

# Categories

December 24, 2023

00YK Create tags (see [MSE 350788] for some of these):

1. ??
2. ??
3. ??
4. ??
5. ??
6. ??
7. ??
8. ??
9. write material on sections and retractions
10. define bicategory  $\text{Adj}(C)$
11. <https://www.google.com/search?q=category+of+categories+is+not+locally+cartesian+closed>
12. <https://math.stackexchange.com/questions/2864916/are-there-important-locally-cartesian-closed-categories-that-actually-are-not-cartesian-closed>
13. Cats is not locally Cartesian closed:  $f^*$  does have a left adjoint (the proof for fibred sets seems to apply for any category with pullbacks), but does not have a right adjoint, as proved in example 1.7 of [https://sinhp.github.io/files/CT/notes\\_on\\_lcccs.pdf](https://sinhp.github.io/files/CT/notes_on_lcccs.pdf)

14. internal **Hom** in categories of co/Cartesian fibrations
15. <https://mathoverflow.net/questions/460146/universal-property-of-isbell-duality>
16. <http://www.tac.mta.ca/tac/volumes/36/12/36-12abs.html>
17. Cartesian closed categories and locally Cartesian closed categories
  - (a) <https://ncatlab.org/nlab/show/locally+cartesian+closed+functor>
  - (b) <https://ncatlab.org/nlab/show/cartesian+closed+functor>
  - (c) <https://ncatlab.org/nlab/show/locally+cartesian+closed+category>
  - (d) <https://ncatlab.org/nlab/show/Frobenius+reciprocity>
18. <https://math.stackexchange.com/questions/3657046/the-inverse-of-a-natural-isomorphism-is-a-natural-isomorphism> to justify adjunctions via homs
19. <https://ncatlab.org/nlab/show/enrichment+versus+internalisation>
20. <https://mathoverflow.net/questions/382239/proof-that-a-cartesian-category-is-monoidal>

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## 1 Categories 00YL

### 1.1 Foundations 00YM

**Definition 1.1.1.1.** A **category**  $(C, \circ^C, \mathbb{1}^C)$  consists of<sup>1,2</sup>

- *Objects.* A class  $\text{Obj}(C)$  of **objects**;
- *Morphisms.* For each  $A, B \in \text{Obj}(C)$ , a class  $\text{Hom}_C(A, B)$ , called the **class of**

<sup>1</sup>*Further Notation:* We also write  $C(A, B)$  for  $\text{Hom}_C(A, B)$ .

<sup>2</sup>*Further Notation:* We write  $\text{Mor}(C)$  for the class of all morphisms of  $C$ .

**morphisms of  $C$  from  $A$  to  $B$ ;**

- *Identities.* For each  $A \in \text{Obj}(C)$ , a map of sets

$$\mathbb{K}_A^C: \text{pt} \rightarrow \text{Hom}_C(A, A),$$

called the **unit map of  $C$  at  $A$** , determining a morphism

$$\text{id}_A: A \rightarrow A$$

of  $C$ , called the **identity morphism of  $A$** ;

- *Composition.* For each  $A, B, C \in \text{Obj}(C)$ , a map of sets

$$\circ_{A,B,C}^C: \text{Hom}_C(B, C) \times \text{Hom}_C(A, B) \rightarrow \text{Hom}_C(A, C),$$

called the **composition map of  $C$  at  $(A, B, C)$** ;

such that the following conditions are satisfied:

1. *Left Unitality.* The diagram

$$\begin{array}{ccc} \text{pt} \times \text{Hom}_C(A, B) & & \\ \mathbb{K}_A^C \times \text{id}_{\text{Hom}_C(A, B)} \downarrow & \searrow \lambda_{\text{Hom}_C(A, B)}^{\text{Sets}} & \\ \text{Hom}_C(A, A) \times \text{Hom}_C(A, B) & \xrightarrow{\circ_{A,A,B}^C} & \text{Hom}_C(A, B) \end{array}$$

commutes, i.e. for each morphism  $f: A \rightarrow B$  of  $C$ , we have

$$\text{id}_B \circ f = f.$$

2. *Right Unitality.* The diagram

$$\begin{array}{ccc} \text{Hom}_C(A, B) \times \text{pt} & & \\ \text{id}_{\text{Hom}_C(A, B)} \times \mathbb{K}_B^C \downarrow & \searrow \rho_{\text{Hom}_C(A, B)}^{\text{Sets}} & \\ \text{Hom}_C(A, B) \times \text{Hom}_C(B, B) & \xrightarrow{\circ_{A,B,B}^C} & \text{Hom}_C(A, B) \end{array}$$

