Spaces Over a Category and Brown Representability

Espacios sobre una categoría y Representabilidad de Brown

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Abstract. We prove a Brown Representability Theorem in the context of spaces over a category. We discuss two applications to the representability of equivariant cohomology theories, with emphasis on Bredon cohomology with local coefficients.

Key words and phrases. Brown Representability, Spaces over a category, Bredon Cohomology with local coefficients.

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Resumen. Probamos un teorema de representabilidad de Brown en el contexto de espacios sobre una categoría. Discutimos dos aplicaciones a la representabilidad de teorías de cohomología, con énfasis en cohomología de Bredon con coeficientes locales.

Palabras y frases clave. Representabilidad de Brown, Espacios sobre una categoría, cohomología de Bredon con coeficientes locales.

In this note we present a proof of the Brown Representability Theorem in the context of spaces over a category.

As an application of the representability result we describe an equivariant generalization of Steenrod squares for Bredon cohomology with local coefficients, and describe induction structures.

There are several proofs of similar results in other contexts of transformation groups. Matumoto outlined in [9] a proof of the result for topological compact groups. In a slightly different context, L. Gaunce Lewis Jr. sketches in a slightly different context the main steps to be done in chapter XIII of [10].

This work is organized as follows: in section 1 the basic properties of modules and spaces over a category are collected. In section 2 the representability
theorem is proved and in section the naturality of the representing objects are analized. Section deals with the mentioned applications.

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1. Spaces and Modules over a Category and Cohomology Theories

We refer the reader to for further reference and for the proof of the results in this section. All spaces have the compactly generated topology, in the sense of .

Definition 1. Let be a small category. A covariant (contravariant) pointed -space over the category is a covariant (contravariant) functor to the category of compactly generated, pointed spaces.

Example 2. Let be the category with two objects and morphisms such that is an Ex-space, compare . is a covariant functor to the category of compactly generated, Hausdorff spaces. The space is called the base space, is the total space and the maps and are called the projection and the section, respectively.

Example 3. Let be a group. Consider the category consisting of only one object where the morphisms are the elements of and multiplication is composition. A contravariant (covariant) functor to the category of compactly generated, pointed spaces is equivalent to giving a a compactly generated, pointed space and a right (left) action of leaving the basepoint fixed.

Example 4. Let be a family of subgroups of the discrete group closed under intersection and conjugation. The orbit category has as objects homogeneous spaces for , a morphism is a -equivariant map . If is a pointed -space, we define the contravariant -space associated to to be the functor . The covariant -space associated to is the functor .

A -map between -spaces is a natural transformation consisting of continuous maps.

Let be the constant -space assigning to each object the interval with an added disjoint base point. A homotopy of pointed -maps is a map of -spaces which restricted to gives the maps for .

A -map is said to be a cofibration if it has the homotopy extension property.

The following definition extends the notion of a CW-complex to pointed spaces over a category.
Definition 5. Let \( \mathcal{C} \) be a small category. A pointed \( \mathcal{C} \)-CW complex is a contravariant \( \mathcal{C} \)-space together with a filtration

\[
X_0 \subset X_1 \subset \ldots = X_n
\]

such that \( X = \text{colim}_n X_n \) and each \( X_n \) is obtained from the \( X_{n-1} \) by a pushout of maps consisting of pointed maps of \( \mathcal{C} \)-spaces of the form

\[
\bigsqcup_{i \in I} \text{mor}_\mathcal{C}(?, c_i) + S^{n-1} \rightarrow X_{n-1}
\]

\[
\bigsqcup_{i \in I} \text{mor}_\mathcal{C}(?, c_i) + D^n \rightarrow X_n
\]

Where the space \( \text{mor}(?, c_i) \) carries the discrete topology and \( + \) denotes the addition of a disjoint basis point to the space.

Definition 6. Let \( f : X \rightarrow Y \) be a map between \( \mathcal{C} \)-spaces. \( f \) is said to be \( n \)-connected (or a weak homotopy equivalence) if for all object \( c \in \mathcal{C} \), the map of spaces \( f(c) : X(c) \rightarrow Y(c) \) is \( n \)-connected (weak homotopy equivalence).

We need the following version of the Whitehead Theorem, easily obtained as a translation to the pointed setting from Theorem 3.4 in [3], page 222.

Theorem 7. Let \( f : Y \rightarrow Z \) be a pointed map of \( \mathcal{C} \)-spaces and \( X \) be a pointed \( \mathcal{C} \)-space. The map on homotopy classes of maps between \( \mathcal{C} \)-spaces induced by \( f \) is denoted by \( f_* : [X, Y]_\mathcal{C} \rightarrow [X, Z]_\mathcal{C} \). Then:

- \( f \) is \( n \)-connected if and only if \( f_* \) is bijective for any pointed \( \mathcal{C} \)-CW complex with \( \text{dim}(X) < n \) and surjective for any free \( \mathcal{C} \)-CW complex with \( \text{dim}(X) = n \).

- \( f \) is a weak homotopy equivalence if and only if \( f_* \) is bijective for any pointed \( \mathcal{C} \)-CW complex \( X \).

There exists a pointed \( \mathcal{C} \)-CW approximation of every pair of pointed \( \mathcal{C} \)-spaces as it is easy to obtain by modifying Theorem 3.7 in [3], page 223 to the pointed setting.

We present two useful constructions for spaces over a category. They are an instance of ends and coends in category theory. Well known constructions like geometric realizations and mapping spaces give examples of coends.

Definition 8. Let \( X \) be a contravariant, pointed \( \mathcal{C} \)-space over \( \mathcal{C} \) and let \( Y \) be a covariant pointed \( \mathcal{C} \)-space over \( \mathcal{C} \). Their tensor product \( X \otimes_\mathcal{C} Y \) is the space defined by

\[
\prod_{C \in \text{Obj}(\mathcal{C})} X(C) \land Y(C) / \sim
\]

where \( \sim \) is the equivalence relation generated by \( (x \phi, y) \sim (x, \phi y) \).
Definition 9. Let $X$ and $Y$ be pointed $\mathcal{C}$-spaces of the same variance. Their map space $\text{hom}_{\mathcal{C}}(X,Y)$ is the space of natural transformations between the functors $X$ and $Y$, topologized as subspace of the product of the spaces of pointed maps $\prod_{C \in \text{Ob} \mathcal{C}} \text{Map}(X(C), Y(C))$.

Given a covariant (contravariant) $\mathcal{C}$-space $X$ and a covariant functor $F : \mathcal{C} \to \mathcal{D}$, the induction with respect to $F$ is the $\mathcal{D}$-space is given by

$$F_*X = X \otimes \text{mor}_{\mathcal{D}}(F(?), ??)_+$$

respectively

$$F_*X = \text{mor}_{\mathcal{D}}(??, F(?))_+ \otimes X$$

Given a contravariant (covariant) $\mathcal{D}$-space the restriction to $F$, $F^*X$ is the composition $X \circ F$. Both induction and restriction are functorial, in the sense that a morphism of $\mathcal{C}$-spaces (i.e., a natural transformation) $f : X \to Y$ induces morphisms $F_*(f) : F_*X \to F_*Y$, $F^*(f) : F^*X \to F^*Y$ given by $f \otimes \text{id}$, $\text{id} \otimes f$, respectively $f \circ F$ in the covariant case and $\text{id} \otimes f$, respectively $f \circ F$ in the contravariant case.

