# A standard example in noncommutative deformation theory <sup>1</sup>

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#### Abstract

In this paper we generalize the commutative generalized Massey products to the noncommutative deformation theory given by O. A. Laudal. We give an example illustrating the generalized Burnside theorem, one of the starting points in this noncommutative algebraic geometry.

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#### 1 Introduction

In [2], O. A. Laudal defines a noncommutative algebraic geometry based on noncommutative deformation theory, see also [1].

One of the main ingredients in this theory is the following:

**Theorem 1.1** (the generalized Burnside theorem). Let A be a finite dimensional k-algebra, k an algebraically closed field. Consider the family  $\mathcal{V} = \{V_i\}_{i=1}^r$  of simple A-modules and let  $H = (H_{ij})$  be the formal noncommutative moduli of  $\mathcal{V}$ , then  $A \cong O(\mathcal{V}) = (H_{ij} \otimes_k \operatorname{Hom}_k(V_i, V_j))$ .

#### 2 Affine deformations

**Definition 2.1.** An *r*-pointed artinian *k*-algebra is a *k*-algebra *S* together with morphisms  $k^r \stackrel{\iota}{\to} S \stackrel{\rho}{\to} k^r$  such that  $\rho \circ \iota = \text{Id}$  and such that  $(\ker(\rho))^n = 0$  for some n > 0.  $\ker(\rho)$  is called the radical of *S* and denoted  $\operatorname{rad}(S)$ .

Let  $e_i \in k^r$ ,  $1 \leq i \leq r$  be the idempotents. If  $S_{ij} = e_i S e_j$  it follows that every *r*-pointed *k*-algebra can be written as the matrix algebra  $S \cong (S_{ij})$ .

Let  $V = \{V_1, \ldots, V_r\}$  be a family of right A-modules. Let  $S = (S_{ij}) \in \underline{a}_r$  be an r-pointed artinian k-algebra.

**Definition 2.2.** The deformation functor  $\text{Def}_V : \underline{a}_r \to \underline{sets}$  is defined by

 $\operatorname{Def}_V(S) = \{S \otimes_k A \text{-modules } M_S | k_i \otimes_S M_S \cong V_i \text{ and } M_S \cong_k (S_{ij} \otimes_k V_j) = S \otimes_k V \} / \cong$ 

**Definition 2.3.** A morphism  $\pi : R \to S$  between to *r*-pointed artinian *k*-algebras is called small if ker  $\pi \cdot \operatorname{rad}(R) = \operatorname{rad}(R) \cdot \ker(\pi) = 0$ .

Let  $M_S \in \text{Def}_V(S)$ . Then  $M_S \cong_k (S_{ij} \otimes_k V_j)$  and as such it has an obvious structure as left  $S = (S_{ij})$ -module. The (right) A-module structure is determined by the k-algebra homomorphism  $A \xrightarrow{\sigma} End_S(M_S) \Leftrightarrow A \xrightarrow{\sigma} (S_{ij} \otimes_k \text{Hom}_k(V_i, V_j))$  which is completely determined by the morphisms  $\sigma_{ij}(a) : V_i \to S_{ij} \otimes_k V_j$ . Let  $M_S$  be the deformation of V to S given by the

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k-algebra homomorphism  $\sigma^S : A \to End_S(S_{ij} \otimes V_j)$  inducing as above  $V_i \stackrel{\sigma^S_{ij}(a)}{\to} S_{ij} \otimes_k V_j$ . Let  $(R_{ij}) = R \stackrel{\pi}{\to} S = (S_{ij})$  be a small morphism. We may lift  $\sigma_{ij}(a)$  in the diagram

$$V_{i} \xrightarrow{\sigma_{ij}^{R}(a)} R_{ij} \otimes_{k} V_{j}$$

$$= \bigvee_{V_{i}} \xrightarrow{\sigma_{ij}^{S}(a)} S_{ij} \otimes_{k} V_{j}$$

by composing with a section of the right hand vertical map, adding any k-linear morphism  $\theta_{ij}: A \to \operatorname{Hom}_k(V_i, I_{ij} \otimes_k V_j)$ . Choosing the k-linear lifting  $\sigma^R$  this way, there is a k-linear map  $A \to End_R(R_{ij} \otimes_k V_j)$ . For this to be an A-module structure commuting with R, we need the conditions; for every  $a, b \in A$ ,  $\sigma^R(ab) = \sigma^R(a)\sigma^R(b)$ . Because this holds for S, we get an element

$$\psi^R(a,b) = \sigma^R(ab) - \sigma^R(a)\sigma^R(b) \in I_{ij} \otimes_k \operatorname{Hom}_k(V_i, V_j)$$

