

Def A morphism $f: X \rightarrow Y$ is an iso if $\exists f^{-1}: Y \rightarrow X$ that's a
left inverse $f^{-1} \circ f = I_X$
& a right inverse $f \circ f^{-1} = I_Y$

Prop In Set, $f: X \rightarrow Y$ is a mono iff it has a left inverse, and an epi iff it has a right inverse (using the Axiom of Choice).
Thus f is an iso iff it's a mono & epi.

Prop In Ring (rings & ring homomorphisms) $f: \mathbb{Z} \rightarrow \mathbb{Q}$
 $n \mapsto n$

is a mono and an epi but not an iso; in fact it has neither left nor right inverse.

Pf:

There's no ring homomorphism $g: \mathbb{Q} \rightarrow \mathbb{Z}$ since it would send $\frac{1}{2}$ to some multiplicative inverse of 2.

Why is f a mono?

Need:

$$f \circ g = f \circ h \Rightarrow g = h$$

$$\text{If } (f \circ g)(r) = (f \circ h)(r) \quad \forall r \in \mathbb{R},$$

since f is 1-1 $g(r) = h(r) \quad \forall r$ (as a function)

$$\Rightarrow g = h$$

Why is f epi?

Need:

$$g \circ f = h \circ f \Rightarrow g = h$$

$$\text{We know } g(p) = h(p) \text{ & } g(q) = h(q)$$

$$\text{So } g\left(\frac{p}{q}\right) = g\left(\frac{p}{q}\right) = g(q) \cdot g\left(\frac{1}{q}\right), \text{ so we can write } g\left(\frac{1}{q}\right) = \frac{1}{g(q)}.$$

$$\text{So } g\left(\frac{p}{q}\right) = g(p) \cdot g\left(\frac{1}{q}\right) = \frac{g(p)}{g(q)}$$

So g (or similarly h) is determined by its values on integers; since they agree on \mathbb{Z} they're equal

$$\mathbb{R} \xrightarrow{g} \mathbb{Z} \xrightarrow{f} \mathbb{Q}$$

$$\mathbb{Z} \xrightarrow{f} \mathbb{Q} \xrightarrow{g} \mathbb{R}$$

Puzzle: In Top, find $f: X \rightarrow Y$ that is epi & mono but not an isomorphism.

Limits & Colimits

These are ways of building new objects in a category \mathcal{C} from diagrams in \mathcal{C} ,

e.g.

$$\begin{array}{ccc} & X & \\ f \swarrow & & \searrow g \\ Y & & Z \end{array}$$

An example of a limit is:

[Def] Given objects $X, Y \in \mathcal{C}$, a product of them is an object Z equipped with morphisms

$$\begin{array}{ccc} & Z & \\ \downarrow p & \quad \downarrow q & \\ X & & Y \end{array} \quad \text{called projections to } X \& Y,$$

s.t. for any candidate Q

$$\begin{array}{ccc} & Q & \\ \downarrow f & \quad \downarrow g & \\ X & & Y \end{array} \quad \text{there } \exists ! \psi: Q \rightarrow Z \text{ s.t.}$$

this diagram commutes

$$\begin{array}{ccc} & Z & \\ \downarrow p & \nearrow \psi & \downarrow q \\ X & & Y \end{array} \quad \text{i.e.} \quad \begin{aligned} f &= p \circ \psi \\ g &= q \circ \psi \end{aligned}$$

The definition of coproduct is just the same but with all arrows reversed.

[Prop] In Set, we get a product of $X \& Y$ by taking $X \times Y = \{(x, y) : x \in X, y \in Y\}$ with $p(x, y) = x$ and $q(x, y) = y$.

Pf:

$$\begin{array}{ccc} \text{Given} & & \\ & \downarrow f & \downarrow g \\ & Q & \\ & \downarrow & \\ X & & Y \end{array}$$

Let $\psi: Q \rightarrow X \times Y$ be $\psi(q) = (f(q), g(q))$

We indeed get $p \circ \psi = f$, $q \circ \psi = g$ & ψ is the unique map obeying these equations.

