

10/19 (Diversity & Excellence in Math  
Conference later today & tomorrow)

continuing: Chain complexes from  
Simplicial abelian groups

Thm - there's a functor (equivalence)

$$C: \text{Ab}^{\Delta^{\text{op}}} \xrightarrow{\sim} \text{Ch}(\text{Ab})$$

given as follows:

- on objects  $X: \Delta^{\text{op}} \rightarrow \text{Ab}$  define

$$C(X) \in \text{Ch}(\text{Ab})$$

by  $C(X)_n = X([n])$  (group of  $n$ -simplices)

where  $d: C(X)_{n+1} \rightarrow C(X)_n$

$$d = \sum_{i=0}^n (-1)^i d_i \quad (d_i = X(d_i))$$

with  $d^2 = 0$ .

$$(d_i = \begin{array}{|c|c|c|c|} \hline & & & \\ \hline 0 & 1 & 2 & 3 \\ \hline \end{array})$$

- on morphisms

$$\begin{array}{ccc} & X & \\ & \curvearrowright & \\ \Delta^{\text{op}} & \begin{array}{c} \alpha \downarrow \\ \Upsilon \end{array} & \text{Ab} \\ & \curvearrowleft & \end{array}$$

define

$$C(\alpha): C(X) \rightarrow C(Y)$$

ie

$$C(\alpha)_n: C(X)_n \rightarrow C(Y)_n$$

$$\begin{array}{ccc} \parallel & & \parallel \\ X([n]) & & Y([n]) \end{array}$$

to be precisely  $\alpha_{[n]}$

(it all just works in category theory  
- front-load difficulty with levels of abstraction)

moreover,  $C$  is an equivalence,  
 i.e. there is a functor  $D: Ch(Ab) \rightarrow Ab^{\Delta^op}$   
 such that  $D \circ C \cong 1_{Ab^{\Delta^op}}$  (natural isomorphisms)  
 $C \circ D \cong 1_{Ch(Ab)}$

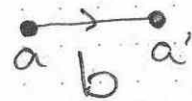
Prf (sketch) — (hard part is unpacking  $\partial$ )

$C$  is clearly a functor:  $C(\beta \circ \alpha) = C(\beta) \circ C(\alpha)$   
 because  $C(\beta \circ \alpha)_n = (\beta \circ \alpha)_{[n]} = \beta_{[n]} \circ \alpha_{[n]}$  (by defn of nat. trans.)

to get  $D: Ch(Ab) \rightarrow Ab^{\Delta^op}$ , we need to see  
 how given  $A \in Ch(Ab)$  we get  $D(A) \in Ab^{\Delta^op}$ .

— abelian group of 0-simplices =  $A_0$  •  $a \in A_0$

— abelian group of 1-simplices

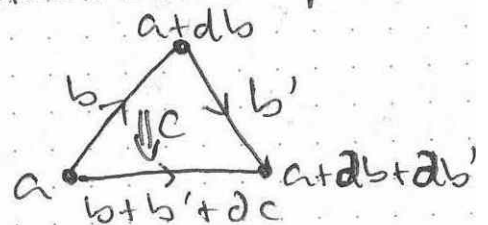


ie  $\left\{ \begin{array}{l} b \in A_1 \text{ st } \partial b = a' - a \\ \end{array} \right.$

(expecting undergrads to understand natural iso between vectors + points)

— abelian group of 2-simplices

$c \in A_2$  st  $A_0 \oplus A_1 \oplus A_2$



need to check:

$$a + \partial(b + b' + \partial c) = a + \partial b + \partial b'$$

yes! because  $\partial^2 = 0$

(Pascal's  $\Delta$ )

— and so on....

then, check  $C(D(A)) \cong A$  via a natural iso

and that  $D(C(X)) \cong X$

(Dold-Kan theorem)

given a chain complex  $C$ , since  $\partial^2 = 0$ ,  
 note that  $\text{im}(\partial: C_{n+1} \rightarrow C_n)$  "boundaries"

$\ker(\partial: C_n \rightarrow C_{n-1})$  "cycles"

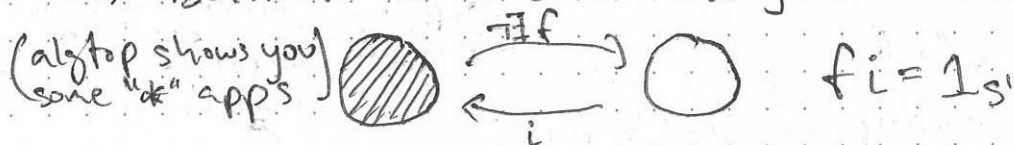
so we can form homology groups,  
 abelian groups

$$H_n(C) = \frac{\ker(\partial: C_n \rightarrow C_{n-1})}{\text{im}(\partial: C_{n+1} \rightarrow C_n)}$$

we can write  $H(C) = \{H(C)_n\}_{n=0}^{\infty}$ , so  
 $H(C)$  is a  $\mathbb{N}$ -graded abelian group,  
 or  $H(C) \in \text{Ab}^{\mathbb{N}}$ .

Thm  $H: \text{Ch}(\text{Ab}) \rightarrow \text{Ab}^{\mathbb{N}}$  is a functor.

(Emmy Noether noticed all this great stuff)  
 $\hookrightarrow$  Betti numbers don't tell you what to do with maps



on  $H_1: \{0\} \xrightarrow{?} \mathbb{Z} \xrightarrow{?} \mathbb{Z} \quad \mathbb{Z} \xrightarrow{?} \mathbb{Z} \quad \mathbb{Z} \xrightarrow{?} \mathbb{Z} \quad \mathbb{Z} \xrightarrow{?} \mathbb{Z}$

Q&A: now we'll turn monads into  
 simplicial objects, then do  
 homology!

but there's a subtlety: monads are functors

(walking monad)  $M \rightarrow K$  (2-category)

but need  $\Delta^{\circ p}$