

Lecture 2: The Three Segal-type models

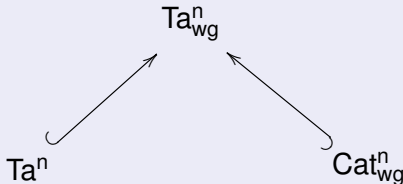
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Segal-type models: common features

- We discuss three Segal-type models of weak n -categories, collectively denoted Seg_n



- We have $\text{Seg}_n \subset [\Delta^{n-1^{op}}, \text{Cat}]$, and the multi-simplicial structure encodes the composition of higher cells via the Segal maps.

Building on dimensions.

- Recall that in a weak n -category we want to have k -cells with source and target being $(k - 1)$ -cells for $1 \leq k \leq n$.
- Seg_n is built by induction on n starting with $\text{Seg}_1 = \text{Cat}$.

For each $n > 1$:

$$\text{Seg}_n \hookrightarrow [\Delta^{op}, \text{Seg}_{n-1}]$$

Closure properties

- The subcategory $\text{Seg}_n \hookrightarrow [\Delta^{n^{op}}, \text{Set}]$ contains the terminal object and has the following closure properties:
 - i) It is replete under isomorphisms.
 - ii) It is closed under finite products.
 - iii) It is closed under small coproducts.
 - iv) If the small coproduct $\coprod_i A_i$ is in Seg_n , each $A_i \in \text{Seg}_n$.
- Similar closure properties hold for the class of weak equivalences in Seg_n .

Thus all (co)limits of interest in Seg_n are computed as they are in $[\Delta^{n^{op}}, \text{Set}]$.

- $X \in \text{Seg}_n$ is **discrete** if, viewed as an object of $[\Delta^{n^{op}}, \text{Set}]$ it is a constant functor.
- From the closure properties, if $A \rightarrow X \leftarrow B$ is a diagram in Seg_n with X discrete, then $A \times_X B \in \text{Seg}_n$.

Encoding the sets of cells: weak globularity condition

We encode in two ways the sets of cells of $X \in \text{Seg}_n$

i) Globularity condition:

$$X_0, \quad X_{k_1 \dots k_r 0^-} \quad 1 \leq r < n - 1 \quad \text{discrete}$$

ii) Weak globularity condition:

$$X_0, \quad X_{k_1 \dots k_r 0^-} \quad 1 \leq r < n - 1 \quad \text{homotopically discrete}$$

Let $X \in \text{Seg}_n \subset [\Delta^{op}, \text{Seg}_{n-1}]$ to be such that X_0 satisfies i) or ii).

Equivalence relations.

- An **equivalence relation** is a groupoid with no non-trivial loops.
- Such a groupoid is categorically equivalent to the discrete category on its sets of connected components.

Homotopically discrete n -fold categories.

Homotopically discrete n -fold categories are an iteration of the notion of internal equivalence relation.

Lemma

Given $X \in \text{Cat}_{\text{hd}}^n$, there is a map $\gamma : X \rightarrow X^d$ where X^d is discrete, and this is a n -equivalence

The truncation functor $p^{(n-1)}$.

- There is a functor $p^{(n-1)} : \mathbf{Seg}_n \rightarrow \mathbf{Seg}_{n-1}$ obtained by applying levelwise the isomorphism classes of objects functor $p : \mathbf{Cat} \rightarrow \mathbf{Set}$.

The functor $p^{(n-1)}$ divides out by the highest dimensional invertible cells.

Hom $(n - 1)$ -categories

- Let $X \in \text{Seg}_n$, so $X_0 \in \text{Cat}_{\text{hd}}^{n-1}$, $\gamma : X \rightarrow X_0^d$.
- For each $a, b \in X_0^d$, let $X(a, b)$ be the fiber at (a, b) of

$$X_1 \xrightarrow{(\partial_0, \partial_1)} X_0 \times X_0 \xrightarrow{\gamma \times \gamma} X_0^d \times X_0^d .$$

- Since $X_1 = \coprod_{a, b \in X_0^d} X(a, b)$, by the closure properties above,
 $X(a, b) \in \text{Seg}_{n-1}$.

