

Basic Notions of Sheaves.

§1 Presheaf.

Definition Let X be a topological space.

A presheaf of abelian groups on X , denoted F , consists of

- $\forall U$ open in X , an abelian group $F(U)$
- $\forall U, V$ open, $V \subset U$, a homomorphism $\rho_{UV}: F(U) \rightarrow F(V)$

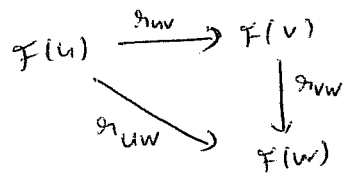
such that

(i) $F(\emptyset) = 0$.

(ii) $\rho_{UU} = 1_{F(U)}$

(iii) $\forall U, V, W$, with $W \subset V \subset U$,

$\rho_{UW} = \rho_{VW} \circ \rho_{UV}$



Alternative definition. :-

(Recall that any top. space X determines a category C_X :-
 $ob(C_X) = \text{open subsets}$, $Hom_{C_X}(u, v) = \begin{cases} \{\emptyset\} & , u \subset v \\ \text{empty} & , u \not\subset v \end{cases}$)

A presheaf F of abelian groups is a contravariant functor $F: C_X \rightarrow AB$.

Comments :-

(i) We can talk about a presheaf of rings, modules, vector spaces --- etc.
 (Unless otherwise mentioned, let us stick to (pre)sheaves of abelian groups

(ii) Elements of $F(U)$ are called sections of F over U .

Sometimes, $F(U)$ is also denoted $\Gamma(U, F)$.

Elements of $F(X)$ are called global sections.

Definition (Morphism of presheaves)

Let F, G be presheaves on a top. space X .

A morphism $\varphi: F \rightarrow G$ is a collection of homomorphisms (of abelian groups) such that

the diagram

$$\begin{array}{ccc} F(u) & \xrightarrow{\varphi(u)} & G(u) \\ \downarrow \eta_{uv}^F & & \downarrow \eta_{uv}^G \\ F(v) & \xrightarrow{\varphi(v)} & G(v) \end{array}$$

$$\varphi(u): F(u) \rightarrow G(u)$$

$$\forall u, v \text{ - open, } v \subset u,$$

commutes.

Definition: $PS_X =$ category of presheaves of abelian groups on X .

Note: If we take F, G to be contravariant functors $C_X \rightarrow AB$ then a morphism $\varphi: F \rightarrow G$ of presheaves is nothing but a natural transformation from F to G .

§2 Sheaves.

Definition A sheaf \mathcal{F} on a top. space X is a presheaf which satisfies:-

(i) If U is open, if $\{V_i\}$ is an open cover of U , if $s \in \mathcal{F}(U)$ is such that $s|_{V_i} = 0 \forall i$, then $s = 0$.

(A locally trivial section is trivial.)

(ii) If U is open, if $\{V_i\}$ is an open cover of U , given $s_i \in \mathcal{F}(V_i)$ such that $s_i|_{V_i \cap V_j} = s_j|_{V_i \cap V_j}$, $\exists s \in \mathcal{F}(U)$ s.t. $s|_{V_i} = s_i$.

(Given local sections which patch up one can find a "global" section.)

Note:- The above two "sheaf axioms" can be rephrased as :-

U -open, $U = \bigcup_i V_i$ open cover, the sequence of abelian groups

$$\begin{array}{ccccccc}
 0 & \longrightarrow & \mathcal{F}(U) & \longrightarrow & \prod_i \mathcal{F}(V_i) & \longrightarrow & \prod_{i,j} \mathcal{F}(V_i \cap V_j) \\
 & & s \longmapsto & & (s|_{V_i}) & & \\
 & & & & (\mathcal{S}_i) & \longmapsto & (s_i|_{V_i \cap V_j} - s_j|_{V_i \cap V_j}).
 \end{array}$$

is an exact sequence.

Definition:- (Morphism of sheaves)

Let \mathcal{F}, \mathcal{G} be sheaves on X . A morphism $\varphi: \mathcal{F} \rightarrow \mathcal{G}$ of sheaves is a morphism of the underlying presheaves.

