

## GABRIEL-ZISMAN LOCALIZATION AND MODEL STRUCTURES

**Exercice 1** (Model structures on the category of sets). Let  $\mathbf{Sets}$  denote the category of sets. Show that  $(\mathbf{Sets}, \mathcal{W} = \text{bijections}, \text{Fib} = \text{All}, \text{Cof} = \text{All})$  determines a model structure.

In fact, there are precisely nine model structures in the category of sets. See link.

**Exercice 2** (Whitehead Theorem for model categories). The goal is to prove that in a model category  $\mathcal{C}$ , if  $X, Y$  are both fibrant and cofibrant objects, then a map  $f : X \rightarrow Y$  is a weak equivalence if and only if it is an homotopy equivalence.

1. Let  $f \stackrel{l}{\sim} g$  be left homotopic. Show that  $f$  is a weak equivalence if and only if  $g$  is a weak equivalence.
2. Let  $i : X \xrightarrow{\sim} C$  be an acyclic cofibration where  $X$  is both fibrant and cofibrant and  $C$  is fibrant. Prove that there is a retraction  $r$  of  $i$  and then show that  $r$  is an homotopy inverse of  $i$ .
3. Deduce from the previous question that a weak equivalence between fibrant and cofibrant objects is an homotopy equivalence.
4. Let  $f : X \rightarrow Y$  be an homotopy equivalence between fibrant and cofibrant objects, and let  $f : X \xrightarrow{i} C \xrightarrow{p} Y$  be a factorization where the first map is an acyclic cofibration.
  - (a) Prove that  $C$  is both fibrant and cofibrant and that if  $g$  is an homotopy inverse of  $f$ , with left homotopy  $H : C' \rightarrow Y$  between  $id_Y$  and  $f \circ g$ , there is a lift  $H' : C' \rightarrow C$  such that  $p \circ H' = H$  and  $H' \circ i_0 = i \circ g$ .
  - (b) Deduce that  $H' \circ i_1 \circ p$  is homotopical to  $id_C$  (one can note that  $i$  has an homotopy inverse) and then that it is a weak equivalence.
  - (c) Prove that  $p$  is a retract of a weak equivalence and then conclude.

**Exercice 3** (Gabriel-Zisman localization). Let  $\mathcal{C}$  be a small category and  $\mathcal{W}$  a subset of the set of morphisms in  $\text{Fun}(I, \mathcal{C})$  where  $I$  is the category with two objects 0 and 1 and a unique non-trivial morphism  $0 \rightarrow 1$ . A localization of  $\mathcal{C}$  with respect to  $\mathcal{W}$  is a functor

$$l : \mathcal{C} \rightarrow \mathcal{C}[\mathcal{W}^{-1}]$$

satisfying the following universal property: For any category  $\mathcal{D}$ , composition with  $l$ :

$$\text{Fun}(\mathcal{C}[\mathcal{W}^{-1}], \mathcal{D}) \rightarrow \text{Fun}(\mathcal{C}, \mathcal{D})$$

is a fully faithful functor and its essential image consists of those functors  $\mathcal{C} \rightarrow \mathcal{D}$  sending  $\mathcal{W}$  to isomorphisms. In other words,  $l$ , if it exists is the universal functor sending  $\mathcal{W}$  to isomorphisms.

1. Check that  $\mathcal{C}[\mathcal{W}^{-1}]$ , if it exists, is unique up to canonical equivalences of categories.
2. Show that when  $\mathcal{C}$  is the category with a single object  $*$  and a monoid  $M$  of endomorphisms, and  $\mathcal{W} = M$  then  $\mathcal{C}[\mathcal{W}^{-1}]$  is equivalent to the category with one object  $*$  and  $M^+$  as endomorphisms, with  $M^+$  the group completion of  $M$ .

