

# Constructions With Sets

December 3, 2023

000D This chapter contains some material relating to constructions with sets. Notably, it contains:

1. Explicit descriptions of the major types of co/limits in Sets, including in particular pushouts and coequalisers (see [Definitions 2.3.1.1](#) and [2.4.1.1](#) and [Remarks 2.3.1.2](#) and [2.4.1.2](#));
2. A discussion of powersets as decategorifications of categories of presheaves ([Remarks 4.1.1.2](#) and [4.2.1.2](#));
3. A lengthy discussion of the adjoint triple

$$f_* \dashv f^{-1} \dashv f_! : \mathcal{P}(A) \xrightarrow{\cong} \mathcal{P}(B)$$

of functors (morphisms of posets) between  $\mathcal{P}(A)$  and  $\mathcal{P}(B)$  induced by a map of sets  $f : A \rightarrow B$ , along with a discussion of the properties of  $f_*$ ,  $f^{-1}$ , and  $f_!$ .

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## 000E 1 Limits of Sets

### 000F 1.1 Products of Families of Sets

Let  $\{A_i\}_{i \in I}$  be a family of sets.

000G **Definition 1.1.1.1.** The **product**<sup>1</sup> of  $\{A_i\}_{i \in I}$  is the set  $\prod_{i \in I} A_i$  defined by

$$\prod_{i \in I} A_i \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} \left\{ f \in \text{Sets} \left( I, \bigcup_{i \in I} A_i \right) \mid \begin{array}{l} \text{for each } i \in I, \text{ we} \\ \text{have } f(i) \in A_i \end{array} \right\}.$$

### 000H 1.2 Binary Products of Sets

Let  $A$  and  $B$  be sets.

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<sup>1</sup>*Further Terminology:* Also called the **Cartesian product** of  $\{A_i\}_{i \in I}$ .

**000J Definition 1.2.1.1.** The **product**<sup>2</sup> of  $A$  and  $B$  is the set  $A \times B$  defined by

$$\begin{aligned} A \times B &\stackrel{\text{def}}{=} \prod_{z \in \{A, B\}} z \\ &\stackrel{\text{def}}{=} \{f \in \text{Sets}(\{0, 1\}, A \cup B) \mid \text{we have } f(0) \in A \text{ and } f(1) \in B\} \\ &\cong \{\{\{a\}, \{a, b\}\} \in \mathcal{P}(\mathcal{P}(A \cup B)) \mid \text{we have } a \in A \text{ and } b \in B\}. \end{aligned}$$

**000K Proposition 1.2.1.2.** Let  $A, B, C$ , and  $X$  be sets.

**000L** 1. *Functoriality.* The assignments  $A, B, (A, B) \mapsto A \times B$  define functors

$$\begin{aligned} A \times -_2 &: \text{Sets} \rightarrow \text{Sets}, \\ -_1 \times B &: \text{Sets} \rightarrow \text{Sets}, \\ -_1 \times -_2 &: \text{Sets} \times \text{Sets} \rightarrow \text{Sets}, \end{aligned}$$

where  $-_1 \times -_2$  is the functor where

· *Action on Objects.* For each  $(A, B) \in \text{Obj}(\text{Sets} \times \text{Sets})$ , we have

$$[-_1 \times -_2](A, B) \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} A \times B;$$

· *Action on Morphisms.* For each  $(A, B), (X, Y) \in \text{Obj}(\text{Sets})$ , the action on Hom-sets

$$\times_{(A, B), (X, Y)} : \text{Sets}(A, X) \times \text{Sets}(B, Y) \rightarrow \text{Sets}(A \times B, X \times Y)$$

of  $\times$  at  $((A, B), (X, Y))$  is defined by sending  $(f, g)$  to the function

$$f \times g : A \times B \rightarrow X \times Y$$

defined by

$$[f \times g](a, b) \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} (f(a), g(b))$$

for each  $(a, b) \in A \times B$ ;

and where  $A \times -$  and  $- \times B$  are the partial functors of  $-_1 \times -_2$  at  $A, B \in \text{Obj}(\text{Sets})$ .

<sup>2</sup>*Further Terminology:* Also called the **Cartesian product** of  $A$  and  $B$  or the **binary Cartesian product** of  $A$  and  $B$ , for emphasis.

This can also be thought of as the  $(\mathbb{B}_{-1}, \mathbb{B}_{-1})$ -**tensor product** of  $A$  and  $B$ .

000M 2. *Adjointness.* We have adjunctions

$$(A \times - \dashv \text{Sets}(A, -)): \text{Sets} \begin{array}{c} \xrightarrow{A \times -} \\ \perp \\ \xleftarrow{\text{Sets}(A, -)} \end{array} \text{Sets},$$

$$(- \times B \dashv \text{Sets}(B, -)): \text{Sets} \begin{array}{c} \xrightarrow{- \times B} \\ \perp \\ \xleftarrow{\text{Sets}(B, -)} \end{array} \text{Sets},$$

witnessed by bijections

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Sets}(A \times B, C) &\cong \text{Sets}(A, \text{Sets}(B, C)), \\ \text{Sets}(A \times B, C) &\cong \text{Sets}(B, \text{Sets}(A, C)), \end{aligned}$$

natural in  $A, B, C \in \text{Obj}(\text{Sets})$ .

000N 3. *Associativity.* We have an isomorphism of sets

$$(A \times B) \times C \cong A \times (B \times C),$$

natural in  $A, B, C \in \text{Obj}(\text{Sets})$ .

000P 4. *Unitality.* We have isomorphisms of sets

$$\begin{aligned} \text{pt} \times A &\cong A, \\ A \times \text{pt} &\cong A, \end{aligned}$$

natural in  $A \in \text{Obj}(\text{Sets})$ .

000Q 5. *Commutativity.* We have an isomorphism of sets

$$A \times B \cong B \times A,$$

natural in  $A, B \in \text{Obj}(\text{Sets})$ .

000R 6. *Annihilation With the Empty Set.* We have isomorphisms of sets

$$\begin{aligned} A \times \emptyset &\cong \emptyset, \\ \emptyset \times A &\cong \emptyset, \end{aligned}$$

natural in  $A \in \text{Obj}(\text{Sets})$ .

000S 7. *Distributivity Over Unions.* We have isomorphisms of sets

$$\begin{aligned} A \times (B \cup C) &= (A \times B) \cup (A \times C), \\ (A \cup B) \times C &= (A \times C) \cup (B \times C), \end{aligned}$$

natural in  $A, B, C \in \text{Obj}(\text{Sets})$ .

000T 8. *Distributivity Over Intersections.* We have isomorphisms of sets

$$\begin{aligned} A \times (B \cap C) &= (A \times B) \cap (A \times C), \\ (A \cap B) \times C &= (A \times C) \cap (B \times C), \end{aligned}$$

natural in  $A, B, C \in \text{Obj}(\text{Sets})$ .

000U 9. *Distributivity Over Differences.* We have isomorphisms of sets

$$\begin{aligned} A \times (B \setminus C) &= (A \times B) \setminus (A \times C), \\ (A \setminus B) \times C &= (A \times C) \setminus (B \times C), \end{aligned}$$

natural in  $A, B, C \in \text{Obj}(\text{Sets})$ .

000V 10. *Distributivity Over Symmetric Differences.* We have isomorphisms of sets

$$\begin{aligned} A \times (B \triangle C) &= (A \times B) \triangle (A \times C), \\ (A \triangle B) \times C &= (A \times C) \triangle (B \times C), \end{aligned}$$

natural in  $A, B, C \in \text{Obj}(\text{Sets})$ .

000W 11. *Symmetric Monoidality.* The triple  $(\text{Sets}, \times, \text{pt})$  is a symmetric monoidal category.

000X 12. *Symmetric Bimonoidality.* The quintuple  $(\text{Sets}, \coprod, \emptyset, \times, \text{pt})$  is a symmetric bimonoidal category.

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

*Item 2, Adjointness:* Omitted.

*Item 3, Associativity:* Clear.

*Item 4, Unitality:* Clear.

*Item 5, Commutativity:* Clear.

*Item 6, Annihilation With the Empty Set:* Clear.

*Item 7, Distributivity Over Unions:* Omitted.

*Item 8, Distributivity Over Intersections:* Omitted.

*Item 9, Distributivity Over Differences:* Omitted.

*Item 10, Distributivity Over Symmetric Differences:* Omitted.

*Item 11, Symmetric Monoidality:* Omitted.

*Item 12, Symmetric Bimonoidality:* Omitted. □

**000Y 1.3 Pullbacks**

Let  $A$ ,  $B$ , and  $C$  be sets and let  $f: A \rightarrow C$  and  $g: B \rightarrow C$  be functions.

**000Z Definition 1.3.1.1.** The **pullback of  $A$  and  $B$  over  $C$  along  $f$  and  $g$** <sup>3</sup> is the set  $A \times_C B$  defined by

$$A \times_C B \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} \{(a, b) \in A \times B \mid f(a) = g(b)\}.$$

**0010 Example 1.3.1.2.** Here are some examples of pullbacks of sets.

**0011** 1. *Unions via Intersections.* Let  $A, B \subset X$ . We have a bijection of sets

$$A \cap B \cong A \times_{A \cup B} B.$$

**0012 Proposition 1.3.1.3.** Let  $A$ ,  $B$ ,  $C$ , and  $X$  be sets.

**0013** 1. *Associativity.* We have an isomorphism of sets

$$(A \times_X B) \times_X C \cong A \times_X (B \times_X C),$$

natural in  $A, B, C, X \in \text{Obj}(\text{Sets})$ .

**0014** 2. *Unitality.* We have isomorphisms of sets

$$X \times_X A \cong A,$$

$$A \times_X X \cong A,$$

natural in  $A, X \in \text{Obj}(\text{Sets})$ .

**0015** 3. *Commutativity.* We have an isomorphism of sets

$$A \times_X B \cong B \times_X A,$$

natural in  $A, B, X \in \text{Obj}(\text{Sets})$ .

**0016** 4. *Annihilation With the Empty Set.* We have isomorphisms of sets

$$A \times_X \emptyset \cong \emptyset,$$

$$\emptyset \times_X A \cong \emptyset,$$

natural in  $A, X \in \text{Obj}(\text{Sets})$ .

**0017** 5. *Symmetric Monoidality.* The triple  $(\text{Sets}, \times_X, X)$  is a symmetric monoidal category.

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<sup>3</sup>*Further Terminology:* Also called the **fibre product of  $A$  and  $B$  over  $C$  along  $f$  and  $g$** .

*Proof.* **Item 1**, Associativity: Clear.

**Item 2**, Unitality: Clear.

**Item 3**, Commutativity: Clear.

**Item 4**, Annihilation With the Empty Set: Clear.

**Item 5**, Symmetric Monoidality: Omitted.  $\square$

## 0018 1.4 Equalisers

Let  $A$  and  $B$  be sets and let  $f, g: A \rightrightarrows B$  be functions.

**0019 Definition 1.4.1.1.** The **equaliser of  $f$  and  $g$**  is the set  $\text{Eq}(f, g)$  defined by

$$\text{Eq}(f, g) \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} \{a \in A \mid f(a) = g(a)\}.$$

**001A Proposition 1.4.1.2.** Let  $A$ ,  $B$ , and  $C$  be sets.

**001B** 1. *Associativity.* We have an isomorphism of sets<sup>4</sup>

$$\underbrace{\text{Eq}(f \circ \text{eq}(g, h), g \circ \text{eq}(g, h))}_{=\text{Eq}(f \circ \text{eq}(g, h), h \circ \text{eq}(g, h))} \cong \text{Eq}(f, g, h) \cong \underbrace{\text{Eq}(f \circ \text{eq}(f, g), h \circ \text{eq}(f, g))}_{=\text{Eq}(g \circ \text{eq}(f, g), h \circ \text{eq}(f, g))},$$

<sup>4</sup>That is: the following constructions give the same result:

1. Take the equaliser of  $(f, g, h)$ , i.e. the limit of the diagram

$$A \begin{array}{c} \xrightarrow{f} \\ \xrightarrow{g} \\ \xrightarrow{h} \end{array} B$$

in Sets.

2. First take the equaliser of  $f$  and  $g$ , forming a diagram

$$\text{Eq}(f, g) \xrightarrow{\text{eq}(f, g)} A \begin{array}{c} \xrightarrow{f} \\ \xrightarrow{g} \end{array} B$$

and then take the equaliser of the composition

$$\text{Eq}(f, g) \xrightarrow{\text{eq}(f, g)} A \begin{array}{c} \xrightarrow{f} \\ \xrightarrow{h} \end{array} B,$$

obtaining a subset

$$\text{Eq}(f \circ \text{eq}(f, g), h \circ \text{eq}(f, g)) = \text{Eq}(g \circ \text{eq}(f, g), h \circ \text{eq}(f, g))$$

of  $\text{Eq}(f, g)$ .

3. First take the equaliser of  $g$  and  $h$ , forming a diagram

$$\text{Eq}(g, h) \xrightarrow{\text{eq}(g, h)} A \begin{array}{c} \xrightarrow{g} \\ \xrightarrow{h} \end{array} B$$

where  $\text{Eq}(f, g, h)$  is the limit of the diagram

$$A \begin{array}{c} \xrightarrow{f} \\ \xrightarrow[-g]{\phantom{f}} \\ \xrightarrow{h} \end{array} B$$

in Sets.

- 001C 4. *Unitality.* We have an isomorphism of sets

$$\text{Eq}(f, f) \cong A.$$

- 001D 5. *Commutativity.* We have an isomorphism of sets

$$\text{Eq}(f, g) \cong \text{Eq}(g, f).$$

- 001E 6. *Interaction With Composition.* Let

$$A \begin{array}{c} \xrightarrow{f} \\ \xrightarrow[-g]{\phantom{f}} \\ \xrightarrow{h} \end{array} B \begin{array}{c} \xrightarrow{h} \\ \xrightarrow[-k]{\phantom{h}} \\ \xrightarrow{k} \end{array} C$$

be functions. We have an inclusion of sets

$$\text{Eq}(h \circ f \circ \text{eq}(f, g), k \circ g \circ \text{eq}(f, g)) \subset \text{Eq}(h \circ f, k \circ g),$$

where  $\text{Eq}(h \circ f \circ \text{eq}(f, g), k \circ g \circ \text{eq}(f, g))$  is the equaliser of the composition

$$\text{Eq}(f, g) \xrightarrow{\text{eq}(f, g)} A \begin{array}{c} \xrightarrow{f} \\ \xrightarrow[-g]{\phantom{f}} \\ \xrightarrow{h} \end{array} B \begin{array}{c} \xrightarrow{h} \\ \xrightarrow[-k]{\phantom{h}} \\ \xrightarrow{k} \end{array} C.$$

*Proof.* **Item 1, Associativity:** Clear.

