

Problem 1

(1) Let $E_{pq}^2 \Rightarrow H_{p+q}$ be a first quadrant (homological) spectral sequence converging to H_* . Show that there is an exact sequence (“The five-term exact sequence”):

$$H_2 \rightarrow E_{20}^2 \xrightarrow{d^2} E_{01}^2 \rightarrow H_1 \rightarrow E_{10}^2 \rightarrow 0.$$

(2) Formulate and prove an analogous statement for a first quadrant cohomological spectral sequence.

For (1), let $\delta = d_{20}^2: E_{20}^2 \rightarrow E_{01}^2$. It’s easy to see that if we take homology at the second page, the third page is

$$\begin{array}{ccccc} E_{01}^2 / \text{im } \delta & & \cdot & & \cdot \\ & & & & \\ & & E_{00}^2 & & E_{10}^2 & & \ker \delta \end{array}$$

whereupon the four indicated terms stabilize. Since this is a first quadrant spectral sequence, it’s also easy to see the relationship between these E_{pq}^∞ terms and the filtration on H_{p+q} is

$$\begin{array}{ccccc} E_{01}^\infty = F_0 H_1 & & \cdot & & \cdot \\ & & & & \\ E_{00}^\infty = H_0 & & E_{10}^\infty = H_1 / F_0 H_1 & & E_{20}^\infty = H_2 / F_1 H_2 \end{array}$$

Hence we have a sequence

$$H_2 \twoheadrightarrow H_2 / F_1 H_2 \cong \ker \delta \hookrightarrow E_{20}^2 \xrightarrow{\delta} E_{01}^2 \twoheadrightarrow E_{01}^2 / \text{im } \delta \cong F_0 H_1 \hookrightarrow H_1 \twoheadrightarrow H_1 / F_0 H_1 \cong E_{10}^2 \rightarrow 0$$

One can quickly check exactness of the induced five-term sequence, so the result follows.

For (2), let $\delta = d_2^{01}: E_2^{01} \rightarrow E_2^{20}$. The third page is

$$\begin{array}{ccccc} \ker \delta & & \cdot & & \cdot \\ & & & & \\ E_2^{00} & & E_2^{10} & & E_2^{20} / \text{im } \delta \end{array}$$

which again collapses, and the E_∞^{pq} terms relate to the filtration on H^* via

$$\begin{array}{ccccc} E_\infty^{01} = H^1 / F^1 H^1 & & \cdot & & \cdot \\ & & & & \\ E_\infty^{00} = H^0 & & E_\infty^{10} = F^1 H^1 & & E_\infty^{20} = F^2 H^2 \end{array}$$

Hence we have a sequence

$$0 \rightarrow E_2^{10} \cong F^1 H^1 \hookrightarrow H^1 \rightarrow H^1/F^1 H^1 \cong \ker \delta \hookrightarrow E_2^{01} \xrightarrow{\delta} E_2^{20} \rightarrow E_2^{20}/\text{im } \delta \cong F^2 H^2 \hookrightarrow H^2$$

which induces the exact sequence

$$0 \rightarrow E_2^{10} \rightarrow H^1 \rightarrow E_2^{01} \rightarrow E_2^{20} \rightarrow H^2.$$

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Problem 2 Let $0 \rightarrow A_* \rightarrow B_* \rightarrow C_* \rightarrow 0$ be a short exact sequence of complexes. Using spectral sequences, show that there is an exact sequence in homology:

$$\cdots \rightarrow H_{n+1}(C_*) \rightarrow H_n(A_*) \rightarrow H_n(B_*) \rightarrow H_n(C_*) \rightarrow H_{n-1}(A_*) \rightarrow \cdots$$

Consider the double complex whose bottom two rows are

$$\begin{array}{ccccccc} 0 & \longleftarrow & C_1 & \longleftarrow & B_1 & \longleftarrow & A_1 & \longleftarrow & 0 \\ & & \downarrow & & \downarrow & & \downarrow & & \\ 0 & \longleftarrow & C_0 & \longleftarrow & B_0 & \longleftarrow & A_0 & \longleftarrow & 0 \end{array}$$

(where as usual we've toggled the sign on the B_* column's maps). Taking horizontal homology gives 0's everywhere since the rows are exact, so ${}^{II}E_{pq}^r$ collapses to 0 at $r = 1$, forcing the abutment to be trivial. Hence ${}^I E_{pq}^r \Rightarrow 0$. Take vertical homology to get ${}^I E_{pq}^1$ as

$$\begin{array}{ccccccc} 0 & \longleftarrow & H_1(C_*) & \xleftarrow{\beta_1} & H_1(B_*) & \xleftarrow{\alpha_1} & H_1(A_*) & \longleftarrow & 0 \\ & & & & & & & & \\ 0 & \longleftarrow & H_0(C_*) & \xleftarrow{\beta_0} & H_0(B_*) & \xleftarrow{\alpha_0} & H_0(A_*) & \longleftarrow & 0 \end{array}$$

