

19/10 Math - 297 (TFT and Hochschild)

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exercise let

$$Z: \text{Cob}^n \rightarrow \text{Vect}_K^{\otimes}$$

be a TFT. Show that  $Z(\text{pt})$

must be a finite dim vector space.

Today: intro to TFTs.

Def. An  $n$ -dim topo. field theory

is a symmetric monoidal

functor  $Z: (\text{Cob}_n^{\text{tr}})^{\otimes} \rightarrow \mathcal{C}^{\otimes}$  ("partition function")

where  $\mathcal{C}^{\otimes}$  is some  $(\infty, n)$

- category w/  $\otimes$  as symmetric

monoidal lecture.

Remark. There's a theorem, now proven (Ayala - Francis) that gives an algebraic characterization of all possible  $\mathbb{Z}$ .

Thm ("cobordism hypothesis" -  
à la Baez-Dolan,  
Hopkins-Lurie...)

$\exists$  an equiv of topo. spaces  
 $\left\{ \mathbb{Z} \right\} \simeq \left\{ \begin{array}{l} \text{moduli of fully} \\ \text{dualizable objects of } \mathcal{C} \end{array} \right\}$

The proof is completely different from Lurie strategy. Chris is trying to follow the original program.

$(\infty, n)$ -cat. For your sanity, all definitions are heuristic.

$n=0$ .  $(\infty, 0)$ -cat = space.

Given a top. space  $X$ , define a "category"  $X$ :

- $ob(X) = \left. \begin{array}{l} \text{points of top.} \\ \text{space } X \end{array} \right\}$
- $hom(x, y) = \{ \text{paths } \gamma: [0, 1] \rightarrow X \mid \gamma(0) = x, \gamma(1) = y \}$
- Instead of defining composition, we'll



say what a commutative  
diagram should be!

A commutative triangle

$$\begin{array}{ccc} & \gamma & \\ X & \nearrow & Y \\ & \gamma'' & \searrow \gamma' \\ & & Z \end{array}$$

is a  $C^0$ -map  $\Delta^2 \rightarrow X$

s.t.  $\partial_0 \Delta^2 = \gamma'$ ,  $\partial_1 \Delta^2 = \gamma''$ ,  $\partial_2 \Delta^2 = \gamma$ .

A commutative diagram is  $X$  in

the form of an  $n$ -simplex  $\Delta^n \subset \mathbb{R}^{n+1}$

$$\begin{array}{ccc} & x_2 & \\ & \nearrow & \\ x_0 & & x_1 \\ & \searrow & \\ & x_1 & \end{array} \quad \left\{ (x_0, \dots, x_n) \mid \sum x_i = 1, x_i \geq 0 \right\}$$

is a  $C^0$ -map  $\Delta^n \rightarrow X$  satisfying the obvious boundary conditions.

(The obvious inclusions  $\mathbb{R}^n \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^{n+1}$  induce

$$\Delta^{n-1} \rightarrow \Delta^n \text{ and } \partial^j \Delta^n \subset \Delta^n \text{ i.e. delete } j^{\text{th}} \text{ vertex + interior.}$$

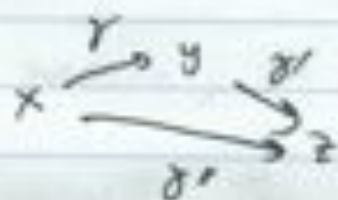
$$\left\{ (x_0, \dots, x_n) \in \Delta^n \mid x_j = 0 \right\}$$

\*  $\Delta$  Fixing two morphisms

$$\gamma: X \rightarrow Y$$

$$\gamma': Y \rightarrow Z$$

there exist  $\infty$ -many commutative triangles



However, we can prove that the

space of such triangles is

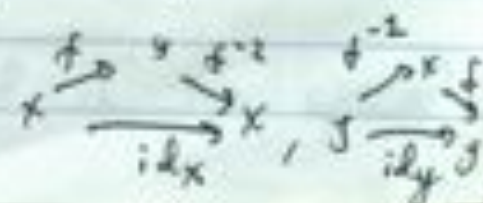
contractible. (follows from weak Kan condition)

