Chapter 13
First steps in sheaf cohomology

We have seen several examples of the global sections functor  $\Gamma$  failing to be exact when applied to a short exact sequence. On the other hand, we have a sequence

$$0 \longrightarrow \Gamma(X, \mathcal{F}') \longrightarrow \Gamma(X, \mathcal{F}) \longrightarrow \Gamma(X, \mathcal{F}'')$$

which is exact at each stage except on the right.

Essentially, *cohomology* is a tool that allows us to continue this sequence, giving rise to a *long exact sequence* of cohomology:

$$0 \longrightarrow \Gamma(X, \mathcal{F}') \longrightarrow \Gamma(X, \mathcal{F}) \longrightarrow \Gamma(X, \mathcal{F}'')$$

$$H^{1}(X, \mathcal{F}') \longrightarrow H^{1}(X, \mathcal{F}) \longrightarrow H^{1}(X, \mathcal{F}'')$$

$$H^{2}(X, \mathcal{F}') \longrightarrow H^{2}(X, \mathcal{F}) \longrightarrow H^{2}(X, \mathcal{F}'') \longrightarrow \cdots$$

rds, the failure of s and the other grou	•	ne above is controll nce.	ed by the grou

Cohomology groups can be defined in a completely general setting, for any topological space X and a (pre)sheaf  $\mathcal{F}$  on it. With that as only input, we will define the *cohomology groups*  $H^k(X,\mathcal{F})$ , which will capture the main geometric invariants of  $\mathcal{F}$ . These should also be functorial in  $\mathcal{F}$ , which means that we want to construct functors

$$H^q(X,-)\colon \mathsf{AbSh}_X \to \mathsf{Ab}$$
  
 $\mathcal{F} \mapsto H^q(X,\mathcal{F})$ 

$$F \rightarrow G \qquad H'(X, F) \longrightarrow H'(X, g)$$

satisfying the following properties:

i)  $H^0(X, \mathcal{F}) = \Gamma(X, \mathcal{F}) = \mathcal{F}(X)$ ;

*ii*) A morphism of sheaves  $\phi : \mathcal{F} \to \mathcal{G}$  induces for all i group homomorphisms  $H^i(X,\mathcal{F}) \to H^i(X,\mathcal{G})$  which are functorial and takes the identity to the identity; in other words, each  $H^i(X,-)$  is a functor;

iii) Every short exact sequence  $0 \to \mathcal{F}' \to \mathcal{F} \to \mathcal{F}'' \to 0$  gives a *long exact sequence* as above.

## 13.1 Some homological algebra

Complexes of groups

Recall that a *complex of abelian groups*  $A^{\bullet}$  is a sequence of groups  $A^{i}$  together with maps between them

$$\cdots \xrightarrow{d^{i-2}} A^{i-1} \xrightarrow{d^{i-1}} A^i \xrightarrow{d^i} A^{i+1} \xrightarrow{d^{i+1}} \cdots$$

such that  $d^{i+1} \circ d^i = 0$  for each i. A morphism of complexes  $A^{\bullet} \xrightarrow{f} B^{\bullet}$  is a collection

such that  $d^{i+1} \circ d^i = 0$  for each i. A morphism of complexes  $A^{\bullet} \xrightarrow{f} B^{\bullet}$  is a collection of maps  $f_p : A^p \to B^p$  making the following diagram commutative:

In this way, we can talk about kernels, images, cokernels, exact sequences of complexes, etc.

ZP 
$$\sigma \in A^{P}$$
 kosyhel derom  $\sigma \in \ker d^{P}$ 

BP  $\sigma \in A^{P}$  kovand derom  $\sigma = d^{P-1}T$   $T \in A^{P-1}$ 

We say that an element  $\sigma \in A^p$  is a *cocycle* if it lies in the kernel of the map  $d^p$  i.e.,  $d^p\sigma=0$ . A *coboundary* is an element in the image of  $d^{p-1}$ , i.e.,  $\sigma=d^{p-1}\tau$  for some  $\tau \in A^{p-1}$ . These form subgroups of  $A^p$ , denoted by  $Z^pA^{\bullet}$  and  $B^pA^{\bullet}$  respectively. Since  $d^p(d^{p-1}a)=0$  for all a, all coboundaries are cocycles, so that  $Z^pA^{\bullet}\supset B^pA^{\bullet}$ . The *cohomology groups* of the complex  $A^{\bullet}$  are set up to measure

