

# On the Symplectic Topology of Cotangent Bundles

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$M$  smooth manifold  
 $\omega$  closed 2-form,  $\omega^n$  volume form
 } Symplectic manifold

Key question of symplectic topology (Arnol'd):

Does  $[\omega]$  determine everything?

Eliashberg, Gromov ~80: No!

Sample Result: (McLean, A-Seidel)

If  $n \geq 3$   $\mathbb{R}^{2n}$  has uncountably many non-deformation equivalent "complete" symplectic structures.

Today: Simplest example beyond  $\mathbb{R}^{2n}$ .

$Q$  smooth manifold

$T^*Q$  cotangent bundle

locally,  $(\underbrace{q_1, \dots, q_n}_{\text{base}}, \underbrace{p_1, \dots, p_n}_{\text{fibre}})$

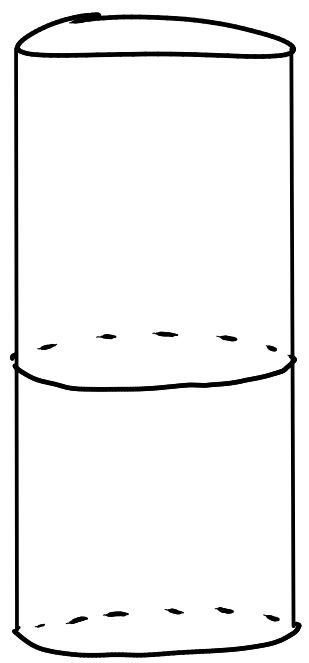
$\lambda$  Liouville form,

$$\sum p_i dq_i$$

$d\lambda = \omega$  symplectic form

e.g.:

$$Q = S^1$$



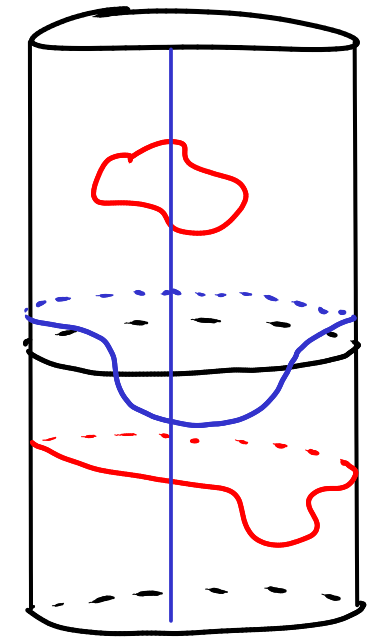
$$T^*Q \cong S^1 \times \mathbb{R}$$

Conj (Arnold): The symplectic structure on  $T^*Q$  determines the smooth structure on  $Q$ .

$L \subset T^*Q$  Exact Lagrangian Submanifold

$\dim L = \dim Q$        $[\lambda|_L] = 0 \in H^1(L, \mathbb{Z})$

- e.g.
- Zero section
  - Cotangent fibres
  - Graph of  $df$ .



Conjecture: (Arnold)  $Q$  is a closed smooth  $L \subset T^*Q$  compact exact Lagrangian  $\implies L$  is isotopic to  $Q$ .

Theorem: (R. Hind) True for  $S^2$ .


Thm: The inclusion of  $L$  is a homotopy equivalence.

(Extends results of Nadler, Fukaya-Seidel-Smith).

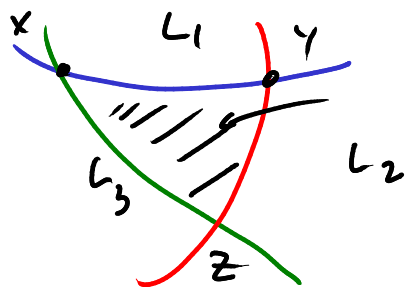
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Main tool: Fukaya Category:

Objects: Exact Lagrangians (well-behaved at  $\infty$ ) with local system.

 Morphisms: Floer cohomology: "Categorification of intersection number"

Composition



holomorphic disc.

$$x \cdot y = z$$

Key property: If  $E$  is local systems on closed exact Lagrangian  $L$

$$HF^*(L, E), (L, E) \cong H^*(L, \text{End}(E))$$

## Strategy:

### (I) Geometry:

Find some "family of Lagrangians"  $\mathcal{L}_p$ , parametrised by some space  $\mathcal{P}$  such that

The moduli space of holomorphic discs with boundary on  $\mathcal{L}_p$  sweeps  $T^*\mathcal{Q}$  with multiplicity 1.

Let  $\mathcal{F}_{\mathcal{P}}$  denote Fukaya category with objects  $\mathcal{L}_p$

