

For easy of exposition, all presheaves will be presheaves of abelian groups,¹ and all sites small.² All schemes are assumed to be quasi-compact quasi-separated (e.g., Noetherian), and we recall that étale morphisms are by definition locally of finite presentation (this means finite type if working only with Noetherian schemes).³

1 Presheaf adjunctions

Definition 1. Suppose that $\pi : C' \rightarrow C$ is a functor. We denote the functor induced by composition as

$$\pi_p : \text{PreShv}(C) \rightarrow \text{PreShv}(C'); \quad F \mapsto F \circ \pi.$$

Exercise 1. If $\pi' : C'' \rightarrow C'$ and $\pi : C' \rightarrow C$ are two functors, show that $(\pi \circ \pi')_p = \pi_p \circ \pi'_p$.

Definition 2. Give a presheaf $F \in \text{PreShv}(C')$ and $X \in C$ define

$$(\pi^p F)(X) = \varinjlim_{X \rightarrow \pi(Y)} F(Y)$$

where the colimit is over the comma category $(X \downarrow F)$ whose objects are morphisms $X \rightarrow \pi(Y)$ in C , and $\text{hom}(X \rightarrow \pi(Y), X \rightarrow \pi(Y')) = \{f : Y \rightarrow Y' \text{ s.t. the triangle } \begin{array}{ccc} \pi(Y) & \xrightarrow{\quad} & \pi(Y') \\ \swarrow & & \nearrow \\ & X & \end{array} \text{ commutes} \}$.

Remark 3. There is also a right adjoint to π_p defined in an analogous way, but we will not use it.

Exercise 2. Using the universal property of the colimit, show that a morphism $X \rightarrow X'$ in C induces a morphism $(\pi^p F)(X') \rightarrow (\pi^p F)(X)$, and that this makes $\pi^p F$ into a presheaf on C .

Exercise 3. Using the universal property of the colimit, show that there is a canonical isomorphism $\text{hom}_{\text{PreShv}(C)}(\pi^p F, G) \cong \text{hom}_{\text{PreShv}(C')}(F, \pi_p G)$.

Corollary 4. The pair (π^p, π_p) is an adjunction $\text{PreShv}(C) \rightleftarrows \text{PreShv}(C')$.

Exercise 4. Using Exercise 1, Corollary 4, and the uniqueness properties of adjunctions show that $\pi'^p \circ \pi^p = (\pi \circ \pi')^p$.

Exercise 5. Suppose that $f : Y \rightarrow X$ is a morphism of topological spaces, and let $\pi : \text{Op}(X) \rightarrow \text{Op}(Y); U \mapsto f^{-1}U$ be the induced functor between the categories of open subsets of X, Y . Show that π_p is the usual push-forward $\text{PreShv}(Y) \rightarrow \text{PreShv}(X)$ and π^p is the usual inverse image of presheaves functor $\text{PreShv}(X) \rightarrow \text{PreShv}(Y)$.

¹Sheaves of sets work just as well.

²This is to ensure that the colimits defining π^p are well-defined. In practice, there are many functors between large categories for which these colimits are still well-defined.

³These finiteness assumptions ensure that $\text{Et}(X)$ are small (enough) categories (so that the left adjoints π^p existence is guaranteed), but otherwise are basically only used in the proof of Proposition 12.

Exercise 6. Suppose that the category C has a final object X , and let $\pi : * \rightarrow C$ be the functor from the category with one morphism which sends the unique object to X . Show that π_p is the global sections functor $F \mapsto F(X)$, and π^p is the constant presheaf functor $(\pi^p A)(U) = A$ for $A \in \text{Ab} = \text{PreShv}(*)$.

Exercise 7. Let $Y \rightarrow X$ be an étale morphism of schemes, and consider the functors

$$\pi : \text{Et}(X) \rightarrow \text{Et}(Y); \quad U \mapsto Y \times_X U \quad (1)$$

and

$$\gamma : \text{Et}(Y) \rightarrow \text{Et}(X); \quad (V \rightarrow Y) \mapsto (V \rightarrow Y \rightarrow X) \quad (2)$$

Show that (γ, π) is an adjunction. Show that $\gamma_p = \pi^p$.

2 Sheaf adjunctions

Definition 5. Suppose that C', C are sites, i.e., categories equipped with Grothendieck topologies. A functor $\pi : C' \rightarrow C$ is called continuous if for every sheaf F on C , the presheaf $\pi_p F$ is a sheaf.

