

Title: The Cohomology of Groups (Johnson-Freyd/Guo) - Lecture 1

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Collection: The Cohomology of Groups (Johnson-Freyd/Guo)

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Background reading.

• Brown, Cohomology of Groups, 1982

• Gelfand + Manin, Methods in  
homological algebra, 1992

• Moore, Lecture notes on group theory.

[www.physics.rutgers.edu/~ngmoore/](http://www.physics.rutgers.edu/~ngmoore/)  
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# Origins of homological algebra

I. Poincaré: combinatorial topology



# components = 2

# 1-dim holes = 3

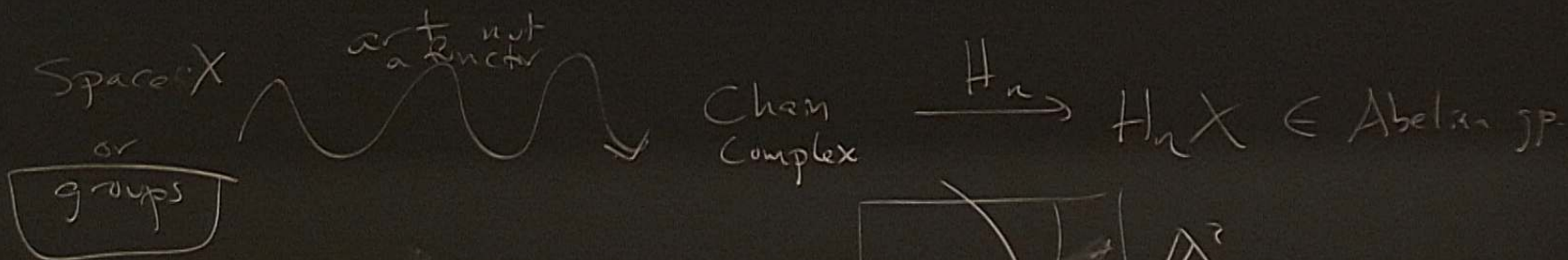
# 2-dim holes = 2

"Betti numbers"

$$b_n = \text{rank}(H_n)$$

www.physics.rutgers.edu/~gmoore/  
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Complexes  $\mathbb{Z}$   
 # 1-dim holes = 3  
 # 2-dim holes = 2  
 $b_n = \text{rank}(H_n)$

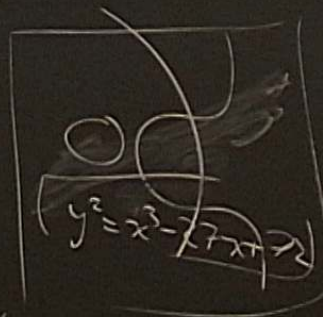
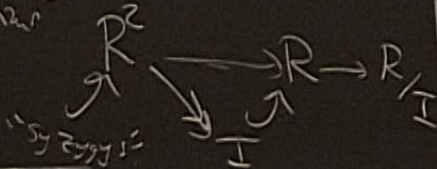


2. Hilbert

$$k[x_1, \dots, x_n] = R$$

↑ "relations between relations"

3. Noether, Hurewicz, Hupf



$$\mathbb{A}_{xy}^2$$

$$\mathcal{O}(\text{curve}) = R / \text{relations}$$

local gals  $\mathbb{Q}$

Groups will have homology:

$$H_0(G; \mathbb{Z}) = H_0 G = \mathbb{Z}$$

$$H_1 G = G_{ab} = G / [G, G] \quad \text{abelianization of } G$$

$$H_2 G = \frac{I \cap [F, F]}{[I, F]}$$

$G = \frac{F}{I}$ 
  
*F* = free group  
*I* = relations

*F* = free sp on "generators"  
*I*  $\triangleleft$  *F* normal subgroup  
 gen by some "relations"

$\exists$   $M$  is a  $G$ -module,

$\exists$  homology, tech w/ coeffs in  $M$ .

$$H_n(G; M)$$

$$H^n(G; M)$$

$\overline{F}$  free group  
 $I$  relations  
 $I \triangleleft F$

$[I, F]$

$I \triangleleft F$  normal subgroup  
 gen by some "relations"

