

# PHASE SPACES AND DEFORMATION THEORY.

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ABSTRACT. In the papers [La 5,6], we introduced the notion of (non-commutative) phase algebras (space)  $Ph^n(A)$ ,  $n = 0, 1, \dots, \infty$  associated to any associative algebra  $A$  (space), defined over a field  $k$ . The purpose of this paper is to prove that this construction is useful in non-commutative deformation theory for the construction of the versal family of families of modules, see [La 4]. In particular we obtain a much better understanding of the Massey products, introduced in [La 1, La 2], and used extensively in other texts.

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## §0 Introduction.

In the paper, [La 5], we sketched a physical "toy model", where the space-time of classical physics became a section of a universal fiber space  $\tilde{E}$ , defined on the moduli space  $\underline{H} = \text{Simp}(H)$ , of the physical systems we chose to consider, in this case the systems composed of an observer and an observed, both sitting in Euclidean 3-space. This moduli space was called the *time-space*. Time, in this mathematical model, was defined to be a metric  $\rho$  on the time-space, measuring all possible infinitesimal changes of *the state* of the objects in the family we are studying. This gave us a model of relativity theory, in which the set of all velocities turned out to be a projective space. Dynamics was introduced into this picture, via the general construction of a *phase space*  $Ph(A)$ , for any associative algebra  $A$ . This is a universal pair of a homomorphism of algebras,  $\iota : A \rightarrow Ph(A)$ , and a derivation,  $d : A \rightarrow Ph(A)$ , such that for any homomorphism of  $A$  into a  $k$ -algebra  $R$ , the derivations of  $A$  in  $R$  are induced by unique homomorphisms  $Ph(A) \rightarrow R$ , composed with  $d$ . Iterating this  $Ph(-)$ -construction we obtained a limit morphism  $\iota(n) : Ph^n(A) \rightarrow Ph^\infty(A)$  with image  $Ph^{(n)}(A)$ , and a universal derivation  $\delta \in \text{Der}_k(Ph^\infty(A), Ph^\infty(A))$ , the *Dirac*-derivation. A general *dynamical*

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structure of order  $n$ , is now a two-sided  $\delta$ -ideal  $\sigma$  in  $Ph^\infty(A)$  inducing a surjective homomorphism  $Ph^{(n-1)}(A) \rightarrow Ph^\infty(A)/\sigma =: A(\sigma)$ .

In [La 5], and later in [La 6], we have shown that, associated to any such *time space*  $H$  with a fixed dynamical structure  $H(\sigma)$ , there is a kind of "Quantum field theory". In particular, we have stressed the point that, if  $H$  is the affine ring of a moduli space of the objects we want to study, the ring  $Ph^\infty(H)$  is the complete ring of observables, containing the parameters not only of the iso-classes of the objects in question, but also of all dynamical parameters. The choice made by fixing the dynamical structure  $\sigma$ , and reducing to the  $k$ -algebra  $H(\sigma)$ , would classically, correspond to the introduction of a parsimony principle, e.g. to the choice of some Lagrangian.

The purpose of this paper is to study this phase-space construction, in greater detail. There is a natural descending filtration of two-sided ideals,  $\{\mathcal{F}_n\}_{0 \leq n}$  of  $Ph^\infty(A)$ . The corresponding quotients  $Ph^n(A)/\mathcal{F}_n$  are finite dimensional vector-spaces, and considered as affine varieties, these are our non-commutative Jet-spaces.

We shall first see, in §1, that we may extend the usual prolongation-projection procedure of Elie Cartan, to this non-commutative setting, and obtain a framework for the study of general systems of (non-commutative) PDE's.

In §2 we present a short introduction to non-commutative deformations of modules, and the generalized Massey products, as exposed in [La 1, La 2].

Then, in §3, follows the main part of the paper, the construction of the versal family of the non-commutative deformation functor of a finite family of  $A$ -modules, based on the phase-space of a *resolution* of the  $k$ -algebra  $A$ .

As a by-product we shall be able to make more precise the notion of *preparation* of an object, see loc. cit [La 5].

Notice that our  $Ph^\infty(A)$  is a non-commutative analogue of the notion of higher differentials treated in a many texts, see [Itaka], and the more recent paper, [Laksov-Thorup] .

### §1 Phase spaces and the Dirac derivation.

Given a  $k$ -algebra  $A$ , denote by  $A/k - \underline{alg}$  the category where the objects are homomorphisms of  $k$ -algebras  $\kappa : A \rightarrow R$ , and the morphisms,  $\psi : \kappa \rightarrow \kappa'$  are commutative diagrams,

$$\begin{array}{ccc} & A & \\ \swarrow \kappa & & \searrow \kappa' \\ R & \xrightarrow{\psi} & R' \end{array}$$

and consider the functor,

$$Der_k(A, -) : A/k - \underline{alg} \longrightarrow \underline{Sets}.$$

It is representable by a  $k$ -algebra-morphism,

$$\iota : A \longrightarrow Ph(A),$$

with a *universal family* given by a universal derivation,

$$d : A \longrightarrow Ph(A).$$

It is easy to construct  $\text{Ph}(A)$ . In fact, let  $\pi : F \rightarrow A$  be a surjective homomorphism of algebras, with  $F = k \langle t_1, t_2, \dots, t_r \rangle$ , free generated by the  $t_i$ 's, and put  $I = \ker \pi$ . Let,

$$\text{Ph}(A) = k \langle t_1, t_2, \dots, t_r, dt_1, dt_2, \dots, dt_r \rangle / (I, dI)$$

where  $dt_i$  is a formal variable. Clearly there is a homomorphism,

$$i'_0 : F \rightarrow \text{Ph}(A)$$

and a derivation

$$d' : F \rightarrow \text{Ph}(A),$$

defined by putting,  $d'(t_i) = cl(dt_i)$ , the equivalence class of  $dt_i$ . Since  $i'_0$  and  $d'$  both kill the ideal  $I$ , they define a homomorphism,

$$i_0 : A \rightarrow \text{Ph}(A)$$

and a derivation,

$$d : A \rightarrow \text{Ph}(A).$$

To see that  $i_0$  and  $d$  have the universal property, let  $\kappa : A \rightarrow R$  be an object of the category  $A/k - \text{alg}$ . Any derivation  $\xi : A \rightarrow R$  defines a derivation  $\xi' : F \rightarrow R$ , mapping  $t_i$  to  $\xi'(t_i)$ . Let  $\rho_{\xi'} : k \langle t_1, t_2, \dots, t_r, dt_1, dt_2, \dots, dt_r \rangle \rightarrow R$  be the homomorphism defined by,

$$\rho_{\xi'}(t_i) = \kappa(\pi(t_i)), \quad \rho_{\xi'}(dt_i) = \xi(\pi(t_i)).$$

$\rho_{\xi'}$  sends  $I$  and  $dI$  to zero, so defines a homomorphism,

$$\rho_{\xi} : \text{Ph}(A) \rightarrow R,$$

such that the composition with  $d : A \rightarrow \text{Ph}(A)$ , is  $\xi$ . The unicity is a consequence of the fact that the images of  $i_0$  and  $d$  generate  $\text{Ph}(A)$  as  $k$ -algebra.

Clearly  $\text{Ph}(-)$  is a covariant functor on  $k - \text{alg}$ , and we have the identities,

$$d_* : \text{Der}_k(A, A) = \text{Mor}_A(\text{Ph}(A), A),$$

and,

$$d^* : \text{Der}_k(A, \text{Ph}(A)) = \text{End}_A(\text{Ph}(A)),$$

the last one associating  $d$  to the identity endomorphisme of  $\text{Ph}(A)$ . In particular we see that  $i_0$  has a cosection,  $\sigma_0 : \text{Ph}(A) \rightarrow A$ , corresponding to the trivial (zero) derivation of  $A$ .

Let now  $V$  be a right  $A$ -module, with structure morphism  $\rho(V) =: \rho : A \rightarrow \text{End}_k(V)$ . We obtain a universal derivation,

$$u(V) =: u : A \longrightarrow \text{Hom}_k(V, V \otimes_A \text{Ph}(A)),$$

defined by,  $u(a)(v) = v \otimes d(a)$ . Using the long exact sequence,

$$\begin{aligned} 0 \rightarrow \text{Hom}_A(V, V \otimes_A \text{Ph}(A)) \rightarrow \text{Hom}_k(V, V \otimes_A \text{Ph}(A)) \rightarrow^t \\ \text{Der}_k(A, \text{Hom}_k(V, V \otimes_A \text{Ph}(A))) \rightarrow^{\kappa} \text{Ext}_A^1(V, V \otimes_A \text{Ph}(A)) \rightarrow 0, \end{aligned}$$

we obtain the non-commutative Kodaira-Spencer class,

$$c(V) := \kappa(u(V)) \in Ext_A^1(V, V \otimes_A Ph(A)),$$

inducing the Kodaira-Spencer morphism,

$$g : \Theta_A := Der_k(A, A) \longrightarrow Ext_A^1(V, V),$$

via the identity  $d_*$ . If  $c(V) = 0$ , then the exact sequence above proves that there exist a  $\nabla \in Hom_k(V, V \otimes_A Ph(A))$  such that  $u = \iota(\nabla)$ . This is just another way of proving that  $c(V)$  is the obstruction for the existence of a connection,

$$\nabla : Der_k(A, A) \longrightarrow Hom_k(V, V).$$

It is well known, I think, that in the commutative case, the Kodaira-Spencer class gives rise to a Chern character by putting,

$$ch^i(V) := 1/i! c^i(V) \in Ext_A^i(V, V \otimes_A Ph(A)),$$

and that if  $c(V) = 0$ , the curvature  $R(\nabla)$  of the connection  $\nabla$ , induces a curvature class,

$$R_\nabla \in H^2(k, A; \Theta_A, End_A(V)).$$

Any  $Ph(A)$ -module  $W$ , given by its structure map,

$$\rho(W)^1 =: \rho^1 : Ph(A) \longrightarrow End_k(W)$$

corresponds bijectively to an induced  $A$ -module structure  $\rho : A \rightarrow End_k(W)$ , together with a derivation  $\delta_\rho \in Der_k(A, End_k(W))$ , defining an element,

$$[\delta_\rho] \in Ext_A^1(W, W).$$

Fixing this last element we find that the set of  $Ph(A)$ -module structures on the  $A$ -module  $W$  is in one to one correspondence with,

$$End_k(W)/End_A(W).$$

Conversely, starting with an  $A$ -module  $V$  and an element  $\delta \in Der_k(A, End_k(V))$ , we obtain a  $Ph(A)$ -module  $V_\delta$ . It is then easy to see that the kernel of the natural map,

$$Ext_{Ph(A)}^1(V_\delta, V_\delta) \rightarrow Ext_A^1(V, V),$$

induced by the linear map,

$$Der_k(Ph(A), End_k(V_\delta)) \rightarrow Der_k(A, End_k(V))$$

is the quotient,

$$Der_A(Ph(A), End_k(V_\delta))/End_k(V),$$

and the image is a subspace  $[\delta_\rho]^\perp \subseteq Ext_A^1(V, V)$ , which is rather easy to compute, see examples below.

