

## Background

**Definition.** Let  $R$  be a relation from a set  $A$  to a set  $B$ . Define the relation  $R^{-1}$  from  $B$  to  $A$  by setting

$$y R^{-1} x \Leftrightarrow x R y$$

for each  $y \in B$  and each  $x \in A$ .

**Definition.** A positive integer is *prime* if it has exactly two positive divisors.

1. Let  $A = \{1, 2, \dots, 10\}$  and  $B = \{2, 4, 6, 8, 10, 12, 14\}$ . Define a relation  $R$  from  $A$  to  $B$  by setting

$$x R y \Leftrightarrow x \text{ is prime and } x | y$$

for each  $x \in A$  and each  $y \in B$ . Write down the sets  $R$  and  $R^{-1}$  in roster notation. Do not use ellipses (...) in your answers.

$$R = \{(2, 2), (2, 4), (2, 6), (2, 8), (2, 10), (2, 12), (2, 14), (3, 6), (3, 12), (5, 10), (7, 14)\}$$

$$R^{-1} = \{(2, 2), (2, 4), (2, 6), (2, 8), (2, 10)\}, \{(3, 2), (3, 6), (6, 2), (6, 12), (10, 2), (12, 2), (14, 2), (6, 3), (12, 3), (10, 5)\}$$

$$y R^{-1} x \Leftrightarrow x R y$$

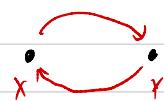
2. Let  $R$  be a relation on a set  $A$ . Show that the following are equivalent.

(i)  $R$  is symmetric, i.e.,  $\forall x, y \in A$  ( $x R y \Rightarrow y R x$ ).

(ii)  $\forall x, y \in A$  ( $x R y \Leftrightarrow y R x$ ).

(iii)  $R = R^{-1}$ .

2. i)  $S_1 : \forall x, y \in A (x R y \Rightarrow y R x)$



ii)  $S_2 : \forall x, y \in A (x R y \Leftrightarrow y R x)$

iii)  $S_3 : R = R^{-1} \Rightarrow x R y \Leftrightarrow y R x$

1. For every statement, every statement is related to itself.

Hence the relationship between  $S_1, S_2$  and  $S_3$  is reflexive.

2.  $S_1 = S_2$ , since  $x R y \Leftrightarrow y R x \Rightarrow x R y \Rightarrow y R x \wedge y R x \Rightarrow x R y$

and  $x R y \Rightarrow y R x$  is same by the definition of symmetry.

$S_2 = S_3$ , since  $x R y \Leftrightarrow y R x$  is same as  $x R y \Leftrightarrow y R x$ .

$S_1 = S_2$ , by transitivity.

Thus, the relation between  $S_1, S_2$  and  $S_3$  are symmetric.

3. Since  $S_1 = S_2$  and  $S_2 = S_3$  and  $S_1 = S_2$ ,

thus the relations between  $S_1, S_2$  and  $S_3$  are transitive.

4. Thus, by definition of equivalence,  $S_1, S_2$  and  $S_3$  are equivalent.

### Definition: Divisibility

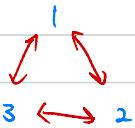
If  $n$  and  $d$  are integers and  $d \neq 0$ , then

$n$  is **divisible** by  $d$  iff  $n$  equals  $d$  times some integer.

We use the notation  $d | n$  to mean " $d$  divides  $n$ ". Symbolically, if  $n, d \in \mathbb{Z}$  and  $d \neq 0$ :

$$d | n \Leftrightarrow \exists k \in \mathbb{Z} \text{ such that } n = dk.$$

$$dk = n, k \text{ is some integer.}$$



Similarly prove  $1 \rightarrow 3, 3 \rightarrow 2, 2 \rightarrow 1$

1. (i)  $\Rightarrow$  (ii)

i.1 Suppose  $R$  is symmetric

i.2 Let  $x, y \in A$ .

i.3 ( $\Rightarrow$ ) Thus  $x R y \Rightarrow y R x$  as  $R$  is symmetric.

i.4 ( $\Leftarrow$ ) Similarly  $y R x \Rightarrow x R y$  as  $R$  is symmetric.

i.5  $S_2 : x R y \Leftrightarrow y R x$  by 13 and 14.

