

Notes on Model Categories

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1 Homotopical Categories

Definition – Homotopical Categories

A *homotopical category* consists of the following data :

- a category M
- a class of morphisms W of M
- W contains identity morphisms and satisfies *two-out-of-six*

Morphisms in W are called *weak equivalences*. Sometimes W is implicit and we simply say M is a homotopical category.

Example. 1. Given any category M , the class of isomorphisms satisfies two-out-of-six.

2. Let $M = \mathbf{Cat}$ the category of (small) categories. Declare W to be the class of categorical-equivalences. Then W satisfies two-out-of-six by application of the previous example on the “ Π_0 ” of categories and maps on hom sets.

3. Let A be an abelian category and $\mathbf{Ch} A$ the category of (unbounded) complexes in A . Declare W to be

the class of quasi-isomorphisms, i.e. the morphisms which induce isomorphisms on cohomology. Then $(\mathbf{Ch} A, W)$ is homotopical by the previous example.

This includes the examples : the category $B\mathbf{Mod}$ of (left) modules over an associative ring B , the category $\mathbf{QCoh} X$ of quasi-coherent sheaves on a scheme X .

4. Let $M = \mathbf{Top}$ and declare W to be the class of morphisms which induce an isomorphism on π_0 and $\pi_{>0}$ at all points. Then (\mathbf{Top}, W) is again homotopical by the first example.

Lemma. Let M be a category and W a class of morphisms of M satisfying two-out-of-six. Then W satisfies two-out-of-three.

Proof. ■

Proposition – 1-Categorical Localisation

Let (M, W) be a homotopical category. Define the category $M[W^{-1}]$ by the following data :

- objects of $M[W^{-1}]$ are the same as those of M .
 - $M[W^{-1}](x, y)$ consists of “fractions of morphisms” $(f_0/g_0) \cdots (f_n/g_n)$ where the g_i are in W , quotiented out by removing any “ f/g ” with $f, g \in W$ and $1/1$.
- These are also sometimes called zig-zags.
- Morphisms compose by “multiplication”. Checking associativity is tedious.

There is a functor $M \rightarrow M[W^{-1}]$ that is identity on objects and maps each morphism f to the equivalence class of $f/1$.

For any category N , define $\mathbf{Cat}_W(M, N)$ to be the full subcategory of functors $M \rightarrow N$ inverting W , i.e. maps morphisms in W to isomorphisms. For any functor $l : M \rightarrow L(M)$, we say l exhibits $L(M)$ as a (weak) localisation of M at W when l inverts W and for any category N we have a categorical equivalence :

$$_ \circ l : \mathbf{Cat}(L(M), N) \xrightarrow{\sim} \mathbf{Cat}_W(M, N)$$

Then $M \rightarrow M[W^{-1}]$ exhibits $M[W^{-1}]$ as a (weak) localisation of M at W . Furthermore, $M \rightarrow M[W^{-1}]$ is an epimorphism.

If W is implicit, we use $\mathbf{Ho}M$ to denote $M[W^{-1}]$.

Proof. Nothing unexpected. The morphism $M \rightarrow M[W^{-1}]$ is epi because for any commuting triangle

$$\begin{array}{ccc} M & & \\ \downarrow & \searrow T & \\ M[W^{-1}] & \xrightarrow{\tilde{T}} & N \end{array}$$

\tilde{T} sends a zig-zag $(f_0/g_0) \cdots (f_n/g_n)$ to $T(f_0)T(g_0)^{-1} \cdots T(f_n)T(g_n)^{-1}$, and hence is determined by T . □

Remark. Some motivations for *model structures* via issues with the 1-categorical localisation :

- Using ZFC set theory as foundations, a common issue is that when M has a proper class of objects (e.g. $M = \mathbf{Set}, \mathbf{Grp}, \mathbf{Ring}$ etc), the homs of $M[W^{-1}]$ are also proper classes.
- The homs of $M[-^1]$ are hard to get your hands on.

Definition – Homotopical Functors

Let (M, W_M) and (N, W_N) be homotopical categories. Then a functor $F : M \rightarrow N$ is called *homotopical* when $FW_M \subseteq W_N$.

Example.

Let (M, W) be a homotopical category and $F : M \rightarrow M$ together with $\alpha : \mathbb{1} \rightarrow F$ with components in W . Then F is homotopical by W satisfying two-out-of-three.

Counter Example.

A list of functors between homotopical categories which we wish were homotopical :

1. Let I be a (small) category and (M, W) a homotopical category. Suppose M has colimits of I -diagrams, i.e. we have a functor $\varinjlim_I : M^I \rightarrow M$ left adjoint to the constant diagram functor $M \rightarrow M^I$. We can give M^I a class of weak equivalences by declaring weak equivalences to be the ones that are component-wise in W .

It would be nice if $\varinjlim_I : M^I \rightarrow M$ is homotopical since that would say “colimits are invariant under W ”. Unfortunately, this is not true in general.

