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I Preliminaries: Set theory and categories

1 Naive set theory

1.1. If there is a set V such that $\forall x, x \in V$, let $A = \{x \in V \mid x \notin x\}$.

Now, $A \in A \iff A \in V \wedge A \notin A \iff A \notin A$ and this is a contradiction.

Finally, $\forall x, \exists y, y \notin x$.

1.2. $\mathcal{P}_\sim = \{[a]_\sim \mid a \in S\}$

\sim is symmetric, so given $a \in S$, $a \in [a]_\sim$ so $[a]_\sim \neq \emptyset$

As \sim is reflexive, $\bigcup_{a \in S} [a]_\sim = S$.

Finally, if $[a]_\sim \neq [b]_\sim$, let us prove that $[a]_\sim \cap [b]_\sim = \emptyset$.

Indeed, if $x \sim a$ and $x \sim b$ then by transitivity and symmetry, $a \sim b$ which is a contradiction.

1.3. If \mathcal{P} is a partition on S , let us define $a \sim b$ iff $\exists p \in P, a \in p \wedge b \in p$.

This relation is reflexive because $\forall p \in P, p \neq \emptyset$

It is obviously symmetric.

If $a \sim b$ and $b \sim c$ then there is $p \in P$ such that $a, b \in p$ and $p' \in P$ such that $b, c \in p'$. $b \in p \cap p'$ so $p \cap p' \neq \emptyset$ so $p = p'$ and $b \sim c$.

Remark. Let $\mathbf{Eq}(S)$ the set of all relations on S and \mathfrak{P} the set of all partitions of S .

$$\begin{aligned} \mathbf{Eq}(S) &\rightarrow \mathfrak{P} \\ \sim &\mapsto \mathcal{P}_\sim \end{aligned}$$

is a bijection which has as inverse the ‘operation’ of the previous exercise.

1.4. An equivalence relation \sim on $\{1, 2, 3\}$ is a subset of $\{1, 2, 3\}^2$ which necessarily includes the diagonal $\{(1, 1), (2, 2), (3, 3)\}$.

Then we have three choices as far as distinct unordered couples are concerned:

- There is no distinct a and b such that $a \sim b$,
- There are distinct a, b, c such that $a \sim b$ and $b \sim c$, in which case, we necessarily have $a \sim c$,
- There is only two distinct a and b such that $a \sim b$. We have then $\binom{3}{2} = 3$ choices.

We can verify that in each case we indeed have an equivalence relation on $\{1, 2, 3\}$ so there are 5 equivalence relations on $\{1, 2, 3\}$.

1.5. Let R a relation on $\{1, 2, 3\}$ such that $R = \{(1, 1), (2, 2), (3, 3), (1, 2), (2, 1), (2, 3), (3, 2)\}$

We can verify that R is reflexive, symmetric, but not transitive.

Trying to define \mathcal{P}_R will not lead to a partition, as $[1]_R \neq [3]_R$ (because $(1, 3) \notin R$) but $[1]_R \cap [3]_R \neq \emptyset$ (because $2 \in [1]_R \cap [3]_R$).

1.6. $a - a = 0 \in \mathbb{Z}$ so \sim is reflexive.

If $a - b \in \mathbb{Z}$ then $b - a \in \mathbb{Z}$, so it is symmetric.

If $a - b \in \mathbb{Z}$ and $b - c \in \mathbb{Z}$ then $a - c = a - b + (b - c) \in \mathbb{Z}$, so \sim is an equivalence relation.

$$f : \mathbb{R} \rightarrow [0, 1[$$

$$x \mapsto \text{the only } y \in [0, 1[\text{ such that } y - x \in \mathbb{Z}$$

f is clearly surjective.

We remark that $x \sim y$ iff $f(x) = f(y)$.

We can thus define:

$$f' : \mathbb{R}/\sim \rightarrow [0, 1[$$

$$[x]_{\sim} \mapsto f(x)$$

f' is a bijection.

Because \sim is an equivalence relation, \approx is clearly an equivalence relation.

