

# MAT9580: Spectral Sequences

Chapters 1, 2 and 3:  
Spectral Sequences, Exact Couples and Filtrations

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# Outline

## Overview

## Spectral Sequences

- Homological spectral sequences

- Bounded convergence

- Long exact sequences as spectral sequences

- Two linked long exact sequences

## Exact Couples

- Unrolled exact couples

- The spectral sequence associated to an exact couple

- The  $E^\infty$ -term of a spectral sequence

- Discrete and exhaustive convergence

- Discrete convergence for exact couples

## Filtrations

- Filtered chain complexes

- Filtered spaces

- The Atiyah–Hirzebruch spectral sequence

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# Overview, I

- ▶ General algebraic theory of spectral sequences

$$E_{s,t}^r \implies_s G_{s+t}$$

- ▶  $(E^r, d^r)$ -terms
- ▶  $E^\infty$ -term
- ▶ Filtered abutment
- ▶ Convergence



Jean Leray

## Overview, II

- ▶ The Serre spectral sequence

$$E_{s,t}^2 = H_s(B; H_t(F)) \\ \implies_s H_{s+t}(E)$$

- ▶ Applications relating homotopy and homology
- ▶ Cohomological version
- ▶ Cup product structure
- ▶ Steenrod operations



Henri Cartan, Jean-Pierre Serre

## Overview, III

- ▶ The Adams spectral sequence

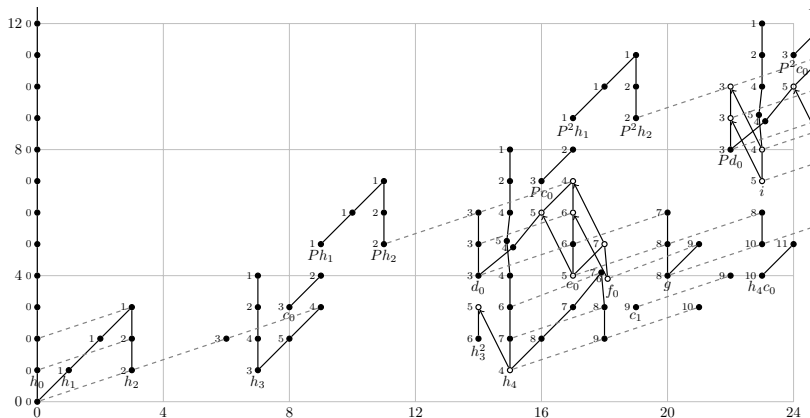
$$E_2^{s,t} = \text{Ext}_A^{s,t}(H^*(Y; \mathbb{F}_p), \mathbb{F}_p) \\ \implies_s \pi_{t-s}(Y_p^\wedge)$$

- ▶ Orthogonal spectra
- ▶ Steenrod algebra
- ▶ Ext-calculations
- ▶ Product structure
- ▶ Toda brackets
- ▶ Power operations



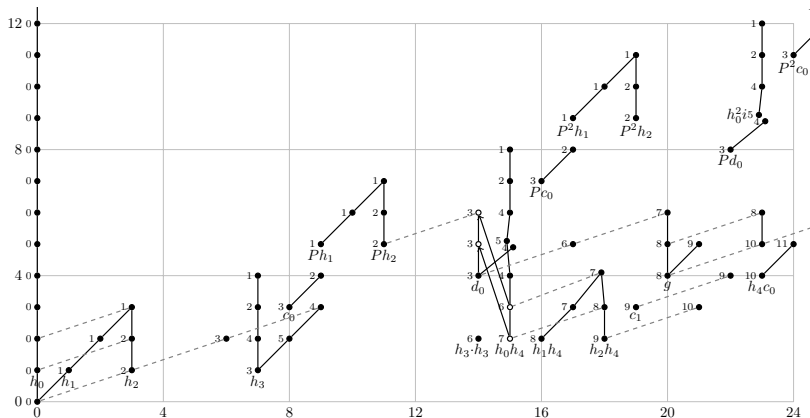
Frank Adams

# Adams spectral sequence for the sphere, I



$(E_2, d_2)$ -term for  $\pi_*(S)$

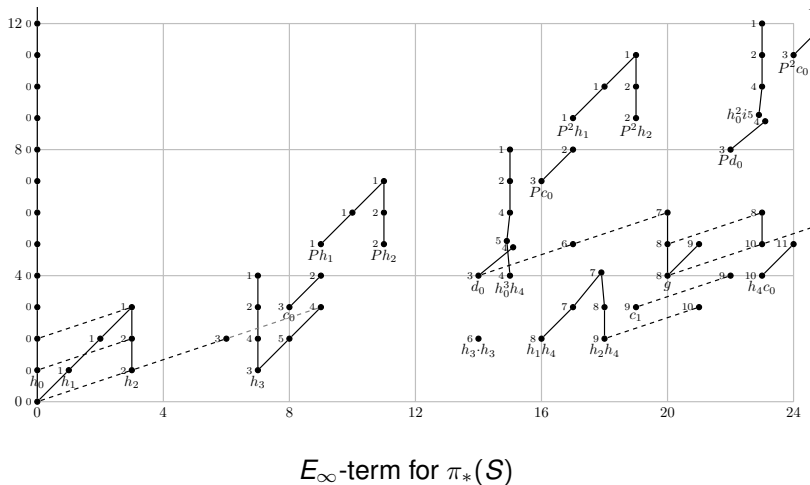
# Adams spectral sequence for the sphere, II



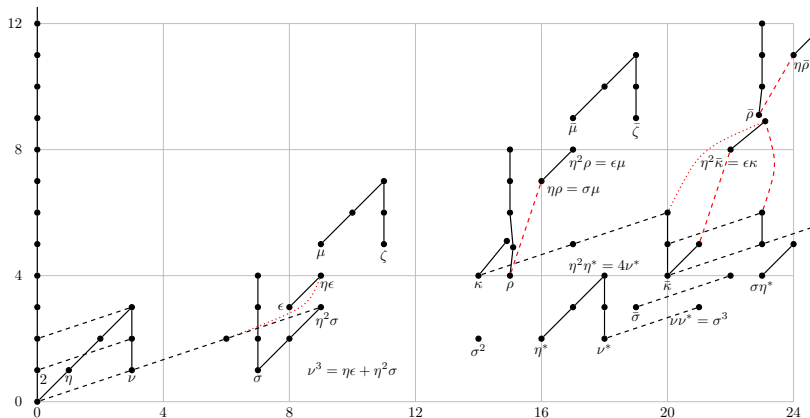
$(E_3, d_3)$ -term for  $\pi_*(S)$



# Adams spectral sequence for the sphere, III



# Adams spectral sequence for the sphere, IV



Hidden extensions for  $\pi_*(S)$

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# Spectral Sequences

- ▶ start with the abstract definition of a spectral sequence;
- ▶ same concepts as the definition of a chain complex and its homology, but involves multiple indices;
- ▶ next discuss in what sense a spectral sequence can calculate a given abutment;
- ▶ some relatively simple examples, to get accustomed to the roles of the indices, and the meaning of convergence.

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# Bigraded abelian groups

## Definition

- ▶ A **bigraded abelian group**  $A = A_{*,*}$  is a doubly-indexed sequence

$$A_{*,*} = (A_{s,t})_{s,t}$$

of abelian groups, where  $s, t \in \mathbb{Z}$ .

- ▶ A **morphism**  $f: A \rightarrow B$  of bigraded abelian groups is a sequence of group homomorphisms

$$f_{s,t}: A_{s,t} \longrightarrow B_{s,t}.$$

# Bigraded morphisms

## Definition

- ▶ A morphism  $f: A \rightarrow B$  of **bidegree**  $(u, v)$  is a sequence of group homomorphisms

$$f_{s,t}: A_{s,t} \longrightarrow B_{s+u,t+v}$$

for all  $s, t \in \mathbb{Z}$ .

- ▶ The composite of  $f$  followed by a morphism  $g: B \rightarrow C$  of bidegree  $(u', v')$  is a morphism  $gf: A \rightarrow C$  of bidegree  $(u + u', v + v')$ .

# Differentials

## Definition

- ▶  $E = E_{*,*}$  a bigraded abelian group;  $r$  an integer.
- ▶ A **differential**  $d: E \rightarrow E$  of bidegree  $(u, v)$  is a morphism of bidegree  $(u, v)$  such that  $dd = 0$ .
- ▶ For each pair  $s, t \in \mathbb{Z}$  we have a homomorphism

$$d_{s,t}: E_{s,t} \longrightarrow E_{s+u,t+v}$$

and the composite

$$E_{s-u,t-v} \xrightarrow{d_{s-u,t-v}} E_{s,t} \xrightarrow{d_{s,t}} E_{s+u,t+v}$$

is the zero homomorphism.



# Bigraded kernel and image

## Definition

Let the **kernel**  $\ker(d) = \ker(d)_{*,*}$  be the bigraded abelian group

$$\ker(d)_{s,t} = \ker(d_{s,t})$$

and let the **image**  $\operatorname{im}(d) = \operatorname{im}(d)_{s,t}$  be the bigraded abelian group

$$\operatorname{im}(d)_{s,t} = \operatorname{im}(d_{s-u,t-v}).$$

Then

$$\operatorname{im}(d)_{s,t} \subset \ker(d)_{s,t} \subset E_{s,t}$$

for all  $s, t \in \mathbb{Z}$ .

# Cycles, boundaries, homology

## Definition

We call  $\ker(d)$  and  $\text{im}(d)$  the  $d$ -cycles and  $d$ -boundaries in  $E$ , respectively. The homology of  $(E, d)$  is the bigraded abelian group

$$H(E, d) = \frac{\ker(d)}{\text{im}(d)}$$

given in bidegree  $(s, t)$  by the subquotient

$$H(E, d)_{s,t} = H_{s,t}(E, d) = \frac{\ker(d)_{s,t}}{\text{im}(d)_{s,t}} = \frac{\ker(d_{s,t})}{\text{im}(d_{s-u,t-v})}$$

of  $E_{s,t}$ . We write  $[x] \in H(E, d)$  for the homology class of a  $d$ -cycle  $x \in \ker(d)$ .

# Homological spectral sequence

## Definition

A **homological spectral sequence**  $(E^r, d^r)_{r \geq 1}$  is a sequence of bigraded abelian groups  $E^r = E_{*,*}^r$  and differentials

$$d^r : E^r \longrightarrow E^r$$

of bidegree  $(-r, r - 1)$ , together with isomorphisms

$$H(E^r, d^r) \cong E^{r+1}$$

for all integers  $r \geq 1$ .

## Remarks

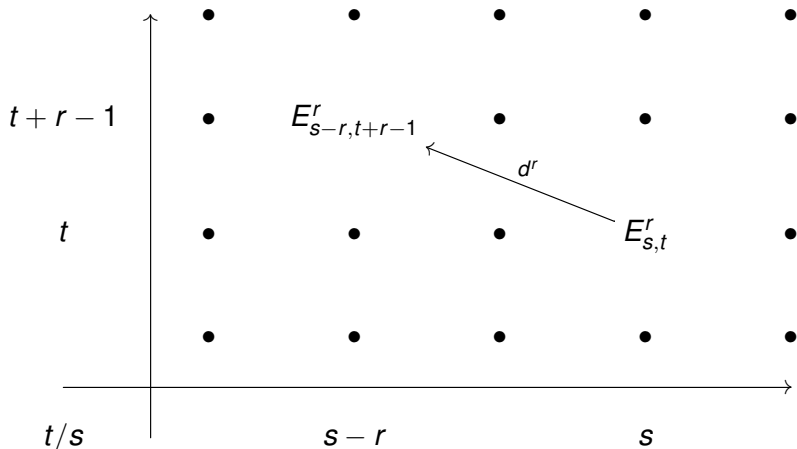
- ▶ We call  $E^r$  and  $d^r$  the  $E^r$ -term and  $d^r$ -differential of the spectral sequence, respectively.
- ▶ In each bidegree  $(s, t)$  we refer to
  - ▶  $s$  as the filtration degree,
  - ▶  $t$  as the complementary degree, and
  - ▶  $s + t$  as the total degree.

Each  $d^r$ -differential reduces the total degree by 1.

- ▶ The isomorphisms  $H(E^r, d^r) \cong E^{r+1}$  are part of the structure of the spectral sequence.
- ▶ An  $E^p$ -spectral sequence  $(E^r, d^r)_{r \geq p}$  is a sequence of bigraded abelian groups and differentials, as above, but indexed on the integers  $r \geq p$ .

## Visualization

- ▶ Spread  $E_{*,*}$  out in the  $(s, t)$ -plane, with  $E_{s,t}$  at horizontal coordinate  $s$  and vertical coordinate  $t$ .
- ▶ View each component  $d_{s,t}^r: E_{s,t} \rightarrow E_{s+u,t+v}$  of a  $d^r$ -differential as an arrow from position  $(s, t)$  to position  $(s - r, t + r - 1)$ .

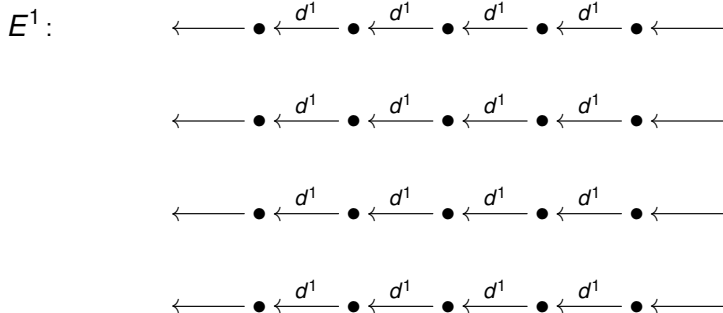


## Surviving classes

- ▶ If  $d_{s,t}^r(x) = y$  we say that  $x$  **supports** a  $d^r$ -differential, and that  $y$  is **hit** (or “killed”) by a  $d^r$ -differential.
- ▶ The classes that support a nonzero  $d^r$ -differential are not present at the  $E^{r+1}$ -term, and the classes that are hit by a  $d^r$ -differential are set equal to zero at the  $E^{r+1}$ -term.
- ▶ Informally, the classes that support differentials, or are hit by differentials, do not “survive” to the next term.

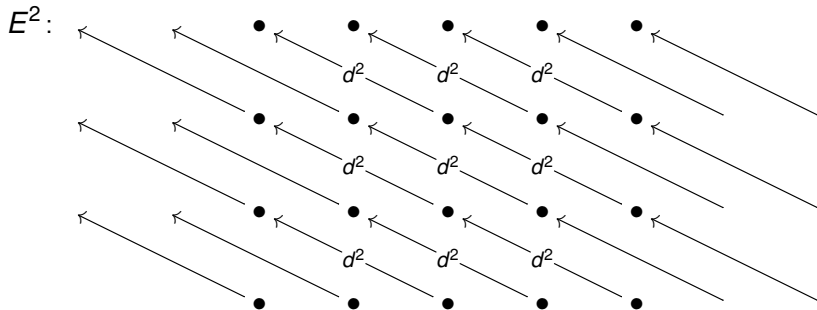
# Pages

Some authors refer to the  $E^r$ -term as the  $E^r$ -page. The transition from  $E^r$  to its subquotient  $E^{r+1}$  can be viewed as turning one page over to reveal the next.



# Pages

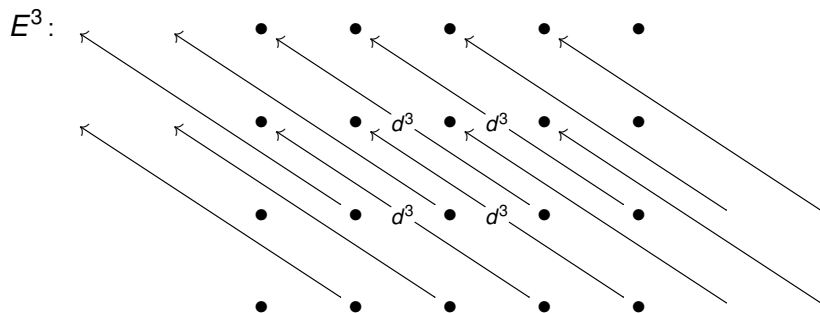
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## Other gradings

- ▶ Most spectral sequences are bigraded, as in the definition above.
- ▶ Often one grading comes from a filtration and the other comes from a degree shift present in a long exact sequence.
- ▶ There are also cases where the complementary degree  $t$  is not present, or appears with the opposite sign, or is itself a multigrading.
- ▶ The key feature of a homological spectral sequence is that the  $d^r$ -differential reduces the filtration degree from  $s$  to  $s - r$ .

# Morphisms of differential bigraded groups

## Definition

- ▶  $(E, d)$  and  $({}'E, {}'d)$  bigraded abelian groups with differentials of bidegree  $(u, v)$ .
- ▶ A **morphism**  $\phi: (E, d) \rightarrow ({}'E, {}'d)$  is a morphism  $\phi: E \rightarrow {}'E$  that commutes with the differentials:

$$\begin{array}{ccc} E_{s,t} & \xrightarrow{\phi_{s,t}} & {}'E_{s,t} \\ d_{s,t} \downarrow & & \downarrow {}'d_{s,t} \\ E_{s+u,t+v} & \xrightarrow{\phi_{s+u,t+v}} & {}'E_{s+u,t+v} \end{array}$$

- ▶ There is then an **induced** morphism

$$\phi_*: H(E, d) \longrightarrow H({}'E, {}'d)$$

given by  $\phi_*[x] = [\phi(x)]$  for each  $d$ -cycle  $x$  in  $E$ .

# Morphisms of spectral sequences

## Definition

- ▶  $E = (E^r, d^r)_{r \geq 1}$  and  $'E = ('E^r, 'd^r)_{r \geq 1}$  spectral sequences.
- ▶ A **morphism**  $\phi: E \rightarrow 'E$  of spectral sequences is a sequence of morphisms

$$\phi^r: (E^r, d^r) \longrightarrow ('E^r, 'd^r)$$

of differential bigraded abelian groups, such that the diagram

$$\begin{array}{ccc} H(E^r, d^r) & \xrightarrow{\phi_*^r} & H('E^r, 'd^r) \\ \cong \downarrow & & \downarrow \cong \\ E^{r+1} & \xrightarrow{\phi^{r+1}} & 'E^{r+1} \end{array}$$

commutes for each  $r \geq 1$ .

## Historical remarks, I

- ▶ Sheaves, sheaf cohomology and spectral sequences were invented by Jean Leray around 1943.
- ▶ First published references [Ler46a] and [Ler46b].
- ▶ For a map  $f: X \rightarrow Y$  of spaces, Leray constructed a sheaf of graded abelian groups over  $Y$ , and obtained a spectral sequence with initial term given by the cohomology of  $Y$  with coefficients in this sheaf, converging to the cohomology of  $X$ .
- ▶ The current algebraic formalism, where the  $E^{r+1}$ -term is expressed as the homology of a  $d^r$ -differential acting on the  $E^r$ -term, is due to Jean-Louis Koszul [Kos47].

## Historical remarks, II

- ▶ Similar structures were implicitly present in the 1946 PhD thesis of Roger C. Lyndon [Lyn48].
- ▶ The name “suite spectrale” is due to Jean–Pierre Serre [Ser51], merging the names “anneau spectral” of [Ler50] and “suite de Leray–Koszul”.
- ▶ See the articles by John McCleary [McC99] and Haynes Miller [Mil00] for more on the history of spectral sequences.

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## The $E^\infty$ -term

- ▶ To each spectral sequence  $(E^r, d^r)$  we will associate a limiting bigraded abelian group  $E^\infty = E_{*,*}^\infty$ , called the  $E^\infty$ -term.
- ▶ The general definition requires some details that we will discuss later.
- ▶ Now describe some special cases for which the  $E^\infty$ -term can be read off from the  $E^r$ -terms for finite  $r$ .



# Collapse at $E^q$

## Definition

- ▶ A spectral sequence  $(E^r, d^r)$  **collapses at the  $E^q$ -term** if  $d^r = 0$  for all  $r \geq q$ .
- ▶ It **stabilizes in each bidegree** if for each bidegree  $(s, t)$  there is a  $q(s, t)$  such that

$$d_{s,t}^r: E_{s,t}^r \longrightarrow E_{s-r,t+r-1}^r$$
$$d_{s+r,t-r+1}^r: E_{s+r,t-r+1}^r \longrightarrow E_{s,t}^r$$

are both zero for all  $r \geq q(s, t)$ .

The latter condition is strictly weaker.

## $E^r$ -terms stabilize

### Lemma

If  $(E^r, d^r)$  collapses at the  $E^q$ -term, then  $E^r \cong H(E^r, d^r) \cong E^{r+1}$  for all  $r \geq q$ , so that there are isomorphisms

$$E^q \cong E^{q+1} \cong \dots \cong E^r \cong \dots$$

for all  $r \geq q$ .

