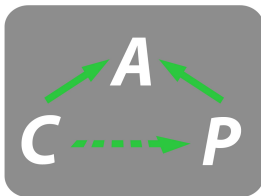


# Category theory as a foundation for algorithms and programming in computer algebra

Sebastian Posur

RWTH Aachen

January 15, 2016



## 1 Categories, Algorithms, and Programming

- 1 Categories, Algorithms, and Programming
- 2 Generalized Morphisms

## Section 1

# Categories, Algorithms, and Programming

# Spectral Sequence Algorithm

Let  $\mathbf{A}$  be an abelian category (e.g. the category of abelian groups).

# Spectral Sequence Algorithm

Let  $\mathbf{A}$  be an abelian category (e.g. the category of abelian groups).

**Q:** How to handle spectral sequences in  $\mathbf{A}$  algorithmically?

# Spectral Sequence Algorithm

Let  $\mathbf{A}$  be an abelian category (e.g. the category of abelian groups).

Q: How to handle spectral sequences in  $\mathbf{A}$  algorithmically?

## Spectral Sequence Algorithm

$$\mathcal{F} \in \text{Filt}(\text{Ch}(\mathbf{A}))$$

# Spectral Sequence Algorithm

Let  $\mathbf{A}$  be an abelian category (e.g. the category of abelian groups).

Q: How to handle spectral sequences in  $\mathbf{A}$  algorithmically?

## Spectral Sequence Algorithm

$\mathcal{F} \in \text{Filt}(\text{Ch}(\mathbf{A}))$

3-dimensional  
array of objects  
and morphisms



# Spectral Sequence Algorithm

Let  $\mathbf{A}$  be an abelian category (e.g. the category of abelian groups).

Q: How to handle spectral sequences in  $\mathbf{A}$  algorithmically?

## Spectral Sequence Algorithm

$\mathcal{F} \in \text{Filt}(\text{Ch}(\mathbf{A}))$

Spectral Sequence Algorithm

3-dimensional  
array of objects  
and morphisms

# Spectral Sequence Algorithm

Let  $\mathbf{A}$  be an abelian category (e.g. the category of abelian groups).

Q: How to handle spectral sequences in  $\mathbf{A}$  algorithmically?

## Spectral Sequence Algorithm

$\mathcal{F} \in \text{Filt}(\text{Ch}(\mathbf{A}))$

Spectral Sequence Algorithm

3-dimensional  
array of objects  
and morphisms

Depends only on primitive operations dictated by the axioms.

# Spectral Sequence Algorithm

Let  $\mathbf{A}$  be an **abelian** category (e.g. the category of abelian groups).

**Q:** How to handle spectral sequences in  $\mathbf{A}$  algorithmically?

## Spectral Sequence Algorithm

$\mathcal{F} \in \text{Filt}(\text{Ch}(\mathbf{A}))$

Spectral Sequence Algorithm

3-dimensional  
array of objects  
and morphisms

Depends only on primitive operations dictated by the **axioms**.

# Axioms of on Abelian Category

Needed operations:  $\circ, +, -$

# Axioms of on Abelian Category

Needed operations:  $\circ$ ,  $+$ ,  $-$ ,  $\oplus$ ,  $\text{Ker}$ ,  $\text{Coker}$ .

# Axioms of on Abelian Category

Needed operations:  $\circ$ ,  $+$ ,  $-$ ,  $\oplus$ , **Ker**, Coker.

# Axioms of on Abelian Category

Needed operations:  $\circ$ ,  $+$ ,  $-$ ,  $\oplus$ , **Ker**, Coker. Let  $\varphi$  be a morphism.

# Axioms of on Abelian Category

Needed operations:  $\circ$ ,  $+$ ,  $-$ ,  $\oplus$ , **Ker**, Coker. Let  $\varphi$  be a morphism. To handle the kernel of  $\varphi$  algorithmically ...

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



# Axioms of on Abelian Category

Needed operations:  $\circ$ ,  $+$ ,  $-$ ,  $\oplus$ , **Ker**, Coker. Let  $\varphi$  be a morphism. To handle the kernel of  $\varphi$  algorithmically ...

