

Quick notes about category theory

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1. The category of categories \mathbf{Cat} is co/complete.

proof: We will prove this interesting statment by the realization-nerv relation between \mathbf{Cat} and \mathbf{sSet} .

First note that:

- $h : \mathbf{sSet} \rightarrow \mathbf{Cat}$ is the **left** adjoint, which preserves **colimit**.
- $Nerv : \mathbf{Cat} \rightarrow \mathbf{sSet}$ is the **right** adjoint; and it is **fully faithful**, which implies the counit $\varepsilon : h \circ Nerv \Rightarrow id_{\mathbf{Cat}}$ is an isomorphism.

Then we start the main proof:

- **Cocompleteness:** For all functors $F : J \rightarrow \mathbf{Cat}$, since the counit of realization-nerv adjunction is an isomorphism, we have $h \circ Nerv \circ F \simeq F$. The left-hand-side **does** have colimit since

$$\operatorname{colim}(h \circ Nerv \circ F) \simeq h(\operatorname{colim}(Nerv \circ F)).$$

And the latter colimit is in \mathbf{sSet} , which is cocomplete since it is a presheaf category.

Also note that there is another abstract proof based on theory of enriched category, see [The answer of Keith Harbaugh](#).

- **Completeness:** There is a general theorem: Reflective full subcategory is closed under limit. (Reason: Every reflective subcategory inclusion is a monadic functor, and monadic functor creat limit. Reference: [Prop 5.1](#) and [Prop 3.1](#)).

However, the arbitrary products and equalizer in \mathbf{Cat} is obvious. So we do not need the above abstract theorem (at least in this proof).

Also see [Riehl Example 4.5.14 \(vi\)](#), Page 143.

2. Localization of categories and reflective full subcategories

There is a complex relation between localization of categories and reflective full subcategories.

- The localization can be done on any classes of morphisms W in category \mathcal{C} , but when the class W is a *weak equivalence* (includes all isomorphisms and satisfies the two-out-of-three rule) things become smoother.
 - Note that the general localization is also called *category of fractions*.
- All reflective subcategories are localizations, see [Prop 3.1](#).

3. Right adjoints is fully faithful \iff The counit is an isomorphism

proof: For counit $\varepsilon : FU \rightarrow \text{Id}_D$, thanks to the triangle equality we have $U\varepsilon_d \circ \eta_{Ud} = \text{id}_{Ud}$, where η is the unit, we know that there exists a counterpart l of η_{Ud} in $D(x, y)$ such that $\varepsilon_d \circ l = \text{id}_d$, since D is fullu faithful.

4. Properties of monadic functors

For monadic functor $U : \mathcal{D} \rightarrow \mathcal{C}$ with left adjoint $F : \mathcal{C} \rightarrow \mathcal{D}$ and induced monad $T := UF$, induced comparison functor $K : \mathcal{D} \rightarrow \mathcal{C}^T$, we claim that U :

1. \cdots is faithful

proof: In fact for a monad induced by a general adjunction where the right adjoint is U , there is a decomposition of U : $U = U^T \circ K$ where $U^T : \mathcal{C}^T \rightarrow \mathcal{C}$ is the forgetful functor and K the comparison functor.

Note that U^T is always faithful, so when K is a equivalence their composition is also faithful.

- *Remark:* A maybe useful observation: For functor $U : \mathcal{D} \rightarrow \mathcal{C}$, it is faithful if and only if the induced natural transformation $\mathcal{D}(x, y) \rightarrow \mathcal{C}(Ux, Uy)$ is a monomorphism.

2. \cdots creates limit

proof: Here I only make a short description, please draw a diagram by yourself, really, it is benifit for you.

Suppose $H : J \rightarrow \mathcal{D}$ is a diagram, and $\lim UH$ exists in \mathcal{C} with a bunch of projections p_i , we need to construct a limit in \mathcal{D} . Thanks to the equivalence between \mathcal{D} and \mathcal{C}^T , we need only to construct limit in the later category.

Define $V := \lim UH$ We claim that the object $(V, h : U FV \rightarrow V)$ is the limit we want, where h is induced by the universal property of V with a bunch of morphisms $U\varepsilon_{Hi} \circ U Fp_i : U FV \rightarrow UHi$. One can verify that h is indeed satisfies the requirements of \mathcal{C}^T . (**Warning:** please note that the triangle equality of T -module $(c, v_c : Tc \rightarrow c)$ is that $v_c \circ \eta_c = \text{id}_c$! Caution that the right hand side is *not* id_{Tc} !).

V is a universal cone in \mathcal{C}^T can be infered from its universal property in \mathcal{C} .

So $\lim KH$ exists and thus $\lim H$ does so.

- *Remark:* The diagram chasing is cubersome, please also see [Discussion on math exchange](#).

we need to prove that it both preserves and reflects limits.

- Preserves limits: Since U is a right adjoint.
- Reflects limits: Since all faithful functors reflects limits, and U is just faithful.