

# Topos Theory - Solutions to Exercise Sheet 2

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1. For arbitrary elements  $a, b, c$  of a distributive lattice, we have

$$\begin{aligned}
 (a \vee b) \wedge (a \vee c) &= ((a \vee b) \wedge a) \vee ((a \vee b) \wedge c) && \text{(by distributivity)} \\
 &= a \vee ((a \vee b) \wedge c) && \text{(since } a \leq a \vee b) \\
 &= a \vee (a \wedge c) \vee (b \wedge c) && \text{(by distributivity)} \\
 &= a \vee (b \wedge c), && \text{(since } a \wedge c \leq a),
 \end{aligned}$$

which shows that the dual distributive law also holds.

2. Recall that  $u \Rightarrow v$  is defined such that for every element  $c$  we have  $c \wedge u \leq v \iff c \leq u \Rightarrow v$ . In particular,  $c \wedge x = 0 \iff c \leq \neg x$ . Since  $a \wedge x = 0$ , we immediately get that  $a \leq \neg x$ . For the other inequality, notice that it holds if and only if  $c \leq \neg x$  implies  $c \leq a$  for every element  $c$ . So let  $c$  be an arbitrary element with  $c \leq \neg x$ . Then  $c \wedge x = 0$  holds by definition of the Heyting implication. We show that  $c \leq a$  holds by proving that  $a \vee c = a$ . Note:

$$\begin{aligned}
 a \vee c &= a \vee (c \wedge 1) \\
 &= a \vee (c \wedge (x \vee a)) \\
 &= a \vee ((c \wedge x) \vee (c \wedge a)) && \text{(by distributivity)} \\
 &= a \vee (0 \vee (c \wedge a)) \\
 &= a \vee (c \wedge a) \\
 &= (a \vee c) \wedge (a \vee a) && \text{(by dual distributivity)} \\
 &= (a \vee c) \wedge a \\
 &= a,
 \end{aligned}$$

as we wished to show.

3. (a) Let  $f: X \rightarrow A$  and  $g: X \rightarrow B$  be monomorphisms and let  $u, v: Y \rightarrow X$  be arbitrary parallel arrows satisfying  $(f, g) \circ u = (f, g) \circ v$ . We must show that  $u = v$ . But  $(f, g) \circ u = (f, g) \circ v$  implies  $f \circ u = \pi_1 \circ (f, g) \circ u = \pi_1 \circ (f, g) \circ v = f \circ v$ , which yields  $u = v$ , as  $f$  is mono.

NB: Note that the above show that it suffices for just one of  $f$  and  $g$  to be a mono.

- (b) We start by labelling the arrows.

$$\begin{array}{ccc}
 A & \xrightarrow{a} & B \\
 b \downarrow & & \downarrow c \\
 C & \xrightarrow{d} & D
 \end{array}
 \qquad
 \begin{array}{ccc}
 X & \xrightarrow{x} & Y \\
 y \downarrow & & \downarrow z \\
 Z & \xrightarrow{w} & W
 \end{array}$$

Suppose that we have arrows  $f: E \rightarrow B \times Y$  and  $g: E \rightarrow C \times Z$  such that the equality  $(c, z) \circ f = (d, w) \circ g$  holds. We must show that there is a unique dashed arrow making the diagram

$$\begin{array}{ccc}
 E & \xrightarrow{f} & B \times Y \\
 \downarrow g & \dashrightarrow & \downarrow (c, z) \\
 A \times X & \xrightarrow{(a, x)} & B \times Y \\
 \downarrow (b, y) & & \downarrow (c, z) \\
 C \times Z & \xrightarrow{(d, w)} & D \times W
 \end{array}$$

commute. Since  $(c, z) \circ f = (d, w) \circ g$ , we have

$$(c \circ \pi_1 \circ f, z \circ \pi_2 \circ f) = (d \circ \pi_1 \circ g, w \circ \pi_2 \circ g),$$

and therefore,

$$c \circ \pi_1 \circ f = d \circ \pi_1 \circ g \quad \text{and} \quad z \circ \pi_2 \circ f = w \circ \pi_2 \circ g.$$

