Tensor Products of Pointed Sets

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This chapter contains some material on tensor products of pointed sets.

Contents

1 Bilinear Morphisms of Pointed Sets

1.1 Left Bilinear Morphisms of Pointed Sets

Let (X, x_0), (Y, y_0), and (Z, z_0) be pointed sets.

Definition 1.1.1.1. A **left bilinear morphism of pointed sets from** $(X \times Y, (x_0, y_0))$ **to** (Z, z_0) is a map of sets

$$f \colon (X \times Y, (x_0, y_0)) \to (Z, z_0)$$

satisfying the following condition:[1,2]

(⋆) *Left Unital Bilinearity.* The diagram

$$\begin{tikzcd}
 & \mathrm{pt} \times \mathrm{pt} \arrow[dr, dashed, "\sim"] & \\
\mathrm{pt} \times Y \arrow[ur, "\mathrm{id}_{\mathrm{pt}} \times \epsilon_Y"] \arrow[d, "{[x_0] \times \mathrm{id}_Y}"'] & & \mathrm{pt} \arrow[d, "{[z_0]}"] \\
X \times Y \arrow[rr, "f"'] & & Z
\end{tikzcd}$$

commutes, i.e. for each $y \in Y$, we have

$$f(x_0, y) = z_0.$$

Definition 1.1.1.2. The **set of left bilinear morphisms of pointed sets from** $(X \times Y, (x_0, y_0))$ **to** (Z, z_0) is the set $\mathrm{Hom}^{\otimes,\mathrm{L}}_{\mathsf{Sets}_*}(X \times Y, Z)$ defined by

$$\mathrm{Hom}^{\otimes,\mathrm{L}}_{\mathsf{Sets}_*}(X \times Y, Z) \overset{\mathrm{def}}{=} \{f \in \mathsf{Sets}_*(A \times B, C) \mid f \text{ is left bilinear}\}.$$

[1] *Slogan:* f is left bilinear if it preserves basepoints in its first argument.

[2] Succinctly, f is bilinear if we have

$$f(x_0, y) = z_0$$

for each $y \in Y$.

1.2 Right Bilinear Morphisms of Pointed Sets

Let (X, x_0), (Y, y_0), and (Z, z_0) be pointed sets.

Definition 1.2.1.1. A **right bilinear morphism of pointed sets from** $(X \times Y, (x_0, y_0))$ **to** (Z, z_0) is a map of sets

$$f\colon (X \times Y, (x_0, y_0)) \to (Z, z_0)$$

satisfying the following condition:[3,4]

($\star$) *Right Unital Bilinearity.* The diagram

$$\begin{tikzcd}
& \mathrm{pt} \times \mathrm{pt} \arrow[dr, dashed, "\sim"] & \\
X \times \mathrm{pt} \arrow[ur, "\epsilon_X \times \mathrm{id}_{\mathrm{pt}}"] \arrow[d, "\mathrm{id}_X \times [y_0]"'] & & \mathrm{pt} \arrow[d, "[z_0]"] \\
X \times Y \arrow[rr, "f"'] & & Z
\end{tikzcd}$$

commutes, i.e. for each $x \in X$, we have

$$f(x, y_0) = z_0.$$

Definition 1.2.1.2. The **set of right bilinear morphisms of pointed sets from** $(X \times Y, (x_0, y_0))$ **to** (Z, z_0) is the set $\mathrm{Hom}^{\otimes,\mathrm{R}}_{\mathsf{Sets}_*}(X \times Y, Z)$ defined by

$$\mathrm{Hom}^{\otimes,\mathrm{R}}_{\mathsf{Sets}_*}(X \times Y, Z) \overset{\mathrm{def}}{=} \{f \in \mathsf{Sets}_*(A \times B, C) \mid f \text{ is right bilinear}\}.$$

1.3 Bilinear Morphisms of Pointed Sets

Let (X, x_0), (Y, y_0), and (Z, z_0) be pointed sets.

Definition 1.3.1.1. A **bilinear morphism of pointed sets from** $(X \times Y, (x_0, y_0))$ **to** (Z, z_0) is a map of sets

$$f\colon (X \times Y, (x_0, y_0)) \to (Z, z_0)$$

that is both left bilinear and right bilinear.

[3] *Slogan:* f is right bilinear if it preserves basepoints in its second argument.

[4] Succinctly, f is bilinear if we have

$$f(x, y_0) = z_0$$

Remark 1.3.1.2. In detail, a **bilinear morphism of pointed sets from** $(X \times Y, (x_0, y_0))$ **to** (Z, z_0) is a map of sets

$$f \colon (X \times Y, (x_0, y_0)) \to (Z, z_0)$$

satisfying the following conditions:[5,6]

1. *Left Unital Bilinearity.* The diagram

$$\begin{tikzcd}
 & & \mathrm{pt} \times \mathrm{pt} \arrow[drr, dashed, "\sim"] & & \\
\mathrm{pt} \times Y \arrow[urr, "\mathrm{id}_{\mathrm{pt}} \times \epsilon_Y"] \arrow[dr, "{[x_0] \times \mathrm{id}_Y}"'] & & & & \mathrm{pt} \arrow[dl, "{[z_0]}"] \\
 & X \times Y \arrow[rr, "f"'] & & Z &
\end{tikzcd}$$

   commutes, i.e. for each $y \in Y$, we have

$$f(x_0, y) = z_0.$$

2. *Right Unital Bilinearity.* The diagram

$$\begin{tikzcd}
 & & \mathrm{pt} \times \mathrm{pt} \arrow[drr, dashed, "\sim"] & & \\
X \times \mathrm{pt} \arrow[urr, "\epsilon_X \times \mathrm{id}_{\mathrm{pt}}"] \arrow[dr, "{\mathrm{id}_X \times [y_0]}"'] & & & & \mathrm{pt} \arrow[dl, "{[z_0]}"] \\
 & X \times Y \arrow[rr, "f"'] & & Z &
\end{tikzcd}$$

   commutes, i.e. for each $x \in X$, we have

$$f(x, y_0) = z_0.$$

for each $x \in X$.

[5] *Slogan:* f is bilinear if it preserves basepoints in each argument.