2. (ii)  $\Rightarrow$  (iii)

2.1 Assume  $\forall x, y \in A (x R y \Leftrightarrow y R x)$

2.2  $R^{-1}$  is  $y R^{-1} x \Leftrightarrow x R y$ , for all  $x, y \in A$ .

$$\begin{aligned} & \left. \begin{aligned} & \text{P.C.} \\ & \text{note: need to} \\ & \text{prove the} \\ & \text{other way} \\ & \text{also.} \end{aligned} \right\} R^{-1} \subseteq R \\ & \left. \begin{aligned} & 2.2.1 (x, y) \in R \Leftrightarrow x R y \text{ by defn. of } x R y \\ & 2.2.2 \text{ so } y R x \text{ by 2.1} \\ & 2.2.3 \text{ so } x R y \text{ by defn. of } R^{-1} \\ & 2.2.4 \text{ so } (x, y) \in R^{-1} \text{ by 2.2 of } x R^{-1} y \\ & 2.3 \text{ This shows } R \supseteq R^{-1} \end{aligned} \right\} R^{-1} \subseteq R \end{aligned}$$

3. (iii)  $\Rightarrow$  (i)

3.1 Suppose  $R = R^{-1}$

3.2 3.2.1 Let  $x, y \in A$  s.t.  $x R y$

3.2.2 Then  $x R^{-1} y$  as  $R = R^{-1}$ .

3.2.3 So  $y R x$ . by defn of  $R^{-1}$

3.2.4  $\therefore R$  is symmetric

3. For each of the relations defined below, determine whether it is (i) reflexive, (ii) symmetric, (iii) transitive, and (iv) an equivalence relation.

(a) Define  $A = \{1, 2, 3\}$  and  $Q = \{(1, 1), (1, 2), (1, 3), (2, 2), (2, 3), (3, 3)\}$ . Consider  $Q$  as a relation on  $A$ .

(b) Define the relation  $R$  on  $\mathbb{Q}$  by setting, for all  $x, y \in \mathbb{Q}$ ,

$$x R y \Leftrightarrow xy \geq 0.$$

(c) Define the relation  $S$  on  $\mathbb{Q}$  by setting, for all  $x, y \in \mathbb{Q}$ ,

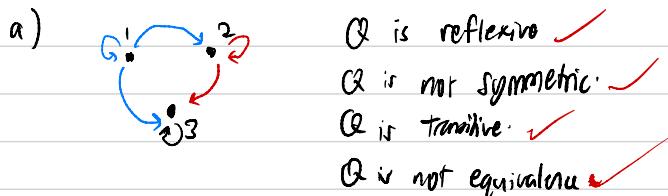
$$x S y \Leftrightarrow xy > 0.$$

(d) Define the relation  $T$  on  $\mathbb{Z}$  by setting, for all  $x, y \in \mathbb{Z}$ ,

$$x T y \Leftrightarrow -2 \leq x - y \leq 2.$$

Note that

$$0 \in \mathbb{Q}.$$



$$\begin{matrix} 1 \rightarrow 2 \\ 2 \rightarrow 3 \\ 1 \rightarrow 3 \end{matrix}$$

b) i)  $R$  is reflexive iff the following statement is true,  
 $\forall x \in Q, x Rx$ .

This is the same as saying,

$$\forall x \in Q, x \cdot x \geq 0$$

This is true for  $x < 0$ ,  $x > 0$  and  $x = 0$ ,

Thus  $R$  is reflexive

ii)  $R$  is symmetric iff the following is true,

$$\forall x, y \in Q, \text{ if } x R y \text{ then } y R x.$$

This is the same as,

$$\forall x, y \in Q, \text{ if } xy \geq 0 \text{ then } yx \geq 0.$$

This is true as the value of  $xy$  and  $yx$  is the same by commutative law.

iii)  $R$  is transitive iff the following is true,

$$\forall x, y, z \in Q, \text{ if } x R y, y R z, \text{ then } x R z.$$

This is same as,

$$\forall x, y, z \in Q, \text{ if } xy \geq 0, yz \geq 0, \text{ then } xz \geq 0.$$

This is false

Counter-example:  $x > 0$ ,  $y = 0$ ,  $z < 0$ , then  $xy \geq 0$ ,  $yz \geq 0$  but

$$xz < 0 \neq xz \geq 0$$

iv) Since  $R$  is not transitive,  $R$  is not an equivalence relation.

3. (c) Define the relation  $S$  on  $\mathbb{Q}$  by setting, for all  $x, y \in \mathbb{Q}$ ,

$$x S y \Leftrightarrow xy > 0.$$

(d) Define the relation  $T$  on  $\mathbb{Z}$  by setting, for all  $x, y \in \mathbb{Z}$ ,

$$x T y \Leftrightarrow -2 \leq x - y \leq 2.$$

c) i)  $S$  is reflexive iff the following statement is true,  
 $\forall x \in \mathbb{Q}, x S x$ .

This is the same as saying,

$$\forall x \in \mathbb{Q}, x - x > 0$$

This is false when  $x = 0$ .

Thus  $S$  is not reflexive.

ii)  $S$  is symmetric iff the following is true,

$$\forall x, y \in \mathbb{Q}, \text{ if } x S y \text{ then } y S x.$$

This is the same as,

$$\forall x, y \in \mathbb{Q}, \text{ if } xy > 0 \text{ then } yx > 0$$

This is true as the value of  $xy$  and  $yx$  is the same by commutative law.

iii)  $S$  is transitive iff the following is true,

$$\forall x, y, z \in \mathbb{Q}, \text{ if } x S y, y S z, \text{ then } x S z.$$

This is same as,

$$\forall x, y, z \in \mathbb{Q}, \text{ if } xy > 0, yz > 0, \text{ then } xz > 0.$$

This is true. When  $x > 0, y > 0, xy > 0$  and  $z > 0, yz > 0$ , then  $xz > 0$ .

