

# On inner deformations of algebras

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Noncommutative Rings and Geometry,  
in honour of Freddy Van Oystaeyen  
Almería, September 21st 2007

Based upon joint work with **Florin Panaite** and **Freddy Van Oystaeyen**

- ***General twisting of algebras***, *Adv. Math.* 212 (1), 315–337 (2007).

# Outline

- 1 The motivation
- 2 The problem
- 3 First approach
- 4 The final answer?

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# Inner deformations

## 1 Concept of *inner deformations*.

- Start with an algebra  $A$
- Keep the underlying vector space
- Endow it with a new product (related with the old one)

## 2 There are many examples of inner deformations

- *Twisted tensor products*
- *Twisted bialgebras*
- *Drinfeld twist* for an  $H$ -module algebra
- Deformation via *neat elements*
- Deformations by *R-matrices*

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# Twisted tensor products

## Definition (Twisting map)

A linear map  $R : B \otimes A \longrightarrow A \otimes B$  is a **twisting map** if it satisfies:

- 1  $R \circ (B \otimes \mu_A) = (\mu_A \otimes B) \circ (A \otimes R) \circ (R \otimes A)$
- 2  $R \circ (\mu_B \otimes A) = (A \otimes \mu_B) \circ (R \otimes B) \circ (B \otimes R)$

## Theorem

The map  $\mu_R := (\mu_A \otimes \mu_B) \circ (A \otimes R \otimes B)$  is an associative product in  $A \otimes B$  if, and only if,  $R$  is a twisting map.

The algebra  $A \otimes_R B := (A \otimes B, \mu_R)$  is called a **twisted tensor product** of  $A$  and  $B$ .

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# L-R twisting datum

- $A$  an  $H$ -bimodule algebra with actions

$$\pi_l(h \otimes a) = h \cdot a, \quad \pi_r(a \otimes h) = a \cdot h,$$

and an  $H$ -bicomodule algebra, with coactions

$$\psi_l(a) := a_{[-1]} \otimes a_{[0]}, \quad \psi_r(a) := a_{\langle 0 \rangle} \otimes a_{\langle 1 \rangle},$$

satisfying some **technical compatibility conditions**.

- Define a new multiplication on  $A$  by

$$a \bullet a' := (a_{[0]} \cdot a'_{\langle 1 \rangle})(a_{[-1]} \cdot a'_{\langle 0 \rangle})$$

- Then  $(A, \bullet, 1)$  is an associative unital algebra.

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# Fedosov product for DG algebras

- $(\Omega = \bigoplus_{n \geq 0} \Omega^n, d)$  **differential graded** algebra.
- The **Fedosov product** is given by

$$\omega \circ \zeta = \omega \zeta - (-1)^{|\omega|} d\omega d\zeta$$

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# The common points

- All these deformations are built in the same way:
  - Start with an algebra  $(A, \mu)$
  - Define some map  $T : A \otimes A \rightarrow A \otimes A$
  - Define a new product by  $\mu_T := \mu \circ T$ .

## Question

*Is it possible to obtain the associativity just out of some properties of the map  $T$ ?*

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# First approach: R-matrices

## Definition (Borcherds)

An **R-matrix** for an algebra  $A$  is a map  $T : A \otimes A \rightarrow A \otimes A$  such that

$$T(1 \otimes a) = 1 \otimes a, \quad T(a \otimes 1) = a \otimes 1,$$

$$\mu_{23} \circ T_{12} \circ T_{13} = T \circ \mu_{23},$$

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# The need for something else

- R-matrices provide a set of sufficient conditions for building inner deformations
- But they are not enough
- Twisted tensor product are **NOT** R-matrices.

## Question

*Is possible to find an approach similar to R-matrices that includes twisted tensor products?*

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# Twistors

- $(D, \mu)$  an algebra
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The map  $\mu \circ T$  is **associative**, with the same unit 1.

