

Definition 0.1 (Category, map (arrow, morphism), composition, domain, codomain)

A category \mathcal{A} consists of: a collection $\text{ob}(\mathcal{A})$ of objects, and for each $A, B \in \mathcal{A}$, a collection $\mathcal{A}(A, B)$ of maps, arrows, or morphisms from A to B . Such that for each $A, B, C \in \text{ob}(\mathcal{A})$ a function (named composition) $\circ : \mathcal{A}(B, C) \times \mathcal{A}(A, B) \rightarrow \mathcal{A}(A, C)$, $(g, f) \mapsto g \circ f$ meets following:

For each $f \in \mathcal{A}(A, B), g \in \mathcal{A}(B, C), h \in \mathcal{A}(C, D) : (h \circ g) \circ f = h \circ (g \circ f)$ (asociativity).
 For each $A \in \text{ob}(\mathcal{A}) \exists 1_A \in \mathcal{A}(A, A)$, called the identity, such that, for each $f \in \mathcal{A}(A, B) : f \circ 1_A = f = 1_B \circ f$.

Poznámka (Notation)

$$A \in \text{ob}(\mathcal{A}) \Leftrightarrow A \in \mathcal{A}.$$

$$f \in \mathcal{A}(A, B) \Leftrightarrow A \xrightarrow{f} B \Leftrightarrow f : A \rightarrow B.$$

For $f \in \mathcal{A}(A, B)$: $\text{domain}(f) := A$ and $\text{codomain}(f) := B$.

Například (of categories)

Category of:

- sets (SET): $\text{ob}(SET) := \text{sets}$, $SET(A, B) := \text{functions from } A \text{ to } B$, \circ is composition;
- groups (GRP): $\text{ob}(GRP) := \text{groups}$, $GRP(G, H) := \text{group homomorphisms}$, \circ is composition;
- rings (RING): $\text{ob}(RING) := \text{rings}$, $RING(A, B) := \text{ring homomorphisms}$, \circ is composition;
- vector spaces ($VECT_{\mathbb{K}}$): $\text{ob}(VECT_{\mathbb{K}}) := \text{vector spaces over } \mathbb{K}$, $RING(A, B) := \mathbb{K}$ linear maps, \circ is composition;
- topological spaces (TOP): $\text{ob}(TOP) := \text{topological spaces}$, $RING(A, B) := \text{continuous maps}$, \circ is composition.

Definition 0.2 (Isomorphism, inverse)

$f : A \rightarrow B$ in a category \mathcal{A} is an isomorphism if exists a map $g : B \rightarrow A$ in \mathcal{A} such that $g \circ f = 1_A$ and $f \circ g = 1_B$. Then we call g the inberse of f .

Například

In SET isomorphisms are bijections.

Příklad

Show that inverses are unique (justifying the use of the determine article in the previous definition).

Poznámka

0-morphisms are called morphisms (between objects), 1-morphisms are called functors (between categories), 2-morphisms are called natural transformations (between functors).

Definice 0.3 (Functor)

Let \mathcal{A} and \mathcal{B} be categories. A functor $F : \mathcal{A} \rightarrow \mathcal{B}$ consists of: a function $F : \text{ob}(\mathcal{A}) \rightarrow \text{ob}(\mathcal{B})$, and for each $A, A' \in \mathcal{A}$ a function $F : \mathcal{A}(A, A') \rightarrow \mathcal{B}(F(A), F(A'))$. Such that

$$F(f' \circ f) = F(f) \circ F(f'), \quad \forall A A' A'' \in \mathcal{A},$$

$$F(1_A) = 1_{F(A)} \quad \forall A \in \mathcal{A}.$$

Například (Forgetful functors)

$U : GRP \rightarrow SET$, for any group (G, \cdot) , $U((G, \cdot)) := G$, and for any morphism f , $U(f : (G, \cdot) \rightarrow (H, *)) := f : G \rightarrow H$. (Exercise: Convince yourself that this is a well-defined functors.)

We can do the same for rings, vector spaces and topological spaces.

Například

Let \mathcal{A} be the following category: $\text{ob}(\mathcal{A}) = \{\cdot\}$, $\mathcal{A}(\cdot, \cdot) = 1$, and $1 \circ 1 = 1$. It is called discrete category with one object.

$$\text{ob}(\mathbb{B}) = \{\cdot, *\}, \mathbb{B}(\cdot, \cdot) = 1, \mathbb{B}(\cdot, *) = \emptyset$$

Directed transitive graph (with all loops) with concatenation of edges.

From group $(G, +)$ we construct category \mathcal{G} by putting: $\text{ob}(\mathcal{G}) := \cdot$, $\mathcal{G}(\cdot, \cdot) := G$ and $\circ := +$. We can generalize to a monoid $(M, +)$.

Now, let \mathcal{A} be a category with one object $\{\cdot\}$ (and assume that $\mathcal{S}(\cdot, \cdot)$ is a set). Then homomorphism with composition are monoid. And isomorphisms with composition are groups (so one-object category with all homomorphism isomorphic represents group).

(Category, where $\mathcal{A}(\cdot, \cdot)$ is a set, is often called locally small.)

Let G and H be groups and \mathcal{G}, \mathcal{H} their associated one-object categories. What is a functor from \mathcal{G} to \mathcal{H} ? For $F : \text{ob}(\mathcal{G}) \rightarrow \text{ob}(\mathcal{H})$ we have no other choice than $F(\cdot) := *$. For $F : \mathcal{G}(\cdot, \cdot) \rightarrow \mathcal{H}(*, *) = \mathcal{H}(F(\cdot), F(\cdot))$ we demonstrated (see lecture) that F needs to be group homomorphism (and every group homomorphism $G \rightarrow H$ is functor). (All this work for monoids too.)

Let AB be the category of $\text{ob}(AB) :=$ Abelian groups and $AB(A, B) :=$ group homomorphism. Then $U : AB \rightarrow GRP$ as „forgetful functor“ is „identity“. The same for commutative rings. Also we have forgetful functor $U : RING \rightarrow AB$, $(R, +, \cdot) \mapsto (R, +)$ and functor $U : RING \rightarrow MONOIDS$, $(R, +, \cdot) \mapsto (R, \cdot)$.

$U : SET \rightarrow VECT_{\mathbb{K}}$ we can define by $F(X) = (X \rightarrow F)$ (functions from X to F) (free vector space).