

TD 2 - LOCALIZATIONS AND MODEL STRUCTURES

Exercise 1 (Model structures on the category of sets). Let \mathbf{Sets} denote the category of sets.

1. Show that $(\mathbf{Sets}, \mathcal{W} = \text{bijections}, \mathcal{F} = \text{All}, \mathcal{C} = \text{All})$ determines a model structure.
2. Do the same for $(\mathbf{Sets}, \mathcal{W} = \text{All}, \mathcal{F} = \text{surjections}, \mathcal{C} = \text{injections})$

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

Solution. 1. Let's check the axioms of a model structure :

1. MC1. It's a well-known fact that the category of sets is complete and cocomplete.
2. MC2. Obvious for bijections.
3. MC3. Stability under retracts : Obvious for \mathcal{C} and \mathcal{F} . For \mathcal{W} , Consider a retract diagram

$$\begin{array}{ccccc} A & \xrightarrow{i} & B & \xrightarrow{r} & A \\ \downarrow q & & \downarrow f & & \downarrow q \\ A' & \xrightarrow{i'} & B' & \xrightarrow{r'} & A' \end{array}$$
 Suppose f is a bijection. Then $rq^{-1}i'$ and $iq^{-1}r$ are respectively right and left inverses of f , so f is a bijection.
4. MC4. The lifting condition is easy in both cases since it suffices to compose with the inverse i^{-1} (in the case $i \in \mathcal{C} \cap \mathcal{W}$) and with p^{-1} in the case $p \in \mathcal{F} \cap \mathcal{W}$.
5. MC5. The factorization $X \rightarrow X \rightarrow Y$ of $X \rightarrow Y$ is an acyclic cofibration followed by a fibration; whereas $X \rightarrow Y \rightarrow Y$ is a cofibration followed by an acyclic fibration.

Let us check the axioms for the second model structure :

1. MC1. Same as 1.
2. MC2. Obvious since $\mathcal{W} = \text{All}$.
3. MC3. Obvious for $\mathcal{W} = \text{All}$. If q is an injection, it has a left inverse and thus one can construct a left inverse of f following the proof of 1. If q is a surjection we can construct similarly a right inverse for f .
4. MC4. The lifting property amounts to check that for any square diagram

$$\begin{array}{ccc} A & \xrightarrow{f} & B \\ i \downarrow & \exists \nearrow & \downarrow p \\ C & \xrightarrow{g} & D \end{array}$$

where i is an injection and p a surjection, there always exists a dotted lift. This amounts to find exactly a lift of the map $C - i(A) \rightarrow D$ to B . We can construct one cpostcomposing with a right inverse of the surjection $B \rightarrow D$ (which exists by axiom of choice).

5. MC5. $X \xrightarrow{f} Y$ factors as $X \xrightarrow{id} X \sqcup Y \xrightarrow{f \sqcup id_Y} Y$ which works for the two types of functorial factorizations we ask for.

Exercise 2 (Universal property of localization). Let \mathcal{C} be a small category and \mathcal{W} a subset of the set of morphisms in \mathcal{C} . A localization of \mathcal{C} with respect to \mathcal{W} is a category $\mathcal{C}[\mathcal{W}^{-1}]$ together with 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 .

Indication: we recall that the group completion M^+ of a monoid is a group M^+ together with a monoid map $\text{can} : M \rightarrow M^+$ such that for any monoid map $\phi : M \rightarrow G$, there is a unique group morphism $\tilde{\phi} : M^+ \rightarrow G$ factorizing ϕ , that is $\phi = \tilde{\phi} \circ \text{can}$. It is usual abstract nonsense to prove it is unique up (to unique if one requires that the isomorphism commutes with the structure maps from M to the completion) isomorphism. To prove the existence of M^+ , it is enough to construct it which can be obtained by defining as a quotient of the free group on the generating set M by the obvious equivalence relation identifying $m \star m'$ with $m \cdot m'$ if \star is the product in the free group and \cdot is the product in M .

Solution. Note that a functor $l : \mathcal{C} \rightarrow \mathcal{D}$ is a localization if and only if it verifies the following two properties:

- For any functor $F : \mathcal{C} \rightarrow \mathcal{E}$ that sends \mathcal{W} to isomorphisms, there exists $G : \mathcal{D} \rightarrow \mathcal{E}$ such that $F \cong G \circ l$.
- The map $- \circ l : \text{Nat}(G_1, G_2) \rightarrow \text{Nat}(G_1 \circ l, G_2 \circ l)$ is a bijection for all functors $G_1, G_2 : \mathcal{D} \rightarrow \mathcal{E}$.

