

1. Let  $S$  be a set. The indiscrete topological space  $I(S)$  is the space whose set of points is  $S$  and whose only open subsets are  $\emptyset$  and  $S$  itself. Imitating Example 0.5, find a universal property satisfied by the space  $I(S)$ .
2. Find three examples of categories not mentioned above.
  - (a)  $\text{Mat}_{\mathbb{R}}$  is the category whose objects are positive integers, and where the set of morphisms from  $n$  to  $m$  is the set of  $m \times n$  matrices with values in  $\mathbb{R}$ . Composition is by matrix multiplication, and identity for  $n \in \mathbb{Z}_{>0}$  is the  $n \times n$  identity matrix.
  - (b) We can form a category out of regular languages, since strings form a monoid under concatenation.
  - (c) Meas has measurable spaces as objects and measurable functions as morphisms.
3. Show that a map in a category can have at most one inverse. That is, given a map  $f : A \rightarrow B$ , show that there is at most one map  $g : B \rightarrow A$  such that  $gf = 1_A$  and  $fg = 1_B$ .

**Solution:** Suppose there are two such mappings,  $g, h : B \rightarrow A$  so that  $fg = fh = 1_B$  and  $gf = hf = 1_A$ . Then left-compose with  $g$ :

$$\begin{aligned} fg &= fh \\ gfg &= gfh \\ 1_A g &= 1_A h \\ g &= h. \end{aligned}$$

So an inverse for  $f$  must be unique.

4. Let  $\mathcal{A}, \mathcal{B}$  be categories. The construction of the product category:

$$\text{ob}(\mathcal{A} \times \mathcal{B}) = \text{ob}(\mathcal{A}) \times \text{ob}(\mathcal{B})$$

$$\text{Hom}(\mathcal{A} \times \mathcal{B}) = \text{Hom}(\mathcal{A}) \times \text{Hom}(\mathcal{B})$$

has only one choice for compositions and identities. Give both.

**Solution:** Let  $f, g, h$  be morphisms in  $\mathcal{A} \times \mathcal{B}$ . Write  $f = (f_1, f_2)$ ,  $g = (g_1, g_2)$ ,  $h = (h_1, h_2)$ . Then the sensible composition is  $gf = (g_1 f_1, g_2 f_2)$ . And associativity follows;

$$h(gf) = h(g_1 f_1, g_2 f_2) = (h_1(g_1 f_1), h_2(g_2 f_2)) = ((h_1 g_1) f_1, (h_2 g_2) f_2) = (hg)(f).$$

Then for an object  $(a, b) \in \mathcal{A} \times \mathcal{B}$ , the sensible identity is  $1_{(a,b)} = (1_a, 1_b)$ . Then for a morphism  $f = (f_1, f_2)$  with domain  $(a, b)$ , we have

$$f 1_{(a,b)} = (f_1 1_a, f_2 1_b) = (f_1, f_2) = f.$$

And likewise for some  $g = (g_1, g_2)$  with codomain  $(a, b)$ , we have:

$$1_{(a,b)} g = (1_a g_1, 1_b g_2) = (g_1, g_2) = g.$$

5. Find three examples of functors not mentioned above.
6. Show that functors preserve isomorphism. That is, prove that if  $F : \mathcal{A} \rightarrow \mathcal{B}$  is a functor and  $A, A' \in \mathcal{A}$  with  $A \cong A'$ , then  $F(A) \cong F(A')$ .

**Proof:** Suppose  $F : \mathcal{A} \rightarrow \mathcal{B}$  is a functor, and  $A \cong A'$  in  $\mathcal{A}$ . Then there exists a pair of morphisms  $f : A \rightarrow A'$  and  $g : A' \rightarrow A$  with  $fg = 1_{A'}$  and  $gf = 1_A$ . And, the functor  $F$  gives another pair of morphisms  $Ff, Fg$ . Verify:

$$(Ff)(Fg) = F(fg) = F1_{A'} = 1_{FA'}$$

and likewise:

$$(Fg)(Ff) = F(gf) = F1_A = 1_{FA}.$$

And so we have  $FA \cong FA'$ . ■

7. Two categories  $\mathcal{A}$  and  $\mathcal{B}$  are isomorphic, written as  $\mathcal{A} \cong \mathcal{B}$ , if they are isomorphic as objects of  $\text{Cat}$ .

