

# A REPRESENTATION THEORETIC STUDY OF NON-COMMUTATIVE SYMMETRIC ALGEBRAS

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*Abstract* We study Van den Bergh’s non-commutative symmetric algebra  $\mathbb{S}^{nc}(M)$  (over division rings) via Minamoto’s theory of Fano algebras. In particular, we show that  $\mathbb{S}^{nc}(M)$  is coherent, and its proj category  $\mathbb{P}^{nc}(M)$  is derived equivalent to the corresponding bimodule species. This generalizes the main theorem of [8], which in turn is a generalization of Beilinson’s derived equivalence. As corollaries, we show that  $\mathbb{P}^{nc}(M)$  is hereditary and there is a structure theorem for sheaves on  $\mathbb{P}^{nc}(M)$  analogous to that for  $\mathbb{P}^1$ .

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## 1. Introduction

The symmetric algebra  $\mathbb{S}(V)$  on a finite-dimensional vector space  $V$  is a fundamental object in algebra that can be used to study the projective space  $\mathbb{P}(V)$ . Replacing the vector space  $V$  with a fairly general finite bimodule over a pair of division rings (see §2 for precise conditions), one can form the non-commutative symmetric algebra  $\mathbb{S}^{nc}(M)$  as defined by Van den Bergh [16]. In the case when  $M$  is two-dimensional on the left and right, we studied the non-commutative symmetric algebra via classical techniques in non-commutative algebraic geometry in [4]. In this case, its associated proj category  $\mathbb{P}^{nc}(M)$ , defined as the quotient of the category of graded right Noetherian  $\mathbb{S}^{nc}(M)$ -modules modulo the subcategory of Noetherian right-bounded modules, behaves much like the category of coherent sheaves over  $\mathbb{P}^1$ . Indeed,  $\mathbb{S}^{nc}(M)$  is Noetherian and coherent sheaves on  $\mathbb{P}^{nc}(M)$  are direct sums of their torsion part and line bundles.

In this note, we study the non-commutative symmetric algebra for higher-dimensional  $M$ , extending the results of [10]. The resulting algebra diverges sharply from the classical symmetric algebra and is in fact non-Noetherian. For example, when  $M$  is an  $n$ -dimensional vector space over a field  $k$ , then  $\mathbb{S}^{nc}(M)$  is the  $\mathbb{Z}$ -indexed incarnation of the graded algebra  $k\langle x_1, \dots, x_n \rangle / (\sum x_i^2)$  and its proj category behaves more like a

projective line, which Piontkovski dubs the  $n$ th projective line  $\mathbb{P}_n^1$ . Furthermore, it has been observed by Minamoto [8], Piontkovski [13] and Van den Bergh that  $\mathbb{P}_n^1$  is derived equivalent to the finite-dimensional algebra  $\begin{pmatrix} k & M \\ 0 & k \end{pmatrix}$ , a result generalizing Beilinson’s classic derived equivalence for  $\mathbb{P}^1$ . These results suggest that a more fruitful way to study non-commutative symmetric algebras is to first prove a version of Beilinson’s derived equivalence in this context, and then extract desirable properties of  $\mathbb{S}^{nc}(M)$  as byproducts of the representation theory of (not necessarily finite-dimensional) bimodule species. The purpose of this note is to pursue this line of thought and hence show that  $\mathbb{S}^{nc}(M)$  is coherent,  $\mathbb{P}^{nc}(M)$  is hereditary and there is a Grothendieck splitting theorem. This recovers many of the results of [4], in a more general context, by much simpler means. Thus, although the new representation-theoretic results here are quite modest, the implications for the non-commutative symmetric algebra are rather significant.

Finally, we remark that Van den Bergh’s original motivation for introducing the non-commutative symmetric algebra was to study non-commutative ruled surfaces such as the 2-generator three-dimensional Sklyanin algebras, where the most interesting cases occur when the corresponding bimodule species is not finite dimensional. We hope this paper will illuminate the study of non-commutative ruled surfaces.

## 2. Non-commutative symmetric algebras

Let  $k$  be a field, assumed to be central throughout, and let  $D_0$  and  $D_1$  be division rings over  $k$ . In this section, following [16], we define the non-commutative symmetric algebra of certain  $D_0 - D_1$ -bimodules.

### 2.1. Bimodules

Let  $M$  be a  $D_0 - D_1$ -bimodule. The *right dual* of  $M$ , denoted  $M^*$ , is the  $D_1 - D_0$ -bimodule  $\text{Hom}_{D_1}(M_{D_1}, D_1)$ , while the *left dual* of  $M$ , denoted  ${}^*M$ , is the  $D_1 - D_0$ -bimodule  $\text{Hom}_{D_0}(D_0 M, D_0)$

We need to iterate these duals and so introduce the following notation.

$$M^{i*} := \begin{cases} M & \text{if } i = 0, \\ (M^{i-1*})^* & \text{if } i > 0, \\ {}^*(M^{i+1*}) & \text{if } i < 0. \end{cases}$$

As in [6], we need to impose a condition on the bimodule to ensure it is well behaved (see §3 for why this is so).

**Definition 2.1.1.** We say that  $M$  has *symmetric duals* if  $M, M^*$  are finite dimensional on the left and right, and there is a bimodule isomorphism  $M \cong M^{**}$ .

In this case, all the  $M^{i*}$  are finite dimensional on both sides and  ${}^*M \simeq M^*$ , hence the terminology. If  $M$  has finite left dimension  $m$  and finite right dimension  $n$ , we say  $M$  has *left-right dimension*  $(m, n)$ . The next proposition gives some instances of when bimodules have symmetric duals.

**Proposition 2.1.** *Suppose  $M$  has left-right dimension  $(m, n)$ . Then  $M$  has symmetric duals if:*

- (1)  $D_0$  and  $D_1$  are finite dimensional over  $k$  and  $\text{char } k$  does not divide either  $[D_0 : k]$  or  $[D_1 : k]$ ;
- (2)  $D_1$  is a commutative subring of  $D_0$  such that  $[D_0 : D_1] = m < \infty$ ,  $\text{char } k$  does not divide  $m$ , and  $M = {}_{D_0}D_0D_1$ ; or
- (3)  $D_0$  and  $D_1$  are commutative,  $M$  is simple of left and right dimension  $(m, n)$ , and the characteristic of  $k$  does not divide  $m$  or  $n$ .