[6] Succinctly, f is bilinear if we have

$$\begin{aligned} f(x_0, y) &= z_0, \\ f(x, y_0) &= z_0 \end{aligned}$$

Definition 1.3.1.3. The **set of bilinear morphisms of pointed sets from** $(X \times Y, (x_0, y_0))$ **to** (Z, z_0) is the set $\mathrm{Hom}^{\otimes}_{\mathsf{Sets}_*}(X \times Y, Z)$ defined by

$$\mathrm{Hom}^{\otimes}_{\mathsf{Sets}_*}(X \times Y, Z) \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} \{f \in \mathsf{Sets}_*(A \times B, C) \mid f \text{ is bilinear}\}.$$

2 Tensors and Cotensors of Pointed Sets by Sets

2.1 Tensors of Pointed Sets by Sets

Let (X, x_0) be a pointed set and let A be a set.

Definition 2.1.1.1. The **tensor of** (X, x_0) **by** A is the pointed set $A \odot (X, x_0)$ satisfying the following universal property:

(**UP**) We have a bijection

$$\mathsf{Sets}_*(A \odot X, K) \cong \mathsf{Sets}(A, \mathbf{Sets}_*(X, K)),$$

natural in $(K, k_0) \in \mathrm{Obj}(\mathsf{Sets}_*)$.

Remark 2.1.1.2. The tensor of (X, x_0) by A satisfies the following universal property:

$$\mathsf{Sets}_*(A \odot X, K) \cong \mathsf{Sets}^{\otimes}_{\mathbb{E}_0}(A \times X, K),$$

where $\mathsf{Sets}^{\otimes}_{\mathbb{E}_0}(A \times X, K)$ is the set defined by

$$\mathsf{Sets}^{\otimes}_{\mathbb{E}_0}(A \times X, K) \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} \left\{ f \in \mathsf{Sets}(A \times X, K) \,\middle|\, \begin{array}{l}\text{for each } a \in A, \text{ we} \\ \text{have } f(a, x_0) = k_0\end{array} \right\}.$$

Construction 2.1.1.3. Concretely, the **tensor of** (X, x_0) **by** A is the pointed set $A \odot (X, x_0)$ consisting of

- *The Underlying Set.* The set $A \odot X$ given by
$$A \odot X \cong \bigvee_{a \in A} (X, x_0);$$
- *The Basepoint.* The point $[x_0]$ of $\bigvee_{a \in A}(X, x_0)$.

2.2 Cotensors of Pointed Sets by Sets

Let (X, x_0) be a pointed set and let A be a set.

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for each $x \in X$ and each $y \in Y$.

Definition 2.2.1.1. The **cotensor of** (X, x_0) **by** A is the pointed set $A \pitchfork (X, x_0)$ satisfying the following universal property:

(**UP**) We have a bijection

$$\mathsf{Sets}_*(K, A \pitchfork X) \cong \mathsf{Sets}(A, \mathbf{Sets}_*(K, X)),$$

natural in $(K, k_0) \in \mathrm{Obj}(\mathsf{Sets}_*)$.

Remark 2.2.1.2. The cotensor of (X, x_0) by A satisfies the following universal property:

$$\mathsf{Sets}_*(K, A \pitchfork X) \cong \mathsf{Sets}^{\otimes}_{\mathbb{E}_0}(A \times K, X),$$

where $\mathsf{Sets}^{\otimes}_{\mathbb{E}_0}(A \times K, X)$ is the set defined by

$$\mathsf{Sets}^{\otimes}_{\mathbb{E}_0}(A \times K, X) \overset{\text{def}}{=} \left\{ f \in \mathsf{Sets}(A \times K, X) \;\middle|\; \begin{array}{l} \text{for each } a \in A, \text{ we} \\ \text{have } f(a, k_0) = x_0 \end{array} \right\}.$$

Construction 2.2.1.3. Concretely, the **cotensor of** (X, x_0) **by** A is the pointed set $A \pitchfork (X, x_0)$ consisting of

- *The Underlying Set.* The set $A \pitchfork X$ given by

$$A \pitchfork X \cong \bigwedge_{a \in A} (X, x_0);$$

- *The Basepoint.* The point $[(x_0, x_0, x_0, \ldots)]$ of $\bigwedge_{a \in A}(X, x_0)$.

3 The Left Tensor Product of Pointed Sets

3.1 Foundations

Let (X, x_0) and (Y, y_0) be pointed sets.

Definition 3.1.1.1. The **left tensor product of pointed sets** is the functor

$$\lhd_{\mathsf{Sets}_*} \colon \mathsf{Sets}_* \times \mathsf{Sets}_* \to \mathsf{Sets}_*$$

defined as the composition

$$\mathsf{Sets}_* \times \mathsf{Sets}_* \xrightarrow{\mathrm{id} \times 忘} \mathsf{Sets}_* \times \mathsf{Sets} \xrightarrow{\beta^{\mathsf{Cats}_2}_{\mathsf{Sets}_*, \mathsf{Sets}}} \mathsf{Sets} \times \mathsf{Sets}_* \xrightarrow{\odot} \mathsf{Sets}_*.$$

Remark 3.1.1.2. The left tensor product of pointed sets satisfies the following universal property:[7]

$$\mathsf{Sets}_*(X \lhd_{\mathsf{Sets}_*} Y, Z) \cong \mathrm{Hom}^{\otimes,\mathrm{L}}_{\mathsf{Sets}_*}(X \times Y, Z).$$

Remark 3.1.1.3. In detail, the **left tensor product of** (X, x_0) **and** (Y, y_0) is the pointed set $(X \lhd_{\mathsf{Sets}_*} Y, [x_0])$ consisting of[8]

- *The Underlying Set.* The set $X \lhd_{\mathsf{Sets}_*} Y$ defined by

$$\begin{aligned} X \lhd_{\mathsf{Sets}_*} Y &\stackrel{\text{def}}{=} |Y| \odot X \\ &\cong \bigvee_{y \in Y} (X, x_0); \end{aligned}$$

- *The Underlying Basepoint.* The point $[x_0]$ of $\bigvee_{y \in Y}(X, x_0)$.

