

## 4.5 Closures

Alejandro Ruiz

April 2021

### Exercise 3

*Proof.* From the definition of asymmetry, we know that  $\forall x \in A \forall y \in A [(x, y) \in R \rightarrow (y, x) \in R]$ . Thus,  $\neg \exists (x, y) \in R (y, x) \in R$ . This means that the set  $\{(x, y) \in R \wedge (y, x) \in R\} = \emptyset$ . Considering the definition of antisymmetry, then it is *vacuously true* that  $\forall x \in A \forall y \in A [(xRy \wedge yRx) \rightarrow x = y]$ . □

*Proof.* Suppose that  $R$  is a strict partial order on  $A$ , so it is irreflexive and transitive. Let  $x, y \in A$  and suppose that  $(x, y) \in R$ . Since  $R$  is irreflexive and  $x \in A$ , then  $(x, x) \notin R$ . Since  $R$  is transitive and  $(x, x) \notin R$ , using the contrapositive we get that  $(x, y) \notin R$  or  $(y, x) \notin R$ . It cannot be the case that  $(x, y) \notin R$ , because we assume that  $(x, y) \in R$ . Thus, it must be the case that  $(y, x) \notin R$ . Since  $x, y$  were arbitrary elements of  $A$ , it follows that  $R$  is asymmetric. □

### Exercise 4

*Proof.* To prove that  $S$  is a partial order on  $A$ , we need to prove that  $S$  is reflexive, transitive, and antisymmetric on  $A$ . To prove that  $S$  is reflexive, we know that  $S$  is the reflexive closure of  $R$ , thus by definition  $S$  is reflexive.

To prove that  $S$  is transitive, let  $x, y, z \in A$  and suppose that  $(x, y) \in S$  and  $(y, z) \in S$ . Since  $S$  is the reflexive closure of  $R$ , then  $S = R \cup i_A$ . Thus,  $(x, y) \in S$  means that  $(x, y) \in R$  or  $(x, y) \in i_A$ . Similarly, since  $(y, z) \in S$ , then  $(y, z) \in i_A$ . The last two statements are equivalent to saying that either  $(x, y) \in i_A$  or  $(x, y) \in R$  and  $(y, z) \in R$ . **Case 1:**  $(x, y) \in i_A$ . Since  $x = y$  and  $y = z$ , then  $(x, z) \in i_A$  so  $(x, z) \in S$ . **Case 2:**  $(x, y) \in R$  and  $(y, z) \in R$ . Since  $x = y$ , then we have that  $(x, x) = (y, y) \in R$ . But  $R$  is asymmetric, so this cannot happen. Similarly, since  $y = z$ , then  $(y, y) = (z, z) \in R$ , but since  $R$  is asymmetric, this cannot happen and we rule out this case. Since  $x, y, z$  were arbitrary elements of  $A$ , it follows that  $S$  is transitive on  $A$ .

To prove that  $S$  is antisymmetric, let  $x, y \in A$  and suppose that  $(x, y) \in S$  and  $(y, x) \in S$ . Since  $S$  is the reflexive closure of  $R$ , then  $S = R \cup i_A$ . Thus,  $(x, y) \in S$  means that  $(x, y) \in R$  or  $(x, y) \in i_A$ . Similarly,  $(y, x) \in S$  means that  $(y, x) \in R$  or  $(y, x) \in i_A$ . The last two are statements are equivalent to saying that either  $(x, y) \in i_A$  or  $(x, y) \in R$  and  $(y, x) \in R$ . **Case 1:**  $(x, y) \in i_A$ . Then,  $x = y$ . **Case 2:**  $(x, y) \in R$  and  $(y, x) \in R$ . Since  $R$  is asymmetric, then we rule out this case. Given that  $x, y$  were arbitrary elements of  $A$ , then  $S$  is antisymmetric. Hence,  $S$  is a partial order. □