Let

$$g : \mathbb{R}^2 \rightarrow [0, 1]^2$$

$$(x, y) \mapsto (f(x), f(y))$$

Because f is a bijection it is easy to prove that g is a bijection.

Remark. We could have factored f using Claim 5.5, page 34.

The situation for \mathbb{R}^2 can be represented by the following diagram:

$$\begin{array}{ccccc} [0, 1[& \longleftarrow & [0, 1[^2 & \longrightarrow & [0, 1[\\ f \uparrow & & \exists! f \& f \uparrow & f \uparrow \\ \mathbb{R} & \longleftarrow & \mathbb{R}^2 & \longrightarrow & \mathbb{R} \end{array}$$

$(f, g) \mapsto f \mathcal{R} g$ is bijective and $f \mathcal{R} f$ is bijective iff f is bijective.

2 Functions between sets

2.1. Let us prove on the set of bijections from a set S to a set S' has cardinality $n!$ if $|S| = |S'| = n$.

By induction on $n \in \mathbb{N}$:

If $n = 0$, $\emptyset : S \rightarrow S'$ is the only bijection. The statement is true.

Suppose the statement is true for any set S, S' such that $|S| = |S'| = n$. Let T, T' be such that $|T| = |T'| = n + 1$.

Pick $x \in T$. A bijection from T to T' is the datum of an image $x' \in T'$ for x and a bijection from $T \setminus \{x\} \rightarrow T' \setminus \{x'\}$. There are $n!$ such bijections.

Finally, there are $(n + 1)n! = (n + 1)!$ bijections from $T \rightarrow T'$

Remark. The previous situation is represented by the following diagram:

$$\begin{array}{ccccc} \{x'\} & \longrightarrow & T' \cong \{x'\} \coprod T' \setminus \{x'\} & \longleftarrow & T' \setminus \{x'\} \\ f \uparrow & & \exists! f \mathcal{R} g \uparrow & & g \uparrow \\ \{x\} & \longrightarrow & T \cong \{x\} \coprod T \setminus \{x\} & \longleftarrow & T \setminus \{x\} \end{array}$$

$f \mathcal{R} g$ is bijective iff f and g are bijective.

2.2. If f has a right inverse g , $f \circ g = \text{id}_B$.

$f(g(B)) = (f \circ g)(B) = \text{id}_B(B) = B$, but $g(B) \subseteq A$ so $f(A) = B$. Hence f is surjective.

If f is surjective, let $\alpha : \mathcal{P}(A) \setminus \{\emptyset\} \rightarrow A$ be a choice function.

$\forall x \in B, \exists z \in A, f(z) = x$. Let $g(x) = \alpha(\{z \in A \mid f(z) = x\})$.

It is clear that $f \circ g = \text{id}_B$.

2.3. If $f : A \rightarrow B$ is a bijection, $f \circ f^{-1} = \text{id}_B$ and $f^{-1} \circ f = \text{id}_A$ but Corollary 2.2 tells us that if a function has a two-sided inverse, then it is a bijection so f^{-1} is a bijection.

If $f : A \rightarrow B$ and $g : B \rightarrow C$ are bijections, $g \circ f : A \rightarrow C$ is also a bijection.

Indeed, $(g \circ f) \circ (f^{-1} \circ g^{-1}) = \text{id}_C$ and $(f^{-1} \circ g^{-1}) \circ (g \circ f) = \text{id}_A$.

2.4. Let \sim be the relation 'isomorphism'. $X \sim X$ because $\text{id}_X : X \rightarrow X$ and id_X is clearly a bijection.

$X \sim Y$ implies that $Y \sim X$ because the inverse of a bijection is a bijection.

\sim is transitive because the composition of two bijections is a bijection.

2.5. $f : A \rightarrow B$ is an epimorphism iff $\forall g, g' : B \rightarrow C, g \circ f = g' \circ f \implies g = g'$.

Let us prove that f is an epimorphism iff it is surjective.

If f is surjective. Let $y \in B$, there is $x \in A$ such that $y = f(x)$.

$g(y) = g \circ f(x) = g' \circ f(x) = g'(y)$. Hence $g = g'$.

