# Derived Functors, Cohomology and Hypercohomology

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#### Abstract

In this report, we will give a brief introduction to abelian categories, injective objects, injective resolutions, acylic resolutions and hypercohomology.

### 1 Introduction

**Definition 1.** [Abelian Category] An abelian category  $\mathcal{C}$  is a category with additional information:

- 1. For all objects A and B, Hom(A, B) is an abelian group.
- 2. The following map:

$$\operatorname{Hom}(A,B) \times \operatorname{Hom}(B,C) \to \operatorname{Hom}(A,C)$$

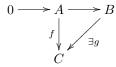
via 
$$(f,g) \mapsto g \circ f$$
 is  $\mathbb{Z}$ -bilinear.

Remark: In this special category setting, we require functor between objects to respect direct sum. For example, for a functor  $F: \mathcal{A} \to \mathcal{B}$ , we have for every U and V in  $\mathcal{A}$ ,  $F(U \oplus V) = F(U) \oplus F(V)$ .

**Example 2.** [Example of an Abelian Category] A category of modules over a ring.

# 2 Injective Objects and Resolution

**Definition 3.** [Injective Object] A object in an abelian category C is injective if for every injective morphisms  $A \to B$  and a morphism  $A \to C$ , there exists a morphism  $B \to C$  that makes the following diagram commute



**Example 4.** In an abelian category, the object  $\{0\}$  is injective.

**Example 5.** In modules over  $\mathbb{Z}$ , an abelian group D is divisible if and only if D is an injective  $\mathbb{Z}$  module. In particular,  $\mathbb{Q}$  is an injective  $\mathbb{Z}$  module.

**Definition 6.** [Complex] A complex M is a set of objects  $\{M_i\}_{i\in\mathbb{Z}}$ , and a set of morphisms  $\{d^i:M_i\to M_{+1}\}_{i\in\mathbb{Z}}$  such that  $d^i\circ d^{i-1}=0$ .

From now on, we will consider only left-bounded complexes.

**Definition 7.** [Morphisms of Complexes] A morphism of complexes  $\phi^{\cdot}: (M^{\cdot}, d_M) \to (N^{\cdot}, d_N)$  is a collection of morphisms  $\{\phi^k: M^k \to N^k\}_{k \in \mathbb{Z}}$  that makes the following diagram commute:

$$\cdots \longrightarrow M^{i} \xrightarrow{d_{M}^{i}} M^{i+1} \longrightarrow \cdots$$

$$\downarrow \phi_{i} \downarrow \qquad \qquad \downarrow \phi_{i+1}$$

$$\cdots \longrightarrow N^{i} \xrightarrow{d_{N}^{i}} N^{i+1} \longrightarrow \cdots$$

In other words,  $\phi_{i+1} \circ d_M^i = d_N^i \circ \phi_i$ 

**Definition 8.** [The i-th degree cohomology] The i-th degree cohomology of the complex  $(M^{\cdot}, d_M)$  is an object given by

$$H^{i}(M) := \frac{\ker d^{i} : M^{i} \to M^{i+1}}{\operatorname{im} \ d^{i-1} : M^{i-1} \to M^{i}}$$

A morphism of complexes  $\phi^{\cdot}: M^{\cdot} \to N^{\cdot}$ , induces a morphism of cohomologies. In other words, we may define  $H^{i}(\phi): H^{i}(M) \to H^{i}(N)$  via the association  $[m] \mapsto [\phi(m)]$ .

**Definition 9.** [Homotopy] Let  $\phi:(M,d_M)\to (N,d_N)$  and  $\psi:(M,d_M)\to (N,d_N)$  be morphisms of two complexes. A homotopy between  $\phi$  and  $\psi$  is a collection of morphisms  $\{D^i:M^i\to N^{i-1}\}_{i\in\mathbb{N}}$  such that in the following diagram

$$\cdots \longrightarrow M^{i-1} \longrightarrow M^{i} \xrightarrow{d^{i}_{M}} M^{i+1} \longrightarrow \cdots$$

$$\downarrow \qquad \qquad \downarrow \qquad \qquad$$

We have  $D^{i+1} \circ d_M^i - d_N^{i-1} \circ D^i = \phi^i - \psi^i$ .

