

# MATRIC MASSEY PRODUCTS AND FORMAL MODULI I

by

O.A. Laudal

Introduction. It is now folklore that the hull of a deformation functor of an algebraic geometric object, in some way is determined by the appropriate cohomology of the object and its "Massey products", see [M], [May]. The first hints in this direction occurs in Douadys exposé in [Car] (1961).

In 1975 I proved that, in fact, there is a kind of Massey product structure induced by the obstruction calculus characterizing this hull, see [Lal].

Independently many authors have published results in this direction, see f.ex. [Pal], [S & S], for references.

This, and a forthcoming paper, are concerned with the problem of actual calculation of these Massey products in two special cases, that of a  $k$ -algebra  $A$  and of an  $A$ -module  $E$ .

In §1 we recall the general machinery of [Lal] which is common for all the cases we have in mind.

In §2 we prove the the usual matric Massey products, properly adjusted to our needs, for  $\text{Ext}_A^\bullet(E, E)$  determine the formal moduli of the  $A$ -module  $E$ , i.e. the hull of the deformation functor of  $E$ . As a corollary we obtain the following result

(2.10) Any complete local ring  $A$  is uniquely determined  
by  $\text{Ext}_A^i(k, k)$ ,  $i = 1, 2$  and the matric Massey products  
 $\bigotimes_n \text{Ext}^1 \dashrightarrow \text{Ext}^2$ .



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# §1 Formal moduli and Massey products

Let  $X$  be some algebraic geometric object, say a  $k$ -algebra  $A$  or an  $A$ -module  $E$ , and consider the deformation functor

$$\text{Def}_X : \underline{1} \rightarrow \underline{\text{Sets}}$$

see [Lal].

Let  $A^i = A^i(k, X; \mathcal{O}_X)$  be the corresponding cohomology. If  $X$  is a  $k$ -algebra  $A$ , then  $A^i = H^i(k, A; A)$  is the André cohomology, and if  $X$  is an  $A$ -module  $E$ ,  $A^i = \text{Ext}_A^i(E, E)$ .

By [Lal], (4.2.4), we know that the formal moduli of  $X$ , i.e. the hull of  $\text{Def}_X$ , is determined by a morphism of complete local  $k$ -algebras

$$o : T^2 = \text{Sym}_k(A^{2*})^\wedge \rightarrow T^1 = \text{Sum}_k(A^{1*})^\wedge$$

constructed using only the "obstruction calculus" of  $A^\bullet$ .

In fact, (4.2.4) of [Lal] implies that the formal moduli  $H$  has the form

$$H \simeq T^1 \otimes_{T^2} k,$$

provided  $A^1$  and  $A^2$  has countable dimensions as  $k$ -vector spaces.

We shall assume, in the what follows, that

$$\dim_k A^i < \infty \quad \text{for } i = 1, 2.$$

Pick a basis  $\{x_1, \dots, x_d\}$  of  $A^{1*}$  and a basis  $\{y_1, \dots, y_r\}$  of  $A^{2*}$ . Denote by  $\{x_1^*, \dots, x_d^*\}$  and  $\{y_1^*, \dots, y_r^*\}$  the corresponding dual bases of  $A^1$  resp.  $A^2$ .

Put  $f_j = o(y_j)$ ,  $j = 1, \dots, r$ . Then by (4.2.4) of [La] the ideal  $(\underline{f})$  of  $T^1$  generated by the  $f_j$ 's is contained in  $\underline{m}_T^2$ . Moreover  $H \simeq T^1/(\underline{f})$ . Now, for any surjective homomorphism of local artinian  $k$ -algebras  $\pi : R \rightarrow S$ , such that  $\underline{m}_R \cdot \ker \pi = 0$ , consider the diagram

$$\begin{array}{ccc} \text{Mor}(H, R) & \rightarrow & \text{Def}_E(R) \\ \downarrow & & \downarrow \\ \text{Mor}(H, S) & \rightarrow & \text{Def}_E(S). \end{array}$$

Suppose given a morphism  $\phi: H \rightarrow S$  corresponding to the lifting  $X_\phi \in \text{Def}_X(S)$ , then in the diagram below, we may always lift the map  $\phi'$  to a map  $\bar{\phi}$  making the resulting diagram commutative

$$(1) \quad \begin{array}{ccccccc} & & & & 0 & & \\ & & & & \downarrow & & \\ & & & & \ker \pi & & \\ & & & & \downarrow & & \\ A^{2*} \subseteq \underline{m}_{T^2} \subseteq T^2 & \xrightarrow{0} & T^1 & \xrightarrow{\bar{\phi}} & R & & \\ & & \downarrow & \searrow \phi' & \downarrow \pi & & \\ & & H & \xrightarrow{\phi} & S & & \\ & & & \searrow \phi_1 & \downarrow & & \\ & & & & S/\underline{m}^2 & & \end{array}$$

The obstruction for lifting  $X_\phi$  to  $R$  is, by construction of  $o$ , and functoriality, given by the restriction of  $o \circ \bar{\phi}$  to  $A^{2*}$ . In fact  $o \circ \bar{\phi}$  induces a linear map  $A^{2*} \rightarrow \ker \pi$ , i.e. an element  $o(X_\phi, \pi) \in A^2 \otimes \ker \pi = A^2(k, X; O_X \otimes \ker \pi)$ , which is the uniquely defined obstruction. Notice that we have the following identity

$$(2) \quad o(X_\phi, \pi) = \sum_k Y_j^* \otimes \phi(\bar{f}_j).$$

Notice also that the image  $X_{\phi_1}$  of  $X_\phi$  by the map  $\text{Def}_X(S) \rightarrow \text{Def}_X(S/\underline{m}^2)$  corresponds to the map  $\phi_1$ . Moreover  $\phi_1$  is uniquely determined by the induced map on the cotangent level

$$t_\phi : A^{1*} = \underline{m}_H / \underline{m}^2_H \rightarrow \underline{m} / \underline{m}^2$$

thus by an element  $t_\phi \in A^1 \otimes \underline{m} / \underline{m}^2$  which under the isomorphism  $\text{Def}_X(S/\underline{m}^2) \simeq A^1 \otimes \underline{m} / \underline{m}^2$  corresponds to  $X_{\phi_1}$ . If  $t_\phi = \sum_{i=1}^d x_i^* \otimes t_i$ ,  $t_i \in \underline{m} / \underline{m}^2$  then  $\phi_1(x_i) = t_i$ ,  $i = 1, \dots, d$ .

On the other hand, having fixed a basis  $\{\bar{v}_1, \dots, \bar{v}_p\}$  for  $\underline{m} / \underline{m}^2$ , we find that  $t_\phi = \sum_{l=1}^p \alpha_l \otimes \bar{v}_l$ ,  $\alpha_l \in A^1$ .

Thus there is a one to one correspondence between maps  $\phi_1$  and sequences  $\alpha_1, \dots, \alpha_p$  of elements of  $A^1$ .

Pick an  $\underline{n} = (n_1, \dots, n_d) \in \underline{\mathbb{N}}^d$  with  $|\underline{n}| = \sum_{i=1}^d n_i = N$  and let  $i_1 < i_2 < \dots < i_p$  be the indices  $i$  for which  $n_i \neq 0$ .

Consider the ideal  $J_{\underline{n}} \subseteq k[u_1, \dots, u_d]$  generated by the set of monomials  $\{u_1^{t_1} \dots u_d^{t_d} \mid \exists i, t_i > n_i\}$ .

Put  $R_{\underline{n}} = k[u_1, \dots, u_d]/J_{\underline{n}}$ ,  $S_{\underline{n}} = R_{\underline{n}}/(u_1^{n_1} \dots u_d^{n_d})$  and let  $v_1 = u_{i_1}$  be the image of  $u_{i_1}$  in  $R_{\underline{n}}$  (resp.  $S_{\underline{n}}$ ). Obviously  $v_1, \dots, v_p$  generates  $R_{\underline{n}}$  (resp.  $S_{\underline{n}}$ ) as  $k$ -algebra, and induces a basis  $\{\bar{v}_1, \dots, \bar{v}_p\}$  of  $\underline{m}_{\underline{n}}/\underline{m}_{\underline{n}}^2$ . Fix this basis.

