

The Pure Virtual Braid Group is Quadratic¹

Abstract Generalities

Dror Bar-Natan and Peter Lee in Oregon, August 2011

<http://www.math.toronto.edu/~drorbn/Talks/Oregon-1108/>
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Let K be a unital algebra over a field \mathbb{F} with $\text{char } \mathbb{F} = 0$, and let $I \subset K$ be an "augmentation ideal"; so $K/I \xrightarrow{\sim} \mathbb{F}$.

Definition. Say that K is **quadratic** if its associated graded $\text{gr } K = \bigoplus_{p=0}^{\infty} I^p/I^{p+1}$ is a quadratic algebra. Alternatively, let $A = q(K) = \langle V = I/I^2 \rangle / \langle R_2 = \ker(\bar{\mu}_2 : V \otimes V \rightarrow I^2/I^3) \rangle$ be the "quadratic approximation" to K (q is a lovely functor). Then K is quadratic iff the obvious $\mu : A \rightarrow \text{gr } K$ is an isomorphism. If G is a group, we say it is quadratic if its group ring is, with its augmentation ideal.

The Overall Strategy. Consider the "singularity tower" of (K, I) (here " \cdot " means \otimes_K and μ is (always) multiplication):

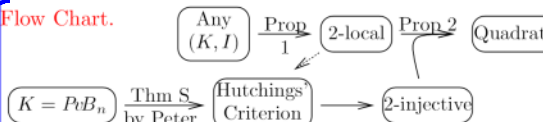
$$\dots \xrightarrow{\mu_{p+1}} I^{p+1} \xrightarrow{\mu_p} I^p \xrightarrow{\mu_{p-1}} I^{p-1} \longrightarrow \dots \longrightarrow K$$

We care as $\text{im}(\mu^p = \mu_1 \circ \dots \circ \mu_p) = I^p$, so $I^p/I^{p+1} = \text{im } \mu^p / \text{im } \mu^{p+1}$. Hence we ask:

- What's $I^p/\mu(I^{p+1})$? • How injective is this tower?

Lemma. $I^p/\mu(I^{p+1}) \simeq (I/I^2)^{\otimes p} = V^{\otimes p}$; set $\pi : I^p \rightarrow V^{\otimes p}$.

Flow Chart.



Proposition 1. The sequence

$$\mathfrak{R}_p := \bigoplus_{j=1}^{p-1} (I^{j-1} : \mathfrak{R}_2 : I^{p-j-1}) \xrightarrow{\partial} I^p \xrightarrow{\mu_p} I^{p-1}$$

is exact, where $\mathfrak{R}_2 := \ker \mu : I^2 \rightarrow I$; so (K, I) is "2-local".

The Free Case. If J is an augmentation ideal in $K = F = \langle x_i \rangle$, define $\psi : F \rightarrow F$ by $x_i \mapsto x_i + \epsilon(x_i)$. Then $J_0 := \psi(J)$ is $\{w \in F : \deg w > 0\}$. For J_0 it is easy to check that $\mathfrak{R}_2 = \mu(I^{p+1})/\ker \mu_{p+1} \simeq \mu(I^p)/\ker \mu_p$. But $\mu(I^p)/\ker \mu_p \simeq (I/I^2)^{\otimes p}$, so the above is $(I/I^2)^{\otimes p} / \sum (I^{j-1} : \mathfrak{R}_2 : I^{p-j-1})$. But that's

The General Case. If $K = F/\langle M \rangle$ (where M is a vector space of "moves") and $I \subset K$, then $I = J/\langle M \rangle$ where $J \subset F$. Then $I^p = J^p / \sum J^{j-1} : \langle M \rangle : J^{p-j}$ and we have

$$\begin{array}{ccc} J^p & \xrightarrow{\mu_F} & J^{p-1} \\ \text{onto } \downarrow \pi_p & \text{1-1} & \downarrow \text{onto } \pi_{p-1} \\ I^p = J^p / \sum J^{j-1} : \langle M \rangle : J^{p-j} & \xrightarrow{\mu} & I^{p-1} = J^{p-1} / \sum J^{j-1} : \langle M \rangle : J^{p-j} \end{array}$$

So $\ker(\mu) = \pi_p(\mu_F^{-1}(\ker \pi_{p-1})) = \pi_p(\sum \mu_F^{-1}(J^{j-1} : \langle M \rangle : J^{p-j})) = \sum \pi_p(J^{j-1} : \mu_F^{-1}(\langle M \rangle) : J^{p-j}) = \sum I^j : \mathfrak{R}_2 : I^{p-j} = \sum_{j=1}^{p-1} \mathfrak{R}_{p,j}$.