Think of $X(a, b)$ as **hom $(n - 1)$ -category**.

n -Equivalences in Seg_n .

Definition

Define n -equivalences in Seg_n by induction on n .

1-equivalences are equivalences of categories.

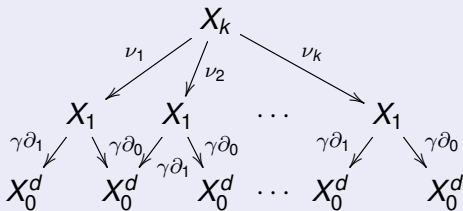
$f : X \rightarrow Y$ in Seg_n is a n -equivalence if and only if

- a) $f(a, b) : X(a, b) \rightarrow Y(fa, fb)$ is a $(n - 1)$ -equivalence for all $a, b \in X_0^d$.
- b) $p^{(n-1)}f$ is a $(n - 1)$ -equivalence.

This definition is a higher dimensional generalization of a functor which is fully faithful and essentially surjective on objects.

Induced Segal maps.

Given $X \in \text{Seg}_n \subset [\Delta^{op}, \text{Seg}_{n-1}]$, consider the commuting diagram



where $k \geq 2$, $\nu_j = X(r_j)$, $r_j(0) = j - 1$, $r_j(1) = j$. This gives the **induced Segal map** in Seg_{n-1}

$$\hat{\mu}_k : X_k \rightarrow X_1 \times_{X_0^d} \cdots \times_{X_0^d} X_1 .$$

The induced Segal maps condition.

To define $X \in \text{Seg}_n \subset [\Delta^{op}, \text{Seg}_{n-1}]$ we require the induced Segal maps

$$X_k \rightarrow X_1 \times_{X_0^d} \cdots \times_{X_0^d} X_1$$

to be $(n - 1)$ -equivalences.

This condition controls the **behaviour of the compositions** of higher cells.

The functor $q^{(n-1)}$.

- There is a functor $q^{(n-1)} : \text{Seg}_n \rightarrow \text{Seg}_{n-1}$ obtained by applying levelwise the connected components functor $q : \text{Cat} \rightarrow \text{Set}$.
- There is a map, natural in $X \in \text{Seg}_{n-1}$

$$\gamma^{(n-1)} : X \rightarrow q^{(n-1)}X$$

The functor $q^{(n-1)}$ divides out by the highest dimensional cells.

Definition

Let $\mathbf{GSeg}_1 = \mathbf{Gpd}$. Suppose, inductively, that we defined $\mathbf{GSeg}_{n-1} \subset \mathbf{Seg}_{n-1}$; then $X \in \mathbf{GSeg}_n \subset \mathbf{Seg}_n$ if

- i) $X_k \in \mathbf{GSeg}_{n-1}$ for all $k \geq 0$.
- ii) $p^{(n-1)}X \in \mathbf{GSeg}_{n-1}$.

Summary of main common features of Seg_n .

- Inductive multi-simplicial definition.
- Closure properties.
- Globularity/weak globularity condition.
- Functors $p^{(r)}, q^{(r)} : \text{Seg}_n \rightarrow \text{Seg}_r$.
- n -Equivalences.
- $(n - 1)$ -equivalences of the induced Segal maps

$$\hat{\mu}_k : X_k \rightarrow X_1 \times_{X_0^d} \cdots \times_{X_0^d} X_1 .$$

- Groupoidal Segal-type models.

The three models.