Induction and restriction satisfy adjunctions, which are described in Lemma 1.9 in page 208 in [3].

Lemma 10. Given a $\mathcal{C}$-space $X$, a covariant functor $F : \mathcal{C} \to \mathcal{D}$ and a $\mathcal{D}$-space $Y$, there are natural adjunction homeomorphisms

- $\text{hom}_{\mathcal{D}}(F_*X, Y) \to \text{hom}_{\mathcal{C}}(X, F^*Y)$;
- $F_*X \otimes Y \to X \otimes \text{mor}_{\mathcal{D}}(F(?), ??)_+$;
- $Y \otimes F_*X \to F^*X \otimes C$;

for a $\mathcal{C}$-space and a $\mathcal{D}$-space $Y$ of the required variance.

The following definition contains a set of axioms for $\mathcal{C}$-cohomology theories.

Definition 11. Let $\mathcal{C}$ be a small category. A reduced $\mathcal{C}$-cohomology theory is a sequence of weak $\mathcal{C}$-homotopy invariant, contravariant functors $\mathcal{H}^n_{\mathcal{C}} : \mathcal{C}$-Pairs $\to \mathbb{Z} - \text{Mod}$, together with natural transformations

$$\delta^n_{(X,A)} : \mathcal{H}^n_{\mathcal{C}}(A) \to \mathcal{H}^{n+1}_{\mathcal{C}}(X,A)$$

$$\sigma^n_{(X,A)} : \mathcal{H}^n_{\mathcal{C}}(X) \to \mathcal{H}^{n+1}_{\mathcal{C}}(\Sigma(X))$$

(where $\Sigma(X,A)$ denotes the objectwise reduced suspension) satisfying
• The boundary homomorphisms fit into a long exact sequence

\[
\cdots \to H_C^n(A) \xrightarrow{\delta_{n}^{X,A}} H_C^{n+1}(X, A) \xrightarrow{p^{*}} H_C^{n+1}(X) \xrightarrow{i^{*}} H_C^{n+1}(A) \to \cdots
\]

• For any wedge \( \vee X_i \) of pointed \( C \)-spaces, the inclusions \( X_i \to \vee X_i \) induce an isomorphism

\[
H_C^*(\vee_i X_i) \cong \prod_i H_C^*(X_i)
\]

• For any pair \((X, A)\) the homomorphisms \( \sigma_n^{X,A} \) are isomorphisms.

**Definition 12.** An \( \Omega \)-spectrum is a sequence of pointed spaces \( E = (E_n)_{n \in \mathbb{Z}} \) together with structure maps \( \sigma_n : E_n \wedge S^1 \to E_{n+1} \), such that the adjoint maps \( \Omega E_{n+1} \to E_n \) are homotopy equivalences. A strong map of \( \Omega \)-spectra \( f : E \to F \) is a sequence of pointed maps \( f_n : E_n \to F_n \) compatible with the structure maps. We denote by \( \text{SPECTRA} \) the category of \( \Omega \)-spectra and strong maps. Recall that the homotopy groups of a spectrum \( E \) are defined by

\[
\pi_i(E) = \text{colim} \pi_{i+k}(E_k)
\]

where the structure maps are given as follows:

\[
\pi_{i+k}(E_k) \xrightarrow{\wedge id} \pi_{i+k+1}(E_k \wedge S^1) \xrightarrow{\sigma_k} \pi_{i+k+1}(E_{k+1})
\]

**Definition 13.** A contravariant (covariant) spectrum over the small category \( C \) is a contravariant (covariant) functor \( E : C \to \text{SPECTRA} \).

Let us recall the following

**Definition 14.** Let \((X, A)\) be a \( C \)-pair of the same variance of the \( C \)-spectrum \( E \). We define the cohomology groups \( E_C^p(X, A) \) for a pair \((X, A)\) with coefficients in the spectrum \( E \), by

\[
E_C^p(X, A) = \pi_{-p}(\text{hom}_C(X \cup_A \text{Cone}(A), E))
\]

If \( A = \emptyset \), we just drop \( A \) from the notation above.

We now discuss an algebraic version of the previous constructions.

**Definition 15.** Let \( C \) be a small category and \( R \) be a commutative ring. A contravariant (covariant) \( RC \)-module is a contravariant (covariant) functor from \( C \) to the category of \( R \)-modules. A contravariant (covariant) \( RC \)-chain complex is a functor from \( C \) to the category of \( R \)-chain complexes.
A contravariant $RC$-module is free if it is isomorphic to an $RC$-module of the shape

\[ \bigoplus_{i \in I} R[\text{mor}_C(?,c_i)] \]

for some index set $I$ and objects $c_i \in C$.

Given a covariant $C$-module $A$ and a contravariant $C$-module $B$, the tensor product is defined to be the $R$-module

\[ \bigoplus_{c \in \text{Ob}(C)} A(c) \otimes B(c) / \sim \]

where $\sim$ is generated by the typical tensor relation $mf \otimes n = m \otimes fn$.

Given two $RC$-modules $A, B$ of the same variance, the module

\[ \text{hom}_{RC}(A, B) \]

is the $Z$-module of natural transformations of functors from $C$ to $R$-modules.

The following construction will be needed later:

**Definition 16.** Given a category $C$, the canonical $C$-cellular approximation of the constant functor $\{\bullet\}$ is defined to be the contravariant $C$-space which assigns to an object $c$ in $C$, the geometric realization of the category under $c$, $Bc \downarrow C$, where $c \downarrow C$ is the category where the objects are morphisms $\varphi : c \to c_0$ and a morphism between $\varphi_0 : c \to c_0$ and $\varphi_1 : c \to c_1$ is a morphism $\psi$ in $C$ such that $\psi \circ \varphi_0 = \varphi_1$.

Fix an object $c$, and denote by $Bc \downarrow C$ the classifying space of the category under $c$. The contravariant, free $ZC$-chain complex $C^Z_\ast(C)$ is defined as the cellular $Z$-chain complex of the canonical $C$-cellular approximation of the constant functor $\{\bullet\}$. In symbols

\[ C^Z_\ast(c) = C^\ast(Bc \downarrow C) \]

**Definition 17.** Given a $C$-space $(X, A)$ and a $C$-$Z$ module $M$ of the same variance, the $n$-th $C$-cohomology of $(X, A)$ with coefficients in $M$, $H^n_{ZC}((X, A); M)$ is the $n$-th cohomology of the $C$-cochain complex obtained by taking the $Z$-module of $ZC$ maps between the cellular $C$-chain complex of a $C$-CW approximation $(X', A') \to (X, A)$ and $M$. In symbols:

\[ H^n_{ZC}((X, A); M) := H^n(\text{hom}_{ZC}(C_\ast(X', A'), M)) \]

In the case of the category $Or(G)$, the $Or(G)$ cohomology with coefficients in an $Or(G)$-module is known as Bredon cohomology [2].
2. Representability

In this section we will prove:

**Theorem 18.** Let $\mathcal{H}_C : \mathcal{C} \to \mathcal{P} \to \mathcal{Z} \to \mathcal{M}$ be a $\mathcal{C}$-cohomology theory defined on contravariant $\mathcal{C}$-spaces, in the sense of Definition 17. There exists a contravariant $\mathcal{C}$-$\Omega$-spectrum $E_{\mathcal{H}_C}$ and a natural transformation of $\mathcal{C}$-cohomology theories

$$\mathcal{H}_C(X) \to [X, E_{\mathcal{H}_C}(n)]$$

consisting of group isomorphisms.

