

## ON THE STRUCTURE OF INITIAL OBJECTS OF FIBRE CATEGORIES

by

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### A b s t r a c t

Let  $\mathcal{C}$  be a cocomplete category and  $P: \mathcal{C} \rightarrow \mathcal{B}$  be a colimit preserving functor having normalized split cleavage. If  $B$  is a colimit object of a diagram  $D$  in  $\mathcal{B}$  over a scheme  $\Sigma = (I, M, d)$ , then it is shown that the initial object of the fibre  $\mathcal{C}_B$  is precisely the colimit of the diagram  $ID$  in  $\mathcal{C}$  over  $\Sigma$  such that  $ID(\alpha)$  is the initial object of  $\mathcal{C}_{D(\alpha)}$  for every  $\alpha$  in  $I$ . This result is applied to the universal complexes, free objects, tensor algebras etc.

**1. Introduction:** Let  $P: \mathcal{C} \rightarrow \mathcal{B}$  be a functor. This work is the result of an investigation into the connections between the structure of an object  $B \in \mathcal{B}$  and that of the initial object of the fibre  $\mathcal{C}_B = P^{-1}(B)$ . In this paper a reasonably natural connection has been established between the two, when  $\mathcal{C}$  is cocomplete and  $P$  is a colimit preserving functor having a normalized split cleavage. Such functors are frequent enough to occur in the study of complexes over algebras, free objects, Grothendieck groups, free Lie algebras etc. We have proved that in this situation if  $B$  is the colimit of a diagram  $D$  in  $\mathcal{B}$  over a scheme  $\Sigma = (I, M, d)$ , then the initial object of  $\mathcal{C}_B$  is precisely the colimit of the diagram  $ID$  in  $\mathcal{C}$  over  $\Sigma$  such that  $ID(\alpha)$  is the initial object of  $\mathcal{C}_{D(\alpha)}$ ,  $\alpha \in I$  (provided „enough“ initial objects exist). To obtain this result the adjoint functors between the category of diagrams  $ID$  and the category  $\mathcal{C}_B$  are constructed.

**2. Preliminaries:** The fibre of a functor  $P: \mathcal{C} \rightarrow \mathcal{B}$  over  $B$  is the subcategory  $\mathcal{C}_B = P^{-1}(B)$  of  $\mathcal{C}$  consisting of all morphisms  $\varnothing$  in  $\mathcal{C}$  such that  $P(\varnothing) = i_B$ , where  $i_B$  is the identity on  $B$ . Let  $J_B: \mathcal{C}_B \rightarrow \mathcal{C}$  be the inclusion functor. A **cleavage** consists of a functor  $f^*: \mathcal{C}_B \rightarrow \mathcal{C}_{B'}$ , for each morphism  $f: B' \rightarrow B$  in  $\mathcal{B}$  together with a natural transformation  $\theta_f: J_{B'} f^* \rightarrow J_B$ , satisfying the following axiom:

**Axiom 2.1:**  $P(\theta_f) = f$  and if  $\varnothing: E'' \rightarrow E$  satisfies  $P(\varnothing) = fg$ , for some  $g$ , then there is a unique  $\varnothing': E'' \rightarrow f^*(E)$ , such that  $P(\varnothing') = g$  and  $\theta_{fE} \circ \varnothing' = \varnothing$ .

The cleavage is **normalized** if  $f^*$  is an identity functor whenever  $f$  is an identity morphism. It is a **split cleavage** if  $(f \circ g)^* = g^* \circ f^*$  and  $\theta_{f \circ g X} = \theta_{fX} \circ \theta_{g^*(X)}$ , whenever  $f \circ g$  is defined in  $\mathcal{B}$ .

Throughout in this paper we assume that  $P: \mathcal{C} \rightarrow \mathcal{B}$  is a colimit preserving functor, having normalized split cleavage and  $\mathcal{C}$  cocomplete.

In the following discussion  $D$  stands for a fixed diagram in  $\mathcal{B}$  over a scheme  $\Sigma = (I, M, d)$ , having the colimit  $\{f_\alpha: D(\alpha) \rightarrow B\}_{\alpha \in I}$ .  $\mathcal{D}$  denotes the sub-category of the category of diagrams in  $\mathcal{C}$  over  $\Sigma$  obtained as follows:

$ID \in \mathcal{D}$  iff  $P(ID(\alpha)) = D(\alpha)$  and  $P(ID(m)) = D(m)$  for  $\alpha \in I$  and  $m \in M$ .  $ID \rightarrow ID'$  is in  $\mathcal{D}$  iff  $ID(\alpha) \rightarrow ID'(\alpha)$  is in  $\mathcal{C}_{D(\alpha)}$  for  $\alpha \in I$ .

