

Lecture 1, 1/11/13

Section 1: Vocabulary and easy definitions

Homological algebra is the study of complexes of R -modules, where R is a ring with identity $1 \neq 0$. Notationally, $R\text{-Mod}$ is the category of all left R -modules, and $R\text{-mod}$ is the category of all finitely generated R -modules.

Definition 0.1. Let $A_n \in R\text{-mod}$ for $n \in \mathbb{Z}$ and $d_n \in \text{Hom}_R(A_n, A_{n-1})$ such that $d_{n-1} \circ d_n = 0$ for all $n \in \mathbb{Z}$. Then the sequence

$$\cdots \xrightarrow{d_{n+2}} A_{n+1} \xrightarrow{d_{n+1}} A_n \xrightarrow{d_n} A_{n-1} \xrightarrow{d_{n-1}} \cdots$$

is called a complex of R -modules, assuming $\text{im}(d_n) \subseteq \ker(d_{n-1})$. The sequence

$$0 \longrightarrow A_m \longrightarrow A_{m-1} \longrightarrow \cdots \longrightarrow A_{n+1} \longrightarrow A_n \longrightarrow 0$$

will occur more frequently. A complex \mathbb{A} is an exact sequence if $\text{im}(d_n) = \ker(d_{n-1})$ for all $n \in \mathbb{Z}$. This is called a short exact sequence if there are no more than 3 non-zero terms. Given a complex \mathbb{A} , the n th homology modules (or groups, in some cases) of \mathbb{A} is

$$H_n(\mathbb{A}) = \frac{\ker(d_{n-1})}{\text{im}(d_n)}$$

Remark. Given a short exact sequence (hereby abbrev. as SES)

$$0 \longrightarrow A \xrightarrow{f} B \xrightarrow{g} C \longrightarrow 0$$

f is a mono and g is an epi, so $C \simeq B/\text{im}(f)$. If A, B are known, but not f , then infinitely many C are available to complete the short exact sequence.

Example 0.1. Let $R = k$, a field, and take $A = B = k^{(\mathbb{N})} = \bigoplus_{i \in \mathbb{N}} k$.

(i) $0 \longrightarrow A \xrightarrow{\text{Id}} B \longrightarrow 0$ is a SES.

(ii) Define $f : A \rightarrow B$ by

$$f(b_i) = b_{2i} \text{ for } i \in \mathbb{N}$$

$$g(b_0) = \begin{cases} 0 & i \text{ even} \\ b_{\tau(i)} & i \text{ odd} \end{cases}$$

Where $\tau : (2\mathbb{N} - 1) \rightarrow \mathbb{N}$ is a bijection. If $A = B = C = \kappa^{(\mathbb{N})}$, then

$$0 \longrightarrow A \xrightarrow{f} B \xrightarrow{g} C \longrightarrow 0$$

is a SES.

(iii) Let $R = \mathbb{Z}$. Then

$$0 \longrightarrow 3\mathbb{Z} \xrightarrow{\iota} \mathbb{Z} \xrightarrow{\overline{}} \mathbb{Z}/3\mathbb{Z} \longrightarrow 0$$

is a SES.

(iv) Let $R = \mathbb{Z}$. The sequence

$$0 \longrightarrow \overbrace{6\mathbb{Z}}^{A_1} \xrightarrow{\iota} \overbrace{\mathbb{Z}}^{A_0} \xrightarrow{\overline{}} \overbrace{\mathbb{Z}/3\mathbb{Z}}^{A_{-1}} \longrightarrow 0$$

is a complex which is not exact. In fact, $H_0(\mathbb{A}) = \overbrace{3\mathbb{Z}}^{\ker(g)} / \underbrace{6\mathbb{Z}}_{\text{im}(f)} \cong \mathbb{Z}/2\mathbb{Z}$.

(v) Let $R = \kappa[x, y]$, κ a field. Let f be the inclusion $(x) \hookrightarrow R[x, y]$. The sequence

$$0 \longrightarrow (x) \xrightarrow{f} R \xrightarrow{g} \kappa[y] \longrightarrow 0$$

where

$$g \left(\sum_{i,j=0}^{\text{finite}} a_{ij} x^i y^j \right) = \sum_{j>0}^{\text{finite}} a_{\sigma_j} y^j$$

is exact.

