

We discuss a little bit more before moving on to “abstract nonsense”.

Recall that we have the universal property of the product, where something is a product if maps to projections factor through the product. Diagrammatically, create a category whose morphisms are the  $\sigma$  such that the below diagram commutes,

$$\begin{array}{ccccc} & & Z_1 & & \\ & \swarrow & \downarrow \sigma & \searrow & \\ B & \xleftarrow{g_1} & Z_2 & \xrightarrow{f_2} & A \end{array}$$

and the objects are things of the type

$$\begin{array}{ccc} & Z & \\ & \swarrow g & \searrow f \\ B & & A \end{array}$$

Then notice that, in this category, the product

$$\begin{array}{ccc} & A \times B & \\ & \swarrow \pi_B & \searrow \pi_A \\ B & & A \end{array}$$

Is final, with morphisms

$$\begin{array}{ccccc} & & Z_1 & & \\ & \swarrow & \downarrow \sigma & \searrow & \\ B & \xleftarrow{g} & A \times B & \xrightarrow{\pi_A} & A \end{array}$$

Where  $\sigma(z) = (f(z), g(z))$ . Here it is clear that the product map is unique, so this truly is final.

**Definition 0.1.** We say that a category  $\mathcal{C}$  has *products* if  $\forall A, B \in \text{Obj}(\mathcal{C})$ , then  $\mathcal{C}_{A,B}$  has a final object. in SET, final objects are disjoint unions.

## 1 Groups

**Definition 1.1** (Group).  $G$  is a set with a closed binary operation

$$(\cdot) : G \times G \rightarrow G \quad \cdot (g, h) \mapsto g \times h$$

such that

1.  $\cdot$  is associative
2.  $\exists e_G \in G$  such that  $\forall g \in G \ g \cdot e = e \cdot g = g$
3. We get inverses:  $\forall g \in G$ , there exists  $g^{-1} \in G$  such that  $g \cdot g^{-1} = g^{-1} \cdot g = e_G$ .

**Example 1.2.** The trivial group. Yep.

**Example 1.3.**  $(\mathbb{Z}, +)$ ,  $(\mathbb{C}, +)$ ,  $(\pm 1, \cdot)$ . Notice that all of these groups are abelian.

**Example 1.4.** Matrix groups:  $(\text{GL}_n(F), \cdot)$ , the multiplicative group of invertible  $n \times n$  matrices over a field. Notice that matrix multiplication doesn't commute: a trivial fact.

**Proposition 1.5.** *Both the identity and  $g^{-1}$  are unique.*

*Proof.* Trivial. Suppose  $\exists e_1, e_2$  both identities for the sake of contradiction. But then their product blah blah blah. And likewise for inverses.  $\square$

**Notation.** By associativity, we can justify that

$$g^n = \underbrace{g \cdot g \cdot \dots \cdot g}_{n \text{ times}}$$

As always, a group is called *Abelian* if the binary operation is commutative.

**Example 1.6.** The Commutator group for a non-abelian group is such that the binary op. is

$$[a, b] = aba^{-1}b^{-1}$$

Likewise the commutator subgroup is a subgroup generated by all commutators of elements from  $G$ .

**Definition 1.7.** The order of an element  $g \in G$  is finite if  $\exists n \in \mathbb{N}$  such that  $g^n = \text{Id}$ . The order of the element is the least such  $n$ . An element has infinite order otherwise.

**Lemma 1.8.** *If  $g^n = e$  for some  $n > 0$ , then  $|g|$  divides  $n$ .*

*Proof.* Trivial exercise in number theory.  $\square$