**Proof.** To prove the first result (which appeared in [5]), one shows that there are  $D_1 - D_0$ -bimodule isomorphisms

$$\text{Hom}_{D_1}(M_{D_1}, D_1) \rightarrow \text{Hom}_k(M, k)$$

and

$$\text{Hom}_{D_0}({}_{D_0}M, D_0) \rightarrow \text{Hom}_k(M, k).$$

The first one takes  $\psi : M_{D_1} \rightarrow D_1$  to  $\text{tr}_{D_1/k} \circ \psi$ , and the second is similar.

The proofs of the second and third results follow the proof of [4, Lemma 3.2]. □

### 2.2. The definition of $\mathbb{S}^{nc}(M)$

For  $i \in \mathbb{Z}$ , we let  $D_i = D_{\bar{i}}$  where  $\bar{i}$  is the residue class of  $i$  modulo 2. In what follows, all unadorned tensor products will be over  $D_i$ , the context determining uniquely which  $i$  is required.

We fix a  $D_0 - D_1$ -bimodule  $M$  with symmetric duals and left-right dimension  $(m, n)$  satisfying  $mn \geq 4$ . For each  $i$ , the following pairs of functors have canonical adjoint structures:

$$(- \otimes_{D_i} M^{i*}, - \otimes_{D_{i+1}} M^{i+1*}). \tag{2.1}$$

In particular, adjunction gives a natural map  $\eta_i : D_i \rightarrow M^{i*} \otimes_{D_{i+1}} M^{i+1*}$  whose image we denote by  $Q_i$ . If  $\{\phi_1, \dots, \phi_n\}$  is a right basis for  $M^{i*}$  and  $\{\phi_1^*, \dots, \phi_n^*\}$  is a corresponding dual left basis for  $M^{i+1*}$ , then  $\eta_i(1) = \sum_i \phi_i \otimes \phi_i^*$ . In particular, the latter element is  $D_i$ -central. We will employ this fact without comment in the sequel.

We briefly recall Van den Bergh’s definition of a non-commutative symmetric algebra, in the context we need. For further details, the interested reader should refer to the original paper [16], or look at the gentler treatment in [10, §3]. The *non-commutative symmetric algebra of  $M$* , denoted  $\mathbb{S}^{nc}(M)$ , is the positive  $\mathbb{Z}$ -indexed algebra  $\mathbb{S} = \bigoplus_{i,j \in \mathbb{Z}} \mathbb{S}_{ij}$  defined via generators and relations as follows.

- In degree zero we set  $\mathbb{S}_{ii} = D_i$ .
- $\mathbb{S}$  is generated (over  $\bigoplus \mathbb{S}_{ii}$ ) in degree one by  $\mathbb{S}_{ii+1} = M^{i*}$  (our convention for multiplication is that  $\mathbb{S}_{ij}\mathbb{S}_{jk} \subseteq \mathbb{S}_{ik}$ ).
- The relations are generated in degree two by  $Q_i \subset M^{i*} \otimes_{D_{i+1}} M^{i+1*}$ .

**Remark 2.2.** Since we are assuming  $M \cong M^{**}$ , we have an isomorphism of indexed algebras  $\mathbb{S}^{nc}(M) \cong \mathbb{S}^{nc}(M^{**})$  and, in particular,  $\mathbb{S}^{nc}(M)_{ij} = \mathbb{S}^{nc}(M^{**})_{ij} = \mathbb{S}^{nc}(M)_{i+2,j+2}$ . We say, consequently, that  $\mathbb{S}^{nc}(M)$  is *2-periodic*.

In what follows, we will often write  $\mathbb{S}$  instead of  $\mathbb{S}^{nc}(M)$ , and, where no confusion will arise, we will write  $Q$  instead of  $Q_i$ . Finally, we will let  $\varepsilon_i \in \mathbb{S}_{ii}$  denote the unit.

The above definition for  $\mathbb{S}$  makes perfect sense even when  $mn < 4$ . However, in this case,  $\mathbb{S}$  degenerates and we no longer have Euler exact sequences as per Theorem 4.3 (see [10] for further details).

### 3. Canonical complexes for Artinian rings

In this section, we look at an analogue of the Serre functor for Artinian hereditary rings  $A$  which are not necessarily finite-dimensional algebras. The non-derived versions have been studied briefly in [1] and [6]. The vast majority of the literature, however, assumes finite dimensionality.

When  $A$  is a finite-dimensional hereditary  $k$ -algebra, the  $k$ -linear dual of  $A$  is an  $A$ -bimodule which is injective on the right (and left) and contains all the simple modules.

**Definition 3.0.1.** Suppose  $DA$  is a right injective  $A$ -module such that (i) there is an isomorphism  $\text{End}_A((DA)_A) \cong A$ , and (ii)  $DA$  contains all the simple modules of  $A$ . Then we say the complex of  $A$ -bimodules  $\omega = (DA)[-1]$  is a *canonical complex for  $A$* , and that  $A$  has a *canonical complex*.

Unfortunately, the bimodule structure of  $DA$  depends on the choice of isomorphism  $A \cong \text{End}_A((DA)_A)$ .

For applications to the non-commutative symmetric algebra  $\mathbb{S}^{nc}(M)$  associated with the  $D_0 - D_1$ -bimodule  $M$  with symmetric duals, we need Ringel’s bimodule species  $A_M = \begin{pmatrix} D_0 & M \\ 0 & D_1 \end{pmatrix}$ . The case where  $M$  is an  $n$ -dimensional vector space over a field  $k$  corresponds to the path algebra of the  $n$ -Kronecker quiver. We let  $e_0$  and  $e_1$  denote the diagonal idempotents of  $A$  corresponding to  $D_0, D_1$ . We will usually write right  $A_M$ -modules  $N$  as row vectors  $N = (Ne_0 \ Ne_1)$ . Now, by [2, III Proposition 2.1],  $A_M$  is an Artinian ring, which is not usually a finite-dimensional algebra. Furthermore, the Jacobson radical of  $A_M$  is

$$\text{rad } A_M = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & M \\ 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix} \simeq (0 \ D_1)^{\dim_{D_1} M}.$$

This is projective, so [2, I Corollary 5.2] ensures that  $A_M$  is hereditary.

