FROM TRIANGULATED CATEGORIES TO MODULE CATEGORIES VIA HOMOTOPOICAL ALGEBRA

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Abstract. The category of modules over the endomorphism algebra of a rigid object in a Hom-finite triangulated category \(C\) has been given two different descriptions: On the one hand, as shown by Osamu Iyama and Yuji Yoshino, it is equivalent to an ideal quotient of a subcategory of \(C\). On the other hand, Aslak Buan and Robert Marsh proved that this module category is also equivalent to some localisation of \(C\). In this paper, we give a conceptual interpretation, inspired from homotopical algebra, of this double description. Our main aim, yet to be achieved, is to generalise Buan-Marsh’s result to the case of Hom-infinite cluster categories. We note that, contrary to the more common case where a model category is a module category whose homotopy category is triangulated, we consider here some triangulated categories whose homotopy categories are module categories.

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Introduction

Our aim in this paper is to give a homotopical algebraic interpretation of a result of Aslak Buan and Robert Marsh [BM13a] (see also [BM13b, Be13]) on some localisations of triangulated categories associated with rigid objects.

Endomorphism algebras of rigid objects. The interest in rigid objects in module categories and in triangulated categories arose in tilting theory. The study of cluster algebras revived this interest: Rigid objects in cluster categories categorify the cluster monomials of an associated cluster algebra.
Let \( C \) be a triangulated category with suspension functor \( \Sigma \). An object \( T \) in \( C \) is called rigid if it has no non-trivial self-extensions, i.e., if \( C(T, \Sigma T) = 0 \). A rigid object \( T \) is called maximal rigid if moreover \( T \oplus X \) is rigid if and only if \( X \in \text{add} \, T \), where \( \text{add} \, T \) is the full subcategory of \( C \) whose objects are the direct summands of finite direct sums of copies of \( T \). One nice feature of rigid objects in a triangulated category is that all the information concerning their representation theory is contained in the triangulated category:

**Theorem 0.1** (Buan–Marsh–Reiten \[BMR07\]). Let \( k \) be a field, let \( Q \) be an acyclic quiver, and let \( C = D^b(kQ)/\tau^{-1}[1] \) be the associated cluster category \[BMRRT06\]. If \( T \) is a maximal rigid object of \( C \), then the functor \( C(T, -) \) induces an equivalence of categories:

\[
C/(\Sigma T) \xrightarrow{\sim} \text{mod} \, \text{End}_C(T)^{\text{op}},
\]

where \((\Sigma T)\) denotes the ideal of morphisms factoring through \( \text{add} \, \Sigma T \).

We note that, if \( X \in C \), then the \( \text{mod} \, \text{End}_C(T)^{\text{op}} \)-module structure on the finite dimensional \( k \)-vector space \( C(T, X) \) is given by precomposition. Theorem 0.1 was generalised in various directions; see for instance \[KZ08\], \[KR07\], \[IY08\]. In particular, it is shown in \[KZ08\] that the abelian structure on \( C_Q/(\Sigma T) \) can be described in terms of the triangulated structure \[Kel05\] of \( C_Q \).

Let us state a generalisation due to Osamu Iyama and Yuji Yoshino \[IY08\], which was the starting point for the work of Aslak Buan and Robert Marsh in \[BM13a\].

**Theorem 0.2** (Iyama–Yoshino \[IY08\]). Let \( k \) be a field and let \( C \) be a \( k \)-linear, Hom-finite, Krull–Schmidt, triangulated category with some rigid object \( T \). The full subcategory of \( C \) whose objects are cones of morphisms in \( \text{add} \, T \) is denoted by \( T \ast \Sigma T \). Then the functor \( C(T, -) \) induces an equivalence of categories:

\[
T \ast \Sigma T/(\Sigma T) \xrightarrow{\sim} \text{mod} \, \text{End}_C(T)^{\text{op}}.
\]

From this result arise the following questions: What are the properties of the functor \( C(T, -) : C \to \text{mod} \, \text{End}_C(T)^{\text{op}} \)? Is it possible to describe the module category \( \text{mod} \, \text{End}_C(T)^{\text{op}} \) from \( C \), without computing the subcategory \( T \ast \Sigma T \)?

The answer given by Aslak Buan and Robert Marsh is that \( C(T, -) \) is a localisation functor.

**Localisations.** The following situation arises in various fields of mathematics. Assume that \( C \) is a category with some class \( W \) of morphisms, called weak equivalences. If there is a weak equivalence from \( X \) to \( Y \), one would like to think \( X \) and \( Y \) as being isomorphic. For example, \( C \) might be the category of complexes of modules over some ring, and \( W \) the class of quasi-isomorphisms (morphisms inducing isomorphisms on homologies). Or \( C \) might be the category of compactly generated (weak Hausdorff) topological spaces, with \( W \) the class of weak equivalences (morphisms inducing bijections on homotopy groups, for all choices of a base point).

There is a method \[GZ67\] for constructing a new category \( C(W^{-1}) \) having the same objects as \( C \) but where morphisms in \( W \) become isomorphisms.

**Definition 0.3.** A localisation of \( C \) at \( W \) is the datum of a functor \( C \to C(W^{-1}) \) with the property that, for any functor \( C \to D \) such that \( Fw \) is an isomorphism in \( D \) whenever \( w \) is in \( W \), there is a unique functor \( C(W^{-1}) \to D \) such that \( GL = F \):

\[
\begin{array}{ccc}
C & \xrightarrow{F} & D \\
\downarrow{L} & & \downarrow{G} \\
C(W^{-1}) & & \\
\end{array}
\]
We note that the diagram above is required to commute “on the nose” and not only up to some natural isomorphism. In particular, the category $\mathcal{C}[\mathcal{W}^{-1}]$, if it exists, is unique up to isomorphism (and not just up to equivalence).

The recipe given in $\mathcal{GZ67}$ for constructing $\mathcal{C}[\mathcal{W}^{-1}]$ can be sketched as follows: Consider all words on (composable) morphisms of $\mathcal{C}$ and formal inverses $w^{-1}$ to all morphisms $w$ in $\mathcal{W}$, up to the equivalence relation obtained by identifying subwords of the form $fg$ and $f \circ g$, $1f$ or $f1$ and $f$, and $ww^{-1}$ or $w^{-1}w$ and $1$. The “category” with objects the objects of $\mathcal{C}$, with morphisms the equivalence classes of words, and with composition induced by concatenation of words is a localisation of $\mathcal{C}$ at $\mathcal{W}$. Unfortunately, there is some set-theoretic issue with this construction: The collection of all morphisms between two objects might form a proper class rather than a set. As shown by Theorem $\textbf{[4]}$, this issue does not arise in the setup considered in $\textbf{BM13a}$.

Let $\mathcal{C}$ be, as in Theorem $\textbf{[22]}$, a $k$-linear, Hom-finite, Krull-Schmidt, triangulated category, and let $T \in \mathcal{C}$ be rigid. We write $T^\perp$ for the full subcategory of $\mathcal{C}$ whose objects $X$ satisfy $\mathcal{C}(T, X) = 0$. Let $S$ be the class of morphisms $X \xrightarrow{f} Y$ such that, form some (equivalently, any) triangle $Z \xrightarrow{g} X \xrightarrow{f} Y \xrightarrow{h} \Sigma Z$, both morphisms $g$ and $h$ belong to the ideal $(T^\perp)$ of morphisms factoring through $T^\perp$.

**Theorem 0.4** (Buan-Marsh $\textbf{[BM13a]}$). Let $\mathcal{C}$ be a $k$-linear, Hom-finite, Krull-Schmidt, triangulated category with a Serre functor, and let $T \in \mathcal{C}$ be rigid.

1. For any morphism $s \in S$, $\mathcal{C}(T, s)$ is an isomorphism in $\text{mod End}_C(T)^{op}$.
2. The functor $\mathcal{C}[S^{-1}] \xrightarrow{\mathcal{G}} \text{mod End}_C(T)^{op}$ induced from $\mathcal{C}(T, -)$ is an equivalence of categories.

In particular, the localisation of $\mathcal{C}$ at $S$ exists. The construction of $\mathcal{GZ67}$ is a category. A key lemma in the proof of Theorem $\textbf{[4]}$ is:

**Lemma 0.5** (Buan-Marsh $\textbf{[BM13a]}$). Let $X \in \mathcal{C}$. Then there is a triangle $Y \xrightarrow{a} A \xrightarrow{f} X \xrightarrow{h} \Sigma Y$, with $A \in T \ast \Sigma T$, $Y \in T^\perp$ and $h \in (T^\perp)$. In particular, the modules $\mathcal{C}(T, A)$ and $\mathcal{C}(T, X)$ are isomorphic.

Under the assumptions of Theorem $\textbf{[4]}$ we thus obtain two equivalent categories. The first one is the localisation of $\mathcal{C}$ at some class of morphisms $S$. The second one is the full subcategory $T \ast \Sigma T$ of $\mathcal{C}$ where morphisms are considered up to some equivalence relations (two morphisms $f$ and $g$ are equivalent if $f - g$ factors through $\text{add } \Sigma T$). This is reminiscent to the theory of model categories $\textbf{[Qui67]}$.

Our aim is to make this analogy more precise: We will give some homotopical algebraic interpretation of Theorem $\textbf{[4]}$ and of Lemma $\textbf{[5]}$. Our main motivation for pushing this analogy farther is the hope that it might provide a tool allowing for a generalisation of Theorem $\textbf{[4]}$ (including the case of Hom-infinite cluster categories $\textbf{[Ami09, Pla11]}$).

**Model categories.** Model categories, which axiomatise homotopy theory, were introduced by Daniel G. Quillen in $\textbf{[Qui67]}$. Let $\mathcal{C}$ be a category and $W$ a collection of morphisms to be inverted. If $(\mathcal{C}, W)$ can be endowed with a model category structure, then the localisation, called $\text{Ho } \mathcal{C}$, of $\mathcal{C}$ at $W$ exists (and comes equipped with more structure).

This axiomatic version of homotopy theory was called *homotopical algebra* by Daniel G. Quillen, since it subsumes both homological algebra (when $\mathcal{C}$ is the category of complexes of modules over a ring, $W$ is the class of quasi-isomorphisms, and $\text{Ho } \mathcal{C}$ is the derived category) and homotopy (e.g. when $\mathcal{C}$ is the category of compactly generated topological spaces, $W$ is the class of weak equivalences, and $\text{Ho } \mathcal{C}$ is the homotopy category of spaces).
Assume that $C$ has finite limits and colimits (some authors assume all small limits and colimits). Then a model category structure on $C$ is the datum of three classes $W, Fib, Cof$ of morphisms, called respectively weak equivalences, fibrations and cofibrations, satisfying some set of axioms inspired from basic homotopy theory. The first two axioms concern the stability properties of $W, Fib, Cof$, and the other two axioms ensure that the three classes interact nicely. More explicitly:

1. The weak equivalences have the two-out-of-three property: For any composable $f$ and $g$, if any two of $f, g$ and $gf$ are weak equivalences, then so is the third.
2. The classes $W, Fib$ and $Cof$ contain all identities, are closed under compositions and under taking retracts (in the category of morphisms of $C$).
3. Lifting properties: $(W \cap Cof) \square Fib$ and $Cof \square (Fib \cap W)$.
4. Factorisations: Any morphism belongs both to $Fib \circ (W \cap Cof)$ and to $(Fib \cap W) \circ Cof$.

