

Prop 21: Let  $X, Y$  be  $\infty$ -categories.

Then  $X * Y$  is also an  $\infty$ -category.

proof: Let  $0 < i < n$  and

$$\epsilon_0 : \Lambda_i^n \longrightarrow X * Y.$$

We must extend  $\epsilon_0$  to an  $n$ -simplex of  $X * Y$ .

- Let  $J \subseteq [n]$  be the set of vertices such that  $\epsilon_0(j) \in X$  for  $j \in J$ .

Suppose that  $J$  is not an initial segment of  $[n]$ : then there is  $j \in J$  with  $j > 0$  and  $j-1 \notin J$ . Let  $e = \{j-1, j\} \in (\Lambda_i^n)_n$ .

Then  $\epsilon_0(e) \in (X * Y)_n$  has source in  $Y$  and target in  $X$ , which is impossible in  $X * Y$ .

$\Rightarrow J = [k]$  is an initial segment ( $-1 \leq k \leq n$ )

- If  $J = \emptyset$  or  $J = [n]$ , then  $\sigma_0$ .  
 Factors through either  $Y \hookrightarrow X * Y$   
 or  $X \hookrightarrow X * Y$  and we use the  
 assumption that  $X, Y$  are  $\infty$ -categories  
 to extend  $\sigma_0$ .

- If  $0 \leq k < n$ , the composite

$$\Delta^J \hookrightarrow \Delta^n \xrightarrow{\sigma_0} X * Y$$

factors through  $X$  via

$$\sigma_- : \Delta^J \longrightarrow X.$$

Similarly,  $\Delta^{[n] \setminus J} \xrightarrow{\sigma_+} Y$ ,

and  $\sigma_0$  admits a unique extension

given by

$$\Delta^n \simeq \Delta^J * \Delta^{[n] \setminus J} \xrightarrow{\sigma_- * \sigma_+} X * Y. \quad \square$$

Def 22: Let  $X \in s\text{Set}$ . The left cone

(resp. right cone)  $X^{\Delta^\circ}$  (resp.  $X^{\Delta}$ ) is :

$$\begin{cases} X^{\Delta^\circ} := \Delta^\circ * X \\ X^{\Delta} := X * \Delta \end{cases}$$



Ex 23: (Outer horns as cones)  $n \geq 0$ .

$$\Lambda_n^{n+1} \simeq (\partial \Delta^n)^{\Delta^\circ}, \quad \Lambda_{n+1}^{n+1} \simeq (\partial \Delta^n)^{\Delta}.$$

Lemma 24: Let  $i : A \rightarrow B$  be a monomorphism in  $s\text{Set}$ .

Then  $i * \text{id} : A * K \rightarrow B * K$  is also a mono.

proof: Exercise. □

Rmk 25: The functor  $* : s\text{Set} \times s\text{Set} \rightarrow s\text{Set}$  does not commute with colimits in both variables,

$\emptyset * X \simeq X$  is not an initial object for  $X \neq \emptyset$ .

We will see that  $*$  still preserves colimits

?

"if interpreted correctly."  $\begin{array}{c} \text{sSet} \\ + \\ \text{sSet} \end{array}$

- One could define another functor  $*$

by  $\iota^*((\iota_! X) * (\iota_! Y))$ . The advantage of this

new functor is that it would commute with all colimits.

The defect is that  $\iota_!$  does not send representables to representables, so

we have  $\Delta^m *' \Delta^n \neq \Delta^{m+n}$ .

Lemma 26: Let  $C, D \in \text{Cat}$ . There is an

isomorphism of simplicial sets

$$N(C * D) \xrightarrow{\sim} N(C) * N(D).$$

proof:

$$N(C * D)_n \cong \left\{ x_0 \xrightarrow{\delta_0} x_1 \xrightarrow{\dots} x_n \begin{array}{l} \text{composable} \\ \text{morphisms in } C * D \end{array} \right\}$$

we "jump" from  
C to D at  
some point.  $\xrightarrow{i+j=n}$

$$\cong \coprod_{i+j=n} \{x_0 \xrightarrow{\dots} x_i \text{ in } C\} \times \{x_i \xrightarrow{\dots} x_n \text{ in } D\}$$

$$= (N(c) * N(D))_n.$$



Lemma 27: Let  $X \in \text{sSet}$ . The join

construction lifts to functors:

$$\begin{cases} X * - : \text{sSet} \longrightarrow \text{sSet}_{X/} \\ - * X : \text{sSet} \longrightarrow \text{sSet}_{X/} \end{cases}$$

Proof: The maps from  $X$  are given by

$$\begin{aligned} X &\simeq X * \emptyset \xrightarrow{\text{id}_X * (g \hookrightarrow Y)} X * Y. \\ &\simeq \emptyset * X \longrightarrow Y * X \end{aligned}$$



Prop 28: The functors

$$\begin{cases} X * - : \text{sSet} \longrightarrow \text{sSet}_{X/} \\ - * X : \text{sSet} \longrightarrow \text{sSet}_{X/} \end{cases}$$

preserve colimits.

