

CS 441 Discrete Mathematics for CS  
Lecture 22

Relations II

Milos Hauskrecht  
[milos@cs.pitt.edu](mailto:milos@cs.pitt.edu)  
5329 Sennott Square

Cartesian product (review)

- Let  $A = \{a_1, a_2, \dots, a_k\}$  and  $B = \{b_1, b_2, \dots, b_m\}$ .
- **The Cartesian product**  $A \times B$  is defined by a set of pairs  $\{(a_1, b_1), (a_1, b_2), \dots, (a_1, b_m), \dots, (a_k, b_m)\}$ .

**Example:**

Let  $A = \{a, b, c\}$  and  $B = \{1, 2, 3\}$ . What is  $A \times B$ ?

$$A \times B = \{(a, 1), (a, 2), (a, 3), (b, 1), (b, 2), (b, 3)\}$$

## Binary relation

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

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

- $R = \{(a, 1), (b, 2), (c, 2)\}$  is an example of a relation from A to B.

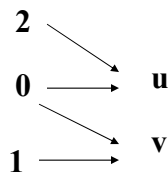
## Representing binary relations

- We can graphically represent a binary relation R as follows:
  - if  $a R b$  then draw an arrow from a to b.

$$a \rightarrow b$$

**Example:**

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



## Representing binary relations

- We can represent a binary relation  $R$  by a **table** showing (marking) the ordered pairs of  $R$ .

### Example:

- Let  $A = \{0, 1, 2\}$ ,  $B = \{u, v\}$  and  $R = \{(0, u), (0, v), (1, v), (2, u)\}$

- **Table:**

$R$	$u$	$v$	or	$R$	$u$	$v$
0	x	x		0	1	1
1		x		1	0	1
2	x			2	1	0

## Properties of relations

### Properties of relations on A:

- Reflexive ✓
- Irreflexive ✓
- Symmetric ✓
- **Anti-symmetric**
- **Transitive**

## Reflexive relation

### Reflexive relation

- $R_{\text{div}} = \{(a \mid b), \text{ if } a \mid b\}$  on  $A = \{1,2,3,4\}$
- $R_{\text{div}} = \{(1,1), (1,2), (1,3), (1,4), (2,2), (2,4), (3,3), (4,4)\}$

$$\text{MR}_{\text{div}} = \begin{array}{cccc} & 1 & 2 & 3 & 4 \\ \begin{array}{c} 1 \\ 2 \\ 3 \\ 4 \end{array} & 1 & 1 & 1 & 1 \\ & 0 & 1 & 0 & 1 \\ & 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 \\ & 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 \end{array}$$

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

## Irreflexive relation

### Irreflexive relation

- $R_{\neq}$  on  $A = \{1,2,3,4\}$ , such that  $a R_{\neq} b$  if and only if  $a \neq b$ .
- $R_{\neq} = \{(1,2), (1,3), (1,4), (2,1), (2,3), (2,4), (3,1), (3,2), (3,4), (4,1), (4,2), (4,3)\}$

$$\text{MR} = \begin{array}{cccc} & 1 & 2 & 3 & 4 \\ \begin{array}{c} 1 \\ 2 \\ 3 \\ 4 \end{array} & 0 & 1 & 1 & 1 \\ & 1 & 0 & 1 & 1 \\ & 1 & 1 & 0 & 1 \\ & 1 & 1 & 1 & 0 \end{array}$$

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

## Symmetric relation

### Symmetric relation:

- $R_{\neq}$  on  $A = \{1, 2, 3, 4\}$ , such that  $a R_{\neq} b$  if and only if  $a \neq b$ .
- $R_{\neq} = \{(1, 2), (1, 3), (1, 4), (2, 1), (2, 3), (2, 4), (3, 1), (3, 2), (3, 4), (4, 1), (4, 2), (4, 3)\}$

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

- A relation  $R$  is symmetric if and only if  $m_{ij} = m_{ji}$  for all  $i, j$ .