... one has to construct the **object**  $\ker \varphi$ ,

$\ker \varphi$

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

# Axioms of on Abelian Category

Needed operations:  $\circ$ ,  $+$ ,  $-$ ,  $\oplus$ , **Ker**, Coker. Let  $\varphi$  be a morphism. To handle the kernel of  $\varphi$  algorithmically ...

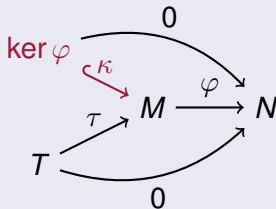
... one has to construct the **object  $\ker\varphi$** ,  
its **embedding into the object  $M$** ,

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

# Axioms of on Abelian Category

Needed operations:  $\circ$ ,  $+$ ,  $-$ ,  $\oplus$ , **Ker**, Coker. Let  $\varphi$  be a morphism. To handle the kernel of  $\varphi$  algorithmically ...

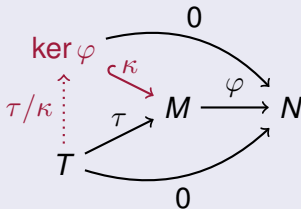
... one has to construct the **object**  $\ker\varphi$ ,  
 its **embedding into the object**  $M$ ,  
 and for every test object  $T$



# Axioms of on Abelian Category

Needed operations:  $\circ$ ,  $+$ ,  $-$ ,  $\oplus$ , **Ker**, Coker. Let  $\varphi$  be a morphism. To handle the kernel of  $\varphi$  algorithmically ...

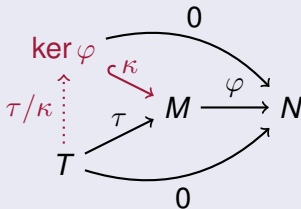
... one has to construct the **object**  $\ker \varphi$ ,  
 its **embedding into the object**  $M$ ,  
 and for every test object  $T$   
 a **morphism given by**  $\ker \varphi$ 's universal property.



# Axioms of on Abelian Category

Needed operations:  $\circ$ ,  $+$ ,  $-$ ,  $\oplus$ , **Ker**, Coker. Let  $\varphi$  be a morphism. To handle the kernel of  $\varphi$  algorithmically ...

... one has to construct the **object**  $\ker\varphi$ ,  
 its **embedding into the object**  $M$ ,  
 and for every test object  $T$   
 a **morphism given by**  $\ker\varphi$ 's universal property.



Thus a proper implementation of the kernel needs **three** algorithms.

## CAP

So we need a computer algebra system with . . .

So we need a computer algebra system with . . .

- the possibility to implement sophisticated categorical algorithms and data structures using primitive categorical operations,

So we need a computer algebra system with . . .

- the possibility to implement sophisticated categorical algorithms and data structures using primitive categorical operations,
- an interface to interpret these primitive categorical operations by computable operations (of various computer algebra systems).



## CAP

So we need a computer algebra system with . . .

- the possibility to implement sophisticated categorical algorithms and data structures using primitive categorical operations,
- an interface to interpret these primitive categorical operations by computable operations (of various computer algebra systems).

$\rightsquigarrow$  CAP

# What is CAP?

CAP means **C**ategories, **A**lgorithms, and **P**rogramming

# What is CAP?

CAP means **Categories, algorithms, and programming** and is a software project implemented in GAP (Groups, algorithms, and programming)

# What is CAP?

CAP means **Categories, algorithms, and programming** and is a software project implemented in GAP (Groups, algorithms, and programming) (joint work with Sebastian Gutsche, based on ideas of the `homalg` project (Mohamed Barakat)).

# What is CAP?

CAP means **Categories, algorithms, and programming** and is a software project implemented in GAP (Groups, algorithms, and programming) (joint work with Sebastian Gutsche, based on ideas of the `homalg` project (Mohamed Barakat)).

- CAP serves as a categorical programming language with categorical operations as primitives.

# What is CAP?

CAP means **Categories, algorithms, and programming** and is a software project implemented in GAP (Groups, algorithms, and programming) (joint work with Sebastian Gutsche, based on ideas of the `homalg` project (Mohamed Barakat)).

