

# ON ORTHOGONAL PAIRS IN CATEGORIES AND LOCALISATION

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In memory of Frank Adams

## 0 Introduction

Special forms of the following situation are often encountered in the literature: Given a class of morphisms  $\mathcal{M}$  in a category  $\mathcal{C}$ , consider the full subcategory  $\mathcal{D}$  of objects  $X \in \mathcal{C}$  such that, for each diagram

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

with  $f \in \mathcal{M}$ , there is a unique morphism  $h: B \rightarrow X$  with  $hf = g$ . The *orthogonal subcategory problem* [13] asks whether  $\mathcal{D}$  is reflective in  $\mathcal{C}$ , i.e., under which conditions the inclusion functor  $\mathcal{D} \rightarrow \mathcal{C}$  admits a left adjoint  $E: \mathcal{C} \rightarrow \mathcal{D}$ ; see [17]. Many authors have given conditions on the category  $\mathcal{C}$  and the class of morphisms  $\mathcal{M}$  ensuring the reflectivity of  $\mathcal{D}$ , sometimes even providing an explicit construction of the left adjoint  $E: \mathcal{C} \rightarrow \mathcal{D}$ ; see for example Adams [1], Bousfield [3, 4], Deleanu-Frei-Hilton [9, 10], Heller [15], Yosimura [22], Dror-Farjoun [11], Kelly [12]. The functor  $E$  is often referred to as a *localisation functor* of  $\mathcal{C}$  at the subcategory  $\mathcal{D}$ . Most of the known existence results of left adjoints work well when the category  $\mathcal{C}$  is cocomplete [12] or complete [19]. Unfortunately, these methods cannot be directly applied to the homotopy category of CW-complexes, as it is neither complete nor cocomplete. This difficulty is often circumvented by resorting to semi-simplicial techniques.

In this paper we offer a construction of localisation functors depending only on the availability of certain weak colimits in the category  $\mathcal{C}$ . From a

technical point of view, the existence of such weak colimits reduces our arguments essentially to the situation in cocomplete categories. From a practical point of view, however, our result is a simple recipe for the explicit construction of localisation functors. It unifies a number of constructions created for specific purposes; cf. [4, 18, 20]. In fact, its scope goes beyond these applications: For example, it can be used to show that there is a whole family of functors extending  $P$ -localisation of nilpotent homotopy types to the homotopy category of all CW-complexes. We deal with this issue in [7], where we discuss the geometric significance of these functors as well as their interdependence.

Section 1 of the present paper contains background, followed by the statement and proof of our main result: the affirmative solution of the orthogonal subcategory problem in a wide range of cases. In Section 2 we discuss extensions of a localisation functor in a category  $\mathcal{C}$  to localisation functors in supercategories of  $\mathcal{C}$ . Our results allow us to give, in Section 3, a uniform existence proof for various localisation functors and also to explain their interrelation. The basic features of our project have been outlined in [8].

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## 1 Orthogonal pairs and localisation functors

We begin by explaining the basic categorical notions we shall use. Our main sources are [1, 3, 4, 13].

A morphism  $f: A \rightarrow B$  and an object  $X$  in a category  $\mathcal{C}$  are said to be *orthogonal* if the function

$$f^*: \mathcal{C}(B, X) \rightarrow \mathcal{C}(A, X)$$

is bijective, where  $\mathcal{C}(, )$  denotes the set of morphisms between two given objects of  $\mathcal{C}$ . For a class of morphisms  $\mathcal{M}$ , we denote by  $\mathcal{M}^\perp$  the class of objects orthogonal to each  $f \in \mathcal{M}$ . Similarly, for a class of objects  $\mathcal{O}$ , we denote by  $\mathcal{O}^\perp$  the class of morphisms orthogonal to each  $X \in \mathcal{O}$ .

**Definition 1.1** An *orthogonal pair* in  $\mathcal{C}$  is a pair  $(\mathcal{S}, \mathcal{D})$  consisting of a class of morphisms  $\mathcal{S}$  and a class of objects  $\mathcal{D}$  such that  $\mathcal{D}^\perp = \mathcal{S}$  and  $\mathcal{S}^\perp = \mathcal{D}$ .

