

# Model Categories

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# Table of Contents

- 1 Model Categories
- 2 Homotopy Relations on Maps
- 3 Homotopy category of a model category

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- 1  $\mathbf{C}$  will denote a category.
- 2  $f, g$  will denote morphisms in a category.
- 3 Given a ring  $R$ ,  $\mathbf{Ch}(R)$  will denote the category of nonnegatively graded chain complexes over  $R$ , i.e., objects are chain complexes of the form

$$\cdots \rightarrow M_2 \rightarrow M_1 \rightarrow M_0,$$

and the morphisms are the obvious ones.

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such that  $ri$  and  $r'i'$  are the appropriate identity maps.

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Additionally, we require the **model category axioms MC1 - MC5** to be satisfied, which are stated on the next slide.

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The homotopy category  $\mathbf{Ho}(\mathbf{Ch}(R))$  is equivalent to the category whose objects are these cofibrant chain complexes and whose morphisms are ordinary chain homotopy classes of maps.

# Another example

The category **Top** of topological spaces can be given the structure of a model category by defining a map  $f : X \rightarrow Y$  to be

- 1 a **weak equivalence** if  $f$  is a homotopy equivalence,
- 2 a **cofibration** if  $f$  is a closed Hurewicz cofibration,
- 3 a **fibration** if  $f$  is a Hurewicz fibration.

In this case, the homotopy category  $\mathbf{Ho}(\mathbf{Top})$  is the usual homotopy category of topological spaces.



## Yet another example

The category **Top'** of topological spaces can be given yet another structure of a model category by defining a map  $f : X \rightarrow Y$  to be

- 1 a **weak equivalence** if  $f$  is a weak homotopy equivalence,
- 2 a **cofibration** if  $f$  is a retract of a map  $X \rightarrow Y'$  in which  $Y'$  is obtained from  $X$  by attaching cells,
- 3 a **fibration** if  $f$  is a Serre fibration.

In this case, the homotopy category  $\mathbf{Ho}(\mathbf{Top}')$  is the usual homotopy category of CW-complexes.

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This has the structure of a model category by defining  $h$  to be a weak equivalence, fibration, or cofibration according to whether it was so in  $\mathbf{C}$ . An object  $X$  of  $* \downarrow \mathbf{Top}$  is cofibrant iff the basepoint of  $X$  is closed and nondegenerate.

## Definition 5

Let  $i : A \rightarrow B$  and  $p : X \rightarrow Y$  be maps such that

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has a lift for any choice of horizontal arrows (that make the diagram commute).

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has a lift for any choice of horizontal arrows (that make the diagram commute). Then,  $i$  is said to have the **left lifting property (LLP)** with respect to  $p$ , and  $p$  is said to have the **right lifting property (RLP)** with respect to  $i$ .

## Proposition 6

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This shows that the axioms for model category are overdetermined in some sense: more precisely, if  $\mathbf{C}$  is a model category, then given just the classes of weak equivalences and fibrations is enough to determine the class of cofibrations.

# Cobase change

Given a pushout diagram

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# Table of Contents

- 1 Model Categories
- 2 Homotopy Relations on Maps
- 3 Homotopy category of a model category

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# Notations for the coproduct

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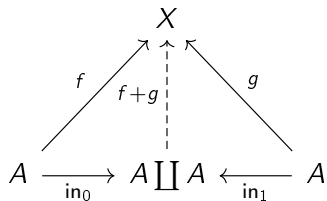
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By **MC5**, at least one very good cylinder object exists for every  $A$ .

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If  $A$  is cofibrant and  $A \wedge I$  is a good cylinder object for  $A$ , then the maps  $i_0, i_1 : A \rightarrow A \wedge I$  are acyclic cofibrations.



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As  $i_0$  is the composition,  $A \xrightarrow{\text{in}_0} A \amalg A \hookrightarrow A \wedge I$ , we are done. □

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If  $X$  is fibrant, then there exists a very good left homotopy from  $f$  to  $g$ .

The first statement follows simply by factoring  $A \amalg A \rightarrow A \wedge I$  as a product of a cofibration and an acyclic fibration.

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If  $A$  is cofibrant, then  $\stackrel{\ell}{\sim}$  is an equivalence relation on  $\mathbf{Hom}_{\mathbf{C}}(A, X)$ .

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The proof of this is not tough and just works out by considering pushouts cleverly. Reflexivity and symmetry follow even if  $A$  is not cofibrant.  $A$  being cofibrant ensures that the maps  $A \rightarrow A \wedge I$  are acyclic cofibrations, which lets one prove transitivity by consider pushouts of two mapping cylinders.

