

# C. Barwick: $\infty$ -Categories

Note Title

2/27/2008

$$\begin{array}{ccc} \text{Alg}/k & \longrightarrow & \text{Set} \\ & \searrow & \downarrow \\ & & \text{Gpd} \\ \downarrow & & \downarrow \\ \text{sAlg}/k & \longrightarrow & \text{sSet} \end{array}$$

Nerve construction:  $\Delta \subset \text{Cat}$  full subcategory consisting of the categories

$$[p]: [0 \rightarrow 1 \rightarrow \dots \rightarrow p]$$

$$\begin{array}{ccc} \text{Hom}: \text{Cat}^{\text{op}} \times \text{Cat} & \longrightarrow & \text{Set} \\ \cup & \nearrow & \\ \text{Cat}^{\text{op}} \times \text{Cat} & & \end{array}$$

So categories give rise to simplicial sets:

$$\begin{array}{ccc} \nu: \text{Cat} & \longrightarrow & \text{sSet} \\ \cup & \nearrow & \\ \text{Gpd} & & \end{array}$$

Theorem  $C \in \text{Cat}$ . 1.  $\nu C \in \text{sSet}$  is fibrant iff  $C \in \text{Gpd}$   
( $\Leftrightarrow$  Kan set)

2.  $C, D \in \text{Gpd}$  &  $f: C \rightarrow D$  functor, then  
 $\nu f: \nu C \rightarrow \nu D$  is a weak equivalence iff  
 $f: C \rightarrow D$  is an equivalence

3.  $V: Ho \mathcal{Gpd} \hookrightarrow Ho \mathcal{Set}$   
 inclusion of homotopy categories;  $X$  is the  
 nerve of a groupoid iff  $X$  is a 1-type


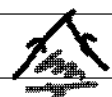
[Note: for  $\mathcal{Gpd}$  every object is both fibrant  
 & cofibrant for the natural model structure].

$n$ -category  $0 \leq n \leq \infty$  intuitively:  
 have objects, 1-morphisms, ...,  $n$ -morphisms

Idea: should be able to give a definition of (weak)  
 $n$ -category so that  $Ho(n\text{-}\mathcal{Gpd}) \hookrightarrow Ho(\mathcal{Set})$   
 with essential image the  $n$ -types ( $\pi_i = 0 \ i > n$ )

We can instead reverse the logic:

Defn  $\infty \mathcal{Gpd} = \mathcal{Set}_f$  fibrant simplicial refs

Fibrant: can fill in  or   
 - gives weak composition: exist lifts (compositions)  
 unique up to contractible space of choices

idea:  $(\infty, n)$  Categories :  $\infty$ -categories such  
that the  $i$ -morphisms for  $i > n$  are all invertible

- try to go up the ladder

$(\infty, 0)\text{-Cat} \hookrightarrow (\infty, 1)\text{-Cat} \hookrightarrow (\infty, 2)\text{-Cat} \hookrightarrow \dots$

Example: SGA 6 : derived categories are  
"de nature essentiellement non recales" (sic)

... Suppose  $D(U)$   $U \subset X$  form a stack  
of categories on  $X$   $\leadsto$  then for a cover  
 $\{U_i\}$  of  $X$  we'd have a pseudo limit

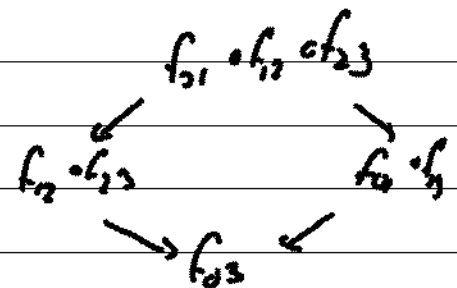
$$D(X) \rightarrow \text{Hom} \left[ \prod_i D(U_i) \rightrightarrows \prod_j D(U_j) \rightrightarrows \prod_k D(U_k) \right]$$

ie we could get a global complex  $C$  on  $X$   
with sites  $C|_{U_i} = C_i$  then only

$$f_{ij} : C_i|_{U_j} \xrightarrow{\sim} C_j|_{U_i}$$

$$\exists h : f_{jk} \circ f_{ij} \xrightarrow{\sim} f_{ik}$$

$\Rightarrow$  would need strict commutativity of



Intuition:  $\exists$  an  $\infty$ -category  $L(X)$  s.t.

$$L(X) \rightarrow \text{holim} \left[ \begin{array}{c} \prod_i L(U_i) \rightrightarrows \prod_i L(U_{i'}) \rightrightarrows \dots \\ \vdots \end{array} \right]$$

First approximation: consider only quasi-isomorphisms of complexes, get an  $\infty$ -groupoid by taking nerve; and taking fibrant replacement:

Theorem  $\nu$  quasi-cat as an  $\infty$ -groupoid satisfies

$$\nu(\text{plx}^{\text{quasi}}(X)) \xrightarrow{\sim} \text{holim} \left[ \prod_i \nu(\text{plx}^{\text{quasi}}(U_i)) \rightrightarrows \dots \right]$$

gluing space of objects!