We introduce the following  $A_M$ -bimodule  $DA_M$ : as a group,  $DA_M = \begin{pmatrix} D_0 & 0 \\ M^* & D_1 \end{pmatrix}$ , with left action defined by

$$\begin{pmatrix} \alpha & m \\ 0 & \beta \end{pmatrix} \cdot \begin{pmatrix} a & 0 \\ \delta & b \end{pmatrix} := \begin{pmatrix} \alpha a + m(\delta) & 0 \\ \beta \delta & \beta b \end{pmatrix}$$

and right action defined by

$$\begin{pmatrix} a & 0 \\ \delta & b \end{pmatrix} \cdot \begin{pmatrix} \alpha & m \\ 0 & \beta \end{pmatrix} := \begin{pmatrix} a\alpha & 0 \\ \delta\alpha & \delta(m) + b\beta \end{pmatrix}$$

where we have used the identification  $M \cong M^{**}$  in our definition of the first action.

**Lemma 3.1.** *The bimodule  $DA_M$  is the injective hull of the semisimple right  $A$ -module  $(D_0 \ 0) \oplus (0 \ D_1)$  and  $\omega = (DA_M)[-1]$  is a canonical complex for  $A_M$ .*

**Proof.** Note that  $DA_M$  is an  $A$ -bimodule so there is an induced morphism  $A_M \rightarrow \text{End}(DA_M)_{A_M}$  which is easily checked to be an isomorphism. It thus suffices to show that the direct summands  $(D_0 \ 0)$  and  $(M^* \ D_1)$  are injective. This is clear in the former case, so we check the latter using Baer’s criterion. Since  $e_0$  and  $e_1$  are the diagonal idempotents of  $A_M$ , it suffices to show that if  $N = (N_0 \ N_1)$  is a submodule of the projective module  $e_i A_M$ , where  $i = 0$  or  $i = 1$ , and if  $\phi: (N_0 \ N_1) \rightarrow (M^* \ D_1)$  is  $A_M$ -linear, then we can lift  $\phi$  to  $\phi': e_i A_M \rightarrow (M^* \ D_1)$ . Now  $e_1 A_M = (0 \ D_1)$  is simple, so when  $i = 1$  we are done, as  $(N_0 \ N_1)$  is either 0 or all of  $e_1 A_M$ . Suppose now that  $N \leq e_0 A_M$ . We are done if  $N = e_0 A_M$ , so we may assume that  $N_0 = 0$ . Thus  $\phi$  is given by a  $D_1$ -linear map  $N_1 \rightarrow D_1$ , which we can lift to a linear map  $\phi' \in M^*$ . This defines the required lift  $(D_0 \ M) \rightarrow (M^* \ D_1)$ . □

Returning to the general setup of a hereditary Artinian ring  $A$ , we immediately have the following.

**Proposition 3.2.** *Any canonical complex  $\omega$  for  $A$  is a tilting complex inducing an auto-equivalence of  $D_{fg}^b(A)$ . In particular, there is a complex  $\omega^{-1}$  of bimodules, such that*

$$-\otimes_A^L \omega^{-1} = \text{RHom}_A(\omega, -)$$

is inverse to  $-\otimes_A^L \omega$ .

We now assume that  $A$  has a canonical complex  $\omega$ .

**Definition 3.0.2.** A finitely generated  $A$ -module  $N$  is said to be *regular* if

$$N \otimes_A^L \omega^n \in \text{mod } A$$

for all  $n \in \mathbb{Z}$ . We let  $\mathbf{R}$  denote the full subcategory of regular  $A$ -modules.

The following result is standard, but is invariably stated with a finite dimensionality hypothesis, so we include the proof in order that the reader may easily check that the hypothesis may be relaxed.

**Lemma 3.3.** *Let  $A$  be an hereditary Artinian algebra with a canonical complex  $\omega = (DA)[-1]$ .*

- (1) *If  $N$  is a finitely generated indecomposable  $A$ -module such that  $N \otimes_A^L \omega^{-1}$  is not a module, then  $N$  is a direct summand of  $DA$ , in which case  $N \otimes_A^L \omega^{-1} \cong P[1]$  for some projective module  $P$ .*
- (2) *Any finitely generated indecomposable  $A$ -module which is not regular has the form  $I \otimes_A^L \omega^n$  for some injective module  $I$  and  $n \in \mathbb{N}$  or the form  $P \otimes_A^L \omega^{-n}$  for some projective module  $P$  and  $n \in \mathbb{N}$ .*
- (3)  *$\text{Hom}_{D_{fg}^b(A)}(\mathbf{R}, \omega^n) = 0$  for all  $n \in \mathbb{Z}$ .*

**Proof.** We assume the hypotheses in part (1) and recall that, since  $A$  is hereditary, every indecomposable in  $D_{fg}^b(A)$  has the form  $L[j]$  for some indecomposable  $A$ -module  $L$  and  $j \in \mathbb{Z}$ . Now  $\omega$  lives in cohomological degree 1 and  $N \otimes_A^L \omega^{-1}$  is indecomposable too, so the only possibility is that  $N \otimes_A^L \omega^{-1} \cong P[1]$  where  $P = \text{Hom}_A(DA, N) \neq 0$ . Picking any non-zero homomorphism  $\phi: DA \rightarrow N$ , we see that injectivity of  $DA$  implies injectivity of  $\text{im } \phi$ . Indecomposability of  $N$  ensures that  $N = \text{im } \phi$ . Now  $DA$  contains all the simple modules, so the indecomposable injective module  $N$  must be a direct summand of  $DA$ . We also see  $P$  is projective since  $A[1] \otimes_A^L \omega \cong DA$ . This completes the proof of (2.1), from which part (2) readily follows.

