

# Isomorphisms of Categories

Andrzej Trybulec  
Warsaw University  
Białystok

**Summary.** We continue the development of the category theory basically following [8] (compare also [7]). We define the concept of isomorphic categories and prove basic facts related, e.g. that the Cartesian product of categories is associative up to the isomorphism. We introduce the composition of a functor and a transformation, and of transformation and a functor, and afterwards we define again those concepts for natural transformations. Let us observe, that we have to duplicate those concepts because of the permissiveness: if a functor  $F$  is not naturally transformable to  $G$ , then natural transformation from  $F$  to  $G$  has no fixed meaning, hence we cannot claim that the composition of it with a functor as a transformation results in a natural transformation. We define also the so called horizontal composition of transformations ([8], p. 140, exercise 4.2,5(C)) and prove *interchange law* ([7], p.44). We conclude with the definition of equivalent categories.

MML Identifier: ISOCAT\_1.

WWW: [http://mizar.org/JFM/Vol3/isocat\\_1.html](http://mizar.org/JFM/Vol3/isocat_1.html)

The articles [9], [5], [11], [2], [3], [1], [4], [6], and [10] provide the notation and terminology for this paper.

We use the following convention:  $A, B, C, D$  denote categories,  $F$  denotes a functor from  $A$  to  $B$ , and  $G$  denotes a functor from  $B$  to  $C$ .

One can prove the following propositions:

- (1) For all functions  $F, G$  such that  $F$  is one-to-one and  $G$  is one-to-one holds  $[:F, G:]$  is one-to-one.
- (2)  $\text{rng } \pi_1(A \times B) = \text{the morphisms of } A$  and  $\text{rng } \pi_2(B \times A) = \text{the morphisms of } A$ .
- (3) For every morphism  $f$  of  $A$  such that  $f$  is invertible holds  $F(f)$  is invertible.
- (4) For every functor  $F$  from  $A$  to  $B$  and for every functor  $G$  from  $B$  to  $A$  holds  $F \cdot \text{id}_A = F$  and  $\text{id}_A \cdot G = G$ .
- (7)<sup>1</sup> Let  $F_1, F_2$  be functors from  $A$  to  $B$ . Suppose  $F_1$  is transformable to  $F_2$ . Let  $t$  be a transformation from  $F_1$  to  $F_2$  and  $a$  be an object of  $A$ . Then  $t(a) \in \text{hom}(F_1(a), F_2(a))$ .
- (8) Let  $F_1, F_2$  be functors from  $A$  to  $B$  and  $G_1, G_2$  be functors from  $B$  to  $C$ . Suppose  $F_1$  is transformable to  $F_2$  and  $G_1$  is transformable to  $G_2$ . Then  $G_1 \cdot F_1$  is transformable to  $G_2 \cdot F_2$ .
- (9) Let  $F_1, F_2$  be functors from  $A$  to  $B$ . Suppose  $F_1$  is transformable to  $F_2$ . Let  $t$  be a transformation from  $F_1$  to  $F_2$ . Suppose  $t$  is invertible. Let  $a$  be an object of  $A$ . Then  $F_1(a)$  and  $F_2(a)$  are isomorphic.

---

<sup>1</sup> The propositions (5) and (6) have been removed.

Let us consider  $C, D$ . Let us note that the functor from  $C$  to  $D$  can be characterized by the following (equivalent) condition:

- (Def. 1)(i) For every object  $c$  of  $C$  there exists an object  $d$  of  $D$  such that  $it(id_c) = id_d$ ,  
(ii) for every morphism  $f$  of  $C$  holds  $it(id_{\text{dom}f}) = id_{\text{dom}it(f)}$  and  $it(id_{\text{cod}f}) = id_{\text{cod}it(f)}$ , and  
(iii) for all morphisms  $f, g$  of  $C$  such that  $\text{dom}g = \text{cod}f$  holds  $it(g \cdot f) = it(g) \cdot it(f)$ .

Let us consider  $A$ . Then  $id_A$  is a functor from  $A$  to  $A$ . Let us consider  $B, C$ , let  $F$  be a functor from  $A$  to  $B$ , and let  $G$  be a functor from  $B$  to  $C$ . Then  $G \cdot F$  is a functor from  $A$  to  $C$ .