Ex.  $G = \mathbb{Z}/2$        $F = \mathbb{Z}$

$H_0 G = \mathbb{Z}$        $2\mathbb{Z} = I \triangleleft \mathbb{Z}$

$H_1 G = \mathbb{Z}/2$

$H_2 G = \frac{2\mathbb{Z} \cap [\mathbb{Z}, \mathbb{Z}]}{[\mathbb{Z}, \mathbb{Z}]} = \frac{\mathbb{Z}}{\mathbb{Z}} = \mathbb{Z}$

- Goals. Computational tools
- Mayer-Vietoris  $H_*$  (free product)
  - Kunnet's formula  $H_*(G_1 \times G_2)$
  - Long exact sequence  $H_*(G, \mathbb{Z})$  (integrity module)
- $\Rightarrow$  -Leray-Serre spectral sequence  
 $H_*$  (extension)  
 cobordism...

Defn:

A chain complex <sup>of abelian  
gps</sup> is a sequence of abelian gps  
connected by linear maps

$$\cdots \xrightarrow{\partial_3} C_2 \xrightarrow{\partial_2} C_1 \xrightarrow{\partial_1} C_0 \xrightarrow{\partial_0} C_{-1} \xrightarrow{\partial_{-1}} C_{-2} \xrightarrow{\partial_{-2}} \cdots$$

$$\text{s.t. } \partial_i \partial_{i+1} = 0.$$

$$\text{ine. } Z_i = \ker(\partial_i) \supseteq \text{im}(\partial_{i+1}) = B_i.$$

$\partial$  "boundary operator"

"cycles"

"boundaries"

elements of  $C_n$  = "chains of deg.  $n$ "

$$H_n(C_0) := \frac{Z_n}{B_n} = \frac{\ker(\partial_n)}{\operatorname{Im}(\partial_{n+1})}$$

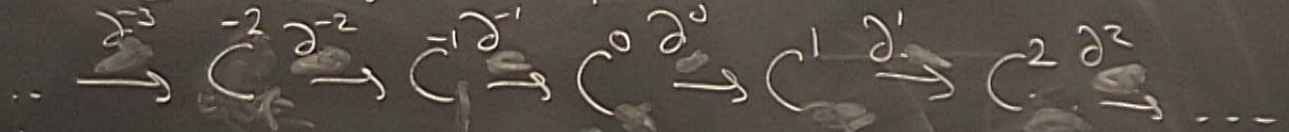
Defn:

of abelian  
groups

Defn:

A cochain complex is a sequence of abelian grps  $\{C^i\}$  connected by linear maps  $\partial^i: C^i \rightarrow C^{i+1}$ .

chain complex  
 $\partial^i: C^i \rightarrow C^{i+1}$



st.  $\partial^i \partial^{i-1} = 0$ .  $\text{im } \partial^{i-1} \subseteq \text{ker } \partial^i =: B^i$

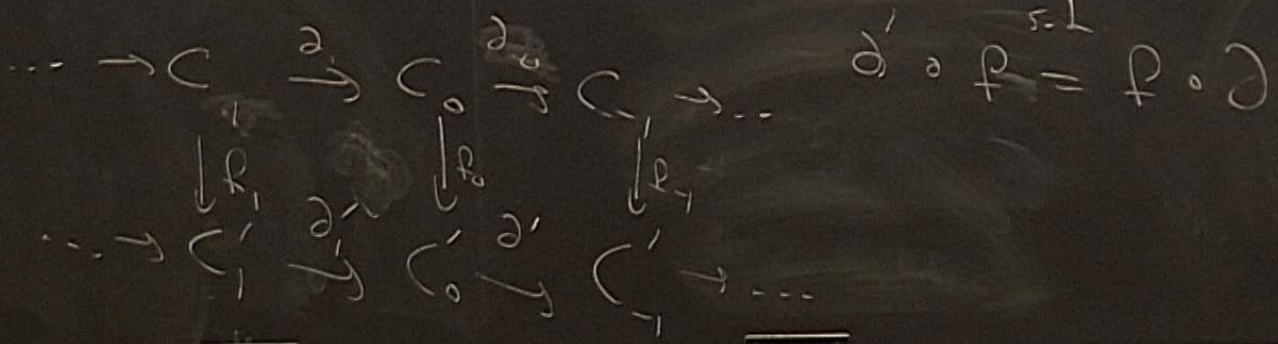
$\partial$  "coboundary map"

cohomology  $H^n(C_\bullet) = \frac{Z^n}{B^n} = \frac{\text{ker } (\partial^n)}{\text{im } (\partial^{n-1})}$

