

# Homological perturbation theory for algebras over operads

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We extend homological perturbation theory to encompass algebraic structures governed by operads and cooperads. The main difficulty is to find a suitable notion of algebra homotopy that generalizes to algebras over operads  $\mathcal{O}$ . To solve this problem, we introduce *thick maps of  $\mathcal{O}$ -algebras* and special thick maps that we call *pseudo-derivations* that serve as appropriate generalizations of algebra homotopies for the purposes of homological perturbation theory.

As an application, we derive explicit formulas for transferring  $\Omega(\mathcal{C})$ -algebra structures along contractions, where  $\mathcal{C}$  is any connected cooperad in chain complexes. This specializes to transfer formulas for  $\mathcal{O}_\infty$ -algebras for any Koszul operad  $\mathcal{O}$ , in particular for  $A_\infty$ -,  $C_\infty$ -,  $L_\infty$ - and  $G_\infty$ -algebras. A key feature is that our formulas are expressed in terms of the compact description of  $\Omega(\mathcal{C})$ -algebras as coderivation differentials on cofree  $\mathcal{C}$ -coalgebras. Moreover, we get formulas not only for the transferred structure and a structure on the inclusion, but also for structures on the projection and the homotopy.

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## 1 Introduction

Perturbation methods have proved to be very useful in algebraic topology, homological algebra and deformation theory; see E Brown [4], R Brown [5], Gugenheim [11], Halperin and Stasheff [15], Hess [16], Huebschmann and Kadeishvili [20], Huebschmann and Stasheff [21], Johansson, Lambe and Sköldbberg [22], Lambe and Stasheff [26], and Schlessinger and Stasheff [32]. Homological perturbation theory suffers from the defect of not handling algebra structures where symmetries play a role well, such as Lie or commutative algebras, or more generally algebras over an operad  $\mathcal{O}$  in chain complexes. The lack of a good notion of “algebra homotopy” for these types of algebras has obstructed the theory’s effectiveness; see for instance Gugenheim, Lambe and Stasheff [14, Remark, end of Section 2.2], Huebschmann and Stasheff [21] or Huebschmann [17, Remark 12.2].

The goal of this paper is to solve this problem. We do this by introducing the notion of *thick maps* of  $\mathcal{O}$ -algebras. Thick maps are a simultaneous generalization of morphisms and derivations. We single out special thick maps that we call *pseudo-derivations*, and we show that these are appropriate generalizations of algebra homotopies for the purposes of homological perturbation theory. Our main technical results are the “ $\mathcal{O}$ -algebra perturbation lemma” (Theorem 1.1) and the “ $\mathcal{O}$ -algebra tensor trick” (Theorem 1.2).

A classical application of homological perturbation theory is the streamlined proof of the transfer theorem for  $A_\infty$ -algebras; see [14, Section 4.2]. Due to the defect mentioned above, it has not been possible to treat more general types of strong homotopy algebras in the same way. But as an application of the results presented here, we obtain simple and explicit formulas for transferring  $\mathcal{O}_\infty$ -algebra structures along contractions, or more generally  $\Omega(\mathcal{C})$ -algebra structures for any connected cooperad  $\mathcal{C}$ ; see Theorem 1.3 (if  $\mathcal{C} = \mathcal{O}^i$  is the Koszul dual cooperad of a Koszul operad  $\mathcal{O}$ , then  $\Omega(\mathcal{C}) = \mathcal{O}_\infty$ ). A key feature is that our formulas are expressed in terms of the compact description of  $\Omega(\mathcal{C})$ -algebras as coderivation differentials on cofree  $\mathcal{C}$ -coalgebras. Another feature is that we obtain explicit formulas not only for the transferred  $\Omega(\mathcal{C})$ -algebra structure, but for  $\Omega(\mathcal{C})$ -structures on all maps in the contraction. A curious discovery is that the structures on the projection and the homotopy depend on the choice of pseudo-derivation extending the original homotopy, whereas the transferred structure and the structure on the inclusion do not; see Theorem 1.4. This observation seems to be new even in the case of  $A_\infty$ -algebras.

We should point out that *existence* of a transferred structure is well known and follows from general principles (see Berger and Moerdijk [2], Boardman and Vogt [3], Johnson and Yau [23] and Markl [30]), essentially because operads of the form  $\Omega(\mathcal{C})$  are cofibrant. But such abstract considerations do not yield tractable explicit formulas. Explicit formulas for transferring  $\mathcal{O}_\infty$ -algebra structures, for a Koszul operad  $\mathcal{O}$ , have been obtained independently by Loday and Vallette [28, Theorem 10.3.3]. The advantage of our approach is that we obtain simple and transparent formulas in terms of the compact description of  $\mathcal{O}_\infty$ -algebras as coderivation differentials on cofree  $\mathcal{O}^i$ -coalgebras. The compact description is for many purposes the most convenient one to work with, and it is desirable to have a transfer theorem in this form. Furthermore, we can recover the Loday–Vallette formulas from our formulas; see Theorem 1.4.

A perturbation lemma for cocommutative coalgebras, yielding transfer of  $L_\infty$ -algebra structures, has been obtained by Huebschmann [18; 19] using different methods.

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**Statement of results**

Let us first introduce the two new notions: *thick maps* and *pseudo-derivations*.

**Definition 1.1** Let  $A$  and  $B$  be chain complexes over a commutative ring  $\mathbb{k}$ . A *thick map*  $f: A \rightarrow B$  is a sequence of maps of the same degree  $|f|$ ,

$$f_n: A^{\otimes n} \rightarrow B^{\otimes n}, \quad n \geq 0.$$

We say that  $f$  is a *symmetric thick map* if each  $f_n$  is equivariant with respect to the action of the symmetric group  $\Sigma_n$  permuting tensor factors. If  $A$  and  $B$  are algebras over an operad  $\mathcal{O}$  then we say that  $f$  is a *thick map of  $\mathcal{O}$ -algebras* if  $f_1 \mu_A = (-1)^{|f||\mu|} \mu_B f_n$  for all  $\mu \in \mathcal{O}(n)$ .

Thick maps of  $\mathcal{O}$ -algebras are a simultaneous generalization of morphisms and derivations. Indeed, morphisms of  $\mathcal{O}$ -algebras may be identified with thick maps of  $\mathcal{O}$ -algebras  $f: A \rightarrow B$  that satisfy  $f_{p+q} = f_p \otimes f_q$ , and derivations may be identified with thick maps of  $\mathcal{O}$ -algebras  $d: A \rightarrow A$  that satisfy  $d_{p+q} = d_p \otimes \mathbf{1} + \mathbf{1} \otimes d_q$ ; see Proposition 7.1. Levelwise composition, addition and differentiation of thick maps make  $\mathcal{O}$ -algebras together with thick maps of  $\mathcal{O}$ -algebras into a dg-category, ie a category enriched in chain complexes. Just as in any dg-category, a *contraction* is a diagram

$$\mathcal{D}: \quad \mathbf{h} \begin{array}{c} \curvearrowright \\ \curvearrowleft \end{array} A \begin{array}{c} \xrightarrow{f} \\ \xleftarrow{g} \end{array} B,$$

where  $|f| = |g| = 0$ ,  $|\mathbf{h}| = 1$  and

$$\begin{aligned} \partial(f) &= \mathbf{0}, & \partial(g) &= \mathbf{0}, & \partial(\mathbf{h}) &= \mathbf{g}f - \mathbf{1}, \\ fg &= \mathbf{1}, & fh &= \mathbf{0}, & hh &= \mathbf{0}, & hg &= \mathbf{0}. \end{aligned}$$

**Definition 1.2** (Contraction of  $\mathcal{O}$ -algebras) If  $A$  and  $B$  are  $\mathcal{O}$ -algebras, then we say that a contraction  $\mathcal{D}$  is a *contraction of  $\mathcal{O}$ -algebras* if  $f, g$  are morphisms and if  $\mathbf{h}$  is a *pseudo-derivation*, by which we mean that

$$\begin{aligned} (\mathbf{h}_p \otimes \mathbf{1} - \mathbf{1} \otimes \mathbf{h}_q) \mathbf{h}_{p+q} &= \mathbf{h}_p \otimes \mathbf{h}_q, \\ \mathbf{h}_{p+q} (\mathbf{h}_p \otimes \mathbf{1} - \mathbf{1} \otimes \mathbf{h}_q) &= -\mathbf{h}_p \otimes \mathbf{h}_q \end{aligned}$$

for all  $p, q \geq 0$ .

When  $\mathcal{O}$  is the operad governing associative algebras, pseudo-derivations generalize algebra homotopies in the sense of [14; 20] (see Proposition 4.2), and the following theorem is a generalization of the ‘‘algebra perturbation lemma’’ [20, (2.1\*)]. A *perturbation* of an  $\mathcal{O}$ -algebra  $A$  is a derivation  $\mathbf{t}: A \rightarrow A$  satisfying  $\partial(\mathbf{t}) + \mathbf{t}^2 = \mathbf{0}$ .

**Theorem 1.1** ( *$\mathcal{O}$ -algebra perturbation lemma*) *Let  $\mathcal{D}$  be a contraction of  $\mathcal{O}$ -algebras. If  $\mathbf{t}$  is a perturbation of  $A$  then, provided the series  $\mathbf{t} + \mathbf{t}\mathbf{h}\mathbf{t} + \dots$  converges, the recursive formulas*

$$\begin{aligned} \mathbf{f}' &= \mathbf{f} + \mathbf{f}'\mathbf{t}\mathbf{h}, & \mathbf{g}' &= \mathbf{g} + \mathbf{h}\mathbf{t}\mathbf{g}', \\ \mathbf{h}' &= \mathbf{h} + \mathbf{h}'\mathbf{t}\mathbf{h}, & \mathbf{t}' &= \mathbf{f}\mathbf{t}\mathbf{g}', \end{aligned}$$

define a perturbation  $\mathbf{t}'$  of  $B$  and a contraction of  $\mathcal{O}$ -algebras

$$\mathcal{D}^{\mathbf{t}'}: \mathbf{h}' \circlearrowleft (A, d_A + \mathbf{t}_1) \begin{matrix} \xrightarrow{\mathbf{f}'} \\ \xleftarrow{\mathbf{g}'} \end{matrix} (B, d_B + \mathbf{t}'_1).$$

In particular,  $\mathbf{f}'$ ,  $\mathbf{g}'$  are morphisms,  $\mathbf{t}'$  is a derivation and  $\mathbf{h}'$  is a pseudo-derivation.

There is also a dual of [Theorem 1.1](#) for coalgebras over cooperads; see [Theorem 9.1](#). In practice, convergence is often ensured by having suitable filtrations on the objects.

Another interesting feature of thick maps is that they provide means of linearizing nonadditive functors. More precisely, we show that the free  $\mathcal{O}$ -algebra functor  $\mathcal{O}[A] = \bigoplus_{n \geq 0} \mathcal{O}(n) \otimes_{\Sigma_n} A^{\otimes n}$  extends to a dg-functor  $\mathcal{O}_\bullet[-]$  from the dg-category of chain complexes and symmetric thick maps to the dg-category of  $\mathcal{O}$ -algebras and symmetric thick maps of  $\mathcal{O}$ -algebras; see [Proposition 8.1](#). A consequence of this is the following theorem, which is a generalization of the ‘‘tensor trick’’; see [\[20; 14\]](#).

**Theorem 1.2** ( *$\mathcal{O}$ -algebra tensor trick*) *Consider a contraction of chain complexes*

$$\mathcal{D}: \mathbf{h} \circlearrowleft A \begin{matrix} \xrightarrow{f} \\ \xleftarrow{g} \end{matrix} B.$$

If  $\mathbf{h}$  is a symmetric pseudo-derivation such that  $\mathbf{h}_1 = \mathbf{h}$  and  $\partial(\mathbf{h}) = \mathbf{g}\mathbf{f} - \mathbf{1}$ ,  $\mathbf{h}\mathbf{h} = \mathbf{0}$ ,  $\mathbf{f}\mathbf{h} = \mathbf{0}$ ,  $\mathbf{h}\mathbf{g} = \mathbf{0}$ , where  $\mathbf{f}_n = \mathbf{f}^{\otimes n}$  and  $\mathbf{g}_n = \mathbf{g}^{\otimes n}$ , then there is an induced contraction of  $\mathcal{O}$ -algebras

$$\mathcal{O}_\bullet[\mathcal{D}]: \mathcal{O}_\bullet[\mathbf{h}] \circlearrowleft \mathcal{O}[A] \begin{matrix} \xrightarrow{\mathcal{O}_\bullet[\mathbf{f}]} \\ \xleftarrow{\mathcal{O}_\bullet[\mathbf{g}]} \end{matrix} \mathcal{O}[B].$$

If  $\mathcal{O}$  is a nonsymmetric operad, then one may drop the condition that  $\mathbf{h}$  be symmetric. There is always a nonsymmetric pseudo-derivation  $\mathbf{h}$  with the requisite properties, namely

$$\mathbf{h}_n = \sum_{p+1+q=n} 1^{\otimes p} \otimes \mathbf{h} \otimes (\mathbf{g}\mathbf{f})^{\otimes q}.$$

If  $\mathbb{k}$  contains the rational numbers  $\mathbb{Q}$  as a subring then, with  $\mathbf{h}_n$  as above,

$$\mathbf{h}_n^\Sigma = \frac{1}{n!} \sum_{\sigma \in \Sigma_n} \sigma^{-1} \mathbf{h}_n \sigma$$

defines a symmetric pseudo-derivation  $\mathbf{h}^\Sigma$  with the requisite properties.

We also give the dual of [Theorem 1.2](#) for cooperads; see [Theorem 9.2](#). If we demand the existence of a symmetric pseudo-derivation with the requisite properties for *any* given contraction, then the condition  $\mathbb{Q} \subseteq \mathbb{k}$  is necessary; see [Proposition 8.2](#).

