

### The Pure Virtual Braid Group is Quadratic<sup>1</sup>

Abstract Generalities

Dror Bar-Natan and Peter Lee in Oregon, August 2011  
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 foots & refs on PDF version, page 3

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”; meaning  $K/I = \mathbb{F}$ .

**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  $A = q(K) = \langle V = I/I^2 \rangle / \langle \mathcal{R}_2 = \ker(\bar{\mu}_2 : V \otimes V \rightarrow I^2/I^3) \rangle$  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 “:” means  $\otimes_K$  and  $\mu$  is (always) multiplication):

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

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:

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

**Lemma.**  $I^p/\mu(I^{p+1}) \simeq (I/I^2)^{\otimes p} = V^{\otimes p}$ .

**Flow Chart.**

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    graph TD
      A[Any (K, I)] -- Prop 1 --> B[2-local]
      B -- Prop 2 --> C[Quadratic]
      D[K = PnBn] -- Thm S by Peter --> E[Hutchings' Criterion]
      E --> F[2-injective]
  
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**Proposition 1.** The sequence

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

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

**The Free Case.** If  $J$  is an augmentation ideal in  $K = F = \langle x_i \rangle$ , denote  $F \rightarrow F/J = \mathbb{F}$  by  $x \mapsto [x]$  and define  $\psi : F \rightarrow F$  by  $x_i \mapsto x_i + [x_i]$ . Then  $J_0 := \psi(J)$  is  $\{w \in F : \deg w > 0\}$ . For  $J_0$  it is easy to check that  $\mathcal{R}_2 = \mathcal{R}_p = 0$ , and hence the same is true for every  $J$ .

**The General Case.** If  $K = F/M$  and  $I \subset K$ , then  $I = J/M$  where  $J \subset F$ . Then  $I^p = J^p / \sum J^{j-1} : M : J^{p-j}$  and we have

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

So  $\ker(\mu) = \pi_p(\mu_F^{-1}(\ker \pi_{p-1})) = \pi_p(\sum \mu_F^{-1}(J^j : M : J^j)) = \sum \pi_p(J^j : \mu_F^{-1}(M) : J^j) = \sum I^j : \mathcal{R}_2 : I^j$ .

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

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

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

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

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

**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  $Z : K \rightarrow \hat{A}$ , becomes wonderful mathematics:

$K$	u-Knots and Braids	v-Knots	w-Knots
$A$	Metritized 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]

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

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

**The X Lemma** (inspired by [Hut]).

Michael Hutchings

If the above diagram is Conway ( $\simeq$ ) 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.**  $\frac{\ker(\beta_1 \circ \alpha_0)}{\ker \alpha_0} \xrightarrow{\alpha_0} \ker \beta_1 \cap \text{im } \alpha_0 \xrightarrow{\alpha_1} \ker \beta_0 \cap \text{im } \alpha_1 \xleftarrow{\alpha_1} \frac{\ker(\beta_0 \circ \alpha_1)}{\ker \alpha_1}$ .

**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” lifts to a “topological syzygy”.

**Conclusion.** We need to know that  $(K, I)$  is “syzygy complete” — that every diagrammatic syzygy lifts to a topological syzygy, that  $\ker(\pi \circ \partial) = \ker(\partial)$ . Namely, that every relation between the  $y_{j,k}^{ij}$ ’s and  $c_{kl}^{ij}$ ’s lifts to a relation between the  $Y_{j,k}^{ij}$ ’s and  $C_{kl}^{ij}$ ’s.

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.

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# The Pure Virtual Braid Group is Quadratic, II

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Example.

(goes back to [Koh])

$K = \left\langle \begin{array}{c} \diagup \\ \diagdown \end{array} \right\rangle$   $I = \left\langle \begin{array}{c} \diagup \\ \diagdown \end{array} \right\rangle = \left\langle \begin{array}{c} \diagdown \\ \diagup \end{array} \right\rangle$

T. Kohno

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

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

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

$A = q(K) = \left( \text{horizontal chord diagrams mod } 4T \right) = \langle \text{||} \text{||} \text{||} \text{||} \rangle_{4T}$

$\mathcal{R}_2(PvB_n)$  is generated by  $Y_{ijk} =$

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"):

$\sigma_{24} =$

R3:

The Main Theorem [Lee].  $PvB_n$  is quadratic.

$A_n = q(PvB_n)$ . [GPV] Goussarov-Polyak-Viro

$I =$  with  $\mathfrak{X} = \sigma_{ij} - 1 = \mathfrak{X} - \mathfrak{X}$ , the "semi-virtual crossing".

$V = I/I^2 = \langle \text{v-braids with one } \mathfrak{X} \rangle / (\mathfrak{X} = \mathfrak{X}) = \langle a_{ij} \rangle_{1 \leq i \neq j \leq n}$

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

$Y_{ijk} =$

$C_{ijk} =$

The group  $PvB_4$

Generators:  $\sigma_{ij} \rightarrow$

Relations:

$C_{ijk}^2 =$

$Y_{ijk} =$

A Szeggy:

$R_p \rightarrow I: P \rightarrow V^{\otimes p}$

$\{ \tilde{\sigma}_{12}, \tilde{\sigma}_{34}, \tilde{\sigma}_{13}, \tilde{\sigma}_{24}, \dots \} \rightarrow \{ a_{12}, a_{34}, a_{13}, a_{24}, \dots \}$

Is very relation between the  $Y_{ijk}$ 's &  $C_{ijk}$ 's  
 also a relation between the  $Y_{ijk}$ 's &  $C_{ijk}$ 's?

$I:3$ .

Figuring out  $\mathcal{R}_2$  and  $R_2$ .

$\ker \mu = \pi_2(\mu_F^{-1}(M))$

$J:2 \xrightarrow{\mu_F} J \supset M$

$\pi_2 \downarrow \quad \downarrow \pi_1$

$I:2 \xrightarrow{\mu} I = J/M$

is in principle computable, and then  $R_2$  follows as  $V^{\otimes 2} = (I/I^2)^{\otimes 2} = I:2/\mu_3(I:3)$ .

Just for fun.

$K = \{ \text{2D projections of reality} \}$

$K/K_1 \leftarrow K/K_2 \leftarrow K/K_3 \leftarrow K/K_4 \leftarrow \dots$

Crop Rotate Adjoin

An expansion  $Z$  is a choice of a "progressive scan" algorithm.

crop rotate adjoin

$K/K_1 \oplus K_1/K_2 \oplus K_2/K_3 \oplus K_3/K_4 \oplus K_4/K_5 \oplus K_5/K_6 \oplus \dots$

$\parallel$

$\mathbb{R}^3$   $\parallel$   $\ker(K/K_4 \rightarrow K/K_3)$