

## 0.1 Preliminary remarks on set theory

**References.** Literature for this chapter:

- Sophie Morel - Homological Algebra I.1,
- Daniel Murfet - Foundations for Category Theory,
- Saunders MacLane - Categories for the Working Mathematician I.6.

In this course we always assume a model of set theory that satisfies the Zermelo-Fraenkel axioms + the axiom of choice (ZFC).

**Definition** (Grothendieck universe; we assume ZFC). A *universe*  $\mathcal{U}$  is a set which has the following properties:

- (i)  $\emptyset, \mathbb{N} \in \mathcal{U}$ ,
- (ii)  $X \in \mathcal{U}$  and  $y \in X \implies y \in \mathcal{U}$ ,
- (iii)  $X \in \mathcal{U} \implies \{X\} \in \mathcal{U}$ ,
- (iv)  $X \in \mathcal{U} \implies \mathcal{P}(X) \in \mathcal{U}$ ,
- (v) If  $I \in \mathcal{U}$  and  $\{X_i\}_{i \in I}$  is a family of members  $X_i \in \mathcal{U}$ , then  $\bigcup_{i \in I} X_i \in \mathcal{U}$ .

The existence of a universe is equivalent to the existence of a strongly inaccessible cardinal. (Thomas Jech - Set Theory)

**Axiom** (Axiom of universes (Grothendieck)). *Every set lies in a universe. (We will assume this)*

**Definition.** If  $\mathcal{U}$  is our chosen universe, then:

- A  $\mathcal{U}$ -set is an element in  $\mathcal{U}$ .
- A  $\mathcal{U}$ -class is a subset of  $\mathcal{U}$ .
- A  $\mathcal{U}$ -group is a group  $(G, e, \cdot)$  with  $G \in \mathcal{U}$  and  $\cdot : G \times G \rightarrow G \in \mathcal{U}$ .
- A  $\mathcal{U}$ -ring is a ring  $(R, 0, 1, +, \cdot)$  with  $R \in \mathcal{U}$  and also  $+, \cdot$
- etc.

**Convention.** We fix a  $\mathcal{U}$  and drop  $\mathcal{U}$ - in all terms.

## 0.2 Categories

**Definition 0.1.** (a) A *directed graph* (a diagram scheme) is a tuple  $(O, A, \text{dom}, \text{cod})$  consisting of  $\mathcal{U}$ -classes  $O$  and  $A$  and maps  $\text{dom}, \text{cod} : A \rightarrow O$ . We call elements of  $O$  *objects* (or vertices) and elements of  $A$  *arrows* (or directed edges). For an arrow  $f \in A$  call  $\text{dom}(f)$  the *source* (or domain) of  $f$  and  $\text{cod}(f)$  the target (or codomain) of  $f$ .

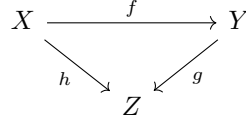
- (b) For a graph as in (a) call  $A \times_O A := \{(g, f) \in A \times A \mid \text{dom}(g) = \text{cod}(f)\}$  set of composable arrow pairs.

- (c) A subgraph of  $(O, A, \text{dom}, \text{cod})$  is a graph  $(O', A', \text{dom}', \text{cod}')$  such that  $O' \subseteq O, A' \subseteq A, \text{dom}' = \text{dom}|_{A'}$  and  $\text{cod}' = \text{cod}|_{A'}$ .

**Example 0.2.** Let  $O = \{X, Y, Z\}, A = \{f, g, h\}, \text{dom}, \text{cod} : A \rightarrow O$  given by the table

	$f$	$g$	$h$
dom	$X$	$Y$	$X$
cod	$Y$	$Z$	$Z$

Illustration:



**Definition 0.3.** A *category*  $\mathcal{C}$  is a tuple  $(\text{Ob } \mathcal{C}, \text{Mor } \mathcal{C}, \text{dom}, \text{cod}, \circ, 1)$  consisting of a graph  $(\text{Ob } \mathcal{C}, \text{Mor } \mathcal{C}, \text{dom}, \text{cod})$  and maps

$$1 : \text{Ob } \mathcal{C} \rightarrow \text{Mor } \mathcal{C}, X \mapsto 1_X$$

and

$$\circ : \text{Mor } \mathcal{C} \times_{\text{Ob } \mathcal{C}} \text{Mor } \mathcal{C} \rightarrow \text{Mor } \mathcal{C}, (g, f) \mapsto g \circ f$$

such that:

- (i)  $\text{dom}(1_X) = \text{cod}(1_X) = X, \forall X \in \text{Ob } \mathcal{C},$
- (ii)  $\text{dom}(g \circ f) = \text{dom}(f)$  and  $\text{cod}(g \circ f) = \text{cod}(g),$
- (iii)  $\forall f \in \text{Mor } \mathcal{C}$  with  $X = \text{dom}(f), Y = \text{cod}(f)$

$$f \circ 1_X = 1_Y \circ f = f$$

- (iv)  $\forall$  arrows  $f, g, h \in \text{Mor } \mathcal{C}$  such that  $(h, g)$  and  $(g, f)$  are composable arrow pairs we have

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

Call elements of  $\text{Ob } \mathcal{C}$  the objects of  $\mathcal{C}$  and elements of  $\text{Mor } \mathcal{C}$  the morphisms of  $\mathcal{C}$ .

**Notation 0.4.** For a category  $\mathcal{C}$  as in definition 3

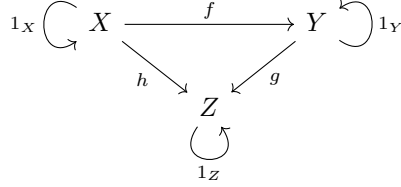
- (a) (often) write  $X, Y \in \mathcal{C}$  to mean  $X, Y \in \text{Ob } \mathcal{C}$
- (b) For  $X, Y \in \mathcal{C}$  write

$$\mathcal{C}(X, Y) := \text{Mor}_{\mathcal{C}}(X, Y) := \{f \in \mathcal{C} \mid \text{dom } f = X, \text{cod } f = Y\}$$

**Definition 0.5.** (a) Call a category  $\mathcal{C}$  locally small if  $\mathcal{C}(X, Y)$  is a set  $\forall X, Y \in \mathcal{C},$

- (b) Call  $\mathcal{C}$  small if  $\text{Ob } \mathcal{C}, \text{Mor } \mathcal{C}$  are sets.

**Remark 0.6** (Extension of example 2 to a category). Let  $O = \{X, Y, Z\}$ ,  $A = \{f, g, h\} \cup \{1_X, 1_Y, 1_Z\}$ ,  $\text{cod}, \text{dom}$  as before on  $\{f, g, h\}$  and uniquely extended to  $\{1_X, 1_Y, 1_Z\}$  by axiom (i) and  $\circ$  the only possible composition satisfying the axioms



composable arrow pairs:

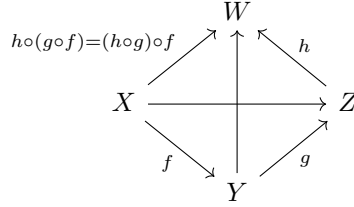
$(1_X, 1_X), (f, 1_X), (1_Y, 1_Y), (1_Y, f), (g, 1_Y), (1_Z, 1_Z), (1_Z, g), (1_Z, h), (h, 1_X), (g, h)$

Canonical universal extension would contain a second arrow  $X \rightarrow Z$  since it would not want to impose the condition  $g \circ f = h$ .