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  - Drinfeld cocycle twist of a module algebra
  - Deformation of a bialgebra via neat elements
  - Deformation of algebras with a differential

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# Examples of Non-Twistors

- Most R-matrices
- Fedosov product on DG algebras
- Braided quantum groups
- The square of a ribbon operator

## Question

*Can we find something more general, containing twistors and all the above things?*



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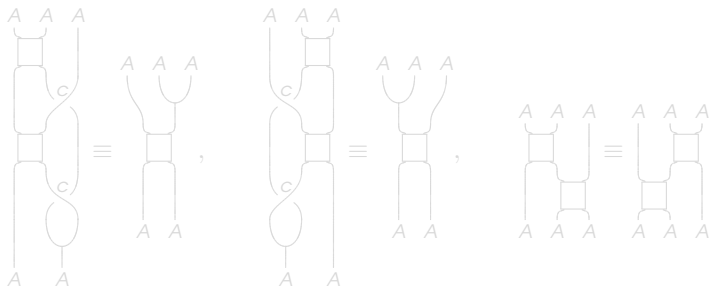
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- A twistor is represented by



- Twistor conditions are written as

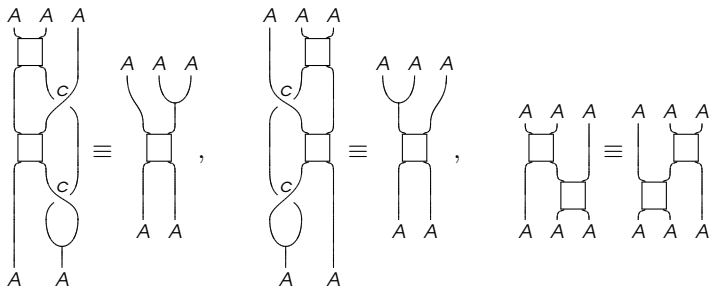


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# How this notation works

- Braiding notation gives us a “general shape” for twistor conditions
- Makes easy to spot points where axioms can be weakened
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# Pseudotwistors (I)

- $\mathcal{C}$  a (strict) monoidal category,
- $(A, \mu, u)$  an algebra in  $\mathcal{C}$ ,
- $T : A \otimes A \rightarrow A \otimes A$  morphism in  $\mathcal{C}$  such that  $T \circ (u \otimes A) = u \otimes A$  and  $T \circ (A \otimes u) = A \otimes u$ .
- $\tilde{T}_1, \tilde{T}_2 : A \otimes A \otimes A \rightarrow A \otimes A \otimes A$  morphisms in  $\mathcal{C}$  such that

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- Then  $(A, \mu \circ T, u)$  is also an algebra in  $\mathcal{C}$ .

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- $\mathcal{C}$  a (strict) monoidal category,
- $(A, \mu, u)$  an algebra in  $\mathcal{C}$ ,
- $T : A \otimes A \rightarrow A \otimes A$  morphism in  $\mathcal{C}$  such that  $T \circ (u \otimes A) = u \otimes A$  and  $T \circ (A \otimes u) = A \otimes u$ .
- $\tilde{T}_1, \tilde{T}_2 : A \otimes A \otimes A \rightarrow A \otimes A \otimes A$  morphisms in  $\mathcal{C}$  such that

$$(A \otimes \mu) \circ \tilde{T}_1 \circ (T \otimes A) = T \circ (A \otimes \mu),$$

$$(\mu \otimes A) \circ \tilde{T}_2 \circ (A \otimes T) = T \circ (\mu \otimes A),$$

$$\tilde{T}_1 \circ (T \otimes A) \circ (A \otimes T) = \tilde{T}_2 \circ (A \otimes T) \circ (T \otimes A).$$

- Then  $(A, \mu \circ T, u)$  is also an algebra in  $\mathcal{C}$ .



# Pseudotwistors (II)

## Definition

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## Examples of pseudotwistors

- Every twistor  $T$  is a pseudotwistor, with companions  $\tilde{T}_1 = \tilde{T}_2 = T_{13}$
- Twistors in a braided category, with companions  $\tilde{T}_1 = \tilde{T}_2 = T_{13}(C)$ 
  - This case includes Fedosov products for DGA's
- $G = (A, \mu, \Delta, \varepsilon, S, \sigma)$  a **braided quantum group**
  - All maps  $\sigma_n^{-1} \circ \sigma$  are pseudotwistors, with companions  $\tilde{T}_1(\sigma_n), \tilde{T}_2(\sigma_n)$ .
  - The multiplications associated to these pseudotwistors are the  $\mu_n$ 's defined by Drudevich
- $T$  a **bijjective R-matrix**, then  $T$  is a pseudotwistor, with companions  $\tilde{T}_1 = T_{12} \circ T_{13} \circ T_{12}^{-1}$  and  $\tilde{T}_2 = T_{23} \circ T_{13} \circ T_{23}^{-1}$ .

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**Happy birthday, Fred!**