### Proof.

If  $d^r = 0$  then  $\ker(d^r) = E^r$  and  $\operatorname{im}(d^r) = 0$ , so  $H(E^r, d^r) = E^r/0 \cong E^r$ . By the assumption that  $(E^r, d^r)$  is a spectral sequence, this is isomorphic to  $E^{r+1}$ . □

## $E_{s,t}^r$ -terms stabilize

### Lemma

If  $(E^r, d^r)$  stabilizes in each bidegree, then for each bidegree  $(s, t)$  there are isomorphisms

$$E_{s,t}^q \cong E_{s,t}^{q+1} \cong \cdots \cong E_{s,t}^r \cong \cdots$$

for all  $r \geq q = q(s, t)$ .

### Proof.

For each  $(s, t)$  and  $r \geq q(s, t)$  we have  $\ker(d^r)_{s,t} = E_{s,t}^r$  and  $\operatorname{im}(d^r)_{s,t} = 0$ , so  $H(E^r, d^r)_{s,t} = E_{s,t}^r/0 \cong E_{s,t}^r$ , and this is isomorphic to  $E_{s,t}^{r+1}$ . □

## Preliminary definition of $E^\infty$

Let  $(E^r, d^r)$  be a spectral sequence.

### Lemma

*If  $(E^r, d^r)$  collapses at the  $E^q$ -term, then  $E^\infty \cong E^q$  is isomorphic to the common value of  $E^r$  for  $r \geq q$ .*

Let  $\phi: E \rightarrow 'E$  be a morphism of spectral sequences.

### Lemma

*If  $(E^r, d^r)$  and  $('E^r, 'd^r)$  both collapse at the  $E^q$ -term, then  $\phi^\infty: E^\infty \rightarrow 'E^\infty$  corresponds to  $\phi^r: E^r \rightarrow 'E^r$  for each  $r \geq q$ .*

## Preliminary definition of $E^\infty$

Let  $(E^r, d^r)$  be a spectral sequence.

### Lemma

*If  $(E^r, d^r)$  stabilizes in each bidegree, then for each bidegree  $(s, t)$  there are isomorphisms  $E_{s,t}^\infty \cong E_{s,t}^r$  for all sufficiently large  $r$ .*

Let  $\phi: E \rightarrow 'E$  be a morphism of spectral sequences.

### Lemma

*If  $(E^r, d^r)$  and  $('E^r, 'd^r)$  stabilize in each bidegree, then  $\phi_{s,t}^\infty: E_{s,t}^\infty \rightarrow 'E_{s,t}^\infty$  corresponds, for each bidegree  $(s, t)$ , to  $\phi_{s,t}^r: E_{s,t}^r \rightarrow 'E_{s,t}^r$  for all sufficiently large  $r$ .*

# Filtrations

## Definition

- ▶ An **increasing filtration**  $(F_s G)_s$  of an abelian group  $G$  is a sequence of subgroups

$$\cdots \subset F_{s-1} G \subset F_s G \subset \cdots \subset G.$$

- ▶ For each **filtration degree**  $s$  there is a short exact sequence

$$0 \rightarrow F_{s-1} G \rightarrow F_s G \rightarrow \frac{F_s G}{F_{s-1} G} \rightarrow 0 \quad (1)$$

that expresses  $F_s G$  as an extension.

- ▶ The graded abelian group

$$(F_s G / F_{s-1} G)_s$$

is called the **associated graded** of the filtration  $(F_s G)_s$ .

# Bounded filtrations

## Definition

The filtration is **bounded** if there are integers  $a$  and  $b$  such that  $F_{a-1}G = 0$  and  $F_bG = G$ .

In this case the sequence is determined by the finitely many terms

$$0 = F_{a-1}G \subset F_aG \subset \cdots \subset F_{b-1}G \subset F_bG = G,$$

extended by identities on both sides.

## Extension problems

- ▶ If we have inductively determined  $F_{s-1}G$ , and know the filtration quotient  $F_sG/F_{s-1}G$ , then the next term  $F_sG$  is partially determined by the short exact sequence (1).
- ▶ There can be several non-isomorphic abelian group extensions with the same subgroup and quotient group, and the task of determining which of these is realized by  $F_sG$  is known as the **extension problem** in filtration  $s$ .
- ▶ If the filtration is bounded, then this inductive argument involves finitely many extension problems, starting with  $s = a$  and ending with  $s = b$ .



# Graded filtrations

## Definition

- ▶ An increasing filtration of a graded abelian group  $G_* = (G_n)_n$ , where  $n \in \mathbb{Z}$ , is a sequence of graded subgroups

$$\cdots \subset F_{s-1}G_* \subset F_sG_* \subset \cdots \subset G_*.$$

- ▶ We call  $s$  the filtration degree and  $n$  the **total degree**.
- ▶ For each  $s$  there is a short exact sequence

$$0 \rightarrow F_{s-1}G_* \rightarrow F_sG_* \rightarrow \frac{F_sG_*}{F_{s-1}G_*} \rightarrow 0.$$

- ▶ This consists of an extension

$$0 \rightarrow F_{s-1}G_n \rightarrow F_sG_n \rightarrow \frac{F_sG_n}{F_{s-1}G_n} \rightarrow 0$$

in each total degree  $n$ .

# Degreewise bounded filtrations

## Definition

- ▶ The associated graded  $F_s G_n / F_{s-1} G_n$  of the filtration is bigraded, either by  $(s, n)$  or by  $(s, t) = (s, n - s)$ .
- ▶ The filtration of  $G_*$  is **bounded** if there are integers  $a$  and  $b$  such that  $F_{a-1} G_* = 0$  and  $F_b G_* = G_*$ .
- ▶ It is **degreewise bounded** if for each total degree  $n$  there are integers  $a = a(n)$  and  $b = b(n)$  such that  $F_{a-1} G_n = 0$  and  $F_b G_n = G_n$ .
- ▶ In these cases the filtration in total degree  $n$  is determined by finitely many terms, extended by identities in both directions.

# Convergence

- ▶  $(E_{*,*}^r, d^r)$  a spectral sequence.
- ▶  $(F_s G_*)_s$  a filtration of a graded abelian group  $G_*$ .
- ▶ Suppose that the spectral sequence stabilizes in each bidegree, and that the filtration is degreewise bounded.

## Definition

We say that the spectral sequence **converges** to  $G_*$ , written

$$E_{*,*}^r \implies G_*,$$

if there are isomorphisms

$$E_{s,t}^\infty \cong \frac{F_s G_{s+t}}{F_{s-1} G_{s+t}}$$

in all bidegrees  $(s, t)$ .

# Abutment

- ▶ The choice of filtration of  $G_*$ , and of the isomorphisms displayed above, are implicitly part of the convergence assertion.
- ▶ We call  $G_*$  the **abutment** of the spectral sequence.
- ▶ To emphasize the filtration degree  $s$ , and the relation between the complementary degree and the total degree, we may write

$$E_{s,t}^r \implies_s G_{s+t}.$$

## Strategy, I

When  $E_{*,*}^r \implies G_*$ , the strategy for using the spectral sequence  $(E_{*,*}^r, d^r)_{r \geq p}$  to calculate  $G_*$  is the following:

- ▶ We assume that the initial term  $E_{*,*}^p$  can somehow be calculated.
- ▶ Furthermore, for each  $r \geq p$  we assume that the differentials  $d^r$  can be calculated, so that we can inductively obtain  $E_{*,*}^{r+1}$  as  $H(E^r, d^r)_{*,*}$ , for each  $r \geq p$ .
- ▶ Under the hypothesis that the spectral sequence stabilizes in each bidegree, we can let  $E_{s,t}^\infty = E_{s,t}^r$  for  $r \geq q(s, t)$  sufficiently large.
- ▶ By convergence, these are also the groups  $F_s G_n / F_{s-1} G_n$  for  $n = s + t$ .

## Strategy, II

- ▶ Consider one total degree  $n$ .
- ▶ Assuming that the filtration is degreewise bounded, we know that  $F_s G_n = 0$  for  $s < a(n)$  sufficiently small.
- ▶ For each  $s \geq a(n)$  we must inductively solve an extension problem to determine  $F_s G_n$  from  $F_{s-1} G_n$  and  $E_{s,n-s}^\infty$ .
- ▶ Once  $s = b(n)$  is sufficiently large, this recovers  $F_s G_n = G_n$ , which is the total degree  $n$  component of the abutment of the spectral sequence.

# Filtration-preserving morphisms

## Definition

- ▶ Let  $G$  and  $'G$  be abelian groups, filtered by  $(F_s G)_s$  and  $(F_s 'G)_s$ , respectively.
- ▶ A homomorphism  $\psi: G \rightarrow 'G$  is **filtration-preserving** if  $\psi(F_s G) \subset F_s 'G$  for each  $s$ .
- ▶ If  $G_*$  and  $'G_*$  are filtered graded abelian groups, and  $\psi: G_* \rightarrow 'G_*$  is a degree-preserving morphism, then the same definitions apply.

# Induced maps of extensions

## Definition

- ▶ Let  $\psi_s: F_s G \rightarrow F'_s G$  be the restriction of  $\psi$ , and let  $\bar{\psi}_s: F_s G/F_{s-1} G \rightarrow F'_s G/F'_{s-1} G$  be the induced homomorphism between the filtration quotients.
- ▶ We obtain a vertical map of short exact sequences

$$\begin{array}{ccccccc} 0 & \longrightarrow & F_{s-1} G & \hookrightarrow & F_s G & \twoheadrightarrow & \frac{F_s G}{F_{s-1} G} \longrightarrow 0 \\ & & \downarrow \psi_{s-1} & & \downarrow \psi_s & & \downarrow \bar{\psi}_s \\ 0 & \longrightarrow & F'_{s-1} G & \hookrightarrow & F'_s G & \twoheadrightarrow & \frac{F'_s G}{F'_{s-1} G} \longrightarrow 0 \end{array} \quad (2)$$

for each  $s$ .



# Convergence to a morphism

## Definition

- ▶ Let  $(E_{*,*}^r, d^r)$  and  $({}'E_{*,*}^r, {}'d^r)$  be spectral sequences converging to  $G_*$  and  $'G_*$ .
- ▶ Let  $\phi: E \rightarrow {}'E$  be a morphism of bigraded spectral sequences, and let  $\psi: G_* \rightarrow {}'G_*$  be a morphism of filtered graded abelian groups.
- ▶ We say that the spectral sequence morphism  $\phi$  **converges** to the filtration-preserving morphism  $\psi$  if the diagram

$$\begin{array}{ccc} E_{s,*}^\infty & \xrightarrow{\cong} & \frac{F_s G_*}{F_{s-1} G_*} \\ \downarrow \phi_{s,*}^\infty & & \downarrow \bar{\psi}_{s,*} \\ {}'E_{s,*}^\infty & \xrightarrow{\cong} & \frac{F_s {}'G_*}{F_{s-1} {}'G_*} \end{array} \quad (3)$$

commutes for each  $s$ .

# Strategy for morphisms

- ▶ Suppose we have resolved the extension problems for spectral sequences  $(E^r, d^r)$  and  $({}'E^r, {}'d^r)$  converging to  $G = G_*$  and  $'G = {}'G_*$ .
- ▶ Suppose also that there is a morphism  $\phi: E \rightarrow {}'E$  converging to  $\psi: G \rightarrow {}'G$ .
- ▶ Then we can inductively attempt to determine  $\psi$  from  $\phi^\infty$ .
- ▶ Assuming that we have determined  $\psi_{s-1}$ , we obtain  $\bar{\psi}_s$  from  $\phi_s^\infty$  via the commutative diagram (3).
- ▶ It then remains to identify  $\psi_s$  in diagram (2).
- ▶ In general there can be several different homomorphisms  $F_s G \rightarrow F_s {}'G$  that make the diagram commute.

# Outline

## Overview

### Spectral Sequences

Homological spectral sequences

Bounded convergence

**Long exact sequences as spectral sequences**

Two linked long exact sequences

### Exact Couples

Unrolled exact couples

The spectral sequence associated to an exact couple

The  $E^\infty$ -term of a spectral sequence

Discrete and exhaustive convergence

Discrete convergence for exact couples

### Filtrations

Filtered chain complexes

Filtered spaces

The Atiyah–Hirzebruch spectral sequence

## LES as spectral sequence, I

Pair of spaces  $(X, A)$ , with associated long exact sequence

$$\rightarrow H_{n+1}(X, A) \xrightarrow{\partial_{n+1}} H_n(A) \xrightarrow{i} H_n(X) \xrightarrow{j} H_n(X, A) \xrightarrow{\partial_n} H_{n-1}(A) \rightarrow$$

To analyze  $H_*(X)$  in terms of  $H_*(A)$  and  $H_*(X, A)$ :

- ▶ Determine the connecting homomorphisms  $\partial_n$
- ▶ Calculate their kernels and cokernels
- ▶ Recover result from the extension

$$0 \rightarrow \text{cok}(\partial_{n+1}) \rightarrow H_n(X) \rightarrow \ker(\partial_n) \rightarrow 0.$$

## LES as spectral sequence, II

- ▶ Spectral sequences provide a similar framework when the pair  $A \subset X$  is generalized to a longer sequence

$$\cdots \subset X_{s-1} \subset X_s \subset \cdots \subset X$$

of subspaces of  $X$ .

- ▶ Now spell out how the study of  $H_*(X)$  in terms of the long exact sequence above can be expressed in terms of the spectral sequence formalism.

## $(E^1, d^1)$ -term

Let  $(X, A)$  be a pair of spaces. We will specify an associated spectral sequence  $(E^r, d^r)_{r \geq 1}$ . First, let  $E^1 = E_{*,*}^1$  be given by

$$E_{s,t}^1 = \begin{cases} H_t(A) & \text{if } s = 0, \\ H_{1+t}(X, A) & \text{if } s = 1, \\ 0 & \text{otherwise.} \end{cases}$$

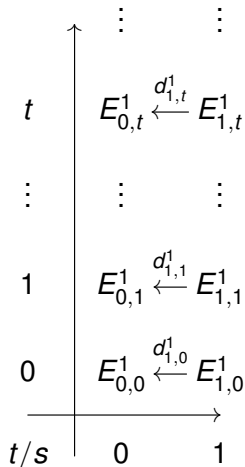
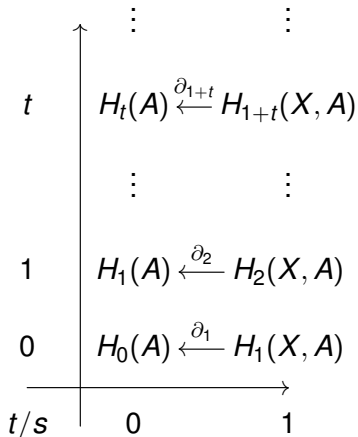
Next, let  $d^1 : E_{s,t}^1 \rightarrow E_{s-1,t}^1$  be given by

$$d_{1,t}^1 = \partial_{1+t} : H_{1+t}(X, A) \longrightarrow H_t(A)$$

for  $s = 1$ , and  $d_{s,t}^1 = 0$  otherwise.

## $(s, t)$ -planar chart of $(E^1, d^1)$

Depict the  $(E^1, d^1)$ -term in the  $(s, t)$ -plane, with horizontal coordinate  $s$  and vertical coordinate  $t$ . Concrete case on the left, abstract notation on the right:



## Columns, rows, quadrants

- ▶ The columns with  $s < 0$  or  $s > 1$  consist of trivial groups, so we have a **two-column** spectral sequence.
- ▶ To simplify the diagrams let us assume that  $H_0(X, A) = 0$ , so that the rows with  $t < 0$  also consist of trivial groups.
- ▶ Then the  $E^1$ -term is concentrated in the first quadrant in the  $(s, t)$ -plane, and we speak of a **first quadrant** homological spectral sequence.



## $d^1$ is a differential

- ▶ Clearly  $d^1 d^1 = 0$ , since

$$d_{s,t}^1 d_{s+1,t}^1: E_{s+1,t}^1 \rightarrow E_{s-1,t}^1$$

maps from a trivial group, or to a trivial group, or both, for each pair  $(s, t)$ .

- ▶ Hence  $(E^1, d^1)$  is a bigraded abelian group with differential of bidegree  $(-1, 0)$ .
- ▶ Same as a chain complex of graded abelian groups.

## $d^1$ -cycles, $d^1$ -boundaries and $E^2$ -term

The  $E^2$ -term of this spectral sequence must be given by the homology groups  $E_{s,t}^2 = H(E^1, d^1)_{s,t}$ . The  $d^1$ -cycles are

$$\ker(d^1)_{s,t} = \begin{cases} H_t(A) & \text{for } s = 0, \\ \ker(\partial_{1+t}) & \text{for } s = 1, \\ 0 & \text{otherwise,} \end{cases}$$

and the  $d^1$ -boundaries are

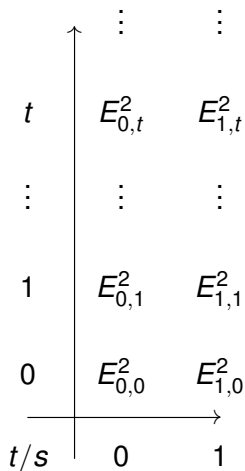
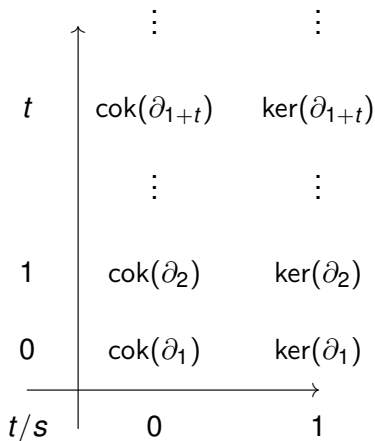
$$\operatorname{im}(d^1)_{s,t} = \begin{cases} \operatorname{im}(\partial_{1+t}) & \text{for } s = 0, \\ 0 & \text{otherwise.} \end{cases}$$

Hence

$$E_{s,t}^2 \cong \begin{cases} \operatorname{cok}(\partial_{1+t}) & \text{for } s = 0, \\ \ker(\partial_{1+t}) & \text{for } s = 1, \\ 0 & \text{otherwise.} \end{cases}$$

## $(s, t)$ -planar chart of $E^2$

Depict  $E^2$ -term in the  $(s, t)$ -plane, with  $E_{s,t}^2$  in the position where we had  $E_{s,t}^1$  earlier. Concrete case on the left, generic notation on the right:



## $d^2$ is trivial

- ▶ Since the  $E^2$ -term consists of subquotients of the  $E^1$ -term, it remains concentrated in the first quadrant, under our assumption that  $H_0(X, A)$  vanishes.
- ▶ All components

$$d_{s,t}^2: E_{s,t}^2 \rightarrow E_{s-2,t+1}^2$$

of the  $d^2$ -differential must be zero, because the source can only be nonzero for  $0 \leq s \leq 1$ , in which case  $s - 2 < 0$  and the target is trivial.

- ▶ Hence we must have  $d^2 = 0$ , and then  $d^2 d^2 = 0$  is obvious.
- ▶ Hence  $H(E^2, d^2) \cong E^2$ , since  $\ker(d^2) = E^2$  and  $\text{im}(d^2) = 0$ , so that  $E^3 \cong E^2$ .

## Collapse at $E^2$

- ▶ Likewise  $d^r = 0$  for all  $r \geq 2$ , and  $E^r \cong E^2$  for all  $r \geq 2$ .
- ▶ The spectral sequence collapses at the  $E^2$ -term.
- ▶ The limiting term is thus  $E^\infty \cong E^2$ , with components

$$E_{s,t}^\infty \cong \begin{cases} \text{cok}(\partial_{1+t}) & \text{for } s = 0, \\ \text{ker}(\partial_{1+t}) & \text{for } s = 1, \\ 0 & \text{otherwise.} \end{cases}$$

- ▶ The picture of the  $E^\infty$ -term in the  $(s, t)$ -plane equals that of the  $E^2$ -term, except that the group labeled  $E_{s,t}^2$  is now labeled  $E_{s,t}^\infty$ .

## Filtration of the abutment

We specify a filtration of  $G_* = H_*(X)$  by setting

$$F_s H_n(X) = \begin{cases} 0 & \text{for } s < 0, \\ \text{im}(i: H_n(A) \rightarrow H_n(X)) & \text{for } s = 0, \\ H_n(X) & \text{for } s \geq 1. \end{cases}$$

Then

$$0 = F_{-1} H_*(X) \subset F_0 H_*(X) \subset F_1 H_*(X) = H_*(X)$$

is a bounded filtration of the graded abelian group  $H_*(X)$ .

## Convergence, I

- ▶ The convergence claim  $E_{s,t}^r \implies H_{s+t}(X)$  is the assertion that there are isomorphisms

$$E_{s,t}^\infty \cong \frac{F_s H_{s+t}(X)}{F_{s-1} H_{s+t}(X)}$$

for all  $s$  and  $t$ . This is obvious if  $s < 0$  or  $s > 1$ .

