

# Triangulated & Derived Categories in Algebra & Geometry

## Lecture 5

Goal Prove the Freyd-Mitchell theorem.

If  $\mathcal{A}, \mathcal{B}$  are abelian,  $F: \mathcal{A} \rightarrow \mathcal{B}$  is exact if it transforms SES's in  $\mathcal{A}$  into SES's in  $\mathcal{B}$ .

Def An abelian category  $\mathcal{A}$  is fully abelian if for any small full abelian subcategory  $\mathcal{B} \subset \mathcal{A}$  there exists a ring  $R$  and a fully faithful exact embedding  $\mathcal{B} \hookrightarrow \text{Mod-}R$ , the cat'y of right  $R$ -modules.

Thm (Freyd-Mitchell)  
Every  $\mathcal{A}$  abelian is fully abelian.

## 0. Some properties of abelian categories

Def A square

$$\begin{array}{ccc} W & \xrightarrow{L} & A \\ j \downarrow & & \downarrow q \\ B & \xrightarrow{p} & C \end{array}$$

is called cartesian if  $W$  is the limit of  $B \rightarrow C \xrightarrow{A}$ ,  
cocartesian if  $C$  is the colimit...  
 $W$  is called the pullback ( $C$  is called the pushout).

Prop The pushout can be defined as the cokernel of

$$W \xrightarrow{(i, j)} A \oplus B \rightarrow C \rightarrow 0$$

Similarly, the pullback is identified with the kernel

$$0 \rightarrow W \rightarrow A \oplus B \xrightarrow{(-p, q)} C.$$

Cor A square  $W \xrightarrow{i} A$  is cartesian  $\Leftrightarrow$

$$\begin{array}{ccc} W & \xrightarrow{i} & A \\ j \downarrow & & \downarrow g \\ B & \xrightarrow[p]{} & C \end{array} \quad 0 \rightarrow W \xrightarrow{(i,j)} A \oplus B \xrightarrow{(-p,g)} C$$

is left exact.

Some properties of (co)cartesian diagrams.

LEM If  $W \xrightarrow{i} A$  is cartesian, then

$$\begin{array}{ccc} W & \xrightarrow{i} & A \\ j \downarrow & & \downarrow g \\ B & \xrightarrow[f]{} & C \end{array} \quad \ker i \subseteq \ker f.$$

PF

$$\begin{array}{ccccc} 0 & \rightarrow & \ker i & \xrightarrow{k} & W & \xrightarrow{i} & A \\ & & \downarrow j & \nearrow h & \downarrow j & & \downarrow g \\ 0 & \rightarrow & \ker f & \xrightarrow{\varepsilon} & B & \xrightarrow[f]{} & C \end{array}$$

Since  $W$  is the pullback,  
 $\exists h: \ker f \rightarrow W$  s.t.  
 $j \circ h = \varepsilon \quad i \circ h = 0.$   
 $h$  can be lifted to  
 $\tilde{h}: \ker f \rightarrow \ker i.$

Wish to prove that  $\bar{j} \circ \bar{h} = \text{id}$ , enough to show that  $\varepsilon \circ (\bar{j} \circ \bar{h}) = \varepsilon$ ! (since  $\varepsilon$  is mono.)

$$\varepsilon \circ \bar{j} \circ \bar{h} = \varepsilon \circ j \circ h = \varepsilon$$

Similarly show that  $\bar{h} \circ \bar{j} = \text{id}$  by showing that

$$h \circ \bar{h} \circ \bar{j} = h$$

□

LEM Let 
$$\begin{array}{ccc} W \xrightarrow{c} A & & \\ \downarrow & \downarrow & \\ B \rightarrow C & & \end{array}$$
 be cocartesian. If  $W \hookrightarrow A$  is injective, then so is  $B \hookrightarrow C$ .

PF  $W \rightarrow A \oplus B \rightarrow C \rightarrow 0$  is right exact.

$$W \rightarrow A \oplus B \rightarrow A$$
 is mono, thus the first map is mono!

