

# Relative homology groups

Recall (singular homology)

$X$ : topological space

$$C_n(X) = \left\{ \sum_{\sigma} n_{\sigma} \cdot \sigma \mid \sigma : \Delta^n \rightarrow X \text{ cont, } n_{\sigma} \in \mathbb{Z} \right\}$$

(finite sum) std  $n$ -simplex

$$\partial_n : C_n(X) \rightarrow C_{n-1}(X), \quad \partial_n(\sigma) = \sum_{i=0}^n (-1)^i \sigma|_{[v_0, \dots, \hat{v}_i, \dots, v_n]}$$

$i$ -th face of  $\sigma$

$$H_n(X) = H_n^{\text{sing}}(X) = \ker \partial_n / \text{img } \partial_{n+1}$$

$$A \xrightarrow{i} X \text{ incl. of subspace} \rightsquigarrow H_n(A) \xrightarrow{i_*} H_n(X)$$

Cautions:  $i_*$  is not injective in general

$$\text{ex. } S^{k-1} \hookrightarrow D^k \quad \mathbb{Z} \cong H_{k-1}(S^{k-1}) \rightarrow H_{k-1}(D^k) = 0$$

Notn./ Def.  $A \subset X$  subspace

$$C_n(X, A) = C_n(X) / C_n(A)$$

(regard  $\sigma: \Delta^n \rightarrow A$  as  $\Delta^n \rightarrow X$ )

$$\partial_n : C_n(X, A) \rightarrow C_{n-1}(X, A) \quad \text{induced by } \partial_n$$

(well-defined by  $\partial_n(C_n(A)) \subset C_{n-1}(A)$ ,

$\partial_{n-1}\partial_n = 0$  from same cond. on  $C_n(X)$ )

n-th relative homology group of  $(X, A)$

$$H_n(X, A) = \ker \partial_n |_{C_n(X, A)} / \text{img } \partial_{n+1}$$

represented by  $\alpha \in C_n(X)$

s.t.  $\partial_n \alpha \in C_{n-1}(A)$

by  $\alpha \in C_n(X)$  s.t.

$$\alpha = \partial_{n+1} \beta + \gamma$$

$\gamma \in C_n(A)$

# Goals

Prop 1 there is an exact sequence

$$\dots \rightarrow H_n(A) \xrightarrow{i^*} H_n(X) \xrightarrow{j^*} H_n(X, A) \xrightarrow{\partial} H_{n-1}(A) \xrightarrow{i^*} \dots$$

$$\dots \rightarrow H_0(A) \xrightarrow{i^*} H_0(X) \xrightarrow{j^*} H_0(X, A) \rightarrow 0$$

$j^*$ : map induced by quot. map  $C_n(X) \rightarrow C_n(X)/C_n(A)$

$\partial$ : "boundary map" (not to be confused w/  $\partial_n$ )

Prop 2 (2.22) if  $\emptyset \neq A \subset X$  closed,

$\exists \overset{\text{open}}{U} \supset A$  s.t.  $A \subset U$  is a deform. retract

then  $H_n(X, A) \cong \tilde{H}_n(X/A)$  ( $= H_n(X/A)$  for  $n > 0$ )

Getting long exact sequence (Prop. 1)

(purely algebraic)

we have a short exact sequence of chain complexes

$$\begin{array}{ccccccc} & \vdots & & \vdots & & \vdots & \\ & \downarrow & & \downarrow & & \downarrow & \\ 0 \rightarrow & C_n(A) & \rightarrow & C_n(X) & \rightarrow & C_n(X, A) & \rightarrow 0 \\ & \downarrow \partial_n & & \downarrow \partial_n & & \downarrow \partial_n & \\ 0 \rightarrow & C_{n-1}(A) & \rightarrow & C_{n-1}(X) & \rightarrow & C_{n-1}(X, A) & \rightarrow 0 \\ & \downarrow & & \downarrow & & \downarrow & \\ & \vdots & & \vdots & & \vdots & \\ & \underbrace{\hspace{2cm}} & & \underbrace{\hspace{2cm}} & & \underbrace{\hspace{2cm}} & \\ & \text{call } (L., \partial) & & (M., \partial) & & (N., \partial) & \end{array}$$