**Item 4, Unitality:** Clear.

**Item 5, Commutativity:** Clear.

**Item 6, Interaction With Composition:** Omitted. □

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and then take the equaliser of the composition

$$\text{Eq}(g, h) \xrightarrow{\text{eq}(g, h)} A \begin{array}{c} \xrightarrow{f} \\ \xrightarrow[-g]{\phantom{f}} \\ \xrightarrow{h} \end{array} B,$$

obtaining a subset

$$\text{Eq}(f \circ \text{eq}(g, h), g \circ \text{eq}(g, h)) = \text{Eq}(f \circ \text{eq}(g, h), h \circ \text{eq}(g, h))$$

of  $\text{Eq}(g, h)$ .



## 001F 2 Colimits of Sets

### 001G 2.1 Coproducts of Families of Sets

Let  $\{A_i\}_{i \in I}$  be a family of sets.

001H **Definition 2.1.1.1.** The **disjoint union of the family**  $\{A_i\}_{i \in I}$  is the set  $\coprod_{i \in I} A_i$  defined by

$$\coprod_{i \in I} A_i \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} \bigcup_{i \in I} \left\{ (x, i) \in \left( \bigcup_{i \in I} A_i \right) \times I \mid x \in A_i \right\}.$$

### 001J 2.2 Binary Coproducts

Let  $A$  and  $B$  be sets.

001K **Definition 2.2.1.1.** The **coproduct**<sup>5</sup> of  $A$  and  $B$  is the set  $A \coprod B$  defined by

$$\begin{aligned} A \coprod B &\stackrel{\text{def}}{=} \coprod_{z \in \{A, B\}} z \\ &\stackrel{\text{def}}{=} \{(a, 0) \mid a \in A\} \cup \{(b, 1) \mid b \in B\}. \end{aligned}$$

001L **Proposition 2.2.1.2.** Let  $A, B, C$ , and  $X$  be sets.

001M 1. *Functoriality.* The assignment  $A, B, (A, B) \mapsto A \coprod B$  defines functors

$$\begin{aligned} A \coprod -_2 &: \text{Sets} \rightarrow \text{Sets}, \\ -_1 \coprod B &: \text{Sets} \rightarrow \text{Sets}, \\ -_1 \coprod -_2 &: \text{Sets} \times \text{Sets} \rightarrow \text{Sets}, \end{aligned}$$

where  $-_1 \coprod -_2$  is the functor where

· *Action on Objects.* For each  $(A, B) \in \text{Obj}(\text{Sets} \times \text{Sets})$ , we have

$$[-_1 \coprod -_2](A, B) \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} A \coprod B;$$

· *Action on Morphisms.* For each  $(A, B), (X, Y) \in \text{Obj}(\text{Sets})$ , the action on Hom-sets

$$\coprod_{(A, B), (X, Y)} : \text{Sets}(A, X) \times \text{Sets}(B, Y) \rightarrow \text{Sets}(A \coprod B, X \coprod Y)$$

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<sup>5</sup>*Further Terminology:* Also called the **disjoint union of  $A$  and  $B$** , or the **binary disjoint union of  $A$  and  $B$** , for emphasis.

of  $\amalg$  at  $((A, B), (X, Y))$  is defined by sending  $(f, g)$  to the function

$$f \amalg g: A \amalg B \rightarrow X \amalg Y$$

defined by

$$[f \amalg g](x) \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} \begin{cases} f(x) & \text{if } x \in A, \\ g(x) & \text{if } x \in B \end{cases}$$

for each  $x \in A \amalg B$ ;

and where  $A \amalg -$  and  $- \amalg B$  are the partial functors of  $-_1 \amalg -_2$  at  $A, B \in \text{Obj}(\text{Sets})$ .

**001N** 2. *Associativity.* We have an isomorphism of sets

$$(A \amalg B) \amalg C \cong A \amalg (B \amalg C),$$

natural in  $A, B, C \in \text{Obj}(\text{Sets})$ .

**001P** 3. *Unitality.* We have isomorphisms of sets

$$A \amalg \emptyset \cong A,$$

$$\emptyset \amalg A \cong A,$$

natural in  $A \in \text{Obj}(\text{Sets})$ .

**001Q** 4. *Commutativity.* We have an isomorphism of sets

$$A \amalg B \cong B \amalg A,$$

natural in  $A, B \in \text{Obj}(\text{Sets})$ .

**001R** 5. *Symmetric Monoidality.* The triple  $(\text{Sets}, \amalg, \emptyset)$  is a symmetric monoidal category.

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

**Item 2, Associativity:** Clear.

**Item 3, Unitality:** Clear.

**Item 4, Commutativity:** Clear.

**Item 5, Symmetric Monoidality:** Omitted. □

**001S 2.3 Pushouts**

Let  $A$ ,  $B$ , and  $C$  be sets and let  $f: C \rightarrow A$  and  $g: C \rightarrow B$  be functions.

**001T Definition 2.3.1.1.** The **pushout of  $A$  and  $B$  over  $C$  along  $f$  and  $g$** <sup>6</sup> is the set  $A \amalg_C B$  defined by

$$A \amalg_C B \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} A \amalg B / \sim_C,$$

where  $\sim_C$  is the equivalence relation on  $A \amalg B$  generated by  $f(c) \sim_C g(c)$ .

**001U Remark 2.3.1.2.** In detail, the relation  $\sim$  of **Definition 2.3.1.1** is given by declaring  $a \sim b$  iff one of the following conditions is satisfied:

- We have  $a, b \in A$  and  $a = b$ ;
- We have  $a, b \in B$  and  $a = b$ ;
- There exist  $x_1, \dots, x_n \in A \amalg B$  such that  $a \sim' x_1 \sim' \dots \sim' x_n \sim' b$ , where we declare  $x \sim' y$  if one of the following conditions is satisfied:
  1. There exists  $c \in C$  such that  $x = f(c)$  and  $y = g(c)$ .
  2. There exists  $c \in C$  such that  $x = g(c)$  and  $y = f(c)$ .

That is: we require the following condition to be satisfied:

- (★) There exist  $x_1, \dots, x_n \in A \amalg B$  satisfying the following conditions:
  1. There exists  $c_0 \in C$  satisfying one of the following conditions:
    - (a) We have  $a = f(c_0)$  and  $x_1 = g(c_0)$ .
    - (b) We have  $a = g(c_0)$  and  $x_1 = f(c_0)$ .
  2. For each  $1 \leq i \leq n - 1$ , there exists  $c_i \in C$  satisfying one of the following conditions:
    - (a) We have  $x_i = f(c_i)$  and  $x_{i+1} = g(c_i)$ .
    - (b) We have  $x_i = g(c_i)$  and  $x_{i+1} = f(c_i)$ .
  3. There exists  $c_n \in C$  satisfying one of the following conditions:
    - (a) We have  $x_n = f(c_n)$  and  $b = g(c_n)$ .
    - (b) We have  $x_n = g(c_n)$  and  $b = f(c_n)$ .

**001V Example 2.3.1.3.** Here are some examples of pushouts of sets.

- 001W** 1. *Wedge Sums of Pointed Sets.* The wedge sum of two pointed sets of ?? is an example of a pushout of sets.

<sup>6</sup>*Further Terminology:* Also called the **fibre coproduct of  $A$  and  $B$  over  $C$  along  $f$  and  $g$** .

- 001X 2. *Intersections via Unions.* Let  $A, B \subset X$ . We have a bijection of sets

$$A \cup B \cong A \coprod_{A \cap B} B.$$

- 001Y **Proposition 2.3.1.4.** Let  $A, B, C$ , and  $X$  be sets.

- 001Z 1. *Associativity.* We have an isomorphism of sets

$$(A \coprod_X B) \coprod_X C \cong A \coprod_X (B \coprod_X C),$$

natural in  $A, B, C, X \in \text{Obj}(\text{Sets})$ .

- 0020 2. *Unitality.* We have isomorphisms of sets

$$\emptyset \coprod_X A \cong A,$$

$$A \coprod_X \emptyset \cong A,$$

natural in  $A, X \in \text{Obj}(\text{Sets})$ .

- 0021 3. *Commutativity.* We have an isomorphism of sets

$$A \coprod_X B \cong B \coprod_X A,$$

natural in  $A, B, X \in \text{Obj}(\text{Sets})$ .

- 0022 4. *Annihilation With the Empty Set.* We have isomorphisms of sets

$$A \coprod_X \emptyset \cong \emptyset,$$

$$\emptyset \coprod_X A \cong \emptyset,$$

natural in  $A, X \in \text{Obj}(\text{Sets})$ .

- 0023 5. *Symmetric Monoidality.* The triple  $(\text{Sets}, \coprod_X, \emptyset)$  is a symmetric monoidal category.

*Proof.* *Item 1, Associativity:* Clear.

*Item 2, Unitality:* Clear.

*Item 3, Commutativity:* Clear.

*Item 4, Annihilation With the Empty Set:* Clear.

*Item 5, Symmetric Monoidality:* Omitted. □

## 0024 2.4 Coequalisers

Let  $A$  and  $B$  be sets and let  $f, g: A \rightrightarrows B$  be functions.

0025 **Definition 2.4.1.1.** The **coequaliser of  $f$  and  $g$**  is the set  $\text{CoEq}(f, g)$  defined by

$$\text{CoEq}(f, g) \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} B / \sim,$$

where  $\sim$  is the equivalence relation on  $B$  generated by  $f(a) \sim g(a)$ .

0026 **Remark 2.4.1.2.** In detail, the relation  $\sim$  of **Definition 2.4.1.1** is given by declaring  $a \sim b$  iff one of the following conditions is satisfied:

- We have  $a = b$ ;
- There exist  $x_1, \dots, x_n \in B$  such that  $a \sim' x_1 \sim' \dots \sim' x_n \sim' b$ , where we declare  $x \sim' y$  if one of the following conditions is satisfied:
  1. There exists  $z \in A$  such that  $x = f(z)$  and  $y = g(z)$ .
  2. There exists  $z \in A$  such that  $x = g(z)$  and  $y = f(z)$ .

That is: we require the following condition to be satisfied:

- (★) There exist  $x_1, \dots, x_n \in B$  satisfying the following conditions:
1. There exists  $z_0 \in A$  satisfying one of the following conditions:
    - (a) We have  $a = f(z_0)$  and  $x_1 = g(z_0)$ .
    - (b) We have  $a = g(z_0)$  and  $x_1 = f(z_0)$ .
  2. For each  $1 \leq i \leq n - 1$ , there exists  $z_i \in A$  satisfying one of the following conditions:
    - (a) We have  $x_i = f(z_i)$  and  $x_{i+1} = g(z_i)$ .
    - (b) We have  $x_i = g(z_i)$  and  $x_{i+1} = f(z_i)$ .
  3. There exists  $z_n \in A$  satisfying one of the following conditions:
    - (a) We have  $x_n = f(z_n)$  and  $b = g(z_n)$ .
    - (b) We have  $x_n = g(z_n)$  and  $b = f(z_n)$ .

0027 **Example 2.4.1.3.** Here are some examples of coequalisers of sets.

0028 1. *Quotients by Equivalence Relations.* Let  $R$  be an equivalence relation on a set  $X$ . We have a bijection of sets

$$X / \sim_R \cong \text{CoEq} \left( R \hookrightarrow X \times X \begin{matrix} \xrightarrow{\text{pr}_1} \\ \xrightarrow{\text{pr}_2} \end{matrix} X \right).$$

0029 **Proposition 2.4.1.4.** Let  $A$ ,  $B$ , and  $C$  be sets.

002A 1. *Associativity.* We have an isomorphism of sets<sup>7</sup>

$$\underbrace{\text{CoEq}(\text{coeq}(f, g) \circ f, \text{coeq}(f, g) \circ h)}_{=\text{CoEq}(\text{coeq}(f, g) \circ g, \text{coeq}(f, g) \circ h)} \cong \text{CoEq}(f, g, h) \cong \underbrace{\text{CoEq}(\text{coeq}(g, h) \circ f, \text{coeq}(g, h) \circ g)}_{=\text{CoEq}(\text{coeq}(g, h) \circ f, \text{coeq}(g, h) \circ h)},$$

where  $\text{CoEq}(f, g, h)$  is the colimit of the diagram

$$A \begin{array}{c} \xrightarrow{f} \\ \xrightarrow{g} \\ \xrightarrow{h} \end{array} B$$

<sup>7</sup>That is: the following constructions give the same result:

1. Take the coequaliser of  $(f, g, h)$ , i.e. the colimit of the diagram

$$A \begin{array}{c} \xrightarrow{f} \\ \xrightarrow{g} \\ \xrightarrow{h} \end{array} B$$

in Sets.

2. First take the coequaliser of  $f$  and  $g$ , forming a diagram

$$A \begin{array}{c} \xrightarrow{f} \\ \xrightarrow{g} \end{array} B \xrightarrow{\text{coeq}(f, g)} \text{CoEq}(f, g)$$

and then take the coequaliser of the composition

$$A \begin{array}{c} \xrightarrow{f} \\ \xrightarrow{h} \end{array} B \xrightarrow{\text{coeq}(f, g)} \text{CoEq}(f, g),$$

obtaining a quotient

$$\text{CoEq}(\text{coeq}(f, g) \circ f, \text{coeq}(f, g) \circ h) = \text{CoEq}(\text{coeq}(f, g) \circ g, \text{coeq}(f, g) \circ h)$$

of  $\text{CoEq}(f, g)$

3. First take the coequaliser of  $g$  and  $h$ , forming a diagram

$$A \begin{array}{c} \xrightarrow{g} \\ \xrightarrow{h} \end{array} B \xrightarrow{\text{coeq}(g, h)} \text{CoEq}(g, h)$$

and then take the coequaliser of the composition

$$A \begin{array}{c} \xrightarrow{f} \\ \xrightarrow{g} \end{array} B \xrightarrow{\text{coeq}(g, h)} \text{CoEq}(g, h),$$

obtaining a quotient

$$\text{CoEq}(\text{coeq}(g, h) \circ f, \text{coeq}(g, h) \circ g) = \text{CoEq}(\text{coeq}(g, h) \circ f, \text{coeq}(g, h) \circ h)$$

of  $\text{CoEq}(g, h)$ .

in Sets.