The notation $\square$ in Axiom (3) has the following meaning: Write $f \square g$ if, for any commutative square

\[
\begin{array}{ccc}
X & \xrightarrow{a} & X' \\
\downarrow{f} & & \downarrow{g} \\
Y & \xrightarrow{b} & Y' \\
\end{array}
\]

there is a lift $\alpha$ such that $\alpha f = a$ and $g\alpha = b$. By Axiom (4), any morphism $f$ admits two factorisations:

\[
\begin{array}{c}
X \xrightarrow{f} Y \\
\downarrow{i} & \searrow{p} \uparrow{q} \\
X' & \xleftarrow{j} & Y'
\end{array}
\]

where $i$ is a cofibration and a weak equivalence, $p$ is a fibration, $j$ is a cofibration and $q$ is a fibration and a weak equivalence. An object $X$ is fibrant if the canonical morphism from $X$ to the terminal object $\ast$ of $C$ (which exists since $C$ has finite limits) is a fibration. Dually, $A$ is cofibrant if the canonical morphism from the initial object $\emptyset$ to $A$ is a cofibration. By applying Axiom (4) to $X \rightarrow \ast$ and $\emptyset \rightarrow X$, every object $X$ is seen to be weakly equivalent to some fibrant object and to some cofibrant object. These are called fibrant and cofibrant replacements. Let $C_{cf}$ be the full subcategory of $C$ whose objects are both fibrant and cofibrant. In any model category, one can define paths objects, cylinder objects and homotopies thus giving an axiomatic version of the corresponding notions for topological spaces (see Section [11] for detailed definitions). We write $f \simeq_{htp} g$ if two morphisms $f$ and $g$ are homotopic.

**Theorem 0.6** (Quillen [Qui67]). Let $C$ be a model category and let $\text{Ho}C$ be the localisation of $C$ at the class of weak equivalences. Then:

(i) For any $X, Y \in C_{cf}$, homotopy is an equivalence relation on $C(X, Y)$, compatible with composition.

(ii) The inclusion of $C_{cf}$ into $C$ induces an equivalence of categories

\[C_{cf}/\simeq_{htp} \longrightarrow \text{Ho}C.\]

In particular $\text{Ho}C$ is a category.

There are two similar pictures coming from different setups in Theorem 0.4 and Theorem 0.6.
Our main result is motivated by this analogy.

**Main result.** Let $\mathcal{C}$ be a triangulated category and let $T \in \mathcal{C}$ be rigid and contravariantly finite. Let $W$ be the class of morphisms $X \to Y$ such that, for any triangle $Z \to X \to Y \to \Sigma Z$, both morphisms $g$ and $h$ belong to the ideal $(T^\perp)$.

Consider $J := \{0 \to \Sigma T\}$ and $I := \bigcup \mathcal{C}(R, A)$, where the union is taken over a set of representatives for the isomorphism classes of objects $R \in \text{add } T$ and $A \in T^* \Sigma T$.

We define three classes of morphisms: 

- $\text{Fib} := J^\square$,
- $w\text{Fib} := I^\square$, and
- $\text{Cof} := w\text{Fib}$.

**Theorem 0.7.** (See Theorem 2.2 for details) Let $\mathcal{C}$ be a triangulated category and let $T \in \mathcal{C}$ be rigid and contravariantly finite. Then the datum of $(W, \text{Fib}, \text{Cof})$ is almost a model category structure on $\mathcal{C}$. Moreover:

(i) All objects are fibrant.

(ii) An object is cofibrant if and only if it belongs to $T^* \Sigma T$.

(iii) Two morphisms of fibrant and cofibrant objects are homotopic if and only if their difference factors through add $\Sigma T$.

There are two reasons for the appearance of the term *almost* in the statement above. First, the category $\mathcal{C}$ does not have finite (let alone all small) limits and colimits in general: It only has finite direct sums, weak kernels and weak cokernels. Second, every morphism can be factored out as a trivial cofibration followed by a fibration, but the second factorisation only exists in a weakened form (see Definition 1.2 for details).

**Corollary 0.8.** The inclusion of $T^* \Sigma T$ into $\mathcal{C}$ induces an equivalence of categories from $T^* \Sigma T / (\Sigma T)$ to $\mathcal{C}[W^{-1}]$. In particular, the localisation of $\mathcal{C}$ at $W$ exists.

**Remark 0.9.**

(1) In that setup, the morphism $A \to X$ of Lemma 0.5 can be interpreted as a cofibrant replacement.

(2) In [Bel13, Lemma 4.4 and Theorem 4.6], Apostolos Beligiannis proved a generalised version of Theorem 0.4, which applies to contravariantly finite, rigid subcategories. This is also the generality in which we prove Theorem 2.2.

After this rather long introduction, we describe the structure of the paper. In Section 1, we recall some elementary notions from homotopical algebra, that we slightly modify in order to fit into the setup of Theorem 0.7. We define left-weak model categories and recall some basic definitions from homotopical algebra in Section 1.1. In Section 1.2, we prove some elementary properties that hold in any left-weak model category. We adapt the proof of Theorem 0.6 to this setup in Section 1.3 and consider generating cofibrations and generating trivial cofibrations in Section 1.4. Section 2 is dedicated to proving Theorem 0.7 in the more general setup of rigid subcategories.

Throughout the paper, we will use the following conventions: Products are denoted $\times$ and coproducts $\sqcup$ or $\sqcup$. The morphism $A \sqcup B \to C$ induced by $f$ on $A$ and $g$ on $B$ is written $[f, g]$. The dual version, from $X \to Y \times Z$, is written $(f, g)$. We write $f \sqcup g$ for the morphism $A \sqcup B \to C \sqcup D$ induced by $A \to C$
and $B \xrightarrow{g} D$. When direct sums are involved, we use matrix notations in order to describe morphisms.

1. **Left-weak model categories**

In this section, we mostly recall the very basics on model categories. We do so with a slightly modified definition of model categories, so as to include the case of cluster categories, considered in Section 2.

References on model categories include the original [Qui67], and the books [Hov99, Hir03].

1.1. **Definitions and notations from model category theory.** For $f, g$ two morphisms in a category, we write $f \lll g$ if, for every commutative square

$$
\begin{array}{ccc}
A & \xrightarrow{f} & X \\
\downarrow & & \downarrow \scriptstyle{g} \\
B & \xrightarrow{g} & Y
\end{array}
$$

there is a lift (dashed arrow) where the two triangles commute. If $f \lll g$, we say that $f$ has the left lifting property with respect to $g$, that $g$ has the right lifting property with respect to $f$ or that $f$ and $g$ are weakly orthogonal. We note that this is also equivalent to the statement: Every morphism from $f$ to $g$ is null-homotopic.

If $A$ is a collection of morphisms in a category $C$, we let $\square A$, resp. $A \square$, denote the collection of those morphisms that have the left, resp. right, lifting property with respect to all morphisms in $A$.

Let $C$ be a category endowed with a class of morphisms $W$. The morphisms in $W$ are morphisms that we would like to invert. Let $\text{Cof}$ and $\text{Fib}$ be two classes of morphisms of $C$. If a morphism $w$ belongs to $W$, we write $X \xrightarrow{\simeq} Y$, and call it a weak equivalence. If a morphism $i$ belongs to $\text{Cof}$, we write $X \xrightarrow{i} Y$, and call it a cofibration. If a morphism $p$ belongs to $\text{Fib}$, we write $X \xrightarrow{p} Y$, and call it a fibration. A morphism which is both a weak equivalence and a cofibration is called a weak, trivial or acyclic cofibration, and similarly for fibrations.

**Cylinder objects and left homotopies.** Assume that $C$ has finite coproducts, and let $X$ be an object of $C$. The morphism $X \coprod X \to X$ induced by the identity on each copy of $X$ is denoted by $\nabla$. A **cylinder object** for $X$ is a factorisation of $\nabla$ as follows: $X \coprod X \xrightarrow{\iota_0} X \xrightarrow{\iota_1} X$. If $f$ and $g$ are two morphisms from $X$ to $Y$ in $C$, a **left homotopy** from $f$ to $g$ is a morphism $H$ from a cylinder object $X'$ for $X$ to $Y$ such that the composition $X \coprod X \to X' \xrightarrow{H} X$ is the morphism induced by $f$ on the first copy of $X$, and by $g$ on the second copy of $X$. Most of the proofs involving left homotopies are easily understood if one has the following picture in mind:

The dual notions are that of:
Path objects and right homotopies. Assume that $\mathcal{C}$ has finite products, and let $Y$ be an object of $\mathcal{C}$. A path object for $Y$ is a factorisation of the diagonal morphism $Y \rightarrow Y \times Y$ as follows: $Y \rightarrow Y' \rightarrow Y \times Y$. If $f$ and $g$ are two morphisms from $X$ to $Y$ in $\mathcal{C}$, a right homotopy from $f$ to $g$ is a morphism $K$ from $X$ to a path object $Y'$ for $Y$ such that the composition $X \overset{K}{\rightarrow} Y' \rightarrow Y \times Y$ is the morphism induced by $f$ to the first copy of $Y$, and by $g$ to the second copy of $Y$. If there is a right homotopy from $f$ to $g$, we write $f \sim_r g$. A particular case that one might have in mind comes from the category of (unbased) topological spaces, where $Y'$ is the space of paths in $Y$, the map $Y \rightarrow Y'$ maps a point $y$ to the constant path at $y$, and the map $Y' \rightarrow Y \times Y$ sends a path to the pair formed by its starting point and its ending point.

Two morphisms $f, g$ are homotopic, written $f \sim g$, if they are both left and right homotopic. A morphism $f$ is called a homotopy equivalence if there is some morphism $g$ such that $fg$ and $gf$ are homotopic to the respective identity morphisms.

Assume that $\mathcal{C}$ has an initial object $\emptyset$ and a final object $\ast$. An object $X$ of $\mathcal{C}$ is called fibrant if the canonical morphism $X \rightarrow \ast$ is a fibration. An object $B$ is called cofibrant if the canonical morphism $\emptyset \rightarrow B$ is a cofibration.

For two morphisms $f, g$, we write $f \square g$ (resp. $f \square g$) if for every commutative square

\[
\begin{array}{ccc}
A & \rightarrow & X \\
f & \downarrow & \alpha \\
B & \rightarrow & Y
\end{array}
\]

there is a lift $\alpha$ such that $g\alpha = v$ and $\alpha f \sim_r u$ (resp. $g\alpha \sim_l v$ and $\alpha f = u$). (The filled in triangle in the symbols is meant to represent a 2-cell).

**Definition 1.1.** A morphism $A \xrightarrow{j} B$ is called a homotopy cofibration, denoted $\hookrightarrow$, if $j \square (\mathcal{W} \cap \text{Fib})$ and $j \square (\mathcal{W} \cap \text{Fib})$.

The homotopy category of $\mathcal{C}$ is the localisation $\mathcal{C}[\mathcal{W}^{-1}]$ at the class of weak equivalences. It is denoted $\text{Ho} \mathcal{C}$. The assumptions below will ensure that this localisation is well-defined.

**Definition 1.2.** We call a category $\mathcal{C}$ a left-weak model category if it is equipped with three classes of morphisms $\mathcal{W}$, $\text{Cof}$ and $\text{Fib}$ and if the following axioms are satisfied:

(0) The category $\mathcal{C}$ has finite products and coproducts, (an initial object $\emptyset$ and a final object $\ast$). Pull-backs of trivial fibrations along epimorphisms exist and are trivial fibrations.

(0.5) If $A$ is cofibrant, then for any homotopy cofibration $A \hookrightarrow B$, $B$ is cofibrant.

(1) The class $\mathcal{W}$ has the two-out-of-three property: If $f, g$ are composable morphisms and if any two of $f, g, gf$ are weak-equivalences, then so is the third.

(2) The classes $\mathcal{W}, \text{Cof}, \text{Fib}$ contain all identities, are stable under composition and under retracts.

(3) The following weak orthogonality relations hold: $(\mathcal{W} \cap \text{Cof}) \subseteq \Box \text{Fib}$ and $\text{Cof} \subseteq \Box (\text{Fib} \cap \mathcal{W})$.

(4) Every morphism $X \xrightarrow{f} Y$ admits a factorisation as a weak cofibration followed by a fibration. Every morphism $A \xrightarrow{g} B$ with $A$ cofibrant admits a factorisation as a homotopy cofibration followed by a weak fibration.
Remark 1.3. These are almost the same axioms as those for a model category, with two noticeable differences. First, the category $C$ is not assumed to have finite limits and colimits. This is because we want to include the case when the category $C$ is a cluster category. Second, in a model category, every morphism can be written as a cofibration followed by a weak fibration. This axiom is weakened here because in the example studied in Section 2 such a factorisation might not exist.

