

CUP-I PRODUCT AND HIGHER HOMOTOPIES IN  
THE DE RHAM COMPLEX

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In this note we give a description of the Steenrod squares starting with the analogue of the cup-i product in the deRham complex of Cartan-Miller ([3], [8]).

The integration of forms over simplices, which induces the isomorphism on cohomology in the deRham theorem, is not an algebra map. It is proved that it induces a morphism of coalgebras. Therefore the cohomology of a pullback fibration can be computed in terms of the deRham complex in some cases.

1. Main results.

Let  $R$  be a commutative ring with a unit. Denote by  $S$  the category of simplicial sets and by  $M_R$ ,  $dM_R^{*,*}$  and  $dM_R^{*,*}$  the category of  $R$ -modules, differential graded  $R$ -modules and differential bigraded  $R$ -modules respectively.

Cartan and Miller ([3], [8]) defined the deRham functor  $A = A^{*,*} = A_R^{*,*} : S \rightarrow dM_R^{*,*}$  which to each simplicial set  $X$  assigns a bigraded algebra  $\{A^{p,q}(X)\}$ , ( $A^{p,q}(X) = 0$  for  $p > q$ ), of compatible  $R$ -polynomial forms on the simplices of  $X$ .

Denote by  $\Gamma_R = \Gamma_R(t)$  the divided power algebra over  $R$  on

a single generator  $t$ .  $\Gamma_R = \bigoplus_{q \geq 0} \Gamma_q$ , where  $\Gamma_q$  denotes the free  $R$ -module on a single generator  $\gamma_q = \gamma_q(t)$ . The pairing  $\gamma: \Gamma_p \otimes \Gamma_q \rightarrow \Gamma_{p+q}$  defined by setting

$$\gamma_p \gamma_q = \frac{(p+q)!}{p!q!} \gamma_{p+q}$$

gives  $\Gamma_R$  the structure of a commutative ring with unit  $\gamma_0 = 1$ .

Denote by  $C = C^*, *: S \rightarrow dM_R^*, *$  the functor  $C^{p,q}(X) = C^p(X; \Gamma_q) =$  normalized cochains with the coefficients in the module  $\Gamma_q$ .

In [3] and [8] it is shown that

Proposition 1. The integration of forms over simplices induces a transformation

$$\rho: A \rightarrow C$$

such that the induced map

$$\rho^*: H^p(A^{*,q}(X)) \rightarrow H^p(X; \Gamma_q)$$

is an isomorphism for  $p < q$ , and that the diagram

$$(1) \quad \begin{array}{ccc} H^{p_1}(A^{*,q_1}(X)) \otimes H^{p_2}(A^{*,q_2}(X)) & \xrightarrow{\wedge} & H^{p_1+p_2}(A^{*,q_1+q_2}(X)) \\ \rho^* \otimes \rho^* \downarrow & & \downarrow \rho^* \\ H^{p_1}(X; \Gamma_{q_1}) \otimes H^{p_2}(X; \Gamma_{q_2}) & \xrightarrow{U} & H^{p_1+p_2}(X; \Gamma_{q_1+q_2}) \end{array}$$

commutes, where  $\wedge$  denotes the map induced by the wedge product of forms and  $U$  denotes the cup product followed by the pairing  $\gamma: \Gamma_{q_1} \otimes \Gamma_{q_2} \rightarrow \Gamma_{q_1+q_2}$ . The map  $\rho: A \rightarrow C$  is not multiplicative.

We will show that  $\rho$  extends to a morphism of coalgebras

$$B(\rho): BA \rightarrow BC,$$

where  $BA$  denotes the bar construction on  $A$ . Maps like  $\rho$  which are not multiplicative on the level of algebras but extend to a morphism on the level of the bar construction define morphisms in an extended category DASH (Differential graded algebras-strongly homotopy multiplicative), [6]. We prove the following two theorems:

Theorem 1. The transformation of functors

$$\rho: A \rightarrow C$$

extends to the category DASH.

It follows that if the Eilenberg-Moore spectral sequence for the fibre square

$$\begin{array}{ccc} E_f & \longrightarrow & E \\ \downarrow & & \downarrow \\ X & \xrightarrow{f} & Y \end{array}$$

converges, then  $H^*(E_f; R)$  can be computed in terms of  $A(X) \otimes BA(Y) \otimes A(E)$ .