$\text{s.t. } \partial^c \circ \partial^{c-1} = 0$ . i.e.  $Z^c = \text{Ker}(\partial^c) \supseteq \text{Im}(\partial^{c-1}) = B^c$   
 $\partial$  "boundary map"

cohomology  $H^n(C_\bullet) = \frac{Z^n}{B^n} = \frac{\text{Ker}(\partial^n)}{\text{Im}(\partial^{n-1})}$

Defn: A morphism of chain complexes  $C_\bullet \xrightarrow{f_\bullet} C'_\bullet$  is a sequence of linear maps is



$\sigma = 1$  reflexive I  $\Delta$  F | I  $\Delta$  F normal subgroup  
 gen by some "relations"

Lemma.  $H_n$  is a functor  $\forall n$ .

chain complex  $\rightarrow$  ab grps.

Defn. A chain complex is exact at  $C_n$  if  $H_n(C_\bullet) = 0$ .

$C_\bullet$  acyclic if it is exact everywhere

||  
long exact sequence

long exact sequence

A short exact sequence

is

$$* \xrightarrow{\quad} A \xrightarrow{f} B \xrightarrow{g} C \xrightarrow{0} *$$

exact everywhere

$$f(A) = \text{Ker}(g)$$

$$\text{Ker } f = *$$

f is an injection

$$g(B) = C$$

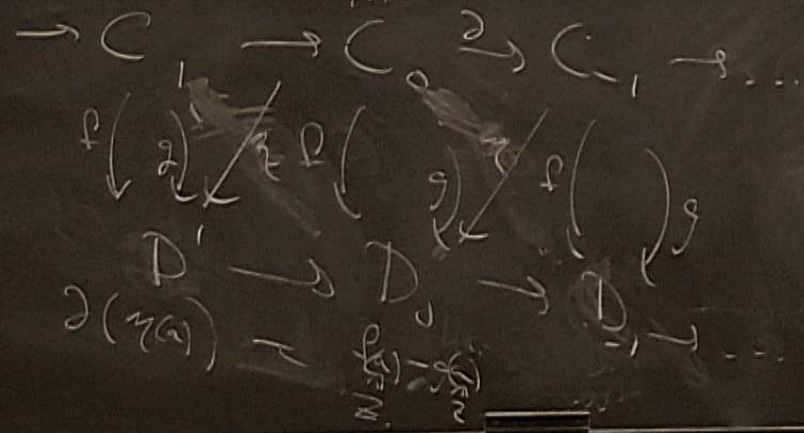
trivial  $\frac{0}{f}$

1, 0, \*

$$C_n \xrightarrow{f} D_n \xrightarrow{g} C_{n-1}$$

chain complexes (not nec. exact)

a cycle  
 $n \partial_n = 0$



a homotopy equivalence of mappings

$$f \sim g \text{ is}$$

a map  $C_n \rightarrow D_{n+1} \rightarrow C_n$   
 st.  $\partial_0 \eta + \eta \partial_1 = f - g$

Defn. A homotopy equivalence of chain complexes.

is  $C_\bullet \xrightarrow{f} D_\bullet$

st.  $\exists$  "  $f^{-1}: D_\bullet \rightarrow C_\bullet$  st.

$$f \circ f^{-1} \approx \text{id}$$

$$f^{-1} \circ f \approx \text{id}$$

Defn: A weak equivalence  $C \xrightarrow{f} D$

is a morphism of chain complexes

$$\text{s.t. } H_n(f) : H_n(C) \rightarrow H_n(D)$$

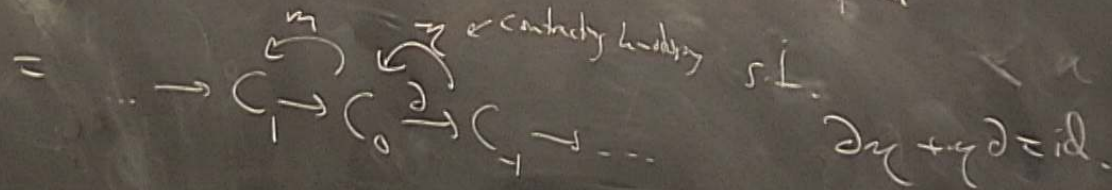
is an iso  $\forall n$ .

