

A landscape of contact manifolds via rational SFT

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- $Ob(\mathcal{C}on_S)$ = contact manifolds.
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Monoidal structure: $(M_1, \xi_1) \otimes (M_2, \xi_2) = (M_1, \xi_1) \sqcup (M_2, \xi_2)$.

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- In this talk: cobordisms are *exact*.
- In Zhengyi's talk: cobordisms are *strong*.

Main theorem

Theorem (M. – Zhou '20)

There exists a covariant, monoidal **complexity/hierarchy** functor

$$H_{\text{cx}} : \mathfrak{Con} \rightarrow \mathcal{H}$$

to a totally ordered category

$$\mathcal{H} = \left\{ \underbrace{0^{\text{APT}} < 1^{\text{APT}} < \dots < \infty^{\text{APT}}}_{0^{\text{P}}} < \underbrace{0^{\text{SD}} < 1^{\text{SD}} < \dots < \infty^{\text{SD}}}_{1^{\text{P}}} < 2^{\text{P}} < \dots < \infty^{\text{P}} \right\}$$

- **Functoriality:** $M_- \rightarrow M_+$ cobordism $\rightsquigarrow H_{\text{cx}}(M_-) \leq H_{\text{cx}}(M_+)$.
- **Monoidal structure on \mathcal{H} :**
 - $a^{\text{P}} \otimes 0^{\text{P}} = 0^{\text{P}}$, $a^{\text{P}} \otimes b^{\text{P}} = \max\{a^{\text{P}}, b^{\text{P}}\}$.
 - $a^{\text{APT}} \otimes b^{\text{APT}} = \min\{a^{\text{APT}}, b^{\text{APT}}\}$.
 - $a^{\text{SD}} \otimes b^{\text{SD}} = \max\{a^{\text{SD}}, b^{\text{SD}}\}$.

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- $P = \text{planarity}^a$
- APT = **algebraic planar torsion**.
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Main tool: *Rational* (genus zero) symplectic field theory.

- P counts rational curves with a point constraint in symplectizations.
- APT counts rational curves with no negative punctures. Inspired by *algebraic torsion* (Latschev–Wendl).
- SD is defined via the $\mathbb{Q}[u]$ -module structure on linearized contact homology (Bourgeois–Oancea).

Relation to contact topology

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- 5. If Y is an iterated planar open book [Acu] where the initial page has k -punctures, then $P(Y) \leq k$.*
- 6. If Y has an exact filling that is not k -uniruled [McLean], then $P(Y) \geq k + 1$.*

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- 7. APT, SD, P are all surjective. In particular, P is surjective in all fixed odd dimension ≥ 3 .*

Dynamics: Weinstein conjecture

Theorem (M. – Zhou '20)

If $P(Y) < \infty$, then Y satisfies the Weinstein conjecture.

In other words, counterexamples to the Weinstein conjecture (if any) are *maximally complex*.

Examples

Hyperplane complements

Theorem (M. – Zhou)

Let D_k be k generic hyperplanes in $\mathbb{C}P^n$ for $n \geq 2$, then we have the following.

1. $k - 1 \geq P(\partial D_k^c) \geq k + 1 - n$ for $k > n + 1$.
2. $P(\partial D_k^c) = k + 1 - n$ for $n + 1 < k < \frac{3n-1}{2}$ and n odd.
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Remarks:

- (1.) obstructs **exact** cobordisms $\partial D_{k+r}^c \rightarrow \partial D_k^c$ for $r > n - 1, k > n + 1$; and (2.) obstructs **exact** cobordisms $\partial D_{k+1}^c \rightarrow \partial D_k^c$, for $n + 1 < k < \frac{3n-1}{2}$ and n odd.

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- But there is always a **strong** cobordism $\partial D_{k+1}^c \rightarrow \partial D_k^c$.
- And there is always an exact cobordism the other way $\partial D_k^c \rightarrow \partial D_{k+1}^c$.

