

# **COSC 290 Discrete Structures**

## Lecture 26: Relations, III

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# Plan for today

1. Relations & Relational Operators (Review)
2. Properties of relations (Review)
3. Properties of relations (practice)
4. Closures
5. Warshall relations

# **Relations & Relational Operators (Review)**

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## Recall: Relations

A (binary) relation on  $A \times B$  is a subset of  $A \times B$ .

Sometimes interested in relations on  $A \times A$  which is sometimes simply called a relation on  $A$ .

## Recall: inverse of a relation

### Definition (Inverse)

Let  $R$  be a relation on  $A \times B$ . The **inverse**  $R^{-1}$  of  $R$  is a relation on  $B \times A$  defined by  $R^{-1} := \{ \langle b, a \rangle \in B \times A : \langle a, b \rangle \in R \}$

*Intuition for inverse:* think of  $R$  a table with columns  $A, B$ , inverse reorders the columns  $B, A$ .

## Recall: composing two relations

### Definition (Composition)

The **composition** of  $R$  and  $S$  is a relation on  $A \times C$ , denoted  $S \circ R$ , where  $\langle a, c \rangle \in S \circ R$  iff there exists a  $b \in B$  such that  $\langle a, b \rangle \in R$  and  $\langle b, c \rangle \in S$ .

*Intuition for composition:* think of  $R$  a table with columns  $A, B$  and think of  $S$  a table with columns  $B, C$ . Composition creates new table with columns  $A, C$  by matching rows from  $R$  and  $S$  that have matching  $B$  values.

## Poll: Cardinality

Suppose that sets  $A, B, C$  have cardinalities  $n_A, n_B, n_C$  respectively. Let  $R$  be a relation on  $A \times B$  and  $S$  a relation on  $B \times C$ . What is the *maximum* cardinality of  $S \circ R$ ? (In discussion, justify your answer.)

1.  $n_B$
2.  $n_A + n_C$
3.  $n_A \cdot n_C$
4.  $\min \{ n_A, n_C \}$
5.  $\min \{ n_A, n_B, n_C \}$

## **Properties of relations (Review)**

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# Reflexivity

A relation  $R$  on  $A$  is **reflexive** if for every  $a \in A$ ,  $\langle a, a \rangle \in R$ .

A relation  $R$  on  $A$  is **irreflexive** if for every  $a \in A$ ,  $\langle a, a \rangle \notin R$ .

A relation can be reflexive, irreflexive, or neither.

# Symmetry

A relation  $R$  on  $A$  is **symmetric** if for every  $a, b \in A$ , if  $\langle a, b \rangle \in R$ , then  $\langle b, a \rangle \in R$  too.

A relation  $R$  on  $A$  is **antisymmetric** if for every  $a, b \in A$ , if  $\langle a, b \rangle \in R$  and  $\langle b, a \rangle \in R$ , then  $a = b$ .

A relation  $R$  on  $A$  is **asymmetric** if for every  $a, b \in A$ , if  $\langle a, b \rangle \in R$ , then  $\langle b, a \rangle \notin R$ .

A relation can be none of the above, or more than one of the above.

# Transitive

A relation  $R$  on  $A$  is **transitive** if for every  $a, b, c \in A$ , if  $\langle a, b \rangle \in R$  and  $\langle b, c \rangle \in R$ , then  $\langle a, c \rangle \in R$  too.

A relation can be transitive, or not.

## Review poll from last time

- R** *reflexive*: for every  $a \in A$ ,  $\langle a, a \rangle \in R$ .
- IR** *irreflexive*: for every  $a \in A$ ,  $\langle a, a \rangle \notin R$ .
- S** *symmetric*: for every  $a, b \in A$ , if  $\langle a, b \rangle \in R$ , then  $\langle b, a \rangle \in R$ .
- antiS** *antisymmetric*: for every  $a, b \in A$ , if  $\langle a, b \rangle \in R$  and  $\langle b, a \rangle \in R$ , then  $a = b$ .
- AS** *asymmetric*: for every  $a, b \in A$ , if  $\langle a, b \rangle \in R$ , then  $\langle b, a \rangle \notin R$ .
- T** *transitive*: for every  $a, b, c \in A$ , if  $\langle a, b \rangle \in R$  and  $\langle b, c \rangle \in R$ , then  $\langle a, c \rangle \in R$ .

Consider the *implies* relation on all possible propositions expressed in the English language where  $\langle p, q \rangle \in \textit{implies}$  if  $p \implies q$  is true. Which properties does this relation have?

(You can choose more than one.)

