

# Bijections

A function  $f: A \rightarrow B$  is a bijection whenever it has a (two-sided) inverse; that is, there is  $g: B \rightarrow A$  such that

$$g \circ f = \text{id}_A \quad \text{and} \quad f \circ g = \text{id}_B.$$

NB: Inverses, if they exist, are unique.

Typically, we write  $f^{-1}$  for the inverse of  $f$ .

$$f^{-1} \circ f = \text{id}_A \quad f \circ f^{-1} = \text{id}_B.$$

Recall

$$\Leftrightarrow f \circ g = \text{id}_B$$
$$\forall b \in B. f(g(b)) = b$$

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$$\Leftrightarrow g \circ f = \text{id}_A$$
$$\forall a \in A. g(f(a)) = a$$

# Bijections

**Definition 127** A function  $f : A \rightarrow B$  is said to be bijjective, or a bijection, whenever there exists a (necessarily unique) function  $g : B \rightarrow A$  (referred to as the inverse of  $f$ ) such that

1.  $g$  is a retraction (or left inverse) for  $f$ :

$$g \circ f = \text{id}_A \quad ,$$

2.  $g$  is a section (or right inverse) for  $f$ :

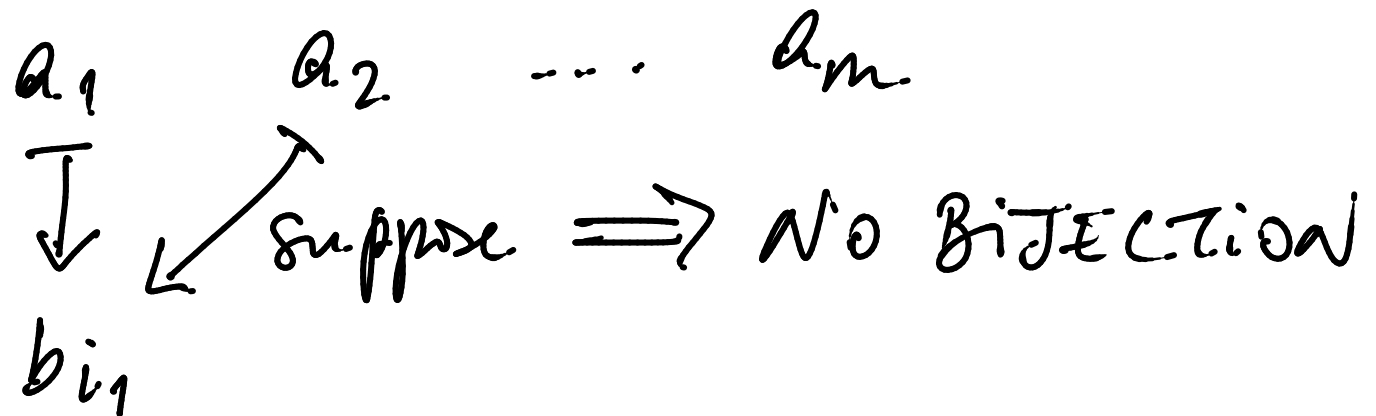
$$f \circ g = \text{id}_B \quad .$$

**Proposition 129** For all finite sets  $A$  and  $B$ ,

$$\# \text{Bij}(A, B) = \begin{cases} 0 & , \text{ if } \#A \neq \#B \\ n! & , \text{ if } \#A = \#B = n \end{cases}$$

PROOF IDEA:

$$A = \{a_1, \dots, a_m\} \quad B = \{b_1, \dots, b_n\}$$



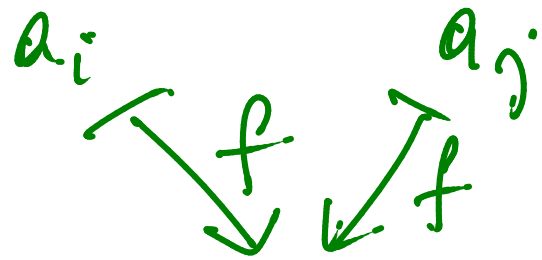
$n < m$



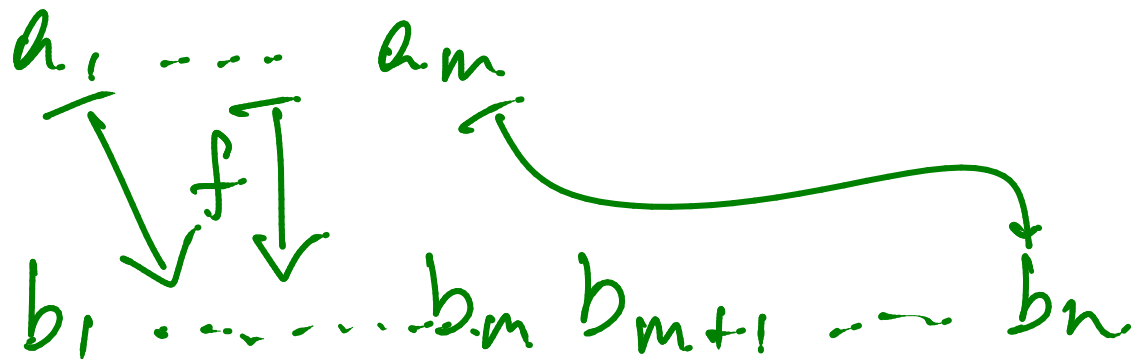
there cannot be a bijection

we have less b's than a's.

if  $n < m$  then for every function  $f: A \rightarrow B$  we have the situation



if  $m < n$  then for every function  $f: A \rightarrow B$  we have less a's than b's



There is some  $k$  such that  $b_k \neq f(a_i)$  for all  $i = 1, \dots, m$  and so cannot construct an inverse (in particular we don't have the inverse should map the  $b_k$  in to some  $a$ ).

We have a bijection precisely when  $m=n$ .

$$A = \{a_1 \text{ --- } a_m\}$$

$$B = \{b_1 \text{ --- } b_m\}$$

$$\begin{array}{cccc} a_1 & a_2 & \dots & a_m \\ \downarrow & \downarrow & & \downarrow \\ b_{i_1} & b_{i_2} & \dots & b_{i_m} \end{array}$$

$$\begin{array}{c} a_j \\ \uparrow \text{ inverse} \\ b_{i_j} \end{array}$$

$$\{i_1, i_2, \dots, i_m\} = \{1, \dots, m\}$$

The  $i_k$ 's are a permutation of  $1, \dots, m$

and there are  $m!$  of those.

**Theorem 130** *The identity function is a bijection, and the composition of bijections yields a bijection.*

$$\underline{\text{Bij}}(A, B) \subseteq (A \Rightarrow B) \subseteq (A \Rightarrow B) \subseteq \text{Rel}(A, B)$$

$\text{id}_A$  bijection

$A \xrightarrow{f} B \xrightarrow{g} C$  bijections  $\Rightarrow$   $g \circ f: A \rightarrow C$  bijection.



**Definition 131** Two sets  $A$  and  $B$  are said to be isomorphic (and to have the same cardinality) whenever there is a bijection between them; in which case we write