*Remark 1.1.* Defining *time* as a metric on the moduli space,  $Simp(A)$ , of simple  $A$ -modules, in line with the philosophy of [La 5], noticing that  $Ext_A^1(V, V)$  is the tangent space of  $Simp(A)$  at the point corresponding to  $V$ , we see that the non-commutative space  $PhA$  also parametrizes the set of *generalised momenta*, i.e. the set of pairs of a point  $V \in Simp(A)$ , and a tangent vector at that point.

**Example 1.2.** (i) Let  $A = k[t]$ , then obviously,  $Ph(A) = k \langle t, dt \rangle$  and  $d$  is given by  $d(t) = dt$ , such that for  $f \in k[t]$ , we find  $d(f) = J_t(f)$  with the notations of [La 4], i.e. the non-commutative derivation of  $f$  with respect to  $t$ . One should also compare this with the non-commutative Taylor formula of loc.cit. If  $V \simeq k^2$  is an  $A$ -module, defined by the matrix  $X \in M_2(k)$ , and  $\delta \in Der_k(A, End_k(V))$ , is defined in terms of the matrix  $Y \in M_2(k)$ , then the  $Ph(A)$ -module  $V_\delta$  is the  $k \langle t, dt \rangle$ -module defined by the action of the two matrices  $X, Y \in M_2(k)$ , and we find

$$\begin{aligned} e_V^1 &:= \dim_k Ext_A^1(V, V) = \dim_k End_A(V) = \dim_k \{Z \in M_2(k) \mid [X, Z] = 0\} \\ e_{V_\delta}^1 &:= \dim_k Ext_{Ph(A)}^1(V_\delta, V_\delta) = 8 - 4 + \dim \{Z \in M_2(k) \mid [X, Z] = [Y, Z] = 0\}. \end{aligned}$$

We have the following inequalities,

$$2 \leq e_V^1 \leq 4 \leq e_{V_\delta}^1 \leq 8.$$

(ii) Let  $A = k[t_1, t_2]$  then we find,

$$Ph(A) = k \langle t_1, t_2, dt_1, dt_2 \rangle / ([t_1, t_2], [dt_1, dt_2] + [t_1, dt_2]).$$

In particular, we have a surjective homomorphism,

$$Ph(A) \rightarrow k \langle t_1, t_2, dt_1, dt_2 \rangle / ([t_1, t_2], [dt_1, dt_2], [t_i, dt_i] - 1),$$

the right hand algebra being the Weyl algebra. This homomorphism exists in all dimensions. We also have a surjective homomorphism,

$$Ph(A) \rightarrow k[t_1, t_2, \xi_1, \xi_2],$$

i.e. onto the affine algebra of the classical phase-space.

The phase-space construction may, of course, be iterated. Given the  $k$ -algebra  $A$  we may form the sequence,  $\{Ph^n(A)\}_{0 \leq n}$ , defined inductively by

$$Ph^0(A) = A, \quad Ph^1(A) = Ph(A), \dots, \quad Ph^{n+1}(A) := Ph(Ph^n(A)).$$

Let  $i_0^n : Ph^n(A) \rightarrow Ph^{n+1}(A)$  be the canonical imbedding, and let  $d_n : Ph^n(A) \rightarrow Ph^{n+1}(A)$  be the corresponding derivation. Since the composition of  $i_0^n$  and the derivation  $d_{n+1}$  is a derivation  $Ph^n(A) \rightarrow Ph^{n+2}(A)$ , there exist by universality a homomorphism  $i_1^{n+1} : Ph^{n+1}(A) \rightarrow Ph^{n+2}(A)$ , such that,

$$d_n \circ i_1^{n+1} = i_0^n \circ d_{n+1}.$$

Notice that we compose functions and functors from left to right. Clearly we may continue this process constructing new homomorphisms,

$$\{i_j^n : Ph^n(A) \rightarrow Ph^{n+1}(A)\}_{0 \leq j \leq n},$$

with the property,

$$d_n \circ i_{j+1}^{n+1} = i_j^n \circ d_{n+1}.$$

Notice also that we have the “bi-gone”,  $i_0^0 i_1^1 = i_0^1 i_1^0$  and the “hexagone”,

$$\begin{aligned} i_0^1 i_0^2 &= i_0^1 i_1^2 \\ i_1^1 i_0^2 &= i_0^1 i_2^2 \\ i_1^1 i_1^2 &= i_1^1 i_2^2, \end{aligned}$$

and, in general,

$$\begin{aligned} i_p^n i_q^{n+1} &= i_{q-1}^n i_p^{n+1}, \quad p < q \\ i_p^n i_p^{n+1} &= i_p^n i_{p+1}^{n+1} \\ i_p^n i_q^{n+1} &= i_q^n i_{p+1}^{n+1}, \quad q < p, \end{aligned}$$

which is all easily proved by composing with  $i_0^{n-1}$  and  $d_{n-1}$ . Thus, the  $Ph^*(A)$  is a semi-simplicial algebra with a cosection onto  $A$ . Therefore, for any object  $\kappa : A \rightarrow R \in A/k - \underline{alg}$  the semisimplicial algebra above induces a semisimplicial  $k$ -vectorspace,

$$Der_k(Ph^*(A), R),$$

and one should be interested in its homology.

The system of  $k$ -algebras and homomorphisms of  $k$ -algebras  $\{Ph^n(A), i_j^n\}_{n, 0 \leq j \leq n}$  has an inductive (direct) limit,  $Ph^\infty(A)$ , together with homomorphisms,

$$i_n : Ph^n(A) \longrightarrow Ph^\infty(A)$$

satisfying,

$$i_j^n \circ i_{n+1} = i_n, \quad j = 0, 1, \dots, n.$$

Moreover, the family of derivations,  $\{d_n\}_{0 \leq n}$  define a unique derivation,

$$\delta : Ph^\infty(A) \longrightarrow Ph^\infty(A),$$

such that,

$$i_n \circ \delta = d_n \circ i_{n+1}.$$

Put

$$Ph^{(n)}(A) := im \ i_n \subseteq Ph^\infty(A)$$

The  $k$ -algebra  $Ph^\infty(A)$  has a descending filtration of two-sided ideals,  $\{\mathcal{F}_n\}_{0 \leq n}$  given inductively by:

$$\mathcal{F}_1 = Ph^\infty(A) \cdot im(\delta) \cdot Ph^\infty(A)$$

and,

$$\begin{aligned} \delta(\mathcal{F}_n) &\subseteq \mathcal{F}_{n+1} \\ \mathcal{F}_{n_1} \mathcal{F}_{n_2} \dots \mathcal{F}_{n_r} &\subseteq \mathcal{F}_n, \quad n_1 + \dots + n_r = n \end{aligned}$$

such that the derivation  $\delta$  induces derivations,

$$\delta_n : \mathcal{F}_n \longrightarrow \mathcal{F}_{n+1}.$$

Using the canonical homomorphism  $i_n : Ph^n(A) \longrightarrow Ph^\infty(A)$  we pull the filtration  $\{\mathcal{F}_p\}_{0 \leq p}$  back to  $Ph^n(A)$ , not bothering to change the notation.

**Definition 1.3.** Let  $\mathcal{D}(A) := \varprojlim_{n \geq 1} Ph^\infty(A)/\mathcal{F}_n$ , the completion of  $Ph^\infty(A)$  in the topology given by the filtration  $\{\mathcal{F}_n\}_{0 \leq n}$ . The  $k$ -algebra  $Ph^\infty(A)$  will be referred to as the  $k$ -algebra of higher differentials, and  $\mathcal{D}(A)$  will be called the  $k$ -algebra of formalized higher differentials. Put,

$$\mathcal{D}_n := \mathcal{D}_n(A) := Ph^\infty(A)/\mathcal{F}_{n+1}$$

Clearly  $\delta$  defines a derivation on  $\mathcal{D}(A)$ , and an isomorphism of  $k$ -algebras,

$$\epsilon := exp(\delta) : \mathcal{D}(A) \rightarrow \mathcal{D}(A).$$

and in particular, an algebra homomorphism,

$$\tilde{\eta} := exp(\delta) : A \rightarrow \mathcal{D}(A),$$

inducing the algebra homomorphisms,

$$\tilde{\eta}_n : A \rightarrow \mathcal{D}_n(A),$$

which, by killing, in the right hand algebra, the image of the maximal ideal,  $\mathfrak{m}(\underline{t})$ , of  $A$  corresponding to a point  $\underline{t} \in Simp_1(A)$ , induces a homomorphism of  $k$ -algebras,

$$\tilde{\eta}_n(\underline{t}) : A \rightarrow \mathcal{D}_n(A)(\underline{t}) := \mathcal{D}_n/(\mathcal{D}_n \mathfrak{m}(\underline{t}) \mathcal{D}_n),$$

and an injective homomorphism,

$$\tilde{\eta}(\underline{t}) : A \rightarrow \varprojlim_{n \geq 1} \mathcal{D}_n(A)(\underline{t}).$$

see [La 5]. More generally, let  $A$  be a finitely generated  $k$ -algebra, and let  $\rho : A \rightarrow End_k(V)$  be an  $n$ -dimensional representation, (e.g. a point of  $Simp_n(A)$ ), corresponding to a two-sided ideal  $\mathfrak{m} = ker \rho$  of  $A$ . Then  $\tilde{\eta}$  induces a homomorphism,

$$\tilde{\eta}(\mathfrak{m}) : A \rightarrow \mathcal{D}/(\mathcal{D} \mathfrak{m} \mathcal{D}),$$

and we shall be interested in the image, see §3.

