

"I can see the appeal of talking to a turtle."

Why do I want to talk to a cat? I don't know."

"If I saw enough turtles in different locations."

## Yoneda's Lemma

Ex  $\mathcal{A}b_{fin}$  = finite abelian groups

$A \in \text{Ob}(\mathcal{A}b_{fin})$  for all finite abelian groups  $B$

$$|\text{Hom}_{\mathcal{A}b}(A, B)|$$

Q: Can I recover  $A$  if I know  $|\text{Hom}(A, B)| \forall$  finite abelian groups  $B$ ?

Q: Equivalently, if  $A_1 \neq A_2 \Rightarrow \exists B$  st  $|\text{Hom}(A_1, B)| \neq |\text{Hom}(A_2, B)|$

$$\text{Ex } A_1 = \mathbb{Z}_2^3 \oplus \mathbb{Z}_4^3 \oplus \mathbb{Z}_5$$

$$A_2 = \mathbb{Z}_2^4 \oplus \mathbb{Z}_4 \oplus \mathbb{Z}_8 \oplus \mathbb{Z}_5$$

$$|\text{Hom}(A_1, \mathbb{Z}_5)| = 5$$

$$|\text{Hom}(A_2, \mathbb{Z}_5)| = 5$$

$$|\text{Hom}(A_1, \mathbb{Z}_2)| = 2^6$$

$$|\text{Hom}(A_2, \mathbb{Z}_2)| = 2^6$$

$$|\text{Hom}(A_1, \mathbb{Z}_4)| = 2^3 \cdot 4^3$$

$$|\text{Hom}(A_2, \mathbb{Z}_4)| = 2^4 \cdot 4 \cdot 4$$

Yoneda's lemma says roughly that we can understand objects  $A \in \text{Ob}(\mathcal{A})$  by understanding  $\text{Hom}_{\mathcal{A}}(A, B) \forall B \in \text{Ob}(\mathcal{A})$ .

## Representable functors

Let  $\mathcal{A}$  be a category. Let  $A \in \text{Ob}(\mathcal{A})$ . Then we can make a functor

$$h_A: \mathcal{A} \rightarrow \text{Set}$$

For  $B \in \text{Ob}(\mathcal{A})$ ,  $h_A(B) := \text{Hom}_{\mathcal{A}}(A, B)$  & if  $B \xrightarrow{f} B'$

$$h_A(B) \xrightarrow{h_A(f)} h_A(B')$$

$$\begin{array}{ccc} \text{Hom}_{\mathcal{A}}(A, B) & & \text{Hom}_{\mathcal{A}}(A, B') \\ \downarrow & \xrightarrow{h_A(f)} & \downarrow \\ \psi & & \psi' \end{array}$$

So  $h_A$  is called a representable functor.

On the assignment

$$\text{Funct}(\mathcal{A}, \text{Set})$$

Objects are functors from  $\mathcal{A} \rightarrow \text{Set}$

morphisms  $\eta: F \rightarrow G$  natural transformations

Let  $\mathcal{F}$  be the (full) subcategory of  $\text{Func}(A, \text{Set})$  whose objects are representable functors &

$$\text{Hom}_{\mathcal{F}}(h_a, h_b) = \{\text{natural transformations from } h_a \text{ to } h_b\}$$

Theorem [Yoneda's Lemma]:

$$A \cong \mathcal{F}^{\text{op}}$$

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Example

$\mathcal{G}r_p$  = category of groups

$G: \mathcal{G}r_p \rightarrow \text{Set}$   $G(H) = H$  forgetful functor

Then  $G$  is a representable functor.

We need  $A \in \text{Ob}(\mathcal{G}r_p)$ ,  $\text{Hom}_{\mathcal{G}r_p}(A, H) \cong H$ .

