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# Flat exterior Tor algebras and cotangent complexes<sup>1</sup>

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## Introduction

Let  $A$  be a ring,  $B$  and  $C$   $A$ -algebras (commutative with unit) and  $D = B \otimes_A C$ . It is well known [M, Theorem 2.2, p. 225] that  $\mathrm{Tor}^A(B, C)$  is a strictly anticommutative graded  $D$ -algebra. So we have a homomorphism of graded  $D$ -algebras

$$\gamma : \wedge_D \mathrm{Tor}_1^A(B, C) \rightarrow \mathrm{Tor}^A(B, C).$$

In [A<sub>2</sub>], M. André has introduced for  $n \geq 0$  and  $W$  a  $D$ -module, homology modules  $H_n(A, B, C, W)$  generalizing in some way the classical homology functors of André–Quillen  $H_n(R, S, -)$  (see [A<sub>1</sub>], [Q<sub>2</sub>], [Q<sub>3</sub>]).

The purpose of this paper is to relate properties of  $\gamma$  and the vanishing of the functors  $H_n(A, B, C, -)$ ,  $n \geq 3$ . More precisely, our main result is the following

**THEOREM 1.** *Let  $A$  be a ring,  $B$  and  $C$   $A$ -algebras and  $D = B \otimes_A C$ . The following conditions are equivalent:*

(1) *The  $D$ -module  $\mathrm{Tor}_1^A(B, C)$  is flat and the canonical homomorphism*

$$\gamma : \wedge_D \mathrm{Tor}_1^A(B, C) \rightarrow \mathrm{Tor}^A(B, C)$$

*is an isomorphism.*

(2)  $H_j(A, B, C, -) = 0$  for  $j \geq 3$ .

This theorem has as a consequence two important results, the first one is already known but the second isn't.

**COROLLARY 2.** *Let  $A$  be a ring,  $I$  an ideal of  $A$  and  $B = A/I$ . The following conditions are equivalent:*

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(1) *The  $B$ -module  $I/I^2$  is flat and the canonical homomorphism*

$$\wedge_B I/I^2 \longrightarrow \mathrm{Tor}^A(B, B)$$

*is an isomorphism.*

(2)  $H_j(A, B, -) = 0$  for  $j \geq 2$ .

This result is due to Quillen [Q<sub>2</sub>, Theorem 10.3], [Q<sub>3</sub>, Theorem 6.13].

**COROLLARY 3.** *Let  $A$  be a ring,  $I$  an ideal of  $A$ ,  $B = A/I$ , and  $E$  the Koszul complex associated to an arbitrary set of generators of  $I$ . The following conditions are equivalent:*

(1) *The  $B$ -module  $H_1(E)$  is flat and the canonical homomorphism of graded algebras*

$$\wedge_B H_1(E) \longrightarrow H(E)$$

*is an isomorphism.*

(2)  $H_j(A, B, -) = 0$  for  $j \geq 3$ .

*Moreover, the following conditions are equivalent:*

(1') *The  $B$ -module  $H_1(E)$  is projective and the canonical homomorphism of graded algebras*

$$\wedge_B H_1(E) \longrightarrow H(E)$$

*is an isomorphism.*

(2')  $H^j(A, B, -) = 0$  for  $j \geq 3$ .

The proof of Theorem 1 is divided in two parts. In the first one we use an analogue to the fundamental spectral sequence of Quillen [Q<sub>2</sub>, Theorem 6.8] to relate the vanishing of  $H_n(A, B, C, -)$  with the structure of the homology algebra of a certain derived tensor product  $D \overset{L}{\otimes}_Y D$ . In the second part we use a spectral sequence

$$E_{p,q}^2 = \mathrm{Tor}_p^{H(Y)}(D, D)_q \Rightarrow H(D \overset{L}{\otimes}_Y D)$$

to compare  $\mathrm{Tor}^A(B, C)$  with  $H(D \overset{L}{\otimes}_Y D)$ .

