

Topos Theory: Sheaf Cohomology, Week 4

Homework

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Exercise 1

(a)

Let (\mathcal{C}, J) be a site and \mathcal{E} a topos, and let

$$p : \mathcal{E} \rightarrow \text{PSh}(\mathcal{C}) \quad \text{and} \quad i : \text{Sh}(\mathcal{C}, J) \rightarrow \text{PSh}(\mathcal{C})$$

be geometric morphisms, with i being the usual embedding.

- (i) Show that: p factors through i (as geometric morphisms) $\iff p_*$ factors through i_* (as functors).
- (ii) Show that: p_* factors through i_* \iff for every object C in \mathcal{C} and covering sieve $S \in J(C)$, the inclusion $S \hookrightarrow y_C$ induces an isomorphism $p^*(S) \xrightarrow{\sim} p^*(y_C)$.

(b)

Let (\mathcal{C}, J) be a site, \mathcal{E} a topos, and $y : \mathcal{C} \rightarrow \text{PSh}(\mathcal{C})$ the Yoneda embedding (functor, not geometric morphism). Recall the following lemma:

Lemma 1. *For each flat functor $f : \mathcal{C} \rightarrow \mathcal{E}$,¹ there is a unique geometric morphism $p : \mathcal{E} \rightarrow \text{PSh}(\mathcal{C})$ (up to natural isomorphism) with $f = p^* \circ y$.*

In fact, this correspondence gives rise to an equivalence of categories

$$\text{Hom}_{\mathbf{Cat}}^{\text{flat}}(\mathcal{C}, \mathcal{E}) \simeq \text{Hom}_{\mathbf{Topos}}(\mathcal{E}, \text{PSh}(\mathcal{C}))$$

We say $f : \mathcal{C} \rightarrow \mathcal{E}$ is *continuous* if it sends covering sieves to colimiting cocones.² Now, given the above, prove the following refinement of this lemma:

¹If \mathcal{C} has finite limits, f being flat means it preserves finite limits. However, for the purposes of this question, you do not need to know anything about what flatness is, besides it being some condition a functor (from a category to a topos) might satisfy.

²More precisely, a sieve $S \in J(C)$ may be viewed in \mathcal{C} as a cocone of C over the diagram given by the forgetful functor $U : \text{Elts}(S) \rightarrow \mathcal{C}$. Passing through f gives a cocone of $f(C)$ over the diagram $f \circ U$, and f being continuous means all such cocones are colimiting.

Lemma 2. For each flat and continuous functor $f : \mathcal{C} \rightarrow \mathcal{E}$, there is a unique geometric morphism $q : \mathcal{E} \rightarrow \text{Sh}(\mathcal{C}, J)$ (up to natural isomorphism) with $f = q^* \circ i^* \circ y$ (where $i_* : \text{PSh}(\mathcal{C}) \rightarrow \text{Sh}(\mathcal{C}, J)$ is the sheafification functor).

Bonus: show that this correspondence gives rise to an equivalence of categories

$$\text{Hom}_{\mathbf{Cat}}^{\text{flat, cont}}(\mathcal{C}, \mathcal{E}) \simeq \text{Hom}_{\mathbf{Topos}}(\mathcal{E}, \text{Sh}(\mathcal{C}, J))$$

(this is just checking details, I haven't done it myself yet and I don't think there is anything interesting here).

Exercise 2

(a)

Let $\text{Sh}(X)$ be the topos of sheaves on a topological space X . Recall that a point of $\text{Sh}(X)$ is a geometric morphism $\mathbf{Set} \rightarrow \text{Sh}(X)$, and we may identify such points with flat and continuous functors $f : \text{Op}(X) \rightarrow \mathbf{Set}$ (note: since $\text{Op}(X)$ has finite limits, f being flat means it preserves finite limits).

- (i) Show that such an f must map each U to either an empty or singleton set. Thus we may consider f an indicator function on $\text{Op}(X)$, with corresponding set of opens $S_f = \{U \in \text{Op}(X) \mid f(U) = 1\}$.
- (ii) Show that S_f is a filter. That is: (1) $X \in S_f$; (2) $\emptyset \notin S_f$; (3) S_f is closed under finite intersections; (4) S_f is upwards closed (if $U \subseteq V$ and $U \in S_f$, then $V \in S_f$).
- (iii) A filter $S \subseteq \text{Op}(X)$ is *completely prime* if for any $U \in S$ and open cover $U = \bigcup_i U_i$, $U_i \in S$ for some i . Show that S_f is completely prime.

Bonus: show the converse. That is, if S is a completely prime filter of opens in $\text{Op}(X)$, then $S = S_f$ for some flat and continuous $f : \text{Op}(X) \rightarrow \mathbf{Set}$.

(b)

Describe explicitly the category $\text{Hom}_{\mathbf{Topos}}(\mathbf{Set}, \text{Sh}(X))$ of points of $\text{Sh}(X)$ where

- (i) X is the discrete 2-point space,
- (ii) X is the indiscrete 2-point space,
- (iii) X is the Sierpinski space (2 points, one closed, one open).

In each case, justify your answer.