Locally Ringed Space

1 Sheaves

Definition 1. Let X be a topological space. A *presheaf* of sets (resp. abelian groups, rings, etc.) on X is a contravariant functor $\mathcal{F} : \mathbf{Open}(X) \to \mathbf{Set}$ (resp. $\mathbf{Ab}$, $\mathbf{Ring}$, etc.), where $\mathbf{Open}(X)$ is the category of open subsets of X with inclusions as morphisms.
A presheaf $\mathcal{F}$ is a *sheaf* if sections can be glued uniquely. More precisely, for every open covering $\{U_i\}_{i\in I}$ of an open set $U \subset X$ and every family of sections $s_i \in \mathcal{F}(U_i)$ such that $s_i|_{U_i\cap U_j} = s_j|_{U_i\cap U_j}$ for all $i, j \in I$, there exists a unique section $s \in \mathcal{F}(U)$ such that $s|_{U_i} = s_i$ for all $i \in I$.

For two open sets $V \subset U \subset X$, the morphism $\mathcal{F}(U) \to \mathcal{F}(V)$, often denoted by res^U_V, is called the *restriction map*.

Example 2. Let X be a real (resp. complex) manifold. The assignment $U \mapsto C^\infty(U, \mathbb{R})$ (resp. $U \mapsto \{\text{holomorphic functions on } U\}$) defines a sheaf of rings on X.

Example 3. Let X be a non-connected topological space. The assignment

$$U \mapsto \{\text{constant functions on } U\}$$

defines a presheaf $\mathcal{C}$ of rings on X but not a sheaf.

For a concrete example, let $X = (0, 1) \cup (2, 3)$ with the subspace topology from $\mathbb{R}$. Consider the open covering $\{(0, 1), (2, 3)\}$ of X. The sections $s_1 = 1 \in \mathcal{C}((0, 1))$ and $s_2 = 2 \in \mathcal{C}((2, 3))$ agree on the intersection (which is empty), but there is no global section $s \in \mathcal{C}(X)$ such that $s|_{(0,1)} = s_1$ and $s|_{(2,3)} = s_2$.

Definition 4. Let X be a topological space and $\mathcal{F}, \mathcal{G}$ be presheaves on X with values in the same category (e.g., $\mathbf{Set}$, $\mathbf{Ab}$, $\mathbf{Ring}$, etc.). A *morphism of presheaves* $\varphi : \mathcal{F} \to \mathcal{G}$ is a natural transformation between the functors $\mathcal{F}$ and $\mathcal{G}$. In other words, for every open set $U \subset X$, there is a morphism $\varphi(U) : \mathcal{F}(U) \to \mathcal{G}(U)$ such that for every inclusion of open sets $V \subset U$, the following diagram commutes:

$$\begin{tikzcd}
\mathcal{F}(U) \arrow[r, "\varphi(U)"] \arrow[d, "\mathrm{res}^U_V"'] & \mathcal{G}(U) \arrow[d, "\mathrm{res}^U_V"] \\
\mathcal{F}(V) \arrow[r, "\varphi(V)"'] & \mathcal{G}(V).
\end{tikzcd}$$

If $\mathcal{F}$ and $\mathcal{G}$ are sheaves, then φ is called a *morphism of sheaves*.

Fix a topological space X and a category $\mathbf{C}$. The sheaves (resp. presheaves) on X with values in $\mathbf{C}$ form a category, denoted by $\mathbf{Sh}(X, \mathbf{C})$ (resp. $\mathbf{PSh}(X, \mathbf{C})$), where the objects are sheaves (resp. presheaves) on X with values in $\mathbf{C}$ and the morphisms are morphisms of sheaves (resp. presheaves).

Definition 5. Let X be a topological space and $\mathcal{F}$ a presheaf on X with values in a category $\mathbf{C}$. For

Date: October 28, 2025, **Author**: Tianle Yang, My Homepage a point $x \in X$, the *stalk* of $\mathcal{F}$ at x, denoted by $\mathcal{F}_x$, is defined as the colimit

$$\mathcal{F}_x := \varinjlim_{U \ni x} \mathcal{F}(U),$$

where the colimit is taken over all open neighborhoods U of x. An element of $\mathcal{F}_x$ is called a *germ* of sections of $\mathcal{F}$ at x.

