1. Introduction

In this chapter we talk about differential graded algebras, modules, categories, etc. A basic reference is [Kel94]. A survey paper is [Kel06].
Since we do not worry about length of exposition in the Stacks project we first develop the material in the setting of categories of differential graded modules. After that we redo the constructions in the setting of differential graded modules over differential graded categories.

2. Conventions

09JF In this chapter we hold on to the convention that ring means commutative ring with 1. If \( R \) is a ring, then an \( R \)-algebra \( A \) will be an \( R \)-module \( A \) endowed with an \( R \)-bilinear map \( A \times A \to A \) (multiplication) such that multiplication is associative and has a unit. In other words, these are unital associative \( R \)-algebras such that the structure map \( R \to A \) maps into the center of \( A \).

3. Differential graded algebras

061U Just the definitions.

Definition 3.1. Let \( R \) be a commutative ring. A differential graded algebra over \( R \) is either

(1) a chain complex \( A_* \) of \( R \)-modules endowed with \( R \)-bilinear maps \( A_n \times A_m \to A_{n+m} \), \((a,b) \mapsto ab \) such that
\[
d_{n+m}(ab) = d_n(a)b + (-1)^m a d_m(b)
\]
and such that \( \bigoplus A_n \) becomes an associative and unital \( R \)-algebra, or

(2) a cochain complex \( A^* \) of \( R \)-modules endowed with \( R \)-bilinear maps \( A^n \times A^m \to A^{n+m} \), \((a,b) \mapsto ab \) such that
\[
d^{n+m}(ab) = d^n(a)b + (-1)^n a d^m(b)
\]
and such that \( \bigoplus A^n \) becomes an associative and unital \( R \)-algebra.

We often just write \( A = \bigoplus A_n \) or \( A = \bigoplus A^n \) and think of this as an associative unital \( R \)-algebra endowed with a \( \mathbb{Z} \)-grading and an \( R \)-linear operator \( d \) whose square is zero and which satisfies the Leibniz rule as explained above. In this case we often say “Let \((A,d)\) be a differential graded algebra”.

Definition 3.2. A homomorphism of differential graded algebras \( f : (A,d) \to (B,d) \) is an algebra map \( f : A \to B \) compatible with the gradings and \( d \).

Definition 3.3. Let \( R \) be a ring. Let \((A,d)\) be a differential graded algebra over \( R \). The opposite differential graded algebra is the differential graded algebra \((A^{opp},d)\) over \( R \) where \( A^{opp} = A \) as an \( R \)-module, \( d = d \), and multiplication is given by
\[
a \cdot^{opp} b = (-1)^{\deg(a) \deg(b)} ba
\]
for homogeneous elements \( a, b \in A \).

This makes sense because
\[
d(a \cdot^{opp} b) = (-1)^{\deg(a) \deg(b)} d(ba)
= (-1)^{\deg(a) \deg(b)} d(b)a + (-1)^{\deg(a) \deg(b) + \deg(b)} b d(a)
= (-1)^{\deg(a)} a \cdot^{opp} d(b) + d(a) \cdot^{opp} b
\]
as desired.
065W **Definition 3.4.** A differential graded algebra \((A, d)\) is **commutative** if \(ab = (-1)^{nm} ba\) for \(a\) in degree \(n\) and \(b\) in degree \(m\). We say \(A\) is **strictly commutative** if in addition \(a^2 = 0\) for \(\text{deg}(a)\) odd.

The following definition makes sense in general but is perhaps “correct” only when tensoring commutative differential graded algebras.

065W **Definition 3.5.** Let \(R\) be a ring. Let \((A, d), (B, d)\) be differential graded algebras over \(R\). The **tensor product differential graded algebra** of \(A\) and \(B\) is the algebra \(A \otimes_R B\) with multiplication defined by

\[
(a \otimes b)(a' \otimes b') = (-1)^{\text{deg}(a') \text{deg}(b)} aa' \otimes bb'
\]

endowed with differential \(d\) defined by the rule \(d(a \otimes b) = d(a) \otimes b + (-1)^{m} a \otimes d(b)\) where \(m = \text{deg}(a)\).

065X **Lemma 3.6.** Let \(R\) be a ring. Let \((A, d), (B, d)\) be differential graded algebras over \(R\). Denote \(A^\bullet, B^\bullet\) the underlying cochain complexes. As cochain complexes of \(R\)-modules we have

\[
(A \otimes_R B)^\bullet = \text{Tot}(A^\bullet \otimes_R B^\bullet).
\]

**Proof.** Recall that the differential of the total complex is given by \(d_1^{p,q} + (-1)^p d_2^{p,q}\) on \(A^p \otimes_R B^q\). And this is exactly the same as the rule for the differential on \(A \otimes_R B\) in Definition 3.5. \(\square\)

4. **Differential graded modules**

09JH Just the definitions.

09JI **Definition 4.1.** Let \(R\) be a ring. Let \((A, d)\) be a differential graded algebra over \(R\). A **(right) differential graded module** \(M\) over \(A\) is a right \(A\)-module \(M\) which has a grading \(M = \bigoplus M^n\) and a differential \(d\) such that \(M^n A^m \subset M^{n+m}\), such that \(d(M^n) \subset M^{n+1}\), and such that

\[
d(ma) = d(m)a + (-1)^{m} md(a)
\]

for \(a \in A\) and \(m \in M^n\). A **homomorphism of differential graded modules** \(f : M \to N\) is an \(A\)-module map compatible with gradings and differentials. The category of (right) differential graded \(A\)-modules is denoted \(\text{Mod}_{(A, d)}\).

Note that we can think of \(M\) as a cochain complex \(M^\bullet\) of (right) \(R\)-modules. Namely, for \(r \in R\) we have \(d(r) = 0\) and \(r\) maps to a degree 0 element of \(A\), hence \(d(mr) = d(m)r\).

We can define **left differential graded \(A\)-modules** in exactly the same manner. If \(M\) is a left \(A\)-module, then we can think of \(M\) as a right \(A^{opp}\)-module with multiplication \(\cdot^{opp}\) defined by the rule

\[
m \cdot^{opp} a = (-1)^{\text{deg}(a) \text{deg}(m)} am
\]

for \(a\) and \(m\) homogeneous. The category of left differential graded \(A\)-modules is equivalent to the category of right differential graded \(A^{opp}\)-modules. We prefer to work with right modules (essentially because of what happens in Example 19.8), but the reader is free to switch to left modules if (s)he so desires.

09JJ **Lemma 4.2.** Let \((A, d)\) be a differential graded algebra. The category \(\text{Mod}_{(A, d)}\) is **abelian** and has arbitrary limits and colimits.
Proof. Kernels and cokernels commute with taking underlying $A$-modules. Similarly for direct sums and colimits. In other words, these operations in $\text{Mod}_{(A,d)}$ commute with the forgetful functor to the category of $A$-modules. This is not the case for products and limits. Namely, if $N_i$, $i \in I$ is a family of differential graded $A$-modules, then the product $\prod N_i$ in $\text{Mod}_{(A,d)}$ is given by setting $(\prod N_i)^n = \prod N_i^n$ and $\prod N_i = \bigoplus_n (\prod N_i)^n$. Thus we see that the product does commute with the forgetful functor to the category of graded $A$-modules. A category with products and equalizers has limits, see Categories, Lemma 14.10.

Thus, if $(A,d)$ is a differential graded algebra over $R$, then there is an exact functor

$$\text{Mod}_{(A,d)} \longrightarrow \text{Comp}(R)$$

of abelian categories. For a differential graded module $M$ the cohomology groups $H^n(M)$ are defined as the cohomology of the corresponding complex of $R$-modules. Therefore, a short exact sequence $0 \to K \to L \to M \to 0$ of differential graded modules gives rise to a long exact sequence

$$H^n(K) \to H^n(L) \to H^n(M) \to H^{n+1}(K)$$

of cohomology modules, see Homology, Lemma 12.12.

Moreover, from now on we borrow all the terminology used for complexes of modules. For example, we say that a differential graded $A$-module $M$ is acyclic if $H^k(M) = 0$ for all $k \in \mathbb{Z}$. We say that a homomorphism $M \to N$ of differential graded $A$-modules is a quasi-isomorphism if it induces isomorphisms $H^n(M) \to H^n(N)$ for all $k \in \mathbb{Z}$. And so on and so forth.

Definition 4.3. Let $(A,d)$ be a differential graded algebra. Let $M$ be a differential graded module. For any $k \in \mathbb{Z}$ we define the $k$-shifted module $M[k]$ as follows

1. as $A$-module $M[k] = M$,
2. $M[k]^n = M^{n+k}$,
3. $d_{M[k]} = (-1)^k d_M$.

For a morphism $f : M \to N$ of differential graded $A$-modules we let $f[k] : M[k] \to N[k]$ be the map equal to $f$ on underlying $A$-modules. This defines a functor $[k] : \text{Mod}_{(A,d)} \to \text{Mod}_{(A,d)}$.

The remarks in Homology, Section 13 apply. In particular, we will identify the cohomology groups of all shifts $M[k]$ without the intervention of signs.

At this point we have enough structure to talk about triangles, see Derived Categories. Definition 3.1. In fact, our next goal is to develop enough theory to be able to state and prove that the homotopy category of differential graded modules is a triangulated category. First we define the homotopy category.

5. The homotopy category

Our homotopies take into account the $A$-module structure and the grading, but not the differential (of course).

Definition 5.1. Let $(A,d)$ be a differential graded algebra. Let $f, g : M \to N$ be homomorphisms of differential graded $A$-modules. A homotopy between $f$ and $g$ is an $A$-module map $h : M \to N$ such that

1. $h(M^n) \subset N^{n-1}$ for all $n$, and
2. $f(x) - g(x) = d_N(h(x)) + h(d_M(x))$ for all $x \in M$. 

If a homotopy exists, then we say \( f \) and \( g \) are homotopic.

Thus \( h \) is compatible with the \( A \)-module structure and the grading but not with the differential. If \( f = g \) and \( h \) is a homotopy as in the definition, then \( h \) defines a morphism \( h : M \to N[-1] \) in \( \text{Mod}_{(A,d)} \).

**Lemma 5.2.** Let \((A, d)\) be a differential graded algebra. Let \( f, g : L \to M \) be homomorphisms of differential graded \( A \)-modules. Suppose given further homomorphisms \( a : K \to L \), and \( c : M \to N \). If \( h : L \to M \) is an \( A \)-module map which defines a homotopy between \( f \) and \( g \), then \( c \circ h \circ a \) defines a homotopy between \( c \circ f \circ a \) and \( c \circ g \circ a \).

**Proof.** Immediate from Homology, Lemma [12.7] \( \square \)

This lemma allows us to define the homotopy category as follows.

**Definition 5.3.** Let \((A, d)\) be a differential graded algebra. The homotopy category, denoted \( K(\text{Mod}_{(A,d)}) \), is the category whose objects are the objects of \( \text{Mod}_{(A,d)} \) and whose morphisms are homotopy classes of homomorphisms of differential graded \( A \)-modules.

The notation \( K(\text{Mod}_{(A,d)}) \) is not standard but at least is consistent with the use of \( K(\_\_) \) in other places of the Stacks project.

**Lemma 5.4.** Let \((A, d)\) be a differential graded algebra. The homotopy category \( K(\text{Mod}_{(A,d)}) \) has direct sums and products.

**Proof.** Omitted. Hint: Just use the direct sums and products as in Lemma [4.2] This works because we saw that these functors commute with the forgetful functor to the category of graded \( A \)-modules and because \( \prod \) is an exact functor on the category of families of abelian groups. \( \square \)

6. Cones

We introduce cones for the category of differential graded modules.

**Definition 6.1.** Let \((A, d)\) be a differential graded algebra. Let \( f : K \to L \) be a homomorphism of differential graded \( A \)-modules. The cone of \( f \) is the differential graded \( A \)-module \( C(f) \) given by \( C(f) = L \oplus K \) with grading \( C(f)^n = L^n \oplus K^{n+1} \) and differential

\[
\begin{pmatrix}
d_L & f \\
0 & -d_K
\end{pmatrix}
\]

It comes equipped with canonical morphisms of complexes \( i : L \to C(f) \) and \( p : C(f) \to K[1] \) induced by the obvious maps \( L \to C(f) \) and \( C(f) \to K \).

The formation of the cone triangle is functorial in the following sense.

**Lemma 6.2.** Let \((A, d)\) be a differential graded algebra. Suppose that

\[
\begin{array}{c}
K_1 \xrightarrow{f_1} L_1 \\
\downarrow a \\
K_2 \xrightarrow{f_2} L_2 \\
\downarrow b
\end{array}
\]

Then \( a \) is a homotopy between \( f_1 \) and \( f_2 \).
is a diagram of homomorphisms of differential graded \(A\)-modules which is commutative up to homotopy. Then there exists a morphism \(c : C(f_1) \to C(f_2)\) which gives rise to a morphism of triangles

\[(a, b, c) : (K_1, L_1, C(f_1), f_1, i_1, p_1) \to (K_1, L_1, C(f_1), f_2, i_2, p_2)\]

in \(K(\text{Mod}(A, d))\).

**Proof.** Let \(h : K_1 \to L_2\) be a homotopy between \(f_2 \circ a\) and \(b \circ f_1\). Define \(c\) by the matrix

\[c = \begin{pmatrix} b & h \\ 0 & a \end{pmatrix} : L_1 \oplus K_1 \to L_2 \oplus K_2\]

A matrix computation show that \(c\) is a morphism of differential graded modules. It is trivial that \(c \circ i_1 = i_2 \circ b\), and it is trivial also to check that \(p_2 \circ c = a \circ p_1\). \(\square\)

7. Admissible short exact sequences

**Definition 7.1.** Let \((A, d)\) be a differential graded algebra.

1. A homomorphism \(K \to L\) of differential graded \(A\)-modules is an **admissible monomorphism** if there exists a graded \(A\)-module map \(L \to K\) which is left inverse to \(K \to L\).

2. A homomorphism \(L \to M\) of differential graded \(A\)-modules is an **admissible epimorphism** if there exists a graded \(A\)-module map \(M \to L\) which is right inverse to \(L \to M\).

3. A short exact sequence \(0 \to K \to L \to M \to 0\) of differential graded \(A\)-modules is an **admissible short exact sequence** if it is split as a sequence of graded \(A\)-modules.

Thus the splittings are compatible with all the data except for the differentials. Given an admissible short exact sequence we obtain a triangle; this is the reason that we require our splittings to be compatible with the \(A\)-module structure.

**Lemma 7.2.** Let \((A, d)\) be a differential graded algebra. Let \(0 \to K \to L \to M \to 0\) be an admissible short exact sequence of differential graded \(A\)-modules. Let \(s : M \to L\) and \(\pi : L \to K\) be splittings such that \(\text{Ker}(\pi) = \text{Im}(s)\). Then we obtain a morphism

\[\delta = \pi \circ d_L \circ s : M \to K[1]\]

of \(\text{Mod}(A, d)\) which induces the boundary maps in the long exact sequence of cohomology \((4.2.1)\).

**Proof.** The map \(\pi \circ d_L \circ s\) is compatible with the \(A\)-module structure and the gradings by construction. It is compatible with differentials by Homology, Lemmas \([13.10]\). Let \(R\) be the ring that \(A\) is a differential graded algebra over. The equality of maps is a statement about \(R\)-modules. Hence this follows from Homology, Lemmas \([13.10]\) and \([13.11]\). \(\square\)

**Lemma 7.3.** Let \((A, d)\) be a differential graded algebra. Let

\[
\begin{array}{ccc}
K & \xrightarrow{f} & L \\
\downarrow a & & \downarrow b \\
M & \xrightarrow{g} & N
\end{array}
\]
be a diagram of homomorphisms of differential graded $A$-modules commuting up to homotopy.

1. If $f$ is an admissible monomorphism, then $b$ is homotopic to a homomorphism which makes the diagram commute.

2. If $g$ is an admissible epimorphism, then $a$ is homotopic to a morphism which makes the diagram commute.

**Proof.** Let $h : K \to N$ be a homotopy between $bf$ and $ga$, i.e., $bf - ga = dh + hd$. Suppose that $\pi : L \to K$ is a graded $A$-module map left inverse to $f$. Take $b' = b - dh\pi - h\pi d$. Suppose $s : N \to M$ is a graded $A$-module map right inverse to $g$. Take $a' = a + dsh + shd$. Computations omitted.

□

**Lemma 7.4.** Let $(A, d)$ be a differential graded algebra. Let $\alpha : K \to L$ be a homomorphism of differential graded $A$-modules. There exists a factorization

\[
\begin{array}{ccc}
K & \overset{\tilde{\alpha}}{\to} & \tilde{L} \\
\alpha & \searrow & \nearrow \pi \\
& L & 
\end{array}
\]

in $\text{Mod}_{(A, d)}$ such that

1. $\tilde{\alpha}$ is an admissible monomorphism (see Definition 7.1),
2. there is a morphism $s : L \to \tilde{L}$ such that $\pi \circ s = \text{id}_{\tilde{L}}$ and such that $s \circ \pi$ is homotopic to $\text{id}_{\tilde{L}}$.

**Proof.** The proof is identical to the proof of Derived Categories, Lemma 9.6. Namely, we set $\tilde{L} = L \oplus C(1_K)$ and we use elementary properties of the cone construction. □

**Lemma 7.5.** Let $(A, d)$ be a differential graded algebra. Let $L_1 \to L_2 \to \ldots \to L_n$ be a sequence of composable homomorphisms of differential graded $A$-modules. There exists a commutative diagram

\[
\begin{array}{ccc}
L_1 & \longrightarrow & L_2 & \longrightarrow & \ldots & \longrightarrow & L_n \\
\uparrow & & \uparrow & & \uparrow & & \uparrow \\
M_1 & \longrightarrow & M_2 & \longrightarrow & \ldots & \longrightarrow & M_n 
\end{array}
\]

in $\text{Mod}_{(A, d)}$ such that each $M_i \to M_{i+1}$ is an admissible monomorphism and each $M_i \to L_i$ is a homotopy equivalence.

**Proof.** The case $n = 1$ is without content. Lemma 7.4 is the case $n = 2$. Suppose we have constructed the diagram except for $M_n$. Apply Lemma 7.4 to the composition $M_{n-1} \to L_{n-1} \to L_n$. The result is a factorization $M_{n-1} \to M_n \to L_n$ as desired. □

**Lemma 7.6.** Let $(A, d)$ be a differential graded algebra. Let $0 \to K_i \to L_i \to M_i \to 0$, $i = 1, 2, 3$ be admissible short exact sequence of differential graded $A$-modules. Let $b : L_1 \to L_2$ and $b' : L_2 \to L_3$ be homomorphisms of differential graded modules such that

\[
\begin{array}{ccc}
K_1 & \longrightarrow & L_1 & \longrightarrow & M_1 & \longrightarrow & K_2 \\
0 & \downarrow & b & \downarrow & 0 & \downarrow & 0 \\
K_2 & \longrightarrow & L_2 & \longrightarrow & M_2 & \longrightarrow & K_3 \\
& \downarrow & b' & \downarrow & 0 & \downarrow & 0 \\
& K_3 & \longrightarrow & L_3 & \longrightarrow & M_3 & 
\end{array}
\]
commute up to homotopy. Then \( b' \circ b \) is homotopic to 0.

**Proof.** By Lemma \( 7.3 \) we can replace \( b \) and \( b' \) by homotopic maps such that the right square of the left diagram commutes and the left square of the right diagram commutes. In other words, we have \( \text{Im}(b) \subset \text{Im}(K_2 \to L_2) \) and \( \text{Ker}((b')^n) \subset \text{Im}(K_2 \to L_2) \). Then \( b \circ b' = 0 \) as a map of modules. \( \square \)

8. Distinguished triangles

09K5 The following lemma produces our distinguished triangles.

09K6 **Lemma 8.1.** Let \((A, d)\) be a differential graded algebra. Let \( 0 \to K \to L \to M \to 0 \) be an admissible short exact sequence of differential graded \( A \)-modules. The triangle

\[
(8.1.1) \quad K \to L \to M \xrightarrow{\delta} K[1]
\]

with \( \delta \) as in Lemma \( 7.2 \) is, up to canonical isomorphism in \( K(\text{Mod}_{(A, d)}) \), independent of the choices made in Lemma \( 7.2 \).

**Proof.** Namely, let \((s', \pi')\) be a second choice of splittings as in Lemma \( 7.2 \). Then we claim that \( \delta \) and \( \delta' \) are homotopic. Namely, write \( s' = s + \alpha \circ h \) and \( \pi' = \pi + g \circ \beta \) for some unique homomorphisms of \( A \)-modules \( h : M \to K \) and \( g : M \to K \) of degree \(-1\). Then \( g = -h \) and \( g \) is a homotopy between \( \delta \) and \( \delta' \). The computations are done in the proof of Homology, Lemma \( 13.12 \). \( \square \)

09K8 **Definition 8.2.** Let \((A, d)\) be a differential graded algebra.

1. If \( 0 \to K \to L \to M \to 0 \) is an admissible short exact sequence of differential graded \( A \)-modules, then the triangle associated to \( 0 \to K \to L \to M \to 0 \) is the triangle \( (8.1.1) \) of \( K(\text{Mod}_{(A, d)}) \).

2. A triangle of \( K(\text{Mod}_{(A, d)}) \) is called a distinguished triangle if it is isomorphic to a triangle associated to an admissible short exact sequence of differential graded \( A \)-modules.

9. Cones and distinguished triangles

09P1 Let \((A, d)\) be a differential graded algebra. Let \( f : K \to L \) be a homomorphism of differential graded \( A \)-modules. Then \( (K, L, C(f), f, i, p) \) forms a triangle:

\[
K \to L \to C(f) \to K[1]
\]

in \( \text{Mod}_{(A, d)} \) and hence in \( K(\text{Mod}_{(A, d)}) \). Cones are not distinguished triangles in general, but the difference is a sign or a rotation (your choice). Here are two precise statements.

09KB **Lemma 9.1.** Let \((A, d)\) be a differential graded algebra. Let \( f : K \to L \) be a homomorphism of differential graded modules. The triangle \((L, C(f), K[1], i, p, f[1])\) is the triangle associated to the admissible short exact sequence

\[
0 \to L \to C(f) \to K[1] \to 0
\]

coming from the definition of the cone of \( f \).

**Proof.** Immediate from the definitions. \( \square \)
09KC **Lemma 9.2.** Let \((A, d)\) be a differential graded algebra. Let \(\alpha : K \to L\) and \(\beta : L \to M\) define an admissible short exact sequence

\[
0 \to K \to L \to M \to 0
\]

of differential graded \(A\)-modules. Let \((K, L, M, \alpha, \beta, \delta)\) be the associated triangle. Then the triangles

\[
(M[-1], K, L, \delta[-1], \alpha, \beta) \quad \text{and} \quad (M[-1], K, C(\delta[-1]), \delta[-1], i, p)
\]

are isomorphic.

**Proof.** Using a choice of splittings we write \(L = K \oplus M\) and we identify \(\alpha\) and \(\beta\) with the natural inclusion and projection maps. By construction of \(\delta\) we have

\[
d_B = \begin{pmatrix} d_K & \delta \\ 0 & d_M \end{pmatrix}
\]

On the other hand the cone of \(\delta[-1] : M[-1] \to K\) is given as \(C(\delta[-1]) = K \oplus M\) with differential identical with the matrix above! Whence the lemma.

09KE **Lemma 9.3.** Let \((A, d)\) be a differential graded algebra. Let \(f_1 : K_1 \to L_1\) and \(f_2 : K_2 \to L_2\) be homomorphisms of differential graded \(A\)-modules. Let

\[
(a, b, c) : (K_1, L_1, C(f_1), f_1, i_1, p_1) \longrightarrow (K_1, L_1, C(f_1), f_2, i_2, p_2)
\]

be any morphism of triangles of \(K(\text{Mod}_{A,d})\). If \(a\) and \(b\) are homotopy equivalences then so is \(c\).

**Proof.** Let \(a^{-1} : K_2 \to K_1\) be a homomorphism of differential graded \(A\)-modules which is inverse to \(a\) in \(K(\text{Mod}_{A,d})\). Let \(b^{-1} : L_2 \to L_1\) be a homomorphism of differential graded \(A\)-modules which is inverse to \(b\) in \(K(\text{Mod}_{A,d})\). Let \(c' : C(f_2) \to C(f_1)\) be the morphism from Lemma 6.2 applied to \(f_2 \circ a^{-1} = b^{-1} \circ f_2\). If we can show that \(c \circ c'\) and \(c' \circ c\) are isomorphisms in \(K(\text{Mod}_{A,d})\) then we win. Hence it suffices to prove the following: Given a morphism of triangles \((1, 1, c) : (K, L, C(f), f, i, p)\) in \(K(\text{Mod}_{A,d})\) the morphism \(c\) is an isomorphism in \(K(\text{Mod}_{A,d})\). By assumption the two squares in the diagram

\[
\begin{array}{ccc}
L & \longrightarrow & C(f) \\
\downarrow & & \downarrow c \\
K[1] & \longrightarrow & K[1]
\end{array}
\]

commute up to homotopy. By construction of \(C(f)\) the rows form admissible short exact sequences. Thus we see that \((c - 1)^2 = 0\) in \(K(\text{Mod}_{A,d})\) by Lemma 7.6. Hence \(c\) is an isomorphism in \(K(\text{Mod}_{A,d})\) with inverse \(2 - c\).

The following lemma shows that the collection of triangles of the homotopy category given by cones and the distinguished triangles are the same up to isomorphisms, at least up to sign!

09KF **Lemma 9.4.** Let \((A, d)\) be a differential graded algebra.
(1) Given an admissible short exact sequence \(0 \to K \xrightarrow{\alpha} L \to M \to 0\) of differential graded \(A\)-modules there exists a homotopy equivalence \(C(\alpha) \to M\) such that the diagram

\[
\begin{array}{cccc}
K & \xrightarrow{\alpha} & L & \xrightarrow{\beta} & M & \xrightarrow{\delta} & K[1] \\
\downarrow & & \downarrow & & \downarrow & & \downarrow \\
\downarrow & & \downarrow & & \downarrow & & \\
\end{array}
\]

defines an isomorphism of triangles in \(K(\text{Mod}_A)\).

(2) Given a morphism of complexes \(f : K \to L\) there exists an isomorphism of triangles

\[
\begin{array}{cccc}
K & \xrightarrow{\alpha} & L & \xrightarrow{\beta} & M & \xrightarrow{\delta} & K[1] \\
\downarrow & & \downarrow & & \downarrow & & \downarrow \\
\downarrow & & \downarrow & & \downarrow & & \\
\end{array}
\]

where the upper triangle is the triangle associated to a admissible short exact sequence \(K \to L \to M\).

**Proof.** Proof of (1). We have \(C(\alpha) = L \oplus K\) and we simply define \(C(\alpha) \to M\) via the projection onto \(L\) followed by \(\beta\). This defines a morphism of differential graded modules because the compositions \(K^{n+1} \to L^{n+1} \to M^{n+1}\) are zero. Choose splittings \(s : M \to L\) and \(\pi : L \to K\) with \(\text{Ker}(\pi) = \text{Im}(s)\) and set \(\delta = \pi \circ d_L \circ s\) as usual. To get a homotopy inverse we take \(M \to C(\alpha)\) given by \((s, -\delta)\). This is compatible with differentials because \(\delta^n\) can be characterized as the unique map \(M^n \to K^{n+1}\) such that \(d \circ s^n - s^{n+1} \circ d = \alpha \circ \delta^n\), see proof of Homology, Lemma 13.10. The composition \(M \to C(f) \to M\) is the identity. The composition \(C(f) \to M \to C(f)\) is equal to the morphism

\[
\begin{pmatrix}
0 & 0 \\
\pi & 0 \\
\end{pmatrix}
\]

To see that this is homotopic to the identity map use the homotopy \(h : C(\alpha) \to C(\alpha)\) given by the matrix

\[
\begin{pmatrix}
1 & 0 \\
0 & 1 \\
\end{pmatrix} - \begin{pmatrix}
\pi & 0 \\
0 & -\pi \\
\end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix}
d & \alpha \\
0 & -d \\
\end{pmatrix} + \begin{pmatrix}
0 & 0 \\
\pi & 0 \\
\end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix}
d & \alpha \\
0 & -d \\
\end{pmatrix}
\]

It is trivial to verify that

\[
\begin{pmatrix}
1 & 0 \\
0 & 1 \\
\end{pmatrix} - \begin{pmatrix}
\pi & 0 \\
0 & -\pi \\
\end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix}
m & \alpha \\
0 & -m \\
\end{pmatrix} + \begin{pmatrix}
0 & 0 \\
\pi & 0 \\
\end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix}
m & \alpha \\
0 & -m \\
\end{pmatrix}
\]

To finish the proof of (1) we have to show that the morphisms \(-p : C(\alpha) \to K[1]\) (see Definition 6.1) and \(C(\alpha) \to M \to K[1]\) agree up to homotopy. This is clear from the above. Namely, we can use the homotopy inverse \((s, -\delta) : M \to C(\alpha)\) and check instead that the two maps \(M \to K[1]\) agree. And note that \(p \circ (s, -\delta) = -\delta\) as desired.

