

We consider the $\mathcal{O}_X$ -module $\Omega_{X/S}^1$ in more detail. First, recall that if $f: R \rightarrow A$ is a ring homomorphism, then an R -linear derivation from A to an A -module M is an R -linear map

$$A \xrightarrow{D} M$$

s.t. for all $a, b \in A$, Leibniz rule

$$D(ab) = aD(b) + bD(a)$$

holds. We write $\text{Der}_R(A, M)$ for the A -module of R -linear derivations from A to M . Define

$$\begin{array}{ccccccc} 0 & \rightarrow & I/I^2 & \rightarrow & A \otimes_R A / I^2 & \xrightarrow{\mu} & A \rightarrow 0 \\ & & \parallel & & \parallel & & \parallel \\ 0 & \rightarrow & \Omega_{A/R}^1 & \rightarrow & P_{A/R}^1 & \xrightarrow{\varepsilon} & A \rightarrow 0 \end{array}$$

where $I \subset A \otimes_R A$ is the kernel of the multiplication. It is an exact sequence of A -modules, where we consider $\Omega_{A/R}^1$ and $P_{A/R}^1$ as A -modules via multiplication in the left-hand tensor factor A . The map ε has the unique A -linear

section $\eta_L: A \rightarrow P_{A/R}^1$ defined by $\eta_L(a) = a \otimes 1 + I^2$. The R -linear map

$$A \xrightarrow{d} \Omega_{A/R}^1$$

$$a \mapsto 1 \otimes a - a \otimes 1 + I^2$$

is a derivation. Indeed,

$$\sigma = (1 \otimes a - a \otimes 1) \cdot (1 \otimes b - b \otimes 1)$$

$$= 1 \otimes ab - b \otimes a - a \otimes b + ab \otimes 1$$

$$= 1 \otimes ab - ab \otimes 1 - a \otimes 1 (1 \otimes b - b \otimes 1) \\ - b \otimes 1 (1 \otimes a - a \otimes 1).$$

Moreover, the image of d generates $\Omega_{A/R}^1$ as an A -module. For if $\sum a_i \otimes b_i$ is any element of I , then

$$\sum a_i \otimes b_i = \sum a_i \otimes 1 (1 \otimes b_i - b_i \otimes 1).$$

It follows that if $h: \Omega_{A/R}^1 \rightarrow M$ is an A -linear map, then

$$A \xrightarrow{d} \Omega_{A/R}^1 \xrightarrow{h} M$$

is an R -linear derivation $D: A \rightarrow M$

and that h is determined by D .

Prop If M is an A -module, then the A -linear map

$$\text{Hom}_A(\Omega_{A/R}^1, M) \rightarrow \text{Der}_R(A, M)$$

$$h \longmapsto h \circ d$$

is an isomorphism.

Pf We have already argued that the map is well-defined and injective, so only surjectivity is at issue. Let $D: A \rightarrow M$ be an R -linear derivation. It induces the A -linear map

$$\begin{aligned} A \otimes_R A &\xrightarrow{\tilde{D}} M \\ a \otimes b &\longmapsto a D(b) \end{aligned}$$

and the calculation

$$(1 \otimes a - a \otimes 1)(1 \otimes b - b \otimes 1)$$

$$= 1 \otimes ab - b \otimes a - a \otimes b + ab \otimes 1$$

$$\longmapsto D(ab) - b D(a) - a D(b) + ab D(1)$$

$$= 0$$

shows that it factors through the A -linear map

$$P_{A/R}^1 \xrightarrow{\bar{D}} M$$

$$a \otimes b + I^2 \mapsto aD(b)$$

The restriction of $\bar{D}$ to $\Omega_{A/R}^1$ is an A -linear map

$$\Omega_{A/R}^1 \xrightarrow{h} M$$

and, by definition,

$$(h \circ d)(a) = h(1 \otimes a - a \otimes 1 + I^2)$$

$$= D(a) - aD(1) = D(a),$$

which proves surjectivity. //

Remark We note that $-d: A \rightarrow \Omega_{A/R}^1$ also is a universal R -linear derivation. //

