$(\infty, 1)$ -Comprehension Schemes

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Overview

- 1. Preliminary notions in $(\infty, 1)$ -category theory
- 2. $(\infty, 1)$ -Comprehension schemes:
 - 2.1 Motivation, definitions and some fundamental instances
 - 2.2 Examples and applications
- 3. A model categorical point of view

Preliminaries and notation

In all of the following we abbreviate $\infty := (\infty, 1)$. Let S be the ∞ -category of spaces. Let $\operatorname{Cat}_{\infty}$ be the ∞ -category of (small) ∞ -categories. Definition

Let $\mathcal C$ be an ∞ -category. A $\mathcal C$ -indexed ∞ -category is a functor

 $\mathcal{I}: \mathcal{C}^{op} \to \operatorname{Cat}_{\infty}.$

The ∞ -category of \mathcal{C} -indexed ∞ -categories is given by

 $\mathsf{IC}(\mathcal{C}) := \mathsf{Fun}(\mathcal{C}^{op}, \operatorname{Cat}_{\infty}).$

Likewise, a *C*-indexed ∞ -groupoid is a functor $X: \mathcal{C}^{op} \to \mathcal{S}$. The ∞ -category of *C*-indexed ∞ -groupoids is the ∞ -category $\hat{\mathcal{C}} \simeq \operatorname{Fun}(\mathcal{C}^{op}, \mathcal{S})$ of presheaves on \mathcal{C} .

Preliminaries and notation Basic examples of indexed ∞ -categories

Let $\mathcal C$ be an ∞ -category.

– The naive indexing over $\operatorname{Cat}_\infty$ and over $\mathcal S$, respectively,

 $\begin{aligned} \mathsf{Fun}(_,\mathcal{C})\colon \mathrm{Cat}_{\infty}^{op} \to \mathrm{Cat}_{\infty}, \\ \mathrm{Fun}(_,\mathcal{C})\colon \mathcal{S}^{op} \to \mathrm{Cat}_{\infty}. \end{aligned}$

Their underlying ∞ -category is $\mathcal C$ itself.

Preliminaries and notation Basic examples of indexed ∞ -categories

Let $\mathcal C$ be an ∞ -category.

– If ${\mathcal C}$ has pullbacks, the slice functor

 $\mathcal{C}_{/}$: $\mathcal{C}^{op} \to \operatorname{Cat}_{\infty}$

yields the canonical indexing of C over itself. Again, its underlying ∞ -category is C whenever C is left exact. When applied to $C \simeq S$, the two indexed ∞ -categories

$$\operatorname{Fun}(\underline{\ },\mathcal{S})\colon \mathcal{S}^{op}\to\operatorname{Cat}_{\infty}$$

and

$$\mathcal{S}_{/} : \mathcal{S}^{op} \to \operatorname{Cat}_{\infty}$$

are pointwise equivalent.

Preliminaries and notation Basic examples of indexed ∞ -categories

Let $\mathcal C$ be an ∞ -category.

- Given a C-indexed ∞ -category $\mathcal{I} \colon C^{op} \to \operatorname{Cat}_{\infty}$, each functor $F \colon \mathcal{D} \to \mathcal{C}$ induces a change of base

 $F^*\mathcal{I}\colon \mathcal{D}^{op}\to \operatorname{Cat}_{\infty}.$

- The representable presheaves $\mathcal{C}(_, \mathcal{C})$: $\mathcal{C}^{op} \to \mathcal{S}$.

Preliminaries and notation (Un)Straightening

Given an ∞ -category \mathcal{C} , there are adjoint equivalences

 $\operatorname{St}: \operatorname{Cart}(\mathcal{C}) \xrightarrow{\simeq} \operatorname{Fun}(\mathcal{C}^{op}, \operatorname{Cat}_{\infty}): \operatorname{Un}_{\mathcal{H}}$

St: $\mathsf{RFib}(\mathcal{C}) \xrightarrow{\simeq} \mathsf{Fun}(\mathcal{C}^{op}, \mathcal{S})$: Un.

Definition

A right fibration over C is representable if its associated presheaf via Straightening is representable.

Up to equivalence, the representable fibrations over C are exactly the right fibrations of the form

$$s: \mathcal{C}_{/\mathcal{C}} \twoheadrightarrow \mathcal{C}$$

for objects C in C.