Now let  $\alpha_1, \dots, \alpha_p \in A^1$  and consider the corresponding map  $\phi_1: H \rightarrow S_{\underline{n}}/\underline{m}_{\underline{n}}^2$ .

Definition (1.1). Any map  $\phi_{\underline{n}}$  making the following diagram commutative

$$\begin{array}{ccc} T^2 & \xrightarrow{\rho} & T^1 \\ \rho \downarrow & \searrow \phi_{\underline{n}} & \downarrow \pi_{\underline{n}} \\ H & \xrightarrow{\phi_{\underline{n}}} & S_{\underline{n}} \\ & \searrow \phi_1 & \downarrow \\ & & S_{\underline{n}}/\underline{m}_{\underline{n}}^2 \end{array}$$

is called a defining system for the Massey product

$$\langle \alpha_1, \dots, \alpha_p; \underline{n} \rangle = o(X_{\phi_{\underline{n}}}, \pi_{\underline{n}}) \in A^2.$$

When  $\alpha_1 = x_{i_1}^*$  we shall write  $\langle \underline{x}^*; \underline{n} \rangle$  for the Massey product  $\langle x_{i_1}^*, \dots, x_{i_p}^*; \underline{n} \rangle$ .

Suppose now that for some  $N \geq 2$  and every  $j = 1, \dots, r$  we have

$$f_j = \sum_{|\underline{n}|=N} a_{j,\underline{n}} \underline{x}^{\underline{n}} + \text{higher terms}$$

and consider any map  $\bar{\phi}_{\underline{n}}: T^1 \rightarrow R_{\underline{n}}$  such that  $\bar{\phi}_{\underline{n}} \circ \pi_{\underline{n}} = \rho \circ \phi_{\underline{n}}$ . Then

$$\bar{\phi}_{\underline{n}}(f_j) = a_{j,\underline{n}} \bar{u}_{i_1}^{n_{i_1}} \dots \bar{u}_{i_p}^{n_{i_p}} \in \ker \pi_{\underline{n}} = k. \text{ Applying the identity (2)}$$

we find

$$(3) \quad a_{j,\underline{n}} = y_j(\langle \underline{x}^*; \underline{n} \rangle).$$

It follows that if we let  $f_j^N$  be the degree  $N$  (leading) form of  $f_j$ , then

$$(4) \quad f_j^N(\underline{x}) = \sum_{|\underline{n}|=N} y_j^{<\underline{x}^*, \underline{n}>} \cdot \underline{x}^{\underline{n}}.$$

Consider the diagram:

$$(5) \quad \begin{array}{ccc} T^2 & \xrightarrow{O} & T^1 \xrightarrow{\bar{\phi}_{N-1}} k[u_1, \dots, u_d]/\underline{m}^{N+1} \\ & \rho \downarrow & \downarrow \pi \\ & H & \xrightarrow{\phi_{N-1}} k[u_1, \dots, u_d]/\underline{m}^N \end{array}$$

where  $\rho \circ \phi_{N-1}(x_i) \equiv u_i \pmod{\underline{m}}$ ,  $\underline{m} = (u_1, \dots, u_d)$ .

Let  $X_{\phi_{N-1}} \in \text{Def}_X(k[u_1, \dots, u_d]/\underline{m}^N)$  correspond to  $\phi_{N-1}$ . Notice that

by assumption  $X_{\phi_{N-1}}$  is a lifting of the universal lifting of  $X$

to  $k[u_1, \dots, u_d]/\underline{m}^2$ . Notice also that  $\ker \pi = \underline{m}^N/\underline{m}^{N+1} = \bigoplus_{|\underline{n}|=N} k \cdot (\underline{u}^{\underline{n}})$ .

An easy argument then shows that the obstruction for lifting  $X_{\phi_{N-1}}$

to  $k[u_1, \dots, u_d]/\underline{m}^{N+1}$  is given by:

$$(6) \quad \begin{aligned} o(X_{\phi_{N-1}}, \pi) &= \sum_{|\underline{n}|=N} <\underline{x}^*, \underline{n}> \otimes \underline{u}^{\underline{n}} = \sum_j y_j^* \otimes \left( \sum_{|\underline{n}|=N} y_j^{<\underline{x}^*, \underline{n}>} \underline{u}^{\underline{n}} \right) \\ &= \sum_j y_j^* \otimes f_j^N(\underline{u}). \end{aligned}$$

Now consider the diagram

$$(7) \quad \begin{array}{ccc} T^2 & \xrightarrow{O} & T^1 \xrightarrow{\bar{\phi}_N} R_{N+1} = k[u_1, \dots, u_d]/(\underline{m}^{N+2} + \underline{m}(f_1^N, \dots, f_r^N)) \\ & \downarrow & \downarrow \pi_{N+1}^i \\ & H & \xrightarrow{\phi_N} S_N = k[u_1, \dots, u_d]/(\underline{m}^{N+1} + (f_1^N, \dots, f_r^N)) \\ & \searrow \phi_{N-1} & \downarrow \pi_N \\ & & S_{N-1} = k[u_1, \dots, u_d]/\underline{m}^N \end{array}$$

Since  $S_N$  is  $k[u_1, \dots, u_d]/\underline{m}^{N+1}$  divided by the ideal generated by the obstruction for lifting  $X_{\phi_{N-1}}$ , we may lift  $X_{\phi_{N-1}}$  to  $S_N$ , therefore we may find maps  $\phi_N$  and  $\bar{\phi}_N$  making the diagram commutative.

Pick a monomial basis  $\{u^n\}_{n \in \bar{B}_{N-1}}$  for  $S_{N-1}$  (take simply all  $u^n$  with  $|n| \leq N-1$ ) and pick a monomial basis  $\{u^n\}_{n \in B_N}$  for  $\ker \pi_N = \underline{m}^N / \underline{m}^{N+1} + (f_1, \dots, f_r^N)$ . Put  $\bar{B}_N = \bar{B}_{N-1} \cup B_N$ . For every  $n$  with  $|n| \leq N$  we have a unique relation in  $S_N$

$$(8) \quad u^n = \sum_{m \in \bar{B}_N} \beta_{n,m} u^m$$

Since by construction  $o(X_{\phi_{N-1}}, \pi_N) = 0$ , this relation together with (6) implies that for every  $m \in B_N$  (or  $\bar{B}_N$  if one insists).

$$(9) \quad \sum_{|n|=N} \beta_{n,m} \langle x^*; n \rangle = 0$$

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Write } \ker \pi'_{N+1} &= (\underline{m}^{N+1} + (f_1^N, \dots, f_r^N)) / (\underline{m}^{N+2} + \underline{m}(f_1^N, \dots, f_r^N)) \\ &= (f_1^N, \dots, f_r^N) / \underline{m}(f_1^N, \dots, f_r^N) \oplus I_{N+1} \end{aligned}$$

Pick a monomial basis for  $I_{N+1} = \underline{m}^{N+1} / (\underline{m}^{N+2} + \underline{m}^{N+1} \cap \underline{m}(f_1^N, \dots, f_r^N))$  of the form  $\{u^n\}_{n \in B'_{N+1}}$ . We may assume that for  $n \in B'_{N+1}$ ,  $u^n$  is of the form  $u_k \cdot u^m$  for some  $m \in B_N$ . Put  $\bar{B}'_{N+1} = \bar{B}_N \cup B'_{N+1}$ . For every  $n$  with  $|n| \leq N+1$  we have a unique relation in  $R_{N+1}$

$$(10) \quad u^n = \sum_{m \in \bar{B}'_{N+1}} \beta'_{n,m} u^m + \sum_j \beta'_{n,j} f_j^N.$$

