

# Structural Set Theory in Foundations

The Elementary Theory of the Category of Sets  
(ETCS)

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# Introduction

“is  $3 \in \mathbb{N}$ ?”

“is  $3 \in \mathbb{N}$ ?” ✓

“is  $0 \in \mathbb{N}$ ?”

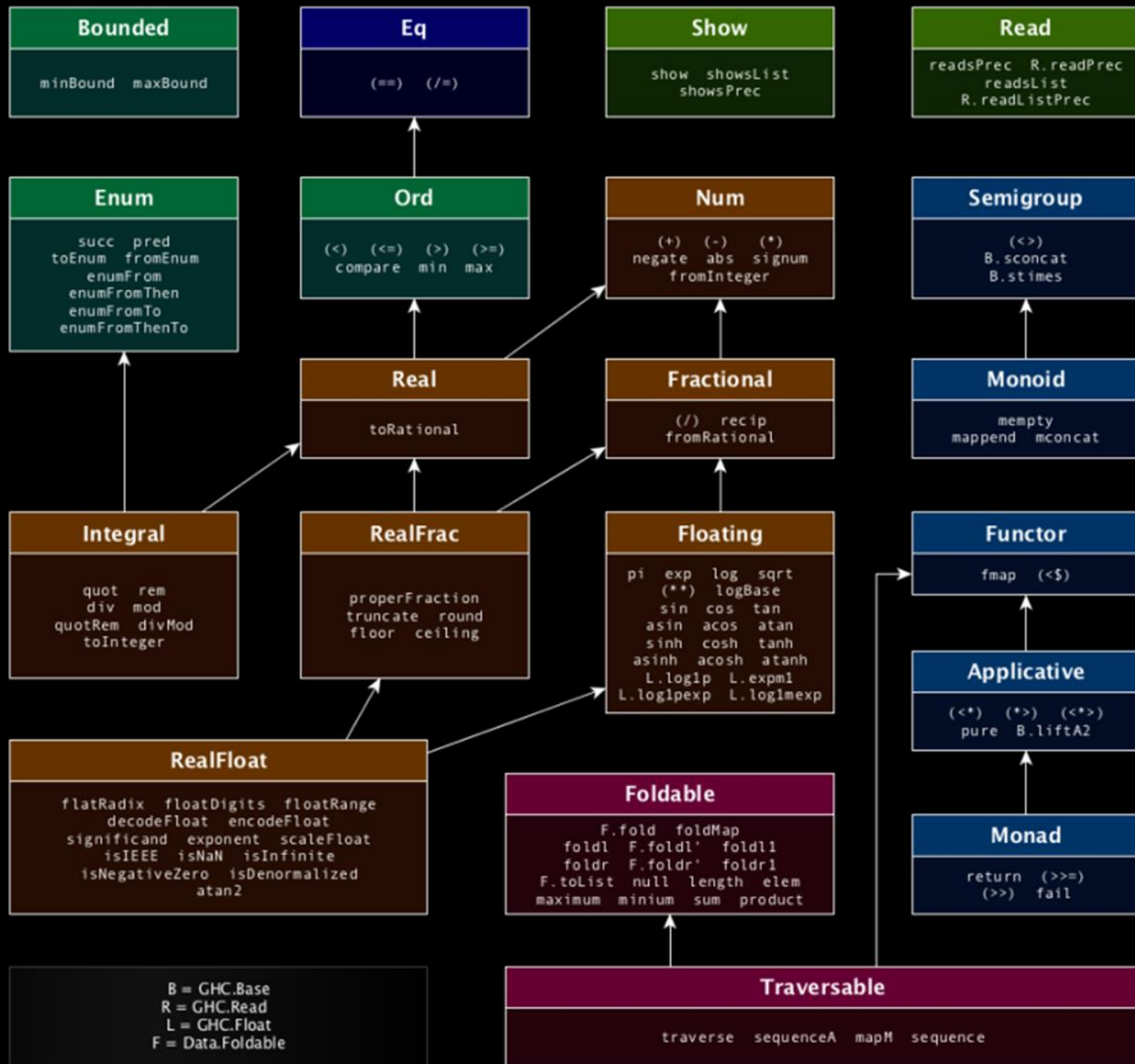
“is  $0 \in \mathbb{N}$ ?” ✓

“is  $\sqrt{2} \in \mathbb{Q}$ ?”

“is  $\sqrt{2} \in \mathbb{Q}$ ?” ~~X~~



“is  $\pi \in \log$ ?”



- Is  $[0,1]$  closed?
- Is  $\mathbb{Z}$  a group?
- What is the fundamental group of  $\mathbb{R} \setminus \{0\}$ ?
- What is the Fourier series of  $\sin(x) + \sin(\pi x)$ ?

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- What is the Fourier series of  $\sin(x) + \sin(\pi x)$ ?
- Is a rectangle prime?
- Is  $\mathbb{3}$  surjective?
- Does a prime converge?

*A · B*

# $A \cdot B$

$$A, B : \text{Int} \quad A \cdot B := A \cdot_{\mathbb{Z}} B$$

$$A, B : \text{Matrix} \quad A \cdot B := \sum a_{ij} b_{jk}$$

$$A, B : \text{Tuple} \quad A \cdot B := [a_1, a_2, \dots, b_1, b_2, \dots]$$

$$A, B : \text{Path} \quad A \cdot B := t \mapsto \begin{cases} A(2t) & t \in [0, 1/2] \\ B(2t - 1) & t \in [1/2, 1] \end{cases}$$

⋮

⋮

In ZFC:

Everything is a set

In ZFC:

$\in$  is a global relation on sets, so

$$A \in B$$

is a well-formed proposition  
for all sets  $A, B$ .



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ZFC is *single-sorted*

# Axiom of Regularity (ZFC):

*Every non-empty set  $X$  has an element  $x$  disjoint from itself:*

$$\forall X (X \neq \emptyset \rightarrow \exists x (x \in X \wedge x \cap X = \emptyset))$$

# Axiom of Regularity (ZFC):

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Is  $3 \cap \mathbb{R}$  empty?

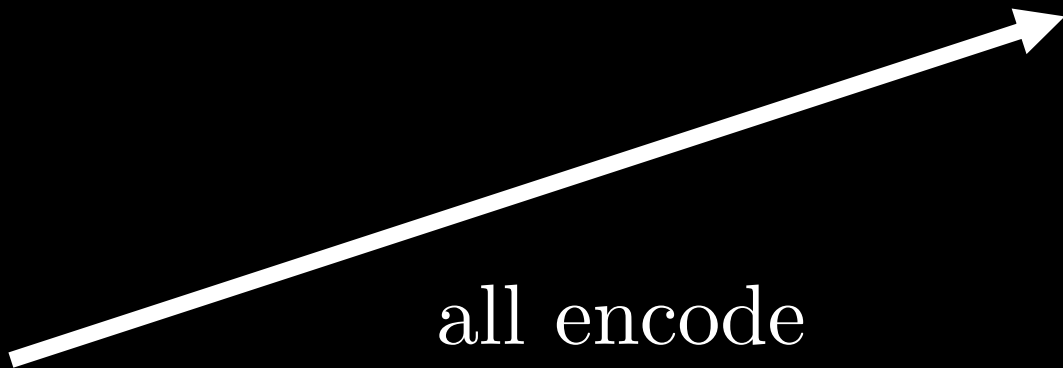
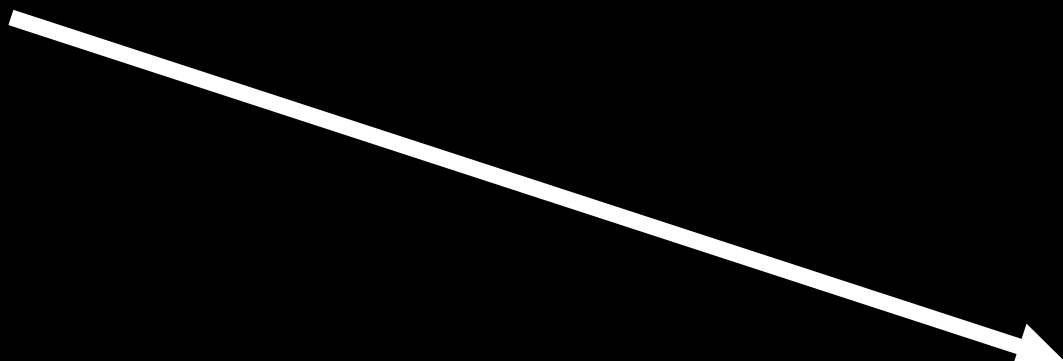
What does an element of this even look like?

ZFC also includes a set of  
standard encodings of  
mathematical objects

$\mathbb{R}$

$\log$

$\pi$

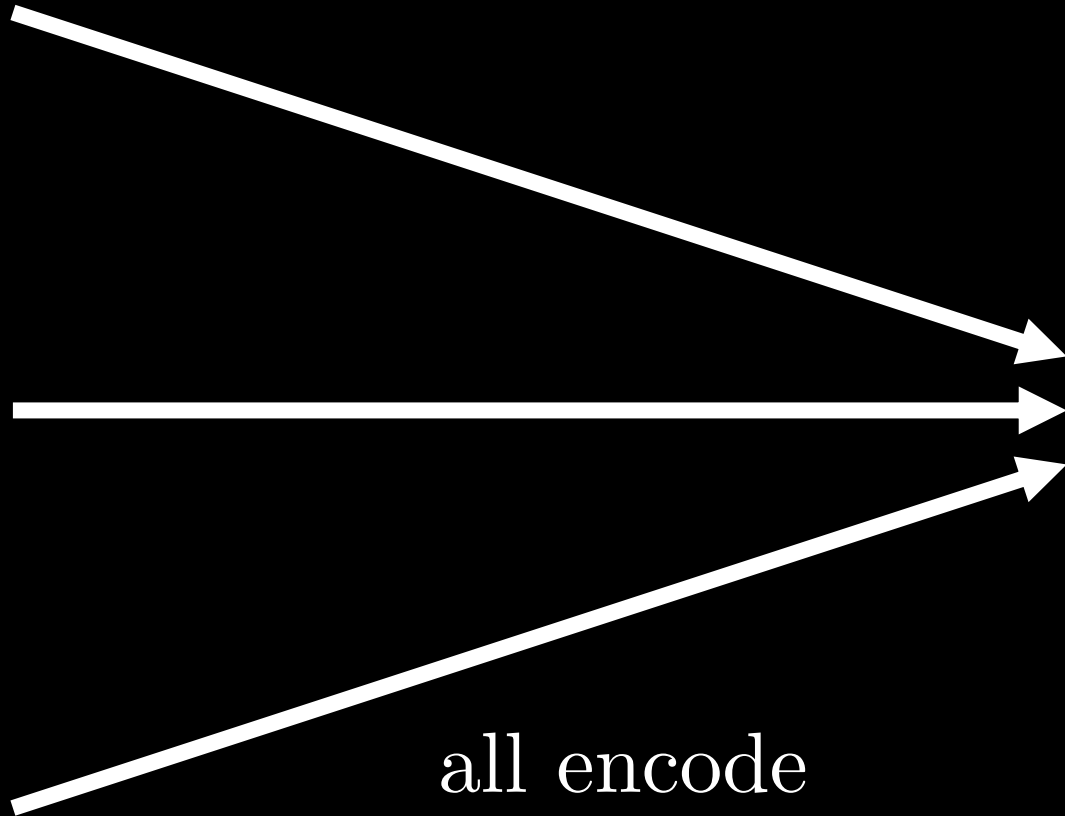


$\{\dots\}$

to pure sets

all encode

Different objects



$\{0, 1\}^*$   
to binary strings.