**Exercice 4.** Let  $F : \mathcal{C} \rightarrow \mathcal{D}$  be a functor having a right adjoint  $G : \mathcal{D} \rightarrow \mathcal{C}^1$ . Let  $\mathcal{W}$  denote the collection of morphisms  $f$  in  $\mathcal{C}$  such that  $F(f)$  is an isomorphism in  $\mathcal{D}$ . Show that the following are equivalent:

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<sup>1</sup> $\mathcal{D}$  is said to be a reflexive subcategory of  $\mathcal{C}$ .

1.  $G$  is fully faithful;
2. The natural transformation  $F \circ G \rightarrow Id_{\mathcal{D}}$  is an isomorphism;
3. The natural functor  $\mathcal{C}[\mathcal{W}^{-1}] \rightarrow \mathcal{D}$  is an equivalence of categories.

**Exercise 5.** Let  $L : \mathcal{C} \rightarrow \mathcal{C}$  be a functor and denote by  $LC \subseteq \mathcal{C}$  its essential image. Show that the following are equivalent:

1. There exists a functor  $F : \mathcal{C} \rightarrow \mathcal{D}$  with a fully faithful right adjoint  $G : \mathcal{D} \rightarrow \mathcal{C}$  and a natural isomorphism between  $G \circ F$  and  $L$ ;
2. When regarded as a functor  $\mathcal{C} \rightarrow LC$ ,  $L$  is a left adjoint to the inclusion  $LC \subseteq \mathcal{C}$ ;
3. There exists a natural transformation  $\alpha : Id_{\mathcal{C}} \rightarrow L$  such that for each object  $X \in \mathcal{C}$ , the natural morphisms  $L(\alpha_X)$  and  $\alpha_{L(X)}$  are isomorphisms.

**Exercise 6.** Let  $\mathcal{C} = \text{Mod}_{\mathbb{Z}}$  be the category of abelian groups.

1. (Localization at a single prime) Let  $p$  be a prime. Show that the base change functor  $-\otimes_{\mathbb{Z}} \mathbb{Z}[\frac{1}{p}] : \text{Mod}_{\mathbb{Z}} \rightarrow \text{Mod}_{\mathbb{Z}[\frac{1}{p}]}$  is a localization functor along the class  $\mathcal{W}$  of all maps of abelian groups  $f : X \rightarrow Y$  such that both  $\text{Ker} f$  and  $\text{coker} f$  are  $p$ -torsion groups. (Hint: Use the flatness of  $\mathbb{Z}[\frac{1}{p}]$  over  $\mathbb{Z}$ .)
2. Show that the map  $\mathbb{Q} \rightarrow \mathbb{Q} \otimes_{\mathbb{Z}} \mathbb{Q}$  sending  $q \mapsto q \otimes 1$  is an isomorphism. Use this and the Exercise 3 to show that the category of  $\mathbb{Q}$  vector spaces is a localization of the category of abelian groups.

These examples are really important as we will see later when studying rational homotopy theory.

**Exercise 7.** Check that  $\mathcal{C}[\mathcal{W}^{-1}]$  exists, given by the following pushout in  $\text{Cat}$  (the category of small categories):

$$\begin{array}{ccc} \coprod_{f \in \mathcal{W}} I & \longrightarrow & \mathcal{C} \\ \downarrow & & \downarrow l \\ \coprod_{f \in \mathcal{W}} J & \longrightarrow & \mathcal{C}[\mathcal{W}^{-1}] \end{array}$$

where  $J$  is the category with two objects 0 and 1 and unique morphism  $0 \rightarrow 1$  which is an isomorphism.<sup>2</sup>

