

# High Order Centers and Left Differential Operators

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Sweedler\* generalized the notion of **high order derivations** of commutative algebras to the notion of **high order right derivations** of noncommutative algebras. However they have strange shapes.

In this talk, we introduce the notion of **high order centers** and try to unify high order left derivations and derivations.

**Notation** We use the following notations.

- $\mathbb{N} = \{0, 1, 2, 3, \dots\}$
- $k$  : a commutative ring
- $k\text{-Alg}$  : the category of  $k$ -algebras
- $A\text{-Mod}$  : the category of left  $A$ -modules
- $\mathfrak{M}_k(A)$  : the category of bimodules over a  $k$ -algebra  $A$

$$M \in \mathfrak{M}_k(A) \iff \begin{cases} M \text{ is an } A\text{-bimodule} \\ \alpha u = u\alpha \quad (\forall \alpha \in k, \forall u \in M) \end{cases}$$

**Notation** Let  $M \in \mathfrak{M}_k(A)$ .

- For  $u \in M$  and  $a \in A$ , we set  $[u, a] = ua - au$ .
- For  $U \subseteq M$ , we set  $[U, A] = \{[u, a] \mid u \in U, a \in A\}$ .  
Set  $[U, A]_0 = U$  and set  $[U, A]_{q+1} = [[U, A]_q, A]$  ( $q \in \mathbb{N}$ ).
- If  $U = \{u\}$ , we set  $[u, A] = [U, A]$  and  $[u, A]_q = [U, A]_q$ .

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\* M. E. Sweedler: Right derivations and right differential operators, Pacific J. Math. **86** (1980), 327–360.

## § 1. High Order Centers (Simple Version)

**Definition** For  $M \in \mathfrak{M}_k(A)$  and  $q \in \mathbb{N}$ ,

we define the  $q$ th order center of  $M$  by

$$\mathcal{C}_A^q(M) = \{u \in M \mid [u, A]_q = 0\},$$

and set  $\mathcal{C}_A(M) = \bigcup_{q=0}^{\infty} \mathcal{C}_A^q(M)$ , which is a  $k$ -submodule of  $M$ .

- If  $\alpha : A \rightarrow B$  is a  $k$ -algebra homomorphism, then  $B \in \mathfrak{M}_k(A)$  via  $\alpha$  and  $\mathcal{C}_A(B)$  is a subalgebra of  $B$ .

**Definition** Set  $\mathcal{J}_A^q = (A \otimes_k A) / A[1 \otimes 1, A]_q A$   
and  $j_A^q = 1 \otimes 1 + A[1 \otimes 1, A]_q A$  in  $\mathcal{J}_A^q$ .

**Theorem 1** We have a natural isomorphism

$$\text{Hom}_{\mathfrak{M}_k(A)}(\mathcal{J}_A^q, M) \ni \varphi \mapsto \varphi(j_A^q) \in \mathcal{C}_A^q(M) \quad (M \in \mathfrak{M}_k(A)).$$

**Theorem 2** (Relation to Separability)

(1)  $A$  is a separable algebra\*

$$\implies \mathcal{J}_A^q = A \quad (\forall q > 0) \quad [\text{Komatsu, 2001}]$$

$$\iff \mathcal{C}_A^q(M) = \mathcal{C}_A^1(M) \quad (\forall M \in \mathfrak{M}_k(A), \forall q > 1)$$

(2)  $A$  is a purely inseparable algebra\*\*

$$\iff \mathcal{J}_A^q = A \otimes_k A \quad (\exists q) \quad [\text{Sweedler}]$$

$$\iff \mathcal{C}_A^q(M) = M \quad (\exists q, \forall M \in \mathfrak{M}_k(A)).$$

- In general,  $A = \mathcal{J}_A^1 \leftarrow \mathcal{J}_A^2 \leftarrow \mathcal{J}_A^3 \leftarrow \dots \leftarrow \mathcal{J}_A^q \leftarrow \dots \leftarrow A \otimes_k A$ .

