

# Introduction to $A_\infty$ -algebras

Di-Ming Lu

Department of Mathematics, Zhejiang University

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ABSTRACT: This is an outline of talks on a short course for the graduate students at Beijing Normal University. The goal of the talks is to give a brief introduction to  $A_\infty$ -algebras with a view towards noncommutative algebras.

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# 1 Introduction

## 1.1 History

### 1.1.1. J. STASHEFF

1960's, Stasheff **invented**  $A_\infty$ -spaces and  $A_\infty$ -algebras, as a tool in the study of 'group-like' topological spaces.

### 1.1.2. M. KONTSEVICH

In 1994, Kontsevich's talk at the ICM on categorical mirror symmetry played an important role in **developing** this subject.

### 1.1.3. B. KELLER

In 2000, Keller **introduced** the  $A_\infty$ -language to the study of ring theory and representation theory.

### 1.1.4. OTHERS

## 1.2 Motivation

### 1.2.1. KELLER'S PROBLEMS

Let  $A$  be an associative  $k$ -algebra with 1.

**Problem 1.** The reconstruction of a complex from its homology.

**Problem 2.** The reconstruction of the category of iterated selfextensions of module from its extension algebra.

### 1.2.2. CLASSIFICATION OF AS-REGULAR ALGEBRAS

One of the central questions in noncommutative projective geometry is

*the classification of quantum  $\mathbb{P}^3$ s.*

An algebraic approach of constructing quantum  $\mathbb{P}^n$ s is to form the noncommutative scheme  $\text{Proj } A$  where  $A$  is a noetherian Artin-Schelter regular connected graded algebra of global dimension  $n + 1$ . Therefore the algebraic version of the above mentioned question is

*the classification of noetherian, Artin-Schelter regular, connected graded algebras of global dimension 4.*

## 2 Differential graded algebras

### 2.1 DG algebras

#### 2.1.1. GRADED ALGEBRA

A *graded algebra* is a graded module  $A = \bigoplus_{i \in \mathbb{Z}} A^i$  with an associative multiplication such that (a) the unit 1 is in  $A^0$  and (b) the multiplication preserves the grading.

A *differential* in a graded module  $A$  is a  $k$ -linear map  $\partial : A \rightarrow A$  of degree +1 such that  $\partial^2 = 0$ .

A *derivation* of degree  $n$  in a graded algebra  $A$  is a  $k$ -linear map  $\partial : A \rightarrow A$  of degree  $n$  such that (graded Leibniz rule)

$$\partial(xy) = (\partial x)y + (-1)^{n|x|}x(\partial y)$$

for all elements  $x, y \in A$ .

The *Koszul sign convention*, namely, when two symbols of degrees  $n$  and  $m$  are permuted the result is multiplied by  $(-1)^{nm}$ .

#### 2.1.2. DIFFERENTIAL GRADED ALGEBRA

A *differential graded algebra* is a graded algebra  $A$  together with a differential  $\partial : A \rightarrow A$  of degree 1 that is a derivation. An *augmentation* is a morphism  $\epsilon : A \rightarrow k$ .

#### 2.1.3. EXAMPLES

### 2.2 DG modules

#### 2.2.1. DG CATEGORY

Let  $(A, \partial)$  be a DGA. A *left differential graded  $A$ -module* (or *left DG  $A$ -module*) is a complex  $(M, \partial_M)$  together with a left multiplication  $A \otimes M \rightarrow M$  such that  $M$  is a left graded  $A$ -module and the differential  $\partial_M$  of  $M$  satisfies the Leibniz rule

$$\partial_M(am) = \partial(a)m + (-1)^{|a|}a\partial_M(m)$$

for all  $a \in A, m \in M$ . A DG  $k$ -module is just a complex.

#### 2.2.2. TWO CONSTRUCTIONS

- $\text{Hom}_A(M, N)$ .
- $M \otimes_A N$ .

