

# A COURSE ON DERIVED CATEGORIES

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## 0. INTRODUCTION

These are notes for an advanced course given at Ben Gurion University in Spring 2012. In this course I am following various sources, mostly [Sc] and [KS2], but going in a sufficiently different route to make written notes desirable. More resources are available on the course web page [CWP].

By way of introduction to the subject, let us consider *duality*. Take a field  $K$ . Given a  $K$ -module  $M$  (i.e. a vector space), let

$$D(M) := \text{Hom}_K(M, K),$$

the dual module. There is a canonical homomorphism

$$\eta_M : M \rightarrow D(D(M)),$$

$\eta_M(m)(\phi) := \phi(m)$  for  $m \in M$  and  $\phi \in D(M)$ . If  $M$  is finitely generated then  $\eta_M$  is an isomorphism (actually this is "if and only if").

To formalize this situation, let  $\text{Mod } K$  denote the category of  $K$ -modules. Then

$$D : \text{Mod } K \rightarrow \text{Mod } K$$

is a contravariant functor, and

$$\eta : \mathbf{1} \rightarrow D \circ D$$

is a natural transformation. Here  $\mathbf{1}$  is the identity functor of  $\text{Mod } K$ .

Now let us replace  $K$  by any (nonzero) commutative ring  $A$ . Again we can define a contravariant functor

$$D : \text{Mod } A \rightarrow \text{Mod } A, \quad D(M) := \text{Hom}_A(M, A),$$

and a natural transformation  $\eta : \mathbf{1} \rightarrow D \circ D$ . It is easy to see that  $\eta_M : M \rightarrow D(D(M))$  is an isomorphism if  $M$  is a finitely generated free module. Of course we can't expect reflexivity (i.e.  $\eta_M$  being an isomorphism) if  $M$  is not finitely generated; but what about a finitely generated module that is not free?

In order to understand this better, let us concentrate on the ring  $A = \mathbb{Z}$ . A finitely generated  $\mathbb{Z}$ -module  $M$ , namely a finitely generated abelian group, is of the form  $M \cong G \oplus H$ , with  $G$  free and  $H$  finite. It is important to note that this is not a canonical isomorphism: there is a canonical short exact sequence

$$0 \rightarrow H \rightarrow M \rightarrow G \rightarrow 0,$$

and the decomposition  $M \cong G \oplus H$  comes from choosing a splitting of this sequence.

We know that for the free abelian group  $G$  there is reflexivity. But for the finite abelian group  $H$  we have

$$D(H) = \text{Hom}_{\mathbb{Z}}(H, \mathbb{Z}) = 0.$$

Thus, whenever  $H \neq 0$ , reflexivity fails:  $\eta_M : M \rightarrow D(D(M))$  is not an isomorphism.

On the other hand, for an abelian group  $M$  we can define another sort of dual:

$$D'(M) := \text{Hom}_{\mathbb{Z}}(M, \mathbb{Q}/\mathbb{Z}).$$

(We may view the abelian group  $\mathbb{Q}/\mathbb{Z}$  as the group of roots of 1 in  $\mathbb{C}$ , via the exponential map.) There is a natural transformation  $\eta' : \mathbf{1} \rightarrow D' \circ D'$ , and if  $H$  is a finite abelian group then  $\eta'_H$  is an isomorphism. So  $D'$  is a duality for finite abelian groups. Yet for a finitely generated free abelian group  $G$  we get  $D'(D'(G)) = \widehat{G}$ , the profinite completion of  $G$ . So once more this is not a good duality for all finitely generated abelian groups.

We could try to be more clever and “patch” the two dualities  $D$  and  $D'$ , into something that we will call  $D \oplus D'$ . This looks pleasing at first – but then we recall that the decomposition  $M \cong G \oplus H$  of a finitely generated group is not functorial, so that  $D \oplus D'$  can't be a functor.

Later in the course we will introduce the *derived category*  $D(\text{Mod } \mathbb{Z})$ . The objects of  $D(\text{Mod } \mathbb{Z})$  are the complexes of  $\mathbb{Z}$ -modules. There is a contravariant triangulated functor

$$\begin{aligned} RD : D(\text{Mod } \mathbb{Z}) &\rightarrow D(\text{Mod } \mathbb{Z}), \\ RD(M) &:= \text{RHom}_{\mathbb{Z}}(M, \mathbb{Z}). \end{aligned}$$

This is the *right derived Hom functor*. And there is a natural transformation of triangulated functors

$$\eta : \mathbf{1} \rightarrow RD \circ RD.$$

If  $M$  is a *bounded complex with finitely generated cohomology modules* then  $\eta_M : M \rightarrow RD(RD(M))$  is an isomorphism in  $D(\text{Mod } \mathbb{Z})$ .

We can take a  $\mathbb{Z}$ -module  $M$  and view it as a complex as follows:

$$(0.1) \quad \cdots \rightarrow 0 \rightarrow M \rightarrow 0 \rightarrow \cdots$$

where  $M$  is in degree 0. This is a fully faithful embedding of  $\text{Mod } \mathbb{Z}$  in  $D(\text{Mod } \mathbb{Z})$ . If  $M$  is a finitely generated module then  $\eta_M$  is an isomorphism. Thus we have a duality  $RD$  that holds for all finitely generated  $\mathbb{Z}$ -modules!

Here is the connection between  $RD$  and the “classical” dualities  $D$  and  $D'$ : for  $M \in \text{Mod } \mathbb{Z}$  there are functorial isomorphisms

$$H^0(RD(M)) \cong \text{Hom}_{\mathbb{Z}}(M, \mathbb{Z}) = D(M)$$

and

$$H^1(RD(M)) \cong \text{Ext}_{\mathbb{Z}}^1(M, \mathbb{Z}) = D'(M).$$

This sort of duality holds for many noetherian commutative rings  $A$ . But the formula for the duality functor

$$RD : D(\text{Mod } A) \rightarrow D(\text{Mod } A)$$

is somewhat different – it is

$$RD(M) := \text{RHom}_A(M, R),$$

where  $R \in D(\text{Mod } A)$  is a *dualizing complex*. Such a dualizing complex is unique (up to shift and tensoring with an invertible module).

Interestingly, the structure of the dualizing complex  $R$  depends on the geometry of the ring  $A$  (i.e. of the scheme  $\text{Spec } A$ ). If  $A$  is a regular ring (like  $\mathbb{Z}$ ) then  $R = A$  is dualizing. If  $A$  is Cohen-Macaulay then  $R$  is a single  $A$ -module. But if  $A$  is a more complicated ring then  $R$  must live in several degrees. For example,

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FIGURE 1.

consider an affine algebraic variety  $X \subset \mathbf{A}_{\mathbb{R}}^3$  consisting of a plane and a line, with coordinate ring

$$A = \mathbb{R}[t_1, t_2, t_3]/(t_3t_1 + t_3t_2).$$

See figure 1. The dualizing complex  $R$  must live in two adjacent degrees; namely there is some  $i$  s.t.  $H^i(R)$  and  $H^{i+1}(R)$  are nonzero.

One can also talk about dualizing complexes over *noncommutative rings*. I am not sure if we will have time to do that in the course. (But this is a favorite topic for me!)

