

# Category theory for computer science

- *generality*
- *abstraction*
- *convenience*
- *constructiveness*
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## Overall idea

*look at all objects exclusively through relationships between them*

*capture relationships between objects as appropriate morphisms between them*

## (Cartesian) product

- *Cartesian product* of two sets  $A$  and  $B$ , is the set  $A \times B = \{\langle a, b \rangle \mid a \in A, b \in B\}$  with projections  $\pi_1: A \times B \rightarrow A$  and  $\pi_2: A \times B \rightarrow B$  given by  $\pi_1(\langle a, b \rangle) = a$  and  $\pi_2(\langle a, b \rangle) = b$ .

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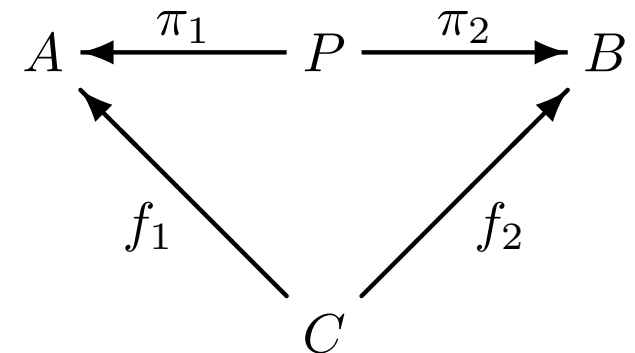
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$$A \xleftarrow{\pi_1} P \xrightarrow{\pi_2} B$$

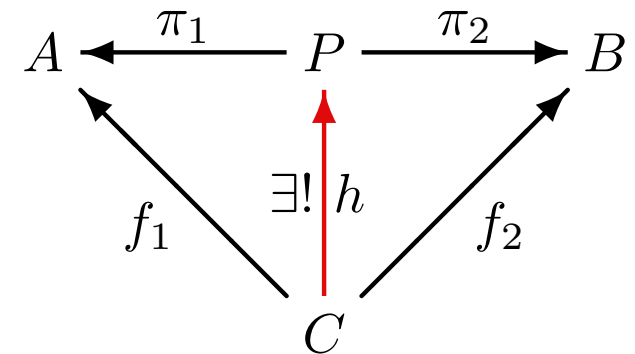
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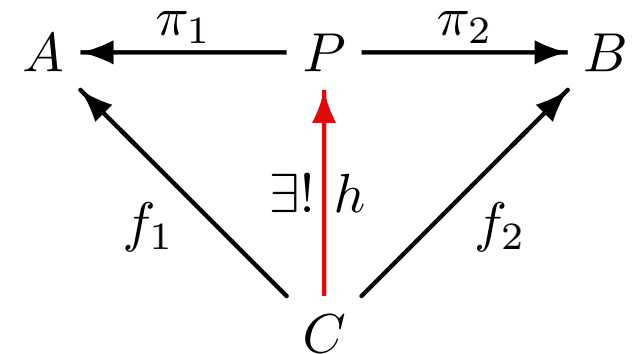
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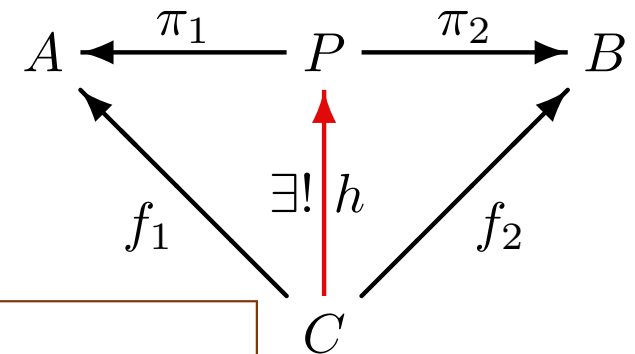




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Recall the definition of (Cartesian) product of  $\Sigma$ -algebras.  
Define product of  $\Sigma$ -algebras as above. *What have you changed?*

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$\mathbf{K}$  is *locally small* if for all  $A, B \in |\mathbf{K}|$ ,  $\mathbf{K}(A, B)$  is a set.  
 $\mathbf{K}$  is *small* if in addition  $|\mathbf{K}|$  is a set.