### 3. Colimits:

**Lemma 3. 1:** For  $X' \in \mathcal{C}$  and an isomorphism  $f: P(X') \rightarrow B$ , there exist an object  $X \in \mathcal{C}_B$  and an isomorphism  $\psi: X' \rightarrow X$ , such that  $P(\psi) = f$ .

**Proof:** Select  $X = (f^{-1})^* X'$  and  $\psi = \theta_{fX}$ . Since the cleavage is split, normalized,  $f^*(X) = X'$  and  $\theta_{f^{-1} X'} = \psi^{-1}$ .

Lemma 3.1 allows us to assume, that if  $\{\psi_\alpha: ID(\alpha) \rightarrow X\}$  is a colimit of  $ID \in \mathcal{D}$  then  $X \in \mathcal{C}_B$  and  $P(\psi_\alpha) = f_\alpha$ . When this is done, consider a morphism  $ID \rightarrow ID'$  in  $\mathcal{D}$ . Let  $\{\psi_\alpha: ID(\alpha) \rightarrow X\}$  and  $\{\psi_{\alpha'}: ID'(\alpha) \rightarrow X'\}$  be the colimits of  $ID$  and  $ID'$  respectively. Let  $\psi: X \rightarrow X'$  be the unique morphism such that

$$(ID(\alpha) \rightarrow ID'(\alpha) \xrightarrow{\psi_{\alpha'}} X') = (ID(\alpha) \xrightarrow{\psi_\alpha} X \xrightarrow{\psi} X').$$

Since  $P(\psi_\alpha) = f_\alpha = P(\psi_{\alpha'})$  it follows that  $\psi$  is in  $\mathcal{C}_B$ .

This defines the „colimit functor“  $F: \mathcal{D} \rightarrow \mathcal{C}_B$  in a natural way.

On the other hand, for  $X \in \mathcal{C}_B$  we construct a diagram  $\bar{X}$  in  $\mathcal{D}$  by setting  $\bar{X}(\alpha) = f_\alpha^*(X)$  and  $\bar{X}(m) = \theta_{D(m)} f_\beta^*(X)$ , where  $m \in M$  and  $d(m) = (\alpha, \beta)$ . For  $\varnothing: X \rightarrow X'$  in  $\mathcal{C}_B$ , we set  $\varnothing_\alpha = f_\alpha^*(\varnothing): \bar{X}(\alpha) \rightarrow \bar{X}'(\alpha)$ .

If  $m \in M$  and  $d(m) = (\alpha, \beta)$  then in the following diagram (next page): Since  $\theta_{f_\gamma}: J_{D(\gamma)} f_\gamma^* \rightarrow J_B$  is a natural transformation for every  $\gamma \in I$ , the quadrangles 1 and 2 commute. The triangles 3 and 4 commute because of the definitions of  $\bar{X}(m)$  and  $\bar{X}'(m)$  respectively. Hence

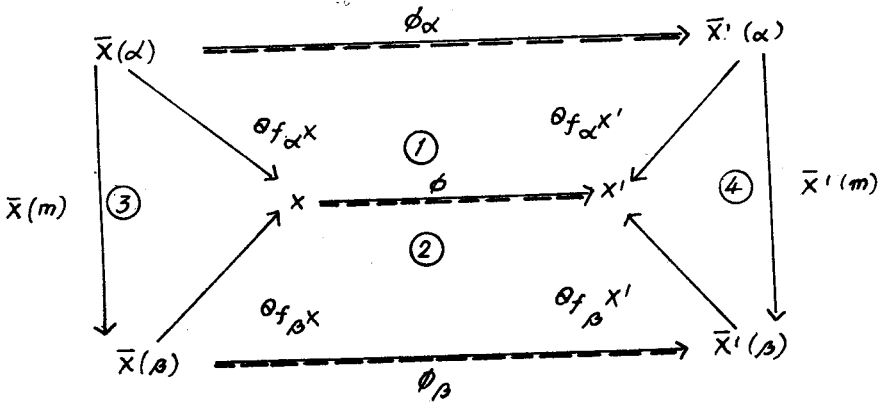
$$\theta_{f_\beta X'} \circ \varnothing_\beta \bar{X}(m) = \varnothing \circ \theta_{f_\alpha X} = \theta_{f_\beta X'} \circ \bar{X}'(m) \circ \varnothing_\alpha.$$

