

Stuff that I covered in the weeks 1–4 of MT 2023:

- Definition of singular homology with coefficients in an abelian group  $R$ .  
 $\Delta^n := \{(x_0, \dots, x_n) \in \mathbb{R}_+^n : \sum x_i = 1\}$   
 $C_n(X; R) = \bigoplus_{\sigma: \Delta^n \rightarrow X} R$   
 $C_*(X), \partial_n: C_n(X) \rightarrow C_{n-1}(X)$ .  
 $\partial_n(\sigma) = \sum (-1)^j \sigma|_{[0, \dots, \hat{j}, \dots, n]}$  where  $\sigma|_{[0, \dots, \hat{j}, \dots, n]}(x_0, \dots, x_{n-1}) := \sigma(x_0, \dots, x_{j-1}, 0, x_j, \dots, x_{n-1})$   
Equivalently  $\sigma|_{[0, \dots, \hat{j}, \dots, n]} := \sigma \circ d_j$  where  $d_j(x_0, \dots, x_{n-1}) := (x_0, \dots, x_{j-1}, 0, x_j, \dots, x_{n-1})$ .  
 $\partial_n \partial_{n-1} = 0$   
 $Z_n(X) = \ker(\partial_n), B_n(X) = \text{im}(\partial_{n+1}), H_n = Z_n/B_n$ .
- Definition of singular cohomology.  
 $C^n(X; R) = \text{Hom}_{\mathbb{Z}}(C_n(X; \mathbb{Z}), R)$   
 $C^n(X; R) = \prod_{\sigma: \Delta^n \rightarrow X} R$   
 $\delta^n: C^n(X) \rightarrow C^n(X)$   
 $\delta^n \phi(\sigma) = \sum (-1)^j \phi(\sigma|_{[0, \dots, \hat{j}, \dots, n]})$
- $H_0(X) = \mathbb{Z}^{\# \text{ of connected components}}$   
 $H_1(X) = \pi_1(X)_{\text{ab}}$  [statement without proof (it's one of the exercises)]  
 $H_*(\sqcup X_i) = \bigoplus H_*(X_i), H^*(\sqcup X_i) = \prod H^*(X_i)$ .
- General definition of (co)chain complex.  
(co)chain maps.
- a chain homotopy between  $f, g: C \rightarrow D$  is  $h: C \rightarrow D_{+1}$  satisfying  $h\partial + \partial h = g - f$ .  
chain homotopic maps induce the same map on  $H_*$  (or  $H^*$ ).  
Homotopic maps  $f, g: X \rightarrow Y$  induce chain homotopic maps  $f_*, g_*: C_*(X) \rightarrow C_*(Y)$  and chain homotopic maps  $f^*, g^*: C^*(Y) \rightarrow C^*(X)$ .  
homotopic maps  $f, g: X \rightarrow Y$  induce same map on  $H_*$  and  $H^*$ .  
 $X$  homotopy equivalent to  $Y \Rightarrow H_*(X) \cong H_*(Y)$  and  $H^*(X) \cong H^*(Y)$ .
- $\Delta$ -complex, defined as a bunch of sets  $I_n$  and maps  $d^i: I_n \rightarrow I_{n-1}$  satisfying  $d^i d^j = d^{j-1} d^i$  if  $j < i$ .  
Geometric realisation  $X$  of a  $\Delta$ -complex:  $\sqcup_{n \in \mathbb{N}} I_n \times \Delta^n / (d^i \alpha, x) \sim (\alpha, d^i x)$ .  
simplicial homology and cohomology:  
 $C_*^{\text{simpl}}(X, R) := \bigoplus_{\alpha \in I_n} R$ , with differential  $\partial_n(\alpha) := \sum (-1)^j d^j \alpha$ .
- short/long exact sequences.  
The LES in homology associated to a SES of chain complexes.  
Relative homology and cohomology, for a pair  $A \subset X$ .  
 $C_*(X, A) = C_*(X)/C_*(A), C^n(X, A; R) = \text{Hom}_{\mathbb{Z}}(C_n(X, A; \mathbb{Z}), R)$   
 $H_*(X, A) = \ker(\partial)/\text{im}(\partial), H^*(X, A) = \ker(\delta)/\text{im}(\delta)$   
The SES of chain complexes  $0 \rightarrow C_*(A) \rightarrow C_*(X) \rightarrow C_*(X, A) \rightarrow 0$   
The long exact sequences in  $H_*$  and  $H^*$  associated to a pair  $A \subset X$ .  
Reduced (co)homology, defined as  $H_*(X, \{\text{pt}\})$  and  $H^*(X, \{\text{pt}\})$ .
- Statement of excision:  $H_*(X, A) = H_*(X \setminus E, A \setminus E)$  if  $E \subset A \subset X$  and the closure of  $E$  is contained in the interior of  $A$ .

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Week 5, MT 2023:

Given a space  $X$ , and an open cover  $U=\{U_i\}$  of  $X$ , write  $C_n^U(X;R) = \bigoplus_{\sigma:\Delta^n \rightarrow X} R$  where the sum is indexed over those singular simplices whose image lands in one of the  $U_i$ .

