

Homological stability for configuration spaces on closed manifolds VII

GeMAT seminar
IMAR
15 July 2025

Context

- If M is a connected, open manifold, then

$$H_i(C_n(M)) \cong H_i(C_{n+1}(M)) \quad \text{for } n \geq 2i.$$

[McDuff, Segal]

- When M is closed this is generally false, but:

Thm If M is a connected manifold, then

$$H_i(C_n(M); \mathbb{Q}) \cong H_i(C_{n+1}(M); \mathbb{Q}) \quad \text{for } n \geq i+1.$$

- So far we have seen proofs by

Church	(talk V)	via representation stability
Randal-Williams	(talk I)	via transfer maps
Benderick-Miller	(talks II/III)	via scanning maps & obstruction theory

- Today: it will be a corollary of:

Thm [Knudsen '17] For any d -manifold ($d \geq 2$):

$$\bigoplus_{n \geq 0} H_*(C_n(M); \mathbb{Q}) \cong H(\mathfrak{g}_M) \quad \text{as bigraded } \mathbb{Q}\text{-vspace,}$$

↑ Lie algebra homology

where $\mathfrak{g}_M$ is the following bigraded Lie algebra:

$$\mathfrak{g}_M = H_c^{-*}(M; \mathcal{L}(\underbrace{\mathbb{Q}^w[d-1]}_{\text{weight 1}}))$$

degree

$\mathbb{Q}^w$ = orientation local system on M

$\mathbb{Q}^w[d-1]$ = consider it to be concentrated in degree $d-1$

$\mathcal{L}(-)$ = free graded Lie algebra.

Remark

This can be simplified at the cost of splitting into two cases:

d odd

$$\mathcal{L}(\mathbb{Q}^w[d-1]) = \underbrace{\mathbb{Q}^w[d-1]}_{\text{weight 1}} \quad \text{with trivial bracket.}$$

$$\mathfrak{g}_M \cong H_*(M; \mathbb{Q})[-1]$$

with trivial bracket.

d even

$$\mathcal{L}(\mathbb{Q}^w[d-1]) = \underbrace{\mathbb{Q}^w[d-1]}_{\text{weight 1}} \oplus \underbrace{\mathbb{Q}[2d-2]}_{\text{weight 2}} \quad \begin{matrix} \times \\ [\times, \times] \end{matrix}$$

$$\mathfrak{g}_M \cong H_*(M; \mathbb{Q})[-1] \oplus H_*(M; \mathbb{Q}^w)[d-2]$$

as a bigraded vector space — the Lie bracket turns out to be determined by the cup product structure on M .

Corollary

As a graded $\mathbb{Q}$ -vspace, $H_*(C_n(M); \mathbb{Q})$ depends only on d and the graded $\mathbb{Q}$ -vspace $H_*(M; \mathbb{Q})$, plus the cup product structure if d is even.

[Bödigheimer-Cohen-Taylor '89]
d odd

[Félix-Thomas '00]
d even

Lie algebra homology

$\mathfrak{g}$ Lie algebra over $\mathbb{Q}$

Def $H_*(\mathfrak{g}) := \text{Tor}_*^{U\mathfrak{g}}(\mathbb{Q}, \mathbb{Q})$

$$U\mathfrak{g} = \frac{\bigoplus_{n \geq 0} \mathfrak{g}^{\otimes n}}{[x, y] = xy - yx}$$

Thm (Chevalley-Eilenberg)

$$H_*(\mathfrak{g}) \cong H_*(\wedge^* \mathfrak{g})$$

↑ differential induced by
 $[-, \cdot] : \wedge^2 \mathfrak{g} \rightarrow \mathfrak{g}$

Can use this to generalise to graded Lie algebras:

Def $\mathfrak{g}$ graded Lie algebra

$$H_*(\mathfrak{g}) := H_*(\text{Sym}^*(\mathfrak{g}[1]))$$

Chevalley-Eilenberg complex
 $C_*^{\text{CE}}(\mathfrak{g})$

↑ differential induced by $[-, \cdot]$

Note: $\mathfrak{g}$ ungraded $\hookrightarrow$ concentrated in degree zero

$\Rightarrow \mathfrak{g}[1]$ is concentrated in degree 1

$$\Rightarrow \text{Sym}^*(\mathfrak{g}[1]) = \wedge^* \mathfrak{g}$$

Plan

- Some ideas of the proof
- How to deduce stability
- Example calculations

Idea of proof

Uses factorisation homology

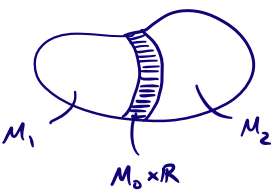
Def • $\text{Disk}_d = \left\{ \begin{array}{l} \text{manifolds differ to } \perp \mathbb{R}^d \\ \text{smooth embeddings} \end{array} \right.$

• n -disk algebra $A = \text{symmetric monoidal functor}$
 $(\text{Disk}_d, \perp) \xrightarrow{A} (\text{Ch}_\mathbb{Q}, \otimes)$

• $\int A : (\text{Mfld}_d, \perp) \longrightarrow (\text{Ch}_\mathbb{Q}, \otimes)$

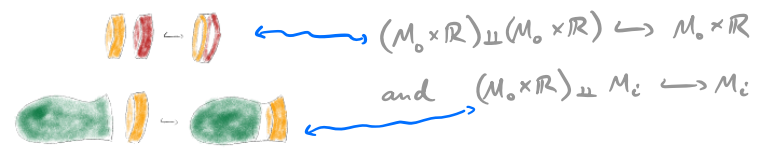
is the unique symmetric monoidal functor s.t.

• $\int_{\mathbb{R}^d} A \simeq A$

• if  $= M$

then $\int_M A \simeq \int_{M_1} A \otimes \int_{\int_{M_0 \times \mathbb{R}} A} \int_{M_2} A$

$\int_{M_0 \times \mathbb{R}} A$ has a ring structure and $\int_{M_i} A$ is a module over it via applying $\int A$ to the inclusions



$\exists$ and uniqueness

Thm (Ayala-Francis'15)

• $\int_M A =:$ factorisation homology of M with coefficients in A .

From d-disk algebras to Lie algebras

Part of the structure of a d-disk algebra is

$$C_*(\text{Emb}(\frac{1}{2}\mathbb{R}^d, \mathbb{R}^d)) \otimes A \otimes A \longrightarrow A$$

by abuse of notation,
A denotes $A(\mathbb{R}^d)$

Note that $H_*(\text{Emb}(\frac{1}{2}\mathbb{R}^d, \mathbb{R}^d))$

$$\begin{aligned} &\cong \\ &H_*(F_2(\mathbb{R}^d); \mathbb{Q}) \\ &\cong \\ &H_*(S^{d-1}; \mathbb{Q}) \\ &\cong \\ &\mathbb{Q}[0] \oplus \mathbb{Q}[d-1] \end{aligned}$$

Restricting to (a cycle representing a generator of) $\mathbb{Q}[d-1]$, we get:

$$A[d-1] \otimes A \longrightarrow A$$



$$m_{d-1}: A[d-1] \otimes A[d-1] \longrightarrow A[d-1]$$

This is a Lie bracket on $A[d-1]$.

(Jacobi identity $\iff$ Yang-Baxter relation in $H_*(F_3(\mathbb{R}^d))$.)

$$\begin{array}{ccc} F: \{d\text{-disk algebras}\} & \longrightarrow & \{\text{graded Lie algebras}\} \\ & \nwarrow U_d & \\ & \text{left adjoint} & \\ & \text{"d-enveloping algebra"} & \end{array}$$

Main steps of the proof

$$(*) = \int_M U_d \left(\mathcal{L} \left(\underbrace{\tilde{C}_*((\mathbb{R}^d)^+)[-1]}_{\substack{\text{graded vector space} \\ (\text{weight } 1)}} \right) \right)$$

$\swarrow$ d -enveloping algebra $\swarrow$ free Lie algebra $\swarrow$ bigraded

bigraded chain cx.

