



Sample: Discrete Mathematics - Properties of Relations

Task 1. Suppose we are given set $A = \{1,2,3,4,6,12\}$ and a relation, R , from $A \times A$. The relation is defined as follows:

$$R = \{(a, b) \mid a \text{ divides } b, \text{ where } (a, b) \text{ belongs to } A \times A\}.$$

- a) List all the ordered pairs (a, b) that are elements of the relation.
- b) Use the results from part a) to construct the corresponding zero-one matrix.

Solution. a) Relation R consists of the following pairs:

$$\begin{aligned} &(1,1), (1,2), (1,3), (1,4), (1,6), (1,12), \\ &(2,2), (2,4), (2,6), (2,12), \quad (3,3), (3,6), (3,12) \\ &(4,4), (4,12), \quad (6,6), (6,12), \quad (12,12) \end{aligned}$$

b) The matrix representing this relation has the following form:

	1	2	3	4	6	12
1	1	1	1	1	1	1
2	0	1	0	1	1	1
3	0	0	1	0	1	1
4	0	0	0	1	0	1
6	0	0	0	0	1	1
12	0	0	0	0	0	1

Task 2. Let R be the relation on the set of all people who have visited a particular Web page such that xRy if and only if person x and person y have followed the same set of links starting at this Web page (going from Web page to Web page until they stop using the Web). Show that R is an equivalence relation (i.e. it is reflexive, symmetric, and transitive).

Solution.

1) R is reflexive, that is xRx for all persons x .

Indeed, x and x have followed the same set of links starting at this Web page.

2) R is symmetric, that is xRy then yRx .

Indeed if x and y have followed the same set of links starting at this Web page, then y and x have followed the same set of links starting at this Web page.

3) R is transitive, that is if xRy and yRz then xRz .

Indeed if x and y have followed the same set of links starting at this Web page, and y and z have followed the same set of links starting at this Web page, then x and z also have followed the same set of links starting at this Web page.

Task 3. For the relation R on the set $A = \{1,2,3,4\}$ given below, determine whether it is reflexive, symmetric, anti-symmetric and transitive.

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

Solution.

1) R is **not reflexive**, since $(1,1) \notin R$.

2) R is **not symmetric**, since $(2,3) \in R$ but $(3,2) \notin R$.



- 3) R is **not anti-symmetric**, since both $(1,3)$ and $(3,1)$ belong to R .
- 4) R is **not transitive**, since $(1,3), (3,1) \in R$ but $(1,1) \notin R$.

Task 4 . List the ordered pairs in the relation R from $A = \{0,1,2,3,4\}$ to $B = \{0,1,2,3\}$, where $(a,b) \in R$ if and only if $a + b = 4$.

Solution. The relation R consists of the following pairs:

$$(1,3), (2,2), (3,1), (4,0).$$

Task 5. A department manager has 4 employees involved with 6 projects throughout the fiscal year. In how many ways can the manager assign these projects so that each employee is working on at least one project?

Solution. Let $P = \{1,2,3,4,5,6\}$ be the set of all projects. Each assignment is a partition of P into 4 non-empty subsets.

Therefore we should compute the number of partitions of P into ordered family of 4 non-empty subsets A_1, A_2, A_3, A_4 .

Since every A_i is non-empty then there possible two distinct cases:

Case 1). One of these sets consists of 3 elements, and each of other three sets consists of a unique element, e.g.

$$A_1 = \{1,2,3\}, A_2 = \{4\}, A_3 = \{5\}, A_4 = \{6\}.$$

Each such partition is determined by three one-element sets, i.e. by choice of ordered 3-tuple from P , and then by 4 positions of the set of remained three elements of P .

