

§0. Categories, Functors, and Natural Transformations.

0.1 Categories.

A category \mathcal{C} consists of

(a). (objects) $\text{Ob}(\mathcal{C})$. the class of objects in \mathcal{C} .

(denote as $X \xrightarrow{f} Y$)
 $f \in \text{Hom}_{\mathcal{C}}(X, Y)$

(b) (morphisms) $\forall X, Y \in \text{Ob}(\mathcal{C})$, we have a set $\text{Hom}_{\mathcal{C}}(X, Y)$.

s.t. $\text{Hom}_{\mathcal{C}}(X, Y) = \text{Hom}_{\mathcal{C}}(X', Y') \iff X = X', Y = Y'$

(c). (Composition law) $\forall X, Y, Z \in \text{Ob}(\mathcal{C})$, we have a map.

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Hom}_{\mathcal{C}}(X, Y) \times \text{Hom}_{\mathcal{C}}(Y, Z) &\xrightarrow{\circ} \text{Hom}_{\mathcal{C}}(X, Z) \\ (f, g) &\longmapsto g \circ f \end{aligned}$$

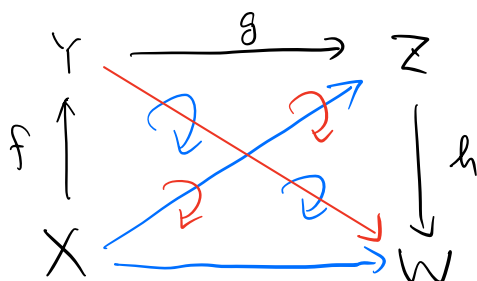
$$\begin{array}{ccccc} & & X & \xrightarrow{f} & Y & \xrightarrow{g} & Z \\ & & & \searrow & \text{\scriptsize \textcircled{D}} & \nearrow & \\ & & & & g \circ f & & \end{array}$$

which satisfy the following two axioms

(1). (Associativity)

$$X \xrightarrow{f} Y, \quad Y \xrightarrow{g} Z, \quad Z \xrightarrow{h} W$$

$$h \circ (g \circ f) = (h \circ g) \circ f$$



$$(2) (\text{identity}) \quad \forall X \in \text{Ob}(\mathcal{C}) \quad \exists X \xrightarrow{I_X} X.$$

$$\text{s.t. } h \circ I_X = h, \quad I_X \circ k = k$$

$$\forall X \xrightarrow{h} H, \quad K \xrightarrow{k} X$$

$$\begin{array}{ccc} X & & \\ \downarrow I_X & \searrow h & \\ X & \xrightarrow{h} & H \end{array}$$

$$\begin{array}{ccc} & X & \\ k \nearrow & & \downarrow I_X \\ K & Q & X \\ & \searrow k & \end{array}$$

Example

$$\begin{aligned} (1) \mathcal{C} &= (\text{Set}) & (\text{Top}) \\ & (\text{Ab}) & (\text{Top Grp}) \\ & (\text{Mod}_R) \\ & \uparrow \\ & \text{ring} \end{aligned}$$

$$(2) \mathcal{C}^{\text{op}} \quad (\text{the opposite of } \mathcal{C})$$

$$\text{ob}(\mathcal{C}) := \text{ob}(\mathcal{C})$$

$$\text{Hom}_{\mathcal{C}^{\text{op}}}(X, Y) := \text{Hom}_{\mathcal{C}}(Y, X).$$

$$\text{Hom}_{\mathcal{C}^{\text{op}}}(X, Y) \times \text{Hom}_{\mathcal{C}^{\text{op}}}(Y, Z) \xrightarrow{\circ_{\mathcal{C}^{\text{op}}}} \text{Hom}_{\mathcal{C}^{\text{op}}}(X, Z)$$

$$\begin{array}{ccc} (f, g) & & g \circ_{\mathcal{C}^{\text{op}}} f \\ \downarrow & & \downarrow \\ X \xleftarrow{f} Y, Y \xleftarrow{g} Z & & Z \xrightarrow{f \circ g} X \end{array}$$

Terminology

$$X, X' \in \text{Ob}(\mathcal{C}). \quad X \xrightarrow[\mathcal{C}]{f} X'$$

$$f \text{ is an isomorphism. } \Leftrightarrow \exists X' \xrightarrow{\tilde{f}} X.$$

$$\text{s.t. } \tilde{f} \circ f = I_X$$

$$f \circ \tilde{f} = I_{X'}$$

(0.2) (Functors)