If  $(E, \eta)$  is an idempotent monad [1] in  $\mathcal{C}$ , then the classes

$$\begin{aligned}\mathcal{S} &= \{f: A \rightarrow B \mid Ef: EA \cong EB\} \\ \mathcal{D} &= \{X \mid \eta_X: X \cong EX\}\end{aligned}$$

form an orthogonal pair (note that these could easily be proper classes). The morphisms in  $\mathcal{S}$  are then called *E-equivalences* and the objects in  $\mathcal{D}$  are said to be *E-local*. Not every orthogonal pair  $(\mathcal{S}, \mathcal{D})$  arises from an idempotent monad in this way; cf. [19]. If so, we call  $E$  the *localisation functor* associated with  $(\mathcal{S}, \mathcal{D})$ . Then the full subcategory of objects in  $\mathcal{D}$  is reflective and  $E$  is left adjoint to the inclusion  $\mathcal{D} \rightarrow \mathcal{C}$ . The following proposition enables us to detect localisation functors.

**Proposition 1.2** *Let  $\mathcal{C}$  be a category and  $(\mathcal{S}, \mathcal{D})$  an orthogonal pair in  $\mathcal{C}$ . If for each object  $X$  there exists a morphism  $\eta_X: X \rightarrow EX$  in  $\mathcal{S}$  with  $EX$  in  $\mathcal{D}$ , then*

- (i)  $\eta_X$  is terminal among the morphisms in  $\mathcal{S}$  with domain  $X$ ;
- (ii)  $\eta_X$  is initial among the morphisms of  $\mathcal{C}$  from  $X$  to an object of  $\mathcal{D}$ ;
- (iii) The assignment  $X \mapsto EX$  defines a localisation functor on  $\mathcal{C}$  associated with  $(\mathcal{S}, \mathcal{D})$ .

For each class of morphisms  $\mathcal{M}$ , the pair  $(\mathcal{M}^{\perp\perp}, \mathcal{M}^\perp)$  is orthogonal. We say that this pair is *generated* by  $\mathcal{M}$  and call  $\mathcal{M}^{\perp\perp}$  the *saturation* of  $\mathcal{M}$ . If  $\mathcal{M}^{\perp\perp} = \mathcal{M}$ , then  $\mathcal{M}$  is said to be *saturated*. This terminology applies to objects as well. Note that if  $(\mathcal{S}, \mathcal{D})$  is an orthogonal pair then both  $\mathcal{S}$  and  $\mathcal{D}$  are saturated. The next properties of saturated classes are easily checked and well-known in a slightly more general context [3, 13].

**Lemma 1.3** *If a class of morphisms  $\mathcal{S}$  is saturated, then*

- (i)  $\mathcal{S}$  contains all isomorphisms of  $\mathcal{C}$ .
- (ii) If the composition  $gf$  of two morphisms is defined and any two of  $f$ ,  $g$ ,  $gf$  are in  $\mathcal{S}$ , then the third is also in  $\mathcal{S}$ .
- (iii) Whenever the coproduct of a family of morphisms of  $\mathcal{S}$  exists, it is in the class  $\mathcal{S}$ .
- (iv) If the diagram

$$\begin{array}{ccc} A & \xrightarrow{s} & B \\ \downarrow & & \downarrow \\ C & \xrightarrow{t} & D \end{array}$$

is a push-out in which  $s \in \mathcal{S}$ , then  $t \in \mathcal{S}$ .

- (v) If  $\alpha$  is an ordinal and  $F: \alpha \rightarrow \mathcal{C}$  is a directed system with direct limit  $T$ , such that for each  $i < \alpha$  the morphism  $s_i: F(0) \rightarrow F(i)$  is in  $\mathcal{S}$ , then  $s_\alpha: F(0) \rightarrow T$  is in  $\mathcal{S}$ .

We call a class of morphisms  $\mathcal{S}$  *closed* in  $\mathcal{C}$  if it satisfies (i), (ii) and (iii) in Lemma 1.3 above. We restrict attention to closed classes from now on.

We proceed with the statement of our main result. Recall that a *weak colimit* of a diagram is defined by requiring only existence, without insisting on uniqueness, in the defining universal property [17].

**Theorem 1.4** *Let  $\mathcal{C}$  be a category with coproducts and let  $\mathcal{S}$  be a closed class of morphisms in  $\mathcal{C}$ . Suppose that:*

(C1) *There is a set  $\mathcal{S}_0 \subseteq \mathcal{S}$  with  $\mathcal{S}_0^\perp = \mathcal{S}^\perp$ .*

(C2) *For every diagram  $C \xleftarrow{f} A \xrightarrow{s} B$  with  $s \in \mathcal{S}$  there exists a weak push-out*

$$\begin{array}{ccc} A & \xrightarrow{s} & B \\ f \downarrow & & \downarrow \\ C & \xrightarrow{t} & Z \end{array}$$

*with  $t \in \mathcal{S}$ .*

(C3) *There is an ordinal  $\alpha$  such that, for every  $\beta \leq \alpha$ , every directed system  $F: \beta \rightarrow \mathcal{C}$  in which the morphisms  $s_i: F(0) \rightarrow F(i)$  are in  $\mathcal{S}$  for  $i < \beta$  admits a weak direct limit  $T$  satisfying*

