# How to implement a category on the computer and why?

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Joint work with Markus Lange-Hegermann, Sebastian Gutsche, Sebastian Posur

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  - sets of morphisms  $\operatorname{Hom}_{\mathcal{A}}(M, N)$ .
- In fact, only the Hom sets and their compositions are relevant

$$\operatorname{Hom}_{\mathcal{A}}(L, M) \times \operatorname{Hom}_{\mathcal{A}}(M, N) \to \operatorname{Hom}_{\mathcal{A}}(L, N)$$
$$(\varphi, \psi) \mapsto \varphi \psi.$$

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- The objects are only place-holders, exactly like the vertices of a graph.
- The notion "equivalence of categories" gives one even more freedom in the description of a (constructive) model of the category.

## Linear algebra and matrix theory

Here is a prominent example of this point of view.

Example

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Let k be a field. Then
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 $\rightsquigarrow$  from the categorical point of view, linear algebra and matrix theory are equivalent.

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A category is called **constructively** ABELian if all disjunctions  $(\lor)$  and all existential quantifiers  $(\exists)$  in the axioms of an ABELian category are realized by algorithms.

#### Example

$$M \xrightarrow{\varphi} N$$

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Let  $\varphi: M \to N$  be a morphism in  $\mathcal{A}$ .

 $\ker \varphi$ 

$$M \overset{\varphi}{\longrightarrow} N$$

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$$\overset{\ker \varphi}{\checkmark} \overset{\kappa}{\underset{M \longrightarrow}{}} M \overset{\varphi}{\underset{M \longrightarrow}{}} N$$

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## Example Let $\varphi: M \to N$ be a morphism in $\mathcal{A}$ . $\ker \varphi \overbrace{\tau/\kappa}^{0} \tau M \xrightarrow{\varphi} N$

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#### Q:

Are module categories constructive, like k-vec?

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$$R\text{-mod} \simeq \\ R\text{-fpres} := \begin{cases} \mathsf{Obj:} & \mathsf{M} \in R^{r \times g}, \mathsf{N} \in R^{r' \times g'}, \dots, \ r, g, r', g' \in \mathbb{N}, \end{cases}$$

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# A constructive model for R-mod

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 $\text{ and } (\mathtt{M},\mathtt{A},\mathtt{N}) \sim (\mathtt{M}',\mathtt{A}',\mathtt{N}') : \Longleftrightarrow \ \mathtt{M} = \mathtt{M}', \mathtt{N} = \mathtt{N}', \mathtt{N} \geq \mathtt{A} - \mathtt{A}'.$ 

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## Theorem ([BLH11])

If R is left computable then the category R-fpres  $\simeq R$ -mod is constructively ABELian.

Example (computable rings)	
ring	algorithm
a constructive field k	GAUSS
ring of rational integers $\mathbb Z$	HERMITE normal form
a univariate polynomial ring $k[x]$	HERMITE normal form
a polynomial ring <sup>a</sup> $R[x_1, \ldots, x_n]$	BUCHBERGER
many noncommutative rings	n.c. BUCHBERGER
$k[x_1,\ldots,x_n]_{\langle x_1,\ldots,x_n \rangle}$	MORA BUCHBERGER
$k[x_1, \dots, x_n]_{\langle x_1, \dots, x_n \rangle}$ residue class rings <sup>b</sup>	

<sup>a</sup>R any of the above rings <sup>b</sup>modulo ideals which are f.g. as left resp. right ideals.

In this context any algorithm to compute a GRÖBNER basis is a substitute for the GAUSS resp. HERMITE normal form algorithm.

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Theorem

 $R_{\mathfrak{p}}\operatorname{-\mathbf{mod}} \simeq R\operatorname{-\mathbf{mod}} \mid M_{\mathfrak{p}} = 0\}.$ 

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### Theorem

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Equivalently, regard all morphisms  $\varphi$  in *R*-mod with  $(\ker \varphi)_{\mathfrak{p}} = 0 = (\operatorname{coker} \varphi)_{\mathfrak{p}}$  as isomorphisms.

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Equivalently, regard all morphisms  $\varphi$  in *R*-mod with  $\operatorname{Supp}(\ker \varphi), \operatorname{Supp}(\operatorname{coker} \varphi) \subseteq V(\mathfrak{p})$  as isomorphisms.

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- where S-modules supported on zero are treated as zero.

Theorem (Serre '55, FAC)

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 $\label{eq:constraint} \begin{array}{l} \mathcal{A}/\mathcal{C} \text{ is again ABELian and the localization functor} \\ \mathcal{Q}: \mathcal{A} \to \mathcal{A}/\mathcal{C}, M \mapsto M, \varphi \mapsto [\varphi] \text{ is exact.} \end{array}$ 

## **Constructive SERRE quotients**

$$M \xrightarrow{\psi} N$$






















#### Theorem ([BLH14])

Let  $C \subset A$  be a thick subcategory of the ABELian category A. If A is constructively ABELian an the membership in C is decidable, then A/C is constructively ABELian.

## Corollaries

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How to implement a category on the computer?

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As a category is for the machine a computational context with *many* algorithms we need an **object oriented** programing language to

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As categorical constructions correspond to the passage from one computational context to another we also need a **functional** programing language in order to

 take an algorithmic context as input and create another one out of it.

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We have created a computational context (the category  $\mathcal{A}$ ) and transformed it into another one (the category  $\mathcal{A}/\mathcal{C} \simeq \mathfrak{Coh} \mathbb{P}^2$ ).