Prop every morphism in  $X$  is

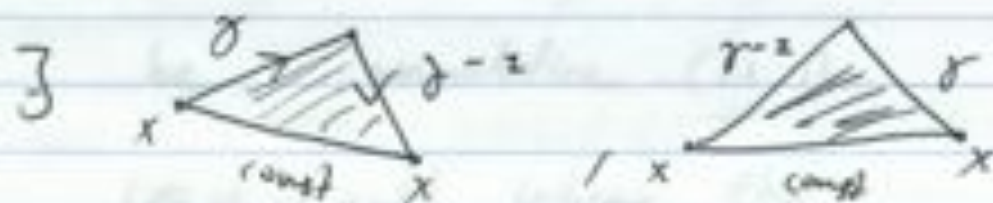
invertible up to homotopy.

In classical category theory (e.g. Mac Lane)

$f: X \rightarrow Y$  is invertible  $\Leftrightarrow$



exist ( $\exists f^{-1}$  and these are comoncotative triangles). This in our case is obvious:



For that reason, an  $(\infty, 0)$ -cat is an  $\infty$ -groupoid. The "0" in  $(\infty, 0)$ -category is the fact that every  $k$ -morphism for  $k > 0$  is invertible.

$n=1$ . An  $(\infty, 1)$ -category is

- A category where

- $\text{Hom}(x, y)$

- is a topo. space (i.e.

- a category enriched in top. spaces)

or

• the idea of what it

means for a  $k$ -simplex to

be commutative (as in

$(\infty, 0)$ -cat) where the

edges NEED NOT be

invertible.

connect. space of possible compositions

is still contractible.

Example. Let  $X$  be a space of

stratification: (Jacob's def), a space

$X$  with a continuous map  $X \rightarrow P$

where  $I$  is a poset.  $P$  is

topo so that  $U \in P$  open  $\Rightarrow U$  is open  
closed

i.e. if  $\forall e \in U$ , then any  $y \geq x$

is in  $U$ .

Sub Example.  $X = \emptyset, P = \emptyset$

Given  $X \rightarrow P$  st satisfied, consider

$$C(X) := \begin{array}{ccc} X & \hookrightarrow & X \times (0, \infty) \\ \downarrow & & \downarrow \\ X & \longrightarrow & C(X) \end{array}$$

the you care. When  $X \neq \emptyset$  this is

$$X \times (0, \infty) / X \times \{0, 1\}$$



def  $C(P) = P$  w/  $\forall e \in U$  minimal

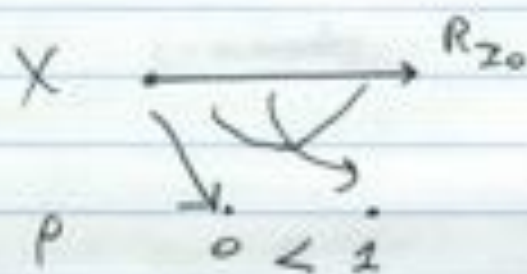
element adjo incl.



sub-Example. ① If  $X = P = \emptyset$ , then  $C(X) = \emptyset$

and  $C(P) = \emptyset$ , so  $C(X) = \emptyset$   
 $\downarrow \quad \downarrow$   
 $C(\emptyset) = \emptyset$

②  $X = P = \emptyset$



space  $X$  is now two pieces.

③ Repeat ...

