

Tune-Up: Categories

Let's read through this documentations.

Def Let \mathcal{C} be a category. There exists an object 1 with

- There exists a functor $\otimes : \mathcal{C} \times \mathcal{C} \rightarrow \mathcal{C}$ with $(X, Y) \mapsto X \otimes Y$.
- $X \otimes (Y \otimes Z) = (X \otimes Y) \otimes Z$ (**associative**)
- $X \otimes 1 = X = 1 \otimes X$

An infinite amount of sleight-of-hand follows.

Canonical isomorphisms:

$$1 \otimes (1 \otimes X) \longrightarrow (1 \otimes 1) \otimes X \longrightarrow 1 \otimes X$$

Left Unit Constraint:

$$\begin{array}{ccc}
 1 \otimes (1 \otimes X) & \longrightarrow & (1 \otimes 1) \otimes X \\
 & \searrow & \downarrow \\
 & & 1 \otimes X
 \end{array}$$

Right Unit Constraint:

$$\begin{array}{ccc}
 X \otimes (1 \otimes 1) & \longrightarrow & (X \otimes 1) \otimes 1 \\
 & \searrow & \downarrow \\
 & & X \otimes 1
 \end{array}$$

Left and Right Unit Constraint

$$\begin{array}{ccccc}
 1 \otimes X & \longrightarrow & X & \longleftarrow & X \otimes 1 \\
 \downarrow & & \downarrow f & & \downarrow \\
 1 \otimes Y & \longrightarrow & Y & \longleftarrow & Y \otimes 1
 \end{array}$$

Fact Check ?

- **Set** with **Cartesian product** is monoidal category with one-element set $\{*\}$ as the unit.
- $R\text{-Mod}$ the category of modules over commutative ring R with tensor product \otimes_R
- $k\text{-Vect}$ the category of abelian groups over a field K has the one-dimensional vector space as the “unit”.
- $\mathbf{Ab} \simeq \mathbb{Z}\text{-Mod}$ Abelian groups are the category of \mathbb{Z} -modules. Here \otimes is the product.
- $\mathbb{C}[G]\text{-Mod} \simeq \text{Rep}[G]$ is the category of representations of G or of $\mathbb{C}[G]$ modules.

References

[1]