We introduce the notion of a double sided mapping cylinder in the context of (pointed) $\mathcal{C}$-spaces.

**Definition 19.** Let $f, g : X \to Y$ be two pointed maps between pointed $\mathcal{C}$-spaces. A double sided mapping cylinder for $f$ and $g$ is a pointed $\mathcal{C}$-space $Z$ together with a natural transformation $p : Y \to Z$ with the property that for any map $j : Y \to W$ satisfying $[j \circ f] = [j \circ g]$, one has a map $j' : Z \to W$ such that $[j] = [j' \circ p]$.

There exists a concrete model for the double sided mapping cylinder of two pointed $\mathcal{C}$-maps $f, g : X \to Y$, and denoted by $C_{f,g}$, and defined as the quotient space

$$X \land I \bigcup Z/(x,0) \sim f(x) \quad (x,1) \sim g(x) \quad + \land I_+ \sim +$$

An easy consequence of the exact sequence property for pairs in reduced $\mathcal{C}$-cohomology theories is the following fact.

**Lemma 20.** Let $T : \mathcal{C} \to \mathcal{P} \to \mathcal{Z} \to \mathcal{M}$ be a $\mathcal{C}$-cohomology theory. Let $j : Y \to C$ be the canonical inclusion of into the double sided mapping cylinder for the $\mathcal{C}$-maps $f, g : X \to Y$. Then, for every element $w \in T(Y)$ satisfying that $T[g](w) = T[f](w)$ in $T(X)$, there exists a $v \in T(C)$ with $T[j](v) = w$.

The following result is crucial for the representability theorem proved in this section. One usual reference is [8], page 61.

**Lemma 21** (Yoneda). Let $T : \mathcal{C} \to \mathcal{P} \to \mathcal{Z} \to \mathcal{M}$ be a contravariant functor defined on the small category $\mathcal{C}$ with values in the category of sets. Then, for every object $c$ there is a bijection

$$\{\text{Natural transformations } \text{mor}_C(?, c) \to T(?)\} \cong \{\text{Elements in } T(c)\}$$

Moreover, the bijection is given by assigning to a natural transformation $t : \text{mor}_C(?, c) \to T$ the image of the map induced by the identity $t(i_c) : T(c) \to T(c)$. The inverse map is given by assigning to an element $u \in T(c)$ the natural transformation $\varphi_u : \text{mor}(?, c) \to T(?)$ which assigns a morphism $f : d \to c$ the evaluation $T(f)(u) \in T(d)$. 
Definition 22. A functor $T : C \to \text{Set}$ naturally equivalent to $\text{mor}_C(\cdot, c)$ for a fixed object $c \in C$ is called representable. An element $u \in T(c)$ associated to $id_c$ under such a natural correspondence is called universal element. In case of a functor $T$ defined on the category of $C$-spaces, and a $C$-space $Y$ representing $T$, the $C$-space $Y$ is said to be a classifying object.

Definition 23. Let $T$ be a contravariant, $C$-homotopy invariant functor defined on the category of $C$-pairs, and taking values in the category of abelian groups.

- $T$ is said to have the exact sequence property if the following holds: For any sequence of $C$-pairs, $A \xrightarrow{f} X \xrightarrow{g} (X, A)$ the induced sequence
  \[ T(X, A) \xrightarrow{T(j)} T(X) \xrightarrow{T(i)} T(A) \]
  is exact.

- $T$ is said to satisfy the wedge axiom if for any family of $C$-spaces $X_i$, the inclusions $X_i \to \vee X_i$ induce abelian group isomorphisms $T(\vee X_i) \cong \prod T(X_i)$.

Notice in particular that this is the case for a $C$-cohomology group in a fixed degree $T := \mathcal{H}_C^n(\cdot, \varnothing)$.

Definition 24. Given a functor $T$ satisfying the exact sequence property and the wedge axiom defined in the category of contravariant $C$-spaces and a $C$-space $Y$, an element $u \in T(Y)$ is said to be $n$-universal if the function $\varphi_u : \text{mor}_C(\cdot, c)_+ \land S^q, Y)_C \to T(\text{mor}_C(\cdot, c)_+ \land S^q)$ given by the Yoneda lemma is an isomorphism for $q < n$ and an epimorphism for $q = n$ and all objects $c \in C$.

Lemma 25. Let $Y$ be a $C$-space, let $T$ be a functor satisfying the exact sequence property and the wedge axiom. Pick up an element $u \in T(Y)$. Then, there is a $C$-CW complex $Y_1$ obtained by attaching pointed $C$-cells to $Y$ and a 1-universal element $u_1 \in T(Y_1)$ with $u_1 \mid_Y = u \in T(Y)$.

Proof. We denote by $Y_1 = Y \vee_a \text{mor}_C(\cdot, c)_+ \land S^1$ the space obtained by attaching a copy of the pointed 1-cell for every element $a \in T(\text{mor}_C(\cdot, c)_+ \land S^1)$.

From the wedge axiom one gets $T(Y_1) \cong T(Y) \times \pi_0 T(\text{mor}_C(\cdot, c)_+ \land S^1)$. Take the element $u_1 \in T(Y_1)$ which maps under this equivalence onto $(y, (\alpha))$. Clearly, $u_1 \mid_Y = u$ and notice that the natural transformation induced by $u_1$ takes
\[ [S^0 \land \text{mor}_C(\cdot, c)_+, Y_1)_C \to [S^0, Y_1(c)]_+ = \{\bullet\} \]
to the set $T(S^0 \land \text{mor}_C(\cdot, c)_+) \cong \{\bullet\}$ bijectively for every object $c$.

The natural transformation $[\text{mor}_C(\cdot, c)_+ \land S^1, Y)_C \to T(\text{mor}_C(\cdot, c)_+ \land S^1)$ is surjective. To see this, let $\alpha \in T(\text{mor}_C(\cdot, c)_+ \land S^1)$. Let $f_\alpha : \text{mor}_C(\cdot, c)_+ \land S^1 \to \vee_a \text{mor}_C(\cdot, c)_+ \land S^1$ be the inclusion. The class $[f_\alpha]$ maps under the transformation to $\alpha$. \qed
Lemma 26. Given a C-space $Y$ and an element $u \in T(Y)$, there is a space $Y_n$ obtained by attaching pointed cells of dimension less or equal than $n$ and an $n$-universal element $u'_n \in T(Y_n)$ with $u'_n |_Y = u$.