all encode

Different files

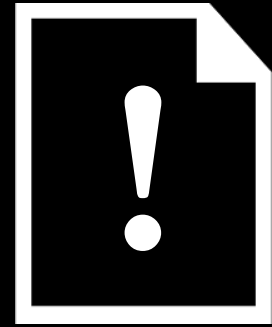


$\{0, 1\}^*$

Image file



Decoding as text

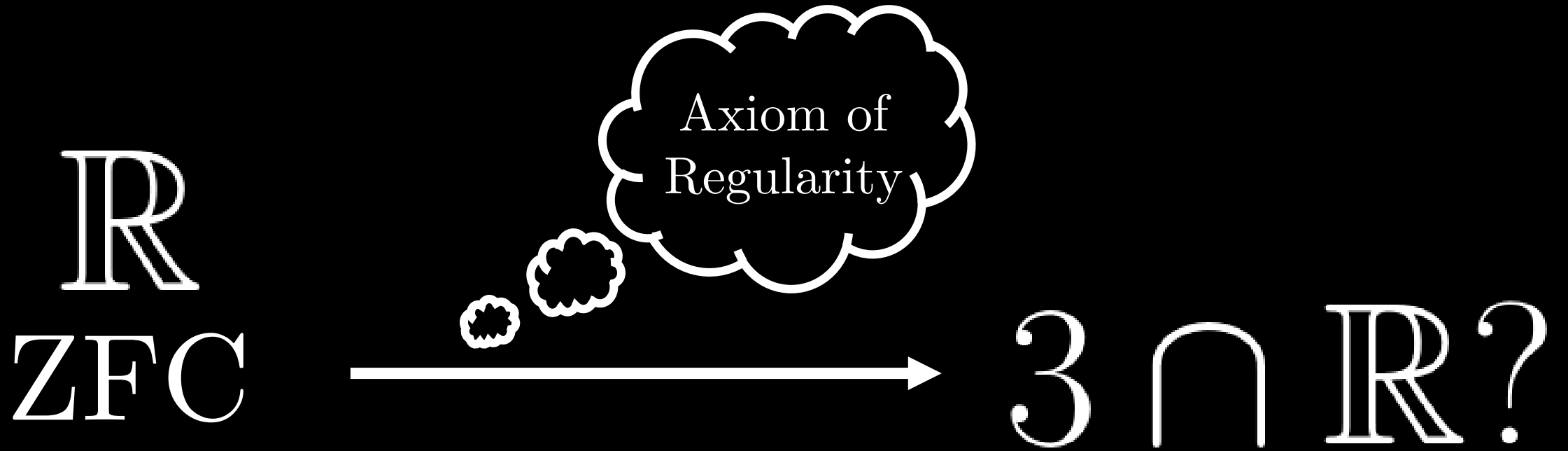


Mojibake





Using the wrong encodings result in meaningless outputs, but that doesn't mean files/encodings are useless.



Some of the axioms/encodings result in meaningless questions, but that doesn't mean sets/encodings are useless.

“is  $3 \in 17$ ?”

$N$

The (set of) *natural numbers*

0

The natural number *zero*

$$S : \mathbb{N} \rightarrow \mathbb{N}$$

The *successor function*

$$s(n) := n \cup \{n\}$$

The *successor function*

# The “vulgar” way

---

*counting*

*addition*

*less-than*

# Axiomatic foundations

---

cardinality

simple recursion

well-ordering



*N, 0, s*

“is  $3 \in 17$ ?”

$$\mathcal{S}_{\text{Johnny}}(n) := n \cup \{n\}$$

$$17 = \{0, 1, 2, \dots, 16\}$$

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$$17 = \{0, 1, 2, \dots, 16\}$$

$$\text{so } 3 \in 17$$

$$\mathcal{S}_{\text{Ernie}}(n) := \{n\}$$

$$17 = \{16\}$$

$$\mathcal{S}_{\text{Ernie}}(n) := \{n\}$$

$$17 = \{16\}$$

so  $3 \notin 17$

**Proposition.** *A set  $X$  has  $n$  elements if and only if there is a bijection between  $X$  and the natural number  $n$ .*

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$$n = \{0, 1, 2, \dots, n - 1\}$$

$$n = \{n - 1\}$$



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True for Johnny...

**Proposition.** *A set  $X$  has  $n$  elements if and only if there is a bijection between  $X$  and the natural number  $n$ .*

$$s_{\text{Johnny}}(n) := n \cup \{n\}$$

$$s_{\text{Ernie}}(n) := \{n\}$$

$$n = \{0, 1, 2, \dots, n - 1\}$$

$$n = \{n - 1\}$$

True for Johnny...

but not for Ernie.

$$\mathcal{S}_{\text{Johnny}}(n) := n \cup \{n\}$$

$$\mathcal{S}_{\text{Ernie}}(n) := \{n\}$$

$$\{\emptyset, \{\emptyset\}, \{\emptyset, \{\emptyset\}\}\} = 3 = \{\{\{\emptyset\}\}\}$$

$$\mathcal{S}_{\text{Johnny}}(n) := n \cup \{n\} \quad \mathcal{S}_{\text{Ernie}}(n) := \{n\}$$

At least one of these must be “wrong”...

# Set-theoretic Platonism:

*There is a “true” account; there is a particular set that is the “real” set of natural numbers.*

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*There is a “true” account; there is a particular set that is the “real” set of natural numbers.*

*That is, there is a “correct” assignment of sets to*

$N, 0, S$

*and all other assignments are wrong.*



*“...if the number 3 is really one set rather than another, it must be possible to give some cogent reason for thinking so; for the position that this is an unknowable truth is hardly tenable.*”

*But there seems to be little to choose among the accounts. Relative to our purposes in giving an account of these matters, one will do as well as another, stylistic preferences aside.”*

# Structuralism

A *vector space* over a field,  $K$ , is a set,  $V$ , along with two maps,  $+$  :  $V^2 \rightarrow V$  and  $\cdot$  :  $K \times V \rightarrow V$ , called *vector addition* and *scalar multiplication*, respectively, that satisfies the following axioms for all  $\mathbf{u}, \mathbf{v}, \mathbf{w} \in V$  and  $a, b \in K$ :

(V1)  $(V, +)$  is an abelian group.

(A1)  $\mathbf{u} + \mathbf{v} = \mathbf{v} + \mathbf{u}$  (commutativity of vector addition);

(A2)  $\mathbf{u} + (\mathbf{v} + \mathbf{w}) = (\mathbf{u} + \mathbf{v}) + \mathbf{w}$  (associative of vector addition);

(A3)  $\exists \mathbf{0}_V$  such that  $\mathbf{v} + \mathbf{0}_V = \mathbf{0}_V + \mathbf{v} = \mathbf{v}$  (existence of vector additive identity);

(A4)  $\exists (-\mathbf{v}) \in V$  such that  $\mathbf{v} + (-\mathbf{v}) = (-\mathbf{v}) + \mathbf{v} = \mathbf{0}_V$  (existence of vector addition inverses);

(A5)  $\mathbf{u} + \mathbf{v} \in V$  (closure of vector addition).

(V2)  $a \cdot (\mathbf{u} + \mathbf{v}) = a \cdot \mathbf{u} + b \cdot \mathbf{v}$  (distributivity of scalar multiplication over vector addition);

(V3)  $(a + b) \cdot \mathbf{v} = a \cdot \mathbf{v} + b \cdot \mathbf{v}$  (distributivity of scalar multiplication over field addition);

(V4)  $(ab) \cdot \mathbf{v} = a \cdot (b\mathbf{v})$  (compatibility of scalar multiplication with field multiplication);

(V5)  $1_K \cdot \mathbf{v} = \mathbf{v}$  (existence of scalar multiplicative identity).

# Structural Set Theory

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$$3 \stackrel{?}{=} \{\{\{\emptyset\}\}\}$$

# Structural Set Theory

What is 3?

# Structural Set Theory

What is 3?  $X$



# Structural Set Theory

What are *all* the  
natural numbers?

What is 3?

# Structural Set Theory

What *structure* is the  
natural numbers?

What is 3?

# Structural Set Theory

What *structure* is the  
natural numbers?

What is 3?

# Primitive Notions

# Material Set Theories

axiomatise

Sets

&

Membership

Input object

function



One output

# Material approach:

Represent a function  $f : A \rightarrow B$  as the relation

$$\hat{f} = \{(a, b) : b \text{ is the } f\text{-image of } a\} \subseteq A \times B$$

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Represent a function  $f : A \rightarrow B$  as the relation

$$\hat{f} = \{(a, b) : b \text{ is the } f\text{-image of } a\} \subseteq A \times B$$

Conversely, a relation  $R$  satisfies the property that

$$((x, y) \in R \wedge (x, z) \in R) \rightarrow y = z$$

then  $R$  is the representation of some function.



# Material approach:

A function *is* a relation  $R$  satisfies the property that

$$\left( (x, y) \in R \wedge (x, z) \in R \right) \rightarrow y = z$$

$$\text{dom}(f) := \{x \mid \exists y : (x, y) \in f\}$$

$$\text{im}(f) := \{y \mid \exists x : (x, y) \in f\}$$

$$\text{cdm}(f) := ???$$

Let  $A \subset B$  and consider the functions

$$\text{id}_A : A \rightarrow A \quad \iota_A : A \hookrightarrow B$$

both defined by  $x \mapsto x$ .

