152. Note on Fundamental Exact Sequences in Homology and Cohomology for Non-normal Subgroups

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The purpose of the present note is to observe that the fundamental exact sequences, or the exact sequences of Hochschild-Serre [4], in homology and cohomology of groups, which describe a certain relationship between homology or cohomology groups of a group, its normal subgroup, and the factor group, may be extended to the case of non-normal subgroups.

Thus, let G be a group and H a subgroup of G. With a (left) G-module M, Adamson [1] defines relative cohomology groups $H^n([G, H], M)$ on M, which in case H is normal in G turn out to coincide with the ordinary cohomology groups $H^n(G/H, M^H)$ of the factor group $G/H, M^H$ being the submodule of M consisting of all elements of M left invariant by H. The relative cohomology groups $H^n([G, H], M)$ may be defined either in terms of the standard complex for [G, H], as in [1], or more generally in terms of any [G, H]-projective resolution of the module Z of rational integers (i.e. a (Z[G], Z[S])-exact sequence $0 \leftarrow Z \leftarrow X_0 \leftarrow X_1 \leftarrow \cdots$ of Z[G]-modules in which each X_i is (Z[G], Z[S])-projective), and may be expressed as $\operatorname{Ext}^n_{\mathbb{I}^G, H]}(Z, M)$ $(=\operatorname{Ext}^n_{(Z[G], Z[H])}(Z, M))$, in the terminology and notation of Hochschild [3]. Now, Adamson [1] proves that if here $H^m(U, M)=0$ for m=1, \cdots , n-1 (n>0) and for every subgroup U of G which is an intersection of conjugates of H then the sequence

 $0 \to H^n([G, H], M) \xrightarrow{\iota} H^n(G, M) \xrightarrow{\rho} H^n(H, M)$

is exact, where ρ is the ordinary restriction map and λ is the lifting (or inflation) map defined for instance by the natural map of the standard complex of G onto that of [G, H]. We contend that this exact sequence can be enlarged to a larger exact sequence which specializes to the exact sequence of Hochschild-Serre [4] in case H is normal in G. Thus, under the same assumption as above, $H^m(U, M)=0$ for $m=1, \dots, n-1$ (n>0) and for every subgroup U of G which is an intersection of conjugates of H, we have an exact sequence

(1)
$$\begin{array}{c} 0 \to H^n([G, H], M) \stackrel{\lambda}{\longrightarrow} H^n(G, M) \stackrel{\rho}{\longrightarrow} H^n(H, M)^I \\ \stackrel{\tau}{\longrightarrow} H^{n+1}([G, H], M) \stackrel{\lambda}{\longrightarrow} H^{n+1}(G, M). \end{array}$$

where the maps λ , ρ are as before, $H^n(H, M)^I$ is a certain subgroup of $H^n(H, M)$, and the map τ , transgression, is defined, similarly as in