

Claim. $Z_k(W \times (S^n)) = \langle \gamma_k \rangle$, for $1 \leq k \leq n$.

Assume $r, s \in \mathbb{Z}$ and $d_k(r A_{k,*}(\beta_k) + s \beta_k) = 0$.
Then

$$\begin{aligned} 0 &= d_k(r A_{k,*}(\beta_k) + s \beta_k) \\ &= r d_k A_{k,*}(\beta_k) + s d_k(\beta_k) \\ &= r (-1)^k d_k(\beta_k) + s d_k(\beta_k) \\ &= [r(-1)^k + s] d_k(\beta_k). \end{aligned}$$

$W_{k-1}(S^n)$ is a free abelian group \Rightarrow either $r(-1)^k + s = 0$ or $d_k(\beta_k) = 0$.

1. $r(-1)^k + s = 0$: Then $s = (-1)^{k+1} r \Rightarrow r A_{k,*}(\beta_k) + s \beta_k$
 $= r [A_{k,*}(\beta_k) + (-1)^{k+1} \beta_k] = r \gamma_k$.
 $\Rightarrow d_k(r A_{k,*}(\beta_k) + s \beta_k) \in Z_k(W \times (S^n))$
 $\Leftrightarrow \in \langle \gamma_k \rangle$.

$$\therefore \langle \gamma_k \rangle = Z_k(W \times (S^n)).$$

2. Show: $d_k(\beta_k) = 0$ can not happen

Assume $d_k(\beta_k) = 0$. Then also $d_k A_{k,*}(\beta_k) = (-1)^k d_k(\beta_k) = 0$.

Thus $B_{k-1}(W_*(S^n)) = \text{im } d_k = 0$, since β^k and $A_{k,*}(\beta^k)$ generate $W_k(S^n)$.

Assume $n > k-1 > 0$. Now $\langle \gamma_{k-1} \rangle \subset Z_{k-1}(W_*(S^n))$
 $\Rightarrow Z_{k-1}(W_*(S^n)) \neq 0$.

If $B_{k-1}(W_*(S^n)) = 0$, then $0 \neq H_{k-1}(W_*(S^n)) \cong H_{k-1}(S^n)$.
 Contradiction.

Assume $n > k-1$, $k=1$. Then $Z_0(W_*(S^n)) = W_0(S^n)$
 is a free abelian group of rank 2 (S^n has 2
 0-cells). Thus $H_0(W_*(S^n)) = Z_0(W_*(S^n)) / \underbrace{B_0(W_*(S^n))}_0$
 is a free abelian of rank 2.

However,

$$H_0(W_*(S^n)) \cong H_0(S^n) \cong \mathbb{Z}.$$

Contradiction.

Assume $1 < k \leq n$. Then

$$d_k(\beta^k) \in B_{k-1}(W_*(S^n)) = Z_{k-1}(W_*(S^n)) = \langle \gamma_{k-1} \rangle.$$

$H_{k-1}(S^n) = 0$ \nearrow By the case above, since $n > k-1$ (and see part (a) p. 69)

$$\Rightarrow d_k(\beta^k) = m \gamma_{k-1} \text{ for some } m \in \mathbb{Z},$$

$$\Rightarrow d_k A_{k,*}(\beta^k) \underset{\uparrow \text{p. 69}}{=} (-1)^k d_k \beta^k = (-1)^k m \gamma_{k-1}.$$

$$\Rightarrow \text{im } d_k \subset \langle m \gamma_{k-1} \rangle$$

$$\text{But } 0 = H_{k-1}(S^n) = \frac{Z_{k-1}(W_*(S^n))}{B_{k-1}(W_*(S^n))}$$

$$\Rightarrow \text{im } d_k = B_{k-1}(W_*(S^n)) = Z_{k-1}(W_*(S^n)) = \langle \gamma_{k-1} \rangle$$

$$\Rightarrow m = \pm 1.$$

Thus

$$d_k(\beta_k) = \pm \gamma_{k-1} = \pm (A_{k-1,*}(\beta_{k-1}) + (-1)^k \beta_{k-1})$$

as claimed.

