

Čech cohomology of definable sets in o-minimal structures

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O-minimal spectrum

O-minimal spectrum

M is an **o-minimal** structure expanding an ordered field (in some language \mathcal{L}).

Definable := “definable **with parameters**”,

\emptyset -definable := “definable **without parameters**”.

Let $A \subseteq M^n$ be definable. The **o-minimal spectrum** of A is \tilde{A} , the set of complete types of A . Basis of the **spectral topology**: the sets of the form

$$\tilde{U} := \{ q \in \tilde{A} : U \in q \},$$

where U is a **definable** subset of M^n which is **open** in the topology of M^n .

The o-minimal spectrum generalises the real spectrum for real closed fields to the o-minimal situation.

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O-minimal spectrum

The spectral topology is **coarser** than the **Stone topology**, therefore \tilde{A} is **quasi-compact**. However, it is not T_1 : not all points are closed.

The subspace \underline{A} of **closed points** of \tilde{A} is **Hausdorff** and **compact** and **dense** in \tilde{A} . The map

$$\pi : \tilde{A} \rightarrow \underline{A}$$

sending $q \in \tilde{A}$ to the **unique** closed point in the closure of q is a **continuous** and closed **surjection**.

Example: $M = \mathbb{R}$, $q(x) = 0^+ := \{0 < x < r : r \in \mathbb{R}\}$. q is not a closed point. $\pi(q) = 0$.

Čech cohomology

X is a topological space, \mathcal{A} is a collection of nonempty subsets of X . The **nerve** of \mathcal{A} , denoted by $\mathcal{N}(\mathcal{A})$, is the **simplicial complex** whose simplices are the finite nonempty subsets of \mathcal{A} with nonempty intersection. The **vertices** of $\mathcal{N}(\mathcal{A})$ are the elements of \mathcal{A} .

$\mathcal{H}^*(\mathcal{A})$ is the **simplicial cohomology** of $\mathcal{N}(\mathcal{A})$. If \mathcal{B} is **refinement** of \mathcal{A} , the simplicial map $\mathcal{B} \rightarrow \mathcal{A}$ induces a map in cohomology $\mathcal{H}^*(\mathcal{A}) \rightarrow \mathcal{H}^*(\mathcal{B})$.

The **Čech cohomology** of X is given by

$$\check{\mathcal{H}}^*(X) := \varinjlim \mathcal{H}^*(\mathcal{A}),$$

taking finer and finer coverings \mathcal{A} of X .

For every covering \mathcal{A} of X there is a **canonical map**

$$\iota_{\mathcal{A}}^X : \mathcal{H}^*(\mathcal{A}) \rightarrow \check{\mathcal{H}}^*(X)$$

Sites

A **site** \mathfrak{F} on X is given by a collection $\text{Obj}(\mathfrak{F})$ of open subsets of X (the **admissible open sets**) and, for every $A \in \text{Obj}(\mathfrak{F})$, a collection of coverings of A by admissible open sets (the **admissible open coverings** of A), satisfying certain axioms.

The **Čech cohomology** of X with respect to \mathfrak{F} is

$$\check{\mathcal{H}}_{\mathfrak{F}}^*(X) := \varinjlim_{\mathcal{A} \text{ admissible}} \mathcal{H}^*(\mathcal{A}),$$

taking finer and finer **admissible** open coverings \mathcal{A} of X .

O-minimal site

$A \subseteq M^n$ definable.

O-minimal site \mathfrak{F}_A on A : admissible open sets := **definable open** sets

admissible coverings := **finite** coverings.

Every admissible covering \mathcal{A} of A induces open coverings $\widetilde{\mathcal{A}}$ of \widetilde{A} and $\underline{\mathcal{A}}$ of \underline{A} .

$$\widetilde{\mathcal{A}} := \{ \widetilde{U} : U \in \mathcal{A} \} \quad \underline{\mathcal{A}} := \{ \widetilde{U} \cap \underline{A} : U \in \mathcal{A} \}.$$

The **nerves** $\mathcal{N}(\mathcal{A})$, $\mathcal{N}(\widetilde{\mathcal{A}})$ and $\mathcal{N}(\underline{\mathcal{A}})$ are **isomorphic**.