## Anti-symmetric relation

**Definition (anti-symmetric relation):** A relation on a set  $A$  is called **anti-symmetric** if

- $[(a, b) \in R \text{ and } (b, a) \in R] \rightarrow a = b$  where  $a, b \in A$ .

### Example 3:

- Relation  $R_{\text{fun}}$  on  $A = \{1, 2, 3, 4\}$  defined as:
  - $R_{\text{fun}} = \{(1, 2), (2, 2), (3, 3)\}$ .
- Is  $R_{\text{fun}}$  anti-symmetric?
- Answer: Yes. It is anti-symmetric

## Anti-symmetric relation

### Antisymmetric relation

- relation  $R_{\text{fun}} = \{(1,2), (2,2), (3,3)\}$

$$MR_{\text{fun}} = \begin{matrix} & & 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 \\ & & 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 \\ & 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 \\ & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \end{matrix}$$

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

## Transitive relation

**Definition (transitive relation):** A relation  $R$  on a set  $A$  is called **transitive** if

- $[(a,b) \in R \text{ and } (b,c) \in R] \rightarrow (a,c) \in R$  for all  $a, b, c \in A$ .

- Example 1:**

- $R_{\text{div}} = \{(a,b) \mid a \mid b\}$  on  $A = \{1,2,3,4\}$
- $R_{\text{div}} = \{(1,1), (1,2), (1,3), (1,4), (2,2), (2,4), (3,3), (4,4)\}$
- Is  $R_{\text{div}}$  transitive?**
- Answer:**

## Transitive relation

**Definition (transitive relation):** A relation  $R$  on a set  $A$  is called **transitive** if

•  $[(a,b) \in R \text{ and } (b,c) \in R] \rightarrow (a,c) \in R$  for all  $a, b, c \in A$ .

• **Example 1:**

•  $R_{\text{div}} = \{(a,b) \mid a \mid b\}$  on  $A = \{1,2,3,4\}$

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

• **Is  $R_{\text{div}}$  transitive?**

• **Answer: Yes.**

## Transitive relation

**Definition (transitive relation):** A relation  $R$  on a set  $A$  is called **transitive** if

•  $[(a,b) \in R \text{ and } (b,c) \in R] \rightarrow (a,c) \in R$  for all  $a, b, c \in A$ .

• **Example 2:**

•  $R_{\neq}$  on  $A = \{1,2,3,4\}$ , such that  $\mathbf{a R_{\neq} b}$  if and only if  $a \neq b$ .

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

• **Is  $R_{\neq}$  transitive ?**

• **Answer:**

## Transitive relation

**Definition (transitive relation):** A relation  $R$  on a set  $A$  is called **transitive** if

- $[(a,b) \in R \text{ and } (b,c) \in R] \rightarrow (a,c) \in R$  for all  $a, b, c \in A$ .
- **Example 2:**
- $R_{\neq}$  on  $A = \{1,2,3,4\}$ , such that  $a R_{\neq} b$  if and only if  $a \neq b$ .
- $R_{\neq} = \{(1,2), (1,3), (1,4), (2,1), (2,3), (2,4), (3,1), (3,2), (3,4), (4,1), (4,2), (4,3)\}$
- **Is  $R_{\neq}$  transitive?**
- **Answer: No.** It is not transitive since  $(1,2) \in R$  and  $(2,1) \in R$  but  $(1,1)$  is not an element of  $R$ .

## Transitive relations

**Definition (transitive relation):** A relation  $R$  on a set  $A$  is called **transitive** if

- $[(a,b) \in R \text{ and } (b,c) \in R] \rightarrow (a,c) \in R$  for all  $a, b, c \in A$ .
- **Example 3:**
- Relation  $R_{\text{fun}}$  on  $A = \{1,2,3,4\}$  defined as:
  - $R_{\text{fun}} = \{(1,2), (2,2), (3,3)\}$ .
- **Is  $R_{\text{fun}}$  transitive?**
- **Answer:**



## Transitive relations

**Definition (transitive relation):** A relation  $R$  on a set  $A$  is called **transitive** if

- $[(a,b) \in R \text{ and } (b,c) \in R] \rightarrow (a,c) \in R$  for all  $a, b, c \in A$ .
- **Example 3:**
- Relation  $R_{\text{fun}}$  on  $A = \{1,2,3,4\}$  defined as:
  - $R_{\text{fun}} = \{(1,2), (2,2), (3,3)\}$ .
- **Is  $R_{\text{fun}}$  transitive?**
- **Answer: Yes.** It is transitive.