$k=1$: Compute d_1 directly. Then $\beta_1 =$ the upper half circle from 1 to -1 , and $\beta_0 = 1$. Then

$$d_1(\beta_1) = i_* d_1(\beta_1) = [1] - [-1] \quad ([\]: \text{homology class})$$

□

Theorem 6.2. If n is odd, then

$$H_p(\mathbb{R}P^n) = \begin{cases} \mathbb{Z} & , \text{ if } p=0 \text{ or } p=n \\ \mathbb{Z}/2\mathbb{Z} & , \text{ if } p \text{ is odd and } 0 < p < n \\ 0 & , \text{ otherwise} \end{cases}$$

If n is even, then

$$H_p(\mathbb{R}P^n) = \begin{cases} \mathbb{Z} & , \text{ if } p=0 \\ \mathbb{Z}/2\mathbb{Z} & , \text{ if } p \text{ is odd and } 0 < p < n \\ 0 & , \text{ otherwise} \end{cases}$$

proof.

Let $p: S^n \rightarrow S^n/\sim = \mathbb{R}P^n$ be the quotient map and let $D_k: W_k(\mathbb{R}P^n) \rightarrow W_{k-1}(\mathbb{R}P^n)$ denote the differentiation in $W_*(\mathbb{R}P^n)$. Since p is cellular, it induces a chain map $p_*: W_*(S^n) \rightarrow W_*(\mathbb{R}P^n)$. The diagram

$$\begin{array}{ccc} W_k(S^n) & \xrightarrow{d_k} & W_{k-1}(S^n) \\ \downarrow p_* & & \downarrow p_* \\ W_k(\mathbb{R}P^n) & \xrightarrow{D_k} & W_{k-1}(\mathbb{R}P^n) \end{array}$$

commutes.

Then

$$\begin{aligned} D_k p_* (\beta_k) &= p_* d_k (\beta_k) \\ &= \pm p_* (A_{k-1,*} (\beta_{k-1}) + (-1)^k \beta_{k-1}) \\ &= \pm \left[\underbrace{p_* (A_{k-1,*} (\beta_{k-1}))}_{= p_* (\beta_{k-1}), \text{ see p. 67}} + p_* ((-1)^k \beta_{k-1}) \right] \\ &= \pm [1 + (-1)^k] p_* (\beta_{k-1}). \end{aligned}$$

Here $p_* (\beta_k)$ generates $W_k (\mathbb{R}P^n)$. Then:

k odd: $1 + (-1)^k = 0 \Rightarrow D_k$ is the zero map

k even: $1 + (-1)^k = 2 \Rightarrow D_k$ is multiplication by 2.

Abbreviate $W_k (\mathbb{R}P^n)$ to W_k . The cellular complex of $\mathbb{R}P^n$ is

$$\begin{array}{ccccccccccccccc} 0 & \rightarrow & W_n & \xrightarrow{D_n} & W_{n-1} & \rightarrow & \dots & \rightarrow & W_4 & \xrightarrow{D_4} & W_3 & \xrightarrow{D_3} & W_2 & \xrightarrow{D_2} & W_1 & \xrightarrow{D_1} & W_0 & \rightarrow & 0 \\ & & \parallel & & \parallel & & & & \parallel & & \parallel & & \parallel & & \parallel & & \parallel & & \parallel & & \\ 0 & \rightarrow & \mathbb{Z} & \xrightarrow{(-1)^{n+1}} & \mathbb{Z} & \rightarrow & \dots & \rightarrow & \mathbb{Z} & \xrightarrow{2} & \mathbb{Z} & \xrightarrow{0} & \mathbb{Z} & \xrightarrow{2} & \mathbb{Z} & \xrightarrow{0} & \mathbb{Z} & \rightarrow & 0 \end{array}$$

$$\Rightarrow H_0 (\mathbb{R}P^n) = H_0 (W_*) = \mathbb{Z}$$

$$H_1 (\mathbb{R}P^n) = H_1 (W_*) = \mathbb{Z}/2\mathbb{Z}$$

$$H_2 (\mathbb{R}P^n) = H_2 (W_*) = 0/0 = 0$$

$$H_3 (\mathbb{R}P^n) = H_3 (W_*) = \mathbb{Z}/2\mathbb{Z}$$

⋮

$$H_n (\mathbb{R}P^n) = \begin{cases} 0/0 = 0, & \text{if } n \text{ is even} \\ \mathbb{Z}/0 = \mathbb{Z}, & \text{if } n \text{ is odd.} \end{cases}$$

□

Some properties of CW-complexes

Theorem 6.3. (Cellular Approximation Theorem)

Let X and Y be CW complexes. Let X' be a (possibly empty) CW subcomplex of X , let $g: X \rightarrow Y$ be a continuous map. Assume the restriction $g|_{X'}$ is a cellular map. Then there exists a cellular map $f: X \rightarrow Y$ such that $f|_{X'} = g|_{X'}$ and $f \simeq g \text{ rel } X'$. \square

For $n \geq 0$, consider $s_n = (1, 0, \dots, 0) \in \mathbb{R}^{n+1}$ as the base point of S^n .

