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Let  $A = \mathbb{Z}^+ \times \mathbb{Z}^+$ , i.e. pairs of positive integers. Consider the relation  $T$  on  $A$  defined by

$$(a, b)T(p, q) \text{ if and only if } ab \mid p$$

Working directly from the definition of divides, prove that  $T$  is transitive.

**Solution:** Let  $(a, b)$ ,  $(p, q)$ , and  $(m, n)$  be elements of  $A$ . Suppose that  $(a, b)T(p, q)$  and  $(p, q)T(m, n)$ . By the definition of  $T$ , this means that  $ab \mid p$  and  $pq \mid m$ .

By the definition of divides, we then have  $abx = p$  and  $pqy = m$ , for some integers  $x$  and  $y$ . Substituting the first equation into the second, we get  $(abx)qy = m$ . That is  $(ab)(xqy) = m$ . Since  $x$ ,  $y$ , and  $q$  are all integers, so is  $xqy$ . So this implies that  $ab \mid m$ . So  $(a, b)T(m, n)$ , which is what we needed to show.

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Let's define a relation  $R$  on  $\mathbb{Z}^3$  as follows:

$(a, b, c)R(x, y, z)$  if and only if  $c = x$ ,  $a = y$ , and  $b = z$ .

Working directly from this definition, prove that  $R$  is antisymmetric.

**Solution:** Let  $(a, b, c)$  and  $(x, y, z)$  be triples of integers. Suppose that  $(a, b, c)R(x, y, z)$  and  $(x, y, z)R(a, b, c)$ .

By the definition of  $R$ ,  $(a, b, c)R(x, y, z)$  implies that  $c = x$ ,  $a = y$ , and  $b = z$ .

Also by the definition of  $R$ ,  $(x, y, z)R(a, b, c)$  implies  $z = a$ ,  $x = b$ , and  $y = c$ .

Chaining these equalities together, we get

$$a = y = c = x = b = z = a$$

So all six integers must be equal. In particular,  $a = x$ ,  $b = y$ , and  $c = z$ . So  $(a, b, c) = (x, y, z)$ .

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Define the relation  $\sim$  on  $\mathbb{Z}$  by

$$x \sim y \text{ if and only if } 5 \mid (3x + 7y)$$

Working directly from the definition of divides, prove that  $\sim$  is transitive.

**Solution:** Let  $x$ ,  $y$ , and  $z$  be integers. Suppose that  $x \sim y$  and  $y \sim z$ .

By the definition of  $\sim$ ,  $5 \mid (3x + 7y)$  and  $5 \mid (3y + 7z)$ . So  $3x + 7y = 5m$  and  $3y + 7z = 5n$ , for some integers  $m$  and  $n$ .

Adding these two equations together, we get  $3x + 7y + 3y + 7z = 5m + 5n$ . So  $3x + 10y + 7z = 5(m + n)$ . So  $3x + 7z = 5(m + n - 2y)$ .

$m + n - 2y$  is an integer, since  $m$ ,  $n$  and  $y$  are integers. So this means that  $5 \mid 3x + 7z$  and therefore  $x \sim z$ , which is what we needed to show.

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Let's define the relation  $\succeq$  on  $\mathbb{N}^2$  by

$(x, y) \succeq (a, b)$  if and only if  $x - a \geq 2$  and  $y \geq b$ .

Prove that  $\succeq$  is transitive.

**Solution:** Let  $(a, b)$ ,  $(x, y)$ , and  $(c, d)$  be elements of  $X$ . Suppose that  $(x, y) \succeq (a, b)$  and  $(a, b) \succeq (c, d)$ .

By the definition of  $\succeq$ ,  $(x, y) \succeq (a, b)$  implies that  $x - a \geq 2$  and  $y \geq b$ . Similarly,  $(a, b) \succeq (c, d)$  implies that  $a - c \geq 2$  and  $b \geq d$ .

Since  $y \geq b$  and  $b \geq d$ ,  $y \geq d$ .

We know that  $x - a \geq 2$  and  $a - c \geq 2$ . Adding these two equations, we get  $(x - a) + (a - c) \geq 4$ . So  $x - c \geq 4$ . So  $x - c \geq 2$ .

Therefore  $x - c \geq 2$  and  $y \geq d$ . This implies that  $(x, y) \succeq (c, d)$ , which is what we needed to show.

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A closed interval of the real line can be represented as a pair  $(c, r)$ , where  $c$  is the center of the interval and  $r$  is its radius. Let  $X = \{(c, r) \mid c, r \in \mathbb{R}, r \geq 0\}$  be the set of closed intervals represented this way.

Now, let's define the interval containment  $\preceq$  on  $X$  as follows

$$(c, r) \preceq (d, q) \text{ if and only if } r \leq q \text{ and } |c - d| + r \leq q.$$

Prove that  $\preceq$  is antisymmetric.

**Solution:** Let  $(c, r)$  and  $(d, q)$  be elements of  $X$ . Suppose that  $(c, r) \preceq (d, q)$  and  $(d, q) \preceq (c, r)$ .

By the definition of  $\preceq$ ,  $(c, r) \preceq (d, q)$  means that  $r \leq q$  and  $|c - d| + r \leq q$ . Similarly,  $(d, q) \preceq (c, r)$  means that  $q \leq r$  and  $|d - c| + q \leq r$ .

Since  $r \leq q$  and  $q \leq r$ ,  $q = r$ . Substituting this into  $|c - d| + r \leq q$ , we get  $|c - d| + r \leq r$ . So  $|c - d| \leq 0$ . Since the absolute value of a real number cannot be negative, this means that  $|c - d| = 0$ , so  $c = d$ .

Since  $q = r$  and  $c = d$ ,  $(c, r) = (d, q)$ , which is what we needed to prove.

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Let  $A = \mathbb{N} \times \mathbb{N}$ , i.e. pairs of natural numbers.

Define a relation  $\gg$  on  $A$  as follows:

$(x, y) \gg (p, q)$  if and only if there exists an integer  $n \geq 1$  such that  $(x, y) = (np, nq)$ .

Prove that  $\gg$  is transitive.

**Solution:** Let  $(x, y)$ ,  $(p, q)$  and  $(a, b)$  be pairs of natural numbers and suppose that  $(x, y) \gg (p, q)$  and  $(p, q) \gg (a, b)$ .

By the definition of  $\gg$ ,  $(x, y) = (np, nq)$  and  $(p, q) = m(a, b)$ , for some positive integers  $m$  and  $n$ . So  $x = np$ ,  $y = nq$ ,  $p = ma$  and  $q = mb$ .

Combining these equations, we get  $x = np = n(ma) = (nm)a$  and  $y = nq = n(mb) = (nm)b$ . Let  $s = nm$ . Since  $m$  and  $n$  are positive integers, so is  $s$ . But  $(x, y) = (sa, sb)$ . So  $(x, y) \gg (a, b)$ , which is what we needed to show.