

Spectral sequences

Filtrations

Let (C, d) be a complex and $\cdots \subset F_{p-1}C \subset F_p C \subset \cdots$ a filtration of complexes. Define

$$\begin{aligned} A_{pq}^r &= F_p C_{p+q} \cap d^{-1} F_{p-r} C_{p+q-1} = \{x \in F_p C_{p+q} \mid dx \in F_{p-r} C_{p+q-1}\} \\ E_{pq}^r &= \frac{A_{pq}^r}{d(A_{p+r-1, q-r+2}^{r-1}) + A_{p-1, q+1}^{r-1}} \\ d^r : E_{pq}^r &\longrightarrow E_{p-r, q+r-1}^r \end{aligned}$$

where d^r is induced by d . (E^r, d^r) is a family of complexes and one checks that E_{pq}^{r+1} is the homology at the position E_{pq}^r .

Theorem 1 (Classical Convergence Theorem). *If the filtration is bounded, i.e. $F_p C_n = C_n$ for large enough p and $F_p C_n = 0$ for small enough p (depending on n), then this spectral sequence converges to $H_*(C)$*

$$E_{pq}^0 = F_p C_{p+q} / F_{p-1} C_{p+q} \implies H_{p+q}(C).$$

This means, that for fixed (p, q) every E_{pq}^r stabilizes to some E_{pq}^∞ and

$$E_{pq}^\infty \cong F_p H_{p+q}(C) / F_{p-1} H_{p+q}(C),$$

where

$$F_p H_{p+q}(C) = \text{im}(H_{p+q}(F_p C) \rightarrow H_{p+q}(C)) = \ker(H_{p+q}(C) \rightarrow H_{p+q}(C/F_p C)).$$

Double complexes

Let (C, d^v, d^h) be a double complex, i.e. $d^v d^h + d^h d^v = 0$, then the total complex $T = \text{Tot}(C)$ is defined by $T_n = \bigoplus_{p+q=n} C_{pq}$ and $d = d^v + d^h$. There are two filtrations on T that can be used to get spectral sequences. The first is

$${}^I F_p T_n = \bigoplus_{\substack{a+b=n \\ a \leq p}} C_{ab}.$$

This yields the spectral sequence ${}^I E_{pq}^0 = C_{pq}$, ${}^I E_{pq}^1 = H_q(C_{*p})$, $d^0 = d^v$, and $d^1 = d^h$. We get the second spectral sequence by flipping the role of p and q , i.e.

$${}^{II} F_q T_n = \bigoplus_{\substack{a+b=n \\ b \leq q}} C_{ab}.$$

Then we get ${}^{II} E_{pq}^0 = C_{qp}$, ${}^{II} E_{pq}^1 = H_q(C_{*p})$, $d^0 = d^h$, and $d^1 = d^v$.

Note that if the double complex is bounded, both spectral sequences converge to the homology of the total complex. (Although the E_{pq}^∞ might very well be different.)