Proposition 3.1.1.4. Let (X, x_0) and (Y, y_0) be pointed sets.

1. *Functoriality.* The assignments $X, Y, (X, Y) \mapsto X \lhd_{\mathsf{Sets}_*} Y$ define functors

$$\begin{aligned} X \lhd_{\mathsf{Sets}_*} - &\colon \mathsf{Sets}_* \to \mathsf{Sets}_*, \\ - \lhd_{\mathsf{Sets}_*} Y &\colon \mathsf{Sets}_* \to \mathsf{Sets}_*, \\ -_1 \lhd_{\mathsf{Sets}_*} -_2 &\colon \mathsf{Sets}_* \times \mathsf{Sets}_* \to \mathsf{Sets}_*. \end{aligned}$$

Proof. *Item 1*, *Functoriality*: Omitted. □

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[7] Namely, a pointed map $f \colon X \lhd_{\mathsf{Sets}_*} Y \to Z$ is the same as a map $f^\dagger \colon X \times Y \to Z$ such that

$$f^\dagger(x_0, y) = z_0$$

for each $y \in Y$.

[8] *Further Notation:* We write $x \lhd_{\mathsf{Sets}_*} y$ for the image of (x, y) under the map

$$X \times Y \to \underbrace{X \lhd_{\mathsf{Sets}_*} Y}_{\cong \bigvee_{y \in Y}(X, x_0)}.$$

sending (x, y) to the element $x \in X$ in the yth copy of X in $\bigvee_{y \in Y}(X, x_0)$. Note that we have

$$x_0 \lhd_{\mathsf{Sets}_*} y = x_0 \lhd_{\mathsf{Sets}_*} y',$$

for each $y, y' \in Y$.

3.2 The Skew Associator

Definition 3.2.1.1. The **skew associator of the left tensor product of pointed sets** is the natural isomorphism

$$\alpha^{\mathsf{Sets}_*,\lhd}\colon \lhd_{\mathsf{Sets}_*}\circ(\lhd_{\mathsf{Sets}_*}\times \mathrm{id}_{\mathsf{Sets}_*}) \overset{\cong}{\Longrightarrow} \lhd_{\mathsf{Sets}_*}\circ(\mathrm{id}_{\mathsf{Sets}_*}\times\lhd_{\mathsf{Sets}_*}),$$

whose component

$$\alpha^{\mathsf{Sets}_*,\lhd}_{X,Y,Z}\colon (X\lhd_{\mathsf{Sets}_*}Y)\lhd_{\mathsf{Sets}_*}Z \xrightarrow{\cong} X\lhd_{\mathsf{Sets}_*}(Y\lhd_{\mathsf{Sets}_*}Z)$$

at (X,Y,Z) is given by the composition[9]

$$\begin{aligned}
(X\lhd_{\mathsf{Sets}_*}Y)\lhd_{\mathsf{Sets}_*}Z &\overset{\text{def}}{=} |Z|\odot(X\lhd_{\mathsf{Sets}_*}Y)\\
&\overset{\text{def}}{=} |Z|\odot(|Y|\odot X)\\
&\cong \bigvee_{z\in Z}(|Y|\odot X,[x_0])\\
&\overset{\text{def}}{=} \bigvee_{z\in Z}\left(\bigvee_{y\in Y}(X,x_0)\right)\\
&\cong \bigvee_{(z,y)\in\bigvee_{z\in Z}(Y,y_0)}(X,x_0)\\
&\overset{\text{def}}{=} \bigvee_{(z,y)\in|Z|\odot Y}(X,x_0)\\
&\cong ||Z|\odot Y|\odot X\\
&\overset{\text{def}}{=} |Y\lhd_{\mathsf{Sets}_*}Z|\odot X\\
&\overset{\text{def}}{=} X\lhd_{\mathsf{Sets}_*}(Y\lhd_{\mathsf{Sets}_*}Z),
\end{aligned}$$

where the isomorphism

$$\bigvee_{z\in Z}\left(\bigvee_{y\in Y}(X,x_0)\right)\cong\bigvee_{(y,z)\in\bigvee_{z\in Z}(Y,y_0)}(X,x_0)$$

is given by $[(z,(y,x))]\mapsto[((z,y),x)]$.

[9] In other words, $\alpha^{\mathsf{Sets}_*,\lhd}_{X,Y,Z}$ acts on elements as

$$\alpha^{\mathsf{Sets}_*,\lhd}_{X,Y,Z}((x\lhd_{\mathsf{Sets}_*}y)\lhd_{\mathsf{Sets}_*}z)\overset{\text{def}}{=}x\lhd_{\mathsf{Sets}_*}(y\lhd_{\mathsf{Sets}_*}z)$$

for each $(x\lhd_{\mathsf{Sets}_*}y)\lhd_{\mathsf{Sets}_*}z\in(X\lhd_{\mathsf{Sets}_*}Y)\lhd_{\mathsf{Sets}_*}Z$.

3.3 The Skew Left Unitor

Definition 3.3.1.1. The **skew left unitor of the left tensor product of pointed sets** is the natural transformation

$$\lambda^{\mathsf{Sets}_*,\lhd}\colon \lhd_{\mathsf{Sets}_*} \circ \left(\mathbb{1}^{\mathsf{Sets}_*} \times \mathrm{id}_{\mathsf{Sets}_*}\right) \Longrightarrow \mathrm{id}_{\mathsf{Sets}_*},$$

whose component

$$\lambda^{\mathsf{Sets}_*,\lhd}_X\colon S^0 \lhd_{\mathsf{Sets}_*} X \to X$$

at X is given by the composition[10]

$$\begin{aligned} S^0 \lhd_{\mathsf{Sets}_*} X &\cong |X| \odot S^0 \\ &\cong \bigvee_{x\in X} S^0 \\ &\to X \end{aligned}$$

where $\bigvee_{x\in X} S^0 \to X$ is the map given by

$$\begin{aligned} (x,0) &\mapsto x, \\ (x,1) &\mapsto x. \end{aligned}$$

3.4 The Skew Right Unitor

Definition 3.4.1.1. The **skew right unitor of the left tensor product of pointed sets** is the natural transformation

