

# 1. Categories

Note Title

2/1/2010

"Homotopy category" [May: Chapter 2]  
"Representable functor"

Need to discuss notion of ctgy.

Def A category  $\mathcal{C}$  consists of

(1) a collection  $Ob\mathcal{C}$

(2) for any pair  $x, y \in Ob\mathcal{C}$

a set of morphisms  $Map_{\mathcal{C}}(x, y)$

(3) for each  $x \in Ob\mathcal{C}$ , an identity morphism

$1_x \in Map_{\mathcal{C}}(x, x)$

(4)  $x, y, z \in Ob\mathcal{C}$ , a composition map:

$$Map_{\mathcal{C}}(y, z) \times Map_{\mathcal{C}}(x, y) \rightarrow Map_{\mathcal{C}}(x, z)$$

$$(f, g) \longmapsto f \circ g$$

Satisfying:

• (Identity)  $f \in Map_{\mathcal{C}}(x, y)$

$$1_y \circ f = f \circ 1_x = f$$

$f \circ (g \circ h)$

• (Associativity) for composites  $f, g, h, (f \circ g) \circ h$

## Examples

Sets :  $\text{Ob} = \text{sets}$

$\text{morph} = \text{set maps}$

Gp :  $\text{Ob} = \text{gps}$

$\text{morph} = \text{gp homomorphisms}$

Ab :  $\text{Ob} = \text{ab gps}$

$\text{morph} = \text{homomorphisms}$

Mod<sub>R</sub> :  $\text{Ob} = R\text{-modules}$  ( $R = \text{ring}$ )

$\text{morph} = R\text{-mod homs}$

Top :  $\text{Ob} = \text{topl spaces}$

$\text{morph} = \text{cts maps}$

If  $G$  is a gp, can form a cat

G  $\text{Ob } \underline{G} = *$

$\text{Map}_{\underline{G}}(*, *) = G$

If  $C$  is a cat,  $f: x \rightarrow y$  is an iso

if  $\exists$  morphism  $f^{-1}: y \rightarrow x$ , s.t.  $ff^{-1} = 1_y$   
 $f^{-1}f = 1_x$

"cat of categories?"

Morphisms between cats: Functors

Def! Let  $C, D$  be cats

a <sup>(contravariant)</sup> <sub>(covariant)</sub> functor

$$F: C \rightarrow D$$

is a map

$$F: \text{ob } C \rightarrow \text{ob } D$$

together with set maps

$$F: \text{Map}_C(x, y) \rightarrow \text{Map}_D(F(x), F(y))$$

Satisfying  $\text{Map}_D(F(y), F(x))$

$$\bullet F(1_x) = 1_{F(x)}$$

$$\bullet F(f \circ g) = F(f) \circ F(g)$$

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$$F(g) \circ F(f)$$

$C \approx \text{cat}$

$C^{\text{op}}$  = opposite cat:

$$\text{ob } C^{\text{op}} = \text{ob } C$$

$$\text{Map}_{C^{\text{op}}}(x, y) = \text{Map}_C(y, x)$$

There is a bijective correspondence

{ contravariant functors  $\mathcal{C} \rightarrow \mathcal{D}$  }



{ covariant functors  $\mathcal{C}^{\text{op}} \rightarrow \mathcal{D}$  }

### Examples

$U: \text{Grps} \longrightarrow \text{Sets}$  forgetful functor

$U(G) = \text{underlying set of } G$

$F: \text{Sets} \longrightarrow \text{Grps}$  free gp functor

$F(S) = \text{free gp generated by } S$

$A \in \text{Ab}$

$\text{Hom}(A, -): \text{Ab} \longrightarrow \text{Ab}$

$B \longmapsto \text{Hom}(A, B)$

covariant functor (why?)

