

## Relations

### 3.1 INTRODUCTION

The reader is familiar with many relations which are used in mathematics and computer science, e.g., “less than”, “is parallel to”, “is a subset of”, and so on. In a certain sense, these relations consider the existence or nonexistence of certain connections between pairs of objects taken in a definite order. Formally, we define a relation in terms of these “ordered pairs”.

There are three kinds of relations which play a major role in our theory: (i) equivalence relations, (ii) order relations, (iii) functions. Equivalence relations are mainly covered in this chapter. Order relations are introduced here, but will also be discussed in Chapter 7. Functions are covered in the next chapter.

The connection between relations on finite sets and matrices are also included here for completeness. These sections, however, can be ignored at a first reading by those with no previous knowledge of matrix theory.

#### Ordered Pairs

Relations, as noted above, will be defined in terms of ordered pairs  $(a, b)$  of elements, where  $a$  is designated as the first element and  $b$  as the second element. Specifically:

$$(a, b) = (c, d) \text{ if and only if } a = c \text{ and } b = d$$

In particular,  $(a, b) \neq (b, a)$  unless  $a = b$ . This contrasts with sets studied in Chapter 1 where the order of elements is irrelevant, for example,  $\{3, 5\} = \{5, 3\}$ .

### 3.2 PRODUCT SETS

Let  $A$  and  $B$  be two sets. The *product set* or *cartesian product* of  $A$  and  $B$ , written  $A \times B$  and read “ $A$  cross  $B$ ”, is the set of all ordered pairs  $(a, b)$  such that  $a \in A$  and  $b \in B$ . Namely:

$$A \times B = \{(a, b) : a \in A, b \in B\}$$

One usually writes  $A^2$  instead of  $A \times A$ .

**EXAMPLE 3.1** Recall that  $\mathbf{R}$  denotes the set of real numbers, so  $\mathbf{R}^2 = \mathbf{R} \times \mathbf{R}$  is the set of ordered pairs of real numbers. The reader may be familiar with the geometrical representation of  $\mathbf{R}^2$  as points in the plane as in Fig. 3-1. Here each point  $P$  represents an ordered pair  $(a, b)$  of real numbers and vice versa; the vertical line through  $P$  meets the (horizontal)  $x$ -axis at  $a$ , and the horizontal line through  $P$  meets the (vertical)  $y$ -axis at  $b$ .  $\mathbf{R}^2$  is frequently called the *cartesian plane*.

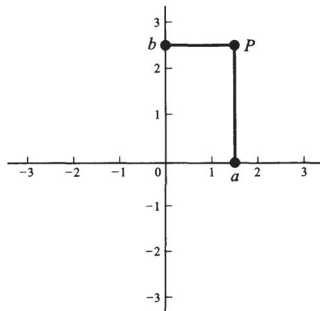


Fig. 3-1

**EXAMPLE 3.2** Let  $A = \{1, 2\}$  and  $B = \{a, b, c\}$ . Then

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

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

Also,

$$A \times A = \{(1, 1), (1, 2), (2, 1), (2, 2)\}$$

There are two things worth noting in Example 3.2. First of all,  $A \times B \neq B \times A$ . The cartesian product deals with ordered pairs, so naturally the order in which the sets are considered is important. Secondly,

$$n(A \times B) = 6 = 2 \cdot 3 = n(A) \cdot n(B)$$

[where  $n(A)$  = number of elements in  $A$ ]. In fact:

$$n(A \times B) = n(A) \cdot n(B)$$

for any finite sets  $A$  and  $B$ . This follows from the observation that, for any ordered pair  $(a, b)$  in  $A \times B$ , there are  $n(A)$  possibilities for  $a$ , and for each of these there are  $n(B)$  possibilities for  $b$ .

### Product of Three or More Sets

The idea of a product of sets can be extended to any finite number of sets. Specifically, for any sets  $A_1, A_2, \dots, A_m$ , the set of all  $m$ -element lists  $(a_1, a_2, \dots, a_m)$ , where each  $a_i \in A_i$ , is called the (*cartesian*) *product* of the sets  $A_1, A_2, \dots, A_m$ ; it is denoted by

$$A_1 \times A_2 \times \cdots \times A_m \quad \text{or equivalently} \quad \prod_{i=1}^m A_i$$

Just as we write  $A^2$  instead of  $A \times A$ , so we write  $A^n$  for  $A \times A \times \cdots \times A$  where there are  $n$  factors. For example,  $\mathbf{R}^3 = \mathbf{R} \times \mathbf{R} \times \mathbf{R}$  denotes the usual three-dimensional space.

## 3.3 RELATIONS

We begin with a definition.

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

Suppose  $R$  is a relation from  $A$  to  $B$ . Then  $R$  is a set of ordered pairs where each first element comes from  $A$  and each second element comes from  $B$ . That is, for each pair  $a \in A$  and  $b \in B$ , exactly one of the following is true:

- (i)  $(a, b) \in R$ ; we then say “ $a$  is  $R$ -related to  $b$ ”, written  $a R b$ .
- (ii)  $(a, b) \notin R$ ; we then say “ $a$  is not  $R$ -related to  $b$ ”, written  $a \not R b$ .

The *domain* of a relation  $R$  from  $A$  to  $B$  is the set of all first elements of the ordered pairs which belong to  $R$ , and so it is a subset of  $A$ ; and the *range* of  $R$  is the set of all second elements, and so it is a subset of  $B$ .

Sometimes  $R$  is a relation from a set  $A$  to itself, that is,  $R$  is a subset of  $A^2 = A \times A$ . In such a case, we say that  $R$  is a relation *on*  $A$ .

Although  $n$ -ary relations, which involve ordered  $n$ -tuples, are introduced in Section 3.11, the term relation shall mean binary relation unless otherwise stated or implied.

### EXAMPLE 3.3

- (a) Let  $A = \{1, 2, 3\}$  and  $B = \{x, y, z\}$ , and let  $R = \{(1, y), (1, z), (3, y)\}$ . Then  $R$  is a relation from  $A$  to  $B$  since  $R$  is a subset of  $A \times B$ . With respect to this relation,

$$1Ry, 1Rz, 3Ry, \quad \text{but} \quad 1Rx, 2Rx, 2Ry, 2Rz, 3Rx, 3Rz$$

The domain of  $R$  is  $\{1, 3\}$  and the range is  $\{y, z\}$ .

- (b) Suppose we say that two countries are *adjacent* if they have some part of their boundaries in common. Then “is adjacent to” is a relation  $R$  on the countries of the earth. Thus:

$$(\text{Italy, Switzerland}) \in R \quad \text{but} \quad (\text{Canada, Mexico}) \notin R$$

- (c) Set inclusion  $\subseteq$  is a relation on any collection of sets. For, given any pair of sets  $A$  and  $B$ , either  $A \subseteq B$  or  $A \not\subseteq B$ .
- (d) A familiar relation on the set  $\mathbf{Z}$  of integers is “ $m$  divides  $n$ ”. A common notation for this relation is to write  $m|n$  when  $m$  divides  $n$ . Thus  $6|30$  but  $7 \nmid 25$ .
- (e) Consider the set  $L$  of lines in the plane. Perpendicularity, written  $\perp$ , is a relation on  $L$ . That is, given any pair of lines  $a$  and  $b$ , either  $a \perp b$  or  $a \not\perp b$ . Similarly, “is parallel to”, written  $\parallel$ , is a relation on  $L$  since either  $a \parallel b$  or  $a \not\parallel b$ .

### Universal, Empty, Equality Relations

Let  $A$  be any set. Then  $A \times A$  and  $\emptyset$  are subsets of  $A \times A$  and hence are relations on  $A$  called the *universal relation* and *empty relation*, respectively. Thus, for any relation  $R$  on  $A$ , we have

$$\emptyset \subseteq R \subseteq A \times A$$

An important relation on the set  $A$  is that of *equality*, that is, the relation

$$\{(a, a) : a \in A\}$$

which is usually denoted by “ $=$ ”. This relation is also called the *identity* or *diagonal relation* on  $A$ , and it may sometimes be denoted by  $\Delta_A$  or simply  $\Delta$ .

### Inverse Relation

Let  $R$  be any relation from a set  $A$  to a set  $B$ . The *inverse* of  $R$ , denoted by  $R^{-1}$ , is the relation from  $B$  to  $A$  which consists of those ordered pairs which, when reversed, belong to  $R$ ; that is,

$$R^{-1} = \{(b, a) : (a, b) \in R\}$$

For example:

$$\text{If } R = \{(1, y), (1, z), (3, y)\}, \quad \text{then} \quad R^{-1} = \{(y, 1), (z, 1), (y, 3)\}.$$

[Here  $R$  is the relation from  $A = \{1, 2, 3\}$  to  $B = \{x, y, z\}$  in Example 3.3(a).]

Clearly, if  $R$  is any relation, then  $(R^{-1})^{-1} = R$ . Also, the domain of  $R^{-1}$  is the range of  $R$ , and vice versa. Moreover, if  $R$  is a relation on  $A$ , i.e.,  $R$  is a subset of  $A \times A$ , then  $R^{-1}$  is also a relation on  $A$ .

### 3.4 PICTORIAL REPRESENTATIONS OF RELATIONS

This section discusses a number of ways of picturing and representing binary relations.

#### Relations on $\mathbf{R}$

Let  $S$  be a relation on the set  $\mathbf{R}$  of real numbers; that is, let  $S$  be a subset of  $\mathbf{R}^2 = \mathbf{R} \times \mathbf{R}$ . Since  $\mathbf{R}^2$  can be represented by the set of points in the plane, we can picture  $S$  by emphasizing those points in the plane which belong to  $S$ . This pictorial representation of  $S$  is sometimes called the *graph* of  $S$ .

Frequently, the relation  $S$  consists of all ordered pairs of real numbers which satisfy some given equation

$$E(x, y) = 0$$

We usually identify the relation with the equation, i.e., we speak of the relation  $E(x, y) = 0$ .

**EXAMPLE 3.4** Consider the relation  $S$  defined by the equation

$$x^2 + y^2 = 25 \quad \text{or equivalently} \quad x^2 + y^2 - 25 = 0$$

That is,  $S$  consists of all ordered pairs  $(x_0, y_0)$  which satisfy the given equation. The graph of the equation is a circle having its center at the origin and radius 5, as shown in Fig. 3-2.

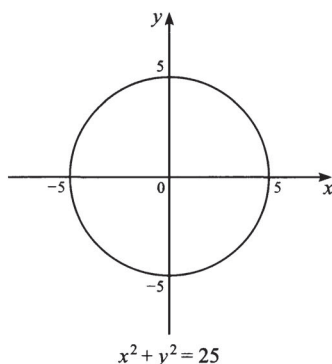


Fig. 3-2

#### Representation of Relations on Finite Sets

Suppose  $A$  and  $B$  are finite sets. The following are two ways of picturing a relation  $R$  from  $A$  to  $B$ .

- (i) Form a rectangular array whose rows are labeled by the elements of  $A$  and whose columns are labeled by the elements of  $B$ . Put a 1 or 0 in each position of the array according as  $a \in A$  is or is not related to  $b \in B$ . This array is called the *matrix* of the relation.
- (ii) Write down the elements of  $A$  and the elements of  $B$  in two disjoint disks, and then draw an arrow from  $a \in A$  to  $b \in B$  whenever  $a$  is related to  $b$ . This picture will be called the *arrow diagram* of the relation.

Consider, for example, the following relation  $R$  from  $A = \{1, 2, 3\}$  to  $B = \{x, y, z\}$ :

$$R = \{(1, y), (1, z), (3, y)\}$$

Figure 3-3 pictures this relation  $R$  by the above two ways.

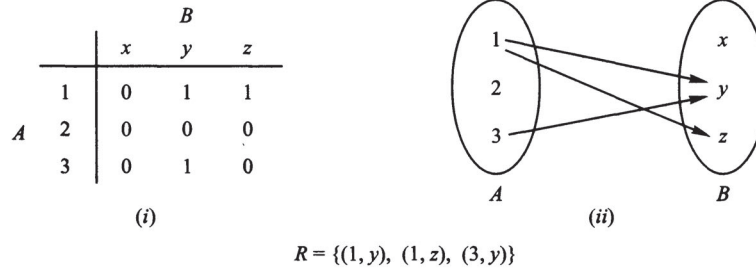


Fig. 3-3

### Directed Graphs of Relations on Sets

There is another way of picturing a relation  $R$  when  $R$  is a relation from a finite set  $A$  to itself. First we write down the elements of the set  $A$ , and then we draw an arrow from each element  $x$  to each element  $y$  whenever  $x$  is related to  $y$ . This diagram is called the *directed graph* of the relation  $R$ . Figure 3-4, for example, shows the directed graph of the following relation  $R$  on the set  $A = \{1, 2, 3, 4\}$ :

$$R = \{(1, 2), (2, 2), (2, 4), (3, 2), (3, 4), (4, 1), (4, 3)\}$$

Observe that there is an arrow from 2 to itself, since 2 is related to 2 under  $R$ .