When  $x < 0, y < 0, xy > 0$  and  $z < 0, yz > 0$ , then  $xz > 0$ .

iv) Since  $S$  is not reflexive,  $S$  is not an equivalence relation.

d) i)  $-2 \leq x - x \leq 2$   
 $-2 \leq 0 \leq 2$  is true.  
 Thus  $S$  is reflexive.

ii)  $-2 \leq x - y \leq 2, -2 \leq y - x \leq 2$ .

True as the difference is the same but only the sign change.

Since  $|x-y| = |y-x|$  but

if  $x-y > 0, y-x < 0$

and if  $x-y < 0, y-x > 0$ .

ii) If  $-2 \leq x-y \leq 2, -2 \leq y-z \leq 2$ ,

then  $-2 \leq x-z \leq 2$

False. Counter:  $x = 6, y = 4, z = 2$ .

Then  $x-y = 2$

$y-z = 2$

$x-z = 4 > 2$

iii) Since  $T$  is not transitive,

$T$  is not a equivalence relation.

4. (2020/21 Semester 1 exam question 18) Define an equivalence relation  $\sim$  on  $\mathbb{Z}^+ \times \mathbb{Z}^+$  by setting, for all  $a, b, c, d \in \mathbb{Z}^+$ ,

$$(a, b) \sim (c, d) \Leftrightarrow ab = cd.$$

*↙ call the elements inside A that are related to*

Write down the equivalence classes  $[(1, 1)]$  and  $[(4, 3)]$  in roster notation.

*set of all non-empty subsets of  $\mathbb{Z}^+ \times \mathbb{Z}^+$  where  $ab=cd$ .*

$$[(1, 1)] = \{ (a, b) \in (\mathbb{Z}^+ \times \mathbb{Z}^+) \mid (a, b) \sim (1, 1) \} \\ = \{ (1, 1) \}$$

$$[(4, 3)] = \{ (a, b) \in (\mathbb{Z}^+ \times \mathbb{Z}^+) \mid (a, b) \sim (4, 3) \} \\ = \{ (4, 3), (3, 4), (2, 6), (6, 2), (1, 12), (12, 1) \}$$

5. Define a relation  $R$  on  $\mathbb{Q}$  as follows: for all  $x, y \in \mathbb{Q}$ ,

$$x R y \Leftrightarrow x - y \in \mathbb{Z}.$$

- (a) Show that  $R$  is an equivalence relation.  
(b) Find an element  $a$  in the equivalence class  $[\frac{37}{7}]$  that satisfies  $0 \leq a < 1$ .  
(c) Devise a general method to find, for each given equivalence class  $[x]$ , where  $x \in \mathbb{Q}$ , an element  $a \in [x]$  such that  $0 \leq a < 1$ . Justify your answer.

a)  $R$  is reflexive iff the following statement is true,  
 $\forall x \in \mathbb{Q}, x R x$ .

This is the same as saying,

$$\forall x \in \mathbb{Q}, x - x \in \mathbb{Z}.$$

This is true since  $x - x = 0 \in \mathbb{Z}$ .

Thus  $R$  is reflexive.

$R$  is symmetric iff the following is true,

$$\forall x, y \in \mathbb{Q}, \text{ if } x R y \text{ then } y R x.$$

This is the same as,

$$\forall x, y \in \mathbb{Q}, \text{ if } x - y \in \mathbb{Z} \text{ then } y - x \in \mathbb{Z}. \quad (\text{by closure of integer under multiplication})$$

This is true if the difference between  $x$  and  $y$  is an integer, then difference between  $y$  and  $x$  is also an integer.

$R$  is transitive iff the following is true,

$$\forall x, y, z \in \mathbb{Q}, \text{ if } x R y, y R z, \text{ then } x R z.$$

This is same as,

$$\forall x, y, z \in \mathbb{Q}, \text{ if } x - y \in \mathbb{Z}, y - z \in \mathbb{Z}, \text{ then } x - z \in \mathbb{Z}.$$

This is true if  $|x - y| \in \mathbb{Z}$  and  $|y - z| \in \mathbb{Z}$ ,

then  $|x - z| \in \mathbb{Z}$  by closure of integer under addition

$$x - y = a \wedge y - z = b$$

$$(x - y) + (y - z) = a + b$$

$$x - z = a + b \in \mathbb{Z}$$

(by closure  
under addition)

Since  $R$  reflexive, symmetric and transitive,  $R$  is a equivalence relation.

