

# Categories and functors

## 1 Categories

Def A category  $\mathcal{C}$  consists of

- A class of objects  $\text{ob } \mathcal{C}$
- For all  $X, Y \in \text{ob } \mathcal{C}$  a set  $\mathcal{C}(X, Y)$  ( $= \text{Hom}_{\mathcal{C}}(X, Y)$ ) of morphisms from  $X$  to  $Y$ .
- Composition maps

$$\mathcal{C}(Y, Z) \times \mathcal{C}(X, Y) \longrightarrow \mathcal{C}(X, Z), (g, f) \longmapsto g \circ f$$

Such that all morphism sets are disjoint

- $\exists 1_X \in \mathcal{C}(X, X)$  st  $1_X \circ f = f$   $g \circ 1_X = g$
- $h \circ (g \circ f) = (h \circ g) \circ f$ .

Notation  $f \in \mathcal{C}(X, Y)$  write  $X \xrightarrow{f} Y$

$f \in \mathcal{C}(X, Y)$  is an isomorphism if

$$\exists g \in \mathcal{C}(Y, X) \text{ st } f \circ g = 1_Y \quad g \circ f = 1_X. \quad X \cong Y.$$

Ex 1) Sets      objects : sets  
                     morphisms : functions  
                      $1_X : X \rightarrow X, x \mapsto x$   
                      $\circ$  : function composition.

2) Let  $T$  : type

$T$ -alg      objects :  $T$ -algebras  
                     morphisms : morphisms of  $T$ -algebras.

Def Let  $\mathcal{C}$ : category. We call  $\mathcal{D}$  a subcategory of  $\mathcal{C}$  if  $\text{ob } \mathcal{D} \subseteq \text{ob } \mathcal{C}$  and identities and composition are induced.  $\mathcal{D}(X, Y) \subseteq \mathcal{C}(X, Y) \quad \forall X, Y \in \text{ob } \mathcal{D}$ .

$\mathcal{D}$  is called full if  $\mathcal{D}(X, Y) = \mathcal{C}(X, Y)$ .

3) Let  $T$ : type and  $\mathcal{C}$  is a class of  $T$ -alg's (e.g.  $\mathcal{C} = \mathcal{V}(\mathbb{I})$ ). Then we regard  $\mathcal{C} \subseteq T\text{-alg}$  as a full subcategory so semigroups, Monoids, Groups, Rings, ComRings, Domains, Fields,

4) Let  $K$ : field.  $\text{Vec}(K)$ : vectorspaces  $(K$  with linear maps.  $\text{vec}(K) \subseteq \text{Vec}(K)$  full subcategory of finite dimensional vector spaces.

5) Let  $M$ : monoid. Define  $\mathcal{C}_M$ : category  $\text{ob } \mathcal{C}_M = \{*\}$   $\mathcal{C}_M(*, *) = M$ . composition: multiplication.

6)  $\text{Top}$ : topological spaces with continuous maps.  $\text{Haus} \subseteq \text{Top}$  full subcategory of Hausdorff top. spaces.

7)  $\text{Top}_0$ : Objects  $(X, x_0) \quad X \in \text{Top}, \quad x_0 \in X$   
 morphisms  $(X, x_0) \rightarrow (Y, y_0), \quad f: X \rightarrow Y$  continuous  
 $f(x_0) = y_0$ .

## 2 Functors

Def Let  $\mathcal{C}, \mathcal{D}$  categories

A contra variant covariant functor  $F: \mathcal{C} \rightarrow \mathcal{D}$  consists of

- For each  $X \in \text{obj } \mathcal{C}$  an object  $F(X) \in \text{obj } \mathcal{D}$ .
- For every  $X \xrightarrow{f} Y$  in  $\mathcal{C}$  a morphism  $F(X) \xrightarrow{F(f)} F(Y)$  in  $\mathcal{D}$

s.t. a)  $F(1_X) = 1_{F(X)}$

b)  $F(g \circ f) = F(g) \circ F(f)$

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

Ex 1) Let  $\mathcal{C}$ : category and  $X \in \text{obj } \mathcal{C}$

$$\begin{array}{ccc}
 \mathcal{C}(X, -) : \mathcal{C} & \longrightarrow & \text{sets} \\
 Y & \longmapsto & \mathcal{C}(X, Y) \\
 (Y \xrightarrow{f} Z) & \longmapsto & (\mathcal{C}(X, Y) \xrightarrow{f_{\circ}} \mathcal{C}(X, Z)) \\
 & & \downarrow \psi \\
 & & \mathcal{C}(X, Y) \xrightarrow{f \circ g} \mathcal{C}(X, Z)
 \end{array}$$

covariant

$$\begin{array}{ccc}
 \mathcal{C}(-, X) : \mathcal{C} & \longrightarrow & \text{sets} \\
 Y & \longmapsto & \mathcal{C}(Y, X) \\
 (Y \xrightarrow{f} Z) & \longmapsto & (\mathcal{C}(Y, X) \xleftarrow{f_{\circ}} \mathcal{C}(Z, X)) \\
 & & \downarrow \psi \\
 & & \mathcal{C}(Y, X) \xleftarrow{f \circ g} \mathcal{C}(Z, X)
 \end{array}$$

contravariant

Alt  $\mathcal{C}(-, -) : \mathcal{C}^{\text{op}} \times \mathcal{C} \rightarrow \text{sets}$  covariant

$\text{obj } \mathcal{C}^{\text{op}} = \text{obj } \mathcal{C}$   $\mathcal{C}^{\text{op}}(X, Y) = \mathcal{C}(Y, X)$   $g \circ_{\text{op}} f = f \circ g$ .