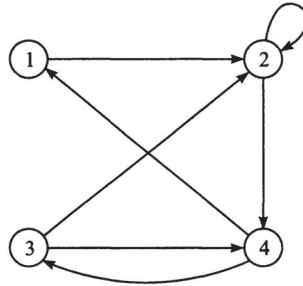


Fig. 3-4

### 3.5 COMPOSITION OF RELATIONS

Let  $A, B, C$  be sets, and let  $R$  be a relation from  $A$  to  $B$  and let  $S$  be a relation from  $B$  to  $C$ . Then  $R$  and  $S$  give rise to a relation from  $A$  to  $C$  denoted by  $R \circ S$  and defined as follows:

$$R \circ S = \{(a, c) : \text{there exists } b \in B \text{ for which } (a, b) \in R \text{ and } (b, c) \in S\}$$

That is,

$$a(R \circ S)c \text{ whenever there exists } b \in B \text{ such that } a R b \text{ and } b S c$$

This relation  $R \circ S$  is called the *composition* of  $R$  and  $S$ ; it is sometimes denoted by  $RS$ .

Our first theorem (proved in Problem 3.10) tells us that the composition of relations is associative. Namely:

**Theorem 3.1:** Let  $A, B, C, D$  be sets. Suppose  $R$  is a relation from  $A$  to  $B$ ,  $S$  is a relation from  $B$  to  $C$ , and  $T$  is a relation from  $C$  to  $D$ . Then

$$(R \circ S) \circ T = R \circ (S \circ T)$$

The arrow diagrams of relations give us a geometrical interpretation of the composition  $R \circ S$  as seen in the following example.

**EXAMPLE 3.5** Let  $A = \{1, 2, 3, 4\}$ ,  $B = \{a, b, c, d\}$ ,  $C = \{x, y, z\}$  and let

$$R = \{(1, a), (2, d), (3, a), (3, b), (3, d)\} \quad \text{and} \quad S = \{(b, x), (b, z), (c, y), (d, z)\}$$

Consider the arrow diagrams of  $R$  and  $S$  as in Fig. 3-5. Observe there is an arrow from 2 to  $d$  which is followed by an arrow from  $d$  to  $x$ . We can view these two arrows as a “path” which “connects” the element  $2 \in A$  to the element  $x \in C$ . Thus

$$2(R \circ S)x \quad \text{since} \quad 2Rd \text{ and } dSx$$

Similarly there are paths from 3 to  $x$  and from 3 to  $z$ . Hence

$$3(R \circ S)x \quad \text{and} \quad 3(R \circ S)z$$

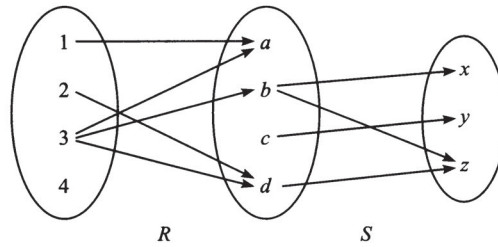


Fig. 3-5

No other element of  $A$  is connected to an element of  $C$ . Accordingly,

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

Suppose  $R$  is a relation on a set  $A$ , that is,  $R$  is a relation from a set  $A$  to itself. Then  $R \circ R$ , the composition of  $R$  with itself, is always defined, and  $R \circ R$  is sometimes denoted by  $R^2$ . Similarly,  $R^3 = R^2 \circ R = R \circ R \circ R$ , and so on. Thus  $R^n$  is defined for all positive  $n$ .

**Warning:** Many texts denote the composition of relations  $R$  and  $S$  by  $S \circ R$  rather than  $R \circ S$ . This is done in order to conform with the usual use of  $g \circ f$  to denote the composition of  $f$  and  $g$  where  $f$  and  $g$  are functions. Thus the reader may have to adjust his notation when using this text as a supplement with another text. However, when a relation  $R$  is composed with itself, then the meaning of  $R \circ R$  is unambiguous.

**Composition of Relations and Matrices**

There is a way of finding the composition  $R \circ S$  of relations using matrices. Specifically, let  $M_R$  and  $M_S$  denote respectively the matrices of the relations  $R$  and  $S$  in Example 3.5. Then:

$$M_R = \begin{matrix} & a & b & c & d \\ \begin{matrix} 1 \\ 2 \\ 3 \\ 4 \end{matrix} & \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 \\ 1 & 1 & 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix} \end{matrix} \quad \text{and} \quad M_S = \begin{matrix} & x & y & z \\ \begin{matrix} a \\ b \\ c \\ d \end{matrix} & \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 1 & 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix} \end{matrix}$$

Multiplying  $M_R$  and  $M_S$  we obtain the matrix

$$M = M_R M_S = \begin{matrix} & \begin{matrix} x & y & z \end{matrix} \\ \begin{matrix} 1 \\ 2 \\ 3 \\ 4 \end{matrix} & \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \\ 1 & 0 & 2 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix} \end{matrix}$$

The nonzero entries in this matrix tell us which elements are related by  $R \circ S$ . Thus  $M = M_R M_S$  and  $M_{R \circ S}$  have the same nonzero entries.

### 3.6 TYPES OF RELATIONS

Consider a given set  $A$ . This section discusses a number of important types of relations which are defined on  $A$ .

- (1) **Reflexive Relations:** A relation  $R$  on a set  $A$  is *reflexive* if  $a R a$  for every  $a \in A$ , that is, if  $(a, a) \in R$  for every  $a \in A$ . Thus  $R$  is not reflexive if there exists an  $a \in A$  such that  $(a, a) \notin R$ .
- (2) **Symmetric Relations:** A relation  $R$  on a set  $A$  is *symmetric* if whenever  $a R b$  then  $b R a$ , that is, if whenever  $(a, b) \in R$ , then  $(b, a) \in R$ . Thus  $R$  is not symmetric if there exists  $a, b \in A$  such that  $(a, b) \in R$  but  $(b, a) \notin R$ .
- (3) **Antisymmetric Relations:** A relation  $R$  on a set  $A$  is *antisymmetric* if whenever  $a R b$  and  $b R a$  then  $a = b$ , that is, if whenever  $(a, b)$  and  $(b, a)$  belong to  $R$  then  $a = b$ . Thus  $R$  is not antisymmetric if there exist  $a, b \in A$  such that  $(a, b)$  and  $(b, a)$  belong to  $R$ , but  $a \neq b$ .
- (4) **Transitive Relations:** A relation  $R$  on a set  $A$  is *transitive* if whenever  $a R b$  and  $b R c$  then  $a R c$ , that is, if whenever  $(a, b), (b, c) \in R$  then  $(a, c) \in R$ . Thus  $R$  is not transitive if there exist  $a, b, c \in A$  such that  $(a, b), (b, c) \in R$ , but  $(a, c) \notin R$ .

**EXAMPLE 3.6** Consider the following five relations on the set  $A = \{1, 2, 3, 4\}$ :

$$\begin{aligned} R_1 &= \{(1, 1), (1, 2), (2, 3), (1, 3), (4, 4)\} \\ R_2 &= \{(1, 1), (1, 2), (2, 1), (2, 2), (3, 3), (4, 4)\} \\ R_3 &= \{(1, 3), (2, 1)\} \\ R_4 &= \emptyset, \text{ the empty relation} \\ R_5 &= A \times A, \text{ the universal relation} \end{aligned}$$

Determine which of the relations are: (a) reflexive, (b) symmetric, (c) antisymmetric, (d) transitive.

- (a) Since  $A$  contains the four elements 1, 2, 3, 4, a relation  $R$  on  $A$  is reflexive if it contains the four pairs  $(1, 1)$ ,  $(2, 2)$ ,  $(3, 3)$ , and  $(4, 4)$ . Thus only  $R_2$  and the universal relation  $R_5 = A \times A$  are reflexive. Note that  $R_1$ ,  $R_3$ , and  $R_4$  are not reflexive since, for example,  $(2, 2)$  does not belong to any of them.
- (b)  $R_1$  is not symmetric since  $(1, 2) \in R_1$  but  $(2, 1) \notin R_1$ .  $R_3$  is not symmetric since  $(1, 3) \in R_3$  but  $(3, 1) \notin R_3$ . The other relations are symmetric.
- (c)  $R_2$  is not antisymmetric since  $(1, 2)$  and  $(2, 1)$  belong to  $R_2$ , but  $1 \neq 2$ . Similarly, the universal relation  $R_5$  is not antisymmetric. All the other relations are antisymmetric.
- (d) The relation  $R_3$  is not transitive since  $(2, 1), (1, 3) \in R_3$  but  $(2, 3) \notin R_3$ . All the other relations are transitive.

**EXAMPLE 3.7** Consider the following five relations:

- (1) Relation  $\leq$  (less than or equal) on the set  $\mathbf{Z}$  of integers.
- (2) Set inclusion  $\subseteq$  on a collection  $\mathcal{C}$  of sets.
- (3) Relation  $\perp$  (perpendicular) on the set  $L$  of lines in the plane.
- (4) Relation  $\parallel$  (parallel) on the set  $L$  of lines in the plane.
- (5) Relation  $|$  of divisibility on the set  $\mathbf{P}$  of positive integers. (Recall that  $x|y$  if there exists  $z$  such that  $xz = y$ .)

Determine which of the relations are: (a) reflexive, (b) symmetric, (c) antisymmetric, (d) transitive.

- (a) The relation (3) is not reflexive since no line is perpendicular to itself. Also, (4) is not reflexive since no line is parallel to itself. The other relations are reflexive; that is,  $x \leq x$  for every integer  $x$  in  $\mathbf{Z}$ ,  $A \subseteq A$  for any set  $A$  in  $\mathcal{C}$ , and  $n|n$  for every positive integer  $n$  in  $\mathbf{P}$ .
- (b) The relation  $\perp$  is symmetric since if line  $a$  is perpendicular to line  $b$  then  $b$  is perpendicular to  $a$ . Also,  $\parallel$  is symmetric since if line  $a$  is parallel to line  $b$  then  $b$  is parallel to  $a$ . The other relations are not symmetric. For example,  $3 \leq 4$  but  $4 \not\leq 3$ ;  $\{1, 2\} \subseteq \{1, 2, 3\}$  but  $\{1, 2, 3\} \not\subseteq \{1, 2\}$ ; and  $2|6$  but  $6 \not| 2$ .
- (c) The relation  $\leq$  is antisymmetric since whenever  $a \leq b$  and  $b \leq a$  then  $a = b$ . Set inclusion  $\subseteq$  is antisymmetric since whenever  $A \subseteq B$  and  $B \subseteq A$  then  $A = B$ . Also, divisibility on  $\mathbf{P}$  is antisymmetric since whenever  $m|n$  and  $n|m$  then  $m = n$ . (Note that divisibility on  $\mathbf{Z}$  is not antisymmetric since  $3|-3$  and  $-3|3$  but  $3 \neq -3$ .) The relation  $\perp$  is not antisymmetric since we can have distinct lines  $a$  and  $b$  such that  $a \perp b$  and  $b \perp a$ . Similarly,  $\parallel$  is not antisymmetric.
- (d) The relations  $\leq$ ,  $\subseteq$  and  $|$  are transitive. That is:
  - (i) If  $a \leq b$  and  $b \leq c$ , then  $a \leq c$ .
  - (ii) If  $A \subseteq B$  and  $B \subseteq C$ , then  $A \subseteq C$ .
  - (iii) If  $a|b$  and  $b|c$ , then  $a|c$ .

On the other hand, the relation  $\perp$  is not transitive. If  $a \perp b$  and  $b \perp c$ , then it is not true that  $a \perp c$ . Since no line is parallel to itself, we can have  $a \parallel b$  and  $b \parallel a$ , but  $a \not\parallel a$ . Thus  $\parallel$  is not transitive. (We note that the relation “is parallel or equal to” is a transitive relation on the set  $L$  of lines in the plane.)

**Remark 1:** The properties of being symmetric and antisymmetric are not negatives of each other. For example, the relation  $R = \{(1, 3), (3, 1), (2, 3)\}$  is neither symmetric nor antisymmetric. On the other hand, the relation  $R' = \{(1, 1), (2, 2)\}$  is both symmetric and antisymmetric.

**Remark 2:** The property of transitivity can also be expressed in terms of the composition of relations. Recall that, for a relation  $R$  on a set  $A$ , we defined

$$R^2 = R \circ R \quad \text{and, more generally,} \quad R^n = R^{n-1} \circ R$$

Then one can show (Problem 3.66) that a relation  $R$  is transitive if and only if  $R^n \subseteq R$  for every  $n \geq 1$ .