We next let $f: X \rightarrow S$ be a morphism of schemes and recall from last time that the diagonal

$$X \xrightarrow{\Delta_{X/S}} X \times_S X$$

is an immersion and that $\Omega_{X/S}^1$ is defined to be the conormal sheaf. So we have an exact sequence of $\mathcal{O}_X$ -modules

$$\begin{array}{ccccccc} 0 & \rightarrow & \mathcal{I}/\mathcal{I}^2 & \rightarrow & \Delta^*(\mathcal{O}_{X \times_S X})/\mathcal{I}^2 & \xrightarrow{\Delta^\#} & \mathcal{O}_X \rightarrow 0 \\ & & \parallel & & \parallel & & \parallel \\ 0 & \rightarrow & \Omega_{X/S}^1 & \rightarrow & \mathcal{P}_{X/S}^1 & \xrightarrow{\varepsilon} & \mathcal{O}_X \rightarrow 0 \end{array}$$

where $\mathcal{I} \subset \Delta^*(\mathcal{O}_{X \times_S X})$ is the kernel of $\Delta^\#$. We again view $\mathcal{P}_{X/S}^1$ and $\Omega_{X/S}^1$ as $\mathcal{O}_X$ -modules via the map induced by $p_1: X \times_S X \rightarrow X$. If we factor $\Delta_{X/S}$ as

$$X \xleftarrow{i} U \xrightarrow{j} X \times_S X$$

with i a closed immersion and j an open immersion, then $\mathcal{I} = i^*(\mathcal{I})$ where $\mathcal{I} \subset \mathcal{O}_U$ is the quasicoherent ideal that defines i . It follows that $\Omega_{X/S}^1 = \mathcal{I}/\mathcal{I}^2$ is a quasicoherent $\mathcal{O}_X$ -module. We claim that also $\mathcal{P}_{X/S}^1$ is quasicoherent. Indeed, we have the following general result.

lemma let $(X, \mathcal{O}_X)$ be a scheme and let

$$0 \rightarrow M' \rightarrow M \rightarrow M'' \rightarrow 0$$

be an exact sequence of $\mathcal{O}_X$ -modules. If two out of three of M' , M , and M'' are quasicoherent, then so is the third.

Pf We proved in lecture 7 that an $\mathcal{O}_X$ -module N is quasicoherent if and only if for all $U \subset V \subset X$ affine open, the canonical map

$$\frac{\Gamma(U, \mathcal{O}_X) \otimes \Gamma(V, N)}{\Gamma(V, \mathcal{O}_X)} \rightarrow \Gamma(U, N)$$

is an isomorphism. But $\Gamma(U, \mathcal{O}_X)$ is a flat $\Gamma(V, \mathcal{O}_X)$ -module, since open immersions are flat. (Flatness can be checked stalkwise, and for all $x \in U$, $\Gamma(U, \mathcal{O}_X)_{\mathfrak{p}_x} = \mathcal{O}_{X, x} = \Gamma(V, \mathcal{O}_X)_{\mathfrak{p}_x}$.) The statement follows from the obvious five-lemma argument. //

It follows that if $X = \text{Spec}(A)$ and $S = \text{Spec}(\mathbb{Z})$ are affine, then

$$0 \rightarrow \Omega_{X/S}^1 \rightarrow \mathcal{O}_{X/S}^1 \xrightarrow{\epsilon} \mathcal{O}_X \rightarrow 0$$

is canonically isomorphic to the sequence of quasicoherent $\mathcal{O}_X$ -modules obtained from the sequence of A -modules

$$0 \rightarrow \Omega_{A/R}^1 \rightarrow P_{A/R}^1 \xrightarrow{\varepsilon} A \rightarrow 0.$$

Let again $f: X \rightarrow S$ be any morphism of schemes, and let M be an $\mathcal{O}_X$ -module, not necessarily coherent. An $f^*\mathcal{O}_S$ -linear map

$$\mathcal{O}_X \xrightarrow{D} M$$

is an S -derivation from $\mathcal{O}_X$ to M if for every open $V \subset X$ and all sections $t_1, t_2 \in \Gamma(V, \mathcal{O}_X)$,

$$D(t_1 t_2) = t_1 D(t_2) + t_2 D(t_1).$$

Here, that D is $f^*\mathcal{O}_S$ -linear means that for every open $V \subset X$, every open $U \subset S$ s.t. $V \subset f^{-1}(U)$, and all sections $s \in \Gamma(U, \mathcal{O}_S)$ and $t \in \Gamma(V, \mathcal{O}_X)$,