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both defined by  $x \mapsto x$ . Then,

$$\text{id}_A = \{ (x, x) : x \in A \} = \iota_A$$

# Material Set Theories

axiomatise

Sets

&

Membership

# Structural Set Theories

axiomatise

Sets

&

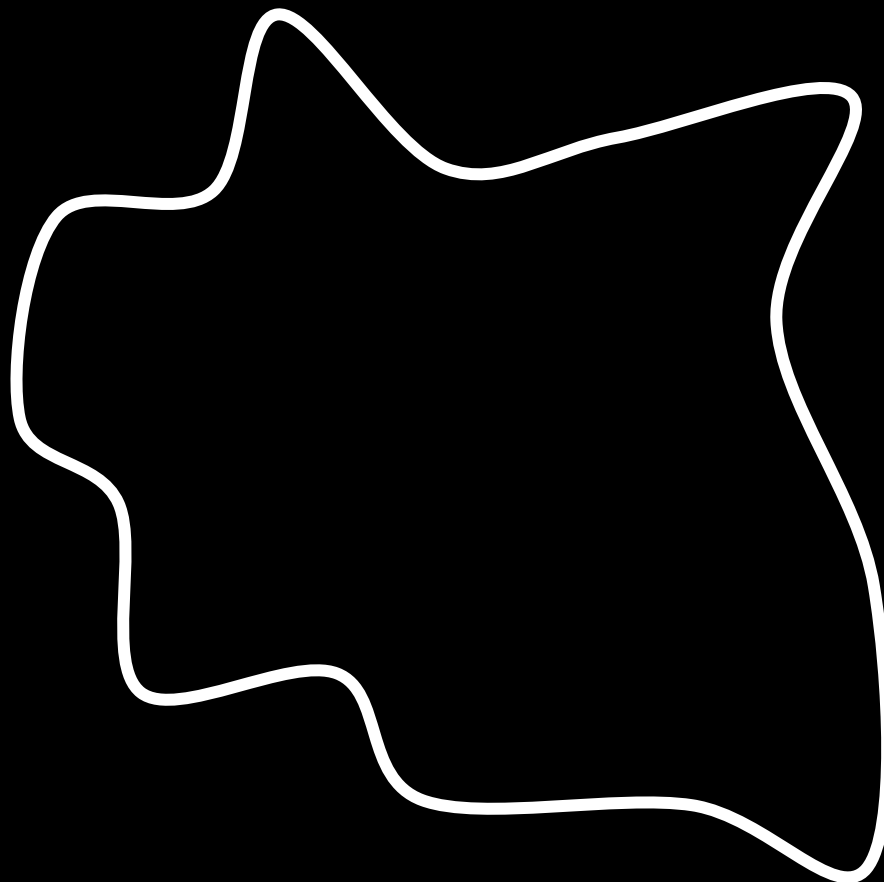
Functions

