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ON THE HOCHSCHILD HOMOLOGY OF SINGULARITY CATEGORIES

YU WANG, UMAMAHESWARAN ARUNACHALAM, AND BERNHARD KELLER

ABSTRACT. Let k be an algebraically closed field and A a finite-dimensional k -algebra. In this note, we determine complexes which compute the Hochschild homology of the canonical dg enhancement of the bounded derived category of A and of the canonical dg enhancement of the singularity category of A . As an application, we obtain a new approach to the computation of Hochschild homology of Leavitt path algebras.

1. REMINDER ON HOCHSCHILD HOMOLOGY OF ALGEBRAS AND CATEGORIES

Let k be a field. We write \otimes for \otimes_k . Let A be a k -algebra (associative, with 1). We write $\text{Mod } A$ for the category of all (right) A -modules and $\mathcal{D}A = \mathcal{D}(\text{Mod } A)$ for its unbounded derived category. Let $A^e = A \otimes A^{op}$ be the *enveloping algebra* of A so that A^e -modules identify with A -bimodules. The *Hochschild homology* of A is defined by

$$HH_p(A) = \text{Tor}_p^{A^e}(A, A), \quad p \in \mathbb{Z}.$$

Alternatively, we may define it as the p th homology group of the *Hochschild chain complex* $HH(A)$ of A , i.e. the complex C_*A concentrated in homological degrees ≥ 0

$$A \longleftarrow A \otimes A \longleftarrow \dots \longleftarrow A^{\otimes p} \longleftarrow A^{\otimes(p+1)} \longleftarrow \dots$$

with $C_p A = A^{\otimes(p+1)}$, $p \geq 0$, and differential given by

$$(1.0.1) \quad d(a_0, \dots, a_p) = \sum_{i=0}^{p-1} (-1)^i (a_0, \dots, a_i a_{i+1}, \dots, a_p) + (-1)^p (a_p a_0, \dots, a_{p-1}),$$

where we write (a_0, \dots, a_p) for $a_0 \otimes \dots \otimes a_p$. Notice that the first differential takes $a \otimes b$ to the commutator $ab - ba$.

We see that $HH_0(A)$ is the quotient $A/[A, A]$ of the vector space A by its subspace generated by all commutators and that $HH_p(A)$ and $HH(A) \in \mathcal{D}k$ are functorial in the algebra A . The definitions extend from k -algebras to small k -categories. For example, the Hochschild complex then becomes the complex

$$\bigoplus \mathcal{A}(X_0, X_0) \longleftarrow \bigoplus \mathcal{A}(X_1, X_0) \otimes \mathcal{A}(X_0, X_1) \longleftarrow \dots$$

whose p th term ($p \geq 0$) is the sum

$$\bigoplus \mathcal{A}(X_p, X_0) \otimes \mathcal{A}(X_{p-1}, X_p) \otimes \dots \otimes \mathcal{A}(X_0, X_1)$$

taken over all sequences of objects X_0, X_1, \dots, X_p of \mathcal{A} and whose horizontal differential is given by formula (1.0.1). One then shows that the inclusion $A \rightarrow \text{proj}(A)$ of the one-object category given by A into the category $\text{proj}(A)$ of finitely generated projective right

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A -modules induces a quasi-isomorphism

$$HH(A) \xrightarrow{\simeq} HH(\text{proj } A).$$

In particular, this yields *Morita invariance* of Hochschild homology. The definitions further extend to small differential graded (=dg) categories \mathcal{A} , for example the dg category $\mathcal{C}_{dg}^b(\text{proj } A)$ of bounded complexes over $\text{proj } (A)$. We refer the reader to [9] for more information on this example and dg categories in general. The inclusion $\text{proj } (A) \rightarrow \mathcal{C}_{dg}^b(\text{proj } A)$ yields an isomorphism

$$HH(\text{proj } A) \xrightarrow{\simeq} HH(\mathcal{C}_{dg}^b(\text{proj } A))$$

and this yields the invariance of Hochschild homology under *derived equivalences*. We will need the following localization theorem.

Theorem 1.1 ([8]). *Let*

$$\mathcal{A} \xrightarrow{F} \mathcal{B} \xrightarrow{G} \mathcal{C}$$

be a sequence of dg categories such that the induced sequence of derived categories

$$0 \longrightarrow \mathcal{D}\mathcal{A} \xrightarrow{F^*} \mathcal{D}\mathcal{B} \xrightarrow{G^*} \mathcal{D}\mathcal{C} \longrightarrow 0$$

is exact. Then there is a canonical triangle

$$HH(\mathcal{A}) \xrightarrow{HH(F)} HH(\mathcal{B}) \xrightarrow{HH(G)} HH(\mathcal{C}) \longrightarrow \Sigma HH(\mathcal{A})$$

in $\mathcal{D}k$ and hence long exact sequences in Hochschild (and cyclic) homology.