### 2.3 Resolutions

For a graded set  $Y$  with a degree function  $g : Y \rightarrow \mathbb{Z}$ , consider the graded  $A^{\natural}$ -module with basis  $E_Y \cup E_Y^+$ , where

$$E_Y = \{e_y \mid \deg(e_y) = g(y), y \in Y\} \quad \text{and} \quad E_Y^+ = \{e_y^+ \mid \deg(e_y^+) = g(y) + 1, y \in Y\}$$

Free DG module with the basis  $Y$  is

$$F^{[Y]} := \bigoplus_{y \in Y} Ae_y \oplus \bigoplus_{y \in Y} Ae_y^+.$$

with the differential given by

$$\partial\left(\sum_{y \in Y} a_y e_y + a_y^+ e_y^+\right) = \sum_{y \in Y} (\partial(a_y) e_y + (-1)^{|a_y|} a_y e_y^+ + \partial(a_y^+) e_y^+).$$

A DG  $A$ -module  $M$  is called *semifree* if there is a sequence of DG submodules

$$0 = M(-1) \subset M(0) \subset \cdots \subset M(n) \subset \cdots$$

such that  $M = \bigcup_n M(n)$  and that each  $M(n)/M(n-1)$  is  $A$ -free on a basis of cocycles. Such an increasing sequence is called a *semifree filtration* of  $M$ . A semifree module is a replacement for a free complex over an associative algebra.

A *semifree resolution* of a DG  $A$ -module  $M$  is a quasi-isomorphism  $L \rightarrow M$  from a semifree DG  $A$ -module  $L$ .

**Proposition:** Let  $A$  be an augmented DGA. Then the augmentations in  $BA$  and  $A$  define a quasi-isomorphism  $\epsilon \otimes \epsilon : B(A, A) \rightarrow k$ . Moreover, if  $k$  is a field then  $B(A, A)$  is a semifree right DG  $A$ -module. Thus  $\epsilon \otimes \epsilon$  is a semifree resolution of the right DG  $A$ -module  $k_A$ .

### 3 $A_\infty$ -language

From the point of view of homotopy theory, an  $A_\infty$ -algebra is the same as a DGA. However, for the purpose of explicit computations, it is often more convenient to work with  $A_\infty$ -algebras rather than with DGA's. The reason is the existence of extra structure in the form of higher multiplications.

#### 3.1 $A_\infty$ -algebras

##### 3.1.1. DEFINITION

An  $A_\infty$ -algebra over  $k$  is a  $\mathbb{Z}$ -graded vector space

$$A = \bigoplus_{p \in \mathbb{Z}} A^p$$

endowed with a family of graded  $k$ -linear maps

$$m_n : A^{\otimes n} \rightarrow A, \quad n \geq 1,$$

of degree  $(2-n)$  satisfying the following *Stasheff identities*:

$$\mathbf{SI}(n) \quad \sum (-1)^{r+st} m_u(id^{\otimes r} \otimes m_s \otimes id^{\otimes t}) = 0, \quad \text{for all } n \geq 1,$$

where the sum runs over all decomposition  $n = r + s + t$ ,  $r, t \geq 0$  and  $s \geq 1$ , and where  $u = r + 1 + t$ . Here  $id$  denotes the identity map of  $A$ . Note that when these formulas are applied to elements, additional signs appear due to the Koszul sign rule. An  $A_\infty$ -algebra is also called a *strongly homotopy associative algebra* (or *sha algebra*).

### 3.1.2. EXAMPLES

(a) An associative algebra  $A$  is an  $A_\infty$ -algebra *concentrated in degree 0* with all multiplications  $m_n = 0$  for  $n \neq 2$ . Hence associative algebras form a subclass of  $A_\infty$ -algebras of the form  $(A, m_2)$ .

(b) Differential graded algebra  $(A, m_1, m_2)$ .