$$\rho^{\mathsf{Sets}_*,\lhd}\colon \mathrm{id}_{\mathsf{Sets}_*} \Longrightarrow \lhd_{\mathsf{Sets}_*} \circ \left(\mathrm{id}_{\mathsf{Sets}_*} \times \mathbb{1}^{\mathsf{Sets}_*}\right),$$

whose component

$$\rho^{\mathsf{Sets}_*,\lhd}_X\colon X \to X \lhd_{\mathsf{Sets}_*} S^0$$

[10]In other words, $\lambda^{\mathsf{Sets}_*,\lhd}_X$ acts on elements as

$$\begin{aligned} \lambda^{\mathsf{Sets}_*,\lhd}_X(x \lhd_{\mathsf{Sets}_*} 0) &\stackrel{\text{def}}{=} x, \\ \lambda^{\mathsf{Sets}_*,\lhd}_X(x \lhd_{\mathsf{Sets}_*} 1) &\stackrel{\text{def}}{=} x, \end{aligned}$$

for each $x \in X$.

at X is given by the composition[11]

$$\begin{aligned}X &\to X \vee X\\ &\cong |S^0| \odot X\\ &\cong S^0 \lhd_{\mathsf{Sets}_*} X,\end{aligned}$$

where $X \to X \vee X$ is the map sending X to the first factor of X in $X \vee X$.

3.5 The Left-Skew Monoidal Category Structure on Pointed Sets

Proposition 3.5.1.1. The category Sets_* admits a left-skew monoidal category structure consisting of[12]

- *The Skew Monoidal Product.* The left tensor product functor

  $$\lhd_{\mathsf{Sets}_*} \colon \mathsf{Sets}_* \times \mathsf{Sets}_* \to \mathsf{Sets}_*,$$

  of Proposition 3.1.1.4;
- *The Skew Monoidal Unit.* The functor

  $$\mathbb{1}^{\mathsf{Sets}_*} \colon \mathsf{pt} \to \mathsf{Sets}_*$$

  defined by

  $$\mathbb{1}_{\mathsf{Sets}_*} \overset{\text{def}}{=} S^0;$$
- *The Skew Associators.* The natural isomorphism

  $$\alpha^{\mathsf{Sets}_*,\lhd} \colon \lhd_{\mathsf{Sets}_*} \circ (\lhd_{\mathsf{Sets}_*} \times \mathrm{id}_{\mathsf{Sets}_*}) \overset{\cong}{\Longrightarrow} \lhd_{\mathsf{Sets}_*} \circ (\mathrm{id}_{\mathsf{Sets}_*} \times \lhd_{\mathsf{Sets}_*}),$$

  of Definition 3.2.1.1;
- *The Skew Left Unitors.* The natural transformation

  $$\lambda^{\mathsf{Sets}_*,\lhd} \colon \lhd_{\mathsf{Sets}_*} \circ \left(\mathbb{1}^{\mathsf{Sets}_*} \times \mathrm{id}_{\mathsf{Sets}_*}\right) \Longrightarrow \mathrm{id}_{\mathsf{Sets}_*},$$

  of Definition 3.3.1.1;

[11] In other words, $\rho_X^{\mathsf{Sets}_*,\lhd}$ acts on elements as

$$\rho_X^{\mathsf{Sets}_*,\lhd}(x) \overset{\text{def}}{=} x \lhd_{\mathsf{Sets}_*} 0$$

for each $x \in X$.

[12] Note in particular that, differently from general left-skew monoidal categories, the

- *The Skew Right Unitors.* The natural transformation

$$\rho^{\mathsf{Sets}_*,\triangleleft}\colon \mathrm{id}_{\mathsf{Sets}_*} \Longrightarrow \triangleleft_{\mathsf{Sets}_*} \circ \left(\mathrm{id}_{\mathsf{Sets}_*} \times \mathbb{1}^{\mathsf{Sets}_*}\right),$$

  of Definition 3.4.1.1.

Proof. Omitted. □

4 The Right Tensor Product of Pointed Sets

4.1 Foundations

Let (X, x_0) and (Y, y_0) be pointed sets.

Definition 4.1.1.1. The **right tensor product of pointed sets** is the functor

$$\triangleright_{\mathsf{Sets}_*}\colon \mathsf{Sets}_* \times \mathsf{Sets}_* \to \mathsf{Sets}_*$$

defined as the composition

$$\mathsf{Sets}_* \times \mathsf{Sets}_* \xrightarrow{忘\times\mathsf{id}} \mathsf{Sets} \times \mathsf{Sets}_* \xrightarrow{\odot} \mathsf{Sets}_*.$$

Remark 4.1.1.2. The right tensor product of pointed sets satisfies the following universal property:[13]

$$\mathsf{Sets}_*(X \triangleright_{\mathsf{Sets}_*} Y, Z) \cong \mathrm{Hom}^{\otimes,\mathrm{R}}_{\mathsf{Sets}_*}(X \times Y, Z).$$

Remark 4.1.1.3. In detail, the **right tensor product of** (X, x_0) **and** (Y, y_0) is the pointed set $(X \triangleright_{\mathsf{Sets}_*} Y, [y_0])$ consisting of [14]

skew associator of $\left(\mathsf{Sets}_*, \triangleleft_{\mathsf{Sets}_*}, S^0\right)$ is a natural isomorphism.

[13]Namely, a pointed map $f\colon X \triangleleft_{\mathsf{Sets}_*} Y \to Z$ is the same as a map $f^\dagger\colon X \times Y \to Z$ such that

$$f^\dagger(x, y_0) = z_0$$

for each $y \in Y$.

[14]*Further Notation:* We write $x \triangleright_{\mathsf{Sets}_*} y$ for the image of (x, y) under the map

$$X \times Y \to \underbrace{X \triangleright_{\mathsf{Sets}_*} Y}_{\cong \bigvee_{x\in X}(Y, y_0)}.$$

sending (x, y) to the element $y \in Y$ in the xth copy of Y in $\bigvee_{x\in X}(Y, y_0)$. Note that we have

$$x \triangleright_{\mathsf{Sets}_*} y_0 = x' \triangleright_{\mathsf{Sets}_*} y_0,$$

for each $x, x' \in X$.