In the sequel  $o, m$  are sets.

We now state three propositions:

- (10) If  $F$  is an isomorphism, then for every morphism  $g$  of  $B$  there exists a morphism  $f$  of  $A$  such that  $F(f) = g$ .  
(11) If  $F$  is an isomorphism, then for every object  $b$  of  $B$  there exists an object  $a$  of  $A$  such that  $F(a) = b$ .  
(12) If  $F$  is one-to-one, then  $\text{Obj}F$  is one-to-one.

Let us consider  $A, B, F$ . Let us assume that  $F$  is an isomorphism. The functor  $F^{-1}$  yielding a functor from  $B$  to  $A$  is defined as follows:

- (Def. 2)  $F^{-1} = F^{-1}$ .

Let us consider  $A, B, F$ . Let us observe that  $F$  is isomorphic if and only if:

- (Def. 3)  $F$  is one-to-one and  $\text{rng}F = \text{the morphisms of } B$ .

We introduce  $F$  is an isomorphism as a synonym of  $F$  is isomorphic.

Next we state several propositions:

- (13) If  $F$  is an isomorphism, then  $F^{-1}$  is an isomorphism.  
(14) If  $F$  is an isomorphism, then  $(\text{Obj}F)^{-1} = \text{Obj}(F^{-1})$ .  
(15) If  $F$  is an isomorphism, then  $(F^{-1})^{-1} = F$ .  
(16) If  $F$  is an isomorphism, then  $F \cdot F^{-1} = id_B$  and  $F^{-1} \cdot F = id_A$ .  
(17) If  $F$  is an isomorphism and  $G$  is an isomorphism, then  $G \cdot F$  is an isomorphism.

Let us consider  $A, B$ . We say that  $A$  and  $B$  are isomorphic if and only if:

- (Def. 4) There exists a functor from  $A$  to  $B$  which is an isomorphism.

Let us notice that the predicate  $A$  and  $B$  are isomorphic is reflexive and symmetric. We introduce  $A \cong B$  as a synonym of  $A$  and  $B$  are isomorphic.

One can prove the following propositions:

- (20)<sup>2</sup> If  $A \cong B$  and  $B \cong C$ , then  $A \cong C$ .  
(21)  $[\dot{\circ}(o, m), A] \cong A$ .  
(22)  $[A, B] \cong [B, A]$ .  
(23)  $[[A, B], C] \cong [A, [B, C]]$ .  
(24) If  $A \cong B$  and  $C \cong D$ , then  $[A, C] \cong [B, D]$ .

<sup>2</sup> The propositions (18) and (19) have been removed.

Let us consider  $A, B, C$  and let  $F_1, F_2$  be functors from  $A$  to  $B$ . Let us assume that  $F_1$  is transformable to  $F_2$ . Let  $t$  be a transformation from  $F_1$  to  $F_2$  and let  $G$  be a functor from  $B$  to  $C$ . The functor  $G \cdot t$  yielding a transformation from  $G \cdot F_1$  to  $G \cdot F_2$  is defined by:

(Def. 5)  $G \cdot t = G \cdot t$ .

Let us consider  $A, B, C$  and let  $G_1, G_2$  be functors from  $B$  to  $C$ . Let us assume that  $G_1$  is transformable to  $G_2$ . Let  $F$  be a functor from  $A$  to  $B$  and let  $t$  be a transformation from  $G_1$  to  $G_2$ . The functor  $t \cdot F$  yields a transformation from  $G_1 \cdot F$  to  $G_2 \cdot F$  and is defined by:

(Def. 6)  $t \cdot F = t \cdot \text{Obj } F$ .

We now state three propositions:

(25) Let  $G_1, G_2$  be functors from  $B$  to  $C$ . Suppose  $G_1$  is transformable to  $G_2$ . Let  $F$  be a functor from  $A$  to  $B$ ,  $t$  be a transformation from  $G_1$  to  $G_2$ , and  $a$  be an object of  $A$ . Then  $(t \cdot F)(a) = t(F(a))$ .