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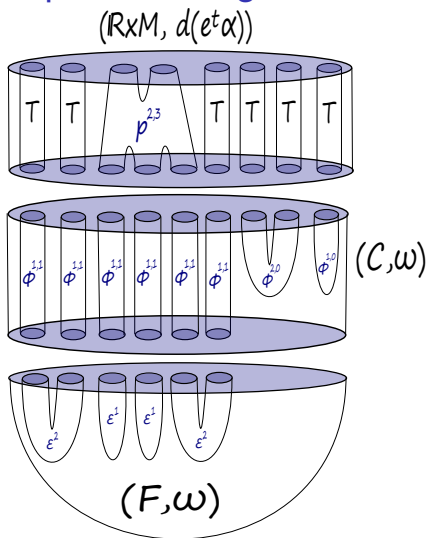
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- And there is always an exact cobordism the other way $\partial D_k^c \rightarrow \partial D_{k+1}^c$.
- If $k \leq n$, all ∂D_k^c have exact cobordisms both ways.

Algebraic aspects

Rational holomorphic buildings



We wish to capture the combinatorics of boundary degenerations of rational curves into rational holomorphic buildings.

Conventions

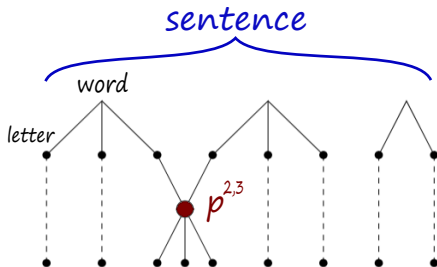
$V = \mathbb{Z}_2$ -graded \mathbf{k} -v.space. Let $S^j V = V^{\otimes j} / S_j$, S_j permutation group.

Notation:

- $SV = \bigoplus_{j \geq 0} S^j V$ symmetric algebra (words).
- $\overline{SV} = \bigoplus_{j \geq 1} S^j V$ non-unital symmetric algebra (non-empty words).
- $\overline{B}^k V = \bigoplus_{j=1}^k S^j V$ (non-empty words with at most k letters).
- $EV = \overline{SSV}$ (non-empty sentences).
- $E^k V = \bigoplus_{j=1}^k S^j SV \subset EV$ (sentences with at most k words).

BL_∞ algebras

Given linear operators $p^{k,l} : S^k V \rightarrow S^l V$ for $k \geq 1, l \geq 0$, we can define a map $\hat{p} : EV \rightarrow EV$, most easily described by trees.

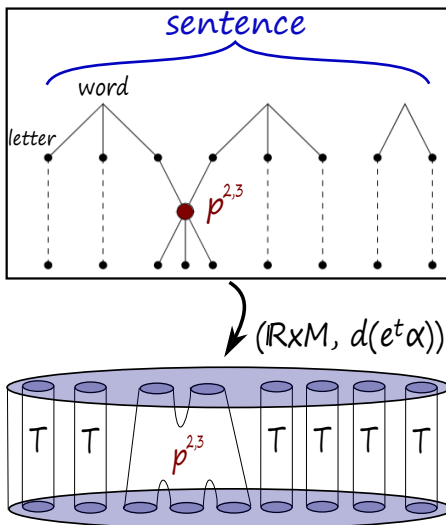


\hat{p} is obtained by summing over all glued trees.

Definition

(V, \hat{p}) is a BL_∞ -**algebra** if $|\hat{p}| = 1$ and $\hat{p}^2 = 0$.

Rational curves



Graphs represent counts of rational holomorphic curves in symplectizations.

Remarks

- BL_∞ -algebras are a genus zero specialization of IBL_∞ -algebras (Cieliebak–Fukaya–Latschev).

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 - Assuming $p^{k,0} = 0$ for all k , then $p^{1,1}$ differential, and on its *homology*:
 1. $p^{2,1}$ Lie bracket;
 2. $p^{1,2}$ co-Lie bracket;
 3. $p^{1,2} \circ p^{2,1} = 0$.
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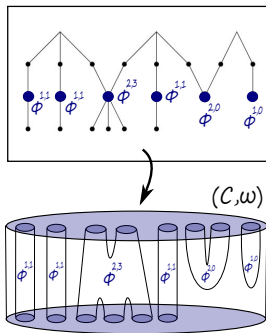
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I.e. homology of $p^{1,1}$ is a **bi-Lie algebra**.

