

The universal property of the coKleisli-Kleisli adjunction

Fosco Loregian
Tallinna Tehnikaülikool

November 5, 2025

Every adjunction $F : \mathcal{C} \rightleftarrows \mathcal{D} : G$ induces an adjunction

$$\hat{G} : \text{coKl}(FG) \rightleftarrows \text{Kl}(GF) : \hat{F},$$

between the coKleisli category of the comonad FG , and the Kleisli category of the monad GF where, intriguingly, the *left* adjoint \hat{G} acts as the *right* adjoint G . There exists, as a consequence, a certain canonical square of adjunctions

$$\begin{array}{ccc} \text{Kl}(GF) & \xrightarrow{\quad \top \quad} & \text{coKl}(FG) \\ \uparrow \dashv \downarrow & & \downarrow \dashv \uparrow \\ \mathcal{C} & \xrightarrow{\quad \perp \quad} & \mathcal{D} \end{array}$$

Why does this happen? What is this sorcery? Does it have a universal property—and if so, which one?

j/w Nathanael Arkor (Tallinna Tehnikaülikool) and Ülo Reimaa (Tartu Ülikool).