**Proof.** We assume inductively that we constructed $Y_{n-1}$ with an element $u'_{n-1}$ with the above described property for $n-1$ instead of $n$. As before, for $\beta \in T(\text{mor}_C(?, c)_+ \wedge S^n)$, we consider a copy of $\text{mor}_C(?, c)_+ \wedge S^n$ and we put $Y'_n = Y_{n-1} \vee (\vee \beta \text{mor}_C(?, c)_+ \wedge S^n)$. The wedge axiom gives $T(Y'_n) \cong T(Y_{n-1}) \times \Pi \beta T(\text{mor}_C(?, c)_+ \wedge S^n)$. We select the element $u_n$ which maps to $(u'_{n-1}, (\beta))$ under this equivalence. As in the previous result, the corresponding map $\varphi_{u'_n} : [\text{mor}_C(?, c)_+ \wedge S^n, Y'_n] \to T(\text{mor}_C(?, c)_+ \wedge S^n)$ is surjective.

We select a representative $f_{\alpha}$ of every element $\alpha \in [\text{mor}_C(?, c)_+ \wedge S^{n-1}, Y'_n]$ with $\varphi_{u'_n}(\alpha) = 0 \in T(\text{mor}_C(?, c)_+ \wedge S^{n-1})$. We attach an $n$-cell of the type $\text{mor}_C(?, c)_+ \wedge D^n$ with $f_{\alpha}$ as attaching map and obtain the space $Y_n$.

The space $Y'_n$ together with the inclusion $j : Y'_n \hookrightarrow Y_n$ is a double sided mapping cylinder for the diagram $\vee_i \text{mor}_C(?, c)_+ \wedge S^{n-1} \xrightarrow{\vee i} Y'_n \hookrightarrow Y_n$, where $i$ is the map given by $f_{\alpha}$ on each summand $\alpha$, and $c$ is the map given by $\vee f_{\alpha}$. Notice that $u'_n$ satisfies $T[c](u'_n) = T[i](u'_n)$. From Lemma 20 one gets an element $u_n \in T(Y_n)$ satisfying $u_n |_{Y_{n-1}} = u'_{n-1}$. We claim that $u_n$ has the desired property.

The following diagram commutes

$[\text{mor}_C(?, c)_+ \wedge S^q, Y_{n-1}]_C \xrightarrow{j_*|_{Y_{n-1}}} [\text{mor}_C(?, c)_+ \wedge S^q, Y_n]_C$

$\varphi_{u_{n-1}} \Rightarrow \varphi_{u'_n}$

$T(\text{mor}_C(?, c)_+ \wedge S^q)$

With $j_*$ an isomorphism for $q \leq n - 2$, since the cell structure in lower dimensions remains unaffected. Thus, in that range, $\varphi_{u_{n-1}}$ is an isomorphism, as well as $\varphi_{u'_n}$. This is actually the situation for $q = n - 1$. The surjectivity of the map is clear. Now, let $f : \text{mor}_C(?, c)_+ \wedge S^{n-1} \to Y_n$ be a representative of an element in $\ker \varphi_{u_n}$. Because of the surjectivity of $j_*$, there is a map $\alpha : \text{mor}_C(?, c)_+ \wedge S^{n-1} \to Y_{n-1}$ such that $j_*(\alpha) = f$.

Then, $\varphi_{u_{n-1}}(\alpha) = 0$, and $\alpha$ represents one of the attaching maps used to define $Y_n$. It follows that $j_*(\alpha) = 0$ and $f$ is nullhomotopic. The surjectivity in the case $q = n$ is a consequence of the corresponding property for $\varphi_{u'_n}$.

Remark 27. Notice that the construction proposed here depends on the choice of maps $f_{\alpha_i}$ representing elements $\alpha_i$ for $T(\text{mor}_C(?, c)_+ \wedge S^i)$, giving the attaching maps to obtain $Y_{i+1}$ out of $Y_i$, as well as the subsequent choice of elements $\beta \in \ker j^* : T(Y_i) \to T(Y_{i-1})$.  

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Corollary 28. Given a $\mathcal{C}$-space $Y$ and an element $u \in T(Y)$, there is a $\mathcal{C}$-CW complex $Y'$ obtained from $Y$ by attaching cells, together with an $\infty$-universal element $u' \in T(Y')$ satisfying $u' \mid_Y = u$.

**Proof.** From lemma 26, we get a sequence of spaces $Y_n$, linked with maps $i_n : Y_n \to Y_{n+1}$, one each obtained from the previous one after an attachment of pointed cells. The space $Y = \text{hocolim}_n Y_n$ is a pointed $\mathcal{C}$-CW-complex. We get also $n$-universal elements $u_n$ one each extending the previous one. From lemma 20 for the pairs $(Y_{n+1}, Y_n)$, there exists an element $u \in T(Y)$ satisfying $u \mid_{Y_n} = y_n$. The morphism $\varphi_u : [\text{mor}_\mathcal{C}(?, c) \wedge S^q, Y] \to T(\text{mor}_\mathcal{C}(?, c) \wedge S^q)$ is an isomorphism for every $q$. \(\square\)

The following result analyzes uniqueness of the spaces obtained with this construction

**Proposition 29.** Let $Y$ and $Y'$ be free $\mathcal{C}$-CW complexes with $\infty$-universal elements $u \in T(Y)$, $u' \in T(Y')$. Then there is a (weak) $\mathcal{C}$-homotopy equivalence $h : Y \to Y'$.

**Proof.** Let $Y_0 = Y \vee Y'$. From the wedge axiom one gets $T(Y_0) \cong T(Y) \times T(Y')$. There exists a unique element $u_0 \in T(Y_0)$ being mapped into $(u, u')$ via the wedge isomorphism and restricting to $u_0$. From Corollary 28 we get a space $Y''$ with an $\infty$-universal element $u''$. We denote by $j$ the composition of the inclusion $Y \hookrightarrow Y_0 \hookrightarrow Y''$. In the commutative diagram

$$
\begin{array}{ccc}
[m_{\mathcal{C}}(?, c) \wedge S^q, Y]_c & \xrightarrow{j_*} & [m_{\mathcal{C}}(?, c) \wedge S^q, Y'']_c \\
 \varphi_u'' & & \varphi_u'' \\
 & T(m_{\mathcal{C}}(?, c) \wedge S^q) & \\
\end{array}
$$

the descending arrows are isomorphisms. It follows that the homotopy sets are isomorphic for every $q$. Then, as a consequence of Theorem 7 one gets a $\mathcal{C}$-weak homotopy equivalence $Y \to Y''$ and hence a $\mathcal{C}$-homotopy equivalence between $Y$ and $Y''$. \(\square\)

Finally, we state the following technical results, which are the last requirements to finalize the proof.

