

# Triangulated & Derived Categories in Algebra & Geometry

## Lecture 5

Goal Prove the Freyd-Mitchell theorem.

If  $\mathcal{A}, \mathcal{B}$  are abelian,  $F: \mathcal{A} \rightarrow \mathcal{B}$  is exact if it transforms SES's in  $\mathcal{A}$  into SES's in  $\mathcal{B}$ .

Def An abelian category  $\mathcal{A}$  is fully abelian if for any small full abelian subcategory  $\mathcal{B} \subset \mathcal{A}$  there exists a ring  $R$  and a fully faithful exact embedding  $\mathcal{B} \hookrightarrow \text{Mod-}R$ , the cat'g of right  $R$ -modules.

Thm (Freyd - Mitchell)

Every abelian is fully abelian.

## D. Some properties of abelian categories

Def A square

$$\begin{array}{ccc} W & \xrightarrow{\quad l \quad} & A \\ j \downarrow & & \downarrow q \\ B & \xrightarrow{\quad p \quad} & C \end{array}$$

is called cartesian if  $W$  is the limit of  $B \rightarrow \begin{smallmatrix} A \\ C \end{smallmatrix}$ ,  
cocartesian if  $C$  is the colimit...  
 $W$  is called the pullback ( $C$  is called the pushout).

Rank The pushout can be defined as the cokernel of

$$W \xrightarrow{(i, j)} A \oplus B \rightarrow C \rightarrow 0$$

Similarly, the pullback is identified with the kernel

$$0 \rightarrow W \rightarrow A \oplus B \xrightarrow{(-p, q)} C.$$

Cor A square  $W \xrightarrow{i} A$  is cartesian  $\Leftrightarrow$

$$\begin{array}{ccc} j \downarrow & & \downarrow q \\ B & \xrightarrow[p]{} & C \end{array}$$

$0 \rightarrow W \xrightarrow{(i,j)} A \oplus B \xrightarrow{(-p,q)} C$

is left exact.

Some properties of (co)cartesian diagrams.

Lm If  $W \xrightarrow{i} A$  is cartesian, then

$$\begin{array}{ccc} j \downarrow & & \downarrow g \\ B & \xrightarrow[f]{} & C \end{array}$$

$\text{ker } i \cong \text{ker } f$ .

Pf

$$\begin{array}{ccccc} 0 \rightarrow \text{ker } i & \xrightarrow{\eta} & W & \xrightarrow{i} & A \\ \downarrow j & \nearrow h & j \downarrow & & \downarrow g \\ 0 \rightarrow \text{ker } f & \xrightarrow{\varepsilon} & B & \xrightarrow[f]{} & C \end{array}$$

Since  $W$  is the pullback,  
 $\exists h: \text{ker } f \rightarrow W$  s.t.  
 $j \circ h = \varepsilon$      $i \circ h = 0$ .  
 $h$  can be lifted to  
 $l: \text{ker } f \rightarrow \text{ker } i$ .

Wish to prove that  $\bar{j} \circ \bar{h} = \text{id}$ , enough to show that  
 $\varepsilon \circ (\bar{j} \circ \bar{h}) = \varepsilon$ ! (Since  $\varepsilon$  is mono.)

$$\varepsilon \circ \bar{j} \circ \bar{h} = j \circ \bar{j} \circ \bar{h} = j \circ h = \varepsilon !$$

Similarly show that  $\bar{h} \circ \bar{j} = \text{id}$  by showing that

$$y \circ \bar{h} \circ \bar{j} = y.$$

□

Lm Let  $W \xrightarrow{\iota} A$  be cocartesian. If  $W \hookrightarrow A$   
 $\downarrow \quad \downarrow$  is injective, then so is  
 $B \hookrightarrow C$ .

Pf  $W \xrightarrow{\iota} A \oplus B \rightarrow C \rightarrow 0$  is right exact.

$W \xrightarrow{\iota} A \oplus B \xrightarrow{i} A$   $i$  is mono, thus the first map is mono!