The  $k$ -algebras  $Ph^n(A)$  are our generalized Jet spaces. In fact, any homomorphism of  $A$ -algebras,

$$P_n : Ph^n(A) \rightarrow A$$

composed with

$$\delta^n : A \rightarrow Ph^n(A),$$

is a usual differential operator of order  $\leq n$  on  $A$ . Notice also the commutative diagram,

$$\begin{array}{ccccccc} A & \xrightarrow{d^{n-1}} & Ph^{n-1}(A) & \xrightarrow{d} & Ph^n(A) & \xrightarrow{d} & Ph^{n+1}(A) & \longrightarrow & \dots \\ & & \uparrow & & \uparrow & & \uparrow & & \\ & & \mathcal{F}_{p-1} & \xrightarrow{d} & \mathcal{F}_p & \xrightarrow{d} & \mathcal{F}_{p+1} & \xrightarrow{d} & \dots \\ & & \downarrow & & \downarrow & & \downarrow & & \\ & & \mathcal{F}_{p-1}/\mathcal{F}_p & \xrightarrow{d} & \mathcal{F}_p/\mathcal{F}_{p+1} & \xrightarrow{d} & \mathcal{F}_{p+1}/\mathcal{F}_{p+2} & \xrightarrow{d} & \dots \end{array}$$

Here the upper vertical morphisms are injective, the lower line being the sequence of *symbols*.

It is easy to see that the differential operators forms an associative  $k$ -algebra,  $Diff(A)$ . In fact, given two differential operators,

$$P_m : Ph^m(A) \rightarrow A, P_n : Ph^n(A) \rightarrow A,$$

and consider the functorially defined diagram,

$$\begin{array}{ccccc} A & \xrightarrow{d^m} & Ph^m(A) & \xrightarrow{d^n} & Ph^{m+n}(A) \\ & & \downarrow P_m & & \downarrow Ph^n(P_m) \\ & & A & \xrightarrow{d^n} & Ph^n(A) \\ & & & & \downarrow P_n \\ & & & & A \end{array}$$

then the product is defined as the composition,

$$P_m P_n = Ph^{(n)}(P_m) \circ P_n.$$

Let now  $V$  be, as above, a right  $A$ -module, with structure morphism  $\rho(V) : A \rightarrow End_k(V)$ . Consider the linear map,

$$\iota_n := id \otimes (i_1 \circ \dots \circ i_n) : V \otimes_A PhA \rightarrow V \otimes_A Ph^{n+1}, n \geq 0.$$

Assume that the non-commutative Kodaira-Spencer class, defined above,

$$c(V) := \kappa(u(V)) \in Ext_A^1(V, V \otimes_A Ph(A)),$$

vanish. Then, as we know, there exist a connection, i.e. a linear map  $\nabla_0 \in Hom_k(V, V \otimes_A Ph(A))$  such that  $u = \iota(\nabla_0)$ .

It is easy to see that this connection induces higher *order connections*, i.e.  $k$ -linear maps,

$$\nabla(n) \in Hom_k(V \otimes_A Ph^n(A), V \otimes_A Ph^{n+1}(A)), n \geq 0,$$

defined by,

$$\nabla(n)(v \otimes f) = \iota_n(\nabla_0(v))i_0(f) + v \otimes d_n(f).$$

In fact, we just have to prove that  $\nabla(n)$  is well defined, i.e. we have to prove that,

$$\nabla(n)(va \otimes f) = \nabla(n)(v \otimes af), \forall a \in A, f \in Ph^n(A).$$

Noticing that,

$$\iota_n(v \otimes d_0(a)) = v \otimes d_n(a),$$

where we have put,  $a := i_0 \circ \dots \circ i_0(a)$ , we find,

$$\begin{aligned} \nabla(n)(va \otimes f) &= \iota_n(\nabla_0(va))i_0(f) + va \otimes d_n(f) \\ &= \iota_n(\nabla_0(v))i_0(a) + v \otimes da)i_0(f) + v \otimes ad_n f \\ &= \iota_n(\nabla_0(v))i_0(af) + v \otimes d_n a i_0(f) + v \otimes ad_n f \\ &= \nabla(n)(v \otimes af) \end{aligned}$$

These higher order connections will induce a diagram,

$$\begin{array}{ccccccc}
 V \otimes_A Ph^{n-1}(A) & \xrightarrow{\nabla^{(n-1)}} & V \otimes_A Ph^n(A) & \xrightarrow{\nabla^{(n)}} & V \otimes_A Ph^{n+1}(A) & \longrightarrow & \dots \\
 \uparrow & & \uparrow & & \uparrow & & \\
 V \otimes_A \mathcal{F}_{p-1} & \xrightarrow{\nabla^{(n-1)}} & V \otimes_A \mathcal{F}_p & \xrightarrow{\nabla^{(n)}} & V \otimes_A \mathcal{F}_{p+1} & \longrightarrow & \dots \\
 \downarrow & & \downarrow & & \downarrow & & \\
 V \otimes_A \mathcal{F}_{p-1}/\mathcal{F}_p & \xrightarrow{\nabla^{(n-1)}} & V \otimes_A \mathcal{F}_p/\mathcal{F}_{p+1} & \xrightarrow{\nabla^{(n)}} & V \otimes_A \mathcal{F}_{p+1}/\mathcal{F}_{p+2} & \longrightarrow & \dots
 \end{array}$$

where the lower line is the sequence of *symbols*.

Notice that  $\nabla^n \in Hom_k(V, V \otimes Ph^n(A))$ , as given above, by definition has the property that for any  $a \in A$  and any  $v \in V$ , we have,

$$\nabla^n(va) = \nabla^n(v)a + \nabla^{n-1}(v)da + \dots + v \otimes d^n(a).$$

Assume, in particular, that  $V$  and the  $A$ -module  $W$  are free of rank  $p$ ,  $q$ , respectively. Let  $\{P_{i,j}\}_{i=1,\dots,p,j=1,\dots,q}$  be a family of  $A$ -homomorphisms  $Ph^n(A) \rightarrow A$ , defining a *generalized differential operator*,

$$\mathfrak{D} := \begin{pmatrix} P_{1,1} & \dots & P_{1,p} \\ \dots & & \dots \\ P_{q,1} & \dots & P_{q,p} \end{pmatrix} \circ \nabla^n : V \rightarrow W.$$

The solution space of  $\mathfrak{D}$ , is by definition

$$\mathbf{S}(\mathfrak{D}) := ker \mathfrak{D}.$$

There are natural generalizations of this set-up, which we shall, hopefully, return to in a later paper, extending the classical prolongation-projection method of Elie Cartan to this non-commutative setting. See example (1.4) for the commutative analogue.

In [La 5], we introduced the notion of a *dynamical system* for a  $k$ -algebra  $A$ , as a two-sided  $\delta$ -stable ideal  $\sigma \subset Ph^\infty(A)$ , or equivalently as the corresponding quotient  $A(\sigma)$  of the  $\delta$ -algebra  $Ph^\infty(A)$ . Any such  $A(\sigma)$  will be given in terms of a sequence of ideals,

$$\sigma_n \subset Ph^n(A), \quad n \geq 0,$$

with the property that  $d(\sigma_n) \subset \sigma_{n+1}$ . The *solution space* of such a system, should be considered as the non-commutative scheme parametrized by  $A(\sigma)$ , i.e. as the geometric system of all simple representations of  $A(\sigma)$ , see [La 3].

This is, in a sense, dual to the classical theory of PDE's, as we shall show by considering the following example, leaving the general situation to the hypothetical paper referred to above.

**Example 1.4.** (i) Let  $A = k[t_1, t_2, \dots, t_n]$ , and consider the situation, corresponding to a free particle, see [La 5], where in  $A(\sigma)$  we have killed  $d^2t_i$ , for every

$i = 1, 2, \dots, n$ , then the commutativization  $A(\sigma)_k^{com}$  of  $A(\sigma)_k := Ph(A)/\mathcal{F}_{k+1}$  is a free  $A$ -module generated by the basis,

$$\{dt_{i_1} dt_{i_2} \dots dt_{i_r}\}_{i_1 \leq i_2 \leq \dots \leq i_r, r \leq k}.$$

Put  $|\underline{i}| = r$ , if  $\underline{i} = \{i_1, i_2, \dots, i_r\}$ . The dual basis,

$$\{p_{\underline{i}}\}_{i_1 \leq i_2 \leq \dots \leq i_r, r \leq k}$$

may be identified with a basis  $D_{\underline{i}}$  of the  $A$ -module of all (classical higher-order) differential operators of order less or equal to  $k$ . In fact, for  $f \in A$  we have,

$$p_{\underline{i}}(\tilde{\eta}(f)) = \frac{1}{\mu_1! \mu_2! \dots \mu_s!} D_{j_1}^{\mu_1} D_{j_2}^{\mu_2} \dots D_{j_r}^{\mu_r}(f),$$

where we assume  $j_1 = i_1 = i_2 = \dots = i_{\mu_1} < j_2 = i_{\mu_1+1} = i_{\mu_1+2} = \dots = i_{\mu_1+\mu_2} < \dots < i_{\mu_1+\dots+\mu_s} = j_r$ , and where  $D_{i_p}^{\mu_p}$  is  $\mu_p$ 'th order derivation with respect to  $t_{i_p}$ . If  $\{i_1, i_2, \dots, i_r\} = \emptyset$  we let  $D_{\underline{i}}$  be the identity operator on  $A$ .

Now, consider the commutativization of  $A(\sigma)$ , as a  $k$ -linear space, and for every  $k \geq 1$ ,

$$\mathcal{E}_k := A(\sigma)_k^{com}$$

as a family of affine spaces fibered over  $Sim p_1(A)$ ,

$$\pi_k : \mathcal{E}_k \rightarrow Spec(A).$$

This family is defined by the homomorphism of  $k$ -algebras,

$$A \rightarrow \mathcal{O}(\mathcal{E}_k) := A[p_{\underline{i}}], \quad |\underline{i}| \leq k.$$

Let  $P_q(t, p_{\underline{i}}) \in \mathcal{O}(\mathcal{E}_{k_q})$ ,  $q = 1, \dots, d$ , then the system of equations,

$$P_q = 0, \quad q = 1, \dots, d,$$

is a system of partial differential equations, a SPDE, for short. Suppose there is a *solution*, i.e. an  $f \in A$ , such that,

$$P_q(D_{\underline{i}}(f)) = 0, \quad q = 1, \dots, d,$$

then, for every  $j$ , we must have

$$D_j(P_q(D_{\underline{i}}(f))) = 0,$$

which amounts to extending the SPDE, by including together with  $P \in \mathcal{O}(\mathcal{E}_{k_q})$ , the polynomials,

$$D_j P := \frac{\partial P}{\partial t_j} + \sum_{\underline{i}} \frac{\partial P}{\partial p_{\underline{i}}} p_{\underline{i}+j} \in \mathcal{O}(\mathcal{E}_{k_q+1})$$

where it should be clear how to interpret the indices. Let us denote by  $\mathcal{P}$  the extended family of polynomials,

$$\{D_{j_1} \dots D_{j_1} P_q | P_q \in \mathcal{O}(\mathcal{E}_{k_q})\}_{j_1, q \geq 0}$$

and let

$$\mathfrak{p}_m \subset O(\mathcal{E}_m)$$

be the ideal, generated by the polynomials in  $\mathcal{P}$ , contained in  $O(\mathcal{E}_m)$ . Denote by,

$$S_m := S_m(\mathcal{P}) \subset \mathcal{E}_m$$

the corresponding subvariety. Clearly, the canonical map,

$$\mathcal{E}_{m+l} \rightarrow \mathcal{E}_m$$

induced by the trivial derivation of  $Ph^m(A)$ , has a canonical restriction,

$$pl_l : S_{m+l} \rightarrow S_m.$$

Denote also by,

$$\pi_k : S_k \rightarrow Spec(A)$$

the restriction, of the morphism,  $\pi_k : \mathcal{E}_m \rightarrow Spec(A)$  defined above, to  $S_k$ . Classically, the system is called regular, if all  $\pi_k$  are fibre bundles, so smooth, for  $k \geq 1$ . Now, for any closed point of  $Spec(A)$ , i.e. for any point  $\underline{t} \in Simp_1(A)$ , consider the sequence of fibers over  $\underline{t}$ , and the corresponding sequence of maps,

$$pl_1(\underline{t}) : S_{m+1}(\underline{t}) \rightarrow S_m(\underline{t}).$$

An element

$$\tilde{f} \in \varprojlim_m S_m(\underline{t})$$

corresponds exactly to an element  $\hat{f} \in \hat{A}_{\underline{t}}$ , for which,

$$P_q(D_{\underline{t}}(\hat{f})) = 0, \quad q = 1, \dots, d,$$

i.e. to a formal solution of the SPDE. Thus, the projective limit of schemes,

$$\mathcal{S}(\mathcal{P})(\underline{t}) := \varprojlim_m S_m(\underline{t}),$$

is the space of formal solutions of the SPDE at  $\underline{t} \in Simp_1(A)$ .

A fundamental problem in the classical theory of PDE is then the following:

Find necessary and sufficient conditions on the SPDE  $\{P_q\}_{q=1, \dots, d}$  for  $\mathcal{S}(\mathcal{P})(\underline{t})$  to be non-empty, and find, based on  $\{P_l\}_l$ , its structure. In particular, compute its dimension,  $\sigma(\underline{t})$ .

We shall not, here, venture into this vast theory, but just add one remark. The solution space is in fact a family, with parameter-space  $Simp_1(A)$ . Given any point  $\underline{t} \in Simp_1(A)$  the (formal) scheme,  $\mathcal{S}(\mathcal{P})(\underline{t})$  of formal solutions may have deformations. We might want to compute the formal moduli  $\underline{H}$ , and relate the given family to the corresponding mini-versal family.

The tangent space of  $\underline{H}$  is given as,

$$A^1(k, \mathcal{O}(\mathcal{S}(\mathcal{P})(\underline{t})), \mathcal{O}(\mathcal{S}(\mathcal{P})(\underline{t}))) = Hom_{\mathcal{O}(\mathcal{E})(\underline{t})}(\mathfrak{p}(\underline{t}), \mathcal{O}(\mathcal{S}(\mathcal{P})(\underline{t}))) / Der,$$

see [La 0]. A tangent at the point  $\underline{t}$  of  $\text{Simp}_1(A)$  is the value at  $\underline{t}$ , of a linear combinations of the fundamental vectorfields, the derivations  $\{D_j\}$  of  $A$ . The map between the tangent space of the given family and the tangent space of  $H$ , is then easily seen to be the following,

$$\eta : T_{\text{Simp}_1(A), \underline{t}} \rightarrow \text{Hom}_{\mathcal{O}(\mathcal{E})(\underline{t}))}(\mathfrak{p}(\underline{t}), \mathcal{O}(\mathcal{S}(\mathcal{P})(\underline{t}))) / \text{Der},$$

where,  $\eta(D_j)$  is the class of the map, associating a  $P \in \mathfrak{p}$  to the class at  $\underline{t}$  of  $D_j(P)$ . The image of the tangent at  $\underline{t}$  of  $\text{Simp}_1(A)$ , corresponding to  $D_j$ , in the tangent space of  $H$ , is zero if this map is a derivation. Now, this is exactly what we have arranged, by together with any  $P \in \mathfrak{p}$ , also including

$$D_j P := \frac{\partial P}{\partial t_j} + \sum_{\underline{i}} \frac{\partial P}{\partial p_{\underline{i}}} p_{\underline{i}+j},$$

in the ideal  $\mathfrak{p}$ . Thus the map  $\eta$  is trivial, and the given pro-family is formally constant, as one maybe should have suspected! Moreover, it is easy to see that, if

$$pl_1 : S_{k+1}(\underline{t}) \rightarrow S_k(\underline{t})$$

has a local section, then,

$$\pi_k : S_k \rightarrow \text{Spec}(A)$$

is formally constant at  $\underline{t} \in \text{Spec}(A)$ . The basic problem is to find computable conditions under which the constancy of  $\pi_k$  implies the surjectivity of  $pl_1$ , and thereby the non-triviality of  $\mathcal{S}(\mathcal{P})(\underline{t})$ .

We shall, hopefully, come back to these questions in a later paper.

(ii) Let  $A = k[t]/(t^2)$ , then

$$Ph(A) = k \langle t, dt \rangle / (t^2, tdt + dtt),$$

$$Ph^{(2)}(A) = k \langle t, dt, d^2t \rangle / (t^2, tdt + dtt, td^2t + 2dt^2 + d^2tt)$$

$$Ph^\infty(A) = k \langle t, dt, \dots, d^n t, \dots \rangle / (t^2, tdt + dtt, \dots, td^n t + ndt d^{n-1}t + \dots + d^n tt, \dots),$$

and it is easy to see that  $\eta(t) = \sum_n 1/n! d^n(t)$  is non-zero in  $\mathcal{D}/(\mathcal{D}(t)\mathcal{D})$ , and, of course,  $\eta(t)^2 = 0$ . In particular, there is a homomorphism onto,

$$\mathcal{D}/(\mathcal{D}(t)\mathcal{D}) \rightarrow k[dt]/(dt^2) \simeq A$$

(iii) Let now  $A = k[x, y]/(x^3 - y^2)$ , and compute  $\mathcal{D}$ , and see that  $dy^2 = 0$  in  $\mathcal{D}/(\mathcal{D}(t)\mathcal{D})$ , so that there is no natural surjectiv homomorphism,

$$\mathcal{D}/(\mathcal{D}(t)\mathcal{D}) \rightarrow A,$$

even though the map

$$\tilde{\eta} := \exp(\delta) : A \rightarrow \mathcal{D}$$

is injective. The difference between examples (i) and (ii) is, of course, due to the fact that in the first case  $A$  is graded, and in the second it is not. See §3.

*Remark 1.5.* Preparation of a representation: Given a representation  $V$  of  $A$ ,  $\rho : A \rightarrow \text{End}_k(V)$ , an extension of  $\rho$  to  $Ph^{(n)}(A) \rightarrow \text{End}_k(V)$  corresponds to fixing

the first  $n$  higher order "momenta of the point  $V$ ", in the miniversal deformation space. In particular,  $Ph^\infty(A)$  parametrizes, in this way, representations of  $A$  with a momentum, and any number of *higher order momenta*. If  $V_\delta$  is any  $Ph^\infty(A)$ -module, notice, that, as above, the kernel of the natural map,

$$Ext_{Ph^\infty(A)}^1(V_\delta, V_\delta) \rightarrow Ext_A^1(V, V),$$

induced by the linear map,

$$Der_k(Ph^\infty(A), End_k(V_\delta)) \rightarrow Der_k(A, End_k(V))$$

is the quotient,

$$Der_A(Ph^\infty(A), End_k(V_\delta))/End_A(V),$$

and that the image is a subspace  $[\delta_\rho]^\perp \subseteq Ext_A^1(V, V)$ , which is easily computable.

**§2. Non-commutative deformations of families of modules.**

In [La 2], [La 3] and [La 4], we introduced non-commutative deformations of families of modules of non-commutative  $k$ -algebras, and the notion of *swarm* of right modules (or more generally of objects in a  $k$ -linear abelian category). Let  $\underline{a}_r$  denote the category of  $r$ -pointed not necessarily commutative  $k$ -algebras  $R$ . The objects are the diagrams of  $k$ -algebras,

$$k^r \xrightarrow{\iota} R \xrightarrow{\pi} k^r$$

such that the composition of  $\iota$  and  $\pi$  is the identity. Any such  $r$ -pointed  $k$ -algebra  $R$  is isomorphic to a  $k$ -algebra of  $r \times r$ -matrices  $(R_{i,j})$ . The radical of  $R$  is the bilateral ideal  $Rad(R) := ker \pi$ , such that  $R/Rad(R) \simeq k^r$ . The dual  $k$ -vector space of  $Rad(R)/Rad(R)^2$  is called the tangent space of  $R$ .

For  $r = 1$ , there is an obvious inclusion of categories

$$\underline{l} \subseteq \underline{a}_1$$

where  $\underline{l}$ , as usual, denotes the category of commutative local Artinian  $k$ -algebras with residue field  $k$ .

Fix a (not necessarily commutative) associative  $k$ -algebra  $A$  and consider a right  $A$ -module  $M$ . The ordinary deformation functor

$$Def_M : \underline{l} \rightarrow \underline{Sets}$$

is then defined. Assuming  $Ext_A^i(M, M)$  has finite  $k$ -dimension for  $i = 1, 2$ , it is well known, see [Sch], or [La 2], that  $Def_M$  has a pro-representing hull  $H$ , *the formal moduli of  $M$* . Moreover, the tangent space of  $H$  is isomorphic to  $Ext_A^1(M, M)$ , and  $H$  can be computed in terms of  $Ext_A^i(M, M)$ ,  $i = 1, 2$  and their *matrix Massey products*, see [La 2].