Theorem 2. There are natural maps  $\Lambda^i$ , called wedge- $i$  products, such that the diagram

$$\begin{array}{ccc} A_R^{p_1, q_1}(X) \otimes A_R^{p_2, q_2}(X) & \xrightarrow{\Lambda^i} & A_R^{p_1+p_2-i, q_1+q_2}(X) \\ \rho \otimes \rho \downarrow & & \downarrow \rho \\ C^{p_1}(X; \Gamma_{q_1}) \otimes C^{p_2}(X; \Gamma_{q_2}) & \xrightarrow{U_i} & C^{p_1+p_2-i}(X; \Gamma_{q_1+q_2}) \end{array}$$

is homotopy commutative. Here  $U_i$  denotes the cup-i product of Steenrod ([9], [10]) followed by the pairing

$\gamma: \Gamma_{q_1} \otimes \Gamma_{q_2} \rightarrow \Gamma_{q_1+q_2}$  of the coefficient modules.

Corollary. Let  $X$  be a simplicial set and let  $a_1, a_2$  be cocycles in  $A_{Z_2}^{p_1 q_1}(X), A_{Z_2}^{p_1 q_2}(X)$  respectively with

$$e_{q_1} \rho(a_1) = e_{q_2} \rho(a_2) \text{ in } C^p(X; Z_2),$$

where  $e_q$  denotes the map  $C^*(X; \Gamma_q) \rightarrow C^*(X; Z_2)$  induced by the coefficient map which sends  $\gamma_q$  to the nonzero element in  $Z_2$ .

For  $i \leq p$ ,  $a_1 \wedge a_2$  is a cocycle in  $A_{Z_2}^{2p-i, q_1+q_2}(X)$  whose class is related to the Steenrod squares by the identity

$$e_{q_1+q_2} \rho(a_1 \wedge a_2) = \frac{(q_1+q_2)!}{(q_1)!(q_2)!} S_2^{p-1} e_{q_1}(\rho(a_1)).$$

## 2. Method of acyclic models.

The theorems are proved by using the method of acyclic models for contravariant functors defined on the category of simplicial sets [5].

Denote by  $\Delta[n]$  the standard  $n$ -simplex considered as a simplicial set, and let  $i_n$  be the  $n$ -simplex  $\langle 0, 1, \dots, n \rangle$  of  $\Delta[n]$ . For any simplicial set  $X$ , and an  $n$ -simplex  $x$ , there is a unique simplicial map  $f_x: \Delta[n] \rightarrow X$  such that  $f_x(i_n) = x$ .

A unit for a functor  $F^*: S \rightarrow dM_R^*$  consists of an  $R$ -module  $W$  together with a transformation  $\eta: W \rightarrow F^0$  with  $d\eta = 0$ .

A functor  $F^*: S \rightarrow dM_R^*$  with the unit  $(W, \eta)$  is called acyclic on models if for each  $n \geq 0$  there is a map

$\varepsilon_n: F^0(\Delta[n]) \rightarrow W$  of  $R$ -modules and maps

$$h_n: F^p(\Delta[n]) \rightarrow F^{p-1}(\Delta[n]) \text{ for } p \geq 1$$

such that

$$h_n d + dh_n = 1 - \eta \varepsilon_n ,$$

$$\varepsilon_n \eta = 1.$$

Given a contravariant functor  $L: S \rightarrow M_R$ , define a new contravariant functor  $\hat{L}: S \rightarrow M_R$  by setting

$$\hat{L}(X) = \bigcup_{\substack{x \in X_n \\ n \geq 0}} (L(\Delta[n]), x). \text{ An element } f \text{ in } \hat{L}(X) \text{ is a rule which}$$

assigns to each element  $x \in X_n$  an element  $f_x \in L(\Delta[n])$ . We identify the element  $f$  with the corresponding pair  $(f_x, x)$ .

There is a transformation  $\phi: L \rightarrow \hat{L}$  defined as follows: Given  $\omega \in L(X)$  set  $\phi(\omega)$  equal to the set of pairs  $(f_x(\omega), x)$ . A transformation  $T: K \rightarrow L$  induces a transformation  $\hat{T}: \hat{K} \rightarrow \hat{L}$  by the rule  $\hat{T}(f_x, x) = (T(f_x), x)$ . Note that  $\hat{T}\phi = \phi T$ .

A contravariant function  $L: S \rightarrow M_R$  is called corepresentable if there is a transformation  $\psi: \hat{L} \rightarrow L$  such that  $\psi \circ \phi = 1$ .