$\leadsto$  want  $\dots \rightarrow H_n(L., \partial) \rightarrow H_n(M., \partial) \rightarrow H_n(N., \partial) \xrightarrow{\partial} H_{n-1}(L., \partial) \rightarrow \dots$   
exact

Prop ("Snake Lemma") given a diagram of comm. grps.

$$\begin{array}{ccccccc}
 & & i & & j & & \\
 & & \downarrow & & \downarrow & & \\
 A_1 & \xrightarrow{\quad} & A_2 & \xrightarrow{\quad} & A_3 & \xrightarrow{\quad} & 0 \\
 \downarrow f_1 & & \downarrow f_2 & & \downarrow f_3 & & \\
 0 & \rightarrow & B_1 & \xrightarrow{\quad} & B_2 & \xrightarrow{\quad} & B_3
 \end{array}$$

( squares commute  
 exact rows
 )

there is a naturally defined map  $\ker f_3 \xrightarrow{\partial} \operatorname{cok} f_1$  s.t.

$$\ker f_1 \xrightarrow{i^*} \ker f_2 \xrightarrow{j^*} \ker f_3 \xrightarrow{\partial} \operatorname{cok} f_1 \xrightarrow{i^*} \operatorname{cok} f_2 \xrightarrow{j^*} \operatorname{cok} f_3$$

$\uparrow$  restr. of  $A_1 \rightarrow A_2$                        $\uparrow$  induced by  $B_1 \rightarrow B_2$

is exact

Proof Step 0 exactness at  $\ker f_2$  :

easy argument by diagram chasing

Step 2 exactness at  $\text{cok } f_2$

img  $i_* \text{cok } g_1 \subset \ker j_* \text{cok } g_2$  from  $j_* = 0$

reverse inclusion:

take  $[b] \in \text{cok } g_2$  ( $b \in B_2$ ) s.t.  $j_*([b]) = 0$  in  $\text{cok } f_3$

this means  $j(b) = f_3(a)$  for some  $a \in A_3$

$A_2 \xrightarrow{j} A_3 \rightarrow 0$  exact  $\Rightarrow \exists a' \in A_2$  s.t.  $j(a') = a$

put  $b' = b - f_2(a')$ :