- *The Underlying Set.* The set $X \rhd_{\mathsf{Sets}_*} Y$ defined by

$$\begin{aligned} X \rhd_{\mathsf{Sets}_*} Y &\overset{\text{def}}{=} |X| \odot Y \\ &\cong \bigvee_{x \in X} (Y, y_0); \end{aligned}$$

- *The Underlying Basepoint.* The point $[y_0]$ of $\bigvee_{x \in X}(Y, y_0)$.

Proposition 4.1.1.4. Let (X, x_0) and (Y, y_0) be pointed sets.

1. *Functoriality.* The assignments $X, Y, (X, Y) \mapsto X \rhd_{\mathsf{Sets}_*} Y$ define functors

$$\begin{aligned} X \rhd_{\mathsf{Sets}_*} - &\colon \mathsf{Sets}_* \to \mathsf{Sets}_*, \\ - \rhd_{\mathsf{Sets}_*} Y &\colon \mathsf{Sets}_* \to \mathsf{Sets}_*, \\ -_1 \rhd_{\mathsf{Sets}_*} -_2 &\colon \mathsf{Sets}_* \times \mathsf{Sets}_* \to \mathsf{Sets}_*. \end{aligned}$$

Proof. *Item 1*, *Functoriality*: Omitted. □

4.2 The Skew Associator

Definition 4.2.1.1. The **skew associator of the right tensor product of pointed sets** is the natural isomorphism

$$\alpha^{\mathsf{Sets}_*, \rhd} \colon \rhd_{\mathsf{Sets}_*} \circ (\mathrm{id}_{\mathsf{Sets}_*} \times \rhd_{\mathsf{Sets}_*}) \overset{\cong}{\Longrightarrow} \rhd_{\mathsf{Sets}_*} \circ (\rhd_{\mathsf{Sets}_*} \times \mathrm{id}_{\mathsf{Sets}_*}),$$

whose component

$$\alpha^{\mathsf{Sets}_*, \rhd}_{X,Y,Z} \colon X \rhd_{\mathsf{Sets}_*} (Y \rhd_{\mathsf{Sets}_*} Z) \xrightarrow{\cong} (X \rhd_{\mathsf{Sets}_*} Y) \rhd_{\mathsf{Sets}_*} Z$$

at (X, Y, Z) is given by the composition[15]

$$
\begin{aligned}
X \rhd_{\mathsf{Sets}_*} (Y \rhd_{\mathsf{Sets}_*} Z) &\overset{\text{def}}{=} |X| \odot (Y \rhd_{\mathsf{Sets}_*} Z)\\
&\overset{\text{def}}{=} |X| \odot (|Y| \odot Z)\\
&\cong |X| \odot \left(\bigvee_{y\in Y} (Z, z_0)\right)\\
&\cong \bigvee_{x\in X} \left(\bigvee_{y\in Y} (Z, z_0)\right)\\
&\cong \bigvee_{(x,y)\in\bigvee_{x\in X}(Y,y_0)} (Z, z_0)\\
&\cong \left|\bigvee_{x\in X} (Y, y_0)\right| \odot Z\\
&\overset{\text{def}}{=} |X \odot Y| \odot Z\\
&\overset{\text{def}}{=} |X \rhd_{\mathsf{Sets}_*} Y| \odot Z\\
&\overset{\text{def}}{=} (X \rhd_{\mathsf{Sets}_*} Y) \rhd_{\mathsf{Sets}_*} Z
\end{aligned}
$$

where the isomorphism

$$
\bigvee_{x\in X} \left(\bigvee_{y\in Y} (Z, z_0)\right) \cong \bigvee_{(x,y)\in\bigvee_{x\in X}(Y,y_0)} (Z, z_0)
$$

is given by $[(x,(y,z))] \mapsto [((x,y),z)]$.

4.3 The Skew Left Unitor

Definition 4.3.1.1. The **skew left unitor of the right tensor product of pointed sets** is the natural transformation

$$
\lambda^{\mathsf{Sets}_*,\rhd} \colon \mathrm{id}_{\mathsf{Sets}_*} \Longrightarrow \rhd_{\mathsf{Sets}_*} \circ \left(\mathbb{1}^{\mathsf{Sets}_*} \times \mathrm{id}_{\mathsf{Sets}_*}\right),
$$

whose component

$$
\lambda^{\mathsf{Sets}_*,\rhd}_X \colon X \to S^0 \rhd_{\mathsf{Sets}_*} X
$$

[15] In other words, $\alpha^{\mathsf{Sets}_*,\rhd}_{X,Y,Z}$ acts on elements as

$$
\alpha^{\mathsf{Sets}_*,\rhd}_{X,Y,Z}(x \rhd_{\mathsf{Sets}_*} (y \rhd_{\mathsf{Sets}_*} z)) \overset{\text{def}}{=} (x \rhd_{\mathsf{Sets}_*} y) \rhd_{\mathsf{Sets}_*} z
$$

at X is given by the composition[16]

$$\begin{aligned} X &\to X \vee X \\ &\cong |S^0| \odot X \\ &\cong S^0 \rhd_{\mathsf{Sets}_*} X, \end{aligned}$$

where $X \to X \vee X$ is the map sending X to the first factor of X in $X \vee X$.

4.4 The Skew Right Unitor

Definition 4.4.1.1. The **skew right unitor of the right tensor product of pointed sets** is the natural transformation

$$\rho^{\mathsf{Sets}_*,\rhd} \colon \rhd_{\mathsf{Sets}_*} \circ \left(\mathrm{id}_{\mathsf{Sets}_*} \times \mathbb{1}^{\mathsf{Sets}_*}\right) \Longrightarrow \mathrm{id}_{\mathsf{Sets}_*},$$

whose component[17]

$$\rho^{\mathsf{Sets}_*,\rhd}_X \colon X \rhd_{\mathsf{Sets}_*} S^0 \to X$$

at X is given by the composition

$$\begin{aligned} X \rhd_{\mathsf{Sets}_*} S^0 &\cong |X| \odot S^0 \\ &\cong \bigvee_{x \in X} S^0 \\ &\to X \end{aligned}$$

where $\bigvee_{x \in X} S^0 \to X$ is the map given by

$$\begin{aligned} (x, 0) &\mapsto x, \\ (x, 1) &\mapsto x. \end{aligned}$$

for each $x \rhd_{\mathsf{Sets}_*} (y \rhd_{\mathsf{Sets}_*} z) \in X \rhd_{\mathsf{Sets}_*} (Y \rhd_{\mathsf{Sets}_*} Z)$.