- ▶ When  $s = 0$ , the assertion is that

$$\text{cok}(\partial_{1+t}) \cong \frac{\text{im}(i: H_t(A) \rightarrow H_t(X))}{0}$$

for each  $t$ .

- ▶ When  $s = 1$ , the assertion is that

$$\text{ker}(\partial_{1+t}) \cong \frac{H_{1+t}(X)}{\text{im}(i: H_{1+t}(A) \rightarrow H_{1+t}(X))}$$

for each  $t$ .

## Convergence, II

Both of these follow from the part

$$H_{1+t}(A) \xrightarrow{i_{1+t}} H_{1+t}(X) \xrightarrow{j_{1+t}} H_{1+t}(X, A) \xrightarrow{\partial_{1+t}} H_t(A) \xrightarrow{i_t} H_t(X)$$

of the long exact sequence in homology for the pair  $(X, A)$ , in view of the isomorphisms

$$\text{cok}(\partial_{1+t}) = \frac{H_t(A)}{\text{im}(\partial_{1+t})} = \frac{H_t(A)}{\ker(i_t)} \cong \text{im}(i_t)$$

and

$$\ker(\partial_{1+t}) = \text{im}(j_{1+t}) \cong \frac{H_{1+t}(X)}{\ker(j_{1+t})} = \frac{H_{1+t}(X)}{\text{im}(i_{1+t})}.$$



## Extension problems

- ▶ It remains to find  $F_0H_*(X)$  and  $F_1H_*(X) = H_*(X)$ .
- ▶ Convergence in bidegree  $(s, t) = (0, n)$  gives

$$F_0H_n(X) = \text{im}(i: H_n(A) \rightarrow H_n(X)) \cong E_{0,n}^\infty = \text{cok}(\partial_{1+n}).$$

- ▶ Convergence in bidegree  $(s, t) = (1, n-1)$  gives

$$\frac{H_n(X)}{F_0H_n(X)} \cong \ker(\partial_n).$$

- ▶ Hence the extension

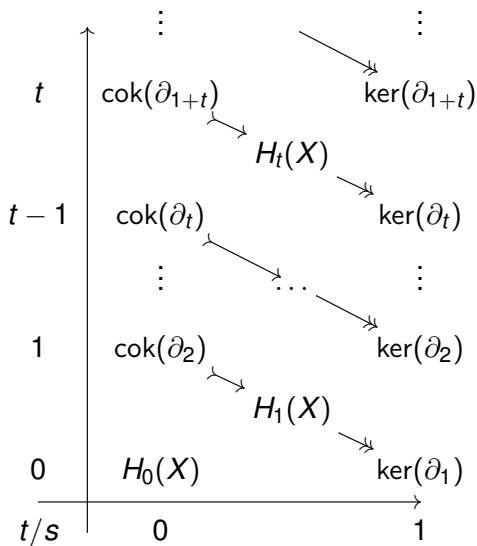
$$0 \rightarrow F_0H_n(X) \rightarrow H_n(X) \rightarrow \frac{H_n(X)}{F_0H_n(X)} \rightarrow 0$$

is nothing but the short exact sequence

$$0 \rightarrow \text{cok}(\partial_{1+n}) \rightarrow H_n(X) \rightarrow \ker(\partial_n) \rightarrow 0.$$

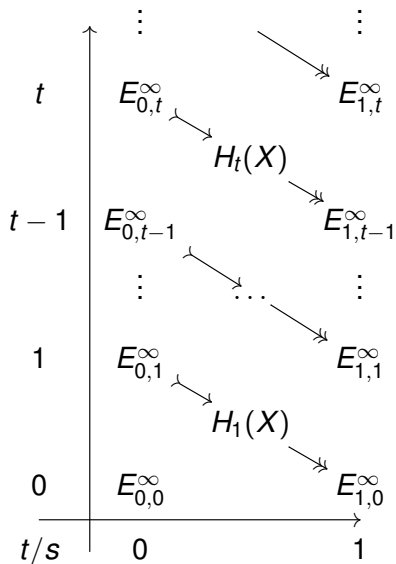
## Visualization of extension problems, I

We place the degree  $n$  extension on the line of total degree  $n$ .  
In the  $(s, t)$ -plane, this amounts to lines of slope  $-1$ .



## Visualization, II

In the generic notation:



## Visualization, III

- ▶ Draw the filtration and the filtration quotients as follows

$$\begin{array}{ccccc} 0 & \hookrightarrow & F_0 H_n(X) & \longrightarrow & H_n(X) \\ & & \parallel & & \downarrow \\ & & F_0 H_n(X) & & H_n(X)/F_0 H_n(X). \end{array}$$

- ▶ Imagine the upper row being placed along the the line  $s + t = n$ , with  $F_s H_n(X)$  in bidegree  $(s, t) = (s, n - s)$ , and with the quotients in the lower row appearing as the  $E^\infty$ -term in the same bidegree.
- ▶ In a homological spectral sequence, the differentials map to the left, while the inclusions in the filtration map to the right.

## Summary

We have spelled out what we have in mind when we say that there is a convergent spectral sequence

$$E_{s,t}^r \implies H_{s+t}(X)$$

with

$$E_{s,t}^1 = \begin{cases} H_t(A) & \text{for } s = 0, \\ H_{1+t}(X, A) & \text{for } s = 1, \\ 0 & \text{otherwise.} \end{cases}$$

Sometimes we might add detail, such as saying that the  $d^1$ -differential is given by  $d_{1,t}^1 = \partial_{1+t}: H_{1+t}(X, A) \rightarrow H_t(A)$ , or that the convergence is with respect to the filtration with  $F_0 H_n(X) = \text{im}(j: H_n(A) \rightarrow H_n(X))$  and  $F_1 H_n(X) = H_n(X)$ .

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## A triple of spaces

We now consider the case of a triple  $(X, K, A)$  of spaces, with  $A \subset K \subset X$ . This leads to the following diagram of (spaces and) pairs of spaces

$$\begin{array}{ccccc} A & \longrightarrow & K & \longrightarrow & X \\ & & \downarrow & & \downarrow \\ & & (K, A) & \longrightarrow & (X, A) \\ & & & & \downarrow \\ & & & & (X, K) \end{array}$$

## Associated long exact sequences

$$\dots \rightarrow H_n(A) \xrightarrow{i_{K,A}} H_n(K) \xrightarrow{j_{K,A}} H_n(K, A) \xrightarrow{\partial_{K,A}} H_{n-1}(A) \rightarrow \dots$$

$$\dots \rightarrow H_n(A) \xrightarrow{i_{X,A}} H_n(X) \xrightarrow{j_{X,A}} H_n(X, A) \xrightarrow{\partial_{X,A}} H_{n-1}(A) \rightarrow \dots$$

$$\dots \rightarrow H_n(K) \xrightarrow{i_{X,K}} H_n(X) \xrightarrow{j_{X,K}} H_n(X, K) \xrightarrow{\partial_{X,K}} H_{n-1}(K) \rightarrow \dots$$

and

$$\dots \rightarrow H_n(K, A) \xrightarrow{i_{X,K,A}} H_n(X, A) \xrightarrow{j_{X,K,A}} H_n(X, K) \xrightarrow{\partial_{X,K,A}} H_{n-1}(K, A) \rightarrow \dots$$

The last connecting homomorphism can be factored as the composite

$$\partial_{X,K,A} = j_{K,A} \partial_{X,K}: H_n(X, K) \xrightarrow{\partial_{X,K}} H_{n-1}(K) \xrightarrow{j_{K,A}} H_{n-1}(K, A).$$



## Goal

- ▶ We would like to calculate  $H_*(X)$ , supposing that we know the homologies

$$H_*(A), H_*(K, A), H_*(X, K)$$

of the “minimal” pairs along the diagonal in the diagram

$$\begin{array}{ccccc} A & \longrightarrow & K & \longrightarrow & X \\ & & \downarrow & & \downarrow \\ & & (K, A) & \longrightarrow & (X, A) \\ & & & & \downarrow \\ & & & & (X, K) \end{array}$$

- ▶ These involve pairs that are closer together than

$$H_*(K), H_*(X, A), H_*(X),$$

and may therefore be easier to determine.

## Long exact sequence approach

- ▶ Using only exact sequences, the calculation might be done in two steps, in two different ways.
- ▶ On one hand, we might first calculate  $H_*(K)$  from  $H_*(A)$  and  $H_*(K, A)$ , and then calculate  $H_*(X)$  from  $H_*(K)$  and  $H_*(X, K)$ .
- ▶ On the other hand, we might first calculate  $H_*(X, A)$  from  $H_*(K, A)$  and  $H_*(X, K)$ , and then calculate  $H_*(X)$  from  $H_*(A)$  and  $H_*(X, A)$ .

## Spectral sequence approach

- ▶ Either approach involves passing to subquotients, resolving extensions, passing to subquotients again, and resolving extensions again.
- ▶ Instead, we will express the calculation in terms of a single spectral sequence, where all of the passages to subquotients is performed first, in a symmetric manner, and only thereafter are the extension problems resolved.

# Homology spectral sequence of a triple

## Proposition

Let  $(X, K, A)$  be a triple of spaces. There is a convergent spectral sequence

$$E_{s,t}^r \implies_s H_{s+t}(X)$$

with

$$E_{s,t}^1 = \begin{cases} H_t(A) & \text{for } s = 0, \\ H_{1+t}(K, A) & \text{for } s = 1, \\ H_{2+t}(X, K) & \text{for } s = 2, \\ 0 & \text{otherwise.} \end{cases}$$

## Proposition (cont.)

The  $d^1$ -differentials are given by the connecting homomorphisms

$$d_{s,t}^1 = \begin{cases} \partial_{K,A}: H_{1+t}(K, A) \rightarrow H_t(A) & \text{for } s = 1, \\ \partial_{X,K,A}: H_{2+t}(X, K) \rightarrow H_{1+t}(K, A) & \text{for } s = 2, \\ 0 & \text{otherwise.} \end{cases}$$

The abutment is filtered by

$$F_s H_n(X) = \begin{cases} 0 & \text{for } s < 0, \\ \text{im}(i_{X,A}: H_n(A) \rightarrow H_n(X)) & \text{for } s = 0, \\ \text{im}(i_{X,K}: H_n(K) \rightarrow H_n(X)) & \text{for } s = 1, \\ H_n(X) & \text{for } s \geq 2. \end{cases}$$

# Plan

We show that

- ▶  $(E^1, d^1)$  as given is part of a spectral sequence  $(E^r, d^r)$
- ▶ that collapses at  $E^3 = E^\infty$ ,
- ▶ which is isomorphic to the associated graded of the given filtration of  $H_*(X)$ .

Note that the description of the  $E^1$ -term and the  $d^1$ -differential only depend on two of the long exact sequences listed above, namely the ones associated to the pairs  $(K, A)$  and  $(X, K)$ .

## Two exact triangles

We can wrap each of these up into an exact triangle, and the two exact triangles are then linked together at a common vertex, given by  $H_*(K)$ .

$$\begin{array}{ccccc} H_*(A) & \xrightarrow{i_{K,A}} & H_*(K) & \xrightarrow{i_{X,K}} & H_*(X) \\ & \swarrow \partial_{K,A} & \downarrow j_{K,A} & \swarrow \partial_{X,K} & \downarrow j_{X,K} \\ & & H_*(K, A) & & H_*(X, K) \end{array} \quad (4)$$

- ▶ The dashed arrows denote homomorphisms of degree  $-1$ , sending  $H_n(K, A)$  to  $H_{n-1}(A)$  and  $H_n(X, K)$  to  $H_{n-1}(K)$ .
- ▶ The  $E^1$ -term is then given by  $H_*(A)$  and the groups in the lower row.
- ▶ The  $d^1$ -differentials are given by  $\partial_{K,A}$  and the composite  $j_{K,A}\partial_{X,K}$ , all of which are visible in this diagram.

# The filtration

$$\begin{array}{ccccc} H_*(A) & \xrightarrow{i_{K,A}} & H_*(K) & \xrightarrow{i_{X,K}} & H_*(X) \\ & \swarrow \partial_{K,A} & \downarrow j_{K,A} & \swarrow \partial_{X,K} & \downarrow j_{X,K} \\ & & H_*(K, A) & & H_*(X, K) \end{array}$$

The filtration on the abutment is also visible in this diagram, being given by

- ▶ the image of the composite  $i_{X,K}i_{K,A}$  for  $s = 0$ ,
- ▶ the image of  $i_{X,K}$  for  $s = 1$ , and
- ▶ by  $H_*(X)$  itself for  $s = 2$ .



## $(E^1, d^1)$ -term

We depict the  $(E^1, d^1)$ -term in the  $(s, t)$ -plane.

The columns with  $s < 0$  or  $s > 2$  consist of trivial groups.

$$\begin{array}{ccccccc} & & \vdots & & \vdots & & \vdots \\ t+1 & & H_{t+1}(A) \xleftarrow{\partial_{K,A}} & H_{t+2}(K, A) \xleftarrow{\partial_{X,K,A}} & H_{t+3}(X, K) & & \\ t & & H_t(A) \xleftarrow{\partial_{K,A}} & H_{t+1}(K, A) \xleftarrow{\partial_{X,K,A}} & H_{t+2}(X, K) & & \\ & & \vdots & & \vdots & & \vdots \\ 1 & & H_1(A) \xleftarrow{\partial_{K,A}} & H_2(K, A) \xleftarrow{\partial_{X,K,A}} & H_3(X, K) & & \\ 0 & & H_0(A) \xleftarrow{\partial_{K,A}} & H_1(K, A) \xleftarrow{\partial_{X,K,A}} & H_2(X, K) & & \\ t/s & & 0 & & 1 & & 2 \end{array}$$

# Three-column spectral sequence

In abstract notation, this appears as below.

$$\begin{array}{ccccccc} & & \vdots & & \vdots & & \vdots \\ t+1 & & E_{0,t+1}^1 & \xleftarrow{d_{1,t+1}^1} & E_{1,t+1}^1 & \xleftarrow{d_{2,t+1}^1} & E_{2,t+1}^1 \\ t & & E_{0,t}^1 & \xleftarrow{d_{1,t}^1} & E_{1,t}^1 & \xleftarrow{d_{2,t}^1} & E_{2,t}^1 \\ & & \vdots & & \vdots & & \vdots \\ 1 & & E_{0,1}^1 & \xleftarrow{d_{1,1}^1} & E_{1,1}^1 & \xleftarrow{d_{2,1}^1} & E_{2,1}^1 \\ 0 & & E_{0,0}^1 & \xleftarrow{d_{1,0}^1} & E_{1,0}^1 & \xleftarrow{d_{2,0}^1} & E_{2,0}^1 \\ t/s & & 0 & & 1 & & 2 \end{array}$$

# $d^1$ is a differential

The condition that  $d_{s,t}^1 d_{s+1,t}^1 = 0$  needs only be verified for  $s = 1$ , when it asserts that the composite

$$\partial_{K,A} \partial_{X,K,A}: H_{n+1}(X, K) \xrightarrow{\partial_{X,K,A}} H_n(K, A) \xrightarrow{\partial_{K,A}} H_{n-1}(A)$$

is zero.

This follows from the factorization  $\partial_{X,K,A} = j_{K,A} \partial_{X,K}$  and the fact that  $\partial_{K,A} j_{K,A} = 0$ , both of which are visible in the diagram (4) with two linked exact triangles.

## $d^1$ -cycles and $d^1$ -boundaries

By the defining property of a spectral sequence, the  $E^2$ -term must be

$$E^2 \cong H(E^1, d^1) = \ker(d^1) / \operatorname{im}(d^1).$$

The  $d^1$ -cycles are

$$\ker(d^1)_{s,t} = \begin{cases} H_t(A) & \text{for } s = 0, \\ \ker(\partial_{K,A}: H_{1+t}(K, A) \rightarrow H_t(A)) & \text{for } s = 1, \\ \ker(\partial_{X,K,A}: H_{2+t}(X, K) \rightarrow H_{1+t}(K, A)) & \text{for } s = 2, \\ 0 & \text{otherwise.} \end{cases}$$

The  $d^1$ -boundaries are

$$\operatorname{im}(d^1)_{s,t} = \begin{cases} \operatorname{im}(\partial_{K,A}: H_{1+t}(K, A) \rightarrow H_t(A)) & \text{for } s = 0, \\ \operatorname{im}(\partial_{X,K,A}: H_{2+t}(X, K) \rightarrow H_{1+t}(K, A)) & \text{for } s = 1, \\ 0 & \text{otherwise.} \end{cases}$$

## $E^2$ -term

Hence the  $E^2$ -term satisfies

$$E_{s,t}^2 \cong \begin{cases} \text{cok}(\partial_{K,A}: H_{1+t}(K, A) \rightarrow H_t(A)) & \text{for } s = 0, \\ \frac{\ker(\partial_{K,A}: H_{1+t}(K, A) \rightarrow H_t(A))}{\text{im}(\partial_{X,K,A}: H_{2+t}(X, K) \rightarrow H_{1+t}(K, A))} & \text{for } s = 1, \\ \ker(\partial_{X,K,A}: H_{2+t}(X, K) \rightarrow H_{1+t}(K, A)) & \text{for } s = 2, \\ 0 & \text{otherwise.} \end{cases}$$

These can be visualized in the two exact triangles:

$$\begin{array}{ccccc} H_*(A) & \xrightarrow{i_{K,A}} & H_*(K) & \xrightarrow{i_{X,K}} & H_*(X) \\ & \swarrow \partial_{K,A} & \downarrow j_{K,A} & \swarrow \partial_{X,K} & \downarrow j_{X,K} \\ & & H_*(K, A) & & H_*(X, K) \end{array}$$

## The $d^2$ -differential

- ▶ We must now specify the  $d^2$ -differentials in the spectral sequence.
- ▶ They can only be nonzero when mapping from bidegree  $(s, t)$  with  $s = 2$ , since for other values of  $s$  the source or target (or both) is a trivial group.
- ▶ The interesting case is therefore

$$d_{2,t}^2: E_{2,t}^2 = \ker(\partial_{X,K,A})_{t+2} \longrightarrow \text{cok}(\partial_{K,A})_{t+1} = E_{0,t+1}^2$$

of bidegree  $(-2, 1)$ .

- ▶ Here  $\ker(\partial_{X,K,A})_{t+2} \subset H_{t+2}(X, K)$  while  $\text{cok}(\partial_{K,A})_{t+1}$  is a quotient of  $H_{t+1}(A)$ .

## Construction of $d_{2,t}^2$

$$\begin{array}{ccc}
 \text{cok}(\partial_{K,A})_{t+1} & \xrightarrow[\cong]{\bar{i}_{K,A}} & \text{im}(i_{K,A})_{t+1} \\
 & \nwarrow & \swarrow \tilde{\partial}_{X,K} \\
 & & \text{ker}(\partial_{X,K,A})_{t+2} \\
 & \nearrow d_{2,t}^2 & 
 \end{array}
 \tag{5}$$

Since  $\partial_{X,K,A} = j_{K,A}\partial_{X,K}$ , the restriction of  $\partial_{X,K}$  defines a homomorphism  $\tilde{\partial}_{X,K}$  where  $\text{im}(i_{K,A})_{t+1} \subset H_{t+1}(K)$ .

$$\tilde{\partial}_{X,K}: \text{ker}(\partial_{X,K,A})_{t+2} \longrightarrow \text{ker}(j_{K,A})_{t+1} = \text{im}(i_{K,A})_{t+1}$$

Furthermore,  $i_{K,A}$  induces an isomorphism

$$\bar{i}_{K,A}: \text{cok}(\partial_{K,A})_{t+1} = \frac{H_{t+1}(A)}{\text{ker}(i_{K,A})_{t+1}} \xrightarrow{\cong} \text{im}(i_{K,A})_{t+1}.$$

We then define  $d_{2,t}^2$  to be  $\tilde{\partial}_{X,K}$  followed by the inverse of  $\bar{i}_{K,A}$ .

$$d_{2,t}^2 = \bar{i}_{K,A}^{-1} \tilde{\partial}_{X,K}$$

## Element-wise definition of $d^2$

$$\begin{array}{ccccc}
 H_*(A) & \xrightarrow{i_{K,A}} & H_*(K) & \xrightarrow{i_{X,K}} & H_*(X) \\
 & \swarrow \partial_{K,A} & \downarrow j_{K,A} & \swarrow \partial_{X,K} & \downarrow j_{X,K} \\
 & & H_*(K, A) & & H_*(X, K)
 \end{array}$$

We calculate  $d_{2,t}^2(x)$  for a class

$$x \in E_{2,t}^2 = \ker(\partial_{X,K,A})_{t+2} \subset H_{t+2}(X, K)$$

by applying  $\partial_{X,K}$  to get an element

$$\partial_{X,K}(x) \in \ker(j_{K,A})_{t+1} = \text{im}(i_{K,A})_{t+1} \subset H_{t+1}(K),$$

writing this in the form

$$\partial_{X,K}(x) = i_{K,A}(y)$$

for an element  $y \in H_{t+1}(A)$ , and setting  $d_{2,t}^2(x) = [y]$  to be the homology class of  $y$  in the quotient  $E_{0,t+1}^2 = \text{cok}(\partial_{K,A})_{t+1}$  of  $H_{t+1}(A)$ .

