

COHOMOLOGY OF NONASSOCIATIVE ALGEBRAS

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The theories of associative and Lie cohomology for finite dimensional algebras over fields have much in common. Let \mathcal{A} be an associative algebra with unit over the field K , M a unital \mathcal{A} -bimodule; let \mathcal{L} be a Lie algebra over K , N an \mathcal{L} -bimodule. Define $H^n(\mathcal{A}, M) = \text{Ext}_{\mathcal{A} \otimes_K \mathcal{A}^0}^n(\mathcal{A}, M)$, $H^n(\mathcal{L}, N) = \text{Ext}_{U(\mathcal{L})}^n(K, N)$. Here \mathcal{A}^0 is the opposite algebra of \mathcal{A} , $U(\mathcal{L})$ is the universal enveloping algebra of \mathcal{L} , \mathcal{A} is regarded as the regular \mathcal{A} -bimodule, and K is regarded as a trivial \mathcal{L} -bimodule. We find that

(i) $H^1(\mathcal{A}, M)$, $H^1(\mathcal{L}, N)$ are naturally isomorphic to the K -vector-spaces of derivations from the algebra to the bimodule modulo the inner derivations from the algebra to the bimodule.

(ii) $H^0(\mathcal{A}, M)$, $H^0(\mathcal{L}, N)$ are naturally isomorphic to the sub- K -vector spaces of M , N respectively that determine the inner derivation 0—i.e. $H^0(\mathcal{A}, M)$ is naturally isomorphic to the K -vector-space generated by $\{m \in M \mid m_R - m_L = 0\}$ and $H^0(\mathcal{L}, N)$ is naturally isomorphic to the K -vector-space generated by $\{n \in N \mid n_R = 0\}$.

(iii) $H^2(\mathcal{A}, M)$, $H^2(\mathcal{L}, N)$ are naturally isomorphic to the K -vector-spaces of equivalence classes of short singular extensions of M by \mathcal{A} , N by \mathcal{L} , respectively.

(iv) $H^n(\mathcal{A}, M)$, $H^n(\mathcal{L}, N)$, $n \geq 3$, are naturally isomorphic to the K -vector-spaces of equivalence classes of singular extensions of length n of M by \mathcal{A} , N by \mathcal{L} , respectively.

We construct a cohomology theory for an arbitrary nonassociative algebra satisfying a set of identities T , within which the associative and Lie theories are special cases. Let \mathcal{A} be a T -algebra over the commutative ring with unit K , M a T -bimodule for \mathcal{A} . We write $U(\mathcal{A})$ for the universal multiplication algebra of \mathcal{A} ; that is, $U(\mathcal{A})$ is an associative algebra with unit such that all \mathcal{A} -bimodules are right unital $U(\mathcal{A})$ -modules in a natural fashion and conversely. For details of this, see Jacobson [4a] or Knopfmacher [5].

Following Gerstenhaber, we make the next two definitions.

DEFINITION. $H^2(\mathcal{A}, M)$ is the K -module of (not necessarily K -split) equivalence classes of short singular extensions of M by \mathcal{A} .

DEFINITION. $H^n(\mathcal{A}, M)$, $n \geq 3$, is the K -module of (not necessarily K -split) equivalence classes of singular extensions of length n of M by \mathcal{A} .