Preliminaries and notation (Un)Straightening

Definition

Let $(\cdot)^{\simeq}$: $\operatorname{Cat}_{\infty} \to S$ be the functor assigning to each ∞ -category its core, i.e. \mathcal{C}^{\simeq} is the largest ∞ -groupoid contained in \mathcal{C} . Given a cartesian fibration $p: \mathcal{E} \to \mathcal{C}$, we obtain a presheaf

 $\mathcal{C}^{op} \xrightarrow{\operatorname{St}(p)} \operatorname{Cat}_{\infty} \xrightarrow{(\cdot)^{\simeq}} \mathcal{S}$

whose unstraightening we denote by $p^{\times} : \mathcal{E}^{\times} \to \mathcal{C}$ and call the core of p.

Preliminaries and notation Basic examples revisited Let C be an ∞ -category. - The representable

 $s: (\operatorname{Cat}_{\infty})_{/\mathcal{C}} \twoheadrightarrow \operatorname{Cat}_{\infty}$

is the Unstraightening of the representable preasheaf

$$\operatorname{Cat}_{\infty}(\underline{\ },\mathcal{C}) = \operatorname{Fun}(\underline{\ },\mathcal{C})^{\simeq} \colon \operatorname{Cat}_{\infty}^{op} \to \mathcal{S}$$

Similarly, the forgetful functor

$$s: \mathcal{S}_{/\mathcal{C}} \twoheadrightarrow \mathcal{S}$$

is the unstraightening of the restriction

 $\operatorname{Cat}_{\infty}(\underline{\ },\mathcal{C})\colon \mathcal{S}^{op}\to \mathcal{S}.$

More generally ...

Let $\mathcal C$ be an ∞ -category.

- The Unstraightening of the naive indexing

Fun($_, \mathcal{C}$): $\overline{\mathcal{S}^{op}} \to \operatorname{Cat}_{\infty}$

of \mathcal{C} , denoted in type theoretic fashion by

 $\sum_{\mathcal{D}:\mathcal{S}}\operatorname{Fun}(\mathcal{D},\mathcal{C})\twoheadrightarrow\mathcal{S}$

is the ∞ -category of families of \mathcal{C} . In the same way,

 $\mathsf{Fun}(_,\mathcal{C})\colon \mathrm{Cat}_{\infty}^{op} \to \mathrm{Cat}_{\infty}$

yields the Unstraightening

 $\sum_{\mathcal{D}:\operatorname{Cat}_{\infty}}\operatorname{Fun}(\mathcal{D},\mathcal{C})\twoheadrightarrow\operatorname{Cat}_{\infty}.$

Let $\mathcal C$ be an ∞ -category.

- By construction, the core

 $\left(\sum_{\mathcal{D}:Cat} \operatorname{Fun}(\mathcal{D},\mathcal{C})
ight)^{ imes} = (\operatorname{Cat}_{\infty})_{/\mathcal{C}}$

is representable.

Let $\mathcal C$ be an ∞ -category.

- Whenever C has pullbacks, the canonical indexing $C_{/}$ of C over itself unstraightens to the target fibration

 $t \colon \operatorname{Fun}(\Delta^1, \mathcal{C}) \twoheadrightarrow \mathcal{C}$

This fibration will therefore be called the canonical fibration over C.

Let $\mathcal C$ be an ∞ -category.

 Change of base of an indexed ∞-category I: C^{op} → Cat_∞ along a functor F: D → C unstraightens to the pullback of fibrations

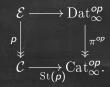
$$\begin{array}{ccc}
\mathsf{Un}(F^*\mathcal{I}) \longrightarrow \mathsf{Un}(\mathcal{I}) \\
\downarrow & \sqcup & \downarrow \\
\mathfrak{D} & & \downarrow \\
\mathfrak{D} & & \mathcal{C}.
\end{array}$$

Up to equivalence, every cartesian fibration $p: \mathcal{E} \twoheadrightarrow \mathcal{C}$ is the change of base of the universal cartesian fibration

 $\pi^{op} \colon \operatorname{Dat}_{\infty}^{op} \twoheadrightarrow \operatorname{Cat}_{\infty}^{op}$

along its straightening $\operatorname{St}(p)^{op} \colon \mathcal{C} \to \operatorname{Cat}_{\infty}^{op}$.

