

# Partitions yield equiv. relations

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Idea: If  $\mathcal{P}$  is a partition on  $A$ , can define equiv. relation  $R$  on  $A$  by rule " $(x, y) \in R$  iff  $x$  and  $y$  are in some piece of partition."

Picture



$(x, y) \in R$  but  $(x, z) \notin R$

Let's prove this works:

Theorem SpS  $\mathcal{P}$  is a partition of  $A$ .  
Define a relation  $R_{\mathcal{P}}$  on  $A$  by:

$(x, y) \in R_{\mathcal{P}}$  iff  $\exists X \in \mathcal{P}$  s.t.  $x \in X$  and  $y \in X$ .

Then  $R_{\mathcal{P}}$  is an equivalence relation.

Pf: (i) reflexivity:

- Fix ~~xxx~~  $x \in A$ .

- Since  $\mathcal{P}$  is a partition of  $A$ , there is  $X \in \mathcal{P}$  s.t.  $x \in X$ .

using  
 $\bigcup_{X \in \mathcal{P}} X = A$

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- hence  $x \in X$  also.
- hence  $(x, x) \in R_P$  ✓

(ii) Symmetry

- Fix  $x, y \in A$  and suppose  $(x, y) \in R_P$
- Then there is  $X \in P$  s.t.  $x \in X$  and  $y \in X$
- Hence  $y \in X$  and  $x \in X$
- hence  $(y, x) \in R_P$  ✓

(iii) transitivity

- Fix  $x, y, z \in A$  and s.t.  $(x, y) \in R_P$  and  $(y, z) \in R_P$
- then  $\exists X \in P$  s.t.  $x \in X$  and  $y \in X$  and  $\exists Y \in P$  s.t.  $y \in Y$  and  $z \in Y$
- hence  $y \in X \cap Y$
- in particular  $X \cap Y \neq \emptyset$ , so that  $X = Y$  (since  $P$  is a partition)
- hence  $x \in X$  and  $z \in X$
- i.e.  $(x, z) \in R_P$  ✓

Ex's ① - Let  $P = \{X_n : n \in \mathbb{Z}\}$  be our partition of  $\mathbb{R}$  from last time, i.e.  $X_n = [n, n+1)$

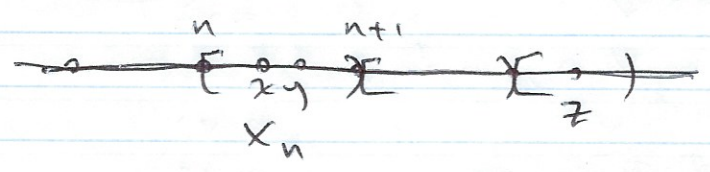
- Let  $R_P$  be the associated equivalence relation:  $(x, y) \in R_P$  if  $\exists n$  s.t.  $x \in X_n$  and  $y \in X_n$

i.e. ~~xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx~~  
 $x \in [n, n+1)$  and  $y \in [n, n+1)$

- by our theorem, this defines an equiv relation.

- easy to see this is the

we some equiv. relation  $R$  that we defined previously in a different way:  $(x, y) \in R$  iff  $\lfloor x \rfloor = \lfloor y \rfloor$



$(x, y) \in R = R_{IP}$   
 $(x, z) \notin R = R_{IP}$

notice: the equivalence classes of this ~~partition~~ equiv. relation are exactly the pieces in the partition.

② - let  $IP = \{ [1], [2, 3, 4] \}$  be our partition of  $A = \{1, 2, 3, 4\}$  from last time.

let  $R_{IP}$  be the associated equiv. relation

- so e.g.  $(1, 1) \in R_{IP}$   
 $(2, 3) \in R_{IP}$   
but  $(1, 3) \notin R_{IP}$ .

- In this case we can explicitly write out  $R_{IP}$  as a set in roster notation:

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

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- no real rhyme or reason to this equiv. relation, but still a perfectly good one.

## Equiv. relations yield partitions

- Summary of above: given a partition  $\mathcal{P}$  of  $A$ , can define an equiv. relation  $R_{\mathcal{P}}$  by saying the equivalence classes of  $R_{\mathcal{P}}$  are exactly the pieces of the partition  $\mathcal{P}$ .

- Conversely: given an equiv. relation  $R$  on  $A$ , (you will prove on HW!) the equiv. classes of  $R$  always form a partition of  $A$ .

Def'n Sp's  $R$  is an equiv. relation on  $A$ . We denote the set of equiv. classes of  $R$  as  $A/R$

$$i.e. \quad A/R = \{ [x]_R : x \in A \}$$

↑  
"A mod R"

Ex's - Consider  $\equiv_3$  on  $\mathbb{Z}$ .