Proof:  $\text{sSet}$  is a presheaf category

so colimits are computed object wise.

• Colimits in a coslice category like

$sSet_{X/}$  are easy to compute :

$F : I \longrightarrow sSet_{X/}$  determines a diagram

$\hat{F} : I^\Delta \longrightarrow sSet$  extending  $F$  by Prop 9.

and  $\text{colim } F \simeq \text{colim } \hat{F}$  together with its canonical map  $X \simeq \hat{F}([0]) \longrightarrow \text{colim } \hat{F}$ .

In particular, to compute colimits in

$sSet_{X/}$ , we are reduced to compute

colimits in  $Set_{X_n/}$  for each  $n \geq 0$ .

Now

$$(X * Y)_n = X_n \amalg (X_{n-1} * Y_0) \amalg \dots \amalg Y_n$$

Let us see this formula implies that.

$$s\text{Set} \longrightarrow \text{Set}_{X_n}, Y \mapsto (X * Y)_n$$

commutes with colimits.

Let  $F: I \longrightarrow s\text{Set}$  be a functor.

Then

$$\begin{aligned} \text{colim}_{i \in I} (X * F(i))_n &= \text{colim}_{i \in I} X_n \amalg (X_{n-i} \times F(i)_0) \amalg \dots \amalg F(i)_n \\ &= X_n \amalg \underset{i \in I}{\text{colim}}^{\text{Set}} ((X_{n-i} \times F(i)_0) \amalg \dots \amalg F(i)_n) \\ &\quad \text{if } \amalg, \times \text{ commute} \\ &\quad \text{with colimits in Set} \\ &= X_n \amalg (X_{n-1} \times \underset{i \in I}{\text{colim}}^{\text{Set}} (F(i)_0)) \amalg \dots \\ &\quad \text{colims in set} \\ &\quad \text{objectwise} \\ &= X_n \amalg (X_{n-1} \times (\underset{i \in I}{\text{colim}}^{\text{Set}} F(i)_0)) \amalg \dots \end{aligned}$$



Rmk 29 The functor  $s\text{Set}_{X_1} \longrightarrow s\text{Set}$

does not preserves colimits ( $\text{id}_X$  is

initial in the source, but  $X$  is not initial  
in  $s\text{Set}$  unless  $X = \emptyset$ ).

It does preserve all **connected colimits**,  
those indexed by a category with  $|N(I)|$   
connected. In particular, it preserves  
 $\Gamma$   $\bullet \rightarrow \bullet \rightarrow \bullet \rightarrow \dots$   
pushouts and filtered colimits.

Hence the join  $X * - : s\text{Set} \rightarrow s\text{Set}$   
also preserves connected colimits.

(Exercise).

### 3) Slices of simplicial sets.

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Prop 30: The functors.

$$\begin{cases} - * S : \text{sSet} \longrightarrow \text{sSet}_{S/} \\ T * - : \text{sSet} \longrightarrow \text{sSet}_{T/} \end{cases}$$

admit right adjoints, the slice / coslice  
functors:

$$\text{sSet}_{S/} \longrightarrow \text{sSet}, (p: S \rightarrow X) \mapsto X_{/p}$$

$$\text{sSet}_{T/} \longrightarrow \text{sSet}, (q: T \rightarrow Y) \mapsto Y_{q/}.$$

Explicitly, we have

$$(X_{/p})_n = \text{sSet}_{S/}(\Delta^n * S, X)$$

$$(Y_{q/})_n = \text{sSet}_{T/}(T * \Delta^n, Y)$$

Proof:

This is the case of any colimit-preserving functor out of  $s\text{Set}$ , as we have seen in the first lecture, so the result follows from Prop 28.  $\square$

Ex 31: For  $x \in X_0 \Leftrightarrow x: \Delta^0 \rightarrow X$ ,

$$s\text{Set}(K, X_{/\bar{x}}) = s\text{Set}_* \left( (K^\triangleright, v), (X, x) \right)$$

where  $s\text{Set}_* = s\text{Set}_{\Delta^0}$ , category of

pointed simplicial sets, and  $v \in (K^\triangleright)$ .

is the cone point.

Similarly, we have

$$s\text{Set}(K, X_{x/}) = s\text{Set}_* \left( (K^\triangleleft, v), (X, x) \right)$$

Rmk 32: Let  $p: S \rightarrow X$  be a morphism  
of simplicial sets. The adjunction produces  
a morphism

$$c: X_{/P} * S \longrightarrow X$$

the slice contraction morphism.

Similarly, there is a morphism

$$c: S * X_{P/} \longrightarrow X$$

the coslice contraction morphism.

Prop 33: Let  $p: \mathcal{I} \rightarrow \mathcal{C}$  be a functor

between 1-categories. Then we have

$$\begin{cases} N(C_{p/}) \simeq N(C)_{Np/} & | Np: N(\mathcal{I}) - N(\mathcal{C}) \\ N(C_{/\mathcal{P}}) \simeq N(C)_{/\mathcal{N}p} \end{cases}$$

proof: Let's prove the first one.

