

**ANY EQUIVALENCE RELATION OVER A CATEGORY IS A SIMPLICIAL  
 HOMOTOPY**

by

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§ 1. *Simplicial Systems.*

*Definition.* ([1]) A simplicial system over a category  $\mathcal{C}$  is a triple  $J = (\mathbb{H}, \Phi, \lambda)$  where  $\mathbb{H} : \mathcal{C}^o \times \mathcal{C} \rightarrow \Delta^o \mathcal{S}$  ( $\Delta^o \mathcal{S}$  = the category of simplicial sets) is a covariant functor,  $\Phi$  is an associative "composition law" with  $\Phi_{XYZ} : \mathbb{H}(X, Y) \times \mathbb{H}(Y, Z) \rightarrow \mathbb{H}(X, Z)$  natural in  $X, Y, Z$ , and  $\gamma$  is a natural isomorphism  $\gamma_{X, Y} : \mathcal{C}(X, Y) \rightarrow \mathbb{H}(X, Y)_0$  (We will denote  $\alpha \bullet \beta = \Phi(\beta, \alpha)$  for  $\alpha \in \mathbb{H}(X, Y)_n$  and  $\beta \in \mathbb{H}(Y, Z)_n$ ). Moreover,  $J$  is subjected to the following conditions :

(i) for each morfism  $u : X \rightarrow Y$  of  $\mathcal{C}$ , and each  $f \in \mathbb{H}(Y, Z)_n$ , then  $f \bullet s^{(n)}(u) = \mathbb{H}(u, Z)(f)$  ;

(ii) for each  $g \in \mathbb{H}(W, X)_n$  and each  $u \in \mathcal{C}(X, Y)$ ,  $s^{(n)}(u) \bullet g = \mathbb{H}(W, u)(g)$ , where  $s^{(n)}(u)$  stands for the image of  $u$  by the following composition  $s_0 \dots s_0$  ( $n$ -times), where  $s_0$  denotes the  $0$ -th degeneracy in each dimension. Also we have used for a fixed  $Z$  in  $\mathcal{C}$  the restriction  $\mathbb{H}(-, Z) : \mathcal{C}^o \rightarrow \Delta^o \mathcal{S}$  of the functor  $\mathbb{H}$  which for each  $u : X \rightarrow Y$  in  $\mathcal{C}$ , induces a simplicial map  $\mathbb{H}(u, Z) : \mathbb{H}(Y, Z) \rightarrow \mathbb{H}(X, Z)$ . Similarly, if one fixes the first variable.

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A simplicial category is a pair  $(\mathcal{C}, J)$  where  $J$  is a simplicial system over a given category  $\mathcal{C}$ .

The homotopy relation over morphism associated with the system  $J$  is given as follows:  $f, g: X \rightarrow Y$  (in  $\mathcal{C}$ ) are  $J$ -homotopic, or more precisely,  $f$  is  $J$ -homotopic to  $g$  (in that order), if there exists  $v \in \mathbb{H}(X, Y)_1$  such that  $d_0(v) = f$  and  $d_1(v) = g$ . It is well known that if  $\mathbb{H}(X, Y)$  is a Kan simplicial set - in lower dimensions - then this homotopy relation is an equivalence relation. Furthermore, it is compatible with composition. In fact, the categorical simplicial structure allows a composition of homotopies: if  $H \in \mathbb{H}(X, Y)_1$  and  $K \in \mathbb{H}(Y, Z)_1$  are such that  $H: f \rightsquigarrow g$  and  $K: u \rightsquigarrow v$  then  $K \bullet H = \Phi(H, K)$  is a homotopy  $uf \rightsquigarrow vg$ .

