

Relations and Functions

Q1. Among the relations

$S = \{(a, b) : a, b \in \mathbb{R} - \{0\}, 2 + \frac{a}{b} > 0\}$ and
 $T = \{(a, b) : a, b \in \mathbb{R}, a^2 - b^2 \in \mathbb{Z}\},$

- (1) neither S nor T is transitive
- (2) S is transitive but T is not
- (3) T is symmetric but S is not
- (4) both S and T are symmetric

Ans. (3)

Basic Definitions of Relations

A relation R on a set A is said to have the following properties:

- Symmetric: If $(a, b) \in R \Rightarrow (b, a) \in R$
- Transitive: If $(a, b) \in R$ and $(b, c) \in R \Rightarrow (a, c) \in R$
- Reflexive: If $(a, a) \in R$ for all $a \in A$ (not asked in this question)

Step-by-Step Solution

Analyzing Relation S

$S = \{(a, b) \in \mathbb{R} \setminus \{0\} \times \mathbb{R} \setminus \{0\} : 2 + a/b > 0\}$

Let's test if S is symmetric:

Choose $a = 1, b = -1$:

$$2 + 1/(-1) = 1 > 0 \Rightarrow (1, -1) \in S$$

Now check $(-1, 1)$: $2 + (-1)/1 = 1 > 0 \Rightarrow (-1, 1) \in S$
 $\Rightarrow S$ might seem symmetric

Try $a = -5, b = 2$:

$$2 + (-5)/2 = -0.5 < 0 \Rightarrow (-5, 2) \notin S$$

$$\text{Now test } (2, -5): 2 + 2/(-5) = 2 - 0.4 = 1.6 > 0 \Rightarrow (2, -5) \in S$$

So $(2, -5) \in S$ but $(-5, 2) \notin S \Rightarrow S$ is not symmetric ✗

Now test if S is transitive:

Assume $(a, b) \in S$ and $(b, c) \in S$. Does it imply $(a, c) \in S$?

Try $a = 1, b = -1, c = -2$:

$$(1, -1): 2 + 1/(-1) = 1 > 0 \Rightarrow \in S$$

$$(-1, -2): 2 + (-1)/(-2) = 2.5 > 0 \Rightarrow \in S$$

$$(1, -2): 2 + 1/(-2) = 1.5 > 0 \Rightarrow \in S \Rightarrow \text{In this case transitive}$$

Now try $a = -5, b = 2, c = -1$:

$$(-5, 2): 2 + (-5)/2 = -0.5 \Rightarrow \notin S \Rightarrow \text{Transitivity fails as condition is not preserved in general}$$

$\Rightarrow S$ is not transitive ✗

Analyzing Relation T

$$T = \{(a, b) \in \mathbb{R} \times \mathbb{R} : a^2 - b^2 \in \mathbb{Z}\}$$

Check symmetry:

$$\text{If } (a, b) \in T \Rightarrow a^2 - b^2 \in \mathbb{Z}$$

Then $(b, a) \Rightarrow b^2 - a^2 = -(a^2 - b^2) \in \mathbb{Z}$ since integers are closed under negation

$\Rightarrow T$ is symmetric ✓

Check transitivity:

Assume $(a, b) \in T$ and $(b, c) \in T$

Then $a^2 - b^2 \in \mathbb{Z}$ and $b^2 - c^2 \in \mathbb{Z}$

$$\text{Add: } a^2 - b^2 + b^2 - c^2 = a^2 - c^2 \in \mathbb{Z} \Rightarrow (a, c) \in T$$

$\Rightarrow T$ is transitive ✓

Conclusion

- S is neither symmetric nor transitive ✗

- T is symmetric ✓ (and also transitive, though not asked)

Therefore, the correct answer is:

✓ (3) T is symmetric but S is not

Q2. If the domain of the function $f(x) = \frac{[x]}{1+x^2}$, where $[x]$ is greatest integer $\leq x$, is $[2, 6)$, then its range is

(1) $\left(\frac{5}{26}, \frac{2}{5}\right]$

(2) $\left(\frac{5}{37}, \frac{2}{5}\right] - \left\{\frac{9}{29}, \frac{27}{109}, \frac{18}{89}, \frac{9}{53}\right\}$

(3) $\left(\frac{5}{37}, \frac{2}{5}\right]$

(4) $\left(\frac{5}{26}, \frac{2}{5}\right] - \left\{\frac{9}{29}, \frac{27}{109}, \frac{18}{89}, \frac{9}{53}\right\}$