It's easy to see the B_* column stabilizes on the next page, so it must stabilize at 0, i.e. the above is exact at $H_n(B_*)$. Take horizontal homology to get ${}^I E_{pq}^2$ as

$$\begin{array}{ccccc} H_1(C_*)/\text{im } \beta_1 & & 0 & & \ker \alpha_1 \\ & \swarrow & & \searrow & \\ H_0(C_*)/\text{im } \beta_0 & & 0 & & \ker \alpha_0 \end{array}$$

It's easy to see the C_* and A_* columns stabilize on the next page, so the above is exact at $\ker \alpha_0$ and $H_1(C_*)/\text{im } \beta_1$, i.e. the connecting map is an isomorphism. Hence we have a sequence

$$\cdots \rightarrow H_1(A_*) \xrightarrow{\alpha_1} H_1(B_*) \xrightarrow{\beta_1} H_1(C_*) \rightarrow H_1(C_*)/\text{im } \beta_1 \cong \ker \alpha_0 \hookrightarrow H_0(A_*) \xrightarrow{\alpha_0} \cdots$$

which gives the desired long exact sequence. ■

Problem 3 Prove a subtler version of the **5-lemma**: namely, what are the “minimal” conditions you need to put on the following commutative diagram with exact rows to conclude that γ is injective? What about surjective?

$$\begin{array}{ccccccccc} A & \longrightarrow & B & \longrightarrow & C & \longrightarrow & D & \longrightarrow & E \\ \downarrow \alpha & & \downarrow \beta & & \downarrow \gamma & & \downarrow \delta & & \downarrow \epsilon \\ A' & \longrightarrow & B' & \longrightarrow & C' & \longrightarrow & D' & \longrightarrow & E' \end{array}$$

Consider the diagram as a double complex by flipping it horizontally and toggling the signs of the second and fourth vertical arrows without loss of generality

We find ${}^I E_{pq}^1$ is

$$\begin{array}{ccccccccc} \cdot & & 0 & & 0 & & 0 & & \cdot \\ \downarrow & & & & & & & & \downarrow \\ \cdot & & 0 & & 0 & & 0 & & \cdot \end{array}$$

where \cdot represents the kernel or cokernel of the appropriate map. The remaining pages do not change the $n = 2$ and $n = 3$ antidiagonals, hence the filtration on these pieces of the abutment H_n are trivial, so $H_2 = H_3 = 0$. In particular ${}^I E_{pq}^\infty = 0$ for $p + q = n = 2, 3$.

Now compute ${}^I E_{pq}^1$:

$$\begin{array}{ccccccccc} \ker \epsilon & \longleftarrow & \ker \delta & \longleftarrow & \ker \gamma & \longleftarrow & \ker \beta & \longleftarrow & \ker \alpha \\ \text{coker } \epsilon & \longleftarrow & \text{coker } \delta & \longleftarrow & \text{coker } \gamma & \longleftarrow & \text{coker } \beta & \longleftarrow & \text{coker } \alpha \end{array}$$

If $\ker \delta = \ker \beta = \text{coker } \alpha = 0$, taking homology at $\ker \gamma$ does nothing at this page or the next, so $\ker \gamma = {}^I E_{21}^\infty = 0$. Likewise if $\text{coker } \delta = \text{coker } \beta = \ker \epsilon$, it follows that $\text{coker } \gamma = 0$. So, we have

- γ is injective if δ, β are injective and α is surjective
- γ is surjective if δ, β are surjective and ϵ is injective

This seems to essentially be the two “four lemmas”; I’m not sure if this is a “minimal” set of conditions in any reasonable sense. They seem to be the most obvious conditions, if that’s worth anything. ■

Problem 4 Let $f: (A_*, d_A) \rightarrow (B_*, d_B)$ be a map of complexes. The mapping cone $\text{Cone}(f)_*$ is the total complex of the double complex $A_* \xrightarrow{f} B_*$. It can be described explicitly as follows:

$$\text{Cone}(f)_n := A_{n-1} \oplus B_n, \quad d_n: A_{n-1} \oplus B_n \xrightarrow{\begin{pmatrix} -d_A & 0 \\ -f & d_B \end{pmatrix}} A_{n-2} \oplus B_{n-1}.$$

Show that there is a long exact sequence

$$\cdots \rightarrow H_{n+1}(\text{Cone}(f)_*) \rightarrow H_n(A_*) \rightarrow H_n(B_*) \rightarrow H_n(\text{Cone}(f)_*) \rightarrow H_{n-1}(A_*) \rightarrow \cdots$$

Minor note: I assume the double complex $A_* \xrightarrow{f} B_*$ is anticommutative, whereas a “map of complexes” in my experience has commutative squares.