## 1. BASICS FACTS ON CATEGORIES

**1.1. Set Theory.** In this course we will not try to be precise about issues of set theory. The blanket assumption is that we are given a *Grothendieck universe*  $U$ . This is an infinite set, closed under most set theoretical operations. A *small set* (or a  $U$ -small set) is a set  $S \in U$ . A category  $C$  is a  $U$ -category if the set of objects  $\text{Ob}(C)$  is a subset of  $U$ , and for every  $C, D \in \text{Ob}(C)$  the set of morphisms  $\text{Hom}_C(C, D)$  is small. See [KS2, Section 1.1]; or see [Ne] for another approach.

We denote by  $\text{Set}$  the category of all small sets. So  $\text{Ob}(\text{Set}) = U$ , and  $\text{Set}$  is a  $U$ -category. An abelian group (or a ring, etc.) is called small if its underlying set is small. For a small ring  $A$  we denote by  $\text{Mod } A$  the category of all small left  $A$ -modules.

By default we work with  $U$ -categories, and from now on  $U$  will remain implicit. The one exception is when we deal with localization of categories, where we shall briefly encounter a set theoretical issue; but for most interesting cases this issue has an easy solution.

**1.2. Zero objects.** Let  $C$  be a category. A morphism  $f : C \rightarrow D$  in  $C$  is called an *epimorphism* if it has the right cancelation property: for any  $g, g' : D \rightarrow E$ ,  $g \circ f = g' \circ f$  implies  $g = g'$ . The morphism  $f : C \rightarrow D$  is called a *monomorphism* if it has the left cancelation property: for any  $g, g' : E \rightarrow C$ ,  $f \circ g = f \circ g'$  implies  $g = g'$ .

**Example 1.1.** In  $\text{Set}$  the monomorphisms are the injections, and the epimorphisms are the surjections. A morphism  $f : C \rightarrow D$  in  $\text{Set}$  that is both a monomorphism and an epimorphism is an isomorphism. The same holds in  $\text{Mod } A$ .

**Remark 1.2.** The property of being a monomorphism or an epimorphism is sensitive to the category in question. For instance, consider the category of groups  $\text{Grp}$ . The forgetful functor  $\text{Grp} \rightarrow \text{Set}$  respects monomorphisms, but does not respect epimorphisms. (It is easy to write down an epimorphism in  $\text{Grp}$  that is not a surjection.)

An *initial object* in a category  $C$  is an object  $C_0 \in C$ , such that for every object  $C \in C$  there is exactly one morphism  $C_0 \rightarrow C$ . Thus the set  $\text{Hom}_C(C_0, C)$  is a singleton. An *terminal object* in  $C$  is an object  $C_\infty \in C$ , such that for every object  $C \in C$  there is exactly one morphism  $C \rightarrow C_\infty$ .

**Definition 1.3.** A *zero object* in a category  $C$  is an object which is both initial and terminal.

Initial, terminal and zero objects are unique up to unique isomorphisms (but they need not exist).

**Example 1.4.** In  $\text{Set}$ ,  $\emptyset$  is an initial object, and any singleton is a terminal object. There is no zero object.

**Example 1.5.** In  $\text{Mod } A$ , any trivial module (with only the zero element) is a zero object, and we denote this module by  $0$ . This is allowed, since any other zero module is uniquely isomorphic to it.

**1.3. Products and Coproducts.** Let  $C$  be a category. For a collection  $\{C_i\}_{i \in I}$  of objects of  $C$ , indexed by a set  $I$ , their *product* is a pair  $(C, \{p_i\}_{i \in I})$  consisting of an object  $C$  and morphisms  $p_i : C \rightarrow C_i$ . The morphisms  $p_i : C \rightarrow C_i$  are called projections. The pair  $(C, \{p_i\}_{i \in I})$  must have this universal property: given any

object  $D$  and morphisms  $f_i : D \rightarrow C_i$ , there is a unique morphism  $f : D \rightarrow C$  s.t.  $f_i = p_i \circ f$ . Of course if a product  $(C, \{p_i\}_{i \in I})$  exists then it is unique up to a unique isomorphism; and we write  $\prod_{i \in I} C_i := C$ .

**Example 1.6.** In  $\text{Set}$  and  $\text{Mod } A$  all products (indexed by small sets) exist, and they are the usual cartesian products.

For a collection  $\{C_i\}_{i \in I}$  of objects of  $\mathcal{C}$ , their *coproduct* is a pair  $(C, \{e_i\}_{i \in I})$  consisting of an object  $C$  and morphisms  $e_i : C_i \rightarrow C$ . The morphisms  $e_i : C_i \rightarrow C$  are called embeddings. The pair  $(C, \{e_i\}_{i \in I})$  must have this universal property: given any object  $D$  and morphisms  $f_i : C_i \rightarrow D$ , there is a unique morphism  $f : C \rightarrow D$  s.t.  $f_i = f \circ e_i$ . If a coproduct  $(C, \{e_i\}_{i \in I})$  exists then it is unique up to a unique isomorphism; and we write  $\coprod_{i \in I} C_i := C$ .

**Example 1.7.** In  $\text{Set}$  the coproduct is the disjoint union. In  $\text{Mod } A$  the coproduct is the direct sum.

**1.4. Equivalence.** Recall that a functor  $F : \mathcal{C} \rightarrow \mathcal{D}$  is an *equivalence* if there exists a functor  $G : \mathcal{D} \rightarrow \mathcal{C}$ , and natural isomorphisms  $G \circ F \cong \mathbf{1}_{\mathcal{C}}$  and  $F \circ G \cong \mathbf{1}_{\mathcal{D}}$ . Such a functor  $G$  is called a *quasi-inverse* of  $F$ .

We know that  $F : \mathcal{C} \rightarrow \mathcal{D}$  is an equivalence iff these two conditions hold:

- (i)  $F$  is essentially surjective on objects. This means that for every  $D \in \mathcal{D}$  there is some  $C \in \mathcal{C}$  and an isomorphism  $F(C) \xrightarrow{\cong} D$ .
- (ii)  $F$  is fully faithful. This means that for every  $C_0, C_1 \in \mathcal{C}$  the function

$$F : \text{Hom}_{\mathcal{C}}(C_0, C_1) \rightarrow \text{Hom}_{\mathcal{D}}(F(C_0), F(C_1))$$

is bijective.

## 2. ABELIAN CATEGORIES

**Definition 2.1.** Let  $\mathbb{K}$  be a commutative ring. A  $\mathbb{K}$ -linear category is a category  $\mathcal{A}$ , endowed with a  $\mathbb{K}$ -module structure on each of the morphism sets  $\text{Hom}_{\mathcal{A}}(M_0, M_1)$  for all  $M_0, M_1 \in \mathcal{A}$ . The condition is this:

- For all  $M_0, M_1, M_2 \in \mathcal{A}$  the composition function

$$\text{Hom}_{\mathcal{A}}(M_0, M_1) \times \text{Hom}_{\mathcal{A}}(M_1, M_2) \xrightarrow{\circ} \text{Hom}_{\mathcal{A}}(M_0, M_2)$$

is  $\mathbb{K}$ -bilinear.

