



Math for the people, by the people.

simply transitive

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Let  $G$  be a group acting on a set  $X$ . The action is said to be **simply transitive** if it is transitive and  $\forall x, y \in X$  there is a *unique*  $g \in G$  such that  $g.x = y$ .

**Theorem.** *A group action is simply transitive if and only if it is free and transitive*

*Proof.* Necessity follows since  $g.x = x$  implies that  $g = 1_G$  because  $1_G.x = x$  also. Now assume the action is free and transitive and we have elements  $g_1, g_2 \in G$  and  $x, y \in X$  such that  $g_1.x = y$  and  $g_2.x = y$ . Then  $g_1.x = g_2.x \implies g_2^{-1}.g_1.x = (g_2^{-1}g_1).x = x$  hence  $g_2^{-1}g_1 = 1_G$  because the action is free. Thus  $g_1 = g_2$  and so the action is simply transitive.  $\square$