(a) *the morphism  $s_\beta: F(0) \rightarrow T$  is in  $\mathcal{S}$ ;*

(b) *for each  $s: A \rightarrow B$  in  $\mathcal{S}_0$ , every morphism  $f: A \rightarrow T$  factors through  $f': A \rightarrow F(i)$  for some  $i < \alpha$ ;*

(c) *if two morphisms  $g_1, g_2: B \rightarrow T$  satisfy  $g_1s = g_2s$  with  $s: A \rightarrow B$  in  $\mathcal{S}_0$ , then they factor through  $g'_1, g'_2: B \rightarrow F(i)$  for some  $i < \alpha$ , in such a way that  $g'_1s = g'_2s$ .*

*Then the class  $\mathcal{S}$  is saturated and the orthogonal pair  $(\mathcal{S}, \mathcal{S}^\perp)$  admits a localisation functor  $E$ . Furthermore, for each object  $X$ , the localising morphism  $\eta_X: X \rightarrow EX$  can be constructed by means of a weak direct limit indexed by  $\alpha$ .*

PROOF. For each morphism  $s: A \rightarrow B$  in  $\mathcal{S}_0$  fix a weak push-out

$$\begin{array}{ccc} A & \xrightarrow{s} & B \\ s \downarrow & & \downarrow t_2 \\ B & \xrightarrow{t_1} & Z_s \end{array}$$

in which  $t_1 \in \mathcal{S}$ . Then also  $t_2 \in \mathcal{S}$  because  $\mathcal{S}$  is closed.

**Remark 1.5** With applications in mind, it is worth observing that part (c) of hypothesis (C3) in Theorem 1.4 is satisfied if each map  $f: Z_s \rightarrow T$  factors through  $f': Z_s \rightarrow F(i)$  for some  $i < \alpha$ .

Choose next a morphism  $u_s: Z_s \rightarrow B$  rendering commutative the diagram

$$\begin{array}{ccc}
 A & \xrightarrow{s} & B \\
 s \downarrow & & \downarrow t_2 \\
 B & \xrightarrow{t_1} & Z_s \\
 & \searrow \text{id} & \searrow u_s \\
 & & B
 \end{array}$$

and note that  $u_s \in \mathcal{S}$ . Write  $\mathcal{D}$  for  $\mathcal{S}^\perp$ . We shall construct, for each object  $X \in \mathcal{C}$ , a morphism  $\eta_X: X \rightarrow EX$  with  $EX \in \mathcal{D}$  and  $\eta_X \in \mathcal{S}$ . Set  $X_0 = X$ . Given  $i < \alpha$ , assume that  $X_i$  has been constructed, together with a morphism  $X \rightarrow X_i$  belonging to  $\mathcal{S}$ . Define a morphism  $\sigma_i: X_i \rightarrow X_{i+1}$  as follows: For each  $s: A \rightarrow B$  in the set  $\mathcal{S}_0$ , consider all morphisms  $\varphi: A \rightarrow X_i$  and  $\psi: Z_s \rightarrow X_i$  for which no factorisation through  $s: A \rightarrow B$ , resp.  $u_s: Z_s \rightarrow B$ , exists (if there are no such morphisms, then  $X_i \in \mathcal{D}$  and we may set  $EX = X_i$ ). Choose a weak push-out

$$\begin{array}{ccc}
 \coprod_{s \in \mathcal{S}_0} ((\coprod_{\varphi} A) \amalg (\coprod_{\psi} Z_s)) & \xrightarrow{\phi} & \coprod_{s \in \mathcal{S}_0} ((\coprod_{\varphi} B) \amalg (\coprod_{\psi} B)) \\
 f \downarrow & & \downarrow \\
 X_i & \xrightarrow{\sigma_i} & X_{i+1}
 \end{array}$$

with  $\sigma_i \in \mathcal{S}$ , in which  $f$  is the coproduct morphism and  $\phi$  is the corresponding coproduct of copies of  $s: A \rightarrow B$  and  $u_s: Z_s \rightarrow B$  (which is therefore a morphism in  $\mathcal{S}$ ). Iterate this procedure until reaching the ordinal  $\alpha$ . If  $\beta \leq \alpha$  is a limit ordinal, define  $X_\beta$  by choosing a weak direct limit of the system  $\{X_i, i < \beta\}$ , according to (C3). Set  $EX = X_\alpha$ . The construction guarantees that the composite morphism  $\eta_X: X \rightarrow EX$  is in  $\mathcal{S}$ . We claim that  $EX \in \mathcal{D}$ . Since  $\mathcal{D} = \mathcal{S}_0^\perp$ , it suffices to check that  $EX$  is orthogonal to each morphism in  $\mathcal{S}_0$ . Take a diagram