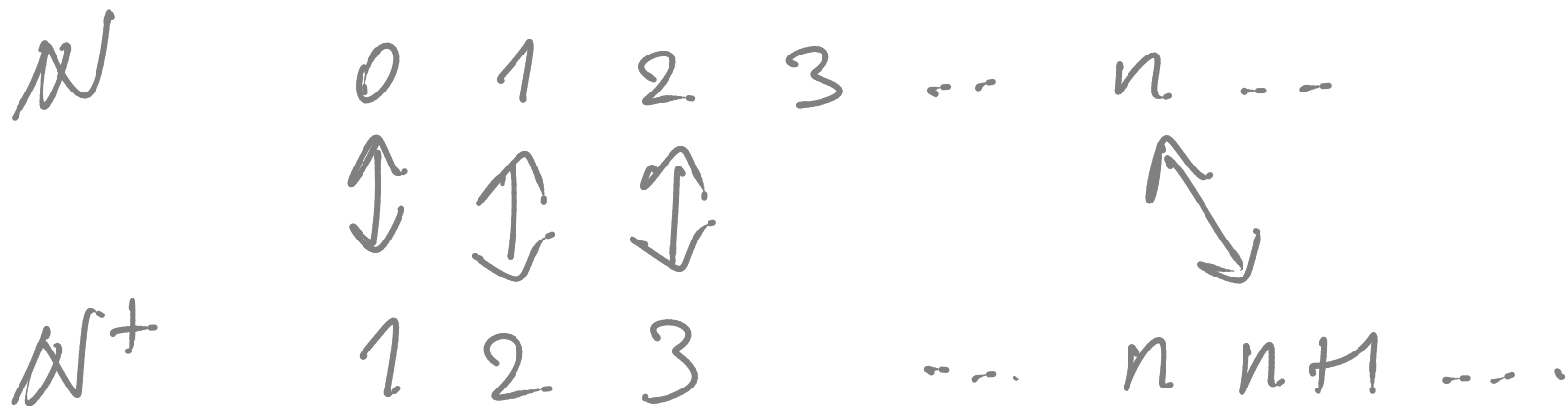
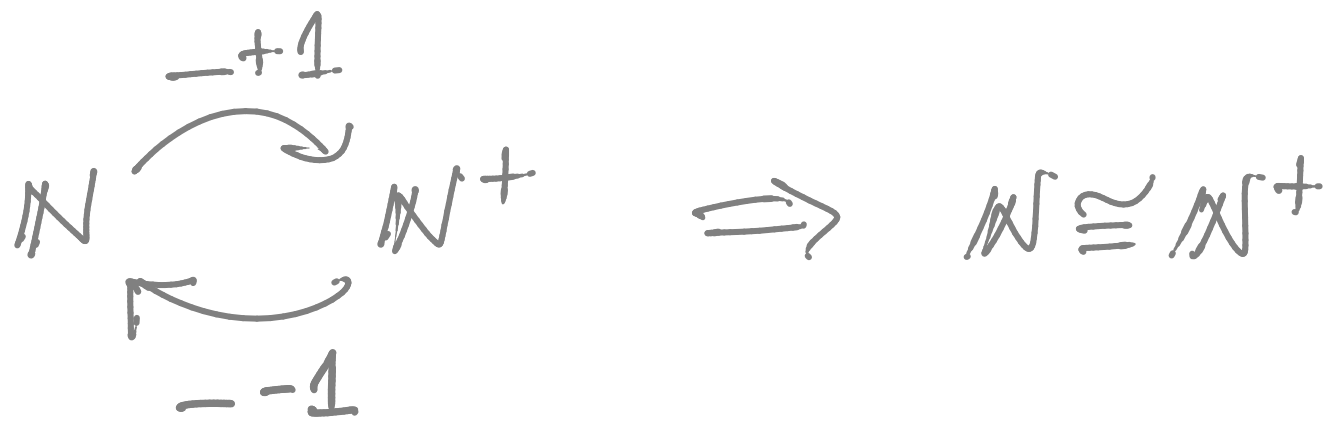
$$A \cong B \quad \text{or} \quad \#A = \#B \quad .