(Co)Derived Equivalences in Algebra and Geometry

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Fix a field k, and let X and Ξ be dual k-vector spaces of dimension n+1 with dual bases (x_i) and (ξ_i) respectively. The goal of this exposition is to examine equivalences of various categories that arise naturally in this setting from algebro-geometric constructions. In particular, we look at chain complexes of

- (i) modules over the symmetric algebra $A := \text{Sym}^{\bullet}(V)$,
- (ii) modules over the exterior algebra $A^{!} := \Lambda^{\bullet}(V)$,
- (iii) coherent sheaves over $\mathbb{P}^n := \text{Proj}(\text{Sym}^{\bullet}(V))$, the projectivisation of Ξ .

Example 0.1. In the simplest case when X,Ξ are one-dimensional, the data of a module over A = k[x] involves a k-vector space M with a map $M \xrightarrow{x} M$ which can be seen as a cochain complex F(M) of k-vector spaces with differential d of degree 1. The graded algebra $A^! = k[\xi]/(\xi^2)$ acts naturally on F(M) via the degree 1 chain map $F(M) \xrightarrow{\xi} F(M)$ given by

$$\cdots \longrightarrow 0 \longrightarrow M \longrightarrow M \longrightarrow \cdots$$

$$\cdots \longrightarrow M \longrightarrow M \longrightarrow 0 \longrightarrow \cdots$$

Consider the cochain complex of A-modules

$$\cdots \to 0 \to M \otimes_k A \xrightarrow{d \otimes 1 + \xi \otimes x} M \otimes_k A \to 0 \to \cdots$$

concentrated in degrees -1 and 0. This has the same underlying vector spaces as the complex $F(M) \otimes_k A$, but the differential has been 'twisted' to remember the A!-action. This complex is exact everywhere except in degree 0, where it has cohomology M. Since the modules appearing in it are free, we have recovered a free resolution of M.

This is the first example of what may be called *Koszul duality*, a broad term encompassing various equivalences across algebra, geometry, and representation theory. The duality between symmetric and exterior algebras over finite dimensional vector spaces was first studied by Bernstein, Gel'fand & Gel'fand (1978), who exhibit an adjunction between the categories of cochain complexes of graded modules over A and A!.

Theorem. There are adjoint functors

$$Ch(A\text{-}grMod) \overset{G}{\underset{F}{\longleftrightarrow}} Ch(A^!\text{-}grMod)$$

such that any complex M• of graded A-modules has free resolution GF(M•), and any complex N• of graded A!-modules has injective resolution FG(N[•]).

In Section 2, we look at Eisenbud, Floystad & Schreyer's (2003) treatment of the Bernstein-Gel'fand-Gel'fand (BGG) correspondence described above. To turn the adjunction into an equivalence of categories, we need to employ the machinery of Verdier's derived categories. Passing to the corresponding derived categories of modules has the effect that all quasi-isomorphisms (i.e. chain maps that induce isomorphisms on homology) become isomorphisms.

Bernstein et al. (1978) use the correspondence between coherent sheaves on \mathbb{P}^n and graded A-modules (see for example Chapter II of Hartshorne (2008)) to describe the derived category $D^b(\text{coh-}\mathbb{P}^n)$ of projective n-space. In 3 we use

Categories of complexes

Chain complexes 1.1

Example 1.1 (Modules over an algebra).

Example 1.2 (Comodules over a coalgebra).