Exercise 8. Suppose $\pi : C' \rightarrow C$ sends fibre products to fibre products. Show that π is continuous if it sends covers to covers.

Example 6. If $Y \rightarrow X$ is a morphism topological spaces then the induced morphism of sites $\text{Op}(X) \rightarrow \text{Op}(Y)$ is continuous.

Example 7. If $f : Y \rightarrow X$ is a morphism of schemes, then π from Equation 1 is continuous. If f is an étale morphism of schemes then γ from Equation 2 is also continuous.

Definition 8. Suppose $\pi : C' \rightarrow C$ is a continuous morphism of sites. The induced functor on sheaves is denoted

$$\pi_* : \text{Shv}(C) \rightarrow \text{Shv}(C').$$

The composition of π^p with sheafification $a : \text{PreShv}(C) \rightarrow \text{Shv}(C)$ is denoted

$$\pi^* = a \circ \pi^p : \text{Shv}(C') \rightarrow \text{Shv}(C).$$

Exercise 9. Suppose we are in the situation of Definition 8. Using the fact that sheafification $a : \text{PreShv}(C) \rightarrow \text{Shv}(C)$ is the left adjoint to the canonical inclusion $\iota : \text{Shv}(C) \rightarrow \text{PreShv}(C)$, show that

$$\pi^* : \text{Shv}(C) \rightleftarrows \text{Shv}(C') : \pi_*$$

is an adjunction.

Exercise 10. Using Exercise 1 and Exercise 4, show that if C, C', C'' are equipped with Grothendieck topologies, and π, π' are continuous, then $(\pi \circ \pi')_* = \pi_* \circ \pi'_*$ and $\pi'^* \circ \pi^* = (\pi \circ \pi')^*$.

Definition 9. If $f : Y \rightarrow X$ is a morphism of schemes, and π the pullback functor from Equation (1), we write

$$f^* := \pi^*, \quad f_* := \pi_*.$$

If f is étale, so π has a left adjoint γ from Equation 2 then we write

$$f_! := \gamma^*$$

Note that since $\gamma_* = \pi^*$, cf. Exercise 7, in addition to the adjunction (f^*, f_*) , we have another adjunction $(f_!, f^*)$.

Lemma 10. Let $f : Y \rightarrow X$ be a morphism of schemes. Then f^* preserves exact sequences.

Proof. It automatically commutes with colimits because it is a left adjoint. On the other hand, π^p commutes with finite limits because limits of presheaves are calculated object wise, and π^p is defined using filtered colimits, which commute with finite limits. To deduce that $f^* = \pi^*$ commutes with finite limits from π^p commuting, we just recall that sheafification is exact, so $\pi^* = a \circ \pi^p$ is a composition of two functors which commute with finite limits. \square

Lemma 11. Let $f : Y \rightarrow X$ and $X' \rightarrow X$ be morphisms of schemes. Let h'_X denote the étale sheaf of sets $h_{X'} = \text{hom}_X(-, X') \in \text{Shv}_{\text{et}}(X)$, and similarly, $h_{Y \times_X X'} = \text{hom}_Y(-, Y \times_X X') \in \text{Shv}_{\text{et}}(Y)$. We have

$$f^* h_{X'} = h_{Y \times_X X'}.$$

Proof. By Yoneda, it suffices to produce isomorphisms

$$\text{hom}_{\text{Shv}}(f^* h_{X'}, F) \cong \text{hom}_{\text{Shv}}(h_{Y \times_X X'}, F)$$

for each $F \in \text{Shv}_{\text{et}}(Y)$, which are natural in F . But we have

$$\begin{aligned} \text{hom}_{\text{Shv}}(f^* h_{X'}, F) &\cong \text{hom}_{\text{Shv}}(h_{X'}, f_* F) && \text{adjunction} \\ &\cong (f_* F)(X') && \text{Yoneda} \\ &\cong F(Y \times_X X') && \text{definition} \\ &\cong \text{hom}_{\text{Shv}}(h_{Y \times_X X'}, F) && \text{Yoneda.} \end{aligned}$$

\square

Exercise 11. Using the same argument as in Lemma 11 show that if $f : Y \rightarrow X$ is an étale morphism of schemes, and $Y' \rightarrow Y$ any morphism then

$$f_! h_{Y'} = h_{Y'}$$

where the left Y' is considered as a Y -scheme, and the right one as an X -scheme.

