

# Aras "Homotopy Transfer"

References:

Valette - "Algebra + Homotopy = Operad"

Chamir - "On the Perturbation Lemma..." //

Fix homotopy data:

$$h \hookrightarrow (A, d_A) \begin{array}{c} \xrightarrow{p} \\ \xleftarrow{z} \end{array} (H, d_H)$$

cochain complexes &  $z, p$  cochain maps

&  $h$  a homotopy  $z \circ p \sim \text{id}_A$

(Vague)

Question: What structures can be transferred along this data?

"structure" might be, e.g., associative product on  $A$

Example "perturbing the differential"

Let  $S: A \rightarrow A$  be a map of same degree as  $d_A$

s.t.

- $(d_A + S)^2 = 0$

•  $1 - sh$  is invertible

Then we obtain "new" homotopy data:

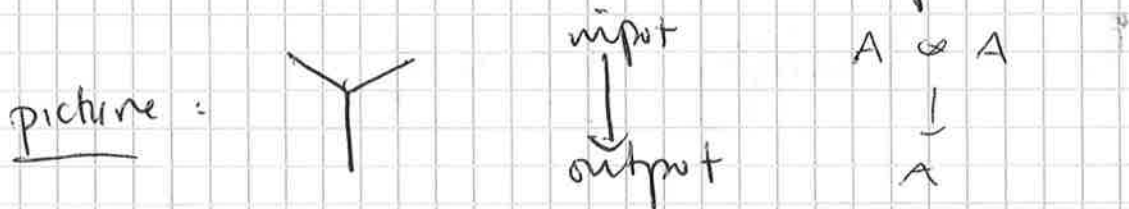
$$\begin{array}{ccc}
 & \xrightarrow{\gamma + p(1-sh)^{-1}sh} & \\
 \hookrightarrow (A, d_A + S) & & (H, d_H + p(1-sh)^{-1}S_i) \\
 & \xleftarrow{i + h(1-sh)^{-1}S_i} & \\
 h' = h + h(1-sh)^{-1}sh & & \frac{h}{i}
 \end{array}$$

Moreover, if  $i$  is a quasi-iso, then so is  $i'$ .

Pf Just calculate (see Crainic).  $\square$

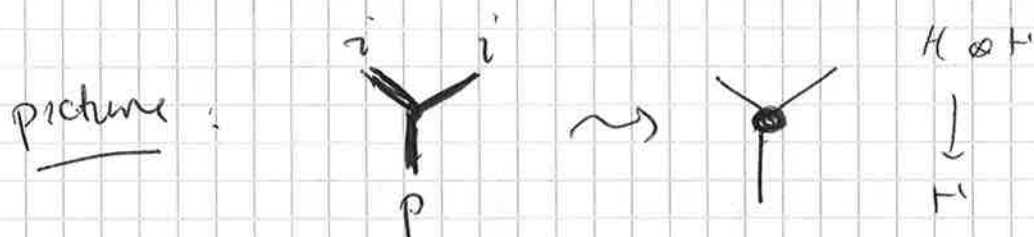
What if  $A$  is a (non-unital) dga?

$\gamma: A \otimes A \rightarrow A$  is multiplication



We can define a "candidate multiplication" on  $H$ :

$$\mu_2: H \otimes H \xrightarrow{i \otimes i} A \otimes A \xrightarrow{\gamma} A \xrightarrow{p} H$$



Moral: You shouldn't expect this  $\mu_2$  to be strictly associative b/c  $H$  is not strictly equivalent to  $A$  but only homotopic

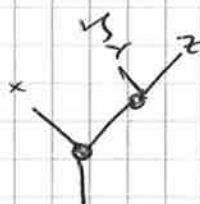
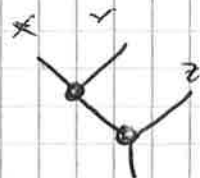
Let's try:  $x, y, z \in H$

there's no reason for equality btw

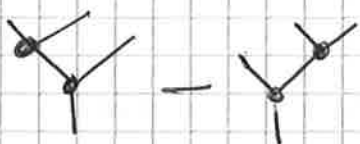
$$p(z(p(x \cdot y)) \cdot z)$$

&


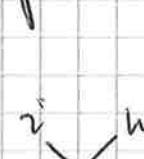

$$p(x \cdot p(y \cdot z))$$



but



is null-homotopic as a map  $H^{\otimes 3} \rightarrow H$

Set  ~~$\mu_3$~~   $\mu_3 :=$    $-$    $\cong$  

so  $\mu_3 : H^{\otimes 3} \rightarrow H$  of deg +1

(same degree as  $h$ )

[We are homological]

If  $\text{cop} = \text{id}_A$  &  $h \equiv 0$ , then  $\mu_3$  would be zero.

