

Equivalence of categories

Siddharth Bhat

`##harmless` **Category Theory in Context**

Sun 20, June 2021

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$$Ff \equiv \lambda x. \begin{cases} f(x) & f \text{ is defined at } x \\ Y & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

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- Let $S \equiv \{c, d\} \in \text{Set}_\partial$; $T \equiv \{3, 4\} \in \text{Set}_\partial$; $g \in \text{Hom}_\partial(S, T)$; $g(c) \equiv 3, g(d) \not\equiv _$
- $FS \equiv \{1, 2, \{1, 2\}_*\}$; $FT \equiv \{3, 4, \{3, 4\}_*\}$; $Fg \equiv c \mapsto 3, d \mapsto \{3, 4\}, \{1, 2\} \mapsto \{3, 4\}$.
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- $GFS \equiv \{1, 2\}$; $GFT \equiv \{3, 4\}$; $GFg \equiv c \mapsto 3, d \not\mapsto _$.
- In general, may have needed a $\epsilon : FG \rightarrow \text{Id}_{\text{Set}_\partial}$

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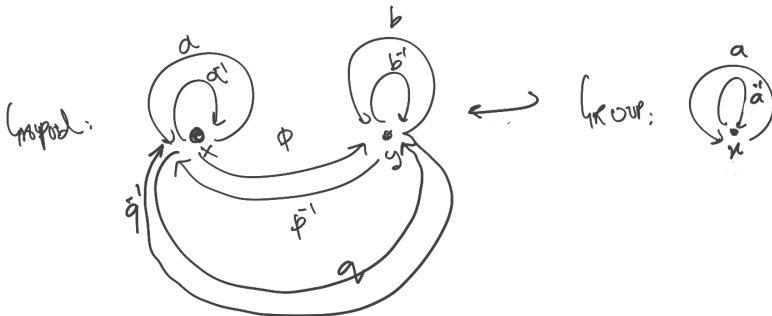
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- Full: If the map $\text{Hom}(x, y) \rightarrow \text{Hom}(Fx, Fy)$ is surjective for all $x, y \in C$.
- Faithful: If the map $\text{Hom}(x, y) \rightarrow \text{Hom}(Fx, Fy)$ is injective for all $x, y \in C$.
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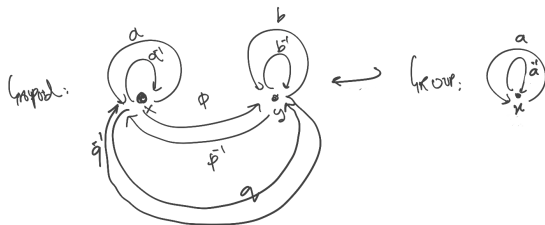
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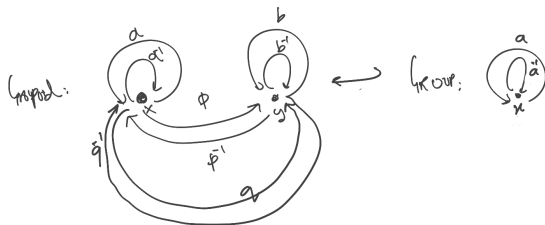
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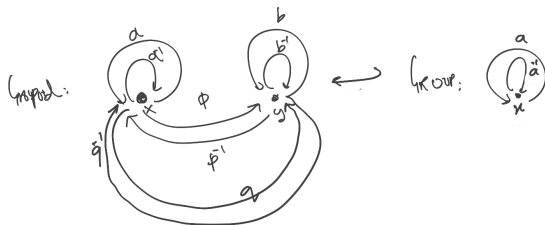