More concretely, we have

$$\mathcal{F}_x = \{(U, s) : U \in \mathbf{Open}(X), U \ni x, s \in \mathcal{F}(U)\}/\sim,$$

where $(U, s) \sim (V, t)$ if there exists an open neighborhood $W \subset U \cap V$ of x such that $s|_W = t|_W$.

Definition 6. Let X be a topological space and $\mathcal{F}$ a presheaf on X with values in **Set** (resp. **Ab**, **Ring**, etc.). A *sheafification* of $\mathcal{F}$ is a sheaf $\mathcal{F}^\dagger$ on X together with a morphism of presheaves $\eta : \mathcal{F} \to \mathcal{F}^+$ such that for every sheaf $\mathcal{G}$ on X and every morphism of presheaves $\varphi : \mathcal{F} \to \mathcal{G}$, there exists a unique morphism of sheaves $\varphi^+ : \mathcal{F}^+ \to \mathcal{G}$ such that $\varphi = \varphi^+ \circ \eta$.
In other words, the following diagram commutes:

$$\begin{tikzcd}
\mathcal{F} \arrow[r, "\eta"] \arrow[dr, "\varphi"'] & \mathcal{F}^\dagger \arrow[d, "\varphi^\dagger"] \\
& \mathcal{G}.
\end{tikzcd}$$

Yang: To be checked.

Yang: The concrete describe of sheafification.

Definition 7. Let X be a topological space and $\varphi : \mathcal{F} \to \mathcal{G}$ be a homomorphism of sheaves of abelian groups on X. The morphism φ is called *injective* (resp. *surjective*) if for every $x \in X$, the map $\varphi_x : \mathcal{F}_x \to \mathcal{G}_x$ is injective (resp. surjective).

Proposition 8. Let X be a topological space and $\varphi : \mathcal{F} \to \mathcal{G}$ be a homomorphism of sheaves of abelian groups on X. Then φ is injective if and only if for every open set $U \subset X$, the map $\varphi(U) : \mathcal{F}(U) \to \mathcal{G}(U)$ is injective. Yang: To be checked.

Remark 9. The surjectivity on stalks cannot imply the surjectivity on sections. A counterexample is given by the exponential map $\exp : \mathcal{O}_{\mathbb{C}} \to \mathcal{O}_{\mathbb{C}}^*$ defined by $\exp(f) = e^f$, where $\mathcal{O}_{\mathbb{C}}$ is the sheaf of holomorphic functions on $\mathbb{C}$ and $\mathcal{O}_{\mathbb{C}}^*$ is the sheaf of non-vanishing holomorphic functions on $\mathbb{C}$. The induced map on stalks $\exp_z : \mathcal{O}_{\mathbb{C},z} \to \mathcal{O}_{\mathbb{C},z}^*$ is surjective for every $z \in \mathbb{C}$ by the existence of logarithm locally. However, the map on global sections $\exp(\mathbb{C}) : \mathcal{O}_{\mathbb{C}}(\mathbb{C}) \to \mathcal{O}_{\mathbb{C}}^*(\mathbb{C})$ is not surjective since there is no entire function f such that $e^{f(z)} = z$ for all $z \in \mathbb{C}^*$. Yang: To be continued.

Proposition 10. Let X be a topological space and $\varphi : \mathcal{F} \to \mathcal{G}$ be a homomorphism of sheaves of abelian groups on X. Then φ is an isomorphism if and only if it is injective and surjective.

Yang: Now we consider sheaves with values in an abelian category.

Definition 11. Let X be a topological space and $\varphi : \mathcal{F} \to \mathcal{G}$ be a homomorphism of sheaves of abelian groups on X. The *kernel* of φ, denoted by $\ker \varphi$, is the sheaf defined by

$$(\ker \varphi)(U) := \ker(\varphi(U) : \mathcal{F}(U) \to \mathcal{G}(U))$$

for every open set $U \subset X$.
The *cokernel* of φ, denoted by $\operatorname{coker} \varphi$, is the sheafification of the presheaf defined by

$$(\operatorname{coker} \varphi)_{\mathrm{pre}}(U) := \operatorname{coker}(\varphi(U) : \mathcal{F}(U) \to \mathcal{G}(U))$$

for every open set $U \subset X$. Yang: To be continued.

