

## COHOMOLOGY GROUPS OF A GROUPOID

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ABSTRACT. In this paper we construct a cohomology theory for Brandt groupoids which extends the usual cohomology theory for groups. We construct a cohomology theory for cochains of a Brandt groupoid  $\Gamma$  with values in an abelian group  $A$ . This construction was inspired by that of M. Hall [2] in the case of groups.

## 1. INTRODUCTION

In this section preliminary definitions regarding the category of groupoids and some important examples of groupoids are given.

DEFINITION 1.1 ([1]) *A groupoid  $\Gamma$  over  $\Gamma_0$  is a pair  $(\Gamma, \Gamma_0)$  endowed with:*

- a) two surjections  $\alpha$  and  $\beta$  (called the source, respectively target maps),  $\alpha, \beta : \Gamma \longrightarrow \Gamma_0$ ;*
- b) a product map  $m : \Gamma_2 \longrightarrow \Gamma, (x, y) \longrightarrow m(x, y)$  where  $\Gamma_2 = \{(x, y) \in \Gamma \times \Gamma \mid \beta(x) = \alpha(y)\}$  is a subset of  $\Gamma \times \Gamma$  called the set of composable pairs;*
- c) an injection  $\varepsilon : \Gamma_0 \longrightarrow \Gamma$  (identity),*
- d) an inverse map  $i : \Gamma \longrightarrow \Gamma$ ,*

*such that the following conditions are satisfied:*

- i) for  $(x, y); (y, z) \in \Gamma_2$  we have  $(m(x, y), z); (x, m(y, z)) \in \Gamma_2$  and  $m(m(x, y), z) = m(x, m(y, z))$  (associative law);*
- ii) for each  $x \in \Gamma$  we have  $(\varepsilon(\alpha(x)), x); (x, \varepsilon(\beta(x))) \in \Gamma_2$  and  $m(\varepsilon(\alpha(x)), x) = m(x, \varepsilon(\beta(x)))$  (identities);*
- iii) for each  $x \in \Gamma$  we have  $(i(x), x); (x, i(x)) \in \Gamma_2$  and  $m(x, i(x)) = \varepsilon(\alpha(x)); m(i(x), x) = \varepsilon(\beta(x))$  (inverses).*

EXAMPLE 1.1 Let  $\Gamma_0$  be an abstract set and  $\Gamma = \Gamma_0 \times \Gamma_0$ . It is easy to prove that  $\Gamma$  is a groupoid over  $\Gamma_0$  with the following structure:

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$$\begin{aligned}\alpha(x, y) &= x; \beta(x, y) = y \\ m((x, y), (y, z)) &= (x, z) \\ \varepsilon(x, x) &= x; \\ i(x, y) &= (y, x).\end{aligned}$$

where  $x, y, z \in \Gamma_0$ . The grupoid  $\Gamma$  is called the coarse groupoid.

**DEFINITION 1.2** *A groupoid  $\Gamma$  over  $\Gamma_0$  is called principal groupoid if the map:*

$$\alpha \times \beta : x \in \Gamma \longrightarrow (\alpha(x), \beta(x)) \in \Gamma_0 \times \Gamma_0$$

*is one-to-one.*

**EXAMPLE 1.2** Let  $B$  be a nonempty set and  $G$  a multiplicative group with the unit element  $e$ . Then  $B \times B \times G$  is a groupoid over  $B$  (called the trivial groupoid) with respect to the following structure:

$$\begin{aligned}\alpha(x, y, g) &= x; \beta(x, y, g) = y \\ m((x, y, g), (y, z, g')) &= (x, z, gg') \\ \varepsilon(u) &= (u, u, e); \\ i(x, y, g) &= (y, x, g^{-1}).\end{aligned}$$

In the particular case  $\Gamma = \{e\}$  it can be canonically identified with the coarse groupoid.

