

# Simplicial Homotopy Theory

## I. Simplicial Sets.

Dreams: category  $S$  of simplicial sets  $\hat{=}$  three classes of morphisms

- cofibrations
- fibrations
- weak equivalences

" (closed) s.t. CM1:  $S$  closed under finite lim & colims.  
 Model category axioms  
 - Quillen

$$\text{CM2: } \begin{array}{ccc} X & \xrightarrow{g} & Y \\ & \searrow h & \swarrow f \\ & Z & \end{array} \quad \begin{array}{l} 2/3 \text{ weak equiv} \\ \Downarrow \\ 3/3 \text{ weak equiv.} \end{array}$$

CM3:  $f$  retracts  $g$  in the cat of maps in  $S$ . Then  $g$  weak equiv  $[cofib] (fib)$   
 $\Downarrow$   
 $f$  weak equiv  $[cofib] (fib)$ .

$$\text{CM4. } \begin{array}{ccc} U & \xrightarrow{\quad} & X \\ i \downarrow & \nearrow \exists & \downarrow p \\ V & \xrightarrow{\quad} & Y \end{array} \quad \begin{array}{l} \cdot i \text{ cofib} \\ \cdot p \text{ fib} \\ \cdot \exists \nearrow \text{ is } i \text{ or } p \text{ is weak eq.} \end{array}$$

CM5. any  $f: X \rightarrow Y \rightsquigarrow f = p \circ \underbrace{i}_{fib} \overset{coFib + \text{weak eq.}}{\nearrow}$

and  $f = q \circ \underbrace{j}_{fib} \overset{coFib}{\nearrow}$   
 $\text{fib} \text{ weak eq.}$

fibrations in  $S$  will be Kan fibrations

cofibrations will be monomorphisms (left cancellable)

weak eq. will be morphisms giving homotopy equivalence as CW-complexes.

### I.1. Basic definitions.

$\Delta :=$  cat of finite ordinals and order-preserving fns. / "ordinal number cat."

• Obj:  $\{0, 0 \rightarrow 1, 0 \rightarrow 1 \rightarrow 2, \dots, 0 \rightarrow 1 \rightarrow 2 \rightarrow \dots \rightarrow n\}$

•  $\theta \in \text{Hom}_\Delta(m, n)$  is function  $\theta: \{0 \dots m\} \rightarrow \{0 \dots n\}$  s.t.  $i < j \Rightarrow \theta(i) < \theta(j)$ .

equivalently, view the posets  $0 \rightarrow 1 \rightarrow 2 \rightarrow \dots \rightarrow n$  as categories; morphisms in  $\Delta$  are just functors.

Def. a simplicial set is a functor  $X: \Delta^{op} \rightarrow \text{Sets}$ .

ex.  $\exists$  standard functor  $\Delta \rightarrow \text{Top}$   
 $n \mapsto |\Delta^n|$

where  $|\Delta^n| = \{(t_0, \dots, t_n) \in \mathbb{R}^{n+1} : \sum_{i=0}^n t_i = 1, t_i \geq 0\}$   
 is std  $n$ -simplex

$\theta: (0 \rightarrow \dots \rightarrow n) \rightarrow (0 \rightarrow \dots \rightarrow m)$

$\rightsquigarrow \theta_*: |\Delta^n| \rightarrow |\Delta^m|$

$(t_0, \dots, t_n) \mapsto (s_0, \dots, s_m)$  where  $s_i = \sum_{j \in \theta^{-1}(i)} t_j$   
 $\hookrightarrow 0$  if  $\emptyset$ .

Functoriality of  $\Theta \mapsto \Theta_*$ :

•  $\text{id}_n : (0 \rightarrow \dots \rightarrow n) \rightarrow (0 \rightarrow \dots \rightarrow n)$

$\downarrow$   
 $(\text{id}_n)_* = \text{id}_{|\Delta^n|}$  clear.

•  $f : (0 \rightarrow \dots \rightarrow n) \rightarrow (0 \rightarrow \dots \rightarrow m), g : (0 \rightarrow \dots \rightarrow m) \rightarrow (0 \rightarrow \dots \rightarrow p)$

$\leadsto (g \circ f)_* (t_0 \dots t_n) = (u_0 \dots u_p)$  where  $u_i = \sum_{k \in (g \circ f)^{-1}(i)} t_k$

$$= \sum_{k \in f^{-1}(j)} t_k$$

$= \sum_{j \in g^{-1}(i)} s_j$  where  $s_j = \sum_{k \in f^{-1}(j)} t_k$

i.e.  $f_* (t_0 \dots t_n) = (s_0 \dots s_m)$

$$= g_* (s_0 \dots s_m)$$

$$= g_* \circ f_* (t_0 \dots t_n) \quad \square.$$

$T$  top. space  $\leadsto$  singular set  $S(T) : \Delta^{\text{op}} \rightarrow \text{Sets}$

given by  $(0 \rightarrow \dots \rightarrow n) \mapsto \text{hom}_{\text{Top}}(|\Delta^n|, T)$

functoriality: recall singular homology.

important morphisms in  $\Delta$ : •  $d^i : n \rightarrow n-1$   $0 \leq i \leq n$ .

$(0 \rightarrow 1 \rightarrow \dots \rightarrow n-1) \mapsto (0 \rightarrow 1 \rightarrow \dots \rightarrow i-1 \rightarrow i+1 \rightarrow \dots \rightarrow n-1).$

•  $s^j : n+1 \rightarrow n$   $0 \leq j \leq n$

$(0 \rightarrow 1 \rightarrow \dots \rightarrow n) \mapsto (0 \rightarrow 1 \rightarrow \dots \rightarrow j \rightarrow j \rightarrow \dots \rightarrow n).$

<sup>1</sup> "simplicial identities":

$$\left\{ \begin{array}{ll} d^j d^i = d^i d^{j-1} & i < j \\ s^j d^i = d^i s^{j-1} & i < j \\ s^j d^j = 1 = s^j d^{j+1} & \\ s^j d^i = d^{i-1} s^j & i > j+1 \\ s^j s^i = s^i s^{j+1} & i \leq j. \end{array} \right.$$