

## L5 - Adjunctions ctd

Last week introduced adjunctions

$$B \begin{array}{c} \xleftarrow{F} \\ \perp \\ \xrightarrow{U} \end{array} A.$$

This time we study them further  
& some of their good properties.

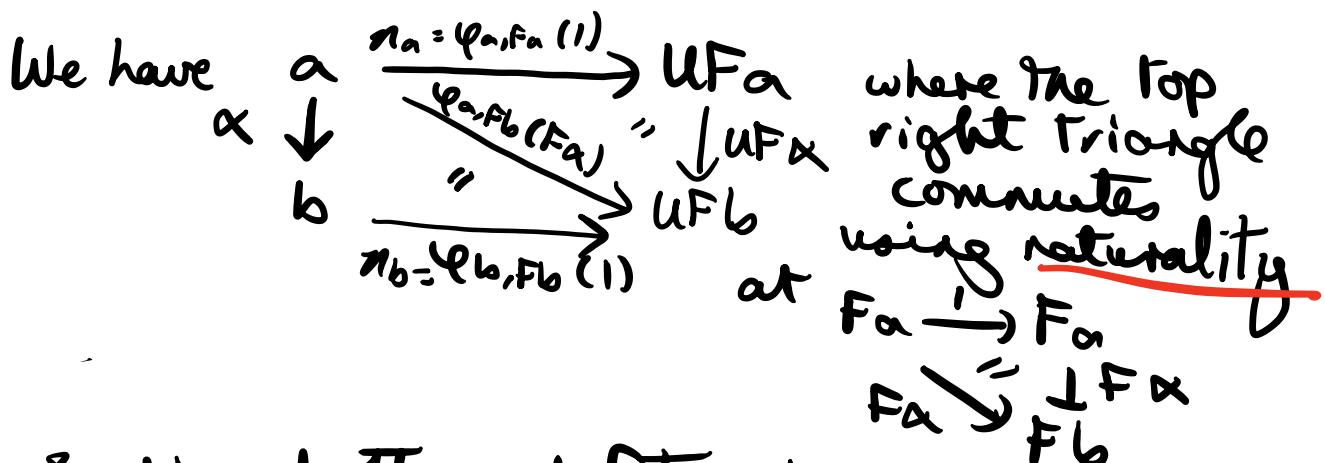
- Let  $B \xrightleftharpoons[\perp]{F, U} A$  be an adjunction with bijection  $B(Fa, b) \xrightarrow{\cong} A(a, Ub)$ .

- Taking  $b = Fa$ , we obtain

$$B(Fa, Fa) \xrightarrow{\varphi_{Fa, Fa}} A(a, UFa)$$

$$Fa \xrightarrow{!} Fa \xrightarrow{\perp} a \xrightarrow{\eta_a} UFa$$

&  $\eta_a$  is called the unit of the adjunction.



& the bottom left using naturality at  $Fa \xrightarrow{\perp} Fb$

- Therefore  $\eta : I \Rightarrow UF$  is a natural transformation.

- In fact, the components  
 $\varphi_{a,b} : B(Fa, b) \rightarrow A(a, Ub)$   
 are determined by  $n$  :

for, given  $Fa \xrightarrow{\alpha} b$ , naturality at  
 $Fa \xrightarrow{!} Fa \xrightarrow{\alpha} b$  gives

(A)  $\varphi_{a,b}(\alpha) = U\alpha \circ \varphi_{a,Fa}(1) = U\alpha \circ n_a.$

Theorem 1 There is a bijection betw.  
 adjunctions  $(F \dashv U, \varphi)$   
 and natural Transformations  
 $n : I \Rightarrow UF$  with the  
 universal property that:

given a  $\xrightarrow{\alpha} Ub$  there exists  
 a unique  $Fa \xrightarrow{\bar{\alpha}} b$  such that

$$\begin{array}{ccc} & Fa & \\ n_\alpha \nearrow & \downarrow UFa & \searrow U\bar{\alpha} \\ a & \xrightarrow{\alpha} & Ub \end{array}$$

**Proof**

- By (A) above, if we have an adjunction then

$$B(Fa, b) \xrightarrow{\epsilon_{a,b}} A(a, Ub)$$

$$\alpha \quad \longleftarrow \quad \text{U}\alpha \circ \eta_A$$

so that  $\Delta$  just says that this map is a bijection.

- We have already showed that the assignment  $(F, \delta, \epsilon) \mapsto (F, G, \eta)$  is injective, so it remains to show that each  $(F, G, \eta)$  satisfying  $\Delta$  arises from an adjunction.

- Given  $\eta : I \Rightarrow UF$  satisfying  $\Delta$  as above, we must show that the maps

$$B(Fa, b) \xrightarrow{\epsilon_{a,b}} A(a, Ub)$$

$$Fa \xrightarrow{\cong} b \longleftarrow a \xrightarrow{\eta_a} UFa \xrightarrow{U\kappa} Ub$$

form an adjunction.

