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DG-Algebraic Aspects of Contact Invariants

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Plan

Lecture I:

- DGAs and DG-modules
- Derived category & \mathbf{RHom}
- Bar resolution, short resolution

Lecture II

- Koszul resolution (commutative case)
- Functoriality and invariance of \mathbf{RHom} .
- A_∞ -category of bounding cochains dual to the DGA

Lecture III:

- A_∞ -category of bounding cochains dual to the DGA
- Equivalence with DG-category of modules
- Augmentation variety

Recap

Last lecture we saw:

- How to define a “DG category” denoted by $\mathcal{C}_{dg}(\mathcal{A})$ associated to any DGA, whose objects are DG-modules, endomorphisms are themselves DGAs denoted by $\mathcal{A}_{dg}^*(M, M)$, and morphisms are DG-modules $\mathcal{A}_{dg}^*(M, N)$ over the latter DGAs.
- The right-derived Hom complex can then be constructed as follows:
 - Replace M and N with semi-free modules S_M and S_N ; then
 - $\mathbf{R}\mathrm{Hom}_{\mathcal{A}}^*(M, N) = \mathcal{A}_{dg}^*(S_M, S_N)$.



Lecture II

- 1 Plan and Recap
- 2 The Koszul resolution (\mathcal{A} commutative)
- 3 Invariance Properties
- 4 A_∞ -category of bounding cochains
- 5 References





Section 2

The Koszul resolution (\mathcal{A} commutative)

The Koszul resolution

When \mathcal{A} is commutative algebra, e.g. with trivial differential. When \mathcal{A} is the regular function ring of a smooth n -dimensional affine algebraic variety, then the *Koszul resolution* is a well-behaved resolution of \mathcal{A} as an \mathcal{A} -bimodule. It is given by:

$$S_{\mathcal{A}}^{Koszul} := \{\Lambda^n(E) \xrightarrow{\partial_E^{(n)}} \dots \rightarrow \Lambda^2(E) \xrightarrow{\partial_E^{(2)}} \Lambda^1(E) \xrightarrow{\partial_E^{(1)}} \mathcal{A} \otimes_{\mathbf{k}} \mathcal{A}\}.$$

- $E = \mathcal{A} \otimes_{\mathbf{k}} \Omega^1(\mathcal{A})$ is a free \mathcal{A} -bimodule,
- $\Omega^k(\mathcal{A})$ is the Kähler differential k -forms,
- $\Lambda^k(E) = \mathcal{A} \otimes_{\mathbf{k}} \Omega^k(\mathcal{A})$.

The differentials are given by

$$\partial_E^{(1)}(a \otimes b dx) = ax \otimes b - a \otimes xb.$$

The Koszul resolution

The higher differentials are given by

$$\begin{aligned} \partial_E^{(k)}(a \otimes b dx_1 \wedge \dots \wedge dx_k) &= \\ &= \sum_{i=1}^k (-1)^{i+1} (ax_i \otimes b dx_1 \wedge \dots \wedge dx_{i-1} \wedge dx_{i+1} \wedge \dots \wedge dx_k + \\ &\quad - a \otimes bx_i dx_1 \wedge \dots \wedge dx_{i-1} \wedge dx_{i+1} \wedge \dots \wedge dx_k). \end{aligned}$$

- The canonical bimodule morphism $m: \mathcal{A} \otimes_k \mathcal{A} \rightarrow \mathcal{A}$ trivially extends to a quasi isomorphism of \mathcal{A} -bimodules

$$S_{\mathcal{A}}^{\text{Koszul}} \xrightarrow{q.is} \mathcal{A}.$$

- For a left \mathcal{A} -module M_* we then obtain a semi-free resolution by the tensor product

$$S_M = S_{\mathcal{A}}^{\text{Koszul}} \otimes_{\mathcal{A}} M_* \xrightarrow{q.is} M_*.$$

Augmentations

We recall the following basic but important definition from last time

Definition 2.1

An *augmentation* is a degree zero DGA-morphism $\epsilon: \mathcal{A} \rightarrow \mathbf{k}$.