(descend for these  $\infty$ -groupoids)

Pass to (var) categories: different models  
S-cat, Segal cat, quasi cat, "(var) Cat"

S-Category: a category enriched in SSet

$X, Y, \dots$  objects  $\text{Hom}(X, Y) \in \text{SSet}$ ,

compositions are maps of simplicial sets, strictly associative

$C$  category with weak equivalences  $wC$   
 $\rightsquigarrow L(C, wC) \in S\text{-Cat}$

Dwyer-Kan hammock localization:

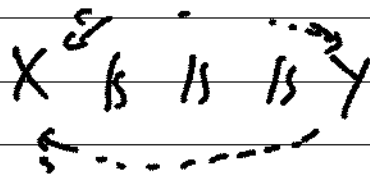
Obj  $L(C, wC) = \text{Obj } C$

Hom  $(X, Y)$ : first make simplicial set of nerve of

zig zags  
of length  $n$

$$X \xleftarrow{s^0} X_0 \xrightarrow{s^1} X_1 \xleftarrow{s^2} X_2 \xrightarrow{s^3} \dots \xleftarrow{s^n} X_n = Y$$

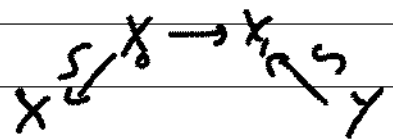
& morphisms are hammocks



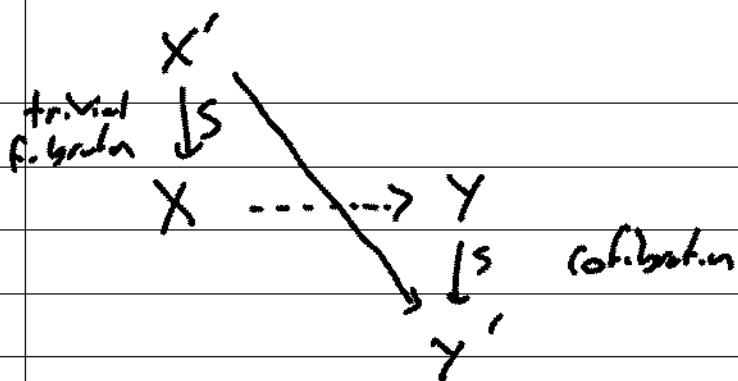
$\hookrightarrow$  take colimit over  $n$  of these simplicial sets.

In fact if  $(C, wC)$  comes from a model category can stop at  $n=2$ :

Hom  $(X, Y) = \text{Hom}^2(X, Y)$



— Cones from fibrant & cofibrant replacements:



S-Cat has a nice model structure (J. Bergner)

weak equivalences  $f: C \rightarrow D$

1.  $\pi_0(C) \xrightarrow{\sim} \pi_0(D) \quad (\Rightarrow \text{essential surjectivity})$

2.  $\underline{\text{Hom}}_C(X, Y) \xrightarrow{\sim} \underline{\text{Hom}}_D(fX, fY) \quad (\text{all fibrations})$

Problem with making an enriched version

$\underline{\text{Hom}}(A, B) \in \text{S-Cat} \quad \text{for } A, B \in \text{S-Cat} :$

$A \in \text{Cat} \quad \& \quad B, B' \text{ fibred S-categories}$   
 $B \twoheadrightarrow B'$

$\not\Rightarrow \underline{\text{Hom}}(A, B) \xrightarrow{\sim} \underline{\text{Hom}}(A, B')$

... not an internal model category:

Cockburn precat doesn't satisfy good compatibility.

## Alternative story

Use Segal's delooping machine ...

Stasheff A loop space is the same as a group-like  
A $\infty$  space.

$$\begin{array}{c} \text{Segal:} \quad \Omega X = \Omega X \longrightarrow \Omega X \\ \text{coherence:} \quad \quad \quad \uparrow \quad \uparrow \\ \quad \quad \quad \Omega X * \Omega X * \Omega X \\ \quad \quad \quad \uparrow \uparrow \uparrow \end{array}$$

Theorem A space  $Y$  is a loop space i.f.f  
 $\exists$  simplicial space  $Z: \Delta^{op} \rightarrow \text{sSet}$  s.t.