But even if  $\mu_2$  is associative,  $\mu_3$  need not be zero

In fancier terms:

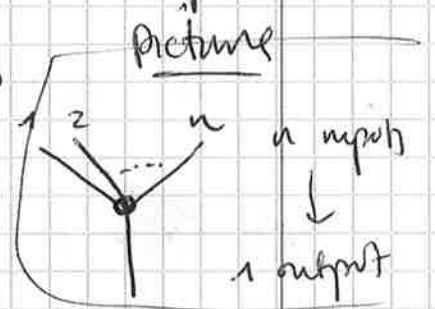
$$d_{\text{Hom}(H^{\otimes 3}, H)} \left( \text{Y-junction} \right) = \text{Y-junction with dots} - \text{Y-junction with dots}$$

... higher associativity relations are encoded in higher "multiplication maps"

Def An  $A_\infty$  algebra is a chain complex

$(X, d_X)$  equipped with maps

$$\sigma_n: X^{\otimes n} \rightarrow X$$



of degree  $n-2$ ,  $n \geq 2$ , such that

$$d_{\text{Hom}(X^{\otimes n}, X)}(\sigma_n) = \sum_{\substack{1 \leq k \leq n \\ j+k+l=n}} \sigma_{j+k+l+1} \circ (\text{id} \otimes \dots \otimes \text{id} \otimes \sigma_k \otimes \text{id} \otimes \dots \otimes \text{id})$$

$$= - \sum_{\substack{1 \leq k \leq n \\ j+k+l=n}} (-1)^{jk+l} \sigma_{j+k+l+1} \circ (\underbrace{\text{id} \otimes \dots \otimes \text{id}}_{j \text{ times}} \otimes \sigma_k \otimes \underbrace{\text{id} \otimes \dots \otimes \text{id}}_{l \text{ times}})$$

$$= - \sum_{\dots} \pm \text{Y-junction diagram}$$

Prop Assume  $A$  is equipped with an  $A_\infty$  algebra structure  $(\gamma_n: A^{\otimes n} \rightarrow A)_{n \geq 2}$

Then

$$\mu_n = \sum_{\text{planar rooted trees with } n \text{ leaves}} \pm$$

$n \geq 2$

defines an  $A_\infty$  algebra structure on  $H$ .

Remark: dg algebras correspond to  $A_\infty$ -algebra structures such that  $\gamma_n = 0, n \geq 3$ .

Cor If  $A$  is a dga, then  $H$  has a "transferred"  $A_\infty$ -algebra structure.

Example Let  $A$  be a dga such that there are splittings

$$A_n \cong \ker(d_n) \oplus \text{im}(d_n) = Z_n \oplus B_{n-1}$$

$$Z_n \cong H_n(A) \oplus \ker(d_{n-1}) = H_n(A) \oplus B_n$$

Then we get homotopy data:  $u^2(A, id) \xrightleftharpoons{i} (H_* A, 0)$

inclusion  $i: H_n(A) \hookrightarrow A_n$

projection  $p_n: A_n \longrightarrow H_n(A)$

homotopy  $h_n: A_n \longrightarrow B_n \hookrightarrow A_{n+1}$

Then you can transfer dga structure on  $A$   
to an  $A_\infty$  alg str. on  $H_* A$

Special case:  $X$  topological space,  $k$  a field

$A = C_{\text{sing}}^*(X; k) \rightsquigarrow$  coproduct

The transferred structure on  $H_{\text{sing}}^*(X; k)$   
has

$\mu_2 =$  cup product on cohomology

$\mu_n, n \geq 2$  means what? (explain later)

Special case  $M$  smooth compact oriented manifold  
 $\rightsquigarrow$  Riemannian metric  $g$

Thm (Hodge)

There is an isomorphism

$$\Omega^*(M) \supseteq \underset{\substack{\uparrow \\ \text{"harmonic forms"}}}{H_*^*(M)} \xrightarrow{\cong} H_{\text{dR}}^*(M)$$

and homotopy data

$$G \hookrightarrow (\Omega^*(M), d) \begin{matrix} \xrightarrow{P} \\ \xleftarrow{i} \end{matrix} (H_{dR}^*(M), 0)$$

Now  $\Omega^*(M)$  has the wedge product

Then  $\cdot \mu_2 =$  wedge product on cohomology

$\cdot \mu_n, n \geq 3$  means what?

These higher  $\mu_n$ 's explain Massey products.

Def For a dga  $A$  with the required splittings, we call the transferred multiplications  $(\mu_n)$

$A_\infty$  Massey products.

Def The "classical" (triple) Massey product is:

$A$  a dga,  $[u], [v], [w] \in H_+ A$  s.t.