# The Yoneda Lemma

$$1 = \{\bullet\}$$

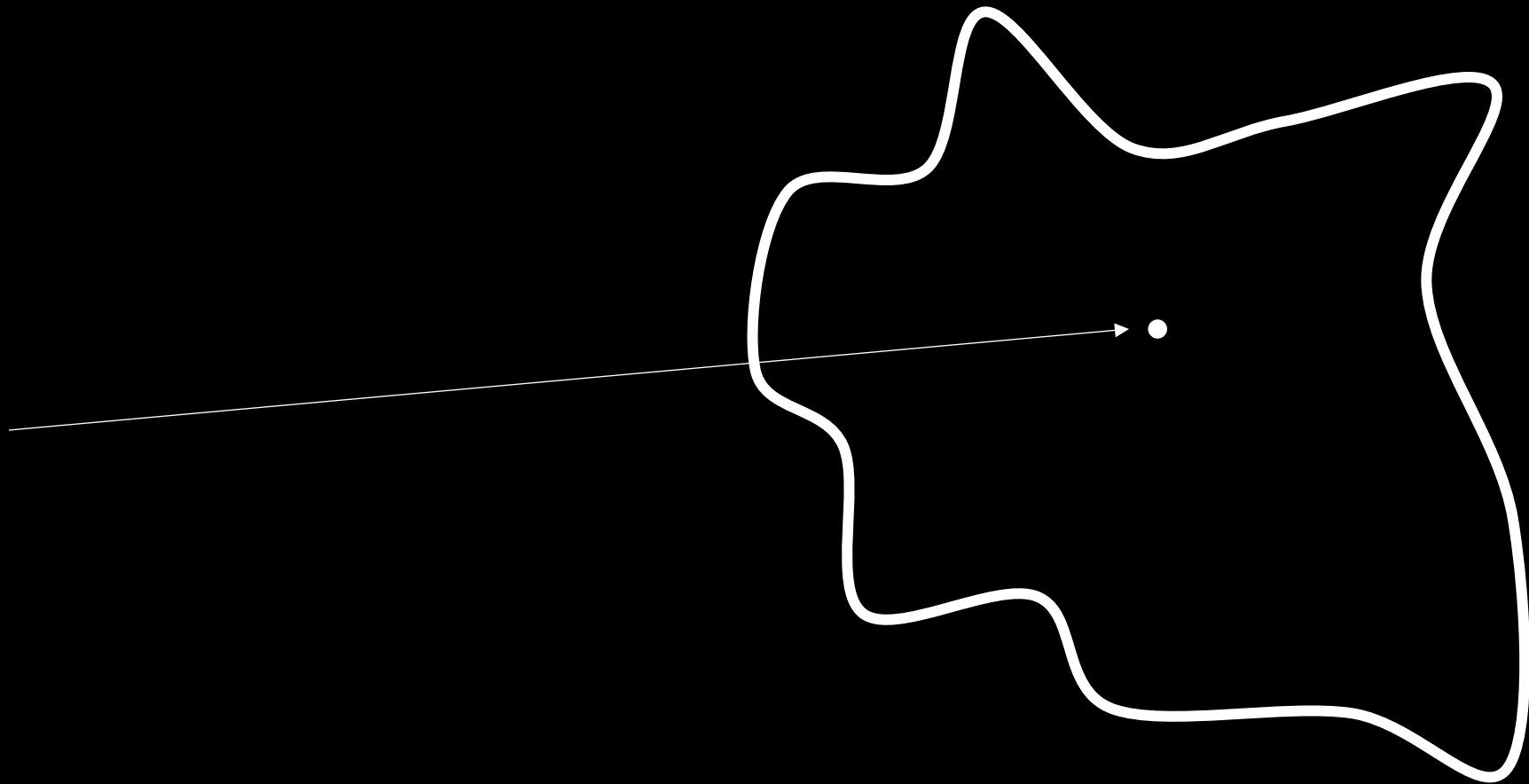


1

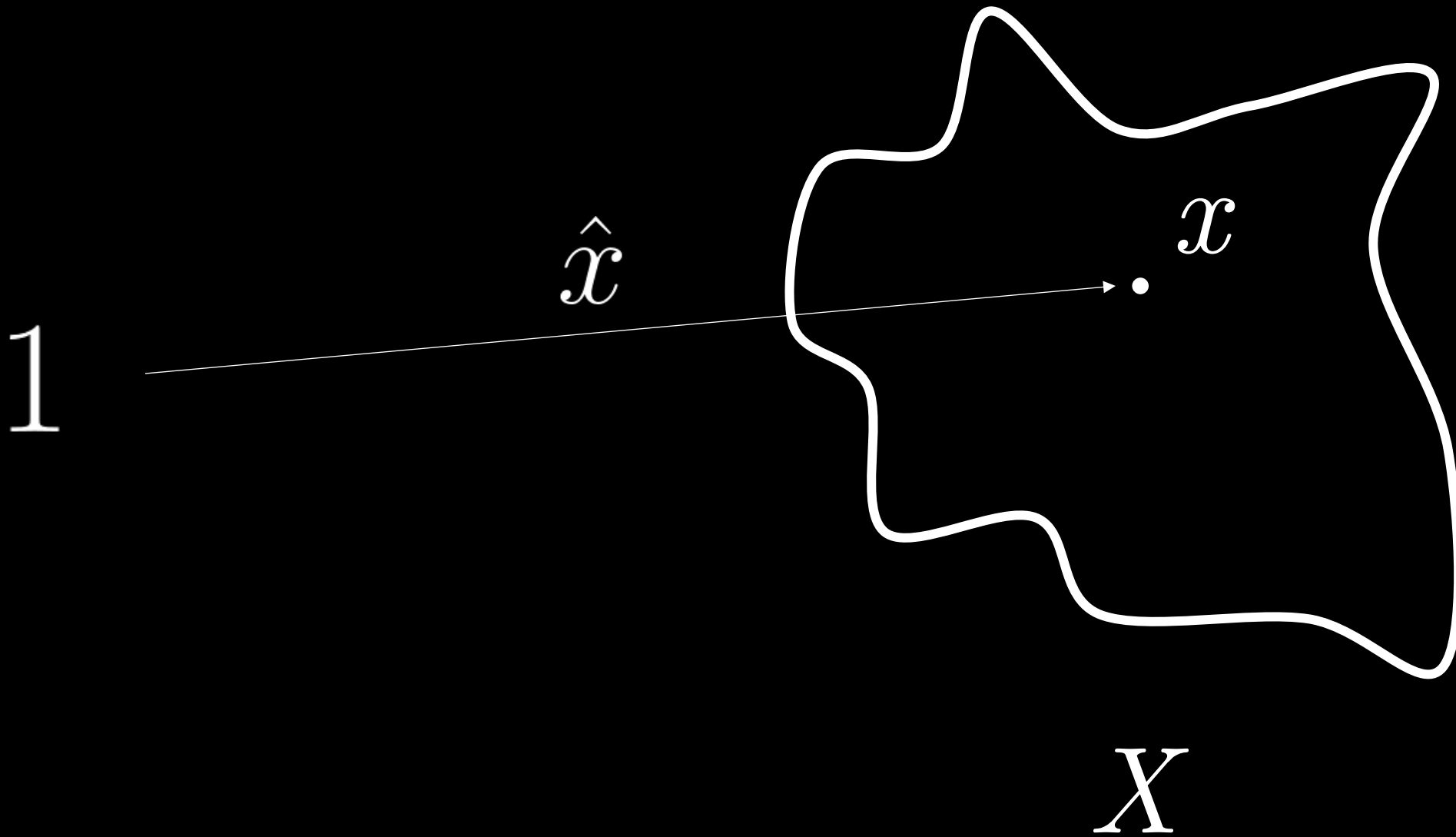


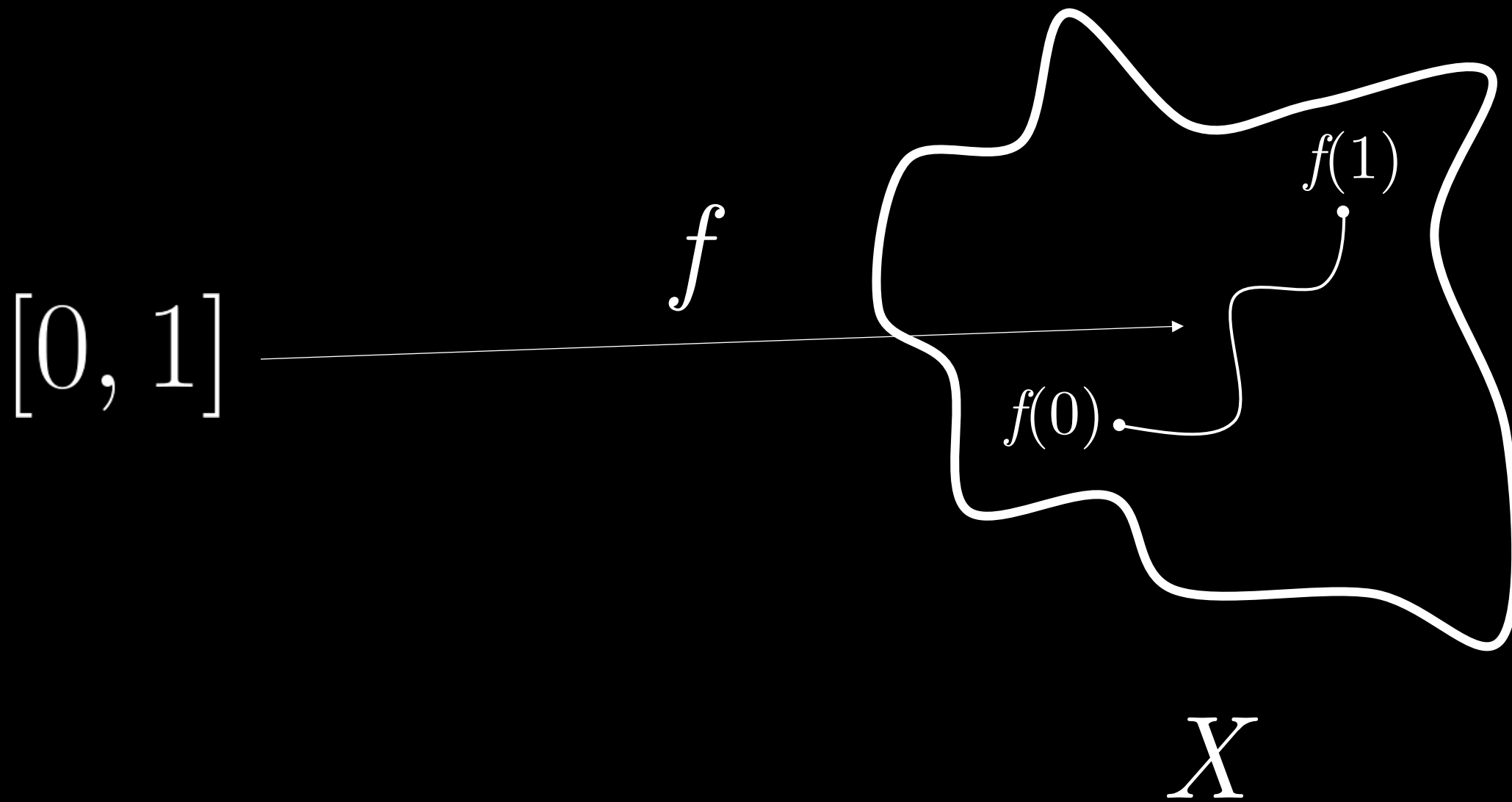
*X*

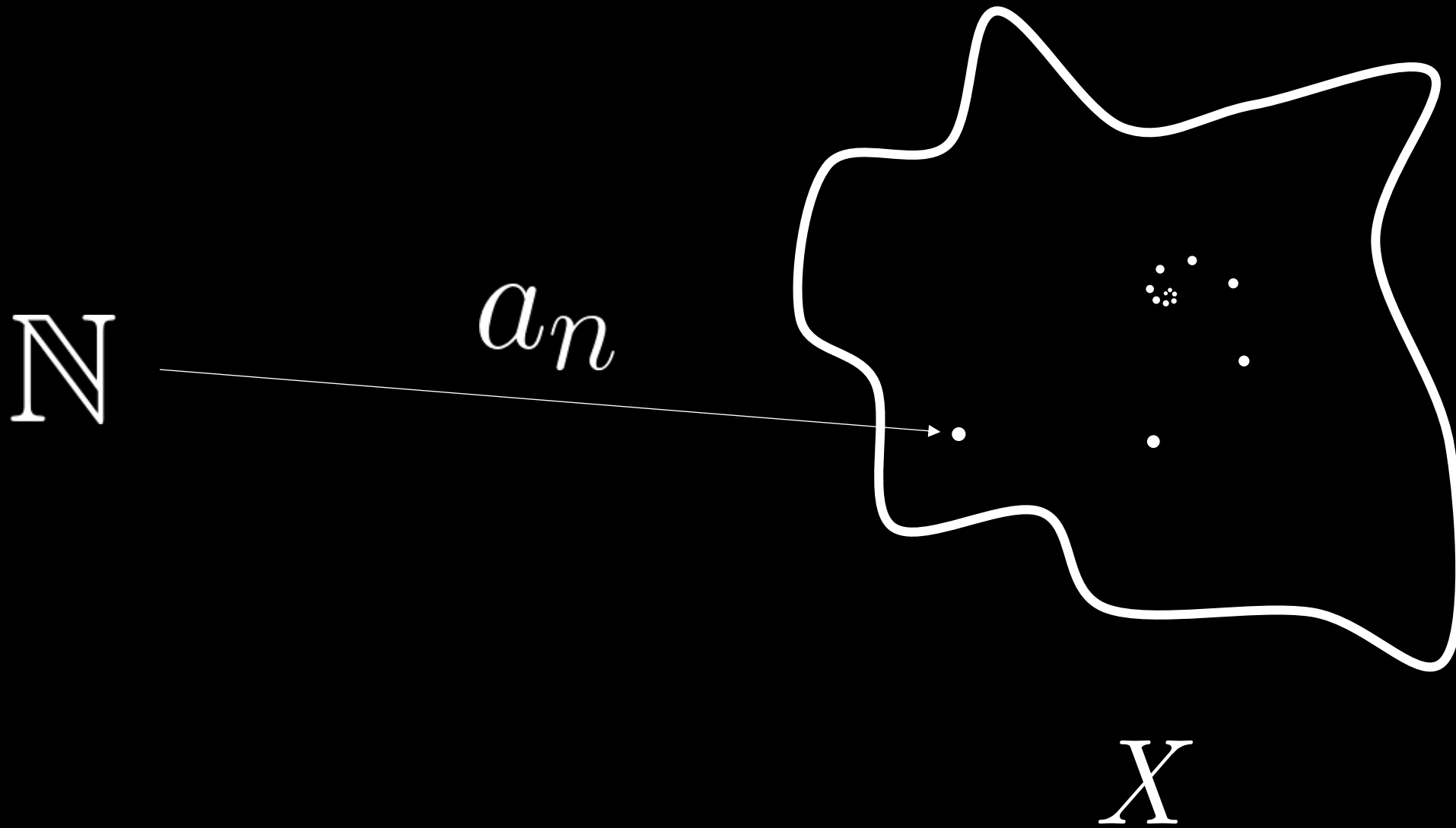
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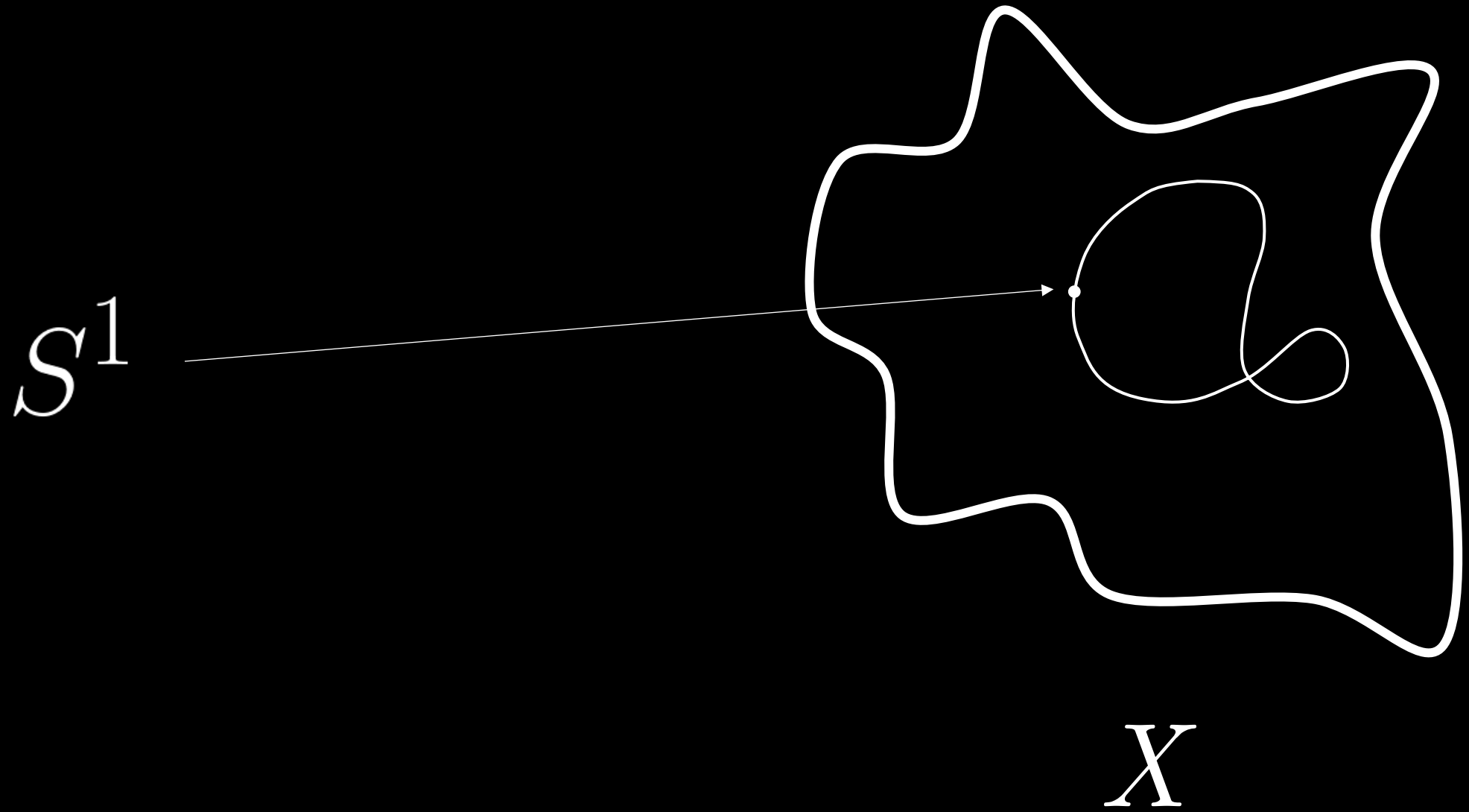


