Version 0.3

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This project would not have been possible without Jon Carlson. Jon devised the algorithms used by ProjectiveResolution, CohomologyGenerators, and CohomologyRelators, having already implemented them in Magma and sharing these programs with me.

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Chapter 1

Installation and Loading

Like other GAP packages, you download and unpack this package into GAP's pkg directory. For example, if you were using some Unix derivative and GAP were installed in the directory /usr/local/gap4r4, you would do the following.

```
$ cd /usr/local/gap4r4/pkg
$ su
$ wget 'http://mad.epfl.ch/~bishop/Crime/crime-0.3.tar.gz'
$ tar xvzvf crime-0.3.tar.gz
```

In this situation, users would then load the package with the LoadPackage command.

```
$ gap gap> LoadPackage("crime");
```

Users not having root access, using someone else's computer, or having bad relationships with their network administrators, could install the package into their home directories or into some other writable directory such as /tmp as follows.

```
$ mkdir /tmp/pkg
$ cd /tmp/pkg
$ wget 'http://mad.epfl.ch/~bishop/Crime/crime-0.3.tar.gz'
$ tar xvzvf crime-0.3.tar.gz
$ gap -l ';/tmp'
gap> LoadPackage("crime");
```

Finally, it would be a good idea to run the test file to confirm that all the functions work.

```
gap> ReadPackage("crime","tst/test.g");
```

You can count yourself lucky if GAP doesn't complain about anything. There is also a longer running test file for those having ample free time described in Chapter 3.

Chapter 2

Usage

All the functions described below taking an argument n except CohomologyRing, CohomologyRelators and InducedHomomorphismOnCohomology do whatever the manual says they do until some stage n, where n is normally the homological degree. These functions are idempotent in the sense that called a second time with the same argument n, they do nothing, but called with a bigger n, they continue computing from where the previous calculations left off.

2.1 Cohomology Objects

The computation of group cohomology involves several calculations, the results of which are reused in later calculations, and are thus collected in an object of type <code>CObject</code>, which is created with the following command.

2.1.1 CohomologyObject

Returns: a cohomology object.

This function creates a cohomology object, initially having components the p-group G, the field k of characteristic p, and the MeatAxe kG-module M. The second invocation creates a cohomology object, initially having components the p-group G, the field \mathbb{F}_p , and the trivial MeatAxe kG-module.

We emphasize that in the first invocation, k can be any field of characteristic p and that M can be any MeatAxe module over kG. However, since the case $k = \mathbb{F}_p$, and M = k is probably the most common, the second invocation is provided for convenience.

The cohomology object is used to store, in addition to the group, field, and module, the boundary maps, the Betti numbers, the multiplication table, etc.

2.2 Minimal Projective Resolutions

Given a p-group G, the field k of characteristic p and a kG-module M, the function below computes a minimal projective resolution

$$P_n \rightarrow \cdots \rightarrow P_2 \rightarrow P_1 \rightarrow P_0 \rightarrow M \rightarrow 0$$

where $P_i = (kG)^{b_i}$ for certain numbers b_i , the *Betti numbers* of the resolution. Then the groups $\operatorname{Ext}_{kG}^n(M,N)$ are simply $\operatorname{Hom}_{kG}(P_n,N)$, and if N=k is the trivial kG-module, then $H^n(G,k) = \operatorname{Ext}_{kG}^n(k,k) = k^{b_n}$.

2.2.1 ProjectiveResolution

```
◇ ProjectiveResolution( C, n )
```

(operation)

Returns: a list containing the Betti numbers b_0, b_1, \dots, b_n .

Given a cohomology object C having components G, k, and M, this function computes the first n+1 terms of the minimal projective resolution P_* of M of the form $P_i = (kG)^{b_i}$ for $0 \le i \le n$, and returns the numbers b_i as a list.

2.2.2 BoundaryMap

♦ BoundaryMap(C, n)

(operation)

Returns: the *n*th boundary map.