Exercise Homotopy equiv  $\Rightarrow$  weak equivalence.

Examples.

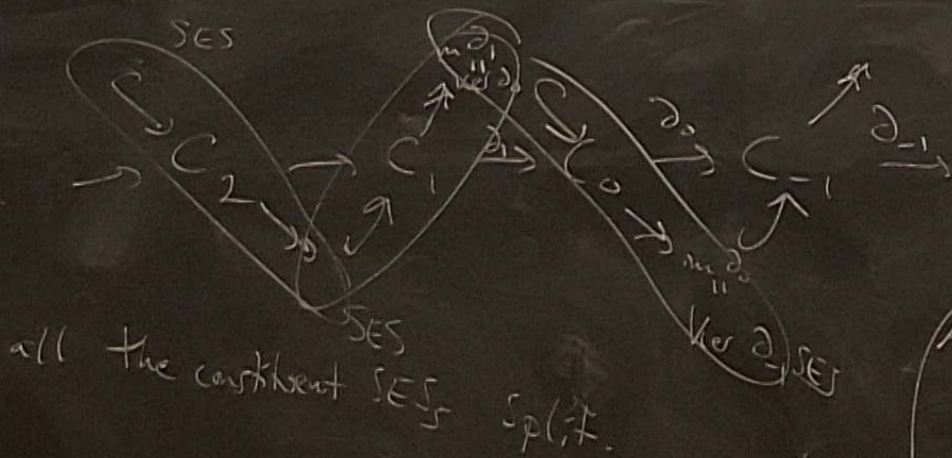
• acyclic = weakly equivalent to the 0 complex

• Contractible = homotopy eqn to the 0 complex



LFS are stitched out of SESs:

Proposition (exercise): An acyclic complex is contractible iff



Defn.

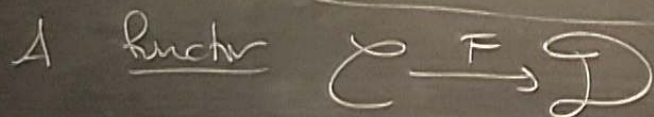
A SES split  
 $A \xrightarrow{m} B \xrightarrow{d} C \rightarrow *$   
 $\exists \begin{matrix} \alpha: A \rightarrow B \\ \beta: B \rightarrow C \end{matrix}$  st.  
 $d \circ \alpha = \beta$   
 $\exists \gamma: B \rightarrow A$  st.  $\gamma \circ d = \text{id}_B$   
 • SES is contractible

$$A \cong \frac{B}{\text{Im}(d)}$$

$$B \cong C$$

Recollection:

A category is some collection of objects + homomorphisms w/ associative composition.



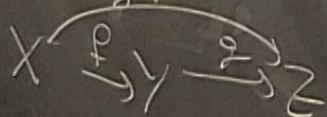
- sends objects to objects.
- morphisms to morphisms

compatibly.

E.g.

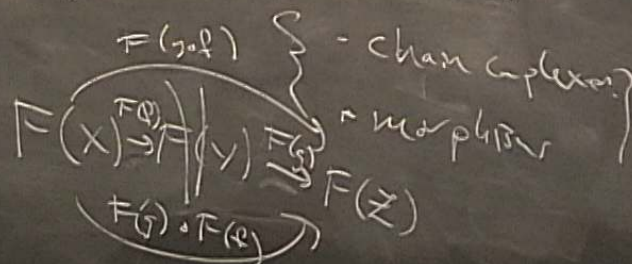
- ab grps
- (linear maps)

