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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  $\alpha$  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  $\alpha$  is meant as the set of all ordinals with type less than  $\alpha$ ;  $\alpha^+$  denotes the cardinal successor of  $\alpha$ .

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  $\Psi$  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  $\alpha$ ,  $F^\alpha$  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  $F^\alpha - F^{\alpha\alpha} \neq \emptyset$ . Then put

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

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  $\text{card } FX \geq \text{card } 2^X$ .*

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  $\alpha$  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  $\alpha$  with  $\alpha \leq \text{card } X$  there exists a diverse system  $\mathcal{Q}$  of mappings from  $X$  to  $\alpha$  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,  $x \in FX$ . 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  $x \in FX$  such that  $\| \mathcal{F}_F^X(x) \| = \alpha$  for  $\text{card } X \geq \alpha$ . Further  $\gamma \in F_\alpha Y$  iff  $\| \mathcal{F}_F^Y(\gamma) \| = \alpha$ .*

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  $\bar{e} \in \mathcal{F}_F^Y(y)$  and for some  $f: X \rightarrow Y$ ,  $\bar{e} \circ f$  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  $\bar{e} \circ f \circ h = \text{id}$ , then

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

where  $z \in F(Y/\bar{e})$  with  $F\bar{e}(z) = y$ . 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  $\alpha$  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,  $\alpha$  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  $f = id_6$ .

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 :

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

for a given  $f: (X_1, W_1) \rightarrow (X_2, W_2)$ ,  $\Psi f = f \vee id_6$ . Clearly  $\Psi$  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

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

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  $\{j\} \in (W_2)_S$ ) and so  $6 \subset f^{-1}(\{i, j\})$ ; 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  $6 \nsubseteq \text{Im } f$  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  $f/X_1: (X_1, W_1) \rightarrow (X_2, W_2)$  is a morphism of  $S(P^-)$ . Thus  $\Psi$  is a strong embedding.

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

1<sup>o</sup> *if  $(X, W) \in \mathfrak{M}$  then  $\emptyset \nsubseteq W$ ,  $\emptyset \neq W$  and for every  $x \in X$  there exists  $Z \in W$  with  $x \in Z$ ;*

2<sup>o</sup> *if  $f, g: (X_1, W_1) \rightarrow (X_2, W_2)$  and  $(X_1, W_1), (X_2, W_2) \in \mathfrak{M}$ , then there exists  $Z \in W_2$  with  $f^{-1}(Z) \neq g^{-1}(Z)$ ;*

3<sup>o</sup> *there exists a strong embedding from  $S(P^-)$  to  $\mathfrak{M}$ .*

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

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

for a given  $f: (X_1, W_1) \rightarrow (X_2, W_2)$  put  $\Phi f = f \vee \text{id}_6$ . Evidently  $\Phi$  is an embedding. Now, we shall prove that, if

$$f: (X_1 \vee 6, (W_1)_6) \rightarrow (X_2 \vee 6, (W_2)_D),$$

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

$$\{i\} \in (W_2)_D \quad \text{and} \quad \emptyset \nsubseteq (W_1)_D,$$

therefore  $6 \subset \text{Im } f$ . We assume that for some  $x \in X_1$ ,  $f(x) = i \in 6$ . Then we have  $f^{-1}(\{i\}) \in (W_1)_D$  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  $\{i, j\} \in (W_2)_D$ , and therefore

$$f^{-1}(\{i, j\}) \in (W_1)_D.$$

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  $6 \subset f^{-1}(\{i, j\})$  - 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  $\Phi$  (or  $\Psi$ ) 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  $\mathfrak{J}$  of  $E(P^*)$  such that:*

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

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

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

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  $\Omega$  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  $\Omega$ ). 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:

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

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

$$3^\circ \text{ for every } x \in X \text{ there exist } y_1, y_2 \in V \text{ such that } \{x\} \in e_{y_1}, \{x\} \notin e_{y_2};$$

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

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

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

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

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

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

We shall construct these objects by induction in  $\alpha$ . 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  $\alpha \in \Lambda_F$ , then there exists a  $F$ -space  $(X, V)$  and  $x_0 \in X$  such that the following conditions hold:*

1<sup>o</sup>  $(X, V)$  is rigid,  $V \subset F_\alpha X$ ;

2<sup>o</sup> for every  $y_0, y_1 \in V$ ,  $\text{card } e_{y_i}(E_{1-i}) \leq \alpha - 1$  for  $i = 0, 1$ , where  $E_i$  is the class of  $e_{y_i}$  containing  $x_0$ ;

3<sup>o</sup> for every  $x \in X$  there exist  $y_1, y_2 \in V$  such that  $\{x\} \in e_{y_1}$ ,  $\{x\} \notin e_{y_2}$ .