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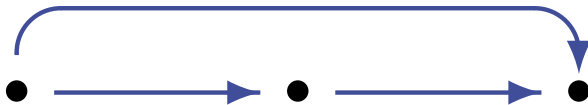
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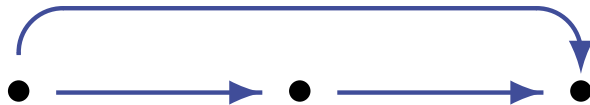
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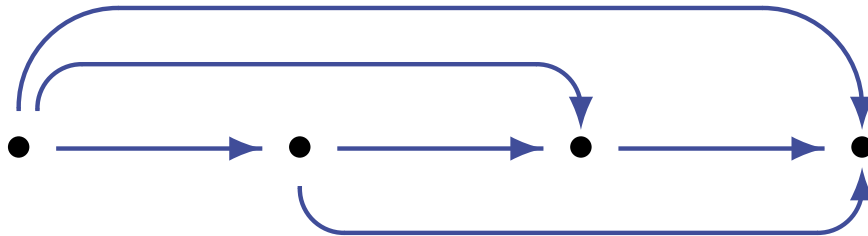
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- reflexivity:  $x \leq x$
- transitivity: if  $x \leq y$  and  $y \leq z$  then  $x \leq z$

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- associativity:  $x;(y;z) = (x;y);z$
- identity:  $id;x = x;id = x$

## Generic examples

**Discrete categories:** A category  $\mathbf{K}$  is *discrete* if all  $\mathbf{K}(A, B)$  are empty, for distinct  $A, B \in |\mathbf{K}|$ , and  $\mathbf{K}(A, A) = \{id_A\}$  for all  $A \in |\mathbf{K}|$ .

**Preorders:** A category  $\mathbf{K}$  is *thin* if for all  $A, B \in |\mathbf{K}|$ ,  $\mathbf{K}(A, B)$  contains at most one element.

Every preorder  $\leq \subseteq X \times X$  determines a thin category  $\mathbf{K}_{\leq}$  with  $|\mathbf{K}_{\leq}| = X$  and for  $x, y \in |\mathbf{K}_{\leq}|$ ,  $\mathbf{K}_{\leq}(x, y)$  is nonempty iff  $x \leq y$ .

Every (small) category  $\mathbf{K}$  determines a preorder  $\leq_{\mathbf{K}} \subseteq |\mathbf{K}| \times |\mathbf{K}|$ , where for  $A, B \in |\mathbf{K}|$ ,  $A \leq_{\mathbf{K}} B$  iff  $\mathbf{K}(A, B)$  is nonempty.

**Monoids:** A category  $\mathbf{K}$  is a *monoid* if  $|\mathbf{K}|$  is a singleton.

Every monoid  $\mathcal{X} = \langle X, ;, id \rangle$ , where  $_-;_- : X \times X \rightarrow X$  and  $id \in X$ , determines a (monoid) category  $\mathbf{K}_{\mathcal{X}}$  with  $|\mathbf{K}_{\mathcal{X}}| = \{*\}$ ,  $\mathbf{K}(*, *) = X$  and the composition given by the monoid operation.

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- Algebraic signatures (as objects) and their morphisms (as morphisms) with the composition defined in the obvious way form the category **AlgSig**.

# Substitutions

For any signature  $\Sigma = (S, \Omega)$ , the category of  $\Sigma$ -substitutions  $\mathbf{Subst}_\Sigma$  is defined as follows:

- objects of  $\mathbf{Subst}_\Sigma$  are  $S$ -sorted sets (of variables);
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- $|\mathbf{K}'| \subseteq |\mathbf{K}|$ ,
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- The category **FinSet** of finite sets is a full subcategory of **Set**.
- The discrete category of sets is a subcategory of the category of sets with inclusions as morphisms, which is a subcategory of the category of sets with injective functions as morphisms, which is a subcategory of **Set**.
- The category of single-sorted signatures is a full subcategory of **AlgSig**.