Let $p: \mathcal{E} \twoheadrightarrow \mathcal{C}$ be a cartesian fibration. Then we obtain a homotopy cartesian square of the form



 Similarly, up to equivalence, every right fibration is the change of base of the universal right fibration S^{op} → S^{op} along its straightening. What is a "comprehension scheme" anyway?

In set theory, we have the

Axiom scheme of restricted Comprehension:

For every set X and every class $S=\{x\mid \phi(x)\},$ the class $X\cap S=\{x\in X\mid \phi(x)\}$

is a set.

What is a "comprehension scheme" anyway?

Generally, given

- a background theory (some form of "meta-mathematics"),
- therein a model M formalizing some fragment of that mathematics,
- some logical structure S over M defined by external meta-mathematical means,

we say that M satisfies the comprehension scheme associated to S if the structure S applied to any mathematical object M in M can be internalized in M.

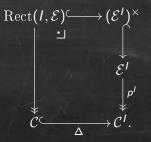
A short dictionary of comprehension

| Mathematics: | Set Theory | Higher Category Theory |
|--|---|--|
| Met a- mathematics: | The naive set theory of proper classes | $(\infty,1)$ -Category Theory over the ∞ -topos ${\cal S}$ of spaces |
| A model of a fragment of mathematics: | A set theoretic universe V | An indexed $(\infty, 1)$ -category $\mathcal{E} \colon \mathcal{C}^{op} 	o \operatorname{Cat}_{\infty}$ |
| A mathematical object: | A set X in V | A diagram $X\colon I	o \mathcal{E}$ over \mathcal{C} |
| Some external structure: | A class S | A functor of $(\infty,1)$ -categories ${\cal G}\colon {\it I}	o {\it J}$ |
| Some induced structure over a mathematical ob- ject: | $S \cap X$ | The presheaf $G^* \downarrow X$ of <i>J</i> -shaped diagrams in \mathcal{E} ex- tending <i>X</i> in \mathcal{E} over \mathcal{C} |
| Meaning of Comprehen- sion: | V has S -comprehension if $S \cap X$ is small for all $X \in V$ | \mathcal{E} has G -comprehension if the presheaf $G^* \downarrow X$ is rep- resentable for all I -diagrams X in \mathcal{E} . |

For the rest of the talk, fix an ∞ -category \mathcal{C} .

Definition

Let $p: \mathcal{E} \to \mathcal{C}$ be a cartesian fibration. For a simplicial set $I \in S$, let $\operatorname{Rect}(I, \mathcal{E})$ be given by the pullback



Note: $\operatorname{Rect}(\Delta^0, \mathcal{E}) = \mathcal{E}^{\times}$.

Proposition

Let $\mathcal{I} \in \mathrm{IC}(\mathcal{C})$. Then for every simplicial set I, the straightening of the right fibration $\mathrm{Rect}(I, \mathrm{Un}(\mathcal{I})) \twoheadrightarrow \mathcal{C}$ is equivalent to the composition

$$\mathcal{C}^{op} \xrightarrow{\mathcal{I}} \operatorname{Cat}_{\infty} \xrightarrow{(\cdot)'} \operatorname{Cat}_{\infty} \xrightarrow{(\cdot)^{\simeq}} \mathcal{S}$$

Definition

Let $G: I \to J$ be a map between simplicial sets. Say a cartesian fibration $p: \mathcal{E} \to \mathcal{C}$ has *G*-comprehension if the restriction $G^*: \operatorname{Rect}(J, \mathcal{E}) \to \operatorname{Rect}(I, \mathcal{E})$ has a right adjoint.

Given a cartesian fibration $p: \mathcal{E} \to \mathcal{C}$, a functor $G: I \to J$ and a rectangular diagram $X \in \text{Rect}(J, \mathcal{E})$, consider the comma ∞ -category

and the composition

 $(G^* \downarrow X) \rightarrow \mathcal{C}_{/p(X)}.$

Lemma

Let $G: I \to J$ be a monomorphism of simplicial sets. Then a cartesian fibration $p: \mathcal{E} \to \mathcal{C}$ has G-comprehension if and only if for every diagram $X \in \text{Rect}(I, \mathcal{E})$ the presheaf $G^* \downarrow X$ of vertical J-structures extending X horizontally is representable over $C_{/p(X)}$.

Remark

G-comprehension for epimorphisms *G* can be interpreted in terms of definability of subfibrations.

