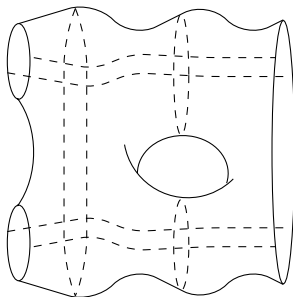


The geometric cobordism hypothesis

Lecture 2: Definitions

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These slides: <https://dmitripavlov.org/lecture-2.pdf>



Outline

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Models: We use model categories for the above gadgets. Model structures will always be given by a left Bousfield localization of some category of presheaves on a small category C .

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- These notions are not good enough in practice! Many naturally occurring examples are not strict (e.g., fundamental 2-groupoid).
- Keeping track of the coherence data is notoriously annoying (see Todd Trimble’s weak 4-category!).

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What does this mean, morally?

- Segal's Δ condition (along with fibrancy) means that for each $n, m \in \mathbb{N}$, the square

$$\begin{array}{ccc} X_{m+n} & \xrightarrow{p_{0,\dots,m}} & X_m \\ \downarrow p_{m,\dots,m+n} & & \downarrow p_m \\ X_n & \xrightarrow{p_0} & X_0 \end{array}$$

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Morally, the space X_n is the space of composable n -chains of morphisms in X_1 . For example, if $n = 2$:

$$\begin{array}{ccccc}
 X_1 \times_{X_0} X_1 & \longleftarrow & X_2 & \longrightarrow & X_1 \\
 \begin{array}{c} \nearrow x \\ \searrow y \end{array} & & \begin{array}{c} \nearrow x \\ \searrow y \\ \xrightarrow{z} \end{array} & & \xrightarrow{z}
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- Note that the naive thing: $X_n = N(C)_n$ is not complete!

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- We have an $(\infty, 1)$ -category of all (∞, d) -categories

$$\text{Cat}_{\infty, d} := \text{Fun}((\Delta^{\text{op}})^{\times d}, \text{sSet})_{\text{inj}, \text{loc}}$$

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- One can think of C as encoding a sort of 2-category. The 2-morphisms are 1-morphisms $\phi \in \text{Mor}(C_1)$, which can be pictures as cells

$$\begin{array}{ccc} s(\alpha) & \xrightarrow{\alpha} & t(\alpha) \\ s(\phi) \downarrow & \Downarrow \phi & \downarrow t(\phi) \\ a(\beta) & \xrightarrow{\beta} & t(\beta) \end{array}$$

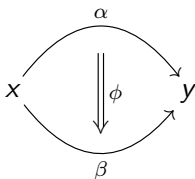
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Can encode the nerve of a permutative category (C, \oplus) as a Γ -space by assigning $X(\langle \ell \rangle) = N(C)^{\times \ell}$. Structure maps use the symmetric monoidal structure.

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- 1 It is fibrant in $\text{Fun}(\Gamma^{\text{op}} \times (\Delta^{\text{op}})^{\times d}, \text{sSet})_{\text{inj}}$
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Adding smooth structure

Definition

The category \mathbf{Cart} is the category whose objects are open subsets of \mathbb{R}^n , for some $n \in \mathbb{N}$, that are diffeomorphic to \mathbb{R}^n . Morphisms are smooth maps.

Definition

A smooth space is a functor $X: \mathbf{Cart}^{\text{op}} \rightarrow \mathbf{sSet}$ such that

- 1 It is fibrant in $\mathbf{Fun}(\mathbf{Cart}^{\text{op}}, \mathbf{sSet})_{\text{inj}}$
- 2 (Descent condition) it is local with respect to Čech covers

$$c^{\{U_\alpha\}} \rightarrow U,$$

Here, $\cdots \rightrightarrows \coprod_{\alpha\beta} U_{\alpha\beta} \rightrightarrows \coprod_{\alpha} U_{\alpha} \xrightarrow{\text{hocolim}} c^{\{U_\alpha\}} \longrightarrow U$

An example

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- A morphism $f: U \rightarrow V$ is sent to the map $g \mapsto g \circ f$, $g \in C^\infty(V, X)$. Being local with respect to the Čech morphisms just says that X is a sheaf:

$$C^\infty(U, X) \cong \lim \left\{ \prod_\alpha C^\infty(U_\alpha, X) \rightrightarrows \prod_{\alpha\beta} C^\infty(U_{\alpha\beta}, X) \right\}$$

