

# $\lambda$ -calculus & categories 5

23 october 2020

the free

Cartesian

category

# The free cartesian category

a set  $A \mapsto A^*$  the free monoid

a category  $t \mapsto \text{Fam}(t)$  the free cartesian category

$M$   
a cartesian  
category

$$\begin{array}{ccc} M \times M & \longrightarrow & M \\ (A, B) \longmapsto & & \textcircled{A \times B} \end{array}$$

cartesian product

$$\begin{array}{ccc} 1 & \longrightarrow & M \\ * \longmapsto & & \textcircled{1} \end{array}$$

terminal object of  $M$

in a cartesian category

$$A \times 1 \cong A \cong 1 \times A \quad \text{"}" \cong \text{isomorphic to}$$

hence  $1$  is "some kind of" neutral element for  $\times$ .

Something remarkable to remember:

the free cartesian category

is only defined "up to equivalence"

① the notion of equivalence between categories.

1.1 def. an equivalence between two categories  $\mathcal{A}$  and  $\mathcal{B}$  is a pair of functors

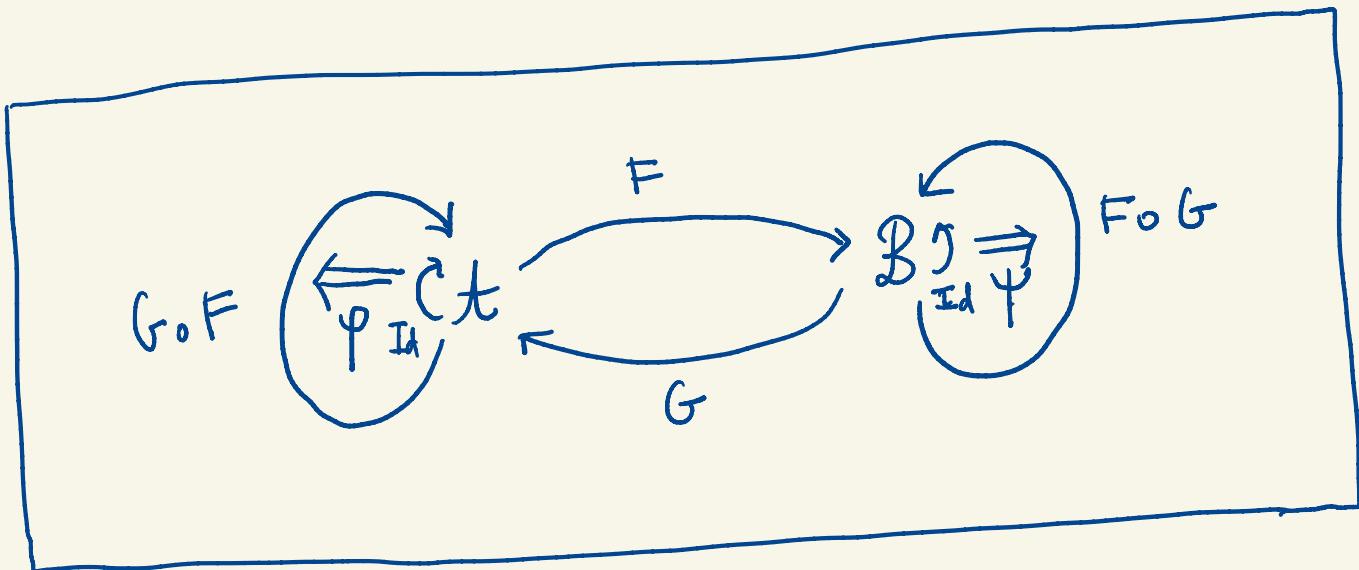
$$\mathcal{A} \xrightarrow{F} \mathcal{B}$$

$$\mathcal{B} \xrightarrow{G} \mathcal{A}$$

and a pair of natural isomorphisms

$$\psi: \text{Id}_{\mathcal{A}} \xrightarrow{\sim} G \circ F$$

$$\psi: \text{Id}_{\mathcal{B}} \xrightarrow{\sim} F \circ G$$



Reminder:

a natural isomorphism  $\theta: F \Rightarrow G: \mathcal{C} \rightarrow \mathcal{D}$

is a natural transformation such that

$\theta_A: F(A) \xrightarrow{\sim} G(A)$  is an isomorphism for all  $A$  object in  $\mathcal{C}$ .

## 1.2 examples -

a) the category FinSet of finite sets and functions.

the category  $\boxed{F}$  whose objects are natural numbers

whose morphisms

$$[p] \xrightarrow{f} [q]$$

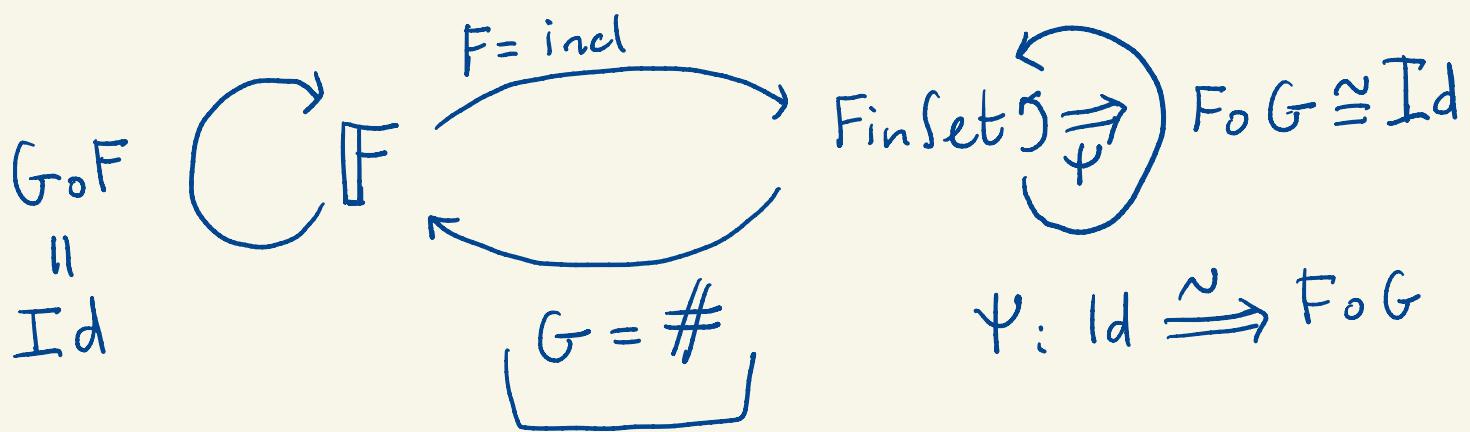
are the functions  $f$  from  $\{0, \dots, p-1\}$  to  $\{0, \dots, q-1\}$ .