①. $\mathcal{C}, \mathcal{C}'$. categories

A covariant / contravariant functor $F: \mathcal{C} \rightarrow \mathcal{C}'$ (not a map
just write like this)

Consists of (a) a rule of associating to each $X \in \text{Ob}(\mathcal{C})$ an object

$$F(X) \in \text{Ob}(\mathcal{C}')$$

(b). a map $\text{Hom}_{\mathcal{C}}(X, Y) \xrightarrow{F} \text{Hom}_{\mathcal{C}'}(F(X), F(Y))$
for each pair $X, Y \in \text{Ob}(\mathcal{C})$. $F(Y), F(X)$

$$\text{s.t. } F(I_X) = I_{F(X)} \text{ and}$$

$$\begin{array}{ccc} X & \xrightarrow{f} & Y \\ & \searrow \scriptstyle g \circ f & \nearrow g \\ & Z & \end{array} \quad \longrightarrow \quad \begin{array}{ccc} & F(Y) & \\ F(f) \nearrow & & \searrow F(g) \\ X & \xrightarrow{F(g \circ f)} & Z \\ F(X) & & F(Z) \end{array}$$

$$\text{i.e. } F(g \circ f) = F(g) \circ F(f)$$

$$\text{color: red; } F(f) \circ F(g)$$

↗ 反过来的

Examples

(1). $\mathcal{C} \xrightarrow{\text{op}} \mathcal{C}^{\text{op}}$

$$\left\{ \begin{array}{l} X^{\text{op}} = X \\ \text{Hom}_{\mathcal{C}}(X, Y) \ni X \xrightarrow{f} Y \xrightarrow{\text{op}} X \xrightarrow{f} Y \in \text{Hom}_{\mathcal{C}^{\text{op}}}(Y, X) \end{array} \right.$$

\Rightarrow Contravariant functor

(2). $\forall X \in \text{Ob}(\mathcal{C}). \quad h_X: \mathcal{C} \rightarrow (\text{Set})$

$$h_X(Y) := \text{Hom}_{\mathcal{C}}(Y, X). \quad \forall Y \in \text{Ob}(\mathcal{C}).$$

$$\begin{array}{ccc} h_X(f): h_X(Y) & \xrightarrow{\circ f} & h_X(Y') \\ \parallel & \searrow & \parallel \\ \text{Hom}_{\mathcal{C}}(Y, X) & & \text{Hom}_{\mathcal{C}}(Y', X) \end{array} \quad \forall Y' \xrightarrow{f} Y$$

is a morphism in (Set) .

\Rightarrow Contravariant functor

(0.3). (Natural Transformations).

$$\mathcal{C} \xrightleftharpoons[F_2]{F_1} \mathcal{C}' : \text{two functors of the same variance } \pm 1$$

(1) A natural transformation T , from F_1 to F_2 , (denoted as $F_1 \xrightarrow{T} F_2$)

is a rule of associating to each $X \in \text{Ob}(\mathcal{C})$, a morphism.

$$F_1(x) \xrightarrow[\mathcal{C}]{T(x)} F_2(x) \quad \text{st. for each } x \xrightarrow[\mathcal{C}]{f} y \text{ we have } F_1(x) \xrightarrow{T(x)} F_2(x)$$

$$\begin{array}{ccc} F_1(f) \downarrow & \supseteq & \downarrow F_2(f) \\ F_1(y) & \xrightarrow{T(y)} & F_2(y) \end{array}$$

$$\bullet \quad \mathcal{C} \xrightleftharpoons[F_2]{F_1} \mathcal{C}' \quad \begin{array}{c} F_1 \xrightarrow{T} F_2 \\ F_2 \xrightarrow{S} F_3 \end{array}$$

$$\leadsto F_1 \xrightarrow{S \circ T} F_3$$

$$F_1(x) \xrightarrow{T(x)} F_2(x) \xrightarrow{S(x)} F_3(x)$$

(2). A natural transformation $F_1 \xrightarrow{T} F_2$ is called a natural equivalence if

$$F_1(x) \xrightarrow[\mathcal{C}]{T(x)} F_2(x) \text{ is an isom. for each } x \in \text{Ob}(\mathcal{C})$$