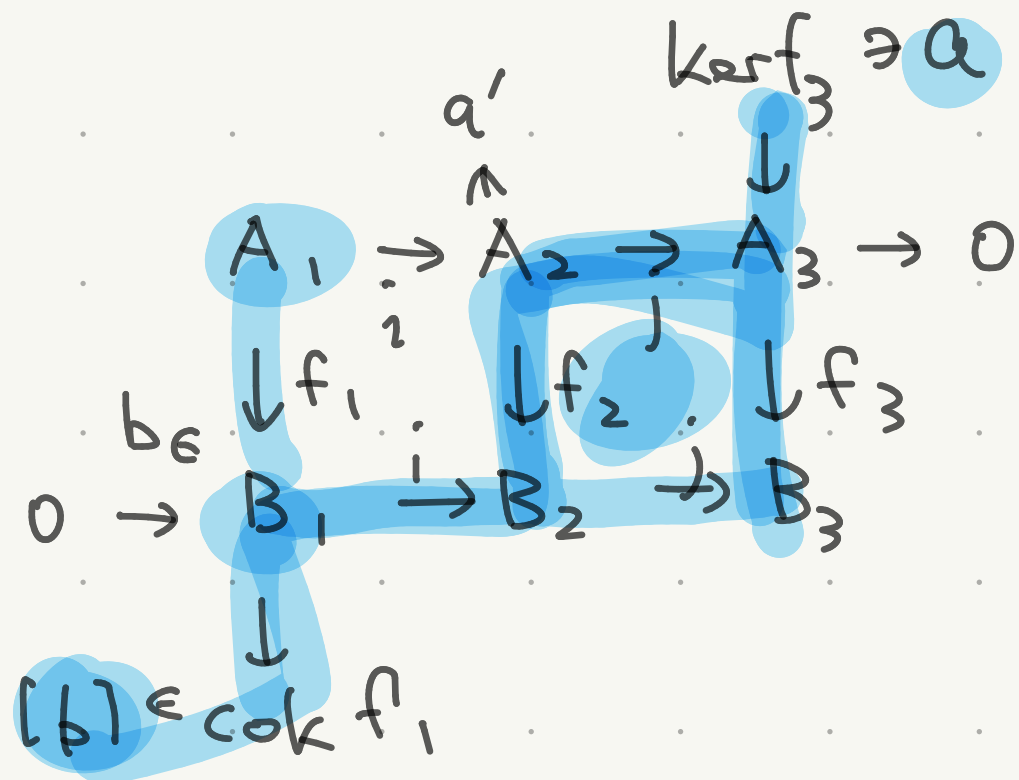
$[b'] = [b]$  in  $\text{cok } f_2$

$j(b') = j(b) - j(f_2(a')) = j(b) - f_3(j(a')) = 0$

$\Rightarrow b' = i(b'')$  for  $b'' \in B_1$  by  $B_1 \xrightarrow{i} B_2 \xrightarrow{j} B_3$  ex.

$\Rightarrow i_*([b'']) = [b]$

Step 3 construction of  $\partial : \ker f_3 \rightarrow \text{cok } f_1$



set  $\partial(a) = [b]$  by

- choose  $a' \in A_2 : j(a') = a$
- $b \in B_1$  is the elem. s.t.  $i(b) = f_2(a')$

1)  $j(f_2(a')) = f_3(j(a')) = 0 \Rightarrow$  such  $b$  exists

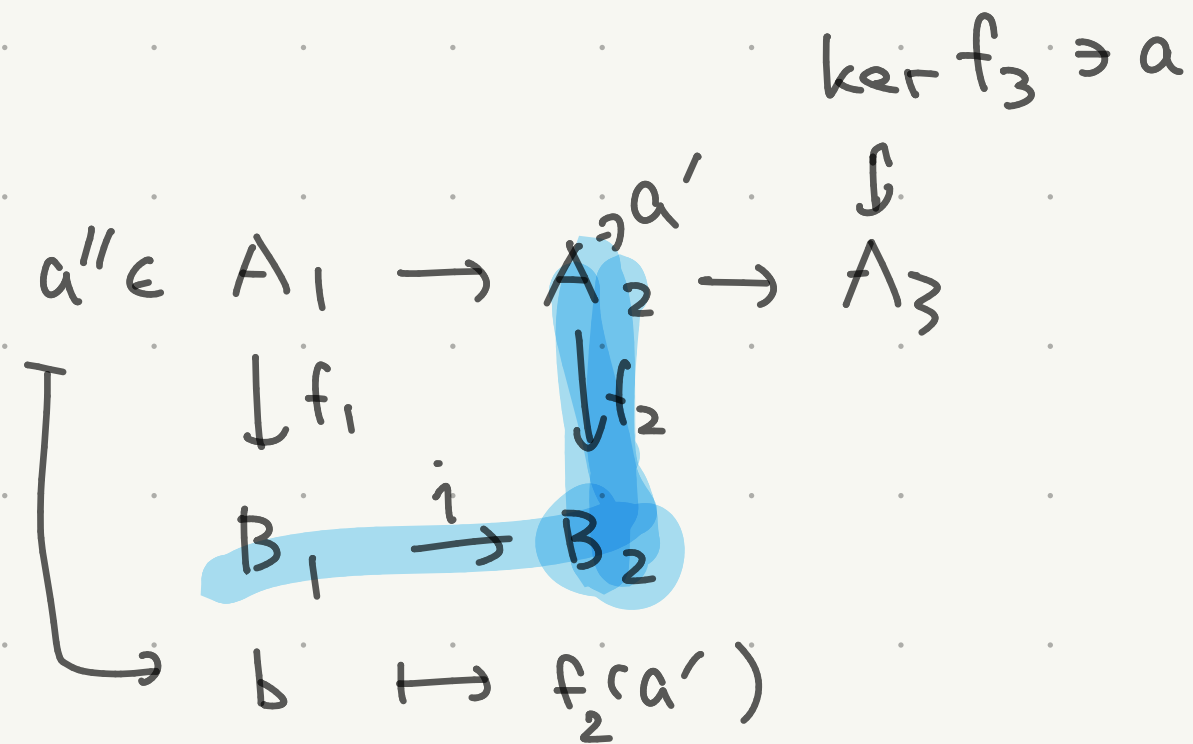
2) any other choice :  $a' + i(a'')$  for some  $a'' \in A_1$

$\Rightarrow b$  is replaced by  $b + f_1(a'')$

$\Rightarrow [b]$  is indep. of choice of  $a'$  as above.

