

LeCuzzes on

DIFFERENTIAL GEOMETRY AND TOPOLOGY

V2

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LeCuzze XLV

TOOLS IN HOMOLOGICAL ALGEBRA

Elements of homological algebra

Differential complexes

Let  $C_i = \bigoplus_{q \in \mathbb{Z}} C^q$  vector spaces

the  $C^q$  are equipped with maps:

$$\dots \rightarrow C^{q-1} \xrightarrow{d} C^q \xrightarrow{d} C^{q+1} \rightarrow \dots$$

such that  $d^2 = 0$

abuse of notation

The pair  $(C, d)$  is termed

Differential complex, and  $d$  is the differential of the complex (collectively)

one forms the cohomology of the complex

$(C, d)$ :

cohomology groups

$$H(C) = \bigoplus_{q \in \mathbb{Z}} H^q(C)$$

$$H^q(C) := \frac{\ker d \cap C^q}{\text{Im } d \cap C^q}$$

Comment

one abstracts common features encountered in dealing with de Rham and singular theories and builds up a general, far reaching machinery. Recall that the aim of algebraic topology is to find algebraic invariants (groups, algebras etc) aimed at capturing topological properties and able to distinguish non homeomorphic spaces. Schematically

topological space  $X$  "functor"  $\rightarrow$  algebraic invariants  $I(X)$

$X \cong Y \Rightarrow I(X) = I(Y)$   
 $(\Rightarrow I(X) \neq I(Y) \Rightarrow X \not\cong Y)$

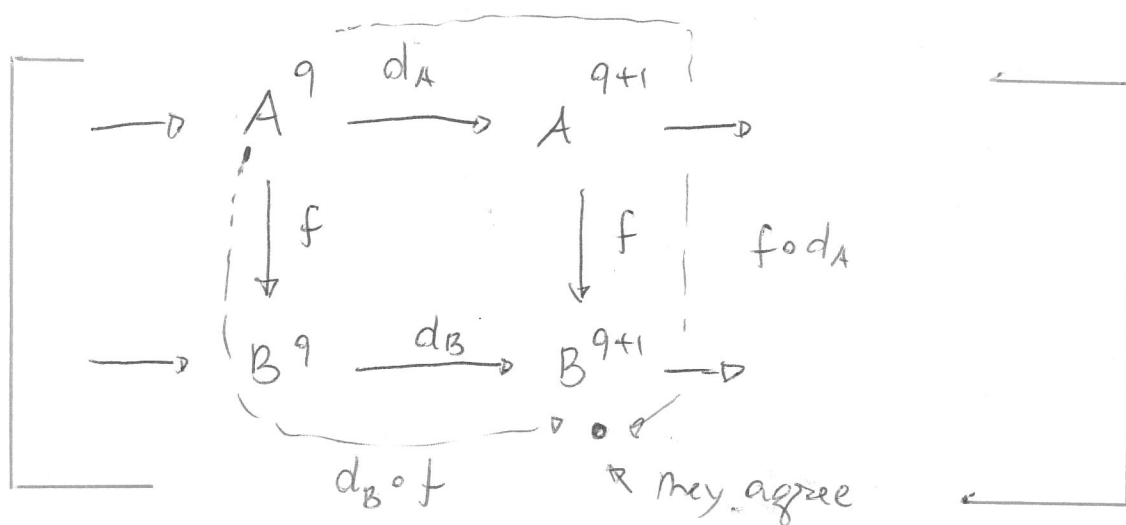
In general, it may well happen that  $I(X) = I(Y)$  but  $X \not\cong Y$ .