*Proof.* Suppose that  $R$  is a strict total order and let  $x, y \in A$ . Given that  $R$  is a strict partial order and  $x, y \in A$ , then we have that either  $(x, y) \in R$ ,  $(y, x) \in R$ , or  $x = y$ . Recall that  $S = R \cup i_A$ . **Case 1:**  $(x, y) \in R$ . Then  $(x, y) \in S \vee (y, x) \in S$ . **Case 2:**  $(y, x) \in R$ . Then  $(y, x) \in S \vee (x, y) \in S$ . **Case 3:**  $x = y$ . Then  $(x, x) = (y, y) = (x, y) \in i_A$ , so  $(x, y) \in S$ . Since  $x, y$  were arbitrary elements of  $A$ , then  $\forall x \in A \forall y \in A (xSy \vee ySx)$ . Given that  $S$  is a strict partial order and that the latter property is satisfied, then  $S$  is a total order. □

## Exercise 5

*Proof.* To prove that  $S$  is the largest element of the set, we need to prove that  $\forall T \in \mathcal{F} (T, S) \in R$  and  $S \in \mathcal{F}$ . We will start with the second goal. Let  $(x, y) \in S$ . This means that  $(x, y) \in R$  and  $(x, y) \notin i_A$ . Since  $(x, y)$  were arbitrary elements of  $S$ , then  $S \subseteq R$ . Since  $(x, y) \notin i_A$ , this means that  $S$  is irreflexive. Thus,  $S \in \mathcal{F}$ . To prove the first goal, let  $T \in \mathcal{F}$  and suppose  $(x, y) \in T$ . Since  $T \in \mathcal{F}$ , then  $T \subseteq R$  and  $T$  is irreflexive. Since  $(x, y) \in T$  and  $T \subseteq R$ , then  $(x, y) \in R$ . Also, since  $T$  is irreflexive and  $(x, y) \in T$ , then  $x \neq y$ . Thus,  $(x, y) \in S$ . Since  $(x, y)$  was an arbitrary element of  $T$ , then  $T \subseteq S$ . Also, since  $T$  was an arbitrary element of  $\mathcal{F}$ , then  $\forall T \in \mathcal{F} T \subseteq S$ . Hence,  $S$  is the largest element of the set  $\mathcal{F}$ .  $\square$

*Proof.* To prove that  $S$  is a strict partial order on  $A$ , we need to prove that  $S$  is irreflexive and transitive. Let's prove transitivity first. Let  $x, y, z \in A$  and suppose that  $(x, y) \in S$  and  $(y, z) \in S$ . This means that  $(x, y) \in R$  and  $(y, z) \in R$  respectively. Since  $R$  is a partial order on  $A$ , then  $R$  is transitive. Hence,  $(x, z) \in R$ . Since  $(x, y) \in S$ , this also means that  $x \neq y$ . Similarly,  $y \neq z$ . Thus,  $x \neq z$ , so  $(x, z) \notin i_A$ . Since  $(x, z) \in R$  and  $(x, z) \notin i_A$ , then  $(x, z) \in S$ . Given that  $x, y, z$  were arbitrary elements of  $A$ , then  $S$  is transitive on  $A$ . We already proved that  $S$  is irreflexive. However, we can take a different approach now. Let  $x \in A$ . Since  $R$  is reflexive on  $A$ , then  $(x, x) \in R$ . Also,  $(x, x) \in i_A$ , so  $(x, x) \notin S$ . Since  $x$  was an arbitrary element of  $A$ , then  $S$  is irreflexive.  $\square$

## Exercise 7

*Proof.* ( $\rightarrow$ ). Suppose  $R$  is reflexive on  $A$ . To prove that  $R$  is its own reflexive closure we need to prove three conditions: 1)  $R \subseteq R$ , which is trivial; 2)  $R$  is reflexive, which is what we assumed; 3)  $\forall T \in \mathcal{F} R \subseteq T$ . Let  $T \in \mathcal{F}$  and suppose  $(x, y) \in R$ . Since  $T \in \mathcal{F}$ , then  $R \subseteq T$ . Since  $(x, y) \in R$ , then  $(x, y) \in T$ . Given that  $(x, y)$  were arbitrary elements of  $R$ , then  $R \subseteq T$ . Since  $T$  was an arbitrary element of  $\mathcal{F}$ , then  $\forall T \in \mathcal{F} R \subseteq T$ .

( $\leftarrow$ ). Suppose  $R$  is its own reflexive closure. Thus,  $R$  is reflexive.  $\square$

It should be clear that similar theorems hold for symmetric and transitive closures.