Step 4 exactness of  $\ker f_2 \xrightarrow{j^*} \ker f_3 \xrightarrow{\partial} \operatorname{cok} f_1$

-  $\partial(a) = 0$  means " $b = f_1(a'')$ " in above def.



$$j(a' - i(a'')) = a$$

$\Rightarrow$  we can use  $a' - i(a'')$  instead of  $a'$

$$f_2(a' - i(a'')) = 0$$

from  $f_2(i(a'')) = i(f_1(a''))$

$$\Rightarrow a' - i(a'') \in \ker f_2$$

$\Rightarrow a$  is in the image of  $\ker f_2$

- if  $a = j(a')$  for  $a' \in \ker f_2$ , we set  $b = 0$



Step 5 exactness of  $\ker f_3 \xrightarrow{\partial} \operatorname{cok} f_1 \xrightarrow{i_*} \operatorname{cok} f_2$

- suppose  $i_*([b]) = 0$  i.e.  $i(b) = f_2(a')$

$j(a')$  is in  $\ker f_3$  :  $f_3(j(a')) = j(f_2(a')) = j(i(b))$

$\leadsto \partial(j(a')) = [b]$  by const.

-  $i_*(\partial(a)) = 0$  from  $i_*([b]) = [f_2(a')] = 0$

$$\begin{array}{ccc} a' & \xrightarrow{\quad} & a \\ \uparrow & & \\ A_2 & \rightarrow & A_1 \end{array}$$

$$\begin{array}{ccc} & \downarrow & \\ b \in B_1 & \rightarrow & B_2 \ni f_2(a') \\ \downarrow & & \downarrow \\ \operatorname{cok} f_1 & \rightarrow & \operatorname{cok} f_2 \ni 0 \end{array}$$

$[b]$

Cor.  $0 \rightarrow (L_*, d) \xrightarrow{i} (M_*, d) \xrightarrow{j} (N_*, d) \rightarrow 0$

exact sequence of chain complexes

w) long exact seq.

$$\dots \rightarrow H_n(L_*, d) \xrightarrow{i_*} H_n(M_*, d) \xrightarrow{j_*} H_n(N_*, d) \xrightarrow{\partial} H_{n-1}(L_*, d) \rightarrow \dots$$

Proof Put  $Z_n(L_*) = \ker(L_n \xrightarrow{d} L_{n-1})$   
 $B_n(L_*) = \text{img}(L_{n+1} \rightarrow L_n)$ , etc.

Take

$$\begin{array}{ccccccc} L_n / B_n(L_*) & \rightarrow & M_n / B_n(M_*) & \rightarrow & N_n / B_n(N_*) & \rightarrow & 0 \\ \downarrow d_* & & \downarrow d_* & & \downarrow d_* & & \\ 0 & \rightarrow & Z_{n-1}(L_*) & \rightarrow & Z_{n-1}(M_*) & \rightarrow & Z_{n-1}(N_*) \end{array}$$

$$\text{Step 1} \quad L_n/B_n(L_n) \xrightarrow{i_*} M_n/B_n(M_n) \xrightarrow{j_*} N_n/B_n(N_n) \rightarrow 0$$

is exact

- exactness at  $N_n/B_n(N_n)$ : surjectivity of  $j$

- at  $M_n/B_n(M_n)$ : take  $[a] \in M_n/B_n(M_n)$

$$\text{s.t. } j_*([a]) = 0 \quad \text{i.e. } j(a) = d(b) \quad b \in N_{n+1}$$

$$\text{take } a' \in M_{n+1} \quad \text{s.t. } j(a') = b$$

$$\Rightarrow j(a - da') = j(a) - d(j(a')) = 0$$

$$\text{so } a - da' = i(c) \quad \text{for } c \in L_n$$

$$\Rightarrow i_*([c]) = [a - da'] = [a]$$

Step 2  $0 \rightarrow Z_{n-1}(L.) \xrightarrow{i_*} Z_{n-1}(M.) \xrightarrow{j_*} Z_{n-1}(N.)$  is exact