(Exc If  $X \xrightarrow{f} Y \xrightarrow{g} Z$ ,  $g \circ f$ -mono  $\Rightarrow f$  is mono!)



Thus, our square is cartesian as well &  $\ker(W \rightarrow A) \cong \ker(B \rightarrow C)$ .  $\square$

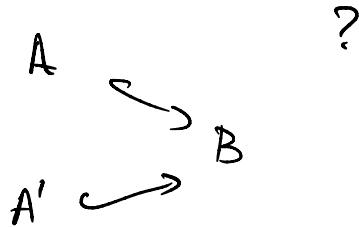
Exc Formulate all the dual statements!

### 1. Exactness

Recall  $X \xrightarrow{f} Y \xrightarrow{g} Z$  is exact if  $g \circ f = 0$  and  $\text{Im } f = \ker g$ .

Q In what sense equals?

Consider the set of all monomorphisms  $A \hookrightarrow B$ .  
What do we know about commutative diagrams of the form



Claim One can complete it to a commuting triangle in at most one way.

$$\begin{array}{ccc}
 A & & B \\
 f \downarrow \downarrow g & \searrow & \\
 A' & \xrightarrow{c'} & B
 \end{array}
 \quad c' \text{ is mono} \Rightarrow f=g.$$

We get a partial order on this set.

A subobject is an isomorphism class  $A \hookrightarrow B$ .

In particular,

$$\begin{array}{ccccc}
 X & \xrightarrow{f} & Y & \xrightarrow{g} & Z \\
 & & \swarrow & \nwarrow & \\
 & & \text{Im } f & \hookrightarrow & \text{Ker } g
 \end{array}$$

$g \circ f \Rightarrow \text{Im } f \leq \text{Ker } g$  (as subobjects).

The diagram is exact  $\Leftrightarrow \text{Im } f = \text{Ker } g$  as subobjects.

Lim The sequence  $0 \rightarrow X \xrightarrow{f} Y \xrightarrow{g} Z$  is left exact if and only if  $(X, f)$  is the kernel of  $g$ .

Exc Do this carefully using all UPs.

Cor The functor  $h^A: \mathcal{A} \rightarrow \text{Ab}$ ,  $X \mapsto \text{Hom}_{\mathcal{A}}(A, X)$  is left exact.

Pf  $0 \rightarrow \text{Hom}_{\mathcal{A}}(A, X) \xrightarrow{h} \text{Hom}_{\mathcal{A}}(A, Y) \xrightarrow{g \circ h} \text{Hom}_{\mathcal{A}}(A, Z)$

The first is mono since  $X \rightarrow Y$  is mono!

$X$  is the kernel, thus the middle term is also exact:

$$\begin{array}{ccccc}
 & & A & & \\
 & \swarrow & \downarrow h & \searrow g & \\
 0 & \rightarrow & X & \xrightarrow{f} & Y & \xrightarrow{g} & Z
 \end{array}$$

□

Rank  $A \in \mathcal{A}$ ,  $h_A = \text{Hom}_{\mathcal{A}}(-, A): \mathcal{A}^{\text{op}} \rightarrow \text{Ab}$ .

Also left exact!!!

Left exact sequences in  $\mathcal{A}^{\text{op}}$  = right exact sequences in  $\mathcal{A}$ .

Def  $P \in \mathcal{A}$  is called projective if  $h^P$  is exact.

$I \in \mathcal{A}$  is called injective if  $h_I$  is exact.

Ln  $P \in \mathcal{A}$  is projective  $\Leftrightarrow \forall B \rightarrow C \quad h^P(B) \rightarrow h^P(C)$ .

Gives an equivalence with the classical UP definition:

Def  $P \in \mathcal{A}$  is projective if  $\forall B \rightarrow C$  and  $\forall P \rightarrow C$

$$\begin{array}{ccc} & \exists & P \\ & \swarrow & \downarrow \\ & B & \rightarrow C \rightarrow 0 \end{array}$$

Exc Define and prove the same for injectives.

Ex In  $\text{Mod-}R$  projective objects are direct summands of free modules.

Warning Injective objects are usually horrible but exist more often...