The following proposition gives some properties of the groupoids:

**PROPOSITION 1.1** *Let  $\Gamma$  be a groupoid over  $\Gamma_0$ . Then we have:*

- g1)  $\alpha \circ \varepsilon = \beta \circ \varepsilon = id$ ;
- g2)  $\alpha(m(x, y)) = \alpha(x)$  and  $\beta(m(x, y)) = \beta(y)$ ;
- g3) *If  $m(x, y_1) = m(x, y_2)$  or  $m(y_1, z) = m(y_2, z)$  then  $y_1 = y_2$ ;*
- g4) *For each  $x \in \Gamma_0$  we have  $m(\varepsilon(x), \varepsilon(x)) = \varepsilon(x)$ ;*
- g5)  $i \circ i = id_\Gamma$ ;
- g6)  $\alpha \circ i = \beta$  and  $\beta \circ i = \alpha$ .

**DEFINITION 1.3** *A groupoid  $\Gamma$  over  $\Gamma_0$ , with  $\Gamma_0 \subseteq \Gamma$  is called Brandt groupoid.*

It is easy to observe that in the case of the Brandt groupoids we have:

- i)  $\varepsilon(\Gamma_0) = \Gamma_0$ .
- ii)  $\varepsilon(u) = u, (\forall) u \in \Gamma_0$ .

Moreover, for each  $u \in \Gamma_0$  the set  $\alpha^{-1}(u) \cap \beta^{-1}(u)$  is a group under the restriction of the multiplication in  $\Gamma$ , called the isotropy group at  $u$ .

Doing these changes for the definition 1, in [3] we can find the next definition for the Brandt groupoids:

**DEFINITION 1.4** *A Brandt groupoid is a nonempty set  $\Gamma$  endowed with:*

- a) *two maps  $d$  and  $r$  (called source, respectively target),  $d, r : \Gamma \longrightarrow \Gamma$ ;*
- b) *a product map*

$$\begin{aligned} m : \Gamma_{(2)} &\longrightarrow \Gamma, \\ (x, y) &\longrightarrow m(x, y) \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} xy \end{aligned}$$

where  $\Gamma_{(2)} = \{(x, y) \in \Gamma \times \Gamma \mid d(x) = r(y)\}$  is a subset of  $\Gamma \times \Gamma$  called the set of composable pairs;

- c) *an inverse map*

$$\begin{aligned} i : \Gamma &\longrightarrow \Gamma, \\ x &\longrightarrow i(x) \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} x^{-1} \end{aligned}$$

such that the following conditions are satisfied:

- i)  $(x, y); (y, z) \in \Gamma_{(2)} \implies (xy, z); (x, yz) \in \Gamma_{(2)}$  and  $(xy)z = x(yz)$ ;
- ii)  $x \in \Gamma \implies (r(x), x); (x, d(x)) \in \Gamma_{(2)}$  and  $r(x)x = xd(x) = x$ ;
- iii)  $x \in \Gamma \implies (x^{-1}, x); (x, x^{-1}) \in \Gamma_{(2)}$  and  $x^{-1}x = d(x); xx^{-1} = r(x)$ .

If  $\Gamma$  is a groupoid then  $\Gamma_0 := d(\Gamma) = r(\Gamma)$  is the unit set of  $\Gamma$  and we say that  $\Gamma$  is a  $\Gamma_0$ -groupoid.

**EXAMPLE 1.3** The groupoid  $\Gamma^{(n)} (n \geq 2)$ .

Let  $\Gamma$  be a  $\Gamma_0$ -groupoid and by  $\Gamma^{(n)}$  we denote the set of  $n$ -tuples  $(x_0, \dots, x_{n-1})$  of  $\Gamma$  such that  $(x_{i-1}, x_i) \in \Gamma_{(2)}$  for  $i = 1, 2, \dots, n-1$ . We give to  $\Gamma^{(n)}$  the following groupoid structure:

- $d^{(n)}, r^{(n)} : \Gamma^{(n)} \longrightarrow \Gamma^{(n)}$ ;
- $d^{(n)}(x_0, \dots, x_{n-1}) \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} (x_0x_1, x_1x_2, \dots, x_{n-2}x_{n-1}, d(x_{n-2}x_{n-1}))$ ;
- $r^{(n)}(x_0, \dots, x_{n-1}) \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} (x_0, x_1, \dots, x_{n-2}, r(x_{n-1}))$ ;

- $(x_0, \dots, x_{n-1})$  and  $(y_0, \dots, y_{n-1})$  are composable if  $y_0 = x_0x_1, y_1 = x_1x_2, \dots, y_{n-2} = x_{n-2}x_{n-1}$  and

$$(x_0, \dots, x_{n-1})(x_0x_1, x_1x_2, \dots, x_{n-2}x_{n-1}, y_{n-1}) \stackrel{def}{=} (x_0, \dots, x_{n-2}, x_{n-1}y_{n-1})$$

- the inverse of  $(x_0, \dots, x_{n-1})$  is defined by:

$$(x_0, \dots, x_{n-1})^{-1} \stackrel{def}{=} (x_0x_1, x_1x_2, \dots, x_{n-2}x_{n-1}, x)$$

DEFINITION 1.5 Let  $\Gamma$  and  $\Gamma'$  be groupoids.

i) a map  $f : \Gamma \rightarrow \Gamma'$  is a morphism if for any  $(x, y) \in \Gamma_{(2)}$  we have  $(f(x), f(y)) \in \Gamma'_{(2)}$  and  $f(x, y) = f(x)f(y)$ .

ii) two morphisms  $f, g : \Gamma \rightarrow \Gamma'$  are similar (and we write  $f \sim g$ ) if there exists a map  $\theta : \Gamma_0 \rightarrow \Gamma'$  such that  $\theta(r(x)) \cdot f(x) = g(x) \cdot \theta(d(x))$  for any  $x \in \Gamma$ .

iii) the groupoids  $\Gamma$  and  $\Gamma'$  are similar ( $\Gamma \sim \Gamma'$ ) if there exists two morphisms  $f : \Gamma \rightarrow \Gamma'$  and  $g : \Gamma' \rightarrow \Gamma$  such that  $g \circ f$  and  $f \circ g$  are similar to identity isomorphisms.

EXAMPLE 1.4 Let  $\Gamma^{(0)} = \Gamma_0; \Gamma^{(1)} = \Gamma; \Gamma^{(n)}$  be the groupoid given in example 3 and  $\phi : \Gamma \rightarrow \Gamma'$  be a morphism of groupoids. The map  $\phi^{(n)} : \Gamma^{(n)} \rightarrow \Gamma'^{(n)}$  defined by:

$$\phi^{(n)}(x_0, \dots, x_{n-1}) \stackrel{def}{=} (\phi(x_0), \dots, \phi(x_{n-1}))$$

is a morphism of groupoids for any  $n \geq 0$ .

EXAMPLE 1.5 The trivial groupoid  $\Gamma = B \times B \times G$  and the group  $G$  are similar.

## 2. COHOMOLOGY

We assume that:

- $\Gamma$  is a  $\Gamma_0$ -groupoid;
- $(A, +)$  is an abelian group;

c)  $\Gamma$  operates on the left on  $A$ , i.e.  $\Gamma \times A \longrightarrow A, (x, a) \longrightarrow x.a$  subject of the following conditions:

- i)  $x.(y.a) = (xy).a$  for all  $(x, y) \in \Gamma_{(2)}$  and  $a \in A$ ;
- ii)  $u.a = a$  for all  $u \in \Gamma_0$  and  $a \in A$ ;
- iii)  $x.(a + b) = x.a + x.b$  for all  $x \in \Gamma$  and  $a, b \in A$ .

In this hypothesis we say that  $A$  is a  $\Gamma$ -module.