$$

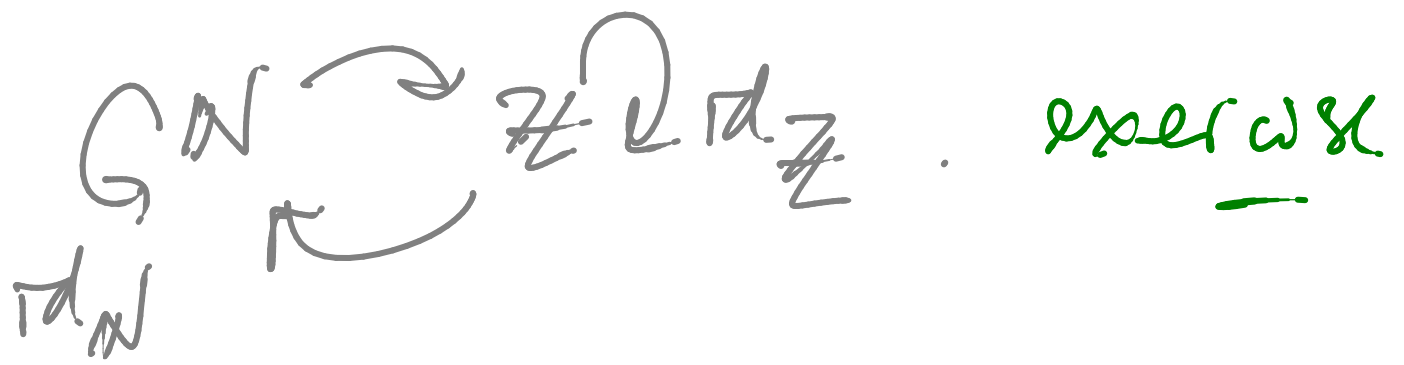
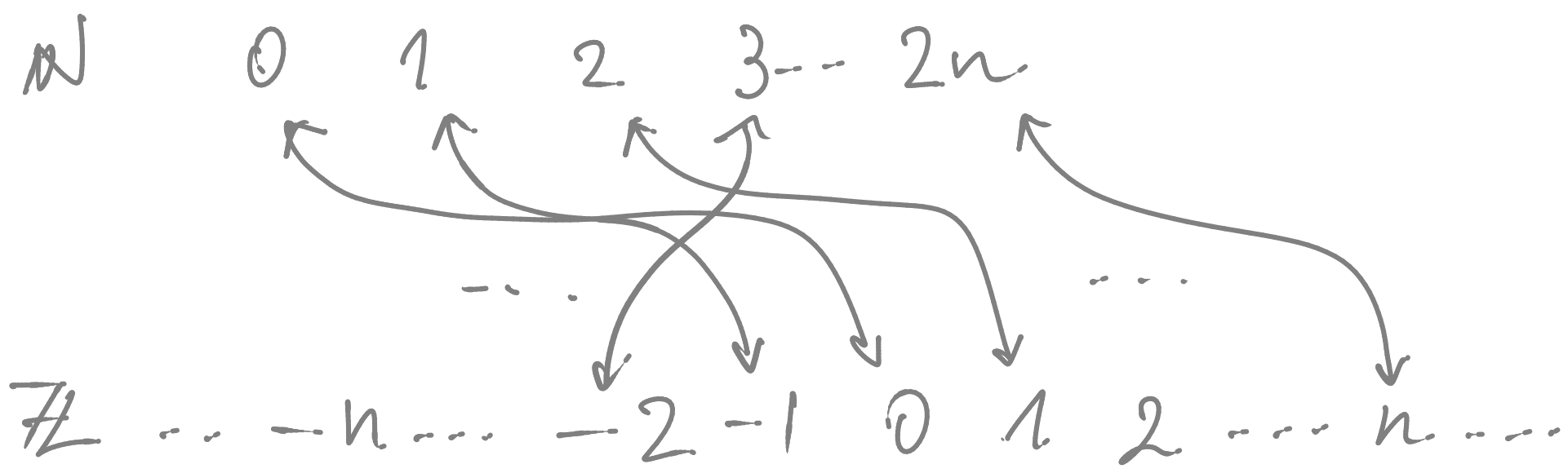
**Examples:**