i.e.  $X, Y \in \text{objects}(\mathcal{C})$

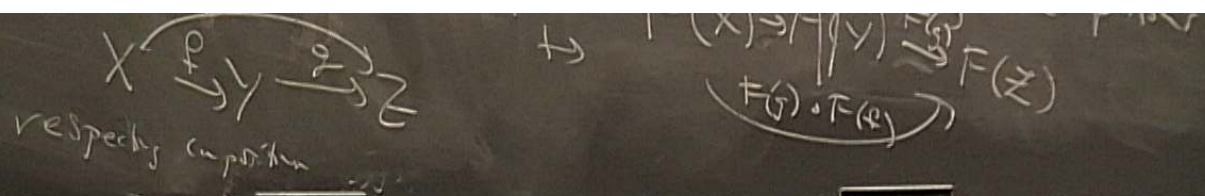


respects composition

$\mapsto$

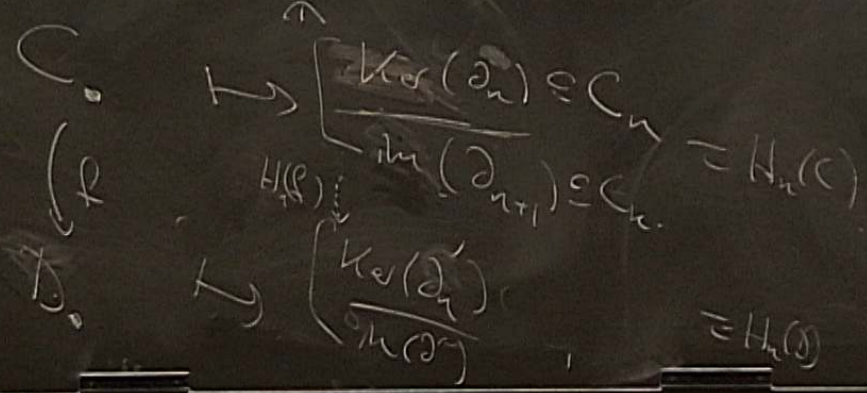
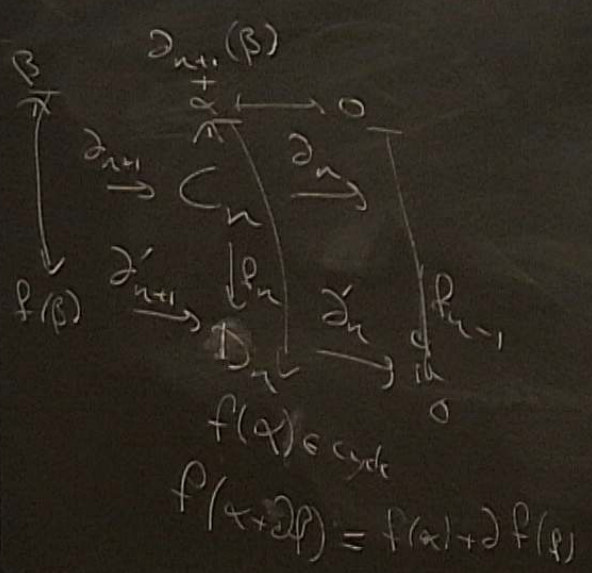


- chain complex
- morphisms



E.g.  $\forall n$        $H_n$        $C_n$        $\longrightarrow$        $A_n$

$\parallel$   
 Chem  
 Complexes       $\parallel$   
 abelian  
 groups



Let  $G$  a gp.