- 002B 4. *Unitality*. We have an isomorphism of sets

$$\text{CoEq}(f, f) \cong B.$$

- 002C 5. *Commutativity*. We have an isomorphism of sets

$$\text{CoEq}(f, g) \cong \text{CoEq}(g, f).$$

- 002D 6. *Interaction With Composition*. Let

$$A \begin{matrix} \xrightarrow{f} \\ \xrightarrow{g} \end{matrix} B \begin{matrix} \xrightarrow{h} \\ \xrightarrow{k} \end{matrix} C$$

be functions. We have a surjection

$$\text{CoEq}(h \circ f, k \circ g) \twoheadrightarrow \text{CoEq}(\text{coeq}(h, k) \circ h \circ f, \text{coeq}(h, k) \circ k \circ g)$$

exhibiting  $\text{CoEq}(\text{coeq}(h, k) \circ h \circ f, \text{coeq}(h, k) \circ k \circ g)$  as a quotient of  $\text{CoEq}(h \circ f, k \circ g)$  by the relation generated by declaring  $h(y) \sim k(y)$  for each  $y \in B$ .

*Proof.* *Item 1*, Associativity: Omitted.

*Item 4*, Unitality: Clear.

*Item 5*, Commutativity: Clear.

*Item 6*, Interaction With Composition: Omitted. □

## 002E 3 Operations With Sets

### 002F 3.1 The Empty Set

002G **Definition 3.1.1.1.** The **empty set** is the set  $\emptyset$  defined by

$$\emptyset \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} \{x \in X \mid x \neq x\},$$

where  $A$  is the set in the set existence axiom, ?? of ??.

### 002H 3.2 Singleton Sets

Let  $X$  be a set.

002J **Definition 3.2.1.1.** The **singleton set containing  $X$**  is the set  $\{X\}$  defined by

$$\{X\} \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} \{X, X\},$$

where  $\{X, X\}$  is the pairing of  $X$  with itself (**Definition 3.3.1.1**).

**002K 3.3 Pairings of Sets**

Let  $X$  and  $Y$  be sets.

**002L Definition 3.3.1.1.** The **pairing of  $X$  and  $Y$**  is the set  $\{X, Y\}$  defined by

$$\{X, Y\} \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} \{x \in A \mid x = X \text{ or } x = Y\},$$

where  $A$  is the set in the axiom of pairing, ?? of ??.

**002M 3.4 Unions of Families**

Let  $\{A_i\}_{i \in I}$  be a family of sets.

**002N Definition 3.4.1.1.** The **union of the family  $\{A_i\}_{i \in I}$**  is the set  $\bigcup_{i \in I} A_i$  defined by

$$\bigcup_{i \in I} A_i \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} \{x \in F \mid \text{there exists some } i \in I \text{ such that } x \in A_i\},$$

where  $F$  is the set in the axiom of union, ?? of ??.

**002P 3.5 Binary Unions**

Let  $A$  and  $B$  be sets.

**002Q Definition 3.5.1.1.** The **union<sup>8</sup> of  $A$  and  $B$**  is the set  $A \cup B$  defined by

$$A \cup B \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} \bigcup_{z \in \{A, B\}} z.$$

**002R Proposition 3.5.1.2.** Let  $X$  be a set.

**002S** 1. *Functoriality.* The assignments  $U, V, (U, V) \mapsto U \cup V$  define functors

$$\begin{aligned} U \cup - &: (\mathcal{P}(X), \subset) \rightarrow (\mathcal{P}(X), \subset), \\ - \cup V &: (\mathcal{P}(X), \subset) \rightarrow (\mathcal{P}(X), \subset), \\ -_1 \cup -_2 &: (\mathcal{P}(X) \times \mathcal{P}(X), \subset \times \subset) \rightarrow (\mathcal{P}(X), \subset), \end{aligned}$$

where  $-_1 \cup -_2$  is the functor where

· *Action on Objects.* For each  $(U, V) \in \mathcal{P}(X) \times \mathcal{P}(X)$ , we have

$$[-_1 \cup -_2](U, V) \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} U \cup V;$$

---

<sup>8</sup>*Further Terminology:* Also called the **binary union of  $A$  and  $B$** , for emphasis.



· *Action on Morphisms.* For each pair of morphisms

$$\begin{aligned}\iota_U: U &\hookrightarrow U', \\ \iota_V: V &\hookrightarrow V'\end{aligned}$$

of  $\mathcal{P}(X) \times \mathcal{P}(X)$ , the image

$$\iota_U \cup \iota_V: U \cup V \hookrightarrow U' \cup V'$$

of  $(\iota_U, \iota_V)$  by  $\cup$  is the inclusion

$$U \cup V \subset U' \cup V'$$

i.e. where we have

(★) If  $U \subset U'$  and  $V \subset V'$ , then  $U \cup V \subset U' \cup V'$ ;

and where  $U \cup -$  and  $- \cup V$  are the partial functors of  $-_1 \cup -_2$  at  $U, V \in \mathcal{P}(X)$ .

002T 2. *Via Intersections and Symmetric Differences.* We have an equality of sets

$$U \cup V = (U \Delta V) \Delta (U \cap V)$$

for each  $X \in \text{Obj}(\text{Sets})$  and each  $U, V \in \mathcal{P}(X)$ .

002U 3. *Associativity.* We have an equality of sets

$$(U \cup V) \cup W = U \cup (V \cup W)$$

for each  $X \in \text{Obj}(\text{Sets})$  and each  $U, V, W \in \mathcal{P}(X)$ .

002V 4. *Unitality.* We have equalities of sets

$$\begin{aligned}U \cup \emptyset &= U, \\ \emptyset \cup U &= U\end{aligned}$$

for each  $X \in \text{Obj}(\text{Sets})$  and each  $U \in \mathcal{P}(X)$ .

002W 5. *Commutativity.* We have an equality of sets

$$U \cup V = V \cup U$$

for each  $X \in \text{Obj}(\text{Sets})$  and each  $U, V \in \mathcal{P}(X)$ .

002X 6. *Idempotency*. We have an equality of sets

$$U \cup U = U$$

for each  $X \in \text{Obj}(\text{Sets})$  and each  $U \in \mathcal{P}(X)$ .

002Y 7. *Distributivity Over Intersections*. We have equalities of sets

$$\begin{aligned} U \cup (V \cap W) &= (U \cup V) \cap (U \cup W), \\ (U \cap V) \cup W &= (U \cup W) \cap (V \cup W) \end{aligned}$$

for each  $X \in \text{Obj}(\text{Sets})$  and each  $U, V, W \in \mathcal{P}(X)$ .

002Z 8. *Interaction With Powersets and Semirings*. The quintuple  $(\mathcal{P}(X), \cup, \cap, \emptyset, X)$  is an idempotent commutative semiring.

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

*Item 2, Via Intersections and Symmetric Differences*: Omitted.

*Item 3, Associativity*: Clear.

*Item 4, Unitality*: Clear.

*Item 5, Commutativity*: Clear.

*Item 6, Idempotency*: Clear.

*Item 7, Distributivity Over Intersections*: Omitted.

*Item 8, Interaction With Powersets and Semirings*: This follows from *Items 3 to 6* and *Items 3 to 5, 7 and 8 of Proposition 3.7.1.2*.  $\square$

### 0030 3.6 Intersections of Families

Let  $\mathcal{F}$  be a family of sets.

0031 **Definition 3.6.1.1.** The **intersection of a family  $\mathcal{F}$  of sets** is the set  $\bigcap_{X \in \mathcal{F}} X$  defined by

$$\bigcap_{X \in \mathcal{F}} X \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} \left\{ z \in \bigcup_{X \in \mathcal{F}} X \mid \text{for each } X \in \mathcal{F}, \text{ we have } z \in X \right\}.$$

### 0032 3.7 Binary Intersections

Let  $X$  and  $Y$  be sets.

0033 **Definition 3.7.1.1.** The **intersection<sup>9</sup> of  $X$  and  $Y$**  is the set  $X \cap Y$  defined by

$$X \cap Y \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} \bigcap_{z \in \{X, Y\}} z.$$

<sup>9</sup>*Further Terminology*: Also called the **binary intersection of  $X$  and  $Y$** , for emphasis.

0034 **Proposition 3.7.1.2.** Let  $X$  be a set.

0035 1. *Functoriality.* The assignments  $U, V, (U, V) \mapsto U \cap V$  define functors

$$\begin{aligned} U \cap -: (\mathcal{P}(X), \subset) &\rightarrow (\mathcal{P}(X), \subset), \\ - \cap V: (\mathcal{P}(X), \subset) &\rightarrow (\mathcal{P}(X), \subset), \\ -_1 \cap -_2: (\mathcal{P}(X) \times \mathcal{P}(X), \subset \times \subset) &\rightarrow (\mathcal{P}(X), \subset), \end{aligned}$$

where  $-_1 \cap -_2$  is the functor where

· *Action on Objects.* For each  $(U, V) \in \mathcal{P}(X) \times \mathcal{P}(X)$ , we have

$$[-_1 \cap -_2](U, V) \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} U \cap V;$$

· *Action on Morphisms.* For each pair of morphisms

$$\begin{aligned} \iota_U: U &\hookrightarrow U', \\ \iota_V: V &\hookrightarrow V' \end{aligned}$$

of  $\mathcal{P}(X) \times \mathcal{P}(X)$ , the image

$$\iota_U \cap \iota_V: U \cap V \hookrightarrow U' \cap V'$$

of  $(\iota_U, \iota_V)$  by  $\cap$  is the inclusion

$$U \cap V \subset U' \cap V'$$

i.e. where we have

(★) If  $U \subset U'$  and  $V \subset V'$ , then  $U \cap V \subset U' \cap V'$ ;

and where  $U \cap -$  and  $- \cap V$  are the partial functors of  $-_1 \cap -_2$  at  $U, V \in \mathcal{P}(X)$ .

0036 2. *Adjointness.* We have adjunctions

$$\begin{aligned} (U \cap - \dashv \mathbf{Hom}_{\mathcal{P}(X)}(U, -)): \quad & \mathcal{P}(X) \begin{array}{c} \xrightarrow{U \cap -} \\ \perp \\ \xleftarrow{\mathbf{Hom}_{\mathcal{P}(X)}(U, -)} \end{array} \mathcal{P}(X), \\ (- \cap V \dashv \mathbf{Hom}_{\mathcal{P}(X)}(V, -)): \quad & \mathcal{P}(X) \begin{array}{c} \xrightarrow{- \cap V} \\ \perp \\ \xleftarrow{\mathbf{Hom}_{\mathcal{P}(X)}(V, -)} \end{array} \mathcal{P}(X), \end{aligned}$$

where

$$\mathbf{Hom}_{\mathcal{P}(X)}(-_1, -_2): \mathcal{P}(X)^{\text{op}} \times \mathcal{P}(X) \rightarrow \mathcal{P}(X)$$

is the bifunctor defined by<sup>10</sup>

$$\mathbf{Hom}_{\mathcal{P}(X)}(U, V) \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} (X \setminus U) \cup V$$

witnessed by bijections

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Hom}_{\mathcal{P}(X)}(U \cap V, W) &\cong \text{Hom}_{\mathcal{P}(X)}(U, \mathbf{Hom}_{\mathcal{P}(X)}(V, W)), \\ \text{Hom}_{\mathcal{P}(X)}(U \cap V, W) &\cong \text{Hom}_{\mathcal{P}(X)}(V, \mathbf{Hom}_{\mathcal{P}(X)}(U, W)), \end{aligned}$$

natural in  $U, V, W \in \mathcal{P}(X)$ , i.e. where:

- (a) The following conditions are equivalent:
  - i. We have  $U \cap V \subset W$ .
  - ii. We have  $U \subset \mathbf{Hom}_{\mathcal{P}(X)}(V, W)$ .
  - iii. We have  $U \subset (X \setminus V) \cup W$ .
- (b) The following conditions are equivalent:
  - i. We have  $V \cap U \subset W$ .
  - ii. We have  $V \subset \mathbf{Hom}_{\mathcal{P}(X)}(U, W)$ .
  - iii. We have  $V \subset (X \setminus U) \cup W$ .

0037 3. *Associativity.* We have an equality of sets

$$(U \cap V) \cap W = U \cap (V \cap W)$$

for each  $X \in \text{Obj}(\text{Sets})$  and each  $U, V, W \in \mathcal{P}(X)$ .

0038 4. *Unitality.* Let  $X$  be a set and let  $U \in \mathcal{P}(X)$ . We have equalities of sets

$$\begin{aligned} X \cap U &= U, \\ U \cap X &= U \end{aligned}$$

for each  $X \in \text{Obj}(\text{Sets})$  and each  $U \in \mathcal{P}(X)$ .

0039 5. *Commutativity.* We have an equality of sets

$$U \cap V = V \cap U$$

for each  $X \in \text{Obj}(\text{Sets})$  and each  $U, V \in \mathcal{P}(X)$ .

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<sup>10</sup>*Intuition:* Since intersections are the products in  $\mathcal{P}(X)$ , the left adjoint  $\mathbf{Hom}_{\mathcal{P}(X)}(U, V)$  works as a function type  $U \rightarrow V$ .

Now, under the Curry–Howard correspondence, the function type  $U \rightarrow V$  corresponds to implication

- 003A 6. *Idempotency*. We have an equality of sets

$$U \cap U = U$$

for each  $X \in \text{Obj}(\text{Sets})$  and each  $U \in \mathcal{P}(X)$ .

- 003B 7. *Distributivity Over Unions*. We have equalities of sets

$$\begin{aligned} U \cap (V \cup W) &= (U \cap V) \cup (U \cap W), \\ (U \cup V) \cap W &= (U \cap W) \cup (V \cap W) \end{aligned}$$

for each  $X \in \text{Obj}(\text{Sets})$  and each  $U, V, W \in \mathcal{P}(X)$ .

- 003C 8. *Annihilation With the Empty Set*. We have an equality of sets

$$\begin{aligned} \emptyset \cap X &= \emptyset, \\ X \cap \emptyset &= \emptyset \end{aligned}$$

for each  $X \in \text{Obj}(\text{Sets})$  and each  $U \in \mathcal{P}(X)$ .

- 003D 9. *Interaction With Powersets and Monoids With Zero*. The quadruple  $((\mathcal{P}(X), \emptyset), \cap, X)$  is a commutative monoid with zero.