Certainly, by  $\Delta$ , they are bijections, so it remains to check naturality.

This is straightforward.  $\square$

- In fact, even less is required !

Theorem 2

An adjunction is specified by a functor

$$U: \mathcal{B} \longrightarrow \mathcal{A} \text{ and}$$

for each object  $a \in \mathcal{A}$  an object  $Fa \in \mathcal{B}$  and morphism  $a \xrightarrow{n_a} UFa$  with the universal property

given  $a \xrightarrow{\alpha} Ub$  there exists a unique  $Fa \xrightarrow{\bar{\alpha}} b$  such that

$$\begin{array}{ccc} & n_a & \nearrow UFa \\ a & \xrightarrow{\alpha} & Ub \\ & \searrow U\bar{\alpha} & \end{array} .$$


Proof | Certainly  $n: I \Rightarrow UF$  as in Th. 1 gives rise to this.

Conversely, given the above,  
we define  $F\alpha : Fa \rightarrow Fb$  as  
the unique map such that  
the square

$$\begin{array}{ccc} a & \xrightarrow{n\alpha} & UFa \\ \downarrow & \parallel & \downarrow UF\alpha \\ b & \xrightarrow{n_b} & UFb \end{array}$$

commutes. (Such a unique map  
exists by  $\blacktriangleleft$ .)

- Indeed we are forced to define  $F\alpha$  this way in order for  $n$  to be natural.
- Therefore, we will be finished if we can show  $F$  is a functor.
- To see that  $F$  preserves identities, observe that

$$\begin{array}{ccc} a & \xrightarrow{n\alpha} & UFa \\ \downarrow & \downarrow UF\alpha = I_{Fa} & \text{commutes,} \\ a & \xrightarrow{n_\alpha} & UFa \end{array} \quad \text{so } Fl_a = I_{Fa} \text{ by } \bullet$$

- To see that  $F\beta \circ F\alpha = F(\beta \circ \alpha)$   
consider

$$\begin{array}{ccc} & \xrightarrow{\eta_a} & UF\alpha \\ \alpha \downarrow & \text{---} & \downarrow UF\alpha \\ & \xrightarrow{\eta_b} & UF\beta \\ \beta \downarrow & \text{---} & \downarrow UF\beta \\ & \xrightarrow{\eta_c} & UF\gamma \end{array} \quad u(F\beta \circ F\alpha).$$

Since the outside commutes,  
by  we have  $F\beta \circ F\alpha = F(\beta \circ \alpha)$ .

Thus  $F$  is a functor  
&  $\eta : I \Rightarrow UF$  a nat. t.

□

## Corollary

$U: B \rightarrow A$  has a left adjoint

if:

$\forall a \in A \exists F a \in B \text{ & } n_a : a \rightarrow U F a$   
with the universal property:

given  $a \xrightarrow{\alpha} U b$  there exists  
a unique  $F a \xrightarrow{\bar{\alpha}} b$  such that

$$\begin{array}{ccc} a & \xrightarrow{n_a} & U F a \\ & \xrightarrow{\alpha} & \downarrow U \bar{\alpha} \\ & & U b \end{array}$$

Corollary

$U: B \rightarrow A$  has a left adjoint

if :

$\forall a \in A \exists F_a \in B \text{ & } n_a : a \rightarrow U F_a$   
with the universal property :

given  $a \xrightarrow{\alpha} U b$  there exists  
a unique  $F_a \xrightarrow{\bar{\alpha}} b$  such that

$$\begin{array}{ccccc} & & n_a & \nearrow & U F_a \\ & \blacktriangleleft & \nearrow & & \searrow \\ a & & \xrightarrow{\alpha} & & U b \end{array}$$

Remark) This is often easiest  
way to check a functor  
has a left adjoint in  
practise.

E.g. consider  $U: \text{Non} \rightarrow \text{Set}$   
 & a set  $X$ .

Have  $X \xrightarrow{n_X} UFX$   
 $X \xrightarrow{\quad} [X]$

where  $FX$  is list monoid.

$$\begin{array}{ccc} UFX & \xrightarrow{\bar{uf}} & \\ n_X \nearrow & & \\ X & \xrightarrow[F]{} & UM \end{array}$$

where

$$\bar{f}[x_1, \dots, x_n] = f x_1, \dots, f x_n.$$

- Hence  $U$  has left adjoint  
 $F$

Another important corollary of the above is that

Thm) Let  $U: \mathcal{B} \rightarrow \mathcal{A}$ . Then its left adjoint, if it exists, is unique up to natural isomorphism.

Proof

Suppose  $F_1, F_2$  are left adj.