Theorem(small simplices theorem): The inclusion  $C_n^U(X;R) \rightarrow C_n(X;R)$  induces an isomorphism at the level of homology.

[postpone the proof until later] We first show some consequences:

Consequence #1:

Theorem(excision): If  $E \subset A \subset X$  and the closure of  $E$  is contained in the interior of  $A$ , then the natural map  $H_n(X \setminus E, A \setminus E) \rightarrow H_n(X, A)$  is an isomorphism.

Proof: consider the open cover  $U = \{\text{interior of } A, \text{ complement of closure of } E\}$ .

A singular simplex  $\sigma:\Delta^n \rightarrow X$  whose image lands in one of the two elements of  $U$  is either disjoint from  $E$ , or entirely contained in  $A$ . Therefore  $C_n^U(X, A) = C_n^U(X \setminus E, A \setminus E)$ .

We get two SES connected by inclusion maps:

$$\begin{array}{ccccccc}
0 & \rightarrow & C_n(A) & \rightarrow & C_n(X) & \rightarrow & C_n(X, A) \rightarrow 0 \\
& & \uparrow & & \uparrow & & \uparrow \\
0 & \rightarrow & C_n^U(A) & \rightarrow & C_n^U(X) & \rightarrow & C_n^U(X, A) = C_n^U(X \setminus E, A \setminus E) \rightarrow 0.
\end{array}$$

Passing to homology, we get two LES, and comparison maps

$$\begin{array}{l}
H_n^U(A) \rightarrow H_n(A) \quad (1) \\
H_n^U(X) \rightarrow H_n(X) \quad (2) \\
H_n^U(X, A) \rightarrow H_n(X, A).
\end{array}$$

By an application of the 5-lemma [state the 5-lemma], since (1) and (2) are isomorphisms, we get that the third map is also an isomorphism

Therefore  $H_n(X \setminus E, A \setminus E) = H_n^U(X \setminus E, A \setminus E) = H_n^U(X, A) = H_n(X, A)$ . QED

State and prove the 5-lemma.

Consequence #2:

Corollary:

If  $A \subset X$  is an NDR pair (explain what NDR means), then  $H_n(X, A) = \text{reduced } H_n(X/A)$ .

Proof:

Let  $V$  be the neighbourhood of  $A$  from the definition of NDR.

Compare the LES associated to  $A \subset X$  and the LES associated to  $A \subset V$ .

By using the fact that  $A \hookrightarrow V$  induces an isomorphism in  $H_n$ , we see that we can once again apply the 5-lemma, to get  $H_n(X, A) \cong H_n(X, V)$ . Therefore

$$H_n(X, A) \cong H_n(X, V) \cong_{\text{excision}} H_n(X \setminus A, V \setminus A) \cong_{\text{excision}} H_n(X/A, V/A) \cong H_n(X/A, \text{pt}).$$

(The last isomorphism is again by the same argument as above, this time comparing the LES of  $V/A \subset X/A$  to the LES of  $\text{pt} \subset X/A$ )

QED

Consequence #3:

**Theorem(Mayer-Vietoris):** Whenever  $A \cup B = X$  and  $A, B$  are open (or whenever we have a situation which is homotopy equivalent to the above e.g. the two closed hemispheres of a sphere), then we have a LES

$$\dots \rightarrow H_*(A \cap B) \rightarrow H_*(A) \oplus H_*(B) \rightarrow H_*(X) \rightarrow H_{*-1}(A \cap B) \rightarrow \dots$$

Proof:

Letting  $U = \{A, B\}$ , we have a SES of chain complexes

$$0 \rightarrow C_*(A \cap B) \rightarrow C_*(A) \oplus C_*(B) \rightarrow C_*^U(X) \rightarrow 0$$

where the maps are the ones you expect, except for a pesky little minus sign.

Therefore, we get a LES

$$\dots \rightarrow H_*(A \cap B) \rightarrow H_*(A) \oplus H_*(B) \rightarrow H_*^U(X) \rightarrow H_{*-1}(A \cap B) \rightarrow \dots$$

But  $H_*^U(X) = H_*(X)$ .

QED

Do some examples of Mayer-Vietoris:

– wedge of two (well-pointed) connected spaces:  $H_*(X \vee Y) = H_*(X) \oplus H_*(Y)$  in positive degrees.

– sphere covered by two hemispheres.

– genus 2 Riemann surfaces cut along a separating curve.

(uses that  $T^2 \setminus D^2$  is homotopy equivalent to  $S^1 \vee S^1$ ; explain why that's the case.

Compute the map  $S^1 \hookrightarrow T^2 \setminus D^2$  at the level of homology by means of  $H_1 = (\pi_1)_{ab}$ ).

**Proof of small simplices theorem:**

Recall the statement:  $C_*^U(X) \rightarrow C_*(X)$  induces an isomorphism at the level of homology.