3 Immersions

Exercise 12. Suppose that $j : U \rightarrow X$ is an open immersion. Show that in this case, $\gamma : \text{Et}(U) \rightarrow \text{Et}(X)$ from Equation 2 is the inclusion of a *full* subcategory. Show that since this subcategory is full, the functor $j^* : \text{Shv}(X) \rightarrow \text{Shv}(U)$ is none-other-than the restriction functor

$$j^*F = F|_{\text{Et}(U)}.$$

Show that $j_! : \text{Shv}(U) \rightarrow \text{Shv}(X)$ is “extension by zero” in the sense that for any $H \in \text{Shv}(U)$,

$$(j_!H)(V) = \begin{cases} H(V) & V \in \text{Et}(U) \\ 0 & V \notin \text{Et}(U) \end{cases}$$

Show that

$$(j_*H)(V) = H(V) \text{ if } V \in \text{Et}(U),$$

but give an example where $V \notin \text{Et}(U)$, and $(j_*H)(V) \neq 0$.

Deduce that

$$j^*j_! = \text{id} = j^*j_*.$$

Exercise 13. Let X be a scheme, and $\iota : \bar{x} \rightarrow X$ a geometric point. Show that

$$\iota^*F = F_{\bar{x}}$$

is the stalk of F at \bar{x} , where we implicitly use the identification $\text{Shv}(\bar{x}) \cong \text{Ab}$.

Proposition 12 (Milne Cor.II.3.5). *Let $i : Z \rightarrow X$ be the inclusion of a closed immersion, $\bar{x} \rightarrow X$ a geometric point, and $G \in \text{Shv}(Z)$. Then*

$$(i_*G)_{\bar{x}} = \begin{cases} G_{\bar{x}} & \text{im}(\bar{x}) \in Z \\ 0 & \text{im}(\bar{x}) \notin Z \end{cases}$$

*If $j : U \rightarrow X$ is the open complement of Z , then we have $j^*i_* = 0$.*

Easy parts of the proof (Omitted from the lecture). The second claim follows from the first claim, since a sheaf is zero if and only if all its stalks are zero, and the stalks of j^*i_* are all zero by Exercises 10, 12, and 13.

Certainly, if $\text{im}(\bar{x}) \notin Z$, then $(i_*G)_{\bar{x}} = 0$, since every $\bar{x} \rightarrow V \rightarrow X$ is refinable by some $\bar{x} \rightarrow U \times_X V \rightarrow X$, and $(i_*G)(U \times_X V) = G(Z \times_X U \times_X V) = G(\emptyset) = 0$.

The difficult part is to show that for any $\bar{x} \rightarrow V \rightarrow Z$, there is some $\bar{x} \rightarrow V' \rightarrow X$ and a factorisation $\bar{x} \rightarrow Z \times_X V' \rightarrow V \rightarrow Z$. If we know this, then the system defining $(i_*G)_{\bar{x}}$ is cofinal in the system defining $G_{\bar{x}}$.

The proof of this claim is omitted. See Milne Thm.II.3.2(b) for details. Really, check it out. Its a very neat argument using properties of limit schemes from EGA, in particular, EGA IV, Part 3, Cor.8.13.2. \square

Exercise 14. Suppose that $F \in \text{Shv}_{\text{et}}(U)$ is a constant sheaf (that is, $F(V) = A$ for connected V , for some abelian group A). If $i : Z \rightarrow X$ is a nowhere dense closed immersion with open complement $j : U \rightarrow X$, using the fact that étale morphisms send generic points to generic points, show that j_*F and i^*j_*F are constant sheaves on X and Z respectively.

4 The localistion sequences

Definition 13. Let $i : Z \rightarrow X$ be a closed immersion of schemes, and $j : U \rightarrow X$ the open complement. Define $T(X)$ to be the category⁴ whose objects are triples (F_1, F_2, ϕ) consisting of $F_1 \in \text{Shv}(Z), F_2 \in \text{Shv}(U)$, and a morphism $\phi : F_1 \rightarrow i^* j_* F_2$. Morphisms $(F_1, F_2, \phi) \rightarrow (F'_1, F'_2, \phi')$ are pairs of morphisms $(F_1 \xrightarrow{\psi_1} F'_1, F_2 \xrightarrow{\psi_2} F'_2)$ such that the square commutes.

$$\begin{array}{ccc} F_1 & \xrightarrow{\phi} & i^* j_* F_2 \\ \psi_1 \downarrow & & \downarrow i^* j_* \psi_2 \\ F'_1 & \xrightarrow{\phi'} & i^* j_* F'_2 \end{array}$$

We define a functor $t : \text{Shv}(X) \rightarrow T(X)$ by

$$F \mapsto (i^* F, \quad j^* F, \quad i^*(F \xrightarrow{\eta} j_* j^* F))$$

where $\eta : \text{id} \rightarrow j_* j^*$ is the unit of the adjunction (j^*, j_*) .