- CAP serves as a categorical programming language with categorical operations as primitives.
- CAP has an interface for the interpretation of these categorical operations.

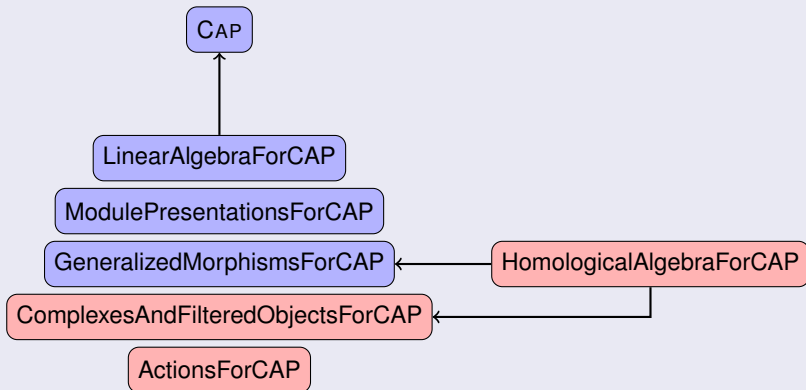
# What is CAP?

CAP means **Categories, algorithms, and programming** and is a software project implemented in GAP (Groups, algorithms, and programming) (joint work with Sebastian Gutsche, based on ideas of the `homalg` project (Mohamed Barakat)).

- CAP serves as a categorical programming language with categorical operations as primitives.
- CAP has an interface for the interpretation of these categorical operations.

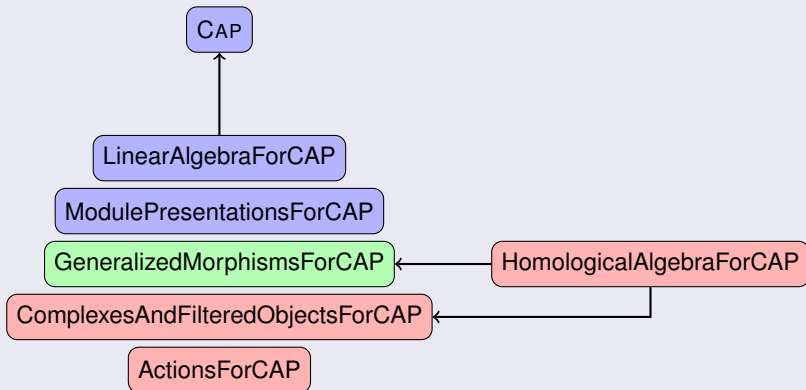
Using CAP we are now able to implement the categorical data structures and algorithms which we need.

# CAP Packages





# CAP Packages



## Section 2

# Generalized Morphisms

## Connecting Homomorphism in the Snake Lemma

$$\begin{array}{ccccccc}
 & & & & & \ker(\gamma) & \\
 & & & & & \downarrow & \\
 & & & & & C & \longrightarrow 0 \\
 & & & & \epsilon & \downarrow \gamma & \\
 A & \longrightarrow & B & \longrightarrow & C & & \\
 \alpha \downarrow & & \beta \downarrow & & \downarrow & & \\
 0 & \longrightarrow & A' & \xrightarrow{\mu} & B' & \longrightarrow & C' \\
 & & \downarrow & & & & \\
 & & \text{coker}(\alpha) & & & & 
 \end{array}$$

Wanted:  $\ker(\gamma) \xrightarrow{\partial} \text{coker}(\alpha)$ .

## Connecting Homomorphism in the Snake Lemma

$$\begin{array}{ccccccc}
 & & & & & c \in \ker(\gamma) & \\
 & & & & & \downarrow & \\
 & & & & & C & \longrightarrow 0 \\
 & & & & \epsilon & \downarrow \gamma & \\
 A & \longrightarrow & B & \longrightarrow & C & & \\
 \alpha \downarrow & & \beta \downarrow & & \downarrow & & \\
 0 & \longrightarrow & A' & \xrightarrow{\mu} & B' & \longrightarrow & C' \\
 & & \downarrow & & & & \\
 & & \text{coker}(\alpha) & & & & 
 \end{array}$$

Start:  $c \in \ker(\gamma)$ .