2)  $e = \text{Vec}(K)$

$D: \text{Vec}(K) \rightarrow \text{Vec}(K)$

dual space  
contravariant

$V \mapsto \text{Hom}_K(V, K)$

$(= \text{Vec}(K)(V, K))$

$D(f) = - \circ f$

3) Let  $M$ : monoid  $M^x = \{m \in M \mid m \text{ invertible}\}$   
 $M^x$  is a group.

Let  $\varphi: M \rightarrow N$  monoid morphism

then  $\varphi(M^x) \subseteq N^x$  (check)

and  $\varphi|_{M^x}: M^x \rightarrow N^x$  is a group morphism.

so  $( )^x: \text{Monoids} \rightarrow \text{Groups}$  covariant functor.

similarly  $( )^x: \text{Rings} \rightarrow \text{Groups}$

$R \mapsto (R, \cdot)^x$

5) Let  $(X, x_0) \in \text{Topo}$

$\pi_1(X, x_0) = \frac{\{ \alpha: [0, 1] \rightarrow X \text{ continuous} \mid \alpha(0) = \alpha(1) = x_0 \}}{\text{homotopy}}$



$\pi_1(X, x_0)$  group

$\bar{\alpha} \bar{\alpha}' = \overline{\alpha \alpha'}$   
 $\alpha^r = \begin{cases} \alpha(2t) & 0 \leq t \leq \frac{1}{2} \\ \alpha'(2t-1) & \frac{1}{2} \leq t \leq 1 \end{cases}$

$(X, x_0) \xrightarrow{f} (Y, y_0) \rightsquigarrow f_*: \pi_1(X, x_0) \rightarrow \pi_1(Y, y_0)$

In fact  $\pi_1: \text{Topo} \rightarrow \text{Groups}$   $\alpha \mapsto \overline{f \circ \alpha}$

6) Let  $R$  commutative ring

$$GL_n(R) = \{ A : n \times n \text{-matrices } (R) \mid A \text{ invertible} \}$$

$$= (M_{n \times n}(R))^{\times}$$

$f: R \rightarrow S$  ring morphism

$$\tilde{f}: M_{n \times n}(R) \rightarrow M_{n \times n}(S), (a_{ij}) \mapsto (f(a_{ij}))$$

ring morphism

$$\tilde{f}^{\times}: M_{n \times n}(R)^{\times} \rightarrow M_{n \times n}(S)^{\times}$$

$$GL_n(f): GL_n(R) \longrightarrow GL_n(S) \text{ group morphism.}$$

$GL_n: \text{Com Rings} \rightarrow \text{Groups.}$

3 Natural transformation

Let  $\mathcal{C}, \mathcal{D}$ : categories  
 $F, G: \mathcal{C} \rightarrow \mathcal{D}$  functors.

A natural transformation  $\phi: F \rightarrow G$  consists of morphisms  $\phi_X: F(X) \rightarrow G(X)$  in  $\mathcal{D}$  for each  $X \in \mathcal{C}$ .

st  $\forall f \in \mathcal{C}(X, Y)$

$$F(X) \xrightarrow{F(f)} F(Y)$$

$$\begin{array}{ccc} \phi_X \downarrow & & \downarrow \phi_Y \\ G(X) & \xrightarrow{G(f)} & G(Y) \end{array}$$

commutes

i.e.  $G(f) \circ \phi_X = \phi_Y \circ F(f)$

If  $\phi_X$  isomorphism  $G(f) = \phi_Y \circ F(f) \circ \phi_X^{-1}$

Then we call

$\phi$  a natural isomorphism and  $F \simeq G$ .

Ex 1) Recall  $GL_n: \text{Com Rings} \rightarrow \text{Groups}$

$(-)^x: \text{Com Rings} \rightarrow \text{Groups}$

$$\det: GL_n \rightarrow (-)^x$$

$$\det_R: GL_n(R) \rightarrow R^x$$

$$A = (a_{ij}) \mapsto \det(A) = \sum_{\sigma \in S_n} \text{sign}(\sigma) \prod_{i=1}^n a_{i\sigma(i)} \in R^x$$

group morphism as  $\det_R(AB) = \det_R(A)\det(B)$ .