Clearly,  $\mathbb{F}$  is a subcategory of  $\text{FinSet}$ .

In particular, we have an inclusion functor

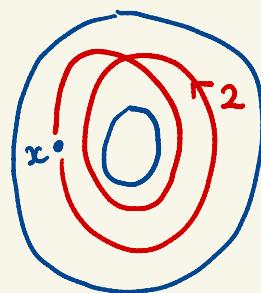
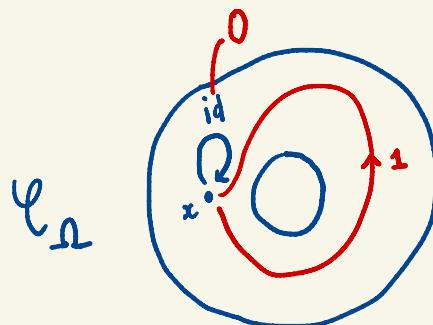
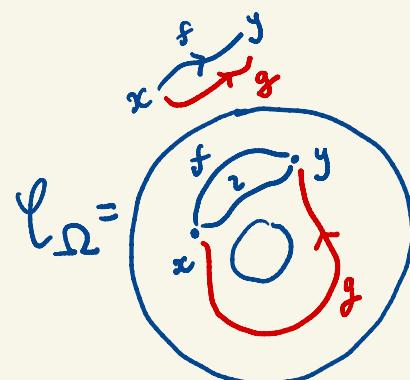
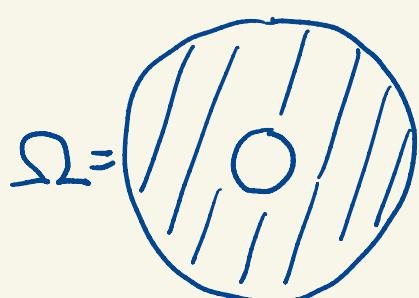
$$\mathbb{F} \xrightarrow{\text{incl}} \text{FinSet}.$$

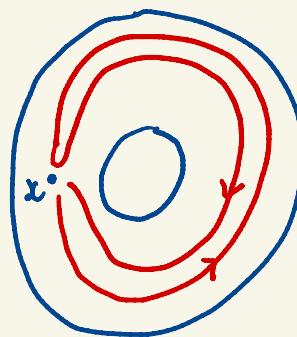
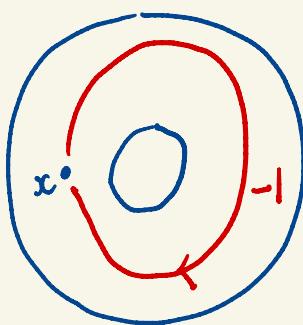
Exercise: construct a **functor**  $G : \text{FinSet} \rightarrow \mathbb{F}$   
defining an equivalence between  $\mathbb{F}$  and  $\text{FinSet}$



b) every topological space  $\Omega$  defines  
 a category  $\mathcal{L}_\Omega$  whose objects are the elements  
 of the topological space  $\Omega$

whose maps  $x \xrightarrow{f} y$  are the paths  
 from  $x$  to  $y$  in  $\Omega$  up to homotopy.





$$1 + (-1) = 0$$

$$\text{Hom}_{\mathcal{C}_\Omega}(x, x) = \mathbb{Z}$$

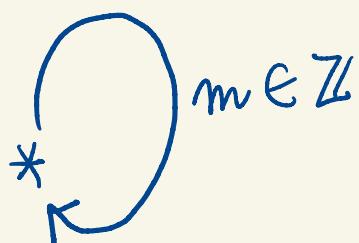
the fundamental group of  $\Omega$  is  $(\mathbb{Z}, +, 0)$   
 Poincaré group

$(\mathbb{Z}, +, 0)$

a group

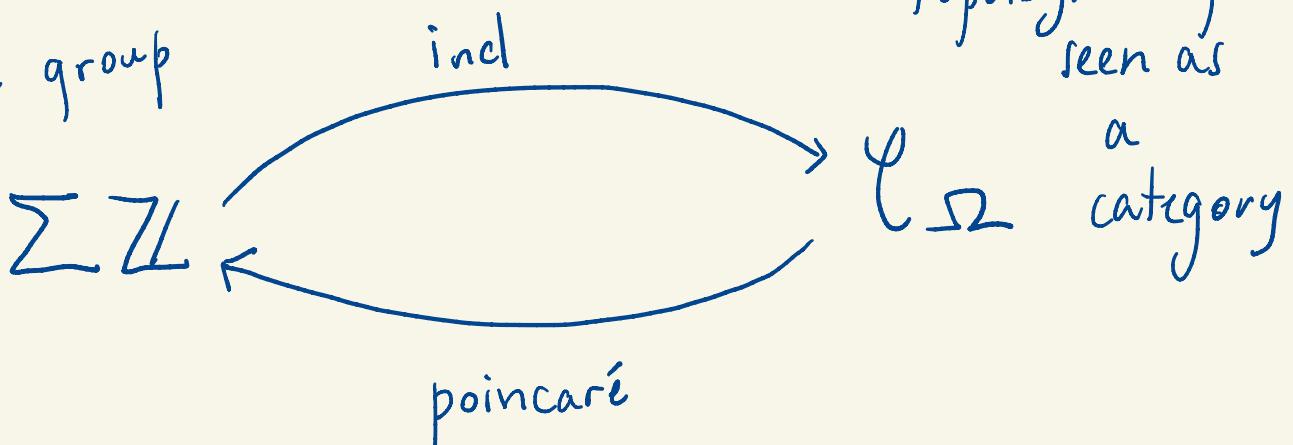
hence a monoid

hence a category  
 with one object  $\sum \mathbb{Z}$



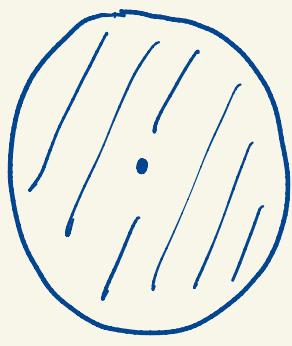
$$\sum \mathbb{Z}$$

Poincaré group



which defines an equivalence of categories

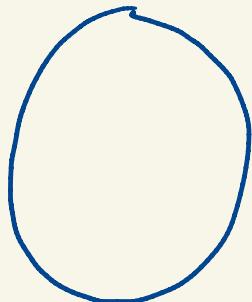
(more generally true for any pointed topological space)



