

The long exact sequence of Tor (a worked example)

Consider (*) $0 \rightarrow \mathbb{Z}/4 \xrightarrow{\cdot 2} \mathbb{Z}/8 \xrightarrow{\cdot 2} \mathbb{Z}/2 \rightarrow 0$ in $\mathbb{Z}\text{-mod}$ (exact). Tensor with $\mathbb{Z}/2$:

$$\mathbb{Z}/2 \xrightarrow{\cdot 2} \mathbb{Z}/2 \xrightarrow{\cdot 2} \mathbb{Z}/2 \rightarrow 0, \text{ i.e.,}$$

$$(**) \quad \mathbb{Z}/2 \xrightarrow{0} \mathbb{Z}/2 \xrightarrow{\cdot 1} \mathbb{Z}/2 \rightarrow 0 \quad (\text{no longer injective at the left})$$

To complete this to a long exact sequence using Tor, choose projective resolutions for the "outside groups in (*)

$$\begin{array}{ccc} 0 & 0 \\ \downarrow & \downarrow \\ \mathbb{Z} & \mathbb{Z} \\ \downarrow \cdot 4 & \downarrow \cdot 2 \\ \mathbb{Z} & \mathbb{Z} \\ \downarrow \cdot 4 & \downarrow \cdot 2 \\ 0 \rightarrow \mathbb{Z}/4 \xrightarrow{\cdot 2} \mathbb{Z}/8 \xrightarrow{\cdot 2} \mathbb{Z}/2 \rightarrow 0 \end{array}$$

Then, fill in the middle with their direct sums:

$$\begin{array}{ccccccc} 0 \rightarrow 0 & \xleftarrow{\text{incl}_1} & 0 \oplus 0 & \xrightarrow{\text{proj}_2} & 0 & \rightarrow 0 \\ \downarrow & & \downarrow & & \downarrow & \\ 0 \rightarrow \mathbb{Z} & \xleftarrow{\text{incl}_1} & \mathbb{Z} \oplus \mathbb{Z} & \xrightarrow{\text{proj}_2} & \mathbb{Z} & \rightarrow 0 \\ \downarrow \cdot 4 & & \downarrow \cdot 4 & & \downarrow \cdot 2 & \\ 0 \rightarrow \mathbb{Z} & \xleftarrow{\text{incl}_1} & \mathbb{Z} \oplus \mathbb{Z} & \xrightarrow{\text{proj}_2} & \mathbb{Z} & \rightarrow 0 \\ \downarrow \cdot 4 & & \downarrow \cdot 4 & & \downarrow \cdot 2 & \\ 0 \rightarrow \mathbb{Z}/4 & \xrightarrow{\cdot 2} & \mathbb{Z}/8 & \xrightarrow{\cdot 2} & \mathbb{Z}/2 & \rightarrow 0 \end{array}$$

Next we apply the Horseshoe Lemma to build a resolution in the middle. This means we use projectiveness to define green and blue maps, starting at the bottom, as follows:

- 1) Choose the bottom green map so that the diagram commutes.
- 2) Determine the bottom blue map so that the diagram commutes.
- 3) Choose the next green map into the kernel of the previous blue map.
- 4) Determine the next blue map so that the diagram commutes.
- 5) Repeat 3-4.

$$\begin{array}{ccccc} 0 \rightarrow 0 & \xleftarrow{\text{incl}_1} & 0 \oplus 0 & \xrightarrow{\text{proj}_2} & 0 \rightarrow 0 \\ \downarrow & & \downarrow (0,0) & & \downarrow \\ 0 \rightarrow \mathbb{Z} & \xleftarrow{\text{incl}_1} & \mathbb{Z} \oplus \mathbb{Z} & \xrightarrow{\text{proj}_2} & \mathbb{Z} \rightarrow 0 \\ \downarrow \cdot 4 & & \downarrow (c,d) & & \downarrow \cdot 2 \\ 0 \rightarrow \mathbb{Z} & \xleftarrow{\text{incl}_1} & \mathbb{Z} \oplus \mathbb{Z} & \xrightarrow{\text{proj}_2} & \mathbb{Z} \rightarrow 0 \\ \downarrow \cdot 4 & & \downarrow (a,b) & & \downarrow \cdot 2 \\ 0 \rightarrow \mathbb{Z}/4 & \xrightarrow{\cdot 2} & \mathbb{Z}/8 & \xrightarrow{\cdot 2} & \mathbb{Z}/2 \rightarrow 0 \end{array}$$

