

Lallement's lemma:

(17A)

S regular, $\alpha \in \text{Con}(S)$, $[a]_\alpha \in E_{S/\alpha} \Rightarrow \exists e \in E_S$ s.t.

$$[a]_\alpha = [e]_\alpha \quad \& \quad e \leq_\alpha a$$



Proof: assume $[a]^2 = [a]$, i.e., $a^2 \alpha a$

fix $b \in V(a^2)$, $e := aba$

$$\dots e^2 = \underbrace{aba \cdot aba} = aba = e$$

$$\dots e = aba \quad \& \quad a^2 b a^2 = a^2 \alpha a$$

$\dots e \leq_\alpha a$ obviously □

Corollary: S inverse, $\alpha \in \text{Con}(S) \Rightarrow S/\alpha$ inverse
congruence w.r.t. \circ & $a \alpha b \Rightarrow a' \alpha b'$

Proof: S/α regular? $[a][a'] [a] = [aaa] = [a]$
 $[a'] [a] [a'] = [a'aa] = [a']$
 $\Rightarrow [a'] \in V([a])$

$E_{S/\alpha}$ commutative? take $[a], [b] \in E_{S/\alpha}$
Lallement \Rightarrow $[e] \quad [f]$ for some $e, f \in E_S$

$$\Rightarrow [a][b] = [e][f] = [ef]$$

Hence: S/α is inverse

$$[fe] = [f][e] = [b][a]$$

& uniqueness of inverses yields $[a]' = [a]$ □

~~They are unique~~