- An augmentation is equivalent to the choice of structure of \mathcal{A} -module on the one-dimensional vector space \mathbf{k} , we write \mathbf{k}_ϵ for the corresponding module.
- When \mathcal{A} is an affine \mathbb{C} -algebra, augmentations are in bijection with *maximal ideals* $\ker \epsilon \subset \mathcal{A}$.
- Maximal ideals, in turn, correspond to *points* on the variety $\mathbf{Sp}(\mathcal{A})$ by Hilbert's Nullstellensatz.

Computation of \mathbf{RHom}

Exercise 2.2

Consider the commutative polynomial ring

$$\mathcal{A} = \mathbf{k}[x_1, \dots, x_n]$$

supported in degree zero with trivial differential (or Laurent polynomial ring).

Compute

$$H(\mathbf{RHom}_{\mathcal{A}}(\mathbf{k}_{\varepsilon_0}, \mathbf{k}_{\varepsilon_1})) = 0$$

whenever $\varepsilon_0 \neq \varepsilon_1$, while

$$H(\mathbf{RHom}_{\mathcal{A}}(\mathbf{k}_{\varepsilon}, \mathbf{k}_{\varepsilon})) = H^*(\mathbb{T}^n, \mathbf{k}).$$

(This holds on the level of algebras!)

Section 3

Invariance Properties

Functorial properties

- A unital DG-morphism $\Phi: \mathcal{A} \rightarrow \mathcal{B}$ between DGAs induces a natural functor

$$\begin{aligned} \mathcal{C}_{dg}(\mathcal{B}) &\rightarrow \mathcal{C}_{dg}(\mathcal{A}), \\ (M_*, l) &\rightarrow (M_*, l \circ (\Phi \otimes \text{Id}_{\mathcal{M}})), \end{aligned}$$

where $l: \mathcal{B} \otimes_{\mathbf{k}} M \rightarrow M$ denotes \mathcal{B} -module multiplication.

- Since this identification also sends \mathcal{B} -module morphisms to \mathcal{A} -module morphisms, we indeed have an chain map $\mathcal{B}_{dg}^*(M, N) \hookrightarrow \mathcal{A}_{dg}^*(M, N)$ on the level of morphisms.

Functorial properties

- To obtain well-behaved functorial properties with respect to the derived morphisms $\mathbf{R}\mathrm{Hom}_{\mathcal{A}}$ one needs to systematically choose which semi-free resolution to work with.
- The bar resolution is functorial: there is a natural morphism

$$\begin{array}{c}
 S_{\mathcal{A}}^{bar} = \left\{ \dots \xrightarrow{\partial_E^{(4)}} \mathcal{A} \otimes_{\mathbf{k}} \mathcal{A} \otimes_{\mathbf{k}} \mathcal{A} \xrightarrow{\partial_E^{(3)}} \mathcal{A} \otimes_{\mathbf{k}} \mathcal{A} \right\} \\
 \downarrow \\
 S_{\mathcal{B}}^{bar} = \left\{ \dots \xrightarrow{\partial_E^{(4)}} \mathcal{B} \otimes_{\mathbf{k}} \mathcal{B} \otimes_{\mathbf{k}} \mathcal{B} \xrightarrow{\partial_E^{(3)}} \mathcal{B} \otimes_{\mathbf{k}} \mathcal{B} \right\}
 \end{array}$$

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$$S_{\mathcal{A}}^{bar} \otimes_{\mathcal{A}} M = \left\{ \dots \xrightarrow{\partial_E^{(4)}} \mathcal{A} \otimes_{\mathbf{k}} \mathcal{A} \otimes_{\mathbf{k}} M \xrightarrow{\partial_E^{(3)}} \mathcal{A} \otimes_{\mathbf{k}} M \right\}$$

$$\downarrow$$

$$S_{\mathcal{B}}^{bar} \otimes_{\mathcal{B}} M = \left\{ \dots \xrightarrow{\partial_E^{(4)}} \mathcal{B} \otimes_{\mathbf{k}} \mathcal{B} \otimes_{\mathbf{k}} M \xrightarrow{\partial_E^{(3)}} \mathcal{B} \otimes_{\mathbf{k}} M \right\}$$

Functorial properties

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- The bar resolution is functorial: there is a natural morphism

$$\begin{array}{c} \mathbf{RHom}_{\mathcal{A}}(M, N) = \mathcal{A}_{dg}^*(S_{\mathcal{A}}^{bar} \otimes_{\mathcal{A}} M, S_{\mathcal{A}}^{bar} \otimes_{\mathcal{A}} N) \\ \uparrow \\ \mathbf{RHom}_{\mathcal{B}}(M, N) = \mathcal{A}_{dg}^*(S_{\mathcal{B}}^{bar} \otimes_{\mathcal{B}} M, S_{\mathcal{B}}^{bar} \otimes_{\mathcal{B}} N) \end{array}$$

Functorial properties

Theorem 3.1

A quasi-isomorphism $\Phi: \mathcal{A} \rightarrow \mathcal{B}$ of DGAs induces a quasi-isomorphism of right-derived homomorphism complexes

$$\Phi^*: \mathbf{RHom}_{\mathcal{B}}(M, N) \rightarrow \mathbf{RHom}_{\mathcal{A}}(M, N).$$

Remark 3.2

This functor might not be surjective on modules, but one can show that it is surjective on quasi-isomorphism classes of modules; the reason is that every \mathcal{A} -module has a semi-free resolution S , and $S \otimes_{\mathcal{A}} \mathcal{B}$ is a semi-free \mathcal{B} -module.

Functorial properties

(1/2).

- First, the semi-free modules $S_{\mathcal{A}}^{bar} \otimes_{\mathcal{A}} N$ and $S_{\mathcal{B}}^{bar} \otimes_{\mathcal{B}} N$ are quasi-isomorphic as complexes, where the quasi-isomorphism is induced by \mathcal{B} .
- It then follows that there are quasi-isomorphisms

$$\begin{aligned} \mathcal{B}_{dg}^*(\mathcal{B}, S_{\mathcal{B}}^{bar} \otimes_{\mathcal{B}} N) &\cong_{q.i.s} S_{\mathcal{B}}^{bar} \otimes_{\mathcal{B}} N \\ &\cong_{q.i.s} S_{\mathcal{A}}^{bar} \otimes_{\mathcal{A}} N \cong_{q.i.s} \mathcal{A}_{dg}^*(\mathcal{A}, S_{\mathcal{A}}^{bar} \otimes_{\mathcal{A}} N). \end{aligned}$$

(First and last follow since the domain is free, middle q.is. follows from the previous point.)

Functorial properties

(2/2).

- The sought quasi-isomorphism

$$\mathcal{B}_{dg}^*(S_B^{bar} \otimes_B M, S_B^{bar} \otimes_B N) \rightarrow \mathcal{A}_{dg}^*(S_A^{bar} \otimes_A M, S_A^{bar} \otimes_A N)$$

can ultimately be seen to follow from the fact that both complexes are iterated cones built from direct sums of the quasi-isomorphic complexes $S_B^{bar} \otimes_B N \cong S_A^{bar} \otimes_A N$.



Section 4

A_∞ -category of bounding cochains

Augmentations

We begin by recalling the connections between one-dimensional representations and augmentations:

Definition 4.1

An *augmentation* is a degree zero DGA-morphism $\varepsilon: \mathcal{A} \rightarrow \mathbf{k}$

We let \mathbf{k}_ε denote the one-dimensional DG-module with module multiplication defined by $l(a \otimes m) = \varepsilon(a) \cdot m$.

Consequences:

- $\varepsilon \circ \partial_{\mathcal{A}} = 0$ (the chain map property, together with the fact that \mathbf{k} has a trivial differential)
- $\varepsilon(a) = 0$ for any $|a| \neq 0$
- $\varepsilon(1) = 1$ and $\varepsilon(a_1 \cdot a_2) = \varepsilon(a_1) \cdot \varepsilon(a_2)$.

A_∞ -algebras from DGAs

- Since Chekanov first introduced the Legendrian invariant in form of the DGA now called the Chekanov–Eliashberg algebra $\mathcal{A}(\Lambda)$ in [Che02], it was clear that studying the *linearized complex induced by an augmentation* was an important tool for distinguishing Legendrians.
- Civan–Koprowki–Etnyre–Sabloff [Civ+11] it was shown that an augmentation induces an invariant in the form of an A_∞ -algebra.
- In [BC14] Bourgeois and Chantraine finally upgraded this invariant to the *augmentation category* denoted by $\text{Aug}_-(\Lambda)$.

A_∞ -algebras from DGAs

The point with this section is to

- Recall the construction of the A_∞ -category $\text{Aug}_-(\mathcal{A})$;
- Show its equivalence to the DG-algebra category (as observed by Ekholm-Lekili [EL17]);
- Combining these perspectives and Theorem 3.1 we learn something that is not completely obvious from the original construction:

A quasi-isomorphism $\Phi: \mathcal{A} \rightarrow \mathcal{B}$ of DGAs induces a quasi-isomorphic embedding of the augmentation category $\text{Aug}_-(\mathcal{B})$ into $\text{Aug}_-(\mathcal{A})$.

A_∞ -algebras from DGAs

We start with a *noncommutative finitely generated semi-free DGA*

$$\mathcal{A} = \mathbf{k}\langle a_1, \dots, a_k \rangle,$$

i.e. a noncommutative polynomial ring in graded variables a_i where:

- The differential is determined by a sum

$$\partial a_i = \sum_{b_1 \dots b_d} c_{b_1 \dots b_d}^{a_i} \cdot b_1 \cdot \dots \cdot b_d, \quad c_{b_1 \dots b_d}^{a_i} \in \mathbf{k},$$

over words of length $d = 0, 1, 2, 3, \dots$ in the letters $b_i \in \{a_1, \dots, a_k\}$.

- There is an action filtration, and $\ell(b_i) < \ell(a_i)$ (this is why it called semi-free); In particular: the above sum is finite!
- Recall the graded Leibniz rule

$$\partial(\mathbf{a} \cdot \mathbf{b}) = \partial(\mathbf{a}) \cdot \mathbf{b} + (-1)^{|\mathbf{a}|} \mathbf{a} \cdot \partial(\mathbf{b})$$

which determines the differential on general elements.

An induced CoDGA

The algebra \mathcal{A} can be written as the tensor algebra

$$\mathcal{A} = \mathcal{T}(A) = \mathbf{k} \oplus A \oplus A^{\otimes 2} \oplus A^{\otimes 3} \oplus \dots$$

for a finite-dimensional graded \mathbf{k} -vector space

$$A = \mathbf{k} \cdot a_1 \oplus \dots \oplus \mathbf{k} \cdot a_k.$$

We then pass to its component-wise dual

$$\mathcal{A}^\# = \mathbf{k} \oplus A^* \oplus (A^*)^{\otimes 2} \oplus (A^*)^{\otimes 3} \oplus \dots$$

$\mathcal{A}^\#$ is a CoDGA with differential $\partial^\#$ given as the adjoint of ∂ .

Remark 4.2

This makes sense since $\partial(A^{\otimes k}) \subset A^{\otimes(k-1)} \oplus A^{\otimes k} \oplus A^{\otimes(k+1)} \oplus \dots$

An induced CoDGA

- Leibniz rule implies that $\partial^\#$ is determined by operations $\mu^l: (A^*)^{\otimes l} \rightarrow A^*$ as follows

$$\partial^\#(b_1 \otimes \dots \otimes b_m) = \sum_{i,l} (-1)^* b_1 \otimes \dots \otimes \mu^l(b_{1+i} \otimes \dots \otimes b_{1+l}) \otimes \dots \otimes b_m$$

- These operations are easily determined from the structure constants of ∂ :

$$\mu^d(b_1, \dots, b_d) = \sum_i c_{b_1 \dots b_d}^{a_i} \cdot a_i.$$

- In the following we will consider μ^d as operations on the suspension $(\Sigma A^*)^{\otimes d}$.