**Definition 0.7.** (a) A diagram in  $\mathcal{C}$  is a subgraph  $\Gamma$  of  $(\text{Ob } \mathcal{C}, \text{Mor } \mathcal{C}, \text{dom}, \text{cod})$ .

(b) A diagram is commutative if for all objects  $X, Y$  of  $\Gamma$  and all chains of arrows from  $X$  to  $Y$ , their composition is the same (i.e. it only depends on  $X$  and  $Y$ ).

**Example** (For associativity).



**Examples** (Examples of categories). • **Set** (category of  $\mathcal{U}$ -sets): where

- $\text{Ob Set} =$  class of all  $\mathcal{U}$ -sets,
- $\text{Mor Set} =$  class of all  $\mathcal{U}$ -maps between sets,
- $\text{dom}, \text{cod}$  are the domain and codomain (range) of a map. (Think of a map as a triple  $(X, Y, \text{graph map in } X \times Y)$ )
- $\circ =$  composition of maps,
- $1_X = \text{id}_X$  the identity map.

• **Grp** (category of abelian groups)

• **Ring**

• **CRing**

• **Top**

•  ${}_R\text{Mod}$

- $\text{Mod}_R$
- $\text{Vec}_K$
- $\text{Ab} =_{\mathbb{Z}} \text{Mod}$

**Examples** (Abstract examples). 1.  $\text{Ob } \mathcal{C} = \text{Mor } \mathcal{C} = \emptyset$  (empty category)

2.  $\text{Ob } \mathcal{C} = \{X\}, \text{Mor } \mathcal{C} = \{1_X\}$  (1 arrow category)

3. Let  $G$  be a group, define a category  $\underline{G}$  by  $\text{Ob } \underline{G} = \{*\}$  (singleton set) and  $\text{Mor } \underline{G} = G$ ,  $\text{dom}, \text{cod}$  the unique map  $G \rightarrow \{*\}$ ,  $1_* = e$  (unit element of  $G$ ).  $\circ$  = composition in  $G$ :

$$\text{Mor } \underline{G} \times \text{Mor } \underline{G} = G \times G \rightarrow G = \text{Mor } \underline{G}$$

4. Let  $\underline{A} = (M, \leq)$  be a partially ordered set. Define the associated category  $\text{Ord } \underline{M}$  with  $\text{Ob } \text{Ord } \underline{M} = \text{elements of } M$ , morphisms are determined by

$$\text{Ord } \underline{M}(X, Y) = \begin{cases} \text{singleton set,} & X \leq Y, \\ \emptyset, & \text{otherwise.} \end{cases}$$

Unit is clear. composition dictated by  $\text{Mor}(\text{Ord } \underline{M})$  (i.e. by  $\leq$ )

**Definition 0.8.** For a category  $\mathcal{C} = (\text{Ob } \mathcal{C}, \text{Mor } \mathcal{C}, \text{dom}, \text{cod}, \circ, 1)$  define the tuple  $\mathcal{C}^{\text{op}} = (\text{Ob } \mathcal{C}, \text{Mor } \mathcal{C}, \text{cod}, \text{dom}, \circ^{\text{op}}, 1)$  with

$$\begin{aligned} \circ^{\text{op}} : \{(f, g) \in \text{Mor } \mathcal{C} \times \text{Mor } \mathcal{C} \mid \text{cod } f = \text{dom } g\} &\rightarrow \text{Mor } \mathcal{C} \\ (f, g) &\mapsto f \circ^{\text{op}} g := g \circ f \end{aligned}$$

(change the direction of arrows!)

**Proposition 0.9** (Exercise).  $\mathcal{C}^{\text{op}}$  is a category, the opposite category to  $\mathcal{C}$ .

**Example.**  $(\underline{G})^{\text{op}} = \underline{(G^{\text{op}})}$ ,  $(G^{\text{op}} = (G, e, \circ^{\text{op}})$  with  $g \circ^{\text{op}} h = h \circ g$ ).

**Warning 0.10.**  $\text{Vec}_K^{\text{op}}(V, W) \neq$  not the set of maps  $V \rightarrow W$ , it is  $\{f : W \rightarrow V \mid f \text{ is } K\text{-linear}\}$

**Definition 0.11.** A subcategory of  $\mathcal{C} = (\text{Ob } \mathcal{C}, \text{Mor } \mathcal{C}, \text{dom}, \text{cod}, \circ, 1)$  is a category  $\mathcal{C}' = (\text{Ob } \mathcal{C}', \text{Mor } \mathcal{C}', \text{dom}', \text{cod}', \circ', 1')$  such that  $\text{Ob } \mathcal{C}' \subseteq \text{Ob } \mathcal{C}, \text{Mor } \mathcal{C}' \subseteq \text{Mor } \mathcal{C}, \text{dom}' = \text{dom}|_{\text{Mor } \mathcal{C}'}, \text{cod}' = \text{cod}|_{\text{Mor } \mathcal{C}'}, \circ' = \circ|_{\text{Mor } \mathcal{C}' \times_{\text{Ob } \mathcal{C}} \text{Mor } \mathcal{C}'}, 1' = 1|_{\text{Ob } \mathcal{C}'}$ . We write  $\mathcal{C}' \subseteq \mathcal{C}$ .

**Example.**  $\text{Ab} \subseteq \text{Grp}$  and  $\text{CRing} \subseteq \text{Ring}$ , etc.

**Definition 0.12** (Product of categories). The product of two categories  $\mathcal{C}$  and  $\mathcal{C}'$  is the six-tuple:

$$(\text{Ob } \mathcal{C} \times \text{Ob } \mathcal{C}', \text{Mor } \mathcal{C} \times \text{Mor } \mathcal{C}', \text{dom} \times \text{dom}', \text{cod} \times \text{cod}', \circ, 1)$$

where  $\circ$  is componentwise composition  $(g, g') \circ (f, f') = (g \circ f, g' \circ f')$  and  $1_{X \times X'} = (1_X, 1_{X'})$

**Definition 0.13** (Concepts inside categories). Let  $X, Y \in \mathcal{C}$ , then call  $f \in \mathcal{C}(X, Y)$

- (a) an *isomorphism*  $\iff \exists g \in \mathcal{C}(Y, X)$  such that  $g \circ f = 1_X, f \circ g = 1_Y$ ,
- (b) an *endomorphism*  $\iff X = Y$ ,
- (c) an *automorphism*  $\iff$  it is an isomorphism and an endomorphism

Moreover  $\mathcal{C}$  is called a groupoid category  $\iff$  all morphisms are isomorphisms.

**Example.** Let  $G$  be a group, then  $\underline{G}$  is a groupoid category.  $\mathcal{C}$  a groupoid category  $\implies \mathcal{C}(X, X)$  is a group (under  $\circ, \forall X \in \text{Ob } \mathcal{C}$ ).