Let Q be a finite quiver and I an admissible ideal in kQ , *i.e.* a two-sided ideal contained in the square of the ideal generated by the arrows and such that the quotient kQ/I is finite-dimensional. Let R be the quotient of A by its radical. Thus, as an A -module, the algebra R is the direct sum of the simple A -modules. Following [7], we define the Koszul dual of A to be the dg algebra

$$A^! = \text{RHom}_A(R, R).$$

Thus, if P is a projective resolution of the A -module R , then the Koszul dual is quasi-isomorphic to the dg endomorphism algebra $\text{Hom}_A(P, P)$ of P . The following theorem is a special case of Corollary D.2 of Van den Bergh's [12]. We write D for the dual $\text{Hom}_k(?, k)$ over the ground field.

Theorem 1.2 (Van den Bergh). *We have a canonical isomorphism*

$$HH(A^!) \xrightarrow{\simeq} DHH(A).$$

We refer to [6] for a comparison taking into account much more structure.

2. HOCHSCHILD HOMOLOGY OF DERIVED CATEGORIES AND SINGULARITY CATEGORIES

Let Q be a finite quiver and I an admissible ideal in kQ . Let $\text{mod } A$ be the category of k -finite-dimensional right A -modules. Denote by $\mathcal{D}^b(A) = \mathcal{D}^b(\text{mod } A)$ the bounded derived category of A and by $\text{per } (A)$ the perfect derived category, *i.e.* the thick subcategory generated by the free A -module of rank 1. Following Buchweitz [2] and Orlov [10], one defines the *singularity category of A* as the Verdier quotient

$$\text{sg}(A) = \mathcal{D}^b(A)/\text{per } (A).$$

Using the canonical dg enhancements of $\mathcal{D}^b(A)$ and $\text{per } (A)$, *cf.* [9], we obtain a canonical exact sequence of dg categories

$$0 \longrightarrow \text{per}_{dg}(A) \longrightarrow \mathcal{D}_{dg}^b(A) \longrightarrow \text{sg}_{dg}(A) \longrightarrow 0 ,$$

where the dg quotient $\text{sg}_{dg}(A)$ yields a canonical dg enhancement for $\text{sg}(A)$. It is not hard to see that, in the homotopy category of dg categories, it is functorial with respect to bimodule complexes $X \in \mathcal{D}(A^{op} \otimes B)$ such that X_B is perfect over B and ${}_A X$ is perfect over A . From the localization theorem 1.1, we deduce a triangle

$$(2.0.1) \quad HH(\text{per}_{dg}(A)) \longrightarrow HH(\mathcal{D}_{dg}^b(A)) \longrightarrow HH(\text{sg}_{dg}(A)) \longrightarrow \Sigma HH(\text{per}_{dg}(A))$$

in the derived category of vector spaces.

Theorem 2.1. *We have a canonical isomorphism $HH(\mathcal{D}_{dg}^b(A)) \xrightarrow{\sim} DHH(A)$.*

Proof. Recall that we have defined R to be the quotient of A by its radical and the Koszul dual $A^!$ as $\text{RHom}_A(R, R)$. Since the module R is a classical generator of the bounded derived category $\mathcal{D}^b(A)$, we deduce from the results of [7] that we have a triangle equivalence

$$\text{RHom}_A(R, ?) : \mathcal{D}^b(A) \xrightarrow{\sim} \text{per}(A^!).$$

This lifts to a quasi-equivalence

$$\mathcal{D}_{dg}^b(A) \xrightarrow{\sim} \text{per}_{dg}(A^!).$$

By Morita invariance of Hochschild homology, we have

$$HH(A^!) \xrightarrow{\sim} HH(\text{per}_{dg}(A^!)).$$

By Van den Bergh's theorem 1.2, we have

$$HH(A^!) \xrightarrow{\sim} DHH(A).$$

The claim follows if we combine these isomorphisms. ✓

Define a linear map $\tau : A \rightarrow DA$ by sending an element $a \in A$ to the linear form which takes $b \in A$ to the trace of the linear map

$$\lambda_a \rho_b : A \rightarrow A, \quad x \mapsto axb,$$

where λ_a is left multiplication by a and ρ_b right multiplication by b . Notice that since A is finite-dimensional, this is well-defined. Moreover, the value of $\langle a, b \rangle = (\tau(a))(b)$ only depends on the classes of a and b in $HH_0(A)$, which is canonically isomorphic to R . It is not hard to check that in the basis formed by the e_i , the matrix of the induced bilinear form

$$HH_0(A) \times HH_0(A) \rightarrow k$$

is the Cartan matrix of A , whose (i, j) -entry is the dimension of $e_i A e_j$. Define the *double Hochschild complex* of A to be the complex

$$\dots \xrightarrow{b} A \otimes A \xrightarrow{b} A \xrightarrow{\tau} DA \xrightarrow{Db} D(A \otimes A) \xrightarrow{Db} \dots,$$

where DA sits in degree 0, the differentials b are those of the Hochschild complex and the Db their duals.