We proceed by adjunction. For  $K \in \text{sSet}$ ,

$$\text{sSet}(K, N(C_{p/})) \simeq \text{Cat}(\tau(K), C_{p/})$$

$$\simeq \text{Cat}_{A/}(\mathbf{A} * \tau(K), C)$$

$$\simeq \text{Cat}_{A/}(\tau(N(A) * K), C)$$

$$\simeq \text{Cat}_{A/}(N(A) * K, N(C))$$

$$\simeq \text{Cat} \left( K, N(c)_{N\mathcal{P}_1} \right)$$

The only non-formal step is  $\star$ . To compute  $\tau$ , it suffices to determine the 0-, 1- and 2-simplices.

$$\begin{cases} (N(A) * K)_0 = N(A)_0 \amalg K_0 = \text{Ob}(A * R(K)) \\ (N(A) * K)_1 = N(A)_1 \amalg (N(A)_0 \times K_0) \amalg K_1 \end{cases}$$

$$\text{Mor}(A * \tau K) = \text{Mor}(A) \amalg (N(A)_0 \times K_0) \amalg \text{Mor}(\tau(K))$$

and  $K_1$  generates  $\text{Mor}(R(K))$ .

The 2-simplices gives relations, and one checks they match up.

$$\Rightarrow A * R K \simeq h(N(A) * K).$$

$\stackrel{\cong}{\equiv}$



Exercise: Prove this in a different

way by computing  $(N(c)_{Np/})_n$  using

the fact that , for  $A, B$  categories, one has  $N(A * B) \simeq N(A) * N(B)$ .

( see [Kerodon, Example 4.3.5.7] . )

Def 34: Let  $T \xrightarrow{\delta} S \xrightarrow{p} X \xrightarrow{\delta} Y$  be

a diagram of simplicial sets. We are going to construct commutative diagrams

$$\begin{array}{ccc} X_{/P} & \longrightarrow & Y_{/\delta P} \\ \downarrow & \searrow & \downarrow \\ X_{/P\delta} & \longrightarrow & Y_{/\delta P\delta} \end{array} \quad \text{and} \quad \begin{array}{ccc} X_{P/} & \longrightarrow & Y_{\delta P/} \\ \downarrow & & \downarrow \\ X_{P\delta/} & \longrightarrow & Y_{/\delta P\delta} \end{array}$$

(As noted by Rezk, "There seems to be no decent notation for the maps in [this] diagram .

The whole business of joins and slices can get pretty confusing because of this.  $\gg$ )

Let us do the case of slices. In fact, it suffices to construct the diagonal map

$X_{/\rho} \rightarrow Y_{/\delta\rho j}$ ; the others are special cases

with  $\delta = \text{id}$  or  $j = \text{id}$ . and the Yoneda lemma.

We construct it by adjunction<sup>v</sup> using joins.

$u: K \rightarrow X_{/\rho}$  correspond to the map  $\tilde{u}$  in

$$\begin{array}{ccccc} T & \xrightarrow{j} & S & \xrightarrow{\rho} & X & \xrightarrow{\delta} & Y \\ \downarrow & & \downarrow & & \nearrow \tilde{u} & & \\ K * T & \xrightarrow{K * j} & K * S & & & & \end{array}$$

and the map  $K \xrightarrow{u} X_{/\rho} \rightarrow Y_{/\delta\rho j}$  corresponds to  $\delta \circ \tilde{u} \circ (K * j)$ .

Ex 35:  $\emptyset \rightarrow S \xrightarrow{\rho} X = X$  yields

restriction functors

$$\begin{cases} X_{/\rho} \rightarrow X \simeq X_{/\tilde{\rho}} \\ X_{\rho/} \rightarrow X \simeq X_{\tilde{\rho}/} \end{cases}$$

$$(\tilde{\rho}: \rho \rightarrow \chi)$$

Def 36: Let  $T \xrightarrow{j} S \xrightarrow{\rho} X \xrightarrow{g} Y$  in  $sSet$ .

- From the commutative diagram of the previous definition, we get the

pullback-slice maps (compare with pullback-hom)

$$\left\{ \begin{array}{l} g \star_{\rho j}: X_{/\rho} \longrightarrow X_{/\rho j} \times_{Y_{/\rho j}} Y_{/\tilde{\rho} j} \\ g^j \star_{\rho}: X_{\rho/} \longrightarrow X_{\rho j/} \times_{Y_{\rho j/}} Y_{\tilde{\rho} j/} \end{array} \right.$$

Again, special cases (with  $Y = *$  or  $T = \emptyset$ )

recover the functoriality of the previous definit.

Prop 37: Let  $C$  be an  $\infty$ -category, and

$x \in C_0$ . The map

$$\begin{cases} C_{x/} \rightarrow C \\ C_{/x} \rightarrow C \end{cases} \text{ is a } \begin{cases} \text{left fibration.} \\ \text{right fibration.} \end{cases}$$

In particular,  $C_{x/}$  and  $C_{/x}$  are  $\infty$ -categories.

proof: Let us check  $C_{/x} \xrightarrow{\pi} C$  is a right fibration.