[16] In other words, $\lambda^{\mathsf{Sets}_*,\rhd}_X$ acts on elements as

$$\lambda^{\mathsf{Sets}_*,\rhd}_X(x) \stackrel{\mathrm{def}}{=} 0 \rhd_{\mathsf{Sets}_*} x$$

for each $x \in X$.

[17] In other words, $\rho^{\mathsf{Sets}_*,\rhd}_X$ acts on elements as

$$\begin{aligned} \rho^{\mathsf{Sets}_*,\rhd}_X(x \rhd_{\mathsf{Sets}_*} 0) &\stackrel{\mathrm{def}}{=} x, \\ \rho^{\mathsf{Sets}_*,\rhd}_X(x \rhd_{\mathsf{Sets}_*} 1) &\stackrel{\mathrm{def}}{=} x \end{aligned}$$

for each $x \in X$.

4.5 The Right-Skew Monoidal Category Structure on Pointed Sets

Proposition 4.5.1.1. The category Sets_* admits a right-skew monoidal category structure consisting of[18]

- *The Skew Monoidal Product.* The right tensor product functor

$$\rhd_{\mathsf{Sets}_*} \colon \mathsf{Sets}_* \times \mathsf{Sets}_* \to \mathsf{Sets}_*,$$

  of Item 1;

- *The Skew Monoidal Unit.* The functor

$$\mathbb{1}^{\mathsf{Sets}_*} \colon \mathsf{pt} \to \mathsf{Sets}_*$$

  defined by

$$\mathbb{1}_{\mathsf{Sets}_*} \overset{\mathrm{def}}{=} S^0;$$

- *The Skew Associators.* The natural isomorphism

$$\alpha^{\mathsf{Sets}_*,\rhd} \colon \rhd_{\mathsf{Sets}_*} \circ (\rhd_{\mathsf{Sets}_*} \times \mathrm{id}_{\mathsf{Sets}_*}) \overset{\cong}{\Longrightarrow} \rhd_{\mathsf{Sets}_*} \circ (\mathrm{id}_{\mathsf{Sets}_*} \times \rhd_{\mathsf{Sets}_*}),$$

  of Definition 4.2.1.1;

- *The Skew Left Unitors.* The natural transformation

$$\lambda^{\mathsf{Sets}_*,\rhd} \colon \mathrm{id}_{\mathsf{Sets}_*} \Longrightarrow \rhd_{\mathsf{Sets}_*} \circ \left(\mathbb{1}^{\mathsf{Sets}_*} \times \mathrm{id}_{\mathsf{Sets}_*}\right),$$

  of Definition 3.3.1.1;

- *The Skew Right Unitors.* The natural transformation

$$\rho^{\mathsf{Sets}_*,\rhd} \colon \rhd_{\mathsf{Sets}_*} \circ \left(\mathrm{id}_{\mathsf{Sets}_*} \times \mathbb{1}^{\mathsf{Sets}_*}\right) \Longrightarrow \mathrm{id}_{\mathsf{Sets}_*},$$

  of Definition 3.4.1.1.

Proof. Omitted. □

[18] Note in particular that, differently from general right-skew monoidal categories, the skew associator of $\left(\mathsf{Sets}_*, \rhd_{\mathsf{Sets}_*}, S^0\right)$ is a natural isomorphism.

5 Smash Products of Pointed Sets

5.1 Foundations

Let (X, x_0) and (Y, y_0) be pointed sets.

Definition 5.1.1.1. The **smash product of** (X, x_0) **and** (Y, y_0)[19] is the pointed set $X \wedge Y$[20] such that we have a bijection

$$\mathsf{Sets}_*(X \wedge Y, Z) \cong \mathrm{Hom}^{\otimes}_{\mathsf{Sets}_*}(X \times Y, Z),$$

natural in $(X, x_0), (Y, y_0), (Z, z_0) \in \mathrm{Obj}(\mathsf{Sets}_*)$.

Remark 5.1.1.2. In detail, the **smash product of** (X, x_0) **and** (Y, y_0) is the pair $((X \wedge Y, [(x_0, y_0)]), \iota)$ consisting of

- A pointed set $(X \wedge Y, [(x_0, y_0)])$;
- A bilinear morphism of pointed sets $\iota\colon (X \times Y, (x_0, y_0)) \to X \wedge Y$;

satisfying the following universal property:

(UP) Given another such pair $((Z, z_0), f)$ consisting of

- A pointed set (Z, z_0);
- A bilinear morphism of pointed sets $f\colon (X \times Y, (x_0, y_0)) \to X \wedge Y$;

there exists a unique morphism of pointed sets $X \wedge Y \xrightarrow{\exists!} Z$ making the diagram

$$\begin{tikzcd} & X \wedge Y \arrow[d, dashed, "\exists!"] \\ X \times Y \arrow[ur, "\iota"] \arrow[r, "f"'] & Z \end{tikzcd}$$

commute.

Construction 5.1.1.3. Concretely, the **smash product of** (X, x_0) **and**

[19] *Further Terminology:* Also called the **tensor product of** $\mathbb{F}_1$**-modules of** (X, x_0) **and** (Y, y_0) or the **tensor product of** (X, x_0) **and** (Y, y_0) **over** $\mathbb{F}_1$.

[20] *Further Notation:* Also written $X \otimes_{\mathbb{F}_1} Y$.