### Application: Transfer theorem

Let  $\mathcal{C}$  be a cooperad, which we assume to be *connected* in the sense that  $\mathcal{C}(0) = 0$  and  $\mathcal{C}(1) = \mathbb{k}$ . For a chain complex  $A$ , the “cofree  $\mathcal{C}$ -coalgebra” is defined as

$$\mathcal{C}[A] = \bigoplus_{n \geq 0} \mathcal{C}(n) \otimes_{\Sigma_n} A^{\otimes n}.$$

Elements of the  $n^{\text{th}}$  summand are said to be of *weight*  $n$ . Let  $\Omega(\mathcal{C})$  denote the cobar construction on  $\mathcal{C}$ . An  $\Omega(\mathcal{C})$ -algebra structure on a chain complex  $A$  may be identified with a weight decreasing coderivation perturbation  $t$  of  $\mathcal{C}[A]$ ; see [Section 11](#). The *bar construction* of an  $\Omega(\mathcal{C})$ -algebra  $(A, t)$  is the  $\mathcal{C}$ -coalgebra

$$\mathbb{B}(A, t) = (\mathcal{C}[A], d_{\mathcal{C}[A]} + t).$$

If  $(A, t)$  and  $(B, t')$  are  $\Omega(\mathcal{C})$ -algebras, and if  $f: A \rightarrow B$  is a morphism between the underlying chain complexes, then an  $\Omega(\mathcal{C})$ -structure on  $f$  is a morphism of  $\mathcal{C}$ -coalgebras  $F: \mathbb{B}(A, t) \rightarrow \mathbb{B}(B, t')$  whose linear part is identified with  $f$ . We will also call such an  $F$  a *lax morphism of  $\Omega(\mathcal{C})$ -algebras*.

An important special case is when  $\mathcal{C}$  is the Koszul dual cooperad of a Koszul operad  $\mathcal{O}$ . Then  $\Omega(\mathcal{C})$ -algebras are exactly  $\mathcal{O}_\infty$ -algebras, or “strongly homotopy”  $\mathcal{O}$ -algebras, and a chain map with an  $\Omega(\mathcal{C})$ -structure is the same as an  $\mathcal{O}_\infty$ -map. In the case when  $\mathcal{O}$  is the associative operad, then the above amounts to the familiar compact definition of an  $A_\infty$ -algebra as a graded  $\mathbb{k}$ -module  $A$  together with a coderivation differential on the tensor coalgebra  $T^c(sA)$ . Other familiar examples of this form are  $C_\infty$ -,  $L_\infty$ - or  $G_\infty$ -algebras. If the operad  $\mathcal{O}$  is not necessarily Koszul, one may define strongly homotopy  $\mathcal{O}$ -algebras as algebras over the operad  $\Omega B\mathcal{O}$ , where the cooperad  $B\mathcal{O}$  is the bar construction on  $\mathcal{O}$ .

**Theorem 1.3** (Transfer theorem; compact form) *Let  $\mathcal{C}$  be a connected cooperad. Given a contraction of chain complexes*

$$h \circlearrowleft A \begin{matrix} \xrightarrow{f} \\ \xleftarrow{g} \end{matrix} B$$

and an  $\Omega(\mathcal{C})$ -algebra structure  $t$  on  $A$ , there are explicit formulas for an  $\Omega(\mathcal{C})$ -algebra structure  $t'$  on  $B$  and  $\Omega(\mathcal{C})$ -structures  $F', G', H'$  on  $f, g, h$  that make

$$(1) \quad H' \circlearrowleft \mathbb{B}(A, t) \begin{matrix} \xrightarrow{F'} \\ \xleftarrow{G'} \end{matrix} \mathbb{B}(B, t')$$

into a contraction of  $\mathcal{C}$ -coalgebras. The formulas are given by

$$\begin{aligned} F' &= F + FtH + F(tH)^2 + \dots, \\ G' &= G + HtG + (Ht)^2G + \dots, \\ H' &= H + HtH + H(tH)^2 + \dots, \\ t' &= FtG + FtHtG + Ft(Ht)^2G + \dots, \end{aligned}$$

where the maps

$$H \circlearrowleft \mathcal{C}[A] \begin{matrix} \xrightarrow{F} \\ \xleftarrow{G} \end{matrix} \mathcal{C}[B]$$

are defined by letting  $F, G$  be the morphisms of  $\mathcal{C}$ -coalgebras induced by  $f, g$ . There are different possible choices for the homotopy  $H$ : for every choice of symmetric pseudo-derivation  $h: A \rightarrow A$  that extends  $h$  and satisfies

$$\partial(h) = gf - 1, \quad fh = 0, \quad hg = 0, \quad hh = 0,$$

where  $f_n = f^{\otimes n}$  and  $g_n = g^{\otimes n}$ , we may take  $H = \mathcal{C}[h]$ . If  $\mathcal{C}$  is a nonsymmetric cooperad, then one may drop the condition that  $h$  be symmetric, and a possible choice of pseudo-derivation is

$$h_n = \sum_{p+1+q=n} 1^{\otimes p} \otimes h \otimes (gf)^{\otimes q}.$$

If  $\mathbb{Q} \subseteq \mathbb{k}$  then a possible choice of symmetric pseudo-derivation is the symmetrization of  $h_n$  above:

$$h_n^\Sigma = \frac{1}{n!} \sum_{\sigma \in \Sigma_n} \sigma^{-1} h_n \sigma.$$

**Remark 1.1** Convergence of the formulas is ensured because  $t$  decreases weight. The hard part of the theorem is to show that  $t'$  becomes a  $\mathcal{C}$ -coderivation and that  $F'$  and  $G'$  become morphisms of  $\mathcal{C}$ -coalgebras. The key point is that it is exactly the pseudo-derivation property that ensures this, and furthermore that it is always possible to find a suitable pseudo-derivation.

### Expanded form of the transfer theorem

An  $\Omega(\mathcal{C})$ -algebra structure  $t$  on a chain complex  $A$  may alternatively be described as a family of maps  $t^\nu: A^{\otimes n} \rightarrow A$  of degree  $|\nu| - 1$ , indexed by elements  $\nu \in \mathcal{C}(n)$ , satisfying certain relations; see Section 11 for details. Similarly, if  $(A, t)$  and  $(B, t')$  are  $\Omega(\mathcal{C})$ -algebras, then an  $\Omega(\mathcal{C})$ -structure on a chain map  $f: A \rightarrow B$  may be described as a family of maps  $f^\nu: A^{\otimes n} \rightarrow B$  of degree  $|\nu|$ , indexed by elements  $\nu \in \mathcal{C}(n)$ , such that  $f^1 = f$ , subject to certain relations; see Section 11. In the case when  $\mathcal{C}$  is the Koszul dual cooperad of the associative operad, the above simply amounts to the description of an  $A_\infty$ -algebra as a chain complex  $A$  together with a family of maps  $m_n: A^{\otimes n} \rightarrow A$ ,  $n = 2, 3, \dots$ , satisfying the familiar relations.

The formulas in Theorem 1.3 may be expanded to recursive formulas expressed in terms of this alternative description of  $\Omega(\mathcal{C})$ -algebras. To state them we need to introduce some notation. For  $\nu \in \mathcal{C}(n)$  where  $n \geq 2$  we will write the coproduct as

$$\Delta(\nu) = \nu \circ 1^{\otimes n} + 1 \circ \nu + \sum_{q=1}^p \nu^q \circ (v_1^q \otimes \dots \otimes v_{r_q}^q) \sigma_q \in (\mathcal{C} \circ \mathcal{C})(n),$$

where  $\nu^q$  and  $v_i^q$  are elements of  $\mathcal{C}$  of arity less than  $n$  and where  $\sigma_q \in \Sigma_n$ . Furthermore, we let

$$\Delta_{(1)}(\nu) = \sum_{i=1}^u (v'_i \circ_{e_i} v''_i) \tau_i$$

denote the *quadratic part* of the coproduct; see Section 6.

**Theorem 1.4** (Transfer theorem, expanded form) *With notation as in Theorem 1.3, we have the following recursive formulas for the transferred  $\Omega(\mathcal{C})$ -algebra structure  $t'$  on  $B$  and for the  $\Omega(\mathcal{C})$ -structures  $F', G', H'$  on  $f, g, h$ .*

For  $v \in \mathcal{C}(n)$  where  $n \geq 2$ , we have

$$\begin{aligned}
 (t')^v &= ft^v g^{\otimes n} + \sum_{q=1}^p ft^{v^q} (g^{v_1^q} \otimes \dots \otimes g^{v_{r_q}^q}) \sigma_q, \\
 g^v &= ht^v g^{\otimes n} + \sum_{q=1}^p ht^{v^q} (g^{v_1^q} \otimes \dots \otimes g^{v_{r_q}^q}) \sigma_q, \\
 f^v &= (-1)^{|v|} ft^v \mathbf{h}_n + \sum_{i=1}^u (-1)^{|v'_i|} (f^{v'_i} \circ_{e_i} t^{v''_i}) \tau_i \mathbf{h}_n, \\
 h^v &= (-1)^{|v|} ht^v \mathbf{h}_n + \sum_{i=1}^u (-1)^{|v'_i|} (h^{v'_i} \circ_{e_i} t^{v''_i}) \tau_i \mathbf{h}_n.
 \end{aligned}$$

In particular,  $t'$  and  $G'$  do not depend on the choice of pseudo-derivation  $\mathbf{h}$  extending  $h$ . However,  $F'$  and  $H'$  do depend on this choice.

These recursive formulas may be interpreted as tree formulas. In Section 12 we explain this point of view in detail in the special case of  $A_\infty$ -algebras. In fact, in that case we recover exactly the formulas written down by Kontsevich and Soibelman [25, Section 6.4]; see also [17]. In the case when  $\mathcal{C}$  is the Koszul dual cooperad of a Koszul operad, similar considerations show more generally that the structure we obtain agrees with the one in Loday and Vallette [28, Theorem 10.3.3].

If the ground ring  $\mathbb{k}$  is a field then it is always possible to find a contraction between a chain complex  $A$  and its homology  $H_*(A)$ . Therefore, the following is a corollary to Theorem 1.4.

**Corollary 1.1** (Minimality theorem for  $\Omega(\mathcal{C})$ -algebras) *Suppose that  $\mathbb{k}$  is a field of characteristic zero and let  $\mathcal{C}$  be a connected cooperad. Let  $A$  be a chain complex with an  $\Omega(\mathcal{C})$ -algebra structure  $t$ . Then there exist an  $\Omega(\mathcal{C})$ -algebra structure  $t'$  on the homology  $H_*(A)$ , with trivial differential, and a lax contraction of  $\Omega(\mathcal{C})$ -algebras*

$$h^\bullet \circlearrowleft (A, t) \begin{matrix} \xrightarrow{f^\bullet} \\ \xleftarrow{g^\bullet} \end{matrix} (H_*(A), t').$$

In particular, every  $\Omega(\mathcal{C})$ -algebra  $(A, t)$  is quasi-isomorphic to a minimal  $\Omega(\mathcal{C})$ -algebra  $(H_*(A), t')$ . If  $\mathcal{C}$  is a nonsymmetric operad, then one may drop the assumption that  $\mathbb{k}$  is of characteristic zero.



## Outline of the paper

In [Section 2](#) we review the relevant background material on homological perturbation theory. In [Section 3](#) we introduce some machinery for handling thick maps. The proofs of [Theorems 1.1](#) and [1.2](#) are both separated into two parts, a first part dealing with formal properties of thick maps without reference to any operad, and a second part where the operad enters. [Section 4](#) contains the first part of the proof of [Theorem 1.1](#). In it, we introduce and study pseudo-derivations and thick contractions. The first part of the proof of [Theorem 1.2](#) is contained in [Section 5](#) where we show how to extend any contraction to a symmetric thick contraction. [Section 6](#) contains a review of the basic definitions concerning operads and cooperads that we will use. The second part of the proof of [Theorem 1.1](#) is contained in [Section 7](#). In [Section 8](#) we extend the free  $\mathcal{O}$ -algebra functor to the dg-category of thick maps, and we use this to finish the proof of [Theorem 1.2](#). In [Section 9](#) we define thick maps of  $\mathcal{C}$ -coalgebras, where  $\mathcal{C}$  is a cooperad, and we give the duals of [Theorems 1.1](#) and [1.2](#). In [Section 10](#) we prove a general result about thick maps between “cofree”  $\mathcal{C}$ -coalgebras which is used in the proof of [Theorem 1.4](#). In [Section 11](#) we give the proofs of [Theorems 1.3](#) and [1.4](#). In [Section 12](#) we illustrate how the formulas in [Theorem 1.4](#) work in the case of  $A_\infty$ -algebras.

## Conventions

In this paper, the term “chain complex” will mean unbounded chain complex over a commutative ground ring  $\mathbb{k}$ . The differential of a chain complex  $A$  will be denoted by  $d_A$  and we take it to be of degree  $-1$ . Recall that a *dg-category* is a category  $\mathcal{A}$  enriched over chain complexes, ie a collection of objects  $\text{Ob } \mathcal{A}$  and for every two objects  $A$  and  $B$  a chain complex  $\text{Hom}_{\mathcal{A}}(A, B)$ , elements of which we will refer to as *maps* from  $A$  to  $B$ , together with natural composition and unit morphisms that satisfy standard unit and associativity axioms; see for instance Keller [\[24\]](#). We will use  $\partial$  as a generic notation for the differential in  $\text{Hom}_{\mathcal{A}}(A, B)$ . Thus, in the dg-category  $\mathcal{C}$  of chain complexes,  $\partial(f) = d_B f - (-1)^{|f|} f d_A$  for maps  $f \in \text{Hom}_{\mathcal{C}}(A, B)$ .

## 2 Background on homological perturbation theory

In this section we will review some of the classical results of homological perturbation theory. The central notion, which goes back to Eilenberg and Mac Lane [\[6, Section 12\]](#), is that of a contraction.

**Definition 2.1** A contraction is a diagram of maps of chain complexes

$$\mathcal{D}: h \begin{array}{c} \curvearrowright \\ \curvearrowleft \end{array} A \begin{array}{c} \xrightarrow{f} \\ \xleftarrow{g} \end{array} B,$$

where  $|f| = |g| = 0$ ,  $|h| = 1$ ,  $\partial(f) = 0$ ,  $\partial(g) = 0$  and

$$\partial(h) = gf - 1_A, \quad fg = 1_B.$$

Furthermore, we impose the annihilation conditions

$$fh = 0, \quad hh = 0, \quad hg = 0.$$

We say that  $\mathcal{D}$  is a *filtered contraction* if  $A$  and  $B$  are equipped with bounded below exhaustive filtrations which are preserved by the maps  $f$ ,  $g$  and  $h$ .

In plain English,  $f$  and  $g$  are morphisms of chain complexes with  $fg = 1_B$  and  $h$  is a chain homotopy from  $gf$  to  $1_A$ . Thus,  $B$  is a strong deformation retract of  $A$ . For this reason, the term “SDR-data” is often used as an alternative to “contraction”.

**Remark 2.1** It is harmless to assume the annihilation conditions, as was pointed out in [26]. If they are not satisfied, then one can replace  $h$  by  $h'' = -h'dh'$ , where  $h' = \partial(h)h\partial(h)$ , to get a contraction.

