

Harthshorne Reading Study

at KAIST Mathematical Problem Solving Group

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Section II.1

Exercise (II.1.8). For any open subset $U \subset X$, show that the functor $\Gamma(U, _)$ from sheaves on X to abelian groups is a left-exact functor. The functor $\Gamma(U, _)$ need not be exact.

First Solution (for beginners). The sequence

$$0 \longrightarrow \mathcal{F}' \longrightarrow \mathcal{F} \xrightarrow{g} \mathcal{F}''$$

is exact means \mathcal{F} is the kernel object of the second map g , i.e, there is an isomorphism $\alpha : \mathcal{F}' \rightarrow \ker g$ such that

$$\begin{array}{ccccc} \mathcal{F}' & \longrightarrow & \mathcal{F} & \xrightarrow{g} & \mathcal{F}'' \\ & \searrow \sim & \uparrow & & \\ & & \ker g & & \end{array}$$

commutes. Taking the global section gives a commutative diagram

$$\begin{array}{ccccc} \mathcal{F}'(X) & \longrightarrow & \mathcal{F}(X) & \xrightarrow{gx} & \mathcal{F}''(X) \\ & \searrow \sim & \uparrow & & \\ & & (\ker g)(X) & & \end{array}$$

Since the global section functor and the kernel commutes, we know that $(\ker g)(X) = \ker g_X$. Hence, $\mathcal{F}'(X)$ is a kernel object of the map g_X , so the sequence

$$0 \longrightarrow \mathcal{F}'(X) \longrightarrow \mathcal{F}(X) \xrightarrow{g_X} \mathcal{F}''(X)$$

is exact. □

Second Solution (keep in mind). A functor is exact if and only if it commutes with the kernel. □

Third Solution (for those who are interested in category theory).

- 1 The global section functor $\underline{\text{PSh}} \rightarrow \underline{\text{Ab}}$ is exact.
- 2 The forgetful functor $\underline{\text{Sh}} \rightarrow \underline{\text{PSh}}$ is left-exact. Indeed, it is right adjoint to the sheafification functor $\underline{\text{PSh}} \rightarrow \underline{\text{Sh}}$.

By combining these two results, the global section functor $\underline{\text{Sh}} \rightarrow \underline{\text{Ab}}$ is left-exact. □

The global section functor is not exact. Let's consider an exact sequence of sheaves

$$0 \longrightarrow \underline{\mathbb{Z}} \xrightarrow{2\pi i} \mathcal{H} \xrightarrow{\exp} \mathcal{H}^* \longrightarrow 0.$$

in $\underline{\text{Sh}}(\mathbb{C}^\times)$. (Here, \mathcal{H} is the sheaf of holomorphic functions, and \mathcal{H}^* is one of invertible holomorphic functions.) Indeed, the sequence is exact on each contractible open sets (and contractible open sets in \mathbb{C}^\times forms a basis of topology).

If we take global section functor at the sequence, then we have a sequence

$$0 \longrightarrow \mathbb{Z} \xrightarrow{2\pi i} \mathcal{H}(\mathbb{C}^\times) \xrightarrow{\exp} \mathcal{H}^*(\mathbb{C}^\times) \longrightarrow 0$$

However, the exponential map is not surjective. Indeed, the fiber of $z \in \mathcal{H}^*(\mathbb{C}^\times)$ is empty, because there is no logarithm function defined on \mathbb{C}^\times . □

Note. The first cohomology of $\underline{\mathbb{Z}} \in \underline{\text{Sh}}(\mathbb{C}^\times)$ is the same with the singular cohomology $H^1(\mathbb{C}^\times; \mathbb{Z}) = \mathbb{Z}$.

Exercise (II.1.16, Flasque sheaves). A sheaf \mathcal{F} on a topological space X is flasque or

flabby if for every inclusion $V \subseteq U$ of open sets, the restriction map $\mathcal{F}(U) \rightarrow \mathcal{F}(V)$ is surjective.

- (a) Show that a constant sheaf on an irreducible topological space is flasque.
- (b) If $0 \rightarrow \mathcal{F}' \rightarrow \mathcal{F} \rightarrow \mathcal{F}'' \rightarrow 0$ is an exact sequence of sheaves, and if \mathcal{F}' is flasque, then for any open set U , the sequence $0 \rightarrow \mathcal{F}'(U) \rightarrow \mathcal{F}(U) \rightarrow \mathcal{F}''(U) \rightarrow 0$ of abelian groups is also exact, i.e, the global section functor is exact for those sequences.
- (c) If $0 \rightarrow \mathcal{F}' \rightarrow \mathcal{F} \rightarrow \mathcal{F}'' \rightarrow 0$ is an exact sequence of sheaves, and if \mathcal{F}' and \mathcal{F} are flasque, then \mathcal{F}'' is flasque.
- (d) If $f : X \rightarrow Y$ is a continuous map, and if \mathcal{F} is a flasque sheaf on X , then $f_*\mathcal{F}$ is a flasque sheaf on Y .
- (e) Let \mathcal{F} be any sheaf on X . We define a new sheaf \mathcal{G} , called the sheaf of discontinuous sections of \mathcal{F} as follows. For each open set $U \subseteq X$, $\mathcal{G}(U) := \prod_{x \in U} \mathcal{F}_x$. Show that \mathcal{G} is a flasque sheaf, and that there is a natural injective morphism of \mathcal{F} to \mathcal{G} .

