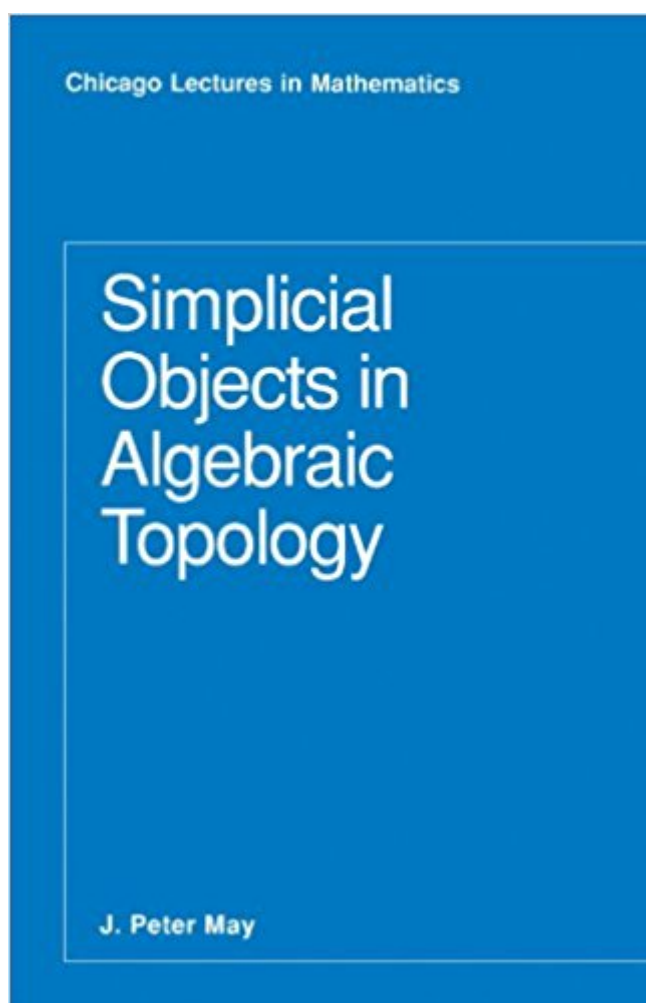




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Simplicial Objects In Algebraic Topology (Chicago Lectures In Mathematics)



Synopsis

Simplicial sets are discrete analogs of topological spaces. They have played a central role in algebraic topology ever since their introduction in the late 1940s, and they also play an important role in other areas such as geometric topology and algebraic geometry. On a formal level, the homotopy theory of simplicial sets is equivalent to the homotopy theory of topological spaces. In view of this equivalence, one can apply discrete, algebraic techniques to perform basic topological constructions. These techniques are particularly appropriate in the theory of localization and completion of topological spaces, which was developed in the early 1970s. Since it was first published in 1967, *Simplicial Objects in Algebraic Topology* has been the standard reference for the theory of simplicial sets and their relationship to the homotopy theory of topological spaces. J. Peter May gives a lucid account of the basic homotopy theory of simplicial sets, together with the equivalence of homotopy theories alluded to above. The central theme is the simplicial approach to the theory of fibrations and bundles, and especially the algebraization of fibration and bundle theory in terms of "twisted Cartesian products." The Serre spectral sequence is described in terms of this algebraization. Other topics treated in detail include Eilenberg-MacLane complexes, Postnikov systems, simplicial groups, classifying complexes, simplicial Abelian groups, and acyclic models. "Simplicial Objects in Algebraic Topology presents much of the elementary material of algebraic topology from the semi-simplicial viewpoint. It should prove very valuable to anyone wishing to learn semi-simplicial topology. [May] has included detailed proofs, and he has succeeded very well in the task of organizing a large body of previously scattered material." "Mathematical Review

Book Information

Series: Chicago Lectures in Mathematics

Paperback: 170 pages

Publisher: University Of Chicago Press; 0002- edition (January 15, 1993)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 0226511812

ISBN-13: 978-0226511818

Product Dimensions: 5.5 x 0.4 x 8.5 inches

Shipping Weight: 9.8 ounces (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 5.0 out of 5 stars 1 customer review

Best Sellers Rank: #723,866 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #155 in Books > Science & Math

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Customer Reviews

J. Peter May is professor of mathematics at the University of Chicago.

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