Remark 1.4. By analogy with model categories, the properties listed in Axiom 0.5 should be easy consequences of the other axioms. This is not true here, mainly because of the weakened factorisation in Axiom 4.

Remark 1.5. For model categories, the factorisations are often assumed functorial. This is not the case in the main example considered in that paper, therefore no such assumption is made in the definition. However, the factorisations constructed in Section 2 are functorial at the level of the homotopy category.

Remark 1.6. As stated, the axioms are not self-dual. There is an obvious definition for what might be a weak model category: weaken Axiom 4 for both factorisations, and strengthen Axiom 0.5 accordingly. In that case, we do not know whether homotopy remains an equivalence relation. What can easily been done is to require that $Y$ be fibrant for the first factorisation of Axiom 4 to exist. With that definition, the dual of a left weak model category becomes a “right weak model category”. All the results remain valid, but some statements have to be modified as follows:

- In Lemma 1.7 (c) only holds for morphisms with fibrant codomain. As a consequence, (d) becomes: The pull-back of a fibration along a morphism with fibrant domain is a fibration. Moreover, (e) might not hold (the proofs that follow do not make use of this property).
- In Lemma 1.10 (1), $Y$ has to be assumed fibrant (as is the case in all proofs using this lemma).
- In Lemma 1.14 (b), $Y$ is assumed fibrant. The only consequence of this restriction is the next point.
- In Proposition 1.12 $B$ has to be assumed fibrant. Moreover, in point (2) of this proposition, the morphism $f$ only has the left lifting property \(\mathbb{P}\) with respect to fibrations with fibrant domains. This always holds when Proposition 1.12 is used (In the proof of Proposition 1.18 the same restriction is required on $h$, but causes no trouble. In the proof of Proposition 1.19 the object $X'$ of the last diagram is fibrant, and in the proof of Proposition 1.23 the object $Z$ is fibrant).
- Proposition 1.26 holds with few modifications. Condition (4) becomes: Any morphism $f$ in $Cof \cap W$ belongs to $wCof$ and the converse holds if $f$ has fibrant codomain. Condition (5) only concerns morphisms with fibrant codomains.

Moreover, one can check that, in each proof that we have not mentioned and where the first factorisation is used, the codomains involved are fibrant. This suggests that a better definition for left weak model categories would require $Y$ to be fibrant. We haven’t done so here in order to simplify the exposition and because, in the example of a left weak model category studied in Section 2 all objects are fibrant.

1.2. Some basic properties. In this section, we fix a left-weak model category \((C, W, Cof, Fib)\).
In Lemma 1.7, we collect many basic properties of model categories that also hold, with the same proofs, for left-weak model categories.

**Lemma 1.7.** (a) Left $\square$ are stable under pull-backs.
(b) Right $\square$ are stable under push-outs.
(c) $(W \cap \text{Cof}) \square = \text{Fib}$ and $W \cap \text{Cof} = \square \text{Fib}$.
(d) $\text{Fib}$ is stable under pull-backs.
(e) $W \cap \text{Cof}$ is stable under push-outs.
(f) The initial object is cofibrant and the terminal object is fibrant.
(g) An object is fibrant if and only if it is injective relative to weak cofibrations.
(h) Any cofibrant object is projective relative to weak fibrations.
(i) $f \sim \text{l} g$ implies $hf \sim \text{l} hg$.
(j) $f \sim \text{r} g$ implies $fh \sim \text{r} gh$.
(k) If $X$ is fibrant and $Y$ is any object, then the two projections $X \times Y \to X$ and $Y \times X \to X$ are fibrations.

**Proof.** We only give a hint for (c), since the other points are straightforward. If $f$ has the right lifting property with respect to trivial cofibrations, one uses the first factorisation of Axiom (4) in order to show that $f$ is the retract of a fibration.

**Lemma 1.8.** Let $f \in C(Y, Z)$ and $g \in C(X, Y)$ be composable morphisms. If $f$ is a homotopy cofibration and $g$ a cofibration, then $fg$ is a homotopy cofibration.

**Proof.** Let us check that $fg$ satisfies the two lifting properties defining homotopy cofibrations. Consider a commutative diagram:

where $p$ is a trivial fibration. Since $g$ is a cofibration, there is a morphism $c$ such that $cg = a$ and $pc = bf$. Since $f$ is a homotopy cofibration, there are two morphisms $d, e$ such that $df = c, pd \sim \text{l} b, pe = b$ and $ef \sim \text{r} c$. This implies $dfg = cg = a$ and, by Lemma 1.7 (j), $efg \sim \text{r} cg = a$, so that $fg$ is a homotopy cofibration.

**Lemma 1.9.** Let $B$ be cofibrant and let $B \coprod B \xrightarrow{[i_0, i_1]} B' \sim B$ be a cylinder object for $B$. Then the morphism $B \xrightarrow{i_0} B'$ is both a weak equivalence and a homotopy cofibration.

**Proof.** The morphism $B \xrightarrow{i_0} B \coprod B$ is a cofibration, by Axiom 0.5. The following commutative diagram:
thus shows that the morphism $i_0$ is a homotopy cofibration by Lemma 1.8 and a weak equivalence by the two-out-of-three property.

**Lemma 1.10.** Let $X, Y \in C$ and let $f, g \in C(X, Y)$.

1. If $f \sim^l g$ via a path object $Y \xrightarrow{s} Y' \xrightarrow{p} Y \times Y$, where $s$ is a weak equivalence, then $p$ can be assumed to be a fibration. If moreover $X$ is cofibrant, then $s$ can be assumed to be a trivial cofibration.

2. Assume that $f \sim^l g$ via a cylinder object $X \coprod X \xrightarrow{t} X' \xrightarrow{i} X$, where $t$ is a weak equivalence. If $Y$ is fibrant, then $t$ can be assumed to be a trivial fibration. If $X$ is cofibrant, then $i$ can be assumed to be a homotopy cofibration.

**Proof.** The proof of (1) is the same as in the case of model categories. The proof of (2) is similar: Let $X' \xrightarrow{H} Y$ be a left homotopy from $f$ to $g$. If $X$ is cofibrant, then $X \coprod X$ is also cofibrant by Axiom 0.5. The morphism $i$ can thus be factored as a homotopy cofibration $j$ followed by a weak fibration $p$. Then $Hp$ is a left homotopy from $f$ to $g$. Assume $Y$ fibrant, and factor $t$ as a trivial cofibration $c$ followed by a trivial fibration $q$. Since $Y$ is fibrant, the homotopy $H$ lifts through $c$ to a homotopy $H'$ from $f$ to $g$.

**Remark 1.11.** If $X$ is cofibrant and $Y$ is fibrant in (2), then $t$ can be assumed to be a trivial fibration and $i$ a homotopy cofibration at the same time. One has to be careful and factor $t$ as a trivial cofibration $j$ followed by a trivial fibration $p$ first, and then factor $ji$ as a homotopy cofibration followed by a trivial fibration.

Next proposition, though very easy, is the key to making things work in the setup of left-weak model categories.

**Proposition 1.12.** Let $A \xrightarrow{f} B$ be both a weak equivalence and a homotopy cofibration. Then:

1. The lifting property $f \Box Fib$ holds;
2. If moreover $A$ is cofibrant, the lifting property $f \Box Fib$ holds.

**Proof.** Assume that $f$ is a weak equivalence and a homotopy cofibration. Factor $f$ as a trivial cofibration $i$ followed by a fibration $p$:

$$
\begin{array}{ccc}
A & \xrightarrow{f} & B \\
\parallel & \sim & \downarrow p \\
i & \sim & C
\end{array}
$$

By the two-out-of-three property, $p$ is a weak equivalence, so that there are morphisms $u, v$, as in the diagrams:

$$
\begin{array}{ccc}
A & \xrightarrow{i} & C \\
\parallel & \sim & \downarrow p \\
f \xleftarrow{u} & \sim^l & p \\
B & \xrightarrow{r} & B
\end{array}
$$

such that $pu \sim^l 1$, $uf = i$, $pv = 1$ and $vf \sim^r i$. Let $q$ be any fibration and let $(a, b)$ be any morphism from $f$ to $q$. Since $i$ is a trivial cofibration, there is a lift $g$:
such that \( qg = bp \) and \( gi = a \). We thus have: \( guf = gi = a \), \( qgv = bpv = b \)
and, by Lemma 1.13(i), \( qgu = bpv \sim b \). If \( A \) is cofibrant, then Lemma 1.13(b)
implies \( guf \sim f \) \( gi = a \) (we note that the proof of Lemma 1.14 does not make use
of Proposition 1.12).

\[
\begin{array}{ccc}
A & \xrightarrow{a} & X \\
\downarrow{f} & & \downarrow{q} \\
B & \xrightarrow{b} & Y
\end{array}
\begin{array}{ccc}
A & \xrightarrow{a} & X \\
\downarrow{f} & \sim & \downarrow{q} \\
B & \xrightarrow{b} & Y
\end{array}
\]

1.3. The homotopy category. In this section, we prove Theorem 1.13 due to
Quillen [Qui67], in the setup of left weak model categories. We follow the proof in
Hovey [Hov99], with only a few minor modifications, the main one being that we do
not prove left homotopy to be an equivalence relation. We merely prove that right
homotopy is, and that left homotopy and right homotopy coincide on \( C(B, X) \) if \( B \)
is cofibrant and \( X \) is fibrant.

The whole of this section might have been summed up into one sentence: “It is
easily checked that the proof of the theorem of Quillen generalises to the setup of
left-weak model categories”. We note that the reason why all proofs are included is,
on the one hand so as to make explicit these minor modifications, and on the other
hand for the potentially interested reader who has very few background knowledge
on model categories (as is the case of the author).

Recall that \( \text{Ho} \mathcal{C} \) denotes the localisation \( \mathcal{C}[W^{-1}] \) of \( \mathcal{C} \) at the class of weak equivalences.

**Theorem 1.13** (Quillen). (1) If \( B \) is cofibrant and \( X \) is fibrant, then homotopy is an equivalence relation on \( C(B, X) \).

(2) Homotopy is compatible with composition in \( C_{cf} \).

(3) The inclusion \( C_{cf} \hookrightarrow \mathcal{C} \) induces an equivalence of categories \( C_{cf} / \sim \xrightarrow{\simeq} \text{Ho} \mathcal{C} \).

In particular, the localisation \( \text{Ho} \mathcal{C} \) is a well-defined category.

The remaining of this section is devoted to proving Theorem 1.13.

**Lemma 1.14.** Let \( f, g \in C(B, X) \), \( h \in C(A, B) \) and \( k \in C(X, Y) \).

(a) If \( X \) is fibrant and \( A \) cofibrant, then \( f \sim^l g \) implies \( fh \sim^l gh \).

(b) If \( B \) is cofibrant then \( f \sim^r g \) implies \( kf \sim^r kg \).

**Proof.** We only prove (a) since the usual proof of (b) applies as such to our setup.
Assume \( X \) fibrant, \( A \) cofibrant and \( f \sim^l g \). By Lemma 1.10 there is a cylinder
object \( B \coprod B \to B' \sim B \) and a homotopy \( B' \xrightarrow{H} X \) from \( f \) to \( g \). Since \( A \)
is cofibrant, so is \( A \coprod A \) (by Axiom 0.5) and we can factor \( A \coprod A \xrightarrow{\nabla} A \) as a
homotopy cofibration followed by a trivial fibration. We thus have commutative
diagrams:
Thanks to the lifting property of homotopy cofibrations, there is a morphism $\alpha$ such that, in the diagram on the right-hand side, the upper triangle commutes and the two compositions in the lower triangle are left homotopic. As can be seen from the diagram on the left-hand side, the composition $H\alpha$ is then a homotopy from $fh$ to $gh$.

**Proposition 1.15.** Let $X, B$ be objects of $C$. If $X$ is fibrant then right homotopy is an equivalence relation on $C(B, X)$.

