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ON CATEGORIES INTO WHICH EACH CONCRETE CATEGORY CAN BE EMBEDDED. II

by Václav KOUBEK

Given a contravariant functor F from sets to sets, the category $S(F)$ has for objects pairs (X, S) , with X a set and $S \subset FX$; morphisms are mappings $f: (X, S) \rightarrow (Y, T)$ such that $Ff(T) \subset S$. The paper characterizes those functors F for which $S(F)$ is a universal category, i.e. every concrete category can be fully embedded into it. The characterization is very simple: F must be nearly faithful, i.e. there must be a cardinal α such that for arbitrary mappings $f, g: X \rightarrow Y$ we have: if $f \neq g$, then either $Ff \neq Fg$ or $\text{card } f(X) < \alpha$, $\text{card } f(Y) < \alpha$.

The paper continues the author's previous characterization of covariant functors F for which $S(F)$ (defined analogously) is binding. There are striking similarities between the two cases, yet the main result here has no analogy in the covariant case.

I

CONVENTIONS. *Set* denotes the category of sets and mappings.

The word «functor» will denote a contravariant set functor.

Let e be a decomposition of a set X . Then the canonical mapping from X to X/e will be denoted by e , therefore the class of e containing x is denoted $e(x)$.

If $f: X \rightarrow Y$ is a mapping, then $\text{Ker } f$ is the canonical decomposition of f , i.e. $\text{Ker } f = \{f^{-1}(y) \mid y \in \text{Im } f\}$.

The cardinal α is meant as the set of all ordinals with type less than α ; α^+ denotes the cardinal successor of α .

DEFINITION. A concrete category is called *universal* if every concrete category can be embedded into it.

THEOREM 1.1. *The category $S(P^-)$ is universal.*

PROOF. See [8].

NOTE. We recall the definition of the functor P^- :

$$P^-(X) = \{ Z \mid Z \subset X \},$$

$$\text{if } f: X \rightarrow Y \text{ then for every } Z \in P^- Y, \quad P^- f(Z) = f^{-1}(Z).$$

DEFINITION. A full embedding Ψ from the concrete category (K, U) to the concrete category (L, V) is called *strong* if there exists a set functor $F: \text{Set} \rightarrow \text{Set}$ such that the diagram

$$\begin{array}{ccc} K & \xrightarrow{\Psi} & L \\ U \downarrow & & \downarrow V \\ \text{Set} & \xrightarrow{F} & \text{Set} \end{array}$$

commutes.

DEFINITION. An object is *rigid* if it has no non-identical endomorphism.

Now we shall describe a «behaviour» of the functor F .

CONVENTION. Let F be a functor. Then for a cardinal α , F^α denotes the subfunctor of F such that

$$F^\alpha Y = \bigcup_{\text{card } Z < \alpha} \bigcup_{f \in Z^Y} \text{Im } Ff,$$

where Z^Y is the set of all mappings from Y to Z .

DEFINITION [4]. A cardinal $\alpha > 1$ is an *unattainable cardinal* of a functor F if $F^\alpha - F^{\alpha-1} \neq \emptyset$. Then put

$$F_\alpha X = F^{\alpha+1} X - F^\alpha X.$$

The class of all unattainable cardinals of F is denoted by A_F .

THEOREM 1.2. *Let X be an infinite set such that there exists $\alpha \in A_F$, with $\alpha \leq \text{card } X$. Then $\text{card } F X \geq \text{card } 2^X$.*

PROOF. See [4].

DEFINITION. Let $f, g: X \rightarrow Y$ be mappings onto. Then f, g are *diverse* if there exists $Z \subset X$ such that either

$$f(Z) = Y \quad \text{and} \quad \text{card } g(Z) < \text{card } Y$$

or

$$g(Z) = Y \quad \text{and} \quad \text{card } f(Z) < \text{card } Y.$$

A system $\mathcal{Q}$ of mappings from X to Y is called *diverse* if arbitrary distinct mappings $f, g \in \mathcal{Q}$ are diverse.

PROPOSITION 1.3. *If α is an unattainable cardinal of a functor F and if $f, g: X \rightarrow \alpha$ are diverse, then*

$$Ff(F_\alpha \alpha) \cap Fg(F_\alpha \alpha) = \emptyset.$$

PROOF. See [4].

LEMMA 1.4. *Let X be an infinite set. Then for every infinite cardinal α with $\alpha \leq \text{card } X$ there exists a diverse system $\mathcal{Q}$ of mappings from X to α such that $\text{card } \mathcal{Q} = \text{card } 2^X$.*

PROOF. See [4].

DEFINITION. We say that $f: X \rightarrow Y$ is *coarser than* $g: X \rightarrow Z$ if there exists $h: Z \rightarrow Y$ such that $h \circ g = f$.

PROPOSITION 1.5. *If $f: X \rightarrow Y$ then $\text{Im } Ff = \cup \text{Im } Fg$ where the union is taken over all $g: X \rightarrow \alpha$ coarser than f and $\alpha \in A_F$.*

PROOF. See [7].

DEFINITION. Let F be a functor, $x \in F X$. Define

$$\mathcal{F}_F^X(x) = \{ e \mid e \text{ is a decomposition of } X, x \in \text{Im } Fe \}.$$

Further we shall write

$$\| \mathcal{F}_F^X(x) \| = \min \{ \text{card } \text{Im } e \mid e \in \mathcal{F}_F^X(x) \}.$$

PROPOSITION 1.6. *Let F be a functor; then $\alpha \in A_F$ iff there exists $x \in F X$ such that $\| \mathcal{F}_F^X(x) \| = \alpha$ for $\text{card } X \geq \alpha$. Further $y \in F_\alpha Y$ iff $\| \mathcal{F}_F^Y(y) \| = \alpha$.*

PROOF. Clearly $x \notin F^\alpha \alpha$. On the other hand $x \in \text{Im } Ff$, where $f: X \rightarrow Y$ is onto and $\text{card } Y = \alpha$; therefore $x \in F_\alpha X$ and $\alpha \in A_F$. The rest is evident.

COROLLARY 1.7. *If $\| \mathcal{F}_F^X(x) \|$ is finite, then there exists e with*

$$\mathcal{F}_F^X(x) = \{ e' \mid e \text{ is coarser than } e' \}.$$

PROOF. If $e \neq e'$ and

$$\text{card } \text{Im } e' = \text{card } \text{Im } e < \aleph_0,$$

then e and e' are diverse and by Proposition 1.3 we get Corollary 1.7.

PROPOSITION 1.8. *Let F be a functor, $f: X \rightarrow Y$. Then for every $y \in FY$ it holds*

$$\mathcal{F}_F^X(Ff(y)) \supset \{e' \mid \text{there exists } e \in \mathcal{F}_F^Y(y), e \circ f \text{ is coarser than } e'\}.$$

PROOF is easy.