Take  $A = \mathbb{Z}$

$$G \cong h_A$$

$F: \text{Set} \rightarrow \mathcal{G}r_p$   $F(X) = \text{free group on } X$ . Then  $\mathbb{Z} = F(\{x\})$

$$\text{Hom}_{\mathcal{G}r_p}(F(X), H) \cong \text{Hom}_{\text{Set}}(X, G(H))$$

$$\text{So } \text{Hom}_{\mathcal{G}r_p}(\mathbb{Z}, H) \cong \text{Hom}_{\mathcal{G}r_p}(F(\{x\}), H) = \text{Hom}_{\mathcal{G}r_p}(\mathbb{Z}, H)$$

$k = \text{field}$ ,  $\mathcal{C} = \text{commutative } k\text{-algebras}$

$$k \xrightarrow{i} \mathcal{C} \quad 1_k \mapsto 1_{\mathcal{C}}$$

Given a  $\mathcal{C} \in \text{Ob}(\mathcal{C})$  We can form a category  $\mathcal{C}\text{-Mod}$

If  $M$  is a  $\mathcal{C}$ -module. A derivation  $\delta: \mathcal{C} \rightarrow M$  is a  $k$ -linear map

$$\delta(c_1 c_2) = c_1 \delta(c_2) + c_2 \delta(c_1)$$

$\text{Der}_k(\mathcal{C}, M) = \text{all } k\text{-linear } \delta: \mathcal{C} \rightarrow M$

This is a  $\mathcal{C}$ -module  $(c \cdot \delta)(a) := c \delta(a)$

So we have a functor  $\text{Der}: \mathcal{C}\text{-Mod} \rightarrow \mathcal{C}\text{-Mod}$

$$M \mapsto \text{Der}_k(\mathcal{C}, M)$$

$$M_1 \xrightarrow{f} M_2 \rightarrow \text{Der}_k(\mathcal{C}, M_1) \xrightarrow{\text{Der}(f)} \text{Der}_k(\mathcal{C}, M_2)$$

$$\delta \longmapsto f \circ \delta$$

$$(f \circ \delta)(ab) = \dots = a f(\delta(b)) + b f(\delta(a))$$

Claim:  $\text{Der}$  is representable

Kähler differentials,  $C$   $k$ -algebra,  $C$ -module  $\Omega_{C/k}$   
 Free  $C$ -module on all symbols  $dc$ ,  $c \in C$  modulo the relations  
 $d(c_1 + \lambda c_2) = dc_1 + \lambda dc_2 = 0$ ,  $d(c_1 c_2) = c_1 dc_2 + c_2 dc_1$ ,  $d\lambda = 0$

The quotient is  $\Omega_{C/k}$

$$\text{Der} \cong \text{Hom}_{\Omega_{C/k}} \text{ ie } \text{Der}(M) = \text{Der}_k(C, M) \cong \text{Hom}_C(\Omega_{C/k}, M)$$

Ex  $C = k[t]$ ,  $\Omega_{k[t]/k}$ ,  $d p(t)$

$$d(a_0 + a_1 t + \dots + a_n t^n) = a_0 d1 + a_1 dt + \dots + a_n d t^n = a_0 d1 + a_1 dt + 2a_2 t dt + \dots + n a_n t^{n-1} dt$$

$$\Omega_{k[t]/k} = k[t] dt$$

$$\text{Der}_k(k[t], M)$$

$$\cong \text{Hom}_{k[t]}(\Omega_{k[t]/k}, M)$$

$k[t]$ -module

$$\delta: k[t] \rightarrow M$$

$\downarrow$

$$f_\delta: \Omega_{k[t]/k} \rightarrow M$$

$$f_\delta(dt) = \delta(t)$$

In general  $f_\delta(dc) = \delta(c)$

$$f_\delta(p(t)dt) = p(t) \delta(t)$$

Conversely, if

$$f: \Omega_{k[t]/k} \rightarrow M$$

$\downarrow$

$$\delta_f: k[t] \rightarrow M$$

$$\delta_f(p(t)) = f(dp(t)) = f(p'(t)dt) = p'(t)f(dt)$$

$$\delta_f(p(t)) = p'(t)f(dt)$$

$$\delta_f(p(t)q(t)) = (p(t)q(t))' f(dt) = \dots = q(\delta_f(p)) + p(\delta_f(q))$$