(Exc If  $x \xrightarrow{f} y \xrightarrow{g} z$ ,  $g \circ f$  -mono  $\Rightarrow f$  is mono!)

Thus, our square is cartesian as well &  $\ker(W \rightarrow A) \cong \ker(B \rightarrow C)$ .  $\square$

Exc Formulate all the dual statements!

### 1. Exactness

Recall  $X \xrightarrow{f} Y \xrightarrow{g} Z$  is exact if  $g \circ f = 0$  and  
 $\text{Im } f = \ker g$ .

Q In what sense equals?

Consider the set of all monomorphisms  $A \hookrightarrow B$ .

What do we know about commutative diagrams  
of the form

$$\begin{array}{ccc} A & & ? \\ & \searrow & \\ & B & \\ A' & \hookrightarrow & \end{array}$$

Claim One can complete it to a commuting triangle  
in at most one way.

$$\begin{array}{ccc} A & \xrightarrow{\quad f \sqcup g \quad} & B \\ & \searrow & \\ & A' \xrightarrow{\quad i' \quad} & \end{array} \quad i' \text{ is mono} \Rightarrow f = g.$$

We get a partial order on this set.

A subobject is an isomorphism class  $A \hookrightarrow B$ .

In particular,

$$\begin{array}{ccccc} X & \xrightarrow{\quad f \quad} & Y & \xrightarrow{\quad g \quad} & Z \\ & \nearrow & \uparrow & \nearrow & \\ & \mathrm{Im}f & \hookrightarrow & \mathrm{Ker}g & \end{array}$$

$g \circ f \Rightarrow \mathrm{Im}f \subseteq \mathrm{Ker}g$  (as subobjects).

The diagram is exact  $\Leftrightarrow \mathrm{Im}f = \mathrm{Ker}g$  as subobjects.

Lm The sequence  $0 \rightarrow X \xrightarrow{f} Y \xrightarrow{g} Z$  is left exact if and only if  $(X, f)$  is the kernel of  $g$ .

Exc Do this carefully using all 4Ps.

Cor The functor  $h^A : \mathcal{A} \rightarrow \text{Ab}$ ,  $X \mapsto \text{Hom}_{\mathcal{A}}(A, X)$  is left exact.

$$\begin{array}{ccc} h & \longleftarrow & 0 = g \circ h \\ \uparrow & & \end{array}$$

Pf  $0 \rightarrow \text{Hom}_{\mathcal{A}}(A, X) \rightarrow \text{Hom}_{\mathcal{A}}(A, Y) \rightarrow \text{Hom}_{\mathcal{A}}(A, Z)$

The first is mono since  $X \rightarrow Y$  is mono!

$X$  is the kernel, thus the middle term is also exact:

$$\begin{array}{ccccc} & & A & & \\ & \swarrow & \downarrow h & \searrow & \\ 0 & \rightarrow & X & \xrightarrow{f} & Y \xrightarrow{g} Z \end{array}$$

□

Rmk  $A \in \mathcal{A}$ ,  $h_A = \text{Hom}_{\mathcal{A}}(-, A) : \mathcal{A}^{\text{op}} \rightarrow \text{Ab}$ .

Also left exact!!!

Left exact sequences in  $A^{\text{op}}$  = right exact sequences in  $A$ .

Def  $P \in A$  is called projective if  $h^P$  is exact.  
 $I \in A$  is called injective if  $h_I$  is exact.

Lm  $P \in A$  is projective  $\Leftrightarrow \forall B \rightarrow C \ h^P(B) \rightarrow h^P(C)$ .

Gives an equivalence with the classical  $A^{\text{op}}$  definition:

Def  $P \in A$  is projective if  $\forall B \rightarrow C$  and  $\forall P \rightarrow C$

$$\begin{array}{ccc} & \exists & -P \\ & \swarrow & \downarrow \\ B & \rightarrow & C \rightarrow 0 \end{array}$$

Ex Define and prove the same for injectives.

Ex In  $\text{Mod-}R$  projective objects are direct summands of free modules.

Warning Injective objects are usually horrible but exist more often...