## Combining relations

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

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

### Combining Relations

- **Relations are sets  $\rightarrow$  combinations via set operations**
- Set operations of: **union, intersection, difference and symmetric difference.**

## Combining relations

### Example:

- Let  $A = \{1,2,3\}$  and  $B = \{u,v\}$  and
- $R1 = \{(1,u), (2,u), (2,v), (3,u)\}$
- $R2 = \{(1,v), (3,u), (3,v)\}$

### What is:

- $R1 \cup R2 = ?$

## Combining relations

### Example:

- Let  $A = \{1,2,3\}$  and  $B = \{u,v\}$  and
- $R1 = \{(1,u), (2,u), (2,v), (3,u)\}$
- $R2 = \{(1,v), (3,u), (3,v)\}$

### What is:

- $R1 \cup R2 = \{(1,u), (1,v), (2,u), (2,v), (3,u), (3,v)\}$
- $R1 \cap R2 = ?$

## Combining relations

### Example:

- Let  $A = \{1,2,3\}$  and  $B = \{u,v\}$  and
- $R1 = \{(1,u), (2,u), (2,v), (3,u)\}$
- $R2 = \{(1,v), (3,u), (3,v)\}$

### What is:

- $R1 \cup R2 = \{(1,u), (1,v), (2,u), (2,v), (3,u), (3,v)\}$
- $R1 \cap R2 = \{(3,u)\}$
- $R1 - R2 = ?$

## Combining relations

### Example:

- Let  $A = \{1,2,3\}$  and  $B = \{u,v\}$  and
- $R1 = \{(1,u), (2,u), (2,v), (3,u)\}$
- $R2 = \{(1,v), (3,u), (3,v)\}$

### What is:

- $R1 \cup R2 = \{(1,u), (1,v), (2,u), (2,v), (3,u), (3,v)\}$
- $R1 \cap R2 = \{(3,u)\}$
- $R1 - R2 = \{(1,u), (2,u), (2,v)\}$
- $R2 - R1 = ?$

## Combining relations

### Example:

- Let  $A = \{1,2,3\}$  and  $B = \{u,v\}$  and
- $R1 = \{(1,u), (2,u), (2,v), (3,u)\}$
- $R2 = \{(1,v), (3,u), (3,v)\}$

### What is:

- $R1 \cup R2 = \{(1,u), (1,v), (2,u), (2,v), (3,u), (3,v)\}$
- $R1 \cap R2 = \{(3,u)\}$
- $R1 - R2 = \{(1,u), (2,u), (2,v)\}$
- $R2 - R1 = \{(1,v), (3,v)\}$

## Combination of relations

### Representation of operations on relations:

- **Question:** Can the relation be formed by taking the union or intersection or composition of two relations  $R1$  and  $R2$  be represented in terms of matrix operations?
- **Answer: Yes**

## Combination of relations: implementation

**Definition.** The **join**, denoted by  $\vee$ , of two m-by-n matrices  $(a_{ij})$  and  $(b_{ij})$  of 0s and 1s is an m-by-n matrix  $(m_{ij})$  where

- $m_{ij} = a_{ij} \vee b_{ij}$  for all  $i,j$   
= **pairwise or (disjunction)**

- **Example:**

- Let  $A = \{1,2,3\}$  and  $B = \{u,v\}$  and
- $R1 = \{(1,u), (2,u), (2,v), (3,u)\}$
- $R2 = \{(1,v), (3,u), (3,v)\}$

- $MR1 = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 1 & 1 \\ 1 & 0 \end{bmatrix}$      $MR2 = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 \\ 1 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$      $M(R1 \vee R2) = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 1 \\ 1 & 1 \\ 1 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$

