

Definitions abelian categories

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Definition 1:

In a category \mathcal{C} an object is called *null object* or *zero object* $\mathbf{0}$ if it is both initial and terminal. A category with zero objects is called *pointed category*.

Definition 2:

Let \mathcal{C} be a category with a zero object. The morphism $f : a \mapsto b$ is called *null morphism* if it factors through $\mathbf{0}$.

Definition 3:

For a pointed category \mathcal{C} the *kernel* of a morphism $f : A \mapsto B$ is the equalizer of f and $0_{a,b}$. The *cokernel* is the dual concept.

$$\begin{array}{ccccc}
 & & \overset{0_{K,B}}{\curvearrowright} & & \\
 & & \nearrow & & \\
 K & \xrightarrow{k} & A & \xrightarrow{f} & B \\
 \uparrow \exists! u & \nearrow k' & & & \\
 K' & & & &
 \end{array}$$

Definition 4:

A category is called *pre-additive* or *Ab-category* if every hom-set $\mathcal{C}(a, b)$ is an additive abelian group and composition is bilinear in a way that it distributes over the addition.

$$h \circ (f + g) = h \circ f + h \circ g \text{ and } (f + g) \circ h = f \circ h + g \circ h$$

Proposition 1: *Let z be an object of an Ab-category A . The following conditions are equivalent:*

- (i) z is initial.
- (ii) z is terminal.
- (iii) A has a zero object.

Definition 5:

Let A be an Ab-category. For objects $a, b \in A$ a biproduct is diagram $a \begin{array}{c} \xrightarrow{i_1} \\ \xleftarrow{p_1} \end{array} c \begin{array}{c} \xrightarrow{p_2} \\ \xleftarrow{i_2} \end{array} b$ that fulfils $p_1 i_1 = 1_a$, $p_2 i_2 = 1_b$, $i_1 p_1 + i_2 p_2 = 1_c$.

Proposition 2: *In an Ab-category the following statements are equivalent:*

- (i) The product of a, b exists.
- (ii) The coproduct of a, b exists.

(iii) The biproduct of a, b exists.

Definition 6:

An *additive category* is defined as a pre-additive category with a zero object and a biproduct for each pair of objects.

Definition 7:

If A, B are *Ab*-categories, a functor $F : A \mapsto B$ is *additive* when for all parallel arrows $f, f' : b \mapsto c$ in A

$$F(f + f') = F(f) + F(f')$$

holds, so F is a group homomorphism. The composite of additive functors is additive.

Proposition 3: F is additive if and only if F preserves biproducts.

Definition 8:

An *Ab*-category C is *abelian* if the following conditions are satisfied:

- (i) C has a zero object.
- (ii) C has a biproduct for each pair of objects.
- (iii) Every arrow has a kernel and a cokernel.
- (iv) Every monomorphism is a kernel and every epi is cokernel.

if it only fulfils the conditions (i)-(iii) it is *pre-abelian*.

Definition 9:

The *image* and *coimage* of a function is defined as

$$\text{im } f = \ker(\text{coker}(f)) \text{ and } \text{coim } f = \text{coker}(\ker(f))$$

Theorem 1: For an abelian category \mathcal{A} , every morphism has a factorization, $f = me$, where m is a monomorphism and e is an epimorphism. Moreover $m = \ker(\text{coker}(f))$ and $e = \text{coker}(\ker(f))$.

Definition 10:

A composable pair of arrows $\cdot \xrightarrow{f} b \xrightarrow{g} \cdot$ is called *exact at b* if $\text{im } f = \ker g$. A diagram

$$0 \longrightarrow a \xrightarrow{f} b \xrightarrow{g} c \longrightarrow 0$$

is called *short exact sequence* when it is exact at a, b and c .

Theorem 2 (five-lemma): If the rows of (1) are exact and f_1, f_2, f_4, f_5 are isomorphisms, so is f_3 .

$$\begin{array}{ccccccccc}
a_1 & \xrightarrow{g_1} & a_2 & \xrightarrow{g_2} & a_3 & \xrightarrow{g_3} & a_4 & \xrightarrow{g_4} & a_5 \\
\downarrow f_1 & & \downarrow f_2 & & \downarrow f_3 & & \downarrow f_4 & & \downarrow f_5 \\
b_1 & \xrightarrow{h_1} & b_2 & \xrightarrow{h_2} & b_3 & \xrightarrow{h_3} & b_4 & \xrightarrow{h_4} & a_5.
\end{array}$$

Theorem 3 (The Freyd-Mitchell embedding theorem): *Every small abelian category admits a full, faithful and exact functor to the category Mod_R for some Ring R .*