Let

$$(11) \quad f_j^{N+1} = \bar{\phi}_N(f_j) = f_j^N + \sum_{n \in \bar{B}'_{N+1}} b_{j,n} u^n$$

then by definition of  $o$ , the obstruction for lifting  $X_{\phi_N}$  to

$R_{N+1}$  is

$$\begin{aligned} (12) \quad o(X_{\phi_N}, \pi'_{N+1}) &= \sum_j y_j^* \otimes f_j^{N+1} \\ &= \sum_j y_j^* \otimes f_j^N + \sum_{n \in \bar{B}'_{N+1}} \left( \sum_j y_j^* \otimes b_{j,n} u^n \right) \end{aligned}$$



Definition (1.2). The map  $\phi_N$  is called a defining system for the Massey products

$$\langle \underline{x}^*; \underline{n} \rangle = \sum_j b_{j, \underline{n}} y_j^* \in \Lambda^2, \quad \text{for } \underline{n} \in B'_{N+1}.$$

With these notations we have:

$$(13) \quad f_j^{N+1} = \sum_{\underline{m} \in B'_N} y_j \langle \underline{x}^*; \underline{m} \rangle \underline{u}^{\underline{m}} + \sum_{\underline{n} \in B'_{N+1}} y_j \langle \underline{x}^*; \underline{n} \rangle \underline{u}^{\underline{n}}$$

where we have put  $B'_N = \{\underline{n} \mid |\underline{n}| = N\}$ .

Consider the diagram

$$(14) \quad \begin{array}{ccc} T^2 & \xrightarrow{\phi_{N+1}} & T^1 \xrightarrow{\phi_{N+1}} R_{N+2} = k[u_1, \dots, u_d] / (\underline{m}^{N+3} + \underline{m} \cdot (f_1^{N+1}, \dots, f_r^{N+1})) \\ \downarrow & & \downarrow \pi'_{N+2} \\ \Pi & \xrightarrow{\phi_{N+1}} & S_{N+1} = R_{N+1} / (f_1^{N+1}, \dots, f_r^{N+1}) \\ & \searrow \phi_N & \downarrow \pi_{N+1} \\ & & S_N \end{array}$$

Since  $S_{N+1}$  is  $R_{N+1}$  divided by the ideal generated by the obstruction for lifting  $X_{\phi_N}$  to  $R_{N+1}$ , we may lift  $X_{\phi_N}$  to  $S_{N+1}$ , therefore we may find maps  $\phi_{N+1}$  and  $\bar{\phi}_{N+1}$  making the diagram above commutative.

Pick a monomial basis  $\{\underline{u}^{\underline{n}}\}_{\underline{n} \in B_{N+1}}$  for  $\ker \pi_{N+1}$  such that  $B_{N+1} \subseteq B'_{N+1}$ . Put  $\bar{B}_{N+1} = \bar{B}_N \cup B_{N+1}$ . Then  $\{\underline{u}^{\underline{n}}\}_{\underline{n} \in \bar{B}_{N+1}}$  is a monomial basis for  $S_{N+1}$ . For every  $\underline{n}$  with  $|\underline{n}| \leq N+1$  we therefore have a unique relation in  $S_{N+1}$

$$(15) \quad \underline{u}^{\underline{n}} = \sum_{\underline{m} \in B_{N+1}} \beta'_{\underline{n}, \underline{m}} \underline{u}^{\underline{m}}$$

Since by construction  $\phi(X_{\phi_N}, \pi_{N+1}) = 0$ , this implies for every  $\underline{m} \in B_{N+1}$  the following identity:

$$(16) \quad \sum_{\underline{n} \in B'_{N+1}} \beta_{\underline{n}, \underline{m}} \langle \underline{x}^*; \underline{n} \rangle = 0$$

which is analogous to (9).

Write, again,  $\ker \pi'_{N+2} = (\underline{m}^{N+2} + (\underline{f}_1^{N+1}, \dots, \underline{f}_r^{N+1})) / (\underline{m}^{N+3} + \underline{m}(\underline{f}_1^{N+1}, \dots, \underline{f}_r^{N+1}))$   
 $= (\underline{f}_1^{N+1}, \dots, \underline{f}_r^{N+1}) / \underline{m}(\underline{f}_1^{N+1}, \dots, \underline{f}_r^{N+1}) \oplus I_{N+2}$ .

Pick a monomial basis for  $I_{N+2} = \underline{m}^{N+2} / (\underline{m}^{N+3} + \underline{m}^{N+2} \cap \underline{m}(\underline{f}_1^{N+1}, \dots, \underline{f}_r^{N+1}))$   
of the form  $\{\underline{u}^{\underline{n}}\}_{\underline{n} \in B'_{N+2}}$ , where we may assume that for  $\underline{n} \in B'_{N+2}$ ,  
 $\underline{u}^{\underline{n}}$  is of the form  $\underline{u}_k \cdot \underline{u}^{\underline{m}}$  for some  $\underline{m} \in B_{N+1}$  and some  $k$ . Put  
 $\bar{B}'_{N+2} = \bar{B}'_{N+1} \cup B'_{N+2}$ . For every  $\underline{n}$  with  $|\underline{n}| < N+2$  we have a unique  
relation in  $R_{N+2}$

$$(17) \quad \underline{u}^{\underline{n}} = \sum_{\underline{m} \in \bar{B}'_{N+2}} \beta'_{\underline{n}, \underline{m}} \underline{u}^{\underline{m}} + \sum_j \beta'_{\underline{n}, j} \underline{f}_j^{N+1}$$

of the same form as (10).

Let

$$(18) \quad \underline{f}_j^{N+2} = \bar{\phi}_{N+1}(\underline{f}_j) = \underline{f}_j^{N+1} + \sum_{\underline{n} \in B'_{N+2}} c_{j, \underline{n}} \underline{u}^{\underline{n}}.$$

Again, by definition of  $\phi$ , the obstruction for lifting  $X_{\phi_{N+2}}$  to  
 $R_{N+2}$  is

$$(19) \quad \begin{aligned} o(X_{\phi_{N+1}}, \pi'_{N+2}) &= \sum_j \underline{y}_j^* \otimes \underline{f}_j^{N+2} \\ &= \sum_j \underline{y}_j^* \otimes \underline{f}_j^{N+1} + \sum_{\underline{n} \in B'_{N+2}} \left( \sum_j \underline{y}_j^* \otimes c_{j, \underline{n}} \underline{u}^{\underline{n}} \right) \end{aligned}$$

Definition (1.3). The map  $\phi_{N+1}$  is called a defining system for  
the Massey products  $\langle \underline{x}^*; \underline{n} \rangle = \sum_j c_{j, \underline{n}} \underline{y}_j^* \in A^2$ , for  $\underline{n} \in B'_{N+2}$ .

With these notations, we have the following

$$(20) \quad \underline{f}_j^{N+2} = \sum_{\underline{l} \in B'_N} \langle \underline{x}^*; \underline{l} \rangle \underline{u}^{\underline{l}} + \sum_{\underline{m} \in B'_{N+1}} \underline{y}_j \langle \underline{x}^*; \underline{m} \rangle \underline{u}^{\underline{m}} + \sum_{\underline{n} \in B'_{N+2}} \underline{y}_j \langle \underline{x}^*; \underline{n} \rangle \underline{u}^{\underline{n}}$$