The Bernstein-Gel'fand-Gel'fand correspondence 2

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2.1 Data

2.1.1 Symmetric and exterior algebras

Given an n + 1-dimensional k-vector space V, the tensor algebra is the k-vector space

$$T(V) = \bigoplus_{i \geq 0} V^{\otimes i}$$

with a product $\nabla: \mathsf{T}(V) \otimes \mathsf{T}(V) \to \mathsf{T}(V)$ induced by the natural identifications $V^{\otimes \mathfrak{i}} \otimes V^{\otimes \mathfrak{j}} \xrightarrow{\sim} V^{\otimes (\mathfrak{i}+\mathfrak{j})}$. This is an associative algebra with a natural $\mathbb{Z}_{>0}$ -grading. The *symmetric algebra* Sym $^{\bullet}(V)$ and the exterior algebra $\Lambda^{\bullet}(V)$ are then the graded algebras defined as quotients of T(V) by certain twosided ideals, namely

$$\operatorname{Sym}^{\bullet}(V) = \frac{\mathsf{T}(V)}{(x \otimes y - y \otimes x \mid x, y \in V)}, \qquad \Lambda^{\bullet}\left(V\right) = \frac{\mathsf{T}(V)}{(x \otimes x \mid x \in V)}.$$

Since the ideals are generated by homogeneous elements, these algebras inherit gradings from T(V).

We continue to use ∇ for the product morphism on either algebra, though the corresponding bilinear map on Λ^{\bullet} V is often written \wedge .

Since we are primarily concerned with the algebras $A = \operatorname{Sym}^{\bullet}(X)$ and $A^! = \Lambda^{\bullet}(\Xi)$, we redefine the grading on $A^!$ as $A^!_{-i} = \Lambda^i\Xi$. This amounts to a change of sign from the usual grading, but the convention ensures that the dual vector spaces X and Ξ lie in degrees 1 and -1 in their respective algebras.

2.1.2 The exterior coalgebra

The exterior coalgebra on Ξ is defined as the linear dual of $A^!$, written $A^i := Hom_k(A^!,k)$. A^i has the \mathbb{Z} -grading $A^i_i = Hom_k(A^!_{-i},k)$ and is naturally an $A^!$ -module via $\alpha \cdot f(\alpha') = (-1)^{deg \ \alpha} f(\alpha \wedge \alpha')$ for $\alpha \in A^!$ homogeneous, $f \in Hom(A^!,k)$. Moreover, for any k-vector space N we have the natural isomorphism of $A^!$ -modules $Hom_k(A^!,N) \cong A^i \otimes_k N$.

Choosing a basis x_i for X fixes an isomorphism $X \cong Hom_k(\Xi, k) = A_1^i$, which can be extended to get the isomorphism of graded k-vector spaces

$$A^{i}=\bigoplus_{i}Hom_{k}(\Lambda^{i}\Xi,k)\cong\bigoplus_{i}\Lambda^{i}X=\Lambda^{\bullet}\left(X\right).$$

Write $\tau: A^i \to A$ for the k-linear map which identifies the subspaces of A^i and A corresponding to X, and is 0 elsewhere.

The coproduct on A^i . Being the linear dual of a finite dimensional algebra, A^i has a natural (coassociative counital) coalgebra structure which comes from dualising the (associative unital) product $\nabla: A^! \otimes_k A^! \to A^!$. This is called the *shuffle coproduct*, and we give an explicit description of it as follows. Given a collection of indices $\underline{\alpha} = \{\alpha_1 < ... < \alpha_i\} \subseteq \{0,...,n\}$, write $x_{\underline{\alpha}}$ for the standard basis element of A^i given by $x_{\alpha_1} \wedge x_{\alpha_2} \wedge ... \wedge x_{\alpha_i}$ (in particular, $x_{\emptyset} = 1$). The vector $\xi_{\underline{\alpha}}$ is defined similarly. We say a tuple $(\underline{\beta},\underline{\beta'})$ of subsets is a *break* of $\underline{\alpha}$ if $(\beta_1 < ... < \beta_p, \beta'_1 < ... < \beta'_q)$ is a permutation of $(\alpha_1 < ... < \alpha_i)$ (in other words, $\underline{\alpha} = \underline{\beta} \sqcup \underline{\beta'}$). The *sign* of this break, written $\langle \beta, \beta' \rangle$, is defined to be the sign of the corresponding permutation. Thus we have

$$\nabla(x_{\beta}\otimes x_{\beta'})=x_{\beta}\wedge x_{\beta'}=\langle \beta,\beta'\rangle x_{\underline{\alpha}}.$$