$\text{Hom}(-, A): \text{Ab} \longrightarrow \text{Ab}$

$B \longmapsto \text{Hom}(B, A)$

contravariant functor

$\text{Hom}(-, -): \text{Ab}^{\text{op}} \times \text{Ab} \longrightarrow \text{Ab}$

↑ product cat.

$$\text{Ob}(\mathcal{C} \times \mathcal{D}) = \text{Ob}(\mathcal{C}) \times \text{Ob}(\mathcal{D})$$

$$\text{Map}_{\mathcal{C} \times \mathcal{D}}((x, x'), (y, y')) = \text{Map}_{\mathcal{C}}(x, y) \times \text{Map}_{\mathcal{D}}(x', y')$$

$\pi_1 : \text{Top}_+ \longrightarrow \text{Grp}$

ctgy of pointed spaces  
and bipt preserv. maps

$$(X, x) \longmapsto \pi_1(X, x)$$

$H^k(-; R) : \text{Top} \longrightarrow \text{Mod}_R$

$$X \longmapsto H^k(X; R)$$

Functors are maps between categories

Natural transformations are maps between functors

Def  $F, G : \mathcal{C} \longrightarrow \mathcal{D}$  (covariant)  
functors

A natural transformation

is a collection of morphisms in  $\mathcal{D}$

$$\eta_x : F(x) \longrightarrow G(x)$$

$$\forall x \in \text{ob } \mathcal{C}$$

that satisfy:  $\forall$  morphism  $f: x \rightarrow y$  in  $\mathcal{C}$

$$\begin{array}{ccc} F(x) & \xrightarrow{F(f)} & F(y) \\ \eta_x \downarrow & & \downarrow \eta_y \\ G(x) & \xrightarrow{G(f)} & G(y) \end{array}$$

e.g. Suppose  $A, A' \in \text{Ab}$

$\alpha : A \rightarrow A'$  homomorphism

get natural transformation

$\alpha_* : \text{Hom}(-, A) \rightarrow \text{Hom}(-, A')$

given  $B$

$(\alpha_*)_B : \text{Hom}(B, A) \longrightarrow \text{Hom}(B, A')$

$f \longmapsto \alpha \circ f$

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Hw: "adjoint functors"

$F : \mathcal{C} \rightleftarrows D : G$

$$\stackrel{\text{e.g.}}{\iff} F: \text{Sets} \rightleftarrows \text{Cpt}: U$$

$$\text{Map}_{\text{Cpt}}(F(S), G) \cong \text{Map}_{\text{Sets}}(S, U_G)$$

$$R \times - : \text{Sets} \rightleftarrows \text{Sets} : \text{Map}(R, -)$$

$$\text{Map}_{\text{Set}}(R \times S, T) \cong \text{Map}_{\text{Set}}(S, \text{Map}(R, T))$$

$$f \longmapsto (s \mapsto (r \mapsto f(r, s)))$$

$$A \otimes - : \text{Ab} \rightleftarrows \text{Ab} : \text{Hom}(A, -)$$

$$\text{Hom}(A \otimes B, C) \cong \text{Hom}(B, \text{Hom}(A, C))$$

"tensor product is dual to hom"  
importance of  $\otimes$

Products, coproducts, limits, colimits

$C = \text{cat}$  ,  $I = \text{small category}$

$C^I = \text{category} \begin{cases} \text{Object} = \text{Functors} : I \rightarrow C \\ \text{Morph} = \text{natural transformations} \end{cases}$

category of "I-shaped diagrams in  $C$ "

$$\text{e.g., } I = \underline{\mathbb{G}}$$

Discussion: what is

Set  $\mathbb{G}$

$$\text{v.e. } \text{Mor}(\mathbb{G}) = \{x, i \in \mathbb{P}, \text{ or}\}$$

$$I = \{ 0 \leftarrow 1 \leftarrow 2 \leftarrow 3 \leftarrow \dots \}$$

$$c^I \text{ about } c(0) \leftarrow c(1) \leftarrow c(2) \leftarrow \dots$$

Limits

Def: Let  $X: I \rightarrow \mathcal{C}$  be an  $I$ -shaped diagram

(if it exists)

$$\varprojlim X = \varprojlim_{i \in I} X(i)$$

satisfies the  
following universal  
property

There exist maps  $\varprojlim_{\pi_i} X \rightarrow X(i)$

$$\text{s.t. } \forall \alpha: i \rightarrow j \quad \varprojlim X \xrightarrow{\alpha(i)} X(j)$$

