

# Dold-Kan categories & Catalan monoids

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CATS60 – celebrating Carlos Simpson's 60th birthday

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<sup>1</sup>joint with Christophe Cazanave and Ingo Waschkes

- 1 Introduction
- 2 The simplex category  $\Delta$
- 3 Generalised Dold-Kan correspondence
- 4 Joyal's categories  $\Theta_n$
- 5 Catalan monoids

## Theorem (Dold 1958, Kan 1958)

$$M : \underline{\text{Ab}}^{\Delta^{\text{op}}} \simeq \text{Ch}(\mathbb{Z}) : K$$

## Remark

The functor  $K$  takes homology to homotopy. The  $K$ -image of the chain complex  $(A, n) = (0 \leftarrow \cdots \leftarrow 0 \leftarrow \underset{n}{A} \leftarrow 0 \leftarrow \cdots)$  is a *simplicial* model for an Eilenberg-MacLane space of type  $K(A, n)$ .

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- categorical explanation for Dold-Kan correspondence
- chain models for  $K(A, n)$ 's via Joyal's cell categories  $\Theta_n$
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Definition (simplex category  $\Delta$ )
$$\text{Ob}\Delta = \{[n] = \{0, 1, \dots, n\}, n \geq 0\}, \text{Mor}\Delta = \{\text{monotone maps}\}$$
Remark ( $\mathcal{E}$ - $\mathcal{M}$  factorisation system)

The category  $\Delta$  is generated by elementary

- *face operators*  $e_i^n : [n-1] \rightarrow [n]$ ,  $0 \leq i \leq n$ , and
- *degeneracy operators*  $\eta_i^n : [n+1] \rightarrow [n]$ ,  $0 \leq i \leq n$ .

Every simplicial operator  $\phi : [m] \rightarrow [n]$  factors as

$$\begin{array}{ccc}
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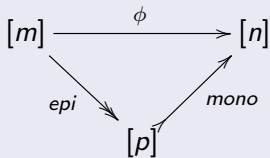


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The functor  $\Delta \rightarrow \text{Top} : [n] \mapsto \Delta_n$  yields by left Kan extension geometric realisation  $|-|_{\Delta} : \text{Sets}^{\Delta^{\text{op}}} \rightarrow \text{Top}$ . Each  $|X|$  is a *CW-complex with one cell per non-degenerate simplex of  $X$* .

## Definition (Eilenberg 1944 – simplicial homology)

$$\begin{array}{ccccccc} \text{Sets}^{\Delta^{\text{op}}} & \longrightarrow & \underline{\text{Ab}}^{\Delta^{\text{op}}} & \xrightarrow{C} & \text{Ch}(\mathbb{Z}) & \longrightarrow & \underline{\text{Ab}}^{\mathbb{N}} \\ X_{\bullet} & \longmapsto & \mathbb{Z}[X_{\bullet}] & \longmapsto & (C_{\bullet}(X), d_{\bullet}) & \longmapsto & H_{\bullet}(X) \end{array}$$

There are canonical isomorphisms

$$C_n^{\text{cell}}(|X|) \cong C_n(X) = \mathbb{Z}[X_n] / \mathbb{Z}[D_n(X)] \cong \bigcap_{0 \leq k < n} \ker(e_k^n) = M_n(X)$$



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- (1)  $ee^* = 1$  (the idempotent  $e^*e$  is called an  $\mathcal{E}$ -projector);
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### Definition (primitive $\mathcal{E}$ -projectors $e^*e$ )

Whenever  $e = e_2e_1$  then either  $e_1$  or  $e_2$  is invertible.

### Definition (essential and inessential $\mathcal{M}$ -maps)

An  $\mathcal{M}$ -map  $m : A \rightarrow B$  is called *essential* if  $1_B$  is the only  $\mathcal{E}$ -projector of  $B$  fixing  $m$ . Otherwise  $m$  is called *inessential*.

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Remark (DK-category structure for  $\Delta$ )

Each epi  $e : [m] \twoheadrightarrow [n]$  has a *maximal* section  $e^* : [n] \rightarrow [m]$ .

The primitive  $\mathcal{E}$ -projectors of  $[n]$  are the  $\eta_i^* \eta_i = \epsilon_i \eta_i$ ,  $0 \leq i < n$ .

Remark (essential  $\mathcal{M}$ -maps of  $\Delta$ )

are precisely the “last” face operators  $\epsilon_n^n : [n-1] \twoheadrightarrow [n]$ .

Lemma (quotienting out inessential  $\mathcal{M}$ -maps)

By axiom (3), there is a *locally pointed* category  $\Xi_{\mathcal{C}} = \mathcal{M}/\mathcal{M}_{iness}$ .