Clearly this process may be continued indefinitely. For every  
 $k > 0$  we obtain a diagram

$$\begin{array}{ccccc}
 T^2 & \xrightarrow{Q} & T^1 & \xrightarrow{\bar{\phi}_{N+k}} & R_{N+k+1} \\
 (21) & & \downarrow & & \downarrow \pi'_{N+k+1} \\
 & & H & \xrightarrow{\phi_{N+k}} & S_{N+k} \\
 & & & & \downarrow \pi_{N+k} \\
 & & & & S_{N+k-1}
 \end{array}$$

a monomial basis  $\{\underline{u}^{\underline{n}}\}_{\underline{n} \in \bar{B}_{N+k}}$  for  $S_{N+k}$ , such that for every  $\underline{n}$  with  $|\underline{n}| \leq N+k$  there is a unique relation in  $S_{N+k}$

$$(22) \quad \underline{u}^{\underline{n}} = \sum_{\underline{m} \in \bar{B}_{N+k}} \beta_{\underline{n}, \underline{m}} \underline{u}^{\underline{m}},$$

inducing the identity

$$(23) \quad \sum_{\underline{n} \in B'_{N+k}} \beta_{\underline{n}, \underline{m}} \langle \underline{x}^*; \underline{n} \rangle = 0, \quad \underline{m} \in B_{N+k}.$$

And there is a corresponding basis  $\{\underline{u}^{\underline{n}}\}_{\underline{n} \in B'_{N+k+1}}$  for the component  $I_{N+k+1}$  of  $\ker \pi'_{N+k+1} = (f_1^{N+k}, \dots, f_r^{N+k}) / \underline{m}(f_1^{N+k}, \dots, f_r^{N+k}) \oplus I_{N+k+1}$  such that in  $R_{N+k+1}$  we have for every  $\underline{n}$  with  $|\underline{n}| \leq N+k+1$

$$(24) \quad \underline{u}^{\underline{n}} = \sum_{\underline{m} \in \bar{B}'_{N+k+1}} \beta'_{\underline{n}, \underline{m}} \underline{u}^{\underline{m}} + \sum_j \beta'_{\underline{n}, j} f_j^{N+k}$$

where we have put  $\bar{B}'_{N+k+1} = \bar{B}_{N+k} \cup B'_{N+k+1}$ .

Moreover,

$$(25) \quad f_j^{N+k+1} = \bar{\phi}_{N+k}(f_j) = f_j^{N+k} + \sum_{\underline{n} \in B'_{N+k+1}} \underline{u}^{\underline{n}}.$$

The obstruction for lifting  $X_{\phi_{N+k}}$  to  $R_{N+k+1}$  is

$$\begin{aligned}
 (26) \quad o(X_{\phi_{N+k}}, \pi'_{N+k+1}) &= \sum_j Y_j^* \otimes f_j^{N+k+1} \\
 &= \sum_j Y_j^* \otimes f_j^{N+k} + \sum_{\underline{n} \in B'_{N+k+1}} \left( \sum_j Y_j^* \otimes \omega_{j, \underline{n}} \underline{u}^{\underline{n}} \right)
 \end{aligned}$$

Definition (1.4). The map  $\phi_{N+k}$  is called a defining system for the Massey products  $\langle \underline{x}^*; \underline{n} \rangle = \sum_j \omega_{j, \underline{n}} Y_j^* \in A^2$  for  $\underline{n} \in B'_{N+k+1}$ .

In particular, we find for every  $k$ ,

$$(27) \quad f_j^{N+k+1} = \sum_{l=0}^{k+1} \sum_{\underline{n} \in B'_{N+1}} y_j \langle \underline{x}^*; \underline{n} \rangle \underline{u}^{\underline{n}}$$

Notice that by (4.2.4) of [Lal] we have

$$(28) \quad H \approx \lim_{\leftarrow k} S_{N+k}$$

therefore

$$(29) \quad H \approx k[[u_1, \dots, u_d]]/(\bar{f}_1, \dots, \bar{f}_d)$$

where

$$(30) \quad \bar{f}_j = \lim_{k \rightarrow \infty} f_j^{N+k}.$$

Formally we may therefore write

$$(31) \quad \bar{f}_j = \sum_{l=0}^{\infty} \sum_{\underline{n} \in B'_{N+1}} y_j \langle \underline{x}^*; \underline{n}_1 \rangle \underline{u}^{\underline{n}}.$$

## §2 Massey products for $\text{Ext}_A^\bullet(E, E)$

In this paragraph we shall let  $A$  be any  $k$ -algebra and we shall let  $X$ , in §1, be some  $A$ -module  $E$ . We shall thus be concerned with the deformation functor of  $E$  as an  $A$ -module

$$\text{Def}_E: \underline{1} \rightarrow \underline{\text{Sets}}$$

defined as follows,

$$\text{Def}_E(S) = \left\{ \begin{array}{ccc} S \otimes_k A & \rightarrow & \text{End}(E_S) \\ \downarrow & & \downarrow \\ A & \rightarrow & \text{End}(E) \end{array} \middle| \begin{array}{l} E_S \text{ is } S\text{-flat} \\ E_S \otimes_S k = E \end{array} \right\} / \text{iso.}$$

As is well known, the corresponding cohomology is

$$A^i = \text{Ext}_A^i(E, E)$$

The deformation theory for modules, as hinted at on page 150 of [Lal], parallels the corresponding theory for algebras. There is a global theory and a relative theory, and the main theorem (4.2.4) of [Lal] holds. There are no surprises, and we shall therefore leave the details to the reader.

Pick any free resolution  $L.$  of  $E$  as an  $A$ -module, and consider the associated single complex  $\text{Hom}_A^\bullet(L., L.)$  of the double complex  $\text{Hom}_A(L., L.)$ . By definition we have

$$\text{Hom}_A^P(L., L.) = \coprod_{m \geq 0} \text{Hom}(L_m, L_{m-p})$$

Let  $d_i: L_i \rightarrow L_{i-1}$  be the differential of  $L.$ , then

$$d^P: \text{Hom}_A^P(L., L.) \rightarrow \text{Hom}_A^{P+1}(L., L.)$$

is defined by

$$d^P(\{\alpha_i^P\}_{i \geq 0}) = d_i \circ \alpha_{i-1}^P - (-1)^P \alpha_i^P \circ d_{i-P}$$

Clearly  $\text{Hom}_A^\bullet(L., L.)$  is a graded differential associative  $A$ -algebra, multiplication being the composition of  $\text{Hom}^\bullet(L., L.)$ .

Lemma (2.1). There is a natural isomorphism

$$\text{Ext}_A^i(E, E) \simeq H^i(\text{Hom}_A^\bullet(L., L.)), \quad i \geq 0.$$

Consider any surjective morphism  $\pi: R \rightarrow S$  in  $\underline{1}$ , such that  $\frac{m}{-R} \cdot \ker \pi = 0$ .

Assume there exists a lifting  $\{L. \otimes_k S, d_i(S)\}$  of the complex  $\{L., d_i\}$ , i.e. of the free resolution  $L.$  of  $E$ .

This means that there exists a commutative diagram of the form

$$\begin{array}{ccccccccccc} 0 & \leftarrow & H_0(L. \otimes_k S) & \leftarrow & L_0 \otimes_k S & \xleftarrow{d_1(S)} & L_1 \otimes_k S & \xleftarrow{d_2(S)} & L_2 \otimes_k S & \xleftarrow{d_3(S)} & \dots \\ & & \downarrow & & \downarrow & & \downarrow & & \downarrow & & \\ 0 & \leftarrow & H_0(L.) & \leftarrow & L_0 & \xleftarrow{d_1} & L_1 & \xleftarrow{d_2} & L_2 & \xleftarrow{d_3} & \dots \end{array}$$

where for every  $i$ , the composition

$$d_{i+1}(S) \circ d_i(S) = 0.$$

We shall see that any such lifting is, in fact, an  $A \otimes_k S$ -free resolution of  $H_0(L. \otimes_k S) = E_S$ , and that  $E_S$  is a lifting of  $E = H_0(L.)$  to  $S$ .

Both contentions are obviously true for  $S = k$ , so by induction we may assume they hold for  $S$ . If we then are able to prove the corresponding statements for  $R$ , we are through.

But first we have an existence problem. Given a lifting  $E_S$  of  $E$  to  $S$  it is easy to see that there is a corresponding lifting  $\{L \otimes_k S, d_i(S)\}$  of  $\{L, d_i\}$  to  $S$ . By assumption we have conversally that any such lifting  $\{L \otimes_k S, d_i(S)\}$  of  $\{L, d_i\}$  to  $S$  determines a lifting  $E_S = H_0(L \otimes_k S)$  and is, itself, an  $A \otimes_k S$ -free resolution of  $E_S$ .

