

# Homological Algebra

Based on lectures by Nicolas Addington

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# 1 Lecture 1 Motivation and goals

**Example 1.1.** Let  $k$  be a field and  $R = k[x, y, z]$ ,  $I = (y - x^2, z)$ ,  $J = (x)$ , then  $R/I \otimes R/J = R/I + J = R/(x, y, z)$ . Now we are pretending that we know what Tor means, we have

$$\text{codim} I \cap \text{codim} J = 3 = \text{codim} I + \text{codim} J,$$

and

$$\text{Tor}_1^R(R/I, R/J) = 0.$$

For  $J' = (y)$ , we have  $R/I \otimes R/J' = R/I + J' = R/(x^2, y, z) \neq R/(x, y, z)$ .

$$\text{Tor}_1^R(R/I, R/J') = 0.$$

For  $K = (x, y)$ , not transverse!  $R/I \otimes R/K = R/I + K = R/(x, y, z)$ . We have

$$\text{codim} I \cap \text{codim} K = 3 < 4 = \text{codim} I + \text{codim} K,$$

$$\text{Tor}_1^R(R/I, R/K) = R/(x, y, z),$$

and

$$\text{Tor}_2 = 0.$$

$$R/K \otimes R/K = R/K,$$

$$\text{Tor}_1(R/K, R/K) = (R/K)^2,$$

$$\text{Tor}_2 = R/K,$$

and

$$\text{Tor}_3 = 0.$$

In general, if  $I, J \subset \mathbb{C}[x_1, \dots, x_n]$ , cut-out  $X, Y \subset \mathbb{C}^n$  (smooth), we know  $\text{codim}(X \cap Y) \leq \text{codim} X + \text{codim} Y$ , difference tells the last non-zero  $\text{Tor}_i(R/I, R/J)$ .

**Example 1.2.** Let  $R$  be a Noetherian commutative ring and  $M$  a finitely generated module.

$$\text{projdim}(M) = \text{length of shortest projective resolution,}$$

$$\text{globdim}(R) = \max(\text{projdim}(\text{finitely generated modules}))$$

Serre: The global dimension is finite if and only if  $R$  is regular. If  $k = \bar{k}$  and  $R = k[x_1, \dots, x_n]/I$ , then regular  $\Leftrightarrow$  smooth. But  $\mathbb{Z}$  is also regular and we will see it's one dimensional,  $\mathbb{Z}[\sqrt{-5}]$  is regular,  $\mathbb{Z}[\sqrt{-3}]$  is not,  $\mathbb{Z}\left[\frac{1+\sqrt{-3}}{2}\right]$  is regular.