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## approximation theorem for an arbitrary space

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Defines	unique colimit of a sequence of cellular inclusions of $CW$ -complexes

**Theorem 0.1.** (Approximation theorem for an arbitrary topological space in terms of the colimit of a sequence of cellular inclusions of  $CW$ -complexes):

*“There is a functor  $\Gamma : \mathbf{hU} \longrightarrow \mathbf{hU}$  where  $\mathbf{hU}$  is the homotopy category for unbased spaces, and a natural transformation  $\gamma : \Gamma \longrightarrow Id$  that assigns a  $CW$ -complex  $\Gamma X$  and a weak equivalence  $\gamma_e : \Gamma X \longrightarrow X$  to an arbitrary space  $X$ , such that the following diagram commutes:*

$$\begin{array}{ccc} \Gamma X & \xrightarrow{\Gamma f} & \Gamma Y \\ \gamma(X) \downarrow & & \downarrow \gamma(Y) \\ X & \xrightarrow{f} & Y \end{array}$$

*and  $\Gamma f : \Gamma X \rightarrow \Gamma Y$  is unique up to homotopy equivalence.”*

(viz. p. 75 in ref. [?]).

*Remark 0.1.* The  $CW$ -complex specified in the <http://planetmath.org/ApproximationTheoremForAnArbitraryTopologicalSpace> theorem for an arbitrary space is constructed as the colimit  $\Gamma X$  of a sequence of cellular inclusions of  $CW$ -complexes  $X_1, \dots, X_n$ , so that one obtains  $X \equiv \text{colim}[X_i]$ . As a consequence of J.H.C. Whitehead's Theorem, one also has that:

$\gamma_* : [\Gamma X, \Gamma Y] \longrightarrow [\Gamma X, Y]$  is an isomorphism.

Furthermore, the homotopy groups of the  $CW$ -complex  $\Gamma X$  are the colimits of the homotopy groups of  $X_n$  and  $\gamma_{n+1} : \pi_q(X_{n+1}) \longmapsto \pi_q(X)$  is a group epimorphism.

## References

- [1] May, J.P. 1999, *A Concise Course in Algebraic Topology.*, The University of Chicago Press: Chicago