(Topological) presheaves

$\updownarrow$   
 Yoneda's lemma

$\text{Top}_X \leftarrow$  objects  $U \subseteq X$  open

$X$  topological space

$$\text{Hom}_{\text{Top}_X}(U, V) = \begin{cases} i & \text{if } U \xrightarrow{i} V \\ \emptyset & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

$\text{Top}_X^{\text{op}}$  a presheaf (of sets) is a functor

$$S: \text{Top}_X^{\text{op}} \rightarrow \text{Set}$$

$$S: \text{Top}_X \rightarrow \text{Set} \text{ contravariant}$$

$$U \xrightarrow{i} V \rightsquigarrow S(V) \xrightarrow[\rho_{iU}]{S(i)} S(U)$$

Think of  $\rho_{iU}$  as "restriction" from  $V$  to  $U$

$$f \in S(V) \xrightarrow{S(i)} f|_U$$

Ex  $X = \text{top space}$

$$\mathcal{O}: \text{Top}_X^{\text{op}} \rightarrow \text{Set}$$

$$U \mapsto \{f: U \rightarrow \mathbb{C} \text{cts}\}$$

$$U \xrightarrow{i} V$$

$$f \in \mathcal{O}(V) \xrightarrow{S(i)} f|_U \in \mathcal{O}(U)$$

What are the representable functors  $h: \text{Top}_X^{\text{op}} \rightarrow \text{Set}$ ?

$$U \subseteq X \text{ open, } h_U: \text{Top}_X^{\text{op}} \rightarrow \text{Set}$$

$$h_U(V) = \text{Hom}_{\text{Top}_X^{\text{op}}}(U, V)$$

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$$\text{Hom}_{\text{Top}_X}(V, U)$$

$h_U(V)$  is empty if  $V \not\subseteq U$

$$h_U(V) = \{i: V \rightarrow U\} \text{ otherwise}$$

If  $h_U$  &  $S$  are two presheaves

$$h_U: \text{Top}_X^{\text{op}} \rightarrow \text{Set}$$

$$S: \text{Top}_X^{\text{op}} \rightarrow \text{Set}$$

What is a natural transformation  $\eta: h_U \rightarrow S$ ?

$$\forall V \subseteq V' \subseteq X \text{ open}$$

$$h_U(V) \xrightarrow{\eta_V} S(V)$$

$$V \xrightarrow{\text{Top}_X^{\text{op}}} V'$$

$$\downarrow$$

$$h_U(V') \xrightarrow{\eta_{V'}} S(V')$$

$$V' \hookrightarrow V$$

(Claim:  $\eta$  is completely determined by  $\eta_U$ )

$$\begin{array}{ccc} \text{If } V \hookrightarrow U & & \\ h_U(U) \xrightarrow{\eta_U} S(U) & & \\ \downarrow & & \downarrow \\ h_U(V) \xrightarrow{\eta_V} S(V) & & \end{array}$$

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Ex Topological presheaves

$X = \text{top. space}$

$\text{Top}_X$  Objects  $U \subseteq X$  open,  $U \xrightarrow{c} V$  morphisms

A presheaf of  $X$  ( $X = \text{sets, rings, groups, abelian groups, etc}$ )

Is just a contravariant functor  $\mathcal{F}: \text{Top}_X \rightarrow X$  where  $\text{Ob}(X) = X$

Ex Let  $X = \mathbb{C}$  with Euclidean topology

$$\mathcal{F}: \text{Top}_X^{\text{op}} \rightarrow \text{Ring}$$

$$\mathcal{F}(U) = \{f: U \rightarrow \mathbb{C}; f \text{ is analytic on } U\}$$

$$\text{If } U \subseteq V, \mathcal{F}(U) \longrightarrow \mathcal{F}(V)$$

$$\begin{array}{ccc} \mathcal{F}(U) & \xrightarrow{f} & \mathcal{F}(V) \\ \downarrow & \longmapsto & \downarrow \\ \mathcal{F}(U) & \xrightarrow{f|_U} & \mathcal{F}(U) \end{array}$$