*X*









$$S \rightarrow X$$



*“Generalised element of X  
of shape S”*

$$X = \{S, \mathcal{T}\}$$

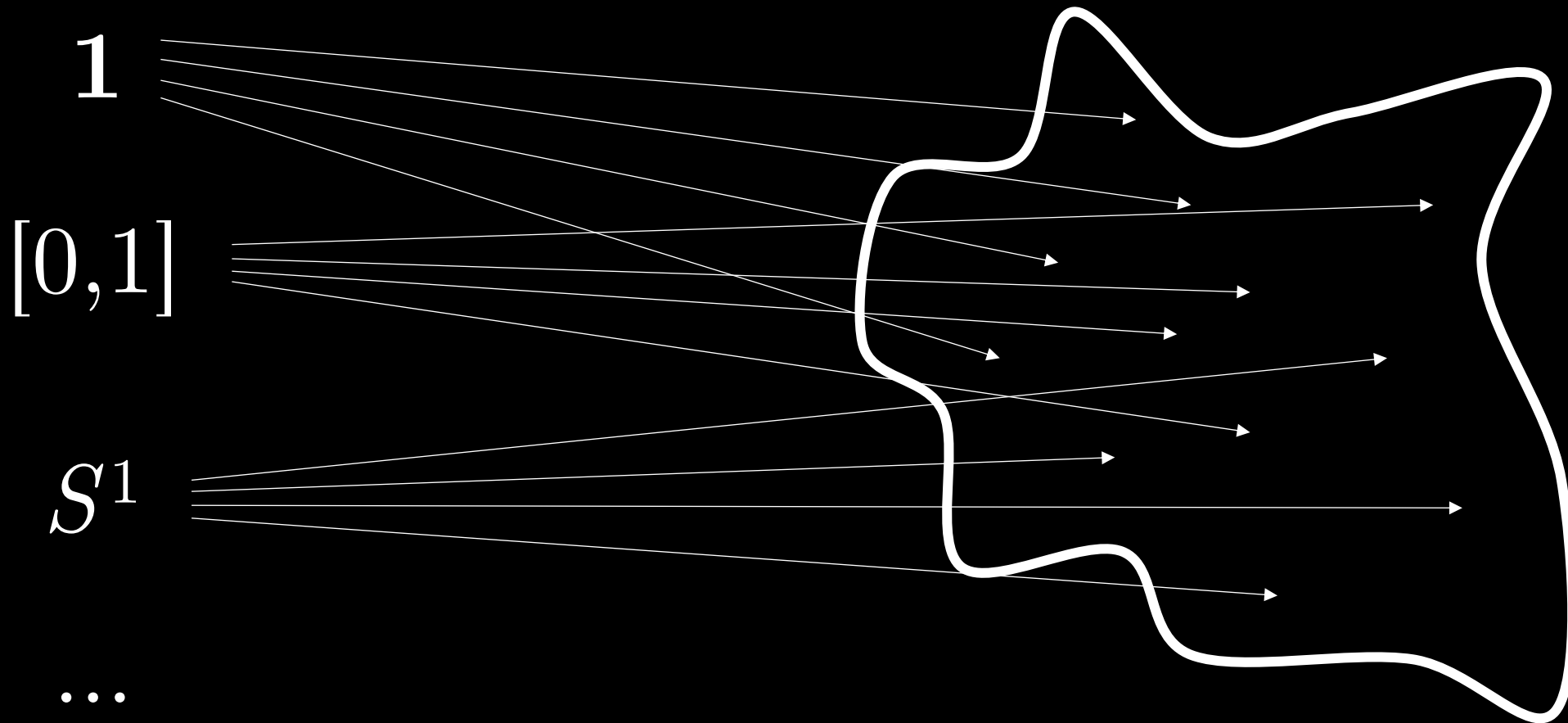


$$X = \{S, \mathcal{T}\}$$

$$\{1 \rightarrow X\} \cong S$$

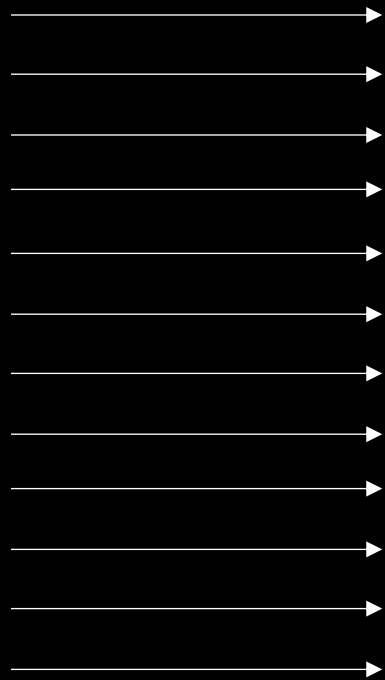
$$\{[0, 1] \rightarrow X\} \rightsquigarrow H_0(X)$$

$$\{S^1 \rightarrow X\} \rightsquigarrow \pi_1(X)$$

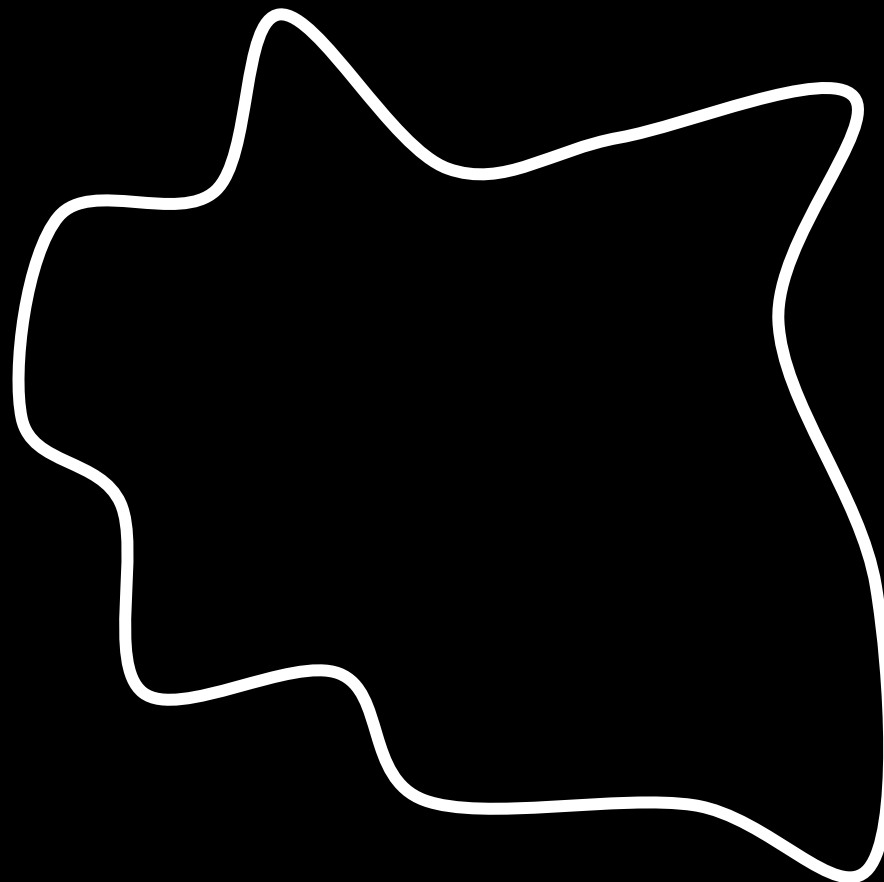


Target space  $X$

Sampling domain spaces  
to probe from



Information  
about maps



Information  
about  $X$

Information  
about maps

$\cong$

Information  
about  $X$

**Lemma** (Yoneda). *Let  $\mathcal{C}$  be a locally small category.*

*Then,*

$$\mathrm{hom}_{[\mathcal{C}, \mathbf{Set}]}(H_A, F) \cong F(A)$$

*naturally in  $F \in \mathrm{ob}([\mathcal{C}, \mathbf{Set}])$  and  $A \in \mathrm{ob}(\mathcal{C})$ .*

**Corollary.**

$X \cong Y$  if and only if  $\text{hom}(X, -) \cong \text{hom}(Y, -)$

Subobjects

$\{1\}, \{2\}, \{\text{cat}\}$

$X := \{1, 2, 3\}$



$$\{1\} \cong \{2\} \cong \{\text{cat}\}$$

$$\{1\} \subseteq X$$

$$\{2\} \subseteq X$$

$$\{\text{cat}\} \not\subseteq X$$

$$A \xrightarrow{\quad} X$$

$$f : A \twoheadrightarrow X \quad g : B \twoheadrightarrow X$$

$$f : A \twoheadrightarrow X \quad g : B \twoheadrightarrow X$$

$$f \leq g$$

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

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$$f \cong g$$

$$\begin{array}{ccc} & B & \\ \nearrow & \downarrow g & \\ A & \xrightarrow{f} & X \end{array} \qquad \begin{array}{ccc} & B & \\ \nwarrow & \downarrow g & \\ A & \xrightarrow{f} & X \end{array}$$

A *subobject* of an object  $X$  is an isomorphism class of monomorphisms into  $X$ .

Given a monomorphism

$$S : A \hookrightarrow X$$

we write

$$[S] \subseteq X$$

for the subobject represented by  $S$ .

$$\{1\} \cong \{2\} \cong \{\text{cat}\}$$

$$X := \{1, 2, 3\}$$

$$f : \{1\} \multimap X : 1 \mapsto 1$$

$$g : \{2\} \multimap X : 2 \mapsto 1$$

$$h : \{\text{cat}\} \multimap X : \text{cat} \mapsto 1$$

$$f : \{1\} \multimap X : 1 \mapsto 1$$

$$g : \{2\} \multimap X : 2 \mapsto 1$$

$$h : \{\text{cat}\} \multimap X : \text{cat} \mapsto 1$$

$$k : \{1\} \multimap X : 1 \mapsto 2$$

$$f : \{1\} \multimap X : 1 \mapsto 1$$



“is  $\mathbb{Z} \subset \mathbb{R}$ ?”

# Material set theory:

 $\mathbb{Z}$ 

Equivalence classes  
of natural numbers

 $\mathbb{R}$ 

Equivalence classes of  
Cauchy sequences

Or Dedekind cuts.

Or ultrafilters on  $\mathbb{N}$ .

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So,  $\mathbb{Z} \not\subset \mathbb{R}$ .

Structuralism:

Asking if  $\mathbb{Z} \subset \mathbb{R}$  or not because of their  
*elements* is not the right question.

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Asking if  $\mathbb{Z} \subset \mathbb{R}$  or not because of their *elements* is not the right question.