$$\begin{array}{ccc}
 A & \xrightarrow{s} & B \\
 f \downarrow & & \\
 EX & & 
 \end{array}$$

with  $s \in \mathcal{S}_0$ . Then  $f$  factors through  $f': A \rightarrow X_i$  for some  $i < \alpha$  and hence, either  $f'$  factors through  $s: A \rightarrow B$ , or there is a commutative diagram

$$\begin{array}{ccc}
 A & \xrightarrow{s} & B \\
 f' \downarrow & & \downarrow g' \\
 X_i & \xrightarrow{\sigma_i} & X_{i+1}
 \end{array}$$

which provides a morphism  $g: B \rightarrow EX$  such that  $gs = f$ . Now suppose that there are two maps  $g_1, g_2: B \rightarrow EX$  with  $g_1s = g_2s = f$ . Then we can choose an object  $X_i$  with  $i < \alpha$ , and morphisms  $g'_1, g'_2: B \rightarrow X_i$  such that  $g'_1s = g'_2s$ . Using the weak push-out property of  $Z_s$ , we obtain a morphism  $h: Z_s \rightarrow X_i$  rendering commutative the diagram

$$\begin{array}{ccccc}
 A & \xrightarrow{s} & B & & \\
 s \downarrow & & \downarrow t_2 & \searrow & \\
 B & \xrightarrow{t_1} & Z_s & \xrightarrow{h} & X_i \\
 & \searrow & \downarrow g'_1 & & \\
 & & & & 
 \end{array}$$

Then, either  $h$  factors through  $u_s: Z_s \rightarrow B$  and  $g'_1 = g'_2$ , or there is a commutative diagram

$$\begin{array}{ccc}
 Z_s & \xrightarrow{u_s} & B \\
 h \downarrow & & \downarrow k \\
 X_i & \xrightarrow{\sigma_i} & X_{i+1}
 \end{array}$$

which yields

$$\sigma_i g'_1 = \sigma_i h t_1 = k u_s t_1 = k = k u_s t_2 = \sigma_i h t_2 = \sigma_i g'_2$$

and hence  $g_1 = g_2$ . This shows that  $EX \in \mathcal{D}$ .

To complete the proof it remains to show that  $\mathcal{S}^{\perp\perp} = \mathcal{S}$ . The inclusion  $\mathcal{S} \subseteq \mathcal{S}^{\perp\perp}$  is trivial. For the converse, let  $f: A \rightarrow B$  be orthogonal to all objects in  $\mathcal{D}$ . Since  $\eta_A: A \rightarrow EA$  is in  $\mathcal{S}$  and  $EB \in \mathcal{D}$ , there is a unique morphism  $Ef$  rendering commutative the diagram

$$\begin{array}{ccc}
 A & \xrightarrow{f} & B \\
 \eta_A \downarrow & & \downarrow \eta_B \\
 EA & \xrightarrow{Ef} & EB.
 \end{array}$$

But  $\eta_B f$  is orthogonal to  $EA$  and this provides a morphism  $g: EB \rightarrow EA$  which is two-sided inverse to  $Ef$ . Hence  $Ef$  is an isomorphism and  $f \in \mathcal{S}$  because  $\mathcal{S}$  is closed.  $\square$

Given an orthogonal pair  $(\mathcal{S}, \mathcal{D})$ , the class  $\mathcal{S}$  is saturated and, a fortiori, closed. Therefore

**Corollary 1.6** *Let  $\mathcal{C}$  be a category with coproducts and  $(\mathcal{S}, \mathcal{D})$  an orthogonal pair in  $\mathcal{C}$ . Suppose that some set  $\mathcal{S}_0 \subseteq \mathcal{S}$  generates the pair  $(\mathcal{S}, \mathcal{D})$  and that the class  $\mathcal{S}$  satisfies conditions (C2) and (C3) in Theorem 1.4. Then the pair  $(\mathcal{S}, \mathcal{D})$  admits a localisation functor  $E$ .*

Moreover, if the category  $\mathcal{C}$  is cocomplete, then it follows from Lemma 1.3 that for each orthogonal pair  $(\mathcal{S}, \mathcal{D})$  condition (C2) and part (a) of condition (C3) are automatically satisfied. This leads to Corollary 1.7 below. An object  $X$  has been called *presentable* [14] or *s-definite* [3] if, for some sufficiently large ordinal  $\alpha$ , the functor  $\mathcal{C}(X, \_)$  preserves direct limits of directed systems  $F: \alpha \rightarrow \mathcal{C}$ . For example, all groups are presentable [3]. For finitely presented groups it suffices to take  $\alpha$  to be the first infinite ordinal.