(vi) Let $R = \kappa[x, y]$. Define \mathbb{A} as

$$0 \longrightarrow \overbrace{(x)}^{A_1} \xrightarrow{f} \overbrace{R}^{A_0} \xrightarrow{g} \underbrace{\overbrace{\kappa}^{A_{-1}}}_{=R/(x,y)} \longrightarrow 0$$

where

$$g \left(\sum_{i,j=0}^{\text{finite}} a_{ij} x^i y^j \right) = a_\infty$$

then $\ker(g) = (x, y)$ and $\operatorname{im}(f) = (x)$, so \mathbb{A} is not exact. In fact,

$$\begin{aligned} H_0(\mathbb{A}) &= (x, y)/(x) \\ &\simeq (y) \\ &\simeq R \end{aligned}$$

Note: If R is an integral domain and $x \in R \setminus \{0\}$, then $(x) \simeq R$ (as R -modules, not as rings!), with isomorphism $r \mapsto rx$.

Typical questions addressed by homological algebra:

(i) Suppose

$$\mathbb{A} : \quad \cdots \longrightarrow A_{n+1} \xrightarrow{d_{n+1}} A_n \xrightarrow{d_n} A_{n-1} \longrightarrow \cdots$$

is an exact sequence in $R\text{-mod}$ and $F : R\text{-mod} \rightarrow S\text{-mod}$ is a functor. Is the sequence

$$\cdots \longrightarrow F(A_{n+1}) \xrightarrow{F(d_{n+1})} F(A_n) \xrightarrow{F(d_n)} F(A_{n-1}) \longrightarrow \cdots$$

exact? $F(\mathbb{A})$ is a complex when F is additive, but it may or may not be exact.

(ii) Given $A, C \in R\text{-mod}$, characterize all modules B such that there exists an exact sequence

$$0 \longrightarrow A \longrightarrow B \longrightarrow C \longrightarrow 0$$

As an example, $R = \mathbb{Z}$, $A = C = \mathbb{A}/p\mathbb{Z}$, p prime, then

$$0 \longrightarrow \mathbb{Z}/p\mathbb{Z} \xrightarrow{f} \mathbb{Z}/p\mathbb{Z} \oplus \mathbb{Z}/p\mathbb{Z} \xrightarrow{g} \mathbb{Z}/p\mathbb{Z} \longrightarrow 0$$

with $f : x \mapsto (x, 0)$ and $g : (x, y) \mapsto y$ is a SES. Alternatively, we could take $f : x + p\mathbb{Z} \mapsto px + p^2\mathbb{Z}$ and $g : y + p^2\mathbb{Z} \mapsto y + p\mathbb{Z}$ to make

$$0 \longrightarrow \mathbb{Z}/p\mathbb{Z} \xrightarrow{f} \mathbb{Z}/p^2\mathbb{Z} \xrightarrow{g} \mathbb{Z}/p\mathbb{Z} \longrightarrow 0$$

a SES. These are the only possibilities in this case! In general, though, there are infinitely many possibilities for B . Why is this interesting? If R is an artinian ring and $M \in R\text{-mod}$, then there are only finitely many simple $s_1, \dots, s_n \in R\text{-mod}$ up to isomorphism. Moreover, for $M \in R\text{-mod}$, there is a chain

$$M = M_0 \supset M_1 \supset \cdots \supset M_\ell = 0$$

such that M_i/M_{i+1} is simple for all $i < \ell$. If the answer to question (ii) is known, then all objects in $R\text{-mod}$ of fixed length ℓ are known up to isomorphism! Simply proved by induction.

Algebraic Topology

Definition 0.2. The standard n -simplex Δ_n in \mathbb{R}^n is the convex hull of v_0, v_1, \dots, v_n ,

where $v_0 = 0$ and $v_i = (0, \dots, 0, \overbrace{1}^i, 0, \dots, 0)$ (so the standard basis).

An oriented simplex is $(\Delta_x, [\pi])$, where $[\pi]$ is an equivalence class of permutations of $\{0, \dots, n\}$, where $\pi \sim \pi' \iff \text{sgn}(\pi) = \text{sgn}(\pi')$. We write

$$(\Delta_x, \pi) = [v_{\pi(0)}, v_{\pi(1)}, \dots, v_{\pi(n)}]$$

and identify Δ_n with $[0, 1, \dots, n]$. The negative is $-[w_0, \dots, w_n]$.