General strategy: show that the total ∞ -categories $G^* \downarrow X$ have a terminal object.

Example

If $G: I \to J$ is a weak categorical equivalence and $p: \mathcal{E} \twoheadrightarrow \mathcal{C}$ is any cartesian fibration, then the restriction

 $G^* \colon \operatorname{Rect}(J, \mathcal{E}) \to \operatorname{Rect}(I, \mathcal{E})$

is a categorical equivalence as well. In particular, the fibration p satisfies G-comprehension in a trivial way.

Definition

Let $p: \mathcal{E} \twoheadrightarrow \mathcal{C}$ be a cartesian fibration.

- 1. Say p is small if it has $(\emptyset \to \Delta^0)$ -comprehension. That is if and only if the core \mathcal{E}^{\times} has a terminal object. Or in other words, if and only if the right fibration p^{\times} is representable.
- 2. Say p is locally small if it has δ^1 -comprehension, where $\delta^1: \partial \Delta^1 \to \Delta^1$ is the boundary inclusion. That is if and only if for any two points $t_1, t_2 \in \mathcal{E}(C)$, the right fibration

 $(\delta^1)^* \downarrow (t_1, t_2) \twoheadrightarrow \mathcal{C}_{/C}$

is representable.

Example A representable right fibration

 $\mathcal{C}_{/\mathcal{C}} \twoheadrightarrow \mathcal{C}$

is locally small if and only if the diagonal

 $\Delta \colon \mathcal{C}_{/\mathcal{C}} \to \mathcal{C}_{/\mathcal{C}} \times_{\mathcal{C}} \mathcal{C}_{/\mathcal{C}}$

has a right adjoint.

Thus, all representable fibrations over C are locally small if and only if the ∞ -category C has all equalizers.

Example

Let C be a potentially large ∞ -category. Then C is a small (resp. locally small) ∞ -category if and only if the fibration

 $\sum_{\mathcal{D}:\operatorname{Cat}_{\infty}}\operatorname{Fun}(\mathcal{D},\mathcal{C})\twoheadrightarrow\operatorname{Cat}_{\infty}$

of families in C is small (resp. locally small).

Example The terminal map

 $\mathcal{C} \twoheadrightarrow \Delta^0$

is a cartesian fibration, its cartesian edges are exactly the equivalences in C. For any simplicial set *I*, we obtain an equivalence

 $\operatorname{Rect}(I,\mathcal{C})\simeq\operatorname{Fun}(I,\mathcal{C})^{\simeq}.$

The fibration $\mathcal{C} \twoheadrightarrow \Delta^0$ is small if and only if the core \mathcal{C}^{\simeq} is contractible. It is locally small if and only if all hom-spaces of \mathcal{C} are contractible.

Proposition Suppose C has pullbacks. Then the canonical fibration $t: \operatorname{Fun}(\Delta^1, \mathcal{C}) \twoheadrightarrow \mathcal{C}$ is locally small if and only if \mathcal{C} is locally cartesian closed.

Recall that an $\infty\text{-}\mathsf{category}\ \mathcal{C}$ is locally cartesian closed if and only if the presheaf

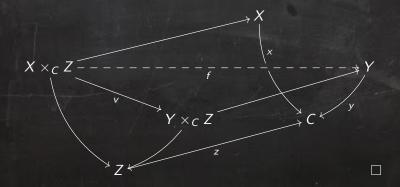
 $\mathcal{C}_{/C}(x \times_{C} _, y) \colon (\mathcal{C}_{/C})^{op} \to \mathcal{S}$

is representable for every pair $x, y \in C_{/C}$.

Proof.

We have to show that the right fibrations $\operatorname{Un}(\mathcal{C}_{/C}(x \times_C _, y))$ and $(\delta^1)^* \downarrow (x, y) \twoheadrightarrow \mathcal{C}_{/C}$ are equivalent. We can do so by using that the class of squares which are vertical up to equivalence and the class of cartesian squares yield a

factorization system on $\operatorname{Fun}(\Delta^1, \mathcal{C})$.



$(\infty, 1)$ -Comprehension Closure properties

Consider the class

 $\operatorname{Comp}_{p} := \{ G \colon I \to J \mid p \text{ satisfies } G \text{-comprehension} \}.$

Lemma Let $p: \mathcal{E} \to \mathcal{C}$ be a cartesian fibration.

