

# Last time

- Mapping path space
- (co)homology of fibrations?
- Filtrations  $\dots \subseteq X_p \subseteq X_{p+1} \subseteq \dots$ ,  $X = \bigcup_p X_p$ .
- Approximations to  $H_*(X)$ .

$$\begin{array}{ccc} X & \xrightarrow{\sim} & P_S \\ \downarrow f & & \swarrow \leftarrow \\ & & Y \end{array}$$

Recall our successive approximations

$$\bigoplus_p H_*(X_p)$$

$$\bigoplus_p H_*(X_p, X_{p-1}) =: E^1$$

$$\bigoplus_p \ker d_p^1 / \operatorname{im} d_{p+1}^1 =: E^2$$

$$H_n(X_p, X_{p-1}) \xrightarrow{d} H_{n-1}(X_{p-1})$$

$$\begin{array}{ccc} d_p^1 \downarrow & & \downarrow \\ & & H_{n-1}(X_{p-1}, X_{p-2}) \end{array}$$

The relationships among these are summarized pictorially as follows:

$$\begin{array}{ccc}
 \bigoplus_P H_* (X_p) & \xrightarrow{\oplus (i_p)_*} & \bigoplus_P H_* (X_{p+1}) \\
 \uparrow \oplus s_P & & \downarrow \oplus (q_p)_* \\
 & \bigoplus_P H_* (X_{p+1}, X_p) & 
 \end{array}$$

This diagram does not commute. Rather, it is exact at each corner.

Def An exact couple is a diagram

$$\begin{array}{ccc}
 A & \xrightarrow{i} & A \\
 & \nearrow k & \searrow j \\
 & E &
 \end{array}$$

of Abelian groups such that  $\ker j = \operatorname{im} i$ ,  $\ker k = \operatorname{im} j$  and  $\ker i = \operatorname{im} k$ .

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The main source of exact couples is filtered chain complexes.

Def A filtration of a chain complex  $C$  is a collection of subcomplexes  $C_p \subseteq C$ ,  $p \in \mathbb{Z}$ , with  $C_p \subseteq C_{p+1}$  and  $C = \bigcup_p C_p$ .

Ex If  $X_p$  is a filtration of  $X$ , then  $C_\star(X)_p := C_\star(X_p)$  is a filtration of  $C_\star(X)$ .

Ex If  $C = \bigcup_P C_p$  is a filtered chain complex,

then

$$\begin{array}{ccc} \bigoplus_P H_\star(C_p) & \longrightarrow & \bigoplus_P H_\star(C_{p+1}) \\ & \nearrow & \searrow \\ & \bigoplus_P H_\star(C_{p+1}/C_p) & \end{array}$$

is an exact couple.

In our original example, the differential  $d'$  is the composite of the two diagonal maps.

Observation Given an exact couple as above, and setting  $d = jk$ , we have

$$d^2 = jkjk = 0,$$

since  $kj = 0$  by exactness. Thus,  $(E, d)$  is a chain complex.

Def/Prop The derived couple is the exact couple

$$\begin{array}{ccc} A' & \xrightarrow{i'} & A' \\ k' \uparrow & & \downarrow j' \\ & E' & \end{array},$$

where

(1)  $E' = \ker d / \operatorname{im} d$

(2)  $A' = \operatorname{im} i \subseteq A$

(3)  $i' = i|_{A'}$

(4)  $j'(i(a)) = [j(a)] \in E'$

(5)  $k'([e]) = k(e)$ .

Proof First,  $j'$  is well-defined, since

$$\bar{i}(a) = \bar{i}(b) \iff a - b \in k(c)$$

$$\implies j(a) - j(b) = jk(c) = dc$$

$$\implies [j(a)] = [j(b)].$$

Second,  $k'$  is well-defined. There are two points to check:

$$\begin{array}{ccc} \ker(d) \subseteq E & \xrightarrow{k} & A \\ \downarrow & \swarrow \textcircled{1} & \downarrow \\ E' & \xrightarrow{\textcircled{2}} & A' \end{array}$$

For the first,

$$de = 0 \iff jk(e) = 0$$

$$\iff k(e) \in \ker j = \operatorname{im} i = A'.$$

For the second,  $k(d\tilde{e}) = k_j k(\tilde{e}) = 0$ ,  
since  $k_j = 0$ .