Proof of (2). We let \(\tilde{f} : K \to \tilde{L}, s : L \to L\) and \(\pi : L \to L\) be as in Lemma 7.4 By Lemmas 6.2 and 9.3 the triangles \((K, L, C(f), i, p)\) and \((K, \tilde{L}, C(\tilde{f}), \tilde{i}, \tilde{p})\) are isomorphic. Note that we can compose isomorphisms of triangles. Thus we may
replace $L$ by $\tilde{L}$ and $f$ by $\tilde{f}$. In other words we may assume that $f$ is an admissible monomorphism. In this case the result follows from part (1).

10. The homotopy category is triangulated

09KG We first prove that it is pre-triangulated.

09KH Lemma 10.1. Let $(A, d)$ be a differential graded algebra. The homotopy category $K(\text{Mod}_{(A, d)})$ with its natural translation functors and distinguished triangles is a pre-triangulated category.

Proof. Proof of TR1. By definition every triangle isomorphic to a distinguished one is distinguished. Also, any triangle $(K, K, 0, 1, 0, 0)$ is distinguished since $0 \to K \to K \to 0$ is an admissible short exact sequence. Finally, given any homomorphism $f : K \to L$ of differential graded $A$-modules the triangle $(K, L, C(f), f, i, -p)$ is distinguished by Lemma 9.4.

Proof of TR2. Let $(X, Y, Z, f, g, h)$ be a triangle. Assume $(Y, Z, X[1], g, h, -f[1])$ is distinguished. Then there exists an admissible short exact sequence $0 \to K \to L \to M \to 0$ such that the associated triangle $(K, L, M, \alpha, \beta, \delta)$ is isomorphic to $(Y, Z, X[1], g, h, -f[1])$. Rotating back we see that $(X, Y, Z, f, g, h)$ is isomorphic to $(M[-1], K, L, -\delta[-1], \alpha, \beta)$. It follows from Lemma 9.2 that the triangle $(M[-1], K, L, \delta[-1], \alpha, \beta)$ is isomorphic to $(M[-1], K, C(\delta[-1]), \delta[-1], i, p)$. Pre-composing the previous isomorphism of triangles with $-1$ on $Y$ it follows that $(X, Y, Z, f, g, h)$ is isomorphic to $(M[-1], K, C(\delta[-1]), \delta[-1], i, -p)$. Hence it is distinguished by Lemma 9.4. On the other hand, suppose that $(X, Y, Z, f, g, h)$ is distinguished. By Lemma 9.4 this means that it is isomorphic to a triangle of the form $(K, L, C(f), f, i, -p)$ for some morphism $f$ of $\text{Mod}_{(A, d)}$. Then the rotated triangle $(Y, Z, X[1], g, h, -f[1])$ is isomorphic to $(L, C(f), K[1], i, -p, -f[1])$ which is isomorphic to the triangle $(L, C(f), K[1], i, p, f[1])$. By Lemma 9.1 this triangle is distinguished. Hence $(Y, Z, X[1], g, h, -f[1])$ is distinguished as desired.

Proof of TR3. Let $(X, Y, Z, f, g, h)$ and $(X', Y', Z', f', g', h')$ be distinguished triangles of $K(A)$ and let $a : X \to X'$ and $b : Y \to Y'$ be morphisms such that $f' \circ a = b \circ f$. By Lemma 9.4 we may assume that $(X, Y, Z, f, g, h) = (X, Y, C(f), f, i, -p)$ and $(X', Y', Z', f', g', h') = (X', Y', C(f'), f', i', -p')$. At this point we simply apply Lemma 6.2 to the commutative diagram given by $f, f', a, b$. 

Before we prove TR4 in general we prove it in a special case.

09KI Lemma 10.2. Let $(A, d)$ be a differential graded algebra. Suppose that $\alpha : K \to L$ and $\beta : L \to M$ are admissible monomorphisms of differential graded $A$-modules. Then there exist distinguished triangles $(K, L, Q_1, \alpha, p_1, d_1)$, $(K, M, Q_2, \beta \circ \alpha, p_2, d_2)$ and $(L, M, Q_3, p_3, d_3)$ for which TR4 holds.

Proof. Say $\pi_1 : L \to K$ and $\pi_3 : M \to L$ are homomorphisms of graded $A$-modules which are left inverse to $\alpha$ and $\beta$. Then also $K \to M$ is an admissible monomorphism with left inverse $\pi_2 = \pi_1 \circ \pi_3$. Let us write $Q_1$, $Q_2$ and $Q_3$ for the cokernels of $K \to L$, $K \to M$, and $L \to M$. Then we obtain identifications (as graded $A$-modules) $Q_1 = \text{Ker}(\pi_1)$, $Q_3 = \text{Ker}(\pi_3)$ and $Q_2 = \text{Ker}(\pi_2)$. Then $L = K \oplus Q_1$ and $M = L \oplus Q_3$ as graded $A$-modules. This implies $M = K \oplus Q_1 \oplus Q_3$. 

Note that $\pi_2 = \pi_1 \circ \pi_3$ is zero on both $Q_1$ and $Q_3$. Hence $Q_2 = Q_1 \oplus Q_3$. Consider the commutative diagram

\[
\begin{array}{ccccccccc}
0 & \to & K & \to & L & \to & Q_1 & \to & 0 \\
\downarrow & & \downarrow & & \downarrow & & \downarrow & & \\
0 & \to & K & \to & M & \to & Q_2 & \to & 0 \\
\downarrow & & \downarrow & & \downarrow & & \downarrow & & \\
0 & \to & L & \to & M & \to & Q_3 & \to & 0 \\
\end{array}
\]

The rows of this diagram are admissible short exact sequences, and hence determine distinguished triangles by definition. Moreover downward arrows in the diagram above are compatible with the chosen splittings and hence define morphisms of triangles

\[
(K \to L \to Q_1 \to K[1]) \longrightarrow (K \to M \to Q_2 \to K[1])
\]

and

\[
(K \to M \to Q_2 \to K[1]) \longrightarrow (L \to M \to Q_3 \to L[1]).
\]

Note that the splittings $Q_3 \to M$ of the bottom sequence in the diagram provides a splitting for the split sequence $0 \to Q_1 \to Q_2 \to Q_3 \to 0$ upon composing with $M \to Q_2$. It follows easily from this that the morphism $\delta : Q_3 \to Q_1[1]$ in the corresponding distinguished triangle

\[
(Q_1 \to Q_2 \to Q_3 \to Q_1[1])
\]

is equal to the composition $Q_3 \to L[1] \to Q_1[1]$. Hence we get a structure as in the conclusion of axiom TR4. \hfill \Box

Here is the final result.

**Proposition 10.3.** Let $(A, d)$ be a differential graded algebra. The homotopy category $K(Mod_{(A, d)})$ of differential graded $A$-modules with its natural translation functors and distinguished triangles is a triangulated category.

**Proof.** We know that $K(Mod_{(A, d)})$ is a pre-triangulated category. Hence it suffices to prove TR4 and to prove it we can use Derived Categories, Lemma 4.14. Let $K \to L$ and $L \to M$ be composable morphisms of $K(Mod_{(A, d)})$. By Lemma 7.5 we may assume that $K \to L$ and $L \to M$ are admissible monomorphisms. In this case the result follows from Lemma 10.2. \hfill \Box

### 11. Projective modules over algebras

In this section we discuss projective modules over algebras and over graded algebras. Thus it is the analogue of Algebra, Section 76 in the setting of this chapter.

**Algebras and modules.** Let $R$ be a ring and let $A$ be an $R$-algebra, see Section 2 for our conventions. It is clear that $A$ is a projective right $A$-module since $\text{Hom}_A(A, M) = M$ for any right $A$-module $M$ (and thus $\text{Hom}_A(A, -)$ is exact). Conversely, let $P$ be a projective right $A$-module. Then we can choose a surjection $\bigoplus_{i \in I} A \to P$ by choosing a set $\{p_i\}_{i \in I}$ of generators of $P$ over $A$. Since $P$ is projective there is a left inverse to the surjection, and we find that $P$ is isomorphic to a direct summand of a free module, exactly as in the commutative case (Algebra, Lemma 76.2).
Graded algebras and modules. Let \( R \) be a ring. Let \( A \) be a graded algebra over \( R \). Let \( \text{Mod}_A \) denote the category of graded right \( A \)-modules. For an integer \( k \) let \( A[k] \) denote the shift of \( A \). For an graded right \( A \)-module we have

\[ \text{Hom}_{\text{Mod}_A}(A[k], M) = M^{-k} \]

As the functor \( M \mapsto M^{-k} \) is exact on \( \text{Mod}_A \) we conclude that \( A[k] \) is a projective object of \( \text{Mod}_A \). Conversely, suppose that \( P \) is a projective object of \( \text{Mod}_A \). By choosing a set of homogeneous generators of \( P \) as an \( A \)-module, we can find a surjection

\[ \bigoplus_{i \in I} A[k_i] \longrightarrow P \]

Thus we conclude that a projective object of \( \text{Mod}_A \) is a direct summand of a direct sum of the shifts \( A[k] \).

If \((A, d)\) is a differential graded algebra and \( P \) is an object of \( \text{Mod}_A \), then we say \( P \) is projective as a graded \( A \)-module or sometimes \( P \) is graded projective to mean that \( P \) is a projective object of the abelian category \( \text{Mod}_A \) of graded \( A \)-modules.

**Lemma 11.1.** Let \((A, d)\) be a differential graded algebra. Let \( M \rightarrow P \) be a surjective homomorphism of differential graded \( A \)-modules. If \( P \) is projective as a graded \( A \)-module, then \( M \rightarrow P \) is an admissible epimorphism.

**Proof.** This is immediate from the definitions. \(\square\)

**Lemma 11.2.** Let \((A, d)\) be a differential graded algebra. Then we have

\[ \text{Hom}_{\text{Mod}_A}(A[k], M) = \text{Ker}(d : M^{-k} \rightarrow M^{-k+1}) \]

and

\[ \text{Hom}_{\text{K}(\text{Mod}_A)}(A[k], M) = H^{-k}(M) \]

for any differential graded \( A \)-module \( M \).

**Proof.** This is clear from the discussion above. \(\square\)

12. Injective modules over algebras

In this section we discuss injective modules over algebras and over graded algebras. Thus it is the analogue of More on Algebra, Section 54 in the setting of this chapter.

Algebras and modules. Let \( R \) be a ring and let \( A \) be an \( R \)-algebra, see Section 2 for our conventions. For a right \( A \)-module \( M \) we set

\[ M^\vee = \text{Hom}_Z(M, \mathbb{Q}/\mathbb{Z}) \]

which we think of as a left \( A \)-module by the multiplication \((af)(x) = f(xa)\). Namely, \((ab)f)(x) = f(xab) = (bf)(xa) = (a(bf))(x)\). Conversely, if \( M \) is a left \( A \)-module, then \( M^\vee \) is a right \( A \)-module. Since \( \mathbb{Q}/\mathbb{Z} \) is an injective abelian group (More on Algebra, Lemma 53.1), the functor \( M \mapsto M^\vee \) is exact (More on Algebra, Lemma 54.6). Moreover, the evaluation map \( M \mapsto (M^\vee)^\vee \) is injective for all modules \( M \) (More on Algebra, Lemma 54.7).

We claim that \( A^\vee \) is an injective right \( A \)-module. Namely, given a right \( A \)-module \( N \) we have

\[ \text{Hom}_A(N, A^\vee) = \text{Hom}_A(N, \text{Hom}_Z(A, \mathbb{Q}/\mathbb{Z})) = N^\vee \]
and we conclude because the functor \( N \mapsto N^\vee \) is exact. The second equality holds because

\[
\text{Hom}_\mathbb{Z}(N, \text{Hom}_\mathbb{Z}(A, \mathbb{Q}/\mathbb{Z})) = \text{Hom}_\mathbb{Z}(N \otimes \mathbb{Z} A, \mathbb{Q}/\mathbb{Z})
\]

by Algebra, Lemma [11.8]. Inside this module A-linearity exactly picks out the bilinear maps \( \varphi : N \times A \to \mathbb{Q}/\mathbb{Z} \) which have the same value on \( x \otimes a \) and \( xa \otimes 1 \), i.e., come from elements of \( N^\vee \).

Finally, for every right \( A \)-module \( M \) we can choose a surjection \( \bigoplus_{i \in I} A \to M^\vee \) to get an injection \( M \to (M^\vee)^\vee \to \prod_{i \in I} A^\vee \).

We conclude

1. the category of \( A \)-modules has enough injectives,
2. \( A^\vee \) is an injective \( A \)-module, and
3. every \( A \)-module injects into a product of copies of \( A^\vee \).

**Graded algebras and modules.** Let \( R \) be a ring. Let \( A \) be a graded algebra over \( R \). If \( M \) is a graded \( A \)-module we set

\[
M^\vee = \bigoplus_{n \in \mathbb{Z}} \text{Hom}_\mathbb{Z}(M^{-n}, \mathbb{Q}/\mathbb{Z}) = \bigoplus_{n \in \mathbb{Z}} (M^{-n})^\vee
\]

as a graded \( R \)-module with the \( A \)-module structure defined as above (for homogeneous elements). This again switches left and right modules. On the category of graded \( A \)-modules the functor \( M \mapsto M^\vee \) is exact (check on graded pieces). Moreover, the evaluation map \( M \to (M^\vee)^\vee \) is injective as before (because we can check this on the graded pieces).

We claim that \( A^\vee \) is an injective object of the category \( \text{Mod}_A \) of graded right \( A \)-modules. Namely, given a graded right \( A \)-module \( N \) we have

\[
\text{Hom}_{\text{Mod}_A}(N, A^\vee) = \text{Hom}_{\text{Mod}_A}(N, \bigoplus \text{Hom}_\mathbb{Z}(A^{-n}, \mathbb{Q}/\mathbb{Z})) = (N^0)^\vee
\]

and we conclude because the functor \( N \mapsto (N^0)^\vee = (N^\vee)^0 \) is exact. To see that the second equality holds we use the equalities

\[
\text{Hom}_\mathbb{Z}(N^0, \text{Hom}_\mathbb{Z}(A^{-n}, \mathbb{Q}/\mathbb{Z})) = \text{Hom}_\mathbb{Z}(N^0 \otimes \mathbb{Z} A^{-n}, \mathbb{Q}/\mathbb{Z})
\]

of Algebra, Lemma [11.8]. Thus an element of \( \text{Hom}_{\text{Mod}_A}(N, A^\vee) \) corresponds to a family of \( \mathbb{Z} \)-bilinear maps \( \psi_n : N^n \times A^{-n} \to \mathbb{Q}/\mathbb{Z} \) such that \( \psi_n(x, a) = \psi_0(xa, 1) \) for all \( x \in N^n \) and \( a \in A^{-n} \). Moreover, \( \psi_0(x, a) = \psi_0(xa, 1) \) for all \( x \in N^0, a \in A^0 \). It follows that the maps \( \psi_n \) are determined by \( \psi_0 \) and that \( \psi_0(x, a) = \varphi(xa) \) for a unique element \( \varphi \in (N^0)^\vee \).

Finally, for every graded right \( A \)-module \( M \) we can choose a surjection (of graded left \( A \)-modules)

\[
\bigoplus_{i \in I} A[k_i] \to M^\vee
\]

where \( A[k_i] \) denotes the shift of \( A \) by \( k_i \in \mathbb{Z} \). (We do this by choosing homogeneous generators for \( M^\vee \).) In this way we get an injection

\[
M \to (M^\vee)^\vee \to \prod A[k_i]^\vee = \prod A^\vee[-k_i]
\]

Observe that the products in the formula above are products in the category of graded modules (in other words, take products in each degree and then take the direct sum of the pieces).

We conclude that
the category of graded $A$-modules has enough injectives,
(2) for every $k \in \mathbb{Z}$ the module $A^\vee[k]$ is injective, and
(3) every $A$-module injects into a product in the category of graded modules
of copies of shifts $A^\vee[k]$.  

If $(A,d)$ is a differential graded algebra and $I$ is an object of $\text{Mod}(A,d)$ then we  
say $I$ is injective as a graded $A$-module to mean that $I$ is an injective object of the
abelian category $\text{Mod}_A$ of graded $A$-modules.

**Lemma 12.1.** Let $(A,d)$ be a differential graded algebra. Let $I \to M$ be an
injective homomorphism of differential graded $A$-modules. If $I$ is an injective object of the
category of graded $A$-modules, then $I \to M$ is an admissible monomorphism.

**Proof.** This is immediate from the definitions.  

Let $(A,d)$ be a differential graded algebra. If $M$ is a left differential graded $A$-
module, then we will endow $M^\vee$ (with its graded module structure as above) with a
right differential graded module structure by setting

$$d_M^\vee(f) = -(-1)^n f \circ d_M^{-n-1} \quad \text{in } (M^\vee)^{n+1}$$

for $f \in (M^\vee)^n = \text{Hom}_\mathbb{Z}(M^{-n}, \mathbb{Q}/\mathbb{Z})$ and $d_M^{-n-1} : M^{-n-1} \to M^{-n}$ the differential
of $M$. We will show by a computation that this works. Namely, if $a \in A^m$, $x \in M^{-n-m-1}$ and $f \in (M^\vee)^n$, then we have

$$d_M^\vee(fa)(x) = -(-1)^{n+m}(fa)(d_M(x))$$

$$= -(-1)^{n+m} f(d_M(ax) - d(a)x)$$

$$= -(-1)^n[-(-1)^n d_M^\vee(f)(ax) - (fd(a))(x)]$$

$$= (d_M^\vee(fa)(x) + (-1)^n(fd(a))(x)$$

the third equality because $d_M(ax) = d(a)x + (-1)^m ad_M(x)$. In other words we have $d_M^\vee(fa) = d_M^\vee(fa) + (-1)^n fd(a)$ as desired.

If $M$ is a right differential graded module, then the sign rule above does not work.

The problem seems to be that in defining the left $A$-module structure on $M^\vee$ our
conventions for graded modules above defines $af$ to be the element of $(M^\vee)^{n+m}$
such that $(af)(x) = f(xa)$ for $f \in (M^\vee)^n$, $a \in A^m$ and $x \in M^{-n-m}$ which in some
sense is the “wrong” thing to do if $m$ is odd. Anyway, instead of changing the sign
rule for the module structure, we fix the problem by using

$$d_M^\vee(f) = (-1)^n f \circ d_M^{-n-1}$$

when $M$ is a right differential graded $A$-module. The computation for $a \in A^m$, $x \in M^{-n-m-1}$ and $f \in (M^\vee)^n$ then becomes

$$d_M^\vee(fa)(x) = -(-1)^{n+m}(fa)(d_M(x))$$

$$= -(-1)^{n+m} f(d_M(ax) - (-1)^{m+n+1} xd(a))$$

$$= (-1)^m d_M^\vee(f)(ax) + f(xd(a))$$

$$= (-1)^m(ad_M^\vee(f))(x) + (d(a)f)(x)$$

1The sign rule is analogous to the one in Example 19.8 although there we are working with
right modules and the same sign rule taken there does not work for left modules. Sigh!
the third equality because \( d_M(xa) = d_M(x)a + (-1)^{n+m+1}xd(a) \). In other words, we have \( d_{M'}(af) = d(a)f + (-1)^m ad_{M'}(f) \) as desired.

We leave it to the reader to show that with the conventions above there is a natural evaluation map \( M \to (M'^\vee)^\vee \) in the category of differential graded modules if \( M \) is either a differential graded left module or a differential graded right module. This works because the sign choices above cancel out and the differentials of \(((M'^\vee)^\vee)^\vee \) are the natural maps \(((M'^\vee)^\vee)^\vee \to ((M'^{n+1})^\vee)^\vee \).

**Lemma 12.2.** Let \((A, d)\) be a differential graded algebra. If \( M \) is a left differential graded \( A \)-module and \( N \) is a right differential graded \( A \)-module, then

\[
\text{Hom}_{\mathcal{M}od(A, d)}(N, M^\vee)
\]

is isomorphic to the set of sequences \((\psi_n)\) of \(\mathbb{Z}\)-bilinear pairings

\[
\psi_n: N^n \times M^{-n} \to \mathbb{Q}/\mathbb{Z}
\]

such that \( \psi_{n+m}(ya, x) = \psi_{n+m}(y, ax) \) for all \( y \in N^n, x \in M^{-m}, \) and \( a \in A^{m+n} \) and such that \( \psi_{n+1}(d(y), x) + (-1)^m \psi_n(y, d(x)) = 0 \) for all \( y \in N^n \) and \( x \in M^{-n-1} \).

**Proof.** If \( f \in \text{Hom}_{\mathcal{M}od(A, d)}(N, M^\vee) \), then we map this to the sequence of pairings defined by \( \psi_n(y, x) = f(y)(x) \). It is a computation (omitted) to see that these pairings satisfy the conditions as in the lemma. For the converse, use Algebra, Lemma 11.8 to turn a sequence of pairings into a map \( f: N \to M^\vee \). \qed

**Lemma 12.3.** Let \((A, d)\) be a differential graded algebra. Then we have

\[
\text{Hom}_{\mathcal{M}od(A, d)}(M, A^\vee[k]) = \text{Ker}(d: (M'^\vee)^k \to (M'^\vee)^{k+1})
\]

and

\[
\text{Hom}_{\mathcal{K}(\mathcal{M}od(A, d))}(M, A^\vee[k]) = H^k(M'^\vee)
\]

for any differential graded \( A \)-module \( M \).

**Proof.** This is clear from the discussion above. \qed

### 13. P-resolutions

This section is the analogue of Derived Categories, Section 28.

Let \((A, d)\) be a differential graded algebra. Let \( P \) be a differential graded \( A \)-module. We say \( P \) has property \((P)\) if it there exists a filtration

\[
0 = F_{-1}P \subset F_0P \subset F_1P \subset \ldots \subset P
\]

by differential graded submodules such that

1. \( P = \bigcup F_pP \),
2. the inclusions \( F_pP \to F_{p+1}P \) are admissible monomorphisms,
3. the quotients \( F_{p+1}P/F_pP \) are isomorphic as differential graded \( A \)-modules to a direct sum of \( A[k] \).

In fact, condition (2) is a consequence of condition (3), see Lemma 11.4. Moreover, the reader can verify that as a graded \( A \)-module \( P \) will be isomorphic to a direct sum of shifts of \( A \).
Lemma 13.1. Let $(A, d)$ be a differential graded algebra. Let $P$ be a differential graded $A$-module. If $F_\bullet$ is a filtration as in property $(P)$, then we obtain an admissible short exact sequence

$$0 \to \bigoplus F_i P \to \bigoplus F_i P \to P \to 0$$

of differential graded $A$-modules.

**Proof.** The second map is the direct sum of the inclusion maps. The first map on the summand $F_i P$ of the source is the sum of the identity $F_i P \to F_i P$ and the negative of the inclusion map $F_i P \to F_{i+1} P$. Choose homomorphisms $s_i : F_{i+1} P \to F_i P$ of graded $A$-modules which are left inverse to the inclusion maps. Composing gives maps $s_{j,i} : F_j P \to F_i P$ for all $j > i$. Then a left inverse of the first arrow maps $x \in F_j P$ to $(s_{j,0}(x), s_{j,1}(x), \ldots, s_{j,j-1}(x), 0, \ldots)$ in $\bigoplus F_i P$. \hfill \Box

The following lemma shows that differential graded modules with property $(P)$ are the dual notion to $K$-injective modules (i.e., they are $K$-projective in some sense). See Derived Categories, Definition 29.1.

Lemma 13.2. Let $(A, d)$ be a differential graded algebra. Let $P$ be a differential graded $A$-module with property $(P)$. Then

$$\text{Hom}_{K(\mathbf{Mod}(A, d))}(P, N) = 0$$

for all acyclic differential graded $A$-modules $N$.

**Proof.** We will use that $K(\mathbf{Mod}(A, d))$ is a triangulated category (Proposition 10.3). Let $F_\bullet$ be a filtration on $P$ as in property $(P)$. The short exact sequence of Lemma 13.1 produces a distinguished triangle. Hence by Derived Categories, Lemma 4.2 it suffices to show that

$$\text{Hom}_{K(\mathbf{Mod}(A, d))}(F_i P, N) = 0$$

for all acyclic differential graded $A$-modules $N$ and all $i$. Each of the differential graded modules $F_i P$ has a finite filtration by admissible monomorphisms, whose graded pieces are direct sums of shifts $A[k]$. Thus it suffices to prove that

$$\text{Hom}_{K(\mathbf{Mod}(A, d))}(A[k], N) = 0$$

for all acyclic differential graded $A$-modules $N$ and all $k$. This follows from Lemma 11.2. \hfill \Box

Lemma 13.3. Let $(A, d)$ be a differential graded algebra. Let $M$ be a differential graded $A$-module. There exists a homomorphism $P \to M$ of differential graded $A$-modules with the following properties

1. $P \to M$ is surjective,
2. $\text{Ker}(d_P) \to \text{Ker}(d_M)$ is surjective, and
3. $P$ sits in an admissible short exact sequence $0 \to P' \to P \to P'' \to 0$ where $P'$, $P''$ are direct sums of shifts of $A$.

**Proof.** Let $P_k$ be the free $A$-module with generators $x, y$ in degrees $k$ and $k+1$. Define the structure of a differential graded $A$-module on $P_k$ by setting $d(x) = y$ and $d(y) = 0$. For every element $m \in M^k$ there is a homomorphism $P_k \to M$ sending $x$ to $m$ and $y$ to $d(m)$. Thus we see that there is a surjection from a direct sum of copies of $P_k$ to $M$. This clearly produces $P \to M$ having properties (1) and (3). To obtain property (2) note that if $m \in \text{Ker}(d_M)$ has degree $k$, then there is a
map $A[k] \to M$ mapping $1$ to $m$. Hence we can achieve (2) by adding a direct sum of copies of shifts of $A$.

Lemma 13.4. Let $(A, d)$ be a differential graded algebra. Let $M$ be a differential graded $A$-module. There exists a homomorphism $P \to M$ of differential graded $A$-modules such that

1. $P \to M$ is a quasi-isomorphism, and
2. $P$ has property (P).

Proof. Set $M = M_0$. We inductively choose short exact sequences

$$0 \to M_{i+1} \to P_i \to M_i \to 0$$

where the maps $P_i \to M_i$ are chosen as in Lemma 13.3. This gives a “resolution”

$$\ldots \to P_2 \xrightarrow{f_2} P_1 \xrightarrow{f_1} P_0 \to M \to 0$$

Then we set

$$P = \bigoplus_{i \geq 0} P_i$$

as an $A$-module with grading given by $P^n = \bigoplus_{a+b=n} P^b_{-a}$ and differential (as in the construction of the total complex associated to a double complex) by

$$d_P(x) = f_{-a}(x) + (-1)^a d_{P^b_{-a}}(x)$$

for $x \in P^b_{-a}$. With these conventions $P$ is indeed a differential graded $A$-module. Recalling that each $P_i$ has a two step filtration $0 \to P'_i \to P_i \to P''_i \to 0$ we set

$$F_{2i} P = \bigoplus_{i \geq j \geq 0} P_j \subset \bigoplus_{i \geq 0} P_i = P$$

and we add $P'_{i+1}$ to $F_{2i} P$ to get $F_{2i+1}$. These are differential graded submodules and the successive quotients are direct sums of shifts of $A$. By Lemma 11.1 we see that the inclusions $F_i P \to F_{i+1} P$ are admissible monomorphisms. Finally, we have to show that the map $P \to M$ (given by the augmentation $P_0 \to M$) is a quasi-isomorphism. This follows from Homology, Lemma 23.2.

□

14. $I$-resolutions

Let $(A, d)$ be a differential graded algebra. Let $I$ be a differential graded $A$-module. We say $I$ has property (I) if it there exists a filtration

$$I = F_0 I \supset F_1 I \supset F_2 I \supset \ldots \supset 0$$

by differential graded submodules such that

1. $I = \lim I/F_p I$,
2. the maps $I/F_{i+1} I \to I/F_i I$ are admissible epimorphisms,
3. the quotients $F_i I/F_{i+1} I$ are isomorphic as differential graded $A$-modules to products of $A^v[k]$.