Three different models corresponding to different behavior of:

Induced Segal maps $\hat{\mu}_k : X_k \rightarrow X_1 \times_{X_0^d} \cdots \times_{X_0^d} X_1$

Segal maps $\eta_k : X_k \rightarrow X_1 \times_{X_0} \cdots \times_{X_0} X_1$

	X_0	$\hat{\mu}_k$	η_k
Ta^n	discrete	$(n-1)$ -eq	$(n-1)$ -eq
Cat_{wg}^n	homotopically discrete	$(n-1)$ -eq	isomorphisms
Ta_{wg}^n	homotopically discrete	$(n-1)$ -eq	-

Example: weakly globular Tamsamani 2-categories

Definition

$X \in \mathbf{Ta}_{\text{wg}}^2$ consists of a simplicial object $X \in [\Delta^{op}, \mathbf{Cat}]$ such that

- $X_0 \in \mathbf{Cat}_{\text{hd}}$.
- The induced Segal maps $X_k \rightarrow X_1 \times_{X_0^{d \cdot \dots \cdot k}} \dots \times_{X_0^d} X_1$ for each $k \geq 2$ are equivalences of categories.
- The functor $p^{(1)} : \mathbf{Ta}_{\text{wg}}^2 \rightarrow \mathbf{Cat} \subset [\Delta^{op}, \mathbf{Set}]$ associates to $X \in \mathbf{Ta}_{\text{wg}}^2$ the simplicial set taking $k \in \Delta^{op}$ to $p(X_k)$.
- The closure properties hold for $\mathbf{Ta}_{\text{wg}}^2$.

Example: 2-equivalences in Ta_{wg}^2

Definition

We define a map $f : X \rightarrow Y$ in Ta_{wg}^2 to be an **2-equivalence** if

- For all $a, b \in X_0^d$ $f(a, b) : X(a, b) \rightarrow Y(fa, fb)$ is an equivalence of categories.
- $p^{(1)}f$ is an equivalence of categories.

Note that the closure properties hold for 2-equivalences.

Example: Tamsamani 2-categories

Definition

A Tamsamani 2-category $X \in \mathbf{Ta}^2$ is given by $X \in \mathbf{Ta}_{\text{wg}}^2$ such that X_0 is discrete.

$X \in \mathbf{Ta}^2$ consists of a simplicial object $X \in [\Delta^{op}, \mathbf{Cat}]$ such that

- X_0 is discrete.
- The Segal maps $X_k \rightarrow X_1 \times_{X_0} \cdots \times_{X_0}^k X_1$ for each $k \geq 2$ are equivalences of categories.

Example: weakly globular double categories

Definition

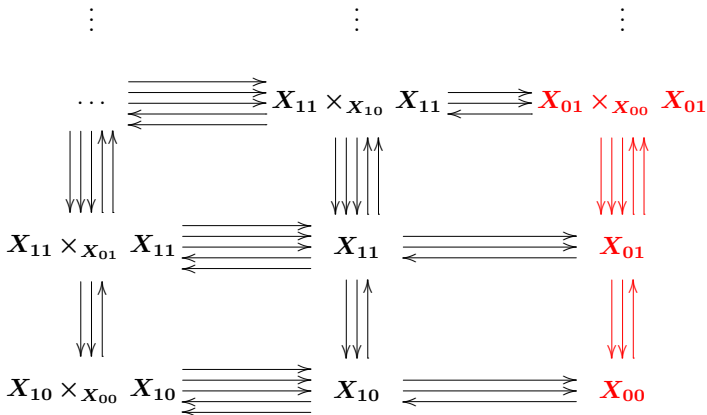
A weakly globular double category $X \in \mathbf{Cat}_{\text{wg}}^2$ is given by $X \in \mathbf{Ta}_{\text{wg}}^2$ such that $X \in \mathbf{Cat}^2$.

Example: weakly globular double categories, cont.

