

Abelian Categories

GRK-Workshop on tensor triangulated categories

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- 1 Additive categories
- 2 Abelian categories
- 3 Projective and injective resolutions
- 4 More on abelian categories

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Remark: Product and coproduct coincide here; we usually write \oplus .

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$$\begin{array}{c}
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- 5 Non-additive categories: e.g. **Set** or **Top**.

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 \Rightarrow does have a cokernel $\mathbb{Z}/2\mathbb{Z}$, but it is not projective!

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A functor is called *exact* if it is left and right exact.

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- ③ The functor $T \otimes_R - : \mathbf{R}\text{-Mod} \rightarrow \mathbf{Ab}$ is right exact, but only left exact if T is flat.

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Follows from reformulation of the definition of projective modules:

"An object P is projective if and only if $\text{Hom}(P, -)$ preserves epimorphism" (exercise).

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- 6 Noninjective and nonprojective abelian groups: e.g. cyclic groups $\mathbb{Z}/n\mathbb{Z}$ for $n > 1$

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- 2 Injective, but not projective: group \mathbb{Q}/\mathbb{Z}

Examples (II)

- 1 Projective, but not injective: any free abelian group of finite rank
- 2 Injective, but not projective: group \mathbb{Q}/\mathbb{Z}
- 3 The category **R-Mod** (assuming the axioms of choice) has enough projectives and injectives.

Examples (II)

- 1 Projective, but not injective: any free abelian group of finite rank
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Remark: The algebraic K -group $K_0(R)$ "measures" the difference between injective and projective modules.

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$$\begin{array}{ccccccc}
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 & & \nearrow & & \nearrow & & \\
 & & \text{ker}(f_1) & & \text{ker}(f_0) & & \\
 & & \nwarrow & & \nwarrow & & \\
 & & & & & &
 \end{array}$$

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- ③ The *Koszul complex* is a free resolution of the quotient ring $R/(x_1, \dots, x_d)$.

- 1 Additive categories
- 2 Abelian categories
- 3 Projective and injective resolutions
- 4 More on abelian categories**

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Collection of (*local*) modules organised in one *global* construction!

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Theorem (1964): Let \mathcal{A} be a small abelian category. Then, there exists a ring R and an exact, fully faithful functor

$$\mathcal{A} \rightarrow R\text{-mod}$$

embedding \mathcal{A} as a full subcategory in the sense that $\text{Hom}_{\mathcal{A}}(M, N) \cong \text{Hom}_{R\text{-mod}}(M, N)$.

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- 2 Is the structure of being abelian enough to behave well with a tensor?
Can we get/Do we need more?

Thank you for your attention!