

# Category Theory Example Sheet 3

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These questions are of varying difficulty and length. Starred questions are not necessarily harder, but are extra questions. Comments, corrections and clarifications can be emailed to [jg352](mailto:jg352). You can find this sheet on [www.dpmms.cam.ac.uk/~jg352/teaching.html](http://www.dpmms.cam.ac.uk/~jg352/teaching.html).

1. Let  $\mathcal{C} \begin{smallmatrix} \xrightarrow{F} \\ \xleftarrow{G} \end{smallmatrix} \mathcal{D}$  be an adjunction  $F \dashv G$  with unit  $\eta$  and counit  $\varepsilon$ . Show that the following conditions are equivalent.

- (i)  $F\eta_A$  is an isomorphism for all objects  $A$  of  $\mathcal{C}$ .
- (ii)  $\varepsilon_F A$  is an isomorphism for all  $A$ .
- (iii)  $G\varepsilon_F A$  is an isomorphism for all  $A$ .
- (iv)  $GF\eta_A = \eta_{GFA}$  for all  $A$ .
- (v)  $GF\eta_{GB} = \eta_{GFGB}$  for all objects  $B$  of  $\mathcal{D}$ .
- (vi)–(x) The duals of (i)–(v).

[Hint: if you take the conditions in the cyclic order indicated, all implications are trivial except for (v) $\Rightarrow$ (vi) and its dual (x) $\Rightarrow$ (i).] An adjunction with these properties is said to be *idempotent*.

2. A *complete semilattice* is a partially ordered set  $A$  in which every subset has a least upper bound (i.e.  $A$  is cocomplete when regarded as a category); a complete semilattice homomorphism is a mapping preserving (order and) arbitrary least upper bounds. Use the Adjoint Functor Theorem to show that

- (a) a poset  $A$  is a complete semilattice iff  $A^{\text{op}}$  is;
- (b) the category  $\text{CSLat}$  of complete semilattices and their homomorphisms is isomorphic to its opposite.

3. Let  $\mathcal{C} \begin{smallmatrix} \xrightarrow{F} \\ \xleftarrow{G} \end{smallmatrix} \mathcal{D}$  be an adjunction ( $F \dashv G$ ) with  $F$  faithful, and let  $K \in \text{ob } \mathcal{D}$  be a coseparator of  $\mathcal{D}$ . Show that  $GK$  is a coseparator of  $\mathcal{C}$ .

4. Recall from Sheet 2 the theories of widgets and chads.

- (a) Use the General Adjoint Functor Theorem to show that  $U: \text{Widget} \rightarrow \text{Set}$  has a left adjoint.
- (b) Do the same for the forgetful functor  $\text{Widget} \rightarrow \text{Chad}$ .

5. (a) Let  $\mathcal{C}$  be an arbitrary category. Show that the monoid of natural transformations from the identity functor  $1_{\mathcal{C}}$  to itself is commutative. [This monoid is sometimes called the *centre* of the category  $\mathcal{C}$ ; if you think about what it is when  $\mathcal{C}$  is a group, you will see why.]

- (b) Deduce that if  $1_{\mathcal{C}}$  has a monad structure  $(1_{\mathcal{C}}, \eta, \mu)$ , then  $\eta$  is an isomorphism.
- (c) Let  $F: \mathcal{C} \rightarrow \mathcal{D}$  be a functor having a right adjoint  $G$ , such that there is some natural isomorphism (not necessarily the unit of the adjunction) between  $1_{\mathcal{C}}$  and  $GF$ . Show that the unit is also an isomorphism, and deduce that  $F$  is full and faithful.
- (d) Let  $\text{Idem}$  be the category of sets equipped with an idempotent endomorphism (cf. Example (e) in Section 3A in your notes). Show that the forgetful functor  $U: \text{Idem} \rightarrow \text{Set}$  has a left adjoint  $F$ , and that there are functors  $G$  and  $H$  with  $GF$  and  $UH$  both isomorphic to the identity on  $\text{Set}$ , but that the unit of  $(F \dashv U)$  is not an isomorphism.