In the general case, consider a finite family  $\mathcal{V} = \{V_i\}_{i=1}^r$  of right  $A$ -modules. Assume that,

$$dim_k Ext_A^1(V_i, V_j) < \infty.$$

Any such family of  $A$ -modules will be called a *swarm*. We shall define a deformation functor,

$$Def_{\mathcal{V}} : \underline{a}_r \rightarrow \underline{Sets}$$

generalizing the functor  $Def_M$  above. Given an object  $\pi : R = (R_{i,j}) \rightarrow k^r$  of  $\underline{a}_r$ , consider the  $k$ -vector space and left  $R$ -module  $(R_{i,j} \otimes_k V_j)$ . It is easy to see that  $End_R((R_{i,j} \otimes_k V_j)) \simeq (R_{i,j} \otimes_k Hom_k(V_i, V_j))$ . Clearly  $\pi$  defines a  $k$ -linear and left  $R$ -linear map,

$$\pi(R) : (R_{i,j} \otimes_k V_j) \rightarrow \bigoplus_{i=1}^r V_i,$$

inducing a homomorphism of  $R$ -endomorphism rings,

$$\tilde{\pi}(R) : (R_{i,j} \otimes_k Hom_k(V_i, V_j)) \rightarrow \bigoplus_{i=1}^r End_k(V_i).$$

The right  $A$ -module structure on the  $V_i$ 's is defined by a homomorphism of  $k$ -algebras,  $\eta_0 : A \rightarrow \bigoplus_{i=1}^r End_k(V_i) \subset (Hom_k(V_i, V_j)) =: End_k(V)$ . Notice that this homomorphism also provides each  $Hom_k(V_i, V_j)$  with an  $A$ -bimodule structure. Let

$$Def_{\mathcal{V}}(R) \in \underline{Sets}$$

be the set of isoclasses of homomorphisms of  $k$ -algebras,

$$\eta' : A \rightarrow (R_{i,j} \otimes_k Hom_k(V_i, V_j))$$

such that,

$$\tilde{\pi}(R) \circ \eta' = \eta_0,$$

where the equivalence relation is defined by inner automorphisms in the  $k$ -algebra  $(R_{i,j} \otimes_k Hom_k(V_i, V_j))$  inducing the identity on  $\bigoplus_{i=1}^r End_k(V_i)$ . One easily proves that  $Def_{\mathcal{V}}$  has the same properties as the ordinary deformation functor and we prove the following, see [La 2]:

**Theorem 2.1.** *The functor  $Def_{\mathcal{V}}$  has a pro-representable hull, i.e. an object  $H$  of the category of pro-objects  $\underline{a}_r$  of  $\underline{a}_r$ , together with a versal family,*

$$\tilde{V} = (H_{i,j} \otimes V_j) \in \varprojlim_{n \geq 1} Def_{\mathcal{V}}(H/\mathfrak{m}^n),$$

where  $\mathfrak{m} = Rad(H)$ , such that the corresponding morphism of functors on  $\underline{a}_r$ ,

$$\kappa : Mor(H, -) \rightarrow Def_{\mathcal{V}}$$

defined for  $\phi \in Mor(H, R)$  by  $\kappa(\phi) = R \otimes_{\phi} \tilde{V}$ , is smooth, and an isomorphism on the tangent level. Moreover,  $H$  is uniquely determined by a set of matrix Massey products defined on subspaces,

$$D(n) \subseteq Ext^1(V_i, V_{j_1}) \otimes \cdots \otimes Ext^1(V_{j_{n-1}}, V_k),$$

with values in  $Ext^2(V_i, V_k)$ .

The right action of  $A$  on  $\tilde{V}$  defines a homomorphism of  $k$ -algebras,

$$\eta : A \longrightarrow O(\mathcal{V}) := End_H(\tilde{V}) = (H_{i,j} \otimes Hom_k(V_i, V_j)),$$

and the  $k$ -algebra  $O(\mathcal{V})$  acts on the family of  $A$ -modules  $\mathcal{V} = \{V_i\}$ , extending the action of  $A$ . If  $dim_k V_i < \infty$ , for all  $i = 1, \dots, r$ , the operation of associating  $(O(\mathcal{V}), \mathcal{V})$  to  $(A, \mathcal{V})$  turns out to be a closure operation.

Moreover, we prove the crucial result,

**A generalized Burnside theorem 2.2.** *Let  $A$  be a finite dimensional  $k$ -algebra,  $k$  an algebraically closed field. Consider the family  $\mathcal{V} = \{V_i\}_{i=1}^r$  of all simple  $A$ -modules, then*

$$\eta : A \longrightarrow O(\mathcal{V}) = (H_{i,j} \otimes \text{Hom}_k(V_i, V_j))$$

*is an isomorphism.*

We also prove that there exists, in the non-commutative deformation theory, an obvious analogy to the notion of pro-representing (modular) substratum  $H_0$  of the formal moduli  $H$ , see [La 1]. The tangent space of  $H_0$  is determined by a family of subspaces

$$\text{Ext}_0^1(V_i, V_j) \subseteq \text{Ext}_A^1(V_i, V_j), \quad i \neq j$$

the elements of which should be called the almost split extensions (sequences) relative to the family  $\mathcal{V}$ , and by a subspace,

$$T_0(\Delta) \subseteq \prod_i \text{Ext}_A^1(V_i, V_i)$$

which is the tangent space of the deformation functor of the full subcategory of the category of  $A$ -modules generated by the family  $\mathcal{V} = \{V_i\}_{i=1}^r$ , see [La 1]. If  $\mathcal{V} = \{V_i\}_{i=1}^r$  is the set of all indecomposables of some Artinian  $k$ -algebra  $A$ , we show that the above notion of *almost split sequence* coincides with that of Auslander, see [R].

Using this we consider, in [La 2], the general problem of classification of iterated extensions of a family of modules  $\mathcal{V} = \{V_i\}_{i=1}^r$ , and the corresponding classification of filtered modules with graded components in the family  $\mathcal{V}$ , and extension type given by a directed representation graph  $\Gamma$ . The main result is the following, see [La 4],

**Proposition 2.3.** *Let  $A$  be any  $k$ -algebra,  $\mathcal{V} = \{V_i\}_{i=1}^r$  any swarm of  $A$ -modules, i.e. such that,*

$$\dim_k \text{Ext}_A^1(V_i, V_j) < \infty \quad \text{for all } i, j = 1, \dots, r.$$

*(i): Consider an iterated extension  $E$  of  $\mathcal{V}$ , with representation graph  $\Gamma$ . Then there exists a morphism of  $k$ -algebras*

$$\phi : H(\mathcal{V}) \rightarrow k[\Gamma]$$

*such that*

$$E \simeq k[\Gamma] \otimes_{\phi} \tilde{V}$$

*as right  $A$ -algebras.*

*(ii): The set of equivalence classes of iterated extensions of  $\mathcal{V}$  with representation graph  $\Gamma$ , is a quotient of the set of closed points of the affine algebraic variety*

$$\underline{A}[\Gamma] = \text{Mor}(H(\mathcal{V}), k[\Gamma])$$

*(iii): There is a versal family  $\tilde{V}[\Gamma]$  of  $A$ -modules defined on  $\underline{A}[\Gamma]$ , containing as fibers all the isomorphism classes of iterated extensions of  $\mathcal{V}$  with representation graph  $\Gamma$ .*

To any, not necessarily finite, swarm  $\underline{c} \subset \text{mod}(A)$  of right- $A$ -modules, we have associated two associative  $k$ -algebras, see [La 3] and [La 4],  $O(|\underline{c}|, \pi) = \varprojlim_{\mathcal{V} \subset |\underline{c}|} O(\mathcal{V})$ , and a sub-quotient  $\mathcal{O}_\pi(\underline{c})$ , together with natural  $k$ -algebra homomorphisms,

$$\eta(|\underline{c}|) : A \longrightarrow O(|\underline{c}|, \pi)$$

and,

$$\eta(\underline{c}) : A \longrightarrow \mathcal{O}_\pi(\underline{c})$$

with the property that the  $A$ -module structure on  $\underline{c}$  is extended to an  $\mathcal{O}$ -module structure in an optimal way. We then defined an *affine non-commutative scheme* of right  $A$ -modules to be a swarm  $\underline{c}$  of right  $A$ -modules, such that  $\eta(\underline{c})$  is an isomorphism. In particular we considered, for finitely generated  $k$ -algebras, the swarm  $\text{Simp}_{<\infty}^*(A)$  consisting of the finite dimensional simple  $A$ -modules, and the *generic point*  $A$ , together with all morphisms between them. The fact that this is a swarm, i.e. that for all objects  $V_i, V_j \in \text{Simp}_{<\infty}$  we have  $\dim_k \text{Ext}_A^1(V_i, V_j) < \infty$ , is easily proved. We have in [La 4] proved the following result, (see (4.1), loc.cit. for the definition of the notion of *geometric*  $k$ -algebra, and compare with Lemma (2.5).)

**Proposition 2.4.** *Let  $A$  be a geometric  $k$ -algebra, then the natural homomorphism,*

$$\eta(\text{Simp}^*(A)) : A \longrightarrow \mathcal{O}_\pi(\text{Simp}_{<\infty}^*(A))$$

*is an isomorphism, i.e.  $\text{Simp}_{<\infty}^*(A)$  is a scheme for  $A$ .*

In particular,  $\text{Simp}_{<\infty}^*(k \langle x_1, x_2, \dots, x_d \rangle)$ , is a scheme for  $k \langle x_1, x_2, \dots, x_d \rangle$ . To analyze the local structure of  $\text{Simp}_n(A)$ , we need the following, see [La 4], (3.23),

**Lemma 2.5.** *Let  $\mathcal{V} = \{V_i\}_{i=1, \dots, r}$  be a finite subset of  $\text{Simp}_{<\infty}(A)$ , then the morphism of  $k$ -algebras,*

$$A \rightarrow O(\mathcal{V}) = (H_{i,j} \otimes_k \text{Hom}_k(V_i, V_j))$$

*is topologically surjective.*

*Proof.* Since the simple modules  $V_i$ ,  $i = 1, \dots, r$  are distinct, there is an obvious surjection,  $\eta_0 : A \rightarrow \prod_{i=1, \dots, r} \text{End}_k(V_i)$ . Put  $\mathfrak{r} = \ker \eta_0$ , and consider for  $m \geq 2$  the finite-dimensional  $k$ -algebra,  $B := A/\mathfrak{r}^m$ . Clearly  $\text{Simp}(B) = \mathcal{V}$ , so that by the generalized Burnside theorem, see [La 2], (2.6), we find,  $B \simeq O^B(\mathcal{V}) := (H_{i,j}^B \otimes_k \text{Hom}_k(V_i, V_j))$ . Consider the commutative diagram,

$$\begin{array}{ccc} A & \longrightarrow & (H_{i,j}^A \otimes_k \text{Hom}_k(V_i, V_j)) =: O^A(\mathcal{V}) \\ \downarrow & & \downarrow \\ B & \longrightarrow & (H_{i,j}^B \otimes_k \text{Hom}_k(V_i, V_j)) \xrightarrow{\alpha} O^A(\mathcal{V})/\mathfrak{m}^m \end{array}$$

where all morphisms are natural. In particular  $\alpha$  exists since  $B = A/\mathfrak{r}^m$  maps into  $O^A(\mathcal{V})/\text{rad}^m$ , and therefore induces the morphism  $\alpha$  commuting with the rest of the morphisms. Consequently  $\alpha$  has to be surjective, and we have proved the contention.

