

# Category Theory to Yoneda's Lemma

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This development proves Yoneda's lemma and aims to be readable by humans. It only defines what is needed for the lemma: categories, functors and natural transformations. Limits, adjunctions and other important concepts are not included.

There is no explanation or discussion in this document. See [O'K04] for this and a survey of category theory formalisations.

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# 1 Categories

```
theory Cat
imports HOL-Library.FuncSet
begin
```

## 1.1 Definitions

```
record ('o, 'a) category =
  ob :: 'o set (Ob1 70)
  ar :: 'a set (Ar1 70)
  dom :: 'a ⇒ 'o (Dom1 - [81] 70)
  cod :: 'a ⇒ 'o (Cod1 - [81] 70)
  id :: 'o ⇒ 'a (Id1 - [81] 80)
  comp :: 'a ⇒ 'a ⇒ 'a (infixl 1 60)
```

### definition

```
hom :: [('o, 'a, 'm) category-scheme, 'o, 'o] ⇒ 'a set
  (Hom1 - - [81,81] 80) where
  hom CC A B = { f. f ∈ ar CC & dom CC f = A & cod CC f = B }
```

```
locale category =
```

```
  fixes CC (structure)
```

```
  assumes dom-object [intro]:
```

```
    f ∈ Ar ⇒ Dom f ∈ Ob
```

```
  and cod-object [intro]:
```

```
    f ∈ Ar ⇒ Cod f ∈ Ob
```

```
  and id-left [simp]:
```

```
    f ∈ Ar ⇒ Id (Cod f) · f = f
```

```
  and id-right [simp]:
```

```
    f ∈ Ar ⇒ f · Id (Dom f) = f
```

```
  and id-hom [intro]:
```

```
    A ∈ Ob ⇒ Id A ∈ Hom A A
```

```
  and comp-types [intro]:
```

```
     $\bigwedge A B C. (comp\ CC) : (Hom\ B\ C) \rightarrow (Hom\ A\ B) \rightarrow (Hom\ A\ C)$ 
```

```
  and comp-associative [simp]:
```

```
    f ∈ Ar ⇒ g ∈ Ar ⇒ h ∈ Ar
```

```
    ⇒ Cod h = Dom g ⇒ Cod g = Dom f
```

```
    ⇒ f · (g · h) = (f · g) · h
```

## 1.2 Lemmas

```
lemma (in category) homI:
```

```
  assumes f ∈ Ar and Dom f = A and Cod f = B
```

```
  shows f ∈ Hom A B
```

```
  ⟨proof⟩
```

```
lemma (in category) homE:
```

```
  assumes A ∈ Ob and B ∈ Ob and f ∈ Hom A B
```

```
  shows Dom f = A and Cod f = B
```

*<proof>*

**lemma** (in *category*) *id-arrow* [*intro*):

assumes  $A \in Ob$

shows  $Id\ A \in Ar$

*<proof>*

**lemma** (in *category*) *id-dom-cod*:

assumes  $A \in Ob$

shows  $Dom\ (Id\ A) = A$  and  $Cod\ (Id\ A) = A$

*<proof>*

**lemma** (in *category*) *compI* [*intro*):

assumes  $f: f \in Ar$  and  $g: g \in Ar$  and  $Cod\ f = Dom\ g$

shows  $g \cdot f \in Ar$

and  $Dom\ (g \cdot f) = Dom\ f$

and  $Cod\ (g \cdot f) = Cod\ g$

*<proof>*

end

## 2 Set is a Category

**theory** *SetCat*

**imports** *Cat*

**begin**

### 2.1 Definitions

**record** *'c set-arrow* =

*set-dom* :: *'c set*

*set-func* :: *'c*  $\Rightarrow$  *'c*

*set-cod* :: *'c set*

**definition**

*set-arrow* :: [*'c set*, *'c set-arrow*]  $\Rightarrow$  *bool* **where**

*set-arrow*  $U\ f \longleftrightarrow set-dom\ f \subseteq U \ \& \ set-cod\ f \subseteq U$