1. Suppose $l : \mathcal{C} \rightarrow \mathcal{E}$ and $l' : \mathcal{C} \rightarrow \mathcal{E}'$ are two localizations along \mathcal{W} . By the universal property of these localizations, both l and l' are isomorphic to functors that invert \mathcal{W} . In particular, l' belongs to the essential image of the functor $- \circ l : \text{Fun}(\mathcal{E}, \mathcal{E}') \rightarrow \text{Fun}^{\mathcal{W}}(\mathcal{C}, \mathcal{E}')$, so that there exists a functor $G : \mathcal{E} \rightarrow \mathcal{E}'$ such that $l' \cong G \circ l$.

$$\begin{array}{ccc} \mathcal{C} & \xrightarrow{l'} & \mathcal{E}' \\ & \searrow l & \nearrow G \\ & \mathcal{E} & \end{array}$$

Similarly, $l \cong H \circ l'$ for some functor $H : \mathcal{E}' \rightarrow \mathcal{E}$. Using the bijection

$$\text{Nat}(\text{Id}_{\mathcal{E}}, H \circ G) \cong \text{Nat}(l, H \circ G \circ l) \cong \text{Nat}(l, l),$$

one finds a natural transformation $\alpha : \text{Id}_{\mathcal{E}} \Rightarrow H \circ G$ (given by the image of Id_l). Similarly, there is a natural transformation $\beta : H \circ G \Rightarrow \text{Id}_{\mathcal{E}}$. Finally, using the bijection $\text{Nat}(\text{Id}_{\mathcal{E}}, \text{Id}_{\mathcal{E}}) \cong \text{Nat}(l, l)$, one gets $\beta \circ \alpha = \text{Id}_{\text{Id}_{\mathcal{E}}}$ and similarly for the other composition. Hence $H \circ G \cong \text{Id}_{\mathcal{E}}$. Reasoning with \mathcal{E}' in a similar manner shows that G and H realize an equivalence of categories $\mathcal{E} \simeq \mathcal{E}'$.

2. Recall that the group completion of a monoid is a group M^+ together with a monoid map

$$\iota : M \rightarrow M^+$$

such that for any monoid map $\phi : M \rightarrow G$, there is a unique group morphism $\tilde{\phi} : M^+ \rightarrow G$ factorizing ϕ , that is $\phi = \tilde{\phi} \circ \iota$. It is usual abstract nonsense to prove it is unique up to isomorphism (and there

is a unique such isomorphism that commutes with the structure maps from M to the completion). To prove the existence of M^+ , it is enough to construct it, which can be done by defining it as a quotient of the free group on the generating set M by the obvious equivalence relation identifying $m \star m'$ with $m \cdot m'$, where \star is the product in the free group and \cdot is the product in M .

We now come to the proof. The key fact to note is the following: the full subcategory of \mathbf{Cat} spanned by the categories with a unique object is isomorphic to the category of monoids. Therefore, given a monoid A , we will also write A for the category with one object $*$ and $\text{End}(*) = A$ as morphisms. Let M be a monoid. We now show that $\iota : M \rightarrow M^+$, viewed as a functor, satisfies the universal property of the localization of M along all morphisms. Let \mathcal{D} be a category. Then any functor $F : M^+ \rightarrow \mathcal{D}$ factors through the full subcategory $\mathcal{D}_{F(*)}$ spanned by the image of $*$. Thus

$$\text{Fun}(M^+, \mathcal{D}) \cong \coprod_{x \in \text{ob}(\mathcal{D})} \text{Fun}(M^+, \mathcal{D}_x)$$

as categories. Observe that any morphism of monoid $f : M^+ \rightarrow \text{End}_{\mathcal{D}}(x)$ factors through the subgroup of units $\text{Aut}_{\mathcal{D}}(x)$. Hence precomposing with ι inverts all morphisms in M^+ . Now the universal property of the group completion gives that the functor

$$- \circ \iota : \text{Fun}(M^+, \text{Aut}_{\mathcal{D}}(x)) \longrightarrow \text{Fun}^{\mathcal{W}}(M, \text{Aut}_{\mathcal{D}}(x))$$

is bijective on objects, hence essential surjective. The category $\text{Fun}(M^+, \text{Aut}_{\mathcal{D}}(x))$ has objects given by the group morphisms $M^+ \rightarrow \text{Aut}_{\mathcal{D}}(x)$; the morphisms between f and g are the elements $\alpha \in \text{Aut}_{\mathcal{D}}(x)$ such that $g = \alpha f \alpha^{-1}$. Using this description, one easily sees that $- \circ \iota$ is fully faithful, hence an equivalence of categories.

Exercise 3. 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:

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

(Solution: That 1 implies 2 is standard for any adjunction:

$$\mathcal{D}(x, y) \cong \mathcal{C}(G(x), G(y)) \cong \mathcal{D}(F \circ G(x), y).$$

One can also see that 2 implies 1 by going in the other direction.