PROPOSITION 1.9. *Let F be a functor, $y \in FY$. If for some $\tilde{e} \in \mathcal{F}_F^Y(y)$ and for some $f: X \rightarrow Y$, $\tilde{e} \circ f$ is onto, then*

$$\mathcal{F}_F^X(Ff(y)) = \{e' \mid \text{there exists } e \in \mathcal{F}_F^Y(Y), e \circ f \text{ is coarser than } e'\}.$$

PROOF. There exists a mapping h such that $\tilde{e} \circ f \circ h = \text{id}$, then

$$F\tilde{e} \circ Fh \circ Ff(y) = F\tilde{e} \circ Fh \circ Ff \circ F\tilde{e}(z) = F\tilde{e}(z) = y,$$

where $z \in F(Y/\tilde{e})$ with $F\tilde{e}(z) = y$. Now by Proposition 1.8 we get Proposition 1.9.

DEFINITION. Let F be a functor. For $x \in FX$ denote by e_x the finest decomposition which is coarser than each $e \in \mathcal{F}_F^X(x)$.

NOTE. If α is a finite cardinal and $x \in F_\alpha X$, then $e_x \in \mathcal{F}_F^X(x)$.

COROLLARY 1.10. *Let F be a functor, α a finite cardinal. If, for some $f: X \rightarrow Y$ and for some $y \in F_\alpha Y$ we have $Ff(y) \in F_\alpha X$, then*

$$e_{Ff(y)} = \text{Ker}(e_y \circ f).$$

PROOF is easy.

II

LEMMA 2.1. *The object $(6, V)$ is a rigid object of $S(P^-)$, where*

$$\begin{aligned} V = \{ & \{0\}, \{1\}, \{2\}, \{3\}, \{4\}, \{5\}, \{0, 1\}, \{0, 2\}, \{0, 3\}, \{0, 4\}, \\ & \{1, 2\}, \{1, 3\}, \{1, 5\}, \{2, 4\}, \{2, 3, 4, 5\}, \{1, 3, 4, 5\}, \\ & \{1, 2, 4, 5\}, \{1, 2, 3, 5\}, \{0, 3, 4, 5\}, \{0, 2, 4, 5\}, \{0, 2, 3, 4\}, \\ & \{0, 1, 3, 5\}, \{1, 2, 3, 4, 5\}, \{0, 2, 3, 4, 5\}, \{0, 1, 3, 4, 5\}, \\ & \{0, 1, 2, 4, 5\}, \{0, 1, 2, 3, 5\}, \{0, 1, 2, 3, 4\} \}. \end{aligned}$$

PROOF. Since $\emptyset \notin V$ and for every $i \in 6$, $\{i\} \in V$ we get, if $f: (6, V) \rightarrow (6, V)$ is a morphism of $S(P^-)$, then f is a bijection. Therefore for every $\{i, j\} \in V$ we have

$$f^{-1}(\{i, j\}) = \{f^{-1}(i), f^{-1}(j)\} \in V.$$

Hence

$$\text{card}\{\{i, j\} \in V \mid j \in 6 - \{i\}\} \leq \text{card}\{\{f^{-1}(i), j\} \in V \mid j \in 6 - \{f^{-1}(i)\}\}$$

for every $i \in 6$ and thus we get for every $i \in 6$,

$$\text{card}\{\{i, j\} \in V \mid j \in 6 - \{i\}\} = \text{card}\{\{f^{-1}(i), j\} \in V \mid j \in 6 - \{f^{-1}(i)\}\}.$$

Hence

$$f^{-1}(5) = 5, \quad f^{-1}(2) = 2.$$

Now it is easy to verify that $f = \text{id}_6$.

CONVENTION. An object of $S(F)$ will be called an F -space.

DEFINITION. Denote by $E(P^-)$ the full subcategory of $S(P^-)$ over those (X, W) for which $Z \in W$ implies $X - Z \in W$ and $Z \neq \emptyset$.

PROPOSITION 2.2. *There exists a strong embedding of $S(P^-)$ into $E(P^-)$.*

PROOF. Let (X, W) be a P^- -space. Define $\Psi(X, W) = (X \vee 6, W_S)$, where:

$$\begin{aligned} W_S = & \{Z, X \vee 6 - Z \mid Z \in V, \text{card } Z < 3\} \cup \\ & \cup \{\{0, 1, 2\} \cup Z, \{3, 4, 5\} \cup X - Z \mid Z \in W\}; \end{aligned}$$

for a given $f: (X_1, W_1) \rightarrow (X_2, W_2)$, $\Psi f = f \vee \text{id}_6$. Clearly Ψ is an embedding. We shall prove that it is also full. Let $f: \Psi(X_1, W_1) \rightarrow \Psi(X_2, W_2)$. First we prove $f(X_1) \subset X_2$. Assume the contrary, i.e. $f(x) = i$ for some $x \in X_1$ and $i \in 6$. Then $f^{-1}(\{i\}) \in (W_1)_S$ and therefore either

$$\begin{aligned} f(\{0, 1, 2\}) = \{i\}, \quad \text{or } f(\{3, 4, 5\}) = \{i\}, \\ \text{or } f((X_1 \vee 6) - Z) = \{i\} \text{ for some } Z \in V, \text{card } Z < 3. \end{aligned}$$

Since $\emptyset \notin (W_1)_S$ and $\{i\} \in (W_2)_S$ for every $i \in 6$, we have $6 \subset \text{Im } f$ and therefore the last case is impossible. Further there exists

$$j \in 6 \text{ such that } \{i, j\} \in (W_2)_S$$

and so $f^{-1}(\{i, j\}) \in (W_1)_S$. Hence either $j \in f(X_1)$ or $f(X_1) = \{i\}$. In the former case we get again either

$$f(\{0, 1, 2\}) = \{j\} \quad \text{or} \quad f(\{3, 4, 5\}) = \{j\}$$

(we use the fact that $\{j\} \in (\mathbb{W}_2)_S$) and so $6 \in f^{-1}(\{i, j\})$; this is a contradiction. In the latter case

$$f^{-1}(\{i, j\}) = (X_1 \vee 6) - Z \quad \text{for some } Z \in V, \text{ card } Z < 3$$

and therefore $6 \notin \text{Im } f$ and it is again a contradiction. Hence

$$f(X_1) \subset X_2 \quad \text{and} \quad f(6) = 6.$$

By Lemma 2.1 we have $f/6 = \text{id}_6$ and $f/X_1: (X_1, \mathbb{W}_1) \rightarrow (X_2, \mathbb{W}_2)$ is a morphism of $S(P^-)$. Thus Ψ is a strong embedding.