To  $U$ , with units

$$a \xrightarrow{\eta_1 a} UF_1 a \quad \& \quad a \xrightarrow{\eta_2 a} UF_2 a$$

satisfying

Then by the u.p. of  $F_1 a$ ,  
 $\exists! k_a : F_1 a \rightarrow F_2 a$  such that

$$\eta_1 a \xrightarrow{UF_1 a} \downarrow_{k_a} \quad \& \text{ likewise } \eta_2 a \xrightarrow{UF_2 a} \downarrow_{k_a}$$

$$a \xrightarrow{\eta_2 a} UF_2 a$$

$$a \xrightarrow{\eta_1 a} UF_1 a$$

& then again, twice applied,  
shows that  $k_a$  is an isomorphism,  
with inverse  $k_a^{-1}$ .

For naturality, must show

$$F_1 a \xrightarrow{K_a} F_2 a \quad \text{which by } \underline{\text{u.p.}}$$

$$F_1 \alpha \downarrow \quad \downarrow F_2 \alpha \quad \text{of } F_1 a$$

$$F_1 b \xrightarrow{K_b} F_2 b$$

is to show that the two outer paths of

$$\begin{array}{ccc} a & \xrightarrow{\pi_{1,a}} & UF_1 a \\ & \searrow & \uparrow UK_a \\ & & UF_2 a \xrightarrow{UK_a} UF_2 a \\ & \downarrow UF_1 \alpha & \downarrow UF_2 \alpha \quad \text{agree} \\ UF_1 b & \xrightarrow{UK_b} & UF_2 b \end{array}$$

The upper path is

$$\begin{aligned} UF_2 a \circ UK_a \circ \pi_{1,a} &= UF_2 a \circ \pi_{2,a} \text{ by nat.} \\ &= \pi_{2,b} \circ \alpha \end{aligned}$$

The lower path is

$$\begin{aligned} UK_b \circ UF_1 \alpha \circ \pi_{1,a} &= UK_b \circ \pi_{1,b} \circ \alpha \\ &= \pi_{2,b} \circ \alpha . \quad \square \end{aligned}$$

Remark :

This says something incredible :  
something very simple like  
forgetful functors,  
uniquely determines (up to isomorphism)  
something more complex :  
free structures !

## What do adjoint functors preserve?

- let  $D: J \rightarrow A$  be a diagram.
- A cone over  $D$  consists of maps  $\langle f^i: L \rightarrow D_i \text{ for } i \in J \text{ sat.}$

$$\begin{array}{ccc} & p_i \nearrow D_i & \\ L & \xrightarrow{\quad \downarrow \rho_\alpha \text{ for } \downarrow \alpha \quad} & i \\ & p_j \searrow D_j & j \end{array}$$

- It is a limit cone (or just that L) if given a cone  $(k_i: A \rightarrow D_i)_{i \in J}$   $\exists! \ k: A \rightarrow L$  such that  $p_i \circ k = k_i$  for all  $i$ .

- If  $U: A \rightarrow B$  is a functor it takes the cone  $(p_i: L \rightarrow D_i)_{i \in J}$  to a cone  $(U p_i: UL \rightarrow UD_i)_{i \in J}$  for  $UD$ .

Def) We say that  $u$  preserves  
the limit  $L$  of  $D$  if the  
cone  $(u_L \xrightarrow{u_{p_i}} u_D; i \in J)$   
is a limit cone.

- Similarly, we can speak of a functor preserving colimits.

Theorem) Right adjoints  
preserve limits.

Proof) Consider

$$J \xrightarrow{D} A \begin{array}{c} \xleftarrow{F} \\ \perp \\ \xrightarrow{u} \end{array} B \text{ & a limit cone } (\xrightarrow{f_i} D_i)_{i \in J}.$$

We must show that

$(u_L \xrightarrow{u_{P_i}} u_D)_i$  is a limit cone.

- consider cone  $(x \xrightarrow{k_i} u_{P_i})_{i \in J}$ .
- Using bijections  $A(Fx, D_i) \xrightarrow{\cong} B(x, uD_i)$  we obtain maps  $Fx \xrightarrow{\psi^{-1} k_i} D_i$  & claim These form a cone to D:

we must show

$\varphi^{-1}k_i \rightarrow D_i$  but this is equivalent to  
 $Fx \xrightarrow{=} \downarrow D\alpha$  showing images of these maps  
 $\varphi^{-1}k_j \rightarrow D_j$  under  
 $Fx \xrightarrow{=} D_j$   $A(Fx, D_j) \xrightarrow{\cong} B(x, UD_j)$   
are equal.