This allows us to write the coproduct on Aⁱ as

$$\Delta(x_{\underline{\alpha}}) = \sum_{(\underline{\beta},\underline{\beta'}) \in br(\underline{\alpha})} \langle \underline{\beta},\underline{\beta'} \rangle \, x_{\underline{\beta}} \otimes x_{\underline{\beta'}}$$

where $br(\underline{\alpha})$ is the set of all breaks of $\underline{\alpha}$. Recalling that $A^i \otimes_k A^i$ is \mathbb{Z} -graded with $\bigoplus_{p+q=i} A^i_p \otimes A^i_q$ in degree i, we observe that the map Δ respects grading hence A^i is a *graded coalgebra*.

2.1.3 Graded chain complexes

Objects of Ch(A-grMod) are chain complexes of graded A-modules in which the differentials are morphisms in A-grMod (i.e. A-module homomorphisms which preserve degree). Such an object can be viewed as a \mathbb{Z}^2 -graded k-vector space $\bigoplus_{i,j} M^i_j$ with an endomorphism d (the differential) such that

 $d \circ d = 0$,

d has degree (1,0) i.e. $d(M_i^i) \subseteq M_i^{i+1}$, and

for each $i \in \mathbb{Z}$, $M_{ullet}^i = \bigoplus_i M_i^i$ is a graded A-module.

Likewise, an object $N \in Ch(A^!\text{-grMod})$ can be seen as a \mathbb{Z}^2 -graded k-vector space $\oplus_{i,j}N^i_j$ with a differential \mathfrak{d} of degree (1,0). We shall use the two viewpoints on interchangeably, switching between them whenever convenient to provide a clearer picture. In particular, the ability to view a complex as a single module with additional structure allows for cleaner definitions and proofs, see for instance Theorem 2.2.

For a chain complex $\mathbf{M} = \bigoplus_{i,j} M^i_j$, we say the lower indices denote the *internal* (or *Adam's*) grading, while the upper indices denote the *differential* (or *cohomological*) degree. We use ' $\langle \cdot \rangle$ ' to denote shifts in Adam's gradings, continuing to use ' $[\cdot]$ ' to denote shifts in differential gradings. Thus for example we have $M\langle q \rangle^i_i = M^i_{q+i}$.

2.2 Twisted Functors

We now define additive functors

$$Ch(A\operatorname{-grMod}) \xrightarrow{G} Ch(A^!\operatorname{-grMod})$$

on which the BGG correspondence is based. In the framework of \mathbb{Z}^2 -graded vector spaces described in Section 2.1.3, we have

$$\bigoplus_{i,j} F(\boldsymbol{M})^i_j \cong Hom_k\left(A^!, \bigoplus_{p,q} M^p_q\right) = A^i \otimes_k \left(\bigoplus_{p,q} M^p_q\right), \qquad \bigoplus_{i,j} G(\boldsymbol{N})^i_j \cong A \otimes_k \left(\bigoplus_{p,q} N^p_q\right).$$

However, care is needed to define the gradings and differentials since, for example, naïvely applying the functor $\text{Hom}_k(A^!, -)$ would lose all A-module structure. The key is to modify the naïve differential by adding a 'twist' as in Example 0.1.

2.2.1 Defining the functor F

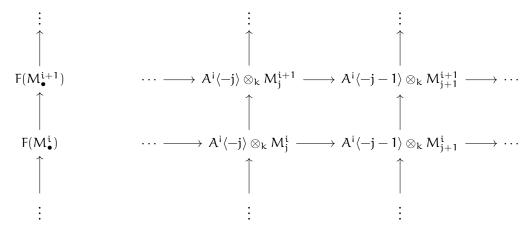
We first define F on the category A-grMod, seen as the full subcategory of Ch(A-grMod) whose objects are complexes concentrated in differential degree 0. If M_{\bullet}^{0} is a graded A-module, we define $F(M_{\bullet}^{0})$ to be the chain complex of A!-modules given by a

$$\begin{split} \cdots &\to A^i \langle -i \rangle \otimes_k M^0_i \overset{\eth}{\longrightarrow} A^i \langle -i-1 \rangle \otimes_k M^0_{i+1} \to \cdots \\ &\quad \alpha \otimes m \longmapsto \sum_{\alpha} \xi_{\alpha} \alpha \otimes x_{\alpha} m. \end{split}$$