### 3. The bigraded deRham complex.

Let  $R$  be a commutative ring with unit. Denote by  $\Gamma(t, dt) = \Gamma_R(t) \otimes E_R(dt)$  the Koszul complex where  $E_R(dt)$  is the exterior algebra over  $R$  on a single generator  $dt$ .  $\Gamma(t, dt)$  is graded by setting degree of  $t$  to be 0 and degree of  $dt$  to be 1. Define  $d\gamma_p(t) = \gamma_{p-1}(t)dt$ ,  $d(dt) = 0$ . Then  $\Gamma(t, dt)$  is a commutative differential graded algebra over  $R$ .

The simplicial differential graded algebra  $A$  over  $R$  is

defined by setting  $A_n = \Gamma_R(X_0, \dots, X_n) \otimes E_R(dx_1, \dots, dx_n)$  with  $dx_0 + dx_1 + \dots + dx_n = 0$ . The face and degeneracy maps  $d_i, s_i$  are defined by

$$(d_i \omega)(X_0, \dots, X_{n-1}) = \omega(X_0, \dots, X_{i-1}, 0, X_i, \dots, X_{n-1}),$$

$$(s_i \omega)(X_0, \dots, X_{n+1}) = \omega(X_0, \dots, X_{i-1}, X_i + X_{i+1}, X_{i+2}, \dots, X_{n+1}).$$

$A_n$  is given a bigrading by setting  $A_n^{p,q}$  equal to the  $R$ -submodule of  $A_n$  freely generated by the monomials

$$\gamma_{\alpha_0}(X_0) \dots \gamma_{\alpha_n}(X_n) dx_{i_1} \wedge dx_{i_2} \wedge \dots \wedge dx_{i_p}$$

with

$$\alpha_i \geq 0, \quad 1 \leq i_1 < i_2 < \dots < i_p \leq n$$

and

$$q = \alpha_0 + \dots + \alpha_n + p.$$

Note that  $A^{p,q} = 0$  for  $p > q$ .

For each pair  $(p, q)$ ,  $A^{p,q}$  is a simplicial  $R$ -module. For a simplicial set  $X$ ,  $A^{*,*}(X) = \text{Hom}(X, A^{*,*})$  is a commutative bigraded differential algebra over  $R$ . If we interpret an element in  $A_n$  as a differential form on the euclidean space with coordinates  $(X_0, \dots, X_n)$  then the integration of differential forms over the simplices  $X_0 + X_1 + \dots + X_n = t$  defines a transformation  $\rho: A \rightarrow C$  which induces an isomorphism

$$\rho^*: H^p(A^{*,q}(X)) \rightarrow H^p(X; \Gamma_C) \quad \text{for } p < q.$$

A unit  $\eta: \Gamma \rightarrow A^{0,*}(X)$  is defined by setting  $\eta(\gamma_q) \in A^{0,q}(X)$  equal to the map  $X \rightarrow A^{0,q}$  of simplicial sets which assigns to

each  $n$ -simplex  $x$  of  $X$  the element

$$\sum_{\alpha_0 + \alpha_1 + \dots + \alpha_n = q} \gamma_{\alpha_0}(X_0) \dots \gamma_{\alpha_n}(X_n) \text{ in } A_n^{0,q}.$$

The transformation  $\eta: \Gamma \rightarrow A^{0,*}(X)$  commutes with the products.

Proposition 2. The functor  $C^{p,q}: S \rightarrow M_R$  is corepresentable for all  $p$  and  $q$ . The functor  $C^{*,q}: S \rightarrow dM_R^*$  is acyclic on models.

Proof. A modification of the proof of the covariant version of this statement from [5] will prove this statement.

Proposition 3. The functor  $A^{p,q}: S \rightarrow M_R$  is corepresentable for  $p < q$ . The functor  $A^{*,q}: S \rightarrow dM_R^*$  is acyclic on models for all  $q$ .

Proof. The acyclicity of  $A^{*,q}$  is equivalent to the axiom (a) and the corepresentability follows from the axiom (b). The axioms (a) and (b) are stated in [3]. The statement of Proposition 1 follows from the Proposition 2 and Proposition 3 and from the acyclic model theorem [1].

#### 4. Higher homotopies and differential forms.

The transformation of functors

$$\rho: A \rightarrow C$$

induced by integration gives an isomorphism of  $R$ -modules

$$\rho^*: H^p(A^{*,q}(X)) \rightarrow H^p(X; \Gamma_q)$$

which commutes with the products in the sense that the diagram(1)

in the above deRham theorem is commutative. But a similar diagram on the cochain level

$$\begin{array}{ccc}
 C^{*,r}(X) \otimes C^{*,s}(X) & \xrightarrow{U} & C^{*,r+s}(X) \\
 \uparrow & & \uparrow \\
 \rho \otimes \rho & & \rho \\
 A^{*,r}(X) \otimes A^{*,s}(X) & \xrightarrow{\wedge} & A^{*,r+s}(X)
 \end{array}$$

is only homotopy commutative. To prove the existence of this and of the higher homotopies is the goal of this section.