If  $\mathbb{K} = \mathbb{Z}$  we say that  $\mathcal{A}$  is a *linear category*.

Observe that for any object  $M$  of a  $\mathbb{K}$ -linear category  $\mathcal{A}$ , the set

$$\text{End}_{\mathcal{A}}(M) := \text{Hom}_{\mathcal{A}}(M, M)$$

is a  $\mathbb{K}$ -algebra. In these notes a  $\mathbb{K}$ -algebra  $A$  is (by default) unital and associative; so in fact  $A$  is a ring, together with a ring homomorphism from  $\mathbb{K}$  to the center of  $A$ .

This observation can be reversed:

**Example 2.2.** Let  $A$  be a  $\mathbb{K}$ -algebra. Define a category  $\mathcal{A}$  like this: there is a single object  $M$ , and its set of morphisms is

$$\text{Hom}_{\mathcal{A}}(M, M) := A.$$

Composition in  $\mathcal{A}$  is the multiplication of  $A$ . Then  $\mathcal{A}$  is a  $\mathbb{K}$ -linear category.

**Definition 2.3.** An *additive category* is a linear category  $\mathcal{M}$  satisfying these conditions:

- $\mathcal{M}$  has a zero object  $0$ .
- $\mathcal{M}$  has finite coproducts.

Observe that  $\text{Hom}_{\mathcal{M}}(M, N) \neq \emptyset$ , since this is an abelian group. Also

$$\text{Hom}_{\mathcal{M}}(M, 0) = \text{Hom}_{\mathcal{M}}(0, M) = 0,$$

the zero abelian group. We denote the unique arrows  $0 \rightarrow M$  and  $M \rightarrow 0$  also by  $0$ . So the numeral  $0$  has a lot of meanings; but they are clear from the contexts. The coproduct in the additive category  $\mathcal{M}$  is denoted by  $\oplus$ ; cf. Example 1.7.

**Example 2.4.** Let  $A$  be a ring. The category  $\text{Mod } A$  is additive. The full subcategory  $\mathcal{M} \subset \text{Mod } A$  on the free modules is also additive.

for an object  $M$  we denote by  $1_M : M \rightarrow M$  the identity morphism.

**Proposition 2.5.** Let  $\mathcal{M}$  be an additive category. Let  $\{M_i\}_{i \in I}$  be a finite collection of objects of  $\mathcal{M}$ , and let  $M := \bigoplus_{i \in I} M_i$  be the coproduct, with embeddings  $e_i : M_i \rightarrow M$ .

- (1) For any  $i$  let  $p_i : M \rightarrow M_i$  be the unique morphism s.t.  $p_i \circ e_i = 1_{M_i}$ , and  $p_i \circ e_j = 0$  for  $j \neq i$ . Then  $(M, \{p_i\}_{i \in I})$  is a product of the collection  $\{M_i\}_{i \in I}$ .
- (2)  $\sum_{i \in I} e_i \circ p_i = 1_M$ .

*Proof.* Exercise. □

**Example 2.6.** One could ask if the linear category  $\mathcal{A}$  from Example 2.2, built from a ring  $A$ , is additive, i.e. does it have finite direct sums? It appears that this depends on whether or not  $A \cong A \oplus A$  as left  $A$ -modules. Thus if  $A$  is nonzero and commutative, or nonzero and noetherian, then this is false. On the other hand if we take a field  $\mathbb{K}$ , and a countable rank  $\mathbb{K}$ -module  $M$ , then  $\mathcal{A} := \text{End}_{\mathbb{K}}(M)$  will satisfy  $\mathcal{A} \cong \mathcal{A} \oplus \mathcal{A}$ .

**Definition 2.7.** Let  $M$  be an additive category, and let  $f : M \rightarrow N$  be a morphism in  $M$ . A *kernel* of  $f$  is a pair  $(K, k)$ , consisting of an object  $K \in M$  and a morphism  $k : K \rightarrow M$ , with these properties:

- (i)  $f \circ k = 0$ .
- (ii) If  $k' : K' \rightarrow M$  is a morphism in  $M$  such that  $f \circ k' = 0$ , then there is a unique morphism  $g : K' \rightarrow K$  such that  $k' = k \circ g$ .

In other words, the object  $K$  represents the functor  $M^{\text{op}} \rightarrow \text{Ab}$ ,

$$K' \mapsto \{k' \in \text{Hom}_M(K', M) \mid f \circ k' = 0\}.$$

The kernel of  $f$  is of course unique up to a unique isomorphism (if it exists), and we denote it by  $\text{Ker}(f)$ . Sometimes  $\text{Ker}(f)$  refers only to the object  $K$ , and other times it refers only to the morphism  $k$ .

**Definition 2.8.** Let  $M$  be an additive category, and let  $f : M \rightarrow N$  be a morphism in  $M$ . A *cokernel* of  $f$  is a pair  $(C, c)$ , consisting of an object  $C \in M$  and a morphism  $c : N \rightarrow C$ , with these properties:

- (i)  $c \circ f = 0$ .
- (ii) If  $c' : N \rightarrow C'$  is a morphism in  $M$  such that  $c' \circ f = 0$ , then there is a unique morphism  $g : C \rightarrow C'$  such that  $c' = g \circ c$ .

The cokernel  $\text{Coker}(f)$  is unique up to a unique isomorphism.

**Example 2.9.** In  $\text{Mod } A$  all kernels and cokernels exist. Given  $f : M \rightarrow N$ , the kernel is  $k : K \rightarrow M$ , where

$$K := \{m \in M \mid f(m) = 0\},$$

and the  $k$  is the inclusion. The cokernel is  $c : N \rightarrow C$ , where  $C := N/f(M)$ , and  $c$  is the canonical projection.

**Proposition 2.10.** Let  $f : M \rightarrow N$  be a morphism, let  $k : K \rightarrow M$  be a kernel of  $f$ , and let  $c : N \rightarrow C$  be a cokernel of  $f$ . Then  $k$  is a monomorphism, and  $c$  is an epimorphism.

*Proof.* Exercise. □

**Definition 2.11.** Assume the additive category  $M$  has kernels and cokernels. Let  $f : M \rightarrow N$  be a morphism in  $M$ .

- (1) Define the *image* of  $f$  to be

$$\text{Im}(f) := \text{Ker}(\text{Coker}(f)).$$

- (2) Define the *coimage* of  $f$  to be

$$\text{Coim}(f) := \text{Coker}(\text{Ker}(f)).$$

Consider the following commutative diagram (solid arrows):

$$\begin{array}{ccccccc}
 K & \xrightarrow{k} & M & \xrightarrow{f} & N & \xrightarrow{c} & C \\
 & \searrow & \downarrow \alpha & \searrow \gamma & \uparrow \beta & \nearrow & \\
 & & 0 & & & & \\
 & & & & M' & \xrightarrow{f'} & N' \\
 & & & & & & \downarrow 0 \\
 & & & & & & 
 \end{array}$$

where  $\alpha = \text{Coker}(k) = \text{Coim}(f)$  and  $\beta = \text{Ker}(c) = \text{Im}(f)$ . Since  $c \circ f = 0$  there is a unique morphism  $\gamma$  making the diagram commutative. Now  $\beta \circ \gamma \circ k = f \circ k = 0$ ; and  $\beta$  is a monomorphism; so  $\gamma \circ k = 0$ . Hence there is a unique morphism

$f' : M' \rightarrow N'$  making the diagram commutative. We conclude that  $f : M \rightarrow N$  induces a morphism

$$(2.12) \quad f' : \text{Coim}(f) \rightarrow \text{Im}(f).$$

**Definition 2.13.** An *abelian category* is an additive category  $M$  with these extra properties:

- (i) All morphisms in  $M$  admit kernels and cokernels.
- (ii) For any  $f : M \rightarrow N$  in  $M$  the induced morphism  $f'$  of equation (2.12) is an isomorphism.