Theorem 14 (Milne Thm.II.3.10). *The functor $t : \text{Shv}(X) \rightarrow T(X)$ is an equivalence of categories.*

Proof. Given a triple (F_1, F_2, ϕ) in $T(X)$ define

$$s(F_1, F_2, \phi) := \ker \left(i_* F_1 \oplus j_* F_2 \xrightarrow{i_* \phi \uparrow \eta} i_* i^* j_* F_2 \right).$$

Here, $\eta : \text{id} \rightarrow i_* i^*$ is the unit of the adjunction (i^*, i_*) . Notice that this defines a functor

$$s : T(X) \rightarrow \text{Shv}(X).$$

So it suffices to check that $st \cong \text{id}$ and $ts \cong \text{id}$. Consider stF . By definition, this is

$$stF = \ker \left(i_* i^* F \oplus j_* j^* F \xrightarrow{i_* \phi \uparrow \eta} i_* i^* j_* j^* F \right).$$

This comes equipped with a canonical morphism $F \rightarrow stF$, and so we are trying to show that the sequence

$$0 \rightarrow F \rightarrow i_* i^* F \oplus j_* j^* F \xrightarrow{i_* \phi \uparrow \eta} i_* i^* j_* j^* F$$

is exact. One can check exactness on stalks, so consider a geometric point $\bar{x} \rightarrow X$. If $\text{im}(\bar{x}) \in U = X \setminus Z$ then our sequence becomes

$$0 \rightarrow F_{\bar{x}} \rightarrow 0 \oplus F_{\bar{x}} \rightarrow 0.$$

⁴This is just the comma category $(\text{Shv}(Z) \downarrow i^* j_*)$.

If $\text{im}(\bar{x}) \in Z = X \setminus U$ then our sequence becomes

$$0 \rightarrow F_{\bar{x}} \rightarrow F_{\bar{x}} \oplus (j_* j^* F)_{\bar{x}} \rightarrow (j_* j^* F)_{\bar{x}}.$$

Hence, we have confirmed exactness, and $F \xrightarrow{\sim} stF$.

Now consider $ts(F_1, F_2, \phi)$. We have

$$\begin{aligned} i^* s(F_1, F_2, \phi) &= i^* \ker \left(i_* F_1 \oplus j_* F_2 \rightarrow i_* i^* j_* F_2 \right) \\ &= \ker \left(i^* i_* F_1 \oplus i^* j_* F_2 \rightarrow i^* i_* i^* j_* F_2 \right) \\ &= \ker \left(F_1 \oplus i^* j_* F_2 \rightarrow i^* j_* F_2 \right) \\ &= F_1 \end{aligned}$$

One similarly checks that $j^* s(F_1, F_2, \phi) \cong F_2$, and that the canonical morphism $i^* s(F_1, F_2, \phi) \rightarrow i^* j_* j^* s(F_1, F_2, \phi)$ is none-other-than ϕ , under these identifications. Hence, $ts(F_1, F_2, \phi) = (F_1, F_2, \phi)$. \square

Theorem 15 (Milne Prop.II.3.14). *Its possible to define six functors*

$$\text{Shv}_{\text{et}}(Z) \begin{array}{c} \xleftarrow{i^*} \\ \xrightarrow{i_*} \\ \xleftarrow{i^!} \end{array} \text{Shv}_{\text{et}}(X) \begin{array}{c} \xleftarrow{j^!} \\ \xrightarrow{j^*} \\ \xleftarrow{j_*} \end{array} \text{Shv}_{\text{et}}(U)$$

such that under the identification $\text{Shv}_{\text{et}}(X) \cong T(X)$, they correspond to:

$$\begin{array}{lll} F_1 & \leftarrow & (F_1, F_2, \phi) & (0, F_2, 0) & \leftarrow & F_2 \\ F_1 & \mapsto & (F_1, 0, 0) & (F_1, F_2, \phi) & \mapsto & F_2 \\ \ker(\phi) & \leftarrow & (F_1, F_2, \phi) & (i^* j_* F_2, F_2, \text{id}) & \leftarrow & F_2 \end{array}$$

1. Each functor is left adjoint to the one below it.
2. The functors $i^*, i_*, j^*, j_!$ preserve exact sequences; $j_*, i^!$ preserve monomorphisms.
3. The composites $i^* j_!, i^! j_!, i^! j_*, j^* i_*$ are zero.
4. The functors i_*, j_* are fully faithful.
5. The functors $j_*, j^*, i^!, i_*$ map injective objects to injective objects.

Remark 16. Heuristically, j_* “fills in the gaps” over Z in a canonical way, and $i^!$ isolates the part of F which cannot be recovered from $F|_{\text{Et}(U)}$ by this “filling in the gaps” process.

Exercise 15 (Not advanced). Prove Theorem 15 using what we have seen so far. Note that if a functor has a left adjoint preserving monomorphisms then it preserves injectives.

Exercise 16 (Not advanced). In the situation of Theorem 15 show that there are short exact sequence

$$0 \rightarrow j_!j^* \rightarrow \text{id} \rightarrow i_*i^* \rightarrow 0$$

$$0 \rightarrow i_*i^! \rightarrow \text{id} \rightarrow j_*j^* \rightarrow 0$$

Remark 17. Sometimes one defines $j^* := j^!$ and $i_! := i_*$ so that the short exact sequences can be written as

$$0 \rightarrow j_!j^! \rightarrow \text{id} \rightarrow i_*i^* \rightarrow 0$$

$$0 \rightarrow i_!i^! \rightarrow \text{id} \rightarrow j_*j^* \rightarrow 0$$

5 Curves

Example 18 (Milne, Exam.II.3.12). Let A be a discrete valuation ring (e.g., $\mathbb{C}[[z]], \mathbb{F}_p[[z]], \mathbb{Z}_p, \dots$). Let

1. $K = \text{Frac}(A)$,
2. $k = A/\mathfrak{m}$,
3. $G_K = \text{Gal}(K^{sep}/K)$,
4. $G_k = \text{Gal}(k^{sep}/k)$,

Since A is a discrete valuation ring, $X = \text{Spec}(A)$ has one open point, and one closed point. Let $U = \text{Spec}(K), Z = \text{Spec}(k)$ be the corresponding open and closed subschemes. Recall that the category of étale sheaves over a field is equivalent to the category of discrete Galois modules. That is, $\text{Shv}_{et}(Z) \cong G_k\text{-mod}$ and $\text{Shv}_{et}(U) \cong G_K\text{-mod}$. We can give an analogous description of $\text{Shv}_{et}(X)$ using a similar construction to $T(X)$. It suffices to work out what functor $G_K\text{-mod} \rightarrow G_k\text{-mod}$ corresponds to $i^*j_* : \text{Shv}_{et}(U) \rightarrow \text{Shv}_{et}(Z)$.

Let A^h be the henselisation of A , and A^{sh} a strict henselisation. Since K^{sep} is separable closed, there are factorisations $A \rightarrow A^h \rightarrow A^{sh} \rightarrow K^{sep}$ which are actually inclusions. The choice of A^{sh} and the inclusion define subgroups $I = \text{Gal}(K^{sep}/\text{Frac}(A^{sh}))$ and $D = \text{Gal}(K^{sep}/\text{Frac}(A^h))$, with $I \subseteq D \subseteq G_K$, and it turns out that D/I is canonically isomorphic to $\text{Gal}(k^{sep}/k)$ where we identify $k^{sep} = A^{sh}/\mathfrak{m}_{A^{sh}}$. Then we claim that the functor $i^*j_* : \text{Shv}_{et}(U) \rightarrow \text{Shv}_{et}(Z)$ corresponds to the functor of I -invariants.

$$(-)^I : G_K\text{-mod} \rightarrow G_k\text{-mod}.$$

Hence, the category Shv_{et} is equivalent to the category of triples (M_1, M_2, ϕ) where $M_1 \in G_k\text{-mod}, M_2 \in G_K\text{-mod}$, and $\phi : M_1 \rightarrow M_2$ is compatible with the actions of $G_k \cong D/I$ and G_K .

Example 19. Example 18 can be generalised to any normal curve, see Milne Exer.II.3.16 for details.