5. Define a relation  $R$  on  $\mathbb{Q}$  as follows: for all  $x, y \in \mathbb{Q}$ ,

$$x R y \Leftrightarrow x - y \in \mathbb{Z}.$$

- (a) Show that  $R$  is an equivalence relation.
- (b) Find an element  $a$  in the equivalence class  $[\frac{37}{7}]$  that satisfies  $0 \leq a < 1$ .
- (c) Devise a general method to find, for each given equivalence class  $[x]$ , where  $x \in \mathbb{Q}$ , an element  $a \in [x]$  such that  $0 \leq a < 1$ . Justify your answer.

*all elements that are related to  $\frac{37}{7}$  are  $\frac{37}{7} - 1, \frac{37}{7}, \frac{37}{7} + 1, \dots$*

b)  $[\frac{37}{7}] = \{a \in \mathbb{Q} \mid a - \frac{37}{7} \in \mathbb{Z}\}$

$$\therefore a - \frac{37}{7} \in \mathbb{Z}$$

$$a = \frac{37}{7} + k$$

$$0 \leq a = \frac{37}{7} + k$$

c)  $[x] = \{a \in \mathbb{Q} \mid a - x \in \mathbb{Z}\}$

let  $a = x - \lfloor x \rfloor$ .

In order for  $0 \leq a < 1$ ,  $a$  need to make up the difference between  $\lfloor x \rfloor$  and  $x$  for  $a - x \in \mathbb{Z}$ .

Thus, the only viable solution is  $x - \lfloor x \rfloor$ .

Using the definition

1. Input:  $x \in \mathbb{Q}$

2. Use algo of  $\mathbb{Q}$ . Find  $m, n \in \mathbb{Z}$  s.t.  $x = \frac{m}{n}$  and  $n \neq 0$ .

3. Replace  $m, n$  with  $-m, -n$  if needed,  $m \neq 0, n \neq 0$ .

4. Use division theorem, for  $q, r \in \mathbb{Z}$  s.t.  $m = qr$  s.t.  $0 \leq r < n$ .

5. Output =  $\frac{r}{n}$ .

\* Note  $0 \leq a < 1$

\* Also  $x = \underline{m} - \frac{r}{n} = \frac{\cancel{m}r}{\cancel{n}} = \frac{nr}{n} = q + \frac{r}{n}$  as  $m = qr$

You may use the following theorem without proof for this question.

**Division Theorem.** For all  $n \in \mathbb{Z}$  and  $d \in \mathbb{Z}^+$ , there exist unique  $q, r \in \mathbb{Z}$  such that

$$n = dq + r \quad \text{and} \quad 0 \leq r < d.$$

6. Fix  $m, n \in \mathbb{Z}^+$ . Let  $\sim_m$  and  $\sim_n$  denote respectively the congruence-mod- $m$  and the congruence-mod- $n$  relations on  $\mathbb{Z}$ . Prove that  $[x]_{\sim_m} \subseteq [y]_{\sim_n}$  for some  $x, y \in \mathbb{Z}$  if and only if  $n \mid m$ .

(Hint: Example 6.4.3 may be helpful.)

$$m, n \in \mathbb{Z}^+$$

$$a \sim_m b \Leftrightarrow m \mid (a-b) \Leftrightarrow a \equiv b \pmod{m}$$

$$a \sim_n b \Leftrightarrow n \mid (a-b) \Leftrightarrow a \equiv b \pmod{n}$$

prove  $[x]_{\sim_m} \subseteq [y]_{\sim_n}$ ,  $x, y \in \mathbb{Z}$  if  $n \mid m \Leftrightarrow m = nk, k \in \mathbb{Z}$  ( $n$  is smaller than  $m$ )

elements in  $[x]$  are  $m$  apart

$$[x]_{\sim_m} = \{a \in \mathbb{Z} \mid m \mid (a-x)\} = \{a \in \mathbb{Z} \mid a-x = mk, k \in \mathbb{Z}\}$$

$$[y]_{\sim_n} = \{b \in \mathbb{Z} \mid n \mid (b-y)\} = \{b \in \mathbb{Z} \mid b-y = nk, k \in \mathbb{Z}\}$$

elements in  $[y]$  are  $n$  apart

( $m$  is a multiple of  $n$ )

(The smaller the mod, the more elements in the set).

1. " $\subseteq$ "

1.1 Suppose  $n \mid m$

$$\text{then } [x]_{\sim_m} = \{a \in \mathbb{Z} \mid a-x = (nk)k, k \in \mathbb{Z}\}$$

$$\text{and } [y]_{\sim_n} = \{b \in \mathbb{Z} \mid b-y = nk, k \in \mathbb{Z}\}.$$

1.2 Use the defn of divisibility to find  $a \in \mathbb{Z}$  s.t.  $m = an$

$$\therefore [x]_{\sim_m} = \{a \in \mathbb{Z} \mid a-x = nk, k \in \mathbb{Z}\}.$$

$$= \{a+nk = nk + 0 : k \in \mathbb{Z}\} \text{ by cancellation}$$

$\subseteq \{nk + 0 : k \in \mathbb{Z}\} \cap \mathbb{Z}$  is closed under  $x$ :

$$\therefore [x]_{\sim_m} \subseteq [y]_{\sim_n} \text{ by example 6.4.3.}$$

$$[y]_{\sim_n} = \{b \in \mathbb{Z} \mid b-y = nk, k \in \mathbb{Z}\}.$$

$a-x = b-y$  for  $k = kn$ .

