

9 Relations

9.1 Relations and Their Properties

Def. 1 Let A and B be two set. Then a **binary relation** R from A to B is subset of $A \times B$.

$$R \subseteq A \times B.$$

A : **domain** of the relation R . B : **range(codomain)** of the relation R .

Let $a \in A$, $b \in B$, Then $(a, b) \in R$ or $(a, b) \notin R$.

If $(a, b) \in R$, we also write $a R b$ and we say a is **related to** b by R .

If $(a, b) \notin R$, we also write $a \not R b$ and a is **not related to** b by R .

Two notations for relation

$(a, b) \in R$ relation R is a set of pairs

$$R \subseteq A \times B$$

$a R b$ relation R is a infix **boolean binary operation**

$$R: A \times B \rightarrow \{\mathbf{T}, \mathbf{F}\}$$

Ex. $= \subseteq \mathbf{N} \times \mathbf{N}$.

$(3, 3) \in =$ or $3 = 3$; $(3, 4) \notin =$ or $3 \neq 4$.

Function is a Relation but relation is not a function!

$f: A \rightarrow B$ vs $R \subseteq A \times B$

$$f(a) = b \text{ vs } R(a) = \{b_1, b_2, \dots, b_n\}$$

Function f is a **special** kind of relation

$$\forall a \in A: \exists_1 b \in B. \quad \text{:Since } f(a) = \{b\}, \text{ we write } f(a) = b.$$

Some Relation R may be a function.

$$\forall a \in A: \exists_1 b \in B. \quad (a, b) \in R.$$

Function is a relation

you can write $(a, b) \in f$ or $a f b$ instead of $f(a) = b$

Let $f: A_1 \times A_2 \times \dots \times A_n \rightarrow B_1 \times B_2 \times \dots \times B_m$.

$$((a_1, a_2, \dots, a_n), (b_1, b_2, \dots, b_m)) \in f$$

$$(a_1, a_2, \dots, a_n) f (b_1, b_2, \dots, b_m)$$

$$f((a_1, a_2, \dots, a_n)) = (b_1, b_2, \dots, b_m) \text{ or}$$

$$f(a_1, a_2, \dots, a_n) = (b_1, b_2, \dots, b_m).$$

A function is a special kind(subclass) of a relation

Three faces of the relation R from A to B .

i) R is a subset of pairs

$R \subseteq A \times B, (a, b) \in R$ where $a \in A$ and $b \in B$.

ii) R is a infix binary boolean(relational) operator

$R: A \times B \rightarrow \{\mathbf{T}, \mathbf{F}\}$

$a R b$ where $a \in A$ and $b \in B$.

iii) R is a set valued function from A to 2^B .

$R: A \rightarrow 2^B$.

$R(a) = \{b_1, b_2, \dots, b_n\}$ where $a \in A$ and $\{b_1, b_2, \dots, b_n\} \in 2^B$.

if $1 \leq \forall i \leq n, (a, b_i) \in R$ or $a R b_i$ for $n \geq 0$,

if $n=0, R(a) = \{b_1, b_2, \dots, b_n\} = \emptyset$.

Note that $\forall a \in A, \exists \{b_1, b_2, \dots, b_n\} \in 2^B$ is unique.

Two aspects of the relation

i) subset of $A \times B$, $(a, b) \in R$.

$$R \subseteq A \times B$$

ii) infix binary boolean operation, $a R b$,

$$R: A \times B \rightarrow \{\mathbf{T}, \mathbf{F}\}$$

Example $=, <, \leq, \dots \subseteq N \times N$ or $N \times N \rightarrow \{\mathbf{T}, \mathbf{F}\}$

$$3 = 3, 3 \neq 4, 3 \leq 3, \dots$$

Relation on A Set

Def. 2 Let A be a set and $R \subseteq A \times A$. R is called a relation on A .

Relation on A is a directed graph with vertices A and edges R .

Properties of Relations

Def. 3 A relation R is **reflexive**, if $\forall a \in A, a R a$.

A relation R is **irreflexive**, if $\forall a \in A, a \not R a$.

*A relation may be **neither reflexive nor irreflexive**.*

Def. 4 A relation R is **symmetric**, if $a R b \Rightarrow b R a$.

A relation R is **asymmetric**, if $a R b \Rightarrow b \not R a$.

A relation R is **antisymmetric**, if $(a R b \wedge b R a) \Rightarrow (a = b)$.

or if $(a R b \wedge a \neq b) \Rightarrow b \not R a$.