Conversely, every open covering \mathcal{B} of \widetilde{A} can be **refined** to a covering of the form $\widetilde{\mathcal{A}}$, with \mathcal{A} admissible covering of A , and similarly for \underline{A} .

Čech Cohomology

$\check{\mathcal{H}}_{\mathfrak{F}}^*(A) :=$ Čech cohomology of A w.r.t. \mathfrak{F}_A .

$\check{\mathcal{H}}_{\mathfrak{F}}^*(A)$ is **canonically isomorphic** to $\check{\mathcal{H}}^*(\widetilde{A})$ and to $\check{\mathcal{H}}^*(\underline{A})$.

Real model

Hypothesis. M has an **Archimedean** prime submodel M_0 .

Remark 1. It is possible to extend uniquely the structure on M_0 to the real line \mathbb{R} , in such a way that M_0 is an elementary submodel of \mathbb{R} .

Let $A \subseteq M^n$ be \emptyset -definable. $A(\mathbb{R})$ is the subset of \mathbb{R}^n defined by the same formula defining A . Define

$$\check{\mathcal{H}}_{\mathbb{R}}^*(A) := \check{\mathcal{H}}^*(A(\mathbb{R})).$$

We will prove that

$$\check{\mathcal{H}}_{\mathfrak{F}}^*(A) \cong \check{\mathcal{H}}_{\mathbb{R}}^*(A).$$

The extension from M_0 to \mathbb{R} is built through Cauchy sequences.
 If $x \in \mathbb{R} \setminus M_0$, and $f : M_0 \rightarrow M_0$ is definable, define

$$f(x) := \lim_{y \rightarrow x, y \in M_0} f(y).$$

The fact that $\check{\mathcal{H}}_{\mathbb{S}}^*(A) \cong \check{\mathcal{H}}_{\mathbb{R}}^*(A)$ is non-trivial even for $M = \mathbb{R}$, because \underline{A} is compact, while $A = A(\mathbb{R})$ might not be compact.

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Leray's theorem

Leray's theorem

Let X be a topological space. $U \subseteq X$ is **acyclic** iff

$$\forall n > 0 \check{\mathcal{H}}^n(U) = 0.$$

\mathcal{A} is an **acyclic covering** of X iff every finite intersection of elements in \mathcal{A} is acyclic.

Theorem 1 (Leray). *Let X be a **compact Hausdorff** space, and \mathcal{A} an open covering of X . If \mathcal{A} is **acyclic**, then the **canonical** map $\mathcal{H}^*(\mathcal{A}) \rightarrow \check{\mathcal{H}}^*(X)$ is an **isomorphism**.*

Cohomology of a simplex

Lemma 1. *Let Δ be a standard $(n - 1)$ -simplex in M^n . Then,*

$$\check{H}_{\mathbb{F}}^m(A) = \begin{cases} G & \text{if } m = 0, \\ 0 & \text{if } m > 0, \end{cases}$$

where G is the coefficient group for the cohomology.

Let D be a simplicial complex. D is **linearly contractible** iff some (and hence all) realisation $|D|$ of D which is \emptyset -definable is contractible via a \emptyset -definable map in the semi-linear language.

Given a vertex v of D , the **star** of v , denoted by v^\star , is the set of simplices in D having v as a vertex.

Remark 2. If v_1, \dots, v_n are vertices of D , then $v_1^\star \cap \dots \cap v_n^\star$ is **linearly contractible** (if it is non-empty).

Remark 3. The set $\{ |v^\star| : v \in D \}$ is an admissible open covering of $|D|$.

D is an abstract complex, while $|D|$ is the “concrete” realisation of D in some M^n .

We will apply Leray’s theorem to coverings of the form $\{ |v^\star| : v \in D \}$.

Let \mathcal{A} be an admissible covering of the definable set A . (C, g) is a triangulation of A compatible with \mathcal{A} , and C' is the barycentric subdivision of A .

$$\mathcal{B} := \{ g(|v^*|) : v \text{ vertex of } C' \}$$

is the good refinement of \mathcal{A} given by (C', g) .

More in general, a good covering of A is of the form

$$\{ g(|v^*|) : v \in C \},$$

for some (C, g) triangulation of A .