If f is not surjective then, there is $y \in B \setminus f(A)$. Let $g, g' : B \rightarrow \{0, 1\}$ such that $\forall x \in B, g(x) = 0, \forall x \in B \setminus \{y\}, g'(x) = 1$ and $g'(y) = 0$.

$g \circ f = g' \circ f$ but $g \neq g'$ so f is not an epimorphism.

2.6. If $f : A \rightarrow B$. Define $\gamma : A \rightarrow A \times B$ such that $\gamma(a) = (a, f(a))$. It is obvious that $f \circ \gamma = \text{id}_A$.

Remark. The situation is represented by the following commutative diagram:

$$\begin{array}{ccccc} A & \xleftarrow{\pi_A} & A \times B & \xrightarrow{\pi_B} & B \\ & \nwarrow \text{id}_A & \uparrow & \nearrow f & \\ & & A & & \end{array}$$

2.7. Let $\Gamma_f \subseteq A \times B$. Let $i : \Gamma_f \rightarrow A \times B$ the inclusion map.

$\pi_A \circ i : \Gamma_f \rightarrow A$ is a bijection.

Indeed, $\forall a \in A, \exists! y \in B, (a, y) \in \Gamma_f$

That is: $\forall a \in A, \exists! z \in \Gamma_f, \pi_A(z) = a$ (this z is (a, y))

2.8.

$$\begin{aligned} f : \mathbb{R} &\rightarrow \mathbb{C} \\ r &\mapsto e^{2\pi i r} \end{aligned}$$

The canonical decomposition of f gives:

$$\begin{array}{ccccccc} & & f & & & & \\ & \nearrow & & \searrow & & & \\ \mathbb{R} & \xrightarrow{\pi} & \mathbb{R}/\sim & \xrightarrow{\tilde{f}} & \text{im } f & \hookrightarrow & \mathbb{C} \end{array}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \alpha : \mathbb{R}/\sim &\rightarrow S_2 \\ [r]_{\sim} &\mapsto e^{2\pi i r} \end{aligned}$$

where S_2 is the circle with radius 1 in \mathbb{C} is well defined and is a bijection.

An alternative decomposition would have been:

$$\mathbb{R} \xrightarrow{\alpha \circ \pi} S_2 \xrightarrow{\tilde{f} \circ \alpha^{-1}} \text{im } f \xrightarrow{\hookrightarrow} \mathbb{C}$$

f

This exercise matches Exercise 1.6.

2.9. Suppose $A' \xrightarrow[\cong]{\alpha} A''$, $B' \xrightarrow[\cong]{\beta} B''$, $A' \cap B' \neq \emptyset$ and $A'' \cap B'' \neq \emptyset$.
Let

$$\begin{aligned} \gamma : A \cup B &\rightarrow A'' \cup B'' \\ x &\mapsto \alpha(x) \text{ if } x \in A \\ y &\mapsto \beta(y) \text{ if } x \in B \end{aligned}$$

γ is well defined because $A \cap B = \emptyset$, surjective because α and β are surjective, and injective because α and β are injective and because $A'' \cap B'' = \emptyset$.

Hence, however we take ‘copies’ of A and B such that their copies are disjoint, we always obtain isomorphic sets.

2.10. Let us prove by induction on n that if $|A| = n$, we have $|B^A| = |B|^{|A|}$.

$|B^{\emptyset}| = \{\emptyset\} = |B|^{\emptyset}$ so the statement is true for $n = 0$

If $|A| = n + 1$, pick $x \in A$

A function from $A \rightarrow B$ is the datum of a function of $A \rightarrow B \setminus \{x\}$ and image $x' \in B$ for x . There are $|B|^{|A \setminus \{x\}|} = |B|^{|A|-1}$ such functions.

Hence $|B|^{|A|} = |B| |B|^{|A|-1} = |B|^{|A|}$.

Remark. The previous situation is represented by the following diagram:

$$\begin{array}{ccccc} \{x'\} & \longrightarrow & B \cong \{x'\} \coprod B \setminus \{x'\} & \longleftarrow & B \setminus \{x'\} \\ f \uparrow & & \exists! f \mathbin{\mathcal{Y}} g \uparrow & & g \uparrow \\ \{x\} & \longrightarrow & A \cong \{x\} \coprod A \setminus \{x\} & \longleftarrow & A \setminus \{x\} \end{array}$$

$(f, g) \mapsto f \mathbin{\mathcal{Y}} g$ is a bijection.

