Approximation as Differentiation notes

1 OVERVIEW

Some notes on the key constructions:

• Categories of families, special case of Grothendieck construction

2 DEFINITIONS

2.1 Category of families

For a functor $F: C \rightarrow Set$, we have the category where:

- objects are pairs (A, x) where $x \in FA$
- morphisms from (A, x) to (B, y) are morphisms $f : A \to B$ in C where (Ff)(x) = y

This is the Grothendieck construction for a functor $F:C\to \mathbf{Cat}$, in the special case where $F:C\to \mathbf{Set}$. (Where we read a \mathbf{Set} -valued functor as a \mathbf{Cat} -valued functor restricted to discrete categories.

Author's address:

Permission to make digital or hard copies of all or part of this work for personal or classroom use is granted without fee provided that copies are not made or distributed for profit or commercial advantage and that copies bear this notice and the full citation on the first page. Copyrights for components of this work owned by others than ACM must be honored. Abstracting with credit is permitted. To copy otherwise, or republish, to post on servers or to redistribute to lists, requires prior specific permission and/or a fee. Request permissions from permissions@acm.org.

 $\,^{\odot}$ 2025 Association for Computing Machinery.

Manuscript submitted to ACM

Manuscript submitted to ACM