\*  $A$  is separable  $\iff A[1 \otimes 1, A]A$  is a direct summand of  ${}_A A \otimes_k A_A$

\*\*  $A$  is purely inseparable  $\iff A[1 \otimes 1, A]A$  is small in  ${}_A A \otimes_k A_A$

## § 2. High Oder Left Derivations (Simple Version)

**Definition** [Sweedler] Let  $M, N \in \mathbf{A}\text{-Mod}$ .\*

(1) Set  $\mathcal{D}_A^q(M, N) = \mathcal{C}_A^{q+1}(\text{Hom}_k(M, N))$ ,

whose element is called a  $q$ th order left differential operator.

(2) Set  $\text{LDer}_k^q(A, M) = \{d \in \mathcal{D}_A^q(A, M) \mid d(1) = 0\}$ ,

whose element is called a  $q$ th order left derivation.

(3) Set  $\mathcal{D}_A(M) = \mathcal{C}_A(\text{End}_k(M)) \left( = \bigcup_{q=0}^{\infty} \mathcal{D}_A^q(M, M) \right)$ ,

which is called the left differential operator algebra.

**Remark** For  $M \in \mathbf{A}\text{-Mod}$  and  $d \in \text{Hom}_k(A, M)$ , we have

$$d \in \text{LDer}_k^1(A, M) \iff d(xy) = xd(y) + yd(x) \quad (\forall x, y).$$

In commutative ring theory,  $d$  is regarded as a derivation, i.e.,

$$d(xy) = xd(y) + d(x)y \quad (\forall x, y).$$

**Example**

$$A = \left\{ \begin{pmatrix} a & b & c \\ 0 & a & d \\ 0 & 0 & a \end{pmatrix} \mid a, b, c, d \in K \right\}$$

$$\mathcal{J}_A^5 = A \otimes_k A \quad (\text{Hence } A \text{ is a purely inseparable algebra.})$$

$$\mathcal{D}_A^4(M, N) = \text{Hom}_k(M, N) \quad (\forall M, N \in \mathbf{A}\text{-Mod}).$$

$$\left( \begin{pmatrix} a & b & c \\ 0 & a & d \\ 0 & 0 & a \end{pmatrix} \mapsto \begin{pmatrix} 0 & b & d \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix} \right) \in \text{LDer}_k^1(A, A).$$

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\*  $\text{Hom}_k(M, N) \in \mathfrak{M}_k(A)$

$(afb)(u) = af(bu) \quad (f \in \text{Hom}_A(M, N), a, b \in A, u \in M)$

**Definition** In  $\mathcal{J}_A^{q+1}$ , we set  $\Omega_A^q = A[j_A^{q+1}, A]A$ ,

which is called the  $q$ th Kähler module,

and define  $d_A^q \in \text{LDer}_k^q(A, \Omega_A^q)$  by  $d_A^q(x) = [j_A^{q+1}, x]$ .

**Theorem 3** [Sweedler] We have following two natural isomorphisms.

- $\text{Hom}_A(\mathcal{J}_A^{q+1} \otimes_A M, N) \ni \varphi \mapsto \varphi(j_A^{q+1} \otimes -) \in \mathcal{D}_A^q(M, N)$
- $\text{Hom}_A(\Omega_A^q, M) \ni \varphi \mapsto \varphi d_A^q \in \text{LDer}_k^q(A, M)$  ( $M, N \in A\text{-Mod}$ ).

Sweedler used  $\mathcal{C}_A^q(-)$  only to define differential operators, and did not investigate the functor  $\mathcal{C}_A^q$ . And so he did not know that  $\mathcal{J}_A^q$  also represents  $\mathcal{C}_A^q$ .

### § 3. Derivations

**Definition** For  $M \in \mathfrak{M}_k(A)$  and  $d \in \text{Hom}_k(A, M)$ ,

$d$  is called a derivation if  $d(xy) = xd(y) + d(x)y$  ( $\forall x, y$ )

**Important Fact** Let  $M, N \in \mathfrak{M}_k(A)$ .

- $\text{Hom}_k(M, N)$  has two  $A$ -bimodule structures.

$$\begin{cases} (afb)(u) = af(bu) \\ (a * f * b)(u) = f(ua)b \end{cases} \quad (f \in \text{Hom}_A(M, N), a, b \in A, u \in M)$$

We set  $[f, a] = fa - af$  and  $[f, a]^* = f * a - a * f$ .