Next, we check exactness at  $E$ , leaving  
the rest as an exercise. We have

$$\begin{aligned} k'j'i(a) &= k'([j(a)]) \\ &= k_j(a) \\ &= 0, \end{aligned}$$

so  $\operatorname{im} j' \subseteq \ker k'$ . Conversely,



$$k'([e]) = 0 \iff k(e) = 0$$

$$\iff e \in \bar{m}_j$$

$$\implies [e] = [j(\alpha)] = j'(i(\alpha)),$$

so  $\ker k' \subseteq m_j'$ .

□

We now iterate this process. Setting  $E = E^1$  and  $E^r = (E^{r-1})'$ , we obtain chain complexes  $(E^r, d^r)$ , each being the homology of the last.

Warning  $(E^r, d^r)$  determines  $E^{r+1}$  but not  $d^{r+1}$ !

Def A spectral sequence is a sequence  $\{(E^r, d^r)\}$  of homomorphisms

$$d^r: E^r \rightarrow E^r$$

such that  $(d^r)^2 = 0$  and  $E^{r+1} = H_*(E^r, d^r)$ .

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To summarize the discussion so far:

filtered space  $\rightsquigarrow$  filtered complex  $\rightsquigarrow$  exact couple  $\rightsquigarrow$  spectral sequence

Hope As  $r \rightarrow \infty$ ,  $E^r$  "converges" to  $H_*(X)$ .

To understand in what sense convergence can occur, it will be helpful to track gradings. In the situation of a filtered chain complex, the components of the exact couple are bigraded:

$$A' = \bigoplus_{p,q} A'_{p,q}$$

$$E' = \bigoplus_{p,q} E'_{p,q}$$

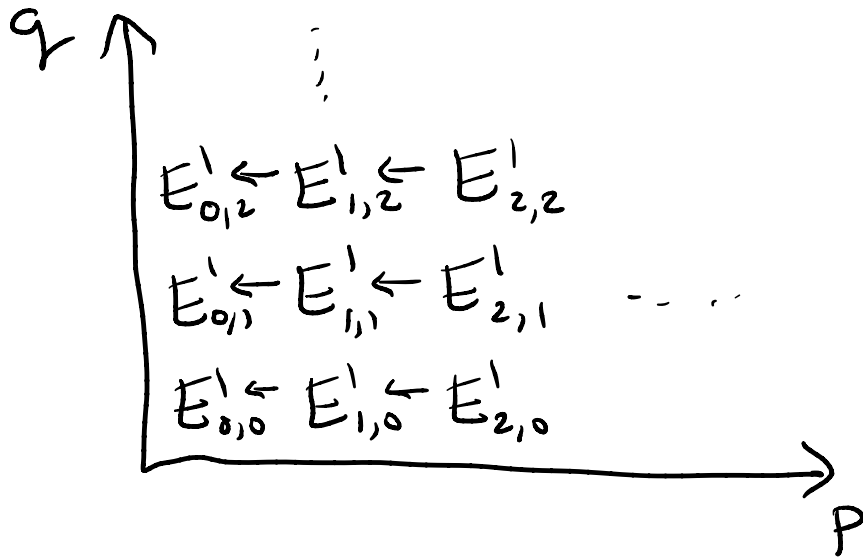
$$A'_{p,q} = H_{p+q}(C_p)$$

$$E'_{p,q} = H_{p+q}(C_p/C_{p-1})$$

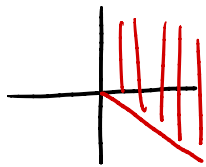
The maps in the exact couple respect the bigrading in that

$$\left. \begin{array}{l} i(A'_{p,q}) \subseteq A'_{p+1,q-1} \\ j(A'_{p,q}) \subseteq E'_{p,q} \\ k(E'_{p,q}) \subseteq A'_{p-1,q} \end{array} \right\} d'_{p,q}(E'_{p,q}) \subseteq E'_{p-1,q}$$

Pictorially:



Assuming that  $C_{-1} = 0$  and that  $C$  is non-negatively graded,  $A^1_{p,q} = E^1_{p,q} = 0$  for  $p < 0$  or  $q < -p < 0$  so the spectral sequence is concentrated in the region  $\{p > 0\} \cap \{p+q > 0\}$