Consider the double complex

$$\begin{array}{ccccccc} 0 & \longleftarrow & A_{n-1} & \xleftarrow{\pi_A} & A_{n-1} \oplus B_n & \longrightarrow & B_n & \longleftarrow & 0 \\ & & \downarrow -d_A & & \downarrow d_n & & \downarrow d_B & & \\ 0 & \longleftarrow & A_{n-2} & \xleftarrow{\pi_A} & A_{n-2} \oplus B_{n-1} & \longrightarrow & B_{n-1} & \longleftarrow & 0 \end{array}$$

One can check this has exact rows and columns. Hence we have an exact sequence of chain complexes

$$0 \rightarrow B_* \rightarrow \text{Cone}(f)_* \rightarrow A[-1]_* \rightarrow 0,$$

which from Problem 2 gives rise to a long exact sequence

$$\cdots \rightarrow H_{n+1}(\text{Cone}(f)_*) \rightarrow H_n A_* \rightarrow H_n(B_*) \rightarrow H_n(\text{Cone}(f)_*) \rightarrow H_{n-1}(A_*) \rightarrow \cdots$$

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Problem 5 Establish the Künneth spectral sequence for complexes (it’s ok to use the classical Künneth formula as in [Weibel, 3.6.3] if you feel that you need to): Let R be a (commutative) ring and C_*, D_* complexes of R -modules bounded below. Assume the C_n are flat for all n . Show that there is a convergent spectral sequence

$$E_{pq}^2 = \bigoplus_{s+t=q} \text{Tor}_p^R(H_s(C_*), H_t(D_*)) \Rightarrow H_{p+q}(C_* \otimes_R D_*)$$

where $H_{p+q}(C_* \otimes_R D_*)$ stands for the homology of the total complex.

Let $P_* \rightarrow D_*$ be a Cartan-Eilenberg resolution. Consider the double chain complex

$$E_{pq}^0 = \text{Tot}_q(C_* \otimes P_{*p})$$

where the vertical maps are the usual total complex maps, and the horizontal maps are induced by the horizontal maps from $P_* \rightarrow D_*$. Take horizontal homology to get

$$\begin{aligned} ({}^{II}E_{pq}^1)^T &= H_p(\text{Tot}_q(C_* \otimes_R P_{*p})) = H_p\left(\bigoplus_{s+t=q} C_s \otimes_R P_t\right) \\ &= \bigoplus_{s+t=q} H_p(C_s \otimes_R P_t) = \bigoplus_{s+t=q} C_s \otimes_R H_p(P_t) = \bigoplus_{s+t=q} C_s \otimes_R \delta_{p0} D_t \\ &= \delta_{p0} \text{Tot}_q(C_* \otimes_R D_*), \end{aligned}$$

where we’ve used the following facts: \oplus is finite; homology commutes with finite sums; homology commutes with $C_s \otimes_R$ – since C_s is flat; $P_t \rightarrow D_t$ is a projective resolution, so taking homology gives zeros except at the very bottom when it gives D_t . That is, we’re left with just $\text{Tot}_q(C_* \otimes_R D_*)$ in the $p = 0$ column. Thus we’ll be able to recover the abutment exactly, not just the associated graded object. Take vertical homology to get

$$({}^{II}E_{pq}^2)^T = \delta_{p0} H_q(\text{Tot}_o(C_* \otimes_R D_*)).$$

The sequence stabilizes here, so the n th piece of the abutment is $H_n(\text{Tot}_o(C_* \otimes_R D_*))$ (since $p = 0$ gives the only non-zero term and $n = p + q$).

On the other hand, take vertical homology of E_{pq}^0 to get

$${}^I E_{pq}^1 = H_q(\text{Tot}_o(C_* \otimes_R P_{*p}))$$

and then take horizontal homology to get

$$\begin{aligned} {}^I E_{pq}^2 &= H_p(H_q(\text{Tot}_o(C_* \otimes_R P_{*p}))) = H_p\left(\bigoplus_{s+t=q} H_s(C_*) \otimes_R H_t(P_{*p})\right) \\ &= \bigoplus_{s+t=q} H_p(H_s(C_*) \otimes_R H_t(P_{*p})) = \bigoplus_{s+t=q} \text{Tor}_p^R(H_s(C_*), H_t(D_*)), \end{aligned}$$

where we've used the following facts: the Künneth formula quoted below; \oplus is finite; homology commutes with finite sums; $H_t(P_{*p}) \rightarrow H_t(D_*)$ is a projective resolution; Tor is computed in the usual way. This application of the Künneth formula uses the fact that P_{*p} is projective, hence flat, and $B(P_{*p})$ is projective, hence flat, which was proved in class; it also uses the fact that $H_t(P_{*p})$ is projective, hence flat, so the Tor term vanishes, and we have an isomorphism. In all we have a (convergent) spectral sequence

$$\bigoplus_{s+t=q} \text{Tor}_p^R(H_s(C_*), H_t(D_*)) \Rightarrow H_{p+q}(C_* \otimes_R D_*).$$

1 Theorem (Künneth formula for complexes)

Let P and Q be right and left R -module complexes, respectively. If P_n and $d(P_n)$ are flat for each n , then there is an exact sequence

$$0 \rightarrow \bigoplus_{p+q=n} H_p(P) \otimes H_q(Q) \rightarrow H_n(P \otimes_R Q) \rightarrow \bigoplus_{p+q=n-1} \text{Tor}_1^R(H_p(P), H_q(Q)) \rightarrow 0.$$

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