Definition 0.3. Let X be a topological space. An n -simplex in X is a continuous map

$$\sigma : \Delta_n \rightarrow X$$

The group of n -chains of X , $S_n(X)$, is the free abelian group having as basis the n -simplices in X . The singular chain complex of X is

$$\cdots \longrightarrow S_n(X) \xrightarrow{\partial_n} S_{n-1}(X) \xrightarrow{\partial_{n-1}} \cdots \longrightarrow S_0(X) \longrightarrow 0$$

denoted \mathbb{S} , where $\partial_n : S_n(X) \rightarrow S_{n-1}(X)$ is the n th boundary map, which can be defined if we define $\partial_n(\sigma)$ for all n -simplices σ in X (i.e. in the basis of $S_n(X)$). Consider the map

$$\begin{aligned} \tau_i : \mathbb{R}^{n-1} &\rightarrow \mathbb{R}^n \\ (a_1, \dots, a_{n-1}) &\mapsto (a_1, \dots, a_{i-1}, 0, a_{i+1}, \dots, a_n) \end{aligned}$$

For $i \in \{0, \dots, n\}$. Then τ_i is continuous and $\tau_i(\Delta_{n-1}) = \Delta_n$. Define

$$\partial_n(\sigma) = \sum_{i=0}^n (-1)^i \sigma(\tau_i)$$

Theorem 0.1. $\partial_{n-1} \circ \partial_n = 0$ for all $n \in \mathbb{N}$, i.e. \mathbb{S} is a complex in \mathbb{Z} -mod.

Definition 0.4. The group of n -cycles is $Z_n(X) = \ker(\partial_{n-1})$, and the group of n -boundaries is $B_n = \text{im}(\partial_n)$.

The n th homology group is $H_n(X) = Z_n(X)/B_n(X)$.

Lecture 2, 1/13/23

Chapter I: Categories and functors

There is a definition page on the Gauchio that has all the most basic definitions - objects, morphisms, compositions, etc.

If $f \in \text{Hom}_C(A, B)$, we often write $A \xrightarrow{f} B$ even if f is not literally a map.

Example 0.2. 1. The category of all sets, **Set**. The object class consists of all sets, and the morphisms are just set maps.

2. The category of all topological spaces, **Top**. The object class consists of all topological spaces, and the morphisms are continuous functions.

3. The category of all groups, **Grp**. The object class consists of all groups, and the morphisms are group homomorphisms.

4. Let (P, \leq) be a partially ordered set with a relation \leq which is reflexive, antisymmetric, and transitive. Then we can make P into a category, whose objects are the elements of p , and for $u, s \in P$, $\text{Hom}_P(u, s) = \begin{cases} (u, s) & u \leq s \\ \emptyset & u \not\leq s \end{cases}$. We define the composition $(s, t)(u, s) \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} (u, t)$.

5. The opposite category of a category C , C^{op} .

6. Let R be a ring. $R\text{-Mod}$ is the category of left R modules. $R\text{-mod}$ is the finitely generated R -modules, and similarly for $\text{Mod-}R$ and $\text{mod-}R$, which are the right R -modules.

7. $R\text{-comp}$. The object class consists of complexes of left R -modules.

Let \mathbb{A}, \mathbb{A}' be objects of $R\text{-comp}$. Note: it is problematic to say " $\mathbb{A}, \mathbb{A}' \in R\text{-comp}$ ", as $R\text{-comp}$ is not a set!

Say $\mathbb{A} = \cdots \longrightarrow A_{n+1} \xrightarrow{d_{n+1}} A_n \xrightarrow{d_n} A_{n-1} \longrightarrow \cdots$, and similarly for \mathbb{A}' .

An element of $\text{Hom}_{R\text{-comp}}(\mathbb{A}, \mathbb{A}')$ will be a sequence of R -module homomorphisms $f_n : A_n \rightarrow A'_n$ which make the following diagram commute:

$$\begin{array}{ccccccc}
 \cdots & \longrightarrow & A_n & \xrightarrow{d_n} & A_{n-1} & \longrightarrow & \cdots \\
 \downarrow & & \downarrow f_n & & \downarrow f_{n-1} & & \downarrow \\
 \cdots & \longrightarrow & A'_n & \xrightarrow{d'_n} & A'_{n-1} & \longrightarrow & \cdots
 \end{array}$$

8. The category of rings \mathbf{Ring} , whose objects are rings and whose morphisms are ring homomorphisms.
9. The category of \mathbb{Z} -modules is usually denoted \mathbf{Ab} . This is also the category of Abelian groups, and is the prototypical example of an Abelian category.

Definition 0.5. A category \mathcal{C} is called pre-additive if for all A, B objects of \mathcal{C} , the set $\text{Hom}_{\mathcal{C}}(A, B)$ is an additive Abelian group (additive means we use the symbol “+”) such that for all eligible morphisms f, g, h, k ,

$$\begin{aligned} h(f + g) &= hf + hg \\ (f + g)k &= fk + gk \end{aligned}$$

where “eligible” means that these expressions make sense and are well-defined.

