

Weekly Homework 14

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Introduction to Abstract Math

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Theorem 6.38. If \sim is an equivalence relation on a nonempty set A then the quotient A/\sim is a partition of A .

Proof. Let \sim be an equivalence relation on a nonempty set A .

Let A/\sim be as defined in Def. 6.30.

Claim 1. Every element in A/\sim is nonempty.

P_1 : Because \sim is reflexive, $x \in [x]$ for $\forall x$.

So every set in A/\sim is nonempty. //

Claim 2. If $[x]$ and $[y]$ are distinct elements of A/\sim , then $[x] \cap [y] = \emptyset$.

P_2 : Let S be the statement: " $[x]$ and $[y]$ are distinct elements of A/\sim , then $[x] \cap [y] \neq \emptyset$."

Assume S is true. Let $z \in [x]$ and $z \in [y]$.

Since \sim is reflexive, $x \in [x]$ and $y \in [y]$. So $x \sim z$ and $y \sim z$.

Since \sim is transitive, this implies $x \sim y$, or $x \in [y]$.

So by Thm. 6.33, $[x] = [y]$. $[x]$ and $[y]$ cannot be equal and distinct, so S is false. //

Claim 3. $A = \cup_{x \in A/\sim} [x]$. P_2 : For every $x \in A$, $x \in [x]$ for some $[x] \in A/\sim$. //

Therefore, by Def. 6.35, A/\sim is a partition on A . □

Theorem 6.41. Suppose that Ω is a partition of a nonempty set A . Then there is an equivalence relation \sim on A so that $A/\sim = \Omega$.

Proof. Let Ω be a partition of a nonempty set A .

Let \sim be a relation on A , s.t. $\sim \subseteq A \times A$, defined $\sim = \{(x, y) | \exists X \in \Omega \text{ s.t. } x, y \in X\}$.

Claim 1. \sim is an E.R.

P_1 . Suppose $x, y, z \in A$.

Claim 1a.: \sim is Reflexive.

Suppose x is in the subset containing x , so $x \sim x$. //

Claim 1b.: \sim is Symmetric.

Suppose $x \sim y$. Then $x \in [y]$ and $x \in [x]$, so $x \in [x] \cap [y]$.

Then by Thm. 6.35.2, $[x] = [y]$. Therefore, $y \in [x]$, or $y \sim x$. //

Claim 1c.: \sim is Transitive.

Suppose $z \in [x]$ and $z \in [y]$. Then $z \in [x] \cap [y]$.

Then by Thm. 6.35.2, $[x] = [y]$. So $x \in [y]$ and $x \sim y$. //

Claim 2. $A/\sim = \Omega$.

Claim 2a.: $A/\sim \subseteq \Omega$.

Let $[x] \in A/\sim$. Then $x \in [x]$.

By Def. 6.35.3, $\exists Y \in \Omega$ s.t. $x \in Y$.

Claim 2a-a: $Y \subseteq [x]$.

Take $y \in Y$, so $x, y \in Y$.

By our Def. of \sim , $x \sim y$.

So then, $y \in [x]$.

Claim 2a-b: $[x] \subseteq Y$.

Take $y \in [x]$, so $x \sim y$.

We know $x \in Y$, therefore, by our Def. of \sim , $y \in [x]$.

Claim 2b.: $\Omega \subseteq A/\sim$.

Suppose $\Omega \neq A/\sim$ and $Z \in \Omega/(A/\sim)$.

Take $x \in Z$. Then $x \in [x]$, so $x \in [x] \cap Z$, which by Def. 6.35.2, cannot be true.

So Z is empty. But Z cannot be empty because Ω is a partition.

Therefore, $\Omega \subseteq A/\sim$ and thus $\Omega = A/\sim$. □