disk

From which  
one removes  
a point

$\approx$



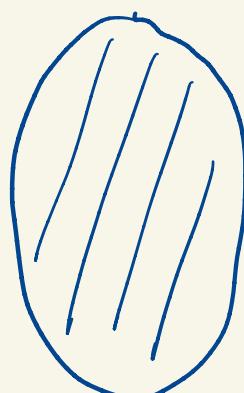
circle

equivalent  
up to  
homotopy  
equivalence.

topology

point

$\approx$   
homotopy  
equivalence



disk

$=: \Omega$



$\dagger = \text{id}$

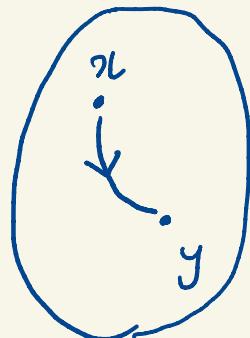
Exercise

$\approx$   
categorical  
equivalence

$\ell_{\Omega}(x,y)$  singleton

$\ell_{\Omega}$

category  
theory



② cartesian functor between cartesian categories

Observation. given  $\boxed{\text{inf-lattice}}(X, \leq) (Y, \leq)$

(partial orders with a greatest lower bound

$$x, y \mapsto x \wedge y \quad (\text{infimum})$$

for any pair of elements  $x$  and  $y$

and with a maximum  $1$ )

and a monotone function  $f: (X, \leq) \rightarrow (Y, \leq)$ .

Then,

$$\forall x, x', f(x \wedge x') \leq_Y f(x) \wedge f(x')$$

$$f(1_X) \leq_Y 1_Y$$

Prf

$$x \wedge x' \leq_X x \quad \text{and} \quad x \wedge x' \leq_X x'$$

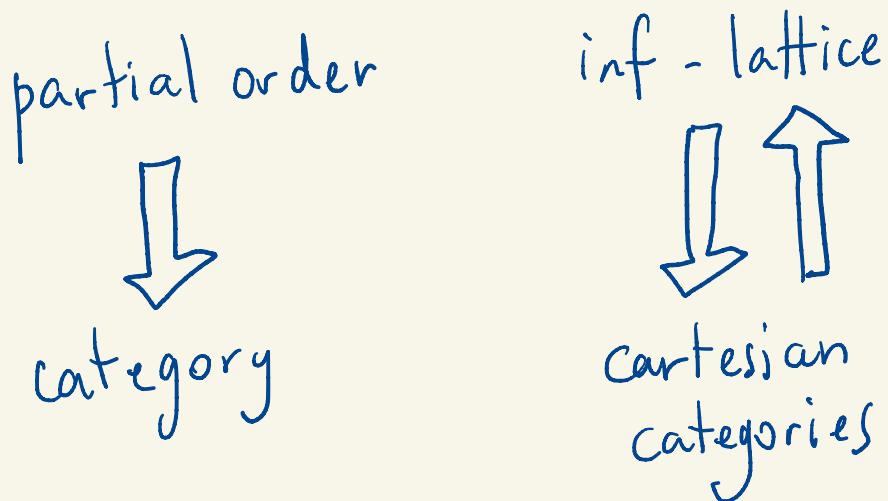
hence by monotonicity of  $f$

$$f(x \wedge x') \leq_Y f(x) \quad f(x \wedge x') \leq_Y f(x')$$

From this, we conclude that

$$f(x \wedge x') \leq_y f(x) \wedge f(x')$$

since  $f(x) \wedge f(x')$  is the greatest lower bound of  $f(x)$  and  $f(x')$ .



## Reminder!

a partial order  $(X, \leq)$

is an inf-lattice

precisely when

reverse when the partial order  $(X, \leq)$  seen as category is a cartesian category.

Prop: given a pair  $(\mathcal{A}, \times_{\mathcal{A}}, \mathbb{1}_{\mathcal{A}})$  and  $(\mathcal{B}, \times_{\mathcal{B}}, \mathbb{1}_{\mathcal{B}})$   
of cartesian categories

every functor  $F: \mathcal{A} \longrightarrow \mathcal{B}$

comes equipped with a family of morphisms

$$m_{A_1, A_2}: F(A_1 \times_{\mathcal{A}} A_2) \longrightarrow FA_1 \times_{\mathcal{B}} FA_2$$

natural in  $A_1$  and  $A_2$ , and with a morphism

$$m_{\mathbb{1}}: F(\mathbb{1}_{\mathcal{A}}) \longrightarrow \mathbb{1}_{\mathcal{B}}$$

Construction of  $m_{A_1, A_2}$

$$\begin{array}{ccc} A_1 & & A_2 \\ & \swarrow \pi_1 & \nearrow \pi_2 \\ A_1 \times A_2 & & \end{array}$$

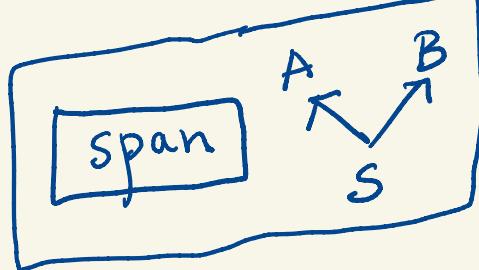
$$\xrightarrow{F}$$



$$\begin{array}{ccc} FA_1 & & FA_2 \\ \uparrow F\pi_1 & \swarrow \pi_1 & \nearrow \pi_2 \\ FA_1 \times FA_2 & \xrightarrow{m_{A_1, A_2}} & \\ & \uparrow & \\ & F(A_1 \times A_2) & \end{array}$$

in the category  $\mathcal{A}$

in the category  $\mathcal{B}$



$m_{A_1, A_2}$  is defined as the unique morphism

$$F(A_1 \times A_2) \longrightarrow FA_1 \times FA_2$$

making the diagram commute.

