

We proceed to better understand the boundary

$$\partial \Delta[n][\cdot] = sk_{n-1} \Delta[n][\cdot] \subset \Delta[n][\cdot].$$

For every $0 \leq i \leq n$, we define

$$d^i : [n-1] \rightarrow [n]$$

to be the unique order preserving injective map such that

$$\text{im}(d^i) = [n] \setminus \{i\} \subset [n]$$

and note that for all $0 \leq i < j \leq n$,

$$d^j d^i = d^i d^{j-1} : [n-2] \rightarrow [n].$$

We call the induced map

$$d^i = d_*^i : \Delta[n-1][\cdot] \rightarrow \Delta[n][\cdot]$$

the i 'th face map. We show that the boundary $\partial \Delta[n][\cdot]$ admits the following description as a coequalizer.

Lemma The diagram

$$\coprod_{0 \leq i < j \leq n} \Delta[n-2][i] \xrightarrow{f} \coprod_{0 \leq k \leq n} \Delta[n-1][i] \xrightarrow{h} \partial \Delta[n][i]$$

where f , g , and h are defined by

$$f \circ \text{in}_{ij} = \text{in}_i \circ d_*^{j-1}$$

$$g \circ \text{in}_{ij} = \text{in}_j \circ d_*^i$$

$$h \circ \text{in}_k = d_*^k$$

is a coequalizer.

Pf We show that for all $m \geq 0$, the diagram

$$\coprod_{0 \leq i < j \leq n} \Delta[n-2][m] \xrightarrow{f} \coprod_{0 \leq k \leq n} \Delta[n-1][m] \xrightarrow{h} \partial \Delta[n][m]$$

is a coequalizer. If $0 \leq i < j \leq n$, then $d^i d^i = d^i d^{j-1}$ so $h f = h g$. The subset

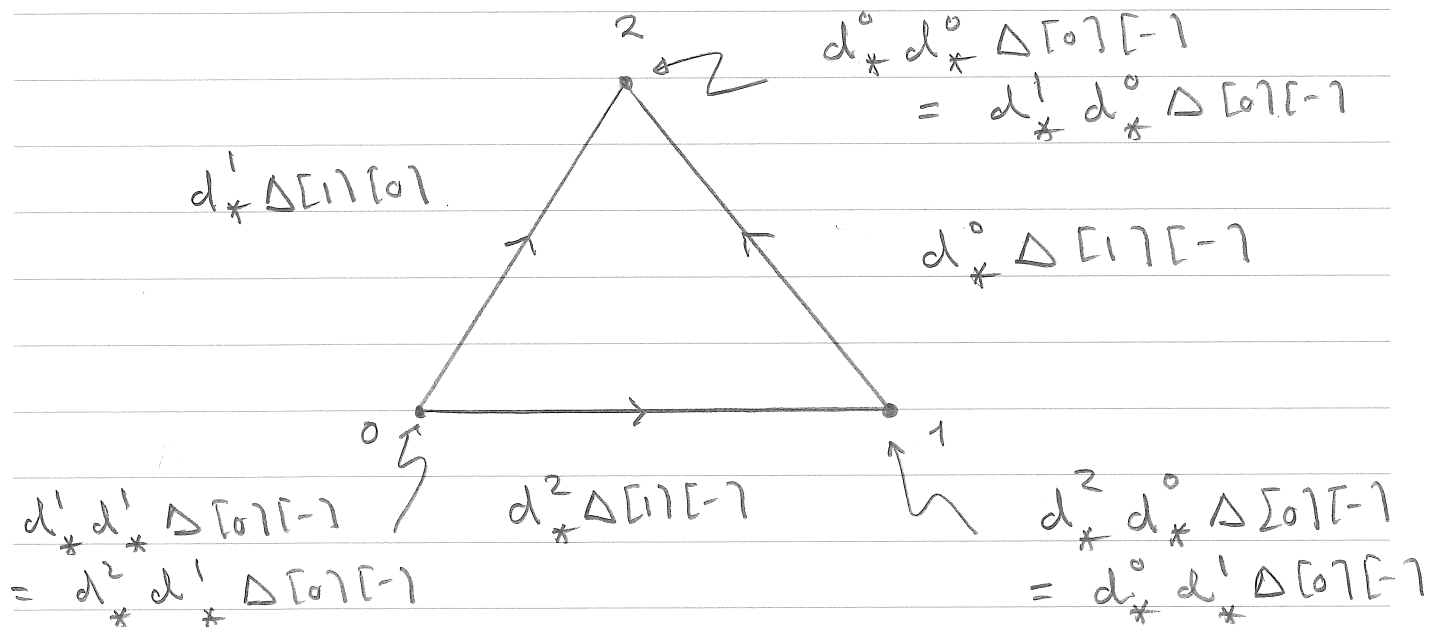
$$\partial \Delta[n][m] \subset \text{Hom}_{\Delta}([m], [n])$$

consists of all maps that are not surjective. But if the image of the map $\theta: [m] \rightarrow [n]$ does not contain $i \in [n]$, then $\theta = d^i \circ \theta'$ with $\theta': [m] \rightarrow [n-1]$.