(Y, y_0) is the pointed set $(X \wedge Y, [(x_0, y_0)])$ consisting of[21]

- *The Underlying Set.* The set $X \wedge Y$ defined by

$$\begin{aligned} X \wedge Y &\cong \mathrm{pt} \coprod_{X \vee Y} (X \times Y) \\ &\overset{\text{def}}{=} \frac{X \times Y}{X \vee Y} \\ &\cong X \times Y/{\sim}, \end{aligned} \qquad \begin{tikzcd} X \wedge Y \arrow[dr, phantom, "\ulcorner", very near start] & X \times Y \arrow[l] \\ \mathrm{pt} \arrow[u] & X \vee Y, \arrow[l, "!"] \arrow[u, hook] \end{tikzcd}$$

  where $\sim$ is the equivalence relation of $X \times Y$ obtained by declaring $(x, y) \sim (x', y')$ iff $(x, y), (x', y') \in X \vee Y$, i.e. by declaring

$$\begin{aligned} (x_0, y) &\sim \big(x_0, y'\big), \\ (x, y_0) &\sim \big(x', y_0\big) \end{aligned}$$

  for all $x \in X$ and all $y \in Y$;

- *The Basepoint.* The element $[(x_0, y_0)]$ of $X \wedge Y$ given by the equivalence class of (x_0, y_0) under the equivalence relation $\sim$ on $X \times Y$.

Proof. Clear. □

Example 5.1.1.4. Here are some examples of smash products of pointed sets.

1. *Smashing With S^0.* For any pointed set X, we have isomorphisms of pointed sets

$$\begin{aligned} S^0 \wedge X &\cong X, \\ X \wedge S^0 &\cong X. \end{aligned}$$

Proposition 5.1.1.5. Let (X, x_0) and (Y, y_0) be pointed sets.

[21] *Further Notation:* We write $x \wedge y$ for the image of (x, y) under the quotient map

$$X \times Y \twoheadrightarrow \underbrace{\frac{X \times Y}{X \vee Y}}_{\overset{\text{def}}{=} X \wedge Y}$$

Note that we have

$$\begin{aligned} x \wedge y_0 &= x' \wedge y_0, \\ x_0 \wedge y &= x_0 \wedge y' \end{aligned}$$

for each $x, x' \in X$ and each $y, y' \in Y$.

1. *Functoriality.* The assignments $(X, x_0), (Y, y_0), ((X, x_0), (Y, y_0)) \mapsto X \wedge Y$ define functors

$$\begin{aligned} X \wedge - &\colon \mathsf{Sets}_* \to \mathsf{Sets}_*, \\ - \wedge Y &\colon \mathsf{Sets}_* \to \mathsf{Sets}_*, \\ -_1 \wedge -_2 &\colon \mathsf{Sets}_* \times \mathsf{Sets}_* \to \mathsf{Sets}_*. \end{aligned}$$

2. *Adjointness.* We have adjunctions

$$(X \wedge - \dashv \mathbf{Sets}_*(X, -))\colon \quad \begin{tikzcd} \mathsf{Sets}_* \arrow[r, bend left, "X\wedge -"] \arrow[r, phantom, "\perp"] & \mathsf{Sets}_*, \arrow[l, bend left, "\mathbf{Sets}_*(X,-)"] \end{tikzcd}$$

$$(- \wedge Y \dashv \mathbf{Sets}_*(Y, -))\colon \quad \begin{tikzcd} \mathsf{Sets}_* \arrow[r, bend left, "-\wedge Y"] \arrow[r, phantom, "\perp"] & \mathsf{Sets}_*, \arrow[l, bend left, "\mathbf{Sets}_*(Y,-)"] \end{tikzcd}$$

witnessed by bijections

$$\begin{aligned} \mathsf{Sets}_*(X \wedge Y, Z) &\cong \mathsf{Sets}_*(X, \mathbf{Sets}_*(Y, Z)), \\ \mathsf{Sets}_*(X \wedge Y, Z) &\cong \mathsf{Sets}_*(X, \mathbf{Sets}_*(A, Z)), \end{aligned}$$

natural in $(X, x_0), (Y, y_0), (Z, z_0) \in \mathrm{Obj}(\mathsf{Sets}_*)$, which internalise to isomorphisms of pointed sets

$$\begin{aligned} \mathbf{Sets}_*(X \wedge Y, Z) &\cong \mathbf{Sets}_*(X, \mathbf{Sets}_*(Y, Z)), \\ \mathbf{Sets}_*(X \wedge Y, Z) &\cong \mathbf{Sets}_*(X, \mathbf{Sets}_*(A, Z)), \end{aligned}$$

again natural in $(X, x_0), (Y, y_0), (Z, z_0) \in \mathrm{Obj}(\mathsf{Sets}_*)$.

3. *Closed Symmetric Monoidality.* The quadruple $\left(\mathsf{Sets}_*, \wedge, S^0, \mathbf{Sets}_*\right)$ is a closed symmetric monoidal category.

4. *Morphisms From the Monoidal Unit.* We have a bijection of sets[22]

$$\mathsf{Sets}_*\left(S^0, X\right) \cong X,$$

natural in $(X, x_0) \in \mathrm{Obj}(\mathsf{Sets}_*)$, internalising also to an isomorphism of pointed sets

$$\mathbf{Sets}_*\left(S^0, X\right) \cong (X, x_0),$$

again natural in $(X, x_0) \in \mathrm{Obj}(\mathsf{Sets}_*)$.

[22] In other words, the forgetful functor

$$忘\colon \mathsf{Sets}_* \to \mathsf{Sets}$$

5. *Symmetric Strong Monoidality With Respect to Free Pointed Sets.* The free pointed set functor of Pointed Sets, Item 1 of Proposition 4.2.1.2 has a symmetric strong monoidal structure

$$\left((-)^{+},(-)^{+,\times},(-)^{+,\times}_{\mathbb{1}}\right)\colon (\mathsf{Sets},\times,\mathrm{pt})\to\left(\mathsf{Sets}_{*},\wedge,S^{0}\right),$$

being equipped with isomorphisms of pointed sets

$$(-)^{+,\times}_{X,Y}\colon X^{+}\wedge Y^{+}\xrightarrow{\cong}(X\times Y)^{+},$$
$$(-)^{+,\times}_{\mathbb{1}}\colon S^{0}\xrightarrow{\cong}\mathrm{pt}^{+},$$

natural in $X,Y\in\mathrm{Obj}(\mathsf{Sets})$.