A less precise but (maybe) easier to remember way to state property (ii) is:

$$\text{Ker}(\text{Coker}(f)) = \text{Coker}(\text{Ker}(f)).$$

From now on we forget all about the coimage.

**Example 2.14.** The category  $\text{Mod } A$  is abelian.

**Definition 2.15.** Let  $M$  be an abelian category, and let  $N$  be a full subcategory of  $M$ . We say that  $N$  is a *full abelian subcategory* of  $M$  if  $N$  is closed under direct sums, kernels and cokernels.

**Example 2.16.** Let  $M_1$  be the category of finitely generated abelian groups, and let  $M_0$  be the category of finite abelian groups. Then  $M_0$  is a full abelian subcategory of  $M_1$ , and  $M_1$  is a full abelian subcategory of  $\text{Ab}$ .

**Example 2.17.** Let  $N$  be the full subcategory of  $\text{Ab}$  whose objects are the finitely generated free abelian groups. It is an additive subcategory of  $\text{Ab}$  (since it is closed under direct sums), but clearly it is not a full abelian subcategory, since it is not closed under cokernels.

What is more interesting is that the additive category  $N$  does have its own intrinsic cokernels, but still it fails to be an abelian category.

**Example 2.18.** A ring  $A$  is *left noetherian* iff the category  $\text{Mod}_f A$  of finitely generated modules is a full abelian subcategory of  $\text{Mod } A$ . Here the issue is kernels.

**Example 2.19.** Let  $(X, \mathcal{A})$  be a ringed space; namely  $X$  is a topological space and  $\mathcal{A}$  is a sheaf of rings on  $X$ . We denote by  $\text{PMod } \mathcal{A}$  the category of presheaves of left  $\mathcal{A}$ -modules on  $X$ . This is an abelian category. Given a morphism  $f : \mathcal{M} \rightarrow \mathcal{N}$  in  $\text{PMod } \mathcal{A}$ , its kernel is the presheaf  $\mathcal{K}$  defined by

$$\Gamma(U, \mathcal{K}) := \text{Ker}(f : \Gamma(U, \mathcal{M}) \rightarrow \Gamma(U, \mathcal{N})).$$

The cokernel is the presheaf  $\mathcal{C}$  defined by

$$\Gamma(U, \mathcal{C}) := \text{Coker}(f : \Gamma(U, \mathcal{M}) \rightarrow \Gamma(U, \mathcal{N})).$$

Now let  $\text{Mod } \mathcal{A}$  be the full subcategory of  $\text{PMod } \mathcal{A}$  consisting of sheaves. We know that  $\text{Mod } \mathcal{A}$  is not closed under cokernels inside  $\text{PMod } \mathcal{A}$ , and hence it is not a full abelian subcategory.

However  $\text{Mod } \mathcal{A}$  is itself an abelian category, but with different cokernels. Indeed, for a morphism  $f : \mathcal{M} \rightarrow \mathcal{N}$  in  $\text{Mod } \mathcal{A}$ , its cokernel  $\text{Coker}_{\text{Mod } \mathcal{A}}(f)$  is the sheafification of the presheaf  $\text{Coker}_{\text{PMod } \mathcal{A}}(f)$ .

For educational purposes we state:

**Theorem 2.20** (Freyd & Mitchell). *Let  $M$  be a small abelian category. Then  $M$  is equivalent to a full abelian subcategory of  $\text{Mod } A$ , for a suitable ring  $A$ .*

This means that most of the time we can pretend that  $M \subset \text{Mod } A$ ; this could be a helpful heuristic.

**Proposition 2.21.** (1) *Let  $\mathcal{M}$  be an additive category. Then the opposite category  $\mathcal{M}^{\text{op}}$  is also additive.*

(2) *Let  $M$  be an abelian category. Then the opposite category  $M^{\text{op}}$  is also abelian.*

*Proof.* (1) First note that

$$\text{Hom}_{M^{\text{op}}}(M, N) = \text{Hom}_M(N, M),$$

so this is an abelian group. The bilinearity of the composition in  $M^{\text{op}}$  is clear, and the zero objects are the same. Existence of finite coproducts in  $M^{\text{op}}$  is because of existence of finite products in  $M$ ; see Proposition 2.5(1).

(2)  $M^{\text{op}}$  has kernels and cokernels, since  $\text{Ker}_{M^{\text{op}}}(f) = \text{Coker}_M(f)$  and vice versa. Also the symmetric condition (ii) of Definition 2.13 holds.  $\square$

**Proposition 2.22.** *Let  $f : M \rightarrow N$  be a morphism in an abelian category  $M$ .*

(1)  *$f$  is a monomorphism iff  $\text{Ker}(f) = 0$ .*

(2)  *$f$  is an epimorphism iff  $\text{Coker}(f) = 0$ .*

(3)  *$f$  is an isomorphism iff it is both a monomorphism and an epimorphism.*

*Proof.* Exercise.  $\square$

## 3. ADDITIVE FUNCTORS

**Definition 3.1.** Let  $\mathcal{M}$  and  $\mathcal{N}$  be  $\mathbb{K}$ -linear categories. A functor  $F : \mathcal{M} \rightarrow \mathcal{N}$  is called a  $\mathbb{K}$ -linear functor if for every  $M_0, M_1 \in \mathcal{M}$  the function

$$F : \text{Hom}_{\mathcal{M}}(M_0, M_1) \rightarrow \text{Hom}_{\mathcal{N}}(F(M_0), F(M_1))$$

is a  $\mathbb{K}$ -linear homomorphism.

A  $\mathbb{Z}$ -linear functor is also called an *additive functor*.

Additive functors commute with finite direct sums. More precisely:

**Proposition 3.2.** Let  $F : \mathcal{M} \rightarrow \mathcal{N}$  be an additive functor between linear categories, let  $\{M_i\}_{i \in I}$  be a finite collection of objects of  $\mathcal{M}$ , and assume that the direct sum  $(M, \{e_i\}_{i \in I})$  of the collection  $\{M_i\}_{i \in I}$  exists in  $\mathcal{M}$ . Then  $(F(M), \{F(e_i)\}_{i \in I})$  is a direct sum of the collection  $\{F(M_i)\}_{i \in I}$  in  $\mathcal{N}$ .