**Definition 0.14.** Let  $X, Y \in \mathcal{C}$ , then call  $f \in \mathcal{C}(X, Y)$ :

- (a) a *monomorphism*  $\iff f$  is left cancellable  $\iff \forall W \in \mathcal{C}$  the map  $f_* : \mathcal{C}(W, X) \rightarrow \mathcal{C}(W, Y), g \mapsto f \circ g$  is injective.

$$W \begin{matrix} \xrightarrow{g_1} \\ \xrightarrow{g_2} \end{matrix} X \xrightarrow{f} Y : f \circ g_1 = f \circ g_2 \implies g_1 = g_2.$$

- (b) an *epimorphism*  $\iff f$  is right cancellable  $\iff \forall Z \in \mathcal{C}$  the map  $f^* : \mathcal{C}(Y, Z) \rightarrow \mathcal{C}(X, Z), h \mapsto h \circ f$  is injective.

$$X \xrightarrow{f} Y \begin{matrix} \xrightarrow{h_1} \\ \xrightarrow{h_2} \end{matrix} Z : h_1 \circ f = h_2 \circ f \implies h_1 = h_2.$$

- (c) a *split monomorphism*  $\iff \exists g \in \mathcal{C}(Y, X)$  such that  $g \circ f = 1_X$

$$X \begin{matrix} \xleftarrow{\quad g \quad} \\ \xrightarrow{\quad f \quad} \end{matrix} Y$$

- (d) a *split epimorphism*  $\iff \exists h \in \mathcal{C}(Y, X)$  such that  $f \circ h = 1_Y$

$$X \begin{matrix} \xleftarrow{\quad h \quad} \\ \xrightarrow{\quad f \quad} \end{matrix} Y$$

**Facts 0.15.** (a)  $f$  split mono-/epimorphism  $\implies f$  mono-/epimorphism.

(b)  $f$  (split) mono-/epimorphism in  $\mathcal{C} \implies f$  (split) mono-/epimorphism in  $\mathcal{C}^{\text{op}}$ .

(c) (Exercise) For  $f \in \mathcal{C}(X, Y), (X, Y) \in \mathcal{C}$  the following are equivalent:

- (i)  $f$  is an isomorphism
- (ii)  $\forall W \in \mathcal{C} : f_* : \mathcal{C}(W, X) \rightarrow \mathcal{C}(W, Y), g \mapsto f \circ g$  is bijective.
- (iii)  $\forall Z \in \mathcal{C} : f^* : \mathcal{C}(Y, Z) \rightarrow \mathcal{C}(X, Z), h \mapsto h \circ f$  is bijective.

(b')  $f$  is an isomorphism in  $\mathcal{C} \iff f$  is an isomorphism in  $\mathcal{C}^{\text{op}}$ .

*Proof.* (b), (b') are exercises. (c) “serious” exercise.

(a) For an epimorphism (check right cancellability) consider

$$X \xrightarrow{f} Y \xrightarrow[h_2]{h_1} Z : h_1 \circ f \stackrel{(1)}{=} h_2 \circ f$$

By  $f$  a split epimorphism, we have  $h : Y \rightarrow X$  such that  $f \circ h = 1_Y$  (2).  
Apply  $- \circ h$  to (1):

$$\begin{aligned} (h_1 \circ f) \circ h &= (h_2 \circ f) \circ h \\ \parallel &\quad \parallel \\ h_1 &= h_1 \circ 1_Y = h_1 \circ (f \circ h) = h_2 \circ (f \circ h) = h_2 \circ 1_Y = h_2 \end{aligned}$$

□

**Examples.** In **Set**, **Grp**, **Ring** the monomorphisms are the injective maps and in **Set**, **Grp** the epimorphisms are the surjective maps. But  $\mathbb{Z} \rightarrow \mathbb{Q}$  (inclusion) is an epimorphism in **Ring**. If  $K \subseteq E$  is purely inseparable, then it's an epimorphism in the category of fields.

**Definition 0.16.** (a)  $X \in \mathcal{C}$  is called an *initial object*  $\iff \forall Y \in \mathcal{C} : \# \mathcal{C}(X, Y) = 1$

(b)  $X \in \mathcal{C}$  is called a *terminal object*  $\iff \forall Z \in \mathcal{C} : \# \mathcal{C}(Z, X) = 1$

(c)  $X \in \mathcal{C}$  is called a *null object*  $\iff X$  is initial and terminal.

**Example.** •  $\emptyset$  is initial in **Set**, **Top**,

•  $\{*\}$  is terminal in **Set**, **Top**

•  $0 = \{0\}$  is a null object in  ${}_R\mathbf{Mod}$ , **Ab**,  $\mathbf{Vec}_K$

### 0.3 Functors

Let  $\mathcal{C}, \mathcal{C}', \mathcal{D}$  be categories.

**Definition 0.17.** A *functor*  $F$  from  $\mathcal{C}$  to  $\mathcal{D}$  ( $F : \mathcal{C} \rightarrow \mathcal{D}$ ) is a pair of maps

$$\begin{aligned} F : \mathbf{Ob} \mathcal{C} &\rightarrow \mathbf{Ob} \mathcal{D}, X \mapsto F(X), \\ F : \mathbf{Mor} \mathcal{C} &\rightarrow \mathbf{Mor} \mathcal{D}, f \mapsto F(f). \end{aligned}$$

that “preserve sources, targets, units and composition”, i.e.

(i)  $\forall f \in \mathbf{Mor} \mathcal{C} : \text{dom}(Ff) = F(\text{dom } f)$  and  $\text{cod}(Ff) = F(\text{cod } f)$

(ii)  $\forall X \in \mathbf{Ob} \mathcal{C} : F(1_X) = 1_{FX}$

(iii)  $\forall$  composable pairs  $(g, f)$  in  $\mathbf{Mor} \mathcal{C} \times_{\mathbf{Ob} \mathcal{C}} \mathbf{Mor} \mathcal{C} : F(g \circ f) = F(g) \circ F(f)$ .

(other notation  $F(X \xrightarrow{f} Y) = FX \xrightarrow{Ff} FY$ )

**Examples.** (a) Powerset:

$$\begin{aligned} \mathcal{P} : \mathbf{Set} &\rightarrow \mathbf{Set} \\ X &\mapsto \mathcal{P}(X) \\ f : X &\rightarrow Y \mapsto \mathcal{P}f : \mathcal{P}X \rightarrow \mathcal{P}Y, \\ (U \subseteq X) &\mapsto (f(U) \subseteq Y) \end{aligned}$$

(b) Forgetful functor (it forgets structure)

$$\begin{aligned} V : \mathbf{Grp} &\rightarrow \mathbf{Set}, (G, e, \circ) \mapsto G \\ V : \mathbf{Top} &\rightarrow \mathbf{Set}, (X, \mathcal{T}) \mapsto X \\ V : {}_R\mathbf{Mod} &\rightarrow \mathbf{Ab}, (M, 0, +, \cdot) \mapsto (M, 0, +) \end{aligned}$$

(c)  ${}_R\mathbf{Mod} \rightarrow \mathbf{Mod}_{R^{\text{op}}}$ , left  $R$ -modules  $\mapsto$  right  $R$ -modules.

**Remark.** Functors in definition 17 are also called covariant functors.

**Definition 0.18.** A *contravariant* functor from  $\mathcal{C} \rightarrow \mathcal{D}$  is a functor  $F : \mathcal{C}^{\text{op}} \rightarrow \mathcal{D}$ , i.e.

$$\begin{aligned} F(X \xrightarrow{f} Y) &= (FX \xleftarrow{Ff} FY) \\ &= (Y \xrightarrow{f} X) \text{ in } \mathcal{C}^{\text{op}} \text{ and} \\ F((Y \xrightarrow{g} Z) \circ (X \xrightarrow{f} Y)) &= F(X \xrightarrow{f} Y) \circ F(Y \xrightarrow{g} Z) \end{aligned}$$

Visually:

$$\begin{array}{ccc} X & X & FX \\ \downarrow f & \uparrow f & \uparrow Ff \\ Y & Y & FY \\ \downarrow g & \uparrow g & \uparrow Fg \\ Z & Z & FZ \end{array}$$

$$\text{in } \mathcal{C} \quad \text{in } \mathcal{C}^{\text{op}}$$

**Remark (Exercise).** Let  $F : \mathcal{C} \rightarrow \mathcal{D}$  be any functor  $\implies F$  maps isomorphisms to isomorphisms.

