



planetmath.org

Math for the people, by the people.

doubly transitive groups are primitive

Canonical name	DoublyTransitiveGroupsArePrimitive
Date of creation	2013-03-22 17:21:50
Last modified on	2013-03-22 17:21:50
Owner	rm50 (10146)
Last modified by	rm50 (10146)
Numerical id	7
Author	rm50 (10146)
Entry type	Theorem
Classification	msc 20B15

Theorem. *Every doubly transitive group is* <http://planetmath.org/PrimitiveTransitivePerm>

Proof. Let G acting on X be doubly transitive. To show the action is , we must show that all blocks are trivial blocks; to do this, it suffices to show that any block containing more than one element is all of X . So choose a block Y with two distinct elements y_1, y_2 . Given an arbitrary $x \in X$, since G is doubly transitive, we can choose $\sigma \in G$ such that

$$\sigma \cdot (y_1, y_2) = (y_1, x)$$

But then $\sigma \cdot Y \cap Y \neq \emptyset$, since y_1 is in both. Thus $\sigma \cdot Y = Y$, so $x \in Y$ as well. So $Y = X$ and we are done. \square