In fact, condition (2) is a consequence of condition (3), see Lemma 12.1. The reader can verify that as a graded module $I$ will be isomorphic to a product of $A^v[k]$. 
Lemma 14.1. Let $(A, d)$ be a differential graded algebra. Let $I$ be a differential graded $A$-module. If $F_\bullet$ is a filtration as in property (I), then we obtain an admissible short exact sequence

$$0 \to I \to \prod I/F_i I \to \prod I/F_i I \to 0$$

of differential graded $A$-modules.

**Proof.** Omitted. Hint: This is dual to Lemma 13.1. □

The following lemma shows that differential graded modules with property (I) are the analogue of K-injective modules. See Derived Categories, Definition 29.1.

Lemma 14.2. Let $(A, d)$ be a differential graded algebra. Let $I$ be a differential graded $A$-module with property (I). Then

$$\text{Hom}_{K(\text{Mod}(A, d))}(N, I) = 0$$

for all acyclic differential graded $A$-modules $N$.

**Proof.** We will use that $K(\text{Mod}(A, d))$ is a triangulated category (Proposition 10.3). Let $F_\bullet$ be a filtration on $I$ as in property (I). The short exact sequence of Lemma 14.1 produces a distinguished triangle. Hence by Derived Categories, Lemma 4.2 it suffices to show that

$$\text{Hom}_{K(\text{Mod}(A, d))}(N, I/F_i I) = 0$$

for all acyclic differential graded $A$-modules $N$ and all $i$. Each of the differential graded modules $I/F_i I$ has a finite filtration by admissible monomorphisms, whose graded pieces are products of $A^\vee[k]$. Thus it suffices to prove that

$$\text{Hom}_{K(\text{Mod}(A, d))}(N, A^\vee[k]) = 0$$

for all acyclic differential graded $A$-modules $N$ and all $k$. This follows from Lemma 12.3 and the fact that $(-)^\vee$ is an exact functor. □

Lemma 14.3. Let $(A, d)$ be a differential graded algebra. Let $M$ be a differential graded $A$-module. There exists a homomorphism $M \to I$ of differential graded $A$-modules with the following properties

1. $M \to I$ is injective,
2. $\text{Coker}(d_M) \to \text{Coker}(d_I)$ is injective, and
3. $I$ sits in an admissible short exact sequence $0 \to I' \to I \to I'' \to 0$ where $I', I''$ are products of shifts of $A^\vee$.

**Proof.** For every $k \in \mathbb{Z}$ let $Q_k$ be the free left $A$-module with generators $x, y$ in degrees $k$ and $k + 1$. Define the structure of a left differential graded $A$-module on $Q_k$ by setting $d(x) = y$ and $d(y) = 0$. Let $I_k = Q^\vee[k]$ be the “dual” right differential graded $A$-module, see Section 12. The next paragraph shows that we can embed $M$ into a product of copies of $I_k$ (for varying $k$). The dual statement (that any differential graded module is a quotient of a direct sum of $P_k$’s) is easy to prove (see proof of Lemma 13.3) and using double duals there should be a noncomputational way to deduce what we want. Thus we suggest skipping the next paragraph.

Given a $\mathbb{Z}$-linear map $\lambda : M^k \to Q/\mathbb{Z}$ we construct pairings

$$\psi_n : M^n \times Q_{k-n}^\vee \to Q/\mathbb{Z}$$

by setting

$$\psi_n(m, ax + by) = \lambda(ma + (-1)^{k+1}d(mb))$$
for $m \in M^n$, $a \in A^{-n-k}$, and $b \in A^{-n-k-1}$. We compute
\[
\psi_{n+1}(d(m), ax + by) = \lambda (d(m)a + (-1)^{k+1}d(m)b))
\]
and because $d(ax + by) = d(a)x + (-1)^{-n-k}ay + d(b)y$ we have
\[
\psi_n(m, d(ax + by)) = \lambda (md(a) + (-1)^{k+1}d(m((-1)^{-n-k}a + d(b))))
\]
and we see that
\[
\psi_n(d(m), ax + by) + (-1)^n\psi_n(m, d(ax + by)) = 0
\]
Thus these pairings define a homomorphism $f_\lambda : M \to I_k$ by Lemma 12.2 such that the composition
\[
M^k \xrightarrow{f_\lambda^k} I^k = (Q^k)\text{ evaluation at } x \to Q/Z
\]
is the given map $\lambda$. It is clear that we can find an embedding into a product of copies of $I_k$'s by using a map of the form $I = \prod f_\lambda$ for a suitable choice of the maps $\lambda$.

The result of the previous paragraph produces $M \to I$ having properties (1) and (3). To obtain property (2), suppose $\lambda \in \text{Coker}(d_M)$ is a nonzero element of degree $k$. Pick a map $\lambda : M^k \to Q/Z$ which vanishes on $\text{Im}(M^{k-1} \to M^k)$ but not on $m$. By Lemma 12.3 this corresponds to a homomorphism $M \to A^\vee[k]$ of differential graded $A$-modules which does not vanish on $m$. Hence we can achieve (2) by adding a product of copies of shifts of $A^\vee$.

09KU Lemma 14.4. Let $(A, d)$ be a differential graded algebra. Let $M$ be a differential graded $A$-module. There exists a homomorphism $M \to I$ of differential graded $A$-modules such that

1. $M \to I$ is a quasi-isomorphism, and
2. $I$ has property (I).

Proof. Set $M = M_0$. We inductively choose short exact sequences
\[
0 \to M_i \to I_i \to M_{i+1} \to 0
\]
where the maps $M_i \to I_i$ are chosen as in Lemma 14.3. This gives a “resolution”
\[
0 \to M \to I_0 \xrightarrow{f_0} I_1 \xrightarrow{f_1} I_1 \to \ldots
\]
Then we set
\[
I = \prod_{i \geq 0} I_i
\]
where we take the product in the category of graded $A$-modules and differential defined by
\[
d_I(x) = f_a(x) + (-1)^a d_{I_a}(x)
\]
for $x \in I_a^b$. With these conventions $I$ is indeed a differential graded $A$-module. Recalling that each $I_i$ has a two step filtration $0 \to I'_i \to I_i \to I''_i \to 0$ we set
\[
F_{2i}P = \prod_{i \geq 0} I_i \subset \prod_{i \geq 0} I_i = I
\]
and we add a factor $I''_i$ to $F_2I$ to get $F_{2i+1}I$. These are differential graded submodules and the successive quotients are products of shifts of $A^\vee$. By Lemma 12.1 we see that the inclusions $F_{i+1}I \to F_iI$ are admissible monomorphisms. Finally,
we have to show that the map $M \to I$ (given by the augmentation $M \to I_0$) is a quasi-isomorphism. This follows from Homology, Lemma 23.3.

15. The derived category

Recall that the notions of acyclic differential graded modules and quasi-isomorphism of differential graded modules make sense (see Section [3]).

**Lemma 15.1.** Let $(A, d)$ be a differential graded algebra. The full subcategory $Ac$ of $K(Mod_{(A,d)})$ consisting of acyclic modules is a strictly full saturated triangulated subcategory of $K(Mod_{(A,d)})$. The corresponding saturated multiplicative system (see Derived Categories, Lemma 6.10) of $K(Mod_{(A,d)})$ is the class $Qis$ of quasi-isomorphisms. In particular, the kernel of the localization functor

$$Q : K(Mod_{(A,d)}) \to Qis^{-1}K(Mod_{(A,d)})$$

is $Ac$. Moreover, the functor $H^0$ factors through $Q$.

**Proof.** We know that $H^0$ is a homological functor by the long exact sequence of homology (4.2.1). The kernel of $H^0$ is the subcategory of acyclic objects and the arrows with induce isomorphisms on all $H^i$ are the quasi-isomorphisms. Thus this lemma is a special case of Derived Categories, Lemma 6.11.

Set theoretical remark. The construction of the localization in Derived Categories, Proposition 5.5 assumes the given triangulated category is “small”, i.e., that the underlying collection of objects forms a set. Let $V_\alpha$ be a partial universe (as in Sets, Section 5) containing $(A, d)$ and where the cofinality of $\alpha$ is bigger than $\aleph_0$ (see Sets, Proposition 7.2). Then we can consider the category $Mod_{(A,d),\alpha}$ of differential graded $A$-modules contained in $V_\alpha$. A straightforward check shows that all the constructions used in the proof of Proposition 10.3 work inside of $Mod_{(A,d),\alpha}$ (because at worst we take finite direct sums of differential graded modules). Thus we obtain a triangulated category $Qis^{-1}_{\alpha}K(Mod_{(A,d),\alpha})$. We will see below that if $\beta > \alpha$, then the transition functors

$$Qis^{-1}_{\alpha}K(Mod_{(A,d),\alpha}) \to Qis^{-1}_{\beta}K(Mod_{(A,d),\beta})$$

are fully faithful as the morphism sets in the quotient categories are computed by maps in the homotopy categories from P-resolutions (the construction of a P-resolution in the proof of Lemma 13.4 takes countable direct sums as well as direct sums indexed over subsets of the given module). The reader should therefore think of the category of the lemma as the union of these subcategories.

Taking into account the set theoretical remark at the end of the proof of the preceding lemma we define the derived category as follows.

**Definition 15.2.** Let $(A, d)$ be a differential graded algebra. Let $Ac$ and $Qis$ be as in Lemma 15.1. The derived category of $(A, d)$ is the triangulated category

$$D(A, d) = K(Mod_{(A,d)})/Ac = Qis^{-1}K(Mod_{(A,d)})$$

We denote $H^0 : D(A, d) \to Mod_R$ the unique functor whose composition with the quotient functor gives back the functor $H^0$ defined above.

Here is the promised lemma computing morphism sets in the derived category.

**Lemma 15.3.** Let $(A, d)$ be a differential graded algebra. Let $M$ and $N$ be differential graded $A$-modules.
(1) Let $P \rightarrow M$ be a $P$-resolution as in Lemma 13.4. Then
\[ \text{Hom}_{D(A,d)}(M, N) = \text{Hom}_{K(\text{Mod}_{(A,d)})}(P, N) \]

(2) Let $N \rightarrow I$ be an $I$-resolution as in Lemma 14.4. Then
\[ \text{Hom}_{D(A,d)}(M, N) = \text{Hom}_{K(\text{Mod}_{(A,d)})}(M, I) \]

**Proof.** Let $P \rightarrow M$ be as in (1). Since $P \rightarrow M$ is a quasi-isomorphism we see that
\[ \text{Hom}_{D(A,d)}(P, N) = \text{Hom}_{D(A,d)}(M, N) \]
by definition of the derived category. A morphism $f : P \rightarrow N$ in $D(A,d)$ is equal to $s^{-1}f'$ where $f' : P \rightarrow N'$ is a morphism and $s : N \rightarrow N'$ is a quasi-isomorphism. Choose a distinguished triangle
\[ N \rightarrow N' \rightarrow Q \rightarrow N[1] \]
As $s$ is a quasi-isomorphism, we see that $Q$ is acyclic. Thus $\text{Hom}_{K(\text{Mod}_{(A,d)})}(P, Q[k]) = 0$ for all $k$ by Lemma 13.2. Since $\text{Hom}_{K(\text{Mod}_{(A,d)})}(P, -)$ is cohomological, we conclude that we can lift $f' : P \rightarrow N'$ uniquely to a morphism $f : P \rightarrow N$. This finishes the proof.

The proof of (2) is dual to that of (1) using Lemma 14.2 in stead of Lemma 13.2. \[ \square \]

**Lemma 15.4.** Let $(A, d)$ be a differential graded algebra. Then

(1) $D(A,d)$ has both direct sums and products,

(2) direct sums are obtained by taking direct sums of differential graded modules,

(3) products are obtained by taking products of differential graded modules.

**Proof.** We will use that $\text{Mod}_{(A,d)}$ is an abelian category with arbitrary direct sums and products, and that these give rise to direct sums and products in $K(\text{Mod}_{(A,d)})$. See Lemmas 4.2 and 5.4

Let $M_j$ be a family of differential graded $A$-modules. Consider the graded direct sum $M = \bigoplus M_j$ which is a differential graded $A$-module with the obvious. For a differential graded $A$-module $N$ choose a quasi-isomorphism $N \rightarrow I$ where $I$ is a differential graded $A$-module with property (I). See Lemma 14.4. Using Lemma 15.3 we have
\[ \text{Hom}_{D(A,d)}(M, N) = \text{Hom}_{K(A,d)}(M, I) \]
\[ = \prod \text{Hom}_{K(A,d)}(M_j, I) \]
\[ = \prod \text{Hom}_{D(A,d)}(M_j, N) \]
whence the existence of direct sums in $D(A,d)$ as given in part (2) of the lemma.

Let $M_j$ be a family of differential graded $A$-modules. Consider the product $M = \prod M_j$ of differential graded $A$-modules. For a differential graded $A$-module $N$ choose a quasi-isomorphism $P \rightarrow N$ where $P$ is a differential graded $A$-module with property (P). See Lemma 13.4. Using Lemma 15.3 we have
\[ \text{Hom}_{D(A,d)}(N, M) = \text{Hom}_{K(A,d)}(P, M) \]
\[ = \prod \text{Hom}_{K(A,d)}(P, M_j) \]
\[ = \prod \text{Hom}_{D(A,d)}(N, M_j) \]
whence the existence of direct sums in $D(A,d)$ as given in part (3) of the lemma. \[ \square \]
16. The canonical delta-functor

09KZ Let \((A, d)\) be a differential graded algebra. Consider the functor \(\text{Mod}_{(A,d)} \to K(\text{Mod}_{(A,d)})\). This functor is not a \(\delta\)-functor in general. However, it turns out that the functor \(\text{Mod}_{(A,d)} \to D(A, d)\) is a \(\delta\)-functor. In order to see this we have to define the morphisms \(\delta\) associated to a short exact sequence

\[0 \to K \xrightarrow{a} L \xrightarrow{b} M \to 0\]

in the abelian category \(\text{Mod}_{(A,d)}\). Consider the cone \(C(a)\) of the morphism \(a\). We have \(C(a) = L \oplus K\) and we define \(q : C(a) \to M\) via the projection to \(L\) followed by \(b\). Hence a homomorphism of differential graded \(A\)-modules

\[q : C(a) \to M.\]

It is clear that \(q \circ i = b\) where \(i\) is as in Definition 6.1. Note that, as \(a\) is injective, the kernel of \(q\) is identified with the cone of \(\text{id}_K\) which is acyclic. Hence we see that \(q\) is a quasi-isomorphism. According to Lemma 9.4 the triangle

\[(K, L, C(a), a, i, -p)\]

is a distinguished triangle in \(K(\text{Mod}_{(A,d)})\). As the localization functor \(K(\text{Mod}_{(A,d)}) \to D(A, d)\) is exact we see that \((K, L, C(a), a, i, -p)\) is a distinguished triangle in \(D(A, d)\). Since \(q\) is a quasi-isomorphism we see that \(q\) is an isomorphism in \(D(A, d)\). Hence we deduce that

\[(K, L, M, a, b, -p \circ q^{-1})\]

is a distinguished triangle of \(D(A, d)\). This suggests the following lemma.

09L0 Lemma 16.1. Let \((A, d)\) be a differential graded algebra. The functor \(\text{Mod}_{(A,d)} \to D(A, d)\) defined has the natural structure of a \(\delta\)-functor, with

\[\delta_{K \to L \to M} = -p \circ q^{-1}\]

with \(p\) and \(q\) as explained above.

Proof. We have already seen that this choice leads to a distinguished triangle whenever given a short exact sequence of complexes. We have to show functoriality of this construction, see Derived Categories, Definition 3.6. This follows from Lemma 6.2 with a bit of work. Compare with Derived Categories, Lemma 12.1. □

00CL Lemma 16.2. Let \((A, d)\) be a differential graded algebra. Let \(M_n\) be a system of differential graded modules. Then the derived colimit \(\text{hocolim} M_n\) in \(D(A, d)\) is represented by the differential graded module \(\text{colim} M_n\).

Proof. Set \(M = \text{colim} M_n\). We have an exact sequence of differential graded modules

\[0 \to \bigoplus M_n \to \bigoplus M_n \to M \to 0\]

by Derived Categories, Lemma 31.6 (applied the underlying complexes of abelian groups). The direct sums are direct sums in \(D(A)\) by Lemma 15.4. Thus the result follows from the definition of derived colimits in Derived Categories, Definition 31.1 and the fact that a short exact sequence of complexes gives a distinguished triangle (Lemma 16.1). □
17. Linear categories

Definition 17.1. Let $R$ be a ring. An $R$-linear category $A$ is a category where every morphism set is given the structure of an $R$-module and where for $x, y, z \in \text{Ob}(A)$ composition law

$$\text{Hom}_A(y, z) \times \text{Hom}_A(x, y) \to \text{Hom}_A(x, z)$$

is $R$-bilinear.

Thus composition determines an $R$-linear map

$$\text{Hom}_A(y, z) \otimes_R \text{Hom}_A(x, y) \to \text{Hom}_A(x, z)$$

of $R$-modules. Note that we do not assume $R$-linear categories to be additive.

Definition 17.2. Let $R$ be a ring. A functor of $R$-linear categories, or an $R$-linear functor $F : A \to B$ where for all objects $x, y$ of $A$ the map $F : \text{Hom}_A(x, y) \to \text{Hom}_A(F(x), F(y))$ is a homomorphism of $R$-modules.

18. Graded categories

Definition 18.1. Let $R$ be a ring. A graded category $A$ over $R$ is a category where every morphism set is given the structure of a graded $R$-module and where for $x, y, z \in \text{Ob}(A)$ composition is $R$-bilinear and induces a homomorphism

$$\text{Hom}_A(y, z) \otimes_R \text{Hom}_A(x, y) \to \text{Hom}_A(x, z)$$

of graded $R$-modules (i.e., preserving degrees).

In this situation we denote $\text{Hom}^i_A(x, y)$ the degree $i$ part of the graded object $\text{Hom}_A(x, y)$, so that

$$\text{Hom}_A(x, y) = \bigoplus_{i \in \mathbb{Z}} \text{Hom}^i_A(x, y)$$

is the direct sum decomposition into graded parts.

Definition 18.2. Let $R$ be a ring. A functor of graded categories over $R$, or a graded functor is a functor $F : A \to B$ where for all objects $x, y$ of $A$ the map $F : \text{Hom}_A(x, y) \to \text{Hom}_A(F(x), F(y))$ is a homomorphism of graded $R$-modules.

Given a graded category we are often interested in the corresponding “usual” category of maps of degree 0. Here is a formal definition.

Definition 18.3. Let $R$ be a ring. Let $A$ be a graded category over $R$. We let $A^0$ be the category with the same objects as $A$ and with

$$\text{Hom}_{A^0}(x, y) = \text{Hom}^0_A(x, y)$$

the degree 0 graded piece of the graded module of morphisms of $A$.

Definition 18.4. Let $R$ be a ring. Let $A$ be a graded category over $R$. A direct sum $(x, y, z, i, j, p, q)$ in $A$ (notation as in Homology, Remark 3.6) is a graded direct sum if $i, j, p, q$ are homogeneous of degree 0.
Example 18.5 (Graded category of graded objects). Let \( \mathcal{B} \) be an additive category. Recall that we have defined the category \( \text{Gr}(\mathcal{B}) \) of graded objects of \( \mathcal{B} \) in Homology, Definition 15.1. In this example, we will construct a graded category \( \text{Gr}^\mathfrak{g}(\mathcal{B}) \) over \( R = \mathbb{Z} \) whose associated category \( \text{Gr}^\mathfrak{g}(\mathcal{B})^0 \) recovers \( \text{Gr}(\mathcal{B}) \). As objects of \( \text{Comp}^\mathfrak{g}(\mathcal{B}) \) we take graded objects of \( \mathcal{B} \). Then, given graded objects \( A = (A^i) \) and \( B = (B^j) \) of \( \mathcal{B} \) we set

\[
\text{Hom}_{\text{Gr}^\mathfrak{g}(\mathcal{B})}(A, B) = \bigoplus_{n \in \mathbb{Z}} \text{Hom}^n(A, B)
\]

where the graded piece of degree \( n \) is the abelian group of homogeneous maps of degree \( n \) from \( A \) to \( B \) defined by the rule

\[
\text{Hom}^n(A, B) = \text{Hom}_{\text{Gr}(\mathcal{A})}(A, B[n]) = \text{Hom}_{\text{Gr}(\mathcal{A})}(A[-n], B)
\]

see Homology, Equation (15.4.1). Explicitly we have

\[
\text{Hom}^n(A, B) = \prod_{p+q=n} \text{Hom}_R(A^{-q}, B^p)
\]

(observe reversal of indices and observe that we have a product here and not a direct sum). In other words, a degree \( n \) morphism \( f \) from \( A \) to \( B \) can be seen as a system \( f = (f_{p,q}) \) where \( p, q \in \mathbb{Z} \), \( p + q = n \) with \( f_{p,q} : A^{-q} \to B^p \) a morphism of \( \mathcal{B} \). Given graded objects \( A, B, C \) of \( \mathcal{B} \) composition of morphisms in \( \text{Gr}^\mathfrak{g}(\mathcal{B}) \) is defined via the maps

\[
\text{Hom}^m(B, C) \times \text{Hom}^n(A, B) \to \text{Hom}^{n+m}(A, C)
\]

by simple composition \( (g, f) \mapsto g \circ f \) of homogeneous maps of graded objects. In terms of components we have

\[
(g \circ f)_{p,r} = g_{p,q} \circ f_{q,r}
\]

where \( q \) is such that \( p + q = m \) and \( -q + r = n \).

Example 18.6 (Graded category of graded modules). Let \( \mathcal{A} \) be a \( \mathbb{Z} \)-graded algebra over a ring \( R \). We will construct a graded category \( \text{Mod}^\mathfrak{g}_{\mathcal{A}} \) over \( R \) whose associated category \( (\text{Mod}^\mathfrak{g}_{\mathcal{A}})^0 \) is the category of graded \( \mathcal{A} \)-modules. As objects of \( \text{Mod}^\mathfrak{g}_{\mathcal{A}} \) we take right graded \( \mathcal{A} \)-modules (see Section 11). Given graded \( \mathcal{A} \)-modules \( L \) and \( M \) we set

\[
\text{Hom}_{\text{Mod}^\mathfrak{g}_{\mathcal{A}}}(L, M) = \bigoplus_{n \in \mathbb{Z}} \text{Hom}^n(L, M)
\]

where \( \text{Hom}^n(L, M) \) is the set of right \( \mathcal{A} \)-module maps \( L \to M \) which are homogeneous of degree \( n \), i.e., \( f(L^i) \subset M^{i+n} \) for all \( i \in \mathbb{Z} \). In terms of components, we have that

\[
\text{Hom}^n(L, M) \subset \prod_{p+q=n} \text{Hom}_R(L^{-q}, M^p)
\]

(observe reversal of indices) is the subset consisting of those \( f = (f_{p,q}) \) such that

\[
f_{p,q}(ma) = f_{p-i,q+i}(m)a
\]

for \( a \in A^i \) and \( m \in L^{-q-i} \). For graded \( \mathcal{A} \)-modules \( K, L, M \) we define composition in \( \text{Mod}^\mathfrak{g}_{\mathcal{A}} \) via the maps

\[
\text{Hom}^m(L, M) \times \text{Hom}^n(K, L) \to \text{Hom}^{n+m}(K, M)
\]

by simple composition of right \( \mathcal{A} \)-module maps: \( (g, f) \mapsto g \circ f \).
Remark 18.7. Let $R$ be a ring. Let $\mathcal{D}$ be an $R$-linear category endowed with a collection of $R$-linear functors $[n] : \mathcal{D} \to \mathcal{D}$, $x \mapsto x[n]$ indexed by $n \in \mathbb{Z}$ such that $[n] \circ [m] = [n+m]$ and $[0] = \text{id}_\mathcal{D}$ (equality as functors). This allows us to construct a graded category $\mathcal{D}^{gr}$ over $R$ with the same objects of $\mathcal{D}$ setting

$$\text{Hom}_{\mathcal{D}^{gr}}(x, y) = \bigoplus_{n \in \mathbb{Z}} \text{Hom}_{\mathcal{D}}(x, y[n])$$

for $x, y$ in $\mathcal{D}$. Observe that $(\mathcal{D}^{gr})^0 = \mathcal{D}$ (see Definition 18.3). Moreover, the graded category $\mathcal{D}^{gr}$ inherits $R$-linear graded functors $[n]$ satisfying $[n] \circ [m] = [n+m]$ and $[0] = \text{id}_{\mathcal{D}^{gr}}$ with the property that

$$\text{Hom}_{\mathcal{D}^{gr}}(x, y[n]) = \text{Hom}_{\mathcal{D}^{gr}}(x, y)[n]$$

as graded $R$-modules compatible with composition of morphisms.

Conversely, suppose given a graded category $\mathcal{A}$ over $R$ endowed with a collection of $R$-linear graded functors $[n]$ satisfying $[n] \circ [m] = [n+m]$ and $[0] = \text{id}_{\mathcal{A}}$ which are moreover equipped with isomorphisms

$$\text{Hom}_{\mathcal{A}}(x, y[n]) = \text{Hom}_{\mathcal{A}}(x, y)[n]$$

as graded $R$-modules compatible with composition of morphisms. Then the reader easily shows that $\mathcal{A} = (\mathcal{A}^0)^{gr}$.

Here are two examples of the relationship $\mathcal{D} \leftrightarrow \mathcal{A}$ we established above:

1. Let $\mathcal{B}$ be an additive category. If $\mathcal{D} = \text{Gr}(\mathcal{B})$, then $\mathcal{A} = \text{Gr}^{gr}(\mathcal{B})$ as in Example 18.3.

2. If $A$ is a graded ring and $\mathcal{D} = \text{Mod}_A$ is the category of graded right $A$-modules, then $\mathcal{A} = \text{Mod}^{gr}_A$, see Example 18.6.

19. Differential graded categories

Note that if $R$ is a ring, then $R$ is a differential graded algebra over itself (with $R = R^0$ of course). In this case a differential graded $R$-module is the same thing as a complex of $R$-modules. In particular, given two differential graded $R$-modules $M$ and $N$ we denote $M \otimes_R N$ the differential graded $R$-module corresponding to the total complex associated to the double complex obtained by the tensor product of the complexes of $R$-modules associated to $M$ and $N$.

Definition 19.1. Let $R$ be a ring. A differential graded category $\mathcal{A}$ over $R$ is a category where every morphism set is given the structure of a differential graded $R$-module and where for $x, y, z \in \text{Ob}(\mathcal{A})$ composition is $R$-bilinear and induces a homomorphism

$$\text{Hom}_\mathcal{A}(y, z) \otimes_R \text{Hom}_\mathcal{A}(x, y) \to \text{Hom}_\mathcal{A}(x, z)$$

of differential graded $R$-modules.

The final condition of the definition signifies the following: if $f \in \text{Hom}_\mathcal{A}^n(x, y)$ and $g \in \text{Hom}_\mathcal{A}^m(y, z)$ are homogeneous of degrees $n$ and $m$, then

$$d(g \circ f) = d(g) \circ f + (-1)^m g \circ d(f)$$

in $\text{Hom}_\mathcal{A}^{n+m+1}(x, z)$. This follows from the sign rule for the differential on the total complex of a double complex, see Homology, Definition 22.3.
Definition 19.2. Let $\mathcal{A}$ be a ring. A functor of differential graded categories over $\mathcal{A}$ is a functor $F : \mathcal{A} \to \mathcal{B}$ where for all objects $x, y$ of $\mathcal{A}$ the map $F : \text{Hom}_\mathcal{A}(x, y) \to \text{Hom}_\mathcal{A}(F(x), F(y))$ is a homomorphism of differential graded $\mathcal{A}$-modules.

Given a differential graded category we are often interested in the corresponding categories of complexes and homotopy category. Here is a formal definition.

Definition 19.3. Let $\mathcal{A}$ be a ring. Let $\mathcal{A}$ be a differential graded category over $\mathcal{A}$. Then we let

1. the category of complexes of $\mathcal{A}$ be the category $\text{Comp}(\mathcal{A})$ whose objects are the same as the objects of $\mathcal{A}$ and with
   \[ \text{Hom}_{\text{Comp}(\mathcal{A})}(x, y) = \text{Ker}(d : \text{Hom}_\mathcal{A}^0(x, y) \to \text{Hom}_\mathcal{A}^1(x, y)) \]

2. the homotopy category of $\mathcal{A}$ be the category $\text{K}(\mathcal{A})$ whose objects are the same as the objects of $\mathcal{A}$ and with
   \[ \text{Hom}_{\text{K}(\mathcal{A})}(x, y) = H^0(\text{Hom}_\mathcal{A}(x, y)) \]

Our use of the symbol $\text{K}(\mathcal{A})$ is nonstandard, but at least is compatible with the use of $\text{K}(\mathcal{A})$ in other chapters of the Stacks project.