□

**Example 2.6.** As an example of what may occur in rank infinity, we shall consider the invariant problem,  $\mathbf{A}_{\mathbf{C}}^1/\mathbf{C}^*$ . Here we are talking about the algebra  $A = \mathbf{C}[x](\mathbf{C}^*)$  crossed product of  $\mathbf{C}[x]$  with the group  $\mathbf{C}^*$ . If  $\lambda \in \mathbf{C}^*$ , the product in  $A$  is given by  $x \times \lambda = \lambda \times \lambda^{-1}x$ . There are two ‘‘points’’, i.e. orbits, modeled by the obvious origin  $V_0 := A \rightarrow \text{End}_{\mathbf{C}}(\mathbf{C}(0))$ , and by  $V_1 := A \rightarrow \text{End}_{\mathbf{C}}(\mathbf{C}[x, x^{-1}])$ . We may also choose the two points  $V_0 := \mathbf{C}(0), V_1 := \mathbf{C}[x]$ , in line with the definitions of [La 3]. Obviously  $\mathbf{C}[x]$  correspond to the closure of the orbit  $\mathbf{C}[x, x^{-1}]$ . This choice is the best if one want to make visible the adjacencies in the quotient, and we shall therefore treat both cases.

We need to compute,

$$\text{Ext}_A^p(V_i, V_j), p = 1, 2, \quad i, j = 1, 2.$$

Now,

$$\text{Ext}_A^1(V_i, V_j) = \text{Der}_{\mathbf{C}}(A, \text{Hom}_{\mathbf{C}}(V_i, V_j))/\text{Triv}, \quad i, j = 1, 2,$$

and since  $x$  acts as zero on  $V_1$ , and  $\mathbf{C}^*$  acts as identity on  $V_1$  and as homogenous multiplication on  $V_0$ , we find,

$$\text{Der}_k(A, \text{Hom}_k(V_0, V_0))/\text{Triv} = \text{Der}_k(A, \text{Hom}_k(V_0, V_0)) = \text{Der}_{\mathbf{C}}(A, \mathbf{C}(0)).$$

Any  $\delta \in \text{Der}_k(A, \mathbf{C}(0))$ , is determined by its values,  $\delta(x), \delta(\lambda) \in \mathbf{C}(0) | \lambda \in \mathbf{C}^*$ . Moreover since in  $A$  we have,  $(\lambda) \times (\lambda^{-1}x) = x \times (\lambda)$ , we find,

$$\begin{aligned} \delta(\lambda\mu) &= \delta(\lambda) + \delta(\mu) \\ \delta((\lambda) \times (\lambda^{-1}x)) &= \delta(x \times (\lambda)). \end{aligned}$$

The left hand side of the last equation is  $\delta((\lambda^{-1}x)) = \lambda^{-1}\delta(x)$ , and the right hand side is  $\delta(x)$ , and since this must hold for all  $\lambda \in \mathbf{C}^*$ , we must have  $\delta(x) = 0$ . Moreover, since  $\delta(\lambda\mu) = \delta(\lambda) + \delta(\mu)$ , it is clear that continuity of  $\delta$ , implies that  $\delta$  must be equal to  $\alpha \ln(|\cdot|)$ , for some  $\alpha \in \mathbf{C}$ . (To simplify the writing, we shall put  $\log := \ln(|\cdot|)$ .) Therefore,

$$\text{Ext}_A^1(V_0, V_0) = \text{Der}_k(A, \text{Hom}_{\mathbf{C}}(V_0, V_0)) = \mathbf{C}$$

The cup-product of this class,  $\log \cup \log$ , sits in  $HH^2(A, \mathbf{C}(0)) = \text{Ext}_a^2(V_0, V_0)$ , and is given by the 2-cocycle,

$$(\lambda, \mu) \rightarrow \log(\lambda) \times \log(\mu).$$

This is seen to be a boundary, i.e. there exist a map  $\psi : \mathbf{C}^* \rightarrow \mathbf{C}(0)$ , such that for all,  $\lambda, \mu \in \mathbf{C}^*$  we have,

$$\log(\lambda) \times \log(\mu) = \psi(\lambda) - \psi(\lambda\mu) + \psi(\mu).$$

Just put  $\psi_{1,1} := \psi_2 = -1/2 \log^2$ . Therefore the cup product is zero, and if we, in general, put

$$\psi_n := \psi_{1,1,\dots,1} = (-)^{n+1} 1/(n!) \log^n, \quad n \geq 1$$

where  $n$  is the number of 1's in the first index, then computing the Massey products of the element  $\log \in Ext_A^1(V_0, V_0)$ , we find the  $n$ 'th. Massey product,

$$[\log, \log, \dots, \log] = \{(\lambda, \mu) \rightarrow \sum_{p=1, \dots, n-1} \psi_p \psi_{n-p},$$

and this is easily seen to be the boundary of the 1-cochain

$$\psi_{n+1} = (-)^{n+2} 1 / ((n+1)!) \log^{n+1}.$$

Therefore all Massey products are zero. Of course, we have not yet proved that they could be different from zero, i.e. we have not computed the *obstruction*-group  $Ext_A^2(V_0, V_0)$  and found it non-trivial! Now this is unnecessary.

Now, assume first  $V_0 = \mathbf{C}[x, x^{-1}]$ , then any,

$$\delta \in Ext_A^1(V_0, V_0) = Der_{\mathbf{C}}(A, Hom_{\mathbf{C}}(V_0, V_0)) / Triv$$

is determined by the values of  $\delta(x)$  and  $\delta(\lambda)$ ,  $\lambda \in \mathbf{C}^*$ . Since  $Ext_{\mathbf{C}[x]}^1(V_0, V_1) = 0$ , we may find a trivial derivation such that subtracting from  $\delta$  we may assume  $\delta(x) = 0$ . But then the formula,

$$\delta(x \times \lambda) = \delta(\lambda \times (\lambda^{-1}x))$$

implies,

$$x\delta(\lambda) = \delta(\lambda)(\lambda^{-1}x),$$

from which it follows,

$$\delta(\lambda)(x^p) = (\lambda^{-1}x)^p \delta(\lambda)(1).$$

Now, since,  $\lambda\mu = \mu\lambda$  in  $\mathbf{C}^*$ , we find,

$$(\lambda^{-1}\mu x)^p \delta(\lambda)(1)(\mu x) = (\lambda\mu^{-1}x)^p \delta(\lambda)(1)(\lambda x),$$

which should hold for any pair of  $\mu, \lambda \in \mathbf{C}^*$ , and any  $p$ . This obviously implies  $\delta = 0$ .

This argument shows not only that ,

$$Ext_A^1(V_1, V_1) = Der_{\mathbf{C}}(A, Hom_{\mathbf{C}}(V_1, V_1)) / Triv = 0$$

when  $V_1 = \mathbf{C}[x, x^{-1}]$  but also when  $V_1 = \mathbf{C}[x]$ . Finally we find that the formula above,

$$x\delta(\lambda) = \delta(\lambda)(\lambda^{-1}x),$$

shows that for,

$$\delta \in Ext_A^1(V_1, V_0) = Der_{\mathbf{C}}(A, Hom_{\mathbf{C}}(V_1, V_0)) / Triv$$

$\delta(\lambda)(xx^p) = 0$  for all  $p$ . Therefore,

$$Ext_A^1(V_1, V_0) = Der_{\mathbf{C}}(A, Hom_{\mathbf{C}}(V_1, V_0)) / Triv = 0$$

when  $V_1 = \mathbf{C}[x, x^{-1}]$ . However, when  $V_1 = \mathbf{C}[x]$ , we find that  $\delta$  with,  $\delta(\lambda)(1) \neq 0$  and with  $\delta(\lambda)(x^p) = 0$  for  $p \geq 1$ , survives. These will, as above give rise to a logarithm of the real part of  $\mathbf{C}^*$ . Therefore, in this case,

$$Ext_A^1(V_1, V_0) = \mathbf{C}.$$

The miniversal families look like,

$$H = \begin{pmatrix} \mathbf{C}[[t]] & 0 \\ 0 & \mathbf{C} \end{pmatrix}$$

when  $V_1 = \mathbf{C}[x, x^{-1}]$ , and like

$$H = \begin{pmatrix} \mathbf{C}[[t]] & 0 \\ \langle \mathbf{C} \rangle & \mathbf{C} \end{pmatrix}$$

when  $V_1 = \mathbf{C}[x]$ .

*Localization and topology.* Let  $s \in A$ , and consider the *open subset*  $D(s) = \{V \in \text{Simp}(A) \mid \rho(s) \text{ invertible in } \text{End}_k(V)\}$ . The Jacobson topology on  $\text{Simp}(A)$  is the topology with basis  $\{D(s) \mid s \in A\}$ . It is clear that the natural morphism,

$$\eta : A \rightarrow O(D(s), \pi)$$

maps  $s$  into an invertible element of  $O(D(s), \pi)$ . Therefore we may define the localization  $A_{\{s\}}$  of  $A$ , as the  $k$ -algebra generated in  $O(D(s), \pi)$  by *im*  $\eta$  and the inverse of  $\eta(s)$ . This furnishes a general method of localization with all the properties one would wish. And in this way we also find a canonical (pre)sheaf,  $\mathcal{O}$  defined on  $\text{Simp}(A)$ .

**Definition 2.7.** *When the  $k$ -algebra  $A$  is geometric, such that  $\text{Simp}^*(A)$  is a scheme for  $A$ , we shall refer to the presheaf  $\mathcal{O}$ , defined above on the Jacobson topology, as the structure presheaf of the scheme  $\text{Simp}(A)$ .*

### §3. The infinite phase space construction and Massey products.

Let, as above  $\mathcal{V} = \{V_i\}_{i=1, \dots, r}$  be a family of  $A$ -modules. To compute the relevant cohomology for the deformation theory, i.e. the  $Ext_A^*(V_i, V_j)$ , we may use the Leray spectral sequence of [La 0], together with the formulas,

$$\begin{aligned} Ext_A^n(V_i, V_j) &= HH^{n+1}(k, A; Hom_k(V_i, V_j)) \\ HH^{n+1}(k, A; W) &= \varinjlim_{Free/A} {}^{(n)}Der_k(-, W), \quad n > 0, \end{aligned}$$

where  $W$  is any  $A$ -bimodule. Choose a surjective morphism  $\mu : F \rightarrow A$  of a free  $k$ -algebra  $F$  onto  $A$ , and put  $I = \ker \mu$ , then,

$$Ext_A^2(V_i, V_j) = Hom_A(I/I^2, Hom_k(V_i, V_j))/Der,$$

where  $Der$  is the restrictions of the derivations,  $Der_k(F, Hom_k(V_i, V_j))$ , to  $I$ .