### 3.7 CLOSURE PROPERTIES

Let  $\mathcal{P}$  denote a property of relations on a set  $A$  such as being symmetric or transitive. A relation on  $A$  with property  $\mathcal{P}$  will be called a  $\mathcal{P}$ -relation.

Now let  $R$  be a given relation on  $A$  with or without property  $\mathcal{P}$ . The  $\mathcal{P}$ -closure of  $R$ , written  $\mathcal{P}(R)$ , is a relation on  $A$  containing  $R$  such that

$$R \subseteq \mathcal{P}(R) \subseteq S$$

for any other  $\mathcal{P}$ -relation  $S$  containing  $R$ . Clearly  $R = \mathcal{P}(R)$  if  $R$  itself has property  $\mathcal{P}$ .

The reflexive, symmetric, and transitive closures of a relation  $R$  will be denoted respectively by:

$$\text{reflexive}(R), \quad \text{symmetric}(R), \quad \text{transitive}(R)$$



### Reflexive and Symmetric Closures

The next theorem tells us how to easily obtain the reflexive and symmetric closures of a relation. Here  $\Delta_A = \{(a, a) : a \in A\}$  is the *diagonal* or *equality* relation on  $A$ .

**Theorem 3.2:** Let  $R$  be a relation on a set  $A$ . Then:

- (i)  $R \cup \Delta_A$  is the reflexive closure of  $R$ .
- (ii)  $R \cup R^{-1}$  is the symmetric closure of  $R$ .

In other words, reflexive( $R$ ) is obtained by simply adding to  $R$  those elements  $(a, a)$  in the diagonal which do not already belong to  $R$ , and symmetric( $R$ ) is obtained by adding to  $R$  all pairs  $(b, a)$  whenever  $(a, b)$  belongs to  $R$ .

**EXAMPLE 3.8** Consider the following relation  $R$  on the set  $A = \{1, 2, 3, 4\}$ :

$$R = \{(1, 1), (1, 3), (2, 4), (3, 1), (3, 3), (4, 3)\}$$

Then

$$\begin{aligned} \text{reflexive}(R) &= R \cup \{(2, 2), (4, 4)\} \\ &= \{(1, 1), (1, 3), (2, 4), (3, 1), (3, 3), (4, 3), (2, 2), (4, 4)\} \end{aligned}$$

and

$$\begin{aligned} \text{symmetric}(R) &= R \cup \{(4, 2), (3, 4)\} \\ &= \{(1, 1), (1, 3), (2, 4), (3, 1), (3, 3), (4, 3), (4, 2), (3, 4)\} \end{aligned}$$

### Transitive Closure

Let  $R$  be a relation on a set  $A$ . Recall that  $R^2 = R \circ R$  and  $R^n = R^{n-1} \circ R$ . We define

$$R^* = \bigcup_{i=1}^{\infty} R^i$$

The following theorem applies.

**Theorem 3.3:**  $R^*$  is the transitive closure of a relation  $R$ .

Suppose  $A$  is a finite set with  $n$  elements. Using graph theory, one can easily show that

$$R^* = R \cup R^2 \cup \dots \cup R^n$$

This gives us the following result.

**Theorem 3.4:** Let  $R$  be a relation on a set  $A$  with  $n$  elements. Then

$$\text{transitive}(R) = R \cup R^2 \cup \dots \cup R^n$$

Finding transitive( $R$ ) can take a lot of time when  $A$  has a large number of elements. Here we give a simple example where  $A$  has only three elements.

**EXAMPLE 3.9** Consider the following relation  $R$  on  $A = \{1, 2, 3\}$ :

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

Then

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

Accordingly,

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

### 3.8 PARTITIONS

Let  $S$  be a nonempty set. A *partition* of  $S$  is a subdivision of  $S$  into nonoverlapping, nonempty subsets. Precisely, a partition of  $S$  is a collection  $P = \{A_i\}$  of nonempty subsets of  $S$  such that

- (i) Each  $a \in S$  belongs to one of the  $A_i$ .
- (ii) The sets  $\{A_i\}$  are mutually disjoint; that is,

$$\text{If } A_i \neq A_j, \text{ then } A_i \cap A_j = \emptyset$$

The subsets in a partition are called *cells*. Thus each  $a \in S$  belongs to exactly one of the cells. Figure 3-6 is a Venn diagram of a partition of the rectangular set  $S$  of points into five cells:  $A_1, A_2, A_3, A_4, A_5$ .

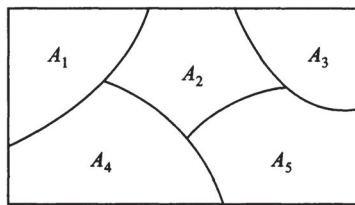


Fig. 3-6

**EXAMPLE 3.10** Consider the following collections of subsets of  $S = \{1, 2, \dots, 8, 9\}$ :

- (i)  $P_1 = [\{1, 3, 5\}, \{2, 6\}, \{4, 8, 9\}]$
- (ii)  $P_2 = [\{1, 3, 5\}, \{2, 4, 6, 8\}, \{5, 7, 9\}]$
- (iii)  $P_3 = [\{1, 3, 5\}, \{2, 4, 6, 8\}, \{7, 9\}]$

Then  $P_1$  is not a partition of  $S$  since  $7 \in S$  does not belong to any of the subsets.  $P_2$  is not a partition of  $S$  since  $\{1, 3, 5\}$  and  $\{5, 7, 9\}$  are not disjoint. On the other hand,  $P_3$  is a partition of  $S$ .

**Remark:** Given a partition  $P = \{A_i\}$  of a set  $S$ , any element  $b \in A_i$  is called a *representative* of the cell  $A_i$ , and a subset  $B$  of  $S$  is called a *system of representatives* if  $B$  contains exactly one element of each of the cells of  $P$ . Note  $B = \{1, 2, 7\}$  is a system of representatives of the partition  $P_3$  in Example 3.10.

### 3.9 EQUIVALENCE RELATIONS

Consider a nonempty set  $S$ . A relation  $R$  on  $S$  is an *equivalence relation* if  $R$  is reflexive, symmetric, and transitive. That is,  $R$  is an equivalence relation on  $S$  if it has the following three properties:

- (1) For every  $a \in S$ ,  $a R a$ .
- (2) If  $a R b$ , then  $b R a$ .
- (3) If  $a R b$  and  $b R c$ , then  $a R c$ .

The general idea behind an equivalence relation is that it is a classification of objects which are in some way “alike”. In fact, the relation  $=$  of equality on any set  $S$  is an equivalence relation; that is,

- (1)  $a = a$  for every  $a \in S$ .
- (2) If  $a = b$ , then  $b = a$ .
- (3) If  $a = b$  and  $b = c$ , then  $a = c$ .

For this reason, one frequently uses  $\sim$  or  $\equiv$  to denote an equivalence relation.

Examples of equivalence relations other than equality follow.

**EXAMPLE 3.11**

- (a) Consider the set  $L$  of lines and the set  $T$  of triangles in the Euclidean plane. The relation “is parallel to or identical to” is an equivalence relation on  $L$ , and congruence and similarity are equivalence relations on  $T$ .
- (b) The classification of animals by species, that is, the relation “is of the same species as,” is an equivalence relation on the set of animals.
- (c) The relation  $\subseteq$  of set inclusion is not an equivalence relation. It is reflexive and transitive, but it is not symmetric since  $A \subseteq B$  does not imply  $B \subseteq A$ .
- (d) Let  $m$  be a fixed positive integer. Two integers  $a$  and  $b$  are said to be *congruent modulo  $m$* , written

$$a \equiv b \pmod{m}$$

if  $m$  divides  $a - b$ . For example, for  $m = 4$  we have  $11 \equiv 3 \pmod{4}$  since 4 divides  $11 - 3$ , and  $22 \equiv 6 \pmod{4}$  since 4 divides  $22 - 6$ . This relation of congruence modulo  $m$  is an equivalence relation.

**Equivalence Relations and Partitions**

Suppose  $R$  is an equivalence relation on a set  $S$ . For each  $a$  in  $S$ , let  $[a]$  denote the set of elements of  $S$  to which  $a$  is related under  $R$ ; that is,

$$[a] = \{x : (a, x) \in R\}$$

We call  $[a]$  the *equivalence class* of  $a$  in  $S$  under  $R$ . The collection of all such equivalence classes is denoted by  $S/R$ , that is,

$$S/R = \{[a] : a \in S\}$$

It is called the *quotient* set of  $S$  by  $R$ .

The fundamental property of an equivalence relation and its quotient set is contained in the following theorem (which is proved in Problem 3.28).

**Theorem 3.5:** Let  $R$  be an equivalence relation on a set  $S$ . Then the quotient set  $S/R$  is a partition of  $S$ . Specifically:

- (i) For each  $a$  in  $S$ , we have  $a \in [a]$ .
- (ii)  $[a] = [b]$  if and only if  $(a, b) \in R$ .
- (iii) If  $[a] \neq [b]$ , then  $[a]$  and  $[b]$  are disjoint.

The converse of the above theorem (proved in Problem 3.29) is also true. That is,

**Theorem 3.6:** Suppose  $P = \{A_i\}$  is a partition of a set  $S$ . Then there is an equivalence relation  $\sim$  on  $S$  such that the set  $S/\sim$  of equivalence classes is the same as the partition  $P = \{A_i\}$ .

Specifically, for  $a, b \in S$ , the equivalence  $\sim$  in Theorem 3.6 is defined by  $a \sim b$  if  $a$  and  $b$  belong to the same cell in  $P$ .

Thus we see there is a one-to-one correspondence between the equivalence relations on a set  $S$  and the partitions of  $S$ . Accordingly, for a given equivalence relation  $R$  on a set  $S$ , we can talk about a system  $B$  of representatives of the quotient set  $S/R$  which would contain exactly one representative from each equivalence class.

**EXAMPLE 3.12**

(a) Consider the following relation  $R$  on  $S = \{1, 2, 3, 4\}$ :

$$R = \{(1, 1), (2, 2), (1, 3), (3, 1), (3, 3), (4, 4)\}$$

One can show that  $R$  is reflexive, symmetric and transitive, that is, that  $R$  is an equivalence relation. Under the relation  $R$ ,

$$[1] = \{1, 3\}, \quad [2] = \{2\}, \quad [3] = \{1, 3\}, \quad [4] = \{4\}$$

Observe that  $[1] = [3]$  and that  $S/R = \{[1], [2], [4]\}$  is a partition of  $S$ . One can choose either  $\{1, 2, 4\}$  or  $\{2, 3, 4\}$  as a system of representatives of the equivalence classes.

(b) Let  $R_5$  be the relation on the set  $\mathbf{Z}$  of integers defined by

$$x \equiv y \pmod{5}$$

which reads “ $x$  is congruent to  $y$  modulo 5” and which means that the difference  $x - y$  is divisible by 5. Then  $R_5$  is an equivalence relation on  $\mathbf{Z}$ . There are exactly five equivalence classes in the quotient set  $\mathbf{Z}/R_5$  as follows:

$$\begin{aligned} A_0 &= \{\dots, -10, -5, 0, 5, 10, \dots\} \\ A_1 &= \{\dots, -9, -4, 1, 6, 11, \dots\} \\ A_2 &= \{\dots, -8, -3, 2, 7, 12, \dots\} \\ A_3 &= \{\dots, -7, -2, 3, 8, 13, \dots\} \\ A_4 &= \{\dots, -6, -1, 4, 9, 14, \dots\} \end{aligned}$$

Observe that any integer  $x$ , which can be uniquely expressed in the form  $x = 5q + r$  where  $0 \leq r < 5$ , is a member of the equivalence class  $A_r$  where  $r$  is the remainder. As expected, the equivalence classes are disjoint and

$$\mathbf{Z} = A_0 \cup A_1 \cup A_2 \cup A_3 \cup A_4$$

This quotient set  $\mathbf{Z}/R_5$  is usually denoted by

$$\mathbf{Z}/5\mathbf{Z} \text{ or simply } \mathbf{Z}_5$$

Usually one chooses  $\{0, 1, 2, 3, 4\}$  or  $\{-2, -1, 0, 1, 2\}$  as a system of representatives of the equivalence classes.

**3.10 PARTIAL ORDERING RELATIONS**

This section defines another important class of relations. A relation  $R$  on a set  $S$  is called a *partial ordering* of  $S$  or a *partial order* on  $S$  if it has the following three properties:

- (1) For every  $a \in S$ , we have  $a R a$ .
- (2) If  $a R b$  and  $b R a$ , then  $a = b$ .
- (3) If  $a R b$  and  $b R c$ , then  $a R c$ .

That is,  $R$  is a partial ordering of  $S$  if  $R$  is reflexive, antisymmetric, and transitive.

A set  $S$  together with a partial ordering  $R$  is called a *partially ordered set* or *poset*. Partially ordered sets will be studied in more detail in Chapter 7, so here we simply give some examples.