Definition 19.4. Let $\mathcal{A}$ be a ring. Let $\mathcal{A}$ be a differential graded category over $\mathcal{A}$. A direct sum $(x, y, z, i, j, p, q)$ in $\mathcal{A}$ (notation as in Homology, Remark 3.6) is a differential graded direct sum if $i, j, p, q$ are homogeneous of degree 0 and closed, i.e., $d(i) = 0$, etc.

Lemma 19.5. Let $\mathcal{A}$ be a ring. A functor $F : \mathcal{A} \to \mathcal{B}$ of differential graded categories over $\mathcal{A}$ induces functors $\text{Comp}(\mathcal{A}) \to \text{Comp}(\mathcal{B})$ and $\text{K}(\mathcal{A}) \to \text{K}(\mathcal{B})$.

Proof. Omitted. \qed

Example 19.6 (Differential graded category of complexes). Let $\mathcal{B}$ be an additive category. We will construct a differential graded category $\text{Comp}^{dg}(\mathcal{B})$ over $\mathcal{A} = \mathbb{Z}$ whose associated category of complexes is $\text{Comp}(\mathcal{B})$ and whose associated homotopy category is $\text{K}(\mathcal{B})$. As objects of $\text{Comp}^{dg}(\mathcal{B})$ we take complexes of $\mathcal{B}$. Given complexes $A^\bullet$ and $B^\bullet$ of $\mathcal{B}$, we sometimes also denote $A^\bullet$ and $B^\bullet$ the corresponding graded objects of $\mathcal{B}$ (i.e., forget about the differential). Using this abuse of notation, we set

\[ \text{Hom}_{\text{Comp}^{dg}(\mathcal{B})}(A^\bullet, B^\bullet) = \text{Hom}_{\text{Gr}^{gr}(\mathcal{B})}(A^\bullet, B^\bullet) \]

as a graded $\mathbb{Z}$-module where the right hand side is defined in Example 18.5. In other words, the $n$th graded piece is the abelian group of homogeneous morphism of degree $n$ of graded objects

\[ \text{Hom}^n(A^\bullet, B^\bullet) = \text{Hom}_{\text{Gr}^{gr}(\mathcal{B})}(A^\bullet, B^\bullet)_n = \prod_{p+q=n} \text{Hom}_\mathcal{B}(A^{-p}, B^q) \]

(observe reversal of indices and observe we have a direct product and not a direct sum). For an element $f \in \text{Hom}^n(A^\bullet, B^\bullet)$ of degree $n$ we set

\[ d(f) = d_B \circ f - (-1)^nf \circ d_A \]

To make sense of this we think of $d_B$ and $d_A$ as maps of graded objects of $\mathcal{B}$ homogeneous of degree 1 and we use composition in the category $\text{Gr}^{gr}(\mathcal{B})$ on the

\footnote{This may be nonstandard terminology.}
right hand side. In terms of components, if \( f = (f_{p,q}) \) with \( f_{p,q} : A^{-q} \to B^p \) we have

\[
d(f_{p,q}) = d_B \circ f_{p,q} + (-1)^{p+q+1} f_{p,q} \circ d_A
\]

Note that the first term of this expression is in \( \text{Hom}_B(A^{-q}, B^p) \) and the second term is in \( \text{Hom}_B(A^{-q-1}, B^p) \). In other words, given \( p + q = n + 1 \) we have

\[
d(f)_{p,q} = d_B \circ f_{p-1,q} - (-1)^n f_{p,q-1} \circ d_A
\]

with obvious notation. The reader checks\(^3\) that

1. \( d \) has square zero,
2. an element \( f \) in \( \text{Hom}^n(A^*, B^*) \) has \( d(f) = 0 \) if and only if the morphism \( f : A^* \to B^*[n] \) of graded objects of \( B \) is actually a map of complexes,
3. in particular, the category of complexes of \( \text{Comp}^{dg}(B) \) is equal to \( \text{Comp}(B) \),
4. the morphism of complexes defined by \( f \) as in (2) is homotopy equivalent to zero if and only if \( f = d(g) \) for some \( g \in \text{Hom}^{n-1}(A^*, B^*) \).
5. in particular, we obtain a canonical isomorphism

\[
\text{Hom}_{K(B)}(A^*, B^*) \to H^0(\text{Hom}_{\text{Comp}^{dg}(B)}(A^*, B^*))
\]

and the homotopy category of \( \text{Comp}^{dg}(B) \) is equal to \( K(B) \).

Given complexes \( A^*, B^*, C^* \) we define composition

\[
\text{Hom}^m(B^*, C^*) \times \text{Hom}^n(A^*, B^*) \to \text{Hom}^{n+m}(A^*, C^*)
\]

by composition \( (g, f) \mapsto g \circ f \) in the graded category \( \text{Gr}^{dg}(B) \), see Example 18.5.

This defines a map of differential graded modules as in Definition \(19.1\) because

\[
\begin{align*}
\text{d}(g \circ f) &= d_C \circ g \circ f - (-1)^{n+m} g \circ f \circ d_A \\
&= (d_C \circ g - (-1)^{n} g \circ d_B) \circ f + (-1)^{n} g \circ (d_B \circ f - (-1)^{n} f \circ d_A) \\
&= \text{d}(g) \circ f + (-1)^{n} g \circ \text{d}(f)
\end{align*}
\]

as desired.

**Lemma 19.7.** Let \( F : B \to B' \) be an additive functor between additive categories. Then \( F \) induces a functor of differential graded categories

\[
F : \text{Comp}^{dg}(B) \to \text{Comp}^{dg}(B')
\]

of Example 19.6 inducing the usual functors on the category of complexes and the homotopy categories.

**Proof.** Omitted. \( \square \)

**Example 19.8** (Differential graded category of differential graded modules). Let \((A,d)\) be a differential graded algebra over a ring \( R \). We will construct a differential graded category \( \text{Mod}^{dg}_{(A,d)} \) over \( R \) whose category of complexes is \( \text{Mod}_{(A,d)} \) and whose homotopy category is \( K(\text{Mod}_{(A,d)}) \). As objects of \( \text{Mod}^{dg}_{(A,d)} \) we take the

---

\(^3\)What may be useful here is to think of the double complex \( H^{*,*} \) with terms \( H^{p,q} = \text{Hom}_B(A^{-q}, B^p) \) and differentials \( d_1 \) of degree \((1,0)\) given by \( d_B \) and \( d_2 \) of degree \((0,1)\) given by the contragredient of \( d_A \). Up to sign and up to replacing the direct sum by a direct product, the differential graded \( \mathbb{Z} \)-module \( \text{Hom}_{\text{Comp}^{dg}(B)}(A^*, B^*) \) is the total complex associated to \( H^{*,*} \), see Homology, Definition 22.3. To get the sign correct, change \( d_2^{p,q} : H^{p,q} \to H^{p,q+1} \) by \((-1)^{q+1}\) (after this change we still have a double complex).
differential graded $A$-modules. Given differential graded $A$-modules $L$ and $M$ we set

$$\text{Hom}_{\text{Mod}^g_{(A,d)}}(L, M) = \text{Hom}_{\text{Mod}^gr_{A}}(L, M) = \bigoplus \text{Hom}^n(L, M)$$

as a graded $R$-module where the right hand side is defined as in Example 18.6. In other words, the $n$th graded piece $\text{Hom}^n(L, M)$ is the $R$-module of right $A$-module maps homogeneous of degree $n$. For an element $f \in \text{Hom}^n(L, M)$ we set

$$d(f) = d_M \circ f - (-1)^n f \circ d_L$$

To make sense of this we think of $d_M$ and $d_L$ as graded $R$-module maps and we use composition of graded $R$-module maps. It is clear that $d(f)$ is homogeneous of degree $n + 1$ as a graded $R$-module map, and it is linear because

$$d(f)(xa) = d_M(f(x)a) - (-1)^n f(d_L(x)a)$$

as desired (observe that this calculation would not work without the sign in the definition of our differential on $\text{Hom}$). Similar formulae to those of Example 19.6 hold for the differential of $f$ in terms of components. The reader checks (in the same way as in Example 19.6) that

1. $d$ has square zero,
2. an element $f$ in $\text{Hom}^n(L, M)$ has $d(f) = 0$ if and only if $f : L \to M[n]$ is a homomorphism of differential graded $A$-modules,
3. in particular, the category of complexes of $\text{Mod}^g_{(A,d)}$ is $\text{Mod}_{(A,d)}$,
4. the homomorphism defined by $f$ as in (2) is homotopy equivalent to zero if and only if $f = d(g)$ for some $g \in \text{Hom}^{n-1}(L, M)$,
5. in particular, we obtain a canonical isomorphism

$$\text{Hom}_{K(\text{Mod}_{(A,d)})}(L, M) \to H^n(\text{Hom}_{\text{Mod}^g_{(A,d)}}(L, M))$$

and the homotopy category of $\text{Mod}^g_{(A,d)}$ is $K(\text{Mod}_{(A,d)})$.

Given differential graded $A$-modules $K$, $L$, $M$ we define composition

$$\text{Hom}^m(L, M) \times \text{Hom}^n(K, L) \to \text{Hom}^{n+m}(K, M)$$

by composition of homogeneous right $A$-module maps $(g, f) \mapsto g \circ f$. This defines a map of differential graded modules as in Definition 19.1 because

$$d(g \circ f) = d_M \circ g \circ f - (-1)^{n+m} g \circ f \circ d_K$$

$$= (d_M \circ g - (-1)^m g \circ d_L) \circ f + (-1)^m g \circ (d_L \circ f - (-1)^n f \circ d_K)$$

$$= d(g) \circ f + (-1)^m g \circ d(f)$$

as desired.

**09LD Lemma 19.9.** Let $\varphi : (A, d) \to (E, d)$ be a homomorphism of differential graded algebras. Then $\varphi$ induces a functor of differential graded categories

$$F : \text{Mod}^g_{(E,d)} \to \text{Mod}^g_{(A,d)}$$

of Example 19.8 inducing obvious restriction functors on the categories of differential graded modules and homotopy categories.

**Proof.** Omitted. \qed
Lemma 19.10. Let $R$ be a ring. Let $\mathcal{A}$ be a differential graded category over $R$. Let $x$ be an object of $\mathcal{A}$. Let

$$(E, d) = \text{Hom}_{\mathcal{A}}(x, x)$$

be the differential graded $R$-algebra of endomorphisms of $x$. We obtain a functor

$$\mathcal{A} \rightarrow \text{Mod}_{dg}(E, d), \quad y \mapsto \text{Hom}_{\mathcal{A}}(x, y)$$

of differential graded categories by letting $E$ act on $\text{Hom}_{\mathcal{A}}(x, y)$ via composition in $\mathcal{A}$. This functor induces functors

$$\text{Comp}(\mathcal{A}) \rightarrow \text{Mod}(\mathcal{A}, d) \quad \text{and} \quad K(\mathcal{A}) \rightarrow K(\text{Mod}(\mathcal{A}, d))$$

by an application of Lemma 19.5.

Proof. This lemma proves itself. □

20. Obtaining triangulated categories

In this section we discuss the most general setup to which the arguments proving Derived Categories, Proposition 10.3 and Proposition 10.3 apply.

Let $R$ be a ring. Let $\mathcal{A}$ be a differential graded category over $R$. To make our argument work, we impose some axioms on $\mathcal{A}$:

(A) $\mathcal{A}$ has a zero object and differential graded direct sums of two objects (as in Definition 19.4).

(B) there are functors $[n] : \mathcal{A} \rightarrow \mathcal{A}$ of differential graded categories such that $[0] = \text{id}_{\mathcal{A}}$ and $[n + m] = [n] \circ [m]$ and given isomorphisms

$$\text{Hom}_{\mathcal{A}}(x, y[n]) = \text{Hom}_{\mathcal{A}}(x, y)[n]$$

of differential graded $R$-modules compatible with composition.

Given our differential graded category $\mathcal{A}$ we say

(1) a sequence $x \rightarrow y \rightarrow z$ of morphisms of $\text{Comp}(\mathcal{A})$ is an admissible short exact sequence if there exists an isomorphism $y \cong x \oplus z$ in the underlying graded category such that $x \rightarrow z$ and $y \rightarrow z$ are (co)projections.

(2) a morphism $x \rightarrow y$ of $\text{Comp}(\mathcal{A})$ is an admissible monomorphism if it extends to an admissible short exact sequence $x \rightarrow y \rightarrow z$.

(3) a morphism $y \rightarrow z$ of $\text{Comp}(\mathcal{A})$ is an admissible epimorphism if it extends to an admissible short exact sequence $x \rightarrow y \rightarrow z$.

The next lemma tells us an admissible short exact sequence gives a triangle, provided we have axioms (A) and (B).

Lemma 20.1. Let $\mathcal{A}$ be a differential graded category satisfying axioms (A) and (B). Given an admissible short exact sequence $x \rightarrow y \rightarrow z$ we obtain (see proof) a triangle

$$x \rightarrow y \rightarrow z \rightarrow x[1]$$

in $\text{Comp}(\mathcal{A})$ with the property that any two compositions in $z[-1] \rightarrow x \rightarrow y \rightarrow z \rightarrow x[1]$ are zero in $K(\mathcal{A})$. 
Proof. Choose a diagram

\[
\begin{array}{c}
x \\
\downarrow^a \downarrow^\pi \\
y \\
\downarrow^s \downarrow^b \\
z \rightarrow 1 \\
\end{array}
\]

giving the isomorphism of graded objects \( y \cong x \oplus z \) as in the definition of an admissible short exact sequence. Here are some equations that hold in this situation

\begin{enumerate}
\item 1 = \( \pi a \) and hence \( d(\pi)a = 0 \),
\item 1 = \( bs \) and hence \( bd(s) = 0 \),
\item 1 = \( a\pi + sb \) and hence \( ad(\pi) + d(s)b = 0 \),
\item \( \pi s = 0 \) and hence \( d(\pi)s + \pi d(s) = 0 \),
\item \( d(s) = a\pi d(s) \) because \( d(s) = (a\pi + sb)d(s) \) and \( bd(s) = 0 \),
\item \( d(\pi) = d(\pi)sb \) because \( d(\pi) = d(\pi)(a\pi + sb) \) and \( d(\pi)a = 0 \),
\item \( d(\pi d(s)) = 0 \) because if we postcompose it with the monomorphism \( a \) we get \( d(a\pi d(s)) = d(d(s)) = 0 \), and
\item \( d(d(\pi)s) = 0 \) as by (4) it is the negative of \( d(\pi d(s)) \) which is 0 by (7).
\end{enumerate}

We’ve used repeatedly that \( d(a) = 0 \), \( d(b) = 0 \), and that \( d(1) = 0 \). By (7) we see that \( \delta = \pi d(s) = -d(\pi)s : z \rightarrow x[1] \) is a morphism in \( \text{Comp}(A) \). By (5) we see that the composition \( a\delta = a\pi d(s) = d(s) \) is homotopic to zero. By (6) we see that the composition \( \delta b = -d(\pi)sb = d(-\pi) \) is homotopic to zero. □

Besides axioms (A) and (B) we need an axiom concerning the existence of cones. We formalize everything as follows.

09QJ **Situation 20.2.** Here \( R \) is a ring and \( A \) is a differential graded category over \( R \) having axioms (A), (B), and (C) given an arrow \( f : x \rightarrow y \) of degree 0 with \( d(f) = 0 \) there exists an admissible short exact sequence \( y \rightarrow c(f) \rightarrow x[1] \) in \( \text{Comp}(A) \) such that the map \( x[1] \rightarrow y[1] \) of Lemma 20.1 is equal to \( f[1] \).

We will call \( c(f) \) a cone of the morphism \( f \). If (A), (B), and (C) hold, then cones are functorial in a weak sense.

09P7 **Lemma 20.3.** In Situation 20.2 suppose that

\[
\begin{array}{c}
x_1 \xrightarrow{f_1} y_1 \\
\downarrow^a \downarrow^b \\
x_2 \xrightarrow{f_2} y_2
\end{array}
\]

is a diagram of \( \text{Comp}(A) \) commutative up to homotopy. Then there exists a morphism \( c : c(f_1) \rightarrow c(f_2) \) which gives rise to a morphism of triangles

\[
(a, b, c) : (x_1, y_1, c(f_1)) \rightarrow (x_1, y_1, c(f_1))
\]

in \( K(A) \).
Proof. The assumption means there exists a morphism $h : x_1 \to y_2$ of degree $-1$ such that $d(h) = bf_1 - fa$. Choose isomorphisms $c(f_i) = y_i \oplus x_i[1]$ of graded objects compatible with the morphisms $y_i \to c(f_i) \to x_i[1]$. Let’s denote $a_i : y_i \to c(f_i)$, $b_i : c(f_i) \to x_i[1]$, $s_i : x_i[1] \to c(f_i)$, and $\pi_i : c(f_i) \to y_i$ the given morphisms. Recall that $x_i[1] \to y_i[1]$ is given by $\pi_id(s_i)$. By axiom (C) this means that $f_i = \pi_id(s_i) = -d(\pi_i)s_i$

(we identify $\text{Hom}(x_i, y_i)$ with $\text{Hom}(x_i[1], y_i[1])$ using the shift functor $[1]$). Set $c = a_2b\pi_1 + s_2ab_1 + a_2bb$. Then, using the equalities found in the proof of Lemma 20.1 we obtain

$$d(c) = a_2bd(\pi_1) + d(s_2)ab_1 + a_2d(h)b_1$$
$$= -a_2bf_1b_1 + a_2f_2ab_1 + a_2(bf_1 - fa)b_1$$
$$= 0$$

(where we have used in particular that $d(\pi_1) = d(\pi_1)s_1b_1 = f_1b_1$ and $d(s_2) = a_2\pi_2d(s_2) = a_2f_2$). Thus $c$ is a degree 0 morphism $c : c(f_1) \to c(f_2)$ of $A$ compatible with the given morphisms $y_i \to c(f_i) \to x_i[1]$. □

In Situation 20.2 we say that a triangle $(x, y, z, f, g, h)$ in $K(A)$ is a **distinguished triangle** if there exists an admissible short exact sequence $x' \to y' \to z'$ such that $(x, y, z, f, g, h)$ is isomorphic as a triangle in $K(A)$ to the triangle $(x', y', z', x' \to y', y' \to z', \delta)$ constructed in Lemma 20.1. We will show below that $K(A)$ is a triangulated category.

This result, although not as general as one might think, applies to a number of natural generalizations of the cases covered so far in the Stacks project. Here are some examples:

1. Let $(X, O_X)$ be a ringed space. Let $(A, d)$ be a sheaf of differential graded $O_X$-algebras. Let $A$ be the differential graded category of differential graded $A$-modules. Then $K(A)$ is a triangulated category.

2. Let $(C, O)$ be a ringed site. Let $(A, d)$ be a sheaf of differential graded $O$-algebras. Let $A$ be the differential graded category of differential graded $A$-modules. Then $K(A)$ is a triangulated category.

3. Two examples with a different flavor may be found in Examples, Section 62.

The following simple lemma is a key to the construction.

**Lemma 20.4.** In Situation 20.2 given any object $x$ of $A$, and the cone $C(1_x)$ of the identity morphism $1_x : x \to x$, the identity morphism on $C(1_x)$ is homotopic to zero.

**Proof.** Consider the admissible short exact sequence given by axiom (C).

$$x \overset{\pi}{\underset{a}{\longrightarrow}} C(1_x) \overset{b}{\underset{s}{\longrightarrow}} x[1]$$

Then by Lemma 20.1 identifying hom-sets under shifting, we have $1_x = \pi d(s) = -d(\pi)s$ where $s$ is regarded as a morphism in $\text{Hom}^{-1}_A(x, C(1_x))$. Therefore $a = a\pi d(s) = d(s)$ using formula (5) of Lemma 20.1 and $b = -d(\pi)s b = -d(\pi)$ by formula (6) of Lemma 20.1. Hence

$$1_{C(1_x)} = a\pi + sb = d(s)\pi - sd(\pi) = d(s\pi)$$
since $s$ is of degree $-1$. □

A more general version of the above lemma will appear in Lemma 20.13. The following lemma is the analogue of Lemma 7.3.

**Lemma 20.5.** In Situation 20.2 given a diagram

\[
\begin{array}{ccc}
  x & \rightarrow & y \\
  \downarrow & & \downarrow \\
  a & \rightarrow & b \\
  \downarrow & & \downarrow \\
  z & \rightarrow & w
\end{array}
\]

in $\text{Comp}(A)$ commuting up to homotopy. Then

(1) If $f$ is an admissible monomorphism, then $b$ is homotopic to a morphism $b'$ which makes the diagram commute.

(2) If $g$ is an admissible epimorphism, then $a$ is homotopic to a morphism $a'$ which makes the diagram commute.

**Proof.** To prove (1), observe that the hypothesis implies that there is some $h \in \text{Hom}_A(x, w)$ of degree $-1$ such that $bf - ga = d(h)$. Since $f$ is an admissible monomorphism, there is a morphism $\pi : y \rightarrow x$ in the category $A$ of degree 0. Let $b' = b - d(h\pi)$. Then

\[
b'f = bf - d(h\pi)f = bf - d(h\pi f) \quad (\text{since } d(f) = 0) \\
= bf - d(h) \\
= ga
\]

as desired. The proof for (2) is omitted. □

The following lemma is the analogue of Lemma 7.4.

**Lemma 20.6.** In Situation 20.2 let $\alpha : x \rightarrow y$ be a morphism in $\text{Comp}(A)$. Then there exists a factorization in $\text{Comp}(A)$:

\[
\begin{array}{ccc}
  x & \overset{\tilde{\alpha}}{\rightarrow} & \tilde{y} \\
  & \overset{\pi}{\rightarrow} & y \\
  & \overset{s}{\leftarrow} & \overset{}{\leftarrow}
\end{array}
\]

such that

(1) $\tilde{\alpha}$ is an admissible monomorphism, and $\pi \tilde{\alpha} = \alpha$.

(2) There exists a morphism $s : y \rightarrow \tilde{y}$ in $\text{Comp}(A)$ such that $\pi s = 1_y$ and $s\pi$ is homotopic to $1_{\tilde{y}}$.

**Proof.** By axiom (B), we may let $\tilde{y}$ be the differential graded direct sum of $y$ and $C(1_x)$, i.e., there exists a diagram

\[
\begin{array}{ccc}
  y & \overset{s}{\rightarrow} & y \oplus C(1_x) \\
  & \overset{p}{\rightarrow} & C(1_x) \\
  & \overset{t}{\leftarrow} & \overset{}{\leftarrow}
\end{array}
\]

where all morphisms are of degree zero, and in $\text{Comp}(A)$. Let $\tilde{y} = y \oplus C(1_x)$. Then $1_{\tilde{y}} = s\pi + tp$. Consider now the diagram

\[
\begin{array}{ccc}
  x & \overset{\tilde{\alpha}}{\rightarrow} & \tilde{y} \\
  & \overset{\pi}{\rightarrow} & y \\
  & \overset{s}{\leftarrow} & \overset{}{\leftarrow}
\end{array}
\]
where $\tilde{\alpha}$ is induced by the morphism $x \to y$ and the natural morphism $x \to C(1_x)$ fitting in the admissible short exact sequence

$$x \xrightarrow{\alpha} C(1_x) \xrightarrow{} x[1]$$

So the morphism $C(1_x) \to x$ of degree 0 in this diagram, together with the zero morphism $y \to x$, induces a degree-0 morphism $\beta : \tilde{y} \to x$. Then $\tilde{\alpha}$ is an admissible monomorphism since it fits into the admissible short exact sequence

$$x \xrightarrow{\tilde{\alpha}} \tilde{y} \xrightarrow{} x[1]$$

Furthermore, $\pi \tilde{\alpha} = \alpha$ by the construction of $\tilde{\alpha}$, and $\pi s = 1_y$ by the first diagram. It remains to show that $s\pi$ is homotopic to $1_{\tilde{y}}$. Write $1_x$ as $d(h)$ for some degree $-1$ map. Then, our last statement follows from

$$1_{\tilde{y}} - s\pi = t\pi = t(d(h))p$$

since $dt = dp = 0$, and $t$ is of degree zero.

The following lemma is the analogue of Lemma 7.5.

**Lemma 20.7.** In Situation 20.2 let $x_1 \to x_2 \to \ldots \to x_n$ be a sequence of composable morphisms in $\text{Comp}(A)$. Then there exists a commutative diagram in $\text{Comp}(A)$:

$$
\begin{array}{ccc}
\begin{array}{c}
\ldots \\
\quad x_2 \\
\quad x_1
\end{array}
& \rightarrow & 
\begin{array}{c}
\ldots \\
\quad y_2 \\
\quad y_1
\end{array}
& \rightarrow & 
\begin{array}{c}
\ldots \\
\quad z_n \\
\quad z_1
\end{array}
\end{array}
$$

such that each $y_i \to y_{i+1}$ is an admissible monomorphism and each $y_i \to x_i$ is a homotopy equivalence.

**Proof.** The case for $n = 1$ is trivial: one simply takes $y_1 = x_1$ and the identity morphism on $x_1$ in particular a homotopy equivalence. The case $n = 2$ is given by Lemma 20.6. Suppose we have constructed the diagram up to $x_{n-1}$. We apply Lemma 20.6 to the composition $y_{n-1} \to x_{n-1} \to x_n$ to obtain $y_n$. Then $y_{n-1} \to y_n$ will be an admissible monomorphism, and $y_n \to x_n$ a homotopy equivalence.

The following lemma is the analogue of Lemma 7.6.

**Lemma 20.8.** In Situation 20.2 let $x_i \to y_i \to z_i$ be morphisms in $\mathcal{A}$ ($i = 1, 2, 3$) such that $x_2 \to y_2 \to z_2$ is an admissible short exact sequence. Let $b : y_1 \to y_2$ and $b' : y_2 \to y_3$ be morphisms in $\text{Comp}(A)$ such that

$$
\begin{array}{ccc}
\begin{array}{c}
\quad x_1 \\
\quad x_2
\end{array}
& \rightarrow & 
\begin{array}{c}
\quad y_1 \\
\quad y_2
\end{array}
& \rightarrow & 
\begin{array}{c}
\quad z_1 \\
\quad z_2
\end{array}
\end{array}

and

$$
\begin{array}{ccc}
\begin{array}{c}
\quad x_2 \\
\quad x_3
\end{array}
& \rightarrow & 
\begin{array}{c}
\quad y_2 \\
\quad y_3
\end{array}
& \rightarrow & 
\begin{array}{c}
\quad z_2 \\
\quad z_3
\end{array}
\end{array}
$$

commute up to homotopy. Then $b' \circ b$ is homotopic to 0.
The following lemma is the analogue of Lemma 9.2.

**Proof.** By Lemma 20.5 we can replace \( b \) and \( b' \) by homotopic maps \( \tilde{b} \) and \( \tilde{b}' \), such that the right square of the left diagram commutes and the left square of the right diagram commutes. Say \( b = \tilde{b} + d(h) \) and \( b' = \tilde{b}' + d(h') \) for degree \(-1\) morphisms \( h \) and \( h' \) in \( \mathcal{A} \). Hence

\[
\tilde{b}' = \tilde{b} \tilde{b} + d(\tilde{b}'h + h'\tilde{b} + h'd(h))
\]

since \( d(\tilde{b}) = d(\tilde{b}') = 0 \), i.e. \( b' \tilde{b} \) is homotopic to \( \tilde{b}' \tilde{b} \). We now want to show that \( \tilde{b}' \tilde{b} = 0 \). Because \( x_2 \xrightarrow{1} y_2 \xrightarrow{g} z_2 \) is an admissible short exact sequence, there exist degree 0 morphisms \( \pi : y_2 \to x_2 \) and \( s : z_2 \to y_2 \) such that \( \text{id}_{y_2} = f\pi + sg \). Therefore

\[
\tilde{b}' \tilde{b} = \tilde{b}' f \pi + sg \tilde{b} = 0
\]

since \( g \tilde{b} = 0 \) and \( \tilde{b}' f = 0 \) as consequences of the two commuting squares.

The following lemma is the analogue of Lemma 8.1.