Suppose now that  $N$  is a regular module, so the same is true of  $N \otimes_A^L \omega^{-n}$ . Part (3) thus follows if we can show that  $\text{Hom}_A(N, A) = 0$ . If not, let  $\phi: N \rightarrow A$  be a non-zero homomorphism. Now  $A$  is hereditary, so  $P := \text{im } \phi$  is a non-zero projective summand of  $N$ . But  $P \otimes_A^L \omega = P \otimes_A^L (DA)[-1]$  has non-zero cohomology in degree 1, contradicting the regularity of  $N$ . □

#### 4. Preprojective and preinjective objects

In this section, we consider the bimodule species  $A = \begin{pmatrix} D_0 & M \\ 0 & D_1 \end{pmatrix}$ , where  $M$  is a  $D_0 - D_1$ -bimodule with symmetric duals and  $\omega$  is the canonical complex  $DA[-1]$  introduced in Lemma 3.1. As usual, we assume the left-right dimension  $(m, n)$  of  $M$  satisfies  $mn \geq 4$ . The main purpose of this section is to describe the indecomposable ‘preprojective’ objects  $(e_0A) \otimes_A^L \omega^{-i}, (e_1A) \otimes_A^L \omega^{-i}$  ( $i \in \mathbb{N}$ ) and indecomposable ‘preinjective’ objects  $(e_0A) \otimes_A^L \omega^i, (e_1A) \otimes_A^L \omega^i$  ( $i \in \mathbb{N}$ ) in terms of the non-commutative symmetric algebra  $\mathbb{S} := \mathbb{S}^{nc}(M)$ . As in the classical theory, these will give analogues of the line bundles on  $\mathbb{P}^1$ . The preprojective objects were also essentially computed in [6], but their definition of preprojective objects was slightly different (ours is potentially a complex), and our calculation is also different, being an elegant direct computation based on the technology of Euler exact sequences in the theory of non-commutative symmetric algebras.

We compute  $- \otimes_A^L \omega^{-1} = \text{RHom}(DA, -)[1]$  using the following bimodule right projective resolution of  $DA$ , which is a mild generalization of that constructed in [3].

$$0 \rightarrow (DA)e_0 \otimes M \otimes e_1A \rightarrow ((DA)e_0 \otimes e_0A) \oplus ((DA)e_1 \otimes e_1A) \rightarrow DA \rightarrow 0 \tag{4.1}$$

where the indicated tensor products are over appropriate  $D_i$ , and the maps are induced by multiplication. This sequence equals

$$0 \rightarrow \begin{pmatrix} D_0 \\ M^* \end{pmatrix} \otimes M \otimes e_1A \rightarrow \left( \begin{pmatrix} D_0 \\ M^* \end{pmatrix} \otimes e_0A \right) \oplus \left( \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ D_1 \end{pmatrix} \otimes e_1A \right) \rightarrow DA \rightarrow 0.$$

Given a right  $A$ -module  $P$ , we wish to apply  $\text{Hom}_A(-, P)$  to the above resolution. The following lemma will assist us in this regard.

**Lemma 4.1.** *Let  $N$  be a finite-dimensional right  $D_i$ -module. Let  $f_1, \dots, f_n$  denote a right basis for  $N$ , and let  $f_1^*, \dots, f_n^*$  denote the dual left basis for  $N^*$ . For any right*

$A$ -module  $P$ , the function

$$\text{Hom}_A(N \otimes e_i A, P) \rightarrow \text{Hom}_A(e_i A, P) \otimes N^* \tag{4.2}$$

defined by

$$\psi \mapsto \sum_j \psi(f_j \otimes -) \otimes f_j^*$$

is a group isomorphism natural in both  $P$  and  $N$ . In particular, if  $N$  is a  $D_{i+1} - D_i$ -bimodule, (4.2) is an isomorphism of right  $D_{i+1}$ -modules.

**Proof.** We describe a map (4.2) and leave it to the reader to check it is the map indicated. We have isomorphisms

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Hom}_A(N \otimes e_i A, P) &\xrightarrow{\cong} \text{Hom}_{D_i}(N, \text{Hom}_A(e_i A, P)) \\ &\xrightarrow{\cong} \text{Hom}_A(e_i A, P) \otimes N^* \end{aligned}$$

by adjointness and the Eilenberg–Watts theorem. □

Consider an  $A - D_i$ -bimodule  $N = \begin{pmatrix} N_0 \\ N_1 \end{pmatrix}$ . So  $N_j$  is a  $D_j - D_i$ -bimodule and there is a multiplication map  $\mu: M \otimes N_1 \rightarrow N_0$ . Taking the right dual of  $\mu$  and using adjunction properties gives a new multiplication map  $N_0^* \otimes M \rightarrow N_1^*$  and hence an  $A$ -module structure on  $\begin{pmatrix} N_0^* \\ N_1^* \end{pmatrix}$ . We of course have

**Lemma 4.2.** *There is an isomorphism of  $D_i - A$ -bimodules  $N^* \cong \begin{pmatrix} N_0^* \\ N_1^* \end{pmatrix}$ .*

To be able to invoke the theory of non-commutative symmetric algebras, we define the right  $A$ -modules

$$P_i = \begin{cases} (\mathbb{S}_{-i0} \ \mathbb{S}_{-i1}) & \text{for } i \geq -1, \\ (\mathbb{S}_{0^*, -i-2}^* \ \mathbb{S}_{1^*, -i-2}^*) & \text{otherwise,} \end{cases}$$

with  $A$ -module multiplication induced by multiplication (or its dual) in the non-commutative symmetric algebra.

