**Definition 2.188.** [23M]Let A be a set and  $\sim$  an equivalence relation. We denote by  $A/_{\sim}$ the quotient space, that is, the set of all equivalence classes; the **canoni**cal projection is the map  $\pi:A\to A/\sim$  that associates each  $x\in A$  with the class  $[x] \in A/\sim$ .