**EXAMPLE 3.13**

(a) The relation  $\subseteq$  of set inclusion is a partial ordering of any collection of sets since set inclusion has the three desired properties. That is,

- (1)  $A \subseteq A$  for any set  $A$ .
- (2) If  $A \subseteq B$  and  $B \subseteq A$ , then  $A = B$ .
- (3) If  $A \subseteq B$  and  $B \subseteq C$ , then  $A \subseteq C$ .

- (b) The relation  $\leq$  on the set  $R$  of real numbers is reflexive, antisymmetric, and transitive. Thus  $\leq$  is a partial ordering.
- (c) The relation “ $a$  divides  $b$ ” is a partial ordering of the set  $p$  of positive integers. However, “ $a$  divides  $b$ ” is not a partial ordering of the set  $Z$  of integers since  $a|b$  and  $b|a$  does not imply  $a = b$ . For example,  $3|-3$  and  $-3|3$  but  $3 \neq -3$ .

### 3.11 $n$ -ARY RELATIONS

All the relations discussed above were binary relations. By an  $n$ -ary relation, we mean a set of ordered  $n$ -tuples. For any set  $S$ , a subset of the product set  $S^n$  is called an  $n$ -ary relation on  $S$ . In particular, a subset of  $S^3$  is called a *ternary relation* on  $S$ .

#### EXAMPLE 3.14

- (a) Let  $L$  be a line in the plane. Then “betweenness” is a ternary relation  $R$  on the points of  $L$ ; that is,  $(a, b, c) \in R$  if  $b$  lies between  $a$  and  $c$  on  $L$ .
- (b) The equation  $x^2 + y^2 + z^2 = 1$  determines a ternary relation  $T$  on the set  $R$  of real numbers. That is, a triple  $(x, y, z)$  belongs to  $T$  if  $(x, y, z)$  satisfies the equation which means that  $(x, y, z)$  is the coordinates of a point in  $R^3$  on the sphere  $S$  with radius 1 and center at the origin  $0 = (0, 0, 0)$ .

## Solved Problems

### ORDERED PAIRS AND PRODUCT SETS

- 3.1. Let  $A = \{1, 2\}$ ,  $B = \{x, y, z\}$ ,  $C = \{3, 4\}$ . Find  $A \times B \times C$ .

$A \times B \times C$  consists of all ordered triplets  $(a, b, c)$  where  $a \in A$ ,  $b \in B$ ,  $c \in C$ . These elements of  $A \times B \times C$  can be systematically obtained by a so-called tree diagram (Fig. 3-7). The elements of  $A \times B \times C$  are precisely the 12 ordered triplets to the right of the tree diagram.

Observe that  $n(A) = 2$ ,  $n(B) = 3$ , and  $n(C) = 2$  and, as expected,

$$n(A \times B \times C) = 12 = n(A) \cdot n(B) \cdot n(C)$$

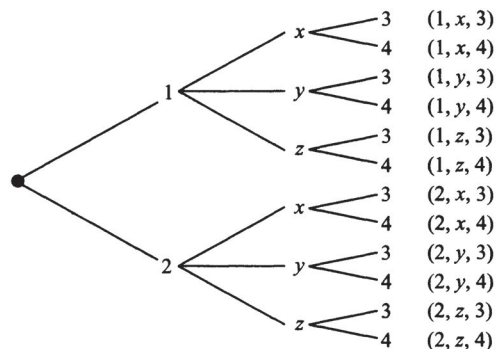


Fig. 3-7

**3.2.** Find  $x$  and  $y$  given  $(2x, x + y) = (6, 2)$ .

Two ordered pairs are equal if and only if the corresponding components are equal. Hence we obtain the equations

$$2x = 6 \quad \text{and} \quad x + y = 2$$

from which we derive the answer  $x = 3$  and  $y = -1$ .

**3.3.** Let  $A = \{1, 2\}$ ,  $B = \{a, b, c\}$ ,  $C = \{c, d\}$ . Find  $(A \times B) \cap (A \times C)$  and  $A \times (B \cap C)$ .

We have

$$\begin{aligned} A \times B &= \{(1, a), (1, b), (1, c), (2, a), (2, b), (2, c)\} \\ A \times C &= \{(1, c), (1, d), (2, c), (2, d)\} \end{aligned}$$

Hence

$$(A \times B) \cap (A \times C) = \{(1, c), (2, c)\}$$

Since  $B \cap C = \{c\}$ ,

$$A \times (B \cap C) = \{(1, c), (2, c)\}$$

Observe that  $(A \times B) \cap (A \times C) = A \times (B \cap C)$ . This is true for any sets  $A$ ,  $B$ , and  $C$  (see Problem 3.4).

**3.4.** Prove  $(A \times B) \cap (A \times C) = A \times (B \cap C)$ .

$$\begin{aligned} (A \times B) \cap (A \times C) &= \{(x, y) : (x, y) \in A \times B \text{ and } (x, y) \in A \times C\} \\ &= \{(x, y) : x \in A, y \in B \text{ and } x \in A, y \in C\} \\ &= \{(x, y) : x \in A, y \in B \cap C\} = A \times (B \cap C) \end{aligned}$$

### RELATIONS AND THEIR GRAPHS

**3.5.** Find the number of relations from  $A = \{a, b, c\}$  to  $B = \{1, 2\}$ .

There are  $3 \cdot 2 = 6$  elements in  $A \times B$ , and hence there are  $m = 2^6 = 64$  subsets of  $A \times B$ . Thus there are  $m = 64$  relations from  $A$  to  $B$ .

**3.6.** Given  $A = \{1, 2, 3, 4\}$  and  $B = \{x, y, z\}$ . Let  $R$  be the following relation from  $A$  to  $B$ :

$$R = \{(1, y), (1, z), (3, y), (4, x), (4, z)\}$$

- (a) Determine the matrix of the relation.      (c) Find the inverse relation  $R^{-1}$  of  $R$ .  
 (b) Draw the arrow diagram of  $R$ .      (d) Determine the domain and range of  $R$ .

(a) See Fig. 3-8(a). Observe that the rows of the matrix are labeled by the elements of  $A$  and the columns by the elements of  $B$ . Also observe that the entry in the matrix corresponding to  $a \in A$  and  $b \in B$  is 1 if  $a$  is related to  $b$  and 0 otherwise.

(b) See Fig. 3-8(b). Observe that there is an arrow from  $a \in A$  to  $b \in B$  iff  $a$  is related to  $b$ , i.e., iff  $(a, b) \in R$ .

(c) Reverse the ordered pairs of  $R$  to obtain  $R^{-1}$ :

$$R^{-1} = \{(y, 1), (z, 1), (y, 3), (x, 4), (z, 4)\}$$

Observe that by reversing the arrows in Fig. 3-8(b) we obtain the arrow diagram of  $R^{-1}$ .

- (d) The domain of  $R$ ,  $\text{Dom}(R)$ , consists of the first elements of the ordered pairs of  $R$ , and the range of  $R$ ,  $\text{Ran}(R)$ , consists of the second elements. Thus,

$$\text{Dom}(R) = \{1, 3, 4\} \quad \text{and} \quad \text{Ran}(R) = \{x, y, z\}$$

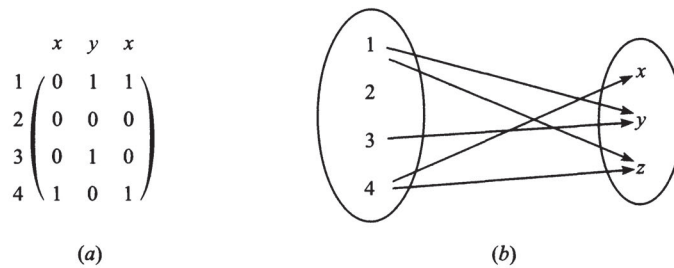


Fig. 3-8

- 3.7. Let  $A = \{1, 2, 3, 4, 6\}$ , and let  $R$  be the relation on  $A$  defined by “ $x$  divides  $y$ ”, written  $x|y$ .

- (a) Write  $R$  as a set of ordered pairs.  
 (b) Draw its directed graph.  
 (c) Find the inverse relation  $R^{-1}$  of  $R$ . Can  $R^{-1}$  be described in words?  
 (a) Find those numbers in  $A$  divisible by 1, 2, 3, 4, and then 6. These are:

$$1|1, 1|2, 1|3, 1|4, 1|6, 2|2, 2|4, 2|6, 3|3, 3|6, 4|4, 6|6$$

Hence

$$R = \{(1, 1), (1, 2), (1, 3), (1, 4), (1, 6), (2, 2), (2, 4), (2, 6), (3, 3), (3, 6), (4, 4), (6, 6)\}$$

- (b) See Fig. 3-9.  
 (c) Reverse the ordered pairs of  $R$  to obtain  $R^{-1}$ :

$$R^{-1} = \{(1, 1), (2, 1), (3, 1), (4, 1), (6, 1), (2, 2), (4, 2), (6, 2), (3, 3), (6, 3), (4, 4), (6, 6)\}$$

$R^{-1}$  can be described by the statement “ $x$  is a multiple of  $y$ ”.

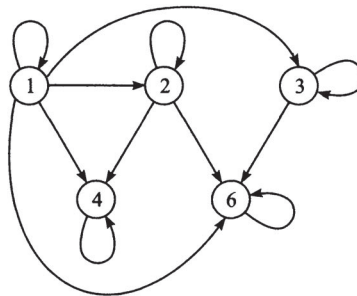


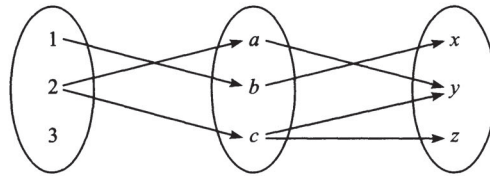
Fig. 3-9

**3.8.** Let  $A = \{1, 2, 3\}$ ,  $B = \{a, b, c\}$ ,  $C = \{x, y, z\}$ . Consider the following relation  $R$  from  $A$  to  $B$  and relation  $S$  from  $B$  to  $C$ :

$$R = \{(1, b), (2, a), (2, c)\} \quad \text{and} \quad S = \{(a, y), (b, x), (c, y), (c, z)\}$$

- (a) Find the composition relation  $R \circ S$ .
- (b) Find the matrices  $M_R$ ,  $M_S$ , and  $M_{R \circ S}$  of the respective relations  $R$ ,  $S$ , and  $R \circ S$ ; and compare  $M_{R \circ S}$  to the product  $M_R M_S$ .
- (a) Draw the arrow diagram of the relations  $R$  and  $S$  as in Fig. 3-10. Observe that 1 in  $A$  is “connected” to  $x$  in  $C$  by the path  $1 \rightarrow b \rightarrow x$ ; hence  $(1, x)$  belongs to  $R \circ S$ . Similarly,  $(2, y)$  and  $(2, z)$  belong to  $R \circ S$ . We have (as in Example 3.5)

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



**Fig. 3-10**

(b) The matrices of  $M_R$ ,  $M_S$ , and  $M_{R \circ S}$  follow:

$$M_R = \begin{matrix} & \begin{matrix} a & b & c \end{matrix} \\ \begin{matrix} 1 \\ 2 \\ 3 \end{matrix} & \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 1 & 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix} \end{matrix} \quad M_S = \begin{matrix} & \begin{matrix} x & y & z \end{matrix} \\ \begin{matrix} a \\ b \\ c \end{matrix} & \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 1 \end{pmatrix} \end{matrix} \quad M_{R \circ S} = \begin{matrix} & \begin{matrix} x & y & z \end{matrix} \\ \begin{matrix} 1 \\ 2 \\ 3 \end{matrix} & \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix} \end{matrix}$$

Multiplying  $M_R$  and  $M_S$  we obtain

$$M_R M_S = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 2 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix}$$

Observe that  $M_{R \circ S}$  and  $M_R M_S$  have the same zero entries.

**3.9.** Let  $R$  and  $S$  be the following relations on  $A = \{1, 2, 3\}$ :

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

Find: (a)  $R \cap S$ ,  $R \cup S$ ,  $R^c$ ; (b)  $R \circ S$ ; (c)  $S^2 = S \circ S$ .

- (a) Treat  $R$  and  $S$  simply as sets, and take the usual intersection and union. For  $R^c$ , use the fact that  $A \times A$  is the universal relation on  $A$ .

$$R \cap S = \{(1, 2), (3, 3)\}, \quad R \cup S = \{(1, 1), (1, 2), (1, 3), (2, 1), (2, 3), (3, 1), (3, 3)\}$$

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

- (b) For each pair  $(a, b) \in R$ , find all pairs  $(b, c) \in S$ . Then  $(a, c) \in R \circ S$ . For example,  $(1, 1) \in R$  and  $(1, 2), (1, 3) \in S$ ; hence  $(1, 2)$  and  $(1, 3)$  belong to  $R \circ S$ . Thus,

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

- (c) Following the algorithm in (b), we get  $S^2 = S \circ S = \{(1, 1), (1, 3), (2, 2), (2, 3), (3, 3)\}$ .