We shall use the following notation:

$$\begin{aligned}
 A_{(i)} &= A \otimes \dots \otimes A \text{ (i-times) ,} \\
 (A \otimes \dots \otimes A)_i^{p,q} &= \bigoplus_{\substack{p_1 + \dots + p_i = p \\ q_1 + \dots + q_i = q}} (A^{p_1, q_1} \otimes \dots \otimes A^{p_i, q_i}) , \\
 (A \otimes \dots \otimes A)_i^p &= (A \otimes \dots \otimes A)_i^{p,*} .
 \end{aligned}$$

If  $i = 2, 3$  then the tensor products are mostly written out.

The main point of this section is the proof of the following

Lemma 1. Let  $\rho_1 = \rho: A \rightarrow C$  be the transformation of functors induced by the integration, and let

$$\phi_{\wedge}: A^{p_1, q_1} \otimes A^{p_2, q_2} \rightarrow A^{p_1+p_2, q_1+q_2}$$

be the wedge product on  $A$  and

$$\phi_U: C^{p_1, q_1} \otimes C^{p_2, q_2} \rightarrow C^{p_1+p_2, q_1+q_2}$$



by the cup product on  $C$ . Then there exists natural transformations of functors

$$\rho_i = \rho_i^{P, Q}: A_{(i)}^{P, Q} \rightarrow C^{P+1-i, Q}$$

of degree  $(-i+1)$  such that

$$d\rho_i + (-1)^i \rho_i d = \sum_{j=1}^{i-1} (-1)^j \{ \phi_U(\rho_j \otimes \rho_{i-j}) - \rho_{i-1}(A_{(j-1)} \otimes \phi_\Lambda \otimes A_{(i-j-1)}) \}.$$

Remark. The transformations  $\rho_i$  in the two lowest degrees satisfy the identities

$$d\rho_1 - \rho_1 d = 0$$

$$d\rho_2 + \rho_2 d = \rho_1 \phi_\Lambda - \phi_U(\rho_1 \otimes \rho_1).$$

The second identity implies that the map  $\rho^*$ , induced by  $\rho = \rho_1$  on the cohomology, commutes with the products.

Proof. The statement of the lemma is proved inductively by the method of acyclic models and it is based on three fundamental facts: 1. The function  $A^{P, Q}$  is acyclic on models and 2.  $C^{P, Q}$  is corepresentable. Furthermore; 3. On the elements of degree zero from  $A^{0, 2}(X), X \in S$ ,  $\rho_1 \phi_\Lambda - \phi_U(\rho_1 \otimes \rho_1)$  is equal to zero and 4. The functor  $(A \otimes \dots \otimes A)_i^{P, Q}$  is acyclic on models in the dimension bounded by the filtration from above. The associated functor is denoted by  $(\hat{A} \otimes \dots \otimes \hat{A})_i^{P, Q}$ . The proof is a simple extension of the argument from [5] to the deRham complex  $A$ . We give the details here for completeness and also because the first part of the argument is used in the proof

of the lemma in the next section.

Let us denote  $K_1 = \rho_1 \phi_\Lambda - \phi_U(\rho_1 \otimes \rho_1)$ . We define  $\rho_2^0 = 0$  and  $\rho_2^1$  so that  $\rho_2^1 d = 0$  and extended arbitrarily to  $(A \otimes A)^1$ . Then we consider the diagram

$$\begin{array}{ccccc}
 (\hat{A} \otimes \hat{A})^0 & \xrightarrow{\quad} & (\hat{A} \otimes \hat{A})^1 & \xrightarrow{\hat{d}} & (\hat{A} \otimes \hat{A})^2 \\
 & & \downarrow \phi \uparrow & \leftarrow \hat{h} & \downarrow \phi \uparrow \\
 \Gamma_r \otimes \Gamma_s \xrightarrow{\eta} (A \otimes A)^0 & \xrightarrow{d} & (A \otimes A)^1 & \xrightarrow{d} & (A \otimes A)^2 \\
 & \swarrow \rho_2^1 & \downarrow K_1^1 & \swarrow \rho_2^2 & \\
 \Gamma_{r+s} \xrightarrow{\eta} C^0 & \xrightarrow{d} & C^1 & \xrightarrow{d} & C^2 \\
 & & \downarrow \phi \uparrow & \psi & \\
 \hat{C}^0 & \xrightarrow{\quad} & \hat{C}^1 & \xrightarrow{\quad} & \hat{C}^2
 \end{array}$$

