

§ 34

The isomorphism between simplicial and singular homology

GoalLet K be a simplicial complex. Let $X = |K|$.

Then

$$\begin{array}{ccc} H_p(K) & \cong & H_p(X) \\ \uparrow \text{simp.} & & \uparrow \text{sing} \end{array}$$

The isomorphism commutes with homomorphisms induced by simplicial maps. This means if $f: K \rightarrow L$ is a simplicial map and $g: |K| \rightarrow |L|$ is the continuous map it determines (see Lemma 2.7 on pg 12) then

$$\begin{array}{ccc} H_p(K) & \cong & H_p(|K|) \\ f_* \downarrow & & \downarrow g_* \\ H_p(L) & \cong & H_p(|L|) \end{array} \text{ commutes.}$$

The iso. also commutes with ∂_* , the connecting homomorphism is the long exact seq of a pair.

Everything goes through for reduced and relative homology.

The tool we will use is the ordered hom. thry of §13. There we showed simp. and ordered hom. thry's of simplicial complexes were isomorphic and the iso. commuted with ~~hom~~ induced hom's. You should review that.

Recall

An ordered p -simplex is a $p+1$ tuple $(v_0, \dots, v_p)$ of vertices of K (not necessarily distinct) that span a simplex of K . $C'_p(K)$ is generated by these.

$$\partial'(v_0, \dots, v_p) = \sum_{i=0}^p (-1)^i (v_0, \dots, \hat{v}_i, \dots, v_p)$$

$$\varepsilon'(v) = 1$$

Extend $\partial': C'_p(K) \rightarrow C'_{p-1}(K)$ and $\varepsilon': C'_0(K) \rightarrow \mathbb{Z}$.

Def

Define $\theta: C'_p(K) \rightarrow S_p(X)$ by extending

$$\theta((v_0, \dots, v_p)) = \ell(v_0, \dots, v_p).$$

Note

θ commutes with ∂' and $\varepsilon', \varepsilon$:

$$\begin{array}{ccc} C'_p(K) & \xrightarrow{\partial'} & C'_{p-1}(K) \\ \theta \downarrow & & \theta \downarrow \\ S_p(X) & \xrightarrow{\partial} & S_{p-1}(X) \end{array} \quad \begin{array}{ccc} C'_0(K) & \xrightarrow{\varepsilon'} & \mathbb{Z} \\ \theta \downarrow & & \downarrow \text{id} \\ S_0(X) & \xrightarrow{\varepsilon} & \mathbb{Z} \end{array}$$

commute. Thus, θ is an augmentation pres. chain map.

Since θ also commutes with inclusion maps, θ induces a chain map on relative chains

$$\theta: C'_p(K, K_0) \rightarrow S_p(X, X_0)$$

where K_0 is a subcomplex of K , $|K_0| = X_0 \subset X$.

Now θ induces hom's on the homology groups, reduced and relative. We will show these are isomorphisms. They are natural. The iso. pp is two lemmas.

Lemma 34.1 Let $\psi: C \rightarrow C'$ be a chain map of augmented chain complexes. Then ψ_* is an iso. in reduced hom. iff it is an iso. in ordinary homology.

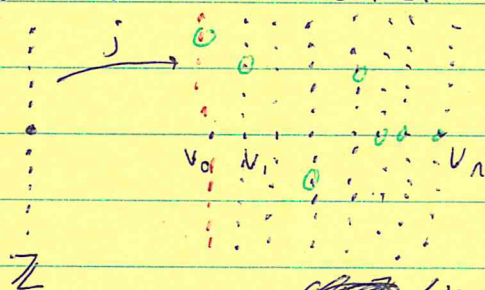
Note: Review Thms 7.2 and Exercise 7.1.

pf: Consider

$$\begin{array}{ccccccc}
 0 & \rightarrow & \ker \varepsilon & \rightarrow & C_0 & \xrightarrow{\varepsilon} & \mathbb{Z} \rightarrow 0 \\
 & & \downarrow \psi & & \downarrow \psi & & \downarrow \text{id} \\
 0 & \rightarrow & \ker \varepsilon' & \rightarrow & C'_0 & \xrightarrow{\varepsilon'} & \mathbb{Z} \rightarrow 0
 \end{array}$$

The top and bottom sequences are exact (ε and ε' are onto). $\exists$ a map $j: \mathbb{Z} \rightarrow C_0$ s.t. $\varepsilon \circ j: \mathbb{Z} \rightarrow \mathbb{Z}$ is the identity (there is a typo in the book). Now, the top seq splits, $C_0 = \ker \varepsilon \oplus \text{im } j$.