Definition 6.4. Let (X, x_0) be a topological pointed space and let $n \geq 0$. Then the group

$$\pi_n(X, x_0) = [S^n, s_n, (X, x_0)]$$

is called the n^{th} homotopy group of X . Usually $\pi_n(X, x_0)$ is abbreviated to $\pi_n(X)$. If $n \geq 2$, $\pi_n(X)$ is called a higher homotopy group of X .

Here $[S^n, s_n, (X, x_0)]$ denotes the set of homotopy classes of maps $(S^n, s_n) \rightarrow (X, x_0)$. It can be shown that $\pi_n(X)$ is a group for all $n \geq 1$. $n \geq 2 \Rightarrow \pi_n(X)$ abelian.

Let X, Y be topological spaces and let $f: X \rightarrow Y$ be a continuous map. The map f is called an n -equivalence for $n \geq 1$ if f induces a one-to-one correspondence between the path components of X and Y and if for every $x \in X$, $f_*: \pi_q(X, x) \rightarrow \pi_q(Y, f(x))$ is an isomorphism for $0 < q < n$ and an epimorphism for $q = n$. A map $f: X \rightarrow Y$ is called a weak homotopy equivalence if it is an n -equivalence for all $n \geq 1$.

Theorem 6.5. A map between CW complexes is a weak homotopy equivalence if and only if it is a homotopy equivalence. \square

Theorem 6.6 (Whitehead Theorem)

Let X and Y be path connected pointed spaces and let $f: (X, x_0) \rightarrow (Y, y_0)$ be a continuous map. If there is $n \geq 1$ such that

$$f_{\#}: \pi_q(X, x_0) \rightarrow \pi_q(Y, y_0)$$

is an isomorphism for $q < n$ and an epimorphism for $q = n$, then

$$f_{*}: H_q(X, x_0) \rightarrow H_q(Y, y_0)$$

is an isomorphism for $q < n$ and an epimorphism for $q = n$. Conversely, if X and Y are simply connected and if f_{*} is an isomorphism for $q < n$ and an epimorphism for $q = n$, then $f_{\#}$ is an isomorphism for $q < n$ and an epimorphism for $q = n$.

7. Natural transformations

Definition 7.1. Let \mathcal{C} and \mathcal{A} be categories. Let $F, G: \mathcal{C} \rightarrow \mathcal{A}$ be (covariant) functors. A natural transformation $\gamma: F \rightarrow G$ is a one-parameter family of morphisms

$$\gamma = \{ \gamma_c: F(c) \rightarrow G(c) \mid c \in \text{obj } \mathcal{C} \}$$

such that the following diagram commutes for every morphism $\phi: C \rightarrow C'$:

$$\begin{array}{ccc} F(C) & \xrightarrow{F\phi} & F(C') \\ \gamma_C \downarrow & & \downarrow \gamma_{C'} \\ G(C) & \xrightarrow{G\phi} & G(C') \end{array}$$

If F and G are both contravariant, the definition is similar, just the horizontal arrows should be reversed.

Definition 7.2. A natural transformation $\gamma: F \rightarrow G$ is called a natural equivalence if γ_c is an equivalence for every $c \in \text{obj } \mathcal{C}$. The functors F and G are called isomorphic (or naturally equivalent) if there is a natural equivalence between them.

Recall: An equivalence in a category \mathcal{C} is a morphism $\phi: A \rightarrow B$, where $A, B \in \text{obj } \mathcal{C}$, such that there exists a morphism $g: B \rightarrow A$ with $\phi \circ g = \text{id}_B$ and $g \circ \phi = \text{id}_A$.

