

EVERY FACTORIZATION SYSTEM IS ORTHOGONAL

Notation Each category \mathcal{X} determines a simplicial category

$$\begin{array}{ccc}
 & \xrightarrow{d_0} & \\
 & \xleftarrow{s_0} & \\
 \mathcal{X}^3 & \xrightarrow{d_1} & \mathcal{X}^2 & \xrightarrow{d_0} & \mathcal{X} \\
 & \xleftarrow{s_1} & & \xleftarrow{s_0} & \\
 & \xrightarrow{d_2} & & \xrightarrow{d_1} &
 \end{array}$$

where $s_0: \mathcal{X} \rightarrow \mathcal{X}^2$ takes $X \in \mathcal{X}$ to $1_X: X \rightarrow X$, where $d_0, d_1: \mathcal{X}^2 \rightarrow \mathcal{X}$ take $f: A \rightarrow B$ in \mathcal{X}^2 to B, A , respectively, where $s_0, s_1: \mathcal{X}^2 \rightarrow \mathcal{X}^3$ take $f: A \rightarrow B$ to the composable pairs $(1_A: A \rightarrow A, f: A \rightarrow B)$, $(f: A \rightarrow B, 1_B: B \rightarrow B)$, respectively, and, where $d_0, d_1, d_2: \mathcal{X}^3 \rightarrow \mathcal{X}^2$ take the composable pair $(f: A \rightarrow B, g: B \rightarrow C)$ in \mathcal{X}^3 to $g: B \rightarrow C, g \circ f: A \rightarrow B, f: A \rightarrow B$, respectively. Recall that we have adjunctions $d_0 \dashv s_0 \dashv d_1: \mathcal{X}^2 \rightarrow \mathcal{X}$ involving a unit $\eta: 1 \Rightarrow s_0 \circ d_0$ and a counit $\epsilon: s_0 \circ d_1 \Rightarrow 1$.

For functors $P: \mathcal{A} \rightarrow \mathcal{C}, Q: \mathcal{B} \rightarrow \mathcal{C}$, we write $C(P, Q): \mathcal{A}^{\text{op}} \times \mathcal{B} \rightarrow \text{Set}$ for the functor given by $C(P, Q)(A, B) = C(PA, QB)$; so $C(1_C, 1_C)$, or merely $C(1, 1)$, denotes the hom functor of \mathcal{C} .

We shall make use of the natural transformation $\theta: \mathcal{X}(d_0, d_1) \rightarrow \mathcal{X}^2(1, 1)$ whose component $\theta_{f, g}: \mathcal{X}(B, C) \rightarrow \mathcal{X}^2(f, g)$, for objects $f: A \rightarrow B, g: C \rightarrow D$ of \mathcal{X}^2 , is given by $\theta_{f, g}(w) = (w \circ f, g \circ w)$. More conceptually, θ is the following composite.

$$\mathcal{X}(d_0, d_1) \xrightarrow{s_0} \mathcal{X}^2(s_0 \circ d_0, s_0 \circ d_1) \xrightarrow{\mathcal{X}^2(\eta, \epsilon)} \mathcal{X}^2(1, 1)$$

We say f is *orthogonal* to g when $\theta_{f, g}$ is invertible.

Proposition 1 For all objects $(f: A \rightarrow B, g: B \rightarrow C), (f': A' \rightarrow B', g': B' \rightarrow C')$ of \mathcal{X}^3 , the following square is a pullback.

$$\begin{array}{ccc}
 \mathcal{X}^3((f, g), (f', g')) & \xrightarrow{d_1} & \mathcal{X}^2(g \circ f, g' \circ f') \\
 \downarrow d_1 \circ d_0 & & \downarrow \mathcal{X}^2((1, g), (f', 1)) \\
 \mathcal{X}(B, B') & \xrightarrow{\theta_{f, g'}} & \mathcal{X}^2(f, g')
 \end{array}$$

Definitions A decomposition on a category \mathcal{X} is a normalized splitting of $d_1 : \mathcal{X}^3 \longrightarrow \mathcal{X}^2$; that is, a functor $N : \mathcal{X}^2 \longrightarrow \mathcal{X}^3$ such that the following diagram commutes.

