

Geometry

Algebraic Geometry (affine schemes)

Topology (compact Hausdorff spaces)

Set Theory

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Algebra

Commutative Rings

Commutative C^* -algebras

Complete atomic Boolean algebras (Proposition Logic)

Boolean algebras

Linear algebra (finite-diml vector spaces)

Finite abelian groups

The opposite of the category of all Boolean algebras is the category of Stone spaces: compact Hausdorff spaces that are totally disconnected: every open set is closed (the vice versa)

The Boolean algebra of a Stone space X consists of its open subsets,

with $A \cup B$ as " \vee "

$A \cap B$ as " \wedge "

A^c as " \neg "

Let FinVect be the category of finite-dimensional vector spaces over favorite field (e.g. \mathbb{R}) & linear maps.

What's $\text{FinVect}^{\text{op}}$?

A typical morphism in FinVect is $T: \mathbb{R}^n \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^m$.

A morphism in $\text{FinVect}^{\text{op}}$ is thus $T^{\text{op}}: \mathbb{R}^m \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^n$

suspiciously similar to the transpose $T^t: \mathbb{R}^m \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^n$ in FinVect .

In fact, we have an equivalence $\text{FinVect} \xrightarrow{\sim} \text{FinVect}^{\text{op}}$, with

$T: \mathbb{R}^n \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^m$ in FinVect \longmapsto $T^t: \mathbb{R}^m \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^n$ in FinVect

or $(T^t)^{\text{op}}: \mathbb{R}^n \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^m$ in $\text{FinVect}^{\text{op}}$

We can also get the equivalence $\text{FinVect} \cong \text{FinVect}^{\text{op}}$ using $\mathbb{R} \in \text{FinVect}$ as our dualizing object:

$\text{FinVect} \xrightarrow{\quad} \text{FinVect}^{\text{op}}$

$V \longmapsto \text{hom}(V, \mathbb{R}) = V^*$

$T: V \rightarrow W \longmapsto T^*: W^* \rightarrow V^*$ in FinVect

$(T^*)^{\text{op}}: V^* \rightarrow W^*$ in $\text{FinVect}^{\text{op}}$

So, FinVect straddles the worlds of geometry & algebra, being its own opposite.

Also, the category [finite abelian groups, group homomorphism] is its own "op".

Galois Theory

Galois theory is secretly about dualities between posets.

Def A poset is a partially ordered set (S, \leq) where \leq is reflexive, transitive, and antisymmetric: $x \leq y$ & $y \leq x \rightarrow x = y$.

If (S, \leq) is a poset, we get a category with elements of S as objects & there exists a unique morphism $f: x \rightarrow y$ iff $x \leq y$ ($x, y \in S$), and no morphisms $f: x \rightarrow y$ otherwise.

In fact, the categories we get this way are precisely those with:

- 1) at most 1 morphism from any object x to any object y
- 2) if there are morphisms $f: x \rightarrow y$ & $g: y \rightarrow x$, then $x = y$.

So to a category theorist, a poset is a category with these 2 properties.

Given categories of this kind, a functor is really just an order preserving map $f: (S, \leq) \rightarrow (T, \leq)$, i.e. a function s.t. $x \leq y$ in $S \Rightarrow f(x) \leq f(y)$ in T .

Given a category of this sort coming from the poset (S, \leq) , its opposite comes from the poset (S, \leq^{op}) where $x \leq^{op} y$ iff $y \leq x$. We'll write $x \geq y$ for $x \leq^{op} y$.

What are adjoint functors between categories of this sort?

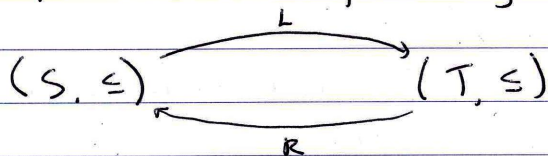
Def Given categories C, D , we say a functor $L: C \rightarrow D$ is the left adjoint of a functor $R: D \rightarrow C$, or R is the right adjoint of L , if there is a natural 1-1 correspondence

$$\text{hom}_D(Lx, y) \cong \text{hom}_C(x, Ry) \quad \forall x \in C, y \in D$$

Ex Let $L: \text{Set} \rightarrow \text{Grp}$ send any set S to the free group on S
 and $R: \text{Grp} \rightarrow \text{Set}$ send any group G to its underlying set.
 Here $\text{hom}_{\text{Grp}}(LS, G) \cong \text{hom}_{\text{Set}}(S, RG)$

L = liberty!
 = freedom

Ex What are adjoint functors between posets (S, \leq) & (T, \leq) ?
 It's a pair of order-preserving functions



such that: $Lx \leq y \iff x \leq Ry$

This comes from $\text{hom}_b(Lx, y) \cong \text{hom}_c(x, Ry)$

Def A pair of adjoint functors between posets is called a Galois correspondence.

Thm Suppose $(S, \leq) \overset{L}{\underset{R}{\rightleftarrows}} (T, \leq)$ is a Galois correspondence. Then we get an order-preserving map $RL: (S, \leq) \rightarrow (S, \leq)$.

Let's write \bar{x} for RLx .

Then $x \leq \bar{x} \quad \forall x \in S$

$(Lx \leq Lx \Rightarrow x \leq RLx)$

and $\bar{\bar{x}} = \bar{x} \quad \forall x \in S$

So we say $\bar{}$ is a closure operator on the poset (S, \leq) .

Similarly write y° for LRy .

Then $y^\circ \leq y \quad \forall y \in T$

and $(y^\circ)^\circ = y^\circ \quad \forall y \in T$

So $^\circ$ behaves like the "interior" operation on subsets of a top. space — it's a closure operator on $(T, \leq)^\text{op}$.

Finally, L & R give a bijection between closed elements of S

(meaning $x \in S$ w/ $\bar{x} = x$) & open elements of T (meaning $y \in T$ s.t. $y^\circ = y$).