## Exercise 8

## Exercise 9

*Proof.* Let us first prove that  $\text{Dom}(S) = \text{Dom}(R)$ . We start by proving that  $\text{Dom}(R) \subseteq \text{Dom}(S)$ . Let  $x \in \text{Dom}(R)$ . Thus there is some element  $y \in A$  so that  $(x, y) \in R$ . Since  $S$  is the transitive closure of  $R$ , then  $R \subseteq S$ , so  $(x, y) \in S$ . Hence,  $x \in \text{Dom}(S)$ . Since  $x$  was an arbitrary element of  $\text{Dom}(R)$ , then  $\text{Dom}(R) \subseteq \text{Dom}(S)$ . We now prove that  $\text{Dom}(S) \subseteq \text{Dom}(R)$ . Let  $x \in \text{Dom}(S)$ . Thus, there is some element  $y \in A$  so that  $(x, y) \in S$ . Let  $T = \{(x, y) \in S \mid x \in \text{Dom}(R) \text{ and } y \in \text{Ran}(R)\}$ . Since  $\forall T \in \mathcal{F} S \subseteq T$ , then  $S \subseteq T$ . Given that  $(x, y) \in S$ , then  $(x, y) \in T$ . This means that  $x \in \text{Dom}(R)$ . Since  $x$  was an arbitrary element of  $\text{Dom}(S)$ , then  $\text{Dom}(S) \subseteq \text{Dom}(R)$ . Thus,  $\text{Dom}(S) = \text{Dom}(R)$ .

To prove that  $\text{Ran}(S) = \text{Ran}(R)$ , we follow the same approach.  $\square$

Some comments: This is not trivial. The key is to write down all the facts we know. For example, since  $S$  is the transitive closure of  $R$  under the subset partial order, then  $\forall T \in \mathcal{F} S \subseteq T$ . In our givens, it appears that  $(x, y) \in S$ , so this should tell us we need to use these two assumptions. That is why we look for some set  $T \in \mathcal{F}$  that will satisfy our goal.

## Exercise 10

*Proof.* To prove that  $\mathcal{F} \neq \emptyset$ , we need to prove that there is some element in  $\mathcal{F}$ . Suppose  $A \times A \in \mathcal{F}$ . This means that  $R \subseteq A \times A$ , which we know is true because  $R$  is a relation on  $A$ . Now, let  $x, y \in A$  and suppose that  $(x, y) \in A \times A$ . Thus,  $x \in A$  and  $y \in A$ , which we already knew. Then it is also true that  $(y, x) \in A \times A$ . Since  $x, y$  were arbitrary elements of  $A$ , then  $A \times A$  is symmetric. Thus,  $\mathcal{F} \neq \emptyset$ .  $\square$

*Proof.* We will prove this by verifying the three conditions we know must be satisfied. Let  $(x, y) \in R$  and suppose that  $M \in \mathcal{F}$ . Thus,  $R \subseteq M$ . Since  $(x, y) \in R$ , then  $(x, y) \in M$ . Given that  $M$  was an arbitrary element of  $\mathcal{F}$ , then  $(x, y) \in \cap \mathcal{F}$ . Since  $(x, y)$  were arbitrary elements, then  $R \subseteq S$ . To prove the second conditions, suppose that  $x, y \in A$  and let  $(x, y) \in \cap \mathcal{F}$ . Also, suppose that  $M \in \mathcal{F}$ . Thus,  $(x, y) \in M$ . Since  $M \in \mathcal{F}$ , then  $M$  is symmetric, and since  $(x, y) \in M$  then  $(y, x) \in M$ . Given that  $M$  was an arbitrary element of  $\mathcal{F}$ , then  $(y, x) \in \cap \mathcal{F}$ . Since  $x, y$  were arbitrary elements of  $A$ , then  $\cap \mathcal{F}$  is symmetric. To prove the third condition, let  $T \in \mathcal{F}$  and suppose that  $(x, y) \in \cap \mathcal{F}$ . Thus,  $(x, y) \in T$ . Since  $(x, y)$  was an arbitrary element of  $A$ , then  $\cap \mathcal{F} \subseteq T$ . Given that  $T$  was an arbitrary element of  $\mathcal{F}$ , then  $\forall T \in \mathcal{F} \cap \mathcal{F} \subseteq T$ .  $\square$

