

4. Equivalence classes: how to glue in math

1. The set difference of X and Y is defined as: $X \setminus Y = \{x \in X \mid x \notin Y\}$. Prove the following equalities:

a) $A \setminus (B \cup C) = (A \setminus B) \cap (A \setminus C)$

b) $A \cup B = (A \setminus B) \cup (B \setminus A) \cup (A \cap B)$


Draw their associated Venn diagrams

2. Decide which of the following relations are equivalence relations. Indicate the equivalence classes when this is the case.

a) (\mathbb{R}, \sim) , where $x \sim y$ means that x and y have the same sign

b) (\mathbb{R}, \sim) , where $x \sim y$ means that $x \geq y$

c) (\mathbb{Z}, \sim) , where $x \sim y$ means that $x - y$ is even.

3. Let $\text{Cyl} = \{(x, y, z) \mid x^2 + y^2 = 1, -1 \leq z \leq 1\}$ be the cylinder . Describe Cyl/\sim as best as you

can for the following equivalence relations:

a) $(x, y, 1) \sim (x', y', 1)$ for all x, y, x', y'

b) $\begin{cases} (x, y, 1) \sim (x', y', 1) & \text{for all } x, y, x', y' \\ (x, y, 0) \sim (x', y', 0) & \text{for all } x, y, x', y' \end{cases}$

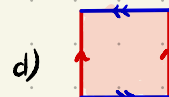
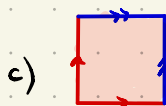
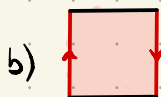
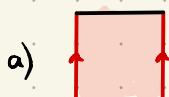
c) $(x, y, 1) \sim (x, y, 0)$ for all x, y

d) $(x, y, z) \sim (x, y, z')$ for all x, y, z, z'

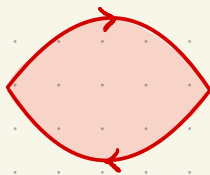
e) $(x, y, z) \sim (-x, y, z)$ for all x, y, z

f) $(x, y, z) \sim (-x, -y, z)$ for all x, y, z

4. Identify the following diagrammatically presented quotients of the unit square:



5. Wrap your head around the following space:



6. (Challenge) Prove that the space in 5 cannot correspond to a closed surface in \mathbb{R}^3 .

Hint: a surface in \mathbb{R}^3 has, at each point, an "outside" and an "inside" direction, for instance:



Why can't we assign such a direction at each point of the surface of 5 in a "coherent" way?