

# PDG Algebras and Modules

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# 1 Introduction

## 1.1 Notation and Conventions

Unless otherwise specified, let  $K$  be a field and let  $(R, \mathfrak{m})$  be a local Noetherian ring.

### 1.1.1 Category Theory

In this document, we consider the following categories:

- The category of all sets and functions, denoted **Set**;
- The category of all rings and ring homomorphisms, denoted **Ring**;
- The category of all  $R$ -modules and  $R$ -linear maps, denoted **Mod** $_R$ ;
- The category of all graded  $R$ -modules and graded  $R$ -linear maps, denoted **Grad** $_R$ ;
- The category of all  $R$ -algebras  $R$ -algebra homomorphisms, denoted **Alg** $_R$ ;
- The category of all  $R$ -complexes and chain maps, denoted **Comp** $_R$ ;
- The category of all  $R$ -complexes and homotopy classes of chain maps, denoted **HComp** $_R$ ;
- The category of all DG  $R$ -algebras DG algebra homomorphisms, denoted **DG** $_R$ .

## 2 Basic Definitions

### 2.1 PDG $R$ -Algebras

Let  $(A, d)$  be an  $R$ -complex algebra and let  $\mu: A \otimes_R A \rightarrow A$  be a chain map. If  $\sum_{i=1}^n a_i \otimes b_i$  is a tensor in  $A \otimes_R A$ , then we often denote its image under  $\mu$  by

$$\mu \left( \sum_{i=1}^n a_i \otimes b_i \right) = \sum_{i=1}^n a_i \star_{\mu} b_i.$$

If  $\mu$  is understood from context, then we also tend to drop  $\mu$  from the subscript in  $\star_{\mu}$ , or even drop  $\star$  altogether and write

$$\mu \left( \sum_{i=1}^n a_i \otimes b_i \right) = \sum_{i=1}^n a_i b_i.$$

Note that  $\mu$  being a chain map implies it is a **graded-multiplication** which satisfies **Leibniz law**. Being a graded-multiplication means  $\mu$  is an  $R$ -bilinear map which respects the grading. In particular, if  $a \in A_i$  and  $b \in A_j$ , then  $ab \in A_{i+j}$ . Satisfying Leibniz law means

$$d(ab) = d(a)b + (-1)^i ad(b)$$

for all  $a \in A_i$  and  $b \in A_j$  for all  $i, j \in \mathbb{Z}$ . We can also impose other conditions on  $\mu$  as follows:

1. We say  $\mu$  is **associative** if

$$a(bc) = (ab)c$$

for all  $a, b, c \in A$ .

2. We say  $\mu$  is **graded-commutative** if

$$ab = (-1)^i ba$$

for all  $a \in A_i$  and  $b \in A_j$  for all  $i, j \in \mathbb{Z}$ .

3. We say  $\mu$  is **strictly graded-commutative** if it is graded-commutative and satisfies the following extra property:

$$aa = 0$$

for all  $a \in A_i$  for all  $i$  odd.

4. We say  $\mu$  is **unital** if there exists  $1 \in A$  such that

$$a1 = a = 1a$$

for all  $a \in A$ .

The triple  $(A, d, \mu)$  is called **differential graded  $R$ -algebra** (or **DG  $R$ -algebra**) if  $\mu$  satisfies conditions 1-4. If  $(A, d, \mu)$  only satisfies conditions 2-4, then it is called a **partial differential graded  $R$ -algebra** (or **PDG  $R$ -algebra**). To clean notation in what follows, we will often refer to a PDG  $R$ -algebra  $(A, d, \mu)$  via its underlying graded  $R$ -module  $A$ . In particular, if we write “let  $A$  be a PDG  $R$ -algebra” without specifying its differential or multiplication, then it will be understood that its differential is denoted  $d_A$  and its multiplication is denoted  $\mu_A$ .

**Definition 2.1.** Let  $A$  and  $A'$  be two PDG  $R$ -algebra. A **morphism** between them is a chain map  $\varphi: A \rightarrow A'$  which satisfies the following two properties

1. it respects the identity elements, that is,  $\varphi(1) = 1$ ;
2. it respects multiplication, that is,  $\varphi(ab) = \varphi(a)\varphi(b)$  for all  $a, b \in A$ .