Pick one such lifting  $\{L \otimes_k S, d_i(S)\}$ , and let us compute the obstruction for lifting  $\{L \otimes_k S, d_i(S)\}$  to  $R$ . This obstruction is then, clearly, an obstruction for lifting  $E_S$  to  $R$ .

For every  $i$ , pick a lifting  $d'_i(R): L_i \otimes_k R \rightarrow L_{i-1} \otimes_k R$  of  $d_i(S): L_i \otimes_k S \rightarrow L_{i-1} \otimes_k S$ , to  $R$ . This is obviously possible, since all  $L_i$  are  $A$ -free.

Since  $d_i(S) \circ d_{i-1}(S) = 0$  and since  $I = \ker \pi$  is killed by the maximal ideal  $\underline{m}_R$  of  $R$ , the composition  $d'_i(R) \circ d'_{i-1}(R): L_i \otimes_k R \rightarrow L_{i-2} \otimes_k R$  is induced by a unique map

$$O_i: L_i \rightarrow L_{i-2} \otimes_k I$$

The family  $\{O_i\}_{i \geq 0}$  defines an element

$$O \in \text{Hom}^2(L, L) \otimes_k I$$

One checks that  $d^2 O = 0$ , so that  $O$  is a 2-cocycle of  $\text{Hom}_A^\bullet(L, L)$ , defining an element

$$o(E_S, \pi) \in \text{Ext}_A^2(E, E) \otimes_k I.$$

It is easily seen that  $o(E_S, \pi)$  is independent of the choice of the  $d'_i(R)$ 's lifting the  $d_i(S)$ 's.

Moreover, if  $o(E_S, \pi) = 0$ , there exists an element

$\xi \in \text{Hom}_A^1(L, L) \otimes_k I$  such that  $d\xi = -O$ . Put

$$d_i(R) = d'_i(R) + \varepsilon_i,$$

then one finds

$$d_i(R) \circ d_{i-1}(R) = 0$$

and  $\{L \otimes_k R, d_i(R)\}$  is a lifting of  $\{L \otimes_k S, d_i(S)\}$  to  $R$ .

Now let  $\{L \otimes_k R; d_i(R)\}$  be any lifting of  $\{L \otimes_k S, d_i(S)\}$  to  $R$ , then there is an exact sequence of complexes

$$0 \rightarrow \{L \otimes_k I, d_i|_I\} \rightarrow \{L \otimes_k R, d_i(R)\} \rightarrow \{L \otimes_k S, d_i(S)\} \rightarrow 0$$

inducing a long exact sequence

$$\begin{aligned} & \rightarrow H_n(L \otimes_k I) \rightarrow H_n(L \otimes_k R) \rightarrow H_n(L \otimes_k S) \\ & \rightarrow H_{n-1}(L \otimes_k I) \rightarrow \dots \rightarrow H_1(L \otimes_k S) \\ & \rightarrow H_0(L \otimes_k I) \rightarrow H_0(L \otimes_k R) \rightarrow H_0(L \otimes_k S) \rightarrow 0 \end{aligned}$$

from which it follows that

$$H_n(L \otimes_k R) = 0 \text{ for } n \geq 1, \text{ and}$$

$$0 \rightarrow E \otimes_k I \rightarrow H_0(L \otimes_k R) \rightarrow E_S \rightarrow 0$$

is exact.

Therefore  $H_0(L \otimes_k R) = E$  is a lifting of  $E_R$  to  $R$ .

Moreover, given two liftings  $\{L \otimes_k R, d_i(R)_1\}$ ,  $1 = 1, 2$  of  $\{L \otimes_k S, d_i(S)\}$ , corresponding to two liftings  $E_R^1$  and  $E_R^2$  of  $E_S$ , the differences  $d_i(R)_1 - d_i(R)_2$  induce maps

$$\eta_i: L_i \rightarrow L_{i-1} \otimes_k I.$$

The family  $\{\eta_i\}_{i \geq 0}$  is a 1-cocycle of  $\text{Hom}^*(L, L)$  defining an element  $\bar{\eta} \in \text{Ext}_A^1(E, E)$ .

In this way we obtain a surjective map

$$\{\text{liftings of } E_S \text{ to } R\} \times \text{Ext}_A^1(E, E) \rightarrow \{\text{liftings of } E_S \text{ to } R\}$$

making the set of liftings of  $E_S$  to  $R$  a principal homogenous space (torsor) over  $\text{Ext}_A^1(E, E)$ .

We have established the following,

Proposition (2.2). Let  $E_S \in \text{Def}_E(S)$  correspond to the lifting  $\{L \otimes_k S, d_i(S)\}$  of  $L$  to  $S$ . Then there is a uniquely defined obstruction

$$o(E_S, \pi) \in \text{Ext}_A^2(E, E) \otimes_k I$$

given in terms of the 2-cocycle  $O$  of  $\text{Hom}_A^\bullet(L, L) \otimes I$  defined above, such that  $o(E_S, \pi) = 0$  iff  $E_S$  may be lifted to  $R$ .

Moreover, if  $o(E_S, \pi) = 0$  then the set of liftings of  $E_S$  to  $R$  is a principal homogeneous space (torsor) over  $\text{Ext}_A^1(E, E)$ .

Thus we have at hand a nice obstruction calculus for  $\text{Def}_E$  given entirely in terms of the complex  $L$  and its liftings.

Using this we shall apply the constructions of §1 and compute the Massey products,  $\langle \underline{x}^*, \underline{n} \rangle$  for  $\underline{n} \in B_{N+k}^1$ . In fact, the  $\langle \underline{x}^*, \underline{n} \rangle$  of §1 will turn out to be some generalized "ordinary" Massey products of the differential graded  $k$ -algebra  $\text{Hom}_A^\bullet(L, L)$ .

Pick a basis  $\{x_1, \dots, x_d\}$  of  $\text{Ext}_A^1(E, E)^*$  and a basis  $\{y_1, \dots, y_r\}$  of  $\text{Ext}_A^2(E, E)^*$ . Denote by  $\{x_1^*, \dots, x_d^*\}$  and  $\{y_1^*, \dots, y_r^*\}$  the corresponding dual bases of  $\text{Ext}^1$  and  $\text{Ext}^2$ .

Let for  $i = 1, \dots, d$ ,  $X_i \in \text{Hom}_A^1(L, L)$  be a cocycle representing  $x_i^*$  and let for  $j = 1, \dots, r$ ,  $Y_j \in \text{Hom}_A^2(L, L)$  be a cocycle representing  $y_j^*$ .

Pick an  $\underline{n} = (n_1, \dots, n_d)$  with  $|\underline{n}| = \sum_{i=1}^d n_i = N$  and consider as in §1 the  $k$ -algebras  $S_{\underline{n}}$  and  $R_{\underline{n}}$ . Fix the basis  $\{\bar{v}_1 \dots \bar{v}_p\}$  of  $\underline{m}_{\underline{n}} / \underline{m}_{\underline{n}}^2$ . Recall that we have in  $R_{\underline{n}}$  the following slightly confusing identities

$$(1) \quad v_l = u_{i_l}, \quad l = 1, \dots, p.$$

$$u_i = 0 \quad \text{if } i \notin \{i_1, \dots, i_p\}$$

insisted upon because it makes the notations more streamlined later on.



We shall pick a monomial basis for the  $k$ -vectorspace  $S_{\underline{n}}$  of the form

$$\{u_1^{m_1} \cdots u_d^{m_d} \mid 0 \leq m_i \leq n_i, \underline{m} \neq \underline{n}\}$$

written as

$$\{\underline{u}^{\underline{m}}\}_{\underline{m} \in \bar{B}_{\underline{n}}}.$$

With this done, let  $\alpha_1, \dots, \alpha_p \in \text{Ext}_A^1(E, E)$  and consider the element  $\sum_{l=1}^p \alpha_l \otimes \bar{v}_l \in \text{Ext}_A^1 \otimes \underline{m}_{\underline{n}}/\underline{m}_{\underline{n}}^2$ .