$\ \& \ (set-func\ f): (set-dom\ f) \rightarrow (set-cod\ f)$

$\ \& \ set-func\ f \in extensional\ (set-dom\ f)$

**definition**

*set-id* :: [*'c set*, *'c set*]  $\Rightarrow$  *'c set-arrow* **where**

*set-id*  $U = (\lambda s \in Pow\ U. (\setminus set-dom=s, set-func=\lambda x \in s. x, set-cod=s))$

**definition**

*set-comp* :: [*'c set-arrow*, *'c set-arrow*]  $\Rightarrow$  *'c set-arrow* (**infix**  $\odot$  70) **where**

*set-comp*  $g\ f =$

(

$set-dom = set-dom f,$   
 $set-func = compose (set-dom f) (set-func g) (set-func f),$   
 $set-cod = set-cod g$

)

**definition**

$set-cat :: 'c set \Rightarrow ('c set, 'c set-arrow)$  category **where**

$set-cat U =$

(

$ob = Pow U,$   
 $ar = \{f. set-arrow U f\},$   
 $dom = set-dom,$   
 $cod = set-cod,$   
 $id = set-id U,$   
 $comp = set-comp$

)

## 2.2 Simple Rules and Lemmas

**lemma**  $set-objectI$  [intro]:  $A \subseteq U \Longrightarrow A \in ob (set-cat U)$

$\langle proof \rangle$

**lemma**  $set-objectE$  [intro]:  $A \in ob (set-cat U) \Longrightarrow A \subseteq U$

$\langle proof \rangle$

**lemma**  $set-homI$  [intro]:

**assumes**  $A \subseteq U$

**and**  $B \subseteq U$

**and**  $f : A \rightarrow B$

**and**  $f \in extensional A$

**shows**  $(set-dom=A, set-func=f, set-cod=B) \in hom (set-cat U) A B$

$\langle proof \rangle$

**lemma**  $set-dom$  [simp]:  $dom (set-cat U) f = set-dom f$

$\langle proof \rangle$

**lemma**  $set-cod$  [simp]:  $cod (set-cat U) f = set-cod f$

$\langle proof \rangle$

**lemma**  $set-id$  [simp]:  $id (set-cat U) A = set-id U A$

$\langle proof \rangle$

**lemma**  $set-comp$  [simp]:  $comp (set-cat U) g f = g \odot f$

$\langle proof \rangle$

**lemma**  $set-dom-cod-object-subset$  [intro]:

**assumes**  $f: f \in ar (set-cat U)$

**shows**  $dom (set-cat U) f \in ob (set-cat U)$

**and**  $\text{cod } (\text{set-cat } U) f \in \text{ob } (\text{set-cat } U)$   
**and**  $\text{set-cod } f \subseteq U$   
**and**  $\text{set-dom } f \subseteq U$   
 ⟨*proof*⟩

In this context,  $f \in \text{hom } A B$  is quite a strong claim.

**lemma** *set-homE* [*intro*]:  
**assumes**  $f: f \in \text{hom } (\text{set-cat } U) A B$   
**shows**  $A \subseteq U$   
**and**  $B \subseteq U$   
**and**  $\text{set-dom } f = A$   
**and**  $\text{set-func } f : A \rightarrow B$   
**and**  $\text{set-cod } f = B$   
 ⟨*proof*⟩

## 2.3 Set is a Category

**lemma** *set-id-left*:  
**assumes**  $f: f \in \text{ar } (\text{set-cat } U)$   
**shows**  $\text{set-id } U (\text{set-cod } f) \odot f = f$   
 ⟨*proof*⟩

**lemma** *set-id-right*:  
**assumes**  $f: f \in \text{ar } (\text{set-cat } U)$   
**shows**  $f \odot (\text{set-id } U (\text{set-dom } f)) = f$   
 ⟨*proof*⟩

**lemma** *set-id-hom*:  
**assumes**  $A \in \text{ob } (\text{set-cat } U)$   
**shows**  $\text{id } (\text{set-cat } U) A \in \text{hom } (\text{set-cat } U) A A$   
 ⟨*proof*⟩

**lemma** *set-comp-types*:  
 $\text{comp } (\text{set-cat } U) \in \text{hom } (\text{set-cat } U) B C \rightarrow \text{hom } (\text{set-cat } U) A B \rightarrow \text{hom } (\text{set-cat } U) A C$   
 ⟨*proof*⟩

We reason explicitly about the function component of the composite arrow, leaving the rest to the simplifier.