It is straightforward to check that the collection of all PDG  $R$ -algebras together with their morphisms forms a category, which we denote by **PDG $_R$** .

## 2.2 PDG $A$ -Modules

Unless otherwise specified, we fix  $A$  to be a PDG  $R$ -algebra.

**Definition 2.2.** A (left) **partial differential graded  $A$ -module** (or **PDG  $A$ -module**) is a triple  $(M, d_M, \mu_M)$  where  $(M, d_M)$  is an  $R$ -complex and where  $\mu_M: A \otimes_R M \rightarrow M$  is a chain map which satisfies  $1u = u$  for all  $u \in M$ .

Here again we are using the convention that the image of a tensor  $\sum_{i=1}^n a_i \otimes u_i$  in  $A \otimes_R M$  under the map  $\mu_M$  is denoted by

$$\mu_M \left( \sum_{i=1}^n a_i \otimes u_i \right) = \sum_{i=1}^n a_i \star_{\mu_M} u_i = \sum_{i=1}^n a_i u_i$$

where  $\mu_M$  is understood from context. Also, as before, if we write “let  $M$  be a PDG  $A$ -module” without specifying its differential or scalar multiplication, then it will be understood that its differential is denoted  $d_M$  and its multiplication is denoted  $\mu_M$ . Note that  $\mu_M$  being a chain map implies it satisfies **Leibniz law**, which in this context says

$$d_M(au) = d_A(a)u + (-1)^i ad_M(u)$$

for all  $a \in A_i$ ,  $i \in \mathbb{Z}$ , and  $u \in M$ . Notice that we do not require  $\mu_M$  to be associative in order for  $M$  to be a PDG  $A$ -module, that is, we do not require here the identity

$$(ab)u = a(bu)$$

for all  $a, b \in A$  and  $u \in M$  to hold.

**Definition 2.3.** Let  $M$  and  $N$  be two PDG  $A$ -modules. An  **$A$ -linear map** between them is a chain map  $\varphi: M \rightarrow N$  which satisfies  $\varphi(au) = a\varphi(u)$  for all  $a \in A$  and  $u \in M$ .

The collection of all PDG  $A$ -modules together with their  $A$ -linear maps forms a category, which we denote by **PMod $_A$** .

### 2.2.1 Submodules

**Definition 2.4.** Let  $M$  and  $N$  be two PDG  $A$ -modules. We say  $M$  is a **PDG  $A$ -submodule** of  $N$  if  $M \subseteq N$ . A PDG  $A$ -submodule of  $A$  is called a **PDG ideal** of  $A$ . Given any collection  $\{u_\lambda\}_{\lambda \in \Lambda}$  of elements of  $M$ , we denote by  $\langle\langle u_\lambda \rangle\rangle_{\lambda \in \Lambda}$  to be the smallest PDG  $A$ -submodule of  $M$  which contains  $\{u_\lambda\}_{\lambda \in \Lambda}$ . We denote by  $\langle u_\lambda \rangle_{\lambda \in \Lambda}$  to be the set of all  $A$ -linear combinations of  $\{u_\lambda\}_{\lambda \in \Lambda}$ .

**Proposition 2.1.** Let  $M$  be a PDG  $A$ -submodule of  $N$  and let  $\{u_\lambda\}_{\lambda \in \Lambda}$  be a collection of elements of  $M$ . Then

$$\langle\langle u_\lambda \rangle\rangle_{\lambda \in \Lambda} = \langle u_\lambda, d(u_\lambda) \rangle_{\lambda \in \Lambda}$$

*Proof.* To clean notation in what follows, we drop the “ $\lambda \in \Lambda$ ” from the subscript of our bracket notation. Since  $\langle\langle u_\lambda \rangle\rangle$  is the smallest PDG  $A$ -submodule of  $M$  which contains  $\{u_\lambda\}$ , we must have  $d(u_\lambda) \in \langle\langle u_\lambda \rangle\rangle$  for all  $\lambda \in \Lambda$ . Furthermore, we must have all  $A$ -linear combinations of  $\{u_\lambda, d(u_\lambda)\}$  belong to  $\langle\langle u_\lambda \rangle\rangle$ . Thus

$$\langle u_\lambda, d(u_\lambda) \rangle \subseteq \langle\langle u_\lambda \rangle\rangle.$$