Strategy of proof:

• Define  $S : C_*(X) \rightarrow C_*(X)$ , where  $S$  stands for "subdivide".

*[Draw some examples of what  $S$  does on some 1-chains: it replaces each singular 1-simplex by two singular 1-simplices going in opposite direction, one of which has a coefficient (-1). Then draw some examples of what  $S$  does on some 2-chains: it replaces each singular 2-simplex by six singular 2-simplices, again with various signs.]*

• Prove that  $S$  is chain homotopic to the identity map  $C_*(X) \rightarrow C_*(X)$ .

• Prove that  $\forall c \in C_*(X) \exists N \in \mathbb{N}$  such that  $S^N(c) \in C_*^U(X)$ .

Assuming the above, let us prove the surjectivity of  $H_*^U(X) \rightarrow H_*(X)$ :

Pick  $[c] \in H_*(X)$ .

Then  $\forall N, [S^N(c)] = [c]$  by virtue of  $S$  (hence  $S^N$ ) being chain homotopic to the identity.

But  $[S^N(c)] \in H_*^U(X)$  for  $N$  large enough. ✓

...and injectivity of  $H_*^U(X) \rightarrow H_*(X)$ :

Pick  $[c] \in H_*^U(X)$  and assume that its image in  $H_*(X)$  is zero.

We want to show that  $c \in \text{im}(\partial: C_{*+1}^U(X) \rightarrow C_*^U(X))$ .

Pick  $C \in C_*(X)$  such that  $\partial C = c$ , and  $N \in \mathbb{N}$  large enough so that  $S^N C \in C_*^U(X)$ .

Let  $h$  be the chain homotopy between  $1$  and  $S^N$ , so that  $h\partial C + \partial hC = C - S^N C$ .

That is:

$$hc + \partial hC = C - S^N C.$$

Applying  $\partial$  to the above:

$$\partial hc = c - \partial S^N C.$$

Thus  $c = \partial(hc - S^N C)$  as desired, provided that  $h$  maps  $C.^U(X) \rightarrow C_{\cdot+1}^U(X)$ .

So, when we construct  $h$ , we'll have to be careful that it doesn't increase the size of the simplices. But this will be obvious from the construction.

**Next task:**

Define  $S : C.(X) \rightarrow C.(X)$  and  $h : C.(X) \rightarrow C_{\cdot+1}(X)$ , and check that  $h\partial + \partial h = \text{id} - S$ .

We will construct  $S$  and  $h$  in a way which is natural in  $X$ , meaning that if  $f: X \rightarrow Y$  is any map, we will construct  $S$  and  $h$  in such a way that the following diagrams commutes:

$$\begin{array}{ccc} C.(X) & \xrightarrow{S} & C.(X) \\ \downarrow f_* & & \downarrow f_* \\ C.(Y) & \xrightarrow{S} & C.(Y) \end{array} \quad (*)$$

and

$$\begin{array}{ccc} C.(X) & \xrightarrow{h} & C_{\cdot+1}(X) \\ \downarrow f_* & & \downarrow f_* \\ C.(Y) & \xrightarrow{h} & C_{\cdot+1}(Y) \end{array} \quad (**)$$

In formulas:  $S(f_*(\sigma)) = f_*(S(\sigma))$ . and  $h(f_*(\sigma)) = f_*(h(\sigma))$ .

If we know  $S$  and  $h$  on the singular simplex  $i \in C_n(\Delta^n)$  given by the identity map  $i := \text{id}_{\Delta^n} : \Delta^n \rightarrow \Delta^n$ , then we can use (\*) and (\*\*) to deduce what they do on an arbitrary singular simplex  $\sigma : \Delta^n \rightarrow X$ . Indeed, we must have  $S(\sigma) = S(\sigma_*(i)) = \sigma_*(S(i))$  and  $h(\sigma) = h(\sigma_*(i)) = \sigma_*(h(i))$ . So **it's enough to define  $S(i)$  and  $h(i)$** .

By a similar argument to above, in order to check the relation  $h\partial + \partial h = \text{id} - S$ , it's enough to check it when applied to  $i := \text{id}_{\Delta^n} : \Delta^n \rightarrow \Delta^n$ . Indeed:

$$\begin{aligned} h\partial i + \partial h i &= h\partial \sigma_*(i) + \partial h \sigma_*(i) \\ &= \sigma_*(h\partial i + \partial h i) \\ &= \sigma_*(i - S i) \\ &= \sigma_*(i) - S \sigma_*(i) \\ &= \sigma - S \sigma \end{aligned}$$

So **it's enough to check  $h\partial i + \partial h i = i - S i$** .

Let  $\text{Cone} : C.(\Delta^n) \rightarrow C_{\cdot+1}(\Delta^n)$  be the operation which sends a singular  $k$ -simplex  $\sigma : \Delta^k \rightarrow \Delta^n$  to the singular  $(k+1)$ -simplex  $\text{Cone}(\sigma) : \Delta^{k+1} \rightarrow \Delta^n$  defined by

$$\text{Cone}(\sigma)(x_0, \dots, x_{k+1}) := x_0 \cdot b + (1-x_0) \cdot \sigma(x_1/(1-x_0), \dots, x_{k+1}/(1-x_0)),$$

where  $b := 1/(n+1) \cdot (1, \dots, 1) = \text{barycenter of } \Delta^n$ .

