

**Definition** (Initial and terminal object). Let  $\mathbf{C}$  be a category and let  $X \in \mathbf{C}$  be an object. We say that  $X$  is an *initial object* if, for all  $Y \in \mathbf{C}$ , the hom-set  $\text{Hom}_{\mathbf{C}}(X; Y)$  has exactly one element. We say that  $X$  is a *terminal object* if, for all  $Z \in \mathbf{C}$ , the hom-set  $\text{Hom}_{\mathbf{C}}(Z; X)$  has exactly one element.