Because  $\pi$  is a small morphism, we have  $I^2 = 0$  and thus  $a \cdot \psi^R(b,c) = \sigma^R(a)\psi^R(b,c)$  and  $\psi^R(a,b) \cdot c = \psi^R(a,b)\sigma(c)$  implying that  $\psi^R$  is a Hochschild 2-cocycle whose class  $o(\pi, M_S) \in I_{ij} \otimes_k \operatorname{Ext}^2_A(V_i, V_j)$  is called the obstruction for lifting  $M_S$  to R.

**Theorem 2.1.**  $o(\pi, M_S) = 0$  if and only if there exists a lifting  $M_R \in \text{Def}_V(R)$  of  $M_S$ . The set of isomorphism classes of such liftings is a torsor under  $(I_{ij} \otimes_k \text{Ext}^1_A(V_i, V_j))$ .

**Proof.** If  $0 = o(\pi, M_S)$ , then  $\psi = d\phi$ , and  $\sigma' = \sigma + \phi$  is the desired lifting.

#### **3** Generalized Massey Products

Consider the r-pointed matrix k-algebra  $E = k^r \{\varepsilon_{ij}\}$  where all products  $\varepsilon_{ij}\varepsilon_{jk} = 0$  for all  $1 \leq i, j, k \leq r$ , i.e.  $E \cong k\{t_{ij}\}/\underline{m}^2$  where  $\underline{m}$  is the two-sided ideal generated by  $\{t_{ij}\}$ . For any covariant functor  $F : \underline{a}_r \to \underline{sets} F(E)$  is a k-vector space which is called the tangent space of F. The procategory  $\underline{\hat{a}}_r$  is the category of all k-algebras with morphisms  $k^r \stackrel{\iota}{\to} R \stackrel{\rho}{\to} k^r$  such that  $R/\operatorname{rad}(R)^n \in \underline{a}_r$ , for all  $n \geq 1$ ,  $\hat{F}(R) = \lim_{\leftarrow} F(R/(\operatorname{rad}(R))^n)$ .

**Definition 3.1.** A procouple  $(\hat{H}, \hat{\xi})$  for  $F, \hat{H} \in \underline{\hat{a}}_r, \hat{\xi} \in \hat{F}(\hat{H})$ , is called a prorepresentable hull, or formal moduli for F, if the induced map  $h_{\hat{H}} := \operatorname{Mor}(\hat{H}, -) \to F$  is smooth, and the tangent map  $t_{\hat{H}} = \operatorname{Mor}(\hat{H}, E) \to F(E)$  is a bijection.

**Definition 3.2** (Non-commutative generalized Massey products). Let  $\operatorname{Def}_V : \underline{\hat{a}}_r \to \underline{sets}$  be the deformation functor of the family  $\{V_i\}_{i=1}^r$ . Then we have an isomorphism as k-vector spaces,  $\operatorname{Def}_V(E) \cong (E_{ij}^1)$ , where  $E_{ij}^1 = \operatorname{Ext}_A^1(V_i, V_j)$ . Let  $e_{ij}^p = \dim_k \operatorname{Ext}_A^p(V_i, V_j)$ . Let  $S_2 = k^r \{t_{ij}(l_{ij})\}/\underline{m}^2$ . A sequence of elements  $\underline{\alpha} = (\alpha_{ij}(l_{ij})) \in (E_{ij}^1), 1 \leq l_{ij} \leq e_{ij}^1$  defines a deformation  $M_2(\underline{\alpha}) \in \operatorname{Def}(S_2)$ . Let  $B'_2$  be the set of all monomials of degree 2 in the  $t_{ij}(l_{ij})$  and consider

$$\pi'_2: R_3 = k^r \{ t_{ij}(l_{ij}) \} / \underline{m}^3 \to k^r \{ t_{ij}(l_{ij}) \} / \underline{m}^2 = S_2$$