(c) Pentagonal homotopy associative algebra  $(A, m_1, m_2, m_3)$ :

$$\mathbf{SI}(4): \quad m_2(1 \otimes m_3 + m_3 \otimes 1) = m_3(m_2 \otimes 1 \otimes 1 - 1 \otimes m_2 \otimes 1 + 1 \otimes 1 \otimes m_2).$$

(d) Connected cubic zero  $A_\infty$ -algebra.

(e) Let  $B = k[x_1, x_2]/(x_1^2)$ ,  $p$  ( $p \geq 3$ ) a fixed integer. Define an  $A_\infty$ -algebra structure on  $B$  as follows.

For  $s \geq 0$ , set

$$x_s = \begin{cases} x_2^{\frac{s}{2}} & \text{if } s \text{ is even,} \\ x_1 x_2^{\frac{s-1}{2}} & \text{if } s \text{ is odd.} \end{cases}$$

Then  $\{x_s\}_{s \geq 0}$  is a  $k$ -basis of the graded vector space  $B$ . For  $i_1, \dots, i_p \geq 0$ , define

$$m_p(x_{i_1}, \dots, x_{i_p}) = \begin{cases} x_j & \text{if all } i_s \text{ are odd,} \\ 0 & \text{otherwise,} \end{cases}$$

where  $j = 2 - p + \sum_s i_s$ . The multiplication  $m_2$  is the product of the associative algebra  $k[x_1, x_2]/(x_1^2)$ . Now it is direct to check that  $(B, m_2, m_p)$  is an  $A_\infty$ -algebra, which is denoted by  $B(p)$ .

(f)  $(2, p)$ -algebra.

(g) *Ext-algebra*: Let  $A$  be an algebra over  $k$ , then  $\text{Ext}_A^*(k, k)$  is an  $A_\infty$ -algebra (Section 4).

(h) *AS-regular algebras* of 3 and 4 (Section 5).

### 3.1.3. $A_\infty$ -MORPHISMS

For two  $A_\infty$ -algebras  $A$  and  $B$ . A *morphism* of  $A_\infty$ -algebras  $f : A \rightarrow B$  is a family of  $k$ -linear graded maps

$$f_n : A^{\otimes n} \rightarrow B$$

of degree  $(1 - n)$  satisfying the following *Stasheff morphism identities*: for all  $n \geq 1$ ,

$$\mathbf{MI}(\mathbf{n}): \quad \sum (-1)^{r+st} f_u(id^{\otimes r} \otimes m_s \otimes id^{\otimes t}) = \sum (-1)^w m_q(f_{i_1} \otimes f_{i_2} \otimes \cdots \otimes f_{i_q})$$

where the first sum runs over all decompositions  $n = r + s + t$  with  $s \geq 1, r, t \geq 0$ , we put  $u = r + 1 + t$ , and the second sum runs over all  $1 \leq q \leq n$  and all decompositions  $n = i_1 + \cdots + i_q$  with all  $i_s \geq 1$ ; the sign on the right-hand side is given by

$$w = (q - 1)(i_1 - 1) + (q - 2)(i_2 - 1) + \cdots + 2(i_{q-2} - 1) + (i_{q-1} - 1).$$

#### 3.1.4. TWO MODELS

**DGA model:** *Every  $A_\infty$ -algebra  $A$  is quasi-isomorphic to a free DGA constructed as  $\Omega BA$ .*

**Minimal model:** *Let  $A$  be an  $A_\infty$ -algebra and let  $HA$  be the cohomology ring of  $A$ . There is an  $A_\infty$ -algebra structure on  $HA$  with  $m_1 = 0$ , constructed from the  $A_\infty$ -structure of  $A$ , such that there is a quasi-isomorphism of  $A_\infty$ -algebras  $HA \rightarrow A$  lifting the identity of  $HA$ .*

**Corollary:** *Let  $A$  be an algebra over  $k$ , then  $Ext_A^*(k, k)$  is an  $A_\infty$ -algebra.*

## 3.2 $A_\infty$ -modules

### 3.2.1. DEFINITION

Let  $A$  be an  $A_\infty$ -algebra.