(26) Let  $F_1, F_2$  be functors from  $A$  to  $B$ . Suppose  $F_1$  is transformable to  $F_2$ . Let  $t$  be a transformation from  $F_1$  to  $F_2$ ,  $G$  be a functor from  $B$  to  $C$ , and  $a$  be an object of  $A$ . Then  $(G \cdot t)(a) = G(t(a))$ .

(27) Let  $F_1, F_2$  be functors from  $A$  to  $B$  and  $G_1, G_2$  be functors from  $B$  to  $C$ . Suppose  $F_1$  is naturally transformable to  $F_2$  and  $G_1$  is naturally transformable to  $G_2$ . Then  $G_1 \cdot F_1$  is naturally transformable to  $G_2 \cdot F_2$ .

Let us consider  $A, B, C$  and let  $F_1, F_2$  be functors from  $A$  to  $B$ . Let us assume that  $F_1$  is naturally transformable to  $F_2$ . Let  $t$  be a natural transformation from  $F_1$  to  $F_2$  and let  $G$  be a functor from  $B$  to  $C$ . The functor  $G \cdot t$  yields a natural transformation from  $G \cdot F_1$  to  $G \cdot F_2$  and is defined as follows:

(Def. 7)  $G \cdot t = G \cdot t$ .

The following proposition is true

(28) Let  $F_1, F_2$  be functors from  $A$  to  $B$ . Suppose  $F_1$  is naturally transformable to  $F_2$ . Let  $t$  be a natural transformation from  $F_1$  to  $F_2$ ,  $G$  be a functor from  $B$  to  $C$ , and  $a$  be an object of  $A$ . Then  $(G \cdot t)(a) = G(t(a))$ .

Let us consider  $A, B, C$  and let  $G_1, G_2$  be functors from  $B$  to  $C$ . Let us assume that  $G_1$  is naturally transformable to  $G_2$ . Let  $F$  be a functor from  $A$  to  $B$  and let  $t$  be a natural transformation from  $G_1$  to  $G_2$ . The functor  $t \cdot F$  yielding a natural transformation from  $G_1 \cdot F$  to  $G_2 \cdot F$  is defined as follows:

(Def. 8)  $t \cdot F = t \cdot F$ .

We now state the proposition

(29) Let  $G_1, G_2$  be functors from  $B$  to  $C$ . Suppose  $G_1$  is naturally transformable to  $G_2$ . Let  $F$  be a functor from  $A$  to  $B$ ,  $t$  be a natural transformation from  $G_1$  to  $G_2$ , and  $a$  be an object of  $A$ . Then  $(t \cdot F)(a) = t(F(a))$ .

For simplicity, we adopt the following convention:  $F, F_1, F_2, F_3$  are functors from  $A$  to  $B$ ,  $G, G_1, G_2, G_3$  are functors from  $B$  to  $C$ ,  $H, H_1, H_2$  are functors from  $C$  to  $D$ ,  $s$  is a natural transformation from  $F_1$  to  $F_2$ ,  $s'$  is a natural transformation from  $F_2$  to  $F_3$ ,  $t$  is a natural transformation from  $G_1$  to  $G_2$ ,  $t'$  is a natural transformation from  $G_2$  to  $G_3$ , and  $u$  is a natural transformation from  $H_1$  to  $H_2$ .

We now state a number of propositions:

(30) If  $F_1$  is naturally transformable to  $F_2$ , then for every object  $a$  of  $A$  holds  $\text{hom}(F_1(a), F_2(a)) \neq \emptyset$ .

(31) Suppose  $F_1$  is naturally transformable to  $F_2$ . Let  $t_1, t_2$  be natural transformations from  $F_1$  to  $F_2$ . If for every object  $a$  of  $A$  holds  $t_1(a) = t_2(a)$ , then  $t_1 = t_2$ .