§ 2. *Some examples of simplicial categories.*

a) In the category of topological spaces taking  $\mathbb{H}(X, Y)_n = Top(\Delta(n) \times X, Y)$  with faces induced by the co-faces of the standard co-simplicial topological space  $\Delta$ , we obtain a simplicial system.

b) The same construction in  $\Delta^o S$  using  $\Delta[n]$  instead of  $\Delta(n)$ .

c) Generalizing a) and b), above, if a category  $\mathcal{C}$  is closed for finite products, then for each model  $Y: \Delta \rightarrow \mathcal{C}$  (that is, a covariant functor) such that  $Y[0]$  = final object of  $\mathcal{C}$ , whenever it exists, one defines  $\mathbb{H}_Y(A, B)_n = \mathcal{C}(Y[n] \times A, B)$  and completes it by the same categorical procedures as in a) and b). Given the importance of this example and its generality we will devote the next paragraph to a detailed discussion of it.

d) In the paper "Homotopic Systems in categories with a Final Object" ([5]) it is shown that, if  $Y: \Delta \rightarrow \mathcal{C}$  is a model in which  $Y[0]$  is not necessarily the final object of  $\mathcal{C}$ , then one can consider the category of objects over  $Y[0]$ , denoted  $\mathcal{C}/Y[0]$ . The model  $Y$  induces a model  $Y/Y[0] = Y': \Delta \rightarrow \mathcal{C}/Y[0]$ , in which, of course,  $Y'[0]$  is then the final object of  $\mathcal{C}/Y[0]$ . If  $\mathcal{C}$  is clo-

sed for fibered products over  $Y[0]$ , then we can apply the procedure of part c) to induce over  $\mathcal{C}/Y[0]$  a simplicial structure. For example, if  $\mathcal{C} = Ab =$  the category of abelian groups and  $Y : \Delta \rightarrow Ab$  is the free abelian group functor, restricted to  $\Delta$ , then there exists over  $Ab/\mathbb{Z}$  a simplicial structure associated with  $Y$ . Similarly, if one tensorizes  $Y$  by an abelian group  $M$  to get  $(Y \otimes M)_n = Y[n] \otimes M$ , then  $Y \otimes M$  induces a simplicial structure over  $Ab/M$  (since  $(Y \otimes M)[0] = M$ ), which is natural in  $M$ , in the sense that this assignment  $M \rightarrow Ab/M$  can be completed to a functor from  $Ab$  into the category  $C. Sim$  (cf. § 4).

e) A group  $G$  can be considered as a category with only one object, say  $e$ , and one morphism  $\bar{g} : e \rightarrow e$  for each element  $g$  of  $G$ , the composition then given by  $\bar{g} \bullet \bar{b} = \overline{gb}$ . We will denote by  $G$  both the category and the group.  $N(G)$  will represent the nerve of the category  $G$  (in [2], p. 32, this is denoted by  $D(G)$ ). We will prove that there exists a non trivial (natural) simplicial structure over  $G$  when  $G$  is abelian. In fact we take  $\mathfrak{H}(e, e)$  to be the simplicial set  $RC(N(G))$  where  $RC$  stands for the right - cut- functor  $RC : \Delta^o S \rightarrow \Delta^o S$  (cf. [4]) defined for a simplicial set  $X$  by the formulae : (i)  $RC(X)_n = X_{n+1}$ , ( $n \geq 0$ ) (ii)  $\partial_i^n : RC(X)_n \rightarrow RC(X)_{n-1}$  is the morphism  $d_i^{n+1} : X_{n+1} \rightarrow X_n$  ( $i = 0, \dots, n$ ); (iii)  $\sigma_i^n : RC(X)_n \rightarrow RC(X)_{n+1}$  is the morphism  $s_i^{n+1} : X_{n+1} \rightarrow X_{n+2}$  ( $i = 0, \dots, n$ ). In order to complete the definition of  $\mathfrak{H} : G^o \times G \rightarrow \Delta^o S$  we associate to  $x, y : e \rightarrow e$  the map  $(x, y)_\# : \mathfrak{H}(e, e) \rightarrow \mathfrak{H}(e, e)$  defined by the following equality  $(x, y)_\#(g_0, \dots, g_n) = (g_0, \dots, g_{n-1}, y g_n x)$ . In order to this maps be simplicial it is necessary and sufficient that  $G$  be an abelian group. As for the simplicial composition  $\Phi_{ee} = \Phi : \mathfrak{H}(e, e) \times \mathfrak{H}(e, e) \rightarrow \mathfrak{H}(e, e)$ , it is given by  $\Phi((g_0, \dots, g_n) : (b_0, \dots, b_n)) = (b_0 g_0, \dots, b_n g_n)$ . Again,  $\Phi$  so defined is a simplicial map if and only if  $G$  is an abelian group. Furthermore,  $\mathfrak{H}(e, e)_0 = CR(N(G))_0 = N(G)_1 = G = Hom_G(e, e)$ . Now for  $u \in Hom_G(e, e)$  it holds that  $\Phi(f, s^{(n)}(u)) = \mathfrak{H}(u, e)(f)$ , since the right hand member of the equality is  $(u, 1_e)_\#(f) = (f_0, \dots, f_{n-1}, f_n u)$  for  $f = (f_0, \dots, f_n)$ , and  $s^{(n)}(u) = s_0 \dots s_0(u) = (1, \dots, 1, u)$ . Similarly  $\Phi(s^{(n)}(u), f) = \mathfrak{H}(e, u)(f) = (1_e, u)_\#(f)$ .