**Exercise 8** (Explicit description). In this exercise we review an explicit model for the Gabriel-Zisman localization. Given the pair  $(\mathcal{C}, \mathcal{W})$  we construct a new category  $\mathcal{D}$  as follows: the objects are the objects of  $\mathcal{C}$ , morphisms from  $X$  to  $Y$  are given by strings of the form

$$X \rightarrow X_1 \leftarrow X_2 \rightarrow X_3 \leftarrow \dots \rightarrow X_n \rightarrow Y$$

where all arrows going to the left are in  $\mathcal{W}$ , submitted to the following equivalence relation: two strings are equivalent if there exists a commutative diagram

$$\begin{array}{ccccccc} & & X_1 & \longleftarrow & X_2 & \longrightarrow & X_3 & \longleftarrow & \dots & \longrightarrow & X_n & & \\ & \nearrow & \downarrow & & \downarrow & & \downarrow & & \downarrow & & \downarrow & \searrow & \\ X & & & & & & & & & & & & Y \\ & \searrow & \downarrow & & \downarrow & & \downarrow & & \downarrow & & \downarrow & \nearrow & \\ & & X'_1 & \longleftarrow & X'_2 & \longrightarrow & X'_3 & \longleftarrow & \dots & \longrightarrow & X'_n & & \end{array}$$

where the vertical arrows are in  $\mathcal{W}$ . Composition is given by concatenation of strings. Show that this equivalence relation is well-defined and that  $\mathcal{D}$ , together with the canonical functor  $\mathcal{C} \rightarrow \mathcal{D}$  sending  $X \mapsto X$  and  $(f : X \rightarrow Y) \mapsto X \rightarrow Y = Y$  is a localization of  $\mathcal{C}$  along  $\mathcal{W}$ .

<sup>2</sup>Why do pushouts in  $\text{Cat}$  exist?

**Exercise 9.** In this exercise we check that the construction of the the previous exercise can be simplified whenever  $\mathcal{W}$  satisfies some additional properties. Suppose that:

1.  $\mathcal{W}$  is stable under compositions;
2. For any diagram

$$\begin{array}{ccc} & X' & \\ & \uparrow s & \\ X & \xrightarrow{f} & Y \end{array}$$

with  $s \in \mathcal{W}$ , there exists a way to complete this diagram in a commutative diagram

$$\begin{array}{ccc} X' & \xrightarrow{g} & Y' \\ \uparrow s & & \uparrow t \\ X & \xrightarrow{f} & Y \end{array}$$

with  $t \in \mathcal{W}$ .

3. Given  $f, g : X \rightarrow Y$ , if there exists  $s \in \mathcal{W}$  such that  $f \circ s = g \circ s$  then there exists  $t : Y \rightarrow Z$  such that  $t \in \mathcal{W}$  and  $t \circ f = t \circ g$ .

In this case  $\mathcal{W}$  is said to be a calculus of (right) fractions. Under these hypothesis we consider for each  $X \in \mathcal{C}$  the category  $\mathcal{W}_{X/}$  whose objects are morphisms  $s : X \rightarrow X'$  with  $s \in \mathcal{W}$  and morphisms are commutative triangles over  $X$ . Assume that  $\mathcal{W}$  forms a calculus of fractions. Show that:

1. For each  $X \in \mathcal{C}$ ,  $\mathcal{W}_{X/}$  is a filtered category.
2. The category  $\mathcal{C}_{\mathcal{W}}$  whose objects are given by the objects of  $\mathcal{C}$ , hom-sets  $Hom_{\mathcal{C}_{\mathcal{W}}}(X, Y)$  are given by  $\text{colim}_{u: Y \rightarrow Y' \in \mathcal{W}_{Y/}} Hom_{\mathcal{C}}(X, Y')$  and compositions are induced from compositions in  $\mathcal{C}$ , is well-defined.

In other words, morphisms in  $\mathcal{C}_{\mathcal{W}}$  between  $X$  and  $Y$  are given by equivalence classes of strings of lenght one

$$X \rightarrow Y' \leftarrow Y$$

where the left arrow belongs to  $\mathcal{W}$ . This simplifies the general explicit description given in (6).