Now, let  $\{\psi_{i,j}(l) \in Der_k(A; V_i, V_j)\}_{l=1, \dots, d_{i,j}}$  represent a basis of  $Ext_A^1(V_i, V_j)$ , and let  $E_{i,j} := \{t_{i,j}(l)\}_{l=1, \dots, d_{i,j}}$  denote the dual basis. Consider, the free matrix

$k$ -algebra (quiver)  $(T_{i,j}^1)$ , generated in slot  $(i, j)$  by the (formal) elements of  $E_{i,j}$ . There is a unique homomorphism,

$$\pi : T^1 := (T_{i,j}^1) \rightarrow \begin{pmatrix} k & 0 & \dots & 0 \\ 0 & k & \dots & 0 \\ \vdots & \vdots & \dots & \vdots \\ 0 & \vdots & \dots & k \end{pmatrix}.$$

Denote by the same letter the completion of  $T^1$  with respect to the powers of the radical,  $Rad(T^1) := ker \pi$ . Then  $T^1 \in \hat{\underline{a}}_r$ . Consider the  $k$ -algebra, and the  $\pi$ -induced homomorphism,

$$\pi_1 : (T_{i,j}^1 \otimes_k Hom_k(V_i, V_j)) \rightarrow (Hom_k(V_i, V_j)).$$

Clearly  $\pi_1$  splits, and it is easy to see that,

$$\xi : A \rightarrow (T_{i,j}^1 \otimes Hom_k(V_i, V_j))$$

defined by,

$$\xi = \sum_{i,j,l} t_{i,j}(l) \psi_{i,j}(l),$$

is a derivation, therefore inducing a unique homomorphism,  $\tilde{\rho}_1$ , making the following diagram commute,

$$\begin{array}{ccccc} A & \xrightarrow{id+d} & \mathcal{D}_1(A) & \longleftarrow & \mathcal{D}_2(A) \\ \rho \downarrow & \searrow \tilde{\rho}_1 & \downarrow \rho_1 & & \\ (Hom_k(V_i, V_j)) & \longleftarrow & ((T^1/Rad^2(T^1))_{i,j} \otimes_k Hom_k(V_i, V_j)) & & \end{array}$$

Now we want to extend this diagram, completing it with commuting homomorphisms,

$$\begin{array}{ccc} A & \xrightarrow{id+d+1/2d^2} & \mathcal{D}_2(A) \\ \tilde{\rho}_1 \downarrow & & \downarrow \rho_2 \\ ((T^1/Rad^2(T^1))_{i,j} \otimes_k Hom_k(V_i, V_j)) & \longleftarrow & ((T^1/Rad^3(T^1))_{i,j} \otimes_k Hom_k(V_i, V_j)) \end{array}$$

There is an obstruction for this, which is easily computed, providing us with a nice way of computing cup-products  $Ext_A^1(V_i, V_j) \otimes Ext_A^1(V_i, V_j) \rightarrow Ext_A^2(V_i, V_j)$ . However it will be clear in the next construction, that the obvious continuation of this procedure does not work. In fact, the formalized higher differentials  $\mathcal{D}(A)$  is not really the natural phase-space to work with for all purposes. In an obvious sense it is too homogenous. We are therefore led to the construction of a kind of *projective resolution* of  $A$ . Consider as above a surjective homomorphism,  $\mu : F \rightarrow A$ , with  $F = k \langle x_1, x_2, \dots, x_s \rangle$  a free  $k$ -algebra, and  $I = ker \mu$ . Obviously  $Ph^{(p)}(F)$  for  $p \geq 1$ , are also free, and  $Ph^{(p+1)}(F)$  is a free  $Ph^{(p)}(F)$ -algebra. Let,

$exp(\delta) : F \rightarrow \mathcal{D}(F)$  be defined as in §1,  $exp(\delta) = id + d + 1/2d^2 + \dots$ , and denote by  $\eta_p : F \rightarrow \mathcal{D}_p(F)$  the induced homomorphism. Define,

$$\mathcal{H}_p := \mathcal{D}_p(F)/(i_0(I), \eta_p(I)).$$

Clearly,  $\mathcal{H}_p = \mathcal{D}_p(A)$ , for  $p = 0, 1..$  For  $p \geq 2$  there are only natural surjective homomorphisms,

$$\kappa_p : \mathcal{H}_p \rightarrow \mathcal{D}_p(A).$$

By functoriality, the diagram above induces another commutative diagram, which, may be completed to the commutative diagram,  $\rho_2$  not yet included,

$$\begin{array}{ccccc} I & \longrightarrow & \mathcal{D}_1(I) & \longleftarrow & \mathcal{D}_2(I) \\ \downarrow & & \downarrow & & \downarrow \\ F & \xrightarrow{id+d} & \mathcal{D}_1(F) & \longleftarrow & \mathcal{D}_2(F) \\ \downarrow \mu & & \downarrow \mu_1 & & \downarrow \mu_2 \\ A & \xrightarrow{id+d} & \mathcal{D}_1(A) & \longleftarrow & \mathcal{D}_2(A) \\ \downarrow \tilde{\rho}_1 & \nearrow \rho_1 & \downarrow & \nearrow \rho_2 & \downarrow \\ \mathcal{O}(1) & \longleftarrow & \mathcal{O}'(2) & & \end{array}$$

where we, in expectation of later constructions, have put,

$$\begin{aligned} H(1) &= T^1 / Rad(T^1)^2 \\ H'(2) &= T^1 / Rad(T^1)^3 \\ \mathcal{O}(n) &:= (H(n)_{i,j} \otimes_k Hom_k(V_i, V_j)), n \geq 1. \\ \mathcal{O}'(n) &:= (H'(n)_{i,j} \otimes_k Hom_k(V_i, V_j)), n \geq 2. \end{aligned}$$

Now the map  $(id + d) \circ \mu_1 \circ \rho_1 : I \rightarrow (T^1_{i,j} \otimes_k Hom_k(V_i, V_j))$  is zero, and the map  $\tilde{\rho}_1 : A \rightarrow (T^1 / Rad(T^1)^2)_{i,j} \otimes_k Hom_k(V_i, V_j)$  is, as deformation of the family  $\mathcal{V}$ , the universal family at the tangent level. We want a homomorphism  $\rho'_2$  inducing a homomorphism,

$$\rho_2 : \mathcal{D}_2(A) \rightarrow (T^1 / Rad(T^1)^3)_{i,j} \otimes_k Hom_k(V_i, V_j)$$

which produces a homomorphism,

$$\tilde{\rho}_2 := exp(d) \circ \rho_2 : A \rightarrow (T^1 / Rad(T^1)^3)_{i,j} \otimes_k Hom_k(V_i, V_j),$$

lifting  $\tilde{\rho}_1$ . This last condition implies that the image of  $d \circ d \circ \rho'_2$  must sit in  $(Rad(T^1)^2 / Rad(T^1)^3)_{i,j} \otimes_k Hom_k(V_i, V_j)$ . The map,

$$d \circ d \circ \rho'_2 : I \rightarrow (Rad(T^1)^2 / Rad(T^1)^3)_{i,j} \otimes_k Hom_k(V_i, V_j),$$

is, of course not necessarily trivial. It is easily seen to be  $F$ -linear, both from left and right, and so it induces an element,

$$o_2 \in ((Rad(T^1)^2 / Rad(T^1)^3)_{i,j} \otimes_k Ext^2_A(V_i, V_j))$$

independent upon the choice of extension  $\rho'_2$ . In fact if  $\rho''_2$  is another extension of  $\rho_1$ , then since,

$$\begin{aligned}\rho''_2(d^2(fg)) &= \rho''_2(d^2fg + 2dfdg + fd^2g) \\ &= \rho''_2(d^2f)\rho_1(g) + 2\rho_1(df)\rho_1(dg) + \rho_1(f)\rho''_2(d^2g)\end{aligned}$$

and,

$$\begin{aligned}\rho'_2(d^2(fg)) &= \rho'_2(d^2fg + 2dfdg + fd^2g) \\ &= \rho'_2(d^2f)\rho_1(g) + 2\rho_1(df)\rho_1(dg) + \rho_1(f)\rho'_2(d^2g),\end{aligned}$$

the difference is a derivation,

$$d \circ d \circ (\rho''_2 - \rho'_2) \in \text{Der}_k(F, ((\text{Rad}(T^1)^2/\text{Rad}(T^1)^3)_{i,j} \otimes_k \text{Hom}_k(V_i, V_j))).$$

Now

$$((\text{Rad}(T^1)^2/\text{Rad}(T^1)^3)_{i,j} \otimes_k \text{Ext}_A^2(V_i, V_j))$$

may be identified with,

$$\text{Hom}_k((\text{Ext}_A^2(V_i, V_j)^*), (\text{Rad}(T^1)^2/\text{Rad}(H)^3)_{i,j})$$

which is a subspace of,

$$\text{Mor}_{\underline{a}_r}(k^r \oplus (\text{Ext}_A^2(V_i, V_j)^*), T^1/\text{Rad}(T^1)^3).$$

Denote by  $T^2$  the free matrix algebra (quiver), in  $\hat{\underline{a}}_r$ , generated by  $\text{Ext}_A^2(V_i, V_j)^*$ , just like the construction of  $T^1$  above, such that,

$$T^2/\text{Rad}(T^2)^2 = k^r \oplus (\text{Ext}_A^2(V_i, V_j)^*).$$

We may now state and prove the main result of this paper,

**Theorem 3.1.** (i) For any finite family of (finite dimensional)  $A$ -modules,  $\mathcal{V} := \{V_i\}_{i=1, \dots, r}$ , there is a homomorphism  $\tilde{\rho}$ , making the following diagram commutative

$$\begin{array}{ccc} A & \xrightarrow{\text{exp}(\delta)} & \mathcal{H} \\ \rho_{\mathcal{V}} \downarrow & & \downarrow \tilde{\rho} \\ \text{End}_k(V) & \longleftarrow & (H_{i,j} \otimes \text{Hom}_k(V_i, V_j)) \end{array}$$

such that the versal family,  $\tilde{\rho} = \text{exp}(\delta) \circ \bar{\rho}$ .

