

11 BASICS OF FORCING

11.1. Background settings We will work with a model M of a sufficiently large fragment of ZFC. We will often have the full ZF or ZFC. Typically, M will be an universe, so we will often write V for M . M will be the model we will "force" over, i.e. we will have a poset $\mathbb{P} \in M$ and a filter G generic for \mathbb{P} over M (in our previous terminology: G is \mathbb{D} -generic when $\mathbb{D} = \{D \in M \mid D \text{ is dense in } \mathbb{P}\}$) and we will "adjoin" G to M . In order that this can be done correctly we will make the following assumption: "Background assumption on generics."

(BAG) We have a model W of ZF such that

- (1) M is a transitive structure in W
- (2) For every $p \in \mathbb{P}$ there is a filter $G \in W$ generic for \mathbb{P} over M such that $p \in G$

Point One can show that it is consistent to have this situation, assuming ZF is consistent. So we prove a metatheorem of the form

$$\text{Con}(ZF) \Rightarrow \text{Con}(BAG)$$

and then working in W we construct a generic extension which satisfies statements of our interest. This will give us relative consistency results.

11.2. Definition Assume $\mathbb{P} \in M$ is a poset, G is a filter generic for \mathbb{P} over M and $x \in M$ we define the evaluation x^G of x by G as follows:

$$x^G = \{y \in M \mid (\exists p \in G)(\langle p, y \rangle \in x)\}$$

This is understood as definition by recursion on \in .

11.3. Remark Each set is associated with its characteristic function. If $A \in M$ and $Z \subseteq A$ then the characteristic function $y_Z: A \rightarrow \{0,1\}$ carries the same amount of info as Z .

Think of $\mathbb{P} = \{0,1\}$ with $0 < 1$ and $G = \{1\}$. Then

$$(y_Z^{-1})^G = y_Z^{-1}[G] = Z$$

Now more generally, we have poset \mathbb{P} and a generic $G \notin M$. If $x: A \rightarrow \mathbb{P}$ then $(x^{-1})^G = x^{-1}[G]$. Now we cannot $(x^{-1})^G \notin M$. But in general, if \mathbb{P} is a poset asking x to be a function may be too restrictive, in the sense this way we may not be able to generate all sets of interest. Therefore we allow x to be a binary relation with $\text{dom}(x) \subseteq \mathbb{P}$.

Notice the above only treats the case of subsets of $A \in M$. In order to build a model with G in it we also need to add sets with elements of the form $(x^{-1})^G$ which are not in M and go up the cumulative hierarchy. Notice Def 11.2. does this.

When working with evaluations, it will be often useful to consider x we are evaluating of certain specific form.

11.4. Definition Let \mathbb{P} be a poset. We say that x is a \mathbb{P} -term (\mathbb{P} -name) iff

Elements of x are ordered pairs $\langle p, y \rangle$ s.t. $p \in \mathbb{P}$ and y is a \mathbb{P} -term

This is a definition by recursion on \in . (Exercise: Write a formally correct form of this def-1).

If M is a model as above, $\mathbb{P} \in M$ is a poset we denote $M^{\mathbb{P}}$ = the class of all \mathbb{P} -names in M

11.5. Proposition Assume M is a transitive model, $\mathbb{P} \in M$ is a poset and $x \in M$. Then there is a \mathbb{P} -term \dot{x} such that for every filter G generic for \mathbb{P} over M :

$$x^G = \dot{x}^G$$

Proof Exercise (Remove all $z \in \text{trcl}(x)$ which are not

ordered pairs of the right kind.)

11.6. Terminology Instead of saying " G is a filter generic for \mathbb{P} over M " we say " G is a (\mathbb{P}, M) -generic filter".

11.7. Definition (Canonical terms) Let $\mathbb{P} \in M$ be a poset.

(a) For $a \in M$ we let

$$\check{a} = \{ \langle 1_{\mathbb{P}}, \check{x} \rangle \mid x \in a \}$$

$$(b) \dot{G} = \{ \langle p, \check{p} \rangle \mid p \in \mathbb{P} \}$$

11.8. Proposition For every (\mathbb{P}, M) -generic G :

$$(a) \check{a}^G = a \quad (\text{For this reason } \check{a} \text{ is called the "check name for } a \text{".})$$

$$(b) \dot{G}^G = G \quad (\text{So if } H \text{ is } (\mathbb{P}, M)\text{-generic then } \dot{G}^H = H)$$

Proof Exercise.

