

Q. PT The relation "congruence modulo n" in the set of integers is an equivalence relation

Ans we define a relation R on the set of integers I by  $aRb$  to mean  $a-b$  is divisible by n for all  $a, b \in I$  i.e.  
 $a \equiv b \pmod{n}$

To prove R is an equivalence relation  
 $aRb \Rightarrow a \equiv b \pmod{n} \Rightarrow a - b = nq, q \in I$   
 $\therefore b - a = n(-q) \Rightarrow b \equiv a \pmod{n} \Rightarrow bRa, R$  is symmetric

If  $aRb$  and  $bRc$  means  
 $a - b = nq$  and  $b - c = nr$  where  $q, r \in I$   
 $a - c = a - b + b - c = nq + nr = n(q+r)$

$q+r$  is also integer. Hence  
 $a \equiv c \pmod{n} \Rightarrow aRc, R$  is transitive.

Thus R is an equivalence relation

Q. If R and R' are two equivalence relations in a set A, show that  $R \cap R'$  is an equivalence relation but  $R \cup R'$  may not be equivalence relation in A.

Ans: Since R and R' are relations in a set A  
 $\therefore R \subseteq A \times A$  and  $R' \subseteq A \times A \therefore R \cap R' \subseteq A \times A$

Hence  $R \cap R'$  is a relation in the set A.

Now we shall prove that  $R \cap R'$  is an equivalence relation.

Since R and R' are equivalence relations in A  $\therefore$  they are reflexive

$\therefore$  for all  $x \in A$  we have  $(x, x) \in R, (x, x) \in R'$   
 $\Rightarrow (x, x) \in R \cap R' \Rightarrow R \cap R'$  is reflexive

Let  $(x, y) \in R \cap R' \Rightarrow (x, y) \in R$  and  $(x, y) \in R'$   
 $\Rightarrow (y, x) \in R$  and  $(y, x) \in R'$   
 $\Rightarrow (y, x) \in R \cap R'$

$\therefore R \cap R'$  is symmetric



Let  $(x, y), (y, z) \in R \cap R'$

$\Rightarrow (x, y), (y, z) \in R$  and  $(x, y), (y, z) \in R'$

$\Rightarrow (x, z) \in R$  and  $(x, z) \in R'$ ,  $R, R'$  are transitive

$\Rightarrow (x, z) \in R \cap R' \therefore R \cap R'$  is transitive

Hence  $R \cap R'$  is an equivalence relation

Now for Union

$R \cup R'$  is a subset of  $A \times A$  and hence  $R \cup R'$  is a relation in  $A$

Since  $R$  and  $R'$  are reflexive

$\therefore (x, x) \in R, (x, x) \in R' \Rightarrow (x, x) \in R \cup R'$

$R \cup R'$  is reflexive

Let  $(x, y) \in R \cup R' \Rightarrow (x, y) \in R$  or  $(x, y) \in R'$

$\Rightarrow (y, x) \in R$  or  $(y, x) \in R' \therefore R, R'$  are symmetric

$\Rightarrow (y, x) \in R \cup R', R \cup R'$  is symmetric

If  $R$  and  $R'$  are transitive on a set  $A$  then

Let  $A = \{1, 2, 3\}$  and  $R = \{(1, 1), (1, 2)\}$  and

$R' = \{(2, 2), (2, 3)\} \therefore R \cup R' = \{(1, 1), (1, 2), (2, 2), (2, 3)\}$

$(1, 2), (2, 3) \in R \cup R'$  but  $(1, 3) \notin R \cup R'$

so  $R \cup R'$  is not transitive.

Thus  $R \cup R'$  is not an equivalence relation.

Q. If  $R$  is a relation on a set  $A$  then show that

(i)  $R$  is symmetric  $\Rightarrow R^{-1}$  is symmetric and  $R^{-1} \cap R$

(ii)  $R$  is transitive  $\Rightarrow R^{-1}$  is transitive.

Ans. By definition  $R^{-1} = \{(y, x) : (x, y) \in R\}$

(i) Since  $R$  is symmetric,  $(x, y) \in R \Rightarrow (y, x) \in R$

We need to show that  $(a, b) \in R^{-1} \Rightarrow (b, a) \in R^{-1}$

Now  $(a, b) \in R^{-1} \Rightarrow (b, a) \in R \xrightarrow{R \text{ symmetric}} (a, b) \in R \Rightarrow (b, a) \in R^{-1}$

$R^{-1}$  is symmetric,  $(a, b) \in R^{-1} \Rightarrow (b, a) \in R \therefore R^{-1} = R$

(ii) Let  $(a, b) \in R^{-1}$  and  $(b, c) \in R^{-1} \Rightarrow (b, a) \in R$  and  $(c, b) \in R$

But  $R$  is transitive, so  $(c, a) \in R \Rightarrow (a, c) \in R^{-1}$

Thus  $(a, b) \in R^{-1}, (b, c) \in R^{-1} \Rightarrow (a, c) \in R^{-1}$

Hence  $R^{-1}$  is transitive.



Q. Give examples of a relation which have the following properties

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

(i) Reflexive, transitive but not symmetric

$$R_1 = \{(1, 1), (2, 2), (3, 3), (4, 4), (2, 3), (3, 4), (2, 4)\}$$

$(2, 3), (3, 4) \in R_1 \Rightarrow (2, 4) \in R_1$ , but  $(2, 3) \in R_1$ , but  $(3, 2) \notin R_1$

(ii) ~~Reflexive~~ symmetric but neither reflexive nor transitive  $R_2 = \{(2, 2), (3, 4), (4, 3), (2, 3), (3, 2)\}$

$(3, 4), (4, 3) \in R_2, (2, 3), (3, 2) \in R_2, (1, 1), (3, 3), (4, 4) \notin R_2$   
 $(2, 3), (3, 4) \in R_2$  but  $(2, 4) \notin R_2$

(iii) Reflexive, symmetric and transitive

$$R_3 = \{(1, 1), (2, 2), (3, 3), (4, 4), (2, 4), (4, 2)\}$$

(iv) symmetric, transitive but not reflexive

$$R_4 = \{(2, 3), (3, 2), (3, 3), (2, 2)\}$$

(v) Reflexive but neither symmetric nor transitive

$A = \{1, 2, 3\}$ ,  $A \times A = \{(1, 1), (2, 2), (3, 3), (1, 2), (3, 2), (1, 3), (2, 1), (2, 3), (3, 1)\}$

$$R_5 = \{(1, 1), (2, 2), (3, 3), (1, 2), (2, 3)\}$$

(vi) Neither Reflexive, nor symmetric nor transitive  
 Let  $M \equiv$  set of all men,  $R$  denote the relation of 'father of'

$a$  is not father of  $a$ , if  $a$  is a father of  $b$  then  $b$  cannot be father of  $a$ , if  $a$  is a father of  $b$  and  $b$  is father of  $c$  then  $a$  cannot be father of  $c$