Rather, ask if there is a map  $\mathbb{Z} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  that *witnesses* that  $\mathbb{Z} \subset \mathbb{R}$ .

We write

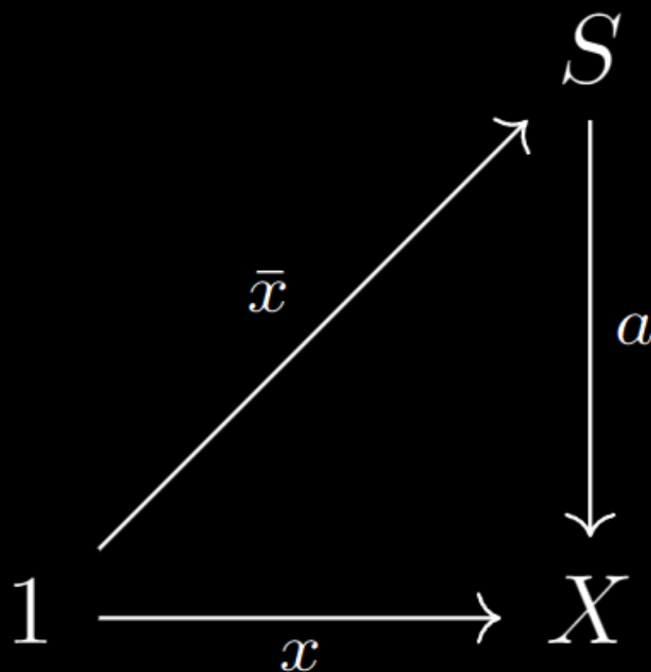
$$[f] \subseteq_X [g]$$

if (any) representing monomorphisms satisfy

$$f \leq g$$

We say that an element  $x \in X$  is a member of a subset  $a \subseteq X$  and write  $x \in_X a$  if  $x$  factors through  $a$ .

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# The Subobject Classifier

$$A \subseteq X$$



$$\chi_A : X \rightarrow 2$$

where  $2 = \{\top, \perp\}$

$$A \subseteq X$$

$$\chi_A(x) = \begin{cases} \top & x \in A \\ \perp & x \notin A \end{cases}$$

$$\chi_A \stackrel{\cong}{\downarrow} A := \chi_A^{-1}[\{\top\}]$$

$$\begin{array}{ccc}
 A = f^{-1}[\{\top\}] & \xrightarrow{!} & 1 \\
 \downarrow & \lrcorner & \downarrow \top \\
 X & \xrightarrow{\chi} & 2
 \end{array}$$

A *subobject classifier* in a category  $\mathcal{C}$  is an object  $\Omega$  and a map  $\top : 1 \rightarrow \Omega$  such that for every monomorphism  $m : A \hookrightarrow X$ , there exists a unique morphism  $\chi_m : X \rightarrow \Omega$  such that

$$\begin{array}{ccc}
 A & \xrightarrow{\quad ! \quad} & 1 \\
 \downarrow m & \lrcorner & \downarrow \top \\
 X & \xrightarrow{\quad \chi_m \quad} & \Omega
 \end{array}$$

is a pullback square.

$\text{Sub}(X)$

$$f : X \rightarrow Y$$

Sub( $X$ )



$$f : X \rightarrow Y$$

$$f^* : \text{Sub}(Y) \rightarrow \text{Sub}(X)$$

$$\begin{array}{ccc} X \times_Y B & \xrightarrow{\pi_2} & B \\ \downarrow \pi_1 & \lrcorner & \downarrow g \\ X & \xrightarrow{f} & Y \end{array}$$

**Sub** :  $\mathcal{C}^{\text{op}} \rightarrow \mathbf{Set}$

$$\mathbf{Sub} : \mathcal{C}^{\text{op}} \rightarrow \mathbf{Set}$$

$$\mathbf{Sub}(X) \cong \text{hom}(X, \Omega)$$

$$A \twoheadrightarrow X \quad B \twoheadrightarrow X$$

$$A \cap_X B := f \times_X g$$

$$A \cup_X B := f \amalg_X g$$

# Monoidal Categories

A monoidal category  $(\mathcal{C}, \otimes, I, \alpha, \lambda, \rho)$  consists of:

- A category  $\mathcal{C}$ ;
- A bifunctor  $\otimes : \mathcal{C} \times \mathcal{C} \rightarrow \mathcal{C}$  called the *tensor product*, written in infix notation;
- A designated object  $I$  in  $\mathcal{C}$  called the *unit*;
- A natural isomorphism  $\alpha : ((-) \otimes (-)) \otimes (-) \Rightarrow (-) \otimes ((-) \otimes (-))$  with components of the form  $\alpha_{A,B,C} : (A \otimes B) \otimes C \rightarrow A \otimes (B \otimes C)$  called the *associator*;
- A natural isomorphism  $\lambda : I \otimes (-) \Rightarrow (-)$  with components of the form  $\lambda_A : (I \otimes A) \rightarrow A$  called the *left unitor*;
- A natural isomorphism  $\rho : (-) \otimes I \Rightarrow (-)$  with components of the form  $\rho_A : (A \otimes I) \rightarrow A$  called the *right unitor*;

subject to the *coherence conditions* that the following diagrams commute:

- the *triangle identity*:

$$\begin{array}{ccc}
 (A \otimes I) \otimes B & \xrightarrow{\alpha_{A,I,B}} & A \otimes (I \otimes B) \\
 \searrow \rho_A \otimes \text{id}_B & & \swarrow \text{id}_A \otimes \lambda_A \\
 & A \otimes B &
 \end{array}$$

- the *pentagon identity*:

$$\begin{array}{ccccc}
 & & (A \otimes B) \otimes (C \otimes D) & & \\
 & \nearrow \alpha_{A \otimes B, C, D} & & \searrow \alpha_{A, B, C \otimes D} & \\
 & ((A \otimes B) \otimes C) \otimes D & & & A \otimes (B \otimes (C \otimes D)) \\
 \downarrow \alpha_{A, B, C} \otimes \text{id}_D & & & & \downarrow \text{id}_A \otimes \alpha_{B, C, D} \\
 (A \otimes (B \otimes C)) \otimes D & \xrightarrow{\alpha_{A, B \otimes C, D}} & & & A \otimes ((B \otimes C) \otimes D)
 \end{array}$$



$$(a \times e) \times b$$

$$(a \times e) \times b = a \times b$$

$$(a \times e) \times b = a \times b$$

$$(a \times e) \times b = a \times (e \times b) = a \times b$$

$$(a \times e) \times b = a \times b$$

$$(a \times e) \times b = a \times (e \times b) = a \times b$$

$$(a \times e) \times b = a \times b$$

$$\begin{array}{ccc} (a \times e) \times b & \xrightarrow{=} & a \times (e \times b) \\ & \searrow = & \swarrow = \\ & a \times b & \end{array}$$

$$\begin{array}{ccc} (A \otimes I) \otimes B & \xrightarrow{\alpha_{A,I,B}} & A \otimes (I \otimes B) \\ \rho_A \otimes \text{id}_B \searrow & & \swarrow \text{id}_A \otimes \lambda_B \\ & A \otimes B & \end{array}$$

$$\begin{array}{ccc}
 & (A \otimes B) \otimes (C \otimes D) & \\
 \alpha_{A \otimes B, C, D} \nearrow & & \searrow \alpha_{A, B, C \otimes D} \\
 ((A \otimes B) \otimes C) \otimes D & & A \otimes (B \otimes (C \otimes D)) \\
 \alpha_{A, B, C} \otimes \text{id}_D \downarrow & & \downarrow \text{id}_A \otimes \alpha_{B, C, D} \\
 (A \otimes (B \otimes C)) \otimes D & \xrightarrow{\alpha_{A, B \otimes C, D}} & A \otimes ((B \otimes C) \otimes D)
 \end{array}$$



$$(A \times B) \times C \cong A \times (B \times C)$$

$$1 \times A \cong A \quad A \times 1 \cong A$$

$$(A \times B) \times C \cong A \times (B \times C)$$

$$1 \times A \cong A \quad A \times 1 \cong A$$

$$(A \sqcup B) \sqcup C \cong A \sqcup (B \sqcup C)$$

$$\emptyset \sqcup A \cong A \quad A \sqcup \emptyset \cong A$$

Internalisation

A *group*  $(G, *)$  is a set  $G$  equipped with a binary operation  $* : G \times G \rightarrow G$  that is associative, admits an identity element  $e \in G$  (is *unitary*), and every element  $g \in G$  has an inverse  $g^{-1} \in G$  under  $*$ .