**Lemma 20.9.** In Situation 20.3 let \( 0 \to x \to y \to z \to 0 \) be an admissible short exact sequence in \( \text{Comp}(\mathcal{A}) \). The triangle

\[
\begin{array}{ccc}
x & \xrightarrow{a} & y \xrightarrow{b} z \xrightarrow{\delta} x[1]
\end{array}
\]

with \( \delta : z \to x[1] \) as defined in Lemma 20.1 is up to canonical isomorphism in \( K(\mathcal{A}) \), independent of the choices made in Lemma 20.1.

**Proof.** Suppose \( \delta \) is defined by the splitting

\[
\begin{array}{ccc}
x & \xrightarrow{a} & y \xrightarrow{b} z
\end{array}
\]

and \( \delta' \) is defined by the splitting with \( \pi', s' \) in place of \( \pi, s \). Then

\[
s' - s = (a\pi + sb)(s' - s) = a\pi s'
\]

since \( bs' = bs = 1 \) and \( \pi s = 0 \). Similarly,

\[
\pi' = \pi = (\pi' - \pi)(a\pi + sb) = \pi' sb
\]

Since \( \delta = \pi d(s) \) and \( \delta' = \pi' d(s') \) as constructed in Lemma 20.1 we may compute

\[
\delta' = \pi' d(s') = (\pi + \pi' sb)d(s + a\pi s') = \delta + d(\pi s')
\]

using \( \pi a = 1_x, ba = 0 \), and \( \pi' sbd(s') = \pi' sba \pi d(s') = 0 \) by formula (5) in Lemma 20.1.

The following lemma is the analogue of Lemma 9.1.

**Lemma 20.10.** In Situation 20.3 let \( f : x \to y \) be a morphism in \( \text{Comp}(\mathcal{A}) \). The triangle \( (y, c(f), x[1], i, p, f[1]) \) is the triangle associated to the admissible short exact sequence

\[
\begin{array}{ccc}
y & \xrightarrow{c(f)} & x[1]
\end{array}
\]

where the cone \( c(f) \) is defined as in Lemma 20.1.

**Proof.** This follows from axiom (C).

The following lemma is the analogue of Lemma 9.2.
Lemma 20.11. In Situation 20.2 let $\alpha : x \to y$ and $\beta : y \to z$ define an admissible short exact sequence

$$x \longrightarrow y \longrightarrow z$$

in $\text{Comp}(A)$. Let $(x, y, z, \alpha, \beta, \delta)$ be the associated triangle in $K(A)$. Then, the triangles

$$(z[-1], x, y, \delta[-1], \alpha, \beta) \quad \text{and} \quad (z[-1], x, c(\delta[-1]), \delta[-1], i, p)$$

are isomorphic.

Proof. We have a diagram of the form

$$\begin{array}{ccc}
z[-1] & \xrightarrow{\delta[-1]} & x \\
\downarrow^{1} & & \downarrow^{1} \\
z[-1] & \xrightarrow{i} & c(\delta[-1])
\end{array}$$

with splittings to $\alpha, \beta, i$, and $p$ given by $\tilde{\alpha}, \tilde{\beta}, \tilde{i}$, and $\tilde{p}$ respectively. Define a morphism $y \to c(\delta[-1])$ by $\tilde{i} \tilde{\alpha} + \tilde{p} \tilde{\beta}$ and a morphism $c(\delta[-1]) \to y$ by $\tilde{\alpha} \tilde{i} + \tilde{\beta} p$. Let us first check that these define morphisms in $\text{Comp}(A)$. We remark that by identities from Lemma 20.1, we have the relation $\delta[-1] = \tilde{\alpha} \tilde{d}(\tilde{\beta}) = -d(\tilde{\alpha}) \tilde{\beta}$ and the relation $\delta[-1] = id(\tilde{p})$. Then

$$d(\tilde{\alpha}) = d(\tilde{\alpha}) \tilde{\beta}$$

$$= -\delta[-1] \tilde{\beta}$$

where we have used equation (6) of Lemma 20.1 for the first equality and the preceding remark for the second. Similarly, we obtain $d(\tilde{p}) = i \delta[-1]$. Hence

$$d(i \tilde{\alpha} + \tilde{p} \tilde{\beta}) = d(i) \tilde{\alpha} + id(\tilde{\alpha}) + d(\tilde{p}) \tilde{\beta} + \tilde{p} d(\tilde{\beta})$$

$$= id(\tilde{\alpha}) + d(\tilde{p}) \tilde{\beta}$$

$$= -i \delta[-1] \beta + i \delta[-1] \beta$$

$$= 0$$

so $i \tilde{\alpha} + \tilde{p} \tilde{\beta}$ is indeed a morphism of $\text{Comp}(A)$. By a similar calculation, $\tilde{\alpha} \tilde{i} + \tilde{\beta} p$ is also a morphism of $\text{Comp}(A)$. It is immediate that these morphisms fit in the commutative diagram. We compute:

$$(i \tilde{\alpha} + \tilde{p} \tilde{\beta})(\alpha \tilde{i} + \tilde{\beta} p) = i \tilde{\alpha} \tilde{i} \tilde{\alpha} + i \tilde{\alpha} \tilde{\beta} p + \tilde{p} \beta \tilde{\alpha} + \tilde{p} \beta \tilde{\beta} p$$

$$= i \tilde{i} + \tilde{p} p$$

$$= 1_{c(\delta[-1])}$$

where we have freely used the identities of Lemma 20.1. Similarly, we compute

$$(\alpha \tilde{i} + \tilde{\beta} p)(i \tilde{\alpha} + \tilde{p} \tilde{\beta}) = 1_y$$

so we conclude $y \cong c(\delta[-1])$. Hence, the two triangles in question are isomorphic.

The following lemma is the analogue of Lemma 9.3.

Lemma 20.12. In Situation 20.2 let $f_1 : x_1 \to y_1$ and $f_2 : x_2 \to y_2$ be morphisms in $\text{Comp}(A)$. Let

$$(a, b, c) : (x_1, y_1, c(f_1), f_1, i_1, p_1) \to (x_2, y_2, c(f_2), f_2, i_1, p_1)$$

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be any morphism of triangles in $K(A)$. If $a$ and $b$ are homotopy equivalences, then so is $c$.

**Proof.** Since $a$ and $b$ are homotopy equivalences, they are invertible in $K(A)$ so let $a^{-1}$ and $b^{-1}$ denote their inverses in $K(A)$, giving us a commutative diagram

\[
\begin{array}{c}
  x_2 \xrightarrow{f_2} y_2 \xrightarrow{i_2} c(f_2) \\
  \downarrow a^{-1} \quad \downarrow b^{-1} \quad \downarrow c' \\
  x_1 \xrightarrow{f_1} y_1 \xrightarrow{i_1} c(f_1)
\end{array}
\]

where the map $c'$ is defined via Lemma 20.3 applied to the left commutative box of the above diagram. Since the diagram commutes in $K(A)$, it suffices by Lemma 20.8 to prove the following: given a morphism of triangle $(1, 1, c) : (x, y, c(f), f, i, p) \to (x, y, c(f), f, i, p)$ in $K(A)$, the map $c$ is an isomorphism in $K(A)$. We have the commutative diagrams in $K(A)$:

\[
\begin{array}{c}
  y \xrightarrow{1} c(f) \xrightarrow{1} x[1] \\
  \downarrow c \quad \downarrow c \quad \downarrow 0 \quad \downarrow 0
\end{array} \Rightarrow \begin{array}{c}
  y \xrightarrow{1} c(f) \xrightarrow{1} x[1] \\
  \downarrow c \quad \downarrow c \quad \downarrow 0 \quad \downarrow 0
\end{array}
\]

Since the rows are admissible short exact sequences, we obtain the identity $(c-1)^2 = 0$ by Lemma 20.8 from which we conclude that $2 - c$ is inverse to $c$ in $K(A)$ so that $c$ is an isomorphism. □

The following lemma is the analogue of Lemma 9.4.

**Lemma 20.13.** In Situation 20.2.

(1) Given an admissible short exact sequence $x \xrightarrow{\alpha} y \xrightarrow{\beta} z$. Then there exists a homotopy equivalence $e : C(\alpha) \to z$ such that the diagram

\[
\begin{array}{c}
  x \xrightarrow{\alpha} y \xrightarrow{\beta} C(\alpha) \xrightarrow{-c} x[1] \\
  \downarrow \quad \downarrow \quad \downarrow e \quad \downarrow \delta \\
  x \xrightarrow{\alpha} y \xrightarrow{\beta} z \xrightarrow{\delta} x[1]
\end{array}
\]

defines an isomorphism of triangles in $K(A)$. Here $y \xrightarrow{b} C(\alpha) \xrightarrow{\tilde{c}} x[1]$ is the admissible short exact sequence given as in axiom (C).

(2) Given a morphism $\alpha : x \to y$ in $\text{Comp}(A)$, let $x \xrightarrow{\tilde{\alpha}} \tilde{y} \to y$ be the factorization given as in Lemma 20.6, where the admissible monomorphism $x \xrightarrow{\tilde{\alpha}} y$ extends to the admissible short exact sequence

\[
\begin{array}{c}
  x \xrightarrow{\tilde{\alpha}} \tilde{y} \xrightarrow{\delta} z
\end{array}
\]

Then there exists an isomorphism of triangles

\[
\begin{array}{c}
  x \xrightarrow{\tilde{\alpha}} \tilde{y} \xrightarrow{\delta} z \xrightarrow{\delta} x[1] \\
  \downarrow e \quad \downarrow e \quad \downarrow e
\end{array}
\]

\[
\begin{array}{c}
  x \xrightarrow{\alpha} y \xrightarrow{C(\alpha) \xrightarrow{-c}} x[1]
\end{array}
\]
where the upper triangle is the triangle associated to the sequence \( x \xrightarrow{\alpha} y \xrightarrow{\beta} z \).

**Proof.** For (1), we consider the more complete diagram, without the sign change on \( c \):

\[
\begin{array}{ccc}
  x & \xrightarrow{\alpha} & y \\
  \downarrow{\pi} & & \downarrow{\beta} \\
  x & \xrightarrow{\alpha} & y
\end{array}
\]

where the admissible short exact sequence \( x \xrightarrow{\alpha} y \xrightarrow{\beta} z \) is given by the construction in Lemma 20.1.

We define \( e = \beta p \) and \( f = bs - \sigma \delta \). We first check that they are morphisms in \( \text{Comp}(A) \). To show that \( d(e) = \beta d(p) \) vanishes, it suffices to show that \( \beta d(p)b \) and \( \beta d(p)\sigma \) both vanish, whereas

\[
\beta d(p)b = \beta d(pb) = \beta d(1_y) = 0, \quad \beta d(p)\sigma = -\beta \alpha = 0
\]

Similarly, to check that \( d(f) = bd(s) - d(\sigma)\delta \) vanishes, it suffices to check the post-compositions by \( p \) and \( c \) both vanish, whereas

\[
\begin{align*}
& pbd(s) - pd(\sigma)\delta = d(s) - \alpha \delta = d(s) - \alpha \pi d(s) = 0 \\
& cbd(s) - cd(\sigma)\delta = -d(\sigma)\delta = 0
\end{align*}
\]

The commutativity of left two squares of the diagram 20.13.1 follows directly from definition. Before we prove the commutativity of the right square (up to homotopy), we first check that \( e \) is a homotopy equivalence. Clearly,

\[
e f = \beta (bs - \sigma \delta) = \beta s = 1_z
\]

To check that \( fe \) is homotopic to \( 1_{C(\alpha)} \), we first observe

\[
ba = bpd(\alpha) = d(\sigma), \quad ac = -d(p)\sigma c = -d(p), \quad d(\pi)p = d(\pi)s\beta p = -\delta \beta p
\]

Using these identities, we compute

\[
1_{C(\alpha)} = bp + \sigma c \quad \text{(from } y \xrightarrow{b} C(\alpha) \xrightarrow{\delta} x[1])
\]

\[
= b(\alpha \pi + s \beta p + \sigma(\pi \alpha)c) \quad \text{(from } x \xrightarrow{\alpha} y \xrightarrow{\beta} z) \\
= d(\sigma)\pi p + bs\beta p - \sigma \pi d(p) \quad \text{(by the first two identities above)} \\
= d(\sigma)\pi p + bs\beta p - \sigma \delta \beta p - \sigma \delta p \\
=(bs - \sigma \delta)\beta p + d(\sigma)\pi p - \sigma d(p) - \sigma d(p) \quad \text{(by the third identity above)} \\
=fe + d(\sigma p)
\]

since \( \sigma \in \text{Hom}^{-1}(x, C(\alpha)) \) (cf. proof of Lemma 20.4). Hence \( e \) and \( f \) are homotopy inverses. Finally, to check that the right square of diagram 20.13.1 commutes up to homotopy, it suffices to check that \(-cf = \delta \). This follows from

\[
-cf = -c(bs - \sigma \delta) = c\sigma \delta = \delta
\]
In Situation 20.2 the homotopy category $K(A)$ with its natural translation functors and distinguished triangles is a pre-triangulated category.

**Proof.** We will verify each of TR1, TR2, and TR3.

Proof of TR1. By definition every triangle isomorphic to a distinguished one is distinguished. Since

$$x \xhookleftarrow{\alpha} z \xrightarrow{\beta} y \hookrightarrow 0$$

is an admissible short exact sequence, $(x, x, 0, 1, x, 0, 0)$ is a distinguished triangle. Moreover, given a morphism $\alpha : x \to y$ in $\text{Comp}(A)$, the triangle given by $(x, y, c(\alpha), \alpha, i, -p)$ is distinguished by Lemma 20.13

Proof of TR2. Let $(x, y, z, \alpha, \beta, \gamma)$ be a triangle and suppose $(y, z, x[1], \beta, \gamma, -\alpha[1])$ is distinguished. Then there exists an admissible short exact sequence $0 \to x' \to y' \to z' \to 0$ such that the associated triangle $(x', y', z', \alpha', \beta', \gamma')$ is isomorphic to $(y, z, x[1], \beta, \gamma, -\alpha[1])$. After rotating, we conclude that $(x, y, z, \alpha, \beta, \gamma)$ is isomorphic to $(z'[-1], x', y', \gamma'[-1], \alpha', \beta')$. By Lemma 20.11 we deduce that $(z'[-1], x', y', \gamma'[-1], \alpha', \beta')$ is isomorphic to $(z'[-1], x', c(\gamma'[-1]), \gamma'[-1], i, p)$. Composing the two isomorphisms with sign changes as indicated in the following diagram:

We conclude that $(x, y, z, \alpha, \beta, \gamma)$ is distinguished by Lemma 20.13 (2). Conversely, suppose that $(x, y, z, \alpha, \beta, \gamma)$ is distinguished, so that by Lemma 20.13 (1), it is isomorphic to a triangle of the form $(x', y', c(\alpha'), \alpha', i, -p)$ for some morphism $\alpha' : x' \to y'$ in $\text{Comp}(A)$. The rotated triangle $(y', c(\alpha'), x'[1], \alpha', i, -p, -\alpha[1])$ is isomorphic to the triangle $(y', c(\alpha'), x'[1], i, p, -\alpha[1])$ which is isomorphic to $(y', c(\alpha'), x'[1], i, p, \alpha[1])$. By Lemma 20.10 this triangle is distinguished, from which it follows that $(y, z, x[1], \beta, \gamma, -\alpha[1])$ is distinguished.

Proof of TR3: Suppose $(x, y, z, \alpha, \beta, \gamma)$ and $(x', y', z', \alpha', \beta', \gamma')$ are distinguished triangles of $\text{Comp}(A)$ and let $f : x \to x'$ and $g : y \to y'$ be morphisms such that $\alpha' \circ f = g \circ \alpha$. By Lemma 20.13 we may assume that $(x, y, z, \alpha, \beta, \gamma) =$
(x, y, c(α), α, i, −p) and (x′, y′, z′, α′, β′, γ′) = (x′, y′, c(α′), α′, i′, −p′). Now apply Lemma 20.3 and we are done. □

The following lemma is the analogue of Lemma 10.2.

**Lemma 20.15.** In Situation 20.2 given admissible monomorphisms \( x \overset{\alpha}{\rightarrow} y, y \overset{\beta}{\rightarrow} z \) in \( A \), there exist distinguished triangles \((x, y, q_1, \alpha, p_1, \delta_1)\), \((x, z, q_2, \beta, p_2, \delta_2)\) and \((y, z, q_3, \gamma, p_3, \delta_3)\) for which TR4 holds.

**Proof.** Given admissible monomorphisms \( x \overset{\alpha}{\rightarrow} y \) and \( y \overset{\beta}{\rightarrow} z \), we can find distinguished triangles, via their extensions to admissible short exact sequences,

\[
\begin{align*}
x & \overset{\alpha}{\rightarrow} y & y & \overset{p_1}{\rightarrow} q_1 & \overset{\delta_1}{\rightarrow} x[1] \\
\end{align*}
\]

\[
\begin{align*}
x & \overset{\beta}{\rightarrow} z & z & \overset{p_2}{\rightarrow} q_2 & \overset{\delta_2}{\rightarrow} x[1] \\
\end{align*}
\]

\[
\begin{align*}
y & \overset{\beta}{\rightarrow} z & z & \overset{p_3}{\rightarrow} q_3 & \overset{\delta_3}{\rightarrow} x[1] \\
\end{align*}
\]

In these diagrams, the maps \( \delta_i \) are defined as \( \delta_i = \pi_i d(s_i) \) analogous to the maps defined in Lemma 20.1. They fit in the following solid commutative diagram

\[
\begin{align*}
\begin{array}{ccc}
x & \overset{\alpha}{\rightarrow} y & \overset{\beta}{\rightarrow} z \\
\pi_1 & \overset{\beta \pi_1}{\rightarrow} & \overset{\pi_1 \beta}{\rightarrow} \\
\pi_3 & \overset{\beta \pi_3}{\rightarrow} & \overset{\pi_3 \beta}{\rightarrow} \\
y & \overset{\beta}{\rightarrow} z & \overset{p_3}{\rightarrow} q_3 \\
v & \overset{p_1}{\rightarrow} q_1 & \overset{\delta_1}{\rightarrow} x[1] \\
\end{array}
\end{align*}
\]

where we have defined the dashed arrows as indicated. Clearly, their composition \( p_3 s_2 p_2 \beta s_1 = 0 \) since \( s_2 p_2 = 0 \). We claim that they both are morphisms of Comp(\( A \)). We can check this using equations in Lemma 20.1,

\[
d(p_2 \beta s_1) = p_2 \beta d(s_1) = p_2 \beta \alpha \pi_1 d(s_1) = 0
\]

since \( p_2 \beta \alpha = 0 \), and

\[
d(p_3 s_2) = p_3 d(s_2) = p_3 \beta \alpha \pi_1 \pi_3 d(s_2) = 0
\]

since \( p_3 \beta = 0 \). To check that \( q_1 \rightarrow q_2 \rightarrow q_3 \) is an admissible short exact sequence, it remains to show that in the underlying graded category, \( q_2 = q_1 \oplus q_3 \) with the above two morphisms as coprojection and projection. To do this, observe that in the underlying graded category \( C \), there hold

\[
y = x \oplus q_1, \ z = y \oplus q_3 = x \oplus q_1 \oplus q_3
\]
where \( \pi_1 \pi_3 \) gives the projection morphism onto the first factor: \( x \oplus q_1 \oplus q_3 \rightarrow z \). By axiom (A) on \( \mathcal{A}, \mathcal{C} \) is an additive category, hence we may apply Homology, Lemma 3.10 and conclude that
\[
\text{Ker}(\pi_1 \pi_3) = q_1 \oplus q_3
\]
in \( \mathcal{C} \). Another application of Homology, Lemma 3.10 to \( z = x \oplus q_2 \) gives \( \text{Ker}(\pi_1 \pi_3) = q_2 \). Hence \( q_2 \cong q_1 \oplus q_3 \) in \( \mathcal{C} \). It is clear that the dashed morphisms defined above give coprojection and projection.

Finally, we have to check that the morphism \( \delta : q_3 \rightarrow q_1[1] \) induced by the admissible short exact sequence \( q_1 \rightarrow q_2 \rightarrow q_3 \) agrees with \( p_1 \delta_3 \). By the construction in Lemma 20.1 the morphism \( \delta \) is given by
\[
p_1 \pi_3 s_2 d(p_2 s_3) = p_1 \pi_3 s_2 p_2 d(s_3) = p_1 \pi_3 (1 - \beta \alpha \pi_1 \pi_3) d(s_3) = p_1 \pi_3 d(s_3) = p_1 \pi_3 \delta_3
\]
as desired. The proof is complete. \( \square \)

Putting everything together we finally obtain the analogue of Proposition 10.3.

**Proposition 20.16.** In Situation 20.2 the homotopy category \( K(\mathcal{A}) \) with its natural translation functors and distinguished triangles is a triangulated category.

**Proof.** By Lemma 20.14 we know that \( K(\mathcal{A}) \) is pre-triangulated. Combining Lemmas 20.7 and 20.15 with Derived Categories, Lemma 4.14 we conclude that \( K(\mathcal{A}) \) is a triangulated category. \( \square \)

## 21. Derived Hom

Let \( R \) be a ring. Let \( (B, d) \) be a differential graded algebra over \( R \). Denote \( B = \text{Mod}_{\text{dg}}(B, d) \) the differential graded category of differential graded \( B \)-modules, see Example 19.8. Let \( N \) be a differential graded \( B \)-module. Then the endomorphisms of \( N \) in \( B \)
\[
\text{Hom}_B(N, N)
\]
is differential graded algebra over \( R \). Now let \( N' \) be a second differential graded \( B \)-module. Then
\[
\text{Hom}_B(N, N')
\]
becomes a right differential graded \( \text{Hom}_B(N, N) \)-module by the composition
\[
\text{Hom}_B(N, N') \times \text{Hom}_B(N, N) \rightarrow \text{Hom}_B(N, N')
\]
We need one more piece of data, in order to be able to formulate the results in the correct generality. Namely, let \( (A, d) \) be a differential graded \( R \)-algebra and let \( A \rightarrow \text{Hom}_B(N, N) \) be a homomorphism of differential graded \( R \)-algebras\(^4\). Using this homomorphism we obtain a functor
\[
\text{Mod}_{\text{dg}}(B, d) \rightarrow \text{Mod}_{\text{dg}}(A, d), \quad N' \mapsto \text{Hom}_B(N, N')
\]
where \( A \) acts on \( \text{Hom}_B(N, N') \) via the given homomorphism and the action of \( \text{Hom}_B(N, N) \) given above.

\(^4\)A very interesting case is when \( A = \text{Hom}_B(N, N) \).
Alternatively, we can think about the structure above as follows. There is a left differential graded \( \text{Hom}_B(N, N) \)-module structure on \( N \) given by
\[
\text{Hom}_B(N, N) \times N \to N, \quad (f, x) \mapsto f(x)
\]
This multiplication is \( R \)-bilinear, compatible with differentials, i.e., defines a the structure of a left differential graded \( \text{Hom}_B(N, N) \)-module structure on \( N \). Further this action commutes with the \( B \)-module structure. Using \( A \to \text{Hom}_B(N, N) \) we find that \( N \) is a \((A, B)\)-bimodule (this means: the induced \( R \)-module structures are the same and the \( A \) and \( B \) actions commute) and \( N \) has a grading and differential such that \( N \) is both a left differential graded \( A \)-module and a right differential graded \( B \)-module. More succinctly this may be stated by saying that \( N \) is a differential graded module over \( A^{opp} \otimes_R B \). For a differential graded \( B \)-module \( N' \) the right \( A \)-module structure on \( \text{Hom}_B(N, N') \) is given by
\[
\text{Hom}_B(N, N') \times A \to \text{Hom}_B(N, N'), \quad (f, a) \mapsto f \circ a_N
\]
where \( a_N : N \to N \) is (left) multiplication by \( a \) and \( \circ \) is composition in \( B \) as in Example 19.8 (no signs).

**Lemma 21.1.** The functor (21.0.1) defines an exact functor of triangulated categories \( K(\text{Mod}_{(B, d)}) \to K(\text{Mod}_{(A, d)}) \).

**Proof.** Combining Lemmas 19.9, 19.10, and 19.5 we obtain the functor of the statement. We have to show that (21.0.1) transforms distinguished triangles into distinguished triangles. To see this suppose that \( 0 \to N_1 \to N_2 \to N_3 \to 0 \) is an admissible short exact sequence of differential graded \( B \)-modules. Let \( s : N_3 \to N_2 \) be a graded \( B \)-module homomorphism which is left inverse to \( N_2 \to N_3 \). Then \( s \) defines a graded \( A \)-module homomorphism \( \text{Hom}_B(N, N_3) \to \text{Hom}_B(N, N_2) \) which is left inverse to \( \text{Hom}_B(N, N_2) \to \text{Hom}_B(N, N_3) \). This finishes the proof. \( \square \)

At this point we can consider the diagram
\[
\begin{array}{ccc}
K(\text{Mod}_{(B, d)}) & \xrightarrow{\text{Hom}_B(N, -)} & K(\text{Mod}_{(A, d)}) \\
\downarrow & & \downarrow \\
D(B, d) & \xrightarrow{\text{F}} & D(A, d)
\end{array}
\]
We would like to construct a dotted arrow as the right derived functor of the composition \( F \). (Warning: the diagram will not commute.) Namely, in the general setting of Derived Categories, Section 15 we want to compute the right derived functor of \( F \) with respect to the multiplicative system of quasi-isomorphisms in \( K(\text{Mod}_{(A, d)}) \).

**Lemma 21.2.** In the situation above, the right derived functor of \( F \) exists. We denote it \( R\text{Hom}(N, -) : D(B, d) \to D(A, d) \).

**Proof.** We will use Derived Categories, Lemma 15.15 to prove this. As our collection \( I \) of objects we will use the objects with property (I). Property (I) was shown in Lemma 14.4. Property (2) holds because if \( s : I \to I' \) is a quasi-isomorphism of modules with property (I), then \( s \) is a homotopy equivalence by Lemma 15.3. \( \square \)

**Lemma 21.3.** Let \( R \) be a ring. Let \((A, d)\) and \((B, d)\) be differential graded \( R \)-algebras. Let \( f : N \to N' \) be a homomorphism of differential graded \( A^{opp} \otimes_R B \)-modules. Then \( f \) induces a morphism of functors
\[
\circ f : R\text{Hom}(N', -,) \to R\text{Hom}(N, -)
\]
If $f$ is a quasi-isomorphism, then $f \circ -$ is an isomorphism of functors.

**Proof.** Write $\mathcal{B} = \text{Mod}^d_{(B,d)}$ the differential graded category of differential graded $B$-modules, see Example [19.8]. Let $I$ be a differential graded $B$-module with property (I). Then $f \circ -$ : $\text{Hom}_B(N', I) \to \text{Hom}_B(N, I)$ is a map of differential graded $A$-modules. Moreover, this is functorial with respect to $I$. Since the functors $R\text{Hom}(N', -)$ and $R\text{Hom}(N, -)$ are computed by applying $\text{Hom}_B$ into objects with property (I) (Lemma 21.2) we obtain a transformation of functors as indicated.

Assume that $f$ is a quasi-isomorphism. Let $F_*$ be the given filtration on $I$. Since $I = \lim I/F_p I$ we see that $\text{Hom}_B(N', I) = \lim \text{Hom}_B(N', I/F_p I)$ and $\text{Hom}_B(N, I) = \lim \text{Hom}_B(N, I/F_p I)$. Since the transition maps in the system $I/F_p I$ are split as graded modules, we see that the transition maps in the systems $\text{Hom}_B(N', I/F_p I)$ and $\text{Hom}_B(N, I/F_p I)$ are surjective. Hence $\text{Hom}_B(N', I)$, resp. $\text{Hom}_B(N, I)$ viewed as a complex of abelian groups computes $\lim$ of the system of complexes $\text{Hom}_B(N', I/F_p I)$, resp. $\text{Hom}_B(N, I/F_p I)$. See More on Algebra, Lemma [77.1]. Thus it suffices to prove each

$$\text{Hom}_B(N', I/F_p I) \to \text{Hom}_B(N, I/F_p I)$$

is a quasi-isomorphism. Since the surjections $I/F_{p+1} I \to I/F_p I$ are split as maps of graded $B$-modules we see that

$$0 \to \text{Hom}_B(N', F_p I/F_{p+1} I) \to \text{Hom}_B(N', I/F_{p+1} I) \to \text{Hom}_B(N', I/F_p I) \to 0$$

is a short exact sequence of differential graded $A$-modules. There is a similar sequence for $N$ and $f$ induces a map of short exact sequences. Hence by induction on $p$ (starting with $p = 0$ when $I/F_0 I = 0$) we conclude that it suffices to show that the map $\text{Hom}_B(N', F_p I/F_{p+1} I) \to \text{Hom}_B(N, F_p I/F_{p+1} I)$ is a quasi-isomorphism. Since $F_p I/F_{p+1} I$ is a product of shifts of $A^\vee$ it suffice to prove $\text{Hom}_B(N', B^\vee[k]) \to \text{Hom}_B(N, B^\vee[k])$ is a quasi-isomorphism. By Lemma [12.3] it suffices to show $(N')^\vee \to N^\vee$ is a quasi-isomorphism. This is true because $f$ is a quasi-isomorphism and $( )^\vee$ is an exact functor. \qed

**Lemma 21.4.** Let $(A, d)$ and $(B, d)$ be differential graded algebras over a ring $R$. Let $N$ be an $(A, B)$-bimodule which comes with a grading and a differential such that $N$ is a differential graded module for both $A$ and $B$. Then for every $n \in \mathbb{Z}$ there are isomorphisms

$$H^n(R\text{Hom}(N, M)) = \text{Ext}^n_{D(B,d)}(N, M)$$

of $R$-modules functorial in $M$. It is also functorial in $N$ with respect to the operation described in Lemma 21.3.