## Combination of relations: implementation

**Definition.** The **meet**, denoted by  $\wedge$ , of two m-by-n matrices  $(a_{ij})$  and  $(b_{ij})$  of 0s and 1s is an m-by-n matrix  $(m_{ij})$  where

- $m_{ij} = a_{ij} \wedge b_{ij}$  for all  $i,j$   
= **pairwise and (conjunction)**

- **Example:**

- Let  $A = \{1,2,3\}$  and  $B = \{u,v\}$  and
- $R1 = \{(1,u), (2,u), (2,v), (3,u)\}$
- $R2 = \{(1,v), (3,u), (3,v)\}$

- $MR1 = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 1 & 1 \\ 1 & 0 \end{bmatrix}$      $MR2 = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 \\ 1 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$      $MR1 \wedge MR2 = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 \\ 1 & 0 \end{bmatrix}$

## Composite of relations

**Definition:** Let  $R$  be a relation from a set  $A$  to a set  $B$  and  $S$  a relation from  $B$  to a set  $C$ . 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  $S \circ R$ .

### Examples:

- Let  $A = \{1,2,3\}$ ,  $B = \{0,1,2\}$  and  $C = \{a,b\}$ .
- $R = \{(1,0), (1,2), (3,1), (3,2)\}$
- $S = \{(0,b), (1,a), (2,b)\}$
  
- $S \circ R = ?$

## Composite of relations

**Definition:** Let  $R$  be a relation from a set  $A$  to a set  $B$  and  $S$  a relation from  $B$  to a set  $C$ . 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  $S \circ R$ .

### Examples:

- Let  $A = \{1,2,3\}$ ,  $B = \{0,1,2\}$  and  $C = \{a,b\}$ .
- $R = \{(1,0), (1,2), (3,1), (3,2)\}$
- $S = \{(0,b), (1,a), (2,b)\}$
  
- $S \circ R = \{(1,b), (3,a), (3,b)\}$

## Implementation of composite

**Definition.** The **Boolean product**, denoted by  $\odot$ , of an  $m$ -by- $n$  matrix  $(a_{ij})$  and  $n$ -by- $p$  matrix  $(b_{jk})$  of 0s and 1s is an  $m$ -by- $p$  matrix  $(m_{ik})$  where

- $m_{ik} = \begin{matrix} 1, & \text{if } a_{ij} = 1 \text{ and } b_{jk} = 1 \text{ for some } k=1,2,\dots,n \\ 0, & \text{otherwise} \end{matrix}$

**Examples:**

- Let  $A = \{1,2,3\}$ ,  $B = \{0,1,2\}$  and  $C = \{a,b\}$ .
- $R = \{(1,0), (1,2), (3,1),(3,2)\}$
- $S = \{(0,b),(1,a),(2,b)\}$
  
- $S \circ R = \{(1,b),(3,a),(3,b)\}$

## Implementation of composite

**Examples:**

- Let  $A = \{1,2\}$ ,  $B = \{1,2,3\}$   $C = \{a,b\}$
- $R = \{(1,2),(1,3),(2,1)\}$  is a relation from  $A$  to  $B$
- $S = \{(1,a),(3,b),(3,a)\}$  is a relation from  $B$  to  $C$ .
- $S \circ R = \{(1,b),(1,a),(2,a)\}$

$$\begin{array}{rcccl}
 & 0 & 1 & 1 & & 1 & 0 \\
 M_R = & 1 & 0 & 0 & M_S = & 0 & 0 \\
 & & & & & 1 & 1 \\
 M_R \odot M_S & = & ? & & & & 
 \end{array}$$