$$* : G \times G \rightarrow G$$

$$e : 1 \rightarrow G$$

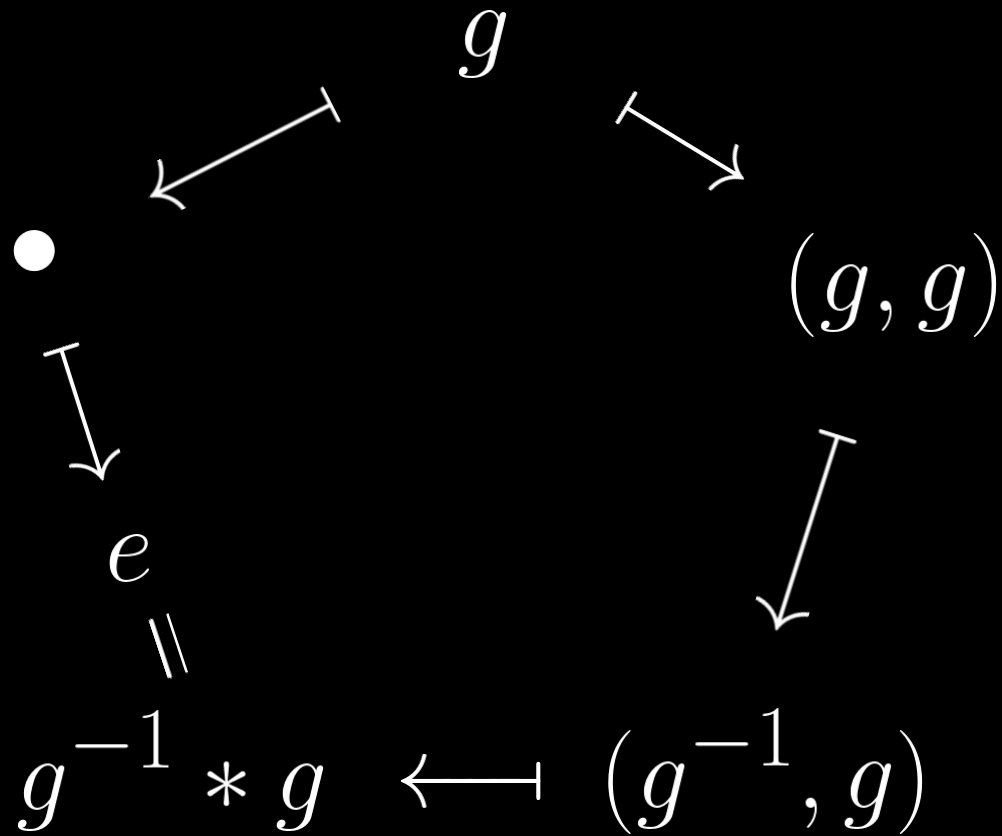
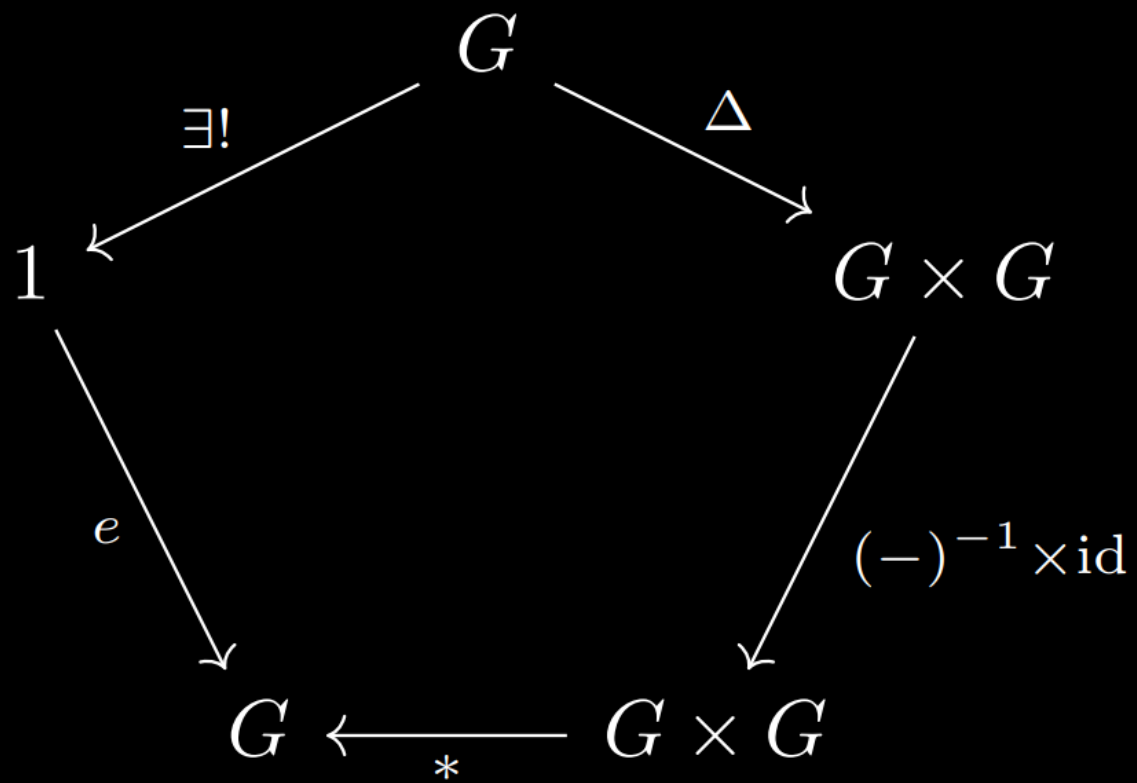
$$(-)^{-1} : G \rightarrow G$$

$$\begin{array}{ccccc}
 G \times 1 & \xrightarrow{\text{id} \times e} & G \times G & \xleftarrow{e \times \text{id}} & 1 \times G \\
 & \searrow \text{!R} & \downarrow * & \swarrow \text{!R} & \\
 & & G & & 
 \end{array}$$

$$\begin{array}{ccc}
 G \times G \times G & \xrightarrow{\text{id} \times *} & G \times G \\
 \downarrow * \times \text{id} & & \downarrow * \\
 G \times G & \xrightarrow{*} & G
 \end{array}$$

$$\begin{array}{ccccc}
 & & G & & \\
 & \swarrow \exists! & & \searrow \Delta & \\
 1 & & & & G \times G \\
 & \searrow e & & \swarrow (-)^{-1} \times \text{id} & \\
 & & G & \xleftarrow{*} & G \times G
 \end{array}$$

$$\begin{array}{ccccc}
 & & G & & \\
 & \swarrow \exists! & & \searrow \Delta & \\
 1 & & & & G \times G \\
 & \searrow e & & \swarrow \text{id} \times (-)^{-1} & \\
 & & G & \xleftarrow{*} & G \times G
 \end{array}$$





$$\begin{array}{ccccc}
 G \times 1 & \xrightarrow{\text{id} \times e} & G \times G & \xleftarrow{e \times \text{id}} & 1 \times G \\
 & \searrow \text{!R} & \downarrow * & \swarrow \text{!R} & \\
 & & G & & 
 \end{array}$$

$$\begin{array}{ccc}
 G \times G \times G & \xrightarrow{\text{id} \times *}& G \times G \\
 \downarrow * \times \text{id} & & \downarrow * \\
 G \times G & \xrightarrow{*}& G
 \end{array}$$

$$\begin{array}{ccccc}
 & & G & & \\
 & \swarrow \exists! & & \searrow \Delta & \\
 1 & & & & G \times G \\
 & \searrow e & & \swarrow (-)^{-1} \times \text{id} & \\
 & & G & \xleftarrow{*} & G \times G
 \end{array}$$

$$\begin{array}{ccccc}
 & & G & & \\
 & \swarrow \exists! & & \searrow \Delta & \\
 1 & & & & G \times G \\
 & \searrow e & & \swarrow \text{id} \times (-)^{-1} & \\
 & & G & \xleftarrow{*} & G \times G
 \end{array}$$

An *internal group* in a category  $\mathcal{C}$  that admits finite products is an object  $G$  equipped with morphisms

$$* : G \times G \rightarrow G$$

$$e : 1 \rightarrow G$$

$$(-)^{-1} : G \rightarrow G$$

such that the previous diagrams all commute.

$\mathcal{C}$

---

internal groups

---

**Set**

ordinary groups

**Top**

topological groups

**Man <sup>$\infty$</sup>**

Lie groups

**Grp**

abelian groups

⋮

⋮

$(\mathcal{C}, \otimes, I)$

---

internal monoids

---

$(\mathbf{Mon}, \times, 1)$

commutative monoid

$(\mathbf{Ab}, \otimes_{\mathbb{Z}}, \mathbb{Z})$

(unital) ring

$(R\text{-Mod}, \otimes_R, R)$

$R$ -algebra

$(\mathbf{Cat}, \times, \mathbb{1})$

strict monoidal category

$\vdots$

$\vdots$

# Internal Homs

*A*

*A, B*

$[A, B]$



$$X \rightarrow [A, B]$$

$$X \rightarrow [A, B]$$

$$\cong$$

$$X \times A \rightarrow B$$

$$X \rightarrow [A, B]$$

$$\cong$$

$$X \times A \rightarrow B$$

Let  $\mathcal{C}$  be a monoidal category, and let  $A$  and  $B$  be objects of  $\mathcal{C}$ .

The *internal hom-object*, or just *internal hom*, of  $A$  and  $B$  is an object  $[A, B]$  such that

$$\mathrm{hom}(X, [A, B]) \cong \mathrm{hom}(X \times A, B)$$

naturally in  $X$ .

Let  $\mathcal{C}$  be a monoidal category, and let  $A$  and  $B$  be objects of  $\mathcal{C}$ .

The *internal hom-object*, or just *internal hom*, of  $A$  and  $B$  is an object  $[A, B]$  such that

$$\mathrm{hom}(X, [A, B]) \cong \mathrm{hom}(X \otimes A, B)$$

naturally in  $X$ .

A monoidal category is *closed monoidal* if for every object  $A$ , the right tensor by  $A$  has a right adjoint:

$$(-) \otimes A \dashv [A, -]$$

so

$$\text{hom}(X, [A, B]) \cong \text{hom}(X \otimes A, B)$$

naturally in all 3 variables.

A closed monoidal category that is cartesian monoidal is called *cartesian closed*.

$$\text{hom}(X, [A, B]) \cong \text{hom}(X \times A, B)$$

A closed monoidal category that is cartesian monoidal is called *cartesian closed*.

**Example.** Any locally small category has a set of morphisms between any two objects.

**Set** is locally small. So, **Set** is cartesian closed.



In a cartesian closed category, we write

$$B^A$$

for the internal hom-object

$$[A, B]$$

and call it an *exponential object*.

This notation is compatible with the categorical product in that

$$A^1 \cong A$$

$$A^2 \cong A \times A \quad 2 := 1 \amalg 1$$

$$A^3 \cong A \times A \times A \quad 3 := 1 \amalg 1 \amalg 1$$

$$\vdots$$
$$\vdots$$

$$A^n \cong \prod_n A$$

$$\text{hom}(X, B^A) \cong \text{hom}(X \times A, B)$$

$$\text{hom}(X, B^A) \cong \text{hom}(X \times A, B)$$

$$f : X \times A \rightarrow B$$

$$\text{hom}(X, B^A) \cong \text{hom}(X \times A, B)$$

$$f^b : X \rightarrow B^A \longleftarrow f : X \times A \rightarrow B$$

$$\text{hom}(X, B^A) \cong \text{hom}(X \times A, B)$$

$$f^\flat : X \rightarrow B^A \longleftarrow f : X \times A \rightarrow B$$

$$g : X \rightarrow B^A$$

$$\text{hom}(X, B^A) \cong \text{hom}(X \times A, B)$$

$$f^\flat : X \rightarrow B^A \longleftarrow f : X \times A \rightarrow B$$

$$g : X \rightarrow B^A \longmapsto g^\sharp : X \times A \rightarrow B$$

$$\text{hom}(X, B^A) \cong \text{hom}(X \times A, B)$$



$$\text{hom}(1, B^A) \cong \text{hom}(1 \times A, B)$$

$$\text{hom}(1, B^A) \cong \text{hom}(1 \times A, B) \cong \text{hom}(A, B)$$

$$\text{hom}(1, B^A) \cong \text{hom}(1 \times A, B) \cong \text{hom}(A, B)$$

$$\text{hom}(1, B^A) \cong \text{hom}(A, B)$$

Topoi

A (*elementary*) *topos* is a category that:

- is finitely complete;
- is cartesian closed;
- has a subobject classifier.

**Lemma.** *Every monomorphism in a topos is regular.*

**Corollary.** *Every topos is balanced.*

**Theorem.** *Every topos is finitely cocomplete.*

**Theorem.** *Every morphism factors essentially uniquely through its image into the composition of an epimorphism and a monomorphism.*

A (*elementary*) *topos* is a category that:

- is finitely complete;
- is cartesian closed;
- has a subobject classifier.



