The definable content of (co)homological invariants. Part III: Theory and Examples.

Aristotelis Panagiotopoulos

Carnegie Mellon University

BLAST 2022

These series of lectures are about an ongoing research program that is in joint work with Jeff Bergfalk and Martino Lupini.





- [1] The definable content of homological invariants I: Ext & \lim^1 , (2020), arXiv:2008.08782.
- [2] The definable content of homological invariants II: cohomology and homotopy classication, (2022), in preparation.

Goal. Enriching various classical invariants of **homological algebra** and **algebraic topology** with additional structures pertinent to "definability".

This results into much finer invariants for:

(1) classifying spaces up to homotopy equivalence

 Steenrod homology
 ~~
 definable homology

 Čech cohomology
 ~~
 definable cohomology

(2) classifying various algebraic structures up to isomorphism

$$\operatorname{Ext}(-,-)$$
-bifunctor \rightsquigarrow definable $\operatorname{Ext}(-,-)$
 $\lim^{1}(-)$ -functor \rightsquigarrow definable $\lim^{1}(-)$

Classical invariants are constructed as (co)homology groups of appropriate (co)chain complexes.

One starts from a **cochain complex** C^{\bullet}

$$0 \to C^0 \longrightarrow \cdots \to C^{n-1} \xrightarrow{\delta^n} C^n \xrightarrow{\delta^{n+1}} C^{n+1} \to \cdots$$

• Each C^n is an abelian group recording the pertinent *n*-dim data.

• Coboundary maps $\delta^n \colon C^{n-1} \to C^n$ are group homomorphism.

The associated *n*-dimensional cohomology group is:

$$\mathbf{H}^n := \ker(\delta^{n+1}) / \operatorname{im}(\delta^n)$$

Definable invariants are constructed as (co)homology groups with a Polish cover of appropriate Polish (co)chain complexes.

One starts from a Polish cochain complex C^{\bullet}

$$0 \to C^0 \longrightarrow \cdots \to C^{n-1} \xrightarrow{\delta^n} C^n \xrightarrow{\delta^{n+1}} C^{n+1} \to \cdots$$

- Each C^n is an abelian **Polish group**.
- Maps $\delta^n \colon C^{n-1} \to C^n$ are **continuous**. group homomorphism.

The associated *n*-dimensional cohomology group with a Polish cover is:

$$\mathbf{H}^n := \ker(\delta^{n+1}) / \operatorname{im}(\delta^n)$$

Standard setup.

Objects. Abstract abelian groups $H^n := ker(\delta^{n+1})/im(\delta^n)$. **Maps**. Abstract group homomorphisms.

Isomorphisms. Abstract group isomorphisms.

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Objects. Groups with a Polish cover $\mathbf{H}^{n} := \ker(\delta^{n+1})/\operatorname{im}(\delta^{n})$. Maps. Definable homomorphisms. Isomorphisms. Definable isomorphisms.

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Objects. Groups with a Polish cover $\mathbf{H}^{n} := \ker(\delta^{n+1})/\operatorname{im}(\delta^{n})$. Maps. Definable homomorphisms. Isomorphisms. Definable isomorphisms.

Fact

There are **uncountably** many pairwise homotopy-inequivalent solenoids with the same Steenrod (or singular) homology.

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Theorem (Bergfalk, Lupini, P.)
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Definable homology classifies solenoids up to homeomorphism.

Convince that these categories provide a natural/convenient frameworks

- Polish cochain complexes with continuous cochain maps.
- Groups with a Polish cover with definable homomorphisms

Provide examples of how one passes from the classical to the definable.

Definable Homological Algebra

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A Polish cochain complex is a cochain complex $A^{\bullet} := (A^n, \partial^n)_{n \in \mathbb{Z}}$ in the category of abelian Polish groups and continuous homomorphisms:

$$\cdots \xrightarrow{\partial} A^{-2} \xrightarrow{\partial} A^{-1} \xrightarrow{\partial} A^{0} \xrightarrow{\partial} A^{1} \xrightarrow{\partial} A^{2} \xrightarrow{\partial} \cdots$$

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By definition this means that $\partial^{n+1} \circ \partial^n = 0$ for all n. In other words, we always have that $\operatorname{Ker}(\delta^{n+1})/\operatorname{im}(\delta^n)$ is well defined.