1.  $\{0, 1\} \cong \{\text{false}, \text{true}\}$ .

2.  $\mathbb{N} \cong \mathbb{N}^+$  ,  $\mathbb{N} \cong \mathbb{Z}$  ,  $\mathbb{N} \cong \mathbb{N} \times \mathbb{N}$  ,  $\mathbb{N} \cong \mathbb{Q}$  .

$$\cong \{n \in \mathbb{N} \mid n > 0\}$$



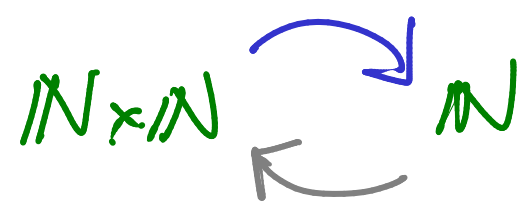


$N \times N$

	0	1	2	...	...	m	...
0	0	2	3	9	10		
1	1	4	8	11			
2	5	7	12				
i	6	13					
n	14						
i							
i							



exercise



# Equivalence relations and set partitions

► Equivalence relations. Fix a set  $A$ .

$R \subseteq A \times A$  is an equivalence relation.

— reflexivity  $\forall a \in A. a R a$

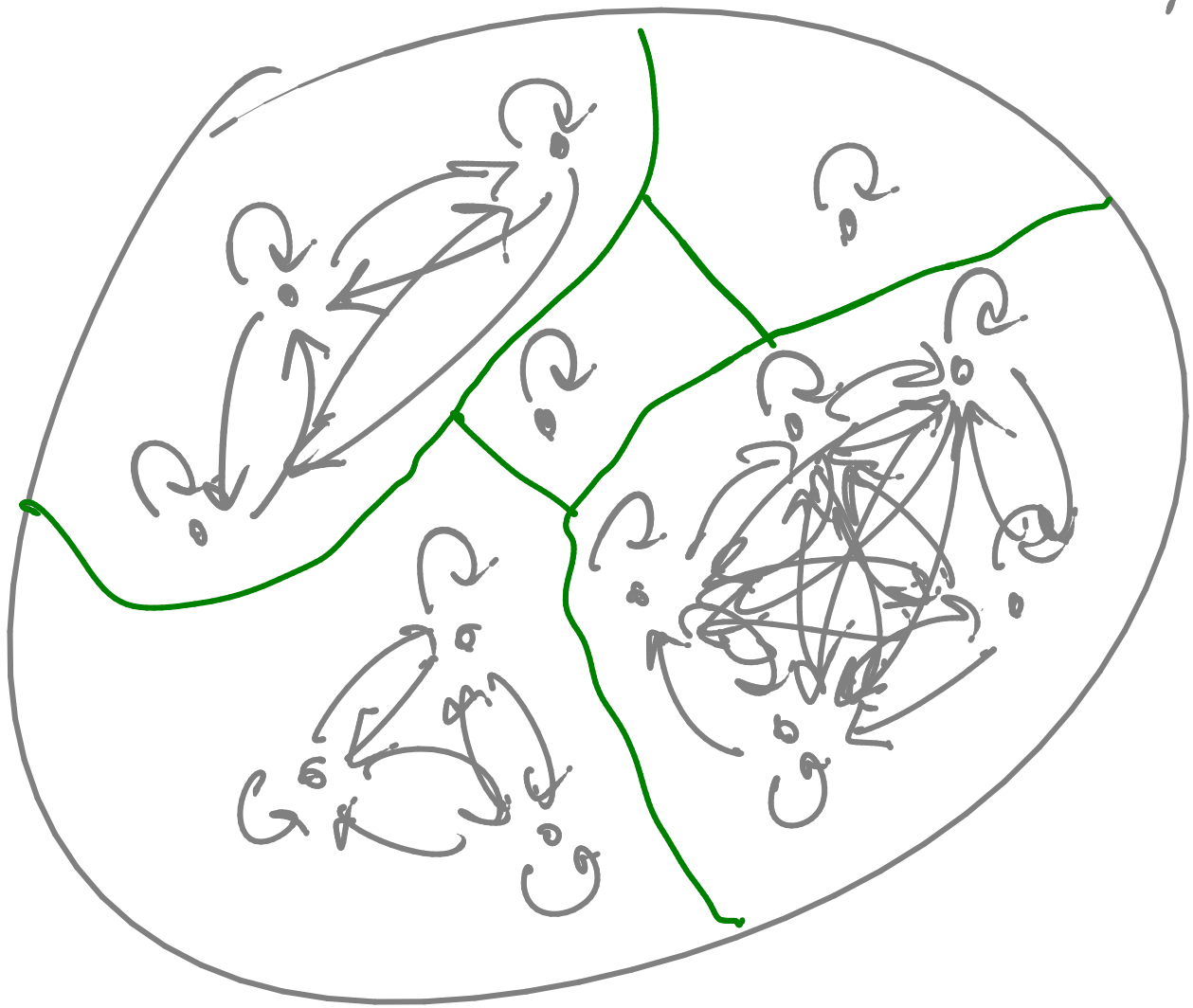
— symmetry  $\forall a, a' \in A. a R a' \Rightarrow a' R a$

