

# Leinster - Basic Category Theory - Selected problem solutions for Chapter 2

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## 2.1.16

(a) Interesting adjoint functors to  $G$ -sets.

The trivial group functor  $I$  sends a set to a  $\mathbf{G}$ -set with the trivial action  $gx = x$ .  
Interesting functors

Orbit functor sends a  $G$ -set with underlying set elements  $a$  of  $A$  to:

$$A_G = \{g \cdot a, g \in G\}$$

Fixed point functor sends a  $G$ -set with underlying set elements  $a$  of  $A$  to:

$$A^G = \{a \text{ such that } g \cdot a = a \text{ for all } g \in G, a \in A\}$$

**Fixed point functor - right adjoint** Morphisms in a  $G$ -set are functions on the underlying set, where  $f$  commutes with  $g$  for every  $g \in G$ .

There is a bijection for each  $A \in \mathbf{Set}$  and  $B \in [G, \mathbf{Set}]$  as follows

$$\begin{aligned} [G, \mathbf{Set}](I(A), B) &\rightarrow \mathbf{Set}(A, B^G) \\ \psi &\mapsto \bar{\psi} \end{aligned}$$

$\bar{\psi}$  sends each element  $a$  of  $A$  to  $\psi(a)$  if  $g \cdot a = a$ , otherwise it sends  $a$  to  $\psi(\emptyset)$ .

$$\begin{aligned} \mathbf{Set}(A, B^G) &\rightarrow [G, \mathbf{Set}](I(A), B) \\ \phi &\mapsto \bar{\phi} \end{aligned}$$

$\phi$  sends each  $a \in A$  in the underlying set of the  $G$ -set to the  $G$ -set  $(g, \bar{\phi}(a)), g \in G$ .

**Orbit functor - left adjoint** There is a bijection for each  $A \in [G, \mathbf{Set}]$  and  $B \in \mathbf{Set}$  as follows

$$\begin{aligned} \mathbf{Set}(A_G, B) &\rightarrow [G, \mathbf{Set}](A, I(B)) \\ \psi &\mapsto \bar{\psi} \end{aligned}$$

So each morphism in  $\mathbf{Set}$  sends the set formed by the orbits of an element  $a$  of  $A$ , call this  $a_G$ , to  $\psi(a_G)$ , where  $\psi$  is a function of sets. Choose a  $G$ -set morphism  $\bar{\psi} = \psi$ , where  $\bar{\psi}$  commutes with  $g$  for every  $g$  in  $G$ .

$$\begin{aligned} [G, \mathbf{Set}](A, I(B)) &\rightarrow \mathbf{Set}(A_G, B) \\ \phi &\mapsto \bar{\phi} \end{aligned}$$

Choose  $\bar{\phi}$  to be a disjoint union of each orbit of  $a$  in  $A$ ,  $\bar{\phi}(a) = \coprod \{\phi(g \cdot a), g \in G\}$

### 2.1.17

Write  $\mathcal{O}(X)$  for the poset of open subsets of a topological space  $X$  ordered by inclusion.

$$\Delta : \mathbf{Set} \rightarrow [\mathcal{O}(X)^{op}, \mathbf{Set}]$$

Write  $\mathcal{P}$  for the presheaf functor category, and  $P \in \mathcal{P}$  for the functor which maps  $\mathcal{O}(X)^{op}$  to  $\mathbf{Set}$ . Take open sets  $U, V$ , such that  $U \subseteq V$  in  $X$ . A presheaf consists of

- restriction maps,  $P(V) \rightarrow P(U)$ , these are morphisms which enforce some sort of ordering of the mapped sets,
- and the actual mapped sets  $P(U), P(V)$  which are called sections.

Since the question specifies a constant presheaf, by definition, the restriction maps of  $\Delta A$  are identity maps. And the sections are just the  $A$ . Specifically  $\Delta A(U) = A$  for subsets  $U$  of  $X$ , and  $\Delta A(\rightarrow) = 1_A$  for morphisms.

Write  $\Gamma P = P(X)$  for the **global** sections functor which takes an element of  $\mathcal{P}$  to a  $\mathbf{Set}$ .