Since  $K_1^0 = \rho_1 \phi_\Lambda - \phi_U(\rho_1 \otimes \rho_1) = 0$  on the elements of degree zero we have  $\rho_2^1 d = K_1^0$ . We define

$$\rho_2^2 = \psi \hat{K}_1^1 \hat{h} \phi.$$

Since

$$\begin{aligned}
 \rho_2^1 d &= (\rho_1 \phi_\Lambda - \phi_U(\rho_1 \otimes \rho_1)) d = \rho_1 \phi_\Lambda d - \phi_U d(\rho_1 \otimes \rho_1) = \\
 &= d(\rho_1 \phi_\Lambda - \phi_U(\rho_1 \otimes \rho_1)) = 0
 \end{aligned}$$

on the elements of degree zero, we can conclude that

$$\begin{aligned}
 \rho_2^2 d &= \psi \hat{K}_1^1 \hat{h} \phi d = \psi \hat{K}_1^1 \hat{h} \hat{d} \phi = \psi \hat{K}_1^1 (1 - \hat{d} \hat{h}) \phi = \\
 &= \psi \hat{K}_1^1 \phi - \psi \hat{K}_1^1 \hat{d} \hat{h} \phi = \psi \hat{K}_1^1 \phi = K_1^1.
 \end{aligned}$$

Hence we get the formula

$$\rho_2^2 d = \rho_1 \phi_\Lambda - \phi_U(\rho_1 \otimes \rho_1).$$

Suppose that we have proved the identity

$d\rho_2^\ell + \rho_2^{\ell+1} d = K_1^\ell = \rho_1 \phi_\Lambda - \phi_U(\rho_1 \otimes \rho_1)$  on the elements of degree  $\ell < n-1$ . We define  $\rho_2^n$  by setting

$$\rho_2^n = \psi \hat{w}_1^{n-1} \hat{h} \phi, \quad w_1^{n-1} = K_1^{n-1} - d\rho_2.$$

Using a similar argument to that above we get

$$\begin{aligned} w_1^{n-1} d &= (\rho_1 \phi_\Lambda - \phi_U(\rho_1 \otimes \rho_1)) d - d\rho_2^{n-1} d = \\ &= d(\rho_1 \phi_\Lambda - \phi_U(\rho_1 \otimes \rho_1)) - \\ &\quad - d(\rho_1 \phi_\Lambda - \phi_U(\rho_1 \otimes \rho_1) - d\rho_2^{n-2}) = 0. \end{aligned}$$

From here we get

$$\begin{aligned} \rho_2^n d &= \psi \hat{w}_1^{n-1} \hat{h} \phi d = \psi \hat{w}_1^{n-1} \hat{h} d \phi = \\ &= \psi \hat{w}_1^{n-1} (1 - d\hat{h}) \phi = \psi \hat{w}_1^{n-1} \phi = w_1^{n-1}, \end{aligned}$$

which gives the desired result

$$d\rho_2^{n-1} + \rho_2^n d = \rho_1 \phi_\Lambda - \phi_U(\rho_1 \otimes \rho_1).$$

Next we assume that the chain homotopy  $\rho_j$  has been defined, and satisfies the above formula, for  $j < i$  in all dimensions (obviously bounded by the filtration degree) and that  $\rho_i$  has been defined and satisfies the formula in dimensions  $< n$ . Then

we consider the diagram

$$\begin{array}{ccccc}
 & & \hat{h} & & \\
 & & \xrightarrow{\hat{d}} & & \\
 & (\hat{A} \otimes \dots \otimes \hat{A})_i^{n-1} & & (\hat{A} \otimes \dots \otimes \hat{A})_i^n & \\
 & \uparrow \phi & & \uparrow \phi & \\
 & (A \otimes \dots \otimes A)_i^{n-1} & \xrightarrow{d} & (A \otimes \dots \otimes A)_i^n & \\
 & \downarrow & & \downarrow & \\
 \rho_i^{n-1} & \swarrow & & \swarrow & \rho_i^n \\
 C^{n-i} & & C^{n-i+1} & \xrightarrow{d} & C^{n-i+2} \\
 & \hat{W}_i & \downarrow \phi & & \\
 & & \hat{C}^{n-i+1} & & 
 \end{array}$$

where

$$W_i = (-1)^i d \rho_i^{n-1} + \sum_{j=1}^{i-1} (-1)^j (\phi_U(\rho_j \otimes \rho_{i-j}) - \rho_{i-1}^{n-1} (A_{(j-1)} \otimes \phi_\Lambda \otimes A_{(i-j-1)}))$$