- (32) If  $F_1$  is naturally transformable to  $F_2$  and  $F_2$  is naturally transformable to  $F_3$ , then  $G \cdot (s' \circ s) = G \cdot s' \circ G \cdot s$ .
- (33) If  $G_1$  is naturally transformable to  $G_2$  and  $G_2$  is naturally transformable to  $G_3$ , then  $(t' \circ t) \cdot F = t' \cdot F \circ t \cdot F$ .
- (34) If  $H_1$  is naturally transformable to  $H_2$ , then  $(u \cdot G) \cdot F = u \cdot (G \cdot F)$ .
- (35) If  $G_1$  is naturally transformable to  $G_2$ , then  $(H \cdot t) \cdot F = H \cdot (t \cdot F)$ .
- (36) If  $F_1$  is naturally transformable to  $F_2$ , then  $(H \cdot G) \cdot s = H \cdot (G \cdot s)$ .
- (37)  $\text{id}_G \cdot F = \text{id}_{G \cdot F}$ .
- (38)  $G \cdot \text{id}_F = \text{id}_{G \cdot F}$ .
- (39) If  $G_1$  is naturally transformable to  $G_2$ , then  $t \cdot \text{id}_B = t$ .
- (40) If  $F_1$  is naturally transformable to  $F_2$ , then  $\text{id}_B \cdot s = s$ .

Let us consider  $A, B, C, F_1, F_2, G_1, G_2$  and let us consider  $s, t$ . The functor  $t s$  yields a natural transformation from  $G_1 \cdot F_1$  to  $G_2 \cdot F_2$  and is defined by:

(Def. 9)  $t s = t \cdot F_2 \circ G_1 \cdot s$ .

The following propositions are true:

- (41) If  $F_1$  is naturally transformable to  $F_2$  and  $G_1$  is naturally transformable to  $G_2$ , then  $t s = G_2 \cdot s \circ t \cdot F_1$ .
- (42) If  $F_1$  is naturally transformable to  $F_2$ , then  $\text{id}_{\text{id}_B} s = s$ .
- (43) If  $G_1$  is naturally transformable to  $G_2$ , then  $t \text{id}_{\text{id}_B} = t$ .
- (44) Suppose  $F_1$  is naturally transformable to  $F_2$  and  $G_1$  is naturally transformable to  $G_2$  and  $H_1$  is naturally transformable to  $H_2$ . Then  $u(t s) = (u t) s$ .
- (45) If  $G_1$  is naturally transformable to  $G_2$ , then  $t \cdot F = t \text{id}_F$ .
- (46) If  $F_1$  is naturally transformable to  $F_2$ , then  $G \cdot s = \text{id}_G s$ .
- (47) Suppose that
- (i)  $F_1$  is naturally transformable to  $F_2$ ,
  - (ii)  $F_2$  is naturally transformable to  $F_3$ ,
  - (iii)  $G_1$  is naturally transformable to  $G_2$ , and
  - (iv)  $G_2$  is naturally transformable to  $G_3$ .
- Then  $(t' \circ t)(s' \circ s) = t' s' \circ t s$ .
- (48) Let  $F$  be a functor from  $A$  to  $B$ ,  $G$  be a functor from  $C$  to  $D$ , and  $I, J$  be functors from  $B$  to  $C$ . If  $I \cong J$ , then  $G \cdot I \cong G \cdot J$  and  $I \cdot F \cong J \cdot F$ .
- (49) Let  $F$  be a functor from  $A$  to  $B$ ,  $G$  be a functor from  $B$  to  $A$ , and  $I$  be a functor from  $A$  to  $A$ . If  $I \cong \text{id}_A$ , then  $F \cdot I \cong F$  and  $I \cdot G \cong G$ .

Let  $A, B$  be categories. We say that  $A$  is equivalent with  $B$  if and only if:

(Def. 10) There exists a functor  $F$  from  $A$  to  $B$  and there exists a functor  $G$  from  $B$  to  $A$  such that  $G \cdot F \cong \text{id}_A$  and  $F \cdot G \cong \text{id}_B$ .

Let us notice that the predicate  $A$  is equivalent with  $B$  is reflexive and symmetric. We introduce  $A$  and  $B$  are equivalent as a synonym of  $A$  is equivalent with  $B$ .

Next we state two propositions:

(50) If  $A \cong B$ , then  $A$  is equivalent with  $B$ .

(53)<sup>3</sup> If  $A$  and  $B$  are equivalent and  $B$  and  $C$  are equivalent, then  $A$  and  $C$  are equivalent.

Let us consider  $A, B$ . Let us assume that  $A$  and  $B$  are equivalent. A functor from  $A$  to  $B$  is said to be an equivalence of  $A$  and  $B$  if:

(Def. 11) There exists a functor  $G$  from  $B$  to  $A$  such that  $G \cdot \text{id}_A \cong \text{id}_B$  and  $\text{id}_A \cdot G \cong \text{id}_B$ .