We are required to show a bijection:

For  $A$  in  $\mathbf{Set}$  and  $B$  in  $\mathcal{P}$

$$\mathbf{Set}(A, \Gamma B) \rightarrow \mathcal{P}(\Delta A, B)$$

and

$$\mathcal{P}(\Delta A, B) \rightarrow \mathbf{Set}(A, \Gamma B)$$

The maps between the presheaf functors in  $\mathcal{P}$  are natural transformations. Natural transformations are a collection of maps  $\alpha_A: \{\Delta A(A) \rightarrow B(A)\}_{A \in \mathcal{A}}$ . For  $U \subseteq V \subseteq X$  we have the commuting square:

$$\begin{array}{ccccc} \Delta A(X) & \xrightarrow{1_A} & \Delta A(V) & \xrightarrow{1_A} & \Delta A(U) \\ \downarrow \alpha_X & & \downarrow \alpha_V & & \downarrow \alpha_U \\ B(X) & \xrightarrow{B(f)} & B(V) & \xrightarrow{B(f)} & B(U) \end{array} \quad (1)$$

Recall  $\Delta A(\cdot) = A$ . Then the morphism in  $\mathbf{Set}$  is represented by  $\alpha_X$  above. As visible from the figure above this corresponds one to one with each  $\alpha_A$  in  $\mathcal{A}$ , so the bijection holds. Dually using the exact same reasoning  $\Pi$ , the left adjoint of  $\Delta$  is the presheaf evaluation at the empty set,  $\Pi(P) = P(\emptyset)$ .

For the left adjoint to  $\Pi$ ,  $\Lambda$ , and for  $A$  in  $\mathbf{Set}$  and  $B$  in  $\mathcal{P}$ , we need to show a bijection between:

$$\mathcal{P}(\Lambda A, B) \leftrightarrow \mathbf{Set}(A, \Pi(B))$$

To try and cobble together a definition of the presheaf functor  $\Lambda$ , start with the naturality diagram representing morphisms in  $\mathcal{P}$ :

$$\begin{array}{ccc} \Lambda(U) & \xrightarrow{A(f)} & \Lambda(\emptyset) \\ \downarrow \alpha_U & & \downarrow \alpha_{\emptyset} \\ B(U) & \xrightarrow{B(f)} & B(\emptyset) \end{array}$$

Note that  $\Pi(B) = B(\emptyset)$ . Start by choosing  $\Lambda(\emptyset) = A$ , so the morphism in  $\mathbf{Set}$  is  $\alpha_{\emptyset}$ . Our choice of  $\Lambda$  needs to make this diagram commute for all  $U$  in  $\mathcal{O}(X)^{op}$ . For  $U \neq \emptyset$  we could try  $\Lambda(U) = A$ , however to force the square above to commute with this choice, will impose some structure on the presheaf  $B$ . Rather, try setting  $\Lambda(U) = \emptyset$  for  $U \neq \emptyset$ . Choosing the initial object  $\emptyset$  of  $\mathcal{O}(X)^{op}$ , means there is one map out of the top LHS of the square in the above diagram, and the square commutes as required.

We also have

$$\mathcal{P}(A, \nabla B) \leftrightarrow \mathbf{Set}(\Gamma A, B)$$

$\nabla$ , the right adjoint to  $\Gamma$  can be obtained dually, by swapping  $\mathbf{Set}$  with  $\mathbf{Set}^{op}$  and  $\mathcal{O}(X)^{op}$  with  $\mathcal{O}(X)$ . This is simply a relabelling which has the effect of reversing the chain of adjoint functors stated in the question. We then apply analogous reasoning, take  $\nabla(U) = \{*\}$ , for  $U \neq X$ , and  $\nabla(X) = B$ .

### 2.2.11

The full subcategory where  $\eta_a$  is an isomorphism

### 2.2.12

(a) **Heuristic sort of proof** if the counit,  $FG(f) \rightarrow f, B \in \mathcal{B}$  is isomorphic then a mapping back exists  $f \rightarrow FG(f)$  such that their composition is the identity. So for a given  $B$  and  $B'$  and  $FG(f)$  and  $f$  are one to one. Which necessarily means  $f$  and  $Gf$  are one to one, so  $G$  is full and faithful.