A *perturbation* of  $A$  is a map  $t: A \rightarrow A$  of degree  $-1$  such that  $\partial(t) + t^2 = 0$ , or, equivalently,  $(d_A + t)^2 = 0$ . Let  $A^t$  denote the chain complex  $A$  endowed with the new differential  $d_A + t$ . The following result is the basis for the theory.

**Theorem 2.1** (Basic perturbation lemma [5; 11]) *If  $t$  is a perturbation of  $A$  such that  $1 - ht$  is invertible then setting  $\Sigma = t(1 - ht)^{-1}$  the following formulas define a perturbation  $t'$  of  $B$  and a new contraction*

$$\mathcal{D}^t: h' \begin{array}{c} \curvearrowright \\ \curvearrowleft \end{array} A^t \begin{array}{c} \xrightarrow{f'} \\ \xleftarrow{g'} \end{array} B^{t'},$$

where

$$f' = f + f\Sigma h, \quad g' = g + h\Sigma g, \quad h' = h + h\Sigma h, \quad t' = f\Sigma g.$$

**Remark 2.2** In the original statement of the basic perturbation lemma [11] one assumes that  $\mathcal{D}$  is a filtered contraction and that the perturbation  $t$  lowers the filtration on  $A$ . Then the infinite series  $\sum_{n \geq 0} (ht)^n$  converges pointwise and defines an inverse of  $1 - ht$ . It was observed by Barnes and Lambe in [1] that invertibility of  $1 - ht$  is a sufficient hypothesis. Observe also that invertibility of  $1 - ht$  is equivalent to invertibility of  $1 - th$ . Indeed,  $(1 - th)^{-1} = 1 + t(1 - ht)^{-1}h$ .

**Definition 2.2** [14; 20] A contraction of algebras is a contraction  $\mathcal{D}$  where  $A$  and  $B$  are differential graded algebras, ie chain complexes equipped with morphisms  $\mu_A: A \otimes A \rightarrow A$  and  $\mu_B: B \otimes B \rightarrow B$ , where  $f$  and  $g$  are morphisms of algebras and where  $h$  is an algebra homotopy, which means that

$$h\mu_A = \mu_B(h \otimes gf + 1 \otimes h).$$

**Theorem 2.2** (Algebra perturbation lemma [14, Section 2.2; 20, (2.1\*)]) If  $\mathcal{D}$  is a contraction of algebras and if the perturbation  $t$  is a derivation, ie  $t\mu_A = \mu_A(t \otimes 1 + 1 \otimes t)$ , then  $\mathcal{D}^t$  is a contraction of algebras.

The “tensor trick” is a way of producing an algebra contraction starting from any contraction. Recall that the tensor algebra on a chain complex  $A$  is the chain complex

$$T(A) = \bigoplus_{n \geq 0} A^{\otimes n}$$

with multiplication  $\mu: T(A) \otimes T(A) \rightarrow T(A)$  induced by the canonical isomorphisms  $A^{\otimes p} \otimes A^{\otimes q} \cong A^{\otimes(p+q)}$ .

**Theorem 2.3** (Tensor trick [12, Section 3.2; 14, Section 3; 20, (2.2.0\*)]) For any contraction  $\mathcal{D}$  the following is a contraction of algebras

$$T(\mathcal{D}): H \begin{array}{c} \curvearrowright \\ \curvearrowleft \end{array} T(A) \begin{array}{c} \xrightarrow{F} \\ \xleftarrow{G} \end{array} T(B),$$

where  $F, G$  and  $H$  act on tensors of length  $n$  by, respectively,

$$f^{\otimes n}, \quad g^{\otimes n}, \quad \sum_{i+1+j=n} 1^{\otimes i} \otimes h \otimes (gf)^{\otimes j}.$$

As remarked in [14, Remark, end of Section 2.2], if  $\mu_A$  is a commutative operation, then the left-hand side of the equation

$$h\mu_A = \mu_A(h \otimes gf + 1 \otimes h)$$

is symmetric but the right-hand side is not. For this reason, the present notion of an algebra homotopy is not useful for commutative algebras or, more generally, for algebras where symmetries play a role. In what follows, we will look for a symmetric generalization of the notion of an algebra homotopy such that Theorems 2.2 and 2.3, appropriately modified, remain valid.

### 3 Thick maps

**Definition 3.1** Let  $A$  and  $B$  be chain complexes. We define a *thick map*  $f: A \rightarrow B$  to be a sequence of maps

$$f = \{f_n: A^{\otimes n} \rightarrow B^{\otimes n}\}_{n \geq 0}$$

of the same degree  $|f|$ . We say it is *symmetric* if each  $f_n$  is equivariant with respect to the action of the symmetric group  $\Sigma_n$  permuting tensor factors.

There is a dg–category  $T_{\mathbb{N}}(\mathcal{C})$  of thick maps. It has the same objects as the dg–category  $\mathcal{C}$  of chain complexes but  $\text{Hom}_{T_{\mathbb{N}}(\mathcal{C})}(A, B)$  is the chain complex of thick maps from  $A$  to  $B$ . The  $\mathbb{k}$ –linear structure, differentials and compositions are defined by

$$\begin{aligned} (af + bh)_n &= af_n + bh_n, \\ \partial(f)_n &= d_{B^{\otimes n}}f_n - (-1)^{|f|}f_nd_{A^{\otimes n}}, \\ (g \circ f)_n &= g_n \circ f_n, \end{aligned}$$

for  $f, h: A \rightarrow B, g: B \rightarrow C, a, b \in \mathbb{k}$ , and where  $d_{A^{\otimes n}}$  is the ordinary tensor product differential on  $A^{\otimes n}$ . Chain complexes together with *symmetric* thick maps form a dg–subcategory  $T_{\Sigma}(\mathcal{C})$  of  $T_{\mathbb{N}}(\mathcal{C})$ . The *identity*  $\mathbf{1}: A \rightarrow A$  and the *zero map*  $\mathbf{0}: A \rightarrow B$  are the thick maps with  $\mathbf{1}_n = 1_{A^{\otimes n}}$  and  $\mathbf{0}_n = 0$ . We will now give names to thick maps with special properties.

- Definition 3.2**
- (1) We say that a thick map  $f: A \rightarrow B$  is a *morphism* if  $f_{p+q} = f_p \otimes f_q$  for all  $p, q \geq 0$ .
  - (2) Let  $l$  and  $r$  be morphisms from  $A$  to  $B$ . We say that a thick map  $d: A \rightarrow B$  is an  $(l, r)$ –*derivation* if  $d_{p+q} = d_p \otimes r_q + l_p \otimes d_q$  for all  $p, q \geq 0$ .
  - (3) For simplicity, a  $(\mathbf{1}, \mathbf{1})$ –*derivation*  $d: A \rightarrow A$  will be called a *derivation*.

Let us also introduce a notational device. If  $f: A \rightarrow B$  and  $g: C \rightarrow D$  are two thick maps, we can form the bi-indexed sequence

$$f \otimes g = \{f_p \otimes g_q: A^{\otimes p} \otimes C^{\otimes q} \rightarrow B^{\otimes p} \otimes D^{\otimes q}\}_{p, q \geq 0}.$$

We can also form the bi-indexed sequence

$$m^*(f) = \{f_{p+q}: A^{\otimes p} \otimes A^{\otimes q} \rightarrow B^{\otimes p} \otimes B^{\otimes q}\}_{p, q \geq 0}.$$

Then it is clear that a thick map  $f: A \rightarrow B$  is a morphism if and only if  $m^*(f) = f \otimes f$  and that a thick map  $d: A \rightarrow B$  is an  $(l, r)$ –*derivation* if and only if  $m^*(d) = d \otimes r + l \otimes d$ .

### 4 Thick contractions

Using thick maps we can reformulate the notion of an algebra contraction in a way that lends itself to generalizations. By a *thick contraction* we mean a contraction in the dg–category  $T_{\mathbb{N}}(\mathcal{C})$ .

**Proposition 4.1** *Any contraction  $\mathcal{D}$  has a unique extension to a thick contraction*

$$\underline{\mathcal{D}}: \mathbf{h} \circlearrowleft A \begin{matrix} \xrightarrow{f} \\ \xleftarrow{g} \end{matrix} B,$$

where  $f$  and  $g$  are morphisms and  $\mathbf{h}$  is a  $(\mathbf{1}, \mathbf{g}f)$ –derivation. Furthermore, if  $A$  and  $B$  are algebras then  $\mathcal{D}$  is an algebra contraction if and only if  $f$ ,  $g$  and  $\mathbf{h}$  are compatible with the algebraic structure in the sense that

$$f_1 \mu_A = \mu_B f_2, \quad g_1 \mu_B = \mu_A g_2, \quad h_1 \mu_A = \mu_A h_2.$$

**Proof** Requiring that  $f$ ,  $g$  are morphisms and that  $\mathbf{h}$  is a  $(\mathbf{1}, \mathbf{g}f)$ –derivation leaves us with no choice but to set

$$f_n = f^{\otimes n}, \quad g_n = g^{\otimes n}, \quad h_n = \sum_{i+1+j=n} 1^{\otimes i} \otimes h \otimes (gf)^{\otimes j}.$$

But these formulas coincide with the formulas in the tensor trick (Theorem 2.3), and it is a consequence of that theorem that they define a thick contraction. Next,  $\mathcal{D}$  is an algebra contraction (Definition 2.2) if and only if

$$f m_A = m_B f^{\otimes 2}, \quad g \mu_B = \mu_A g^{\otimes 2}, \quad h \mu_A = \mu_A (h \otimes gf + 1 \otimes h).$$

In view of our definition of  $f$ ,  $g$  and  $\mathbf{h}$ , these conditions are the same as the conditions in the statement of the proposition. □

We repeat that the problem with algebra homotopies is the asymmetry in the expression  $h \otimes gf + 1 \otimes h$ . In other words, the problem is that if a thick map  $\mathbf{h}$  is a  $(\mathbf{1}, \mathbf{g}f)$ –derivation, then it can hardly be symmetric in the sense of Definition 3.1. The goal for the remainder of this section is the following: *Generalize the condition “ $\mathbf{h}$  is a  $(\mathbf{1}, \mathbf{g}f)$ –derivation” to a condition that makes sense for symmetric thick maps.* There are two constraints.

- The condition should be sufficiently close to the  $(\mathbf{1}, \mathbf{g}f)$ –derivation condition so that the proof of the algebra perturbation lemma goes through.
- The condition should be flexible enough so as to allow for a “symmetric tensor trick”, ie an extension of any contraction to a *symmetric* thick contraction which satisfies the condition.

We will argue that the following definition contains the solution to this problem.

**Definition 4.1** A thick map  $h: A \rightarrow A$  is a *pseudo-derivation* if

$$\begin{aligned} (h \otimes 1 - 1 \otimes h)m^*(h) &= h \otimes h, \\ m^*(h)(h \otimes 1 - 1 \otimes h) &= -h \otimes h. \end{aligned}$$

In other words,  $h$  is a pseudo-derivation if for all  $p, q \geq 0$ ,

$$\begin{aligned} (h_p \otimes 1 - 1 \otimes h_q)h_{p+q} &= h_p \otimes h_q, \\ h_{p+q}(h_p \otimes 1 - 1 \otimes h_q) &= -h_p \otimes h_q. \end{aligned}$$

For the rest of the section, fix a thick contraction

$$\underline{\mathcal{D}}: h \circlearrowleft A \begin{matrix} \xrightarrow{f} \\ \xleftarrow{g} \end{matrix} B.$$

To begin with, let us note that pseudo-derivations generalize  $(1, gf)$ -derivations.

**Proposition 4.2** *If the homotopy  $h$  in  $\underline{\mathcal{D}}$  is a  $(1, gf)$ -derivation then  $h$  is a pseudo-derivation.*

**Proof** This is a simple calculation:

$$\begin{aligned} (h \otimes 1 - 1 \otimes h)m^*(h) &= (h \otimes 1 - 1 \otimes h)(1 \otimes h + h \otimes gf) \\ &= h \otimes h - 1 \otimes hh + hh \otimes gf + h \otimes hgf = h \otimes h. \end{aligned}$$

Here we have used the annihilation conditions  $hh = 0$  and  $hg = 0$ . Similarly, one verifies that  $-m^*(h)(h \otimes 1 - 1 \otimes h) = h \otimes h$ . □

Fix a thick perturbation  $t$  of  $A$ , ie a thick map of degree  $-1$  satisfying  $\partial(t) + t^2 = 0$ . Suppose that  $1 - ht$  (or equivalently  $1 - th$ ) is invertible, so that we can use the formulas of the basic perturbation lemma (Theorem 2.1) to define thick maps  $f', g', h', t'$ . The following theorem, which shows that the pseudo-derivation property is sufficient to make the algebra perturbation lemma work, is the main result of this section.

**Theorem 4.1** *Let  $\underline{\mathcal{D}}$  be a thick contraction. If  $f$  and  $g$  are morphisms,  $h$  a pseudo-derivation and  $t$  a derivation, then  $f'$  and  $g'$  are morphisms,  $h'$  a pseudo-derivation,  $t'$  a derivation,  $t = t_1$  and  $t' = t'_1$  are perturbations of  $A$  and  $B$ , respectively, and*

$$\underline{\mathcal{D}}^t: h' \circlearrowleft A^t \begin{matrix} \xrightarrow{f'} \\ \xleftarrow{g'} \end{matrix} B^{t'}$$

*is a thick contraction. Furthermore, if  $h$  is symmetric, then so is  $h'$ .*

The proof of this theorem will occupy the rest of the section.

**Proposition 4.3** *If  $h$  is a pseudo-derivation and  $t$  is a derivation then  $h'$  is a pseudo-derivation.*

**Proof** We need to show that  $(h' \otimes 1 - 1 \otimes h')m^*(h') = -m^*(h')(h' \otimes 1 - 1 \otimes h') = h' \otimes h'$ . If we multiply the right-hand side from the left with  $(1 - ht) \otimes (1 - ht)$  and from the right with  $m^*(1 - th)$  and use that  $(1 - ht)h' = h'(1 - th) = h$  we get

$$\begin{aligned} ((1 - ht) \otimes (1 - ht))(h' \otimes 1 - 1 \otimes h')m^*(h')m^*(1 - th) & \\ &= (h \otimes (1 - ht) - (1 - ht) \otimes h)m^*(h) \\ &= (h \otimes 1 - 1 \otimes h)m^*(h) - (h \otimes h)(t \otimes 1 + 1 \otimes t)m^*(h) \\ &= h \otimes h - (h \otimes h)m^*(th) \\ &= (h \otimes h)m^*(1 - th) \\ &= ((1 - ht) \otimes (1 - ht))(h' \otimes h')m^*(1 - th). \end{aligned}$$

Since  $(1 - ht)$  and  $(1 - th)$  are invertible, the above equation implies that

$$(h' \otimes 1 - 1 \otimes h')m^*(h') = h' \otimes h'.$$

Similarly one verifies that  $-m^*(h')(h' \otimes 1 - 1 \otimes h') = h' \otimes h'$ . □

We will see in [Proposition 4.6](#) below that the hypotheses in [Theorem 4.1](#) imply the following additional conditions:

**Module conditions**

$$\begin{aligned} (f \otimes 1)m^*(h) &= f \otimes h & m^*(h)(g \otimes 1) &= g \otimes h \\ (1 \otimes f)m^*(h) &= h \otimes f & m^*(h)(1 \otimes g) &= h \otimes g \end{aligned}$$

The module conditions together with the pseudo-derivation property are exactly what we need to ensure that  $f'$  and  $g'$  are morphisms and that  $t'$  is a derivation provided that  $f$  and  $g$  are morphisms and  $t$  is a derivation.

