

# Some Generalized Properties of Preference Relations

HASHIMOTO, Hiroshi

## Abstract

By using Boolean matrices, well-known properties of preference relations are extended and the necessary conditions for the properties are clarified. In particular, properties of the asymmetric part and the symmetric part of a relation are examined. These properties are related to quasi transitivity.

*Keywords* : Preference relation; Quasi transitivity

## 1 Introduction

We generalize well-known properties of preference relations and clarify the necessary conditions for the properties. In particular, properties of the asymmetric part and the symmetric part of a relation are examined. These properties are related to quasi transitivity. In the following, binary relations are represented by Boolean matrices.

## 2 Definitions and results

Let  $R = [r_{ij}]$ ,  $S = [s_{ij}]$ , and  $T = [t_{ij}]$  be  $n \times n$  Boolean matrices over  $\{0, 1\}$ .

We define operations as follows.

$$R \vee S = [r_{ij} \vee s_{ij}] = [\max(r_{ij}, s_{ij})]$$

$$R \wedge S = [r_{ij} \wedge s_{ij}] = [\min(r_{ij}, s_{ij})]$$

$$R \times S = [(r_{i1} \wedge s_{1j}) \vee \cdots \vee (r_{in} \wedge s_{nj})]$$

$$\bar{R} = [\bar{r}_{ij}] = [1 - r_{ij}]$$

$$R' = [r_{ji}] \text{ (transpose)}$$

We denote the unit matrix by  $I = [\delta_{ij}]$  ( $\delta_{ij}$  is the Kronecker delta), the zero matrix by  $O$ , and the universal matrix, in which all elements are one, by  $J$ .

Proposition 1.  $R \vee R' \vee S = J, R \wedge \overline{R'} \wedge S = O \Leftrightarrow R \wedge \overline{R'} = \overline{R'} \wedge \overline{S}$

Proof. The Proof is immediate.  $\square$

Proposition 2. If  $R \vee R' \vee S = J, R \wedge \overline{R'} \wedge S = O$ , then  $(R \wedge \overline{R'}) \times R \leq \overline{T'} \Leftrightarrow R \times T \leq R \vee S'$

Proof. Since  $(\overline{R'} \wedge \overline{S}) \times R \leq \overline{T'} \Leftrightarrow R \times T \leq R \vee S'$ , we obtain the result by Proposition 1.  $\square$

Proposition 3. If  $R \vee R' \vee S = J, R \wedge \overline{R'} \wedge S = O$ , then  $R \times (R \wedge \overline{R'}) \leq \overline{T'} \Leftrightarrow T \times R \leq R \vee S'$

Proof. The proof is similar to that of Proposition 2.  $\square$

Proposition 4. If  $R \vee R' \vee I = J$ , then  $(R \wedge \overline{R'}) \times R \leq \overline{R'} \Leftrightarrow R \times R \leq R \vee I$

Proof. This proposition follows immediately from Proposition 2.  $\square$

Proposition 5. If  $R \vee R' = J$ , then  $(R \wedge \overline{R'}) \times R \leq \overline{R'} \Leftrightarrow R \times R \leq R$

Proof. This proposition follows immediately from Proposition 4.  $\square$

Proposition 6. If  $R \vee R' = J$ , then  $(R \wedge \overline{R'}) \times R \leq R \wedge \overline{R'} \Leftrightarrow R \times R \leq R$

Proof. Since  $R \vee R' = J \Leftrightarrow \overline{R'} = R \wedge \overline{R'}$ , we have the result by Proposition 5.  $\square$

Proposition 7.  $(R \wedge \overline{R'}) \times R \leq R \wedge \overline{R'} \Leftrightarrow (R \wedge \overline{R'}) \times (R \wedge \overline{R'}) \leq R \wedge \overline{R'}, (R \wedge \overline{R'}) \times (R \wedge R') \leq R \wedge \overline{R'}$

Proof. Since  $R = (R \wedge \overline{R'}) \vee (R \wedge R')$ , the proof is immediate.  $\square$

Proposition 8 (Sen, 1969; Sen, 1970).  $R \vee R' = J, (R \wedge \overline{R'}) \times (R \wedge \overline{R'}) \leq R \wedge \overline{R'}, (R \wedge \overline{R'}) \times (R \wedge R') \leq R \wedge \overline{R'} \Rightarrow R \times R \leq R$

Proof. This proposition follows immediately from Propositions 6 and 7.  $\square$

Proposition 9.  $R \vee R' \vee I = J, (R \wedge \overline{R'}) \times (R \wedge R') \leq \overline{R'} \Rightarrow (R \wedge R') \times (R \wedge \overline{R'}) \leq R \wedge \overline{R'}$

Proof. Suppose that  $r_{ik} \wedge r_{ki} \wedge r_{kj} \wedge \overline{r_{jk}} = 1$ . Then  $i \neq j$ . It will be shown that

$r_{ij} \wedge \overline{r_{ji}} = 1$ . Assume, by way of contradiction,  $r_{ij} \wedge \overline{r_{ji}} = 0$ .

