

# Leinster - Basic Category Theory - Selected problem solutions for Chapter 3

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## 3.1.1

There are bijections

$$(A + B, C) \leftrightarrow ((A, B), \Delta C)$$

$$f \leftrightarrow \bar{f}$$

where  $\bar{f} = (f, f)$

$$(\Delta A, (B, C)) \leftrightarrow (A, B \times C)$$

$$g = (p, q) \leftrightarrow \bar{g}$$

where  $\bar{g}(x) = (p(x), q(x))$

So the sum is left adjoint to  $\Delta$ , and the product is its right adjoint.

## 3.1.2

We are given the definition of a sequence, where there is a unique function  $x$  such that the square below commutes.

We have  $x_0 = a$ , and  $x_{n+1} = r(x_n)$ .

$$\begin{array}{ccc} \mathbb{N} & \xrightarrow{s} & \mathbb{N} \\ \downarrow x & & \downarrow x \\ X & \xrightarrow{r} & X \end{array}$$

This is precisely the definition of the comma category  $(\mathbb{N} \Rightarrow X)$ , where objects are  $(n \in \mathbb{N}, x, t \in X)$ .

### 3.2.12

(a)

$$\theta(S) = \bigcup \theta(R) \supseteq \bigcup R = S$$

But  $\theta^2(S) = \theta(S)$ , so  $\theta(S) \subseteq S$ .

Taken together, the above implies  $\theta(S) = S$ .

(b)

$$\begin{aligned} A &\subseteq B \\ \implies fA &\subseteq fB \\ \implies gfA &\subseteq gfB \end{aligned}$$

$g$  and  $f$  are taken to be injections here. We need to prove there is a bijection between  $A$  and  $B$ . **Note:** this does not follow immediately from  $g$  and  $f$  being injections.

Take  $\theta(S) = A - g(B \setminus fS)$ . Then  $S_1 \subseteq S_2 \implies \theta(S_1) \subseteq \theta(S_2)$ . Since  $f, g$  and hence  $\theta$  is order preserving, we may apply the result in (a). Specifically, there exists  $S$  such that  $S = A - g(B \setminus fS) \implies g(B \setminus fS) = A \setminus S$ .

(c) We need to prove a bijection between  $A$  and  $B$  to deduce the theorem. Consider  $h: A \rightarrow B$

$$h(x) = \begin{cases} f(x), & x \in S, \\ g^{-1}(x), & x \in A \setminus S \end{cases}$$

$f$  has a codomain of  $fS$ , so every element of the codomain has a preimage in  $S$ . We are given that  $f$  is injective.

$g$  is injective and hence invertible. Using the result in (b) we have a direct expression for  $g^{-1}$ . Hence we have  $gh = 1_A$ , and  $hg = 1_B$ , for  $x$  in  $A \setminus S$ .

An alternative proof, has a similar basic idea, of partitioning the domain of the bijection around the fixed point. **Sketch proof** Set  $A_0 = A$ .  $A_{i+1} = gfA_i$ . Define  $k(x) = gf(x)$  if  $x \in A_i$  for some  $i$ , otherwise  $k(x) = x$ . To prove  $k$  is surjective comes down to two cases. Suppose  $y \in A_n$ , for some  $n$  then  $A_{n-1}$  is the  $x$ -value such that  $k(x) = y$ . If  $y$  is not in  $A_n$  for any arbitrarily large  $n$ , then we must have  $k(x) = x$ .

### 3.2.14

Need to prove that for any family  $(A_i)_{i \in I}$  of objects of  $\mathcal{A}$ , there is some object of  $\mathcal{A}$  not isomorphic to  $A_i$  for  $i \in I$ . It suffices to prove for  $A$  in  $F(S)$ ,  $F : \mathbf{Set} \rightarrow \mathcal{A}$ , then we know the condition holds for  $\mathcal{A}$ . Now  $UF$  is injective by Exercise 2.3.11, so  $U$  is injective on objects  $A$  of  $F(S)$ . So if  $UA_i$  is not isomorphic to  $UA_j$ , this would imply  $A_i$  is not isomorphic to  $A_j$ . So we need to prove for a given  $i$ ,  $|UA_i| < |\mathcal{P}(UA)|$ :

$$|UA_i| \leq |\Sigma UA_i| < |\mathcal{P}(UA)|$$

The strict equality due to Theorem 3.2.2.

### 3.2.15

The key point here is that *Set* is not small. I think of *Set* as a power set of an arbitrary family of sets, as in the proof for Proposition 3.2.4. *Set* is locally small however, as for any two objects  $A$  and  $B$ , the functions between  $A$  and  $B$  form a set. This question is a little too wooly for me, I struggled, without the necessary background, to reason my way through so many ambiguities that presented themselves. Here is a shot.

(a) **Mon** is equivalent to a single object category, which is small. So **Mon** is essentially small.

(b)  $\mathbb{Z}$ , the group of integers viewed as a one object category, is locally small. Groups are just an 'enriched' set.

(c) The ordered set of integers still has a large class of isomorphism classes (?) My guess here is it locally small, as there is one map between each two objects.

(d) Using the existence of a left adjoint proved in 3.2.16, and the result of 3.2.14, tells us the class of isomorphism classes of **Cat** is large. So **Cat** is not essentially small. For locally small we would require the set of natural transformations between **Cat** and **Set** be a set. There is one component for each object in **Cat** which is small, hence the morphisms form a single element set. *Cat* is locally small. (?)

(e) **Guess**. Same reasoning as (a), locally small.