**Proof.** In the proof of Lemma 21.2 we have seen

$$R\text{Hom}(N, M) = \text{Hom}_{\text{Mod}^d_{(B,d)}}(N, I)$$

as a differential graded $A$-module where $M \to I$ is a quasi-isomorphism of $M$ into a differential graded $B$-module with property (I). Hence this complex has the correct cohomology modules by Lemma [15.3]. We omit a discussion of the functorial nature of these identifications. \qed

**Lemma 21.5.** Let $R$ be a ring. Let $(A, d)$ and $(B, d)$ be differential graded $R$-algebras. Let $N$ be a differential graded $A^{op} \otimes_R B$-module. If $\text{Hom}_{D(B,d)}(N, N') = \text{Hom}_{\text{Mod}^d_{(B,d)}}(N, I)$
\( \text{Hom}_{K_{\text{Mod}}(B,d)}(N,N') \) for all \( N' \in K(B,d) \), for example if \( N \) has property (P) as a differential graded \( B \)-module, then

\[
R \text{Hom}(N,M) = \text{Hom}_{\text{Mod}^d_{(B,d)}}(N,M)
\]

functorially in \( M \) in \( D(B,d) \).

**Proof.** By construction (Lemma 21.2) to find \( R \text{Hom}(N,M) \) we choose a quasi-isomorphism \( M \to I \) where \( I \) is a differential graded \( B \)-module with property (I) and we set \( R \text{Hom}(N,M) = \text{Hom}_{\text{Mod}^d_{(B,d)}}(N,I) \). By assumption the map

\[
\text{Hom}_{\text{Mod}^d_{(B,d)}}(N,M) \to \text{Hom}_{\text{Mod}^d_{(B,d)}}(N,I)
\]

induced by \( M \to I \) is a quasi-isomorphism, see discussion in Example 19.8. This proves the lemma. If \( N \) has property (P) as a \( B \)-module, then we see that the assumption is satisfied by Lemma 15.3. \( \square \)

### 22. Variant of derived \( \text{Hom} \)

Let \( A \) be an abelian category. Consider the differential graded category \( \text{Comp}^d(A) \) of complexes of \( A \), see Example 19.6. Let \( K^\bullet \) be a complex of \( A \). Set

\[
(E,d) = \text{Hom}_{\text{Comp}^d(A)}(K^\bullet,K^\bullet)
\]

and consider the functor of differential graded categories

\[
\text{Comp}^d(A) \to \text{Mod}^d_{(E,d)}, \quad X^\bullet \mapsto \text{Hom}_{\text{Comp}^d(A)}(K^\bullet,X^\bullet)
\]

of Lemma 19.10.

**Lemma 22.1.** In the situation above. If the right derived functor \( R \text{Hom}(K^\bullet,-) \) of \( \text{Hom}(K^\bullet,-) : K(A) \to D(A) \) is everywhere defined on \( D(A) \), then we obtain a canonical exact functor

\[
R \text{Hom}(K^\bullet,-) : D(A) \to D(E,d)
\]

of triangulated categories which reduces to the usual one on taking associated complexes of abelian groups.

**Proof.** Note that we have an associated functor \( K(A) \to K(\text{Mod}(E,d)) \) by Lemma 19.10. We claim this functor is an exact functor of triangulated categories. Namely, let \( f : A^\bullet \to B^\bullet \) be a map of complexes of \( A \). Then a computation shows that

\[
\text{Hom}_{\text{Comp}^d(A)}(K^\bullet,C(f)^\bullet) = C(\text{Hom}_{\text{Comp}^d(A)}(K^\bullet,A^\bullet) \to \text{Hom}_{\text{Comp}^d(A)}(K^\bullet,B^\bullet))
\]

where the right hand side is the cone in \( \text{Mod}(E,d) \) defined earlier in this chapter. This shows that our functor is compatible with cones, hence with distinguished triangles. Let \( X^\bullet \) be an object of \( K(A) \). Consider the category of quasi-isomorphisms \( s : X^\bullet \to Y^\bullet \). We are given that the functor \( (s : X^\bullet \to Y^\bullet) \mapsto \text{Hom}_A(K^\bullet,Y^\bullet) \) is essentially constant when viewed in \( D(A) \). But since the forgetful functor \( D(E,d) \to D(A) \) is compatible with taking cohomology, the same thing is true in \( D(E,d) \). This proves the lemma. \( \square \)

**Warning:** Although the lemma holds as stated and may be useful as stated, the differential algebra \( E \) isn’t the “correct” one unless \( H^n(E) = \text{Ext}^n_{D(A)}(K^\bullet,K^\bullet) \) for all \( n \in \mathbb{Z} \).
This section should be moved somewhere else. Let \( R \) be a ring. Let \( A \) be an \( R \)-algebra (see Section 2). Given a right \( A \)-module \( M \) and a left \( A \)-module \( N \) there is a tensor product

\[
M \otimes_A N
\]

This tensor product is a module over \( R \). As an \( R \)-module \( M \otimes_A N \) is generated by symbols \( x \otimes y \) with \( x \in M \) and \( y \in N \) subject to the relations

\[
(x_1 + x_2) \otimes y - x_1 \otimes y - x_2 \otimes y,
\]

\[
x \otimes (y_1 + y_2) - x \otimes y_1 - x \otimes y_2,
\]

\[
xa \otimes y - x \otimes ay
\]

for \( a \in R \), \( x, x_1, x_2 \in M \) and \( y, y_1, y_2 \in N \). Thus \( M \otimes_A N \) is the receptacle of the universal \( A \)-bilinear map \( M \times N \to M \otimes_A N \), \( (x, y) \mapsto x \otimes y \).

We list some properties of the tensor product

1. In each variable the tensor product is right exact, in fact commutes with direct sums and arbitrary colimits.
2. If \( A, M, N \) are graded and the module structures are compatible with gradings then \( M \otimes_A N \) is graded as well. Then \( n \)th graded piece \( (M \otimes_A N)^n \) of \( M \otimes_A N \) is the quotient of \( \bigoplus_{p+q=n} M^p \otimes_A N^q \) by the submodule generated by \( x \otimes ay - xa \otimes y \) where \( x \in M^p \), \( y \in N^q \), and \( a \in A^{n-p-q} \).
3. If \( (A, d) \) is a differential graded algebra, and \( M \) and \( N \) are (left and right) differential graded \( A \)-modules, then \( M \otimes_A N \) is a differential graded \( R \)-module with differential

\[
d(x \otimes y) = d(x) \otimes y + (-1)^q x \otimes d(y)
\]

for \( x \in M \) and \( y \in N \).
4. If we have a second \( R \)-algebra \( B \) and \( N \) is a \( (A, B) \)-bimodule (this means: the induced \( R \)-module structures are the same and the \( A \) and \( B \) actions commute) then \( M \otimes_A N \) is a right \( B \)-module.
5. If \( A \) and \( B \) are graded algebras, \( M \) is a graded \( A \)-module, and \( N \) is an \( (A, B) \)-bimodule which comes with a grading such that it is both a left graded \( A \)-module and a right graded \( B \)-module, then \( M \otimes_A N \) is a graded \( B \)-module.
6. If \( (A, d) \) and \( (B, d) \) are differential graded algebras, \( M \) is a differential graded \( A \)-module, and \( N \) is an \( (A, B) \)-bimodule which comes with a grading and a differential such that it is both a left differential graded \( A \)-module and a right differential graded \( B \)-module, then \( M \otimes_A N \) is a differential graded \( B \)-module.
7. If we have \( R \)-algebras \( A, B, \) and \( C \), a right \( A \)-module \( M \), an \( (A, B) \)-bimodule \( N \), and a \( (B, C) \)-bimodule \( N' \), then \( N \otimes_B N' \) is a \( (A, C) \)-bimodule and we have \( (M \otimes_A N) \otimes_B N' = M \otimes_A (N \otimes_B N') \). This equality continuous to hold in the graded and in the differential graded case (compare with Homology, Remark 22.8 for the sign rules).

In (6), the condition may be more heuristically succinctly stated by saying that \( N \) is a differential graded module over \( A^{opp} \otimes_R B \). We state the following as a lemma.

**Lemma 23.1.** Let \( (A, d) \) and \( (B, d) \) be differential graded algebras, and let \( N \) be an \( (A, B) \)-bimodule which comes with a grading and a differential such that it is
both a left differential graded $A$-module and a right differential graded $B$-module. Then $M \mapsto M \otimes_A N$ defines a functor $$- \otimes_A N : \text{Mod}_{dg(A,d)} \to \text{Mod}_{dg(B,d)}$$ of differential graded categories. This functor induces functors $$\text{Mod}_{dg(A,d)} \to \text{Mod}_{dg(B,d)}$$ and $$K(\text{Mod}_{dg(A,d)}) \to K(\text{Mod}_{dg(B,d)})$$ by an application of Lemma 19.5.

**Proof.** This follows from the discussion above. □

If $A$ is an algebra and $M$, $M'$ are right $A$-modules, then we define $$\text{Hom}_A(M, M') = \{ f : M \to M' \mid f \text{ is } A\text{-linear} \}$$ as usual. If $A$ is graded and $M$ and $M'$ are graded $A$-modules, then we recall (Example 18.6) that $$\text{Hom}_{\text{Mod}_{gr}(A,d)}(M, M') = \bigoplus_{n \in \mathbb{Z}} \text{Hom}_n(M, M')$$ where $\text{Hom}_n(M, M')$ is the collection of all $A$-module maps $M \to M'$ which are homogeneous of degree $n$.

**Lemma 23.2.** Let $A$ and $B$ be algebras. Let $M$ be a right $A$-module, $N$ an $(A,B)$-bimodule, and $N'$ a right $B$-module. Then we have $$\text{Hom}_B(M \otimes_A N, N') = \text{Hom}_A(M, \text{Hom}_B(N, N'))$$

If $A$, $B$, $M$, $N$, $N'$ are compatibly graded, then we have $$\text{Hom}_{\text{Mod}_{gr}(A,d)}(M \otimes_A N, N') = \text{Hom}_{\text{Mod}_{gr}(A)}(M, \text{Hom}_{\text{Mod}_{gr}(B)}(N, N'))$$ for the graded versions.

**Proof.** This follows by interpreting both sides as $A$-bilinear maps $\psi : M \times N \to N'$ which are $B$-linear on the right. □

### 24. Derived tensor product

This section is analogous to More on Algebra, Section 58.

Let $R$ be a ring. Let $(A,d)$ and $(B,d)$ be differential graded algebras over $R$. Let $N$ be a $(A,B)$-bimodule equipped with a grading and differential such that $N$ is a left differential graded $A$-module and a right differential graded $B$-module. In other words, $N$ is a differential graded $A^{opp} \otimes_R B$-module. Consider the functor

$$\text{Mod}_{(A,d)} \to \text{Mod}_{(B,d)}, \quad M \mapsto M \otimes_A N$$

defined in Section 23.

**Lemma 24.1**. The functor (24.0.1) defines an exact functor of triangulated categories $K(\text{Mod}_{(A,d)}) \to K(\text{Mod}_{(B,d)})$.

**Proof.** The functor was constructed in Lemma 23.1. We have to show that $- \otimes_A N$ transforms distinguished triangles into distinguished triangles. Suppose that $0 \to K \to L \to M \to 0$ is an admissible short exact sequence of differential graded $A$-modules. Let $s : M \to L$ be a graded $A$-module homomorphism which is left inverse to $L \to M$. Then $s$ defines a graded $B$-module homomorphism $M \otimes_A N \to L \otimes_A N$ which is left inverse to $L \otimes_A N \to M \otimes_A N$. □
At this point we can consider the diagram

\[
\begin{array}{ccc}
K(\text{Mod}(A,d)) & \rightarrow & K(\text{Mod}(B,d)) \\
\downarrow & & \downarrow \\
D(A,d) & \rightarrow & D(B,d)
\end{array}
\]

The dotted arrow that we will construct below will be the left derived functor of the composition \(F\). (Warning: the diagram will not commute.) Namely, in the general setting of Derived Categories, Section 15 we want to compute the left derived functor of \(F\) with respect to the multiplicative system of quasi-isomorphisms in \(K(\text{Mod}(A,d))\).

**Lemma 24.2.** In the situation above, the left derived functor of \(F\) exists. We denote it \(- \otimes^L_A N : D(A,d) \rightarrow D(B,d)\).

**Proof.** We will use Derived Categories, Lemma 15.15 to prove this. As our collection \(\mathcal{P}\) of objects we will use the objects with property (P). Property (1) was shown in Lemma 13.4. Property (2) holds because if \(s : P \rightarrow P'\) is a quasi-isomorphism of modules with property (P), then \(s\) is a homotopy equivalence by Lemma 15.3. \(\square\)

**Lemma 24.3.** Let \(R\) be a ring. Let \((A,d)\) and \((B,d)\) be differential graded \(R\)-algebras. Let \(f : N \rightarrow N'\) be a homomorphism of differential graded \(A^{\text{opp}} \otimes_R B\)-modules. Then \(f\) induces a morphism of functors

\[
1 \otimes f : - \otimes^L_A N \rightarrow - \otimes^L_A N'
\]

If \(f\) is a quasi-isomorphism, then \(1 \otimes f\) is an isomorphism of functors.

**Proof.** Let \(M\) be a differential graded \(A\)-module with property (P). Then \(1 \otimes f : M \otimes_A N \rightarrow M \otimes_A N'\) is a map of differential graded \(B\)-modules. Moreover, this is functorial with respect to \(M\). Since the functors \(- \otimes^L_A N\) and \(- \otimes^L_A N'\) are computed by tensoring on objects with property (P) (Lemma 24.2) we obtain a transformation of functors as indicated.

Assume that \(f\) is a quasi-isomorphism. Let \(F_*\) be the given filtration on \(M\). Observe that \(M \otimes_A N = \text{colim} F_*(M) \otimes_A N\) and \(M \otimes_A N' = \text{colim} F_*(M) \otimes_A N'\). Hence it suffices to show that \(F_n(M) \otimes_A N \rightarrow F_n(M) \otimes_A N'\) is a quasi-isomorphism (filtered colimits are exact, see Algebra, Lemma 8.8). Since the inclusions \(F_n(M) \rightarrow F_{n+1}(M)\) are split as maps of graded \(A\)-modules we see that

\[
0 \rightarrow F_n(M) \otimes_A N \rightarrow F_{n+1}(M) \otimes_A N \rightarrow F_{n+1}(M)/F_n(M) \otimes_A N \rightarrow 0
\]

is a short exact sequence of differential graded \(B\)-modules. There is a similar sequence for \(N'\) and \(f\) induces a map of short exact sequences. Hence by induction on \(n\) (starting with \(n = -1\) when \(F_{-1}(M) = 0\) we conclude that it suffices to show that the map \(F_{n+1}(M)/F_n(M) \otimes_A N \rightarrow F_{n+1}(M)/F_n(M) \otimes_A N'\) is a quasi-isomorphism. This is true because \(F_{n+1}(M)/F_n(M)\) is a direct sum of shifts of \(A\) and the result is true for \(A[k]\) as \(f : N \rightarrow N'\) is a quasi-isomorphism. \(\square\)

**Lemma 24.4.** Let \(R\) be a ring. Let \((A,d)\) and \((B,d)\) be differential graded \(R\)-algebras. Let \(N\) be an \((A,B)\)-bimodule which comes with a grading and a differential such that it is a differential graded module for both \(A\) and \(B\). Then the functors

\[
- \otimes^L_A N : D(A,d) \rightarrow D(B,d)
\]
of Lemma 24.2 and
\[ R\text{Hom}(N, -) : D(B, d) \rightarrow D(A, d) \]
of Lemma 21.2 are adjoint.

**Proof.** The statement means that we have
\[ \text{Hom}_{D(A, d)}(M, R\text{Hom}(N, N')) = \text{Hom}_{D(B, d)}(M \otimes_A N, N') \]
bifunctorially in \( M \) and \( N' \). To see this we may assume that \( M \) is a differential graded \( A \)-module with property (P) and that \( N' \) is a differential graded \( B \)-module with property (I). The computation of the derived functors given in the lemmas referenced in the statement combined with Lemma 15.3 translates the above into
\[ \text{Hom}_{K(\text{Mod}_{dg}(A, d))}(M, \text{Hom}_{B}(N, N')) = \text{Hom}_{K(\text{Mod}_{dg}(B, d))}(M \otimes_A N, N') \]
where \( B = \text{Mod}_{dg}(B, d) \). Thus it is certainly sufficient to show that
\[ \text{Hom}_{A}(M, \text{Hom}_{B}(N, N')) = \text{Hom}_{B}(M \otimes_A N, N') \]
of internal homs of graded modules respects the differentials. □

**Example 24.5.** Let \( R \) be a ring. Let \((A, d) \rightarrow (B, d)\) be a homomorphism of differential graded \( R \)-algebras. Then we can view \( B \) as a \((A, B)\)-bimodule and we get a functor
\[ - \otimes_A B : D(A, d) \rightarrow D(B, d) \]
By Lemma 24.4 the left adjoint of this is the functor \( R\text{Hom}(B, -) \). For a differential graded \( B \)-module let us denote \( N_A \) the differential graded \( A \)-module obtained from \( N \) by restriction via \( A \rightarrow B \). Then we clearly have a canonical isomorphism
\[ \text{Hom}_{\text{Mod}_{dg}(B, d)}(B, N) \rightarrow N_A, \quad f \mapsto f(1) \]
functorial in the \( B \)-module \( N \). Thus we see that \( R\text{Hom}(B, -) \) is the restriction functor and we obtain
\[ \text{Hom}_{D(A, d)}(M, N_A) = \text{Hom}_{D(B, d)}(M \otimes_A B, N) \]
bifunctorially in \( M \) and \( N \) exactly as in the case of commutative rings. Finally, observe that restriction is a tensor functor as well, since \( N_A = N \otimes_B B_A = N \otimes_B B_A \) where \( B_B A \) is \( B \) viewed as an \((B, A)\)-bimodule.

**Lemma 24.6.** With notation and assumptions as in Lemma 24.4. Assume
1. \( N \) defines a compact object of \( D(B, d) \), and
2. the map \( H^k(A) \rightarrow \text{Hom}_{D(B, d)}(N, N[k]) \) is an isomorphism for all \( k \in \mathbb{Z} \).

Then the functor \(- \otimes_L^A N\) is fully faithful.

**Proof.** Because our functor has a left adjoint given by \( R\text{Hom}(N, -) \) by Lemma 24.4 it suffices to show that for a differential graded \( A \)-module \( M \) the map
\[ H^0(M) \rightarrow \text{Hom}_{D(B, d)}(N, M \otimes_A N) \]
is an isomorphism. We may assume that \( M = P \) is a differential graded \( A \)-module which has property (P). Since \( N \) defines a compact object, we reduce using Lemma
to the case where $P$ has a finite filtration whose graded pieces are direct sums of $A[k]$. Again using compactness we reduce to the case $P = A[k]$. Assumption (2) on $N$ is that the result holds for these. □

**Lemma 24.7.** Let $(A, d)$ and $(B, d)$ be differential graded algebras. Let $N$ be a differential graded $A \otimes_R B$-module with property (P). Let $M$ be a differential graded $A$-module with property (P). Then $Q = M \otimes_A N$ is a differential graded $B$-module which represents $M \otimes^L_A N$ in $D(B)$ and which has a filtration

$$0 = F_{-1}Q \subset F_0Q \subset F_1Q \subset \ldots \subset Q$$

by differential graded submodules such that $Q = \bigcup F_pQ$, the inclusions $F_iQ \to F_{i+1}Q$ are admissible monomorphisms, the quotients $F_{i+1}Q/F_iQ$ are isomorphic as differential graded $B$-modules to a direct sum of $(A \otimes_R B)[k]$.

**Proof.** Choose filtrations $F_\bullet$ on $M$ and $N$. Then consider the filtration on $Q = M \otimes_A N$ given by

$$F_n(Q) = \sum_{i+j=n} F_i(M) \otimes_A F_j(N)$$

This is clearly a differential graded $B$-submodule. We see that

$$F_n(Q)/F_{n-1}(Q) = \bigoplus_{i+j=n} F_i(M)/F_{i-1}(M) \otimes_A F_j(N)/F_{j-1}(N)$$

for example because the filtration of $M$ is split in the category of graded $A$-modules. Since by assumption the quotients on the right hand side are isomorphic to direct sums of shifts of $A$ and $A \otimes_R B$ and since $A \otimes_A (A \otimes_R B) = A \otimes_R B$, we conclude that the left hand side is a direct sum of shifts of $A \otimes_R B$ as a differential graded $B$-module. (Warning: $Q$ does not have a structure of $(A, B)$-bimodule.) This proves the first statement of the lemma. The second statement is immediate from the definition of the functor in Lemma 24.2. □

**Lemma 24.8.** Let $R \to R'$ be a ring map. Let $(A, d)$ be a differential graded $R$-algebra. Let $(A', d')$ be the base change, i.e., $A' = A \otimes_R R'$. If $A$ is K-flat as a complex of $R$-modules, then

1. $- \otimes^L_A A': D(A, d) \to D(A', d')$ is equal the right derived functor of $K(A, d) \to K(A', d), M \mapsto M \otimes_R R'$

2. the diagram

$$
\begin{array}{ccc}
D(A, d) & \xrightarrow{- \otimes^L_A A'} & D(A', d') \\
\text{restriction} & & \text{restriction} \\
D(R) & \xrightarrow{- \otimes^L_R R'} & D(R')
\end{array}
$$

commutes, and

3. if $M$ is K-flat as a complex of $R$-modules, then the differential graded $A'$-module $M \otimes_R R'$ represents $M \otimes^L_A A'$.

**Proof.** For any differential graded $A$-module $M$ there is a canonical map

$$c_M : M \otimes_R R' \to M \otimes_A A'$$

Let $P$ be a differential graded $A$-module with property (P). We claim that $c_P$ is an isomorphism and that $P$ is K-flat as a complex of $R$-modules. This will prove all
the results stated in the lemma by formal arguments using the definition of derived
tensor product in Lemma 24.2 and More on Algebra, Section 57.

Let \( F \) be the filtration on \( P \) showing that \( P \) has property (P). Note that \( c_A \) is an
isomorphism and \( A \) is K-flat as a complex of \( R \)-modules by assumption. Hence the
same is true for direct sums of shifts of \( A \) (you can use More on Algebra, Lemma 57.10 to deal with direct sums if you like). Hence this holds for the complexes
\( F_{p+1}P/F_pP \). Since the short exact sequences

\[
0 \to F_pP \to F_{p+1}P \to F_{p+1}P/F_pP \to 0
\]

are split exact as sequences of graded modules, we can argue by induction that \( c_{F_pP} \)
is an isomorphism for all \( p \) and that \( F_pP \) is K-flat as a complex of \( R \)-modules (use
More on Algebra, Lemma 57.7). Finally, using that \( P = \text{colim} F_pP \) we conclude
that \( c_P \) is an isomorphism and that \( P \) is K-flat as a complex of \( R \)-modules (use
More on Algebra, Lemma 57.10). □

\[\text{Lemma 24.9.} \] Let \( R \) be a ring. Let \((A, d)\) and \((B, d)\) be differential graded \( R \)-
algebras. Let \( T \) be an \((A, B)\)-bimodule which comes with a grading and a differential
such that it is a differential graded module for both \( A \) and \( B \). Assume

1. \( T \) defines a compact object of \( D(B, d) \), and
2. \( S = \text{Hom}_{\text{Mod}_{dg}(B, d)}(T, B) \) represents \( R\text{Hom}(T, B) \) in \( D(A, d) \).

Then \( S \) has a structure of a \((B, A)\)-bimodule which comes with a grading and a
differential such that it is a differential graded module for both \( A \) and \( B \) and there
is an isomorphism

\[
N \otimes_B S \to R\text{Hom}(T, N)
\]

functorial in \( N \) in \( D(B, d) \).

\[\text{Proof.} \] Write \( B = \text{Mod}_{dg_{(B, d)}} \). The right \( A \)-module structure on \( S \) comes from
the map \( A \to \text{Hom}_B(T, T) \) and the composition \( \text{Hom}_B(T, B) \otimes \text{Hom}_B(T, T) \to \text{Hom}_B(T, B) \) defined in Example 19.8 Using this multiplication a second time
there is a map

\[
c_N : N \otimes_B S = \text{Hom}_B(B, N) \otimes_B \text{Hom}_B(T, B) \to \text{Hom}_B(T, N)
\]

functorial in \( N \). Given \( N \) we can choose quasi-isomorphisms \( P \to N \to I \) where \( P \),
resp. \( I \) is a differential graded \( B \)-module with property (P), resp. (I). Then using \( c_N \)
we obtain a map \( P \otimes_B S \to \text{Hom}_B(T, I) \) between the objects representing \( S \otimes_B N \)
and \( R\text{Hom}(T, N) \). Clearly this defines a transformation of functors \( c \) as in the
lemma.

To prove that \( c \) is an isomorphism of functors, we may assume \( N \) is a differential
graded \( B \)-module which has property (P). Since \( T \) defines a compact object in
\( D(B, d) \) and since both sides of the arrow define exact functors of triangulated
categories, we reduce using Lemma 13.1 to the case where \( N \) has a finite filtration
whose graded pieces are direct sums of \( B[k] \). Using again that both sides of the
arrow are exact functors of triangulated categories and compactness of \( T \) we reduce
to the case \( N = B[k] \). Assumption (2) is exactly the assumption that \( c \) is an
isomorphism in this case. □
25. Composition of derived tensor products

Let $R$ be a ring. Let $(A,d)$, $(B,d)$, and $(C,d)$ be differential graded $R$-algebras. Let $N$ be a differential graded $A^{\text{opp}} \otimes_R B$-module. Let $N'$ be a differential graded $B^{\text{opp}} \otimes_R C$-module. We denote $N_B$ the bimodule $N$ viewed as a differential graded $B$-module (forgetting about the $A$-structure). There is a canonical map

$$N_B \otimes_B N' \to (N \otimes_B N')_C$$

in $D(C,d)$. Here $(N \otimes_B N')_C$ denotes the $(A,C)$-bimodule $N \otimes_B N'$ viewed as a differential graded $C$-module. Namely, this map comes from the fact that the derived tensor product always maps to the plain tensor product (as it is a left derived functor).

**Lemma 25.1.** Let $R$ be a ring. Let $(A,d)$, $(B,d)$, and $(C,d)$ be differential graded $R$-algebras. Let $N$ be a differential graded $A^{\text{opp}} \otimes_R B$-module. Let $N'$ be a differential graded $B^{\text{opp}} \otimes_R C$-module. Assume (25.0.1) is an isomorphism. Then the composition

$$D(A,d) \to D(B,d) \to D(C,d)$$

is isomorphic to $- \otimes_A N''$ with $N'' = N \otimes_B N'$ viewed as $(A,C)$-bimodule.