**Examples (Contravariant functors).** (a) Passage to the dual vector space

$$\begin{array}{ccc} D : \mathbf{Vec}_K^{\text{op}} & \longrightarrow & \mathbf{Vec}_K \\ V & \longmapsto & V^* = \text{Hom}_K(V, K) \\ f \downarrow & & \uparrow Df = f^* \\ W & \longmapsto & W^* \end{array}$$

linear algebra:  $(f \circ g)^* = g^* \circ f^*$  for  $(f, g)$  a composable pair.

(b) Let  $\mathbf{Poset}$  be the category of partially ordered sets, then we have a contravariant functor

$$\begin{array}{ccc} \mathcal{O} : \mathbf{Top}^{\text{op}} & \longrightarrow & \mathbf{Poset} \\ (X, \mathcal{T}) & \longmapsto & (\mathcal{T}, \subseteq) \ni f^{-1}(V) \subseteq_{\text{open}} X \\ f \downarrow & & \uparrow \mathcal{O}(f) \quad \uparrow \\ (Y, \mathcal{T}') & \longmapsto & (\mathcal{T}, \subseteq) \ni V \subseteq_{\text{open}} Y \end{array}$$

(c) The contravariant powerset functor:

$$\begin{array}{ccc} \mathcal{P}^* : \mathbf{Set} & \longrightarrow & \mathbf{Set} \\ X & \longmapsto & \mathcal{P}^*(X) = \mathcal{P}(X) \\ f \downarrow & & \uparrow \mathcal{P}^* f \\ Y & \longmapsto & \mathcal{P}^*(Y) = \mathcal{P}(Y) \end{array}$$

**Definition 0.19.** Let  $\mathcal{C}, \mathcal{C}', \mathcal{D}$  be categories, a functor  $\mathcal{C} \times \mathcal{C}' \rightarrow \mathcal{D}$  is called a *bifunctor*.

**Example 0.20** (Important example). Let  $\mathcal{C}$  be any category

$$\begin{array}{ccccc} \mathcal{C}(-, -) : \mathcal{C}^{\text{op}} \times \mathcal{C} & \longrightarrow & \mathbf{Set} & & \\ (X, Y) & \longmapsto & \mathcal{C}(X, Y) & \ni & g \\ f \uparrow \downarrow h & & \downarrow & & \downarrow \\ (W, Z) & \longmapsto & \mathcal{C}(W, Z) & \ni & h \circ g \circ f \end{array}$$

If we fix a first argument  $X$ , we get

$$h_X := \mathcal{C}(X, -) \rightarrow \mathbf{Set}$$

If we fix a second argument  $Y$ , we get

$$h^Y := \mathcal{C}(-, Y) \rightarrow \mathbf{Set}$$

Soon: we will also have another important bifunctor

$$- \otimes - : \mathbf{Mod}_R \times {}_R \mathbf{Mod} \rightarrow \mathbf{Ab}$$

**Definition 0.21.** Let  $F : \mathcal{C} \rightarrow \mathcal{D}$  be a functor,  $F$  is called

- (a) *faithful*  $\iff \forall X, Y \in \mathcal{C} : \mathcal{C}(X, Y) \rightarrow \mathcal{D}(FX, FY)$  is injective.
- (b) *full*  $\iff \forall X, Y \in \mathcal{C} : \mathcal{C}(X, Y) \rightarrow \mathcal{D}(FX, FY)$  is surjective.
- (c) *fully faithful*  $F$  is full and faithful.
- (d) *essentially surjective*  $\iff \forall Y \in \mathcal{D} \exists X \in \mathcal{C} \exists \text{ isomorphism } FX \xrightarrow{\cong} Y$ .
- (e) *conservative*  $\iff \forall f \in \text{Mor } \mathcal{C} : f \text{ is an isomorphism} \iff Ff \in \text{Mor } \mathcal{D} \text{ is an isomorphism. (} \implies \text{ always holds)}$
- (f) *an isomorphism*  $\iff \exists G : \mathcal{D} \rightarrow \mathcal{C}$  functor such that  $F \circ G = \text{id}_{\mathcal{D}}$  and  $G \circ F = \text{id}_{\mathcal{C}}$ .

**Examples.** (a) Forgetful functors are “often” faithful but not full

$$V : \mathbf{Grp} \rightarrow \mathbf{Set}, \mathbf{Ab} \rightarrow \mathbf{Set}, {}_R \mathbf{Mod} \rightarrow \mathbf{Set}, \mathbf{Ring} \rightarrow \mathbf{Set}$$

are conservative.

- (b) The forgetful functor  $V : \mathbf{Top} \rightarrow \mathbf{Set}$  is not conservative and not full but essentially surjective.
- (c) The inclusion of a subcategory  $\mathcal{C}'$  into its ambient category  $\mathcal{C}$  is always faithful. Call  $\mathcal{C}'$  a *full subcategory*  $\iff \forall X, Y \in \mathcal{C}' : \mathcal{C}'(X, Y) = \mathcal{C}(X, Y)$  ( $\iff i : \mathcal{C}' \rightarrow \mathcal{C}$  is full)



## 0.4 Natural transformations

They are morphisms between functors.

**Definition 0.22.** Let  $F, G : \mathcal{C} \rightarrow \mathcal{D}$  be functors.

- (a) A morphism from  $F$  to  $G$  (or a *natural transformation*) is a family  $u = (u_X : FX \rightarrow GX)_{X \in \text{Ob } \mathcal{C}}$  of morphisms in  $\mathcal{D}$ , such that for all  $f : X \rightarrow Y$  in  $\mathcal{C}$  we have the commutative diagram:

$$\begin{array}{ccc} FX & \xrightarrow{u_X} & GX \\ Ff \downarrow & & \downarrow Gf \\ FY & \xrightarrow{u_Y} & GY \end{array}$$

Notation:

$$\begin{array}{ccc} & F & \\ \curvearrowright & \Downarrow u & \curvearrowleft \\ \mathcal{C} & & \mathcal{D} \\ \curvearrowleft & \Downarrow & \curvearrowright \\ & G & \end{array}$$

- (b) Composition: Let  $F, G, H : \mathcal{C} \rightarrow \mathcal{D}$  be functors and  $u : F \Rightarrow G, v : G \Rightarrow H$  natural transformations. The composition  $v \circ u : F \Rightarrow H$  is the natural transformation (check)  $(v_X \circ u_X : FX \xrightarrow{u_X} GX \xrightarrow{v_X} HX)_{X \in \text{Ob } \mathcal{C}}$

$$\begin{array}{ccc} & F & \\ \curvearrowright & \Downarrow u & \curvearrowleft \\ \mathcal{C} & \xrightarrow{\quad G \quad} & \mathcal{D} \\ \curvearrowleft & \Downarrow v & \curvearrowright \\ & H & \end{array}$$

