

Theorem 1: If X Kan complex the map

$$\eta: X \rightarrow \text{Sing } |X|$$

is a homotopy equivalence.

$$\sigma \in X([n]) \mapsto |\Delta^n| \rightarrow |X| = \coprod_{m \geq 0} |\Delta^m| \times X([m]) \sim \coprod_{|\Delta^n| \times \{ \sigma \}} |\Delta^n| \times X([n])$$

Theorem: S simplicial set, $T \subseteq S$ subset, X Kan complex

$f: |S| \rightarrow |X|$ continuous map s.t. $f|_{|T|} = |g|$ $g: T \rightarrow X$ map of sSet
 $\Rightarrow \exists f', H: f \sim f'$ relative to $|T|$, $g': S \rightarrow X$ simplicial map s.t.

- $g'|_T = g$
- $|g'| = f'$

Proof of thm 1: $\eta: X \rightarrow \text{Sing } |X|$, consider $|\eta|$

$$|X| \xrightarrow{|\eta|} |\text{Sing } |X|| \xrightarrow{\varepsilon_{|X|}} |X|$$

$\text{id}_{|X|} = |\text{id}_X|$

$$\varepsilon_Y: |\text{Sing } Y| \rightarrow Y \quad (t \in |\Delta^n|, \sigma: |\Delta^n| \rightarrow Y) \mapsto \sigma t$$

Moreover, η is the inclusion of a simplicial subset.

So $\varepsilon_{|X|}$ satisfies the hypotheses of the simplicial approximation theorem:

$$\exists g: \text{Sing } |X| \rightarrow X, H: |g| \sim \varepsilon_{|X|} \text{ rel. to } |X| \textcircled{A}$$

s.t. $g \circ \eta = \text{id}_X$.

$$H: \underbrace{|\text{Sing } |X|| \times [0,1]}_{|\text{Sing } |X| \times \Delta^1} \xrightarrow{\text{''}\Delta^1\text{''}} |X|$$

by adjunction $\Leftrightarrow \tilde{H}: \text{Sing } |X| \times \Delta^1 \rightarrow \text{Sing } |X|$.

$\textcircled{A} \tilde{H}|_{X \times \Delta^1} = X \times \Delta^1 \rightarrow X \xrightarrow{\eta} \text{Sing } |X|$

$\tilde{H}|_{\text{Sing } |X| \times \{0\}} = \text{Sing } |X| \xrightarrow{\eta} X \xrightarrow{\eta} \text{Sing } |X|$, $\tilde{H}|_{\text{Sing } |X| \times \{1\}} = \text{Sing } |X| \xrightarrow{\text{id}} \text{Sing } |X|$. \square

§2 Homotopy coherent diagrams

Def: $\underline{\mathcal{C}}$ is a simplicial category if it is a category enriched in simplicial sets. Concretely this is the datum of

- A set $ob \underline{\mathcal{C}}$ of objects
- $\forall x, y \in ob \underline{\mathcal{C}}$ a simplicial set $Map_{\underline{\mathcal{C}}}(x, y)$
- $\forall x, y, z$ a composition map $Map_{\underline{\mathcal{C}}}(x, y) \times Map_{\underline{\mathcal{C}}}(y, z) \rightarrow Map_{\underline{\mathcal{C}}}(x, z)$
- $\forall x$ $id \in Map_{\underline{\mathcal{C}}}(x, x)([0]) = \Delta^0 \rightarrow Map_{\underline{\mathcal{C}}}(x, x)$

+ compatibilities (ass. & unicity of the composition).

We'll say $\underline{\mathcal{C}}$ is a Kan-enriched category if it is a simplicial category where $Map_{\underline{\mathcal{C}}}(x, y)$ is a Kan complex $\forall x, y \in ob \underline{\mathcal{C}}$.

- The elements of $ob \underline{\mathcal{C}}$ will be called objects of $\underline{\mathcal{C}}$
- The 0-simplices of $Map_{\underline{\mathcal{C}}}(x, y)([0])$ will be called maps or morphisms ($f: x \rightarrow y$)
- The 1-simplices of $Map_{\underline{\mathcal{C}}}(x, y)([1])$ will be called homotopies $H: f \sim g$.

Ex: • Top the category whose objects are (eg) topological spaces "homotopy types"

$$Map_{\text{Top}}(X, Y) = \text{Kan complex of maps } [n] \mapsto \{X \times \Delta^n \rightarrow Y\}$$

• Kan the simpl. cat. whose objects are Kan complexes & "weak homotopy types"

$$Map_{\text{Kan}}(X, Y) = Map(X, Y) \quad [n] \mapsto \{X \times \Delta^n \rightarrow Y\}$$

• Man objects are smooth manifolds

$$Map_{\text{Man}}(M, N) = \text{Emb}(M, N)$$

• Ch(R) R ring objects are chain complexes

$$\text{Hom}_{\text{Ch}(R)}(C, D) = \text{Kan complex whose 0-simplices are } C, \rightarrow D, \text{ chain maps} \\ \text{1-simplices are chain homotopies } C, [1] \rightarrow D, \text{ etc.}$$

Recall: A coherent square over a square of topological spaces

$$\begin{array}{ccc} X & \xrightarrow{f} & Y \\ g \downarrow & & \downarrow g' \\ X' & \xrightarrow{f'} & Y' \end{array} \quad + \text{ a homotopy } H: g'f \sim fg'$$

From now on, we fix a Kan-enriched category $\underline{\mathcal{C}}$, I category, we want to guess a reasonable notion of "I-shaped coherent diagrams".

