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# THE HOMOLOGY OF A FREE LOOP SPACE

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# THE HOMOLOGY OF A FREE LOOP SPACE

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Denote by  $X^{S^1}$  the space of all continuous maps from the circle into a simply connected finite CW complex, X. THEOREM: Let k be a field and suppose that either char  $k > \dim X$  or that X is kformal. Then the betti numbers  $b_q = \dim H_q(X^{S^1}; k)$  are uniformly bounded above if and only if the k-algebra  $H^*(X; k)$  is generated by a single cohomology class. COROLLARY: If, in addition, X is a smooth closed manifold and k is as in the theorem, and if  $H^*(X; k)$ is not generated by a single class then X has infinitely many distinct closed geodesics in any Riemannian metric.

1. Introduction. In this paper (co)homology is always singular and  $b_q(-; \Bbbk) = \dim H_q(-; \Bbbk)$  denotes the *qth betti number* with respect to a field  $\Bbbk$ . The *free loop space*,  $X^{S^1}$ , of a simply connected space, X, is the space of all continuous maps from the circle into X.

The study of the homology of  $X^{S^1}$  is motivated by the following result of Gromoll and Meyer:

**THEOREM** [16]. Assume that X is a simply connected, closed smooth manifold, and that for some field  $\Bbbk$  the betti numbers  $b_q(X^{S^1}; \Bbbk)$  are unbounded. Then X has infinitely many distinct closed geodesics in any Riemannian metric.

(The proof in [16] is for  $k = \mathbb{R}$ , but the arguments work in general.)

The Gromoll-Meyer theorem raises the problem of finding simple criteria on a topological space X which imply that the  $b_q(X^{S^1}; \Bbbk)$ are unbounded for some  $\Bbbk$ . This problem was solved for  $\Bbbk = \mathbb{Q}$  by Sullivan and Vigué-Poirrier [28]. They considered simply connected spaces X such that dim  $H^*(X; \mathbb{Q})$  was finite, and they showed that then the  $b_q(X^{S^1}; \mathbb{Q})$  were unbounded if and only if the cohomology algebra  $H^*(X; \mathbb{Q})$  was not generated by a single class. And they drew the obvious corollary following from the Gromoll-Meyer theorem. It is generally conjectured that the same phenomenon should hold in any characteristic; explicitly:

Conjecture. Suppose X is simply connected and, for some field k,  $H^*(X; k)$  is finite dimensional. Then the  $b_q(X^{S^1}; k)$  are unbounded if and only if the k-algebra  $H^*(X; k)$  is not generated by a single class.

One direction of the conjecture is trivial:

**REMARK.** If  $H^*(X; \Bbbk)$  is generated by a single class then the  $b_q(X^{S^1}; \Bbbk)$  are uniformly bounded. Indeed, consider the Eilenberg-Moore spectral sequence [12], [25] for the fibre square

$$X^{S^{1}} \longrightarrow X^{I}$$

$$\downarrow \qquad \qquad \qquad \downarrow^{\pi} , \qquad \pi f = (f(0), f(1)), \ \Delta x = (x, x),$$

$$X \longrightarrow X \times X$$

It converges from  $\operatorname{Tor}^{H\otimes H}(H, H)$  to  $H^*(X^{S^1}; \Bbbk)$ , where  $H = H^*(X; \Bbbk)$  is considered as a module over  $H \otimes H$  via  $(\alpha \otimes \beta) \cdot \gamma = (-1)^{\deg \beta \deg \gamma} \alpha \beta \gamma$ .

Now if H is generated by a single class then it is easy to compute  $\operatorname{Tor}^{H\otimes H}(H, H)$  explicitly and to see that  $b_q(X^{S^1}; \Bbbk) \leq 2$ , all q.  $\Box$ 

In this paper we establish the conjecture under an additional hypothesis; in particular we prove it for any X if  $H^i(X; \Bbbk) = 0$  for all  $i > \operatorname{char} \Bbbk$ . It was already known in some cases: for instance it was shown by L. Smith [26] in characteristic two when  $H^*(X; \mathbb{Z}_2)$  has the form  $\bigotimes_i \mathbb{Z}_2[x_i]/x_i^{n_i}$  and  $Sq^1 = 0$ . And McCleary and Ziller [20] and Ziller [30] have proved it for homogeneous spaces in all characteristics. Results have also been obtained by Anick [4] and Roos [24]. And McCleary [19] has established a weaker form of the conjecture: if  $\Omega X$  denotes the classical loop space of based maps  $S^1 \to X$  then the  $b_q(\Omega X; \Bbbk)$  are unbounded if and only if  $H^*(X; \Bbbk)$  is not generated by a single class.

