

Category Theory 2022-23

Lecture 10

9th December 2022

Grp is a typical category of algebras and their homomorphisms.

The forgetful functor $U: \underline{\text{Grp}} \rightarrow \underline{\text{Set}}$ has a left adjoint, the free group functor $F: \underline{\text{Set}} \rightarrow \underline{\text{Grp}}$

For any set X , group G and function $F: X \rightarrow G$ there is a unique homomorphism $h: FX \rightarrow G$ s.t.

$$\begin{array}{ccc} FX & \xrightarrow{h} & G \\ i_X \uparrow & \nearrow f & \\ X & & \end{array}$$

where $i_X(x)$ = the generator in FX associated to x .

The free group FX can be constructed explicitly as equivalence classes of certain expressions

This is an example of a general method for constructing free algebras explicitly

Such constructions are "fussy" Mac Lane [CLM]

CSL (Complete semilattices)

Another category of algebra-like structures

A complete semilattice is a partially ordered set (X, \leq) in which every subset $A \subseteq X$ has a supremum (least upper bound) $\bigvee A \in X$.

Every complete semilattice has a least element ($\bigvee \emptyset$).

It also has all infima (greatest lower bounds) $\bigwedge A$

(I.e. a complete semilattice is always a complete lattice.)

A homomorphism of CSLs is a function

$h: X \rightarrow Y$ that preserves suprema

$$\forall A \subseteq X \quad h(\bigvee_x A) = \bigvee_{x'} \underbrace{h(A)}_{\text{direct image}}$$

It follows that homomorphisms are order preserving

$$x \leq_x x' \Rightarrow h(x) \leq_{x'} h(x')$$

(Homomorphisms preserve least element, but need not preserve \bigwedge .)

Alternative formulation

A complete semilattice is a structure (X, V)

where $V: \mathcal{P}X \rightarrow X$ satisfies

$$V\{x\} = x \quad \forall x \in X$$

$$V\{V_B \mid B \in A\} = V(UA) \quad \forall A \subseteq \mathcal{P}X$$

Prop For any set X , csl (Y, V) and function $f: X \rightarrow Y$, there exists a unique csl homomorphism $h: (\mathcal{P}X, U) \rightarrow (Y, V)$ s.t.

$$\begin{array}{ccc} \mathcal{P}X & \xrightarrow{h} & Y \\ \{ \cdot \} \uparrow & \nearrow f & \\ X & & \end{array}$$

Equivalently The left adjoint to the forgetful functor $U: \underline{\text{CSL}} \rightarrow \underline{\text{Set}}$ is

$$\begin{array}{ccc} X & & (\mathcal{P}X, U) \\ f \downarrow & \mapsto & \downarrow A \mapsto f(A) \\ Y & & (\mathcal{P}Y, U) \end{array}$$

one of the two
covariant powerset
functors from Lec. 2.

KHaw Objects: compact Hausdorff spaces

Morphisms: continuous functions

Surprising facts

- The forgetful $U: \underline{KHaw} \rightarrow \underline{Set}$ has a left adjoint
- KHaw is a category of algebras & homomorphisms.

Neither of these points are easy to show,

Today we address

- How to find adjoints without constructing them explicitly (using adjoint functor theorems).
- When an adjunction can be viewed as a free-algebra construction for a category of algebras and homomorphism.

We shall use Grp, CSL and KHaw as our running examples.

Rather than constructing the left adjoint directly
we prove that it exists using Freyd's
adjoint functor theorem

FAFT Suppose $G: D \rightarrow C$ is a functor
from a complete category D and G preserves limits.
Then G has a left adjoint if and only if it
enjoys the following

Solution set condition: for any $X \in \text{Ob } C$, there
exists a family $(X \xrightarrow{g_i} GY_i)_{i \in I}$ of maps in C
indexed by a set I , such that, for every map
 $X \xrightarrow{f} GY$ in C there exist $i \in I$ and $Y_i \xrightarrow{h} Y$ in D
such that $f = G h \circ g_i$.

Recommended: • Read the proof
• Read about the Special Adjoint Functor Theorem

See [CWM] (or other textbook)

We prove that kHau is complete and $U: \underline{kHau} \rightarrow \underline{Set}$ preserves limits simultaneously by proving a stronger property: U creates limits.