*Proofs.* First recall the definition of  $H_n(A, B, C, W)$ . Let  $A$  be a ring,  $B$  and  $C$  two  $A$ -algebras,  $D = B \otimes_A C$  and  $W$  a  $D$ -module. Let  $X$  be a cofibrant simplicial

$A$ -algebra resolution of  $B$ , let  $Y = X \otimes_A C$ , and let  $Z$  be a cofibrant simplicial  $Y$ -algebra resolution of  $D$ . Then

$$\mathbf{L}_{B-C|A} := \Omega_{Z|Y} \otimes_Z D$$

is a cofibrant simplicial  $D$ -module, whose normalization is a chain complex of projective  $D$ -modules independent up to homotopy equivalence of the choice of  $X$  and  $Z$ , and which therefore represents an object unique up to isomorphism of the derived category of the category of  $D$ -modules. For a  $D$ -module  $W$

$$H_n(A, B, C, W) = H_n(\mathbf{L}_{B-C|A} \otimes_D W).$$

Notice that if  $J$  is the simplicial ideal kernel of the surjective canonical homomorphism  $Z \otimes_Y D \rightarrow D$ , then  $\mathbf{L}_{B-C|A} = J/J^2$ .

The resolution  $Z$  can be obtained by the “step by step” construction [A<sub>1</sub>, Chap. IX]. So we can assume  $Y_n = Z_n$  for  $n = 0, 1$  and so

$$H_n(A, B, C, W) = 0 \quad \text{for } n = 0, 1.$$

For each  $p$ ,  $J_p$  is the ideal generated by the variables of the polynomial  $D$ -algebra  $(Z \otimes_Y D)_p$ . In particular  $J_0 = 0$  and  $J_p$  is a regular ideal. Quillen’s convergence theorem [Q<sub>3</sub>, Theorem 6.12] implies  $H_p(J^n) = 0$  for  $p < n$ .

Therefore the spectral sequence resulting from filtering  $Z \otimes_Y D$  by the powers of  $J$ , is a convergent spectral sequence located in the first quadrant

$$E_{p,q}^2 = H_{p+q}(S_D^n \mathbf{L}_{B-C|A}) \Rightarrow H(D \overset{L}{\otimes}_Y D). \quad (\text{I})$$

since  $H(Z \otimes_Y D) = H(D \overset{L}{\otimes}_Y D)$  as follows from [Q<sub>1</sub>, Theorem 6-(a), p.II.6.8], because the  $Y_n$ -algebra  $Z_n$  is free for all  $n$ .

This spectral sequence is an analogue to Quillen’s fundamental spectral sequence.

With the shuffle product  $\otimes$  [Q<sub>1</sub>, p.II.6.6]  $Z \otimes_Y D$  with the differential induced by the face operators, is a strictly anticommutative differential graded  $D$ -algebra with a system of divided powers. Moreover  $Z \otimes_Y D \supset J \supset J^2 \supset \cdots$  is a filtration of  $Z \otimes_Y D$  by differential graded ideals. So the spectral sequence is a spectral sequence of bigraded algebras with divided powers.

Since  $H_0(\mathbf{L}_{B-C|A}) = H_1(\mathbf{L}_{B-C|A}) = 0$  we have [Q<sub>2</sub>, Corollary 7.30]  $H_j(S_D^n \mathbf{L}_{B-C|A}) = 0$  if  $j < 2n$ , i.e.,  $E_{p,q}^2 = 0$  for  $p < q$ , and there exists a canonical map  $\delta: \Gamma_D H_2(\mathbf{L}_{B-C|A}) \rightarrow H(D \overset{L}{\otimes}_Y D)$  which is the unique homomorphism of graded

$D$ -algebras with divided powers extending the edge isomorphism  $H_2(\mathbf{L}_{B-C|A}) = E_{1,1}^2 = H_2(D \overset{L}{\otimes}_Y D)$ .

Recall now some notation from [Q<sub>2</sub>]. For a  $D$ -module  $T$ ,  $K(T, n)$  will be the simplicial  $D$ -module whose normalization is the complex with  $T$  in dimension  $n$  and zero in the remaining ones. We have a canonical morphism

$$\mathbf{L}_{B-C|A} \longrightarrow K(H_2(\mathbf{L}_{B-C|A}), 2)$$

which is a 2-equivalence (i.e., it induces isomorphisms in homology in dimensions  $\leq 2$ ).