Then the number of partitions in this case is equal to

$$6 * 5 * 4 * 4 = 480.$$

Case 2). Two sets are two-elements and other two sets are one-elements, e.g.

$$A_1 = \{1,2\}, A_2 = \{3,4\}, A_3 = \{5\}, A_4 = \{6\}.$$

First let us compute the number of partitions of P into sets of 1, 1, 2 and 2 elements. Indeed, the first 1-elements set can be chosen from 6 elements. To each choice of that elements set correspond 5 choices of the second 1-elements set. Then third 2-elements set is chosen from the remained 4 elements, so we can choose that set into $C_4^2 = \frac{4!}{2!*(4-2)!} = 6$ ways. The fourth 2-elements set is then also determined. Hence the number partitions of P into sets of 1, 1, 2 and 2 elements is equal to

$$6 * 5 * C_4^2 = 6 * 5 * 6 = 180$$

Now we should take compute the number of distinct "words" obtained by permutations of 1122. This number is equal to the number of choices of two elements (say 1's) from 4-elements set, and so it is 6.

Hence the total number of functions in the case 2 is

$$180 * 6 = 1080.$$

Therefore the total number of all ways that the manager can assign these projects so that each employee is working on at least one project is equal to

$$480 + 1080 = 1560.$$



Task 6. A survey of households in the U.S. reveals that 96% have at least one television set, 98% have cell phone service and 95% have a cell phone and at least one television set. What percentage of households in the U.S. has neither cell phone nor a television set?

Solution. Let H be the set of all households, T be the set of all households having at least one television set, and C is the set of all households having cell phone service. For a subset $A \subset X$ denote by $|A|$ the number of elements in A . Then by assumption

$$|T| = 0.96|X|, \quad |C| = 0.98|X|, \quad |T \cap C| = 0.95|X|.$$

We should find the percentage of the set

$$X \setminus (T \cup C)$$

in X .

Notice that

$$C \setminus T = C \setminus (T \cap C) = |C| - |T \cap C| = (0.98 - 0.95)|X| = 0.03|X|.$$

Thus the number of households having cell phone service but not television set constitutes 3% over all households.

Hence

$$T \cup C = T \cup (C \setminus T) = (0.96 + 0.03)|X| = 0.99|X|,$$

so the number of households having at least one television set or cell phone service constitute 99% over all households.

Therefore percentage of households in the U.S. has neither cell phone nor a television set is

$$100 - 99 = 1\%.$$

Task 7. Let $A = \{a, b, c, d\}$ and $B = \{1, 2, 3, 4\}$.

a) How many functions $f: A \rightarrow B$ are there?

b) How many functions $f: A \rightarrow B$ satisfy $f(a) = 2$?

Solution. a) Notice that a function $f: A \rightarrow B$ can associate to each of 4 elements A one of the 4 elements of B . To each of 4 choices of $a \mapsto f(a)$, correspond 4 choices of $b \mapsto f(b)$, so we get $4 * 4 = 4^2$ choices of values for a and b .

To each choice of $(f(a), f(b))$ correspond 4 choices of $f(c)$, so we get $4 * 4 * 4 = 4^3$ choices of values for $a, b,$ and c .

Similarly, there are 4^4 choices of values $f(a), f(b), f(c), f(d)$. Thus the number of functions $f: A \rightarrow B$ is equal to $4^4 = 256$.

b) A function $f: A \rightarrow B$ satisfying $f(a) = 2$, is uniquely determined by its values at points b, c, d . In other words, the number of functions $f: A \rightarrow B$ with $f(a) = 2$ is equal to the number of functions $g: \{b, c, d\} \rightarrow B$. Similarly to a) the number of such functions $g: \{b, c, d\} \rightarrow B$ is equal to $4^3 = 64$.



Task 8. Use mathematical induction to prove the following proposition:

$$P(n): 3 + 5 + 7 + \dots + 2n + 1 = n(2 + n)$$

where $n = 1, 2, 3, \dots$

Proof. Let $n = 1$. Then

$$P(1) = 3,$$

and

$$n(2 + n) = 1 * (2 + 1) = 3 = P(1).$$

Suppose that we proved that

$$3 + 5 + 7 + \dots + 2k + 1 = k(2 + k)$$

for all $k \leq n$. Let us prove this for $k = n + 1$, that is

$$P(n): 3 + 5 + 7 + \dots + 2(n + 1) + 1 = (n + 1)(2 + n + 1) = (n + 1)(n + 3) = n^2 + 4n + 3.$$

