

# Problem Set 11

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1. Suppose that  $A$  is a set with exactly 4 elements. What is the maximum number of elements that a relation,  $\mathcal{R}$ , on  $A$  can contain so that  $\mathcal{R} \cap \mathcal{R}^{-1} = \emptyset$ ? The maximum number of elements of  $\mathcal{R}$  is 6.

PROOF: Let  $(a, b) \in \mathcal{R}$ . Now, by definition,  $(b, a) \in \mathcal{R}^{-1}$ . Since  $\mathcal{R} \cap \mathcal{R}^{-1} = \emptyset$ , it follows that  $(b, a) \notin \mathcal{R}$ . Thus,  $(a, b) \neq (b, a)$  and  $a \neq b$ . With 4 elements of  $A$ , there are four elements of  $\mathcal{R}$  for which  $a = b$ . Since  $|A \times A| = |A| \cdot |A| = 4 \cdot 4 = 16$ , there are 12 elements,  $(a, b)$ , of  $A \times A$  such that  $a \neq b$ . Now, for each element  $(a, b) \in A \times A$ , there exists  $(b, a) \in A \times A$ . Thus there are six pairs of elements  $\{(a, b), (b, a)\} \subset A \times A$ . If both elements in any of those pairs are in  $\mathcal{R}$ , then they are also both in  $\mathcal{R}^{-1}$ . So, at most one element from each pair may be in  $\mathcal{R}$ . Therefore there can be at most 6 elements in  $\mathcal{R}$ .

2. (a)  $\mathcal{R} = \{(1, 1), (2, 2), (3, 3), (4, 4), (1, 2), (2, 1), (2, 3), (3, 2)\}$   
(b)  $\mathcal{R} = \{(1, 1), (2, 2), (3, 3), (4, 4), (1, 2), (2, 3), (1, 3)\}$   
(c)  $\mathcal{R} = \{(1, 1), (2, 2), (1, 2), (2, 1)\}$   
(d)  $\mathcal{R} = \{(1, 1), (2, 2), (3, 3), (4, 4), (1, 2), (2, 3)\}$   
(e)  $\mathcal{R} = \{(1, 2), (2, 1)\}$   
(f)  $\mathcal{R} = \{(1, 2), (2, 3), (1, 3)\}$
3. Determine the maximum number of elements in a relation  $\mathcal{R}$  on  $A = \{a, b, c\}$  such that  $\mathcal{R}$  has none of the properties reflexive, symmetric and transitive. Note that  $A \times A = \{(a, a), (b, b), (c, c), (a, b), (a, c), (b, a), (b, c), (c, a), (c, b)\}$ . Suppose that  $\mathcal{R} = \{(a, a), (b, b), (a, b), (a, c)\}$ . Now, none of the other elements of  $A \times A$  can be included in  $\mathcal{R}$ . The inclusion element  $(c, c)$  would result in the relation being reflexive. Including  $(b, a)$ , or  $(c, a)$ , would result in the relation being transitive, and if we include both, the relation is symmetric.
4.  $\mathcal{R} = \{(1, 1), (2, 2), (3, 3), (4, 4), (5, 5), (6, 6), (1, 4), (4, 1), (4, 5), (5, 4), (1, 5), (5, 1), (2, 6), (6, 2)\}$
5. Let  $H = \{2^m | m \in \mathbb{Z}\}$ . Define  $\mathcal{R}$  to be the relation defined on  $\mathbb{Q}^+$  by  $a\mathcal{R}b$  if  $a/b \in H$ .
  - (a) Prove that  $\mathcal{R}$  is an equivalence relation on  $\mathbb{Q}^+$ .

To show that the relation is reflexive, consider  $a \in \mathbb{Q}^+$ . Now,  $a/a = 1 = 2^0 \in H$ . To show that the relation is symmetric consider  $a, b \in \mathbb{Q}^+$ . Suppose,  $a/b \in H$ . Now,  $a/b = 2^m$  for some  $m \in \mathbb{Z}$ . Since,  $b/a = (a/b)^{-1} = 2^{-m} \in H$ . Thus,

if  $(a, b) \in \mathcal{R}$  then  $(b, a) \in \mathcal{R}$  for all  $a, b \in \mathbb{Q}^+$ . To show that the relation is transitive, suppose that  $a/b \in H$  and  $b/c \in H$  for some  $a, b, c \in \mathbb{Q}^+$ . Now,  $a/b = 2^k$  and  $b/c = 2^l$  for some  $k, l \in \mathbb{Q}^+$ . Since,  $(a/b)(b/c) = a/c$ , it follows that  $a/c = 2^k \cdot 2^l = 2^{k+l} \in H$ . Therefore  $\mathcal{R}$  is an equivalence relation.