**Proposition 4.4** *Suppose that  $h$  is a pseudo-derivation, that the module conditions are satisfied and that  $t$  is a derivation.*

- (1) *If  $f$  is a morphism then so is  $f'$ .*
- (2) *If  $g$  is a morphism then so is  $g'$ .*
- (3) *If  $f$  and  $g$  are morphisms then  $t'$  is a derivation.*

**Proof (1)** We need to verify that  $m^*(f') = f' \otimes f'$  under the assumption  $m^*(f) = f \otimes f$ . Observe that  $f' = f + f'th$ . Therefore,

$$\begin{aligned} (f' \otimes f')m^*(th) &= (f' \otimes f')(t \otimes 1 + 1 \otimes t)m^*(h) \\ &= (f't \otimes (f + f'th) + (f + f'th) \otimes f't)m^*(h) \\ &= (f't \otimes 1)(1 \otimes f)m^*(h) + (1 \otimes f't)(f \otimes 1)m^*(h) \\ &\quad - (f't \otimes f't)(h \otimes 1 - 1 \otimes h)m^*(h) \\ &= (f't \otimes 1)(h \otimes f) + (1 \otimes f't)(f \otimes h) - (f't \otimes f't)(h \otimes h) \\ &= f'th \otimes f + f \otimes f'th + f'th \otimes f'th \\ &= (f' - f) \otimes f + f \otimes (f' - f) + (f' - f) \otimes (f' - f) \\ &= f' \otimes f' - f \otimes f. \end{aligned}$$

Here we have used that  $h$  is a pseudo-derivation, that  $t$  is a derivation and the module conditions involving  $f$ . The above gives that

$$(f' \otimes f')m^*(1 - th) = f \otimes f = m^*(f) = m^*(f'(1 - th)) = m^*(f')m^*(1 - th),$$

and this implies that  $f' \otimes f' = m^*(f')$  since  $1 - th$  is invertible.

(2) This is proved as (1) but uses the module conditions involving  $g$  instead.

(3) Note that  $t' = f'tg$ . Since  $hg = 0$  and  $f'(1 - th) = f$ , we have that  $f'g = f'(1 - th)g = fg = 1$ . By (1),  $f'$  is a morphism. Combining these facts we get that

$$\begin{aligned} m^*(t') &= m^*(f')m^*(t)m^*(g) = (f' \otimes f')(t \otimes 1 + 1 \otimes t)(g \otimes g) \\ &= f'tg \otimes f'g + f'g \otimes f'tg = t' \otimes 1 + 1 \otimes t', \end{aligned}$$

so  $t'$  is indeed a derivation. □

To show that the module conditions are satisfied under the hypotheses of [Theorem 4.1](#), we will introduce an auxiliary set of conditions on  $\underline{\mathcal{D}}$ , called the ‘‘annihilation conditions’’, summarized as follows: all possible ways of forming maps  $m^*(x)(y \otimes z)$  or  $(x \otimes y)m^*(z)$  where  $\{h\} \subseteq \{x, y, z\} \subseteq \{f, g, h\}$  should yield the zero map.

**Annihilation conditions**

$$\begin{aligned} (h \otimes h)m^*(h) &= 0 & m^*(h)(h \otimes h) &= 0 \\ (h \otimes h)m^*(g) &= 0 & m^*(f)(h \otimes h) &= 0 \\ (f \otimes h)m^*(h) &= 0 & m^*(h)(g \otimes h) &= 0 \\ (h \otimes f)m^*(h) &= 0 & m^*(h)(h \otimes g) &= 0 \\ (f \otimes f)m^*(h) &= 0 & m^*(h)(g \otimes g) &= 0 \end{aligned}$$



$$\begin{aligned} (f \otimes h)m^*(g) &= \mathbf{0} & m^*(f)(g \otimes h) &= \mathbf{0} \\ (h \otimes f)m^*(g) &= \mathbf{0} & m^*(f)(h \otimes g) &= \mathbf{0} \end{aligned}$$

The annihilation conditions, albeit outnumbering the module conditions, are easier to verify, and, getting ahead of ourselves, we will take advantage of this in proving [Theorem 5.1](#).

**Proposition 4.5** (1) *The homotopy  $h$  is a pseudo-derivation if and only if the annihilation conditions in the four first rows are satisfied.*

(2) *The module conditions are equivalent to the annihilation conditions in the five last rows.*

**Proof** (1) Consider the differential of the map  $(h \otimes h)m^*(h)$ :

$$\begin{aligned} \partial((h \otimes h)m^*(h)) &= ((gf - 1) \otimes h)m^*(h) - (h \otimes (gf - 1))m^*(h) + (h \otimes h)m^*(gf - 1) \\ &= (h \otimes 1 - 1 \otimes h)m^*(h) - h \otimes h \\ &\quad + (g \otimes 1)(f \otimes h)m^*(h) - (1 \otimes g)(h \otimes f)m^*(h) - (h \otimes h)m^*(g)m^*(f). \end{aligned}$$

From this expression, one sees that the equality  $(h \otimes 1 - 1 \otimes h)m^*(h) = h \otimes h$  follows from the first four annihilation conditions in the left column. Conversely, these four annihilation conditions follow from  $(h \otimes 1 - 1 \otimes h)m^*(h) = h \otimes h$ :

$$(h \otimes h)m^*(h) = (h \otimes 1 - 1 \otimes h)m^*(h)m^*(h) = (h \otimes 1 - 1 \otimes h)m^*(hh) = \mathbf{0},$$

and similarly  $(h \otimes h)m^*(g) = \mathbf{0}$ . Next,

$$\begin{aligned} (f \otimes h)m^*(h) &= (f \otimes 1)(1 \otimes h)m^*(h) = (f \otimes 1)((h \otimes 1)m^*(h) - h \otimes h) \\ &= (fh \otimes 1)m^*(h) - fh \otimes h = \mathbf{0}, \end{aligned}$$

and similarly  $(h \otimes f)m^*(h) = \mathbf{0}$ . The condition  $-m^*(h)(h \otimes 1 - 1 \otimes h) = h \otimes h$  is likewise equivalent to the first four annihilation conditions in the right column.

(2) By the same token, each individual module condition is equivalent to three annihilation conditions. The module condition  $(f \otimes 1)m^*(h) = f \otimes h$  is equivalent to the three annihilation conditions

$$(f \otimes h)m^*(h) = \mathbf{0}, \quad (f \otimes h)m^*(g) = \mathbf{0}, \quad (f \otimes f)m^*(h) = \mathbf{0}.$$

The proof is similar to the proof of (1) and is left to the reader. One direction is seen by differentiating the expression  $(f \otimes h)m^*(h)$ . After doing the same thing for each module condition, one sees that they are collectively equivalent to the annihilation conditions in the five last rows. □

As promised, we can now prove the following:

**Proposition 4.6** *If  $f$  and  $g$  are morphisms and  $h$  is a pseudo-derivation then all annihilation conditions are satisfied, and hence the module conditions are automatically satisfied.*

**Proof** By Proposition 4.5(1), if  $h$  is a pseudo-derivation then the annihilation conditions in the four first rows are satisfied. If  $f$  and  $g$  are morphisms, then the annihilation conditions in the three remaining rows follow from the conditions  $f h = 0$  and  $h g = 0$ :

$$(f \otimes f)m^*(h) = m^*(f)m^*(h) = m^*(fh) = 0,$$

$$(f \otimes h)m^*(g) = (f \otimes h)(g \otimes g) = fg \otimes hg = 0,$$

and so on. That the module conditions hold then follows from Proposition 4.5(2).  $\square$

**Proof of Theorem 4.1** By Proposition 4.6, the module conditions are satisfied, so by Proposition 4.4,  $f'$  and  $g'$  are morphisms,  $h'$  is a pseudo-derivation and  $t'$  is a derivation. We need to show that  $t = t_1$  and  $t' = t'_1$  are perturbations of  $A$  and  $B$ , respectively, and that  $\underline{\mathcal{D}}^t$  is a thick contraction. The  $n^{\text{th}}$  level of the diagram  $\underline{\mathcal{D}}^t$  is equal to the diagram

$$\mathcal{D}_n^{t_n}: h'_n \begin{array}{c} \curvearrowright \\ \curvearrowleft \end{array} (A^{\otimes n})^{t_n} \begin{array}{c} \xrightarrow{f'_n} \\ \xleftarrow{g'_n} \end{array} (B^{\otimes n})^{t'_n}$$

obtained by perturbing the  $n^{\text{th}}$  level  $\mathcal{D}_n$  of the thick contraction  $\underline{\mathcal{D}}$  using the perturbation  $t_n$  of  $A^{\otimes n}$ . By the basic perturbation lemma,  $t'_n$  is a perturbation of  $B^{\otimes n}$  and  $\mathcal{D}_n^{t'_n}$  is a contraction. In particular,  $t$  and  $t'$  are perturbations of  $A$  and  $B$ , respectively. Furthermore, the relations  $f'g' = 1$ ,  $f'h' = 0$ ,  $h'h' = 0$  and  $h'g' = 0$  hold because they do so levelwise. However, to verify that  $\underline{\mathcal{D}}^t$  is a thick contraction, it is not enough to know that each individual level is a contraction, we will also need the fact that  $t$  and  $t'$  are derivations. Observe that

$$\partial(h')_n = d_{(A^t)^{\otimes n}}h'_n + h'_n d_{(A^t)^{\otimes n}}.$$

Since  $t$  is a derivation, the tensor product differential  $d_{(A^t)^{\otimes n}}$  in  $(A^t)^{\otimes n}$  coincides with the perturbed differential  $d_{A^{\otimes n} + t_n}$  of  $(A^{\otimes n})^{t_n}$ . Since each  $\mathcal{D}_n^{t'_n}$  is a contraction, this implies that  $\partial(h') = g'f' - 1$ . Similarly, using that  $t'$  is also a derivation one verifies that  $\partial(f') = 0$  and that  $\partial(g') = 0$ . This finishes the proof.  $\square$

**Remark 4.1** The reason for the name “module conditions” is the following: suppose that  $A$  and  $B$  are associative algebras and that  $g_1: B \rightarrow A$  is a morphism of algebras. Then  $A$  can be viewed as a left  $B$ -module via  $\mu_A(g_1 \otimes 1): B \otimes A \rightarrow A$ . Suppose

moreover that  $\mu_A \mathbf{h}_2 = \mathbf{h}_1 \mu_A$ . Then the module condition  $\mathbf{h}_2(\mathbf{g}_1 \otimes 1) = \mathbf{g}_1 \otimes \mathbf{h}_1$  implies that  $\mathbf{h}_1$  is a morphism of  $B$ -modules (of degree 1). The other module conditions have similar interpretations.

### 5 Symmetric tensor trick

By Proposition 4.1 any contraction  $\mathfrak{D}$  can be extended to a thick contraction  $\underline{\mathfrak{D}}$  where  $f$  and  $g$  are morphisms and  $h$  is a  $(1, gf)$ -derivation. In this section we will symmetrize  $h$  to obtain a symmetric thick contraction  $\underline{\mathfrak{D}}^\Sigma$  which extends  $\mathfrak{D}$ . The symmetrized homotopy  $\mathbf{h}^\Sigma$  is no longer a  $(1, gf)$ -derivation, but we will show that it is a pseudo-derivation. Throughout this section we will assume that  $\mathbb{Q} \subseteq \mathbb{k}$ . This assumption is necessary; see Proposition 8.2.

Fix a contraction  $\mathfrak{D}$ , and consider its extension to a thick contraction  $\underline{\mathfrak{D}}$  given by Proposition 4.1:

$$f_n = f^{\otimes n}, \quad g_n = g^{\otimes n}, \quad h_n = \sum_{i+1+j=n} 1^{\otimes i} \otimes h \otimes \pi^{\otimes j}.$$

Here  $\pi = gf$ . Evidently, the thick maps  $f$  and  $g$  are symmetric, but  $h$  is not.

**Definition 5.1** The symmetrized tensor trick homotopy  $\mathbf{h}^\Sigma: A \rightarrow A$  is the thick map defined by

$$\mathbf{h}_n^\Sigma = \frac{1}{n!} \sum_{\sigma \in \Sigma_n} \mathbf{h}_n^\sigma,$$

where  $\mathbf{h}_n^\sigma = \sigma^{-1} \mathbf{h}_n \sigma$ .

The idea of symmetrizing the tensor trick homotopy appears in Gugenheim, Lambe and Stasheff [13] and [21; 18; 19] and presumably in many other places, but the author is not aware of any written source where the formal properties of the symmetrized homotopy are worked out in detail. In particular, we believe that the discovery that  $\mathbf{h}^\Sigma$  is a pseudo-derivation is new; see Theorem 5.1 below.

**Proposition 5.1** The symmetrized homotopy  $\mathbf{h}^\Sigma: A \rightarrow A$  can be decomposed as

$$\mathbf{h}^\Sigma = \mathbf{q} \mathbf{h}^{\text{der}} = \mathbf{h}^{\text{der}} \mathbf{q}$$

where  $\mathbf{h}^{\text{der}}$  and  $\mathbf{q}$  are the symmetric thick maps from  $A$  to itself given by

$$\mathbf{h}_n^{\text{der}} = \sum_{i+1+j=n} 1^{\otimes i} \otimes h \otimes 1^{\otimes j}, \quad \mathbf{q}_n = \sum_{\epsilon \in \{0,1\}^n} Q_{|\epsilon|}^n \pi^{\epsilon_1} \otimes \dots \otimes \pi^{\epsilon_n}.$$

Here,  $\pi = gf$ ,  $|\epsilon| = \epsilon_1 + \dots + \epsilon_n$  and

$$Q_k^n = \frac{k!(n-1-k)!}{n!}$$

if  $k < n$ . We define  $Q_n^n = 0$ .