**Algebraic proof** From (2.2) the naturality axiom states:

$$\overline{(FG(B) \xrightarrow{\epsilon} B \xrightarrow{q} B' = G(B) \xrightarrow{1_{G(B)}} G(B) \xrightarrow{G(q)} G(B'))}$$

$\epsilon$  injective implies faithful:  $G(q_1) = G(q_2) \implies \epsilon q_1 = \epsilon q_2 \implies q_1 = q_2$

faithful implies  $\epsilon$  injective:  $\epsilon q_1 = \epsilon q_2 \implies G(q_1) = G(q_2) \implies q_1 = q_2$

$\epsilon$  is injective implies full: For a given  $h = G(q)$ , need to find  $q : \mathcal{B} \rightarrow \mathcal{B}$  inducing  $h$ . We know from naturality equation above that  $G(q) = \overline{q\epsilon}$ .  $\epsilon$  needs to be invertible to retrieve  $q$  and hence satisfy fullness requirement.

full implies  $\epsilon$  is injective: Put  $B' = FG(B)$  in the naturality condition above to give:

$$\overline{(FG(B) \xrightarrow{\epsilon} B \xrightarrow{\lambda} FG(B) = G(B) \xrightarrow{1_{G(B)}} G(B) \xrightarrow{G(\lambda)} GFG(B))}$$

Using fullness choose  $\lambda$  such that  $G\lambda = \eta$ . Then

$$\begin{aligned} \overline{1_{FG}(B)} &= \eta_G(B), \text{ therefore} \\ 1_{FG}(B) &= \overline{\eta_G}(B) = \lambda \epsilon_G(B). \end{aligned}$$

So  $\epsilon$  has an inverse and is therefore injective.

### 2.2.13

(a) We have sets  $S, T$ , a function  $f : S \rightarrow T$ .  $P(S)$  denotes the set of all subsets of  $S$ . The functor  $f^*$  takes elements of  $T$  to their inverse under  $f$ . Looking for left and right adjoints of  $f^*$ . We can immediately see the left adjoint of  $f^*$  is  $f$  from below.

$$P(S)(A, f^{-1}(B)) \cong P(T)(f(A), B) \quad (2)$$

Now to find the right adjoint of  $f^*$ ,  $G$  below:

$$P(T)(A, G(B)) \cong P(S)(f^{-1}(A), B)$$

Dualising

$$P(T)^{op}(G(B), A) \cong P(S)^{op}(B, f^{-1}(A)) \quad (3)$$

Equation (3) is (2) up to an isomorphism. So we choose  $G = f$  here. In fact the power set  $P$  is self adjoint. Loosely, this means we have an isomorphism between the opposite category and the original category. We use this isomorphism to get a representation of  $G$  in  $P(T)$ , with the right adjoint sending  $B$  to  $f(\overline{B})$ .

Because  $f$  is a bijection, elements in  $T$  that are not in  $f(\overline{B})$  must have elements in  $B$  as their preimage. So  $\overline{f(\overline{B})}$  consists of all sets of  $T$  where  $f^{-1}(T) \subseteq B$ . In summary the left adjoint of  $f^*$  is

$$F(S) = \{t \in T, \exists s \in S : s \in f^{-1}(t)\}$$

$F$  represents choosing elements of  $T$  such that some element of  $S$  is in the inverse image of  $f$ .

and the right adjoint

$$G(S) = \{t \in T, \forall s \in S : s \in f^{-1}(t)\}$$

$G$  represents choosing elements of  $T$  such that every element of  $S$  is in the inverse image of  $f$ .

(b) We are asked to interpret, in light of the results in (a.), the unit  $\eta: 1_T \rightarrow G \circ F$ , and counit  $\epsilon: F \circ G \rightarrow 1_S$ , for all adjunctions.

Consider the  $R(x, y)$  as a set in  $X \times Y$  and  $S$  as a set in  $X$ . In all of the below I interpret **set inclusion as logical implication**.

Description of the functors used follows.

- $\forall_y$  takes a set  $R(x, y)$  and returns  $S(x)$  with preimage in  $R(x, y)$  for all  $y$ . So each element in  $R(x, y)$  inducing  $S(x)$  is fully contained in  $R(x, y)$ .
- $p^*$  the inverse image functor takes a set  $S(x)$  and returns its preimage  $R(x, y)$ . This inclusion of  $X$  into  $X \times Y$  adds a variable in  $Y$ . To use parlance of first order logic the statement is free in  $y$ .
- $\exists_Y$  takes a set  $R(x, y)$  and returns  $S(x)$  with preimage in  $R(x, y)$  for at least one  $y$ .