So the map h is surjective. Finally, if the image of $\theta: [m] \rightarrow [n]$ does not contain $\{i, j\}$ with $0 \leq i < j \leq n$, then

$$\theta = d^j_* \circ d^i_* \circ \theta'' = d^i_* \circ d^{j-1}_* \circ \theta''$$

with $\theta'': [m] \rightarrow [n-2]$. So the diagram is a coequalizer as stated. //



We define the boundary of the topological standard n -simplex $\Delta[n]$ to be the subspace

$$\partial \Delta[n] = \Delta[n] \setminus \text{Int}(\Delta[n]) \subset \Delta[n]$$

of points that are not interior. Then, similarly, we have:

Lemma The diagram

$$\coprod_{0 \leq i < j \leq n} \Delta[n-2] \xrightarrow[\cong]{f} \coprod_{0 \leq k \leq n} \Delta[n-1] \xrightarrow{h} \partial \Delta[n]$$

where

$$f \circ \text{in}_{ij} = \text{in}_i \circ d_{*}^{j-1}$$

$$g \circ \text{in}_{ij} = \text{in}_j \circ d_{*}^i$$

$$h \circ \text{in}_k = d_{*}^k$$

is a coequalizer.

Cor In the diagram of canonical maps

$$|\partial \Delta[n][{-1}]| \longrightarrow \partial \Delta[n]$$

$$\downarrow$$

$$\downarrow$$

$$|\Delta[n][{-1}]| \longrightarrow \Delta[n]$$

the horizontal maps are homeomorphisms.

Pf For every $k \geq 0$, we have the canonical homeomorphism

$$|\Delta[k][{-1}]| \xrightarrow{\sim} \Delta[k].$$

Moreover, the following diagram, where the vertical maps are the canonical homeomorphisms, commutes.

$$\begin{array}{ccccc}
 \coprod_{0 \leq i < j \leq n} |\Delta[n-2][i-1]| & \xrightarrow{f} & \coprod_{0 \leq k \leq n} |\Delta[n-1][i-1]| & \xrightarrow{h} & |\Delta[n][i-1]| \\
 \downarrow \sim & & \downarrow \sim & & \downarrow \sim \\
 \coprod_{0 \leq i < j \leq n} \Delta[n-2] & \xrightarrow{f} & \coprod_{0 \leq k \leq n} \Delta[n-1] & \xrightarrow{h} & \Delta[n]
 \end{array}$$

Since geometric realization preserves colimits, the two lemmas show that the right-hand vertical map induces a homeomorphism

$$|\partial \Delta[n][i-1]| \xrightarrow{\sim} \partial \Delta[n].$$

This completes the proof. //

Let $Y[i-1]$ be a simplicial set. The inclusion $sk_{n-1} Y[i-1] \hookrightarrow sk_n Y[i-1]$ gives rise to a continuous map

$$|sk_{n-1} Y[i-1]| \rightarrow |sk_n Y[i-1]|.$$

The following result shows that

this map is the inclusion of a subspace and that $|sk_n Y[-1]|$ is obtained from $|sk_{n-1} Y[-1]|$ by attaching an n -simplex $\Delta[n]$ along the boundary $\partial\Delta[n]$ for every non-degenerate $y \in Y[n]$.

Then let $Y[-1]$ be a simplicial set, let $n \geq 0$ be an integer, and let $Y[n]' \subset Y[n]$ be the subset of non-degenerate n -simplices. Then

$$\begin{array}{ccc}
 \coprod_{y \in Y[n]'} \partial\Delta[n] & \xrightarrow{\Sigma \sigma_y} & |sk_{n-1} Y[-1]| \\
 \downarrow & & \downarrow \\
 \coprod_{y \in Y[n]'} \Delta[n] & \xrightarrow{\Sigma \sigma_y} & |sk_n Y[-1]|
 \end{array}$$

is a push-out diagram of topological spaces.

Pf The push-out diagram of simplicial sets on page 9 gives after realization a push-out diagram of spaces. The previous corollary identifies the left-hand terms as stated. //

Since geometric realization preserves colimits, we have

$$\begin{aligned} & \operatorname{colim}_n |sk_n Y[-1]| \\ & \xrightarrow{\sim} | \operatorname{colim}_n sk_n Y[-1] | \\ & \xrightarrow{\sim} | Y[-1] |. \end{aligned}$$

Cor let $\xi \in |Y[-1]|$. Then there exists a unique non-degenerate simplex $y \in Y[n]'$ and a unique interior point $z \in \Delta[n]$ such that

$$\xi = \text{class of } (y, z).$$

Pf. let $n \geq 0$ be the unique integer such that

$$\xi \in |sk_n Y[-1]| \setminus |sk_{n-1} Y[-1]|.$$

The theorem shows that the map

$$\frac{1}{y \in Y[n]'} \quad \text{Int}(\Delta[n])$$

$$\xrightarrow{\Sigma \phi_y} |sk_n Y[-1]| \setminus |sk_{n-1} Y[-1]|$$

is a homeomorphism. We let (y, z) be the unique pair with $\phi_y(z) = \xi$. Then the corollary follows. //