We have that

$$\begin{aligned} P(n + 1) &= 3 + 5 + 7 + \dots + 2n + 1 + 2(n + 1) + 1 \\ &= (3 + 5 + 7 + \dots + 2n + 1) + 2(n + 1) + 1 \\ &= n(2 + n) + 2(n + 1) + 1 \\ &= 2n + n^2 + 2n + 2 + 1 \\ &= n^2 + 4n + 3. \end{aligned}$$

Now by induction relation

$$P(n): 3 + 5 + 7 + \dots + 2n + 1 = n(2 + n)$$

holds for all $n \geq 1$.



Task 9. Express the greatest common divisor of the following pair of integers as a linear combination of the integers:

$$117, 213$$

Solution. First we find prime decompositions of 117 and 213:

$$\begin{aligned} 117 &= 3 * 39 = 3 * 3 * 13 = 3^2 * 13, \\ 213 &= 3 * 71. \end{aligned}$$

Thus

$$GCD(117,213) = 3.$$

We should find numbers p and q such that

$$117p + 213q = 3.$$

Contracting by 3 we obtain

$$39p + 71q = 1.$$

Notice that this identity modulo 39 and 71 means that

$$71q \equiv 1 \pmod{39}, \quad 39p \equiv 1 \pmod{71}.$$

Let $\phi(m)$ be the Euler function which is equal to the number of numbers a such that $1 \leq a < m$ and $GCD(a, m) = 1$. Then by Euler theorem if $GCD(b, m) = 1$, then

$$b^{\phi(m)} \equiv 1 \pmod{m}.$$

It is known that

$$\phi(p) = p - 1$$

for any prime p , and if $GCD(a, b) = 1$, then

$$\phi(a * b) = \phi(a) * \phi(b).$$

Hence

$$\phi(71) = 71 - 1 = 70,$$

and

$$\phi(39) = \phi(3 * 13) = \phi(3) * \phi(13) = (3 - 1) * (13 - 1) = 2 * 12 = 24.$$

Since $GCD(71,39) = 1$, it follows from Euler theorem that

$$71^{\phi(39)} = 71^{24} = 1 \pmod{39}$$

$$39^{\phi(71)} = 39^{70} = 1 \pmod{71}.$$

Thus for solving equations

$$71q \equiv 1 \pmod{39}, \quad 39p \equiv 1 \pmod{71}.$$

we can put

$$q = 71^{24-1} = 71^{23} \pmod{39}$$

$$p = 39^{70-1} = 39^{69} \pmod{71}.$$

Then

$$71q = 71 * 71^{23} = 71^{24} = 1 \pmod{39}$$

and similarly,

$$39p = 39 * 39^{69} = 39^{70} = 1 \pmod{71}.$$

Let us compute $71^{23} \pmod{39}$:



$$\begin{aligned}q &= 71^{23} \equiv (2 * 39 - 7)^{23} \equiv (-7)^{23} \equiv -7 * (7^2)^{11} \equiv -7 * 49^{11} \\ &\equiv -7 * (39 + 10)^{11} \equiv -7 * 10^{11} = -7 * 10 * 100^5 = -70 * 100^5 \\ &= -(2 * 39 - 8) * (3 * 39 - 17)^5 \equiv -8 * 17^5 = -8 * 17 * (17^2)^2 = -136 * 289^2 \\ &= -(3 * 39 + 19) * (7 * 39 + 16)^2 \equiv -19 * 16 * 2 = -19 * 256 \\ &= -19 * (39 * 6 + 22) \equiv -19 * 22 \\ &= -418 = -418 + 39 * 11 = 11 \pmod{39}\end{aligned}$$

Then

$$71q = 71 * 11 = 781 = 1 + 20 * 39 \equiv 1 \pmod{39}.$$

Hence

$$71 * 11 - 39 * 20 = 1.$$

Multiplying by 3 both parts of this identity we obtain:

$$213 * 11 - 117 * 20 = 3$$

which gives the required expression of $GCD(117, 213) = 3$ as a linear combination of 117 and 213.