**lemma** *set-comp-associative*:  
**fixes**  $f$  **and**  $g$  **and**  $h$   
**assumes**  $f: f \in \text{ar } (\text{set-cat } U)$   
**and**  $g: g \in \text{ar } (\text{set-cat } U)$   
**and**  $h: h \in \text{ar } (\text{set-cat } U)$   
**and**  $hg: \text{cod } (\text{set-cat } U) h = \text{dom } (\text{set-cat } U) g$   
**and**  $gf: \text{cod } (\text{set-cat } U) g = \text{dom } (\text{set-cat } U) f$   
**shows**  $\text{comp } (\text{set-cat } U) f (\text{comp } (\text{set-cat } U) g h) = \text{comp } (\text{set-cat } U) (\text{comp } (\text{set-cat } U) f g) h$

*<proof>*

**theorem** *set-cat-cat*: category (*set-cat U*)

*<proof>*

**end**

### 3 Functors

**theory** *Functors*

**imports** *Cat*

**begin**

#### 3.1 Definitions

**record** (*'o1, 'a1, 'o2, 'a2*) *functor* =

*om* :: *'o1*  $\Rightarrow$  *'o2*

*am* :: *'a1*  $\Rightarrow$  *'a2*

**abbreviation**

*om-syn* (*- o* [81]) **where**

$F_o \equiv om\ F$

**abbreviation**

*am-syn* (*- a* [81]) **where**

$F_a \equiv am\ F$

**locale** *two-cats* = *AA?*: category *AA* + *BB?*: category *BB*

**for** *AA* :: (*'o1, 'a1, 'm1*)*category-scheme* (**structure**)

**and** *BB* :: (*'o2, 'a2, 'm2*)*category-scheme* (**structure**) +

**fixes** *preserves-dom* :: (*'o1, 'a1, 'o2, 'a2*)*functor*  $\Rightarrow$  *bool*

**and** *preserves-cod* :: (*'o1, 'a1, 'o2, 'a2*)*functor*  $\Rightarrow$  *bool*

**and** *preserves-id* :: (*'o1, 'a1, 'o2, 'a2*)*functor*  $\Rightarrow$  *bool*

**and** *preserves-comp* :: (*'o1, 'a1, 'o2, 'a2*)*functor*  $\Rightarrow$  *bool*

**defines** *preserves-dom*  $G \equiv \forall f \in Ar_{AA}. G_o (Dom_{AA} f) = Dom_{BB} (G_a f)$

**and** *preserves-cod*  $G \equiv \forall f \in Ar_{AA}. G_o (Cod_{AA} f) = Cod_{BB} (G_a f)$

**and** *preserves-id*  $G \equiv \forall A \in Ob_{AA}. G_a (Id_{AA} A) = Id_{BB} (G_o A)$

**and** *preserves-comp*  $G \equiv$

$\forall f \in Ar_{AA}. \forall g \in Ar_{AA}. Cod_{AA} f = Dom_{AA} g \longrightarrow G_a (g \cdot_{AA} f) = (G_a g) \cdot_{BB} (G_a f)$

**locale** *functor* = *two-cats* +

**fixes** *F* (**structure**)

**assumes** *F-preserves-arrows*:  $F_a : Ar_{AA} \rightarrow Ar_{BB}$

**and** *F-preserves-objects*:  $F_o : Ob_{AA} \rightarrow Ob_{BB}$

**and** *F-preserves-dom*: *preserves-dom* *F*

**and** *F-preserves-cod*: *preserves-cod* *F*

**and** *F-preserves-id*: *preserves-id* *F*

**and**  $F$ -preserves-comp: preserves-comp  $F$   
**begin**

**lemmas**  $F$ -axioms =  $F$ -preserves-arrows  $F$ -preserves-objects  $F$ -preserves-dom  
 $F$ -preserves-cod  $F$ -preserves-id  $F$ -preserves-comp

**lemmas** func-pred-defs = preserves-dom-def preserves-cod-def preserves-id-def pre-  
serves-comp-def

**end**

This gives us nicer notation for asserting that things are functors.