Take $M = \mathbf{Top}$ and I the shape of the diagram for a pushout. A counterexample is then given by the following morphism of diagrams :

$$\begin{array}{ccccc}
 D^{n+1} & \longleftarrow & S^n & \longrightarrow & D^{n+1} \\
 \downarrow & & \downarrow & & \downarrow \\
 \bullet & \longleftarrow & S^n & \longrightarrow & \bullet
 \end{array}$$

All vertical morphisms are weak-equivalences in \mathbf{Top} but the induced map $S^{n+1} \rightarrow \bullet$ is certainly not a weak equivalence.

2. TODO : show how non-exactness of functors from homological algebra like tensor and hom can be expressed as non-homotopicalness of the functors.

2 Derived Functors

Remark. Digestion of the exposition in Riehl’s *Categorical Homotopy Theory*.

Definition

Let M, N be homotopical categories and $F : M \rightarrow N$ a functor.

Let $\gamma : M \rightarrow \mathbf{Ho}M$ and $\delta : N \rightarrow \mathbf{Ho}N$ be the obvious functors.

Then a *total left derived functor* of F is defined as a *right Kan extension* of δF along γ . Unpacking the definition, this consists of the following data :

- a functor $\mathbf{L}F : \mathbf{Ho}M \rightarrow \mathbf{Ho}N$
- a natural transformation $\lambda : \mathbf{L}F\gamma \rightarrow \delta F$ such that

$$-\gamma : \text{Mor}(-, \mathbf{L}F) \xrightarrow{\cong} \text{Mor}(-, \delta F)$$

i.e. “ $\mathbf{L}F$ is the left-closest extension of δF along γ ”. Using the equivalence $\mathbf{Cat}(\mathbf{Ho}M, \mathbf{Ho}N) \simeq \mathbf{Cat}_W(M, \mathbf{Ho}N)$, the above is equivalent to specifying a universal morphism $\lambda : \mathbf{L}F \rightarrow \delta F$ from $\mathbf{Cat}_W(M, \mathbf{Ho}N)$ to δF .

Often, it is possible to improve the situation by finding a homotopical functor $\mathbb{L}F : M \rightarrow N$ with $\lambda : \mathbb{L}F \rightarrow F$ such that $\delta \mathbb{L}F$ in $\mathbf{Cat}(M, \mathbf{Ho}N)$ corresponds to a total left derived functor of F .

$$\mathbf{Cat}_W(M, \mathbf{Ho}N)(-, \delta \mathbb{L}F) \xrightarrow{\cong} \mathbf{Cat}(M, \mathbf{Ho}N)(-, \delta F)$$

We call such $(\mathbb{L}F, \lambda)$ a *left derived functor* of F .

These definitions dualise to give *total right derived functors* and *right derived functors*.

Remark. The following result gives a way of constructing derived functors.

Proposition – Derived Functors via Deformations

Let M, N be homotopical categories and $F : M \rightarrow N$ a functor (not necessarily homotopical).

Define a *left deformation* of F to consist of the following data :

- a functor $Q : M \rightarrow M$.
- a natural transformation $q : Q \rightarrow \mathbb{1}_M$ with components in weak equivalences of M .
- we require that $F : M_Q \rightarrow N$ is homotopical where M_Q is the full subcategory of M consisting of objects in the image of Q , turned into a homotopical category via endowing it with weak equivalences from M .

We have the following :

1. Let (Q, q) be a left deformation of F . (FQ, Fq) gives a left derived functor for F . Furthermore, this is in fact an *absolute* right Kan extension of $M \rightarrow N \rightarrow \mathbf{Ho}N$ along $M \rightarrow \mathbf{Ho}M$.
2. Suppose $F \dashv G : M \rightleftharpoons N$ is an adjunction, such that we have a total left derived functor $(\mathbf{L}F, \lambda)$ of F and a total right derived functor $(\mathbf{R}G, \rho)$ of G where both total derived functors are absolute Kan extensions. Then we have an adjunction

$$\begin{array}{ccc} \mathbf{Ho} M & \xrightarrow{\mathbf{L}F} & \mathbf{Ho} N \\ & \perp & \\ & \xleftarrow{\mathbf{R}G} & \end{array}$$

that is compatible with localisation in the sense that we have the commuting square :

$$\begin{array}{ccc} N(Fm, n) & \xrightarrow{\cong} & M(m, Gn) \\ \downarrow & & \downarrow \\ \mathbf{Ho} N(Fm, n) & & \mathbf{Ho} M(m, Gn) \\ \downarrow \lambda_m & & \downarrow \rho_n \\ \mathbf{Ho} N(\mathbf{L}Fm, n) & \xrightarrow{\cong} & \mathbf{Ho} M(m, \mathbf{R}Gn) \end{array}$$

Proof. (1)

Let $\delta : N \rightarrow \mathbf{Ho} N$ be the obvious functor. We directly show that $(\delta FQ, \delta Fq)$ gives an absolute right Kan extension of δF along $M \rightarrow \mathbf{Ho} M$.