Since  $i, j$ , and  $k$  respect gradings, we obtain decompositions

$$A^2 = \bigoplus A^2_{p,q}$$

$$E^2 = \bigoplus E^2_{p,q}$$

$$A^2_{p,q} = A^2 \cap A^1_{p,q}$$

$$E^2_{p,q} = \frac{\ker d^1_{p,q}}{\text{im } d^1_{p+1,q}}$$

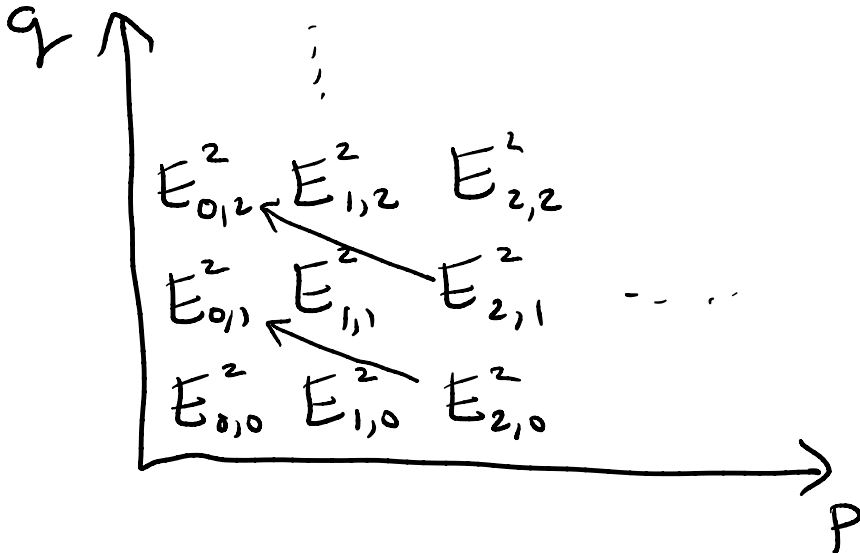
Now, however, we have

$$i'(A_{p,q}^2) \subseteq A_{p+1,q-1}^2$$

$$j'(A_{p,q}^2) \subseteq E_{p-1,q+1}^2$$

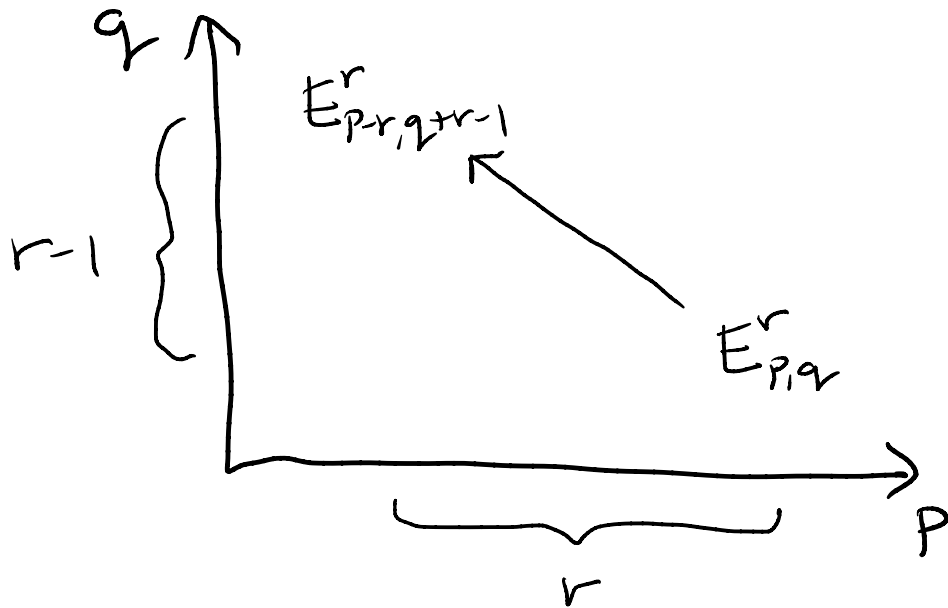
$$k'(E_{p,q}^2) \subseteq A_{p-1,q}^2$$

$$d_{p,q}^2(E_{p,q}^2) \subseteq E_{p-2,q+1}^2$$



Similarly, we have that

$$d_{p,q}^r(E_{p,q}^r) \subseteq E_{p-r, q+r-1}^r$$



Def A filtration  $C = \bigcup_p C_p$  of a chain complex is eventually locally finite if, for each  $n \geq 0$ , there exists  $r(n)$  such that  $E_{p, n-p}^{r(n)} = 0$  for all but finitely many  $p$ . If  $r(n) \equiv 1$ , then it is locally finite. It is complete if  $C_p \rightarrow C$  induces an isomorphism on  $H_n$  for  $p \gg 0$  and bounded below if  $C_p = 0$  for some  $p$ .