$$\begin{array}{ccccc}
 \mathcal{X} & \xrightarrow{s_0} & \mathcal{X}^2 & & \\
 & \searrow^{s_0 \circ s_0} & \downarrow N & \searrow^{1_{\mathcal{X}^2}} & \\
 & & \mathcal{X}^3 & \xrightarrow{d_1} & \mathcal{X}^2
 \end{array}$$

Put $\mathcal{E} = \{ f : A \longrightarrow B \mid d_0 N(f) \text{ invertible} \}$, $\mathcal{M} = \{ f : A \longrightarrow B \mid d_2 N(f) \text{ invertible} \}$. A factorization system is a decomposition with $d_2 N(f) \in \mathcal{E}$ and $d_0 N(f) \in \mathcal{M}$ for all arrows $f : A \longrightarrow B$ in \mathcal{X} .

Suppose $N : \mathcal{X}^2 \longrightarrow \mathcal{X}^3$ is a decomposition. We shall make use of the natural transformation $\phi : \mathcal{X}(d_0, d_1) \longrightarrow \mathcal{X}^3(N, N)$ obtained by composing θ with the effect of N on homs; explicitly, the component

$$\phi_{f,g} : \mathcal{X}(B, C) \longrightarrow \mathcal{X}^3(N(f), N(g))$$

is given by $\phi_{f,g}(w) = (w \circ f, s \circ w \circ m, g \circ w)$ where we have put

$$N(f) = (e : A \longrightarrow I, m : I \longrightarrow B) \text{ and } N(g) = (s : C \longrightarrow J, i : J \longrightarrow D).$$

Proposition 2 If $f \in \mathcal{E}$ and $g \in \mathcal{M}$ then $\phi_{f,g}$ is invertible.

Proof The hypotheses mean m and s are both invertible. Any $(u, x, v) : N(f) \longrightarrow N(g)$ has $u = s^{-1} \circ x \circ e$, $v = i \circ x \circ m^{-1}$. The inverse of $\phi_{f,g}$ takes (u, x, v) to $s^{-1} \circ x \circ m^{-1}$. Q.E.D.

Proposition 3 Every factorization system $N : \mathcal{X}^2 \longrightarrow \mathcal{X}^3$ is a fully faithful functor.

Proof Since $N : \mathcal{X}^2(f, g) \longrightarrow \mathcal{X}^3(N(f), N(g))$ has d_1 as a left inverse, it suffices to prove d_1 is injective. The pullback of an injective function is injective so, by applying Proposition 1 to the objects $N(f), N(g)$ of \mathcal{X}^3 , we see that it suffices to prove $\theta_{e,i}$ is injective. So it suffices to prove $\phi_{e,i} = N \circ \theta_{e,i}$ is injective. But N is a factorization system, so $e \in \mathcal{E}$ and $i \in \mathcal{M}$. The result now follows from Proposition 2. Q.E.D.

Corollary For a factorization system, each $f \in \mathcal{E}$ is orthogonal to each $g \in \mathcal{M}$.

Proof Propositions 2 and 3 and the equality $\phi_{f,g} = N \circ \theta_{f,g}$ imply $\theta_{f,g}$ is invertible. Q.E.D.

¹Clearly both these classes include all identity arrows.

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- ① First recall the 2-cell aspect of the universal property of X^2 .

$$K \begin{array}{c} \xrightarrow{u} \\ \xrightarrow{v} \end{array} X^2 \begin{array}{c} \xrightarrow{d_1} \\ \Downarrow \lambda \\ \xrightarrow{d_0} \end{array} X$$