For an object  $X$ ,  $cX$  will be the constant simplicial object with  $(cX)_q = X$ , and whose faces and degeneracies are the identity map of  $X$ .

Finally,  $\Sigma$  is the suspension functor, so that

$$H_{q+1}(\Sigma X) = H_q(X).$$

The proof of the following proposition is analogous to that of Theorem 10.3 of [Q<sub>2</sub>]. We give the details for convenience of the reader.

**PROPOSITION 4.** *The following conditions are equivalent*

- (i)  $H_j(A, B, C, -) = 0$  for  $j \geq 3$
- (ii) The  $D$ -module  $H_2(D \overset{L}{\otimes}_Y D)$  is flat and the canonical homomorphism

$$\phi : \Gamma_D H_2(D \overset{L}{\otimes}_Y D) \rightarrow H(D \overset{L}{\otimes}_Y D)$$

is an isomorphism

*Proof.* From the universal coefficient spectral sequence

$$E_{p,q}^2 = \text{Tor}_p^D(H_q(\mathbf{L}_{B-C|A}), -) \Rightarrow H(A, B, C, -)$$

we deduce that condition (i) is equivalent to:  $H_2(D \overset{L}{\otimes}_Y D)$  is  $D$ -flat and

$$\mathbf{L}_{B-C|A} \longrightarrow K(H_2(\mathbf{L}_{B-C|A}), 2)$$

is an  $n$ -equivalence for all  $n$ .

Note that  $K(H_2(\mathbf{L}_{B-C|A}), 2)$  is homotopically equivalent to  $\Sigma\Sigma(c(H_2(\mathbf{L}_{B-C|A})))$ . Therefore, using [Q<sub>2</sub>, 7.21] we obtain

$$\begin{aligned}
H_{p+q}(S_b^q K(H_2(\mathbf{L}_{B-C|A}), 2)) &= H_{p+q}(S_b^q \Sigma \Sigma(c(H_2(\mathbf{L}_{B-C|A})))) \\
&= H_p(\wedge_b^q \Sigma(c(H_2(\mathbf{L}_{B-C|A})))) \\
&= H_{p-q}(\Gamma_b^q c(H_2(\mathbf{L}_{B-C|A}))) \\
&= \begin{cases} 0 & \text{if } p - q \neq 0 \\ \Gamma_b^q H_2(\mathbf{L}_{B-C|A}) & \text{if } p - q = 0. \end{cases}
\end{aligned}$$

So, assuming that  $\mathbf{L}_{B-C|A} \rightarrow K(H_2(\mathbf{L}_{B-C|A}), 2)$  is an  $n$ -equivalence,  $n \geq 2$ , then by [Q<sub>2</sub>, 7.3] so are the induced maps of symmetric powers, hence we have

$$\begin{aligned}
E_{p,q}^2 &= H_{p+q}(S_b^q \mathbf{L}_{B-C|A}) = H_{p+q}(S_b^q K(H_2(\mathbf{L}_{B-C|A}), 2)) \\
&= \begin{cases} 0 & \text{if } p + q \leq n, p \neq q \\ \Gamma_b^q H_2(\mathbf{L}_{B-C|A}) & \text{if } p + q \leq n, p = q. \end{cases}
\end{aligned}$$

If (i) holds we can take  $n = \infty$  and so

$$E_{p,q}^2 = \begin{cases} 0 & \text{if } p \neq q \\ \Gamma_b^q H_2(\mathbf{L}_{B-C|A}) & \text{if } p = q. \end{cases}$$

So the spectral sequence  $(I)$  degenerates showing that the edge homomorphism  $\delta : \Gamma_D H_2(\mathbf{L}_{B-C|A}) \rightarrow H(D \overset{L}{\otimes}_Y D)$  is an isomorphism. Therefore  $\phi : \Gamma_D H_2(D \overset{L}{\otimes}_Y D) \rightarrow H(D \otimes_Y D)$  is an isomorphism.

Now assume that (ii) holds. We will prove by induction on  $n$  that  $\mathbf{L}_{B-C|A} \rightarrow K(H_2(\mathbf{L}_{B-C|A}), 2)$  is an  $n$ -equivalence for all  $n$ . Assuming  $n \geq 2$  and that it is an  $n$ -equivalence, to see that it is an  $(n+1)$ -equivalence we have to prove that  $E_{n,1}^2 = H_{n+1}(\mathbf{L}_{B-C|A}) = 0$ .