PROPOSITION 2.3. *There exists a full subcategory $\mathfrak{M}$ of $S(P^-)$ such that:*

1° *if $(X, \mathbb{W}) \in \mathfrak{M}$ then $\emptyset \neq \mathbb{W}$, $\emptyset \neq \mathbb{W}$ and for every $x \in X$ there exists $Z \in \mathbb{W}$ with $x \in Z$;*

2° *if $f, g: (X_1, \mathbb{W}_1) \rightarrow (X_2, \mathbb{W}_2)$ and $(X_1, \mathbb{W}_1), (X_2, \mathbb{W}_2) \in \mathfrak{M}$, then there exists $Z \in \mathbb{W}_2$ with $f^{-1}(Z) \neq g^{-1}(Z)$;*

3° *there exists a strong embedding from $S(P^-)$ to $\mathfrak{M}$.*

PROOF. Define $\Phi: S(P^-) \rightarrow S(P^-)$ as follows: $\Phi(X, \mathbb{W}) = (X \vee 6, \mathbb{W}_D)$ with

$$\mathbb{W}_D = V \cup \{\{0, 1, 2\} \cup Z \mid Z \in \mathbb{W}\} \cup \{\{3, 4, 5\} \cup Z \mid Z \subset X\};$$

for a given $f: (X_1, \mathbb{W}_1) \rightarrow (X_2, \mathbb{W}_2)$ put $\Phi f = f \vee \text{id}_6$. Evidently Φ is an embedding. Now, we shall prove that, if

$$f: (X_1 \vee 6, (\mathbb{W}_1)_6) \rightarrow (X_2 \vee 6, (\mathbb{W}_2)_D),$$

then $f(X_1) \subset X_2$, $f(6) \subset 6$. For every $i \in 6$,

$$\{i\} \in (\mathbb{W}_2)_D \quad \text{and} \quad \emptyset \neq (\mathbb{W}_1)_D,$$

therefore $6 \subset \text{Im } f$. We assume that for some $x \in X_1$, $f(x) = i \in 6$. Then we have $f^{-1}(\{i\}) \in (\mathbb{W}_1)_D$ and hence either

$$f(\{0, 1, 2\}) = \{i\} \quad \text{or} \quad f(\{3, 4, 5\}) = \{i\}.$$

Further there exists $j \in 6$ such that $\{i, j\} \in (\mathbb{W}_2)_D$, and therefore

$$f^{-1}(\{i, j\}) \in (\mathbb{W}_1)_D.$$

We get that $f^{-1}(\{j\}) \cap X_1 \neq \emptyset$ but then either

$$f(\{0, 1, 2\}) = \{j\} \quad \text{or} \quad f(\{3, 4, 5\}) = \{j\}$$

and hence $6 \in f^{-1}(\{i, j\})$ - a contradiction. Thus

$$f(X_1) \subset X_2, \quad f(6) \subset 6.$$

By Lemma 2.1, $f/6 = id_6$ and therefore $f/X_1: (X_1, W_1) \rightarrow (X_2, W_2)$ is a morphism of $S(P^*)$. Put $\mathfrak{M} = \Phi(S(P^*))$. Evidently $\Phi: S(P^*) \rightarrow \mathfrak{M}$ is a strong embedding and $\mathfrak{M}$ has the required properties.

NOTE. The set functor carrying Φ (or Ψ) is $I \vee C_6$ where I is the identity functor and C_6 is the constant functor to 6.

COROLLARY 2.4. *There exists a full subcategory $\mathcal{J}$ of $E(P^*)$ such that:*

1° *if $(X, W) \in \mathcal{J}$, then $W \neq \emptyset$;*

2° *if $f, g: (X, W) \rightarrow (Y, S)$ and $(X, W), (Y, S) \in \mathcal{J}$, then there exists $Z \in S$ with $f^{-1}(Z) \neq g^{-1}(Z)$;*

3° *there exists a strong embedding from $S(P^*)$ to $\mathcal{J}$.*

PROOF follows from Propositions 2.2 and 2.3.

THEOREM 2.5. *If $2 \in A_F$, then there exists a strong embedding from $S(P^*)$ to $S(F)$.*

PROOF. Via Proposition 2.2 it suffices to prove that there exists a strong embedding from $E(P^*)$ to $S(F)$. Define

$$\Omega(X, W) = (X, W_F),$$

where

$$W_F = \{x \in F_2 X \mid \text{there exists } Z \in W, Z \in e_x\};$$

for a given $f: (X, W) \rightarrow (Y, S)$, define $\Omega f = f$. Clearly Ω is an embedding; let us prove that it is full. Let $f: (X, W_F) \rightarrow (Y, S_F)$ be a morphism of $S(F)$. Then for every $x \in S_F$ it holds:

$$\text{there exist } Z_1, Z_2 \in S \text{ such that } \{Z_1, Z_2\} = e_x$$

(see Corollary 1.7 and the definition of Ω). On the other hand for every Z in S there exists

$$x \in S_F \text{ such that } \{Z, Y - Z\} = e_x.$$

Now by Corollary 1.10, we get that

$$\{f^{-1}(Z), X - f^{-1}(Z)\} = e_{F f(x)}.$$

Thus $f^{-1}(Z) \in \mathbb{W}$ and $f: (X, \mathbb{W}) \rightarrow (Y, S)$ is a morphism of $S(P^-)$.

III

CONSTRUCTION 3.1. Let F be a functor such that $\alpha \in A_F$, where $\alpha > 1$ is a finite cardinal. Then there exists an object (X, V) of $S(F)$ such that:

$$1^\circ \text{ card } X = \alpha + 4;$$

$$2^\circ V \subset F_\alpha X;$$

$$3^\circ \text{ for every } x \in X \text{ there exist } \gamma_1, \gamma_2 \in V \text{ such that } \{x\} \in e_{\gamma_1}, \{x\} \notin e_{\gamma_2};$$

$$4^\circ \text{ if } x \in V, \text{ then } F(e_x)(F_\alpha \alpha) \subset V;$$

$$5^\circ \text{ for } x \in X \text{ denote by}$$

$$grx = \text{card}\{Z \mid \text{card } Z > 1, x \in Z, \text{ there exists } y \in V, Z \in e_y\},$$

then $grx > 1$ with at most one exception;

$$6^\circ (X, V) \text{ is rigid};$$

$$7^\circ \text{ if } \alpha \geq 3 \text{ then there exists } x \in X \text{ such that } grx = 1 \text{ and if for some } Z \subset X, x \in Z, grx = 1 \text{ and } Z \in e_y \text{ for some } y \in V \text{ then } \text{card } Z < 3.$$

We shall construct these objects by induction in α . For $\alpha = 2$, the object exists by Lemma 2.1 and Theorem 2.5.