\mathfrak{R}_2 is simpler than may seem! It's an "augmentation bimodule" ($I\mathfrak{R}_2 = 0 = \mathfrak{R}_2 I$ thus $xr = \epsilon(x)r = r\epsilon(x) = rx$ for $x \in K$ and $r \in \mathfrak{R}_2$), and hence $\mathfrak{R}_2 = \pi_2(\mu_F^{-1}(M))$.

$\mathfrak{R}_{p,j}$ is simpler than may seem! In $\mathfrak{R}_{p,j} = I^{j-1} : \mathfrak{R}_2 : I^{p-j-1}$ the I factors may be replaced by $V = I/I^2$. Hence

$$\mathfrak{R}_p \simeq \bigoplus_{j=1}^{p-1} V^{\otimes j-1} \otimes \pi_2(\mu_F^{-1}(M)) \otimes V^{\otimes p-j-1}.$$

Claim. $\pi(\mathfrak{R}_{p,j}) = R_{p,j}$; namely,

$$\pi(I^{j-1} : \mathfrak{R}_2 : I^{p-j-1}) = V^{\otimes j-1} \otimes R_2 \otimes V^{\otimes p-j-1}.$$

Why Care?

• In abstract generality, $\text{gr } K$ is a simplified version of K and if it is quadratic it is as simple as it may be without being silly. • In some concrete (somewhat generalized) knot theoretic cases, A is a space of "universal Lie algebraic formulas" and the "primary approach" for proving (strong) quadraticity, constructing an appropriate homomorphism $Z : K \rightarrow A$, becomes wonderful mathematics:

K	u-Knots and Braids	v-Knots	w-Knots
A	Mettrized Lie algebras [BN1]	Lie bialgebras [Hav]	Finite dimensional Lie algebras [BN3]
Z	Associators [Dri, BND]	Etingof-Kazhdan quantization [EK, BN2]	Kashiwara-Vergne-Alekseev-Torossian [KV, AT]

2-Injectivity. A (one-sided infinite) sequence

$$\dots \longrightarrow K_{p+1} \xrightarrow{\delta_{p+1}} K_p \xrightarrow{\delta_p} \dots \longrightarrow K_0 = K$$

is "injective" if for all $p > 0$, $\ker \delta_p = 0$. It is "2-injective" if its "1-reduction"

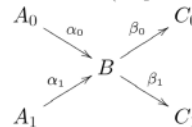
$$\dots \longrightarrow \frac{K_{p+1}}{\ker \delta_{p+1}} \xrightarrow{\bar{\delta}_{p+1}} \frac{K_p}{\ker \delta_p} \xrightarrow{\bar{\delta}_p} \frac{K_{p-1}}{\ker \delta_{p-1}} \longrightarrow \dots$$

is injective; i.e. if for all p , $\ker(\delta_p \circ \bar{\delta}_{p+1}) = \ker \bar{\delta}_{p+1}$. A pair (K, I) is "2-injective" if its singularity tower is 2-injective.

Proposition 2. If (K, I) is 2-local and 2-injective, it is quadratic.

Proof. Staring at the 1-reduced sequence $\frac{I^{p+1}}{\ker \mu_{p+1}} \xrightarrow{\mu_{p+1}} \frac{I^p}{\ker \mu_p} \xrightarrow{\mu_p} \dots \longrightarrow K$, get $\frac{I^p}{\ker \mu_p} \simeq \frac{I^p / \ker \mu_p}{\mu(I^{p+1}) / \ker \mu_{p+1}} \simeq \frac{I^p}{\mu(I^{p+1}) + \ker \mu_p}$. But $\frac{I^p}{\mu(I^{p+1})} \simeq (I/I^2)^{\otimes p}$, so the above is $(I/I^2)^{\otimes p} / \sum (I^{j-1} : \mathfrak{R}_2 : I^{p-j-1})$. But that's

The X Lemma (inspired by [Hut]).

