



Relations

Cartesian Product

■ Definition:

For sets A, B the **Cartesian product**, or **cross product**, of A and B is denoted by $A \times B$ and equals $\{(a, b) / a \in A, b \in B\}$.

Example:

$$A = \{a, b, c\}, \quad B = \{x, y\}$$

$$A \times B = \{(u, v) \mid u \in A, v \in B\} = \{(a, x), (b, x), (c, x), (a, y), (b, y), (c, y)\}$$

■ Ordered pair

For $(a, b), (c, d) \in A \times B$, $(a, b) = (c, d)$ iff $a = c$ and $b = d$.

- cf. unordered pair: $\{a, b\} = \{b, a\}$
- $(a, b) \neq \{a, b\}$, $(a, b) \neq (b, a)$

■ Terminologies:

Let A_1, A_2, \dots, A_n be sets. Then the (n -fold) product of A_1, A_2, \dots, A_n is denoted by $A_1 \times A_2 \times \dots \times A_n$ and equals

$$\{(a_1, a_2, \dots, a_n) \mid a_i \in A_i, 1 \leq i \leq n\}.$$

The elements of $A_1 \times A_2 \times \dots \times A_n$ are called ***n-tuples***, although we generally use the term **triple** in place of 3-tuple.

- If $(a_1, a_2, \dots, a_n), (b_1, b_2, \dots, b_n) \in A_1 \times A_2 \times \dots \times A_n$,
then $(a_1, a_2, \dots, a_n) = (b_1, b_2, \dots, b_n)$ iff $a_i = b_i, 1 \leq i \leq n$.

- Note:

- Cross product is not commutative, i.e., $A \times B \neq B \times A$.
- Cross product is not associative, i.e., $(A \times B) \times C \neq A \times (B \times C)$.
- $A \times B \times C \neq (A \times B) \times C$
- $A \times \emptyset = \emptyset$
- If $A_1 = A_2 = \cdots = A_n = A$, then $A_1 \times A_2 \times \cdots \times A_n$ is denoted by A^n .

- **Theorem:** For any sets A , B , and C ,

- $A \times (B \cup C) = (A \times B) \cup (A \times C)$
- $(B \cup C) \times A = (B \times A) \cup (C \times A)$
- $A \times (B \cap C) = (A \times B) \cap (A \times C)$
- $(B \cap C) \times A = (B \times A) \cap (C \times A).$

Proof of $A \times (B \cup C) = (A \times B) \cup (A \times C)$

(i) To show $A \times (B \cup C) \subseteq (A \times B) \cup (A \times C)$

Let (x, y) be an element of $A \times (B \cup C)$.

Then, by the definition of cross product, $x \in A$ and $y \in B \cup C$.

Proof of $A \times (B \cup C) = (A \times B) \cup (A \times C)$

There are two cases to consider:

- CASE 1: $y \in B$

Since $x \in A$ and $y \in B$, $(x, y) \in A \times B$.

- CASE 2: $y \in C$

Since $x \in A$ and $y \in C$, $(x, y) \in A \times C$.

Since one of the two cases is true, either $(x, y) \in A \times B$ or $(x, y) \in A \times C$.

Hence, by the definition of union of sets, $(x, y) \in (A \times B) \cup (A \times C)$.

That is, $(x, y) \in A \times (B \cup C) \rightarrow (x, y) \in (A \times B) \cup (A \times C)$.

Proof of $A \times (B \cup C) = (A \times B) \cup (A \times C)$

Since (x, y) was an arbitrary element of $A \times (B \cup C)$, we can conclude that every elements of $A \times (B \cup C)$ is an element of $(A \times B) \cup (A \times C)$.

Therefore, by the definition of a subset

$$A \times (B \cup C) \subseteq (A \times B) \cup (A \times C).$$

(ii) To show $(A \times B) \cup (A \times C) \subseteq A \times (B \cup C)$

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From (i) and (ii), we conclude that $A \times (B \cup C) = (A \times B) \cup (A \times C)$.



