Ceng 124 Discrete Structures

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Topics

▶ 9.3 Representing Relations

- using Matrices
- using Directed Graphs

► 9.5 Equivalence Relations

Introduction

First way is to list the ordered pairs

Second way is through matrices

Third way is through direct graphs

Representing Relations using Matrices

- Suppose that *R* is a relation from *A* = {*a*1, *a*2, . . . , *am*} to *B* = {*b*1, *b*2, . . . , *bn*}.
- The relation R can be represented by the matrix MR=[mij], where

$$m_{ij} = \begin{cases} 1 & if (a_i, b_j) \in R \\ 0 & otherwise \end{cases}$$

Generally, matrices are appropriate for the representation of relations in computer programs.

Example1

- Suppose that $A = \{1, 2, 3\}$ and $B = \{1, 2\}$. Let R be the relation from A to B containing (a, b) if $a \in A$, $b \in B$, and a > b. What is the matrix representing R if a1 = 1, a2 = 2, and a3 = 3, and b1 = 1 and b2 = 2?
- Solution: Because $R = \{(2, 1), (3, 1), (3, 2)\}$, the matrix for R is

$$\mathbf{M}_R = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 0 \\ 1 & 0 \\ 1 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

The 1s in MR show that the pairs (2, 1), (3, 1), and (3, 2) belong to R. The 0s show that no other pairs belong to R.

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Example2

Let A = {a1, a2, a3} and B = {b1, b2, b3, b4, b5}. Which ordered pairs are in the relation R represented by the matrix

$$\mathbf{M}_{R} = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 1 & 0 & 1 & 1 & 0 \\ 1 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix}?$$

- Because *R* consists of those ordered pairs (*ai*, *bj*) with *mij* = 1, it follows that
- $R = \{(a1, b2), (a2, b1), (a2, b3), (a2, b4), (a3, b1), (a3, b3), (a3, b5)\}.$

Reflexive Relation on Zero-One Matrix

A relation R on A is reflexive if $(a, a) \in R$ whenever $a \in A$. Thus, R is reflexive if and only if $(ai, ai) \in R$ for i = 1, 2, ..., n. Hence, R is reflexive if and only if mii = 1, for i = 1, 2, ..., n. In other words, R is reflexive if all the elements on the main diagonal of MR are equal to 1.



Figure 1: Zero-One Matrix for a Reflexive Relation

Symmetric Relation on Zero-One Matrix

- R is symmetric if and only if mji = 1 whenever mij = 1. This also means mji = 0 whenever mij = 0. Consequently, R is symmetric if and only if mij = mji, for all pairs of integers i and j with i = 1, 2, ..., n and j = 1, 2, ..., n.
- Also the definition of the transpose of a matrix, we see that R is symmetric if and only if MR = (MR)t.



Figure 2: Zero-One Matrix for a Symmetric Relation

Antisymmetric Relation on Zero-One Matrix

The relation *R* is antisymmetric if and only if $(a, b) \in R$ and $(b, a) \in R$ imply that a = b. Consequently, the matrix of an antisymmetric relation has the property that if mij = 1 with i = j, then mji = 0. In other words, either mij = 0 or mji = 0 when i = j. The form of the matrix for an antisymmetric relation is illustrated in Figure 3.



Figure 3: Zero-One Matrix for a Antisymmetric Relation

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Example1

Suppose that the relation *R* on a set is represented by the matrix

$$\mathbf{M}_R = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 1 & 0 \\ 1 & 1 & 1 \\ 0 & 1 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

Is *R* reflexive, symmetric, and/or antisymmetric?

Solution

- Because all the diagonal elements of this matrix are equal to 1, R is reflexive.
- ▶ Moreover, because MR is symmetric, it follows that R is symmetric.
- ▶ It is also easy to see that *R* is not antisymmetric.

Representing Relations using Directed Graphs (Digraph)

A directed graph, or digraph, consists of a set V of vertices (or nodes) together with a set E of ordered pairs of elements of V called edges (or arcs). The vertex a is called the *initial* vertex of the edge (a, b), and the vertex b is called the *terminal vertex* of this edge.

An edge of the form (a, a) is represented using an arc from the vertex a back to itself. Such an edge is called a *loop*.

Sample of Directed Graphs

The directed graph with vertices a, b, c, and d, and edges (a, b), (a, d), (b, b), (b, d), (c, a), (c, b), and (d, b) is displayed in Figure 4.



Figure 4: A directed graph

Directed graphs give a visual display of information about relations.

Sample of Directed Graphs (cont.)

The directed graph of the relation

 $R=\{(1,\,1),\,(1,\,3),\,(2,\,1),\,(2,\,3),\,(2,\,4),\,(3,\,1),\,(3,\,2),\,(4,\,1)\}$

on the set {1, 2, 3, 4} is shown in Figure 5.



Figure 5: A directed graph

- What are the ordered pairs in the relation R represented by the directed graph shown in Figure 6?
- Solution: The ordered pairs (x, y) in the relation are

 $R = \{(1, 3), (1, 4), (2, 1), (2, 2), (2, 3), (3, 1), (3, 3), (4, 1), (4, 3)\}.$



Figure 6: A directed graph

Each of these pairs corresponds to an edge of the directed graph, with (2, 2) and (3, 3) corresponding to loops.

Determine whether the relations for the directed graphs shown in Figure 7 are reflexive, symmetric, antisymmetric, and/or transitive.



Figure 7: The directed graph of the Relations R and S

Solutions of Question2

Solution (a):

<u>Reflexive</u>: loops at every vertex of the directed graph of *R*.

Not Symmetric: an edge from a to b (a,b) but not b to a (b,a).

<u>Not Antisymmetric:</u> There are edges in both directions connecting b and c. (b,c) and (c,b).

<u>Not Transitive:</u> There is an edge from a to b and an edge from b to c, but no edge from a to c.

Solution (b):

Not Reflexive: loops are not present at all the vertices of the directed graph of S.

<u>Symmetric and Not Antisymmetric:</u> every edge between distinct vertices is accompanied by an edge in the opposite direction.

Not Transitive: because (c, a) and (a, b) belong to S, but (c, b) does not belong to S.

9.5 Equivalence Relations

A relation on a set A is called an *equivalence relation* if it is reflexive, symmetric, and transitive.

- Let R be the relation on the set of real numbers such that aRb if and only if a - b is an integer. Is R an equivalence relation?
- **Solution:**
- Because a –a = 0 is an integer for all real numbers a, aRa for all real numbers a. Hence, R is reflexive.
- Now suppose that aRb. Then a -b is an integer, so b-a is also an integer. Hence, bRa. It follows that R is symmetric.
- ▶ If *aRb* and *bRc*, then *a* −*b* and *b*−*c* are integers.

Therefore, a - c = (a - b) + (b - c) is also an integer.

Hence, *aRc*. Thus, *R* is transitive.

Consequently, R is an equivalence relation.

- Let n = 3 and let S be the set of all bit strings. Then sR_3t either when s = t or both s and t are bit strings of length 3 or more that begin with the same three bits. For instance, $01R_301$ and $00111R_300101$, but $01R_3010$ and $01011R_301110$.
- Show that for every set S of strings and every positive integer *n*, *Rn* is an equivalence relation on S.
- Solution: The relation Rn is reflexive because s = s, so that sRns. If sRnt, and tRns. We conclude that Rn is symmetric. Now suppose that sRnt and tRnu. Then s = t, t = u deduce that either s = u or both s and u are n characters long and s and u begin with the same n characters. Consequently, Rn is transitive.
- It follows that *Rn* is an equivalence relation.