**Proof.** Let $M$ be a differential graded $A$-module with property (P). According to the construction of the functor $- \otimes_A N''$ of the proof of Lemma 24.2 the plain tensor product $M \otimes_A N''$ represents $M \otimes_A N''$. Then we write

$$M \otimes_A N'' = M \otimes_A (N \otimes_B N') = (M \otimes_A N) \otimes_B N'$$

The module $Q = M \otimes_A N$ represents $M \otimes_A N$. Hence it suffices to show that

$$Q \otimes_B N' \to Q \otimes_B N'$$

is a quasi-isomorphism. The filtration $F_\bullet$ on $M$ induces a filtration $F_\bullet$ on $Q$ whose transition maps are admissible monomorphisms and whose graded quotients are direct sums of shifts of $N_B$. Exactly as in the proof of Lemma 13.1 this implies there is an admissible short exact sequence

$$0 \to \bigoplus F_i Q \to \bigoplus F_i Q \to Q \to 0$$

of differential graded $B$-modules. Using the fact that $- \otimes_B N'$ is an exact functor and commutes with direct sums and using that $- \otimes_B N'$ transforms admissible exact sequences into admissible exact sequences and commutes with direct sums we reduce to proving that

$$F_p Q \otimes_B N' \to F_p Q \otimes_B N'$$

is a quasi-isomorphism for all $p$. Repeating the argument with the admissible short exact sequences

$$0 \to F_p Q \to F_{p+1} Q \to F_{p+1} Q / F_p Q \to 0$$

we reduce to showing the same statement for $F_{p+1} Q / F_p Q$. Using the structure of these modules (see above) we reduce to showing that

$$N_B \otimes_B N' \to N_B \otimes_B N'$$

is a quasi-isomorphism, which is what we assumed. □
Let $R$ be a ring. Let $(A, d)$, $(B, d)$, and $(C, d)$ be differential graded $R$-algebras. We temporarily denote $(A \otimes_R B)_B$ the differential graded algebra $A \otimes_R B$ viewed as a (right) differential graded $B$-module, and $B(B \otimes_C C)_C$ the differential graded algebra $B \otimes_R C$ viewed as a $(B, C)$-bimodule. Then there is a canonical map

$$\text{(25.1.1)} \quad (A \otimes_R B)_B \otimes_B (B \otimes_R C)_C \rightarrow (A \otimes_R B \otimes_R C)_C$$

where $(A \otimes_R B \otimes_R C)_C$ denotes the differential graded $R$-algebra $A \otimes_R B \otimes_R C$ viewed as a (right) differential graded $C$-module. Namely, this map comes from the identification

$$(A \otimes_R B)_B \otimes_B (B \otimes_R C)_C = (A \otimes_R B \otimes_R C)_C$$

and the fact that the derived tensor product always maps to the plain tensor product (as it is a left derived functor).

**Lemma 25.2.** Let $R$ be a ring. Let $(A, d)$, $(B, d)$, and $(C, d)$ be differential graded $R$-algebras. Assume that (25.1.1) is an isomorphism. Let $N$ be a differential graded $A^{\text{opp}} \otimes_R B$-module. Let $N''$ be a differential graded $B^{\text{opp}} \otimes_R C$-module. Then the composition

$$D(A, d) \xrightarrow{- \otimes_B N} D(B, d) \xrightarrow{- \otimes_B N'} D(C, d)$$

is isomorphic to $- \otimes_A N''$ for a differential graded $A^{\text{opp}} \otimes_R C$-module $N''$ described in the proof.

**Proof.** By Lemma 24.3 we may replace $N$ and $N'$ by quasi-isomorphic bimodules. Thus we may assume $N$, resp. $N'$ has property (P) as differential graded $A^{\text{opp}} \otimes_R B$, resp. $B^{\text{opp}} \otimes_R C$-module, see Lemma 13.4. We claim the lemma holds with the $(A, C)$-bimodule $N'' = N \otimes_B N'$. To prove this, it suffices to show that

$$N_B \otimes_B N' \rightarrow (N \otimes_B N')_C$$

is an isomorphism, see Lemma 25.1.

By Lemma 13.1 there is an admissible short exact sequence

$$0 \rightarrow \bigoplus F_i N \rightarrow \bigoplus F_i N \rightarrow N \rightarrow 0$$

of differential graded $A^{\text{opp}} \otimes_R B$-modules. Using the fact that $- \otimes_B N'$ is an exact functor and commutes with direct sums and using that $- \otimes B N'$ transforms admissible exact sequences into admissible exact sequences and commutes with direct sums we reduce to proving that

$$(F_p N)_B \otimes_B N' \rightarrow (F_p N)_B \otimes_B N'$$

is a quasi-isomorphism for all $p$. Repeating the argument with the admissible short exact sequences

$$0 \rightarrow F_p N \rightarrow F_{p+1} N \rightarrow F_{p+1} N/F_p N \rightarrow 0$$

we reduce to showing the same statement for $F_{p+1} N/F_p N$. Since these modules are direct sums of shifts of $(A \otimes_R B)_B$ we reduce to showing that

$$(A \otimes_R B)_B \otimes_B N' \rightarrow (A \otimes_R B)_B \otimes_B N'$$

is a quasi-isomorphism. Now we choose a quasi-isomorphism $P \rightarrow (A \otimes_R B)_B$ of differential graded $B$-modules where $P$ has property (P). Then we have to show that $P \otimes_B N' \rightarrow (A \otimes_R B)_B \otimes_B N'$ is a quasi-isomorphism because $P \otimes_B N'$ represents $(A \otimes_R B)_B \otimes_B N'$ by the construction in Lemma 24.2. As $N' = \text{colim} F_p N'$ we
find that it suffices to show that \( P \otimes_B F_pN' \to (A \otimes_R B)_B \otimes_B F_pN' \). Using the admissible short exact sequences \( 0 \to F_pN' \to F_{p+1}N' \to F_{p+1}N'/F_pN' \to 0 \) we reduce to showing that \( P \otimes_B F_{p+1}N'/F_pN' \to (A \otimes_R B)_B \otimes_B F_{p+1}N'/F_pN' \) is a quasi-isomorphism for all \( p \). Then finally using that \( F_{p+1}N'/F_pN' \) is a direct sum of shifts of \( B(B \otimes_R C)_C \) we conclude that it suffices to show that

\[
P \otimes_B B(B \otimes_R C)_C \to (A \otimes_R B)_B \otimes_B B(B \otimes_R C)_C
\]
is a quasi-isomorphism. Since \( P \to (A \otimes_R B)_B \) is a resolution by a module satisfying property (P) this map of differential graded \( C \)-modules represents the morphism (25.1.1) and the proof is complete. □

**Lemma 25.3.** Let \( R \) be a ring. Let \((A, d), (B, d), \) and \((C, d)\) be differential graded \( R \)-algebras. If \( C \) is K-flat as a complex of \( R \)-modules, then (25.1.1) is an isomorphism and the conclusion of Lemma 25.2 is valid.

**Proof.** Choose a quasi-isomorphism \( P \to (A \otimes_R B)_B \) of differential graded \( B \)-modules, where \( P \) has property (P). Then we have to show that

\[
P \otimes_B (B \otimes_R C) \to (A \otimes_R B)_B \otimes_B (B \otimes_R C)
\]
is a quasi-isomorphism. Equivalently we are looking at

\[
P \otimes_R C \to A \otimes_R B \otimes_R C
\]
This is a quasi-isomorphism if \( C \) is K-flat as a complex of \( R \)-modules by More on Algebra, Lemma [57.4]. □

### 26. Variant of derived tensor product

Let \((\mathcal{C}, \mathcal{O})\) be a ringed site. Then we have the functors

\[
\text{Comp}(\mathcal{O}) \to K(\mathcal{O}) \to D(\mathcal{O})
\]
and as we’ve seen above we have differential graded enhancement \( \text{Comp}^{dg}(\mathcal{O}) \). Namely, this is the differential graded category of Example [19.6] associated to the abelian category \( \text{Mod}(\mathcal{O}) \). Let \( K^\bullet \) be a complex of \( \mathcal{O} \)-modules in other words, an object of \( \text{Comp}^{dg}(\mathcal{O}) \). Set

\[
(E, d) = \text{Hom}_{\text{Comp}^{dg}(\mathcal{O})}(K^\bullet, K^\bullet)
\]
This is a differential graded \( \mathbb{Z} \)-algebra. We claim there is an analogue of the derived base change in this situation.

**Lemma 26.1.** In the situation above there is a functor

\[
- \otimes_K K^\bullet : \text{Mod}^{dg}_{(E, d)}(\mathcal{O}) \to \text{Comp}^{dg}(\mathcal{O})
\]
of differential graded categories. This functor sends \( E \) to \( K^\bullet \) and commutes with direct sums.

**Proof.** Let \( M \) be a differential graded \( E \)-module. For every object \( U \) of \( \mathcal{C} \) the complex \( K^\bullet(U) \) is a left differential graded \( E \)-module as well as a right \( \mathcal{O}(U) \)-module. The actions commute, so we have a bimodule. Thus, by the constructions in Section 23 we can form the tensor product

\[
M \otimes_E K^\bullet(U)
\]
which is a differential graded \( \mathcal{O}(U) \)-module, i.e., a complex of \( \mathcal{O}(U) \)-modules. This construction is functorial with respect to \( U \), hence we can sheafify to get a complex of \( \mathcal{O} \)-modules which we denote

\[
M \otimes_E K^\bullet
\]

Moreover, for each \( U \) the construction determines a functor \( \text{Mod}^d_{(E, d)} \to \text{Comp}^d(\mathcal{O}(U)) \) of differential graded categories by Lemma \ref{lem:extension}. It is therefore clear that we obtain a functor as stated in the lemma. \( \square \)

**Lemma 26.2.** The functor of Lemma \ref{lem:extension} defines an exact functor of triangulated categories \( K(\text{Mod}_{(E, d)}) \to K(\mathcal{O}) \).

**Proof.** The functor induces a functor between homotopy categories by Lemma \ref{lem:exact}. We have to show that \( - \otimes_E K^\bullet \) transforms distinguished triangles into distinguished triangles. Suppose that \( 0 \to K \to L \to M \to 0 \) is an admissible short exact sequence of differential graded \( E \)-modules. Let \( s : M \to L \) be a graded \( E \)-module homomorphism which is left inverse to \( L \to M \). Then \( s \) defines a map \( M \otimes_E K^\bullet \to L \otimes_E K^\bullet \) of graded \( \mathcal{O} \)-modules (i.e., respecting \( \mathcal{O} \)-module structure and grading, but not differentials) which is left inverse to \( L \otimes_E K^\bullet \to M \otimes_E K^\bullet \). Thus we see that

\[
0 \to K \otimes_E K^\bullet \to L \otimes_E K^\bullet \to M \otimes_E K^\bullet \to 0
\]

is a termwise split short exact sequences of complexes, i.e., \( - \) defines a distinguished triangle in \( K(\mathcal{O}) \). \( \square \)

**Lemma 26.3.** The functor \( K(\text{Mod}_{(E, d)}) \to K(\mathcal{O}) \) of Lemma \ref{lem:extension} has a left derived version defined on all of \( D(E, d) \). We denote it \( - \otimes^L_E K^\bullet : D(E, d) \to D(\mathcal{O}) \).

**Proof.** We will use Derived Categories, Lemma \ref{lem:derived} to prove this. As our collection \( \mathcal{P} \) of objects we will use the objects with property (P). Property (1) was shown in Lemma \ref{lem:polynomial}. Property (2) holds because if \( s : P \to P' \) is a quasi-isomorphism of modules with property (P), then \( s \) is a homotopy equivalence by Lemma \ref{lem:polynomial}. \( \square \)

**Lemma 26.4.** Let \( R \) be a ring. Let \( C \) be a site. Let \( \mathcal{O} \) be a sheaf of commutative \( R \)-algebras. Let \( K^\bullet \) be a complex of \( \mathcal{O} \)-modules. The functor of Lemma \ref{lem:extension} has the following property: For every \( M, N \) in \( D(E, d) \) there is a canonical map

\[
R\text{Hom}(M, N) \to R\text{Hom}_{\mathcal{O}}(M \otimes^L_E K^\bullet, N \otimes^L_E K^\bullet)
\]

in \( D(R) \) which on cohomology modules gives the maps

\[
\text{Ext}^n_{D(E, d)}(M, N) \to \text{Ext}^n_{D(\mathcal{O})}(M \otimes^L_E K^\bullet, N \otimes^L_E K^\bullet)
\]

induced by the functor \( - \otimes^L_E K^\bullet \).

**Proof.** The right hand side of the arrow is the global derived hom introduced in Cohomology on Sites, Section \ref{sec:cohomology} which has the correct cohomology modules. For the left hand side we think of \( M \) as a \((R, A)\)-bimodule and we have the derived Hom introduced in Section \ref{sec:derived} which also has the correct cohomology modules. To prove the lemma we may assume \( M \) and \( N \) are differential graded \( E \)-modules with property (P); this does not change the left hand side of the arrow by Lemma \ref{lem:derived}. By Lemma \ref{lem:derived} this means that the left hand side of the arrow becomes \( \text{Hom}^d_{\text{Mod}^d_{(E, d)}}(M, N) \). In Lemmas \ref{lem:extension}, \ref{lem:extension} and \ref{lem:extension} we have constructed a functor

\[
- \otimes_E K^\bullet : \text{Mod}^d_{(E, d)} \to \text{Comp}^d(\mathcal{O})
\]
Let $\text{Mod}^{dg}_{(E,\mathcal{O})}$ be a ringed site. Let $K^\bullet$ be a complex of $\mathcal{O}$-modules. Then the functors
d of Lemma 26.3 and
\[ R\text{Hom}(K^\bullet, -) : D(\mathcal{O}) \to D(E, d) \]
of Lemma 22.7 are adjoint.

**Proof.** The statement means that we have
\[ \text{Hom}_{D(E, d)}(M, R\text{Hom}(K^\bullet, L^\bullet)) = \text{Hom}_{D(\mathcal{O})}(M \otimes E K^\bullet, L^\bullet) \]
bifunctorially in $M$ and $L^\bullet$. To see this we may replace $M$ by a differential graded $E$-module $P$ with property (P). We also may replace $L^\bullet$ by a $K$-injective complex of $\mathcal{O}$-modules $P^\bullet$. The computation of the derived functors given in the lemmas referenced in the statement combined with Lemma 15.3 translates the above into
\[ \text{Hom}_{K(\text{Mod}_{(E, d)})}(P, \text{Hom}_{E}(K^\bullet, L^\bullet)) = \text{Hom}_{K(\mathcal{O})}(P \otimes E K^\bullet, L^\bullet) \]
where $\mathcal{B} = \text{Comp}^{dg}(\mathcal{O})$. There is an evaluation map from right to left functorial in $P$ and $L^\bullet$ (details omitted). Choose a filtration $F_\bullet$ on $P$ as in the definition of property (P). By Lemma 13.1 and the fact that both sides of the equation are homological functors in $P$ on $K(\text{Mod}_{(E, d)})$ we reduce to the case where $P$ is replaced by the differential graded $E$-module $\bigoplus F_i P$. Since both sides turn direct sums in the variable $P$ into direct products we reduce to the case where $P$ is one of the differential graded $E$-modules $F_i P$. Since each $F_i P$ has a finite filtration (given by admissible monomorphisms) whose graded pieces are graded projective $E$-modules we reduce to the case where $P$ is a graded projective $E$-module. In this case we clearly have
\[ \text{Hom}_{\text{Mod}^{dg}_{(E, d)}}(P, \text{Hom}_{E}(K^\bullet, L^\bullet)) = \text{Hom}_{\text{Comp}^{dg}(\mathcal{O})}(P \otimes E K^\bullet, L^\bullet) \]
as graded $\mathbb{Z}$-modules (because this statement reduces to the case $P = E[k]$ where it is obvious). As the isomorphism is compatible with differentials we conclude. □

**Lemma 26.6.** Let $(\mathcal{C}, \mathcal{O})$ be a ringed site. Let $K^\bullet$ be a complex of $\mathcal{O}$-modules. Assume

1. $K^\bullet$ represents a compact object of $D(\mathcal{O})$, and
2. $E = \text{Hom}_{\text{Comp}^{dg}(\mathcal{O})}(K^\bullet, K^\bullet)$ computes the ext groups of $K^\bullet$ in $D(\mathcal{O})$.

Then the functor
d of Lemma 26.3 is fully faithful.
Proof. Because our functor has a left adjoint given by \( R\text{Hom}(K^\bullet, -) \) by Lemma 26.5, it suffices to show for a differential graded \( E \)-module \( M \) that the map

\[
H^0(M) \rightarrow \text{Hom}_{D(\mathcal{O})}(K^\bullet, M \otimes^L_E K^\bullet)
\]

is an isomorphism. We may assume that \( M = P \) is a differential graded \( E \)-module which has property \((P)\). Since \( K^\bullet \) defines a compact object, we reduce using Lemma 13.1 to the case where \( P \) has a finite filtration whose graded pieces are direct sums of \( E[k] \). Again using compactness we reduce to the case \( P = E[k] \). The assumption on \( K^\bullet \) is that the result holds for these. \(\square\)

27. Characterizing compact objects

Compact objects of additive categories are defined in Derived Categories, Definition 34.1. In this section we characterize compact objects of the derived category of a differential graded algebra.

Remark 27.1. Let \( (A, d) \) be a differential graded algebra. Is there a characterization of those differential graded \( A \)-modules \( P \) for which we have

\[
\text{Hom}_{K(A,d)}(P, M) = \text{Hom}_{D(A,d)}(P, M)
\]

for all differential graded \( A \)-modules \( M \)? Let \( D \subset K(A,d) \) be the full subcategory whose objects are the objects \( P \) satisfying the above. Then \( D \) is a strictly full saturated triangulated subcategory of \( K(A,d) \). If \( P \) is projective as a graded \( A \)-module, then to see where \( P \) is an object of \( D \) it is enough to check that \( \text{Hom}_{K(A,d)}(P, M) = 0 \) whenever \( M \) is acyclic. However, in general it is not enough to assume that \( P \) is projective as a graded \( A \)-module. Example: take \( A = R = k[\epsilon] \) where \( k \) is a field and \( k[\epsilon] = k[x]/(x^2) \) is the ring of dual numbers. Let \( P \) be the object with \( P^n = R \) for all \( n \in \mathbb{Z} \) and differential given by multiplication by \( \epsilon \). Then \( \text{id}_P \in \text{Hom}_{K(A,d)}(P, P) \) is a nonzero element but \( P \) is acyclic.

Remark 27.2. Let \( (A, d) \) be a differential graded algebra. Let us say a differential graded \( A \)-module \( M \) is finite if \( M \) is generated, as a right \( A \)-module, by finitely many elements. If \( P \) is a differential graded \( A \)-module which is finite graded projective, then we can ask: Does \( P \) give a compact object of \( D(A, d) \)? Presumably, this is not true in general, but we do not know a counter example. However, if \( P \) is also an object of the category \( D \) of Remark 27.1, then this is the case (this follows from the fact that direct sums in \( D(A, d) \) are given by direct sums of modules; details omitted).

Lemma 27.3. Let \( (A, d) \) be a differential graded algebra. Let \( E \) be a compact object of \( D(A, d) \). Let \( P \) be a differential graded \( A \)-module which has a finite filtration

\[
0 = F_{-1}P \subset F_0P \subset F_1P \subset \ldots \subset F_nP = P
\]

by differential graded submodules such that

\[
F_{i+1}P/F_iP \cong \bigoplus_{j \in J_i} A[k_{i,j}]
\]

as differential graded \( A \)-modules for some sets \( J_i \) and integers \( k_{i,j} \). Let \( E \rightarrow P \) be a morphism of \( D(A, d) \). Then there exists a differential graded submodule \( P' \subset P \) such that \( F_{i+1}P \cap P'/(F_iP \cap P') \) is equal to \( \bigoplus_{j \in J_i} A[k_{i,j}] \) for some finite subsets \( J'_i \subset J_i \) and such that \( E \rightarrow P \) factors through \( P' \).
Proof. We will prove by induction on $-1 \leq m \leq n$ that there exists a differential graded submodule $P' \subset P$ such that

1. $F_m P \subset P'$,
2. for $i \geq m$ the quotient $F_{i+1} P \cap P' / (F_i P \cap P')$ is isomorphic to $\bigoplus_{j \in J_i} A[k_{i,j}]$ for some finite subsets $J_i \subset J$, and
3. $E \to P$ factors through $P'$.

The base case is $m = n$ where we can take $P' = P$.

Induction step. Assume $P'$ works for $m$. For $i \geq m$ and $j \in J_i$ let $x_{i,j} \in F_{i+1} P \cap P'$ be a homogeneous element of degree $k_{i,j}$ whose image in $F_{i+1} P \cap P' / (F_i P \cap P')$ is the generator in the summand corresponding to $j \in J_i$. The $x_{i,j}$ generate $P' / F_m P$ as an $A$-module. Write

$$d(x_{i,j}) = \sum x_{i',j'} a_{i,j}^{i',j'} + \eta_{i,j}$$

with $y_{i,j} \in F_m P$ and $a_{i,j}^{i',j'} \in A$. There exists a finite subset $J_{m-1} \subset J_{m-1}$ such that each $y_{i,j}$ maps to an element of the submodule $\bigoplus_{j \in J_{m-1}} A[k_{m-1,j}]$ of $F_m P / F_{m-1} P$. Let $P'' \subset F_m P$ be the inverse image of $\bigoplus_{j \in J_{m-1}} A[k_{m-1,j}]$ under the map $F_m P \to F_m P / F_{m-1} P$. Then we see that the $A$-submodule

$$P'' + \sum x_{i,j} A$$

is a differential graded submodule of the type we are looking for. Moreover

$$P' / (P'' + \sum x_{i,j} A) = \bigoplus_{j \in J_{m-1} \setminus J_{m-1}} A[k_{m-1,j}]$$

Since $E$ is compact, the composition of the given map $E \to P'$ with the quotient map, factors through a finite direct sum of the module displayed above. Hence after enlarging $J_{m-1}$ we may assume $E \to P'$ factors through $P'' + \sum x_{i,j} A$ as desired. \Box

It is not true that every compact object of $D(A, d)$ comes from a finite graded projective differential graded $A$-module, see Examples, Section 6.1.

**Proposition 27.4.** Let $(A, d)$ be a differential graded algebra. Let $E$ be an object of $D(A, d)$. Then the following are equivalent

1. $E$ is a compact object,
2. $E$ is a direct summand of an object of $D(A, d)$ which is represented by a differential graded module $P$ which has a finite filtration $F_\bullet$ by differential graded submodules such that $F_i P / F_{i-1} P$ are finite direct sums of shifts of $A$.

**Proof.** Assume $E$ is compact. By Lemma 13.4 we may assume that $E$ is represented by a differential graded $A$-module $P$ with property (P). Consider the distinguished triangle

$$\bigoplus F_i P \to \bigoplus F_i P \to P \xrightarrow{\delta} \bigoplus F_i P[1]$$

coming from the admissible short exact sequence of Lemma 13.1. Since $E$ is compact we have $\delta = \sum_{i=1}^n \delta_i$, for some $\delta_i : P \to F_i P[1]$. Since the composition of $\delta$ with the map $\bigoplus F_i P[1] \to \bigoplus F_i P[1]$ is zero (Derived Categories, Lemma 4.1) it follows that $\delta = 0$ (follows as $\bigoplus F_i P \to \bigoplus F_i P$ maps the summand $F_i P$ via the difference of id and the inclusion map into $F_{i-1} P$). Thus we see that the identity on $E$ factors...
Let $P$ be a differential graded algebra. Assume (2). By Derived Categories, Lemma 34.2 it suffices to show that $P$ has property (P), hence we have
\[
\text{Hom}_{D(A,d)}(P,M) = \text{Hom}_{\mathcal{K}(A,d)}(P,M)
\]
for any differential graded module $M$ by Lemma 15.3. As direct sums in $D(A,d)$ are given by direct sums of graded modules (Lemma 15.4) we reduce to showing that $\text{Hom}_{\mathcal{K}(A,d)}(P,M)$ commutes with direct sums. Using that $K(A,d)$ is a triangulated category, that $\text{Hom}$ is a cohomological functor in the first variable, and the filtration on $P$, we reduce to the case that $P$ is a finite direct sum of shifts of $A$. Thus we reduce to the case $P = A[k]$ which is clear.

**Lemma 27.5.** Let $(A, d)$ be a differential graded algebra. For every compact object $E$ of $D(A, d)$ there exist integers $a \leq b$ such that $\text{Hom}_{D(A,d)}(E, M) = 0$ if $H^i(M) = 0$ for $i \in [a, b]$.

**Proof.** Observe that the collection of objects of $D(A, d)$ for which such a pair of integers exists is a saturated, strictly full triangulated subcategory of $D(A, d)$. Thus by Proposition 27.4 it suffices to prove this when $E$ is represented by a differential graded module $P$ which has a finite filtration $F_\bullet$ by differential graded submodules such that $F_iP/F_{i-1}P$ are finite direct sums of shifts of $A$. Using the compatibility with triangles, we see that it suffices to prove it for $P = A$. In this case $\text{Hom}_{D(A,d)}(A, M) = H^0(M)$ and the result holds with $a = b = 0$.

If $(A, d)$ is just an algebra placed in degree 0 with zero differential or more generally lives in only a finite number of degrees, then we do obtain the more precise description of compact objects.

**Lemma 27.6.** Let $(A, d)$ be a differential graded algebra. Assume that $A^n = 0$ for $|n| \gg 0$. Let $E$ be an object of $D(A, d)$. The following are equivalent

1. $E$ is a compact object, and
2. $E$ can be represented by a differential graded $A$-module $P$ which is finite projective as a graded $A$-module and satisfies $\text{Hom}_{\mathcal{K}(A,d)}(P, M) = \text{Hom}_{D(A,d)}(P, M)$ for every differential graded $A$-module $M$.

**Proof.** Let $D \subset K(A,d)$ be the triangulated subcategory discussed in Remark 27.1. Let $P$ be an object of $D$ which is finite projective as a graded $A$-module. Then $P$ represents a compact object of $D(A, d)$ by Remark 27.2.

To prove the converse, let $E$ be a compact object of $D(A, d)$. Fix $a \leq b$ as in Lemma 27.5. After decreasing $a$ and increasing $b$ if necessary, we may also assume that $H^i(E) = 0$ for $i \notin [a, b]$ (this follows from Proposition 27.4 and our assumption on $A$). Moreover, fix an integer $c > 0$ such that $A^n = 0$ if $|n| \geq c$.

By Proposition 27.4 we see that $E$ is a direct summand, in $D(A, d)$, of a differential graded $A$-module $P$ which has a finite filtration $F_\bullet$ by differential graded submodules such that $F_iP/F_{i-1}P$ are finite direct sums of shifts of $A$. In particular, $P$
has property (P) and we have $\text{Hom}_{D(A,d)}(P, M) = \text{Hom}_{K(A,d)}(P, M)$ for any differential graded module $M$ by Lemma [15.3]. In other words, $P$ is an object of the triangulated subcategory $D \subset K(A,d)$ discussed in Remark 27.1. Note that $P$ is finite free as a graded $A$-module.

Choose $n > 0$ such that $b + 4c - n < a$. Represent the projector onto $E$ by an endomorphism $\varphi : P \to P$ of differential graded $A$-modules. Consider the distinguished triangle

$$P \xrightarrow{1 - \varphi} P \to C \to P[1]$$

in $K(A,d)$ where $C$ is the cone of the first arrow. Then $C$ is an object of $D$, we have $C \cong E \oplus E[1]$ in $D(A,d)$, and $C$ is a finite graded free $A$-module. Next, consider a distinguished triangle

$$C[1] \to C \to C' \to C[2]$$

in $K(A,d)$ where $C'$ is the cone on a morphism $C[1] \to C$ representing the composition


in $D(A,d)$. Then we see that $C'$ represents $E \oplus E[2]$. Continuing in this manner we see that we can find a differential graded $A$-module $P$ which is an object of $D$, is a finite free as a graded $A$-module, and represents $E \oplus E[n]$.

Choose a basis $x_i, i \in I$ of homogeneous elements for $P$ as an $A$-module. Let $d_i = \deg(x_i)$. Let $P_1$ be the $A$-submodule of $P$ generated by $x_i$ and $d(x_i)$ for $d_i \leq a - c - 1$. Let $P_2$ be the $A$-submodule of $P$ generated by $x_i$ and $d(x_i)$ for $d_i \geq b - n + c$. We observe

1. $P_1$ and $P_2$ are differential graded submodules of $P$,
2. $P^t_1 = 0$ for $t \geq a$,
3. $P^t_1 = P^t$ for $t \leq a - 2c$,
4. $P^t_2 = 0$ for $t \leq b - n$,
5. $P^t_2 = P^t$ for $t \geq b - n + 2c$.