$$D(f^*(s)|_V \cdot t) = f^*(s)|_V \cdot D(t).$$

We write $\text{Der}_S(\mathcal{O}_X, M)$ for the

$\Gamma(X, \mathcal{O}_X)$ -module of S -derivations from $\mathcal{O}_X$ to M . If $X = \text{Spec}(A)$ and $S = \text{Spec}(R)$ are affine and $M = \tilde{N}$ quasicoherent, then the map

$$\text{Der}_S(\mathcal{O}_X, M) \rightarrow \text{Der}_R(A, N)$$

that takes D to the induced map of global sections is an isomorphism of A -modules.

For any $f: X \rightarrow S$, we have two sections

$$\begin{array}{ccc} & d^0 & \\ & \longleftarrow & \\ \mathcal{O}_{X/S}^1 & \xrightarrow{\quad \varepsilon \quad} & \mathcal{O}_X \\ & \longleftarrow & \\ & d^1 & \end{array}$$

induced from the two projections $p_1, p_2: X \times_S X \rightarrow X$. We consider $\mathcal{O}_{X/S}^1$ an $\mathcal{O}_X$ -module via d^0 . The difference $d^0 - d^1$ factors

$$\begin{array}{ccccc} \mathcal{O}_X & \xrightarrow{d} & \Omega_{X/S}^1 & \longrightarrow & \mathcal{O}_{X/S}^1 \\ & & \searrow d^0 - d^1 & & \uparrow \end{array}$$

and we see as earlier that d is an S -derivation from $\mathcal{O}_X$ to $\Omega_{X/S}^1$.

Prop Let $f: X \rightarrow S$ be a morphism of schemes and let M be an $\mathcal{O}_X$ -module. The $\Gamma(X, \mathcal{O}_X)$ -linear map

$$\begin{array}{ccc} \text{Hom}_{\mathcal{O}_X}(\Omega_{X/S}^1, M) & \longrightarrow & \text{Der}_S(\mathcal{O}_X, M) \\ \downarrow & \longmapsto & \downarrow \circ d \end{array}$$

is an isomorphism.

Pf Again, the map is injective, since $\Omega_{X/S}^1$ is generated locally by the image of d . So let $D: \mathcal{O}_X \rightarrow M$ be an S -derivation. For all affine open $V \subset X$ and $U \subset S$ s.t. $f(U) \subset V$, $D_V: \Gamma(V, \mathcal{O}_X) \rightarrow \Gamma(V, M)$ is a $\Gamma(U, S)$ -linear derivation. Hence, there exists a unique $\Gamma(V, \mathcal{O}_X)$ -linear map $u_V: \Gamma(V, \Omega_{X/S}^1) \rightarrow \Gamma(V, M)$ s.t. $D_V = u_V \circ d$. By the uniqueness of the u_V , these glue to give a map of $\mathcal{O}_X$ -modules $u: \mathcal{O}_X \rightarrow M$ s.t. $D = u \circ d$. //

We proceed to define differential operators, $\text{Hom}_{\mathcal{O}_X}(\Omega_{X/S}^i, M)$ being the $\mathcal{O}_X$ -module of differential operators of degree $\leq i$.

We fix a morphism of schemes

$$X \xrightarrow{f} S$$

and define a Hopf algebra in the category of $f^* \mathcal{O}_S$ -algebras in $X^\sim$. A Hopf algebra is the data that corepresents a groupoid. In the case at hand, the set of objects is corepresented by $\mathcal{O}_X$, the set of morphisms by

$$\mathcal{P}_{X/S} = \Delta_{X/S}^* \mathcal{O}_{X \times_S X} = \mathcal{O}_X \otimes_{f^* \mathcal{O}_S} \mathcal{O}_X,$$

the target and source maps by

$$\begin{array}{ccc} \mathcal{O}_X & \xrightarrow{d^0} & \mathcal{P}_{X/S} \\ a & \mapsto & a \otimes 1 \end{array} \quad , \quad \begin{array}{ccc} \mathcal{O}_X & \xrightarrow{d^1} & \mathcal{P}_{X/S} \\ a & \mapsto & 1 \otimes a \end{array}$$

