

$$\begin{aligned}
&\cong \int_{\mathcal{D} \times \mathcal{D}} \mathcal{D}(A \oplus B, D) \otimes \mathcal{D}(D_1, A) \otimes \mathcal{D}(D_2, B) \\
&\cong \int_{\mathcal{D} \times \mathcal{D}} \mathcal{D}(D_1, A) \otimes \mathcal{D}(D_2, B) \otimes \mathcal{D}(A \oplus B, D) \\
&\cong \int_{\mathcal{C}} \mathcal{C}((D_1, D_2), (A, B)) \otimes F((A, B)) \\
&\quad \text{where } \mathcal{C} := \mathcal{D} \times \mathcal{D} \text{ and } F((A, B)) := \mathcal{D}(A \oplus B, D) \\
&\cong F((D_1, D_2)) \quad \text{by Proposition 3.2.25} \\
&\cong \mathcal{D}(D_1 \oplus D_2, D) = (\mathcal{Y}^{D_1 \oplus D_2})_D. \quad \square
\end{aligned}$$

The following is proved by Mandell *et al* in [MMSS01, 22.1] in the case of topological categories.

Proposition 3.3.15. Lax symmetric monoidal functors and commutative algebras. *The category of (commutative) monoids in $[\mathcal{D}, \mathcal{V}]$ is isomorphic to that of lax (symmetric) monoidal functors $\mathcal{D} \rightarrow \mathcal{V}$ (Definition 2.6.19).*

Proof Let $R : \mathcal{D} \rightarrow \mathcal{V}$ be lax (symmetric) monoidal. Then, in the notation of Definition 2.6.19, we have a unit map $\iota : \mathbf{1} \rightarrow R(\mathbf{0})$ and a natural transformation μ from $R(-) \otimes R(-)$ to $R(- \oplus -)$. By the definition of the tensored Yoneda functor $F^{\mathbf{0}}$ and the Yoneda functor $\mathbf{1} = \mathcal{Y}^{\mathbf{0}}$ of Yoneda Lemma 2.2.10, the maps ι and μ determine and are determined by the maps $\eta : \mathbf{1} \rightarrow R$ and $m : R \otimes R \rightarrow R$ of Definition 2.6.58 that give R the structure of a (commutative) monoid. \square

3.4 Simplicial sets and simplicial spaces

The category of simplicial sets is a convenient combinatorial substitute for that of topological spaces and a widely used tool in homotopy theory. A thorough modern account can be found in [GJ99].

3.4A The category of finite ordered sets

Let $\mathbf{\Delta}$ be the category of finite ordered sets $[n] = \{0, 1, \dots, n\}$ and order preserving maps. It is an easy exercise to show that any such map can be written as a composite of the following ones:

- the **face maps** $d_i : [n-1] \rightarrow [n]$ for $0 \leq i \leq n$, where d_i is the order preserving monomorphism that does not have i in its image and
- the **degeneracy maps** $s_i : [n+1] \rightarrow [n]$ for $0 \leq i \leq n$, where s_i is the order preserving epimorphism sending i and $i+1$ to i .

These satisfy the **simplicial identities**:

- (i) $d_i d_j = d_{j-1} d_i$ for $i < j$
- (ii) $d_i s_j = s_{j-1} d_i$ for $i < j$
- (iii) $d_i s_j = id$ for $i = j$ and for $i = j + 1$
- (iv) $d_i s_j = s_j d_{i-1}$ for $i > j + 1$
- (v) $s_i s_j = s_j s_{i-1}$ for $i > j$.

Definition 3.4.1. A **simplicial set** X is a functor $\Delta^{op} \rightarrow \text{Set}$. It is common to denote its value on $[n]$ by X_n and call it the **set of n -simplices** of X . A simplicial set X thus consists of a collection of sets X_n for $n \geq 0$, along with face maps $d_i : X_n \rightarrow X_{n-1}$ and degeneracy maps $s_i : X_n \rightarrow X_{n+1}$ for $0 \leq i \leq n$ satisfying the identities (i)–(v) above. A simplex is **nondegenerate** if it is not in the image of any degeneracy map s_i . The category Set_Δ of simplicial sets is the category of such functors with natural transformations as morphisms.

More generally a **simplicial object** X in a category \mathcal{C} is a functor $X : \Delta^{op} \rightarrow \mathcal{C}$. It is common to write it as X_\bullet to emphasize its simplicial nature. We denote the category of simplicial objects in \mathcal{C} by \mathcal{C}_Δ .

Similarly a **cosimplicial object** Y in a category \mathcal{C} , sometimes denoted by Y^\bullet , is a \mathcal{C} valued functor on Δ whose value on $[n]$ is denoted by Y^n . It consists of a collection of objects Y^n in \mathcal{C} for $n \geq 0$, along with coface maps $d^i : Y^{n-1} \rightarrow Y^n$ and codegeneracy maps $s^i : Y^{n+1} \rightarrow Y^n$ for $0 \leq i \leq n$ satisfying identities dual to (i)–(v) above. We denote the category of cosimplicial objects in \mathcal{C} by \mathcal{C}^Δ . In particular, a **cosimplicial space** is an object in the category Top^Δ of functors $\Delta \rightarrow \text{Top}$.