Case 1.  $r_{ji} = 0$ . Then  $r_{ji} = 1$ . Since  $r_{ji} \wedge \overline{r_{ij}} \wedge r_{ik} \wedge r_{ki} = 1$ , we have  $\overline{r_{kj}} = 1$ , which is a contradiction.

Case 2.  $r_{ji} = 1, r_{ij} = 1$ . Since  $r_{kj} \wedge \overline{r_{jk}} \wedge r_{ji} \wedge r_{ij} = 1$ , we have  $\overline{r_{ik}} = 1$ , which is a contradiction.  $\square$

Proposition 10.  $R \vee R' \vee I = J, (R \wedge R') \times (R \wedge \overline{R'}) \leq \overline{R'} \Rightarrow (R \wedge \overline{R'}) \times (R \wedge R') \leq R \wedge \overline{R'}$

Proof. The proof is similar to that of Proposition 9.  $\square$

Proposition 11.  $(R \wedge \overline{R'}) \times (R \wedge R') \leq \overline{R'} \Leftrightarrow (R \wedge R') \times (R \wedge \overline{R'}) \leq \overline{R'}$

Proof.  $(\Rightarrow)$ . Suppose that  $r_{ik} \wedge r_{ki} \wedge r_{kj} \wedge \overline{r_{jk}} = 1$ . It will be shown that  $r_{ji} = 0$ . Assume, by way of contradiction,  $r_{ji} = 1$ .

Case 1.  $r_{ij} = 0$ . Since  $r_{ji} \wedge \overline{r_{ij}} \wedge r_{ik} \wedge r_{ki} = 1$ , we have  $\overline{r_{kj}} = 1$ , which is a contradiction.

Case 2.  $r_{ij} = 1$ . Since  $r_{kj} \wedge \overline{r_{jk}} \wedge r_{ji} \wedge r_{ij} = 1$ , we have  $\overline{r_{ik}} = 1$ , which is a contradiction.

Thus we have  $(R \wedge R') \times (R \wedge \overline{R'}) \leq \overline{R'}$

$(\Leftarrow)$ . By the same arguments used in  $(\Rightarrow)$ , we have  $(R \wedge \overline{R'}) \times (R \wedge R') \leq \overline{R'}$ .  $\square$

Proposition 12. If  $R \vee R' \vee I = J$ , then the following are equivalent.

- (1)  $(R \wedge \overline{R'}) \times (R \wedge R') \leq \overline{R'}$
- (2)  $(R \wedge \overline{R'}) \times (R \wedge R') \leq R \wedge \overline{R'}$
- (3)  $(R \wedge R') \times (R \wedge \overline{R'}) \leq R \wedge \overline{R'}$

Proof. This proposition follows immediately from Propositions 9 and 10.  $\square$

Proposition 13 (Sonnenschein, 1965; Lorimer, 1967; Sen, 1970). If  $R \vee R' \vee I = J$ , then  $(R \wedge \overline{R'}) \times (R \wedge R') \leq R \wedge \overline{R'} \Leftrightarrow (R \wedge R') \times (R \wedge \overline{R'}) \leq R \wedge \overline{R'}$

Proof. This proposition follows immediately from Proposition 12.  $\square$

Proposition 14.  $R \vee R' \vee I = J, (R \wedge \overline{R'}) \times (R \wedge R') \leq \overline{R'} \Rightarrow (R \wedge R') \times (R \wedge R') \leq (R \wedge R') \vee I$

Proof. Suppose that  $r_{ik} \wedge r_{ki} \wedge r_{kj} \wedge r_{jk} = 1$ . It will be shown that  $(r_{ij} \wedge r_{ji}) \vee$

$\delta_{ij}=1$ . For  $i=j$ , the proof is trivial. We consider the case  $i \neq j$ . Assume, by way of contradiction,  $r_{ij} \wedge r_{ji} = 0$ .

Case 1.  $r_{ij}=0$ . Then  $r_{ji}=1$ . Since  $r_{ji} \wedge \bar{r}_{ij} \wedge r_{ik} \wedge r_{ki} = 1$ , we have  $\bar{r}_{kj} = 1$ , which is a contradiction.