commutes, i.e. for each morphism  $f: A \rightarrow B$  of  $C$ , we have

$$f \circ \text{id}_A = f.$$

3. *Associativity.* The diagram

$$\begin{array}{ccccc}
 & & \text{Hom}_C(C, D) \times (\text{Hom}_C(B, C) \times \text{Hom}_C(A, B)) & & \\
 & \nearrow \alpha_{\text{Hom}_C(C, D), \text{Hom}_C(B, C), \text{Hom}_C(A, B)}^{\text{Sets}} & & \nwarrow \text{id}_{\text{Hom}_C(C, D)} \times \circ_{A, B, C}^C & \\
 (\text{Hom}_C(C, D) \times \text{Hom}_C(B, C)) \times \text{Hom}_C(A, B) & & & & \text{Hom}_C(C, D) \times \text{Hom}_C(A, C) \\
 & \searrow \circ_{B, C, D}^C \times \text{id}_{\text{Hom}_C(A, B)} & & \swarrow \circ_{A, C, D}^C & \\
 & \text{Hom}_C(B, D) \times \text{Hom}_C(A, B) & \xrightarrow{\circ_{A, B, D}^C} & \text{Hom}_C(A, D) & 
 \end{array}$$

commutes, i.e. for each composable triple  $(f, g, h)$  of morphisms of  $C$ , we have

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

**Definition 1.1.1.2.** Let  $\kappa$  be a regular cardinal. A category  $C$  is

1. **Locally small** if, for each  $A, B \in \text{Obj}(C)$ , the class  $\text{Hom}_C(A, B)$  is a set.
2. **Locally essentially small** if, for each  $A, B \in \text{Obj}(C)$ , the class

$$\text{Hom}_C(A, B) / \{\text{isomorphisms}\}$$

is a set.

3. **Small** if  $C$  is locally small and  $\text{Obj}(C)$  is a set.
4.  **$\kappa$ -Small** if  $C$  is locally small,  $\text{Obj}(C)$  is a set, and we have  $\#\text{Obj}(C) < \kappa$ .

## 1.2 Examples of Categories

**Example 1.2.1.1.** The **punctual category**  $\mathbf{pt}$  is the category  $\mathbf{pt}$  where

<sup>3</sup>Further Terminology: Also called the **singleton category**.

- *Objects.* We have

$$\text{Obj}(\text{pt}) \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} \{\star\};$$

- *Morphisms.* The unique Hom-set of pt is defined by

$$\text{Hom}_{\text{pt}}(\star, \star) \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} \{\text{id}_{\star}\};$$

- *Identities.* The unit map

$$\mathbb{K}_{\star}^{\text{pt}}: \text{pt} \rightarrow \text{Hom}_{\text{pt}}(\star, \star)$$

of pt at  $\star$  is defined by

$$\text{id}_{\star}^{\text{pt}} \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} \text{id}_{\star};$$

- *Composition.* The composition map

$$\circ_{\star, \star, \star}^{\text{pt}}: \text{Hom}_{\text{pt}}(\star, \star) \times \text{Hom}_{\text{pt}}(\star, \star) \rightarrow \text{Hom}_{\text{pt}}(\star, \star)$$

of pt at  $(\star, \star, \star)$  is given by the bijection  $\text{pt} \times \text{pt} \cong \text{pt}$ .

**Example 1.2.1.2.** We have an isomorphism of categories<sup>4</sup>

$$\begin{array}{ccc} \text{Mon} & \longrightarrow & \text{Cats} \\ \downarrow \lrcorner & & \downarrow \text{Obj} \\ \text{pt} & \xrightarrow{[\text{pt}]} & \text{Sets} \end{array}$$

$\text{Mon} \cong \text{pt} \times_{\text{Sets}} \text{Cats},$

via the delooping functor  $B: \text{Mon} \rightarrow \text{Cats}$  of ?? of ??.

*Proof.* Omitted. □

**Example 1.2.1.3.** The **empty category** is the category  $\emptyset_{\text{cat}}$  where

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<sup>4</sup>This can be enhanced to an isomorphism of 2-categories

$$\begin{array}{ccc} \text{Mon}_{2\text{-disc}} & \longrightarrow & \text{Cats}_{2,*} \\ \downarrow \lrcorner & & \downarrow \text{Obj} \\ \text{pt}_{\text{bi}} & \xrightarrow{[\text{pt}]} & \text{Sets}_{2\text{-disc}} \end{array}$$

$\text{Mon}_{2\text{-disc}} \cong \text{pt}_{\text{bi}} \times_{\text{Sets}_{2\text{-disc}}} \text{Cats}_{2,*},$

between the discrete 2-category  $\text{Mon}_{2\text{-disc}}$  on Mon and the 2-category of pointed categories with one object.