Remark (description of  $\Xi_{\Delta} = \mathcal{M}/\mathcal{M}_{iness}$ )

$$\begin{array}{ccccccc}
 & & 0 & & 0 & & 0 \\
 & \curvearrowright & & \curvearrowright & & \curvearrowright & \\
 [0] & \longrightarrow & [1] & \longrightarrow & [2] & \longrightarrow & [3] & \longrightarrow & [4] \cdots \rightsquigarrow [\Xi_{\Delta}^{\text{op}}, \underline{\text{Ab}}]_* = \text{Ch}(\mathbb{Z})
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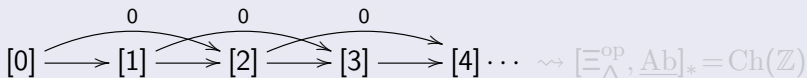
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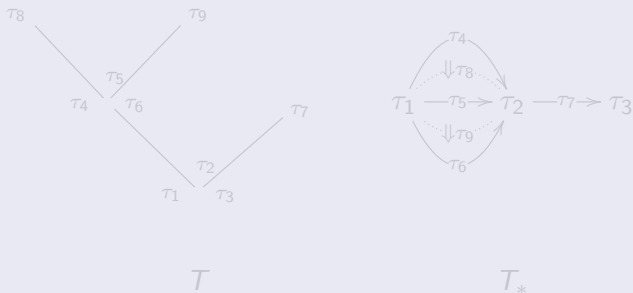
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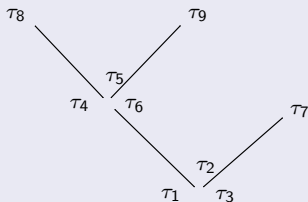
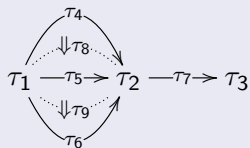
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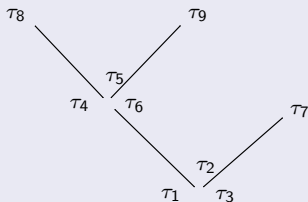
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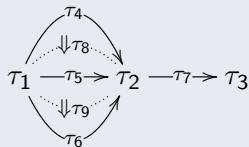
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where  $\mathcal{F}_n : \mathbf{nGrph} \rightarrow \mathbf{nCat}$  is left adjoint to the forgetful functor.

## Definition (geometric DK-categories)

A DK-category  $\mathcal{C} = (\mathcal{E}, \mathcal{M}, (-)^*)$  is called *geometric* if

- the  $\mathcal{E}$ -quotients of any object form a *lattice*
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## Proposition (CW-realisation)

Any presheaf  $X : \mathcal{C}^{\text{op}} \rightarrow \text{Sets}$  on a geometric DK-category has CW-realisation  $|X|$  whose chain complex  $C_*^{\text{cell}}(|X|)$  is isomorphic to the “totalisation” of the Moore normalisation  $M_{\mathcal{C}}(\mathbb{Z}[X])$ .

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Remark ( $\Theta_n$ -set model for Eilenberg-MacLane spaces)

- For each abelian group  $A$  there is a strict  $n$ -category  $B^n A$  with one  $k$ -cell for  $0 \leq k < n$  and  $A$  as endo- $n$ -object;
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Example ( $\#$  cells of  $K(\mathbb{Z}/2\mathbb{Z}, n) =$  generalised Fibonacci number)

# cells in dim	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
$K(\mathbb{Z}/2\mathbb{Z}, 1)$	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
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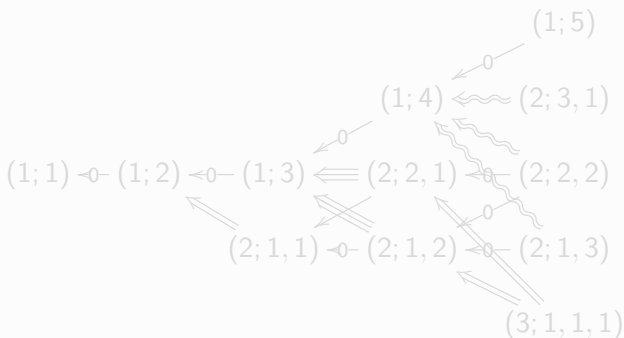
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Example (action of  $\Xi_{\Theta_2}$  on  $C_*^{cell}(K(\mathbb{Z}/2, 2))$  for  $2 \leq * \leq 6$ )

