

Conversely, $\delta^* \beta^* = 0$, since, ^{given} $\forall \sigma \in C^p(\underline{U}, \mathcal{F})$, with $\delta \sigma = 0$, $\beta \sigma \in C^p(\underline{U}, \mathcal{G})$

$$0 \rightarrow C^p(\underline{U}, \mathcal{E}) \xrightarrow{\alpha} C^p(\underline{U}, \mathcal{F}) \xrightarrow{\beta} C^p(\underline{U}, \mathcal{G}) \rightarrow 0$$

What is $\delta^* \beta \sigma$?

$$0 \rightarrow C^{p+1}(\underline{U}, \mathcal{E}) \rightarrow C^{p+1}(\underline{U}, \mathcal{F}) \rightarrow C^{p+1}(\underline{U}, \mathcal{G}) \rightarrow 0$$

Commutative diagram showing the relationship between the sequences:

$$\begin{array}{ccccc} & & \downarrow \sigma & \xrightarrow{\quad} & \downarrow \beta \sigma \\ & & \downarrow \delta & & \downarrow \delta \\ & & 0 & & 0 \\ & \swarrow & & \searrow & \\ 0 & \rightarrow & C^{p+1}(\underline{U}, \mathcal{E}) & \rightarrow & C^{p+1}(\underline{U}, \mathcal{F}) \end{array}$$

$$\delta^*(\beta \sigma) = 0.$$

The remaining stages are similar but easier.

The most common application of the exact cohomology sequence associated to a sheaf sequence

$$0 \rightarrow \mathcal{E} \xrightarrow{\alpha} \mathcal{F} \xrightarrow{\beta} \mathcal{G} \rightarrow 0$$

is to answer the question: given a global section σ of \mathcal{G} , when is σ the image under β of a global section of \mathcal{F} ? The answer, according to the exact sequence, is that this is the case exactly when $\delta^* \sigma = 0$ in $H^1(M, \mathcal{E})$.

$$H^0(M, \mathcal{E}) \rightarrow H^0(M, \mathcal{F}) \rightarrow H^0(M, \mathcal{G}) \xrightarrow{\delta^*} H^1(M, \mathcal{E}) \rightarrow \dots$$

$$? \xrightarrow{\quad} \sigma \xrightarrow{\quad} 0$$

For example, consider the exact sequence

$$0 \rightarrow \mathcal{O} \xrightarrow{\alpha = \bar{\iota}} \mathcal{M} \xrightarrow{\beta = \text{projection}} \mathcal{P} \rightarrow 0$$

on a Riemann surface M .