Let's prove 2 implies 3: The composed map $\mathcal{D} \xrightarrow{F} \mathcal{C} \rightarrow \mathcal{C}[\mathcal{W}^{-1}] \rightarrow \mathcal{D}$ is $G \circ F$, so it is isomorphic to the identity. It suffices to show that $\mathcal{C}[\mathcal{W}^{-1}] \rightarrow \mathcal{D} \xrightarrow{G} \mathcal{C} \rightarrow \mathcal{C}[\mathcal{W}^{-1}]$ is isomorphic to the identity. By the universality of $\mathcal{C} \rightarrow \mathcal{C}[\mathcal{W}^{-1}]$, it suffices to show that $\mathcal{C} \rightarrow \mathcal{C}[\mathcal{W}^{-1}] \rightarrow \mathcal{D} \xrightarrow{G} \mathcal{C} \rightarrow \mathcal{C}[\mathcal{W}^{-1}]$ is isomorphic to $\mathcal{C} \rightarrow \mathcal{C}[\mathcal{W}^{-1}]$. From the composition $F \rightarrow FGF \rightarrow F = \text{id}_F$ given by the unit and counit, we deduce that the transformation $F \rightarrow FGF$ is an isomorphism since the second part is. This shows that $\mathcal{C} \rightarrow \mathcal{C}[\mathcal{W}^{-1}] \rightarrow \mathcal{D} \xrightarrow{G} \mathcal{C} \rightarrow \mathcal{C}[\mathcal{W}^{-1}]$ is indeed what we want.

Now let's prove that 3 implies 1. We have that $\text{Hom}(\mathcal{C}[\mathcal{W}^{-1}], \mathcal{D}) \cong \text{Hom}(\mathcal{C}, \mathcal{D})$ is fully faithful, and by composition, we get that $F^* : \text{Hom}(\mathcal{D}, \mathcal{D}) \cong \text{Hom}(\mathcal{C}, \mathcal{D})$ is fully faithful. We want to show that $F \circ G \rightarrow \text{Id}$ is an isomorphism, which reduces to showing that $FGF \rightarrow F$ is an isomorphism, a consequence of the adjunction.)

¹ \mathcal{D} is said to be a reflexive subcategory of \mathcal{C} .

Exercise 4 (Model structure on slice categories, by Victor Saunier). Let $X \in \mathcal{A}$ and $(\mathcal{C}, \mathcal{F}, \mathcal{W})$ be a model structure on \mathcal{A} . We denote by \mathcal{A}/X the category whose objects are maps $\alpha : Y \rightarrow X$ of \mathcal{A} and whose morphisms are commutative triangles:

$$\begin{array}{ccc} Y & \xrightarrow{\alpha} & X \\ f \downarrow & \nearrow \alpha' & \\ Y' & & \end{array}$$

Similarly, we denote \mathcal{C}/X (resp. $\mathcal{F}/X, \mathcal{W}/X$) the morphisms of \mathcal{A}/X as above where $f \in \mathcal{C}$ (resp. \mathcal{F}, \mathcal{W}).

Show that $(\mathcal{C}/X, \mathcal{F}/X, \mathcal{W}/X)$ determines a model structure on \mathcal{A}/X . We call it the *slice model structure*.

What are the fibrant objects in the above described model structure? The cofibrant objects?

Let us check the axioms of a model category.

1. MC1. Colimits in \mathcal{C}/X can be computed as colimits in \mathcal{C} (for example, because the forgetful functor $\mathcal{C}/X \rightarrow \mathcal{C}$ has a right adjoint given by $A \mapsto A \times X$). For limits : if I is a small category and $D : I \rightarrow \mathcal{C}/X$, consider I^∇ the cocone of I (I to which we added a terminal object $*$). We have by construction a diagram $D^\nabla : I^\nabla \rightarrow \mathcal{C}$ where $*$ is sent to X . Then one can check that $\lim_{\mathcal{C}} D^\nabla$ is an object over X and is a limit of D in \mathcal{C}/X . So \mathcal{C}/X is complete and cocomplete.
2. MC2. The 2 out of 3 from \mathcal{C} gives the 2 out of 3 in \mathcal{C}/X because weak equivalences are the same.
3. MC3. Automatic since retracts in \mathcal{C}/X give retracts in \mathcal{C} .
4. MC4. Take a lifting problem in \mathcal{C}/X , for example :

$$\begin{array}{ccc} A & \xrightarrow{f} & B \\ \downarrow \wr_i & \nearrow \exists & \downarrow p \\ C & \xrightarrow{g} & D \end{array}$$

where all maps are maps over X . As $\mathcal{W}, \mathcal{C}, \mathcal{F}$ are the same as in \mathcal{C} , this gives a lifting problem in \mathcal{C} , so there exist a lifting (dotted arrow) φ in \mathcal{C} . There remains to check that this is a map over X . Call q_M the map $M \rightarrow X$ for any object M . We want to check that $q_B \varphi = q_A$. But $q_B \varphi = q_D p \varphi = q_D g = q_A$ so we are done.