$$A^{P-1} \xrightarrow{d^{P-1}} A^{P} \xrightarrow{d^{P}} A^{P+1}$$

$$T \xrightarrow{\rightarrow} dT$$

 $Z^pA^{\bullet} \supset B^pA^{\bullet}$ . The *cohomology groups* of the complex  $A^{\bullet}$  are set up to measure the difference between these two notions. We the *p-th cohomology group* as the quotient group

$$H^p A^{\bullet} = Z^p(A^{\bullet})/B^p(A^{\bullet}) = \operatorname{Ker} d^p/\operatorname{Im} d^{p-1}.$$

One thinks of  $H^pA^{\bullet}$  as a group that measures the failure of the complex  $A^{\bullet}$  of being exact at stage p:  $A^{\bullet}$  is exact if and only if  $H^pA^{\bullet} = 0$  for every p.

The following fact is very important:

**PROPOSITION 13.1** Suppose that  $0 \to F^{\bullet} \xrightarrow{f} G^{\bullet} \xrightarrow{g} H^{\bullet} \to 0$  is an exact sequence of complexes. Then there is a long exact sequence of cohomology groups

$$\cdots \longrightarrow H^{p}F^{\bullet} \longrightarrow H^{p}G^{\bullet} \longrightarrow H^{p}H^{\bullet}$$

$$H^{p+1}F^{\bullet} \longrightarrow H^{p+1}G^{\bullet} \longrightarrow H^{p+1}H^{\bullet} \longrightarrow \cdots$$

PROOF: For each  $p \in \mathbb{Z}$ , consider the commutative diagram

$$0 \longrightarrow F^{p} \xrightarrow{f_{p}} G^{p} \xrightarrow{g_{p}} H^{p} \longrightarrow 0$$

$$\downarrow^{d^{p}} \downarrow^{d^{p}} \downarrow^{d^{p}} \downarrow^{d^{p}}$$

$$0 \longrightarrow F^{p+1} \xrightarrow{f_{p+1}} G^{p+1} \xrightarrow{g_{p+1}} H^{p+1} \longrightarrow 0$$

$$\downarrow^{p} \downarrow^{p} \downarrow^{p$$

where the rows are exact by assumption. By the Snake lemma, we obtain a sequence

$$0 \longrightarrow Z^p(F^ullet) \stackrel{f_p}{\longrightarrow} Z^p(G^ullet) \stackrel{g_p}{\longrightarrow} Z^p(H^ullet)$$
 $\delta$ 
 $F^{p+1}/B^p(F^ullet) \stackrel{f_{p+1}}{\longrightarrow} G^{p+1}/B^p(G^ullet) \stackrel{g_{p+1}}{\longrightarrow} H^{p+1}/B^p(H^ullet) \longrightarrow 0$ 

Consider now the diagram

$$egin{aligned} 0 & \longrightarrow F^p/B^p(F^ullet) & \stackrel{f_p}{\longrightarrow} G^p/B^p(G^ullet) & \stackrel{g_p}{\longrightarrow} H^p/B^p(H^ullet) & \longrightarrow 0 \ & \downarrow^{d^p} & \downarrow^{d^p} & \downarrow^{d^p} \ 0 & \longrightarrow Z^{p+1}(F^ullet) & \stackrel{f_{p+1}}{\longrightarrow} Z^{p+1}(G^ullet) & \stackrel{g_{p+1}}{\longrightarrow} Z^{p+1}(H^ullet) \end{aligned}$$

where the rows are exact by the above. For the maps in this diagram,  $H^pF^{\bullet} = \operatorname{Ker} d^p$  and  $H^{p+1}F^{\bullet} = \operatorname{Coker} d^p$ . Hence applying the Snake lemma one more time, we get the desired exact sequence.