- The class Comp_p contains all weak categorical equivalences. It is closed under composition and under pushouts along monomorphisms.
- 2. The class of monomorphisms in Comp_p is closed under compositions and arbitrary pushouts.
- If C has pullbacks, then the class of monomorphisms in Comp_p furthermore has the right cancellation property.

Definition

Following ¹, we say that a cartesian fibration $p \colon \mathcal{E} \twoheadrightarrow \mathcal{C}$ satisfies

- definability of invertibility (for arrows) if it has inv-comprehension, where inv: $\Delta^1 \rightarrow I \Delta^1$ is the embedding of Δ^1 into the free groupoid generated by it.
- definability of equivalence (of parallel morphisms) if it has ∇_1 -comprehension, where the map $\nabla_1 \colon (\Delta^1 \cup_{\partial \Delta^1} \Delta^1) \to \Delta^1$ identifies the two parallel non- degenerate arrows.
- definability of equivalence of parallel *n*-cells if it has ∇_n -comprehension, where the map ∇_n : $(\Delta^n \cup_{\partial\Delta^n} \Delta^n) \to \Delta^n$ is the codiagonal identifying the two parallel non-degenerate *n*-cells.

¹Johnstone - Sketches of an Elephant, B1.3.15

Proposition

Let $p: \mathcal{E} \twoheadrightarrow \mathcal{C}$ be a cartesian fibration.

- Definability of equivalence of parallel n-cells implies δ^{n+1} -comprehension.
- Suppose C has all equalizers.
 - δⁿ-comprehension implies definability of equivalence of parallel n-cells.
 - If p is locally small, it has δ^n -comprehension for all $n \ge 1$.
 - If p is locally small, it has definability of invertibility.

Corollary

A cartesian fibration $p: \mathcal{E} \rightarrow \mathcal{C}$ is small and locally small if and only if it has j-comprehension for every monomorphism j between finite simplicial sets.

Internal $(\infty, 1)$ -categories

In the following, let ${\mathcal C}$ be a fixed left exact $\infty\text{-category}$ and let

 $s\mathcal{C} := \operatorname{Fun}(N(\Delta)^{op}, \mathcal{C})$

be the ∞ -category of simplicial objects in \mathcal{C} .

Definition A Segal object in C is a simplicial object $X \in sC$ such that its associated Segal maps

 $\xi_n\colon X_n\to X_1\times_{X_0}\cdots\times_{X_0}X_1$

are equivalences in C. A Segal object X in C is complete if the degeneracy

 $s_0: X_0 \to \operatorname{Equiv}(X)$

is an equivalence in \mathcal{C} .

We obtain full ∞ -subcategories $CS(\mathcal{C}) \subseteq S(\mathcal{C}) \subseteq s\mathcal{C}$ of Segal objects and complete Segal objects in \mathcal{C} , respectively.

Internal $(\infty, 1)$ -categories

Definition A Segal groupoid in C is a Segal object X in C such that the natural map $\operatorname{Equiv}(X) \to X_1$ is an equivalence in C. The full ∞ -subcategory of Segal groupoids in $\operatorname{S}(C)$ is denoted by $\operatorname{SGpd}(C)$.

The pushfoward of the Yoneda embedding

 $y_*: s\mathcal{C} o s\hat{\mathcal{C}}$

and the equivalence $\hat{s\mathcal{C}}\simeq \mathrm{Fun}(\mathcal{C}^{op},s\mathcal{S})$ yield a functor of the form

 $\operatorname{CS}(\mathcal{C}) \xrightarrow{y_*} \operatorname{Fun}(\mathcal{C}^{op}, \mathcal{CS}(\mathcal{S})) \xrightarrow{(p_h)_*} \operatorname{Fun}(\mathcal{C}^{op}, \operatorname{Cat}_{\infty})$

which we call the externalization functor associated to $\ensuremath{\mathcal{C}}$ and which we denote by

Ext: $CS(\mathcal{C}) \to IC(\mathcal{C})$.

Remark

For a complete Segal object X in C, think

 $\operatorname{Ext}(X) \sim \mathcal{C}(_, X(\cdot)).$

- If C is a 1-category, then CS(C) is the 1-category of internal categories in C and $Ext: CS(C) \rightarrow IC(C)$ is exactly the 1-categorical externalization studied in ² and ³.
- A Segal object X in C is a Segal groupoid if and only if its externalization is an indexed ∞-groupoid.
- The cartesian fibrations corresponding to an externalization $\operatorname{Ext}(X) \colon \mathcal{C}^{op} \to \operatorname{Cat}_{\infty}$ of a complete Segal object X in C are exactly the "representable" Segal cartesian fibrations $\mathcal{C}_{/X}$ in ⁴.