From the induction hypothesis it follows that  $W_i^{n-1} d = 0$ . Then we define

$$\rho_i^n = \psi W_i^{n-1} \hat{h} \phi,$$

and we get

$$\begin{aligned}
 \rho_i^n d &= \psi W_i^{n-1} \hat{h} \phi d \\
 &= \psi W_i^{n-1} \hat{h} d \phi \\
 &= \psi W_i^{n-1} (1 - \hat{d} \hat{h}) \phi \\
 &= \psi W_i^{n-1} \phi - \psi W_i^{n-1} \hat{d} \hat{h} \phi \\
 &= \psi W_i^{n-1} \phi \\
 &= W_i^{n-1}
 \end{aligned}$$

which completes the proof of the theorem.

5.  $\overset{i}{\wedge}$ -product on forms.

In previous section the chain homotopy  $\rho_2: (A \otimes A)^n \rightarrow C^{n-1}$  was used to prove the existence of higher homotopies and thus to extend the map  $\rho_1: A \rightarrow C$  to a broader category DASH.

In this section the chain homotopy  $\rho_2$  is used to construct an analogue of the cup-i product on differential forms, called wedge-i product. This operation of the wedge-i product leads to the definition of the Steenrod square in a similar way as the cup-i product determines those operations in the original work of Steenrod. For the definition and fundamental properties of the cup-i product we refer to [9].

In order to distinguish the homotopies of the previous section from the chain homotopies used here we change the notation. Let  $\mu = \rho_1$ ,  $\mu_1 = \rho_2$ . Then  $\mu_i$ ,  $i > 2$ , defined below is not related to the  $\rho_i$ 's of Lemma 1.

Now we define the morphism of R-modules

$$T: (A \otimes A)^k \rightarrow (A \otimes A)^k,$$

$$T: (C \otimes C)^k \rightarrow (C \otimes C)^k$$

by  $T(a \otimes b) = (-1)^{|a||b|} b \otimes a$ . It follows that

$$(i) \quad T^2 = I = \text{identity},$$

$$(ii) \quad Td = dT,$$

$$(iii) \quad T(\nu \otimes \mu) = (\nu \otimes \mu)T.$$

Lemma 2. Let  $\mu: A \rightarrow C$  be the transformation of functors

induced by the integration, and let

$$\phi_{U_i} : (C^{*,r} \otimes C^{*,s})^n + C^{n-i,r+s} , i \geq 0 ,$$

be the cup-i product followed by  $\gamma : \Gamma_r \Gamma_s \rightarrow \Gamma_{r+s}$  and let

$$\phi_{\Lambda} : (A^{*,r} \otimes A^{*,s})^n \rightarrow A^{n,r+s}$$

be the exterior product.

Then there exist natural transformations of functors

$$\mu_i = \mu_i^n : (A^{*,r} \otimes A^{*,s})^n + C^{n-i,r+s} , i \geq 1 ,$$

such that

$$d\mu_1 + \mu_1 d = \mu \phi_{\Lambda} - \phi_U (\mu \otimes \mu)$$

$$\text{and} \quad d\mu_i + (-1)^{i+1} \mu_i d = \mu_{i-1} (T + (-1)^{i+1} I) - \phi_{U_{i-1}} (\mu \otimes \mu)$$

for  $i \geq 2$ .

#### Definition of the wedge-i product.

By an explicit construction similar to that in [4] it can be shown that there is a transformation of functors

$$\tau : C^{p,q} \rightarrow A^{p,q} \text{ for } p < q$$

such that

- (i)  $\tau d = d\tau ,$
- (ii)  $\mu\tau = I ,$
- (iii)  $\tau\mu - I = sd + ds ,$

where  $s : A \rightarrow A$  is of degree -1,

- (iv)  $\tau\eta = \eta .$

The wedge- $i$  product ( $\wedge$ -product) is the map

$$\wedge^i = \phi_i: (A^{*,r} \otimes A^{*,s})^n \rightarrow A^{n-i,r+s},$$

$$\wedge^i = \tau \mu_i (T + (-1)^i I) \text{ for } i \geq 1,$$

$$\begin{aligned} 0 \\ \wedge = \wedge = \text{the wedge product on forms.} \end{aligned}$$

