Logic and Emotion: Whitehead's Category of the Ultimate

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Category theory has its foundations in the pure mathematics of sets. The philosopher Alfred North Whitehead developed an alternative basis in his book Process and Reality in the description of the Category of the Ultimate, with prehension employed for the becoming of beings. This paper argues that this category corresponds closely to a topos, prehension and becoming to adjointness and being to existence, all mainstream concepts in category theory. Whitehead's work therefore deserves to be treated as a philosophical basis for category theory with its additional emphasis on processes in general, including biological ones, offering a lead into the more adventurous use of category theory in the future.