2.11. Let

$$\begin{aligned} f : \mathcal{P}(A) &\rightarrow 2^A \\ X &\mapsto \begin{cases} x \mapsto 1 & \text{if } x \in X \\ x \mapsto 0 & \text{otherwise} \end{cases} \end{aligned}$$

$f(X)$ is called the characteristic function of X . It is easy to prove that f is a bijection.

3 Categories

3.1. Let \circ' be the operation of \mathbf{C}^{op} . If $f : A \rightarrow B$ and $g : B \rightarrow C$ in \mathbf{C} , $f \circ' g = g \circ f$.

$$(f \circ' g) \circ' h = h \circ (g \circ f) = (h \circ g) \circ f = f \circ' (g \circ' h)$$

$$\text{If } f : A \rightarrow B \text{ in } \mathbf{C}: f \circ' \text{id}_B = \text{id}_B \circ f = f \text{ and } \text{id}_A \circ' f = f \circ A = f$$

Finally, it is clear that $\text{Hom}_{\mathbf{C}^{op}}(A, B) = \text{Hom}_{\mathbf{C}^{op}}(A', B')$ iff $A = A'$ and $B = B'$.

3.2. If A is finite, as $\text{End}_{\mathbf{Set}}(A) = A^A$, $|\text{End}_{\mathbf{Set}}(A)| = |A|^{|A|}$ (see Exercise 2.10).

3.3. $1_a = (a, a)$ is the identity of a . Indeed, let $f : a \rightarrow b$, Necessarily, if f exists, $f = (a, b)$.

$$f \circ 1_a = (a, b) \circ (a, a) = (a, b) = f$$

Similarly, if $f : b \rightarrow a$, $1_a \circ f = f$.

3.4. $<$ is not reflexive, so for example, $(3, 3)$ would not be in the category. But, necessarily, it should be as the only possible choice for 1_3 (think about it).

3.5. For every preorder, we can define a category in the style of Example 3.3.

Remark. In fact, writing $\mathbf{Proset} \downarrow_A$ the set of all categories whose set of objects is A , whose set of morphisms is a subset of A^2 and such that $\forall a, b \in A, \exists^{\leq 1} f : a \rightarrow b$, there is a bijection :

$$\begin{aligned} \phi : \text{Preorders on } A &\rightarrow \mathbf{Proset} \downarrow_A \\ R &\mapsto \text{The category such that} & \text{Hom}(a, b) &= \{(a, b)\} \text{ if } aRb \\ & & \text{Hom}(a, b) &= \emptyset \text{ otherwise} \\ & & (b, c) \circ (a, b) &= (a, c) \end{aligned}$$

R is an order iff $\phi(R)$ is skeletal.

R is an equivalence relation iff $\phi(R)$ is a groupoid.

3.6. The set of matrices with n rows and m columns is $\mathbb{R}^{m \times n}$ where $m = \{0, \dots, m-1\}$ and $n = \{0, \dots, n-1\}$ and \times is the product of sets.

Hence, $\mathbb{R}^{0 \times n} = \mathbb{R}^{0 \times n} = \mathbb{R}^{\emptyset} = \{\emptyset\}$. There is only one matrix with 0 lines is \emptyset , and, similarly, it is the only matrix with 0 columns.

If $A : m \rightarrow n$ (A has n lines and m columns) and $B : n \rightarrow p$ (B has p lines and n columns), then $B \circ A = B \times A$.

The product of matrices is associative and $I_n = \text{id}_n$.

It feels familiar. If we define the category \mathbb{N} with $\text{Obj}(\mathbb{N}) = \mathbb{N}$ and with $\text{Hom}_{\mathbb{N}}(n, m) = m^n$. In both of the categories, it is true that if $\text{dom}(f) = \text{im}(f)$ then f is a monomorphism iff it is an epimorphism.