Explicitly, this sends  $a: \Delta^n \rightarrow C_{/x}$  to  $\tilde{a}|_{(\Delta^n * \emptyset)}$ , where  $\tilde{a}: \Delta^n * \Delta^0 \rightarrow C$  corresponds to  $a$ . Let  $0 < j \leq n$ . There is a equivalence of lifting problems:

$$\begin{array}{ccc} \Lambda^n_j & \longrightarrow & C_{/\infty} \\ \downarrow & \nearrow \exists? & \downarrow \pi \\ \Delta^n & \longrightarrow & C \end{array} \quad \Leftrightarrow$$

$$\begin{array}{c} \emptyset * \Delta^\circ \xrightarrow{x} (\Lambda^n_j * \Delta^\circ) \cup (\Delta^n * \emptyset) \longrightarrow C \\ \Lambda^n_j * \emptyset \downarrow \quad \nearrow \exists? \\ \Delta^n * \Delta^\circ \end{array}$$

The isomorphism  $\Delta^n * \Delta^\circ \cong \Delta^{n+1}$  identifies, for any  $S \subset [n]$ , the simplicial subset  $\Delta^S * \Delta^\circ$  with  $\Delta^{S \cup \{n+1\}} \subset \Delta^{n+1}$ , and the simplicial subset  $\Delta^S * \emptyset$  with  $\Delta^S \subset \Delta^{n+1}$ .

Since  $\Lambda^n_j = \bigcup_{k \in [n] \setminus j} \Delta^{[n] \setminus k}$  as a colimit,

and the join commutes with pushouts, we get:

(1) The sub set

$$(\Lambda_j^n * \Delta^\circ) \cup (\Delta^n * \emptyset) \text{ of } \Delta^n * \Delta^\circ$$

$$(\Lambda_j^n * \emptyset)$$

is :

$$\left( \bigcup_{k \in [n] \setminus j} (\Delta^{[n] \setminus k} * \Delta^\circ) \right) \cup (\Delta^n * \emptyset) \quad \underline{n=2, j=1}$$

$$= \left( \bigcup_{k \in [n] \setminus j} \Delta^{[n+1] \setminus k} \right) \cup \Delta^n \quad \Lambda_j^n * \emptyset$$

$$= \bigcup_{k \in [n+1] \setminus j} \Delta^{[n+1] \setminus k}$$

$$= \Lambda_j^{n+1} \subset \Delta^{n+1}.$$

(2) The sub set  $\emptyset * \Delta^\circ$  of  $\Delta^n * \Delta^\circ$  is  $\{n+1\}$ .

So the lifting problem is isomorphic to

$$\begin{array}{ccccc} \{n+1\} & \xrightarrow{\quad x \quad} & \Delta^{n+1} & \longrightarrow & C \\ & \downarrow & j & & \\ & & \Delta^n & \nearrow & \end{array}$$

which has a solution since  $0 < j \leq n < n+1$ .

This finishes the proof that  $C_{/x} \rightarrow C$  is a right fibration. In particular, it is an inner fibration, so  $C_{/x} \rightarrow C \rightarrow \Delta^0$  is as well and  $C_{/x}$  is an  $\infty$ -category. □

This result is true a lot more generally.

Thm 38: Let  $T \xrightarrow{j} S \xrightarrow{P} X \xrightarrow{g} Y$  in  $sSet$ .

Consider the pull back-slice maps:

$$g \circ_P j : X_{/P} \longrightarrow X_{/Pj} \times_{Y_{/\delta P}} Y_{/\delta P}$$

$$g^{j \boxtimes_p} : X_{P/} \longrightarrow X_{Pj/} \times_{Y_{\delta Pj/}} Y_{\delta P/}$$

Assume that  $j$  is a monomorphism.

Then we have the following:

$$(1) \quad g \text{ inner fibration} \Rightarrow \begin{cases} g^{j \boxtimes_p} \text{ is a left fibration.} \\ g^{\boxtimes_p j} \text{ is a right fibration.} \end{cases}$$

$$(2) \quad g \text{ trivial fibration} \Rightarrow g^{\boxtimes_p \delta}, g^{j \boxtimes_p} \text{ trivial fibration.}$$

(3)

$$j \begin{cases} \text{left anodyne} + g \text{ inner fibration} \\ \text{right anodyne} \end{cases} \Rightarrow \begin{cases} g^{j \boxtimes_p} \\ g^{\boxtimes_p j} \end{cases} \text{ trivial fib.}$$

□

Cor 3g: With same notations :

$$j \text{ monomorphism} \Rightarrow \begin{cases} C_{P/} \rightarrow C_{Pj/} \text{ left fibration} \\ C_{/P} \rightarrow C_{/\delta Pj} \text{ right fibration.} \end{cases}$$

$j$  left anodyne  $\Rightarrow C_{p/} \rightarrow C_{pj/}$  trivial fibration.

$j$  right anodyne  $\Rightarrow C_{/p} \rightarrow C_{/pj}$  trivial fibration.