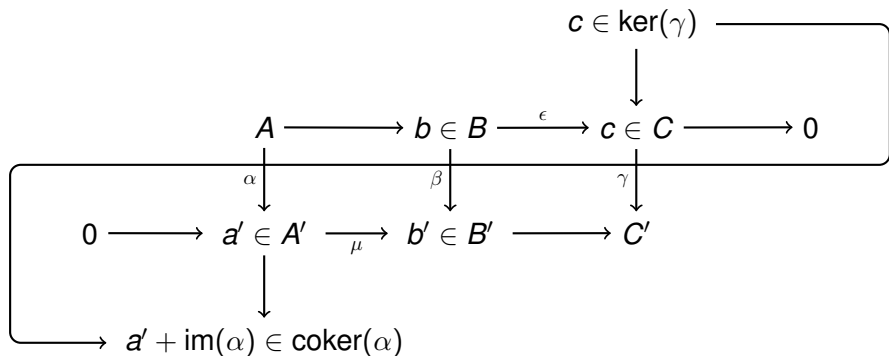






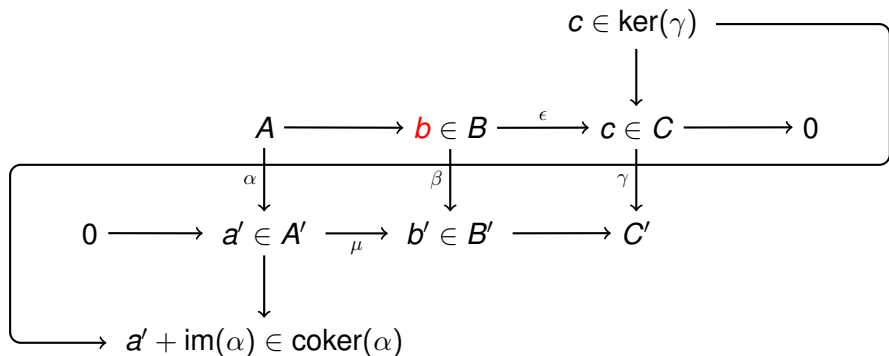


## Connecting Homomorphism in the Snake Lemma



Result:  $c \xrightarrow{\partial} a' + \text{im}(\alpha)$ .

## Connecting Homomorphism in the Snake Lemma



Result:  $c \xrightarrow{\partial} a' + \text{im}(\alpha)$ . Independent of the **choice**.



# Relations

Let  $A, B$  be abelian groups.

# Relations

Let  $A, B$  be abelian groups.

## Definition

A subgroup  $f \subseteq A \oplus B$  is called a **relation from  $A$  to  $B$** .

# Relations

Let  $A, B$  be abelian groups.

## Definition

A subgroup  $f \subseteq A \oplus B$  is called a **relation from  $A$  to  $B$** .

## Example

Let  $\epsilon : B \rightarrow C$  be a homomorphism of abelian groups.

# Relations

Let  $A, B$  be abelian groups.

## Definition

A subgroup  $f \subseteq A \oplus B$  is called a **relation from  $A$  to  $B$** .

## Example

Let  $\epsilon : B \rightarrow C$  be a homomorphism of abelian groups.

$$\Gamma(\epsilon) := \{(b, c) \in B \oplus C \mid \epsilon(b) = c\}$$

is a relation from  $B$  to  $C$



# Relations

Let  $A, B$  be abelian groups.

## Definition

A subgroup  $f \subseteq A \oplus B$  is called a **relation from  $A$  to  $B$** .

## Example

Let  $\epsilon : B \rightarrow C$  be a homomorphism of abelian groups.

$$\Gamma(\epsilon) := \{(b, c) \in B \oplus C \mid \epsilon(b) = c\}$$

is a relation from  $B$  to  $C$ , called **graph of  $\epsilon$**

# Relations

Let  $A, B$  be abelian groups.

## Definition

A subgroup  $f \subseteq A \oplus B$  is called a **relation from  $A$  to  $B$** .