To state our theorem we first set (for a given field k)

$$r_X + 1 = \inf\{i \ge 2 | H^i(X; \Bbbk) \neq 0\} \text{ and }$$
$$n_X = \sup\{i | H^i(X; \Bbbk) \neq 0\}.$$

Then we have

**THEOREM I.** Let X be a simply connected space and let  $\Bbbk$  be a field such that  $H^*(X; \Bbbk)$  is finite dimensional. Then the conjecture holds for X and for  $\Bbbk$  if either:

(A) char  $k \ge n_X/r_X$  or (B) X is k-formal ([3], [13]).

The Gromoll-Meyer theorem then implies the

COROLLARY. Let X be a simply connected closed manifold and let p > 0 be a prime. If  $H^*(X; \mathbb{Z}_p)$  is not generated by a single class, and if either  $p \ge n_X/r_X$  or X is p-formal then X has infinitely many distinct closed geodesics in any Riemannian metric.

The definition of k-formal will be recalled in §3. Here we limit ourselves to giving:

Examples of k-formal spaces. The class of k-formal spaces includes suspensions, and those spaces X for which  $\tilde{H}_i(X; \Bbbk)$  is zero if *i* is outside an interval of the form [k + 1, 3k + 1], and this class is closed under products and wedges—for all this see [3]. Manifolds X are k-formal if  $\tilde{H}_i(X; \Bbbk)$  is zero outside an interval of the form [k+1, 4k+2] ([13]) if char  $\Bbbk \neq 2$ , 3. And if X is a simply connected finite complex such that  $\tilde{H}_i(X, \Bbbk)$  is zero outside an interval of the form [k+1, 2k] then the boundary of a regular neighbourhood of X (embedded in a large  $\mathbb{R}^N$ ) is a k-formal manifold.

We turn now to the proof of Theorem I, which we shall outline here, the details following in §§2, 3, 4. We work henceforth over a fixed field k and denote  $\bigotimes_k$  and  $\operatorname{Hom}_k$  simply by  $\bigotimes$  and  $\operatorname{Hom}$ . The tensor algebra on a vector space, V, is denoted by T(V). We adopt the convention " $V^k = V_{-k}$ " to raise and lower degrees in graded vector spaces, V; in a differential graded vector space (DGV) the differential maps  $V_k \to V_{k-1}$  (and hence  $V^k \to V^{k+1}$ ). Differential graded algebras are called DGA's and a DGA morphism which induces an isomorphism of cohomology is called a DGA quism and denoted by  $\stackrel{\simeq}{\longrightarrow}$ .

Recall now that the Hochschild homology  $HH_*(A)$  of an algebra, A, is given by  $HH_*(A) = Tor^{A \otimes A^{opp}}(A, A)$ . If A is a DGA we shall use the same terminology:

$$\mathrm{HH}_*(A) = \mathrm{Tor}^{A \otimes A^{\mathrm{opp}}}(A, A)$$

denotes the Hochschild homology of A, where now Tor is the differential tor of Eilenberg-Moore [21]. When we want to emphasize that we are in the DGA case we write  $HH_*(A, d)$ . (Some authors call this Hochschild hyperhomology.)

The starting point for the proof of Theorem I is a result of Burghelea-Fiedorowicz [8] and Cohen [11] which asserts that

(1.1) 
$$H_*(X^{S'}; k) = HH_*(C_*(\Omega X; k), d),$$

where  $C_*(\Omega X; \Bbbk)$  is the DGA of singular chains on the Moore loop space of X. Thus if  $(T(V), d) \xrightarrow{\simeq} (C_*(\Omega X; \Bbbk), d)$  is an Adams-Hilton model [2] for X then we have

(1.2) 
$$H_*(X^{S'}; \Bbbk) \cong \operatorname{HH}_*(T(V), d),$$

because DGA quisms induce isomorphisms of Hochschild homology, as follows from the Eilenberg-Moore comparison theorem [21; Theorem 2.3].

