

$$\begin{array}{ccc} \text{Hom}(A, A) & \xrightarrow{\text{Hom}(A, f)} & \text{Hom}(A, X) \\ \downarrow \Phi_A & & \downarrow \Phi_X \\ F(A) & \xrightarrow{Ff} & F(X) \end{array}$$

$\begin{array}{ccc} \text{id}_A \vdash & \longrightarrow & f \\ \downarrow & & \downarrow \\ u \vdash & \longrightarrow & (Ff)u = \Phi_X(f) \end{array}$

## What you needa know about Yoneda

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# Motivation

- ▶ A common sentiment in many cultures is the idea that people are defined by how they interact with their surroundings.
- ▶ “*Tell me your company, and I will tell you what you are.*”<sup>1</sup>
- ▶ The Yoneda Lemma is the result of applying this way of thinking to mathematical objects within the extremely general setting of *Category Theory*.

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<sup>1</sup>Quoted as a proverb in *Don Quixote*

# Categories

A *category* is defined as a class of *objects* together with a class of *morphisms* (sometimes called *arrows*)

- ▶ Each morphism  $f : A \rightarrow B$  relates some *source* object  $A$  to some *target* object  $B$ .
- ▶ Two morphisms  $f : A \rightarrow B$  and  $g : B \rightarrow C$  can be composed into a morphism  $g \circ f : A \rightarrow C$
- ▶  $h \circ (g \circ f) = (h \circ g) \circ f$  (Composition is associative)