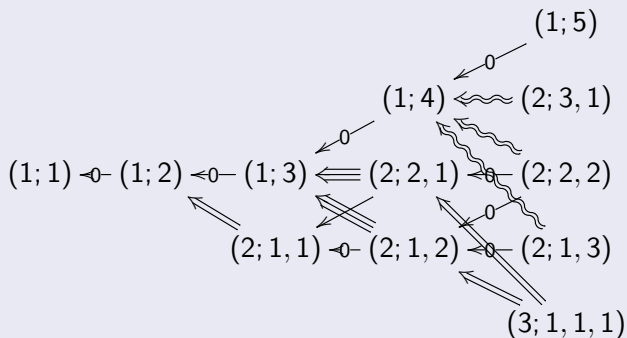


Theorem (Serre 1953)

$$H^*(K(\mathbb{Z}/2\mathbb{Z}, n); \mathbb{Z}/2\mathbb{Z}) = \mathbb{Z}/2\mathbb{Z}[Sq^J(\iota_2), J \text{ admissible}, e(J) < n]$$

Each  $Sq^J(\iota_2)$  is represented by an admissible cocycle of ht  $n$ .

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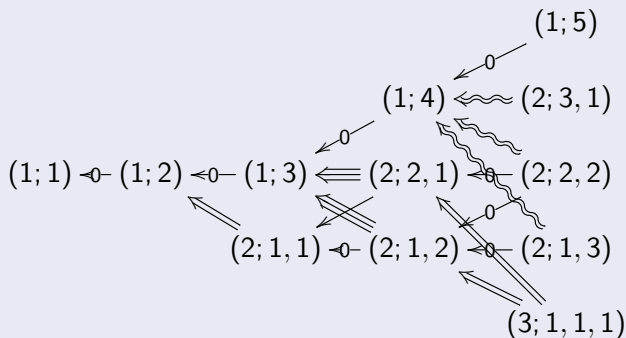


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## Proposition

Let  $(x_i)_{1 \leq i \leq n}$  be a family of projectors of an  $R$ -module  $X$  such that  $x_i x_j x_i = x_i x_j = x_j x_i x_j$  for  $i < j$ . Then we get a direct sum decomposition  $X = N_X \oplus D_X := \bigcap_{1 \leq i \leq n} \ker(x_i) \oplus \sum_{1 \leq i \leq n} \operatorname{im}(x_i)$ .

## Corollary

Let  $X : \mathcal{C}^{\text{op}} \rightarrow \mathcal{A}$  be a presheaf on a Dold-Kan category  $\mathcal{C}$  with  $\mathcal{A}$  abelian. Then, for each object  $A$  of  $\mathcal{C}$ , we get

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Let  $\Gamma$  be a finite quiver with  $V(\Gamma) = \{1, \dots, n\}$  and edge set  $E(\Gamma) \subset V(\Gamma) \times V(\Gamma)$  such that if  $(i, j) \in E(\Gamma)$  then  $i < j$ . The *Catalan monoid*  $C_\Gamma$  is generated by  $x_i, i \in V(\Gamma)$ , with relations:

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Every Catalan monoid  $C_\Gamma$  is finite and has  $2^{\#V(\Gamma)}$  idempotents. The unit of  $\mathbb{Q}[C_\Gamma]$  is a sum of  $2^{\#V(\Gamma)}$  pairwise orth. idempotents:

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## Proposition (Kudryatseva-Mazorchuk 2009)

Every Catalan monoid  $C_\Gamma$  is finite and has  $2^{\#V(\Gamma)}$  idempotents. The unit of  $\mathbb{Q}[C_\Gamma]$  is a sum of  $2^{\#V(\Gamma)}$  pairwise orth. idempotents:

$$1 = \sum_{\{i_1, \dots, i_k\} \sqcup \{j_1, \dots, j_{n-k}\} = \underline{n}} x_{i_k} \cdots x_{i_2} x_{i_1} (1 - x_{j_1}) (1 - x_{j_2}) \cdots (1 - x_{j_{n-k}}).$$

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Remark (Catalan monoid rings are semi-perfect)

The idempotents of  $C_\Gamma$  induce the simple modules while the decomposition of 1 induces the irreducible components of  $\mathbb{Q}[C_\Gamma]$ .

Example (Catalan monoids inside  $\Delta$ )

- The submonoid  $C_{[n]} \subset \Delta([n], [n])$  generated by the primitive projectors  $x_i = \epsilon_i \eta_i$  ( $0 \leq i < n$ ) is the Catalan monoid  $C_{L_n}$  of the *linear quiver* because  $x_i x_j = x_j x_i$  if  $|i - j| \geq 2$ .
- $C_{[n]}$  consists of those  $\phi : [n] \rightarrow [n]$  sth.  $\phi(i) \geq i$  for all  $i$ .
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Remark (Kiselman monoids  $C_{K_n}$ )

The cardinalities of  $C_{K_n}$  for the complete quivers  $K_n$  are not known.

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