Answer on Question #76240 – Math – Discrete Mathematics

Question

Let X be a non-empty set, and let R be an equivalence relation on X. Let C be the set of all equivalence classes of R. So $C = \{A \subseteq X : \text{such that } A = [x] \text{ for some } x \in X\}$.

Now, define $f : X \to C$ by the rule $f(x) = [x]$ for all $x \in X$.

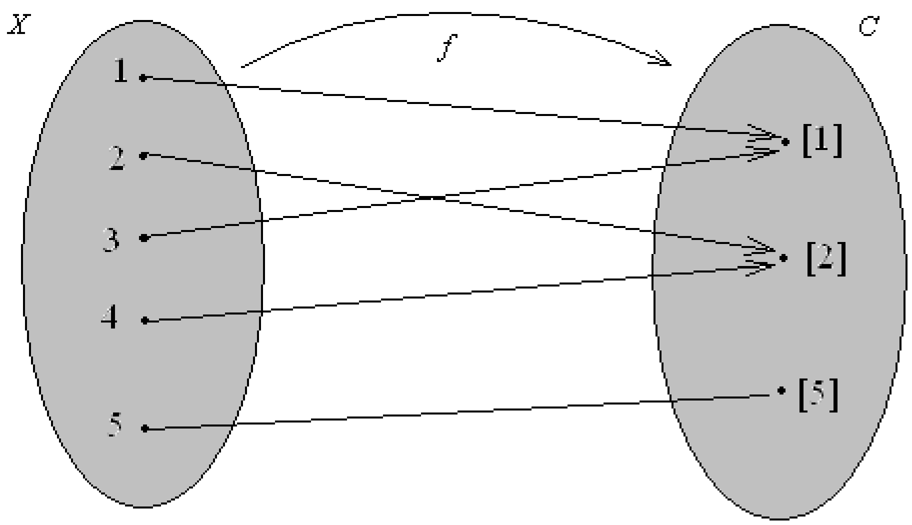
Suppose $X = \{1,2,3,4,5\}$ and that R is an equivalence relation for which $1R3$, $2R4$ but $1 \not R 2$, $1 \not R 5$, and $2 \not R 5$.

Write down the equivalence classes of R and draw a diagram to represent the function f.

Solution

Since $1R3$, $[1]=\{1,3\}$. Since $2R4$, $[2]=\{2,4\}$. Note that $[1]\neq[2]$ because $1 \not R 2$. Also $5 \notin [1]$ and $5 \notin [2]$ because $1 \not R 5$, and $2 \not R 5$. Since R is reflexive, $5R5$. Thus $5 \in [5]$. Therefore there are three equivalence classes: $[1]$, $[2]$ and $[5]$.

Checking: $[1]\cup[2]\cup[5]=\{1,3\}\cup\{2,4\}\cup\{5\}=\{1,2,3,4,5\}=X$.



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