- (a) Let  $G$  be a group, regarded as a one-object category all of whose maps are isomorphisms. Then its opposite  $G^{op}$  is also a one-object category all of whose maps are isomorphisms, and can therefore be regarded as a group too. What is  $G^{op}$ , in purely group-theoretic terms? Prove that  $G$  is isomorphic to  $G^{op}$ .

**Proof:** Take the functors  $F : G \rightarrow G^{op}$ , and  $F' : G^{op} \rightarrow G$ . Define, for  $g \in G$  and  $h^{op} \in G^{op}$ :

$$F(g) = (g^{-1})^{op}, \quad F'(h^{op}) = h^{-1}.$$

We first check that these functors compose to identity:

$$\begin{aligned} FF'(g^{op}) &= F(g^{-1}) \\ &= ((g^{-1})^{-1})^{op} \\ &= g^{op} \\ FF' &= 1_{G^{op}} \\ F'F(g) &= F'((g^{-1})^{op}) \\ &= (g^{-1})^{-1} \\ &= g \\ F'F &= 1_G. \end{aligned}$$

And then we check that these mappings are indeed functors. Clearly  $F, F'$  map the single object in  $G$  to  $G^{op}$ , and vice versa. Then we check the morphism identities for  $F$  and  $F'$ . Let  $g, h \in G$ ;

$$\begin{aligned} F(gh) &= (gh)^{-1})^{op} \\ &= (h^{-1}g^{-1})^{op} \\ &= (g^{-1})^{op}(h^{-1})^{op} \\ &= F(g)F(h). \end{aligned}$$

Then, if  $g^{op}, h^{op} \in G^{op}$ ;

$$\begin{aligned} F'(g^{op}h^{op}) &= F'((hg)^{op}) \\ &= (hg)^{-1} \\ &= g^{-1}h^{-1} \\ &= F(g^{op})F(h^{op}). \end{aligned}$$

And all that is left to verify is that  $F, F'$  send identities to identities. Let  $g \in G$ , and  $g^{op} \in G^{op}$ . We wish to show that  $F(1_G) = (1_G)^{op} = 1_{G^{op}}$ , and that  $F'(1_{G^{op}}) = 1_G$ . Take  $g^{op} \in G^{op}$ , which we know to have a preimage  $g^{-1}$  under  $F$ .

$$\begin{aligned} (1_G)^{op}g^{op} &= F(1_G)g^{op} \\ &= F(1_G)F(g^{-1}) \\ &= F(1_Gg^{-1}) \\ &= F(g^{-1}) \\ &= g^{op}. \end{aligned}$$

And so  $1_{G^{op}} = (1_G)^{op} = F(1_G)$  (Since identity of right composition follows from the same argument). Now for  $g \in G$ ,

$$\begin{aligned} F'(1_{G^{op}}) &= F'((1_G)^{op}) \\ &= 1_G^{-1} \\ &= 1_G. \end{aligned}$$

So  $F$  and  $F'$  are functors which serve as inverses for one another, and  $G \cong G'$ . ■

- (b) Find a monoid which is not isomorphic to its opposite.

**Solution:** Take  $\mathbb{N}$ ,

8. Find a universal property of the indiscrete topology, defined on any set by letting the open sets be exactly  $\emptyset, S$ .

**Solution:** We observe that if  $f : X \rightarrow S$  is a function on a topological space  $X$ , that the preimage of  $\emptyset$  is  $\emptyset$  and the preimage of  $S$  is  $X$ . So the preimage of our two open sets are both open, and  $f$  is continuous. So given any function from  $f : X \rightarrow S$  we define a function  $\bar{f} : X \rightarrow I(S)$  which is continuous:

