

HOMOLOGICAL ALGEBRA

Homework guidelines

- (1) The main purpose of homework is to advance your understanding. So the situation is somewhat different than with exams.
- (2) *Presentation of solutions.* The work usually goes through several phases: understanding the setting and the claim, finding a solution, presenting this solution. The solutions should be written so that another person can follow your line of thought. So, a good thing to do when you are done with mathematics is to ask yourself: *Would I understand this write-up if I have not just spent hours thinking of this?*
- (3) *The level of detail in presentation.* A homework should contain proofs of the claims, with the amount of detail which makes the situation perfectly clear to *you*.
- (4) *Skipping problems.* If you are **quite** sure that you understand certain problem (or a part of a problem) to the extent that writing the solution would be a waste of time, just say so. You do not have to write up this problem and you will receive the full credit. However, I reserve the right to check your comprehension verbally.
- (5) *Cooperation between students.* Fellow students are an excellent resource. However,
 - (i) Working with others on a homework problem is appropriate only when the problem resists your concentrated effort,
 - (ii) At *no time* should you copy someone's writing, you have to present the solution by yourself.