Proof of Lemma 1

Proof of Lemma 1

\mathcal{A} is an admissible covering of Δ . It suffices to prove that \mathcal{A} has a refinement \mathcal{B} such that $\mathcal{H}^\#(\mathcal{B}) = 0$. Choose \mathcal{B} a good refinement of \mathcal{A} given by (C, g) , and

$$\mathcal{C} := g(\mathcal{B}) = \{ |v^*| : v \in C \}.$$

$\mathcal{N}(\mathcal{C}) \cong \mathcal{N}(\mathcal{B})$: it suffices to prove that $\mathcal{H}^\#(\mathcal{C}) = 0$.

The map g is a definable homeomorphism between $|C|$ and Δ . By transfer, we can assume that g is \emptyset -definable. Thus,

$$\check{\mathcal{H}}_{\mathbb{R}}^*(g) : \check{\mathcal{H}}_{\mathbb{R}}^*(\Delta) \rightarrow \check{\mathcal{H}}_{\mathbb{R}}^*(|C|)$$

is an isomorphism. Since $\check{\mathcal{H}}_{\mathbb{R}}^\#(\Delta) = 0$, we have $\check{\mathcal{H}}_{\mathbb{R}}^\#(|C|) = 0$.

Fact 1. $\mathcal{C}(\mathbb{R})$ is an acyclic covering of $|C|(\mathbb{R})$.

Lemma 1 says that if Δ is a simplex, then

$$\check{\mathcal{H}}_{\mathfrak{F}}^*(\Delta) = \check{\mathcal{H}}_{\mathbb{R}}^*(\Delta).$$

Use of transfer: if $g = g_a$ is definable with parameters a , then it is true in M that $\exists x$ such that g_x is a homeomorphism between $|C|$ and Δ . Then, such an x must exist also in M_0 , and g_{x_0} is the \emptyset -definable homeomorphism we were looking for.

Since g is a \emptyset -definable homeomorphism, also $g(\mathbb{R})$ is a homeomorphism. $\check{\mathcal{H}}_{\mathbb{R}}^*(g)$ is the morphism in cohomology induced by $g(\mathbb{R})$.

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Proof of Lemma 1

By Leray's theorem,

$$\mathcal{H}^{\#}(\mathcal{C}(\mathbb{R})) \cong \check{\mathcal{H}}_{\mathbb{R}}^{\#}(|C|) = 0.$$

Finally, $\mathcal{N}(\mathcal{C}(\mathbb{R})) \cong \mathcal{N}(\mathcal{C})$. □

We used only that $\check{\mathcal{H}}_{\mathbb{R}}^{\#}(\Delta) = 0$. We proved that if A is \emptyset -definable and $\check{\mathcal{H}}_{\mathbb{R}}^{\#}(A) = 0$, then $\check{\mathcal{H}}_{\mathfrak{F}}^{\#}(A) = 0$.

Corollary 2. *If B is **definable** and **contractible**, then there exists A which is \emptyset -definable, contractible via a \emptyset -definable map, and that is definably homeomorphic to B . Therefore, $\check{\mathcal{H}}_{\mathfrak{F}}^{\#}(B) \cong \check{\mathcal{H}}_{\mathfrak{F}}^{\#}(A) = 0$.*

The A in the corollary exists by transfer. In fact, if $B = B_c$ is defined using parameters c , there exists a \emptyset -definable cell U containing c such that B_d is definably homeomorphic to B_c for every $d \in U$. Since U is \emptyset -definable and nonempty, there exists $c_0 \in U \cap M_0^k$. Define $A := B_{c_0}$.

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Functors

Covariant functors

Functors

Given $N \equiv M$, let \mathbf{Def}_N be the category of sets and continuous maps definable in N . Call $\mathbf{Def}_0 := \mathbf{Def}_{M_0}$.

$\tilde{\square}$, \square , $\check{\mathcal{H}}_{\mathbb{F}}^*$ and $\check{\mathcal{H}}_{\mathbb{R}}^*$ are **functors**, with domain \mathbf{Def}_M (or \mathbf{Def}_0).

Covariant functors

Let $A \subseteq M^n$ and $B \subseteq M^m$ be definable sets, and $f : A \rightarrow B$ be a definable **continuous** map.