Then we have that

$$o(M_2(\underline{\alpha}), \pi'_2) = \sum_{\underline{t} \in B'_2} < \underline{\alpha}; \underline{t} > \otimes \underline{t} \in (\operatorname{Ext}_A^2(V_i, V_j) \otimes_k I_{ij})$$

 $M_2(\underline{\alpha})$  is then called a defining system for the second order Massey products  $\langle \underline{\alpha}; \underline{t} \rangle, \underline{t} \in B'_2$ . Choose bases  $\{y_{ij}(m_{ij})\}_{m_{ij}=1}^{e^2_{ij}}$  for the dual spaces  $\operatorname{Ext}^2_A(V_i, V_j)^*$ . Then

$$o(M_2(\underline{\alpha}), \pi'_2) = \sum_{\underline{t} \in B'_2} < \underline{\alpha}; \underline{t} > \otimes \underline{t} = \sum_{\underline{t} \in B'_2} y^*_{ij}(m_{ij}) \otimes y_{ij}(m_{ij})(<\underline{\alpha}; \underline{t} >) \underline{t}$$

Put

$$f_{ij}^2(m_{ij}) = \sum_{\underline{t} \in B'_2} y_{ij}(m_{ij}) (<\underline{\alpha}; \underline{t} >) \underline{t}$$

Put  $S_3 = R_3/(f_{ij}^2)$  and let  $\pi_2$  be the induced morphism. Choose a monomial basis  $B_2 \subseteq B'_2$  for ker  $\pi_2$  and put  $\bar{B}_2 = \bar{B}_1 \cup B_2$  where  $\bar{B}_1$  is the set of all monomials of degree less than or equal to 1. Then  $o(M_2(\underline{\alpha}), S_3) = 0$ .

Assume that  $S_{N-1}$  has been constructed such that  $M_2(\underline{\alpha})$  can be lifted to  $M_{N-1}(\underline{\alpha}) \in \text{Def}_V(S_{N-1})$ . Also assume that monomial bases  $B_{N-2}$ ,  $\overline{B}_{N-2}$  have been constructed. Put

$$R_N = k^r \{\underline{t}\} / \underline{m}^N + \underline{m}(f_{ij}^{N-1}(m_{ij})) \xrightarrow{\pi'_N} S_{N-1}$$

Write

$$\ker \pi'_N = (f_{ij}^{N-1}(m_{ij})) / \underline{m}(f_{ij}^{N-1}(m_{ij})) \oplus I_N$$

with

$$I_N = \underline{m}^{N-1} / (\underline{m}^N + \underline{m}^{N-1} \cap (f_{ij}^{N-1}(m_{ij}))$$

and pick a monomial basis  $B'_{N-1}$  for  $I_N$ , where we may assume that for  $\underline{t} \in B'_{N-1}$ ,  $\underline{t} = \underline{u} \cdot \underline{s}$ or  $\underline{t} = \underline{s} \cdot \underline{u}$  for some  $\underline{u} \in B_{N-2}$ . Put  $\overline{B}'_{N-1} = \overline{B}_{N-2} \cup B'_{N-1}$ . Then for every monomial  $\underline{u}$  with degree less than N we have a unique relation in  $R_N$ 

$$\underline{u} = \sum_{\underline{t} \in \bar{B}'_{N-1}} \beta'_{\underline{t},\underline{u}} \underline{t} + \sum_{i,j,m_{ij}} \beta'_{\underline{u}} f_{ij}^{N-1}(m_{ij})$$

and we have that

$$o(M_{N-1}(\underline{\alpha}), \pi'_N) = \sum_{i,j,m_{ij}} y_{ij}(m_{ij})^* \otimes f_{ij}^{N-1}(m_{ij}) + \sum_{i,j,m_{ij}} y_{ij}(m_{ij})^* \otimes (\sum_{\underline{t} \in B'_{N-1}} c_{i,j,m_{ij},\underline{t}} \otimes \underline{t})$$

We call  $M_{N-1}(\underline{\alpha})$  a defining system for the Massey products

$$<\underline{\alpha};\underline{t}>=\sum_{i,j,m_{ij}}c_{i,j,m_{ij},\underline{t}}y_{ij}(m_{ij})^*\in \operatorname{Ext}_A^2(V_i,V_j), \quad \underline{t}\in B'_{N-1}$$