Naturality in  $A_1$  and  $A_2$  means that the diagram

$$\begin{array}{ccc} F(A_1 \times A_2) & \xrightarrow{m_{A_1, A_2}} & FA_1 \times FA_2 \\ F(h_1 \times h_2) \downarrow & \textcircled{**} & \downarrow Fh_1 \times Fh_2 \\ F(A'_1 \times A'_2) & \xrightarrow{m'_{A'_1, A'_2}} & FA'_1 \times FA'_2 \end{array}$$

commutes

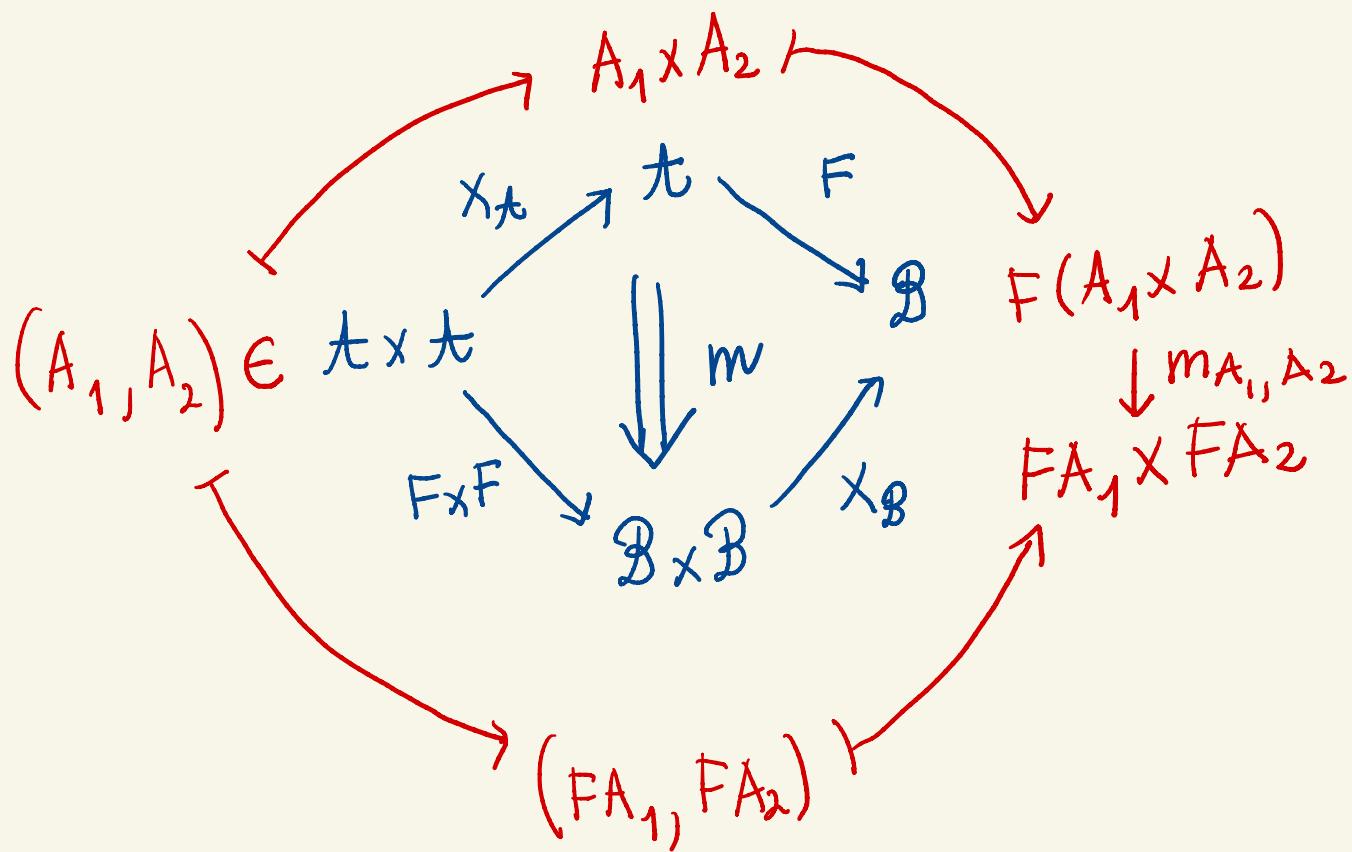
for all maps

$$\begin{cases} h_1 \\ \downarrow \\ A'_1 \end{cases}$$

$$\begin{cases} A_2 \\ \downarrow h_2 \text{ in } t \\ A'_2 \end{cases}$$

Exercise: prove that the diagram  $(**)$  commutes.

More conceptually, naturality means that  
 the family  $(m_{A_1, A_2})_{A_1 \in \mathcal{C}, A_2 \in \mathcal{C}}$   
 defines a natural transformation



Def: a cartesian functor  $F: \mathcal{C} \longrightarrow \mathcal{D}$   
 between cartesian categories  
 is a functor such that

$m_{A_1, A_2}$  and  $m_A$  are isomorphisms  
 for all  $A_1, A_2 \in \mathcal{C}$ .

Note that a cartesian functor preserves cartesian products  
only "up to isomorphisms".

Motivation for that definition:

Suppose that a category  $\mathcal{A}$  is equipped with two cartesian structures:  
 $(\mathcal{A}, \times, 1)$        $(\mathcal{A}, \otimes, e)$

$$\mathcal{A} \xrightarrow{\text{Id}} \mathcal{A}$$

the identity functor between

$$(\mathcal{A}, \times, 1) \quad \text{and} \quad (\mathcal{A}, \otimes, e)$$

is a cartesian functor!

Exercise: check that!