Next we state several propositions:

(54)  $\text{id}_A$  is an equivalence of  $A$  and  $A$ .

(55) Suppose  $A$  and  $B$  are equivalent and  $B$  and  $C$  are equivalent. Let  $F$  be an equivalence of  $A$  and  $B$  and  $G$  be an equivalence of  $B$  and  $C$ . Then  $G \cdot F$  is an equivalence of  $A$  and  $C$ .

(56) Suppose  $A$  and  $B$  are equivalent. Let  $F$  be an equivalence of  $A$  and  $B$ . Then there exists an equivalence  $G$  of  $B$  and  $A$  such that  $G \cdot F \cong \text{id}_A$  and  $F \cdot G \cong \text{id}_B$ .

(57) For every functor  $F$  from  $A$  to  $B$  and for every functor  $G$  from  $B$  to  $A$  such that  $G \cdot F \cong \text{id}_A$  holds  $F$  is faithful.

(58) Suppose  $A$  and  $B$  are equivalent. Let  $F$  be an equivalence of  $A$  and  $B$ . Then

(i)  $F$  is full and faithful, and

(ii) for every object  $b$  of  $B$  there exists an object  $a$  of  $A$  such that  $b$  and  $F(a)$  are isomorphic.

#### REFERENCES

- [1] Czesław Byliński. Basic functions and operations on functions. *Journal of Formalized Mathematics*, 1, 1989. [http://mizar.org/JFM/Vol1/funct\\_3.html](http://mizar.org/JFM/Vol1/funct_3.html).
- [2] Czesław Byliński. Functions and their basic properties. *Journal of Formalized Mathematics*, 1, 1989. [http://mizar.org/JFM/Vol1/funct\\_1.html](http://mizar.org/JFM/Vol1/funct_1.html).
- [3] Czesław Byliński. Functions from a set to a set. *Journal of Formalized Mathematics*, 1, 1989. [http://mizar.org/JFM/Vol1/funct\\_2.html](http://mizar.org/JFM/Vol1/funct_2.html).
- [4] Czesław Byliński. Introduction to categories and functors. *Journal of Formalized Mathematics*, 1, 1989. [http://mizar.org/JFM/Vol1/cat\\_1.html](http://mizar.org/JFM/Vol1/cat_1.html).
- [5] Czesław Byliński. Some basic properties of sets. *Journal of Formalized Mathematics*, 1, 1989. [http://mizar.org/JFM/Vol1/zfmisc\\_1.html](http://mizar.org/JFM/Vol1/zfmisc_1.html).
- [6] Czesław Byliński. Subcategories and products of categories. *Journal of Formalized Mathematics*, 2, 1990. [http://mizar.org/JFM/Vol2/cat\\_2.html](http://mizar.org/JFM/Vol2/cat_2.html).
- [7] Saunders Mac Lane. *Categories for the Working Mathematician*, volume 5 of *Graduate Texts in Mathematics*. Springer Verlag, New York, Heidelberg, Berlin, 1971.
- [8] Zbigniew Semadeni and Antoni Wiweger. *Wstęp do teorii kategorii i funktorów*, volume 45 of *Biblioteka Matematyczna*. PWN, Warszawa, 1978.
- [9] Andrzej Trybulec. Tarski Grothendieck set theory. *Journal of Formalized Mathematics*, Axiomatics, 1989. <http://mizar.org/JFM/Axiomatics/tarski.html>.
- [10] Andrzej Trybulec. Natural transformations. Discrete categories. *Journal of Formalized Mathematics*, 3, 1991. [http://mizar.org/JFM/Vol3/nattra\\_1.html](http://mizar.org/JFM/Vol3/nattra_1.html).
- [11] Edmund Woronowicz. Relations and their basic properties. *Journal of Formalized Mathematics*, 1, 1989. [http://mizar.org/JFM/Vol1/relat\\_1.html](http://mizar.org/JFM/Vol1/relat_1.html).

Received November 22, 1991

Published January 2, 2004

---

<sup>3</sup> The propositions (51) and (52) have been removed.