## Exercise 11

*Proof.* Let  $(x, y) \in S_1$ . Since  $S_1$  is the reflexive closure of  $R_1$ , we know that  $S_1 = R_1 \cup i_A$ . Thus,  $(x, y) \in R_1$  or  $(x, y) \in i_A$ . **Case 1:**  $(x, y) \in R_1$ . Since  $R_1 \subseteq R_2$ , then  $(x, y) \in R_2$  and so  $(x, y) \in R_2 \cup i_A$ . **Case 2:**  $(x, y) \in i_A$ . Then  $(x, y) \in R_2 \cup i_A$ . Since  $(x, y)$  was an arbitrary element of  $S_1$ , then  $S_1 \subseteq S_2$ .  $\square$

*Proof.* Let  $(x, y) \in S_1$ . Since  $S_1$  is the symmetric closure of  $R_1$ , then  $S_1 = R_1 \cup R_1^{-1}$ . Thus,  $(x, y) \in R_1$  or  $(x, y) \in R_1^{-1}$ . **Case 1:**  $(x, y) \in R_1$ . Since  $R_1 \subseteq R_2$ , then  $(x, y) \in R_2 \cup R_2^{-1}$ . **Case 2:**  $(x, y) \in R_1^{-1}$ . Then  $(y, x) \in R_1$ , and so  $(y, x) \in R_2$ . Thus,  $(x, y) \in R_2^{-1}$  and so  $(x, y) \in R_2 \cup R_2^{-1}$ . Since  $(x, y)$  was an arbitrary element of  $S_1$ , then  $S_1 \subseteq S_2$ .  $\square$

*Proof.* Let  $(x, y) \in S_1$  and suppose that  $M \in \mathcal{F}_2$ . We know that  $S_1$  is the transitive closure of  $R_1$ , so  $S_1 = \cap \mathcal{F}_1$ . Since  $M \in \mathcal{F}_2$ , then  $R_2 \subseteq M$  and  $M$  is transitive. Since  $R_1 \subseteq R_2$  and  $R_2 \subseteq M$ , then  $R_1 \subseteq M$ . Thus,  $M \in \mathcal{F}_1$ . Given that  $(x, y) \in S_1$  and  $M \in \mathcal{F}_1$ , then  $(x, y) \in M$ . Since  $M$  was an arbitrary element of  $\mathcal{F}_2$ , then  $(x, y) \in S_2$ . Given that  $(x, y)$  was an arbitrary element of  $S_1$ , then  $S_1 \subseteq S_2$ .  $\square$

## Exercise 12

*Proof.*  $S_1 \cup S_2 = (R_1 \cup i_A) \cup (R_2 \cup i_A) = (R_1 \cup R_2) \cup i_A = R \cup i_A = S$ .  $\square$

*Proof.* Let us prove first that  $S_1 \cup S_2 \subseteq S$ . Let  $(x, y) \in S_1 \cup S_2$ . Thus,  $(x, y) \in S_1$  or  $(x, y) \in S_2$ . **Case 1:**  $(x, y) \in S_1$ . Then  $(x, y) \in R_1$  or  $(x, y) \in R_1^{-1}$ . If  $(x, y) \in R_1$ , then  $(x, y) \in R$ . Thus,  $(x, y) \in R \cup R^{-1}$ . If  $(x, y) \in R_1^{-1}$ , then  $(x, y) \in R_1^{-1} \cup R_2^{-1}$ . Hence,  $(x, y) \in (R_1 \cup R_2)^{-1}$ . **Case 2:**  $(x, y) \in S_2$ . Then  $(x, y) \in R_2$  or  $(x, y) \in R_2^{-1}$ . If  $(x, y) \in R_2$ , then  $(x, y) \in R$ . Thus,  $(x, y) \in R \cup R^{-1}$ . If  $(x, y) \in R_2^{-1}$ , then  $(x, y) \in R_1^{-1} \cup R_2^{-1}$ . Hence,  $(x, y) \in (R_1 \cup R_2)^{-1}$ . To prove that  $S \subseteq S_1 \cup S_2$ , suppose  $(x, y) \in S$ . Then  $(x, y) \in R$  or  $(x, y) \in R^{-1}$ . **Case 1:**  $(x, y) \in R$ . Thus,  $(x, y) \in R_1$  or  $(x, y) \in R_2$ . If  $(x, y) \in R_1$ , then  $(x, y) \in S_1$ , since  $R_1 \subseteq S_1$ . Hence,  $(x, y) \in S_1 \cup S_2$ . A similar argument follows for  $(x, y) \in R_2$ . **Case 2:**  $(x, y) \in R^{-1}$ . Then,  $(y, x) \in R$  so  $(y, x) \in R_1$  or  $(y, x) \in R_2$ . If  $(y, x) \in R_1$ , then  $(y, x) \in S_1$  because  $R_1 \subseteq S_1$ . Thus,  $(x, y) \in S_1$  since  $S_1$  is symmetric. Hence,  $(x, y) \in S_1 \cup S_2$ . A similar argument follows for  $(y, x) \in R_2$ .  $\square$