**abbreviation**

$Functor$  ( $Functor$  - : -  $\longrightarrow$  - [81]) **where**  
 $Functor$   $F : AA \longrightarrow BB \equiv functor$   $AA$   $BB$   $F$

### 3.2 Simple Lemmas

For example:

**lemma** (**in functor**)  $Functor$   $F : AA \longrightarrow BB$   $\langle proof \rangle$

**lemma**  $functors$ -preserve-arrows [*intro*]:

**assumes**  $Functor$   $F : AA \longrightarrow BB$   
**and**  $f \in ar$   $AA$   
**shows**  $F_a$   $f \in ar$   $BB$   
 $\langle proof \rangle$

**lemma** (**in functor**)  $functors$ -preserve-homsets:

**assumes** 1:  $A \in Ob_{AA}$   
**and** 2:  $B \in Ob_{AA}$   
**and** 3:  $f \in Hom_{AA}$   $A$   $B$   
**shows**  $F_a$   $f \in Hom_{BB}$   $(F_o$   $A)$   $(F_o$   $B)$   
 $\langle proof \rangle$

**lemma**  $functors$ -preserve-objects [*intro*]:

**assumes**  $Functor$   $F : AA \longrightarrow BB$   
**and**  $A \in ob$   $AA$   
**shows**  $F_o$   $A \in ob$   $BB$   
 $\langle proof \rangle$

### 3.3 Identity Functor

**definition**

$id$ -func :: ( $'o, 'a, 'm$ )  $category$ -scheme  $\Rightarrow$  ( $'o, 'a, 'o, 'a$ )  $functor$  **where**  
 $id$ -func  $CC = (\!| om = (\lambda A \in ob$   $CC. A), am = (\lambda f \in ar$   $CC. f) \!|)$

```

locale one-cat = two-cats +
  assumes endo:  $BB = AA$ 

lemma (in one-cat) id-func-preserves-arrows:
  shows  $(id\text{-func } AA)_a : Ar \rightarrow Ar$ 
  <proof>

lemma (in one-cat) id-func-preserves-objects:
  shows  $(id\text{-func } AA)_o : Ob \rightarrow Ob$ 
  <proof>

lemma (in one-cat) id-func-preserves-dom:
  shows preserves-dom (id-func AA)
  <proof>

lemma (in one-cat) id-func-preserves-cod:
  preserves-cod (id-func AA)
  <proof>

lemma (in one-cat) id-func-preserves-id:
  preserves-id (id-func AA)
  <proof>

lemma (in one-cat) id-func-preserves-comp:
  preserves-comp (id-func AA)
  <proof>

theorem (in one-cat) id-func-functor:
  Functor (id-func AA) :  $AA \longrightarrow AA$ 
  <proof>

end

```

## 4 HomFunctors

```

theory HomFunctors
imports SetCat Functors
begin

locale into-set = two-cats AA BB
  for AA :: ('o,'a,'m)category-scheme (structure)
  and BB (structure) +
  fixes U and Set
  defines U  $\equiv$  (UNIV::'a set)
  defines Set  $\equiv$  set-cat U

```



**assumes** *BB-Set*:  $BB = Set$   
**fixes** *homf* ( $Hom'(\cdot, \cdot')$ )  
**defines** *homf*  $A \equiv \langle$   
 $om = (\lambda B \in Ob. Hom A B),$   
 $am = (\lambda f \in Ar. \langle set-dom = Hom A (Dom f), set-func = (\lambda g \in Hom A (Dom f). f \cdot$   
 $g \rangle, set-cod = Hom A (Cod f)) \rangle$   
 $\rangle$