**Lemma 30.** Let $(X, A)$ be a $\mathcal{C}$-CW pair. Then, for a map $g : A \to Y$, an universal $\infty$-element $u \in T(Y)$ and an element $v \in T(X)$ with $T[g](u) = v \mid_A$, there exists an extension $f : X \to Y$ with $T[f](u) = v$

**Proof.** We consider $X \vee Y$ and $(v, u) \in T(X \vee Y)$ under the canonical equivalence. Then, if $Z$ is a double mapping cylinder for the maps $A \xrightarrow{g} X \to X \vee Y$,
$A \xrightarrow{g} Y \to X \vee Y$ with structural map $j : X \vee Y \to Z$, we get from Lemma 20 an element $w \in T(Z)$ satisfying $T[j](w) = (v, u)$. We can apply corollary 28 to obtain a pointed $C$-CW complex $Y'$ obtained from $Z$ and an $\infty$-universal element extending $w$. Due to proposition 29 there exists a map $h : Y' \to Y$ being a $C$-homotopy equivalence. Now define $f'$ as the composition $X \xrightarrow{i} X \vee Y \xrightarrow{j} Z \xrightarrow{i} Y' \xrightarrow{h} Y$ and notice that the maps $f' \circ i$ and $g$ are homotopic, due to the property of double sided mapping cylinders. The map $A \xrightarrow{\alpha} X$ is a $C$-cofibration. In particular, if $H$ is any homotopy between $f' \circ k$ and $g$, the problem

\[
\begin{tikzcd}
A \arrow{r}{id \wedge i_0} \arrow{dr}{k \wedge id} & X \wedge I \arrow{d}{H} & Y \\
A \wedge I & & 
\end{tikzcd}
\]

admits a solution $\bar{H}$. We define $f = \bar{H}_1$ and $T[f](u) = v$. \checkmark

**Proposition 31.** $\infty$-universal elements are universal. That is, if $Y$ is a $C$-space, and $u \in T(Y)$ is an $\infty$-universal element, then $\varphi_u$ induces a natural isomorphism $[X, Y] \cong T(X)$

**Proof.** We prove that the morphism $\varphi_u$ is surjective. Let $v \in T(X)$. Then we apply lemma 30 to the $C$-pair $(X, +)$ and the map $\rho : + \to Y$ to get a map $f : X \to Y$ with $T[f](v) = u$. Now, let us prove the injectivity. Suppose we have $[g_0], [g_1] \in [X, Y]_C$ with $\varphi_u([g_0]) = \varphi_u([g_1])$. We consider the space $X' = X \wedge \partial I_+ / \{+\} \wedge I_+$. Now we consider the subspace $A = X \wedge \partial I_+ / \{+\} \wedge I$. $A$ is homeomorphic to $X \vee X$. Define the map $g : A \to Y$ by $g = g_1 \vee g_0$. We consider the element $v'$ naturally assigned to $(T[g_0](u), T[g_1](u)) \in T(X) \times T(X) \cong T(X \vee X)$ and $u$. We apply then lemma 30 to this situation. One gets a map $f' : X' \to Y$ extending $g$ with the property that $T[f'](u) = (T[g_0](u), T[g_1](u))$. Let $\rho : X \wedge I_+ \to X'$ be the quotient map and define $H : X \wedge I_+ \to X$ by the composition $f \circ \rho$. This gives a $C$-homotopy between $g_0$ and $g_1$. \checkmark

Let $\mathcal{H}^n_C$ be a $C$-cohomology theory and let $\alpha^q \in \mathcal{H}^n_C(\text{mor}(?, c)_+ \wedge S^0)$ be an arbitrary element. Consider the space $W_0$ obtained as the wedge $\bigvee_{\alpha^q} \text{mor}(?, c)_+ \wedge S^0$ and let $i_{\alpha^q} : \text{mor}(?, c)_+ \wedge S^0 \to W_0$ the inclusion of the summand indicated by $\alpha^q$. Because of the wedge axiom, there exists an element $u_0 \in \mathcal{H}^n_C(\text{mor}(?, c)_+ \wedge S^0)$ such that $i_{\alpha^q}(u_0) = \alpha^q$. Applying corollary 28 and proposition 29 to the element $u_0$, the space $W_0$ and the functor $\mathcal{H}^n_C$ gives a contravariant $C$-space $Y_{\mathcal{H}^n_C}$. 

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The $\mathcal{C}$-spaces $(E_{\mathcal{H}_C}(n)(c)) := Y_{\mathcal{H}_C}$ obtained by the previous construction is an $\Omega$-$\mathcal{C}$-spectrum. To check this, notice that for any object $c$, the naturality of the transformation associates to the suspension isomorphism $\sigma_X : \mathcal{H}_C(\text{mor}_C(?, c)) \to \mathcal{H}_C^{+1}(\Sigma\text{mor}_C(?, c))$ a natural isomorphism of representable functors

$$[\text{mor}_C(?, c)_+, Y_{\mathcal{H}_C}]_C \to [\text{mor}_C(?, c)_+, \Omega Y_{\mathcal{H}_C}^{+1}]_C$$

It follows that there exists a weak $\mathcal{C}$-homotopy equivalence $Y_{\mathcal{H}_C} \to \Omega Y_{\mathcal{H}_C}^{+1}$ and hence the spaces are $\Omega$-spectra.

This finishes the proof of Theorem 18.

3. Natural transformations

In this section we will analyze the behaviour of the previous construction under natural transformations.

Definition 32. Let $F : \mathcal{C} \to \mathcal{D}$ be a a covariant functor between small categories, let $\mathcal{H}_C$ and $\mathcal{K}_D$ be $\mathcal{C}$- and $\mathcal{D}$- cohomology theories defined on contravariant $\mathcal{C}$, respectively $\mathcal{D}$-spaces. Given integer numbers $n, k$, an operation of type $(F, \mathcal{H}, \mathcal{K}, n, k)$ is a natural transformation

$$\Theta_X : \mathcal{K}_D^n(F_*(X)) \to \mathcal{H}_C^n(X)$$

of natural group homomorphisms, compatible with long exact sequences, boundary maps and suspension isomorphisms. In other words, for every $\mathcal{C}$-map $f : X \to Y$ the following diagram commutes

\[
\begin{array}{ccc}
\mathcal{H}_C^n(X) & \xrightarrow{f^*} & \mathcal{H}_C^n(Y) \\
\Theta_X & & \downarrow \Theta_Y \\
\mathcal{K}_D^n(F_*(X)) & \xrightarrow{\mathcal{K}_D^n(F_*(f))} & \mathcal{K}_D^n(F_*(Y))
\end{array}
\]

And the diagram is compatible with long exact sequences, boundary operators and suspension isomorphisms.

Lemma 33. Let $\Theta : \mathcal{K}_D^n(F_* ) \to \mathcal{H}_C^n( )$ be an operation of type $(F, \mathcal{H}, \mathcal{K}, r, r)$. Then there is a cellular map $F_{\Theta} : F^* Y_{\mathcal{K}_D} \to Y_{\mathcal{H}_C}$, well defined up to $\mathcal{C}$-homotopy inducing $\Theta$.

Proof. For simplicity, we denote the $\mathcal{C}$- spaces $Y_{\mathcal{H}_C}$, respectively $Y_{\mathcal{K}_D}(F_*( ) )$ by $Y_{\mathcal{H}_C}$, respectively $F^* Y_{\mathcal{K}_D}$. The last notation is justified by the fact that the $\mathcal{C}$-space $F^* Y_{\mathcal{K}_D}$ has the same $\mathcal{C}$-homotopy type as $Y_{\mathcal{H}_C}(F_*( ) )$ due to proposition 29 and the adjunctions in lemma 10.