Lim Direct sums of projective objects are projective!

Pf  $P = \bigoplus_{i \in I} P_i$        $0 \rightarrow A \rightarrow B \rightarrow C \rightarrow 0$

$$h^p(0 \rightarrow A \rightarrow B \rightarrow C \rightarrow 0) =$$

$$= 0 \rightarrow \prod \text{Hom}(P_i, A) \rightarrow \prod \text{Hom}(P_i, B) \rightarrow \prod \text{Hom}(P_i, C) \rightarrow 0$$

Obviously exact!

□

Lim Direct products of injectives are injective.

## 2. Generators

Def A set of objects  $\{G_i\}$  is called a family of generators

if  $\forall f, g: X \rightarrow Y$ ,  $f \neq g \exists h: B_i \rightarrow X$  s.t.  $foh \neq goh$ .

An object  $G \in \mathcal{C}$  is a generator if  $\{G\}$  is a generating family.

Ex  $\mathcal{A} = \text{Mod-}R$ , then  $R$ , the rank 1 free module is a generator.

If  $\mathcal{A}$  is abelian, a projective generator is easy to detect.

Lm  $P \in \mathcal{A}$  - projective, generator  $\Leftrightarrow h^P(A) \neq 0 \forall A \neq 0$ .

Pf  $\Rightarrow A \neq 0$ , assume that  $\text{Hom}(P, A) = 0$ .

Then  $\text{Hom}(P, -)$  does not distinguish

$$A \xrightarrow{0} A, A \xrightarrow{\text{id}} A.$$

Know that  $0 = \text{id} \Leftrightarrow A = 0$ .

$\Leftarrow$   $P$ -projective. Consider  $B \begin{matrix} \xrightarrow{f} \\ \xrightarrow{g} \end{matrix} C$ . Enough to find  $P \xrightarrow{h} B$  s.t.  $(f-g) \circ h \neq 0$ .

In other words, in  $\mathcal{A}$ -abelian  $G$  is a generator

$\Leftrightarrow \forall A \xrightarrow{f} B, f \neq 0 \exists h: G \rightarrow A$  s.t.  $f \circ h \neq 0$ .

$0 \rightarrow \ker f \rightarrow B \xrightarrow{f} C \quad f \neq 0 \Rightarrow \ker f \neq B$ .

Assume any  $P \rightarrow B$  composed with  $f = 0$ !

Thus, all morphisms  $P \rightarrow B$  factor through  $\ker f$ .

$0 \rightarrow \ker f \rightarrow B \rightarrow \operatorname{Coim} f \stackrel{\neq 0}{=} \operatorname{Im} f \rightarrow 0$

But  $0 \rightarrow \operatorname{Hom}(P, \ker f) \rightarrow \operatorname{Hom}(P, B) \rightarrow \operatorname{Hom}(P, \operatorname{Im} f) \rightarrow 0$   
 $\uparrow$   
 $\text{iso} \Rightarrow \operatorname{Hom}(P, \operatorname{Im} f) = 0$

But  $\operatorname{Im} f \neq 0$ !

$\square$ .

Def  $\mathcal{A}$  is complete if it has all possible products,  
 $\mathcal{A}$  is cocomplete if it has all possible coproducts.

Ex Modules are complete & cocomplete.  
Finitely generated modules are not!

Prop Let  $\mathcal{A}$  be abelian, then  $\text{Fun}(\mathcal{A}, \text{Ab})$  is complete, cocomplete & has a projective generator.

Pf  $\text{Ab}$  is complete & cocomplete: know how to form  
 $\bigoplus A_i$ ,  $\prod B_j$ .

Thus, as we discussed,  $\text{Fun}(\mathcal{A}, \text{Ab})$  is complete and cocomplete: limits & colimits are defined point-wise.

Ln  $A \in \mathcal{A}$ , then  $h^A$  is a projective object in  $\text{Fun}(\mathcal{A}, \text{Ab})$ .



Pf Need to prove that if  $E, F: \mathcal{A} \rightarrow \mathcal{A}b$ ,  
 $\eta: E \rightarrow F$ ,  $\alpha: h^A \rightarrow F$ , then  $\exists$  a lift.