Example 0.3. 1. $R\text{-mod}$ (in particular \mathbf{Ab})

2. $R\text{-comp}$

3. \mathbf{Ring} fails to be pre-additive, because the identity morphisms add to be something which is not the identity morphism.

Definition 0.6. Let \mathcal{C}, \mathcal{D} be categories. A functor $F : \mathcal{C} \rightarrow \mathcal{D}$ consists of an assignment $F_0 : \text{Obj}(\mathcal{C}) \rightarrow \text{Obj}(\mathcal{D})$, and for each pair of objects $A, B \in \text{Obj}(\mathcal{C})$, a map (this actually is a map because we assume hom-sets are in fact sets). $F_{A,B} : \text{Hom}_{\mathcal{C}}(A, B) \rightarrow \text{Hom}_{\mathcal{D}}(F(A), F(B))$ such that, for all eligible morphisms f, g , and all $A \in \mathcal{C}$

$$(a) \quad F(\text{Id}_A) = \text{Id}_{F(A)}$$

$$(b) \quad F(f \circ g) = F(f) \circ F(g)$$

Example 0.4. 1. Let \mathcal{C} be a category. Then we have the identity functor $\text{Id}_{\mathcal{C}}$, which assigns $\text{Id}_{\mathcal{C}}(A) = A$, and $\text{Id}_{\mathcal{C}}(f) = f$ for any eligible $A \in \text{Obj}(\mathcal{C})$ and morphisms f .

2. Functors $\pi_n : \mathbf{Top} \rightarrow \mathbf{Grp}$ which sends $X \mapsto \pi_n(X)$

3. $\mathbb{S} : \mathbf{Top} \rightarrow \mathbb{Z}\text{-comp}$, which sends $X \mapsto \mathbb{S}(X)$, which is a complex

$$\cdots \longrightarrow S_{n+1}(X) \xrightarrow{\partial_{n+1}} S_n(X) \xrightarrow{\partial_n} S_{n-1}(X) \xrightarrow{\partial_{n-1}} \cdots \longrightarrow S_0(x) \xrightarrow{\partial_0} 0$$

Let $\phi : X \rightarrow Y$ be continuous for $X, Y \in \mathbf{Top}$. Then $\mathbb{S}(\phi)_n : S_n(X) \rightarrow S_n(Y)$ is given by $\sigma \mapsto \phi \circ \sigma$, and we can extend this for σ an n -simplex of X .

Lecture 4, 1/18/23

Functors:

Definition 0.7. Let \mathcal{C}, \mathcal{D} be categories. A covariant functor from \mathcal{C} to \mathcal{D} consists of “maps” F_0 and $F|_{A,B}$ for any $A, B \in \text{Obj}(\mathcal{C})$ such that

- $F_0 : \text{Obj}(\mathcal{C}) \rightarrow \text{Obj}(\mathcal{D})$
- $F_{A,B} : \text{Hom}_{\mathcal{C}}(A, B) \rightarrow \text{Hom}_{\mathcal{D}}(F_0 A, F_0 B)$ for any $A, B \in \text{Obj}(\mathcal{C})$

such that

- (a) $F_{A,C}(fg) = F_{B,C}(f)F_{A,B}(g)$ for all eligible f, g
- (b) $F_{A,A}(\text{Id}_A) = \text{Id}_{F(A)}$

from here on we don't care at all about indices. For simplicity, we will denote the action of a functor F as simply FA or Ff .

Definition 0.8. A contravariant functor from \mathcal{C} to \mathcal{D} amounts to a covariant functor from \mathcal{C} to \mathcal{D}^{op} .

More examples of functors

Example 0.5. Homology functors $H_n : R\text{-comp} \rightarrow \mathbb{Z}\text{-mod}$ which sends \mathbb{A} to $H_n(\mathbb{A})$.

That is, $\mathbb{A} \rightarrow F\mathbb{A} = \frac{\ker(d_n)}{\text{Im}(d_{n+1})}$

Let $f \in \text{Hom}_{R\text{-comp}}(\mathbb{A}, \mathbb{A}')$. That is, the following diagram commutes

$$\begin{array}{ccccccc}
 \cdots & \longrightarrow & A_n & \xrightarrow{d_n} & A_{n-1} & \longrightarrow & \cdots \\
 \downarrow & & \downarrow f_n & & \downarrow f_{n-1} & & \downarrow \\
 \cdots & \longrightarrow & A'_n & \xrightarrow{d'_n} & A'_{n-1} & \longrightarrow & \cdots
 \end{array}$$

Ff acts by $a_n + \text{Im}(d_{n+1}) \rightarrow f_n(a_n) + \text{Im}(d'_{n+1})$. Let's prove that this is actually well-defined.

