

# Twisted Product and Cohomology

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**Abstract** Let  $H$  be a Hopf algebra,  $H_1$  be a sub-Hopf algebra of  $H$ ,  $H_2$  be the quotient Hopf algebra of  $H$  modulo  $H_1$ . This paper gives a simplified complex by defining a new base for the cobar complex and proves that the cobar complex of  $H$  has the same cohomology algebra with a twisted product of the cobar complexes of  $H_1$  and  $H_2$ .

**Keywords** DGA, Twisted product, Hopf algebra, The cohomology algebra of a coalgebra

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## 1 Introduction

Let  $H$  be a Hopf algebra,  $H_1$  be a sub-Hopf algebra of  $H$ ,  $H_2$  be the quotient Hopf algebra of  $H$  modulo  $H_1$ . Cartan and Eilenberg proved<sup>[3]</sup> that there exists a spectral sequence  $\mathbf{E}_{n,m,t}^r$  such that  $\mathbf{E}^2 = H^{*,*}(H_1) \otimes H^{*,*}(H_2)$ . Since the structure of the cobar complex is very complicated, the computing of this spectral sequence remains almost unsolved. This paper gives a simplified complex by defining a new base for the cobar complex. The idea is inspired by Zhou's paper<sup>[6]</sup> and I would like to express my deep gratitude to him. I must also thank Prof. Lin Jinkun for his many useful advices.

In this paper,  $K$  is a field, all algebraic structures considered are vector spaces over  $K$ , and most of the results of this paper can not be naturally generalized to the case when  $K$  is a ring. All the algebras in this paper are non-negatively graded (or bigraded) and there is a finite dimensional vector space at a fixed degree, so all the elements or bases of a vector space are homogenous. Notice that for a commutative graded algebra  $xy = (-1)^{\|x\|\|y\|}yx$  for any  $x, y \in R$ , and that for a bigraded algebra,  $xy = (-1)^{|x||y| + \|x\|\|y\|}yx$ , where we always use  $|\cdot|$  to denote the cohomological degree and  $\|\cdot\|$  to denote the second algebraic degree. In this paper, all the complexes (mainly DGA) are bigraded and all definitions cited here may be seen in the references.

## 2 DGA's and Their Products

We call a chain complex  $(R, d)$  ( $d : R^{s,t} \longrightarrow R^{s+1,t}$ ) a DGA if  $R$  is an algebra with unit and for any  $x, y \in R$ ,  $dxy = (dx)y + (-1)^{|x|}x(dy)$ .

Let  $\Lambda$  be an index set, let  $F(\{x_\alpha\}_{\alpha \in \Lambda})$  be the algebra with unit freely generated by the set  $\{x_\alpha\}_{\alpha \in \Lambda}$ , that is, it has a base

$$\{1\} \cup \{x_{\alpha_1} x_{\alpha_2} \cdots x_{\alpha_n} \mid \alpha_i \in \Lambda, i=1, \dots, n, n=1, 2, \dots\}.$$

A DGA  $(R, d)$  is called free if there is an index set  $\Lambda$  such that for any  $\alpha \in \Lambda$ , there is an  $x_\alpha \in \bar{R}$  and  $R = F(\{x_\alpha\}_{\alpha \in \Lambda})$ ; the set  $\{x_\alpha\}_{\alpha \in \Lambda}$  is called the set of generators of  $(R, d)$ . Notice that for a given free DGA, there may be more than one set of generators, but when we are given a free DGA, we always take a fixed set of generators.

The cobar complex of a coalgebra is just a free algebra. Let  $V$  be a coalgebra,  $\Delta$  be its diagonal map and  $\varepsilon$  its augmentation,  $\bar{V} = \ker \varepsilon$ , let

$$C^{s,*} = \underbrace{\bar{V} \otimes_K \bar{V} \otimes_K \cdots \otimes_K \bar{V}}_{s\text{-fold}} \quad C(V) = K \oplus \sum_{s=1}^{\infty} C^s(V).$$

Then  $\otimes_K$  makes  $C(V)$  an algebra; we use “ $|$ ” to denote the product of  $C(V)$  and use  $[a_1|a_2|\cdots|a_n]$ ,  $a_i \in \bar{V}$  to denote the element of  $C^s(V)$ . Then if  $\{x_\alpha\}_{\alpha \in \Lambda}$  is a base for  $\bar{V}$ ,  $\{[x_\alpha]\}_{\alpha \in \Lambda}$  is a set of generators for  $C(V)$ , and  $d[x_\alpha] = -\sum [x'_\alpha|x''_\alpha]$ , where  $\Delta(x_\alpha) = 1 \otimes x_\alpha + x_\alpha \otimes 1 + \sum x'_\alpha \otimes x''_\alpha$ , so  $(C(V), d)$  is a free DGA.

