

32. Note on the Isomorphism Problem for Free Algebraic Systems

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Let $V = \{\alpha_1, \alpha_2, \dots\}$ be the system of single-valued compositions, and A the family of composition-identities with respect to V , and let $E = \{a_1, a_2, \dots\}$ be the free generator system. Then it is easily verified that the free A -algebraic system $A^V(E)$, or shortly $A(E)$, can be defined. Let $F = \{b_1, b_2, \dots\}$ be another free generator system. If the cardinal numbers of E and F are equal, then it is clear that $A(E) \cong A(F)$.*)

In this note we shall show that, under some conditions of $A(E)$, $A(E) \cong A(F)$ if and only if the cardinal numbers of E and F are equal, i.e. we shall give the solution of the isomorphism problem for the free A -algebraic system satisfying such conditions. And the isomorphism problems of free groups, free lattices, and others can be easily solved as the special cases of our results.

Theorem I. *Let $A(E)$ be a free A -algebraic system satisfying the following two conditions:*

- 1) *the composition-identity $x=y$ is not derived from A ,*
- 2) *the cardinal number of E is infinite.*

Then $A(E) \cong A(F)$ if and only if the cardinal numbers of E and F are equal.

Proof. "If"-part of this theorem is immediate. Hence we shall prove "only if"-part.

Let $E = \{a_1, a_2, \dots\}$ and $F = \{b_1, b_2, \dots\}$. Now suppose that $\bar{E} > \bar{F}$ ***) in spite of $A(E) \cong A(F)$. First we can suppose $A(E) = A(F)$ instead of $A(E) \cong A(F)$, without loss of generality. Hence b_1, b_2, \dots are represented by finite compositions of finite elements in E respectively, i.e.

$$b_1 = f_1(E), \quad b_2 = f_2(E), \quad \dots$$

Let E' be the set of all the elements in E which appear in some $f_i(E)$. Then the cardinal number of E' is smaller than \bar{E} . Hence there exists an element $a_j \in E$ such that $a_j \notin E'$. And a_j is also represented by finite compositions of finite elements in F , i.e. $a_j = \varphi(F)$. Putting $f_1(E), f_2(E), \dots$ in places of b_1, b_2, \dots respectively, we get $a_j = \psi(E)$. Taking off unnecessary elements from E in this identity, we get $a_j = \psi(E'')$, where E'' is a finite set contained in E' .

*) K. Shoda: Allgemeine Algebra, Osaka Math. J., **1** (1949).

**) \bar{E} denotes the cardinal number of E .