Given $q(x) \in \tilde{A}$, define

$$\tilde{f}(q)(y) := \{ \psi(y) : \psi \in \mathcal{L} \ \& \ \psi(f(x)) \in q(x) \} \in \tilde{B}.$$

If $q \in \underline{A}$, define

$$\underline{f}(q) := \pi(\tilde{f}(q)) \in \underline{B}.$$

If A is definably compact and q is closed, then $\tilde{f}(q)$ is already closed. However, if A is not definably compact, $\tilde{f}(q)$ might not be closed.

E.g.: let $A := M^2$, $B := M$, $f(y_1, y_2) = y_1$,

$$q(y_1, y_2) := (y_1 \models 0^+, y_1 \cdot y_2 = 1).$$

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Contra-variant functors

Given an admissible covering \mathcal{B} of B ,

$$f^{-1}(\mathcal{B}) := \{ f^{-1}(U) : U \in \mathcal{B} \}$$

is an admissible covering of A . There is a map $\theta_{\mathcal{A}} : \mathcal{H}^*(\mathcal{B}) \rightarrow \mathcal{H}^*(\mathcal{A})$.

Define $\check{\mathcal{H}}_{\mathfrak{F}}^*(f) : \check{\mathcal{H}}_{\mathfrak{F}}^*(B) \rightarrow \check{\mathcal{H}}_{\mathfrak{F}}^*(A)$ as the limit of the maps $\theta_{\mathcal{A}}$.

Under the identification of $\check{\mathcal{H}}_{\mathfrak{F}}^*(A)$ with $\check{\mathcal{H}}^*(\tilde{A})$, we have that

$\check{\mathcal{H}}_{\mathfrak{F}}^*(f) = \check{\mathcal{H}}^*(\tilde{f})$, and similarly for \underline{A} .

If moreover A , B and f are \emptyset -definable, then $f(\mathbb{R}) : A(\mathbb{R}) \rightarrow B(\mathbb{R})$ is continuous, and therefore it induces a map

$$\check{\mathcal{H}}_{\mathbb{R}}^*(f) : \check{\mathcal{H}}_{\mathbb{R}}^*(B) \rightarrow \check{\mathcal{H}}_{\mathbb{R}}^*(A).$$

Natural isomorphism

We will prove that $\check{\mathcal{H}}_{\mathfrak{F}_0}^*$ and $\check{\mathcal{H}}_{\mathbb{R}}^*$ are **naturally isomorphic**, where \mathfrak{F}_0 is the site on M_0 .

Namely, if $A \subseteq M_0^n$ and $B \subseteq M_0^m$ are definable sets, and $f : A \rightarrow B$ is a definable continuous map, then there exists a pair of isomorphisms such that the following diagram commutes:

$$\begin{array}{ccc}
 \check{\mathcal{H}}_{\mathfrak{F}}^*(A) & \xlongequal{\quad} & \check{\mathcal{H}}_{\mathbb{R}}^*(A) \\
 \check{\mathcal{H}}_{\mathfrak{F}}^*(f) \uparrow & & \uparrow \check{\mathcal{H}}_{\mathbb{R}}^*(f) \\
 \check{\mathcal{H}}_{\mathfrak{F}}^*(B) & \xlongequal{\quad} & \check{\mathcal{H}}_{\mathbb{R}}^*(B)
 \end{array}$$

Given $N \succeq M$, let $\mathfrak{F}(N)$ be the o-minimal site on N , and $\check{\mathcal{H}}_{\mathfrak{F}(N)}^*$ be the corresponding functor.

Let ι_N^M be the immersion of \mathbf{Def}_M in \mathbf{Def}_N . Then, $\check{\mathcal{H}}_{\mathfrak{F}}^*$ and $\check{\mathcal{H}}_{\mathfrak{F}(N)}^* \circ \iota_N^M$ are naturally isomorphic. Namely, if $f : A \rightarrow B$ is definable **with parameters in M** , then there exists a pair of isomorphisms such that the following diagram commutes:

$$\begin{array}{ccc}
 \check{\mathcal{H}}_{\mathfrak{F}}^*(A) & \xlongequal{\quad} & \check{\mathcal{H}}_{\mathfrak{F}(N)}^*(A) \\
 \check{\mathcal{H}}_{\mathfrak{F}}^*(f) \uparrow & & \uparrow \check{\mathcal{H}}_{\mathfrak{F}(N)}^*(f) \\
 \check{\mathcal{H}}_{\mathfrak{F}}^*(B) & \xlongequal{\quad} & \check{\mathcal{H}}_{\mathfrak{F}(N)}^*(B)
 \end{array}$$

