## • Classfield Theory...

- Herbrand quotients: veiled homological ideas
- Recollection of topological antecedents: counting holes
- Herbrand quotient as Euler-Poincaré characteristic
- $\bullet$  Toward Hilbert's theorem 90 as cohomology cont'd
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Herbrand quotients: veiled homological ideas Homological algebra includes computational devices extending linear algebra and counting procedures. Motivations also come from (algebraic) topology, defining and counting *holes*.

Recap the definition of the **Herbrand quotient**, despite its opacity: For an abelian group A with maps  $f : A \to A$  and  $g: A \to A$ , with  $f \circ g = 0$  and  $g \circ f = 0$ .

 $q(A) = q_{f,g}(A) =$  Herbrand quotient of  $A, f, g = \frac{[\ker f : \operatorname{im} g]}{[\ker g : \operatorname{im} f]}$ 

**Inscrutable Key Lemma:** For finite A, q(A) = 1. For f-stable, g-stable subgroup  $A \subset B$  with  $f, g : B \to B$ , we have  $q(B) = q(A) \cdot q(B/A)$ , in the usual sense that if two are finite, so is the third, and the relation holds.

More definitions stripped of origins, motivation, or purpose: A *complex* of abelian groups  $A_i$  is a family of homomorphisms (with the  $\pm$  in the numbering depending on context)

$$\cdots \longrightarrow A_i \xrightarrow{f_i} A_{i\pm 1} \xrightarrow{f_{i\pm 1}} \cdots$$

with the composition of any two consecutive maps = 0, that is, with  $f_{i\pm 1} \circ f_i = 0$ , for all *i*. The **(co)homology**, with superscript or subscript depending on context and numbering conventions, is

 $H_i$ (the complex) =  $H^i$ (the complex) =  $\frac{\ker f_i}{\operatorname{im} f_{i\pm 1}}$ 

The utility of this requires explanation. In any case, the Herbrand quotient situation involves a *periodic* complex

$$\cdots \longrightarrow A \xrightarrow{f} A \xrightarrow{g} A \xrightarrow{g} A \xrightarrow{f} \cdots$$

and the Herbrand quotient is a ratio of orders of (co-)homology groups.

## Basic computational device: long exact sequence

We noted that the homology of spheres  $S^n$  is best computed *not* by expressing the spheres as simplicial complexes and using the definition, but by a *long exact sequence* in homology, obtained from the Mayer-Vietoris theorem.

That is, express  $S^n$  as the union of two hemispheres, each having trivial homology (no holes!), intersecting at the equator, isomorphic to  $S^{n-1}$ .

In this example, the (Mayer-Vietoris) long exact sequence has many 0's, giving  $H^i(S^n) \approx H^{i-1}(S^{n-1})$  for  $2 \leq i < n$ .

Induction on the dimension n of  $S^n$  essentially reduces to some low-dimensional and edge cases.

These edge cases are nicely explained via *Euler-Poincaré* characteristics, in an algebraic sense, rather than the naive geometric sense V - E + F. **Euler-Poincaré characteristics:** The fussy edge cases in using the long exact sequence from Mayer-Vietoris to compute homology of spheres are

$$0 \to H_1(S^n) \to \mathbb{Z} \to \mathbb{Z} \oplus \mathbb{Z} \to \mathbb{Z} \to 0$$

and, at the bottom of the induction,

 $0 \to H_1(S^1) \to \mathbb{Z} \oplus \mathbb{Z} \to \mathbb{Z} \oplus \mathbb{Z} \to \mathbb{Z} \to 0$ 

In both cases, the unknown object injects to a free  $\mathbb{Z}$ -module, so is free. Then the question is obviously its *rank*.

Claim (about Euler characteristic): In an exact sequence

 $0 \longrightarrow F_1 \longrightarrow F_2 \longrightarrow \ldots \longrightarrow F_{n-1} \longrightarrow F_n \longrightarrow 0$ 

of free modules  $F_i$ , we have  $\sum_i (-1)^i \cdot \operatorname{rk} F_i = 0$ .

*Proof:* For a *short* exact sequence  $0 \to A \to B \to C \to 0$  of vector spaces over a field, the standard idea that any basis of A can be extended to a basis of B, with the (images of the) *new* elements forming a basis of  $C \approx B/A$ , proves the assertion in this case.

The general case is by induction: an exact sequence

$$0 \longrightarrow F_1 \longrightarrow \cdots \longrightarrow F_{n-1} \longrightarrow F_{n-1} \longrightarrow F_n \longrightarrow 0$$

with n > 3 can be broken into two smaller ones:



with X the image of  $F_{n-2}$  and the kernel of  $F_{n-1} \to F_n$ .