- 003E 10. *Interaction With Powersets and Semirings*. The quintuple  $(\mathcal{P}(X), \cup, \cap, \emptyset, X)$  is an idempotent commutative semiring.

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

*Item 2, Adjointness*: See [MSE 267469].

*Item 3, Associativity*: Clear.

*Item 4, Unitality*: Clear.

*Item 5, Commutativity*: Clear.

*Item 6, Idempotency*: Clear.

*Item 7, Distributivity Over Unions*: Omitted.

*Item 8, Annihilation With the Empty Set*: Clear.

*Item 9, Interaction With Powersets and Monoids With Zero*: This follows from *Items 3* to *5* and *8*.

*Item 10, Interaction With Powersets and Semirings*: This follows from *Items 3* to *6* and *Items 3* to *5*, *7* and *8* of [Proposition 3.7.1.2](#).  $\square$

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$U \implies V$ , which is logically equivalent to the statement  $\neg U \vee V$ , which in turn corresponds to the set  $U^c \vee V \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} (X \setminus U) \cup V$ .

**003F 3.8 Differences**

Let  $X$  and  $Y$  be sets.

**003G Definition 3.8.1.1.** The **difference of  $X$  and  $Y$**  is the set  $X \setminus Y$  defined by

$$X \setminus Y \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} \{a \in X \mid a \notin Y\}.$$

**003H Proposition 3.8.1.2.** Let  $X$  be a set.

**003J** 1. *Functoriality.* The assignments  $U, V, (U, V) \mapsto U \cap V$  define functors

$$\begin{aligned} U \setminus - &: (\mathcal{P}(X), \supset) \rightarrow (\mathcal{P}(X), \subset), \\ - \setminus V &: (\mathcal{P}(X), \subset) \rightarrow (\mathcal{P}(X), \subset), \\ -_1 \setminus -_2 &: (\mathcal{P}(X) \times \mathcal{P}(X), \subset \times \supset) \rightarrow (\mathcal{P}(X), \subset), \end{aligned}$$

where  $-_1 \setminus -_2$  is the functor where

· *Action on Objects.* For each  $(U, V) \in \mathcal{P}(X) \times \mathcal{P}(X)$ , we have

$$[-_1 \setminus -_2](U, V) \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} U \setminus V;$$

· *Action on Morphisms.* For each pair of morphisms

$$\begin{aligned} \iota_A &: A \hookrightarrow B, \\ \iota_U &: U \hookrightarrow V \end{aligned}$$

of  $\mathcal{P}(X) \times \mathcal{P}(X)$ , the image

$$\iota_U \setminus \iota_V: A \setminus V \hookrightarrow B \setminus U$$

of  $(\iota_U, \iota_V)$  by  $\setminus$  is the inclusion

$$A \setminus V \subset B \setminus U$$

i.e. where we have

(★) If  $A \subset B$  and  $U \subset V$ , then  $A \setminus V \subset B \setminus U$ ;

and where  $U \setminus -$  and  $- \setminus V$  are the partial functors of  $-_1 \setminus -_2$  at  $U, V \in \mathcal{P}(X)$ .

**003K** 2. *De Morgan's Laws.* We have equalities of sets

$$\begin{aligned} X \setminus (U \cup V) &= (X \setminus U) \cap (X \setminus V), \\ X \setminus (U \cap V) &= (X \setminus U) \cup (X \setminus V) \end{aligned}$$

for each  $X \in \text{Obj}(\text{Sets})$  and each  $U, V \in \mathcal{P}(X)$ .

- 003L 3. *Interaction With Unions I.* We have equalities of sets

$$(U \setminus V) \cup W = (U \cup W) \setminus (V \setminus W)$$

for each  $X \in \text{Obj}(\text{Sets})$  and each  $U, V, W \in \mathcal{P}(X)$ .

- 003M 4. *Interaction With Unions II.* We have equalities of sets

$$(U \cup V) \setminus W = (U \setminus W) \cup (V \setminus W)$$

for each  $X \in \text{Obj}(\text{Sets})$  and each  $U, V, W \in \mathcal{P}(X)$ .

- 003N 5. *Interaction With Intersections.* We have equalities of sets

$$\begin{aligned} (U \setminus V) \cap W &= (U \cap W) \setminus V \\ &= U \cap (W \setminus V) \end{aligned}$$

for each  $X \in \text{Obj}(\text{Sets})$  and each  $U, V, W \in \mathcal{P}(X)$ .

- 003P 6. *Triple Differences.* We have

$$U \setminus (V \setminus W) = (U \cap W) \cup (U \setminus V)$$

for each  $X \in \text{Obj}(\text{Sets})$  and each  $U, V, W \in \mathcal{P}(X)$ .

- 003Q 7. *Left Annihilation.* We have

$$\emptyset \setminus U = \emptyset$$

for each  $X \in \text{Obj}(\text{Sets})$  and each  $U \in \mathcal{P}(X)$ .

- 003R 8. *Right Unitality.* We have

$$U \setminus \emptyset = U$$

for each  $X \in \text{Obj}(\text{Sets})$  and each  $U \in \mathcal{P}(X)$ .

- 003S 9. *Invertibility.* We have

$$U \setminus U = \emptyset$$

for each  $X \in \text{Obj}(\text{Sets})$  and each  $U \in \mathcal{P}(X)$ .

- 003T 10. *Interaction With Containment.* The following conditions are equivalent:

(a) We have  $V \setminus U \subset W$ .

(b) We have  $V \setminus W \subset U$ .

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

**Item 2**, De Morgan's Laws: Omitted.

**Item 3**, Interaction With Unions I: Omitted.

**Item 4**, Interaction With Unions II: Omitted.

**Item 5**, Interaction With Intersections: Omitted.

**Item 6**, Triple Differences: Omitted.

**Item 7**, Left Annihilation: Clear.

**Item 8**, Right Unitality: Clear.

**Item 9**, Invertibility: Clear.

**Item 10**, Interaction With Containment: Omitted. □

### 003U 3.9 Complements

Let  $X$  be a set and let  $U \in \mathcal{P}(X)$ .

**003V Definition 3.9.1.1.** The **complement of  $U$**  is the set  $U^c$  defined by

$$\begin{aligned} U^c &\stackrel{\text{def}}{=} X \setminus U \\ &\stackrel{\text{def}}{=} \{a \in X \mid a \notin U\}. \end{aligned}$$

**003W Proposition 3.9.1.2.** Let  $X$  be a set.

**003X** 1. *Functoriality.* The assignment  $U \mapsto U^c$  defines a functor

$$(-)^c: \mathcal{P}(X)^{\text{op}} \rightarrow \mathcal{P}(X),$$

where

- *Action on Objects.* For each  $U \in \mathcal{P}(X)$ , we have

$$[(-)^c](U) \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} U^c;$$

- *Action on Morphisms.* For each morphism  $\iota_U: U \hookrightarrow V$  of  $\mathcal{P}(X)$ , the image

$$\iota_U^c: V^c \hookrightarrow U^c$$

of  $\iota_U$  by  $(-)^c$  is the inclusion

$$V^c \subset U^c$$

i.e. where we have

(★) If  $U \subset V$ , then  $V^c \subset U^c$ .



003Y 2. *De Morgan's Laws.* We have equalities of sets

$$(U \cup V)^c = U^c \cap V^c,$$

$$(U \cap V)^c = U^c \cup V^c$$

for each  $X \in \text{Obj}(\text{Sets})$  and each  $U, V \in \mathcal{P}(X)$ .

003Z 3. *Involutority.* We have

$$(U^c)^c = U$$

for each  $X \in \text{Obj}(\text{Sets})$  and each  $U \in \mathcal{P}(X)$ .

*Proof.* *Item 1, Functoriality:* Clear.

*Item 2, De Morgan's Laws:* Omitted.

*Item 3, Involutority:* Clear. □

### 0040 3.10 Symmetric Differences

Let  $A$  and  $B$  be sets.

0041 **Definition 3.10.1.1.** The **symmetric difference of  $A$  and  $B$**  is the set  $A \triangle B$  defined by

$$A \triangle B \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} (A \setminus B) \cup (B \setminus A).$$

0042 **Proposition 3.10.1.2.** Let  $X$  be a set.

0043 1. *Lack of Functoriality.* The assignment  $(U, V) \mapsto U \triangle V$  **does not** define a functor

$$-_1 \triangle -_2 : (\mathcal{P}(X) \times \mathcal{P}(X), \subset \times \subset) \rightarrow (\mathcal{P}(X), \subset).$$

0044 2. *Via Unions and Intersections.* We have<sup>11</sup>

$$U \triangle V = (U \cup V) \setminus (U \cap V)$$

for each  $X \in \text{Obj}(\text{Sets})$  and each  $U, V \in \mathcal{P}(X)$ .

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<sup>11</sup>*Illustration:*



0045 3. *Associativity*. We have<sup>12</sup>

$$(U \Delta V) \Delta W = U \Delta (V \Delta W)$$

for each  $X \in \text{Obj}(\text{Sets})$  and each  $U, V, W \in \mathcal{P}(X)$ .

0046 4. *Unitality*. We have

$$\begin{aligned} U \Delta \emptyset &= U, \\ \emptyset \Delta U &= U \end{aligned}$$

for each  $X \in \text{Obj}(\text{Sets})$  and each  $U \in \mathcal{P}(X)$ .

0047 5. *Invertibility*. We have

$$U \Delta U = \emptyset$$

for each  $X \in \text{Obj}(\text{Sets})$  and each  $U \in \mathcal{P}(X)$ .

0048 6. *Commutativity*. We have

$$U \Delta V = V \Delta U$$

for each  $X \in \text{Obj}(\text{Sets})$  and each  $U, V \in \mathcal{P}(X)$ .

0049 7. “*Transitivity*”. We have

$$(U \Delta V) \Delta (V \Delta W) = U \Delta W$$

for each  $X \in \text{Obj}(\text{Sets})$  and each  $U, V, W \in \mathcal{P}(X)$ .

004A 8. *The Triangle Inequality for Symmetric Differences*. We have

$$U \Delta W \subset U \Delta V \cup V \Delta W$$

for each  $X \in \text{Obj}(\text{Sets})$  and each  $U, V, W \in \mathcal{P}(X)$ .

004B 9. *Distributivity Over Intersections*. We have

$$\begin{aligned} U \cap (V \Delta W) &= (U \cap V) \Delta (U \cap W), \\ (U \Delta V) \cap W &= (U \cap W) \Delta (V \cap W) \end{aligned}$$

for each  $X \in \text{Obj}(\text{Sets})$  and each  $U, V, W \in \mathcal{P}(X)$ .

<sup>12</sup>Illustration:



- 004C 10. *Interaction With Indicator Functions.* We have

$$\chi_{U \Delta V} \equiv \chi_U + \chi_V \pmod{2}$$

for each  $X \in \text{Obj}(\text{Sets})$  and each  $U, V \in \mathcal{P}(X)$ .

- 004D 11. *Bijectivity.* Given  $A, B \subset \mathcal{P}(X)$ , the maps

$$\begin{aligned} A \Delta - : \mathcal{P}(X) &\rightarrow \mathcal{P}(X), \\ - \Delta B : \mathcal{P}(X) &\rightarrow \mathcal{P}(X) \end{aligned}$$

are bijections with inverses given by

$$\begin{aligned} (A \Delta -)^{-1} &= - \cup (A \cap -), \\ (- \Delta B)^{-1} &= - \cup (B \cap -). \end{aligned}$$

Moreover, the map

$$C \mapsto C \Delta (A \Delta B)$$

is a bijection of  $\mathcal{P}(X)$  onto itself sending  $A$  to  $B$  and  $B$  to  $A$ .

- 004E 12. *Interaction With Powersets and Groups I.* The quadruple  $(\mathcal{P}(X), \Delta, \emptyset, \text{id}_{\mathcal{P}(X)})$  is an abelian group.<sup>13,14,15</sup>

- 004F 13. *Interaction With Powersets and Groups II.* Every element of  $\mathcal{P}(X)$  has order 2 with respect to  $\Delta$ , and thus  $\mathcal{P}(X)$  is a *Boolean group* (i.e. an abelian 2-group).

- 004G 14. *Interaction With Powersets and Vector Spaces I.* The pair  $(\mathcal{P}(X), \alpha_{\mathcal{P}(X)})$  consisting of

<sup>13</sup>Example: When  $X = \emptyset$ , we have an isomorphism of groups between  $\mathcal{P}(\emptyset)$  and the trivial group:

$$(\mathcal{P}(\emptyset), \Delta, \emptyset, \text{id}_{\mathcal{P}(\emptyset)}) \cong \text{pt.}$$

<sup>14</sup>Example: When  $X = \text{pt}$ , we have an isomorphism of groups between  $\mathcal{P}(\text{pt})$  and  $\mathbb{Z}/2$ :

$$(\mathcal{P}(\text{pt}), \Delta, \emptyset, \text{id}_{\mathcal{P}(\text{pt})}) \cong \mathbb{Z}/2.$$

<sup>15</sup>Example: When  $X = \{0, 1\}$ , we have an isomorphism of groups between  $\mathcal{P}(\{0, 1\})$  and  $\mathbb{Z}/2 \times \mathbb{Z}/2$ :

$$(\mathcal{P}(\{0, 1\}), \Delta, \emptyset, \text{id}_{\mathcal{P}(\{0, 1\})}) \cong \mathbb{Z}/2 \times \mathbb{Z}/2.$$

- The group  $\mathcal{P}(X)$  of **Item 12**;
- The map  $\alpha_{\mathcal{P}(X)} : \mathbb{F}_2 \times \mathcal{P}(X) \rightarrow \mathcal{P}(X)$  defined by

$$\begin{aligned} 0 \cdot U &\stackrel{\text{def}}{=} \emptyset, \\ 1 \cdot U &\stackrel{\text{def}}{=} U; \end{aligned}$$

is an  $\mathbb{F}_2$ -vector space.

- 004H** 15. *Interaction With Powersets and Vector Spaces II.* If  $X$  is finite, then:
- (a) The set of singletons sets on the elements of  $X$  forms a basis for the  $\mathbb{F}_2$ -vector space  $(\mathcal{P}(X), \alpha_{\mathcal{P}(X)})$  of **Item 14**.
  - (b) We have

$$\dim(\mathcal{P}(X)) = \#\mathcal{P}(X).$$

- 004J** 16. *Interaction With Powersets and Rings.* The quintuple  $(\mathcal{P}(X), \Delta, \cap, \emptyset, X)$  is a commutative ring.<sup>16</sup>

*Proof.* **Item 1**, *Lack of Functoriality*: Omitted.