²Johnstone - Sketches of an Elephant, B2.3

Question: Given a cartesian fibration $p: \mathcal{E} \to \mathcal{C}$, how can we check whether there is a complete Segal object X such that $p \simeq \operatorname{Ext}(X)$? Theorem

Let $p: \mathcal{E} \twoheadrightarrow \mathcal{C}$ be a cartesian fibration and suppose \mathcal{C} has pullbacks.

- 1. The fibration p is both small and locally small if and only if there is a complete Segal object X in C such that Ext(X) is equivalent to \mathcal{E} over C.
- 2. If p is a right fibration, then p is small (and hence the unstraightening of a representable presheaf) if and only if there is a complete Segal groupoid X in C such that Ext(X) is equivalent to \mathcal{E} over C.

Corollary

Suppose C has pullbacks and let $ic(C) \subset IC(C)$ be the full ∞ -subcategory of small and locally small indexed ∞ -categories over C. Then the externalization construction

Ext: $CS(\mathcal{C}) \to ic(\mathcal{C})$

is an equivalence of ∞ -categories.

Corollary

Suppose C has pullbacks. Then a cartesian fibration $p: \mathcal{E} \to C$ has G-comprehension for all finite monomorphisms $G: I \to J$ if and only if it is the externalization of a complete Segal object X in C.

Internal $(\infty, 1)$ -categories The universal fibrations

Recall the universal cocartesian fibration $\pi: \operatorname{Dat}_{\infty} \twoheadrightarrow \operatorname{Cat}_{\infty}$ and the universal left fibration $\mathcal{S}_* \twoheadrightarrow \mathcal{S}$.

Proposition

The universal cartesian fibration π^{op} : $\operatorname{Dat}_{\infty}^{op} \twoheadrightarrow \operatorname{Cat}_{\infty}^{op}$ has $(\emptyset \to I)$ -comprehension for every simplicial set I. Given a simplicial set I, the right fibration

 $\operatorname{Rect}(I, \operatorname{Dat}_{\infty}^{op}) \twoheadrightarrow \operatorname{Cat}_{\infty}^{op}$

is represented by a fibrant replacement of I^{op} in the Joyal model structure.

Internal $(\infty, 1)$ -categories The universal fibrations

In particular, for every $n \ge 0$ we have an equivalence

 $\operatorname{Rect}(\Delta^n, \operatorname{Dat}_{\infty}^{op}) \simeq (\operatorname{Cat}_{\infty}^{op})_{/\Delta^n}). \tag{1}$

Corollary *The universal cartesian fibration is small and locally small.* One can in fact show that the equivalences in (1) imply that

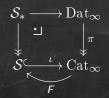
 $\pi^{op} \colon \operatorname{Dat}_{\infty}^{op} \twoheadrightarrow \operatorname{Cat}_{\infty}^{op}$

is the externalization of the complete Segal object $\Delta^{ullet}\in\operatorname{Cat}_{\infty}^{op}$.

Lemma

Let $p: \mathcal{E} \to \mathcal{C}$ be a cartesian fibration and suppose \mathcal{C}, \mathcal{D} are ∞ -category with pullbacks. If $F: \mathcal{D} \to \mathcal{C}$ is a functor with a right adjoint, then $\operatorname{Comp}_{F^*p} \subseteq \operatorname{Comp}_p$.

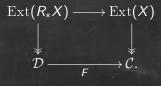
Example



The inclusion $S \hookrightarrow \operatorname{Cat}_{\infty}$ has a left adjoint $F : \operatorname{Cat}_{\infty} \to S$ which assigns to a ∞ -category the free ∞ -groupoid generated by it. It follows that the universal right fibration satisfies all comprehension schemes satisfied by the universal cartesian fibration.

Lemma

Let $F: \mathcal{D} \to \mathcal{C}$ be a functor between ∞ -categories with pullbacks. Suppose it has a right adjoint R. Then for every complete Segal object X in C, there is a homotopy cartesian square of the form



Corollary

The universal right fibration $S_*^{op} \twoheadrightarrow S^{op}$ is the externalization of the complete Segal object $F\Delta^{\bullet}$ in S.