*Remark:* In the previous construction  $\mathbb{H}(e, e)$  becomes the total space  $W(G)$  of  $\widetilde{W(G)}$ , the classifying space of  $\widetilde{G}$ , where  $\widetilde{G}_n = G$  for each  $n$  and the faces being the identity morphism. That is to say  $W(G) = RC(N(G))$ .

This construction can certainly be generalized to abelian monoids, in which case the homotopy obtained is non trivial (against the case of abelian groups in which it is trivial):  $f \sim g$  if there exists  $a \in G$  such that  $f a = g$ . The problem of existence of homotopy is thus equivalent to the problem of solution of first degree equations in  $G$ .

f) There is a way to induce, trivially, a simplicial system on a category  $\mathcal{C}$  by taking  $\mathbb{H}(X, Y)_n = \mathcal{C}(X, Y)$ , for each  $n$ , and faces to be the identity function. The homotopy relation obtained is the relation of equality.

§3. *The simplicial system associated to a model  $Y: \Delta \rightarrow \mathcal{C}$ .*

Let  $\mathcal{C}$  be a category with a final object and with finite products. Let  $Y: \Delta \rightarrow \mathcal{C}$  be a covariant functor such that  $Y[0]$  = the final object of  $\mathcal{C}$ . We define, for each pair of objects  $A, B$  in  $\mathcal{C}$ , the simplicial set  $\mathbb{H}(A, B)$  by the formulae: (i)  $\mathbb{H}(A, B)_n = \mathcal{C}(Y[n] \times A, B)$ ; (ii) if  $w: [n] \rightarrow [m]$  is a morphism in  $\Delta$ , then  $w^*: \mathbb{H}(A, B)_m \rightarrow \mathbb{H}(A, B)_n$  is the map  $u \rightarrow u \circ (Y(w) \times A)$ , where  $A$  stands for the identity morphism of  $A$ . The simplicial composition  $\Phi: \mathbb{H}(A, B) \times \mathbb{H}(B, C) \rightarrow \mathbb{H}(A, C)$  is given for  $f: Y[n] \times A \rightarrow B$  and  $g: Y[n] \times B \rightarrow C$  by

$$Y[n] \times A \xrightarrow{\partial \times A} Y[n] \times Y[n] \times A \xrightarrow{Y[n] \times f} Y[n] \times B \xrightarrow{g} C,$$

where  $\partial$  is the diagonal morphism. To prove that  $\Phi$  is simplicial it suffices to prove that, for morphisms  $w: K \rightarrow L$ ,  $f: L \times A \rightarrow B$ , and  $g: L \times B \rightarrow C$  the following diagram commutes.