- A *left  $A_\infty$ -module* over  $A$  is a  $\mathbb{Z}$ -graded vector space  $M$  endowed with maps

$$m_n^M : A^{\otimes n-1} \otimes M \rightarrow M, \quad n \geq 1$$

of degree  $(2 - n)$  satisfying the same Stasheff identities  $\mathbf{SI}(\mathbf{n})$

$$\sum (-1)^{r+st} m_u(id^{\otimes r} \otimes m_s \otimes id^{\otimes t}) = 0$$

as one in the definition of  $A_\infty$ -algebra. However, the term  $m_u(id^{\otimes r} \otimes m_s \otimes id^{\otimes t})$  has to be interpreted as  $m_u^M(id^{\otimes r} \otimes m_s \otimes id^{\otimes t})$  if  $t > 0$  and as  $m_u^M(id^{\otimes r} \otimes m_s^M)$  if  $t = 0$ .

- A *morphism* of left  $A_\infty$ -modules  $f : M \rightarrow N$  is a family of graded maps

$$f_n : A^{\otimes n-1} \otimes M \rightarrow N$$

of degree  $(1 - n)$  such that for each  $n \geq 1$ , the following version of the identity  $\mathbf{MI}(\mathbf{n})$  holds:

$$\mathbf{MIL}(\mathbf{n}) \quad \sum (-1)^{r+st} f_u \circ (id^{\otimes r} \otimes m_s \otimes id^{\otimes t}) = \sum m_{1+w} \circ (id^{\otimes w} \otimes f_v),$$

where the first sum is taken over all decompositions  $n = r + s + t$ ,  $r, t \geq 0, s \geq 1$  and we put  $u = r + 1 + t$ ; and the second sum is taken over all decompositions  $n = v + w$ ,  $v \geq 1, w \geq 0$ .

A morphism  $f$  is called a *quasi-isomorphism* if  $f_1$  is a quasi-isomorphism. The identity morphism  $f : M \rightarrow M$  is given by  $f_1 = id_M$  and  $f_i = 0$  for all  $i \geq 2$ .

The composition of two morphisms  $f : M \rightarrow N$  and  $g : L \rightarrow M$  is defined by

$$(f \circ g)_n = \sum f_{1+w} \circ (id^{\otimes w} \otimes g_v)$$

where the sum runs over all decompositions  $n = v + w$ .

### 3.2.2. DERIVED CATEGORY

Let  $A$  be an  $A_\infty$ -algebra.

- $\mathcal{C}_\infty(A)$ : the category of left  $A_\infty$ -modules over  $A$  with morphisms of  $A_\infty$ -algebras.
- The *homotopy category*  $\mathcal{K}_\infty(A)$  has the same objects as  $\mathcal{C}_\infty(A)$ , and the morphisms from  $M$  to  $N$  are morphisms of  $A_\infty$ -modules modulo the nullhomotopic morphisms.
- The *derived category*  $\mathcal{D}_\infty(A)$  to be the homotopy category  $\mathcal{K}_\infty(A)$ .

### 3.2.3. CHANGE OF $A_\infty$ -ALGEBRAS

Let  $f : A \rightarrow B$  be a morphism of  $A_\infty$ -algebras and let  $(M, m_n^B)$  be a left  $A_\infty$ -module over  $B$ . Define

$$m_n^A : A^{\otimes n-1} \otimes M \rightarrow M, \quad n \geq 1,$$

by

$$\text{INL}(\mathbf{n}) \quad m_n^A = \sum (-1)^w m_q^B (f_{i_1} \otimes \cdots \otimes f_{i_{q-1}} \otimes id)$$

where the sum runs over all decompositions  $n = i_1 + \cdots + i_{q-1} + 1$  for  $i_s \geq 1$  and where

$$w = (q-1)(i_1-1) + (q-2)(i_2-1) + \cdots + 2(i_{q-2}-1) + (i_{q-1}-1)$$

as in the definition of morphisms of  $A_\infty$ -algebras. It is easy to check that  $(M, m_n^A)$  is a left  $A_\infty$ -module over  $A$ . Then  $f^* : (M, m_n^B) \mapsto (M, m_n^A)$  defines a functor from  $\mathcal{C}_\infty(B)$  to  $\mathcal{C}_\infty(A)$ , which induces a functor on the derived categories.

One of the basic properties is the following

**Proposition:** *Let  $f : A \rightarrow B$  be a quasi-isomorphism of  $A_\infty$ -algebras. Then the induced functor  $f^* : \mathcal{D}_\infty(B) \rightarrow \mathcal{D}_\infty(A)$  is an equivalence of triangulated categories. Further,  $A$  is isomorphic to  $f^*B$  in  $\mathcal{D}_\infty(A)$ .*

### 3.2.4. FROM DGAS TO $A_\infty$ -ALGEBRAS

**Proposition:** *If  $A$  is a DGA, then the canonical functor  $\mathcal{D}_{\text{dg}}(A) \rightarrow \mathcal{D}_\infty(A)$  is an equivalence of triangulated categories.*

## 3.3 Bar constructions

A clear way to introduce the  $A_\infty$ -algebras is the so-called bar construction.

### 3.3.1. BAR CONSTRUCTIONS FOR DGAS

Let  $I$  be a graded vector space. The tensor coalgebra on  $I$  is

$$T(I) = k \oplus I \oplus I^{\otimes 2} \oplus I^{\otimes 3} \oplus \dots,$$

where an element in  $I^{\otimes n}$  is written as

$$[a_1|a_2|\dots|a_n]$$

for  $a_i \in I$  (the name ‘bar construction’ originated here), together with the comultiplication

$$\Delta([a_1|\dots|a_n]) = \sum_{i=0}^n [a_1|\dots|a_i] \otimes [a_{i+1}|\dots|a_n].$$

• **Bar construction on  $A$ :**

Let  $(A, \partial_A)$  be an augmented DGA and let  $I$  denote the augmentation ideal  $\ker(A \rightarrow k)$ . The *bar construction* on  $A$  is the coaugmented DGC  $BA$  defined as follows:

- ◊ As a coaugmented graded coalgebra  $BA$  is the tensor coalgebra  $T(I)$  on  $I$ .
- ◊ The differential in  $BA$  is the sum  $d = d_0 + d_1$  of the coderivations given by

$$d_0([a_1|\dots|a_m]) = - \sum_{i=1}^m (-1)^{n_i} [a_1|\dots|\partial_A(a_i)|\dots|a_m]$$

and

$$d_1([a_1|\dots|a_m]) = \sum_{i=2}^m (-1)^{n_i} [a_1|\dots|a_{i-1}a_i|\dots|a_m].$$

Here  $n_i = \sum_{j < i} (-1 + \deg a_j)$ .

• **Bar construction on  $M$ :**

If  $(M, \partial_M)$  is a left DG  $A$ -module, then the *bar construction on  $A$  with coefficients in  $M$*  is the complex  $B(A, M) = BA \otimes M$  with differential  $d = d_0 + d_1$  where

$$\begin{aligned} d_0([a_1|\dots|a_w]m) &= - \sum_{i=1}^w (-1)^{n_i} [a_1|\dots|\partial_A(a_i)|\dots|a_w]m \\ &\quad - \sum (-1)^{n_{w+1}} [a_1|\dots|a_w]\partial_M(m) \end{aligned}$$

and

$$\begin{aligned} d_1([a_1|\dots|a_w]m) &= \sum_{i=2}^w (-1)^{n_i} [a_1|\dots|a_{i-1}a_i|\dots|a_w]m \\ &\quad + (-1)^{n_{w+1}} [a_1|\dots|a_{w-1}]a_w m. \end{aligned}$$

Of course  $d_0 m = -\partial_M(m)$ ,  $d_1 m = 0$  and  $d_1([a]m) = (-1)^{\deg a - 1} am$ . This is graded just as  $BA$  is, and for each  $M$ ,  $B(A, M)$  is a *left DG  $BA$ -comodule*.

### 3.3.2. COBAR CONSTRUCTIONS FOR DGCs



- Cobar construction on  $C$ :

- Bar construction on  $Y$ :

**Proposition:** Suppose  $C$  is a coaugmented DGC such that  $C^{\otimes n}$  is locally finite for all  $n$ . Let  $M$  be a DG  $C$ -comodule such that  $C^{\otimes n} \otimes M$  is locally finite for all  $n$ . Let  $A = C^\#$ .

- (a)  $A$  is an augmented DGA such that  $A^{\otimes n}$  is locally finite.
- (b)  $\Omega C$  and  $BA$  are locally finite with respect to the bigrading.
- (c)  $\Omega^\# C \cong BA$  and  $B^\# A \cong \Omega C$ . (will be used in the subsection 4.1.3)
- (d)  $M^\#$  is a left DG  $A$ -module.
- (e)  $B(A, M^\#) \cong \Omega^\#(C, M)$  as DG  $BA$ -comodules.

### 3.3.3. BAR CONSTRUCTIONS FOR $A_\infty$ -ALGEBRAS

Let  $A$  be an  $A_\infty$ -algebra. Write  $A = k \oplus I$  where  $I = \ker f$ .

Given a  $k$ -linear map  $m_n : I^{\otimes n} \rightarrow I$  for some  $n \in \mathbb{N}$ . Determine uniquely a coderivation  $b_n$  on  $T(I)$  via the map  $T(I) \rightarrow I^{\otimes n} \rightarrow I$ . The explicit formula for  $b_n$  is the following:

$$b_n([a_1 | \cdots | a_m]) = \sum (-1)^w [a_1 | \cdots | a_j | \bar{m}_n(a_{j+1}, \dots, a_{j+n}) | a_{j+n+1} | \cdots | a_m]$$

where  $\bar{m}_n = (-1)^n m_n$  and

$$w = \sum_{1 \leq s \leq j} (|a_s| + 1) + \sum_{1 \leq t \leq n} (n - t)(|a_{j+t}| + 1).$$

There is a bijection between the  $A_\infty$ -structures on  $A$  and the coalgebra differentials on  $T(I)$ . Given an  $A_\infty$ -algebra, the corresponding coaugmented DGC  $T(I)$  is denoted by  $BA$ , and called the *bar construction* of  $A$ . The bar construction of a DGA is just a special case.

The following are equivalent.

- (a) The  $k$ -linear maps  $m_n : I^{\otimes n} \rightarrow I$  yield an  $A_\infty$ -structure on  $I$  (without unit).
- (b) The coderivation  $b : T(I) \rightarrow T(I)$  satisfies  $b^2 = 0$ .

## 4 Ext-algebras

### 4.1 $A_\infty$ -structures on Ext-algebras

The classical Ext-algebra  $\text{Ext}_A^*(k_A, k_A)$  is the cohomology ring of  $\text{End}_A(P_A)$ , where  $P_A$  is any free resolution of  $k_A$ . Since  $E = \text{End}_A(P_A)$  is a DGA, by Kadeishvili's result,  $\text{Ext}_A^*(k_A, k_A) = HE$

has a natural  $A_\infty$ -structure, which is called an  $A_\infty$ -Ext-algebra of  $A$ . By abuse of notation we use  $\text{Ext}_A^*(k_A, k_A)$  to denote an  $A_\infty$ -Ext-algebra.

We would like to describe the  $A_\infty$ -structure on  $\text{Ext}_A^*(k_A, k_A)$  by using Merkulov's construction.