An induced CoDGA

- $\partial^2 = 0 \Rightarrow (\partial^\#)^2 = 0$
- $(\partial^\#)^2 = 0$ implies that $\{\mu^d\}_{d=0,1,2,\dots,D}$ satisfy the *curved* A_∞ -relations:

For each $d = 1, 2, 3, \dots$:

$$\sum_{m,n} (-1)^{\mathfrak{X}_n} \mu^{d-m+1}(b_1, \dots, b_n, \mu^m(b_{n+1}, \dots, b_{n+m}), b_{n+m+1}, \dots, b_d) = 0$$

where $\mathfrak{X}_n = |b_1| + \dots + |b_n| - n$

- When $\mu^d = 0$ i.e. ∂ has no constant term $c_\emptyset^{a_i} = 0$, the above give the *strict* A_∞ -relations.

A_∞ -relations

Examples of curved A_∞ -relations

- $d = 1$: (“chain complex”)

$$0 = \mu^1 \circ \mu^1(a) + \mu^2(\mu^1(a), \mu^0) - \mu^2(\mu^0, \mu^1(a))$$

(μ^1 is a differential when μ^0 vanishes)

- $d = 2$: (“graded Leibniz rule”)

$$0 = \mu^1 \circ \mu^2(a, b) + \mu^2(\mu^1(a), b) + (-1)^{|a|-1} \mu^2(a, \mu^1(b)) + \dots$$

(+ additional terms involving μ^0)

- $d = 3$: (“graded associativity”)

$$0 = \mu^1 \circ \mu^3(a, b, c) + \mu^2(\mu^2(a, b), c) + (-1)^{|a|-1} \mu^2(a, \mu^2(b, c)) + \dots$$

(+ additional terms involving μ^0 and μ^1).

A_∞ -relations and sign convention



Remark 4.3

We follow the conventions of [Sei08] by which a strict A_∞ -algebra with vanishing μ^d for $d \geq 3$ becomes a DGA with differential “ ∂ ” and multiplication “ \cdot ” after introducing the sign changes

$$\partial(a) := (-1)^{|a|} \mu^1(a) \text{ and } a_1 \cdot a_2 := (-1)^{|a_1|} \mu^2(a_1, a_2).$$

Maurer–Cartan equation

The strictly unital A_∞ -category constructed by Bourgeois–Chantraine in [BC14], [Cha19] can now be recovered as follows:

- Add a “strict unit” in degree zero denoted by e , i.e. extend μ^d to the vector space

$$B_{\mathcal{A}} := \mathbf{k} \cdot e \oplus \Sigma A^*$$

subject to

- $\mu^2(e, a) = a = (-1)^{|a|} \mu^2(a, e)$,
- $\mu^1(e) = 0$ and $\mu^d(\dots, e, \dots) = 0$ for $d \geq 3$.
- The objects of this category are solutions $b \in \mathcal{MC}(B_{\mathcal{A}})$ to the generalised Maurer–Cartan equation

$$0 = \sum_{d \geq 0} \mu^d(\underbrace{b, \dots, b}_d) = \mu^0 + \mu^1(b) + \mu^2(b, b) + \dots$$

where $b \in \Sigma A^*$ is an element of degree one.

Maurer–Cartan equation

Next time we will continue the construction of this A_∞ -category. We end this lecture with the following exercise:

Exercise 4.4

Show that solutions b of the Maurer–Cartan equation are in natural bijective correspondence with augmentations $\varepsilon_b: \mathcal{A} \rightarrow \mathbf{k}$.



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