To continue, we put

$$f_{ij}^N(m_{ij}) = f_{ij}^{N-1}(m_{ij}) + \sum_{\underline{t} \in B'_{N-1}} y_{ij}(m_{ij}) (<\underline{\alpha}; \underline{t} >) \underline{t}$$

and  $S_N = R_N/(f_{ij}^N(m_{ij})), \pi_N : S_N \to S_{N-1}$  is the natural morphism. We choose a monomial basis  $B_{N-1} \subseteq B'_{N-1}$  for ker  $\pi_N$  and we put  $\bar{B}_{N-1} = B_{N-1} \cup \bar{B}_{N-2}$ , and we continue by induction.

**Theorem 3.1.** The functor  $\text{Def}_V$  has a prorepresenting Hull  $\hat{H}$  in  $\underline{\hat{a}}_r$ , uniquely determined by a set of matric Massey products

$$D(i, i_1, i_2, \ldots, i_{n-1}, j) \to \operatorname{Ext}^2_A(V_i, V_j)$$

where  $D(i, i_1, i_2, \ldots, i_{n-1}, j)$  are the defining systems.

**Proof.** It follows from Laudal's classical article [3], and it is possible to generalize from Schlessinger [4], that  $\hat{H} \cong k^r \{\{\underline{t}\}\}/(f_{ij}(m_{ij}))$ , where

$$f_{ij}(m_{ij}) = \sum_{l=0}^{\infty} \sum_{\underline{t} \in B_{N+l}} y_{ij}(m_{ij}) < \underline{x}^*; \underline{t} > \underline{t}$$

and  $\underline{x}^*$  is a basis for  $(\operatorname{Ext}^1_A(V_i, V_j))^*$ , see [1] or [5].

## 

### 4 Example

Consider the 2-pointed k-algebra

$$A = \begin{pmatrix} k[t_{11}] & < t_{12} > /(t_{11} - 1)t_{12} \\ 0 & k \end{pmatrix}$$

This k-algebra has geometric points, i.e simple A-modules, given by the line and the point respectively

$$V_1(a) = \begin{pmatrix} \mathbf{k}(a) & 0\\ 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix}, \quad V_2 = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0\\ 0 & k \end{pmatrix}$$

We are going to compute the local formal moduli  $H_V$ ,  $V = \{V_1(a), V_2\}$  of the modules  $V_1(a), V_2$ for a fixed *a*, following the algorithm given in [2]. We start by computing the tangent spaces:

In general we have

$$\operatorname{Ext}_{A}^{1}(V_{i}, V_{j}) = \operatorname{HH}^{1}(A, \operatorname{Hom}_{k}(V_{i}, V_{j})) = \operatorname{Der}_{k}(A, \operatorname{Hom}_{k}(V_{i}, V_{j})) / \operatorname{Ad}$$

where the bi-module structure on  $\operatorname{Hom}_k(V_i, V_j)$  is given by  $a\phi(v_i) = \phi(av_i), \ \phi \cdot a(v_i) = \phi(v_i)a$ . Notice that by Ad we mean the trivial derivations  $\operatorname{ad}_{\alpha}, \ \alpha \in \operatorname{Hom}_k(V_i, V_j)$ .

Any derivation  $\delta$  is determined on a generator set. In this particular example, we choose as generators

$$e_{1} = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix}, \quad e_{2} = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix}, \quad (t_{11} - a) = \begin{pmatrix} (t_{11} - a) & 0 \\ 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix}, \quad t_{12} = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & t_{12} \\ 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix}$$
  
(1,1): Ext<sup>1</sup><sub>A</sub>(V<sub>1</sub>(a), V<sub>1</sub>(a)):  
$$\delta(e_{1}) = \delta(e_{1}^{2}) = e_{1}\delta(e_{1}) + \delta(e_{1})e_{1} = 2\delta(e_{1}) \quad \Rightarrow \quad \delta(e_{1}) = \delta(e_{2}) = 0$$
  
$$\delta(t_{11} - a) = \alpha$$
  
$$\delta(t_{12}) = \delta(t_{12}e_{2}) = \delta(t_{12})e_{2} + t_{12}\delta(e_{2}) = 0$$
  
ad<sub>\beta</sub>(t\_{11} - a) = (t\_{11} - a)\beta - \beta(t\_{11} - a) = 0

As basis for  $\operatorname{Ext}_{A}^{1}(V_{1}(a), V_{1}(a))$  we choose the one element set  $\{\phi_{11} = (t_{11} - a)^{\vee}\}$ .