We construct the map inductively on the cell skeleton. Let $C$ be an object in $\mathcal{C}$. The map $F : \text{mor}_C(?, c) \to \text{mor}_D(F(?), F(c))$ assigning to a morphism $\psi$ in $\mathcal{C}$ the morphism $F(\psi)$ gives a map $F_{\Theta_0} := f^0 : F^* Y_{\mathcal{K}_D} \to Y_{\mathcal{H}_C}$.
We assume inductively that we constructed natural transformations \( f_q := F_{\Theta_q} : F^*Y^q_{K_D} \rightarrow Y^q_{\mathcal{H}^c} \) for \( q = 1, \ldots, n \) such that the diagrams

\[
\begin{align*}
\pi_q(Y^q_{\mathcal{H}^c}(c)) & \xrightarrow{F_{\Theta_q}} \mathcal{H}^c_{\mathcal{C}}(\text{mor}_C(?, c)_+ \wedge S^q) \\
\pi_q(F^*Y^q_{K_D}(F(c))) & \xrightarrow{\Theta} \mathcal{K}^r_D(F_*(\text{mor}_C(?, c)_+ \wedge S^q))
\end{align*}
\]

commute.

Recall that in the proof of lemma 26 we used the intermediate space

\[
X^q_{\mathcal{H}} = Y^q_{\mathcal{H}^c-1} \bigvee_{\alpha \in \mathcal{H}^c_{\mathcal{C}}(\text{mor}_C(?, c)_+ \wedge S^q)} \text{mor}_C(?, c)_+ \wedge S^q
\]

and group homomorphisms

\[
\begin{align*}
\alpha_{\mathcal{H}} : \pi_q(X^q_{\mathcal{H}^c}(c)) & \rightarrow \mathcal{H}^c_{\mathcal{C}}(\text{mor}_C(?, c)_+ \wedge S^q) \\
\beta_{\mathcal{C}} : \pi_q(F^*X^q_{K_D}(F(c))) & \rightarrow \mathcal{K}^r_D(F_*(\text{mor}_D(?, c)_+ \wedge S^q)) \text{ obtained by the q-}
\end{align*}
\]

universality of elements in \( \mathcal{H}^c_{\mathcal{C}}(Y^q_{\mathcal{H}^c}) \), respectively \( \mathcal{K}^r_D(F_*(Y^q_{K_D})) \). We obtained \( Y^{q+1}_{\mathcal{H}^c} \) respectively \( Y^{q+1}_{K_D} \) by attaching cells by means of the maps in the kernel of these homomorphisms. Notice that our inductive hypothesis and the fact that the operation is a group homomorphism imply that \( \ker \Theta_{\text{mor}_C(?, c)_+ \wedge S^q} \circ \beta_{\mathcal{C}} \subset \ker \alpha_{\mathcal{H}} \circ f_q \), since the diagram above commutes. Let us define the map \( f_{q+1} \) as the dotted arrow in the following diagram

\[
\begin{array}{c}
\bigvee_{\alpha_{\mathcal{H}}} (\text{mor}_C(?, c)_+ \wedge S^q) \rightarrow \bigvee_{\beta_{\mathcal{C}}} (\text{mor}_C(?, c)_+ \wedge D^{q+1}) \\
\bigvee_{\alpha_{\mathcal{H}}} (\text{mor}_C(?, c)_+ \wedge S^q) \rightarrow \bigvee_{\alpha_{\mathcal{H}}} (\text{mor}_C(?, c)_+ \wedge D^{q+1}) \rightarrow \bigvee_{\beta_{\mathcal{C}}} (\text{mor}_C(?, c)_+ \wedge D^{q+1})
\end{array}
\]

where the map \( g_q \) maps all wedge factors \( \alpha \) to the factor \( \beta \) defined by the homotopy class of the constant map \( \text{mor}_C(?, c)_+ \wedge S^q \rightarrow Y_{\mathcal{H}} \) with image on the basis point .
In this factor, the map \( g^q \) is defined to be the map \( F \land \text{id} : \text{mor}_C(?, c) \land D^{q+1} \to \text{mor}_D(F(?), F(c)) \land D^q \). This finishes the inductive definition of \( f \).

\[ \square \]

4. Equivariant cohomology theories and natural transformations.

The study of \( C \)-spaces and \( C \)-cohomology theories was motivated by equivariant algebraic topology, particularly examples 4 and 3. The notion of \( C \)-cohomology theory and the notion of an operation generalize the notion of an induction structure in equivariant cohomology theories, as well as some operations in equivariant cohomology theories.

**Definition 34.** Let \( X \) be a pointed space with a base point preserving section of the discrete group \( G \). Recall that a pointed \( G \)-CW complex structure on \((X, A)\) consists of a filtration of the \( G \)-space \( X = \bigcup_{0 \leq n} X_n \), \( X_0 = A \) together with a choice of a \( G \)-fixed base point \( \{ \bullet \} \subset A \) and for which every space is inductively obtained from the previous one by attaching cells in pushout diagrams consisting of pointed maps

\[
\begin{array}{ccc}
\coprod_i S^{n-1} \land G/H_+ & \longrightarrow & X_{n-1} \\
\downarrow & & \downarrow \\
\coprod_i D^n \land G/H_+ & \longrightarrow & X_n
\end{array}
\]

There exist functors \( ? : G-\text{Spaces}_+ \rightarrow \text{Or}(G)-\text{Spaces}_+ \) and \( \sim : \text{Or}(G)-\text{Spaces}_+ \rightarrow G-\text{Spaces}_+ \) between the categories of pointed spaces over the orbit category \( \text{Or}(G) \) and the category of pointed \( G \)-spaces. They assign to a \( G \)-space the contravariant space of example 4 and to a contravariant \( \text{Or}(G) \)-space the space \( \hat{X} := X \otimes \nabla \), where \( \nabla \) is the covariant \( \text{Or}(G) \)-space defined as \( G/H_+ \) on every orbit \( G/H \) with the action of \( G \) induced from the left translation on \( G/H \).

These functors are adjoint and take pointed \( G \)-CW complexes to pointed \( \text{Or}(G, \mathcal{F}) \)-complexes, giving a bijection between cells of type \( G/H \) in \( Y \) and pointed cells in the \( \text{Or}(G) \)-space \( Y^\sim \) based at the object \( G/H \). Compare \[ \square \], Theorem 7.4 in page 250 for the unpointed version.

Recall the notion of an Equivariant Cohomology Theory \[ \square \].