**Proof** The  $n^{\text{th}}$  component of the symmetrized homotopy is given by the formula

$$h_n^\Sigma = \frac{1}{n!} \sum_{\sigma \in \Sigma_n} h_n^\sigma,$$

where  $h_n^\sigma = \sigma^{-1} h_n \sigma$ . Every  $\sigma \in \Sigma_n$  determines a total order  $<_\sigma$  of  $\{1, \dots, n\}$  by

$$i <_\sigma j \iff \sigma(i) < \sigma(j).$$

We have that

$$h_n^\sigma = \sum_{j=1}^n \alpha_1 \otimes \dots \otimes \alpha_{j-1} \otimes h \otimes \alpha_{j+1} \otimes \dots \otimes \alpha_n,$$

where, for  $i \neq j$ ,

$$\alpha_i = \begin{cases} 1 & \text{if } i <_\sigma j, \\ \pi & \text{if } j <_\sigma i. \end{cases}$$

Therefore, the sum of all  $h_n^\sigma$  is a linear combination of terms of the form

$$\pi^{\epsilon_1} \otimes \dots \otimes \pi^{\epsilon_{j-1}} \otimes h \otimes \pi^{\epsilon_{j+1}} \otimes \dots \otimes \pi^{\epsilon_n},$$

where  $\epsilon_i \in \{0, 1\}$ . The coefficient of such a term is the number of total orders on the set  $\{1, \dots, n\}$  with the property that  $j$  is the  $j^{\text{th}}$  element and all elements of the set  $\{i \mid \epsilon_i = 0\}$  precede all elements of the set  $\{i \mid \epsilon_i = 1\}$ . The number of such orders is  $k!(n-1-k)!$ , where  $k = |\{i \mid \epsilon_i = 1\}| = |\epsilon|$ . Hence,

$$h_n^\Sigma = \sum_{j=1}^n \sum_{\substack{\epsilon \in \{0,1\}^n \\ \epsilon_j = 0}} Q_{|\epsilon|}^n \pi^{\epsilon_1} \otimes \dots \otimes \pi^{\epsilon_{j-1}} \otimes h \otimes \pi^{\epsilon_{j+1}} \otimes \dots \otimes \pi^{\epsilon_n}.$$

Since  $h\pi = \pi h = 0$ , this may be written as  $h^\Sigma = h^{\text{der}} q = q h^{\text{der}}$ , as claimed. □

**Remark 5.1** Observe that since  $h\pi = \pi h = 0$  it does not matter how  $Q_n^n$  is defined, but we define it to be zero for definiteness.

**Theorem 5.1** *The diagram*

$$\underline{\mathcal{D}}^\Sigma: h^\Sigma \begin{array}{c} \curvearrowright \\ \hookrightarrow \end{array} A \begin{array}{c} \xrightarrow{f} \\ \xleftarrow{g} \end{array} B$$

is a symmetric thick contraction which extends  $\mathcal{D}$ . Furthermore,  $f$  and  $g$  are morphisms and  $h^\Sigma$  is a pseudo-derivation.

**Proof** The relation  $\partial(h^\Sigma) = gf - 1$  follows from the relation  $\partial(h) = gf - 1$  because symmetrization is a morphism of chain complexes

$$\text{Hom}_{\mathcal{C}}(A^{\otimes n}, A^{\otimes n}) \rightarrow \text{Hom}_{\mathcal{C}}(A^{\otimes n}, A^{\otimes n})^{\Sigma_n},$$

and because the thick map  $gf - 1$  is symmetric. The relation  $fg = 1$  is clear. By Proposition 5.1 we have  $h^\Sigma = qh^{\text{der}} = h^{\text{der}}q$ . Since  $fh = 0, hg = 0$  and  $hh = 0$ , it follows that  $fh^{\text{der}} = 0, h^{\text{der}}g = 0$  and  $h^{\text{der}}h^{\text{der}} = 0$ . Therefore,  $fh^\Sigma = fh^{\text{der}}q = 0, h^\Sigma g = qh^{\text{der}}g = 0$  and  $h^\Sigma h^\Sigma = qh^{\text{der}}h^{\text{der}}q = 0$ . We have thus verified that  $\underline{\mathcal{D}}^\Sigma$  is a contraction.

The maps  $f$  and  $g$  are by definition the morphisms that extend  $f$  and  $g$ . To prove that  $h^\Sigma$  is a pseudo-derivation, it suffices by Proposition 4.5 to verify the annihilation conditions. To do this, use the decomposition  $h^\Sigma = qh^{\text{der}} = h^{\text{der}}q$  and the fact that  $h^{\text{der}}$  is a derivation that annihilates  $f, g$  and  $h^{\text{der}}$ . For instance,

$$\begin{aligned} (f \otimes h^\Sigma)m^*(h^\Sigma) &= (f \otimes qh^{\text{der}})m^*(h^{\text{der}})m^*(q) \\ &= (f \otimes qh^{\text{der}})(h^{\text{der}} \otimes 1 + 1 \otimes h^{\text{der}})m^*(q) \\ &= (-fh^{\text{der}} \otimes qh^{\text{der}} + f \otimes qh^{\text{der}}h^{\text{der}})m^*(q) = 0. \end{aligned}$$

The other annihilation conditions are verified in a similar manner. □

**Remark 5.2** We have proved that  $h^\Sigma$  is a pseudo-derivation and that  $\underline{\mathcal{D}}^\Sigma$  satisfies the module conditions via Proposition 4.5 by verifying the annihilation conditions. The module conditions can also be verified directly. These verifications boil down to statements about the coefficients  $Q_k^n$ . For example, in proving that

$$(f \otimes 1)m^*(h^\Sigma) = f \otimes h^\Sigma,$$

one comes across the statement that the equality

$$\sum_{j=0}^r \binom{r}{j} Q_{j+k}^n = Q_k^{n-r}$$

holds for all nonnegative integers  $r, k, n$  with  $r + k < n$ . Verifying directly that  $h^\Sigma$  is a pseudo-derivation involves a similar but more complicated equality. It is quite interesting that these combinatorial equalities are consequences of Proposition 4.5.

## 6 Operads and cooperads

For the convenience of the reader we have included this section with standard definitions and facts about operads and cooperads. Most things in this section can be found in Fresse [8], and the reader familiar with operads can safely skip this section, referring back for notation if necessary.

A *symmetric sequence* is a collection  $\mathcal{O} = \{\mathcal{O}(n)\}_{n \geq 0}$  where  $\mathcal{O}(n)$  is a chain complex with a right action of the symmetric group  $\Sigma_n$ . The *Schur functor* associated to a symmetric sequence  $\mathcal{O}$  is the functor  $\mathcal{O}[-]$  from the category of chain complexes to itself given on objects by

$$\mathcal{O}[A] = \bigoplus_{n \geq 0} \mathcal{O}(n) \otimes_{\Sigma_n} A^{\otimes n},$$

and on morphisms  $f: A \rightarrow B$  by

$$\mathcal{O}[f] = \bigoplus_{n \geq 0} 1 \otimes_{\Sigma_n} f^{\otimes n}: \mathcal{O}[A] \rightarrow \mathcal{O}[B];$$

see [8, Section 2.1.1]. There is a parallel story for *nonsymmetric* operads and cooperads; here one considers sequences  $\mathcal{O} = \{\mathcal{O}(n)\}_{\geq 0}$ , where  $\mathcal{O}(n)$  is just a chain complex without any  $\Sigma_n$ -action. In this case, one sets  $\mathcal{O}[A] = \bigoplus_{n \geq 0} \mathcal{O}(n) \otimes A^{\otimes n}$ . All the constructions in this section have obvious nonsymmetric analogs.

The *tensor product* of two symmetric sequences  $\mathcal{O}$  and  $\mathcal{P}$  is the symmetric sequence  $\mathcal{O} \otimes \mathcal{P}$  given by

$$(\mathcal{O} \otimes \mathcal{P})(n) = \bigoplus_{p+q=n} \text{Ind}_{\Sigma_p \times \Sigma_q}^{\Sigma_n} \mathcal{O}(p) \otimes \mathcal{P}(q).$$

Here  $\text{Ind}_{\Sigma_p \times \Sigma_q}^{\Sigma_n} \mathcal{O}(p) \otimes \mathcal{P}(q)$  denotes the induced  $\Sigma_n$ -representation. This tensor product has the property that there is an isomorphism of functors from  $\mathcal{C}$  to itself

$$(\mathcal{O} \otimes \mathcal{P})[-] \cong \mathcal{O}[-] \otimes \mathcal{P}[-],$$

and it makes the category of symmetric sequences into a symmetric monoidal dg-category; see [8, Section 2.1].

The *composition product* of two symmetric sequences  $\mathcal{O}$  and  $\mathcal{P}$  is the symmetric sequence

$$\mathcal{O} \circ \mathcal{P} = \bigoplus_{n \geq 0} \mathcal{O}(n) \otimes_{\Sigma_n} \mathcal{P}^{\otimes n}.$$

The composition product has the property that there is an isomorphism of functors from  $\mathcal{C}$  to itself

$$(\mathcal{O} \circ \mathcal{P})[-] \cong \mathcal{O}[\mathcal{P}[-]],$$

and it makes the category of symmetric sequences into a monoidal category; see [8, Section 2.2]. The unit object for the composition product is the symmetric sequence  $\mathcal{I}$  with  $\mathcal{I}(1) = \mathbb{k}$  and  $\mathcal{I}(n) = 0$  for  $n \neq 1$ . Concretely, elements of  $(\mathcal{O} \circ \mathcal{P})(n)$  are linear combinations of formal composites

$$v \circ (v_1 \otimes \cdots \otimes v_r)\sigma,$$

where

$$v \in \mathcal{O}(r), \quad v_1 \in \mathcal{P}(a_1), \dots, v_r \in \mathcal{P}(a_r), \quad \sigma \in \Sigma_n, \quad a_1 + \cdots + a_r = n.$$

These formal composites are subject to  $\mathbb{k}$ -linearity in each variable and the equivariance conditions

$$(2) \quad (v\tau) \circ (v_1 \otimes \cdots \otimes v_r) = v \circ (v_{\tau^{-1}(1)} \otimes \cdots \otimes v_{\tau^{-1}(r)})\tau_{i_1, \dots, i_r},$$

$$(3) \quad v \circ (v_1 \tau_1 \otimes \cdots \otimes v_r \tau_r) = v \circ (v_1 \otimes \cdots \otimes v_r)\tau_1 \sqcup \cdots \sqcup \tau_r.$$

Here  $\tau_{i_1, \dots, i_r} \in \Sigma_n$  is the block permutation whose action is given by first dividing  $\{1, 2, \dots, n\}$  into  $r$  blocks of sizes  $i_1, \dots, i_r$  and then permuting the blocks according to  $\tau \in \Sigma_r$ . If  $\tau_j \in \Sigma_{i_j}$  for  $j = 1, \dots, r$ , then  $\tau_1 \sqcup \cdots \sqcup \tau_r \in \Sigma_n$  denotes the permutation which permutes the elements within the  $j^{\text{th}}$  block according to  $\tau_j$ . The right action of  $\Sigma_n$  is given by formally multiplying to the right.

An *operad* is a monoid in the monoidal category of symmetric sequences with the composition product, ie a symmetric sequence  $\mathcal{O}$  together with a multiplication  $\gamma: \mathcal{O} \circ \mathcal{O} \rightarrow \mathcal{O}$  and a unit  $\eta: \mathcal{I} \rightarrow \mathcal{O}$  satisfying associativity and unit axioms; see [8, Section 3.1]. If  $\mathcal{O}$  is an operad then the associated Schur functor  $\mathcal{O}[-]$  becomes a monad (see Mac Lane [29, Chapter VI]), and an *algebra over  $\mathcal{O}$*  is an algebra over the monad  $\mathcal{O}[-]$ , ie an object  $A$  together with a morphism  $\gamma_A: \mathcal{O}[A] \rightarrow A$  satisfying a unit and an associativity constraint; see [8, Section 3.2; 29, page 140]. An  $\mathcal{O}$ -algebra structure on  $A$  can equivalently be defined as a morphism of operads  $\mathcal{O} \rightarrow \text{End}_A$ . The image of  $\mu \in \mathcal{O}(n)$  in  $\text{End}_A(n) = \text{Hom}_{\mathbb{k}}(A^{\otimes n}, A)$  is an operation  $\mu_A: A^{\otimes n} \rightarrow A$ .

A *cooperad*  $\mathcal{C}$  is a comonoid in the monoidal category of symmetric sequences with the composition product, ie a symmetric sequence  $\mathcal{C}$  together with a coproduct  $\Delta: \mathcal{C} \rightarrow \mathcal{C} \circ \mathcal{C}$  and a counit  $\epsilon: \mathcal{C} \rightarrow \mathcal{I}$  satisfying coassociativity and counit axioms; see Fresse [7, Section 1.2.17], Getzler and Jones [10, Section 1.7] or [28, Section 4.7]. If  $\mathcal{C}$  is a cooperad, then the associated Schur functor  $\mathcal{C}[-]$  becomes a comonad [29, page 139], and a  $\mathcal{C}$ -coalgebra is a coalgebra over this comonad, ie an object  $A$  together with a

morphism  $\Delta_A: A \rightarrow \mathcal{C}[A]$  satisfying a coassociativity constraint; see [7, Section 1.2.17; 10, Section 1.7; 28, Section 4.7.4].

Let  $\mathcal{C}$  be a *connected cooperad*, ie a cooperad satisfying  $\mathcal{C}(0) = 0$  and  $\mathcal{C}(1) = \mathbb{k}$ . By the description of elements of a composition product above and by the counit axiom for  $\mathcal{C}$  we may write  $\Delta(v) \in (\mathcal{C} \circ \mathcal{C})(n)$  as

$$\Delta(v) = v \circ 1^{\otimes n} + 1 \circ v + \sum_{q=1}^p v^q \circ (v_1^q \otimes \cdots \otimes v_{r_q}^q) \sigma_q$$

for some  $v^q \in \mathcal{C}(r_q)$ ,  $v_i^q \in \mathcal{C}(a_i^q)$  and  $\sigma_q \in \Sigma_n$ , where we have  $\sum_i a_i^q = n$ ,  $2 \leq r_q \leq n-1$ ,  $1 \leq a_i^q \leq n-1$  and  $a_i^q > 1$  for at least one  $i$ . We will sometimes use the shorter notation

$$\Delta(v) = \sum_{q=0}^{p+1} v'_q \circ v''_q,$$

where  $v''_q = (v_1^q \otimes \cdots \otimes v_{r_q}^q) \sigma_q \in \mathcal{C}^{\otimes r_q}(n)$  for  $0 < q < p+1$  and where we let the 0<sup>th</sup> and  $(p+1)$ <sup>st</sup> terms be  $v \circ 1^{\otimes n}$  and  $1 \circ v$ , respectively.

