

# CONCEPT OF COHOMOLOGY GROUP AND ITS PROPERTIES

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**Abstract** – The paper explores the basic ideas of Cohomology groups and its properties. We have given some interpretation of Cohomology groups and some computations are necessary. We have also mentioned its future prospects. In mathematics, Cohomology is a general term for a sequence of abelian groups associated to a topological space, often defined from a co-chain complex. Cohomology can be viewed as a method of assigning richer algebraic invariants to a space than homology.

**Keywords:** Cohomology groups, Homology groups, Abelian groups, algebraic invariants.

## I. INTRODUCTION

In mathematics, homology is a general way of associating a sequence of algebraic objects such as abelian groups or modules to other mathematical objects such as topological spaces. It is defined as an extension of  $A$  by  $G$  is an exact sequence  $0 \rightarrow A \rightarrow E \rightarrow G \rightarrow 1$ . Where  $A$  is abelian through out. Homology groups were originally defined in algebraic topology and Cohomology is a general term for a sequence of abelian groups associated to a topological space, often defined from a co-chain complex. Cohomology can be viewed as a method of assigning richer algebraic invariants to a space than homology.

There are many different cohomology theories. A particular type of mathematical object, such as a topological space or a group, may have one or more associated Cohomology theories. When the underlying object has a geometric interpretation as topological spaces do, the  $n$ th homology group represents behavior in dimension. Most Cohomology and homology groups or modules may be formulated as derived functors on appropriate abelian categories, measuring the failure of a function to be exact. From this abstract perspective, homology groups are determined by objects of a derived category. Cohomology idea can be stated first of all the Euler polyhedron formula, or Euler function. This was followed by Riemann's definition of genus and  $n$ -fold connectedness numerical invariants in 1857 and Betti's proof in 1871 of the independence of "homology numbers" from the choice of basis.

In this paper we have take two sections. First section based on cohomology groups and last one illustrates its properties.

## II. COHOMOLOGY GROUPS

**Definition 1 :** A normalized factor set is a function  $f : G \times G \rightarrow A$  with

- (i)  $xf(y, z) - f(xy, z) + f(x, yz) - f(x, y) = 0;$
- (ii)  $f(x, 1) = 0 = f(1, x);$

a normalized coboundary is a function  $g : G \times G \rightarrow A$  such that

- (iii)  $g(x, y) = xh(y) - h(xy) + h(x),$

where  $h:G \rightarrow A$  is a function with

- (iv)  $h(1) = 0.$

The gap in obtaining an isomorphism  $H^2(G, A) \cong e(G, A)$  was that the resolution of  $Z$  in previous result gave cocycles satisfying condition (i) but not (ii), and coboundaries satisfying condition (iii) but not (iv).

With these formulas before our eyes, let us return to stem covers. Representation theory deals with homomorphisms  $G \rightarrow GL(n, k)$ , where  $k$  is a field. If  $k^\#$  is the multiplicative group of nonzero elements of  $k$ , then  $k^\#$  is isomorphic to the centre of  $GL(n, k)$ , all nonzero  $n \times n$  scalar matrices.

**Definition 2 :** The projective general linear group is

$$PGL(n, k) = GL(n, k) / \text{scalars.}$$

A projective representation of  $G$  is a homomorphism  $G \rightarrow PGL(n, k)$ .

Now one really prefers a representation of  $G$ , but he may only have a projective representation. The next theorem says, when  $k$  is algebraically closed, that one can exchange a projective representation of  $G$  if he pays a price :  $G$  must be replaced by a stem over (i.e., a representation group)  $S$  of  $G$ . (A more complete account of this material can be found in [Isaacs, 1976].)

**Definition 3 :** For  $n > 0$ , define  $Q_n$  as the free  $G$ -module with basis all  $n$ -tuples  $[x_1, \dots, x_n]$  of elements of  $G$ ; define  $Q_0$  as the free  $G$ -module on the single generator  $[ ]$ .

For each  $n \geq 0$ ,  $P_n \cong Q_n$ , for both are free  $G$ -modules on a set in one to one correspondence with  $G^{(n)}$ ; we give a specific isomorphism.

