

Lec 15

Properties of Relations

1. Reflexive Relation

1. A relation R on a set A is called reflexive if $(a,a) \in R$ for every element $a \in A$
2. A relation R is reflexive if and only if MR (Matrix of R) has 1 in every position on its main diagonal.

2. Irreflexive Relation

1. A relation R on a set A is called irreflexive if $(a,a) \notin R$ for every element $a \in A$.
2. Irreflexive \neq not reflexive
3. A relation R is irreflexive if and only if MR has 0 in every position on its main diagonal.

3. Symmetric Relation

1. A relation R on a set A is called symmetric if $(b, a) \in R$ whenever $(a, b) \in R$ for all $a, b \in A$.
2. A relation R is symmetric if and only if MR is symmetric.

$$MR^T = MR$$

4. Antisymmetric Relation

1. A relation R on a set A is called antisymmetric if $(b, a) \in R$ and $(a, b) \in R$ implies $a = b$ for all $a, b \in A$.
2. Antisymmetric \neq not Symmetric
3. if have $(b, a) \in R$ and $(a, b) \in R$. a must equal to b ;

5. Transitive Relation

1. A relation R on a set A is called transitive if $(a, b) \in R$ and $(b, c) \in R$ implies $(a, c) \in R$ for all $a, b, c \in A$.

Combining Relations

1. **Definition:** Let A and B be two sets. A binary relation from A to B is a subset of a Cartesian product $A \times B$.
2. **Definition:** Let R be a relation from a set A to a set B and S be a relation from B to C . The composite of R and S is the relation consisting of the ordered pairs $(a; c)$ where $a \in A$ and $c \in C$ and for which there is a $b \in B$ such that $(a; b) \in R$ and $(b, c) \in S$. We denote the composite of **R and S** by $S \circ R$.
3. Combining Relation same as Matrix multiplication.
4. **Power Relation :**

Let R be a relation on A . The powers R^n , for $n = 1, 2, 3, \dots$, is defined inductively by

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

Theorem : The relation R on a set A is transitive if and only if $R^n \circ R$ for $n = 1, 2, 3, \dots$

Proof:

if: $R^n \subseteq R$ for $n = 1, 2, 3, \dots \rightarrow R$ is transitive

Let $n = 2$, $R^2 \subseteq R$ $(a, b), (b, c) \in R$ $R^2 = R \circ R$

$(a, c) \in R^2 \subseteq R \Rightarrow R$ is transitive

only if :

R is transitive $\rightarrow R^n \subseteq R$ for $n = 1, 2, 3, \dots$

Mathematical Induction 1: base case: $n = 1$, $R^1 \subseteq R$

2: i.h. $n = k$, $R^k \subseteq R$

3: i.s. $n = k+1$ $R^{k+1} = R^k \circ R$

$(a, b) \in R^{k+1}$ $(x, b) \in R^k \subseteq R$ $(a, b) \in R$

$R^{k+1} \subseteq R$

4: by

Number of Reflexive Relations

1. The number of reflexive relations on a set A with $|A| = n$ is $2^{n(n-1)}$.

n-ary Relations

Relational Databases ??★★

1. primary key
2. composite key
3. E-R Diagram
4. Selection Operator
5. Projection Operators
6. Join Operator

Some special ways to represent binary relations:

- with a *zero-one matrix*
- with a *directed graph*