- Then:

$$\mathbb{Z}/\equiv_3 = \{ [n]_3 : n \in \mathbb{Z} \}$$

$$= \{ \dots, [-1]_3, [0]_3, [1]_3, [2]_3, \dots \}$$

We checked already:

$$\begin{aligned}
 \dots \cdot [-3]_3 &= [0]_3 = [3]_3 = [6]_3 \dots \\
 &= [1]_3 = [4]_3 = [7]_3 \dots \\
 &= [2]_3 = [5]_3 = [8]_3 \dots
 \end{aligned}$$

So really:

"set of remainders"  $\mathbb{Z}/\equiv_3 = \{ [0]_3, [1]_3, [2]_3 \}$

We could equally write:

$$\mathbb{Z}/\equiv_3 = \{ [3]_3, [4]_3, [5]_3 \}$$

NOTATION. it is conventional to write  $\mathbb{Z}/\equiv_n$  as  $\mathbb{Z}/n\mathbb{Z}$   
 $\uparrow$   
 " $\mathbb{Z} \text{ mod } n\mathbb{Z}$ "

just like with 3, in general we have:

$$\mathbb{Z}/n\mathbb{Z} = \{ [0]_n, [1]_n, \dots, [n-1]_n \}$$

② - let  $R$  be the "floor" equiv. relation on  $\mathbb{R}$ :  $(x, y) \in R \iff \lfloor x \rfloor = \lfloor y \rfloor$

- we knew from before: equiv. classes are intervals of the form  $[n, n+1)$

- if  $x \in [n, n+1)$  then  $[x]_{\mathbb{R}} = [n, n+1)$

- any  $x$  in this interval serves equally well as a representative of the equiv. class

- so e.g.  $[0]_{\mathbb{R}} = [1/2]_{\mathbb{R}} = [3/5]_{\mathbb{R}} = [0, 1)$

$[1]_{\mathbb{R}} = [1.2121\dots]_{\mathbb{R}} = [1.99]_{\mathbb{R}} = [1, 2)$

etc.

We have:

$$\mathbb{R}/\mathbb{R} = \{ [x]_{\mathbb{R}} : x \in \mathbb{R} \}$$

$$= \{ \dots, [-1, 0), [0, 1), [1, 2), \dots \}$$

$$= \{ \dots, [-1]_{\mathbb{R}}, [0]_{\mathbb{R}}, [1]_{\mathbb{R}}, \dots \}$$

$$= \{ \dots, [-1/2]_{\mathbb{R}}, [1/2]_{\mathbb{R}}, [3/2]_{\mathbb{R}}, \dots \}$$

etc.

~~xxxx~~  
-1 0 1 2 -

- In both ex's ① and ② the set of equiv classes forms a partition
- Turns out this is always the case.

Thm If  $R$  is an ~~equiv~~ equiv. relation on  $A$ , then  $A/R$  is a partition of  $A$ .

Pf: Hw. For hint, see problem 6-7.13 pg. 449, which outlines the proof.

## Order Relations

- Another common type of binary relation is an order relation
- come in several flavors:  
nonstrict/strict  
and partial/total.

Def'n - A relation  $R$  on a set  $A$  is a (nonstrict) partial order iff  $R$  is reflexive, transitive, and antisymmetric.

- if  $R$  is a partial order on  $A$  we say that the pair  $(A, R)$  is a partially ordered set or poset

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Ex's ①  $\leq$  is a partial order on  $\mathbb{R}$ .

pf:  $\forall x, y, z \in \mathbb{R}$  we have:

$$x \leq x \quad \checkmark$$

$$\text{if } x \leq y \text{ and } y \leq x \text{ then } x = y \quad \checkmark$$

$$\text{if } x \leq y \text{ and } y \leq z \text{ then } x \leq z \quad \checkmark$$

$\hookrightarrow$  so  $(\mathbb{R}, \leq)$  is a poset.

② Let  $A$  be any set. Then the subset relation  $\subseteq$  on  $\mathcal{P}(A)$  is a partial order

pf:  $\forall X, Y, Z \in \mathcal{P}(A)$  we have:

$$X \subseteq X \quad \checkmark$$

$$\text{if } X \subseteq Y \text{ and } Y \subseteq X \text{ then } X = Y \quad \checkmark$$

$$\text{if } X \subseteq Y \text{ and } Y \subseteq Z \text{ then } X \subseteq Z \quad \checkmark$$

$\hookrightarrow$  so  $(\mathcal{P}(A), \subseteq)$  is a poset.

③ - We showed before that the divisibility relation on  $\mathbb{N}$  is refl., trans., antisymmetric, hence  $(\mathbb{N}, |)$  is a poset

- We also showed  $|$  is refl. antisymmetric on  $\mathbb{Z}$ . Hence  $(\mathbb{Z}, |)$  is refl. a poset.

$\hookrightarrow$  these ex's seem to be of different kinds: yet: any theorems



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that can be proved using only properties of reflexivity, transitivity and antisymmetry must hold for all three! (and any other poset).

### Strict p.o.'s

Def'n a relation  $R$  on  $A$  is called irreflexive iff  $(\forall x \in A) (x, x) \notin R$

↳ e.g.  $<$  and  $\neq$  are irreflexive since we never have  $x < x$  or  $x \neq x$ .