**lemma** (**in** *into-set*) *homf-preserves-arrows*:  
 $Hom(A, -)_a : Ar \rightarrow ar Set$   
 $\langle proof \rangle$

**lemma** (**in** *into-set*) *homf-preserves-objects*:  
 $Hom(A, -)_o : Ob \rightarrow ob Set$   
 $\langle proof \rangle$

**lemma** (**in** *into-set*) *homf-preserves-dom*:  
**assumes**  $f: f \in Ar$   
**shows**  $Hom(A, -)_o (Dom f) = dom Set (Hom(A, -)_a f)$   
 $\langle proof \rangle$

**lemma** (**in** *into-set*) *homf-preserves-cod*:  
**assumes**  $f: f \in Ar$   
**shows**  $Hom(A, -)_o (Cod f) = cod Set (Hom(A, -)_a f)$   
 $\langle proof \rangle$

**lemma** (**in** *into-set*) *homf-preserves-id*:  
**assumes**  $B: B \in Ob$   
**shows**  $Hom(A, -)_a (Id B) = id Set (Hom(A, -)_o B)$   
 $\langle proof \rangle$

**lemma** (**in** *into-set*) *homf-preserves-comp*:  
**assumes**  $f: f \in Ar$   
**and**  $g: g \in Ar$   
**and**  $fg: Cod f = Dom g$   
**shows**  $Hom(A, -)_a (g \cdot f) = (Hom(A, -)_a g) \odot (Hom(A, -)_a f)$   
 $\langle proof \rangle$

**theorem** (**in** *into-set*) *homf-into-set*:  
 $Functor Hom(A, -) : AA \rightarrow Set$   
 $\langle proof \rangle$

**end**

## 5 Natural Transformations

```
theory NatTrans
imports Functors
begin
```

```
locale natural-transformation = two-cats +
  fixes F and G and u
  assumes Functor F : AA → BB
  and Functor G : AA → BB
  and u : ob AA → ar BB
  and u ∈ extensional (ob AA)
  and ∀ A ∈ Ob. u A ∈ HomBB (Fo A) (Go A)
  and ∀ A ∈ Ob. ∀ B ∈ Ob. ∀ f ∈ Hom A B. (Ga f) ·BB (u A) = (u B) ·BB (Fa f)
```

**abbreviation**

```
nt-syn (- : - ⇒ - in Func '(-, -) [81]) where
u : F ⇒ G in Func(AA, BB) ≡ natural-transformation AA BB F G u
```

```
locale endoNT = natural-transformation + one-cat
```

**theorem** (in endoNT) *id-restrict-natural*:

```
(λA ∈ Ob. Id A) : (id-func AA) ⇒ (id-func AA) in Func(AA, AA)
⟨proof⟩
```

**end**

## 6 Yoneda Lemma

```
theory Yoneda
imports HomFunctors NatTrans
begin
```

### 6.1 The Sandwich Natural Transformation

```
locale Yoneda = functor + into-set +
  assumes TERM (AA :: ('o, 'a, 'm) category-scheme)
  fixes sandwich :: ['o, 'a, 'o] ⇒ 'a set-arrow (σ'(-, -'))
  defines sandwich A a ≡ (λB ∈ Ob. (
    set-dom = Hom A B,
    set-func = (λf ∈ Hom A B. set-func (Fa f) a),
    set-cod = Fo B
  ))
  fixes unsandwich :: ['o, 'o] ⇒ 'a set-arrow ⇒ 'a (σ←'(-, -'))
  defines unsandwich A u ≡ set-func (u A) (Id A)
```

**lemma** (in Yoneda) *F-into-set*:

*Functor*  $F : AA \rightarrow Set$   
 ⟨proof⟩

**lemma** (in *Yoneda*) *F-comp-func*:  
 assumes 1:  $A \in Ob$  and 2:  $B \in Ob$  and 3:  $C \in Ob$   
 and 4:  $g \in Hom\ A\ B$  and 5:  $f \in Hom\ B\ C$   
 shows *set-func*  $(F_a (f \cdot g)) = compose (F_o A) (set-func (F_a f)) (set-func (F_a g))$   
 ⟨proof⟩