Let  $(\Omega^*, d)$  be the DGA obtained by dualizing the bar construction on (T(V), d)—we recall the definition in §2. The main result (Theorem II) of §2 will show that

(1.3) 
$$\operatorname{HH}^*(\Omega^*, d) \cong \operatorname{Hom}(\operatorname{HH}_*(T(V), d), \Bbbk).$$

In §3, on the other hand, we observe that either of conditions (A) and (B) gives a DGA quism  $(\Omega^*, d) \xrightarrow{\simeq} (A, d)$ , where (A, d) is a commutative differential graded algebra (CDGA). In the case of condition (A) this follows from a deep theorem of Anick [4]; in the case of condition (B) it is a consequence of one of the equivalent definitions of k-formal ([3], [13]). In either case we again apply the comparison theorem of [21] to obtain

(1.4) 
$$\operatorname{HH}^*(\Omega^*, d) \cong \operatorname{HH}^*(A, d).$$

The isomorphisms (1.1), (1.2), (1.3) and (1.4) combine to yield

(1.5) 
$$\mathrm{H}^*(X^{S'}; \Bbbk) \cong \mathrm{H}\mathrm{H}^*(A, d).$$

As we note in §3, the CDGA (A, d) satisfies  $H(A) = H^*(X; \Bbbk)$ . Indeed when X is  $\Bbbk$ -formal  $(A, d) = (H^*(X; \Bbbk), 0)$  and so (1.5) becomes

$$\mathrm{H}^*(X^{S^1};\,\Bbbk)\cong\mathrm{H}\mathrm{H}^*(H^*(X;\,\Bbbk))\,,$$

in this case. This answers a question of Anick [3] in positive characteristic; in characteristic zero it has been proved by Vigué-Poirrier [29] and Anick [3]. The last step in the proof of Theorem I is the proof, in §4 of

**THEOREM III.** Let (A, d) be a CDGA such that  $H^{<0}(A) = 0$ ,  $H^{0}(A) = \Bbbk$ ,  $H^{1}(A) \doteq 0$  and H(A) is finite dimensional. Then the integers  $b_q = \dim HH^q(A, d)$  are unbounded if and only if H(A) is not generated by a single class.

The proof of Theorem III follows the lines of the proof in [28] when  $k = \mathbb{Q}$  via the construction of a Sullivan model for (A, d), but with additions and modifications to cover the problems caused by positive characteristic.

2. Hochschild homology. In this section we prove a result which implies (1.3), namely

THEOREM II. Suppose (R, d) is an augmented DGA such that  $H_{<0}(R) = 0$ ,  $H_0(R) = \Bbbk$  and each  $H_i(R)$  is finite dimensional. If  $(\Omega^*(R), d)$  is the DGA dual to the bar construction on (R, d) then

 $\operatorname{HH}^*(\Omega^*(R), d) \cong \operatorname{Hom}(\operatorname{HH}_*(R, d), \Bbbk).$ 

Before starting the proof, however, we recall some definitions and facts from or about:

(a) differential homological algebra, (b), the opposite of a DGA, (c) differential coalgebras and comodules and (d) bar constructions.

(a) Differential homological algebra ([21], [5], [14]). An (R, d)module is a DGV, (V, d), together with an R-module structure on V such that  $d(r \cdot v) = dr \cdot v + (-1)^{\deg r} r \cdot dv$ . It is semi-free if it is the increasing union of submodules  $V(0) \subset V(1) \subset \cdots$  such that V(0) and each V(i+1)/V(i) is R-free on a basis of cycles. For any (R, d)-module, (M, d) there is a morphism  $\phi: (V, d) \to (M, d)$ from a semi-free module (V, d) such that  $H(\phi)$  is an isomorphism; such a morphism is called a semi-free resolution of (M, d). Given any such resolution and any second (R, d)-module, (N, d), we have

$$\operatorname{Tor}^{R}(M, N) = H(V \otimes_{R} N).$$

(b) The opposite DGA. The opposite DGA,  $(R^{opp}, d)$ , has the same underlying differential graded vector space as (R, d), but the product " $\circ$ " is given by:  $r \circ r' = (-1)^{\deg r \deg r'} r' r$ . The enveloping DGA  $(R^e, d)$ , is then defined by  $(R^e, d) = (R, d) \otimes (R^{opp}, d)$  so that

$$(r_1 \otimes r_2)(r_3 \otimes r_4) = (-1)^{\deg r_2(\deg r_3 + \deg r_4)} r_1 r_3 \otimes r_4 r_2$$

Notice that multiplication makes (R, d) into a left  $(R^e, d)$ -module:  $(r_1 \otimes r_2) \cdot r = (-1)^{\deg r \deg r_2} r_1 r r_2$ ; similarly we can make (R, d) into a right  $(R^e, d)$ -module. (c) Differential comodules [21, §6]. A comodule over a differential graded coalgebra (DGC), (C, d) is a DGV, (W, d), together with a DGV morphism  $(W, d) \xrightarrow{\gamma} (W, d) \otimes (C, d)$  which makes W into a graded C-comodule. If (W, d) is also an (R, d)-module via  $\alpha: (R, d) \otimes (W, d) \rightarrow (W, d)$  then these structures are compatible if  $\gamma$  is an R-module map (equivalently  $\alpha$  is a C-comodule map).