Let  $\phi_1: H \rightarrow S_{\underline{n}}/\underline{m}_{\underline{n}}^2$  be the corresponding map and let  $E_{\phi_1} \in \text{Def}_E(S_{\underline{n}}/\underline{m}_{\underline{n}}^2)$  be the induced deformation of  $E$ .

Assume there is given a defining system  $\phi_{\underline{n}}: H \rightarrow S_{\underline{n}}$  for the Massey product  $\langle \alpha_1, \dots, \alpha_p; \underline{n} \rangle$  (see (1.1)), corresponding to a lifting  $E_{\phi_{\underline{n}}} \in \text{Def}_E(S_{\underline{n}})$  of  $E_{\phi_1}$ .

Then  $E_{\phi_1}$  is represented by a lifting  $\{L \otimes S_{\underline{n}}/\underline{m}_{\underline{n}}^2; d_i(S_{\underline{n}}/\underline{m}_{\underline{n}}^2)\}$  of  $L$ . and  $E_{\phi_{\underline{n}}}$  is represented by a lifting  $\{L \otimes S_{\underline{n}}; d_i(S_{\underline{n}})\}$  of  $\{L \otimes S_{\underline{n}}/\underline{m}_{\underline{n}}^2; d_i(S_{\underline{n}}/\underline{m}_{\underline{n}}^2)\}$ .

The family of  $A \otimes_k S_{\underline{n}}$ -linear maps

$$d_i(S_{\underline{n}}): L_i \otimes_k S_{\underline{n}} \rightarrow L_{i-1} \otimes_k S_{\underline{n}}$$

is uniquely determined by the restriction to  $L_i \otimes 1$ , thus by the family of  $A$ -linear maps

$$\alpha_{i,m}: L_i \rightarrow L_{i-1}, \quad \underline{m} \in \bar{B}_{\underline{n}}$$

defined by

$$d_i(S_{\underline{n}})|_{L_i \otimes 1} = \sum_{\underline{m} \in \bar{B}_{\underline{n}}} \alpha_{i,\underline{m}} \otimes \underline{u}^{\underline{m}}.$$

With this notation, we may assume

$$d_i(S_{\underline{n}}/\underline{m}_{\underline{n}}^2)|_{L_i \otimes 1} = \sum_{l=1}^p \alpha_{i,\underline{\varepsilon}_l} \otimes \underline{u}^{\underline{\varepsilon}_l}$$

where  $\underline{\varepsilon}_1 = (\underbrace{0, \dots, 1}_{i_1}, 0, \dots, 0) \in \bar{B}_{\underline{n}}$ .

According to (1) we may also write

$$d_i(S_{\underline{n}}/m_{\underline{n}}^2) | L_i \otimes 1 = \sum \alpha_{i, \underline{\varepsilon}_1} \otimes \bar{v}_1.$$

For every  $\underline{m} \in \bar{B}_{\underline{n}}$  the family  $\{\alpha_{i, \underline{m}}\}_i$  is a cochain

$$\alpha_{\underline{m}} \in \text{Hom}_A^1(L., L.)$$

such that  $\alpha_{\underline{\varepsilon}_1}$  is a cocycle representing the cohomology class  $\alpha_1$ ,

$1 = 1, \dots, p$ , and  $\alpha_{i, \underline{0}} = d_i$ ,  $i > 0$ .

Since  $d_i(S_{\underline{n}}) \odot d_{i-1}(S_{\underline{n}}) = 0$  for all  $i > 0$  we find that the family  $\{\alpha_{\underline{m}}\}_{\underline{m} \in \bar{B}_{\underline{n}}}$  satisfies the following identities

$$\sum_{\substack{\underline{m}_1 + \underline{m}_2 = \underline{m} \\ \underline{m}_i \in \bar{B}_{\underline{n}}}} \alpha_{\underline{m}_1} \circ \alpha_{\underline{m}_2} = 0 \quad \text{for all } \underline{m} \in \bar{B}_{\underline{n}}.$$

Moreover the obstruction for lifting  $E_{\phi_{\underline{n}}}$  to  $R_{\underline{n}}$ , i.e. the obstruction  $o(E_{\phi_{\underline{n}}}, \pi_{\underline{n}})$  for lifting  $\{L_i \otimes S_{\underline{n}}, d_i(S_{\underline{n}})\}$  to  $R_{\underline{n}}$ , is easily seen to be represented by the, (à priori), cocycle

$$\sum_{\substack{\underline{m}_1 + \underline{m}_2 = \underline{n} \\ \underline{m}_i \in \bar{B}_{\underline{n}}}} \alpha_{\underline{m}_1} \circ \alpha_{\underline{m}_2} \in \text{Hom}_A^2(L., L.).$$

Proposition (2.3). Given a sequence of  $p$  cohomology classes

$\alpha_1 \in \text{Ext}_A^1(E, E)$ , then a defining system for the Massey product  $\langle \alpha_1, \dots, \alpha_p; \underline{n} \rangle$  corresponds to a family  $\{\alpha_{\underline{m}}\}_{\underline{m} \in \bar{B}_{\underline{n}}}$  of 1-cochains of  $\text{Hom}_A^1(L., L.)$ , such tht for every  $\underline{m} \in \bar{B}_{\underline{n}}$

$$* \quad \sum_{\substack{\underline{m}_1 + \underline{m}_2 = \underline{m} \\ \underline{m}_i \in \bar{B}_{\underline{n}}}} \alpha_{\underline{m}_1} \circ \alpha_{\underline{m}_2} = 0$$

and such that  $\alpha_{i, \underline{0}} = d_i$  for  $i > 0$  and  $\alpha_{\underline{\varepsilon}_1}$  represents

$\alpha_1$ ,  $1 = 1, \dots, p$ .

Conversally, any such family  $\{\alpha_{\underline{m}}\}_{\underline{m} \in \bar{B}_{\underline{n}}}$  give rise to a defining system for the Massey product  $\langle \alpha_1, \dots, \alpha_p; \underline{n} \rangle$ .

Moreover, given such a defining system, the Massey product

$\langle \alpha_1, \dots, \alpha_p; \underline{n} \rangle$  is represented by the 2-cocycle

$$\sum_{\substack{\underline{m}_1 + \underline{m}_2 = \underline{m} \\ \underline{m}_i \in \bar{B}_{\underline{n}}}} \alpha_{\underline{m}_1} \circ \alpha_{\underline{m}_2} \in \text{Hom}_A^2(L, L).$$

Proof. This is just the observation that a lifting  $E_{\phi_{\underline{n}}}$  of  $E_{\phi_1}$  corresponds to a lifting  $\{L \otimes_k S_{\underline{n}}; d_i(S_{\underline{n}})\}$  of  $\{L \otimes_k S_{\underline{n}}/\underline{m}_{\underline{n}}^2; d_i(S_{\underline{n}}/\underline{m}_{\underline{n}}^2)\}$ , thus to families  $\{\alpha_{i, \underline{m}}\}_{\underline{m} \in \bar{B}_{\underline{n}}}$  such that

$$** \quad d_i(S_{\underline{n}}) | L_i \otimes 1 = \sum_{\underline{m} \in \bar{B}_{\underline{n}}} \alpha_{i, \underline{m}} \otimes \underline{u}^{\underline{m}}.$$

The relation  $d_i(S_{\underline{n}}) \circ d_{i-1}(S_{\underline{n}}) = 0$  translates into \*. Conversely \* proves that  $d_i(S_{\underline{n}})$  defined by \*\* defines a lifting

$\{L \otimes_k S_{\underline{n}}; d_i(S_{\underline{n}}/\underline{m}_{\underline{n}}^2)\}$ , thus also a lifting  $E_{\phi_{\underline{n}}}$  of  $E_{\phi_1}$ . Finally any such  $E_{\phi_{\underline{n}}}$  corresponds to a map  $\phi_{\underline{n}}: H \rightarrow S_{\underline{n}}$ , i.e. to a defining system.