Illustration :  $\mathcal{C} = \underline{\text{Sets}}$

$$A, B \longmapsto A \times B$$

$$A, B \longmapsto A \boxtimes B := B \times A$$

in that case

$$m_{A_1, A_2} : A_1 \times A_2 \xrightarrow{\cong} A_1 \boxtimes A_2$$

is defined as the symmetry

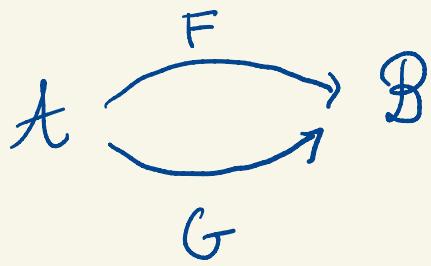
$$A_1 \times A_2 \xrightarrow{\sim} A_2 \times A_1$$

$$(a_1, a_2) \longmapsto (a_2, a_1)$$

strictly associative

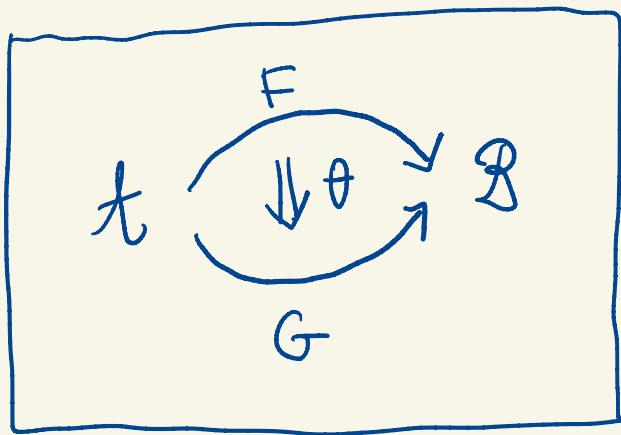
$$(A \times B) \times C \quad \boxed{\equiv} \quad A \times (B \times C)$$

Property: Suppose given a pair of functors



between cartesian categories  $A, B$   
together with a natural isomorphism

$$\theta : F \Rightarrow G : A \rightarrow B$$



In that situation,

$F$  is a cartesian functor

implies that  $G$  is a cartesian functor

Proof left as exercise!

### ③ the free cartesian category

Given a category  $\mathcal{A}$ , we construct a cartesian category  $\text{Fam}(\mathcal{A})$  as follows:

① the objects are finite sequences of objects of  $\mathcal{A}$

$$\underline{A} = [A_1, \dots, A_n] \quad \text{where} \quad A_i \text{ are objects of } \mathcal{A}$$

② the morphisms

$$[A_1, \dots, A_p] \xrightarrow{f = (\varphi, [f_1, \dots, f_q])} [B_1, \dots, B_q]$$

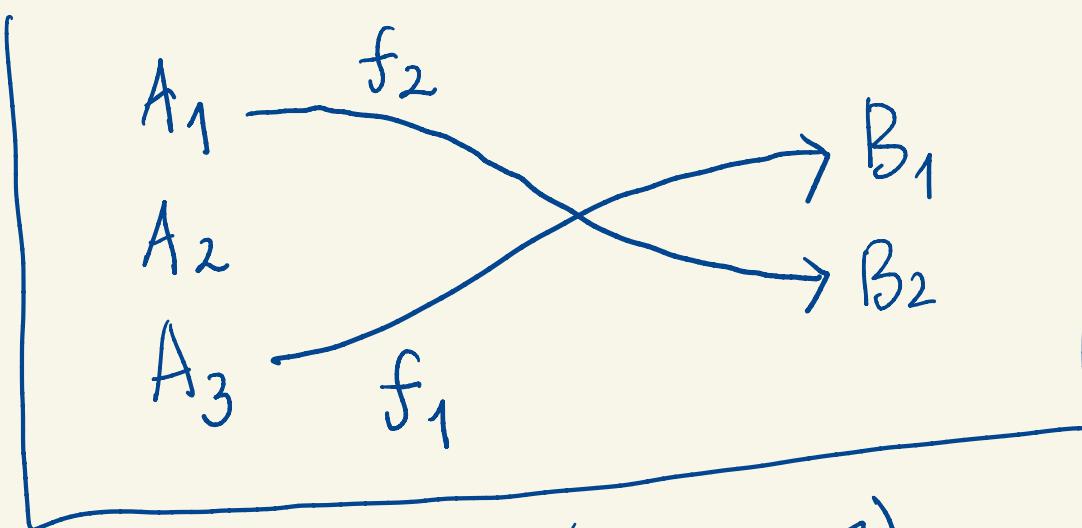
are pairs consisting of

- a function  $\varphi: \{1, \dots, q\} \longrightarrow \{1, \dots, p\}$

- a finite sequence  $[f_1, \dots, f_q]$  of morphisms

$$f_i: A\varphi(i) \longrightarrow B_i$$

In a drawing:



$$[A_1, A_2, A_3] \xrightarrow{(\varphi, [f_1, f_2])} [B_1, B_2]$$

$$\varphi: \{1, 2\} \longrightarrow \{1, 2, 3\}$$

$$1 \quad \xrightarrow{\hspace{1cm}} \quad 3$$

$$2 \quad \xrightarrow{\hspace{1cm}} \quad 1$$

$$f_1: A_{\varphi(1)} \longrightarrow B_1$$

$$f_2: A_{\varphi(2)} \longrightarrow B_2$$

Claim : the category  $\text{Fam}(t)$

is a cartesian category.

Construction :

given two objects  $\underline{A} = [A_1, \dots, A_p]$   
 $\underline{B} = [B_1, \dots, B_q]$