- 3.10.** Prove Theorem 3.1: Let  $A, B, C, D$  be sets. Suppose  $R$  is a relation from  $A$  to  $B$ ,  $S$  is a relation from  $B$  to  $C$ , and  $T$  is a relation from  $C$  to  $D$ . Then  $(R \circ S) \circ T = R \circ (S \circ T)$ .

We need to show that each ordered pair in  $(R \circ S) \circ T$  belongs to  $R \circ (S \circ T)$ , i.e., that  $(R \circ S) \circ T \subseteq R \circ (S \circ T)$ , and vice versa.

Suppose  $(a, d)$  belongs to  $(R \circ S) \circ T$ . Then there exists a  $c$  in  $C$  such that  $(a, c) \in R \circ S$  and  $(c, d) \in T$ . Since  $(a, c) \in R \circ S$ , there exists a  $b$  in  $B$  such that  $(a, b) \in R$  and  $(b, c) \in S$ . Since  $(b, c) \in S$  and  $(c, d) \in T$ , we have  $(b, d) \in S \circ T$ ; and since  $(a, b) \in R$  and  $(b, d) \in S \circ T$ , we have  $(a, d) \in R \circ (S \circ T)$ . Thus

$$(R \circ S) \circ T \subseteq R \circ (S \circ T)$$

Similarly,  $R \circ (S \circ T) \subseteq (R \circ S) \circ T$ . Both inclusion relations prove  $(R \circ S) \circ T = R \circ (S \circ T)$

### TYPES OF RELATIONS AND CLOSURE PROPERTIES

- 3.11.** Determine when a relation  $R$  on a set  $A$  is:

(a) not reflexive, (b) not symmetric, (c) not transitive, (d) not antisymmetric.

- (a) There exists  $a \in A$  such that  $(a, a)$  does not belong to  $R$ .  
 (b) There exists  $(a, b)$  in  $R$  such that  $(b, a)$  does not belong to  $R$ .  
 (c) There exists  $(a, b)$  and  $(b, c)$  in  $R$  such that  $(a, c)$  does not belong to  $R$ .  
 (d) There exists distinct elements  $a, b \in A$  such that  $(a, b)$  and  $(b, a)$  belong to  $R$ .

- 3.12.** Let  $A = \{1, 2, 3, 4\}$ . Consider the following relation  $R$  on  $A$ :

$$R = \{(1, 1), (2, 2), (2, 3), (3, 2), (4, 2), (4, 4)\}$$

- (a) Draw its directed graph.  
 (b) Is  $R$  (i) reflexive? (ii) symmetric? (iii) transitive? (iv) antisymmetric?  
 (c) Find  $R^2 = R \circ R$ .
- (a) See Fig. 3-11.  
 (b) (i)  $R$  is not reflexive because  $3 \in A$  but  $3 \not R 3$ , i.e.,  $(3, 3) \notin R$ .  
 (ii)  $R$  is not symmetric because  $4 R 2$  but  $2 \not R 4$ , i.e.,  $(4, 2) \in R$  but  $(2, 4) \notin R$ .  
 (iii)  $R$  is not transitive because  $4 R 2$  and  $2 R 3$  but  $4 \not R 3$ , i.e.,  $(4, 2) \in R$  and  $(2, 3) \in R$  but  $(4, 3) \notin R$ .  
 (iv)  $R$  is not antisymmetric because  $2 R 3$  and  $3 R 2$  but  $2 \neq 3$ .  
 (c) For each pair  $(a, b) \in R$ , find all  $(b, c) \in R$ . Since  $(a, c) \in R^2$ ,

$$R^2 = \{(1, 1), (2, 2), (2, 3), (3, 2), (3, 3), (4, 2), (4, 3), (4, 4)\}$$

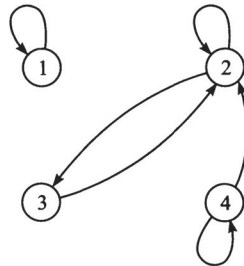


Fig. 3-11

**3.13.** Give examples of relations  $R$  on  $A = \{1, 2, 3\}$  having the stated property.

- (a)  $R$  is both symmetric and antisymmetric.
- (b)  $R$  is neither symmetric nor antisymmetric.
- (c)  $R$  is transitive but  $R \cup R^{-1}$  is not transitive.

There are several possible examples for each answer. One possible set of examples follows:

- (a)  $R = \{(1, 1), (2, 2)\}$
- (b)  $R = \{(1, 2), (2, 1), (2, 3)\}$
- (c)  $R = \{(1, 2)\}$

**3.14.** Suppose  $\mathcal{C}$  is a collection of relations  $S$  on a set  $A$  and let  $T$  be the intersection of the relations  $S$ , that is,  $T = \cap\{S : S \in \mathcal{C}\}$ . Prove:

- (a) If every  $S$  is symmetric, then  $T$  is symmetric.
  - (b) If every  $S$  is transitive, then  $T$  is transitive.
- (a) Suppose  $(a, b) \in T$ . Then  $(a, b) \in S$  for every  $S$ . Since each  $S$  is symmetric,  $(b, a) \in S$  for every  $S$ . Hence  $(b, a) \in T$  and  $T$  is symmetric.
- (b) Suppose  $(a, b)$  and  $(b, c)$  belong to  $T$ . Then  $(a, b)$  and  $(b, c)$  belong to  $S$  for every  $S$ . Since each  $S$  is transitive,  $(a, c)$  belongs to  $S$  for every  $S$ . Hence,  $(a, c) \in T$  and  $T$  is transitive.

**3.15.** Let  $A = \{a, b, c\}$  and let  $R$  be defined by

$$R = \{(a, a), (a, b), (b, c), (c, c)\}$$

Find: (a) reflexive( $R$ ), (b) symmetric( $R$ ), (c) transitive( $R$ ).

- (a) The reflexive closure of  $R$  is obtained by adding all diagonal pairs of  $A \times A$  to  $R$  which are not currently in  $R$ . Hence

$$\text{reflexive}(R) = R \cup \{(b, b)\} = \{(a, a), (a, b), (b, c), (c, c), (b, b)\}$$

- (b) The symmetric closure of  $R$  is obtained by adding all pairs in  $R^{-1}$  which are not currently in  $R$ . Hence

$$\begin{aligned} \text{symmetric}(R) &= R \cup \{(b, a), (c, b)\} \\ &= \{(a, a), (a, b), (b, a), (b, c), (c, b), (c, c)\} \end{aligned}$$

- (c) Since  $A$  has three elements, the transitive closure of  $R$  is obtained by taking the union of  $R$  with  $R^2 = R \circ R$  and  $R^3 = R \circ R \circ R$ . We have:

$$\begin{aligned} R^2 &= R \circ R = \{(a, a), (a, b), (a, c), (b, c), (c, c)\} \\ R^3 &= R^2 \circ R = \{(a, a), (a, b), (a, c), (b, c), (c, c)\} \end{aligned}$$

$$\text{Hence transitive}(R) = R \cup R^2 \cup R^3 = \{(a, a), (a, b), (a, c), (b, c), (c, c)\}.$$

### PARTITIONS

**3.16.** Let  $S = \{1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6\}$ . Determine which of the following are partitions of  $S$ :

- (a)  $P_1 = [\{1, 2, 3\}, \{1, 4, 5, 6\}]$
  - (b)  $P_2 = [\{1, 2\}, \{3, 5, 6\}]$
  - (c)  $P_3 = [\{1, 3, 5\}, \{2, 4\}, \{6\}]$
  - (d)  $P_4 = [\{1, 3, 5\}, \{2, 4, 6, 7\}]$
- (a) No, since  $1 \in S$  belongs to two cells.
- (b) No, since  $4 \in S$  does not belong to any cell.
- (c)  $P_3$  is a partition of  $S$ .
- (d) No, since  $\{2, 4, 6, 7\}$  is not a subset of  $S$ .

**3.17.** Find all partitions of  $S = \{a, b, c, d\}$ .

Note first that each partition of  $S$  contains either 1, 2, 3, or 4 distinct cells. The partitions are as follows:

- (1)  $[S]$ ;
- (2)  $[\{a\}, \{b, c, d\}], [\{b\}, \{a, c, d\}], [\{c\}, \{a, b, d\}], [\{d\}, \{a, b, c\}], [\{a, b\}, \{c, d\}], [\{a, c\}, \{b, d\}], [\{a, d\}, \{b, c\}]$ ;
- (3)  $[\{a\}, \{b\}, \{c, d\}], [\{a\}, \{c\}, \{b, d\}], [\{a\}, \{d\}, \{b, c\}], [\{b\}, \{c\}, \{a, d\}], [\{b\}, \{d\}, \{a, c\}], [\{c\}, \{d\}, \{a, b\}]$ ;
- (4)  $[\{a\}, \{b\}, \{c\}, \{d\}]$ .

There are 15 different partitions of  $S$ .

**3.18.** Let  $[A_1, A_2, \dots, A_m]$  and  $[B_1, B_2, \dots, B_n]$  be partitions of  $X$ . Show that the collection of sets

$$P = [\{A_i \cap B_j\}] \setminus \emptyset$$

is also a partition (called the *cross partition*) of  $X$ . (Observe that we have deleted the empty set  $\emptyset$ .)

Let  $x \in X$ . Then  $x$  belongs to  $A_r$  for some  $r$ , and to  $B_s$  for some  $s$ ; hence  $x$  belongs to  $A_r \cap B_s$ . Thus the union of the  $A_i \cap B_j$  is equal to  $X$ . Now suppose  $A_r \cap B_s$  and  $A_{r'} \cap B_{s'}$  are not disjoint, say  $y$  belongs to both sets. Then  $y$  belongs to  $A_r$  and  $A_{r'}$ ; hence  $A_r = A_{r'}$ . Similarly  $y$  belongs to  $B_s$  and  $B_{s'}$ ; hence  $B_s = B_{s'}$ . Accordingly,  $A_r \cap B_s = A_{r'} \cap B_{s'}$ . Thus the cells are mutually disjoint or equal. Accordingly,  $P$  is a partition of  $X$ .

**3.19.** Let  $X = \{1, 2, 3, \dots, 8, 9\}$ . Find the cross partition  $P$  of the following partitions of  $X$ :

$$P_1 = [\{1, 3, 5, 7, 9\}, \{2, 4, 6, 8\}] \quad \text{and} \quad P_2 = [\{1, 2, 3, 4\}, \{5, 7\}, \{6, 8, 9\}]$$

Intersect each cell in  $P_1$  with each cell in  $P_2$  (omitting empty intersections) to obtain

$$P = [\{1, 3\}, \{5, 7\}, \{9\}, \{2, 4\}, \{8\}]$$

**3.20.** Let  $f(n, k)$  represent the number of partitions of a set  $S$  with  $n$  elements into  $k$  cells (for  $k = 1, 2, \dots, n$ ). Find a recursion formula for  $f(n, k)$ .

Note first that  $f(n, 1) = 1$  and  $f(n, n) = 1$  since there is only one way to partition  $S$  with  $n$  elements into either one cell or  $n$  cells. Now suppose  $n > 1$  and  $1 < k < n$ . Let  $b$  be some distinguished element of  $S$ . If  $\{b\}$  constitutes a cell, then  $S \setminus \{b\}$  can be partitioned into  $k - 1$  cells in  $f(n - 1, k - 1)$  ways. On the other hand, each partition of  $S \setminus \{b\}$  into  $k$  cells allows  $b$  to be admitted into a cell in  $k$  ways. We have thus shown that

$$f(n, k) = f(n - 1, k - 1) + kf(n - 1, k)$$

which is the desired recursion formula.

**3.21.** Consider the recursion formula in Problem 3.20. (a) Find the solution for  $n = 1, 2, \dots, 6$  in a form similar to Pascal's triangle. (b) Find the number  $m$  of partitions of a set with  $m = 6$  elements.

- (a) Use the recursion formula to obtain the triangle in Fig. 3-12, for example:

$$f(6, 4) = f(5, 3) + 4f(5, 4) = 25 + 4(10) = 65$$

- (b) Use row 6 in Fig. 3-12 to obtain  $m = 1 + 31 + 90 + 65 + 15 + 1 = 203$ .

$$\begin{array}{cccccc} 1 & & & & & \\ 1 & 1 & & & & \\ 1 & 3 & 1 & & & \\ 1 & 7 & 6 & 1 & & \\ 1 & 15 & 25 & 10 & 1 & \\ 1 & 31 & 90 & 65 & 15 & 1 \end{array}$$

Fig. 3-12

### EQUIVALENCE RELATIONS AND PARTITIONS

- 3.22.** Consider the set  $\mathbf{Z}$  of integers and any integer  $m > 1$ . We say that  $x$  is congruent to  $y$  modulo  $m$ , written

$$x \equiv y \pmod{m}$$

if  $x - y$  is divisible by  $m$ . Show that this defines an equivalence relation on  $\mathbf{Z}$ .

We must show that the relation is reflexive, symmetric, and transitive.

- (i) For any  $x$  in  $\mathbf{Z}$  we have  $x \equiv x \pmod{m}$  because  $x - x = 0$  is divisible by  $m$ . Hence the relation is reflexive.
- (ii) Suppose  $x \equiv y \pmod{m}$ , so  $x - y$  is divisible by  $m$ . Then  $-(x - y) = y - x$  is also divisible by  $m$ , so  $y \equiv x \pmod{m}$ . Thus the relation is symmetric.
- (iii) Now suppose  $x \equiv y \pmod{m}$  and  $y \equiv z \pmod{m}$ , so  $x - y$  and  $y - z$  are each divisible by  $m$ . Then the sum

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

is also divisible by  $m$ ; hence  $x \equiv z \pmod{m}$ . Thus the relation is transitive.

Accordingly, the relation of congruence modulo  $m$  on  $\mathbf{Z}$  is an equivalence relation.

- 3.23.** Let  $R$  be the following equivalence relation on the set  $A = \{1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6\}$ :

$$R = \{(1, 1), (1, 5), (2, 2), (2, 3), (2, 6), (3, 2), (3, 3), (3, 6), (4, 4), (5, 1), (5, 5), (6, 2), (6, 3), (6, 6)\}$$

Find the partition of  $A$  induced by  $R$ , i.e., find the equivalence classes of  $R$ .

Those elements related to 1 are 1 and 5, hence

$$[1] = \{1, 5\}$$

We pick an element which does not belong to  $[1]$ , say 2. Those elements related to 2 are 2, 3, and 6, hence

$$[2] = \{2, 3, 6\}$$

The only element which does not belong to  $[1]$  or  $[2]$  is 4. The only element related to 4 is 4. Thus

$$[4] = \{4\}$$

Accordingly,

$$\{\{1, 5\}, \{2, 3, 6\}, \{4\}\}$$

is the partition of  $A$  induced by  $R$ .

**3.24.** Let  $A = \{1, 2, 3, \dots, 14, 15\}$ . Let  $R$  be the equivalence relation on  $A$  defined by congruence modulo 4.

- (a) Find the equivalence classes determined by  $R$ .  
 (b) Find a system  $B$  of equivalence class representatives which are multiples of 3.
- (a) Recall (Problem 3.22) that  $a \equiv b \pmod{4}$  if 4 divides  $a - b$  or, equivalently, if  $a = b + 4k$  for some integer  $k$ . Accordingly:
- (1) Add multiples of 4 to 1 to obtain  $[1] = \{1, 5, 9, 13\}$ .
  - (2) Add multiples of 4 to 2 to obtain  $[2] = \{2, 6, 10, 14\}$ .
  - (3) Add multiples of 4 to 3 to obtain  $[3] = \{3, 7, 11, 15\}$ .
  - (4) Add multiples of 4 to 4 to obtain  $[4] = \{4, 8, 12\}$ .

Then  $[1], [2], [3], [4]$  are all the equivalence classes since they include all the elements of  $A$ .

- (b) Choose an element in each equivalence class which is a multiple of 3. Thus  $B = \{9, 6, 3, 12\}$  or  $B = \{9, 6, 15, 12\}$ .

**3.25.** Consider the set of words  $W = \{\text{sheet, last, sky, wash, wind, sit}\}$ . Find  $W/R$  where  $R$  is the equivalence relation defined by:

- (a) “has the same number of letters”, (b) “begins with the same letter”.

- (a) Those words with the same number of letters belong to the same cell; hence

$$W/R = [\{\text{sheet}\}, \{\text{last, wash, wind}\}, \{\text{sky, sit}\}]$$

- (b) Those words beginning with the same letter belong to the same cell; hence

$$W/R = [\{\text{sheet, sky, sit}\}, \{\text{last}\}, \{\text{wash, wind}\}]$$

**3.26.** Let  $A$  be a set of nonzero integers and let  $\approx$  be the relation on  $A \times A$  defined as follows:

$$(a, b) \approx (c, d) \quad \text{whenever} \quad ad = bc$$

Prove that  $\approx$  is an equivalence relation.

We must show that  $\approx$  is reflexive, symmetric, and transitive.

- (i) *Reflexivity:* We have  $(a, b) \approx (a, b)$  since  $ab = ba$ . Hence  $\approx$  is reflexive.
- (ii) *Symmetry:* Suppose  $(a, b) \approx (c, d)$ . Then  $ad = bc$ . Accordingly,  $cb = da$  and hence  $(c, d) \approx (a, b)$ . Thus,  $\approx$  is symmetric.
- (iii) *Transitivity:* Suppose  $(a, b) \approx (c, d)$  and  $(c, d) \approx (e, f)$ . Then  $ad = bc$  and  $cf = de$ . Multiplying corresponding terms of the equations gives  $(ad)(cf) = (bc)(de)$ . Canceling  $c \neq 0$  and  $d \neq 0$  from both sides of the equation yields  $af = be$ , and hence  $(a, b) \approx (e, f)$ . Thus  $\approx$  is transitive.

Accordingly,  $\approx$  is an equivalence relation.

**3.27.** Let  $A = \{1, 2, 3, \dots, 14, 15\}$ . Let  $\approx$  be the equivalence relation on  $A \times A$  defined by  $(a, b) \approx (c, d)$  if  $ad = bc$ . (See Problem 3.26.) Find the equivalence class of  $(3, 2)$ .

We seek all  $(m, n)$  such that  $(3, 2) \approx (m, n)$ , that is, such that  $3n = 2m$  or  $3/2 = m/n$ . [In other words, if  $(3, 2)$  is written as the fraction  $3/2$ , then we seek all fractions  $m/n$  which are equal to  $3/2$ .] Thus:

$$[(3, 2)] = \{(3, 2), (6, 4), (9, 6), (12, 8), (15, 10)\}$$

**3.28.** Prove Theorem 3.5: Let  $R$  be an equivalence relation on a set  $S$ . Then the quotient set  $S/R$  is a partition of  $S$ . Specifically:

- (i) For each  $a \in S$ , we have  $a \in [a]$ .
- (ii)  $[a] = [b]$  if and only if  $(a, b) \in R$ .
- (iii) If  $[a] \neq [b]$ , then  $[a]$  and  $[b]$  are disjoint.

*Proof of (i):* Since  $R$  is reflexive,  $(a, a) \in R$  for every  $a \in S$  and therefore  $a \in [a]$ .

*Proof of (ii):* Suppose  $(a, b) \in R$ . We want to show that  $[a] = [b]$ . Let  $x \in [b]$ ; then  $(b, x) \in R$ . But by hypothesis  $(a, b) \in R$  and so, by transitivity,  $(a, x) \in R$ . Accordingly  $x \in [a]$ . Thus  $[b] \subseteq [a]$ . To prove that  $[a] \subseteq [b]$ , we observe that  $(a, b) \in R$  implies, by symmetry, that  $(b, a) \in R$ . Then, by a similar argument, we obtain  $[a] \subseteq [b]$ . Consequently,  $[a] = [b]$ .

On the other hand, if  $[a] = [b]$ , then, by (i),  $b \in [b] = [a]$ ; hence  $(a, b) \in R$ .

*Proof of (iii):* We prove the equivalent contrapositive statement:

$$\text{If } [a] \cap [b] \neq \emptyset \quad \text{then} \quad [a] = [b]$$

If  $[a] \cap [b] \neq \emptyset$ , then there exists an element  $x \in A$  with  $x \in [a] \cap [b]$ . Hence  $(a, x) \in R$  and  $(b, x) \in R$ . By symmetry,  $(x, b) \in R$  and by transitivity,  $(a, b) \in R$ . Consequently by (ii),  $[a] = [b]$ .

**3.29.** Prove Theorem 3.6: Suppose  $P = \{A_i\}$  is a partition of a set  $S$ . Then there is an equivalence relation  $\sim$  on  $S$  such that  $S/\sim$  is the same as the partition  $P = \{A_i\}$ .

For  $a, b \in S$ , define  $a \sim b$  if  $a$  and  $b$  belong to the same cell  $A_k$  in  $P$ . We need to show that  $\sim$  is reflexive, symmetric, and transitive.

- (i) Let  $a \in S$ . Since  $P$  is a partition, there exists some  $A_k$  in  $P$  such that  $a \in A_k$ . Hence  $a \sim a$ . Thus  $\sim$  is reflexive.
- (ii) Symmetry follows from the fact that if  $a, b \in A_k$ , then  $b, a \in A_k$ .
- (iii) Suppose  $a \sim b$  and  $b \sim c$ . Then  $a, b \in A_i$  and  $b, c \in A_j$ . Therefore  $b \in A_i \cap A_j$ . Since  $P$  is a partition,  $A_i = A_j$ . Thus  $a, c \in A_i$  and so  $a \sim c$ . Thus  $\sim$  is transitive.

Accordingly,  $\sim$  is an equivalence relation on  $S$ .

Furthermore,

$$[a] = \{x : a \sim x\} = \{x : x \text{ is in the same cell } A_k \text{ as } a\}$$

Thus the equivalence classes under  $\sim$  are the same as the cells in the partition  $P$ .

### MISCELLANEOUS PROBLEMS

**3.30.** Consider the set  $\mathbf{Z}$  of integers. Define  $a \sim b$  if  $b = a^r$  for some positive integer  $r$ . Show that  $\sim$  is a partial ordering of  $\mathbf{Z}$ ; that is, show that: (i) (Reflexive)  $a \sim a$  for every  $a \in \mathbf{Z}$ . (ii) (Antisymmetric) If  $a \sim b$  and  $b \sim a$ , then  $a = b$ . (iii) (Transitive) If  $a \sim b$  and  $b \sim c$ , then  $a \sim c$ .

- (i) Since  $a = a^1$ , we have  $a \sim a$ . Thus  $\sim$  is reflexive.
- (ii) Suppose  $a \sim b$  and  $b \sim a$ , say  $b = a^r$  and  $a = b^s$ . Then  $a = (a^r)^s = a^{rs}$ . There are four possibilities:
  - (1)  $rs = 1$ . Then  $r = 1$  and  $s = 1$  and so  $a = b$ .
  - (2)  $a = 1$ . Then  $b = 1^r = 1 = a$ .
  - (3)  $b = 1$ . Then  $a = 1^s = 1 = b$ .
  - (4)  $a = -1$ . Then  $b = 1$  or  $b = -1$ . By (3),  $b \neq 1$ . Hence  $b = -1 = a$ .
 In all cases  $a = b$ . Thus  $\sim$  is antisymmetric.

(iii) Suppose  $a \sim b$  and  $b \sim c$ , say  $b = a^r$  and  $c = b^s$ . Then  $c = (a^r)^s = a^{rs}$ , and hence  $a \sim c$ . Thus  $\sim$  is transitive.

Accordingly,  $\sim$  is a partial ordering of  $\mathbf{Z}$ .

**3.31.** Let  $A = \{1, 2, 3, \dots, 14, 15\}$ .

- (a) Let  $R$  be the ternary relation on  $A$  defined by the equation  $x^2 + 5y = z$ . Write  $R$  as a set of ordered triples.  
 (b) Let  $S$  be the 4-ary relation on  $A$  defined by

$$S = \{(x, y, z, t) : 4x + 3y + z^2 = t\}$$

Write  $S$  as a set of 4-tuples.

- (a) Since  $x^2 > 15$  for  $x > 3$ , we need only find solutions for  $y$  and  $z$  when  $x = 1, 2, 3$ . This yields:

$$R = \{(1, 1, 6), (1, 2, 1), (2, 1, 9), (2, 2, 14), (3, 1, 14)\}$$

- (b) Note we can only have  $x = 1, 2, 3$ . This yields:

$$S = \{(1, 1, 1, 8), (1, 1, 2, 11), (1, 2, 1, 11), (1, 2, 2, 14), \\ (1, 3, 1, 14), (2, 1, 1, 12), (2, 1, 2, 15), (2, 2, 1, 15)\}$$

**3.32.** Each of the following expressions defines a relation on  $\mathbf{R}$ :

(a)  $y \leq x^2$ , (b)  $y < 3 - x$ , (c)  $y > x^3$ .

Sketch (by shading the appropriate area) each relation in the plane  $\mathbf{R}^2$ .

In order to sketch a relation on  $\mathbf{R}$  defined by an expression of the form:

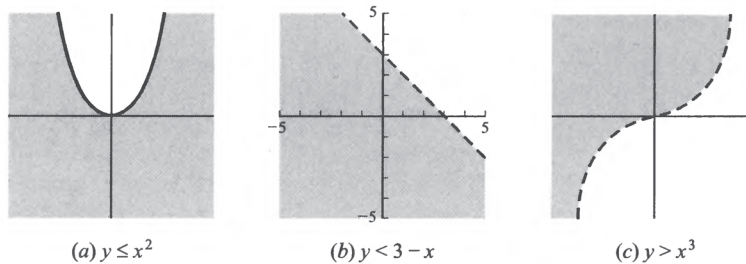
(1)  $y > f(x)$ , (2)  $y \geq f(x)$ , (3)  $y < f(x)$ , (4)  $y \leq f(x)$

first plot the equation  $y = f(x)$  in the usual manner. Then the relation, i.e., the desired set, will consist, respectively, of the points:

- (1) above, (2) above and on, (3) below, (4) below and on.

the equation  $y = f(x)$ .

Figure 3-13 shows the sketches of the three relations. The equations  $y = f(x)$  in Fig. 3-13(b) and (c) are drawn with dashes to indicate that the points on the curve do not belong to the given relation.



**Fig. 3-13**

**3.33.** Each of the following expressions defines a relation on  $\mathbf{R}$ :

(a)  $x^2 + y^2 < 16$ , (b)  $x^2 - 4y^2 \geq 9$ , (c)  $x^2 + 4y^2 \leq 16$ .

Sketch (by shading the appropriate area) each relation in the plane  $\mathbf{R}^2$ .

In order to sketch a relation on  $\mathbf{R}$  defined by an expression of the form  $E(x, y) < k$  (respectively:  $\leq$ ,  $\equiv$ , or  $\geq$ ), first plot the equation  $E(x, y) = k$ . The curve  $E(x, y) = k$  will, in simple situations, partition the plane into various regions. The relation will consist of all the points in one or more of the regions. Thus test at least one point in each region to determine whether or not all the points in that region belong to the relation. Also, use a dotted curve to indicate the points on the curve that do not belong to the relation.

Figure 3-14 shows each of the relations.

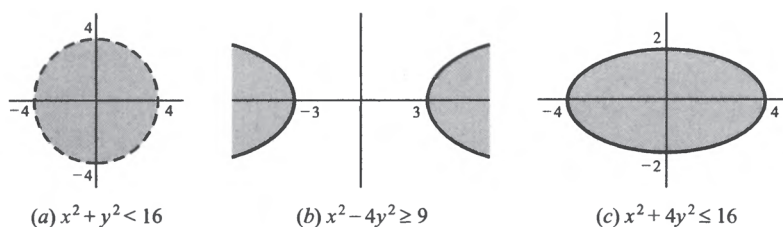


Fig. 3-14

## Supplementary Problems

### ORDERED PAIRS AND PRODUCT SETS

- 3.34. Let  $S = \{a, b, c\}$ ,  $T = \{b, c, d\}$ ,  $W = \{a, d\}$ . Find  $S \times T \times W$  by constructing the tree diagram of  $S \times T \times W$ .
- 3.35. Let  $C = \{H, T\}$ , the set of possible outcomes if a coin is tossed. Find: (a)  $C^2 = C \times C$ ; (b)  $C^3$ .
- 3.36. Find  $x$  and  $y$  if: (a)  $(x + 2, 4) = (5, 2x + y)$ ; (b)  $(y - 2, 2x + 1) = (x - 1, y + 2)$ .
- 3.37. Suppose  $n(A) = 3$  and  $n(B) = 5$ . Find the number of elements in:  
 (a)  $A \times B$ ,  $B \times A$ ,  $A^2$ ,  $B^2$ ; (b)  $A \times B \times A$ ,  $A^3$ ,  $B^3$ .
- 3.38. Sketch each of the following product sets in the plane  $\mathbf{R}^2$  by shading the appropriate area:  
 (a)  $[-3, 3] \times [-1, 2]$ ; (b)  $[-3, 1) \times (-2, 2]$ ; (c)  $(-2, 3] \times [-3, \infty)$ .  
 [Here  $[-3, \infty)$  is the infinite interval  $\{x : x \geq -3\}$ .]
- 3.39. Prove:  $A \times (B \cup C) = (A \times B) \cup (A \times C)$ .
- 3.40. Suppose  $A = B \cap C$ . Show that: (a)  $A \times A = (B \times B) \cap (C \times C)$ ; (b)  $A \times A = (B \times C) \cap (C \times B)$ .

### RELATIONS

- 3.41. Consider the relation  $R = \{(1, a), (1, b), (3, b), (3, d), (4, b)\}$  from  $X = \{1, 2, 3, 4\}$  to  $Y = \{a, b, c, d\}$ .
- (a) Find  $E = \{x : x R b\}$  and  $F = \{x : x R d\}$ . (c) Find the domain and range of  $R$ .
- (b) Find  $G = \{y : 1 R y\}$  and  $H = \{y : 2 R y\}$ . (d) Find  $R^{-1}$ .



- 3.42. Let  $R$  and  $S$  be relations from  $A = \{1, 2, 3\}$  to  $B = \{a, b\}$  defined by

$$R = \{(1, a), (3, a), (2, b), (3, b)\} \quad \text{and} \quad S = \{(1, b), (2, b)\}$$

Find: (a)  $R \cap S$ ; (b)  $R \cup S$ ; (c)  $R^c$ , (d) composition  $R \circ S$ .

- 3.43. Find the number of relations from  $A = \{a, b, c, d\}$  to  $B = \{x, y\}$ .

- 3.44. Let  $R$  be the relation on  $P$  defined by the equation  $x + 3y = 12$ .

- (a) Write  $R$  as a set of ordered pairs.  
 (b) Find: (i) domain of  $R$ , (ii) range of  $R$ , (iii)  $R^{-1}$ .  
 (c) Find the composition relation  $R \circ R$ .

- 3.45. Consider the relation  $R = \{(1, 3), (1, 4), (3, 2), (3, 3), (3, 4)\}$  on  $A = \{1, 2, 3, 4\}$ .

- (a) Find the matrix representation  $M_R$  of  $R$ .  
 (b) Find the domain and range of  $R$ .  
 (c) Find  $R^{-1}$ .  
 (d) Draw the directed graph of  $R$ .  
 (e) Find the composition relation  $R \circ R$ .

- 3.46. Let  $S$  be the following relation on  $A = \{1, 2, 3, 4, 5\}$ :

$$S = \{(1, 2), (2, 2), (2, 4), (3, 3), (3, 5), (4, 1), (5, 2)\}$$

- (a) Find the following subsets of  $A$ :

$$E = \{x : xS2\}, \quad F = \{x : xS3\}, \quad G = \{x : 2Sx\}, \quad H = \{x : 3Sx\}$$

- (b) Find the matrix representation  $M_S$  of  $S$ .  
 (c) Draw the directed graph of  $S$ .  
 (d) Find the composition relation  $S \circ S$ .

- 3.47. Let  $R$  be the relation on  $X = \{a, b, c, d, e, f\}$  defined by

$$R = \{(a, b), (b, b), (b, c), (c, f), (d, b), (e, a), (e, b), (e, f)\}$$

- (a) Find each of the following subsets of  $X$ :

$$E = \{x : bRx\}, \quad F = \{x : xRb\}, \quad G = \{x : xRe\}, \quad H = \{x : eRx\}$$

- (b) Find domain and range of  $R$ .  
 (c) Find the composition  $R \circ R$ .

### TYPES OF RELATIONS

- 3.48. Each of the following defines a relation on  $\mathbf{P} = \{1, 2, 3, \dots\}$ :

$$(1) x > y, \quad (2) xy \text{ is a square}, \quad (3) x + y = 10, \quad (4) x + 4y = 10$$

Determine which relations are: (a) reflexive, (b) symmetric, (c) antisymmetric, (d) transitive.

- 3.49. Consider the relation  $R = \{(1, 1), (2, 2), (2, 3), (3, 2), (4, 2), (4, 4)\}$  on  $A = \{1, 2, 3, 4\}$ . Show that  $R$  is not: (a) reflexive, (b) symmetric, (c) transitive, (d) antisymmetric.

- 3.50. Let  $R, S, T$  be the relations on  $A = \{1, 2, 3\}$  defined by:

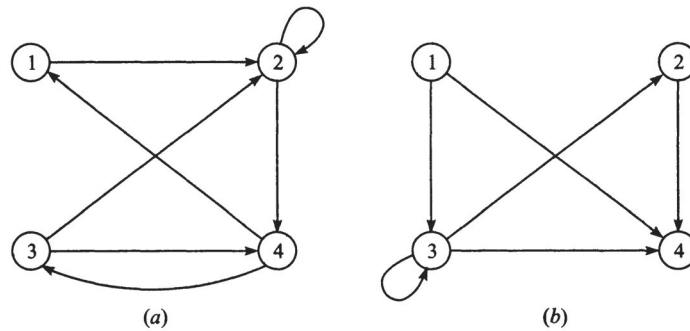
$$R = \{(1, 1), (2, 2), (3, 3)\} = \Delta_A, \quad S = \{(1, 2), (2, 1), (3, 3)\} \quad T = \{(1, 2), (2, 3), (1, 3)\}$$

Determine which of  $R, S, T$  are: (a) reflexive, (b) symmetric, (c) antisymmetric, (d) transitive.

- 3.51.** Let  $R$  be a relation on a set  $A$  where  $n(A) \geq 3$ . State whether each of the following is true or false. If it is false, give a counterexample on the set  $A = \{1, 2, 3\}$ :
- (a) If  $R$  is symmetric, then  $R^c$  is symmetric.
  - (b) If  $R$  is reflexive, then  $R^c$  is reflexive.
  - (c) If  $R$  is transitive, then  $R^c$  is transitive.
  - (d) If  $R$  is reflexive, then  $R \cap R^{-1}$  is not empty.
  - (e) If  $R$  is symmetric, then  $R \cap R^{-1}$  is not empty.
  - (f) If  $R$  is antisymmetric, then  $R^{-1}$  is antisymmetric.

**CLOSURE PROPERTIES**

- 3.52.** Consider the relation  $R = \{(1, 1), (2, 2), (2, 3), (4, 2)\}$  on  $A = \{1, 2, 3, 4\}$ . Find:  
 (a) reflexive closure of  $R$ ; (b) symmetric closure of  $R$ ; (c) transitive closure of  $R$ .
- 3.53.** Find the transitive closure  $R^*$  of the relation  $R$  on  $A = \{1, 2, 3, 4\}$  defined by the directed graph in:  
 (a) Fig. 3-15(a); (b) Fig. 3-15(b).



**Fig. 3-15**

- 3.54.** Suppose  $A$  has  $n$  elements, say  $A = \{1, 2, \dots, n\}$ .
- (a) Suppose  $R$  is a relation on  $A$  with  $r$  pairs. Find an upper bound for the number of pairs in:  
 (i) reflexive closure of  $R$ ; (ii) symmetric closure of  $R$ .
  - (b) Find a relation  $R$  on  $A$  with  $n$  pairs such that the transitive closure  $R^*$  of  $R$  is the universal relation  $A \times A$  (containing  $n^2$  pairs).

**PARTITIONS**

- 3.55.** Let  $S = \{1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6\}$ . Determine whether each of the following is a partition of  $S$ :
- (a)  $\{\{1, 3, 5\}, \{2, 4\}, \{3, 6\}\}$ , (c)  $\{\{1\}, \{3, 6\}, \{2, 4, 5\}, \{3, 6\}\}$ ,
  - (b)  $\{\{1, 5\}, \{2\}, \{3, 6\}\}$ , (d)  $\{\{1\}, \{2\}, \{3\}, \{4\}, \{5\}, \{6\}\}$ .
- 3.56.** Find all partitions of  $S = \{1, 2, 3\}$ .
- 3.57.** Let  $P_1$  and  $P_2$  be partitions of a set  $S$ , and let  $P$  be the cross partition.
- (a) Find bounds on the number  $n$  of elements in  $P$  if  $P_1$  has  $r$  elements and  $P_2$  has  $s$  elements.
  - (b) When will  $P = P_1$ ?
  - (c) Find  $P$  when  $S = \{1, 2, 3, \dots, 8, 9\}$  and  

$$P_1 = [\{1, 2, 3, 4, 5\}, \{6, 7, 8, 9\}] \quad \text{and} \quad P_2 = [\{1, 3, 5\}, \{2, 6, 7, 9\}, \{4, 8\}]$$

**EQUIVALENCE RELATIONS AND PARTITIONS**

**3.58.** Let  $S = \{1, 2, 3, \dots, 19, 20\}$ . Let  $\equiv$  be the equivalence relation on  $S$  defined by congruence modulo 7.