We know from (a) that  $\exists_Y \dashv p^* \dashv \forall_Y$

$p^* \dashv \forall_Y$

- $\eta: 1_X \rightarrow \forall_Y \circ p^*$  Plug in as argument to both sides of the implication the set  $S(x)$ . Evaluating the RHS, applying  $p^*$  results in the product of  $S(x)$  with  $Y$ , the set  $R(x, y)$ . So  $\eta$  can be interpreted as  $S(x) \implies R(x, y) \forall y$ .

- $\epsilon : p^* \circ \forall_Y \rightarrow 1_{X \times Y}$ . (??) The universal functor is projection of a subset of  $x$ -values for the set  $R(x, y)$  passed to the functor. Applying  $p^*$  to yield say  $R^Y(x, y)$  makes the statement on the LHS free in  $y$ , so it requires assignment for the statement to be meaningful. If we were to assign  $y$  on the LHS for corresponding to the  $y$  value for each RHS predicate, elementwise, then we essentially just have the statement that  $R^Y(x, y) \implies R(x, y)$ .

$\exists_Y \dashv p^*$

- $\eta : 1_{X \times Y} \rightarrow p^* \circ \exists_Y$ . (??) The existence functor is just projection of all the  $x$  values for a given set of  $(x, y)$ . The resulting statement on the right hand side is free in  $Y$  after applying  $p^*$  so requires assignment to be meaningful. If we were to assign  $y$  on the RHS for corresponding to the  $y$  value for each LHS predicate, elementwise, then we essentially just have an identity.
- $\epsilon : \exists_Y \circ p^* \rightarrow 1_X$  Plug in as argument to both sides of the implication the set  $S(x)$ . Applying  $p^*$  returns the set  $R(x, y)$ . So  $\epsilon$  can be interpreted as  $\exists y : R(x, y) \implies S(x)$ .

#### 2.2.14 Natural transformations for $[\mathcal{A}, \mathcal{B}]$ .

$$\begin{array}{ccc} FA & \xrightarrow{F(f)} & FA' \\ \downarrow \alpha_A & & \downarrow \alpha_{A'} \\ GA & \xrightarrow{G(f)} & GA' \end{array}$$

$Y \in [\mathcal{B}, \mathcal{I}], F^*(Y) = Y \circ F$ . Natural transformations for  $[[\mathcal{A}, \mathcal{I}], [\mathcal{B}, \mathcal{I}]]$ .

$$\begin{array}{ccc} F^*Y = Y \circ F & \xrightarrow{F^*(f)} & F^*Y' = Y' \circ F \\ \downarrow \alpha_Y^* & & \downarrow \alpha_{Y'}^* \\ G^*Y = Y \circ G & \xrightarrow{G^*(f)} & G^*Y' = Y' \circ G \end{array}$$

So it is evident from comparing the above natural transformation diagrams that we have the relationship  $\alpha_Y^* = Y \circ \alpha$

Using first triangle inequality starting at point  $F^*(Y)$  we have

$$\begin{aligned} \epsilon_{F^*(Y)}^* F^*(\eta_Y^*) F^*(Y) &= F^*(Y)(\epsilon F) F^*(\eta_Y^*) F^*(Y) \\ &= YF(\epsilon F)(\eta F) \\ &= YF1_F \text{ since } \epsilon F \circ F\eta = 1_F \\ &= F^*(Y) \end{aligned}$$

The other triangle follows similarly. So by Theorem 2.2.5 we have an adjunction between  $F^*$  and  $G^*$ .