**Definition 4 :** A topological space  $X$  is acyclic if  $H_0(X) \cong Z$  and  $H_n(X) = 0$  for  $n > 0$ .

**Theorem 5 :** If a group  $G$  operates without fixed points on an acyclic space  $X$ , then the singular complex of  $X$  is a deleted  $G$ -free resolution of  $Z$ .

**Proof :** We already know the singular complex is a complex of  $G$ -free modules. The condition that  $X$  is acyclic gives an exact sequence  $\dots \rightarrow S_1(X) \rightarrow S_0(X) \rightarrow H_0(X) \rightarrow 0$ , and  $H_0(X) \cong Z$ .

Let  $A$  be a  $G$ -module. Now  $H^n(X; A)$  is the homology of the complex  $\text{Hom}_Z(S(X), A)$ . If  $X$  is acyclic and  $G$  operates on  $X$  without fixed points, then  $H^n(G, A)$  is the homology of the complex  $\text{Hom}_G(S(X), A)$ . To complete this discussion, we assume some knowledge of topology. Suppose  $G$  operates properly on  $X$ , i.e., each  $x \in X$  lies in an open set  $U$  with  $gU \cap U = \emptyset$ , all  $g \in G, g \neq 1$  (this implies that  $G$  operates without fixed points). One can give an isomorphism of complexes.

$$\text{Hom}_Z(S(X/G), A) \cong \text{Hom}_G(S(X), A),$$

where  $A$  is  $G$ -trivial and  $X/G$  is the orbit space of  $X$ , and this induces isomorphisms for all  $n > 0$

$$H^n(X/G; A) \cong H^n(G, A).$$

The next step is to exhibit a space  $X$  as above. Given a group  $G$ , there exists an Eilenberg–MacLane space  $Y = K(G, 1)$ : a path connected, "aspherical" space (i.e., the  $n$ th homotopy groups  $\pi_n(Y) = 0$  for  $n > 1$ ) having fundamental group  $\pi_1(Y) \cong G$ . If one defines  $X = Y$ , the universal covering space of  $Y$ , then  $X$  is acyclic,  $G$  acts properly on  $X$ , and  $X/G \cong Y$ . It follows that

$$H^n(K(G, 1); A) \cong H^n(G, A):$$

the cohomology of an abstract group  $G$  (with  $G$ -trivial coefficients) coincides with the cohomology of a certain topological space  $Y = K(G, 1)$ .

It is also true that there are isomorphisms in homology: If  $Y = K(G, 1)$  and  $A$  is  $G$ -trivial, then

$$H_n(K(G, 1); A) \cong H_n(G, A)$$

**Theorem 6 (Universal Coefficient Theorem) :** If  $G$  is a group and  $A$  is  $G$ -trivial, then

$$H^n(G, A) \cong \text{Hom}_Z(H_n(G, Z), A) \oplus \text{Ext}_Z^1(H_{n-1}(G, Z), A)$$

**Proof :** The Universal Coefficient gives such an isomorphism for any topological space  $Y$ . Choose  $Y = K(G, 1)$  and use the fact that  $H^n(Y; A) \cong H^n(G, A)$  and  $H_n(Y; A) \cong H_n(G, A)$  for all  $n$ .

**Remark :** A purely algebraic proof of may be found in [Gruenberg, 1970, p. 49].

There is also a universal coefficient theorem for homology, using if  $A$  is  $G$ -trivial,

$$H_n(G, A) \cong H_n(G, Z) \otimes_Z A \oplus \text{Tor}_1^Z(H_{n-1}(G, Z), A).$$

The fact that one may realize homology groups of  $G$  as homology groups of a topological space "explains". If  $Y$  is a path connected space having fundamental group  $\pi$ , then the Hurewicz theorem states that

$$H_1(Y; Z) \cong \pi/\pi'.$$

Setting  $Y = K(\pi, 1)$  shows  $H_1(Y; Z) \cong H_1(\pi, Z)$ , which gives a topological.

We complete to algebra, still seeking to prove  $H^2(G, A) \cong e(G, A)$ .