$\varphi: R \rightarrow S$  ring morphism

$$\begin{array}{ccc}
 GL_n(R) & \xrightarrow{GL_n(\varphi)} & GL_n(S) \\
 \det_R \downarrow & & \downarrow \det_S \\
 R^x & \xrightarrow{\varphi|_{R^x}} & S^x
 \end{array}
 \qquad
 \begin{array}{ccc}
 A = (a_{ij}) & \mapsto & B = (\varphi(a_{ij})) \\
 \downarrow & & \downarrow \\
 \sum_{\sigma} \text{sign}(\sigma) \prod_i a_{i\sigma(i)} & \xrightarrow{\varphi} & \sum_{\sigma} \text{sign}(\sigma) \prod_i \varphi(a_{i\sigma(i)})
 \end{array}$$

2) Let  $D: \text{Vec}(K) \rightarrow \text{Vec}(K)$

$$\begin{array}{ccc}
 \varphi_V: V & \longrightarrow & D(D(V)) \quad \text{linear} \\
 v & \longmapsto & (f \longmapsto f(v)) \in D(D(V)) \\
 & & \uparrow \quad \uparrow \\
 & & D(V) \quad K
 \end{array}$$

if  $T: V \rightarrow W$

$$\begin{array}{ccc}
 V & \xrightarrow{T} & W \\
 \varphi_V \downarrow & \circlearrowleft & \downarrow \varphi_W \\
 D(D(V)) & \xrightarrow{D(D(T))} & D(D(W))
 \end{array}
 \qquad
 \begin{array}{ccc}
 v & \longmapsto & T(v) \\
 \downarrow & & \downarrow \\
 \varphi_V(v) & \longmapsto & D(D(T))(\varphi_V(v)) = \varphi_W \circ D(T) \cdot f \longmapsto f(T(v))
 \end{array}$$

## 4 Equivalences and adjoints

Def A functor  $F: \mathcal{C} \rightarrow \mathcal{D}$  is called an equivalence if  $\exists G: \mathcal{D} \rightarrow \mathcal{C}$  st

$$F \circ G \simeq \text{id}_{\mathcal{D}}$$

$$G \circ F \simeq \text{id}_{\mathcal{C}}$$

Ex  $D: \text{Vec}(K) \rightarrow \text{Vec}(K)$

$\varphi_V: V \rightarrow D(D(V))$  is injective

$$\varphi_V(v) = 0 \Rightarrow \varphi_V(v)(f) = 0 \quad \forall f$$

$$f(v) \Rightarrow v = 0.$$

But if  $\dim V < \infty$  then  $\dim D(V) = \dim V$ ,  
so  $\varphi_V$  is bijective.  $\dim D(D(V))$ .

So  $D: \text{Vec}(K) \rightarrow \text{Vec}(K)$

$$\text{as } \varphi: \text{id}_{\text{Vec}(K)} \xrightarrow{\sim} D \circ D$$

is an equivalence  
natural isomorphism.

Def Let  $F: \mathcal{D} \rightarrow \mathcal{C}$  and  $G: \mathcal{C} \rightarrow \mathcal{D}$  functors  
 we call  $(F, G)$  an adjoint pair if

$$\mathcal{C}(FY, X) \xrightarrow{\sim} \mathcal{D}(Y, GX) \quad \text{natural in } X, Y$$

i.e.  $\mathcal{C}(F-1, -2) \simeq \mathcal{D}(-1, G-2)$  as

functors  $\mathcal{D}^{op} \times \mathcal{C} \rightarrow \text{sets}$ .

Ex 1) Let  $V$ : variety of T-algebras  
 $V \subseteq T\text{-alg}$  full subcat.

$$F: \text{sets} \rightarrow V$$

$$X \mapsto F(X) \text{ free on } X \text{ in } V \quad X \xrightarrow{f_X} F(X)$$

$X \xrightarrow{g} Y$  map

$$\begin{array}{ccc} X & \xrightarrow{f_X} & F(X) \\ \downarrow g & \searrow \exists! \varphi =: F(g) & \text{uniqueness} \Rightarrow F(g \circ h) = F(g) \circ F(h) \\ Y & \xrightarrow{f_Y} & F(Y) \end{array}$$

$$G: V \rightarrow \text{sets, forgetful functor}$$

$$A \mapsto A \quad \text{underlying set}$$

$$\varphi \mapsto \varphi \quad \text{underlying function.}$$

$$\text{Hom}_V(F(Y), A) = \{ \varphi: F(Y) \rightarrow A \text{ morphism} \}$$

$$\text{Hom}_{\text{sets}}(Y, G(A)) = \{ g: Y \rightarrow A \mid g \text{ function} \}$$

$$\begin{array}{ccc} Y \xrightarrow{f_Y} F(Y) & \text{so} & \Phi_{Y,A}: \text{Hom}_V(F(Y), A) \rightarrow \text{Hom}_{\text{sets}}(Y, G(A)) \\ \downarrow \exists! \varphi & & \varphi \mapsto \varphi \circ f_Y \\ \downarrow g & & A \end{array}$$

is bijective i.e.  $(F, G)$  adjoint pair.