For the reverse direction, notice that Leibniz law ensures that  $\langle u_\lambda, d(u_\lambda) \rangle$  is  $d$ -stable. Indeed, if  $\sum_{i=1}^m a_i u_{\lambda_i} + \sum_{j=1}^n b_j d(u_{\lambda_j}) \in \langle u_\lambda, d(u_\lambda) \rangle$ , then note that

$$\begin{aligned} d\left(\sum_{i=1}^m a_i u_{\lambda_i} + \sum_{j=1}^n b_j d(u_{\lambda_j})\right) &= \sum_{i=1}^m d(a_i u_{\lambda_i}) + \sum_{j=1}^n d(b_j d(u_{\lambda_j})) \\ &= \sum_{i=1}^m \left(d(a_i) u_{\lambda_i} + (-1)^{|a_i|} a_i d(u_{\lambda_i})\right) + \sum_{j=1}^n \left(d(b_j) d(u_{\lambda_j}) + (-1)^{|b_j|} b_j d^2(u_{\lambda_j})\right) \\ &= \sum_{i=1}^m d(a_i) u_{\lambda_i} + \sum_{i=1}^m (-1)^{|a_i|} a_i d(u_{\lambda_i}) + \sum_{j=1}^n d(b_j) d(u_{\lambda_j}) \\ &\in \langle u_\lambda, d(u_\lambda) \rangle. \end{aligned}$$

In particular, we see that  $\langle u_\lambda, d(u_\lambda) \rangle$  is a PDG  $A$ -submodule of  $M$  which contains  $\{u_\lambda\}$ . Since  $\langle\langle u_\lambda \rangle\rangle$  is the smallest PDG  $A$ -submodule of  $M$  which contains  $\{u_\lambda\}$ , it follows that

$$\langle u_\lambda, d(u_\lambda) \rangle \supseteq \langle\langle u_\lambda \rangle\rangle.$$

□

**Warning:** In the category of  $R$ -modules, we have the concept of annihilators. In particular, suppose  $M$  is an  $R$ -module and let  $u \in M$ . We define the **annihilator** with respect to  $u$  to be the subset of  $R$  given by

$$0 : u = \{r \in R \mid ru = 0\}.$$

In fact,  $0 : u$  is an ideal of  $R$ , but we need the associative law to get this: if  $r \in R$  and  $x \in 0 : u$ , then  $(rx)u = r(xu) = 0$  implies  $rx \in 0 : u$ .

Now let us consider the case where  $M$  is a PDG  $A$ -module and let  $u \in M$ . We can define the annihilator  $0 : u$  with respect to  $u$  as a subset of  $A$  as before:

$$0 : u = \{a \in A \mid au = 0\},$$

however this time the set  $0 : u$  need not be a PDG ideal of  $A$ . On the other hand, if  $u \in \text{Assoc } M$ , where

$$\text{Assoc } M = \{u \in M \mid [a, b, u] = 0 \text{ for all } a, b \in A\},$$

then there are no issues with the proof above, so  $0 : u$  is an ideal of  $R$  in this case.

### 2.2.2 Hom

Let  $M$  and  $N$  be two PDG  $A$ -modules. We denote by  $\text{Hom}_A(M, N)$  to be the set of all  $A$ -linear maps from  $M$  to  $N$ . The set  $\text{Hom}_A(M, N)$  as the structure of an abelian group via pointwise addition of  $A$ -linear maps from  $M$  to  $N$ . On the other hand, suppose we define a scalar “action” on  $\text{Hom}_A(M, N)$  by

$$(a \cdot \varphi)(u) = \varphi(au)$$

for all  $a \in A$ ,  $\varphi \in \text{Hom}_A(M, N)$ , and  $u \in M$ . Then this “action” does not necessarily give  $\text{Hom}_A(M, N)$  the structure of an  $R$ -module, since if  $a \in A_i$ ,  $b \in A_j$ , and  $\varphi \in \text{Hom}_A(M, N)$ , then

$$\begin{aligned} ((ab) \cdot \varphi)(u) &= \varphi((ab)u) \\ &= \varphi((-1)^{i+j}(ba)u) \\ &= (-1)^{i+j} \varphi((ba)u) \\ &= (-1)^{i+j} \varphi(b(au) + (-1)^{i+j}[b, a, u]) \\ &= (-1)^{i+j} (b \cdot \varphi)(au) + (-1)^{i+j} [b, a, \varphi(u)] \\ &= (-1)^{i+j} (a \cdot (b \cdot \varphi))(u) + (-1)^{i+j} [b, a, \varphi(u)] \end{aligned}$$

for all  $u \in M$ . Thus one needs commutativity and associativity in order to conclude that  $(ab) \cdot \varphi = a \cdot (b \cdot \varphi)$ .