Example Let $*$ be a one-point space, for example $*$ = $\{a\}$. A function $h: * \rightarrow X$, where X is a set, is completely determined by its only value $x = h(a) \in X$. Denote h by h_x . Often $*$ and h_x are identified (singular 0-simplexes in a space X are identified with the points in X). Let **Sets** denote the category whose objects are sets and whose morphisms are all functions between sets. For a set A , let $\text{Hom}(*, A)$ denote the family of functions $* \rightarrow A$. Then $\text{Hom}(*, A)$ is also a set (in fact, by the definition of a category, $\text{Hom}(A, B)$ is always required to be a set...). Then

$$\text{Hom}(*,) : \text{Sets} \rightarrow \text{Sets}, \quad A \mapsto \text{Hom}(*, A),$$

is a functor. To each map $f: A \rightarrow B$, A, B sets, $\text{Hom}(*,)$ assigns the map (morphism)

$$\text{Hom}(*, f) : \text{Hom}(*, A) \rightarrow \text{Hom}(*, B), \quad h \mapsto f \circ h.$$

For a set X , define

$$\gamma_X : X \rightarrow \text{Hom}(*, X), \quad \gamma_X(x) = h_x.$$

Let $f: X \rightarrow Y$ be a map. Then the following diagram commutes:

$$\begin{array}{ccc} X & \xrightarrow{f} & Y \\ \gamma_X \downarrow & & \downarrow \gamma_Y \\ \text{Hom}(*, X) & \xrightarrow{\text{Hom}(*, f)} & \text{Hom}(*, Y) \end{array}$$

$$\begin{array}{ccc} x & \mapsto & f(x) \\ \downarrow & & \downarrow \\ h_x & \mapsto & h_{f(x)} \\ & & \parallel \\ & & f \circ h_x \end{array}$$

It follows that \mathcal{Y} is a natural transformation. Moreover, every \mathcal{Y}_X is an equivalence. Thus it follows that \mathcal{Y} is a natural equivalence.

Example Similarly one can show that the identity functor on the category of abelian groups, denoted by Ab , is isomorphic to $\text{Hom}(\mathbb{Z}, _)$. Every homomorphism $f: \mathbb{Z} \rightarrow G$, when G is an abelian group, is completely determined by $f(1) \in G$.

8. Chain Equivalences

Definition 8.1. A chain complex C_* is called free if each of its terms is a free abelian group.

Theorem 8.2. Let F be a free abelian group, and let B and C be abelian groups. Let $g: B \rightarrow C$ be a surjective homomorphism. Let $h: F \rightarrow C$ be a homomorphism. Then there exists a homomorphism $f: F \rightarrow B$ with $g \circ f = h$.

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

proof. Let X be a basis for F . Since g is surjective, it follows that for every $x \in X$ there is $l_x \in B$ with $g(l_x) = h(x)$. The function $x \mapsto l_x$ defines a homomorphism $f: F \rightarrow B$ (extend $x \mapsto l_x$ by linearity). For every $x \in X$,

$$g(\phi(x)) = g(\ell_x) = h(x).$$

Since $(g\phi)(x) = h(x)$ for the generators $x \in X$, it follows that $g\phi = h$. \square

Corollary 8.3. Let F be a free abelian group, and let B be an abelian group. Let $g: B \rightarrow F$ be a surjective homomorphism. Then $B = \ker g \oplus F'$, where $F' \cong F$.

Proof. Consider the diagram

$$\begin{array}{ccc} & & F \\ & \swarrow \phi & \downarrow \text{id} \\ B & \xrightarrow{g} & F \longrightarrow 0 \end{array}$$

By Theorem 8.2, there is a homomorphism $\phi: F \rightarrow B$ with $g\phi = \text{id}$. Thus ϕ is injective. Check that $B = \ker g \oplus \text{im } \phi$: Let $b \in B$. Then

$$b = (b - \underbrace{\phi(g(b))}_{\in F}) + \phi(g(b)).$$

Here $\phi(g(b)) \in \text{im } \phi$, and $g(b - \phi(g(b))) = g(b) - \underbrace{(g\phi)(g(b))}_{\text{id}} = 0$. Thus $b - \phi(g(b)) \in \ker g$.

Assume $b \in \ker g \cap \text{im } \phi$. Then $b = \phi(x)$, for some $x \in F$, and

$$0 = g(b) = g(\phi(x)) = (g\phi)(x) = x.$$

Then $b = \phi(x) = \phi(0) = 0$. It follows that $\ker g \cap \text{im } \phi = \{0\}$.
Then

$$B = \ker g \oplus \text{im } \phi,$$

where $F' = \text{im } \phi \cong F$. \square

Definition 8.4. Let A, B, C be abelian groups.
An exact sequence

$$0 \rightarrow A \xrightarrow{i} B \xrightarrow{p} C \rightarrow 0$$

is called split (or a split exact sequence),
if there is a homomorphism $s: C \rightarrow B$
with $ps = \text{id}_C$.