Then the two equations

$$\dim F_1 - \dim F_2 + \dim F_3 - \dots + (-1)^{n-1} \dim X = 0$$

 $\dim X - \dim F_{n-1} + \dim F_n = 0$ 

give the assertion, by subtracting or adding.

**Remark:** The same argument applies to exact sequences of *free modules* over a PID.

**Remark:** The same argument proves a counting result, namely, for an exact sequence of *finite* abelian groups,

 $0 \longrightarrow M_1 \longrightarrow \cdots \longrightarrow M_{n-1} \longrightarrow M_{n-1} \longrightarrow M_n \longrightarrow 0$  $\prod_i |M_i|^{(-1)^i} = 1, \text{ or, equivalently, } \sum_i (-1)^i \cdot \log |M_i| = 0.$ This bears on Herbrand-quotient issues.

**Toward Hilbert's Theorem 90 as cohomology:** The linear algebra that counts holes is useful for counting other things.

To introduce cohomology as saying useful things about familiar objects, rewrite Hilbert's theorem 90: for  $G = \operatorname{Gal}(K/k) = \langle \sigma \rangle$ cyclic, letting  $t = \sum_{g \in G} g \in \mathbb{Z}[G]$ , the additive version of the theorem asserts  $\ker t|_K$ 

$$\frac{\ker t|_K}{\operatorname{im}\left(\sigma-1\right)|_K} = 0$$

Of course, the multiplicative version has the same form, once we realize that for  $\beta \in K^{\times}$ ,  $(\sigma - 1)\beta = \sigma\beta/\beta$  and  $t \cdot \beta = N_k^K(\beta)$ .

A formation ker/im is of the desired homological form.

Homological algebra puts such quotients into a larger context.

The Artin/reciprocity map will have a natural homological sense.

The numerators in Hilbert's Theorem 90 are the kernels of the norm  $N_k^K : K^{\times} \to k^{\times}$  and trace  $\operatorname{tr}_k^K : K \to k$ .

 $k^{\times}=(K^{\times})^G$  and  $k=K^G$  are the  $G\text{-fixed submodules of }K^{\times}$  and K, by Galois theory.

Recall that, for a group G and  $\mathbbm{Z}\text{-module}\;A$  with G acting, the fixed sub-module  $A^G$  is

$$A^G = \{a \in A : ga = a \text{ for all } g \in G\}$$

This is the trivial-representation *isotype* in A. This is *characterized* as the *subobject* through which all G-maps from trivial G-modules X to A factor:



The denominators in Theorem 90 are as follows.

The *co-fixed* quotient module  $A_G$  of a *G*-module *A* is characterized as the *quotient* through which all *G*-maps from *A* to trivial *G*modules *X* factor:

 $\begin{array}{ccc} A_{G} & \longleftarrow & A & & (G \text{ acting trivially on } X) \\ \vdots & & & \\ \exists ! & & & \\ & & & & \\ & & & \\ & & & \\ & &$ 

This is A's trivial-representation *co-isotype*. It is provably *constructed* as A

$$A_G = \frac{A}{I_G \cdot A}$$

where  $I_G$  is the *augmentation ideal*, the kernel of the *augmentation*  $map \ \varepsilon : \mathbb{Z}[G] \to \mathbb{Z}$ , defined by  $\varepsilon g = 1$  for all  $g \in G$ . Therefore,

 $I_G$  = ideal generated in  $\mathbb{Z}[G]$  by g-1 for  $g \in G$ 

 $I_G \cdot A$  appears in Hilbert's theorem 90 for cyclic G.

For cyclic  $G = \langle \sigma \rangle$  of order n, with  $t = \sum_{g \in G} g$   $(\sigma - 1) \cdot t = t \cdot (\sigma - 1) = (\sigma - 1) \cdot (1 + \sigma + \sigma^2 + \ldots + \sigma^{n-1})$  $= \sigma^n - 1 = 0$  (in  $\mathbb{Z}[G]$ )

Thus, since the composite of any two successive maps is 0, by definition we have a two-sided *complex* fitting the hypotheses of the *Herbrand quotient* situation:

 $\cdots \xrightarrow{t} A \xrightarrow{\sigma-1} A \xrightarrow{t} A \xrightarrow{\sigma-1} A \xrightarrow{t} \cdots$ 