Given the cohomology object C, this function computes a projective resolution to degree n if it hasn't been computed already, and returns the nth boundary map.

The map is returned is a b_n -by- $|G|b_{n-1}$ matrix, having in the *i*th row the image of the element 1_G from the *i*th direct summand of P_n .

See the file doc/example.* for an example of the usage and interpretation of the result of this function.

2.3 Cohomology Generators and Relators

2.3.1 CohomologyGenerators

```
♦ CohomologyGenerators ( C, n )
```

(operation)

Returns: a list containing the degrees of the generators of the cohomology ring.

Given a cohomology object C having components G, k, and M, this function computes the generators of $H^*(G,k)$ of degree less than or equal to n, and stores them in C. The function returns a list of the degrees of the generators.

The actual cohomology generators are represented by maps $P_n \to k$ and are stored in \mathbb{C} as column vectors. Only their degrees are returned.

2.3.2 CohomologyRelators

```
♦ CohomologyRelators ( C, n )
```

(operation)

Returns: a list of generators and a list of relators.

Given a cohomology object \mathbb{C} having components G, k, and M, this function computes a set of generators of the ideal of relators of $H^*(G,k)$ having multidegree less than or equal to n.

The function returns two lists, the first containing the variables z, y, x, ... corresponding to the generators of $H^*(G,k)$ if there are fewer than 12 generators, and containing the variables $x_1, x_2, x_3, ...$ otherwise. The second is a list of polynomials in the variables from the first list.

While this isn't likely to occur, we point out that if there are 12 or more generators and some of the indeterminates $x_1, x_2, x_3, ...$ have already been named, say by a previous call to

CohomologyRelators, then these variables will retain their old names. If this is confusing, restart GAP and do it again.

These two lists should be interpreted as follows. The degree n truncation of the cohomology ring $H^*(G,k)$ is the polynomial ring in the non-commuting variables from the first list, having the degrees returned by CohomologyGenerators above, and subject to the relators in the second list.

For example, the following commands

```
gap> C:=CohomologyObject(DihedralGroup(8));
<object>
gap> CohomologyGenerators(C,10);
[ 1, 1, 2 ]
gap> CohomologyRelators(C,10);
[ [ z, y, x ], [ z*y+y^2 ] ]
```

tell us that for $G = D_8$, the cohomology ring $H^*(G,k)$ is the graded-commutative polynomial ring in the variables z, y, and x of degrees 1, 1, and 2, subject to the relation $zy + y^2$. But since $H^*(G,k)$ is commutative, k being of characteristic 2, we have $H^*(G,k) = k[z,y,x]/(zy+y^2)$. This result can be further improved by taking z = z + y, giving $H^*(G,k) = k[z,y,x]/(zy)$.

2.4 Cohomology Rings

See [2] for the details of the calculation of cohomology products using composition of chain maps. See also the file doc/explanation.* for an explanation of the implementation.

2.4.1 CohomologyRing

Returns: the cohomology ring of *G*.

Given a cohomology object C having module component the trivial kG-module and possibly having a projective resolution already computed, this function returns the degree n truncation of the cohomology ring $H^*(G,k)$. The object returned is an structure constant algebra.

Users interested only in working with the cohomology ring of a group as a GAP object, and not in calculating generators, relators, induced maps, etc, can use the second invocation of this function, which returns the cohomology ring of the group G immediately, throwing away all intermediate calculations.

Observe that the object returned is a degree n truncation of the infinite-dimensional cohomology ring. A consequence of this is that multiplying two elements whose product has degree greater than n results in zero, whether or not the product is really zero.

Observe also that calling CohomologyRing a second time with a bigger n does *not* extend the previous ring, but rather, recalculates the entire ring from the beginning. Extending the previous ring appears not to be worth the effort for technical reasons, since almost everything would need to be recalculated again anyway.

2.4.2 IsHomogeneous

```
\Diamond IsHomogeneous ( e ) (operation)
```

Returns: true or false.

Given an element e of some cohomology ring A, this operation determines whether or not e is homogeneous, that is, whether or not e is contained in some hom_component of A.