Definition:- $S_X =$ category of sheaves (of abelian groups) ~~on~~ on X .

Note:- S_X is, by definition, a full subcategory of PS_X .

§3. Examples.

- Let X be a topological space.
- Let A be an abelian group.

① The constant pre-sheaf on X determined by A :-

Let me denote this as $\text{ps } A$. (or maybe, $\text{ps } A_X$)

$$U \subset X \text{ open} \longmapsto \text{ps } A(U) = A \quad \text{if } U \neq \emptyset \quad \text{and } \text{ps } A(\emptyset) = 0.$$

$$U \subset V \subset X \quad \left\{ \begin{array}{ccc} \text{ps } A(U) & \xrightarrow{r_{UV}} & \text{ps } A(V) \\ \parallel & & \parallel \\ A & \xrightarrow{1_A} & A \end{array} \right. \quad \text{all restriction maps are } 1_A \text{ unless } V = \emptyset.$$

Note:- This is a presheaf and is not a sheaf.

For example, if V_1, V_2 are disjoint open sets, $U = V_1 \cup V_2$,

Let $a_i \in \text{ps } A(V_i)$, $a_1 \neq a_2$. then $V_1 \cap V_2 = \emptyset \Rightarrow a_1|_{V_1 \cap V_2} = a_2|_{V_1 \cap V_2}$

But $\nexists a \in \text{ps } A(U)$ s.t. $a|_{V_i} = a_i$.

② The constant sheaf on X determined by A .

Let me denote this sheaf by \mathcal{A}_X .

$U \subset X$, $\mathcal{A}_X(U) =$ locally constant A -valued functions on U .

$V \subset U$, $\mathcal{A}_X(U) \rightarrow \mathcal{A}_X(V)$ is simply restriction of functions.

(Equivalently, put the discrete topology on A ,
 $\mathcal{A}_X(U) =$ continuous fns. from U to A .)

Check that this is indeed a sheaf.

③ a) $C_X^0 =$ sheaf of continuous \mathbb{R} -valued functions on X .

$$U \subset X, \quad C_X^0(U) = \{ f: U \rightarrow \mathbb{R} \mid f \text{ is continuous} \}.$$

$V \subset U$ $C_X^0(U) \rightarrow C_X^0(V)$ is the restriction map of functions.

note: C_X^0 is a sheaf of \mathbb{R} -vector spaces on X .

④ $X = M$ - smooth manifold, $C_M^\infty =$ sheaf of smooth (infinitely differentiable) functions on M .

~~is a sheaf~~

§4 Stalks of a (pre) sheaf. :-

Definition: Let \mathcal{F} be a presheaf on a top. space X .

Let $x \in X$.

The stalk of \mathcal{F} at x , denoted \mathcal{F}_x , is defined as

$$\mathcal{F}_x = \varinjlim_{U \in \mathcal{U}_x} \mathcal{F}(U).$$

Note: The set of open subsets of X containing x is ordered by reverse inclusion.

$U \leq V$ if $U \supset V$. This forms a directed ~~system~~ set.

If $U \leq V$ then we have the restriction maps $\mathcal{F}_{UV}: \mathcal{F}(U) \rightarrow \mathcal{F}(V)$.

Hence $\{ \mathcal{F}(U) \}_{U \in \mathcal{U}_x}$ is a direct system.

Any element of \mathcal{F}_x is a pair (U, s) with $x \in U \subset X$ and $s \in \mathcal{F}(U)$.

Two pairs (U, s) & (V, t) are equivalent under:-

$$(U, s) \sim (V, t) \iff s|_{U \cap V} = t|_{U \cap V}$$

Proposition:-

Let $\varphi: \mathcal{F} \rightarrow \mathcal{G}$ be a morphism of sheaves on a topological space X . Then,
 φ is an isomorphism $\Leftrightarrow \varphi_\pi: \mathcal{F}_\pi \rightarrow \mathcal{G}_\pi$ is an isomorphism $\forall \pi \in X$.

PF:- If φ is an iso. $\Rightarrow \varphi_\pi$ is an iso. $\forall \pi$ is obvious!