The module $A^i\langle -i\rangle \otimes_k M^0_i$ is naturally isomorphic to $\text{Hom}_k(A^!\langle i\rangle, M^0_i)$ and inherits an Adam's grading from A^i with the vector space $A^i_{j-i}\otimes_k M^0_i$ forming the jth graded piece. These shifts in grading have been chosen precisely so that the differential ϑ has degree (1,0), while the graded commutativity of $A^!$ implies $\vartheta \circ \vartheta = 0$. Thus we indeed have a chain complex of $A^!$ -modules.

Given a morphism $M^0_{ullet} \to M^1_{ullet}$ in A-grMod, the functoriality of tensor products induces $A^!$ -module homomorphisms $A^i \langle -i \rangle \otimes_k M^0_i \to A^i \langle -i \rangle \otimes_k M^0_i$ which are compatible with the differentials (i.e. the natural squares commute). Thus we have an additive functor F: A-grMod $\to Ch(A^!$ -grMod).

To extend F to arbitrary chain complexes $\mathbf{M} = (\bigoplus_{i,j} M_j^i, d) \in Ch(A\text{-grMod})$, we observe that the functoriality of F gives us a (commuting) bicomplex



where the functorially induced vertical maps are $1 \otimes d$. Define $F(\mathbf{M})$ to be the total complex of this bicomplex, given by

$$\cdots \to \bigoplus_{p+q=i} A^i \langle -q \rangle \otimes_k M_q^p \xrightarrow{\partial} \bigoplus_{p+q=i+1} A^i \langle -q \rangle \otimes_k M_q^p \to \cdots,$$

$$\vartheta: \alpha \otimes \mathfrak{m} \longmapsto \alpha \otimes d\mathfrak{m} + (-1)^{\#\mathfrak{m}} \sum_{\alpha} \xi_{\alpha} \alpha \otimes x_{\alpha} \mathfrak{m}$$

where #m is the differential degree of $\mathfrak{m} \in \mathbf{M}$. It is clear that each $F(\mathbf{M})^{\mathfrak{i}}_{\bullet} = \bigoplus_{p+q=\mathfrak{i}} A^{\mathfrak{i}} \langle -q \rangle \otimes_{k} M_{\mathfrak{q}}^{p}$ is a graded $A^{\mathfrak{l}}$ module, and the signs introduced in the total complex construction ensure $\mathfrak{d} \circ \mathfrak{d} = 0$. An explicit check confirms \mathfrak{d} has degree (1,0), so we indeed have an object of $Ch(A^{\mathfrak{l}}\operatorname{-grMod})$.

The twist using comodules. Observe that the differential ∂ differs from the naïve differential $1 \otimes d$ on the tensor product by the horizontal maps, which are the 'twists' we have been alluding to. These have a nice description using the fact that a graded module $N_{\bullet} \in A^!$ -grMod has the structure of a graded A^i -comodule via the map

Applying this idea to the $A^!$ -modules $A^i(-i)$, we get a commuting square

where $\nabla: A \otimes_k M^{i-q}_{\bullet} \to M^{i-q}_{\bullet}$ defines the A-module structure on M, and $\tau: A^i \to A^!$ is the morphism defined in Section 2.1.2 which identifies A^i_1 with A_1 , annihilating other graded pieces.

