

## Relations

- Relations: Definition and Notation
- Properties of Relations
- Combining Relations
- Operations on Relations: Projection and Join
- Equivalence Relations and Equivalence Classes
- Partial Order

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# Relations on a Set

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## Relation

A (binary) relation from  $X$  to  $Y$  is a subset of  $X \times Y$

## Relation on a Set

A (binary) relation on a set  $X$  is a subset of  $X \times X$  (relation from  $X$  to  $X$ )

# Properties of Relations

## Reflexive

A relation  $R$  on a set  $X$  is reflexive if  $(a, a) \in R$  for every element  $a \in X$

$$A = \{1, 2, 3, 4\}$$

**ICP 6-5** Which of the following relations are reflexive ?

- $R_1 = \{(1, 1), (1, 2), (2, 3), (3, 3), (4, 4)\}$  ▷ No
- $R_2 = \{(1, 1), (2, 2), (2, 3), (3, 3), (4, 4)\}$  ▷ Yes
- $R_3 = \{(1, 1), (2, 2), (3, 3)\}$  ▷ No

# Properties of Relations

## Symmetric

A relation  $R$  on a set  $X$  is symmetric if  $(b, a) \in R$  whenever  $(a, b) \in R$  for all  $a, b \in X$

$$A = \{1, 2, 3, 4\}$$

**ICP 6-6** Which of the following relations are symmetric ?

- $R_1 = \{(1, 1), (1, 2), (2, 1), (3, 3), (4, 4)\}$  ▷ Yes
- $R_2 = \{(1, 1)\}$  ▷ Yes
- $R_3 = \{(1, 3), (3, 2), (2, 1)\}$  ▷ No

# Properties of Relations

## Antisymmetric

A relation  $R$  on a set  $X$  is antisymmetric if  $a = b$  whenever  $(a, b) \in R$  and  $(b, a) \in R$

$$A = \{1, 2, 3, 4\}$$

**ICP 6-7** Which of the following relations are antisymmetric ?

- $R_1 = \{(1, 1), (1, 2), (2, 1), (3, 3), (4, 4)\}$  ▷ **No**
- $R_2 = \{(1, 1)\}$  ▷ **Yes**
- $R_3 = \{(1, 3), (3, 2), (2, 1)\}$  ▷ **Yes**

**A relation can be symmetric, antisymmetric, both or none**

# Properties of Relations

## Symmetric

A relation  $R$  on a set  $X$  is symmetric if  $(b, a) \in R$  whenever  $(a, b) \in R$  for all  $a, b \in X$

## Antisymmetric

A relation  $R$  on a set  $X$  is antisymmetric if  $a = b$  whenever  $(a, b) \in R$  and  $(b, a) \in R$

**ICP 6-8** Let  $X = \{a, b, c, d\}$ . Construct a relation on  $X$  that is

- 1 Symmetric and Antisymmetric
- 2 Symmetric but not Antisymmetric
- 3 Not Symmetric but Antisymmetric
- 4 Not Symmetric and not Antisymmetric

# Properties of Relations

## Transitive

A relation  $R$  on a set  $X$  is transitive if whenever  $(a, b) \in R$  and  $(b, c) \in R$  then  $(a, c) \in R$

$$A = \{1, 2, 3, 4\}$$

**ICP 6-9** Which of the following relations are transitive ?

- $R_1 = \{(1, 1), (1, 2), (2, 2), (2, 1), (3, 3)\}$  ▷ **Yes**
- $R_2 = \{(1, 3), (3, 2), (2, 1)\}$  ▷ **No**
- $R_3 = \{(2, 4), (4, 3), (2, 3), (4, 1)\}$  ▷ **No**

# Properties of Relations

## Relations on the set of integers

- $R_1 = \{(a, b) \mid a \leq b\}$
- $R_2 = \{(a, b) \mid a > b\}$
- $R_3 = \{(a, b) \mid a = b \text{ or } a = -b\}$
- $R_4 = \{(a, b) \mid a = b\}$
- $R_5 = \{(a, b) \mid a = b + 1\}$
- $R_6 = \{(a, b) \mid a + b \leq 3\}$

**ICP 6-10** Check if the relation has the given property

|               | $R_1$ | $R_2$ | $R_3$ | $R_4$ | $R_5$ | $R_6$ |
|---------------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|
| reflexive     | ✓     | ✗     |       |       |       |       |
| symmetric     | ✗     | ✗     |       |       |       |       |
| antisymmetric | ✓     | ✓     |       |       |       |       |
| transitive    | ✓     | ✓     |       |       |       |       |



## Representing Relations

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$$A = \{a_1, a_2, \dots, a_m\} \quad \text{and} \quad B = \{b_1, b_2, \dots, b_n\}$$

A relation  $R$  from  $A$  to  $B$  is represented by a

$$m \times n \quad \text{Boolean matrix} \quad M_R = [m_{ij}]$$

- One row for each element of  $A$
- One column for each element of  $B$

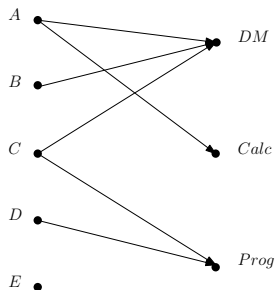
$$m_{ij} = \begin{cases} 1 & \text{if } (a_i, b_j) \in R \\ 0 & \text{if } (a_i, b_j) \notin R \end{cases}$$

# Representing Relations

$$X = \underbrace{\{A, B, C, D, E\}}_{\text{Students}}$$

$$Y = \underbrace{\{Calc, DM, Prog\}}_{\text{Courses}}$$

$$R := \{(A, DM), (A, Calc), (B, DM), (C, DM), (C, Prog), (D, Prog)\}$$



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

## Representing Relations

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Relation on a set is represented by a square matrix

$$A = \{1, 2, 3, 4, 6\}$$

$$R := \{(x, y) \mid x \text{ divides } y\}$$

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

## Representing Relations

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$$A = \{1, 2, 3, 4\}$$

**ICP 6-11** Represent the relation  $Q$  as a matrix.

$$Q = \{(1, 1), (1, 2), (2, 2), (2, 1), (3, 3)\}$$

# Visualizing Properties of Relations

How does  $M_R$  look like when  $R$  is reflexive?

$$M_R = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & * & * & * & * & * \\ * & 1 & * & * & * & * \\ * & * & 1 & * & * & * \\ * & * & * & 1 & * & * \\ * & * & * & * & 1 & * \\ * & * & * & * & * & 1 \end{pmatrix}$$

## Visualizing Properties of Relations

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How does  $M_R$  look like when  $R$  is symmetric?

$$M_R = \begin{pmatrix} * & 0 & 1 & 0 & 1 & 1 \\ 0 & * & 1 & 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 1 & 1 & * & 0 & 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & * & 0 & 0 \\ 1 & 1 & 0 & 0 & * & 1 \\ 1 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 1 & * \end{pmatrix}$$

$M_R$  is symmetric