If ρ, σ are 2-cells such that

$$\begin{array}{ccc} d_1 u & \xrightarrow{\rho} & d_1 v \\ \lambda u \Downarrow & & \Downarrow \lambda v \\ d_0 u & \xrightarrow{\pi} & d_0 v \end{array} \text{ commutes}$$

then there exists a unique 2-cell $\omega: u \Rightarrow v$ such that

$$d_1 \omega = \rho \quad \& \quad d_0 \omega = \pi.$$

- ② A decomposition on X consists of j, ε, μ such that

$$X^2 \begin{array}{c} \xrightarrow{d_1} \\ \Downarrow \varepsilon \\ \xrightarrow{j} \\ \Downarrow \mu \\ \xrightarrow{d_0} \end{array} X = X^2 \begin{array}{c} \xrightarrow{d_1} \\ \Downarrow \lambda \\ \xrightarrow{d_0} \end{array} X.$$

Define $e: X^2 \rightarrow X^2$ by

$$X^2 \xrightarrow{e} X^2 \begin{array}{c} \xrightarrow{d_1} \\ \Downarrow \lambda \\ \xrightarrow{d_0} \end{array} X = X^2 \begin{array}{c} \xrightarrow{d_1} \\ \Downarrow \varepsilon \\ \xrightarrow{j} \end{array} X.$$

Axiom 1 $\mu e: j e \Rightarrow j$ is invertible.

Axiom 2 If $\begin{array}{ccc} d_1 g & \xrightarrow{\varepsilon g} & j g \\ & \searrow \varepsilon g & \downarrow \theta \\ & & j g \end{array} \begin{array}{c} \xrightarrow{\mu g} \\ \nearrow \mu g \end{array} \begin{array}{c} d_0 g \\ \text{commutes} \end{array}$

then θ is invertible.

③ Theorem Suppose (j, ε, μ) is a decomposition on X satisfying Axioms 1 & 2. For

$f: A \rightarrow X^{\mathbb{B}}$, put

$$\varphi_i = \left(A \xrightarrow{f} X^{\mathbb{B}} \xrightarrow{d_i} X^2 \begin{array}{c} \xrightarrow{d_1} \\ \Downarrow \varepsilon \\ \xrightarrow{j} \end{array} X \right)$$

for $i = 0, 1, 2$. Then

φ_0, φ_2 invertible implies φ_1 invertible.

Proof By ①, commutativity of

$$\begin{array}{ccc}
 d_1 d_1 = d_1 d_2 & \xrightarrow{\lambda d_2} & d_0 d_2 = d_1 d_0 \\
 \lambda d_1 \downarrow & \text{I} & \downarrow \lambda d_0 \\
 d_0 d_1 & \xlongequal{\hspace{2cm}} & d_0 d_0
 \end{array}$$

implies $\exists! \tau : d_1 \Rightarrow d_0 : X^{\mathbb{B}} \rightarrow X^{\mathbb{A}}$ such that

$$d_1 \tau = \lambda d_2 : d_1 d_1 \Rightarrow d_1 d_0$$

$$\& d_0 \tau = 1 : d_0 d_1 = d_0 d_0.$$

Thus we have commutativity in

$$\begin{array}{ccc}
 d_1 d_1 f & \xrightarrow{d_1 \tau f = \lambda d_2 f} & d_1 d_0 f \\
 \varphi_1 = \varepsilon d_1 f \downarrow & \text{II} & \downarrow \varepsilon d_0 f = \varphi_0 \\
 j d_1 f & \xrightarrow{j \tau f} & j d_0 f \\
 \mu d_1 f \downarrow & \text{III} & \downarrow \mu d_0 f \\
 d_0 d_1 f & \xrightarrow{d_0 \tau f = 1} & d_0 d_0 f;
 \end{array}$$