Q.E.D.

Remark (2.4). In the light of (2.3) we shall let the notion of a defining system for the Massey product  $\langle \alpha_1, \dots, \alpha_p; \underline{n} \rangle$  refer to either the map  $\phi_{\underline{n}}$  or the family  $\{\alpha_{\underline{m}}\}$  depending on the situation.

Remark (2.5). Let  $\underline{n} = (n_1, \dots, n_d)$  be given such that  $n_i = 0$  for  $i \notin \{i_1, \dots, i_p\}$ , then the Massey product  $\langle \alpha_1, \dots, \alpha_p; \underline{n} \rangle$ , if defined, depends only upon  $\alpha_1, \dots, \alpha_p$  and the p-uple  $(n_{i_1}, n_{i_2}, \dots, n_{i_p})$ . Given  $\alpha_1, \dots, \alpha_p \in \text{Ext}_A^1(E, E)$  and any p-uple  $\underline{m} = (m_1, \dots, m_p)$  there is no confusion in writing

$$\langle \alpha_1, \dots, \alpha_p; \underline{m} \rangle.$$

Suppose  $p = 1$  and  $\underline{n} = (n)$ ,  $\alpha_1 = \alpha \in \text{Ext}_A^1(E, E)$ , then a defining system for  $\langle \alpha; \underline{n} \rangle$  is a family  $\{\alpha_{\underline{m}}\}_{0 \leq \underline{m} < \underline{n}-1}$  of 1-cochains

$$\alpha_{\underline{m}} \in \text{Hom}_A^1(L., L.)$$

such that,  $\alpha_{i, \underline{0}} = d_i$ ,  $i \geq 0$  and  $\alpha_{\underline{1}}$  represents  $\alpha$ , with the property that for every  $0 \leq \underline{m} < \underline{n}-1$ ,  $\sum_{\underline{m}_1 + \underline{m}_2 = \underline{m}} \alpha_{\underline{m}_1} \circ \alpha_{\underline{m}_2} = 0$ .

If a defining system exists, then

$$\langle \alpha; \underline{n} \rangle = \text{cl} \left( \sum_{\substack{\underline{m}_1 + \underline{m}_2 = \underline{n} \\ 0 \leq \underline{m}_i \leq \underline{n}-1}} \alpha_{\underline{m}_1} \circ \alpha_{\underline{m}_2} \right)$$

In particular for  $\underline{n} = (2)$  the Massey product  $\langle \alpha, (2) \rangle$  is always defined and is represented by the 2-cocycle  $\alpha \circ \alpha$ . These are the "Bocksteins".

If  $p = 2$  and  $\underline{n} = (1, 1)$ ,  $\alpha_1, \alpha_2 \in \text{Ext}_A^1(E, E)$  then the family  $\{\alpha_{\underline{m}}\}_{\underline{m} \in \{(0,0), (1,0), (0,1)\}}$  where  $\alpha_{(0,0)} = \{d_i\}_{i \geq 0}$ ,  $\alpha_{(1,0)}$  represents  $\alpha$ , and  $\alpha_{(0,1)}$  represents  $\alpha_2$ , is a defining system for  $\langle \alpha_1, \alpha_2; (1,1) \rangle$  which is represented by  $\alpha_{(1,0)} \circ \alpha_{(0,1)} + \alpha_{(0,1)} \circ \alpha_{(1,0)}$ . Thus  $\langle \alpha_1, \alpha_2; (1,1) \rangle$  is the symmetrized cup-product.

Now, having a purely cohomological expression for the (defined) Massey products  $\langle \alpha_1, \dots, \alpha_p; \underline{n} \rangle$ , we shall procede as in §1, computing step by step a set of generators for the ideal of  $T^1$  defining the formal moduli of  $E$ .

Assume, as in §1 that the formal power-series  $f_j = o(y_j) \in T^1 = k[[x_1, \dots, x_d]]$  may be written as

$$f_j = \sum_{|\underline{n}|=N} a_{j, \underline{n}} \underline{x}^{\underline{n}} + \text{higher terms} \quad j = 1, \dots, r$$

for some  $N \geq 2$ .

Then by §1 (3),  $\alpha_{j, \underline{n}} = y_j \langle \underline{x}^*; \underline{n} \rangle$  where, by assumption  $\langle \underline{x}^*; \underline{n} \rangle = \langle x_{i_1}^*, x_{i_2}^*, \dots, x_{i_p}^*; \underline{n} \rangle$  is (uniquely) defined.

Put  $f_j^N = \sum_{|\underline{n}|=N} a_{j, \underline{n}} \underline{x}^{\underline{n}}$  and consider the diagram §1 (7). The map  $\phi_{N-1}$  induces defining systems for all Massey products  $\langle \underline{x}^*; \underline{n} \rangle$  for  $|\underline{n}| < N$ , and corresponds therefore to a family

$$(2) \quad \{\alpha_{\underline{m}}\}_{\underline{m} \in \bar{B}_{N-1}}$$

of 1-cochains of  $\text{Hom}_A^*(L., L.)$  such that for every  $i > 0$ ,  $\alpha_{i, \underline{0}} = d_i$ , and  $\alpha_{\underline{e}_i}$  is a cocycle representing  $x_{i, \underline{e}_i}^* = (\underbrace{0, \dots, 0}_i, 1, 0, \dots, 0) \in \underline{N}$ . Moreover, for every  $\underline{m} \in \bar{B}_{N-1}$

$$(3) \quad \sum_{\substack{\underline{m}_1 + \underline{m}_2 = \underline{m} \\ \underline{m}_i \in \bar{B}_{N-1}}} \alpha_{\underline{m}_1} \circ \alpha_{\underline{m}_2} = 0$$

Let  $d_i(S_{N-1}): L_i \otimes_k S_{N-1} \rightarrow L_{i-1} \otimes_k S_{N-1}$  be the  $A \otimes S_{N-1}$ -linear map defined by

$$d_i(S_{N-1})|_{L_i \otimes 1} = \sum_{\underline{m} \in \bar{B}_{N-1}} \alpha_{i, \underline{m}} \underline{u}^{\underline{m}}.$$

Then (3) implies that  $\{L. \otimes_k S_{N-1}; d_i(S_{N-1})\}$  is a lifting of the universal deformation of  $L.$  to  $S_2$  defined by the map

$$\phi_1: H \rightarrow k[u_1, \dots, u_d]/\underline{m}^2.$$

Recall that  $\phi_1$  corresponds to the deformation of  $L.$ , or of  $E$  if one wishes, to  $S_2$  defined by the element

$$\sum_{i=1}^d x_i^* \otimes \bar{u}_i \in \text{Ext}_A^1(E, E) \otimes \underline{m}/\underline{m}^2 = \text{Def}_E(S_2).$$

By construction  $\{L. \otimes_k S_{N-1}; d_i(S_{N-1})\}$  induces the deformation

$$\phi_{N-1} \in \text{Def}_E(S_{N-1}).$$

Sticking to the notations of §1, and noticing that for every

$\underline{n} \in B'_N = \{\underline{m} \in \underline{N}^d \mid |\underline{m}| = N\}$  the Massey product  $\langle \underline{x}^*; \underline{n} \rangle$  is represented by the 2-cycle

$$Y(\underline{n}) = \sum_{\substack{\underline{m}_1 + \underline{m}_2 = \underline{n} \\ \underline{m}_i \in \bar{B}_{N-1}}} \alpha_{\underline{m}_1} \circ \alpha_{\underline{m}_2}$$

§1 (8) and (9) translates into the following. For every  $\underline{m} \in B_N$ ,

$\sum_{\underline{n} \in B'_N} \beta_{\underline{n}, \underline{m}} Y(\underline{n})$  is a coboundary.

