

Hochschild-Serre Spectral Sequence

Kevin Buzzard

June 11, 2013

Last modified 11/06/2013. Thanks to Laurent Berger and David Harari for pointing out independent blunders in earlier versions.

Let me try and push inf-res as far as it can reasonably go.

If N is a normal subgroup of a group G , and M is an abelian group with an action of G , then we have a spectral sequence

$$E_2^{i,j} = H^i(G/N, H^j(N, M)) \Rightarrow H^{i+j}(G, M).$$

Part of the associated big diagram is

$$\begin{array}{ccc}
 & H^2(N, M)^{G/N} & \\
 & \swarrow & \\
 H^1(N, M)^{G/N} & \xrightarrow{H^1(G/N, H^1(N, M))} & \\
 \swarrow & & \searrow \\
 M^G & \xrightarrow{H^1(G/N, M^N)} & H^2(G/N, M^N)
 \end{array}$$

and the associated long exact sequence of terms of low degree starts

$$\begin{aligned}
 & 0 \rightarrow H^1(G/N, M^N) \rightarrow H^1(G, M) \rightarrow H^1(N, M)^{G/N} \rightarrow H^2(G/N, M^N) \rightarrow \\
 & \rightarrow \ker(H^2(G, M) \rightarrow H^2(N, M)) \rightarrow H^1(G/N, H^1(N, M)) \rightarrow \ker(H^3(G/N, M^N) \rightarrow H^3(G, M)).
 \end{aligned}$$

That's supposed to be one long exact sequence but it didn't fit on one line – there's a map $H^2(G/N, M^N) \rightarrow \ker(H^2(G, M) \rightarrow H^2(N, M))$ and the whole sequence (seven non-zero terms) is supposed to be exact. Note that $\ker(H^2(G, M) \rightarrow H^2(N, M))$ is the kernel of the obvious restriction map. The proof that this sequence is exact is just an easy exercise, using the Hochschild–Serre spectral sequence.

Note that even if $G = N \times K$, a product, then *I have been told that the spectral sequence may not degenerate!*