We assume that for $\alpha < n$ the construction is performed and $n \in A_F$. Let G be a functor with $n-1 \in A_G$. Let (X', V') be a G -space fulfilling the conditions 1-7 for $n-1$. We assume that $a \notin X'$ and put $X = X' \cup \{a\}$. We choose an arbitrary decomposition $\bar{e}$ of X in n classes such that

$$\text{card } \bar{e}(a) = 2 \text{ and if } grx = 1 \text{ for some } x \in X', \text{ then } x \in \bar{e}(a).$$

Put

$$V = \bigcup F e (F_\alpha X / e) \cup F \bar{e} (F_\alpha X / \bar{e})$$

where the union is taken over all e such that $\{a\} \in e$ and the restriction of e to X' is equal to e_x for some $x \in V'$. Let $f: (X, V) \rightarrow (X, V)$ be a morphism of $S(F)$; then f is a bijection by Corollary 1.10 and Condition 3 for (X', V') . Further $gra = 1$ and for $x \in X - \{a\}$, $grx > 1$. Hence $f(a) = a$. Clearly $f/X': (X', V') \rightarrow (X', V')$ is a morphism of $S(G)$ and hence $f = id_X$. The other required properties are easy to verify.

PROPOSITION 3.2. *If $\alpha > 2$ is a finite cardinal and $\alpha \in \mathbf{A}_F$, then there exists a F -space (X, V) and $x_0 \in X$ such that the following conditions hold:*

1° (X, V) is rigid, $V \subset F_\alpha X$;

2° for every $\gamma_0, \gamma_1 \in V$, $\text{card } e_{\gamma_i}(E_{1-i}) \leq \alpha - 1$ for $i = 0, 1$, where E_i is the class of e_{γ_i} containing x_0 ;

3° for every $x \in X$ there exist $\gamma_1, \gamma_2 \in V$ such that $\{x\} \in e_{\gamma_1}$, $\{x\} \notin e_{\gamma_2}$.

PROOF. Since $\alpha > 2$ we can choose by Construction 3.1 the F -space (X, V) fulfilling Conditions 1-7. Therefore there exists $x \in X$ with $grx = 1$. Put $x = x_0$. Clearly $((X, V), x_0)$ fulfills Conditions 1-3 from Proposition 3.2.

LEMMA 3.3. *Let α be an infinite cardinal. Then for every set X such that $\text{card } X = \alpha$ and every subsets X_1, X_2, X_3 of X such that*

$$X_1 \cap X_2 = X_2 \cap X_3 = \emptyset, \quad \text{card } X_1 = \text{card } X_2 = \alpha$$

and every mapping $f: X_2 \rightarrow X_3$ onto, there exists a diverse system $\mathcal{Q}$ of mappings $g: X \rightarrow \alpha$ such that $\text{card } \mathcal{Q} = \text{card } 2^X$ and every $g \in \mathcal{Q}$ fulfills:

1° for every $i \in \alpha$, $g^{-1}(\{i\}) \cap X_j \neq \emptyset$ for $j = 1, 2$;

2° there exists no non-constant mapping h coarser than g with

$$h(x) = h(f(x)) \quad \text{for every } x \in X_2.$$

PROOF. If there exists $Z \subset X_3$ such that

$$\text{card } Z < \alpha \quad \text{and} \quad \text{card } f^{-1}(Z) = \alpha,$$

then put $Y = X_1 - Z$. By Lemma 1.4 there exists a diverse system $\mathcal{B}$ of mappings from Y to α with $\text{card } \mathcal{B} = \text{card } 2^X$. Now, for every $h \in \mathcal{B}$ we choose $g_h: X \rightarrow \alpha$ such that $g_h|_Y = h$, $\text{card } g_h(Z) = 1 = \text{card } g_h(X_2 - f^{-1}(Z))$ and,

$$\text{for } i \in \alpha, \quad g_h^{-1}(\{i\}) \cap f^{-1}(Z) \neq \emptyset.$$

If there exists no $Z \subset X_3$ with this property, then we choose a decomposition $\{Z_1, Z_2\}$ of X_2 such that

$$\text{card } Z_1 = \text{card } Z_2 = \text{card}(X_1 - f(Z_1)) = \alpha.$$

By Lemma 1.4 there exists a diverse system $\mathcal{B}$ of mappings from Z_1 to α with $\text{card } \mathcal{B} = \text{card } 2^X$. Now, for every $h \in \mathcal{B}$ we choose $g_h: X \rightarrow \alpha$ such that

$$g_h / Z_1 = h, \quad \text{card } g_h(Z_2) = \text{card } g_h(f(Z_1)) = 1$$

and for every $i \in \alpha$,

$$g_h^{-1}(\{i\}) \cap f(Z_2) \neq \emptyset, \quad g_h^{-1}(\{i\}) \cap X_1 \neq \emptyset.$$

Then $\mathcal{A} = \{g_h \mid h \in \mathcal{B}\}$ has the required properties.

CONDITION A. An F -space (X, V) fulfills the condition A if for arbitrary subsets X_1, X_2, X_3 of X such that

$$\text{card } X_1 = \text{card } X_2 = \text{card } X \quad \text{and} \quad X_1 \cap X_2 = X_2 \cap X_3 = \emptyset$$

and for arbitrary mapping $f: X_2 \rightarrow X_3$ onto there exists $y \in V$ such that

a) for every $e' \in \mathcal{F}_F^X(y)$ there exists $e \in \mathcal{F}_F^X(y)$ coarser than e' , such that $e(x) \cap X_i \neq \emptyset$ for every $x \in X$ and $i = 1, 2$;

b) there exists $e \in \mathcal{F}_F^X(y)$ such that for every $e' \in \mathcal{F}_F^X(y)$ we have

$$1^\circ \quad e' \cap^* e \in \mathcal{F}_F^X(y) \quad \text{and}$$

$$2^\circ \quad \text{a mapping } h \text{ from } X \text{ is constant whenever}$$

$$h(x) = h(f(x)) \quad \text{for every } x \in X_2$$

and h is coarser than e ($e' \cap^* e$ denotes a co-intersection of e' and e).

PROPOSITION 3.4. Let $\alpha \in A_F$ be an infinite cardinal such that there exists $x \in F_\alpha$ with non-trivial e_x . Then there exists an F -space (X, V) and a x_0 of X such that:

a) (X, V) is rigid;

b) $\text{card } X = \alpha$, $V \subset F_\alpha X$;

c) for every $a \in X$ there exists $y_a \in V$ such that $e_{y_a}(a) \neq e_{y_a}(x_0)$;

d) (X, V) fulfills condition A.