*[draw an example of  $\sigma : \Delta^k \rightarrow \Delta^n$ , and then draw  $\text{Cone}(\sigma) : \Delta^{k+1} \rightarrow \Delta^n$ ]*

Lemma: the above operation satisfies  $\partial \circ \text{Cone} = \text{id} - \text{Cone} \circ \partial$ .

[Draw a picture to show why this looks plausible, and tell the students that the proof is left as an exercise.]

**Inductive definition of S:**

- For  $n=0$ , we define  $S : C_0(X) \rightarrow C_0(X)$  to be the identity map.
- For  $n \geq 1$ , we define  $S(\iota)$  for  $\iota := \text{id}_{\Delta^n} : \Delta^n \rightarrow \Delta^n$  by the formula  $S(\iota) := \text{Cone}(S(\partial\iota))$ .

The RHS makes reference to  $S : C_{n-1}(X) \rightarrow C_{n-1}(X)$ , which is assumed to be already defined by induction.

[draw some examples in dimensions 0, 1, and 2 to unpack the above inductive definition.]

**Inductive definition of h:**

- For  $n=0$ , we define  $h : C_0(X) \rightarrow C_1(X)$  to be the zero map.
- For  $n \geq 1$ , we define  $h(\iota)$  for  $\iota := \text{id}_{\Delta^n} : \Delta^n \rightarrow \Delta^n$  by the formula  $h(\iota) := \text{Cone}(\iota - h(\partial\iota))$ .

The RHS makes reference to  $h : C_{n-1}(X) \rightarrow C_n(X)$ , which is assumed to be already defined by induction.

Finally, we check that the equation  $h\partial\sigma + \partial h\sigma = \sigma - S\sigma$  holds true.

We may assume by induction that the above equation holds true for all chains  $\sigma$  of degree  $< n$  (it's easy to check for  $\sigma$  of degree 0).

As explained above, to prove the above equation for all chains of degree  $n$ , it's enough to argue that it holds true for  $\iota = \text{id}_{\Delta^n}$ .

And here we go:

$$\begin{aligned}
 \partial h\iota & \stackrel{\text{def of } h}{=} \partial(\text{Cone}(\iota - h\partial\iota)) \\
 & \stackrel{\text{Lemma}}{=} \iota - h\partial\iota - \text{Cone}(\partial\iota - \partial h\partial\iota) \\
 & \stackrel{\text{induction}}{=} \iota - h\partial\iota - \text{Cone}(S\partial\iota + h\partial\partial\iota) \\
 & \stackrel{\text{def of } S}{=} \iota - h\partial\iota - S\iota
 \end{aligned}$$

**Final task:**

Prove that  $\forall c \in C_n(X) \exists N \in \mathbb{N}$  such that  $S^N(c) \in C_n^U(X)$ .

It's enough to show this when  $c$  consists of a single singular  $n$ -simplex  $\sigma : \Delta^n \rightarrow X$ .

Pulling back the open cover  $U$  along the map  $\sigma : \Delta^n \rightarrow X$  to an open cover  $U'$  of  $\Delta^n$ , it's enough to show that  $\exists N \in \mathbb{N}$  such that  $S^N(\iota) \in C_n^{U'}(\Delta^n)$ .

[draw iterated barycentric subdivisions of an interval, and of a triangle. Explain that our task is to show that the simplices become smaller and smaller.]

So, if we can prove the following lemma, we're good:

Lemma:

If  $\sigma \subset \mathbb{R}^n$  is a straight-line simplex (the convex hull of  $n+1$  points in  $\mathbb{R}^n$ ) with diameter  $D$ , then each of the  $(n+1)!$  straight-line simplices which occur in the barycentric subdivision on  $\sigma$  has diameter  $\leq n/(n+1) \cdot D$ .

Proof:

We first note that if  $\sigma = \text{conv}\{v_0, \dots, v_n\}$  is a straight-line simplex in  $\mathbb{R}^n$ , and  $w \in \mathbb{R}^n$  is any point, then  $\max_{v \in \sigma} \text{dist}(v, w) = \max_i \text{dist}(v_i, w)$ . I.e. the maximal distance to a point in  $\sigma$  is achieved at some vertex of  $\sigma$ :

$$\text{dist}(v, w) = \|\sum x_i v_i - w\| = \|\sum x_i (v_i - w)\| \leq \sum x_i \|v_i - w\| \leq \max_i \|v_i - w\| \quad \text{because } \sum x_i = 1.$$

The diameter of a simplex is therefore given by  $\text{diam}(\sigma) = \max_{i,j} \|v_i - v_j\|$ .

