

# Homework 3

Early problem due on Gradescope at 8 pm on Wednesday, February 8th.

Due on Gradescope at 8 pm on Friday, February 10th.

**Definition 1.** (Universal property of the quotient, 2.0.)

Let  $X$  be a set and  $\sim$  an equivalence relation on  $X$ . Say a function  $f : X \rightarrow B$  *respects the equivalence relation* if for all  $x_1, x_2 \in X$ , we have that  $x_1 \sim x_2$  implies  $f(x_1) = f(x_2)$ . We say a set  $Q$  together with a function  $\pi : X \rightarrow Q$  *has the universal property of the quotient* if:

- (a) For each set  $B$  and each function  $\bar{f} : Q \rightarrow B$ , the composite function  $f = \bar{f} \circ \pi$  respects the equivalence relation.
- (b) For each set  $B$  and each function  $f : X \rightarrow B$  that respects the equivalence relation, there exists a unique function  $\bar{f} : Q \rightarrow B$  such that

$$\begin{array}{ccc} X & \xrightarrow{f} & B \\ \downarrow \pi & \nearrow \bar{f} & \\ Q & & \end{array}$$

commutes.

- (1) (Early Problem) Prove that if  $\pi : X \rightarrow Q$  and  $\pi' : X \rightarrow Q'$  have the universal property of the quotient (2.0), then there is a unique bijection  $f : Q \rightarrow Q'$  such that  $f \circ \pi = \pi'$ .

(For those using L<sup>A</sup>T<sub>E</sub>X for their homework, look into the tikz-cd package.)

- (2) Let  $X_1, X_2$  be sets. Note that there are “inclusion” functions  $j_1 : X_1 \cap X_2 \rightarrow X_1$ ,  $j_2 : X_1 \cap X_2 \rightarrow X_2$ ,  $i_1 : X_1 \rightarrow X_1 \cup X_2$  and  $i_2 : X_2 \rightarrow X_1 \cup X_2$ , all defined by the rule  $x \mapsto x$ , and the following diagram commutes:

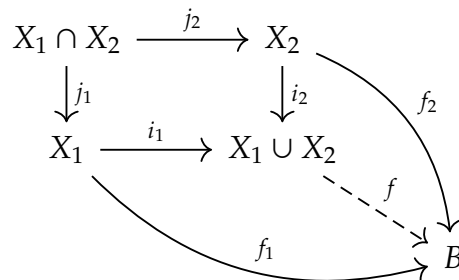
$$\begin{array}{ccc} X_1 \cap X_2 & \xrightarrow{j_2} & X_2 \\ \downarrow j_1 & & \downarrow i_2 \\ X_1 & \xrightarrow{i_1} & X_1 \cup X_2. \end{array}$$

Prove that  $X_1 \cup X_2$  has the following universal property:

For all sets  $B$  and functions  $f_1 : X_1 \rightarrow B$  and  $f_2 : X_2 \rightarrow B$  such that

$$\begin{array}{ccc} X_1 \cap X_2 & \xrightarrow{j_2} & X_2 \\ \downarrow j_1 & & \downarrow f_2 \\ X_1 & \xrightarrow{f_1} & B. \end{array}$$

commutes, there exists a unique function  $f : X_1 \cup X_2 \rightarrow B$  such that



commutes. (This is a special case of the "Universal property of the pushout.")

- (3) Prove the following "laws of algebra" for all  $x, y, z, w \in \mathbb{R}$  using only axioms (1)–(5) and "laws of algebra" proven in class and recitation.

- (a)  $x/1 = x$
- (b)  $x \neq 0$  and  $y \neq 0$  implies  $xy \neq 0$
- (c) If  $y, z \neq 0$ , then  $(1/y)(1/z) = 1/(yz)$
- (d) If  $y, z \neq 0$ , then  $(x/y)(w/z) = (wx)/(yz)$
- (e)  $x \neq 0 \implies 1/x \neq 0$
- (f) If  $w, z \neq 0$ , then  $1/(w/z) = z/w$
- (g) If  $z \neq 0$ , then  $(xy)/z = x(y/z)$

- (4) Prove the following "laws of inequalities" for all  $x, y, z, w \in \mathbb{R}$ , using axioms (1)–(6), the results of the previous exercise, and "laws of algebra and inequalities" proven in class and recitation.

- (a)  $-1 < 0 < 1$
- (b)  $xy > 0 \iff x$  and  $y$  are both positive or both negative.
- (c)  $x > 0 \implies 1/x > 0$
- (d)  $x > y > 0 \implies 1/x < 1/y$ .

- (5) Let  $a \in \mathbb{R}$ . Define inductively

$$\begin{aligned} a^1 &= a, \\ a^{n+1} &= a^n \cdot a \end{aligned}$$

for  $n \in \mathbb{Z}_{\geq 0}$ . Show that for  $n, m \in \mathbb{Z}_{>0}$  and  $a, b \in \mathbb{R}$ :

- (a)  $a^n \cdot a^m = a^{n+m}$
- (b)  $(a^n)^m = a^{nm}$
- (c)  $a^m b^m = (ab)^m$

These are called the *laws of exponents*. (Hint: for fixed  $n$ , prove the formulas by induction on  $m$ .)

- (6) (Optional) Suppose  $X_1, X_2, Y$  are sets and  $a_1 : Y \rightarrow X_1, a_2 : Y \rightarrow X_2$  are functions. A set  $P$  together with functions  $i_1 : X_1 \rightarrow P$  and  $i_2 : X_2 \rightarrow P$  such that

$$\begin{array}{ccc} Y & \xrightarrow{a_2} & X_2 \\ \downarrow a_1 & & \downarrow i_2 \\ X_1 & \xrightarrow{i_1} & P. \end{array}$$

is said to be a *pushout* if it satisfies the following universal property:

For all sets  $B$  and functions  $f_1 : X_1 \rightarrow B$  and  $f_2 : X_2 \rightarrow B$  such that

$$\begin{array}{ccc} Y & \xrightarrow{a_2} & X_2 \\ \downarrow a_1 & & \downarrow f_2 \\ X_1 & \xrightarrow{f_1} & B. \end{array}$$

commutes, there exists a unique function  $f : P \rightarrow B$  such that

$$\begin{array}{ccc} Y & \xrightarrow{a_2} & X_2 \\ \downarrow a_1 & & \downarrow i_2 \\ X_1 & \xrightarrow{i_1} & P \end{array} \quad \begin{array}{c} \xrightarrow{f_2} \\ \searrow f \\ \xrightarrow{f_1} \end{array} \quad \begin{array}{c} \\ \\ B \end{array}$$

commutes.

Find a set  $P$  and functions  $i_1, i_2$  so that  $P$  is a pushout. (Perhaps as a hint, the usual notation for the pushout is  $X_1 \sqcup_Y X_2$ .)