■ A formal Proof of $A \times (B \cap C) = (A \times B) \cap (A \times C)$

No.	Formula	Rule	Just.	Taut.
1	$(a, b) \in A \times (B \cap C)$	AP		
2	$a \in A \wedge b \in (B \cap C)$	T	1	Def. of \times
3	$a \in A$	T	2	I_1
4	$b \in (B \cap C)$	T	2	I_2
5	$b \in B \wedge b \in C$	T	4	Def. of \cap
6	$b \in B$	T	5	I_1
7	$b \in C$	T	5	I_2
8	$a \in A \wedge b \in B$	T	3, 6	I_9
9	$a \in A \wedge b \in C$	T	3, 7	I_9
10	$(a, b) \in A \times B$	T	8	Def. of \times
11	$(a, b) \in A \times C$	T	9	Def. of \times

■ A formal Proof of $A \times (B \cap C) = (A \times B) \cap (A \times C)$

No.	Formula	Rule	Just.	Taut.
12	$(a, b) \in A \times B \wedge (a, b) \in A \times C$	T	10, 11	I_9
13	$(a, b) \in A \times B \cap A \times C$	T	12	Def. of \cap
14	$(a, b) \in A \times (B \cap C)$	CP	1, 13	
	$\rightarrow (a, b) \in A \times B \cap A \times C$			
15	$(\forall y) \{(a, y) \in A \times (B \cap C)$	UG	14	
	$\rightarrow (a, y) \in A \times B \cap A \times C\}$			
16	$(\forall x)(\forall y) \{(x, y) \in A \times (B \cap C)$	UG	15	
	$\rightarrow (x, y) \in A \times B \cap A \times C\}$			
17	$A \times (B \cap C) \subseteq A \times B \cap A \times C$	T	16	Def. of \subseteq

■ A formal Proof of $A \times (B \cap C) = (A \times B) \cap (A \times C)$

No.	Formula	Rule	Just.	Taut.
	· · · ·			
18	$(a, b) \in A \times B \cap A \times C$	AP		
	· · · ·			
i	$(a, b) \in A \times B \cap A \times C$	CP		
	$\rightarrow (a, b) \in A \times (B \cap C)$			
	· · · ·			
j	$A \times B \cap A \times C \subseteq A \times (B \cap C)$	T		Def. of \subseteq
k	$[A \times (B \cap C) \subseteq A \times B \cap A \times C] \wedge [A \times B \cap A \times C \subseteq A \times (B \cap C)]$	T	17, j	I_9
l	$A \times (B \cap C) = A \times B \cap A \times C$	T	k	Def. of $=$

Relations

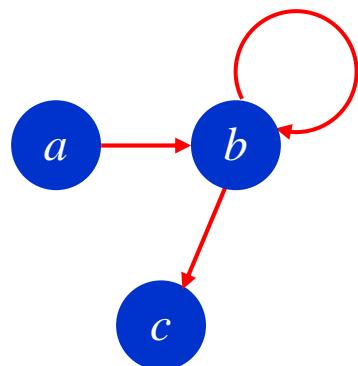
■ Definition:

- Let A and B be sets. Then, any subset of $A \times B$ is called a **relation** between A and B .

Example:

- Let $A = \{a, b, c\}$ and $R = \{(x, y) \mid x \text{ hates } y\} = \{(a, b), (b, b), (b, c)\}$.

Notice that $R \subseteq A \times A$.



We may call this relation as “Hates” relation and write it as

$$\text{Hates} = \{(a, b), (b, b), (b, c)\}.$$

Example:

- Let $A = \{1, 2, 3\}$ and $R = \{(1, 1), (1, 2), (1, 3), (2, 2), (2, 3), (3, 3)\}$.

Notice that this relation can also be represented as

$$R = \{(x, y) \mid x \leq y\}.$$

Using the predicate symbol \leq , we may write the same relation as

$$\leq = \{(1, 1), (1, 2), (1, 3), (2, 2), (2, 3), (3, 3)\}.$$

We often write “ $x \leq y$ ” to mean “ $(x, y) \in R$ ”, i.e., “ $(x, y) \in \leq$ ”.

- For the previous relation $Hates = \{(a, b), (b, b), (b, c)\}$, we may write “ $b Hates c$ ” to mean “ $(b, c) \in Hates$ ”.