① $I = \ast = [0]$, a coherent diagram should be just an object $x_0 \in ob \underline{\mathcal{C}}$.

② $I = [1] = \{0 \rightarrow 1\}$, a coherent diagram should be just two objects x_0, x_1 and an arrow $f_0: x_0 \rightarrow x_1$

③ $I = [2] = \left\{ \begin{array}{ccc} 0 & \rightarrow & 1 \\ & \searrow & \downarrow & \swarrow \\ & & 2 & \end{array} \right\}$ a coherent diagram should be three objects x_0, x_1, x_2
 three arrows $f_{01}: x_0 \rightarrow x_1, f_{12}: x_1 \rightarrow x_2, f_{02}: x_0 \rightarrow x_2$
 • $f_{02}: f_{02} \sim f_{01} \circ f_{12}$

④ $I = [3] = \left\{ \begin{array}{ccc} 0 & \rightarrow & 1 \\ & \searrow & \downarrow & \swarrow \\ & & 2 & \rightarrow & 3 \end{array} \right\}$ • $x_0, x_1, x_2, x_3 \in ob \underline{\mathcal{C}}$
 • $f_{ij}: x_i \rightarrow x_j$ arrow $\forall i < j$
 • $f_{jkl}: f_{jk} \sim f_{jl} \circ f_{lk} \quad \forall i < j < k$

Let's take a look at $Map(x_0, x_3)$

$$\begin{array}{ccc} \overline{f_{03}} & \xrightarrow{f_{03}} & f_{13} \circ f_{01} \\ f_{23} \downarrow & & \downarrow f_{23} \circ f_{01} \\ f_{23} \circ f_{02} & \xrightarrow{f_{23} \circ f_{02}} & f_{23} \circ f_{12} \circ f_{01} \\ \downarrow f_{23} \circ f_{012} & & \downarrow f_{23} \circ f_{012} \end{array}$$

$$\begin{array}{ccc} \Delta^1 \times \Delta^1 & \rightarrow & Map(x_0, x_3) \\ \downarrow & \nearrow & \downarrow \\ \Delta^1 \times \Delta^1 & \xrightarrow{f_{0123}} & \Delta^1 \times \Delta^1 \end{array}$$

$\Delta^1 \times \Delta^1$ = part of paths from 0 to 3 under refinement
 $= N \{ A \subseteq \{0, \dots, 3\} \mid 0, 3 \in A \}$

$$\begin{array}{ccc} \{0, 3\} & \rightarrow & \{0, 1, 3\} \\ \downarrow & & \downarrow \\ \{0, 2, 3\} & \rightarrow & \{0, 1, 2, 3\} \end{array}$$

• $I = [n] = \{0 < 1 < \dots < n\}$

- $x_0, \dots, x_n \in ob \underline{\mathcal{C}}$

- $\forall i < j \quad P_{ij} = N \{ A \subseteq \{i, i+1, \dots, j-1, j\} \mid i, j \in A \}$ "part of paths from i to j "

$$F_{ij}: P_{ij} \rightarrow Map_{\underline{\mathcal{C}}}(x_i, x_j) \quad |P_{ij}| = [0, 1]^{j-i-1}$$

$$\begin{array}{ccc} P_{ij} \times P_{jk} & \xrightarrow{\cup} & P_{ik} \\ \downarrow F_{ij} \times F_{jk} & \circlearrowleft & \downarrow F_{ik} \\ Map(x_i, x_j) \times Map(x_j, x_k) & \xrightarrow{\circ} & Map(x_i, x_k) \end{array}$$

- $F_{ii}: \ast \rightarrow Map(x_i, x_i)$ is id_{x_i} .

$\mathcal{C}[n]$ = simplicial category whose objects are $0, \dots, n$

$$Map_{\mathcal{C}[n]}(i, j) = P_{ij} \quad (i > j = \emptyset)$$

• $Map_{\mathcal{C}[n]}(i, j) \times Map_{\mathcal{C}[n]}(j, k) \xrightarrow{\cup} Map_{\mathcal{C}[n]}(i, k)$ is given by \cup .

$$Map_{\mathcal{C}[n]}(i, i) = \{i\}$$

Then a homotopy coherent diagram $[n] \rightarrow \underline{\mathcal{C}}$ is the same thing as a simplicial functor

$$\text{Coh} \hookrightarrow \mathcal{C}[n] \rightarrow \underline{\mathcal{C}}$$