Check

First, $a_n \in \ker(d_n)$ implies $f_n(a_n) \in \ker(d'_n)$. This can be seen by doing a diagram chase on the above diagram. Since $d_n(a_n) = 0$, we have $0 = f_{n-1}d_n(a_n) = d'_n f_n(a_n)$, i.e. $f_n(a_n) \in \ker(d'_n)$.

“Don't do much thinking. It's almost harmful” - Birge on doing diagram chasing.

Also “follow your nose.”

Now, $a_n \in \text{Im}(d_{n+1})$ implies $f_n(a_n) \in \text{Im}(d'_{n+1})$. So $a_n = d_{n+1}(x)$ with $x \in A_{n+1}$. hence $f_n(a_n) = f_n d_{n+1}(x) = d'_{n+1} f_{n+1}(x) \in \text{Im}(d'_{n+1})$.

Example 0.6. Let \mathcal{C}, \mathcal{D} be pre-additive categories (definition on the top of page 6). A functor F “from” \mathcal{C} to \mathcal{D} is called additive if, for all $A, B \in \text{Obj}(\mathcal{C})$, the map $F : \text{Hom}_{\mathcal{C}}(A, B) \rightarrow \text{Hom}_{\mathcal{D}}(F(A), F(B))$ is a homomorphism of abelian groups.

Remark. Note that $H_n : R\text{-comp} \rightarrow \mathbb{Z}\text{-mod}$ is an additive functor. The π_n functor is not additive, as \mathbf{Top} is not preadditive.

Example 0.7. Forgetful functors e.g. $F : R\text{-mod} \rightarrow \mathbb{Z}\text{-mod}$ which sends $M \mapsto M$, where the M on the left hand side is an R -module, and M on the right is just an abelian group, which is a \mathbb{Z} -module. Or $F : R\text{-mod} \rightarrow \mathbf{Set}$ which sends an R -module M to the set of its elements, “forgetting” the module structure.

Moreover, if \mathcal{C}, \mathcal{D} are pre-additive, and $F : \mathcal{C} \rightarrow \mathcal{D}$ is a forgetful functor of some sort, then F is additive.

Example 0.8. Let $F : R\text{-mod} \rightarrow S\text{-mod}$ be an additive functor. Then F induces an additive functor $\tilde{F} : R\text{-comp} \rightarrow S\text{-comp}$, sending \mathbb{A} to $F(\mathbb{A})$.

If \mathbb{A} is a complex

$$\cdots \longrightarrow A_{n+1} \xrightarrow{d_{n+1}} A_n \xrightarrow{d_n} A_{n-1} \longrightarrow \cdots$$

then $F(\mathbb{A})$ is

$$\cdots \longrightarrow F(A_{n+1}) \xrightarrow{F(d_{n+1})} F(A_n) \xrightarrow{F(d_n)} F(A_{n-1}) \longrightarrow \cdots$$

An extremely important question: if \mathbb{A} is exact, is $F(\mathbb{A})$ exact? If not, how far does it deviate from being an exact sequence?

Example 0.9. Let $F : \mathcal{C} \rightarrow \mathcal{D}$, $G : \mathcal{D} \rightarrow \mathcal{E}$ be functors. Then $G \circ F : \mathcal{C} \rightarrow \mathcal{E}$ is a functor. WARNING: we use \circ but this isn’t actually a function composition. This is just notation!!!

$G \circ F$ acts how one might think: for $A \in \text{Obj}(\mathcal{C})$, $G \circ F(A) = G(F(A))$, and for $f \in \text{Hom}_{\mathcal{C}}(A, B)$, $G \circ F(f) = G(F(f)) \in \text{Hom}_{\mathcal{E}}(G(F(A)), G(F(B)))$.

Of interest to us: $H_n \circ \tilde{F}$, where $F : R\text{-mod} \rightarrow S\text{-mod}$ is additive. This functor sends a complex \mathbb{A} to $H_n(F(\mathbb{A}))$. This is especially of interest if \mathbb{A} is exact, but $F(\mathbb{A})$ is not.

Remark. Let $F : \mathcal{C} \rightarrow \mathcal{D}$ be a functor. Then F sends isomorphisms in \mathcal{C} to isomorphisms in \mathcal{D} . This is immediate from the definition of a functor.