Lm Direct sums of projective objects are projective!

Pr  $P = \bigoplus_{i \in I} P_i$        $0 \rightarrow A \rightarrow B \rightarrow C \rightarrow 0$

$$h^P(0 \rightarrow A \rightarrow B \rightarrow C \rightarrow 0) =$$

$$= 0 \rightarrow \prod \text{Hom}(P_i, A) \rightarrow \prod \text{Hom}(P_i, B) \rightarrow \prod \text{Hom}(P_i, C) \rightarrow 0$$

Obviously exact!

□

Lm Direct products of injectives are injective.

## 2. Generators

Def A set of objects  $\{G_i\}$  is called a family of generators

if  $\forall f, g: X \rightarrow Y$ ,  $f \neq g$   $\exists h: G_i \rightarrow X$  st.  $fh \neq gh$ .

An object  $G \in \mathcal{C}$  is a generator if  $\{G_i\}$  is a generating family.

Ex  $A = \text{Mod-}R$ , then  $R$ , the rank 1 free module is a generator.

If  $A$  is abelian, a projective generator is easy to detect.

Lm  $P \in A$  - projective, generator  $\Leftrightarrow h^P(A) \neq 0$  &  $A \neq 0$ .

Pf  $\Rightarrow A \neq 0$ , assume that  $\text{Hom}(P, A) = 0$ .

Then  $\text{Hom}(P, -)$  does not distinguish

$$A \xrightarrow{\circ} A, A \xrightarrow{\text{id}} A.$$

know that  $0 = \text{id} \Leftrightarrow A = 0$ .

$\Leftarrow$   $P$ -projective. Consider  $B \xrightarrow{f} C$ . Enough to find  $P \xrightarrow{h} B$  s.t.  $(f-g) \circ h \neq 0$ .

In other words, in  $A$ -abelian  $G$  is a generator  
 $\Leftrightarrow \forall A \xrightarrow{f} B$ ,  $f \neq 0 \exists h: G \rightarrow A$  s.t.  $f \circ h \neq 0$ .

$$0 \rightarrow \ker f \rightarrow B \xrightarrow{f} C \quad f \neq 0 \Rightarrow \ker f \neq B.$$

Assume any  $P \rightarrow B$  composed with  $f = 0$ !

Thus, all morphisms  $P \rightarrow B$  factor through  $\ker f$ .

$$0 \rightarrow \ker f \rightarrow B \rightarrow \text{Cim } f = \text{Im } f \xrightarrow{\neq 0} 0$$

But  $0 \rightarrow \text{Hom}(P, \ker f) \xrightarrow{\text{iso}} \text{Hom}(P, B) \rightarrow \text{Hom}(P, \text{Im } f) \rightarrow 0$

$$\text{iso} \Rightarrow \text{Hom}(P, \text{Im } f) = 0$$

But  $\text{Im } f \neq 0$ !

□.

Def  $\mathcal{A}$  is complete if it has all possible products,  
 $\mathcal{A}$  is cocomplete if it has all possible coproducts.

Ex Modules are complete & cocomplete.  
Finitely generated modules are not!

Prop Let  $\mathcal{A}$  be abelian, then  $\text{Fun}(\mathcal{A}, \text{Ab})$  is complete, cocomplete & has a projective generator.

Pf  $\text{Ab}$  is complete & cocomplete: know how to form  
 $\bigoplus A_i$ ,  $\text{R}B_j$ .

Thus, as we discussed,  $\text{Fun}(\mathcal{A}, \text{Ab})$  is complete and cocomplete: limits & colimits are defined point-wise.

Lm  $A \in \mathcal{A}$ , then  $h^A$  is a projective object in  $\text{Fun}(\mathcal{A}, \text{Ab})$ .

Pf Need to prove that if  $\Sigma, F: \mathcal{A} \rightarrow \mathbf{Ab}$ ,  
 $\eta: \Sigma \rightarrow F$ ,  $\alpha: h^A \rightarrow F$ , then  $\exists$  a lift.