Calculate this in two different ways :

$$(*) \simeq \bigoplus_{n \geq 0} C_*(C_n(M); \mathbb{Q})$$

$$(*) \simeq C_*^{CE} \left(H_c^{-*}(M; \mathcal{L}(\mathbb{Q}^w[d-1])) \right)$$

Then take homology.

□.

Deducing stability

(M connected)

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By the main theorem,

$$(*) \quad \bigoplus_n H_*(C_n(M), \mathbb{Q}) \cong H_*(C_*^{\text{CE}}(g_M))$$

$$\begin{aligned} C_*^{\text{CE}}(g_M) &= \text{Sym}^*(g_M[1]) \\ &= \text{Sym}^*\left(H_c^*(M; \underbrace{\mathbb{Q}[d-1]}_{\text{weight 1}} \oplus \underbrace{\mathbb{Q}[2d-2]}_{\text{weight 2}})[1]\right) \\ &\quad \underbrace{\hspace{10em}} \\ &\quad H_*(M; \mathbb{Q}) \end{aligned}$$

The $\begin{pmatrix} \text{degree} = 0 \\ \text{weight} = 1 \end{pmatrix}$ summand is one-dimensional.

Choose a generator p and extend it to a ^{bihomogeneous} basis B of $g_M[1]$.
Then x is divisible by p .

Key proposition:

For $x \in C_*^{\text{CE}}(g_M)$, if $\text{weight}(x) \geq |x| + 1$

then x is divisible by p .

(Algebraic incarnation of hom. stab^y).

(With a bit of work, implies hom. stab^y on LHS of (*).)

Proof Assume $d \geq 3$. ($d=2$ is slightly more complicated)

Write $x = x_1 \dots x_r$ $x_i \in \mathcal{B}$

$$\Rightarrow \text{weight}(x_j) \geq |x_j| + 1 \quad \text{for some } j$$

Since $x_j \in \mathfrak{g}_M[1]$, $\text{weight}(x_j) = 1$ or 2

Suppose $\text{weight}(x_j) = 2$.

$$\leadsto d-1 \leq |x_j| \leq 2d-1$$

$$\leadsto \text{contradiction to } 2 \geq |x_j| + 1 \\ \text{and } d \geq 3.$$

Hence $\text{weight}(x_j) = 1$.

$$\leadsto 0 \leq |x_j| \leq d$$

$$\leadsto \text{hence } |x_j| = 0$$

$$\leadsto x_j = \lambda p.$$

□

Remark Proof just uses the formal structure of the bigrading of $\mathfrak{g}_M[1]$.

Reminder :

$$\bigoplus_n H_*(C_n(M); \mathbb{Q}) \cong H_*\left(\overbrace{\text{Sym}^*(\mathfrak{g}_M[1])}^{C_*^{\text{CE}}(\mathfrak{g}_M)}\right)$$

$$\mathfrak{g}_M[1] \cong H_*(M; \mathbb{Q}) \left(\underbrace{\oplus H_*(M; \mathbb{Q}^w)}_{\text{wt}=1} [d-1] \right)_{\text{wt}=2}$$

if d is even

Examples

$$M = \mathbb{R}^d$$

d odd

no differentials
b/c odd dim.