**Definition 35.** Let \( G \) be a group and fix an associative ring with unit \( R \). A \( G \)-Cohomology Theory with values in \( R \)-modules is a collection of contravariant functors \( \mathcal{H}^G_{n+1} \) indexed by the integer numbers \( \mathbb{Z} \) from the category of \( G \)-CW pairs together with natural transformations \( \partial^n_G : \mathcal{H}^G_n(A) := \mathcal{H}^G_n(A, \emptyset) \to \mathcal{H}^G_{n+1}(X, A) \), such that the following axioms are satisfied:

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(i) If \( f_0 \) and \( f_1 \) are \( G \)-homotopic maps \((X, A) \to (Y, B)\) of \( G \)-CW pairs, then \( H^n_G(f_0) = H^n_G(f_1) \) for all \( n \).

(ii) Given a pair \((X, A)\) of \( G \)-CW complexes, there is a long exact sequence

\[
\cdots \xrightarrow{\partial^{n-1}_G(i)} H^{n-1}_G(A) \xrightarrow{\partial^n_G} H^n_G(X, A) \xrightarrow{H^n_G(\iota)} H^n_G(X) \xrightarrow{\partial^n_G} H^{n+1}_G(X, A) \xrightarrow{H^{n+1}_G(\iota)} \cdots
\]

where \( i : A \to X \) and \( j : X \to (X, A) \) are the inclusions.

(iii) Let \((X, A)\) be a \( G \)-CW pair and \( f : A \to B \) be a cellular map. The canonical mal \((F, f) : (X, A) \to (X \cup f B, B)\) induces an isomorphism

\[ H^n_G(X \cup f B, B) \xrightarrow{\cong} H^n_G(X, A) \]

(iv) Let \( \{X_i | i \in I\} \) be a family of \( G \)-CW-complexes and denote by \( j_i : X_i \to \bigsqcup X_i \) the inclusion map. Then the map

\[ \Pi_{i \in I} H^n_G(j_i) : H^n_G\left(\bigsqcup X_i\right) \xrightarrow{\cong} \Pi_{i \in I} H^n_G(X_i) \]

is bijective for each \( n \in \mathbb{Z} \).

Let \( \alpha : H \to G \) be a group homomorphism and \( X \) be a \( H \)-CW complex. The induced space \( \text{ind}_\alpha X \), is defined to be the \( G \)-CW complex defined as the quotient space \( G \times X \) by the right \( H \)-action given by \( (g, x) \cdot h = (g\alpha(h), h^{-1}x) \).

An Equivariant Cohomology Theory consists of a family of \( G \)-Cohomology Theories \( H^*_G \) together with natural group homomorphisms

\[ \text{ind}_\alpha : H^*_G(\text{ind}_\alpha(X, A)) \to H^*_H(X, A) \]

for group homomorphisms \( \alpha : H \to G \) whose kernel acts freely on \( X \) satisfying the following conditions:

(i) \( \text{ind}_\alpha \) is an isomorphism whenever \( \ker \alpha \) acts freely on \( X \).

(ii) For any \( n \), \( \partial^n_G \circ \text{ind}_\alpha = \text{ind}_\alpha \circ \partial^n_G \).

(iii) For any group homomorphism \( \beta : G \to K \) such that \( \ker \beta \circ \alpha \) acts freely on \( X \), one has

\[ \text{ind}_{\alpha \circ \beta} = H^n_K(f_1 \circ \text{ind}_\beta \circ \text{ind}_\alpha) : H^n_K(\text{ind}_{\beta \circ \alpha}(X, A)) \to H^n_H(X, A) \]

where \( f_1 : \text{ind}_\beta \text{ind}_\alpha \to \text{ind}_{\beta \circ \alpha} \) is the canonical \( G \)-homeomorphism.
(iv) For any \( n \in \mathbb{Z} \), any \( g \in G \), the homomorphism

\[
\text{ind}_{c(g); G \to G} : \mathcal{H}_G^n(\text{ind}_{c(g); G \to G}(X, A)) \to \mathcal{H}_G^n(X, A)
\]

agrees with the map \( \mathcal{H}_G^n(f_2) \), where \( f_2 : (X, A) \to \text{ind}_{c(g); G \to G}(X, A) \) sends \( x \) to \((1, g^{-1}x)\) and \( c(g) \) is the conjugation isomorphism in \( G \).

We explain the relation of these notions to the naturality considerations in the previous section.

In [7], Example 1.7 in page 1030, an equivariant cohomology theory is constructed given a contravariant functor \( E \) from the category of small groupoids and injective homomorphisms to the category of \( \Omega \)-spectra, under the assumption that equivalences of groupoids are sent to weak equivalences of spectra. The idea is the following. Given a \( G \)-set \( S \), the transport groupoid \( G^G(S) \) has as objects the elements of \( S \). The morphisms from \( s_1 \) to \( s_2 \) consists of the elements in \( G \) which satisfy \( gs_0 = s_1 \), composition comes from the multiplication in \( G \). By assigning to an homogeneous space \( G/H \) the transport groupoid we obtain a covariant functor \( \text{Or}(G) \to \text{Groupoids} \). The equivariant cohomology theory with coefficients in \( E \) is defined as

\[
H^*_G(X, A, E) := \pi_{-p}(\text{hom}_{\text{Or}(G)}(X'_+, \cup A'_+, E \circ G^G))
\]

The construction in Section 3 of a homotopy class of a weak map between spectra realizing an operation defined on cohomology theories over different categories gives a partial converse to this construction.

**Corollary 36.** Let \( \mathcal{H}_G^* \) be an equivariant cohomology theory and let \( G \) be a discrete group. Let \( \mathcal{H}^*_{\text{Or}(G)} \) be the \( \text{Or}(G) \)-cohomology theory defined on \( \text{Or}(G) \) spaces by applying to a \( \text{Or}(G) \) pair \((X, A)\) a cellular approximation \((X', A') \to (X, A)\), followed by the coalescence functor. In symbols:

\[
\mathcal{H}^*_G(X, A) = \mathcal{H}^*_G((X', A'))
\]

For any \( p \in \mathbb{Z} \), the classifying object construction \( G \mapsto Y_{\mathcal{H}_G^p}^p(G/G) \) sends a group isomorphism to a weak homotopy equivalence.

**Proof.** Let \( \alpha : H \to G \) be a group isomorphism. The induction structure of \( \mathcal{H}_G^* \), and the adjunctions in [10] give natural transformations of representable functors

\[
[a_* (\text{mor}_{\text{Or}(H)}(?), c) + \wedge S^n, Y_{\mathcal{H}_G^p}^p]_{\text{Or}(H)} \to [\text{mor}_{\text{Or}(H)}(?), c) + \wedge S^n, Y_{\mathcal{H}_G^p}^p]_{\text{Or}(H)}
\]

\[
[a^* (Y_{\mathcal{H}_G^p}^p)]_{\text{Or}(H)}
\]

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consisting of isomorphisms. Moreover, these can be realized up to homotopy by a Or(\(H\))-map \(\alpha^* Y_{\text{H}_{\text{Or}(G)}} p \to \text{Y}_{\text{H}_{\text{Or}(H)}} p\) as a consequence of lemma 33. On the other hand \(\alpha\) induces homeomorphisms of Or(\(H\))-spaces

\[ \text{mor}_{\text{Or}(H)}(\alpha(?),\epsilon) + \Delta^r \to \text{mor}_{\text{Or}(G)}(\alpha(\alpha(?)),\alpha(\epsilon)) + \Delta^r \]

which fit into a cellular map \(\alpha : Y_{\text{H}_{\text{Or}(H)}} p \to \text{Y}_{\text{H}_{\text{Or}(G)}} p\) which is seen to be a weak Or(\(H\))-equivalence inverse to the previous map. Evaluation at \(H/H\), respectively \(G/G\) gives a weak homotopy equivalence. □✓

**Remark 37.** The construction in section 3 and the consequence in corollary 36 do not give a functor from the category of small groupoids to the category of spectra and strong maps. All relevant maps, even the described weak equivalence are only defined up to weak \(C\)-homotopy.

