



Assignments for the lecture on *Non-Commutative Distributions*  
 Winter term 2014/2015

**Assignment 2B**  
 for the tutorial on *Tuesday, 18 November* (in SR6)

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**Exercise 1.** Consider the algebra  $\mathbb{C}\langle x_1, \dots, x_n \rangle$  of non-commutative polynomials in  $n$  non-commuting (formal) variables  $x_1, \dots, x_n$ . For  $j = 1, \dots, n$ , we denote by

$$\partial_j : \mathbb{C}\langle x_1, \dots, x_n \rangle \rightarrow \mathbb{C}\langle x_1, \dots, x_n \rangle \otimes \mathbb{C}\langle x_1, \dots, x_n \rangle$$

the non-commutative derivative with respect to  $x_j$ . Prove Remark 3.3(2), i.e. prove that

$$p \otimes 1 - 1 \otimes p = \sum_{j=1}^n (\partial_j p \cdot x_j \otimes 1 - 1 \otimes x_j \cdot \partial_j p)$$

holds for any  $p \in \mathbb{C}\langle x_1, \dots, x_n \rangle$ .

**Exercise 2.** Let  $\mathcal{B}$  be a unital algebra and consider the algebra  $\mathcal{B}\langle x_1, \dots, x_n \rangle$  of non-commutative polynomials over  $\mathcal{B}$  in  $n$  non-commuting (formal) variables  $x_1, \dots, x_n$ . For  $j = 1, \dots, n$ , we denote by

$$\partial_j : \mathcal{B}\langle x_1, \dots, x_n \rangle \rightarrow \mathcal{B}\langle x_1, \dots, x_n \rangle \otimes \mathcal{B}\langle x_1, \dots, x_n \rangle$$

the non-commutative derivative over  $\mathcal{B}$  with respect to  $x_j$ .

(a) Let  $\mathcal{M}$  be an arbitrary  $\mathcal{B}\langle x_1, \dots, x_n \rangle$ -bimodule and let

$$\delta : \mathcal{B}\langle x_1, \dots, x_n \rangle \rightarrow \mathcal{M}$$

be a non-commutative derivation over  $\mathcal{B}$  in the sense that we have  $\delta(b) = 0$  for all  $b \in \mathcal{B}$  and

$$\delta(p_1 p_2) = p_1 \cdot \delta(p_2) + \delta(p_1) \cdot p_2 \quad \text{for all } p_1, p_2 \in \mathcal{B}\langle x_1, \dots, x_n \rangle,$$

where  $\cdot$  denotes the left and right action, respectively, of  $\mathcal{B}\langle x_1, \dots, x_n \rangle$  on  $\mathcal{M}$ . Show that for any  $p \in \mathcal{B}\langle x_1, \dots, x_n \rangle$

$$\delta(p) = \sum_{j=1}^n (\partial_j p) \sharp \delta(x_j),$$

where  $\sharp : (\mathcal{B}\langle x_1, \dots, x_n \rangle \otimes \mathcal{B}\langle x_1, \dots, x_n \rangle) \times \mathcal{M} \rightarrow \mathcal{M}$  is defined by bilinear extension of  $(p_1 \otimes p_2) \sharp m := p_1 \cdot m \cdot p_2$ .

(b) Let  $\mathcal{R}_{\mathcal{B}} \subseteq \mathcal{B}\langle x_1, \dots, x_n \rangle \otimes \mathcal{B}\langle x_1, \dots, x_n \rangle$  be the linear subspace spanned by

$$\{p_1 b \otimes p_2 - p_1 \otimes b p_2 \mid p_1, p_2 \in \mathcal{B}\langle x_1, \dots, x_n \rangle, b \in \mathcal{B}\}.$$

We consider the quotient space

$$\begin{aligned} \mathcal{M} &:= \mathcal{B}\langle x_1, \dots, x_n \rangle \otimes_{\mathcal{B}} \mathcal{B}\langle x_1, \dots, x_n \rangle \\ &:= (\mathcal{B}\langle x_1, \dots, x_n \rangle \otimes \mathcal{B}\langle x_1, \dots, x_n \rangle) / \mathcal{R}_{\mathcal{B}}, \end{aligned}$$

where we put  $p_1 \otimes_{\mathcal{B}} p_2 := p_1 \otimes p_2 + \mathcal{R}_{\mathcal{B}}$ . Justify that  $\mathcal{M}$  is a  $\mathcal{B}\langle x_1, \dots, x_n \rangle$ -bimodule and show that  $\delta : \mathcal{B}\langle x_1, \dots, x_n \rangle \rightarrow \mathcal{M}$  defined by

$$\delta(p) := p \otimes_{\mathcal{B}} 1 - 1 \otimes_{\mathcal{B}} p \quad \text{for any } p \in \mathcal{B}\langle x_1, \dots, x_n \rangle$$

is a non-commutative derivation over  $\mathcal{B}$ .

(c) Apply the formula obtained in (a) to the derivation considered in (b). Convince yourself that your result reduces in the case  $\mathcal{B} = \mathbb{C}$  to the formula that was proven in Problem 1.

(d) Consider  $p \in \mathcal{B}\langle x_1, \dots, x_n \rangle$ . Assume that  $\partial_i p = 0$  for all  $i = 1, \dots, n$ . Show that  $p \in \mathcal{B}$ .

**Exercise 3.** Let  $S_1, \dots, S_n$  be the  $n$  free semicircular elements from Example 1.7 (compare also Theorem 3.14). Fix a natural  $m$ . Let  $f : \{1, \dots, n\}^m \rightarrow \mathbb{C}$  be any function that “vanishes on the diagonals”, i.e.,  $f(i_1, \dots, i_m) = 0$  whenever there are  $k \neq l$  such that  $i_k = i_l$ . Put

$$P := \sum_{i_1, \dots, i_m=1}^n f(i_1, \dots, i_m) S_{i_1} \cdots S_{i_m} \in \mathbb{C}\langle S_1, \dots, S_n \rangle.$$

Calculate

$$\sum_{i=1}^n \partial_i^* \partial_i P.$$