As $b - n + 2c \geq a - 2c$ by our choice of $n$ we obtain a short exact sequence of differential graded $A$-modules

$$0 \to P_1 \cap P_2 \to P_1 \oplus P_2 \xrightarrow{s} P \to 0$$

Since $P$ is projective as a graded $A$-module this is an admissible short exact sequence (Lemma [11.1]). Hence we obtain a boundary map $\delta : P \to (P_1 \cap P_2)[1]$ in $K(A,d)$, see Lemma [7.2]. Since $P = E \oplus E[n]$ and since $P_1 \cap P_2$ lives in degrees $(b - n, a)$ we find that $\text{Hom}_{D(I,A,d)}(E \oplus E[n], (P_1 \cap P_2)[1])$ is zero. Therefore $\delta = 0$ as a morphism in $K(A,d)$ as $P$ is an object of $D$. By Derived Categories, Lemma [4.10] we can find a map $s : P \to P_1 \oplus P_2$ such that $\pi \circ s = \text{id}_P + dh + hd$ for some $h : P \to P$ of degree $-1$. Since $P_1 \oplus P_2 \to P$ is surjective and since $P$ is projective as a graded $A$-module we can choose a homogeneous lift $\tilde{s} : P \to P_1 \oplus P_2$ of $h$. Then we change $s$ into $s + dh + hd$ to get $\pi \circ s = \text{id}_P$. This means we obtain a direct sum decomposition $P = s^{-1}(P_1) \oplus s^{-1}(P_2)$. Since $s^{-1}(P_2)$ is equal to $P$ in degrees $\geq b - n + 2c$ we see that $s^{-1}(P_2) \to P \to E$ is a quasi-isomorphism, i.e., an isomorphism in $D(A,d)$. This finishes the proof.
28. Equivalences of derived categories

Let $R$ be a ring. Let $(A, d)$ and $(B, d)$ be differential graded $R$-algebras. A natural question that arises in nature is what it means that $D(A, d)$ is equivalent to $D(B, d)$ as an $R$-linear triangulated category. This is a rather subtle question and it will turn out it isn’t always the correct question to ask. Nonetheless, in this section we collection some conditions that guarantee this is the case.

We strongly urge the reader to take a look at the groundbreaking paper [Ric89] on this topic.

**Lemma 28.1.**  
Let $R$ be a ring. Let $(A, d) \to (B, d)$ be a homomorphism of differential graded algebras over $R$, which induces an isomorphism on cohomology algebras. Then

$$- \otimes^L_A B : D(A, d) \to D(B, d)$$

gives an $R$-linear equivalence of triangulated categories with quasi-inverse the restriction functor $N \mapsto N_A$.

**Proof.** By Lemma 24.6 the functor $M \mapsto M \otimes^L_A B$ is fully faithful. By Lemma 24.4 the functor $N \mapsto R\text{Hom}(B, N) = N_A$ is a right adjoint, see Example 24.5. It is clear that the kernel of $R\text{Hom}(B, -)$ is zero. Hence the result follows from Derived Categories, Lemma 7.2. □

When we analyze the proof above we see that we obtain the following generalization for free.

**Lemma 28.2.**  
Let $R$ be a ring. Let $(A, d)$ and $(B, d)$ be differential graded algebras over $R$. Let $N$ be an $(A, B)$-bimodule which comes with a grading and a differential such that it is a differential graded module for both $A$ and $B$. Assume that

1. $N$ defines a compact object of $D(B, d)$,
2. if $N' \in D(B, d)$ and $\text{Hom}_{D(B, d)}(N, N'[n]) = 0$ for $n \in \mathbb{Z}$, then $N' = 0$, and
3. the map $H^k(A) \to \text{Hom}_{D(B, d)}(N, N[k])$ is an isomorphism for all $k \in \mathbb{Z}$.

Then

$$- \otimes^L_A N : D(A, d) \to D(B, d)$$

gives an $R$-linear equivalence of triangulated categories.

**Proof.** By Lemma 24.6 the functor $M \mapsto M \otimes^L_A N$ is fully faithful. By Lemma 24.4 the functor $N' \mapsto R\text{Hom}(N, N')$ is a right adjoint. By assumption (3) the kernel of $R\text{Hom}(N, -)$ is zero. Hence the result follows from Derived Categories, Lemma 7.2. □

**Remark 28.3.** In Lemma 28.2 we can replace condition (2) by the condition that $N$ is a classical generator for $D_{\text{compact}}(B, d)$, see Derived Categories, Proposition 34.6. Moreover, if we knew that $R\text{Hom}(N, B)$ is a compact object of $D(A, d)$, then it suffices to check that $N$ is a weak generator for $D_{\text{compact}}(B, d)$. We omit the proof; we will add it here if we ever need it in the Stacks project.

Sometimes the $B$-module $P$ in the lemma below is called an “$(A, B)$-tilting complex”.

**Lemma 28.4.** Let $R$ be a ring. Let $(A, d)$ and $(B, d)$ be differential graded $R$-algebras. Assume that $A = H^0(A)$. The following are equivalent

1. $D(A, d)$ and $D(B, d)$ are equivalent as $R$-linear triangulated categories, and
there exists an object $P$ of $D(B, d)$ such that

(a) $P$ is a compact object of $D(B, d)$,

(b) if $N \in D(B, d)$ with $\text{Hom}_{D(B, d)}(P, N[i]) = 0$ for $i \in \mathbb{Z}$, then $N = 0$,

(c) $\text{Hom}_{D(B, d)}(P, P[i]) = 0$ for $i \neq 0$ and equal to $A$ for $i = 0$.

The equivalence $D(A, d) \to D(B, d)$ constructed in (2) sends $A$ to $P$.

**Proof.** Let $F : D(A, d) \to D(B, d)$ be an equivalence. Then $F$ maps compact objects to compact objects. Hence $P = F(A)$ is compact, i.e., (2)(a) holds. Conditions (2)(b) and (2)(c) are immediate from the fact that $F$ is an equivalence.

Let $P$ be an object as in (2). Represent $P$ by a differential graded module with property (P). Set

$$(E, d) = \text{Hom}^{dg}_P(P, P)$$

Then $H^k(E) = A$ and $H^k(E) = 0$ for $k \neq 0$ by Lemma 15.3 and assumption (2)(c).

Viewing $P$ as a $(E, B)$-bimodule and using Lemma 28.2 and assumption (2)(b) we obtain an equivalence

$$D(E, d) \to D(B, d)$$

sending $E$ to $P$. Let $E' \subset E$ be the differential graded $R$-subalgebra with

$$(E')^i = \begin{cases} 
E^i & \text{if } i < 0 \\
\text{Ker}(E^0 \to E^1) & \text{if } i = 0 \\
0 & \text{if } i > 0
\end{cases}$$

Then there are quasi-isomorphisms of differential graded algebras $(A, d) \to (E', d) \to (E, d)$. Thus we obtain equivalences

$$D(A, d) \leftarrow D(E', d) \to D(E, d) \to D(B, d)$$

by Lemma 28.1. □

**Remark 28.5.** Let $R$ be a ring. Let $(A, d)$ and $(B, d)$ be differential graded $R$-algebras. Suppose given an $R$-linear equivalence

$$F : D(A, d) \to D(B, d)$$

of triangulated categories. Set $N = F(A)$. Then $N$ is a differential graded $B$-module. Since $F$ is an equivalence and $A$ is a compact object of $D(A, d)$, we conclude that $N$ is a compact object of $D(B, d)$. Since $A$ generates $D(A, d)$ and $F$ is an equivalence, we see that $N$ generates $D(B, d)$. Finally, $H^k(A) = \text{Hom}_{D(A, d)}(A, A[k])$ and as $F$ an equivalence we see that $F$ induces an isomorphism $H^k(A) = \text{Hom}_{D(B, d)}(N, N[k])$ for all $k$. In order to conclude that there is an equivalence $D(A, d) \to D(B, d)$ which arises from the construction in Lemma 28.2 all we need is a left $A$-module structure on $N$ compatible with derivation and commuting with the given right $B$-module structure. In fact, it suffices to do this after replacing $N$ by a quasi-isomorphic differential graded $B$-module. The module structure can be constructed in certain cases. For example, if we assume that $F$ can be lifted to a differential graded functor

$$F^{dg} : \text{Mod}^{dg}_{(A, d)} \to \text{Mod}^{dg}_{(B, d)}$$

(for notation see Example 19.8) between the associated differential graded categories, then this holds. Another case is discussed in the proposition below.
Proposition 28.6. Let $R$ be a ring. Let $(A, d)$ and $(B, d)$ be differential graded $R$-algebras. Let $F : D(A, d) \to D(B, d)$ be an $R$-linear equivalence of triangulated categories. Assume that

1. $A = H^0(A)$, and
2. $B$ is $K$-flat as a complex of $R$-modules.

Then there exists an $(A, B)$-bimodule $N$ as in Lemma 28.3.

Proof. As in Remark 28.5 above, we set $N = F(A)$ in $D(B, d)$. We may assume that $N$ is a differential graded $B$-module with property (P). Set

$$(E, d) = \text{Hom}_{\text{Mod}^e_{(b, d)}}(N, N)$$

Then $H^0(E) = A$ and $H^k(E) = 0$ for $k \neq 0$ by Lemma 15.3. Moreover, by the discussion in Remark 28.5 and by Lemma 28.2 we see that $N$ as a $(E, B)$-bimodule induces an equivalence $- \otimes^L_E N : D(E, d) \to D(B, d)$. Let $E' \subset E$ be the differential graded $R$-subalgebra with

$$(E')^i = \begin{cases} E^i & \text{if } i < 0 \\ \ker(E^0 \to E^1) & \text{if } i = 0 \\ 0 & \text{if } i > 0 \end{cases}$$

Then there are quasi-isomorphisms of differential graded algebras $(A, d) \leftarrow (E', d) \to (E, d)$. Thus we obtain equivalences

$$D(A, d) \leftarrow D(E', d) \to D(E, d) \to D(B, d)$$

by Lemma 28.1. Note that the quasi-inverse $D(A, d) \to D(E', d)$ of the left vertical arrow is given by $M \mapsto M \otimes^L_A A$ where $A$ is viewed as a $A^{pp} \otimes_B E'$-module, see Example 24.5. On the other hand the functor $D(E', d) \to D(B, d)$ is given by $M \mapsto M \otimes^L_E N$ where $N$ is as above. We conclude by Lemma 25.3.

\[\square\]

Remark 28.7. Let $A, B, F, N$ be as in Proposition 28.6. It is not clear that $F$ and the functor $G(-) = - \otimes^L_A N$ are isomorphic. By construction there is an isomorphism $N = G(A) \to F(A)$ in $D(B, d)$. It is straightforward to extend this to a functorial isomorphism $G(M) \to F(M)$ for $M$ is a differential graded $A$-module which is graded projective (e.g., a sum of shifts of $A$). Then one can conclude that $G(M) \cong F(M)$ when $M$ is a cone of a map between such modules. We don’t know whether more is true in general.

Lemma 28.8. Let $R$ be a ring. Let $A$ and $B$ be $R$-algebras. The following are equivalent

1. there is an $R$-linear equivalence $D(A) \to D(B)$ of triangulated categories,
2. there exists an object $P$ of $D(B)$ such that
   (a) $P$ can be represented by a finite complex of finite projective $B$-modules,
   (b) if $K \in D(B)$ with $\text{Ext}^i_B(P, K) = 0$ for $i \in \mathbb{Z}$, then $K = 0$, and
   (c) $\text{Ext}^i_B(P, P) = 0$ for $i \neq 0$ and equal to $A$ for $i = 0$.

Moreover, if $B$ is flat as an $R$-module, then this is also equivalent to

3. there exists an $(A, B)$-bimodule $N$ such that $- \otimes^L_A N : D(A) \to D(B)$ is an equivalence.

Proof. The equivalence of (1) and (2) is a special case of Lemma 28.4 combined with the result of Lemma 27.6 characterizing compact objects of $D(B)$ (small detail omitted). The equivalence with (3) if $B$ is $R$-flat follows from Proposition 28.6. \[\square\]
09SD  **Remark 28.9.** Let $R$ be a ring. Let $A$ and $B$ be $R$-algebras. If $D(A)$ and $D(B)$ are equivalent as $R$-linear triangulated categories, then the centers of $A$ and $B$ are isomorphic as $R$-algebras. In particular, if $A$ and $B$ are commutative, then $A \cong B$. The rather tricky proof can be found in [Ric89, Proposition 9.2] or [KZ98, Proposition 6.3.2]. Another approach might be to use Hochschild cohomology (see remark below).

09ST  **Remark 28.10.** Let $R$ be a ring. Let $(A,d)$ and $(B,d)$ be differential graded $R$-algebras which are derived equivalent, i.e., such that there exists an $R$-linear equivalence $D(A,d) \rightarrow D(B,d)$ of triangulated categories. We would like to show that certain invariants of $(A,d)$ and $(B,d)$ coincide. In many situations one has more control of the situation. For example, it may happen that there is an equivalence of the form

$$- \otimes_A \Omega : D(A,d) \rightarrow D(B,d)$$

for some differential graded $A^{opp} \otimes_R B$-module $\Omega$ (this happens in the situation of Proposition 28.6 and is often true if the equivalence comes from a geometric construction). If also the quasi-inverse of our functor is given as

$$- \otimes_A^{opp} \Omega' : D(B,d) \rightarrow D(A,d)$$

for a differential graded $B^{opp} \otimes_R A$-module $\Omega'$ (and as before such a module $\Omega'$ often exists in practice) then we can consider the functor

$$D(A^{opp} \otimes_R A,d) \rightarrow D(B^{opp} \otimes_R B,d), \quad M \mapsto \Omega' \otimes_A^{opp} M \otimes_A^{opp} \Omega$$

Observe that this functor sends the $(A,A)$-bimodule $A$ to the $(B,B)$-bimodule $B$. Under suitable conditions (e.g., flatness of $A$, $B$, $\Omega$ over $R$, etc) this functor will be an equivalence as well. If this is the case, then it follows that we have isomorphisms of Hochschild cohomology groups

$$HH^i(A,d) = \text{Hom}_{D(A^{opp} \otimes_R A,d)}(A,A[i]) \rightarrow \text{Hom}_{D(B^{opp} \otimes_R B,d)}(B,B[i]) = HH^i(B,d).$$

For example, if $A = H^0(A)$, then $HH^0(A,d)$ is equal to the center of $A$, and this gives a conceptual proof of the result mentioned in Remark 28.9. If we ever need this remark we will provide a precise statement with a detailed proof here.

### 29. Resolutions of differential graded algebras

0BZ6  Let $R$ be a ring. Under our assumptions the free $R$-algebra $R\langle S \rangle$ on a set $S$ is the algebra with $R$-basis the expressions

$$s_1 s_2 \ldots s_n$$

where $n \geq 0$ and $s_1, \ldots, s_n \in S$ is a sequence of elements of $S$. Multiplication is given by concatenation

$$(s_1 s_2 \ldots s_n) \cdot (s'_1 s'_2 \ldots s'_m) = s_1 \ldots s_n s'_1 \ldots s'_m$$

This algebra is characterized by the property that the map

$$\text{Mor}_{R\text{-alg}}(R\langle S \rangle, A) \rightarrow \text{Map}(S, A), \quad \varphi \mapsto (s \mapsto \varphi(s))$$

is a bijection for every $R$-algebra $A$.

In the category of graded $R$-algebras our set $S$ should come with a grading, which we think of as a map $\deg : S \rightarrow \mathbb{Z}$. Then $R\langle S \rangle$ has a grading such that the monomials have degree

$$\deg(s_1 s_2 \ldots s_n) = \deg(s_1) + \ldots + \deg(s_n)$$
In this setting we have
\[ \text{Mor}_{\text{graded } R\text{-alg}}(R(S), A) \to \text{Map}_{\text{graded sets}}(S, A), \quad \varphi \mapsto (s \mapsto \varphi(s)) \]
is a bijection for every graded \( R \text{-algebra} \) \( A \).

If \( A \) is a graded \( R \text{-algebra} \) and \( S \) is a graded set, then we can similarly form \( A(S) \).
Elements of \( A(S) \) are sums of elements of the form
\[
a_0s_1a_1s_2 \ldots a_{n-1}s_na_n
\]
with \( a_i \in A \) modulo the relations that these expressions are \( R \text{-multilinear} \) in \((a_0, \ldots, a_n)\). Thus for every sequence \( s_1, \ldots, s_n \) of elements of \( S \) there is an inclusion
\[
A \otimes_R \cdots \otimes_R A \subset A(S)
\]
and the algebra is the direct sum of these. With this definition the reader shows that the map
\[
\text{Mor}_{\text{graded } R\text{-alg}}(A(S), B) \to \text{Mor}_{\text{graded } R\text{-alg}}(A, B) \times \text{Map}_{\text{graded sets}}(S, B),
\]
sending \( \varphi \) to \((\varphi|_A, (s \mapsto \varphi(s)))\) is a bijection for every graded \( R \text{-algebra} \) \( A \). We observe that if \( A \) was a free graded \( R \text{-algebra} \), then so is \( A(S) \).

Suppose that \( A \) is a differential graded \( R \text{-algebra} \) and that \( S \) is a graded set. Suppose moreover for every \( s \in S \) we are given a homogeneous element \( f_s \in A \) with \( \text{deg}(f_s) = \text{deg}(s) + 1 \) and \( df_s = 0 \). Then there exists a unique structure of differential graded algebra on \( A(S) \) with \( d(s) = f_s \). For example, given \( a, b, c \in A \) and \( s, t \in S \) we would define
\[
d(asbtc) = d(a)sbtc + (-1)^{\text{deg}(a)}af_sbtc + (-1)^{\text{deg}(a)+\text{deg}(s)}asd(bt)c
+ (-1)^{\text{deg}(a)+\text{deg}(s)+\text{deg}(b)}asbtfc + (-1)^{\text{deg}(a)+\text{deg}(s)+\text{deg}(b)+\text{deg}(t)}asbd(c)
\]
We omit the details.

0BZ7 Lemma 29.1. Let \( R \) be a ring. Let \((B, d)\) be a differential graded \( R \text{-algebra} \). There exists a quasi-isomorphism \((A, d) \to (B, d)\) of differential graded \( R \text{-algebras} \) with the following properties

1. \( A \) is \( K \text{-flat} \) as a complex of \( R \text{-modules} \),
2. \( A \) is a free graded \( R \text{-algebra} \).

Proof. First we claim we can find \((A_0, d) \to (B, d)\) having (1) and (2) inducing a surjection on cohomology. Namely, take a graded set \( S \) and for each \( s \in S \) a homogeneous element \( b_s \in \text{Ker}(d : B \to B) \) of degree \( \text{deg}(s) \) such that the classes \( \overline{b_s} \) in \( H^*(B) \) generate \( H^*(B) \) as an \( R \text{-module} \). Then we can set \( A_0 = R\langle S \rangle \) with zero differential and \( A_0 \to B \) given by mapping \( s \to b_s \).

Given \( A_0 \to B \) inducing a surjection on cohomology we construct a sequence
\[
A_0 \to A_1 \to A_2 \to \ldots B
\]
by induction. Given \( A_n \to B \) we set \( S_n \) be a graded set and for each \( s \in S_n \) we let \( a_s \in \text{Ker}(A_n \to A_n) \) be a homogeneous element of degree \( \text{deg}(s) + 1 \) mapping to a class \( \overline{a_s} \) in \( H^*(A_n) \) which maps to zero in \( H^*(B) \). We choose \( S_n \) large enough so that the elements \( \overline{a_s} \) generate \( \text{Ker}(H^*(A_n) \to H^*(B)) \) as an \( R \text{-module} \). Then we set
\[
A_{n+1} = A_n \langle S_n \rangle
\]
with differential given by $d(s) = a_s$, see discussion above. Then each $(A_n, d)$ satisfies (1) and (2), we omit the details. The map $H^*(A_n) \to H^*(B)$ is surjective as this was true for $n = 0$.

It is clear that $A = \text{colim} A_n$ is a free graded $R$-algebra. It is $K$-flat by More on Algebra, Lemma 57.10. The map $H^*(A) \to H^*(B)$ is an isomorphism as it is surjective and injective: every element of $H^*(A)$ comes from an element of $H^*(A_n)$ for some $n$ and if it dies in $H^*(B)$, then it dies in $H^*(A_{n+1})$ hence in $H^*(A)$. □

As an application we prove the “correct” version of Lemma 25.2.

**Lemma 29.2.** Let $R$ be a ring. Let $(A, d), (B, d)$, and $(C, d)$ be differential graded $R$-algebras. Assume $A \otimes_R C$ represents $A \otimes^L_R C$ in $D(R)$. Let $N$ be a differential graded $A^{opp} \otimes_R B$-module. Let $N'$ be a differential graded $B^{opp} \otimes_R C$-module. Then the composition

$$D(A, d) \xrightarrow{-\otimes^L_A N} D(B, d) \xrightarrow{-\otimes^L_B N'} D(C, d)$$

is isomorphic to $-\otimes^L_A N''$ for some differential graded $A^{opp} \otimes_R C$-module $N''$.

**Proof.** Using Lemma 28.1 we choose a quasi-isomorphism $(B', d) \to (B, d)$ with $B'$ K-flat as a complex of $R$-modules. By Lemma 29.1, the functor $-\otimes^L_B B : D(B', d) \to D(B, d)$ is an equivalence with quasi-inverse given by restriction. Note that restriction is canonically isomorphic to the functor $-\otimes^L_B B : D(B, d) \to D(B', d)$ where $B$ is viewed as a $(B, B')$-bimodule. Thus it suffices to prove the lemma for the compositions

$$D(A) \to D(B) \to D(B'), \quad D(B') \to D(B) \to D(C), \quad D(A) \to D(B') \to D(C).$$

The first one is Lemma 25.3 because $B'$ is K-flat as a complex of $R$-modules. The second one is true because $B \otimes^L_B N' = N' = B \otimes_B N'$ and hence Lemma 25.1 applies. Thus we reduce to the case where $B$ is K-flat as a complex of $R$-modules.

Assume $B$ is K-flat as a complex of $R$-modules. It suffices to show that $(25.1.1)$ is an isomorphism, see Lemma 25.2. Choose a quasi-isomorphism $L \to A$ where $L$ is a differential graded $R$-module which has property (P). Then it is clear that $P = L \otimes_R B$ has property (P) as a differential graded $B$-module. Hence we have to show that $P \to A \otimes_R B$ induces a quasi-isomorphism

$$P \otimes_B (B \otimes_R C) \to (A \otimes_R B) \otimes_B (B \otimes_R C)$$

We can rewrite this as

$$P \otimes_R B \otimes_R C \to A \otimes_R B \otimes_R C$$

Since $B$ is K-flat as a complex of $R$-modules, it follows from More on Algebra, Lemma 57.1, that it is enough to show that

$$P \otimes_R C \to A \otimes_R C$$

is a quasi-isomorphism, which is exactly our assumption. □

The following lemma does not really belong in this section, but there does not seem to be a good natural spot for it.

**Lemma 29.3.** Let $(A, d)$ be a differential graded algebra with $H^i(A)$ countable for each $i$. Let $M$ be an object of $D(A, d)$. Then the following are equivalent

1. $M = \text{hocolim} E_n$ with $E_n$ compact in $D(A, d)$, and
(2) \( H^i(M) \) is countable for each \( i \).

**Proof.** Assume (1) holds. Then we have \( H^i(M) = \operatorname{colim} H^i(E_n) \) by Derived Categories, Lemma 31.8. Thus it suffices to prove that \( H^i(E_n) \) is countable for each \( n \). By Proposition 27.4 we see that \( E_n \) is isomorphic in \( D(A, d) \) to a direct summand of a differential graded module \( P \) which has a finite filtration \( F \) by differential graded submodules such that \( F_i P/F_{i-1} P \) are finite direct sums of shifts of \( A \). By assumption the groups \( H^i(F_i P/F_{i-1} P) \) are countable. Arguing by induction on the length of the filtration and using the long exact cohomology sequence we conclude that (2) is true. The interesting implication is the other one.

We claim there is a countable differential graded subalgebra \( A' \subset A \) such that the inclusion map \( A' \to A \) defines an isomorphism on cohomology. To construct \( A' \) we choose countable differential graded subalgebras

\[
A_1 \subset A_2 \subset A_3 \subset \ldots
\]

such that (a) \( H^i(A_1) \to H^i(A) \) is surjective, and (b) for \( n > 1 \) the kernel of the map \( H^i(A_{n-1}) \to H^i(A_n) \) is the same as the kernel of the map \( H^i(A_{n-1}) \to H^i(A) \). To construct \( A_1 \) take any countable collection of cochains \( S \subset A \) generating the cohomology of \( A \) (as a ring or as a graded abelian group) and let \( A_1 \) be the differential graded subalgebra of \( A \) generated by \( S \). To construct \( A_n \) given \( A_{n-1} \) for each cochain \( a \in A_{n-1}^i \) which maps to zero in \( H^i(A) \) choose \( s_n \in A_{n-1}^{i-1} \) with \( d(s_n) = a \) and let \( A_n \) be the differential graded subalgebra of \( A \) generated by \( A_{n-1} \) and the elements \( s_n \). Finally, take \( A' = \bigcup A_n \).

By Lemma 28.1 the restriction map \( D(A, d) \to D(A', d), M \mapsto M_{A'} \) is an equivalence. Since the cohomology groups of \( M \) and \( M_{A'} \) are the same, we see that it suffices to prove the implication (2) \(\Rightarrow\) (1) for \( (A', d) \).

Assume \( A \) is countable. By the exact same type of argument as given above we see that for \( M \) in \( D(A, d) \) the following are equivalent: \( H^i(M) \) is countable for each \( i \) and \( M \) can be represented by a countable differential graded module. Hence in order to prove the implication (2) \(\Rightarrow\) (1) we reduce to the situation described in the next paragraph.

Assume \( A \) is countable and that \( M \) is a countable differential graded module over \( A \). We claim there exists a homomorphism \( P \to M \) of differential graded \( A \)-modules such that

1. \( P \to M \) is a quasi-isomorphism,
2. \( P \) has property (P), and
3. \( P \) is countable.

Looking at the proof of the construction of P-resolutions in Lemma 13.4 we see that it suffices to show that we can prove Lemma 13.3 in the setting of countable differential graded modules. This is immediate from the proof.

Assume that \( A \) is countable and that \( M \) is a countable differential graded module with property (P). Choose a filtration

\[
0 = F_{-1} P \subset F_0 P \subset F_1 P \subset \ldots \subset P
\]

by differential graded submodules such that we have

1. \( P = \bigcup F_i P \),
2. \( F_i P \to F_{i+1} P \) is an admissible monomorphism,
(3) isomorphisms of differential graded modules \( F_i P/F_{i-1} P \rightarrow \bigoplus_{j \in J_i} A[k_j] \) for some sets \( J_i \) and integers \( k_j \).

Of course \( J_i \) is countable for each \( i \). For each \( i \) and \( j \in J_i \) choose \( x_{i,j} \in F_i P \) of degree \( k_j \) whose image in \( F_i P/F_{i-1} P \) generates the summand corresponding to \( j \).

Claim: Given \( n \) and finite subsets \( S_i \subset J_i \), \( i = 1, \ldots, n \) there exist finite subsets \( S_i \subset T_i \subset J_i \), \( i = 1, \ldots, n \) such that \( P' = \bigoplus_{i \leq n} \bigoplus_{j \in T_i} A x_{i,j} \) is a differential graded submodule of \( P \). This was shown in the proof of Lemma 27.3 but it is also easily shown directly: the elements \( x_{i,j} \) freely generate \( P \) as a right \( A \)-module. The structure of \( P \) shows that \( d(x_{i,j}) = \sum_{i' < i} x_{i',j'} a_{i',j'} \) where of course the sum is finite. Thus given \( S_0, \ldots, S_n \) we can first choose \( S_0 \subset S_0', \ldots, S_{n-1} \subset S_{n-1}' \) with \( d(x_{n,j}) \in \bigoplus_{j' \in S_n'} x_{n,j'} A \) for all \( j \in S_n \). Then by induction on \( n \) we can choose \( S_0' \subset T_0, \ldots, S_{n-1}' \subset T_{n-1} \) to make sure that \( \bigoplus_{i' \in S_i', j' \in T_i} x_{i',j'} A \) is a differential graded \( A \)-submodule. Setting \( T_n = S_n \) we find that \( P = \bigoplus_{i \leq n} \bigoplus_{j \in T_i} x_{i,j} A \) is as desired.

From the claim it is clear that \( P = \bigcup P_n' \) is a countable rising union of \( P_n' \) as above. By construction each \( P_n' \) is a differential graded module with property (P) such that the filtration is finite and the successive quotients are finite direct sums of shifts of \( A \). Hence \( P_n' \) defines a compact object of \( D(A, d) \), see for example Proposition 27.4. Since \( P = \hocolim P_n' \) in \( D(A, d) \) by Lemma 16.2 the proof of the implication (2) \( \Rightarrow \) (1) is complete.

### 30. Other chapters

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