## Quasi-isomorphisms

#### Definition

• A chain morphism  $\mu_{\bullet} : (M_{\bullet}, \partial_{\bullet}^M) \to (N_{\bullet}, \partial_{\bullet}^N)$  is a **quasi-isomorphism** if it induces isomorphisms on homology:  $\mu_i : H_i(M_{\bullet}) \xrightarrow{\sim} H_i(N_{\bullet})$  for all *i*.

## Quasi-isomorphisms

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- A chain morphism  $\mu_{\bullet} : (M_{\bullet}, \partial_{\bullet}^M) \to (N_{\bullet}, \partial_{\bullet}^N)$  is a **quasi-isomorphism** if it induces isomorphisms on homology:  $\mu_i : H_i(M_{\bullet}) \xrightarrow{\sim} H_i(N_{\bullet})$  for all *i*.
- Two complexes  $(M_{\bullet}, \partial_{\bullet}^M), (N_{\bullet}, \partial_{\bullet}^N)$  are called **quasi-isomorphic** if there exists a quasi-isomorphism  $\mu_{\bullet} : (M_{\bullet}, \partial_{\bullet}^M) \to (N_{\bullet}, \partial_{\bullet}^N).$

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Regarding  $\mathcal{A} \subset \mathbf{C}(\mathcal{A})$ 

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### Example

Regarding  $\mathcal{A} \subset \mathbf{C}(\mathcal{A})$  resolutions become quasi-isomorphisms:



### Definition

• Two chain morphism  $\mu_{\bullet}, \nu_{\bullet} : (M_{\bullet}, \partial^M_{\bullet}) \to (N_{\bullet}, \partial^N_{\bullet})$  are called homotopic, and written  $\mu_{\bullet} \sim \nu_{\bullet}$ 

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Two chain morphism μ<sub>●</sub>, ν<sub>●</sub> : (M<sub>●</sub>, ∂<sup>M</sup><sub>●</sub>) → (N<sub>●</sub>, ∂<sup>N</sup><sub>●</sub>) are called homotopic, and written μ<sub>●</sub> ~ ν<sub>●</sub>, if there exists a degree +1 chain morphism h<sub>●</sub> : M<sub>●</sub> → N<sub>●+1</sub> such that μ<sub>●</sub> - ν<sub>●</sub> = ∂<sup>M</sup><sub>●</sub>h<sub>●</sub> + h<sub>●</sub>∂<sup>N</sup><sub>●</sub>.

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- Two complexes are called homotopy equivalent if there exists chain morphisms μ<sub>●</sub> : M<sub>●</sub> ≃ N<sub>●</sub> : ν<sub>●</sub> such that

$$\mu_{\bullet}\nu_{\bullet} \sim 1^{M}_{\bullet} : M_{\bullet} \to M_{\bullet},$$
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$$\begin{split} \mu_{\bullet}\nu_{\bullet} &\sim 1^{M}_{\bullet}: M_{\bullet} \to M_{\bullet}, \\ \nu_{\bullet}\mu_{\bullet} &\sim 1^{N}_{\bullet}: N_{\bullet} \to N_{\bullet}. \end{split}$$

### Corollary

Homotopy equivalent complexes are quasi-isomorphic.

Let  $\mathcal A$  be an ABELian category with enough projectives.

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#### Theorem

Any two projective resolutions in A are homotopy equivalent.

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The **homotopy category** of A is defined as

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Any two projective resolutions in A are isomorphic in  $\mathbf{K}(A)$ .

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### Corollary

Any two projective resolutions in  $\mathcal{A}$  are isomorphic in  $\mathbf{K}(\mathcal{A})$ .

#### Problem

We still did not identify objects in  $\mathcal{A}$  with their projective resolutions in  $\mathbf{C}(\mathcal{A}) \supset \mathcal{A}$ .

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We call  $\mathbf{D}(\mathcal{A})$  the **derived category** of  $\mathcal{A}$ .

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#### Theorem

If  $\mathcal{A}$  has enough projectives then the composition

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\mathbf{K}(\mathbf{P}(\mathcal{A})) \hookrightarrow \mathbf{K}(\mathcal{A}) \to \mathbf{D}(\mathcal{A})
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is an equivalence of categories.

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Let us call a triangulated category  $\mathcal{T}$  nice if there exists an ABELian category  $\mathcal{A}$  with enough projectives such that

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Categories of modules over rings are nice.

What did we gain by passing to the derived category  $\mathbf{D}(\mathcal{A})?$ 

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#### Definition

Two ABELian categories  $\mathcal{A}, \mathcal{B}$  are called derived equivalent if

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The category  $\mathfrak{Coh} \mathbb{P}^n$  admits a **tilting object**, i.e., an object  $T \in \mathfrak{Coh} \mathbb{P}^n$  such that

 $T \otimes_{\operatorname{End}(T)} - : \mathbf{D}(\operatorname{End}(T) \operatorname{-mod}) \to \mathbf{D}(\mathfrak{Coh} \mathbb{P}^n)$ 

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This derived equivalence is a wormhole between the **algebraic** geometry of  $\mathbb{P}^n$  and the representation theory of the *finite* dimensional algeba  $\operatorname{End}(T)$ .

### Mathematical wormholes

Derived equivalences are wormholes in the universe of mathematics, able to connect seemingly remote fields:



#### Figure: License: GNU-FDL, made by Panzi

Mohamed Barakat How to implement a category on the computer and why?

Why do we need to implement categories on the computer?

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These are the reasons why we are so eager to build software helping us to travel through mathematical wormholes.

Thank you

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