- For  $d \in \text{Hom}_K(A, M)$ , the following hold:

$$d \text{ is a derivation} \iff [[d, A], A]^* = 0 \text{ and } d(1) = 0$$

$$d \text{ is a left derivation} \iff [[d, A], A] = 0 \text{ and } d(1) = 0$$

Regarding this fact, we can unify derivations and left derivations.

## § 4. High Order Centers (General Version)

### Notation

- Fix  $A = (A_1, \dots, A_n) \in (k\text{-Alg})^n$   
 $B = (B_1, \dots, B_n) \in (k\text{-Alg})^n$   
 $\alpha = (\alpha_1, \dots, \alpha_n) : A \rightarrow B$  a morphism in  $(k\text{-Alg})^n$   
 $q = (q_1, \dots, q_n) \in \mathbb{N}^n \setminus \{(0, \dots, 0)\}$
- Set  $\hat{A} = A_1 \otimes_k \cdots \otimes_k A_n$   
 $\hat{B} = B_1 \otimes_k \cdots \otimes_k B_n$   
 $\hat{\alpha} = \alpha_1 \otimes \cdots \otimes \alpha_n : \hat{A} \rightarrow \hat{B}$
- For  $M \in \mathfrak{M}_k(\hat{B})$  and  $u \in M$ ,  
 we set  $[u, B]_q = [\cdots [[u, B_1]_{q_1}, B_2]_{q_2}, \cdots, B_n]_{q_n}$ .  
 We note that  $[[U, B_i], B_j] = [[U, B_j], B_i]$  for any  $U \subseteq M$ .

**Definition** For  $M \in \mathfrak{M}_k(\hat{B})$ ,

we define the center of  $M$  of type  $q$  by

$$\mathcal{C}_\alpha^q(M) = \{u \in M \mid [u, B]_q = [u, \hat{A}] = 0\}.$$

**Definition** Set  $\mathcal{J}_\alpha^q = (\hat{B} \otimes_{\hat{A}} \hat{B}) / \hat{B} [1 \otimes 1, B]_q \hat{B}$   
 and  $j_\alpha^q = 1 \otimes 1 + \hat{B} [1 \otimes 1, B]_q \hat{B}$  in  $\mathcal{J}_\alpha^q$ .

**Theorem 4** We have a natural isomorphism

$$\text{Hom}_{\mathfrak{M}_k(\hat{B})}(\mathcal{J}_\alpha^q, M) \ni \varphi \mapsto \varphi(j_\alpha^q) \in \mathcal{C}_\alpha^q(M) \quad (M \in \mathfrak{M}_k(\hat{B})).$$

## § 5. Left Derivations (General Version)

**Definition** Let  $\alpha : A \rightarrow B$  be a morphism in  $(k\text{-Alg})^n$ , and let  $M, N \in \widehat{B}\text{-Mod}$ .

- (1) Set  $\mathcal{D}_\alpha^q(M, N) = \mathcal{C}_\alpha^q(\text{Hom}_k(M, N))$   
whose element is called a left differential operators of type  $q$ .
- (2) Set  $\text{LDer}_\alpha^q(\widehat{B}, M) = \{d \in \mathcal{D}_\alpha^q(\widehat{B}, M) \mid d(1) = 0\}$   
whose element is called a left derivation of type  $q$ .

**Motivation** Let  $A = (k, k)$ ,  $B = (R, R^\circ)$ ,  $\alpha = (\rho, \rho)$ ,  $q = (1, 1)$ , where  $R^\circ$  is the opposite algebra of  $R$  and  $\rho : k \rightarrow R$  is the structure morphism of  $k$ -algebra  $R$ . Then we have  $\widehat{B}\text{-Mod} = \mathfrak{M}_k(R)$  and  $\{d \in \mathcal{D}_\alpha^q(R, M) \mid d(1) = 0\}$  coincides with the set of derivations of  $R$  to  $M$  for all  $M \in \mathfrak{M}_k(R)$ .

**Definition** In  $\mathcal{J}_\alpha^q$ , we set  $\Omega_\alpha^q = \widehat{B} [j_\alpha^q, \widehat{B}] \widehat{B}$ , and define  $d_\alpha^q \in \text{LDer}_\alpha^q(\widehat{B}, M)$  by  $d_\alpha^q(x) = [j_\alpha^q, x]$ .