A functor $U: A \rightarrow C$ creates limits if,

for any diagram $D: G \rightarrow A$ (G a graph), and

any $\{L \xrightarrow{q_x} UD_x\}_{x \in G}$ limit cone in C for the diagram UD , we have:

- there exists a unique D -cone $\{K \xrightarrow{p_x} D_x\}_{x \in G}$ in A that is mapped by U to $\{L \xrightarrow{q_x} UD_x\}_{x \in G}$; and
- $\{K \xrightarrow{p_x} D_x\}_{x \in G}$ is a limit cone for D in A .

(The above formulation is standard and useful. However, it breaks a category-theoretic taboo, it is not stable under equivalence of categories.)

$U: \mathbf{KHaus} \rightarrow \mathbf{Set}$ creates products (& equalisers)

Let $(X_i)_{i \in I}$ be a family of comp. Haus. space.
(requires AC!)

By Tychonoff's theorem the product topological space $\prod_{i \in I} X_i$ is itself a compact Hausdorff space.

Since $\left(\prod_{i \in I} X_i \xrightarrow{p_i} X_i \right)_{i \in I}$ is a cone in \mathbf{KHaus} that is also a product cone in \mathbf{Top} it is a fortiori a limit cone in \mathbf{KHaus} .

Now let $(P \xrightarrow{p_i} X_i)$ be any product cone in \mathbf{Set} .

Topologise P with the unique topology that turns the product isomorphism $P \xrightarrow{\sim} \prod_{i \in I} X_i$ in \mathbf{Set} into a homeomorphism.

This is again compact Hausdorff since $\prod_{i \in I} X_i$ is.

Moreover, any other topology on P for which the cone $(P \xrightarrow{p_i} X_i)$ remains continuous would have to be finer than the given one since the product topology is the coarsest such topology. But no strictly finer topology can be compact Hausdorff.

So U creates products. A similar argument shows it creates equalisers, hence arbitrary limits.

The solution set condition for $U: \mathbf{KHaus} \rightarrow \mathbf{Set}$

Given a set X , consider any compact Hausdorff space Y and function $f: X \rightarrow Y$ with dense image. Then the function $y \mapsto \{A \subseteq X \mid y \in \overline{f(A)}\}$ (where $\overline{f(A)}$ is the closure of $f(A)$ in Y) is injective. So Y is in bijective correspondence with a subset of $\mathcal{P}X$.

Consider the family $(g: X \rightarrow Z)_{(g, Z, \tau)}$

indexed by the set

$$\{(g, Z, \tau) \mid Z \subseteq \mathcal{P}X, \tau \text{ is a compact Hausdorff topology on } Z, \\ g: X \rightarrow Z \text{ has dense image}\}$$

This satisfies the required condition. Consider any function $f: X \rightarrow Y$ where Y is a compact Haus. space.

Let $Y' := \overline{\text{image}(f)}$. Since $Y' \subseteq Y$ is closed it carries a compact Hausdorff topology. Clearly $f_y: X \rightarrow Y'$ has dense image.

By the remarks at the start, Y' is homeomorphic to some compact Hausdorff space (Z, τ) with $Z \subseteq \mathcal{P}X$ via $i: Z \rightarrow Y'$.

The function $g := i^{-1} \circ f_y$, indexed by (g, Z, τ) and continuous function $i: Z \rightarrow Y' \subseteq Y$ provide the required factorisation of f .

□

Revisiting CSLs.

The endofunctor $P: \underline{\text{Set}} \rightarrow \underline{\text{Set}}$ $\begin{matrix} X \\ f \downarrow \\ Y \end{matrix} \mapsto \begin{matrix} PX \\ \downarrow Pf \\ PY \end{matrix} := A \mapsto f(A)$

carries the structure of a monoid in $[\underline{\text{Set}}, \underline{\text{Set}}]$

$$\{\cdot\}_x := x \mapsto \{x\} : X \rightarrow PX$$

$$\{\cdot\} : 1_{\underline{\text{Set}}} \Rightarrow P$$

$$U_x := A \mapsto UA : PPX \rightarrow PX$$

$$U : P^2 \Rightarrow P$$

$$\begin{array}{ccccc} & & PX & & \\ \{\cdot\}_{Px} \swarrow & & \downarrow 1_{Px} & & \searrow P\{\cdot\}_x \\ P^2X & \xrightarrow{U_x} & PX & \xleftarrow{U_x} & P^3X \end{array}$$

