

Let  $X$  be a simplicial set. Then  $X_n = X_n^{nd} \amalg X_n^{deg}$

$$\Rightarrow \mathbb{Z}[X_n] = \mathbb{Z}[X_n^{nd}] \oplus \underbrace{\mathbb{Z}[X_n^{deg}]}_{D_n \mathbb{Z}[X]}$$

$$\Rightarrow N_* \mathbb{Z}[X] \cong \mathbb{Z}[X_n] / D_n \mathbb{Z}[X] \cong \mathbb{Z}[X_n^{nd}]$$

Hence, the normalized complex  $N_* \mathbb{Z}[X]$  is:

$$\cdots \rightarrow \mathbb{Z}[X_n^{nd}] \xrightarrow{d} \mathbb{Z}[X_{n-1}^{nd}] \rightarrow \cdots$$

$$\text{with } d(x) = \sum_{i=0}^n (-1)^i \begin{cases} d_i(x) & \text{if non-deg.} \\ 0 & \text{otherwise} \end{cases} \text{ for } x \in X_n^{nd}$$

Theorem\* (Dold-Kem correspondence)

The functor  $N: sAb \rightarrow Ch_{\geq 0}(Ab)$  is an equivalence of categories.

The functorial point of view

Def The simplex category  $\Delta$  has objects  $[n] = \{0, 1, \dots, n\}$ ,  $n \geq 0$ , and morphisms are non-decreasing maps.

- $\delta_i: [n-1] \hookrightarrow [n]$   $0 \leq i \leq n$   
is the injective map that misses  $i \in [n]$  :  $\delta_i = (0, 1, \dots, i-1, i+1, \dots, n)$
- $\sigma_i: [n+1] \rightarrow [n]$ ,  $0 \leq i \leq n$   
is the surjective map that repeats  $i$  :  $\sigma_i = (0, 1, \dots, i, i, \dots, n)$
- Let  $\Delta_{inj} \subset \Delta$  be the subcategory whose morphisms are strictly increasing.

Definition Let  $C$  be a category.

- A semi-simplicial object in  $C$  is a functor  $X: \Delta_{inj}^{op} \rightarrow C$
- A simplicial object in  $C$  is a functor  $X: \Delta^{op} \rightarrow C$ .

Notation: for  $\alpha: [m] \rightarrow [n]$ ,  $X_n = X([n])$  and  $\alpha^* = X(\alpha): X_n \rightarrow X_m$   
 $d_i = \delta_i^*$ ,  $s_i = \sigma_i^*$ .

Proposition This definition is equivalent to the previous one.

Proof. • The maps  $\delta_i$  and  $\sigma_i$  satisfy the dual of the simplicial identities  
 $\Rightarrow$  any  $X: \Delta^{op} \rightarrow C$  gives rise to a simplicial object  $(X_n, d_i, s_i)$

In  $\Delta$ , any map  $\alpha: [m] \rightarrow [n]$  factors uniquely as

$$\begin{array}{ccc} & & \nearrow \alpha_{inj} \\ \alpha_{surj} \searrow & [p] & \\ & & \end{array}$$

$$\alpha = \underbrace{\delta_{i_1} \dots \delta_{i_k}}_{\alpha_{inj}} \underbrace{\sigma_{i_k} \dots \sigma_{i_1}}_{\alpha_{surj}} \quad \text{with} \quad \begin{array}{l} i_1 \leq \dots \leq i_k \\ j_1 \geq \dots \geq j_l \end{array}$$

Moreover, any sequence of  $\delta_j$ 's and  $\sigma_j$ 's can be put in this form using the simplicial identities.

$\Rightarrow$  any  $(X_n, d_i, s_i)$  extends uniquely to a functor  $X: \Delta^{op} \rightarrow \mathcal{C}$ .  $\square$

### Categorical digressions: presheaves & Yoneda

If  $\mathcal{C}$  is a small category, the category of presheaves (of sets) on  $\mathcal{C}$  is

$$\mathcal{P}(\mathcal{C}) = \text{Fun}(\mathcal{C}^{op}, \text{Set}).$$

The Yoneda embedding is the functor  $\mathcal{C} \rightarrow \mathcal{P}(\mathcal{C})$

$$X \mapsto \text{Hom}_{\mathcal{C}}(-, X)$$

$\uparrow$   
presheaf represented by  $X$

#### Proposition

1) (Yoneda lemma) For any  $F \in \mathcal{P}(\mathcal{C})$ , and  $X \in \mathcal{C}$ , there is a bijection

$$F(X) \cong \text{Nat}(\text{Hom}_{\mathcal{C}}(-, X), F)$$

$$\varphi(\text{id}_X) \longleftarrow \varphi$$

$$a \longmapsto (Y \xrightarrow{f} X \mapsto f^*(a) \in F(Y))$$

In particular, the Yoneda embedding is fully faithful.