**Corollary 1.7** [3] *Let  $\mathcal{C}$  be a cocomplete category. Let  $(\mathcal{S}, \mathcal{D})$  be the orthogonal pair generated by an arbitrary set  $\mathcal{S}_0$  of morphisms of  $\mathcal{C}$ . Suppose that the domains and codomains of morphisms in  $\mathcal{S}_0$  are presentable. Then  $(\mathcal{S}, \mathcal{D})$  admits a localisation functor.*

Since any colimit of presentable objects is again presentable, the following definition together with the results of [19] imply Corollary 1.9 below.

**Definition 1.8** A set  $\{E_\alpha\}$  of objects of a category  $\mathcal{C}$  is a *cogenerator set* of  $\mathcal{C}$  if any morphism  $f: X \rightarrow Y$  of  $\mathcal{C}$  inducing bijections  $f_*: \mathcal{C}(E_\alpha, X) \cong \mathcal{C}(E_\alpha, Y)$  for each  $\alpha$ , is an isomorphism.

**Corollary 1.9** *Let  $\mathcal{C}$  be a cocomplete category. Suppose that  $\mathcal{C}$  has a cogenerator set whose elements are presentable. Then any orthogonal pair generated by an arbitrary set of morphisms of  $\mathcal{C}$  admits a localisation functor.*

## 2 Extending localisation functors

Let  $E$  be a localisation functor on the subcategory  $\mathcal{C}'$  of  $\mathcal{C}$ . We wish to discuss extensions of  $E$  over  $\mathcal{C}$ . Familiar examples include the extension of  $P$ -localisation of abelian groups to nilpotent groups and further to all groups. Two problems arise here: existence —for which we often refer to Theorem 1.4— and uniqueness. An appropriate setting for discussing the latter is obtained by partially ordering the collection of all orthogonal pairs in  $\mathcal{C}$  as follows: For two given orthogonal pairs  $(\mathcal{S}_1, \mathcal{D}_1)$ ,  $(\mathcal{S}_2, \mathcal{D}_2)$  in  $\mathcal{C}$  we write  $(\mathcal{S}_1, \mathcal{D}_1) \geq (\mathcal{S}_2, \mathcal{D}_2)$  if  $\mathcal{D}_1 \supseteq \mathcal{D}_2$  (or, equivalently, if  $\mathcal{S}_1 \subseteq \mathcal{S}_2$ ).

**Remark 2.1** If  $E_1, E_2$  are localisation functors associated to  $(\mathcal{S}_1, \mathcal{D}_1)$  and  $(\mathcal{S}_2, \mathcal{D}_2)$  respectively, and if  $(\mathcal{S}_1, \mathcal{D}_1) \geq (\mathcal{S}_2, \mathcal{D}_2)$ , then there is a natural transformation of functors  $E_1 \rightarrow E_2$ . In fact, the restriction of  $E_2$  to  $\mathcal{D}_1$  is left adjoint to the inclusion  $\mathcal{D}_2 \rightarrow \mathcal{D}_1$ .

An orthogonal pair  $(\mathcal{S}, \mathcal{D})$  of  $\mathcal{C}$  is said to *extend* the orthogonal pair  $(\mathcal{S}', \mathcal{D}')$  of the subcategory  $\mathcal{C}'$  if both  $\mathcal{S}' \subseteq \mathcal{S}$  and  $\mathcal{D}' \subseteq \mathcal{D}$ . The collection of all extensions of  $(\mathcal{S}', \mathcal{D}')$  is partially ordered. Moreover we have

**Proposition 2.2** *Let  $\mathcal{C}'$  be a subcategory of  $\mathcal{C}$  and  $(\mathcal{S}', \mathcal{D}')$  an orthogonal pair in  $\mathcal{C}'$ . If  $(\mathcal{S}, \mathcal{D})$  is an extension of  $(\mathcal{S}', \mathcal{D}')$  to  $\mathcal{C}$ , then*

$$((\mathcal{S}')^{\perp\perp}, (\mathcal{S}')^\perp) \geq (\mathcal{S}, \mathcal{D}) \geq ((\mathcal{D}')^\perp, (\mathcal{D}')^{\perp\perp}),$$

where orthogonality is meant in  $\mathcal{C}$ .

In this situation, we call the orthogonal pair in  $\mathcal{C}$  generated by the class  $\mathcal{S}'$  the *maximal extension* of  $(\mathcal{S}', \mathcal{D}')$ , and the one generated by  $\mathcal{D}'$  the *minimal extension*. A convenient tool for recognising such extremal extensions is given in the next proposition.