3. Show that the canonical functor  $Q : \mathcal{C} \rightarrow \mathcal{C}_{\mathcal{W}}$  induced by the identity on objects and by the canonical map

$$Hom_{\mathcal{C}}(X, Y) \rightarrow \text{colim}_{u: Y \rightarrow Y' \in \mathcal{W}_{Y/}} Hom_{\mathcal{C}}(X, Y')$$

on morphisms, is well-defined;

4. Show that if  $s : X \rightarrow X'$  is a map in  $\mathcal{W}$  and  $Y$  is an object in  $\mathcal{C}$  then the composition map  $- \circ s$

$$Hom_{\mathcal{C}_{\mathcal{W}}}(X', Y) \rightarrow Hom_{\mathcal{C}_{\mathcal{W}}}(X, Y)$$

is a bijection. Conclude that  $Q$  sends  $\mathcal{W}$  to isomorphisms.

5. Show that  $Q$  is a localization of  $\mathcal{C}$  along  $\mathcal{W}$ .
6. Show that if  $\mathcal{C}$  is an additive category and  $\mathcal{W}$  is a calculus of fractions then the localization functor  $Q$  preserves finite colimits and  $\mathcal{C}[\mathcal{W}^{-1}]$  is also additive.

**Exercise 10.** The following generalizes the exercise (4): Let  $\mathcal{C}$  be an abelian category and let  $\mathcal{D} \subseteq \mathcal{C}$  be a thick subcategory, ie, a full subcategory such that for each exact sequence

$$0 \rightarrow X_1 \rightarrow X_2 \rightarrow X_3 \rightarrow 0$$

in  $\mathcal{C}$ ,  $X_2$  is in  $\mathcal{D}$  if and only if  $X_1$  and  $X_3$  are in  $\mathcal{D}$ . Let  $\mathcal{W}$  denote the collection of morphisms  $f$  in  $\mathcal{C}$  such that  $\text{Ker } f$  and  $\text{coker } f$  are in  $\mathcal{D}$ . Show that  $\mathcal{W}$  admits a calculus of fractions and that  $\mathcal{C}[\mathcal{W}^{-1}]$  is equivalent to the pushout  $\mathcal{C}/\mathcal{D}$  in  $\text{Cat}$  given by

$$\begin{array}{ccc} \mathcal{D} & \longrightarrow & \mathcal{C} \\ \downarrow & & \downarrow \\ 0 & \longrightarrow & \mathcal{C}/\mathcal{D} \end{array}$$

**Exercise 11** (The canonical model structure in  $\text{Cat}$ ). Let  $\text{Cat}$  denote the 1-category of small categories and morphisms given by functors between them. Let  $\mathcal{W}$  be the collection of functors which are equivalences of categories.

1. Show that the Gabriel-Zisman localization  $\text{Cat}[\mathcal{W}^{-1}]$  is equivalent to the category whose objects are small categories and morphisms are isomorphism classes of functors.
2. A functor  $F : \mathcal{C} \rightarrow \mathcal{D}$  between small categories is said to be an isofibration if for every object  $c \in \mathcal{C}$  and every isomorphism  $f : F(c) \rightarrow d$  in  $\mathcal{D}$ , there exists an object  $c' \in \mathcal{C}$  and an isomorphism  $u : c \rightarrow c'$  such that  $d = F(c')$  and  $f = F(u)$ . Show that an isofibration that is an equivalence of categories is surjective on objects. Conversely, show that if a functor  $F$  is fully faithful and surjective on objects then it is an isofibration.
3. A functor  $F : \mathcal{C} \rightarrow \mathcal{D}$  is said to be a cofibration if it is injective on objects. Let  $\text{Fib}$  denote the collection of all isofibrations and  $\text{Cof}$  the class of cofibrations. Show that  $(\text{Cat}, \mathcal{W}, \text{Fib}, \text{Cof})$  is a model structure and identify its fibrant-cofibrant objects.