Theorem 12. Let X be a topological space and $\mathbf{C}$ be an abelian category (e.g., $\mathbf{Ab}$). Then the category of sheaves on X with values in $\mathbf{C}$ is an abelian category.

Proof. Yang: To be continued. □

Yang: To be checked and continuous.

2 Locally ringed space

Definition 13. Let $f : X \to Y$ be a continuous map between topological spaces. The *push-forward* functor $f_* : \mathbf{Sh}(X, \mathbf{C}) \to \mathbf{Sh}(Y, \mathbf{C})$ is defined by

$$(f_*\mathcal{F})(V) := \mathcal{F}(f^{-1}(V))$$

for every open set $V \subset Y$ and sheaf $\mathcal{F} \in \mathbf{Sh}(X, \mathbf{C})$.

Definition 14. A *locally ringed space* is a pair $(X, \mathcal{O}_X)$ where X is a topological space and $\mathcal{O}_X$ is a sheaf of rings on X such that for every $x \in X$, the stalk $\mathcal{O}_{X,x}$ is a local ring.
A *morphism of locally ringed spaces* $f : (X, \mathcal{O}_X) \to (Y, \mathcal{O}_Y)$ consists of a continuous map $f : X \to Y$ and a morphism of sheaves of rings $f^\sharp : \mathcal{O}_Y \to f_*\mathcal{O}_X$ such that for every $x \in X$, the induced map on stalks $f^\sharp_x : \mathcal{O}_{Y,f(x)} \to \mathcal{O}_{X,x}$ is a local homomorphism, i.e., it maps the maximal ideal of $\mathcal{O}_{Y,f(x)}$ to the maximal ideal of $\mathcal{O}_{X,x}$.

Example 15. Let p be a prime number. Then the inclusion $\mathbb{Z}_{(p)} \to \mathbb{Q}$ is a homomorphism of local rings but not a local homomorphism. Here $\mathbb{Z}_{(p)}$ is the localization of $\mathbb{Z}$ at the prime ideal (p).

Construction 16 (Glue morphisms)**.** Let $f : (X, \mathcal{O}_X) \to (Y, \mathcal{O}_Y)$ be a morphism of locally ringed spaces. If $U \subset X$ and $V \subset Y$ are open subsets such that $f(U) \subset V$, then the restriction $f|_U : (U, \mathcal{O}_X|_U) \to (V, \mathcal{O}_Y|_V)$ is a morphism of locally ringed spaces. Conversely, if $\{U_i\}_{i \in I}$ is an open covering of X and for each $i \in I$, we have a morphism $f_i : (U_i, \mathcal{O}_X|_{U_i}) \to (Y, \mathcal{O}_Y)$ such that $f_i|_{U_i \cap U_j} = f_j|_{U_i \cap U_j}$ for all $i, j \in I$, then there exists a unique morphism $f : (X, \mathcal{O}_X) \to (Y, \mathcal{O}_Y)$ such that $f|_{U_i} = f_i$ for all $i \in I$.

Construction 17 (Glue locally ringed space)**.** We construct a locally ringed space by gluing open subspaces. Let $(X_i, \mathcal{O}_{X_i})$ be locally ringed spaces for $i \in I$ and $(U_{ij}, \mathcal{O}_{X_i}|_{U_{ij}})$ be open subspaces for

$i, j \in I$. Suppose we have isomorphisms $\varphi_{ij} : (U_{ij}, \mathcal{O}_{X_i}|_{U_{ij}}) \to (U_{ji}, \mathcal{O}_{X_j}|_{U_{ji}})$ such that

(a) $\varphi_{ii} = \mathrm{id}_{X_i}$ for all $i \in I$;

(b) $\varphi_{ij}(U_{ij} \cap U_{ik}) = U_{ji} \cap U_{jk}$ for all $i, j \in I$;

(c) $\varphi_{jk} \circ \varphi_{ij} = \varphi_{ik}$ on $U_{ij} \cap U_{ik}$ for all $i, j, k \in I$.