Let $H : \mathbf{Ho} N \rightarrow E$. Let $G \in \mathbf{Cat}_W(M, E)$ where W is the class of weak equivalences of M . We need to show a bijection :

$$G \rightarrow H\delta FQ \parallel G \rightarrow H\delta F$$

via composing with $H\delta Fq$. Let $\alpha : G \rightarrow H\delta F$. We give a unique $\alpha_0 : G \rightarrow H\delta FQ$ such that $\alpha = (H\delta Fq)\alpha_0$. Suppose we have such an α_0 . By "restricting" the commuting triangle $\alpha = (H\delta Fq)\alpha_0$ along $q : Q \rightarrow \mathbb{1}_M$, we have the following commutative diagram :

$$\begin{array}{ccccc} & & H\delta FQ^2 & \xrightarrow{H\delta FQq} & H\delta FQ \\ & \nearrow \alpha_0 Q & \downarrow \alpha Q & \nearrow & \downarrow H\delta Fq \\ GQ & \xrightarrow{\alpha_0} & H\delta FQ & \xrightarrow{H\delta Fq} & H\delta F \\ \downarrow Gq & \nearrow \alpha & \nearrow \alpha & & \\ G & & & & \end{array}$$

Now the point is that since q has components in weak equivalences of M , we have Gq is an isomorphism since G maps weak equivalences to isomorphisms, and $H\delta FQq$ is also an isomorphism since Q is homotopical and F is homotopical when restricted to M_Q , and H preserves isomorphisms. We can thus solve for α_0 uniquely as

$$\alpha_0 = (H\delta FQq)(\alpha_0 Q)(Gq)^{-1} = (H\delta FQq)(H\delta FQq)^{-1}(\alpha Q)(Gq)^{-1} = (\alpha Q)(Gq)^{-1}$$

(2) Purely formal. Indefinitely postponed.

□

Remark. The above proposition gives another reason for model structures : given a not necessarily homotopical functor $F : M \rightarrow N$ between homotopical categories, a suitable model structure on M will provide deformations for F .

3 Definitions of Model Structures

Remark. Digestion of the exposition on Joyal's nCatLab.

Definition – Model Categories, Weak factorisation systems, Lifting Properties

Let \mathcal{E} be a category. For (L, R) a pair of classes of morphisms of \mathcal{E} , (L, R) is called a *weak factorisation system* when the following are true :

- any $f \in \mathcal{E}^{\rightarrow}$ factorises as

$$\begin{array}{ccc} A & \xrightarrow{l \in L} & C \\ & \searrow f & \downarrow r \in R \\ & & B \end{array}$$

(possibly non-uniquely)

- L is exactly the morphisms that have *left-lifting-property* against all morphisms in R .
- R is exactly the morphisms that have *right-lifting-property* against all morphisms in L .

Let $(\mathcal{E}, \mathcal{W})$ be a homotopical category where \mathcal{E} is finitely complete and finitely cocomplete. A *model structure* is a pair \mathcal{C}, \mathcal{F} of classes of families of morphisms in \mathcal{E} such that :

- $(\mathcal{C} \cap \mathcal{W}, \mathcal{F})$ is a weak factorisation system for \mathcal{E} .
- $(\mathcal{C}, \mathcal{W} \cap \mathcal{F})$ is a weak factorisation system for \mathcal{E} .

A *model category* is a finitely complete and finitely cocomplete homotopical category equipped with a model structure.

Definition – Homotopy Category, Weak Equivalences/Acyclic Morphisms, (Co)Fibrations, (Co)Fibrant Objects

Let $(\mathcal{E}, \mathcal{W}, \mathcal{C}, \mathcal{F})$ be a model category.

- morphisms in \mathcal{W} are called *acyclic*. Sometimes, they are also called *trivial*.
- morphisms in \mathcal{C} are called *cofibrations*
- morphisms in \mathcal{F} are called *fibrations*
- objects X where $X \rightarrow 1$ is a fibration are called *fibrant*.
- objects X where $\emptyset \rightarrow X$ is a cofibration are called *cofibrant*.

- objects that are both fibrant and cofibrant, we call *fibrant-cofibrant*.

Remark. Many authors (such as Hovey) require the two factorisations to be *functorial*. This is usually satisfied in practice (in particular, whenever we have a cofibrantly generated model structure).

Proposition

Let $(\mathcal{E}, \mathcal{W}, \mathcal{C}, \mathcal{F})$ be a model category with functorial factorisations. The following square of categories consists of equivalences :

$$\begin{array}{ccc} \mathbf{Ho} \mathcal{E}_{fc} & \xrightarrow{\simeq} & \mathbf{Ho} \mathcal{E}_f \\ \simeq \downarrow & & \downarrow \simeq \\ \mathbf{Ho} \mathcal{E}_c & \xrightarrow{\simeq} & \mathbf{Ho} \mathcal{E} \end{array}$$

Proof. The functorial factorisation $(\mathcal{W} \cap \mathcal{C}, \mathcal{F})$ gives a right deformation of \mathcal{E} to \mathcal{E}_f and hence a quasi-inverse to $\mathbf{Ho} \mathcal{E}_f \rightarrow \mathbf{Ho} \mathcal{E}$. Now the functorial factorisation $(\mathcal{C}, \mathcal{W} \cap \mathcal{F})$ similarly gives a left deformation of \mathcal{E}_f to \mathcal{E}_{fc} . The rest is analogous. \square

Proposition – Elementary results

Let $(\mathcal{E}, \mathcal{W}, \mathcal{C}, \mathcal{F})$ be a model category.