\* Chain maps

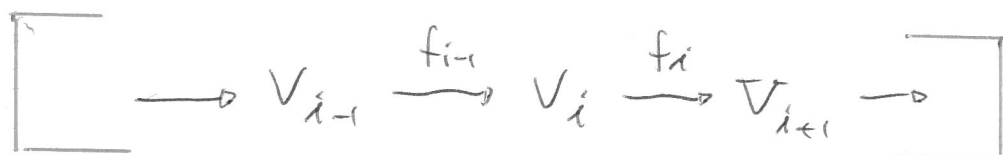
Given differential complexes  $(A, d_A), (B, d_B)$ ,  
 a homomorphism  $f: A \rightarrow B$

is called a Chain map if  $\boxed{f \circ d_A = d_B \circ f}$

i.e., if, at each stage, one has commutative diagrams



\* Exact sequence of vector spaces and homomorphisms



Given a sequence of vector spaces and homomorphisms,  
 it is called exact if,  $\forall i$ ,

$$\boxed{\text{Ker } f_i = \text{Im } f_{i-1}}$$

(The kernel of a map coincides with the image of the preceding one)

||| Cohomology groups measure the obstruction against exactness of a differential complex (at each stage)

Lemma. Consider an exact sequence of finite dimensional vector spaces

$$0 \xrightarrow{f_{-1}} A_0 \xrightarrow{f_0} A_1 \xrightarrow{f_1} \dots \xrightarrow{f_n} A_n \xrightarrow{f_{n+1}} 0$$

Then, setting  $a_i := \dim A_i$ , one has

$$\boxed{\sum_{i=0}^n (-1)^i a_i = 0}$$

Proof. Just a simple application of the "nullity + rank" Theorem

( $T: V \rightarrow W$  homom. of vector spaces  
 $\dim V < \infty$

$$\dim \ker T + \dim \operatorname{Im} T = \dim V)$$

Indeed, let

$$a_l = \underbrace{a_l}_{\dim \ker f_l} + \underbrace{a_l}_{\dim \operatorname{Im} f_l}$$

one has

$$\sum_{l=0}^n (-1)^l a_l = \sum_{l=0}^n \left\{ (-1)^l \underbrace{a_l}_{\operatorname{Ker}} + (-1)^l \underbrace{a_l}_{\operatorname{Im}} \right\}$$

By exactness  $a_{l-1}^{\operatorname{Im}} = a_l^{\operatorname{Ker}}$ , therefore via telescoping:

$$\begin{array}{ccccccc} & \operatorname{Ker} & & \operatorname{Ker} & & \operatorname{Ker} & \\ & a_0 & - & a_1 & + & a_2 & - \dots \\ & \parallel & & & & & \\ & 0 & & \parallel & & \parallel & \\ & & & \operatorname{Im} & & \operatorname{Im} & \\ + & a_0 & - & a_1 & + & a_2 & - \dots \\ & & & \parallel & & \parallel & \\ & & & 0 & & 0 & \end{array} = 0$$

More generally, given a complex  $A$

$$0 \xrightarrow{f_{n-1}} A_0 \xrightarrow{f_0} A_1 \xrightarrow{f_1} \dots \xrightarrow{f_{n-1}} A_n \xrightarrow{f_n} 0$$

$$f_i \circ f_{i-1} = 0 \quad i = 0, \dots, n$$

one forms

$$H_i(A) = \frac{\ker f_i}{\text{Im } f_{i-1}}$$

$i$ th- (co)-homology group

$$h_i := \dim H_i$$

(measures obstruction to exactness at  $A_i$ )

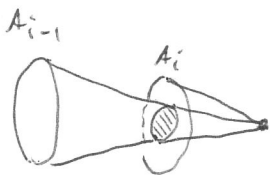
One has the important

★ Proposition

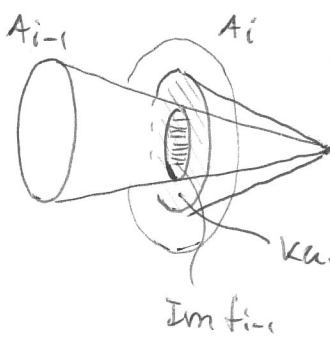
$$\sum_{l=0}^n (-1)^l a_l = \sum_{l=0}^n (-1)^l h_l$$

$$\equiv \chi(A)$$

Euler-Poincaré  
Characteristic

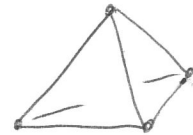


exactness



non-trivial  
(co)-homology

Example



in simplicial homology:

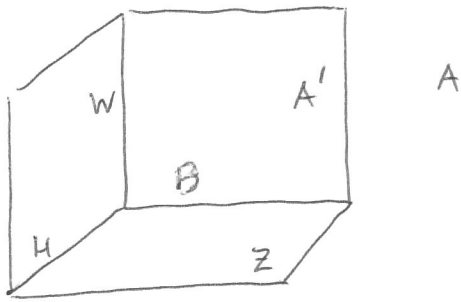
$V - E + F = 2$	$=$	$2$
↑     ↑     ↑		
vertices   edges   faces		$h_0 - h_1 + h_2$
4     - 6     + 4		
		1     0     1



$$V - E + F = 2$$

singular homology

Proof.



