

Exercise 1 (1.3.T). Show that coproduct for Set is disjoint union.

Answer

Recall that the disjoint union of A_1 and A_2 is defined as a set as

$$A_1 \cup A_2 \{ (a_i, i) : a_i \in A_i, I = 1, 2 \}.$$

This allows us to define maps $\iota_i : A_i \rightarrow A_1 \cup A_2$, $x \mapsto (x, i)$ which are morphisms in Set because they're defined everywhere. We are to show that this set satisfies the universal property of coproducts.

Suppose B is a set such that $f_i : A_i \rightarrow B$ are well defined. We must define a unique function $g : A_1 \cup A_2 \rightarrow B$ such that $f_i = g\iota_i$, this is done as follows:

$$g(a, i) = \begin{cases} f_1(a), & i = 1, \\ f_2(a), & i = 2. \end{cases}$$

We verify the factoring property:

$$g \circ \iota_1(a_1) = g(a_1, 1) = f_1(a_1), \quad g \circ \iota_2(a_2) = g(a_2, 2) = f_2(a_2).$$

By construction, we have defined g uniquely.

Exercise 2 (1.3.U). Suppose $A \rightarrow B$ and $A \rightarrow C$ are two ring morphisms, so in particular B and C are A -modules. Recall that $B \otimes_A C$ has a ring structure.

- i) Show that there is a natural morphism $\iota_B : B \rightarrow B \otimes_A C$, $b \mapsto b \otimes 1$. Similarly for C .
- ii) Show that this gives a pushout on rings. In other words, the following diagram satisfies the universal property of the pushout.

$$\begin{array}{ccc} B \otimes_A C & \xleftarrow{\iota_C} & C \\ \iota_B \uparrow & & \uparrow \alpha \\ B & \xleftarrow{\beta} & A \end{array}$$

Answer

- i) The map $\iota_B(b) = b \otimes 1$ is a homomorphism in virtue that $B \otimes_A C$ is a tensor product. By construction, all bilinear maps factor through the tensor product as linear maps. This map is one of the factors which should be linear. The same holds for C .
- ii) Let us now take M an A -module with morphisms $f_B: B \rightarrow M$ and $f_C: C \rightarrow M$. This can be described by the following diagram:

$$\begin{array}{ccccc}
 & & & & f_C \\
 & & & & \swarrow \\
 M & \xleftarrow{\quad} & B \otimes_A C & \xleftarrow{\iota_C} & C \\
 & \nwarrow f_B & \uparrow \iota_B & & \uparrow \alpha \\
 & & B & \xleftarrow{\beta} & A
 \end{array}$$

However, let us take advantage of the tensor product, *gatekeeper of bilinear maps*. This morphisms can be combined into a bilinear map from $B \times C \rightarrow M$. We define

$$f: B \times C \rightarrow M, (b, c) \mapsto f_B(b)f_C(c)$$

and by universal property of the tensor product, there exists a unique map $\tilde{f}: B \otimes_A C \rightarrow M$ through which f factors. Finally f_B and f_C factor through \tilde{f} by diagram chasing and thus by universality of the tensor product we have that it satisfies the pushout universal property in this case.

Exercise 3. Describe the colimit of the diagram $F: J \rightarrow \text{Set}$ given by $* \leftarrow * \rightarrow *$.

Answer

Recall that the colimit of a diagram $F: J \rightarrow \mathbf{C}$ is an object $\text{colim} A_i \in \text{Obj} \mathbf{C}$ with morphisms $f_j: A_j \rightarrow \text{colim} A_i$ such that if $m: k \rightarrow j$ is a morphism in J , then the following diagram commutes

$$\begin{array}{ccc}
 \text{colim} A_i & & \\
 f_j \uparrow & \swarrow f_k & \\
 A_j & \xleftarrow{F(m)} & A_k
 \end{array}$$

In our case, since we only have three objects the diagram looks like this

$$\begin{array}{ccc} CL & \longleftarrow & C \\ \uparrow & & \uparrow \\ B & \longleftarrow & A \end{array}$$

where CL is the colimit object. In this particular case the colimit coincides with the pushout by universality.