6. We say a monad  $\mathbb{T} = (T, \eta, \mu)$  is *idempotent* if  $\mu$  is an isomorphism (cf. Question 5).
- (a) Suppose that  $\mathcal{D}$  is a reflective subcategory of  $\mathcal{C}$  (i.e. the inclusion has a left adjoint). Show that the monad  $\mathbb{T}_{\mathcal{D}}$  on  $\mathcal{C}$  induced by this adjunction is idempotent.
  - (b) Show that if  $\mathbb{T}$  is idempotent, then the full subcategory  $\text{Fix}(\mathbb{T}) \subseteq \mathcal{C}$ , whose objects are those  $A \in \mathcal{C}$  such that  $\eta_A: A \rightarrow TA$  is an isomorphism, is reflective in  $\mathcal{C}$ .
  - (c) A subcategory  $\mathcal{D} \subseteq \mathcal{C}$  is said to be *replete* if any object which is isomorphic to one in  $\mathcal{D}$  is again in  $\mathcal{D}$ . Show that the assignments

$$\mathbb{T} \longmapsto \text{Fix}(\mathbb{T}) \quad \text{and} \quad (\mathcal{D} \subseteq \mathcal{C}) \longmapsto \mathbb{T}_{\mathcal{D}}$$

induce a bijection between idempotent monads on  $\mathcal{C}$  and reflective, replete subcategories of  $\mathcal{C}$ .

- (d) If  $\mathbb{T}$  is an idempotent monad on  $\mathcal{C}$ , show that a  $\mathbb{T}$ -algebra structure on an object  $A$  is necessarily a two-sided inverse for  $\eta_A$ , and deduce that  $\mathcal{C}^{\mathbb{T}}$  is isomorphic to  $\text{Fix}(\mathbb{T}) \subseteq \mathcal{C}$ .
  - (e) Show also that the Kleisli category  $\mathcal{C}_{\mathbb{T}}$  is equivalent to  $\text{Fix}(\mathbb{T})$ .
- 7.\* Let  $\mathbb{T} = (T, \eta, \mu)$  be a monad on  $\mathcal{C}$ , and let  $\mathcal{D}$  be an arbitrary category. Show that each of the functors  $(F \mapsto T \circ F): [\mathcal{D}, \mathcal{C}] \rightarrow [\mathcal{D}, \mathcal{C}]$  and  $(G \mapsto G \circ T): [\mathcal{C}, \mathcal{D}] \rightarrow [\mathcal{C}, \mathcal{D}]$  carries a monad structure, and that the categories of algebras for these two monads are respectively equivalent to  $[\mathcal{D}, \mathcal{C}^{\mathbb{T}}]$  and to  $[\mathcal{C}_{\mathbb{T}}, \mathcal{D}]$ . [Hint for the second one: show that algebra structures on a functor  $G$  correspond to factorizations of  $G$  through  $F_{\mathbb{T}}: \mathcal{C} \rightarrow \mathcal{C}_{\mathbb{T}}$ .]
7. Recall from Sheet 2 the theories of widgets and chads. Use the Monadicity Theorem to show that **Widget** is monadic over **Set**.
8. Let  $\mathcal{C}$  be a well-powered category and  $\mathbb{T} = (T, \eta, \mu)$  a monad on  $\mathcal{C}$ . Prove that the category  $\mathcal{C}^{\mathbb{T}}$  of  $\mathbb{T}$ -algebras is well-powered.
- 10.\* Prove that the Kleisli category  $\mathcal{C}_{\mathbb{T}}$  is equivalent to the full subcategory of  $\mathcal{C}^{\mathbb{T}}$  given by the free  $\mathbb{T}$ -algebras: those objects  $(A, \alpha)$  which are isomorphic to  $(TB, \mu_B)$  for some  $B \in \text{ob } \mathcal{C}$ .