1. $\mathcal{C}, \mathcal{C} \cap \mathcal{W}, \mathcal{F}, \mathcal{F} \cap \mathcal{W}$ closed under composition and retracts.
2. $\mathcal{F}, \mathcal{F} \cap \mathcal{W}$ closed under base change and product.
3. $\mathcal{C}, \mathcal{C} \cap \mathcal{W}$ closed under cobase change and coproduct.
4. $\mathcal{C} \cap \mathcal{W} \cap \mathcal{F}$ is precisely the isomorphisms.
5. (Tierney) \mathcal{W} closed under retracts. (Slightly non-trivial.) In particular, identity morphisms are in \mathcal{W} .

Proof. Besides that last result by Tierney, the rest is rather formal. \square

4 Computing the Homotopy Category of a Model Category

Remark. In this section we fulfil the promise of computing the homotopy category of a $(\mathcal{E}, \mathcal{W})$ given a model structure $(\mathcal{C}, \mathcal{F})$. We follow the exposition of Joyal's nCatLab. Throughout this section, we fix a model category $(\mathcal{E}, \mathcal{W}, \mathcal{C}, \mathcal{F})$.

We have already seen $\mathbf{Ho} \mathcal{E} \simeq \mathbf{Ho} \mathcal{E}_{fc}$. So the goal is to give a nice description of morphisms in $\mathbf{Ho} \mathcal{E}_{fc}$.

Definition – Cylinder Object, Left Homotopy, Path Object, Right Homotopy

Let $A \in \mathcal{E}$. A *cylinder object* for A is a factoring ^a

$$\begin{array}{ccc}
A + A & \xrightarrow{\in \mathcal{C}} & IA \\
& \searrow & \downarrow \in \mathcal{W} \\
& 1 + 1 & A
\end{array}$$

(not necessarily unique).

Let $f, g : A \rightarrow X$ in \mathcal{E} . Then a *left homotopy*, $h : f \xrightarrow{l} g$, is defined as a factoring with respect to a cylinder object IA of A :

$$\begin{array}{ccc}
A + A & \longrightarrow & IA \\
& \searrow f+g & \downarrow h \\
& & X
\end{array}$$

The above definition dualises. Let $X \in \mathcal{E}$. A *path object* for X is a factoring

$$\begin{array}{ccc}
X & & \\
\downarrow \in \mathcal{W} & \searrow (1,1) & \\
PX & \xrightarrow{\in \mathcal{F}} & X \times X
\end{array}$$

Let $f, g : A \rightarrow X$ in \mathcal{E} . Then a *right homotopy* $h : f \xrightarrow{r} g$ is defined as a factoring of (f, g) with respect to a path object PX of X :

$$\begin{array}{ccc}
A & & \\
\downarrow h & \searrow (f,g) & \\
PX & \longrightarrow & X \times X
\end{array}$$

^aWe don't require $IA \rightarrow A$ to be a fibration because in computations it is useful not to. For example, in simplicial sets $X \times \Delta^1 \rightarrow X$ is in general not a fibration.

Proposition – The Homotopy Category of a Model Category

Let $A, X \in \mathcal{E}$. Then we have the following :

1. Given A is cofibrant, the left homotopy relation on $\mathcal{E}(A, X)$ is an equivalence relation. Letting $\pi^l(A, X)$ denote the quotient by left homotopy equivalence, we have a functor $\pi^l(A, _) : \mathcal{E} \rightarrow \mathbf{Set}$.

Dually, given X is fibrant, the right homotopy relation on $\mathcal{E}(A, X)$ is an equivalence relation. Letting $\pi^r(A, X)$ denote the quotient by right homotopy equivalence, we have a functor $\pi^r(_, X) : \mathcal{E}^{op} \rightarrow \mathbf{Set}$.

2. Given A is cofibrant, the left homotopy relation on $\mathcal{E}(A, X)$ implies the right homotopy relation.

Dually, given X is fibrant, the right homotopy relation on $\mathcal{E}(A, X)$ implies the left homotopy relation.

Hence for A cofibrant and X fibrant, the two homotopy relations coincide. Letting $\pi(A, X) := \pi^r(A, X) = \pi^l(A, X)$, we obtain a functor $\pi : \mathcal{E}_c^{op} \times \mathcal{E}_f \rightarrow \mathbf{Set}$.

3. Let $\pi\mathcal{E}_{fc}$ denote the category defined by the data :

- objects are fibrant-cofibrant objects of \mathcal{E}
- The functor $\pi : \mathcal{E}_c^{op} \times \mathcal{E}_f \rightarrow \mathbf{Set}$ restricts to a functor $\pi : \mathcal{E}_{fc}^{op} \times \mathcal{E}_{fc} \rightarrow \mathbf{Set}$. We use this for the morphism functor.

