

The Leibniz adjunction in homotopy type theory,
with an application to simplicial type theory

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Introduction & main results (informally)

- ▶ Riehl and Shulman introduced **simplicial type theory (STT)** as a synthetic framework for higher categories.¹
- ▶ In **homotopy type theory (HoTT)** types behave like ∞ -groupoids. STT additionally equips types with a notion of directed morphisms, via an interval.

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- ▶ **Segal types** are those types in which such morphisms compose.
- ▶ Composition should be associative, identities should be neutral w.r.t. composition, and **higher coherences** should be satisfied, e.g. the different ways of rewriting $\text{id} \circ (f \circ \text{id})$ to f should be the same, up to a higher morphism.

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For Segal types, all higher coherences can be derived.



We give a slick proof using some category theory and families instead of maps.

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Foundational setup

- ▶ Instead of simplicial type theory à la Riehl & Shulman, we follow Gratzer, Weinberger and Buchholtz² and work in an axiomatic extension of HoTT:

HoTT + bounded distributive lattice $(I, 0, 1, \wedge, \vee)$.

For this work, we do not need I to be linearly ordered.

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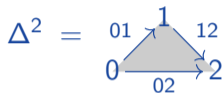
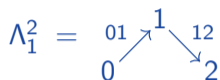
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- ▶ Use I to construct the objects necessary for **simplicial combinatorics** (next slide).

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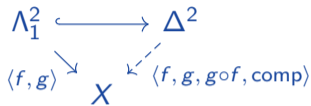
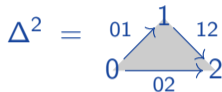
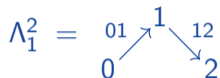
$$\Lambda_1^2 = \begin{array}{ccc} & 1 & \\ 01 \nearrow & & \searrow 12 \\ 0 & & 2 \end{array}$$

$$\Delta^2 = \begin{array}{ccc} & 1 & \\ 01 \nearrow & \triangle & \searrow 12 \\ 0 & \xrightarrow{02} & 2 \end{array}$$

$$\begin{array}{ccc} \Lambda_1^2 & \hookrightarrow & \Delta^2 \\ \langle f, g \rangle \searrow & & \swarrow \langle f, g, g \circ f, \text{comp} \rangle \\ & \mathcal{X} & \end{array}$$

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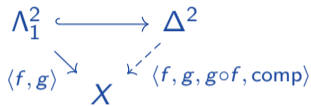
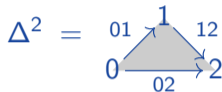
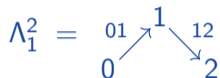


Def. A type X is a **Segal type** if every map $\Lambda_1^2 \rightarrow X$ has a unique (in the contractible/HoTT sense) extension to a map $\Delta^2 \rightarrow X$.

We also say that a Segal type has **unique fillers** for $(2,1)$ -horns.

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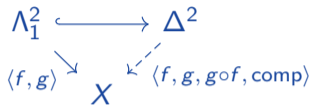
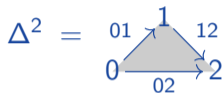
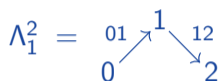
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Thm. Any Segal type has unique fillers for all (n,k) -horns where $0 < k < n$.

- ▶ This generalizes a result of Riehl & Shulman for $n = 3$ and $k \in \{1, 2\}$, and is a STT version of a result by Lurie.

Reduction to the Leibniz adjunction

- ▶ Segal types can be characterized by **orthogonality**

$$\begin{array}{ccc} A & \longrightarrow & X \\ f \downarrow & \exists! \nearrow & \downarrow g \\ B & \longrightarrow & Y \end{array} \quad (f \perp g)$$

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What we did:

- ▶ Reduce simplicial comb. to formal arguments about \pitchfork and $\widehat{\times}$ as much as possible.
- ▶ Prove the Leibniz adjunction for maps in HoTT.

Pushout-product and pullback-hom

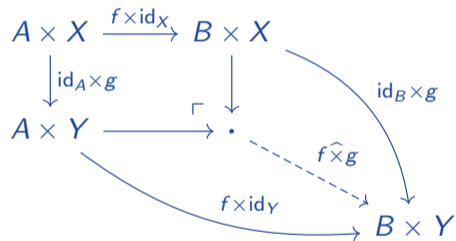
Given $f : A \rightarrow B$ and $g : X \rightarrow Y$, we define

$$\begin{array}{ccc} A \times X & \xrightarrow{f \times \text{id}_X} & B \times X \\ \downarrow \text{id}_A \times g & \lrcorner & \downarrow \\ A \times Y & \xrightarrow{\quad} & \bullet \\ & \searrow f \widehat{\times} g & \\ & & B \times Y \end{array}$$

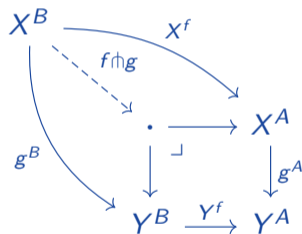
The diagram illustrates the pushout-product of f and g . It shows a square with $A \times X$ at the top-left, $B \times X$ at the top-right, $A \times Y$ at the bottom-left, and $B \times Y$ at the bottom-right. The top horizontal arrow is $f \times \text{id}_X$. The left vertical arrow is $\text{id}_A \times g$. The right vertical arrow is $\text{id}_B \times g$. The bottom horizontal arrow is $f \times \text{id}_Y$. A dashed arrow from the bottom-right corner of the square to $B \times Y$ is labeled $f \widehat{\times} g$. A curved arrow from $A \times Y$ to $B \times Y$ is also labeled $f \times \text{id}_Y$. A curved arrow from $B \times X$ to $B \times Y$ is labeled $\text{id}_B \times g$.

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Second main result: the Leibniz adjunction in HoTT

Def. For $f : A \rightarrow B$ and $g : X \rightarrow Y$, write

$$\text{Map}(f, g) := \left\{ \begin{array}{ccc} A & \xrightarrow{u} & X \\ f \downarrow & \swarrow \alpha & \downarrow g \\ B & \xrightarrow{v} & Y \end{array} \right\}$$

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Thm. We have a natural equivalence

$$\text{Map}(f \hat{\times} g, h) \simeq \text{Map}(f, g \pitchfork h).$$

Towards a proof of the Leibniz adjunction

- ▶ Unfolding definitions, an element of $\text{Map}(f \hat{\times} g, h)$ is a **7-tuple**: three maps, three equations between maps and one additional coherence.
Similarly for $\text{Map}(f, g \pitchfork h)$.

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A map $f : A \rightarrow B$ is sent to the family $b \mapsto \text{fib}_f b := \sum(a : A) f a = b$.

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- ▶ Given $Y : X \rightarrow \mathcal{U}$ and $Y' : X' \rightarrow \mathcal{U}$, write

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- ▶ The above equivalence χ extends to an equivalence

$$\text{Map}(f, g) \simeq \text{Fam}(\chi f, \chi g).$$

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- ▶ that χ and its inverse preserve $\hat{\times}$ and \pitchfork .

- ▶ Steps (1)–(3) turn out to be relatively easy and natural. 😊

E.g. $(A, B) \hat{\times} (X, Y) := (A \times X, (a, x) \mapsto B a * Y x)$,
where $*$ denotes the join of types.

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-  *The Leibniz adjunction in homotopy type theory, with an application to simplicial type theory.* TdJ, Nicolai Kraus, Axel Ljungström. January 2026.
arXiv:2601.21843.

Fully formalized in Cubical Agda.

References

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