**DEFINITION 2.1** *Given a  $\Gamma$ -module  $A$ , a function  $f : \Gamma^{(n)} \longrightarrow A, (x_0, \dots, x_{n-1}) \longrightarrow f(x_0, \dots, x_{n-1})$ , where  $\Gamma^{(1)} = \Gamma$  and  $\Gamma^{(n)}$  for  $n \geq 2$  is the groupoid given in example 3, is called a  $n$ -cochain of the groupoid  $\Gamma$  with values in  $A$ .*

We denote by  $C^{(n)}(\Gamma, A) = 0$  the additive group of  $n$ -cochains of  $\Gamma$ . By definition  $C^{(n)}(\Gamma, A) = 0$  if  $n < 0$  and  $C^{(0)}(\Gamma, A) = A$ . Define the coboundary operator:

$$\delta^n : C^n(\Gamma, A) \longrightarrow C^{n+1}(\Gamma, A)$$

by:

$$\delta^0 f(x) = x.f(d(x)) - f(r(x))$$

for all  $x \in \Gamma, f \in C^0(\Gamma, A)$  if  $n = 0$ ;

$$\delta^n f(x_0, \dots, x_n) = x_0.f(x_1, \dots, x_n) + \sum_{i=1}^n (-1)^i f(x_0, \dots, x_{i-2}, x_{i-1}, x_i, x_{i+1}, \dots, x_n) + (-1)^{n+1} f(x_0, \dots, x_{n-1})$$

if  $n \geq 1$ .

The map  $f \longrightarrow \delta^n f$  is a homomorphism with respect to addition and we have that  $(C^n(\Gamma, A), \delta^n)$  is a cochain complex. The cohomology  $n$ -groups  $H^n(\Gamma, A)$  of  $\Gamma$ -module  $A$  are defined by  $H^n(\Gamma, A) = Z^n(\Gamma, A)/B^n(\Gamma, A)$ , where  $Z^n(\Gamma, A) = \ker \delta^n$  and  $B^n(\Gamma, A) = \text{Im} \delta^{n-1}$ .

If  $\phi : \Gamma \longrightarrow \Gamma'$  is a morphism of groupoids then the morphism of groupoids  $\phi^{(n)} : \Gamma^{(n)} \longrightarrow \Gamma'^{(n)}$  given by example 1.4 induce a homomorphism of groups

$$\bar{\phi}^n : C^n(\Gamma', A) \longrightarrow C^n(\Gamma, A)$$

defined by:

$$\bar{\phi}^n(f) \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} f \circ \phi^{(n)} \text{ for each } f \in C^n(\Gamma', A)$$

and satisfying the following:

$$\delta^n \circ \bar{\phi}^n = \bar{\phi}^{n+1} \delta^n \text{ for all } n \geq 0.$$

From here it follows that  $\bar{\phi}^n$  induce a homomorphism of cohomology groups  $(\phi^n)^* : H^n(\Gamma', A) \longrightarrow H^n(\Gamma, A)$  given by:

$$(\phi^n)^*([f]) = [\bar{\phi}^n(f)] \text{ forevery } [f] \in H^n(\Gamma', A).$$

REMARK 2.1 *We have:*

$H^0(\Gamma, A) = \{x \in A \mid x.a = a \text{ for all } x \in \Gamma\}$  is the set of elements of  $A$  such that  $\Gamma$  operates simply on  $A$ . In particular, if  $\Gamma$  operates trivially on  $A$ , i.e.  $x.a = a$  for all  $x \in \Gamma$ , then  $H^0(\Gamma, A) = A$ .

$Z^1(\Gamma, A) = \{f : \Gamma \longrightarrow A \mid f(x_0x_1) = f(x_0) + x_0f(x_1), \forall (x_0, x_1) \in \Gamma_{(2)}\}$  is the group of crossed morphisms of groupoids.

$B^1(\Gamma, A) = \{f : \Gamma \longrightarrow A \mid f(x) = x.a - a, \forall x \in \Gamma\}$  is the group of principal morphisms of groupoids.

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