In other words,  $\text{Hom}(h^A, \Sigma) \rightarrow \text{Hom}(h^A, F)$ .

$$\begin{array}{ccc} {}^{21} & & {}^{21} \\ \Sigma(A) & \longrightarrow & F(A) \end{array} \quad \square$$

Put  $P = \bigoplus_{A \in \mathcal{A}} h^A$ . It is projective! Enough to show

that  $\forall \Sigma \in \text{Fun}(\mathcal{A}, \mathbf{Ab}) \quad \text{Hom}(P, \Sigma) \neq 0 \text{ if } \Sigma \neq 0$ .

But  $\text{Hom}(P, \Sigma) = \prod_{A \in \mathcal{A}} \Sigma(A)$ .  $\square$

### 3. Mitchell's theorem

Thm A cocomplete abelian category with a projective generator  
is fully abelian.

Pf  $\mathcal{A}' \subseteq \mathcal{A}$  - small full exact subcategory,  $\bar{P}$  - projective generator in  $\mathcal{A}$ .

Put  $P = \sum_{\bar{P} \rightarrow A'} \bar{P}$  ← runs over all  $\bar{P} \rightarrow A'$ ,  $A' \in \mathcal{A}'$ .

Now  $\forall A \in \mathcal{A}' \exists$  a surjection  $P \rightarrow A \rightarrow 0$ !  
(Defined on  $P_\alpha : \bar{P} \rightarrow A$  as  $\alpha$  if 0 otherwise.)

Put  $R = \text{End}_{\mathcal{A}}(P) = \text{Hom}(P, P)$ .

Remark that  $\forall A \in \mathcal{A}$   $\text{Hom}(P, A)$  is a right  $R$ -module: precompose  $P \rightarrow A$  with an endo of  $P$ .

We get a functor  $h^P : \mathcal{A}' \rightarrow \text{Mod-}R$ .

$P$  - projective  $\Rightarrow h^P$  is exact.

$P$  - generator  $\Rightarrow h^P$  is faithful.

Remains to verify fullness.

Denote  $F = h^P$ . Given  $\bar{f}: F(A) \rightarrow F(B)$ , want  
to find  $f$  s.t.  $F(f) = \bar{f}$ . Let  $0 \rightarrow k \rightarrow P \rightarrow A \rightarrow 0$   
 $P \rightarrow B \rightarrow 0$

$$\begin{array}{ccccccc} & & & F(P) & & & \\ & & 0 \rightarrow F(k) \rightarrow R \rightarrow F(A) \rightarrow 0 & & & & \\ & r \downarrow & \ddots & \downarrow \bar{f} & & & \\ & & R \rightarrow F(B) \rightarrow 0 & & & & \end{array}$$

Any morphism of  $R$ -modules  $R \rightarrow R$  is given  
by mult. by some element (on the left).

The corresponding element  $r \in R = \text{Hom}(P, F)$ .

$$\begin{array}{ccccccc} & & & & & & \\ & & 0 \rightarrow k \rightarrow P \rightarrow A \rightarrow 0 & & & & \\ & r \downarrow & \searrow & \downarrow f & & & \\ & & P \rightarrow B \rightarrow 0 & & & & \end{array}$$

The composition  $k \rightarrow P \rightarrow B$  is zero since

$F(L) \rightarrow R \rightarrow F(B)$  is zero &  $F$  is faithful.

Remains to check that  $F(f) = \bar{f}$ . They are equal since  $R \rightarrow F(A)$  is epi & the pre composition with it is the same for  $F(f)$  &  $\bar{f}$ .  $\square$

Cor  $\text{Fun}(A, \text{Ab})$  is fully abelian!

Strategy of the proof of Freyd-Mitchell:

embed  $A \hookrightarrow B$ ,  $B$  is cocomplete & has a projective generator.

Attempt:  $A \hookrightarrow \text{Fun}(A^{\text{op}}, \text{Ab}) \hookleftarrow$  complete (cocomplete + proj. generator).

Problem: Yoneda embedding is not exact!

Next time: solve this problem, quotient categories.