Let  $\sigma = \text{conv}\{v_0, \dots, v_n\}$  be a straight-line simplex with diameter  $D$ , and let  $\tau = \text{conv}\{w_0, \dots, w_n\}$  be a simplex which occurs in the barycentric subdivision on  $\sigma$ . We need to show:

$$\forall i, j \quad \|w_i - w_j\| \leq n/(n+1) \cdot D.$$

If neither  $w_i$  nor  $w_j$  is the barycenter of  $\sigma$ , then  $w_i$  and  $w_j$  are contained in some face of  $\sigma$ , and we're done by induction (with a better constant).

So we may assume that  $w_j = b := 1/(n+1) \cdot (v_0 + \dots + v_n)$ .

We need to show:  $\forall i \quad \|w_i - b\| \leq n/(n+1) \cdot D$ .

we've seen  $\exists$  a vertex  $v_k$  of  $\sigma$  such that  $\|w_i - b\| \leq \|v_k - b\|$ .

So it's enough to show:  $\forall k \quad \|v_k - b\| \leq n/(n+1) \cdot D$ .

The straight line through  $v_k$  and  $b$  intersects  $\sigma$  into a segment of length  $L$ , and the ratio of lengths is always  $\|v_k - b\| / L = n/(n+1)$ , independently of  $\sigma$ .

Therefore  $\|v_k - b\| = n/(n+1) \cdot L \leq n/(n+1) \cdot D$ . QED (lemma)

**This finishes the proof of the small simplices theorem. QED**

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Tuesday week 6, MT 2023

### Universal coefficient theorem.

Basic questions that the UCT tries to answer:

- Is  $H_*(X, \mathbb{R})$  determined by  $H_*(X, \mathbb{Z})$ ?
- Is  $H^*(X, \mathbb{R})$  determined by  $H^*(X, \mathbb{Z})$ ? (And, if yes, how?)

input =  $H_*(X, \mathbb{Z})$

Certainly,  $C_*(X, \mathbb{R})$  and  $C^*(X, \mathbb{R})$  are determined by  $C_*(X, \mathbb{Z})$ , via the formulas

$$C_*(X, R) = C_*(X, \mathbb{Z}) \otimes R \quad \text{and} \quad C^*(X, R) = \text{Hom}_{\mathbb{Z}}(C_*(X, \mathbb{Z}), R)$$

Recall  $\text{Hom}_{\mathbb{Z}}$  just means homomorphisms of abelian groups.

The subscript  $\mathbb{Z}$  means ' $\mathbb{Z}$ -module', but a  $\mathbb{Z}$ -module is the same thing as an abelian group.

And  $\mathbf{A} \otimes \mathbf{B}$  (also denoted  $A \otimes_{\mathbb{Z}} B$ ) is the ab group whose elements are formal sums  $\sum_i a_i \otimes b_i$  with  $a_i \in A$  and  $b_i \in B$ ,

modulo the equivalence relation generated by  $(a+a') \otimes b \sim a \otimes b + a' \otimes b$  and by  $a \otimes (b+b') \sim a \otimes b + a \otimes b'$ .

Alternatively,  $A \otimes B$  is the quotient of  $\bigoplus_A B$  by the subgroup generated by  $(a+a') \otimes b - a \otimes b + a' \otimes b$ , or the quotient of  $\bigoplus_B A$  by the subgroup generated by  $a \otimes (b+b') - a \otimes b + a \otimes b'$ .

In order to formulate the UCT, one needs **Ext** and **Tor** which, just like  $\text{Hom}$  and  $\otimes$ , are bifunctors. They take two abelian groups as input, and produce a new abelian group.

Definition of Tor and Ext:

For any abelian group  $A$ , using that every subgroup of a free abelian group is free, one can find a short exact sequence

$$0 \longrightarrow \mathbb{Z}^{\oplus J} \xrightarrow{f} \mathbb{Z}^{\oplus I} \longrightarrow A \longrightarrow 0.$$

(The chain complex  $\dots 0 \rightarrow 0 \rightarrow \mathbb{Z}^{\oplus J} \rightarrow \mathbb{Z}^{\oplus I}$  is called a free *resolution* of  $A$ .)

One then defines

$$\mathbf{Ext}(\mathbf{A}, \mathbf{B}) := \text{coker}(f^*: \prod_i B \rightarrow \prod_j B)$$

and

$$\mathbf{Tor}(\mathbf{A}, \mathbf{B}) := \ker(f_*: \bigoplus_j B \rightarrow \bigoplus_i B).$$

where we've applied the functors  $\text{Hom}(-, B)$  and  $- \otimes B$  to the map  $f: \mathbb{Z}^{\oplus J} \rightarrow \mathbb{Z}^{\oplus I}$ , respectively.

Facts (I won't prove this):

$\text{Ext}(A, B)$  is a contravariant functor of the variable  $A$ , and covariant of the variable  $B$  (just like  $\text{Hom}$  is).

$\text{Tor}(A, B)$  is a covariant functor of each variable, and satisfies  $\text{Tor}(A, B) = \text{Tor}(B, A)$  (just like  $- \otimes -$ ).