## 2.3 Homology of $[M]$

Let  $A$  be a PDG  $R$ -algebra and let  $M$  be a PDG  $A$ -module. It is easy to see that  $\mu_M$  is associative if and only if  $[M] = 0$ . Given that  $[M]$  is an  $R$ -complex, we have a weaker form of associativity:

**Definition 2.5.** We say  $\mu_M$  is **homologically associative** if  $H([M]) = 0$ .

Clearly if  $\mu_M$  is associative, then  $\mu_M$  is homologically associative. It turns out that the converse is also true if  $M$  bounded below and is **minimal**, that is, if  $d_M(M) \subseteq \mathfrak{m}M$  where  $\mathfrak{m}$  is the maximal ideal in the local ring  $R$ .

**Proposition 2.2.** Let  $A$  be a PDG  $R$ -algebra and let  $M$  be a PDG  $A$ -module. Assume that  $M$  is minimal and bounded below. Then the following conditions are equivalent

1.  $\mu_M$  is associative.
2.  $\mu_M$  is homologically associative.

*Proof.* Clearly 1 implies 2. To show 2 implies 1, we prove the contrapositive: assume  $\mu_M$  is not associative, so  $[M] \neq 0$ . Choose  $m \in \mathbb{Z}$  minimal so that  $[M]_m \neq 0$  and  $[M]_{m-1} = 0$ . By Nakayama's Lemma, we can find a triple  $(a, b, u)$  such that  $|a| + |b| + |u| = m$  and such that  $[a, b, u] \notin \mathfrak{m}[M]_m$ . By minimality of  $m$ , we have  $d_{[M]}[a, b, u] = 0$ . Also, since  $M$  is minimal, we have  $d_M[M] \subseteq \mathfrak{m}[M]$ . Thus  $[a, b, u]$  represents a nontrivial element in homology.  $\square$

## 2.4 $\mathbf{PMod}_A$ is an Abelian Category

Throughout the rest of this subsection, we fix a PDG  $R$ -algebra  $A$ . We would like to talk about the concept of an exact sequence in  $\mathbf{PMod}_A$ . For this, we just need to check that  $\mathbf{PMod}_A$  is abelian category. First let us check that it is a pre-additive category.

### 2.4.1 Kernels

**Proposition 2.3.** Let  $M$  and  $M'$  be two PDG  $A$ -modules and let  $\varphi: M \rightarrow M'$  be an  $A$ -linear map. Then  $(\ker \varphi, \tilde{d}, \tilde{\mu})$  is a PDG  $A$ -submodule of  $M$ , where  $\tilde{d} = d|_{\ker \varphi}$  and  $\tilde{\mu} = \mu|_{\ker \varphi \otimes_R \ker \varphi}$ .

*Proof.* We just need to check that  $\tilde{d}$  and  $\tilde{\mu}$  land in  $\ker \varphi$ . Then it will follow that  $(\ker \varphi, \tilde{d}, \tilde{\mu})$  is a PDG  $A$ -submodule of  $M$  since it will inherit the properties needed to be a PDG  $A$ -module from  $M$ . First we show  $\tilde{d}$  lands in  $\ker \varphi$ . Let  $u \in \ker \varphi$ . Then

$$\begin{aligned} \varphi d(u) &= d\varphi(u) \\ &= d(0) \\ &= 0 \end{aligned}$$

implies  $d(u) \in \ker \varphi$ . It follows that  $\tilde{d}$  lands in  $\ker \varphi$ . Now we show  $\tilde{\mu}$  lands in  $\ker \varphi$ . Let  $u \otimes v$  be an elementary tensor in  $\ker \varphi \otimes_R \ker \varphi$ . Then

$$\begin{aligned} \varphi(\mu(u \otimes v)) &= \varphi(uv) \\ &= \varphi(u)\varphi(v) \\ &= 0 \star 0 \\ &= 0. \end{aligned}$$