Section 2: two types of functors that will follow us

(i) Hom-functors: Whenever \mathcal{C} is a category, there is a bifunctor

$$\text{Hom}_{\mathcal{C}}(-, -) : \mathcal{C} \times \mathcal{C} \rightarrow \mathbf{Set}$$

which sends a pair (A, B) to $\text{Hom}_{\mathcal{C}}(A, B)$, and on maps (note that this is covariant in the first factor and contravariant in the second), they act as follows. Let $f : A \rightarrow A', g : B \rightarrow B'$ be morphisms in \mathcal{C} . Then

$$\text{Hom}(f, g) : \text{Hom}_{\mathcal{C}}(A', B) \rightarrow \text{Hom}_{\mathcal{C}}(A, B')$$

acts by $\phi \mapsto g \circ \phi \circ f$

Lecture 5, 1/20/23

Whenever \mathcal{C} is a category, there is a bifunctor $\text{Hom}_{\mathcal{C}}(-, -) : \mathcal{C} \times \mathcal{C} \rightarrow \mathbf{Set}$, which sends (A, B) to $\text{Hom}_{\mathcal{C}}(A, B)$. On maps, when $f : A \rightarrow A'$ and $g : B \rightarrow B'$ are morphisms, then

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Hom}_{\mathcal{C}}(f, g) : \text{Hom}_{\mathcal{C}}(A', B) &\rightarrow \text{Hom}_{\mathcal{C}}(A, B') \\ \varphi &\mapsto g \circ \varphi \circ f \end{aligned}$$

We will split this into two parts. Let $C \in \mathcal{C}$. Then we have a covariant functor

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Hom}_{\mathcal{C}}(C, -) : \mathcal{C} &\rightarrow \mathcal{C} \\ C' &\mapsto \text{Hom}_{\mathcal{C}}(C, C') \\ g &\mapsto \text{Hom}_{\mathcal{C}}(C, A) \rightarrow \text{Hom}_{\mathcal{C}}(C, B) \\ \varphi &\mapsto g \circ \varphi \end{aligned}$$

We also have the contravariant functor $\text{Hom}_{\mathcal{C}}(-, D)$, which acts similarly. As a special case, consider $\mathcal{C} = R\text{-mod}$. Then

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Hom}_R(M, -) : R\text{-mod} &\rightarrow \mathbb{Z}\text{-mod} \\ \text{Hom}_R(-, N) : R\text{-mod} &\rightarrow \mathbb{Z}\text{-mod} \end{aligned}$$

but we can have additional structure on $\text{Hom}_R(M, N)$. Suppose ${}_R M_S$ is a bimodule (S is a ring and $(rm)s = r(ms)$) and let ${}_R N_T$ be an R - T module. Then $\text{Hom}_R(M, N)$ is a left S , right T bimodule. For $f \in \text{Hom}_R(M, N)$, $s \in S, t \in T$, define

$$\begin{aligned} (sf)(m) &= f(ms) \\ (ft)(m) &= f(m)t \end{aligned}$$

If R is commutative, then

$$\begin{aligned}\mathrm{Hom}_R(M, -) : R\text{-mod} &\rightarrow R\text{-mod} = \mathrm{Mod} - R \\ \mathrm{Hom}_R(-, N) : R\text{-mod} &\rightarrow R\text{-mod} = \mathrm{Mod} - R\end{aligned}$$

If ${}_R M_S$ is a bimodule, then

$$\mathrm{Hom}_R(M, -) : R\text{-mod} \rightarrow S\text{-mod}$$

If ${}_R N_T$ is a bimodule, then

$$\mathrm{Hom}(-, N) : R\text{-mod} \rightarrow \mathrm{Mod} - T$$

Basic properties:

$$(i) \quad M \in R\text{-mod} \implies \underbrace{\mathrm{Hom}_R(R, M) \cong M}_{f \mapsto f(1)} \text{ in } \mathbb{Z}\text{-mod}$$

$$(ii) \quad \mathrm{Hom}_R(\bigotimes_{i \in I} M_i, N) \cong \prod_{i \in I} \mathrm{Hom}_R(M_i, N). \text{ Prove this!}$$

$$(iii) \quad \mathrm{Hom}_R(M, \prod_{i \in I} N_i) \cong \prod_{i \in I} \mathrm{Hom}_R(M, N_i). \text{ Prove this!}$$

Definition 0.9. Let $M \in \mathrm{Mod} - R$, $N \in R\text{-mod}$. Then an abelian group T is called a tensor product of M and N if there exists a map

$$\tau : M \times N \rightarrow T$$

Which is \mathbb{Z} -bilinear and R -balanced, i.e.

$$\tau(mr, n) = \tau(m, rn)$$

with the following universal property.