Example:

$$\text{Ext}(\mathbb{Z}/2, B) = B / \{ 2b : b \in B \}$$

$$\text{Tor}(\mathbb{Z}/2, B) = \{ b \in B : 2b = 0 \}$$

(can be seen by taking the free resolution of  $\mathbb{Z}/2$  given by  $\mathbb{Z} \xrightarrow{2} \mathbb{Z}$ .)

Note that

$$\mathbf{Hom}(\mathbf{A}, \mathbf{B}) = \ker(f^*: \prod_i B \rightarrow \prod_j B) \text{ because that's } \ker(\text{Hom}(\mathbb{Z}^{\oplus I}, B) \rightarrow \text{Hom}(\mathbb{Z}^{\oplus J}, B))$$

and

$$\mathbf{A} \otimes \mathbf{B} = \text{coker}(f_*: \bigoplus_j B \rightarrow \bigoplus_i B) \text{ because that's } \text{coker}(\mathbb{Z}^{\oplus J} \otimes B \rightarrow \mathbb{Z}^{\oplus I} \otimes B).$$

The second is harder to check:

Proof:

The map  $\text{coker}(\mathbb{Z}^{\oplus J} \otimes B \rightarrow \mathbb{Z}^{\oplus I} \otimes B) \rightarrow A \otimes B$  is visibly surjective.

Because for a typical element  $\sum_i a_i \otimes b_i \in A \otimes B$ , one can lift each  $a_i$  to  $\mathbb{Z}^{\oplus I}$ .

We need to see that if  $\sum_i x_i \otimes b_i \in \mathbb{Z}^{\oplus I} \otimes B \mapsto 0 \in A \otimes B$ , then it comes from  $\mathbb{Z}^{\oplus J} \otimes B$ .

The expression  $\sum_i x_i \otimes b_i$  represents an element of  $\oplus_B(\mathbb{Z}^{\oplus I})$ .

Since its image in  $\oplus_B A$  represents zero in  $A \otimes B$ , it can be written as  $\sum_k a_k \otimes (b'_k + b''_k) - a_k \otimes b'_k - a_k \otimes b''_k \in \oplus_B A$ .

Lift each  $a_k \in A$  to some  $x'_k \in \mathbb{Z}^{\oplus I}$  and consider the corresponding sum  $\sum_k x'_k \otimes (b'_k + b''_k) - x'_k \otimes b'_k - x'_k \otimes b''_k \in \oplus_B(\mathbb{Z}^{\oplus I})$ .

That new element of  $\oplus_B(\mathbb{Z}^{\oplus I})$  differs from our original  $\sum_i x_i \otimes b_i$  by something in  $\oplus_B \ker(\mathbb{Z}^{\oplus I} \rightarrow A) = \oplus_B(\mathbb{Z}^{\oplus J})$ .

We have written  $\sum_i x_i \otimes b_i \in \oplus_B(\mathbb{Z}^{\oplus I})$  as a sum of something in  $\oplus_B(\mathbb{Z}^{\oplus J})$  and something that represents 0 in  $\mathbb{Z}^{\oplus I} \otimes B$ .

$\Rightarrow$  we have written our  $\sum_i x_i \otimes b_i \in \mathbb{Z}^{\oplus I} \otimes B$  as something in  $\mathbb{Z}^{\oplus J} \otimes B$ . QED

Theorem (universal coefficient theorem):

There exist natural, split short exact sequences

$$0 \longrightarrow H_n(X, \mathbb{Z}) \otimes R \longrightarrow H_n(X, R) \longrightarrow \text{Tor}(H_{n-1}(X, \mathbb{Z}), R) \longrightarrow 0$$

$$0 \longrightarrow \text{Ext}(H_{n-1}(X, \mathbb{Z}), R) \longrightarrow H^n(X, R) \longrightarrow \text{Hom}(H_n(X, \mathbb{Z}), R) \longrightarrow 0$$

Proof:

The proof relies on the following observation:

The short exact sequence

$$0 \rightarrow Z_n(X) \rightarrow C_n(X) \xrightarrow{\partial} B_{n-1}(X) \rightarrow 0 \quad (*)$$

can be interpreted as a short exact sequence of chain complexes

$$0 \rightarrow Z.(X) \rightarrow C.(X) \rightarrow B_{..1}(X) \rightarrow 0$$

where the the 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> terms are viewed as chain complexes with zero differential.