A continuous cochain map $f^{\bullet} : A^{\bullet} \to B^{\bullet}$ is a sequence of continuous homomorphisms $f^n : A^n \to B^n$ so that each square commutes:



That is, $f^n \circ \partial_A = \partial_B f^{n-1}$ for all $n \in \mathbb{N}$.

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That is, $ker(g^n) = im(f^n)$, g^n is surjective, and f^n is injective for all n. Then one gets a **long exact sequence** of the associated cohomology groups:

 $\cdots \to \mathrm{H}^{n-1}(A^{\bullet}) \to \mathrm{H}^{n-1}(B^{\bullet}) \to \mathrm{H}^{n-1}(C^{\bullet}) \xrightarrow{\partial} \mathrm{H}^{n}(A^{\bullet}) \to \mathrm{H}^{n}(B^{\bullet}) \to \mathrm{H}^{n}(C^{\bullet}) \to \cdots$

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Consider the following diagram of abelian groups where squares commute:

If both horizontal rows are **short exact** then there is a homomorphism $\partial \colon \text{Ker}(\gamma) \to A'/\text{im}(\alpha)$ which fits into a long exact sequence:

$$\ker(\alpha) \xrightarrow{f} \ker(\beta) \xrightarrow{g} \ker(\gamma) \xrightarrow{\partial} \operatorname{coker}(\alpha) \xrightarrow{f'} \operatorname{coker}(\beta) \xrightarrow{g'} \operatorname{coker}(\gamma).$$

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Let $c \in \text{Ker}(\gamma)$ Since horizontal lines are exact and $c \to 0$, we can choose $b \in B$ with g(b) = c.

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The definable snake lemma

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Consider the following diagram of **continuous homomorphisms** between abelian **Polish groups** where every square commutes.

$$0 \longrightarrow A \xrightarrow{f} B \xrightarrow{g} C \longrightarrow 0$$
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If both horizontal rows are **short exact** and $\partial : \text{Ker}(\gamma) \to A'/\text{im}(\alpha)$ is the homomorphism that fits in the exact sequence:

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Then $\partial \colon \operatorname{Ker}(\gamma) \to A'/\operatorname{im}(\alpha)$ admit a Borel lift $\widehat{\partial} \colon \operatorname{Ker}(\gamma) \to A'.$

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Lemma

If $f: G \to H$ is a continuous homomorphism between Polish groups then there exists a Borel function $s: H \to G$ so that f(s(x)) = x for all $x \in H$.

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Corollary

A map $f: G/N \to G'/N'$ is a definable isomorphism iff it is an iso in the category of definable homomorphisms between groups with a Polish cover.

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This relies heavily on "Large Section" Uniformization Results from DST.

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Uniformization

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Fact 2. Not every Borel B with proj(B) Borel admits a Borel uniformization.

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This is where Polishability of N in G/N is used!

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Example. Here are two non-isomorphic extensions of $\mathbb{Z}/2\mathbb{Z}$ by \mathbb{Z} :

 $0 \to \mathbb{Z} \to \mathbb{Z} \to (\mathbb{Z}/2\mathbb{Z}) \to 0 \text{ and } 0 \to \mathbb{Z} \to (\mathbb{Z}/2\mathbb{Z}) \oplus \mathbb{Z} \to (\mathbb{Z}/2\mathbb{Z}) \to 0$

The first derived bifunctor Ext(-, -) of Hom(-, -). Schreier (1926) and Baer(1934): the "collection of all possible extensions" of B by F is itself an **abelian group**. We denote it by Ext(B, F).

$$0 \longrightarrow F^B \xrightarrow{\delta^1} F^{B \times B} \xrightarrow{\delta^2} F^{B \times B \times B} \longrightarrow \cdots$$

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• $\operatorname{im}(\delta^1)$ is the image of the product group F^B via the map $\delta^1 \colon F^B \to F^{B \times B}$ with $\delta^1(h)(x,y) = h(x) + h(y) - h(x+y)$

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• $\ker(\delta^2)$ consists of all $\boldsymbol{c}: B \times B \to F$ so that for all $x, y, z \in B$ we have: $\boldsymbol{c}(x, 0) = \boldsymbol{c}(0, y) = 0, \quad \boldsymbol{c}(x, y) + \boldsymbol{c}(x+y, z) = \boldsymbol{c}(x, y+z) + \boldsymbol{c}(y, z), \quad \boldsymbol{c}(x, y) = \boldsymbol{c}(y, x)$

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Idea. We are trying to describe the multiplication table of E in terms of B and F:

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If $s: B \to E$ is a section of $E \to B$ the multiplication table of E is entirely determined by the unique function $c_s: B \times B \to F$ which satisfies:

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If $t: B \to E$ is a another section of $E \to B$, the function $h: B \to F$ with h(x) = s(x) - t(x) witnesses that c_s and c_t represent the same extension.