Lemma 8.5. The following statements are
equivalent:

- 1) The exact sequence $0 \rightarrow A \xrightarrow{i} B \xrightarrow{p} C \rightarrow 0$
is split.
- 2) There is a homomorphism $q: B \rightarrow A$ with
 $qi = \text{id}_A$.
- 3) A is a direct summand of B (that is,
there exists a subgroup C' of B such that
the restriction $p|_{C'}: C' \rightarrow C$ is an isomorphism
and $B = \text{im}(i) \oplus C'$).

proof. See "Introduction to Algebraic Topology",
Fall 2016, Homework II, Exercise 1. \square

Theorem 8.6. Let F be a free abelian group.
Let H be a subgroup of F .
Then H is free abelian and $\text{rank}(H) \leq \text{rank}(F)$.

In particular: If F is finitely generated, then
also H is finitely generated.

proof. We give two proofs. The first one only
works when F has finite rank.

- 1) Assume F has finite rank n . We prove
the claim by induction on n .

$n=1$: $F \cong \mathbb{Z}$. Any subgroup of \mathbb{Z} is either 0 or $\cong \mathbb{Z}$. Thus H is free abelian and $\text{rank}(H) \leq 1 = \text{rank}(F)$.

Assume then F has a basis $\{x_1, \dots, x_n\}$. Let $F_n = \langle x_1, \dots, x_{n-1} \rangle$, and let $H_n = H \cap F_n$. By induction, H_n is a free abelian group, and $\text{rank}(H_n) \leq n-1$. Now

$$H/H_n = H/(H \cap F_n) \cong (H + F_n)/F_n \subset F/F_n \cong \mathbb{Z}.$$

Thus H/H_n is isomorphic to a subgroup of \mathbb{Z} . If $H/H_n = 0$, then $H = H_n$. If $H/H_n \cong \mathbb{Z}$, then Corollary 8.3 $\Rightarrow H = H_n \oplus \langle h \rangle$, where $\langle h \rangle \cong \mathbb{Z}$. Thus H is a free abelian group of rank $\leq (n-1) + 1 = n$.

2) Proof in the case where $\text{rank}(F)$ does not need to be finite: let $\{x_k \mid k \in K\}$ be a basis of F . We assume $\{x_k \mid k \in K\}$ is well ordered. (That every nonempty set can be well ordered is equivalent to the axiom of choice.) For $k \in K$, let

$$F_k = \sum_{j < k} \langle x_j \rangle, \quad \bar{F}_k = \sum_{j \geq k} \langle x_j \rangle$$

$$H_k = H \cap F_k, \quad \bar{H}_k = H \cap \bar{F}_k.$$

Now,

$$F = \bigcup_k \bar{F}_k, \quad H = \bigcup_k \bar{H}_k$$

and

$$H_k = H \cap F_k = H \cap F_k \cap \bar{F}_k = \bar{H}_k \cap F_k.$$

Thus

$$\begin{aligned} \bar{H}_k/H_k &= \bar{H}_k/(H_k \cap \bar{H}_k) \cong (\bar{H}_k + F_k)/F_k \\ &\subset \bar{F}_k/F_k \cong \mathbb{Z}. \end{aligned}$$

As in case 1, either $\bar{H}_k = H_k$, or $\bar{H}_k = H_k \oplus \langle h_k \rangle$, where $\langle h_k \rangle \cong \mathbb{Z}$.

Claim: H is a free abelian group with basis $\{h_k\}$.