respectively, the composition by

$$\begin{array}{ccc} \mathcal{P}_{X/S} & \xrightarrow{\delta} & \mathcal{P}_{X/S} \otimes_{\mathcal{O}_X} \mathcal{P}_{X/S} \\ a \otimes b & \mapsto & a \otimes 1 \otimes_{\mathcal{O}_X} 1 \otimes b, \end{array}$$

the identity morphism by

$$\begin{array}{ccc} \mathcal{P}_{X/S} & \xrightarrow{\varepsilon} & \mathcal{O}_X \\ a \otimes b & \longmapsto & ab \end{array}$$

and the inverse of morphisms by

$$\begin{array}{ccc} \mathcal{P}_{X/S} & \xrightarrow{\sigma} & \mathcal{P}_{X/S} \\ a \otimes b & \longmapsto & b \otimes a \end{array}$$

Let M, N be $\mathcal{O}_X$ -modules. An $\mathcal{P}_{X/S}$ -linear map

$$M \xrightarrow{h} N$$

determines and is determined by the $\mathcal{O}_X$ -linear map

$$\begin{array}{ccc} \mathcal{P}_{X/S} \otimes_{\mathcal{O}_X} M & \xrightarrow{\bar{h}} & N \\ a \otimes b \otimes x & \longmapsto & a h(bx) \end{array}$$

Moreover, the map h is $\mathcal{O}_X$ -linear if and only if the map $\bar{h}$ annihilates $\mathcal{I} \otimes_{\mathcal{O}_X} M$. We weaken the latter condition as follows. For $n \geq 0$, define

$$\mathcal{P}_{X/S}^n = \mathcal{P}_{X/S} / \mathcal{I}^{n+1}.$$

The Hopf algebroid structure maps

induce maps

$$\begin{array}{ccc} & \xrightarrow{d_n^0} & \\ \mathcal{O}_X & \xleftrightarrow{\varepsilon_n} & \mathcal{P}_{X/S}^n \\ & \xrightarrow{d_n^1} & \end{array}$$

$$\mathcal{P}_{X/S}^{m+n} \xrightarrow{\delta_{m,n}} \mathcal{P}_{X/S}^n \otimes_{\mathcal{O}_X} \mathcal{P}_{X/S}^m$$

$$\mathcal{P}_{X/S}^n \xrightarrow{\sigma_n} \mathcal{P}_{X/S}^n$$

let again M, N be two $\mathcal{O}_X$ -modules. We define a differential operator of degree $\leq n$ from M to N to be an $\mathcal{O}_X$ -linear map

$$\mathcal{P}_{X/S}^n \otimes_{\mathcal{O}_X} M \longrightarrow N$$

and write

$$\text{Diff}_{X/S}^n(M, N)$$

$$= \text{Hom}_{\mathcal{O}_X}(\mathcal{P}_{X/S}^n \otimes_{\mathcal{O}_X} M, N)$$

for the set of differential operators of degree $\leq n$ from M to N .

Rmk I should have given the definition of the tensor product of two $\mathcal{O}_X$ -modules M, N earlier.

It is defined to be the sheaf associated with the presheaf

$$U \longmapsto \mathcal{P}(U, M) \otimes_{\mathcal{P}(U, \mathcal{O}_X)} \mathcal{P}(U, N).$$

The functor $M \otimes_{\mathcal{O}_X} -$ has a right adjoint $\underline{\text{Hom}}_{\mathcal{O}_X}(M, -)$ defined by

$$\begin{aligned} \mathcal{P}(U, \underline{\text{Hom}}_{\mathcal{O}_X}(M, N)) \\ = \underline{\text{Hom}}_{\mathcal{O}_X|U}(M|U, N|U). \end{aligned}$$

It is an exercise to show that $\underline{\text{Hom}}_{\mathcal{O}_X}(M, N)$ is indeed a sheaf. //

We define the sheaf of differential operators from M to N of degree $\leq n$ by

$$\begin{aligned} \underline{\text{Diff}}_{X/S}^n(M, N) \\ = \underline{\text{Hom}}_{\mathcal{O}_X}(\mathcal{P}_{X/S} \otimes_{\mathcal{O}_X} M, N). \end{aligned}$$