Whenever A is an abelian group and $\sigma : M \times N \rightarrow A$ is \mathbb{Z} -bilinear and R -balanced, there exists a unique \mathbb{Z} -linear map $\sigma' : T \rightarrow A$ such that this diagram commutes:

$$\begin{array}{ccc} M \times N & \xrightarrow{\tau} & T \\ & \searrow \sigma & \downarrow \sigma' \\ & & A \end{array}$$

We denote $T = M \otimes_R N$.

Theorem 0.2. If $M \in \mathrm{Mod} - R$ and $N \in R\text{-mod}$, then a tensor product $M \otimes_R N$ exists and is unique up to isomorphism.

Proof. Let F be the free abelian group with basis $M \times N$, i.e.

$$F = \bigoplus_{m \in M, n \in N} \mathbb{Z}(m, n)$$

Define

$$M \otimes_R N = F/U$$

where U is the submodule generated by all elements of the form

$$\begin{aligned} (m_1 + m_2, n) - (m, n) - (m_2, n) \\ (m, n_1 + n_2) - (m, n_1) - (m, n_2) \\ (mr, n) - (m, rn) \end{aligned}$$

for all eligible $m_i, m \in M, n_i, n \in N, r \in R$.

Define

$$\begin{aligned} \tau : M \times N &\rightarrow M \otimes_R N \\ (m, n) &\mapsto m \otimes n \end{aligned}$$

Then τ is \mathbb{Z} -bilinear and R -balanced (check!). Moreover, $M \otimes_R N$ with τ satisfies the universal property: let A be an abelian group and $\sigma : M \times N \rightarrow A$ be \mathbb{Z} -bilinear and R -balanced. Define

$$\begin{aligned} \tilde{\sigma} : F &\rightarrow A \\ (m, n) &\mapsto \sigma(m, n) \end{aligned}$$

and extend linearly. By construction, $\tilde{\sigma}(U) = 0$, i.e. $U \subseteq \ker(\tilde{\sigma})$. Hence there exists $\sigma' : F/U \rightarrow A$ with the property that

$$\sigma'(m, n) = \tilde{\sigma}((m, n) + U) = \tilde{\sigma}(m \otimes n)$$

Now show σ' is unique, and the proof is complete. ■

Lecture 6, 1/23/23

Our two mainstay types of functors:

- (i) Hom functors.

- (ii) Tensor functors. For $(M, N) \in \text{Mod-}R \times R\text{-mod}$, we constructed an abelian group $M \otimes_R N = R^{(M \times N)}/u$, together with $\tau : M \times N \rightarrow M \otimes_R N$ given by $\tau(m, n) = m \otimes n = (m, n) + u$ such that $(M \otimes_R N, \tau)$ has the key universal property.

Note: The elements $m \otimes n \in M \otimes_R N$ form a generating set of $M \otimes_R N$, but not a basis.

The tensor functor

We have a bifunctor $- \otimes - : \text{Mod-}R \times R\text{-mod} \rightarrow \mathbb{Z}\text{-mod}$, $(M, N) \mapsto M \otimes_R N$. Let $(f, g), f \in \text{Hom}_R(M, M'), g \in \text{Hom}(N, N')$. Then

$$\begin{aligned} f \otimes g : M \otimes_R N &\rightarrow M' \otimes_R N' \\ m \otimes n &\mapsto f(m) \otimes g(n) \end{aligned}$$

To show this is well-defined, check that $\phi : M \times N \rightarrow M' \otimes_R N', (m, n) \mapsto f(m) \otimes g(n)$ is \mathbb{Z} -bilinear and R -balanced.

Split $- \otimes_R -$ into two functors. So, we have a functor $M \otimes_R - : R\text{-mod} \rightarrow \mathbb{Z}\text{-mod}$ and a functor $- \otimes_R N : \text{Mod-}R \rightarrow \mathbb{Z}\text{-mod}$. The action on objects and morphisms is clear from the discussion up to now.

Additional structure on $M \otimes_R N$

Suppose ${}_S M_R$ and ${}_R N_T$ are bimodules. Then $M \otimes_R N$ is a $S - T$ bimodule, with

$$s(m \otimes n)t = (sm) \otimes (nt)$$

It is an exercise to check well-definedness.