**Proposition 2.3** *Let  $\mathcal{C}'$  be a subcategory of  $\mathcal{C}$ ,  $(\mathcal{S}', \mathcal{D}')$  an orthogonal pair in  $\mathcal{C}'$ , and  $(\mathcal{S}, \mathcal{D})$  an extension of  $(\mathcal{S}', \mathcal{D}')$  to  $\mathcal{C}$ . Then*

(a)  *$(\mathcal{S}, \mathcal{D})$  is the maximal extension of  $(\mathcal{S}', \mathcal{D}')$  if and only if there is a subclass  $\mathcal{S}_0 \subseteq \mathcal{S}'$  such that  $\mathcal{S}_0^\perp \subseteq \mathcal{D}$ .*

(b)  *$(\mathcal{S}, \mathcal{D})$  is the minimal extension of  $(\mathcal{S}', \mathcal{D}')$  if and only if there is a subclass  $\mathcal{D}_0 \subseteq \mathcal{D}'$  such that  $\mathcal{D}_0^\perp \subseteq \mathcal{S}$ .*

Of course  $(\mathcal{S}', \mathcal{D}')$  admits a unique extension to  $\mathcal{C}$  if and only if the minimal and the maximal extensions coincide.

**Example 2.4** Let  $\mathcal{C}$  be the category of finite groups and  $\mathcal{C}'$  the subcategory of finite nilpotent groups. Fix a prime  $p$  and consider the orthogonal pair  $(\mathcal{S}', \mathcal{D}')$  in  $\mathcal{C}'$  associated to  $p$ -localisation [16]. The class  $\mathcal{D}'$  consists of all  $p$ -groups, and the orthogonal pair  $(\mathcal{S}, \mathcal{D}) = ((\mathcal{D}')^\perp, \mathcal{D}')$  in  $\mathcal{C}$  is both the maximal and the minimal extension of  $(\mathcal{S}', \mathcal{D}')$  to  $\mathcal{C}$ . The pair  $(\mathcal{S}, \mathcal{D})$  admits a localisation functor—namely, mapping each finite group  $G$  onto its maximal  $p$ -quotient—, which is therefore the unique extension to all finite groups of the  $p$ -localisation of finite nilpotent groups.

### 3 Applications of the basic existence result

Examples 3.1, 3.2 and 3.3 below discuss well-known functors, each of whose constructions may be viewed as particular cases of Theorem 1.4. Examples 3.4 to 3.7 are new.



**Example 3.1** Let  $\mathcal{H}_1$  be the pointed homotopy category of simply-connected CW-complexes, and  $P$  a set of primes. The  $P$ -localisation functor described by Sullivan [21] is associated to the orthogonal pair  $(\mathcal{S}, \mathcal{D})$  generated by the set

$$\mathcal{S}_0 = \{\rho_n^k: S^k \rightarrow S^k \mid \deg \rho_n^k = n, k \geq 2, n \in P'\},$$

where  $P'$  denotes the set of primes not in  $P$ . Objects in  $\mathcal{D}$  are simply-connected CW-complexes whose homotopy groups are  $\mathbf{Z}_P$ -modules. Morphisms in  $\mathcal{S}$  are  $H_*(\ ; \mathbf{Z}_P)$ -equivalences. The hypotheses of Corollary 1.6 are fulfilled by taking  $\alpha$  to be the first infinite ordinal and using homotopy colimits.

**Example 3.2** Let  $\mathcal{H}$  denote the pointed homotopy category of connected CW-complexes and  $h_*$  an additive homology theory. Take  $\mathcal{S}$  to be the class of morphisms  $f: X \rightarrow Y$  inducing an isomorphism  $f_*: h_*(X) \cong h_*(Y)$ . We know from [4] that  $\mathcal{S}$  satisfies the hypotheses of Theorem 1.4: Choose  $\alpha$  to be the smallest infinite ordinal whose cardinality is bigger than the cardinality of  $h_*(\text{pt})$ ; the collection of all CW-inclusions  $\varphi: A \rightarrow B$  with  $h_*(\varphi) = 0$  and  $\text{card}(B) < \text{card}(\alpha)$  represents a set  $\mathcal{S}_0$  with  $\mathcal{S}_0^\perp = \mathcal{S}^\perp$ .

