

# §3.1 Cohomology

Cohomology is a kind of dual notion of homology.

A big difference between homology and coh:

Cohomology is equipped a natural product, called cup product, which is useful in many topics, such as characteristic classes.

Remark

There is also a product in homology called cross product, but it's not as useful as cup product.

Dual complex:

Let  $\dots \rightarrow C_n \xrightarrow{\partial} C_{n-1} \rightarrow \dots \rightarrow C_1 \xrightarrow{\partial} C_0 \rightarrow 0$  be a chain complex.  $G = \text{ab gp}$

Denote  $C_n^* = \text{Hom}(C_n, G)$ ,  $\delta = \delta_n = \delta^* : C_n^* \rightarrow C_{n+1}^* : f \mapsto f \circ \partial$    
← called coboundary map



Note that  $(\alpha\beta)^* = \beta^*\alpha^*$ ,  $\text{id}^* = \text{id}$ ,  $0^* = 0$

Lemma  $\delta \circ \delta = 0$

pf  $\delta^2 f = f \circ \partial \circ \partial = 0$

We have the cochain complex (ie  $\delta : D_n \rightarrow D_{n+1}$ ,  $\delta^2 = 0$ )

$$\dots \leftarrow C_{n+1}^* \xleftarrow{\delta_n} C_n^* \xleftarrow{\delta_{n-1}} C_{n-1}^* \leftarrow \dots \leftarrow C_1^* \leftarrow C_0^* \leftarrow 0$$

The gp  $H^n(C; G) := \frac{\ker(\delta_n)}{\text{im}(\delta_{n-1})}$  is called the cohomology group of  $(C_n^*, \delta)$ .

Remark

One can ① take homology then take dual or ② take dual then take cohomology

①  $\text{Hom}(H_n(C, \partial); G)$

②  $\dots \leftarrow C_{n+1}^* \xleftarrow{\delta} C_n^* \xleftarrow{\delta} C_{n-1}^* \leftarrow \dots$ ,  $H^n(C; G) = \frac{\ker(\delta_n)}{\text{im}(\delta)}$

These two are different in general. The relationship between them is the content of "universal coeff thm"

Example

Consider  $0 \rightarrow \mathbb{Z} \xrightarrow{i} \mathbb{Z} \xrightarrow{m} \mathbb{Z} \rightarrow 0$

$\Rightarrow$  homology:  $H_0 = \mathbb{Z}_m$ ,  $H_1 = 0$

dual of homology:  $\text{Hom}(H_0, \mathbb{Z}) = \text{Hom}(\mathbb{Z}_m, \mathbb{Z}) = 0$ ,  $\text{Hom}(H_1, \mathbb{Z}) \cong 0$

dual ex:  $0 \leftarrow \text{Hom}(\mathbb{Z}, \mathbb{Z}) \xleftarrow{m} \text{Hom}(\mathbb{Z}, \mathbb{Z}) \leftarrow 0$

coh of dual ex:  $H^0 \cong 0$ ,  $H^1 \cong \mathbb{Z}_m$

NOT isomorphic

## Universal coefficient theorem

Let  $H, G$  be arbitrary ab gps. Suppose  $\{x_i\}_{i \in \mathbb{N}}$  generates  $H$ . Let

$F_0 =$  free ab gp gen. by  $\{x_i\}_{i \in \mathbb{N}}$

$F_1 = \ker(F_0 \rightarrow H) \leftarrow$  also a free ab gp

Then the seq

$$0 \rightarrow F_1 \xrightarrow{f_1} F_0 \xrightarrow{f_0} H \rightarrow 0$$

is an exact seq. Furthermore, we have exact here

$$0 \leftarrow \text{Hom}(F_1, G) \xleftarrow{f_1^*} \text{Hom}(F_0, G) \xleftarrow{f_0^*} \text{Hom}(H, G) \leftarrow 0$$

which is a cochain ex, but NOT exact at  $\text{Hom}(F_1, G)$  in general. Define

$$\text{Ext}(H, G) (= \text{Ext}'(H, G)) := \text{Hom}(F_1, G) / \text{im}(f_1^*)$$

this part is called a free resolution of  $H$

exer Read p. 193 for the definition of free resolutions

$$\text{exer } \ker(f_i^*) = \text{im}(f_{i+1}^*)$$

## Lemma (Lemma 3.1, p. 194)

$\text{Ext}(H, G)$  is indep of the choices of  $F_1, F_0$

pf: skip. exer: Read Lemma 3.1 and its proof.