First theorem

Theorem 2. *Let $N \succeq M$. Then, $\check{\mathcal{H}}_{\mathfrak{F}}^*$ and $\check{\mathcal{H}}_{\mathfrak{F}(N)}^* \circ \iota_N^M$ are naturally isomorphic.*

Proof. Let A be a definable subset of M^n , and \mathcal{C} be a good covering of A . By Corollary 2, \mathcal{C} is acyclic, hence (by Leray's theorem) the canonical map $\mathcal{H}^*(\mathcal{C}) \rightarrow \check{\mathcal{H}}^*(A)$ is an isomorphism. Remember that $\mathcal{N}(\mathcal{C})$ and $\mathcal{N}(\mathcal{C})$ are canonically isomorphic. Similarly, $\mathcal{C}(N)$ is acyclic, therefore the map $\mathcal{H}^*(\mathcal{C}(N)) \rightarrow \check{\mathcal{H}}_{\mathfrak{F}(N)}^*(A)$ is also acyclic. Therefore,

$$\check{\mathcal{H}}_{\mathfrak{F}}^*(A) \cong \mathcal{H}^*(\mathcal{C}) \cong \mathcal{H}^*(\mathcal{C}(N)) \cong \check{\mathcal{H}}_{\mathfrak{F}(N)}^*(A).$$

The isomorphism is natural, because everything is canonical. □

More precisely, we have proved that the **natural transformation** $\lambda_A : \check{\mathcal{H}}_{\mathfrak{F}(N)}^*(A) \rightarrow \check{\mathcal{H}}_{\mathfrak{F}}^*(A)$ is an **isomorphism**, where λ_A is the map induced by the **surjection** $\widetilde{A(N)} \rightarrow \widetilde{A}$, given by the restriction of N -types to M -types.

\mathcal{C} is acyclic, because it is good, and therefore for every $U_1, \dots, U_n \in \mathcal{C}$, $U_1 \cap \dots \cap U_n$ is (homeomorphic to a linearly) contractible.

Complete formula:

$$\begin{aligned} \check{\mathcal{H}}_{\mathfrak{F}}^*(A) &\cong \check{\mathcal{H}}^*(\widetilde{A}) \cong \mathcal{H}^*(\widetilde{\mathcal{C}}) \cong \mathcal{H}^*(\mathcal{C}) \cong \\ &\cong \mathcal{H}^*(\mathcal{C}(N)) \cong \mathcal{H}^*(\widetilde{\mathcal{C}(N)}) \cong \check{\mathcal{H}}^*(\widetilde{A(N)}) \cong \check{\mathcal{H}}_{\mathfrak{F}(N)}^*(A). \end{aligned}$$

Second theorem

Theorem 3. $\check{\mathcal{H}}_{\mathfrak{S}_0}^*$ and $\check{\mathcal{H}}_{\mathbb{R}}^*$ are naturally isomorphic.

Proof. We will assume that $M = M_0$. Let A be a definable subset of M^n and \mathcal{C} be a good covering of A . By Corollary 2, \mathcal{C} is acyclic, hence the canonical map $\mathcal{H}^*(\mathcal{C}) \rightarrow \check{\mathcal{H}}^*(A)$ is an isomorphism. For the same reason, $\mathcal{H}^*(\mathcal{C}(\mathbb{R})) \rightarrow \check{\mathcal{H}}_{\mathbb{R}}^*(A)$ is an isomorphism. Therefore,

$$\check{\mathcal{H}}_{\mathfrak{S}}^*(A) \cong \mathcal{H}^*(\mathcal{C}) \cong \mathcal{H}^*(\mathcal{C}(\mathbb{R})) \cong \check{\mathcal{H}}_{\mathbb{R}}^*(A).$$

The isomorphism is natural, because everything is canonical. □

Proof details

Let \mathcal{C} and \mathcal{C}' be **good coverings** of A , with \mathcal{C} a **refinement** of \mathcal{C}' .