A presheaf  $\mathcal{F}: \text{Top}_X^{\text{op}} \rightarrow \mathbb{C}$  is a sheaf if it has two additional conditions

1) It is separated, i.e. if  $U \subseteq X$  open &  $U = \bigcup_{i \in I} U_i$

Then if  $f, g \in \mathcal{F}(U)$  are such that  $f|_{U_i} = g|_{U_i} \forall i \Rightarrow f = g$

$$\begin{array}{ccc} \mathcal{F}(U) & \xrightarrow{\mathcal{F}(i)} & \mathcal{F}(U_i) \\ f & \longmapsto & f|_{U_i} = \mathcal{F}(i)(f) \end{array}$$

2) Glue  $U = \bigcup_{i \in I} U_i$ . If  $\exists f_i \in \mathcal{F}(U_i)$   $f_i|_{U_{ij}} = f_j|_{U_{ij}} \forall i, j$

$\Rightarrow \exists f \in \mathcal{F}(U)$  st  $f|_{U_i} = f_i \forall i$

Eg.  $\mathcal{F}: \text{Top}_X^{\text{op}} \rightarrow \text{Ring}$   $\mathcal{F}(U) = \{f: U \rightarrow \mathbb{C}; f \text{ is cts}\}$ . This is a sheaf

Ex

$X = \mathbb{R}$ , Euclidean topology

$\mathcal{F}(U) = \{\text{closed cts lines from } U \rightarrow \mathbb{R}\}$

$$\begin{array}{ccc} \forall U & & \\ f \in \mathcal{F}(U) \xrightarrow{\quad} & \mathcal{F}(V) & \\ \downarrow & \longmapsto & \downarrow \\ f & \longmapsto & f|_V \end{array}$$

Don't have gluing:

$$\mathbb{R} = \bigcup_{n=1}^{\infty} \underbrace{(-n, n)}_{U_n}$$

$f_n(x) = x \in \mathcal{O}(U_n)$  &  $f_n|_{U_n \cap U_m} = f_m|_{U_n \cap U_m}$   
 But  $\nexists f: \mathbb{R} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  biject st  $f|_{U_n} = f_n \forall n$

G: Show  $\rightarrow$  Prop of hf

$\mathcal{C} = \text{Set}$

Representable presheaf  $U \subseteq X$  open

$$h_U: \text{Top}_X^{\text{op}} \rightarrow \text{Set} \quad h_U(V) = \text{Hom}(U, V)$$

$$V_1 \xrightarrow{i} V_2 \text{ in } \text{Top}_X$$

$$V_2 \rightarrow V_1 \text{ in } \text{Top}_X^{\text{op}}$$

$$h_U(V_2) \rightarrow h_U(V_1) \text{ in } \text{Set}$$

$$\text{Hom}_{\text{Top}_X^{\text{op}}}(U, V_2) \rightarrow \text{Hom}_{\text{Top}_X^{\text{op}}}(U, V_1)$$

$$\text{Hom}_{\text{Top}_X}(V_2, U) \rightarrow \text{Hom}_{\text{Top}_X}(V_1, U)$$

$$\psi \mapsto \psi \circ i$$

What is a natural transformation

$$\eta: h_U \rightarrow \mathcal{F}?$$

$$h_U(V) \xrightarrow{\eta_V} \mathcal{F}(V)$$

$$V_2 \rightarrow V_1 \text{ in } \text{Top}_X^{\text{op}} \text{ (i.e. } V_1 \xrightarrow{i} V_2)$$

$$h_U(V_2) \xrightarrow{\eta_{V_2}} \mathcal{F}(V_2)$$

$$\downarrow h_U(i) \quad \downarrow \mathcal{F}(i)$$

$$h_U(V_1) \xrightarrow{\eta_{V_1}} \mathcal{F}(V_1)$$

Claim:  $\eta: h_U \rightarrow \mathcal{F}$  is completely determined by  $\eta_U: h_U(U) \rightarrow \mathcal{F}(U)$   
 $\text{id}_U \mapsto \eta_U(\text{id}_U)$

What if  $\mathcal{F} = h_V$ ? Then  $\eta: h_U \rightarrow h_V$   
 {bij}

$$h_V(U) = \text{Hom}_{\text{Top}_X^{\text{op}}}(V, U) = \text{Hom}_{\text{Top}_X}(U, V)$$

Why do we get the claim?

Case I:  $V \subseteq_{\text{open}} U \quad V \xrightarrow{i} U \quad U \rightarrow V \text{ in } \text{Top}_X^{\text{op}}$

$$\text{id}_U$$

$$h_U(U) \xrightarrow{\eta_U} \mathcal{F}(U)$$

$$\downarrow$$

$$h_U(V) \xrightarrow{\eta_V} \mathcal{F}(V)$$

$$\text{Hom}(U, V)$$

So  $\eta_V$  is determined by  $\eta_U$  if  $V \subseteq U$  open

Case II:  $V \notin U \Rightarrow h_u(V) = \emptyset$

Proof (of Yoneda's Lemma):

Category  $\mathcal{A}$

Objects  $A, B, C, \dots$

Morphisms  $A \xrightarrow{f} B$

Category  $\mathcal{F} \in \text{Funct}(\mathcal{A}, \text{Set})$

objects  $h_A, h_B, h_C, \dots$

Morphisms  $\mathcal{M}: h_A \rightarrow h_B$

Claim:  $\mathcal{A} \cong \mathcal{F}^{\text{op}}$

Need to construct  $F: \mathcal{A} \rightarrow \mathcal{F}^{\text{op}}, G: \mathcal{F}^{\text{op}} \rightarrow \mathcal{A}$

Define  $F(A) = h_A$

$$A \xrightarrow{f} B$$

$$h_B \xrightarrow{\mathcal{M}_B = f(A)} h_A$$

$$\forall C \in \text{Ob}(\mathcal{A}), h_B(C) \xrightarrow{(\mathcal{M}_B)_C} h_A(C)$$

$$\text{Hom}(B, C) \longrightarrow \text{Hom}(A, C)$$

$$\downarrow \longmapsto \downarrow \circ f$$

To check that  $\mathcal{M}_f: h_B \rightarrow h_A$  is a natural transformation, let  $g: C \rightarrow C', C, C' \in \text{Ob}(\mathcal{A})$

$$\begin{array}{ccc}
 \psi_B & \xrightarrow{\quad \quad \quad} & \psi_{B \circ f} \\
 \downarrow & \begin{array}{c} h_B(C) \xrightarrow{(\mathcal{M}_B)_C} h_A(C) = \text{Hom}(A, C) \\ \downarrow \qquad \qquad \qquad \downarrow \end{array} & \downarrow \\
 g \circ \psi_B & \xrightarrow{h_B(C') \xrightarrow{(\mathcal{M}_B)_{C'}} h_A(C') = \text{Hom}(A, C')} & g \circ \psi_{B \circ f}
 \end{array}$$

So the map  $A \rightarrow h_A, f \mapsto \mathcal{M}_f$  is a functor  $F: \mathcal{A} \rightarrow \mathcal{F}^{\text{op}}$ .

Let  $G: \mathcal{F}^{\text{op}} \rightarrow \mathcal{A}, G(h_A) = A$

$$\mathcal{M}: h_A \rightarrow h_B \sim F(\mathcal{M}): B \rightarrow A$$

$$\mathcal{M}_A: h_A(A) \rightarrow h_B(A)$$

$$\text{Hom}(A, A) \rightarrow \text{Hom}(B, A)$$

Define  $G(\mathcal{M}) =: f(\mathcal{M})$

$$\mathcal{M}_A(\text{id}_A): B \rightarrow A$$

Check  $G$  is a functor.