## Example

Let  $\epsilon : B \rightarrow C$  be a homomorphism of abelian groups.

$$\Gamma(\epsilon) := \{(b, c) \in B \oplus C \mid \epsilon(b) = c\}$$

is a relation from  $B$  to  $C$ , called **graph of  $\epsilon$** , and

$$\epsilon^{-1} := \{(c, b) \in C \oplus B \mid \epsilon(b) = c\}$$

is a relation from  $C$  to  $B$

# Relations

Let  $A, B$  be abelian groups.

## Definition

A subgroup  $f \subseteq A \oplus B$  is called a **relation from  $A$  to  $B$** .

## Example

Let  $\epsilon : B \rightarrow C$  be a homomorphism of abelian groups.

$$\Gamma(\epsilon) := \{(b, c) \in B \oplus C \mid \epsilon(b) = c\}$$

is a relation from  $B$  to  $C$ , called **graph of  $\epsilon$** , and

$$\epsilon^{-1} := \{(c, b) \in C \oplus B \mid \epsilon(b) = c\}$$

is a relation from  $C$  to  $B$ , called **pseudo-inverse**.

# Relations

## Composition of Relations

# Relations

## Composition of Relations

Given  $f \subseteq A \oplus B$  and  $g \subseteq B \oplus C$ , define

# Relations

## Composition of Relations

Given  $f \subseteq A \oplus B$  and  $g \subseteq B \oplus C$ , define

$$g \circ f := \{(a, c) \in A \oplus C \mid \exists b \in B : (a, b) \in f, (b, c) \in g\}$$

# Relations

## Composition of Relations

Given  $f \subseteq A \oplus B$  and  $g \subseteq B \oplus C$ , define

$$g \circ f := \{(a, c) \in A \oplus C \mid \exists b \in B : (a, b) \in f, (b, c) \in g\}$$

If  $f$  and  $g$  correspond to maps, this describes their usual composition.

## Snake Lemma Revisited

$$\begin{array}{ccccccc}
 & & & & & \ker(\gamma) & \\
 & & & & & \downarrow \iota & \\
 & & & & & C & \longrightarrow 0 \\
 & & & & & \downarrow \gamma & \\
 & & & & & C' & \\
 & & & & & \downarrow \beta & \\
 & & & & & B & \xrightarrow{\epsilon} C \\
 & & & & & \downarrow \alpha & \\
 & & & & & A & \longrightarrow B \\
 & & & & & \downarrow \alpha & \\
 & & & & & A' & \xrightarrow{\mu} B' \\
 & & & & & \downarrow \pi & \\
 & & & & & \text{coker}(\alpha) & \\
 0 & \longrightarrow & A' & \longrightarrow & B' & \longrightarrow & C'
 \end{array}$$

Wanted:  $\ker(\gamma) \xrightarrow{\partial} \text{coker}(\alpha)$ .

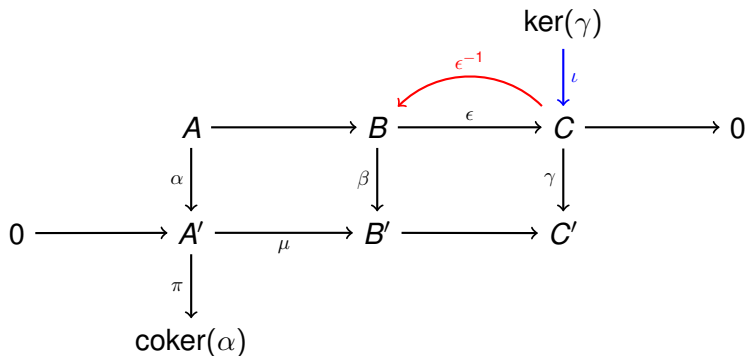


## Snake Lemma Revisited

$$\begin{array}{ccccccc}
 & & & & & \ker(\gamma) & \\
 & & & & & \downarrow \iota & \\
 & & & & & C & \longrightarrow 0 \\
 & & A & \longrightarrow & B & \xrightarrow{\epsilon} & C \\
 & & \downarrow \alpha & & \downarrow \beta & & \downarrow \gamma \\
 0 & \longrightarrow & A' & \xrightarrow{\mu} & B' & \longrightarrow & C' \\
 & & \downarrow \pi & & & & \\
 & & \text{coker}(\alpha) & & & & 
 \end{array}$$