$H \cong Z/B$   
 identified  $\downarrow$  direct complement  
 of  $B$  in  $Z$   
 $Z = B \oplus H$

$$A_k = Z_k \oplus W_k = H_k \oplus \underbrace{B_k \oplus W_k}_{A'_k}$$

$\uparrow$   
 direct complement  
 of  $Z_k$  in  $A_k$

$$\text{Then } a_k = a'_k + h_k$$

$\parallel$                        $\parallel$                        $\parallel$   
 $\dim A_k$                        $\dim A'_k$                        $\dim H_k$

Now observe that

$$f_k(A'_k) = B_{k+1} \subseteq A'_{k+1}$$

$$f_k(H_k) = \{0\}$$

$\parallel$   
 $Z_k$

Setting  $f'_k := f_k|_{A'_k}$  we get an exact subcomplex:

$$\boxed{\text{Im } f'_k = B_{k+1} = \text{ker } f'_{k+1}}$$

Thus

$$\begin{aligned} \chi(A) &= \sum_{k=0}^n (-1)^k a_k = \sum_{k=0}^n (-1)^k (a'_k + h_k) \\ &= \underbrace{\sum_{k=0}^n (-1)^k a'_k}_{\substack{\parallel \\ 0 \\ \text{preceding lemma}}} + \sum_{k=0}^n (-1)^k h_k \end{aligned}$$