But we could also take as our product any set S that's isomorphic to $X \times Y$, via some iso. $\alpha: S \rightarrow X \times Y$

$$\begin{array}{ccc} X \times Y & \xleftarrow{\alpha} & S \\ p \downarrow & \swarrow q & \downarrow q \circ \alpha \\ X & \xleftarrow{p \circ \alpha} & Y \end{array}$$

Use $p \circ \alpha$ & $q \circ \alpha$ as projections; then you can check

$$\begin{array}{ccc} S & & \\ p \circ \alpha & \swarrow & \searrow q \circ \alpha \\ X & & Y \end{array}$$

is also a product of X & Y .

So "any object isomorphic to a product can also be a product."

Prop Suppose

$$\begin{array}{ccc} W & & Z \\ \swarrow p & \downarrow q & \swarrow p' & \downarrow q' \\ X & Y & X & Y \end{array} \text{ and } \begin{array}{ccc} W & & Z \\ \downarrow p' & \nearrow q' & \downarrow q \\ X & Y & X & Y \end{array} \text{ are both a product of } X \text{ & } Y.$$

Then W & Z are isomorphic

"Products are unique up to isomorphism."

Pf:

Since W is the product

$$\begin{array}{ccc} W & \xleftarrow{\exists! \psi} & Z \\ (\#) \quad \swarrow p & \nearrow p' & \downarrow q' \\ X & Y & \end{array} \quad \exists! \psi: Z \rightarrow W \text{ making this commute}$$

Since Z is the product

$$\begin{array}{ccc} W & \xrightarrow{\exists!} & Z \\ (\# \#) \quad \swarrow p & \nearrow p' & \downarrow q \\ X & Y & \end{array} \quad \exists! \psi: W \rightarrow Z \text{ s.t. the diagram commutes}$$

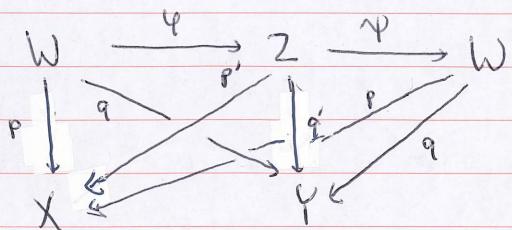
Suffices to show ψ & ψ' are inverse. Why is $\psi \circ \psi': W \rightarrow W$ the identity?

If we can show this, the same argument will show $\psi' \circ \psi = I_Z$.

$$\begin{array}{ccc} W & \xleftarrow{\exists!} & W \\ \swarrow p & \nearrow p' & \downarrow q \\ X & Y & \end{array}$$

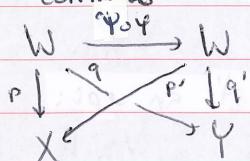
There is a unique arrow making this commute since W is the product.

$I_W: W \rightarrow W$ does the job, but also $\psi \circ \psi'$ does the job.



This commutes since * & ** do

so this commutes:



so $\varphi \circ \varphi' = I_W$ by uniqueness.

Whoops:

Prop If a morphism is an iso, it's both a mono & an epi.
(We've seen the converse is false)

Pf:

If $f: X \rightarrow Y$ has a left inverse f^{-1} , it's a mono:

$$f \circ g = f \circ h \Rightarrow f^{-1} \circ f \circ g = f^{-1} \circ f \circ h \Rightarrow g = h \quad \forall g, h$$

Similarly, if f has a right inverse f^{-1} , it's an epi

$$g \circ f = h \circ f \Rightarrow g \circ f \circ f^{-1} = h \circ f \circ f^{-1} \Rightarrow g = h \quad \forall g, h$$

Def A morphism with a left inverse is called a split monomorphism; a morphism with a right inverse is called a split epimorphism.

In Set every mono (or epi) splits, but we saw not in Ring (or Top).

Coproducts

Def Given objects X & Y , a coproduct of X & Y is an object Z equipped with morphisms $i: X \rightarrow Z$ & $j: Y \rightarrow Z$ (where i & j are called inclusions),

which is universal: For any diagram

$$\begin{array}{ccc} X & & Y \\ f \swarrow \searrow g & \exists ! \psi: Z \rightarrow Q & \text{making} \\ Q & & \text{the following diagram commute:} \\ & i.e. f = \psi \circ i & \\ & g = \psi \circ j & \end{array}$$

$$\begin{array}{ccc} X & \xrightarrow{i} & Y \\ \downarrow j & \nearrow \psi & \downarrow g \\ Z & \xrightarrow{\exists ! \psi} & Q \end{array}$$