Since

$$E_{p,q}^2 = \begin{cases} 0 & \text{if } p + q \leq n, p \neq q \\ \Gamma_b^q H_2(\mathbf{L}_{B-C|A}) & \text{if } p + q \leq n, p = q \end{cases}$$

the only possible non zero differential coming from  $E_{n,1}^2$  is

$$E_{n,1}^2 = E_{n,1}^p \xrightarrow{d^p} E_{p,p}^p = E_{p,p}^2 \quad \text{with } n = 2p.$$

As the edge homomorphism is an isomorphism we have  $d^p = 0$ . So  $E_{n,1}^2 = E_{n,1}^\infty = 0$ .

Since  $H(Y) = \text{Tor}^A(B, C)$ , Theorem 1 is a consequence of Proposition 4 and the following general result.

**PROPOSITION 5.** *Let  $Y$  be a simplicial ring and  $D = H_0(Y)$ . Then the following conditions are equivalent:*

(ii) The  $D$ -module  $H_2(D \overset{L}{\otimes}_Y D)$  is flat and the canonical homomorphism

$$\phi : \Gamma_D H_2(D \overset{L}{\otimes}_Y D) \longrightarrow H(D \overset{L}{\otimes}_Y D)$$

is an isomorphism.

(iii) The  $D$ -module  $H_1(Y)$  is flat and the canonical homomorphism

$$\gamma : \wedge_D H_1(Y) \longrightarrow H(Y)$$

is an isomorphism.

Before proceeding to the proof of Proposition 5 we will need some remarks.

*Remark 6.* By [Q<sub>1</sub>, Theorem 6-b), p.II.6.8] there exists a spectral sequence

$$E_{p,q}^2 = \text{Tor}_p^{H(Y)}(D, D)_q \Rightarrow H(D \overset{L}{\otimes}_Y D). \quad (\text{II})$$

Since  $Y$  is a simplicial ring and  $D$  is a simplicial  $Y$ -algebra, this spectral sequence is of bigraded algebras with divided powers.

In fact we have the following. Let  $Y$  be a simplicial ring and  $D$  a simplicial  $Y$ -algebra. Then, on the lines of the construction of [Q<sub>1</sub>, pp.II.6.13–6.14], it is possible to generalize the “step by step” method to obtain a bisimplicial  $Y$ -algebra  $P$  and a morphism  $P \rightarrow D$  such that:

- (1) For each  $j$ ,  $P_{*,j}$  is a free simplicial  $Y_j$ -algebra resolution of  $D_j$ .
- (2) For each  $i$ , the graded  $H(Y)$ -algebra  $H(P_{i,*})$  is free as an  $H(Y)$ -module and the induced sequence

$$\cdots \longrightarrow H(P_{2,*}) \longrightarrow H(P_{1,*}) \longrightarrow H(P_{0,*})$$

is a resolution of  $H(D)$ .

The details of the construction of  $P$  are in [B].

Now, if  $E$  is another simplicial  $Y$ -algebra and  $Y \xrightarrow{i} Q \xrightarrow{p} E$  is a factorization of the canonical morphism  $Y \rightarrow E$  with  $i$  cofibration and  $p$  trivial fibration, then we have a bisimplicial  $Y$ -algebra

$$M_{i,j} = P_{i,j} \otimes_{Y_j} Q_j.$$

From the two spectral sequences of a double complex, we obtain

$$E_{p,q}^2 = \text{Tor}_p^{H(Y)}(H(D), H(E))_q \Rightarrow H(D \overset{L}{\otimes}_Y E).$$

This spectral sequence is of bigraded algebras with divided powers since it comes from a bisimplicial algebra.

*Remark 7.* Let  $L$  be a flat  $D$ -module and consider on the bigraded algebra  $\wedge_D L \otimes_D \Gamma_D L$  the unique  $D$ -derivation of bidegree  $(1, -1)$  such that  $d(y \otimes 1) = 0$ ,  $d(1 \otimes \gamma_p x) = x \otimes \gamma_{p-1} x$ ,  $x, y \in L$ . Then  $(\wedge_D L \otimes_D \Gamma_D^* L, d_*)$  is a flat resolution of the  $\wedge_D L$ -module  $D$ : by Lazard's Theorem, we can assume that  $L$  is a free  $D$ -module of finite type and then by Künneth formula we can take  $L = D$ . In this case it is clear.