• exactness at  $Z_{n-1}(L.)$ : injectivity of  $i$

• at  $Z_{n-1}(M.)$ : take  $a \in Z_{n-1}(M.)$  s.t.  $j_*(a) = 0$

then  $\exists b \in L_{n-1}$  s.t.  $i(b) = a$ ; want  $d(b) = 0$

$i$  injective  $\Rightarrow$  enough to have  $i(d(b)) = 0$

but  $i(d(b)) = d(i(b)) = d(a) = 0$

$$\begin{array}{ccc} L_{n-1} & \xrightarrow{i} & M_{n-1} \\ \downarrow d & & \downarrow d \\ L_{n-2} & \xrightarrow{i} & M_{n-2} \end{array}$$

Step 3  $H_n(L., d) \cong \ker(L_n / B_n(L.) \xrightarrow{d_*} Z_{n-1}(L.))$

$$H_{n-1}(L., d) \cong \operatorname{cok}(L_n / B_n(L.) \xrightarrow{d_*} Z_{n-1}(L.))$$

from  $H_n \cong Z_n / B_n$

Step 4  $H_n(N., d) \xrightarrow{\cong} H_{n-1}(L., d)$  as in claim

use the snake lemma for

$$L_n / B_n(L.) \rightarrow M_n / B_n(M.) \rightarrow N_n / B_n(N.) \rightarrow 0$$

$$\downarrow d_*$$

$$\downarrow d_*$$

$$\downarrow d_*$$

$$0 \rightarrow Z_{n-1}(L.) \rightarrow Z_{n-1}(M.) \rightarrow Z_{n-1}(N.)$$

with identification from Step 3

(also for  $(M., d)$ ,  $(N., d)$ )

Slight generalization : triples

$B \subset A \subset X \rightsquigarrow$  "triple"  $(X, A, B)$

$$0 \rightarrow C_n(A, B) \rightarrow C_n(X, B) \rightarrow C_n(X, A) \rightarrow 0 \quad \text{exact}$$

$$C_n(A)/C_n(B) \quad C_n(X)/C_n(B) \quad C_n(X)/C_n(A)$$

$\Rightarrow$  long exact seq.  
(Cor.)

$$\dots \rightarrow H_n(A, B) \rightarrow H_n(X, B) \rightarrow H_n(X, A) \xrightarrow{\partial} H_{n-1}(A, B) \rightarrow \dots$$

Rem  $C_n(X, \emptyset) = C_n(X)$ ,  $H_n(X, \emptyset) = H_n(X)$

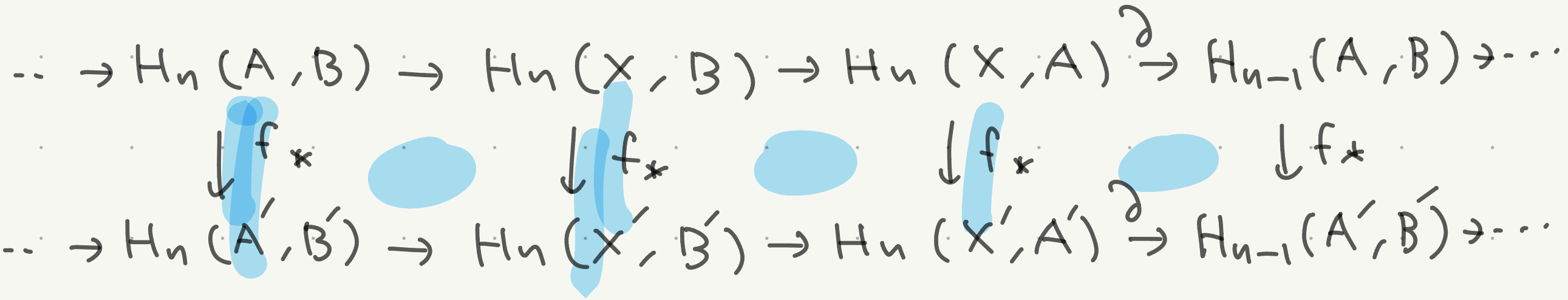
so  $B = \emptyset$  subsumes the case of pairs

functoriality

$f: (X, A, B) \rightarrow (X', A', B')$  map of triples;

$f: X \rightarrow X'$  cont. map,  $f(A) \subset A'$ ,  $f(B) \subset B'$

$\rightsquigarrow$  map of exact sequences



- compatible with composition  $(X, A, B) \xrightarrow{f} (X', A', B') \xrightarrow{g} (X'', A'', B'')$