(Co-)homology quotients abstracting Theorem 90 are

$$\frac{\ker t|_A}{\operatorname{im}(\sigma-1)|_A} \qquad \qquad \frac{\ker(\sigma-1)|_A}{\operatorname{im}t|_A}$$

Specifically, Theorem 90 says that for A = K or  $A = K^{\times}$  with K/k a finite separable extension,

$$\frac{\ker t|_A}{\operatorname{im}\left(\sigma-1\right)|_A} = 0$$

In that situation, due to non-degeneracy of *trace* in separable extensions,  $h_{\text{extensions}}$ 

and  

$$\frac{\ker(\sigma-1)|_{K}}{\operatorname{im} t|_{K}} = \frac{k}{\operatorname{tr}_{k}^{K}K} = 0$$

$$\frac{\ker(\sigma-1)|_{K^{\times}}}{\operatorname{im} t|_{K^{\times}}} = \frac{k^{\times}}{N_{k}^{K}K^{\times}} = \begin{cases} 1 & \text{(finite fields)} \\ \mathbb{Z}/[K:k] & \text{(unramified local)} \\ ?? & \text{(in general)} \end{cases}$$

**Theorem:** (shortest long exact sequence) A commutative diagram



with exact rows gives a long exact sequence

$$0 \to \ker f|_A \to \ker f|_B \to \ker f|_C \to \frac{A'}{fA} \to \frac{B'}{fB} \to \frac{C'}{fC} \to 0$$

**Remark:** The least obvious map is ker  $f|_C \longrightarrow A'/fA$ .

**Remark:** The diagram is a short exact sequence of the *complexes*  $0 \to A \to A' \to 0, \ 0 \to B \to B' \to 0$ , and  $0 \to C \to C' \to 0$ .

Least obvious part of the proof: The connecting homomorphism  $\delta : \ker f|_C \longrightarrow A'/fA$  is not obvious. Recopying the diagram,



Given f(c) = 0, take  $b \to c$ . Then  $f(b) \to f(c) = 0$ , so there is  $a' \to f(b)$ . Put  $\delta(c) = a'$ . The rest of the proof is more natural.

**Remark:** The description of the connecting homomorphism is the *Snake Lemma*.

**Example:** Powers in  $\mathbb{Z}_p^{\times}$ , p > 2. Let  $f(x) = x^n$ , and consider



Let  $\mu_n R$  be  $n^{th}$  roots of unity in R, and  $U = 1 + p\mathbb{Z}_p$ . The long exact sequence is (with multiplicative notation)

$$1 \to \mu_n U \to \mu_n \mathbb{Z}_p^{\times} \to \mu_n \mathbb{Z}/p^{\times} \to \frac{U}{U^n} \to \frac{\mathbb{Z}_p^{\times}}{(\mathbb{Z}_p^{\times})^n} \to \frac{\mathbb{Z}/p^{\times}}{(\mathbb{Z}/p^{\times})^n} \to 1$$
  
For  $p \not| n, \dots$ 

... with  $p \not| n$  and p > 2 we understand  $n^{th}$  powers in U and in  $\mathbb{Z}/p^{\times}$ : on U the  $n^{th}$  power map is an isomorphism. Thus, (recopying)

$$1 \to \mu_n U \to \mu_n \mathbb{Z}_p^{\times} \to \mu_n \mathbb{Z}/p^{\times} \to \frac{U}{U^n} \to \frac{\mathbb{Z}_p^{\times}}{(\mathbb{Z}_p^{\times})^n} \to \frac{\mathbb{Z}/p^{\times}}{(\mathbb{Z}/p^{\times})^n} \to 1$$

becomes

$$1 \to 1 \to \mu_n \mathbb{Z}_p^{\times} \to \mu_n \mathbb{Z}/p^{\times} \to 1 \to \frac{\mathbb{Z}_p^{\times}}{(\mathbb{Z}_p^{\times})^n} \to \frac{\mathbb{Z}/p^{\times}}{(\mathbb{Z}/p^{\times})^n} \to 1$$

Two *isomorphisms*: whatever  $n^{th}$  roots of unity are in  $\mathbb{Z}/p^{\times}$  lift to  $\mathbb{Z}_p^{\times}$ , and  $x \in \mathbb{Z}_p^{\times}$  is an  $n^{th}$  power  $\Leftrightarrow$  it is an  $n^{th}$  power mod p.

**Remark:** Obtaining  $n^{th}$  roots of unity in  $\mathbb{Z}_p$  didn't seem to need Hensel's Lemma, only that  $x \to x^n$  is an isomorphism on U.