Exercise Complete + bounded below  $\Rightarrow$  LF

Ex A filtration is LF if it gives rise to a first-quadrant spectral sequence, i.e., if  $E_{pq}^r = 0$  for  $q < 0$ .



Lemma If  $C = \bigcup_p C_p$  is ELF, then

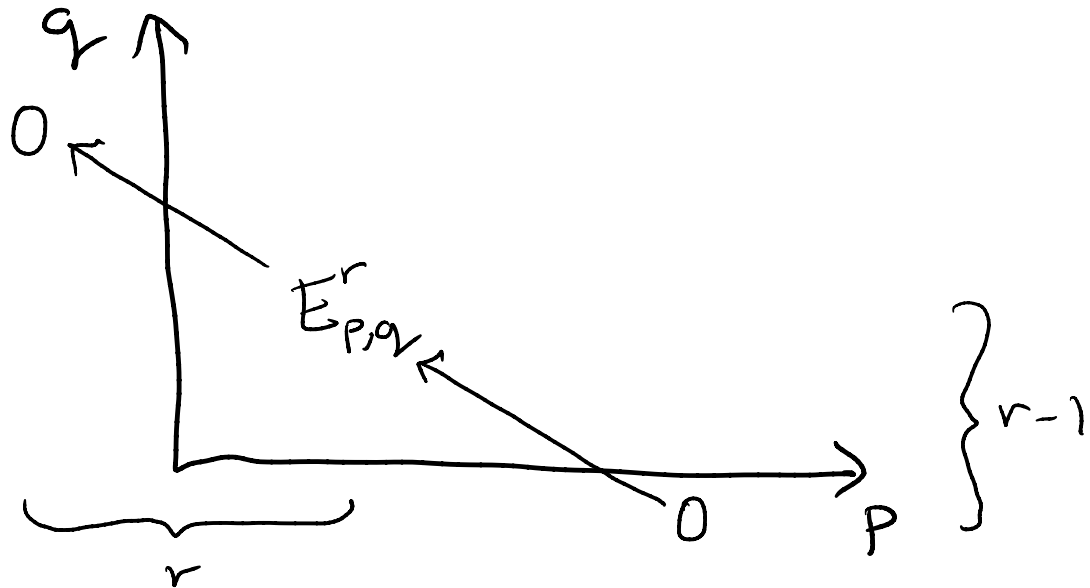
$d_{p,q}^r \equiv 0 \equiv d_{p+r, q-r+1}^r$  for fixed  $p, q$  and  $r$  sufficiently large.

Proof Fix  $p_0$  and  $q_0$  and set  $p_0 + q_0 = n$ .

The target of  $d_{p_0, q_0}^r$  lies on the line  $p+q = n-1$ , and the source of  $d_{p_0+r, q_0-r+1}^r$  on the line  $p+q = n+1$ , for every  $r$ .

By assumption, these lines contain finitely many nonzero entries, so

the respective target and source vanish for  $r$  sufficiently large.  $\square$



Cor If  $C = \bigcup_P C_P$  is ELF, then  $E_{P,q}^r = E_{P,q}^{r+1} = \dots$   
for fixed  $P, q$  and  $r$  sufficiently large.

Write  $E_{p,q}^\infty := E_{p,q}^r$  for  $r \gg 0$ .

Lemma The filtration  $C = \bigcup C_p$  is ELF

(resp. LF) iff  $A_{p,n-p}^r \xrightarrow{\cong} A_{p+1,n-p-1}^r$  for

all but finitely many  $p$  and  $r$  sufficiently large relative to  $n$  (resp.  $A'$ ).

Proof The claim follows from the exact

sequence

$$E_{p+1,n-p}^r \rightarrow A_{p,n-p}^r \rightarrow A_{p+1,n-p-1}^r \rightarrow E_{p-r+2,n-p+r-2}^r.$$

Write  $i^\infty(A'_{p,q}) := i^{r-1}(A'_{p,q}) = A_{p+r-1,q+r-1}^r$  for  $r \gg 0$ .  $\square$

Thm (Convergence) Let  $C = \bigcup C_p$  be  
ELF and bounded below. <sup>P</sup> Then

$$E_{p,q}^\infty \cong z^\infty(A'_{p,q}) / z^\infty(A'_{p-1,q+1}).$$

If  $C$  is also complete, then

$$z^\infty(A'_{p,q}) \cong \text{im}(H_{p+q}(C_p) \rightarrow H_{p+q}(C)).$$