## Complexes of sheaves

The definitions and arguments of the previous subsection apply much more generally (to any abelian category). In particular, we make the following sheaf analogue. A *complex of sheaves*  $\mathcal{F}^{\bullet}$  is a sequence of sheaves with maps between them

$$\cdots \xrightarrow{d^{i-2}} \mathcal{F}_{i-1} \xrightarrow{d^{i-1}} \mathcal{F}_{i} \xrightarrow{d^{i}} \mathcal{F}_{i+1} \xrightarrow{d^{i+1}} \cdots$$

such that  $d^{i+1} \circ d^i = 0$  for each i. Given such a complex, we define the *cohomology* sheaves  $H^p\mathcal{F}^{\bullet}$  as  $\operatorname{Ker} d^i/\operatorname{Im} d^{i-1}$ . As above, a short exact sequence of complexes of sheaves gives rise to a long exact sequence of cohomology sheaves.

## 13.2 Čech cohomology

Let X be a topological space, and let  $\mathcal{F}$  be a presheaf on it. Let  $\mathcal{U} = \{U_i\}$  be an open cover of X, indexed by an ordered set I. As we saw previously, if  $\mathcal{F}$  is a sheaf, the following sequence is exact:  $\{\xi_i\}$   $\longrightarrow$   $\{\xi_i\}$   $\{\xi_i\}$ 

shows the following sequence is shall 
$$(\mathcal{V}_{i}) \rightarrow \mathcal{F}(\mathcal{U}_{i}) \rightarrow \mathcal{F}(\mathcal{U}_{i})$$
 of  $\mathcal{F}(\mathcal{U}_{i})$  of  $\mathcal{F}(\mathcal{U}_{i})$ .

$$S \rightarrow S|_{\mathcal{V}_{i}}$$

$$\mathcal{F}(\mathcal{V}_{i} \cap \mathcal{V}_{i}) \rightarrow \mathcal{F}(\mathcal{V}_{i} \cap \mathcal{V}_{i}) \rightarrow \mathcal{F}(\mathcal{V}_{i} \cap \mathcal{V}_{i})$$

The Čech complex is essentially the continuation of this sequence; it is a complex obtained by adjoining all the groups  $\mathcal{F}(U_{i_1} \cap \cdots \cap U_{i_r})$  over all intersections

 $U_{i_1} \cap \cdots \cap U_{i_r}$ .

## Empleks av grupper

**DEFINITION 13.2** For a presheaf  $\mathcal{F}$  on X, define the Čech complex  $C^{\bullet}(\mathcal{U}, \mathcal{F})$  of  $\mathcal{F}$  (with respect to  $\mathcal{U}$ ) as

$$C^0(\mathcal{U},\mathcal{F}) \xrightarrow{d^0} C^1(\mathcal{U},\mathcal{F}) \xrightarrow{d^1} C^2(\mathcal{U},\mathcal{F}) \xrightarrow{d^2} \cdots$$

where

$$TT F(U_i) \longrightarrow TT F(U_{ij}) \longrightarrow TT F(U_{ijk})$$

$$\sigma = \left(\begin{array}{c} \sigma \\ J_{0} - J_{p} \end{array}\right)_{j_{0} - J_{p}} \sim \partial \sigma \in C^{p+1}$$

and the coboundary map  $d: C^p(\mathcal{U}, \mathcal{F}) \to C^{p+1}(\mathcal{U}, \mathcal{F})$  by

$$(d^p\sigma)_{i_0,...,i_{p+1}} = \sum_{j=0}^{p+1} (-1)^j \sigma_{i_0,...\hat{i_j},...,i_{p+1}} |_{U_{i_0} \cap \cdots \cap U_{i_p}}$$

where  $i_0, \ldots \hat{i_j}, \ldots, i_{p+1}$  means  $i_0, \ldots, i_{p+1}$  with the index  $i_j$  omitted.

**EXAMPLE 13.3** Let us look at the first few maps in the complex:

 $d^0: C^0(\mathcal{U}, \mathcal{F}) \to C^1(\mathcal{U}, \mathcal{F}).$  If  $\sigma = (\sigma_i)_i$ , then

$$(d^0\sigma)_{ij} = \sigma_j - \sigma_i$$

$$(d^1\sigma)_{ijk} = \sigma_{jk} - \sigma_{ik} + \sigma_{ij}$$

By direct substitution, we see that  $d^1 \circ d^0 = 0$  (all the  $\sigma_{ij}$  cancel). This happens also in higher degrees by a basic computation using the definition of  $d^i$ .