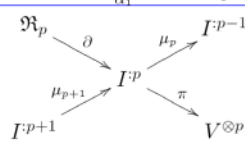


If the above diagram is Conway (\asymp) exact, then its two diagonals have the same "2-injectivity defect". That is, if $A_0 \rightarrow B \rightarrow C_0$ and $A_1 \rightarrow B \rightarrow C_1$ are exact, then $\ker(\beta_1 \circ \alpha_0) / \ker \alpha_0 \simeq \ker(\beta_0 \circ \alpha_1) / \ker \alpha_1$.

Proof. $\frac{\ker(\beta_1 \circ \alpha_0)}{\ker \alpha_0} \xrightarrow{\alpha_0} \ker \beta_1 \cap \text{im } \alpha_0 = \ker \beta_0 \cap \text{im } \alpha_1 \xleftarrow{\alpha_1} \frac{\ker(\beta_0 \circ \alpha_1)}{\ker \alpha_1}$.

The Hutchings Criterion [Hut].

The singularity tower of (K, I) is 2-injective iff on the right, $\ker(\pi \circ \partial) = \ker(\partial)$. That is, iff every "diagrammatic syzygy" is also a "topological syzygy".



Conclusion. We need to know that (K, I) is "syzygy complete" — that every diagrammatic syzygy is also a topological syzygy, that $\ker(\pi \circ \partial) = \ker(\partial)$.

A. There should have been a second lemma here:
Lemma 2 1. Under the right projection,

$$\pi(\ker \mu_2) = R_2$$

2. In the proper circumstances,

$$\pi(\ker \mu_p) = \sum I^{\otimes j-1} \otimes R_2 \otimes I^{\otimes p-j-1}$$

B. Why " M " is enough there, rather than $\langle M \rangle$, requires a better explanation.

C. If we rephrase this commutative diagrams

as

$$\begin{array}{ccc} J^{:p} & \xrightarrow{\mu_F} & J \cdot J^{:p-1} \\ \downarrow \pi_p & & \downarrow \pi_{p-1} \\ I^{:p} & \xrightarrow{\mu} & I \cdot I^{:p-1} \end{array}$$

then μ_F is an isomorphism and the original Polishchuk issue disappears. The issue now is whether

$$\ker(J \cdot J^{:p-1} \rightarrow I \cdot I^{:p-1}) \stackrel{?}{=} \ker(J^{:p-1} \rightarrow I^{:p-1}),$$

and that's the same as

$$\sum J^i : \langle M \rangle : J^i \subset J \cdot J^{:p-1}$$

and that's a much lighter issue; the only problem may come from $a^+ + a^- + a^+ a^- = 0$, and it probably doesn't really come.

Aside: If $A, B \in \text{im}(F)$, then $F^{-1}(A) + F^{-1}(B) = F^{-1}(A+B)$.

proof: \subset if $z \in f^{-1}(A) + f^{-1}(B)$ then $z = f(x) + f(y)$

w/ $x \in A$ & $y \in B$ so $z = f(x+y)$ w/ $x+y \in A+B$ \square

\supset if $z \in f^{-1}(A+B)$ then $f(z) = x+y$ w/ $x \in A$ & $y \in B$

so as $A \subset \text{im}(f)$ & $B \subset \text{im}(f)$, $\exists x_1, y_1$ s.t.

$x = f(x_1)$, $y = f(y_1)$. Hence

$$\begin{aligned} f(z - x_1 - y_1) &= f(z) - f(x_1) - f(y_1) \\ &= x + y - x - y = 0 \end{aligned}$$

so $z - x_1 - y_1 \in \ker f$ so $\exists w \in \ker f$ s.t.

$z = (x_1 + w) + y_1$. But then

$$f(x_1 + w) = f(x_1) = x \in A \Rightarrow x_1 + w \in f^{-1}(A)$$

$$\& \quad f(y_1) = y \in B \quad \Rightarrow y_1 \in f^{-1}(B)$$

so $z \in f^{-1}(A) + f^{-1}(B)$.