If Y is a set, then the functor

$$- \times Y : \mathbf{Sets} \rightarrow \mathbf{Sets}$$

has the right adjoint functor

$$\mathrm{Hom}_{\mathbf{Sets}}(Y, -) : \mathbf{Sets} \rightarrow \mathbf{Sets}.$$

The adjunction bijection

$$\mathrm{Hom}_{\mathbf{Sets}}(X \times Y, Z) \xrightarrow{a} \mathrm{Hom}_{\mathbf{Sets}}(X, \mathrm{Hom}_{\mathbf{Sets}}(Y, Z))$$

is defined by

$$a(f)(x)(y) = f(x, y).$$

It follows that for every diagram of sets $X : I \rightarrow \mathbf{Sets}$, the canonical map

$$\begin{aligned} \mathrm{colim}_i (X_i \times Y) \\ \longrightarrow (\mathrm{colim}_i X_i) \times Y \end{aligned}$$

is a bijection. If $\mathcal{Y}$ is a topological space, the functor

$$- \times \mathcal{Y} : \mathcal{T} \rightarrow \mathcal{T}$$

in general does not have a right adjoint. We will instead consider a full subcategory $\mathcal{K} \subset \mathcal{T}$ where, for $\mathcal{Y} \in \mathcal{K}$, the functor

$$- \times \mathcal{Y} : \mathcal{K} \rightarrow \mathcal{K}$$

does have a right adjoint. Let X be a topological space. We define the subset $U \subset X$ to be compactly open if, for every continuous map $f : K \rightarrow X$ with K compact and Hausdorff, $f^{-1}(U) \subset K$ is open. So open subsets $U \subset X$ are compactly open, but compactly open subsets $U \subset X$ are not necessarily open. We say that X is a k-space if every compactly open subset $U \subset X$ is an open subset and define $\mathcal{K}$ to be category whose objects are all k-spaces and whose morphisms are all continuous maps. The

inclusion functor

$$i: \mathcal{K} \hookrightarrow \mathcal{J}$$

has a right adjoint functor

$$k: \mathcal{J} \longrightarrow \mathcal{K}$$

that takes the topological space X to the k -space $k(X)$ defined to be the set X with the (new) topology where $U \subset k(X)$ is open if and only if $U \subset X$ is compactly open. It is clear that $k \circ i$ is the identity functor of $\mathcal{K}$. Since the functor $i: \mathcal{K} \hookrightarrow \mathcal{J}$ has a right adjoint, it preserves colimits. Hence, if $\mathcal{X}: I \rightarrow \mathcal{K}$ is a diagram of k -spaces, then the colimit

$$\operatorname{colim}_I^{\mathcal{J}} (i \circ \mathcal{X})$$

is a k -space, and

$$i \left(\operatorname{colim}_I^{\mathcal{K}} \mathcal{X} \right) = \operatorname{colim}_I^{\mathcal{J}} (i \circ \mathcal{X}).$$

The functor $i: \mathcal{K} \hookrightarrow \mathcal{J}$, however,

does not preserve limits. We define

$$\lim_I^K \mathcal{X} := k \left(\lim_I^J (i(\mathcal{X})) \right);$$

this is the limit in $\mathcal{K}$ of the diagram $\mathcal{X}: I \rightarrow \mathcal{K}$. In particular, the product in $\mathcal{K}$ of the two k -spaces X and Y is the k -space

$$X \times Y := k(i(X) \times i(Y)).$$

Now, if Y and Z are two k -spaces, we define the k -space

$$\underline{\text{Hom}}_{\mathcal{K}}(Y, Z)$$

to be the set

$$\text{Hom}_{\mathcal{K}}(Y, Z) := \text{Hom}_J(i(Y), i(Z))$$

with the k -space topology associated (by applying the functor k) to the topology with subbasis given by the set subsets

$$N(h, U) = \{ f: Y \rightarrow Z \mid f(h(K)) \subset U \},$$

where $h: K \rightarrow Y$ is continuous and K compact Hausdorff and $V \subset Z$ is open. The following holds:

Prop Let X, Y , and Z be k -spaces. Then the map

$$\underline{\text{Hom}}_K(X \times Y, Z) \xrightarrow{\alpha} \underline{\text{Hom}}_K(X, \underline{\text{Hom}}_K(Y, Z))$$

defined by

$$\alpha(f)(x)(y) = f(x, y)$$

is a homeomorphism.

Proof This is proved in Gaurce Lewis' thesis. I have a copy for anyone interested. //

In particular, if Y is a k -space, then the functor

$$- \times Y: K \rightarrow K$$

has the right adjoint functor

$$\underline{\text{Hom}}_K(Y, -): K \rightarrow K.$$