- *Objects.* We have

$$\text{Obj}(\emptyset_{\text{cat}}) \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} \emptyset;$$

- *Morphisms.* We have

$$\text{Mor}(\emptyset_{\text{cat}}) \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} \emptyset;$$

- *Identities and Composition.* Having no objects,  $\emptyset_{\text{cat}}$  has no unit nor composition maps.

**Example 1.2.1.4.** The *n*th ordinal category  $\mathbb{O}_n$  is the category  $\ltimes$  where<sup>5</sup>

- *Objects.* We have

$$\text{Obj}(\ltimes) \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} \{[0], \dots, [n]\};$$

- *Morphisms.* For each  $[i], [j] \in \text{Obj}(\ltimes)$ , we have

$$\text{Hom}_{\ltimes}([i], [j]) \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} \begin{cases} \{\text{id}_{[i]}\} & \text{if } [i] = [j], \\ \{[i] \rightarrow [j]\} & \text{if } [j] < [i], \\ \emptyset & \text{if } [j] > [i]; \end{cases}$$

- *Identities.* For each  $[i] \in \text{Obj}(\ltimes)$ , the unit map

$$\mathbb{K}_{[i]}^{\ltimes} : \text{pt} \rightarrow \text{Hom}_{\ltimes}([i], [i])$$

of  $\ltimes$  at  $[i]$  is defined by

$$\text{id}_{[i]}^{\ltimes} \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} \text{id}_{[i]};$$

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<sup>5</sup>In other words,  $\ltimes$  is the category associated to the poset

$$[0] \rightarrow [1] \rightarrow \dots \rightarrow [n-1] \rightarrow [n].$$

The category  $\ltimes$  for  $n \geq 2$  may also be defined in terms of  $\ltimes$  and joins: we have isomorphisms of categories

$$\begin{aligned} \mathbb{K} &\cong \ltimes \star \ltimes, \\ \ltimes &\cong \mathbb{K} \star \ltimes \\ &\cong (\ltimes \star \ltimes) \star \ltimes, \\ \mathbb{K} &\cong \ltimes \star \ltimes \\ &\cong (\mathbb{K} \star \ltimes) \star \ltimes \\ &\cong ((\ltimes \star \ltimes) \star \ltimes) \star \ltimes, \\ \mathbb{K} &\cong \mathbb{K} \star \ltimes \\ &\cong (\ltimes \star \ltimes) \star \ltimes \\ &\cong ((\mathbb{K} \star \ltimes) \star \ltimes) \star \ltimes \\ &\cong (((\ltimes \star \ltimes) \star \ltimes) \star \ltimes) \star \ltimes, \end{aligned}$$

- *Composition.* For each  $[i], [j], [k] \in \text{Obj}(\ltimes)$ , the composition map

$$\circ_{[i],[j],[k]}^{\ltimes} : \text{Hom}_{\ltimes}([j], [k]) \times \text{Hom}_{\ltimes}([i], [j]) \rightarrow \text{Hom}_{\ltimes}([i], [k])$$

of  $\ltimes$  at  $([i], [j], [k])$  is defined by

$$\begin{aligned} \text{id}_{[i]} \circ \text{id}_{[i]} &= \text{id}_{[i]}, \\ ([j] \rightarrow [k]) \circ ([i] \rightarrow [j]) &= ([i] \rightarrow [k]). \end{aligned}$$

**Example 1.2.1.5.** Here we list all the other categories that appear throughout this work.

- The category  $\text{Sets}_*$  of pointed sets of **Pointed Sets, Definition 1.3.1.1.**
- The category  $\text{Rel}$  of sets and relations of **Relations, Definition 2.1.1.1.**
- The category  $\text{Span}(A, B)$  of spans from a set  $A$  to a set  $B$  of **Spans, Definition 2.1.1.1.**
- The category  $\text{ISets}(K)$  of  $K$ -indexed sets of **Indexed Sets, Definition 1.3.1.1.**
- The category  $\text{ISets}$  of indexed sets of **Indexed Sets, Definition 1.4.1.1.**
- The category  $\text{FibSets}(K)$  of  $K$ -fibred sets of **Fibred Sets, Definition 1.3.1.1.**
- The category  $\text{FibSets}$  of fibred sets of **Fibred Sets, Definition 1.4.1.1.**

### 1.3 Subcategories

Let  $C$  be a category.