If M and N are respectively a right and left (C, d)-comodule then their cotensor product,  $M \square_C N$  is the kernel of the DGV morphism  $\gamma_M \otimes 1 - 1 \otimes \gamma_N \colon M \otimes N \to M \otimes C \otimes N$ . If M has a compatible left (R, d)-module structure and if Q is any right (R, d)-module then a natural DGV map

(2.1) 
$$\omega: Q \otimes_R (M \square_C N) \to (Q \otimes_R M) \square_C N$$

is constructed as follows:

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Observe that  $M \square_C N$  is a sub (R, d)-module of  $M \otimes N$ , so that the inclusion induces  $\varphi : Q \otimes_R (M \square_C N) \to Q \otimes_R (M \otimes N)$ . Since clearly  $\gamma_{Q \otimes_R M} \otimes 1 - 1 \otimes \gamma_N$  vanishes on  $\operatorname{Im} \phi$ , we have  $\operatorname{Im} \phi \subset (Q \otimes_R M) \square_C N$ , and so (2.2) is defined by  $\phi$ .

(d) Bar constructions. Denote the augmentation ideal of R by  $\overline{R}$  and define a graded vector space  $s\overline{R}$  by  $(s\overline{R})_n = \overline{R}_{n-1}$ . The bar construction ([21], [29]) on (R, d), denoted by  $(BR, \delta)$ , is the DGC defined (modulo signs) by: BR is the tensor coalgebra on  $s\overline{R}$  (as usual  $sr_1 \otimes \cdots \otimes sr_n$  is written  $[sr_1|\cdots|sr_1]$ ) and

$$\delta[sr_1|\cdots|sr_n] = \sum_{i=1}^n \pm [sr_1|\cdots|sdr_i|\cdots|sr_n] + \sum_{i=1}^{n-1} \pm [sr_1|\cdots|s(r_ir_{i+1})|\cdots|sr_n].$$

The dual DGA, Hom $((BR, \delta); \Bbbk)$ , is denoted by  $(\Omega^*(R), d)$ .

From the bar construction one builds the classic acyclic construction  $(R \otimes BR, \nabla)$  given by  $\nabla = d \otimes 1 + 1 \otimes \delta + \tau$  with

$$\tau(r \otimes [sr_1| \cdots | sr_n]) = \pm rr_1 \otimes [sr_2| \cdots | sr_n].$$

It is in an obvious way a left (R, d)-module and a right  $(BR, \delta)$ comodule. Finally, we have the two-sided bar construction  $(R \otimes BR \otimes R^{\text{opp}}, D)$  with  $D = d \otimes 1 \otimes 1 + 1 \otimes \delta \otimes 1 + 1 \otimes 1 \otimes d + \theta$ , and

$$\theta(r \otimes [sr_1|\cdots|sr_n] \otimes r') = \pm rr_1 \otimes [sr_2|\cdots|sr_n] \otimes r' \\ \pm r \otimes [sr_1|\cdots|sr_{n-1}] \otimes r_nr'.$$

It is straightforward ([21; §6]) that the augmentation  $\varepsilon \colon BR \to \Bbbk$ , together with the multiplication map  $R \otimes R^{\text{opp}} \to R$  defines an  $(R^e, d)$ semi-free resolution  $(R \otimes BR \otimes R^{\text{opp}}, D) \to (R, d)$ . Thus

(2.2) 
$$H(R \otimes_{R^{e}} (R \otimes BR \otimes R^{opp})) = \operatorname{Tor}^{R \otimes R^{opp}}(R, R) = \operatorname{HH}_{*}(R, d),$$

and indeed this was the original definition of Hochschild homology.

These constructions may also be applied to  $(R^{\text{opp}}, d)$  to yield the DGC  $(B(R^{\text{opp}}, d), \delta)$  and the acyclic construction  $(R^{\text{opp}} \otimes B(R^{\text{opp}}), \nabla)$ . Moreover a DGC isomorphism,  $\omega: (B(R^{\text{opp}}), \delta) \rightarrow ((BR)^{\text{opp}}, \delta)$ , onto the opposite DGC is defined by

$$\omega[sr_1|\cdots|sr_n] = (-1)^k[sr_n|\cdots|sr_1], \quad k = \sum_{i< j} (\deg sr_i)(\deg sr_j).$$

Thus  $1 \otimes \omega$  converts  $(R^{opp} \otimes B(R^{opp}), \nabla)$  into a DGV,  $(R^{opp} \otimes (BR)^{opp}, \nabla')$ , which is both an  $(R^{opp}, d)$ -module and an  $((BR^{opp}, \delta)$ -comodule.

