

## Quotients, kernels, cokernels

(EXERCISES FOR LECTURE 4)

**Notation.** Let  $\mathbf{TVS}$  denote the category of topological vector spaces and continuous linear maps, and let  $\mathbf{HTVS}$  denote the full subcategory of  $\mathbf{TVS}$  consisting of Hausdorff spaces.

**5.1.** Let  $X$  be a topological vector space, let  $Y \subset X$  be a vector subspace, and let  $\pi: X \rightarrow X/Y$  denote the quotient map. Show that

(a) if  $\beta$  is a base of neighborhoods of 0 in  $X$ , then  $\{\pi(U) : U \in \beta\}$  is a base of neighborhoods of 0 in  $X/Y$ ;

(b)  $X$  is Hausdorff if and only if  $\{0\}$  is closed in  $X$ ;

(c)  $X/Y$  is Hausdorff if and only if  $Y$  is closed in  $X$ .

**5.2.** Let  $X$  be a locally convex space,  $P$  be a directed defining family of seminorms on  $X$ , and  $Y$  be a vector subspace of  $X$ .

(a) Show that, for each  $p \in P$ , we have  $\pi(U_p) = U_{\hat{p}}$ , where  $\pi: X \rightarrow X/Y$  is the quotient map and  $\hat{p}$  is the quotient seminorm of  $p$ .

(b) Show that  $\hat{P} = \{\hat{p} : p \in P\}$  is a defining family of seminorms on  $X/Y$ .

(c) Does (b) hold if  $P$  is not assumed to be directed?

**5.3.** Let  $p$  be a seminorm on a vector space  $X$ , let  $Y$  be a vector subspace of  $X$  such that  $Y \subset p^{-1}(0)$ , and let  $\hat{p}$  denote the quotient seminorm on  $X/Y$ . Show that  $\hat{p}(x + Y) = p(x)$  for all  $x \in X$ .

**5.4.** Show that the inclusion functor  $\mathbf{HTVS} \hookrightarrow \mathbf{TVS}$  has a left adjoint, and describe it explicitly. (*Hint:* consider  $X_h = X/\overline{\{0\}}$ .)

**Definition 5.1.** Let  $\mathcal{A}$  be a category having a zero object, and let  $\varphi: X \rightarrow Y$  be a morphism in  $\mathcal{A}$ . A *kernel* of  $\varphi$  is a pair  $(K, k)$ , where  $K \in \mathcal{A}$  and  $k: K \rightarrow X$ , such that

(i)  $\varphi \circ k = 0$ ;

(ii) for each morphism  $\psi: Z \rightarrow X$  in  $\mathcal{A}$  satisfying  $\varphi \circ \psi = 0$  there exists a unique morphism  $Z \rightarrow K$  making the following diagram commute:

$$\begin{array}{ccc} K & \xrightarrow{k} & X \xrightarrow{\varphi} Y \\ \uparrow & \nearrow \psi & \\ Z & & \end{array}$$

We write  $K = \text{Ker } \varphi$  and  $k = \ker \varphi$ . Equivalently, a kernel of  $\varphi$  is an object  $\text{Ker } \varphi$  together with a natural isomorphism

$$\text{Hom}(Z, \text{Ker } \varphi) \cong \text{Ker}(\text{Hom}(Z, X) \rightarrow \text{Hom}(Z, Y)).$$

A *cokernel* of  $\varphi$  is a pair  $(C, c)$ , where  $C \in \mathcal{A}$  and  $c: Y \rightarrow C$ , such that  $(C, c)$  is a kernel of  $\varphi$  in the dual category  $\mathcal{A}^{\text{op}}$  (draw the respective diagram!). We write  $C = \text{Coker } \varphi$  and  $c = \text{coker } \varphi$ . Equivalently, a cokernel of  $\varphi$  is an object  $\text{Coker } \varphi$  together with a natural isomorphism

$$\text{Hom}(\text{Coker } \varphi, Z) \cong \text{Ker}(\text{Hom}(Y, Z) \rightarrow \text{Hom}(X, Z)).$$

**5.5. (a)** Show that the kernel of a morphism  $\varphi: X \rightarrow Y$  in  $\mathbf{TVS}$  is the subspace  $\varphi^{-1}(0)$ , and that the cokernel of  $\varphi$  is the quotient  $Y/\varphi(X)$ .

(b) Describe kernels and cokernels of morphisms in  $\mathbf{HTVS}$ .

**Definition 5.2.** Let  $\mathcal{A}$  be a category having a zero object. A morphism  $\varphi: X \rightarrow Y$  in  $\mathcal{A}$  is a *kernel* (resp., a *cokernel*) if there exists a morphism  $\psi: Y \rightarrow Z$  (resp.,  $\psi: Z \rightarrow X$ ) such that  $\varphi = \ker \psi$  (resp.,  $\varphi = \text{coker } \psi$ ).

**5.6. (a)** Show that a morphism  $\varphi$  in **TVS** is a kernel if and only if it is topologically injective, and that  $\varphi$  is a cokernel if and only if it is open.

**(b)** Obtain a similar characterization of kernels and cokernels in **HTVS**.

**Definition 5.3.** Let  $\mathcal{A}$  be a category having a zero object. Suppose that each morphism in  $\mathcal{A}$  has a kernel and a cokernel. We define the *image* ( $\text{Im } \varphi, \text{im } \varphi$ ) of a morphism  $\varphi$  in  $\mathcal{A}$  to be the kernel of the cokernel of  $\varphi$ , and the *coimage* ( $\text{Coim } \varphi, \text{coim } \varphi$ ) of  $\varphi$  to be the cokernel of the kernel of  $\varphi$ . Thus for each  $\varphi: X \rightarrow Y$  there is a unique  $\bar{\varphi}: \text{Coim } \varphi \rightarrow \text{Im } \varphi$  making the following diagram commute:

$$\begin{array}{ccc} X & \xrightarrow{\varphi} & Y \\ \text{coim } \varphi \downarrow & & \uparrow \text{im } \varphi \\ \text{Coim } \varphi & \xrightarrow{\bar{\varphi}} & \text{Im } \varphi \end{array}$$

We say that  $\varphi$  is *strict* if  $\bar{\varphi}$  is an isomorphism.

**5.7. (a)** Describe the image and the coimage of each morphism in the categories **TVS** and **HTVS**.

**(b)** Show that a morphism  $\varphi: X \rightarrow Y$  in **TVS** is strict if and only if  $\varphi$  is an open map of  $X$  onto  $\varphi(X)$ .

**(c)** Describe strict morphisms in **HTVS**.