Case 2.  $r_{ji}=0$ . Then  $r_{ij}=1$ . Since  $r_{ij} \wedge \bar{r}_{ji} \wedge r_{jk} \wedge r_{kj} = 1$ , we have  $\bar{r}_{ki} = 1$ , which is a contradiction.  $\square$

Proposition 15.  $R \vee R' = J, (R \wedge \bar{R}') \times (R \wedge R') \leq \bar{R}' \Rightarrow (R \wedge R') \times (R \wedge R') = R \wedge R'$

Proof. This proposition follows immediately from Proposition 14.  $\square$

Proposition 16 (Sen, 1969; Sen, 1970).  $R \vee R' = J, (R \wedge \bar{R}') \times (R \wedge R') \leq R \wedge \bar{R}' \Rightarrow (R \wedge R') \times (R \wedge R') = R \wedge R'$

Proof. This proposition follows immediately from Proposition 15.  $\square$

Proposition 17.  $R \vee R' \vee I = J, (R \wedge \bar{R}') \times (R \wedge \bar{R}') \leq \bar{R}', (R \wedge R') \times (R \wedge R') \leq R \Rightarrow R \times R \leq R$

Proof. Suppose that  $r_{ik} \wedge r_{kj} = 1$ . It will be shown that  $r_{ij} = 1$ . If  $i = k$  or  $k = j$ , then  $r_{ij} = 1$ . We consider the case where  $i \neq k$  and  $k \neq j$ . Assume, by way of contradiction,  $r_{ij} = 0$ .

Case 1.  $i \neq j$ . Then  $r_{ji} = 1$ .

Subcase 1.1.  $r_{ki} = 0$ . Since  $r_{ji} \wedge \bar{r}_{ij} \wedge r_{ik} \wedge \bar{r}_{ki} = 1$ , we have  $\bar{r}_{kj} = 1$ , which is a contradiction.

Subcase 1.2.  $r_{jk} = 0$ . Since  $r_{kj} \wedge \bar{r}_{jk} \wedge r_{ji} \wedge \bar{r}_{ij} = 1$ , we have  $\bar{r}_{ik} = 1$ , which is a contradiction.

Subcase 1.3.  $r_{ki} = 1$  and  $r_{jk} = 1$ . Since  $r_{ik} \wedge r_{ki} \wedge r_{kj} \wedge r_{jk} = 1$ , we have  $r_{ij} = 1$ , which is a contradiction.

Case 2.  $i = j$ . Then  $r_{ik} \wedge r_{ki} = 1, r_{ii} = 0$ . Since  $(r_{ik} \wedge r_{ki}) \wedge (r_{ki} \wedge r_{ik}) = 1$ , we have  $r_{ii} = 1$ , which is a contradiction.  $\square$

Proposition 18 (Sen, 1969; Sen, 1970; Roubens and Vincke, 1985).  $R \vee R' \vee I = J, (R \wedge \bar{R}') \times (R \wedge \bar{R}') \leq R \wedge \bar{R}', (R \wedge R') \times (R \wedge R') \leq R \wedge R' \Rightarrow R \times R \leq R$

Proof. This proposition follows immediately from Proposition 17.  $\square$

Proposition 19 (Sen, 1969; Sen, 1970).  $R \vee R' \vee I = J$ ,  $(R \wedge \bar{R}') \times (R \wedge \bar{R}) \leq R \wedge \bar{R}'$ ,  $(R \wedge R') \times (R \wedge R) \leq R \wedge R' \Rightarrow (R \wedge \bar{R}') \times (R \wedge R) \leq R \wedge \bar{R}'$

Proof. Since  $R \times R \leq R \Rightarrow (R \wedge \bar{R}') \times (R \wedge R) \leq R \wedge \bar{R}'$ , we have the result by Proposition 18.  $\square$

Proposition 20. If  $R \vee S' \vee I = J$  and  $T \leq R$ , then  $(S \wedge \bar{R}') \times (S \wedge \bar{R}) \leq \bar{T}' \Leftrightarrow (S \wedge \bar{R}') \times T \leq R$

Proof.  $(\Rightarrow)$ . Suppose that  $(s_{ik} \wedge \bar{r}_{ki}) \wedge t_{kj} = 1$ . Then  $i \neq j$ . It will be shown that  $r_{ij} = 1$ . Assume, by way of contradiction,  $r_{ij} = 0$ . We have  $s_{ji} = 1$ . Since  $s_{ji} \wedge \bar{r}_{ij} \wedge s_{ik} \wedge \bar{r}_{ki} = 1$ , we have  $\bar{t}_{kj} = 1$ , which is a contradiction.

$(\Leftarrow)$ . Suppose that  $s_{ik} \wedge \bar{r}_{ki} \wedge s_{kj} \wedge \bar{r}_{jk} = 1$ . It will be shown that  $t_{ji} = 0$ . Assume, by way of contradiction,  $t_{ji} = 1$ . Since  $s_{kj} \wedge \bar{r}_{jk} \wedge t_{ji} = 1$ , we have  $r_{ki} = 1$ , which is a contradiction.  $\square$

Proposition 21. If  $R \vee S' \vee I = J$  and  $T \leq R$ , then  $(S \wedge \bar{R}') \times (S \wedge \bar{R}) \leq \bar{T}' \Leftrightarrow T \times (S \wedge \bar{R}') \leq R$

Proof. The proof is similar to that of Proposition 20.  $\square$

Proposition 22. If  $R \vee R' \vee I = J$ , then  $(R \wedge \bar{R}') \times (R \wedge \bar{R}) \leq \bar{R}' \Leftrightarrow (R \wedge \bar{R}') \times R \leq R$

Proof. This proposition follows immediately from Proposition 20.  $\square$

Proposition 23. If  $R \vee R' \vee I = J$ , then  $(R \wedge \bar{R}') \times (R \wedge \bar{R}) \leq \bar{R}' \Leftrightarrow R \times (R \wedge \bar{R}') \leq R$

Proof. This proposition follows immediately from Proposition 21.  $\square$

Proposition 24.  $(S \wedge \bar{R}') \times S \leq R \Rightarrow (S \wedge \bar{R}') \times (S \wedge \bar{R}) \leq R \wedge \bar{S}'$

Proof. Suppose that  $s_{ik} \wedge \bar{r}_{ki} \wedge s_{kj} \wedge \bar{r}_{jk} = 1$ . It will be shown that  $r_{ij} \wedge \bar{s}_{ji} = 1$ . Since  $s_{ik} \wedge \bar{r}_{ki} \wedge s_{kj} = 1$ , we have  $r_{ij} = 1$ . Assume, by way of contradiction,  $s_{ji} = 1$ . Since  $s_{kj} \wedge \bar{r}_{jk} \wedge s_{ji} = 1$ , we have  $r_{ki} = 1$ , which is a contradiction.  $\square$

Proposition 25.  $S \times (S \wedge \bar{R}') \leq R \Rightarrow (S \wedge \bar{R}') \times (S \wedge \bar{R}) \leq R \wedge \bar{S}'$

Proof. The proof is similar to that of Proposition 24.  $\square$

Proposition 26.  $(R \wedge \bar{R}') \times R \leq R \Rightarrow (R \wedge \bar{R}') \times (R \wedge \bar{R}') \leq R \wedge \bar{R}'$

Proof. This proposition follows immediately from Proposition 24.  $\square$

Proposition 27.  $R \times (R \wedge \bar{R}') \leq R \Rightarrow (R \wedge \bar{R}') \times (R \wedge \bar{R}') \leq R \wedge \bar{R}'$

Proof. This proposition follows immediately from Proposition 25.  $\square$

Proposition 28. If  $R \vee R' \vee I = J$ , then the following are equivalent.

(1)  $(R \wedge \bar{R}') \times (R \wedge \bar{R}') \leq R \wedge \bar{R}'$

(2)  $(R \wedge \bar{R}') \times (R \wedge \bar{R}') \leq \bar{R}'$

(3)  $(R \wedge \bar{R}') \times R \leq R$

(4)  $R \times (R \wedge \bar{R}') \leq R$

Proof. This proposition follows immediately from Propositions 22, 23, 26, and 27.  $\square$

Proposition 29 (Sen, 1969). If  $R \vee R' \vee I = J$ , then  $(R \wedge \bar{R}') \times (R \wedge \bar{R}') \leq R \wedge \bar{R}' \Leftrightarrow (R \wedge \bar{R}') \times R \leq R$

Proof. This proposition follows immediately from Proposition 28.  $\square$

### References

Lorimer, P., 1967. A note on orderings, *Econometrica* 35, 537-539.

Roubens, M., Vincke, Ph., 1985. *Preference Modelling* (Springer-Verlag, Berlin).

Sen, A., 1969. Quasi-transitivity, rational choice and collective decisions, *Review of Economic Studies* 36, 381-393.

Sen, A. K., 1970. *Collective choice and social welfare* (Holden-Day, San Francisco).

Sonnenschein, H., 1965. The relationship between transitive preference and the structure of the choice space, *Econometrica* 33, 624-634.