$M$  is a  $G$ -module

ie.  $M$  is an abelian gp  
and  $G$  acts on  $M$  by

group ring

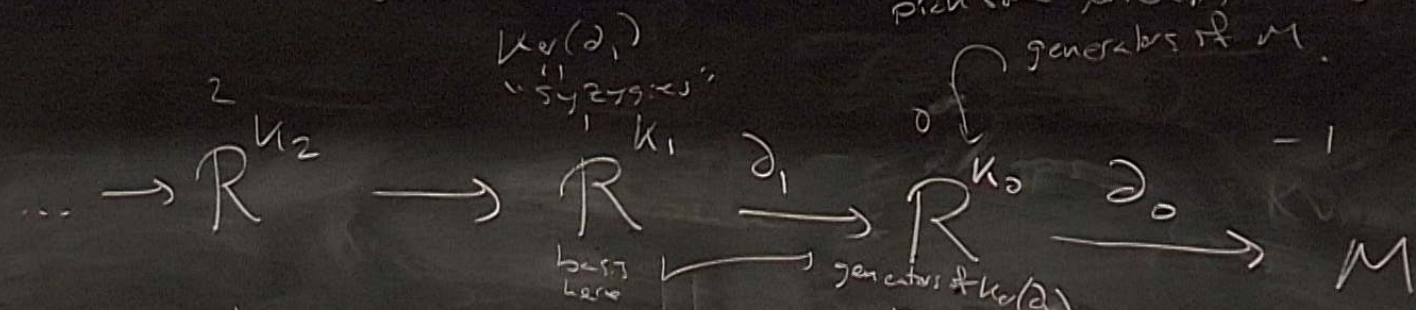
$$\mathbb{Z}[G] = \bigoplus_{g \in G} \mathbb{Z}g$$

$$(7g + 8h)(-g) = -7(g^2) + 8(hg)$$

$M$  is a  $\mathbb{Z}[G]$ -

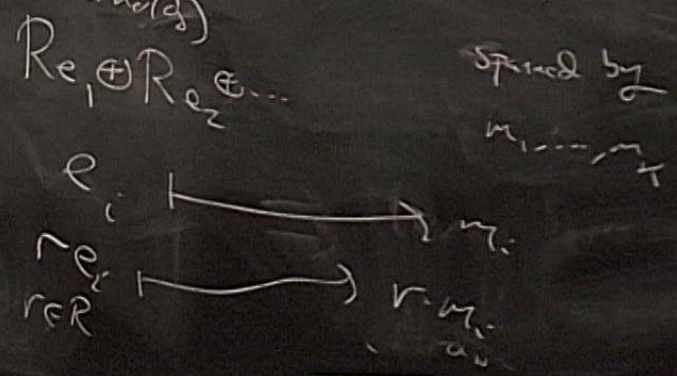
$$\delta(g) + \delta(hg)$$

Build a "free resolution" of  $M$



"relations" =  $\text{Ker}(\partial_0)$   
 pick some generating relations i.e. gens of  $\text{Ker}(\partial_0)$   
 generators of  $M$

by construction, this whole complex is acyclic, and it's free except in degree  $-1$



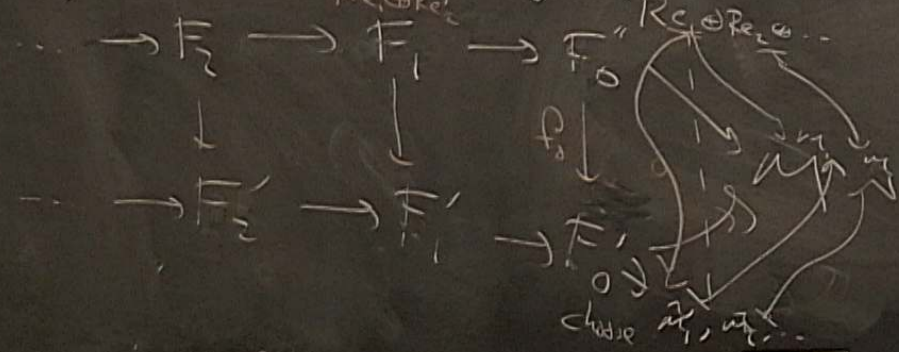


$n \cdot 1 = 0$   
 $M \cdot n = 0$

Proposition:

Suppose  $F_*$  and  $F'_*$  are free resolutions of  $M$ .