Now, forget the green maps and tensor with $\mathbb{Z}/2$:

$$\begin{array}{ccccc} 0 \rightarrow 0 & \xleftarrow{\text{incl}_1} & 0 \oplus 0 & \xrightarrow{\text{proj}_2} & 0 \rightarrow 0 \quad (\text{row 2}) \\ \downarrow & & \downarrow (0,0) & & \downarrow \\ 0 \rightarrow \mathbb{Z}/2 & \xleftarrow{\text{incl}_1} & \mathbb{Z}/2 \oplus \mathbb{Z}/2 & \xrightarrow{\text{proj}_2} & \mathbb{Z}/2 \rightarrow 0 \quad (\text{row 1}) \\ \downarrow \cdot 2 & & \downarrow (c,d) & & \downarrow \cdot 2 \\ 0 \rightarrow \mathbb{Z}/2 & \xleftarrow{\text{incl}_1} & \mathbb{Z}/2 \oplus \mathbb{Z}/2 & \xrightarrow{\text{proj}_2} & \mathbb{Z}/2 \rightarrow 0 \quad (\text{row 0}) \\ \downarrow \cdot 2 & & \downarrow b & & \downarrow \cdot 2 \\ 0 \rightarrow \mathbb{Z}/2 & \xrightarrow{0} & \mathbb{Z}/2 & \xrightarrow{1} & \mathbb{Z}/2 \rightarrow 0 \quad (0^{\text{th}} \text{ homologies}) \end{array}$$

The homologies of the vertical complexes (with the black bottom row omitted) are $\text{Tor}_n(\mathbb{Z}/4, \mathbb{Z}/2)$, $\text{Tor}_n(\mathbb{Z}/8, \mathbb{Z}/2)$ and $\text{Tor}_n(\mathbb{Z}/2, \mathbb{Z}/2)$. These we could have computed separately from any resolutions for $\mathbb{Z}/4$, $\mathbb{Z}/8$ and $\mathbb{Z}/2$ we wanted (no Horseshoe setup).

The snake lemma maps give us a long exact sequence of homologies (Tors). (this is the part we needed the Horseshoe setup for):

$$\begin{array}{ccccccc} \dots & \xrightarrow{\delta} & \text{Tor}_1(\mathbb{Z}/4, \mathbb{Z}/2) & \rightarrow & \text{Tor}_1(\mathbb{Z}/8, \mathbb{Z}/2) & \xrightarrow{\delta} & \mathbb{Z}/4 \otimes \mathbb{Z}/2 \rightarrow \mathbb{Z}/8 \otimes \mathbb{Z}/2 \rightarrow \mathbb{Z}/2 \otimes \mathbb{Z}/2 \rightarrow 0 \\ \dots & \longrightarrow & \mathbb{Z}/2 & \xrightarrow{\text{incl}_1} & \mathbb{Z}/2 \oplus 0 & \xrightarrow{\text{proj}_2} & \mathbb{Z}/2 \xrightarrow{1} \mathbb{Z}/2 \xrightarrow{0} \mathbb{Z}/2 \xrightarrow{1} \mathbb{Z}/2 \rightarrow 0 \\ \dots & \longrightarrow & \mathbb{Z}/2 & \xrightarrow{1} & \mathbb{Z}/2 & \xrightarrow{0} & \mathbb{Z}/2 \xrightarrow{1} \mathbb{Z}/2 \xrightarrow{0} \mathbb{Z}/2 \xrightarrow{1} \mathbb{Z}/2 \rightarrow 0 \end{array}$$