**Proof.** The proof is the same as in the case of model categories, thanks to the second part of Axiom 0. Right homotopy is reflexive and symmetric even if $X$ is not fibrant. Assume $X$ fibrant. Let us show that right homotopy is transitive on $C(B, X)$. The main idea is dual to the following: If $H$, resp. $H'$, is a left homotopy from $f$ to $g$, resp. from $g$ to $h$, one can glue (here gluing means push-out) the associated cylinder objects, as in the picture below. This yields a new cylinder object. Since $H$ and $H'$ coincide on the parts of the cylinders which are glued together, they define a morphism on this cylinder object. We thus obtain a left homotopy from $f$ to $h$.

Given a commutative diagram (*), let us show that $f$ and $g$ are right homotopic.

We first note that $p_1$ is a trivial fibration: Let $\pi_1$ be the second projection $X \times X \to X$. We have $p_1 s = \pi_1(p_0, p_1)s = \pi_1 \Delta = 1$ so that, by the two-out-of-three property, $p_1$ is a weak equivalence. Moreover, $(p_0, p_1)$ is a fibration, so that,
in order to prove that $p_1$ is a fibration, it is enough to prove that $\pi_1$ is a fibration. The following diagram:

$$
\begin{array}{ccc}
X \times X & \longrightarrow & X \\
\downarrow & & \downarrow \\
X & \longrightarrow & *
\end{array}
$$

is a pull-back diagram. By assumption $X$ is fibrant, so that Lemma 1.7(d) applies and $\pi_1$ is a fibration.

We now glue the paths objects $X', X''$ and the homotopies $K, K'$ together. Let $(Y, a, b)$ be a pull-back of $q_0$ along $p_1$. Such a pull-back exists by Axiom 0 since $p_1$ is a trivial fibrations and $q_0$ is an epimorphism. In the diagram on the left-hand side:

we have $q_0t = 1 = p_1s$ so that there is a morphism $u$ with $au = s$ and $bu = t$. By Axiom (0), $b$ is a trivial fibration. By the two-out-of-three property, $u$ is a weak-equivalence, so that the factorisation $X \xrightarrow{u} Y \longrightarrow X \times X$, where the second morphism is $(p_0a, q_1b)$, is a path object for $X$. In the diagram on the right-hand side, we have $p_1K = g = q_0K'$ and there is a morphism $k$ with $ak = K$ and $bk = K'$. The morphism $k$ is a right homotopy from $f$ to $h$: We have $p_0ak = p_0K = f$ and $q_1bk = q_1K' = h$.

We recall that $C_c$ is the full subcategory of $C$ whose objects are the cofibrant objects.

**Lemma 1.16** (Ken Brown’s lemma). Let $F$ be a contravariant functor from $C_c$ to any category $D$, and let $W'$ be a class of morphisms in $D$, containing the identities, which satisfies: for any composable $u, v$ in $D$, if $u \in W'$, then: $uv \in W'$ is equivalent to $v \in W'$. Assume that $F$ takes trivial homotopy cofibrations (between cofibrant objects) to $W'$. Then $F$ takes all weak equivalences (between cofibrant objects) to $W'$.

**Proof.** Let $A, B$ be cofibrant objects in $C$, and let $A \xrightarrow{f} B$ be a weak equivalence. By Axiom 0, the morphisms $A \xrightarrow{i} A \amalg B$ and $B \xrightarrow{j} A \amalg B$ are cofibrations, and $A \amalg B$ is cofibrant. We can thus factor $A \amalg B \xrightarrow{[f]} B$ as a homotopy cofibration $q$ followed by a weak fibration $p$:
We note that \( C \) is cofibrant by Axiom 0.5. By Lemma 1.8, \( q_i \) is a homotopy cofibration, and by the two-of-three property, \( q_i \) is a weak equivalence, so that \( F(q_i) \) is in \( W' \). The same argument shows that \( F(q_j) \) is in \( W' \). We thus have \( Fp \in W' \) and \( Ff \in W' \).

√

The dual version of Ken Brown’s lemma will also be used. We state it without proof since the proof is similar to the one above and exactly the same as for model categories. We recall that \( C_f \) is the full subcategory of \( C \) whose objects are the fibrant objects.

**Lemma 1.17** (Ken Brown’s lemma). Let \( F \) be a covariant functor from \( C_f \) to any category \( D \), and let \( W' \) be a class of morphisms in \( D \), containing the identities, which satisfies: for any composable \( u, v \) in \( D \), if \( u \in W' \), then: \( uv \in W' \). Assume that \( F \) takes trivial fibrations (between fibrant objects) to \( W' \). Then \( F \) takes all weak equivalences (between fibrant objects) to \( W' \).

**Proposition 1.18.** Let \( X \) be fibrant, \( A, B \) be cofibrant and let \( A \xrightarrow{h} B \) be a weak equivalence. Then the induced map \( C(B, X)/\sim \xrightarrow{h^*} C(A, X)/\sim \) is bijective.

**Proof.** The map \( h^* \) is well-defined since right homotopy is compatible with pre-compositions. We first prove the statement when \( h \) has the left lifting properties with respect to all fibrations. The general case is then shown to be a consequence of this first case, thanks to Ken Brown’s lemma (Lemma 1.16).

Let \( K \) be a cylinder object for \( B \) and \( p \) a path object for \( X \). The map \( h^* \) is easily seen to be surjective: Let \( A \xrightarrow{a} X \) be a morphism in \( C \). Since \( X \) is fibrant, there is a lift \( B \xrightarrow{b} X \) with \( bh = a \) (and the composition \( B \xrightarrow{b} X \xrightarrow{p} X \xrightarrow{\pi} X \) is left homotopic to \( B \xrightarrow{\pi} * \)). The map \( h^* \) is injective: Let \( f, g \) be two morphisms from \( B \) to \( X \) and assume that \( fh \) and \( gh \) are right homotopic. Then, there is a cylinder object \( X \xrightarrow{\sim} X' \) and a right homotopy \( A \xrightarrow{K} X' \) from \( fh \) to \( gh \). There is a commutative square:

\[
\begin{array}{ccc}
A & \xrightarrow{K} & X' \\
\downarrow h & & \downarrow p \\
B & \xrightarrow{(f, g)} & X \times X
\end{array}
\]

By assumption on \( h \), there is a morphism \( K \) with \( pK = (f, g) \) (and \( Kbh \sim K \)). This morphism \( K \) is a right homotopy from \( f \) to \( g \).

By Proposition 1.12, the statement thus holds when \( h \) is a trivial homotopy cofibration. In order to conclude, one can apply Ken Brown’s lemma (Lemma 1.16) to the functor \( C(-, X)/\sim \), from \( C \) to the category of sets, with \( W' \) the class of bijections.

**Lemma 1.19.** Let \( f, g : B \to X \) be two morphisms.

(i) Assume that \( X \) is fibrant and that \( f \sim g \). Then \( g \sim f \) for any choice of a cylinder object \( B \coprod B \to B' \xrightarrow{\sim} B \) (if such a cylinder object exists).

(ii) Assume that \( B \) is cofibrant and that \( f \sim g \). Then \( g \sim f \) for any choice of a path object \( X \xrightarrow{\sim} X' \to X \times X \).
Proof. (i) Assume that $X$ is fibrant and that there is a homotopy:

\[
\begin{array}{ccc}
X & \sim & X' \\
\downarrow & & \downarrow \\
\Delta & \xrightarrow{(p_0,p_1)} & (f,g) \\
\end{array}
\]

and let $B \coprod B \xrightarrow{\sim} B$ be a cylinder object for $B$. By Lemma 1.7(d), the first projection $X \times X \to X$ is a fibration, so that the morphism $X' \xrightarrow{p_0} X$ is a fibration. Since $p_0s = 1$, it is also a weak equivalence. We can thus apply the lifting property of homotopy cofibrations to the commutative square:

\[
\begin{array}{ccc}
B \coprod B & \xrightarrow{[K sf]} & X' \\
\downarrow & & \downarrow \\
[i_0 \ i_1] & \xrightarrow{\tilde{K}} & (p_0) \\
\end{array}
\]

in order to construct a morphism $B' \xrightarrow{\tilde{K}} X'$ such that $\tilde{K}[i_0 \ i_1] = [K sf]$. The composition $p_1\tilde{K}$ is then a left homotopy from $g$ to $f$, as the following equalities show: $p_1\tilde{K}[i_0 \ i_1] = p_1[K sf] = [g f]$.

(ii) Assume that $B$ is cofibrant and that $f$ is left homotopic to $g$. By Lemma 1.10 there is a commutative diagram:

\[
\begin{array}{ccc}
B \coprod B & \xrightarrow{[f \ g]} & X' \\
\downarrow & & \downarrow \\
[i_0 \ i_1] & \xrightarrow{\nabla} & (p_0) \\
\end{array}
\]

By Lemma 1.9 the morphism $i_0$ is both a weak equivalence and a homotopy cofibration. By Proposition 1.12 we have: $i_0 \in \mathcal{F}ib$. Let $X \xrightarrow{\sim} X' \xrightarrow{(p_0,p_1)} X \times X$ be a path object for $X$. The following square commutes

\[
\begin{array}{ccc}
B & \xrightarrow{tf} & X' \\
\downarrow & & \downarrow \\
B' & \xrightarrow{(H,fs)} & X \times X \\
\end{array}
\]

so that there is a morphism $\tilde{H}$ with $(p_0,p_1)\tilde{H} = (H,fs)$ and $\tilde{H}i_0 \sim tf$. The equalities below show that $\tilde{H}i_1$ is a right homotopy from $g$ to $f$: $(p_0,p_1)\tilde{H}i_1 = (H,fs)i_1 = (g,f)$.

Corollary 1.20. Let $X$ be fibrant and $B$ be cofibrant. Then left homotopy and right homotopy coincide on $C(B,X)$. In particular left homotopy is an equivalence relation on $C(B,X)$.
Proof. If $B$ is cofibrant, then there always exists a cylinder object of the form $B \coprod B \rightarrowtail B' \twoheadrightarrow B$ by Axiom (4).

Proposition 1.21. Let $X, Y$ be fibrant, $B$ be cofibrant, and $h : X \rightarrowtail Y$ be a weak equivalence. Then the induced map $C(B, X)/\sim \rightarrowtail C(B, Y)/\sim$ is bijective.

Proof. We note that the map $h_*$ is well-defined. By Ken Brown’s lemma, it is enough to consider the case where $h$ is a trivial fibration. We thus assume that $h$ is a trivial fibration. The map $h_*$ is surjective since $B$ is cofibrant and $h$ is a trivial fibration. The map $h_*$ is injective: Let $f, g$ be two morphisms in $C(B, X)$. Assume that $hf \sim hg$. Then, by Lemma 1.10(2), there is a commutative diagram as on the left-hand side of:

\[
\begin{array}{ccc}
B \sqcup B & \xrightarrow{\nabla} & B' \\
\downarrow \scriptstyle{[h_0 h_1]} & & \downarrow s \scriptstyle{\sim} \\
Y & \xrightarrow{B} & B
\end{array}
\quad
\begin{array}{ccc}
B \sqcup B & \xrightarrow{[f \, g]} & X \\
\downarrow \scriptstyle{[i_0 \, i_1]} & & \downarrow i_1 \scriptstyle{h} \\
B' & \xrightarrow{\sim} & H \twoheadrightarrow Y.
\end{array}
\]

The square on the right-hand side commutes so that there is a morphism $\overline{\Pi}$ with $\overline{\Pi}[i_0 \, i_1] = [f \, g]$ and $h \overline{\Pi} \sim \overline{\Pi} H$. This shows that $f$ is left homotopic to $g$. √

Lemma 1.22. Let $B$ be cofibrant, $X$ be fibrant and $B \rightarrowtail X$ be a morphism. If $f$ is homotopic to a weak equivalence, then $f$ is a weak equivalence.