[Then it will follow that $\text{rank}(H) = \text{card}\{h_k\} \leq \text{card}(K) = \text{rank} F$.]

proof of the claim:

Let $H^0 =$ the subgroup of H generated by the h_k . Now

$$F = \bigcup_k \bar{F}_k \Rightarrow \text{each } h \in H \text{ lies in some } \bar{F}_k.$$

Let $\mu(h) =$ the least index k with $h \in \bar{F}_k$.
Assume $H \neq H^0$. Consider the set

$$A = \{\mu(h) \mid h \in H, h \notin H^0\}.$$

K is well ordered $\Rightarrow A$ has a least such index j .
Let $h' \in H$ be such that $\mu(h') = j$ and $h' \notin H^0$.
Then $\mu(h') = j \Rightarrow h' \in H \cap \bar{F}_j$. Thus

$$h' = a + mh_j, \quad \text{where } a \in H_j, m \in \mathbb{Z}$$

(since $H_j = H \cap \bar{F}_j = H_j \oplus \langle h_j \rangle$).

$$\Rightarrow a = h' - mh_j \in H, a \notin H^0, \text{ and } a \in H_j.$$

$$\Rightarrow \mu(a) < j. \quad \text{Contradiction.}$$

$$\therefore H = H^0.$$

It remains to show that linear combinations of the h_k are unique. It suffices to show that if

$$m_1 h_{k_1} + \dots + m_n h_{k_n} = 0, \quad k_1 < \dots < k_n,$$

then $m_1 = \dots = m_n = 0$. Assume $m_n \neq 0$.

Then

$$m_n h_n = -m_1 h_1 - \dots - m_{n-1} h_{n-1} \in \langle h_n \rangle \cap H_n = 0,$$

which is a contradiction. Thus the linear combinations of the h_k are unique, and it follows that H is a free abelian group with basis $\{h_k\}$. \square

Definition 8.7. A chain complex (A_*, ∂) is called acyclic, if $H_n(A_*) = 0$, for every n .

Theorem 8.8. A free chain complex (A_*, ∂) is acyclic if and only if it has a contracting homotopy.

Recall: A contracting homotopy of a chain complex (A_*, ∂) is a sequence of homomorphisms $C = \{C_n: A_n \rightarrow A_{n+1}\}$ such that for all $n \in \mathbb{Z}$,

$$\partial_{n+1} C_n + C_{n-1} \partial_n = \text{id}_{A_n}.$$

Thus: A contracting homotopy is a chain homotopy between the identity map $\{\text{id}_{A_n}\}$ of A and the zero map on A_* .

proof of Theorem 8.8.

Assume (A_*, ∂) has a contracting homotopy. Then $\text{id}_* : A_* \rightarrow A_*$ and $0 : A_* \rightarrow A_*$ are chain homotopic. Thus they induce the same homomorphisms on homology:

$$\text{id} = H_n(\text{id}) = H_n(0) = 0 : H_n(A_*) \rightarrow H_n(A_*).$$

Then $H_n(A_*) = 0$, i.e., $H_n(A_*) = 0 \quad \forall n$.
(This true without the assumption that (A_*, ∂) is free.)

Then (A_*, ∂) is acyclic.

Assume then that $H_n(A_*) = 0 \forall n \geq 0$. Theorem 8.6 $\Rightarrow Z_n(A_*) \subset A_n$ is free abelian. Since $H_{n-1}(A_*) = 0$, it follows that

$$\partial_n(A_n) = B_{n-1}(A_*) = Z_{n-1}(A_*).$$

$$\begin{array}{ccc} & Z_{n-1}(A_*) \subset A_{n-1} & \\ \swarrow S_{n-1} & \downarrow \text{id} \leftarrow \text{surjective} & \\ A_n & \xrightarrow{\partial_n} Z_{n-1}(A_*) \subset A_{n-1} & \\ & \partial_n \leftarrow \text{surjective} & \end{array}$$

Theorem 8.2 $\Rightarrow \exists$ homomorphism $S_{n-1}: Z_{n-1}(A_*) \rightarrow A_n$ with $\partial_n S_{n-1} = \text{id}$. Then

$$\text{id} - S_{n-1} \partial_n : A_n \rightarrow A_n,$$

and for $a \in A_n$,

$$\partial_n(\text{id} - S_{n-1} \partial_n)(a) = \partial_n(a) - \underbrace{\partial_n S_{n-1}}_{\text{id}} \partial_n(a) = 0.$$

$\Rightarrow \text{im}(\text{id} - S_{n-1} \partial_n) \subset Z_n(A_*)$. Let

$$\lambda_n = S_n(\text{id} - S_{n-1} \partial_n) : A_n \rightarrow A_{n+1}.$$

Then

$$\begin{aligned} \partial_{n+1} \lambda_n + \lambda_{n-1} \partial_n &= \overbrace{\partial_{n+1}}^{\text{id}} [S_n(\text{id} - S_{n-1} \partial_n)] \\ &\quad + S_{n-1}(\text{id} - S_{n-2} \partial_{n-1}) \partial_n \\ &= \text{id} - S_{n-1} \partial_n + S_{n-1} \partial_n \\ &= \text{id}. \end{aligned}$$