PROOF. We choose a set X with $\text{card } X = \alpha$ and choose $x_0 \in X$. For every a we choose a bijection $f_a: X \rightarrow \alpha$ such that $e_x(f_a(a)) \neq e_x(f_a(x_0))$. Then

$$e_{Ff_a(x)}(a) \neq e_{Ff_a(x)}(x_0).$$

Put

$$\mathcal{B}_0 = \{Ff_a(x) \mid a \in X - \{x_0\}\}.$$

Now, we choose bijections

$$\begin{aligned}\Psi_1: \text{card } 2^X &\rightarrow \{f: X \rightarrow X \mid f \neq \text{id}_X\}, \\ \Psi_2: \text{card } 2^X &\rightarrow \{(X_1, X_2, X_3, f) \mid \text{card } X_1 = \text{card } X_2 = \alpha, \\ &X_1 \cap X_2 = X_2 \cap X_3 = \emptyset, f: X_2 \rightarrow X_3 \text{ is onto}\}.\end{aligned}$$

For $i \in \text{card } 2^X$ denote

$$C_i = \{y \in F_\alpha X \mid F(\Psi_1(i))(y) \neq y\}.$$

As an application of Lemma 1.4 we get that $\text{card } C_i = \text{card } 2^X$. Further for $\Psi_2(i) = (X_1, X_2, X_3, f)$ denote

$$\begin{aligned}D_i = \{y \in F_\alpha X \mid \text{there exists } e \in \mathcal{F}_F^X(y) \text{ with} \\ 1^\circ \text{ for every } x \in X, e(x) \cap X_j \neq \emptyset \text{ for } j = 1, 2, \\ 2^\circ \text{ for every } e' \in \mathcal{F}_F^X(y), e' \cap^* e \in \mathcal{F}_F^X(y), \\ 3^\circ \text{ there exists no non-constant mapping from } X \\ \text{coarser than } e, \text{ with } h(x) = h(f(x)) \text{ for every} \\ x \in X_2\}.\end{aligned}$$

If we construct the system $\mathcal{U}$ from Lemma 3.3 for $(X_1, X_2, X_3, f) = \Psi_2(i)$, then for every $g \in \mathcal{U}$ we have $Fg(x) \in D_i$ and therefore $\text{card } D_i = \text{card } 2^X$. Now we shall construct, by induction on $i \in \text{card } 2^X$, sets $\mathcal{B}_i, \mathcal{C}_i$ such that:

$$\text{card } \mathcal{C}_i < \text{card } 2^X, \quad \mathcal{B}_i \subset \mathcal{C}_i \cap F_\alpha X \text{ for every } i.$$

Put $\mathcal{C}_0 = \mathcal{B}_0$. We assume that we have the sets $\mathcal{B}_i, \mathcal{C}_i$ for $i < j$. If j is a limit ordinal, put

$$\mathcal{B}_j = \bigcup_{i < j} \mathcal{B}_i, \quad \mathcal{C}_j = \bigcup_{i < j} \mathcal{C}_i.$$

If $j = k + 1$ then

- a) we choose $x_k^1 \in \mathcal{C}_k - \mathcal{C}_k$ such that $F(\Psi_1(k))(x_k^1) \notin \mathcal{C}_k$,
- b) we choose $x_k^2 \in D_k - (\mathcal{C}_k \cup \{x_k^1, F(\Psi_1(k))(x_k^1)\})$.

Put

$$\mathcal{B}_j = \mathcal{B}_k \cup \{x_k^1, x_k^2\}, \quad \mathcal{C}_j = \mathcal{C}_k \cup \{x_k^1, F(\Psi_1(k))(x_k^1), x_k^2\}.$$

Evidently

$$\text{card } \mathcal{C}_j < \text{card } 2^X \text{ and } \mathcal{B}_j \subset \mathcal{C}_j \cap F_\alpha X.$$

Put $V = \bigcup \mathcal{B}_j$ where the union is taken over all $j \in \text{card } 2^X$. The F -space (X, V) has the required properties.

LEMMA 3.5. Let (X, V) be a rigid F -space. If $g_1: Y_1 \rightarrow X$, $g_2: Y_2 \rightarrow X$ are onto, then every mapping $h: Y_1 \rightarrow Y_2$ such that $Fh(Fg_2(V)) \subset Fg_1(V)$ fulfills $g_2 \circ h = g_1$.

PROOF. Assume the contrary, i. e. $g_2 \circ h \neq g_1$. Then there exists $f: X \rightarrow Y_1$ such that

$$g_1 \circ f = id_X \quad \text{but} \quad g_2 \circ h \circ f \neq id_X.$$

Further it is clear to verify that $g_2 \circ h \circ f$ is an F -morphism of (X, V) - a contradiction.

CONSTRUCTION 3.6. Let $\mathcal{U} = ((X, V), x_0)$ be a couple where (X, V) is an F -space, $\text{card} X > 1$ and $x_0 \in X$. For every set Y and every $Z \subset Y$ define $g_Z: U \rightarrow X$ where $U = (Y \times (X - \{x_0\})) \cup \{x_0\}$ as follows

$$\begin{aligned} g_Z(x_0) &= x_0, \quad g_Z(y, x) = x_0 \quad \text{if } y \in Y - Z, \quad x \in X - \{x_0\}, \\ g_Z(y, x) &= x \quad \text{if } y \in Z, \quad x \in X - \{x_0\}. \end{aligned}$$

Define a functor $\Sigma \mathcal{U}: S(P^*) \rightarrow S(F)$:

$$\Sigma \mathcal{U}(Y, W) = (U, \bigcup_{Z \in W} F g_Z(V)),$$

and for $f: (Y_1, W_1) \rightarrow (Y_2, W_2)$ put

$$\Sigma \mathcal{U} f = (f \times id_{X - \{x_0\}}) \cup id_{\{x_0\}}.$$

Clearly $\Sigma \mathcal{U}$ is faithful and if $\Sigma \mathcal{U}$ is full, then $\Sigma \mathcal{U}$ is a strong embedding.

NOTE. If Z_1, Z_2 are distinct subsets of Y , then g_{Z_1} and g_{Z_2} are diverse.

LEMMA 3.7. Let $\mathcal{U} = ((X, V), x_0)$ and $Z \subset Y$. If $y \in V$ fulfills:

let $e \in \mathcal{F}_F^X(y)$ such that for every $e' \in \mathcal{F}_F^X(y)$, $e' \cap^* e \in \mathcal{F}_F^X(y)$,

then $F g_Z(y)$ fulfills:

for every $\tilde{e} \in \mathcal{F}_F^U(F g_Z(y))$, $\tilde{e} \cap^* \text{Ker}(e \circ g_Z) \in \mathcal{F}_F^U(F g_Z(y))$.

PROOF follows from Proposition 1.9.

