

Math 210C Lecture 15 Notes

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1 Splitting of Morphisms and Projective and Injective Objects

1.1 Splitting of morphisms

Let \mathcal{C} be an abelian category.

Definition 1.1. An epimorphism $\pi : B \rightarrow C$ is **split** if there exists $t : C \rightarrow B$ such that $\pi \circ t = \text{id}_C$.

Definition 1.2. A monomorphism $\iota : A \rightarrow B$ is **split** if there exists $s : B \rightarrow A$ such that $s \circ \iota = \text{id}_A$.

Proposition 1.1. *Let*

$$0 \longrightarrow A \xrightarrow{\iota} B \xrightarrow{\pi} C \longrightarrow 0$$

be exact. Then the following are equivalent:

1. ι splits.
2. π splits.
3. *There is an isomorphism $w : A \oplus C \rightarrow B$ such that $w \circ \iota_A = \iota : A \rightarrow B$ and $\pi \circ w \circ \iota_C = \text{id}_C$, where $\iota_A : A \rightarrow A \oplus C$ and $\iota_C : C \rightarrow A \oplus C$ are the natural inclusions. Moreover, $\text{id}_B = \iota \circ s + t \circ \pi$.*

We will give the proof in $R\text{-Mod}$.

Proof. (1) \implies (2): Let s be such that $s \circ \iota = \text{id}_A$. Then let $\tilde{t} : B \rightarrow B$ be $\tilde{t} = \text{id}_B - \iota \circ s$. Then $\tilde{t}(\iota(a)) = \iota(a) - \iota(s(\iota(a))) = \iota(a) - \iota(a) = 0$. Then $\tilde{t}|_{\iota(A)} = 0$. So there is a $t : C \rightarrow B$ such that if $t \circ \pi = \tilde{t}$. Now if $b \in B$ is such that $\pi(b) = c$, then $\pi \circ t(c) = \pi \circ \tilde{t}(b) = \pi(\text{id}_B - \iota \circ s)(b) = \pi(b) = c$.

(2) \implies (1): Let t be such that $\pi \circ t = \text{id}_C$. Then let $\tilde{s} : B \rightarrow B$ be $\tilde{s} = \text{id}_B - t \circ \pi$. Then $\tilde{s}(\iota(a)) = \iota(a) - t \circ \pi \circ \iota(a) = \iota(a)$. So $\pi \circ \tilde{s}(b) = \pi(b) - \pi \circ t \circ \pi(b) = 0$, so $\pi \circ \tilde{s} = 0$. Then \tilde{s} takes values in $\iota(A)$, so there is an $s : B \rightarrow A$ such that $\iota \circ s = \tilde{s}$.

So $\tilde{s}(t(c)) = t(c) - t \circ \pi \circ t(c) = t(c) - t(c) = 0$, which means $\tilde{s}|_{t(C)} = 0$. $s \circ \iota = \text{id}_A$

(2) \implies (3): We have $\pi \circ t = \text{id}_C$ and $s : B \rightarrow A$ such that $s \circ \iota = \text{id}_A$. Define $w(a, c) = \iota(a) + t(c)$. Then we can define the inverse $v : B \rightarrow A \oplus C$ by $v(b) = (s(b), \pi(b))$. Check that $w \circ v = \iota \circ s + t \circ \pi = \text{id}_B$, and $v \circ w(a, c) = v(\iota(a) + t(c)) = (a, c)$.

(3) \implies (2): Let $t = w \circ \iota_C$. Then $\pi \circ t = \pi \circ w \circ \iota_C = \text{id}_C$. □

Definition 1.3. Sequences satisfying any of these properties are called **split** short exact sequences.

Example 1.1. in Ab,

$$0 \longrightarrow \mathbb{Z}/2\mathbb{Z} \longrightarrow \mathbb{Z}/6\mathbb{Z} \xrightarrow{\text{mod } 3} \mathbb{Z}/3\mathbb{Z} \longrightarrow 0$$

splits with $t = \times 4$ and $s = \text{mod } 2$. However, the sequence

$$0 \longrightarrow \mathbb{Z}/2\mathbb{Z} \longrightarrow \mathbb{Z}4\mathbb{Z} \longrightarrow \mathbb{Z}/2\mathbb{Z} \longrightarrow 0$$

is not split.

