

- \* Admin : - Gradescope coming soon!  
 - HW 1 will release today on Wattle,  
 due at 11:59 pm on Friday 04 Aug  
 - Workshops start next week!  
 - Worksheet available this weekend on Wattle.  
 (Look at the problems in advance ~ 1 hour on your own.)  
 - Office hrs starting next week Wed & Fridays

- \* Last time : - Relations + properties  
 - Directed graphs (to visualise)  
 (Come back to graphs later in more detail.)

- \* Today : Equivalence relations.

Defn: A relation  $R$  on a set  $S$  is called an equivalence relation if it satisfies all of the following:

- |                 |   |
|-----------------|---|
| ① Reflexivity   | → every $(a,a)$ is in $R$   |
| ② Symmetry      | → $(a,b) \in R \Rightarrow (b,a) \in R$<br>ie if $(a,b) \in R$ then $(b,a) \in R$ |
| ③ Transitivity. | → If $(a,b) \in R, (b,c) \in R$<br>then $(a,c) \in R$ .                           |

- \* Examples and non-examples

-  $S = \{1, 2, 3\}$

①  $S = \{1, 2, 3\}$

$R \subseteq S \times S$

$R = \{(a,b) \in S \times S \mid a=b\} = \{(1,1), (2,2), (3,3)\}$

Recall from Wed

→ reflexivity, symmetry, transitivity.  
 so, it is an equivalence relation.

②  $S = \mathbb{Z} = \text{set of integers.}$

$R = \{(a,b) \in \mathbb{Z} \times \mathbb{Z} \mid a+b \text{ is even.}\}$

$= \{(0,0), (1,-1), (1,5), (2,24), (-3,15), \dots\}$

✓ reflexivity? yes,  $(a,a) \in R$  b/c  $a+a=2a$  (even).

✓ symmetry? yes, if  $a+b$  is even then  $b+a$  is even.

✓ transitivity? suppose  $(a,b) \in R$  and  $(b,c) \in R$ .  
 i.e.  $a+b$  is even, and  $b+c$  is even.  
 $\Rightarrow (a+b) + (b+c)$  is even.  
 $\Rightarrow (a+c) + 2b$  is even.  
 $\Rightarrow (a+c)$  is even.  
 $\Rightarrow (a,c) \in R$ .

so, it is transitive.

so it is an equiv. relation.

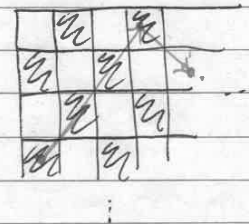
③  $S = \mathbb{Z}$

$$R = \{ (a,b) \in \mathbb{Z} \times \mathbb{Z} \mid a+b \text{ is odd} \}$$

(Not an equivalence relation.)

→ Not reflexive!

④



(8x8) chessboard.

$S =$  set of squares on this chessboard.

$$R = \{ (a,b) \in S \times S \mid \text{you can get to } b \text{ from } a \text{ by a sequence of bishop moves } \frac{1}{2} \text{ (possibly, (no moves))} \}$$

reflexivity? yes

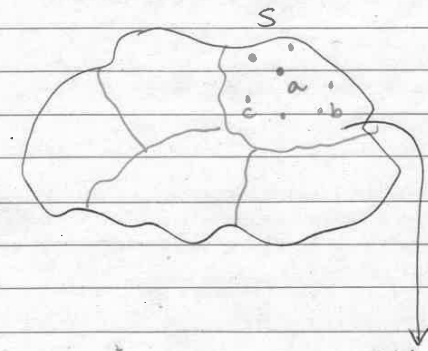
symmetry? yes (move backwards)

transitivity? Let  $(a,b) \in R, (b,c) \in R$ .  
go from  $a \rightarrow b$ , then  $b \rightarrow c$ ,  
gives you a sequence  $a \rightarrow c$ ,  
so  $(a,c) \in R$ .

\* Why equivalence relations?

→ Generalise the notion of equality, by giving a weaker version of equality.

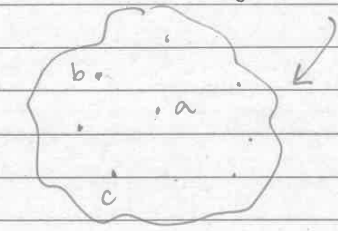
\* Equivalence classes



Let  $R$  be an equiv. relation on  $S$ . (Fixed)

Consider  $a \in S$ , and also all pairs  $(a,b)$  ~~where~~  $b \in S$  such that  $(a,b) \in R$  and  $b \in S$ .

all things  $b$  of the form such that  $(a,b) \in R$ .



(piece of  $S$ )

$(a,b) \in R$   
 $(a,c) \in R$   
 $(a,a) \in R$  } we know this

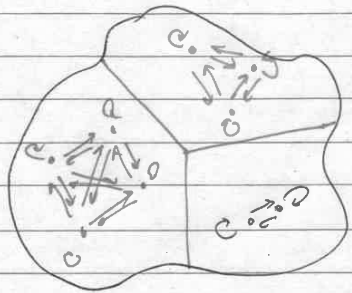
⇒  $(b,a) \in R$   
 $(c,a) \in R$  } by symmetry.  
 $(b,b), (c,c) \in R$  } by reflexivity

And  $(b,c) \in R$  by transitivity also  $(c,b)$  etc.

⇒ All the elements of this piece of  $S$  are related to all of the others in the same piece (\*)

Nothing outside this piece can be related to anything in this piece (in any order).

As graphs, the pieces will look as follows:



No connections between pieces  
Each piece fully connected internally.

These pieces are called equivalence classes.