Cor 40:  $C_{p/}$  and  $C_{/p}$  are  $\infty$ -categories  

The proof of all of this relies on a similar study of the left adjoints.

Def 41: Let  $\begin{cases} i: A \rightarrow B \\ j: K \rightarrow L \end{cases}$  in sSet.

The pushout-join  $i \boxplus j$  is the map

$$i \boxplus j: (A * L) \coprod_{(A * K)} (B * K) \xrightarrow{(i * L, B * j)} B * L$$

(compare with pushout product)

The previous results then follow by adjunction

From:

Prop 42: •  $\text{Monos} \boxtimes \text{Monos} \subseteq \text{Monos}$

- (right anodynes)  $\boxtimes \text{Monos} \subseteq (\text{inner anodyne})$
- $\text{Monos} \boxtimes (\text{left anodyne}) \subseteq (\text{inner anodyne})$
- ( $\text{anodyne}$ )  $\boxtimes \text{Monos} \subseteq (\text{left anodyne})$
- $\text{Monos} \boxtimes (\text{anodyne}) \subseteq (\text{right anodyne})$

“proof”: We have seen in the proof of

Prop 37 that

$$(\Lambda_{\beta}^n < \Delta^n) \boxtimes (\emptyset < \Delta^0) = (\Lambda_{\beta}^{n+1} < \Delta^{n+1}).$$

The proof consists in computing similar pushout-joins of horn and boundary inclusions, and also proving that

$$\overline{S} \boxplus \overline{T} \subset \overline{S \boxtimes T}.$$



## 4) Initial and terminal objects

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Def 43: An object  $x$  in an  $\infty$ -category  $C$  is  $n \geq 1$  and initial if for every  $\overset{\vee}{g}: \partial\Delta^n \rightarrow C$  with  $g(0) = x$ , there exists an extension  $\overset{\wedge}{g}: \Delta^n \rightarrow C$ .

An object  $y$  in  $C$  is terminal if for every  $g: \partial\Delta^n \rightarrow C$  with  $g(n) = y$ , there exists an extension  $\overset{\wedge}{g}: \Delta^n \rightarrow C$ .

Rmk 44: Let's look at the "initial" condition

for small  $n$ :

- $n=1$ : for every  $c \in C$ , there is a morphism  $x \rightarrow c$ .
- $n=2$ : for every triple of maps  $x \xrightarrow{g} c \quad \downarrow h \quad \xrightarrow{f} c'$ ,  
 $\quad \quad \quad g \xrightarrow{} c'$

we have a filling triangle, hence  $[g] = [h][f]$  in  $\mathrm{R}C$ .

Lemma 45: Let  $C$  be a 1-category. Then

$$x \in C \text{ is } \begin{cases} \text{initial iff } x \in N(C)_0 \text{ is initial.} \\ \text{terminal iff } x \in N(C)_0 \text{ is terminal.} \end{cases}$$

Proof:  $\Rightarrow$  By the previous remark, the conditions hold for  $n \leq 2$ . For any  $n \geq 3$ , we have  $sSet(\Delta^n, N(C)) \hookrightarrow sSet(\partial\Delta^n, N(C))$  (because  $sh_2(\partial\Delta^n) \stackrel{n \geq 3}{\cong} sh_2(\Delta^n)$  and  $N(C)$  is 2-coskeletal.) so the result holds.

$\Leftarrow$ : Also follows from the previous remark and  $RN(C) \cong C$ . □

Lemma 46: Let  $x \in C$  be initial. Then  $x \in hC$  terminal

is initial.  
terminal

Proof: This also follows for the conditions  
For  $n \leq 2$ . □

• The converse is not true; there are "higher coherence" conditions.

Prop 47: Let  $C$  be an  $\infty$ -category, and  $x \in C$ .

Then  $x$  is  $\begin{cases} \text{initial} & \text{iff } \begin{cases} C_x \rightarrow C \\ C_{/x} \rightarrow C \end{cases} \text{ is a} \\ \text{terminal} & \text{trivial} \end{cases}$  fibration.

proof: There is an equivalence of

lifting problems:

$$\begin{array}{ccc} \delta\Delta^n \rightarrow C_x & \Downarrow & \Delta^0 * \phi \rightarrow (\Delta^0 * \delta\Delta^n) \amalg (\phi * \Delta^n) \rightarrow C \\ \downarrow & \Leftrightarrow & \downarrow \phi * \delta\Delta^n \\ \Delta^n \rightarrow C & & \Delta^0 * \Delta^n \end{array}$$

and the right side is isomorphic to

$$\begin{array}{ccc} \{0\} & \xrightarrow{\quad} & \delta\Delta^{n+1} \rightarrow C \\ & & \downarrow \\ & & \Delta^{n+1} \end{array}$$

so  $C_x \rightarrow C$  is a trivial fibration

iff  $x$  is an initial object.  

Rmk: It is true, but outside our reach at this point, that.

$x$  initial  $\Leftrightarrow C_{x/} \rightarrow C$  categorical equivalence.  
(because trivial fib  $\Leftrightarrow$  left or right fib + cat. equivalence)

Prop 48: Let  $C$  be an  $\infty$ -category.