There is an obvious functor $\mathcal{E}_{fc} \rightarrow \pi\mathcal{E}_{fc}$. The result is that this exhibits $\pi\mathcal{E}_{fc}$ as the localisation of \mathcal{E}_{fc} at weak equivalences. Furthermore, a morphism $f : A \rightarrow X$ in \mathcal{E}_{fc} is a weak equivalence iff it is an isomorphism in $\pi\mathcal{E}_{fc}$.

4. Given the following square consists of equivalences

$$\begin{array}{ccc} \mathbf{Ho} \mathcal{E}_{fc} & \xrightarrow{\simeq} & \mathbf{Ho} \mathcal{E}_f \\ \simeq \downarrow & & \downarrow \simeq \\ \mathbf{Ho} \mathcal{E}_c & \xrightarrow{\simeq} & \mathbf{Ho} \mathcal{E} \end{array}$$

we have that a morphism f in \mathcal{E} is acyclic iff it is inverted in $\mathbf{Ho} \mathcal{E}$.

Proof. (1) Let A be cofibrant. The left homotopy relation is already reflexive and symmetric. To show transitivity, suppose we have two left homotopies :

$$\begin{array}{ccc} A + A & \xrightarrow{i} & IA \\ & \searrow f,g & \downarrow H \sim \\ & & X \end{array} \quad \begin{array}{ccc} A + A & \xrightarrow{j} & JA \\ & \searrow g,h & \downarrow H_1 \sim \\ & & X \end{array}$$

The key is that we can glue the two cylinders IA and JA together by the “end side of IA ” and the “start side of JA ” to form another cylinder KA whose start is f and end is h . More concretely, we define KA by the following pushout :

$$\begin{array}{ccc} A & \xrightarrow{j_0} & JA \\ i_1 \downarrow & & \downarrow \\ IA & \longrightarrow & KA \end{array}$$

Define $k : A + A \rightarrow KA$ by setting $k_0 := A \rightarrow IA \rightarrow KA$ via i_0 and $k_1 := A \rightarrow JA \rightarrow KA$ via j_1 . Then the left homotopies H, H_1 glue to give a morphism $H_2 : KA \rightarrow X$ such that $H_2 k_0 = f$ and $H_2 k_1 = h$. It remains

to show that KA is a cylinder object for A via $k : A + A \rightarrow KA$ and $KA \rightarrow A$.

First, let's show $KA \rightarrow A$ is in \mathcal{W} . This morphism is defined by the diagram :

$$\begin{array}{ccc}
 A & \xrightarrow{j_0} & JA \\
 i_1 \downarrow & \lrcorner & \downarrow \\
 IA & \longrightarrow & KA \\
 & \searrow & \downarrow \\
 & & A
 \end{array}
 \quad
 \begin{array}{c}
 \sim \\
 \sim
 \end{array}$$

By \mathcal{W} having two-out-of-three, it suffices to show that $JA \rightarrow KA$ is in \mathcal{W} . Since $\mathcal{W} \cap \mathcal{C}$ is closed under cobase change, it suffices to show that the side inclusion $i_0 : A \rightarrow IA$ is an acyclic cofibration.

Lemma. Given a cylinder object (IA, i, σ) of a cofibrant A , we have $i_0 : A \rightarrow IA$ in $\mathcal{W} \cap \mathcal{C}$.

There is a dual result for path objects of fibrant objects.

Proof. It is acyclic by two-out-of-three for \mathcal{W} . And it is a cofibration because it is the composition $A \rightarrow A + A \rightarrow IA$ where $i : A + A \rightarrow IA$ is in \mathcal{C} by definition of cylinder objects and $A \rightarrow A + A$ is the cobase change of $\emptyset \rightarrow A$, a cofibration as assumed. ■

Next, we show $k : A + A \rightarrow KA$ is a cofibration. This morphism fits into the following commutative diagram

$$\begin{array}{ccccc}
 & & A & \xleftarrow{\quad} & \emptyset \\
 & & \downarrow & & \downarrow \\
 A + A + A + A & \xrightarrow{1, (1, 1), 1} & A + A + A & \xleftarrow{\quad} & A + A \\
 i, j \downarrow & & i_0, -, j_1 \downarrow & & \swarrow k \\
 IA + JA & \longrightarrow & KA & &
 \end{array}$$

(2) It suffices to prove the following stronger fact :

Lemma. Let (IA, i, σ) be a cylinder object for A and (PX, ρ, e) a path object for X . Suppose we have an “open box of homotopies”

$$\begin{array}{ccc}
 f_{00} & \xrightarrow{h_0} & f_{01} \\
 v_0 \downarrow & & \\
 f_{10} & \xrightarrow{h_1} & f_{11}
 \end{array}$$

where $f_{jk} : A \rightarrow X$, $v_0 : f_{00} \xrightarrow{r} f_{10}$ and $h_j : f_{j0} \xrightarrow{t} f_{j1}$. Suppose A is cofibrant. Then there exists

$H : IA \rightarrow PX$ such that $e_k H i_j = f_{jk}$. Pictorially, we can “complete the box with a double homotopy”.

$$\begin{array}{ccc} f_{00} & \xrightarrow{h_0} & f_{01} \\ v_0 \downarrow & \searrow H & \downarrow v_1 \\ f_{10} & \xrightarrow{h_1} & f_{11} \end{array}$$

