

Short exact sequences

Def a seq. of gps and homomorphisms

$$H \xrightarrow{\alpha} G \xrightarrow{\beta} K$$

is called exact if $\text{im } \alpha = \ker \beta$

eg to say $1 \rightarrow G \xrightarrow{f} K$ is exact^{at G} means f is injective.

to say $H \xrightarrow{f} G \rightarrow 1$ is exact^{at G} means f is surjective.

Def A short exact seq is a seq

$$1 \rightarrow H \xrightarrow{\alpha} G \xrightarrow{\beta} K \rightarrow 1$$

that is exact at H , G , and K .

so α is injective, β is surjective, and $\ker \beta = \text{im } \alpha$.

eg when $N \leq G$, $1 \rightarrow N \hookrightarrow G \twoheadrightarrow G/N \rightarrow 1$.

eg $1 \rightarrow H \hookrightarrow H \times K \twoheadrightarrow K \rightarrow 1$ (special case of above).

eg $1 \rightarrow H \hookrightarrow H \rtimes K \twoheadrightarrow K \rightarrow 1$

Def two SES's $1 \rightarrow H_1 \xrightarrow{\alpha_1} G_1 \xrightarrow{\beta_1} K_1 \rightarrow 1$

and $1 \rightarrow H_2 \xrightarrow{\alpha_2} G_2 \xrightarrow{\beta_2} K_2 \rightarrow 1$

are equivalent if they fit into a commutative diagram:

$$\begin{array}{ccccccc} 1 & \longrightarrow & H_1 & \longrightarrow & G_1 & \longrightarrow & K_1 \longrightarrow 1 \\ & & \cong \downarrow & & \cong \downarrow & & \cong \downarrow \\ 1 & \longrightarrow & H_2 & \longrightarrow & G_2 & \longrightarrow & K_2 \longrightarrow 1 \end{array}$$

$(N \trianglelefteq G)$

eg every SES is equivalent to one of the form $1 \rightarrow N \rightarrow G \rightarrow G/N \rightarrow 1$.

Pf Let $1 \rightarrow H \xrightarrow{\alpha} G \xrightarrow{\beta} K \rightarrow 1$ be a SES. Then

α restricts to an isomorphism $H \cong \text{Im } \alpha$ since α is injective

β induces an isomorphism $\bar{\beta} : G/\text{Im } \alpha = G/\ker \beta \cong K$.

So $1 \rightarrow H \xrightarrow{\alpha} G \xrightarrow{\beta} K \rightarrow 1$

$$\begin{array}{ccccccc} & & \alpha \downarrow & & \downarrow i & & \downarrow \bar{\beta} \\ 1 & \longrightarrow & \text{Im } \alpha & \hookrightarrow & G & \xrightarrow{\pi} & G/\ker \beta \longrightarrow 1 \end{array}$$

□

Note equivalence of SES is an equivalence relation.

Thm Let $1 \rightarrow H \xrightarrow{\alpha} G \xrightarrow{\beta} K \rightarrow 1$ be a SES. TFAE.

(1) \exists a homomorphism $\alpha' : G \rightarrow H$ s.t. $\alpha'(\alpha(h)) = h \quad \forall h \in H$.

(2) \exists an isomorphism $\theta : G \rightarrow H \times K$ s.t. the following diagram commutes.

$$\begin{array}{ccccccc} 1 & \longrightarrow & H & \longrightarrow & G & \longrightarrow & K \longrightarrow 1 \\ & & \parallel & & \downarrow \theta & & \parallel \\ 1 & \longrightarrow & H & \longrightarrow & H \times K & \xrightarrow{\pi} & K \longrightarrow 1 \end{array}$$

proof (1) \Rightarrow (2):

Since α' & β are

Define $\Theta: G \rightarrow H \times K$ by $\Theta(g) = (\alpha'(g), \beta(g))$. Θ is a homomorphism!

Suppose $\Theta(g) = (1, 1)$. Then $\alpha'(g) = 1$ and $\beta(g) = 1$. So $g = \alpha(h)$ for some h (by exactness at G).

Thus $\alpha'(\alpha(h)) = 1$ so $h = 1$ so $g = 1$. So Θ is injective.

Suppose $(h, k) \in H \times K$. By exactness at G , $\exists g \in G$ w/ $\beta(g) = k$.

by exactness at G , $k = \beta(g\alpha(x))$ for all $x \in H$. We want $\overset{x \text{ s.t.}}{\alpha'(g\alpha(x))} = h$.

Equiv, we want x s.t. $\alpha'(g)\alpha'(\alpha(x)) = h \Leftrightarrow \alpha'(g)x = h$. Take $x = (\alpha'(g))^{-1}h$.

So $\Theta(g\alpha(x)) = (h, k)$. So Θ is surjective.

To show the diagram is commutative, the first square is

$$\begin{array}{ccc} H & \xrightarrow{\alpha} & G \\ \parallel & \downarrow \Theta & \\ H & \hookrightarrow & H \times K \end{array}, \text{ and } \Theta(\alpha(h)) = (\alpha'(\alpha(h)), \beta(\alpha(h))) = (h, 1) = \iota(\text{id}(h)).$$

Similarly, the second square commutes.

(2) \Rightarrow (1): Suppose \exists isomorphism $\Theta: G \cong H \times K$ s.t.

$$\begin{array}{ccccccc} 1 & \longrightarrow & H & \xrightarrow{\alpha} & G & \xrightarrow{\beta} & K \longrightarrow 1 \\ & & \parallel & & \downarrow \Theta & & \parallel \\ 1 & \longrightarrow & H & \hookrightarrow & H \times K & \xrightarrow{\pi} & K \longrightarrow 1 \end{array}$$

definition of α'

is commutative. we have $\Theta(g) = (\alpha'(g), \beta(g))$

α' is a function $G \rightarrow H$. it is also a hom: $\alpha' = \pi_H \circ \Theta$.

and $\forall h \in H$, $\alpha'(\alpha(h)) = h$ by commutativity. □

Thm let $1 \longrightarrow H \xrightarrow{\alpha} G \xrightarrow{\beta} K \longrightarrow 1$ be a SES. TFAE:

(1) \exists a homomorphism $\beta': K \rightarrow G$ s.t. $\beta(\beta'(k)) = k \quad \forall k \in K$.

(2) \exists a homomorphism $\varphi: K \rightarrow \text{Aut}(H)$ and an isomorphism

$$\theta: G \rightarrow H \rtimes_{\varphi} K \quad \text{s.t.}$$

$$\begin{array}{ccccccc} 1 & \longrightarrow & H & \xrightarrow{\alpha} & G & \xrightarrow{\beta} & K \longrightarrow 1 \\ & & \parallel & & \downarrow \theta & & \parallel \\ 1 & \longrightarrow & H & \longrightarrow & H \rtimes_{\varphi} K & \xrightarrow{\pi} & K \longrightarrow 1 \end{array}$$

commutes. (it is easier to construct θ^{-1}),

Def a SES $1 \rightarrow H \xrightarrow{\alpha} G \xrightarrow{\beta} K \rightarrow 1$ is said to

split if \exists hom $\beta': K \rightarrow G$ s.t $\beta(\beta'(k)) = k \quad \forall k \in K$.