If a relation is a asymmetric then it is also antisymmetric. (\subseteq)

Def. 5 A relation R is **transitive**, if $a R b \wedge b R c \Rightarrow a R c$.

Combining Relations

Let $R_1, R_2 \subseteq A \times B$. Consider $R_1 \cup R_2, R_1 \cap R_2, R_1 \oplus R_2, R_1 - R_2, R_2 - R_1$.

Def. 6 Let $R \subseteq A \times B, S \subseteq B \times C$. Then **composition** of R and S , denoted as $S \circ R = \{(a, c) \in A \times C \mid (a, b) \in R, (b, c) \in S\}$.

Def. 7 Let $R \subseteq A \times A$. Then for $n \in \mathbf{N}^+$,

$$R^1 = R \quad \text{basis}$$

$$R^{n+1} = R^n \circ R. \quad \text{induction}$$

Def. 6.1 Let A be a set. We define **identity relation**

$$id_A = \{(a, a) \in A \times A \mid a \in A\}$$

Colorally 0.5 Let $R \subseteq A \times B$. Then

$$R \circ id_A = id_A \circ R = R. \quad id_A \text{ is a } \textit{identity element for composition}.$$

Def. 7.1 Let $R \subseteq A \times A$. Then for $n \in \mathbf{N}$,

$$R^0 = id_A \quad \text{basis} \quad (x^0 = 1)$$

$$R^{n+1} = R^n \circ R. \quad \text{induction}$$

Thm. 1 Let $R \subseteq A \times A$. R is **transitive**, if and only if, $R^n \subseteq R$ for $\forall n \in \mathbf{N}^+$.

Proof:

1. (if) $R^n \subseteq R$ for $\forall n \in \mathbf{N}^+ \Rightarrow R$ is transitive.

Since $R^2 \subseteq R$. If $(a, b) \in R$ and $(b, c) \in R$, $(a, c) \in R^2$. $\therefore (a, c) \in R$
 $\therefore R$ is transitive.

2. (only if) R is transitive $\Rightarrow R^n \subseteq R$ for $\forall n \in \mathbf{N}^+$.

mathematical induction on $n \in \mathbf{N}^+$.

basis Trivial for $n = 1$.

induction Assume $R^n \subseteq R$ for some $n \in \mathbf{N}^+$ and R is transitive.

Consider $(a, b) \in R^{n+1}$, then $\exists x \in A$.s.t. $(a, x) \in R$ and $(x, b) \in R^n$.

$R^n \subseteq R$, $(x, b) \in R$. **induction hypothesis**

Since $R^{n+1} = R^n \circ R$ and R is transitive, $(a, b) \in R$.

$\therefore R^{n+1} \subseteq R$.

9.2 n-ary Relations and Their Applications

Def. 1 Let A_1, A_2, \dots, A_n be sets. $R \subseteq A_1 \times A_2 \times \dots \times A_n$ is a n -ary relation on A_1, A_2, \dots, A_n . The sets A_1, A_2, \dots, A_n are called the **domain** of the relations, and n is called its **degree**.

Database and Relations

Operations on n-ary Relations

Definition 2

Definition 3

Definition 4

9.3 Representing Relations

$$R: A \times B \rightarrow \{0, 1\}$$

boolean matrix

$$R \subseteq A \times A.$$

Definition 1 A **directed graph** or **digraph** $G = (V, E)$ consists of a set V of **vertices**, and a set $E \subseteq V \times V$ of **edges(arcs)**.

9.4 Closure of Relations

Let $R \subseteq A \times A$. R may or may not have some property $\mathbf{P} = \{\text{reflexive, symmetric, transitive}\}$. If $\forall T \subseteq A \times A$ with property $\mathbf{p} \in \mathbf{P}$ and $R \subseteq T$, $S \subseteq T$, then S is called the **\mathbf{p} closure** of R .

Reflexive closure of R

$$R \cup \text{id}_A.$$

Symmetric closure of R

$$R \cup R^{-1}.$$

Definition 1 A **path** from a to b in the directed graph $G = (V, E)$.

$(x_0, x_1), (x_1, x_2), \dots, (x_{n-1}, x_n) \in E$, and $x_0 = a, x_n = b$.

The path is denoted by $(x_0, x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n)$ and has **length** n .

A path of length $n \geq 1$ and

begins and ends at the same vertex is called **cycle**.

Theorem 1 Let $R \subseteq A \times A$. There is a path of length $n \geq 1$ from a to b , if and only if, $(a, b) \in R^n$.

proof Easy for induction

Definition 1 A connectivity relation $R^+ = \{(a, b) \mid (a, b) \in R^n, \forall n \geq 1\}$

$$R^+ = \cup_{i \in \mathbf{N}_+} R^i = R^1 \cup R^2 \cup \dots$$

transitive closure of R.

$$R^* = \cup_{i \in \mathbf{N}} R^i = R^0 \cup R^1 \cup R^2 \cup \dots$$

reflexive and transitive closure of R.

Let A and C be sets, $R \subseteq A \times A$, $f, g: A \rightarrow 2^C$. (set valued functions), and

$$f(a) = \{c \in C \mid c \in g(a)\} \cup \{c \in C \mid a R b, c \in f(b)\}.$$

$$f(a) = \{c \in g(a)\} \cup \{c \in f(b) \mid a R b\}.$$

$f(a) = g(a) \cup \cup_{a R b} f(b)$. (**recursive definition of f**) Then

$$f(a) = \{c \in C \mid c \in g(b), a R^* b\}.$$

$$f(a) = g^*(a). \text{ (iterative definition of } f)$$

Warshall's algorithm $O(n^3)$

Depth first search $O(n^2)$

Algorithm *Depth first search**S*: stack of Vertex; *n*(Vertex) array of Depth;**procedure** *Traverse*(*x*: Vertex; *d*: Depth); **push** *x* onto *S*; *n*(*x*) := *d*; *f*(*x*) := *g*(*x*); **for** *y* ∈ Vertex **where** *x* *R* *y* **do** **if** *n*(*y*) = 0 **then** *Traverse*(*y*, *d*+1) **fi**; *n*(*x*) := min(*n*(*x*), *n*(*y*)); *f*(*x*) := *f*(*x*) ∪ *f*(*y*) **od**; **if** *n*(*x*) = *d* **then repeat** *y* = **pop** of *S*; *n*(*y*) := **infinite**; *f*(*y*) := *f*(*x*) **until** *y* = *x* **fi****end procedure** *Traverse***for** *x* ∈ Vertex **do** *n*(*x*) := 0;*f*(*x*) := {} **od**;**for** *x* ∈ Vertex **where** *n*(*x*) = 0 **do** *Traverse*(*x*, 1) **od**

9.5 Equivalence Relations

Definition 1 Let $R \subseteq A \times A$. R is called **equivalence relation**, if it is reflexive, symmetric, and transitive.

Definition 3 Let $R \subseteq A \times A$ be an **equivalence relation**.

$[a]_R = \{b \mid a R b\}$ is called the **equivalence class** of a w.r.t. R .

If $b \in [a]_R$, b is called the **representative** of the equivalent class.

Note that $a \in [a]_R$, since R is **reflexive**.

Theorem 1 Let $R \subseteq A \times A$ be an **equivalence relation**. Three statements are logically equivalent

$$i) a R b \quad ii) [a]_R = [b]_R \quad iii) [a]_R \cap [b]_R \neq \emptyset.$$

proof

1) $i) \rightarrow ii)$

$$\forall c \in [a]_R, a R c, a R b, b R a. \therefore b R c, c \in [b]_R. \therefore [a]_R \subseteq [b]_R.$$

$$\forall c \in [b]_R, b R c, a R b. \therefore a R c, c \in [a]_R. \therefore [b]_R \subseteq [a]_R.$$

2) ii) \rightarrow iii)

$$\text{Assume } [a]_R = [b]_R, a R b. \therefore a, b \in [a]_R \cap [b]_R \neq \emptyset.$$

3) iii) \rightarrow i)

$$\text{Suppose } [a]_R \cap [b]_R \neq \emptyset, [a]_R \neq \emptyset \text{ and } [b]_R \neq \emptyset.$$

$$\exists c \in [a]_R \wedge c \in [b]_R. a R c, b R c. c R b, \therefore a R b.$$

Lemma 1.5 Let $R \subseteq A \times A$ be an **equivalence** relation.

$$\cup_{a \in A} [a]_R = A. \quad a \in [a]_R.$$

$\therefore \{[a]_R \subseteq A \mid a \in A\}$ is a **partition** of A .

Definition 1.5 Let S be a set. The **partition** of S , $\{A_i \mid i \in I\}$ I : index set, is

i) $A_i \neq \emptyset, i \in I.$ **nonempty**

ii) $A_i \cap A_j = \emptyset, \text{ when } i \neq j.$ **disjoint**

iii) $\cup_{i \in I} A_i = A.$ **exhaustive**

Theorem 2 Let R be an equivalent relation on A .