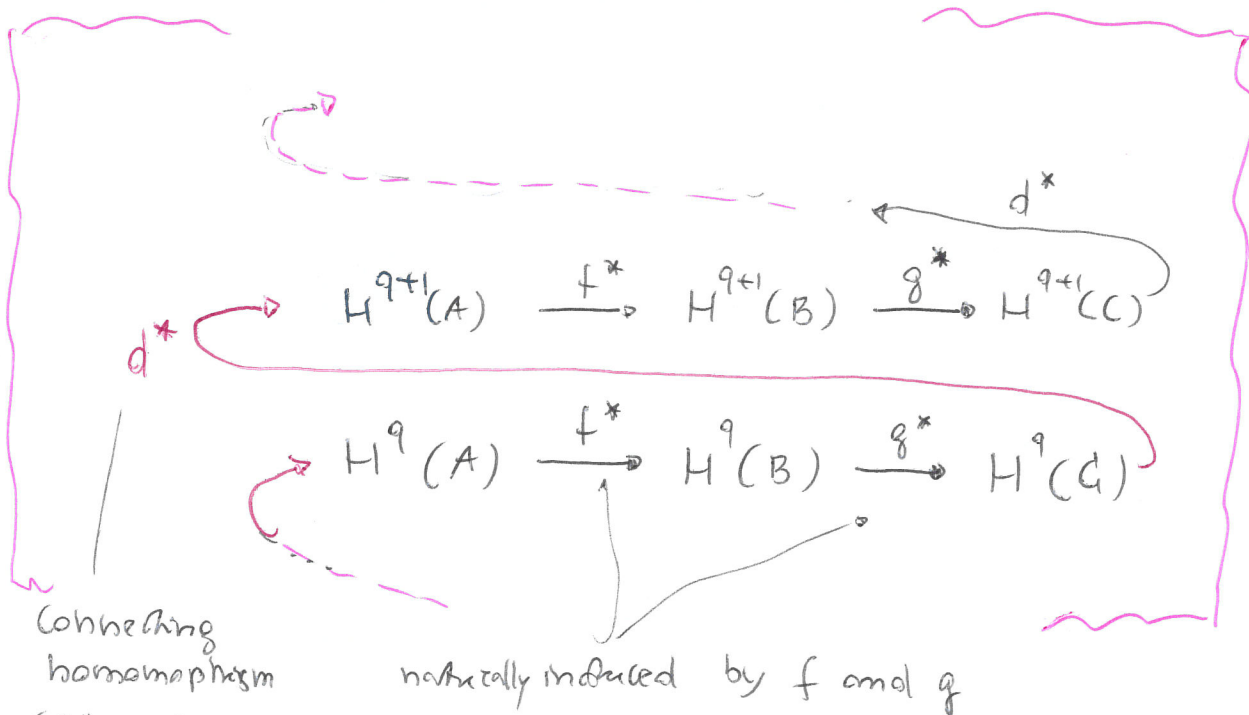
and we are done.  $\square$

\* short exact sequence of differential complexes  $A, B, C$  (and chain maps  $f, g$ )

$$\boxed{0 \rightarrow A \xrightarrow{f} B \xrightarrow{g} C \rightarrow 0}$$

This means:  $\begin{cases} f \text{ injective \\ g \text{ surjective \\ } \text{Im } f = \text{Ker } g \end{cases}$

\*\* Theorem Given  $0 \rightarrow A \xrightarrow{f} B \xrightarrow{g} C \rightarrow 0$  as above, there exists a long exact sequence in cohomology:

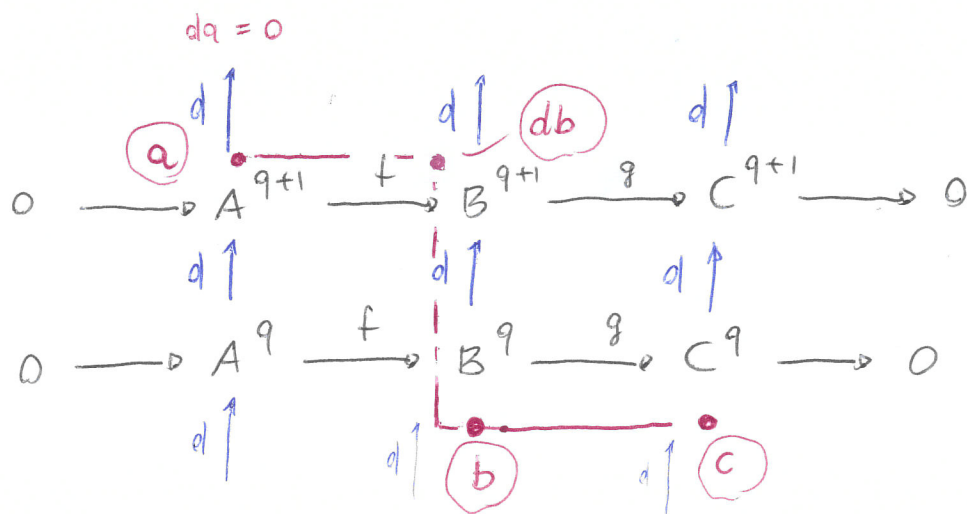


connecting homomorphism

(coboundary homomorphism, Bockstein...)

⇒ clearly, the crucial point is the definition of  $d^*$ , which is given by  
\* diagram chasing.

Proof. ① First define  $d^*$



Let  $c \in C^q$ , with  $dc = 0$  define

$$d^*[c] := [a]$$

where  $[a]$  is obtained as follows. (see diagram)

$$c = g(b) \quad \text{for some } b \in B^q \text{ (since } g \text{ is surjective).}$$

Notice that  $g(db) = d g(b) = dc = 0$ ,  
 $g$  chain map

that is,  $db \in \text{Ker } g$ . By exactness ( $\text{Ker } g = \text{Im } f$ )

$$db = f(a)$$

for a unique  $a \in A^{q+1}$  ( $f$  being injective).

\* We check that  $da = 0$  (whence  $a$  defines a cohomology class  $[a] \in H^{q+1}(A)$ ). From  $d^2 b = 0$  one has:

$$0 = d^2 b = d(db) = d f(a) = f da \Rightarrow da = 0$$

$f$  chain map      injectivity of  $f$



We must prove that  $d^*$  is well-defined