Let  $\Delta_{(1)}$  be the *quadratic part* of  $\Delta(v)$ , by which we mean the sum of the terms in  $\Delta(v)$  with  $a_i^q > 1$  for *exactly one*  $i$ . This may be written in the form

$$\Delta_{(1)}(v) = \sum_{i=1}^u (v'_i \circ_{e_i} v''_i) \tau_i$$

for  $v'_i \in \mathcal{C}(a'_i)$ ,  $v''_i \in \mathcal{C}(a''_i)$  and  $\tau_i \in \Sigma_n$ , where

$$v'_i \circ_{e_i} v''_i = v'_i \circ (1^{\otimes e_i-1} \otimes v''_i \otimes 1^{\otimes a'_i-e_i}).$$

## 7 Perturbation lemma for algebras over operads

**Definition 7.1** Let  $\mathcal{O}$  be an operad and let  $A, B$  be  $\mathcal{O}$ -algebras. We define a *thick map of  $\mathcal{O}$ -algebras* to be a symmetric thick map  $f: A \rightarrow B$  such that the diagram

$$\begin{array}{ccc} \mathcal{O}[A] & \xrightarrow{\mathcal{O}[f]} & \mathcal{O}[B] \\ \downarrow \gamma_A & & \downarrow \gamma_B \\ A & \xrightarrow{f_1} & B \end{array}$$

commutes, where the upper horizontal map is given by

$$\mathcal{O}[f] = \bigoplus_{n \geq 0} 1 \otimes_{\Sigma_n} f_n: \mathcal{O}[A] \rightarrow \mathcal{O}[B].$$



In more elementary terms, a thick map of  $\mathcal{O}$ -algebras  $f: A \rightarrow B$  is a sequence

$$f = \{f_n: A^{\otimes n} \rightarrow B^{\otimes n}\}_{n \geq 0}$$

of  $\Sigma_n$ -equivariant maps of the same degree  $|f|$  such that

$$f_1 \mu_A = (-1)^{|\mu||f|} \mu_B f_n$$

for every  $\mu \in \mathcal{O}(n)$ .

Thick maps of  $\mathcal{O}$ -algebras simultaneously generalize morphisms and derivations (see [10, Definition 2.5; 28, Section 5.3.8]) of  $\mathcal{O}$ -algebras.  $\mathcal{O}$ -algebras together with thick maps of  $\mathcal{O}$ -algebras form a dg-category that contains the ordinary category of  $\mathcal{O}$ -algebras as a subcategory.

**Proposition 7.1** *Let  $A, B, C$  be  $\mathcal{O}$ -algebras.*

- *If  $f, g: A \rightarrow B$  and  $h: B \rightarrow C$  are thick maps of  $\mathcal{O}$ -algebras, then so are  $h \circ f, \partial(f)$  and  $af + bg$ , for  $a, b \in \mathbb{k}$ . In other words,  $\mathcal{O}$ -algebras and thick maps of  $\mathcal{O}$ -algebras form a dg-subcategory  $T_{\mathcal{O}}(\mathcal{C})$  of the dg-category  $T_{\Sigma}(\mathcal{C})$  of chain complexes and symmetric thick maps.*
- *Morphisms of  $\mathcal{O}$ -algebras  $f: A \rightarrow B$  may be identified with thick maps of  $\mathcal{O}$ -algebras  $f: A \rightarrow B$  that satisfy  $f_{p+q} = f_p \otimes f_q$  for all  $p, q$ .*
- *Derivations of  $\mathcal{O}$ -algebras  $d: A \rightarrow A$  may be identified with thick maps of  $\mathcal{O}$ -algebras  $d: A \rightarrow A$  that satisfy  $d_{p+q} = d_p \otimes \mathbf{1} + \mathbf{1} \otimes d_q$  for all  $p, q$ .*

**Proof** This is an exercise in manipulating the definitions. □

**Definition 7.2** We define an  $\mathcal{O}$ -algebra contraction to be a contraction

$$\mathcal{D}: h \circlearrowleft A \begin{matrix} \xrightarrow{f} \\ \xleftarrow{g} \end{matrix} B$$

in the dg-category  $T_{\mathcal{O}}(\mathcal{C})$ , where  $f$  and  $g$  are morphisms and  $h$  is a pseudo-derivation.

**Proof of Theorem 1.1** By Theorem 4.1,  $\mathcal{D}^t$  is a thick contraction,  $f'$  and  $g'$  are morphisms,  $h'$  is a pseudo-derivation,  $t'$  is a derivation, and  $t = t_1$  and  $t' = t'_1$  are perturbations of  $A$  and  $B$ . We need to verify that the perturbed objects  $A^t$  and  $B^{t'}$  are  $\mathcal{O}$ -algebras and that  $f', g'$  and  $h'$  are thick maps of  $\mathcal{O}$ -algebras between  $A^t$  and  $B^{t'}$ .

Since  $t$  and  $h$  are thick maps of  $\mathcal{O}$ -algebras from  $A$  to itself, it follows that so are  $\mathbf{1} - ht$ , the inverse  $(\mathbf{1} - ht)^{-1}$  and  $\Sigma = t(\mathbf{1} - ht)^{-1}$ . Hence the perturbed maps  $f'$ ,

$g', h'$  and  $t'$ , being built by composing and adding thick maps of  $\mathcal{O}$ -algebras, are again thick maps of  $\mathcal{O}$ -algebras, viewed as thick maps between  $A$  and  $B$ .

Since  $t: A \rightarrow A$  is a derivation and a thick map of  $\mathcal{O}$ -algebras,  $t$  is a derivation of  $\mathcal{O}$ -algebras. Therefore  $A^t$ , which is just  $A$  with perturbed differential  $d_A + t$ , becomes an  $\mathcal{O}$ -algebra with the same structure maps as  $A$ . Similarly, since  $t': B \rightarrow B$  is a derivation and a thick map of  $\mathcal{O}$ -algebras,  $B^{t'}$  is an  $\mathcal{O}$ -algebra with the same structure maps as  $B$ .

Since the  $\mathcal{O}$ -algebra structure maps for  $A^t$  and  $B^{t'}$  are the same as those for  $A$  and  $B$  respectively, the thick maps  $f', g', h'$  and  $t'$  are indeed thick maps of  $\mathcal{O}$ -algebras between  $A^t$  and  $B^{t'}$ . □

Invertibility of  $\mathbf{1} - ht$  can be ensured by having suitable filtrations on the objects.

## 8 Tensor trick for algebras over operads

**Proposition 8.1** *Let  $\mathcal{O}$  be a symmetric sequence. The associated Schur functor  $\mathcal{O}[-]: \mathcal{C} \rightarrow \mathcal{C}$  extends to a dg-functor  $\mathcal{O}_\bullet[-]: T_\Sigma(\mathcal{C}) \rightarrow T_\Sigma(\mathcal{C})$ . This extended Schur functor preserves morphisms and pseudo-derivations. If  $\mathcal{O}$  is an operad and if  $f$  is any symmetric thick map then  $\mathcal{O}_\bullet[f]$  is a symmetric thick map of  $\mathcal{O}$ -algebras.*

*Similarly, for a nonsymmetric sequence  $\mathcal{O}$  there is an extension of the associated Schur functor to a dg-functor  $\mathcal{O}_\bullet[-]: T_{\mathbb{N}}(\mathcal{C}) \rightarrow T_{\mathbb{N}}(\mathcal{C})$  which preserves morphisms and pseudo-derivations. If  $\mathcal{O}$  is a nonsymmetric operad then  $\mathcal{O}_\bullet[f]$  is a thick map of  $\mathcal{O}$ -algebras for any thick map  $f$ .*

**Proof** We will consider the symmetric case. The nonsymmetric case is practically identical. The extension will be carried out in two steps. Firstly, note that the Schur functor  $\mathcal{O}[-]: \mathcal{C} \rightarrow \mathcal{C}$  extends to a dg-functor  $T_\Sigma(\mathcal{C}) \rightarrow \mathcal{C}$ . Indeed, if  $f: A \rightarrow B$  is a symmetric thick map then let

$$\mathcal{O}[f] = \bigoplus_{n \geq 0} 1 \otimes_{\Sigma_n} f_n: \mathcal{O}[A] \rightarrow \mathcal{O}[B].$$

It is straightforward to check that  $\mathcal{O}[-]$  is  $\mathbb{k}$ -linear, that  $\mathcal{O}[\partial(f)] = \partial(\mathcal{O}[f])$  and that  $\mathcal{O}[f \circ g] = \mathcal{O}[f] \circ \mathcal{O}[g]$ .

Secondly, for a symmetric thick map  $f: A \rightarrow B$ , the  $n^{\text{th}}$  level  $\mathcal{O}_n[f]$  of the thick map  $\mathcal{O}_\bullet[f]: \mathcal{O}[A] \rightarrow \mathcal{O}[B]$  is defined by requiring commutativity of the following diagram:

$$\begin{array}{ccc}
 \mathcal{O}[A]^{\otimes n} & \xrightarrow{\mathcal{O}_n[\mathbf{f}]} & \mathcal{O}[B]^{\otimes n} \\
 \downarrow \cong & & \downarrow \cong \\
 \mathcal{O}^{\otimes n}[A] & \xrightarrow{\mathcal{O}^{\otimes n}[\mathbf{f}]} & \mathcal{O}^{\otimes n}[B]
 \end{array}$$

Here, the lower horizontal map  $\mathcal{O}^{\otimes n}[\mathbf{f}]$  is obtained by applying the dg-functor

$$\mathcal{O}^{\otimes n}[-]: T_{\Sigma}(\mathcal{C}) \rightarrow \mathcal{C}$$

obtained in the first step to the symmetric thick map  $\mathbf{f}$ . The vertical maps are given by the natural isomorphism  $\mathcal{O}[-]^{\otimes n} \cong \mathcal{O}^{\otimes n}[-]$  of functors from  $\mathcal{C}$  to itself. To be more explicit, observe that there is an isomorphism

$$\mathcal{O}[A]^{\otimes n} \cong \bigoplus_{r_1, \dots, r_n \geq 0} (\mathcal{O}(r_1) \otimes \dots \otimes \mathcal{O}(r_n)) \otimes_{\Sigma_{r_1} \times \dots \times \Sigma_{r_n}} A^{\otimes(r_1 + \dots + r_n)}.$$

On the summand indexed by  $(r_1, \dots, r_n)$ , the map  $\mathcal{O}_n[\mathbf{f}]$  acts as  $\mathbf{f}_{r_1 + \dots + r_n}$ . The thick map  $\mathcal{O}_{\bullet}[\mathbf{f}]$  is symmetric because  $\mathcal{O} \mapsto \mathcal{O}[-]$  is a symmetric monoidal functor (see [8, Proposition 2.1.5]). The map  $\mathcal{O}_{\bullet}[-]$  is a dg-functor because it is so at each level. Thus, we have obtained the required extension.

Suppose that  $\mathbf{h}: A \rightarrow A$  is a pseudo-derivation. We need to show that the thick map  $\mathbf{H} = \mathcal{O}_{\bullet}[\mathbf{h}]: \mathcal{O}[A] \rightarrow \mathcal{O}[A]$  is a pseudo-derivation. Indeed, for any  $p, q$  the restriction of the map

$$(\mathbf{H}_p \otimes \mathbf{1} - \mathbf{1} \otimes \mathbf{H}_q) \mathbf{H}_{p+q}: \mathcal{O}[A]^{\otimes(p+q)} \rightarrow \mathcal{O}[A]^{\otimes(p+q)}$$

to the summand indexed by  $(r_1, \dots, r_{p+q})$  acts on the right factor  $A^{\otimes(r_1 + \dots + r_{p+q})}$  as

$$(\mathbf{h}_i \otimes \mathbf{1} - \mathbf{1} \otimes \mathbf{h}_j) \mathbf{h}_{i+j},$$

where  $i = r_1 + \dots + r_p$  and  $j = r_{p+1} + \dots + r_{p+q}$ . Since  $\mathbf{h}$  is a pseudo-derivation, this is equal to  $\mathbf{h}_i \otimes \mathbf{h}_j$ . But this is exactly how the map  $\mathbf{H}_p \otimes \mathbf{H}_q: \mathcal{O}[A]^{\otimes(p+q)} \rightarrow \mathcal{O}[A]^{\otimes(p+q)}$  restricted to the component indexed by  $(r_1, \dots, r_{p+q})$  acts on the right factor. Thus,

$$(\mathbf{H}_p \otimes \mathbf{1} - \mathbf{1} \otimes \mathbf{H}_q) \mathbf{H}_{p+q} = \mathbf{H}_p \otimes \mathbf{H}_q.$$

By the same argument

$$-\mathbf{H}_{p+q}(\mathbf{H}_p \otimes \mathbf{1} - \mathbf{1} \otimes \mathbf{H}_q) = \mathbf{H}_p \otimes \mathbf{H}_q,$$

and so  $\mathbf{H}$  is a pseudo-derivation. The proof that the dg-functor  $\mathcal{O}_{\bullet}[-]: T_{\Sigma}(\mathcal{C}) \rightarrow T_{\Sigma}(\mathcal{C})$  takes morphisms to morphisms is similar.

Finally, suppose that  $\mathcal{O}$  is an operad and let  $f: A \rightarrow B$  be any symmetric thick map. We need to show that  $F = \mathcal{O}_\bullet[f]$  is a thick map of  $\mathcal{O}$ -algebras. It is straightforward to check that the diagram

$$\begin{CD} \mathcal{O}[\mathcal{O}[A]] @>{\mathcal{O}[F]}>> \mathcal{O}[\mathcal{O}[B]] \\ @V{\cong}VV @VV{\cong}V \\ (\mathcal{O} \circ \mathcal{O})[A] @>{(\mathcal{O} \circ \mathcal{O})[f]}>> (\mathcal{O} \circ \mathcal{O})[B] \end{CD}$$

commutes. Since the  $\mathcal{O}$ -algebra structure on  $\mathcal{O}[A]$  is given by the composite

$$\mathcal{O}[\mathcal{O}[A]] \xrightarrow{\cong} (\mathcal{O} \circ \mathcal{O})[A] \xrightarrow{\gamma_{\mathcal{O}[A]}} \mathcal{O}[A],$$

see [8, Section 3.2.13], this implies that  $F$  is a thick map of  $\mathcal{O}$ -algebras. □

**Proof of Theorem 1.2** With  $h$  as in Theorem 1.2, we get a contraction in the dg-category  $T_\Sigma(\mathbb{C})$

$$h \circlearrowleft A \begin{matrix} \xrightarrow{f} \\ \xleftarrow{g} \end{matrix} B$$

that extends the original contraction  $\mathfrak{D}$ . Any dg-functor preserves contractions, so if we apply the extended Schur functor  $\mathcal{O}_\bullet[-]$  from Proposition 8.1 we get a contraction of  $\mathcal{O}$ -algebras with the desired properties. The second part of Theorem 1.2 follows from Proposition 4.1 and Theorem 5.1. □

We will now show the necessity of the assumption  $\mathbb{Q} \subseteq \mathbb{k}$  in Theorem 5.1.