**LEMMA 13.4**  $d^{p+1} \circ d^p = 0$ .

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In particular, the  $C^{\bullet}(\mathcal{U}, \mathcal{F})$  forms a *complex of abelian groups*. As before, we say that an element  $\sigma \in C^p(\mathcal{U}, \mathcal{F})$  is a *cocycle* if  $d^p\sigma = 0$ , and a *coboundary* if  $\sigma = d^{p-1}\tau$ , and denote these by  $Z^p$  and  $B^p$  respectively. The Čech cohomology groups of  $\mathcal{F}$  are set up to measure the difference between these two notions:

**DEFINITION 13.5** The p-th Čech cohomology of  $\mathcal{F}$  with respect to  $\mathcal{U}$  is defined as

$$H^p(\mathcal{U},\mathcal{F}) = Z^p/B^p = (\operatorname{Ker} d^p)/(\operatorname{Im} d^{p-1})$$

It is not hard to check that a sheaf homomorphism  $\mathcal{F} \to \mathcal{G}$  induces a mapping of Čech cohomology groups, so we obtain functors  $\mathcal{F} \to H^p(\mathcal{U}, \mathcal{F})$  from abelian sheaves to abelian groups

$$0 \stackrel{d^{-1}}{\longrightarrow} (0 \stackrel{d^{0}}{\longrightarrow} (1 \stackrel{d^{1}}{\longrightarrow} (2 \stackrel{d^{-1}}{\longrightarrow} (2 \stackrel{d^{-1}}{\longrightarrow}$$

**EXAMPLE 13.6** Again it is instructive to consider the group  $H^0(\mathcal{U}, \mathcal{F})$ . Here the map  $d^0: C^0(\mathcal{U}, \mathcal{F}) \to C^1(\mathcal{U}, \mathcal{F})$ , which is simply the usual map

$$\prod_{i} F(U_{i}) \to \prod_{i,j} \mathcal{F}(U_{i} \cap U_{j})$$

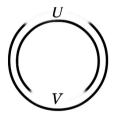
$$\downarrow_{i} \qquad \downarrow_{i,j} \qquad \downarrow_{j} \qquad \downarrow_{$$

which has kernel  $\mathcal{F}(X)$  by the sheaf axioms. It follows that  $H^0(\mathcal{U}, \mathcal{F}) = \mathcal{F}(X)$ .

$$H^{\circ} = \frac{\text{bor d}^{\circ}}{\text{im d}^{-1}} = \text{her d}^{\circ} = f(X).$$

**EXAMPLE 13.7** The most interesting cohomology group is arguably  $H^1(\mathcal{U}, F)$ . It is the group of cochains  $\sigma_{ij}$  such that  $\sigma_{ik} = \sigma_{ij} + \sigma_{jk}$  modulo the cochains of the form  $\sigma_{ij} = \tau_j - \tau_i$ .

**EXAMPLE 13.8** Consider the unit circle  $X = S^1$  (with the Euclidean topology), with its standard covering  $\mathcal{U} = \{U, V\}$  (intersecting in two intervals) and let  $\mathcal{F} = \mathbb{Z}_X$  (the constant sheaf).



$$\mathcal{T} \mathcal{F}(\mathcal{V}_i)$$

Here we have

$$C^0(\mathcal{U},\mathcal{F}) = \mathbb{Z}_U \times \mathbb{Z}_V \qquad C^1(\mathcal{U},\mathbb{Z}) = \mathbb{Z}_{U \cap V} = \mathbb{Z} \times \mathbb{Z}$$

0-7/2

$$(a_1b) \longrightarrow (b-a, b-a)$$

The map  $C^0 \to C^1$  is the map  $d^0: \mathbb{Z}^2 \to \mathbb{Z}^2$  given by  $d^0(a,b) = (b-a,b-a)$ . Hence

$$H^0(\mathcal{U},\mathbb{Z}_X)=\operatorname{Ker} d=\mathbb{Z}(1,1)\simeq \mathbb{Z}$$

and

$$H^1(\mathcal{U},\mathbb{Z}_X) = \operatorname{Coker} d = \frac{\mathbb{Z} \times \mathbb{Z}}{\mathbb{Z}(1,1)} \simeq \mathbb{Z}$$