In order to do this it suffices to apply, for each  $X$  of  $\mathcal{C}$ , the functor  $\mathcal{C}(X, -)$  to the diagram above. Then it becomes the same statement (or diagram) but in the category of sets. (recall that in order to prove that a diagram in a category commutes, it is necessary and sufficient that for each object  $X$ , the image of the diagram

$$\begin{array}{ccccc}
 K \times A & \xrightarrow{\partial \times A} & K \times K \times A & \xrightarrow{K \times w \times A} & K \times L \times A & \xrightarrow{K \times f} & K \times B \\
 \downarrow w \times A & & & & & & \downarrow w \times B \\
 L \times A & & & & & & L \times B \\
 \downarrow \partial \times A & & & & & & \downarrow g \\
 L \times L \times A & \xrightarrow{L \times f} & L \times B & \xrightarrow{g} & C & & 
 \end{array}$$

by  $\mathcal{C}(X, -)$ , resp.  $\mathcal{C}(-, X)$ , commutes in the category of sets). This is due to the fact that  $\mathcal{C}(X, -)$  commutes with products and that  $\mathcal{C}(X, \partial_Y) = \partial \mathcal{C}(X, Y)$ .

As far as associativity is concerned (of the simplicial composition  $\Phi$ ) it reduces to proving that the following diagram commutes in  $\mathcal{C}$  for any morphism  $f: K \times A \rightarrow B$

$$\begin{array}{ccccc}
 K \times A & \xrightarrow{\partial \times A} & K \times K \times A & \xrightarrow{K \times f} & K \times B \\
 \downarrow \partial \times A & & & & \downarrow \partial \times B \\
 K \times K \times A & \xrightarrow{K \times \partial \times A} & K \times K \times K \times A & \xrightarrow{K \times K \times f} & K \times K \times B
 \end{array}$$

#### § 4. The categories $\mathcal{C}$ . Sim and $\mathcal{C}$ . Rel.

A simplicial functor  $(\mathcal{C}, J) \rightarrow (\mathcal{C}', J')$  between simplicial categories is a pair  $(F, \delta)$ , where  $F: \mathcal{C} \rightarrow \mathcal{C}'$  is a functor and  $\delta: \mathcal{H}_{\mathcal{C}}(-, -) \rightarrow \mathcal{H}_{\mathcal{C}'}(F(-), F(-))$  is a natural transformation such that for any objects  $X, Y, Z$  of  $\mathcal{C}$ :

SF.1) the following diagram commutes

$$\begin{array}{ccc}
 \mathcal{H}_{\mathcal{C}}(X, Y)_o & \xrightarrow{\delta_{XY}} & \mathcal{H}_{\mathcal{C}'}(F(X), F(Y))_o \\
 \downarrow \gamma_{XY} & & \downarrow \gamma'_{F(X)F(Y)} \\
 \mathcal{C}(X, Y) & \xrightarrow{F} & \mathcal{C}'(F(X), F(Y))
 \end{array}$$

S.F.2) the following diagram commutes

$$\begin{array}{ccc}
 \mathcal{H}_{\mathcal{C}}(X, Y) \times \mathcal{H}_{\mathcal{C}}(Y, Z) & \xrightarrow{\quad \Phi \quad} & \mathcal{H}_{\mathcal{C}}(X, Z) \\
 \downarrow \delta \times \delta & & \downarrow \delta \\
 \mathcal{H}_{\mathcal{C}'}(F(X), F(Y)) \times \mathcal{H}_{\mathcal{C}'}(F(Y), F(Z)) & \xrightarrow{\quad \Phi' \quad} & \mathcal{H}_{\mathcal{C}'}(F(X), F(Z))
 \end{array}$$

In this case we will say that  $(F, \delta)$  is compatible with the simplicial composition.

We will denote by  $C.Sim$  the category of simplicial categories and simplicial functors, and by  $C.Rel$  the category of categories with *compatible relations* in the following sense: (a) a category  $(\mathcal{C}, R)$  with a compatible relation  $R$ , consists of a category  $\mathcal{C}$  and, for each pair of objects  $X, Y$ , of a reflexive and transitive relation over the set  $\mathcal{C}(X, Y)$  which is compatible with the composition in  $\mathcal{C}$ ; (b) a morphism  $F: (\mathcal{C}, R) \rightarrow (\mathcal{C}', R')$  between categories with compatible relations is a relation-preserving functor  $F: \mathcal{C} \rightarrow \mathcal{C}'$  in the sense that if  $(f, g) \in R_{XY}$  then  $(F(f), F(g)) \in R'_{F(X) F(Y)}$ .