**Definition 7 :** The bar resolution (or standard resolution or normalized resolution) is

$$B = \dots \rightarrow B_1 \xrightarrow{d_1} B_0 \xrightarrow{\varepsilon} Z \rightarrow 0,$$

where  $B_n$  is the free  $G$ -module on all  $[x_1, \dots, x_n]$  with  $x_i \in G$  and  $x_i \neq 1$ , and the formula for  $d_n : B_n \rightarrow B_{n-1}$  is the same as in  $Q$ . ( $B_0$  is free on the single generator  $[ ]$ .)

**Remarks :** 1. In order that  $d_n$  be defined, we agree that  $[x_1, \dots, x_n] = 0$  whenever some  $x_i = 1$ .

2. It is not obvious that  $B$  is a complex (this does not follow immediately from  $d_{\pi-1} d_n = 0$  in  $Q$ , for here we are making some of the terms in the formula equal to 0).

3.  $B$  is called the bar resolution because the original notation for  $[x_1 \dots x_n]$  was  $[x_1 | x_2 | \dots | x_n]$

**Theorem 8 :** The bar resolution  $B$  is a  $G$ -free resolution of  $Z$ .

**Proof :** Again, we do not yet know  $B$  is even a complex (so far, all we know is that each  $B_n$  is  $G$ -free and the  $d$ 's are  $G$ -maps). First, we construct a contracting homotopy

$$\dots \leftarrow B_1 \xrightarrow{S_0} B_0 \xrightarrow{S_{-1}} Z,$$

where each  $s_n$  is a  $Z$ -map. Define

$$s_{-1} : Z \rightarrow B_0 \quad \text{by} \quad 1 \mapsto [ ]$$

and

$$s_n : B_n \rightarrow B_{n+1} \quad \text{by} \quad x [x_1, \dots, x_n] \mapsto [x, x_1, \dots, x_n]$$

(since  $s_n$  is only a  $Z$ -map, it must be defined on a  $Z$ -free set of generators, not merely on the  $G$ -free generators  $[x_1, \dots, x_n]$ ). It is easy to check that this is a contracting homotopy, i.e.,

$$d_{n-1} s_n + s_{n-1} d_n = 1_{B_n} \quad (\text{where } d_0 = \varepsilon)$$

and

$$\varepsilon s_{-1} = 1_Z.$$

If we show  $B$  is a complex, then the theorem is complete. Now  $B_{n+1}$  is generated as a  $G$ -module by the subgroup  $\text{im } s_n$ , so that it suffices to show  $d_n d_{n+1} = 0$  on this subgroup. We do an induction on  $n$ , noting that  $0 = \varepsilon d_1 = s_{-1} d_1$ . For the inductive step.

$$\begin{aligned} d_n d_{n+1} s_n &= d_n (1 - s_{n-1} d_n) && \text{(contracting homotopy)} \\ &= d_n - (1 - s_{n-2} d_{n-1}) d_n && \text{(ditto)} \\ &= d_n - d_n - s_{n-2} d_{n-1} d_n = 0. \end{aligned}$$

### III. COMPUTATION AND APPLICATIONS

We have given some interpretation of cohomology groups, but are we in a stronger position having done so? In order to use cohomology and homology, some computations are necessary.

**Theorem 9 :** Let  $G$  be a finite group of order  $m$ . For every  $G$ -module  $A$  and every  $n > 0$ ,  $mH^n(G, A) = 0 = mH_n(G, A)$ .

Proof : We use the unnormalized standard resolution  $Q$ . If  $f : Q_n \rightarrow A$ .

defined  $g : Q_{n-1} \rightarrow A$  by

$$g(x_1, \dots, x_{n-1}) = \sum_{x \in G} f(x_1, \dots, x_{n-1}, x).$$

Now sum the coboundary formula

$$\begin{aligned} (df)(x_1, \dots, x_{n+1}) &= x_1 f(x_2, \dots, x_{n+1}) + \sum_{i=1}^{n-2} (-1)^i f(x_1, \dots, x_i x_{i+1}, \dots, x_{n+1}) \\ &\quad + (-1)^{n-1} f(x_1, \dots, x_n x_{n+1}) + (-1)^n f(x_1, \dots, x_n) \end{aligned}$$