Assume now that φ_π is an isomorphism $\forall \pi \in X$.

WTS:- $U \subset X$, $\varphi(U): \mathcal{F}(U) \rightarrow \mathcal{G}(U)$ is an isomorphism.

$\varphi(U)$ is injective:-

Let $s \in \mathcal{F}(U)$ and $\varphi(U)s = 0$ in $\mathcal{G}(U)$.

Let $x \in U$, then $\varphi_x(U, s) = (U, \varphi(U)s) = 0$ in $\mathcal{G}_x \Rightarrow (U, s) = 0$ in \mathcal{F}_x .

$\Rightarrow \exists$ nbhd. V_x of x , s.t. $(U, s) \sim (V_x, 0)$ or $s|_{V_x} = 0$.

$U = \bigcup_{x \in U} V_x$, $s|_{V_x} = 0 \forall x \in U \Rightarrow s = 0$ by the first sheaf axiom.
 $\Rightarrow \varphi(U)$ is injective.

$\varphi(U)$ is surjective.

Let $t \in \mathcal{G}(U)$. Let $x \in U$ and consider (U, t) as an element of \mathcal{G}_x .

Since $\varphi_x: \mathcal{F}_x \rightarrow \mathcal{G}_x$, \exists an element of \mathcal{F}_x mapping to (U, t) .

i.e., \exists nbhd V_x of x , $\exists s_x \in \mathcal{F}(V_x)$ s.t. $\varphi_x(V_x, s_x) = (U, t)$ in \mathcal{G}_x .

Clearly, $U = \bigcup_{x \in U} V_x$.

observe that $(\overline{V_x, s_x}) s_x|_{V_x \cap V_y} = s_y|_{V_x \cap V_y}$.

because for any point $\overset{z}{v}$ in $V_x \cap V_y$, both these sections give ~~the same~~ elements of \mathcal{F}_z and are mapped to the same element of \mathcal{G}_z .

Hence $\exists s \in \mathcal{F}(U)$ s.t. $s|_{V_x} = s_x$.

check that $\varphi(U)s = t$.

(One is using the following fact about sheaves:-

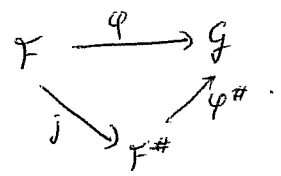
$(s_1, s_2 \in \mathcal{F}(U)$ and $s_{1,x} = s_{2,x} \forall x \in U$ then $s_1 = s_2$)

§5 Sheafification of a presheaf.

Definition/Proposition:-

Let \mathcal{F} be a presheaf on X .

There exists a sheaf $\mathcal{F}^\#$, a morphism $j: \mathcal{F} \rightarrow \mathcal{F}^\#$ of presheaves such that for any sheaf \mathcal{G} and any morphism $\varphi: \mathcal{F} \rightarrow \mathcal{G}$, there exists a unique morphism $\varphi^\#: \mathcal{F}^\# \rightarrow \mathcal{G}$ such that $\varphi = \varphi^\# \circ j$.



Note:- We can also say that $\mathcal{F}^\#$ represents the functor $S_X \rightarrow \text{SETS}$.

$$\mathcal{G} \longmapsto \text{Hom}_{\text{PS}_X}(\mathcal{F}, \mathcal{G}) \quad , \text{ i.e., } \quad \text{Hom}_{\text{PS}_X}(\mathcal{F}, \mathcal{G}) = \text{Hom}_{S_X}(\mathcal{F}^\#, \mathcal{G})$$

By Yoneda's lemma, if $\mathcal{F}^\#$ exists, it is unique up to unique isomorphism.

$\mathcal{F}^\#$ is called the sheafification of \mathcal{F} .

Construction of $\mathcal{F}^\#$:-

For any open subset U of X ,

$$\mathcal{F}^\#(U) = \left\{ s: U \rightarrow \bigcup_{x \in U} \mathcal{F}_x \quad : \begin{array}{l} \text{(i) } s(x) \in \mathcal{F}_x \\ \text{(ii) } \forall x \in U, \exists \text{ open set } V, x \in V \subset U, \exists t \in \mathcal{F}(V) \text{ such that} \\ \text{for all } y \in V, \text{ the germ } t_y = s(y) \end{array} \right\}$$

Note:- $\mathcal{F}^\#$ is a sheaf because sections over U are determined locally.