We have the following diagram:

$$\begin{array}{ccccc} \check{\mathcal{H}}_{\mathfrak{S}}^*(A) & \longleftarrow & \mathcal{H}^*(\mathcal{C}) & \longleftarrow & \mathcal{H}^*(\mathcal{C}') \\ \downarrow & & \downarrow & & \downarrow \\ \check{\mathcal{H}}_{\mathbb{R}}^*(A) & \longleftarrow & \check{\mathcal{H}}^*(\mathcal{C}(\mathbb{R})) & \longleftarrow & \check{\mathcal{H}}_{\mathbb{R}}^*(\mathcal{C}'(\mathbb{R})) \end{array}$$

The **horizontal** arrows are canonical maps, and are **isomorphisms** by Leray's theorem and Corollary 2. The rightmost **vertical** arrow is the map induced by the canonical isomorphism between the nerve of \mathcal{C}' and of $\mathcal{C}'(\mathbb{R})$, and similarly for the central arrow.

The rightmost square commutes, because the corresponding maps on the nerves of the coverings commutes, and hence there is a well defined **leftmost** isomorphism between $\check{\mathcal{H}}_{\mathfrak{F}}^*(A)$ and $\check{\mathcal{H}}_{\mathbb{R}}^*(A)$ that makes the whole diagram commute. Namely, the isomorphism in cohomology induced by \mathcal{C} and the one induced by \mathcal{C}' are the same.

If \mathcal{C}' and \mathcal{C}'' are any good coverings of A , there exists a **common refinement** \mathcal{C} which is also good. Therefore, can apply the above observation to the pairs $(\mathcal{C}, \mathcal{C}')$ and $(\mathcal{C}, \mathcal{C}'')$.

Consider now a definable map $g : A \rightarrow B$. Let \mathcal{B} be a **good covering** of B , and \mathcal{A} a **good refinement** of $g^{-1}(\mathcal{B})$. Hence, we have the following diagram:

$$\begin{array}{ccccccc}
 \check{\mathcal{H}}_{\mathfrak{F}}^*(B) & \longleftarrow & \mathcal{H}^*(\mathcal{B}) & \xlongequal{\quad} & \mathcal{H}^*(\mathcal{B}(\mathbb{R})) & \longrightarrow & \check{\mathcal{H}}_{\mathbb{R}}^*(B) \\
 \check{\mathcal{H}}_{\mathfrak{F}}^*(g) \downarrow & & g_{\mathcal{B}}^* \downarrow & & \downarrow g_{\mathcal{B}(\mathbb{R})}^* & & \downarrow \check{\mathcal{H}}_{\mathbb{R}}^*(g) \\
 \check{\mathcal{H}}_{\mathfrak{F}}^*(A) & \longleftarrow & \mathcal{H}^*(\mathcal{A}) & \xlongequal{\quad} & \mathcal{H}^*(\mathcal{A}(\mathbb{R})) & \longrightarrow & \check{\mathcal{H}}_{\mathbb{R}}^*(A)
 \end{array}$$

The **horizontal** arrows are the canonical maps. They are **isomorphisms**: the **leftmost** ones and the **rightmost** ones by Leray's theorem and Corollary 2, the **central** ones because the corresponding maps on the **nerves** are isomorphisms.

We deduce that the isomorphisms in cohomology induced by \mathcal{C}' and \mathcal{C}'' are the same.

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Second theorem

Proof details

The **vertical** arrows are the maps induced by g . The leftmost square commutes by definition of $\check{\mathcal{H}}_{\mathfrak{F}}^*(g)$, and similarly for the rightmost. The central square also commutes, because the corresponding maps on the nerves commute. Therefore, the whole diagram commutes, and hence the following one does:

$$\begin{array}{ccc}
 \check{\mathcal{H}}_{\mathfrak{F}}^*(B) & \xlongequal{\quad} & \check{\mathcal{H}}_{\mathbb{R}}^*(B) \\
 \check{\mathcal{H}}_{\mathfrak{F}}^*(g) \downarrow & & \downarrow \check{\mathcal{H}}_{\mathbb{R}}^*(g) \\
 \check{\mathcal{H}}_{\mathfrak{F}}^*(A) & \xlongequal{\quad} & \check{\mathcal{H}}_{\mathbb{R}}^*(A)
 \end{array}$$

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