(ii) Moreover,  $H = (H_{i,j})$  may be constructed recursively, as a quotient of  $T^1 = (T^1_{i,j})$ , by annihilating a series of obstructions,  $o_n$ , defining a morphism, in  $\underline{a}_r$ ,

$$o : T^2 \rightarrow T^1,$$

such that

$$H \simeq T^1 \otimes_{T^2} k^r.$$

*Proof.* We have, above constructed an obstruction for lifting  $\rho_1$  to a  $\rho_2$ . It is a unique element,

$$o_2 \in \text{Mor}_{\underline{a}_r}(k^r \oplus (\text{Ext}_A^2(V_i, V_j)^*), T^1/\text{Rad}(T^1)^3).$$

Obviously, the image  $o_2((\text{Ext}_A^2(V_i, V_j)^*) \subset T^1/\text{Rad}(T^1)^3)$ , generates an ideal of  $T^1$ , contained in  $\text{Rad}(T^1)^2$ .

Call it  $\sigma_2$ , and put,

$$H(2) = T^1/(\text{Rad}(T^1)^3 + \sigma_2).$$

Then there is a commutative diagram,

$$\begin{array}{ccccccc} I & \longrightarrow & \mathcal{D}_1(I) & \longleftarrow & \mathcal{D}_2(I) & & \dots \\ \downarrow & & \downarrow & & \downarrow & & \\ F & \xrightarrow{\eta_1} & \mathcal{D}_1(F) & \longleftarrow & \mathcal{D}_2(F) & & \\ \downarrow \mu & & \downarrow \mu_1 & & \downarrow \mu_2 & & \\ A & \xrightarrow{\eta_1} & \mathcal{D}_1(A) & \longleftarrow & \mathcal{D}_2(A) & & \\ \downarrow \tilde{\rho}_1 & \swarrow \rho_1 & & \swarrow \rho_2 & & & \\ \mathcal{O}_1 & \xleftarrow{\pi} & \mathcal{O}_2 & & & & \end{array}$$

In fact, since we have divided out with the obstruction, we know that the morphism,

$$d \circ d \circ \rho'_2 : I \rightarrow (\text{Rad}(T^1)^2/\text{Rad}(T^1)^3 + \sigma_2)_{i,j} \otimes_k \text{Hom}_k(V_i, V_j),$$

is the restriction of a derivation,

$$\psi'_2 : F \rightarrow (\text{Rad}(T^1)^2/\text{Rad}(T^1)^3 + \sigma_2)_{i,j} \otimes_k \text{Hom}_k(V_i, V_j),$$

Now change the morphism,  $\rho'_2$ , to  $\rho''_2$  mapping  $d^2x_i$  to  $\rho'_2(d^2x_i) - \psi_2(x_i)$ . It is easily seen that for this new morphism,  $d \circ d \circ \rho'_2$  is zero, and so  $\eta_3 \circ \rho''_2 = 0$ , proving the existence of  $\bar{\rho}_2$ . Recall that  $\mathcal{D}_2(A) = \mathcal{H}_2$ .

Now  $\bar{\rho}_2$  defines  $\tilde{\rho}_2 := \eta_2 \circ \rho_2$ . Let  $\sigma'_3$  be the two-sided ideal in  $T^1$  generated by

$$\text{Rad}(T^1)^4 + \text{Rad}(T^1)\sigma_2 + \sigma_2\text{Rad}(T^1),$$

and let us put,

$$H'(3) := T^1/\sigma'_3, \quad \mathcal{O}'(3) := (H'(3) \otimes_k \text{Hom}_k(V_i, V_j))$$

The diagram above induces a commutative diagram, not yet including  $\bar{\rho}_3$ ,

$$\begin{array}{ccccccc} I & \longrightarrow & \mathcal{D}_2(I) & \longleftarrow & \mathcal{D}_3(I) & & \\ \downarrow & & \downarrow & & \downarrow & & \\ F & \xrightarrow{\eta_2} & \mathcal{D}_2(F) & \longleftarrow & \mathcal{D}_3(F) & & \\ \downarrow \mu & & \downarrow \mu_2 & & \downarrow \mu_3 & & \\ A & \xrightarrow{\tilde{\eta}_2} & \mathcal{D}_2(A) & \longleftarrow & \mathcal{H}_3 & & \\ \downarrow \rho_2 & \swarrow \tilde{\rho}_2 & & \swarrow \tilde{\rho}_3 & & & \\ \mathcal{O}(2) & \xleftarrow{\pi} & \mathcal{O}'(3) & & & & \end{array}$$

Consider now the map,

$$\eta_3 \circ \rho'_3 : I \rightarrow \mathcal{O}'(3)$$

ending up in,

$$((Rad(T^1)^3 + \sigma_2)/\sigma_3)_{i,j} \otimes_k Hom_k(V_i, V_j),$$

which, clearly is killed by  $Rad(\mathcal{O}'(3))$ , and therefore really is a matrix of vector spaces, as an  $\mathcal{O}'(3)$ -module. As above, this map is easily seen to be a left and right linear map as  $F$ -modules,  $F$  acting on  $\mathcal{O}(3)$  via  $\tilde{\eta}_3 : F \rightarrow \mathcal{D}_3(F)$ . Moreover, the induced element,

$$\begin{aligned} o_3 &\in ((Rad(T^1)^3 + \sigma_2)/\sigma'_3)_{i,j} \otimes_k Ext_A^2(V_i, V_j) \\ &= (Hom_k(Ext_A^2(V_i, V_j)^*, (Rad(T^1)^3 + \sigma_2)/\sigma'_3)_{i,j}) \end{aligned}$$

is independent on the choice of  $\rho'_3$ . Now we define  $H(3) := H'(3)/\sigma_3$ , where  $\sigma_3$  is defined by the image of  $o_3$ , and define  $\kappa : \mathcal{O}'(3) \rightarrow \mathcal{O}(3)$  as above. Since by functoriality, the morphism,

$$\eta_3 \circ \rho'_3 \kappa : I \rightarrow \mathcal{O}(3),$$

must induce the zero element in the corresponding

$$(Ext_A^1(V_i, V_j) \otimes ((Rad(T^1)^3 + \sigma_2)/\sigma'_3)_{i,j})/im o_3$$

it must be the restriction of a derivation,

$$\xi : F \rightarrow \mathcal{O}(3).$$

Now change  $\rho'_3$ , by sending  $d^3 x_i$  to  $\rho'_3(d^3 x_i) - \psi_3(x_i)$  leaving the other values of the parameters unchanged. Then a little calculation shows that the new  $\rho'_3$  maps each  $\eta_3(f), f \in I$ , to zero, inducing a morphism  $\bar{\rho}_3 : \mathcal{H}_3 \rightarrow \mathcal{O}(3)$ . We now have a new situation, given by a commutative diagram, not yet including  $\rho_4$ ,

$$\begin{array}{ccccc} I & \longrightarrow & \mathcal{D}_3(I) & \longleftarrow & \mathcal{D}_4(I) \\ \downarrow & & \downarrow & & \downarrow \\ F & \xrightarrow{\tilde{\eta}_3} & \mathcal{D}_3(F) & \longleftarrow & \mathcal{D}_4(F) \\ \downarrow \mu & & \downarrow \mu_3 & & \downarrow \mu_4 \\ A & \xrightarrow{\tilde{\eta}_3} & \mathcal{H}_3 & \longleftarrow & \mathcal{H}_4 \\ \downarrow \tilde{\rho}_3 & \swarrow \tilde{\rho}_3 & & \swarrow \tilde{\rho}_4 & \\ \mathcal{O}(3) & \xleftarrow{\pi} & \mathcal{O}'(4) & & \end{array}$$

and it is clear how to proceed. This proves (i), and the rest is a consequence of the general theorem (4.2.4) of [La 0].

□

We cannot replace  $\mathcal{H}$  with  $\mathcal{D}$ . This follows from the trivial example (ii) in (1.5). However, if we are in a graded situation, things are nicer.

**Corollary 3.2.** *Assume that  $A$  is a finitely generated, graded, in degree 1,  $k$ -algebra, and assume that  $\mathcal{V}$  is a family of graded  $A$ -modules. Then there is a corresponding graded formal moduli  $(H_{i,j})^{gr}$ , and there is a commutative diagram,*

$$\begin{array}{ccc} A & \xrightarrow{\exp(\delta)} & \mathcal{D} \\ \rho_V \downarrow & & \downarrow \bar{\rho}^{gr} \\ \text{End}_k(V) & \longleftarrow & (H_{i,j}^{gr} \otimes \text{Hom}_k(V_i, V_j)) \end{array}$$

such that the graded versal family,  $\bar{\rho}^{gr} = \exp(\delta) \circ \bar{\rho}^{gr}$ .

By definition, see [La 2], we also have,

**Corollary 3.3.** *Let  $A$  be a finitely generated  $k$ -algebra, and  $\mathcal{V}$  a finite family of  $A$ -modules, with finite dimensional ext-spaces. Then the  $n$ -th. Massey products,*

$$[\cdot, \cdot, \dots, \cdot] : \text{Ext}_A^1(V_i, V_j) \otimes \text{Ext}_A^1(V_j, V_k) \otimes \dots \text{Ext}_A^1(V_l, V_m) \rightarrow \text{Ext}_A^2(V_i, V_m)$$

are given as follows: For  $n=2$ , it is the ordinary cup product, given by,

$$o_2 \in (\text{Hom}_k(\text{Ext}_A^2(V_i, V_j)^*, (\text{Rad}(T^1)^2)/\text{Rad}(T^1)^3)_{i,j}).$$

If,  $\xi_{i,j} \in \text{Ext}_A^1(V_i, V_j)$ ,  $\xi_{j,k} \in \text{Ext}_A^1(V_j, V_k)$ , the pair  $(\xi_{i,j}, \xi_{j,k})$  defines a linear map,

$$(\xi_{i,j}, \xi_{j,k}) : (\text{Rad}(T^1)^2)/\text{Rad}(T^1)^3_{i,k} \rightarrow k,$$

and the image of  $o_2$  is then  $\xi_{i,j} \cup \xi_{j,k} \in \text{Ext}_A^2(V_i, V_k)$ . In general, the element ,

$$o_n \in (\text{Hom}_k(\text{Ext}_A^2(V_{i_1}, V_{i_n})^*, (\text{Rad}(T^1)^n + \sigma_{n-1})/\sigma'_n)_{i,j})$$

defines a linear map,

$$D_n \rightarrow \text{Ext}_A^2(V_{i_1}, V_{i_n})$$

where  $D_n$  is defined as follows,  $D_n = \{\Xi \in \text{Ext}_A^1(V_{i_1}, V_{i_2}) \otimes \text{Ext}_A^1(V_{i_2}, V_{i_3}) \otimes \dots \text{Ext}_A^1(V_{i_{n-1}}, V_{i_n}) \mid \Xi \text{ killing } \sigma_{n-1}\}$ .

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