- only depends on homotopy equiv. class of  $f$

To prove "Prop 2":

$$H_n(X, A) \cong \tilde{H}_n(X/A) \quad ( = H_n(X/A) \text{ for } n > 0 )$$

for  $A \subset X$  closed, s.t.  $\exists U \supset A$  :  $A \subset U$  is a deformation retract

We need

Thm 2.20 (Excision)  $Z \subset A \subset X$  s.t.  $\overline{Z} \subset \overset{\circ}{A}$

the incl. map  $i: X \setminus Z \hookrightarrow X$  induces isom.

$$H_n(X \setminus Z, A \setminus Z) \cong H_n(X, A)$$



(alternative form)  $A, B \subset X$ ,  $\overset{\circ}{A} \cup \overset{\circ}{B} = X$

$\Rightarrow$  incl.  $B \hookrightarrow X$  induces  $H_n(B, A \cap B) \cong H_n(X, A)$

(  $B = X \setminus Z$  )



Excision  $\Rightarrow$  Prop 2

Take  $X \supset \underset{\text{open}}{U} \supset A$  s.t.  $A \subset U$  is a deformation retract

i.e.  $\exists \Gamma: U \rightarrow A$   $\Gamma \circ i = \text{id}_A$ ,  $i \circ \Gamma \simeq \text{id}_U$

-  $U/A$  is contractible by the induced map

$\Gamma_*: U/A \rightarrow A/A \in \text{singleton space}$

-  $(X/A) \setminus (A/A) \cong X \setminus A$ ,  $(U/A) \setminus (A/A) \cong U \setminus A$

-  $q: (X, U, A) \rightarrow (X/A, U/A, A/A)$

induces  $H_n(X, A) \rightarrow H_n(X/A, A/A)$ , etc.

Look at comm. diagram

$$\begin{array}{ccccc} H_n(X, A) & \longrightarrow & H_n(X, U) & \longleftarrow & H_n(X \setminus A, U \setminus A) \\ \downarrow q_* & & \downarrow q_* & & \downarrow q_* \\ H_n(X/A, A/A) & \longrightarrow & H_n(X/A, U/A) & \longleftarrow & H_n((X/A) \setminus (A/A), (U/A) \setminus (A/A)) \end{array}$$

"2"

$$\tilde{H}_n(X/A)$$

Step 1  $H_n(X, A) \rightarrow H_n(X, U)$  is iso.

long exact seq. for  $(X, U, A)$  gives

$$\dots \rightarrow H_n(U, A) \rightarrow H_n(X, A) \rightarrow H_n(X, U) \rightarrow H_{n-1}(U, A) \rightarrow \dots$$

homotop. equiv.  $(U, A) \simeq (A, A)$  gives  $H_k(U, A) = 0$

$$H_k(U, A) \simeq H_k(A, A)$$

Step 2  $H_n(X/A, A/A) \rightarrow H_n(X/A, U/A)$  is iso  
same as with  $(U/A, A/A) \cong (A/A, A/A)$

Step 3  $H_n(X, U) \leftarrow H_n(X \setminus A, U \setminus A)$  is iso

use excision

Step 4  $H_n(X/A, U/A) \leftarrow H_n((X/A) \setminus (A/A), (U/A) \setminus (A/A))$

again excision for  $A/A \subset U/A \subset X/A$ .

Step 5  $H_n(X \setminus A, U \setminus A) \xrightarrow{q^*} H_n((X/A) \setminus (A/A), (U/A) \setminus (A/A))$   
is iso

$(X \setminus A) \cong (X/A) \setminus (A/A)$ , etc.

Prop 2 is applicable when  $(X, A)$

is a CW pair i.e.

$X$  is (the underlying top. sp. of) a  
cell complex

$A \subset X$  closed, union of some cells  
of  $X$  (subcomplex)

$$\leadsto \dots \rightarrow H_n(A) \rightarrow H_n(X) \rightarrow H_n(X/A) \rightarrow H_{n-1}(A)$$

$$\dots \rightarrow H_0(A) \rightarrow H_0(X) \rightarrow \tilde{H}_0(X/A) \rightarrow 0$$

long exact