the top square of this gives commutativity in

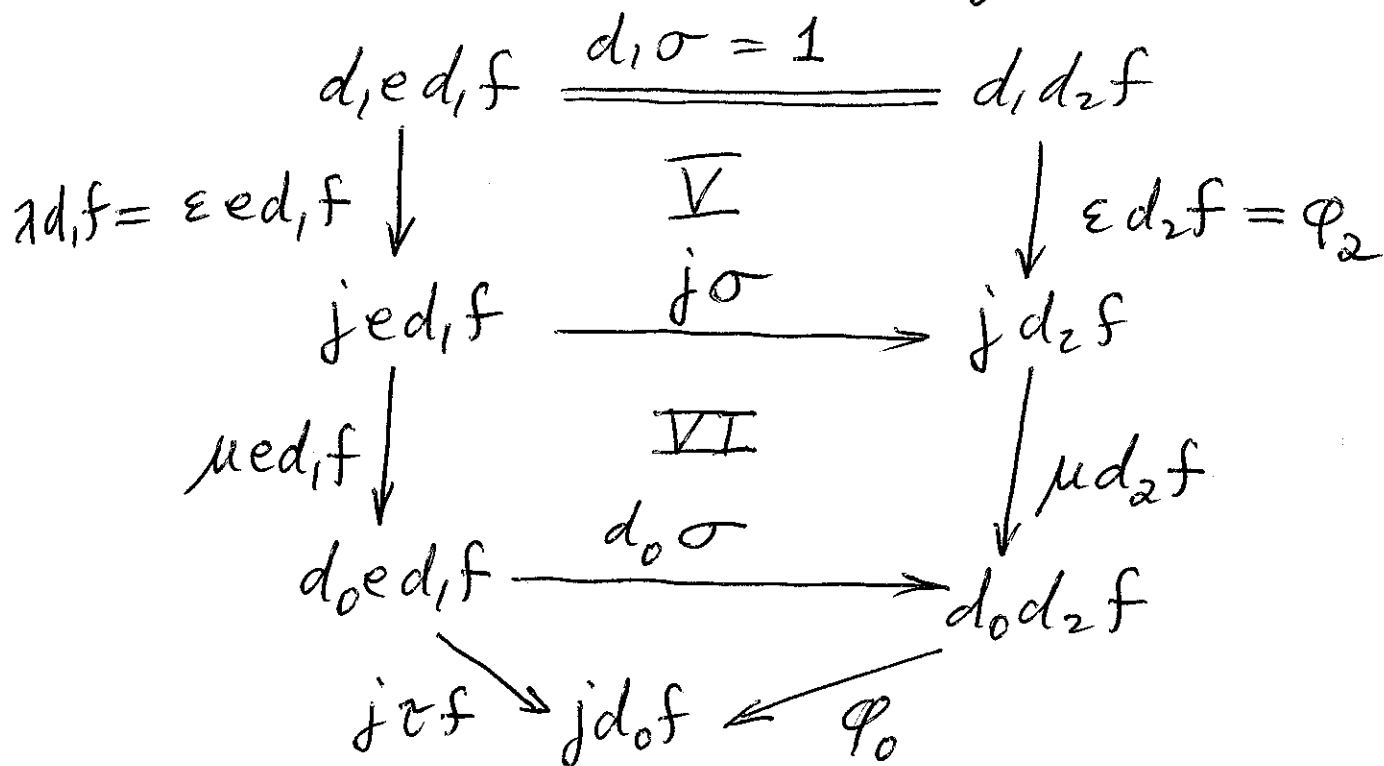
$$\begin{array}{ccc}
 d_1 \varepsilon d_1 f = d_1 d_1 f & \xlongequal{\hspace{2cm}} & d_1 d_2 f \\
 \lambda \varepsilon d_1 f \downarrow & \text{IV} & \downarrow \lambda d_2 f \\
 d_0 \varepsilon d_1 f = j d_1 f & \xrightarrow{j \tau f} j d_0 f & \xrightarrow{\varphi_0^{-1}} d_0 d_2 f.
 \end{array}$$