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# Duality principle

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**Theorem:** *If a property  $W$  holds for all categories then  $co\text{-}W$  holds for all categories as well.*



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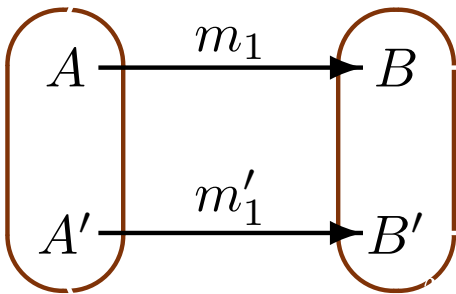
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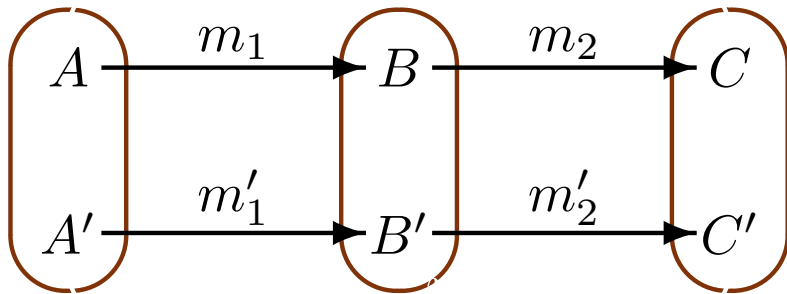
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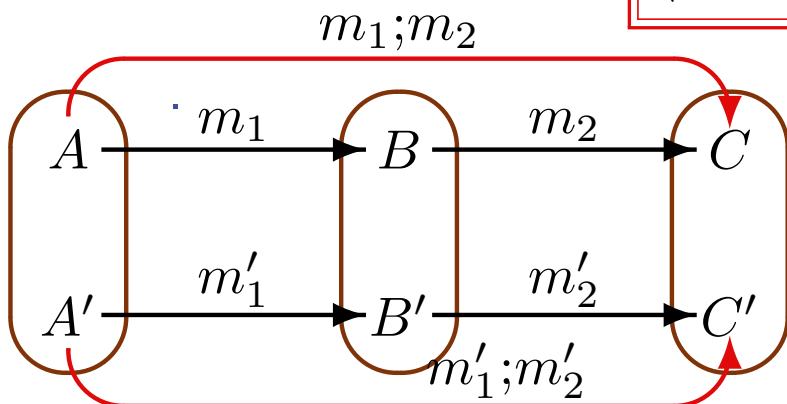


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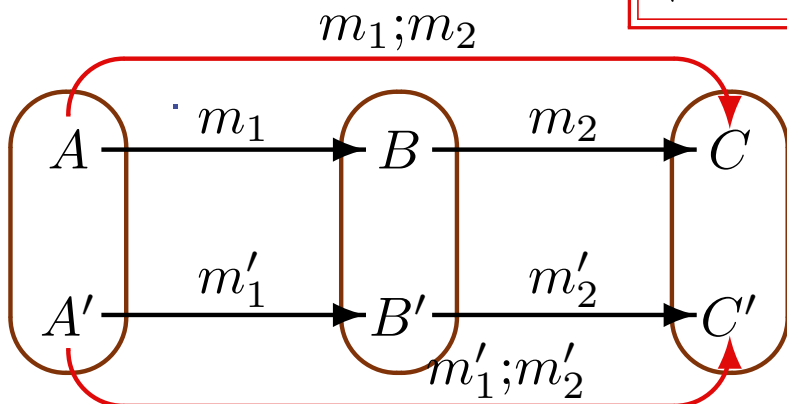


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Define  $\mathbf{K}^n$ , where  $\mathbf{K}$  is a category and  $n \geq 1$ .  
Extend this definition to  $n = 0$ .