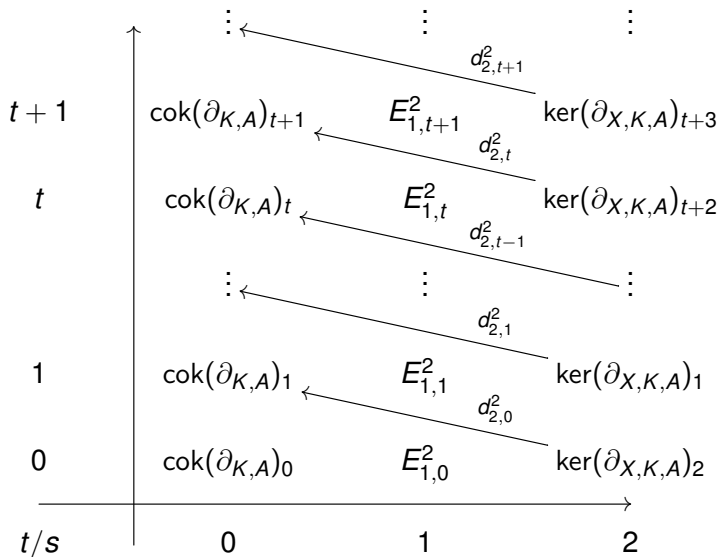


## Independence of choice

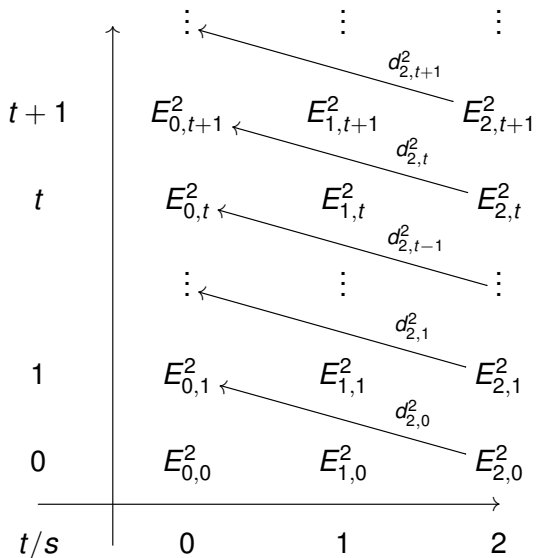
$$\begin{array}{ccccc} H_*(A) & \xrightarrow{i_{K,A}} & H_*(K) & \xrightarrow{i_{X,K}} & H_*(X) \\ & \swarrow \partial_{K,A} & \downarrow j_{K,A} & \swarrow \partial_{X,K} & \downarrow j_{X,K} \\ & & H_*(K, A) & & H_*(X, K) \end{array}$$

Any two choices  $y$  and  $y'$  with the same image under  $i_{K,A}$  differ by an element in  $\ker(i_{K,A}) = \text{im}(\partial_{K,A})$ , hence define the same class  $[y] = [y']$  in  $\text{cok}(\partial_{K,A})$ .

# $(E^2, d^2)$ -term



# Generic three-column ( $E^2, d^2$ )-term



## Collapse at $E^3$ -term

It is clear that  $d^2 d^2 = 0$ , and that  $d^r = 0$  for  $r \geq 3$ , since for each of these homomorphisms the source or target, or both, must be a trivial group.

$$d_{s,t}^r: E_{s,t}^r \longrightarrow E_{s-r,t+r-1}^r$$

Hence the spectral sequence collapses at the  $E^3$ -term, which equals the  $E^r$ -term for each  $3 \leq r \leq \infty$ .

# $E^\infty$ -term

	$\vdots$	$\vdots$	$\vdots$
$t + 1$	$\text{cok}(d_{2,t}^2)$	$\ker(\partial_{K,A})_{t+2} / \text{im}(\partial_{X,K,A})_{t+2}$	$\ker(d_{2,t+1}^2)$
$t$	$\text{cok}(d_{2,t-1}^2)$	$\ker(\partial_{K,A})_{t+1} / \text{im}(\partial_{X,K,A})_{t+1}$	$\ker(d_{2,t}^2)$
	$\vdots$	$\vdots$	$\vdots$
$1$	$\text{cok}(d_{2,0}^2)$	$\ker(\partial_{K,A})_2 / \text{im}(\partial_{X,K,A})_2$	$\ker(d_{2,1}^2)$
$0$	$\text{cok}(\partial_{K,A})_0$	$\ker(\partial_{K,A})_1 / \text{im}(\partial_{X,K,A})_1$	$\ker(d_{2,0}^2)$
$t/s$	$0$	$1$	$2$

# Generic three-column $E^\infty$ -term

	$\vdots$	$\vdots$	$\vdots$
$t+1$	$E_{0,t+1}^\infty$	$E_{1,t+1}^\infty$	$E_{2,t+1}^\infty$
$t$	$E_{0,t}^\infty$	$E_{1,t}^\infty$	$E_{2,t}^\infty$
	$\vdots$	$\vdots$	$\vdots$
1	$E_{0,1}^\infty$	$E_{1,1}^\infty$	$E_{2,1}^\infty$
0	$E_{0,0}^\infty$	$E_{1,0}^\infty$	$E_{2,0}^\infty$
$t/s$	0	1	2

## Bounded convergence

Recall that

$$F_0 H_n(X) = \text{im}(i_{X,A})_n$$

$$F_1 H_n(X) = \text{im}(i_{X,K})_n$$

$$F_2 H_n(X) = H_n(X),$$

so that

$$0 \subset F_0 H_*(X) \subset F_1 H_*(X) \subset F_2 H_*(X) = H_*(X)$$

is a bounded filtration of  $H_*(X)$ . The following three lemmas will therefore complete the proof of the proposition.

## Three = {0, 1, 2} lemmas

### Lemma (0)

*There is a preferred isomorphism*

$$E_{0,n}^{\infty} \cong F_0 H_n(X).$$

### Lemma (1)

*There is a preferred isomorphism*

$$E_{1,n-1}^{\infty} \cong \frac{F_1 H_n(X)}{F_0 H_n(X)}.$$

### Lemma (2)

*There is a preferred isomorphism*

$$E_{2,n-2}^{\infty} \cong \frac{H_n(X)}{F_1 H_n(X)}.$$



## Proof of Lemma (0).

$$\begin{array}{ccc}
 \text{cok}(\partial_{K,A})_{t+1} & \xrightarrow[\cong]{\bar{i}_{K,A}} & \text{im}(i_{K,A})_{t+1} \\
 & \swarrow d_{2,t}^2 & \nwarrow \tilde{\partial}_{X,K} \\
 & & \text{ker}(\partial_{X,K,A})_{t+2}
 \end{array}$$

The cokernel

$$E_{0,n}^\infty = E_{0,n}^3 = \text{cok}(d_{2,n-1}^2)$$

maps isomorphically by  $\bar{i}_{K,A}$  to the cokernel

$$\frac{\text{im}(i_{K,A})_n}{\text{im}(\tilde{\partial}_{X,K})_n} = \frac{\text{im}(i_{K,A})_n}{\text{im}(i_{K,A})_n \cap \text{im}(\partial_{X,K})_n} = \frac{\text{im}(i_{K,A})_n}{\text{im}(i_{K,A})_n \cap \text{ker}(i_{X,K})_n},$$

which maps isomorphically by  $i_{X,K}$  to

$$i_{X,K}(\text{im}(i_{K,A}))_n = \text{im}(i_{X,A})_n = F_0 H_n(X).$$



## Proof of Lemma (1).

$$\begin{array}{ccccc}
 H_*(A) & \xrightarrow{i_{K,A}} & H_*(K) & \xrightarrow{i_{X,K}} & H_*(X) \\
 & \swarrow \partial_{K,A} & \downarrow j_{K,A} & \swarrow \partial_{X,K} & \downarrow j_{X,K} \\
 & & H_*(K, A) & & H_*(X, K)
 \end{array}$$

The quotient group

$$E_{1,n-1}^\infty = E_{1,n-1}^2 = \frac{\ker(\partial_{K,A})_n}{\text{im}(\partial_{X,K,A})_n} = \frac{\text{im}(j_{K,A})_n}{\text{im}(j_{K,A}\partial_{X,K})_n} = \frac{\text{im}(j_{K,A})_n}{j_{K,A}(\ker(i_{X,K}))_n}.$$

receives an isomorphism induced by  $j_{K,A}$  from

$$\frac{H_n(K)}{\ker(j_{K,A})_n + \ker(i_{X,K})_n} = \frac{H_n(K)}{\text{im}(i_{K,A})_n + \ker(i_{X,K})_n},$$

and this group maps isomorphically under  $i_{X,K}$  to

$$\frac{i_{X,K}(H_n(K))}{i_{X,K}(\text{im}(i_{K,A}))_n} = \frac{F_1 H_n(X)}{F_0 H_n(X)}. \quad \square$$

## Proof of Lemma (2).

$$\begin{array}{ccc}
 \text{cok}(\partial_{K,A})_{t+1} & \xrightarrow[\cong]{\bar{j}_{K,A}} & \text{im}(j_{K,A})_{t+1} \\
 & & \nwarrow \tilde{\partial}_{X,K} \\
 & & \text{ker}(\partial_{X,K,A})_{t+2} \\
 & \swarrow d_{2,t}^2 & \\
 & & \text{cok}(\partial_{K,A})_{t+1}
 \end{array}$$

The subgroup

$$E_{2,t}^\infty = E_{2,t}^3 = \text{ker}(d_{2,t}^2) = \text{ker}(\tilde{\partial}_{X,K})_{t+2} = \text{ker}(\partial_{X,K})_{t+2} = \text{im}(j_{X,K})_{t+2}$$

of  $H_n(X, K)$  receives an isomorphism induced by  $j_{X,K}$  from

$$\frac{H_n(X)}{\text{ker}(j_{X,K})_n} = \frac{H_n(X)}{\text{im}(i_{X,K})_n} = \frac{H_n(X)}{F_1 H_n(X)}.$$



## Imperfect precision

- ▶ The  $d^2$ -differentials in this three-column spectral sequence were not fully determined by the statement of the proposition.
- ▶ For instance, we could have reversed the sign of some of the  $d^2$ -differentials and obtained a slightly different spectral sequence, with the same  $(E^1, d^1)$ -term and filtered abutment.
- ▶ In order to be clear about which spectral sequence one has in mind one must therefore be more specific about how the spectral sequence arises, beyond just giving the initial term.
- ▶ In many cases this complete precision is not necessary, but one should be aware of the issue.

## Staircase visualization

Another way to depict the two exact triangles in (4) is the following pair of long exact sequences, each shown as a “staircase” shape.

$$\begin{array}{ccccccc} \dots \rightarrow & H_{n+1}(K, A) & \rightarrow & H_n(A) & & & \\ & \downarrow & & & & & \\ \dots \rightarrow & H_{n+1}(X, K) & \rightarrow & H_n(K) & \rightarrow & H_n(K, A) & \rightarrow & H_{n-1}(A) \\ & \downarrow & & \downarrow & & \downarrow & & \\ & & & H_n(X) & \rightarrow & H_n(X, K) & \rightarrow & H_{n-1}(K) & \rightarrow & H_{n-1}(K, A) & \rightarrow & \dots \\ & & & & & & & \downarrow & & & & \\ & & & & & & & & & & & H_{n-1}(X) & \rightarrow & H_{n-1}(X, K) & \rightarrow & \dots \end{array}$$

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# Exact Couples

- ▶ Almost every spectral sequences arises from a generalization of the diagram

$$\begin{array}{ccccc} H_*(A) & \xrightarrow{i_{K,A}} & H_*(K) & \xrightarrow{i_{X,K}} & H_*(X) \\ & \swarrow \partial_{K,A} & \downarrow j_{K,A} & \swarrow \partial_{X,K} & \downarrow j_{X,K} \\ & & H_*(K, A) & & H_*(X, K) \end{array}$$

to the case where there are infinitely many long exact sequences that are chained together at common vertices.

- ▶ This algebraic structure is called an **exact couple**, and was introduced by William Massey [Mas52], [Mas53].
- ▶ We prefer to display exact couples in an unrolled form, as in Michael Boardman's paper [Boa99, (0.1)].

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## Definition of an exact couple

An **unrolled exact couple**  $(A, E) = (A_s, E_s; \alpha_s, \beta_s, \gamma_s)_s$  is a diagram of the form

$$\begin{array}{ccccccc}
 \dots & \longrightarrow & A_{s-2} & \xrightarrow{\alpha_{s-1}} & A_{s-1} & \xrightarrow{\alpha_s} & A_s & \xrightarrow{\alpha_{s+1}} & A_{s+1} & \longrightarrow & \dots \\
 & & \downarrow & \swarrow \gamma_{s-1} & \downarrow \beta_{s-1} & \swarrow \gamma_s & \downarrow \beta_s & \swarrow \gamma_{s+1} & \downarrow \beta_{s+1} & \swarrow & \\
 & & \dots & & E_{s-1} & & E_s & & E_{s+1} & & \dots
 \end{array}$$

in which each triangle forms a long exact sequence

$$\dots \rightarrow A_{s-1} \xrightarrow{\alpha_s} A_s \xrightarrow{\beta_s} E_s \xrightarrow{\gamma_s} A_{s-1} \rightarrow \dots$$

Here each  $A_s$  and  $E_s$  is a graded abelian group, and  $\alpha_s$ ,  $\beta_s$  and  $\gamma_s$  are graded morphisms of graded abelian groups.

## Remarks

- ▶ In the long circulated preprint form of Boardman's paper, this structure was called an **unraveled exact couple**.
- ▶ Frequently,  $\alpha_s$  and  $\beta_s$  preserve the total degree, and  $\gamma_s$  reduces the total degree by 1, so that we have a long exact sequence of abelian groups

$$\cdots \rightarrow (A_{s-1})_n \xrightarrow{\alpha_s} (A_s)_n \xrightarrow{\beta_s} (E_s)_n \xrightarrow{\gamma_s} (A_{s-1})_{n-1} \rightarrow \cdots$$

for each  $s$ .

- ▶ If we set  $A_{s,t} = (A_s)_{s+t}$  and  $E_{s,t} = (E_s)_{s+t}$ , with  $t$  a complementary degree, this appears as follows

$$\cdots \rightarrow A_{s-1,t+1} \xrightarrow{\alpha_s} A_{s,t} \xrightarrow{\beta_s} E_{s,t} \xrightarrow{\gamma_s} A_{s-1,t} \rightarrow \cdots,$$

so that each  $\alpha_s$  has  $(s, t)$ -bidegree  $(1, -1)$ , each  $\beta_s$  has bidegree  $(0, 0)$ , and each  $\gamma_s$  has bidegree  $(-1, 0)$ .

# Morphisms

A **morphism of exact couples**

$$\phi: (A, E) \rightarrow ('A, 'E)$$

consists of degree-preserving homomorphisms

$$\phi_s: A_s \longrightarrow 'A_s$$

$$\phi_s: E_s \longrightarrow 'E_s,$$

for  $s \in \mathbb{Z}$ , making each diagram

$$\begin{array}{ccccccc} A_{s-1} & \xrightarrow{\alpha_s} & A_s & \xrightarrow{\beta_s} & E_s & \xrightarrow{\gamma_s} & A_{s-1} \\ \phi_{s-1} \downarrow & & \phi_s \downarrow & & \phi_s \downarrow & & \phi_{s-1} \downarrow \\ 'A_{s-1} & \xrightarrow{'\alpha_s} & 'A_s & \xrightarrow{'\beta_s} & 'E_s & \xrightarrow{'\gamma_s} & 'A_{s-1} \end{array}$$

commute.

## Example: A filtered space

- ▶ A **filtration** of a space  $X$  is a sequence of subspaces

$$\dots \subset X_{s-1} \subset X_s \subset \dots$$

where  $s \in \mathbb{Z}$ .

- ▶ The (unrolled) exact couple in homology associated to such a filtration  $(X_s)_s$  is the following chain of exact triangles.

$$\begin{array}{ccccccc} \dots \rightarrow & H_*(X_{s-2}) & \xrightarrow{\alpha_{s-1}} & H_*(X_{s-1}) & \xrightarrow{\alpha_s} & H_*(X_s) & \xrightarrow{\alpha_{s+1}} & H_*(X_{s+1}) & \longrightarrow & \dots \\ & \swarrow \gamma_{s-1} & & \downarrow \beta_{s-1} & \swarrow \gamma_s & \downarrow \beta_s & \swarrow \gamma_{s+1} & \downarrow \beta_{s+1} & & \\ & & & H_*(X_{s-1}, X_{s-2}) & & H_*(X_s, X_{s-1}) & & H_*(X_{s+1}, X_s) & & \end{array}$$

## Notation and grading

- ▶ Here

$$A_s = H_*(X_s)$$

$$E_s = H_*(X_s, X_{s-1})$$

and  $\alpha_s = i_{X_s, X_{s-1}}$ ,  $\beta_s = j_{X_s, X_{s-1}}$ ,  $\gamma_s = \partial_{X_s, X_{s-1}}$ .

- ▶ Hence

$$\dots \rightarrow H_*(X_{s-1}) \xrightarrow{\alpha_s} H_*(X_s) \xrightarrow{\beta_s} H_*(X_s, X_{s-1}) \xrightarrow{\gamma_s} H_{*-1}(X_{s-1}) \rightarrow \dots$$

is the long exact sequence in homology of the pair  $(X_s, X_{s-1})$ .

- ▶ The solid arrows  $\alpha_s$  and  $\beta_s$  preserve the total grading, while the dashed arrows  $\gamma_s$  have total degree  $-1$ .

## Example: A filtered map

- ▶ Let  $(X_s)_s$  and  $(Y_s)_s$  be filtrations of the spaces  $X$  and  $Y$ .
- ▶ A map  $\phi: X \rightarrow Y$  is **filtration-preserving** if  $\phi(X_s) \subset Y_s$  for each  $s$ .
- ▶ Such a map induces a morphism  $\phi$  of exact couples, given by the homomorphisms

$$\begin{aligned}\phi_s: H_*(X_s) &\longrightarrow H_*(Y_s) \\ \phi_s: H_*(X_s, X_{s-1}) &\longrightarrow H_*(Y_s, Y_{s-1})\end{aligned}$$

induced by the evident restrictions of  $\phi$ .

## Massey's notation

- ▶ In Massey's paper, the exact triangles are rolled up further, by setting

$$A = \bigoplus_s A_s \quad \text{and} \quad E = \bigoplus_s E_s.$$

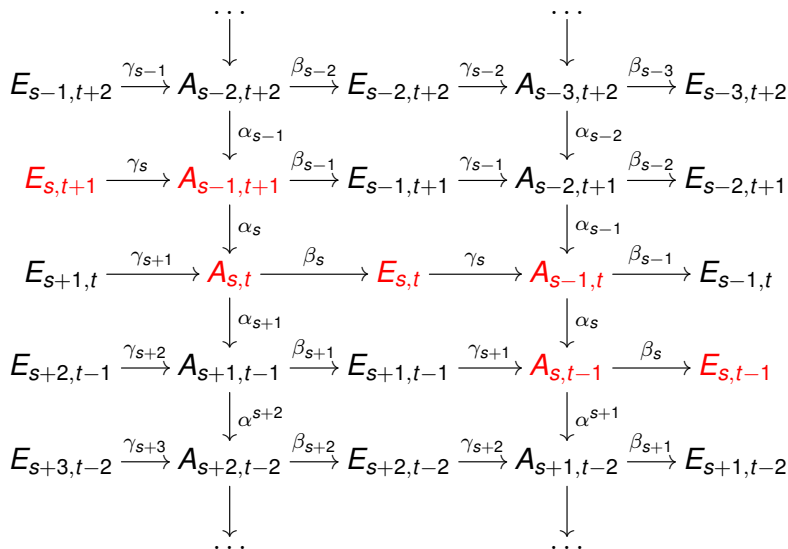
- ▶ An **exact couple** is then a diagram

$$\begin{array}{ccc} A & \xrightarrow{\alpha} & A \\ & \swarrow \gamma & \downarrow \beta \\ & & E \end{array}$$

that is exact at each point, meaning that  $\text{im}(\alpha) = \ker(\beta)$ ,  $\text{im}(\beta) = \ker(\gamma)$  and  $\text{im}(\gamma) = \ker(\alpha)$ .

- ▶ Boardman's unrolled presentation has the advantage that it visually emphasizes the filtration degree  $s$ .

# Whole-plane staircase presentation





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# Spectral sequence associated to exact couple

## Theorem

- ▶ Let  $(A_s, E_s; \alpha_s, \beta_s, \gamma_s)_s$  be an exact couple. Then there is a spectral sequence  $(E^r, d^r)_{r \geq 1}$  with

$$E_s^1 = E_s$$

and

$$d_s^1 = \beta_{s-1}\gamma_s: E_s^1 \longrightarrow E_{s-1}^1$$

for all  $s \in \mathbb{Z}$ .

