

GENERALIZATIONS OF PRODUCT ISOMORPHISMS

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RESUME

Given two subsets A, B of the direct product $E^n = E \times E \times \dots \times E$ of an abstract set E , the product isomorphism of $A \cong B$ was defined iff there exists a one-to-one transformation $f(p)$ of E onto itself such that the transformation: (p_1, p_2, \dots, p_n) goes into $(f(p_1), f(p_2), \dots, f(p_n))$ carries A onto B .

For ($n = 2$ this notion coincides with the isomorphism of graphs represented by sets of pairs: A, B .) Combinatorial and set theoretical properties of product isomorphisms were defined and studied in my master thesis in 1932.

In the present paper this notion is generalized in two different ways: We call 2 subsets A, B quasi-isomorphic if there exist one-to-one transformations f_1, f_2, \dots, f_n of E onto itself, perhaps different from each other, such that the transformation $(p_1, \dots, p_n) \rightarrow (f_1(p_1), \dots, f_n(p_n))$, carries A onto B .

The second generalization is that of "equivalence by decomposition" (finite or countable). One calls two sets A, B equivalent by decomposition if $A = \bigcup A_i, A_i \cap A_j = \emptyset$ for $i \neq j, B = \bigcup B_i, B_i \cap B_j, i \neq j$ and $A_i \cong B_i$ for all i (perhaps by different f 's) Some elementary set theoretical properties and enumeration results and problems are discussed. A fuller account of this work will appear elsewhere.