(Look at associated LES? In the associated LES of homology groups, the connecting homomorphism  $B_{..1}(X) \rightarrow Z_{..1}(X)$  is just the usual inclusion.

$$\begin{array}{ccccccc} & & \downarrow & & \downarrow & & \downarrow \\ 0 & \rightarrow & Z_n(X) & \rightarrow & C_n(X) & \rightarrow & B_{n-1}(X) \rightarrow 0 \\ & & \downarrow & & \downarrow & & \downarrow \\ 0 & \rightarrow & Z_{n-1}(X) & \rightarrow & C_{n-1}(X) & \rightarrow & B_{n-2}(X) \rightarrow 0 \\ & & \downarrow & & \downarrow & & \downarrow \end{array} \quad )$$

Applying the functors  $- \otimes R$  and  $\text{Hom}(-, R)$  to get two new short exact sequences of chain complexes

$$0 \longrightarrow Z.(X) \otimes R \longrightarrow C.(X, R) \longrightarrow B_{..1}(X) \otimes R \longrightarrow 0$$

and



$$0 \longrightarrow \text{Hom}(B_{n-1}(X), R) \longrightarrow C^*(X, R) \longrightarrow \text{Hom}(Z_n(X), R) \longrightarrow 0.$$

(Note: These two functors do not, in general send SES to SES. But  $(*)$  is a split SES, because  $B_{n-1}(X)$  is a free abelian group. Recall, every subgroup of a free abelian group is free.)

We get corresponding LES in (co)homology:

$$\dots \longrightarrow B_n(X) \otimes R \longrightarrow Z_n(X) \otimes R \longrightarrow H_n(X, R) \longrightarrow B_{n-1}(X) \otimes R \longrightarrow Z_{n-1}(X) \otimes R \longrightarrow \dots$$

and

$$\dots \longrightarrow \text{Hom}(Z_{n-1}(X), R) \longrightarrow \text{Hom}(B_{n-1}(X), R) \longrightarrow H^*(X, R) \longrightarrow \text{Hom}(Z_n(X), R) \longrightarrow \text{Hom}(B_n(X), R) \longrightarrow \dots$$

( Like above, the maps  $B_n(X) \otimes R \rightarrow Z_n(X) \otimes R$  and  $\text{Hom}(Z_{n-1}(X), R) \rightarrow \text{Hom}(B_{n-1}(X), R)$  are induced by the inclusion  $B_n(X) \otimes R \hookrightarrow Z_n(X) \otimes R$ .)

We rewrite this as short exact sequences:

$$0 \longrightarrow \text{coker}(B_n(X) \otimes R \rightarrow Z_n(X) \otimes R) \longrightarrow H_n(X, R) \longrightarrow \ker(B_{n-1}(X) \otimes R \rightarrow Z_{n-1}(X) \otimes R) \longrightarrow 0$$

and

$$0 \longrightarrow \text{coker}(\text{Hom}(Z_{n-1}(X), R) \rightarrow \text{Hom}(B_{n-1}(X), R)) \longrightarrow H^*(X, R) \longrightarrow \ker(\text{Hom}(Z_n(X), R) \rightarrow \text{Hom}(B_n(X), R)) \longrightarrow 0$$

which we then recognise as

$$0 \longrightarrow H_n(X, \mathbb{Z}) \otimes R \longrightarrow H_n(X, R) \longrightarrow \text{Tor}(H_{n-1}(X, \mathbb{Z}), R) \longrightarrow 0$$

and

$$0 \longrightarrow \text{Ext}(H_{n-1}(X, \mathbb{Z}), R) \longrightarrow H^*(X, R) \longrightarrow \text{Hom}(H_n(X, \mathbb{Z}), R) \longrightarrow 0$$

in view of the fact that  $(\dots \rightarrow 0 \rightarrow B_n(X) \rightarrow Z_n(X))$  is a free resolution of  $H_n(X)$ .

Here, we've used that if  $\dots \rightarrow 0 \rightarrow \mathbb{Z}^{\oplus J} \xrightarrow{f} \mathbb{Z}^{\oplus I}$  is a free resolution of  $A$ , then

$$\mathbf{A} \otimes \mathbf{R} = \text{coker}(f_*: \bigoplus_j R \rightarrow \bigoplus_i R)$$

$$\mathbf{Tor}(\mathbf{A}, \mathbf{R}) = \ker(f_*: \bigoplus_j R \rightarrow \bigoplus_i R)$$

$$\mathbf{Ext}(\mathbf{A}, \mathbf{R}) = \text{coker}(f^*: \prod_i R \rightarrow \prod_j R)$$

$$\mathbf{Hom}(\mathbf{A}, \mathbf{R}) = \ker(f^*: \prod_i R \rightarrow \prod_j R)$$

*Proof that these SES are split:*

Recall that  $0 \rightarrow Z_n(X) \rightarrow C_n(X) \xrightarrow{\partial} B_{n-1}(X) \rightarrow 0$  is split.

Pick a splitting, which gives us a retraction  $Z_n(X) \xleftarrow{p} C_n(X)$  of the natural inclusion.

The operation  $- \circ p$  induces a splitting  $\text{Hom}(C_n(X), R) \leftarrow \text{Hom}(Z_n(X), R)$  of the natural map.

Applying this to some  $f \in \ker(\text{Hom}(Z_n(X), R) \rightarrow \text{Hom}(B_n(X), R)) = \text{Hom}(H_n(X, \mathbb{Z}), R)$

we get a map  $f \circ p: C_n(X) \rightarrow R$  that vanishes on  $B_n(X)$ .