5. MC5. We already have functorial factorizations in \mathcal{C} . We want to check they are maps over X . Let $f : A \rightarrow B$ be a map in \mathcal{C}/X . The factorization $A \xrightarrow{\sim} C_f \rightarrow B$ is automatically over X using the map $C_f \rightarrow B \xrightarrow{q_B} X$. The same holds for the second kind of factorizations.

Exercise 5 (Model structures on vector spaces, after Najib Idrissi). Let k be a field and denote $\text{Vect}(k)$ the category of vector spaces over k . We will use that every vector space, even the infinite-dimensional ones, has a basis (a.k.a. the axiom of choice).

1. Let there be a commutative square :

$$\begin{array}{ccc} E & \xrightarrow{u} & V \\ i \downarrow & & \downarrow p \\ F & \xrightarrow{v} & W \end{array}$$

- (a) Show that u factors through i if and only if $\ker i \subseteq \ker u$.

- (b) Show that v factors through p if and only if $\text{im } v \subseteq \text{im } p$.
- (c) Show that there exists a lift $F \rightarrow V$ if and only if both conditions are met.
- 2. (a) Show that $i \perp p$ if and only if at least one of i, p is surjective and at least one is injective.
- (b) Deduce what are the possibilities for $\text{LLP}(\mathcal{W})$, when \mathcal{W} is any class of arrows.
- 3. Suppose $(\mathcal{C}, \mathcal{F}, \mathcal{W})$ is a model structure on $\text{Vect}(k)$.
 - (a) Show that $\mathcal{W} = \text{RLP}(\mathcal{F}) \circ \text{LLP}(\mathcal{C})$. Using the above, what are the possibilities for $\mathcal{W}, \mathcal{C}, \mathcal{C} \cap \mathcal{W}$ and $\mathcal{F} \cap \mathcal{W}$?
 - (b) Using that a model structure is fully determined by the data of \mathcal{W} and \mathcal{F} , make a list of all the model structures on $\text{Vect}(k)$.

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 $\ker f$ 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.

Solution. We use exercise 3. We will check that the inclusion functor $\text{Mod}_{\mathbb{Z}[\frac{1}{p}]} \rightarrow \mathbb{Z}\text{Mod}$ is fully faithful. This amounts to check that $\text{Hom}_{\text{Mod}_{\mathbb{Z}[\frac{1}{p}]}}(A, B) = \text{Hom}_{\text{Mod}_{\mathbb{Z}}}(A, B)$ for any two $\mathbb{Z}[\frac{1}{p}]$ -modules A and B . The inclusion of the left term into the right term is automatic. Now take $f \in \text{Hom}_{\text{Mod}_{\mathbb{Z}}}(A, B)$; We need to show it is automatically a morphism of $\mathbb{Z}[\frac{1}{p}]$ -modules. But $pf(\frac{a}{p}) = f(p \cdot \frac{a}{p}) = f(a)$ so $f(\frac{a}{p}) = \frac{f(a)}{p}$ for all a and we are done. By Exercise 3, 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 along maps inducing isomorphism after tensoring by $\mathbb{Z}[\frac{1}{p}]$. Let's describe these maps. A map $A \rightarrow B$ is such if and only if $\ker(A \otimes \mathbb{Z}[\frac{1}{p}] \rightarrow B \otimes \mathbb{Z}[\frac{1}{p}]) = 0$ and $\text{coker}(A \otimes \mathbb{Z}[\frac{1}{p}] \rightarrow B \otimes \mathbb{Z}[\frac{1}{p}]) = 0$. By flatness of $\mathbb{Z}[\frac{1}{p}]$ taking \ker and coker commute with tensoring, so this amounts to ask that $\mathbb{Z}[1/p] \otimes \ker(A \rightarrow B)$ and $\mathbb{Z}[1/p] \otimes \text{coker}(A \rightarrow B)$ are zero. This is true if and only if $\ker A \rightarrow B$ and $\text{coker } A \rightarrow B$ are torsion p -groups.

2. The same arguments work by flatness of \mathbb{Q} over \mathbb{Z} . The fact that a morphism of abelian groups between two \mathbb{Q} -vector spaces is automatically a \mathbb{Q} linear map works with the same proof as before.