The morphism $j: \mathcal{F} \rightarrow \mathcal{F}^\#$ is the "obvious map" $\mathcal{F}(U) \rightarrow \mathcal{F}^\#(U)$.
 If $s \in \mathcal{F}(U)$ then $s: U \rightarrow \bigcup_{x \in U} \mathcal{F}_x$ by defining $s(x) = \text{germ } s \text{ at } x$ determined by the pair (U, s) .

Verifying the universal property is easy (but tedious to write!).

Example:-

Let A be an abelian group.

The sheafification of the constant presheaf bA_X (determined by A) is in fact the constant sheaf A_X . i.e., ${}^bA_X^\# \cong A_X$

Example

Let \mathcal{F} be a presheaf on X . & $\mathcal{F}^\#$ its sheafification.

Then $\forall x \in X$, \mathcal{F} and $\mathcal{F}^\#$ have the same stalks:-

$$\mathcal{F}_x \cong \mathcal{F}_x^\#$$

"pf" :- (It is best if you find the proof of such statements yourselves!)

- Any element of $\mathcal{F}_x = [(U, s)]$, $(U, s) \sim (U', s')$ if $s|_{U \cap U'} = s'|_{U \cap U'}$
- For germs of sections, we can always go down to a smaller open subset of X containing x .
- The map $j_x: \mathcal{F}_x \rightarrow \mathcal{F}_x^\#$ may be written as:-

$$j_x[(U, s)] = [(U, \tilde{s})]$$
 when $\tilde{s}: U \rightarrow \bigcup_{\alpha \in U} \mathcal{F}_\alpha$ is the function determined by s .
 i.e., $\tilde{s}(x) = s_x$ $\tilde{s}_x = [(U, s)]$

- $[(U, \tilde{s})] = 0$ in $\mathcal{F}_x^\# \Rightarrow \exists V, x \in V \subset U, \tilde{s}(x) = 0_x, 0 \in \mathcal{F}(V)$.
 $\Rightarrow \underline{[(U, \tilde{s})] = [(V, \tilde{s})] = j_x[(V, \tilde{s})] = j_x[0]}$
 $\Rightarrow 0$ and $s|_V$ determine the same stalks $\forall x \in V$
 $\Rightarrow 0 = s|_V \Rightarrow [(U, \tilde{s})] = [(V, \tilde{s})] = 0$.
 $\Rightarrow j_x$ is injective.

- $[(U, \tilde{s})] \in \mathcal{F}_x^\# \Rightarrow \exists V$ -open, $x \in V \subset U, \exists t \in \mathcal{F}(V), \tilde{s}(x) = t_x$
 $\Rightarrow [(U, \tilde{s})] \cong [(V, \tilde{s})] = j_x[(V, \tilde{s})]$.
 $\Rightarrow j_x$ is surjective.

§6 Kernels, Cokernels, Image :-

Definitions :-

① Subsheaf :- A sheaf \mathcal{F} is a subsheaf of a sheaf \mathcal{G} if

- $\forall U$ -open, $\mathcal{F}(U)$ is a subgroup of $\mathcal{G}(U)$
- restriction maps for \mathcal{F} are induced by the restriction maps for \mathcal{G} .

② Kernel :- Let $\varphi: \mathcal{F} \rightarrow \mathcal{G}$ be a morphism of sheaves.

• The kernel of φ , is the presheaf $U \mapsto \underbrace{\text{Ker}(\varphi(U): \mathcal{F}(U) \rightarrow \mathcal{G}(U))}_{\text{ker}(\varphi)(U)}$.

• Fact :- $\text{ker}(\varphi)$ is a sheaf. (check this.)

③ A morphism $\varphi: \mathcal{F} \rightarrow \mathcal{G}$ of sheaves is injective if $\text{ker}(\varphi) = 0$.
($\therefore \forall U$, $\varphi(U)$ is injective.)