Proof. Let $B \coprod B \xrightarrow{[i_0 \, i_1]} B' \twoheadrightarrow B$ be a cylinder object for $B$ (so that $s$ is a weak equivalence), and let $B' \rightarrowtail X$ be a left homotopy from $f$ to some weak equivalence $w$. Then $s_i = 1 = s_1$, so that $i_0$ and $i_1$ are weak equivalences by the two-out-of-three property. Since $Hi_1 = w$, the morphism $H$ is a weak equivalence, and the equality $Hi_0 = f$ implies that $f$ is a weak equivalence. √

We recall that a morphism $f$ is a homotopy equivalence if there is some $g$ such that both $fg$ and $gf$ are homotopic to the respective identities.

Proposition 1.23. Let $X, Y$ be cofibrant and fibrant, and let $X \rightarrowtail Y$ be a morphism. Then $f$ is a weak equivalence if and only if it is a homotopy equivalence.

Proof. Assume first that $f$ is a weak equivalence. By Proposition 1.18 and Corollary 1.20 the map $C(Y, X)/\sim \rightarrowtail C(X, Y)/\sim$ is surjective. In particular, there is a morphism $Y \rightarrowtail X$ such that $gf \sim 1$. This implies, by Lemma 1.11, $fgf \sim f$.

By Proposition 1.18 and Corollary 1.20 the map $C(Y, Y)/\sim \rightarrowtail C(X, Y)/\sim$ is injective so that $fg \sim 1$ and $g$ is homotopy inverse to $f$.

Conversely, assume that $f$ is a homotopy equivalence. Factor $f$ as a trivial cofibration $g : X \rightarrowtail Z$ followed by a fibration $p : Z \twoheadrightarrow Y$. Let $f'$ be a homotopy inverse for $f$. By the first part of the proof, the weak equivalence $g$ has some homotopy inverse $g'$. We have $p \sim pg' \sim fg'$, so that $gf' p \sim 1$ and, by Lemma 1.22, $gf' p$ is a weak equivalence. If $p$ were a retract of $gf' p$, then it would be a weak equivalence and so would $f$ be. In the diagram:

\[
\begin{array}{ccc}
Z & \xrightarrow{p} & Z \\
\downarrow \scriptstyle{g'f'} & & \downarrow \scriptstyle{p} \\
Y & \xrightarrow{gf'} & Y,
\end{array}
\]

\[
\begin{array}{ccc}
Z & \xrightarrow{f} & Z \\
\downarrow \scriptstyle{gf} & & \downarrow \scriptstyle{f} \\
Y & \xrightarrow{g} & Y.
\end{array}
\]
only the left-hand square commutes. The right-hand square only commutes up to homotopy and the composition of the bottom row is only homotopic to the identity. The idea is thus to replace $gf'$ by some homotopic morphism for which the equalities will hold on the nose. Let $Y' \overset{f f'}{\longrightarrow} Y$ be a left homotopy from $f f'$ to $1$, where $Y \coprod Y' \overset{\sim}{\longrightarrow} Y'$ is a cylinder object for $Y$. Since the square:

\[
\begin{array}{ccc}
Y & \xrightarrow{gf'} & Z \\
\downarrow_{i_0} & \nearrow_{\sim} & \downarrow_{p} \\
Y' & \xrightarrow{\sim} & \bar{H} \\
\end{array}
\]

commutes, Proposition 1.12 gives a morphism $H$ such that $pH = \bar{H}$ and $Hi_0 \sim_{r} gf'$. We have $Hi_1 \sim_{r} Hi_0 \sim_{r} gf'$, and $Hi_1 p \sim gf' fg' \sim 1$. By Lemma 1.22, $Hi_1 p$ is a weak equivalence. Moreover, the diagram:

\[
\begin{array}{ccc}
Z & \xrightarrow{H_{i_1} p} & Z \\
\downarrow_{p} & \nearrow_{p} & \downarrow_{p} \\
Y & \xrightarrow{\sim} & Y \\
\end{array}
\]

commutes and we have $pHi_1 = \bar{H}i_1 = 1$. Therefore, $p$ is a retract of a weak equivalence: It is a weak equivalence, and so is $f$.

1.4. **Cofibrantly generated weak model structures.** When trying to find a model category structure, one usually knows what the weak equivalences are, and what the cofibrant (or fibrant) objects should be. It seems quite difficult in general to define some classes of fibrations and cofibrations. The usual trick is the following one: In a model category, the fibrations are exactly those morphisms that have the right lifting property with respect to all trivial cofibrations. Similarly, the trivial fibrations are those morphisms that have the right lifting property with respect to all cofibrations. It turns out that it is often enough, in order for a morphism to be a fibration (resp. trivial fibration), that it has the right lifting property with respect to some subset $J$ (resp. $I$) of the trivial cofibrations (resp. cofibrations) only. Lifting property with respect to all trivial cofibrations (resp. cofibrations) is then automatic. Model category structures are thus often defined via such sets $I, J$. Morphisms in $I$ are called generating cofibrations and morphisms in $J$ generating trivial cofibrations.

Given two sets $I$ and $J$, one can define a fibration to be a morphism in $J \Box$. Morally the class of trivial fibrations should be $I \Box$, so that one can define the class of cofibrations to be $(J \Box)$. A few properties have to be satisfied in order to ensure these definitions to give rise to a model category structure and the existence of factorisations then comes from the so-called small object argument. A model category structure defined in that way is called cofibrantly generated.

In the setup of Section 2, the strategy is similar to the one described above. The main difference is that the small object argument cannot apply in a category without limits and colimits. The factorisations are thus given explicitly, and this is the reason for introducing a weaker version of the factorisation axiom.

**Definition 1.24.** A left-weak model category structure is called cofibrantly generated if there are two sets of morphisms $I$ and $J$ such that: $\mathcal{Fib} = J \Box$, $W \cap \mathcal{Fib} = I \Box$. 
and $\text{Cof} = \Box (I \Box)$. Morphisms in $I$ (resp. $J$) are then called generating cofibrations (resp. generating trivial cofibrations).

Remark 1.25. (a) This definition is a bit improper, since the sets $I$ and $J$ are not required to permit the small object argument.

(b) Unlike the case of model category structures, the condition on cofibrations has to be added since it does not follow from the axioms.

The following proposition is a much weaker version of a theorem of Dan Kan (see e.g. [Hov99, Theorem 2.1.19]).

Proposition 1.26. Let $\mathcal{C}$ be a category with finite products and coproducts. Let $\mathcal{W}$ be a subcategory of $\mathcal{C}$, and let $I$ and $J$ be two sets of morphisms in $\mathcal{C}$. Let $\text{Fib}$, $w\text{Fib}$, $\text{Cof}$ and $w\text{Cof}$ be defined as follows: $\text{Fib} = J \Box$, $w\text{Fib} = I \Box$, $\text{Cof} = \Box w\text{Fib}$ and $w\text{Cof} = \Box \text{Fib}$. Then the classes $\mathcal{W}$, $\text{Fib}$, $\text{Cof}$ define a left-weak model category structure on $\mathcal{C}$, which is cofibrantly generated by $I$ and $J$, if and only if the following properties are satisfied:

1. There exist pull-backs of morphisms in $w\text{Fib}$ along epimorphisms;
2. The class $\mathcal{W}$ is closed under retracts and satisfies the two-out-of-three property;
3. $w\text{Cof} \subseteq \text{Cof} \cap \mathcal{W}$;
4. $w\text{Fib} = \text{Fib} \cap \mathcal{W}$;
5. Any morphism can be factored out as a morphism in $w\text{Cof}$ followed by a morphism in $\text{Fib}$.
6. For any object $A$ such that the canonical morphism $\emptyset \rightarrow A$ belongs to $\text{Cof}$, any morphism with domain $A$ can be factored out as a morphism in $w\text{Fib} \cap w\text{Fib}$ followed by a morphism in $w\text{Fib}$.

Remark 1.27. • Note that, in order to define left homotopy and right homotopy, one only has to choose a subcategory of weak equivalences so that condition (6) makes sense.

• If conditions (1) to (6) are satisfied, then we also have $w\text{Cof} = \text{Cof} \cap \mathcal{W}$.

Proof. Let $\mathcal{C}$ have finite products and coproducts. For any left-weak model category structure $(\mathcal{W}, \text{Fib}, \text{Cof})$ on $\mathcal{C}$, the following properties are satisfied: (1), (2), $\Box \text{Fib} = \text{Cof} \cap \mathcal{W}$, $\text{Fib} \cap \mathcal{W} \subseteq \text{Cof} \Box$ and (5). If moreover the left-weak model category structure is cofibrantly generated, then (4), and thus also (6), holds. Let us check that conditions (1) through (6) imply that the classes $\mathcal{W}, \text{Fib}, \text{Cof}$ defined in the statement of the theorem define a left-weak model structure which is cofibrantly generated by $I$ and $J$.

Axioms (0) and (1) are required to hold by assumption (note that $w\text{Fib}$ is stable under pullbacks).

Axiom (0.5): Since cofibrations are defined by some left lifting property, they are stable under taking push-outs. The square

\[
\begin{array}{ccc}
\emptyset & \rightarrow & B \\
\downarrow & & \downarrow \\
A & \rightarrow & A \sqcup B
\end{array}
\]

being a push-out, the inclusion $A \rightarrow A \sqcup B$ is a cofibration if $A$ is cofibrant. Let $A$ be cofibrant and let $A \rightarrow B$ be a homotopy cofibration. For any trivial fibration $X \rightarrow Y$ and any morphism $B \rightarrow Y$, there is a diagram:
Indeed, $A$ is cofibrant so that there is a morphism $b$ such that $pb = ai$, and $i$ is a homotopy cofibration, so that there is some $\alpha$ such that $p\alpha = a$ and $ai \sim r$. In particular, $B$ is projective relative to all trivial fibrations. By assumption, $wFib \subseteq Fib \cap W$, so that $B$ is cofibrant.

**Axiom (2):** By assumption, the class $W$ is stable under compositions and under retracts. This is also true for $C$ of $\square$ and $Fib$ since any left- or right-$(\square)$ is stable under compositions and retracts.

**Axiom (3):** We have $C_{\square} \subseteq \square(Fib \cap W)$ since $f^I \cap W \subseteq I^J$. Let $f$ be a morphism in $W \cap C$ of and consider a factorisation of $f$ as a morphism $i$ in $wC_{\square}$ followed by a morphism $p$ in $Fib$. We have $wC_{\square} \subseteq W$ so that, by the two-out-of-three property, the morphism $p$ is in $W$. Since $Fib \cap W \subseteq wFib$ and $f \in C$, $f$ has the left lifting property with respect to $p$. It follows that $f$ is a retract of $i$, so that $f$ belongs to $\square Fib$.

**Axiom (4) follows from conditions (5) and (6) since $wC_{\square} \subseteq C_{\square} \cap W$ and $wFib \subseteq Fib \cap W$.**

### 2. Left-weak model category structures associated with rigid subcategories

In this section, we show that there is a left-weak model category structure on any triangulated category with a given contravariantly finite, rigid subcategory.

**2.1. Statement of main result.** In this section, $C$ is a triangulated category with a contravariantly finite, rigid subcategory $T$. Without loss of generality, $T$ is also assumed strictly full, and stable under taking direct summands.

We refer to the beginning of [Hap88] or to the first chapter of [LJR10] for soft introductions to the basics of triangulated categories.

**Remark 2.1.** Most of the proof of Theorem 2.2 would hold for $T$ extension-closed (instead of rigid), by replacing the use of Lemma 2.5 by the use of triangulated Nakamatsu’s lemma ([Jor09] Lemma 2.1). However, in order to hold in such a generality, the main statements would have to be deeply modified. Indeed, it is a key property here that the ideal $(\Sigma T)$ is contained in $(T^\perp)$ (see Lemma 2.14 for instance).