- Under same assumption, $p^{k,1}$ induces an L_∞ algebra on V (Siegel).
- In general, a BL_∞ algebra (V, \hat{p}) induces an L_∞ algebra $(SV, \hat{\ell})$.

Morphisms

Given linear maps $\{\phi^{k,l} : S^k V \rightarrow S^l V'\}_{k \geq 1, l \geq 0}$, we construct $\hat{\phi} : EV \rightarrow EV'$ similarly as before.



Morphism graphs represent counts of rational holomorphic curves in symplectic cobordisms.

Definition

$\hat{\phi}$ is a BL_∞ **morphism** from (V, ρ) to (V', ρ') if $\hat{\phi} \circ \hat{\rho} = \hat{\rho}' \circ \hat{\phi}$ and $|\hat{\phi}| = 0$.

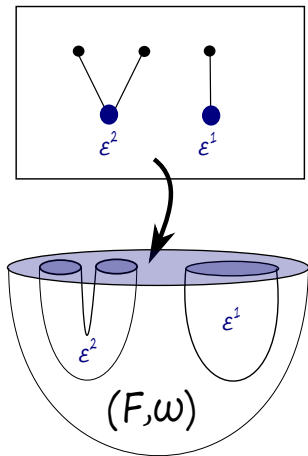
Augmentations

The zero BL_∞ algebra $\mathbf{0}$ has $S^k \mathbf{0} = \mathbf{k}$ for all k and $\hat{p} = 0$.

Definition

A BL_∞ **augmentation** is a BL_∞ morphism $\epsilon : (V, \hat{p}) \rightarrow \mathbf{0}$, i.e. a family of maps $\epsilon^k : S^k V \rightarrow \mathbf{k}$ so that $|\hat{\epsilon}| = 0$ and $\hat{\epsilon} \circ \hat{p} = 0$.

Augmentations



An augmentation algebraically represents counts of rational holomorphic curves with negative ends on a symplectic filling. It still makes sense algebraically if there is no filling.

Torsion

Given $(V, \hat{\rho})$ BL_∞ -algebra, the unit

$$1_V \in H_*(E^k V)$$

is the image of the unit

$$1_{\mathbf{0}} \in \mathbf{k} = E^1 \mathbf{0} \subset H_*(E^k \mathbf{0}) = E^k \mathbf{0}$$

under the map $H_*(E^k \mathbf{0}) \rightarrow H_*(E^k V)$ induced by $\mathbf{0} \rightarrow (V, \hat{\rho})$.

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Definition

The **torsion** of a BL_∞ algebra V is

$$T(V) := \min\{k - 1 \mid 1_V = 0 \in H^*(E^k V), k \geq 1\}.$$

Here the minimum of an empty set is defined to be ∞ .

This is the algebraic counterpart of APT: roughly speaking, it gives the smallest number of positive punctures (minus one) of curves killing the unit in homology.

Functoriality of torsion

BL_∞ morphisms preserve the sentence length filtration

$$E^1 V \subset E^2 V \subset \dots$$

Then:

If $(V, \hat{\rho}) \rightarrow (V', \hat{\rho}')$ BL_∞ morphism, we have

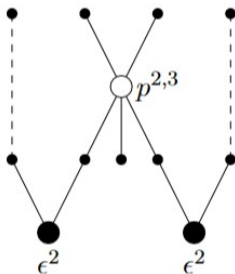
$$T(V) \geq T(V').$$

In particular, if $(V, \hat{\rho})$ has an augmentation, then $T(V) = \infty$.

Linearized theory

Given (V, \hat{p}) BL_∞ -algebra and $\epsilon : (V, \hat{p}) \rightarrow \mathbf{0}$ augmentation,

$\rightsquigarrow (V, \hat{p}_\epsilon)$ linearized BL_∞ – algebra, with $p_\epsilon^{k,0} = 0$.



A $p_\epsilon^{4,1}$ component. In general, to obtain $p_\epsilon^{k,l}$, we sum over connected trees with *exactly* one $p^{k',l'}$, and several ϵ^j .