Then  $F_*$ ,  $F'_*$  are homotopy equivalent



choose  $\tilde{a}_1, \dots$   
 $p_0 \cdot \tilde{e}_0 \rightarrow \tilde{a}_0$

choose  $\tilde{a}_1, \tilde{a}_2, \dots$

except in degree  $-1$

$$\begin{matrix} \mathbb{R} \\ \text{mod} \\ \mathbb{R} \end{matrix} \xrightarrow{\quad} \begin{matrix} \mathbb{R} \\ \text{mod} \\ \mathbb{R} \end{matrix}$$

Strategy:

$$M \xrightarrow{\quad} F_n$$

Choose a functor  $\mathcal{F}$   
(preserves)

chain complexes  
of  $\mathbb{R}$ -modules

$$\mathcal{F}$$

chain complexes  
of  
abelian grps

$$\xrightarrow{H_n} \text{abelian grps}$$

because homotopy equivalence  
is diagrammatic -

it's preserved by functors.

doesn't depend  
on choice

If  $R = \mathbb{Z}[G] \subset M$ ,

the conjugates  $M_G = \frac{M}{m = gm} \quad \forall m \in M, g \in G$

e.g.  $\mathbb{Z}[G]_G = \mathbb{Z}$

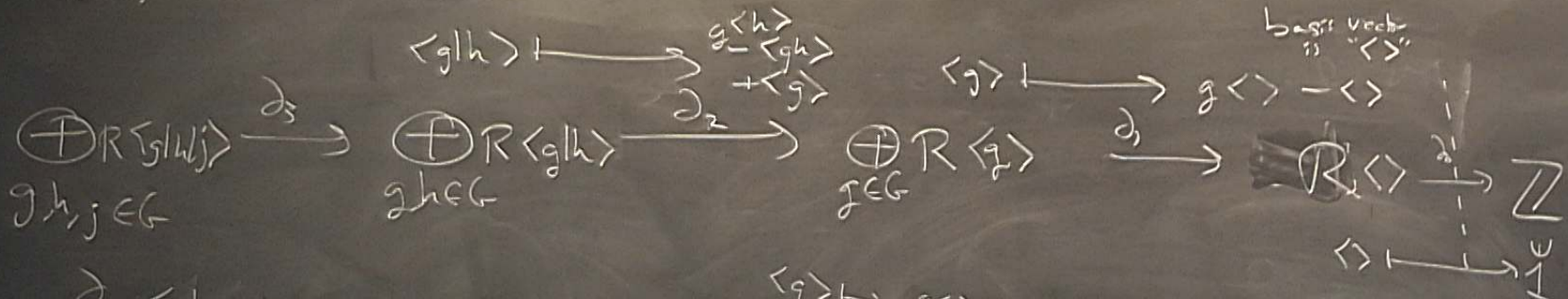
$$\mathbb{Z}[G]^k_G = \mathbb{Z}^k.$$

$$H_n(G; M) :=$$

$$H_n(\text{free res. of } G)$$

E.g.  $M = \mathbb{Z} \subseteq G$  locally

$R = \mathbb{Z}[G]$



basis vectors  $\langle \rangle$

$d_3: \langle g|h|j \rangle \mapsto g\langle h|j \rangle - \langle gh|j \rangle + \langle g|hj \rangle - \langle ghj \rangle$

$d_2: \langle gh \rangle \mapsto g\langle h \rangle - \langle g \rangle$

$\text{ker}(d_1) = \langle \rangle$   
 $\text{ker}(d_2) = \langle \rangle$   
 $\text{ker}(d_3) = \langle \rangle$   
 $g \cdot 1 = 1 \cdot g$   
 $s \cdot 1 = 1 \cdot s$   
 $s \cdot 1 - 1 \cdot s = 0$

$\langle gh|j\rangle$   
 $-\langle gh|j\rangle$   
 $+\langle gh|j\rangle$   
 $-\langle gh|j\rangle$

$\langle gh\rangle \mapsto \langle h\rangle - \langle g\rangle$   
 $\langle gh\rangle \mapsto \langle h\rangle - \langle g\rangle = \langle gh\rangle - \langle g\rangle$

$\text{Im } \partial_1 = \text{Ker } \partial_0$   
 $\partial_0 \cdot 1 = 1 \cdot \langle \rangle = \langle \rangle$   
 $\partial_0 \cdot 1 = 1 \cdot \langle \rangle = \langle \rangle$

↓ Commutative

Bar Complex:  $\dots \rightarrow \bigoplus_{g,h \in G} \mathbb{Z}\langle gh \rangle \rightarrow \bigoplus_{g \in G} \mathbb{Z}\langle g \rangle \xrightarrow{\partial_1} \mathbb{Z}\langle \rangle$