 $(P^{(t)}, q^{(t-1)}) \longrightarrow q^{(t-1)} - p^{(t)}$ 

**EXAMPLE 13.9** Consider the projective line  $\mathbb{P}^1_k$  covered by  $U_0 = \operatorname{Spec} k[t]$  and  $U_1 = \operatorname{Spec} k[t^{-1}]$ . For the structure sheaf  $\mathcal{F}$ , the Čech -complex takes the following form:

H°(U, Opr) = bor d = k H'(U, Opi) = coher d = 0

Where d sends a pair  $(p(t), q(t^{-1}))$  to  $q(t^{-1}) - p(t)$ . As we saw in Chapter 5, Ker d = k. It is on the other hand clear that any element of  $k[t^{\pm 1}]$  can be written as a sum of a polynomial in t and one in  $t^{-1}$ , hence

 $H^1(\mathcal{U}, \mathcal{O}) = \operatorname{Coker} d = 0.$ 

**EXAMPLE 13.10** Continuing the above example, let us compute the sheaf cohomology groups for  $\mathcal{F} = \mathcal{O}(n)$ . The sequence takes the following form:

 $0 \longrightarrow k[t] \times k[t^{-1}] \stackrel{d}{\longrightarrow} k[t^{\pm 1}] \longrightarrow 0$  where the map d is now given by

$$d(p(t), q(t^{-1})) = t^n q(t^{-1}) - p(t)$$

(see Section 5.3). As we computed in Proposition 5.2, we have  $\text{Ker } d \simeq k^{n+1}$  if  $n \ge 0$ , and Ker d = 0 otherwise. The computation of  $H^1$  is slightly more subtle.

$$H^{\circ}(U, O(n)) = \text{ker} d = \begin{cases} P(t) = t^{n} q(t^{-1}) & | q | Polin \end{cases}$$
  
=  $k \begin{cases} 1, t, ..., t^{n} \end{cases}$ 

$$\mathcal{H}^{\prime}(\mathcal{U},\mathcal{O}(n)) = cher d = 0 \qquad (n > 0)$$

Consider first the case  $n \ge 0$ . As before, it is easy to see that any Laurent polynomial in  $k[t,t^{-1}]$  can be written in the form  $t^nq(t^{-1})-p(t)$ . In fact, this also works for n=-1, as  $t^{-k}=t^{-1}\cdot t^{-k+1}-0$  and  $t^k=t^{-1}\cdot 0-t^k$ . Hence  $H^1(\mathcal{U},\mathcal{O}(n))=0$  for  $n\ge -1$ . For  $n\le -2$  however, any linear combination of the following monomials are not in the image:

$$t^{-1}$$
,  $t^{-2}$ , ...,  $t^{n+1}$ 

This implies that  $H^1(\mathcal{U}, \mathcal{O}(n))$  is a k-vector space of dimension -n+1.

$$N = -2:$$

$$0 \longrightarrow k[t] \times k[t^{-1}] \longrightarrow k(t,t^{-1}) \longrightarrow 0$$

$$(k[t] q(t^{-1})) \longrightarrow t^{-2}q(t^{-1}) - p(t)$$

$$H^0 = ber d = 0$$
 $H' = coher d = k \cdot t' \geq k$ 
 $H'(\mathcal{U}, \mathcal{O}(-2)) \simeq k$ 

Proposition 13.11 Let X be an irreducible topological space. Then for any covering

**Proposition 13.11** Let X be an irreducible topological space. Then for any covering  $\mathcal{U}$  of X we have for a constant sheaf  $A_X$ 

$$H^p(\mathcal{U},A_X)=0$$

for p > 0.