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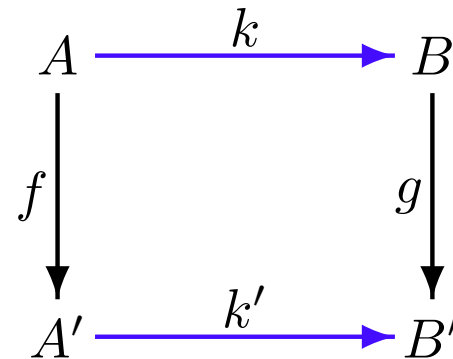
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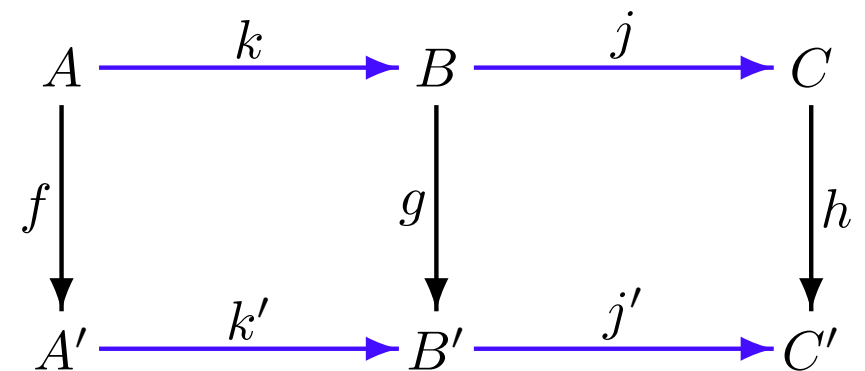
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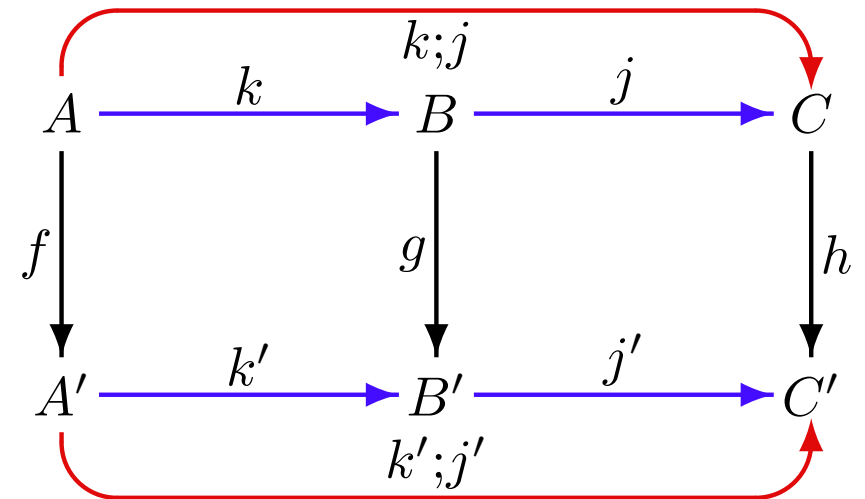
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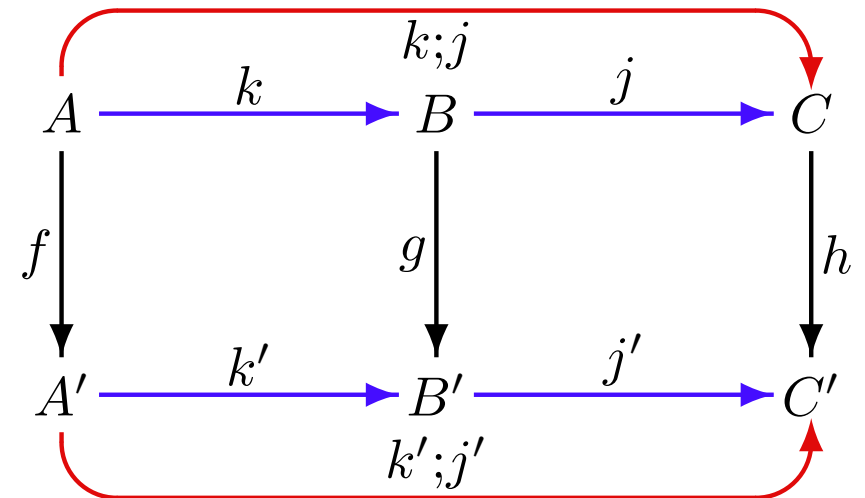


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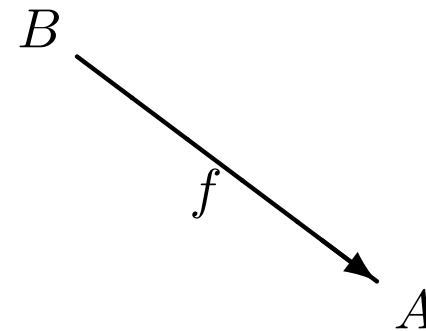
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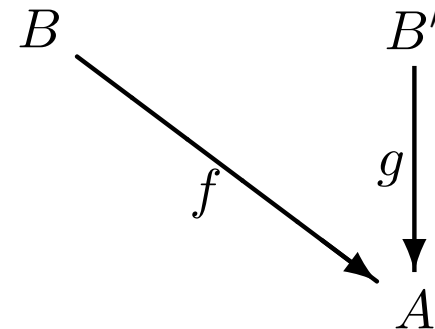
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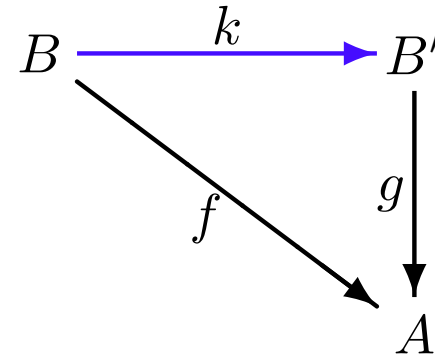