1.  $Z_0 \simeq *$  contractible

Segal  
condition [ 2.  $Z_p \xrightarrow{\sim} Z_1 * \dots * Z_1$  (maps coming from the  
simplicial structure is  
an equivalence)

3.  $Z_1 \simeq Y$

ie we have not a product but  $Z_1 * Z_1 \xrightarrow{\sim} Z_2$   
 $\downarrow$   
 $Z_1$

Let's do the same for  $(\infty, 1)$ -objects

$$\begin{array}{ccc} \underline{\text{Hom}}(X, Y) \times \underline{\text{Hom}}(Y, Z) & \xleftarrow{\sim} & \underline{\text{Hom}}(X, Y, Z) \\ & & \downarrow \\ & & \underline{\text{Hom}}(X, Z) \end{array}$$

E objects:

$$\begin{array}{ccc} \text{Coloc}(\underline{0}, \underline{E}) & \xrightarrow{\sim} & sE \\ \cup & & \cup \\ \text{Monoz'id}(\underline{0}, \underline{E}) & \xrightarrow{\sim} & \text{Segd cat} \end{array}$$


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Segd categories: consider simplicial space

$$A: \Delta^{op} \longrightarrow s\text{Set}$$

with  $A_0 = \text{set}$  (discrete: objects)

$$A_p \xrightarrow{\sim} A_1 \times_{A_0} \dots \times_{A_0} A_1 \quad p\text{-composable arrows}$$

These are the fibrant objects of a natural model category



$\infty\text{-Gpd} \begin{matrix} \xrightarrow{\text{left adjoint: invert arrows}} \\ \xrightarrow{\text{throw away invertible morphisms}} \end{matrix} (\infty, 1)\text{-Cat}$

The Segal picture is better w/out inversion but not w/out throwing away morphisms.

Completeness condition: change POV:

here  $A_0$  play the role of the "interior"

— the category with forgotten invertible morphisms.

$A_0 = \text{RHom}(\bar{I}, A)$  where  $\bar{I} = \cdot \circlearrowright$

more precisely  $A_0 \simeq \text{holim}_{p \in (\Delta/\bar{I})^{op}} A_p$

...  $p$  varies over nerve of category  $\bar{I}$ .

$\Rightarrow$  better definition (Reedy style) of Dwyer-Kan  
 $L(C, w(\cdot)): \Delta^{op} \rightarrow \text{Set}$   
 $p \mapsto v. w(C^{[p]})$

- nerve of category of vector equilibria of  $\mathbb{C}P^1$ .  
 0-simplices: nerve of category of quasi-isomorphisms.

[Charles Rezk]

This gives an internal model category,  $\text{CSS}$ , of complete Segal spaces: simplicial spaces st fibrants satisfy Segal  $\Delta$  completeness properties

& Quillen equivalence  $\text{CSS} \xrightarrow{\sim} \text{S-Cat}$

& a Quillen adjunction  $\text{S-Cat} \xrightleftharpoons{(-)_0} \text{CSS}$

We'll define (co,1)-categories as complete Segal spaces.

Consider pseudofunctor  $\text{Mod}: \mathcal{X}_{\text{Zar}}^{\text{op}} \rightarrow \text{Cat}$

$U \mapsto \text{Mod}(U_c)$

$f \mapsto f^*$

can make into a fibration...

Homotopic version: replace mod's by complexes

$$X_{\text{Zar}}^{\text{op}} \longrightarrow (\infty, 1) \text{ Cat}$$

$$U \longmapsto \text{LC}_{\text{pt}}(Q_U)$$

$$f \longmapsto f^*$$

gives a stack of  $(\infty, 1)$  categories:

$$\text{LC}_{\text{pt}}(X) \xrightarrow{\sim} \text{holim} \left[ \prod_i \text{LC}_{\text{pt}}(U_i) \rightrightarrows \prod_j \text{LC}_{\text{pt}}(U_{ij}) \rightrightarrows \dots \right]$$

Stratification Theorem Suppose  $F: \mathcal{I}^{\text{op}} \rightarrow \text{Mod Cat}$  is a left Quillen presheaf. Then  $\text{holim} LF$  is equivalent to  $\text{L Sect}_{\text{hc}}(F)$  homotopy Cartesian sections of  $F$

(ie model structure on sections where cofibrants are homotopy Cartesian sections)  
 $\sim$  allows explicit computations of homotopy spaces

Enlarged version: uses multi- $\infty$  categories.

Consequence:  $A \in \mathbb{F}_n$  ring spectrum  $\Rightarrow$

$K A \in \mathbb{F}_{n-1}$  - ring spectrum (algebraic K theory

- see for THH, TC etc)

$$F: I^{\text{op}} \longrightarrow \text{Set}$$

$\text{Sect}(F):$

- $(x_i)_{i \in I} \quad x_i \in \text{Obj } F_i$

- $f: x_j \rightarrow x_i \quad \forall f: i \rightarrow j$

Consequence: weak diagrams  $\text{RHom}(I, L_k)$   
can be strictified  $\cong L(MI)$

--- false for  $(\infty, 2)$  categories, can't always  
strictify diagrams.