Let  $(R_1, d_1)$ ,  $(R_2, d_2)$  be DGA's,  $(R_1 \otimes R_2, d_1 \otimes d_2)$  have a natural definition. Now we will define the  $*$ -product. If  $\{x_\alpha\}_{\alpha \in \Lambda}$ , and  $\{y_\beta\}_{\beta \in \Pi}$  are respectively the sets of generators of  $R_1$  and  $R_2$ ,  $\{p_{\alpha'}\}_{\alpha' \in \Lambda'}$ ,  $\{q_{\beta'}\}_{\beta' \in \Pi'}$  are respectively the sets of zero relations, then the algebra  $R_1 * R_2$  is generated by the set  $\{x_\alpha\}_{\alpha \in \Lambda} \cup \{y_\beta\}_{\beta \in \Pi}$  with the set of zero relations  $\{p_{\alpha'}\}_{\alpha' \in \Lambda'} \cup \{q_{\beta'}\}_{\beta' \in \Pi'}$ ; it is easy to check that  $R_1 * R_2$  is independent of the choice of the base and that  $R_1$  and  $R_2$  are all subalgebras of  $R_1 * R_2$  and  $d_1$  and  $d_2$  have a unique extension on  $R_1 * R_2$ . Moreover, we have (see [5])  $H^{*,*}(R_1 * R_2) = H^{*,*}(R_1) * H^{*,*}(R_2)$ .

Let  $\{\mathbf{F}_n(R)\}$  be a filtration of  $(R, d)$ . We call it a  $\mathcal{D}$ -filtration if for any  $s, t \geq 0$ ,  $\mathbf{F}_s(R)\mathbf{F}_t(R) \subset \mathbf{F}_{s+t}(R)$ .

**Definition 2.1** Let  $\{\mathbf{F}_n(R)\}$  be a  $\mathcal{D}$ -filtration of  $R$ , define

$$(\mathbf{F}_{n,s,t}^0, \tilde{d}) = (\mathbf{F}_n(R)^{s,t} / \mathbf{F}_{n-1}(R)^{s,t}, \tilde{d}).$$

Then  $(\mathbf{F}^0, \tilde{d})$  (regardless of the new gradation) is a DGA, its product is defined by

$$[x]_n [y]_m = \begin{cases} [xy]_{n+m} \in \mathbf{F}_{n+m, |x|+|y|, \|x\|+\|y\|}^0, & \text{if } xy \notin \mathbf{F}_{n+m-1}(R), \\ 0, & \text{if } xy \in \mathbf{F}_{n+m-1}(R), \end{cases}$$

where  $x \in \mathbf{F}_n(R) - \mathbf{F}_{n-1}(R)$ ,  $y \in \mathbf{F}_m(R) - \mathbf{F}_{m-1}(R)$ ,  $[ ]_k$  denotes the quotient image in  $\mathbf{F}_k(R) / \mathbf{F}_{k-1}(R)$ .

Notice that for any filtration  $\{\mathbf{F}_n(R)\}$ , there is a spectral sequence  $\mathbf{F}_{n,s,t}^r$  ( $r \geq 1$ ) converging to  $H^{*,*}(R)$ , but when  $\{\mathbf{F}_n(R)\}$  is a  $\mathcal{D}$ -filtration,  $H^{*,*}(\mathbf{F}^0) = H^{*,*}(\mathbf{F}^1)$ , and all  $(\mathbf{F}^r, d^r)$  are DGA's (regardless of the new gradation).

**Definition 2.2** Let  $(R_1, d_1)$ ,  $(R_2, d_2)$  be DGA's.  $(R, d)$  is called a twisted product of  $(R_1, d_1)$  with  $(R_2, d_2)$  if there exists a  $\mathcal{D}$ -filtration  $\{\mathbf{F}_n(R)\}$  such that  $(\mathbf{F}^0(R), \tilde{d}) = (R_1 \otimes R_2, d_1 \otimes d_2)$ , where “ $=$ ” is both a DGA and a trigraded algebra isomorphism and  $R_1 \otimes R_2$  is trigraded by

$$x \otimes y \in (R_1 \otimes R_2)^{\|y\|, |x|+|y|, \|x\|+\|y\|}$$

for  $x \in R_1, y \in R_2$ .

