Jean Goubault-Larrecq

ENS Cachan

Georgia Southern U. — Jan. 21, 2014

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Directed algebraic topology

Outline

1 Directed algebraic topology

- Space, plus time
- Concurrent processes

2 Prestreams

- Prestreams
- Quotients, colimits, glueing
- Geometric realization

3 Streams

The issue with prestreams

- Streams
- Stream products
- Geometric realization

4 Conclusion

Directed algebraic topology

└─Space, plus time

What is this?



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Directed algebraic topology

└─Space, plus time

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Directed algebraic topology

—Space, plus time

What is this?



Directed algebraic topology

└─ Space, plus time

Directed Algebraic Topology

- Originates (mostly) from computer science questions on concurrent processes [E. Goubault 95]
- ... interpreted geometrically [E. Dijkstra 68]
- ... also in general relativity (R. Penrose, light cones)

Object of study:

Topological space + notion of **time** (possibly cyclic)

Directed algebraic topology

Concurrent processes

PV Processes

Locks ensure access to resource by single process:

- Pa blocks until lock a taken
- Va releases lock a



Process 1: Pa; Pb; Vb; Va

Directed algebraic topology

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■ P, V ⇒ forbidden rectangles

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└─ Concurrent processes

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Directed algebraic topology

└─ Concurrent processes

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- Directed algebraic topology
 - Concurrent processes

$Dihomotopy \neq Homotopy$

Definition

A **di**homotopy $h: [0,1]^2 \rightarrow X$ from f to g:

h continuous

•
$$h(0, _{-}) = f$$
, $h(1, _{-}) = g$

■ For every t, h(t, _) dipath

Note: deformations $h(_, u)$ *not* required to preserve order.



- Directed algebraic topology
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Directed algebraic topology

Concurrent processes

What is a geometric model of time+space?

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Ordered topological spaces...

Directed algebraic topology

Concurrent processes

What is a geometric model of time+space?

Ordered topological spaces...do not handle cycles

 $P_a.V_a|P_a.V_a \quad P_a.P_b.V_b.V_a|P_b.P_a.V_a.V_b \quad P_a.(V_a.P_a)^*|P_a.V_a$



Directed algebraic topology

Concurrent processes

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 Local pospaces (manifold-like) [Fajstrup, Goubault, Raussen 08] ... do not admit colimits [Haucourt 04]

Bad: cannot define meaningful geometric realization functor

Directed algebraic topology

Concurrent processes

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Better:

d-spaces [Grandis 09]

streams [Krishnan 08]

- Prestreams

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- Prestreams

Prestreams

Prestreams

A prestream is a topological presheaf of preorders:

Definition (Category **Prestr** of prestreams)

A prestream $\mathfrak{X} =$ topological space X

+ precirculation $(\sqsubseteq_U)_{U \in \mathcal{O}(X)}$:

- \sqsubseteq_U preorder on U
- monotonicity: $U \subseteq V, x \sqsubseteq_U y \Rightarrow x \sqsubseteq_V y$

- Prestreams

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Prestream morphisms $f: (X, (\sqsubseteq_U)_{U \in \mathcal{O}(X)}) \to (Y, (\preceq_V)_{V \in \mathcal{O}(Y)})$:

continuous

• locally monotonic: for each open V of Y,

$$x \sqsubseteq_{f^{-1}(V)} y \Rightarrow f(x) \preceq_V f(y)$$

Prestreams

Prestreams

Paradigmatic examples 1

• Preordered spaces: $\sqsubseteq_U = \leq_{|U}$ for each U

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Prestreams

Prestreams

Paradigmatic examples 1

• Preordered spaces: $\sqsubseteq_U = \leq_{|U}$ for each U

• $\overrightarrow{\mathbb{R}}$: $t \sqsubseteq_U^{\mathbb{R}} t'$ iff whole interval $[t, t'] \subseteq U$.



Here, $1 \sqsubseteq_U 2$, but $2 \not\sqsubseteq_U 4.6$ "Islands of order"

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Prestreams

Prestreams

Paradigmatic examples 2: the directed circle

Definition $\vec{S}^1 = \vec{\mathbb{R}} / \mathbb{Z}$

- Quotient by $x \equiv y$ iff $x y \in \mathbb{Z}$
- Prestr is complete and cocomplete, in particular has quotients (see next slide)



Prestreams

Quotients, colimits, glueing

Prestream quotients

Theorem

Let
$$\mathfrak{X} = (X, (\sqsubseteq_U)_{U \in \mathfrak{O}(X)}),$$

 \equiv equivalence relation on X.