Proof of Lemma 2. The statement is proved inductively by the method of acyclic models. Recall that  $\mu = \rho_1$  and that for  $\mu_1 = \rho_2$ , by Lemma 1, holds the identity

$$d\mu_1^k + \mu_1^{k+1}d = \mu\phi_\wedge - \phi_U(\mu \otimes \mu).$$

If composed with  $T$  we get

$$d\mu_1^k T + \mu_1^{k+1} Td = \mu\phi_\wedge T - \phi_U T(\mu \otimes \mu).$$

Therefore we have

$$d\mu_1^k (T-I) + \mu_1^{k+1} (T-I)d = -\phi_U (T-I) (\mu \otimes \mu) \text{ for } k \geq 0.$$

since  $\mu\phi_\wedge (T-I) = 0$ . From [9] we have the identity

$$d\phi_{U_i} + (-1)^{i+1} \phi_{U_i} d = (-1)^i \phi_{U_{i-1}} (T-I) \text{ for } i \geq 0.$$

Next we want to prove the existence of

$$\mu_2^k: (A \otimes A)^k \rightarrow C^{k-2},$$

$$\mu_2^k = 0 \text{ for } k = 0, 1, \text{ and}$$

$$d\mu_2^k - \mu_2^{k+1}d = \mu_1 (T-I) - \phi_{U_1} (\mu \otimes \mu).$$

Let us denote the right hand side of the last formula by  $R_2^k$ .

We consider the diagram

$$\begin{array}{ccccc}
 (\hat{A} \otimes \hat{A})^1 & \xrightarrow{\hat{d}} & (\hat{A} \otimes \hat{A})^2 & & \\
 \phi \uparrow & & \phi \uparrow & & \\
 (A \otimes A)^1 & \xrightarrow{d} & (A \otimes A)^2 & \xrightarrow{d} & (A \otimes A)^3 \\
 R_2^1 \downarrow & \mu_2^2 \swarrow & R_2^2 \downarrow & \mu_2^3 \swarrow & \\
 C^0 & \xrightarrow{d} & C^1 & & \\
 \phi \uparrow \psi & & \phi \uparrow & & \\
 \hat{C}^0 & \xrightarrow{\hat{d}} & \hat{C}^1 & & 
 \end{array}$$

$\hat{R}_2^1$  (curved arrow from  $(\hat{A} \otimes \hat{A})^1$  to  $\hat{C}^0$ )

Then we define  $\mu_2^2$  by

$$- \mu_2^2 = \psi \hat{R}_2^1 \hat{h} \phi.$$

From the fact that

$$\begin{aligned}
 R_2^1 d &= + \{ \mu_1^1 (T-I) - \phi_{U_1} (\mu \otimes \mu) \} d \\
 &= \mu_1^1 (T-I) d - \phi_{U_1} (\mu \otimes \mu) d \\
 &= \mu_1^1 d (T-I) - \phi_{U_1} d (\mu \otimes \mu) \\
 &= - \phi_{U_1} d (\mu \otimes \mu) \\
 &= + \phi_U (I-T) (\mu \otimes \mu)
 \end{aligned}$$

equals to zero on  $(A \otimes A)^0$  we get

$$\begin{aligned}
 - \mu_2^2 d &= \psi \hat{R}_2^1 \hat{h} \phi d = \psi \hat{R}_2^1 \hat{h} \hat{d} \phi = \\
 &= \psi \hat{R}_2^1 (1 - \hat{d} \hat{h}) \phi = \psi \hat{R}_2^1 \phi = R_2^1,
 \end{aligned}$$



which is the formula

$$- \mu_2^2 d = \mu_1^1 (T-I) - \phi_{U_1} (\mu \otimes \mu),$$

valid on  $(A \otimes A)^1$ .

Next we assume by induction on  $n$  that  $\mu_2^k$  for  $k < n-1$  have been defined satisfying

$$d\mu_2^k - \mu_2^{k+1} d = \mu_1^k (T-I) - \phi_{U_1} (\mu \otimes \mu).$$

Set

$$v_2^{n-1} = R_2^{n-1} - d\mu_2^{n-1} = \mu_1^{n-1} (T-I) - \phi_{U_1} (\mu \otimes \mu) - d\mu_2^{n-1}.$$

Then

$$\begin{aligned} v_2^{n-1} d &= \mu_1^{n-1} (T-I) d - \phi_{U_1} d (\mu \otimes \mu) - d\mu_2^{n-1} d \\ &= \mu_1^{n-1} d (T-I) - \phi_{U_1} d (\mu \otimes \mu) - \\ &\quad - d \{ d\mu_2^{n-2} - \mu_1^{n-2} (T-I) + \phi_{U_1} (\mu \otimes \mu) \} \\ &= (d\mu_1^{n-2} + \mu_1^{n-1} d) (T-I) - \\ &\quad - (\phi_{U_1} d + d\phi_{U_1}) (\mu \otimes \mu) \end{aligned}$$