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The $(\infty, 1)$ -category of all smooth symmetric monoidal (∞, d) -categories is presented by a big left Bousfield localization

$$\mathbf{C}^{\infty} \mathbf{Cat}_{\infty, d}^{\otimes} := \mathbf{PSh}_{\Delta}(\mathbf{Cart} \times \Gamma \times \Delta^{\times d})_{\mathrm{inj}, \mathrm{loc}}$$

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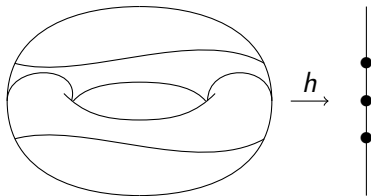
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- A **cut** $[m]$ -**tuple** is a collection of cuts $C_j = (C_{j<}, C_{j=}, C_{j>})$, $j \in [m]$, such that

$$C_{\leq 0} \subset C_{\leq 1} \subset \dots \subset C_{\leq m}$$



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For fixed $\mathbf{m} \in \Delta^{\times d}$, $\langle \ell \rangle \in \Gamma$ and $U \in \text{Cart}$, we define the simplicial set

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- Morphisms: cut respecting diffeomorphisms.

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- Morphisms are fiberwise open embeddings (over U).
- We topologize \mathbf{FEmb}_d by taking covering families to be $\{p_\alpha: M_\alpha \rightarrow U_\alpha\}$ such that $\{M_\alpha\}$ is an open cover of M .

Definition

A fiberwise d -dimensional geometric structure is a simplicial presheaf on \mathbf{FEmb}_d .

Tangential structures

- Let $\mathbf{BGL}(d)$ be the simplicial presheaf on \mathbf{FEmb}_d defined by

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Examples of simplicial presheaves on \mathbf{FEmb}_d include conformal structures, Riemannian metrics, pseudo-Riemannian metrics, maps to a fixed manifold, or combinations of these.

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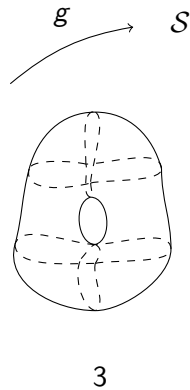
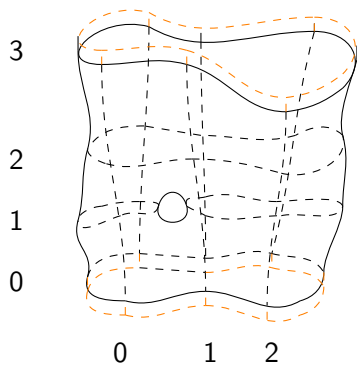
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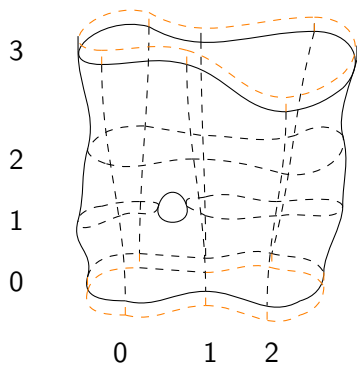
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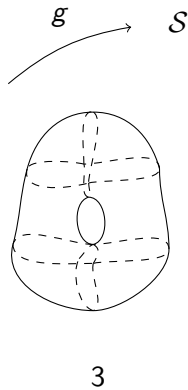
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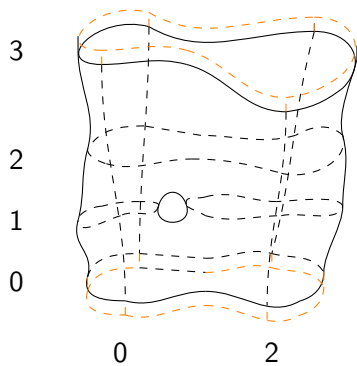
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- The simplicial set $\text{Cut}(M \times U)$ has l -simplices given by a Δ^l -family of cut \mathbf{m} -tuples on $M \times U$.