### Lemma

- (1)  $\mathcal{D}_\alpha^q(\widehat{B}, M) = \text{Hom}_{\widehat{B}}(\widehat{B}, M) \oplus \text{LDer}_\alpha^q(\widehat{B}, M)$ .
- (2)  $\mathcal{J}_\alpha^q = \widehat{B} j_\alpha^q \oplus \Omega_\alpha^q = j_\alpha^q \widehat{B} \oplus \Omega_\alpha^q$  and  
 $\{x \in \widehat{B} \mid x j_\alpha^q = 0\} = \{x \in \widehat{B} \mid j_\alpha^q x = 0\} = 0$ .

**Theorem 5** We have following two natural isomorphisms.

- $\text{Hom}_{\widehat{B}}(\mathcal{J}_\alpha^q \otimes_{\widehat{B}} M, N) \ni \varphi \mapsto \varphi(j_\alpha^q \otimes -) \in \mathcal{D}_\alpha^q(M, N)$
- $\text{Hom}_{\widehat{B}}(\Omega_\alpha^q, M) \ni \varphi \mapsto \varphi d_\alpha^q \in \text{LDer}_\alpha^q(\widehat{B}, M)$  ( $M, N \in \widehat{B}\text{-Mod}$ ).

## § 6. Fundamental Properties of $\mathcal{J}_\alpha^q$ and $\Omega_\alpha^q$

**Theorem 6** Let  $A \xrightarrow{\alpha} B \xrightarrow{\beta} C$  be morphisms in  $(k\text{-Alg})^n$ . Then

$$\mathcal{J}_\beta^q \simeq \mathcal{J}_{\beta\alpha}^q / \widehat{C}[j_{\beta\alpha}^q, \widehat{B}]\widehat{C} \quad \text{and} \quad \Omega_\beta^q \simeq \Omega_{\beta\alpha}^q / \widehat{C}d_{\beta\alpha}^q\widehat{\beta}(\widehat{B})\widehat{C}.$$

**Corollary** Let  $A \xrightarrow{\alpha} B \xrightarrow{\beta} C$  be morphisms in  $(k\text{-Alg})^n$ .

Then there exist exact sequences of  $\widehat{C}$ -bimodules

$$\begin{aligned} \widehat{C} \otimes_{\widehat{B}} \Omega_\alpha^q \otimes_{\widehat{B}} \widehat{C} &\rightarrow \mathcal{J}_{\beta\alpha}^q \rightarrow \mathcal{J}_\beta^q \rightarrow 0 \quad \text{and} \\ \widehat{C} \otimes_{\widehat{B}} \Omega_\alpha^q \otimes_{\widehat{B}} \widehat{C} &\rightarrow \Omega_{\beta\alpha}^q \rightarrow \Omega_\beta^q \rightarrow 0. \end{aligned}$$

**Theorem 7** Let  $A \xrightarrow{\alpha} B \xrightarrow{\beta} C$  be morphisms in  $(k\text{-Alg})^n$  such that  $\widehat{\beta} : \widehat{B} \rightarrow \widehat{C}$  is a surjective mapping. Set  $I = \text{Ker } \widehat{\beta}$ . Then the following hold:

- (1)  $\mathcal{J}_{\beta\alpha}^q \simeq \mathcal{J}_\alpha^q / (I\mathcal{J}_\alpha^q + \mathcal{J}_\alpha^q I) \simeq \widehat{C} \otimes_{\widehat{B}} \mathcal{J}_\alpha^q \otimes_{\widehat{B}} \widehat{C}$
- (2)  $\Omega_{\beta\alpha}^q \simeq \Omega_\alpha^q / \widehat{B}\delta_\alpha^q(I)\widehat{B}$
- (3) There exists an exact sequence of  $\widehat{C}$ -bimodules

$$I/I^2 \rightarrow \widehat{C} \otimes_{\widehat{B}} \Omega_\alpha^q \otimes_{\widehat{B}} \widehat{C} \rightarrow \Omega_{\beta\alpha}^q \rightarrow 0.$$