LEMMA 3.8. Let n be a finite unattainable cardinal of F . Let an F -space (X, V) and $x_0 \in X$ fulfill the conditions 1-3 from Proposition 3.2. If

$$g: \Sigma \mathcal{U}(Y_1, W_1) \rightarrow \Sigma \mathcal{U}(Y_2, W_2)$$

is an $S(F)$ -morphism and $\emptyset \notin W_1$, then for every $Z_2 \in W_2$, $Z_2 \neq \emptyset$, there exists $Z_1 \in W_1$ such that $F(g_{Z_2} \circ g)(V) \subset Fg_{Z_1}(V)$.

PROOF. Assume the contrary, i. e. there exist $\gamma_0, \gamma_1 \in Fg_{Z_2}(V)$ such that:

$$Fg(\gamma_0) \in Fg_{Z_0}(V) \text{ and } Fg(\gamma_1) \in Fg_{Z_1}(V) \text{ where } Z_0 \neq Z_1.$$

We can assume that there exists $v \in Z_0 - Z_1$. Put $Fg(\gamma_i) = z_i$ for $i = 0, 1$.

Then

$$\text{card } g_{Z_0}(\{v\} \times (X - \{x_0\})) > n-1 \text{ and } \{v\} \times (X - \{x_0\}) \subset g_{Z_1}(x_0).$$

By Corollary 1.10 we get that

$$\text{card } e_{t_0}(g_{Z_2} \circ (\{v\} \times (X - \{x_0\}))) > n-1$$

and

$$e_{t_1}(x_0) \supset g_{Z_2} \circ g(\{v\} \times (X - \{x_0\}))$$

where $t_0, t_1 \in V$ such that $Fg_{Z_2}(t_i) = \gamma_i$ for $i = 0, 1$; but this contradicts the Condition 2 from Proposition 3.2.

LEMMA 3.9. Let α be an infinite unattainable cardinal of F . Let (X, V) and $x_0 \in X$ fulfill the conditions a-d from Proposition 3.4. If

$$g: \Sigma \mathcal{U}(Y_1, W_1) \rightarrow \Sigma \mathcal{U}(Y_2, W_2)$$

is an $S(F)$ -morphism and $\emptyset \notin W_1$, then for every $Z_2 \in W_2$, $Z_2 \neq \emptyset$ there exists $Z_1 \in W_1$ such that $F(g_{Z_2} \circ g)(V) \subset Fg_{Z_1}(V)$.

PROOF. Assume the contrary, i. e. there exist $\gamma_0, \gamma_1 \in Fg_{Z_2}(V)$ such that:

$$Fg(\gamma_i) \in Fg_{Z_i}(V) \text{ for } i = 0, 1,$$

where $Z_0 \neq Z_1$. We can assume that $v \in Z_0 - Z_1$ and $w \in Z_1$. Put

$$U_i = (Y_i \times (X - \{x_0\})) \vee \{x_0\} \text{ for } i = 1, 2.$$

By Proposition 1.8 and Lemma 3.7 there exists $e_i \in \mathcal{F}_F^{U_i}(Fg(\gamma_i))$ such that e_i is coarser than

$$\text{Ker } g_{Z_2} \circ g \cap^* \text{Ker } g_{Z_i} \text{ for } i = 0, 1.$$

Therefore we get that

$$\begin{aligned} & \text{card}(g_{Z_2} \circ g(\{v\} \times (X - \{x_0\})) - g_{Z_2} \circ g(\{w\} \times (X - \{x_0\}))) = \\ & = \text{card}(g_{Z_2} \circ g(\{w\} \times (X - \{x_0\})) - g_{Z_2} \circ g(\{v\} \times (X - \{x_0\}))) = \alpha. \end{aligned}$$

Put

$$\begin{aligned} X_1 &= g_{Z_2} \circ g(\{v\} \times (X - \{x_0\})) - g_{Z_2} \circ g(\{w\} \times (X - \{x_0\})) \\ X_2 &= g_{Z_2} \circ g(\{w\} \times (X - \{x_0\})) - g_{Z_2} \circ g(\{v\} \times (X - \{x_0\})), \\ X_3 &= \{g_{Z_2} \circ g((v, x)) \mid g_{Z_2} \circ g((w, x)) \in X_2\}, \\ f(g_{Z_2} \circ g((w, x))) &= g_{Z_2} \circ g((v, x)). \end{aligned}$$

Since $v \notin Z_1$ we have $X_3 \cap X_2 = \emptyset$. Clearly $X_1 \cap X_2 = \emptyset$ and f is onto. Therefore there exists $t \in V$ from Condition A for (X_1, X_2, X_3, f) . Denote:

$$\gamma_3 = Fg_{Z_2}(t), \quad z_3 = Fg(\gamma_3), \quad z_3 \in Fg_{Z_3}(V).$$

By a, Condition A we have $v, w \in Z_3$. Further there is $e_1 \in \mathcal{F}_F^{U_1}(z_3)$ coarser than $\text{Ker} g_{Z_3}$ and $\text{Ker}(e_0 \circ g_{Z_2} \circ g)$, where $e_0 \in \mathcal{F}_F^X(t)$ from b of Condition A. Hence there exists a mapping p such that $e_1 = p \circ e_0 \circ g_{Z_2} \circ g$. Since e_1 is coarser than $\text{Ker} g_{Z_3}$ we get that

$$p \circ e_0(x) = p \circ e_0(f(x)) \quad \text{for every } x \in X_2$$

- and thus $p \circ e_0$ is constant and so is e_1 . This contradicts

$$z_3 \in Fg_{Z_3}(V) \subset Fg_{Z_3}(F_\alpha X) \subset F_\alpha U_1.$$

THEOREM 3.10. *Let $\alpha > 2$ be an unattainable cardinal of F . Then there exists a strong embedding from $S(P^-)$ to $S(F)$ whenever there exists $x \in F_\alpha X$ such that e_x is non-trivial.*

PROOF. Let (X, V) be an F -space and $x_0 \in X$ fulfilling the conditions 1-3 from Proposition 3.2 if α is finite, or the conditions a-d from Proposition 3.4 if α is infinite. We shall restrict the functor $\Sigma \mathcal{U}$ to the category $\mathcal{M}$, where $\mathcal{U} = ((X, V), x_0)$. By Lemmas 3.8 and 3.9, if

$$g: \Sigma \mathcal{U}(Y_1, W_1) \rightarrow \Sigma \mathcal{U}(Y_2, W_2)$$

is an $S(F)$ -morphism, then for every $Z_2 \in W_2$ there exists

$$Z_1 \in W_1 \quad \text{such that} \quad F(g_{Z_2} \circ g)(V) \subset Fg_{Z_1}(V)$$

and then by Lemma 3.5 $g_{Z_2} \circ g = g_{Z_1}$. Since W_2 is a cover of Y_2 , we get that

$$g(Y_1 \times \{a\}) \subset Y_2 \times \{a\} \text{ for every } a \in X - \{x_0\} \text{ and } g(x_0) = x_0.$$

For every $a \in X - \{x_0\}$, define $g_a: Y_1 \rightarrow Y_2$ as follows:

$$g_a(\gamma_1) = \gamma_2 \text{ iff } g((\gamma_1, a)) = (\gamma_2, a).$$

Then $g_a: (Y_1, W_1) \rightarrow (Y_2, W_2)$ is an $S(P^-)$ -morphism for every $a \in X - \{x_0\}$.