4.1.1.  $\text{Ext}_A^1(k_A, k_A)$  AND  $\text{Ext}_A^2(k_A, k_A)$

4.1.2. MERKULOV'S CONSTRUCTION

4.1.3. BASIC LEMMA

**Basic Lemma** (Keller's higher-multiplication theorem in the connected graded case): *Let  $A$  be a graded algebra, finitely generated in degree 1, and let  $E$  be the  $A_\infty$ -algebra  $\text{Ext}_A^*(k_A, k_A)$ . Let  $R = \bigoplus_{n \geq 2} R_n$  be the minimal graded space of relations of  $A$  such that  $R_n \subset A_1 \otimes A_{n-1} \subset A_1^{\otimes n}$ . Let  $i : R_n \rightarrow A_1^{\otimes n}$  be the inclusion map and let  $i^\#$  be its  $k$ -linear dual. Then the multiplication  $m_n$  of  $E$  restricted to  $(E^1)^{\otimes n}$  is equal to the map*

$$i^\# : (E^1)^{\otimes n} = (A_1^\#)^{\otimes n} \longrightarrow R_n^\# \subset E^2.$$

## 4.2 An example of recovering an algebra from its Ext-algebra

An example shows that the associative algebra  $\text{Ext}_A^*(k_A, k_A)$  does not contain enough information to recover the original algebra  $A$ ; on the other hand, the information from the  $A_\infty$ -algebra  $\text{Ext}_A^*(k_A, k_A)$  is sufficient to recover  $A$ .

## 4.3 Koszul duality

In this short subsection, we state in brief that how Ext-algebras work on higher Koszul algebras, which related to a class of  $A_\infty$ -algebra of  $\text{Ext}_A^*(k, k)$  in the sense of only one non-zero higher multiplication.

## 5 Application (a brief introduction to AS regular algebras)

As an application in noncommutative algebras, we explain roughly in this section that  $A_\infty$ -algebras can be used to solve some questions which have not been solved by classical methods. We try to convince the readers of that  $A_\infty$ -algebra method is an extremely powerful tool for the question.

## 5.1 Artin-Schelter regular algebras

### 5.1.1. DEFINITION AND PROPERTIES

A connected graded algebra  $A$  is called *Artin-Schelter regular* (or *AS regular*) if the following three conditions hold.

(AS1)  $A$  has finite global dimension  $d$ ,

(AS2)  $A$  is *Gorenstein*, i.e., for some integer  $l$ ,

$$\mathrm{Ext}_A^i(k, A) = \begin{cases} k(l) & \text{if } i = d \\ 0 & \text{if } i \neq d \end{cases}$$

where  $k$  is the trivial module  $A/I$ , and

(AS3)  $A$  has finite Gelfand-Kirillov dimension; that is, there is a positive number  $c$  such that  $\dim A_n < c n^c$  for all  $n \in \mathbb{N}$ .

The notation  $(l)$  in (AS2) is the degree  $l$  shift operation on graded modules.

### Three Types

*Let  $A$  be a graded AS regular algebra of global dimension 4 that is generated in degree 1. Suppose that  $A$  is a domain. Then  $A$  is minimally generated by either 2, 3, or 4 elements.*

(a) *If  $A$  is generated by 2 elements, then there are two relations whose degrees are 3 and 4. The minimal resolution of the trivial module is of the form*

$$0 \rightarrow A(-7) \rightarrow A(-6)^{\oplus 2} \rightarrow A(-4) \oplus A(-3) \rightarrow A(-1)^{\oplus 2} \rightarrow A \rightarrow k \rightarrow 0.$$

(b) *If  $A$  is generated by 3 elements, then there are two relations in degree 2 and two relations in degree 3. The minimal resolution of the trivial module is of the form*

$$0 \rightarrow A(-5) \rightarrow A(-4)^{\oplus 3} \rightarrow A(-3)^{\oplus 2} \oplus A(-2)^{\oplus 2} \rightarrow A(-1)^{\oplus 3} \rightarrow A \rightarrow k \rightarrow 0.$$

(c) *If  $A$  is generated by 4 elements, then there are six quadratic relations. The minimal resolution of the trivial module is of the form*

$$0 \rightarrow A(-4) \rightarrow A(-3)^{\oplus 4} \rightarrow A(-2)^{\oplus 6} \rightarrow A(-1)^{\oplus 4} \rightarrow A \rightarrow k \rightarrow 0.$$

*In each of these cases, the GK-dimension of  $A$  is 4.*

## 5.2 $A_\infty$ -structures on Ext-AS-regular algebras

**Proposition:** *Let  $A$  be an algebra as above and let  $E$  be the Ext-algebra of  $A$ .*

(a) (type (12221)) *If  $A$  is minimally generated by 2 elements, then  $E$  is isomorphic to*

$$k \oplus E_{-1}^1 \oplus (E_{-3}^2 \oplus E_{-4}^2) \oplus E_{-6}^3 \oplus E_{-7}^4.$$

*As an  $A_\infty$ -algebra,  $m_n = 0$  for all  $n \geq 5$ ; that is,  $E = (E, m_2, m_3, m_4)$ .*

(b) (type (13431)) *If  $A$  is minimally generated by 3 elements, then  $E$  is isomorphic to*

$$k \oplus E_{-1}^1 \oplus (E_{-2}^2 \oplus E_{-3}^2) \oplus E_{-4}^3 \oplus E_{-5}^4.$$

*As an  $A_\infty$ -algebra,  $m_n = 0$  for all  $n \geq 4$ ; that is,  $E = (E, m_2, m_3)$ .*

(c) (type (14641)) *If  $A$  is minimally generated by 4 elements, then  $E$  is isomorphic to*

$$k \oplus E_{-1}^1 \oplus E_{-2}^2 \oplus E_{-3}^3 \oplus E_{-4}^4.$$

*The algebras  $A$  and  $E$  are Koszul and  $m_n$  of  $E$  is zero for all  $n \neq 2$ .*

## 5.3 Non-Koszul AS regular algebras

We concentrate on algebras of type (12221) in this subsection. We describe formulas for the possible multiplication maps  $m_n$  on their  $A_\infty$ -Ext-algebras. In this type, the Ext-algebras are

$$E = k \oplus E_{-1}^1 \oplus (E_{-3}^2 \oplus E_{-4}^2) \oplus E_{-6}^3 \oplus E_{-7}^4.$$

We construct  $A_\infty$ -structures on  $E$  step by step.

**Non-Koszul AS regular algebras:**

*The following algebras are Artin-Schelter regular of global dimension four.*

(a)  $A(p) := k\langle x, y \rangle / (xy^2 - p^2y^2x, x^3y + px^2yx + p^2xyx^2 + p^3yx^3)$ , where  $0 \neq p \in k$ .

(b)  $B(p) := k\langle x, y \rangle / (xy^2 + ip^2y^2x, x^3y + px^2yx + p^2xyx^2 + p^3yx^3)$ , where  $0 \neq p \in k$  and  $i^2 = -1$ .

(c)  $C(p) := k\langle x, y \rangle / (xy^2 + pyxy + p^2y^2x, x^3y + jp^3yx^3)$ , where  $0 \neq p \in k$  and  $j^2 - j + 1 = 0$ .

(d)  $D(v, p) := k\langle x, y \rangle / (xy^2 + vyxy + p^2y^2x, x^3y + (v + p)x^2yx + (p^2 + pv)xyx^2 + p^3yx^3)$ , where  $v, p \in k$  and  $p \neq 0$ .

*If  $k$  is algebraically closed, then this list (after deleting some special algebras in each family) is, up to isomorphism, a complete list of  $(m_2, m_3)$ -generic Artin-Schelter regular algebras of global dimension four that are generated by two elements.*