In other words,  $\text{Hom}(h^A, E) \rightarrow \text{Hom}(h^A, F)$ .

$$\begin{array}{ccc} \overset{21}{E(A)} & \longrightarrow & \overset{21}{F(A)} \quad \square \end{array}$$

Put  $P = \bigoplus_{A \in \mathcal{A}} h^A$ . It is projective! Enough to show

that  $\forall E \in \text{Fun}(\mathcal{A}, \mathcal{A}b)$   $\text{Hom}(P, E) \neq 0$  if  $E \neq 0$ .

But  $\text{Hom}(P, E) = \prod_{A \in \mathcal{A}} E(A)$ . □

### 3. Mitchell's Theorem

Thm A cocomplete abelian category with a projective generator is fully abelian.

Pf  $\mathcal{A}' \subseteq \mathcal{A}$  - small full exact subcategory,  $\bar{P}$  - projective generator in  $\mathcal{A}$ .

Put  $P = \sum_{\bar{P} \rightarrow A'} \bar{P} \leftarrow$  runs over all  $P \rightarrow A'$ ,  $A' \in \mathcal{A}'$ .

Now  $\forall A \in \mathcal{A}' \exists$  a surjection  $P \rightarrow A \rightarrow 0!$   
(Defined on  $P_{\alpha: \bar{P} \rightarrow A}$  as  $\alpha$  if  $0$  otherwise.)

Put  $R = \text{End}_{\mathcal{A}}(P) = \text{Hom}(P, P)$ .

Remark that  $\forall A \in \mathcal{A}$   $\text{Hom}(P, A)$  is a right  $R$ -module: precompose  $P \rightarrow A$  with an endo of  $P$ .

We get a functor  $h^P: \mathcal{A}' \rightarrow \text{Mod-}R$ .

$P$ -projective  $\Rightarrow h^P$  is exact.

$P$ -generator  $\Rightarrow h^P$  is faithful.

Remains to verify fullness.

Denote  $F = h^P$ . Given  $\bar{f}: F(A) \rightarrow F(B)$ , want to find  $f$  s.t.  $F(f) = \bar{f}$ . Let  $0 \rightarrow K \rightarrow P \rightarrow A \rightarrow 0$   
 $P \rightarrow B \rightarrow 0$

$$\begin{array}{ccccccc}
 0 & \rightarrow & F(K) & \rightarrow & R & \rightarrow & F(A) \rightarrow 0 \\
 & & & & \downarrow \tau & \dashrightarrow & \downarrow \bar{f} \\
 & & & & R & \rightarrow & F(B) \rightarrow 0
 \end{array}$$

Any morphism of  $R$ -modules  $R \rightarrow R$  is given by mult. by some element (on the left).

The corresponding element  $\tau \in R = \text{Hom}(P, P)$ .

$$\begin{array}{ccccccc}
 0 & \rightarrow & K & \rightarrow & P & \rightarrow & A \rightarrow 0 \\
 & & & & \downarrow \tau & \dashrightarrow & \downarrow f \\
 & & & & P & \rightarrow & B \rightarrow 0
 \end{array}$$

The composition  $K \rightarrow P \rightarrow B$  is zero since

$F(k) \rightarrow R \rightarrow F(B)$  is zero &  $F$  is faithful.

Remains to check that  $F(f) = \bar{f}$ . They are equal since  $R \rightarrow F(A)$  is epi & the pre composition with it is the same for  $F(f)$  &  $\bar{f}$ .  $\square$

Cor  $\text{Fun}(A, Ab)$  is fully abelian!

Strategy of the proof of Freyd-Mitchell:

embed  $A \hookrightarrow B$ ,  $B$  is cocomplete & has a projective generator.

Attempt:  $A \hookrightarrow \text{Fun}(A^{\text{op}}, Ab) \hookrightarrow \text{complete (cocomplete} \\ + \text{ proj. generator.}$

Problem: Yoneda embedding is not exact!

Next time: solve this problem, quotient categories.