

Math 666 - Homework 1

Due Wednesday February 5

1. For each of the following universal constructions, describe explicitly an “auxiliary category” that we can use to define them, and whether they would be an initial or a terminal object in that category. Your description of the category should include an explicit description of both objects and arrows in the category.
 - (i) The kernel of a given group homomorphism $f: G \rightarrow H$.
 - (ii) The cokernel of a given abelian group homomorphism $\phi: A \rightarrow B$.
 - (iii) The equalizer of two given morphisms $f, g: X \rightarrow Y$ in some category \mathcal{C} .
 - (iv) The coequalizer of two given morphisms $\phi, \theta: Z \rightarrow W$ in some category \mathcal{C} .
 - (v) The product of a given family of objects $\{X_i\}_{i \in I}$ in some category \mathcal{C} .
 - (vi) The coproduct of a given family of objects $\{Y_j\}_{j \in J}$ in some category \mathcal{C} .
 - (vii) The pushout of a given pair of morphisms, $f_1: X_0 \rightarrow X_1$ and $f_2: X_0 \rightarrow X_2$, in some category \mathcal{C} .
 - (viii) The pullback of a given pair of morphisms $g_1: Y_1 \rightarrow Y_3$ and $g_2: Y_2 \rightarrow Y_3$ in some category \mathcal{C} .
2. Let $F: \mathbf{Set} \rightarrow \mathbf{Set}$ be the functor associating to every set S the set S^ω of all sequences (s_0, s_1, \dots) of elements of S . Use Yoneda’s Lemma to determine all morphisms from F to the identity functor of \mathbf{Set} .
3. Show that the functor $\mathbf{Monoid} \rightarrow \mathbf{Set}$ that sends a monoid M to the set of invertible elements in M is representable, and describe the representing object.
4. Show that the contravariant functor $\mathbf{Set} \rightarrow \mathbf{Set}$ that associates to every set X the set $\mathbf{P}(X)$ of all subsets of X , is representable.
5. Let (\mathcal{C}, U) be a concrete category (so \mathcal{C} is a category, and $U: \mathcal{C} \rightarrow \mathbf{Set}$ is a faithful functor). Prove that the following are equivalent:
 - (i) \mathcal{C} has a free object on one generator with respect to U .
 - (ii) The concretization functor U is representable.