

Definition

Let X be set, \sim an equivalence relation on X , and X/\sim the partition generated by \sim .

- Let $f: X \rightarrow X$ be any function.
- Let us **try** to define $\tilde{f}: X/\sim \rightarrow X/\sim$ by

$$\tilde{f}([x]) = [f(x)].$$

- The only way this is well-defined is if it gives the same value for every element in $[x]$.

Definition

We say that \tilde{f} is **well-defined** if

$$x \sim y \implies f(x) \sim f(y).$$