

# Notes on $A_\infty$ -algebras III (checked)

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This note continues (ainf), (ainf<sub>2</sub>) and we have the same conventions. In particular  $k$  is a commutative ring.

We begin with morphisms of  $A_\infty$ -algebras. If  $(C, \Delta), (D, \Delta)$  are  $\mathbb{Z}$ -graded coalgebras a morphism  $f: (C, \Delta) \rightarrow (D, \Delta)$  is a degree zero map such that

$$\begin{array}{ccc} C \otimes C & \xrightarrow{f \otimes f} & D \otimes D \\ \Delta \uparrow & & \uparrow \Delta \\ C & \xrightarrow{f} & D \end{array}$$

commutes. Let  $A, B$  be  $\mathbb{Z}$ -graded  $k$ -modules.

Lemma There is a bijection between morphisms of coalgebras

$$f: \bar{T}A(1) \longrightarrow \bar{T}B(1)$$

and sequences of degree zero maps,  $n \geq 1$

$$f_n: A(1)^{\otimes n} \longrightarrow B(1)$$

Proof Given  $f$ , define  $f_n$  to be  $A(1)^{\otimes n} \hookrightarrow \bar{T}A(1) \xrightarrow{f} \bar{T}B(1) \rightarrow B(1)$ , and given  $f_n$  define  $f$  to be the map with component

$$\begin{aligned} A(1)^{\otimes n} &\longrightarrow B(1)^{\otimes n} \\ \sum f_{ij} \otimes \cdots \otimes f_{in} & \end{aligned} \tag{1.2}$$

with all  $i_j \geq 1$  and  $\sum j = n$ .

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First we show that  $f$  defined in this way is a morphism of  $\omega$ -algebras. We have

$$\Delta f(v_1 \otimes \cdots \otimes v_n) = \sum \Delta(f_{i_1} \otimes \cdots \otimes f_{i_n})(v_1 \otimes \cdots \otimes v_n)$$

and

$$(f \otimes f) \Delta (v_1 \otimes \cdots \otimes v_n) = (f \otimes f)(v_1 \otimes (v_2 \otimes \cdots \otimes v_n))$$

+

$$(v_1 \otimes \cdots \otimes v_{n-1}) \otimes (v_n)$$

$$\begin{aligned} &= f(v_1) \otimes (v_2 \otimes \cdots \otimes v_n) \\ &\quad + f(v_1 \otimes v_2) \otimes (v_3 \otimes \cdots \otimes v_n) \\ &\quad + \cdots \\ &\quad + f(v_1 \otimes \cdots \otimes v_{n-1}) \otimes f(v_n) \end{aligned}$$

let us apply the projection to  $B(1)^{\otimes a} \otimes B(1)^{\otimes b}$  on both sides.

$$\pi \Delta f(v) = \text{rebracketing of } \sum (f_{i_1} \otimes \cdots \otimes f_{i_n})(v_1 \otimes \cdots \otimes v_n)$$

$B(1)^{\otimes a+b}$        $a+b=n$   
 $\leq_{ij} n$ .

$$\begin{aligned} \pi(f \otimes f) \Delta (v_1 \otimes \cdots \otimes v_n) &= f(v_1)_a \otimes f(v_2 \otimes \cdots \otimes v_n)_b \\ &\quad + f(v_1 \otimes v_2)_a \otimes f(v_3 \otimes \cdots \otimes v_n)_b \\ &\quad + \cdots \\ &\quad + f(v_1 \otimes \cdots \otimes v_{n-1})_a \otimes f(v_n)_b \end{aligned}$$

But it easily seen that these are the same. (handle  $n=1$  separately)

Next we show that  $f$  is a morphism of coalgebras

it agrees with  $\sum f_{i_1} \otimes \cdots \otimes f_{i_n}$ . We prove this by induction,

proving at the same time that  $f(A(1)^{\otimes n}) \subseteq B(1) \oplus B(1)^{\otimes 2} \oplus \cdots \oplus B(1)^{\otimes n}$ .