**Definition 1.3.1.1.** A **subcategory** of  $C$  is a category  $\mathcal{A}$  satisfying the following conditions:

1. *Objects.* We have  $\text{Obj}(\mathcal{A}) \subset \text{Obj}(C)$ .
2. *Morphisms.* For each  $A, B \in \text{Obj}(\mathcal{A})$ , we have

$$\text{Hom}_{\mathcal{A}}(A, B) \subset \text{Hom}_C(A, B).$$

3. *Identities.* For each  $A \in \text{Obj}(\mathcal{A})$ , we have

$$\mathbb{1}_A^{\mathcal{A}} = \mathbb{1}_A^C.$$

4. *Composition.* For each  $A, B, C \in \text{Obj}(\mathcal{A})$ , we have

$$\circ_{A,B,C}^{\mathcal{A}} = \circ_{A,B,C}^C.$$

**Definition 1.3.1.2.** A subcategory  $\mathcal{A}$  of a category  $C$  is **full** if the canonical inclusion functor  $\mathcal{A} \rightarrow C$  is full, i.e. if, for each  $A, B \in \text{Obj}(\mathcal{A})$ , the inclusion

$$\iota_{A,B}: \text{Hom}_{\mathcal{A}}(A, B) \hookrightarrow \text{Hom}_C(A, B)$$

is surjective (and thus bijective).

**Definition 1.3.1.3.** A subcategory  $\mathcal{A}$  of a category  $C$  is **strictly full** if it satisfies the following conditions:

1. *Fullness.* The subcategory  $\mathcal{A}$  is full.
2. *Closedness Under Isomorphisms.* The class  $\text{Obj}(\mathcal{A})$  is closed under isomorphisms.<sup>6</sup>

**Definition 1.3.1.4.** A subcategory  $\mathcal{A}$  of  $C$  is **wide**<sup>7</sup> if  $\text{Obj}(\mathcal{A}) = \text{Obj}(C)$ .

## 1.4 Skeletons of Categories

**Definition 1.4.1.1.** A **skeleton** of a category  $C$  is a full subcategory  $\text{Sk}(C)$  with one object from each isomorphism class of objects of  $C$ .

**Definition 1.4.1.2.** A category  $C$  is **skeletal**<sup>8</sup> if  $\text{Sk}(C) \cong C$ .

**Proposition 1.4.1.3.** Let  $C$  be a category.

1. *Existence.* Assuming the axiom of choice,  $\text{Sk}(C)$  always exists.
2. *Pseudofunctoriality.* The assignment  $C \mapsto \text{Sk}(C)$  defines a pseudofunctor

$$\text{Sk}: \text{Cats}_2 \rightarrow \text{Cats}_2.$$

3. *Uniqueness Up to Equivalence.* Any two skeletons of  $C$  are equivalent.
4. *Inclusions of Skeletons Are Equivalences.* The inclusion

$$\iota_C: \text{Sk}(C) \hookrightarrow C$$

of a skeleton of  $C$  into  $C$  is an equivalence of categories.

and so on.

<sup>6</sup>That is, given  $A \in \text{Obj}(\mathcal{A})$  and  $C \in \text{Obj}(C)$ , if  $C \cong A$ , then  $C \in \text{Obj}(\mathcal{A})$ .

<sup>7</sup>*Further Terminology:* Also called **iluf**.

<sup>8</sup>Due to ?? of ??, we often refer to any such full subcategory  $\text{Sk}(C)$  of  $C$  as *the* skeleton of  $C$ .

<sup>9</sup>That is,  $C$  is **skeletal** if isomorphic objects of  $C$  are equal.



*Proof. ??, Existence:* See [nlab:skeleton].

*??, Pseudofunctoriality:* See [nlab:skeleton].

*??, Uniqueness Up to Equivalence:* Clear.

*??, Inclusions of Skeletons Are Equivalences:* Clear. □

## 1.5 Precomposition and Postcomposition

Let  $C$  be a category and let  $A, B, C \in \text{Obj}(C)$ .