 $\iota$

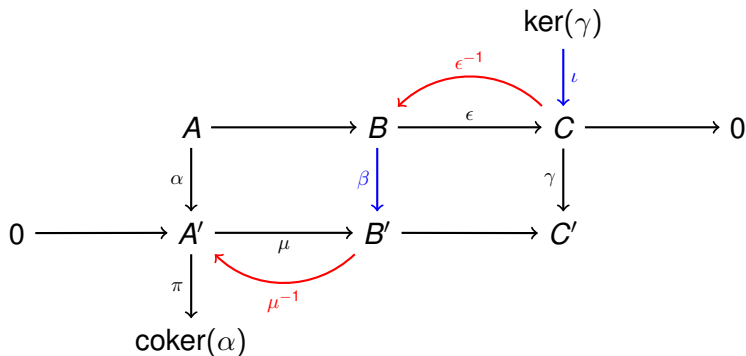
## Snake Lemma Revisited



$$\epsilon^{-1} \circ l$$

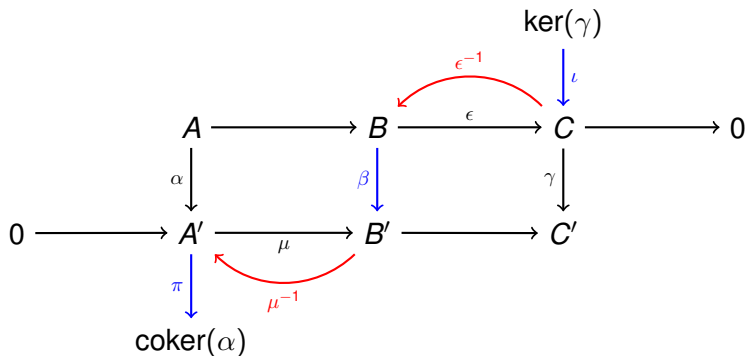


## Snake Lemma Revisited



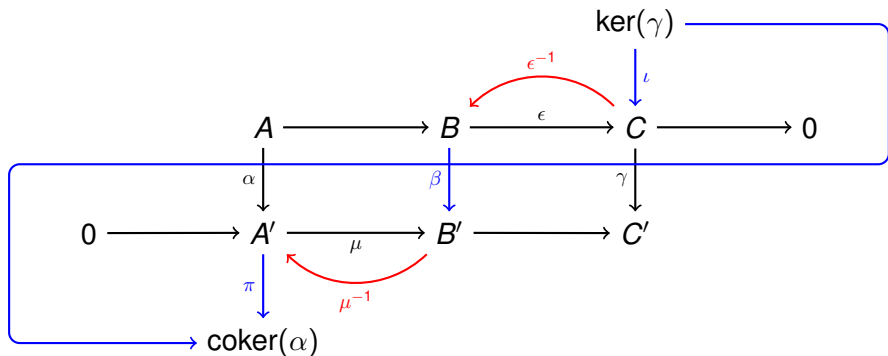
$$\mu^{-1} \circ \beta \circ \epsilon^{-1} \circ \iota$$

## Snake Lemma Revisited



$$\pi \circ \mu^{-1} \circ \beta \circ \epsilon^{-1} \circ \iota$$

## Snake Lemma Revisited



**$\partial$  is a composition of relations!**

# From Relations to Generalized Morphisms

- **Wanted:** A categorical framework for relations.

# From Relations to Generalized Morphisms

- **Wanted:** A categorical framework for relations.
- **Solution:** Generalized Morphisms.



# From Relations to Generalized Morphisms

Let  $A, B$  be objects in an abelian category  $\mathbf{A}$ .

# From Relations to Generalized Morphisms

Let  $A, B$  be objects in an abelian category  $\mathbf{A}$ .

Relation

$$\begin{array}{c} A \oplus B \\ \uparrow \\ D \end{array}$$

# From Relations to Generalized Morphisms

Let  $A, B$  be objects in an abelian category  $\mathbf{A}$ .