Write  $C^{\text{init}}$  (resp.  $C^{\text{term}}$ ) denote respectively  
the full subcategory spanned by initial (resp.  
terminal) objects. Then each of them is  
either empty, or categorically equivalent to  $\Delta^\circ$ .

proof: Suppose  $C^{\text{init}} \neq \emptyset$ .  
(“unique up to a unique iso” in  $\infty$ -cat. world)

Then  $C^{\text{init}} \rightarrow \Delta^\circ$  satisfies the right lifting

condition with respect to  $\delta \Delta^n \subset \Delta^n$  for

•  $n \geq 1$  because of the initial property.

•  $n = 0$  because  $C^{\text{init}} \neq \emptyset$ .

So  $C^{\text{init}} \rightarrow \Delta^\circ$  is a trivial fibration, and

in particular a categorical equivalence.

Lemma 49: Let  $C$  be an  $\infty$ -category and

$x \in C_0$ . Then  $x$  is initial iff  $x: \Delta^0 \rightarrow C$  is left anodyne.  
terminal right

proof: We prove the result for initial objects.

$\Rightarrow C_{x/} \rightarrow C$  is a trivial fibration by

Prop . So by Corollary III.1.10,  
it admits a section  $s: C \rightarrow C_{x/}$ .

Consider the diagram

$$\begin{array}{ccccc} \Delta^0 & \xrightarrow{\text{first fact}} & \Delta^0 * \Delta^0 & \xrightarrow{\text{Proj.}} & \Delta^0 \\ \downarrow x & & \downarrow \Delta^0 * x & & \downarrow \\ \Delta^0 & \xrightarrow{\text{first.}} & \Delta^0 * C & \xrightarrow{s} & C \end{array}$$

$\Rightarrow \Delta^0 \xrightarrow{x} C$  is a retract of  $\Delta^0 * x$ .

But  $\Delta^0 * x$  is left anodyne because  $\text{id}_{\Delta^0}$  is  
anodyne and  $x$  is mono by Prop .

$\Leftarrow$ :  $C_{x_1} \rightarrow C$  is always a left fibration

by Prop , so if  $\Delta^0 \xrightarrow{x} C$  is left anodyne

we can solve

$$\begin{array}{ccc} \Delta^0 & \xrightarrow{\text{id}_x} & C_{x_1} \\ \downarrow & \nearrow t & \downarrow \\ C & \xrightarrow{\text{id}_C} & C \end{array}$$

We can then use  $t$  to prove initiality.

Consider a diagram:

$$\begin{array}{ccccccc} \{0\} & \xrightarrow{x} & \Delta^n & \longrightarrow & C & \xrightarrow{t} & C_{x_1} \rightarrow C \\ & & \downarrow & & & & \\ & & \Delta^n & & & & \end{array}$$

Diagram illustrating the construction of a left fibration. The top row shows objects  $\{0\}$ ,  $\Delta^n$ ,  $C$ ,  $C_{x_1}$ , and  $C$ . Arrows include  $x: \{0\} \rightarrow \Delta^n$ ,  $\Delta^n \rightarrow C$ ,  $t: C \rightarrow C_{x_1}$ , and  $C_{x_1} \rightarrow C$ . The bottom row shows  $\Delta^n$ . Dashed arrows in purple and red connect  $\Delta^n$  to  $C$  and  $C_{x_1}$  respectively, representing intermediate steps in the proof.

$t(x) = \text{id}_{x_1}$  is an initial object of  $C_{x_1}$

( see Exercise sheet) so the red arrow

exists. We define the purple arrow by  
composition and it solves the problem.



Prop 50: Let  $\text{Spc} = N_{\Delta}(\tilde{\text{Kan}})$  be the

$\infty$ -category of spaces. Let  $K$  be a Kan complex. Then

- $K$  is an initial object in  $\text{Spc} \Leftrightarrow K = \emptyset$ .
- $K$  is a terminal object in  $\text{Spc} \Leftrightarrow |K|$  is contractible.

proof:

- We first do the  $\Rightarrow$  directions. If  $K$  is initial / terminal in  $\text{Spc}$ , then it is initial / terminal in  $R\text{Spc}$ , which is equivalent to the usual homotopy category of CW-complexes via  $| - |$ . It is then easy to show that  $K$  is empty / contractible. (exercise)
- Consider a diagram:

$$\begin{array}{ccccc} & & K & & \\ & \nearrow & & \searrow & \\ \{0\} \text{ or } \{n\} & \longrightarrow & \partial \Delta^n & \longrightarrow & \text{Spc} \\ & \downarrow & & \nearrow ? & \\ & \Delta^n & \dashrightarrow & & \end{array}$$

The arrow  $\partial\Delta^n \rightarrow \text{Spc} = N_\Delta(\tilde{\text{Kan}})$

corresponds to a simplicial functor

$$\text{Path}[\partial\Delta^n] \longrightarrow \tilde{\text{Kan}} \left( \begin{array}{l} \text{obj are Kan compl.} \\ \underline{\text{Hom}}(x, y) = \text{Fun}(x, y) \end{array} \right)$$

To fill it in, we have to understand the difference between  $\text{Path}[\partial\Delta^n]$  and  $\text{Path}[\Delta^n]$ .