**Item 2**, *Via Unions and Intersections*: Omitted.

**Item 3**, *Associativity*: Omitted.

**Item 4**, *Unitality*: Clear.

**Item 5**, *Invertibility*: Clear.

**Item 6**, *Commutativity*: Clear.

**Item 7**, *“Transitivity”*: We have

$$\begin{aligned} (U \Delta V) \Delta (V \Delta W) &= U \Delta (V \Delta (V \Delta W)) && \text{(by Item 3)} \\ &= U \Delta ((V \Delta V) \Delta W) && \text{(by Item 3)} \\ &= U \Delta (\emptyset \Delta W) && \text{(by Item 5)} \\ &= U \Delta W && \text{(by Item 4)} \end{aligned}$$

**Item 8**, *The Triangle Inequality for Symmetric Differences*: This follows from **Items 2** and **7**.

**Item 9**, *Distributivity Over Intersections*: Omitted.


**Item 10**, *Interaction With Indicator Functions*: Clear.

**Item 11**, *Bijectivity*: Clear.

**Item 12**, *Interaction With Powersets and Groups I*: This follows from **Items 3** to **6**.

**Item 13**, *Interaction With Powersets and Groups II*: This follows from **Item 5**.

---

<sup>16</sup>  **Warning**: The analogous statement replacing intersections by unions (i.e. that the quintuple  $(\mathcal{P}(X), \Delta, \cup, \emptyset, X)$  is a ring) is false, however. See [Pro23b] for a proof.

*Item 14, Interaction With Powersets and Vector Spaces I:* Clear.

*Item 15, Interaction With Powersets and Vector Spaces II:* Omitted.

*Item 16, Interaction With Powersets and Rings:* This follows from *Items 9 and 12* and *Items 8 and 9 of Proposition 3.7.1.2*.<sup>17</sup>  $\square$

## 004K 3.11 Ordered Pairs

Let  $A$  and  $B$  be sets.

**004L Definition 3.11.1.1.** The **ordered pair associated to  $A$  and  $B$**  is the set  $(A, B)$  defined by

$$(A, B) \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} \{\{A\}, \{A, B\}\}.$$

**004M Proposition 3.11.1.2.** Let  $A$  and  $B$  be sets.

**004N** 1. *Uniqueness.* Let  $A, B, C$ , and  $D$  be sets. The following conditions are equivalent:

- (a) We have  $(A, B) = (C, D)$ .
- (b) We have  $A = C$  and  $B = D$ .

*Proof.* *Item 1, Uniqueness:* See [Cie97, Theorem 1.2.3].  $\square$

## 004P 4 Powersets

### 004Q 4.1 Characteristic Functions

Let  $X$  be a set.

**004R Definition 4.1.1.1.** Let  $U \subset X$  and let  $x \in X$ .

**004S** 1. The **characteristic function of  $U$** <sup>18</sup> is the function<sup>19</sup>

$$\chi_U: X \rightarrow \{\text{t}, \text{f}\}$$

defined by

$$\chi_U(x) \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} \begin{cases} \text{true} & \text{if } x \in U, \\ \text{false} & \text{if } x \notin U \end{cases}$$

for each  $x \in X$ .

<sup>17</sup>Reference: [Pro23a].

<sup>18</sup>Further Terminology: Also called the **indicator function of  $U$** .

<sup>19</sup>Further Notation: Also written  $\chi_X(U, -)$  or  $\chi_X(-, U)$ .

- 004T 2. The **characteristic function of  $x$**  is the function<sup>20</sup>

$$\chi_x: X \rightarrow \{t, f\}$$

defined by

$$\chi_x \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} \chi_{\{x\}},$$

i.e. by

$$\chi_x(y) \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} \begin{cases} \text{true} & \text{if } x = y, \\ \text{false} & \text{if } x \neq y \end{cases}$$

for each  $y \in X$ .

- 004U 3. The **characteristic relation on  $X$** <sup>21</sup> is the relation<sup>22</sup>

$$\chi_X(-, -): X \times X \rightarrow \{t, f\}$$

on  $X$  defined by<sup>23</sup>

$$\chi_X(x, y) \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} \begin{cases} \text{true} & \text{if } x = y, \\ \text{false} & \text{if } x \neq y \end{cases}$$

for each  $x, y \in X$ .

- 004V 4. The **characteristic embedding**<sup>24</sup> of  $X$  into  $\mathcal{P}(X)$  is the function

$$\chi_{(-)}: X \hookrightarrow \mathcal{P}(X)$$

defined by

$$\chi_{(-)}(x) \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} \chi_x$$

for each  $x \in X$ .

<sup>20</sup>Further Notation: Also written  $\chi_x$ ,  $\chi_X(x, -)$ , or  $\chi_X(-, x)$ .

<sup>21</sup>Further Terminology: Also called the **identity relation on  $X$** .

<sup>22</sup>Further Notation: Also written  $\chi_{-2}^{-1}$ , or  $\sim_{\text{id}}$  in the context of relations.

<sup>23</sup>As a subset of  $X \times X$ , the relation  $\chi_X$  corresponds to the diagonal  $\Delta_X \subset X \times X$  of  $X$ .

<sup>24</sup>The name “characteristic embedding” comes from the fact that there is an analogue of fully faithfulness for  $\chi_{(-)}$ : given a set  $X$ , we have

$$\text{Hom}_{\mathcal{P}(X)}(\chi_x, \chi_y) = \chi_X(x, y),$$

for each  $x, y \in X$ .

**004W Remark 4.1.1.2.** The definitions in **Definition 4.1.1.1** are decategorifications of co/presheaves, representable co/presheaves, Hom profunctors, and the Yoneda embedding.<sup>25</sup>

1. A function

$$f: X \rightarrow \{t, f\}$$

is a decategorification of a presheaf

$$\mathcal{F}: C^{\text{op}} \rightarrow \text{Sets},$$

with the characteristic functions  $\chi_U$  of the subsets of  $X$  being the primordial examples (and, in fact, all examples) of these.

2. The characteristic function

$$\chi_x: X \rightarrow \{t, f\}$$

of an *element*  $x$  of  $X$  is a decategorification of the representable presheaf

$$h_X: C^{\text{op}} \rightarrow \text{Sets}$$

of an *object*  $x$  of a category  $C$ .

---

<sup>25</sup>These statements can be made precise by using the embeddings

$$\begin{aligned} (-)_{\text{disc}}: \text{Sets} &\hookrightarrow \text{Cats}, \\ (-)_{\text{disc}}: \{t, f\}_{\text{disc}} &\hookrightarrow \text{Sets} \end{aligned}$$

of sets into categories and of classical truth values into sets.

For instance, in this approach the characteristic function

$$\chi_x: X \rightarrow \{t, f\}$$

of an element  $x$  of  $X$ , defined by

$$\chi_x(y) \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} \begin{cases} \text{true} & \text{if } x = y, \\ \text{false} & \text{if } x \neq y \end{cases}$$

for each  $y \in X$ , is recovered as the representable presheaf

$$\text{Hom}_{X_{\text{disc}}}(-, x): X_{\text{disc}} \rightarrow \text{Sets}$$

of the corresponding object  $x$  of  $X_{\text{disc}}$ , defined on objects by

$$\text{Hom}_{X_{\text{disc}}}(y, x) \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} \begin{cases} \text{pt} & \text{if } x = y, \\ \emptyset & \text{if } x \neq y \end{cases}$$

for each  $y \in \text{Obj}(X_{\text{disc}})$ .

## 3. The characteristic relation

$$\chi_X(-, -): X \times X \rightarrow \{t, f\}$$

of  $X$  is a decategorification of the Hom profunctor

$$\mathrm{Hom}_C(-, -): C^{\mathrm{op}} \times C \rightarrow \mathbf{Sets}$$

of a category  $C$ .

## 4. The characteristic embedding

$$\chi(-): X \hookrightarrow \mathcal{P}(X)$$

of  $X$  into  $\mathcal{P}(X)$  is a decategorification of the Yoneda embedding

$$\mathcal{Y}: C^{\mathrm{op}} \hookrightarrow \mathbf{PSh}(C)$$

of a category  $C$  into  $\mathbf{PSh}(C)$ .

## 5. There is also a direct parallel between unions and colimits:

- An element of  $\mathcal{P}(X)$  is a union of elements of  $X$ , viewed as one-point subsets  $\{x\} \in \mathcal{P}(A)$ ;
- An object of  $\mathbf{PSh}(C)$  is a colimit of objects of  $C$ , viewed as representable presheaves  $h_X \in \mathbf{Obj}(\mathbf{PSh}(C))$ .

**004X Proposition 4.1.1.3.** Let  $f: A \rightarrow B$  be a function. We have an inclusion

$$\begin{array}{ccc} A \times A & \xrightarrow{\chi_A(-, -)} & \{\text{true}, \text{false}\} \\ \chi_B \circ (f \times f) \subset \chi_A, \quad f \times f \downarrow & \subset & \downarrow \mathrm{id}_{\{\text{true}, \text{false}\}} \\ B \times B & \xrightarrow{\chi_B(-, -)} & \{\text{true}, \text{false}\}. \end{array}$$

*Proof.* The inclusion  $\chi_B(f(a), f(b)) \subset \chi_A(a, b)$  is equivalent to the statement “if  $a = b$ , then  $f(a) = f(b)$ ”, which is true.  $\square$

**004Y Proposition 4.1.1.4.** Let  $X$  be a set and let  $U \subset X$  be a subset of  $X$ . We have

$$\mathrm{Hom}_{\mathcal{P}(X)}(\chi_x, \chi_U) = \chi_U(x)$$

for each  $x \in X$ , giving an equality of functions

$$\mathrm{Hom}_{\mathcal{P}(X)}(\chi(-), \chi_U) = \chi_U.$$



*Proof.* Clear. □

**004Z Corollary 4.1.1.5.** The characteristic embedding is fully faithful, i.e., we have

$$\mathrm{Hom}_{\mathcal{P}(X)}(\chi_x, \chi_y) = \chi_X(x, y)$$

for each  $x, y \in X$ .

*Proof.* This follows from **Proposition 4.1.1.4**. □

## **0050 4.2 Powersets**

Let  $X$  be a set.

**0051 Definition 4.2.1.1.** The **powerset** of  $X$  is the set  $\mathcal{P}(X)$  defined by

$$\mathcal{P}(X) \stackrel{\mathrm{def}}{=} \{U \in P \mid U \subset X\},$$

where  $P$  is the set in the axiom of powerset, ?? of ??.

**0052 Remark 4.2.1.2.** The powerset of a set is a decategorification of the category of presheaves of a category: while<sup>26</sup>

- The powerset of a set  $X$  is equivalently (**Item 6** of **Proposition 4.2.1.3**) the set

$$\mathrm{Sets}(X, \{t, f\})$$

of functions from  $X$  to the set  $\{t, f\}$  of classical truth values;

- The category of presheaves on a category  $C$  is the category

$$\mathrm{Fun}(C^{\mathrm{op}}, \mathrm{Sets})$$

of functors from  $C^{\mathrm{op}}$  to the category **Sets** of sets.

---

<sup>26</sup>This parallel is based on the following comparison:

- A category is enriched over the category

$$\mathrm{Sets} \stackrel{\mathrm{def}}{=} \mathrm{Cats}_0$$

of sets (i.e. “0-categories”), with presheaves taking values on it;

- A set is enriched over the set

$$\{t, f\} \stackrel{\mathrm{def}}{=} \mathrm{Cats}_{-1}$$

of classical truth values (i.e. “(−1)-categories”), with characteristic functions taking values on it.

0053 **Proposition 4.2.1.3.** Let  $X$  be a set.

0054 1. *Functoriality.* The assignment  $X \mapsto \mathcal{P}(X)$  defines functors

$$\begin{aligned}\mathcal{P}_* &: \mathbf{Sets} \rightarrow \mathbf{Sets}, \\ \mathcal{P}^{-1} &: \mathbf{Sets}^{\text{op}} \rightarrow \mathbf{Sets}, \\ \mathcal{P}_! &: \mathbf{Sets} \rightarrow \mathbf{Sets}\end{aligned}$$

where

· *Action on Objects.* For each  $A \in \text{Obj}(\mathbf{Sets})$ , we have

$$\begin{aligned}\mathcal{P}_*(A) &\stackrel{\text{def}}{=} \mathcal{P}(A), \\ \mathcal{P}^{-1}(A) &\stackrel{\text{def}}{=} \mathcal{P}(A), \\ \mathcal{P}_!(A) &\stackrel{\text{def}}{=} \mathcal{P}(A);\end{aligned}$$

· *Action on Morphisms.* For each morphism  $f: A \rightarrow B$  of  $\mathbf{Sets}$ , the images

$$\begin{aligned}\mathcal{P}_*(f) &: \mathcal{P}(A) \rightarrow \mathcal{P}(B), \\ \mathcal{P}^{-1}(f) &: \mathcal{P}(B) \rightarrow \mathcal{P}(A), \\ \mathcal{P}_!(f) &: \mathcal{P}(A) \rightarrow \mathcal{P}(B)\end{aligned}$$

of  $f$  by  $\mathcal{P}_*$ ,  $\mathcal{P}^{-1}$ , and  $\mathcal{P}_!$  are defined by

$$\begin{aligned}\mathcal{P}_*(f) &\stackrel{\text{def}}{=} f_*, \\ \mathcal{P}^{-1}(f) &\stackrel{\text{def}}{=} f^{-1}, \\ \mathcal{P}_!(f) &\stackrel{\text{def}}{=} f_!,\end{aligned}$$

as in **Definitions 4.3.1.1**, **4.4.1.1** and **4.5.1.1**.

0055 2. *Adjointness I.* We have an adjunction

$$\left(\mathcal{P}^{-1} \dashv \mathcal{P}^{-1, \text{op}}\right): \mathbf{Sets}^{\text{op}} \begin{array}{c} \xrightarrow{\mathcal{P}^{-1}} \\ \perp \\ \xleftarrow{\mathcal{P}^{-1, \text{op}}} \end{array} \mathbf{Sets},$$

witnessed by a bijection

$$\underbrace{\mathbf{Sets}^{\text{op}}(\mathcal{P}(X), Y)}_{\stackrel{\text{def}}{=} \mathbf{Sets}(Y, \mathcal{P}(X))} \cong \mathbf{Sets}(X, \mathcal{P}(Y)),$$

natural in  $X \in \text{Obj}(\mathbf{Sets})$  and  $Y \in \text{Obj}(\mathbf{Sets}^{\text{op}})$ .

