

COL202: Discrete Mathematical Structures. I semester, 2022-23.  
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Tutorial Sheet 6: Relations, functions and ordering relations.  
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**Important:** The question marked with a ♠ is to be written on a sheet of paper and submitted to your TA within the first 10 minutes of the beginning of your tutorial session. Questions marked with a \* are optional challenge problems and are not to be discussed in the tutorial.

**Problem 1 [1]**

Prove that for binary relations  $\mathcal{R}, \mathcal{R}'$  from  $A$  to  $B$  and  $\mathcal{S}, \mathcal{S}'$  from  $B$  to  $C$ , if  $\mathcal{R} \subseteq \mathcal{R}'$  and  $\mathcal{S} \subseteq \mathcal{S}'$  then  $\mathcal{R} \circ \mathcal{S} \subseteq \mathcal{R}' \circ \mathcal{S}'$ .

**Problem 2 [1]**

Given  $\mathcal{R} \subseteq A \times B$  and  $\mathcal{S}, \mathcal{T} \subseteq B \times C$ , prove or find an example that disproves

1.  $\mathcal{R} \circ (\mathcal{S} \cup \mathcal{T}) = (\mathcal{R} \circ \mathcal{S}) \cup (\mathcal{R} \circ \mathcal{T})$
2.  $\mathcal{R} \circ (\mathcal{S} \cap \mathcal{T}) = (\mathcal{R} \circ \mathcal{S}) \cap (\mathcal{R} \circ \mathcal{T})$
3.  $\mathcal{R} \circ (\mathcal{S} \setminus \mathcal{T}) = (\mathcal{R} \circ \mathcal{S}) \setminus (\mathcal{R} \circ \mathcal{T})$

**Problem 3 [1]**

Show that a relation  $\mathcal{R}$  on a set  $A$  is

1. antisymmetric if and only if  $\mathcal{R} \cap \mathcal{R}^{-1} \subseteq \mathcal{I}_A$ .
2. transitive if and only  $\mathcal{R} \circ \mathcal{R} \subseteq \mathcal{R}$ .
3. connected if and only if  $(A \times A) \setminus \mathcal{I}_A \subseteq \mathcal{R} \cup \mathcal{R}^{-1}$ .

**Problem 4 [1]**

Consider any preorder  $\mathcal{R}$  on  $A$ . For each  $a \in A$  let  $[a]_{\mathcal{R}} = \{b \in A : a\mathcal{R}b \wedge b\mathcal{R}a\}$ . Now let  $B = \{[a]_{\mathcal{R}} : a \in A\}$ . Define a relation  $\mathcal{S} \subseteq B \times B$  as follows:  $[a]_{\mathcal{R}} \mathcal{S} [b]_{\mathcal{R}}$  whenever  $a\mathcal{R}b$ . Show that  $\mathcal{S}$  is a partial order.

**Problem 5**

Suppose we have a set  $S$  and a partially ordered set  $(T, \preceq_T)$ , let  $\mathcal{F}$  be the set of functions  $f : S \rightarrow T$ , i.e., all the functions from  $S$  to  $T$ . We define a relation,  $\preceq$ , on  $\mathcal{F}$  as follows:  $f \preceq g$  if  $f(x) \preceq_T g(x)$  for all  $x \in S$ . Show that  $\preceq$  is a partial order on  $\mathcal{F}$ .

**Problem 6 ♠**

Given a set  $X$ , let  $X_{\preceq}$  be the set of partial orders on  $X$ . For any two partial orders  $\preceq_1, \preceq_2 \in X_{\preceq}$  we say that  $\preceq_1 \trianglelefteq \preceq_2$  if  $x_1 \preceq_1 x_2$  implies  $x_1 \preceq_2 x_2$  for all  $x_1, x_2 \in X$ . Show that  $(X_{\preceq}, \trianglelefteq)$  is a partially ordered set. Is it totally ordered?

**Problem 7**

For any  $n > 0$ , let  $\mathbb{R}^{n \times n}$  be the set of  $n \times n$  real matrices. We say an  $A \in \mathbb{R}^{n \times n}$  is *positive semi-definite* if for every column vector  $\mathbf{x} \in \mathbb{R}^{n \times 1}$ ,  $\mathbf{x}^T A \mathbf{x} \geq 0$ . Let  $\mathcal{P}^n \subseteq \mathbb{R}^{n \times n}$  be the set of positive semi-definite  $n \times n$  real matrices. We say that for  $A, B \in \mathcal{P}^n$ ,  $A \preceq B$  if  $B - A$  is positive semidefinite. Is  $\preceq$  a partial order on  $\mathcal{P}^n$ ?

**Problem 8**

Let  $(S, \preceq_S)$  and  $(T, \preceq_T)$  be two posets defined on disjoint sets  $S, T$ . The *linear sum*  $S \oplus T$  of the two posets is  $(S \cup T, \preceq)$  where for  $x, y \in S \cup T$  we say  $x \preceq y$  if either  $x \preceq_S y$  or  $x \preceq_T y$  or if  $x \in S$  and  $y \in T$ . Show that  $\preceq$  is a partial order on  $S \cup T$ . Draw an example of a graph for which a normal spanning tree's tree order can be represented as the linear sum of two tree orders.

**Problem 9**

Two partially ordered sets  $(S, \preceq_S)$  and  $(T, \preceq_T)$  are said to be *isomorphic* if there exists a bijection  $f : S \rightarrow T$  such that  $x \preceq_S y$  if and only if  $f(x) \preceq_T f(y)$  for all  $x, y \in S$ . The function  $f$  is called an *isomorphism*. Also a function  $f : S \rightarrow T$  is said to be *increasing* if  $x \preceq_S y$  implies  $f(x) \preceq_T f(y)$  for all  $x, y \in S$ . A function  $f : S \rightarrow T$  is said to be *strictly increasing* iff for  $x \neq y$ ,  $x \preceq_S y$  implies  $f(x) \preceq_T f(y)$  and  $f(x) \neq f(y)$  (this could also be denoted  $f(x) \prec_T f(y)$ ).

Show by example that an increasing function need not be an isomorphism.

**Problem 10**

Suppose  $(S, \preceq_S)$  and  $(T, \preceq_T)$  are *isomorphic* and  $f : S \rightarrow T$  is an isomorphism between them. Show that  $f$  and  $f^{-1}$  are both strictly increasing functions.

**Problem 11 \* requires some knowledge of Linear Algebra**

For  $i \in [n]$ , let  $\lambda_i : \mathcal{P}^n \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  be the function mapping a matrix to its  $i$  smallest eigenvalue. Is  $\lambda_n$  an increasing function from  $(\mathcal{P}^n, \preceq)$  to  $(\mathbb{R}, \leq)$  where  $\preceq$  and  $\mathcal{P}^n$  are as defined in Problem 7? What about  $\lambda_1$ ? What about  $\lambda_i$  for  $i \neq 1, n$ ?

**References**

- [1] S. Arun-Kumar, Lecture notes for *Introduction to Logic for Computer Science.*, IIT Delhi, 2002.  
<http://www.cse.iitd.ernet.in/~sak/courses/ilcs/logic.pdf>