$$[x]_{\sim_m} = [y]_{\sim_n} \text{ for } k_m = 1$$

2. " $\supseteq$ "

2.1 Suppose  $x, y \in \mathbb{Z}$  s.t.  $[x]_{\sim_m} \subseteq [y]_{\sim_n}$

2.2 Then example 6.4.3,  $\{a \in \mathbb{Z} \mid a-x = nk\} \subseteq \{a \in \mathbb{Z} \mid a-y = nl\}$

2.3. Find  $k, l \in \mathbb{Z}$  s.t.  $x = m - nk = n(l + y) \Rightarrow x + m = m + nk = n(l + y) = nl + ny$ .

2.4. Then  $m = (x+m) - x = (nl + ny) - (nk + ny) = n(l - k)$ .

2.5. As  $l, k \in \mathbb{Z}$ , we know  $l - k \in \mathbb{Z}$ .  $\mathbb{Z}$  close under  $-$

2.6. So  $n \mid m$  by definition of divisibility.

Set of  $[x]_{\sim_m}$  is smaller than

Set of  $[y]_{\sim_n}$  i.e.  $k_m \neq 1$

$$\text{for example, } \{a \in \mathbb{Z} \mid a-x = n \cdot k_m\} \supseteq \{a \in \mathbb{Z} \mid a-y = nk\}.$$

but  $[x]_{\sim_m}$  need to satisfy more condition than  $[y]_{\sim_n}$ ,

hence  $[x]_{\sim_m} \supseteq [y]_{\sim_n}$  cannot be true, by contradiction, statement is true.

$$\text{if } [x]_{\sim_m} = \{a \in \mathbb{Z} \mid a-x = nk\}$$

$$\subseteq [y]_{\sim_n} = \{a \in \mathbb{Z} \mid a-y = nk\}.$$

Then  $m = nk$ .

Suppose  $p$  is true, then  $q$  is true.



*Circles with all subset of A every element of A must be  
that you can copy in one element of C*

7. Let  $\mathcal{C}$  be a partition of a set  $A$ . Denote by  $\sim$  the same-component relation with respect to  $\mathcal{C}$ , i.e., for all  $x, y \in A$ ,

$$x \sim y \Leftrightarrow \begin{array}{l} x \text{ is in the same component of } \mathcal{C} \text{ as } y \\ \Leftrightarrow \underline{x, y \in S \text{ for some } S \in \mathcal{C}}. \end{array}$$

Recall from Proposition 6.2.16 that  $\sim$  is an equivalence relation on  $A$ .

(a) Prove that if  $x \in S \in \mathcal{C}$ , then  $[x] = S$ .

(b) Prove that  $A/\sim = \mathcal{C}$ .

*↳ set of all equivalence  
classes of elements in A.*

*If take a group  
that all things that are related  
to an element is the group then it is in*

$$\text{a)} \quad x \in S \in \mathcal{C} \rightarrow [x] = S$$

Suppose  $x \notin S \in \mathcal{C} \Rightarrow \exists x \in S$ .

$$\text{and } [x] = \{a \in A \mid a \sim x\}$$

$\therefore a$  is in some component as  $x$ .  
 $a, x \in S$  for some  $S \in \mathcal{C}$ .

$\therefore$  By definition,

$x \notin S \in \mathcal{C}$  cannot be true.

$\therefore$  By contradiction,  $x \in S \in \mathcal{C}$  must be true  
for  $[x] = S$ .

$$\text{a)} \quad \begin{array}{l} 1. \text{ Let } x \in S \in \mathcal{C} \\ 2. "2" \text{ If } y \in S, \text{ then} \end{array}$$

*2.1  $x \sim y$  by defn of  $\sim$  as  $x, y \in S \in \mathcal{C}$*

*2.2  $\exists z \in [x]$  by defn of  $[x]$ . (any  $y$  is related to  $x$ )*

*3. "3"*

*3.1 Let  $y \in [x]$*

*3.2 Then  $x \sim y$  by defn of  $[x]$ .  $\rightarrow$  to show that  
in some group =  $S$*

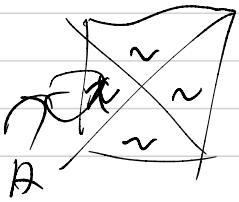
*3.3 Use defn of  $\sim$  to find  $\hat{S} \in \mathcal{C}$  such that  $x, y \in \hat{S}$*

*3.4 Since  $x \in S \cap \hat{S}$ , we deduce that  $S = \hat{S}$  as  $S, \hat{S}$  are components in partition  $\mathcal{C}$ .*

*3.5 Then  $y \in \hat{S} = S$*

*4. Thus  $[x] = S$ .*

$$\therefore A/\sim = \mathcal{C}$$



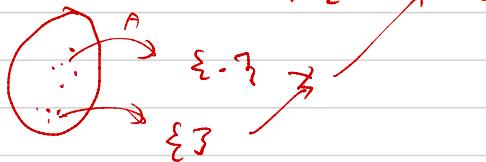
$A/\sim : x \sim y : x$  is not in the same component of  $\mathcal{C}$  as  $y$ ,  
 $x, y \in S$  for some  $S \in \mathcal{C}$ .