$\partial_2: \langle gh|j \rangle \mapsto \langle h|j \rangle - \langle gh|j \rangle + \langle g|j \rangle$   
 $\partial_1: \langle g \rangle \mapsto \langle \rangle - \langle \rangle$

$\partial_3: \langle gh|k|j \rangle \mapsto \langle h|k|j \rangle - \langle gh|k|j \rangle + \langle g|k|j \rangle - \langle g|k \rangle$

Def.  $H_n G = H_n$  of this complex.

normalized bar complex.

$$\bigoplus_{g \in G} R \langle e \rangle$$

$$\longrightarrow \bigoplus_{g \in G} R \langle g \rangle$$

$$\longrightarrow R \langle \rangle$$

$$\longrightarrow \mathbb{Z}$$

check

$$H_1(G) = G_{ab}$$

$$\langle e \rangle$$

$$\longrightarrow e \langle \rangle = 0$$

↓ constants

$$H_1 = \frac{\bigoplus_{g \in G} \mathbb{Z}\langle g \rangle}{\langle gh \rangle - \langle g \rangle + \langle h \rangle} = \frac{G \cdot ab}{0}$$

es  $\langle g^2 \rangle = 2 \cdot \langle g \rangle$

Wbar complex:

$$\dots \rightarrow \bigoplus_{g, h \in G} \mathbb{Z}\langle gh \rangle \rightarrow \bigoplus_{g \in G} \mathbb{Z}\langle g \rangle \rightarrow \mathbb{Z}\langle \rangle$$

$\partial_2: \langle gh \rangle \mapsto \langle h \rangle - \langle gh \rangle + \langle g \rangle$

$\partial_1: \langle g \rangle \mapsto \langle \rangle - \langle \rangle$

$H_0 = \mathbb{Z}$

$\partial_3: \langle g_1 h_1 h_2 \rangle \mapsto \langle h_1 h_2 \rangle - \langle g_1 h_1 h_2 \rangle + \langle g_1 h_2 \rangle = \langle h_1 h_2 \rangle$

Defn.  $H_n G = H_n$  of the complex.

E.g.  $M = \mathbb{Z} \subseteq G$  locally

$R = \mathbb{Z}[G]$

$$\langle \psi | \psi \rangle = \langle \psi | \psi \rangle + \langle \psi | \psi \rangle - \langle \psi | \psi \rangle$$

$$G = \mathbb{Z}/2 = \{e, \tau\}$$

normalized by complex

$$\begin{aligned}
 & \mathbb{Z} \langle \tau | \tau \rangle \xrightarrow{\times 2} \mathbb{Z} \langle \tau | \tau \rangle \xrightarrow{\times 2} \mathbb{Z} \langle \tau | \tau \rangle \xrightarrow{\times 2} \mathbb{Z} \langle \tau | \tau \rangle \xrightarrow{\times 2} \mathbb{Z} \langle \tau | \tau \rangle \\
 & \mathbb{Z} \langle \tau | \tau \rangle \xrightarrow{\times 2} \mathbb{Z} \langle \tau | \tau \rangle \xrightarrow{\times 2} \mathbb{Z} \langle \tau | \tau \rangle \xrightarrow{\times 2} \mathbb{Z} \langle \tau | \tau \rangle \xrightarrow{\times 2} \mathbb{Z} \langle \tau | \tau \rangle \\
 & \mathbb{Z} \langle \tau | \tau \rangle \xrightarrow{\times 2} \mathbb{Z} \langle \tau | \tau \rangle \xrightarrow{\times 2} \mathbb{Z} \langle \tau | \tau \rangle \xrightarrow{\times 2} \mathbb{Z} \langle \tau | \tau \rangle \xrightarrow{\times 2} \mathbb{Z} \langle \tau | \tau \rangle
 \end{aligned}$$

$$H_n(\mathbb{Z}/2) = \begin{cases} \mathbb{Z} & n=0 \\ \mathbb{Z}/2 & n=1 \\ 0 & n=2 \\ \mathbb{Z}/2 & n=3 \\ \vdots & \vdots \end{cases}$$