This flat resolution  $M_* = \wedge_D L \otimes_D \Gamma_D^* L$  is graded in the following way:  $M_{*,i} = \wedge_D^i L \otimes_D \Gamma_D^* L$ . Using this resolution we deduce

$$\text{Tor}_p^{\wedge_D L}(D, D)_q = \begin{cases} 0 & \text{if } p \neq q \\ \Gamma_D^p L & \text{if } p = q. \end{cases}$$

Now we come to the proof of Proposition 5. Consider the spectral sequence of Remark 6

$$E_{p,q}^2 = \text{Tor}_p^{H(Y)}(D, D)_q \Rightarrow H_{p+q}(D \overset{L}{\otimes}_Y D).$$

For it, the following hold:

$$E_{p,q}^2 = \text{Tor}_p^{H_0(Y)}(D, D) = 0 \quad \text{if } p > 0$$

$$E_{0,q}^2 = (D \otimes_{H(Y)} D)_q = \begin{cases} 0 & \text{if } q > 0 \\ D & \text{if } q = 0 \end{cases} \quad (\text{III})$$

$$E_{1,q}^2 = (H_+(Y) \otimes_{H(Y)} D)_q = (H_+(Y)/H_+(Y)^2)_q.$$

In particular we get an edge isomorphism  $\alpha_2: H_2(D \overset{L}{\otimes}_Y D) \rightarrow E_{1,1}^2$  and an isomorphism  $E_{1,1}^2 = H_1(Y)$ , which show that the flatness assumptions in (ii) and (iii) are equivalent.

Let  $\Lambda = \wedge_D H_1(Y)$  and consider the homomorphism of bigraded  $D$ -algebras with divided powers

$$\Gamma_D E_{1,1}^2 = \text{Tor}^\Lambda(D, D) \xrightarrow{\gamma_{**}} \text{Tor}^{H(Y)}(D, D)$$

where the equality is due to Remark 7 and  $\gamma_{*,*}$  is induced by  $\gamma$ . Since  $\gamma$  is bijective in degrees  $\leq n$ , then  $\gamma_{p,q}$  is bijective for  $q \leq n$ , hence in the spectral sequence (II) we have

$$E_{p,q}^2 = \begin{cases} 0 & \text{if } p \neq q, q \leq n \\ \Gamma_D^p E_{1,1}^2 & \text{if } p = q, q \leq n \end{cases} \quad (\text{IV})$$

When (iii) holds we can take  $n = \infty$  and get an isomorphism of graded  $D$ -algebras with divided powers  $\beta : \Gamma_D E_{1,1}^2 \xrightarrow{\sim} H(D \overset{L}{\otimes}_Y D)$ , hence  $\phi = \beta \circ \Gamma_D \alpha_2$  is bijective.

Conversely, let (ii) hold. Since  $\gamma_n$  is an isomorphism for  $n = 0, 1$ , assume by induction that  $\gamma_j$  is bijective for  $j \leq n$  and some  $n \geq 1$ . We have for  $p \leq n$  a diagram

$$\begin{array}{ccc} H_{2p}(D \overset{L}{\otimes}_Y D) & \xrightarrow{\alpha_{2p}} & E_{p,p}^2 \\ \phi_{2p} \uparrow & & \uparrow \psi_{2p} \\ \Gamma_D^p H_2(D \overset{L}{\otimes}_Y D) & \xrightarrow{\Gamma_D^p \alpha_2} & \Gamma_D^p E_{1,1}^2 \end{array}$$