Solution.

- (a) This is because $\underline{A}(U) = A$ whenever U is non-empty, and the restriction map is the identity map except for the empty-set case. \square

- (b) It is enough to show that the global section functor is exact. Let $f \in \mathcal{F}''$ be any element. Note that the sequence at each stalk is exact. It is enough to show that if there are sections $g_i \in \Gamma(U_i, \mathcal{F})$ which map to $f|_{U_i}$ ($i = 1, 2$), then there is a section (a sort of “gluing”) $g \in \Gamma(U_1 \cup U_2, \mathcal{F})$ which maps to f . \square

Since $g_1 - g_2$ is in the kernel of $\psi_{U_{12}}$, by the left-exactness of the global section functor, $g_1 - g_2$ is an image of some section $h \in \Gamma(U_{12}, \mathcal{F}')$. Since \mathcal{F}' is flabby, it can be extended to U_2 .

Now, g_1 and $g_2 - \varphi(h)$ coincides on the intersection U_{12} , so there is a gluing $g \in \Gamma(U_1 \cup U_2, \mathcal{F})$ of them. Now, g maps to f because g_1 and g_2 maps to f , and $\varphi(h)$ maps to 0.

- (c) Let's see next commutative diagram.

$$\begin{array}{ccccc}
 \mathcal{F}'(U) & \longrightarrow & \mathcal{F}(U) & \xrightarrow{\psi_U} & \mathcal{F}''(U) \\
 \downarrow & & \downarrow \text{res} & & \downarrow \text{res}'' \\
 \mathcal{F}'(V) & \longrightarrow & \mathcal{F}(V) & \xrightarrow{\psi_V} & \mathcal{F}''(V)
 \end{array}$$

Since \mathcal{F}' is flabby, the map ψ_V is surjective. Also, \mathcal{F} is flabby implies the surjectivity of res by definition. Hence, the composition of these two maps is surjective. This means, $\text{res}'' \circ \psi_U = \psi_V \circ \text{res}$ is surjective, so res'' must be surjective. \square

(d) Clear because the restriction maps of the pushout is the restriction maps of the original sheaf. \square

(e) $\boxed{1}$ \mathcal{G} is flabby: This is because the projection map $\prod_{x \in U} \mathcal{F}_x \rightarrow \prod_{x \in V} \mathcal{F}_x$ is surjective for any inclusion $V \subseteq U$ of open sets.

$\boxed{2}$ There is a natural injective map $\mathcal{F} \rightarrow \mathcal{G}$: Define $\varphi : \mathcal{F} \rightarrow \mathcal{G}$ as $\varphi_U : s \mapsto [x \mapsto s_x]$. This map is clearly injective because $s \in \ker \varphi_U$ implies $s_x = 0$ for all $x \in U$, which implies $s = 0$ by the sheaf axiom. \square

Problems

Section II.1

1. Let

$$0 \longrightarrow \mathcal{F}' \longrightarrow \mathcal{F} \longrightarrow \mathcal{F}'' \longrightarrow 0$$

be a sequence of sheaves.

- (a) Explain how's different the exactness of the sequence in $\underline{\text{Sh}}$ and in $\underline{\text{PSh}}$. Do the exactness in one category implies one in the another category?
- (b) (With some knowledge in cohomology theory) Why the exactness of the global section is guaranteed only by the first term \mathcal{F}' ?
- (c) Why the sequence

$$0 \longrightarrow \underline{\mathbb{Z}} \longrightarrow \mathcal{H} \longrightarrow \mathcal{H}^* \longrightarrow 0$$

is not exact after taking the global section functor? How this fact is related with the sheaf cohomology?

(Here, $\mathcal{H} \in \underline{\text{Sh}}(\mathbb{C})$ is the sheaf of holomorphic functions, and $\mathcal{H}^* \in \underline{\text{Sh}}(\mathbb{C})$ is one of invertible holomorphic functions.)

Properties in Philosophy

Proposition 1. (*adjoint functors*) *Following pairs are adjoint.*

1. *Sheafification* \dashv *Forgetful functor* : $\underline{PSh} \rightleftarrows \underline{Sh}$
2. *Constant presheaf functor* \dashv *Global section functor* : $\underline{Ab} \rightleftarrows \underline{PSh}$
- 1+2. *Constant sheaf functor* \dashv *Global section functor* : $\underline{Ab} \rightleftarrows \underline{Sh}$
3. *Forgetful functor* \dashv *Reduction functor* : $\underline{Sch} \rightleftarrows \underline{Sch}_{\text{red}}$

[[adjunction and pullback/pushout? (co)limit? commutes... Gluing? Refunction of schemes?]]

Section II.1

1. An abelian functor is left-exact (resp. right-exact) if and only if it commutes with the kernel (resp. cokernel).