That's the same as a map  $C_n(X) \rightarrow R$  that vanishes when precomposed with  $\partial: C_{n+1}(X) \rightarrow C_n(X)$ ,

i.e. an element of  $C^n(X, R)$  in the kernel of  $\delta: C^n(X, R) \rightarrow C^{n+1}(X, R)$ , i.e., an element of  $Z^n(X, R)$ .

We may then compose with the quotient map  $Z^n(X, \mathbb{R}) \rightarrow H^n(X, \mathbb{R})$  to get a map  $H^*(X, \mathbb{R}) \leftarrow \ker(\text{Hom}(Z_n(X), \mathbb{R}) \rightarrow \text{Hom}(B_n(X), \mathbb{R})) = \text{Hom}(H_n(X, \mathbb{Z}), \mathbb{R})$ .

This construction provides a splitting of the natural map  $H^*(X, \mathbb{R}) \longrightarrow \text{Hom}(H_n(X, \mathbb{Z}), \mathbb{R})$ .

The splitting is *not natural* because the retraction  $Z_n(X) \leftarrow C_n(X)$  is not natural.

It cannot be picked simultaneously for all spaces  $X$  in such a way that  $\forall X \rightarrow Y$ , the diagram

$$Z_n(X) \longleftarrow C_n(X)$$

$$\begin{array}{ccc} \downarrow & & \downarrow \\ Z_n(Y) & \longleftarrow & C_n(Y) \end{array}$$

commutes.

(See [Hatcher](#) p.264 for why the UCT homology short exact sequence is split.)

**QED**

$$0 \longrightarrow H_n(X, \mathbb{Z}) \otimes \mathbb{R} \longrightarrow H_n(X, \mathbb{R}) \longrightarrow \text{Tor}(H_{n-1}(X, \mathbb{Z}), \mathbb{R}) \longrightarrow 0$$

Work out examples of UCT:

– (co)homology of  $\mathbb{R}P^2$ .

$$H_*(\mathbb{R}P^2, \mathbb{Z}) = [\mathbb{Z}, \mathbb{Z}/2, 0, 0, 0, \dots]$$

$$H_*(\mathbb{R}P^2, \mathbb{Z}/2) = [\mathbb{Z}/2, \mathbb{Z}/2, \mathbb{Z}/2, 0, 0, \dots]$$

$$H^*(\mathbb{R}P^2, \mathbb{Z}) = [\mathbb{Z}, 0, \mathbb{Z}/2, 0, 0, \dots]$$

$$H^*(\mathbb{R}P^2, \mathbb{Z}/2) = [\mathbb{Z}/2, \mathbb{Z}/2, \mathbb{Z}/2, 0, 0, \dots]$$

– (co)homology of Klein Bottle. (exercise)

**Corollary(excision for  $H^*$ ):**

If  $E \subset A \subset X$  and the closure of  $E$  is contained in the interior of  $A$ , then the natural map  $H^*(X, A) \rightarrow H^*(X \setminus E, A \setminus E)$  is an isomorphism.

Proof:

The universal coefficient theorem for  $H^*(X, A)$  and for  $H^*(X \setminus E, A \setminus E)$  are short exact sequences

$$0 \longrightarrow \text{Ext}(H_{n-1}(X, A; \mathbb{Z}), \mathbb{R}) \longrightarrow H^*(X, A; \mathbb{R}) \longrightarrow \text{Hom}(H_n(X, A; \mathbb{Z}), \mathbb{R}) \longrightarrow 0$$

and

$$0 \longrightarrow \text{Ext}(H_{n-1}(X \setminus E, A \setminus E; \mathbb{Z}), \mathbb{R}) \longrightarrow H^*(X \setminus E, A \setminus E; \mathbb{R}) \longrightarrow \text{Hom}(H_n(X \setminus E, A \setminus E; \mathbb{Z}), \mathbb{R}) \longrightarrow 0.$$

By the naturality of the UCT, the inclusion  $C_*(X \setminus E, A \setminus E) \rightarrow C_*(X, A)$  induces comparison maps that fit into a commutative diagram.

$$0 \longrightarrow \text{Ext}(H_{n-1}(X, A; \mathbb{Z}), \mathbb{R}) \longrightarrow H^*(X, A; \mathbb{R}) \longrightarrow \text{Hom}(H_n(X, A; \mathbb{Z}), \mathbb{R}) \longrightarrow 0$$

$$\begin{array}{ccccccc} & & \downarrow & & \downarrow & & \downarrow \\ 0 & \longrightarrow & \text{Ext}(H_{n-1}(X \setminus E, A \setminus E; \mathbb{Z}), \mathbb{R}) & \longrightarrow & H^*(X \setminus E, A \setminus E; \mathbb{R}) & \longrightarrow & \text{Hom}(H_n(X \setminus E, A \setminus E; \mathbb{Z}), \mathbb{R}) \longrightarrow 0 \end{array}$$

The 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> vertical arrows induce isomorphisms by the excision theorem for homology (using that  $\text{Ext}(-, R)$  and  $\text{Hom}(-, R)$  are functors). So we're done by the 5 lemma. QED