2) (Universal property of  $\mathcal{P}(\mathcal{C})$ ) Let  $\mathcal{D}$  be a category with colimits. Then the Yoneda embedding  $\mathcal{C} \hookrightarrow \mathcal{P}(\mathcal{C})$  induces an equivalence

$$\text{Fun}^{\text{L}}(\mathcal{P}(\mathcal{C}), \mathcal{D}) \xrightarrow{\cong} \text{Fun}(\mathcal{C}, \mathcal{D})$$

where  $\text{Fun}^{\text{L}} = \text{colimit-preserving functors}$ . If  $u: \mathcal{C} \rightarrow \mathcal{D}$ , its unique colimit-preserving extension is

$$u_! : \mathcal{P}(\mathcal{C}) \rightarrow \mathcal{D}, \quad u_!(F) = \text{colim}_{(X,a) \in \text{El}(F)} u(X)$$

$\left[ \begin{array}{l} \text{El}(F): \text{objects } (X \in \mathcal{C}, a \in F(X)) \\ \text{morphisms: } (X,a) \rightarrow (Y,b) \\ \quad \cap f: X \rightarrow Y \text{ st. } f^*(b) = a. \\ \text{"category of elements of } F \end{array} \right.$

Moreover, the functor  $u_!$  has a right adjoint

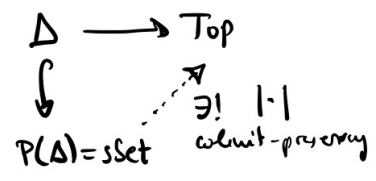
$$u^*: \mathcal{D} \rightarrow \mathcal{P}(C), \quad u^*(Y) = \text{Hom}_{\mathcal{D}}(u(-), Y).$$

Geometric realization revisited

There is a functor  $\Delta \rightarrow \text{Top}$   
 $[n] \mapsto \Delta^n$

$\alpha: [m] \rightarrow [n] \mapsto \alpha_*: \Delta^m \rightarrow \Delta^n$  is the unique linear map  $\mathbb{R}^{m+1} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^{n+1}$  sending the  $i$ -th vertex to the  $\alpha(i)$ -th vertex.

By the universal property of  $\mathcal{P}(-)$ , we obtain



$$X: \Delta^{\text{op}} \rightarrow \text{Set}$$

$$|X| = \text{colim}_{([n], a) \in \text{El}(X)} \Delta^n = \coprod_{n \geq 0} \coprod_{X_n} \Delta^n / \sim$$

$([n], a) \rightarrow ([m], b)$  is  $\alpha: [n] \rightarrow [m]$  s.t.  $\alpha^*(b) = a$

$\sim (x, \alpha_*(u))$

Similarly,  $\|\cdot\|$  is the unique colimit-preserving extension of  $\Delta_{\text{inj}} \subset \Delta \rightarrow \text{Top}$ .

Examples:

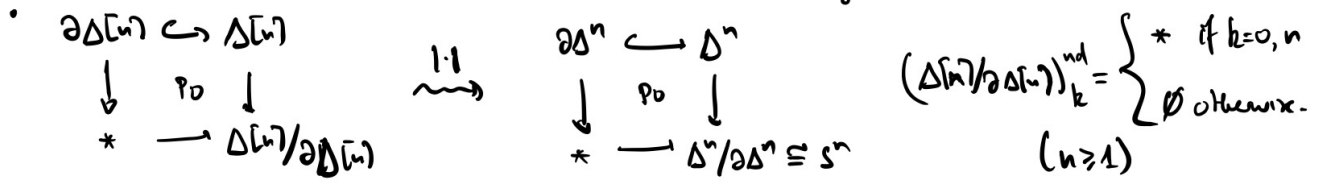
- $\Delta[n] = \text{Hom}_{\Delta}(-, [n])$ . This is called the  $n$ -simplex.  
*often  $\Delta^n$*
- By definition,  $|\Delta[n]| \cong \Delta^n$ .

Yoneda Lemma:  $\text{Hom}_{\text{sSet}}(\Delta[n], X) \cong X_n$

$$\Delta[n]_k^{\text{nd}} = \text{Hom}_{\Delta_{\text{inj}}}([k], [n]) = \{ \text{subsets of } \{0, \dots, n\} \text{ of size } k+1 \}.$$

- $\partial \Delta[n] \subset \Delta[n]$  is defined by  $\partial \Delta[n]_k = \{ [k] \rightarrow [n] \text{ non-surjective} \}$
- $\partial \Delta[n]_k^{\text{nd}} = \begin{cases} \Delta[n]_k^{\text{nd}} & \text{if } k \neq n \\ \emptyset & \text{if } k = n \end{cases}$

$$|\partial \Delta[n]| \cong \partial \Delta^n \cong S^{n-1} \quad \text{e.g. } \partial \Delta^2 = \begin{array}{c} 1 \\ \diagdown \quad \diagup \\ 0 \quad 2 \end{array} \cong S^1.$$



$$|\Delta[2]/\partial\Delta[2]| = \text{circle with a dot}$$

• Let  $\mathcal{C}$  be a small category. The nerve of  $\mathcal{C}$  is the simplicial set

$$N(\mathcal{C}) : \Delta^{\text{op}} \rightarrow \text{Set}, \quad [n] \mapsto \text{Hom}_{\text{Cat}}([n], \mathcal{C})$$

$\uparrow$   
 $0 \rightarrow 1 \rightarrow \dots \rightarrow n$

$$N(\mathcal{C})_0 = \text{Ob}(\mathcal{C})$$

$$N(\mathcal{C})_1 = \text{Mor}(\mathcal{C})$$

$$N(\mathcal{C})_2 = \text{Mor}(\mathcal{C}) \times_{\text{Ob}(\mathcal{C})^2} \text{Mor}(\mathcal{C})$$

The functor  $N : \text{Cat} \rightarrow \text{sSet}$  is fully faithful

Remark.  $| \cdot |$  plays well with products, e.g.:  $|\Delta[n] \times \Delta[m]| \xrightarrow{\cong} \Delta^n \times \Delta^m$

$\| \cdot \|$  does not:  $\| \Delta[n]^{\text{nd}} \times \Delta[m]^{\text{nd}} \| \not\cong \Delta^n \times \Delta^m$ .