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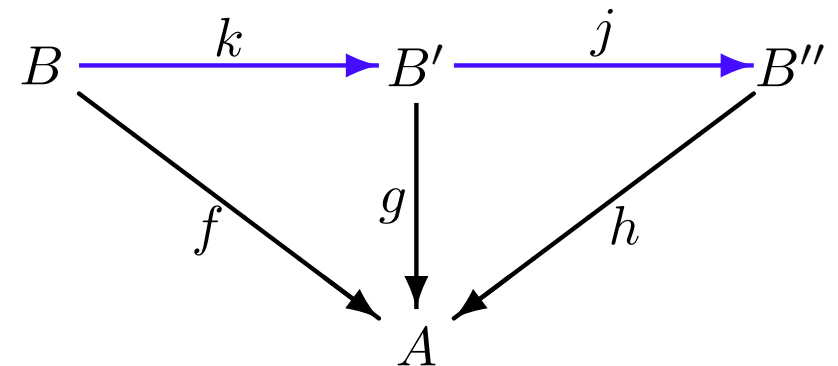
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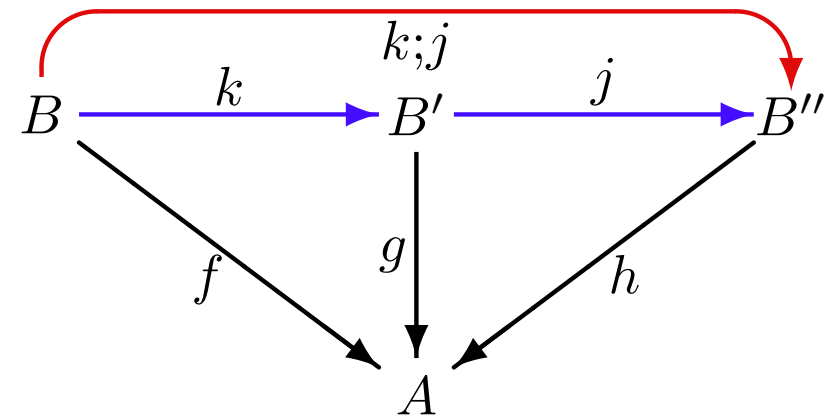
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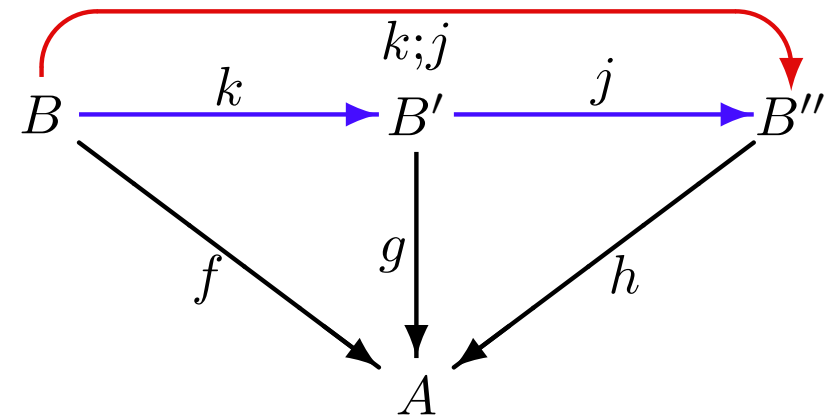