which is commutative because  $\alpha_{2p}$  is an edge homomorphism in a spectral sequence (II) of  $D$ -algebras with divided powers. Note that  $\phi_{2p}$  is an isomorphism by condition (ii), and  $\psi_{2p}$  is an isomorphism by (IV). So  $\alpha_{2p}$  is an isomorphism and therefore all differentials of the spectral sequence are zero on  $E_{p,p}^r$  when  $p \leq n$  and  $r \geq 2$ . In particular, no differential lands in  $E_{1,2}^r$ ,  $E_{1,n+1}^r$ , or  $E_{2,n+1}^r$  for  $n \geq 2$  and  $r \geq 2$ . Any differential leaving one of these modules lands into some  $E_{p,*}^r$  with  $p \leq 0$ , which is trivial. Thus  $E_{1,2}^2 = E_{1,2}^\infty$ ,  $E_{1,n+1}^2 = E_{1,n+1}^\infty$  and  $E_{2,n+1}^2 = E_{2,n+1}^\infty$  for  $n \geq 2$ . We have  $E_{p,q}^\infty = 0$  if  $p + q$  is odd, and the diagram implies  $E_{p,q}^\infty = 0$  when  $p \neq q$  and  $p + q$  is even  $\leq 2n$ . Therefore  $E_{1,2}^2 = E_{1,n+1}^2 = E_{2,n+1}^2 = 0$  for  $n \geq 2$ .

By (III) we have  $\text{Coker}(\gamma_{n+1}) = E_{1,n+1}^2$ , hence  $\gamma_{n+1}$  is surjective. In order to determine  $\text{Ker}(\gamma_{n+1})$  we consider an exact sequence of  $D$ -modules

$$F''_{n+1} \xrightarrow{\eta} F'_{n+1} \rightarrow \Lambda_{n+1} \xrightarrow{\gamma_{n+1}} H_{n+1}(Y) \rightarrow 0$$

in which  $F''_{n+1}$  and  $F'_{n+1}$  are free. It produces a complex of graded  $\Lambda$ -modules

$$\Lambda \otimes_D F''_{n+1} \xrightarrow{\Lambda \otimes_D \eta} \Lambda \otimes_D F'_{n+1} \rightarrow \Lambda \xrightarrow{\gamma} H(Y) \rightarrow 0$$

which is exact in degrees  $\leq n + 1$ . Thus, by using appropriate graded free  $\Lambda$ -modules  $G, G', G''$  with  $G_j = G'_j = G''_j = 0$  for  $j \leq n + 1$  we can modify it to obtain the beginning of a graded free resolution of the graded  $\Lambda$ -module  $H(Y)$  in the form

$$(\Lambda \otimes_D F''_{n+1}) \oplus G'' \longrightarrow (\Lambda \otimes_D F'_{n+1}) \oplus G' \longrightarrow \Lambda \oplus G \longrightarrow H(Y) \longrightarrow 0.$$

With its help we see that

$$\mathrm{Tor}_1^A(D, H(Y))_j = \begin{cases} 0 & \text{if } j \leq n \\ \mathrm{Coker}(\eta) = \mathrm{Ker}(\gamma_{n+1}) & \text{if } j = n+1. \end{cases}$$

Since  $\gamma$  is surjective in degrees  $\leq n+1$ , the projection  $Q = H(Y)/H_1(Y)H(Y) \rightarrow H(Y)/H_+(Y) = D$  is bijective in these degrees and thus induces isomorphisms

$$\mathrm{Tor}_2^{H(Y)}(D, Q)_j = \mathrm{Tor}_2^{H(Y)}(D, D)_j = E_{2,j}^2 \quad \text{for } 2 \leq j \leq n+1.$$

These observations and Remark 7 show that the standard change of rings exact sequence

$$\begin{aligned} \mathrm{Tor}_2^A(D, D) &\longrightarrow \mathrm{Tor}_2^{H(Y)}(D, Q) \longrightarrow (D \otimes_{H(Y)} \mathrm{Tor}_1^A(D, H(Y))) \\ &\longrightarrow \mathrm{Tor}_1^A(D, D) \longrightarrow \mathrm{Tor}_1^{H(Y)}(D, Q) \longrightarrow 0 \end{aligned}$$

reduces in degree  $n+1$  to an exact sequence

$$\mathrm{Tor}_2^A(D, D)_{n+1} \xrightarrow{\gamma_{2,n+1}} E_{2,n+1}^2 \longrightarrow \mathrm{Tor}_1^A(D, H(Y))_{n+1} \longrightarrow 0.$$

For  $n=1$  the map  $\gamma_{2,2}$  is bijective, and for  $n>1$  the module  $E_{2,n+1}^2$  is trivial, hence

$$\mathrm{Ker}(\gamma_{n+1}) = \mathrm{Tor}_1^A(D, H(Y))_{n+1} = 0 \quad \text{for } n \geq 1.$$

Thus  $\gamma_{n+1}$  is injective, so the induction step is complete and the Proposition is proved.