$\therefore$  Set  $A$  w/o  $x \sim y$  is still the partition of set  $A$ .

$A/\sim =$  quotient of  $A$  by  $\sim$ .

$\Rightarrow$  Set of all the equivalence class of  $A$ .

$$= \Sigma \quad \exists$$



*Saying say thing as first quo.*

$\Rightarrow$  All equivalence class form the entire partition

# CS1231S Tutorial 4: Equivalence relations

## Solutions

National University of Singapore

2021/22 Semester 1

- Let  $A = \{1, 2, \dots, 10\}$  and  $B = \{2, 4, 6, 8, 10, 12, 14\}$ . Define a relation  $R$  from  $A$  to  $B$  by setting

$$x R y \Leftrightarrow x \text{ is prime and } x | y$$

for each  $x \in A$  and each  $y \in B$ . Write down the sets  $R$  and  $R^{-1}$  in roster notation. Do not use ellipses ( $\dots$ ) in your answers.

*Solution.*

$$\begin{aligned} R &= \{(2, 2), (2, 4), (2, 6), (2, 8), (2, 10), (2, 12), (2, 14), (3, 6), (3, 12), (5, 10), (7, 14)\}. \\ R^{-1} &= \{(2, 2), (4, 2), (6, 2), (8, 2), (10, 2), (12, 2), (14, 2), (6, 3), (12, 3), (10, 5), (14, 7)\}. \end{aligned}$$

- Let  $R$  be a relation on a set  $A$ . Show that the following are equivalent.

- (i)  $R$  is symmetric, i.e.,  $\forall x, y \in A (x R y \Rightarrow y R x)$ .
- (ii)  $\forall x, y \in A (x R y \Leftrightarrow y R x)$ .
- (iii)  $R = R^{-1}$ .

*Solution.*

- ((i)  $\Rightarrow$  (ii))
  - Suppose  $R$  is symmetric.
  - Let  $x, y \in A$ .
  - ( $\Rightarrow$ ) If  $x R y$ , then  $y R x$  by the symmetry of  $R$ .
  - ( $\Leftarrow$ ) If  $y R x$ , then  $x R y$  by the symmetry of  $R$ .
  - Combining the two, we have  $x R y \Leftrightarrow y R x$ , as required.
- ((ii)  $\Rightarrow$  (iii))
  - Assume  $\forall x, y \in A (x R y \Leftrightarrow y R x)$ .
  - Then for all  $x, y$ ,
    - $(x, y) \in R \Leftrightarrow x R y$  by the definition of  $x R y$ ;
    - $\Leftrightarrow y R x$  by our assumption on line 2.1;
    - $\Leftrightarrow x R^{-1} y$  by the definition of  $R^{-1}$ ;
    - $\Leftrightarrow (x, y) \in R^{-1}$  by the definition of  $x R^{-1} y$ .
  - This shows  $R = R^{-1}$ .
- ((iii)  $\Rightarrow$  (i))
  - Suppose  $R = R^{-1}$ .
  - Let  $x, y \in A$  such that  $x R y$ .
  - Then  $x R^{-1} y$  as  $R = R^{-1}$ .
  - $\therefore y R x$  by the definition of  $R^{-1}$ .
  - So  $R$  is symmetric.  $\square$

3. For each of the relations defined below, determine whether it is (i) reflexive, (ii) symmetric, (iii) transitive, and (iv) an equivalence relation.

(a) Define  $A = \{1, 2, 3\}$  and  $Q = \{(1, 1), (1, 2), (1, 3), (2, 2), (2, 3), (3, 3)\}$ . Consider  $Q$  as a relation on  $A$ .

(b) Define the relation  $R$  on  $\mathbb{Q}$  by setting, for all  $x, y \in \mathbb{Q}$ ,

$$x R y \Leftrightarrow xy \geq 0.$$

(c) Define the relation  $S$  on  $\mathbb{Q}$  by setting, for all  $x, y \in \mathbb{Q}$ ,

$$x S y \Leftrightarrow xy > 0.$$

(d) Define the relation  $T$  on  $\mathbb{Z}$  by setting, for all  $x, y \in \mathbb{Z}$ ,

$$x S y \Leftrightarrow -2 \leq x - y \leq 2.$$

*Solution.*

(a)  $Q$  is reflexive and transitive. It is not symmetric because  $1 Q 2$  but  $2 \not Q 1$ .