We denote a given twisted product by  $(R_1 \rtimes R_2, d_1 \rtimes d_2)$ . The tensor product is itself a twisted product, but there exists more complicated twisted product. By definition,  $(R_1, d_1)$  is always a sub-DGA of  $(R_1 \rtimes R_2, d_1 \rtimes d_2)$ . If  $(R_2, d_2)$  is free, then we may regard  $R_2$  as a subalgebra of  $(R_1 \rtimes R_2, d_1 \rtimes d_2)$ ; the reason is as follows. Suppose  $\{u_\alpha\}_{\alpha \in \Lambda}$  is a set of generators of  $R_2$ ,  $\{x_\alpha\}_{\alpha \in \Lambda}$  is a subset of  $R_1 \rtimes R_2$  such that  $[x_\alpha] = u_\alpha$  for all  $\alpha \in \Lambda$ , where  $[\ ]$  denotes the quotient image. Then by definition,

$$[x_{\alpha_1} x_{\alpha_2} \cdots x_{\alpha_n}] = u_{\alpha_1} u_{\alpha_2} \cdots u_{\alpha_n},$$

so  $F(\{x_\alpha\}_{\alpha \in \Lambda})$  is an algebra isomorphic to  $R_2$ .

**Definition 2.3** A DGA  $(R, d)$  with the set of generators  $\{x_\alpha\}_{\alpha \in \Lambda}$  is called minimal if  $|x_\alpha| = 1$  for all  $\alpha \in \Lambda$ .

Let  $V$  be a coalgebra. Then  $(C(V), d)$  is a minimal DGA.

Before we state the central theorem of this paper, we give the conditions of the theorem. Let  $(R_1, d_1), (R_2, d_2)$  be two minimal DGA's with respectively the sets of generators  $\{x_\alpha\}_{\alpha \in \Lambda}, \{y_\beta\}_{\beta \in \Pi}$ ,  $(R, d)$  be a minimal DGA with the set of generators

$$\{x_\alpha\}_{\alpha \in \Lambda} \cup \{y_\beta\}_{\beta \in \Pi} \cup \{z_\gamma\}_{\gamma \in \Lambda \times \Pi}.$$

We call these generators of  $R$  pure letters; the finite product of pure letters is called a pure word, then all pure words form a base for  $R$ . Now we will give a new base for  $R$ . For any  $\gamma \in \Lambda \times \Pi$ , we call  $dz_\gamma$  a mixed letter, the finite product of mixed letters or the finite product of mixed letters and pure letters are called a mixed word. A word is called standard if it has no factor  $y_\beta x_\alpha$  for all  $(\alpha, \beta) \in \Lambda \times \Pi$ . Under the conditions of the next theorem, all standard words form a new base for  $R$ . We define the length of a word (mixed or pure) to be

$$\|b\|_1 = \begin{cases} \|y_\beta\|, & \text{if } b = y_\beta \text{ for some } \beta \in \Pi, \\ 0, & \text{otherwise.} \end{cases}$$

If  $b = b_1 b_2 \cdots b_n$ ,  $b_i$  are letters, then define  $\|b\|_p = \sum_{i=1}^n \|b_i\|_1$ .

**Theorem 2.1**  $(R_1, d_1), (R_2, d_2), (R, d)$  are as above and satisfy

1.  $(R_1, d_1)$  is a sub-DGA of  $(R, d)$ ,
2. For any  $\beta \in \Pi$ , there exist pure words  $u_i$  and  $k_i \in K$ , such that  $u_i \notin R_2, \|u_i\|_p < \|y_\beta\|$ , and

$$dy_\beta = d_2 y_\beta + \sum_i k_i u_i,$$

3. For any  $(\alpha, \beta) \in \Lambda \times \Pi$ , there exist pure words  $v_j$  and  $k_j \in K$  such that  $v_j \notin R_2, \|v_j\|_p < \|y_\beta\|$ , and

$$dz_{\alpha, \beta} = -x_\alpha y_\beta - (-1)^{\|x_\alpha\| \|y_\beta\|} y_\beta x_\alpha + \sum_j k_j v_j.$$

Let  $I$  be the  $\mathcal{D}$ -ideal of  $(R, d)$  generated by all  $z_\gamma$  and  $dz_\gamma, \gamma \in \Lambda \times \Pi$ ,  $q: R \rightarrow R/I$  is the quotient map. Then  $q$  induces an isomorphism between the cohomology algebras, and  $(R/I, \tilde{d})$  is a twisted product of  $(R_1, d_1)$  with  $(R_2, d_2)$ .