- (c) The category  $\mathcal{D}^{\mathcal{C}}$  (or  $\text{Fun}(\mathcal{C}, \mathcal{D})$ ) whose objects are the functors  $\mathcal{C} \rightarrow \mathcal{D}$  and whose morphisms are the natural transformations  $(F : \mathcal{C} \rightarrow \mathcal{D}) \Rightarrow (G : \mathcal{C} \rightarrow \mathcal{D})$ . The composition is from (b), and the unit natural transformation is

$$\begin{array}{ccc} & F & \\ \curvearrowright & \Downarrow 1_F & \curvearrowleft \\ \mathcal{C} & & \mathcal{D} \\ \curvearrowleft & \Downarrow & \curvearrowright \\ & F & \end{array}, 1_F = (FX \xrightarrow{1_{FX}} FX)_{X \in \text{Ob } \mathcal{C}}$$

(dom, cod are clear). Remark: One can also define 2-categories (and the category of categories is an example of such, objects:  $\mathcal{C}, \mathcal{D}, \dots$  and morphisms are  $F : \mathcal{C} \Rightarrow \mathcal{D}$  2-morphisms = natural transformations)

- (d) A natural transformation  $u : F \Rightarrow G$  is called a *natural isomorphism*  $\iff \forall X \in \text{Ob } \mathcal{C} : u_X : FX \rightarrow GX$  is an isomorphism  $\xLeftrightarrow{\text{Exerc.}} \exists$  natural transformation  $v : G \Rightarrow F : v \circ u = \text{id}_F, u \circ v = \text{id}_G$ .

**Example** (Famous linear algebra example of a natural transformation). Let  $(\cdot)^{**} : \text{Vec}_K \rightarrow \text{Vec}_K, V \mapsto V^{**}, f \mapsto f^{**}$  be the (covariant) bidual functor.  $\text{id} : \text{Vec}_K \rightarrow \text{Vec}_K$  denotes the identity, we set  $u_V : V \rightarrow V^{**}, v \mapsto (b_v : V^* \rightarrow$

$K, \xi \mapsto \xi(v)$ ) then  $u = (u_V)_{V \in \text{Vec}_K}$  is a natural transformation  $u : \text{id} \Rightarrow (\cdot)^{**}$  and restricted to the full subcategory  $\text{Vec}_K^{\text{f.d.}} \subseteq \text{Vec}_K$  on finite dimensional  $K$ -vector spaces, it gives a natural isomorphism  $u : \text{id} \Rightarrow (\cdot)^{**}$

$$\begin{array}{ccc}
 & \text{id} & \\
 \text{Vec}_K^{\text{f.d.}} & \begin{array}{c} \downarrow u \\ \downarrow \end{array} & \text{Vec}_K^{\text{f.d.}} \\
 & (\cdot)^{**} & 
 \end{array}$$

**Definition 0.23** (important concept). A functor  $F : \mathcal{C} \rightarrow \mathcal{D}$  is called an equivalence of categories  $\iff \exists$  functor  $G : \mathcal{D} \rightarrow \mathcal{C}$  such that one has natural transformations  $\text{id}_{\mathcal{C}} \Rightarrow G \circ F$  and  $\text{id}_{\mathcal{D}} \Rightarrow F \circ G$ . Call  $\mathcal{C}$  and  $\mathcal{D}$  *equivalent categories*  $\iff \exists$  equivalence of categories  $F : \mathcal{C} \rightarrow \mathcal{D}$ .

**Remark.** The notion of “equivalence of categories” is far more important than the notion of isomorphism of categories.

**Example** (linear algebra). Let  $\text{Vec}_K^{\text{std.}}$  be the full subcategory of the  $\text{Vec}_K^{\text{f.d.}}$  on the object set  $\{K^n \mid n \in \mathbb{N}_0\}$ . Then the inclusion  $\iota : \text{Vec}_K^{\text{std.}} \rightarrow \text{Vec}_K^{\text{f.d.}}$  is an equivalence of categories. For  $G : \text{Vec}_K^{\text{std.}} \rightarrow \text{Vec}_K^{\text{std.}}$  take  $V \mapsto K^{\dim_K V}$ , choose a basis  $\underline{B}_V$  for any  $V \in \text{Vec}_K^{\text{f.d.}}$  then we get an isomorphism  $K^{\dim_K V} \xrightarrow{\alpha_V} V$ . Define:

$$\begin{array}{ccc}
 V & \xrightarrow{\quad} & K^{\dim_K V} \\
 f \downarrow & & \downarrow \alpha_W^{-1} \circ f \circ \alpha_V \\
 W & \xrightarrow{\quad} & K^{\dim_K W}
 \end{array}$$

Find natural isomorphism  $G \circ \iota \Leftarrow \text{id} \Rightarrow \iota \circ G$ .

**Remark.** One also calls  $\text{Vec}_K^{\text{std.}}$  a *skeleton* of  $\text{Vec}_K^{\text{f.d.}}$ .

**Theorem 0.24.** For a functor  $F : \mathcal{C} \rightarrow \mathcal{C}'$  the following are equivalent:

- (i)  $F$  is an equivalence of categories.
- (ii)  $F$  is fully faithful and essentially surjective.

*Proof.* • (i)  $\implies$  (ii): Exercise.

- (ii)  $\implies$  (i): Standard textbook. □

**Definition 0.25.** The *essential image* of a functor  $F : \mathcal{C} \rightarrow \mathcal{D}$  in  $\mathcal{D}$  is the full subcategory  $\mathcal{D}'$  of  $\mathcal{D}$  on objects isomorphic to  $FX$  for some  $X \in \text{Ob } \mathcal{C}$ .

**Corollary 0.26** (of 24 and the definition). Suppose  $F : \mathcal{C} \rightarrow \mathcal{D}$  is fully faithful. Let  $\mathcal{D}' \subseteq \mathcal{D}$  be the essential image of  $F$ , then  $F : \mathcal{C} \rightarrow \mathcal{D}'$  is an equivalence of categories.

## 0.5 The Yoneda lemma and presheaves

Let  $\mathcal{C}, \mathcal{C}', \mathcal{D}$  be categories.

**Definition 0.27.** (a) A  $\mathcal{D}$ -valued presheaf on  $\mathcal{C}$  is a functor

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

(b) The category of  $\mathcal{D}$ -valued presheaves on  $\mathcal{C}$  is  $\text{PSh}(\mathcal{C}, \mathcal{D}) = \mathcal{D}^{\mathcal{C}^{\text{op}}}$

(c) If  $\mathcal{D} = \text{Set}$ , then we omit it from the notation, so  $\text{PSh}(\mathcal{C}) = \text{Set}^{\mathcal{C}^{\text{op}}}$

Note that if  $\mathcal{D}$  is a small category, then  $\mathcal{D}^{\mathcal{C}^{\text{op}}}$  is a category.

**Remark** (On the terminology). (Pre-)sheaves come from topology/geometry. Example: Let  $(X, \mathcal{T})$  be a topological space (e.g.  $\mathbb{C}$  with the metric topology), For  $U \subseteq X$  define  $O_X(U) := \{f : U \rightarrow \mathbb{C} \text{ continuous}\}$  or  $(O_{\mathbb{C}}(U) := \{f : U \rightarrow \mathbb{C} \text{ holomorphic}\})$ . Check:

$$\begin{array}{ccc} O_X : \text{ord}(T, \subseteq) & \longrightarrow & \text{Set} \\ U & \longmapsto & O_X(U) \\ \uparrow \text{inclusion} & & \downarrow \text{restriction} \\ V & \longmapsto & O_X(V) \end{array}$$

this is a presheaf.