But since  $P(\varnothing \circ \theta_{f_\alpha X}) = f_\beta \circ D(m)$ , Axiom 2.1 ensures that

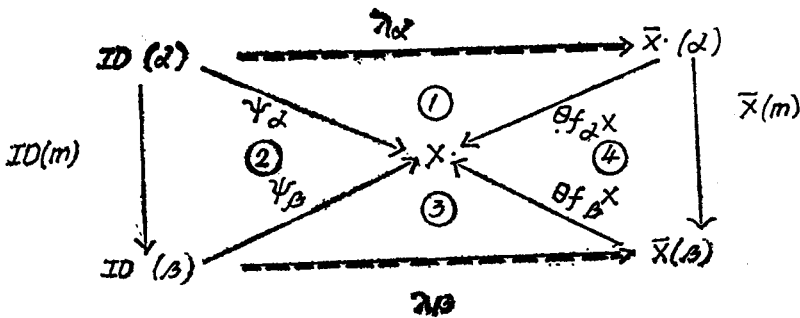
$\varnothing_\beta \circ \bar{X}(m) = \bar{X}'(m) \circ \varnothing_\alpha$ . Therefore  $\bar{\varnothing} = (\varnothing_\alpha): \bar{X} \rightarrow \bar{X}'$  is in  $\mathcal{D}$ .

This leads to the functor  $G: \mathcal{C}_B \rightarrow \mathcal{D}$  defined by  $G(X) = \bar{X}$ ,  $G(\emptyset) = \bar{\emptyset}$ .  
 Our claim is:

**Theorem 3.2:**  $G: \mathcal{C}_B \rightarrow \mathcal{D}$  is the adjoint of  $F: \mathcal{D} \rightarrow \mathcal{C}_B$ .



**Proof:** Let  $\{\psi_\alpha: ID(\alpha) \rightarrow X\}$  be the colimit of  $ID \in \mathcal{D}$ .  $F(ID) = X$ ,  $G(X) = \bar{X}$  and  $\lambda_\alpha: ID(\alpha) \rightarrow \bar{X}(\alpha)$  the unique morphism such that  $\theta_{f_\alpha X} \circ \lambda_\alpha = \psi_\alpha$  offered by Axiom 2.1. Then for  $m \in M$  and  $d(m) = (\alpha, \beta)$  the triangles 1 to 4 in the following diagram commute.



Therefore  $\theta_{f_\beta X} \circ \lambda_\beta \circ ID(m) = \psi_\alpha = \theta_{f_\alpha X} \circ \bar{X}(m) \circ \lambda_\alpha$ .

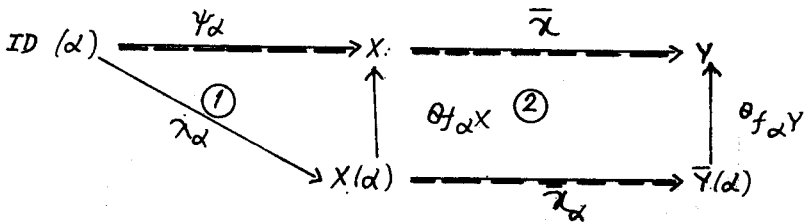
But since  $P(\psi_\alpha) = f_\beta \circ D(m)$ , Axiom 2.1 ensures that

$\lambda_\beta \circ ID(m) = \bar{X}(m) \circ \lambda_\alpha$ . Therefore  $\lambda = (\lambda_\alpha): ID \rightarrow \bar{X}$  is in  $\mathcal{D}$ .

Let  $Y \in \mathcal{C}_B$  and  $\chi = (\chi_\alpha): ID \rightarrow Y$  be any morphism in  $\mathcal{D}$ . Since the family  $\{ID(\alpha) \xrightarrow{\chi_\alpha} \bar{Y}(\alpha) \xrightarrow{\theta_{f_\alpha Y}} Y\}$  is cocompatible, there exists a unique  $\bar{\chi}: X \rightarrow Y$  in  $\mathcal{C}_B$  such that

$$\bar{\chi} \circ \psi_\alpha = \theta_{f_\alpha Y} \circ \chi_\alpha.$$

If  $G(\bar{\chi}) = (\bar{\chi}_\alpha): \bar{X} \rightarrow \bar{Y}$ , then in the following diagram



the triangle 1 and the square 2 commute to give

$$\theta_{f_\alpha Y} \circ \bar{\chi}_\alpha \circ \lambda_\alpha = \bar{\chi} \circ \psi_\alpha = \theta_{f_\alpha Y} \circ \chi_\alpha.$$