— transitivity  $\forall a, a', a'' \in A.$

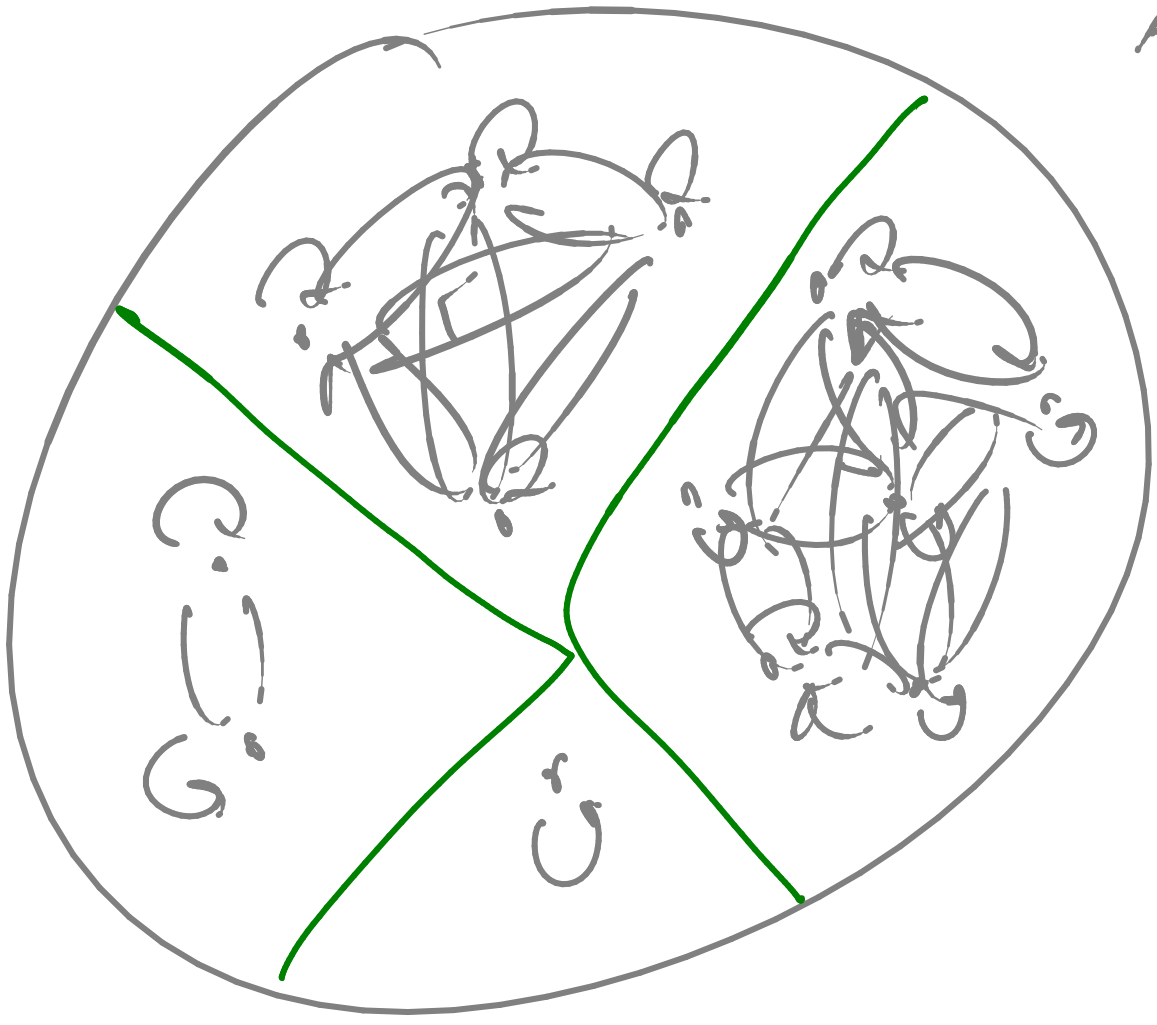
$a R a' \wedge a' R a'' \Rightarrow a R a''$

EgRel( $A$ ) =  $\{ R \subseteq A \times A \mid R \text{ is an equiv. rel.} \}$

A



A



$$\underline{\text{Part}}(A) = \{ \pi \mid \pi \text{ is a partition of } A \}$$

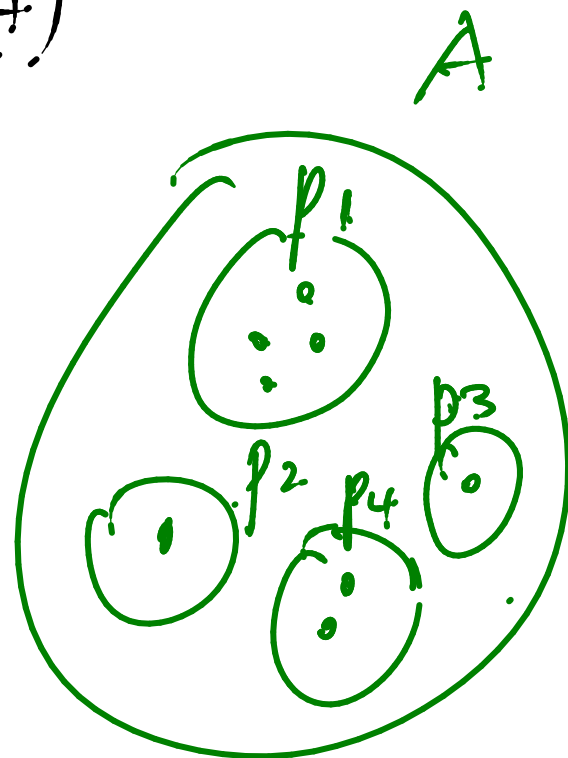
Idea:  $\underline{\text{EqRel}}(A) \cong \text{Part}(A)$

$$\pi \subseteq \mathcal{P}(A)$$

$$- \forall p \in \pi. p \neq \emptyset$$

$$- \forall p, p' \in \pi. p \neq p' \Rightarrow p \cap p' = \emptyset$$

$$- \bigcup \pi = A$$



$$\pi = \{ p_1, p_2, p_3, p_4 \}$$



► Set partitions.