6. *Distributivity Over Wedge Sums.* We have isomorphisms of pointed sets

$$X\wedge(Y\vee Z)\cong(X\wedge Y)\vee(X\wedge Z),$$
$$(X\vee Y)\wedge Z\cong(X\wedge Z)\vee(Y\wedge Z),$$

natural in $(X,x_0),(Y,y_0),(Z,z_0)\in\mathrm{Obj}(\mathsf{Sets}_{*})$.

7. *Universal Property I.* The symmetric monoidal structure on the category Sets_{*} is uniquely determined by the following requirements:

   (a) *Two-Sided Preservation of Colimits.* The smash product

   $$\wedge\colon\mathsf{Sets}_{*}\times\mathsf{Sets}_{*}\to\mathsf{Sets}_{*}$$

   of Sets_{*} preserves colimits separately in each variable.

   (b) *The Unit Object Is S^0.* We have $\mathbb{1}_{\mathsf{Sets}_{*}}=S^{0}$.

8. *Universal Property II.* The symmetric monoidal structure on the category Sets_{*} is the unique symmetric monoidal structure on Sets_{*} such that the free pointed set functor

$$(-)^{+}\colon\mathsf{Sets}\to\mathsf{Sets}_{*}$$

admits a symmetric monoidal structure.

9. *Existence of Monoidal Diagonals.* The triple $\left(\mathsf{Sets}_{*},\wedge,S^{0}\right)$ is a monoidal category with diagonals:

(a) *Monoidal Diagonals.* The natural transformation

$$\Delta\colon \mathrm{id}_{\mathsf{Sets}_*} \Longrightarrow \wedge \circ \Delta^{\mathsf{Cats}_2}_{\mathsf{Sets}_*}, \qquad \begin{tikzcd} \mathsf{Sets}_* \arrow[rr, bend left, "\mathrm{id}_{\mathsf{Sets}_*}"] \arrow[dr, bend right, "\Delta^{\mathsf{Cats}_2}_{\mathsf{Sets}_*}"'] & \arrow[d, phantom, "\overset{\Delta}{\Downarrow}"] & \mathsf{Sets}_* \\ & \mathsf{Sets}_* \times \mathsf{Sets}_*, \arrow[ur, bend right, "\wedge"'] & \end{tikzcd}$$

whose component

$$\Delta_X\colon (X, x_0) \to (X \wedge X, [(x_0, x_0)])$$

at $(X, x_0) \in \mathrm{Obj}(\mathsf{Sets}_*)$ is given by the composition

$$\begin{aligned} (X, x_0) &\xrightarrow{\Delta_X} (X \times X, (x_0, x_0)) \\ &\twoheadrightarrow \left(\tfrac{X\times X}{X\vee X}, [(x_0, x_0)]\right) \\ &\overset{\mathrm{def}}{=\!=} (X \wedge X, [(x_0, x_0)]) \end{aligned}$$

in Sets_*, is a monoidal natural transformation:

i. *Naturality.* For each morphism $f\colon X \to Y$ of pointed sets, the diagram

$$\begin{tikzcd} X \arrow[r, "f"] \arrow[d, "\Delta_X"'] & Y \arrow[d, "\Delta_Y"] \\ X \wedge X \arrow[r, "f\wedge f"'] & Y \wedge Y \end{tikzcd}$$

commutes.

ii. *Compatibility With Strong Monoidality Constraints.* For each $(X, x_0), (Y, y_0) \in \mathrm{Obj}(\mathsf{Sets}_*)$, the diagram

$$\begin{tikzcd} X \wedge Y \arrow[r, "\Delta_X\wedge\Delta_Y"] \arrow[d, equal] & (X \wedge X) \wedge (Y \wedge Y) \arrow[d, dashed, "\wr"] \\ X \wedge Y \arrow[r, "\Delta_{X\wedge Y}"'] & (X \wedge Y) \wedge (X \wedge Y) \end{tikzcd}$$

commutes.

iii. *Compatibility With Strong Unitality Constraints.* The diagram

$$\begin{tikzcd}
S^0 \arrow[d, equal] \arrow[dr, "(\lambda^{\mathsf{Sets}_*}_{S^0})^{-1} = (\rho^{\mathsf{Sets}_*}_{S^0})^{-1}"] & \\
S^0 \arrow[r, "\Delta_{S^0}"'] & S^0 \wedge S^0
\end{tikzcd}$$

commutes.

(b) *The Diagonal of the Unit.* The component

$$\Delta^{\mathsf{Sets}_*}_{S^0} \colon S^0 \xrightarrow{\cong} S^0 \wedge S^0$$

of the diagonal natural transformation of Sets_* at S^0 is an isomorphism.

10. *Comonoids in* Sets_*. The symmetric monoidal functor

$$\Big((-)^+, (-)^{+,\times}, (-)^{+,\times}_{\mathbb{1}}\Big) \colon (\mathsf{Sets}, \times, \mathrm{pt}) \to \big(\mathsf{Sets}_*, \wedge, S^0\big),$$

of Pointed Sets, Item 4 of Proposition 4.2.1.2 lifts to an equivalence of categories

$$\begin{aligned} \mathsf{CoMon}\big(\mathsf{Sets}_*, \wedge, S^0\big) &\overset{\text{eq.}}{\cong} \mathsf{CoMon}(\mathsf{Sets}, \times, \mathrm{pt}) \\ &\cong \mathsf{Sets}. \end{aligned}$$

Proof. *Item 1, Functoriality*: Omitted.
Item 2, Adjointness: Omitted.
Item 3, Closed Symmetric Monoidality: Omitted.
Item 4, Morphisms From the Monoidal Unit: Omitted.
Item 5, Symmetric Strong Monoidality With Respect to Free Pointed Sets: Omitted.
Item 6, Distributivity Over Wedge Sums: This follows from Item 3, Monoidal Categories, **??** of **??**, and the fact that $\vee$ is the coproduct in Sets_*.
Item 7, Universal Property I: Omitted.
Item 8, Universal Property II: See [GGN15, Theorem 5.1].
Item 9, Existence of Monoidal Diagonals: Omitted.
Item 10, Comonoids in Sets_*: See [PS19, Lemma 2.4]. □

Appendices

A Other Chapters

defined on objects by sending a pointed set to its underlying set is corepresentable by S^0.