(1,2): 
$$\operatorname{Ext}_{A}^{1}(V_{1}(a), V_{2})$$
:  
 $\delta(e_{1}) = \alpha, \quad \delta(e_{2}) = -\alpha$ 

$$\begin{split} \delta(t_{11} - a) &= \delta((t_{11} - a)e_1) = \delta(t_{11} - a)e_1 + (t_{11} - a)\delta(e_1) = 0\\ (a - 1)\delta(t_{12}) &= \delta(t_{11}t_{12} - t_{12}) = 0\\ \mathrm{ad}_{\alpha}(t_{11} - a) &= 0, \quad \mathrm{ad}_{\alpha}(e_1) = e_1\alpha - \alpha e_1 = \alpha, \quad \mathrm{ad}_{\alpha}(e_2) = e_2\alpha - \alpha e_2 = -\alpha \end{split}$$

Thus if a = 1 we choose as basis the one point set  $\{\phi_{12} = t_{12}^{\vee}\}$ . If  $a \neq 1$ , then  $\operatorname{Ext}_{A}^{1}(V_{1}(a), V_{2}) = 0$ .

(1,i):  $\text{Ext}_{A}^{1}(V_{2}, V_{i}) = 0 \ (i = 1, 2)$  which is trivial.

For the rest we put a = 1, that is  $V_1 = V_1(1)$  and compute  $\hat{H}_{\{V_1, V_2\}}$ . Let

$$S = \begin{pmatrix} k[u_{11}] & \langle u_{12} \rangle \\ 0 & k \end{pmatrix}$$

Then the infinitesimal liftings are given by

$$\phi_2 = \begin{pmatrix} 1 \otimes \cdot a + u_{11} \otimes (t_{11} - 1)^{\vee} & u_{12} \otimes t_{12}^{\vee} \\ 0 & 1 \otimes \cdot a \end{pmatrix} : A \to (\operatorname{Hom}_k(V_i, S_{2,ij} \otimes V_j))$$

Now  $S_2 = S/\operatorname{rad}^2$  and the obstruction for lifting to  $R_3 = S/\operatorname{rad}^3$  is

$$o = \begin{pmatrix} u_{11}^2 \otimes (t_{11} - 1)^{\vee} (t_{11} - 1)^{\vee} & u_{11}u_{12} \otimes (t_{11} - 1)^{\vee} t_{12}^{\vee} \\ 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix}$$

In general,  $v^{\vee}w^{\vee} = (v \otimes w)^{\vee} = -d((vw)^{\vee})$ , so

$$(t_{11}-1)^{\vee}(t_{11}-1)^{\vee} = -d((t_{11}-1)^2)^{\vee})$$

But  $(t_{11}-1)t_{12} = 0$  in A, thus  $\overline{o} = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & u_{11}u_{12} \otimes o_{12} \\ 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix}$  with  $o_{12} \neq 0$ . Put  $S_3 = S/(\operatorname{rad}^3 + u_{11}u_{12})$ . Then we can lift the A-module structure to  $S_3$  by

$$\phi_3 = \begin{pmatrix} 1 \otimes \cdot a + u_{11} \otimes (t_{11} - 1)^{\vee} + u_{11}^2 \otimes ((t_{11} - 1)^2)^{\vee} & u_{12} \otimes t_{12}^{\vee} \\ 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix}$$

We see that this  $\phi_3$  can be lifted to  $\phi_n$  on  $S_n = S_3/\operatorname{rad}^n$ ,  $n \ge 3$ , giving the result

$$\hat{H} = \lim_{\leftarrow} S_n = \begin{pmatrix} k[[u_{11}]] & \langle u_{12} \rangle / u_{11} u_{12} \\ 0 & k \end{pmatrix} \cong \lim_{\leftarrow} A / \operatorname{rad}^n$$

In general terms this says that A is a scheme for its 1-dimensional simple modules.

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