If $D$ is a subcategory of $C$, we write $(D)$ for the ideal of morphisms factoring through some object in $D$, and $D^\perp$ for the full subcategory of $C$ whose objects $X$ satisfy $C(\cdot, X)|_D = 0$. A morphism $D \rightarrow X$ is called a right $D$-approximation if $D \in D$ and any morphism $D' \rightarrow X$ with $D' \in D$ factors through $\alpha$. There is the dual notion of a left-approximation. A subcategory $D$ is called rigid if $\Sigma D \subseteq D^\perp$. It is called contravariantly finite if, for any object $X \in C$, there is a right $D$-approximation $D \rightarrow X$. Since the subcategories $(\Sigma T)^\perp$ and $\Sigma(T^\perp)$ coincide, the brackets will be omitted. We write $W$ for the class of all those morphisms $X \rightarrow Y$ such that, for any (equivalently: some) triangle $Z \rightarrow X \rightarrow Y \rightarrow \Sigma Z$, the morphisms $u$ and $v$ are in $(T^\perp)$. 
Theorem 2.2. Let $\mathcal{C}$ be a triangulated category with a contravariantly finite, rigid subcategory $\mathcal{T}$. Then there is a left-weak model category structure on $\mathcal{C}$ (as in Definition 1.2) with weak equivalences $\mathcal{W}$, null-homotopic morphisms $(\mathcal{T}^\perp)$ and fibrant-cofibrant objects $\mathcal{T} \ast \Sigma \mathcal{T}$. Moreover, if $\mathcal{T}$ is skeletally small, then this left-weak model category structure is cofibrantly generated, in the weak sense of Section 1.4.

More precisely:

- The fibrations are all those morphisms whose cones belong to the ideal $(\Sigma \mathcal{T}^\perp)$.

- The weak cofibrations are all morphisms isomorphic to some $X \xrightarrow{[0]} X \oplus \Sigma \mathcal{T}$, where $X \in \mathcal{C}$ and $T \in \mathcal{T}$.

- All objects are fibrant.

- The full subcategory of cofibrant objects is $\mathcal{T} \ast \Sigma \mathcal{T}$.

- Two morphisms are right-homotopic if and only if their difference belongs to the ideal $(\mathcal{T}^\perp)$.

- A factorisation of a morphism $f$ into a weak cofibration followed by a fibration is given by $X \xrightarrow{[1]} X \oplus \Sigma \mathcal{T} \xrightarrow{[f]} Y$ where $X \in \mathcal{C}$ and $T \in \mathcal{T}$.

Corollary 2.3. The inclusion of $\mathcal{T} \ast \Sigma \mathcal{T}$ into $\mathcal{C}$ induces an equivalence of categories:

$$\mathcal{T} \ast \Sigma \mathcal{T}/(\Sigma \mathcal{T}) \simeq \mathcal{C}[[\mathcal{W}^{-1}]].$$

2.2. Proof of Theorem 2.2. Let $I$ be the class of all morphisms of the form $T \to Y$, where $T \in \mathcal{T}$ and $Y \in \mathcal{T} \ast \Sigma \mathcal{T}$. Let $J$ be the class of all morphisms of the form $0 \to \Sigma T$, where $T \in \mathcal{T}$.

Remark 2.4. It is well-known since [BMRRT06] that if $\mathcal{T}$ is contravariantly finite and rigid, then $\mathcal{T} \ast (\mathcal{T}^\perp) = \mathcal{C}$. Indeed, if $X$ is any object in $\mathcal{C}$, the cone of a right $\mathcal{T}$-approximation of $X$ belongs to $\mathcal{T}^\perp$ (this also holds more generally for any contravariantly finite, extension-closed $\mathcal{T}$ by [Jør09] Lemma 2.1). We will use this result several times in this section without mentioning it explicitly.

Lemma 2.5. [BM13a Lemma 2.3] Let $f$ be a morphism in $\mathcal{C}$. Then the morphism $\mathcal{C}(-, f)|_{\mathcal{T}}$ is zero if and only if $f$ belongs to the ideal $(\mathcal{T}^\perp)$.

Proof. The proof follows from the fact that every object of $\mathcal{C}$, and in particular the domain of $f$, belongs to $\mathcal{T} \ast \mathcal{T}^\perp$.

Lemma 2.6. Let $\mathcal{R}, \mathcal{S}$ be contravariantly finite, extension-closed, full subcategories of $\mathcal{C}$. Let $\mathcal{W}'$ be the class of morphisms $w$ in $\mathcal{C}$ such that, in any triangle

$$Z \xrightarrow{r} X \xrightarrow{w} Y \xrightarrow{s} \Sigma Z$$

the morphism $r$ belongs to $(\mathcal{R}^\perp)$ and $s$ to $(\mathcal{S}^\perp)$. Let $f, g$ be two composable morphisms in $\mathcal{C}$.

1. If $f$ and $g$ belong to $\mathcal{W}'$, then $gf$ belongs to $\mathcal{W}'$.

2. Assume that $\mathcal{R} \subseteq \mathcal{S}$. If $f$ and $g$ belong to $\mathcal{W}'$, then $g$ belongs to $\mathcal{W}'$.

3. Assume that $\mathcal{S} \subseteq \mathcal{R}$. If $g$ and $gf$ belong to $\mathcal{W}'$, then $f$ belongs to $\mathcal{W}'$. 


Proof. Let \( f, g \) be composable morphisms in \( C \).

Let us first assume that \( f \) and \( g \) belong to \( W' \). The octahedron axiom gives a commutative diagram whose rows and columns are triangles:

\[
\begin{array}{ccc}
A \xrightarrow{a \in (R^\perp)} X & \xrightarrow{f} & Y \\
| & | & | \\
| & | & | \\
| & | & | \\
C \xrightarrow{\eta} X & \xrightarrow{g f} & Z \\
\end{array}
\]

Let us consider the following diagram:

\[
\begin{array}{ccc}
A \xrightarrow{a \in (R^\perp)} X & \xrightarrow{f} & Y \\
| & | & | \\
| & | & | \\
B \xrightarrow{b \in (S^\perp)} X & \xrightarrow{g f} & Z \\
\end{array}
\]

We use lemma 2.5 in order to prove that \( \eta \) belongs to \((R^\perp)\) and that \( \varepsilon \) belongs to \((S^\perp)\). For all \( R \in \mathcal{R}, S \in \mathcal{S} \) and all morphisms \( h : R \rightarrow Z \) and \( k : S \rightarrow C \), we have: \( vh = 0 \) so that there is some \( w : R \rightarrow Y \) with \( gw = h \). Moreover, \( w \) factors through \( f \) since \( bw = 0 \). This shows that \( h \) factors through \( g f \), and thus \( \varepsilon h = 0 \). On the other hand, \( g f \eta k = 0 \) so that \( f \eta k \) factors through \( u \). This implies \( f \eta k = 0 \) so that \( \eta k \) factors through \( a \). We thus have \( \eta f = 0 \).

We next assume that \( R \subseteq S \) and that \( f \) and \( g \circ f \) are in \( W' \). Applying the octahedron axiom gives a commutative diagram of triangles:

\[
\begin{array}{ccc}
X \xrightarrow{f} & Y \xrightarrow{(S^\perp)} & \Sigma A \\
| & | & | \\
| & | & | \\
B \xrightarrow{g f} & Z \xrightarrow{(S^\perp)} & \Sigma B \\
\end{array}
\]

The lower-right square being commutative, the morphism \( v \) belongs to the ideal \((S^\perp)\). We use lemma 2.5 in order to prove that \( u \) belongs to \((R^\perp)\). For any \( R \in \mathcal{R} \), and any morphism \( h \) from \( R \) to \( C \), the composition \( uh \) factors through \( f \) since the cone of \( f \) belongs to \((S^\perp)\) and \( R \subseteq S \). There is some \( w \) from \( S \) to \( X \) such that \( fw = uh \). We then have \( gfw = guh = 0 \), so that \( w \) factors through \((R^\perp)\). This implies \( w = 0 \) and thus \( uh = 0 \).

Finally, let us assume that \( S \subseteq R \) and that \( g \) and \( g \circ f \) belong to \( W' \). Let us thus consider the following commutative diagram of triangles:

\[
\begin{array}{ccc}
A \xrightarrow{a \in (R^\perp)} X & \xrightarrow{f} & Y \\
| & | & | \\
| & | & | \\
A \xrightarrow{g f} & Z & Z \\
\end{array}
\]

\[
\begin{array}{ccc}
A \xrightarrow{(R^\perp)} & B \xrightarrow{(R^\perp)} & C \\
| & | & | \\
| & | & | \\
A \xrightarrow{(S^\perp)} & Z & Z \\
\end{array}
\]

\[
\begin{array}{ccc}
A \xrightarrow{a} X \xrightarrow{f} Y & \xrightarrow{b} \Sigma A \\
\end{array}
\]

\[
\begin{array}{ccc}
A \xrightarrow{g f} & Z \xrightarrow{g} Z \\
\end{array}
\]

\[
\begin{array}{ccc}
\Sigma B \xrightarrow{\Sigma C} & \Sigma C \\
\end{array}
\]
Commutativity of the top-left square shows that $a$ belongs to $(R^\perp)$. Let us apply Lemma [2.5] to the morphism $b$: For any $S$ in $\mathcal{S}$ and any morphism $h$ from $S$ to $Y$, the composition $gh$ factors through $g \circ f$. There is some $c$ from $S$ to $X$ such that $gh = gc$. We have $g(h - fc) = 0$, which implies $h = fc$ (since $\mathcal{S} \subseteq \mathcal{R}$) and thus $bh = 0$.

**Corollary 2.7.** The set $\mathcal{W}$ satisfies the 2-out-of-3 property.

**Remark 2.8.** The set $\mathcal{W}$ satisfies the more general 2-out-of-6 property.

**Proof.** Let $f, g, h$ be composable morphisms in $\mathcal{C}$. Assume that both $gf$ and $hg$ belong to $\mathcal{W}$. Let us prove that $f, g, h$ (and thus $fgh$) belong to $\mathcal{W}$. Since $gf$ and $hg$ belong to $\mathcal{W}$, the octahedron axiom (applied twice) implies that $g$ belongs to $\mathcal{W}$. The conclusion thus follows from Corollary [2.7].

**Lemma 2.9.** The set $\mathcal{W}$ is stable under retracts.

**Proof.** Let $f$ be a retract of a morphism $w \in \mathcal{W}$. Complete $f$ to a triangle $(f, g, h)$ and $w$ to a triangle $(w, x, y)$. Then $x$ belongs to $(\mathcal{T}^\perp)$ and $g$ is a retract of $x$. The result follows since $(\mathcal{T}^\perp)$ is stable under retracts.

**Lemma 2.10.** The set $\mathcal{J}$ consists of all those morphisms whose cone factors through $\Sigma \mathcal{T}^\perp$.

**Proof.** The proof is similar to that of Lemma [2.5]. Let $f$ be a morphism in $\mathcal{C}$, whose cone we denote by $g$. Then $f$ belongs to $\mathcal{J}$ if and only if the morphism $\mathcal{C}(\cdot, g)|_{\Sigma \mathcal{T}}$ is zero, if and only if $g$ belongs to $(\Sigma \mathcal{T}^\perp)$.

**Corollary 2.11.** Every object is fibrant.

**Lemma 2.12.** We have $\mathcal{I} = (\mathcal{J}^\perp) \cap \mathcal{W}$.

**Proof.** Let $f : A \to B$ be a morphism in $\mathcal{C}$, whose cone we denote by $g$. Then $f$ belongs to $\mathcal{J}$ if and only if the morphism $\mathcal{C}(\cdot, g)|_{\Sigma \mathcal{T}}$ is zero, if and only if $g$ belongs to $(\Sigma \mathcal{T}^\perp)$. Thus, there is a morphism $\gamma$ such that $\gamma \beta = vb$. Since $\Sigma u$ belongs to $(\Sigma \mathcal{T}^\perp)$, we have $(\Sigma u)\gamma = 0$ so
that there is a morphism $\delta$ with $v\delta = \gamma$. Since $v \in (\Sigma T)^{\perp}$, we have $v\delta = 0$, so that $\gamma$ vanishes, and so does $vb$.