(b)  $R$  is reflexive and symmetric. It is not transitive because  $1 R 0$  and  $0 R -1$  but  $1 \not R -1$ . Since it is not transitive, it is not an equivalence relation.

(c)  $S$  is symmetric and transitive. It is not reflexive because  $0 \not S 0$ . Since it is not reflexive, it is not an equivalence relation.

(d)  $T$  is reflexive and symmetric. It is not transitive because  $-2 T 0$  and  $0 T 2$  but  $-2 \not T 2$ . Since it is not transitive, it is not an equivalence relation.

4. (2020/21 Semester 1 exam question 18) Define an equivalence relation  $\sim$  on  $\mathbb{Z}^+ \times \mathbb{Z}^+$  by setting, for all  $a, b, c, d \in \mathbb{Z}^+$ ,

$$(a, b) \sim (c, d) \Leftrightarrow ab = cd.$$

Write down the equivalence classes  $[(1, 1)]$  and  $[(4, 3)]$  in roster notation.

*Solution.* (No working is required for this question.)

$$\begin{aligned} [(1, 1)] &= \{(a, b) \in \mathbb{Z}^+ \times \mathbb{Z}^+ : (1, 1) \sim (a, b)\} \\ &= \{(a, b) \in \mathbb{Z}^+ \times \mathbb{Z}^+ : ab = 1 \times 1 = 1\} \\ &= \{(1, 1)\}. \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} [(4, 3)] &= \{(a, b) \in \mathbb{Z}^+ \times \mathbb{Z}^+ : (4, 3) \sim (a, b)\} \\ &= \{(a, b) \in \mathbb{Z}^+ \times \mathbb{Z}^+ : ab = 4 \times 3 = 12\} \\ &= \{(1, 12), (2, 6), (3, 4), (4, 3), (6, 2), (12, 1)\}. \end{aligned}$$

5. Define a relation  $R$  on  $\mathbb{Q}$  as follows: for all  $x, y \in \mathbb{Q}$ ,

$$x R y \Leftrightarrow x - y \in \mathbb{Z}.$$

(a) Show that  $R$  is an equivalence relation.

(b) Find an element  $a$  in the equivalence class  $[\frac{37}{7}]$  that satisfies  $0 \leq a < 1$ .

(c) Devise a general method to find, for each given equivalence class  $[x]$ , where  $x \in \mathbb{Q}$ , an element  $a \in [x]$  such that  $0 \leq a < 1$ . Justify your answer.

*Solution.*

(a) 1. (“Reflexivity”)

- 1.1. Let  $x \in \mathbb{Q}$ .
  - 1.2. Then  $x - x = 0 \in \mathbb{Z}$ .
  - 1.3. So  $x R x$ .
  2. (“Symmetry”)
    - 2.1. Let  $x, y \in \mathbb{Q}$  such that  $x R y$ .
    - 2.2. Then  $x - y \in \mathbb{Z}$  by the definition of  $R$ .
    - 2.3. So  $y - x = (-1)(x - y) \in \mathbb{Z}$  as  $\mathbb{Z}$  is closed under multiplication.
    - 2.4. This implies  $y R x$  by the definition of  $R$ .
  3. (“Transitivity”)
    - 3.1. Let  $x, y, z \in \mathbb{Q}$  such that  $x R y$  and  $y R z$ .
    - 3.2. Then  $x - y \in \mathbb{Z}$  and  $y - z \in \mathbb{Z}$  by the definition of  $R$ .
    - 3.3. So  $x - z = (x - y) + (y - z) \in \mathbb{Z}$  as  $\mathbb{Z}$  is closed under addition.
    - 3.4. This implies  $x R z$  by the definition of  $R$ .
  4. Since  $R$  is reflexive, symmetric and transitive, it is an equivalence relation.  $\square$
- (b) Note that  $\frac{37}{7} = 5\frac{2}{7}$ . Thus  $\frac{37}{7} - \frac{2}{7} = 5 \in \mathbb{Z}$ . This implies  $\frac{37}{7} R \frac{2}{7}$  and hence  $\frac{2}{7} \in [\frac{37}{7}]$ .
- (c) Let  $x \in \mathbb{Q}$ . Take  $m \in \mathbb{Z}$  and  $n \in \mathbb{Z} \setminus \{0\}$  such that  $x = m/n$ . Replacing  $m, n$  with  $-m, -n$  if needed, we may assume  $n > 0$ . Apply the Division Theorem to find  $q, r \in \mathbb{Z}$  such that

$$m = nq + r \quad \text{and} \quad 0 \leq r < n.$$

Define  $a = r/n$ . Then we know  $0 \leq a < 1$  because  $0 \leq r < n$ . In addition,

$$x - a = \frac{m}{n} - \frac{r}{n} = \frac{m - r}{n} = \frac{nq}{n} = q \in \mathbb{Z}$$

by the choice of  $q$  and  $r$ . Thus  $x R a$  and so  $a \in [x]$ .