of the category  $\text{Fam}(t)$

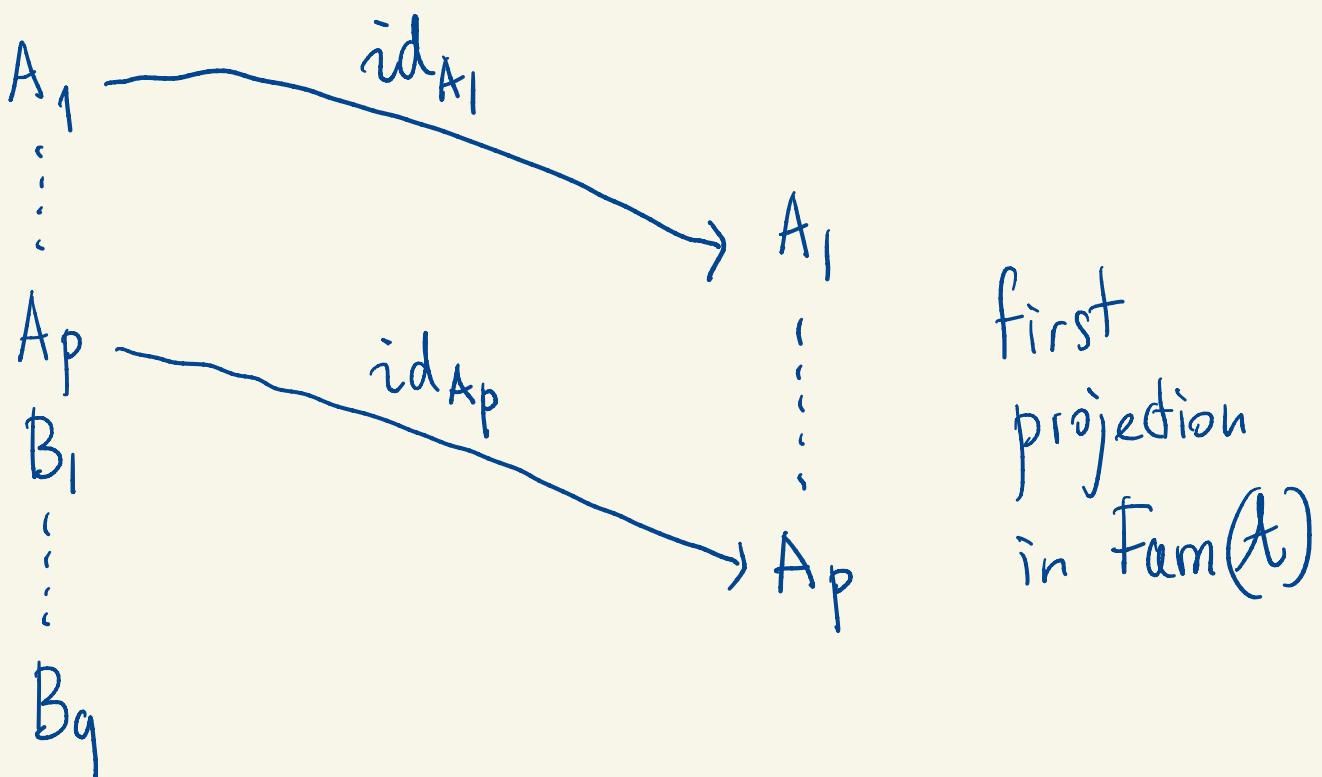
the cartesian product  $\underline{A} \times \underline{B}$

is defined as the object

$[A_1, \dots, A_p, B_1, \dots, B_q]$  in  $\text{Fam}(t)$

Moreover, note that the empty word  
[] is the terminal object of  $\text{Fam}(t)$ .

What are the projection maps?



$$\underline{A \times B} \xrightarrow{\pi_1} \underline{A} \quad \text{in } \text{Fam } t.$$