In summary, F(M) as a \mathbb{Z}^2 -graded vector space is simply $A^i \otimes_k \textbf{M}$ with (i,j)th piece

$$F(\mathbf{M})_{j}^{i} = \bigoplus_{p+q=i} A_{j-q}^{i} \otimes_{k} M_{q}^{p}$$

and differential given on $A_{j-q}^i \otimes_k M_q^p$ by

$$1\otimes d + (-1)^p (1\otimes \nabla)\circ (1\otimes \tau\otimes 1)\circ (\Delta\otimes 1).$$

2.2.2 The left adjoint to F

The functor $G: Ch(A^!\text{-grMod}) \to Ch(A\text{-grMod})$ is analogously defined, and maps the chain complex $\mathbf{N} = (\bigoplus_{i,j} N, \mathfrak{d})$ to $G(\mathbf{N})$ given by

$$\cdots \to \bigoplus_{p-q=\mathfrak{i}} N_q^p \otimes_k A \langle -q \rangle \xrightarrow{d} \bigoplus_{p-q=\mathfrak{i}+1} N_q^p \otimes_k A \langle -q \rangle \to \cdots$$

$$d: n \otimes a \longmapsto \partial n \otimes a + (-1)^{\#n} \sum_{\alpha} \xi_{\alpha} n \otimes x_{\alpha} a$$

where #n is the differential degree of $n \in \mathbb{N}$. The Adam's grading on each $G(\mathbb{N})^i_{\bullet}$ is inherited from A, and is given by

$$G(\mathbf{N})_{j}^{\mathfrak{i}} = \bigoplus_{p-q=\mathfrak{i}} N_{\mathfrak{q}}^{p} \otimes_{k} A_{\mathfrak{j}-\mathfrak{q}}.$$

Recalling that every $A^!$ -module is a A^i -comodule (see Section 2.2.1), we can use the comodule structure-map $\Delta: N^i_{ullet} \to N^i_{ullet} \otimes A^i$ to define the differential on $N^p_q \otimes_k A_{j-q}$ as

$$\mathfrak{d} \otimes \mathfrak{1} + (-1)^{\mathfrak{p}} (\mathfrak{1} \otimes \nabla) \circ (\mathfrak{1} \otimes \tau \otimes \mathfrak{1}) \circ (\Delta \otimes \mathfrak{1}).$$

The adjunction. Having defined the functors F and G, we show that G is left adjoint to F. Spelled out this means given $\mathbf{M} \in Ch(A\operatorname{-grMod})$ and $\mathbf{N} \in Ch(A^!\operatorname{-grMod})$, there is a natural isomorphism of abelian groups

$$\mathsf{Hom}_{\mathsf{Ch}(A\operatorname{-grMod})}(\mathsf{G}(\mathbf{N}),\mathbf{M})\cong \mathsf{Hom}_{\mathsf{Ch}(A^!\operatorname{-grMod})}(\mathbf{N},\mathsf{F}(\mathbf{M})).$$

At its heart this is a \otimes -Hom adjunction, as we shall illustrate in the special case of module categories below.

Lemma 2.1 (Eisenbud et al. (2003)). Given modules $M \in A$ -Mod and $N \in A^!$ -Mod, there are natural isomorphisms of abelian groups

$$\operatorname{Hom}_{A}(A \otimes_{k} N, M) \cong \operatorname{Hom}_{k}(N, M) \cong \operatorname{Hom}_{A^{!}}(N, \operatorname{Hom}_{k}(A^{!}, M)).$$

Proof. Choosing a basis n_{α} for N, the first isomorphism follows from observing that the A-module $A \otimes_k N$ is freely generated by $1 \otimes n_{\alpha}$.