**lemma** (in *Yoneda*) *sandwich-funcset*:  
 assumes  $A: A \in Ob$   
 and  $a \in F_o A$   
 shows  $\sigma(A,a) : Ob \rightarrow ar\ Set$   
 ⟨proof⟩

**lemma** (in *Yoneda*) *sandwich-type*:  
 assumes  $A: A \in Ob$  and  $B: B \in Ob$   
 and  $a \in F_o A$   
 shows  $\sigma(A,a) B \in hom\ Set (Hom\ A\ B) (F_o B)$   
 ⟨proof⟩

**lemma** (in *Yoneda*) *sandwich-commutes*:  
 assumes  $AOb: A \in Ob$  and  $BOb: B \in Ob$  and  $COb: C \in Ob$   
 and  $aFa: a \in F_o A$   
 and  $fBC: f \in Hom\ B\ C$   
 shows  $(F_a f) \odot (\sigma(A,a) B) = (\sigma(A,a) C) \odot (Hom(A,-)_a f)$   
 ⟨proof⟩

**lemma** (in *Yoneda*) *sandwich-natural*:  
 assumes  $A \in Ob$   
 and  $a \in F_o A$   
 shows  $\sigma(A,a) : Hom(A,-) \Rightarrow F\ in\ Func(AA,Set)$   
 ⟨proof⟩

## 6.2 Sandwich Components are Bijective

**lemma** (in *Yoneda*) *unsandwich-left-inverse*:  
 assumes 1:  $A \in Ob$   
 and 2:  $a \in F_o A$   
 shows  $\sigma^{\leftarrow}(A, \sigma(A,a)) = a$   
 ⟨proof⟩

**lemma** (in *Yoneda*) *unsandwich-right-inverse*:

**assumes** 1:  $A \in Ob$   
**and** 2:  $u : Hom(A, -) \Rightarrow F$  in  $Func(AA, Set)$   
**shows**  $\sigma(A, \sigma^{\leftarrow}(A, u)) = u$   
 <proof>

In order to state the lemma, we must rectify a curious omission from the Isabelle/HOL library. They define the idea of injectivity on a given set, but surjectivity is only defined relative to the entire universe of the target type.

**definition**

$surj-on :: ['a \Rightarrow 'b, 'a\ set, 'b\ set] \Rightarrow bool$  **where**  
 $surj-on\ f\ A\ B \longleftrightarrow (\forall y \in B. \exists x \in A. f(x)=y)$

**definition**

$bij-on :: ['a \Rightarrow 'b, 'a\ set, 'b\ set] \Rightarrow bool$  **where**  
 $bij-on\ f\ A\ B \longleftrightarrow inj-on\ f\ A \ \&\ surj-on\ f\ A\ B$

**definition**

$equinumerous :: ['a\ set, 'b\ set] \Rightarrow bool$  (**infix**  $\cong$  40) **where**  
 $equinumerous\ A\ B \longleftrightarrow (\exists f. bij-betw\ f\ A\ B)$

**lemma** *bij-betw-eq:*

$bij-betw\ f\ A\ B \longleftrightarrow$   
 $inj-on\ f\ A \wedge (\forall y \in B. \exists x \in A. f(x)=y) \wedge (\forall x \in A. f\ x \in B)$   
 <proof>

**theorem** (**in** *Yoneda*) *Yoneda:*

**assumes** 1:  $A \in Ob$   
**shows**  $F_O\ A \cong \{u. u : Hom(A, -) \Rightarrow F\}$  in  $Func(AA, Set)$   
 <proof>

**end**

## References

- [O’K04] Greg O’Keefe. Towards a readable formalisation of category theory. In Mike Atkinson, editor, *Computing: The Australasian Theory Symposium*, volume 91 of *Electronic Notes in Theoretical Computer Science*, pages 212–228. Elsevier, 2004.