

The barber's paradox is no paradox

We consider a set V — the inhabitants of a village — and a binary relation \triangleright — shaves — on V . Under the assumption

$$b \in V,$$

we derive:

$$\begin{aligned} & (\forall x: x \in V: b \triangleright x \neq x \triangleright x) \\ \Rightarrow & \{ \text{instantiation } x := b \text{ (using } b \in V) \} \\ & b \triangleright b \neq b \triangleright b \\ \equiv & \{ \text{propositional calculus} \} \\ & \text{false.} \end{aligned}$$

conclusion: $\neg(\exists b: b \in V: (\forall x: x \in V: b \triangleright x \neq x \triangleright x))$.

So, what is the paradox?

Eindhoven, 22 october 1992
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