- ▶ If  $\alpha_s$  and  $\beta_s$  have total degree 0 and  $\gamma_s$  has total degree  $-1$ , then

$$d_{s,t}^r: E_{s,t}^r \longrightarrow E_{s-r,t+r-1}^r$$

has bidegree  $(-r, r+1)$ , where  $E_{s,t}^r = (E_s^r)_{s+t}$  is a subquotient of  $E_{s,t}^1 = (E_s)_{s+t}$ .

## Visualization

The  $E^1$ -term of the spectral sequence is visible in the lower row of the unrolled exact couple

$$\begin{array}{ccccccc}
 \dots & \xrightarrow{\alpha_{s-1}} & A_{s-1} & \xrightarrow{\alpha_s} & A_s & \xrightarrow{\alpha_{s+1}} & A_{s+1} & \longrightarrow & \dots \\
 & & \searrow^{\gamma_{s-1}} & & \searrow^{\gamma_s} & & \searrow^{\gamma_{s+1}} & & \\
 & & E_{s-1} & & E_s & & E_{s+1} & & ,
 \end{array}$$

$\beta_{s-1} \downarrow$       $\beta_s \downarrow$       $\beta_{s+1} \downarrow$

with each  $d^1$ -differential being given by the composite of two homomorphisms.

$$\begin{array}{ccccccc}
 \dots & \longleftarrow & E_{s-1}^1 & \xleftarrow{d_s^1} & E_s^1 & \xleftarrow{d_{s+1}^1} & E_{s+1}^1 & \longleftarrow & \dots \\
 & & \parallel & & \parallel & & \parallel & & \\
 \dots & \longleftarrow & E_{s-1} & \xleftarrow{\beta_{s-1}\gamma_s} & E_s & \xleftarrow{\beta_s\gamma_{s+1}} & E_{s+1} & \longleftarrow & \dots
 \end{array}$$

## Cycles and boundaries

To construct the  $E^r$ -term of the spectral sequence, we consider the following part of the unrolled exact couple.

$$\begin{array}{ccccccc} A_{s-r} & \xrightarrow{\alpha^{r-1}} & A_{s-1} & \xrightarrow{\alpha_s} & A_s & \xrightarrow{\alpha^{r-1}} & A_{s+r-1} \\ & & & \swarrow \gamma_s & \downarrow \beta_s & & \\ & & & & E_s & & \end{array}$$

### Definition

For  $r \geq 1$  and  $s \in \mathbb{Z}$  let

$$Z_s^r = \gamma_s^{-1} \operatorname{im}(\alpha^{r-1} : A_{s-r} \rightarrow A_{s-1})$$

be the  $r$ -th **cycle group**, and let

$$B_s^r = \beta_s \ker(\alpha^{r-1} : A_s \rightarrow A_{s+r-1})$$

be the  $r$ -th **boundary group**, both in filtration  $s$ .

## Bigraded cycles and boundaries

$$Z_s^r = \gamma_s^{-1} \operatorname{im}(\alpha^{r-1}: A_{s-r} \rightarrow A_{s-1})$$

$$B_s^r = \beta_s \operatorname{ker}(\alpha^{r-1}: A_s \rightarrow A_{s+r-1})$$

- ▶  $Z_s^r$  is the preimage under  $\gamma_s: E_s \rightarrow A_{s-1}$  of the image of  $\alpha^{r-1}: A_{s-r} \rightarrow A_{s-1}$ .
- ▶  $B_s^r$  is the image under  $\beta_s: A_s \rightarrow E_s$  of the kernel of  $\alpha^{r-1}: A_s \rightarrow A_{s+r-1}$ .
- ▶ These are both graded subgroups of  $E_s$ , with components  $Z_{s,t}^r$  and  $B_{s,t}^r$  contained in  $E_{s,t} = (E_s)_{s+t}$ .

## $B^r$ - and $Z^r$ -chains for exact couples, I

### Lemma

*There are inclusions*

$$\begin{aligned} 0 = B_s^1 &\subset \cdots \subset B_s^r \subset B_s^{r+1} \subset \cdots \subset \text{im}(\beta_s) \\ &= \ker(\gamma_s) \subset Z_s^{r+1} \subset Z_s^r \subset \cdots \subset Z_s^1 = E_s. \end{aligned}$$

### Proof.

The inclusions of  $\ker(\gamma_s)$  and the cycle groups follow from the inclusions

$$0 \subset \text{im}(\alpha^r : A_{s-r-1} \rightarrow A_{s-1}) \subset \text{im}(\alpha^{r-1} : A_{s-r} \rightarrow A_{s-1}).$$

The preimage  $Z_s^1$  of  $\text{im}(\alpha^0) = A_{s-1}$  is the whole of  $E_s$ .

## $B^r$ - and $Z^r$ -chains for exact couples, II

### Lemma

*There are inclusions*

$$\begin{aligned} 0 = B_s^1 &\subset \cdots \subset B_s^r \subset B_s^{r+1} \subset \cdots \subset \text{im}(\beta_s) \\ &= \ker(\gamma_s) \subset Z_s^{r+1} \subset Z_s^r \subset \cdots \subset Z_s^1 = E_s. \end{aligned}$$

### Proof (cont.)

The inclusions of boundary groups and  $\text{im}(\beta_s)$  follow from the inclusions

$$\ker(\alpha^{r-1} : A_s \rightarrow A_{s+r-1}) \subset \ker(\alpha^r : A_s \rightarrow A_{s+r}) \subset A_s.$$

The image  $B_s^1$  of  $\ker(\alpha^0) = 0$  is trivial.

## $B^r$ - and $Z^r$ -chains for exact couples, III

### Lemma

*There are inclusions*

$$\begin{aligned} 0 = B_s^1 \subset \cdots \subset B_s^r \subset B_s^{r+1} \subset \cdots \subset \text{im}(\beta_s) \\ = \ker(\gamma_s) \subset Z_s^{r+1} \subset Z_s^r \subset \cdots \subset Z_s^1 = E_s. \end{aligned}$$

### Proof (cont.)

For each finite  $r \geq 1$  we have

$$B_s^r \subset \text{im}(\beta_s) = \ker(\gamma_s) \subset Z_s^r$$

by exactness at  $E_s$ .





# The $E^r$ -term

## Definition

For  $r \geq 1$  and  $s \in \mathbb{Z}$  let

$$E_s^r = Z_s^r / B_s^r$$

and

$$E_{s,t}^r = Z_{s,t}^r / B_{s,t}^r$$

so that  $E^r = E_{*,*}^r$  is the  $E^r$ -term of the spectral sequence.

In particular,  $E_s^1 = E_s / 0 \cong E_s$ .

## Decreasing upper bounds

- ▶ As  $r$  increases, each  $E^r$ -term is a successively smaller subquotient of the  $E^1$ -term, since the cycle groups  $Z_s^r$  decrease and the boundary groups  $B_s^r$  increase in size.
- ▶ Each term  $E^q$  thus gives an upper bound for the subsequent terms  $E^r$  with  $r \geq q$ .
- ▶ If  $E_{s,t}^q = 0$  for  $(s, t)$  in some region of the  $(s, t)$ -plane, then  $E_{s,t}^r = 0$  for all  $r \geq q$  and  $(s, t)$  in this region.
- ▶ If a term of a spectral sequence is concentrated in some region, such as the first quadrant, then so is the remainder of the spectral sequence.
- ▶ In order to have a spectral sequence, we must identify  $E^{r+1}$  as the homology of  $E^r$  with respect to a  $d^r$ -differential.

## The $d^r$ -differential

We use the following part of the unrolled exact couple.

$$\begin{array}{ccccccc} A_{s-r-1} & \xrightarrow{\alpha_{s-r}} & A_{s-r} & \xrightarrow{\alpha^{r-1}} & A_{s-1} & \xrightarrow{\alpha_s} & A_s \\ & \swarrow \gamma_{s-r} & \downarrow \beta_{s-r} & & \swarrow \gamma_s & \downarrow \beta_s & \\ & & E_{s-r} & & & & E_s \end{array}$$

### Definition

For each  $x \in Z_s^r \subset E_s$  in the  $r$ -th cycle group we write  $[x] \in E_s^r$  for its equivalence class modulo the  $r$ -th boundary group. Let the  $d^r$ -differential

$$d_s^r: E_s^r \longrightarrow E_{s-r}^r$$

be defined by

$$d_s^r: [x] \longmapsto [\beta_{s-r}(y)]$$

where  $y \in A_{s-r}$  is chosen to satisfy  $\gamma_s(x) = \alpha^{r-1}(y)$ . In particular,  $d_s^1 = \beta_{s-1}\gamma_s$ .

## Lemma

$d_s^r$  is well defined.

### Proof.

Since  $x \in Z_s^r$  we have  $\gamma_s(x) \in \text{im}(\alpha^{r-1}: A_{s-r} \rightarrow A_{s-1})$ , so there exists a  $y \in A_{s-r}$  with  $\alpha^{r-1}(y) = \gamma_s(x)$ . The image  $\beta_{s-r}(y)$  then lies in  $\text{im}(\beta_{s-r}) \subset Z_{s-r}^r$ , hence defines a class  $[\beta_{s-r}(y)]$  in  $E_{s-r}^r$ . Another choice of  $y' \in A_{s-r}$  with  $\alpha^{r-1}(y') = \gamma_s(x)$  differs from  $y$  by a class  $y' - y \in \ker(\alpha^{r-1}: A_{s-r} \rightarrow A_{s-1})$ , hence  $\beta_{s-r}(y')$  differs from  $\beta_{s-r}(y)$  by a class

$$\beta_{s-r}(y' - y) \in \beta_{s-r} \ker(\alpha^{r-1}: A_{s-r} \rightarrow A_{s-1}) = B_{s-r}^r.$$

This means that  $[\beta_{s-r}(y)] = [\beta_{s-r}(y')]$  as elements of  $E_{s-r}^r$ . Any other choice of  $x' \in Z_s^r$  representing the same class  $[x'] = [x]$  in  $E_s^r$  differs from  $x$  by an element  $x' - x \in B_s^r$ . Since  $B_s^r \subset \ker(\gamma_s)$ , it follows that  $\gamma_s(x') = \gamma_s(x)$ , so  $x$  and  $x'$  lead to the same choices for  $y$  and the same value of  $[\beta_{s-r}(y)]$ .  $\square$

## Lemma

$$\ker(d^r)_s = \ker(d^r_s) = Z_s^{r+1} / B_s^r.$$

### Proof.

First, let  $x \in Z_s^r$ , choose  $y \in A_{s-r}$  with  $\alpha^{r-1}(y) = \gamma_s(x)$ , and suppose that  $[x] \in \ker(d^r_s)$ . This means that  $\beta_{s-r}(y) \in B_{s-r}^r$ , so there exists a  $y' \in \ker(\alpha^{r-1}) \subset A_{s-r}$  with  $\beta_{s-r}(y) = \beta_{s-r}(y')$ . Then  $y - y' \in \ker(\beta_{s-r}) = \text{im}(\alpha_{s-r})$  equals  $\alpha_{s-r}(z)$  for some  $z \in A_{s-r-1}$ , and

$$\alpha^r(z) = \alpha^{r-1}(y - y') = \alpha^{r-1}(y) - \alpha^{r-1}(y') = \gamma_s(x) - 0 = \gamma_s(x),$$

which proves that  $x \in Z_s^{r+1}$ . Hence  $\ker(d^r_s) \subset Z_s^{r+1} / B_s^r$ .

Conversely, if  $x \in Z_s^{r+1}$  then we can write

$\gamma_s(x) = \alpha^r(z) = \alpha^{r-1}(y)$  for some  $z \in A_{s-r-1}$  and

$y = \alpha_{s-r}(z) \in \text{im}(\alpha_{s-r}) = \ker(\beta_{s-r})$ . Then  $\beta_{s-r}(y) = 0$ , so  $d^r_s$  maps  $[x]$  to  $[0]$ , and  $[x] \in \ker(d^r_s)$ . Hence

$Z_s^{r+1} / B_s^r \subset \ker(d^r_s)$ . □

## Higher filtrations

For  $d^r$ -boundaries in filtration  $s$  we use the following part of the unrolled exact couple.

$$\begin{array}{ccccccc} A_{s-1} & \xrightarrow{\alpha_s} & A_s & \xrightarrow{\alpha^{r-1}} & A_{s+r-1} & \xrightarrow{\alpha_{s+r}} & A_{s+r} \\ & \swarrow \gamma_s & \downarrow \beta_s & & \swarrow \gamma_{s+r} & \downarrow \beta_{s+r} & \\ & & E_s & & & & E_{s+r} \end{array}$$

## Lemma

$$\text{im}(d^r)_s = \text{im}(d^r_{s+r}) = B_s^{r+1}/B_s^r.$$

### Proof.

Let  $x \in Z_{s+r}^r$ , choose  $y \in A_s$  with  $\alpha^{r-1}(y) = \gamma_{s+r}(x)$ , and consider  $[\beta_s(y)] \in \text{im}(d^r_{s+r})$ . Then

$$\alpha^r(y) = \alpha_{s+r}\alpha^{r-1}(y) = \alpha_{s+r}\gamma_{s+r}(x) = 0,$$

so  $y \in \ker(\alpha^r : A_s \rightarrow A_{s+r})$  and  $\beta_s(y) \in B_s^{r+1}$ . Hence  $\text{im}(d^r_{s+r}) \subset B_s^{r+1}/B_s^r$ .

Conversely, if  $\beta_s(y) \in B_s^{r+1}$  with  $y \in \ker(\alpha^r)$ , then  $\alpha^{r-1}(y) \in \ker(\alpha_{s+r}) = \text{im}(\gamma_{s+r})$ , so we can write  $\alpha^{r-1}(y) = \gamma_{s+r}(x)$ . Then  $x \in Z_{s+r}^r$  and  $d^r_{s+r}$  maps  $[x]$  to  $[\beta_s(y)]$ . Hence  $B_s^{r+1}/B_s^r \subset \text{im}(d^r_{s+r})$ . □

# The spectral sequence condition

## Lemma

- ▶  $d^r d^r = 0$
- ▶  $E_s^{r+1} \cong H(E^r, d^r)_s$

## Proof.

It follows from  $B_s^{r+1} \subset Z_s^{r+1}$  that  $\text{im}(d^r)_s \subset \ker(d^r)_s$ , so  $d_s^r d_{s+r}^r = 0$  and  $d^r : E^r \rightarrow E^r$  is a differential of filtration degree  $-r$ . The isomorphism

$$Z_s^{r+1} / B_s^{r+1} \xrightarrow{\cong} \frac{Z_s^{r+1} / B_s^r}{B_s^{r+1} / B_s^r}$$

shows that  $E_s^{r+1} \cong H(E^r, d^r)_s$ , as claimed. □



# Proof of Theorem

- ▶ We have
  - ▶ specified the  $E^r$ -terms,
  - ▶ specified the  $d^r$ -differentials, and
  - ▶ checked the spectral sequence condition.
- ▶ The explicit form of the  $E^1$ -differential and  $d^1$ -differential follows easily by inspection of the definitions.
- ▶ If  $\alpha_s$  and  $\beta_s$  have total degree 0 while  $\gamma_s$  has total degree  $-1$ , then  $d_s^r: E_s^r \rightarrow E_{s-r}^r$  has total degree  $-1$  and reduces the filtration degree  $s$  by  $r$ . Hence it must increase the complementary degree  $t$  by  $(r - 1)$ .

# Functoriality

## Lemma

*Each morphism  $\phi: (A, E) \rightarrow ('A, 'E)$  of exact couples induces a morphism  $\phi: (E^r, d^r) \rightarrow ('E^r, 'd^r)$  of spectral sequences. Hence the associated spectral sequence defines a functor*

*Exact Couples  $\longrightarrow$  Spectral Sequences.*

## Proof.

It is straightforward to check that  $\phi_s: E_s \rightarrow 'E_s$  restricts to homomorphisms  $\phi_s: Z_s^r \rightarrow 'Z_s^r$ ,  $\phi_s: B_s^r \rightarrow 'B_s^r$  and  $\phi_s: E_s^r \rightarrow 'E_s^r$  for all  $r \geq 1$  and  $s$ , and that these commute with the differentials  $d^r$  and  $'d^r$ , as well as the isomorphisms  $H(E^r, d^r) \cong E^{r+1}$  and  $H('E^r, 'd^r) \cong 'E^{r+1}$ . □

## Remarks on indexing

- ▶ We are following the notation of [Boa99, §0], but translated into homological indexing.
- ▶ Beware that the  $d^r$ -cycles  $\ker(d^r)$  are the quotient  $Z^{r+1}/B^r$  of the  $(r+1)$ -th cycle group, and the  $d^r$ -boundaries  $\text{im}(d^r)$  are the quotient  $B^{r+1}/B^r$  of the  $(r+1)$ -th boundary group, so that there is an offset by one from  $r$  to  $(r+1)$  in the indexing of these bigraded groups.

# Outline

## Overview

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## Exact Couples

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## $B^r$ - and $Z^r$ -chains for general spectral sequences

### Lemma

Let  $(E^r, d^r)_{r \geq p}$  be an  $E^p$ -spectral sequence. There are inclusions

$$0 = B_s^p \subset \cdots \subset B_s^r \subset B_s^{r+1} \subset \cdots \subset Z_s^{r+1} \subset Z_s^r \subset \cdots \subset Z_s^p = E_s^p$$

and isomorphisms  $Z_s^r / Z_s^{r+1} \cong B_{s-r}^{r+1} / B_{s-r}^r$  such that

$$E_s^r \cong Z_s^r / B_s^r.$$

Furthermore,  $d_s^r: E_s^r \rightarrow E_{s-r}^r$  corresponds to the composite

$$Z_s^r / B_s^r \xrightarrow{\pi} Z_s^r / Z_s^{r+1} \cong B_{s-r}^{r+1} / B_{s-r}^r \xrightarrow{\iota} Z_{s-r}^r / B_{s-r}^r$$

for all  $r \geq p$  and  $s \in \mathbb{Z}$ .

## Proof by induction on $r \geq p$

- ▶ Suppose that  $E_s^r \cong Z_s^r/B_s^r$  for some  $r$  and all  $s$ . Then the subgroup  $\ker(d^r)_s \subset E_s^r$  corresponds to a subgroup of  $Z_s^r/B_s^r$ , which must have the form  $Z_s^{r+1}/B_s^r$  for some  $Z_s^{r+1} \subset Z_s^r$ .
- ▶ Similarly, the subgroup  $\text{im}(d^r)_s \subset \ker(d^r)_s$  corresponds to a subgroup of  $Z_s^{r+1}/B_s^r$ , which must be of the form  $B_s^{r+1}/B_s^r$  for some  $B_s^{r+1} \subset Z_s^{r+1}$ .
- ▶ We have the following inclusions

$$B_s^r \subset B_s^{r+1} \subset Z_s^{r+1} \subset Z_s^r$$

and isomorphisms

$$E_s^{r+1} \cong H(E^r, d^r)_s = \frac{\ker(d^r)_s}{\text{im}(d^r)_s} \cong \frac{Z_s^{r+1}/B_s^r}{B_s^{r+1}/B_s^r} \cong Z_s^{r+1}/B_s^{r+1}.$$

- ▶ This completes the inductive step.

## Proof (cont.)

The  $d^r$ -differential factors as

$$E_s^r \xrightarrow{\pi} \frac{E_s^r}{\ker(d^r)_s} \xrightarrow{\cong} \operatorname{im}(d^r)_{s-r} \xrightarrow{\iota} E_{s-r}^r$$

and corresponds to the composition

$$Z_s^r/B_s^r \xrightarrow{\pi} Z_s^r/Z_s^{r+1} \xrightarrow{\cong} \frac{Z_s^r/B_s^r}{Z_s^{r+1}/B_s^r} \xrightarrow{\cong} B_{s-r}^{r+1}/B_{s-r}^r \xrightarrow{\iota} Z_{s-r}^r/B_{s-r}^r.$$

The composite of the two inner isomorphisms is the required isomorphism from  $Z_s^r/Z_s^{r+1}$  to  $B_{s-r}^{r+1}/B_{s-r}^r$ , which leads to the asserted expression for  $d_s^r$ .

# Compatibility

## Lemma

*When  $(E^r, d^r)$  is the  $E^1$ -spectral sequence associated to an exact couple  $(A, E)$ , then*

*the subgroups  $Z^r$  and  $B^r$  of  $E$  associated to the exact couple*

*are equal to*

*the subgroups  $Z^r$  and  $B^r$  of  $E^1$  associated to the spectral sequence.*

## Proof.

Chase the definitions.





## Definition of $Z^\infty$ and $B^\infty$

Let  $(E^r, d^r)$  be an  $E^p$ -spectral sequence.