- (a) Find the quotient set  $S/\equiv$ . (b) Find a system of equivalence class representatives consisting of even integers.

**3.59.** Let  $A$  be a set of integers, and let  $\sim$  be the relation on  $A \times A$  defined by

$$(a, b) \sim (c, d) \quad \text{if} \quad a + d = b + c$$

- (a) Prove that  $\sim$  is an equivalence relation.  
 (b) Suppose  $A = \{1, 2, 3, \dots, 8, 9\}$ . Find  $[(2, 5)]$ , the equivalence class of  $(2, 5)$ .

**3.60.** Let  $\equiv$  be the relation on the set  $R$  of real numbers defined by  $a \equiv b$  if  $b - a \in \mathbf{Z}$ , that is, if  $b - a$  is an integer.

- (a) Show that  $\equiv$  is an equivalence relation.  
 (b) Show that the half-open interval  $A = [0, 1) = \{x : 0 \leq x < 1\}$  is a system of equivalence class representatives.

**MISCELLANEOUS PROBLEMS**

**3.61.** Suppose  $R$  is a partial order on a set  $A$ . Show that  $R^{-1}$  is also a partial order on  $A$ .

**3.62.** Suppose  $R_1$  is a partial ordering of a set  $A$  and  $R_2$  is a partial ordering of a set  $B$ . Let  $R$  be the relation on  $A \times B$  defined by

$$(a, b)R(a', b') \quad \text{if} \quad aR_1a' \text{ and } bR_2b'$$

Show that  $R$  is a partial ordering of  $A \times B$ .

**3.63.** Let  $A = \{1, 2, 3, \dots, 14, 15\}$ .

- (a) Let  $R$  be the ternary relation on  $A$  defined by the equation  $x^3 + y = 5z$ . Write  $R$  as a set of ordered triples.  
 (b) Let  $S$  be the 4-ary relation on  $A$  defined by the equation  $x_1^2 + 4x_2 + 5x_3 = x_4$ . Write  $S$  as a set of 4-tuples.

**3.64.** Sketch in the plane  $R^2$  (by shading the appropriate area) each of the following relations on  $R$ :

(a)  $y < x^2 - 4x + 2$ ; (b)  $y \geq \frac{x}{2} + 2$ .

**3.65.** For each of the following pairs of relations  $S$  and  $S'$  on  $R$ , sketch  $S \cap S'$  in the plane  $\mathbf{R}^2$  and find its domain and range:

(a)  $S = \{(x, y) : x^2 + y^2 \leq 25\}$ ,  $S' = \{(x, y) : y \geq 4x^2/9\}$   
 (b)  $S = \{(x, y) : x^2 + y^2 < 25\}$ ,  $S' = \{(x, y) : y < 3x/4\}$

**3.66.** Show that a relation  $R$  is transitive if and only if  $R^n \subseteq R$  for every  $n \geq 1$ .

### Answers to Supplementary Problems

3.34. See Fig. 3-16. Using the notation:  $aba = (a, b, a)$ ,

$$S \times T \times W = \{aba, abd, aca, acd, ada, add, bba, bbd, bca, bcd, bda, bdd, cba, cbd, cca, ccd, cda, cdd\}$$

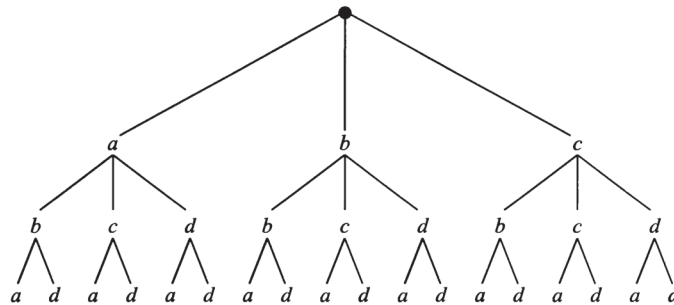


Fig. 3-16

3.35. (a)  $C^2 = \{HH, HT, TH, TT\}$ ; (b)  $C^3 = \{HHH, HHT, HTH, HTT, THH, THT, TTH, TTT\}$

3.36. (a)  $x = 3, y = -2$ ; (b)  $x = 2, y = 3$

3.37. (a) 15, 15, 9; (b) 45, 27, 125

3.38. See Fig. 3-17.

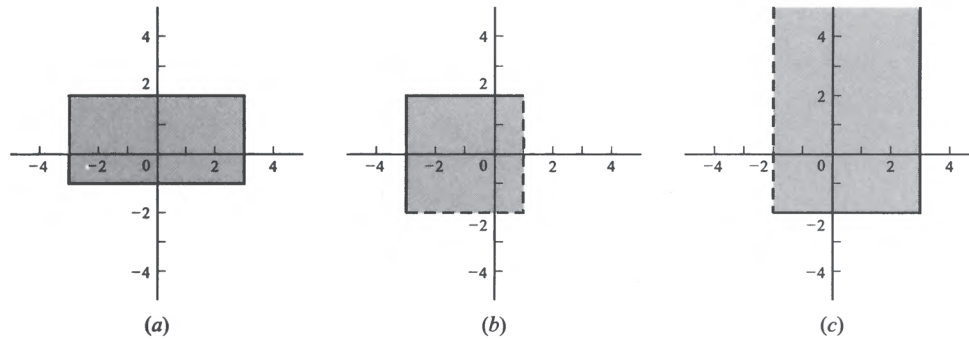


Fig. 3-17

3.41. (a)  $E = \{1, 3, 4\}, F = \{3\}$ ; (b)  $G = \{a, b\}, H = \emptyset$

(c)  $\text{Dom}(R) = \{1, 3, 4\}, \text{Ran}(R) = \{a, b, d\}$

(d)  $R^{-1} = \{(a, 1), (b, 1), (b, 3), (d, 3), (b, 4)\}$

3.42. (a)  $\{(2, b)\}$ ; (b)  $\{(1, a), (3, a), (2, b), (3, b), (1, b)\}$ ; (c)  $\{(2, a), (1, b)\}$ ; (d) Not defined

3.43.  $2^8 = 256$

3.44. (a)  $R = \{(3, 3), (6, 2), (9, 1)\}$

(b) (i)  $\{3, 6, 9\}$ , (ii)  $\{1, 2, 3\}$ , (iii)  $R^{-1} = \{(3, 3), (2, 6), (1, 9)\}$

(c)  $\{3, 3\}$

$$3.45. \quad (a) \quad M_R = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 0 & 1 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 1 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

- (b) Domain = {1, 3}, range = {2, 3, 4}  
 (c)  $R^{-1} = \{(3, 1), (4, 1), (2, 3), (3, 3), (4, 3)\}$   
 (d) See Fig. 3-18(a)  
 (e)  $R \circ R = \{(1, 2), (1, 3), (1, 4), (3, 2), (3, 3), (3, 4)\}$

$$3.46. \quad (a) \quad E = \{1, 2, 5\}, \quad F = \{3\}, \quad G = \{2, 4\}, \quad H = \{3, 5\}$$

$$(b) \quad M_S = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 1 \\ 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

(c) See Fig. 3-18(b)

$$(d) \quad S \circ S = \{(1, 2), (1, 4), (2, 1), (2, 2), (2, 4), (3, 2), (3, 3), (3, 5), (4, 2), (5, 2), (5, 4)\}$$

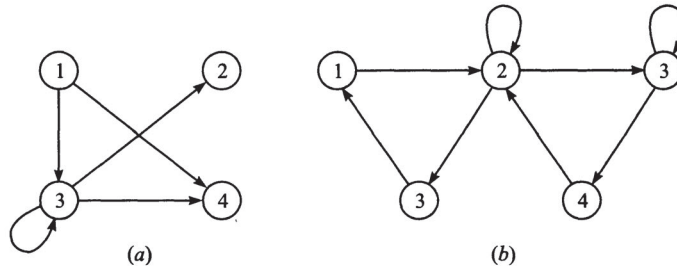


Fig. 3-18

$$3.47. \quad (a) \quad E = \{b, c\}, \quad F = \{a, b, d, e\}, \quad G = \emptyset, \quad H = \{a, b, f\}$$

$$3.48. \quad (a) \text{ None; } (b) (2) \text{ and } (3); (c) (1) \text{ and } (4); (d) (1), (2), (4)$$

$$3.49. \quad (a) (3, 3) \notin R; (b) (4, 2) \in R \text{ but } (2, 4) \notin R; (c) (2, 3) \in R, (3, 2) \in R, \text{ but } 2 \neq 3; \\ (d) (3, 2) \in R, (2, 3) \in R, \text{ but } (3, 3) \notin R$$

$$3.50. \quad (a) R; (b) R \text{ and } S; (c) R \text{ and } T; (d) R \text{ and } T$$

$$3.51. \quad \text{All true except: } (b) R = \{(1, 1), (2, 2), (3, 3)\}, \text{ so } (1, 1) \notin R^c; (c) \text{ and } (f) R = \{(2, 2)\}, \text{ so } \\ (2, 1), (1, 2) \in R^c, \text{ but } (2, 2) \notin R^c$$

$$3.52. \quad (a) \text{ reflexive}(R) = \{(1, 1), (2, 2), (2, 3), (4, 2), (3, 3), (4, 4)\} \\ (b) \text{ symmetric}(R) = \{(1, 1), (2, 2), (2, 3), (4, 2), (3, 2), (2, 4)\} \\ (c) \text{ transitive}(R) = \{(1, 1), (2, 2), (2, 3), (4, 2), (4, 3)\}$$

$$3.53. \quad (a) A \times A; (b) \{(1, 2), (1, 3), (1, 4), (3, 3), (3, 2), (3, 4)\}$$

- 3.54. (a) (i)  $r + n$ , (ii)  $2r$   
 (b)  $\{(1, 2), (2, 3), \dots, (n - 1, n), (n, 1)\}$
- 3.55. (a) No; (b) no; (c) yes; (d) yes
- 3.56. There are five:  $[S], [\{1\}, \{2, 3\}], [\{2\}, \{1, 3\}], [\{3\}, \{1, 2\}], [\{1\}, \{2\}, \{3\}]$ .
- 3.57. (a)  $\text{Max}(r, s) \leq n \leq rs$ . (b) Every cell in  $P_1$  is a subset of a cell in  $P_2$ .  
 (c)  $\{\{1, 3, 5\}, \{2\}, \{4\}, \{6, 7, 9\}, \{8\}\}$
- 3.58. (a)  $\{\{1, 8, 15\}, \{2, 9, 16\}, \{3, 10, 17\}, \{4, 11, 18\}, \{5, 12, 19\}, \{6, 13, 20\}, \{7, 14\}\}$   
 (b)  $\{8, 2, 10, 4, 12, 6, 14\}$
- 3.59. (b)  $[(2, 5)] = \{(1, 4), (2, 5), (3, 6), (4, 7), (5, 8), (6, 9)\}$
- 3.60. (b) If  $a, b \in A$ , then  $b - a \notin A$ . If  $x \in R$ , then  $x = n + a$  where  $n \in Z$  and  $a \in A$ .
- 3.63. (a)  $\{(1, 4, 1), (1, 9, 2), (1, 14, 3), (2, 2, 2), (2, 13, 3)\}$ ;  
 (b)  $\{(1, 1, 1, 10), (1, 1, 2, 15), (1, 2, 1, 14), (2, 1, 1, 13)\}$
- 3.64. See Fig. 3-19.

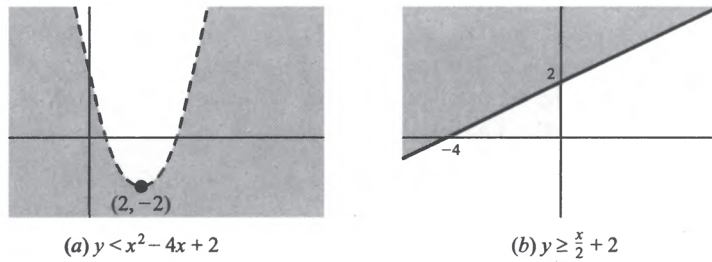


Fig. 3-19

- 3.65. (a) See Fig. 3-20(a); domain =  $[-3, 3]$ , range =  $[0, 5]$   
 (b) See Fig. 3-20(b); domain =  $(-4, 5)$ , range =  $(-5, 3)$ .

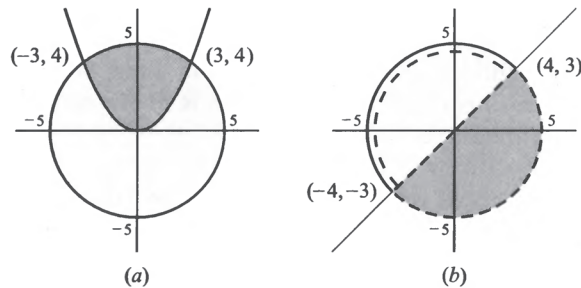


Fig. 3-20