*Proof* It is easy to prove that  $d(I) \subset I$ , so  $(R/I, \tilde{d})$  is still a DGA. By the conditions of the theorem we can prove (see [5]) that all standard words form a base for  $R$ , and for any word

$b$ , if the linear combination of standard words for  $b$  is  $b = \sum_{i=1}^n k_i b_i$ , then we have  $\|b\|_p \geq \|b_i\|_p$  for  $i = 1, 2, \dots, n$ .

Let  $\{\mathbf{F}_n(R)\}$  be the subvector space of  $R$  spanned by all standard words  $b$  such that  $\|b\|_p \leq n, n = 1, 2, \dots$ . Then it is easy to prove that  $\{\mathbf{F}_n(R)\}$  is a  $\mathcal{D}$ -filtration of  $(R, d)$ . Now consider the structure of  $(\mathbf{F}^0, \tilde{d})$ , and use  $[\ ]$  to denote the quotient image. Then

$$\begin{aligned} \tilde{d}[x_\alpha] &= [d_1 x_\alpha], & \text{for all } \alpha \in \Lambda, [x_\alpha] \in \mathbf{F}_{0,1,\|x_\alpha\|}^0(R), \\ \tilde{d}[y_\beta] &= [dy_\beta] = [d_2 y_\beta], & \text{for all } \beta \in \Pi, [y_\beta] \in \mathbf{F}_{\|y_\beta\|,1,\|y_\beta\|}^0(R), \\ \tilde{d}[z_{\alpha,\beta}] &= [dz_{\alpha,\beta}], & \text{for all } (\alpha, \beta) \in \Lambda \times \Pi, [z_{\alpha,\beta}] \in \mathbf{F}_{0,1,\|z_{\alpha,\beta}\|}^0(R), \\ \tilde{d}[dz_{\alpha,\beta}] &= 0, & \text{for all } (\alpha, \beta) \in \Lambda \times \Pi, [c_{\alpha,\beta}] \in \mathbf{F}_{0,2,\|c_{\alpha,\beta}\|}^0(R), \\ [x_\alpha][y_\beta] &= [x_\alpha y_\beta] = (-1)^{1+\|x_\alpha\|+\|y_\beta\|} [y_\beta][x_\alpha]. \end{aligned}$$

Let  $(R_3, d_3) \stackrel{\mathcal{D}}{=} (F(\{[z_\gamma], [dz_\gamma]\}_{\gamma \in \Lambda \times \Pi}), d^0)$ . Then

$$(\mathbf{F}^0(R), \tilde{d}) = ((R_1 \otimes R_2) * R_3, (d_1 \otimes d_2) * d_3),$$

$$\mathbf{F}_{*,*,*}^1(R) = H^{*,*}(R_1) \otimes H^{*,*}(R_2).$$

Since the restriction of  $\{\mathbf{F}_n(R)\}$  on  $I$  is also a  $\mathcal{D}$ -filtration of  $I$ , and an easy computation shows that  $(\mathbf{F}^0(I), \tilde{d}) = (R_3, d_3)$ , so  $H^{*,*}(I) = 0$ ,  $q$  induces an isomorphism of cohomology algebras, and it is also easy to prove that the quotient DGA  $(R/I, \tilde{d})$  has a  $\mathcal{D}$ -filtration  $\{\mathbf{F}_n(R/I)\} = \{q(\mathbf{F}_n(R))\}$  such that

$$(\mathbf{F}^0(R/I), \tilde{d}) = (R_1 \otimes R_2, d_1 \otimes d_2),$$

so  $(R/I, \tilde{d})$  is a twisted product.

Now let us consider the structure of  $(R_1 \rtimes R_2, d_1 \rtimes d_2)$ . Let  $\{x_\alpha\}_{\alpha \in \Lambda}, \{y_\beta\}_{\beta \in \Pi}$  be the sets of generators of  $R_1$  and  $R_2$ . Then  $R_1 \rtimes R_2 = R_1 \otimes_K R_2$ , where “=” is a vector space isomorphism but not an algebraic one, so we may trigraded  $(R_1 \rtimes R_2, d_1 \rtimes d_2)$  through this isomorphism as in Definition 2.2. Then for any  $\alpha \in \Lambda, \beta \in \Pi$ ,

$$\begin{aligned} (d_1 \rtimes d_2)x_\alpha &= d_1 x_\alpha, \\ (d_1 \rtimes d_2)y_\beta &= d_2 y_\beta + \sum z_i, \\ x_\alpha y_\beta - (-1)^{|x_\alpha|+|y_\beta|} y_\beta x_\alpha &= \sum z_j, \end{aligned}$$

where the new gradations of  $z_i$  and  $z_j$  are all less than  $< \|y_\beta\|$ .