The Pure Virtual Braid Group is Quadratic, II

Examples and Interpretations

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Example.



$$K = \left\langle \begin{array}{c} \diagup \diagdown \\ \diagdown \diagup \end{array} \right\rangle \quad I = \left\langle \begin{array}{c} \diagup \diagdown \\ \diagdown \diagup \end{array} \right\rangle \quad (\text{goes back to [Koh]})$$

$$(K/I^{p+1})^* = (\text{invariants of type } p) =: \mathcal{V}_p$$

$$(I^p/I^{p+1})^* = \mathcal{V}_p/\mathcal{V}_{p-1} \quad V = \langle t^{ij} | t^{ij} = t^{ji} \rangle = \langle | \text{HH} \rangle$$

$$\ker \bar{\mu}_2 = \langle [t^{ij}, t^{kl}] = 0 = [t^{ij}, t^{ik} + t^{jk}] \rangle = \langle 4T \text{ relations} \rangle$$

$$A = q(K) = \left(\begin{array}{c} \text{horizontal chord dia-} \\ \text{grams mod } 4T \end{array} \right) = \left\langle \begin{array}{c} \text{HHHH} \\ \text{HHHH} \end{array} \right\rangle_{4T}$$

Z: universal finite type invariant, the Kontsevich integral.

PvB_n is the group

$$\langle \sigma_{ij} : 1 \leq i \neq j \leq n \rangle / \begin{array}{l} \sigma_{ij}\sigma_{ik}\sigma_{jk} = \sigma_{jk}\sigma_{ik}\sigma_{ij} \\ \sigma_{ij}\sigma_{kl} = \sigma_{kl}\sigma_{ij} \end{array}$$



L. Kauffman [Kau, KL]

of “pure virtual braids” (“braids when you look”, “blunder braids”):

$$\sigma_{24} = \begin{array}{c} \uparrow \quad \uparrow \quad \uparrow \quad \uparrow \\ \diagdown \quad \diagup \quad \diagup \quad \diagdown \\ \diagup \quad \diagdown \quad \diagdown \quad \diagup \end{array} \quad R3: \begin{array}{c} \uparrow \quad \uparrow \quad \uparrow \quad \uparrow \\ \diagdown \quad \diagup \quad \diagup \quad \diagdown \\ \diagup \quad \diagdown \quad \diagdown \quad \diagup \end{array} = \begin{array}{c} \uparrow \quad \uparrow \quad \uparrow \quad \uparrow \\ \diagdown \quad \diagup \quad \diagup \quad \diagdown \\ \diagup \quad \diagdown \quad \diagdown \quad \diagup \end{array}$$

The Main Theorem [Lee]. PvB_n is quadratic.

$$A_n = q(PvB_n).$$

[GPV]



Goussarov-Polyak-Viro

$$I = \left\langle \begin{array}{c} \text{v-braids} \\ \text{with one } \bowtie \end{array} \right\rangle / (\bowtie = \times) \quad \text{with } \bowtie = \tilde{\sigma}_{ij} = \sigma_{ij} - 1 = \times - \times, \text{ the “semi-virtual crossing”}.$$

$$V = I/I^2 = \left\langle \begin{array}{c} \text{v-braids} \\ \text{with one } \bowtie \end{array} \right\rangle / (\bowtie = \times) \quad a_{24} = \begin{array}{c} \text{HHHH} \\ \text{HHHH} \end{array}$$

$$A_n = TV / \langle [a_{ij}, a_{ik}] + [a_{ij}, a_{jk}] + [a_{ik}, a_{jk}], c_{kl}^{ij} = [a_{ij}, a_{kl}] \rangle,$$

$$y_{ijk} = \begin{array}{c} \text{HHH} \\ \text{HHH} \end{array} + \begin{array}{c} \text{HHH} \\ \text{HHH} \end{array} + \begin{array}{c} \text{HHH} \\ \text{HHH} \end{array} - \begin{array}{c} \text{HHH} \\ \text{HHH} \end{array} - \begin{array}{c} \text{HHH} \\ \text{HHH} \end{array} - \begin{array}{c} \text{HHH} \\ \text{HHH} \end{array}$$

I^p .

$$\begin{array}{c} \text{HHHH} \\ \text{HHHH} \end{array} = \begin{array}{c} \text{HHHH} \\ \text{HHHH} \end{array}$$

James Gillespie's Sightline #2 (1984) is a syzygy, and (arguably) Toronto's largest sculpture. Find it next to University of Toronto's Hart House.