We come now to the

Proof of Theorem II. As in [6] there is DGA quism of the form  $(T(V), d) \xrightarrow{\simeq} (R, d)$  with  $v_i = 0$ ,  $i \le 0$ , and each  $V_i$  finite dimensional. By the Eilenberg-Moore comparison theorem [21; Theorem 2.3]  $\Omega^*$  preserves quisms and HH<sup>\*</sup> converts quisms to isomorphisms. We may thus replace (R, d) by (T(V), d) and assume that

(2.3)  $R = R_{\geq 0}, R_0 = k$  and each  $R_i$  is finite dimensional.

Now let  $((BR)^e, \delta)$  denote the DGC  $(BR, \delta) \otimes ((BR)^{opp}, \delta)$  and set

 $M(R) = (R \otimes BR \otimes R^{\mathrm{opp}} \otimes (BR)^{\mathrm{opp}}, \nabla \otimes 1 + 1 \otimes \nabla').$ 

Evidently M(R) has compatible left  $(R^e, d)$ -module and right  $((BR)^e, \delta)$ -comodule structures. Moreover, we have

LEMMA 2.4. For any right  $(R^e, d)$ -module, Q, and any left  $((BR)^e, \delta)$ -comodule N the natural DGV map

$$\omega \colon Q \otimes_{R^e} (M(R) \square_{(BR)^e} N) \to (Q \otimes_{R^e} M(R)) \square_{(BR)^e} N$$

is an isomorphism.

*Proof of* (2.4). We may ignore differentials and write  $M(R) = R^e \otimes (BR)^e$ . The standard isomorphism  $(BR)^e \square_{(BR)^e} N \cong N$  gives an isomorphism

(2.5) 
$$M(R) \square_{(BR)^e} N \cong R^e \otimes N$$

of  $R^e$  modules. Analogously, we have a  $(BR)^e$ -comodule isomorphism

$$(2.6) Q \otimes_{R^e} M(R) \cong Q \otimes (BR)^e .$$

Using (2.5) and (2.6) one easily identifies  $\omega$  with the identity of  $Q \otimes N$ .

We apply Lemma 2.4 with Q = (R, d) and  $N = (BR, \delta)$ , the module (resp., comodule) structures being defined by multiplication (resp., comultiplication) as described in (b) above. Notice that (2.5) becomes

$$M(R) \square_{(BR)^e} BR \cong R^e \otimes BR \cong R \otimes BR \otimes R^{\operatorname{opp}};$$

according to [17; Lemma 2.01] the differential induced thereby in  $R \otimes BR \otimes R^{\text{opp}}$  is that of the two-sided bar construction. Thus (cf. (2.2))

$$H(R \otimes_{R^e} (M(R) \square_{(BR)^e} BR)) \cong \operatorname{Tor}^{R \otimes R^{opp}}(R, R).$$

For simplicity denote the graded dual of a graded vector space by  $V^{\#} = \operatorname{Hom}(V, \Bbbk)$ . Thus  $(\Omega^*(R), d) = (BR, \delta)^{\#}$ . Because of our assumption (2.3) both R and BR are concentrated in degrees  $\ge 0$ , and are finite dimensional in each degree. For such spaces # commutes with  $\otimes$  so that, for instance,  $([\Omega^*(R)]^e, d) = ((BR)^e, \delta)^{\#}$ . Thus we deduce from Lemma 2.4 that

(2.7) 
$$\operatorname{HH}_{*}(R, d)^{\#} \cong H^{*}\{[(R \otimes_{R^{e}} M(R)) \Box_{(BR)^{e}} BR]^{\#}\}.$$

Write  $Y = [R \otimes_{R^e} M(R)]^{\#}$ . We shall show that Y is an  $(\Omega^*(R)^e, d)$  semi-free resolution of  $\Omega^*(R)$ . Since

$$\left[\left(R\otimes_{R^{e}}M(R)\right)\Box_{(BR)^{e}}BR\right]^{\#}=Y\otimes_{\Omega^{*}(R)^{e}}\Omega^{*}(R),$$

it will then follow from (2.7) that  $HH_*(R, d)^{\#} = HH^*(\Omega^*(R), d)$ , as desired.