*Proof.* Exercise. (Hint: use Proposition 2.5.)  $\square$

**Example 3.3.** Let  $A \rightarrow B$  be a ring homomorphism. The corresponding forgetful functor

$$F : \text{Mod } B \rightarrow \text{Mod } A$$

(also called restriction of scalars) is additive. The functor

$$G : \text{Mod } A \rightarrow \text{Mod } B$$

defined by  $G(M) := B \otimes_A M$ , called extension of scalars, is also additive.

**Proposition 3.4.** Let  $F : \mathcal{M} \rightarrow \mathcal{N}$  be an additive functor between additive categories. Then  $F(0_{\mathcal{M}}) = 0_{\mathcal{N}}$ .

*Proof.* For any object  $M \in \mathcal{M}$  we have a ring  $\text{End}_{\mathcal{M}}(M)$ ; and  $\text{Hom}_{\mathcal{A}}(M_0, M_1)$  is an  $\text{End}_{\mathcal{M}}(M_1)$ - $\text{End}_{\mathcal{M}}(M_0)$ -bimodule. An object  $M \in \mathcal{M}$  is a zero object iff  $\text{End}_{\mathcal{M}}(M)$  is the zero ring, i.e.  $1 = 0$  in  $\text{End}_{\mathcal{M}}(M)$ .

Now  $F : \text{End}_{\mathcal{M}}(M) \rightarrow \text{End}_{\mathcal{N}}(F(M))$  is a ring homomorphism, so it sends the zero ring to the zero ring.  $\square$

**Definition 3.5.** Let  $F : \mathcal{M} \rightarrow \mathcal{N}$  be an additive functor between abelian categories.

- (1)  $F$  is called *left exact* if it commutes with kernels. Namely if  $F(\text{Ker}_{\mathcal{M}}(\phi))$  is a kernel of  $F(\phi)$  for any  $\phi : M_0 \rightarrow M_1$  in  $\mathcal{M}$ .
- (2)  $F$  is called *right exact* if it commutes with cokernels. Namely if  $F(\text{Coker}_{\mathcal{M}}(\phi))$  is a cokernel of  $F(\phi)$  for any  $\phi : M_0 \rightarrow M_1$  in  $\mathcal{M}$ .
- (3)  $F$  is called *exact* if it both left exact and right exact.

This is illustrated in the following diagrams. Suppose  $\phi : M_0 \rightarrow M_1$  is a morphism in  $\mathcal{M}$ , with kernel  $K$  and cokernel  $C$ . Applying  $F$  to the diagram

$$K \xrightarrow{k} M_0 \xrightarrow{\phi} M_1 \xrightarrow{c} C$$

we get the solid arrows in

$$\begin{array}{ccccc} F(K) & \xrightarrow{F(k)} & F(M_0) & \xrightarrow{F(\phi)} & F(M_1) & \xrightarrow{F(c)} & F(C) \\ & \searrow \psi & \uparrow & & \downarrow & & \nearrow \chi \\ & & \text{Ker}_{\mathcal{N}}(F(\phi)) & & \text{Coker}_{\mathcal{N}}(F(\phi)) & & \end{array}$$

The dashed arrows are from the structure of  $\mathcal{N}$ . Left exactness requires  $\psi$  to be an isomorphism, and right exactness requires  $\chi$  to be an isomorphism.

**Definition 3.6.** Let  $\mathcal{M}$  be an abelian category. An *exact sequence* in  $\mathcal{M}$  is a diagram

$$\cdots M_0 \xrightarrow{\phi_0} M_1 \xrightarrow{\phi_1} M_2 \cdots$$

(finite or infinite on either side) s.t.  $\text{Ker}(\phi_i) = \text{Im}(\phi_{i-1})$  for all  $i$  (for which  $\phi_i$  and  $\phi_{i-1}$  are defined).

As usual, a *short exact sequence* is one of the form

$$(3.7) \quad 0 \rightarrow M_0 \rightarrow M_1 \rightarrow M_2 \rightarrow 0.$$

**Proposition 3.8.** Let  $F : \mathcal{M} \rightarrow \mathcal{N}$  be an additive functor between abelian categories.

- (1) The functor  $F$  is left exact iff for every short exact sequence (3.7) in  $\mathcal{M}$ , the sequence

$$0 \rightarrow F(M_0) \rightarrow F(M_1) \rightarrow F(M_2)$$

is exact in  $\mathcal{N}$ .

- (2) The functor  $F$  is right exact iff for every short exact sequence (3.7) in  $\mathcal{M}$ , the sequence

$$F(M_0) \rightarrow F(M_1) \rightarrow F(M_2) \rightarrow 0$$

is exact in  $\mathcal{N}$ .

*Proof.* Exercise. (Hint:  $M_0 \cong \text{Ker}(M_1 \rightarrow M_2)$  etc.) □

**Example 3.9.** Let  $A$  be a commutative ring, and let  $M$  be a fixed  $A$ -module. Define functors  $F, G : \text{Mod } A \rightarrow \text{Mod } A$  and  $H : (\text{Mod } A)^{\text{op}} \rightarrow \text{Mod } A$  like this:  $F(N) := M \otimes_A N$ ,  $G(N) := \text{Hom}_A(M, N)$  and  $H(N) := \text{Hom}_A(N, M)$ . Then  $F$  is right exact, and  $G$  and  $H$  are left exact.

**Proposition 3.10.** Let  $F : \mathcal{M} \rightarrow \mathcal{N}$  be an additive functor between abelian categories. If  $F$  is an equivalence then it is exact.

*Proof.* We will prove that  $F$  respects kernels; the proof for cokernels is similar. Take a morphism  $\phi : M_0 \rightarrow M_1$  in  $\mathcal{M}$ , with kernel  $K$ . We have this diagram (solid arrows):

$$\begin{array}{ccccc} M & & & & \\ | & \searrow \theta & & & \\ \psi \downarrow & & & & \\ K & \xrightarrow{k} & M_0 & \xrightarrow{\phi} & M_1 \end{array}$$

Applying  $F$  we obtain this diagram (solid arrows):

$$\begin{array}{ccccc} N = F(M) & & & & \\ | & \searrow \bar{\theta} & & & \\ F(\psi) \downarrow & & & & \\ F(K) & \xrightarrow{F(k)} & F(M_0) & \xrightarrow{F(\phi)} & F(M_1) \end{array}$$

in  $\mathcal{N}$ . Suppose  $\bar{\theta} : N \rightarrow F(M_0)$  is a morphism in  $\mathcal{N}$  s.t.  $F(\phi) \circ \bar{\theta} = 0$ . Since  $F$  is essentially surjective on objects, there is some  $M \in \mathcal{M}$  with an isomorphism  $\alpha : F(M) \xrightarrow{\cong} N$ . After replacing  $N$  with  $F(M)$  and  $\bar{\theta}$  with  $\bar{\theta} \circ \alpha$ , we can assume that  $N = F(M)$ .

Now since  $F$  is fully faithful, there is a unique  $\theta : M \rightarrow M_0$  s.t.  $F(\theta) = \bar{\theta}$ ; and  $\phi \circ \theta = 0$ . So there is a unique  $\psi : M \rightarrow K$  s.t.  $\theta = k \circ \psi$ . It follows that  $F(\psi) : F(M) \rightarrow F(M_0)$  is the unique morphism s.t.  $\bar{\theta} = F(k) \circ F(\psi)$ . □

Here is a result that could afford another proof of the previous proposition.