Then the **equivalent classes** of R form a **partition** of A .

Conversely, given a **partition** $\{A_i \mid i \in I\}$ of the set A ,

there is an **equivalent relation** R that has the set A_i , $i \in I$,
as its **equivalent class**.

Relation $R \subseteq A \times A$ $O(n^2)$ where $|A| = n$.

Equivalent relation $R \subseteq A \times A$ $O(n)$

9.6 Partial Ordering

Definition 1 Let $R \subseteq A \times A$. R is called **(ir)reflexive partial order**, if it is **(ir)reflexive**, **antisymmetric**, and **transitive**.

(A, R) is called **partially ordered set or poset**.

Example 1 2 3 (\mathbf{Z}, \leq) , $(\mathbf{Z}^+, |)$, $(2^S, \subseteq)$ are posets.

Definition 2 Let (A, \leq) be poset and $a, b \in A$. Then

The elements a and b are **comparable** if either $a \leq b$ or $b \leq a$.

The elements a and b are **incomparable** if **neither** $a \leq b$ **nor** $b \leq a$.

Definition 3 Let (S, \leq) be poset. If $\forall a, b \in S$, a and b are **comparable**, S is called **totally ordered set**, **linearly ordered set**, or **chain**.
 \leq is called **total order** or **linear order**.

Definition 4 (S, \leq) is a **well-ordered set**, if it is a **poset**, \leq is a **total order**, and every nonempty subset of S has a **least element**.

Theorem 1 Principle of Well-Ordered Induction

Let (S, \leq) be a well-ordered set. $\forall x \in S, P(x)$, if
 $\forall y \in S, \forall x \in S . \exists. x < y: P(x) \Rightarrow P(y)$.

proof Suppose $\exists y \in S, \neg P(y)$.

$$A = \{x \in S \mid \neg P(x)\} \neq \emptyset.$$

Let $a \in A$ be the least element.

$$\exists a \in A, \forall x \in S . \exists. x < a: P(x) \Rightarrow P(a).$$

Contradiction $\exists y \in S, \neg P(y)$.

Lexicographic order

Let (A_1, \leq_1) and (A_2, \leq_2) be **well-ordered sets**.

We define $(A_1 \times A_2, \leq)$ **lexicographic order**

$$(a_1, a_2) \leq (b_1, b_2), \text{ if } (a_1 <_1 b_1) \vee ((a_1 =_1 b_1) \wedge (a_2 \leq_2 b_2))$$

Hasse Diagram

Let (A, \leq) be a poset. We say a **covers** b , if $a < b \wedge \neg \exists c \in A, a \leq c \wedge c \leq b$.
 (A, covers) is a Hasse Diagram.

Maximal and Minimal Elements

Let (A, \leq) be a poset.

We say a is a **maximal**, if $\neg \exists b \in A, a < b$.

We say a is a **minimal**, if $\neg \exists b \in A, b < a$.

We say a is a **greatest element**, if $\forall b \in A, b \leq a$.

We say a is a **least elements**, if $\forall b \in A, a \leq b$.

Let $S \subseteq A$. $u \in A$ is called **upper bound** of S , if $\forall a \in S, a \leq u$.

$l \in A$ is called **lower bound** of S , if $\forall a \in S, l \leq a$.

$x \in A$ is called the **least upper bound** of S , if $\forall a \in S, a \leq x$,

$x \leq z$, if $\forall z \in \text{upper bound of } S$.

$y \in A$ is called the **greatest lower bound** of S , if $\forall a \in S, y \leq a$,

$z \leq y$, if $\forall z \in \text{lower bound of } S$.

Lattice

A poset (A, \leq) is called **lattice**. If every pair of elements has both a least upper bound, and a greatest lower bound.

(\mathbf{Z}, \leq) is a lattice.

$\max, \min: \mathbf{Z} \times \mathbf{Z} \rightarrow \mathbf{Z}$

$(\mathbf{Z}^+, |)$ is a lattice.

$\text{lcm}, \text{gcd}: \mathbf{Z}^+ \times \mathbf{Z}^+ \rightarrow \mathbf{Z}^+$

$(2^S, \subseteq)$ is a lattice.

$\cup, \cap: 2^S \times 2^S \rightarrow 2^S$

Topological Sorting

Lemma 1 Every finite nonempty poset (A, \leq_p) has
at least one minimal elements.

Algorithm 1 Topological sorting

Construct a total ordering $<_t$ from a partial ordering \leq_p .

$a <_t b$, if and only if, $a \leq_p b$ or a and b are **incomparable**.