■ Definitions:

- Any subset of $A \times A$ is called a **(binary) relation** on A .
- If A_1, A_2, \dots, A_n are sets then any $R \subseteq A_1 \times A_2 \times \cdots \times A_n$ is an ***n*-ary relation** on A_1, A_2, \dots, A_n .
- Let R be a binary relation between a set A and a set B . Then, the **domain** of R , designated by $\mathcal{D}(R)$, is

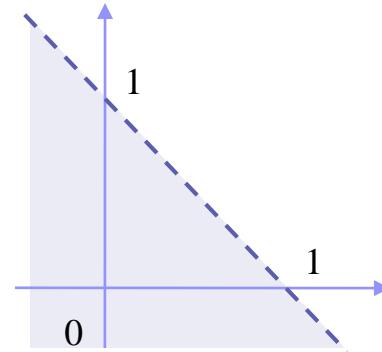
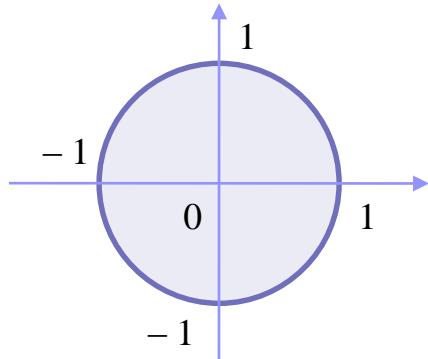
$$\mathcal{D}(R) = \{x \mid (x, y) \in R\},$$

and the **range** of R , designated by $\mathcal{R}(R)$, is

$$\mathcal{R}(R) = \{y \mid (x, y) \in R\}.$$

Examples:

- Let $A = \{a, b, c\}$ and $B = \{x, y\}$. If $R \subseteq A \times B$ and $R = \{(b, y), (c, y)\}$, then $\mathcal{D}(R) = \{b, c\}$ and $\mathcal{R}(R) = \{y\}$.
- Let $R_1, R_2 \subseteq \mathbf{R} \times \mathbf{R}$.
 - $R_1 = \{(x, y) \mid x^2 + y^2 \leq 1\}$, $\mathcal{D}(R_1) = \{x \mid -1 \leq x \leq 1\}$
 - $R_2 = \{(x, y) \mid x + y < 1\}$, $\mathcal{D}(R_2) = \mathbf{R}$



- **Theorem:** Let S and R be two binary relations. Then,

- $\mathcal{D}(R \cup S) = \mathcal{D}(R) \cup \mathcal{D}(S)$
- $\mathcal{R}(R \cup S) = \mathcal{R}(R) \cup \mathcal{R}(S)$
- $\mathcal{D}(R \cap S) \subseteq \mathcal{D}(R) \cap \mathcal{D}(S)$
- $\mathcal{R}(R \cap S) \subseteq \mathcal{R}(R) \cap \mathcal{R}(S)$

- A counter example for $\mathcal{D}(R) \cap \mathcal{D}(S) \subseteq \mathcal{D}(R \cap S)$:

Let $R = \{(x, y)\}$ and $S = \{(x, z)\}$.

Then, $\mathcal{D}(R) = \{x\}$, $\mathcal{D}(S) = \{x\}$, and $\mathcal{D}(R) \cap \mathcal{D}(S) = \{x\}$.

But, $R \cap S = \emptyset$ and so $\mathcal{D}(R \cap S) = \emptyset$.

Therefore, $\mathcal{D}(R) \cap \mathcal{D}(S) \not\subseteq \mathcal{D}(R \cap S)$.

- Note:

- For $R \subseteq A \times B$, the number of relations between sets A and B is

$$|\wp(A \times B)| = 2^{|A \times B|} = 2^{|A| \cdot |B|}.$$

- \emptyset is a relation (the smallest relation).