There is a

quotient prestream \mathfrak{X} / \equiv :

$$\begin{array}{c|c} \chi & \chi \xrightarrow{f} \chi \\ \downarrow \\ q_{\equiv} \\ \psi \\ \chi / \equiv \\ \chi / \equiv \\ (if \ f \ compatible \ with \equiv) \end{array}$$

Proof. Build topological quotient X/\equiv , quotient map $q_{\equiv}(x) = [x]$, and precirculation:



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- Prestreams

Quotients, colimits, glueing

Colimits, glueing

Fact: coproducts $\coprod_{i \in I} \mathfrak{X}_i$ exist.

Ex: coproduct of three copies of \overrightarrow{S}^1 :



Theorem (Colimits)

Prestr is cocomplete (has all colimits).

Proof. (standard) Colimit of diagram ($X_i \xrightarrow{f_{ij}} X_j$)_{*i*,*j*}:

- Build big coproduct $\coprod_i \mathfrak{X}_i$
- Glue every $x_i \in \mathcal{X}_i$ with $f_{ij}(x_i) \in \mathcal{X}_j$, i.e. build quotient by smallest equivalence relation = such that $x_i \equiv f_{ij}(x_i)$

- Prestreams

Geometric realization

Cubical sets

Cubical sets will replace simplicial sets in our directed world.

Definition (Cubical set)

Collection of:

- sets *K_n* "*n*-dimensional cubes"
- forward ∂_i^+ and backward ∂_i^- face maps : $K_n \to K_{n-1}$
- degeneracies $s_i \colon K_{n-1} \to K_n$

satisfying:

$$\begin{array}{lll} \partial_i^{\alpha} \partial_j^{\beta} &=& \partial_{j-1}^{\beta} \partial_i^{\alpha} & (i < j) \\ s_i \partial_j^{\beta} &=& \partial_{j+1}^{\beta} s_i & (i \le j) \end{array} \quad \partial_i^{\alpha} s_j = \begin{cases} s_{j-1} \partial_i^{\alpha} & (i < j) \\ \mathrm{id} & (i = j) \\ s_j \partial_{i-1}^{\alpha} & (i > j) \end{cases}$$

Prestreams

Geometric realization

Geometric intuition



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Prestreams

Geometric realization

Geometric realization

Definition (Geometric realization functor **Geom**: **Cub** \rightarrow **Prestr**) **Geom**($(K_n)_n, (\partial_n^{\alpha})_{\alpha,n}, (s_n)_n$) = ($\coprod_n K_n \cdot [0, 1]^n$)/ \equiv where:



Prestreams

Geometric realization

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Prestreams

Geometric realization

All is well

Conversely, there is a *singular cube* functor **Sing**: **Prestr** \rightarrow **Cub**. **Sing**(\mathfrak{X}) = ((\mathcal{K}_n)_n, (∂_n^{α})_{α,n}, (s_n)_n) where:

•
$$K_n = \{ \text{prestream morphisms } \gamma : ([0, 1]^n, \leq) \rightarrow \mathfrak{X} \}$$

• $\partial_i^+ \gamma : (x_1, \cdots, x_n) \mapsto \gamma(x_1, \cdots, 1, \cdots, x_n)$
• $\partial_i^- \gamma : (x_1, \cdots, x_n) \mapsto \gamma(x_1, \cdots, 0, \cdots, x_n)$

$$\bullet s_i\gamma\colon (x_1,\cdots,x_n)\mapsto \gamma(x_1,\cdots,\hat{x}_i,\cdots,x_n)$$

Theorem

Geom is left adjoint to Sing

Streams

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The issue with prestreams

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4 Conclusion

Streams

The issue with prestreams

The issue with prestreams

Binary products in **Prestr** are *weird*.

Lemma

 $(X, (\sqsubseteq_U)_{U \in \mathcal{O}(X)}) \times (Y, (\preceq_V)_{V \in \mathcal{O}(Y)})$ is $X \times Y$ with precirculation: $(x, y) \leq_W (x', y')$ iff $x \sqsubseteq_{\pi_1[W]} x'$ and $y \preceq_{\pi_2[W]} y'$



Streams

- The issue with prestreams

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Streams

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Definition (One-step cosheafification)

For $\mathfrak{X} = (X, (\sqsubseteq_U)_{U \in \mathfrak{O}(X)})$, $Sh^1(\mathfrak{X}) = (X, (\widehat{\sqsubseteq}_U)_{U \in \mathfrak{O}(X)})$ where:

 $x \stackrel{\frown}{\sqsubseteq}_U y$ iff for every open cover $(U_i)_{i \in I}$ of U_{\cdots}



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Streams

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For $\mathfrak{X} = (X, (\sqsubseteq_U)_{U \in \mathfrak{O}(X)})$, $Sh^1(\mathfrak{X}) = (X, (\widehat{\sqsubseteq}_U)_{U \in \mathfrak{O}(X)})$ where:

 $x \stackrel{\frown}{\sqsubseteq}_U y$ iff for every open cover $(U_i)_{i \in I}$ of U_{\cdots}



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Note: $Sh^{1}(\mathcal{X})$ always finer than \mathcal{X} on X.