- ▶ For each  $s \in \mathbb{Z}$  let the **infinite cycles**

$$Z_s^\infty = \bigcap_{r \geq p} Z_s^r$$

be the intersection (or limit) of the  $r$ -th cycle groups.

- ▶ Let the **infinite boundaries**

$$B_s^\infty = \bigcup_{r \geq p} B_s^r$$

be the union (or colimit) of the  $r$ -th boundary groups.

## Definition of the $E^\infty$ -term

- ▶ There are inclusions

$$0 \subset \cdots \subset B_s^r \subset \cdots \subset B_s^\infty \subset Z_s^\infty \subset \cdots \subset Z_s^r \subset \cdots \subset E_s^p$$

for all  $r \geq p$  and  $s \in \mathbb{Z}$ .

- ▶ We define the  $E^\infty$ -term of the spectral sequence to be the (bi-)graded group

$$E^\infty = (E_s^\infty)_s = E_{*,*}^\infty$$

with

$$E_s^\infty = Z_s^\infty / B_s^\infty$$

$$E_{s,t}^\infty = Z_{s,t}^\infty / B_{s,t}^\infty$$

for all  $s, t \in \mathbb{Z}$ .

# A postponed proof

## Lemma

*If  $(E^r, d^r)$  stabilizes in each bidegree, then for each bidegree  $(s, t)$  there are isomorphisms  $E_{s,t}^\infty \cong E_{s,t}^r$  for all sufficiently large  $r$ .*

## Proof.

Fix a bidegree  $(s, t)$ . If  $d_{s,t}^r$  and  $d_{s+r,t-r+1}^r$  are both zero for all  $r \geq q(s, t)$  then  $Z_{s,t}^r / Z_{s,t}^{r+1} = 0$  and  $B_{s,t}^{r+1} / B_{s,t}^r = 0$ , so  $Z_{s,t}^r = Z_{s,t}^{r+1} = Z_{s,t}^\infty$  and  $B_{s,t}^r = B_{s,t}^{r+1} = B_{s,t}^\infty$  for all  $r \geq q(s, t)$ , and  $E_{s,t}^r \cong E_{s,t}^{r+1} \cong E_{s,t}^\infty$  for all  $r \geq q(s, t)$ . □

# Functoriality of $B^r$ - and $Z^r$ -chains

## Lemma

*A morphism*

$$\phi: (E^r, d^r)_{r \geq p} \longrightarrow ({}'E^r, {}'d^r)_{r \geq p}$$

*of spectral sequences induces compatible morphisms*

$$\phi^r: Z^r \longrightarrow {}'Z^r$$

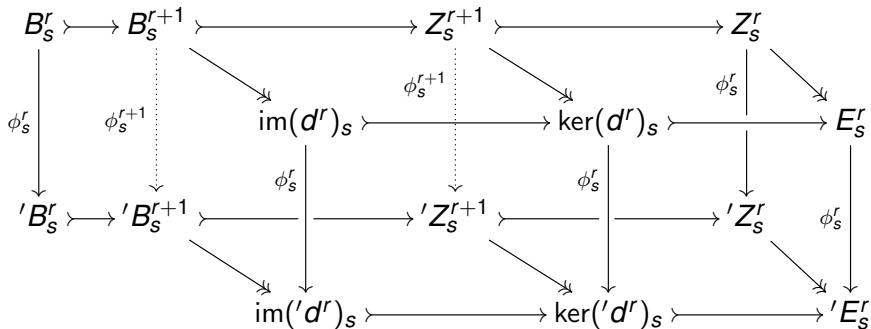
$$\phi^r: B^r \longrightarrow {}'B^r$$

*for all  $r \geq p$ , including  $r = \infty$ . This also defines a morphism*

$$\phi^\infty: E^\infty \longrightarrow {}'E^\infty .$$

## Proof.

By induction on  $r \geq p$  we have vertical maps  $\phi_s^r$ , as shown in the following commutative diagram.



There are unique dotted maps  $\phi_s^{r+1}$  making the whole diagram commute, because the lower parallelograms are pullbacks.

## Proof (cont.)

- ▶ The maps  $B_s^{r+1} \rightarrow 'Z_s^r$  and  $B_s^{r+1} \rightarrow \text{im}('d^r)_s$  with equal composites to  $'E_s^r$  admit a unique common lift to  $'B_s^{r+1}$ .
- ▶ The maps  $Z_s^{r+1} \rightarrow 'Z_s^r$  and  $Z_s^{r+1} \rightarrow \ker('d^r)_s$  with equal composites to  $'E_s^r$  admit a unique common lift to  $'Z_s^{r+1}$ .
- ▶ The map  $\phi_s^\infty : Z_s^\infty \rightarrow 'Z_s^\infty$  is then given by the intersection (= limit) of the maps  $\psi_s^r : Z_s^r \rightarrow 'Z_s^r$ , and  $\phi_s^\infty : B_s^\infty \rightarrow 'B_s^\infty$  is given by the union (= colimit) of the maps  $\psi_s^r : B_s^r \rightarrow 'B_s^r$ .
- ▶ The induced map of quotient groups is  $\phi_s^\infty : E_s^\infty \rightarrow 'E_s^\infty$ .



## Another postponed proof

### Lemma

If  $(E^r, d^r)$  and  $({}'E^r, {}'d^r)$  stabilize in each bidegree, then  $\phi_{s,t}^\infty: E_{s,t}^\infty \rightarrow {}'E_{s,t}^\infty$  corresponds, for each bidegree  $(s, t)$ , to  $\phi_{s,t}^r: E_{s,t}^r \rightarrow {}'E_{s,t}^r$  for all sufficiently large  $r$ .

### Proof.

Fix a bidegree  $(s, t)$ . If  $(E_{s,t}^r)_r$  and  $({}'E_{s,t}^r)_r$  both stabilize for  $r \geq q = q(s, t)$ , then  $Z_s^\infty = Z_s^r$ ,  $B_s^r = B_s^\infty$ ,  ${}'Z_s^\infty = {}'Z_s^r$  and  ${}'B_s^r = {}'B_s^\infty$  for  $r \geq q$ , hence  $\phi_s^r = \phi_s^\infty$  as maps of infinite cycles, infinite boundaries and  $E^\infty$ -terms. □

# Invariance

The  $E^\infty$ -term does not depend on where we start indexing the spectral sequence.

## Lemma

*Let  $(E^r, d^r)_{r \geq p}$  be an  $E^p$ -spectral sequence, let  $q \geq p$ , and let  $({}'E^r, {}'d^r)_{r \geq q}$  be the  $E^q$ -spectral sequence with  $E^r = {}'E^r$  and  $d^r = {}'d^r$  for  $r \geq q$ . Then there is a canonical isomorphism*

$$E^\infty \cong {}'E^\infty .$$



## Proof of invariance

The sequence

$$0 = {}'B_s^q \subset \cdots \subset {}'B_s^r \subset {}'B_s^{r+1} \subset \cdots \subset {}'Z_s^{r+1} \subset {}'Z_s^r \subset \cdots \subset {}'Z_s^q = {}'E_s^q$$

equals

$$0 = B_s^q/B_s^q \subset \cdots \subset B_s^r/B_s^q \subset B_s^{r+1}/B_s^q \subset \cdots \\ \cdots \subset Z_s^{r+1}/B_s^q \subset Z_s^r/B_s^q \subset \cdots \subset Z_s^q/B_s^q = E_s^q$$

so

$${}'Z_s^\infty = \bigcap_r Z_s^r/B_s^q \cong Z_s^\infty/B_s^q$$

$${}'B_s^\infty = \bigcup_r B_s^r/B_s^q \cong B_s^\infty/B_s^q$$

and

$${}'E_s^\infty \cong \frac{Z_s^\infty/B_s^q}{B_s^\infty/B_s^q} \cong E_s^\infty.$$

## Commutation of colimits and limits

The only slightly tricky step here is the commutation of quotients (which are colimits) and intersections (which are limits), giving the isomorphism

$$\kappa: \left( \bigcap_r Z_s^r \right) / B_s^q \xrightarrow{\cong} \bigcap_r (Z_s^r / B_s^q).$$

# Preservation of isomorphisms

The following result allows us to make deductions about a morphism between two spectral sequences, even if we are not able to calculate all of their differentials.

## Proposition

- ▶ Let  $\phi: (E^r, d^r)_{r \geq p} \rightarrow ({}'E^r, {}'d^r)_{r \geq p}$  be a morphism of  $E^p$ -spectral sequences.
- ▶ Suppose that there is a  $q < \infty$  such that

$$\phi^q: E_{*,*}^q \xrightarrow{\cong} {}'E_{*,*}^q$$

is an isomorphism.

- ▶ Then

$$\phi^r: E_{*,*}^r \xrightarrow{\cong} {}'E_{*,*}^r$$

is an isomorphism for all  $r \geq q$ , including  $r = \infty$ .

## Proof

Ignoring the  $E^r$ -terms for  $r < q$ , we may assume that  $p = q$  and that  $\phi^p: E^p \rightarrow 'E^p$  is an isomorphism. It then follows for each  $r \geq p$ , by induction, that  $\phi^r: E^r \rightarrow 'E^r$ ,  $\phi^r: \ker(d^r) \rightarrow \ker('d^r)$  and  $\phi^r: \text{im}(d^r) \rightarrow \text{im}('d^r)$  are isomorphisms, in view of the commutative diagrams

$$\begin{array}{ccc} E^r & \xrightarrow{\phi^r} & 'E^r \\ d^r \downarrow & \cong & \downarrow 'd^r \\ E^r & \xrightarrow{\phi^r} & 'E^r \end{array}$$

and

$$\begin{array}{ccc} H(E^r, d^r) & \xrightarrow{\phi_*^r} & H('E^r, 'd^r) \\ \cong \downarrow & & \downarrow \cong \\ E^{r+1} & \xrightarrow{\phi^{r+1}} & 'E^{r+1} \end{array}$$

## Proof (cont.)

Since  $\ker(d^r) = Z^{r+1}/B^r$  and  $\text{im}(d^r) = B^{r+1}/B^r$  with  $0 = B^p \subset Z^p = E^p$ , and likewise for  $'d^r$ , it follows that

$$\phi^r: Z^r \xrightarrow{\cong} 'Z^r$$

$$\phi^r: B^r \xrightarrow{\cong} 'B^r$$

are isomorphisms for all  $r \geq p$ . Passing to intersections and unions, we deduce that

$$\phi^\infty: Z^\infty \xrightarrow{\cong} 'Z^\infty$$

$$\phi^\infty: B^\infty \xrightarrow{\cong} 'B^\infty$$

are isomorphisms, which implies that  $\phi^\infty: E^\infty \rightarrow 'E^\infty$  is an isomorphism, as claimed. □

## Different exact couples, same spectral sequence

- ▶ This proposition shows that if  $\phi: (A, E) \rightarrow ('A, 'E)$  is a morphism of exact couples such that  $\phi: E \rightarrow 'E$  is an isomorphism, then the induced morphism of  $E^1$ -spectral sequences  $\phi: (E^r, d^r) \rightarrow ('E^r, 'd^r)$  is an isomorphism.
- ▶ This may well happen even if  $\phi: A \rightarrow 'A$  is not an isomorphism, so different exact couples may give rise to the same spectral sequence.

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## Discrete and exhaustive filtrations

We now generalize the definition of convergence, from the degreewise bounded case, by weakening the bounded above condition.

### Definition

A filtration  $(F_s G_*)_s$  of a graded abelian group  $G_*$  is **exhaustive** if

$$\bigcup_s F_s G_* = G_* .$$

It is **degreewise discrete** if for each total degree  $n$  there is an integer  $a = a(n)$  such that  $F_{a-1} G_n = 0$ .



## Discrete vs. bounded below

- ▶ We might say “bounded below” in place of “discrete”, but this may become confusing when we also discuss decreasing filtrations.
- ▶ The terminology “degreewise discrete” is suggested by thinking of the subgroups  $F_s G_n$  for  $s \in \mathbb{Z}$  as forming a neighborhood basis of the origin for a linear topology on  $G_n$ .
- ▶ The cosets  $x + F_s G_n$  for  $s \in \mathbb{Z}$  then form a neighborhood basis around  $x$ .
- ▶ The resulting topology is discrete if and only if  $F_s G_n = 0$  for some  $s$ .

# Convergence

## Definition

- ▶ Let  $(E_{*,*}^r, d^r)_r$  be a spectral sequence and let  $(F_s G_*)_s$  be a filtration of a graded abelian group  $G_*$ .
- ▶ Suppose that the filtration is exhaustive and degreewise discrete.
- ▶ Then we say that the spectral sequence **converges** to  $G_*$ , written

$$E_{*,*}^r \implies G_*,$$

if there are isomorphisms

$$E_{s,t}^\infty \cong \frac{F_s G_{s+t}}{F_{s-1} G_{s+t}}$$

for all  $(s, t)$ .

## An isomorphism theorem

The next theorem is often used in conjunction with the proposition on preservation of isomorphisms to show that a map of spectral sequences can be used to establish an isomorphism  $G_* \cong 'G_*$ , even if we do not know enough about the differentials  $d^r$  and  $'d^r$  in these spectral sequences to actually calculate their abutments.

## Theorem

- ▶ Let  $\phi: (E^r, d^r)_{r \geq p} \rightarrow ('E^r, 'd^r)_{r \geq p}$  be a morphism of  $E^p$ -spectral sequences, converging to a morphism  $\psi: G_* \rightarrow 'G_*$  of filtered graded abelian groups.
- ▶ Suppose that each filtration is degreewise discrete and exhaustive, and suppose that

$$\phi^\infty: E_{*,*}^\infty \xrightarrow{\cong} 'E_{*,*}^\infty$$

is an isomorphism.

- ▶ Then

$$\psi: G_* \xrightarrow{\cong} 'G_*$$

is an isomorphism.

# Proof

- ▶ Fix a total degree  $n$ . We prove for each  $s$ , by induction, that

$$\psi_s: F_s G_n \longrightarrow F'_s G_n$$

is an isomorphism.

- ▶ The assumption that the filtrations  $(F_s G_*)_s$  and  $(F'_s G_*)_s$  are degreewise discrete ensures that there is an integer  $a$  with  $F_{a-1} G_n = 0$  and  $F'_{a-1} G_n = 0$ .
- ▶ Hence  $\psi_{a-1}$  is trivially an isomorphism.

## Proof (cont.)

Consider the vertical map of short exact sequences

$$\begin{array}{ccccccc}
 0 & \longrightarrow & F_{s-1}G_n & \longrightarrow & F_sG_n & \longrightarrow & \frac{F_sG_n}{F_{s-1}G_n} \longrightarrow 0 \\
 & & \downarrow \psi_{s-1} & & \downarrow \psi_s & & \downarrow \bar{\psi}_s \\
 0 & \longrightarrow & F_{s-1}'G_n & \longrightarrow & F_s'G_n & \longrightarrow & \frac{F_s'G_n}{F_{s-1}'G_n} \longrightarrow 0.
 \end{array}$$

We may assume by induction on  $s$  that  $\psi_{s-1}$  is an isomorphism. By convergence, the commutative diagram

$$\begin{array}{ccc}
 E_{s,n-s}^\infty & \xrightarrow[\cong]{\phi^\infty} & 'E_{s,n-s}^\infty \\
 \cong \downarrow & & \downarrow \cong \\
 \frac{F_sG_n}{F_{s-1}G_n} & \xrightarrow{\bar{\psi}_s} & \frac{F_s'G_n}{F_{s-1}'G_n}
 \end{array}$$

and the assumption that  $\phi^\infty$  is an isomorphism, we know that  $\bar{\psi}_s$  is an isomorphism. It then follows that  $\psi_s$  is an isomorphism.

## Proof (cont.)

To complete the proof we use that both filtrations are exhaustive to pass to unions over  $s$  and conclude that

$$\psi: G_n = \bigcup_s F_s G_n \xrightarrow{\cong} \bigcup_s F'_s G_n = 'G_n$$

is an isomorphism.



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## Discrete convergence for exact couples

- ▶ We return to the setting of the spectral sequence  $(E^r, d^r)$  associated to an exact couple  $(A, E)$ , where we assume that each  $\alpha_s$  preserves the total degree.
- ▶ We will show that if the sequence of graded abelian groups

$$\cdots \rightarrow A_{s-2} \xrightarrow{\alpha_{s-1}} A_{s-1} \xrightarrow{\alpha_s} A_s \xrightarrow{\alpha_{s+1}} A_{s+1} \rightarrow \cdots$$

is (degreewise) **discrete**, then the spectral sequence converges (strongly) to the **colimit**

$$A_\infty = \operatorname{colim}_s A_s$$

of this sequence.

- ▶ In a later section we will discuss what happens when the sequence is not discrete.

# (Degreewise) discrete sequences

## Definition

- ▶ The sequence

$$\cdots \rightarrow A_{s-2} \xrightarrow{\alpha_{s-1}} A_{s-1} \xrightarrow{\alpha_s} A_s \xrightarrow{\alpha_{s+1}} A_{s+1} \rightarrow \cdots$$

is **discrete** if there is an integer  $a$  such that  $A_s = 0$  for all  $s < a$ .

- ▶ More generally, it is **degreewise discrete** if for each total degree  $n$  there is an integer  $a(n)$  such that  $(A_s)_n = 0$  for all  $s < a(n)$ .

# Sequential colimits for abelian groups

## Definition

- ▶ The colimit  $A_\infty = \operatorname{colim}_s A_s$  of the sequence

$$\cdots \rightarrow A_{s-2} \xrightarrow{\alpha_{s-1}} A_{s-1} \xrightarrow{\alpha_s} A_s \xrightarrow{\alpha_{s+1}} A_{s+1} \rightarrow \cdots$$

is the initial graded abelian group that receives compatible structure morphisms

$$i_s: A_s \longrightarrow A_\infty$$

for each  $s \in \mathbb{Z}$ .

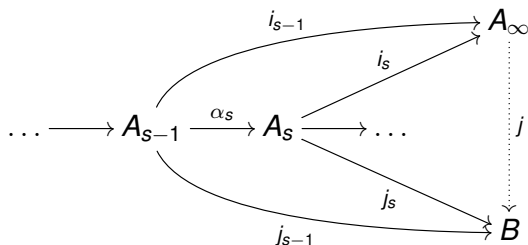
- ▶ Explicitly,

$$A_\infty = \bigoplus_s A_s / (\sim)$$

where  $\sim$  identifies  $x \in A_{s-1}$  with  $\alpha_s(x) \in A_s$ , for all  $s$ .

## Remarks

- ▶ By “compatible” we mean that  $i_s \alpha_s = i_{s-1}$  for each  $s$ .
- ▶ By “initial” we mean that for any other graded abelian group  $B$  with compatible homomorphisms  $j_s: A_s \rightarrow B$  there exists a unique homomorphism  $j: A_\infty \rightarrow B$  such that  $j_s = j i_s$  for each  $s$ .
- ▶ This characterizes  $A_\infty$ , with the structure morphisms  $i_s$ , up to unique isomorphism.



## Lemma

- ▶ Each element  $y \in A_\infty$  is of the form

$$y = i_s(x)$$

for some  $s \in \mathbb{Z}$  and  $x \in A_s$ .

- ▶ An element  $x \in A_s$  maps to zero in  $A_\infty$ , meaning that  $i_s(x) = 0$ , only if there is some  $u \geq 0$  with

$$\alpha^u(x) = \alpha_{s+u} \cdots \alpha_{s+1}(x) = 0$$

in  $A_{s+u}$ .

**Proof.**

(Easy.)



## No left derived sequential colimit

### Lemma

*There is a short exact sequence*

$$0 \rightarrow \bigoplus_s A_s \xrightarrow{1-\alpha} \bigoplus_s A_s \xrightarrow{\pi} A_\infty \rightarrow 0,$$

*where 1 denotes the identity map and*

$$\alpha: (x_s)_s \longmapsto (\alpha_s(x_{s-1}))_s$$

*for each sequence  $(x_s)_s$  with only finitely many nonzero terms.*

### Proof.

In view of the explicit formula for  $A_\infty = \operatorname{colim}_s A_s$ , we only need to argue that  $1 - \alpha$  is injective. Let  $x = (x_s)_s \in \bigoplus_s A_s$ , and choose  $a$  such that  $x_s = 0$  for all  $s < a$ . If  $(1 - \alpha)(x) = 0$  then  $x_s = \alpha_s(x_{s-1})$  for all  $s$ . It follows by induction on  $s$ , starting with  $s = a$ , that  $x_s = 0$  for all  $s$ . Hence  $x = 0$ . □

# An exhaustive filtration of the colimit

## Definition

For  $s \in \mathbb{Z}$  let

$$F_s A_\infty = \text{im}(i_s: A_s \rightarrow A_\infty).$$

This defines an increasing filtration

$$\cdots \subset F_{s-1} A_\infty \subset F_s A_\infty \subset \cdots \subset A_\infty$$

of graded abelian groups.