Pointed maps and linearizations

Given $p_{\bullet}^{k,l} : S^k V \rightarrow S^l V, k \geq 1, l \geq 0$ linear maps, we similarly define $\hat{p}_{\bullet} : EV \rightarrow EV$, but now $|\hat{p}_{\bullet}| \neq 1$ in general.

Definition

$(V, \{p_{\bullet}^{k,l}\})$ is a **pointed map** for (V, \hat{p}) if $\hat{p}_{\bullet} \circ \hat{p} = (-1)^{|\hat{p}_{\bullet}|} \hat{p} \circ \hat{p}_{\bullet}$.

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Given a linearization $\epsilon : (V, \hat{p}) \rightarrow \mathbf{0}$,

$\hat{p}_{\bullet} \rightsquigarrow \hat{p}_{\bullet, \epsilon}$ linearized pointed map for (V, \hat{p}_{ϵ}) . But $p_{\bullet, \epsilon}^{k,0} \neq 0$ in general.

Order

Let $\ell_\epsilon^k = p_\epsilon^{k,1} \rightsquigarrow \hat{\ell}_\epsilon$ (an L_∞ structure on $V[-1]$). We get a chain map

$$\hat{\ell}_{\bullet,\epsilon} = \sum_{k \geq 1} p_{\bullet,\epsilon}^{k,0} : (\overline{S}V, \hat{\ell}_\epsilon) \rightarrow \mathbf{k}.$$

Definition

The $(\epsilon, \hat{p}_\bullet)$ -**order** of (V, \hat{p}) is

$$O(V, \epsilon, \hat{p}_\bullet) := \min \left\{ k : 1 \in \text{Im } \hat{\ell}_{\bullet,\epsilon} \Big|_{H_*(\overline{B}^k V, \hat{\ell}_\epsilon)} \right\},$$

where the minimum of an empty set is defined to be ∞ .

This is the algebraic counterpart to planarity: roughly speaking, it gives the smallest number of positive punctures of a point-constrained curve hitting the unit in \mathbf{k} .

Functoriality of order

Given:

- BL_∞ morphism $\hat{\phi} : (V, \hat{p}) \rightarrow (V', \hat{q})$;
- maps $\phi_{\bullet, l}^{k, l} : S^k V \rightarrow S^l V'$.

$\rightsquigarrow \hat{\phi}_\bullet : EV \rightarrow EV'$ via graphs.

- $\hat{p}_\bullet, \hat{q}_\bullet$ are two pointed maps for $(V, \hat{p}), (V', \hat{q})$ respectively, of the same degree.

Definition

We say $\hat{p}_\bullet, \hat{q}_\bullet, \hat{\phi}$ are **compatible**, if there are $\phi_{\bullet, l}^{k, l}$ such that

$$\hat{q}_\bullet \circ \hat{\phi} - (-1)^{|\hat{q}_\bullet|} \hat{\phi} \circ \hat{p}_\bullet = \hat{q} \circ \hat{\phi}_\bullet - (-1)^{|\hat{\phi}_\bullet|} \hat{\phi}_\bullet \circ \hat{p}$$

and $|\hat{\phi}_\bullet| = |\hat{p}_\bullet| + 1$.

Functoriality of order

Assume $\hat{p}_\bullet, \hat{q}_\bullet, \hat{\phi}$ are compatible and $|\hat{p}_\bullet| = |\hat{q}_\bullet| = 0$. Then:

For any BL_∞ augmentation ϵ of V' , we have

$$O(V, \epsilon \circ \hat{\phi}, \hat{p}_\bullet) \geq O(V', \epsilon, \hat{q}_\bullet).$$

Geometric aspects

RSFT as a BL_∞ -algebra

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- $CHA(Y) = SV_\alpha$ contact homology algebra.
- γ orbit \rightsquigarrow generator $q_\gamma, |q_\gamma| = \mu_{CZ}(\gamma) + n - 3 \pmod{2}$.

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- γ orbit \rightsquigarrow generator $q_\gamma, |q_\gamma| = \mu_{CZ}(\gamma) + n - 3 \pmod{2}$.
- $\Gamma = \{\underbrace{\eta_1, \dots, \eta_1}_{i_1}, \dots, \underbrace{\eta_m, \dots, \eta_m}_{i_m}\}$ ordered orbit set, $\eta_i \neq \eta_j, i \neq j$,
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RSFT as a BL_∞ -algebra

(Y^{2n-1}, α) strict contact manifold. $\Lambda =$ Novikov field.