Def: let $\underline{\mathcal{C}}$ be a Kan-enriched category, the coherent nerve $N^{\Delta} \underline{\mathcal{C}}$ is the simplicial set

$$[n] \mapsto \text{Fun}_{\Delta}(\mathcal{C}[n], \underline{\mathcal{C}})$$

$$f: [n] \rightarrow [m] \quad \mathcal{C}[n] \rightarrow \mathcal{C}[m]$$

$$\begin{array}{ccc} i & \xrightarrow{f_i} & j_i \\ P_{ij} & \xrightarrow{f_{ij}} & P_{j_i j_j} \\ A & \xrightarrow{f_A} & f_A \end{array}$$

Ex: $\underline{\mathcal{C}}$ abelian category. You can see it as a Kan-enriched cat. $Map_{\underline{\mathcal{C}}}(x, y) = \text{Hom}_{\underline{\mathcal{C}}}(x, y)$

$$N^{\Delta} \underline{\mathcal{C}} = N \underline{\mathcal{C}}$$

Def: I category, $\underline{\mathcal{C}}$ Kan-enriched category, an I-shaped (homotopy) coherent diagram is a map of simplicial sets

$$NI \rightarrow N^{\Delta} \underline{\mathcal{C}}$$

Ex: $I = [1] \times [1] = \begin{array}{ccc} & \rightarrow & \\ \downarrow & & \downarrow \\ & \rightarrow & \end{array}$ $NI = \Delta^1 \times \Delta^1 = \Delta^2 \cup_{\Delta^1} \Delta^2$

so a map $NI \rightarrow N^{\Delta} \underline{\mathcal{C}}$ is just two functors

$$\mathcal{C}[2] \rightarrow \underline{\mathcal{C}}, \quad \mathcal{C}[2] \rightarrow \underline{\mathcal{C}} \quad \text{coinciding on } \mathcal{C}[1] \subseteq \mathcal{C}[2]$$

i.e. $\begin{array}{ccc} x_{00} & \xrightarrow{f} & x_{01} \\ g \downarrow & \nearrow H & \downarrow g' \\ x_{10} & \xrightarrow{k} & x_{11} \end{array}$ In the topological case you can think of this as finding $\varphi = H(\cdot, \cdot)$

$N^{\Delta} \underline{\mathcal{C}}$ knows all the interesting stuff about $\underline{\mathcal{C}}$

Exercise: $\text{Cat} \rightarrow \text{sSet}$ is fully faithful, i.e. $\text{Fun}(\mathcal{C}, \mathcal{D}) = \text{Hom}_{\text{sSet}}(N \underline{\mathcal{C}}, N \underline{\mathcal{D}})$

Remark: N^{Δ} has a left adjoint $\mathcal{C}[-]: \text{sSet} \rightarrow \text{Cat}_{\Delta}$ and if $\underline{\mathcal{C}}$ is Kan-enriched

$$\mathcal{C}[N^{\Delta} \underline{\mathcal{C}}] \rightarrow \underline{\mathcal{C}}$$

is a Dwyer-Kan equivalence, i.e. it is a homotopy eq. on mapping spaces and "essentially surjective"

Simplicial sets of the form $N^{\Delta} \underline{\mathcal{C}}$ have a special property: for example if you have an arrow

$$f: x \rightarrow y, \quad g: y \rightarrow z, \quad \text{you can find a 2-simplex } \Delta$$

$$\begin{array}{ccc} & \nearrow y & \\ x & \xrightarrow{f} & z \\ & \searrow z & \end{array} \quad \text{i.e. } \forall \text{ map } F: \Lambda_1^2 \rightarrow N^{\Delta} \underline{\mathcal{C}}, \text{ you can find an extension } \bar{F}: \Delta^2 \rightarrow N^{\Delta} \underline{\mathcal{C}}.$$

Def: A simplicial set \mathcal{C} is an ∞ -category if $\forall n \geq 2, 0 < i < n$ every map

$$F: \Lambda_i^n \rightarrow \mathcal{C} \text{ extends to some } \bar{F}: \Delta^n \rightarrow \mathcal{C}$$

Exercise: $N^{\Delta} \underline{\mathcal{C}}$ is an ∞ -category \forall Kan-enriched category $\underline{\mathcal{C}}$

Remark: If $\underline{\mathcal{C}}$ is an ∞ -cat., $\underline{\mathcal{C}} \rightarrow N^{\Delta} \mathcal{C}[\underline{\mathcal{C}}]$ is an equivalence in the appropriate case.

Examples: $\text{Space} := N^{\Delta} \text{Kan}$ (∞ -cat. of spaces or anima)

Def: An object in an ∞ -cat is a 0-simplex of $N^{\Delta} \underline{\mathcal{C}} = ob \underline{\mathcal{C}}$

A morphism in an ∞ -cat is a 1-simplex of $N^{\Delta} \underline{\mathcal{C}} = Map \underline{\mathcal{C}}$

$$\text{Cat}_{\text{Kan}}[\text{Dwyer-Kan eq.}] \simeq \text{Cat}[\text{eq.}]$$

$$I \mapsto N^{\Delta} \underline{\mathcal{C}} \quad \Leftrightarrow \quad \mathcal{C}[I] \rightarrow \underline{\mathcal{C}}$$