Example This example will help you see why $C_0 = \ker \varepsilon \oplus \text{im } j$. Let $v_0 \in C_0$ be a vertex. Define $j(n) = nv_0 \in C_0$.



~~$\{v_1, \dots, v_n\} \times \mathbb{Z}$~~ $C_0 = \text{sequences in here}$

Let $\alpha = 3v_1 + 2v_2 + 6v_0 \in C_0$.

Let $\alpha' = 3v_0 + 2v_0 + 6v_0 = 11v_0 \in \text{im}(j)$.

Let $\alpha'' = 3v_1 - 3v_0 + 2v_2 - 2v_0 \in \ker \varepsilon$.

Notice $\alpha = \alpha' + \alpha''$.

Now let $j': \mathbb{Z} \rightarrow C'_0$ be $j' = \psi \circ j$. Now

$$C'_0 = \ker c' \oplus \text{im } j'.$$

And $\psi: \text{im } j \rightarrow \text{im } j'$ is an isomorphism because

$$\psi(\cdot) = \varepsilon(\text{id}(\varepsilon'^{-1}(\cdot)))$$

$$\begin{array}{ccc} nv_0 & \rightarrow & n \rightarrow nv_0 \\ \downarrow & & \searrow \\ \text{vertex of } K & & \text{but now } x_0 \in X \end{array}$$

Now

$$H_0(C) \cong \frac{\ker c \oplus \text{im } j}{\partial C_1} \cong \frac{\ker c}{\partial C_1} \oplus \text{im } j$$

$$H_0(C') = \frac{\ker c' \oplus \text{im } j'}{\partial' C'_1} \cong \frac{\ker \varepsilon'}{\partial' C'_1} \oplus \text{im } j$$

But $\text{im } j \cong \mathbb{Z}$.

$$\tilde{H}_0(C) \cong \frac{\ker c}{\partial C_1}$$

$$\tilde{H}_0(C') \cong \frac{\ker \varepsilon'}{\partial' C'_1}$$

~~Thus, $H_0(C) \cong H_0(C')$~~

Thus, $\psi_*: H_0(C) \rightarrow H_0(C')$ is an iso. iff

$\psi_*: \tilde{H}_0(C) \rightarrow \tilde{H}_0(C')$ is an iso.

The next lemma is the main result.

Lemma 34.2 $\forall p, \theta$ induces the isomorphisms:

$$\textcircled{1} \quad \theta_*: \tilde{H}_p(C'(K)) \rightarrow \tilde{H}_p(|K|)$$

$$\textcircled{2} \quad \theta_*: H_p(C'(K)) \rightarrow H_p(|K|)$$

$$\textcircled{3} \quad \theta_*: H_p(C'(K, K_0)) \rightarrow H_p(|K|, |K_0|).$$

where K_0 is a subcomplex of K .

Pf I'll only do the finite case.

$\textcircled{1} \Rightarrow \textcircled{2}$ by lemma 34.1. $\textcircled{2} \Rightarrow \textcircled{3}$ by the long exact seq of a pair and the 5 lemma:

$$\begin{array}{ccccccccc} H_p'(K_0) & \rightarrow & H_p'(K) & \rightarrow & H_p'(K, K_0) & \rightarrow & H_{p-1}'(K_0) & \rightarrow & H_{p-1}'(K) \\ \downarrow \cong & & \downarrow \cong & & \downarrow \theta_* & & \downarrow \cong & & \downarrow \cong \\ H_p(|K_0|) & \rightarrow & H_p(|K|) & \rightarrow & H_p(|K|, |K_0|) & \rightarrow & H_{p-1}(|K_0|) & \rightarrow & H_{p-1}(|K|) \end{array}$$

$\Rightarrow \theta_*$ is an iso.