Prop In Set, a coproduct of X & Y is their disjoint union

$$X+Y = X \times \{0\} \cup Y \times \{1\} \quad \text{with} \quad i: X \rightarrow X+Y \quad j: Y \rightarrow X+Y$$

$$x \mapsto (x, 0) \quad y \mapsto (y, 1)$$

PRODUCTS \times

Set

cartesian product $S \times T$

COPRODUCTS $+$

Top

cartesian product $X \times Y$ w/ product topology

disjoint union $S \sqcup T = S + T$

G_F

product of groups $G \times H$

free product $G * H$

abelian
categories

$A \oplus B$

$A \oplus B = A \times B$ product of abelian groups

$A \oplus B$

$V \oplus W$

$V \oplus W = V \times W$ direct sum of vector spaces

$V \oplus W$

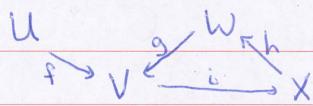
The free product $G * H$ consists of equivalence classes of words

$x_1, x_2 \dots x_n$ where $x_i \in G \cup H$

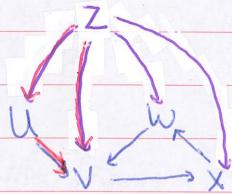
where $x_1 \dots x_{i-1} \cdot 1 \cdot x_{i+1} \dots x_n \sim x_1 \dots x_{i-1} x_{i+1} \dots x_n$ where 1 is the identity in G or H
and $x_1 \dots x_i x_{i+1} \dots x_n = x_1 \dots x_{i-1} y x_{i+2} \dots x_n$ if $x_i, x_{i+1} \in G$ or $x_i, x_{i+1} \in H$
and $y = x_i x_{i+1}$

General limits & colimits

Given any diagram
in a category C :



a cone over the diagram is:



a choice of morphisms from Z to each object in the diagram, such that all newly formed triangles commute.

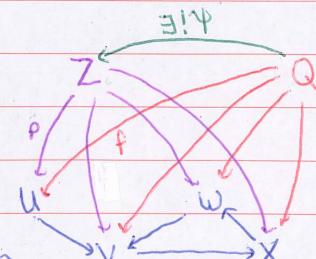
A limit of the diagram is a cone that's universal:

i.e., given any competitor (another candidate), another cone over the same diagram:

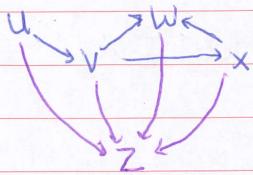
$\exists ! \psi: Q \rightarrow Z$ s.t. all triangles including ψ commute:

if U is any object in the diagram and $p: Z \rightarrow U$ is the morphism

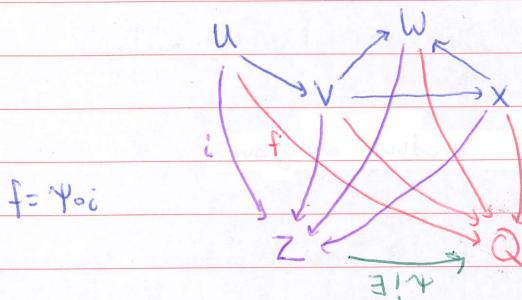
in the universal cone, and $f: Q \rightarrow U$ is the morphism in the competitor then $f = p \circ \psi$.



A cocone is like a cone, but with morphisms to Z instead of from:

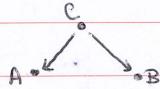
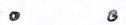


A colony is the 'universal colony'.



Examples of different diagrams

Diagrams



-A

A → B

A

A

A

B

terminal object 1

What's a limit of the empty diagram:

$$\begin{array}{ccc} & \exists ! \Psi & \\ \bullet Z & \swarrow & \bullet Q \end{array}$$

It's an object Z s.t. for all objects Q , $\exists ! \Psi: Q \rightarrow Z$.
This is called a terminal object.

In Set, any 1-element set is a terminal object.

In Vect $_k$, any 0-dim. vector space is a terminal object.

Similarly, an initial object Z is one s.t. for any object Q , $\exists ! \Psi: Z \rightarrow Q$.

In Set, the empty set is an initial object.

In Vect $_k$, any 0-dim. vector space is an initial object.

In any abelian category, initial objects are terminal & vice versa.