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$\pi^{\ell}(A, X)$  denotes the set of equivalence classes of  $\mathbf{Hom}_{\mathbf{C}}(A, X)$  under the equivalence relation generated by left homotopy.

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If  $X$  is fibrant, then the composition in  $\mathbf{C}$  induces a map:

$$\begin{aligned} \pi^{\ell}(A', A) \times \pi^{\ell}(A, X) &\rightarrow \pi^{\ell}(A', X) \\ ([h], [f]) &\mapsto [fh]. \end{aligned}$$

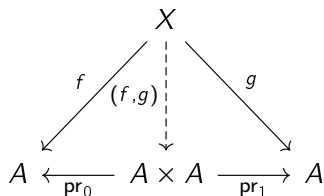
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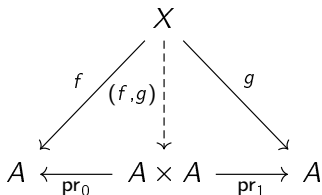
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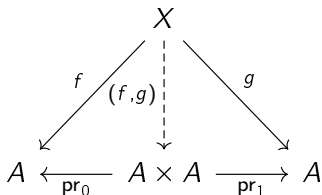


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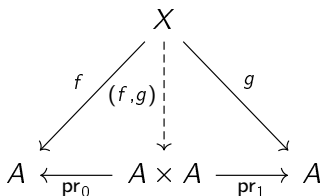
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$$\begin{array}{ccccc} & & X & & \\ & \swarrow f & \downarrow (f,g) & \searrow g & \\ A & \xleftarrow{\text{pr}_0} & A \times A & \xrightarrow{\text{pr}_1} & A \end{array}$$

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## Definition 18

Two maps  $f, g : A \rightarrow X$  in  $\mathbf{C}$  are said to be **right homotopic** (written  $f \overset{r}{\sim} g$ ) if there exists a path object  $X^I$  for  $X$  such that the product map  $(f, g) : A \rightarrow X \times X$  lifts to a map  $H : A \rightarrow X^I$ .

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The composite  $Ki_1 : A \rightarrow X^I$  is the desired right homotopy. □



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# Weak equivalence $\Rightarrow$ homotopy inverse

Proof.

Suppose  $f$  is a weak equivalence and factor  $f$  as  $A \xrightarrow[\sim]{q} C \xrightarrow{p} X$ .

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# Table of Contents

- 1 Model Categories
- 2 Homotopy Relations on Maps
- 3 Homotopy category of a model category**

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Dually, we have the existence of a map  $\bar{f}$  such that

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Restriction of  $Q$  to  $\pi\mathbf{C}_f$  induces a functor  $Q' : \pi\mathbf{C}_f \rightarrow \pi\mathbf{C}_{cf}$ .

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There is a functor  $\gamma : \mathbf{C} \rightarrow \mathbf{Ho}(\mathbf{C})$  which is the identity on objects and sends a map  $X \xrightarrow{f} Y$  to the map  $R'Q(X) \xrightarrow{R'Q(f)} R'Q(Y)$ .

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## Proposition 28

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Let  $\mathbf{C}$  be a category, and  $W \subseteq \mathbf{C}$  a class of morphisms. A functor  $F : \mathbf{C} \rightarrow \mathbf{D}$  is said to be a **localisation of  $\mathbf{C}$  with respect to  $W$**  if

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- 2 whenever  $G : \mathbf{C} \rightarrow \mathbf{D}'$  is a functor carrying elements of  $W$  into isomorphisms, there exists a unique functor  $G' : \mathbf{D} \rightarrow \mathbf{D}'$  such that  $G'F = G$ .

## Proposition 30

Let  $\mathbf{C}$  be a model category and  $W \subseteq \mathbf{C}$  the class of weak equivalences. Then,  $\gamma : \mathbf{C} \rightarrow \mathbf{Ho}(\mathbf{C})$  is a localisation of  $\mathbf{C}$  with respect to  $W$ .

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## Proposition 31

For any two  $R$ -modules  $A$  and  $B$  and nonnegative integers  $n$  and  $m$ , there is a natural isomorphism

$$\mathrm{Hom}_{\mathrm{Ho}(\mathbf{Ch}(R))}(K(A, m), K(B, n)) \cong \mathrm{Ext}_R^{n-m}(A, B).$$