**Proposition 3.11.** *Let  $F : M \rightarrow N$  be an additive functor between linear categories. The following conditions are equivalent:*

- (i) *The functor  $F$  has a quasi-inverse.*
- (ii) *The functor  $F$  has an additive quasi-inverse.*

*Proof.* Exercise. □

#### 4. PROJECTIVE AND INJECTIVE OBJECTS

Here  $\mathcal{M}$  be an abelian category.

A *splitting* of an epimorphism  $\psi : M \rightarrow M''$  in  $\mathcal{M}$  is a morphism  $\alpha : M'' \rightarrow M$  s.t.  $\psi \circ \alpha = 1_{M''}$ . A splitting of a monomorphism  $\phi : M' \rightarrow M$  is a morphism  $\beta : M \rightarrow M'$  s.t.  $\beta \circ \phi = 1_{M'}$ . A splitting of a short exact sequence

$$0 \rightarrow M' \xrightarrow{\phi} M \xrightarrow{\psi} M'' \rightarrow 0$$

is a splitting of the epimorphism  $\psi$ , or equivalently a splitting of the monomorphism  $\phi$ . The short exact sequence is said to be *split* if it has some splitting.

**Definition 4.1.** An object  $P \in \mathcal{M}$  is called a *projective object* if any diagram (solid arrows)

$$\begin{array}{ccc} & & P \\ & \nearrow \tilde{\gamma} & \downarrow \gamma \\ M & \xrightarrow{\psi} & N \end{array}$$

in which  $\psi$  is an epimorphism, can be completed (dashed arrow).

**Proposition 4.2.** The following conditions are equivalent for  $P \in \mathcal{M}$ :

- (i)  $P$  is projective.
- (ii) The additive functor

$$\text{Hom}_{\mathcal{M}}(P, -) : \mathcal{M} \rightarrow \text{Ab}$$

is exact.

*Proof.* Exercise. □

**Definition 4.3.** We say  $\mathcal{M}$  has enough projectives if every  $M \in \mathcal{M}$  admits an epimorphism  $P \rightarrow M$  with  $P$  a projective object.

**Example 4.4.** Let  $A$  be a ring. An  $A$ -module  $P$  is projective iff it is a direct summand of a free module; i.e.  $P \oplus P' \cong Q$  for some module  $P'$  and free module  $Q$ . The category  $\text{Mod } A$  has enough projectives.

**Example 4.5.** Let  $\mathcal{M}$  be the category of finite abelian groups. The only projective object in  $\mathcal{M}$  is 0. So  $\mathcal{M}$  does not have enough projectives.

**Example 4.6.** Consider the scheme  $X := \mathbf{P}_{\mathbb{K}}^1$ , the projective line over a field  $\mathbb{K}$  (we can assume  $\mathbb{K}$  is algebraically closed, so this is a classical algebraic variety). The structure sheaf (sheaf of functions) is  $\mathcal{O}_X$ . The category  $\text{Coh } \mathcal{O}_X$  of coherent  $\mathcal{O}_X$ -modules is abelian (it is a full abelian subcategory of  $\text{Mod } \mathcal{O}_X$ , cf. Example 2.19). One can show that the only projective object of  $\text{Coh } \mathcal{O}_X$  is 0, but this is quite involved.

Let us only indicate why  $\mathcal{O}_X$  is not projective. Denote by  $t_0, t_1$  the homogenous coordinates of  $X$ . These belong to  $\Gamma(X, \mathcal{O}_X(1))$ , so each determines a homomorphism of sheaves  $t_j : \mathcal{O}_X(i) \rightarrow \mathcal{O}_X(i+1)$ . We get a sequence

$$0 \rightarrow \mathcal{O}_X(-2) \xrightarrow{[t_0 \ -t_1]} \mathcal{O}_X(-1)^2 \xrightarrow{\begin{bmatrix} t_0 \\ t_1 \end{bmatrix}} \mathcal{O}_X \rightarrow 0$$

in  $\text{Coh } \mathcal{O}_X$ , which is known to be exact, and also not split.

**Definition 4.7.** An object  $I \in \mathcal{M}$  is called an *injective object* if any diagram (solid arrows)

$$\begin{array}{ccc} & I & \\ \gamma \uparrow & \swarrow \kappa & \\ M & \xrightarrow{\psi} & N \end{array}$$

in which  $\psi$  is a monomorphism, can be completed (dashed arrow).

**Proposition 4.8.** *The following conditions are equivalent for  $I \in \mathcal{M}$ :*

- (i)  $I$  is injective.
- (ii) The additive functor

$$\mathrm{Hom}_{\mathcal{M}}(-, I) : \mathcal{M}^{\mathrm{op}} \rightarrow \mathrm{Ab}$$

is exact.

*Proof.* Exercise. □

Here are a few results about injective objects.

**Proposition 4.9.** *Let  $f : A \rightarrow B$  be a ring homomorphism, and let  $I$  be an injective left  $A$ -module. Then  $J := \mathrm{Hom}_A(B, I)$  is an injective left  $B$ -module.*

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[to here typing]

!!!!

**Example 4.10.** Let  $A$  be a ring. Unlike projectives, the structure of injective objects in  $\mathrm{Mod} A$  is very complicated, and not much is known (except that they exist). However if  $A$  is a commutative noetherian ring then we know this: every injective module  $I$  is a direct sum of indecomposable injective modules. And these indecomposables are parametrized by  $\mathrm{Spec} A$ , the set of prime ideals of  $A$ . These facts are due to Matlis; see [RD, pages 120-122] for details.

## 9. THE DERIVED CATEGORY

(missing stuff)

**Remark 9.1.** Why “triangle”? This is because sometimes a triangle

$$M \xrightarrow{\alpha} N \xrightarrow{\beta} L \xrightarrow{\gamma} M[1]$$

is written as a diagram

$$\begin{array}{ccc} & L & \\ \gamma \swarrow & & \nwarrow \beta \\ M & \xrightarrow{\alpha} & N \end{array}$$

But here  $\gamma$  is a map of degree 1.

10. OUTLINE: DERIVED FUNCTORS

(missing stuff)

## 11. OUTLINE: EXISTENCE OF DERIVED FUNCTORS

## 11.1. Full triangulated subcategories.

**Definition 11.1.** Let  $K$  be a triangulated category. A *full triangulated subcategory* of  $K$  is a full subcategory  $J \subset K$ , s.t. these conditions hold:

- (i)  $J$  is closed under shifts, i.e.  $I \in J$  iff  $I[1] \in J$ .
- (ii)  $J$  is closed under distinguished triangles, i.e. if

$$I' \rightarrow I \rightarrow I'' \rightarrow I[1]$$

is a distinguished triangle in  $K$  s.t.  $I', I \in J$ , then also  $I'' \in J$ .

When  $J$  is a full triangulated subcategory of  $K$ , then  $J$  itself is triangulated, and the inclusion  $J \rightarrow K$  is a triangulated functor.