It follows from Lemmas 4.1 and 4.2, and from (4.1), that  $\text{RHom}_A(DA, P_i)$  is quasi-isomorphic to the complex

$$P_i e_0 \otimes (D_0 \ M) \oplus P_i e_1 \otimes (0 \ D_1) \xrightarrow{\phi} P_i e_1 \otimes M^* \otimes (D_0 \ M). \tag{4.3}$$

In order to explicitly compute  $\text{RHom}_A(DA, P_i)$  (in Corollary 4.6), we will need the Euler exact sequence, which we recall from [10, Theorem 3.4 and Corollary 3.5].

**Theorem 4.3.** *For  $i \in \mathbb{Z}$ , multiplication in  $\mathbb{S}$  induces an exact sequence of right  $\mathbb{S}$ -modules*

$$0 \rightarrow Q_{i-2} \otimes \varepsilon_i \mathbb{S} \rightarrow \mathbb{S}_{i-2, i-1} \otimes \varepsilon_{i-1} \mathbb{S} \rightarrow \varepsilon_{i-2} \mathbb{S} \rightarrow \varepsilon_{i-2} \mathbb{S} / \varepsilon_{i-2} \mathbb{S}_{\geq i-1} \rightarrow 0.$$

Furthermore, for all  $i \leq j$ , the canonical complex

$$0 \rightarrow \mathbb{S}_{ij} \otimes Q_j \rightarrow \mathbb{S}_{i, j+1} \otimes M^{j+1*} \rightarrow \mathbb{S}_{i, j+2} \rightarrow 0$$

is exact.

**Proposition 4.4.** *If  $i \geq -1$ , then the map  $\phi$  from (4.3) is injective and its cokernel is  $P_{i+2}$ .*

**Proof.** We first check that  $\phi_0 = \phi \otimes_A Ae_0$  is injective with cokernel  $P_{i+2}e_0$ . It suffices to prove that the adjoint of multiplication,  $\mathbb{S}_{-i_0} \rightarrow \mathbb{S}_{-i_1} \otimes M^*$ , is injective and has cokernel  $\mathbb{S}_{-i-2,0}$ . This follows from Theorem 4.3, which gives the exactness of

$$0 \rightarrow \mathbb{S}_{-i_0} \otimes Q \rightarrow \mathbb{S}_{-i_1} \otimes M^* \rightarrow \mathbb{S}_{-i_2} \rightarrow 0.$$

We now examine  $\phi_1 = \phi \otimes_A Ae_1$ . By definition of (4.3), the kernel of multiplication  $\mathbb{S}_{-i_1} \otimes M^* \otimes M \rightarrow \mathbb{S}_{-i_3}$  contains  $\text{im } \phi_1$ .

In addition, by Theorem 4.3, we have short exact sequences

$$0 \rightarrow \mathbb{S}_{-i_0} \otimes Q \otimes M \rightarrow \mathbb{S}_{-i_1} \otimes M^* \otimes M \rightarrow \mathbb{S}_{-i_2} \otimes M \rightarrow 0 \tag{4.4}$$

and

$$0 \rightarrow \mathbb{S}_{-i_1} \otimes Q \rightarrow \mathbb{S}_{-i_2} \otimes M \rightarrow \mathbb{S}_{-i_3} \rightarrow 0. \tag{4.5}$$

The sequence (4.4) gives an isomorphism

$$\mathbb{S}_{-i_1} \otimes M^* \otimes M / \mathbb{S}_{-i_0} \otimes Q \otimes M \cong \mathbb{S}_{-i_2} \otimes M.$$

Since the kernel of multiplication

$$\mathbb{S}_{-i_2} \otimes M \rightarrow \mathbb{S}_{-i_3} \cong \mathbb{S}_{-i-2,1}$$

is  $\mathbb{S}_{-i_1} \otimes Q$  by (4.5),  $\phi_1$  is injective with cokernel  $\mathbb{S}_{-i-2,1} = P_{i+2}e_1$ . Note that we have used the 2-periodicity of  $\mathbb{S}$  above (see Remark 2.2).

Thus, we conclude that the cokernel has the form  $(\mathbb{S}_{-i-2,0} \ \mathbb{S}_{-i-2,1})$ , and it is straightforward to show that the module structure on the cokernel agrees with  $P_{i+2}$ .  $\square$

**Proposition 4.5.** *For  $i \leq -4$ , the map  $\phi$  in (4.3) is injective and its cokernel is  $P_{i+2}$ .*

**Proof.** In this case, our map  $\phi$  is

$$\mathbb{S}_{0,-i-2}^* \otimes (D_0 \ M) \oplus \mathbb{S}_{1,-i-2}^* \otimes (0 \ D_1) \xrightarrow{\phi} \mathbb{S}_{1,-i-2}^* \otimes M^* \otimes (D_0 \ M).$$

We first establish that  $\phi \otimes_A Ae_0$  is injective with cokernel isomorphic to  $P_{i+2}e_0$ . By Theorem 4.3, the sequence induced by multiplication

$$0 \rightarrow Q \otimes \mathbb{S}_{2,-i-2} \rightarrow M \otimes \mathbb{S}_{1,-i-2} \xrightarrow{\pi} \mathbb{S}_{0,-i-2} \rightarrow 0$$

is exact. By naturality of the isomorphism in Lemma 4.1,  $\phi \otimes_A Ae_0 = \pi^*$ , which is injective with cokernel  $\mathbb{S}_{2,-i-2}^* \cong \mathbb{S}_{0,-i-4}^* = P_{i+2}e_0$ .

Now we analyse  $\phi \otimes_A Ae_1$ . Consider the commutative diagram

$$\begin{array}{ccccc}
 M^* \otimes Q \otimes \mathbb{S}_{2,-i-2} & \xrightarrow{\nu_1} & M^* \otimes M \otimes \mathbb{S}_{1,-i-2} & \xrightarrow{\phi_a} & M^* \otimes \mathbb{S}_{0,-i-2} \\
 \psi \downarrow \cong & & & & \downarrow \phi_b \\
 Q \otimes \mathbb{S}_{3,-i-2} & \xrightarrow{\nu_2} & M^* \otimes \mathbb{S}_{2,-i-2} & \longrightarrow & \mathbb{S}_{1,-i-2}
 \end{array} \tag{4.6}$$



whose rows are induced by multiplication and whose verticals are canonical. By Theorem 4.3 again, the rows are short exact sequences (with zeros at the end omitted).

This time,  $\phi \otimes_A Ae_1 = (\phi_a^* \ \phi_b^*)$ . Dualizing the above commutative diagram and using the fact that  $\psi$  is an isomorphism shows that  $\phi \otimes_A Ae_1$  is injective with cokernel isomorphic to  $(Q \otimes \mathbb{S}_{3,-i-2})^* \cong \mathbb{S}_{3,-i-2}^* \cong \mathbb{S}_{1,-i-4}^* = P_{i+2}e_1$ .

To complete the proof, we must show that  $\text{coker } \phi$  is isomorphic to  $P_{i+2}$  as  $A$ -modules. This amounts to showing that the following diagram is commutative

$$\begin{CD} \mathbb{S}_{1,-i-2}^* \otimes M^* \otimes M @>\text{coker}(\phi \otimes_A Ae_0) \otimes M>> \mathbb{S}_{2,-i-2}^* \otimes M \\ @| @VVV \\ \mathbb{S}_{1,-i-2}^* \otimes M^* \otimes M @>\text{coker}(\phi \otimes_A Ae_1)>> \mathbb{S}_{3,-i-2}^* \end{CD}$$

However, in the notation of diagram (4.6), we see that  $\text{coker}(\phi \otimes_A Ae_0) \otimes M = \nu_1^*$  while  $\text{coker}(\phi \otimes_A Ae_1)$  is given by  $\nu_2^*(\psi^*)^{-1}\nu_1^*$ , so we are done. □

We define a sequence  $\mathcal{L}_i$  in the bounded derived category of right  $A$ -modules by

$$\mathcal{L}_i = \begin{cases} P_i & \text{if } i \geq -1, \\ P_i[-1] & \text{if } i < -1. \end{cases}$$

**Corollary 4.6.** *In  $D_{fg}^b(A)$ , we have an isomorphism  $\mathcal{L}_i \otimes_A^L \omega^{-1} \cong \mathcal{L}_{i+2}$  for all  $i \in \mathbb{Z}$ .*

**Proof.** Propositions 4.4 and 4.5 cover all cases except  $i = -2, -3$ , when we have

$$\mathcal{L}_{i+2} \otimes_A^L \omega = e_{-i-2}A \otimes_A^L DA[-1] = e_{-i-2}DA[-1] = P_i[-1] = \mathcal{L}_i. \quad \square$$

### 5. Beilinson equivalence and consequences

In this section, we establish the main results of this paper, a version of Beilinson’s derived equivalence, coherence of the non-commutative symmetric algebra and a version of Grothendieck’s splitting theorem.

We will invoke (a mild generalization of) Polishchuk’s theorem [14, Proposition 2.3, Theorem 2.4] below. Let  $\mathcal{C}$  be an abelian category and  $\{L_i\}_{i \in \mathbb{Z}}$  a sequence of objects in  $\mathcal{C}$  such that  $D_i := \text{End } L_i$  is a right Noetherian ring and  $\text{Hom}_{\mathcal{C}}(L_i, M)$  is a finitely generated  $D_i$ -module for every  $M \in \mathcal{C}$ . We say that  $\{L_i\}$  is *ample* if

- for every surjection  $f: M \rightarrow N$ , the map  $\text{Hom}_{\mathcal{C}}(L_i, f)$  is surjective for  $i \ll 0$ ; and
- for every  $M \in \mathcal{C}, m \in \mathbb{Z}$ , there exists a surjection of the form

$$\bigoplus_{j=1}^s L_{i_j} \longrightarrow M$$

for some  $i_j < m$ .

We also recall (from [14]) that if  $\mathbb{E}$  is a coherent  $\mathbb{Z}$ -indexed algebra, then  $\text{cohproj } \mathbb{E}$  is defined to be the full subcategory of graded right  $\mathbb{E}$ -modules consisting of coherent modules modulo the full subcategory consisting of coherent right-bounded modules.

**Theorem 5.1.** *Let  $\{L_i\}_{i \in \mathbb{Z}}$  be an ample sequence of objects in  $\mathcal{C}$ . Then the  $\mathbb{Z}$ -indexed algebra*

$$\mathbb{E} = \bigoplus_{i,j} \text{Hom}_{\mathcal{C}}(L_{-j}, L_{-i})$$

*is coherent and  $\mathcal{C} \equiv \text{cohproj } \mathbb{E}$ .*

**Remark.** The original statement in [14] has more restrictive hypotheses, namely, Hom-finiteness. However, Polishchuk in [14, Remark 2 to Theorem 2.4] conceded that a generalization like the one above should hold, and indeed one readily verifies that it holds with the same proof.

We need to invoke Minamoto’s theory of Fano algebras [9]. To this end, we consider an Artinian ring  $A$  of finite global dimension and let  $\sigma \in D_{fg}^b(A)$  be a two-sided tilting complex. Minamoto defines the following full subcategories of  $D_{fg}^b(A)$ .

$$D^{\sigma, \geq 0} = \{M \in D_{fg}^b(A) \mid M \otimes_A^L \sigma^n \in D^{\geq 0}(A) \text{ for all } n \gg 0\},$$

$$D^{\sigma, \leq 0} = \{M \in D_{fg}^b(A) \mid M \otimes_A^L \sigma^n \in D^{\leq 0}(A) \text{ for all } n \gg 0\}.$$

**Theorem 5.2.** *Suppose that  $\sigma^n$  is a pure  $A$ -module for all  $n \gg 0$  and that  $H^i(\sigma) = 0$  for  $i > 0$ . If  $A$  is hereditary, then the pair  $(D^{\sigma, \leq 0}, D^{\sigma, \geq 0})$  defines a  $t$ -structure on  $D_{fg}^b(A)$ . Its heart  $\mathcal{H}$  contains the objects  $\{\sigma^n\}$ , and the sequence  $\{\sigma^n\}$  is ample in  $\mathcal{H}$ . Furthermore,  $D^b(\mathcal{H})$  is triangle equivalent to  $D_{fg}^b(A)$  and the global dimension of  $\mathcal{H}$  is at most one.*

**Proof.** This is merely a combination of several of the main results of [9, §3]. The statements there include an additional assumption that  $A$  is a finite-dimensional algebra over some field. However, this hypothesis is only used to ensure that the Hom-finiteness hypotheses in Polishchuk’s theorem above hold. As we have seen, this is superfluous.

In detail, [9, Theorem 3.15] ensures that  $(D^{\sigma, \leq 0}, D^{\sigma, \geq 0})$  defines a  $t$ -structure on  $D_{fg}^b(A)$ . By the definition and purity of  $\sigma^n$ ,  $\sigma^n \in \mathcal{H}$ . Ampleness follows from [9, Lemma 3.5], while the triangle equivalence is [9, Theorem 3.7(1)]. Finally, the bound on the global dimension is given by [9, Corollary 3.13]. □

We now apply the theory above to non-commutative symmetric algebras. Let  $A = \begin{pmatrix} D_0 & M \\ 0 & D_1 \end{pmatrix}$  as in §3, where  $M$  is a bimodule with symmetric duals, whose left-right dimension  $(m, n)$  satisfies  $mn \geq 4$ . We saw that  $A$  is Artinian and hereditary. Let  $\{\mathcal{L}_i \in D_{fg}^b(A)\}$  be the sequence defined in the paragraph preceding Corollary 4.6. Let  $\mathbb{S} = \mathbb{S}^{nc}(M)$ .

**Lemma 5.3.** *Consider the  $\mathbb{Z}$ -indexed algebra*

$$\mathbb{E} := \bigoplus_{i,j} \text{Hom}_{D_{fg}^b(A)}(\mathcal{L}_{-j}, \mathcal{L}_{-i}).$$

*There is a natural isomorphism  $\mathbb{S} \cong \mathbb{E}$ .*

**Proof.** It suffices to show that we have compatible isomorphisms of  $\mathbb{Z}_{\leq l}$ -indexed algebras

$$\mathbb{S}^{\leq l} := \bigoplus_{i,j \leq l} \mathbb{S}_{ij} \cong \bigoplus_{i,j \leq l} \text{Hom}_{D_{fg}^b(A)}(\mathcal{L}_{-j}, \mathcal{L}_{-i}) =: \mathbb{E}^{\leq l}$$

for all  $l$ . Note first that

$$\bigoplus_{i \leq 1} \mathcal{L}_{-i} = \left( \bigoplus_{j \geq -1} \mathbb{S}_{-j0} \quad \bigoplus_{j \geq -1} \mathbb{S}_{-j1} \right)$$

is naturally a  $\mathbb{S}^{\leq 1} - A$ -bimodule, so there is a natural algebra morphism

$$\mathbb{S}^{\leq 1} \longrightarrow \bigoplus_{i,j \leq 1} \text{Hom}_{D_{fg}^b(A)}(\mathcal{L}_{-j}, \mathcal{L}_{-i}),$$

which we claim is an isomorphism. Since this morphism sends  $x \in \mathbb{S}_{ij}$  to left multiplication by  $x$ , in order to prove the claim we must show that every element of  $\text{Hom}_A(P_{-j}, P_{-i})$  is induced by left multiplication by a unique element of  $\mathbb{S}_{ij}$ . We first show that every element  $\phi \in \text{Hom}_A(P_{-j}, P_{-i})$  extends uniquely to an element  $\tilde{\phi} \in \text{Hom}_{\mathbb{S}}((\varepsilon_j \mathbb{S})_{\geq 0}, \varepsilon_i \mathbb{S})$ . To do so, we construct  $\phi_n: \mathbb{S}_{jn} \rightarrow \mathbb{S}_{in}$  inductively, the case  $n = 0, 1$  being the components of  $\phi$ . Consider the commutative diagram below, whose rows are exact by Theorem 4.3.

$$\begin{array}{ccccccc} 0 & \longrightarrow & \mathbb{S}_{jn} \otimes Q_n & \longrightarrow & \mathbb{S}_{j,n+1} \otimes M^{n+1*} & \longrightarrow & \mathbb{S}_{j,n+2} \longrightarrow 0 \\ & & \phi_n \downarrow & & \phi_{n+1} \otimes 1 \downarrow & & \phi_{n+2} \downarrow \\ 0 & \longrightarrow & \mathbb{S}_{in} \otimes Q_n & \longrightarrow & \mathbb{S}_{i,n+1} \otimes M^{n+1*} & \longrightarrow & \mathbb{S}_{i,n+2} \longrightarrow 0 \end{array}$$

Commutativity of the right-hand square defines  $\phi_{n+2}$  given  $\phi_n, \phi_{n+1}$ ; furthermore, by construction, the resulting morphism  $\tilde{\phi}$  is compatible with right multiplication by  $\mathbb{S}$ .

Consider now the induced morphism

$$\Psi: \mathbb{S}_{ij} \simeq \text{Hom}_{\mathbb{S}}(\varepsilon_j \mathbb{S}, \varepsilon_i \mathbb{S}) \rightarrow \text{Hom}_{\mathbb{S}}((\varepsilon_j \mathbb{S})_{\geq 0}, \varepsilon_i \mathbb{S}).$$

We know from [10, Theorem 7.1 and Lemma 6.5] that  $\text{Ext}_{\mathbb{S}}^p(\varepsilon_j \mathbb{S}/(\varepsilon_j \mathbb{S})_{\geq 0}, \varepsilon_i \mathbb{S}) = 0$  for  $p = 0, 1$ . The long exact sequence then shows that  $\Psi$  is an isomorphism and the claim follows.

As noted in Remark 2.2, the  $\mathbb{Z}$ -indexed algebra  $\mathbb{S}$  is 2-periodic, while Corollary 4.6 ensures that  $\mathbb{E}$  is also 2-periodic, so by induction  $\mathbb{S}^{\leq l} \cong \mathbb{E}^{\leq l}$  for all  $l$ . □

**Theorem 5.4.** Consider a  $D_0 - D_1$ -bimodule  $M$  with symmetric duals, whose left-right dimension  $(m, n)$  satisfies  $mn \geq 4$ . Let  $\mathbb{S} = \mathbb{S}^{nc}(M)$  be the corresponding non-commutative symmetric algebra.

