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Date:

"Number Theoretic Function" (Chap-6)

A function whose domain is the set of positive integers is called a number theoretic (or arithmetic) function. Its value may be integral, real or complex.

The function τ and σ :- For each positive integer n , $\tau(n)$ is the number of positive divisors of n and $\sigma(n)$ is the sum of these divisors. Thus these functions are defined:-

$\tau: \mathbb{N} \rightarrow \mathbb{N}$ such that

$$\tau(n) = \sum_{\substack{d|n \\ d>1}} 1 \quad \text{where } \sum_{d|n} 1 \text{ denotes the}$$

sum of as many 1's as divisors of n .
and

$\sigma: \mathbb{N} \rightarrow \mathbb{N}$ such that

$$\sigma(n) = \sum_{\substack{d|n \\ d>1}} d \quad \text{where } \sum_{d|n} d \text{ is the sum}$$

of positive divisors of n .

Ex 1- Find $\tau(15)$ and $\sigma(15)$

Sol:- The divisors of 15 are 1, 3, 5, and 15

Therefore $\tau(15) = \underline{4}$ and

$$\begin{aligned} \sigma(15) &= 1 + 3 + 5 + 15 \\ &= \underline{24} \end{aligned}$$

Ex 1 - If p is a prime then find $\tau(p)$ and $\sigma(p)$.

Sol: - prime p has only two factors 1 and p itself. Therefore $\tau(p) = 2$ and $\sigma(p) = p+1$

→ Theorem 2 -

If $n = p_1^{a_1} p_2^{a_2} \dots p_k^{a_k}$ is the prime factorization then

$$(i) \tau(n) = (a_1+1)(a_2+1) \dots (a_k+1)$$

$$(ii) \sigma(n) = \left(\frac{p_1^{a_1+1} - 1}{p_1 - 1} \right) \left(\frac{p_2^{a_2+1} - 1}{p_2 - 1} \right) \dots \left(\frac{p_k^{a_k+1} - 1}{p_k - 1} \right)$$

prove using

Theorem 3 - For any integer $n > 1$

$\tau(n)$ is odd iff n is a perfect

square

Proof - Let $n = p_1^{a_1} p_2^{a_2} \dots p_k^{a_k}$ be square of an integer

Then a_1, a_2, \dots, a_k are all even
Therefore $(a_1+1), (a_2+1), \dots, (a_k+1)$ are all odd.

$$\text{Now } \tau(n) = (a_1+1)(a_2+1) \dots (a_k+1) \\ = \text{an odd integer}$$

(product of odd integers is an odd integer)