- (b) Describe the elements in the equivalence class  $[3]$ .

$$[3] = \{3 \cdot 2^n | n \in \mathbb{Z}\}.$$

6. Recall that relations on a set  $A$  are, by definition, subsets of  $A \times A$ .

- (a) PROVE: The intersection of two equivalence relations on a non-empty set  $A$  is also an equivalence relation on  $A$ . Let  $\mathcal{R}_1$  and  $\mathcal{R}_2$  be equivalence relations on a set,  $A$ . Now, by the reflexivity property of equivalence relations, for all  $a \in A$ ,  $(a, a) \in \mathcal{R}_1$  and  $(a, a) \in \mathcal{R}_2$ . Thus,  $(a, a) \in \mathcal{R}_1 \cap \mathcal{R}_2$ , so the intersection of two equivalence relations defined on  $A$  is reflexive. Now, for all  $a, b \in A$ , if  $(a, b) \in \mathcal{R}_1$ , then, by the symmetric property, it follows that  $(b, a) \in \mathcal{R}_1$ . So, if  $(a, b) \in \mathcal{R}_1$ , and  $(a, b) \in \mathcal{R}_2$ , then  $(a, b), (b, a) \in \mathcal{R}_1 \cap \mathcal{R}_2$ . On the other hand, if  $(a, b) \notin \mathcal{R}_1$ , or  $(a, b) \notin \mathcal{R}_2$ , then  $(a, b), (b, a) \notin \mathcal{R}_1 \cap \mathcal{R}_2$ . Thus,  $\mathcal{R}_1 \cap \mathcal{R}_2$ , is symmetric. Let  $(a, b), (b, c) \in \mathcal{R}_1$  for some  $a, b, c \in A$ . Now, by the transitive property,  $(a, c) \in \mathcal{R}_1$ . Thus, if  $(a, b), (b, c) \in \mathcal{R}_2$ , then  $(a, b), (b, c), (a, c) \in \mathcal{R}_1 \cap \mathcal{R}_2$ . If  $(a, b) \notin \mathcal{R}_2$  or  $(b, c) \notin \mathcal{R}_2$ , then  $(a, c)$  is not required to be in  $\mathcal{R}_1 \cap \mathcal{R}_2$ . Therefore  $\mathcal{R}_1 \cap \mathcal{R}_2$  is transitive. Since  $\mathcal{R}_1 \cap \mathcal{R}_2$  is reflexive, symmetric, and transitive, it is an equivalence relation.

- (b) Suppose that  $\mathcal{R}_1 = \{(a, a), (b, b), (c, c), (a, b), (b, a)\}$  and  $\mathcal{R}_2 = \{(a, a), (b, b), (c, c), (b, c), (c, b)\}$  are equivalence relations on the set,  $A = \{a, b, c, d\}$ . Now,

$$\mathcal{R}_1 \cup \mathcal{R}_2 = \{(a, a), (b, b), (c, c), (a, b), (b, a), (b, c), (c, b)\}.$$

Because,  $(a, b), (b, c) \in \mathcal{R}_1 \cup \mathcal{R}_2$ , but  $(a, c) \notin \mathcal{R}_1 \cup \mathcal{R}_2$ . The transitive property of equivalence relations is not satisfied for  $\mathcal{R}_1 \cup \mathcal{R}_2$ , and it is therefore not an equivalence relation.

7. Define a relation  $\mathcal{R}$  on  $\mathbb{Z}$  by  $x\mathcal{R}y$  exactly when  $x^3 \equiv y^3 \pmod{4}$ , and assume  $\mathcal{R}$  is an equivalence relation. Determine the equivalence classes of  $\mathcal{R}$ .

PROOF: Under modulus 4, there are at most four equivalence classes, one for each remainder when dividing by four. Consider  $a = 4k$  for some  $k \in \mathbb{Z}$ . Now,  $a^3 = 64k^3 = 4(16k^3)$ . So if  $a \equiv 0 \pmod{4}$ , then  $a^3 \equiv 0 \pmod{4}$ . Next consider  $a = 4k + 1$  for some  $k \in \mathbb{Z}$ . Now,  $a^3 = 64k^3 + 48k^2 + 12k + 1 = 4(16k^3 + 12k^2 + 3k) + 1$ . So if  $a \equiv 1 \pmod{4}$ , then  $a^3 \equiv 1 \pmod{4}$ . Next consider  $a = 4k + 2$  for some  $k \in \mathbb{Z}$ . Now,  $a^3 = 64k^3 + 96k^2 + 24k + 4 = 4(16k^3 + 24k^2 + 6k + 1)$ . So if  $a \equiv 2 \pmod{4}$ , then  $a^3 \equiv 0 \pmod{4}$ . Next consider  $a = 4k + 3$  for some  $k \in \mathbb{Z}$ . Now,  $a^3 = 64k^3 + 144k^2 + 108k + 9 = 4(16k^3 + 36k^2 + 27k + 2) + 1$ . So if  $a \equiv 3 \pmod{4}$ , then  $a^3 \equiv 1 \pmod{4}$ . Thus, for  $\mathcal{R}$  there are two equivalence classes,  $[0]$  and  $[1]$ .