- 0056 3. *Adjointness II.* We have an adjunction

$$(Gr \dashv P_*) : \text{Sets} \begin{array}{c} \xrightarrow{Gr} \\ \perp \\ \xleftarrow{P_*} \end{array} \text{Rel},$$

witnessed by a bijection of sets

$$\text{Rel}(Gr(A), B) \cong \text{Sets}(A, \mathcal{P}(B))$$

natural in  $A \in \text{Obj}(\text{Sets})$  and  $B \in \text{Obj}(\text{Rel})$ , where  $Gr$  is the graph functor of [Relations](#), [Item 1](#) of [Proposition 3.1.1.2](#).

- 0057 4. *Symmetric Strong Monoidality With Respect to Coproducts.* The powerset functor  $\mathcal{P}_*$  of [Item 1](#) has a symmetric strong monoidal structure

$$(\mathcal{P}_*, \mathcal{P}_*^{\amalg}, \mathcal{P}_{*|\#}^{\amalg}) : (\text{Sets}, \amalg, \emptyset) \rightarrow (\text{Sets}, \times, \text{pt})$$

being equipped with isomorphisms

$$\begin{aligned} \mathcal{P}_{*|X,Y}^{\amalg} : \mathcal{P}(X) \times \mathcal{P}(Y) &\xrightarrow{\cong} \mathcal{P}(X \amalg Y), \\ \mathcal{P}_{*|\#}^{\amalg} : \text{pt} &\xrightarrow{=} \mathcal{P}(\emptyset), \end{aligned}$$

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

- 0058 5. *Symmetric Lax Monoidality With Respect to Products.* The powerset functor  $\mathcal{P}_*$  of [Item 1](#) has a symmetric lax monoidal structure

$$(\mathcal{P}_*, \mathcal{P}_*^{\otimes}, \mathcal{P}_{*|\#}^{\otimes}) : (\text{Sets}, \times, \text{pt}) \rightarrow (\text{Sets}, \times, \text{pt})$$

being equipped with isomorphisms

$$\begin{aligned} \mathcal{P}_{*|X,Y}^{\otimes} : \mathcal{P}(X) \times \mathcal{P}(Y) &\rightarrow \mathcal{P}(X \times Y), \\ \mathcal{P}_{*|\#}^{\otimes} : \text{pt} &\xrightarrow{=} \mathcal{P}(\emptyset), \end{aligned}$$

natural in  $X, Y \in \text{Obj}(\text{Sets})$ , where  $\mathcal{P}_{*|X,Y}^{\otimes}$  is given by

$$\mathcal{P}_{*|X,Y}^{\otimes}(U, V) \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} U \times V$$

for each  $(U, V) \in \mathcal{P}(X) \times \mathcal{P}(Y)$ .

- 0059 6. *Powersets as Sets of Functions.* The assignment  $U \mapsto \chi_U$  defines a bijection<sup>27</sup>

$$\chi_{(-)} : \mathcal{P}(X) \xrightarrow{\cong} \text{Sets}(X, \{\text{t}, \text{f}\}),$$

natural in  $X \in \text{Obj}(\text{Sets})$ .

- 005A 7. *Powersets as Sets of Relations.* We have bijections

$$\mathcal{P}(X) \cong \text{Rel}(\text{pt}, X),$$

$$\mathcal{P}(X) \cong \text{Rel}(X, \text{pt}),$$

natural in  $X \in \text{Obj}(\text{Sets})$ .

- 005B 8. *As a Free Cocompletion: Universal Property.* The pair  $(\mathcal{P}(X), \chi_{(-)})$  consisting of

- The powerset  $\mathcal{P}(X)$  of  $X$ ;
- The characteristic embedding  $\chi_{(-)} : X \hookrightarrow \mathcal{P}(X)$  of  $X$  into  $\mathcal{P}(X)$ ;

satisfies the following universal property:

(★) Given another pair  $(Y, f)$  consisting of

- A cocomplete poset  $(Y, \leq)$ ;
- A function  $f : X \rightarrow Y$ ;

there exists a unique cocontinuous morphism of posets  $(\mathcal{P}(X), \subset) \xrightarrow{\exists!} (Y, \leq)$  making the diagram

$$\begin{array}{ccc} & \mathcal{P}(X) & \\ \chi_X \nearrow & & \downarrow \exists! \\ X & \xrightarrow{f} & Y \end{array}$$

commute.

<sup>27</sup>This bijection is a decategorified form of the equivalence

$$\text{PSh}(C) \stackrel{\text{eq.}}{\cong} \text{DFib}(C)$$

of Fibred Categories, ?? of ??, with  $\chi_{(-)}$  being a decategorified version of the category of elements construction of Fibred Categories, ??.

See also ?? of ??.

005C 9. *As a Free Cocompletion: Adjointness.* We have an adjunction<sup>28</sup>

$$(\chi_{(-)} \dashv \overline{\phantom{x}}): \text{Sets} \begin{array}{c} \xrightarrow{\chi_{(-)}} \\ \perp \\ \xleftarrow{\overline{\phantom{x}}} \end{array} \text{Pos}^{\text{cocomp}},$$

witnessed by a bijection

$$\text{Pos}^{\text{cocomp}}((\mathcal{P}(X), \subset), (Y, \leq)) \cong \text{Sets}(X, Y),$$

natural in  $X \in \text{Obj}(\text{Sets})$  and  $(Y, \leq) \in \text{Obj}(\text{Pos})$ , where

- We have a natural map

$$\chi_X^*: \text{Pos}^{\text{cocomp}}((\mathcal{P}(X), \subset), (Y, \leq)) \rightarrow \text{Sets}(X, Y)$$

defined by

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

i.e. by sending a cocontinuous morphism of posets  $f: \mathcal{P}(X) \rightarrow Y$  to the composition

$$X \xrightarrow{\chi_X} \mathcal{P}(X) \xrightarrow{f} Y;$$

- We have a natural map

$$\text{Lan}_{\chi_X}: \text{Sets}(X, Y) \rightarrow \text{Pos}^{\text{cocomp}}((\mathcal{P}(X), \subset), (Y, \leq))$$

computed by

$$\begin{aligned} [\text{Lan}_{\chi_X}(f)](U) &\cong \int^{x \in X} \chi_{\mathcal{P}(X)}(\chi_x, U) \odot f(x) \\ &\cong \int^{x \in X} \chi_U(x) \odot f(x) && \text{(by Proposition 4.1.1.4)} \\ &\cong \bigvee_{x \in X} (\chi_U(x) \odot f(x)) \end{aligned}$$

for each  $U \in \mathcal{P}(X)$ , where:

- $\bigvee$  is the join in  $(Y, \leq)$ ;

<sup>28</sup>In this sense,  $\mathcal{P}(A)$  is the free cocompletion of  $A$ . (Note that, despite its name, however, this is not an idempotent operation, as we have  $\mathcal{P}(\mathcal{P}(A)) \neq \mathcal{P}(A)$ .)

– We have

$$\begin{aligned}\text{true} \odot f(x) &\stackrel{\text{def}}{=} f(x), \\ \text{false} \odot f(x) &\stackrel{\text{def}}{=} \emptyset_Y,\end{aligned}$$

where  $\emptyset_Y$  is the minimal element of  $(Y, \leq)$ .

*Proof.* **Item 1, Functoriality:** This follows from **Items 3 and 4** of **Proposition 4.3.1.4**, **Items 3 and 4** of **Proposition 4.4.1.4**, and **Items 3 and 4** of **Proposition 4.5.1.6**.

**Item 2, Adjointness I:** Omitted.

**Item 3, Adjointness II:** Omitted.

**Item 4, Symmetric Strong Monoidality With Respect to Coproducts:** Omitted.

**Item 5, Symmetric Lax Monoidality With Respect to Products:** Omitted.

**Item 6, Powersets as Sets of Functions:** Omitted.

**Item 7, Powersets as Sets of Relations:** Omitted.

**Item 8, As a Free Cocompletion: Universal Property:** This is a rephrasing of ??.

**Item 9, As a Free Cocompletion: Adjointness:** Omitted. □

## 005D 4.3 Direct Images

Let  $A$  and  $B$  be sets and let  $f: A \rightarrow B$  be a function.

**005E Definition 4.3.1.1.** The **direct image function associated to  $f$**  is the function<sup>29</sup>

$$f_*: \mathcal{P}(A) \rightarrow \mathcal{P}(B)$$

defined by<sup>30,31</sup>

$$\begin{aligned}f_*(U) &\stackrel{\text{def}}{=} f(U) \\ &\stackrel{\text{def}}{=} \left\{ b \in B \mid \begin{array}{l} \text{there exists some } a \in U \\ \text{such that } b = f(a) \end{array} \right\} \\ &= \{f(a) \in B \mid a \in U\}\end{aligned}$$

for each  $U \in \mathcal{P}(A)$ .

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<sup>29</sup>*Further Notation:* Also written  $\exists_f: \mathcal{P}(A) \rightarrow \mathcal{P}(B)$ . This notation comes from the fact that the following statements are equivalent, where  $b \in B$  and  $U \in \mathcal{P}(A)$ :

- We have  $b \in \exists_f(U)$ .
- There exists some  $a \in U$  such that  $f(a) = b$ .

<sup>30</sup>*Further Terminology:* The set  $f(U)$  is called the **direct image of  $U$  by  $f$** .

<sup>31</sup>We also have

$$f_*(U) = B \setminus f_!(A \setminus U);$$

**005F Remark 4.3.1.2.** Identifying subsets of  $A$  with functions from  $A$  to  $\{\text{true}, \text{false}\}$  via **Item 6** of **Proposition 4.2.1.3**, we see that the direct image function associated to  $f$  is equivalently the function

$$f_* : \mathcal{P}(A) \rightarrow \mathcal{P}(B)$$

defined by

$$\begin{aligned} f_*(\chi_U) &\stackrel{\text{def}}{=} \text{Lan}_f(\chi_U) \\ &= \text{colim} \left( \left( f \overset{\rightarrow}{\times} \underline{(-1)} \right) \overset{\text{pr}}{\twoheadrightarrow} A \xrightarrow{\chi_U} \{\text{t}, \text{f}\} \right) \\ &= \text{colim}_{\substack{a \in A \\ f(a) = -1}} (\chi_U(a)) \\ &= \bigvee_{\substack{a \in A \\ f(a) = -1}} (\chi_U(a)). \end{aligned}$$

So, in other words, we have

$$\begin{aligned} [f_*(\chi_U)](b) &= \bigvee_{\substack{a \in A \\ f(a) = b}} (\chi_U(a)) \\ &= \begin{cases} \text{true} & \text{if there exists some } a \in A \text{ such} \\ & \text{that } f(a) = b \text{ and } a \in U, \\ \text{false} & \text{otherwise} \end{cases} \\ &= \begin{cases} \text{true} & \text{if there exists some } a \in U \\ & \text{such that } f(a) = b, \\ \text{false} & \text{otherwise} \end{cases} \end{aligned}$$

for each  $b \in B$ .

**005G Proposition 4.3.1.3.** Let  $f : A \rightarrow B$  be a function.

**005H** 1. *Functoriality.* The assignment  $U \mapsto f_*(U)$  defines a functor

$$f_* : (\mathcal{P}(A), \subset) \rightarrow (\mathcal{P}(B), \subset)$$

where

· *Action on Objects.* For each  $U \in \mathcal{P}(A)$ , we have

$$[f_*](U) \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} f_*(U);$$

· *Action on Morphisms.* For each  $U, V \in \mathcal{P}(A)$ :

(★) If  $U \subset V$ , then  $f_*(U) \subset f_*(V)$ .

005J 2. *Triple Adjointness.* We have a triple adjunction

$$(f_* \dashv f^{-1} \dashv f_!): \mathcal{P}(A) \begin{array}{c} \xrightarrow{f_*} \\ \perp \\ \xleftarrow{f^{-1}} \\ \perp \\ \xrightarrow{f_!} \end{array} \mathcal{P}(B),$$

witnessed by bijections of sets

$$\begin{aligned} \mathrm{Hom}_{\mathcal{P}(B)}(f_*(U), V) &\cong \mathrm{Hom}_{\mathcal{P}(A)}(U, f^{-1}(V)), \\ \mathrm{Hom}_{\mathcal{P}(A)}(f^{-1}(U), V) &\cong \mathrm{Hom}_{\mathcal{P}(A)}(U, f_!(V)), \end{aligned}$$

natural in  $U \in \mathcal{P}(A)$  and  $V \in \mathcal{P}(B)$  and (respectively)  $V \in \mathcal{P}(A)$  and  $U \in \mathcal{P}(B)$ ,  
i.e. where:

- (a) The following conditions are equivalent:
  - i. We have  $f_*(U) \subset V$ .
  - ii. We have  $U \subset f^{-1}(V)$ .
- (b) The following conditions are equivalent:
  - i. We have  $f^{-1}(U) \subset V$ .
  - ii. We have  $U \subset f_!(V)$ .

005K 3. *Preservation of Colimits.* We have an equality of sets

$$f_*\left(\bigcup_{i \in I} U_i\right) = \bigcup_{i \in I} f_*(U_i),$$

natural in  $\{U_i\}_{i \in I} \in \mathcal{P}(A)^{\times I}$ . In particular, we have equalities

$$\begin{aligned} f_*(U) \cup f_*(V) &= f_*(U \cup V), \\ f_*(\emptyset) &= \emptyset, \end{aligned}$$

natural in  $U, V \in \mathcal{P}(A)$ .

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see Item 7 of Proposition 4.3.1.3.



- 005L 4. *Oplax Preservation of Limits.* We have an inclusion of sets

$$f_* \left( \bigcap_{i \in I} U_i \right) \subset \bigcap_{i \in I} f_*(U_i),$$

natural in  $\{U_i\}_{i \in I} \in \mathcal{P}(A)^{\times I}$ . In particular, we have inclusions

$$\begin{aligned} f_*(U \cap V) &\subset f_*(U) \cap f_*(V), \\ f_*(A) &\subset B, \end{aligned}$$

natural in  $U, V \in \mathcal{P}(A)$ .