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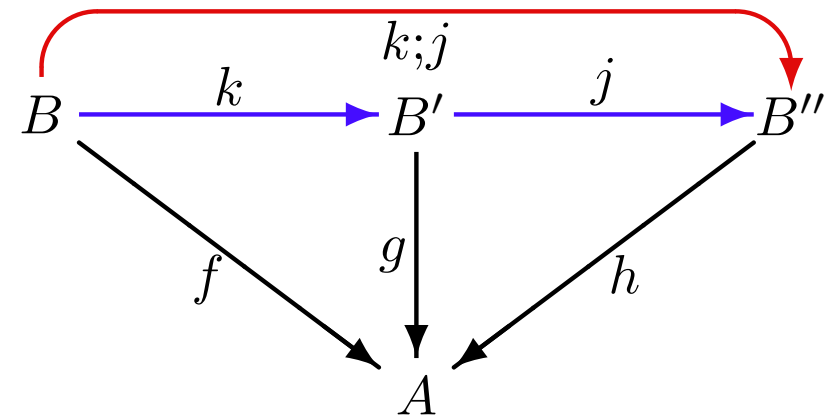
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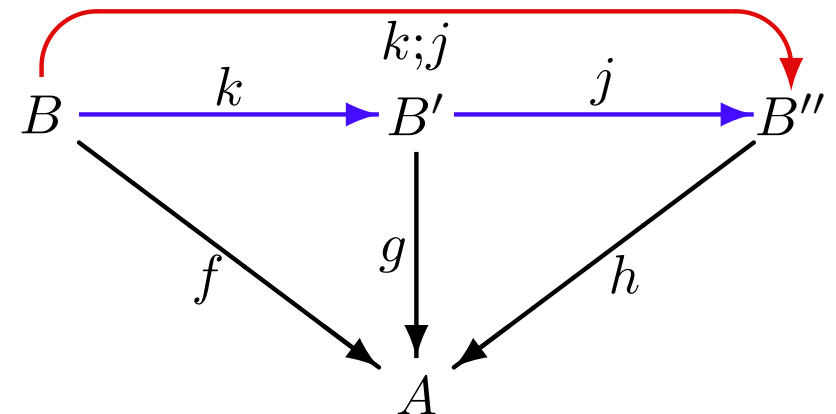
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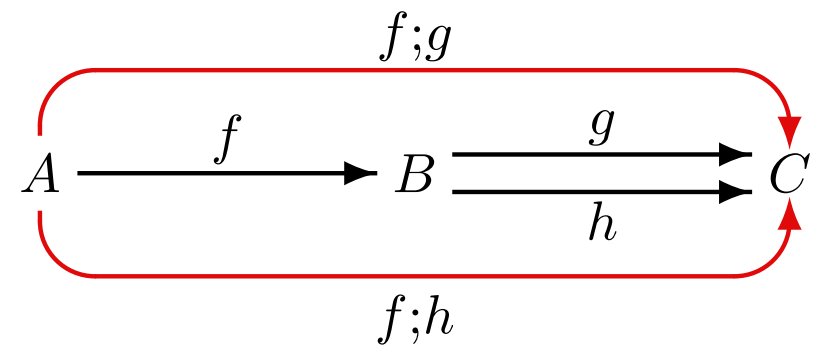
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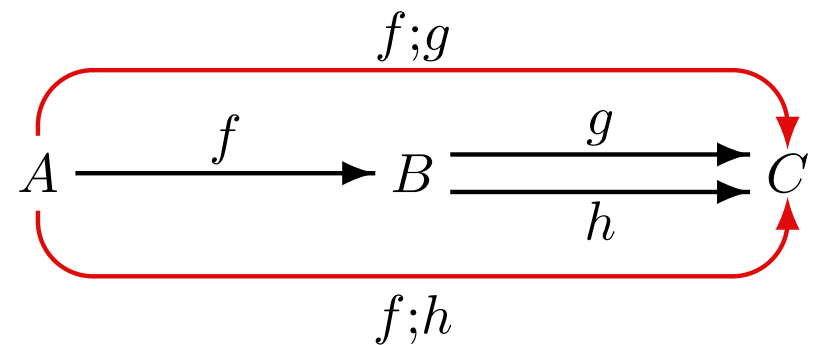
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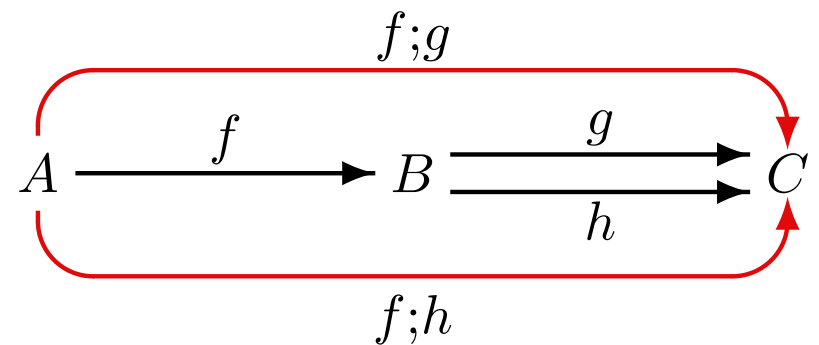