This is similar to the study of  $\text{Path}[\Lambda_j^n]$

we did to prove that  $N_\Delta(\text{col-Kan})$  is a quasi category. The outcome is as follows:

$\text{Path}[\partial\Delta^n]$  and  $\text{Path}[\Delta^n]$  have the same objects

and the same Hom-simplicial sets, except for

$$\text{Path}[\partial\Delta^n](0, n) \subseteq \text{Path}[\Delta^n](0, n) \cong (\Delta^1)^n$$

which is the hollow  $n$ -cube  $(\overset{\circ}{\Delta^1})^n$  with the interior removed. (all deg.  $n$ -simplices)

So as in the proof of " $N_\Delta$  quasicategory",

we only have to consider one simplicial hom-set.

at a time.

$\emptyset$  is initial:

$\Leftarrow$  Let  $g: \partial\Delta^n \rightarrow \text{Spc}$  with  
 $g(0) = \emptyset$ .

We have thus a map  $(\overset{\circ}{\Delta}{}^n) \rightarrow \widetilde{\text{Kan}}(g(0), g(n))$

Since  $g(0) = \emptyset$  and  $\emptyset$  is initial in Kan,

$\widetilde{\text{Kan}}(g(0), g(n))$  is a singleton, so the map  
is constant, and we extend it to a constant  
map  $(\Delta^n) \rightarrow \text{Kan}(g(0), g(n))$  via this  
provides the extension  $\tilde{g}: \Delta^n \rightarrow \text{Spc}$ .

Contractible Kan complexes are terminal:

- Let  $K$  be a contractible Kan complex.
- Let  $g: \partial\Delta^n \rightarrow \text{Spc}$  such that  $g(n) = K$ .

We have a map  $(\overset{\circ}{\Delta}{}^n) \rightarrow \widetilde{\text{Kan}}(g(0), K)$

Now  $K$  contractible  $\Rightarrow \tilde{\text{Kan}}(X, K)$  contractible  
for all  $X$ .

$\rightsquigarrow$  the map  $(\overset{\circ}{\Delta^n})^n \rightarrow \tilde{\text{Kan}}(g(0), K)$  extends  
to  $(\Delta^n)^n$ .

This provides the extension  $g: \Delta^n \rightarrow \text{Spc}$ .



Exercise : Let  $A$  be an abelian category with enough injectives. Prove  
that  $K \in \text{Ch}^+(A_{\text{inj}})$  be a complex of  
injectives. Recall  $\mathcal{D}^+(A) := N^{\text{dg}}(\text{Ch}^+(A_{\text{inj}}))$   
 $K$  is an initial object in  $\mathcal{D}^+(A)$   
 $\Updownarrow$   
 $K$  is a terminal object in  $\mathcal{D}^+(A)$   
 $\Updownarrow$   
 $K$  is acyclic:  $H_*(K) = 0$ .

## 5) Limits and colimits

Def 51: Let  $K \in \text{Set}$ ,  $C \in \text{Cat}_{\infty}^{\wedge}$  and  $p: K \rightarrow C$ . A **limit** (resp. **colimit**) of  $p$  is a terminal object of  $C_{/p}$  (resp. an initial object of  $C_{p/}$ ).

Explicitly, a limit of  $p$  is a limit cone

$$\hat{p}: \Delta^{\circ} * K = K^{\Delta} \rightarrow C \text{ extending } p$$

and such that for  $n \geq 1$ , we have lifts

in any diagram of the form:

$$\begin{array}{ccc} \{n\} * K & \xrightarrow{\quad \hat{p} \quad} & C \\ \downarrow & \nearrow & \\ \Delta^n * K & & \end{array}$$

Ex 52: . A colimit of  $\emptyset \rightarrow C$  is an initial

object, a limit of  $\emptyset \rightarrow C$  is a final object.

- Let's look at the condition for  $n=1$ :

$$\begin{array}{ccccc} K^\Delta & \xrightarrow{\quad} & K^\Delta \amalg_K K^\Delta & \xrightarrow{\quad} & C \\ & \nearrow & \downarrow & \searrow & \\ & & \Delta^\ast * K & & \end{array}$$

so we are given another  $\hat{q}: K^\Delta \rightarrow C$  extending

The existence of  $\hat{q}$  means we have a map

$$\hat{q}(1) \longrightarrow \lim p = \hat{p}(\{1\})$$

which "makes the diagram commute."

It doesn't say anything about uniqueness of this map, unlike in the 1-cat. case!

Indeed, the condition for  $n=2$  means roughly that this map is well-defined in  $\text{ho}(C)$  and the conditions for  $n \geq 3$  are higher wh.

conditions.

⚠ Unlike with initial / terminal object, even if  $K = N(I)$  is the nerve of a 1-category, the induced functor

$$I^\triangleright = R N(I)^\triangleright \xrightarrow{R \hat{p}} R C$$

is not a limit cone in  $R C$  in general. We will see an example later.

