

# §3 The additivity theorem

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Let  $\mathcal{C}$  be an exact category.

Recall Waldhausen's  $S$ -dot construction which at  $SE[\mathcal{C}]$  has objects exact sequences

$$E: A_{01} \rightarrow A_{02} \rightarrow A_{12}$$

and the face maps

$$d_i: SE[\mathcal{C}] \rightarrow SE[\mathcal{C}] = \mathcal{C}$$

are given by

$$d_0(E) = A_{12}, \quad d_1(E) = A_{02}, \quad d_2(E) = A_{01}$$

Now  $SE[\mathcal{C}]$  inherits an exact structure where

$$E' \rightarrow E \rightarrow E''$$

in  $SE[\mathcal{C}]$  is exact if

$$d_i E' \rightarrow d_i E \rightarrow d_i E''$$

is exact in  $\mathcal{C}$  for  $i=0,1,2$ .

We have

$$\delta: SE[\mathcal{C}] \rightarrow \mathcal{C} \times \mathcal{C}$$

$$E \longmapsto (d_2(E), d_0(E))$$

is exact.

Additivity theorem:  $\delta$  induces a homotopy equivalence

$$K(SE[\mathcal{C}]) \xrightarrow{\sim} K(\mathcal{C}) \times K(\mathcal{C})$$

Notation: For  $m, n \in \mathbb{N}$  we write

$$[m][n] := [m] \amalg [n] = [m+n+1]$$

with inclusions

$$i_1: [m] \longrightarrow [m][n]$$

$$j \longmapsto j$$

$$i_2: [n] \longrightarrow [m][n]$$

$$j \longmapsto m+1+j$$

and projections

$$p_1: [m][n] \longrightarrow [m]$$

$$j \longmapsto \begin{cases} j & , j \in [m] \\ m \in [m], j \in [n] \end{cases}$$

$$p_2: [m][n] \longrightarrow [n]$$

$$j \longmapsto \begin{cases} j & , j \in [n] \\ 0 \in [n], j \in [m] \end{cases}$$

Note  $p_1 \circ i_1 \neq \text{id}$ ,  $p_2 \circ i_2 \neq \text{id}$ .

For  $\theta: [n] \rightarrow [1]$  we define

$(\theta_1, \dots, \theta_n, \dots)$

$$\theta_L: [m][n] \longrightarrow [m][n]$$

$$j \longmapsto \begin{cases} m \in [m] & , j \in [n] \text{ and } \theta(j) = 0 \\ j & , \text{ otherwise} \end{cases}$$

Now, for  $X \in \text{Set}$  we have an induced map

$$X[m][n] \times \Delta^1[n] \xrightarrow{h_L} X[m][n]$$

$$(y, \theta) \longmapsto \theta_L^*(y)$$

Then

$$h_L(y, 0) = (i_1 \circ p_1)^*(y)$$

$$h_L(y, 1) = y \quad \forall y$$

Hence  $h_L$  is a homotopy from

$$X[m][1] \xrightarrow{i_1^*} X[m] \xrightarrow{p_1^*} X[m][1]$$

to the identity

is simplicial

simplicial for  $m$ -fixed

Lemma 9.2

$i_1^*: X[m][c] \rightarrow X[m]$  and  $i_2^*: X[c][n] \rightarrow X[n]$  induces a homotopy equivalence on geometric realization with homotopy inverses

$$|p_1^*| \quad \text{and} \quad |p_2^*|$$

respectively.

Now, let  $P[m,n]$  be the bisimplicial set defined as the pullback

$$\begin{array}{ccc} P[m][n] & \xrightarrow{\hat{\delta}} & s\mathcal{C}[m][n] \times s\mathcal{B}[m] \\ \pi_1 \downarrow & \lrcorner & \downarrow i_1^* \times \text{id} \\ s(s\mathcal{C}[c])[m] & \xrightarrow{\delta} & s\mathcal{C}[m] \times s\mathcal{C}[n] \end{array}$$

Consider the following diagram

$$\begin{array}{ccc} (E, s) & & \\ \downarrow & & \\ (s, d_0 E) & & \\ & P[m][n] & \xrightarrow{\hat{\delta}} s\mathcal{C}[m][n] \times s\mathcal{C}[m] \\ & \searrow \pi_2 & \downarrow i_2^* \times \text{id} \\ & & s\mathcal{C}[n] \times s\mathcal{C}[m] \\ & & \nearrow (i_2^*(s), d_0(E)) \end{array}$$