Using the identity (2) we get

$$v_2^{n-1} d = (d\mu_1^{n-2} + \mu_1^{n-1} d) (T-I) + \phi_U (T-I) (\mu \otimes \mu).$$

And from the identity (3) we can conclude that

$$v_2^{n-1} d = 0.$$

Now when we define  $\mu_2^n$  by

$$- \mu_2^n = \psi \hat{V}_2^{n-1} \hat{h} \phi$$

we get the desired identity

$$- \mu_2^{n,d} = v_2^{n-1}$$

Now we assume that we already have the formulas for  $j < i$  and for the dimensions  $l < n-1$ , that means that we have

$$\mu_j^0 = \mu_j^1 = \dots = \mu_j^{j-1} = 0$$

$$d\mu_j^l + (-1)^{j+l} \mu_j^{l+1} d = \mu_{j-1}^l (T + (-1)^{j+l} I) - \phi_{U_{j-1}} (\mu \otimes \mu).$$

If we denote the right hand side by  $R_j^l$  then for

$$v_i^{n-1} = R_i^{n-1} - d\mu_i^{n-1} \text{ we get}$$

$$\begin{aligned} v_i^{n-1} d &= R_i^{n-1} d - d\mu_i^{n-1} d - \\ &= \mu_{i-1}^{n-1} d (T + (-1)^{i+1} I) - \phi_{U_{i-1}} d(\mu \otimes \mu) + \\ &+ (-1)^i d\mu_{i-1}^{n-2} (T + (-1)^{i+1} I) + (-1)^{i+1} d\phi_{U_{i-1}} (\mu \otimes \mu) \\ &= (-1)^i \{ (d\mu_{i-1}^{n-2} + (-1)^i \mu_{i-1}^{n-1} d) (T + (-1)^{i+1} I) + \\ &+ (-1)^{i+1} (d\phi_{U_{i-1}} + (-1)^i \phi_{U_{i-1}} d) (\mu \otimes \mu) \} \\ &= (-1)^i \mu_{i-1}^{n-2} (T + (-1)^i I) (T + (-1)^{i+1} I) + \\ &+ (-1)^{i+1} \phi_{U_{i-2}} (\mu \otimes \mu) (T + (-1)^{i+1} I) + \\ &+ (-1)^{i+1} (d\phi_{U_{i-1}} + (-1)^i \phi_{U_{i-1}} d) (\mu \otimes \mu) = 0. \end{aligned}$$

Now we define  $\mu_i^n$  by setting

$$(-1)^{i+1} \mu_i^n = \psi \hat{V}_i^{n-1} \hat{h} \phi.$$

Then

$$(-1)^{i+1} \mu_i^n d = V_i^{n-1} = R_i^{n-1} - d\mu_i^{n-1}$$

or equivalently

$$d\mu_i^{n-1} + (-1)^{i+1} \mu_i^n d = \mu_{i-1}^{n-1} (T + (-1)^{i+1} \tau_i) - \phi_{U_{i-1}} (\mu \otimes \mu).$$

This completes the proof of the Lemma 2.

#### Remarks.

1. Following the lines of Gugenheim, V.K.A.M. "On Chen's iterated integrals," Ill. J. Math. 21 (1977), 703-715; Theorem 1 can be used to generalize Chen's iterated integrals to the deRham complex of Cartan-Miller ([3], [8]).

2. Let  $Z^{n,n}_A$  be the cocycles in  $A^{n,n} = A_{Z_2}^{n,n}$  and let  $CZ^{n,n}_A$  be the cone on  $Z^{n,n}_A$ . Campbell [2] proved that the "algebraic" fibration

$$Z^{n,n}_A + CZ^{n,n}_A \rightarrow Z^{n+1,n+1}_A$$

is isomorphic (via the integration map) to the principal Kan fibration

$$K(Z_2, n) \rightarrow L(Z_2, n+1) \rightarrow K(Z_2, n+1).$$

Hence that the construction of Steenrod squares can be applied to the "algebraic" fibration.

3. While the non-commutativity of the cup product implies the existence of higher homotopies (Theorem 1) and the existence of the cohomology operations (Theorem 2) the

existence of the homotopies  $\mu_1$  and  $\mu_2$  has still another implication. Namely, if the commutative cochain problem over a commutative ring  $R$  (not necessarily with a unit) has a solution then for each element  $a$  in  $R$  the element  $a^2$  in  $R$  is divisible by 2. This explains, for example, why the commutative cochain problem does not have a solution over the integers.

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