Further for every $a, b \in X - \{x_0\}$ and every $Z \in W$,

$$g_a^{-1}(Z) = g_b^{-1}(Z).$$

Properties of $\mathfrak{M}$ imply that $g_a = g_b$ for every $a, b \in X - \{x_0\}$, thus $\Sigma \mathfrak{U}$ is a strong embedding from $\mathfrak{M}$ to $S(F)$. By Proposition 2.3, we obtain the Theorem.

IV

DEFINITION [9]. We say that a colimit of a diagram $D: \mathcal{D} \rightarrow \mathcal{K}$ is *absolute* if every covariant functor $F: \mathcal{K} \rightarrow \mathcal{L}$ preserves it.

LEMMA 4.1. *Let*

$$f_i: A \rightarrow B_i, \quad g_i: B_i \rightarrow C, \quad i = 1, 2,$$

be morphisms of the category $\mathcal{K}$ and let

$$h_1: B_1 \rightarrow A, \quad h_2: C \rightarrow B_2$$

be morphisms of $\mathcal{K}$ such that

$$g_1 \circ f_1 = g_2 \circ f_2, \quad f_2 \circ h_1 = h_2 \circ g_1, \quad f_1 \circ h_1 = id_{B_1}, \quad g_2 \circ h_2 = id_C.$$

Then the push-out of $f_i: A \rightarrow B_i$, $i = 1, 2$, is absolute.

PROOF. See [10].

LEMMA 4.2. *Let $f: X \rightarrow Y$, $g: X \rightarrow Z$ be mappings onto such that there exists exactly one $z \in Z$ with $\text{card } g^{-1}(z) > 1$. Then the push-out of f, g is absolute.*

PROOF. Let $h_1: Y \rightarrow V$, $h_2: Z \rightarrow V$ be this push-out. Choose $k_1: Y \rightarrow X$

such that $f \circ k_1 = id_Y$ and

$$k_1(y) \in g^{-1}(\{g(z)\}) \quad \text{whenever} \quad f^{-1}(\{y\}) \cap g^{-1}(\{g(z)\}) \neq \emptyset.$$

Further we choose $k_2: V \rightarrow Z$ such that

$$h_2 \circ k_2 = id_V \quad \text{and} \quad k_2 \circ h_2 \circ g(z) = g(z)$$

and

$$k_2(v) = g \circ k_1(h_1^{-1}(v)) \quad \text{for} \quad v \in V - \{h_2 g(z)\}.$$

It is easy to verify that the definition of k_2 is correct and $g \circ k_1 = k_2 \circ h_1$.

Now, Lemma 4.2 follows from Lemma 4.1.

DEFINITION. A decomposition e is called *finite* if every class of e is finite and e has only a finite number of non-singleton classes.

COROLLARY 4.3. Let F be a functor, $x \in FX$. If $e_x = \{X\}$, then every finite decomposition is an element of $\mathcal{F}_F^X(x)$.

PROOF. If e is a finite decomposition, then e is a co-intersection of decompositions e_i , $i = 1, 2, \dots, n$ such that every e_i has only one non-singleton class. If $e_i \in \mathcal{F}_F^X(x)$ then by induction we get from Lemma 4.2 that $e \in \mathcal{F}_F^X(x)$. Further every decomposition e_i is a co-intersection of

$$e_i^j, \quad j = 1, 2, \dots, m,$$

where every decomposition e_i^j has only one non-singleton class and every class of e_i^j has at most two points. Now, by induction we get from Lemma 4.2 that

$$e_i \in \mathcal{F}_F^X(x) \quad \text{whenever every} \quad e_i^j \in \mathcal{F}_F^X(x).$$

Since $e_x = \{X\}$, it is easy to verify by Lemma 4.2 that every $e_i^j \in \mathcal{F}_F^X(x)$.

We recall the definition of the union and the co-union.

DEFINITION. Let $f: Y \rightarrow X$, $g: Z \rightarrow X$ be monomorphisms. The monomorphism $h: V \rightarrow X$ is called a *union* of f, g (we shall write $f \cup g = h$) if there exist

$$f_1: Y \rightarrow V, \quad g_1: Z \rightarrow V \quad \text{such that} \quad h \circ f_1 = f, \quad h \circ g_1 = g$$

and for every $h': V' \rightarrow X$ for which there exist

$$f_2: Y \rightarrow V', \quad g_2: Z \rightarrow V' \quad \text{such that} \quad h' \circ f_2 = f, \quad h' \circ g_2 = g$$

there exists

$$h_1: V \rightarrow V' \quad \text{with} \quad h = h' \circ h_1.$$

The dual notion is a *co-union* (we shall write $h = f \cup^* g$ if h is a co-union of f, g).

The covariant set functor F *preserves finite unions* if for arbitrary one-to-one mappings $f: Y \rightarrow X$, $g: Z \rightarrow X$ we have

$$Ff \cup Fg = F(f \cup g).$$

F *preserves unions with a finite set* if for arbitrary one-to-one mappings

$$f: X \rightarrow Y, \quad g: Z \rightarrow Y \quad \text{with } Z \text{ finite,}$$

we have $Ff \cup Fg = F(f \cup g)$.

The contravariant set functor F *dualizes finite co-unions* if for arbitrary mappings $f: X \rightarrow Y$, $g: X \rightarrow Z$ onto, we have

$$Ff \cup Fg = F(f \cup^* g);$$

F *dualizes co-unions with a finite decomposition* if for arbitrary mappings $f: X \rightarrow Y$, $g: X \rightarrow Z$ onto, where $\text{Ker } g$ is a finite decomposition, we have

$$Ff \cup Fg = F(f \cup^* g).$$

DEFINITION. A set functor F (covariant or contravariant) is said to be *nearly faithful* if there exists a cardinal α such that, for arbitrary mappings $f \neq g: X \rightarrow Y$, $Ff = Fg$ implies that

$$\text{card } f(X) < \alpha \quad \text{and} \quad \text{card } g(X) < \alpha.$$

MAIN THEOREM 4.4. *Let F be a contravariant set functor. Then $S(F)$ is a universal category if and only if F is nearly faithful.*

To prove the Main Theorem we shall first prove a detailed characterization Theorem analogous to the covariant case (see below). Notice that the (covariant) identity functor I is faithful but $S(I)$ is far from universal.

First we recall that a permutation with only one 2-cycle is called a *transposition*.