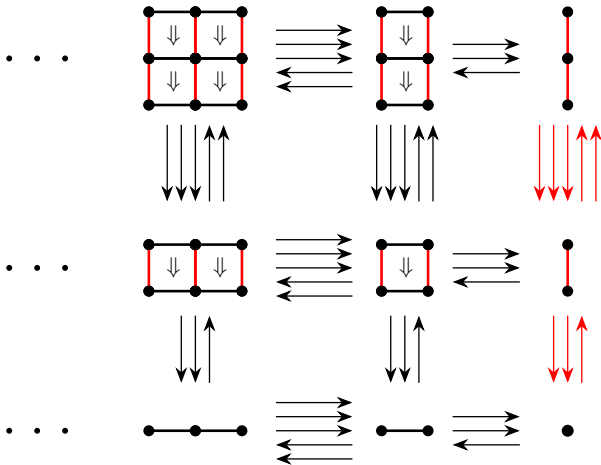
$X \in \mathbf{Cat}_{\text{wg}}^2$ consists of a simplicial object $X \in [\Delta^{op}, \mathbf{Cat}]$ such that

- $X_0 \in \mathbf{Cat}_{\text{hd}}$.
- The Segal maps $X_k \rightarrow X_1 \times_{X_0} \cdots \times_{X_0} X_1$ for each $k \geq 2$ are isomorphisms.
- The induced Segal maps $X_k \rightarrow X_1 \times_{X_0^d} \cdots \times_{X_0^d} X_1$ for each $k \geq 2$ are equivalences of categories.

Corner of the double nerve of a weakly globular double category X



Geometric picture of the corner of the double nerve of a weakly globular double category



Main results.

Theorem A. There is a functor *rigidification*

$$Q_n : \text{Ta}_{\text{wg}}^n \rightarrow \text{Cat}_{\text{wg}}^n$$

and for each $X \in \text{Ta}_{\text{wg}}^n$ an n -equivalence natural in X

$$s_n(X) : Q_n X \rightarrow X.$$

Theorem B. There is a functor *discretization*

$$\text{Disc}_n : \text{Cat}_{\text{wg}}^n \rightarrow \text{Ta}^n$$

and, for each $X \in \text{Cat}_{\text{wg}}^n$, a zig-zag of n -equivalences in Ta_{wg}^n between X and $\text{Disc}_n X$.

Theorem C. The functors

$$Q_n : \mathbf{Ta}^n \rightleftarrows \mathbf{Cat}_{\text{wg}}^n : \text{Disc}_n$$

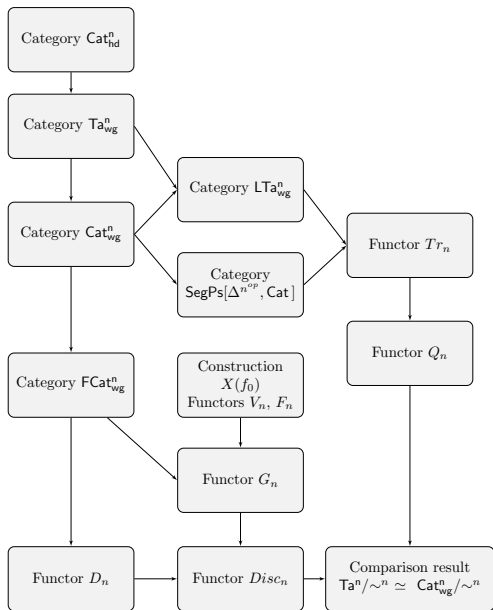
induce an equivalence of categories after localization with respect to the n -equivalences

$$\mathbf{Ta}^n / \sim^n \simeq \mathbf{Cat}_{\text{wg}}^n / \sim^n .$$

Theorem D. There is an equivalence of categories

$$\mathbf{GCat}_{\text{wg}}^n / \sim^n \simeq \mathbf{Ho}(n\text{-types}) .$$

Diagram of connections between the topics



Overall Summary

The three Segal-type models and Segalic pseudo-functors

Definition: Cat_{hd}^n

Definition: Ta_{wg}^n

Definition: Cat_{wg}^n

Definition: $\text{SegPs}[\Delta^{n-1}{}^{\text{op}}, \text{Cat}]$

Theorem

$St : \text{SegPs}[\Delta^{n-1}{}^{\text{op}}, \text{Cat}] \rightarrow \text{Cat}_{\text{wg}}^n$