Hence, we obtain unique arrows  $k$  and  $l$  making the diagrams

$$\begin{array}{ccc}
 E & \xrightarrow{\pi_1 \circ f} & B \\
 \downarrow \pi_1 \circ g & \dashrightarrow k & \downarrow c \\
 A & \xrightarrow{a} & B \\
 \downarrow b & & \downarrow c \\
 C & \xrightarrow{d} & D
 \end{array}
 \qquad
 \begin{array}{ccc}
 E & \xrightarrow{\pi_2 \circ f} & Y \\
 \downarrow \pi_2 \circ g & \dashrightarrow l & \downarrow z \\
 X & \xrightarrow{x} & Y \\
 \downarrow y & & \downarrow z \\
 Z & \xrightarrow{w} & W
 \end{array}$$

commute. Finally,  $(a, x) \circ (k, l) = (a \circ k, x \circ l) = (\pi_1 \circ f, \pi_2 \circ f) = f$  and similarly, we get  $(b, y) \circ (k, l) = g$ . Moreover,  $(k, l)$  is the unique such map, because suppose that  $h = (h_1, h_2): E \rightarrow A \times X$  is another such map, then  $\pi_1 \circ f = a \circ h_1$  and  $\pi_1 \circ g = b \circ h_1$ , so that  $h_1 = k$  by the uniqueness of  $k$ . Similarly, one proves that  $h_2 = l$ , and hence that  $h = (k, l)$ , finishing the proof.

- (c) We define  $\wedge: \Omega \times \Omega \rightarrow \Omega$  to be the classifying map of  $(\text{true}, \text{true}): 1 \rightarrow \Omega \times \Omega$ , which is a monomorphism by part (a). Now let  $U \rightarrow 1$  and  $V \rightarrow 1$  be arbitrary subterminals. By part (b), the square

$$\begin{array}{ccc}
 U \times V & \longrightarrow & 1 \times 1 \cong 1 \\
 \downarrow & & \downarrow \text{true} \\
 1 \times 1 \cong 1 & \xrightarrow{(\chi_U, \chi_V)} & \Omega
 \end{array}$$

is a pullback. Hence, by pullback pasting the outer rectangle in

$$\begin{array}{ccccc}
 U \times V & \longrightarrow & 1 & \xlongequal{\quad} & 1 \\
 \downarrow & & \downarrow (\text{true}, \text{true}) & & \downarrow \text{true} \\
 1 & \xrightarrow{(\chi_U, \chi_V)} & \Omega \times \Omega & \xrightarrow{\wedge} & \Omega
 \end{array}$$

is a pullback too, which proves that  $\wedge \circ (\chi_U, \chi_V)$  classifies  $U \times V$  as a subobject of  $1$ .

4. We sketch the constructions, but omit the verifications. We define the morphism  $\vee: \Omega \times \Omega \rightarrow \Omega$  to be the classifying map of the join of the subobjects  $\Omega \xrightarrow{(\text{id}_\Omega, \text{true}_\Omega)} \Omega \times \Omega$  and  $\Omega \xrightarrow{(\text{true}_\Omega, \text{id}_\Omega)} \Omega \times \Omega$ . We define the morphism  $\Rightarrow: \Omega \times \Omega \rightarrow \Omega$  to be the classifying map of the equalizer of  $\Omega \times \Omega \xrightarrow[\pi_1]{\vee} \Omega$ .

5. (a) We start by defining a functor  $\chi_-: \text{Mono}(\mathcal{E}) \rightarrow \mathcal{E}/\Omega$  which sends an object  $m: A \rightarrow B$  of  $\text{Mono}(\mathcal{E})$  to its classifying map  $\chi_m: B \rightarrow \Omega$ . On morphisms, we send a pullback square

$$\begin{array}{ccc} A & \xrightarrow{f} & X \\ m \downarrow & & \downarrow n \\ B & \xrightarrow{g} & Y \end{array}$$

to

$$\begin{array}{ccc} B & \xrightarrow{g} & Y \\ \chi_m \searrow & & \swarrow \chi_n \\ & \Omega & \end{array}$$

where we need to check that the triangle commutes, i.e. that  $\chi_n \circ g = \chi_m$ . But this follows from the uniqueness of classifying maps and the fact that the outer rectangle in the diagram

$$\begin{array}{ccccc} A & \xrightarrow{f} & X & \longrightarrow & 1 \\ m \downarrow & & \downarrow n & & \downarrow \text{true} \\ B & \xrightarrow{g} & Y & \xrightarrow{\chi_n} & \Omega \end{array}$$

is a pullback, which is true because the left and right squares are pullbacks.