- 005M 5. *Symmetric Strict Monoidality With Respect to Unions.* The direct image function of **Item 1** has a symmetric strict monoidal structure

$$(f_*, f_*^\otimes, f_{*|\mathbb{K}}^\otimes) : (\mathcal{P}(A), \cup, \emptyset) \rightarrow (\mathcal{P}(B), \cup, \emptyset),$$

being equipped with equalities

$$\begin{aligned} f_{*|U,V}^\otimes : f_*(U) \cup f_*(V) &\xrightarrow{=} f_*(U \cup V), \\ f_{*|\mathbb{K}}^\otimes : \emptyset &\xrightarrow{=} \emptyset, \end{aligned}$$

natural in  $U, V \in \mathcal{P}(A)$ .

- 005N 6. *Symmetric Oplax Monoidality With Respect to Intersections.* The direct image function of **Item 1** has a symmetric oplax monoidal structure

$$(f_*, f_*^\otimes, f_{*|\mathbb{K}}^\otimes) : (\mathcal{P}(A), \cap, A) \rightarrow (\mathcal{P}(B), \cap, B),$$

being equipped with inclusions

$$\begin{aligned} f_{*|U,V}^\otimes : f_*(U \cap V) &\hookrightarrow f_*(U) \cap f_*(V), \\ f_{*|\mathbb{K}}^\otimes : f_*(A) &\hookrightarrow B, \end{aligned}$$

natural in  $U, V \in \mathcal{P}(A)$ .

- 005P 7. *Relation to Direct Images With Compact Support.* We have

$$f_*(U) = B \setminus f_!(A \setminus U)$$

for each  $U \in \mathcal{P}(A)$ .

*Proof.* **Item 1**, *Functoriality*: Clear.

**Item 2**, *Triple Adjointness*: This follows from **Kan Extensions**, ?? of ??.

**Item 3**, *Preservation of Colimits*: This follows from **Item 2** and **Categories**, ?? of ??.

**Item 4**, *Oplax Preservation of Limits*: Omitted.

**Item 5**, *Symmetric Strict Monoidality With Respect to Unions*: This follows from **Item 3**.

**Item 6**, *Symmetric Oplax Monoidality With Respect to Intersections*: This follows from ??.

**Item 7**, *Relation to Direct Images With Compact Support*: Applying ?? of ?? to  $A \setminus U$ , we have

$$\begin{aligned} f_!(A \setminus U) &= B \setminus f_*(A \setminus (A \setminus U)) \\ &= B \setminus f_*(U). \end{aligned}$$

Taking complements, we then obtain

$$\begin{aligned} f_*(U) &= B \setminus (B \setminus f_*(U)), \\ &= B \setminus f_!(A \setminus U), \end{aligned}$$

which finishes the proof.  $\square$

**005Q** **Proposition 4.3.1.4.** Let  $f: A \rightarrow B$  be a function.

**005R** 1. *Functionality I*. The assignment  $f \mapsto f_*$  defines a function

$$(-)_{*|A,B}: \text{Sets}(A, B) \rightarrow \text{Sets}(\mathcal{P}(A), \mathcal{P}(B)).$$

**005S** 2. *Functionality II*. The assignment  $f \mapsto f_*$  defines a function

$$(-)_{*|A,B}: \text{Sets}(A, B) \rightarrow \text{Pos}((\mathcal{P}(A), \subset), (\mathcal{P}(B), \subset)).$$

**005T** 3. *Interaction With Identities*. For each  $A \in \text{Obj}(\text{Sets})$ , we have

$$(\text{id}_A)_* = \text{id}_{\mathcal{P}(A)};$$

**005U** 4. *Interaction With Composition*. For each pair of composable functions  $f: A \rightarrow B$  and  $g: B \rightarrow C$ , we have

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

$$\begin{array}{ccc} \mathcal{P}(A) & \xrightarrow{f_*} & \mathcal{P}(B) \\ & \searrow (g \circ f)_* & \downarrow g_* \\ & & \mathcal{P}(C). \end{array}$$

*Proof.* **Item 1**, *Functionality I*: Clear.

**Item 2**, *Functionality II*: Clear.

**Item 3**, *Interaction With Identities*: This follows from **Kan Extensions**, ?? of ??.

**Item 4**, *Interaction With Composition*: This follows from **Kan Extensions**, ?? of ??.

$\square$

**005V 4.4 Inverse Images**

Let  $A$  and  $B$  be sets and let  $f: A \rightarrow B$  be a function.

**005W Definition 4.4.1.1.** The **inverse image function associated to  $f$**  is the function<sup>32</sup>

$$f^{-1}: \mathcal{P}(B) \rightarrow \mathcal{P}(A)$$

defined by<sup>33</sup>

$$f^{-1}(V) \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} \{a \in A \mid \text{we have } f(a) \in V\}$$

for each  $V \in \mathcal{P}(B)$ .

**005X Remark 4.4.1.2.** Identifying subsets of  $B$  with functions from  $B$  to  $\{\text{true}, \text{false}\}$  via **Item 6** of **Proposition 4.2.1.3**, we see that the inverse image function associated to  $f$  is equivalently the function

$$f^*: \mathcal{P}(B) \rightarrow \mathcal{P}(A)$$

defined by

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

for each  $\chi_V \in \mathcal{P}(B)$ , where  $\chi_V \circ f$  is the composition

$$A \xrightarrow{f} B \xrightarrow{\chi_V} \{\text{true}, \text{false}\}$$

in Sets.

**005Y Proposition 4.4.1.3.** Let  $f: A \rightarrow B$  be a function.

**005Z** 1. *Functoriality.* The assignment  $V \mapsto f^{-1}(V)$  defines a functor

$$f^{-1}: (\mathcal{P}(B), \subset) \rightarrow (\mathcal{P}(A), \subset)$$

where

- *Action on Objects.* For each  $V \in \mathcal{P}(B)$ , we have

$$[f^{-1}](V) \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} f^{-1}(V);$$

- *Action on Morphisms.* For each  $U, V \in \mathcal{P}(B)$ :

$$(\star) \text{ If } U \subset V, \text{ then } f^{-1}(U) \subset f^{-1}(V).$$

<sup>32</sup>Further Notation: Also written  $f^*: \mathcal{P}(B) \rightarrow \mathcal{P}(A)$ .

<sup>33</sup>Further Terminology: The set  $f^{-1}(V)$  is called the **inverse image of  $V$  by  $f$** .

0060 2. *Triple Adjointness.* We have a triple adjunction

$$(f_* \dashv f^{-1} \dashv f_!): \mathcal{P}(A) \begin{array}{c} \xrightarrow{f_*} \\ \perp \\ \xleftarrow{f^{-1}} \\ \perp \\ \xrightarrow{f_!} \end{array} \mathcal{P}(B),$$

witnessed by bijections of sets

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Hom}_{\mathcal{P}(B)}(f_*(U), V) &\cong \text{Hom}_{\mathcal{P}(A)}(U, f^{-1}(V)), \\ \text{Hom}_{\mathcal{P}(A)}(f^{-1}(U), V) &\cong \text{Hom}_{\mathcal{P}(A)}(U, f_!(V)), \end{aligned}$$

natural in  $U \in \mathcal{P}(A)$  and  $V \in \mathcal{P}(B)$  and (respectively)  $V \in \mathcal{P}(A)$  and  $U \in \mathcal{P}(B)$ , i.e. where:

- (a) The following conditions are equivalent:
  - i. We have  $f_*(U) \subset V$ ;
  - ii. We have  $U \subset f^{-1}(V)$ ;
- (b) The following conditions are equivalent:
  - i. We have  $f^{-1}(U) \subset V$ .
  - ii. We have  $U \subset f_!(V)$ .

0061 3. *Preservation of Colimits.* We have an equality of sets

$$f^{-1}\left(\bigcup_{i \in I} U_i\right) = \bigcup_{i \in I} f^{-1}(U_i),$$

natural in  $\{U_i\}_{i \in I} \in \mathcal{P}(B)^{\times I}$ . In particular, we have equalities

$$\begin{aligned} f^{-1}(U) \cup f^{-1}(V) &= f^{-1}(U \cup V), \\ f^{-1}(\emptyset) &= \emptyset, \end{aligned}$$

natural in  $U, V \in \mathcal{P}(B)$ .

0062 4. *Preservation of Limits.* We have an equality of sets

$$f^{-1}\left(\bigcap_{i \in I} U_i\right) = \bigcap_{i \in I} f^{-1}(U_i),$$

natural in  $\{U_i\}_{i \in I} \in \mathcal{P}(B)^{\times I}$ . In particular, we have equalities

$$\begin{aligned} f^{-1}(U) \cap f^{-1}(V) &= f^{-1}(U \cap V), \\ f^{-1}(B) &= A, \end{aligned}$$

natural in  $U, V \in \mathcal{P}(B)$ .

- 0063 5. *Symmetric Strict Monoidality With Respect to Unions.* The inverse image function of **Item 1** has a symmetric strict monoidal structure

$$(f^{-1}, f^{-1, \otimes}, f_{\#}^{-1, \otimes}) : (\mathcal{P}(B), \cup, \emptyset) \rightarrow (\mathcal{P}(A), \cup, \emptyset),$$

being equipped with equalities

$$\begin{aligned} f_{U, V}^{-1, \otimes} : f^{-1}(U) \cup f^{-1}(V) &\xrightarrow{=} f^{-1}(U \cup V), \\ f_{\#}^{-1, \otimes} : \emptyset &\xrightarrow{=} f^{-1}(\emptyset), \end{aligned}$$

natural in  $U, V \in \mathcal{P}(B)$ .

- 0064 6. *Symmetric Strict Monoidality With Respect to Intersections.* The inverse image function of **Item 1** has a symmetric strict monoidal structure

$$(f^{-1}, f^{-1, \otimes}, f_{\#}^{-1, \otimes}) : (\mathcal{P}(B), \cap, B) \rightarrow (\mathcal{P}(A), \cap, A),$$

being equipped with equalities

$$\begin{aligned} f_{U, V}^{-1, \otimes} : f^{-1}(U) \cap f^{-1}(V) &\xrightarrow{=} f^{-1}(U \cap V), \\ f_{\#}^{-1, \otimes} : A &\xrightarrow{=} f^{-1}(B), \end{aligned}$$

natural in  $U, V \in \mathcal{P}(B)$ .

*Proof.* **Item 1**, *Functoriality*: Clear.

**Item 2**, *Triple Adjointness*: This follows from **Kan Extensions**, ?? of ??.

**Item 3**, *Preservation of Colimits*: This follows from **Item 2** and **Categories**, ?? of ??.

**Item 4**, *Preservation of Limits*: This follows from **Item 2** and **Categories**, ?? of ??.

**Item 5**, *Symmetric Strict Monoidality With Respect to Unions*: This follows from **Item 3**.

**Item 6**, *Symmetric Strict Monoidality With Respect to Intersections*: This follows from **Item 4**.

□

- 0065 **Proposition 4.4.1.4.** Let  $f : A \rightarrow B$  be a function.

- 0066 1. *Functionality I*. The assignment  $f \mapsto f^{-1}$  defines a function

$$(-)_{A,B}^{-1}: \text{Sets}(A, B) \rightarrow \text{Sets}(\mathcal{P}(B), \mathcal{P}(A)).$$

- 0067 2. *Functionality II*. The assignment  $f \mapsto f^{-1}$  defines a function

$$(-)_{A,B}^{-1}: \text{Sets}(A, B) \rightarrow \text{Pos}((\mathcal{P}(B), \subset), (\mathcal{P}(A), \subset)).$$

- 0068 3. *Interaction With Identities*. For each  $A \in \text{Obj}(\text{Sets})$ , we have

$$\text{id}_A^{-1} = \text{id}_{\mathcal{P}(A)};$$

- 0069 4. *Interaction With Composition*. For each pair of composable functions  $f: A \rightarrow B$  and  $g: B \rightarrow C$ , we have

$$(g \circ f)^{-1} = f^{-1} \circ g^{-1},$$

$$\begin{array}{ccc} \mathcal{P}(C) & \xrightarrow{g^{-1}} & \mathcal{P}(B) \\ & \searrow (g \circ f)^{-1} & \downarrow f^{-1} \\ & & \mathcal{P}(A). \end{array}$$

*Proof.* *Item 1, Functionality I*: Clear.

*Item 2, Functionality II*: Clear.

*Item 3, Interaction With Identities*: This follows from *Categories*, ?? of ??.

*Item 4, Interaction With Composition*: This follows from *Categories*, ?? of ??.

□

## 006A 4.5 Direct Images With Compact Support

Let  $A$  and  $B$  be sets and let  $f: A \rightarrow B$  be a function.

- 006B **Definition 4.5.1.1.** The **direct image with compact support function associated to  $f$**  is the function<sup>34</sup>

$$f_!: \mathcal{P}(A) \rightarrow \mathcal{P}(B)$$

<sup>34</sup>*Further Notation*: Also written  $\forall_f: \mathcal{P}(A) \rightarrow \mathcal{P}(B)$ . This notation comes from the fact that the following statements are equivalent, where  $b \in B$  and  $U \in \mathcal{P}(A)$ :

- We have  $b \in \forall_f(U)$ .
- For each  $a \in A$ , if  $b = f(a)$ , then  $a \in U$ .

defined by<sup>35,36</sup>

$$\begin{aligned} f_!(U) &\stackrel{\text{def}}{=} \left\{ b \in B \mid \begin{array}{l} \text{for each } a \in A, \text{ if we have} \\ f(a) = b, \text{ then } a \in U \end{array} \right\} \\ &= \{ b \in B \mid \text{we have } f^{-1}(b) \subset U \} \end{aligned}$$

for each  $U \in \mathcal{P}(A)$ .

**006C Remark 4.5.1.2.** Identifying subsets of  $A$  with functions from  $A$  to  $\{\text{true}, \text{false}\}$  via **Item 6** of **Proposition 4.2.1.3**, we see that the direct image with compact support function associated to  $f$  is equivalently the function

$$f_! : \mathcal{P}(A) \rightarrow \mathcal{P}(B)$$

defined by

$$\begin{aligned} f_!(\chi_U) &\stackrel{\text{def}}{=} \text{Ran}_f(\chi_U) \\ &= \lim \left( \left( \underline{(-1)} \times f \right) \xrightarrow{\text{pr}} A \xrightarrow{\chi_U} \{\text{true}, \text{false}\} \right) \\ &= \lim_{\substack{a \in A \\ f(a) = -1}} (\chi_U(a)) \\ &= \bigwedge_{\substack{a \in A \\ f(a) = -1}} (\chi_U(a)). \end{aligned}$$

So, in other words, we have

$$\begin{aligned} [f_!(\chi_U)](b) &= \bigwedge_{\substack{a \in A \\ f(a) = b}} (\chi_U(a)) \\ &= \begin{cases} \text{true} & \text{if, for each } a \in A \text{ such that} \\ & f(a) = b, \text{ we have } a \in U, \\ \text{false} & \text{otherwise} \end{cases} \\ &= \begin{cases} \text{true} & \text{if } f^{-1}(b) \subset U \\ \text{false} & \text{otherwise} \end{cases} \end{aligned}$$

for each  $b \in B$ .