Proof. The lemma can be formulated as finding a solution to the following lifting problem

$$\begin{array}{ccc} A & \xrightarrow{v_0} & PX \\ i_0 \downarrow & & \downarrow \sim \\ IA & \xrightarrow{h_0, h_1} & X \times X \end{array}$$

But we know that given A cofibrant, we have $i_0 \in \mathcal{C}$. Hence we have a solution since acyclic fibrations right lift against cofibrations. ■

Now, given A cofibrant and a left homotopy $h_1 : f \xrightarrow{l} g$, we get a right homotopy $v_1 : f \xrightarrow{r} g$ by completing the following open box of homotopies

$$\begin{array}{ccc} f & \xrightarrow{\quad} & f \\ \downarrow & \dashv H \dashv & \downarrow v_1 \\ f & \xrightarrow{h_1} & g \end{array}$$

where the unnamed homotopies are from reflexivity of the two homotopy relations.

(3) First, we show that $\mathcal{E}_{f_c} \rightarrow \pi \mathcal{E}_{f_c}$ inverts weak equivalences. To that end, we prove a lemma which can be used to show when a functor from cofibrant objects is homotopical.

Lemma (Kenneth Brown). Let $F : \mathcal{E}_c \rightarrow C$ where C is a category with a class of morphisms W satisfying identities and two-out-of-three. Suppose $F(\mathcal{W} \cap \mathcal{C}) \subseteq W$. Then $F(\mathcal{W}) \subseteq W$.

There is a dual result for $F : \mathcal{E}_f \rightarrow C$ with $F(\mathcal{W} \cap \mathcal{C}) \subseteq W$.

Proof. The new idea is that of a *mapping cylinder*. Given a morphism $f : A \rightarrow B$, a *mapping cylinder factorisation* of f is a factorisation

$$\begin{array}{ccc} A + B & & \\ \downarrow & \searrow f, 1 & \\ C(f) & \xrightarrow{\sim} & B \end{array}$$

Such a factorisation can be obtained from a cylinder object (IA, i, σ) of A when it is cofibrant by the pushout

$$\begin{array}{ccccc}
 A + A & \xrightarrow{i} & IA & & \\
 \downarrow \mathbb{1}, f & \lrcorner & \downarrow & \searrow f\sigma & \\
 A + B & \xrightarrow{\quad} & C(f) & \xrightarrow{q_B} & B \\
 & \searrow f, \mathbb{1} & & & \\
 & & & & B
 \end{array}$$

To show $q_B \in \mathcal{W}$, it suffices to show that the composition $i_B : B \rightarrow A + B \rightarrow C(f)$ is acyclic. This fits into the commutative diagram of pushout squares

$$\begin{array}{ccccccc}
 A & \longrightarrow & A + A & \xrightarrow{i} & IA & & \\
 f \downarrow & & \downarrow \mathbb{1}, f & \lrcorner & \downarrow & & \\
 B & \longrightarrow & A + B & \xrightarrow{\quad} & C(f) & &
 \end{array}$$

So we see that $B \rightarrow C(f)$ is a cobase change of $i_0 : A \rightarrow IA$. Since A is cofibrant, i_0 is an acyclic cofibration and hence so is $B \rightarrow C(f)$.

Let us now show the result. Let $f : A \rightarrow B$ in \mathcal{E}_c . Via the mapping cylinder factorisation above, we have

$$\begin{array}{ccc}
 A & & \\
 i_A \downarrow & \searrow f & \\
 C(f) & \xrightarrow{q_B} & B
 \end{array}$$

For $F(f) \in W$, it suffices that $F(i_A), F(q_B) \in W$. We have $F(i_A)$ because it is an acyclic cofibration by two-out-of-three with $q_B, f \in \mathcal{W}$. For $F(q_B)$, note that since we have

$$\begin{array}{ccc}
 B & & \\
 i_B \downarrow \sim & \searrow \mathbb{1} & \\
 C(f) & \xrightarrow{q_B} & B
 \end{array}$$

it suffices to show that $F(i_B) \in W$ by two-out-of-three for W . Indeed we have $F(i_B) \in F(\mathcal{W} \cap \mathcal{C}) \subseteq W$ by assumption. ■

We will use Yoneda's lemma to show $\mathcal{E}_{fc} \rightarrow \pi \mathcal{E}_{fc}$ inverts weak equivalences. Specifically, we show the following :

Lemma. Let A be cofibrant. Then $\pi^l(A, _) : \mathcal{E}_f \rightarrow \mathbf{Set}$ inverts weak equivalences. In particular, for an acyclic fibration $f : X \rightarrow S$ where S is cofibrant, the set of sections of f is singleton up to left homotopy.

