

Exercise 1 (1.3.C). Show that $A \rightarrow S^{-1}A$ is injective if and only if S contains no zero divisors

Lemma 1. *A map f in Ring is injective if and only if $\ker(f) = \{0\}$.*

Proof

Suppose f is injective, then if $x \in \ker(f)$ it holds that $f(x) = 0$. As f is a morphism of rings $0 = f(0)$ which means that $f(x) = f(0)$ and as f is injective, we can conclude that $x = 0$ meaning that the kernel is trivial.

On the flip-side, take $f(x) = f(y)$. As f is a morphism, $f(x - y) = 0$. But then $x - y \in \ker(f)$ which means that $x - y = 0$, letting us conclude that $x = y$. Thus f is injective.

Answer

Call $\pi(a) = \frac{a}{1}$ the canonical map from A to $S^{-1}A$. We will prove that $\ker(\pi) = \{0\}$ if and only if S has no zero divisors.

To that effect suppose $s \in S$ is a zero divisor. This means that

$$\exists t(t \neq 0 \wedge st = 0).$$

Now $\pi(t) = \frac{t}{1}$. But inside $S^{-1}A$ we have $\frac{t}{1} = \frac{0}{1}$ because

$$\frac{t}{1} = \frac{0}{1} \iff \exists t' \in S(t'(t \cdot 1 - 0 \cdot 1) = 0).$$

Namely, such a t' would be s . So $\pi(t) = 0$ and, as $t \neq 0$, we have that $\ker(\pi)$ is not trivial.

On the other hand suppose $s, t \in S$ are elements that satisfy $st = 0$. For the sake of argument suppose $t \neq 0$, we are set to prove that $s = 0$ and to do this, we'll show that $s \in \ker(\pi)$. Notice that

$$\pi(s) = \frac{s}{1} = \frac{0}{1} \iff \exists s' \in S(s'(s \cdot 1 - 1 \cdot 0) = 0).$$

The s' we are looking for is $s' = t$. So, it follows that $s \in \ker(\pi)$. But as π has trivial kernel, $s = 0$ which is what we wanted.

Exercise 2 (1.3.Q). Describe the colimit of the diagram $F: J \rightarrow \text{Set}$ given by $* \leftarrow * \rightarrow *$. If the two squares in the following commutative diagram are Cartesian diagrams, show that the “outside rectangle” (involving U, V, Y , and Z) is also a Cartesian diagram.

$$\begin{array}{ccc}
 U & \longrightarrow & V \\
 \downarrow & & \downarrow \\
 W & \longrightarrow & X \\
 \downarrow & & \downarrow \\
 Y & \longrightarrow & Z
 \end{array}$$

Answer

Suppose that there's an object T with maps to U and Y as in the following diagram:

$$\begin{array}{ccccc}
 T & & & & \\
 \swarrow & & & \searrow & \\
 & U & \longrightarrow & V & \\
 & \downarrow & & \downarrow & \\
 & W & \longrightarrow & X & \\
 & \downarrow & & \downarrow & \\
 & Y & \longrightarrow & Z & \\
 \swarrow & & & \searrow & \\
 & & & &
 \end{array}$$

We wish to show that there's a unique morphism $T \rightarrow U$ such that $T \rightarrow V$ and $T \rightarrow Y$ factor through $T \rightarrow U$.

Our first step is to construct a unique morphism from $T \rightarrow W$. This is done because we have a morphism $T \rightarrow X$ (the composition of $T \rightarrow V$, $V \rightarrow X$) and a morphism $T \rightarrow Y$ whose compositions to Z agree. By universal property of the pullback (W as pullback) we have that there's a unique morphism $T \rightarrow W$ through which the respective morphisms factor.

$$\begin{array}{ccccc}
 T & & & & \\
 \swarrow & & & \searrow & \\
 & U & \longrightarrow & V & \\
 & \downarrow & & \downarrow & \\
 & W & \longrightarrow & X & \\
 & \downarrow & & \downarrow & \\
 & Y & \longrightarrow & Z & \\
 \swarrow & & & \searrow & \\
 & & & &
 \end{array}$$

With this in hand, we now have $T \rightarrow V$ and $T \rightarrow W$ whose compositions to X agree. So by universality of U , there exists a unique morphism $T \rightarrow U$ through which the corresponding morphisms factor.

Exercise 3 (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 4 (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 5. 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.

Exercise 6 (1.4.F). Verify that the A -module described above is indeed the colimit.

The A -module in question is $\coprod A_i / \sim$ where \sim is the relation

$$(a_i, i) \sim (a_j, j) \iff \exists (f : A_i \rightarrow A_k, g : A_j \rightarrow A_k)(f(a_i) = g(a_j)),$$

addition of $m_i \in M_i$, $m_j \in M_j$ is defined as

$$m_i + m_j := F(u)(m_i) + F(v)(m_j)$$

where u, v are arrows from i, j to ℓ . The sum lies in M_ℓ . Multiplication is defined in an obvious¹ way and the zero element is m_i such that there is an arrow $u : i \rightarrow k$ for which $F(u)(m_i) = 0$.

I must admit I wasn't able to tackle this problem.

¹It's not obvious to me.