**11.2. Right derived functor.** Recall that an additive functor  $F : M \rightarrow N$  between abelian categories induces a triangulated functor

$$K(F) : K(M) \rightarrow K(N).$$

In the next theorem we consider a slightly more general situation.

**Theorem 11.2.** Let  $M$  be an abelian category,  $E$  a triangulated category, and  $F : K(M) \rightarrow E$  a triangulated functor. Assume there is a full triangulated subcategory  $J \subset K(M)$  with these two properties:

- (i) If  $\phi : I \rightarrow I'$  is a quasi-isomorphism in  $J$ , then  $F(\phi) : F(I) \rightarrow F(I')$  is an isomorphism in  $E$ .
- (ii) Every  $M \in K(M)$  admits a quasi-isomorphism  $M \rightarrow I$  for some  $I \in J$ .

Then the right derived functor  $RF : D(M) \rightarrow E$  exists. Moreover, for any  $I \in J$  the morphism

$$\eta_I : F(I) \rightarrow (RF \circ Q)(I)$$

in  $E$  is an isomorphism.

*Sketch of Proof.* (A complete proof will be given later.) Recall that  $S \subset K(M)$  is the category (multiplicatively closed set of morphisms) consisting of the quasi-isomorphisms in  $K(M)$ , and

$$Q : K(M) \rightarrow K(M)_S = D(M)$$

is the localization functor.

Condition (ii) implies that  $S \cap J$ , the quasi-isomorphisms in  $J$ , is a left denominator set in  $J$ , and the inclusion

$$(11.3) \quad J_{S \cap J} \rightarrow K(M)_S = D(M)$$

is an equivalence (of triangulated categories).

For every  $M \in K(M)$  we choose a quasi-isomorphism  $\zeta_M : M \rightarrow I(M)$  with  $I(M) \in J$ . We take care so that  $I(M)$  and  $\zeta_M$  commute with shifts, and that  $I(M) = M$  and  $\zeta_M = 1_M$  when  $M \in J$ . In this way we obtain a triangulated functor

$$I : D(M) \rightarrow J_{S \cap J}$$

which splits the inclusion (11.3), with a natural isomorphism  $\zeta : \mathbf{1}_{D(M)} \rightarrow I$ .

We now invoke condition (ii). By the universal property of localization there is a unique functor

$$F_{S \cap J} : J_{S \cap J} \rightarrow E$$

extending  $F|_J : J \rightarrow E$ . We define

$$RF := F_{S \cap J} \circ I : D(M) \rightarrow E.$$

For any  $M \in K(M)$  we define

$$\eta_M : F(M) \rightarrow (RF \circ Q)(M) = F(I(M))$$

to be  $\eta_M := F(\zeta_M)$ . This is a natural transformation

$$\eta : F \rightarrow RF \circ Q.$$

In a diagram (commutative via  $\eta$ ):

$$\begin{array}{ccccc}
 J & \xrightarrow{Q_J} & J_{S \cap J} & & \\
 \text{inc} \downarrow & & \uparrow I & \searrow F_{S \cap J} & \\
 K(M) & \xrightarrow{Q} & D(M) & \xrightarrow{RF} & E \\
 & \uparrow \eta & & \nearrow & \\
 & & F & & 
 \end{array}$$

It remains to check that the pair  $(RF, \eta)$  has the universal property.  $\square$

### 11.3. K-injectives.

**Definition 11.4.** Let  $M$  be an abelian category. A complex  $N \in K(M)$  is called *acyclic* if  $H^i(N) = 0$  for all  $i$ . In other words, if the morphism  $0 \rightarrow N$  is a quasi-isomorphism.

**Definition 11.5.** Let  $M$  be an abelian category.

- (1) A complex  $I \in K(M)$  is called *K-injective* if for every acyclic  $N \in K(M)$ , the complex  $\text{Hom}_M(N, I)$  is also acyclic.
- (2) Let  $M \in K(M)$ . A *K-injective resolution* of  $M$  is a quasi-isomorphism  $M \rightarrow I$  in  $K(M)$ , where  $I$  is K-injective.
- (3) We say that  $K(M)$  *has enough K-injectives* if every  $M \in K(M)$  has some K-injective resolution.

The concept of K-injective complex was introduced by Spaltenstein in 1988. At about the same time other authors (Keller, Bockstedt-Neeman, ...) discovered this concept independently, with other names (such as *homotopically injective complex*).

**Example 11.6.** Let  $M$  be either  $\text{Mod } A$ , for some ring  $A$ , or  $\text{Mod } \mathcal{A}$ , for some ringed space  $(X, \mathcal{A})$ . Then  $K(M)$  has enough K-injectives. We will prove this later. (?)

**Example 11.7.** Let  $M$  be an abelian category. Any bounded below complex of injectives is K-injective.

Now assume that  $M$  has enough injectives. Let  $K^+(M)$  be the category of bounded below complexes. Any  $M \in K^+(M)$  admits a quasi-isomorphism  $M \rightarrow I$ , with  $I$  a bounded below complex of injectives. This generalizes the “old-fashioned” injective resolution

$$0 \rightarrow M \rightarrow I^0 \rightarrow I^1 \rightarrow \dots$$

for  $M \in M$ . Thus  $K^+(M)$  has enough K-injectives.

These facts were already known in [RD], in 1966, but of course without the name “K-injective”.

There are two wonderful things when  $K(M)$  has enough K-injectives.

**Proposition 11.8.** *Any quasi-isomorphism  $\phi : I \rightarrow I'$  between  $K$ -injective complexes is a homotopy equivalence; i.e. it is an isomorphism in  $K(M)$ .*

This will be proved later.

Let us denote by  $K(M)_{inj}$  the full subcategory of  $K(M)$  on the  $K$ -injective complexes.

**Corollary 11.9.** *If  $K(M)$  has enough  $K$ -injectives, then any triangulated functor  $F : K(M) \rightarrow E$  (cf. Theorem 11.2) has a right derived functor.*

*Proof.* Take  $J := K(M)_{inj}$  in the theorem. □

**Example 11.10.**

[I forgot to do this on 2.4 !!!]

Suppose we are in the situation of Example 11.7. Let  $D^+(M) := K^+(M)_{S^+}$ , the localization of  $K^+(M)$  with respect to  $S^+ := S \cap K^+(M)$ . If  $F : M \rightarrow N$  is an additive functor to some other abelian category  $N$ , then (by a variant of Corollary 11.9) we get a right derived functor

$$RF : D^+(M) \rightarrow D^+(N).$$

For  $M \in M$  let  $R^iF(M) := H^i(R^iF(M))$ . We get an additive functor

$$R^iF : M \rightarrow N,$$

which is the usual right derived functor. If  $F$  is left exact then the natural transformation  $\eta : F \rightarrow R^0F$  is an isomorphism.

Here is the second good thing.

**Proposition 11.11.** *The functor*

$$(11.12) \quad Q : K(M)_{inj} \rightarrow D(M)$$

*is fully faithful.*

*Hence, if  $K(M)$  has enough  $K$ -injectives, then (11.12) is an equivalence of triangulated categories.*

This will be proved later. The benefit here is that we can avoid the localization process (inverting the quasi-isomorphisms).