It is a $\mathcal{P}_{X/S}$ -module, hence, an $\mathcal{O}_X$ - $\mathcal{O}_X$ -bimodule. The map

$$\mathcal{O}_X \xrightarrow{d^n} \mathcal{P}_{X/S}^n$$

induces a (forgetful) map

$$\underline{\text{Diff}}_{X/S}^n(M, N) \longrightarrow \text{Hom}_{f^* \mathcal{O}_S}(M, N).$$

This map is injective, because the image of d_n^0 locally generates $\mathcal{P}_{X/S}^n$ as an $\mathcal{O}_X$ -module (w.r.t. the map d_n^1). Hence, we may view differential operators of degree $\leq n$ from M to N as $f^* \mathcal{O}_S$ -linear maps from M to N that satisfy a condition weaker than $\mathcal{O}_X$ -linearity. There are more general situations (e.g. PD-differential operators) in which the corresponding map is not injective, so it is better to leave the definition of the sheaf $\underline{\text{Diff}}_{X/S}^n(M, N)$ as it is.

The canonical epimorphism

$$\mathcal{P}_{X/S}^m \longrightarrow \mathcal{P}_{X/S}^n \quad m \geq n$$

induces a monomorphism

$$\underline{\text{Diff}}_{X/S}^n(M, N) \hookrightarrow \underline{\text{Diff}}_{X/S}^m(M, N),$$

and we define the sheaf of

differential operators (of all degrees) from M to N to be the (filtered) colimit

$$\underline{\text{Diff}}_{X/S}(M, N)$$

$$= \text{colim}_n \underline{\text{Diff}}_{X/S}^n(M, N);$$

it is an $\mathcal{O}_X - \mathcal{O}_X$ -bimodule. If M, N , and P are three $\mathcal{O}_X$ -modules, the composition map $\delta_{M,N}$ gives rise to a map of $\mathcal{O}_X - \mathcal{O}_X$ -bimodules

$$\begin{aligned} & \underline{\text{Diff}}_{X/S}^n(N, P) \otimes_{\mathcal{O}_X} \underline{\text{Diff}}_{X/S}^m(M, N) \\ & \xrightarrow{\circ} \underline{\text{Diff}}_{X/S}^{m+n}(M, P) \end{aligned}$$

which, in turn, induces a map of $\mathcal{O}_X - \mathcal{O}_X$ -bimodules

$$\begin{aligned} & \underline{\text{Diff}}_{X/S}(N, P) \otimes_{\mathcal{O}_X} \underline{\text{Diff}}_{X/S}(M, N) \\ & \xrightarrow{\circ} \underline{\text{Diff}}_{X/S}(M, P). \end{aligned}$$

Ex let S be a scheme, let

$$X = S \times_{\text{Spec}(\mathbb{Z})} \text{Spec}(\mathbb{Z}[x_1, \dots, x_d]),$$

and let $f = \text{pr}_1: X \rightarrow S$. For $1 \leq i \leq d$,

we set

$$\xi_i = 1 \otimes x_i - x_i \otimes 1 \in \Gamma(X, \mathcal{O}_{X/S})$$

and denote by the same symbol the image in $\Gamma(X, \mathcal{O}_{X/S}^n)$. For all $n \geq 0$, we have:

(i) $\mathcal{O}_{X/S}^n$ is a free $\mathcal{O}_X$ -module with the basis

$$\{ \xi^\alpha = \xi_1^{\alpha_1} \cdots \xi_d^{\alpha_d} \mid \alpha_1 + \cdots + \alpha_d \leq n \}$$

where $\alpha = (\alpha_1, \dots, \alpha_d) \in \mathbb{Z}_{\geq 0}^d$.

(ii) If $\{ D_\alpha \mid \alpha_1 + \cdots + \alpha_d \leq n \}$ be the dual basis of $\text{Diff}_{X/S}^n(\mathcal{O}_X, \mathcal{O}_X)$, then

$$D_\alpha \circ D_{\alpha'} = \binom{\alpha + \alpha'}{\alpha} D_{\alpha + \alpha'}$$

where

$$\alpha + \alpha' = (\alpha_1 + \alpha'_1, \dots, \alpha_d + \alpha'_d)$$

$$\binom{\beta}{\alpha} = \binom{\beta_1}{\alpha_1} \cdots \binom{\beta_d}{\alpha_d}$$

//