This algebraic definition of homotopy in fact may be seen in texts on differential topology or simplicial homology. We shall see why the two homotopic maps  $\phi$  and  $\psi$  induces the same mappings  $H^i(\phi)$  and  $H^i(\psi)$ . Suppose we have  $[\omega] \in H^i(M^{\cdot})$ , then  $\phi^i - \psi^i(\omega)$  is exact because

$$[(\phi^{i} - \psi^{i})(\omega)] = [(D^{i+1} \circ d_{M}^{i} - d_{N}^{i-1} \circ D^{i})(\omega)] = [-d_{N}^{i-1} \circ D^{i}\omega]$$
(1)

which is 0 in cohomology. In other words, the cohomology functor is homotopy invariant.

**Definition 10.** [Resolution] A complex  $\{M^i\}_{i\geq 0}$  is a resolution of an object A in a category C if the complex  $(M^i, d_M)$  is exact and there exists an injective morphism  $j: A \to M^0$  such that  $\ker(d^0: M^0 \to M^1) = j(A)$ .

### 3 Sufficiently Many Injective Objects

**Definition 11.** [Sufficiently many injective objects] An abelian category  $\mathcal{C}$  has sufficiently many injective objects if for each A an object in  $\mathcal{C}$ , there exists an injective object I and a morphism  $j:A\to I$  which is injective.

**Example 12.** Every module over a ring R with identity can be embedded into an injective R-module.

**Lemma 13.** If  $\mathcal{C}$  has sufficiently many injective objects, then every object of  $\mathcal{C}$  has an injective resolution.

The trick to finding an exact sequence I is by passing through the cokernel and the application of the property of an injective object.

*Proof.* First we start with an object A. Since C has sufficiently many injective objects, there exists an injective morphism  $j: A \to I^0$  for some injective object  $I^0$ . Suppose we have a sequence as follows:

$$0 \longrightarrow A \stackrel{j}{\longrightarrow} I^0 \stackrel{d^0}{\longrightarrow} I^1 \longrightarrow \cdots \stackrel{d^{k-1}}{\longrightarrow} I^k$$

Then there exists an injective object  $I^{k+1}$  such that coker  $d^{k-1}$  may be embedded into  $I^{k+1}$  as follows

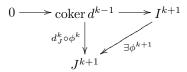
$$0 \longrightarrow A \xrightarrow{d^{-1}} I^0 \xrightarrow{d^0} I^1 \xrightarrow{d^1} \cdots \xrightarrow{d^{k-1}} I^k \longrightarrow \operatorname{coker} d^{k-1} \longrightarrow I^{k+1}$$

and therefore the kernel of this map  $I^k \to I^{k+1}$  is indeed the image  $I^{k-1} \to I^k$ .

This lemma shows us that every object has an injective resolution. In the next part, we will show that such resolution is unique up to homotopy equivalence.

**Proposition 14.** Let I',  $A \hookrightarrow I^0$ , and J',  $B \hookrightarrow J^0$  be the respective resolutions. If J' is an injective resolution of B, then a morphism  $\phi: A \to B$  induces a morphism of complexes  $\phi': I' \to J'$  such that  $\phi^0 \circ i = j \circ \phi$ .

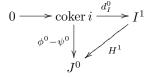
*Proof.* We want to construct a series of  $\phi^k$ 's from  $I^k$  to  $J^k$  and suppose that we have constructed morphisms from  $\phi^1$  to  $\phi^k$ . The main point is that we want the property  $\phi^{k+1} \circ d^i_I = d^i_J \circ \phi^i$ . We will use the universal property of an injective object to construct a morphism from  $I^{k+1}$  to  $J^{k+1}$ . Therefore, we consider



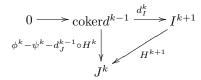
Hence we have by commutativity  $\phi^{k+1} \circ d_I^k = d_I^k \circ \phi^k$ .

**Proposition 15.** Let I',  $i:A\hookrightarrow I^0$  be a resolution of A and J',  $j:B\hookrightarrow J^0$  be an injective resolution of B. Given a morphism  $\phi:A\to B$ , and suppose we have two ways to extend to morphism of complexes  $\phi:I'\to J'$ ,  $\psi':I'\to J'$  such that  $\phi^0\circ i=j\circ\phi$  (and same for  $\psi$ ), then  $\phi'$  and  $\psi'$  are homotopic.