- The universal relation between sets A and B is $A \times B$.

$$\overline{R} = A \times B - R.$$

Example:

$$A = \{a, b, c\}, \quad B = \{x, y\}, \quad R = \{(b, y), (c, y)\}$$

$$A \times B = \{(a, x), (a, y), (b, x), (b, y), (c, x), (c, y)\}$$

$$|\wp(A \times B)| = 2^{|A \times B|} = 2^{|A| \cdot |B|} = 2^{3 \cdot 2} = 64$$

$$\overline{R} = A \times B - R = \{(a, x), (a, y), (b, x), (c, x)\}$$

■ Definition:

If R is a relation between sets A and B then the **converse** or **inverse** of R , designated by R^c or R^{-1} , is given by the following:

$$R^c = \{(y, x) \mid (x, y) \in R\}.$$

Note that $R^c \subseteq B \times A$.

Example:

If $R = \{(b, y), (c, y)\}$, then $R^c = \{(y, b), (y, c)\}$.

■ **Theorem:** Let R and S be two binary relations. Then,

- $(R^c)^c = R$
- $(R \cup S)^c = R^c \cup S^c$
- $(R \cap S)^c = R^c \cap S^c$
- $(R - S)^c = R^c - S^c$
- $(\bar{R})^c = \overline{\bar{R}^c}$
- $\mathcal{D}(R^c) = \mathcal{R}(R)$
- $\mathcal{R}(R^c) = \mathcal{D}(R)$
- If $R \subseteq S$ then $R^c \subseteq S^c$

Proof of $(\bar{R})^c = \overline{\bar{R}^c}$

$$(\bar{R})^c = (A \times B - R)^c = (A \times B)^c - R^c = B \times A - R^c = \overline{\bar{R}^c}$$

■ Matrix Representation of a Relation

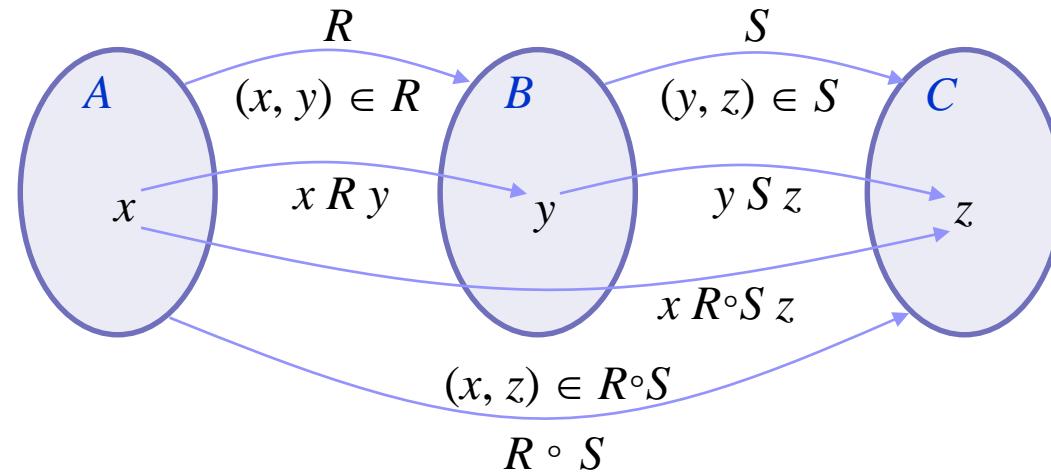
Let $A = \{a, b, c\}$, $B = \{x, y\}$, and $R = \{(a, y), (b, x)\}$. Then the matrix representations of R , \bar{R} , and R^c are the followings:

$$M_R = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 1 \\ 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix} \quad M_{\bar{R}} = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 \\ 1 & 1 \end{bmatrix} \quad M_{R^c} = (M_R)^T = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 1 & 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

■ Definition:

Let A , B , and C be sets. Let R be a relation between A and B , and S be a relation between B and C . Then the **composition** of R and S , denoted by $R \circ S$ or RS , is defined as follows:

$$R \circ S = \{(x, z) \mid (x, y) \in R \text{ and } (y, z) \in S\}.$$

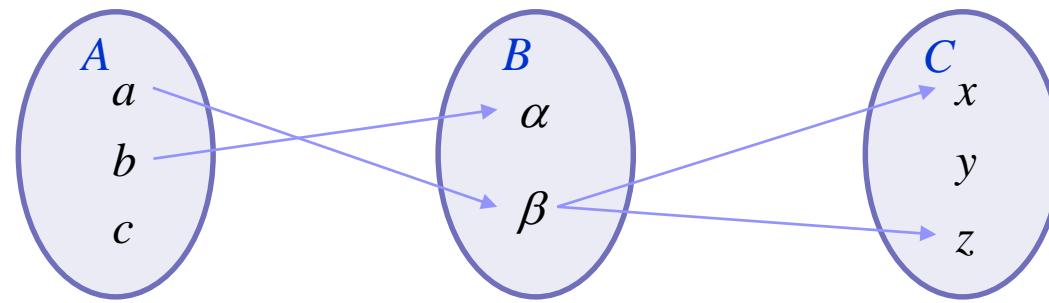


- Note: If $R \subseteq A \times B$ and $S \subseteq B \times C$ then $R \circ S \subseteq A \times C$.

Example:

$$A = \{a, b, c\}, \quad B = \{\alpha, \beta\}, \quad C = \{x, y, z\}$$

$$R = \{(a, \beta), (b, \alpha)\}, \quad S = \{(\beta, x), (\beta, z)\}$$



$$R \circ S = \{(a, x), (a, z)\}$$

- Caution: The composition of relations is **not** commutative.

$$R \circ S \neq S \circ R$$

Example:

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

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

$$S \circ R = \{(1, 2)\}$$

■ Definition:

The **identity relation** on a set A , denoted by E_A ($E_A \subseteq A \times A$), is defined as follows:

$$E_A = \{(a, a) \mid a \in A\}$$

■ Note: For any relation R on a set A ,

$$R \circ E_A = E_A \circ R = R$$

Example:

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

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

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

Example: Matrix representation

$$A = \{a, b, c\}, \quad B = \{\alpha, \beta\}, \quad C = \{x, y, z\}$$

$$R = \{(a, \beta), (b, \alpha)\}, \quad S = \{(\beta, x), (\beta, z)\}$$

$$R \circ S = \{(a, x), (a, z)\}$$

$$M_R = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 1 \\ 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$M_S = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 1 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$M_{E_A} = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$M_{R \circ S} = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix} = M_R \cdot M_S \quad (\text{Note: } + \text{ as } \vee \text{ and } \cdot \text{ as } \wedge)$$

- **Theorem:** Let R , S , and T be three relations. Then,

- $\square (R \circ S) \circ T = R \circ (S \circ T)$
- $\square R \circ (S \cup T) = (R \circ S) \cup (R \circ T)$
- $\square (S \cup T) \circ R = (S \circ R) \cup (T \circ R)$
- $\square R \circ (S \cap T) \subseteq (R \circ S) \cap (R \circ T)$
- $\square (S \cap T) \circ R \subseteq (S \circ R) \cap (T \circ R)$

- A counter example for $(R \circ S) \cap (R \circ T) \subseteq R \circ (S \cap T)$:

Let $R = \{(a, x), (a, y)\}$, $S = \{(x, \alpha)\}$, and $T = \{(y, \alpha)\}$.

Then, $S \cap T = \emptyset$ and so $R \circ (S \cap T) = \emptyset$.

But, $R \circ S = \{(a, \alpha)\}$ and $R \circ T = \{(a, \alpha)\}$.

Therefore, $(R \circ S) \cap (R \circ T) \not\subseteq R \circ (S \cap T)$.

- Notations: If R is a relation on a set A (i.e., $R \subseteq A \times A$),

- $\square R \circ R = R^2$
- $\square R \circ R \circ \dots \circ R = \underbrace{R}_{n}^n$

- Recursive definition of R^n

- $\square R^0 = E$, where E is the identity relation.
- $\square R^{n+1} = R \circ R^n$

- Theorem: Let R be a relation on a set A . Then,

- (i) $R^m \circ R^n = R^{m+n}$ and
- (ii) $(R^m)^n = R^{mn}$ for all $m, n \geq 1$.

Proof of (i) $R^m \circ R^n = R^{m+n}$ (induction on m)

(Basis step) For $m = 1$

$$\text{LHS} = R^1 \circ R^n = R \circ R^n = R^{n+1} = \text{RHS} \text{ (by the recursive def. of } R^n)$$

(Inductive step)

Assume that $R^m \circ R^n = R^{m+n}$. (Inductive Hypothesis).