Proof. By the lemma of Kenneth Brown, it suffices to show that $\pi^l(A, _)$ inverts acyclic fibrations. So let $f : X \rightarrow Y$ be an acyclic fibration. Then surjectivity of $\pi^l(A, f)$ is equivalent to solving lifting problems of the form :

$$\begin{array}{ccc} \emptyset & \longrightarrow & X \\ \downarrow & \nearrow & \downarrow \sim \\ A & \longrightarrow & Y \end{array}$$

which we have due to A being cofibrant and the WFS $(\mathcal{C}, \mathcal{W} \cap \mathcal{F})$. On the other hand injectivity of $\pi^l(A, f)$ is equivalent to solving lifting problems of the form :

$$\begin{array}{ccc} A + A & \longrightarrow & X \\ \downarrow i & \nearrow & \downarrow \sim \\ IA & \longrightarrow & Y \end{array}$$

which we also have by the same reason. ■

We have thus proved that $\mathcal{E}_{fc} \rightarrow \pi\mathcal{E}_{fc}$ inverts weak equivalences. So by the UP of localisation, we have a commuting triangle :

$$\begin{array}{ccc} \mathcal{E}_{fc} & & \\ \downarrow & \searrow & \\ \mathbf{Ho} \mathcal{E}_{fc} & \xrightarrow{T} & \pi\mathcal{E}_{fc} \end{array}$$

The idea here is that homotopic maps are identified under functors which invert weak equivalences.

Lemma. Let $F : \mathcal{E} \rightarrow C$ be a functor.

1. If F inverts weak equivalences, then F identifies left homotopic morphisms.
2. This is also true for functors $F : \mathcal{E}_c \rightarrow C$
3. It is furthermore also true for $F : \mathcal{E}_{fc} \rightarrow C$.

Proof. (1) The key is that for any cylinder object IA of an object A , “the cylinder collapses”. More precisely, the morphism $IA \rightarrow A$ gets inverted under F , and so the two inclusions $i_0, i_1 : A \rightarrow IA$ get identified.

(2) To reuse the above argument, we need only to ensure any cylinder object IA of cofibrant A is

also cofibrant. But this is true since the composition $\emptyset \rightarrow A \rightarrow A + A \rightarrow IA$ consists of cofibrations.

(3) We can try again to reuse the above argument, in which case we need to prove that any cylinder object IA of a fibrant-cofibrant object A is also fibrant-cofibrant. This is false in general.^a Instead, we proceed to show that we only need the existence of *one* fibrant-cofibrant cylinder object IA for each A , which indeed exists by $(\mathcal{C}, \mathcal{W} \cap \mathcal{F})$ -factoring $A + A \rightarrow A$.

Lemma. Let $A, X \in \mathcal{E}$ where X is fibrant. Then the left homotopy relation on $\mathcal{E}(A, X)$ can be defined with respect to a single cylinder object of A .

Proof. Let $f, g : A + A \rightarrow X$, $(IA, i, \sigma), (JA, j, \tau)$ cylinder objects of A and $H : IA \rightarrow X$ a left homotopy from f to g . By the WFS $(\mathcal{W} \cap \mathcal{C}, \mathcal{F})$, the fact that X is fibrant says that we can change IA along any acyclic cofibration $IA \rightarrow I'A$.

$$\begin{array}{ccc} IA & \xrightarrow{H} & X \\ \sim \downarrow & \nearrow H' & \downarrow \\ I'A & \longrightarrow & \bullet \end{array}$$

So we factor $\sigma : IA \rightarrow A$ into an acyclic cofibration followed by a fibration to get the following commutative diagram :

$$\begin{array}{ccccc} A + A & \xrightarrow{\quad} & IA & \xrightarrow{\sim} & I'A \\ \downarrow & & \downarrow & \nearrow \sim & \downarrow \\ JA & \xrightarrow{\sim} & A & \xrightarrow{1} & A \end{array}$$

The outer square is a lifting problem to which a solution would give a left homotopy $\tilde{H} : JA \rightarrow X$ from f to g . But acyclicity of $IA \rightarrow A$ implies $I'A \rightarrow A$ is an acyclic fibration by two-out-of-three for \mathcal{W} , and so we indeed have a solution. ■

^aIn simplicial sets, $X + X \rightarrow X \times \Delta^1 \rightarrow X$ is the standard cylinder object to take. But one can see that for $X = \Delta^0$, $\Delta^1 \rightarrow \Delta^0$ is not an acyclic fibration, i.e. Δ^1 is not a Kan complex.

The above result means that we have a well-defined functor U making the commutative triangle :

$$\begin{array}{ccc} \mathcal{E}_{fc} & \longrightarrow & \pi \mathcal{E}_{fc} \\ & \searrow & \downarrow U \\ & & \mathbf{Ho} \mathcal{E}_{fc} \end{array}$$

The claim is that U, T are inverses. For this, it suffices that both $\mathcal{E}_{fc} \rightarrow \mathbf{Ho} \mathcal{E}_{fc}$ and $\mathcal{E}_{fc} \rightarrow \pi \mathcal{E}_{fc}$ are epi-

morphisms of categories. The former we have seen before. For the latter, note that $\mathcal{E}_{fc} \rightarrow \pi\mathcal{E}_{fc}$ is full and bijective on objects. This concludes $\pi\mathcal{E}_{fc} \cong \mathbf{Ho} \mathcal{E}_{fc}$ as categories under \mathcal{E}_{fc} .