2.4.3 Degree

```
♦ Degree( e ) (method)
```

Returns: the degree of e.

This function is intended to return the degree of the possibly non-homogeneous element e of some cohomology ring A, but in principle, works for any element of any graded SCAlgebra. Specifically, if $A = A_0 \oplus A_1 \oplus A_2 \oplus \cdots$ with A_i the hom_components of A, then this function returns the minimum n such that e is in $A_0 \oplus A_1 \oplus \cdots \oplus A_n$.

```
gap> A:=CohomologyRing(DihedralGroup(8),10);
<algebra of dimension 66 over GF(2)>
gap> b:=Basis(A);
CanonicalBasis( <algebra of dimension 66 over GF(2)> )
gap> x:=b[2]+b[4];
v.2+v.4
gap> IsHomogeneous(x);
false
gap> Degree(x);
2
```

2.4.4 LocateGeneratorsInCohomologyRing

```
♦ LocateGeneratorsInCohomologyRing( C )
```

(function)

Returns: a list containing the cohomology generators.

Having already called CohomologyRing (see 2.4.1), this function returns a list of elements of the cohomology ring which together with the identity element generate the cohomology ring.

This function is a wrapper for CohomologyGenerators (see 2.3.1), indicating which elements of the cohomology ring correspond with the generators found by CohomologyGenerators.

```
gap> C:=CohomologyObject(SmallGroup(8,4));

<object>
gap> A:=CohomologyRing(C,10);

<algebra of dimension 17 over GF(2)>
gap> L:=LocateGeneratorsInCohomologyRing(C);
[ v.2, v.3, v.7 ]
gap> A=Subalgebra(A,Concatenation(L,[One(A)]));
true
```

2.5 Induced Maps

Let $f: H \to G$ be a group homomorphism. Then f induces a homomorphism on cohomology $H^*(G,k) \to H^*(H,k)$ which is returned by the following function.

9

2.5.1 InducedHomomorphismOnCohomology

```
♦ InducedHomomorphismOnCohomology(C, D, f, n)
```

(function)

Returns: the induced homomorphism on cohomology rings.

This function returns the induced homomorphism on cohomology $H^*(G,k) \to H^*(H,k)$ where the groups H and G are the components of the cohomology objects $\mathbb C$ and $\mathbb D$ and $f:H\to G$ is a group homomorphism. If the cohomology rings have not yet been calculated, they will be computed to degree n, and in this case, they can then be accessed by calling CohomologyRing (see 2.4.1).

2.5.2 Inclusion

```
♦ Inclusion(H, G)
```

(function)

Returns: the inclusion $H \rightarrow G$

This function returns the group homomorphism $H \to G$ when H is a subgroup of G. The returned map can be used as the f argument of InducedHomomorphismOnCohomology, in which case the induced homomorphism is the restriction map $\operatorname{Res}_H^G: H^*(G,k) \to H^*(H,k)$.

The following example calculates the homomorphism on cohomology induced by the inclusion of the cyclic group of size 4 into the dihedral group of size 8.

```
gap> G:=DihedralGroup(8);H:=Subgroup(G,[G.2]);
<pc group of size 8 with 3 generators>
Group([ f2 ])
gap> C:=CohomologyObject(H);D:=CohomologyObject(G);
<object>
<object>
gap> i:=Inclusion(H,G);
[ f2 ] -> [ f2 ]
gap> Res:=InducedHomomorphismOnCohomology(C,D,i,10);;
gap> A:=CohomologyRing(D, 10);
<algebra of dimension 66 over GF(2)>
gap> LocateGeneratorsInCohomologyRing(D);
[ v.2, v.3, v.6 ]
gap> A.1^Res; A.2^Res; A.3^Res; A.6^Res;
v.1
0*v.1
v.2
v.3
```

2.6 Massey Products

See [3] for the definitions and [1] for the details of the calculation using the Yoneda cocomplex. See also the file doc/explanation.* for an explanation of the implementation.