## Implementation of composite

### Examples:

- Let  $A = \{1,2\}$ ,  $\{1,2,3\}$   $C = \{a,b\}$
- $R = \{(1,2),(1,3),(2,1)\}$  is a relation from A to B
- $S = \{(1,a),(3,b),(3,a)\}$  is a relation from B to C.
- $S \circ R = \{(1,b),(1,a),(2,a)\}$

$$\begin{array}{ccc}
 & \begin{matrix} 0 & 1 & 1 \end{matrix} & & \begin{matrix} 1 & 0 \end{matrix} \\
 M_R = & \begin{matrix} 1 & 0 & 0 \end{matrix} & M_S = & \begin{matrix} 0 & 0 \\ 1 & 1 \end{matrix} \\
 \\ 
 M_R \odot M_S & = & \begin{matrix} x & x \\ x & x \end{matrix}
 \end{array}$$

## Implementation of composite

### Examples:

- Let  $A = \{1,2\}$ ,  $\{1,2,3\}$   $C = \{a,b\}$
- $R = \{(1,2),(1,3),(2,1)\}$  is a relation from A to B
- $S = \{(1,a),(3,b),(3,a)\}$  is a relation from B to C.
- $S \circ R = \{(1,b),(1,a),(2,a)\}$

$$\begin{array}{ccc}
 & \begin{matrix} 0 & 1 & 1 \end{matrix} & & \begin{matrix} 1 & 0 \end{matrix} \\
 M_R = & \begin{matrix} 1 & 0 & 0 \end{matrix} & M_S = & \begin{matrix} 0 & 0 \\ 1 & 1 \end{matrix} \\
 \\ 
 M_R \odot M_S & = & \begin{matrix} \mathbf{1} & x \\ x & x \end{matrix}
 \end{array}$$



## Implementation of composite

### Examples:

- Let  $A = \{1,2\}$ ,  $\{1,2,3\}$   $C = \{a,b\}$
- $R = \{(1,2),(1,3),(2,1)\}$  is a relation from A to B
- $S = \{(1,a),(3,b),(3,a)\}$  is a relation from B to C.
- $S \circ R = \{(1,b),(1,a),(2,a)\}$

$$\begin{array}{r}
 \begin{array}{|c|c|c|} \hline 0 & 1 & 1 \\ \hline \end{array} \\
 M_R = \begin{array}{ccc} 1 & 0 & 0 \end{array}
 \end{array}
 \quad
 M_S = \begin{array}{cc} \begin{array}{|c|} \hline 1 \\ \hline \end{array} & \begin{array}{|c|} \hline 0 \\ \hline \end{array} \\ 0 & 0 \\ 1 & 1
 \end{array}$$

$$M_R \odot M_S = \begin{array}{cc} 1 & \mathbf{1} \\ x & x \end{array}$$

## Implementation of composite

### Examples:

- Let  $A = \{1,2\}$ ,  $\{1,2,3\}$   $C = \{a,b\}$
- $R = \{(1,2),(1,3),(2,1)\}$  is a relation from A to B
- $S = \{(1,a),(3,b),(3,a)\}$  is a relation from B to C.
- $S \circ R = \{(1,b),(1,a),(2,a)\}$

$$\begin{array}{r}
 \begin{array}{|c|c|c|} \hline 0 & 1 & 1 \\ \hline \end{array} \\
 M_R = \begin{array}{ccc} 1 & 0 & 0 \end{array}
 \end{array}
 \quad
 M_S = \begin{array}{cc} \begin{array}{|c|} \hline 1 \\ \hline \end{array} & 0 \\ 0 & 0 \\ 1 & 1
 \end{array}$$

$$M_R \odot M_S = \begin{array}{cc} 1 & 1 \\ \mathbf{1} & x \end{array}$$

## Implementation of composite

### Examples:

- Let  $A = \{1,2\}$ ,  $\{1,2,3\}$   $C = \{a,b\}$
- $R = \{(1,2),(1,3),(2,1)\}$  is a relation from A to B
- $S = \{(1,a),(3,b),(3,a)\}$  is a relation from B to C.
- $S \circ R = \{(1,b),(1,a),(2,a)\}$