*Proof.* Define  $H^1: I^1 \to J^0$  by the injective property of  $J^0$  via



Suppose we have morphisms  $H^1, \dots H^k$ . Then we define  $H^{k+1}$  by

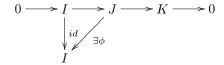


### 4 Derived Functors

Let  $\mathcal{C}$  and  $\mathcal{C}'$  be two abelian categories and  $F:\mathcal{C}\to\mathcal{C}'$  be a left exact functor. Suppose that  $\mathcal{C}$  has sufficiently many injective objects. We will define  $R^iF$ , the derived functor. Before we proceed, we start off with a few lemmas:

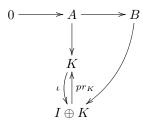
**Lemma 16.** Let  $0 \to I \to J \to K \to 0$  be an exact sequence. If I is injective, then the exact sequence splits.

*Proof.* Since I is injective, we may have a map  $\phi: J \to I$  such that the following diagram commutes



**Lemma 17.** If  $J = I \oplus K$  and J is injective, so is K.

*Proof.* For every embedding  $A \hookrightarrow B$  and a map  $A \to K$ , we have a map  $B \to K$  by following the diagram below:



Lemma 18. Given an exact sequence in  $\mathcal C$ 

$$0 \longrightarrow A \xrightarrow{\phi} B \xrightarrow{\psi} C \longrightarrow 0$$

there exists injective resolutions  $A \hookrightarrow I^{\cdot}$ ,  $B \hookrightarrow J^{\cdot}$  and  $C \hookrightarrow K^{\cdot}$  such that the following sequence

$$0 \longrightarrow I^{\cdot} \xrightarrow{\phi^{\cdot}} J^{\cdot} \xrightarrow{\psi^{\cdot}} K^{\cdot} \longrightarrow 0.$$

is exact and  $\phi^0 \circ i = j \circ \phi$  and  $\psi^0 \circ j = k \circ \psi$ .

*Proof.* First we construct the first batch  $(I^0, J^0, K^0)$ . Given that we have sufficiently injective objects, we may have the following embedding  $i: A \to I^0$  for some injective object. We consider the following commutative diagram

$$0 \longrightarrow A \xrightarrow{(i,-\phi)} I^0 \oplus B \longrightarrow \operatorname{coker}(i,-\phi) \longrightarrow 0$$

$$\downarrow \qquad \qquad \downarrow \qquad \qquad \qquad \downarrow \qquad \qquad \qquad \downarrow \qquad \qquad \qquad \downarrow \qquad \qquad \qquad \downarrow \qquad \qquad \downarrow \qquad \qquad \qquad \downarrow \qquad \qquad \qquad$$

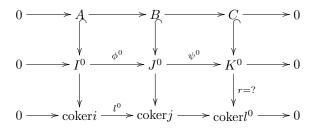
And we define  $j: B \to J^0$  and  $\phi^0: I^0 \to J^0$  by following the arrows. Then j is injective because i is, and  $\phi^0$  is injective because  $\phi$  is. We may thus have the following diagram

$$0 \longrightarrow A \xrightarrow{\phi} B \xrightarrow{\psi} C \longrightarrow 0$$

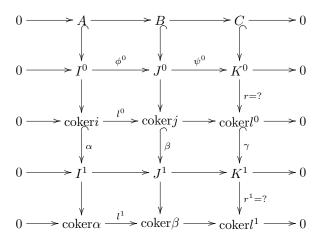
$$\downarrow \downarrow \qquad \qquad \downarrow k=?$$

$$0 \longrightarrow I^0 \longrightarrow J^0 \xrightarrow{\pi} \operatorname{coker} \phi^0 \longrightarrow 0$$

To define k, let  $c \in C$ . By surjectivity of  $\psi$ , there exists b such that  $\psi(b) = c$ . Therefore, we define  $k(c) = \pi \circ j(b)$ . This is well-defined, independent of the choice of b because of exactness at b. The mapping b turns out to be injective (i.e. 5-lemma). Then we proceed to construct the next set.



We need to define l. We define  $l([i^0] \in \text{coker}i) = [\phi^0(i^0)] \in \text{coker}j$ , which is well-defined and injective. Also, we define r in a similar manner as before. From the above diagram, we may embed cokeri into  $I^1$ , and similar methods give  $J^1$  and  $K^1$ . It remains to show that the last vertical line starting from C is a complex. We may continue on with



The importance of taking an injective resolution is that it gives rise to long exact sequences which helps to compute cohomology.