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 $\sum i_j = l =: |\Gamma|$.
- $\mu_\Gamma = i_1! \dots i_m!, \kappa_\Gamma = \kappa_{\eta_1}^{i_1} \dots \kappa_{\eta_m}^{i_m}$ product of multiplicities, and $q^\Gamma = q_{\eta_1}^{i_1} \dots q_{\eta_m}^{i_m}$.

RSFT as a BL_∞ -algebra

$\overline{\mathcal{M}}_{Y,A}(\Gamma^+, \Gamma^-)$ = compactified moduli space of rational curves in $\mathbb{R} \times Y$ asymptotic to Γ^\pm in homology class $A \in H_2(Y, \Gamma^- \cup \Gamma^+)$.

$$p^{k,l}(q^{\Gamma^+}) = \sum_{|\Gamma^-|=l} \# \overline{\mathcal{M}}_{Y,A}(\Gamma^+, \Gamma^-) \frac{\mathcal{T} \int_A d\alpha}{\mu_{\Gamma^+} \mu_{\Gamma^-} \kappa_{\Gamma^-}} q^{\Gamma^-}.$$

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RSFT as a BL_∞ -algebra

$(X, \omega = d\lambda)$ exact cobordism from (Y_-, α_-) to (Y_+, α_+) .

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Fix points o_\pm in Y_\pm , and a curve γ in X joining them, $\overline{\mathcal{M}}_{X,A,\gamma}(\Gamma^+, \Gamma^-) =$ moduli of curves in X passing through γ .

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APT and P

Definition

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$$\text{APT}(Y, \xi) = T(V_\alpha, \hat{p}).$$

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- The **planarity** of (Y, ξ) is the maximal order over all augmentations,

$$P(Y) := \max_{\epsilon \in \text{Aug}_{\mathbb{Q}}(V_\alpha)} \{O(V_\alpha, \epsilon, \hat{\rho}_\bullet)\},$$

where the maximum of an empty set is defined to be zero. This is independent of α .

linearized contact homology

W filling of (Y, ξ) , $\epsilon = \epsilon_W$ induced augmentation on $CHA(Y)$.

$$\rightsquigarrow H_*(\overline{B}^1 V_\alpha, \widehat{\ell}_\epsilon) = H_*(V_\alpha, \ell_\epsilon^1) \cong LCH_*(W) \cong SH_{+, S^1}^{2n-3-*}(W)$$

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linearized contact homology, or positive S^1 -equivariant symplectic cohomology (Bourgeois–Oancea). These are $\mathbb{Q}[U]$ -modules, and

- U has degree 2 on $H_*(V_\alpha, \ell_\epsilon^1)$;
- for each x , there exists k such that $U^k(x) = 0$.

Moreover, the U -map makes sense for *arbitrary* augmentations on $H_*(V_\alpha, \ell_\epsilon^1)$.

SD

Let $(Y, \xi = \ker \alpha)$ with $P(Y) = 1$, $\mathfrak{o} \in Y$, ϵ an augmentation, and $\ell_{\bullet, \epsilon}^1$ associated pointed map.

Definition

The (ϵ, \mathfrak{o}) -**order of semi-dilation** of (Y, ξ) is

$$\text{SD}(Y, \xi, \epsilon, \mathfrak{o}) =$$

$$\min \left\{ k : \text{there exists } x \in H_*(V_\alpha, \ell_\epsilon^1) \text{ with } U^{k+1}(x) = 0, \ell_{\bullet, \epsilon}^1(x) = 1 \right\}.$$

The **order of semi-dilation** of (Y, ξ) is

$$\text{SD}(Y, \xi) = \max \{ \text{SD}(Y, \xi, \epsilon, \mathfrak{o}) : \epsilon \in \text{Aug}_{\mathbb{Q}}(V_\alpha), \mathfrak{o} \in Y \}.$$

Only depends on the contact structure, and is functorial.

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- Invariants can be computed or estimated explicitly.

Thank you!