Uses

Suppose ${}_R V$ is a real vector space. We want to “complexify” V , making it a complex vector space. We could consider $\mathbb{C} \times V$, and define $c(d, v) = (cd, v)$. But this does not define a \mathbb{C} -vector space, because multiplication must be multilinear. But $\mathbb{C} \otimes_R V$ will do it.

Basic properties

Consider $R \otimes_R M$. This is in fact isomorphic to M . Not just as Abelian groups, but as left R -modules. This is because R satisfies the associative law relative to multiplication. One isomorphism between them is $m \mapsto 1 \otimes m$.

In general, unlike the hom-functor, the tensor functor will not commute with direct products/coproducts, unless “the sky is very benevolent.”



The meaning of $m \otimes n$ depends on the meaning of M, N !

Example 0.10. Consider $2 \otimes \bar{1} \in \mathbb{Z} \otimes_{\mathbb{Z}} (\mathbb{Z}/2\mathbb{Z})$. This is the same as $1 \otimes \bar{2} = 1 \otimes 0 = 0$. By contrast, look at $2 \otimes \bar{1} \in 2\mathbb{Z} \otimes (\mathbb{Z}/2\mathbb{Z})$. This is nonzero! Let's show that. We know $2\mathbb{Z} \cong \mathbb{Z}$, with an isomorphism given by $x \mapsto \frac{x}{2}$. So

$$\begin{aligned} f \otimes \text{Id}_{\mathbb{Z}/2\mathbb{Z}} : 2\mathbb{Z} \otimes (\mathbb{Z}/2\mathbb{Z}) &\rightarrow \mathbb{Z} \otimes (\mathbb{Z}/2\mathbb{Z}) \\ x \otimes y &\mapsto f(x) \otimes y \end{aligned}$$

But functors take isomorphisms to isomorphisms, so $\underbrace{2 \otimes \bar{1}}_{\in 2\mathbb{Z} \otimes \mathbb{Z}/2\mathbb{Z}} \mapsto \overbrace{1 \otimes \bar{1}}^{\in \mathbb{Z} \otimes \mathbb{Z}/2\mathbb{Z}} \neq 0$. Why is this last term nonzero? Because $\mathbb{Z} \otimes (\mathbb{Z}/2\mathbb{Z}) \cong \mathbb{Z}$, with the isomorphism sending $1 \otimes \bar{1}$ to $\bar{1}$, which is not zero.

Natural Transformations, Equivalences, and Dualities

Definition 0.10. 1. Let $F, G : \mathcal{C} \rightarrow \mathcal{D}$ be functors. A morphism of functors, or a natural transformation from F to G , is a family $(\phi(C))_{C \in \text{Obj}(\mathcal{C})}$ of morphisms, $\phi(C) : F(C) \rightarrow G(C)$ such that for any $f \in \text{Hom}_{\mathcal{C}}(C, C')$, the square

$$\begin{array}{ccc} F(C) & \xrightarrow{F(f)} & F(C') \\ \phi(C) \downarrow & & \downarrow \phi(C') \\ G(C) & \xrightarrow{G(f)} & G(C') \end{array}$$

commutes for all eligible morphisms f in the category \mathcal{C} . This is a covariant equivalence. A contravariant equivalence is an equivalence between contravariant functors, i.e. it makes the following square commute.

$$\begin{array}{ccc} F(C) & \xleftarrow{F(f)} & F(C') \\ \phi(C) \downarrow & & \downarrow \phi(C') \\ G(C) & \xleftarrow{G(f)} & G(C') \end{array}$$

2. Call $(\phi(C))_{C \in \text{Obj}(\mathcal{C})}$ an isomorphism of functors, or a natural equivalence, if $\phi(C)$ is an isomorphism for each $C \in \text{Obj}(\mathcal{C})$.

3. Two categories \mathcal{C}, \mathcal{D} are equivalent categories if there are functors $F : \mathcal{C} \rightarrow \mathcal{D}, G : \mathcal{D} \rightarrow \mathcal{C}$ such that $G \circ F \simeq \text{Id}_{\mathcal{C}}$ and $F \circ G \simeq \text{Id}_{\mathcal{D}}$, with “ \simeq ” meaning “is naturally equivalent to.” The F, G are called “mutually inverse equivalences.”
4. A contravariant equivalence is called a duality.
5. Let R, S be rings. Call R, S Morita equivalent, denoted $R \sim S$, if $R\text{-mod}, S\text{-mod}$ are naturally equivalent. This is equivalent to saying $\text{Mod} - R, \text{mod} - S$ are naturally equivalent.