Corollary 2 follows from Theorem 1 taking  $C=B$  and so  $D=B$  and  $H_n(A, B, C, -) = H_{n-1}(A, B, -)$  [A<sub>2</sub>, Example 5].

For Corollary 3, let  $\tau$  be the set of generators  $\tau_m$  to which the Koszul complex  $E$  is associated. Let  $R$  be the free  $A$ -algebra with variables  $t_m$  and consider the  $A$ -algebra homomorphisms  $\beta: R \rightarrow A$ ,  $\omega: R \rightarrow A$ , such that  $\beta(t_m) = 0$ ,  $\omega(t_m) = \tau_m$ . Denote by  $A_\beta$  and  $A_\omega$  the corresponding  $R$ -algebra structures on  $A$ . Then there exists an isomorphism of graded  $B$ -algebras  $H_*(E) = \mathrm{Tor}_*^R(A_\beta, A_\omega)$ . Moreover [A<sub>2</sub>, Example 6],  $H_n(R, A_\beta, A_\omega, -) = H_n(A, B, -)$  for  $n \geq 3$ , and the first part of Corollary 3 follows from Theorem 1.

In order to prove the second part of Corollary 3, we will need some facts about the cotangent complex  $L_{B|A}$ . Let  $X$  be a simplicial resolution of the  $A$ -algebra  $B$  obtained by the “step by step” construction [A<sub>1</sub>, Chap. IX], [A<sub>2</sub>, p. 327]. In particular consider the first three steps. We begin by choosing a system of generators  $t_\alpha$  of the ideal  $I$ . The first step is a simplicial  $A$ -algebra  $K$  with  $K_0 = A$ ,  $K_1$  the polynomial  $A$ -algebra on the variables  $T_\alpha$  and  $K_{1+h}$ ,  $h > 0$ , is the polynomial  $A$ -algebra on the variables

$$\sigma_h^{i_1} \sigma_{h-1}^{i_2} \cdots \sigma_1^{i_h}(T_\alpha), \quad 0 \leq i_h < \cdots < i_2 < i_1 \leq h,$$

where  $\sigma$  denotes the degeneration operators. The face operators are determined by

$$\varepsilon_1^0(T_\alpha) = 0, \quad \varepsilon_1^1(T_\alpha) = t_\alpha.$$

In order to construct the second step, we choose representants  $s_v \in K_1$  of a set of generators of the  $B$ -module

$$\pi_1(K) = \frac{M \cap N}{MN}$$

where  $M$  is the ideal of  $K_1$  generated by the elements  $T_\alpha$  and  $N$  the ideal of  $K_1$  generated by the elements  $T_\alpha - t_\alpha$ . The second step is a simplicial  $K$ -algebra  $F$  with  $F_0 = K_0$ ,  $F_1 = K_1$ ,  $F_2$  is the polynomial  $K_2$ -algebra on the variables  $S_v$ , and  $F_{2+h}$ ,  $h > 0$ , is the polynomial  $K_{2+h}$ -algebra on the variables

$$\sigma_{1+h}^{i_1} \sigma_h^{i_2} \cdots \sigma_2^{i_h}(S_v), \quad 0 \leq i_h < \cdots < i_2 < i_1 \leq 1 + h.$$

The face operators are determined by

$$\varepsilon_2^0(S_v) = 0, \quad \varepsilon_2^1(S_v) = 0, \quad \varepsilon_2^2(S_v) = s_v.$$