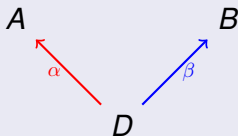
Relation

$$\begin{array}{c} A \oplus B \\ \left( \begin{array}{c} \alpha \\ \beta \end{array} \right) \updownarrow \\ D \end{array}$$

# From Relations to Generalized Morphisms

Let  $A, B$  be objects in an abelian category  $\mathbf{A}$ .

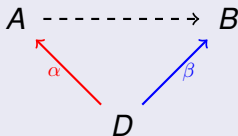
Relation



# From Relations to Generalized Morphisms

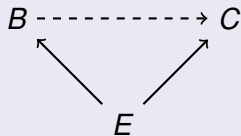
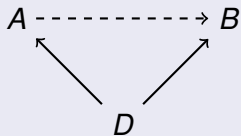
Let  $A, B$  be objects in an abelian category  $\mathbf{A}$ .

Relation  $\rightsquigarrow$  Generalized Morphism



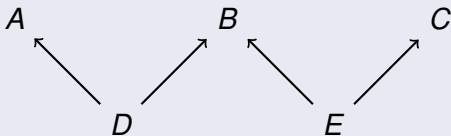
# Composition of Generalized Morphisms

## Composition



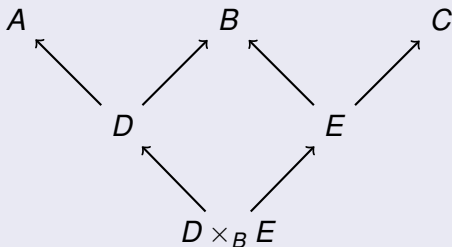
# Composition of Generalized Morphisms

## Composition



# Composition of Generalized Morphisms

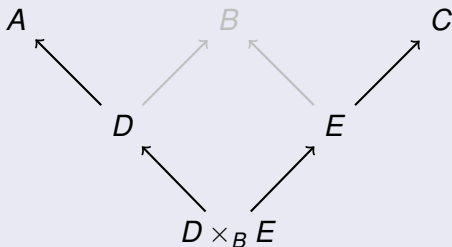
## Composition





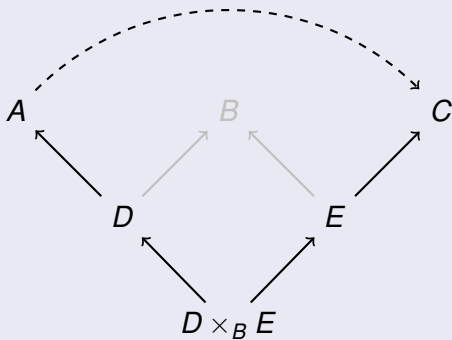
# Composition of Generalized Morphisms

## Composition



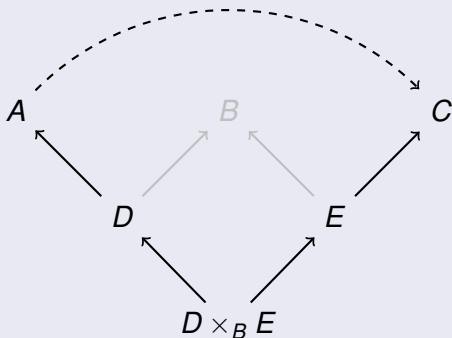
# Composition of Generalized Morphisms

## Composition



# Composition of Generalized Morphisms

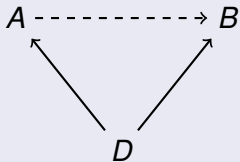
## Composition



Pullbacks  $\rightsquigarrow$  Composition of generalized morphisms

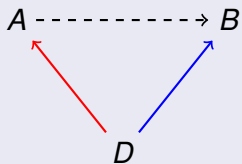
# Pseudo-Inverses

## Pseudo-Inverses



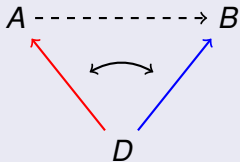
# Pseudo-Inverses

## Pseudo-Inverses



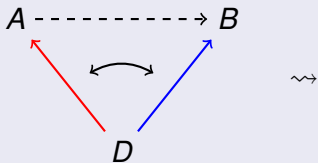
# Pseudo-Inverses

## Pseudo-Inverses



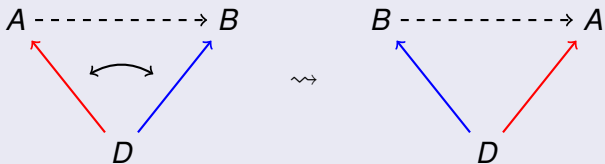
# Pseudo-Inverses

## Pseudo-Inverses



# Pseudo-Inverses

## Pseudo-Inverses





# Generalized Morphisms in CAP

## Realization in CAP

- CAP provides generalized morphisms as a data structure.

# Generalized Morphisms in CAP

## Realization in CAP

- CAP provides generalized morphisms as a data structure.
- 3 different data structures:

# Generalized Morphisms in CAP

## Realization in CAP

- CAP provides generalized morphisms as a data structure.
- 3 different data structures:
  - 1 Spans:  $A \leftarrow D \rightarrow B$

# Generalized Morphisms in CAP

## Realization in CAP

- CAP provides generalized morphisms as a data structure.
- 3 different data structures:
  - 1 Spans:  $A \leftarrow D \rightarrow B$