**Theorem 19.** [Existence] Let  $F: \mathcal{C} \to \mathcal{C}'$  be a left exact functor. For every object M of  $\mathcal{C}$ , there exists objects  $R^iF(M)$  in  $\mathcal{C}'$  such that

- 1.  $R^0 F(M) = F(M)$ ,
- 2. Every short exact sequence

$$0 \longrightarrow A \xrightarrow{\phi} B \xrightarrow{\psi} C \longrightarrow 0$$

Induces a long exact sequence

$$0 \longrightarrow F(A) \xrightarrow{F(\phi)} F(B) \xrightarrow{F(\psi)} F(C) \longrightarrow R^1 F(A) \longrightarrow R^1 F(B) \longrightarrow R^1 F(C) \longrightarrow \cdots$$

*Proof.* Let A be an object in C, choose an injective resolution  $A \hookrightarrow I^{\cdot}$  and define  $R^{i}F(M) = H^{i}(F(I^{\cdot}))$  of the complex:

$$0 \longrightarrow F(I^0) \longrightarrow F(I^1) \longrightarrow F(I^2) \longrightarrow \cdots$$

To show property 2, given any exact sequence  $0 \to A \to B \to C \to 0$  in  $\mathcal{C}$ , by the lemma 18, there exists a sequence of complexes  $0 \to I^- \to J^- \to K^- \to 0$  with the properties in the lemma. Since short exact sequence of injective objects

$$0 \longrightarrow I^l \longrightarrow J^l \longrightarrow K^l \longrightarrow 0$$

splits, applying the functor to the sequence obtains another split exact sequence

$$0 \longrightarrow F(I^l) \longrightarrow F(J^l) \longrightarrow F(K^l) \longrightarrow 0.$$

It is a property that split exact sequences gives rise to long exact sequence in cohomology.

**Theorem 20.** [Uniqueness] The object  $R^i F(M)$  is determined up to isomorphism.

Proof. Suppose we have two choices of injective resolutions for A, such as I and J, by a previous proposition, there exists homomorphisms  $\phi: I \to J$  and  $\psi: J \to I$  and homotopies  $D_I : I \to I^{-1}$ ,  $D_J : J \to J^{-1}$  between  $\psi \circ \phi$  and id, and  $\phi \circ \psi$  and id. Applying the functor gives morphisms  $F(\phi)$ ,  $F(\psi)$  and the corresponding homotopies  $F(D_I)$ ,  $F(D_J)$ . Hence the morphisms  $H^i(F(\phi))$  and  $H^i(F(\psi))$  are inverses of each other.

Corollary 21. If I is injective,  $R^i F(I)$  is 0.

*Proof.* For the injective object, choose an injective resolution  $0 \to I \to I \to 0$ . Then  $R^i F(I)$  is zero by uniqueness.

# 5 Acyclic Objects

In practice, injective objects are difficult to work with, and one would like to work with acyclic objects instead.

**Definition 22.** M is acyclic for the functor F if  $R^i F(M) = 0$  for all i > 0.

**Proposition 23.** Let M be an acyclic resolution of A with  $M^i$ 's all F-acyclic. Then  $R^iF(A)=H^iF(M^i)$ .

Remark: This means that acyclic objects work just as well as injective objects.

*Proof.* The proof is by induction on i. We have the exact sequence

$$0 \longrightarrow A \xrightarrow{d^0} M^0 \longrightarrow B \longrightarrow 0 \tag{2}$$

where B is the cokernel of the map  $A \to M^0$ . Moreover, we have the following resolution

$$0 \longrightarrow B \longrightarrow M^1 \longrightarrow M^2 \longrightarrow M^3 \longrightarrow \cdots$$

Since (2) is exact, previous theorem gives us a long exact sequence of derived objects such as this:

$$0 \longrightarrow F(A) \longrightarrow F(M^0) \longrightarrow F(B) \longrightarrow R^1F(A) \longrightarrow R^1F(M^0) \longrightarrow R^1F(B) \longrightarrow \cdots$$

Since  $M^0$  is acyclic, therefore  $R^iF(M)=0$  for all  $i\geq 1$ . Hence for all  $i\geq 1$  we have  $R^{i+1}F(A)=R^iF(B)$  and  $R^1F(A)=\operatorname{coker}(F(M^0)\to F(B))$ . By induction hypothesis, suppose  $R^kF(A)=H^k(F(M^{\cdot}))$  for all  $k=1,\ldots i$  (and any object A), therefore,  $R^{i+1}F(A)=R^iF(B)=H^i(F(M^{\cdot+1}))=H^{i+1}(F(M^{\cdot}))$ .