That Y is  $(\Omega^*(R)^e, d)$ -semi-free can be seen by filtering it by the spaces  $F_j$  of functions vanishing on  $[R_{\geq j} + d(R_j)] \otimes_{R^e} M(R)$ . And a homology isomorphism  $Y \to \Omega^*(R)$  of  $(\Omega^*(R)^e, d)$ -modules is defined by dualizing the diagonal  $BR \to BR \otimes BR$ , regarded as a map

$$BR 
ightarrow 1 \otimes (BR)^e \subset R \otimes_{R^e} M(R)$$
 .

# 3. Reduction to the commutative case. Let

$$(T(V), d) \xrightarrow{\simeq} (C_*(\Omega X; \Bbbk), d)$$

be an Adams-Hilton model [2] for a space X satisfying the conditions of the conjecture, and denote the dual of the bar construction on

(T(V), d) by  $(\Omega^*, d)$ . In this section we prove

**PROPOSITION 3.1.** If X satisfies condition (A) or condition (B) of Theorem I then there is a DGA quism  $(\Omega^*, d) \xrightarrow{\simeq} (A, d)$  with (A, d)a CDGA and  $H(A) \cong H^*(X; \Bbbk)$ . If condition (B) holds,  $(A, d) = (H^*(X; \Bbbk), 0)$ .

*Proof.* The main result of [4] asserts that if (A) holds then the differential in the Adams-Hilton model may be chosen so as to map Vinto the sub Lie algebra  $L \subset T(V)$  generated by V. This identifies (T(V), d) as the universal enveloping algebra, U(L, d) of the DGL (differential graded Lie algebra) (L, d).

Recall that the bar construction is a tensor coalgebra, and in particular contains the sub-coalgebra, S, of symmetric (in the graded sense) tensors. In particular, we have  $S(sL) \subset S(s(UL_+)) \subset B(UL)$ . As in the case of characteristic zero ([23; Appendix B], [10]), S(sL) is a sub DGC of B(UL) and the inclusion  $S(sL) \rightarrow B(UL)$  is a homology isomorphism [22]. Dualizing this gives a quism from  $(\Omega^*, d)$  to the CDGA  $S(sL)^{\#}$ . On the other hand [1]  $(C_*(\Omega X; \Bbbk), d)$  is connected by DGA quisms to the cobar construction on  $(C_*(X; \Bbbk), d)$ , and hence to  $\Omega^*(C^*(X; \Bbbk), d)$ . Thus  $\Omega^*(T(V), d)$  is connected by quisms to  $\Omega^*\Omega^*(C^*(X; \Bbbk), d)$ , and so by [21; Theorem 6.2] we have  $H(A) \cong H(\Omega^*(T(V), d)) \cong H^*(X; \Bbbk)$ .

Now suppose X satisfies condition (B); i.e., X is k-formal. One of the equivalent definitions of this is ([3], [13]) that X have an Adams-Hilton model which is the dual of the bar construction on  $H^*(X; \Bbbk)$ :  $(T(V), d) = \Omega^*(H^*(X; \Bbbk), 0)$ . Thus  $(\Omega^*, d) =$  $\Omega^*(\Omega^*(H^*(X; \Bbbk), 0))$  and by [21; Theorem 6.2] this maps by a quism to  $(H^*(X; \Bbbk), 0)$ :  $(\Omega^*, d) \xrightarrow{\simeq} (H^*(X; \Bbbk), 0)$ .

# 4. The commutative case. In this section we prove

**THEOREM III.** Let (A, d) be a CDGA such that  $H^{<0}(A) = 0$ ,  $H^{0}(A) = \Bbbk$ ,  $H^{1}(A) = 0$  and H(A) is finite dimensional. Then the integers  $b_q = \dim HH^q(A, d)$  are unbounded if and only if H(A) is not generated by a single class.

*Proof.* As in the rational case ([27], [7], [18]) it is straightforward to construct a DGA quism of the form

$$(\Lambda V, d) \xrightarrow{\simeq} (A, D)$$

in which:  $V = V^{\geq 2}$  is a graded vector space,  $\Lambda V =$  exterior algebra  $(V^{\text{odd}})\otimes$  symmetric algebra  $(V^{\text{even}})$  and  $\text{Im } d \subset (\Lambda V)^+ \cdot (\Lambda V)^+$ . Using the Eilenberg-Moore comparison theorem [21; Theorem 2.3] we replace (A, d) by  $(\Lambda V, d)$ .

The same argument as given in [28] for  $k = \mathbb{Q}$  now establishes

LEMMA 4.1. The algebra  $H(\Lambda V)$  is generated by a single class if and only if dim  $V^{\text{odd}} \leq 1$ .