$n=1$

Suppose K is a finite complex with n simplices. If $n=1$, K is a vertex and the proof is trivial. See next book.

$n>1$

Suppose $\textcircled{1}$ holds for all complexes with fewer than n simplices.

Let $\sigma \in K$ be a simplex of max. dimension.

Let $K_0 = K - \{\sigma\}$.

Let Σ be the complex carried by σ (i.e. σ and its faces).

Let $\Sigma_0 = \Sigma - \{\sigma\}$, (i.e. the faces of σ).

$$\begin{array}{ccc} \text{Consider } \tilde{H}_p'(K) & \xrightarrow{\theta_x} & \tilde{H}_p(K) \\ \downarrow i_x' & & \downarrow i_x \\ H_p'(K, \Sigma) & \xrightarrow{\theta_x} & H_p(K, \sigma) \\ \uparrow j_x' & & \uparrow j_x \\ H_p'(K_0, \Sigma_0) & \xrightarrow{\theta_*} & H_p(K_0, \sigma) \end{array}$$

The i', j', i, j are inclusion maps. θ commutes with inclusions.
(i', j' are simplicial inclusions, i, j are ^{corresponding} topological inclusions.)

The θ_* on the bottom is an iso. by the induction hyp.

Since the diagram commutes, if we show i_x', j_x', i_x, j_x are isomorphisms, then all the θ_x are iso's.

First i_x' 's

Consider the long exact seq of the pair (K, σ) :

$$\begin{array}{ccccccc} H_p(\sigma) & \rightarrow & H_p(K) & \xrightarrow{i_x} & H_p(K, \sigma) & \rightarrow & H_{p-1}(\sigma) \\ \parallel & & & & & & \parallel \\ 0 & & & & & & 0 \end{array}$$

The ends are trivial b/c σ is acyclic. Thus i_x is an iso.

~~But also~~ This works for i_x' as well since σ is acyclic in ordered homology.

Excision

w the j 's.

The inclusion map $j': (K_0, \Sigma_0) \rightarrow (K, \Sigma)$, by Thm 9.1, induces an iso. of relative simplicial homology gps, which are iso to the ordered homology gps. Thus j' is an iso.

Showing the map j_* is an iso is harder. The ^(31.7)Excision Thm for sing. homology does not apply since ~~$\{K_0 - \sigma, \sigma\}$~~ the interiors of $\{K - \sigma, \sigma\}$ do not cover K .

We get around this as follows. Let $\hat{\sigma}$ be the barycenter of σ . Consider

$$\begin{array}{ccc} H_p(K, \sigma) & \xleftarrow{l_*} & H_p(K - \hat{\sigma}, \sigma - \hat{\sigma}) \\ \uparrow j_* & & \\ H_p(K_0, \sigma_0) & \xrightarrow{k_*} & \end{array}$$

k_* and l_* are induced by inclusion maps k and l .
 $j = l \circ k \Rightarrow j_* = l_* \circ k_*$. Now l_* is an iso by Excision (31.7). We finish by showing k_* is an iso. as well.

If $\dim \sigma = 0$, this is trivial. $\sigma - \hat{\sigma} = \emptyset$, $\sigma_0 - \hat{\sigma}_0 = \emptyset$ and $k: K_0 \rightarrow K - \hat{\sigma}$ is the identity.

~~If $\dim \sigma \geq 1$, then we claim k is homotopic to the identity. Then Thm 30.8 $\Rightarrow k_*$ is an iso.~~

We claim $K: (|K_0|, |2\sigma|) \rightarrow (|K| - \delta, |\sigma| - \delta)$ is a homotopy equivalence. Then Thm 30.8 $\Rightarrow K_*$ is an iso.