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If $t: B \to E$ is a another section of $E \to B$, the function $h: B \to F$ with h(x) = s(x) - t(x) witnesses that c_s and c_t represent the same extension. For definable Ext(B, F) use the product topology on $F^{B \times \cdots \times B}$.

Definable $\mathbf{Ext}(B, F)$

Theorem (Bergfalk, Lupini, P.)

The definable $Ext(-,\mathbb{Z})$ functor is fully faithful on the category of finite rank torsion-free abelian groups Λ .

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This simply follows from the results that we covered in Part II, since Z(B,F) is a non-archimedean abelian group with a Polish cover:

Theorem (Bergfalk, Lupini, P.)

Let $f: G/N \to G'/N'$ be a group homomorphism where G/N and G'/N'are in NAAPC and N is dense in G. If N' is countable then: f is definable $\iff f$ is trivial.

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Compare: there are uncountably many such Λ with isomorphic $Ext(\Lambda, \mathbb{Z})$.

A simplicial complex is a family K of finite sets with $\sigma \subseteq \tau \in K \implies \sigma \in K$. A face of K is any $\sigma \in K$. A vertex of K is any $v \in \text{dom}(K) := \bigcup K$



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Fix any **abelian Polish group** A and any **countable simplicial complex** K. $K^{(n)} := \{(v_0, \ldots, v_n) \mid \{v_0, \ldots, v_n\} \in K\}$ is the singular *n*-skeleton of K.

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Čech cohomology for locally compact spaces Let X be a locally compact space and let G be a countable abelian group.

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Two main problems in developing **definable cohomology** groups:

- **(**) The cofinality of $(\mathcal{OC}(X), \preceq)$ is **uncountable** in general;
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- **1** $X_0 \subseteq X_1 \subseteq \cdots$ is an exhaustion of X with compact sets.
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- (E1) for all $\mathcal{U} \in \mathcal{OC}(X)$ and all n < m in \mathbb{N} , if $\mathcal{U}_{\alpha} \upharpoonright X_n \preceq \mathcal{U} \upharpoonright X_n$, then

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Proof. $\mathcal{U} = \mathcal{A}(\mathcal{U}_{fin})$ for some scheme \mathcal{U}_{fin} of finite covers. Aristotelis Panagiotopoulos (CMU) Definable (colhomological invariants: part III

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For all $n \in \mathbb{N}$ we define the Polish semigroup of **pre-cochains**:

$$C^n_{\text{sem}}(\mathcal{U},G) := \bigcup_{\alpha \in \mathcal{N}} C^n(Nv(\mathcal{U}_{\alpha}),G)$$

$$(\zeta + \eta)(U) = \zeta(r_{\alpha}^{\alpha \lor \beta}(U)) + \eta(r_{\beta}^{\alpha \lor \beta}(U))$$

where for every $\zeta \colon \operatorname{Nv}(\mathcal{U})^{(n)} \to G$ and $n \in \mathbb{N}$ we have the basic open:

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Question. Does $\mathbf{H}^n(X,G)$ depend on \mathcal{U} ?

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*P*roof. We use (E1) to prove a "definable simplicial approximation" lemma.

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If Y = |K| for some simplicial complex, then $(Maps(X, Y), \simeq)$ is idealistic.

This relies on a "definable homotopy extension" theorem

Theorem (Bergfalk, Lupini, P.)

The isomorphism $j \colon [X, K(G, n)] \to \mathbf{H}^n(X, G)$ is definable.



Corollary

 $(Maps(X, Y), \simeq)$ is classifiable by cohomological invariants whenever Y is an Eilenberg-MacLane space, e.g. when $Y = S^1$ or $Y = S^2$.