## Lemma (1)

*The filtration of  $A_\infty = \text{colim}_s A_s$  by  $F_s A_\infty = \text{im}(i_s: A_s \rightarrow A_\infty)$  is exhaustive.*

## Proof.

Each  $y \in A_\infty$  has the form  $y = i_s(x)$  for some  $x \in A_s$ , and then  $y \in F_s A_\infty$ . Hence  $\bigcup_s F_s A_\infty = A_\infty$ . □

# Review about the spectral sequence of an exact couple

Recall the diagram

$$\begin{array}{ccccccc} A_{s-r} & \xrightarrow{\alpha^{r-1}} & A_{s-1} & \xrightarrow{\alpha_s} & A_s & \xrightarrow{\alpha^{r-1}} & A_{s+r-1} \\ & & & \swarrow \gamma_s & \downarrow \beta_s & & \\ & & & & E_s & & \end{array}$$

and the chains

$$\begin{aligned} 0 = B_s^1 &\subset \cdots \subset B_s^r \subset \cdots \subset B_s^\infty \subset \text{im}(\beta_s) \\ &= \ker(\gamma_s) \subset Z_s^\infty \subset \cdots \subset Z_s^r \subset \cdots \subset Z_s^1 = E_s^1 = E_s. \end{aligned}$$



# Infinite cycles for discrete sequences

## Lemma (2)

- ▶ Consider an exact couple  $(A, E)$  such that the sequence

$$\cdots \rightarrow A_{s-2} \xrightarrow{\alpha_{s-1}} A_{s-1} \xrightarrow{\alpha_s} A_s \xrightarrow{\alpha_{s+1}} A_{s+1} \rightarrow \cdots$$

is degreewise discrete.

- ▶ Then

$$Z_s^\infty = \ker(\gamma_s)$$

for each  $s$ , and

- ▶ the filtration  $(F_s A_\infty)_s$  is degreewise discrete.

# Proof

- ▶ We always have  $\ker(\gamma_s) \subset Z_s^\infty$ .
- ▶ If  $x \in Z_s^\infty$  then  $x \in Z_s^r$  for each  $r$ , so  $\gamma_s(x) \in A_{s-1}$  lies in the image of  $\alpha^{r-1}: A_{s-r} \rightarrow A_{s-1}$  for each  $r$ .
- ▶ Let  $n$  be the total degree of  $\gamma_s(x)$ .
- ▶ By assumption there is an  $a(n)$  such that  $(A_{s-r})_n = 0$  whenever  $s - r < a(n)$ .
- ▶ It follows that the image of  $(A_{s-r})_n$  in  $(A_{s-1})_n$  is trivial for all sufficiently large  $r$ , which means that  $\gamma_s(x) = 0$ .
- ▶ Hence  $x \in \ker(\gamma_s)$ .
  
- ▶ If  $(A_s)_n = 0$  for all  $s < a(n)$  then  $(F_s A_\infty)_n = 0$  for  $s < a(n)$ , so the filtration is degreewise discrete whenever the sequence is. □

# Infinite boundaries

## Lemma (3)

Let  $(A, E)$  be any exact couple, and set  $A_\infty = \text{colim}_s A_s$ . Then

$$B_s^\infty = \beta_s \ker(i_s: A_s \rightarrow A_\infty)$$

for each  $s$ .

Proof.

$$\begin{aligned} B_s^\infty &= \bigcup_r B_s^r = \bigcup_r \beta_s \ker(\alpha^{r-1}: A_s \rightarrow A_{s+r-1}) \\ &= \beta_s \bigcup_r \ker(\alpha^{r-1}: A_s \rightarrow A_{s+r-1}) = \beta_s \ker(i_s: A_s \rightarrow A_\infty), \end{aligned}$$

since  $x \in A_s$  maps to zero under some  $\alpha^{r-1}$  if and only if it maps to zero under  $i_s$ . □

# The associated graded of $(F_s A_\infty)_s$

## Lemma (4)

Let  $(A, E)$  be any exact couple, and filter  $A_\infty = \text{colim}_s A_s$  by  $F_s A_\infty = \text{im}(i_s: A_s \rightarrow A_\infty)$ . There is a preferred isomorphism

$$\frac{\ker(\gamma_s)}{\beta_s \ker(i_s: A_s \rightarrow A_\infty)} \cong \frac{F_s A_\infty}{F_{s-1} A_\infty}$$

for each  $s \in \mathbb{Z}$ .

We use the diagram

$$\begin{array}{ccccccc} 0 & \longrightarrow & A_{s-1} & \xrightarrow{\alpha_s} & A_s & \xrightarrow{i_s} & A_\infty \\ & & & \swarrow \gamma_s & \downarrow \beta_s & & \\ & & & & E_s & & \end{array}$$

## Proof

$$\frac{\ker(\gamma_S)}{\beta_S \ker(i_S: A_S \rightarrow A_\infty)} = \frac{\text{im}(\beta_S)}{\beta_S \ker(i_S: A_S \rightarrow A_\infty)}$$

receives an isomorphism induced by  $\beta_S$  from

$$\frac{A_S}{\ker(\beta_S) + \ker(i_S: A_S \rightarrow A_\infty)} = \frac{A_S}{\text{im}(\alpha_S) + \ker(i_S: A_S \rightarrow A_\infty)}$$

which maps isomorphically by  $i_S$  to

$$\frac{\text{im}(i_S: A_S \rightarrow A_\infty)}{i_S \text{im}(\alpha_S)} = \frac{\text{im}(i_S: A_S \rightarrow A_\infty)}{\text{im}(i_{S-1}: A_{S-1} \rightarrow A_\infty)} = \frac{F_S A_\infty}{F_{S-1} A_\infty}. \quad \square$$

## Convergence for discrete exact couples

- ▶ Let  $(A, E)$  be an exact couple with associated spectral sequence  $(E^r, d^r)$  and  $E^\infty$ -term  $(E_s^\infty)_s$ .
- ▶ Let  $A_\infty = \operatorname{colim}_s A_s$  be filtered by  $F_s A_\infty = \operatorname{im}(i_s: A_s \rightarrow A_\infty)$ .

### Proposition

(1) *There is always a preferred injective homomorphism*

$$\frac{F_s A_\infty}{F_{s-1} A_\infty} \xrightarrow{\zeta} E_s^\infty,$$

*which is an isomorphism if  $Z_s^\infty = \ker(\gamma_s)$ .*

(2) *If each  $\alpha_s$  preserves total degree and the sequence*

$$\cdots \rightarrow A_{s-1} \xrightarrow{\alpha_s} A_s \rightarrow \cdots$$

*is degreewise discrete, then  $\zeta$  is an isomorphism and the spectral sequence  $E_s^r \implies_s A_\infty$  converges.*

### Proof.

This summarizes the previous four lemmas, keeping in mind that we always have the inclusion  $\ker(\gamma_S) \subset Z_S^\infty$ .

$$\frac{F_S A_\infty}{F_{S-1} A_\infty} \cong \frac{\ker(\gamma_S)}{\beta_S \ker(i_S: A_S \rightarrow A_\infty)} = \frac{\ker(\gamma_S)}{B_S^\infty} \subset \frac{Z_S^\infty}{B_S^\infty} = E_S^\infty$$



### Remark

For filtrations that are discrete, the notions of weak convergence, convergence and strong convergence coincide. We may therefore replace “convergence” with “strong convergence” in the definition and proposition above.

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# Filtrations

We now give examples of how

- ▶ filtered chain complexes
- ▶ filtered spaces

give rise to exact couples, with associated spectral sequences, through passage to homology or generalizations thereof.

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## Filtered chain complexes

An **increasing filtration**  $(F_s C)_s = (F_s C_*, \partial)_s$  of a chain complex  $C = (C_*, \partial)$  is a sequence of subcomplexes

$$\cdots \subset (F_{s-1} C_*, \partial) \subset (F_s C_*, \partial) \subset \cdots \subset (C_*, \partial).$$

For each  $s \in \mathbb{Z}$  there is a short exact sequence of chain complexes

$$0 \rightarrow F_{s-1} C \xrightarrow{i} F_s C \xrightarrow{j} \frac{F_s C}{F_{s-1} C} \rightarrow 0. \quad (6)$$

We refer to the grading of  $C = (C_n)_n$ , and of each subcomplex  $F_s C = (F_s C_n)_n$ , as the **total degree**, while  $s$  is the **filtration degree**.

## Exhaustive, discrete

$$\cdots \subset (F_{s-1}C_*, \partial) \subset (F_s C_*, \partial) \subset \cdots \subset (C_*, \partial).$$

We say that the filtration is **exhaustive** if

$$\bigcup_s F_s C = C.$$

It is **degreewise discrete** if for each degree  $n$  there is an integer  $a = a(n)$  such that  $F_{a-1} C_n = 0$ .

## Associated exact couple

The exact couple  $(A_s, E_s; \alpha_s, \beta_s, \gamma_s)_s$  associated to a filtered chain complex  $(F_s C)_s$  is the diagram

$$\begin{array}{ccccccc} \dots & \xrightarrow{\alpha_{s-1}} & H_*(F_{s-1}C) & \xrightarrow{\alpha_s} & H_*(F_s C) & \xrightarrow{\alpha_{s+1}} & \dots \\ & & & & \downarrow \beta_s & & \\ & & & & H_*(F_s C / F_{s-1}C) & & \dots \\ & & \swarrow \gamma_s & & & & \end{array}$$

where

$$(A_s)_* = H_*(F_s C)$$

$$(E_s)_* = H_*(F_s C / F_{s-1}C)$$

with  $\alpha_s$  and  $\beta_s$  induced by  $i$  and  $j$ , and  $\gamma_s$  equal to the connecting homomorphism associated to the short exact sequence (6).

# Bigrading

The bigrading is given by

$$\begin{aligned}A_{s,t} &= H_{s+t}(F_s C) \\ E_{s,t} &= H_{s+t}(F_s C / F_{s-1} C),\end{aligned}$$

so that

- ▶  $\alpha_s$  has bidegree  $(1, -1)$ ,
- ▶  $\beta_s$  has bidegree  $(0, 0)$  and
- ▶  $\gamma_s$  has bidegree  $(-1, 0)$ .

Thus

- ▶  $\alpha_s$  and  $\beta_s$  preserve the total degree  $n = s + t$ ,
- ▶ while  $\gamma_s$  reduces it by 1.

# Filtration of $H_*(C)$

## Definition

Given a filtration  $(F_s C)_s$  of  $C = (C_*, \partial)$ , let

$$F_s H_*(C) = \text{im}(H_*(F_s C) \rightarrow H_*(C))$$

for each  $s$ .

Note the two different roles played by the notation " $F_s$ " in this definition. On the left hand side it refers to the filtration of the abutment  $H_*(C)$ , while on the right hand side it refers to the filtration of the chain complex  $(C_*, \partial)$ .

# Exhaustive

## Lemma

If  $(F_s C)_s$  exhausts  $C$ , then the canonical morphism

$$A_\infty = \operatorname{colim}_s H_*(F_s C) \xrightarrow{\cong} H_*(C)$$

is an isomorphism, which restricts to isomorphisms

$$F_s A_\infty \cong F_s H_*(C)$$

for all  $s$ .

## Proof.

This follows from the well-known isomorphism

$$\operatorname{colim}_s H_*(F_s C) \xrightarrow{\cong} H_*(\operatorname{colim}_s F_s C).$$





# Discrete

## Lemma

If  $(F_s C)_s$  is degreewise discrete, then the sequence

$$\cdots \rightarrow A_{s-1} \xrightarrow{\alpha_s} A_s \rightarrow \cdots$$

is degreewise discrete.

## Proof.

If  $(F_{a-1} C)_n = 0$  for some  $n$  and  $a = a(n)$ , then  $(F_s C)_n = 0$  and  $H_n(F_s C) = (A_s)_n = 0$  for all  $s < a$ , which implies the claim.  $\square$

# Homology sp. seq. of a filtered chain complex

## Proposition

Let  $C$  be a chain complex with a filtration  $(F_s C)_s$ .  
The associated spectral sequence has  $E^1$ -term

$$E_{s,*}^1 = H_*(F_s C / F_{s-1} C)$$

and  $d^1$ -differential the composite

$$d_s^1 = \beta_{s-1} \gamma_s: E_{s,*}^1 \longrightarrow E_{s-1,*}^1,$$

which equals the connecting homomorphism associated to the short exact sequence

$$0 \rightarrow F_{s-1} C / F_{s-2} C \xrightarrow{i} F_s C / F_{s-2} C \xrightarrow{j} F_s C / F_{s-1} C \rightarrow 0$$

of chain complexes.

## Proof

The spectral sequence is the one associated to the exact couple associated to the filtered chain complex.

The vertical map of short exact sequences of chain complexes

$$\begin{array}{ccccccc} 0 & \longrightarrow & F_{s-1}C & \longrightarrow & F_sC & \longrightarrow & \frac{F_sC}{F_{s-1}C} \longrightarrow 0 \\ & & \downarrow & & \downarrow & & \downarrow = \\ 0 & \longrightarrow & \frac{F_{s-1}C}{F_{s-2}C} & \longrightarrow & \frac{F_sC}{F_{s-2}C} & \longrightarrow & \frac{F_sC}{F_{s-1}C} \longrightarrow 0 \end{array}$$

induces a map of long exact homology sequences. The commutative square

$$\begin{array}{ccc} H_*(F_sC/F_{s-1}C) & \xrightarrow{\gamma_s} & H_{*-1}(F_{s-1}C) \\ \downarrow = & & \downarrow \beta_{s-1} \\ H_*(F_sC/F_{s-1}C) & \xrightarrow{\partial} & H_{*-1}(F_{s-1}C/F_{s-2}C) \end{array}$$

shows that  $d_s^1 = \beta_{s-1}\gamma_s$  is the stated connecting homomorphism.



# Functoriality

## Lemma

*Each morphism  $\psi: (F_s C)_s \rightarrow (F'_s C)_s$  of filtered chain complexes induces a morphism  $\phi: (A, E) \rightarrow ('A, 'E)$  of exact couples. Hence the associated exact couple defines a functor*

*Filtered Chain Complexes  $\longrightarrow$  Exact Couples .*

## Proof.

$\phi: A_s \rightarrow 'A_s$  and  $\phi: E_s \rightarrow 'E_s$  are induced by the chain maps

$$\begin{aligned} \psi_s: F_s C &\longrightarrow F'_s C \\ \bar{\psi}_s: \frac{F_s C}{F_{s-1} C} &\longrightarrow \frac{F'_s C}{F'_{s-1} C} \end{aligned}$$

by passage to homology.



# Convergence of the homology spectral sequence

## Proposition

*Suppose that the filtration  $(F_s C)_s$  of the chain complex  $C$  is exhaustive and degreewise discrete. Then the spectral sequence*

$$E_{s,*}^1 = H_{s+*}(F_s C / F_{s-1} C) \implies_s H_*(C)$$

*converges to  $H_*(C)$  with the filtration given by*

$$F_s H_*(C) = \text{im}(H_*(F_s C) \rightarrow H_*(C)).$$

## Proof.

The (strong) convergence follows since the exact couple is degreewise discrete, with colimit  $A_\infty \cong H_*(C)$ . □

## A case of the isomorphism theorem

- ▶ Let  $C$  and  $'C$  be chain complexes, with filtrations  $(F_s C)_s$  and  $(F_s 'C)_s$  that are exhaustive and degreewise discrete.
- ▶ Let  $\psi: C \rightarrow 'C$  be a filtration-preserving map of filtered chain complexes, and suppose that the induced map

$$\phi^r: E^r \longrightarrow 'E^r,$$

of  $E^r$ -terms of the associated homology spectral sequences, is an isomorphism for some  $r$ .

- ▶ Then

$$\psi_*: H_*(C) \longrightarrow H_*('C)$$

is an isomorphism.

## A case of the isomorphism theorem (cont.)

- ▶ For example, it suffices that the map of  $E^1$ -terms

$$\phi^1: H_*(F_s C / F_{s-1} C) \longrightarrow H_*(F_s' C / F_{s-1}' C)$$

is an isomorphism for each  $s$ .

- ▶ The expression for  $d^1$  as a connecting homomorphism sometimes gives us access to  $(E^1, d^1)$  and  $({}'E^1, {}'d^1)$  as chain complexes of graded abelian groups.
- ▶ It then suffices that

$$\phi^1: (E^1, d^1) \longrightarrow ({}'E^1, {}'d^1)$$

is a quasi-isomorphism, so that the map  $\phi^2$  of  $E^2$ -term is an isomorphism.

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## Strongly filtered spaces

- ▶ The singular complexes of filtered spaces provide examples of filtered chain complexes, hence of exact couples and spectral sequences.
- ▶ To discuss exhaustion, the following terminology from Neil Strickland's note [Str, Def. 3.4] is useful.

### Definition

A space  $X$  is **strongly filtered** by a sequence of subspaces

$$\cdots \subset X_{s-1} \subset X_s \subset \cdots \subset X$$

if for each compact subset  $K \subset X$  there is an  $s$  with  $K \subset X_s$ .

## Strongly filtered implies exhaustive

### Lemma

*If  $X$  is strongly filtered by  $(X_s)_s$ , then the singular chain complex  $(C_*(X), \partial)$  is exhaustively filtered by the subcomplexes*

$$\cdots \subset C_*(X_{s-1}) \subset C_*(X_s) \subset \cdots \subset C_*(X).$$

*If  $X_{a-1} = \emptyset$  for some  $a$ , then the filtration  $(C_*(X_s))_s$  is discrete.*

### Proof.

The only thing to prove is that each singular simplex  $\sigma: \Delta^n \rightarrow X$ , viewed as an element of  $C_n(X)$ , lies in the image from some  $C_n(X_s)$ . Since the image  $\sigma(\Delta^n) \subset X$  is compact, this follows from the assumption that the filtration is strong.  $\square$

# The homology spectral sequence of a filtered space

## Proposition

Let  $X$  be a space with a filtration  $(F_s X)_s$ . The associated homology spectral sequence has  $E^1$ -term

$$E_{s,t}^1 = H_{s+t}(X_s, X_{s-1})$$

and  $d^1$ -differential the composite

$$d_{s,t}^1 = \beta_{s-1}\gamma_s: E_{s,t}^1 \longrightarrow E_{s-1,t}^1,$$

which equals the connecting homomorphism in the long exact sequence of the triple  $(X_s, X_{s-1}, X_{s-2})$ .

# Convergence of the homology spectral sequence

## Proposition

Suppose that  $X$  is strongly filtered by  $(X_s)_s$ , and that  $X_{a-1} = \emptyset$  for some  $a$ . Then the spectral sequence

$$E_{s,t}^1 = H_{s+t}(X_s, X_{s-1}) \implies_s H_{s+t}(X)$$

converges to  $H_*(X)$  with the filtration given by

$$F_s H_*(X) = \text{im}(H_*(X_s) \rightarrow H_*(X)).$$

## Proof.

The (strong) convergence follows since the exact couple is discrete, with colimit  $A_\infty \cong H_*(X)$ . □

- ▶ The convergence statement tells us that there is an exhaustive filtration

$$0 = F_{a-1}H_n(X) \subset \cdots \subset F_{s-1}H_n(X) \subset F_sH_n(X) \subset \cdots \subset H_n(X)$$

in each total degree  $n$ , with filtration quotients determined by the  $E^\infty$ -term, through isomorphisms

$$E_{s,n-s}^\infty \cong \frac{F_sH_n(X)}{F_{s-1}H_n(X)}$$

for all  $s$ .

- ▶ The components of  $E_{*,*}^\infty$  in bidegrees  $(s, n - s)$ , on a line of slope  $-1$ , give the associated graded of this exhaustive filtration.
- ▶ By induction on  $s$ , starting at  $s = a$ , we can attempt to determine  $F_sH_n(X)$  as an extension of  $E_{s,n-s}^\infty$  by  $F_{s-1}H_n(X)$ . The union of these groups, over all  $s$ , gives us  $H_n(X)$ .

## Weak union of closed $T_1$ subspaces

Many strongly filtered spaces are of the following form.

**Lemma** ([Ste67, Lem. 9.3])

*Let  $X$  be filtered by an exhaustive sequence of  $T_1$  subspaces*

$$\cdots \subset X_{s-1} \subset X_s \subset \cdots \subset X$$

*such that  $X_{s-1}$  is closed in  $X_s$  for each  $s$ , and suppose that  $X$  has the weak (= colimit) topology. Then  $X$  is strongly filtered by these  $(X_s)_s$ .*

We have  $X = \bigcup_s X_s$  since the filtration is exhaustive. To be a  $T_1$  space is equivalent to asking that each singleton subset is closed. This is satisfied by all (weak) Hausdorff spaces. The weak topology on  $X$  is defined so that a subset  $A \subset X$  is closed in  $X$  if and only if  $A \cap X_s$  is closed in  $X_s$  for each  $s$ .