2.6.1 MasseyProduct

```
\lozenge MasseyProduct ( x1, x2, ..., xn ) Returns: the Massey product \langle x_1, x_2, ..., x_n \rangle.
```

(function)

Given elements x_1, x_2, \ldots, x_n of a cohomology ring returned by CohomologyRing (see 2.4), this function computes the n-fold Massey product $\langle x_1, x_2, \ldots, x_n \rangle$ provided that the lower-degree Massey products $\langle x_i, x_{i+1}, \ldots, x_j \rangle$ vanish for all $1 \le i < j \le n$, and returns fail otherwise.

As an example, recall that the cohomology rings of the cyclic groups C_3 and C_9 of size 3 and 9 over $k = \mathbb{F}_3$ are both given by $k\langle z,y\rangle/(z^2)$, that is, they are isomorphic as rings. However, the following example shows that $\langle z,z,z\rangle$ is non-zero in $H^*(C_3,k)$ but is zero in $H^*(C_9,k)$.

```
_ Example _
gap> A:=CohomologyRing(CyclicGroup(3),10);
<algebra of dimension 11 over GF(3)>
gap> z:=Basis(A)[2];
v.2
gap> MasseyProduct(z,z);
0*v.1
gap> MasseyProduct(z,z,z);
gap> A:=CohomologyRing(CyclicGroup(9),10);
<algebra of dimension 11 over GF(3)>
gap> z:=Basis(A)[2];
v.2
gap> MasseyProduct(z,z);
0*v.1
gap> MasseyProduct(z,z,z);
gap> MasseyProduct(z,z,z,z,z,z,z,z);
v.3
```