In the case  $h_* = H_*(\ ; \mathbf{Z}_P)$ , the corresponding orthogonal pair  $(\mathcal{S}, \mathcal{D})$  extends the pair  $(\mathcal{S}', \mathcal{D}')$  associated with  $P$ -localisation of nilpotent spaces (see [4]). It is indeed the *minimal* extension of  $(\mathcal{S}', \mathcal{D}')$ , because the spaces  $K(\mathbf{Z}_P, n)$ ,  $n \geq 1$ , belong to  $\mathcal{D}'$  (cf. Proposition 2.3).

**Example 3.3** Let  $\mathcal{G}$  be the category of groups and  $P$  a set of primes. The  $P$ -localisation functor described by Ribenboim [20] is associated to the orthogonal pair  $(\mathcal{S}, \mathcal{D})$  generated by the set

$$\mathcal{S}_0 = \{\rho_n: \mathbf{Z} \rightarrow \mathbf{Z} \mid \rho_n(1) = n, n \in P'\}.$$

Groups in  $\mathcal{D}$  are those in which  $P'$ -roots exist and are unique. Such groups have been studied for several decades (see [2, 20] and the references there). The hypotheses of Theorem 1.4 are readily checked (use Corollary 1.7). We may choose  $\alpha$  to be the first infinite ordinal. We denote by  $l: G \rightarrow G_P$  the  $P$ -localisation homomorphism.

If  $(\mathcal{S}', \mathcal{D}')$  is the orthogonal pair corresponding to  $P$ -localisation of nilpotent groups, then, since  $\mathcal{S}_0 \subset \mathcal{S}'$ , Proposition 2.3 implies that  $(\mathcal{S}, \mathcal{D})$  is the *maximal* extension of  $(\mathcal{S}', \mathcal{D}')$ . In particular, for each group  $G$  there is a natural homomorphism from  $G_P$  to the Bousfield  $H\mathbf{Z}_P$ -localisation of  $G$  (cf. [5]).

**Example 3.4** Example 3.3 can be generalised to the category  $\mathcal{C}$  of  $\pi$ -groups for a fixed group  $\pi$ ; that is, objects are groups with a  $\pi$ -action and morphisms are action-preserving group homomorphisms. Let  $F(\xi)$  be the free  $\pi$ -group on one generator (it can be explicitly described as the free group on the symbols  $\xi^x$ ,  $x \in \pi$ , with the obvious left  $\pi$ -action; cf. [18]). Define a  $\pi$ -homomorphism  $\rho_{n,x}: F(\xi) \rightarrow F(\xi)$  for each  $x \in \pi$ ,  $n \in \mathbf{Z}$ , by the rule

$$\rho_{n,x}(\xi) = \xi(x \cdot \xi)(x^2 \cdot \xi) \dots (x^{n-1} \cdot \xi)$$

and consider the set of morphisms

$$\mathcal{S}_0 = \{\rho_{n,x}: F(\xi) \rightarrow F(\xi) \mid x \in \pi, n \in P'\}.$$

By Corollary 1.7, the orthogonal pair  $(\mathcal{S}, \mathcal{D})$  generated by  $\mathcal{S}_0$  admits a localisation functor. It again suffices to take the first infinite ordinal as  $\alpha$  in the construction. Example 3.3 is the special case  $\pi = \{1\}$ .

We extend the term *P-local* to the  $\pi$ -groups in  $\mathcal{D}$  and the term *P-equivalences* to the morphisms in  $\mathcal{S}$ . They are particularly relevant to the next example.

**Example 3.5** This example is extracted from [7]. Let  $\mathcal{H}$  be the pointed homotopy category of connected CW-complexes and  $P$  a set of primes. We consider the class  $\mathcal{D}$  of those spaces  $X$  in  $\mathcal{H}$  for which the power map  $\rho_n: \Omega X \rightarrow \Omega X$ ,  $\rho_n(\omega) = \omega^n$  is a homotopy equivalence for all  $n \in P'$ . Then there exists a set of morphisms  $\mathcal{S}_0$  such that  $\mathcal{S}_0^\perp = \mathcal{D}$ , namely

$$\mathcal{S}_0 = \{\rho_n^k: S^1 \wedge (S^k \cup \text{pt}) \rightarrow S^1 \wedge (S^k \cup \text{pt}) \mid k \geq 0, n \in P'\},$$

