

THE SUBMAXIMAL CLONES ON THE  
THREE-ELEMENT SET WITH FINITELY  
MANY RELATIVE  $\mathcal{R}$ -CLASSES\*

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**Abstract**

For each clone  $\mathcal{C}$  on a set  $A$  there is an associated equivalence relation analogous to Green's  $\mathcal{R}$ -relation, which relates two operations on  $A$  if and only if each one is a substitution instance of the other using operations from  $\mathcal{C}$ . We study the maximal and submaximal clones on a three-element set and determine which of them have only finitely many relative  $\mathcal{R}$ -classes.

**Keywords:** clone, maximal clone, submaximal clone, Green's relations.

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