Remark 1.1. In Grp,

$$1 \longrightarrow N \xrightarrow{\iota} G \xrightarrow{\pi} G/N \longrightarrow 1$$

is split iff $G \cong N \rtimes H$, where $H \cong G/N$.

1.2 Projective and injective objects

Definition 1.4. $P \in \mathcal{C}$ is **projective** if for every epimorphism $\pi : B \rightarrow C$ and morphism $g : P \rightarrow C$, there is an $f : P \rightarrow B$ such that $\pi \circ f = g$.

$$\begin{array}{ccccc} & & P & & \\ & \swarrow f & \downarrow g & & \\ B & \xrightarrow{\pi} & C & \longrightarrow & 0 \end{array}$$

Definition 1.5. $I \in \mathcal{C}$ is **injective** if for every monomorphism $\iota : A \rightarrow B$ and $f : A \rightarrow I$, there exists a $g : B \rightarrow I$ such that $g \circ \iota = f$.

$$\begin{array}{ccccc} & & & & P \\ & & & \nearrow f & \uparrow g \\ 0 & \longrightarrow & A & \xrightarrow{\iota} & B \end{array}$$

Proposition 1.2. $P \in \mathcal{C}$ is projective if and only if every epimorphism $\pi : B \rightarrow P$ splits. $I \in \mathcal{C}$ is injective if and only if every monomorphism $\iota : P \rightarrow B$ splits.

Proof. (\implies): There exists g by projectivity of P such that $\pi \circ g = \text{id}_P$:

$$\begin{array}{ccc} & P & \\ & \swarrow f & \downarrow \text{id}_P \\ B & \xrightarrow{\pi} & P \longrightarrow 0 \end{array}$$

(\impliedby): Look at the diagram

$$\begin{array}{ccc} & X & \\ \bar{g} \swarrow & & \searrow \bar{\pi} \\ B & \xleftarrow{f} & P \\ \pi \searrow & & \swarrow g \\ & C & \end{array}$$

where X is the push-out of P and B over C . □

Lemma 1.1. In $R\text{-Mod}$, every free module is projective.

Proof. Let $\pi : B \rightarrow \bigoplus_{x \in X} R \cdot x$. For each $x \in X$ let $b_x \in B$ such that $\pi(b_x) = x$. Define $t : \bigoplus R \cdot x \rightarrow B$ by $t(x) = b_x$ for all $x \in X$. □

Proposition 1.3. An R -module is projective if and only if it is a direct summand of a free module.

Proof. (\implies): Suppose P is projective. There exists a free R -module F and an epimorphism $\pi : F \rightarrow P$. Since P is projective, there exists a $t : P \rightarrow F$ such that $\pi \circ t = \text{id}_P$. So $F = P \oplus Q$ for some Q .

(\impliedby): Now suppose that $F = P \oplus Q$, where F is free. If $\pi : B \rightarrow P$ is an epimorphism, then $\pi : B \oplus Q \rightarrow P \oplus Q = F$ is a surjection, so there is a splitting $t : F \rightarrow B \oplus Q$. Note that $(\pi \circ \text{id}_Q)(t(p)) = p$, so $t(p) \in P$ and $\pi \circ t|_P = \text{id}_P$. □

Example 1.2. $\mathbb{Z}/n\mathbb{Z}$ is not \mathbb{Z} -projective.

Example 1.3. \mathbb{Z} is \mathbb{Z} -projective.

Example 1.4. \mathbb{Q} is not \mathbb{Z} -projective, as it is not a direct summand of a free module.

Example 1.5. Take $M_n(F)$, where F is a field. Then $V = F^{\oplus n}$ be the set of column vectors. Then $M_n(F) = V^{\oplus n}$, so V is a projective $M_n(F)$ -module.