where  $\rho_n^k = \rho_n \wedge \text{id}$ ,  $\rho_n: S^1 \rightarrow S^1$  denotes the standard map of degree  $n$ , and  $\text{pt}$  denotes a disjoint basepoint. Morphisms in  $\mathcal{S} = \mathcal{D}^\perp$  turn out to be those  $f: X \rightarrow Y$  for which  $f_*: \pi_1(X) \rightarrow \pi_1(Y)$  is a  $P$ -equivalence of groups and  $f_*: H_*(X; A) \rightarrow H_*(Y; A)$  is an isomorphism for each abelian  $\pi_1(Y)_P$ -group  $A$  which is  $P$ -local in the sense of Example 3.4. The conditions of Corollary 1.6 are satisfied. One can take  $\alpha$  to be the first infinite ordinal. Spaces in  $\mathcal{D}$  will be called *P-local* and maps in  $\mathcal{S}$  will be called *P-equivalences*. We denote the  $P$ -localisation map by  $l: X \rightarrow X_P$ . The pair  $(\mathcal{S}, \mathcal{D})$  extends the pair  $(\mathcal{S}', \mathcal{D}')$  corresponding to  $P$ -localisation of nilpotent spaces.

Since the orthogonal pair corresponding to  $H_*(\ ; \mathbf{Z}_P)$ -localisation is minimal among those pairs extending  $P$ -localisation of nilpotent spaces (see Example 3.2), for each space  $X$  there is a natural map from  $X_P$  to the  $H_*(\ ; \mathbf{Z}_P)$ -localisation of  $X$ .

**Example 3.6** Let  $\mathcal{H}$  denote the pointed homotopy category of connected CW-complexes and  $P$  a set of primes. Consider the orthogonal pair  $(\mathcal{S}, \mathcal{D})$  generated by the set

$$\mathcal{S}_0 = \{\rho_n^k: S^k \rightarrow S^k \mid \deg \rho_n^k = n, k \geq 1, n \in P'\}.$$

The class  $\mathcal{D}$  consists of spaces whose homotopy groups are  $P$ -local, and one finds, with the same methods as in [7, 9], that  $\mathcal{S}$  consists of morphisms  $f: X \rightarrow Y$  such that  $f_*: \pi_1(X) \rightarrow \pi_1(Y)$  is a  $P$ -equivalence of groups and  $f^*: H^k(Y; A) \rightarrow H^k(X; A)$  is an isomorphism for  $k \geq 2$  and every  $\mathbf{Z}_P[\pi_1(Y)_P]$ -module  $A$ . This class  $\mathcal{S}$  is not closed under homotopy colimits, because the natural map from  $S^1$  to  $K(\mathbf{Z}_P, 1)$ , which is the homotopy colimit of a certain direct system of maps  $\rho_n^1, n \in P'$ , fails to induce an isomorphism in  $H^2$  with coefficients in the group ring  $\mathbf{Z}_P[\mathbf{Z}_P]$ , and hence does not belong to  $\mathcal{S}$ . Thus, Corollary 1.6 does not apply in this case. In fact, the orthogonal pair  $(\mathcal{S}, \mathcal{D})$  does not admit a localisation functor [7].

On the other hand, if we delete from  $\mathcal{S}_0$  the maps  $\rho_n^1, n \in P'$ , then the resulting class  $\mathcal{D}$  consists of spaces whose higher homotopy groups are  $P$ -local, and  $\mathcal{S}$  consists of morphisms  $f: X \rightarrow Y$  inducing an isomorphism of fundamental groups and such that  $f^*: H^k(Y; A) \rightarrow H^k(X; A)$  is an isomorphism for all  $k$  and every  $\mathbf{Z}_P[\pi_1(Y)]$ -module  $A$ . This orthogonal pair  $(\mathcal{S}, \mathcal{D})$  is the maximal extension to  $\mathcal{H}$  of the pair described in Example 3.1. Now Corollary 1.6 provides a localisation functor associated to  $(\mathcal{S}, \mathcal{D})$ . This functor induces an isomorphism of fundamental groups and  $P$ -localises the higher homotopy groups, i.e., corresponds to fibrewise localisation with respect to the universal covering fibration  $\tilde{X} \rightarrow X \rightarrow K(\pi_1(X), 1)$ .

**Example 3.7** Fix a group  $G$  and let  $\mathcal{H}(G)$  be the category whose objects are maps  $X \rightarrow K(G, 1)$  in  $\mathcal{H}$  and whose morphisms are homotopy commutative triangles. Given an abelian  $G$ -group  $A$ , let  $\mathcal{S}(A)$  be the class of morphisms  $f$  such that  $f_*: H_*(X; A) \rightarrow H_*(Y; A)$  is an isomorphism. Then  $\mathcal{S}(A)$  satisfies the conditions of Theorem 1.4. Example 3.2 corresponds to the particular case  $G = \{1\}$ . In [7] we show that several idempotent functors on  $\mathcal{H}$  extending  $P$ -localisation of nilpotent spaces can be obtained by splicing localisation functors with respect to twisted homology in a suitable way. In fact, Example 3.5 can be alternatively obtained as a special case of this procedure.

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