

MATH 695.

11/7/2022

Symmetric monoidal category  $(\mathcal{C}, \otimes, 1)$

commutative, associative  
unital up to coherent natural  $\cong$ .

HW 1: Using associativity,

process

$$((x \cdot y) \cdot z) \cdot t$$

to

$$x \cdot (y \cdot (z \cdot t))$$

in two different ways. (e.g. you could

write down the corresponding coherence diagram.

or illustrated by  $((x \cdot y) \cdot z) \cdot t = (x \cdot (y \cdot z)) \cdot t$   
or  $((x \cdot y) \cdot z) \cdot t = (x \cdot y) \cdot (z \cdot t)$

$\cong$  sends equalities between words in different symbols in commutative monoids deduced from axioms diagrams  $\rightarrow$  do it two different ways.

Strong duality We say that an object  $X$  of a symmetric monoidal category is strongly dual to an object  $Y$  if there are morphisms  $\eta: 1 \rightarrow X \otimes Y$ ,  $\varepsilon: Y \otimes X \rightarrow 1$  such that we have commutative diagrams

$$\begin{array}{ccc}
 X \xrightarrow{\eta \otimes X} X \otimes Y \otimes X \xrightarrow{X \otimes \varepsilon} X & & Y \xrightarrow{Y \otimes \eta} Y \otimes X \otimes Y \xrightarrow{\varepsilon \otimes Y} Y \\
 \underbrace{\hspace{10em}}_{\text{Id}_X} & & \underbrace{\hspace{10em}}_{\text{Id}_Y}
 \end{array}$$

We observe that this mimics the triangle identities of an adjunction, so it is equivalent to  $? \otimes X$  being left (equivalently, right) adjoint to  $? \otimes Y$ .

A symmetric monoidal category is called closed if  $Z \otimes X$  has a right adjoint  $F(X, Y)$

$$\text{Hom}_Z(Z, F(X, Y)) \cong \text{Hom}_Z(Z \otimes X, Y)$$

Examples of closed symmetric monoidal categories:

$R\text{-Mod}$  ( $= R$ -modules for a commutative ring  $R$ )

$R\text{-Chain}$  (even  $kR\text{-Chain}$ ,  $DR\text{-Chain}$ )

Note:  $kR\text{-Chain}$ ,  $DR\text{-Chain}$  do not have limits or colimits  
(they do have products and coproduct)

Proposition: If  $\mathcal{C}$  is a closed symmetric monoidal category and an object  $Y$  is strongly dual to an object  $X$  then

$$Y \cong F(X, 1)$$

(converse false)

Proof:  $1 \otimes X$  has right adjoint  $F(X, ?)$  and also  $? \otimes Y$ .

Two right adjoints are isomorphic. In particular,

$$Y \cong 1 \otimes Y \cong F(X, 1). \quad \square$$

Why is the converse false? If  $Y$  is strongly dual to  $X$ ,  
 then  $X$  is strongly dual to  $Y$ .  $F(F(X, 1), 1) \cong X$ .  
 (that's not always the case, Example:  $\infty$ -dimensional vector space.)

Spanier - Whitehead duality:  $(S^m, X_+)$  = CW-pair (same CW-structure on  $S^m$ )

$C(X)[\mathbb{Z}]$  is strongly dual to  $C(S^m, S^m - X)$

in  $\mathbb{Z}$ -chain.

Corollary:  $H_k(X) \cong H^{m-k}(S^m, S^m - X)$ .

$H^k(X) \cong H_{m-k}(S^m, S^m - X)$ .

Poincaré  
duality.

How do we prove Spanier-Whitehead duality? It has nothing to do with chain complexes (other than the Eilenberg-Hilbert theorem). It is a statement about spaces. Could a finite CW-complex (= finitely many cells) have a strong dual in spaces? With respect to what operation? First idea:  $X$ , but we also have pairs or based spaces, and the  $X$ -product is not what we need here.

What we want is the  $\wedge$ -product ("smash-product"  
Frank Adams)

For based spaces  $X, Y$ ,  $X \wedge Y = X \times Y / (* \times Y) \cup (X \times *)$

**HW2**

Prove that:

$$S^k \wedge S^l \cong S^{k+l}$$

In algebraic topology,  
the "wedge" is the  
1-point union:

$$X \vee Y = X \cup Y / *_{X, Y}$$

$X, Y$  based

$$X_+ = X \amalg \{*\}$$

$$(X_+) \wedge (Y_+) = (X \times Y)_+$$

Compactly generated weakly Hausdorff spaces are a closed symmetric monoidal category with respect to  $\wedge$ ,  $F(X, Y) =$

$$= \{ \text{continuous <sup>based</sup> maps } X \rightarrow Y \}$$

(May: Concrete concrete)

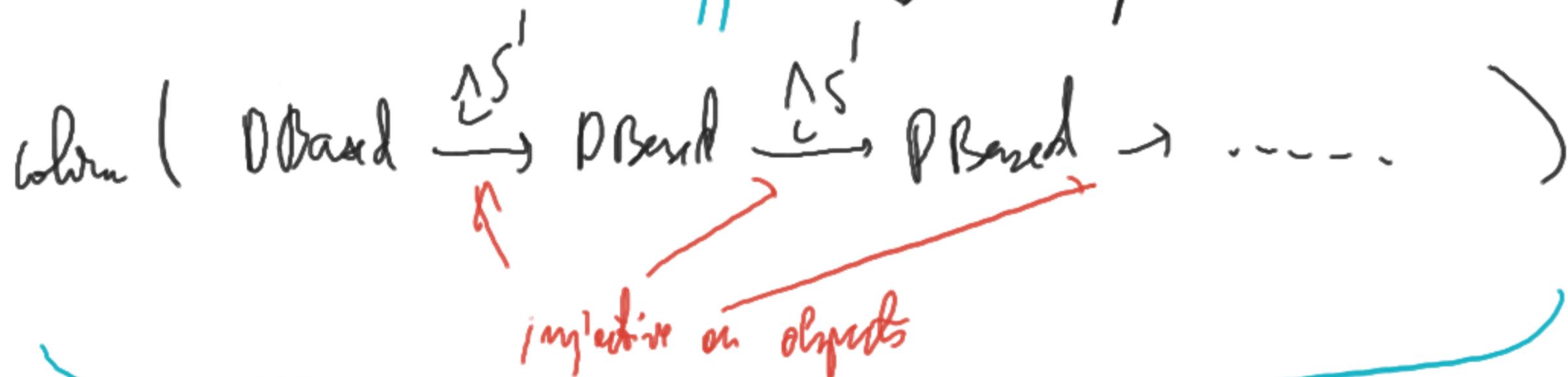
The unit:  $S^0$ .

This also shows that strong duality can virtually never occur in  $\mathbf{Borad}$ . If  $X$  connected based,  $F(X, S^0) = *$ .

↑  
the category  
of based spaces

We need to involve the higher spheres. "Make  $S^n$  into units."

We could work in  $\text{DBased} [\underbrace{? \wedge S'}_{\text{based suspension } \Sigma}]^{-1}$



The Spanier-Whithead category.  $\leftarrow$  does not have infinite product (or coproduct)  $\uparrow$  modern category of spectra has these.

$$\Sigma = \bigvee S^1 \simeq : [1]$$

$$S[0] \vee S[-1] \vee S[-2] \vee \dots$$