

# Goodwillie Calculus of Functors:

↓  
study of approximations

Q. What are polynomial functors?

Q. Approximation?

→ Classification of polynomial functors.

## A. Motivation & Examples: (Linear functors)

$$1. \tilde{H}_* : \text{Top}_* \longrightarrow \text{Ab}$$

← graded abelian groups

$$\tilde{H}_*(X \vee Y) \cong \tilde{H}_*(X) \oplus \tilde{H}_*(Y)$$

$$\text{Mayer-Vietoris: } \longrightarrow \tilde{H}_*(u \cup v) \longrightarrow \tilde{H}_*(u) \oplus \tilde{H}_*(v) \longrightarrow \tilde{H}_*(u \cup v) \longrightarrow$$

{ Think of this as linearity.

What is homology an approximation to?

Ans:  $\pi_*$  !!

$$\text{Hurewicz: } \pi_*(X) \xrightarrow{h} \tilde{H}_*(X)$$

$h$  isomorphism for  $* \leq k+1$ , where  $X$  is  $k$ -connected.

2. Stable homotopy groups:

$$\pi_*^S : \text{Top}_* \longrightarrow \text{Ab}$$

Generalised homology  $\equiv$  Mayer-Vietoris

$$\pi_*(X) \longrightarrow \pi_*^S(X)$$

Isomorphism in a wider range:  $* \leq 2k$ ,  $X$  is  $k$ -connected.

3. Manifold / Embedding Calculus (Weiss)

$$\text{Imm}(-, \mathbb{R}^n) : \begin{matrix} \mathcal{O}(\mathbb{R}^n)^{\text{op}} \\ \text{open subsets} \end{matrix} \longrightarrow \text{Top}_*$$

$$\longrightarrow \text{Imm}(u \cup v, \mathbb{R}^n) \longrightarrow \text{Imm}(u, \mathbb{R}^n) \times_{\text{Imm}(u \cap v, \mathbb{R}^n)} \text{Imm}(v, \mathbb{R}^n)$$

Immersions are the  
linear approximation to  
embeddings !!

## B. Calculus of homotopy functors:

Focus on  $F: \text{Top}_* \longrightarrow \text{Top}_*$  (or  $\text{Top}_* \longrightarrow \text{Spectra}$ )  
 Preserve weak homotopy  
 equivalences  $\longrightarrow$  Homotopy functor

Def<sup>n</sup>:  $F$  is 1-excisive if for any homotopy pushout

$$\begin{array}{ccc} X_0 & \longrightarrow & X_2 \\ \downarrow \phi & & \downarrow \\ X_1 & \longrightarrow & X_{12} \end{array}, \text{ the square}$$

$$\begin{array}{ccc} F(X_0) & \longrightarrow & F(X_{12}) \\ \downarrow & & \downarrow \\ F(X_1) & \longrightarrow & F(X_{12}) \end{array}$$

is a homotopy pull-back.

Rem:  $F$  1-excisive  $\Rightarrow \pi_* F$  has Mayer-Vietoris

$$\begin{array}{ccc} u \vee v & \longrightarrow & u \\ \downarrow & & \downarrow \\ v & \longrightarrow & u \vee v \end{array} \text{ is homotopy pushout}$$

$$\text{Ex: } \tilde{H}_*(x) \cong \pi_* \Omega^\infty (H\mathbb{Z} \wedge x)$$

$\Omega^\infty (H\mathbb{Z} \wedge -) : \text{Top}_* \longrightarrow \text{Top}_*$  is 1-excisive

Linear approximation:

Def: homotopy Functor:  $F: \text{Top}_* \longrightarrow \text{Top}_*$ ,  $\begin{array}{ccc} X & \longrightarrow & C(x) \\ \downarrow & & \downarrow \\ C(x) & \longrightarrow & S(x) \end{array}$  is homotopy pushout

$F$  1-excisive  $F(x) \xrightarrow{\sim} F(C(x)) \times_{F(S(x))} F(C(x))$  is a weak equivalence

So in general define:  $T_1(F) := F(C(x)) \times_{F(S(x))} F(C(x))$

Remark:  $T_1 F$  is closer to being linear than  $F$ .