It follows that  $\tilde{\mu}$  lands in  $\ker \varphi$ .  $\square$

### 2.4.2 Images

**Proposition 2.4.** Let  $\varphi: (A, d, \mu) \rightarrow (A', d', \mu')$  be a morphism of  $R$ -complex algebras. Then  $(\operatorname{im} \varphi, \tilde{d}', \tilde{\mu}')$  is an  $R$ -complex algebra, where  $\tilde{d}' = d'|_{\operatorname{im} \varphi}$  and  $\tilde{\mu}' = \mu'|_{\operatorname{im} \varphi \otimes_R \operatorname{im} \varphi}$ .

*Proof.* We just need to check that  $\tilde{d}'$  and  $\tilde{\mu}'$  land in  $\ker \varphi$ . Then it will follow that  $(\operatorname{im} \varphi, \tilde{d}', \tilde{\mu}')$  is an  $R$ -complex algebra since it will inherit the properties needed to be an  $R$ -complex algebra from  $(A, d, \mu)$ . First we show  $\tilde{d}'$  lands in  $\operatorname{im} \varphi$ . Let  $\varphi(a) \in \operatorname{im} \varphi$ . Then

$$\begin{aligned} d'(\varphi(a)) &= d'\varphi(a) \\ &= \varphi d(a) \\ &= \varphi(d(a)). \end{aligned}$$

It follows that  $\tilde{d}'$  lands in  $\text{im } \varphi$ . Now we show  $\tilde{\mu}'$  lands in  $\text{im } \varphi$ . Let  $\varphi(a) \otimes \varphi(b)$  be an elementary tensor in  $\text{im } \varphi \otimes_R \text{im } \varphi$ . Then

$$\begin{aligned}\mu((\varphi(a) \otimes \varphi(b))) &= \varphi(a) \star \varphi(b) \\ &= \varphi(a \star b) \\ &= \varphi(\mu(a \otimes b)).\end{aligned}$$

It follows that  $\tilde{\mu}'$  lands in  $\text{im } \varphi$ . □

### 2.4.3 Cokernels

As we've seen, both kernels and images exist in  $\mathbf{CompAlg}_R$ . The problem however is that cokernels do not necessarily exist in  $\mathbf{CompAlg}_R$ . To see what goes wrong, suppose  $\varphi: (A, d, \mu) \rightarrow (A', d', \mu')$  be a morphism of  $R$ -complex algebras. A naive attempt at defining the cokernel of  $\varphi$  would go as follows: first we take the cokernel of the underlying  $R$ -complexes, namely  $(\overline{A'}, \overline{d'})$  where  $\overline{A'} = A' / \text{im } \varphi$  and  $\overline{d'}$  is defined by  $\overline{d'}(\overline{a'}) = \overline{d'(a')}$  for all  $\overline{a'} \in \overline{A'}$ . It is straightforward to check that  $\overline{d'}$  is well-defined and gives  $\overline{A'}$  the structure of an  $R$ -complex. Next we define multiplication  $\overline{\mu'}: \overline{A'} \otimes_R \overline{A'} \rightarrow \overline{A'}$  by

$$\overline{\mu'}(\overline{a'} \otimes \overline{b'}) = \overline{a' \star_{\mu'} b'} \quad (1)$$

for all elementary tensors  $\overline{a'} \otimes \overline{b'}$  in  $\overline{A'} \otimes_R \overline{A'}$  and extending  $\overline{\mu'}$  everywhere else  $R$ -linearly. Unfortunately, upon further inspection, we see that (??) is not well-defined. Indeed, if  $a' + \varphi(a)$  is another representative of the coset  $\overline{a'}$  and  $b' + \varphi(b)$  is another representative of the coset  $\overline{b'}$ , then we have

$$\begin{aligned}\overline{\mu'}(\overline{a' + \varphi(a)} \otimes \overline{b' + \varphi(b)}) &= \overline{(a' + \varphi(a)) \star (b' + \varphi(b))} \\ &= \overline{a' \star b' + a' \star \varphi(b) + \varphi(a) \star b' + \varphi(a) \star \varphi(b)} \\ &= \overline{a' \star b' + a' \star \varphi(b) + \varphi(a) \star b' + \varphi(a \star b)} \\ &= \overline{a' \star b' + a' \star \varphi(b) + \varphi(a) \star b'}.\end{aligned}$$

In particular, (??) is well-defined if and only if  $\text{im } \varphi$  is an ideal of  $A'$ .