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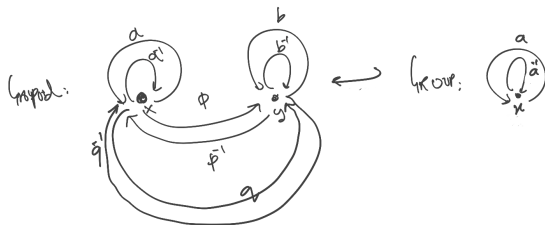
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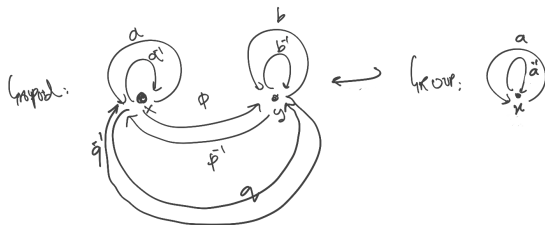
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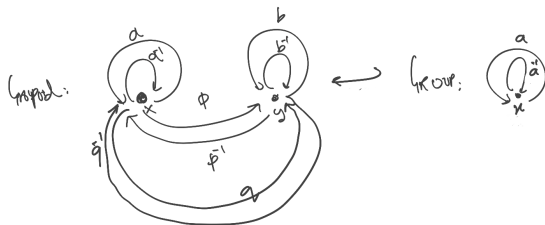
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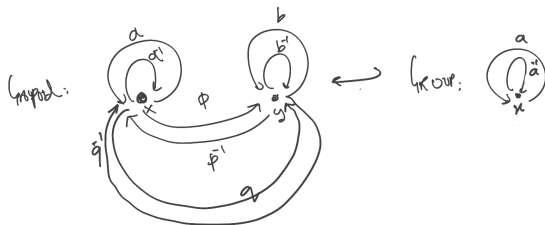
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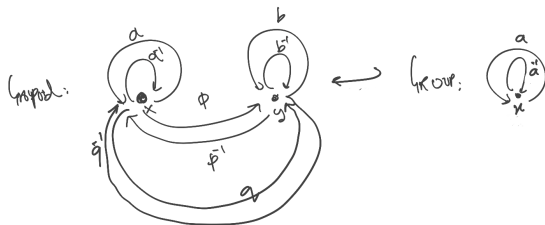
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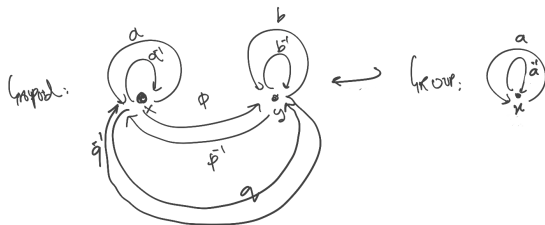
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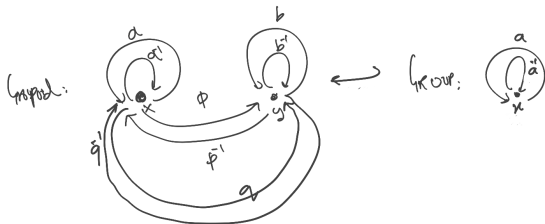
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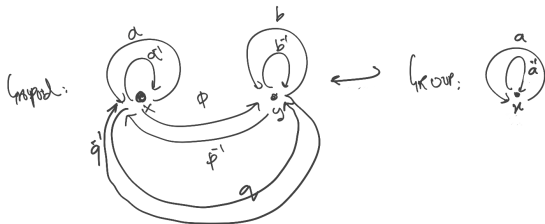
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- Philosophically, equivalence of categories does not need to preserve size.

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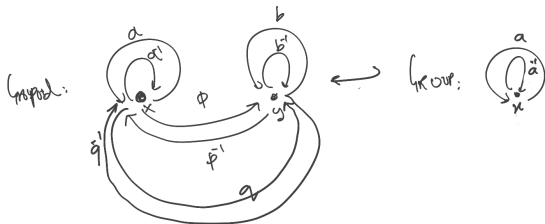
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- Also see that it is essentially surjective. For any other $y \in O$, we have a path $x \xrightarrow{p} y$ (as O is connected). since it is a groupoid, all morphisms are isos, and thus $y \simeq x$.
- Soo, this is an equivalence of categories?!
- Philosophically, equivalence of categories does not need to preserve size. It only needs to preserve a “copy of information”.

Equivalence of categories is Unintuitive (to me)



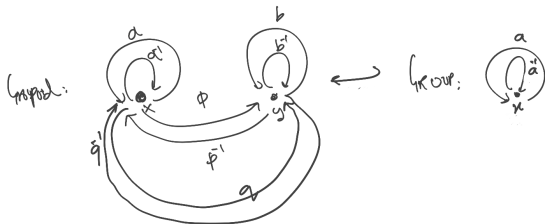
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Skeleta

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- A category is *skeletal* iff each isomorphism class has a single object.
- Mat , category of numbers and matrices is the skeleton of $FinVectBasis$, category of finite vector spaces with bases, and morphisms as matrices encoding linear operators relative to the basis.
- Can build $sk(C)$ (Skeleton of C). Crush each isomorphism class into a single object.
- The inclusion $sk(C) \hookrightarrow C$ defines an equivalence of categories.