Composite of Relations

Let  $A = [a_{ij}]$  be an  $m \times k$  zero—one matrix and  $B = [b_{ij}]$  be a  $k \times n$  zero—one matrix. Then, the Boolean product of A and B, denoted by  $A \odot B$ , is the  $m \times n$  matrix with (i,j)-th entry  $c_{ij}$  where

$$c_{ij} = (a_{i1} \wedge b_{1j}) \vee (a_{i2} \wedge b_{2j}) \vee \cdots \vee (a_{ik} \wedge b_{kj}).$$

### Example:

$$\mathbf{A} = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 \\ 1 & 0 \end{bmatrix}, \qquad \mathbf{B} = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 1 \end{bmatrix}.$$

$$\begin{split} \mathbf{A} \odot \mathbf{B} &= \begin{bmatrix} (1 \wedge 1) \vee (0 \wedge 0) & (1 \wedge 1) \vee (0 \wedge 1) & (1 \wedge 0) \vee (0 \wedge 1) \\ (0 \wedge 1) \vee (1 \wedge 0) & (0 \wedge 1) \vee (1 \wedge 1) & (0 \wedge 0) \vee (1 \wedge 1) \\ (1 \wedge 1) \vee (0 \wedge 0) & (1 \wedge 1) \vee (0 \wedge 1) & (1 \wedge 0) \vee (0 \wedge 1) \end{bmatrix} \\ &= \begin{bmatrix} 1 \vee 0 & 1 \vee 0 & 0 \vee 0 \\ 0 \vee 0 & 0 \vee 1 & 0 \vee 1 \\ 1 \vee 0 & 1 \vee 0 & 0 \vee 0 \end{bmatrix} \\ &= \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 1 \\ 1 & 1 & 0 \end{bmatrix}. \end{split}$$

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## Zero-One Matrix: Composite of Relations

Suppose that R is a relation from A to B and S is a relation from B to C:

$$M_{S\circ R}=M_R\odot M_S.$$

The ordered pair  $(a_i, c_i)$  belongs to  $S \circ R$  if and only if there is an element  $b_k$  such that  $(a_i, b_k)$  belongs to R and  $(b_k, c_i)$  belongs to S.

#### Example:

$$\mathbf{M}_R = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & 1 \\ 1 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix} \quad \text{and} \quad \mathbf{M}_S = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \\ 1 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix}.$$

$$\mathbf{M}_{S \circ R} = \mathbf{M}_R \odot \mathbf{M}_S = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 1 & 1 \\ 0 & 1 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix}.$$
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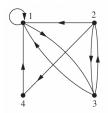
# Directed Graph

A directed graph, or digraph, consists of a set V of vertices together with a set E of ordered pairs of elements of V called edges.

The vertex a is called the initial vertex of the edge (a, b), and the vertex b is called the terminal vertex of this edge.

**Example**: Relation R is defined on  $\{1, 2, 3, 4\}$ :

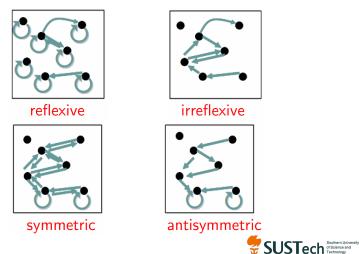
$$R = \{(1,1), (1,3), (2,1), (2,3), (2,4), (3,1), (3,2), (4,1)\}$$



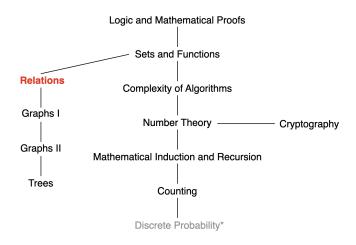


# Directed Graph

Reflexive, irreflexive, symmetric, antisymmetric?



#### This Lecture



Relation, *n*-ary Relations, Representing Relations, Closures of Relations, ...