It follows from the claim above that, in the following diagram

\[
\begin{array}{ccc}
C & \xrightarrow{u} & \Sigma C \\
\downarrow & & \downarrow \\
T & \xrightarrow{a} & A \\
\downarrow & & \downarrow \\
Y & \xrightarrow{b} & B \\
& & \downarrow \\
& & \Sigma C \\
\end{array}
\]

there is some $c : Y \to A$ such that $b = fc$. We have $f(cg - a) = 0$ so that there is some $d : T \to C$ with $a = cg + ud$. Since $u$ belongs to $(T^{\perp})$, we have $a = cg$. This shows that $f$ belongs to $I^{\square}$.

Conversely, let $f : A \to B$ be a morphism in $I^{\square}$. For any $T \in \mathcal{T}$, the morphism $f$ has the right lifting property with respect to $0 \to T$ and to $0 \to \Sigma T$. This shows, by Lemma 2.5, that the cone of $f$ belongs to $(T^{\perp})$ and to $(\Sigma T^{\perp})$. Let $C \xrightarrow{u} A \xrightarrow{f} B \xrightarrow{\Sigma C}$ be a triangle in $\mathcal{C}$. Let $\alpha : T \to C$ and $\beta : U \to A$ be right $T$-approximations. There is a commutative diagram whose columns are triangles:

\[
\begin{array}{ccc}
T & \xrightarrow{\alpha} & C \\
\downarrow & & \downarrow \\
U & \xrightarrow{\beta} & A \\
\downarrow & & \downarrow \\
Y & \xrightarrow{\gamma} & B \\
\end{array}
\]

Since $f$ is in $J^{\square}$, it has the right lifting property with respect to $g$, and there is some $\gamma : Y \to A$ such that $\beta = \gamma g$. It follows that $\beta v$ vanishes and thus that $u$ factors through the cone of $\alpha$, which belongs to $T^{\perp}$. \hfill \Box

**Proposition 2.13.** Let $A$ be an object of $\mathcal{C}$. Then $A$ is cofibrant if and only if $A$ belongs to the subcategory $\mathcal{T} \ast \Sigma T$.

**Proof.** Let $A$ be in $\mathcal{T} \ast \Sigma T$. Then the same proof as in Lemma 2.12 shows that $A$ is cofibrant. Conversely, assume that $A$ is a cofibrant object. Let $T \to A \to Y \to \Sigma T$ be a triangle in $\mathcal{C}$ with $T$ in $\mathcal{T}$ and $Y$ in $\mathcal{T}^{\perp}$, and let $Z \to \Sigma U \to Y \to \Sigma Z$ be a triangle with $U \in \mathcal{T}$ and $Z \in \mathcal{T}^{\perp}$. In the following diagram:

\[
\begin{array}{ccc}
\Sigma U & \xrightarrow{a} & Y \\
\downarrow & & \downarrow \\
A & \xrightarrow{\alpha} & \Sigma T \\
\downarrow & & \downarrow \\
\Sigma Z & \xrightarrow{d} & \end{array}
\]

the morphism $a$ belongs to $I^{\square}$ by Lemma 2.12. Thus there is a morphism $c : A \to \Sigma U$ such that $\alpha = ac$. This implies that $boa = 0$ and there is a morphism $d : \Sigma T \to \Sigma Z$.
such that \( b = d \beta \). Since \( Z \in T^\perp \), we have \( d = 0 \) so that \( b = 0 \) and \( Y \) is a summand of \( \Sigma U \). Therefore \( A \) lies in \( T \star \Sigma \mathcal{T} \).

**Lemma 2.14.** A morphism is in \( \Box (J^\square) \) if and only if it is isomorphic to \( \xymatrix{X \ar[r]^h & X \oplus \Sigma \mathcal{T}} \), for some \( X \in \mathcal{C} \) and some \( T \in \mathcal{T} \).

**Proof.** Let \( T \in \mathcal{T} \). Since \( 0 \to \Sigma \mathcal{T} \) is in \( J^\square \), it is in \( \Box (J^\square) \), and so is any morphism isomorphic to some \( \xymatrix{X \ar[r]^h & X \oplus \Sigma \mathcal{T}} \). Conversely, let \( f : X \to Y \) be a morphism in \( \Box (J^\square) \). By lemma 2.10 the morphism \( X \to 0 \) is in \( J^\square \), so that \( f \) has the left lifting property with respect to \( X \to 0 \). This implies that \( f \) is part of a split triangle and that \( f \) is isomorphic to \( \xymatrix{X \ar[r]^h & X \oplus Y'} \), for some \( Y' \in \mathcal{C} \). Moreover, the morphism \( f \) is in \( \Box (J^\square) \) if and only if so is the morphism \( 0 \to Y' \), if and only if \( Y' \) belongs to \( \Sigma T^\perp \). By BM13a Lemma 2.2, this last subcategory coincide with \( \Sigma \mathcal{T} \).

**Corollary 2.15.** Every morphism in \( \mathcal{C} \) factors as a morphism in \( \Box (J^\square) \) followed by a morphism in \( J^\square \).

**Proof.** Any morphism \( X \xrightarrow{f} Y \) in \( \mathcal{C} \) factors as \( \xymatrix{X \ar[r]^{[\alpha]} & X \oplus \Sigma \mathcal{T} \ar[r]^{[f]} & Y} \), where \( \alpha \) is a right \( \Sigma \mathcal{T} \)-approximation of \( Y \). By Lemma 2.14 the first morphism is in \( \Box (J^\square) \). Since \( [f] \alpha \) is a right \( \Sigma \mathcal{T} \)-approximation, its cone factors through \( \Sigma \mathcal{T}^\perp \). Lemma 2.10 shows that \( [f] \alpha \) is in \( J^\square \).

**Corollary 2.16.** We have \( \Box (J^\square) \subseteq \mathcal{W} \cap \Box (I^\square) \).

**Proof.** Indeed, any morphism in \( \Box (J^\square) \) is isomorphic to some \( \xymatrix{X \ar[r]^h & X \oplus \Sigma \mathcal{T}, T \in \mathcal{T}} \), and is thus a weak equivalence.

**Lemma 2.17.** Let \( X, Y \in \mathcal{C} \) and let \( f \) and \( g \) be two morphisms in \( \mathcal{C} (X, Y) \). The following are equivalent:

(i) \( f \sim^L g \);

(ii) \( f \sim^R g \);

(iii) \( f - g \in (T^\perp) \).

In particular, if \( X \) belongs to \( T \star \Sigma \mathcal{T} \), then \( f \sim g \) is equivalent to \( f - g \in (\Sigma \mathcal{T}) \).

**Proof.** We first note that a factorisation of \( \nabla \) is a cylinder object for \( X \) if and only if it is isomorphic to some \( \xymatrix{X \oplus X \ar[r]^{[\alpha]} & X \oplus U \ar[r]^{[1]} & X} \), with \( U \in T^\perp \). Indeed, if \( \nabla \) factors as \( \xymatrix{X \oplus X \ar[r]^{[\alpha]} \ar[dr]_{s} & X'} & X \), then \( s \alpha = 1 \) so that \( s \) is isomorphic to some \( \xymatrix{X \oplus U \ar[r]^{[1]} & X} \). The morphism \( s \) is thus in \( \mathcal{W} \) if and only if \( U \) belongs to \( T^\perp \). Similarly, path objects for \( Y \) are exactly those factorisations of \( \Delta \) that are isomorphic to some \( \xymatrix{Y \oplus V \ar[r]^{[1]} & Y \oplus Y} \), with \( V \in T^\perp \).

Assume first that \( f - g \in \mathcal{C} (X, Y) \) factors through \( T^\perp \). Let \( T \to X \xrightarrow{\alpha} U \to \Sigma \mathcal{T} \) be a triangle in \( \mathcal{C} \) with \( T \in \mathcal{T} \) and \( U \in T^\perp \). Since \( f - g \) is in \( (T^\perp) \), there is a morphism \( U \xrightarrow{h} Y \) such that \( f - g = h \alpha \). The following two commutative diagrams show that \( f \sim^L g \) and \( f \sim^R g \):

\[
\begin{array}{ccc}
Y & \xrightarrow{[f \ g]} & X \\
\downarrow{[g \ h]} & & \downarrow{[\alpha]} \\
X \oplus U & \xrightarrow{[1 \ 0]} & X
\end{array}
\quad
\begin{array}{ccc}
X & \xrightarrow{[f \ g]} & Y \\
\downarrow{[g \ h]} & & \downarrow{[\alpha]} \\
Y \oplus U & \xrightarrow{[1 \ 0]} & Y
\end{array}
\]
Assume $f \sim g$. Then there is a commutative diagram:

$$
\begin{array}{c}
\overset{[f,g]}{X \oplus X} \\
\downarrow \downarrow \downarrow \downarrow \\
\overset{[u,v]}{X \oplus U} \\
\downarrow \downarrow \downarrow \\
Y \\
\end{array}
\quad 
\begin{array}{c}
\overset{\nabla}{X} \\
\downarrow \downarrow \\
\overset{\nabla}{X} \\
\downarrow \\
X, \\
\end{array}
$$

with $U \in \mathcal{T}^\perp$. This implies $f - g = v(a - b)$, so that $f - g$ factors through $\mathcal{T}^\perp$.

The proof that $f \sim g$ implies $f - g \in (\mathcal{T}^\perp)$ is similar.

Finally, if $X$ belongs to $\mathcal{T}^\ast \Sigma \mathcal{T}$, then $f - g$ factors through $\mathcal{T}^\perp$ if and only if it factors through $\Sigma \mathcal{T}$.

**Lemma 2.18.** Any morphism in $\mathcal{C}$ with cofibrant domain can be factored out as a morphism in $\mathcal{P}(I^\square) \cap \mathcal{Q}(I^\square)$ followed by a morphism in $I^\square$.

**Proof.** Let $f \in \mathcal{C}(X,Y)$ be a morphism with $X \in \mathcal{T}^\ast \Sigma \mathcal{T}$. Let $T_1 \to T_0 \to X \overset{\varepsilon}{\to} \Sigma T_1$ be a triangle with $T_0, T_1 \in \mathcal{T}$. We note that $\varepsilon$ is a left-$\mathcal{T}^\perp$ approximation. Let $QY \overset{q_Y}{\to} Y$, with $QY \in \mathcal{T}^\ast \Sigma \mathcal{T}$, be given by [BM13a, Lemma 3.3] (see Lemma 0.5).

By Lemma 2.10 and Lemma 2.12, the morphism $q_Y$ belongs to $I^\square$. Since $X$ belongs to $\mathcal{T}^\ast \Sigma \mathcal{T}$, there is a lift $\tilde{f}$ as in the diagram:

$$
\begin{array}{c}
\overset{\tilde{f}}{X} \\
\downarrow \\
\overset{q_Y}{Y} \\
\end{array}
$$

Consider the following factorisation of $f$: $X \overset{[f]}{\to} QY \oplus \Sigma T_1 \overset{[q_Y,0]}{\to} Y$. The morphism $[q_Y,0]$ lies in $I^\square$. It remains to show that the morphism $[f]$ satisfies the required lifting properties. Let thus

$$
\begin{array}{c}
\overset{\alpha}{X} \\
\downarrow \downarrow \\
\overset{p}{A} \\
\end{array}
\quad 
\begin{array}{c}
\overset{[f]}{QY \oplus \Sigma T_1} \\
\downarrow \downarrow \\
\overset{b}{B} \\
\end{array}
$$

be a commutative square with $p \in I^\square$. Since $QY \oplus \Sigma T_1$ belongs to $\mathcal{T}^\ast \Sigma \mathcal{T}$, there is some $QY \oplus \Sigma T_1 \overset{g}{\to} A$ such that $pg = b$. Complete $p$ to a triangle $C \overset{h}{\to} A \overset{b}{\to} B \to \Sigma C$. Since $pa = pg \overset{f}{\varepsilon}$, there is a morphism $X \overset{k}{\to} C$ satisfying $a = g \overset{[f]}{\varepsilon} + th$. The morphism $p$ is in $W$ by Lemma 2.12 so that $t$ factors through $\mathcal{T}^\perp$, and there is some $\Sigma T_1 \overset{h}{\to} A$ with $th = k \varepsilon = [0 \, k] \overset{[f]}{\varepsilon}$. By Lemma 2.14, the morphisms $g$ and $g + [0 \, k]$ are the two liftings whose existence was claimed in the statement.

