Weak Proregularity, Weak Stability, and the Noncommutative MGM Equivalence

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Notes available at http://www.math.bgu.ac.il/~amyekut/lectures

version 5 | 23 Feb 2017

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In this section A is a commutative ring.

Let $a = (a_1, \ldots, a_n)$ be a sequence of elements in *A*.

Recall that the Koszul complex K(A; a) associated to *a* is a complex of finitely generated free *A*-modules, concentrated in degrees $-n, \ldots, 0$.

For n = 1 it looks like this:

$$\mathbf{K}(A;a) = \big(\cdots 0 \to A \xrightarrow{a} A \to 0 \to \cdots \big).$$

For $n \ge 2$ the Koszul complex is a tensor product:

$$\mathbf{K}(A; \boldsymbol{a}) = \mathbf{K}(A; a_1) \otimes_A \cdots \otimes_A \mathbf{K}(A; a_n).$$

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For any $i \ge 1$ let us consider the sequence $a^i := (a_1^i, \ldots, a_n^i)$.

There is a corresponding Koszul complex $K(A; a^i)$.

For $j \ge i$ there is a homomorphism of complexes

$$\mathbf{K}(A;\boldsymbol{a}^j)\to\mathbf{K}(A;\boldsymbol{a}^i).$$

When n = 1 this homomorphism is described by the following commutative diagram:

(1.1)
$$\begin{array}{ccc} \mathbf{K}(A;a^{j}) & A \xrightarrow{a^{j} \cdot \cdot} A \\ \downarrow & a^{j-i} \cdot \downarrow & \downarrow i \\ \mathbf{K}(A;a^{i}) & A \xrightarrow{a^{i} \cdot \cdot} A \end{array}$$

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 $\left\{\mathbf{K}(A;\boldsymbol{a}^i)\right\}_{i>1}$

is an inverse system.

An inverse system of modules $\{M_i\}_{i\geq 1}$ is called pro-zero if for each *i* there is some $j \geq i$ such that the homomorphism $M_j \to M_i$ is zero.

Definition 1.2. The sequence *a* is called weakly proregular if for every p < 0, the inverse system of *A*-modules

$$\left\{\mathbf{H}^{p}(\mathbf{K}(A;\boldsymbol{a}^{i}))\right\}_{i\geq 1}$$

is pro-zero.

For p = 0 we do not expect any vanishing, since

$$\lim_{\leftarrow i} \mathbf{H}^0(\mathbf{K}(A;\boldsymbol{a}^i)) = \widehat{A},$$

the \mathfrak{a} -adic completion of A, where \mathfrak{a} is the ideal generated by \boldsymbol{a} .

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But from the opposite extremity, if a is a sequence of nilpotent elements, then it is also is also weakly proregular, as can be seen from (1.1).

Anyhow, what does the definition mean?

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Theorem 1.3. ([LC]) If the ring *A* is noetherian, then any finite sequence *a* in *A* is weakly proregular.

Definition 1.4. An ideal $a \subseteq A$ is called a weakly proregular ideal if it is generated by some weakly proregular sequence *a*.

Weak proregularity turns out to be a property of the \mathfrak{a} -adic topology. To be precise:

Theorem 1.5. ([PSY1]) Let *a* and *b* be finite sequences in *A*, that generate ideals a and b respectively, and assume that $\sqrt{a} = \sqrt{b}$.

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The results of this section are the culmination of work by Matlis, Grothendieck, Greenlees, May, Alonso, Jeremias, Lipman, Schenzel, Porta, Shaul and myself. See the references.

We are still dealing with a commutative ring *A*. The category of *A*-modules is M(A), and the (unbounded) derived category is D(A).

I am assuming that the audience is familiar with derived categories. All the material I will use is explained briefly in [Ye3], and in full detail in the book [Ye6].

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$$\Gamma_{\mathfrak{a}}(M) := \lim_{i \to} \operatorname{Hom}_{A}(A/\mathfrak{a}^{i}, M).$$

The \mathfrak{a} -adic completion of M is the module

$$\Lambda_{\mathfrak{a}}(M) := \lim_{\leftarrow i} (M/\mathfrak{a}^{i} \cdot M).$$

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The completion functor $\Lambda_{\mathfrak{a}}$ is neither left exact nor right exact. But it is an idempotent functor.

The non-exactness of $\Lambda_{\mathfrak{a}}$ is very different from its familiar behavior on the category of finitely generated modules over a noetherian ring.