Look at  $G \circ F: A \rightarrow A$ ,  $F \circ G: \mathcal{F}^{op} \rightarrow \mathcal{F}^{op}$

Claim: these are the identity functors

$$G \circ F(A) = G(h_A) = A \checkmark$$

$$F \circ G(A) = F(A) = h_A \checkmark$$

$$A \xrightarrow{f} B$$

$$A \xrightarrow{GF(A)} B$$

We need to check  $GF(f) = f$ .

$$A \xrightarrow{f} B$$

$$\downarrow$$

$$h_B \xrightarrow{\eta_f} h_A$$

$$\downarrow$$

$$A \xrightarrow{f(\eta_f)} B$$

$$f(\eta_f) = (\eta_f)_B(id_B)$$

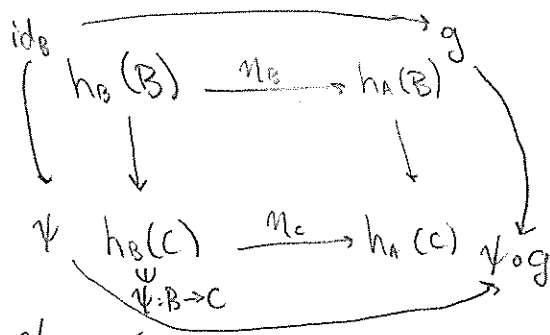
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First  $G \circ F(f) = G(\eta_f) = (\eta_f)_B(id_B) = id_B \circ f = f \checkmark$

Next  $F \circ G(\eta) = F(f(\eta)) = F((\eta_B(id_B))) \cong \eta$

Need to show  $F(\underbrace{(\eta_B(id_B))}_g)_c = \eta_c \quad \forall c \in \text{Ob}(A)$

So  $F(g) = \eta_g$ ,  $(\eta_g)_c = - \circ g$  So we must show  $\eta_c = - \circ (\eta_B(id_B))$



$\Rightarrow \eta_c(\psi) = \psi \circ g \checkmark$

$\mathcal{G}$  categories



$$h_c(c) = \text{Hom}(c, c)$$

$$\downarrow \cong$$

$$\text{Hom}(c, c)$$

Corollary: Any small category is "concretizable", i.e. the category is equivalent to a category in which each object is a set.



Idea: Let  $\mathcal{C}$  be your small category  
 $\mathcal{C} \stackrel{\text{Yoneda}}{\cong} \mathcal{F}^{op} \subseteq \text{Func}(\mathcal{C}, \text{Set})^{op}$   
 $\mathcal{C} \hookrightarrow h_{\mathcal{C}}$

$$h_{\mathcal{C}}(B) = \text{Hom}_{\mathcal{C}}(\mathcal{C}, B) \leftarrow \text{set}$$

We make a new category  $\tilde{\mathcal{C}}$  objects are given as follows

$\forall B \in \text{Ob}(\mathcal{C})$  Make a set

$$\hat{B} = \coprod_{C \in \text{Ob}(\mathcal{C})} h_B(C) \leftarrow \text{set}$$

↑  
set

$$\begin{array}{ccc} f: B \rightarrow B' \\ \hat{B}' \xrightarrow{\hat{f}} \hat{B} \end{array}$$

$$\coprod_C h_{B'}(C) \xrightarrow{\hat{f}} \coprod_C h_B(C)$$

$$\varphi_C \longmapsto \varphi_C \circ f$$

$$\begin{array}{ccc} \uparrow & & \\ h_{B'}(C) & \longmapsto & \varphi_C \circ f \end{array}$$

This gives us a concrete category  $\tilde{\mathcal{C}}$  &  $\mathcal{C} \cong \mathcal{F}^{op} \cong \tilde{\mathcal{C}}^{op}$