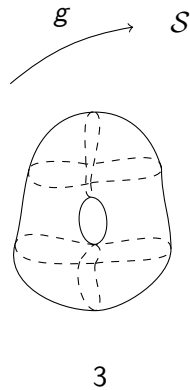


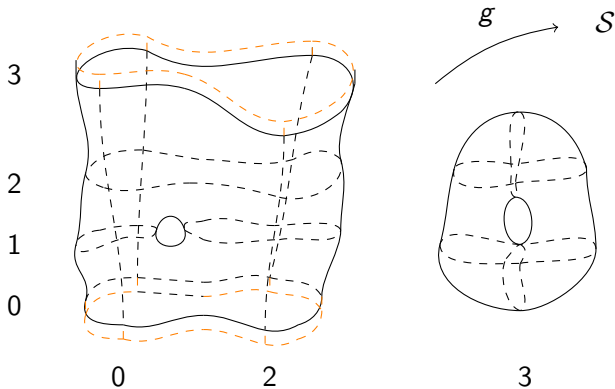
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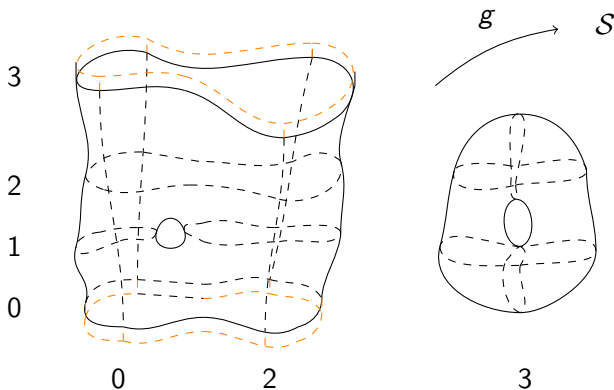


■ Δ structure map





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- Cart structure map pulls back bundles of bordisms along a smooth map $f: U \rightarrow V$.

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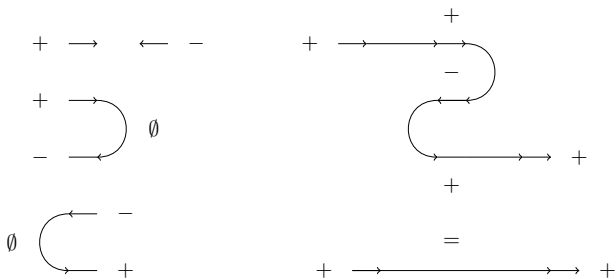
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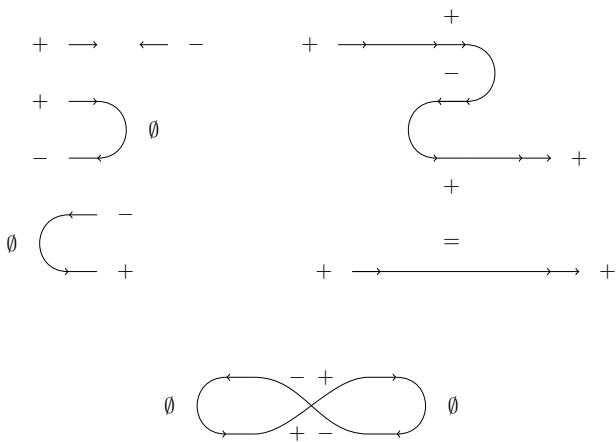
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- Note that we do not have closed d -manifolds as bordisms!

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Theorem

The functor

$$\mathbf{FFT}_{d, T}: \mathbf{PSh}_\Delta(\mathbf{FEmb}_d)_{\mathrm{inj}, \mathrm{loc}}^{\mathrm{op}} \rightarrow \mathbf{Cat}_{\infty, d}$$

is an ∞ -sheaf (i.e. $\mathbf{FFT}_{d, T}$ preserves all homotopy limits).

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- The theorem can be rephrased by saying that the above adjunction is Quillen at the level of the Čech local model structure.

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The sheaf property of $\mathrm{FFT}_{d,T}$ is half the cobordism hypothesis.

- Define the functor

$$\mathrm{Cat}_{\infty,d} \rightarrow \mathrm{PSh}_{\Delta}(\mathrm{FEmb}_d)_{\mathrm{inj},\mathrm{loc}}, \quad T \mapsto \mathrm{FFT}_{d,T}^{\times} =: T_d^{\times}$$

- The left adjoint is the functor

$$\mathrm{Bord}_d: \mathrm{PSh}_{\Delta}(\mathrm{FEmb}_d)_{\mathrm{inj},\mathrm{loc}} \rightarrow \mathrm{Cat}_{\infty,d}, \quad \mathcal{S} \mapsto \mathrm{Bord}_d^{\mathcal{S}}.$$

- The theorem can be rephrased by saying that the above adjunction is Quillen at the level of the Čech local model structure.
- By the universal property of the adjunction, we have an equivalence of derived mapping spaces

$$\mathrm{Fun}^{\otimes}(\mathrm{Bord}_d^{\mathcal{S}}, T) \simeq \mathrm{Map}(\mathcal{S}, T_d^{\times}).$$

Plan for talks 3 and 4

- In the next talk, Dmitri will sketch the proof of the codescent property.

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- In the next talk, Dmitri will sketch the proof of the codescent property.
- In the final talk, I will sketch the proof of the geometrically framed case.