Set

**Set** is non-trivial. That is, **Set**  $\neq$  1.

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(*i*)  $0 \neq 1$ .

If  $f, g : X \rightarrow Y$  are parallel morphisms such that every morphism  $x : 1 \rightarrow X$  equalises  $f$  and  $g$ , then  $f = g$ .

If  $f, g : X \rightarrow Y$  are parallel morphisms such that every morphism  $x : 1 \rightarrow X$  equalises  $f$  and  $g$ , then  $f = g$ .

(*ii*) The terminal object  $1$  is a separator.

(*i*)  $0 \not\cong 1$ .

(*ii*) The terminal object  $1$  is a separator.

A topos that satisfies (*i*) and (*ii*) is called *well-pointed*.

*X*

$$x \in X$$



$$x \in X \quad r : X \rightarrow X$$

$$x \in X \quad r : X \rightarrow X$$

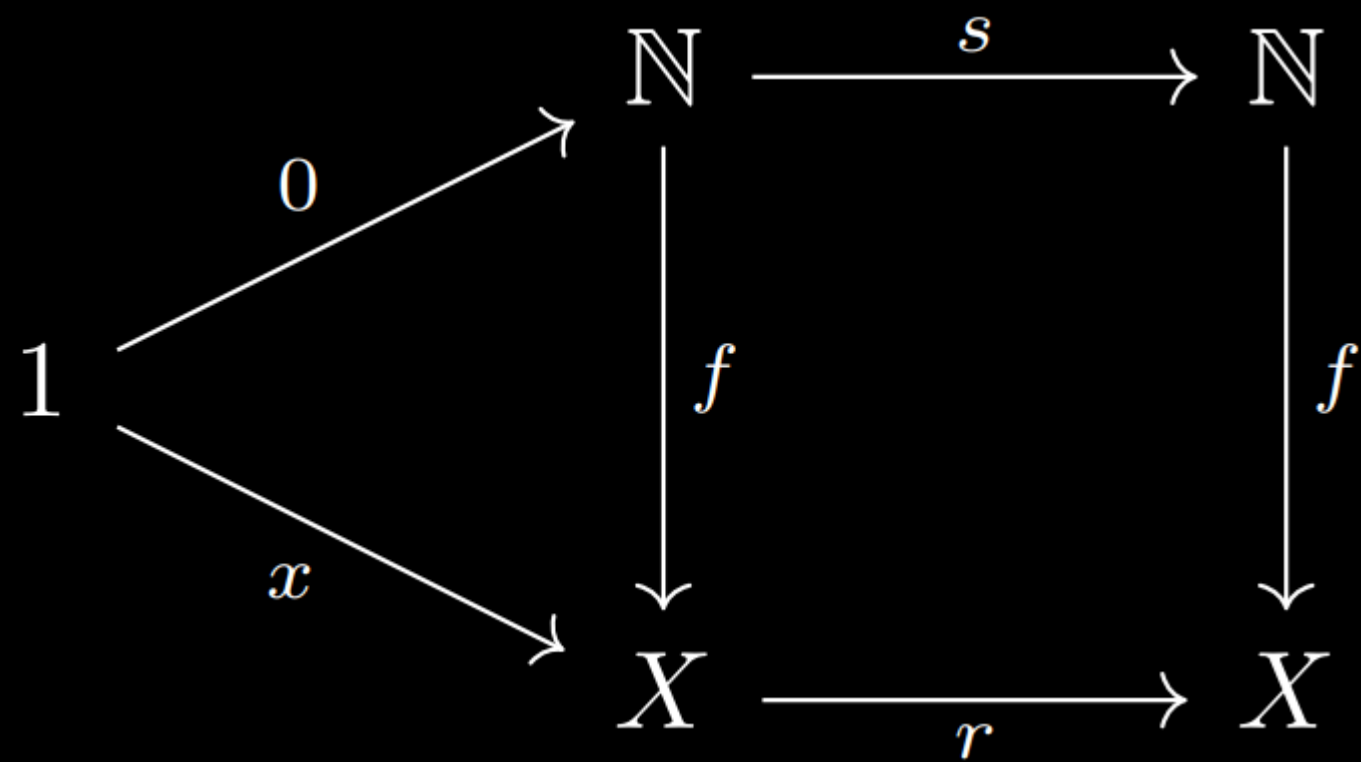
$$(x_i)_{i=0}^{\infty} \subseteq X$$

$$x \in X \quad r : X \rightarrow X$$

$$\begin{aligned} (x_i)_{i=0}^{\infty} \subseteq X & \quad x_0 = x \\ & \quad x_{n+1} = r(x_n) \end{aligned}$$

$$x \in X \quad r : X \rightarrow X$$

$$(x_i)_{i=0}^{\infty} = f : \mathbb{N} \rightarrow X$$



A *natural numbers object* is a triple  $(\mathbb{N}, 0, s)$  consisting of an object  $\mathbb{N}$ , an element  $0 : 1 \rightarrow \mathbb{N}$ , and a *successor morphism*  $s : \mathbb{N} \rightarrow \mathbb{N}$  with the universal property that the triple  $(\mathbb{N}, 0, s)$  factors through every other triple  $(X, x, r)$  uniquely:

$$\begin{array}{ccccc}
 & & \mathbb{N} & \xrightarrow{s} & \mathbb{N} \\
 & \nearrow 0 & \downarrow f & & \downarrow f \\
 1 & & & & \\
 & \searrow x & X & \xrightarrow{r} & X
 \end{array}$$

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$$\begin{array}{ccccc}
 & & \mathbb{N} & \xrightarrow{s} & \mathbb{N} \\
 & \nearrow 0 & \downarrow f & & \downarrow f \\
 1 & & X & \xrightarrow{r} & X \\
 & \searrow x & & & 
 \end{array}$$

$$\begin{array}{ccccc} & & \mathbb{N} & \xrightarrow{s} & \mathbb{N} \\ & \nearrow 0 & \downarrow +^b & & \downarrow +^b \\ 1 & & & & \\ & \searrow \text{id}_{\mathbb{N}}^b & \mathbb{N}^{\mathbb{N}} & \xrightarrow{s^{\mathbb{N}}} & \mathbb{N}^{\mathbb{N}} \end{array}$$



(*iii*) **Set** has a natural numbers object.

$$f : A \twoheadrightarrow B$$

$$f : A \twoheadrightarrow B \quad s : B \rightarrow A$$

$$f \circ s = \text{id}_A$$

$$f : A \twoheadrightarrow B \quad s : B \rightarrow A$$

$$f \circ s = \text{id}_A$$

(*iv*) Epimorphisms split.

(i)  $0 \not\cong 1$ .

(ii) The terminal object  $1$  is a separator.

(iii) There is a natural numbers object.

(iv) Epimorphisms split.

*Sets and set functions form a well-pointed topos  
with natural numbers object and Choice.*

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*Sets and set functions form a well-pointed topos  
with natural numbers object and Choice.*

1. Function composition is associative and has identities
2. There exists an empty set
3. There exists a singleton set
4. Functions are completely characterised by their action on elements
5. Given sets  $X$  and  $Y$ , we may form their cartesian product  $X \times Y$
6. Given sets  $X$  and  $Y$ , we may form the set of functions from  $X$  to  $Y$
7. Given a function  $f : X \rightarrow Y$  and  $y \in Y$  we may form the fibre  $f^{-1}[y]$
8. The subsets of a set  $X$  correspond to the functions  $X \rightarrow \{0, 1\}$
9. The natural numbers form a set
10. Every surjection admits a section

# Material and Structural Sets

Material-sets

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Structural-sets

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# Material-sets

---

determined by elements up to equality

# Structural-sets

---

determined by generalised elements up to isomorphism, but subsets up to equality

# Material-sets

---

determined by elements up to equality

elements are always sets

# Structural-sets

---

determined by generalised elements up to isomorphism, but subsets up to equality

elements are never sets

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determined by generalised elements up to isomorphism, but subsets up to equality

elements are never sets

# Material-sets

---

determined by elements up to equality

elements are always sets

lots of side effects from constructions

# Structural-sets

---

determined by generalised elements up to isomorphism, but subsets up to equality

elements are never sets

abstract structures encapsulate and isolate properties without side effects



$A \in X$

“for all  $x \in \mathbb{R}$ ,  $x^2 \geq 0$ ”

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“for all things  $x$ , if  $x$  is a real number, then  $x^2 \geq 0$ ”

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$$\forall x : x \in \mathbb{R} \rightarrow x^2 \geq 0$$

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“for all things  $x$ , if  $x$  is a real number, then  $x^2 \geq 0$ ”

$$\forall x : x \in \mathbb{R} \rightarrow x^2 \geq 0$$

“it is a property of all real numbers  $x$  that  $x^2 \geq 0$ ”

“for all  $x \in \mathbb{R}$ ,  $x^2 \geq 0$ ”

“for all things  $x$ , if  $x$  is a real number, then  $x^2 \geq 0$ ”

$$\forall x : x \in \mathbb{R} \rightarrow x^2 \geq 0$$

“it is a property of all real numbers  $x$  that  $x^2 \geq 0$ ”

$$\forall x \in \mathbb{R} : x^2 \geq 0$$

“for all  $x \in \mathbb{R}, x^2 \geq 0$ ”

“for all things  $x$ , if  $x$  is a real number, then  $x^2 \geq 0$ ”

$$\forall x : x \in \mathbb{R} \rightarrow x^2 \geq 0$$



“if  $Q[x]$  is a real number, then  $(Q[x])^2 \geq 0$ ”

$$L = \left\{ z \in \mathbb{C} : \Re(z) = \frac{1}{2} \right\}$$



$$L = \left\{ z \in \mathbb{C} : \Re(z) = \frac{1}{2} \right\}$$

“for all  $z \in \mathbb{C}$ , if  $\zeta(z) = 0$  and  $z$  is not a negative even integer, then  $z \in L$ ”

$$L = \left\{ z \in \mathbb{C} : \Re(z) = \frac{1}{2} \right\}$$

i.e. functions  
 $1 \rightarrow \mathbb{C}$

“for all  $z \in \mathbb{C}$ , if  $\zeta(z) = 0$  and  $z$  is not a negative even integer, then  $z \in L$ ”

does  $z$  factor  
through  $L$ ?

# Material-sets

---

determined by elements up to equality

elements are always sets

lots of side effects from constructions

propositional membership only

# Structural-sets

---

determined by generalised elements up to isomorphism, but subsets up to equality

elements are never sets

abstract structures encapsulate and isolate properties without side effects

type-declaration membership;  
supports propositional patterns in the presence of ambient sets.