## Properties of $\text{Ext}(H, G)$ (p. 195)

- $\text{Ext}(H \oplus H', G) \cong \text{Ext}(H, G) \oplus \text{Ext}(H', G)$
- $\text{Ext}(H, G) = 0$  if  $H$  is free
- $\text{Ext}(\mathbb{Z}_n, G) \cong G/nG$

exer

Prove these properties

(p. 191)

$$h: H^1(C; G) \rightarrow \text{Hom}(H_1(C), G)$$

$$h(\varphi)(c) = \varphi(c)$$

Lemma  $h$  is well-def

$$f \cdot \delta \varphi = 0 = \varphi \delta \Rightarrow \varphi|_{\text{im} \delta} = 0 \Rightarrow \varphi: H_1(C) \rightarrow G$$

$$\cdot (\delta^2)(c) = \delta^2(c) = 0 \quad \#$$

## Thm 3.2 (Universal coefficient theorem for cohomology)

Let  $C$  be a chain cx of free ab gps. Then the seq.

$$0 \rightarrow \text{Ext}(H_n(C), G) \xrightarrow{f} H^n(C; G) \xrightarrow{h} \text{Hom}(H_n(C), G) \rightarrow 0$$

is a split exact seq.  $\text{Ext}(H_{n+1}, G) \oplus \text{Hom}(H_n, G)$

pf: p. 191 ~ 195, skip here.

## Example

$$C: 0 \rightarrow \mathbb{Z} \xrightarrow{x^m} \mathbb{Z} \rightarrow 0, \quad H_0 = \mathbb{Z}_m \Rightarrow \text{Ext}(H_0, \mathbb{Z}) \cong \mathbb{Z}_m$$

$$0 \rightarrow \text{Ext}(H_0(C), \mathbb{Z}) \cong \mathbb{Z}_m \rightarrow H^1(C; \mathbb{Z}) \cong \mathbb{Z}_m \rightarrow \text{Hom}(H_1, \mathbb{Z}) = 0 \rightarrow 0$$

$$0 \rightarrow \text{Ext}(H_{-1}, \mathbb{Z}) = 0 \rightarrow H^0(C; \mathbb{Z}) = 0 \rightarrow \text{Hom}(H_0, \mathbb{Z}) = 0 \rightarrow 0$$

## Cohomology of spaces

Let  $X$  be a space,  $G$  be an ab gp,  $C_n(X) =$  singular chain

We define the group  $C^n(X; G)$  of singular  $n$ -cochains with coefficients in  $G$  to be the dual gp  $\text{Hom}(C_n(X), G)$

The coboundary map  $\delta: C^n(X; G) \rightarrow C^{n+1}(X; G)$  is the dual  $\delta^*$  of the boundary map, i.e.,  $\forall \varphi \in C^n(X; G), \sigma: \Delta^{n+1} \rightarrow X,$

$$(\delta\varphi)(\sigma) = \sum_i G \varphi(\sigma|_{[v_0, \dots, \hat{v}_i, \dots, v_{n+1}]})$$

Since  $\partial^2 = 0 \Rightarrow \delta^2 = 0$ , we can define the cohomology group  $H^n(X; G)$  with coefficients in  $G$  to be the quotient  $\ker \delta / \text{im} \delta$  at  $C^n(X; G)$  in the cochain complex

$$\dots \leftarrow C^{n+1}(X; G) \xleftarrow{\delta} C^n(X; G) \xleftarrow{\delta} C^{n-1}(X; G) \leftarrow \dots \leftarrow C^0(X; G) \leftarrow 0$$

Elements of  $\ker \delta$  are cocycles, and elements of  $\text{im} \delta$  are coboundaries.

By Thm 3.2, we have the following

Thm

The seq

$$0 \rightarrow \text{Ext}(H_n(X), G) \rightarrow H^n(X; G) \rightarrow \text{Hom}(H_n(X), G) \rightarrow 0$$

is split exact.

Remark

• Since  $\text{Ext}(H_n(X), G) = 0$ , we have  $H^n(X; G) \cong \text{Hom}(H_n(X), G)$

• Since  $H_0(X) = \bigoplus_{\text{path components}} \mathbb{Z}$  is free, we have  $\text{Ext}(H_0(X), G) = 0$ .

$$\Rightarrow H^1(X; G) \cong \text{Hom}(H_1(X), G)$$

• If  $F$  is a field, then

$$H^n(X; F) \cong \text{Hom}_F(H_n(X; F), F)$$

by a generalized form of universal coeff thm

Most thms for singular homology have cohomological versions:

① Reduced cohomology group  $\tilde{H}^n(X; G)$  can be defined by dualizing the augmented chain complex  $\dots \rightarrow G_0(X) \xrightarrow{\partial_0} \mathbb{Z} \rightarrow 0$ , then taking  $\ker / \text{im}$ . So we have

$$\tilde{H}^n(X; G) = H^n(X; G) \quad \forall n > 0, \quad \tilde{H}^0(X; G) \cong \text{Hom}(\tilde{H}_0(X), G) \text{ by universal coeff thm}$$

By the construction, one can see that  $\tilde{H}^0(X; G) = \left\{ \begin{array}{l} \text{functions } X \rightarrow G \text{ that are} \\ \text{constant on path-components} \end{array} \right\}$

$$\left\{ \begin{array}{l} X \rightarrow G \\ \text{constant on all } X \end{array} \right\}$$

② **Relative coh groups** and long exact seq of a pair  $(X,A)$ : We first dualize the short exact seq

$$0 \rightarrow C_n(A) \xrightarrow{i} C_n(X) \xrightarrow{j} C_n(X,A) \rightarrow 0$$

by applying  $\text{Hom}(-, G)$  to get

$$0 \leftarrow C^n(A; G) \xleftarrow{i^*} C^n(X; G) \xleftarrow{j^*} C^n(X,A; G) \leftarrow 0 \quad \textcircled{*}$$

where  $C^n(X,A; G) := \text{Hom}(C_n(X,A), G)$ .

Lemma  $\textcircled{*}$  is a short exact seq of cochain complexes

pf

$i^*$  is onto: Since  $C_n(A), C_n(X)$  are free, we can extend  $\alpha \in \text{Hom}(C_n(A), G)$  to  $\hat{\alpha}: C_n(X) \rightarrow G$  by  $\hat{\alpha}(a) = \alpha(a)$  and  $\hat{\alpha}(b) = 0$  for  $b \in C_n(X) \setminus C_n(A)$ .

$\ker j^* = \text{im } \delta^*$ :  $\beta \in \ker j^* \Leftrightarrow \beta \circ j = 0 \forall \sigma \in C_n(A) \Leftrightarrow \exists \sigma: C_n(A) \rightarrow G$  st  $\beta = \sigma \circ j$

$j^*$  is 1-1: true because  $j$  is onto

Compatibility between  $i^*, j^*$  and  $\delta = \delta^*$ : direct checks

Therefore, we have the long exact seq

$\leftarrow H^n(X,A; G) = \ker / \text{im}$  at  $C^n(X,A; G)$

$$\dots \rightarrow H^n(X,A; G) \xrightarrow{\delta^*} H^n(X; G) \xrightarrow{i^*} H^n(A; G) \xrightarrow{\delta} H^{n+1}(X,A; G) \rightarrow \dots$$

Similarly, one also has  $(\tilde{H}^n(X,A; G) := H^n(X,A; G) \forall n, A \neq \emptyset)$

$$\text{and } \dots \rightarrow \tilde{H}^n(X,A; G) \xrightarrow{\tilde{\delta}^*} \tilde{H}^n(X; G) \xrightarrow{\tilde{i}^*} \tilde{H}^n(A; G) \xrightarrow{\tilde{\delta}} \tilde{H}^{n+1}(X,A; G) \rightarrow \dots \quad \textcircled{**}$$

$$\dots \rightarrow \tilde{H}^n(X,A; G) \rightarrow \tilde{H}^n(X, B; G) \rightarrow \tilde{H}^n(A, B; G) \rightarrow \tilde{H}^{n+1}(X,A; G) \rightarrow \dots$$

Note: as before, the seq  $\textcircled{**}$  gives an iso  $\tilde{H}^n(X; G) \cong H^n(X, \{x\}; G)$ ,  $x \in X$ .

Prop (p. 200)

The connecting homomorphisms  $\delta: H^n(A; G) \rightarrow H^{n+1}(X,A; G)$  and  $\partial: H_n(X,A) \rightarrow H_n(A)$  are dual to each other in the sense that the diagram

$$\begin{array}{ccc} H^n(A; G) & \xrightarrow{\delta} & H^{n+1}(X,A; G) \\ \downarrow h & & \downarrow h \\ \text{Hom}(H_n(A), G) & \xrightarrow{\delta^*} & \text{Hom}(H_n(X,A), G) \end{array}$$

Commutates

pf: exer

Prop

Since  $C_n(X,A)$  are free, it follows from Thm 3.2 that the seq's

$$0 \rightarrow \text{Ext}(H_n(X,A), G) \rightarrow H^n(X,A; G) \rightarrow \text{Hom}(H_n(X,A), G) \rightarrow 0$$

are split and exact