In view of Axiom 2.1 we get

$$\bar{\chi}_\alpha = \bar{\chi} \circ \lambda_\alpha.$$

As for the uniqueness of  $\bar{\chi}$  we observe that a morphism  $\mu = X \rightarrow Y$  in  $\mathcal{C}_B$  satisfying the equation  $G(\mu) \circ \lambda = \chi$  has to satisfy the equations  $\mu \circ \psi_\alpha = \theta_{f_\alpha Y} \circ \chi_\alpha$  and hence  $\mu = \bar{\chi}$ .

**4. Initial Objects:** Let  $B'$  be an arbitrary object in  $\mathcal{B}$  and  $u(B')$  the initial object of  $\mathcal{C}_{B'}$ . We claim:

**Proposition 4.1:** If  $f: B' \rightarrow B$  is in  $\mathcal{B}$  and  $X \in \mathcal{C}_B$  then there exists a unique morphism  $\varnothing: u(B') \rightarrow X$ , satisfying  $P(\varnothing) = f$ .

**Proof:** The existence is assured by  $u(B') \rightarrow f^*(X) \xrightarrow{\theta_{fX'}} X$ . As for the uniqueness, if  $\varnothing: u(B') \rightarrow X$  and  $\psi: u(B') \rightarrow X$  are such that  $P(\varnothing) = f = P(\psi)$ , then by Axiom 2.1, there exist  $\varnothing': u(B') \rightarrow f^*(X)$  and  $\psi': u(B') \rightarrow f^*(X)$  such that  $\theta_{fX} \circ \varnothing' = \varnothing$  and  $\theta_{fX} \circ \psi' = \psi$ . Since  $\varnothing' = \psi'$  we have  $\varnothing = \psi$ .

This proposition in conjunction with Theorem 3.2 yields

**Theorem 4.2:** If  $ID \in \mathcal{D}$  is such that  $ID(\alpha) = u(D(\alpha))$  for every  $\alpha \in I$ , then  $ID$  is the initial object of  $\mathcal{D}$  and  $F(ID) = u(B)$ ; in other words  $\lim_{\rightarrow} u(D(\alpha)) = u(\lim_{\rightarrow} D(\alpha))$ .

If every fibre of  $P$  has an initial object (e.g. if  $\mathcal{C}$  and  $\mathcal{B}$  are cocomplete and  $P$  has both fibration and opfibration [1]) then in view of proposition 4.1 every diagram  $D$  in  $\mathcal{B}$  gives rise to a diagram  $ID$  in  $\mathcal{C}$  such that  $ID(\alpha) = u(D(\alpha))$ . This leads to

**Theorem 4.3:** If every fibre of  $P$  has an initial object then  $B = \lim_{\rightarrow} D(\alpha)$  implies  $u(B) = \lim_{\rightarrow} u(D(\alpha))$ .

**5. Complexes:** The categories of Complexes over algebras offer quite an important application of Theorem 4.3. Let  $R$  be a commutative ring with unity. An  $R$ -complex is an ordered pair  $(X, d)$ , of an anticommutative graded  $R$ -algebra  $X = \bigoplus_{n \geq 0} X_n$  and derivative  $d : X \rightarrow X$  of degree 1 such that  $d^2 = 0$  [2].

An  $R$ -Complex homomorphism  $\mathcal{O} : (X, d) \rightarrow (Y, \delta)$  is a graded  $R$ -algebra homomorphism  $\mathcal{O} : X \rightarrow Y$  satisfying  $\mathcal{O} \circ d = \delta \circ \mathcal{O}$ . The category  $\mathcal{C}(R)$  of  $R$ -Complexes is cocomplete [3]. If  $\mathcal{A}$  is the category of commutative unitary  $R$ -algebras, the projection functor  $P : \mathcal{C}(R) \rightarrow \mathcal{A}$  given by

$$P((X, d)) = X_0 \text{ and } P((X, d) \rightarrow (Y, \delta)) = X_0 \rightarrow Y_0$$

clearly preserves colimits. An object of the fibre  $\mathcal{C}(R)_A$  is an  $A$ -complex, a morphism an  $A$ -complex homomorphism and the initial object, the universal  $A$ -complex.