Finally, let us show that a morphism f in \mathcal{E}_{fc} is acyclic iff it is inverted in $\pi\mathcal{E}_{fc}$. The forward direction has been proved. For the converse, we first note that suffices to do the case that f is a fibration : factor $f = pu$ where $u \in \mathcal{W} \cap \mathcal{C}$ and $p \in \mathcal{F}$. Then we know already that u is inverted in $\pi\mathcal{E}_{fc}$. So by two-out-of-three for \mathcal{W} and isomorphisms (in $\pi\mathcal{E}_{fc}$), we see that $f \in \mathcal{W}$ iff $p \in \mathcal{W}$ and f is inverted in $\pi\mathcal{E}_{fc}$ iff p is.

So WLOG assume $f : X \rightarrow Y$ is a fibration which is inverted in $\pi\mathcal{E}_{fc}$. This means we have a $g : Y \rightarrow X$ with $fg \sim \mathbb{1}_Y$ and $gf \sim \mathbb{1}_X$. Notice that from X cofibrant, acyclicity of morphisms out of X is preserved along left homotopies. Since $\mathbb{1}_X \in \mathcal{W}$, we have $gf \in \mathcal{W}$. Now if g was a “true” section of f , i.e. $fg = \mathbb{1}_Y$, then we would have f as a retract of gf .

$$\begin{array}{ccccc} X & \xrightarrow{\mathbb{1}} & X & \xrightarrow{\mathbb{1}} & X \\ f \downarrow & & \downarrow gf & & \downarrow f \\ Y & \xrightarrow{g} & X & \xrightarrow{f} & Y \end{array}$$

And hence we would be able to conclude that f is acyclic since \mathcal{W} is closed under retracts.

To that end, we seek to replace g with some s where $fs = \mathbb{1}_Y$. To ensure that $sf \in \mathcal{W}$, it suffices to keep $g \sim s$ for then $sf \sim gf \sim \mathbb{1}_X$. We can indeed find such $s : Y \rightarrow X$ as $s = Hi_1$ where H is a solution of the lifting problem

$$\begin{array}{ccc} Y & \xrightarrow{g} & X \\ i_0 \downarrow & \nearrow H & \downarrow f \\ IY & \longrightarrow & Y \end{array}$$

where the bottom morphism exhibits $fg \sim \mathbb{1}_Y$.

(4) Although we used functorial factorisations to obtain the square of equivalence of homotopy categories, we won’t need functoriality of factorisations to show the desired result.

Let $f : X \rightarrow Y$ in \mathcal{E} . Then by repeated application of factorisations into $(\mathcal{W} \cap \mathcal{C}, \mathcal{F})$ and $(\mathcal{C}, \mathcal{W} \cap \mathcal{F})$, we obtain the commutative diagram :

$$\begin{array}{ccccc} X & \xrightarrow{f} & Y & & \\ \sim \downarrow & & \downarrow \sim & & \\ RX & \xrightarrow{f_1} & RY & \longrightarrow & \bullet \\ \sim \uparrow & & \uparrow \sim & & \\ \emptyset \longrightarrow & WX & \xrightarrow{f_2} & WY & \end{array}$$

This is exactly what we would get from functorial factorisations so not much surprises here. We have

RX, RY fibrant and WX, WY fibrant-cofibrant. Now we see that $f \in \mathcal{W}$ iff $f_1 \in \mathcal{W}$ iff $f_2 \in \mathcal{W}$ iff f_2 is inverted in $\mathbf{Ho} \mathcal{E}_{f_c}$ iff f_1 is inverted in $\mathbf{Ho} \mathcal{E}_f$ iff f is inverted in $\mathbf{Ho} \mathcal{E}$ as desired. \square

5 Equivalence of Model Categories

Remark. From the Ken Brown lemma, we see that for a functor $F : M \rightarrow N$ between model categories, it is homotopical on M_c if F maps acyclic cofibrations between cofibrant objects to weak equivalences. In the presence of a functorial factorisations in the model structure of M , we can then compute the left derived functor of F . This partially motivates the following definition.

Definition

Let $F : M \rightarrow N$ be a functor between model categories. Then F is called *left Quillen* when $F(\mathcal{C}) \subseteq \mathcal{C}$ and $F(\mathcal{W} \cap \mathcal{C}) \subseteq \mathcal{W} \cap \mathcal{C}$.

The above dualises to *right Quillen* functors.

Proposition – Quillen Adjunctions

Let $F \dashv G : M \leftrightarrow N$ be an adjunction where F is left Quillen and G is right Quillen. Assume that M, N have functorial factorisations. Then the total left derived functor of F and the total right derived functor of G exists, together forming an adjunction at the level of homotopy categories.

$$\begin{array}{ccc} \mathbf{Ho} M & \xrightarrow{\quad \mathbf{L}F \quad} & \mathbf{Ho} N \\ & \perp & \\ & \xleftarrow{\quad \mathbf{R}G \quad} & \end{array}$$

Proof. Direct application of derived functors via deformations. \square

6 How to give Model Structures - Cofibrant Generation

TODO