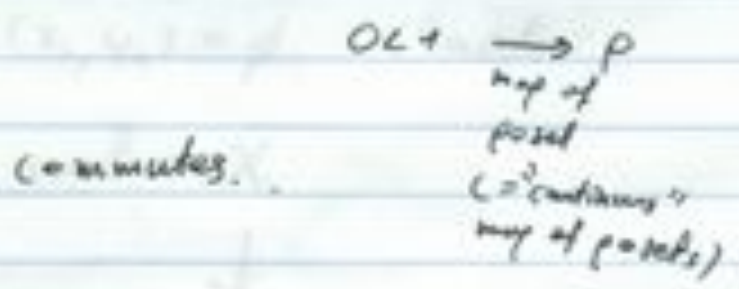


③  $\Delta^n$   
 $\downarrow$   
 $0 < t_1 < \dots < t_k$

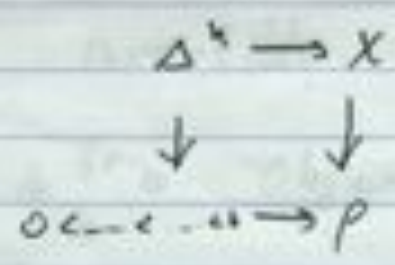
The example (finally!) is the exit path category of a stratified space  $X$ .

objects = points of  $X$

$\text{mor}(x, y) =$  space of continuous functions  $C(x) = \mathbb{R} \xrightarrow{f} X$  s.t.  $f(0) = x, f(1) = y$



A comm. diagram in shape of  $\Delta^h$  is a co-map



Example.  $X = \begin{array}{ccc} x_0 & z & y_0 \\ \hline & & \\ 0 & z & 0 \end{array}$

↓

profs

Claim.  $\text{hom}(x_0, y_0) = \emptyset$ . (consider

$$\begin{array}{ccc} R_{z_0} & \xrightarrow{\gamma} & X \\ \downarrow & & \downarrow \\ \text{act} & \longrightarrow & \text{act} \end{array}$$

⊙

Also, a path from  $x_0$  to  $z$

is not invertible.

Example. Cob $_{\frac{1}{2}}^{\text{fr}}$  objects are disjoint

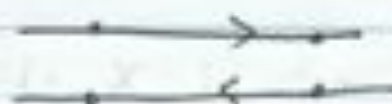
Union of nulls of the form  $\partial X \times \mathbb{R} + \text{orient}$ .

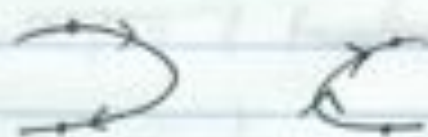
You should ignore the  $\mathbb{R}$ -component. Think of  
+ infinitesimal ~~orientations~~ labels + orientations.

A manifold is an oriented cobordism.

Example:  $X = \begin{array}{c} \rightarrow + \\ \leftarrow - \end{array}$      $Y = \begin{array}{c} \rightarrow + \\ \leftarrow - \end{array}$

Some morphisms  $X \rightarrow Y$ :

id:   $X \times R$



Composition is as usual.

Note  $\text{Cat}_{\pm}^{\text{fr}}$  has a symmetric monoidal structure given by disjoint union.

Def. An  $(\infty, n)$ -category is a gadget with

• objects  $x, y, \dots$

(1-) • morphisms  $\text{hom}_{\pm}(x, y), \dots$

(2-) • morphisms between morphisms  $\text{hom}(f, g)$

- still we have a space of  $n$ -morphisms.

Example.  $\mathcal{C}$  = cat of categories

ob.  $X$  is a category

$$\text{hom}(X, Y) = \{ \text{functors } F: X \rightarrow Y \}$$

$$\text{ob} \text{hom}(\mathbb{Z}, \mathbb{C}) = \left\{ \begin{array}{c} \begin{array}{ccc} & f & \\ & \downarrow & \\ x & \xrightarrow{g} & y \\ & \uparrow & \\ & h & \end{array} \\ \mathbb{C} \end{array} \right\} \begin{array}{l} \text{the set} \\ \text{of nat.} \\ \text{trans.} \\ h: f \circ g \end{array}$$

Example.  $\mathcal{C}$  = Morita category

ob.  $X$  is an assc algebra

$$\text{hom}(X, Y) = \left\{ \begin{array}{l} \text{bimodules} \\ M \end{array} \right\}$$

$$\text{ob} \text{hom}(M, N) = \left\{ \begin{array}{l} \text{bimodules} \\ \text{maps} \end{array} \right\}$$

$$\begin{array}{ccc} & M & \\ X & & Y \end{array}$$

There is a further from one to the other called "trace modules".