Similarly the third step is constructed by choosing representants  $z_w \in F_2$  of a set of generators of the  $B$ -module  $\pi_2(F)$  to obtain a simplicial  $F$ -algebra  $G$  with  $G_0 = F_0$ ,  $G_1 = F_1$ ,  $G_2 = F_2$ ,  $G_3$  is the polynomial  $F_3$ -algebra on the variables  $Z_w$  and  $G_{3+h}$ ,  $h > 0$ , is the polynomial  $F_{3+h}$ -algebra on the variables

$$\sigma_{2+h}^{i_1} \sigma_{1+h}^{i_2} \sigma_h^{i_3} \cdots \sigma_3^{i_h}(Z_w), \quad 0 \leq i_h < \cdots < i_2 < i_1 \leq 2 + h.$$

The face operators are determined by

$$\varepsilon_3^0(Z_w) = 0, \quad \varepsilon_3^1(Z_w) = 0, \quad \varepsilon_3^2(Z_w) = 0, \quad \varepsilon_3^3(Z_w) = z_w.$$

We have  $L_{B|A} = J/J^2$  where  $J$  is the augmentation ideal of the simplicial  $B$ -algebra  $X \otimes_A B$ . Denote by  $N$  the normalization functor from simplicial  $B$ -modules. We have

$$(N(J/J^2))_3 = \bigoplus_w BZ_w, \quad (N(J/J^2))_2 = \bigoplus_v BS_v$$

and the image of the differential  $d_3$  of  $N(J/J^2)$  coincides with the image of the canonical homomorphism [A<sub>2</sub>, Remarque 23]

$$\pi_2(F) \rightarrow \bigoplus_v BS_v.$$

Therefore [A<sub>2</sub>, Proposition 24]

$$\text{Coker } d_3 = \pi_1(K).$$

Moreover

$$(N(J/J^2))_1 = \bigoplus_\alpha BT_\alpha$$

and the differential  $d_3$  places in a commutative diagram

$$\begin{array}{ccc} \bigoplus_v BS_v & \xrightarrow{d_3} & \bigoplus_\alpha BT_\alpha \\ \pi \searrow & & \nearrow \phi \\ & \pi_1(K) & \end{array}$$

where  $\pi$  is the homomorphism sending  $S_v$  on the generator represented by  $s_v$  and  $\phi$  the canonical homomorphism [A<sub>2</sub>, Remarque 23].

On the other hand

$$\pi_1(K) = \frac{M \cap N}{MN} = \text{Tor}_1^{K_1}(A, A)$$

where in the first variable in Tor is the structure given by  $\varepsilon_1^0$  and in the second the one given by  $\varepsilon_1^1$ . If  $E$  denotes the Koszul complex associated to the elements  $t_\alpha$ , then this Tor is isomorphic to  $H_1(E)$ . Moreover, through this isomorphism  $\pi_1(K) = H_1(E)$ , the homomorphism  $\phi : \pi_1(K) \rightarrow \bigoplus_\alpha BT_\alpha$  corresponds to the canonical homomorphism

$$H_1(E) \longrightarrow E_1 \otimes_A B = \bigoplus_\alpha BT_\alpha$$

induced by the inclusions of cycles and boundaries  $Z_1(E) \subset E_1$ ,  $B_1(E) \subset IE_1$ . Thus we have the following proposition:

**PROPOSITION 8.** *Let  $A$  be a ring,  $I$  an ideal of  $A$ ,  $B = A/I$  and  $E$  the Koszul complex associated to an arbitrary set of generators of  $I$ . Then we can choose  $\mathbf{L}_{B|A}$  satisfying:*

- (i) *The cokernel of the differential  $d_3$  of  $\mathbf{L}_{B|A}$  is a  $B$ -module isomorphic to  $H_1(E)$ .*
- (ii) *There exists a morphism of complexes*

$$\mathbf{L}_{B|A} \longrightarrow (H_1(E) \xrightarrow{\phi} E_1 \otimes_A B)$$

*where the second complex is concentrated in degrees 2 and 1. This morphism induces isomorphisms in homology in dimensions  $\leq 2$ .*

Now the cohomological part of Corollary 3 follows from the homological part and Proposition 8.

*Remark 9.* From Theorem 1 it follows that  $H_j(A, B, C, -) = 0$  for all  $j \geq 2$  if and only if  $\mathrm{Tor}_p^A(B, C) = 0$  for all  $p \geq 1$ . This result is due to André [A<sub>2</sub>, Remarque 39].

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