If  $f : A' \rightarrow A$  is in  $\mathcal{A}$  and  $(X, d) \in \mathcal{C}(R)_A$  then we define,

$$f^* : \mathcal{C}(R)_A \rightarrow \mathcal{C}(R)_{A'} : (X, d) \rightarrow (X', d');$$

where  $X' = A' \oplus \left( \bigoplus_{n \geq 1} X_n \right)$ ,  $d' \upharpoonright A' = df$ ,  $d' \upharpoonright \bigoplus_{n \geq 1} X_n = d$ .

$X'$  is an  $A'$ -algebra via the action  $a'x = f(a')x$ . For  $\mathcal{O} : (X, d) \rightarrow (Y, \delta)$  in  $\mathcal{C}(R)_A$  we define  $f^*(\mathcal{O}) = \mathcal{O}'$ , where  $\mathcal{O}' \upharpoonright A' = \text{identity}$  and  $\mathcal{O}' \upharpoonright \bigoplus_{n \geq 1} X_n = \mathcal{O}$ .

Further  $\theta_f : J_{A'} f^* \rightarrow J_A$  is defined by  $\theta_f \upharpoonright_{(X, d)} : (X', d') \rightarrow (X, d)$  where  $\theta_f \upharpoonright_{(X, d)} \upharpoonright A' = f$ ,  $\theta_f \upharpoonright_{(X, d)} \upharpoonright \bigoplus_{n \geq 1} X_n = \text{identity}$ .

Straightforward computations show that the above  $f^*$  and  $\theta_f$  offer a normalized split cleavage for  $P$ . Since the universal  $A$ -complex exists for every  $A \in \mathcal{A}$  [2], the main results of the paper [3] become a corollary to Theorem 4.3, namely if an algebra  $A \in \mathcal{A}$  is a colimit of algebras  $A_\alpha \in \mathcal{A}$  then the universal  $A$ -complex is the colimit of the universal  $A_\alpha$ -complexes.

**6. Other Applications:** Let  $U: \mathcal{C} \rightarrow \mathcal{K}$  be a functor which is injective on morphisms. We construct the category  $\mathcal{H}$  whose objects are morphisms  $\lambda: K \rightarrow U(X)$ ,  $K \in \mathcal{K}$ ,  $X \in \mathcal{C}$  and the morphisms  $\lambda_1 \rightarrow \lambda_2$  are pairs  $(f, \varnothing)$  of morphisms  $f: K_1 \rightarrow K_2$  in  $\mathcal{K}$  and  $\varnothing: X_1 \rightarrow X_2$  in  $\mathcal{C}$  satisfying  $U(\varnothing) \circ \lambda_1 = \lambda_2 \circ f$ . Let  $p: \mathcal{H} \rightarrow \mathcal{K}$  be the „natural projection“ functor

$$P(K \rightarrow U(X)) = K \text{ and } P(f, \varnothing) = f.$$

**Definition 6.1:** An initial object of the fibre  $\mathcal{H}_A$  is the free object over  $A$  relative to  $U$ .

The traditional free objects, the Grothendieck groups, free Lie algebras are free objects in the above sense.

If  $\mathcal{C}$  and  $\mathcal{K}$  are complete and if  $U$  preserves colimits then  $\mathcal{H}$  is cocomplete and  $P$  preserves colimits. Moreover,  $P$  has a normalized split cleavage, defined in the obvious fashion. Therefore, it follows that colimits of free objects are free objects.

The above construction can be extended to include tensor product, exterior product and similar objects. For example, if  $m$  is the category of  $R$ -modules then we construct  $\tau$  to be the category of  $n$  — linear maps  $\lambda: M_1 \times \dots \times M_n \rightarrow M: M, M_1 \dots M_n \in m$ .

The morphisms  $\lambda_1 \rightarrow \lambda_2$  are  $n + 1$  tuples  $(f_1, \dots, f_n, f)$  such that  $f: M \rightarrow N$ ,  $f_i: M_i \rightarrow N_i$  for  $i = 1, \dots, n$  and

$$\lambda_2(f_1(x_1), \dots, f_n(x_n)) = f \circ \lambda_1(x_1, \dots, x_n) \text{ for } x_i \in M_i.$$

The projection functor  $P: \tau \rightarrow m \times \dots \times m$  and the cleavage are defined suitably.

$M_1 \otimes \dots \otimes M_n$  is the initial object of  $\tau_{(M_1, \dots, M_n)}$ . The Theorems 4.3 and 4.4 then lead to the expected result.

#### REFERENCES

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