11.9. Proposition Let G be (\mathbb{P}, M) -generic and $x \in M$.

Then $\text{rank}(x^G) \leq \text{rank}(x)$.

Proof Exercise (Recursion on \in)

11.10. Definition Let G be (\mathbb{P}, M) -generic. We define $M[G] = \{ x^G \mid x \in M \}$. $M[G]$ is called the generic extension of M by G .

11.11. Proposition Let G be (\mathbb{P}, M) -generic. Then

$$(a) M \subseteq M[G] \text{ and } G \in M[G]$$

$$(b) \text{ if } N \in \mathcal{ZF} \text{ is transitive such that } M \subseteq N \text{ and } G \in N \text{ then } M[G] \subseteq N$$

$$(c) M[G] \text{ is transitive}$$

$$(d) \mathcal{O}_n^{M[G]} = \mathcal{O}_n^M$$

Proof (a) If $x \in M$ then $x = x^G \in M[G]$. Also $G = \dot{G}^G \in M[G]$
(b) Immediate from the definitions of $M[G]$ and that of evaluation.
If $x, G \in N$ then $x^G \in N$.
(c) Immediate from the def of evaluation: if $z \in x^G$ then $z = y^G$ for some $y \in M$. So $z \in M[G]$

(d) $O_n^M \subseteq O_n^{M[G]}$ as $a = a^G$ for all $a \in O_n$
 To see $O_n^{M[G]} \subseteq O_n^M$: if $a \in O_n^{M[G]}$ then $a = x^G$ for some $x \in M$.
 But by P 11.9. $a = \text{rank}(a) = \text{rank}(x^G) \leq \text{rank}(x) \in O_n^M$. \square (P. 11.9)

11.12. Theorem (Forcing theorem) There is a recursive assignment of formulas in LST

$$\varphi(v_1, \dots, v_2) \longmapsto \varphi^*(u, u', v_1, \dots, v_2)$$

such that the following holds

(A) If M is a transitive model, (P, M) is a poset, $p \in P$ and $x_1, \dots, x_2 \in M$ then

$$M \models \varphi^*(P, p, x_1, \dots, x_2)$$

iff

For every (P, M) -generic filter G s.t. $p \in G$:

$$M[G] \models \varphi(x_1^G, \dots, x_2^G)$$

(B) If G is a (P, M) -generic filter and $x_1, \dots, x_2 \in M$ are such that

$$M[G] \models \varphi(x_1^G, \dots, x_2^G)$$

then there is a condition $p \in G$ such that

$$M \models \varphi^*(P, p, x_1, \dots, x_2)$$

11.13. Remarks

(a) By "model" in T11.12 we mean a model of sufficient fragment of ZF or ZFC. ZF or ZFC itself is usually safe.

(b) By "every generic" or "some generic" we mean "every/some" generic in \mathcal{W} .

(c) Instead of

$$M \models \varphi^*(P, p, x_1, \dots, x_2)$$

we write

$$P \stackrel{M}{\Vdash} \varphi(x_1 \dots x_e)$$

and read "P forces φ at $x_1 \dots x_e$ over M ".

If M, P are clear from the context we write

$$P \stackrel{M}{\Vdash} \varphi(x_1 \dots x_e) \quad \text{or} \quad P \Vdash \varphi(x_1 \dots x_e)$$

(d) It is called the forcing relation. But notice this is a schema, for each formula we have one relation. We cannot define all of them by Tarski's Thm. If $P = \{0, 1\}$ with $0 < 1$ then $G \in M$ for every (P, M) -generic G , & $M[G] = M$. Easy to check:

$$P \stackrel{M}{\Vdash} \varphi(\overset{\vee}{x}_1, \dots, \overset{\vee}{x}_e) \quad \text{iff} \quad M \models \varphi(x_1 \dots x_e)$$

So if we could define $\stackrel{M}{\Vdash}$ by a single formula, we could also define \models this way.