**Definition 0.28.** The Yoneda embedding is the functor  $h : \mathcal{C} \rightarrow \text{PSh}(\mathcal{C}) = \text{Fun}(\mathcal{C}^{\text{op}}, \text{Set})$ ,  $X \mapsto h_X := \mathcal{C}(-, X) : \mathcal{C}^{\text{op}} \rightarrow \text{Set}$

$$\begin{array}{ccc} h : \mathcal{C} & \longrightarrow & \text{PSh}(\mathcal{C}) \\ X & \longmapsto & h_X \quad \text{Hom}(-, X) \\ f \downarrow & & \downarrow h f \quad \downarrow f \circ - \\ Y & \longmapsto & h_Y \quad \text{Hom}(-, Y) \end{array}$$

**Lemma 0.29.** For  $X \in \mathcal{C}$ ,  $F \in \text{PSh}(\mathcal{C}) = \text{Fun}(\mathcal{C}^{\text{op}}, \text{Set})$

$$\begin{array}{ccc} \text{Hom}_{\text{PSh}(\mathcal{C})}(h_X, \mathcal{F}) & \xrightarrow{\Phi} & \mathcal{F}X \\ u := (u_Y : h_X Y \rightarrow \mathcal{F}Y)_{Y \in \text{Ob } \mathcal{C}} & \longmapsto & u_X 1_X \end{array}$$

is a bijection. ( $\text{Hom}_{\text{PSh}(\mathcal{C})}(h_x, \mathcal{F})$  is a set.)

*Proof.* Reconstruct a natural transformation  $u^\alpha$  from  $\alpha \in \mathcal{F}X$ , first consider what  $u \in \text{Mor}_{\text{PSh}(\mathcal{C})}(h_x, \mathcal{F})$  gives us

$$\begin{array}{ccccccc} X & h_X X = \text{Hom}_{\mathcal{C}}(X, X) & \xrightarrow{u_X} & \mathcal{F}X & 1_X & \longmapsto & u_X(1_X) = \alpha \\ \uparrow g & \downarrow - \circ g & & \downarrow \mathcal{F}g & \downarrow & & \downarrow \\ Y & h_X Y = \text{Hom}_{\mathcal{C}}(Y, X) & \xrightarrow{u_Y} & \mathcal{F}Y & g & \longmapsto & u_Y(g) = \mathcal{F}g(\alpha) \end{array}$$

Define  $\psi : \mathcal{F}(X) \rightarrow \text{Mor}_{\text{PSh}(\mathcal{C})}(h_X, \mathcal{F})$ ,  $\alpha \mapsto (u_Y^\alpha)_{Y \in \text{Ob } \mathcal{C}}$  by setting  $u_Y^\alpha : h_X(Y) \rightarrow \mathcal{F}Y$ ,  $g \mapsto \mathcal{F}g(\alpha)$ . Check  $u_Y^\alpha$  is a natural transformation: For any  $f : Z \rightarrow Y$  in  $\mathcal{C}$  we get TODO  $\square$

**Corollary 0.30.** *The functor  $h : \mathcal{C} \rightarrow \mathbf{PSh}(\mathcal{C})$  is fully faithful, i.e.  $\mathcal{C}(X, Y) \leftrightarrow \mathbf{Mor}_{\mathbf{PSh}(\mathcal{C})}(h_X, h_Y)$ .*

*Proof.* We need to show  $\forall X, Y \in \mathbf{Ob} \mathcal{C}$  the map  $\mathcal{C}(X, Y) \rightarrow \mathbf{Mor}_{\mathbf{PSh}(\mathcal{C})}(h_X, h_Y), f \mapsto h(f) = f \circ -$  is bijective. Observe: Yoneda  $\Phi : \mathbf{Mor}_{\mathbf{PSh}(\mathcal{C})}(h_X, h_Y) \rightarrow h_Y(X) = \mathcal{C}(X, Y), u \mapsto u_X(1_X)$  is a bijection, so it suffices to show  $\Phi \circ h$  is a bijection. For this:  $\Phi \circ h(f : X \rightarrow Y) = f \circ 1_X = f \implies \Phi \circ h = \text{id}$ .  $\square$

**Definition 0.31.** (a) Call  $\mathcal{F} \in \mathbf{PSh}(\mathcal{C})$  *representable*  $\iff \exists X \in \mathcal{C}$  such that  $h_X \cong \mathcal{F}$ .

(b) A presentation of a (representable)  $\mathcal{F} \in \mathbf{PSh}(\mathcal{C})$  is a pair  $(X, \alpha)$  with  $X \in \mathbf{Ob} \mathcal{C}, \alpha \in \mathcal{F}X$  such that  $\Psi(\alpha) : h_X \Rightarrow \mathcal{F}$  from the proof of lemma 29 is a natural isomorphism.

**Proposition 0.32.** *Suppose  $(X, \alpha)$  and  $(Y, \beta)$  are presentations of  $\mathcal{F} \in \mathbf{PSh}(\mathcal{C})$ , then  $\exists!$  isomorphism  $f : X \rightarrow Y$  such that  $\mathcal{F}(f)(\beta) = \alpha$*

*Proof.* Exercise.  $\square$

## 0.6 Conatravariant Yoneda

**Proposition 0.33.** *The functor*

$$\begin{array}{ccc} h^{\text{op}} : \mathcal{C}^{\text{op}} & \longrightarrow & \mathbf{Fun}(\mathcal{C}, \mathbf{Set}) \\ X & \longmapsto & \mathcal{C}(X, -) \\ f \downarrow & & \uparrow h^{\text{op}}(f) \\ Y & \longmapsto & \mathcal{C}(Y, -) \end{array}$$

*is fully faithful and for  $X \in \mathbf{Ob} \mathcal{C}$  and  $\mathcal{F} : \mathcal{C} \rightarrow \mathbf{Set}$  a functor, the map  $\Phi' : \mathbf{Mor}_{\mathbf{Set}^{\mathcal{C}}}(h_X^{\text{op}}, \mathcal{F}) \rightarrow \mathcal{F}(X), u \mapsto u_X(1_X)$  is bijective.*

*Proof.* (Exercise) Apply Yoneda to  $\mathcal{C}^{\text{op}}$ .  $\square$

**Definition 0.34.** (a) A covariant functor  $F : \mathcal{C} \rightarrow \mathbf{Set}$  is *corepresentable*  $\iff F \cong h_X^{\text{op}}$  for some  $X \in \mathcal{C}$ .

(b) A presentation of a (corepresentable) functor  $F$  is a pair  $(X, \alpha)$  such that  $(\Phi')^{-1}(\alpha)$  is an isomorphism  $h_X^{\text{op}} \rightarrow F$

**Proposition 0.35** (analog of 32). *If  $(X, \alpha)$  and  $(Y, \beta)$  are 2 presentations of  $F : \mathcal{C} \rightarrow \mathbf{Set}$ , then  $\exists!$  isomorphism  $f : X \rightarrow Y$  such that  $F(f)(\alpha) = \beta$ .*

**Remark.** We mostly drop co- in corepresentable because the functor dictates if it is representable or corepresentable (if  $F$  co- or contravariant)

**Remark.** For  $f : X \rightarrow Y$  we have

$$\begin{aligned} f \circ - : \mathcal{C}(Z, X) &\rightarrow \mathcal{C}(X, Y) \text{ bij.} \iff h(f) \cong \iff f \cong \iff h^{\text{op}}(f) \cong \\ &\iff - \circ f : \mathcal{C}(Y, Z) \rightarrow \mathcal{C}(X, Z) \text{ bij.} \end{aligned}$$

because  $h$  is fully faithful.

