

# Category theory summer course HW 1, meet and discuss 6.6.2019

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1. We'll define Rel to be the following category where objects of Rel are sets and morphisms of Rel are relations  $R \subset X \times Y$ . Define composition to category Rel such Set is its subcategory. Show that Rel is a category.

## Solution

2. Let's define a monoidoid. Let  $M$  be a class and  $\cdot : M \times M \rightarrow M$ . Pair  $(M, \cdot)$  is called a monoidoid if the following holds:
  - (a) If one of the expressions  $(km)n$  and  $k(mn)$  is defined, then so is the other and the expressions are equal for all  $k, m, n \in M$ . (associative)
  - (b) For every  $m \in M$  there exists neutral elements<sup>1</sup>  $e, f \in M$  where  $me$  and  $fm$  are defined.
  - (c) Let  $m, n, e \in M$  where  $e$  is a neutral element. If the expressions  $me$  and  $en$  are defined then so is  $mn$ .

Given a category  $C = (O, M, \circ, dom, cod)$ , show that  $(M, \circ)$  is a monoidoid. Additionally show that every monoidoid defines canonically a category when one defines the objects to be the neutral elements.

3. Give definitions for the following categories:
  - (a) Mon of monoids
  - (b) Grp of groups
  - (c) Ab of Abelian groups
  - (d) Ring of rings
  - (e) R-mod of R-modules where R is a fixed ring
  - (f) Top of topological spaces

## page 3, example 1.1.3

4. Monoidoid is similar to a monoid. By analogy what are the natural morphisms between monoidoids?
5. Show that the inclusion  $\mathbb{Z} \hookrightarrow \mathbb{Q}$  is epic and monic in Ring but not an isomorphism. [Solution, ex 4](#)

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<sup>1</sup> $e \in M$  is a neutral element if  $ef = f$  and  $ge = g$  for all  $f, g \in M$  where the expressions are defined

6. Let  $C$  be a category and  $a \xrightarrow{f} b$  a morphism in  $C$ . Prove the following statements:
- (a) If  $f$  is a retraction, it's epic. Dual: If  $f$  is a section, it's monic.
  - (b) If  $f$  is a retraction and monic, it's an isomorphism. Dual: If  $f$  is a section and epic, it's an isomorphism.
  - (c) The morphism  $f$  has at most one inverse.

[Similar to exercises 1 and 3](#)

7. Let  $C$  be a category. Define  $C^*$  to consist of the following information:
- (a) objects of  $C$
  - (b) those morphisms  $f$  of  $C$  such that  $f$  is an isomorphism.

Show that  $C^*$  is a subcategory of  $C$ . [solution, ex 2](#)

8. Let  $C$  be a category. Define a relation  $\cong$  on the objects of  $C$  by setting  $a \cong b$  if and only if  $a$  and  $b$  are isomorphic for all objects  $a$  and  $b$  in  $C$ . Show that the relation  $\cong$  is an equivalence relation.
9. Let  $c, c'$  be initial objects in a category  $C$ . Show that the unique morphism  $c \rightarrow c'$  is an isomorphism.
10. Category  $C$  is called skeletal, if  $a \cong b$  implies that  $a = b$  for all objects  $a, b$  in  $C$ . A subcategory  $A \leq C$  is called dense, if  $A$  is full subcategory and for any object  $c$  in  $C$  there exists an object  $a$  in  $A$  such that  $c \cong a$ . Show that for any category  $C$  there exists skeletal and dense subcategory. Such subcategory is called a skeleton of  $C$ . Hint: Use a very large axiom of choice and choose representatives of every isomorphism class.
11. Let  $G \xrightarrow{f} H$  be an epimorphism in the category Grp of groups. Show that  $f$  is surjective.

[outline of the proof, page 21 exercise 5](#)