Definition (Stream)

 \mathfrak{X} stream iff $Sh^{1}(\mathfrak{X}) = \mathfrak{X}$

Defines a full subcategory Str of Prestr.

Streams

L_Streams

Paradigmatic examples

 Not preordered spaces in general, but their cosheafification OK (see next slide)



Streams

Streams

Cosheafification

Make a stream out of a prestream $\mathfrak{X}:$ Refine

$$\mathfrak{X} \to Sh^1(\mathfrak{X}) \to Sh^1(Sh^1(\mathfrak{X})) \to \cdots$$

Iterate Sh^1 transfinitely (!), \Rightarrow obtain $Sh^{\infty}(X)$, coarsest stream finer than \mathfrak{X} .

Definition

 $Sh^{\infty}(\mathcal{X})$ is the *cosheafification* of \mathcal{X} .

Yuck.

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Streams

LStreams

Str is nice (but complex?)

Theorem

Str *is cocomplete: has all colimits, and they are computed just as in* **Prestr**.

Good!

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Streams

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Str is nice (but complex?)

Theorem

Str is cocomplete: has all colimits, and they are computed just as in **Prestr**.

Good!

Theorem

Str is complete: has all limits...

which are cosheafifications of the corresponding limits in Prestr.

Yuck.

All this follows from: Sh^{∞} coreflects **Prestr** onto **Str**.

Streams

Stream products

Understanding stream products

Still, some limits can be made simpler:

Proposition

The product of two streams \mathfrak{X} , \mathfrak{Y} is $Sh^{1}(\mathfrak{X} \times \mathfrak{Y})$

I.e., take prestream product then *one-step* cosheafification (not Sh^{∞}).

In fact, binary products are particularly nice (see next slide).

(explaining substreams [equalizers] seems almost hopeless)

Streams

Stream products

Stream products



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Stream products

Stream products



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Stream products



L_Streams

Geometric realization

Geometric realization revisited

As with prestreams... only replace $[0,1]^n$ by $\overline{[0,1]}^n$

Definition (Geometric realization functor **Geom**: $Cub \rightarrow Str$)

 $\mathbf{Geom}((K_n)_n, (\partial_n^{\alpha})_{\alpha,n}, (s_n)_n) = (\coprod_n K_n \cdot \overbrace{[0,1]^n}^n) / \equiv \text{where:}$

$$\begin{array}{lll} (a,(x_1,\cdots,1,\cdots,x_n)) &\equiv & (\partial_i^+a,(x_1,\cdots,x_n)) \\ (a,(x_1,\cdots,0,\cdots,x_n)) &\equiv & (\partial_i^-a,(x_1,\cdots,x_n)) \\ (a,(x_1,\cdots,\hat{x}_i,\cdots,x_n)) &\equiv & (s_ia,(x_1,\cdots,x_{n+1})) \end{array}$$



Streams

Geometric realization

All is well

Conversely, there is a *singular cube* functor **Sing**: **Str** \rightarrow **Cub**. **Sing**(\mathfrak{X}) = ((\mathcal{K}_n)_n, (∂_n^{α})_{\alpha,n}, (s_n)_n) where: $\xrightarrow{\longrightarrow n}$

•
$$K_n = \{ \text{prestream morphisms } \gamma : [0,1] \rightarrow \mathfrak{X} \}$$

• $\partial_i^+ \gamma : (x_1, \cdots, x_n) \mapsto \gamma(x_1, \cdots, 1, \cdots, x_n)$
• $\partial_i^- \gamma : (x_1, \cdots, x_n) \mapsto \gamma(x_1, \cdots, 0, \cdots, x_n)$
• $s_i \gamma : (x_1, \cdots, x_n) \mapsto \gamma(x_1, \cdots, \hat{x}_i, \cdots, x_n)$

Theorem

Geom is left adjoint to Sing

Only the beginning of the theory... much remains to be done

- Conclusion

Outline

1 Directed algebraic topology

- Space, plus time
- Concurrent processes

2 Prestreams

- Prestreams
- Quotients, colimits, glueing
- Geometric realization

3 Streams

The issue with prestreams

- Streams
- Stream products
- Geometric realization

4 Conclusion

Conclusion

Conclusion

- Streams are a (the?) *right* model for space+(cyclic) **time**
- Other nice model: Grandis's d-spaces...

close to streams: adjunction [Haucourt 09] ... restricting to an equivalence \Rightarrow Haucourt streams

- Agenda: adapt whatever can be from (undirected) algebraic topology
 - Seems much harder than expected
 - E.g., van Kampen is hard [Goubault, Haucourt 07]
 - My own current itch (with E. Goubault, J. Dubut):

good theories of directed homology