Now, pick for every  $\underline{m} \in B_N$  a 1-cochain  $\alpha_{\underline{m}} \in \text{Hom}_{\Lambda}^1(L., L.)$  such that

$$(4) \quad d \alpha_{\underline{m}} = \sum_{\underline{n} \in B_N} \beta_{\underline{n}, \underline{m}} \gamma(\underline{n})$$

and consider the family

$$(5) \quad \{\alpha_{\underline{m}}\}_{\underline{m}} \in \bar{B}_N.$$

Let, for every  $i > 0$ ,  $d_i(S_N): L_i \otimes S_N \rightarrow L_{i-1} \otimes S_N$  be defined by:

$$d_i(S_N)|_{L_i \otimes 1} = \sum_{\underline{m} \in B_N} \alpha_{i, \underline{m}} \otimes \underline{u}^{\underline{m}}. \text{ Then (4) translates into}$$

$$d_i(S_N) \circ d_{i-1}(S_N) = 0.$$

Consequently  $\{L \otimes_k S_N; d_i(S_N)\}$  is a lifting of

$\{L \otimes_k S_{N-1}; d_i(S_{N-1})\}$  to  $S_N$ , and induces therefore a lifting

$E_{\phi_N} \in \text{Def}_E(S_N)$  of  $E_{\phi_{N-1}}$ .  $E_{\phi_N}$ , again, corresponds to a map  $\phi_N:$

$H \rightarrow S_N$  which we now fix.

According to (1.2)  $\phi_N$  is a defining system for the Massey products  $\langle \underline{x}^*; \underline{n} \rangle$  for  $\underline{n} \in B'_{N+1}$ . Since  $\phi_N$  is induced by, and induces, a family (5), we shall refer to any such family as a defining system for the Massey products  $\langle \underline{x}^*; \underline{n} \rangle$ ,  $\underline{n} \in B'_{N+1}$ .

By definition, see (1.2), these Massey products are given in terms of the obstruction, see §1 (11),  $o(E_{\phi_N}, \pi'_{N+1})$ .

By (2.2) this obstruction is defined by the 2-cocycle  $O = \{O_i\}$  where

$$O_i = d'_i(R_{N+1}) \circ d'_{i-1}(R_{N+1}),$$

$d'_i(R_{N+1}): L_i \otimes R_{N+1} \rightarrow L_{i-1} \otimes R_{N+1}$  being any lifting of  $d_i(S_N)$ . Pick

$d'_i(R_{N+1})$  such that

$$d'_i(R_{N+1})|_{L_i \otimes 1} = \sum_{\underline{m} \in B_N} \alpha_{i, \underline{m}} \otimes \underline{u}^{\underline{m}}$$

then straight forward calculation, using §1 (10), shows that

$$O_i = \sum_{\underline{n} \in B'_{N+1}} \left( \sum_{|\underline{m}| \leq N+1} \sum_{\underline{m}_1 + \underline{m}_2 = \underline{m}} \beta'_{\underline{m}, \underline{n}} \cdot \alpha_{i, \underline{m}_1} \circ \alpha_{i-1, \underline{m}_2} \right) u_{\underline{n}}^N \\ + \sum_{j=1}^r \left( \sum_{|\underline{m}| \leq N+1} \sum_{\underline{m}_1 + \underline{m}_2 = \underline{m}} \beta'_{\underline{m}, j} \cdot \alpha_{i, \underline{m}_1} \circ \alpha_{i-1, \underline{m}_2} \right) f_j^N.$$

Remember that  $d_i(S_N) \odot_{i-1}/S_N = 0$ .

Comparing this with (1.2) and §1 (11), we have proved the following

Proposition (2.6). Given a defining system  $\{\alpha_{\underline{m}}\}_{\underline{m} \in \bar{B}_{N+1}}$  for the

Massey products  $\langle \underline{x}^*; \underline{n} \rangle$ ,  $\underline{n} \in B'_{N+1}$ ,  $\langle \underline{x}^*; \underline{n} \rangle$  is represented by the 2-cocycle

$$Y(\underline{n}) = \sum_{|\underline{m}| \leq N+1} \sum_{\substack{\underline{m}_1 + \underline{m}_2 = \underline{m} \\ \underline{m}_1 \in \bar{B}_N}} \beta'_{\underline{m}, \underline{n}} \alpha_{\underline{m}_1} \circ \alpha_{\underline{m}_2}$$

By §1 (16) we know that for every  $\underline{m} \in B_{N+1}$  the 2-cochain

$$\beta_{\underline{m}} = \sum_{\underline{n} \in B'_{N+1}} \beta_{\underline{n}, \underline{m}} Y(\underline{n}) \in \text{Hom}_A^2(L., L.)$$

is a coboundary. Pick one  $\alpha_{\underline{m}} \in \text{Hom}_A^2(L., L.)$  such that  $d \alpha_{\underline{m}} = \beta_{\underline{m}}$ , and consider the family

$$(6) \quad \{\alpha_{\underline{m}}\}_{\underline{m} \in \bar{B}_{N+1}}.$$

Just as above, (6) is seen to correspond to a defining system,

$\phi_{N+1}$ , for the Massey products  $\langle \underline{x}^*; \underline{n} \rangle$ ,  $\underline{n} \in B'_{N+2}$ .

There are relations §1, (17), (18), (19), and we may copy the procedure above.

We end up with the following,

Proposition (2.7). Given a defining system  $\{\alpha_{\underline{m}}\}_{\underline{m} \in \bar{B}_{N+k-1}}$  for the

Massey products  $\langle \underline{x}^*; \underline{n} \rangle$ ,  $\underline{n} \in B'_{N+k}$ ,  $\langle \underline{x}^*; \underline{n} \rangle$  is represented by the 2-cocycle

$$Y(\underline{n}) = \sum_{|\underline{m}| \leq N+k} \sum_{\substack{\underline{m}_1 + \underline{m}_2 = \underline{m} \\ \underline{m}_1 \in \bar{B}_{N+k-1}}} \beta'_{\underline{m}, \underline{n}} \alpha_{\underline{m}_1} \circ \alpha_{\underline{m}_2}$$

Moreover, the polynomials

$$f_j^{N+k} = \sum_{l=0}^k \sum_{\underline{n} \in B'_{N+1}} y_j \langle \underline{x}^*; \underline{n} \rangle \underline{x}^{\underline{n}} \quad j = 1, \dots, r$$

induces identities §1 (22) and (23), such that if we for every

$\underline{m} \in B_{N+k}$  pick a cochain  $\alpha_{\underline{m}} \in \text{Hom}_A^1(L., L.)$  with

$$d \alpha_{\underline{m}} = \sum_{\underline{n} \in B'_{N+k}} \beta_{\underline{n}, \underline{m}} Y(\underline{n})$$

then the family

$$\{\alpha_{\underline{m}}\}_{\underline{m} \in \bar{B}_{N+k}}$$

is a defining system for the Massey products  $\langle \underline{x}^*; \underline{n} \rangle$ ,  $\underline{n} \in B'_{N+k+1}$ .

We may, referring to §1 (28), (29), (30), sum up the content of this §2 as follows

Theorem (2.8). Given an  $A$ -module  $E$ , the formal moduli  $H$  of  $E$  is determined by the Massey products of  $\text{Ext}_A^{\bullet}(E, E)$ . In fact

$$H \approx k[[x_1, \dots, x_d]] / (f_1, \dots, f_r)$$

where

$$f_j = \sum_{l=2}^{\infty} \sum_{\underline{n} \in B'_1} y_j \langle \underline{x}^*; \underline{n} \rangle \underline{x}^{\underline{n}}.$$

Corollary (2.9). Any complete local  $k$ -algebra  $A$  with residue field  $k$  is determined by  $\text{Ext}_A^i(k, k)$ ,  $i = 1, 2$  and its Massey-products.

Proof. Obviously  $A$  is the formal moduli of  $k$  as an  $A$ -module.

Q.E.D.



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