Recall Let $f: (X, A) \rightarrow (Y, B)$. If there is a map $g: (Y, B) \rightarrow (X, A)$ s.t. $f \circ g$ and $g \circ f$ are homotopic to ident. maps of pairs, then f is a homotopy equivalence. (p. 174).

Now $|2\sigma|$ is a deformation retract of $|\sigma| - \delta$.

(Thm 19.6) Let $F: |\sigma| - \delta \times I \rightarrow |\sigma| - \delta$ be such a def. retract:

$$\begin{aligned} F(x, 0) &= x \quad \forall x \in |\sigma| - \delta \\ F(x, 1) &\in |2\sigma| \quad \forall x \in |\sigma| - \delta \\ F(a, t) &= a \quad \forall a \in |2\sigma|, t \in I. \end{aligned}$$

Extend $F: |K| - \delta \times I \rightarrow |K| - \delta$ by defining

$$F(x, t) = x \quad \forall x \in |K_0| = |K| - |\sigma|.$$

The pasting lemma (from 530) shows F is cont.

Let $g: (|K| - \delta, |\sigma| - \delta) \rightarrow (|K_0|, |2\sigma|)$
be given by $g(x) = F(x, 1)$.

Then $g \circ K = \text{id}$ on $(|K_0|, |2\sigma|)$.

Now $K \circ g$ is not the identity on $(|K| - \delta, |\sigma| - \delta)$
but via F $K \circ g$ is homotopic to the id.



So, we have a chain map $\theta: C'(K) \rightarrow J(|K|)$ that induces an iso. $\theta_*: H_p'(K) \rightarrow H_p(K)$. (ordered homology to singular). Back in §13 we have a ~~map~~ chain map $\phi: C(K) \rightarrow C'(K)$ that induced as iso. ~~on~~ $\phi_*: H_p(K) \rightarrow H_p'(K)$ [simplicial hom. to ordered homology]. Let $\eta = \theta \circ \phi$. Then

$$\eta_*: H_p(K) \rightarrow H_p(|K|) \text{ is an iso.}$$

$\text{simp.} \qquad \qquad \text{sing.}$

There are three things left to check that you can read on your own.

Thm (34.3) η_* commutes with d_* :

$$\begin{array}{ccc} H_p(K, K_0) & \xrightarrow{d_*} & H_{p-1}(K_0) & \text{simp.} \\ \downarrow \eta_* & & \downarrow \eta_* & \\ H_p(|K|, |K_0|) & \rightarrow & H_{p-1}(|K_0|) & \text{sing.} \end{array}$$

commutes.

~~Done~~

Thm 34.4 η_x commutes with homomorphisms induced by simplicial maps. Let $f: (K, k_0) \rightarrow (L, L_0)$ be a simp. map (of pairs). Then is also a cont. map $f: (|K|, |k_0|) \rightarrow (|L|, |L_0|)$. Then

$$\begin{array}{ccc} H_p(K, k_0) & \xrightarrow{f_x} & H_p(L, L_0) & \text{simp} \\ \downarrow \eta_x & & \downarrow \eta_x & \\ H_p(|K|, |k_0|) & \xrightarrow{f_x} & H_p(|L|, |L_0|) & \text{sing} \end{array}$$

commutes.

Thm 34.5 η_x commutes with hom's induced by cont. maps in the following sense. Let $h: (|K|, |k_0|) \rightarrow (|L|, |L_0|)$ be cont. Let $f: (K', k'_0) \rightarrow (L, L_0)$ be a simplicial approximation to h . Then

$$\begin{array}{ccc} H_p(K', k'_0) & \xrightarrow{f_x} & H_p(L, L_0) \\ g_x \downarrow & & \downarrow \eta_x \\ H_p(K, k_0) & & \\ \eta_x \downarrow & & \\ H_p(|K|, |k_0|) & \xrightarrow{h_x} & H_p(|L|, |L_0|) \end{array}$$

commutes, where $g: (K', k'_0) \rightarrow (K, k_0)$ is a simp. approx of the identity.