$(E, s) \in s(s\mathcal{C}[c])[m] \times s\mathcal{C}[m][n] \text{ st. } d_2(E) = i_1^*(s)$

Note:  $\pi_2$  has a section

$$\sigma_2: s\mathcal{C}[n] \times s\mathcal{B}[m] \rightarrow P[m,n]$$

$$(A, B) \longmapsto (0 \rightarrow B \xrightarrow{\text{id}} B, \pi_2^*(A))$$

Indeed

$$\pi_2 \circ \sigma_2 \simeq \text{id}$$

and

$$P[-, n] \xrightarrow{\pi_2} s\mathcal{C}[n] \times s\mathcal{C}[-] \xrightarrow{\sigma_2} P[-, n]$$

is homotopic to the identity (lemma 9.5)

$$\rightsquigarrow |\pi_2|: |P[-, n]| \rightarrow s\mathcal{C}[n] \times |s\mathcal{C}[-]| \text{ homotopy eq.}$$

By realization lemma:

$$|\pi_2|: |PC[-, -]| \rightarrow |s\mathcal{C}[-]| \times |s\mathcal{C}[-]|$$

is a homotopy equivalence

Lem. | 9.3 & 9.4 |

$$|\pi_1|: |PC[-, -]| \rightarrow |s(\mathcal{S}\mathcal{C}[2])[-]|$$

is a homotopy equivalence.

Pf. For each  $m$  we have a pullback

$$\begin{array}{ccc}
 s(\mathcal{S}\mathcal{C}[2])[m] & \xrightarrow{\hat{\delta}} & s\mathcal{C}[m][2] \times s\mathcal{C}[m] \\
 \pi_1 \downarrow & & \downarrow i_1^* \times \text{id} \\
 s(\mathcal{S}\mathcal{C}[2])[m] & \xrightarrow{\quad} & s\mathcal{C}[m] \times s\mathcal{C}[m]
 \end{array}$$

$\exists! \sigma_1$  (yellow arrow from  $s(\mathcal{S}\mathcal{C}[2])[m]$  to  $s\mathcal{C}[m][2] \times s\mathcal{C}[m]$ )  
 $(P_1^* \times \text{id}) \circ \hat{\delta}$  (yellow arrow from  $s\mathcal{C}[m][2] \times s\mathcal{C}[m]$  to  $s(\mathcal{S}\mathcal{C}[2])[m]$ )  
 $P_1^* \times \text{id}$  (yellow arrow from  $s\mathcal{C}[m] \times s\mathcal{C}[m]$  to  $s(\mathcal{S}\mathcal{C}[2])[m]$ )

Have section  $\sigma_1$

$$\pi_1 \circ \sigma_1 = \text{id}$$

and

$$\hat{\delta} \circ \sigma_1 \circ \pi_1 = (P_1^* \times \text{id}) \circ \hat{\delta} \circ \pi_1$$

$$= (P_1^* \times \text{id}) \circ (i_1^* \times \text{id}) \circ \hat{\delta}$$

$$|\hat{\delta}| \circ |\sigma_1| \circ |\pi_1| = |(P_1^* \times \text{id})| \circ |\hat{\delta}| \circ |\pi_1|$$

$$= |(P_1^* \times \text{id})| \circ |(i_1^* \times \text{id})| \circ |\hat{\delta}|$$

$$\simeq |\hat{\delta}|$$

$$\Rightarrow |\sigma_1| \circ |\pi_1| \simeq \text{id}$$

so

$$|\pi_1|: |PC[m, -]| \rightarrow |s(\mathcal{S}\mathcal{C}[2])[m]|$$

homotopy equivalence.

$$|\pi_1|: |PC[-, -]| \xrightarrow{\sim} |s(\mathcal{S}\mathcal{C}[2])[-]|$$

Cor.  $\delta$  induces a Pontryagin equivalence

$$\begin{aligned} K(\mathbb{S}^1) &\xrightarrow{\nu} K(\mathbb{R}) \times K(\mathbb{R}) \\ (A \rightarrow B \rightarrow C) &\mapsto (A, C) \end{aligned}$$