Def'n a relation  $R$  on a set  $A$  is called a strict partial order iff  $R$  is irreflexive, transitive, and antisymmetric.

↳ this is official def'n, but by HW. this is equiv to being transitive and asymmetric  $\forall x, y, xRy \Rightarrow y \not R x$

Ex's ①  $<$  is a strict partial order on  $\mathbb{R}$ .

pf:  $\forall x, y, z \in \mathbb{R}$  we have:

i)  $x \not R x$  ✓

ii)  $x < y \wedge y < z \Rightarrow x < z$  ✓

iii)  $x < y \wedge y < x \Rightarrow x = y$  ✓

always false

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by HW: could combine (i) and (iii)  
by observing:  
(iv) ~~if~~  $x < y \Rightarrow y \not< x$  ✓

(2)  $\subseteq$  is a strict partial order  
on  $\mathcal{P}(A)$ , for any set  $A$ .  
P.F.:  $\forall X, Y, Z \in \mathcal{P}(A)$  we have:

$$X \subsetneq Y \wedge Y \subsetneq Z \Rightarrow X \subsetneq Z \quad \checkmark$$
$$X \subsetneq Y \Rightarrow \neg (Y \subsetneq X) \quad \checkmark$$

nevertheless

(1)  $\leq$  is not a strict partial order  
on  $\mathbb{R}$  since it is not irreflexive  
~~is~~ (in fact  $\leq$  is reflexive: this  
is stronger than being not irreflexive!)  
Similarly  $\leq$  is not a strict partial  
order on any set.

(2)  $<$ ,  $\neq$  are ~~not~~ not (nonstrict)  
partial orders: neither are reflexive.

(3)  $\neq$  (e.g. on  $\mathbb{N}$ ) is neither a  
partial order nor strict partial  
order since transitivity fails:  
e.g.  $2 \neq 5$  and  $5 \neq 2$  but  $2 = 2$  ✓

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## Total orders

Def'n a relation  $R$  on  $A$  is said to be total iff  
 $(\forall x, y \in A) (x, y \in R \vee (y, x) \in R \vee x = y)$

Def'n - if  $R$  is a partial order on  $A$  that is also total, then  $R$  is called a total order on  $A$ .  
- if  $R$  is a strict partial order on  $A$  that is also total then  $R$  is called a strict total order on  $A$ .

Ex's ①  $\leq$  is a total order on  $\mathbb{R}$ :  
we know already that  $\leq$  is a partial order and:

$$(\forall x, y \in \mathbb{R}) x \leq y \vee y \leq x \vee x = y \quad \checkmark$$

②  $\subseteq$  is not a total order on  $\mathcal{P}(\mathbb{N})$ .

e.g.  $\exists X = \{1, 2, 3\}$   
 $Y = \{3, 4\}$

then  $X \not\subseteq Y$   
 $Y \not\subseteq X$   
and  $X \neq Y$

③  $<$  is a strict total order on  $\mathbb{R}$   
since  $(\forall x, y \in \mathbb{R}) x < y \vee y < x \vee x = y$

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Ex

• a strict partial order on  $\mathbb{N} \times \mathbb{N}$ :

Define a relation  $R$  on  $\mathbb{N} \times \mathbb{N}$  by:

$$(n_1, m_1) R (n_2, m_2) \iff n_1 < n_2 \text{ and } m_1 < m_2$$

So e.g.  $(1, 2) R (3, 5)$  since  $1 < 3$  and  $2 < 5$

but  $(3, 1) \not R (2, 2)$  since  $3 \not< 2$ .

Claim:  $R$  is a strict partial order on  $\mathbb{N} \times \mathbb{N}$

PF: we prove (1) transitivity  
(2) asymmetry

(1) Fix  $(n_1, m_1), (n_2, m_2), (n_3, m_3) \in \mathbb{N} \times \mathbb{N}$   
and suppose  
 $(n_1, m_1) R (n_2, m_2)$   
and  $(n_2, m_2) R (n_3, m_3)$

then:  $n_1 < n_2$  and  $m_1 < m_2$   
and  $n_2 < n_3$  and  $m_2 < m_3$

hence by transitivity  $(n_1, m_1) R (n_3, m_3)$

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$$n_1 < n_3 \quad \text{and} \quad m_1 < m_3$$

hence  $(n_1, m_1) R (n_3, m_3)$  ✓

(2) Fix  $(n_1, m_1), (n_2, m_2) \in \mathbb{N} \times \mathbb{N}$

Sps  $(n_1, m_1) R (n_2, m_2)$

then

$$n_1 < n_2 \quad \text{and} \quad m_1 < m_2$$

hence  $n_2 \neq n_1$  (and  $m_2 \neq m_1$ )

hence  $(n_2, m_2) \not R (n_1, m_1)$  ✓

Observe:  $R$  defined above is not  
total: e.g.

$$\begin{aligned} & (1, 2) \not R (3, 1) \\ \text{and } & (3, 1) \not R (1, 2) \\ \text{and } & (1, 2) \neq (3, 1) \end{aligned}$$