### 3 Applications to the Cohomology of Hopf Algebras

**Definition 3.1** *Let  $R_1, R_2$  be two graded algebras. If we change “bigraded” in Definition 2.2 to “graded” and take  $d_1=0, d_2=0$ , then we get the definition of the twisted product of  $R_1$  with  $R_2$ , and for two coalgebras  $V_1, V_2$ , we define*

$$V_1 \rtimes V_2 = ((V_2^* \rtimes V_1)^*)^*$$

where  $*$  denotes the dual space.

**Theorem 3.1** Let  $V_1 \rtimes V_2$  be a given twisted product. Then there are a twisted product  $(C(V_1) \rtimes C(V_2), d_1 \rtimes d_1)$  and a quotient map  $q: C(V_1 \rtimes V_2) \rightarrow C(V_1) \rtimes C(V_2)$  such that  $q$  induces an isomorphism between the cohomology algebras. If  $V_1 \rtimes V_2 = V_1 \otimes V_2$ , the quotient DGA is also a tensor product of DGA's.

*Proof* Let  $\{y_\beta\}_{\beta \in \Pi}$  be a base for  $\overline{V_2^*}$ .  $\{x_\alpha\}_{\alpha \in \Lambda}$  is a subset of  $V_2^* \rtimes V_1^*$  such that  $\{[x_\alpha]\}_{\alpha \in \Lambda}$  is a base for  $\overline{V_1^*} \subset \mathbf{F}^0(V_2^* \rtimes V_1^*)$ , where  $[ ]$  denotes the quotient image in  $\mathbf{F}^0(V_2^* \rtimes V_1^*)$ . Then  $\overline{V_2^*} \rtimes \overline{V_1^*}$  has a base

$$\{x_\alpha\}_{\alpha \in \Lambda} \cup \{y_\beta\}_{\beta \in \Pi} \cup \{x_\alpha y_\beta\}_{(\alpha, \beta) \in \Lambda \times \Pi}.$$

It is easy to check that  $[x_\alpha^*]$ ,  $[y_\beta^*]$ ,  $[(x_\alpha y_\beta)^*]$  as the elements of cobar complexes ( $[ ]$  is not the quotient image) corresponding to  $x_\alpha, y_\beta, z_{\alpha, \beta}$  in Theorem 2.1 satisfy the conditions of the theorem. If  $V_1 \rtimes V_2 = V_1 \otimes V_2$ , then the spectral sequence collapses from  $\mathbf{F}^1$ .

For commutative, coassociative Hopf algebras, the theorem is more obvious. Let  $H_1$  be a sub-Hopf algebra of  $H$ ,  $I$  be the ideal of  $H$  generated by  $H_1$ . Then  $H_2 = H/I$  has a unique induced Hopf algebra structure, and we denote it by  $H/H_1$ .

**Theorem 3.2** Suppose  $H_1$  is a sub-Hopf algebra of  $H$ ,  $H_2 = H/H_1$ . Then there is a quotient map

$$q: (C(H), d) \rightarrow (C(H_1) \rtimes C(H_2), d_1 \rtimes d_2)$$

that induces an isomorphism between the cohomology algebras; and if we have  $H = H_1 \otimes H_2$ , then quotient DGA is  $(C(H_1) \otimes C(H_2), d_1 \otimes d_2)$ .

*Proof* By checking directly.

Now let  $K$  be the field of integers modulo an odd prime  $p$ ,  $H = P(\xi)$ ,  $\|\xi\|$  be an even integer,  $P$  be the cohomology algebra,  $\xi$  be primitive. Then it is easy to check that  $V_i = P(\xi^{p^i})/(\xi^{p^{i+1}})$  ( $i = 0, 1, \dots$ ) is a subcoalgebra of  $H$ , and it is easy to compute that  $H^{*,*}(V_i) = P(b_i) \otimes E(h_i)$ , where  $b_i = \sum_{j=1}^{p-1} \binom{p}{j} / p [\xi^{jp^i} | \xi^{(p-j)p^j}]$ ,  $h_i = [\xi^{p^i}]$ , since as an coalgebra we have  $H = \otimes_{i=1}^{\infty} V_i$ ; so we have

$$H^{*,*} = P(b_0, b_1, \dots) \otimes E(h_0, h_1, \dots).$$

When incorporating the computation of the multi-product  $\langle a; b_1, \dots, b_n \rangle$ , we may compute even more complicated Hopf algebras (see [5]).

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