The second isomorphism sends $\phi \in Hom_k(N,M)$ to the map $\phi^!: N \to Hom_k(A^!,M)$ such that for any $n \in N$ and $\alpha \in A^!$ homogeneous we have

$$\varphi^!(\mathfrak{n})(\mathfrak{a}) = (-1)^{\deg \mathfrak{a}} \varphi(\mathfrak{a}\mathfrak{n})$$

The inverse correspondence sends $\varphi^! \in \operatorname{Hom}_{A^!}(N, \operatorname{Hom}_k(A^!, M))$ to $\varphi \in \operatorname{Hom}_k(N, M)$ given by

$$\varphi(\mathfrak{n}) = \varphi^!(\mathfrak{n})(1).$$

We now exhibit the general adjunction for F and G, and it is here that the flexibility of interpreting a chain complex **M** of graded modules as a single \mathbb{Z}^2 -graded module $\bigoplus_{i,j} M_j^i$ (see Section 2.1.3) really comes handy. Interpreting Ch(A-grMod) as a subcategory of A-Mod (likewise for $A^!$), we use Lemma 2.1 to identify $Hom_{Ch(A\text{-grMod})}(G(\mathbf{N}), \mathbf{M}) \subset Hom_A(\mathbf{N} \otimes_k A, \mathbf{M})$ and $Hom_{Ch(A^!\text{-grMod})}(\mathbf{N}, F(\mathbf{M})) \subset Hom_{A^!}(\mathbf{N}, Hom_k(A^!, \mathbf{M}))$ with the same subgroup of $Hom_k(\mathbf{N}, \mathbf{M})$.

Theorem 2.2 (Bernstein et al. (1978)). The functor G, from the category of complexes of graded A¹-modules to the category of complexes of graded A-modules, is a left adjoint to the functor F.

Proof. Given $\bar{\phi} \in \text{Hom}_A(G(\mathbf{N}), \mathbf{M})$, the corresponding map $\phi \in \text{Hom}_k(\mathbf{N}, \mathbf{M})$ found in Lemma 2.1 is given by $\phi(n) = \bar{\phi}(n \otimes 1)$. Thus $\bar{\phi}$ has degree (0,0) if and only if $\bar{\phi}(N_j^i \otimes_k A_0) \subseteq M_j^{i-j}$, if and only if $\phi(N_j^i) \subseteq M_j^{i-j}$. Moreover for $n \in N_j^i$, direct computation shows

$$(d_M\circ\bar{\phi}-\bar{\phi}\circ d_{G(\textbf{N})})(n\otimes 1)\ =\ (d_M\circ\phi-\phi\circ\vartheta_N)(n)-(-1)^i\sum_{\alpha}x_{\alpha}\phi(\xi_{\alpha}n),$$

thus $\bar{\phi}$ is a morphism in Ch(A-grMod) if and only if

$$\phi(N_j^i) \subseteq M_j^{i-j}, \quad \text{and} \quad d_M \circ \phi - \phi \circ \partial_N = \sum_{\alpha} x_{\alpha} \phi \xi_{\alpha} \tag{1}$$

where we write $\sum_{\alpha} x_{\alpha} \phi \xi_{\alpha}$ for the map that takes $n \in N_i^i$ to $(-1)^i \sum_{\alpha} x_{\alpha} \phi(\xi_{\alpha} n)$.

Likewise given $\phi^! \in \text{Hom}_{A^!}(N, F(M))$, repeating the above argument shows $\phi^!$ is an element of $\text{Hom}_{Ch(A^!\text{-grMod})}(N, F(M))$ if and only if the corresponding map $\phi \in \text{Hom}_k(N, M)$ satisfies (1). This shows that the isomorphisms given in Lemma 2.1 restrict to isomorphisms

$$Hom_{Ch(A\text{-}grMod)}(G(\textbf{N}),\textbf{M})\cong\{\phi\in Hom_k(\textbf{N},\textbf{M}) \text{ satisfying (1)}\}\cong Hom_{Ch(A^!\text{-}grMod)}(\textbf{N},F(\textbf{M}))$$

thereby showing G is left adjoint to F.

Example 2.3.

- 2.2.3 The (co)unit of adjunction
- 3 Coherent sheaves on \mathbb{P}^n
- 3.1 The Tate resolution and Beilinson monads
- 4 Koszul duality after Keller (2003)

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