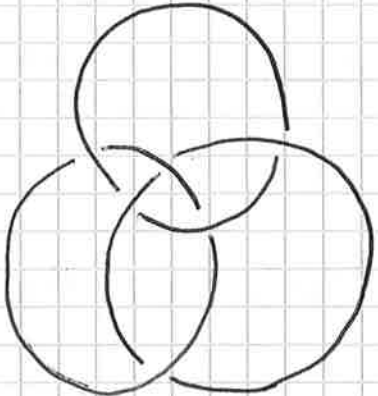
$$[u][v] = 0 = [v][w]$$

their Massey product is

$$\langle [u], [v], [w] \rangle = \left\{ \begin{aligned} & [(-1)^u u \cdot x + (-1)^y y \cdot w] : \\ & dx = (-1)^v vw, dy = (-1)^u u \cdot v \end{aligned} \right\}$$

$$\in H_+(A) / ([v] \cdot H_+ A + H_+ A [w])$$

Standard example:

Borromean rings  $R =$    $\subset S^3$

Any pair of knots is unlinked

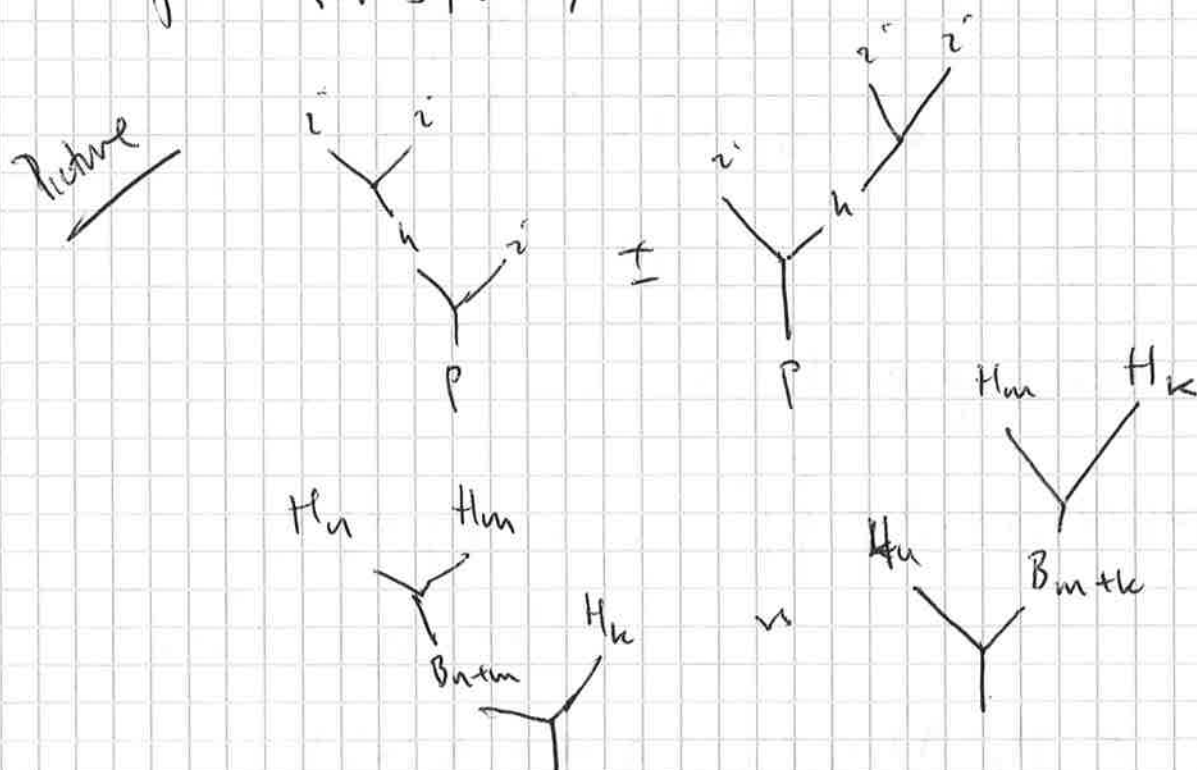
but the cocycles representing each knot in

$S^3 \setminus R$  have nontrivial triple Massey product

Prop In the previous set-up,

$\mu_3([u], [v], [w])$  is a representative

for  $\langle [u], [v], [w] \rangle$ .





Note: The classical Massey product lives  
in a quotient of  $H_+ A$ , but  $A_{\infty}$ -alg  
Massey product lives in  $H_+ A$ . The  $A_{\infty}$  alg  
str depends on a choice of splitting  
of  $A$ , but those choices all are equivalent  
& induce same answer on the  
quotient.  
↓  
classical answer!

Prop If  $A$  is equipped with the structure  
of an  $L_{\infty}$  algebra structure  $(l_n: A^{\otimes n} \rightarrow A)_{n \geq 2}$   
this yields an  $L_{\infty}$  structure on  $H$ .

In particular, for  $V$  a dgla structure over  
a field  $k$ , a choice of splitting produces  
an  $L_{\infty}$  alg str on  $(H_+ V, 0)$ .

