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Ben Antieau Speaker's Name:				
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DAG I: THE COTANGENT COMPLEX AND DERIVED DE RHAM COHOMOLOGY

BENJAMIN ANTIEAU

1. MOTIVATION

We are going to give an evolutionary diagram.

- In classical algebraic geometry, one considers "algebraic schemes" or "algebraic spaces" such as \mathbf{P}^n .
- Then one considers "algebraic stacks" such as the Picard stack $\operatorname{Pic}_{X/k}$ of a curve X/k. This is an "Artin stack".

To make the next step, we need to adopt a new point of view. We can view these objects as sheaves of sets (by the functor of points). We then view sets as "0-truncated spaces" $S_{\leq 0}$, i.e. spaces with non-zero homotopy groups π_i with $i \leq 0$.

More generally, we can consider groupoids, which are "1-truncated spaces" $S_{\leq 1}$.

If we continue, we enter the realm of "higher stacks", e.g. $K(\mathbf{G}_m, n)$. The isotopy of this space is $K(\mathbf{G}_m, n-1)$.

Example 1.1. We can reformulate $\operatorname{Pic}_{X/k}$ as the mapping stack from X to $K(\mathbf{G}_m, 1)$, which also goes by the name $B\mathbf{G}_m = [\operatorname{pt}/\mathbf{G}_m]$. We can then view $K(\mathbf{G}_m, 2) = [\operatorname{pt}/B\mathbf{G}_m]$.

Example 1.2. What does it mean to give a map from a scheme to $K(\mathbf{G}_m, n)$? By definition Map $(X, K(\mathbf{G}_m, n))$ is a topological space, with

$$\pi_i \operatorname{Map}(X, K(\mathbf{G}_m, n)) \cong \begin{cases} H^{n-i}_{\operatorname{\acute{e}t}}(X, \mathbf{G}_m) & 0 \le i \le n, \\ 0 & \text{otherwise.} \end{cases}$$

We have now expanded our world of "geometric objects" to include sheaves of groupoids, or sheaves of n-truncated spaces. The fundamental idea of derived algebraic geometry is to allow the sheaf of functions itself to be a sheaf of topological spaces. This leads to the notion of "derived schemes".

Example 1.3. An example of an affine derived scheme is Spec $(k \otimes_{k[x]}^{L} k)$, where the maps $k[x] \to k$ send $x \mapsto 0$.

2. SIMPLICIAL COMMUTATIVE RINGS

We are now going to introduce a model for what should be the "commutative rings of derived algebraic geometry".

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BENJAMIN ANTIEAU

Consider the derived category $D(\mathbf{Z})_{\geq 0}$, where we are considering only the complexes C_* such that $H_i(C_*) = 0$ for i < 0 (this condition is also called "connective"). This can be enhanced to a symmetric monoidal category using the derived tensor product \otimes^L .

What should we take as the commutative algebras in $(D(\mathbf{Z})_{\geq 0}, \otimes^{L})$? There are three different answers:

- E_{∞} -ring spectra,
- simplicial commutative rings,
- Over **Q**, one can work with **Q**-CDGAs.

These are not equivalent in general, although they are equivalent rationally. We will work with the second.

We introduce the *simplex category* Δ , which is the category of non-empty finite ordered sets, with morphisms being order-preserving maps of sets.

Example 2.1. We write [0] for $\{0\}$, [1] for $\{0,1\}$, and [2] for $\{0,1,2\}$. Evidently we have two maps $[0] \rightarrow [1]$ and one map $[1] \rightarrow 0$, etc.

Definition 2.2. Let C be a category. We let $sC = \operatorname{Fun}(\Delta^{op}, C)$ be the category of simplicial objects in C.

Example 2.3. There is an "equivalence" between sSets and the category of topological spaces, at the level of *homotopy categories*. This means we specify a notion of "weak equivalence" on each side (in topological spaces it is the usual notion, wherein maps inducing isomorphisms of π_* are weak equivalences), and the "localization" of each side with respect to these are equivalent.

Let Δ^n be the pre-sheaf Hom_{Δ}(-, [n]) i.e. the Yoneda embedding of [n]. Let Δ^n_{top} be the usual *n*-simplex. This induces a functor from sSets to topological spaces, called *geometric realization*, giving by presenting a simplicial set as a colimit of the representable objects Δ^n and taking that colimit in Top. We then pull back the notion of weak equivalence along this functor.

We can view Δ_{top}^* as a cosimplicial object in Top. Hence $\operatorname{Hom}_{Top}(\Delta_{top}^*, X)$ is a simplicial object in Top. This is the right adjoint to geometric realization.

Let's make a connection to something familiar. Given a topological space X, we make a simplicial set $\operatorname{Sing}(X) := \operatorname{Hom}_{\operatorname{Top}}(\Delta_{\operatorname{top}}^*, X)$. Then we form a simplicial abelian group $\mathbb{Z}[\operatorname{Sing}(X)]$. We can extract from this a chain complex $C_*(\mathbb{Z}[\operatorname{Sing}(X)])$, and by definition

$$H_i(C_*(\mathbf{Z}[\operatorname{Sing}(X)])) \cong H_i^{\operatorname{sing}}(X; \mathbf{Z}).$$

Example 2.4. The *Dold-Kan correspondence* furnishes an equivalence $sAb \cong D(\mathbf{Z})_{\geq 0}$. Given a simplicial abelian group

$$M_0 \coloneqq M_1 \dots$$

we make a chain complex with differentials $\sum (-1)^i d_i$:

$$M_0 \xleftarrow{d_0 - d_1} M_1 \leftarrow \dots$$

Example 2.5. The category of *simplicial commutative rings* is

$$sCAlg_k = Fun(\Delta^{op}, CAlg_k).$$

There is a notion of weak equivalence, which is weak equivalence of the underlying simplicial sets. But moreover, there is a *model category structure*, which specifies weak equivalences but also specifies a "right way" to perform certain derived operations. For this reason, this is sometimes called a "non-abelian derived category".