We will now introduce an example of a \(C\)-cohomology theory, Bredon cohomology with local coefficients. Bredon cohomology with local coefficients was introduced by Moerdijk and Svensson in [12], and with an equivalent approach by Mukherjee and Pandey [13].

We describe some categories and notations which are relevant to this construction.

Let \(X\) be a compactly generated, Hausdorff space. The category of equivariant simplices of \(X\), denoted by \(\Delta^G_{\text{Or}(X)}\) has as objects continuous maps \(\sigma : G/H \times \Delta^n \to X\), where \(\Delta^n = \{(x_1,\ldots,x_n) \in \mathbb{R}^n \mid \Sigma x_i = 1, x_i \geq 0\}\) is the canonical \(n\)-simplex. A morphism in \(\Delta^G_{\text{Or}(X)}\) between the objects \(\sigma_1 : G/H_1 \times \Delta^n \to X\) and \(\sigma_2 : G/H_2 \times \Delta^m \to X\) consists of a pair \((\varphi,\alpha)\), where \(\varphi : G/H_1 \to G/H_2\) is a \(G\)-equivariant map, \(\alpha : \Delta^m \to \Delta^n\) is a simplicial operator and \(\sigma_1 = \sigma_2 \circ (\varphi,\alpha)\).

The equivariant fundamental category of \(X\), \(\pi_{\text{Or}(G)}(X)\) is the category where the objects are \(G\)-maps \(x_H : G/H \to X\) and where a morphism consists of a pair \((\varphi, [H])\) where \(\varphi : G/H_1 \to G/H_2\) is a \(G\)-map and \([H]\) is the homotopy class of a \(G\)-homotopy \(H : I \times G/H_1 \to X\) between \(x_{H_1}\) and \(x_{H_2} \circ \varphi\). Notice the projection functor \(p : \Delta^G(X) \to \pi_{\text{Or}(G)}(X)\) given by assigning to a higher dimensional simplex \(\Delta^n \to X\) the restriction to the last \(n\)-th vertex \(G/H \times e^n \to X\) in a fixed ordering \(e_0^0,\ldots,e_n^n\).

A local coefficient system with values in \(R\)-modules is a contravariant functor \(M : \pi_{\text{Or}(G)}(X) \to R - \text{Mod}\). Given a ring \(R\), a discrete group \(G\) and a \(G\)-space \(X\), the singular chain complex of \(X\), \(C_*^{\text{sing}}(\Delta^G(X))\) is the free \(\Delta^G(X)\)-chain complex which is given on every object \(C\) as the cellular chain complex of the canonical \(\Delta^G(X)\)-cellular approximation of the constant functor \(\{\bullet\}\).

**Definition 38.** Let \(G\) be a discrete group and \(X\) be a \(G\)-space. The Bredon cohomology groups of \(X\) with coefficients in the local coefficient system \(M\),
are defined to be the $\Delta_G(X)$-cohomology groups of the cochain complex of the chain complex of natural transformations between the cellular chain complex of the canonical $\Delta_G(X)$-cellular approximation of the constant functor $\{\bullet\}$ and the functor $p^*M$ obtained by precomposing the functor $M$ with the projection functor $p: \Delta_G(X) \rightarrow \pi_{\text{Or}(G)}(X)$. In symbols,

$$H^n_{\Delta_G(X)}(X, M) := H^n(\text{hom}_{\Delta_G(X)}(C^*_\text{sing}(\Delta_G(X)), p^*M))$$

Recall the category $\mathcal{E}$ of example 2. Consider a contravariant $\text{Or}(G) \times \mathcal{E}^\text{op}$-space $X$. The contravariant $\text{Or}(G)$-space defined by restricting to the full subcategory $\text{Or}(G) \times s$ is called the base of $X$. Given a local coefficient system $M$ on $X$, Basu and Sen [1] used equivariant versions of constructions of classifying spaces of crossed complexes to promote the $\text{Or}(G)$-space $X^?$ to an $\text{Or}(G) \times \mathcal{E}^\text{op}$-space with base denoted by $\Phi K(\pi, 1)$.

The following result is proved in Theorem 6.3, page 24 in [1], and it is an explicit approach to the representability of a particular $\mathcal{C}$-cohomology theory.

**Theorem 39.** There exists a contravariant functor $\mathcal{E}^M_n : \text{Or}(G) \times \mathcal{E}^\text{op} \rightarrow \Omega^\text{SPECTRA}$ with basis $\Phi K(\pi, 1)$ such that given a local coefficient system $M$ on $X$, the $n$-th Bredon cohomology groups with coefficients in a local coefficient system $M$ for a $G$-space $X$ are classified by $\text{Or}(G) \times \mathcal{E}^\text{op}$- maps

$$[X^?_{+\Phi K(\pi, 1)}, \mathcal{E}^M_n]_{\text{Or}(G) \times \mathcal{E}^\text{op}}$$

The previous theorem has the immediate consequence that Bredon cohomology with local coefficients is an $\text{Or}(G) \times \mathcal{E}^\text{op}$-cohomology theory. We will examine its natural transformations.

Steenrod operations $\cup_i : H^*_\Delta_G(X)(X, M) \rightarrow H^{*+i}_\Delta_G(X)(X, M)$ on Bredon cohomology with local coefficients were introduced by Ginot [4], Theorem 4.1 in page 246 for local coefficient systems, and with an alternative approach by Mukherjee-Sen [14]. Steenrod operations induce natural transformations

$$Sq^i : H^*_\Delta_G(X)(X, M) \rightarrow H^{*+i}_\Delta_G(X)(X, M)$$

which satisfy Cartan and Adem relations, generalize cup products, and $Sq^i(f) = 0$ holds whenever $f \in H^m_{\Delta_G(X)}(X, M)$ with $i > m$.

**Corollary 40.** Let $M$ be a local coefficient system and $H^*_\Delta_{\text{Or}(G)}(\cdot, M)$ be Bredon cohomology with coefficients in $M$. The Steenrod square operations $Sq_k$ correspond to $\text{Or}(G)^{op} \times \mathcal{E}$-homotopy classes of $\text{Or}(G) \times \mathcal{E}$- maps

$$Sq_k \in [Y_{H^*_\Delta_{\text{Or}(G)}(\cdot, M)}, Y_{H^*_\Delta_{\text{Or}(G)}(\cdot, M) + k, M}]_{\text{Or}(G)^{op} \times \mathcal{E}}$$

between the representing objects constructed either in theorem [18] or [7].
References