6. Fix  $m, n \in \mathbb{Z}^+$ . Let  $\sim_m$  and  $\sim_n$  denote respectively the congruence-mod- $m$  and the congruence-mod- $n$  relations on  $\mathbb{Z}$ . Prove that  $[x]_{\sim_m} \subseteq [y]_{\sim_n}$  for some  $x, y \in \mathbb{Z}$  if and only if  $n \mid m$ .

*Solution.*

1. (“If”)
  - 1.1. Suppose  $n \mid m$ .
  - 1.2. Use the definition of divisibility to find  $a \in \mathbb{Z}$  such that  $m = an$ .
  - 1.3. Then  $[0]_{\sim_m} = \{mk + 0 : k \in \mathbb{Z}\}$  by Example 6.4.3;
  - 1.4.  $= \{(an)k + 0 : k \in \mathbb{Z}\}$  by the choice of  $a$ ;
  - 1.5.  $\subseteq \{n\ell + 0 : \ell \in \mathbb{Z}\}$  as  $\mathbb{Z}$  is closed under multiplication;
  - 1.6.  $= [0]_{\sim_n}$  by Example 6.4.3.
2. (“Only if”)
  - 2.1. Suppose  $x, y \in \mathbb{Z}$  such that  $[x]_{\sim_m} \subseteq [y]_{\sim_n}$ .
  - 2.2. Then Example 6.4.3 tells us  $\{mk + x : k \in \mathbb{Z}\} \subseteq \{n\ell + y : \ell \in \mathbb{Z}\}$ .
  - 2.3. Find  $\ell_1, \ell_2 \in \mathbb{Z}$  such that  $x = m \cdot 0 + x = n\ell_1 + y$  and  $x + m = m \cdot 1 + x = n\ell_2 + y$ .
  - 2.4. Then  $m = (x + m) - x = (n\ell_2 + y) - (n\ell_1 + y) = n(\ell_2 - \ell_1)$ .
  - 2.5. As  $\ell_1, \ell_2 \in \mathbb{Z}$ , we know  $\ell_2 - \ell_1 \in \mathbb{Z}$  because  $\mathbb{Z}$  is closed under subtraction.
  - 2.6. So  $n \mid m$  by the definition of divisibility.  $\square$
7. Let  $\mathcal{C}$  be a partition of a set  $A$ . Denote by  $\sim$  the same-component relation with respect to  $\mathcal{C}$ , i.e., for all  $x, y \in A$ ,

$$\begin{aligned} x \sim y &\Leftrightarrow x \text{ is in the same component of } \mathcal{C} \text{ as } y \\ &\Leftrightarrow x, y \in S \text{ for some } S \in \mathcal{C}. \end{aligned}$$

Recall from Proposition 6.2.16 that  $\sim$  is an equivalence relation on  $A$ . By Theorem 6.4.9, we know  $A/\sim$  is a partition of  $A$ . The aim of this question is to show that this partition is the same as the partition  $\mathcal{C}$  that we started off with.

- (a) Prove that if  $x \in S \in \mathcal{C}$ , then  $[x] = S$ .  
(b) Prove that  $A/\sim = \mathcal{C}$ .

*Solution.*

- (a) 1. Let  $x \in S \in \mathcal{C}$ .  
2. ( $\supseteq$ ) If  $y \in S$ , then  
    2.1.  $x \sim y$  by the definition of  $\sim$ , as  $x, y \in S \in \mathcal{C}$ ;  
    2.2.  $\therefore y \in [x]$  by the definition of  $[x]$ .  
3. ( $\subseteq$ )
    3.1. Let  $y \in [x]$ .  
    3.2. Then  $x \sim y$  by the definition of  $[x]$ .  
    3.3. Use the definition of  $\sim$  to find  $\hat{S} \in \mathcal{C}$  such that  $x, y \in \hat{S}$ .  
    3.4. Since  $x \in S \cap \hat{S}$ , we deduce that  $S = \hat{S}$ , because  $S$  and  $\hat{S}$  are components in the partition  $\mathcal{C}$ .  
    3.5. Hence  $y \in \hat{S} = S$ .  
4. Thus  $[x] = S$ .  $\square$
- (b) 1. ( $\subseteq$ )
    1.1. Let  $[x] \in A/\sim$ .  
    1.2. Use the assumption that  $\mathcal{C}$  is a partition of  $A$  to find  $S \in \mathcal{C}$  such that  $x \in S$ .  
    1.3. Then part (a) implies  $[x] = S \in \mathcal{C}$ .  
2. ( $\supseteq$ )
    2.1. Let  $S \in \mathcal{C}$ .  
    2.2. Then  $S \neq \emptyset$  as  $S$  is a component in a partition.  
    2.3. Take  $x \in S$ .  
    2.4. Then part (a) implies  $S = [x] \in A/\sim$ .  
3. Hence  $A/\sim = \mathcal{C}$ .  $\square$