$$\begin{array}{ccc} \{\cdot\}P & \xrightarrow{P} & P \\ \swarrow & \Downarrow 1_P & \searrow P\{\cdot\} \\ P^2 & \xrightarrow{U} & P & \xleftarrow{U} & P^2 \end{array}$$

$$\begin{array}{ccc} P^3X & \xrightarrow{PU_x} & P^2X \\ U_x \downarrow & & \downarrow U_x \\ P^2X & \xrightarrow{U_x} & PX \end{array}$$

$$\begin{array}{ccc} P^3 & \xrightarrow{PU} & P^2 \\ UP \downarrow & & \downarrow U \\ P^2 & \xrightarrow{U} & P \end{array}$$

The algebraic redefinition of csls has an elegant definition involving the above structure

A csl (X, V) is $pX \xrightarrow{V} X$ such that

$$\begin{array}{ccc} & X & \\ \swarrow \{1_X & & \searrow 1_X \\ pX & \xrightarrow{V} & X \end{array}$$

$$\begin{array}{ccc} p^2X & \xrightarrow{pV} & pX \\ \downarrow U & & \downarrow V \\ pX & \xrightarrow{V} & X \end{array}$$

A homomorphism of csls from (X, V) to (X', V') is $X \xrightarrow{h} X'$ s.t.

$$\begin{array}{ccc} pX & \xrightarrow{ph} & pX' \\ \downarrow V & & \downarrow V' \\ X & \xrightarrow{h} & X' \end{array}$$

Definition A monad on \mathcal{C} is a monoid in the strict monoidal category $[\mathcal{C}, \mathcal{C}]$.

I.e. A monad is (T, ζ, μ) where $T: \mathcal{C} \rightarrow \mathcal{C}$ is a functor

$\zeta: 1_{\mathcal{C}} \Rightarrow T$ and $\mu: T^2 \Rightarrow T$ are nat transfs.

Such that

$$\begin{array}{ccccc}
 & & T & & \\
 \zeta T \swarrow & & \downarrow 1_T & \searrow T \zeta & \\
 T^2 & \xRightarrow{\mu} & T & \xleftarrow{\mu} & T^2
 \end{array}$$

$$\begin{array}{ccc}
 T^3 & \xRightarrow{T\mu} & T^2 \\
 \mu T \downarrow & & \downarrow \mu \\
 T^2 & \xRightarrow{\mu} & T
 \end{array}$$

An (Eilenberg-Moore) algebra for a monad T is (A, a) where $A \in \mathcal{C}$ and $TA \xrightarrow{a} A$ is such that

$$\begin{array}{ccc} & A & \\ \zeta_A \swarrow & & \searrow \eta_A \\ TA & \xrightarrow{a} & A \end{array}$$

$$\begin{array}{ccc} T^2A & \xrightarrow{Ta} & TA \\ \eta \downarrow & & \downarrow a \\ TA & \xrightarrow{a} & A \end{array}$$

A (homomorphism of algebras from (A, a) to (B, b))

is $A \xrightarrow{h} B$ in \mathcal{C} such that

$$\begin{array}{ccc} TA & \xrightarrow{Th} & TB \\ a \downarrow & & \downarrow b \\ A & \xrightarrow{h} & B \end{array}$$

N.B. The definition of a monad implies that (TX, μ_x) is always an algebra. By naturality of μ , for any $X \xrightarrow{f} Y$, we have Tf is a homomorphism from (TX, μ_x) to (TY, μ_y) .

The definition of algebra implies that for any algebra (A, a) the map $TA \xrightarrow{a} A$ is a homomorphism from (TA, μ) to (A, a) .

The Eilenberg-Mac Lane category of algebras

If (T, η, μ) is a monad on \mathcal{C} , we write \mathcal{C}^T for the category whose objects are algebras for the monad T and whose maps are homomorphisms.