Rigidification of weakly globular Tamsamani n -categories

Definition: LTa_{wg}^n

Theorem

$Tr_n : \text{LTa}_{\text{wg}}^n \rightarrow \text{SegPs}[\Delta^{n-1}{}^{\text{op}}, \text{Cat}]$

Theorem: Rigidification functor

$Q_n : \text{Ta}_{\text{wg}}^n \xrightarrow{P_n} \text{LTa}_{\text{wg}}^n \xrightarrow{Tr_n} \text{SegPs}[\Delta^{n-1}{}^{\text{op}}, \text{Cat}] \xrightarrow{St} \text{Cat}_{\text{wg}}^n$

Weakly globular n -fold categories as a model of weak n -categories

Definition: $\text{FCat}_{\text{wg}}^n$

Definitions: $\text{GCat}_{\text{wg}}^n, \text{GTa}_{\text{wg}}^n, \text{GTa}^n$

Theorem: Discretization functor

$Disc_n : \text{Cat}_{\text{wg}}^n \rightarrow \text{Ta}^n$

Theorem: $\text{Ta}^n / \sim^n \simeq \text{Cat}_{\text{wg}}^n / \sim^n$

Theorem: $\text{GCat}_{\text{wg}}^n / \sim^n \simeq \text{Ho}(n\text{-types})$

Overall Summary

The three Segal-type models and Segalic pseudo-functors

Definition: Cat_{hd}^n

Definition: Ta_{wg}^n

Definition: Cat_{wg}^n

Definition: $\text{SegPs}[\Delta^{n-1^{\text{op}}}, \text{Cat}]$

Theorem

$St : \text{SegPs}[\Delta^{n-1^{\text{op}}}, \text{Cat}] \rightarrow \text{Cat}_{\text{wg}}^n$

Rigidification of weakly globular Tamsamani n -categories

Definition: LTa_{wg}^n

Theorem

$Tr_n : \text{LTa}_{\text{wg}}^n \rightarrow \text{SegPs}[\Delta^{n-1^{\text{op}}}, \text{Cat}]$

Theorem: Rigidification functor

$Q_n : \text{Ta}_{\text{wg}}^n \xrightarrow{P_n} \text{LTa}_{\text{wg}}^n \xrightarrow{Tr_n} \text{SegPs}[\Delta^{n-1^{\text{op}}}, \text{Cat}] \xrightarrow{St} \text{Cat}_{\text{wg}}^n$

Weakly globular n -fold categories as a model of weak n -categories

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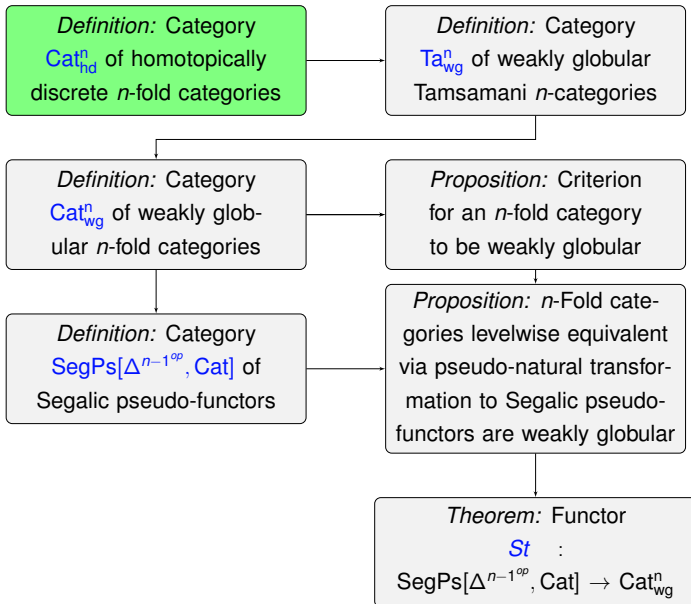
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Theorem: $\text{Ta}^n / \sim^n \simeq \text{Cat}_{\text{wg}}^n / \sim^n$