If, moreover,  $H(\Lambda V)$  is generated by a single class then the hypothesis dim  $H(\Lambda V) < \infty$  implies, in view of (4.1) that the only possibilities for  $(\lambda V, d)$  are: V = 0, V = (x) with deg x odd, or V = (x, y) with  $dy = x^k$  and deg y odd. In all these cases there is an obvious quism  $(\Lambda V, d) \xrightarrow{\simeq} (H(\Lambda V), 0)$ , which induces an isomorphism of Hochschild homology. Now a direct calculation shows dim  $HH^q(H(\Lambda V), 0) \le 2$  for all q.

It remains to show that the  $HH^q(\Lambda V, d)$  have unbounded dimensions if dim  $V^{\text{odd}} \ge 2$ . Recall that sV is the graded space given by  $(sV)_{k+1} = V_k$ ; thus  $(sV)^k = V^{k+1}$ . Denote by  $\Gamma(sV)$  the free divided powers algebra on sV, [9], and denote the *i*th divided power of sx by  $\gamma_i(sx)$ .

Consider the multiplication homomorphism,

 $\phi\colon (\Lambda V\,,\,d)\otimes (\Lambda V\,,\,d)\to (\Lambda V\,,\,d)\,.$ 

According to [15; Proposition 1.9],  $\phi$  extends to a DGA quism of the form

(4.2) 
$$\phi: (\Lambda V \otimes \Lambda V \otimes \Gamma(sV), D) \xrightarrow{\simeq} (\Lambda V, d)$$

in which

(4.3)  $\phi(\Gamma(sV)^+) = 0,$ 

(4.4) 
$$\operatorname{Im} D \subset (\Lambda V \otimes \Lambda V)^+ \otimes \Gamma(sV) \text{ and}$$

(4.5) 
$$D(\gamma_i(sx)) = D(sx) \cdot \gamma_{i-1}(sx).$$

For ease of notation denote the algebra  $\Lambda V \otimes \Lambda V \otimes \Gamma(sV)$  by  $\Sigma(V)$ , and for  $\Phi \in \Lambda V$  write  $\Phi' = \Phi \otimes 1 \otimes 1$  and  $\Phi'' = 1 \otimes \Phi \otimes 1$ . Then the model (4.2) also satisfies:

(4.6) For 
$$x \in V^n$$
,  $Dsx - (x' - x'') \in \Sigma(V^{< n})$ .

Now choose a basis  $x_1, x_2, ..., x_m, y, x_{m+1}, ..., x_i, ...$  in which deg  $x_1 \le \cdots \le \deg x_m \le \deg y \le \cdots \le \deg x_i \le \cdots$ , and y is the first basis element of odd degree. (All other basis elements are denoted by  $x_j$ , some j.)

LEMMA 4.7. The differential D in  $\Sigma(V)$  can be chosen so that  $Dsy-(y'-y'') \in \Sigma(x_1, \ldots, x_m)$  and for all i,  $Dsx_i - (x'_i - x''_i)$  is in the ideal generated by the  $x'_j$ ,  $x''_j$  and  $\Gamma(sx_j)^+$ , j < i.

*Proof.* D is constructed inductively on n; if it has already been defined in  $s(V^{\leq n})$  then there is always a linear map of degree zero,

$$f: V^{n+1} \to \Sigma(V^{\leq n}) \cap \ker \phi$$

such that  $dv' - dv'' - Df(v) \equiv 0$  and given any such f, D may be extended to  $\Sigma(V^{\leq n+1})$  by setting

$$D(sv) = v' - v'' - f(v), \qquad v \in V^{n+1}.$$

Now notice that because  $V^1 = 0$  and  $\operatorname{Im} d \subset (\Lambda V)^+ \cdot (\Lambda V)^+$  it follows that  $dy \in \Lambda(x_1, \ldots, x_m)$  and  $dx_i$  is in the ideal generated by the  $x_j$ , j < i. Moreover, that  $Dsy - (y' - y'') \in \Sigma(x_1, \ldots, x_m)$  is immediate from (4.6) as is  $Dsx_i - (x'_i - x''_i) \in \Sigma(x_1, \ldots, x_{i-1})$  for  $i \leq m$ .