<sup>35</sup>Further Terminology: The set  $f_!(U)$  is called the **direct image with compact support of  $U$  by  $f$** .

<sup>36</sup>We also have

$$f_!(U) = B \setminus f_*(A \setminus U);$$

006D **Definition 4.5.1.3.** Let  $U$  be a subset of  $A$ .<sup>37,38</sup>

1. The **image part of the direct image with compact support**  $f_!(U)$  of  $U$  is the set  $f_{!,\text{im}}(U)$  defined by

$$\begin{aligned} f_{!,\text{im}}(U) &\stackrel{\text{def}}{=} f_!(U) \cap \text{Im}(f) \\ &= \left\{ b \in B \mid \begin{array}{l} \text{we have } f^{-1}(b) \subset U \\ \text{and } f^{-1}(b) \neq \emptyset \end{array} \right\}. \end{aligned}$$

2. The **complement part of the direct image with compact support**  $f_!(U)$  of  $U$  is the set  $f_{!,\text{cp}}(U)$  defined by

$$\begin{aligned} f_{!,\text{cp}}(U) &\stackrel{\text{def}}{=} f_!(U) \cap (B \setminus \text{Im}(f)) \\ &= B \setminus \text{Im}(f) \\ &= \left\{ b \in B \mid \begin{array}{l} \text{we have } f^{-1}(b) \subset U \\ \text{and } f^{-1}(b) = \emptyset \end{array} \right\} \\ &= \{ b \in B \mid f^{-1}(b) = \emptyset \}. \end{aligned}$$

006E **Example 4.5.1.4.** Here are some examples of direct images with compact support.

1. *The Multiplication by Two Map on the Natural Numbers.* Consider the function  $f: \mathbb{N} \rightarrow \mathbb{N}$  given by

$$f(n) \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} 2n$$

see Item 7 of Proposition 4.5.1.5.

<sup>37</sup>Note that we have

$$f_!(U) = f_{!,\text{im}}(U) \cup f_{!,\text{cp}}(U),$$

as

$$\begin{aligned} f_!(U) &= f_!(U) \cap B \\ &= f_!(U) \cap (\text{Im}(f) \cup (B \setminus \text{Im}(f))) \\ &= (f_!(U) \cap \text{Im}(f)) \cup (f_!(U) \cap (B \setminus \text{Im}(f))) \\ &\stackrel{\text{def}}{=} f_{!,\text{im}}(U) \cup f_{!,\text{cp}}(U). \end{aligned}$$

<sup>38</sup>In terms of the meet computation of  $f_!(U)$  of Remark 4.5.1.2, namely

$$f_!(\chi_U) = \bigwedge_{\substack{a \in A \\ f(a) = -1}} (\chi_U(a)),$$

we see that  $f_{!,\text{im}}$  corresponds to meets indexed over nonempty sets, while  $f_{!,\text{cp}}$  corresponds to meets indexed over the empty set.



for each  $n \in \mathbb{N}$ . Since  $f$  is injective, we have

$$\begin{aligned} f_{!,\text{im}}(U) &= f_*(U) \\ f_{!,\text{cp}}(U) &= \{\text{odd natural numbers}\} \end{aligned}$$

for any  $U \subset \mathbb{N}$ .

2. *Parabolas.* Consider the function  $f: \mathbb{R} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  given by

$$f(x) \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} x^2$$

for each  $x \in \mathbb{R}$ . We have

$$f_{!,\text{cp}}(U) = \mathbb{R}_{<0}$$

for any  $U \subset \mathbb{R}$ . Moreover, since  $f^{-1}(x) = \{-\sqrt{x}, \sqrt{x}\}$ , we have e.g.:

$$\begin{aligned} f_{!,\text{im}}([0, 1]) &= \{0\}, \\ f_{!,\text{im}}([-1, 1]) &= [0, 1], \\ f_{!,\text{im}}([1, 2]) &= \emptyset, \\ f_{!,\text{im}}([-2, -1] \cup [1, 2]) &= [1, 4]. \end{aligned}$$

3. *Circles.* Consider the function  $f: \mathbb{R}^2 \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  given by

$$f(x, y) \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} x^2 + y^2$$

for each  $(x, y) \in \mathbb{R}^2$ . We have

$$f_{!,\text{cp}}(U) = \mathbb{R}_{<0}$$

for any  $U \subset \mathbb{R}^2$ , and since

$$f^{-1}(r) = \begin{cases} \text{a circle of radius } r \text{ about the origin} & \text{if } r > 0, \\ \{(0, 0)\} & \text{if } r = 0, \\ \emptyset & \text{if } r < 0, \end{cases}$$

we have e.g.:

$$\begin{aligned} f_{!,\text{im}}([-1, 1] \times [-1, 1]) &= [0, 1], \\ f_{!,\text{im}}(([-1, 1] \times [-1, 1]) \setminus [-1, 1] \times \{0\}) &= \emptyset. \end{aligned}$$

**006F Proposition 4.5.1.5.** Let  $f: A \rightarrow B$  be a function.

- 006G 1. *Functoriality.* The assignment  $U \mapsto f_!(U)$  defines a functor

$$f_! : (\mathcal{P}(A), \subset) \rightarrow (\mathcal{P}(B), \subset)$$

where

- *Action on Objects.* For each  $U \in \mathcal{P}(A)$ , we have

$$[f_!](U) \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} f_!(U);$$

- *Action on Morphisms.* For each  $U, V \in \mathcal{P}(A)$ :

$$(\star) \text{ If } U \subset V, \text{ then } f_!(U) \subset f_!(V).$$

- 006H 2. *Triple Adjointness.* We have a triple adjunction

$$(f_* \dashv f^{-1} \dashv f_!) : \mathcal{P}(A) \begin{array}{c} \xrightarrow{f_*} \\ \perp \\ \xleftarrow{f^{-1}} \\ \perp \\ \xrightarrow{f_!} \end{array} \mathcal{P}(B),$$

witnessed by bijections of sets

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Hom}_{\mathcal{P}(B)}(f_*(U), V) &\cong \text{Hom}_{\mathcal{P}(A)}(U, f^{-1}(V)), \\ \text{Hom}_{\mathcal{P}(A)}(f^{-1}(U), V) &\cong \text{Hom}_{\mathcal{P}(A)}(U, f_!(V)), \end{aligned}$$

natural in  $U \in \mathcal{P}(A)$  and  $V \in \mathcal{P}(B)$  and (respectively)  $V \in \mathcal{P}(A)$  and  $U \in \mathcal{P}(B)$ ,  
i.e. where:

- (a) The following conditions are equivalent:

- We have  $f_*(U) \subset V$ ;
- We have  $U \subset f^{-1}(V)$ ;

- (b) The following conditions are equivalent:

- We have  $f^{-1}(U) \subset V$ .
- We have  $U \subset f_!(V)$ .

- 006J 3. *Lax Preservation of Colimits.* We have an inclusion of sets

$$\bigcup_{i \in I} f_!(U_i) \subset f_!\left(\bigcup_{i \in I} U_i\right),$$

natural in  $\{U_i\}_{i \in I} \in \mathcal{P}(A)^{\times I}$ . In particular, we have inclusions

$$\begin{aligned} f_!(U) \cup f_!(V) &\hookrightarrow f_!(U \cup V), \\ \emptyset &\hookrightarrow f_!(\emptyset), \end{aligned}$$

natural in  $U, V \in \mathcal{P}(A)$ .

**006K** 4. *Preservation of Limits.* We have an equality of sets

$$f_!\left(\bigcap_{i \in I} U_i\right) = \bigcap_{i \in I} f_!(U_i),$$

natural in  $\{U_i\}_{i \in I} \in \mathcal{P}(A)^{\times I}$ . In particular, we have equalities

$$\begin{aligned} f^{-1}(U \cap V) &= f_!(U) \cap f^{-1}(V), \\ f_!(A) &= B, \end{aligned}$$

natural in  $U, V \in \mathcal{P}(A)$ .

**006L** 5. *Symmetric Lax Monoidality With Respect to Unions.* The direct image with compact support function of **Item 1** has a symmetric lax monoidal structure

$$\left(f_!, f_!^{\otimes}, f_{!|_{\mathbb{P}}}^{\otimes}\right): (\mathcal{P}(A), \cup, \emptyset) \rightarrow (\mathcal{P}(B), \cup, \emptyset),$$

being equipped with inclusions

$$\begin{aligned} f_{!|_{U,V}}^{\otimes}: f_!(U) \cup f_!(V) &\hookrightarrow f_!(U \cup V), \\ f_{!|_{\mathbb{P}}}^{\otimes}: \emptyset &\hookrightarrow f_!(\emptyset), \end{aligned}$$

natural in  $U, V \in \mathcal{P}(A)$ .

**006M** 6. *Symmetric Strict Monoidality With Respect to Intersections.* The direct image function of **Item 1** has a symmetric strict monoidal structure

$$\left(f_!, f_!^{\otimes}, f_{!|_{\mathbb{P}}}^{\otimes}\right): (\mathcal{P}(A), \cap, A) \rightarrow (\mathcal{P}(B), \cap, B),$$

being equipped with equalities

$$\begin{aligned} f_{!|_{U,V}}^{\otimes}: f_!(U \cap V) &\xrightarrow{=} f_!(U) \cap f_!(V), \\ f_{!|_{\mathbb{P}}}^{\otimes}: f_!(A) &\xrightarrow{=} B, \end{aligned}$$

natural in  $U, V \in \mathcal{P}(A)$ .

006N 7. *Relation to Direct Images.* We have

$$f_!(U) = B \setminus f_*(A \setminus U)$$

for each  $U \in \mathcal{P}(A)$ .

006P 8. *Interaction With Injections.* If  $f$  is injective, then we have

$$\begin{aligned} f_{!,\text{im}}(U) &= f_*(U), \\ f_{!,\text{cp}}(U) &= B \setminus \text{Im}(f), \\ f_!(U) &= f_{!,\text{im}}(U) \cup f_{!,\text{cp}}(U) \\ &= f_*(U) \cup (B \setminus \text{Im}(f)) \end{aligned}$$

for each  $U \in \mathcal{P}(A)$ .

006Q 9. *Interaction With Surjections.* If  $f$  is surjective, then we have

$$\begin{aligned} f_{!,\text{im}}(U) &\subset f_*(U), \\ f_{!,\text{cp}}(U) &= \emptyset, \\ f_!(U) &\subset f_*(U) \end{aligned}$$

for each  $U \in \mathcal{P}(A)$ .

*Proof.* **Item 1**, *Functoriality*: Clear.

**Item 2**, *Triple Adjointness*: This follows from **Kan Extensions**, ?? of ??.

**Item 3**, *Lax Preservation of Colimits*: Omitted.

**Item 4**, *Preservation of Limits*: Omitted. This follows from **Item 2** and **Categories**, ?? of ??.

**Item 5**, *Symmetric Lax Monoidality With Respect to Unions*: This follows from ??.

**Item 6**, *Symmetric Strict Monoidality With Respect to Intersections*: This follows from **Item 4**.

**Item 7**, *Relation to Direct Images*: We claim that  $f_!(U) = B \setminus f_*(A \setminus U)$ .

· *The First Implication.* We claim that

$$f_!(U) \subset B \setminus f_*(A \setminus U).$$

Let  $b \in f_!(U)$ . We need to show that  $b \notin f_*(A \setminus U)$ , i.e. that there is no  $a \in A \setminus U$  such that  $f(a) = b$ .

This is indeed the case, as otherwise we would have  $a \in f^{-1}(b)$  and  $a \notin U$ , contradicting  $f^{-1}(b) \subset U$  (which holds since  $b \in f_!(U)$ ).

Thus  $b \in B \setminus f_*(A \setminus U)$ .

- *The Second Implication.* We claim that

$$B \setminus f_*(A \setminus U) \subset f_!(U).$$

Let  $b \in B \setminus f_*(A \setminus U)$ . We need to show that  $b \in f_!(U)$ , i.e. that  $f^{-1}(b) \subset U$ .

Since  $b \notin f_*(A \setminus U)$ , there exists no  $a \in A \setminus U$  such that  $b = f(a)$ , and hence  $f^{-1}(b) \subset U$ .

Thus  $b \in f_!(U)$ .

This finishes the proof of **Item 7**.

**Item 8**, *Interaction With Injections*: Clear.

**Item 9**, *Interaction With Surjections*: Clear. □

**006R** **Proposition 4.5.1.6.** Let  $f: A \rightarrow B$  be a function.

**006S** 1. *Functionality I.* The assignment  $f \mapsto f_!$  defines a function

$$(-)_{!|A,B}: \text{Sets}(A, B) \rightarrow \text{Sets}(\mathcal{P}(A), \mathcal{P}(B)).$$

**006T** 2. *Functionality II.* The assignment  $f \mapsto f_!$  defines a function

$$(-)_{!|A,B}: \text{Sets}(A, B) \rightarrow \text{Pos}((\mathcal{P}(A), \subset), (\mathcal{P}(B), \subset)).$$

**006U** 3. *Interaction With Identities.* For each  $A \in \text{Obj}(\text{Sets})$ , we have

$$(\text{id}_A)_! = \text{id}_{\mathcal{P}(A)};$$

**006V** 4. *Interaction With Composition.* For each pair of composable functions  $f: A \rightarrow B$  and  $g: B \rightarrow C$ , we have

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

$$\begin{array}{ccc} \mathcal{P}(A) & \xrightarrow{f_!} & \mathcal{P}(B) \\ & \searrow (g \circ f)_! & \downarrow g_! \\ & & \mathcal{P}(C). \end{array}$$

*Proof.* **Item 1**, *Functionality I*: Clear.

**Item 2**, *Functionality II*: Clear.

**Item 3**, *Interaction With Identities*: This follows from **Kan Extensions**, ?? of ??.

**Item 4**, *Interaction With Composition*: This follows from **Kan Extensions**, ?? of ??.

□

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