$\Rightarrow \{\lambda_n\}$ is a contracting homotopy of A_* . \square

Definition 8.9. Let (A_*, ∂) and (B_*, ∂') be chain complexes and let $\phi: (A_*, \partial) \rightarrow (B_*, \partial')$ be a chain map. The mapping cone of ϕ is the chain complex $C(\phi)$, where

1) the n^{th} term of $C(\phi)$ is $C(\phi)_n = A_{n-1} \oplus B_n$,

2) the differentiation $D_n: C(\phi)_n \rightarrow C(\phi)_{n-1}$ is given by

$$D(a_{n-1}, b_n) = (-\partial_{n-1} a_{n-1}, \phi_{n-1} a_{n-1} + \partial'_n b_n).$$

Using matrix notation,

$$D = \begin{pmatrix} -\partial & 0 \\ \phi & \partial' \end{pmatrix}, \quad \begin{pmatrix} -\partial_{n-1} & 0 \\ \phi_{n-1} & \partial'_n \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} a_{n-1} \\ b_n \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} -\partial_{n-1} a_{n-1} \\ \phi_{n-1} a_{n-1} + \partial'_n b_n \end{pmatrix}.$$

Lemma 8.10. Let $\phi: A_* \rightarrow B_*$ be a chain map, where A_* and B_* are free chain complexes. Then $C(\phi)$ is a free chain complex.

proof:

$$\begin{aligned} D_{n-1} \circ D_n &= \begin{pmatrix} -\partial_{n-2} & 0 \\ \phi_{n-2} & \partial'_{n-1} \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} -\partial_{n-1} & 0 \\ \phi_{n-1} & \partial'_n \end{pmatrix} \\ &= \begin{pmatrix} \underbrace{(-\partial_{n-2})(-\partial_{n-1})}_0 & 0 \\ \underbrace{\phi_{n-2}(-\partial_{n-1}) + \partial'_{n-1} \phi_{n-1}}_0 & \underbrace{\partial'_{n-1} \partial'_n}_0 \end{pmatrix} \\ &\quad \text{since } \phi \text{ is a chain map} \end{aligned}$$

$\therefore C(\phi)$ is a chain complex

A_{n-1}, B_n free abelian $\Rightarrow C(\phi)_n = A_{n-1} \oplus B_n$ free abelian.

$\therefore C(\phi)$ is free. \square

Theorem 8.11. Let $d: A_* \rightarrow B_*$ be a chain map between free chain complexes. Assume $C(d)$ is acyclic. Then d is a chain equivalence.

proof. Lemma 8.10 $\Rightarrow C(d)$ is a free chain complex. Theorem 8.8 $\Rightarrow C(d)$ has a contracting homotopy (since $C(d)$ is free and acyclic). Then there are $T_n: C(d)_n \rightarrow C(d)_{n+1}$ such that

$$D_{n+1} T_n + T_{n-1} D_n = \text{id}: C(d)_n \rightarrow C(d)_n.$$

Exercise: Write T_n as a 2×2 -matrix and use it to show that d is a chain equivalence. □

Lemma 8.12. Let (A_*, d) and (B_*, d') be chain complexes, and let $d: A_* \rightarrow B_*$ be a chain map. Then there is an exact sequence

$$\dots \rightarrow H_{n+1}(C(d)) \rightarrow H_n(A_*) \xrightarrow{d_*} H_n(B_*) \rightarrow H_n(C(d)) \rightarrow \dots$$

proof. Define a chain complex A_*^+ as follows:

$$(A_*^+)_n = A_{n-1}, \quad d_n^+ = d_{n-1}.$$

$$\text{Let } p_n: C(d)_n = A_{n-1} \oplus B_n = (A_*^+)_n \oplus B_n \rightarrow (A_*^+)_n \quad \begin{matrix} \text{(a, e)} \\ \mapsto a \end{matrix}$$

be the projection, and let

$$i_n: B_n \rightarrow (A_*^+)_n \oplus B_n = C(d)_n \quad \begin{matrix} e \mapsto \\ \text{(c, e)} \end{matrix}$$

be the inclusion. Then there exists a short exact sequence of chain complexes:

