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Calabi–Yau structures on Drinfeld quotients and Amiot's conjecture

Structures Calabi–Yau sur les quotients de Drinfeld et la conjecture d'Amiot

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Abstract. In 2009, Claire Amiot gave a construction of Calabi–Yau structures on Verdier quotients. We sketch how to lift it to the dg setting. We use this construction as an important step in an outline of the proof of her conjecture on the structure of 2-Calabi–Yau triangulated categories with a cluster-tilting object.

Résumé. En 2009, Claire Amiot a donné une construction de structures de Calabi–Yau sur les quotients de Verdier. Nous esquissons comment la relever au cadre dg. Nous utilisons cette construction comme une étape importante dans l'ébauche de la preuve de la conjecture d'Amiot sur la structure des catégories triangulées 2-Calabi–Yau avec un objet de amas-basculant.

Keywords. Calabi-Yau structure, Verdier quotient, Drinfeld quotient, Amiot's conjecture.

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In 2009, Amiot [1] constructed Calabi–Yau structures on certain Verdier quotients. Our first aim is to lift her construction to the level of dg (=differential graded) enhancements. Our second aim is to sketch how this construction allows one to prove Amiot's conjecture [2] on the structure of 2-Calabi–Yau triangulated categories with a cluster-tilting object.

1. Calabi-Yau structures on Drinfeld quotients

Let k be a field and \mathcal{N} a k-linear Hom-finite triangulated category. Let d be an integer and suppose that \mathcal{N} is d-Calabi–Yau, i.e. endowed with bifunctorial isomorphisms

$$\operatorname{Hom}(N_1, N_2) \xrightarrow{\sim} D\operatorname{Hom}(N_2, \Sigma^d N_1)$$
,

where N_1 , N_2 lie in \mathcal{N} and D denotes the dual over k. For example, let X be a smooth projective variety of dimension d over an algebraically closed ground field and \mathcal{N} the bounded derived category of coherent sheaves on X. Then, by one possible definition, the variety X is d-Calabi–Yau if and only if its canonical sheaf ω_X is trivialisable and that happens if and only if \mathcal{N} is d-Calabi–Yau as a triangulated category. As a second example, suppose that A is a

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finite-dimensional basic algebra and $\mathcal N$ the bounded homotopy category of finitely generated projective A-modules. Then $\mathcal N$ is 0-Calabi–Yau if and only if A is symmetric, i.e. isomorphic to its dual DA as a bimodule. The examples we are most interested in are associated with quivers with potential (Q,W) which are Jacobi-finite, i.e. the associated (complete) Jacobian algebra is finite-dimensional, cf. [7] for the terminology. Let Γ be the Ginzburg dg algebra [10], cf. also [17], associated with such a quiver with potential. Let $\mathcal D(\Gamma)$ be its unbounded derived category, per Γ its perfect derived category (the full subcategory of compact objects in $\mathcal D(\Gamma)$) and pvd Γ its perfectly valued derived category, i.e. the full subcategory of objects M of $\mathcal D(\Gamma)$ such that the underlying complex $M|_k$ is perfect over k. By Amiot's definition [1] of the cluster category $\mathscr C_{Q,W}$, we have an exact sequence

$$0 \longrightarrow \text{pvd}\Gamma \longrightarrow \text{per}\Gamma \longrightarrow \mathscr{C}_{O,W} \longrightarrow 0$$

of triangulated categories. Here the perfectly valued derived category is 3-Calabi–Yau, the perfect derived category is not Calabi–Yau and the cluster category is 2-Calabi–Yau, cf. [1] and the references given there.

The last example can be generalised as follows: suppose that the category \mathcal{N} is contained as a thick subcategory in a k-linear triangulated category \mathcal{T} . As shown by Amiot [1], in the exact sequence

$$0 \longrightarrow \mathcal{N} \longrightarrow \mathcal{T} \longrightarrow \mathcal{T}/\mathcal{N} \longrightarrow 0.$$

the Verdier quotient \mathcal{T}/\mathcal{N} is often (d-1)-Calabi–Yau. Let us recall the construction of the Calabi–Yau structure in a slightly more general setting: let us assume that we are given a *bilinear form of degree* -d *on* \mathcal{N} , i.e. a family of bilinear maps

$$\mathcal{N}(N_1, N_2) \times \mathcal{N}(N_2, \Sigma^d N_1) \longrightarrow k$$

such that the associated maps

$$\mathcal{N}(N_1, N_2) \longrightarrow D\mathcal{N}(N_2, \Sigma^d N_1)$$
 (1)

define a morphism of bifunctors on \mathcal{N} . Such a bilinear form is determined by the *pretrace forms*

$$t_N \colon \mathcal{N}(N, \Sigma^d N) \longrightarrow k$$

obtained as the images of the identities 1_N under the maps (1). One defines a *d-Calabi–Yau* structure on $\mathcal N$ to be a bilinear form of degree -d on $\mathcal N$ such that the map (1) is invertible and which satisfies a graded symmetry property, cf. [6, Proposition A.5.2].

Theorem 1 (Amiot [1]). The category \mathcal{T}/\mathcal{N} admits a unique bilinear form of degree 1-d whose pretrace form $t_X^{\mathcal{T}/\mathcal{N}}$ for an object X is given by

$$t_X^{\mathcal{T}/\mathcal{N}}("f\circ s^{-1}")=t_N^{\mathcal{N}}((\Sigma^{d-1}b)\circ f\circ a)\,,$$

where " $f \circ s^{-1}$ " is a fraction given by morphisms f and s (with cone ΣN in \mathcal{N}) as in the following diagram

Moreover, if the bilinear form on $\mathcal N$ is a d-Calabi–Yau structure and $\mathcal N \subseteq \mathcal T$ satisfies suitable non-degeneracy conditions, then the bilinear form on $\mathcal T/\mathcal N$ thus constructed is a (d-1)-Calabi–Yau structure.

For example, if A is a finite-dimensional symmetric algebra, we have the short exact sequence

$$0 \longrightarrow \mathcal{H}^b(\operatorname{prj} A) \longrightarrow \mathcal{D}^b(\operatorname{mod} A) \longrightarrow \operatorname{sg} A \longrightarrow 0$$

of triangulated categories and we find that the stable category $\underline{\text{mod}} A \stackrel{\sim}{\to} \text{sg } A$ is (-1)-Calabi–Yau, which corresponds to the well-known fact that the Auslander–Reiten translation is given by the square $\Omega^2 = \Sigma^{-2}$ of the syzygy functor.

Our aim is to lift this construction to the level of dg categories. Let \mathscr{A} be a (small) dg category and $\mathscr{D}(\mathscr{A})$ its derived category. Its objects are the dg functors $M: \mathscr{A}^{op} \to \mathscr{C}_{dg}(\operatorname{Mod} k)$ from \mathscr{A}^{op} to the dg category of complexes over k. Suppose that \mathscr{A} is *pretriangulated*, i.e. the Yoneda functor

$$H^0(\mathcal{A}) \longrightarrow \mathcal{D}(\mathcal{A}), X \longmapsto \mathcal{A}(?,X)$$

is an equivalence onto a full triangulated subcategory. Let $\mathcal{B} \subseteq \mathcal{A}$ be a pretriangulated full dg subcategory. By definition [8], the *Drinfeld quotient* $\mathcal{A}|_{Dr}\mathcal{B} = \mathcal{A}|\mathcal{B}$ is obtained from \mathcal{A} by formally adjoining a contracting homotopy

$$h_N: N \longrightarrow N$$
, $|h_N| = -1$, $d(h_N) = 1_N$

for each object N in \mathcal{B} . Thus, by definition, the canonical functor $\mathcal{A} \to \mathcal{A}/\mathcal{B}$ is *strictly universal* among the dg functors $F \colon \mathcal{A} \to \mathcal{F}$ to a dg category where all the objects FN, N in \mathcal{B} , are endowed with a contracting homotopy. As shown in [8], we have an induced short exact sequence

$$0 \longrightarrow H^0(\mathcal{B}) \longrightarrow H^0(\mathcal{A}) \longrightarrow H^0(\mathcal{A}/\mathcal{B}) \longrightarrow 0$$

of triangulated categories, cf. also [14]. It follows that the sequence

$$0 \longrightarrow \mathscr{B} \longrightarrow \mathscr{A} \longrightarrow \mathscr{A}/\mathscr{B} \longrightarrow 0$$

of dg categories is *homotopy exact*, i.e. the sequence

$$0 \longrightarrow \mathcal{D}(\mathscr{B}) \longrightarrow \mathcal{D}(\mathscr{A}) \longrightarrow \mathcal{D}(\mathscr{A}/\mathscr{B}) \longrightarrow 0$$

of triangulated categories is exact. Therefore, by the main result of [13], we have long exact sequences

$$\cdots \longrightarrow HC_*(\mathscr{B}) \longrightarrow HC_*(\mathscr{A}) \longrightarrow HC_*(\mathscr{A}/\mathscr{B}) \longrightarrow HC_{*-1}(\mathscr{B}) \longrightarrow \cdots$$

in Hochschild and cyclic homology. Now suppose that \mathcal{B} is an H^* -finite dg category, i.e. the spaces $H^p(\mathcal{B})(X,Y)$ are finite-dimensional for all X, Y in \mathcal{B} and all integers p. Let d be an integer. Following Kontsevich, a (right) d-Calabi–Yau structure on \mathcal{B} is a class c in $DHC_{-d}(\mathcal{B})$ which is *non-degenerate*, i.e. its image under the composition

$$DHC_{-d}(\mathscr{B}) \longrightarrow DHH_{-d}(\mathscr{B}) \stackrel{\sim}{\longrightarrow} \operatorname{Hom}_{\mathscr{D}(\mathscr{B}^e)}(\mathscr{B}, \Sigma^{-d}D\mathscr{B})$$

of canonical maps is invertible. Here, by abuse of notation, we denote by \mathscr{B} the \mathscr{B} -bimodule $(X,Y) \mapsto \mathscr{B}(X,Y)$ and by $D\mathscr{B}$ the \mathscr{B} -bimodule $(X,Y) \mapsto D\mathscr{B}(Y,X)$. If \mathscr{B} is pretriangulated and carries a d-Calabi–Yau structure, then $H^0(\mathscr{B})$ becomes d-Calabi–Yau as a triangulated category since we have

$$H^0(\mathscr{B})(X,Y) \stackrel{\sim}{\longrightarrow} H^0(\Sigma^{-d}D\mathscr{B}(Y,X)) \stackrel{\sim}{\longrightarrow} DH^0(\mathscr{B})(Y,\Sigma^dX)$$
.

More generally, we obtain a canonical map

$$DHC_{-d}(\mathscr{B}) \longrightarrow \{\text{bilinear forms of degree } -d \text{ on } H^0(\mathscr{B})\},$$

which induces a map

$$DHC^{nd}_{-d}(\mathscr{B}) \longrightarrow \{d\text{-Calabi-Yau structures on } H^0(\mathscr{B})\},$$

where $DHC_{-d}^{nd}(\mathscr{B})$ denotes the space of non-degenerate classes in $DHC_{-d}(\mathscr{B})$.

Now let $\mathscr{B} \subseteq \mathscr{A}$ be a pretriangulated full dg subcategory of a pretriangulated dg category \mathscr{A} . Thus, we have a long exact sequence

$$\cdots \longrightarrow HC_{1-d}(\mathscr{B}) \longrightarrow HC_{1-d}(\mathscr{A}) \longrightarrow HC_{1-d}(\mathscr{A}/\mathscr{B}) \stackrel{\delta}{\longrightarrow} HC_{-d}(\mathscr{B}) \longrightarrow \cdots.$$

Theorem 2 (Keller-Liu [15]). The square

where the bottom horizontal map is given by Amiot's construction, is commutative.

Let us sketch the proof: let $HH(\mathcal{A})$ be the Hochschild complex of \mathcal{A} . It is the sum total complex of the bicomplex

$$\coprod_{A_0} \mathscr{A}(A_0, A_0) \longleftarrow \coprod_{A_0, A_1} \mathscr{A}(A_0, A_1) \otimes \mathscr{A}(A_1, A_0) \longleftarrow \cdots,$$

where, for example, the leftmost differential sends $f_0 \otimes f_1$ to

$$(-1)^{|f_0|} f_0 \circ f_1 - (-1)^{|f_0|(|f_1|+1)} f_1 \circ f_0$$
.

Then the sequence

$$0 \longrightarrow \mathscr{B} \longrightarrow \mathscr{A} \longrightarrow \mathscr{A}/\mathscr{B} \longrightarrow 0$$

of dg categories with the given null-homotopy for the composition $\mathscr{B} \to \mathscr{A}/\mathscr{B}$ yields a *homotopy* short exact sequence of complexes (defined below)

$$HH(\mathcal{B}) \xrightarrow{i} HH(\mathcal{A}) \xrightarrow{p} HH(\mathcal{A}/\mathcal{B}), \tag{2}$$

where the map h sends f_0 to $h_{B_0}f_0$ (B_0 is the source and the target of f_0). The homotopy snake lemma (stated below) applied to the sequence (2) then allows us to make the connecting morphism

$$\delta \colon HH_{1-d}(\mathscr{A}/\mathscr{B}) \longrightarrow HH_{-d}(\mathscr{B})$$

explicit and to check the commutativity claimed in the theorem.

We define a homotopy short exact sequence of complexes to be a diagram of complexes of abelian groups

$$B \xrightarrow{i} A \xrightarrow{p} C$$

such that i and p are morphisms of complexes and h is a homogeneous morphism of degree -1 such that we have $d(h) = p \circ i$ and that the graded object $\Sigma^{-1}C \oplus A \oplus \Sigma B$ endowed with the differential

$$\begin{bmatrix} -d & i & -h \\ 0 & d & -p \\ 0 & 0 & -d \end{bmatrix}$$

is acyclic. Such a diagram yields a triangle

$$B \longrightarrow A \longrightarrow C \longrightarrow \Sigma B$$

in the derived category of abelian groups and we can compute the connecting morphism

$$\delta \colon H^q(C) \longrightarrow H^{q+1}(B)$$

thanks to the following homotopy snake lemma, where $a \in A^q$, $b \in B^{q+1}$, $c \in C^q$.

Lemma 3. We have $\delta(\bar{c}) = -\bar{b}$ if and only if there is an element a in A such that we have d(a) + i(b) = 0 and $\overline{p(a) + h(b)} = \overline{c}$.

As mentioned above, we apply this lemma to the sequence (2) to prove the commutativity stated in the Theorem 2.

2. Amiot's conjecture

Suppose that k is a field of characteristic 0. Let $\mathscr C$ be a k-linear triangulated category which is Hom-finite and Karoubian. Assume that $\mathscr C$ is 2-Calabi–Yau. Recall that an object T of $\mathscr C$ is *cluster-tilting* if

- (a) we have $\mathscr{C}(T, \Sigma T) = 0$ and
- (b) for each object X of \mathscr{C} , there is a triangle

$$T_1 \longrightarrow T_0 \longrightarrow X \longrightarrow \Sigma T_1$$

with T_i in add T.

Amiot showed in [1] that if (Q, W) is a Jacobi-finite quiver with potential, then the cluster category $\mathcal{C}_{Q,W}$ is k-linear, (Hom-finite,) Karoubian, 2-Calabi-Yau and admits a canonical cluster-tilting object. In [2, Question 2.20], she asked whether, under suitable additional hypotheses, all examples are obtained in this way. The question is discussed for example in [12]. The fact that the answer should be positive is now known as "Amiot's conjecture", cf. for example [11, Conjecture 1.1]. Classes of examples can be found in [3,4,9].

2.1. The quiver case

Theorem 4 (Keller–Liu [15]). Assume that k is algebraically closed and

- (a) there is a Frobenius exact category ℰ enriched over the category of pseudo-compact vector spaces with the full subcategory ℱ of projective-injective objects and the stable category ℰ such that
- (b) the dg category $\mathcal{C}_{dg} = \mathcal{D}_{dg}^b(\mathcal{E})/\mathcal{D}_{dg}^b(\mathcal{P})$ carries a right 2-Calabi–Yau structure inducing the given 2-Calabi–Yau structure on \mathcal{C} and
- (c) \mathscr{C} contains a basic cluster-tilting object T.

Then there exists a quiver with potential (Q, W) and a triangle equivalence $\mathscr{C}_{Q,W} \xrightarrow{\sim} \mathscr{C}$ taking the canonical cluster-tilting object of $\mathscr{C}_{Q,W}$ to T. Consequently, the endomorphism algebra of T is isomorphic to a Jacobian algebra.

This theorem is a consequence of the more general Theorem 5 stated below, which also holds for ground fields *k* which are not algebraically closed.

2.2. The species case

Suppose that l is a finite-dimensional semisimple k-algebra and V_c a pseudo-compact graded l-bimodule concentrated in degrees [-1,0] of finite total dimension. We denote by T_lV_c the completed tensor graded algebra of V_c over l and by $[T_lV_c, T_lV_c]$ the closure of the vector subspace generated by the commutators. Let η be a non-degenerate and anti-symmetric element in $V_c \otimes_{l^e} V_c$ of degree -1 and w an element in $T_lV_c/[T_lV_c, T_lV_c]$ of degree 0. Following Van den Bergh [5], we define the deformed dg preprojective algebra $\Pi(l, V_c, \eta, w)$ associated with the data (l, V_c, η, w) as the l-augmented pseudo-compact dg algebra $T_l(V_c \oplus zl)$, where z is an l-central element of degree -2 and the differential is determined by

$$d(z) = \sigma' \eta \sigma''$$
 and $d(f) = \{w, f\}_{\omega_n}$ for all $f \in T_l V_c$.

Here the symbol $\sigma = \sigma' \otimes \sigma''$ denotes the Casimir element in $l \otimes_k l$ associated with a fixed trace form on l and $\{?, -\}_{\omega_{\eta}}$ is the necklace bracket associated with the bisymplectic form ω_{η} defined by η , cf. [5, Section 10.1].

Let us make the assumptions (a), (b) and (c) of the preceding theorem but not assume that k is algebraically closed or that T is basic. Let l be the largest semisimple quotient of $\operatorname{End}(T)$. Since k is of characteristic 0, the semisimple k-algebra l is separable. Therefore, by the Wedderburn–Mal'cev theorem, we can choose an augmentation for $\operatorname{End}(T)$ over l.

Theorem 5 (Keller–Liu [15]). There exists a deformed dg preprojective algebra $\Pi = \Pi(l, V_c, \eta, w)$ and a triangle equivalence $\mathscr{C}_\Pi \overset{\sim}{\to} \mathscr{C}$ taking the canonical cluster-tilting object of \mathscr{C}_Π to T. Consequently, the endomorphism algebra of T is isomorphic to $H^0(\Pi)$.

We can deduce Theorem 4 from Theorem 5: indeed, when the ground field k is algebraically closed and T is basic, the algebra l is isomorphic to a finite product of copies of the ground field and l-bimodules can be described using vector spaces with bases given by arrows. The "deformation" contained in the term "deformed dg preprojective algebra" is then encoded in the potential.

Let us sketch the proof of Theorem 5: we define Γ to be the endomorphism algebra of the image of T in the dg quotient $\mathscr{C}^b_{dg}(\mathscr{M})/\mathscr{C}^b_{dg}(\mathscr{P})$, where $\mathscr{M}\subseteq\mathscr{E}$ denotes the closure under finite direct sums and direct summands of T and the projective-injective objects in \mathscr{E} . It is an l-augmented pseudo-compact dg algebra. One can show that \mathscr{C}_{dg} fits into a short exact sequence

$$0 \longrightarrow \mathrm{pvd}_{dg}\Gamma \longrightarrow \mathrm{per}_{dg}\Gamma \longrightarrow \mathscr{C}_{dg} \longrightarrow 0$$

of dg categories. Therefore, it suffices to show that Γ is quasi-isomorphic to a deformed dg preprojective dg algebra Π . To prove this using the main result of [5], it suffices to construct a non-degenerate class in negative cyclic homology $HN_3(\Gamma)$. Since $\operatorname{pvd}_{dg}\Gamma$ is quasi-equivalent to $\operatorname{per}_{dg}\Gamma^!$, where $\Gamma^!$ is the Koszul dual of Γ , the above exact sequence of dg categories yields [13] a long exact sequence in cyclic homology with invertible connecting morphism

$$\delta \colon HC_{-2}(\mathscr{C}_{dg}) \longrightarrow HC_{-3}(\Gamma^!)$$
.

Moreover, by [5, Corollary D.2], we have a canonical k-linear bijection

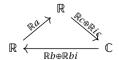
$$HN_3(\Gamma) \xrightarrow{\sim} DHC_{-3}(\Gamma^!)$$
.

Thus, we get a composed bijection

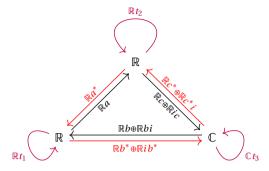
$$HN_3(\Gamma) \xrightarrow{\sim} DHC_{-3}(\Gamma^!) \xrightarrow{D\delta} DHC_{-2}(\mathcal{C}_{dg}).$$

We let α be the given non-degenerate class in $DHC_{-2}(\mathscr{C}_{dg})$ and γ its preimage in $HN_3(\Gamma)$. The subtle point is to prove that γ is non-degenerate. The key to proving this is Theorem 2. More precisely, we proceed as follows: it is not hard to see that the non-degeneracy of γ follows if its image β in $DHC_{-3}(\Gamma^!)$ is non-degenerate. For this, we show that $D\delta$ detects non-degeneracy. To prove this point, we use Theorem 2 to reduce the claim to a statement about graded symmetric bilinear forms on the categories $\mathscr{C} = H^0(\mathscr{C}_{dg})$ and $\operatorname{pvd}\Gamma = H^0(\operatorname{pvd}_{dg}\Gamma)$. We prove this statement by showing that the construction in the proof of [16, Proposition 4(c)] is "locally inverse" to Amiot's construction.

Example 6. This example serves to illustrate the construction of $\Pi(l, V_c, \eta, w)$ in the case where k is not algebraically closed. Starting from the \mathbb{R} -species



with the potential W = abc we obtain the graded double \mathbb{R} -species



with the elements a^* , b^* , c^* of degree -1 and t_1 , t_2 , t_3 of degree -2. It gives rise to the l-augmented pseudo-compact dg \mathbb{R} -algebra $\Pi = T_l(V_c \oplus \mathbb{R} t_1 \oplus \mathbb{R} t_2 \oplus \mathbb{C} t_3)$, where l is the semisimple \mathbb{R} -algebra $\mathbb{R} \times \mathbb{R} \times \mathbb{C}$ and V_c is the l-bimodule with the \mathbb{R} -basis

$$a, b, bi, c, ic, a^*, b^*, ib^*, c^*, c^*i$$

In the notations above, we have $z = t_1 + t_2 + t_3$ and σ is the Casimir element associated with the trace form $\text{Tr}(\lambda_1, \lambda_2, \lambda_3) = \lambda_1 + \lambda_2 + \text{Re}(\lambda_3)$.

For a suitable choice of non-degenerate and graded anti-symmetric element η in $V_c \otimes_{l^e} V_c$, we obtain the differential determined by

$$d(t_1) = bb^* + bib^* - a^*a$$
, $d(t_2) = aa^* - c^*c - c^*ic$, $d(t_3) = (1+i)(cc^* - b^*b) + (1-i)(cc^* - b^*b)i$
and

$$d(a^*) = -bc$$
, $d(b^*) = -ca$, $d(c^*) = -ab$.

Then the endomorphism algebra of the cluster-tilting object $P_1 \oplus P_3 \oplus \tau^{-2} P_1$ in the cluster category associated with the \mathbb{R} -species

$$\mathbb{R} \xrightarrow{\mathbb{R}} \mathbb{R} \xrightarrow{\mathbb{C}} \mathbb{C}$$

is isomorphic to $H^0(\Pi)$.

Remark 7. All constructions and results generalise from dimension 3 to higher dimension.

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