Def<sup>n</sup>:  $P_1 F := \text{hocolim} (F(x) \longrightarrow T_1 F(x) \longrightarrow T_1 T_1 F(x) \longrightarrow \dots)$

Th<sup>m</sup>: (Goodwillie)  $P_1 F$  is 1-excisive.

If  $F$  is 1-excisive,  $F \xrightarrow{\sim} P_1 F$ ,

In general,  $F \longrightarrow P_1 F$  is universal in category  $F \longrightarrow$  1-excisive functors

$$\begin{pmatrix} F & \longrightarrow & G \\ \downarrow & & \downarrow S \\ P_1 F & \longrightarrow & P_1 G \end{pmatrix} \text{ Note: } F(\cdot) \xrightarrow{\sim} P_1 F(\cdot)$$

Ex:  $\text{Id}: \text{Top}_* \longrightarrow \text{Top}_*$  is not 1-excisive

$$T_1 \text{Id} X = C \times_{S_X} C \times_{S_X} C \cong * \times_{S_X} * \cong \Omega \Sigma X$$

$$P_1 \text{Id} X = \text{hocolim} (X \longrightarrow \Omega \Sigma X \longrightarrow \Omega^2 \Sigma^2 X \longrightarrow \dots) \\ = \Omega^\infty \Sigma^\infty X = Q \times \text{stable homotopy functor}$$

## Classification of Linear Functors:

$T_h^m$ :  $F: \text{Top}_* \longrightarrow \text{Top}_*$  homotopy, 1-excisive,  $F(*) = *$ , preserves filtered homotopy colimit (finitary)  
 $F \simeq \Omega^\infty (E \wedge X)$  for a spectrum  $E$   
 (Brown Representability)

## C. Higher Degree Polynomials

$$(f \text{ quadratic } f(x+y+z) - f(x+y) - \dots = 0)$$

Def:  $F: \text{Top}_* \longrightarrow \text{Top}_*$  is  $n$ -excisive if  
 for any strongly homotopy co-cartesian  $(n+1)$ -cube

$$\begin{array}{ccc} x_0 & \xrightarrow{\quad} & x_1 \\ & \searrow & \downarrow \\ & & x_2 \\ & \swarrow & \uparrow \\ & & x_{n+1} \end{array} \xrightarrow{F} \begin{array}{ccc} F(x_0) & \xrightarrow{\quad} & F(x_{n+1}) \\ \downarrow & & \downarrow \\ F(x_n) & \xrightarrow{\quad} & F(x_{1 \dots n+1}) \end{array}$$

is a homotopy pull-back

Def:  $\begin{array}{ccc} X & \xrightarrow{\quad} & CX \\ \downarrow & \searrow & \downarrow \\ CX & \xrightarrow{\quad} & S_X \\ \downarrow & \searrow & \downarrow \\ S_X & \xrightarrow{\quad} & * \end{array} \quad \begin{array}{l} F(X) \longrightarrow \text{hocolim}_{\phi \neq 0 \in \{1, \dots, n+1\}} F(U_\phi X) \\ P_n F = \text{hocolim} (F \longrightarrow T_1 F \longrightarrow T_2 F \longrightarrow \dots) \end{array}$

$P_n F$  is  $n$ -excisive, and we have a tower — "Taylor series"

$$F \longrightarrow \dots \longrightarrow P_{n+1} F \longrightarrow P_n F \longrightarrow \dots \longrightarrow P_1 F \longrightarrow F$$

## Convergence of Taylor Tower:

For a multitable  $F, X$ ,  $F(X) \xrightarrow{\sim} \text{hocolim } P_n F(X)$

Ex:  $F = \text{Id}$ ,  $X$  simply-connected

$$X \xrightarrow{\sim} \varinjlim_n P_n F(X), \text{ if } X \text{ is } k\text{-connected } X \longrightarrow P_n \text{Id}(X) \text{ is } (n+1)k\text{-connected.}$$

$\rightarrow F$  finitary  $\Rightarrow P_1 F$  finitary, other examples:  $\Omega^\infty A(X)$ ,  $\Omega^\infty \Sigma^\infty \text{Map}(K, X)$   $\xrightarrow{K\text{-theory}} \Omega^\infty (\Sigma^\infty_{\mathbb{Z}} \wedge X)$   $\xrightarrow{\text{ex of quadratic form}} \Omega^\infty (\Sigma^\infty_{\mathbb{Z}} \wedge X)$