For $R \in sCAlg$, π_*R has the structure of a graded commutative ring. This means that

$$xy = (-1)^{|x||y|} yx$$

and $x^2 = 0$ if |x| is odd.

There is an adjunction Sets \rightarrow CAlg_k sending $S \mapsto k[S]$. Given $R \in$ CAlg_k, we can make a simplicial k-algebra

$$S_{\bullet}:\ldots k[k[R]] \rightrightarrows k[R]$$

which is the analogue of a "projective resolution" for commutive rings. Let $\operatorname{CAlg}_k^{\operatorname{poly}}$ be the category of finitely generated polynomial k-algebras. There is a fully faithful embedding to $\operatorname{Ind}(\operatorname{CAlg}_k^{\operatorname{poly}})$, which is the category obtained by formally adjoining colimits, and this includes into $s\operatorname{CAlg}_k$.

Given a functor $F: \operatorname{CAlg}_k^{\operatorname{poly}} \to \mathcal{C}$, there is a way to extend to $LF: \operatorname{sCAlg}_k \to \mathcal{C}$. The recipe is as follows. Given $R \in \operatorname{CAlg}_k$, make $S_* \xrightarrow{\sim} R$ as above. Then we have $F(S_*) \in s\mathcal{C}$, and define

$$LF(R) = \underbrace{\operatorname{colim}}_{\Delta} F(S_*) =: |F(S_*)|.$$

3. The cotangent complex

We give several constructions.

(a) Given $k \to R$, we have explained that we can make a simplicial a "good" simplicial "resolution" $S_{\bullet} \xrightarrow{\sim} R$. Then we define

$$L_{R/k} := \Omega^1_{S_{\bullet}/k} \otimes_{S_{\bullet}} R \in s \operatorname{Mod}_R \cong D(R)_{\geq 0}.$$

- (b) We have a functor $\Omega^1_{-/k}$: $\operatorname{CAlg}_k^{\operatorname{poly}} \to D(k)_{\geq 0}$. We can then extend this to a $L\Omega^1_{-/k}$ on $s\operatorname{CAlg}_k$ on as discussed previously. However, there are several deficiencies, e.g. we don't see the *R*-module structure.
- (c) We'll correct the previous issues by phrasing a universal property. Let $k \to R \to S$ and M be an S-module in $D(S)_{\geq 0}$. We will define $L_{R/k}$ to have the universal property that (the topological space)

$$\operatorname{Map}_{R}(L_{R/k}, M) \cong \operatorname{Map}_{s\operatorname{CAlg}_{k/s}}(R, S \oplus M).$$

Here $\operatorname{Map}_{s\operatorname{CAlg}_{k/S}}$ is the slice category of simplicial commutative rings equipped with a map to S, and $S \oplus M$ is the square-zero extension of S by M. Note that this makes sense for $M \in D(S)_{>0}$! **Exercise 3.1.** Show that $\pi_0 L_{R/k} \cong \Omega^1_{R/k}$.

Exercise 3.2. Show that $S \otimes_R^L L_{R/k} \to L_{S/k} \to L_{S/R}$ is an exact triangle.

Example 3.3. Show that $T \otimes_k L_{R/k} \cong L_{R \otimes_k^L T/T}$



Exercise 3.4. Let R be a perfect algebra over \mathbf{F}_p . Using that the Frobenius morphism $\varphi \colon R \to R$, which sends $x \mapsto x^p$, is an isomorphism, show that $L_{R/\mathbf{F}_p} \cong 0$.

4. Derived de Rham Cohomology

There is a functor

$$\mathrm{dR}_{R/k}\colon\mathrm{CAlg}_k^{\mathrm{poly}}\to D(k)$$

sending R to the chain complex $(R \mapsto \Omega^1_{R/k} \to \Omega^2_{R/k} \to \ldots)$. We can then "derive" this functor to get a "derived de Rham cohomology" functor

$$L \,\mathrm{dR}_{R/k} \colon s\mathrm{CAlg}_k^{\mathrm{poly}} \to D(k).$$

There is something to be cautious about. If k is a **Q**-algebra and $R \in \operatorname{CAlg}_k^{\operatorname{poly}}$, then $\operatorname{dR}_{R/k} \cong k$. This implies that $L \operatorname{dR}_{S/k} \cong k$ for any $s \in s\operatorname{CAlg}_k$, and this isn't very interesting.

A fix was given by Bhargav Bhatt, which gives the answer you "want". We also have a Hodge filtration F_H^* on $dR_{R/k}$, with

$$\operatorname{gr}_{H}^{i}(\mathrm{dR}_{R/k}) \cong \Omega_{R/k}^{i}[-i]$$

We then try to take the derived functor remembering the filtration. We then get a filtration $F_H^*L \,\mathrm{dR}_{-/k}$ such that

$$\operatorname{gr}_{H}^{i} L \operatorname{dR}_{-/k} \cong L(\wedge^{i} L_{-/k}[-i]).$$

This filtration isn't complete, so we define

$$\widehat{L\,\mathrm{dR}}_{-/k} := \lim_{i} \frac{L\,\mathrm{dR}_{-/k}}{F_{H}^{i}}$$

Theorem 4.1 (Bhatt, Grothendieck, Hartshorne). Let X/C be finite type. Then

$$R\Gamma(X, \hat{L} \,\mathrm{d}\hat{\mathrm{R}}_{\mathcal{O}_X/k}) \cong R\Gamma_{\mathrm{sing}}(X(\mathbf{C}); \mathbf{C})$$