## 2.5 Associator Functor

Let  $A$  be a PDG  $R$ -algebra and let  $M$  be a PDG  $A$ -module. Given a triple  $(a, b, u)$  where  $a, b \in A$  and  $u \in M$ , its **associator**  $[a, b, u]$  is defined by

$$[a, b, u] = (ab)u - a(bu). \quad (2)$$

More generally, if  $\alpha_{A,A,M}: (A \otimes_R A) \otimes_R M \rightarrow A \otimes_R (A \otimes_R M)$  denotes the unique chain map defined on elementary tensors by

$$(a \otimes b) \otimes u \mapsto a \otimes (b \otimes u),$$

then we define the **associator** with respect to  $M$  to be chain map  $[\cdot, \cdot, \cdot]_{\mu_M}: (A \otimes_R A) \otimes_R M \rightarrow M$  defined by

$$[\cdot, \cdot, \cdot]_{\mu_M} := \mu_M(1 \otimes \mu_M)\alpha_{A,A,M} - \mu_M(\mu_A \otimes 1).$$

If  $\mu_M$  is understood from context, then we will simplify our notation by dropping  $\mu_M$  from the subscript in  $[\cdot, \cdot, \cdot]$ . Thus, if  $(a \otimes b) \otimes u$  is an elementary tensor in  $(A \otimes_R A) \otimes_R M$ , then  $[\cdot, \cdot, \cdot]((a \otimes b) \otimes u) = [a, b, u]$  as defined above in (2). We denote by  $[A, A, M]$  to be the image of  $[\cdot, \cdot, \cdot]$ . If  $A$  is understood from context, then we will simplify our notation even further by writing  $[M]$  instead of  $[A, A, M]$ . Thus

$$[M] = \text{span}_R\{[a, b, u] \mid a, b \in A \text{ and } u \in M\}.$$

Since  $[\cdot, \cdot, \cdot]$  is a chain map from  $(A \otimes_R A) \otimes_R M$ , we see that  $[\cdot, \cdot, \cdot]$  is a graded trilinear map satisfies Leibniz law, where Leibniz law in this case is the equation

$$d_{[M]}[a, b, u] = [d_A(a), b, u] + (-1)^{|a|}[a, d_A(b), u] + (-1)^{|a|+|b|}[a, b, d_M(u)]. \quad (3)$$

for all homogeneous  $a, b \in A$  and  $u \in M$ .

Now suppose  $M'$  is another PDG  $A$ -module and  $\varphi: M \rightarrow M'$  is an  $A$ -linear. We obtain an induced map of  $R$ -complexes  $[\varphi]: [M] \rightarrow [M']$ , where  $[\varphi]$  is the unique chain map which satisfies

$$\begin{aligned}[\varphi][a, b, u] &= \varphi((ab)u - a(bu)) \\ &= \varphi((ab)u) - \varphi(a(bu)) \\ &= (ab)\varphi(u) - a\varphi(bu) \\ &= (ab)\varphi(u) - a(b\varphi(u)) \\ &= [a, b, \varphi(u)].\end{aligned}$$

In particular, the map  $[\varphi]$  is just the restriction of  $\varphi$  to  $[M]$ . It is straightforward to check that the assignment  $M \mapsto [M]$  and  $\varphi \mapsto [\varphi]$  gives rise to a functor

$$\mathcal{A}: \mathbf{PMod}_A \rightarrow \mathbf{Comp}_R$$

which we call the **associator functor**.