**Theorem 8** Let  $A \xrightarrow{\alpha} B \xrightarrow{\beta} C$  be morphisms in  $(k\text{-Alg})^n$  such that  $\widehat{\beta} : \widehat{B} \rightarrow \widehat{C}$  is a surjective mapping. Set  $B'_i = \text{Im } \alpha_i + \text{Ker } \beta_i$  and denote by  $\iota_i : B'_i \rightarrow B_i$  the inclusion mapping ( $i = 1, \dots, n$ ). Set  $\iota = (\iota_1, \dots, \iota_n) : (B'_1, \dots, B'_n) \rightarrow B$ . Then  $\Omega_{\beta\alpha}^q \simeq \Omega_\iota^q$ .

## § 7. Separability

According to **Theorem 2**, we propose the next definition.

**Definition** Let  $\alpha : A \rightarrow B$  be a morphism of  $(k\text{-Alg})^n$ .

(1) For  $M \in \mathfrak{M}_k(\widehat{B})$ , we set

$$\mathcal{CC}_\alpha(M) = \sum_{i=1}^n \{u \in M \mid [u, B_i] = [u, \widehat{A}] = 0\}.$$

(2)  $\alpha$  is called  $q$ -quasi-separable if  $j_\alpha^q \in \mathcal{CC}_\alpha(\mathcal{J}_\alpha^q)$ .

(3)  $\alpha$  is called left  $q$ -differentially separable if

$$\begin{aligned} \mathcal{D}_\alpha^q(M, N) &\subseteq \sum_{i=1}^n \text{Hom}_{B_i}(M, N) \cap \text{Hom}_{\widehat{A}}(M, N) \\ & (= \mathcal{CC}_\alpha(\text{Hom}_k(M, N))) \quad (\forall M, N \in \widehat{B}\text{-Mod}) \end{aligned}$$

### Lemma

(1)  $\alpha$  is  $q$ -quasi-separable  $\iff \mathcal{C}_\alpha^q(M) \subseteq \mathcal{CC}_\alpha(M) \quad (\forall M)$

(2)  $\alpha$  is  $q$ -quasi-separable  $\implies \alpha$  is left  $q$ -differentially-separable

**Theorem 9** Let  $A = (k, k)$ ,  $B = (R, R^\circ)$ , and  $\alpha = (\rho, \rho)$ , where  $R^\circ$  is the opposite algebra of  $R$  and  $\rho : k \rightarrow R$  is the structure morphism of  $k$ -algebra. Then the following are equivalent:

(1)  $R$  is a separable algebra.

(2)  $\alpha$  is  $(1, 1)$ -quasi-separable.

(3)  $\alpha$  is  $q$ -quasi-separable for all  $q \neq (0, 0)$ .

(4)  $\alpha$  is left  $(1, 1)$ -differentially-separable.

(5)  $\alpha$  is left  $q$ -differentially-separable for all  $q \neq (0, 0)$ .



**Definition** Let  $\rho : R \rightarrow S$  be a ring homomorphism.

- (1)  $\rho$  is said to be **separable** if  $S[1 \otimes 1, S]S$  is a direct summand of  ${}_S S \otimes_R S_S$ . Usually,  $S$  is called a **separable extension** of  $R$ .
- (2) Set  $K(\rho) = \{x \in S \mid [1 \otimes 1, x] = 0 \text{ in } S \otimes_R S\}$ .

**Lemma**  $K(\rho)$  is the largest subring of  $S$  contained in the kernels of all  $R$ -derivations of  $S$  to  $S$ -bimodules.

**Theorem 10** Let  $\alpha = (\alpha_1, \dots, \alpha_n) : A \rightarrow B$  be a morphism in  $(k\text{-Alg})^n$ . Suppose that all  $\alpha_i$  are separable. Then the following hold:

- (1)  $\alpha$  is  $(1, \dots, 1)$ -quasi-separable.
- (2) If  $[B_i, A_i] \subseteq K(\alpha_i)$  ( $i = 1, \dots, n$ ), then  $\alpha$  is  $q$ -quasi-separable for all  $q \in \mathbb{N}^n \setminus \{(0, \dots, 0)\}$ .

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