## Proof

Following Steenrod, we argue that if  $K \subset X$  is compact, then  $K \subset X_s$  for some  $s$ . If not, we can choose a point  $x_s \in K \cap (X - X_s)$  for each  $s$ . Let

$$A_m = \{x_s \mid s \geq m\} \subset K \cap (X - X_m),$$

so that

$$\cdots \supset A_{m-1} \supset A_m \supset \cdots$$

is a collection of subsets of  $K$ , such that each finite subcollection has nonempty intersection  $A_{m_1} \cap \cdots \cap A_{m_n} = A_m$  (with  $m = \max\{m_1, \dots, m_n\}$ ), but the whole collection satisfies  $\bigcap_m A_m = \emptyset$ .

## Proof (cont.)

If we show that each  $A_m$  is closed in  $K$ , then this contradicts the finite intersection property of compact spaces, and proves that  $K \subset X_s$  for some  $s$ . To see that each  $A_m$  is closed, note that each intersection  $A_m \cap X_s \subset \{x_m, \dots, x_{s-1}\}$  is finite, hence is closed in  $X_s$  since this is a  $T_1$  space. By the definition of the weak topology this proves that  $A_m$  is closed in  $X$ , hence also in the subspace  $K$ . □



# Cellular homology

- ▶ The cellular complex  $(C_*^{CW}(X), \partial)$  calculating the homology of a CW complex  $X$  is a very special case of this spectral sequence.
- ▶ Other notations for the cellular complex are  $\Gamma_*(X)$ , as in [Whi78, §II.2], or  $W_*(X)$ .
- ▶ Let us write  $H_n^{CW}(X) = H_n(C_*^{CW}(X), \partial)$  for the cellular homology groups.
- ▶ The usual argument for why cellular homology is isomorphic to singular homology [Whi78, Thm. II.2.19], [Hat02, Thm. 2.35], is contained within our more elaborate algebraic work, as we can now spell out.

## Proposition

Let  $X$  be a CW complex, with skeleton filtration

$$\emptyset = X^{(-1)} \subset \dots \subset X^{(s-1)} \subset X^{(s)} \subset \dots \subset X.$$

The associated homology spectral sequence has  $(E^1, d^1) = (C_*^{CW}(X), \partial)$ , concentrated on the line  $t = 0$ . Hence

$$E_{s,t}^2 = \begin{cases} H_s^{CW}(X) & \text{for } t = 0, \\ 0 & \text{otherwise,} \end{cases}$$

and the spectral sequence collapses at  $E^2 = E^\infty$ . The filtration of  $H_n(X)$  satisfies

$$F_s H_n(X) = \begin{cases} 0 & \text{for } s < n, \\ H_n^{CW}(X) & \text{for } s \geq n. \end{cases}$$

Hence  $H_*^{CW}(X) \cong H_*(X)$ .

# Proof

- ▶ The CW complex  $X$  is strongly filtered by its skeleta.
- ▶ By definition,  $E_{s,t}^1 = H_{s+t}(X^{(s)}, X^{(s-1)})$  equals

$$C_s^{CW}(X) \cong \mathbb{Z}\{n\text{-cells of } X\}$$

when  $t = 0$ , and is trivial when  $t \neq 0$ .

- ▶ Likewise,  $d_{s,t}^1 = \partial_s$  when  $t = 0$  and is zero otherwise.

Diagram illustrating the relationship between the CW complex chain complex and the spectral sequence:

Vertical axis:  $t/s$  (0, 1, 2)

Horizontal axis:  $s$  (0,  $s-1$ ,  $s$ )

Grid of values (representing  $E_{s,t}^1$ ):

- Row 2: 0, ..., 0, 0, ...
- Row 1: 0, ..., 0, 0, ...
- Row 0:  $C_0^{CW}(X) \xleftarrow{\partial_1} \dots \xleftarrow{\partial_{s-1}} C_{s-1}^{CW}(X) \xleftarrow{\partial_s} C_s^{CW}(X) \xleftarrow{\partial_{s+1}} \dots$

## Proof (cont.)

- ▶ Hence  $E_{s,t}^2 = H_s(C_*^{CW}(X), \partial) = H_s^{CW}(X)$  equals the cellular homology of  $X$  when  $t = 0$ , and is trivial otherwise.
- ▶ Each  $d^r$ -differential for  $r \geq 2$  increases  $t$ , hence must be zero, so  $E^2 = E^\infty$ .
- ▶ In each total degree  $n$  there is only one nonzero group of the form  $E_{s,n-s}^\infty$ , namely  $E_{n,0}^\infty = E_{n,0}^2 = H_n^{CW}(X)$ .
- ▶ The short exact sequences

$$0 \rightarrow F_{s-1}H_n(X) \rightarrow F_sH_n(X) \rightarrow E_{s,n-s}^\infty \rightarrow 0$$

for  $s < n$  simplify to

$$0 \rightarrow 0 \rightarrow F_sH_n(X) \rightarrow 0 \rightarrow 0$$

and imply that  $F_sH_n(X) = 0$  for  $s < n$  by induction on  $s$ .

## Proof (cont.)

- ▶ The short exact sequence sequence for  $s = n$  simplifies to an isomorphism

$$0 \rightarrow 0 \longrightarrow F_n H_n(X) \xrightarrow{\cong} H_n^{CW}(X) \rightarrow 0.$$

- ▶ Thereafter, for  $s > n$  they simplify to isomorphisms

$$0 \rightarrow H_n^{CW}(X) \xrightarrow{\cong} F_s H_n(X) \longrightarrow 0 \rightarrow 0.$$

- ▶ Hence  $F_s H_n(X) \cong H_n^{CW}(X)$  for  $s > n$ .



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## Generalized homology theories

- ▶ Let  $G$  be an abelian group. Singular homology with coefficients in  $G$  is an example of a homology theory, sometimes referred to as “ordinary” homology.
- ▶ Since ca. 1960 many other “generalized” or “extraordinary” homology theories have come to play important roles in algebraic topology.
- ▶ The following definition is close to the axiomatization by Samuel Eilenberg and Norman Steenrod from [ES52, §1.3], but omits their dimension axiom and adds John Milnor’s additivity axiom [Mil62].

## Definition

A (generalized) homology theory  $M$  on the category of CW pairs is a functor assigning to each CW pair  $(X, A)$  a graded abelian group

$$M_*(X, A) = (M_n(X, A))_n,$$

and a natural transformation

$$\partial: M_*(X, A) \longrightarrow M_{*-1}(A)$$

of degree  $-1$ , such that:



## Definition (cont.)

1. **Exactness**: the sequence

$$\dots \rightarrow M_*(A) \xrightarrow{i_*} M_*(X) \xrightarrow{j_*} M_*(X, A) \xrightarrow{\partial} M_{*-1}(A) \rightarrow \dots$$

is long exact.

2. **Homotopy invariance**: if  $f \simeq g: (X, A) \rightarrow (Y, B)$  are homotopic, then  $f_* = g_*$ .
3. **Excision**: if  $X = A \cup B$  is a union of subcomplexes, then the inclusion induces an isomorphism

$$M_*(B, A \cap B) \xrightarrow{\cong} M_*(X, A).$$

4. **Additivity**: the canonical map

$$\bigoplus_{\alpha} M_*(X_{\alpha}) \xrightarrow{\cong} M_*(\coprod_{\alpha} X_{\alpha})$$

is an isomorphism.

# Coefficients

## Definition

The **coefficient groups** of a homology theory  $M$  is the graded abelian group

$$M_* = (M_n(\text{point}))_n.$$

We say that  $M_*$  is **bounded below** if there is an  $a$  such that  $M_n = 0$  for all  $n < a$ . We say that  $M_*$  is **bounded above** if there is a  $b$  such that  $M_n = 0$  for all  $n > b$ .

## Example

Let  $G$  be an abelian group. The coefficient groups of ordinary homology with coefficients in  $G$ , i.e., the homology theory  $HG$  given by

$$HG_n(X) = H_n(X; G)$$

for all  $n$ , equals  $G$  in degree 0 and 0 in all other degrees. This is the content of the Eilenberg–Steenrod **Dimension axiom**.

# $M$ -homology of discs and spheres

## Lemma

*For any homology theory  $M$  there are isomorphisms*

$$M_{s+t}(D^s, \partial D^s) \cong \tilde{M}_{s+t}(S^s) \cong M_t$$

*for all  $s \geq 0$ ,  $t \in \mathbb{Z}$ .*

## Proof.

This is clear for  $s = 0$ , and follows by induction for  $s \geq 1$  (using exactness, homotopy invariance and excision). □

## K-theory and bordism

- ▶ For any graded abelian group  $G_*$  there is a generalized homology theory with

$$M_n(X) = \bigoplus_{i+j=n} H_i(X; G_j),$$

but it carries more-or-less the same information as ordinary homology.

- ▶ Other important examples of (co-)homology theories include the **topological K-theories**

$$KO^*(X) \quad \text{and} \quad K^*(X) = KU^*(X)$$

defined by Michael Atiyah and Friedrich Hirzebruch [AH59], following Alexander Grothendick [BS58], and

- ▶ the **bordism theories**

$$N_*(X) = MO_*(X) \quad \text{and} \quad \Omega_*(X) = MSO_*(X)$$

defined by Atiyah [Ati61a], building on the work of René Thom [Tho54].

## $K$ -theory and bordism (cont.)

- ▶ By construction, these involve vector bundles

$$E \longrightarrow X$$

over  $X$  and closed manifolds

$$M^n \longrightarrow X$$

mapping to  $X$ , respectively, rather than formal sums of simplices

$$\sigma: \Delta^n \longrightarrow X$$

in  $X$ , and often turn out to emphasize different information than the ordinary homology of  $X$ .

- ▶ We will later present generalized (co-)homology theories by the objects, called **spectra**, of a stable (homotopy) category, and analyze the coefficient groups (and rings) of some of these homology theories.

# A generalized homology spectral sequence

## Definition

Let  $X$  be a CW complex **exhaustively** filtered by subcomplexes

$$\cdots \subset X_{s-1} \subset X_s \subset \cdots \subset X,$$

and let  $M$  be a homology theory. The associated exact couple is the diagram

$$\begin{array}{ccccc} \cdots & \longrightarrow & M_*(X_{s-1}) & \xrightarrow{i_*} & M_*(X_s) & \longrightarrow & \cdots \\ & & & \swarrow \partial & \downarrow j_* & & \\ & & & & M_*(X_s, X_{s-1}) & & \end{array}$$

with

$$(A_s)_* = M_*(X_s)$$

$$(E_s)_* = M_*(X_s, X_{s-1}).$$

# The abutment

Lemma ([Mil62, Lem. 1])

*The canonical homomorphism*

$$\operatorname{colim}_S M_*(X_S) \xrightarrow{\cong} M_*(X)$$

*is an isomorphism.*

This is the expected abutment

$$A_\infty = \operatorname{colim}_S A_S = \operatorname{colim}_S M_*(X_S)$$

of the spectral sequence.

## Sketch proof

There is a homotopy cofiber sequence

$$\bigvee_s \Sigma_+ X_s \xrightarrow{1-\alpha} \bigvee_s \Sigma_+ X_s \longrightarrow \Sigma_+ T$$

where  $\Sigma_+ Y = \Sigma(Y_+)$ , and  $T \simeq X$  is the mapping telescope of  $(X_s)_s$ . In view of our lemma on sequential colimits, the associated long exact sequence in reduced  $M$ -homology breaks up into short exact sequences

$$0 \rightarrow \bigoplus_s M_*(X_s) \xrightarrow{1-\alpha} \bigoplus_s M_*(X_s) \longrightarrow M_*(T) \rightarrow 0$$

that exhibit  $M_*(T)$  as  $\text{colim}_s M_*(X_s)$ . □



## Proposition

The spectral sequence associated to  $(X_s)_s$  and  $M$  has

$$E_{s,t}^1 = M_{s+t}(X_s, X_{s-1})$$

and  $d_{s,t}^1$  is equal to the composite

$$M_{s+t}(X_s, X_{s-1}) \xrightarrow{\partial} M_{s+t-1}(X_{s-1}) \xrightarrow{j_*} M_{s+t-1}(X_{s-1}, X_{s-2}).$$

If  $X_{a-1} = \emptyset$  for some  $a$ , then the spectral sequence converges to  $M_*(X)$  with the filtration

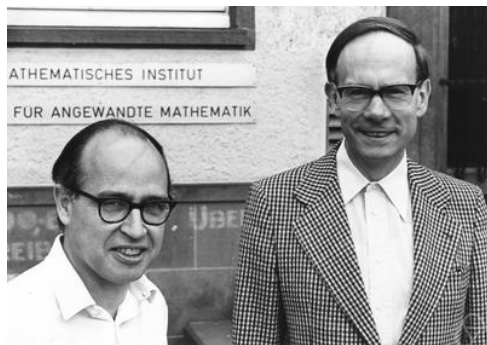
$$F_s M_*(X) = \text{im}(M_*(X_s) \rightarrow M_*(X)).$$

## Proof.

This follows from the proposition on convergence for discrete exact couples. □

# The Atiyah–Hirzebruch spectral sequence

When  $X$  is equipped with its skeleton filtration, we can make the  $E^1$ - and  $E^2$ -term explicit.



Michael Atiyah, Friedrich Hirzebruch

## Proposition

Let  $X$  be a CW complex filtered by its skeleta

$$\emptyset = X^{(-1)} \subset X^{(0)} \subset \dots \subset X^{(s-1)} \subset X^{(s)} \subset \dots \subset X,$$

and let  $M$  be a homology theory. The associated spectral sequence

$$E_{s,*}^r \implies_s M_*(X)$$

has  $(E^1, d^1)$ -term given by the cellular complex  $(C_*^{CW}(X; M_*), \partial)$ , with

$$E_{s,t}^1 \cong C_s^{CW}(X; M_t) = H_s(X^{(s)}, X^{(s-1)}; M_t)$$

and  $d_{s,t}^1$  equal to the connecting homomorphism

$$\partial_s: H_s(X^{(s)}, X^{(s-1)}; M_t) \longrightarrow H_{s-1}(X^{(s-1)}, X^{(s-2)}; M_t)$$

for homology with coefficients in the group  $M_t$ .

## Proposition (cont.)

$$\begin{array}{c}
 \dots \qquad \dots \qquad \dots \qquad \dots \qquad \dots \\
 t \quad C_0^{CW}(X; M_t) \xleftarrow{d_1} \dots \xleftarrow{d_{s-1}} C_{s-1}^{CW}(X; M_t) \xleftarrow{d_s} C_s^{CW}(X; M_t) \xleftarrow{d_{s+1}} \dots \\
 \dots \qquad \dots \qquad \dots \qquad \dots \qquad \dots \\
 0 \quad C_0^{CW}(X; M_0) \xleftarrow{d_1} \dots \xleftarrow{d_{s-1}} C_{s-1}^{CW}(X; M_0) \xleftarrow{d_s} C_s^{CW}(X; M_0) \xleftarrow{d_{s+1}} \dots \\
 t/s \quad \quad \quad 0 \qquad \qquad \qquad \qquad \qquad s-1 \qquad \qquad \qquad \qquad \qquad s
 \end{array}$$

Hence

$$E_{s,t}^2 \cong H_s^{CW}(X; M_t) \cong H_s(X; M_t)$$

is given by the cellular (or singular) homology of  $X$  in degree  $s$ , with coefficients in  $M_t$ .

## Proof

To identify the  $E^1$ -term we use the excision and additivity isomorphisms

$$\begin{aligned} E_{s,t}^1 &= M_{s+t}(X^{(s)}, X^{(s-1)}) \\ &\cong M_{s+t}\left(\coprod_{\alpha} (D^s, \partial D^s)\right) \cong \bigoplus_{\alpha} M_{s+t}(D^s, \partial D^s), \end{aligned}$$

where  $\alpha$  indexes the  $s$ -cells of  $X$ . By the lemma on discs and spheres, the right hand side is isomorphic to

$$\bigoplus_{\alpha} M_t \cong C_s^{CW}(X; M_t).$$

The degree formula for the connecting homomorphism  $\partial_s$  implies that  $d_{s,t}^1$  corresponds to the cellular boundary homomorphism

$$\partial_s: C_s^{CW}(X; M_t) \longrightarrow C_{s-1}^{CW}(X; M_t).$$

## Proof (cont.)

Granting this, we can pass to homology to deduce that

$$E_{s,t}^2 \cong H_s^{CW}(X; M_t).$$

By the proposition on cellular homology, and its evident analogue for homology with coefficients, we know that this is isomorphic to singular homology with coefficients in  $M_t$ . □

## Definition

The spectral sequence

$$E_{s,t}^2 = H_s(X; M_t) \implies_s M_{s+t}(X)$$

is called the **Atiyah–Hirzebruch spectral sequence** of  $X$  for the homology theory  $M$ .

- ▶ It can be defined for general spaces  $X$  by CW approximation.
- ▶ It is then natural in the homology theory  $M$  and in the space  $X$ .

# Coefficient isomorphism $\theta: M \rightarrow N$

## Corollary

If  $\theta: M \rightarrow N$  is a morphism of homology theories that induces an isomorphism of coefficient groups, then

$$\theta_*: M_*(X) \xrightarrow{\cong} N_*(X)$$

for any CW complex  $X$ .

## Proof.

The natural transformation  $\theta$  induces an isomorphism  $C_*^{CW}(X; M_*) \cong C_*^{CW}(X; N_*)$  of Atiyah–Hirzebruch  $E^1$ -terms, which implies the result by the isomorphism theorem. □



# Homology equivalence $f: X \rightarrow Y$

## Corollary

If  $f: X \rightarrow Y$  induces an isomorphism  $f_*: H_*(X) \cong H_*(Y)$  in integral homology, then it induces an isomorphism

$$f_*: M_*(X) \xrightarrow{\cong} M_*(Y)$$

for any generalized homology theory  $M$ .

## Proof.

The map  $f$  induces an isomorphism

$$H_*(X; M_*) \xrightarrow{\cong} H_*(Y; M_*)$$

of Atiyah–Hirzebruch  $E^2$ -terms, which implies the result by the isomorphism theorem. □

## Eilenberg–Steenrod uniqueness theorem

The dimension axiom characterizes ordinary homology.

**Theorem ([ES52, Thm. III.10.1])**

*Let  $G$  be an abelian group and let  $M$  be a homology theory with coefficient groups*

$$M_t = \begin{cases} G & \text{for } t = 0, \\ 0 & \text{otherwise.} \end{cases}$$

*Then  $M$  is naturally isomorphic to  $HG$ , so that*

$$M_n(X) \cong H_n(X; G)$$

*for all  $n$ .*

## Proof

- ▶ The Atiyah–Hirzebruch spectral sequence of  $X$  for  $M$  has  $E^2$ -term

$$E_{s,t}^2 = \begin{cases} H_s(X; G) & \text{for } t = 0, \\ 0 & \text{otherwise.} \end{cases}$$

- ▶ Since this is concentrated on the line  $t = 0$ , the  $d^r$ -differentials for  $r \geq 2$  must vanish, so that  $E^2 = E^\infty$  is concentrated on the line  $t = 0$ .
- ▶ Since  $E_{n,0}^\infty$  is the only group in total degree  $n$ , the extension problems are very easy, and we conclude that

$$M_n(X) \cong E_{n,0}^\infty \cong H_n(X; G)$$

for each  $n$ .



## Topological $K$ -theory

According to Whitehead [Whi78, p. 604] the existence of the spectral sequence  $H_*(X; M_*) \implies M_*(X)$  was folklore by 1955, but Atiyah and Hirzebruch [AH61] were the first to make significant use of it, in the case of topological  $K$ -theory.

### Example

**Complex  $K$ -theory** is a (co-)homology theory  $K = KU$  with coefficient groups

$$KU_n \cong \begin{cases} \mathbb{Z} & \text{for } n \text{ even,} \\ 0 & \text{for } n \text{ odd.} \end{cases}$$

If  $H_*(X)$  is concentrated in even degrees, it follows that the  $E^2$ -term of the Atiyah–Hirzebruch spectral sequence

$$E_{s,t}^2 = H_s(X; KU_t) \implies_s KU_{s+t}(X)$$

is concentrated in even total degrees  $s + t$ .

## Topological $K$ -theory (cont.)

Since each  $d^r$ -differential reduces the total degree by one, they must all vanish, so the Atiyah–Hirzebruch spectral sequence collapses at the  $E^2$ -term. If, furthermore,  $H_*(X)$  is free in each degree, then there exists a (non-canonical) sum formula

$$KU_n(X) \cong \bigoplus_{s \equiv n \pmod{2}} H_s(X),$$

since each extension

$$0 \rightarrow F_{s-1}KU_n(X) \rightarrow F_s KU_n(X) \rightarrow H_s(X; KU_{n-s}) \rightarrow 0$$

satisfies  $H_s(X; KU_{n-s}) \cong H_s(X)$  for  $n - s$  even and  $H_s(X; KU_{n-s}) = 0$  for  $n - s$  odd. This applies, for instance, when  $X = \mathbb{C}P^\infty$ .

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