over all  $x = x_{n+1}$  in  $G$ . In the next to last term, as  $x$  varies over  $G$ , so does  $x_n x$ . Therefore, if  $f$  is cocycle, then  $d_j = 0$  and

$$\begin{aligned} 0 &= x_1 g(x_2, \dots, x_n) + \sum_{i=1}^{n-2} (-1)^i g(x_1, \dots, x_i x_{i+1}, \dots, x_n) \\ &\quad + (-1)^{n-1} g(x_1, \dots, x^{n-2}) + m (-1)^n f(x_1, \dots, x_n) \end{aligned}$$

(the last term is independent of  $x$ ). Hence

$$0 = dg + m (-1)^n f,$$

and  $mf$  is a coboundary.

The same proof works for homology, and we merely set up notation. If  $f(x_1, \dots, x_n, a) = [x_1, \dots, x_n] \otimes a$ , where  $a \in A$ , then define

The proof proceeds as above, but remember that one begins with an element of the form  $\sum_j^p = 1 f(x_1^i, \dots, x_n^j, a^j)$ .

**Definition :** A group  $G$  has cohomological dimension  $\leq n$ , denoted  $cd(G) \leq n$ , if  $H^k(G, A) = 0$  for all  $G$ -modules  $A$  and all  $k > n$ . If  $n$  is the least such integer, one defines  $cd(G) = n$ ; if no such integer  $n$  exists, define  $cd(G) = \infty$ .

**Exercises :** 9.1 Prove that  $cd(G) = 0$  if and only if  $G = \{1\}$ .

Since we know that if  $G$  is free of rank  $> 0$ , then  $cd(G) = 1$ .

Also if  $H^{n+1}(G, A) = 0$  for all  $G$ -modules  $A$ , then  $H^k(G, A) = 0$  for all  $k > n$  and all  $G$ -modules  $A$ .

Let  $G$  be free abelian with basis  $S = \{x_1, \dots, x_n\}$ . Prove that  $ZG \cong S^{-1}(x_1, \dots, x_n)$ ; use Hilbert's Syzygy Theorem to prove  $cd(G) \leq n + 1$ .

**Remarks :** 1. The ring of Laurent polynomials in  $x$ , coefficients in  $Z$ , consists of all formal sums

$$\sum_{i=k}^n m_i x^i, \quad m_i \in Z, \text{ yaha se karna hai}$$

$k, n$  (possibly negative) integers, with obvious addition and multiplication. One may easily generalize this definition to several (commuting) variables, and observe, using, that Laurent polynomials in  $n$  variables, coefficients in  $Z$ , in  $ZG$ , where  $G$  is free abelian of rank  $n$ .

2. If  $G$  is free abelian of rank  $n$ , then  $cd(G) = n$ . The reason the bound in just above exercise is too high is that global dimension  $\leq n$  demands vanishing of  $\text{Ext}_{ZG}^k(B, A)$ , all  $k > n$  and all pairs of  $G$ -modules  $B, A$ , whereas  $cd(G) \leq n$  only demands such vanishing in the special case  $B = Z$ .

Is there a relation between  $cd(S)$  and  $cd(G)$  when  $S$  is a subgroup of  $G$  ?

**Theorem 11 (Shapiro's Lemma)** : If  $S$  is a subgroup of  $G$  and  $A$  is an  $S$ -module, then, for all  $n \geq 0$ .

$$H^n(S, A) \cong H^n(G, \text{Hom}_s(ZG, A)).$$

*Proof* : First of all, the right side makes sense, for  $\text{Hom}_s(ZG, A)$  may be regarded as a  $G$ -module, (i.e., as in the adjoint isomorphism). A mixed identity, arising from the adjoint isomorphism, gives

$$\text{Ext}_{ZS}^n(ZG \otimes_G Z, A) \cong \text{Ext}_{ZG}^n(Z, \text{Hom}_s(ZG, A)).$$

Since  $ZG \otimes_G Z \cong Z$ , this is the desired isomorphism

$$H^n(S, A) \cong H^n(G, \text{Hom}_s(ZG, A)).$$

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