- A) R
- B) IR
- C) S
- D) antiS
- E) AS
- F) T

## **Properties of relations (practice)**

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## Poll: unequal sets

**R** *reflexive*: for every  $a \in A$ ,  
 $\langle a, a \rangle \in R$ .

**IR** *irreflexive*: for every  $a \in A$ ,  
 $\langle a, a \rangle \notin R$ .

**S** *symmetric*: for every  $a, b \in A$ ,  
if  $\langle a, b \rangle \in R$ , then  $\langle b, a \rangle \in R$ .

**antiS** *antisymmetric*: for every  
 $a, b \in A$ , if  $\langle a, b \rangle \in R$  and  
 $\langle b, a \rangle \in R$ , then  $a = b$ .

**AS** *asymmetric*: for every  
 $a, b \in A$ , if  $\langle a, b \rangle \in R$ , then  
 $\langle b, a \rangle \notin R$ .

**T** *transitive*: for every  
 $a, b, c \in A$ , if  $\langle a, b \rangle \in R$  and  
 $\langle b, c \rangle \in R$ , then  $\langle a, c \rangle \in R$ .

Let  $X$  be an arbitrary set. Consider the relation *diffSize* on  $\mathcal{P}(X)$  where  $\langle S_1, S_2 \rangle \in \text{diffSize}$  if  $|S_1| \neq |S_2|$ . Which properties does this relation have? (You can choose more than one.)

- A) R
- B) IR
- C) S
- D) antiS
- E) AS
- F) T

## Poll: even divider

**R** *reflexive*: for every  $a \in A$ ,  
 $\langle a, a \rangle \in R$ .

**IR** *irreflexive*: for every  $a \in A$ ,  
 $\langle a, a \rangle \notin R$ .

**S** *symmetric*: for every  $a, b \in A$ ,  
if  $\langle a, b \rangle \in R$ , then  $\langle b, a \rangle \in R$ .

**antiS** *antisymmetric*: for every  
 $a, b \in A$ , if  $\langle a, b \rangle \in R$  and  
 $\langle b, a \rangle \in R$ , then  $a = b$ .

**AS** *asymmetric*: for every  
 $a, b \in A$ , if  $\langle a, b \rangle \in R$ , then  
 $\langle b, a \rangle \notin R$ .

**T** *transitive*: for every  
 $a, b, c \in A$ , if  $\langle a, b \rangle \in R$  and  
 $\langle b, c \rangle \in R$ , then  $\langle a, c \rangle \in R$ .

Consider the relation  $R$  on  $\mathbb{Z}$   
where  $\langle x, y \rangle \in R$  if  $x \bmod 2 = 0$   
and  $y \bmod x = 0$ . Which  
properties does this relation  
have? (You can choose more than  
one.)

A) R

B) IR

C) S

D) antiS

E) AS

F) T

# Closures

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# Closures

A closure of a relation  $R$  on  $A$  is a smallest  $R' \supseteq R$  that satisfies a desired property.

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$$R' = R \cup \{ \langle a, a \rangle : a \in A \}$$

- Symmetric closure:

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$$R' = R \cup R^{-1}$$

- Transitive closure:

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- Symmetric closure:

$$R' = R \cup R^{-1}$$

- Transitive closure:  
(*hint*: what does  $R \circ R$  give you?)

## Poll: towards transitive closure

Consider the *parentOf* relation on persons where  $\langle p, c \rangle \in \text{parentOf}$  if  $p$  is the parent of  $c$ . What is  $\text{parentOf} \circ \text{parentOf}$ ?

- A) ancestorOf
- B) grandParentOf
- C) parentOf
- D) grandParentOrParentOf
- E) none of the above

# Closures

A closure of a relation  $R$  on  $A$  is a smallest  $R' \supseteq R$  that satisfies a desired property.

- reflexive closure:

$$R' = R \cup \{ \langle a, a \rangle : a \in A \}$$

- symmetric closure:

$$R' = R \cup R^{-1}$$

- transitive closure:

$$R' = R \cup (R \circ R) \cup ((R \circ R) \circ R) \cup \dots$$

## Poll: transitive closure

Consider the *parentOf* relation on persons where  $\langle p, c \rangle \in \text{parentOf}$  if  $p$  is the parent of  $c$ . What is the transitive closure of  $\text{parentOf}^{-1}$ ?

- A) ancestorOf
- B) parentOf
- C) childOf
- D) descendantOf
- E) siblingOf

## Warshall relations

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# Warshall relation

Let  $A := \{a_1, a_2, \dots, a_n\}$ , a finite set.

Let  $R$  be a relation on  $A$ .

For  $k = 0$  to  $n$ , let  $W_k$  denote the  $k^{th}$  Warshall relation for  $R$  where  $W_k$  is defined as...

- $W_0 := R$
- For  $k \geq 1$ ,  $W_k$  is a relation on  $A$  such that  $\langle a_i, a_j \rangle \in W_k$  iff there is a sequence of relationships in  $R$  connecting  $a_i$  to  $a_j$  using any subset of the elements  $\{a_1, a_2, \dots, a_k\}$  as intermediates.