The procedure that to a simplicial category  $(\mathcal{C}, J)$  associates the reflexive and transitive relation generated by homotopy, denoted by  $(\mathcal{C}, R(J))$ , gives rise to a functor  $\mathcal{R}: C.Sim \rightarrow C.Rel$ .

We now give the main theorem of this paper:

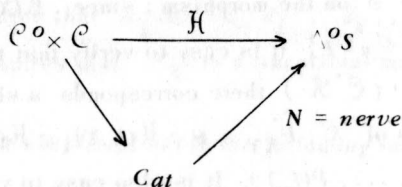
**THEOREM.** *The functor  $\mathcal{R}$  admits a right adjoint  $\mathcal{S}: C.Rel \rightarrow C.Sim$ .*

We devote the rest of this paper to the proof of this theorem. To begin with we define the functor  $\mathcal{S}$ .

Let  $(\mathcal{C}, R)$  be a category with a reflexive, transitive, and compatible relation. Since  $R_{XY}$  is reflexive and transitive it can be considered in itself as a category with objects the elements of  $\mathcal{C}(X, Y)$  and a morphism  $f \rightarrow g$  (and only one)

if  $(f, g) \in R_{XY}$ . We define  $\mathcal{H} : \mathcal{C}^o \times \mathcal{C} \rightarrow \Delta^o \mathcal{S}$  by taking as  $\mathcal{H}(X, Y)$  the nerve (see [2] p.32 for the definition of nerve, which is denoted by  $D$ ) of the category  $R_{XY}$ . We will use  $\mathcal{H}(\mathcal{C}, R)(X, Y)$  instead of  $\mathcal{H}(X, Y)$  when emphasis on the category and the relation is necessary.

We remark that the functor  $\mathcal{H}$  is the composite



where  $\mathcal{C}^o \times \mathcal{C} \rightarrow \text{Cat}$  maps  $(X, Y)$  into the category associated with the relation  $R_{XY}$ . One also notices that if  $\alpha : X' \rightarrow X$  and  $\beta : Y \rightarrow Y'$  are morphisms of  $\mathcal{C}$ , then the functor  $(\alpha, \beta)_\# : (\mathcal{C}(X, Y); R_{XY}) \rightarrow (\mathcal{C}(X', Y'); R_{X', Y'})$  is the map  $f \rightarrow \beta f \alpha$ .  $N((\alpha, \beta)_\#)$  is given in dimension  $n$  by  $N((\alpha, \beta)_\#)(f_0, \dots, f_n) = (\beta f_0 \alpha, \dots, \beta f_n \alpha)$ , for each  $(f_0, \dots, f_n) \in N(\mathcal{C}(X, Y); R_{XY})_n$ .

We now define the simplicial composition  $\Phi_{XYZ} : \mathcal{H}(X, Y) \times \mathcal{H}(Y, Z) \rightarrow \mathcal{H}(X, Z)$ . We recall that the nerve  $N : \text{Cat} \rightarrow \Delta^o \mathcal{S}$  commutes with products and since  $\mathcal{H}(X, Y) = N(R_{XY})$  then we take  $\Phi_{XYZ} = N(\varphi_{XYZ})$ , where  $\varphi_{XYZ}$  is the functor (natural in  $X, Y, Z$ ) defined on the objects by the composition  $\mathcal{C}(X, Y) \times \mathcal{C}(Y, Z) \rightarrow \mathcal{C}(X, Z)$ , and on the morphisms  $R_{XY} \times R_{YZ} \rightarrow R_{XZ}$  by the compatibility of the relation  $R$ . More explicitly the composition in dimension  $n$  is given by  $(g_0, \dots, g_n) \bullet (f_0, \dots, f_n) = (g_0 f_0, \dots, g_n f_n)$ , easily proved to be well defined.