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  $\alpha$  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*

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

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

2<sup>o</sup> there exists no non-constant mapping  $h$  coarser than  $g$  with

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

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

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

then put  $Y = X_1 - Z$ . By Lemma 1.4 there exists a diverse system  $\mathcal{B}$  of mappings from  $Y$  to  $\alpha$  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  $\alpha$  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 $^\circ$  a mapping  $h$  from  $X$  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

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

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:

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

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

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

If  $j = k + 1$  then

- a) we choose  $x_k^1 \in C_k - \mathcal{C}_k$  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

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

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

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

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

Define a functor  $\Sigma_{\mathcal{O}}: S(P^-) \rightarrow S(F)$ :

$$\Sigma_{\mathcal{O}}(Y, \mathbb{W}) = (U, \bigcup_{Z \in \mathbb{W}} Fg_Z(V)),$$

and for  $f: (Y_1, \mathbb{W}_1) \rightarrow (Y_2, \mathbb{W}_2)$  put

$$\Sigma_{\mathcal{O}}f = (f \times id_{X - \{x_0\}}) \vee id_{\{x_0\}}.$$

Clearly  $\Sigma_{\mathcal{O}}$  is faithful and if  $\Sigma_{\mathcal{O}}$  is full, then  $\Sigma_{\mathcal{O}}$  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  $\mathcal{O} = ((X, V), x_0)$  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  $Fg_Z(y)$  fulfills:

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

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

$$g: \Sigma_{\mathcal{O}}(Y_1, \mathbb{W}_1) \rightarrow \Sigma_{\mathcal{O}}(Y_2, \mathbb{W}_2)$$

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  $\alpha$  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

$$g: \Sigma_{\mathcal{O}}(Y_1, W_1) \rightarrow \Sigma_{\mathcal{O}}(Y_2, W_2)$$

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:

$$y_3 = F g_{Z_2}(t), \quad z_3 = F g(y_3), \quad z_3 \in F g_{Z_3}(V).$$

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

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

**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  $\alpha$  is finite, or the conditions a-d from Proposition 3.4 if  $\alpha$  is infinite. We shall restrict the functor  $\Sigma \mathcal{U}$  to the category  $\mathfrak{M}$ , where  $\mathcal{U} = ((X, V), x_0)$ . By Lemmas 3.8 and 3.9, if

$$g: \Sigma \mathcal{U}(Y_1, \mathbb{W}_1) \rightarrow \Sigma \mathcal{U}(Y_2, \mathbb{W}_2)$$

is an  $S(F)$ -morphism, then for every  $Z_2 \in \mathbb{W}_2$  there exists

$$Z_1 \in \mathbb{W}_1 \quad \text{such that} \quad F(g_{Z_2} \circ g)(V) \subset F g_{Z_1}(V)$$

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  $\Sigma \mathfrak{M}$  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  $D: \mathfrak{D} \rightarrow \mathfrak{K}$  is absolute if every covariant functor  $F: \mathfrak{K} \rightarrow \mathfrak{L}$  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  $\mathfrak{K}$  and let

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

be morphisms of  $\mathfrak{K}$  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  $card g^{-1}(z) > 1$ . 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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

there exists

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

$F$  *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

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

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

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

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

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

8<sup>o</sup> there exists a cardinal  $\alpha$  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  $e \in \mathcal{F}_F^X(x)$  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  $x \in FX$ ,

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

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

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

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  $\alpha$  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  $\beta$  the usual set functor, assigning to a set  $X$  the set  $\beta X$  of all ultrafilters on  $X$ , and to a mapping  $f$  the mapping  $\beta f$  which sends an ultrafilter  $\mathcal{J}$  to the ultrafilter with base

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

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

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