Theorem: $\text{GCat}_{\text{wg}}^n / \sim^n \simeq \text{Ho}(n\text{-types})$

The three Segal-type models and Segalic pseudo-functors



The idea of homotopically discrete n -fold category

- A **homotopically discrete category** is an equivalence relation.

A **homotopically discrete n -fold category** is an n -fold category suitably equivalent to a discrete one both 'globally' and in each simplicial dimension.

- We further require the existence of **truncation functors**

$$\text{Cat}_{\text{hd}}^n \xrightarrow{\rho^{(n-1)}} \text{Cat}_{\text{hd}}^{n-1} \xrightarrow{\rho^{(n-2)}} \cdots \text{Cat}_{\text{hd}} \xrightarrow{\rho^{(0)}} \text{Set} .$$

Definition

Let $\text{Cat}_{\text{hd}}^0 = \text{Set}$. Suppose, inductively, we defined the subcategory

$\text{Cat}_{\text{hd}}^{n-1} \subset \text{Cat}^{n-1}$ of homotopically discrete $(n-1)$ -fold categories. We say that the n -fold category $X \in \text{Cat}^n$ is **homotopically discrete** if:

- X is a levelwise equivalence relation.
- $p^{(n-1)}X \in \text{Cat}_{\text{hd}}^{n-1}$.

We denote $\text{Cat}_{\text{hd}}^1 = \text{Cat}_{\text{hd}}$.

Definition

$X \in \mathbf{Cat}_{\text{hd}}^2$ consists of a simplicial object $X \in [\Delta^{op}, \mathbf{Cat}]$ such that

- $X_k \in \mathbf{Cat}_{\text{hd}}$ for all $k \geq 0$.
- The Segal maps $X_k \rightarrow X_1 \times_{X_0} \cdots \times_{X_0}^k X_1$ for each $k \geq 2$ are isomorphisms.
- For each $X \in \mathbf{Cat}_{\text{hd}}^2$, $p^{(1)}X \in \mathbf{Cat}_{\text{hd}}$ where $(p^{(1)}X)_k = p(X_k)$.

The discretization map

Definition

- Given $X \in \text{Cat}_{\text{hd}}^n$ let $\gamma_X^{(n-1)} : X \rightarrow p^{(n-1)}X$ be the morphism given by

$$(\gamma_X^{(n-1)})_{s_1 \dots s_{n-1}} : X_{s_1 \dots s_{n-1}} \rightarrow qX_{s_1 \dots s_{n-1}} = pX_{s_1 \dots s_{n-1}}$$

for each $(s_1, \dots, s_{n-1}) \in \Delta^{n-1 \text{op}}$.

- The **discretization map** is the composite

$$\gamma^{(n)} : X \xrightarrow{\gamma^{(n-1)}} p^{(n-1)}X \xrightarrow{\gamma^{(n-2)}} p^{(n-2)}p^{(n-1)}X \rightarrow \dots \xrightarrow{\gamma^{(0)}} X^d$$

where $X^d = p^{(0)}p^{(1)} \dots p^{(n-1)}X$.

Internal equivalence relations

\mathcal{C} category with finite limits, $f : A \rightarrow B$ morphism in \mathcal{C}

$$A[f] \in \text{Gpd } \mathcal{C} \quad (A \times_B A) \times_A (A \times_B A) \xrightarrow{m} A \times_B A \begin{array}{c} \xrightarrow{p_1} \\ \xrightarrow{p_2} \\ \xleftarrow{s} \end{array} A$$

where p_1, p_2 are the two projections and s is the diagonal map.