Let us abbreviate $\mathcal{S} = \text{sg}_{dg}(A)$.

Theorem 2.2. *In Dk , we have a canonical isomorphism between $HH(\mathcal{S})$ and the double Hochschild complex of A .*

Notice that this implies in particular that $HH_n(\mathcal{S})$ is finite-dimensional for all n . This is surprising since the singularity category $\text{sg}(A)$ is usually not Hom-finite (except if A is Gorenstein), cf. for example [3].

Proof. We use the triangle

$$HH(\text{per}_{dg}(A)) \longrightarrow HH(\mathcal{D}_{dg}^b(A)) \longrightarrow HH(\mathcal{S}) \longrightarrow \Sigma HH(\text{per}_{dg}(A))$$

obtained from the localization theorem 1.1. We have already seen that it is isomorphic to a triangle

$$HH(A) \rightarrow HH(A^\dagger) \rightarrow HH(\mathcal{S}) \rightarrow \Sigma HH(A),$$

where the first morphism is induced by the inclusion $\text{per}_{dg}(A) \rightarrow \mathcal{D}_{dg}^b(A)$. Thus, the complex $HH(\mathcal{S})$ identifies with the mapping cone over the morphism $HH(A) \rightarrow HH(A^\dagger)$. Let us determine this morphism explicitly. Recall that the functor HH , considered as a functor on the homotopy category of small dg categories with values in the derived category $\mathcal{D}k$, commutes with tensor products. We have the following commutative square

$$\begin{array}{ccc} \text{per}_{dg}(A^{op}) \otimes \text{per}_{dg}(A) & \longrightarrow & \text{per}_{dg}(k) \\ \downarrow & & \parallel \\ \text{per}_{dg}(A)^{op} \otimes \mathcal{D}_{dg}^b(A) & \longrightarrow & \text{per}_{dg}(k) \end{array}$$

Here, a pair (P_1, P_2) , $P_1 \in \text{proj}(A^{op})$, $P_2 \in \text{proj}(A)$ is taken to $P_2 \otimes_A P_1$ by the top arrow and to $(\text{Hom}_A(P_1, A), P_2)$ by the left vertical arrow. It follows from Appendix D in [12] that the lower horizontal arrow induces a non degenerate pairing

$$HH(A) \otimes HH(\mathcal{D}_{dg}^b(A)) \rightarrow HH(k) = k.$$

A direct computation now shows that the morphism

$$HH(A) \rightarrow DHH(A)$$

is the composition

$$HH(A) \rightarrow HH_0(A) \rightarrow DHH_0(A) \rightarrow DHH(A)$$

where the middle morphism is induced by the map τ . ✓

Corollary 2.3. *For $n \geq 2$, we have canonical isomorphisms*

$$HH_n(\mathcal{S}) \xrightarrow{\simeq} HH_{n-1}(A) \xrightarrow{\simeq} DHH_{1-n}(\mathcal{S}).$$

Moreover, we have

$$HH_1(\mathcal{S}) \xrightarrow{\simeq} \ker(HH_0(A) \xrightarrow{\tau} DHH_0(A)) \xrightarrow{\simeq} DHH_0(\mathcal{S}).$$

3. APPLICATION: HOCHSCHILD HOMOLOGY OF DG LEAVITT PATH ALGEBRAS

Let Q be a finite quiver, for example a quiver with one vertex and a unique loop α . Let A be the associated radical square zero algebra, *i.e.* the quotient of kQ by the square of the ideal generated by the arrows. So for the one-loop quiver, we have $A = k[\varepsilon]/(\varepsilon^2)$. Let Q^* be the graded quiver obtained from the opposite quiver of Q by assigning each arrow $\alpha^* : j \rightarrow i$ corresponding to an arrow $\alpha : i \rightarrow j$ of Q the degree $+1$. For each vertex i of Q , consider the arrows $\alpha_s^* : i \rightarrow t(\alpha_s^*)$, $1 \leq s \leq t_i$, starting in Q^* at i . Let

$$\varphi_i : P_i \rightarrow \bigoplus_{s=1}^{t_i} \Sigma P_{t(\alpha_s^*)}$$

be the morphism with components α_s^* , where $P_i = e_i kQ^*$. For example, for the one-loop quiver, we just have $\varphi(1) = \alpha^* : P_1 \rightarrow \Sigma P_1$. Note that if i is a sink of Q , then

$$\bigoplus_{s=1}^{t_i} P_{t(\alpha_s^*)} = 0.$$

For each vertex $i \in Q_0$, let

$$\varphi(i)^{-1} = [\beta_{i,1}, \dots, \beta_{i,t_i}] : \bigoplus_{s=1}^{t_i} \Sigma P_{t(\alpha_s^*)} \rightarrow P_i$$

be the formal inverse of $\varphi(i)$. The *graded Leavitt path algebra* of Q is obtained from kQ^* by adjoining all coefficients β_{ij} of all formal inverses $\varphi(i)^{-1}$, $i \in Q_0$. We endow L_Q with the grading inherited from Q^* and with $d = 0$.