As for the natural transformation  $\gamma$  it is, in our case, the identity of  $\mathcal{C}(X, Y)$  since by the definition of nerve,  $\mathcal{H}(X, Y)_0 = N(\mathcal{C}(X, Y); R_{XY})_0 = \mathcal{C}(X, Y)$ .

In order to complete the proof that  $(\mathcal{H}, \Phi, \gamma)$  is a simplicial system let  $u : X \rightarrow Y \in \mathcal{C}$  and  $f \in \mathcal{H}(Y, Z)_n$ ; then  $f \circ s^{(n)}(u) = \mathcal{H}(u, Z)(f)$  because if  $f = (f_0, \dots, f_n)$  then  $\mathcal{H}(u, Z)(f) = (u, 1_Z)_\#(f) = (1_Z \circ f_0 \circ u, \dots, 1_Z \circ f_n \circ u)$

$= (f_0, \dots, f_n) \bullet (u, \dots, u) = f \circ s^{(n)}(u)$ . Similarly, one can prove that  $s^{(n)}(u) \circ g = \mathbb{H}(W, u)(g)$ , for each  $g \in \mathbb{H}(W, X)_n$  and each  $u \in \mathcal{C}(X, Y)$ .

We denote  $J(\mathcal{C}, R) = (\mathbb{H}, \Phi, \gamma)$  given above and  $\mathcal{S}(\mathcal{C}, R)$  the simplicial category  $(\mathcal{C}; J(\mathcal{C}, R))$ .

We proceed now to give  $\mathcal{S}$  on the morphism: since  $\mathbb{H}(X, Y)_n = \{(f_0, \dots, f_n) \mid (f_i, f_{i+1}) \in \mathcal{R}_{XY}, 0 \leq i \leq n-1\}$  it is easy to verify that to a relation preserving functor  $F: (\mathcal{C}, \mathcal{R}) \rightarrow (\mathcal{C}', \mathcal{R}')$  there corresponds a simplicial function for each pair  $X, Y$  of objects of  $\mathcal{C}$ ,  $\tilde{F}_{XY} = \tilde{F}: \mathbb{H}(X, Y) \rightarrow \mathbb{H}(F(X), F(Y))$ , given by  $(f_0, \dots, f_n) \rightarrow (F(f_0), \dots, F(f_n))$ . It is also easy to verify that, if  $f \in \mathbb{H}(X, Y)_n$  and  $g \in \mathbb{H}(Y, Z)_n$ , then  $\tilde{F}(g \bullet f) = \tilde{F}(g) \bullet \tilde{F}(f)$  which proves the functorial condition SF.2). Thus, to a functor  $F: (\mathcal{C}, R) \rightarrow (\mathcal{C}', R')$  we have associated the pair  $(F, \tilde{F}): (\mathcal{C}, J(\mathcal{C}, R)) \rightarrow (\mathcal{C}', J(\mathcal{C}', R'))$  which also verifies SF.1), and which we will denote by  $\mathcal{S}(F)$ , thus completing the definition of the functor  $\mathcal{S}: C. Rel \rightarrow C. Sim$ .

It remains to prove that the pair  $(\mathcal{R}, \mathcal{S})$  is adjoint ( $\mathcal{R}$  is left adjoint of  $\mathcal{S}$ ).