$$\pi_1 = (\varphi, [\text{id}_{A_1}, \dots, \text{id}_{A_p}])$$

where  $\varphi: j \mapsto j$

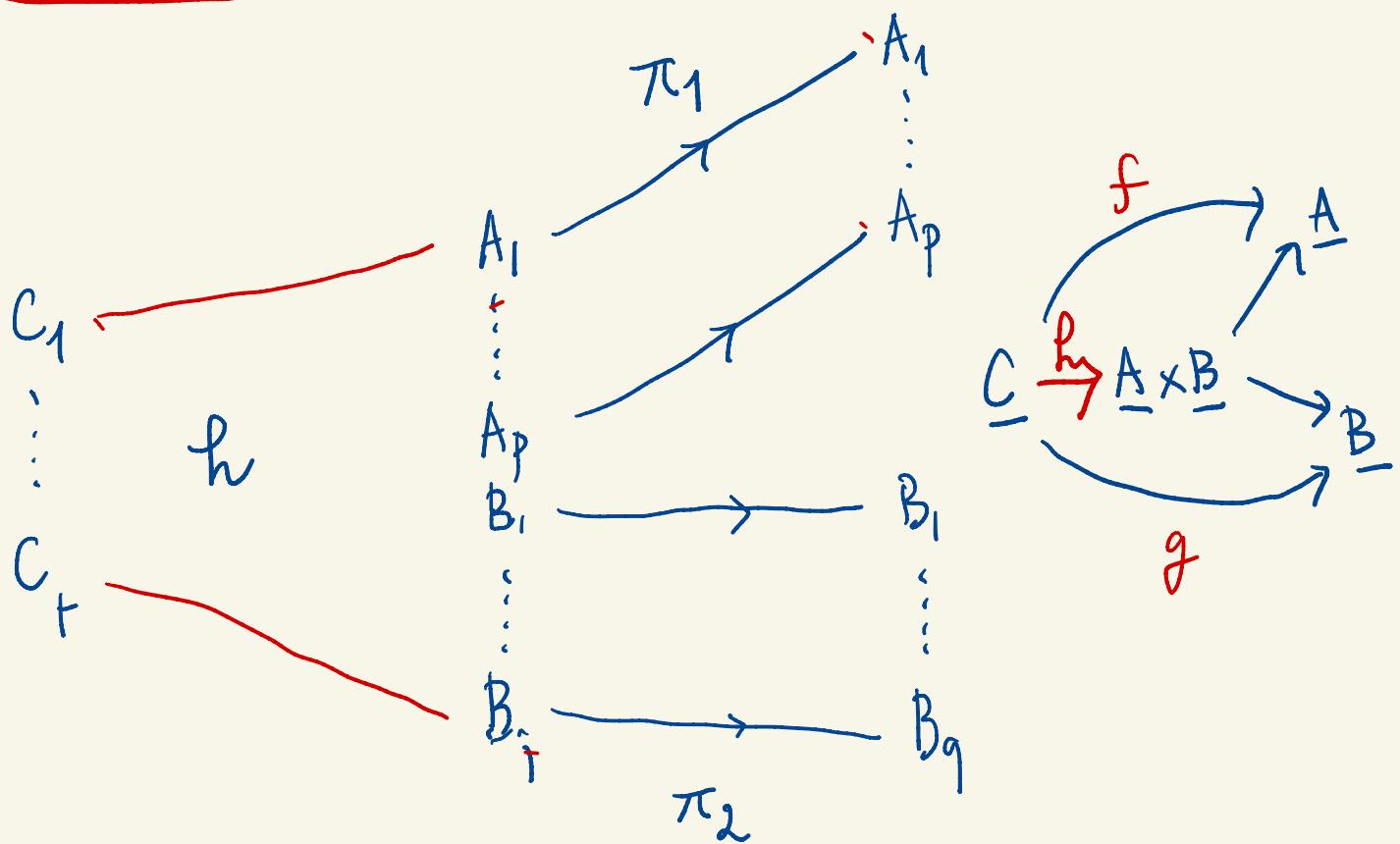
Similarly for the second projection map

$$\underline{A \times B} \xrightarrow{\pi_2} \underline{B}$$

$$\varphi: j \mapsto p+j$$

Exercise: conclude the proof that  $\text{Fam}(t)$  is (indeed) a cartesian category.

$$C_{\Psi_i} \longrightarrow A_i$$



$$C_{\Psi_j} \longrightarrow B_j$$

$h$  is (some kind  
of) concatenation  
of  $f$  and  $g$

$$h = ([\varphi, \psi], [f_1 \dots f_p, g_1 \dots g_q])$$

## Main theorem :

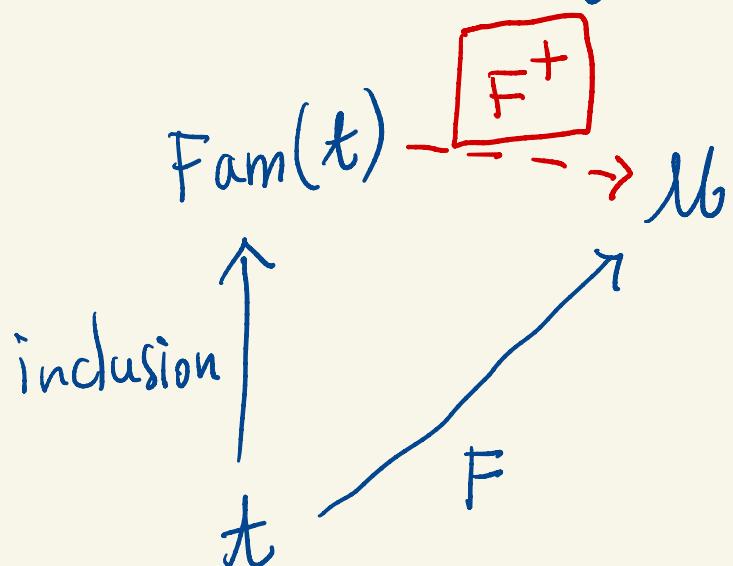
given any cartesian category  $\mathcal{M}$   
 $(\mathcal{M}, \times, \mathbb{1})$

and any functor  $t \xrightarrow{F} \mathcal{M}$

there exists a cartesian functor

$\text{Fam}(t) \xrightarrow{F^+} \mathcal{M}$

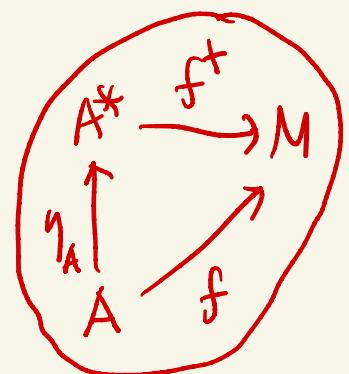
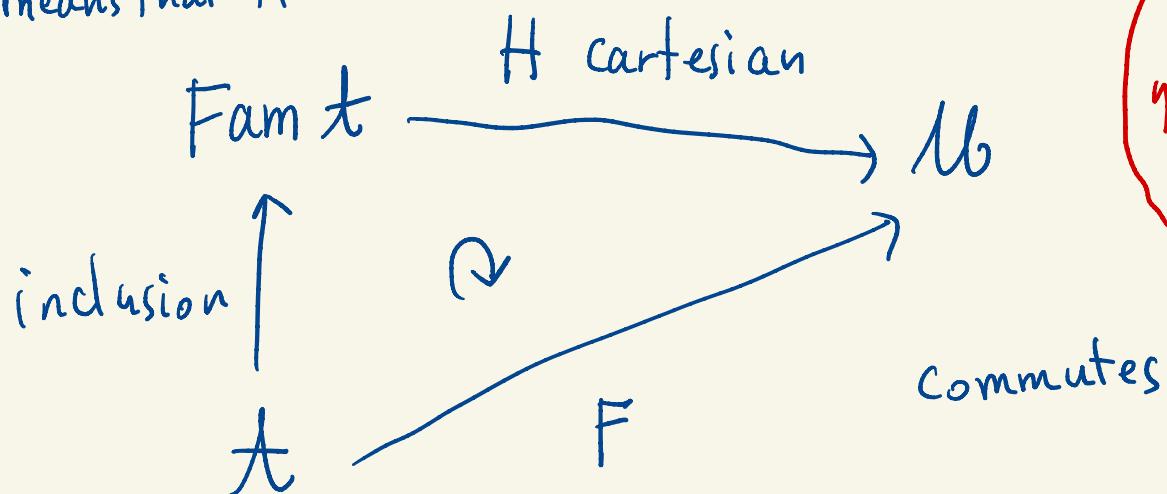
which makes the diagram below commute:



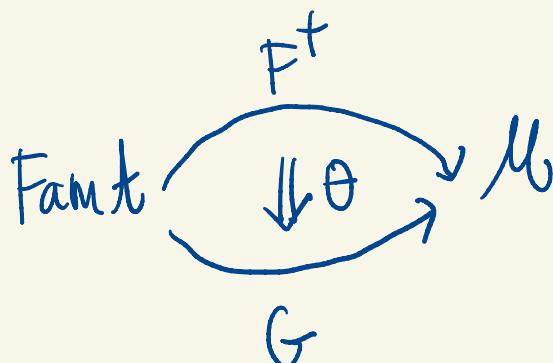
inclusion :  $t \xrightarrow{\quad} \text{Fam } t$   
 $A \longleftarrow [A]$

Moreover, the cartesian functor  $F^+$   
is unique up to unique isomorphism.