$$C_*^{\text{CE}}(\mathfrak{g}_m) = \mathbb{Q}[x]$$

$$w(x) = 1 \\ |x| = 0$$

$$\parallel \\ H_*(C_*^{\text{CE}}(\mathfrak{g}_m))$$

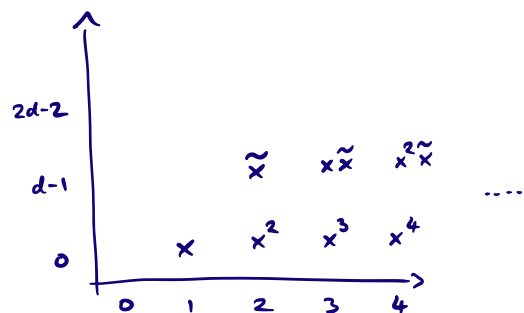
$$H_*(C_n(\mathbb{R}^d); \mathbb{Q}) \cong \text{weight-} n \text{ part of } \mathbb{Q}[x] \\ = \mathbb{Q}\{x^n\} \quad |x^n| = 0$$

d even

$$H_*(C_*^{\text{CE}}(\mathfrak{g}_m)) = C_*^{\text{CE}}(\mathfrak{g}_m) = \mathbb{Q}[x] \otimes \wedge[\tilde{x}]$$

no differentials
b/c no non-0
cup products

$$w(x) = 1 \quad |x| = 0 \\ w(\tilde{x}) = 2 \quad |\tilde{x}| = d-1$$



$$M = \mathbb{R}^n \setminus \text{point}$$

d odd

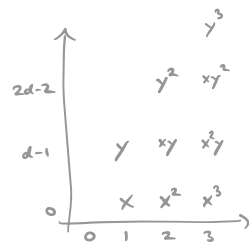
$$H_*(C_*^{\text{CE}}(\mathbb{R}^n)) \cong \mathbb{Q}[x, y]$$

$$w(x) = 1 = w(y)$$

$$|x| = 0$$

$$|y| = d-1$$

$$H_*(C_n(\mathbb{R}^d \setminus \text{point}); \mathbb{Q}) \cong \text{weight-}n \text{ piece of this}$$



$$= \mathbb{Q}\{x^d, x^{d-1}y, \dots, xy^{d-1}, y^d\}$$

$$\text{degrees } 0, d-1, 2d-2, \dots, nd-n$$

$$\cong \begin{cases} \mathbb{Q} & * = i(d-1) \quad 0 \leq i \leq n \\ 0 & \text{o/w.} \end{cases}$$

d even

$$H_*(C_*^{\text{CE}}(\mathbb{R}^n)) = C_*^{\text{CE}}(\mathbb{R}^n) = \mathbb{Q}[x, \tilde{y}] \otimes \wedge[\tilde{x}, y]$$

no differentials
b/c no non-0
cup products

$$w(x) = 1 = w(y)$$

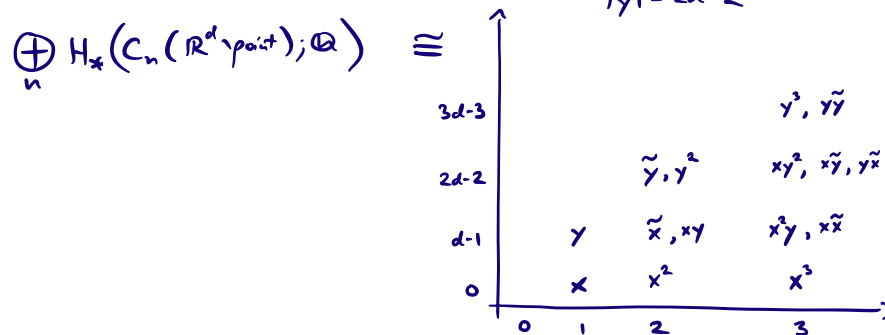
$$w(\tilde{x}) = 2 = w(\tilde{y})$$

$$|x| = 0$$

$$|y| = d-1$$

$$|\tilde{x}| = d-1$$

$$|\tilde{y}| = 2d-2$$



[Drummond-Cole-Knudsen] use this Lie algebra model to calculate explicitly
 $\dim_{\mathbb{Q}} H_i(C_n(\Sigma); \mathbb{Q})$ for all i, n, Σ .
 — finite-type surface.