## 0.7 Universal pairs

**Definition 0.36.** (a) Let  $F : \mathcal{C} \rightarrow \mathcal{D}$  be a functor and  $B \in \text{Ob } \mathcal{D}$ . A pair  $(U, \beta)$  with  $U \in \text{Ob } \mathcal{C}$  and  $\beta : B \rightarrow F(U)$  (in  $\mathcal{D}$ ) is *(co-)universal* for  $(F, \beta) : \iff (U, \beta)$  (co-)represents  $\mathcal{D}(B, F(-)) = h_B^{\text{op}} \circ F : \mathcal{C} \rightarrow \text{Set}$ .

(b) Let  $G : \mathcal{D} \rightarrow \mathcal{C}$  be a functor and  $A \in \text{Ob } \mathcal{C}$ . A pair  $(V, \alpha)$  with  $V \in \text{Ob } \mathcal{D}$  and  $\alpha : G(V) \rightarrow A$  (in  $\mathcal{C}$ ) is universal for  $(G, A) \iff (V, \alpha)$  represents  $(\mathcal{C}(G(-), A)) = h_A \circ G : \mathcal{D}^{\text{op}} \rightarrow \text{Set}$ .

TODO: interpretation

**Examples 0.37.** TODO

## 0.8 Limits and colimits

Let  $\mathcal{C}$  be a category.

**Definition 0.38.** A diagram in  $\mathcal{C}$  is a functor  $F : J \rightarrow \mathcal{C}$  for  $J$  a small category (call  $J$  the *index category* of the diagram.)

**Remark** (Relation to previous notions of diagrams). Let  $V : \text{Cat} \rightarrow \text{Diag}$ , [MacLane II.7]:  $\exists$  functor TODO

**Definition 0.39.** A diagram  $F : J \rightarrow \mathcal{C}$  *commutes*  $\iff \forall i, j \in J$ :

$$\underbrace{F(J(i, j))}_{\text{is a singleton}} \subseteq \mathcal{C}(Fi, Fj)$$

(naive diagram commutes  $\iff F\varphi$  commutes.)

**Definition 0.40.** Let  $F : J \rightarrow \mathcal{C}$  denote a diagram in  $\mathcal{C}$ .

(a) The *constant functor* from  $J$  to  $\mathcal{C}$  for  $X \in \text{Ob } \mathcal{C}$  is  $\Delta X : J \rightarrow \mathcal{C}$  with  $\Delta X(i) = X, \forall i \in J$  and  $\Delta X(h) = 1_X, \forall h \in \text{Mor } J$ .

(b) The *diagonal*  $\Delta : \mathcal{C} \rightarrow \mathcal{C}^J = \text{Fun}(J, \mathcal{C})$  with  $\Delta(X) := \Delta X$  from (a) and  $\Delta(f) :=$  the natural transformation  $\Delta X \Rightarrow \Delta Y$  given for any  $i \in J$  by  $\Delta X(i) = X \xrightarrow{f} \Delta Y(i) = Y$ .

(c) A *cone* to  $F : J \rightarrow \mathcal{C}$  (any fixed  $F$ ) with apex  $X \in \mathcal{C}$  is a natural transformation  $\Delta X \Rightarrow F$ . A *cocone* from  $F$  with vertex  $X \in \text{Ob } \mathcal{C}$  is a natural transformation  $F \Rightarrow \Delta X$ .

(d) Cones and cocones give rise to the following functors:

- $\text{Cone}(-, F) : \mathcal{C}^{\text{op}} \rightarrow \text{Set}$  defined by  $\text{Cone}(X, F) = \text{set of cones } \Delta X \Rightarrow F$ ,  $\text{Cone}(f : X \rightarrow Y, F)$  maps  $\text{Cone}(Y, F) \rightarrow \text{Cone}(X, F)$ ,  $(\Delta Y \Rightarrow F) \mapsto (\Delta X \Rightarrow \Delta Y \Rightarrow F)$ .
- Similarly  $\text{Cocone}(F, -) : \mathcal{C} \rightarrow \text{Set}$  is the functor defined by  $\text{Cocone}(F, X) = \text{set of cocones } F \Rightarrow \Delta X$  etc.

Observe:

$$\begin{aligned}\text{Cone}(-, F) &= \mathcal{C}^J(\Delta(-), F) \\ \text{Cocone}(F, -) &= \mathcal{C}^J(F, \Delta(-))\end{aligned}$$

Visualization: a natural transformation  $u : \Delta X \Rightarrow F$  (where  $X \in \mathcal{C}, F : J \rightarrow \mathcal{C}$ ) is for any  $i \in J$  a morphism  $X = \Delta X(i) \xrightarrow{u_i} F(i)$  such that  $\forall h : i \rightarrow j$  in  $J$  the following diagram commutes:

$$\begin{array}{ccc}\Delta X(i) = X & \xrightarrow{1_X} & X = \Delta X(j) \\ \downarrow u_i & \searrow u_j & \downarrow u_j \\ Fi & \xrightarrow{Fh} & Fj\end{array}$$

for instance if TODO

**Remark 0.41.** (a) The cones to  $F$  form a full subcategory  $F\text{-cones} \subseteq \mathcal{C}^J/F$  on objects  $\Delta X \Rightarrow F$  ( $X \in \mathcal{C}$ ).

(b) Similarly cocones from  $F$  form a full subcategory  $F\text{-cocones} \subseteq F/\mathcal{C}^J$  on objects  $F \Rightarrow \Delta X$ .

**Definition 0.42.** (a) If  $\text{Cone}(-, F) : \mathcal{C}^{\text{op}} \rightarrow \mathbf{Set}$  is representable, the representing object is called a *limit* over  $F$ . Notation:  $\lim F$  or  $\lim_J F$  for the representing universal object.

(b) If  $\text{Cocone}(F, -) : \mathcal{C} \rightarrow \mathbf{Set}$  is representable, the representing object is called a *colimit* over  $F$ . Notation:  $\text{colim } F$  or  $\text{colim}_J F$

More explicitly:  $\lim_J F$  is an object  $L \in \mathcal{C}$  together with a (universal) cone  $\Delta L \Rightarrow F$  such that  $\forall$  cones  $\varphi : \Delta X \Rightarrow F$  in  $\mathcal{C}^J \exists!$  morphism  $\psi : X \rightarrow L$  such that the diagram commutes

$$\begin{array}{ccc} & & \Delta X \\ & \swarrow \psi & \downarrow \varphi \\ \Delta L & \xRightarrow{\quad} & X\end{array}$$

Yoneda implies that  $\lim F$  (if it exists) is unique up to unique isomorphism (similarly for  $\text{colim } F$ ).

**Exercise 0.43.** (a)  $\lim F$  exists  $\iff$  category of  $F$ -cones has a terminal object.

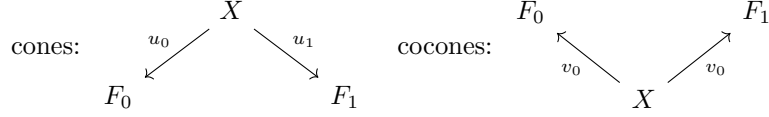
(b)  $\text{colim } F$  exists  $\iff$  category of  $F$ -cocones has an initial object.

