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First Isomorphism Theorem for quivers

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Let  $Q = (Q_0, Q_1, s, t)$  and  $Q' = (Q'_0, Q'_1, s', t')$  be quivers. Assume, that  $F : Q \rightarrow Q'$  is a morphism of quivers. Define an equivalence relation  $\sim$  on  $Q$  as follows: for any  $a, b \in Q_0$  and any  $\alpha, \beta \in Q_1$  we have

$$a \sim_0 b \text{ if and only if } F_0(a) = F_0(b);$$

$$\alpha \sim_1 \beta \text{ if and only if } F_1(\alpha) = F_1(\beta).$$

It can be easily checked that  $\sim = (\sim_0, \sim_1)$  is an equivalence relation on  $Q$ .

Using standard techniques we can prove the following:

**First Isomorphism Theorem for quivers.** The mapping

$$\overline{F} : (Q / \sim) \rightarrow \text{Im}(F)$$

(where on the left side we have <http://planetmath.org/QuotientQuiver> the quotient quiver and on the right side <http://planetmath.org/SubquiverAndImageOfAQuiver> the image of a quiver) given by

$$\overline{F}_0([a]) = F_0(a), \quad \overline{F}_1([\alpha]) = F_1(\alpha)$$

is an isomorphism of quivers.

*Proof.* It easily follows from the definition of  $\sim$  that  $\overline{F}$  is a well-defined morphism of quivers. Thus it is enough to show, that  $\overline{F}$  is both „onto” and „1-1” (in the sense that corresponding components of  $\overline{F}$  are).

1. We will show, that  $\overline{F}$  is onto, i.e. both  $\overline{F}_0, \overline{F}_1$  are onto. Let  $b \in \text{Im}(F)_0$  and  $\beta \in \text{Im}(F)_1$ . By definition

$$F_0(a) = b, \quad F_1(\alpha) = \beta$$

for some  $a \in Q_0, \alpha \in Q_1$ . It follows that

$$\overline{F}_0([a]) = b, \quad \overline{F}_1([\alpha]) = \beta.$$

which completes this part.

2.  $\overline{F}$  is injective. Indeed, if

$$\overline{F}_0([a]) = \overline{F}_0([b])$$

then  $F_0(a) = F_0(b)$ . But then  $a \sim_0 b$  and thus  $[a] = [b]$ . Analogously we prove the statement for  $\overline{F}_1$ .

This completes the proof.  $\square$