**Proof of Theorem 2.2** Since $\mathcal{C}$ is additive, it has finite products and coproducts. Let us check conditions (1) to (6) of Proposition 1.26. We note that even when $I$ and $J$ are not sets, these conditions imply that $\text{Fib}$ and $\text{Cof}$ endow $\mathcal{C}$ with a left-weak model structure.
(1) Since $\mathcal{C}$ is a triangulated category, any epimorphism in $\mathcal{C}$ is isomorphic to some $Y \oplus Z \to Y$. Let $X \to Y$ be any morphism in $\mathcal{C}$. Then the square

$$
\begin{array}{ccc}
X \oplus Z \oplus [1,0] & \to & X \\
\downarrow f & & \downarrow f \\
Y \oplus Z \oplus [1,0] & \to & Y
\end{array}
$$

is a pull-back square. Moreover, if $f$ is a trivial fibration, then so is $[f,g]$. 

(2) The class $W$ is stable under retracts (Lemma 2.19) and satisfies the 2-out-of-3 property (Corollary 2.27). 

Condition (3) is stable under retracts (Lemma 2.19) and satisfies the 2-out-of-3 property (Corollary 2.27). The factorisations (5) and (6) are given respectively by Corollary 2.15 and Lemma 2.18. 

Assume that $\mathcal{T}$ is skeletally small, and let $t$ be a set of representatives for the isomorphism classes of objects in $\mathcal{T}$. Then $\mathcal{T} \ast \Sigma \mathcal{T}$ is also skeletally small: For each $\mathcal{T}_0, \mathcal{T}_1 \in t$ and each morphism $\mathcal{T}_1 \to \mathcal{T}_0$ in $\mathcal{C}$, let $\mathcal{T}_1 \to \mathcal{T}_0 \to \mathcal{T}_1$ be a triangle in $\mathcal{C}$. Then the union $y$ of all $\mathcal{T}_y$'s with $\mathcal{T}_0, \mathcal{T}_1 \in t$ and $\alpha \in \mathcal{C}(\mathcal{T}_1, \mathcal{T}_0)$ form a set of representatives for the isomorphism classes of objects in $\mathcal{T} \ast \Sigma \mathcal{T}$. We define $J'$ to be the set of all morphisms $0 \to \Sigma \mathcal{T}, T \in t$ and $J'$ to be the union of all $\mathcal{C}(\mathcal{T}_0, \mathcal{T}_1)$ over $T \in t$ and $Y \in y$. Then $I'$ and $J'$ are sets and satisfy $(I')^2 = I^2$ and $(J')^2 = J^2$. 

**Proof of Corollary 2.3** By Corollary 2.11 and Proposition 2.19 the full subcategory of $\mathcal{C}$ on fibrant and cofibrant objects is $\mathcal{T} \ast \Sigma \mathcal{T}$. Moreover, by Lemma 2.17, two morphisms $f, g$ in $\mathcal{T} \ast \Sigma \mathcal{T}$ are homotopic if and only if $f - g$ factors through $(\Sigma \mathcal{T})$. Corollary 2.3 then follows from Theorem 2.2 and Theorem 1.13. 

Next proposition is a consequence of Theorem 2.2 and Proposition 1.29. We nonetheless include a direct proof. 

**Proposition 2.19.** Any weak-equivalence between cofibrant objects is a homotopy equivalence. 

**Proof.** Let $f : X \to Y$ be a weak equivalence. Complete it to a triangle $Z \to X \to Y \to \Sigma Z$. The object $Y$ being cofibrant, there is (by Proposition 2.13) a triangle $\mathcal{T}_1 \to \mathcal{T}_0 \to Y \to \Sigma \mathcal{T}_1$ in $\mathcal{C}$, with $\mathcal{T}_0, \mathcal{T}_1 \in \mathcal{T}$. Since $f$ is a weak equivalence, the morphisms $g$ and $h$ in the following diagram belong to $(\mathcal{T}^+)$:

$$
\begin{array}{ccc}
Z & \overset{g}{\to} & X \\
\downarrow \eta & & \downarrow f \\
Y & \overset{h}{\to} & \Sigma Z \\
\downarrow \delta & & \downarrow \gamma \\
\Sigma \mathcal{T}_1 & \overset{\Sigma g}{\to} & \Sigma X
\end{array}
$$

Since $\mathcal{T}_0$ is in $\mathcal{T}$, the composition $h \circ \alpha$ vanishes and there is a morphism $\gamma : \Sigma \mathcal{T}_1 \to \Sigma Z$ such that $h = \gamma \delta$. We have moreover $(\Sigma g) \gamma = 0$ since $\Sigma \mathcal{T}_1$ belongs to $\Sigma \mathcal{T}$ and $\Sigma g$ to $(\Sigma \mathcal{T}^+)$. Thus, there is some $\delta : \Sigma \mathcal{T}_1 \to Y$ with $\gamma = h \delta$. We have the equalities: $h \delta \beta = \gamma \beta$ so that the morphism $1 - \delta \beta$ factors through $f$. Let $\varepsilon : Y \to X$ be such that $f \varepsilon + \delta \beta = 1$. Since $\delta \beta$ belongs to $(\Sigma \mathcal{T})$, the morphism $\varepsilon$ is a right homotopy inverse of $f$. We claim that $\varepsilon$ is homotopy inverse to $f$. Indeed, we have the following equalities: $f \varepsilon f = (1 - \delta \beta)f = f - \delta \beta f$, and $h \delta \beta f = \gamma \beta f = \gamma f = \gamma f = 0$. Thus, there is some $u : X \to X$ such that $\delta \beta f = fu$ so that $f(\varepsilon f - 1 - u) = 0$. There is some $\eta : X \to Z$ with $\varepsilon f - 1 = u + g \eta$ and $fu$ belongs to $(\Sigma \mathcal{T})$. Let us
show that \( u \) itself belongs to the ideal \((\Sigma T)\). For this, the assumption that \( T \) be rigid is needed. Let \( U_0 \xrightarrow{a} X \xrightarrow{b} \Sigma U_1 \) be a triangle in \( C \) with \( U_0, U_1 \) in \( T \). We have \( fua = 0 \) since \( fu \in (\Sigma T) \) and \( T \) is rigid. This shows that the morphism \( ua \) factors through \( g \), and thus through \( T^\perp \). Therefore \( ua = 0 \) and \( u \) factors through \( b \) which belongs to \((\Sigma T)\) as claimed. We have proved that \( \varepsilon f - 1 \) belongs to \((\Sigma T)\) so that \( f \) is a homotopy equivalence.

2.3. Example. In this subsection is given an example of a lifting property \( a \square g \). We consider the cluster category \( C \) of type \( D_4 \) [BMRRT06], over some field \( k \).

The figure above gives the Auslander–Reiten quiver of the cluster category \( C = C_{D_4} \). It should be thought of as lying on a cylinder. In particular, the two parts of this quiver which have been circled in dashed blue are identified. Possible references on Auslander–Reiten quivers include [ASS06] (for categories of modules) and [Hap88] (for derived categories).

The rigid subcategory \( T \) that we consider is given by \( \text{add}(T \oplus T' \oplus T'') \), where the indecomposable objects \( T, T' \) and \( T'' \) are highlighted in pale blue disks. Indecomposable objects which belong to \( T^\perp \) are drawn in light grey boxes.

The morphism \( g \in C(D, E) \) is part of a(n Auslander–Reiten) triangle:

\[
B \xrightarrow{d} D \xrightarrow{g} E \xrightarrow{\varepsilon} \Sigma B.
\]

All the triangles in the derived category of \( D_4 \) are described in [KN02], and these triangles induce triangles in the cluster category \( C_{D_4} \). As indicated in the figure, \( B \) belongs to \( T^\perp \), so that \( \Sigma B \) (which is \( T \)) belongs to \( \Sigma T^\perp \). Moreover, the triangle does not split and \( C(E, T) \) is one dimensional. It follows that the morphism \( \varepsilon \) is given, up to multiplication by a non-zero scalar, by the path going from \( E \) to \( T \) via \( F \). The latter indecomposable belongs to \( T^\perp \). This shows that \( g \) is an acyclic fibration. Let \( a \in C(A, T'') \) be as in the figure. Let us check that the lifting property \( a \square g \) holds, but not the lifting property \( a \square g \). For any commutative square:

\[
\begin{array}{ccc}
A & \xrightarrow{x} & D \\
\downarrow{a} & & \downarrow{g} \\
T'' & \xrightarrow{y} & E,
\end{array}
\]

we may assume that \( y \) equals \( gb \) since \( C(T'', E) \) is one dimensional. Moreover, \( B \) is in \( T^\perp \), so that \( C(-, g)|_T \) is injective and a lift \( \alpha \in C(T'', D) \) with \( g\alpha = y = gb \) is uniquely given by \( b \). The morphism space \( C(A, D) \) is two-dimensional. Using the relevant mesh relation, there are two scalars \( \lambda, \mu \in k \) such that \( x = \lambda ba + \mu dc \). Since the square commutes and \( gd = 0 \), we have \( \lambda = 1 \). Therefore, the property \( a \square g \) holds. Picking \( \mu = 1 \), we have \( x = ba + dc = -fe \neq ba \) so that \( a \square g \) does not hold.

2.4. Some questions under investigation. In this section, we explain some questions whose answers we would have liked to give in the present paper, but which are still under investigation.
Abelian structure of $\text{Ho}C$. If $C$ is a pointed model category, then it is often the case that its homotopy category $\text{Ho}C$ is triangulated. Moreover, the triangulated structure on $\text{Ho}C$ is determined by the model structure on $C$. In Theorem 2.2, the category $C$ is triangulated and its homotopy category is abelian ([KZ08, IY08, Bel13]). We would like to describe this abelian structure directly from the weak model structure on $C$. More generally, it would be interesting to have a sufficient condition on a weak model structure so that the homotopy category is abelian.

Calculus of fractions. In [BM13b] and [Bel13], it is shown that the localisation of the triangulated category $C$ at the class $W$ is not far from admitting a calculus of fractions. More precisely, the localisation of $C/(\mathcal{T}^\perp)$ at the image of the class $W$ (which turns out to coincide with the class of regular morphisms) admits a calculus of fractions. Since $C/(\mathcal{T}^\perp)$ is also the category up to homotopy, we expect the existence of the weak model structure on $C$ to give a new proof that $C/(\mathcal{T}^\perp)$ admits a calculus of fractions (by analogy with [Bro73]).

Hom-infinite cluster categories. The results in [BM13a, Bel13] do not apply to Hom-infinite cluster categories. The reason for this is the following: Let $(Q, W)$ be a Jacobi-infinite quiver with potential and let $C_{Q,W}$ be the associated cluster category. If $\Gamma$ is the image in the cluster category $C_{Q,W}$ of the complete Ginzburg dg-algebra associated with $(Q, W)$, then add $\Gamma$ is presumably not contravariantly finite. Our hope is to adapt the proof of Theorem 2.2 to the setup of Hom-infinite cluster categories.

Model structures. Categories with model structures are quite often abelian or exact categories (see [SS03] for many examples and a precise statement). Here, the category $C$ is triangulated so that this is not a natural setup for constructing model structures. This is the main reason why the structure defined in Theorem 2.2 is only a weak version of a model structure. It would thus be more natural to adapt the proof of this theorem to the case of an exact category $C$: for example, the Frobenius categories coming from preprojective algebras studied by Geiß–Leclerc–Schröer (see [GLS13] for a nice survey) and Buan–Iyama–Reiten–Scott [BIRS09], or the Frobenius categories constructed by Demonet–Luo in [DL13, DL14]. One might hope that the techniques from Section 2.2 would give rise to model category structures on these Frobenius categories.

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