Chapter 3

Leisure and Recreation: Cohomology Rings of all Groups of Size 16

Below is the output of the test file tst/batch.g. The file runs through all groups of size n, which is initially set to 16, and runs ProjectiveResolution, CohomologyGenerators and CohomologyRelators for each group, and prints the results as well as the timings for each operation to a file. The output below was computed on a 3.06 GHz Intel processor with 3.71 GB of RAM. The projective resolutions are calculated initially to degree 10 and the generators and relators to degree 6, due to the fact that I already knew all the generators and relators to be of degree less than 6, see http://www.math.uga.edu/~lvalero/cohointro.html. See also the file tst/README for suggestions on dealing with other users when running long-running batch processes.

```
_ Example
SmallGroup (16,1)
Betti Numbers: [ 1, 1, 1, 1, 1, 1, 1, 1, 1, 1]
Time: 0:00:04.209
Generators in degrees: [ 1, 2 ]
Time: 0:00:00.037
Relators: [[z, y], [z^2]]
Time: 0:00:00.101
SmallGroup (16,2)
Betti Numbers: [ 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11 ]
Time: 0:00:03.055
Generators in degrees: [ 1, 1, 2, 2 ]
Time: 0:00:09.322
Relators: [ [ z, y, x, w ], [ z^2, y^2 ] ]
Time: 0:00:23.386
SmallGroup (16, 3)
Betti Numbers: [ 1, 2, 4, 6, 9, 12, 16, 20, 25, 30, 36 ]
Time: 0:00:54.653
Generators in degrees: [ 1, 1, 2, 2, 2 ]
Time: 0:03:29.691
Relators: [ [ z, y, x, w, v ], [ z^2, z^*y, z^*x, y^2*v+x^2 ] ]
Time: 0:06:33.189
SmallGroup (16, 4)
```

```
Betti Numbers: [ 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11 ]
Time: 0:00:03.163
Generators in degrees: [ 1, 1, 2, 2 ]
Time: 0:00:09.873
Relators: [ [ z, y, x, w ], [ z^2, z^*y+y^2, y^3 ] ]
Time: 0:00:25.149
SmallGroup (16,5)
Betti Numbers: [ 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11 ]
Time: 0:00:03.080
Generators in degrees: [ 1, 1, 2 ]
Time: 0:00:07.356
Relators: [ [ z, y, x ], [ z^2 ] ]
Time: 0:00:22.859
SmallGroup (16,6)
Betti Numbers: [ 1, 2, 2, 2, 3, 4, 4, 4, 5, 6, 6 ]
Time: 0:00:00.674
Generators in degrees: [ 1, 1, 3, 4 ]
Time: 0:00:02.575
Relators: [ [ z, y, x, w ], [ z^2, z*y^2, z*x, x^2 ] ]
Time: 0:00:03.675
SmallGroup (16,7)
Betti Numbers: [ 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11 ]
Time: 0:00:03.071
Generators in degrees: [ 1, 1, 2 ]
Time: 0:00:07.282
Relators: [ [ z, y, x ], [ z*y ] ]
Time: 0:00:22.786
SmallGroup (16,8)
Betti Numbers: [ 1, 2, 2, 2, 3, 4, 4, 4, 5, 6, 6 ]
Time: 0:00:00.676
Generators in degrees: [ 1, 1, 3, 4 ]
Time: 0:00:02.584
Relators: [ [ z, y, x, w ], [ z*y, z^3, z*x, y^2*w+x^2 ] ]
Time: 0:00:03.825
SmallGroup (16,9)
Betti Numbers: [ 1, 2, 2, 1, 1, 2, 2, 1, 1, 2, 2 ]
Time: 0:00:00.087
Generators in degrees: [ 1, 1, 4 ]
Time: 0:00:00.139
Relators: [ [ z, y, x ], [ z*y, z^3+y^3, y^4 ] ]
Time: 0:00:00.374
SmallGroup (16, 10)
Betti Numbers: [ 1, 3, 6, 10, 15, 21, 28, 36, 45, 55, 66 ]
Time: 0:05:37.603
Generators in degrees: [ 1, 1, 1, 2 ]
Time: 0:16:52.067
Relators: [ [ z, y, x, w ], [ z^2 ] ]
```

```
Time: 0:52:54.579
SmallGroup(16,11)
Betti Numbers: [ 1, 3, 6, 10, 15, 21, 28, 36, 45, 55, 66 ]
Time: 0:05:30.506
Generators in degrees: [ 1, 1, 1, 2 ]
Time: 0:16:29.940
Relators: [ [ z, y, x, w ], [ z*y ] ]
Time: 0:52:04.624
SmallGroup(16,12)
Betti Numbers: [ 1, 3, 5, 6, 7, 9, 11, 12, 13, 15, 17 ]
Time: 0:00:10.051
Generators in degrees: [ 1, 1, 1, 4 ]
Time: 0:00:43.703
Relators: [ [ z, y, x, w ], [ z^2+z^*y+y^2, y^3 ] ]
Time: 0:02:02.128
SmallGroup (16, 13)
Betti Numbers: [ 1, 3, 5, 6, 7, 9, 11, 12, 13, 15, 17 ]
Time: 0:00:09.991
Generators in degrees: [ 1, 1, 1, 4 ]
Time: 0:00:43.443
Relators: [ [ z, y, x, w ], [ z*y+x^2, z*x^2+y*x^2, y^2*x^2+x^4 ] ]
Time: 0:01:59.953
SmallGroup (16, 14)
Betti Numbers: [ 1, 4, 10, 20, 35, 56, 84, 120, 165, 220, 286 ]
Time: 5:03:44.290
Generators in degrees: [ 1, 1, 1, 1 ]
Time: 8:14:32.187
```

References

- [1] Inger Christin Borge. A cohomological approach to the classification of p-groups. http://www.maths.abdn.ac.uk/~bensondj/html/archive/borge.html, 2001. 9
- [2] Jon F. Carlson, Lisa Townsley, Luis Valeri-Elizondo, and Mucheng Zhang. *Cohomology rings of finite groups*, volume 3 of *Algebras and Applications*. Kluwer Academic Publishers, Dordrecht, 2003. 7
- [3] David Kraines. Massey higher products. Trans. Amer. Math. Soc., 124:431–449, 1966. 9

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