- Well  $\varphi\varphi^{-1}k_j = k_j$ .
- $\varphi(D\alpha \circ \varphi^{-1}k_i) = UD\alpha \circ \varphi\varphi^{-1}k_i = UD\alpha \circ k_i$  by naturality of  $\varphi$   
so their images are the two paths  
of  $x \xrightarrow{K_i} UD_i$  which agree, since  
 $K_j \rightarrow UD_j$  the  $k_i$  are a cone
- Since the maps  $\varphi^{-1}k_i : FX \rightarrow D_i$  form a cone we obtain a unique  
 $l : FX \rightarrow L$   
such that  $\oplus$   $FX \xrightarrow{l} L \xrightarrow{\pi_i} D_i$  for all  $i$ .  
- Using the bijection  $A(Fx, L) \xrightarrow{\cong} B(x, UL)$  this corresponds to a map

$x \xrightarrow{u_L} u_L$  & the equations  $\text{(*)}$   
corresp. to the equations

$\text{(*)}$   $x \xrightarrow{u_L} u_L$  up; using naturality  
 $k_i \downarrow_{u_D i}$  of  $u_L$ ,

- In partic,  $u_L : x \rightarrow u_L$  is the unique map st.  $\text{(*)}$  commutes;  
therefore  $(u_L \xrightarrow{u_D i} u_D i)_{i \in J}$   
is a limit cone.  $\square$

- For example,  $U : \text{Grp} \rightarrow \text{Set}$  preserves products, equalisers, terminal object etc. More generally, Forgetful functors from algebraic cats to Set preserve all limits.

## Dually Theorem

Left adjoints preserve colimits.

### Exercise

Prove that forgetful functor  
 $U : \text{Grp} \longrightarrow \text{Set}$  does  
not have a right adjoint  
(i.e. is not a left adjoint.)

## Example

- Let  $\text{Field} = \text{cat. of fields}$   
& homomorphisms : preserve  
addition, mult., 0 & 1.
- Fields are commutative rings  
sat  $0 \neq 1$  &  
 $x \neq 0 \Rightarrow \exists y : xy = 1$

These equations involve negation  
 $\Rightarrow$  not universal algebra

- The cat. of Fields is bad.  
I will show The forgetful  
Functor  $U: \text{Field} \rightarrow \text{Set}$   
does not have a left adjoint.
- If it did have left adj  $F$ ,  
Then  $F$  would send the  
init. obj  $\phi \in \text{Set}$  to an  
init object in Field (as  
left adjoints preserves  
colimits). So it suffices  
to show Field does not  
have an initial object.

• Firstly, let  $F: R \rightarrow S$   
be a field homomorphism.  
We claim  $F$  is injective.

Indeed, suppose  $Fx = 0$  for  $x \neq 0$ .  
Then  $\ker F \hookrightarrow R$  is an  
ideal of  $R$ , non-zero, so  
as  $R$  is a field,  $\ker F = R$ .

Therefore  $F1 = 0$  so  
 $1 = F1 = 0$  which is a  
contradiction;  
hence  $F$  is injective.

• Let  $\mathbb{Z}_p$  field of integers modulo  $p$ , so  $p \cdot 1 = 0$ , for  $p$  a prime.

• If  $F$  is initial,  $\exists$

$$\begin{array}{ccc} & \xrightarrow{\text{inj}} & \mathbb{Z}_p \\ F & \downarrow & \\ & \xrightarrow{\text{inj}} & \mathbb{Z}_q \end{array}$$

for  $p, q$   
coprime.

- Since  $F \hookrightarrow \mathbb{Z}_p, \mathbb{Z}_q$  are injective they reflect equations

$p \cdot 1 = 0$  &  $q \cdot 1 = 0$ , so these equations hold in  $F$ . But as  $p, q$  coprime  $1 = np + mq$ , by

Bezout's identity,  
so in  $F$ ,

$$\begin{aligned}1 &= 1 \cdot 1 = (np + mq) \cdot 1 \\&= n(p \cdot 1) + m(q \cdot 1) = \\n0 + m0 &= 0.\end{aligned}$$

Hence  $1 = 0$  in  $F$ ,

so  $F$  not a Field.  $\square$

Note: In universal algebra  
all forgetful functors have left  
adjoints.

- We have seen:  
right adjoints preserve limits

## Proposition

Right adjoints preserve monos.

Proof] let  $U:A \rightarrow B$   
have left adj.  $F$ , and  
consider mono  $a \xrightarrow{f} b \in A$ .  
Consider  $x \xrightarrow[\vee]{u} Ua \xrightarrow{UF} Ub$

satisfying  $UF.u = UF.v$ . We  
must show  $u=v$ .

Then we obtain maps

$$Fx \xrightarrow{\ell^{-1}u} a \xrightarrow{F} b \quad \&$$

The diagram commutes by  
naturality of  $\ell$ .

Since  $F$  is mono, therefore

$$\ell^{-1}u = \ell^{-1}v.$$

Therefore  $u = v$  so that  
 $UF$  is mono, as claimed.  $\square$

Dually

Proposition

Left adjoints preserve epis.