The additive functors $\Gamma_{\mathfrak{a}}$ and $\Lambda_{\mathfrak{a}}$ can be derived, giving rise to triangulated functors

 $\mathbf{R}\Gamma_{\mathfrak{a}}, \mathbf{L}\Lambda_{\mathfrak{a}}: \mathsf{D}(A) \to \mathsf{D}(A).$

Let us define the full subcategories

 $D(A)_{a-tor}, D(A)_{a-com} \subseteq D(A)$

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Let *A* be a commutative ring, and let $\mathfrak{a} \subseteq A$ be a weakly proregular ideal. Then:

- 1. The functor $L\Lambda_{\mathfrak{a}}$ is right adjoint to $R\Gamma_{\mathfrak{a}}$.
- 2. The functors $R\Gamma_{\mathfrak{a}}$ and $L\Lambda_{\mathfrak{a}}$ are idempotent.
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The objects of $D(A)_{a-tor}$ are called cohomologically torsion complexes.

Here is a list of conditions on the pair (A, \mathfrak{a}) , each one implying the next. The distinguishing features between conditions are in brackets.

- A is noetherian. [The completion $\widehat{A} = \Lambda_{\mathfrak{a}}(A)$ is flat over A].
- ► a is weakly proregular. [MGM Equivalence holds.]
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For more information on this hierarchy see [Ye2], [PSY1] and [Ye4].

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Example 2.2. Consider a field \mathbb{K} , and an \mathfrak{a} -adically complete noetherian \mathbb{K} -ring *A*, such that $\mathbb{K} \to A/\mathfrak{a}$ is of finite type.

For instance $A = \mathbb{K}[[t]]$, the power series ring in a variable *t*, and $\mathfrak{a} = (t)$.

Define the ring $B := A \otimes_{\mathbb{K}} A$ and the ideal

$$\mathfrak{b}:=\mathfrak{a}\otimes_{\mathbb{K}}A+A\otimes_{\mathbb{K}}\mathfrak{a}\subseteq B.$$

The ring *B* is usually not noetherian; but the ideal b is always weakly proregular, so the MGM Equivalence applies.

Also, the completion $\widehat{B} = \Lambda_{\mathfrak{b}}(B)$ is a noetherian ring.

These facts allowed Shaul [Sh] to prove that Hochschild cohomology commutes with adic completion, to calculate it in many previously unknown cases, and to answer a question of Buchweitz and Flenner that was open for 10 years. **Example 2.2.** Consider a field \mathbb{K} , and an \mathfrak{a} -adically complete noetherian \mathbb{K} -ring *A*, such that $\mathbb{K} \to A/\mathfrak{a}$ is of finite type.

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Recall that a complex R is called dualizing if it has finitely generated cohomology modules, finite injective dimension, and the canonical morphism

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In the terminology of [AJL], A^* is a t-dualizing complex, where "t" stands for torsion.

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Here are two relations to his work:

- Let *M* be an *A*-module that is cohomologically α-adically complete as a complex. Then, in the terminology of [Po1], *M* is contramodule.
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As we saw earlier, weak proregularity – besides being mysterious – is a commutative condition. It is almost never possible to form Koszul complexes over noncommutative rings.

On the other hand, as Example 2.3 shows, having some sort of MGM Equivalence for noncommutative rings could be useful for producing dualizing complexes.

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A (hereditary) torsion class in M(A) is a class of objects $\top \subseteq M(A)$ that is closed under taking quotients, subobjects, extensions and infinite direct sums.

The torsion class T gives rise to the T-torsion functor Γ_{T} , which is an additive functor from M(A) to itself.

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The formula for the functor Γ_{T} is this: $\Gamma_{\mathsf{T}}(M)$ is the largest submodule of M that belongs to T .

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Now A is a noncommutative ring, and M(A) is the category of left A-modules.

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It is standard terminology (see [St]) to call T a stable torsion class if the functor Γ_T sends injectives to injectives.

Example 3.1. Suppose A is commutative noetherian, and $a \subseteq A$ is an ideal.

The a-torsion modules form the torsion class $T_{\mathfrak{a}} \subseteq \mathsf{M}(A)$.

It is well-known that T_a is a stable torsion class.

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It is well-known that $T_{\mathfrak{a}}$ is a stable torsion class.

 $\mathsf{R}\Gamma_{\mathsf{T}}:\mathsf{D}(A)\to\mathsf{D}(A).$

For any $q \ge 0$ there is equality $H^q(R\Gamma_T) = R^q\Gamma_T$, where $R^q\Gamma_T : M(A) \to M(A)$

is the classical q-th right derived functor of Γ_{T} .

Definition 3.2. ([YZ]) An *A*-module *I* is called T-flasque if $\mathbb{R}^q \Gamma_T(I) = 0$ for all q > 0.