**Definition 1.5.1.1.** Let  $f: A \rightarrow B$  and  $g: B \rightarrow C$  be morphisms of  $C$ .

- The **precomposition function associated to  $f$**  is the function

$$f^*: \text{Hom}_C(B, C) \rightarrow \text{Hom}_C(A, C)$$

defined by

$$f^*(\phi) \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} \phi \circ f$$

for each  $\phi \in \text{Hom}_C(B, C)$ .

- The **postcomposition function associated to  $g$**  is the function

$$g_*: \text{Hom}_C(A, B) \rightarrow \text{Hom}_C(A, C)$$

defined by

$$g_*(\phi) \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} g \circ \phi$$

for each  $\phi \in \text{Hom}_C(A, B)$ .

**Proposition 1.5.1.2.** Let  $A, B, C, D \in \text{Obj}(C)$  and let  $f: A \rightarrow B$  and  $g: B \rightarrow C$  be morphisms of  $C$ .

1. *Interaction Between Precomposition and Postcomposition.* We have

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$$\begin{array}{ccc}
 \text{Hom}_C(B, C) & \xrightarrow{g_*} & \text{Hom}_C(B, D) \\
 f^* \downarrow & & \downarrow f^* \\
 \text{Hom}_C(A, C) & \xrightarrow{g_*} & \text{Hom}_C(A, D).
 \end{array}$$

$g_* \circ f^* = f^* \circ g_*$

2. *Interaction With Composition I.* We have

00ZD

$$\begin{array}{ccc}
 \text{Hom}_C(X, A) & \xrightarrow{f_*} & \text{Hom}_C(X, B) \\
 & \searrow (g \circ f)_* & \downarrow g_* \\
 & & \text{Hom}_C(X, C), \\
 \\ 
 \text{Hom}_C(C, X) & \xrightarrow{g^*} & \text{Hom}_C(B, X) \\
 & \searrow (g \circ f)^* & \downarrow f^* \\
 & & \text{Hom}_C(A, X).
 \end{array}$$

$(g \circ f)^* = f^* \circ g^*,$   
 $(g \circ f)_* = g_* \circ f_*,$

3. *Interaction With Composition II.* We have

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$$\begin{array}{ccc}
 \text{pt} \xrightarrow{[f]} \text{Hom}_C(A, B) & & \text{pt} \xrightarrow{[g]} \text{Hom}_C(B, C) \\
 \searrow [g \circ f] \quad \downarrow g_* & [g \circ f] = g_* \circ [f], & \searrow [g \circ f] \quad \downarrow f^* \\
 \text{Hom}_C(A, C) & [g \circ f] = f^* \circ [g], & \text{Hom}_C(A, C).
 \end{array}$$

4. *Interaction With Composition III.* We have

00ZF

$$\begin{array}{ccc}
 \text{Hom}_C(B, C) \times \text{Hom}_C(A, B) & \xrightarrow{\circ_{A,B,C}^C} & \text{Hom}_C(A, C) \\
 \downarrow \text{id} \times f^* & & \downarrow f^* \\
 \text{Hom}_C(B, C) \times \text{Hom}_C(X, B) & \xrightarrow{\circ_{X,B,C}^C} & \text{Hom}_C(X, C), \\
 \\ 
 \text{Hom}_C(B, C) \times \text{Hom}_C(A, B) & \xrightarrow{\circ_{A,B,C}^C} & \text{Hom}_C(A, C) \\
 \downarrow g_* \times \text{id} & & \downarrow g_* \\
 \text{Hom}_C(B, D) \times \text{Hom}_C(A, B) & \xrightarrow{\circ_{A,B,D}^C} & \text{Hom}_C(A, D).
 \end{array}$$

$f^* \circ \circ_{A,B,C}^C = \circ_{X,B,C}^C \circ (f^* \times \text{id}),$   
 $g_* \circ \circ_{A,B,C}^C = \circ_{A,B,D}^C \circ (\text{id} \times g_*),$

5. *Interaction With Identities.* We have

00ZG

$$\begin{aligned}
 (\text{id}_A)^* &= \text{id}_{\text{Hom}_C(A,B)}, \\
 (\text{id}_B)_* &= \text{id}_{\text{Hom}_C(A,B)}.
 \end{aligned}$$

*Proof.*  $\lambda\lambda$ , *Interaction Between Precomposition and Postcomposition*: Clear.

$\lambda\lambda$ , *Interaction With Composition I*: Clear.

$\lambda\lambda$ , *Interaction With Composition II*: Clear.

$\lambda\lambda$ , *Interaction With Composition III*: Clear.

$\lambda\lambda$ , *Interaction With Identities*: Clear.

□