THEOREM 4.5. *For a contravariant functor F the following conditions are*

equivalent:

- 1° $S(F)$ is universal;
- 2° there exists a strong embedding from $S(P^*)$ to $S(F)$;
- 3° $S(F)$ has more than $\text{card } 2^{F\emptyset} + \text{card } 2^{F1}$ non-isomorphic rigid spaces;
- 4° there exists a rigid F -space (X, V) with $\text{card } X > 1$;
- 5° F does not dualize co-unions with finite decomposition;
- 6° there exists a set X and $x \in FX$ such that e_x is non-trivial;
- 7° there exists a set X and a transposition

$$t: X \rightarrow X \text{ such that } Ft \neq F \text{id}_X;$$

8° there exists a cardinal α such that for every set X with $\text{card } X \geq \alpha$ and every transposition $t: X \rightarrow X$ it holds $Ft \neq F \text{id}_X$.

PROOF. We recall that $6 \Rightarrow 2$ follows from Theorems 2.5 and 3.10. The implication $2 \Rightarrow 1$ follows from Theorem 1.1. The implications

$$1 \Rightarrow 3 \Rightarrow 4$$

are evident. Further $5 \Rightarrow 6$ follows from Corollary 4.3 and Proposition 1.5. The implication $8 \Rightarrow 7$ is obvious and so is

$$\text{non } 8 \Rightarrow \text{non } 4 \text{ - thus } 4 \Rightarrow 8.$$

Therefore the theorem will be proved as soon as we show that

$$7 \Rightarrow 6 \text{ and } 6 \Rightarrow 5.$$

$7 \Rightarrow 6$. Let $t: X \rightarrow X$ be a transposition such that $Ft \neq F \text{id}_X$, therefore there exists $x \in FX$ such that $Ft(x) \neq x$. Denote a, b distinct points of X such that

$$t(a) = b, \quad t(b) = a.$$

If $e_x = \{X\}$, then there exists $e \in \mathcal{T}_F^X(x)$ with $e(a) = \{a, b\}$ and

$$e(y) = \{y\} \text{ for } y \in X - \{a, b\}.$$

Then $e = e \circ t$ and thus $Ft \circ Fe = Fe$ - hence $Ft(x) = x$, because x is in $\text{Im } Fe$ - a contradiction.

$6 \Rightarrow 5$. Let $x \in FX$ such that e_x is non-trivial. By Proposition 1.9 we can suppose that there exists $a \in X$ such that $\{a\} \notin e_x$. We choose $b \in X$ such

that $e_x(a) \neq e_x(b)$. Let

$$e_1 = \{X - \{a\}, \{a\}\}, \quad e_2 = \{\{a, b\}\} \cup \{\{x\} \mid x \in X - \{a, b\}\}.$$

We have that $x \notin \text{Im } F e_1 \cup \text{Im } F e_2$. On the other hand e_2 is a finite decomposition and $e_1 \cup^* e_2 = \text{id}_X$.

PROOF OF MAIN THEOREM. If F is nearly faithful, then F fulfills the condition 8 of Theorem 4.5 and thus $S(F)$ is universal. If $S(F)$ is universal, then F fulfills the condition 7 of Theorem 4.5 and by [5] it is nearly faithful.

We recall the analogous results on covariant set functors. Here, instead of universality, those F are characterized for which $S(F)$ is binding. (This means that the category of graphs is fully embeddable in $S(F)$ and, assuming the non-existence of too many non-measurable cardinals, it is the same as universality, see [3].) Let us remark that via Theorem 4.5, $S(F)$ is universal iff it is binding, for contravariant F .

For a covariant set functor F , denote for $x \in FX$,

$$\mathcal{F}_F^X(x) = \{Z \subset X \mid x \in \text{Im } Fi, \quad i: Z \rightarrow X \text{ is the inclusion}\}.$$

It is well-known (see [11]) that either $\mathcal{F}_F^X(x)$ is a filter or

$$\mathcal{F}_F^X(x) \cup \{\emptyset\} = \exp Z = \{Z \mid Z \subset X\}.$$

THEOREM 4.6. For a covariant set functor F the following conditions are equivalent:

- 1° $S(F)$ is binding;
- 2° there exists a strong embedding from the category of graphs to $S(F)$;
- 3° $S(F)$ has more than

$$\text{card } 2^F \emptyset + (\text{card } 2^{F1} \cdot \text{card } 2^{2^{F1}})$$

non-isomorphic rigid spaces;

- 4° there exists a rigid F -space (X, V) such that $\text{card } X > \text{card } 2^{F1}$;
- 5° F does not preserve unions with a finite set;
- 6° there exists a set X and $x \in FX$ such that $\mathcal{F}_F^X(x)$ is not an ultrafilter and $\bigcap Z \neq \emptyset$ where the intersection is taken over all $Z \in \mathcal{F}_F^X(x)$;
- 7° there exists a set X , a transposition $t: X \rightarrow X$ and a mapping $p: X \rightarrow X$

such that $p(y) = y$ iff $t(y) \neq y$ and there exists $x \in FX$ with

$$Ft(x) \neq x \neq Fp(x);$$

So there exists a cardinal α such that for every set X , $\text{card } X > \alpha$ and every transposition $t: X \rightarrow X$ and every mapping $p: X \rightarrow X$ such that $p(y) = y$ iff $t(y) \neq y$, there exists $x \in FX$ with $Ft(x) \neq x$, $Fp(x) \neq x$.

COROLLARY 4.7. *In the finite set theory, $S(F)$ is a universal category if and only if F is a non-constant functor, i. e. $S(F)$ is universal iff F does not dualize co-unions.*

Again, the situation for covariant functors was described in [6].

THEOREM 4.8. *In the finite set theory, $S(F)$ is a universal category if and only if F is not naturally equivalent to $(I \times C_M) \vee C_N$ for some M, N (we recall that C_M is the constant functor to M and I is the identity functor), i. e. $S(F)$ is universal iff F does not preserve unions.*

EXAMPLE 4.9 (A non-constant functor which is not nearly faithful). Denote by β the usual set functor, assigning to a set X the set βX of all ultrafilters on X , and to a mapping f the mapping βf which sends an ultrafilter $\mathcal{I}$ to the ultrafilter with base

$$\{f(Z) \mid Z \in \mathcal{I}\}.$$

Let $\bar{\beta}$ be the factor-functor of β with $\mathcal{I}, \mathcal{G} \in \beta X$ merged iff either $\mathcal{I} = \mathcal{G}$ or $\mathcal{I}$ and $\mathcal{G}$ are fixed (i. e. $\cap Z \neq \emptyset$, where the intersection is taken over all $Z \in \mathcal{I}$). Then, clearly, $\bar{\beta}$ merges transpositions and so does the (non-constant) functor $F = P^* \circ \bar{\beta}$.

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