Of course any injective module is T-flasque, but usually there are many more, as the next example shows.

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Definition 3.4. A torsion class $T \subseteq M(A)$ is called weakly stable if for any injective module *I*, the module $\Gamma_T(I)$ is T-flasque.

It turns out that this property is indeed a noncommutative, or categorical, characterization of weak proregularity:

Theorem 3.5. ([VY1]) Let A be a commutative ring, a a finite sequence in A, and a the ideal generated by a.

- (i) The sequence *a* is weakly proregular.
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Now that we have identified what weak proregularity ought to mean in the noncommutative setting, we can ask for a noncommutative version of Theorem 2.1.

As far as we can tell, in the noncommutative setting one must make more assumptions on the torsion class.

- 1. We call T finite dimensional if the functors $\mathbb{R}^q \Gamma_{\mathsf{T}}$ vanish for $q \gg 0$.
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We shall also assume that these rings are flat over \mathbb{K} .

The flatness condition greatly simplifies the discussion. Most likely this condition is not essential, but the theory of derived categories of *A*-bimodules (see [Ye5]), that relies on flat DG ring resolutions, is not yet "fully operational".

The nonflat version of the subsequent theorems is predicted to be part of the upcoming paper [Vs1].

The enveloping ring of A is

$$A^{\mathrm{en}} := A \otimes_{\mathbb{K}} A^{\mathrm{op}}.$$

The category of A-bimodules is $M(A^{en})$, and the derived category is $D(A^{en})$.

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Thus we get a bimodule torsion class $T \subseteq M(A^{en})$.

There is a torsion functor

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Let *A* be a flat central \mathbb{K} -ring, and let T be a quasi-compact, finite dimensional, weakly stable torsion class in M(A).

Define the object

 $P := \mathbf{R}\Gamma_{\mathsf{T}}(A) \in \mathsf{D}(A^{\mathrm{en}}).$

Then there is an isomorphism

 $P \otimes^{\mathbf{L}}_{A} M \cong \mathbf{R}\Gamma_{\mathsf{T}}(M)$

of triangulated functors from D(A) to itself.

Following Positselski, we call the complex of bimodules *P* a noncommutative dedualizing complex.

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There is a canonical morphism $R\Gamma_T \to Id$ of triangulated functors from $D(A^{en})$ to itself. Applying it to object *A* gives a morphism $\rho : P \to A$ in $D(A^{en})$.

The two morphisms

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that are induced by ρ are isomorphisms.

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Let us define the triangulated functor

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by the formula

 $G_{\mathsf{T}} := \mathsf{RHom}_A(P, -).$

This functor should be thought of as an abstract "derived completion functor".

Next let us define the full subcategories

$$\mathsf{D}(A)_{\mathsf{T}\text{-tor}} \ , \ \mathsf{D}(A)_{\mathsf{T}\text{-com}} \ \subseteq \ \mathsf{D}(A)$$

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- 1. The functor G_{T} is right adjoint to $\mathsf{R}\Gamma_{\mathsf{T}}$.
- 2. The functors $\mathbf{R}\Gamma_{\mathsf{T}}$ and G_{T} are idempotent.
- 3. The categories D(*A*)_{T-tor} and D(*A*)_{T-com} are full triangulated subcategories of D(*A*).
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Let *A* be a flat central \mathbb{K} -ring, and let T be a quasi-compact, weakly stable, finite dimensional torsion class in M(A). Then:

- 1. The functor G_{T} is right adjoint to $\mathsf{R}\Gamma_{\mathsf{T}}$.
- 2. The functors $\mathbf{R}\Gamma_{\mathsf{T}}$ and G_{T} are idempotent.
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We therefore ask:

Question 4.4. In the situation of Theorem 4.3, under what assumption is there an additive functor $\Lambda : M(A) \to M(A)$, such that $G_T = L\Lambda$?

There are known counterexamples; see [Vs2].

Remark 4.5. The idempotence of the functor G_{T} means that there is a morphism of triangulated functors $\mathrm{Id} \to G_{\mathsf{T}}$, and the two induced morphisms $G_{\mathsf{T}} \to G_{\mathsf{T}} \circ G_{\mathsf{T}}$ are isomorphisms.

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Example 4.6. Let *A* be a ring, and let *S* be a left denominator set in *A*, with left Ore localization $A_S = A[S^{-1}]$.

Define

$$\mathsf{T}_S := \{ M \in \mathsf{M}(A) \mid A_S \otimes_A M = 0 \}.$$

This is a torsion class in M(A).

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Thus for any abelian group M, $\Gamma_{\mathsf{T}}(M)$ is nothing but the torsion subgroup of M.