### 2.3.10

Equivalence between  $(F, G, \eta, \epsilon)$  means for each  $A$  the square below commutes.

$$\begin{array}{ccc} 1_A & \xrightarrow{f} & 1_{A'} \\ \downarrow \alpha_A & & \downarrow \alpha_{A'} \\ GF(A) & \xrightarrow{GF(f)} & GF(A') \end{array}$$

as well as in the other direction, for all  $A \in \mathcal{A}$ , the below square commutes

$$\begin{array}{ccc} GF(A) & \xrightarrow{GF(f)} & GF(A') \\ \downarrow \alpha_A^{-1} & & \downarrow \alpha_{A'}^{-1} \\ A & \xrightarrow{f} & A' \end{array}$$

For  $F$  left adjoint to  $G$  using the definition based upon initial objects, we require

A map  $(F(A), \eta_A) \rightarrow (B, f)$  in  $(A \Rightarrow B)$  is a map  $q: F(A) \rightarrow B$  in  $\mathcal{B}$

$$\begin{array}{ccc} A & \xrightarrow{\eta_A} & GF(A) \\ & \searrow f & \downarrow GF(q) \\ & & G(B) \end{array}$$

So we choose  $GF(q) = \alpha_A^{-1} f$

### 2.3.11

A map  $(F(S), \eta_S) \rightarrow (A, f)$  in  $(S \Rightarrow U)$  is a map  $q: F(S) \rightarrow A$  in  $\mathcal{A}$

$$\begin{array}{ccc} S & \xrightarrow{\eta_S} & UF(S) \\ & \searrow f & \downarrow U(q) \\ & & U(A) \end{array}$$

$U(q) \circ \eta_S$  and  $f$  commute. So in the case  $f$  is injective, then  $U(q) \circ \eta_S$  must be injective. This implies in turn that  $\eta_S$  is injective.

### 2.3.12

**Par**

- Objects: sets  $X$
- Morphisms: Partial functions, written  $(f, D)$ , where  $f: X \rightarrow Y$ ,  $X \subseteq D$ , morphisms are only defined when  $X \subseteq D$ .

**Set<sub>\*</sub>**

- Objects: sets  $X \cup \{*\}$
- Morphisms:  $f^*(X) = Y, X \subseteq D$ , o.w  $\{*\}$

$F: \mathbf{Par} \rightarrow \mathbf{Set}_*$

$$F(f, D) = x \mapsto \begin{cases} f(X), & \text{if } X \subseteq D. \\ *, & \text{otherwise.} \end{cases}$$

$$F(X) = X \cup \{*\} \text{ on objects}$$

$G: \mathbf{Set}_* \rightarrow \mathbf{Par}$

$$G(f^*) = (f^*, X \setminus \{*\}),$$

$$G(X) = X \setminus \{*\} \text{ on objects}$$

So we are mapping the undefined value of  $\{*\}$  to the empty set. Which means  $GF(\{*\}) = \emptyset$ . So  $F$  and  $G$  are not isomorphic. However it seems we can construct a natural isomorphism  $\alpha_X$  between  $1_{\mathbf{Par}}$  and  $GF$ . An easier way to prove equivalence though is to show  $F$  is full, faithful and essentially surjective on objects.

$F$  is faithful as for a morphism in  $\mathbf{Par}$ ,  $(X \rightarrow Y, D)$  there is at most one corresponding morphism in  $\mathbf{Set}_*$ , described in the definition of  $F$ . Alternatively, the domain of  $f$  can be recovered from  $Ff$ . It is those points which get mapped to something  $\neq \{*\}$ , since morphisms preserve distinguished elements. But since we have the domain then  $f$  can be recovered from  $Ff$ , since  $f$  is the restriction of  $Ff$  to the domain of  $Ff$ .<sup>1</sup>

$F$  is full as for a morphism in  $\mathbf{Set}_*$ ,  $Ff: X \rightarrow Y$  there is at least one morphism inducing it in  $\mathbf{Par}$ , define  $L = \{x: f(x) = \{*\}\}$ , then the preimage partial function is  $(f, X \setminus L)$ , again by definition of  $F$ .

Finally  $F$  is essentially surjective on objects, because for all objects  $B \in \mathbf{Set}_*$  there exists  $A$  in  $\mathbf{Par}$  such that  $F(A) \cong B$ . Specifically  $A = B \setminus \{*\}$ .

So  $\mathbf{Par}$  and  $\mathbf{Set}_*$  are equivalent.

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<sup>1</sup><https://math.stackexchange.com/questions/884451/why-are-the-category-of-pointed-sets-and-the-category-of-sets-and-partial-functi>