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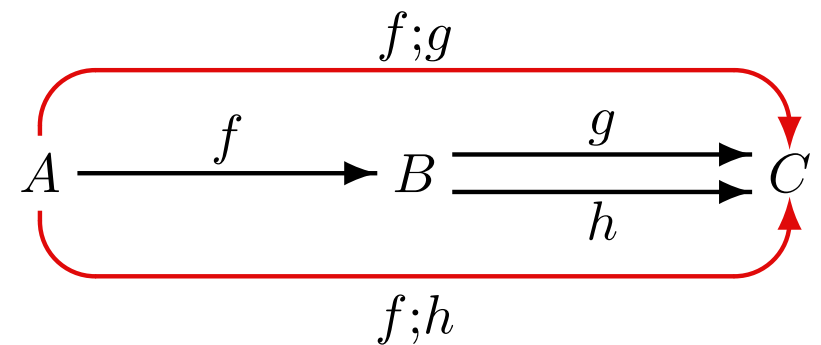
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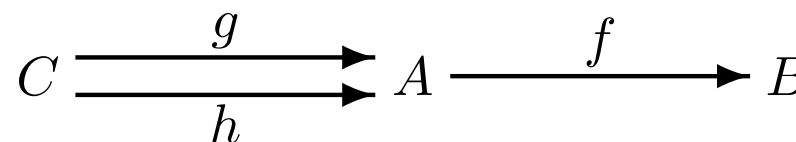
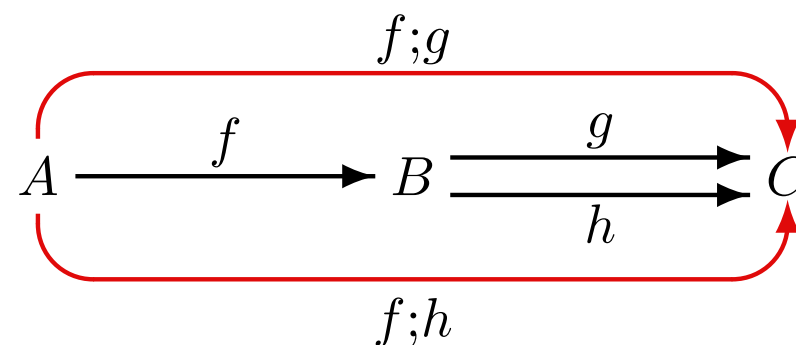
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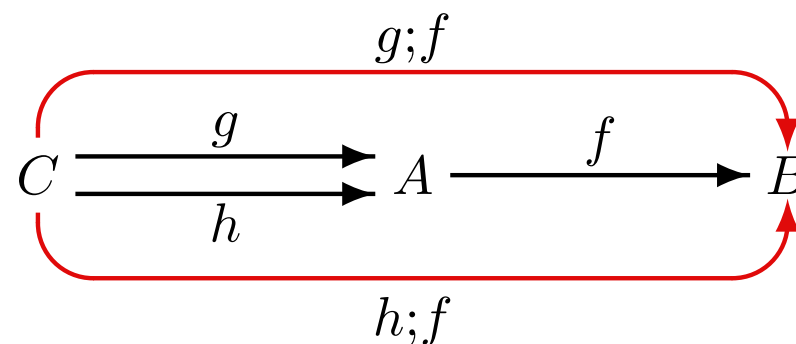
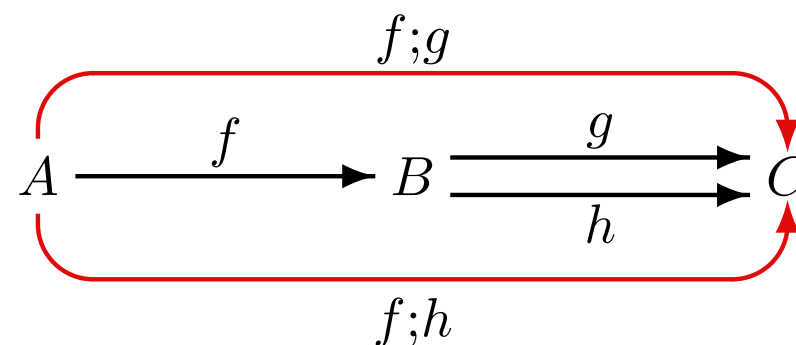
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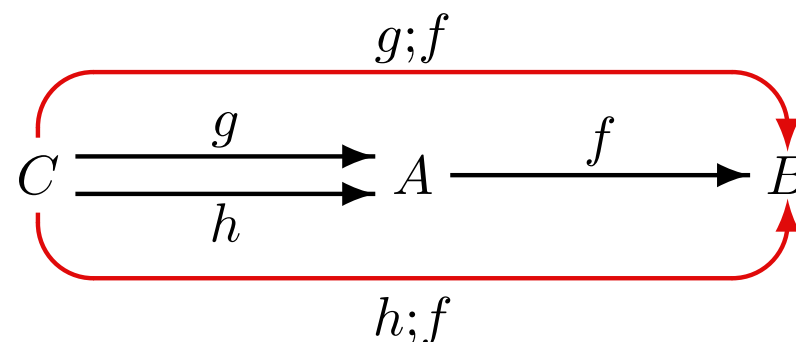
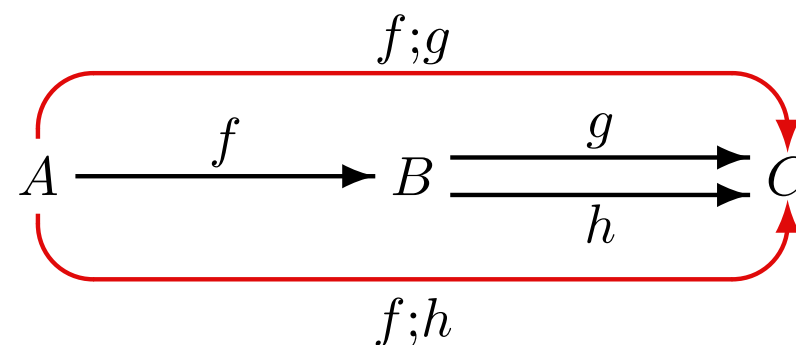
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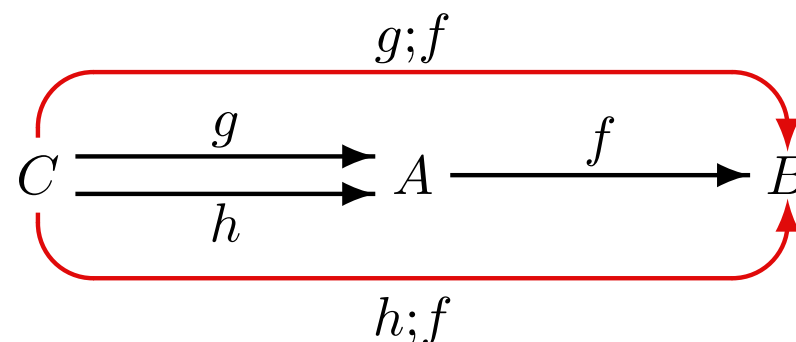