**Proposition 0.44** (Exercise). Let  $\Delta : \mathcal{C} \rightarrow \mathcal{C}^J$  be the diagonal from above and  $F$  any diagram in  $\mathcal{C}^J$ . Then

(a)  $\lim F$  is a universal object for the pair  $(\Delta, F)$  i.e.  $\mathcal{C}^J(\Delta(-), F) \leftrightarrow \mathcal{C}(-, \lim_J F)$ .

(b)  $\text{colim } F$  is a couniversal object for the pair  $(\Delta, F)$  i.e.  $\mathcal{C}^J(F, \Delta(-)) = \mathcal{C}(\text{colim}_J F, -)$ .

**Examples 0.45.** (a)  $J :=$  the discrete category on the set  $\{0, 1\}$ , i.e. ( $\text{Ob} = \{0, 1\}$ ,  $\text{Mor } J = \{1_0, 1_1\}, \dots$ ). A functor  $F : J \rightarrow \mathcal{C}$  is given by the datum of a pair  $(F_0 = F(0), F_1 = F(1))$  of objects of  $\mathcal{C}$ ,



any pair of morphisms  $(u_0 : X \rightarrow F_0, u_1 : X \rightarrow F_1)$  resp.  $(v_0 : F_0 \rightarrow X, v_1 : F_1 \rightarrow X)$  defines a cone  $\lim F$  resp.  $\text{colim } F$  and satisfies

$$\mathcal{C}(Y, \lim F) = \mathcal{C}(Y, F_0) \times \mathcal{C}(Y, F_1)$$

resp.

$$\mathcal{C}(\text{colim}(F, Z)) = \mathcal{C}(F_0, Z) \times \mathcal{C}(F_1, Z)$$

If  $\lim F$  exists write formally  $\lim F = F_0 \amalg F_1$  (product), and if  $\text{colim } F$  exists write  $F_0 \amalg F_1$  (coproduct). Concretely

- $\mathcal{C} = \mathbf{Set}, F_0 \times F_1 = F_0 \sqcup F_1$
- $\mathcal{C} = {}_R\mathbf{Mod}, F_0 \times F_1 = F_0 \oplus F_1$
- $\mathcal{C} = \mathbf{Grp}, F_0 \times F_1 = F_0 * F_1$  (free product)

(b) We can generalize to arbitrary discrete (small) categories with underlying set  $I$ . Names for universal objects

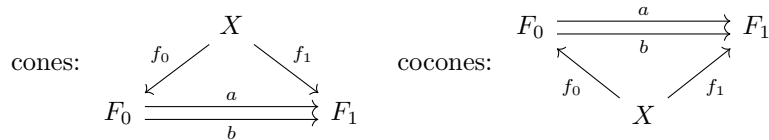
$$\prod_{i \in I} F_i, \quad \coprod_{i \in I} F_i$$

defining property:

$$\mathcal{C}\left(\prod_{i \in I} F_i, Y\right) \stackrel{!}{=} \prod_{i \in I} \mathcal{C}(F_i, Y) \quad \text{and} \quad \mathcal{C}\left(Z, \coprod_{i \in I} F_i\right) \stackrel{!}{=} \prod_{i \in I} \mathcal{C}(Z, F_i)$$

- $\mathbf{Set}, \prod_{i \in I} F_i = \bigsqcup_{i \in I} F_i$  (disjoint union)
- ${}_R\mathbf{Mod}, \prod_{i \in I} F_i = \bigoplus_{i \in I} F_i$  (direct sum)
- $\mathbf{Grp}, \prod_{i \in I} F_i = \bigstar_{i \in I} F_i$  (free product)

(c)  $J =$  category on 2 objects  $0, 1$  with 2 morphisms  $0 \rightrightarrows 1$  (besides  $1_0, 1_1$ ).  
 $F : J \rightarrow \mathcal{C}$  is determined by  $F_0 \xrightleftharpoons[b]{a} F_1$



- $\mathcal{C}(X, \lim F) = \{f_0 \in \mathcal{C}(X, F_0) \mid a \circ f_0 = b \circ f_0 = f_1\}$ .  $\lim F$  if it exists is called the *equalizer*  $\text{eq}(F_0 \xrightleftharpoons[b]{a} F_1)$ .

- $\mathcal{C}(\text{colim } F_1, X) = \{f_1 \in \mathcal{C}(F_1, X) \mid f_1 \circ a = f_1 \circ b\}$ .  $\text{colim } F$  if it exists is called the *coequalizer*  $\text{coeq}(F_0 \xrightarrow[a]{a} F_1)$ . TODO

(d) Pullback and pushout:

**Definition 0.46.**  $\mathcal{C}$  is *(co-)complete*  $\iff \mathcal{C}$  contains all (co)-limits.

**Theorem 0.47.** (a) If  $\mathcal{C}$  contains all products and equalizers, then  $\mathcal{C}$  is complete.

(b) If  $\mathcal{C}$  contains all coproducts and coequalizers, then  $\mathcal{C}$  is cocomplete.

**Corollary 0.48.**  $\text{Set}$  and  ${}_R\text{Mod}$  are complete and cocomplete.

## 0.9 Adjoint Functors

**Definition 0.49.** (a) Functors  $F : \mathcal{C} \rightarrow \mathcal{D}$  and  $G : \mathcal{D} \rightarrow \mathcal{C}$  form an *adjoint pair*, when one has a natural isomorphism  $\alpha$  of bifunctors

$$\begin{array}{ccc} & \mathcal{D}(F(-), -) & \\ \mathcal{C}^{\text{op}} \times \mathcal{D} & \begin{array}{c} \xrightarrow{\quad} \\ \Downarrow \\ \xrightarrow{\quad} \end{array} & \text{Set} \\ & \mathcal{C}(-, G(-)) & \end{array}$$

In this situation one says that  $F$  is a *left adjoint* for  $G$  and  $G$  is a *right adjoint* for  $F$ . We write  $F \dashv G$  or  $\mathcal{C} \begin{array}{c} \xrightarrow{F} \\ \perp \\ \xleftarrow{G} \end{array} \mathcal{D}$ .

(b) The tuple  $(F, G, \alpha)$  is called an *adjunction*.

(c) We say  $F : \mathcal{C} \rightarrow \mathcal{D}$  has a *right adjoint* if  $\exists G : \mathcal{D} \rightarrow \mathcal{C} : F \dashv G$  (similarly  $G : \mathcal{D} \rightarrow \mathcal{C}$  has left adjoint.)

**Theorem 0.50.** For functors  $F : \mathcal{C} \rightarrow \mathcal{D}$  and  $G : \mathcal{D} \rightarrow \mathcal{C}$  we have:

- (a)  $F$  has a right adjoint  $\iff \forall B \in \mathcal{D} \exists$  universal pair  $(A, v : FA \rightarrow B)$  for  $(F, B)$  such that  $\text{Hom}_{\mathcal{D}}(F(-), B) \cong \text{Hom}_{\mathcal{C}}(-, A)$ .
- (b)  $G$  has a left adjoint  $\iff \forall A \in \mathcal{C} \exists$  universal pair  $(B, u : A \rightarrow GB)$  for  $(G, A)$  such that  $\text{Hom}_{\mathcal{C}}(A, G(-)) \cong \text{Hom}_{\mathcal{D}}(B, -)$ .