- (1) The  $\mathbb{Z}$ -indexed algebra  $\mathbb{S}$  is coherent.
- (2) There is a triangle equivalence  $D_{fg}^b(\text{cohproj } \mathbb{S}) \cong D_{fg}^b(A)$  where the projective  $\varepsilon_i \mathbb{S}$  corresponds to  $\mathcal{L}_i$ .
- (3) The category  $\text{cohproj } \mathbb{S}$  is hereditary.

**Proof.** Note that  $A \cong \mathcal{L}_{-1} \oplus \mathcal{L}_0$ , so Corollary 4.6 shows that  $\omega^{-i} = \mathcal{L}_{2i-1} \oplus \mathcal{L}_{2i}$ . For  $i \geq 0$ , this is always a pure module, so we may apply Theorem 5.2 to obtain an abelian subcategory  $\mathbf{H}$  of  $D_{fg}^b(A)$ , such that (i)  $\{\omega^{-i}\}$  is ample in  $\mathbf{H}$ , (ii)  $D^b(\mathbf{H}) \cong D_{fg}^b(A)$  and (iii)  $\mathbf{H}$  has global dimension  $\leq 1$ . The definition of ampleness immediately implies that  $\{\mathcal{L}_i\}$  is also an ample sequence in  $\mathbf{H}$ , so Polishchuk’s theorem 5.1, together with Lemma 5.3, yields parts (1) and (2). Part (3) now follows immediately from Theorem 5.2.  $\square$

The theory of coherent sheaves on  $\mathbb{P} := \text{cohproj } \mathbb{S}$  can now easily be broached by examining the heart  $\mathbf{H}$  arising in the proof of Theorem 5.4. Note that  $\mathbf{H}$  contains the subcategory  $\mathbf{R}$  of regular modules defined in §3. Our point of view is that the corresponding subcategory  $\mathbf{T}$  of  $\text{cohproj } \mathbb{S}$  comprises the *torsion sheaves* on  $\mathbb{P}$ . Of course, the *torsion-free sheaves* correspond to the additive subcategory  $\mathbf{F}$  generated by  $\varepsilon_i \mathbb{S}$ . The next result generalizes Grothendieck’s splitting theorem and clarifies in what sense  $\mathbf{T}$  is like the subcategory of torsion coherent sheaves on  $\mathbb{P}^1$ .

**Corollary 5.5.** *With the above notation, the following hold.*

- (1) *The indecomposable objects of  $\text{cohproj } \mathbb{S}$  are  $\varepsilon_i \mathbb{S}$  and the indecomposable objects of  $\mathbf{T}$ .*
- (2)  *$(\mathbf{T}, \mathbf{F})$  is a torsion pair in  $\text{cohproj } \mathbb{S}$ , i.e.*

$$\mathbf{T} = {}^\perp \mathbf{F} := \{ \mathcal{N} \in \text{cohproj } \mathbb{S} \mid \text{Hom}_{\mathbb{P}}(\mathcal{N}, \mathbf{F}) = 0 \},$$

$$\mathbf{F} = \mathbf{T}^\perp := \{ \mathcal{N} \in \text{cohproj } \mathbb{S} \mid \text{Hom}_{\mathbb{P}}(\mathbf{T}, \mathcal{N}) = 0 \}.$$

- (3) *(Grothendieck splitting) In particular,  $\mathbf{F}$  is closed under extensions.*
- (4) *Every object in  $\text{cohproj } \mathbb{S}$  is a direct sum of  $\varepsilon_i \mathbb{S}$  and its torsion subsheaf, that is, the maximal subobject in  $\mathbf{T}$ .*
- (5) *Given an indecomposable  $\mathcal{N} \in \text{cohproj } \mathbb{S}$ ,  $\mathcal{N} \in \mathbf{T}$  if and only if the Hilbert function*

$$h_{\mathcal{N}}: i \mapsto \dim_{D_i} \text{Hom}_{\mathbb{P}}(\varepsilon_{-i} \mathbb{S}, \mathcal{N}) - \dim_{D_i} \text{Ext}_{\mathbb{P}}^1(\varepsilon_{-i} \mathbb{S}, \mathcal{N})$$

*is non-negative.*

**Proof.** To prove parts (1) and (2), it suffices to prove the analogous results about  $\mathbf{H}$ . Part (1) follows from Lemma 3.3 (1),(2). This, together with Lemma 3.3(3), gives part (2). Part (4.2) follows from (4.1) and the left exactness of  $\text{Hom}$ . Part (4) is now a standard result in torsion theory. Part (5) follows from (4.1) and the classical Serre duality Theorem 5.6 below.  $\square$

We remark here that wild behaviour means that  $\mathbf{T}$  is usually not closed under subobjects and the Hilbert functions of torsion sheaves are usually exponential.

**Theorem 5.6.** *For  $\mathcal{M} \in \text{cohproj } \mathbb{S}$  and  $p = 0, 1$ , there is a natural isomorphism*

$$\text{Ext}_{\mathbb{P}}^{1-p}(\varepsilon_i \mathbb{S}, \mathcal{M}) \cong {}^* \text{Ext}_{\mathbb{P}}^p(\mathcal{M}, \varepsilon_{i+2} \mathbb{S}).$$

**Proof.** The proofs in the cases  $p = 0$  and  $p = 1$  are similar. In each case, one first notes that when  $\mathcal{M} = \varepsilon_j \mathbb{S}$ , there exists an isomorphism that is natural with respect to morphisms between objects of the form  $\varepsilon_i \mathbb{S}$ , by [10, Corollary 7.5]. One then proves the result for arbitrary  $\mathcal{M}$  by using the fact that  $\text{cohproj } \mathbb{S}$  is hereditary and  $\mathcal{M}$  has a finite presentation.  $\square$

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