  - 2 Cospans:  $A \rightarrow D \leftarrow B$

# Generalized Morphisms in CAP

## Realization in CAP

- CAP provides generalized morphisms as a data structure.
- 3 different data structures:
  - 1 Spans:  $A \leftarrow D \rightarrow B$
  - 2 Cospans:  $A \rightarrow D \leftarrow B$
  - 3 3-arrow:  $A \leftarrow D \rightarrow E \leftarrow B$

# Generalized Morphisms in CAP

## Realization in CAP

- CAP provides generalized morphisms as a data structure.
- 3 different data structures:
  - 1 Spans:  $A \leftarrow D \rightarrow B$
  - 2 Cospans:  $A \rightarrow D \leftarrow B$
  - 3 3-arrow:  $A \leftarrow D \rightarrow E \leftarrow B$
- They are useful for:

# Generalized Morphisms in CAP

## Realization in CAP

- CAP provides generalized morphisms as a data structure.
- 3 different data structures:
  - 1 Spans:  $A \leftarrow D \rightarrow B$
  - 2 Cospans:  $A \rightarrow D \leftarrow B$
  - 3 3-arrow:  $A \leftarrow D \rightarrow E \leftarrow B$
- They are useful for:
  - 1 Diagram chases

# Generalized Morphisms in CAP

## Realization in CAP

- CAP provides generalized morphisms as a data structure.
- 3 different data structures:
  - 1 Spans:  $A \leftarrow D \rightarrow B$
  - 2 Cospans:  $A \rightarrow D \leftarrow B$
  - 3 3-arrow:  $A \leftarrow D \rightarrow E \leftarrow B$
- They are useful for:
  - 1 Diagram chases
  - 2 Spectral sequences



# Generalized Morphisms in CAP

## Realization in CAP

- CAP provides generalized morphisms as a data structure.
- 3 different data structures:
  - 1 Spans:  $A \leftarrow D \rightarrow B$
  - 2 Cospans:  $A \rightarrow D \leftarrow B$
  - 3 3-arrow:  $A \leftarrow D \rightarrow E \leftarrow B$
- They are useful for:
  - 1 Diagram chases
  - 2 Spectral sequences
  - 3 Localization of categories

# Generalized Morphisms in CAP

## Realization in CAP

- CAP provides generalized morphisms as a data structure.
- 3 different data structures:
  - 1 Spans:  $A \leftarrow D \rightarrow B$
  - 2 Cospans:  $A \rightarrow D \leftarrow B$
  - 3 3-arrow:  $A \leftarrow D \rightarrow E \leftarrow B$
- They are useful for:
  - 1 Diagram chases
  - 2 Spectral sequences
  - 3 Localization of categories (Serre quotients)

# Download CAP

## Download CAP

`http://homalg-project.github.io/CAP\_project/`