To prove that $R^{m+1} \circ R^n = R^{m+n+1}$

$$\text{LHS} = (R \circ R^m) \circ R^n \text{ (by the recursive def. of } R^n)$$

$$= R \circ (R^m \circ R^n) \text{ (}\because \circ \text{ is associative)}$$

$$= R \circ R^{m+n} \text{ (by the Inductive Hypothesis)}$$

$$= R^{m+n+1} = \text{RHS} \text{ (by the recursive def. of } R^n)$$

We have shown that

$$R^m \circ R^n = R^{m+n} \rightarrow R^{m+1} \circ R^n = R^{m+n+1}$$

Proof of (i) $R^m \circ R^n = R^{m+n}$ (induction on m)

By this and the basis step, we conclude

$$R^m \circ R^n = R^{m+n} \text{ for all } m, n \geq 1. \quad \square$$

Proof of (ii) $(R^m)^n = R^{mn}$ (induction on n)

(Basis step) For $n = 1$

$$\text{LHS} = (R^m)^1 = R^m = R^{m \cdot 1} = \text{RHS}$$

(Inductive step)

Assume that $(R^m)^n = R^{mn}$. (Inductive Hypothesis).

Proof of (ii) $(R^m)^n = R^{mn}$ (induction on n)

To prove that $(R^m)^{n+1} = R^{m(n+1)}$

LHS = $R^m \circ (R^m)^n$ (by the recursive def. of R^n)

= $R^m \circ R^{mn}$ (by the Inductive Hypothesis)

= R^{m+mn} (by the theorem just proved)

= $R^{m(n+1)}$ = RHS

□

■ Theorem:

Let R be a relation on a finite set A with cardinality n . Then, there exist s and t such that $R^s = R^t$ for $0 \leq s < t \leq 2^{n^2}$.

Example: When $A = \{1, 2, 3\}$, $R = \{(1,2), (2,3), (3,1)\}$

$$R^0 = E_A = \{(1,1), (2,2), (3,3)\}$$

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

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

$$R^3 = R \circ R^2 = \{(1,1), (2,2), (3,3)\} = E_A = R^0$$

$$R^4 = R \circ R^3 = R \circ R^0 = R \circ E_A = R = R^1$$

$$R^5 = R \circ R^4 = R \circ R^1 = R \circ R = R^2$$

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Proof:

From $R \subseteq A \times A$ we can see that the number of distinct relations on A is $|\wp(A \times A)| = 2^{|A \times A|} = 2^{n^2}$.

Consider the sequence $R^0, R^1, R^2, \dots, R^{2^{n^2}}$.

There are $2^{n^2} + 1$ relations in this sequence but there are only 2^{n^2} distinct relations on A .

Hence, there must exist s and t such that $s \neq t$ and $0 \leq s < t \leq 2^{n^2}$ and $R^s = R^t$. \square

- **Theorem:** Let A be a finite set with cardinality n . Let R be a relation on A such that $R^s = R^t$ with $s < t$. Let $p = t - s$. Then,

- (1) $R^{s+i} = R^{t+i}$, $i \geq 0$.
- (2) $R^{s+pk+i} = R^{s+i}$, for all k , $i \geq 0$.
- (3) If $S = \{R^0, R^1, R^2, \dots, R^{t-1}\}$ then $R^q \in S$, for any $q \geq 0$.

Proof of (1)

(Basis step) For $i = 0$

$R^s = R^t$ is given.

(Inductive step)

Assume $R^{s+i} = R^{t+i}$. (Inductive Hypothesis)

Proof of (1)

To prove that $R^{s+i+1} = R^{t+i+1}$.

$$\begin{aligned}\text{LHS} &= R \circ R^{s+i} \quad (\text{by the recursive def. of } R^n) \\ &= R \circ R^{t+i} \quad (\text{by the Inductive Hypothesis}) \\ &= R^{t+i+1} \quad (\text{by the recursive def. of } R^n) \\ &= \text{RHS}\end{aligned}$$

□