We give first the natural transformations for adjointness: if  $X = (\mathcal{C}, J)$  is a simplicial category with  $J = (\mathbb{H}, \Phi, \gamma)$  and  $V = (\mathcal{D}, R)$  is a category with a compatible, reflexive and transitive relation  $R$ , we will give  $\theta_X: X \rightarrow \mathcal{R}\mathcal{S}(X)$  and  $\mu_V: \mathcal{R}\mathcal{S}(V) \rightarrow V$  for which we notice that  $\mathcal{R}\mathcal{S}(V) = V$  and therefore the functor  $\mathcal{R}$  is a retract of the functor  $\mathcal{S}$ . Thus the transformation  $\mu$  is simply the identity.  $\theta_X$  is a pair  $(F, \delta)$  where  $F$  is a functor with source and target the category  $\mathcal{C}$  and  $\delta: \mathbb{H}_X(\dots) \rightarrow \mathbb{H}_{\mathcal{R}\mathcal{S}(X)}(F(\dots), F(\dots))$  is a natural transformation:  $F$  will be the identity of  $\mathcal{C}$  hence it remains to give  $\delta_{A,B}$  for objects  $A, B$  in  $\mathcal{C}$ . Notice that, in general, we can define  $\delta_W: W \rightarrow W'$  where  $W$  is any simplicial set and  $W'$  is the following simplicial set: on  $W_0$  let  $R$  be the transitive relation associated to the homotopy relation of  $W$ . We take  $W'' = N(R) =$  the nerve of  $R$ . We recall that  $W'$  so obtained is level-wise given by  $W'_0 = W_0$ ,  $W'_1 = \{(u, v) \mid u, v \in W_0, (u, v) \in R\}$ , and in general  $W'_n = \{(u_0, \dots, u_n) \mid (u_i, u_{i+1}) \in R, i =$



$0, \dots, n-1$  }, with faces  $d_j(u_0, \dots, u_n) = (u_0, \dots, \hat{u}_j, \dots, u_n), s_j(u_0, \dots, u_n) = (u_0, \dots, u_j, u_j, u_{j+1}, \dots, u_n)$ . Now we can give  $\delta_W$ . What is desired with this map is to associate with a simplex  $x \in W_n$ , the ordered set of its vertexes. More precisely, with each  $w: [0] \rightarrow [m]$  we associate  $w^*: W_n \rightarrow W_0$  and with this we construct the faces  $w^*(x)$ . If we denote by  $w_k: [0] \rightarrow [n]$  the map  $w_k(0)=k$ , then we take  $\delta_W(x) = (w_0^*(x), w_1^*(x), \dots, w_n^*(x))$ , which can be seen to belong to  $W'_n$ . Notice that  $w_k^*(x) = d_0 d_1 \dots d_k \dots d_n(x)$  ( $0 \leq k \leq n$ ). The following lemma implies that  $\delta_W$  is a simplicial map.

LEMMA. In a simplicial set  $X$  the following relations hold:

$$d_0 \dots \hat{d}_i \dots d_{n-1}(d_j(x)) = \begin{cases} d_0 \dots \hat{d}_i \dots d_n(x) & \text{if } i < j \text{ and } x \in X_n \\ d_0 \dots \hat{d}_{i+1} \dots d_n(x) & \text{if } i \geq j \text{ and } x \in X_n \end{cases}$$

$$d_0 \dots \hat{d}_i \dots d_n(x) = \begin{cases} d_0 \dots \hat{d}_i \dots d_{n+1} s_j(x) & \text{if } i \leq j \text{ and } x \in X_n \\ d_0 \dots \hat{d}_{i+1} \dots d_{n+1} s_j(x) & \text{if } i > j \text{ and } x \in X_n \end{cases}$$

The desired natural transformation is precisely  $\delta_{\mathcal{H}(A,B)}: \mathcal{H}(A,B) \rightarrow \mathcal{H}(A,B')$   
 $= NR\mathcal{H}(A,B), A, B, \text{ in } \mathcal{C}$ .

In order to prove that  $\theta$  and  $\mu$  are actually the natural transformation of adjointness, one uses the fact that  $\mathcal{R}: \Delta^o \mathcal{S} \rightarrow Rel$  and  $\mathcal{S}: Rel \rightarrow \Delta^o \mathcal{S}$  are adjoint functors. Here  $\mathcal{R}(X) = (X, \sim)$  is the transitive relation associated to the homotopy of  $X$ ,  $Rel$  is the category of the reflexive transitive relations (on sets), and  $\mathcal{S}(Y, R)$  is the nerve of  $R$ .

COROLLARY. On each category with a compatible reflexive transitive rela -

tion there exists a simplicial systems whose simplicial homotopy relation is the given relation. Moreover, if the original relation is a symmetric one then the simplicial systems lies within the category of Kan-simplicial sets [3].

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