**Proposition 8.2** *If every contraction  $\mathfrak{D}$  can be extended to a symmetric thick contraction  $\underline{\mathfrak{D}}$  then necessarily  $\mathbb{Q} \subseteq \mathbb{k}$ .*

**Proof** For integers  $n$  and  $m$ , let  $D^n(m)$  denote the chain complex whose underlying graded  $\mathbb{k}$ -module has one generator  $x$  in degree  $n$  and one generator  $y$  in degree  $n - 1$ , and where the differential is given by  $d(x) = my$  and  $d(y) = 0$ . Defining  $h: D^2(1) \rightarrow D^2(1)$  by  $h(x) = 0$ ,  $h(y) = x$ , and  $f = 0$ ,  $g = 0$ , we get a contraction

$$\mathfrak{D}: h \circlearrowleft D^2(1) \begin{matrix} \xrightarrow{f} \\ \xleftarrow{g} \end{matrix} 0.$$

If this had an extension to a symmetric thick contraction  $\underline{\mathfrak{D}}$ , then we could apply  $\mathcal{O}[-]$  to this, for any symmetric sequence  $\mathcal{O}$ . Consider the particular symmetric sequence  $\mathcal{S}$  with  $\mathcal{S}(0) = 0$  and  $\mathcal{S}(n) = \mathbb{k}$ , the trivial representation of  $\Sigma_n$ , for  $n \geq 1$ . The value at  $A$  of the associated Schur functor is the (nonunital) symmetric algebra on  $A$ . Applying  $\mathcal{S}[-]$  to the symmetric thick contraction  $\underline{\mathfrak{D}}$ , we would get a contraction

$$H \begin{array}{c} \curvearrowright \\ \curvearrowleft \end{array} \mathcal{S}[D^2(1)] \begin{array}{c} \xleftarrow{F} \\ \xrightarrow{G} \end{array} \mathcal{S}[0].$$

But  $\mathcal{S}[0] = 0$ , so this can only happen if  $\mathcal{S}[D^2(1)]$  is contractible. As a graded module,  $\mathcal{S}[D^2(1)]$  has basis  $x^{n+1}, x^n y$ , where  $|x^{n+1}| = 2n + 2$  and  $|x^n y| = 2n + 1$ . The differential is given by  $d(x^{n+1}) = (n + 1)x^n y$  and  $d(x^n y) = 0$ , so there is a direct sum decomposition

$$\mathcal{S}[D^2(1)] \cong \bigoplus_{n \geq 0} D^{2n+2}(n + 1).$$

Therefore,  $\mathcal{S}[D^2(1)]$  is contractible if and only if  $D^{2n+2}(n + 1)$  is contractible for all  $n \geq 0$ . But  $D^{2n+2}(n + 1)$  is contractible if and only if  $n + 1$  is invertible in  $\mathbb{k}$ . Hence,  $\mathcal{S}[D^2(1)]$  is contractible if and only if  $\mathbb{Q} \subseteq \mathbb{k}$ . □

## 9 Perturbation lemma and tensor trick for coalgebras over cooperads

In this section we will dualize the results of the previous sections. The proofs are virtually the same and will therefore be omitted.

**Definition 9.1** Let  $\mathcal{C}$  be a cooperad and let  $A$  and  $B$  be  $\mathcal{C}$ -coalgebras. We define a *thick map of  $\mathcal{C}$ -coalgebras* to be a symmetric thick map  $f: A \rightarrow B$  such that the diagram

$$\begin{array}{ccc} A & \xrightarrow{f_1} & B \\ \downarrow \Delta_A & & \downarrow \Delta_B \\ \mathcal{C}[A] & \xrightarrow{c[f]} & \mathcal{C}[B] \end{array}$$

commutes.

**Proposition 9.1** Let  $A, B, C$  be  $\mathcal{C}$ -coalgebras.

- If  $f, g: A \rightarrow B$  and  $h: B \rightarrow C$  are thick maps of  $\mathcal{C}$ -coalgebras, then so are  $h \circ f, \partial(f)$  and  $a f + b g$ , for  $a, b \in \mathbb{k}$ . In other words,  $\mathcal{C}$ -coalgebras and thick maps of  $\mathcal{C}$ -coalgebras form a dg-subcategory  $T_{\mathcal{C}}(\mathcal{C})$  of the dg-category  $T_{\Sigma}(\mathcal{C})$  of chain complexes and symmetric thick maps.
- Morphisms of  $\mathcal{C}$ -coalgebras  $f: A \rightarrow B$  may be identified with thick maps of  $\mathcal{C}$ -coalgebras  $f: A \rightarrow B$  that satisfy  $f_{p+q} = f_p \otimes f_q$  for all  $p, q$ .
- Coderivations of  $\mathcal{C}$ -coalgebras  $d: A \rightarrow A$  may be identified with thick maps of  $\mathcal{C}$ -coalgebras  $d: A \rightarrow A$  that satisfy  $d_{p+q} = d_p \otimes \mathbf{1} + \mathbf{1} \otimes d_q$  for all  $p, q$ .

**Definition 9.2** We define a *contraction of  $\mathcal{C}$ -coalgebras* to be a contraction

$$\mathcal{D}: \mathbf{h} \circlearrowleft A \begin{matrix} \xrightarrow{f} \\ \xleftarrow{g} \end{matrix} B$$

in the dg-category  $T_{\mathcal{C}}(\mathcal{C})$ , where  $f$  and  $g$  are morphisms and  $\mathbf{h}$  is a pseudo-derivation.

**Theorem 9.1** ( *$\mathcal{C}$ -coalgebra Perturbation Lemma*) Let  $\mathcal{D}$  be a contraction of  $\mathcal{C}$ -coalgebras. If  $\mathbf{t}$  is a perturbation of  $A$  then, provided the series  $\mathbf{t} + \mathbf{t}\mathbf{h}\mathbf{t} + \dots$  converges, the recursive formulas

$$\begin{aligned} \mathbf{f}' &= \mathbf{f} + \mathbf{f}'\mathbf{t}\mathbf{h}, & \mathbf{g}' &= \mathbf{g} + \mathbf{h}\mathbf{t}\mathbf{g}', \\ \mathbf{h}' &= \mathbf{h} + \mathbf{h}'\mathbf{t}\mathbf{h}, & \mathbf{t}' &= \mathbf{f}\mathbf{t}\mathbf{g}', \end{aligned}$$

define a perturbation  $\mathbf{t}'$  of  $B$  and a contraction of  $\mathcal{C}$ -coalgebras

$$\mathcal{D}^{\mathbf{t}'}: \mathbf{h}' \circlearrowleft (A, d_A + \mathbf{t}_1) \begin{matrix} \xrightarrow{f'} \\ \xleftarrow{g'} \end{matrix} (B, d_B + \mathbf{t}'_1).$$

In particular,  $\mathbf{f}'$ ,  $\mathbf{g}'$  are morphisms,  $\mathbf{t}'$  is a coderivation and  $\mathbf{h}'$  is a pseudo-derivation.

**Theorem 9.2** ( *$\mathcal{C}$ -coalgebra tensor trick*) Consider a contraction of chain complexes

$$\mathcal{D}: \mathbf{h} \circlearrowleft A \begin{matrix} \xrightarrow{f} \\ \xleftarrow{g} \end{matrix} B.$$

For any choice of symmetric pseudo-derivation  $\mathbf{h}$  such that  $\mathbf{h}_1 = \mathbf{h}$  and  $\partial(\mathbf{h}) = \mathbf{g}\mathbf{f} - \mathbf{1}$ ,  $\mathbf{h}\mathbf{h} = \mathbf{0}$ ,  $\mathbf{f}\mathbf{h} = \mathbf{0}$ ,  $\mathbf{h}\mathbf{g} = \mathbf{0}$ , where  $\mathbf{f}_n = f^{\otimes n}$  and  $\mathbf{g}_n = g^{\otimes n}$ , there is an induced contraction of  $\mathcal{C}$ -coalgebras

$$\mathcal{C}_{\bullet}[\mathcal{D}]: \mathbf{c}_{\bullet}[\mathbf{h}] \circlearrowleft \mathcal{C}[A] \begin{matrix} \xrightarrow{\mathbf{c}_{\bullet}[f]} \\ \xleftarrow{\mathbf{c}_{\bullet}[g]} \end{matrix} \mathcal{C}[B].$$

If  $\mathcal{C}$  is a nonsymmetric cooperad, then one may drop the condition that  $\mathbf{h}$  be symmetric. There is always a nonsymmetric pseudo-derivation  $\mathbf{h}$  with the requisite properties, namely

$$\mathbf{h}_n = \sum_{p+1+q=n} 1^{\otimes p} \otimes \mathbf{h} \otimes (\mathbf{g}\mathbf{f})^{\otimes q}.$$

If  $\mathbb{Q} \subseteq \mathbb{k}$  then, with  $\mathbf{h}_n$  as above,

$$\mathbf{h}_n^{\Sigma} = \frac{1}{n!} \sum_{\sigma \in \Sigma_n} \sigma^{-1} \mathbf{h}_n \sigma,$$

defines a symmetric pseudo-derivation  $\mathbf{h}^{\Sigma}$  with the requisite properties.

### 10 Thick maps between “cofree” coalgebras

**Proposition 10.1** *Let  $\mathcal{C}$  be a connected cooperad. A symmetric thick map of  $\mathcal{C}$ -coalgebras  $F: \mathcal{C}[A] \rightarrow \mathcal{C}[B]$  determines maps*

$$F^\nu: A^{\otimes n} \rightarrow B^{\otimes m}$$

for  $\nu \in \mathcal{C}^{\otimes m}(n)$ ,  $m, n \geq 1$ , such that the  $\mathbb{k}$ -linear structure, differentials and symmetric group actions are respected in the sense that

$$\begin{aligned} F^{av+bv'} &= aF^\nu + bF^{\nu'}, \\ (aF + bG)^\nu &= aF^\nu + bG^\nu, \\ \partial(F^\nu) &= \partial(F)^\nu + (-1)^{|F|} F^{d(\nu)}, \\ F^{\tau\nu\sigma} &= \tau F^\nu \sigma, \end{aligned}$$

for any symmetric thick maps  $F, G: \mathcal{C}[A] \rightarrow \mathcal{C}[B]$ , and any  $\nu, \nu' \in \mathcal{C}^{\otimes m}(n)$ ,  $a, b \in \mathbb{k}$ ,  $\tau \in \Sigma_m$ ,  $\sigma \in \Sigma_n$ . Composition of thick maps is respected in the sense that for any  $\nu \in \mathcal{C}(n)$ ,

$$(FG)^\nu = \sum_q (-1)^{|G||\nu'_q|} F^{\nu'_q} G^{\nu''_q},$$

where  $\Delta(\nu) = \sum_q \nu'_q \circ \nu''_q \in (\mathcal{C} \circ \mathcal{C})(n)$  for  $\nu'_q \in \mathcal{C}(r_q)$  and  $\nu''_q \in \mathcal{C}^{\otimes r_q}(n)$ . Furthermore, we have the following.

- (1) The map  $F_1$  is determined by the collection of maps  $F^\nu$ , for  $\nu \in \mathcal{C}^{\otimes m}(n)$ .
- (2) If  $F$  is a morphism of  $\mathcal{C}$ -coalgebras then  $F^{\nu_1 \otimes \dots \otimes \nu_m} = F^{\nu_1} \otimes \dots \otimes F^{\nu_m}$  for any  $\nu_1, \dots, \nu_m \in \mathcal{C}$ . In particular,  $F$  is determined by the collection of maps  $F^\nu$  for  $\nu \in \mathcal{C}(n)$ .
- (3) If  $t: \mathcal{C}[A] \rightarrow \mathcal{C}[A]$  is a weight decreasing coderivation,  $t^{\nu_1 \otimes \dots \otimes \nu_m} = 0$  unless  $\nu_i$  has arity greater than 1 for exactly one  $i$  and  $t^{1^{\otimes i} \otimes \nu \otimes 1^{\otimes j}} = 1^{\otimes i} \otimes t^\nu \otimes 1^{\otimes j}$ . In particular,  $t$  is determined by the collection of maps  $t^\nu$  for  $\nu \in \mathcal{C}(n)$ .
- (4) If  $F$  is induced by a symmetric thick map  $f: A \rightarrow B$  then  $F^\nu = 0$  unless  $m = n$ , and for  $1 \in \mathcal{C}^{\otimes m}(m)$  we have  $F^1 = f_m$ .