For an object C in \mathcal{C} , we denote by $cs_*(C)$ the **constant simplicial object at C** , the functor $\Delta^{op} \rightarrow \mathcal{C}$ sending each object to C and each morphism to 1_C . The **constant cosimplicial object at C** , $cc_*(X)$ is similarly defined.

Simplicial sets are ubiquitous in homotopy theory, but cosimplicial sets are rarely considered. Cosimplicial spaces are more common.

Definition 3.4.2. The **cosimplicial space Δ^\bullet , the cosimplicial standard simplex**, is the functor $[n] \mapsto \Delta^n$, where the **standard n -simplex Δ^n** is the space

$$\Delta^n = \left\{ (t_0, t_1, \dots, t_n) \in \mathbf{R}^{n+1} : t_i \geq 0 \text{ and } \sum_i t_i = 1 \right\}.$$

It is homeomorphic to the n -disk D^n . Its **boundary** $\partial\Delta^n$ is the set of points with at least one coordinate equal to 0; it is homeomorphic to S^{n-1} . The **i th face Δ_i^n** for $0 \leq i \leq n$ is the set of points with $t_i = 0$; it is homeomorphic to D^{n-1} . The **i th horn Λ_i^n** is the complement of the interior of the i th face in the boundary, the set of points with at least one vanishing coordinate and with $t_i > 0$. It is also homeomorphic to D^{n-1} . It is an **inner horn** if $0 < i < n$; otherwise it is an **outer horn**.

The **cosimplicial standard simplicial set** $\Delta[\bullet]$ (called the *cosimplicial standard simplex* in [Hir03, Definition 15.1.15]) is the functor $[n] \mapsto \Delta[n]$, where the simplicial set $\Delta[n]$ (also called the **standard n -simplex**) is given by

$$\Delta[n]_k = \Delta([k], [n]).$$

The singular chain complex for Y is obtained from the free abelian groups on these sets by defining a boundary operator in terms of the face maps d_i .

Definition 3.4.3. The **geometric realization** $|X|$ (or $\mathcal{R}e(X)$) of a **simplicial set** X is the coend (Definition 2.4.5)

$$|X| := \int_{\Delta} X_n \times \Delta^n.$$

This means the topological space $|X|$ is the quotient of the union of all of the simplices of X ,

$$\coprod_n X_n \times \Delta^n,$$

obtained by gluing them together appropriately. Equivalently it is the quotient of a similar disjoint union using only the nondegenerate simplices of X . In particular the space Δ^n is $|\Delta[n]|$ for the simplicial set $\Delta[n]$ of Definition 3.4.2.

The **geometric realization** $|X|$ of a **simplicial space** X is similarly defined as a quotient of the union of the spaces $X_n \times \Delta^n$, whose topologies are determined by those of the spaces X_n as well the spaces Δ^n .

Remark 3.4.4. Following common practice, we are using the term “standard n -simplex” for both the topological space Δ^n and the simplicial set $\Delta[n]$ of Definition 3.4.2 in hopes that the distinction between the two will be clear from the context. Note that $|\Delta[n]| \cong \Delta^n$, so $|\Delta[\bullet]| \cong \Delta^\bullet$.

Remark 3.4.5. The realization of a bisimplicial set. It follows from the definitions that the coend

$$\int_{\Delta} X_n \times \Delta[n]$$

is the simplicial set X itself. Now suppose that X is a **bisimplicial set**, meaning a simplicial object in the category of simplicial sets or equivalently set valued functor on $\Delta^{op} \times \Delta^{op}$. Then in the coend above, each X_n is itself a simplicial set, and the coend is another simplicial set $|X|$. Hirschhorn [Hir03, Definition 15.11.1] calls this the **realization** of the bisimplicial set X . In [Hir03, Theorem 15.11.6] he shows that it is naturally isomorphic to the diagonal simplicial set

$$\Delta^{op} \xrightarrow{\text{diag}} \Delta^{op} \times \Delta^{op} \xrightarrow{X} \mathbf{Set}. \tag{3.4.6}$$

Definition 3.4.7. The singular functor. For a topological space Y the simplicial set $Sing(Y)$ (the **singular complex** of Y) is given by letting $Sing(Y)_n$ be the set of all continuous maps $\Delta^n \rightarrow Y$. The face and degeneracy operators are defined in terms of the coface and codegeneracy operators on Δ .

The following is proved by May in [May67, 14.1].

Proposition 3.4.8. $|X|$ as a CW complex. The geometric realization $|X|$ of a simplicial set X is a CW complex with one n -cell for each nondegenerate n -simplex of X .