$\mathfrak{R}_2(PvB_n)$ is generated as a vector space by C_{kl}^{ij} and

$$Y_{ijk} := \begin{array}{c} \text{HHH} \\ \text{HHH} \end{array} + \begin{array}{c} \text{HHH} \\ \text{HHH} \end{array} + \begin{array}{c} \text{HHH} \\ \text{HHH} \end{array} + \begin{array}{c} \text{HHH} \\ \text{HHH} \end{array} - \begin{array}{c} \text{HHH} \\ \text{HHH} \end{array} - \begin{array}{c} \text{HHH} \\ \text{HHH} \end{array} - \begin{array}{c} \text{HHH} \\ \text{HHH} \end{array} - \begin{array}{c} \text{HHH} \\ \text{HHH} \end{array}$$

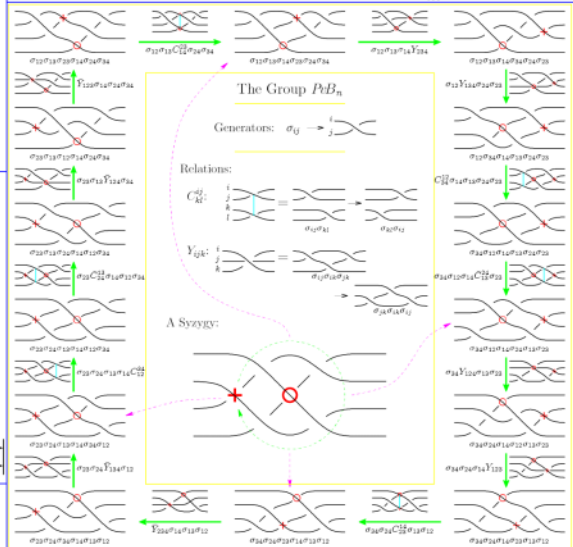
Syzygy Completeness, for PvB_n , means:

$$\mathfrak{R}_p = \bigoplus_{j=1}^{p-1} \mathfrak{R}_{p,j} \xrightarrow{\partial} I^p \xrightarrow{\pi} V^{\otimes p}$$

$$\{\tilde{\sigma}_{12} : Y_{345} : \tilde{\sigma}_{67} : \dots\} \rightarrow$$

$$\{\tilde{\sigma}_{12} : Y_{345} : \tilde{\sigma}_{67} : \dots\} \rightarrow \{a_{12}y_{345}a_{67} : \dots\}$$

Is every relation between the y_{ijk} 's and the c_{kl}^{ij} 's also a relation between the Y_{ijk} 's and the C_{kl}^{ij} 's?



Theorem S. Let D be the free associative algebra generated by symbols a_{ij} , y_{ijk} and c_{kl}^{ij} , where $1 \leq i, j, k, l \leq n$ are distinct integers. Let D_0 be the part of D with only a_{ij} symbols and let D_1 be the span of the monomials in D having only a_{ij} symbols, with exactly one exception that may be either a y_{ijk} or a c_{kl}^{ij} . Let $\partial : D_1 \rightarrow D_0$ be the map defined by

$$\begin{array}{l} y_{ijk} \mapsto [a_{ij}, a_{ik}] + [a_{ij}, a_{jk}] + [a_{ik}, a_{jk}], \\ c_{kl}^{ij} \mapsto [a_{ij}, a_{kl}]. \end{array}$$

Then $\ker \partial$ is generated by a family of elements readable from the picture above and by a few similar but lesser families.

Footnotes

1. Following a homonymous paper and thesis by Peter Lee [Lee]. All serious work here is his and was extremely patiently explained by him to DBN. Page design by the latter.
2. The ~~proof~~ ^{work} presented here is broken. Specifically, at the very end of the proof of the “general case” of Proposition 1 the sum that makes up $\ker \pi_{p-1}$ is interchanged with μ_F^{-1} . This is invalid; in general it is not true that $T^{-1}(U + V) = T^{-1}(U) + T^{-1}(V)$, when T is a linear transformation and U and V are subspaces of its target space. We thank Alexander Polishchuk for noting this gap. *more addy here*

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