③ ~~Kernel~~ Image :- Let $\varphi: \mathcal{F} \rightarrow \mathcal{G}$ be a morphism of sheaves.

• The presheaf image of φ is $U \mapsto \text{im}(\varphi(U))$

• The image of φ , $\text{im}(\varphi)$ is the sheafification of the presheaf image of φ .

since at a presheaf level one has $\text{im}(\varphi(U)) \subset \mathcal{G}(U)$, one gets

~~rather~~ a map $\text{im}(\varphi) \rightarrow \mathcal{G}$ of sheaves

Fact :- $\text{im}(\varphi) \rightarrow \mathcal{G}$ is injective. (Exercise!)

So one can identify $\text{im}(\varphi)$ as a subsheaf of \mathcal{G} .

• A morphism $\varphi: \mathcal{F} \rightarrow \mathcal{G}$ of sheaves is said to be surjective if $\text{im}(\varphi) = \mathcal{G}$.

(4) Quotient :- Let \mathcal{H} be a subsheaf of a sheaf \mathcal{G} .
 The quotient \mathcal{G}/\mathcal{H} is the sheafification of the presheaf
 $U \mapsto \mathcal{G}(U)/\mathcal{H}(U)$.

(5) Cokernel :- Let $\varphi: \mathcal{F} \rightarrow \mathcal{G}$ be a morphism of ~~sheaves~~ sheaves.
 The cokernel of φ $\text{coker}(\varphi)$ is the sheaf $\mathcal{G}/\text{im}(\varphi)$.

Note:- Let $\varphi: \mathcal{F} \rightarrow \mathcal{G}$ be a morphism of ~~sheaves~~ sheaves.

(i) φ is injective $\Leftrightarrow \varphi(U): \mathcal{F}(U) \rightarrow \mathcal{G}(U)$ is injective $\forall U$.
 $\Leftrightarrow \varphi_x: \mathcal{F}_x \rightarrow \mathcal{G}_x$ " " $\forall x \in X$.

$U \mapsto \text{ker}(\varphi)(U)$
~~is~~ is already a sheaf!

(ii) φ is surjective $\Leftrightarrow \varphi_x: \mathcal{F}_x \rightarrow \mathcal{G}_x$ is surjective $\forall x \in X$.

The maps $\varphi(U): \mathcal{F}(U) \rightarrow \mathcal{G}(U)$ need not be surjective.

$(U \mapsto \text{Im}(\varphi(U))$ is not a sheaf!)

(6) A sequence $\mathcal{F} \xrightarrow{\varphi} \mathcal{G} \xrightarrow{\psi} \mathcal{H}$ of morphism of sheaves is exact if $\text{Ker}(\psi) = \text{Im}(\varphi)$.

Theorem

The category S_X of sheaves (of abelian groups) on X is an abelian category.

§7 Changing the base space.

Let $f: X \rightarrow Y$ be a continuous fn. of top. spaces.

We want to move sheaves on X , via f , to sheaves on Y
and also move sheaves on Y , " " " " X .

① Direct image. Let \mathcal{F} be a sheaf on X , $f: X \rightarrow Y$ cont. fn.
The direct image $f_*\mathcal{F}$ is the sheaf on Y defined by:-

$$V \mapsto f_*\mathcal{F}(V) := \mathcal{F}(f^{-1}(V))$$

(this is indeed a sheaf!) $f_*: S_X \rightarrow S_Y$ is a functor.

② Inverse Image. \therefore Let \mathcal{G} be a sheaf on Y , $f: X \rightarrow Y$ cont. fn.
The inverse image $f^*\mathcal{G}$ of \mathcal{G} is the sheafification of the presheaf $f'\mathcal{G}$

$$U \mapsto \varinjlim_{f(U) \subset V} \mathcal{G}(V) = f'\mathcal{G}(U) \quad (f^*\mathcal{G} = f'\mathcal{G}^\#)$$

This definition is made so that at the level of stalks we have:-

$$f^*\mathcal{G}_x = \mathcal{G}_{f(x)}$$

$f^*: S_Y \rightarrow S_X$ is a functor.