**11.4. Left derived functor.** This is the dual of Theorem 11.2. The proof is the same.

**Theorem 11.13.** *Let  $M$  be an abelian category,  $E$  a triangulated category, and  $F : K(M) \rightarrow E$  a triangulated functor. Assume there is a full triangulated subcategory  $P \subset K(M)$  with these two properties:*

- (i) *If  $\phi : P \rightarrow P'$  is a quasi-isomorphism in  $P$ , then  $F(\phi) : F(P) \rightarrow F(P')$  is an isomorphism in  $E$ .*
- (ii) *Every  $M \in K(M)$  admits a quasi-isomorphism  $P \rightarrow M$  for some  $P \in P$ .*

*Then the left derived functor  $LF : D(M) \rightarrow E$  exists. Moreover, for any  $P \in P$  the morphism*

$$\eta_P : (LF \circ Q)(P) \rightarrow F(P)$$

*in  $E$  is an isomorphism.*

### 11.5. K-projectives etc.

**Definition 11.14.** Let  $\mathcal{M}$  be an abelian category.

- (1) A complex  $P \in \mathcal{K}(\mathcal{M})$  is called *K-projective* if for every acyclic  $N \in \mathcal{K}(\mathcal{M})$ , the complex  $\text{Hom}_{\mathcal{M}}(P, N)$  is also acyclic.
- (2) Let  $M \in \mathcal{K}(\mathcal{M})$ . A *K-projective resolution* of  $M$  is a quasi-isomorphism  $P \rightarrow M$  in  $\mathcal{K}(\mathcal{M})$ , where  $P$  is K-projective.
- (3) We say that  $\mathcal{K}(\mathcal{M})$  has enough K-projectives if every  $M \in \mathcal{K}(\mathcal{M})$  has some K-projective resolution.

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[to here Monday 2.4.12]

**Example 11.15.** Let  $\mathcal{M} := \text{Mod } A$ , for some ring  $A$ . Then  $\mathcal{K}(\mathcal{M})$  has enough K-projectives. We will prove this later. (?)

**Example 11.16.** Let  $\mathcal{M}$  be an abelian category. Any bounded above complex of projectives is K-projective.

Now assume that  $\mathcal{M}$  has enough projectives. Let  $\mathcal{K}^-(\mathcal{M})$  be the category of bounded above complexes. Any  $M \in \mathcal{K}^-(\mathcal{M})$  admits a quasi-isomorphism  $P \rightarrow M$ , with  $M$  a bounded above complex of projectives. This generalizes the “old-fashioned” projective resolution

$$\cdots \rightarrow P^{-1} \rightarrow P^0 \rightarrow M \rightarrow 0$$

for  $M \in \mathcal{M}$ . Thus  $\mathcal{K}^-(\mathcal{M})$  has enough K-projectives.

The dual versions of Proposition 11.8, Corollary 11.9, Proposition 11.11 and Example 11.10 hold.

Later we will also discuss *K-flat complexes* over a ring  $A$ . These are very useful for constructing certain left derived functors.

### 11.6. Derived bifunctors.

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[this needs to be fixed!]

The most important functors for us are these:

$$(11.17) \quad \text{Hom}_{\mathcal{M}}(-, -) : \mathcal{M}^{\text{op}} \times \mathcal{M} \rightarrow \text{Mod } \mathbb{K},$$

where  $\mathcal{M}$  is a  $\mathbb{K}$ -linear abelian category; and

$$(11.18) \quad - \otimes_A - : \text{Mod } A^{\text{op}} \times \text{Mod } A \rightarrow \text{Mod } \mathbb{K}$$

where  $A$  is a  $\mathbb{K}$ -algebra. These are *biadditive bifunctors*.

In general, given abelian categories  $\mathcal{M}', \mathcal{M}$  and  $\mathcal{N}$ , and a biadditive bifunctor

$$F : \mathcal{M}' \times \mathcal{M} \rightarrow \mathcal{N},$$

there is an induced *bitriangulated bifunctor*

$$\mathcal{K}(F) : \mathcal{K}(\mathcal{M}') \times \mathcal{K}(\mathcal{M}) \rightarrow \mathcal{K}(\mathcal{N}).$$

A right derived bifunctor of  $F$  (or of  $\mathcal{K}(F)$ ) is a bitriangulated bifunctor

$$RF : \mathcal{D}(\mathcal{M}') \times \mathcal{D}(\mathcal{M}) \rightarrow \mathcal{D}(\mathcal{N}),$$

with a natural transformation (of bitriangulated bifunctors)

$$\eta : Q \circ \mathcal{K}(F) \rightarrow RF \circ (Q \times Q),$$

that has the same universal property as in (???).

The left derived bifunctor  $LF$  is defined similarly.

**11.7. Deriving Bifunctors: Existence.**

[this needs to be fixed!]

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Suppose we are given abelian categories  $M$  and  $N$ , a triangulated category  $E$ , and a bitriangulated bifunctor

$$F : K(N) \times K(M) \rightarrow E.$$

We want to construct the derived functor

$$RF : D(N) \times D(M) \rightarrow E.$$

**Theorem 11.19.** *Suppose there is a full triangulated subcategory  $J \subset K(M)$  with these two properties:*

- (i) *If  $\phi : I \rightarrow I'$  is a quasi-isomorphism in  $J$ , and  $\psi : N \rightarrow N'$  is a quasi-isomorphism in  $K(N)$ , then*

$$F(\psi, \phi) : F(N, I) \rightarrow F(N', I')$$

*is an isomorphism in  $E$ .*

- (ii) *Every  $M \in K(M)$  admits a quasi-isomorphism  $M \rightarrow I$  with  $I \in J$ .*

*Then the derived functor  $RF$  exists, and moreover*

$$\eta_{N,I} : F(N, I) \rightarrow RF(N, I)$$

*is an isomorphism for any  $I \in J$ .*

Note the symmetry between  $M$  and  $N$  in this theorem.

**Example 11.20.**  $M$  is any abelian category, and  $N := M^{\text{op}}$ . Consider the bifunctor

$$F : N \times M \rightarrow \text{Ab},$$

$$F(N, M) := \text{Hom}_M(N, M).$$

Using the isomorphisms of triangulated categories  $K(N) = K(M^{\text{op}}) \cong K(M)^{\text{op}}$  and  $D(N) \cong D(M)^{\text{op}}$ , the derived functor  $RF$  is usually written as

$$\text{RHom}_M : D(M)^{\text{op}} \times D(M) \rightarrow D(\text{Ab}).$$

(If  $M$  happens to be a  $\mathbb{K}$ -linear category, for some commutative ring  $\mathbb{K}$ , then  $\text{RHom}_M$  takes values in  $D(\text{Mod } \mathbb{K})$ .)

In case  $K(M)$  has enough  $K$ -injectives, then the full subcategory  $J := K(M)_{\text{inj}} \subset K(M)$  on the  $K$ -injectives satisfies properties (i-ii) of the theorem. If  $K(M)$  has enough  $K$ -projectives, then we can take the full subcategory  $P := K(M)_{\text{proj}} \subset K(M)$  on the  $K$ -projectives. Then  $P^{\text{op}} \subset K(N)$  satisfies properties (i-ii) of the theorem.

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