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 $n=1$ 

$$\Delta f = (f \otimes f) \Delta$$

$$\Delta f(v_1) = (f \otimes f) \Delta(v_1) = 0. \Rightarrow f(v_1) \in B(1)$$

$$\therefore f(v_1) = f_1(v_1).$$

 $n \geq 1$ 

Suppose both claims hold for  $v \in B(1)^{\otimes n}$  and let  $v_{n+1} \in A(1)$  be given.  
Let  $\pi$  be the projection to  $B(1)^{\otimes a} \otimes B(1)^{\otimes b}$ ,  $a \leq n$

$$\pi \Delta f(v \otimes v_{n+1}) = \text{rebracketing of } f(v \otimes v_{n+1})_{a+1}$$

$$\pi(f \otimes f) \Delta(v \otimes v_{n+1})$$

$$= \pi(f \otimes f) \left( \begin{array}{c} (v_1) \otimes (v_2 \otimes \cdots \otimes v_n \otimes v_{n+1}) \\ + \\ (v_1 \otimes v_2) \otimes (v_3 \otimes \cdots \otimes v_n \otimes v_{n+1}) \\ \vdots \\ (v_1 \otimes \cdots \otimes v_n) \otimes (v_{n+1}) \end{array} \right)$$

$$= f(v_1)_a \otimes f(v_2 \otimes \cdots \otimes v_{n+1}),$$

$$+ \cdots + f(v_1 \otimes \cdots \otimes v_n)_a \otimes f(v_{n+1}),$$

From this we see  $f(v \otimes v_{n+1}) \in B(1)^{\otimes \leq n+1}$  and that  $f$  agrees with (1.2).  $\square$

Lemma let  $A, B$  be  $A_\infty$ -algebras, and

$$f_n : A(1)^{\otimes n} \longrightarrow B(1) \quad n \geq 1$$

a sequence of degree zero maps. The following are equivalent

(a) The associated  $f : \bar{T}A(1) \longrightarrow \bar{T}B(1)$  is a morphism of dg coalgebras, i.e.  $fb = b f$ .

(b) We have, as maps  $A(1)^{\otimes n} \longrightarrow B(1)$ , for  $n \geq 1$  (4.2)

$$\sum f_n(\mathbb{I}^{\otimes r} \otimes b_s \otimes \mathbb{I}^{\otimes t}) = \sum b_u(f_{i_1} \otimes \cdots \otimes f_{i_s})$$

where the first sum is over all decompositions  $n = r+s+t$ ,  $s \geq 1$ ,  $r, t \geq 0$  and the second sum is over  $s \geq 1$  and  $i_j \geq 1$ ,  $\sum i_j = n$ .

Proof The maps  $b$  are coderivations, so

$$\begin{aligned} & (fb \otimes f + f \otimes fb) \Delta \\ & \Delta fb = (f \otimes f) \Delta b = (f \otimes f)(b \otimes 1 + 1 \otimes b) \Delta \\ & \Delta bf = (b \otimes 1 + 1 \otimes b) \Delta f = (b \otimes 1 + 1 \otimes b)(f \otimes f) \Delta \\ & \quad = (bf \otimes f + f \otimes bf) \Delta \end{aligned}$$

$$\therefore \Delta(fb - bf) = ([fb - bf] \otimes f + f \otimes [fb - bf]) \Delta$$

From this formula we deduce that to show  $fb = bf$  it is necessary and sufficient that the components  $A(1)^{\otimes n} \hookrightarrow \bar{T}A(1) \xrightarrow{fb - bf} \bar{T}B(1) \rightarrow B(1)$  vanish. But this is (4.2).  $\square$

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(ainf2)

Def<sup>N</sup> A morphism  $f: A \rightarrow B$  of  $A_\infty$ -algebras is  
a sequence of degree zero maps

$$f_n: A(1)^{\otimes n} \longrightarrow B(1) \quad n \geq 1$$

satisfying the equivalent conditions of the above lemma.

Note It is obvious that  $A_\infty$ -algebras form a category, with a fully faithful functor

$$A_\infty\text{-alg} \longrightarrow \text{dg-coalgebras}$$

$$(A, b_n) \mapsto (\bar{T}A(1), \Delta, b)$$

Given  $f: A \rightarrow B$ ,  $g: B \rightarrow C$  the composite has

$$(g \circ f)_n = \sum g_u(f_{i_1} \otimes \cdots \otimes f_{i_u})$$

where the sum is over all  $i_j \geq 1$  with  $\sum i_j = n$ , and  $u \geq 1$ . The identity  $1_A: A \rightarrow A$  has components  $(1_A)_1 = 1_{A(1)}$ ,  $(1_A)_n = 0$ ,  $n > 1$ .

Example In (4.2) the condition for  $n=1$  says

$$f_1 b_1 = b_1 f_1$$

i.e.  $f_1$  is a morphism of complexes. For  $n=2$  it says

$$f_1 b_2 + f_2 (1 \otimes b_1 + b_1 \otimes 1) = b_2 (f_1 \otimes f_1) + b_1 f_2$$

i.e.  $f_1$  preserves the multiplication  $b_2$  up to homotopy given by  $f_2$ .