**Proof** For  $\nu \in \mathcal{C}^{\otimes m}(n)$ , let  $\iota_\nu: A^{\otimes n} \rightarrow \mathcal{C}^{\otimes m}[A]$  be the map  $a \mapsto \nu \otimes a$ . Let  $\epsilon: \mathcal{C}[A] \rightarrow A$  denote the map induced by the counit of  $\mathcal{C}$ . Given a symmetric thick map of  $\mathcal{C}$ -coalgebras  $F: \mathcal{C}[A] \rightarrow \mathcal{C}[B]$ , we let  $F^\nu$  be the composite

$$\begin{aligned} A^{\otimes n} \xrightarrow{\iota_\nu} \mathcal{C}^{\otimes m}[A] &\cong \mathcal{C}[A]^{\otimes m} \xrightarrow{F_m} \mathcal{C}[B]^{\otimes m} \xrightarrow{\epsilon^{\otimes m}} B^{\otimes m}, \\ F^\nu &= \epsilon^{\otimes m} F_m \iota_\nu. \end{aligned}$$

From this description, it is immediate that the  $\mathbb{k}$ -linear structures, symmetric group actions and differentials are respected. We get a commutative diagram

$$\begin{array}{ccccc}
 \mathcal{C}[A] & \xrightarrow{F_1} & \mathcal{C}[B] & & \\
 \downarrow \Delta & & \downarrow \Delta & \searrow \parallel & \\
 \mathcal{C}[\mathcal{C}[A]] & \xrightarrow{c[F]} & \mathcal{C}[\mathcal{C}[B]] & \xrightarrow{c[\epsilon]} & \mathcal{C}[B]
 \end{array}$$

where the square commutes by definition of thick maps of  $\mathcal{C}$ -coalgebras and the triangle commutes because of the counit axiom for cooperads. This shows that  $F_1$  is determined by the collection of maps  $\epsilon^{\otimes m} F_m$ , and hence also by the maps  $F^\nu$  for  $\nu \in \mathcal{C}^{\otimes m}(n)$ . The above diagram shows moreover that

$$\begin{aligned}
 F_1 \iota_\nu(a) &= \mathcal{C}[\epsilon F] \Delta(\nu \otimes a) = \sum_q (1 \otimes \epsilon^{\otimes \alpha_q} F_{\alpha_q})(\nu'_q \otimes \nu''_q \otimes a) \\
 &= \sum_q (-1)^{|F||\nu'_q|} \nu'_q \otimes \epsilon^{\otimes \alpha_q} F_{\alpha_q}(\nu''_q \otimes a),
 \end{aligned}$$

for any  $\nu \in \mathcal{C}(n)$  and any  $a \in A^{\otimes n}$ , where  $\Delta(\nu) = \sum_q \nu'_q \circ \nu''_q$  for  $\nu'_q \in \mathcal{C}(r_q)$  and  $\nu''_q \in \mathcal{C}^{\otimes r_q}(n)$ . In other words,

$$F_1 \iota_\nu = \sum_q (-1)^{|\nu'_q||F|} \iota_{\nu'_q} F^{\nu''_q}.$$

Thus,

$$(FG)^\nu = \epsilon F_1 G_1 \iota_\nu = \sum_q (-1)^{|\nu'_q||G|} \epsilon F \iota_{\nu'_q} G^{\nu''_q} = \sum_q (-1)^{|G||\nu'_q|} F^{\nu'_q} G^{\nu''_q}.$$

The remaining properties are straightforward to check. □

## 11 Transfer theorem

Let  $\mathcal{C}$  be a connected cooperad and let  $\Omega(\mathcal{C})$  denote the cobar construction; see Fresse [9] and [10]. The following two propositions are well known; see [9; 10]. They can also be proved easily using Proposition 10.1.

**Proposition 11.1** *An  $\Omega(\mathcal{C})$ -algebra structure on a chain complex  $A$  is described by any of the following.*

- A weight decreasing coderivation  $t: \mathcal{C}[A] \rightarrow \mathcal{C}[A]$  of degree  $-1$  which satisfies  $\partial(t) + t^2 = 0$ .



- Maps  $t^v: A^{\otimes n} \rightarrow A$  of degree  $|v| - 1$  for all  $v \in \mathcal{C}(n)$ ,  $n \geq 1$ , which satisfy

$$\partial(t^v) + t^{d(v)} + \sum_{i=0}^u (-1)^{|v'_i|} (t^{v'_i} \circ_{e_i} t^{v''_i}) \tau_i = 0,$$

and  $t^{av+bv'} = at^v + bt^{v'}$ ,  $t^{v\sigma} = t^v\sigma$  for  $v, v' \in \mathcal{C}(n)$ ,  $a, b \in \mathbb{k}$  and  $\sigma \in \Sigma_n$ .

**Proposition 11.2** *Let  $t$  and  $t'$  be  $\Omega(\mathcal{C})$ -algebra structures on  $A$  and  $B$ , respectively. A lax morphism of  $\Omega(\mathcal{C})$ -algebras  $(A, t) \rightarrow (B, t')$  is described by any of the following.*

- A morphism of  $\mathcal{C}$ -coalgebras  $f: \mathcal{C}[A] \rightarrow \mathcal{C}[B]$  which satisfies

$$(d_{\mathcal{C}[B]} + t')f = f(d_{\mathcal{C}[A]} + t).$$

- Maps  $f^v: A^{\otimes n} \rightarrow B$ , of degree  $|v|$  for all  $v \in \mathcal{C}(n)$ ,  $n \geq 1$ , which satisfy (with  $f := f^1$ )

$$\begin{aligned} \partial(f^v) + (t')^v f^{\otimes n} + \sum_{q=1}^p (t')^{v^q} (f^{v^q_1} \otimes \dots \otimes f^{v^q_q}) \sigma_q \\ = f^{d(v)} + f t^v + \sum_{i=1}^u (-1)^{|v'_i|} (f^{v'_i} \circ_{e_i} t^{v''_i}) \tau_i, \end{aligned}$$

and  $f^{av+bv'} = af^v + bf^{v'}$ ,  $f^{v\sigma} = f^v\sigma$  for  $v, v' \in \mathcal{C}(n)$ ,  $a, b \in \mathbb{k}$  and  $\sigma \in \Sigma_n$ .

**Proof of Theorems 1.3 and 1.4** By the  $\mathcal{C}$ -coalgebra tensor trick, [Theorem 9.2](#), a suitable choice of pseudo-derivation  $\mathbf{h}$  gives rise to a contraction of  $\mathcal{C}$ -coalgebras

$$\mathcal{C} \bullet [\mathbf{h}] \begin{array}{c} \curvearrowright \\ \leftarrow \xrightarrow{\mathcal{C} \bullet [f]} \\ \xrightarrow{\mathcal{C} \bullet [g]} \end{array} \mathcal{C}[A] \rightleftharpoons \mathcal{C}[B].$$

For ease of notation, let  $\mathbf{F} = \mathcal{C} \bullet [f]$ ,  $\mathbf{G} = \mathcal{C} \bullet [g]$ ,  $\mathbf{H} = \mathcal{C} \bullet [\mathbf{h}]$ . The  $\Omega(\mathcal{C})$ -algebra structure on  $A$  is encoded in a weight decreasing coderivation perturbation  $t: \mathcal{C}[A] \rightarrow \mathcal{C}[A]$ . That  $t$  is a coderivation perturbation implies that the thick map  $\mathbf{t}$  with

$$\mathbf{t}_n = \sum_{p+1+q=n} 1^{\otimes p} \otimes t \otimes 1^{\otimes q}$$

is a thick map of  $\mathcal{C}$ -coalgebras that satisfies  $\partial(\mathbf{t}) + \mathbf{t}^2 = \mathbf{0}$ . Now, we can apply the  $\mathcal{C}$ -coalgebra perturbation lemma, [Theorem 9.1](#), to obtain a new contraction of  $\mathcal{C}$ -coalgebras

$$\mathbf{H}' \begin{array}{c} \curvearrowright \\ \leftarrow \xrightarrow{\mathbf{F}'} \\ \xrightarrow{\mathbf{G}'} \end{array} (\mathcal{C}[A], d_{\mathcal{C}[A]} + t) \rightleftharpoons (\mathcal{C}[B], d_{\mathcal{C}[B]} + t')$$

determined by the recursive formulas

$$\begin{aligned} F' &= F + F'tH, & G' &= G + HtG', \\ H' &= H + H'tH, & t' &= FtG'. \end{aligned}$$

This proves [Theorem 1.3](#).

To prove [Theorem 1.4](#), we need to expand the above formulas. Let us write  $f^\nu = (F')^\nu$ ,  $g^\nu = (G')^\nu$ ,  $t^\nu = \mathbf{t}^\nu$ ,  $(t')^\nu = (\mathbf{t}')^\nu$ ,  $h^\nu = (H')^\nu$ . Observe that  $f^1 = f$ ,  $g^1 = g$ ,  $h^1 = h$  and  $t^1 = 0$  since  $t$  decreases weight. By [Proposition 10.1](#), we have that for any  $\nu \in \mathcal{C}(n)$  where  $n > 1$ ,

$$\begin{aligned} (G')^\nu &= (G + HtG')^\nu = G^\nu + h(tG')^\nu \\ &= \sum_{q=0}^{p+1} ht^{\nu^q} (G')^{(\nu_1^q \otimes \dots \otimes \nu_{r_q}^q)\sigma_q} \\ &= ht^\nu g^{\otimes n} + \sum_{q=1}^p ht^{\nu^q} (g^{\nu_1^q} \otimes \dots \otimes g^{\nu_{r_q}^q})\sigma_q. \end{aligned}$$

The recursive formula for  $(t')^\nu$  is derived in the same way. Similarly,

$$\begin{aligned} (F')^\nu &= (F + F'tH)^\nu = F^\nu + (-1)^{|\nu|} (F't)^\nu h_n \\ &= (-1)^{|\nu|} \sum_{q=0}^{p+1} (-1)^{|\nu^q|} f^{\nu^q} t^{\nu_1^q \otimes \dots \otimes \nu_{r_q}^q} h_n \\ &= (-1)^{|\nu|} f t^\nu h_n + \sum_{i=1}^u (-1)^{|\nu'_i|} (f^{\nu'_i} \circ_{e_i} t^{\nu''_i}) \tau_i h_n, \end{aligned}$$

where we have used [Proposition 10.1\(3\)](#) in the last step. The recursive formula for  $h^\nu$  is derived in the same way. □

## 12 Example: $A$ -infinity algebras

Let us illustrate how the formulas of [Theorem 1.4](#) work in the case of  $A_\infty$ -algebras.  $A_\infty$ -algebras are exactly  $\Omega(A^i)$ -algebras and  $A_\infty$ -morphisms are exactly lax morphisms of  $\Omega(A^i)$ -algebras, where  $A^i = (\Lambda A)^\vee$  is the Koszul dual cooperad of the associative operad  $A$ . For  $n \geq 1$ ,  $A^i(n)$  is the free right  $\mathbb{k}\Sigma_n$ -module on one generator  $\mu_n$  of degree  $n - 1$ . Write  $\mu_1 = 1$ . The differential is zero and the coproduct is given by

$$\Delta(\mu_n) = \sum_{i_1 + \dots + i_r = n} (-1)^\epsilon \mu_r \circ (\mu_{i_1} \otimes \dots \otimes \mu_{i_r}),$$

where the sign is given by

$$\epsilon = \sum_{j < k} i_j(i_k - 1).$$

The quadratic part of the coproduct is thus given by

$$\Delta_{(1)}(\mu_n) = \sum_{r+s+t=n} (-1)^{r(s-1)} \mu_u \circ (1^{\otimes r} \otimes \mu_s \otimes 1^{\otimes t}),$$

where  $u = r + 1 + t$ . Thus, in view of [Proposition 11.1](#) an  $\Omega(\mathbb{A}^i)$ -algebra structure  $t$  on a chain complex  $A$  is the same thing as a sequence of maps  $m_n := t^{\mu_n}: A^{\otimes n} \rightarrow A$  of degree  $n - 2$  such that for all  $n \geq 2$ ,

$$\delta(m_n) = \sum_{r+s+t=n} (-1)^{rs+r+u} m_u \circ (1^{\otimes r} \otimes m_s \otimes 1^{\otimes t}).$$

Noting that  $r + u$  has the same parity as  $t + 1$  in the above, this recovers the usual definition of an  $A_\infty$ -algebra with the same sign convention as in [Lefèvre-Hasegawa \[27, Définition 1.2.1.1\]](#). In the transfer theorem, writing  $f_n := f^{\mu_n}$  etc, we see that

$$\begin{aligned} m'_n &= \sum_{\substack{i_1+\dots+i_r=n \\ r>1}} (-1)^\epsilon f m_r(g_{i_1} \otimes \dots \otimes g_{i_r}), \\ g_n &= \sum_{\substack{i_1+\dots+i_r=n \\ r>1}} (-1)^\epsilon h m_r(g_{i_1} \otimes \dots \otimes g_{i_r}), \\ f_n &= \sum_{\substack{p+u+q=n \\ r=p+1+q}} (-1)^{(p+1)(u+1)} f_r(1^{\otimes p} \otimes m_u \otimes 1^{\otimes q}) h_n, \\ h_n &= \sum_{\substack{p+u+q=n \\ r=p+1+q}} (-1)^{(p+1)(u+1)} h_r(1^{\otimes p} \otimes m_u \otimes 1^{\otimes q}) h_n. \end{aligned}$$

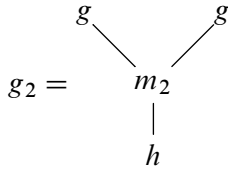
One choice of pseudo-derivation  $h_n$  is given by

$$h_n = \sum_{i+1+j=n} 1^{\otimes i} \otimes h \otimes (gf)^{\otimes j},$$

but other choices are possible. The sign  $(-1)^\epsilon$  in the formulas for  $m'_n$  and  $g_n$  is the same as in the description of the coproduct above.

If one unwinds these recursive formulas then one obtains “tree formulas”. To make this idea precise, let us see how this works for  $g_n$  for low values of  $n$ . We have

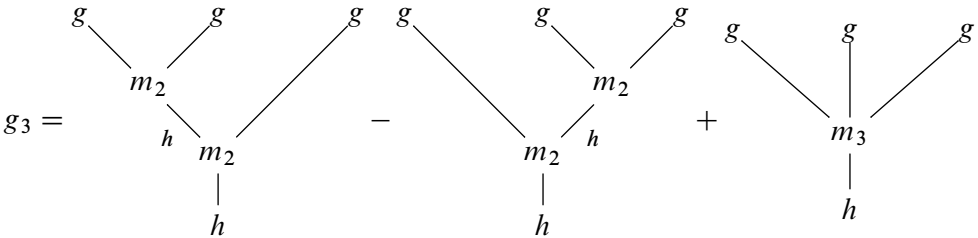
$g_2 = hm_2(g_1 \otimes g_1) = hm_2(g \otimes g)$ , and this may be represented pictorially as follows:



Next,

$$\begin{aligned} g_3 &= hm_3(g_1 \otimes g_1 \otimes g_1) + hm_2(g_2 \otimes g_1) - hm_2(g_1 \otimes g_2) \\ &= hm_3(g \otimes g \otimes g) + hm_2(hm_2(g \otimes g) \otimes g) - hm_2(g \otimes hm_2(g \otimes g)). \end{aligned}$$

This may be represented by the picture:



In general, we have that  $g_n$  is the alternating sum over all trees  $T$  with  $n$  leaves, where the leaves are decorated by  $g$ , the vertices by  $m_r$ , where  $r$  is the number of incoming edges of the vertex at hand, and the root by  $h$ . The sign attached to a tree  $T$  is determined by the parity of the number of pairs  $(\ell, v)$  where  $\ell$  is a leaf and  $v$  is a vertex with an even number of incoming edges such that  $\ell$  is to the left of  $v$  in  $T$ . The formula for  $m'_n$  is the same except that the root is decorated by  $f$  instead of  $h$ . These are exactly the formulas written down by Kontsevich and Soibelman [25, Section 6.4], based on Merkulov [31].

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