In the other direction, we define a functor  $\widetilde{(-)}: \mathcal{E}/\Omega \rightarrow \text{Mono}(\mathcal{E})$ . Given an object  $\varphi: X \rightarrow \Omega$  of  $\mathcal{E}/\Omega$ , we send it to the mono  $\widetilde{\varphi}: \widetilde{X} \rightarrow \widetilde{Y}$  given by pulling  $\varphi$  back along  $\text{true}: 1 \rightarrow \Omega$ . Given a morphism

$$\begin{array}{ccc} X & \xrightarrow{f} & Y \\ \varphi \searrow & & \swarrow \psi \\ & \Omega & \end{array}$$

in the slice category  $\mathcal{E}/\Omega$ , we send it to the pullback square

$$\begin{array}{ccc} \widetilde{X} & \xrightarrow{\widetilde{f}} & \widetilde{Y} \\ \widetilde{\varphi} \downarrow & & \downarrow \widetilde{\psi} \\ X & \xrightarrow{\varphi} & Y \end{array} \quad (\dagger)$$

where  $\bar{f}$  is the unique dashed map making the diagram

$$\begin{array}{ccccc}
 \tilde{X} & & & & \\
 \downarrow \bar{f} & \searrow & & & \\
 \tilde{Y} & \longrightarrow & 1 & & \\
 \downarrow \tilde{\psi} & & \downarrow \text{true} & & \\
 Y & \xrightarrow{\psi} & \Omega & & \\
 \uparrow f \circ \tilde{\varphi} & & & & \\
 \tilde{X} & & & & 
 \end{array}$$

commute. Notice that the square  $(\dagger)$  is indeed a pullback, because the outer rectangle and right hand square in the diagram

$$\begin{array}{ccccc}
 \tilde{X} & \xrightarrow{\bar{f}} & \tilde{Y} & \longrightarrow & 1 \\
 \downarrow \tilde{\varphi} & & \downarrow \tilde{\psi} & & \downarrow \text{true} \\
 X & \xrightarrow{\varphi} & Y & \xrightarrow{\psi} & \Omega
 \end{array}$$

are both pullbacks.

We omit the verification that these functors constitute an equivalence.

- (b) Topoi have finite colimits, so in particular  $\mathcal{E}/\Omega$  has finite colimits. But  $\text{Mono}(\mathcal{E})$  and  $\mathcal{E}/\Omega$  are equivalent categories, so  $\text{Mono}(\mathcal{E})$  has finite colimits too.
- (c) Once again we only provide a sketch of the proof. Note that the diagram

$$\begin{array}{ccccc}
 B & \longleftarrow & A & \longrightarrow & C \\
 \downarrow g & & \downarrow f & & \downarrow h \\
 F & \longleftarrow & E & \longrightarrow & G
 \end{array}$$

consists of two pullback squares, so we can consider its pushout in  $\text{Mono}(\mathcal{E})$ , which we denote by  $\sigma: S \rightarrow T$ . As part of the pushout property, we get pullback squares

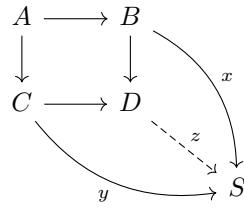
$$\begin{array}{ccc}
 B \xrightarrow{x} S & & C \xrightarrow{y} S \\
 \downarrow g & & \downarrow h \\
 F \longrightarrow T & & G \longrightarrow T
 \end{array} \quad (\ddagger)$$

Now given  $u: X \rightarrow D$  and  $v: X \rightarrow G$  making

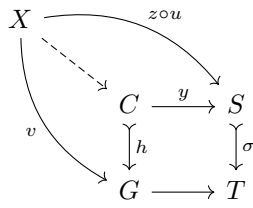
$$\begin{array}{ccccc}
 X & & & & \\
 \downarrow u & \searrow & & & \\
 & & C & \longrightarrow & D \\
 & & \downarrow h & & \downarrow k \\
 & & G & \longrightarrow & H
 \end{array} \quad (\star)$$

commute, we describe how to construct a map  $X \rightarrow C$  which fits the diagram. From

the fact that the top square is a pushout, we get the dashed map  $z$  making



commute, where the maps  $x$  and  $y$  are as in  $(\ddagger)$ . Finally, we use the right hand pullback square in  $(\ddagger)$  to get a map from  $X$  to  $C$  as the unique dashed map making the diagram



commute. We omit the verification that the dashed map makes the diagram  $(\star)$  commute and that it is the unique map to do so.