PROOF: In this case the Čech complex takes the form

$$\prod_{i \in I} A \to \prod_{i,j \in I} A \to \prod_{i,j,k \in I} A \to \cdots$$

Note that this complex of groups does not depend on X or the covering  $\mathcal{U}$  – it is only the index set I which plays a role. In particular, the complex is the same as the Čech complex of A on a 1-point space (which makes it plausible that the higher cohomology should vanish). In this case it is easy to show by hand show that any p-cocycle is the boundary of some (p-1)-cochain for p>0.

For instance, given a 1-cocycle  $g = (g_{ij}) \in \prod_{i,j} A$ , fix some  $n \in I$  and define the element  $h = (h_i) \in C^0(\mathcal{U}, A) = \prod_{i \in I} A$  by  $h_i = g_{ni}$ . The cocycle condition  $0 = d^1(g)_{nij} = g_{ij} - g_{nj} + g_{ni}$  translates into  $0 = g_{ij} - h_j + h_i$  or  $g_{ij} = h_j - h_i$ . This proves that the cocycle  $g = (g_{i,j})$  is the coboundary of the element  $h = (h_i)$ , and

thus that the class of that cocycle is zero in  $H^1(\mathcal{U}, A_X)$ .

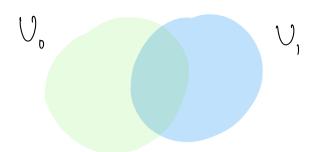
## Sheaf cohomology

As seen in the examples above, the groups  $H^p(\mathcal{U}, \mathcal{F})$  are easily computable, if one is given a nice cover of X. Indeed, the maps in the Čech complex are completely explicit, and computing their kernels and images involve only basic row operations from linear algebra.

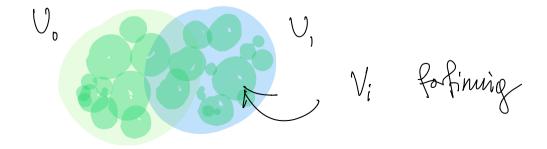
Problem: kan velge 
$$\mathcal{U} = \{X, X\}$$

~ Cech komplets  $v \to f(X) \to 0$ 

On the other hand, the definition of the cohomology groups is a little bit unsatisfactory for various reasons. First of all, the groups  $H^p(\mathcal{U},\mathcal{F})$  depend on the cover  $\mathcal{U}$ , whereas we want something canonical that only depends on  $\mathcal{F}$ . More importantly, it is not clear that the definition above really captures enough of the desired information about  $\mathcal{F}$ . For instance,  $\mathcal{U}$  could consist of the single open set X, and so  $H^i(\mathcal{U},\mathcal{F})=0$  for all  $i\geqslant 1$ ! Finally, it is not at all clear if these groups satisfy the requirements mentioned in the introduction.



There is a fix for all of these problems which involves passing to finer and finer 'refinements' of the covering. We say that a covering  $\mathcal{V} = \{V_j\}_{j \in J}$  is a refinement of  $\mathcal{U} = \{U_i\}_{i \in I}$  if for every  $V_j \in \mathcal{V}$ , there is a  $i \in I$  so that  $V_j \subset U_i$ . This defines a partial ordering on the coverings which we denote by  $\mathcal{V} \leq \mathcal{U}$ . If we



fix a map  $\epsilon: J \to I$  so that  $V_j \subset U_{\sigma(j)}$  for every j, we can define a *refinement* homomorphism

$$\operatorname{ref}_{\mathcal{U},\mathcal{V}}:H^p(\mathcal{U},\mathcal{F})\to H^p(\mathcal{V},\mathcal{F})$$

by setting

by setting 
$$(\operatorname{ref}_{\mathcal{U},\mathcal{V}}(\sigma))_{j_0,...,j_p} = \left(\sigma_{\epsilon j_0,...,\epsilon j_p}\right)ig|_{V_{j_0\cap\cdots\cap j_p}}$$

One computes easily that  $d \circ \text{ref} = \text{ref} \circ d$ , so that ref induces a map on cohomology groups. Moreover, one can check that while the refinement depends on the choice of the function  $\epsilon: I \to I$ , the map ref on cohomology does not.