So, by ①, there exists a unique

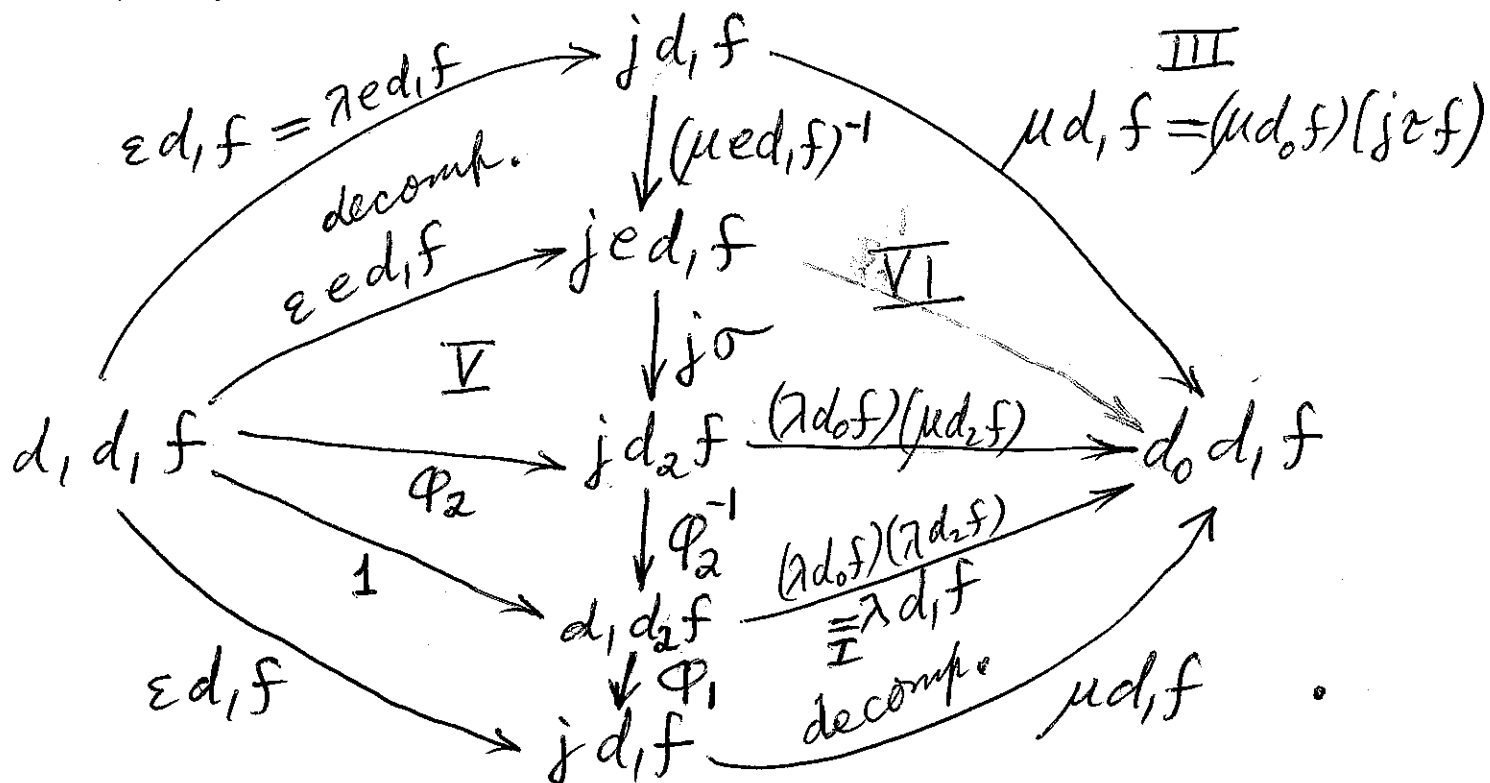
$$\sigma : ed_1f \longrightarrow d_2f$$

such that $d_1\sigma = 1$ and $d_0\sigma = \varphi_0^{-1}(j_2f)$.

Thus we have commutativity in



and so in



(Notice that we used less than Axiom 1: merely that $\mu_{ed, f}$ is invertible.)

By Axiom 2,

$$\theta = \varphi_1 \circ \varphi_2^{-1} \circ j\sigma \circ (\mu_{ed, f})^{-1}$$

is invertible. So $j\sigma$ is a split monic. From ∇ and the invertibility of φ_2 , we see that $j\sigma$ is split epic. So $j\sigma$ is invertible. So

$$\varphi_1 = \theta \circ (\mu_{ed, f}) \circ (j\sigma)^{-1} \circ \varphi_2$$

is invertible as required. QED