Gm  $y \in \mathcal{C}, f_i: Y \rightarrow X(i)$

s.t.  
 $\forall \alpha: i \rightarrow j$   
 $i, j \in I$

$$\begin{array}{ccc} Y & \xrightarrow{f_i} & X(i) \\ & \xrightarrow{f_j} & X(j) \\ & \downarrow \alpha(i) & \\ & & X(j) \end{array}$$

commutes

$\exists!$   $f: Y \rightarrow \varprojlim X$

s.t.

$$Y \longrightarrow \varprojlim X$$

$$\downarrow f_i \qquad \downarrow \pi_i \qquad \text{(concrete)} \quad \vartheta_i$$

$$X_{(i)}$$


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Examples of common I's

$$\text{Ob } I = \{1, 2\} \quad \text{no non-identity maps}$$

$$\text{Ob } C^I = \{(x_1, x_2) \mid x_1, x_2 \in C\}$$

Universal property:

$$Y \begin{array}{c} \xrightarrow{f_1} \\[-1ex] \dashrightarrow \\[-1ex] \exists! \end{array} \varprojlim (X_1, X_2)$$

$$\downarrow \pi_1 \qquad \downarrow \pi_2$$

$$X_1 \qquad X_2$$

$$\downarrow f_2$$

e.g.  $\mathcal{C} = \text{Sets}$

Q: what is  $\varprojlim (X_i, x_i)$  ?

In general we denote

$\varprojlim (X_1, x_2) := X_1 \times_{\mathcal{C}} X_2$   
called the <sup>(categorical)</sup> product in  $\mathcal{C}$

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e.g.  $I = \mathbb{G}$ ,  $\mathcal{C} = \text{Sets}$

$X \in \text{Sets}^{\mathbb{G}}$

$X \hookrightarrow \mathbb{G}$

$$\begin{array}{ccc} Y & \xrightarrow{f} & X \\ & \exists! \dashrightarrow & \uparrow \pi \\ & & \varprojlim X \end{array} \quad gf = f \quad \text{H J}$$

What is  $\varprojlim X$  ?

Another important example

$$I = (0 \leftarrow 1 \leftarrow 2 \leftarrow \dots)$$

$X \in e^I$        $\varprojlim X$       is called  
the projective limit.

$$\begin{array}{ccc} Y & \xrightarrow{\quad f_0 \quad} & X(0) \\ \downarrow & \searrow f_1 & \swarrow f_2 \\ & \vdots & \\ & \searrow f_i & \swarrow f_{i+1} \\ & \vdots & \\ & \searrow f_n & \swarrow f_{n+1} \\ & \vdots & \end{array}$$

$\varprojlim X$

e.g.  $e = \text{sets}$

$$\varprojlim X = \left\{ (x_i)_{i=0}^\infty \mid x_i(x_i) \subset x_{i-1} \right\}$$

e.g.  $\varprojlim \left( \mathbb{Z}_p \hookrightarrow \mathbb{Z}_{p^2} \hookrightarrow \mathbb{Z}_{p^3} \hookrightarrow \dots \right)$

$\mathbb{Z}_p^n$

Yet another common example

pull back

$$I = \left\{ \begin{array}{c} z \\ \downarrow \\ 1 \rightarrow 3 \end{array} \right\}$$

$$e^I = \left\{ \begin{array}{c} Y \\ \downarrow \\ x \rightarrow z \end{array} \right\}$$

$$\varprojlim \left( \begin{array}{c} Y \\ \downarrow \\ x \rightarrow z \end{array} \right) \text{ is denoted } X \times_z Y$$

$$\begin{array}{ccc} W & \xrightarrow{\exists!} & X \times_z Y \xrightarrow{\beta} Y \\ & \searrow & \downarrow \\ & & X \xrightarrow{\alpha} z \end{array}$$

e.g. in Top

$$X \times_z Y = \left\{ (x, y) \in X \times Y \mid \alpha(x) = \beta(y) \right\} \subset_{\text{subspace}} X \times Y$$

$$\begin{array}{ccc}
 F & \xrightarrow{\quad} & E \\
 \downarrow & \nearrow & \downarrow \\
 * & \xrightarrow{\quad b\quad} & B
 \end{array}$$

denotes  $F = E^* \otimes_B$

Colimits

⋮

Same but dual