- When $\mathcal{C} = \text{Set}$ and f is a surjection, $A[f]$ is an equivalence relation.

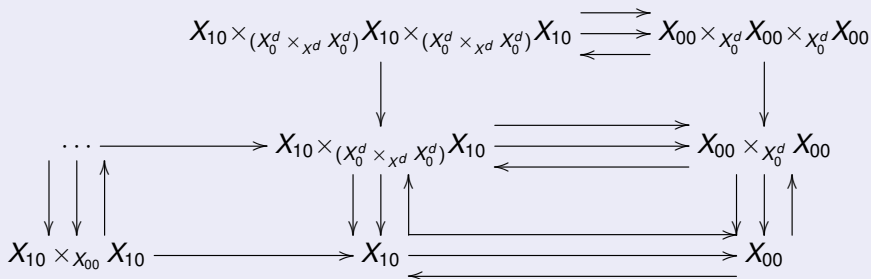
The following is a description of Cat_{hd}^n as (iterated) internal equivalence relations.

Proposition

Let $X \in \text{Cat}^n$. Then $X \in \text{Cat}_{\text{hd}}^n$ if and only if $X = A[f]$ for a morphism $f : A \rightarrow B$ in Cat^{n-1} with $B \in \text{Cat}_{\text{hd}}^{n-1}$ and f a levelwise surjection in Set .

Example: $n = 2$

Let $X \in \text{Cat}_{\text{hd}}^2$; then $p^{(1)}X$ is the equivalence relation associated to the surjective map of sets $\gamma : X_0^d = (p^{(1)}X)_0 \rightarrow p^{(0)}(p^{(1)}X) = X^d$ and X has the form



The idea of n -equivalences in Cat_{hd}^n

- The n -equivalences in Cat_{hd}^n should generalize a functor which is fully faithful and essentially surjective on objects.
- We need a notion of 'hom $(n - 1)$ -category' $X(a, b) \in \text{Cat}_{\text{hd}}^{n-1}$ for each $X \in \text{Cat}_{\text{hd}}^n$.
- We use the functor $p^{(n-1)}$ for the higher version of fully faithfulness.

Definition

Given $X \in \text{Cat}_{\text{hd}}^n$, for each $a, b \in X_0^d$ denote by $X(a, b)$ the fiber at (a, b) of the map

$$X_1 \xrightarrow{(d_0, d_1)} X_0 \times X_0 \xrightarrow{\gamma^{(n)} \times \gamma^{(n)}} X_0^d \times X_0^d .$$

Definition

For $n = 1$, a 1-equivalence in Cat_{hd} is an equivalence of categories.

Suppose, inductively, that we defined $(n - 1)$ -equivalences in $\text{Cat}_{\text{hd}}^{n-1}$. Then a map $f : X \rightarrow Y$ in Cat_{hd}^n is an n -equivalence if

- For all $a, b \in X_0^d$, $f(a, b) : X(a, b) \rightarrow Y(fa, fb)$ is a $(n - 1)$ -equivalence.
- $p^{(n-1)}f$ is a $(n - 1)$ -equivalence.

Lemma

A map $f : X \rightarrow Y$ in Cat_{hd}^n is an n -equivalence if and only if it induces an isomorphism $X^d \cong Y^d$.

Corollary

Let $X \in \text{Cat}_{\text{hd}}^n$. Then

a) The discretization map $\gamma_{(n)} : X \rightarrow X^d$ is an n -equivalence.

b) For each $s \geq 2$ the induced Segal map

$$\hat{\mu}_s : X_1 \times_{X_0} \cdots \times_{X_0} X_1 \rightarrow X_1 \times_{X_0^d} \cdots \times_{X_0^d} X_1$$

is a $(n - 1)$ -equivalence.