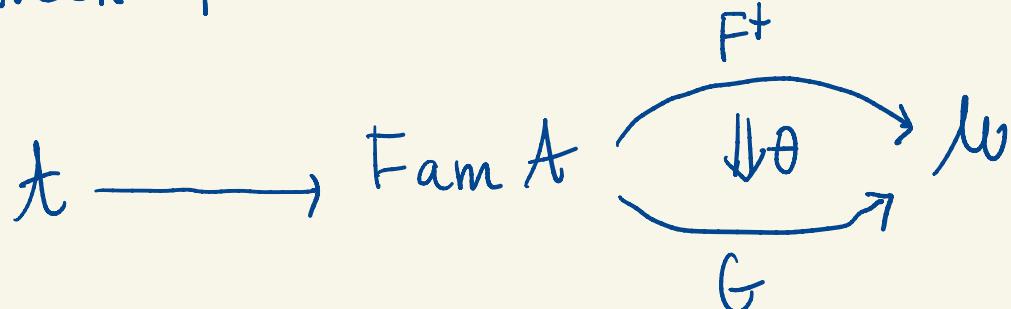
this means that if



then there exists a natural isomorphism



between  $F^+$  and  $G$  such that



is the identity. Moreover  $\theta$  is unique.

Final word :

suppose given an object  $A$   
in a cartesian category  $\mathcal{M}$ .

The object  $A$  defines a functor

$$\text{id} \begin{cases} \uparrow \\ * \end{cases} \text{terminal category} \quad \mathbb{1} \xrightarrow{A} \mathcal{M}$$

hence a cartesian functor

$$\text{Fam}(\mathbb{1}) \xrightarrow{A^+} \mathcal{M}$$

$\text{Fam}(\mathbb{1})$  is the category with finite words  
of the form  $[*, *, *, \dots, *]$   
 $\underbrace{[n]}$

and maps

$$[\mathfrak{p}] \xrightarrow{f = \varphi} [\mathfrak{q}]$$

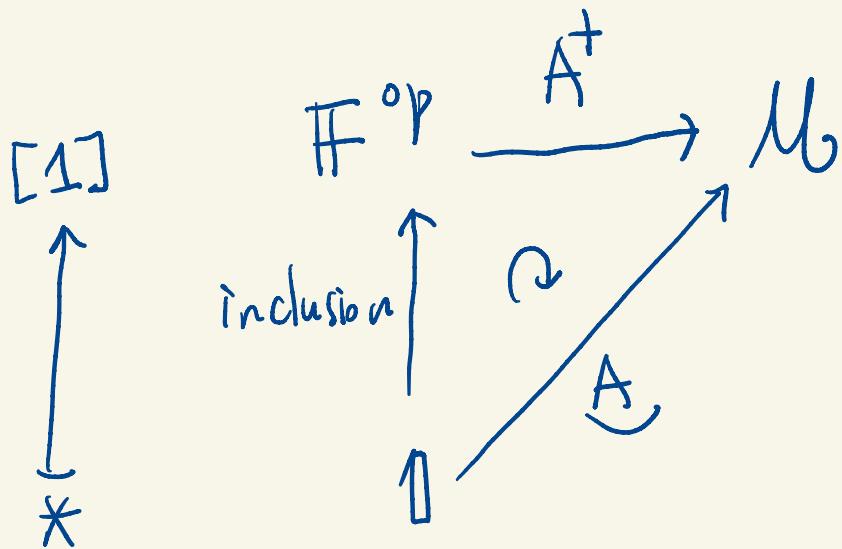
$$\varphi : \{1, \dots, \mathfrak{q}\} \longrightarrow \{1, \dots, \mathfrak{p}\}$$

What is  $\text{Fam}(\mathbb{I})$ ?

objects are natural numbers

maps are functions taken in the reverse direction.

$$\boxed{\text{Fam}(\mathbb{I}) = \mathbb{F}^{\text{op}}}$$



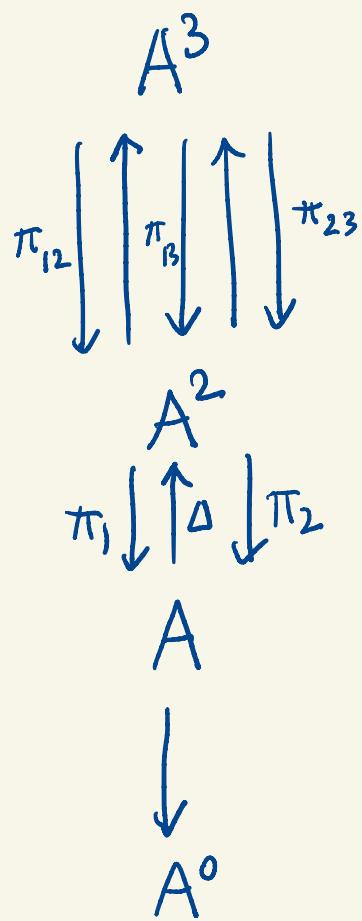
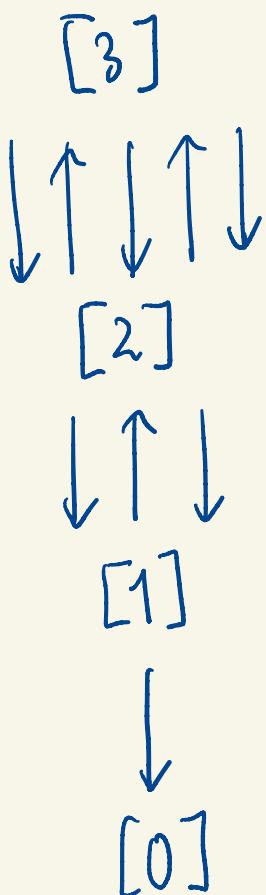
$$A^+ : [1] \longrightarrow A$$

$$[n] \longleftarrow A^n$$

Every object  $A$  in a cartesian category  $\mathcal{C}$

comes with a hierarchy of "powers"

$$A^0 = 1_{\mathcal{C}} \quad A \quad A^2 = A \times A \quad \dots \quad A^n \dots$$



$$\boxed{F^{\text{op}} = \text{Fam}(\mathbb{D})}$$

describes the hierarchy of objects  $A^n$   
in any cartesian category.