*Proof.* Let  $(x, y) \in S_1 \cup S_2$  and suppose that  $T \in \mathcal{F}$ , where  $\mathcal{F} = \{T \subseteq A \times A \mid R \subseteq T \text{ and } T \text{ transitive}\}$ . Since  $(x, y) \in S_1 \cup S_2$ , then  $(x, y) \in S_1$  or  $(x, y) \in S_2$ . **Case 1:**  $(x, y) \in S_1$ . We know that  $R_1 \subseteq R_1 \cup R_2 = R \subseteq T$ , since  $T \in \mathcal{F}$ . Given that  $T$  is transitive, then  $T \in \mathcal{F}_1$ . Thus,  $(x, y) \in T$ . **Case 2:** A similar argument follows as in Case 1. Since  $T$  was an arbitrary element of  $\mathcal{F}$ , then  $(x, y) \in S$ . Given that  $(x, y)$  was an arbitrary element of  $S_1 \cup S_2$ , then  $S_1 \cup S_2 \subseteq S$ . □

## Exercise 13

For (a) we want to prove that  $S_1 \cap S_2 = S$ .

*Proof.*  $S_1 \cap S_2 = (R_1 \cup i_A) \cap (R_2 \cup i_A) = (R_1 \cap R_2) \cup i_A = R \cup i_A = S$ . □

For (b) we want to prove that  $S_1 \cap S_2 = S$ .

$$\begin{aligned}
 S &= R \cup R^{-1} \\
 &= (R_1 \cap R_2) \cup (R_1 \cap R_2)^{-1} \\
 &= [(R_1 \cap R_2)^{-1} \cup R_1] \cap [(R_1 \cap R_2)^{-1} \cup R_2] \\
 &= [(R_1^{-1} \cap R_2^{-1}) \cup R_1] \cap [(R_1^{-1} \cap R_2^{-1}) \cup R_2] \\
 &= (R_1 \cup R_1^{-1}) \cap (R_1 \cup R_2^{-1}) \cap (R_2 \cup R_1^{-1}) \cap (R_2 \cup R_2^{-1}) \\
 &= (S_1 \cap S_2) \cap (R_1 \cup R_2^{-1}) \cap (R_2 \cup R_1^{-1})
 \end{aligned}$$

which clearly shows us that  $S \neq S_1 \cap S_2$ .

For (c) we want to prove that  $S_1 \cap S_2 \subseteq S$ . We can write down our scratch work:

- We start by assuming that  $(x, y) \in S_1 \cap S_2$  and that  $T \in \mathcal{F}$
- Since  $T \in \mathcal{F}$ , then we know that  $R \subseteq T$  and  $T$  is transitive. We would like to know if  $T$  is an element of both  $\mathcal{F}_1$  and  $\mathcal{F}_2$ , just like we did in the previous exercise.
- Since  $T$  is transitive, we would like to know whether  $R_1 \subseteq T$  and  $R_2 \subseteq T$ . Since we know that  $R \subseteq T$ , we would like to know if  $R_1 \subseteq R$ . However this could or could not happen. If  $R_1 = R_2$ , then  $R_1, R_2 \subseteq R$ . If  $R_1 \neq R_2$ , we would need more information. Thus it is not possible to say that  $S_1 \cap S_2 \subseteq S$

However, we can prove that  $S \subseteq S_1 \cap S_2$ .