Theorem (Adjunction formula).

Let $f: X \rightarrow Y$ be a continuous fn.

Then f^* is a left adjoint of f_* and f_* is a right adjoint of f^* ,
i.e., \forall sheaves \mathcal{F} on X , and \forall sheaves \mathcal{G} on Y there is a
functorial isomorphism:-

$$\text{Hom}_{S_X}(f^*\mathcal{G}, \mathcal{F}) = \text{Hom}_{S_Y}(\mathcal{G}, f_*\mathcal{F})$$

Proof:-

$$\text{Hom}_{S_x}(f^*g, F) \begin{matrix} \xrightarrow{\alpha} \\ \xleftarrow{\beta} \end{matrix} \text{Hom}_{S_y}(g, f_*F).$$

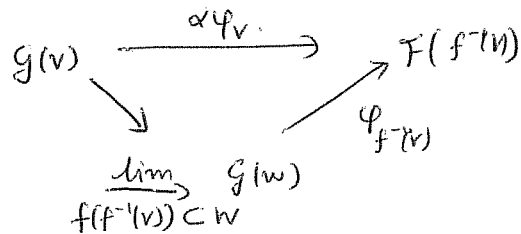
α is defined as follows:-

Let $\varphi \in \text{Hom}_{S_x}(f^*g, F)$.
 \parallel
 $\text{Hom}_{PS_x}(f'g, F)$

Then $\varphi = \{\varphi_u\}$ with
 $\varphi_u: f^*g(u) \rightarrow F(u)$
 \parallel
 $\lim_{f(u) \subset V} g(v) \xrightarrow{\varphi_u} F(u)$

$\alpha\varphi \in \text{Hom}_{S_y}(g, f_*F)$. Let $V \subset_{\text{open}} Y$.

$$\alpha\varphi_v: g(v) \rightarrow f_*F(v) = F(f^{-1}(v))$$



β is defined as:

Let $\psi \in \text{Hom}_{S_y}(g, f_*F)$

$\psi = \{\psi_v\}$ $\psi_v: g(v) \rightarrow F(f^{-1}(v))$.

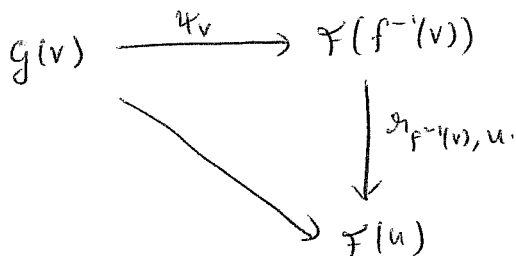
want $\beta\psi \in \text{Hom}_{S_x}(f^*g, F) = \text{Hom}_{PS_x}(f'g, F)$

want:- $\forall u \subset_{\text{open}} X$, $\beta\psi_u: f'g(u) \rightarrow F(u)$
 \parallel
 $\lim_{f(u) \subset V} g(v) \xrightarrow{\beta\psi_u} F(u)$

To get a map from direct limit, it suffices to give a map from each piece:

want:- $f(u) \subset V$, $g(v) \rightarrow F(u)$

$f(u) \subset V \Rightarrow$ ~~g(v) \rightarrow F(u)~~ $u \subset f^{-1}(v)$.



is the required map.

§8 Restrictions & Extensions by zero:-

Defn:-

Let A be a subset of X .

Give A the subspace topology.

Let $i: A \hookrightarrow X$ be the inclusion map.

Given any sheaf \mathcal{F} on X , the restriction of \mathcal{F} to A , $\mathcal{F}|_A$,

is defined as $\mathcal{F}|_A = i^*\mathcal{F}$,

the inverse image of \mathcal{F} via i .

Note:- $\forall a \in A, (\mathcal{F}|_A)_a = \mathcal{F}_a$.

Fun extending a sheaf, outside a given subset, by zero is a little delicate. It depends on the "topology" of the subset.

If the subset is closed then simply take the direct image sheaf.

If the subset is open there is a possible problem at the boundary

of U . (look at ~~the~~ homework problem #5; or Hartshorne Exer. 1.

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