One can then define a group  $H^p(X, \mathcal{F})$  to be the direct limit of all  $H^p(\mathcal{U}, \mathcal{F})$  as  $\mathcal{U}$  runs through all possible open covers  $\mathcal{U}$  ordered by  $\leq$ . The resulting groups

are indeed canonical, and turn out to give the right answer for cohomology:

**DEFINITION 13.12** The groups  $H^p(X, \mathcal{F})$  are called the cohomology groups of  $\mathcal{F}$ . In symbols,

$$H^p(X,\mathcal{F}) = \varinjlim_{\mathcal{U}} H^p(\mathcal{U},\mathcal{F})$$

avherger ihlre ær overdelinger i helt kanvonisk The main preoperties of Čech cohomology are summarized in the following theorem:

**THEOREM 13.13** Let X be a topological space and let  $\mathcal{F}$  be a sheaf on X.

- □ *The Čech cohomology groups are functors*  $H^i(X, -) : \mathsf{Sh}_X \to \mathsf{Groups}$ .
- □ Short exact sequences of sheaves induce long exact sequences of cohomology.
- □ (Leray's theorem). If  $\mathcal{F}$  is a sheaf and  $\mathcal{U}$  is a covering such that  $H^i(U_{i_1} \cap U_{i_n}, \mathcal{F}) = 0$  for all i > 0 and multiindexes  $i_1 < \cdots < i_p$ , then

$$H^i(X,\mathcal{F})=H^i(\mathcal{U},\mathcal{F}).$$

Deron X er separert

3) alle affine overlahreger  $U = \{U_i\}$ Vikig! ) tilfreethler deme behingligen.

The last statement (Leray's theorem) is very important. It says that even though  $H^i(X, \mathcal{F})$  is defined as an infinite directed limit over coverings  $\mathcal{U}$ , it suffices to compute it at a covering which is 'sufficiently fine' in the sense that the higher groups  $H^i(U_{i_1} \cap \cdots \cap U_{i_p}, \mathcal{F}) = 0$  vanish for i > 0. In practice, the latter condition is rather easy to check: It holds for instance if all of the intersections are affine schemes (see Corollary 14.2).



## The long exact sequence for quasi-coherent sheaves

Let *X* be a scheme and consider a short exact sequence of quasi-coherent sheaves

$$0 \longrightarrow \mathcal{F} \longrightarrow \mathcal{G} \longrightarrow \mathcal{H} \longrightarrow 0.$$

If  $U = \operatorname{Spec} A$  is affine, proved in Proposition ??? that the sequence

$$0 \longrightarrow \mathcal{F}(U) \longrightarrow \mathcal{G}(U) \longrightarrow \mathcal{H}(U) \longrightarrow 0. \tag{13.1}$$

is exact. This means that if we have an affine cover  $\mathcal{U} = \{U_i\}_{i \in I}$  with the property that each intersection

$$U_{i_1} \cap \cdots \cap U_{i_p}$$

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is affine, then we have an exact sequence

$$0 \longrightarrow C^p(\mathcal{U},\mathcal{F}) \longrightarrow C^p(\mathcal{U},\mathcal{G}) \longrightarrow C^p(\mathcal{U},\mathcal{H}) \longrightarrow 0.$$

and consequently, the sequence of Čech complexes

$$0 \longrightarrow C^{ullet}(\mathcal{U},\mathcal{F}) \longrightarrow C^{ullet}(\mathcal{U},\mathcal{G}) \longrightarrow C^{ullet}(\mathcal{U},\mathcal{H}) \longrightarrow 0.$$

is also exact. Thus we are in position to apply Lemma 13.1 to get a long exact sequence of Čech cohomology groups

$$\cdots \longrightarrow H^i(\mathcal{U},\mathcal{F}) \longrightarrow H^i(\mathcal{U},\mathcal{G}) \longrightarrow H^i(\mathcal{U},\mathcal{H}) \longrightarrow \cdots.$$

•	e directed system of covering ence (13.1) for quasi-cohere

In general, it can certainly happen that the restriction map (13.1) is *not* surjective – one can for instance take the open covering of X with just one open set X. This explains why the Čech cohomology groups  $H^i(\mathcal{U}, \mathcal{F})$  do not give long exact sequences in general. However, by passing to smaller refinements  $\mathcal{V} \leq \mathcal{U}$ , we can arrange that any section lifts and we can use the above to construct  $\delta$ .