Similarly we have a map

$$\coprod_n X_n \rightarrow \int_{\Delta} X_n,$$

which is the set $\pi_0|X|$ of path connected components of $|X|$. Thus collapsing each Δ^n to a point in Definition 3.4.3 gives a map

$$|X| = \int_{\Delta} \Delta^n \times X_n \xrightarrow{\epsilon} \int_{\Delta} X_n = \pi_0|X|. \quad (3.4.9)$$

A simplicial space X , i.e., a functor $X : \Delta^{op} \rightarrow \mathcal{Top}$, has a geometric realization $|X|$ defined as in Definition 3.4.3, but with the not necessarily discrete topology of X_n taken into account.

For a simplicial set X , $|X|^{[n]}$ is the n -skeleton of the CW complex $|X|$.

The following was proved by Kan in [Kan58a].

Proposition 3.4.10. The equivalence of Set_{Δ} and \mathcal{Top} and of their pointed analogs. As a functor from Set_{Δ} to \mathcal{Top} , geometric realization of Definition 3.4.3 is the left adjoint of $Sing$, the singular functor of Definition 3.4.7. The adjunction

$$|\cdot| : Set_{\Delta} \xrightleftharpoons[\perp]{} \mathcal{Top} : Sing$$

and its pointed analog are equivalences of categories.

In particular for an arbitrary space X one has a weak homotopy equivalence $|Sing(X)| \rightarrow X$ whose source is a CW complex. For this reason, e.g., in [BK72] (the “yellow monster”), the terms “space” and “simplicial set” are sometimes used interchangeably.

Definition 3.4.11. Topological and simplicial categories.

- (i) When $\mathcal{V} = (\mathcal{Top}, \times, *)$, we say that a \mathcal{V} -category is a **topological category**. We denote the category of topological categories by $CAT_{\mathcal{Top}}$ and that of small topological categories by $Cat_{\mathcal{Top}}$.
- (ii) When $\mathcal{V} = (\mathcal{T}, \wedge, S^0)$, we say that a \mathcal{V} -category is a **pointed topological category**. We denote the category of pointed topological categories by $CAT_{\mathcal{T}}$ and that of small pointed topological categories by $Cat_{\mathcal{T}}$.

- (iii) When $\mathcal{V} = (\text{Set}_\Delta, \times, *)$, we say that a \mathcal{V} -category is a **simplicial category**. We denote the category of simplicial categories by CAT_Δ and that of small simplicial categories by Cat_Δ .
- (iv) When $\mathcal{V} = (\text{Set}_{\Delta^*}, \wedge, S^0)$, we say that a \mathcal{V} -category is a **pointed simplicial category**. We denote the category of simplicial categories by CAT_{Δ^*} and that of small pointed simplicial categories by Cat_{Δ^*} .

We will see below in [Corollary 5.6.16](#) that every topological model category is also a simplicial one.

The adjunction

$$|\cdot| : \text{Set}_\Delta \begin{array}{c} \xrightarrow{\perp} \\ \xleftarrow{\perp} \end{array} \text{Top} : \text{Sing}$$

leads to

$$|\cdot| : \text{CAT}_\Delta \begin{array}{c} \xrightarrow{\perp} \\ \xleftarrow{\perp} \end{array} \text{CAT}_{\text{Top}} : \text{Sing}$$

(see [Definition 3.4.11](#)) in the obvious way. Given a simplicial category \mathcal{C} , we define the topological category $|\mathcal{C}|$ to have the same objects as \mathcal{C} with morphism spaces

$$|\mathcal{C}|(X, Y) = |\mathcal{C}(X, Y)|,$$

and given a topological category \mathcal{D} , we define the simplicial category $\text{Sing}(\mathcal{D})$ to have the same objects as \mathcal{D} with simplicial morphisms sets

$$\text{Sing}(\mathcal{D})(X, Y) = \text{Sing}(\mathcal{D}(X, Y)).$$

3.4B The nerve of a small category

Definition 3.4.12. The nerve and classifying space of a small (topological) category. For a small category J , the nerve $N(J)$ is the simplicial set given by

$$N(J)_n = \text{Cat}([n], J)$$

where $[n]$ here denotes the linearly ordered set $\{0, \dots, n\}$ regarded as a category. The **classifying space** BJ is the geometric realization of the nerve, $|N(J)|$.

For a small topological category D , the similarly defined nerve $N(D)$ is a simplicial space whose geometric realization (see [Definition 3.4.3](#)) is the classifying space BD .

In other words, $N(J)_n$ is the set of diagrams in J of the form

$$j_0 \rightarrow j_1 \rightarrow \cdots \rightarrow j_{n-1} \rightarrow j_n. \tag{3.4.13}$$

Of the $n + 1$ face maps $N(J)_n \rightarrow N(J)_{n-1}$, $n - 1$ are obtained by composing each of the $n - 1$ pairs of adjacent arrows above, and the other two are obtained