Suppose then that the lemma is proved for some  $x_1, \ldots, x_i$ ,  $i \ge m$ . Let  $I \subset \Sigma(x_1, \ldots, x_m, y, \ldots, x_i)$  be the ideal generated by the  $\Sigma(x_j)^+$ ,  $j \le i$ . Since

$$dx_j \in \Lambda^+(x_1, y, \ldots, x_{j-1}) \cdot \Lambda^+(x_1, \ldots, y, \ldots, x_{j-1})$$

it follows from our induction hypothesis on  $Dsx_j$  and from (4.5) that D maps I to itself. Dividing by I gives us a CDGA of the form  $(\Sigma(y), \overline{D})$  and a commutative diagram of CDGA morphisms

in which

$$\phi(y') = \phi(y'') = y, \quad \phi(\gamma_i(sy)) = 0 \quad \text{and} \\ \overline{D}(\gamma_i(sy)) = (y' - y'')\gamma_{i-1}(sy).$$

As described at the start of the proof, there is always an element  $w \in \Sigma(x_1, \ldots, y, \ldots, x_i) \cap \ker \phi$  such that  $dx'_{i+1} - dx''_{i+1} - Dw = 0$ , and D may be extended to  $\Sigma(x_1, \ldots, x_{i+1})$  by setting  $Dsx_{i+1} = x'_{i+1} - x''_{i+1} - w$ . And for any such w,

$$\overline{D}\rho w = \rho D w = \rho (dx'_{i+1} - dx''_{i+2}) = 0,$$

since  $dx'_{i+1}$  and  $dx''_{i+1}$  are in *I*. Moreover  $\phi \rho w = \rho \phi w = 0$ . Since  $\phi: (\Sigma y, \overline{D}) \to (\Lambda y, 0)$  is a surjective quism it follows that  $\rho w = \overline{D}u$ , some  $u \in \ker \phi \cap \Sigma y$ .

Regard *u* as an element of ker  $\phi \cap \Sigma(x_1, \ldots, y, x_i)$  via the inclusion of  $\Sigma y$ . Then  $\rho(w - Du) = 0$ ,  $\phi(w - Du) = D\phi u = 0$  and so we may define  $Dsx_{i+1} = x'_{i+1} - x''_{i+1} - w + Du$ . Now we have  $\rho(w - Du) = \rho w - \overline{D}u = 0$  and so  $Dsx_{i+1} - (x'_{i+1} - x''_{i+1}) \in I$ , as desired.

We now return to the proof of Theorem III. It follows from (4.5) and (4.6) that the quism  $\phi: (\Lambda V \otimes \Lambda V \otimes \Gamma(sV), D) \to (\Lambda V, d)$  is a  $(\Lambda V, d) \otimes (\Lambda V, d)$ -semi-free resolution. Hence

$$\mathrm{HH}^*(\Lambda V, d) = H(\Lambda V \otimes_{\Lambda V \otimes \Lambda V} (\Lambda V \otimes \Lambda V \otimes \Gamma(sV))) = H(\Lambda V \otimes \Gamma(sV)).$$

Denote the differential in  $\Lambda V \otimes \Gamma(sV)$  by  $\delta$ . Lemma 4.7 shows that  $\delta(sx_i)$  is in the ideal generated by the  $x_j$  and  $\Gamma(sx_j)$ , j < i. Let  $z = x_{n+1}$   $(n \ge m)$  be the first  $x_i$  of odd degree and divide  $\Lambda V \otimes \Gamma(sV)$  by the ideal generated by the  $x_j$ ,  $j \le n$ .

This produces a CDGA of the form  $(\Lambda(y, z, x_{n+2}, ...) \otimes \Gamma(sV), \overline{\delta})$ . The same argument as given in [28] shows that if this CDGA has unbounded betti numbers then so does  $(\Lambda V \otimes \Gamma(sV), \delta)$ , as desired. But by Lemma 4.7,  $\overline{\delta}sx_i$  is in the ideal generated by  $sx_1, ..., sx_{i-1}$ , for  $i \leq n$ . Moreover  $\Gamma(sx_i) =$  the exterior algebra  $\Lambda(sx_i)$  because deg  $sx_i$  is odd. Hence  $sx_1 \wedge \cdots \wedge sx_n$  is a cycle.

And since  $\delta(sy)$  and  $\delta(sz)$  are also in the ideal generated by  $sx_1, \ldots, sx_n$  it follows from (4.5) that the elements  $sx_1 \wedge \cdots \wedge sx_n \wedge \gamma_i(sy) \wedge \gamma_j(sz)$  are all  $\overline{\delta}$ -cycles. Under the projection  $\Lambda V \otimes \Gamma(sV) \rightarrow \Gamma(sV)$  these elements map to linearly independent homology classes, since the differential included in  $\Gamma(sV)$  is zero, by (4.4). Thus they represent linearly independent classes in  $H(\Lambda(y, z, \ldots) \otimes \Gamma(sV), \overline{\delta})$ , and hence the betti numbers of  $(\Lambda(y, z, \ldots) \otimes \Gamma(sV), \overline{\delta})$  are indeed unbounded.

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