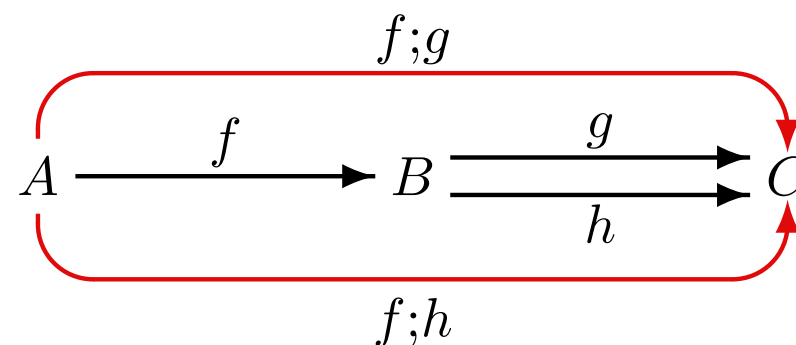
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Give “natural” examples of categories where epis need not be “surjective”.  
Give “natural” examples of categories where monos need not be “injective”.

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**Proof:** If  $h_1, h_2: B \rightarrow C$  are such that  $f;h_1 = f;h_2$  then  $f^{-1};f;h_1 = f^{-1};f;h_2$ ,  
hence  $id_B;h_1 = id_B;h_2$ , which yields  $h_1 = h_2$ . Thus  $f$  is epi. By a similar (dual!) argument,  $f$  is mono.

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Dualise!