This recovers the fact that the universal right fibration is represented by the terminal object in S (Lurie - Higher Topos Theory, 3.3.2).

Applied to the universal cartesian fibration, the Lemma yields a tool to compute the straightening of indexed ∞ -categories with a left adjoint.

In fact, we have the following characterization whenever ${\cal C}$ is complete.

Proposition

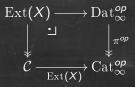
Suppose C is complete. Then a C-indexed ∞ -category $\mathcal{I}: C^{op} \to \operatorname{Cat}_{\infty}$ is equivalent to the externalization of a complete Segal object X in C if and only if it has a left adjoint.

In particular, if C is a presentable ∞ -category, a cartesian fibration over C is the externalization of a complete Segal object if and only if its Straightening preserves limits.

For right fibrations this is exactly the basic fact that limit preserving presheaves are representable.

Remark

If C is complete, it follows that every complete Segal object X in C yields a pullback square of the form



where the bottom map has a right adjoint. Thus, it follows that all comprehension schemes satisfied by the universal cartesian fibration are transferred to all internal ∞ -categories in C whenever C is complete.

Definition Suppose C has pullbacks. A (full) comprehension ∞ -category of C is a (full) subfibration of the canonical fibration $t: \operatorname{Fun}(\Delta^1, C) \twoheadrightarrow C$.

Example

Suppose C is a locally cartesian closed ∞ -category. For every map $q: E \to B$ in C we can associate the full comprehension ∞ -category

 $F_q \subseteq \operatorname{Fun}(\Delta^1, \mathcal{C})$

where $F_q(C) \subseteq C_{/C}$ consists of those maps with codomain C which arise as pullback of q along some map $C \to B$. In the case that C is a presentable ∞ -category, Gepner and Kock have characterized univalence of maps q in C in terms of a sheaf property of the indexed ∞ -category F_q .⁵

 5 Gepner, Kock - Univalence in Locally Cartesian Closed ∞ -Categories, Proposition 3.8

Corollary

Suppose C is locally cartesian closed and complete and q is a map in C. Then the following are equivalent.

- q is univalent.
- the internal nerve $\mathcal{N}(q)$ is a complete Segal object in $\mathcal{C}.$

- the indexed ∞ -category $F_q: \mathcal{C}^{op} \to \operatorname{Cat}_{\infty}$ has a left adjoint. In particular, the functor $F_q: \mathcal{C}^{op} \to \operatorname{Cat}_{\infty}$ preserves limits whenever q is univalent.

Proof.

By the proposition above, using $\operatorname{Ext}(\mathcal{N}(q))\simeq F_q$ (see Rasekh - Complete Segal objects).

Proposition

Suppose C is locally cartesian closed. A full and replete comprehension ∞ -category $J \subseteq \operatorname{Fun}(\Delta^1, C)$ is small if and only if it is the externalization $\operatorname{Ext}(\mathcal{N}(q))$ for some univalent map $q \in C$. That is, if and only if there is a univalent map $q \in C$ such that $J \simeq F_q$. In either case, the map q is a terminal object in J^{\times} .

In other words: a map q in C is univalent if and only if it is terminal in $(F_q)^{\times}$.

That means, if and only if it is a (-1)-truncated object in $\operatorname{Fun}(\Delta^1, \mathcal{C})^{\times}$: for all $f \in \operatorname{Fun}(\Delta^1, \mathcal{C})$, the mapping space $F_q^{\times}(f, q)$ is (-1)-truncated.

$$\operatorname{Fun}(\Delta^1,\mathcal{C})^{ imes}(f,q)\simeq egin{cases} {\mathcal F}_q^{ imes}(f,q)\simeq * & ext{if } f\in {\mathcal F}_q, \ \emptyset & ext{otherwise}. \end{cases}$$

This motivates to define an object $x \in \mathcal{E}$ in a general cartesian fibration $\mathcal{E} \twoheadrightarrow \mathcal{C}$ to be univalent if it is (-1)-truncated in the core \mathcal{E}^{\times} .

Accordingly, one can define the univalent completion of an object $x \in \mathcal{E}$ to be its (-1)-truncation in \mathcal{E}^{\times} whenever it exists.

Thank you.