*Proof.* Let  $(x, y) \in S$  and suppose that  $T_1 \in \mathcal{F}_1$  and  $T_2 \in \mathcal{F}_2$ . Since  $S_1$  is the transitive closure of  $R_1$ , then  $\forall T_1 \in \mathcal{F}_1, S_1 \subseteq T_1$ . Given that  $T_1 \in \mathcal{F}_1$ , then  $S_1 \subseteq T_1$ . Similarly for  $T_2 \in \mathcal{F}_2$ , then  $S_2 \subseteq T_2$ . Given that  $S_1$  and  $S_2$  are the transitive closure of  $R_1$  and  $R_2$  respectively, then  $R_1 \subseteq S_1$  and  $R_2 \subseteq S_2$ . Thus,  $R_1 \cap R_2 \subseteq S_1 \cap S_2$ . We know that  $S_1 \cap S_2$  is transitive (prove it), so  $S_1 \cap S_2 \in \mathcal{F}$ . Given that  $(x, y) \in S$ , then  $(x, y) \in S_1 \cap S_2$ . Since  $S_1 \subseteq T_1$  and  $S_2 \subseteq T_2$ , then  $(x, y) \in T_1$  and  $(x, y) \in T_2$ . Since  $T_1$  and  $T_2$  were arbitrary elements of  $\mathcal{F}_1$  and  $\mathcal{F}_2$  respectively, then  $(x, y) \in S_1 \cap S_2$ . Given that  $(x, y)$  was an arbitrary element of  $S$ , then  $S \subseteq S_1 \cap S_2$ . □

## Exercise 15

By now we should be able to have some "mathematical hunches". If we are looking for a closure that is both reflexive and symmetric, we might want to think of  $S = (R \cup i_A) \cap (R \cup R^{-1})$  or  $S = (R \cup i_A) \cup (R \cup R^{-1})$ . While working on the proof, we should be able to notice which one of our candidates is correct.

*Proof.* Let  $S = R \cup (i_A \cup R^{-1})$ . To prove the first clause, it is quite obvious that  $R \subseteq R \cup (i_A \cup R^{-1})$ . For the second clause, we will first prove reflexivity. Let  $x \in A$ . We know that  $i_A = \{(x, x) | x \in A\}$ . Thus,  $(x, x) \in i_A$  and so  $(x, x) \in i_A \cup (R \cup R^{-1})$ . Since  $x$  was an arbitrary element of  $A$ , then  $S$  is reflexive. To prove symmetry, let  $x, y \in A$  and suppose that  $x \in S$ . **Case 1:**  $(x, y) \in R$ , Then  $(y, x) \in R^{-1}$ , so  $(y, x) \in S$ . **Case 2:**  $(x, y) \in i_A$ . Then  $x = y$ , so  $(y, x) \in i_A$ . Hence  $(y, x) \in S$ . **Case 3:**  $(x, y) \in R^{-1}$ . Then  $(y, x) \in R$ , so  $(y, x) \in S$ . Given that  $x, y$  were arbitrary elements of  $A$  then  $S$  is symmetric.

To prove the third clause, let  $T \in \mathcal{F}$  and suppose  $(x, y) \in S$ . Given that  $T \in \mathcal{F}$ , then  $R \subseteq T$  and  $T$  is both symmetric and transitive. **Case 1:**  $(x, y) \in R$ . Since  $R \subseteq T$ , then  $(x, y) \in T$ . **Case 2:**  $(x, y) \in i_A$ . Given that  $T$  is symmetric, then  $i_A \subseteq T$ . Since  $x = y$ , then  $(x, y) \in T$ . **Case 3:**  $(x, y) \in R^{-1}$ . Then  $(y, x) \in R$ . Since  $R \subseteq T$ , then  $(y, x) \in T$ . Given that  $T$  is symmetric, then  $(x, y) \in T$ . Since  $(x, y)$  was an arbitrary element of  $S$ , then  $S \subseteq T$ . Since  $T$  was an arbitrary element of  $\mathcal{F}$ , then  $\forall T \in \mathcal{F} S \subseteq T$  □

## Exercise 16

*Proof.* Suppose  $R$  is symmetric, and let  $x, y \in A$  and  $(x, y) \in S$ . Since  $S$  is the reflexive closure of  $R$ , then  $(x, y) \in R$  or  $(x, y) \in i_A$ . **Case 1:**  $(x, y) \in R$ .  $R$  is symmetric, so  $(y, x) \in R$ . Since  $R \subseteq S$ , then  $(y, x) \in S$ . **Case 2:**  $(x, y) \in i_A$ . Then,  $x = y$ . Given that  $S$  is the reflexive closure of  $R$ , then  $(x, x) = (y, y) = (y, x) \in S$ . Since  $x, y$  were arbitrary elements of  $A$ , then  $S$  is symmetric. □