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

$$M_R \odot M_S = \begin{matrix} & \begin{matrix} 1 & 1 \\ 1 & 0 \end{matrix} \end{matrix}$$

$$M_{S \circ R} = \quad ?$$

## Implementation of composite

### Examples:

- Let  $A = \{1,2\}$ ,  $\{1,2,3\}$   $C = \{a,b\}$
- $R = \{(1,2),(1,3),(2,1)\}$  is a relation from A to B
- $S = \{(1,a),(3,b),(3,a)\}$  is a relation from B to C.
- $S \circ R = \{(1,b),(1,a),(2,a)\}$

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

$$M_R \odot M_S = \begin{matrix} & \begin{matrix} 1 & 1 \\ 1 & 0 \end{matrix} \end{matrix}$$

$$M_{S \circ R} = \begin{matrix} & \begin{matrix} 1 & 1 \\ 1 & 0 \end{matrix} \end{matrix}$$

## Composite of relations

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

$$\bullet R^1 = R \quad \text{and} \quad R^{n+1} = R^n \circ R.$$

### Examples

- $R = \{(1,2), (2,3), (2,4), (3,3)\}$  is a relation on  $A = \{1, 2, 3, 4\}$ .
- $R^1 = ?$

## Composite of relations

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

$$\bullet R^1 = R \quad \text{and} \quad R^{n+1} = R^n \circ R.$$

### Examples

- $R = \{(1,2), (2,3), (2,4), (3,3)\}$  is a relation on  $A = \{1, 2, 3, 4\}$ .
- $R^1 = R = \{(1,2), (2,3), (2,4), (3,3)\}$
- $R^2 = ?$

## Composite of relations

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

$$\bullet R^1 = R \quad \text{and} \quad R^{n+1} = R^n \circ R.$$

### Examples

- $R = \{(1,2), (2,3), (2,4), (3,3)\}$  is a relation on  $A = \{1, 2, 3, 4\}$ .
- $R^1 = R = \{(1,2), (2,3), (2,4), (3,3)\}$
- $R^2 = \{(1,3), (1,4), (2,3), (3,3)\}$
- $R^3 = ?$

## Composite of relations

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

$$\bullet R^1 = R \quad \text{and} \quad R^{n+1} = R^n \circ R.$$

### Examples

- $R = \{(1,2), (2,3), (2,4), (3,3)\}$  is a relation on  $A = \{1, 2, 3, 4\}$ .
- $R^1 = R = \{(1,2), (2,3), (2,4), (3,3)\}$
- $R^2 = \{(1,3), (1,4), (2,3), (3,3)\}$
- $R^3 = \{(1,3), (2,3), (3,3)\}$
- $R^4 = ?$

## Composite of relations

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

$$\bullet R^1 = R \quad \text{and} \quad R^{n+1} = R^n \circ R.$$

### Examples

- $R = \{(1,2), (2,3), (2,4), (3,3)\}$  is a relation on  $A = \{1, 2, 3, 4\}$ .
- $R^1 = R = \{(1,2), (2,3), (2,4), (3,3)\}$
- $R^2 = \{(1,3), (1,4), (2,3), (3,3)\}$
- $R^3 = \{(1,3), (2,3), (3,3)\}$
- $R^4 = \{(1,3), (2,3), (3,3)\}$
- $R^k = R^3, k > 3$ .

## Composite of relations

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

$$\bullet R^1 = R \quad \text{and} \quad R^{n+1} = R^n \circ R.$$

### Examples

- $R = \{(1,2), (2,3), (2,4), (3,3)\}$  is a relation on  $A = \{1, 2, 3, 4\}$ .
- $R^1 = R = \{(1,2), (2,3), (2,4), (3,3)\}$
- $R^2 = \{(1,3), (1,4), (2,3), (3,3)\}$
- $R^3 = \{(1,3), (2,3), (3,3)\}$
- $R^4 = \{(1,3), (2,3), (3,3)\}$
- $R^k = R^3, k > 3$ .

## Transitive relation

**Definition (transitive relation):** A relation  $R$  on a set  $A$  is called **transitive** if

•  $[(a,b) \in R \text{ and } (b,c) \in R] \rightarrow (a,c) \in R$  for all  $a, b, c \in A$ .