- We are indexing limits and colimits by arbitrary simplicial sets. This can be useful but the case  $K = N(I)$  is already very interesting (and in some sense the general case reduces to it, see [HTT, Prop 4.2.3.14 and 4.1.1.8])
- In particular it is still true that a colimit of  $\text{id}: C \rightarrow C$  is a terminal object.  
At this point we can prove one direct', see Exercise Sheet.

• Consider  $K = \Lambda_0^2 = N\left(\begin{smallmatrix} & 0 \\ \swarrow & \searrow \\ 1 & 2 \end{smallmatrix}\right)$ .

Then  $(\Lambda_0^2)^\triangleright = \Delta^1 \times \Delta^1 = N([1] \times [1])$ .

A colimit cone  $(\Lambda_0^2)^\triangleright \rightarrow C$  is called a **pushout diagram** in  $C$ . Let's try to make the definition explicit in this case.

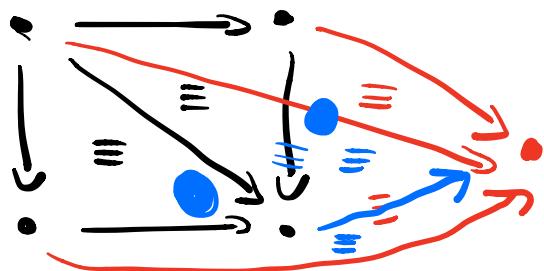
The diagram  
 $\hat{P} : (\Lambda_0^2)^\triangleright \rightarrow C$

is

Hence an “Homotopy commutative square with prescribed Homotopies.”

$n=1$ :  $K * \Delta^1 = N\left(\begin{smallmatrix} & 0 \\ \swarrow & \searrow \\ 1 & 2 \end{smallmatrix}\right) * [1]$

so we are given  $\hat{q}$  extending  $P$  --- see above.



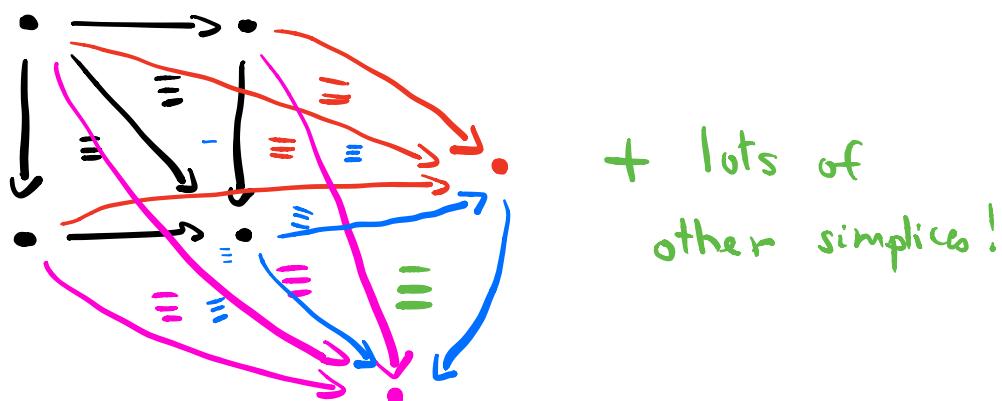
$$\underline{n=2}: \left\{ \begin{array}{l} K * \Delta^2 = N(\overset{\circ}{\downarrow}_1 \downarrow_2 * [2]) \\ K * \partial \Delta^2 \text{ is not a nerve.} \end{array} \right.$$

So we are given  $\hat{q}, \hat{r} : K^\triangleright \rightarrow C$

together with three maps  $\begin{cases} \hat{p} \rightarrow \hat{q} \\ \hat{p} \rightarrow \hat{r} \\ \hat{q} \rightarrow \hat{r} \end{cases}$

and we are asking for filling simplices;

...



It is clear that in general (co)limits  
in  $\infty$ -categories are very complicated beasts!

We need various tools to compute and handle them without too much simplicial combinatorics. We can't go very far in this course; a lot of [HTT] is devoted to this problem.

Let's start with a reassuring fact.

Lemma 53: Let  $C$  be a 1-category and

$p: K \rightarrow N(C)$  be a diagram.

Then  $p$  admits a limit / colimit in  $N(C)$

$\Leftrightarrow$  the induced diagram  $\tau p: \tau K \rightarrow C$

has a limit / colimit in  $C$ .

proof: We have

Prop 33

$$\cdot N(C)_{p/} = N(C)_{N\tau p/} \xrightarrow{\quad} N(C_{\tau p/})$$

and an object is initial in  $C_{\tau p/}$  iff it is initial in  $N(C_{\tau p/})$ . This proves the result.  $\square$

Prop 54: Let  $p: K \rightarrow C$  be a diagram.

Let  $(C_{/P})^{\text{colim}}_{\text{lim}} \subseteq C_{/P}$  be the full subcategory spanned by colimit cones. Then it is either

empty or categorically equivalent to  $\Delta^\circ$ .  $\square$