*Proof.* Suppose  $R$  is transitive, and let  $x, y, z \in A$ ,  $xSy$  and  $ySz$ . **Case 1:**  $xRy$  and  $yRz$ . Since  $R$  is transitive, then  $xRz$ . Given that  $R \subseteq S$ , so  $xSz$ . **Case 2:**  $xRy$  and  $(y, z) \in i_A$ . Then,  $y = z$  so  $xRz$ . Since  $R \subseteq S$ , then  $xSz$ . **Case 3:**  $(x, y) \in i_A$  and  $(y, z) \in R$ . Then,  $x = y$  so  $xRz$ . Since  $R \subseteq S$ , then  $xSz$ . **Case 4:**  $(x, y) \in i_A$  and  $(y, z) \in i_A$ . Then,  $x = y = z$ . Since  $S$  is reflexive, we know that  $(x, x) = (y, y) = (z, z) = (x, z) \in S$ .

Now, given that  $x, y, z$  were arbitrary elements of  $A$ , then  $S$  is transitive. □

## Exercise 17

*Proof.* Suppose  $R$  is symmetric, and let  $x, y \in A$  and  $(x, y) \in S$ . We would like to know if  $S^{-1} \in \mathcal{F}$ , so we will prove this. Let  $(x, y) \in R$ . Since  $R$  is symmetric, then  $(y, x) \in R$ . Given that  $R \subseteq S$ , then  $(y, x) \in S$  iff  $(x, y) \in S^{-1}$ . Since  $(x, y)$  was an arbitrary element of  $A \times A$ , then  $R \subseteq S^{-1}$ . Now, let  $x, y, z \in A$  and suppose that  $(x, y) \in S^{-1}$  and  $(y, z) \in S^{-1}$ . Then,  $(x, y) \in S$  and  $(y, z) \in S$ . Given that  $S$  is transitive, it follows that  $(z, y) \in S$  iff  $(y, z) \in S^{-1}$ . Thus, given that  $x, y, z$  were arbitrary elements of  $A$ , then  $S^{-1}$  is transitive. Now we can proceed with our original proof. Since  $(x, y) \in S$  and  $S^{-1} \in \mathcal{F}$ , then  $(x, y) \in S^{-1}$  iff  $(y, x) \in S$ . Given that  $x, y$  were arbitrary elements of  $A$ , then  $S$  is symmetric. □

## Exercise 18

*Proof.* To prove the first clause, we know that  $Q$  is the symmetric closure of  $R$ , so  $R \subseteq Q$ . Also,  $S$  is the transitive closure of  $Q$ , so  $Q \subseteq S$ . Thus,  $R \subseteq S$ . To prove the second clause, we know that  $S$  is the transitive closure of  $Q$ , so  $S$  is transitive. Since  $Q$  is symmetric and  $Q \subseteq A \times A$ , by Exercise 17 we know that  $S$  is symmetric too. To prove the third clause, let  $T \in \mathcal{F}$ . Thus,  $R \subseteq T$  and  $T$  is both transitive and symmetric. Since  $T$  is transitive, then  $T \in \mathcal{F}_1$ , where  $\mathcal{F}_1 = \{T_1 \subseteq A \times A | Q \subseteq T_1 \text{ and } T_1 \text{ transitive}\}$ , then  $S \subseteq T$ . Since  $T$  was an arbitrary element of  $\mathcal{F}$ , then  $\forall T \in \mathcal{F} S \subseteq T$ . □

*Proof.* Let  $\mathcal{F} = \{T \subseteq A \times A | Q' \subseteq T \text{ and } T \text{ symmetric}\}$ . We know that  $R \subseteq Q$ , where  $Q'$  is the transitive closure of  $R$  and  $S$  is the transitive closure of  $Q$ . By Exercise 11, we then know that  $Q' \subseteq S$ . Also,

we know that  $S$  is symmetric, so  $S \in \mathcal{F}$ . Since  $S'$  is the symmetric closure of  $Q'$ , then  $\forall T \in \mathcal{F} S' \subseteq T$ , so  $S' \subseteq S$ .

□