• **Example 1:**

•  $R_{\text{div}} = \{(a,b), \text{ if } a \mid b\}$  on  $A = \{1,2,3,4\}$

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

• **Is  $R_{\text{div}}$  transitive?**

• **Answer: ?**

## Transitive relation

**Definition (transitive relation):** A relation  $R$  on a set  $A$  is called **transitive** if

•  $[(a,b) \in R \text{ and } (b,c) \in R] \rightarrow (a,c) \in R$  for all  $a, b, c \in A$ .

• **Example 1:**

•  $R_{\text{div}} = \{(a,b), \text{ if } a \mid b\}$  on  $A = \{1,2,3,4\}$

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

• **Is  $R_{\text{div}}$  transitive?**

• **Answer: Yes.**

## Connection to $R^n$

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

**Proof: biconditional (if and only if)**

( $\leftarrow$ ) Suppose  $R^n \subseteq R$ , for  $n = 1, 2, 3, \dots$ .

- Let  $(a, b) \in R$  and  $(b, c) \in R$
- by the definition of  $R \circ R$ ,  $(a, c) \in R \circ R = R^2 \subseteq R$
- Therefore  $R$  is transitive.

## Connection to $R^n$

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

**Proof: biconditional (if and only if)**

( $\rightarrow$ ) Suppose  $R$  is transitive. Show  $R^n \subseteq R$ , for  $n = 1, 2, 3, \dots$ .

- Let  $P(n) : R^n \subseteq R$ . Mathematical induction.
- **Basis Step:**

## Connection to $R^n$

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

**Proof: biconditional (if and only if)**

( $\Rightarrow$ ) Suppose  $R$  is transitive. Show  $R^n \subseteq R$ , for  $n = 1, 2, 3, \dots$ .

- Let  $P(n) : R^n \subseteq R$ . Mathematical induction.
- **Basis Step:**  $P(1)$  says  $R^1 = R$  so,  $R^1 \subseteq R$  is true.

## Connection to $R^n$

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

**Proof: biconditional (if and only if)**

( $\Rightarrow$ ) Suppose  $R$  is transitive. Show  $R^n \subseteq R$ , for  $n = 1, 2, 3, \dots$ .

- Let  $P(n) : R^n \subseteq R$ . Mathematical induction.
- **Basis Step:**  $P(1)$  says  $R^1 = R$  so,  $R^1 \subseteq R$  is true.
- **Inductive Step:** show  $P(n) \rightarrow P(n+1)$
- Want to show if  $R^n \subseteq R$  then  $R^{n+1} \subseteq R$ .



## Connection to $R^n$

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

**Proof: biconditional (if and only if)**

( $\Rightarrow$ ) Suppose  $R$  is transitive. Show  $R^n \subseteq R$ , for  $n = 1, 2, 3, \dots$ .

- Let  $P(n) : R^n \subseteq R$ . Mathematical induction.
- **Basis Step:**  $P(1)$  says  $R^1 = R$  so,  $R^1 \subseteq R$  is true.
- **Inductive Step:** show  $P(n) \rightarrow P(n+1)$
- Want to show if  $R^n \subseteq R$  then  $R^{n+1} \subseteq R$ .
- Let  $(a, b) \in R^{n+1}$  then by the definition of  $R^{n+1} = R^n \circ R$  there is an element  $x \in A$  so that  $(a, x) \in R$  and  $(x, b) \in R^n \subseteq R$  (inductive hypothesis). In addition to  $(a, x) \in R$  and  $(x, b) \in R$ ,  $R$  is transitive; so  $(a, b) \in R$ .
- Therefore,  $R^{n+1} \subseteq R$ .

## Number of reflexive relations

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

**Proof:**

- A reflexive relation  $R$  on  $A$  **must contain** all pairs  $(a, a)$  where  $a \in A$ .
- All other pairs in  $R$  are of the form  $(a, b)$ ,  $a \neq b$ , such that  $a, b \in A$ .
- How many of these pairs are there? Answer:  $n(n-1)$ .
- How many subsets on  $n(n-1)$  elements are there?
- **Answer:**  $2^{n(n-1)}$ .