### 6 Hypercohomology

In this section we will only give a brief exposition of hypercohomology. The full treatment can be found in [Voi]. We will use the setting for our discussion. Let  $\mathcal{A}$  and  $\mathcal{B}$  be two abelian categories, and  $\mathcal{F}: \mathcal{A} \to \mathcal{B}$  be a left exact functor. We assume that  $\mathcal{A}$  has sufficiently many injective objects. We will define for every left bounded complex M, a derived functor  $R^iF(M)$ .

**Proposition 24.** For each left bounded complex M in A, there is a complex I in A such that

- 1. I is left bounded.
- 2.  $I^k$  is injective in  $\mathcal{A}$ .
- 3.  $\phi: M^{\cdot} \to I^{\cdot}$  is a quasi-isomorhism.
- 4. For each  $k, \phi^k : M^k \to I^k$  is injective.

We will prove this proposition later. First we need a result:

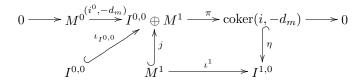
**Proposition 25.** For each left bounded complex M in A, there exists a double complex  $(I^{k,l}, (D_1, D_2))$  with

- 1.  $I^{k,l}$  is injective.
- 2.  $(I^{k,\cdot}, D_2)$  is a resolution of  $M^k$ .
- 3. The inclusion  $(M^k, d_M) \hookrightarrow (I^{\cdot,0}, D_1)$

Proof of proposition 24. Given the double complex  $(I^{k,l},(D_1,D_2))$ , we may let  $(I^{\cdot},D)$  to be

$$I^k = \bigoplus_{p+q=k} I^{p,q}, \qquad D = D_1 + (-1)^p D_2.$$

Proof of proposition 25. We will construct the first line  $(I^{\cdot,0}, D_1)$ . Already, we have the following injection  $M^0 \hookrightarrow I^{0,0}$ . We will construct  $I^{1,0}$ . In the following diagram:



Where  $\eta$  is the inclusion by the condition that  $\mathcal{A}$  has sufficiently many injective objects. We thus let  $\iota^1: M^1 \to I^{1,0}$  by  $\iota^1 = \eta \circ \pi \circ j$  and  $D_1: I^{0,0} \to I^{1,0}$  by  $D_1 = \eta \circ \pi \circ \iota_{I^{0,0}}$ . Suppose we have constructed the sequence up till  $I^{k,0}$  as follows:

$$M^{k-1} \longrightarrow M^k \longrightarrow M^{k+1} \longrightarrow \cdots$$

$$\downarrow^{\iota^{k-1}} \qquad \downarrow^{\iota^k}$$

$$I^{k-1,0} \stackrel{D_1}{\longrightarrow} I^{k,0}$$

We construct  $I^{k+1,0}$  by the following injection  $\operatorname{coker}((\iota^k, -d_M): M^k \to \operatorname{coker} D_1 \oplus M^{k+1}) \hookrightarrow I^{k+1,0}$  and note that  $i^k: M^k \to I^{k,0}$  is an injection. For the last assertion, we refer the readers to [Voi]. It uses the following result:

**Lemma 26.** Let  $(I^{\cdot}, D)$  be the simple complex associated to the double complex  $(I^{p,q}, D_1, D_2)$  and suppose for each p, the complex  $(I^{p,\cdot}, D_2)$  is a resolution of  $M^p$  via the injection  $\iota^p: M^p \hookrightarrow I^{p,0}$ . Then the morphism of complexes  $\iota^{\cdot}: M^{\cdot} \to I^{\cdot}$  induces isomorphism of cohomologies  $H^p(M^{\cdot}, d_M) \cong H^p(I^{\cdot}, D)$ .

### 7 Bibliography

[Voi] Claire Voisin, Hodge Theory and Complex Algebraic Geometry 1 [Hun] Thomas Hungerford, Algebra