Let $U: \mathcal{C}^T \rightarrow \mathcal{C}$ be the forgetful functor

Prop U has a left adjoint $F: \mathcal{C} \rightarrow \mathcal{C}^T$

$$F: X \mapsto (TX, \mu_X)$$

$$\begin{array}{ccc} X & & (TX, \mu_X) \\ f \downarrow & \mapsto & \downarrow T_f \\ Y & & (TY, \mu_Y) \end{array}$$

Prop U creates limits.

Exercise Prove the 2 propositions.

Adjunctions give rise to monads

Prop Any adjunction $F \dashv G : D \rightarrow C$ gives rise to a monad (T, η, μ) on C defined by

$$T := GF$$

$\eta : 1_C \Rightarrow GF$ is the unit of the adjunction

$$\mu := G\varepsilon F : GFGF \Rightarrow GF$$

where $\varepsilon : FG \Rightarrow 1_D$ is the adjunction counit

Given an adjunction and associated monad as above define the comparison functor $K : D \rightarrow C^T$ by

$$K(Y) := (GY, GFGY \xrightarrow{G\varepsilon_Y} GY)$$

$$\begin{array}{ccc} Y & & GY \\ \downarrow g & \longmapsto & \downarrow Gg \\ Y' & & GY' \end{array}$$

In the case of Grp, CSL and kHaw the comparison functor is an isomorphism of categories.!

The notion of algebra for a monad encompasses the familiar examples (groups, rings, modules, csIs) of algebras (for which free-algebras exist).

It also explicates in what sense kHaw is a category of algebras.

Bek's theorem gives a beautiful method for proving that the comparison functor is an isomorphism.

Bek's (monadicity theorem)

For an adjunction $F \dashv G : D \rightarrow C$ the following are equivalent.

- G creates absolute coequalisers.
- The comparison functor $K : D \rightarrow C^{G \circ F}$ is an isomorphism of categories.

(One says that the functor G is monadic.)

There are many variants of this theorem (see [CLM])
Some establishing conditions for showing that K is an equivalence of categories.

An absolute coequaliser in \mathcal{C} is a coequaliser diagram

$$X \begin{array}{c} \xrightarrow{f} \\ \xrightarrow{g} \end{array} Y \xrightarrow{q} Q$$

that satisfies: for all categories \mathcal{E} and functors $F: \mathcal{C} \rightarrow \mathcal{E}$, it holds that F preserves the above coequaliser.

$G: \mathcal{D} \rightarrow \mathcal{C}$ creates absolute coequalisers if: for any

$X \begin{array}{c} \xrightarrow{f} \\ \xrightarrow{g} \end{array} Y$ in \mathcal{D} and absolute coequaliser $GX \begin{array}{c} \xrightarrow{Gf} \\ \xrightarrow{Gg} \end{array} GY \xrightarrow{q} Q$ in \mathcal{C} ,

there exists a unique $Y \xrightarrow{r} Z$ in \mathcal{D} s.t. $GZ = Q$ and $Gr = q$;

furthermore this unique r is a coequaliser for $X \begin{array}{c} \xrightarrow{f} \\ \xrightarrow{g} \end{array} Y$.

Outline proof that $U: \mathbf{Grp} \rightarrow \mathbf{Set}$ creates absolute coequalisers.

Let $G \begin{array}{c} \xrightarrow{g} \\ \xrightarrow{h} \end{array} H$ be group homomorphisms such that

$G \begin{array}{c} \xrightarrow{g} \\ \xrightarrow{h} \end{array} H \xrightarrow{q} Q$ is an absolute coequaliser in Set

Since absolute, the coequaliser is preserved by $X \mapsto X \times X: \mathbf{Set} \rightarrow \mathbf{Set}$

$$\begin{array}{ccccc} G^2 & \begin{array}{c} \xrightarrow{g^2} \\ \xrightarrow{h^2} \end{array} & H^2 & \xrightarrow{q^2} & Q^2 \\ \downarrow \cdot c & & \downarrow \cdot h & & \downarrow \cdot a \\ G & \begin{array}{c} \xrightarrow{g} \\ \xrightarrow{h} \end{array} & H & \xrightarrow{q} & Q \end{array}$$

We thus obtain a map $Q^2 \xrightarrow{\cdot a} Q$ as in the diagram, giving Q a group structure in the unique way making q a homomorphism.

□