

A **chain complex** is a sequence of homomorphisms of abelian groups

$$\dots \longrightarrow C_{n+1} \xrightarrow{\partial_{n+1}} C_n \xrightarrow{\partial_n} \dots \longrightarrow C_1 \xrightarrow{\partial_1} C_0 \rightarrow 0$$

where  $\partial_n \circ \partial_{n+1} = 0$  for each  $n \in \mathbb{N}$ . We define the  $n^{\text{th}}$  **homology group** of the chain complex to be the quotient  $H_n(C) = \text{Ker}\partial_n / \text{Im}\partial_{n+1}$ .

**Exercise 1.** Compute the homology of the following chain complexes:

- (1)  $\dots \rightarrow 0 \rightarrow 0 \rightarrow \mathbb{Z} \xrightarrow{\text{id}} \mathbb{Z} \rightarrow 0$ . Here  $C_1 = C_0 = \mathbb{Z}$  and all other groups are zero.
- (2)  $\dots \rightarrow \mathbb{Z} \xrightarrow{\text{id}} \mathbb{Z} \xrightarrow{0} \mathbb{Z} \xrightarrow{\text{id}} \mathbb{Z} \rightarrow 0$ . All groups are  $\mathbb{Z}$  and the boundary maps alternate between the identity map and the zero map.
- (3)  $\dots \rightarrow 0 \rightarrow \mathbb{Z}\{U, L\} \xrightarrow{\partial_2} \mathbb{Z}\{a, b, c\} \xrightarrow{\partial_1} \mathbb{Z} \rightarrow 0$  where  $\partial_1(a) = \partial_1(b) = \partial_1(c) = 0$  and  $\partial_2(U) = \partial_2(L) = a + b - c$ .
- (4)  $\dots \rightarrow 0 \rightarrow \mathbb{Z}\{U, L\} \xrightarrow{\partial_2} \mathbb{Z}\{a, b, c\} \xrightarrow{\partial_1} \mathbb{Z}\{u, v, w\} \rightarrow 0$   $\partial_1(a) = u - v$ ,  $\partial_1(b) = u - w$ ,  $\partial_1(c) = w - v$ ,  $\partial_2(U) = -a + b + c$ , and  $\partial_2(L) = a - b - c$ .