Because the ring \mathbb{Z} is hereditary, we know that T is weakly stable. So Theorem 4.3 applies.

In this case the right adjoint to $R\Gamma_T$ is $G_T = L\Lambda_T$, where

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To end the talk, let me sketch a conjectural strategy for proving existence of a balanced dualizing complex in the arithmetic setting, namely without a base field.

This strategy combines weak stability with some other noncommutative properties.

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The ring \mathbb{K} is noetherian, local and p-adically complete, where $\mathfrak{p} \subseteq \mathbb{K}$ is the maximal ideal.

The ring *A* is noetherian, semilocal, and \mathfrak{a} -adically complete, where $\mathfrak{a} \subseteq A$ is the Jacobson radical.

We further assume that *A* is flat over \mathbb{K} , and A/\mathfrak{a} is a finite length \mathbb{K} -module.

As before, the flatness condition is probably not essential, but it greatly simplifies the discussion.

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These torsion classes extend to bimodules as was explained before. So there are torsion classes

 $\mathsf{T},\mathsf{T}^{\mathrm{op}}\subseteq\mathsf{M}(A^{\mathrm{en}}).$

Let us define the ideal

$$\mathfrak{a}^{\mathrm{en}} := \mathfrak{a} \otimes_{\mathbb{K}} A^{\mathrm{op}} + A \otimes_{\mathbb{K}} \mathfrak{a}^{\mathrm{op}} \subseteq A^{\mathrm{en}}.$$

It is easy to see that the a^{en} -torsion class T^{en} satisfies

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Theorem 5.3. ([VY1]) Under the assumptions above:

- 1. The torsion classes T and T^{op} are stable, and the torsion class T^{en} is weakly stable.
- 2. Suppose $M \in D^+(A^{en})$ has symmetric derived T-T^{op}-torsion. Then the canonical morphisms

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- ► *R* has finite injective dimension on both sides.
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Definition 5.4. A noncommutative dualizing complex over *A* is a complex $R \in D^{b}(A^{en})$ with these properties:

- ► *R* has finite injective dimension on both sides.
- The cohomologies $H^q(R)$ are finitely generated modules on both sides.
- The canonical morphisms

 $A \rightarrow \operatorname{RHom}_A(R, R)$ and $A \rightarrow \operatorname{RHom}_{A^{\operatorname{op}}}(R, R)$

Let \mathbb{K}^* be an injective hull over \mathbb{K} of the residue field \mathbb{K}/\mathfrak{p} .

Using it we define the A-bimodule

 $A^* := \operatorname{Hom}_{\mathbb{K}}^{\operatorname{cont}}(A, \mathbb{K}^*).$

It is an injective A-module on both sides.

We refer to A^* as a noncommutative t-dualizing complex over A.

Definition 5.5. A noncommutative dualizing complex R_A is said to be balanced if is has symmetric derived T-T^{op}-torsion, and there is an isomorphism

$$\beta: \mathbf{R}\Gamma_{\mathsf{T}^{\mathrm{en}}}(\mathbf{R}_A) \xrightarrow{\simeq} A^*$$

in $D(A^{en})$.

A balanced dualizing complex (R_A, β) can be shown to be unique up to a unique isomorphism.

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This is a special case of the χ condition of Artin and Zhang [AZ].

Conjecture 5.7. Assume that the ring *A* also satisfies:

- The special χ condition.
- The torsion classes T and T^{op} are finite dimensional.

Define the complexes

 $P_A := \mathsf{R}\Gamma_{\mathsf{T}^{\mathrm{en}}}(A) \in \mathsf{D}(A^{\mathrm{en}})$

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Conjecture 5.8. With *A* as above, let $f : A \rightarrow B$ be a surjective ring homomorphism.

Then the balanced dualizing complex R_B exists, and so does the balanced trace morphism

 $\mathrm{Tr}_{B/A}:R_B o R_A$

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The balanced trace morphism has this important property: the diagram



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The dualizing complex R_A from Conjecture 5.7 satisfies

(5.9) $R_A = \operatorname{Hom}_{\mathbb{K}}(P_A, \mathbb{K}^*) \cong \operatorname{Hom}_A(P_A, A^*) \cong \operatorname{Hom}_{A^{\operatorname{op}}}(P_A, A^*).$

There are three ways to interpret formula (5.9):

- 1. By definition R_A is the Matlis dual of the dedualizing complex P_A .
- 2. $R_A \cong G_T(A^*)$, the derived completion of the t-dualizing complex A^* from the left side. Compare to Example 2.3.
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Weak Stability

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