Theorem 3.1 (Smith [11], Chen–Yang [5]). *We have a triangle equivalence $\text{per}(L_Q) \xrightarrow{\sim} \text{sg}(A)$ taking $e_i L_Q$ to the simple S_i .*

Corollary 3.2. *The Hochschild homology $HH_*(L_Q)$ of the Leavitt path algebra is computed by the double Hochschild complex*

$$\dots \xrightarrow{b} A \otimes A \xrightarrow{b} A \xrightarrow{\tau} DA \xrightarrow{Db} D(A \otimes A) \xrightarrow{Db} \dots,$$

(with DA in degree 0). In particular, we have

$$\dim HH_p(L_Q) = 0 < \infty$$

for all $p \in \mathbb{Z}$.

A different description of the Hochschild homology of Leavitt path algebras is due to Ara–Cortiñas [1].

4. BEYOND RADICAL SQUARE ZERO

Let Q be a finite quiver and $A = kQ/I$ the quotient of its path algebra by an admissible ideal. Let J be the radical of A and $R = kQ_0$ so that we have $A = R \oplus J$ as R -bimodules. Let $A_0 = (T_R J)/(J \otimes_R J)$ be the radical square zero algebra associated with A . Thus, we have $A_0 = R \oplus J = A$ as R -bimodules but we have $xy = 0$ in A_0 for any two elements of J . We view A_0 as a degeneration of A and A as a deformation of A_0 . As pointed out by Chen–Wang [4], this suggests that the singularity category $\text{sg}(A)$ is a deformation of the singularity category $\text{sg}(A_0)$, which is equivalent to the perfect derived category $\text{per}(L_{A_0})$ of the graded Leavitt path algebra L_{A_0} . Hence we can hope for the existence of a dg algebra L_A obtained from L_{A_0} by deformation such that $\text{per}(L_A)$ is equivalent to $\text{sg}(A)$. We sum up the situation in the following diagram

$$\begin{array}{ccc} A_0 & \xrightarrow{\text{deformation}} & A \\ \text{sg}(A_0) & \xrightarrow{\text{deformation}} & \text{sg}(A) \\ \left\{ \begin{array}{c} \wr \\ \wr \end{array} \right. & & \left\{ \begin{array}{c} \wr \\ \wr \end{array} \right. \quad ? \\ \text{per}(L_{A_0}) & \xrightarrow{\text{deformation?}} & \text{per}(L_A) \\ L_{A_0} & \xrightarrow{\text{deformation?}} & L_A \quad ? \end{array}$$

The following theorem confirms this hope.

Theorem 4.1 (Chen–Wang [4]). *The graded algebra L_{A_0} admits a canonical differential d_A such that for $L_A = (L_{A_0}, d_A)$, we have a triangle equivalence*

$$\mathrm{per}(L_A) \xrightarrow{\sim} \mathrm{sg}(A).$$

Corollary 4.2. *The Hochschild homology of the dg Leavitt path algebra L_A is computed by the double Hochschild complex of A .*

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DEPARTMENT OF MATHEMATICS, NANJING UNIVERSITY, NANJING 210093, PR CHINA
Email address: dg1621017@smail.nju.edu.cn

UNIVERSITÉ DE PARIS, UFR DE MATHÉMATIQUES, CNRS IMJ–PRG, 8 PLACE AURÉLIE NEMOURS,
 75013 PARIS, FRANCE
Email address: yu.wang@imj-prg.fr

DEPARTMENT OF MATHEMATICS, NATIONAL INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY (NIT) WARANGAL., WARAN-
 GAL, TELANGANA., 506004, INDIA
Email address: ruthreswaran@gmail.com
URL: <https://sites.google.com/site/ruthreswaranuma/home>

UNIVERSITÉ DE PARIS, SORBONNE UNIVERSITÉ, CNRS IMJ–PRG, 8 PLACE AURÉLIE NEMOURS, 75013
 PARIS, FRANCE
Email address: bernhard.keller@imj-prg.fr
URL: <https://webusers.imj-prg.fr/~bernhard.keller/>