### 2.5.1 Stable PDG ideals of $A$

The associator functor  $\mathcal{A}: \mathbf{PMod}_A \rightarrow \mathbf{Mod}_R$  need not be exact. To see what goes wrong, let

$$0 \longrightarrow M_1 \xrightarrow{\varphi_1} M_2 \xrightarrow{\varphi_2} M_3 \longrightarrow 0 \quad (4)$$

be a short exact sequence of PDG  $A$ -modules. We obtain an induced sequence of  $R$ -complexes

$$0 \longrightarrow [M_1] \xrightarrow{[\varphi_1]} [M_2] \xrightarrow{[\varphi_2]} [M_3] \longrightarrow 0$$

We claim that we have exactness at  $[M_1]$  and  $[M_3]$ . Indeed, this is equivalent to showing  $[\varphi_1]$  is injective  $[\varphi_3]$  is surjective, and this follows from the fact that  $[\varphi_1]$  is restriction of the injective function  $\varphi_1$  and  $[\varphi_3]$  is the restriction of the surjective function  $\varphi_3$ . Let us see what goes wrong when trying to prove exactness at  $[M_2]$ . Let  $\sum_{i=1}^n [a_i, b_i, v_i] \in \ker[\varphi_2]$ . In particular, we have  $\sum_{i=1}^n [a_i, b_i, v_i] \in \ker \varphi_2$ . By exactness of (6), there exists  $u \in M_1$  such that  $\varphi_1(u) = \sum_{i=1}^n [a_i, b_i, v_i]$ . It is not at all clear however that  $u \in [M_1]$ .

Now let us consider the simpler case where  $\mathfrak{a}$  is a PDG ideal of  $A$ . Then

$$0 \longrightarrow \mathfrak{a} \hookrightarrow A \longrightarrow A/\mathfrak{a} \longrightarrow 0 \quad (5)$$

is a short exact sequence of PDG  $A$ -modules. Again, we obtain an induced sequence  $R$ -complexes

$$0 \longrightarrow [\mathfrak{a}] \hookrightarrow [A] \longrightarrow [A/\mathfrak{a}] \longrightarrow 0 \quad (6)$$

where exactness at  $[\mathfrak{a}]$  and  $[A/\mathfrak{a}]$  are clear. It is easy to see that we also have exactness at  $[A]$  if and only if  $[A] \cap \mathfrak{a} = [\mathfrak{a}]$ . This leads us to the following definition.

**Definition 2.6.** Let  $\mathfrak{a}$  be a PDG ideal of  $A$ . We say  $\mathfrak{a}$  is **stable** if  $[A] \cap \mathfrak{a} = [\mathfrak{a}]$ .

Thus if  $\mathfrak{a}$  is a stable PDG ideal of  $A$ , then (??) is a short exact sequence of  $R$ -complexes.

## 3 Example

Let  $R = \mathbb{F}_2[x, y, z, w]$ , let  $I = \langle x^2, w^2, zw, xy, y^2z^2 \rangle$ , and let  $F$  be the free minimal resolution of  $R/I$  over  $R$ . The complex  $F$  is supported on the simplicial complex drawn below:

Consider the multiplication on  $F$  defined as follows: in degree 1 we have the multiplication table

	$e_1$	$e_2$	$e_3$	$e_4$	$e_5$
$e_1$	0	$e_{12}$	$e_{13}$	$xe_{14}$	$yz^2e_{14} + xe_{45}$
$e_2$	$e_{12}$	0	$we_{23}$	$e_{24}$	$y^2ze_{23} + we_{35}$
$e_3$	$e_{13}$	$we_{23}$	0	$e_{34}$	$ze_{35}$
$e_4$	$xe_{14}$	$e_{24}$	$e_{34}$	0	$ye_{45}$
$e_5$	$yz^2e_{14} + xe_{45}$	$y^2ze_{23} + we_{35}$	$ze_{35}$	$ye_{45}$	0

in degree 3 we have the multiplication table

	$e_{12}$	$e_{45}$	$e_3$	$e_4$	$e_5$
$e_1$			$e_{13}$	$xe_{14}$	$yz^2e_{14} + xe_{45}$
$e_2$		$yze_{234} + we_{345}$	$we_{23}$	$e_{24}$	$y^2ze_{23} + we_{35}$
$e_3$			0	$e_{34}$	$ze_{35}$
$e_4$			$e_{34}$	0	$ye_{45}$
$e_5$	$y^2ze_{123} + yzwe_{134} + xwe_{345}$		$ze_{35}$	$ye_{45}$	0

## 4 Grobner Basis Computations