Then there exists a locally ringed space $(X, \mathcal{O}_X)$ and open immersions $\psi_i : (X_i, \mathcal{O}_{X_i}) \to (X, \mathcal{O}_X)$ uniquely up to isomorphism such that

(a) $\varphi_i(U_{ij}) = \psi_i(X_i) \cap \psi_j(X_j)$ for all $i, j \in I$;

(b) the following diagram

$$\begin{tikzcd}
(U_{ij}, \mathcal{O}_{X_i}|_{U_{ij}}) \arrow[r, hook] \arrow[d, "\varphi_{ij}"'] & (X_i, \mathcal{O}_{X_i}) \arrow[r, hook, "\psi_i"] & (X, \mathcal{O}_X) \arrow[d, "="] \\
(U_{ji}, \mathcal{O}_{X_j}|_{U_{ji}}) \arrow[r, hook] & (X_j, \mathcal{O}_{X_j}) \arrow[r, hook, "\psi_j"] & (X, \mathcal{O}_X)
\end{tikzcd}$$

commutes for all $i, j \in I$;

(c) $X = \bigcup_{i \in I} \psi_i(X_i)$.

Such $(X, \mathcal{O}_X)$ is called *the locally ringed space obtained by gluing the* $(X_i, \mathcal{O}_{X_i})$ *along the* φ_{ij}.

First φ_{ij} induces an equivalence relation $\sim$ on the disjoint union $\coprod_{i \in I} X_i$. By taking the quotient space, we can glue the underlying topological spaces to get a topological space X. The structure sheaf $\mathcal{O}_X$ is given by

$$\mathcal{O}_X(V) := \left\{ (s_i)_{i \in I} \in \prod_{i \in I} \mathcal{O}_{X_i}(\psi_i^{-1}(V)) \;\middle|\; s_i|_{U_{ij}} = \varphi_{ij}^\sharp(s_j|_{U_{ji}}) \text{ for all } i, j \in I \right\}.$$

Easy to check that $(X, \mathcal{O}_X)$ is a locally ringed space and satisfies the required properties. If there is another locally ringed space $(X', \mathcal{O}_{X'})$ with ψ'_i satisfying the same properties, then by gluing $\psi'_i \circ \psi_i^{-1}$ we get an isomorphism $(X, \mathcal{O}_X) \to (X', \mathcal{O}_{X'})$.

3 Manifolds as locally ringed spaces

4 Vector bundles and $\mathcal{O}_X$-modules

Let $(X, \mathcal{O}_X)$ be a manifold (real or complex) and $(\mathcal{E}, \pi, X)$ a vector bundle over X.

Yang: It can regard as a sheaf on X.

Definition 18. Let $(X, \mathcal{O}_X)$ be a ringed space. A *sheaf of* $\mathcal{O}_X$*-modules* is a sheaf $\mathcal{F}$ of abelian groups on X such that for every open set $U \subseteq X$, $\mathcal{F}(U)$ is an $\mathcal{O}_X(U)$-module, and for every inclusion of open sets $V \subseteq U$, the restriction map $\mathrm{res}_{UV} : \mathcal{F}(U) \to \mathcal{F}(V)$ is $\mathcal{O}_X(U)$-linear, where the $\mathcal{O}_X(U)$-module structure on $\mathcal{F}(V)$ is induced by the restriction map $\mathrm{res}_{UV} : \mathcal{O}_X(U) \to \mathcal{O}_X(V)$.
A *morphism of* $\mathcal{O}_X$*-modules* is a morphism of sheaves of abelian groups $\varphi : \mathcal{F} \to \mathcal{G}$ such that for

every open set $U \subseteq X$, the map $\varphi(U) : \mathcal{F}(U) \to \mathcal{G}(U)$ is $\mathcal{O}_X(U)$-linear. Yang: To be checked...

Definition 19. A sheaf of $\mathcal{O}_X$-modules $\mathcal{F}$ is said to be *locally free of rank* r if for every point $x \in X$, there exists an open neighborhood U of x such that $\mathcal{F}|_U$ is isomorphic to $\mathcal{O}_U^r$, where $\mathcal{O}_U^r$ is the direct sum of r copies of $\mathcal{O}_U$. Yang: To be continued.

Appendix