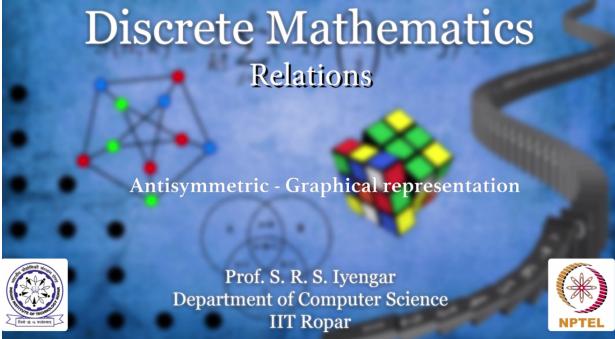
NPTEL NPTEL ONLINE COURSE Discrete Mathematics Relations Antisymmetric – Graphical Representation With Prof. S.R.S. Iyengar Department of Computer Science IIT Ropar



Now that we saw a couple of examples of antisymmetric relations, I am sure it is very clear to you people. Let me go ahead and make a few observations about antisymmetric relations. First observation, let me look at the graphical representation of an antisymmetric relation. How does it look like? So whenever (a, b) is present (b, a) is not present which means (a, b) is present means there is an arrow starting from a going to b. Whenever there is an arrow from one node to another node the other way arrow is strictly missing. That's what we mean by an antisymmetric relation.



However, there can be loops, you see. (a, a) can be present but whenever (a, b) is present (b, a), a cannot be present. Just in case (b, a) is present, then (a, b) cannot be present. This is what we mean by an antisymmetric relation.

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