### (II) Algebra:

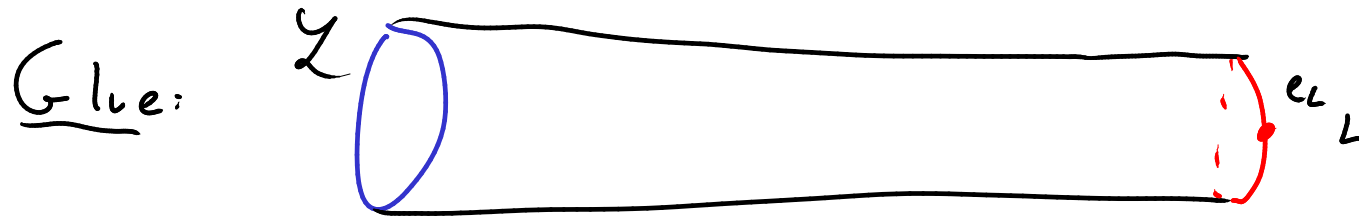
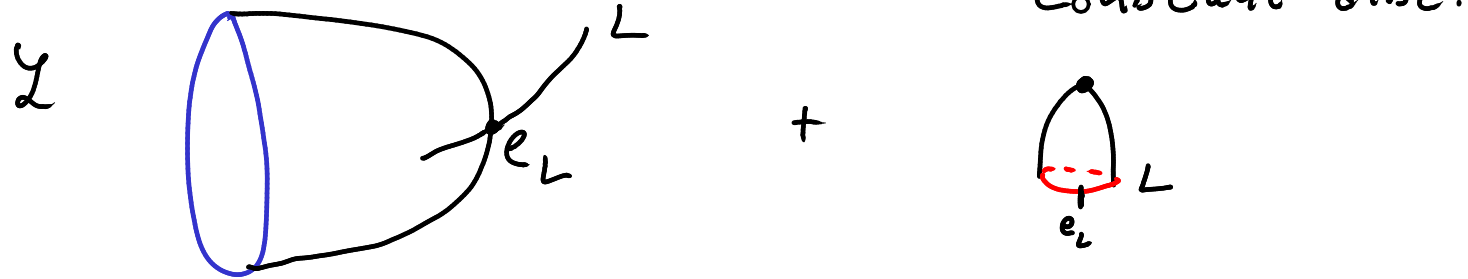
Classify all modules of bounded homological dimension over  $\mathcal{F}_{\mathcal{P}}$  with endomorphism algebra supported in degrees  $[0, n]$ .

# Bridge from Geometry to Algebra: Cardy Relation

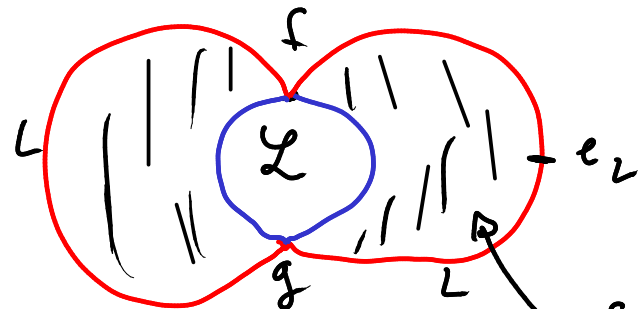
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$\mathcal{Z}$  consists of one Lagrangian.  $L$  any other Lagrangian.

Pick any pt  $e_L \in L$



Send modular parameter to 0:



$f \cdot g = e_L \Rightarrow L$  is a summand of  $\mathcal{Z}$

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Back to  $T^v Q$ :

Let  $\mathcal{P} = Q$ ,  $\mathcal{L}_p = T_p^v Q$ . Constant discs "sweep"  $T^v Q$  with multiplicity  $\underline{1}$ .

What is Fukaya Category with objects  $T_p^v Q$ ?

All fibres are isomorphic, endomorphism algebra

$C_{-\infty}(\Omega Q)$ , equipped with Pontryagin product.

Structure theory for modules over  $C_{-\infty}(\Omega Q)$

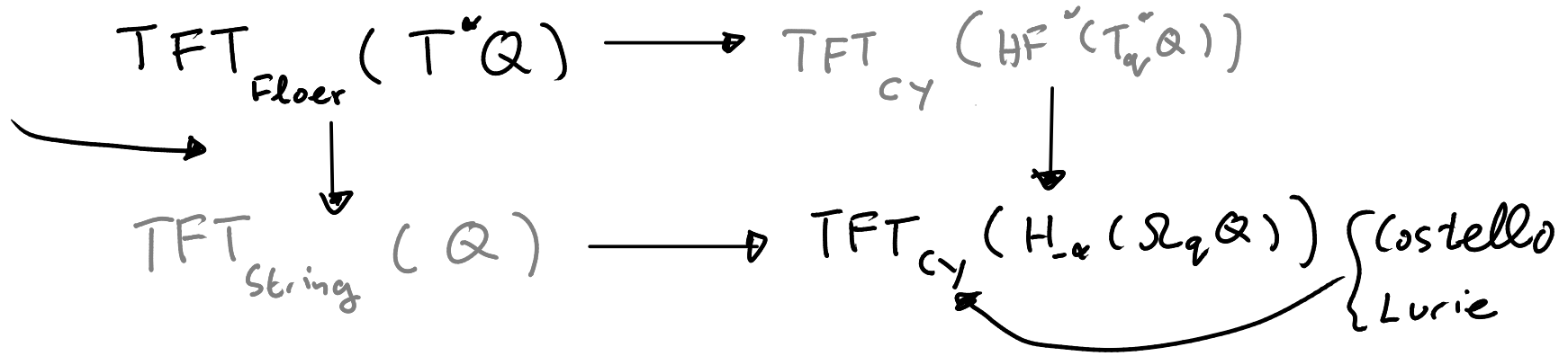
Every module  $Y$  with  $\text{Hom}_K(C_{-\infty}(\Omega Q), Y) = 0$  if  $K \gg 0$ , has a filtration with subquotients induced by "augmentation"

$C_{-\infty}(\Omega Q) \rightarrow \mathbb{Z}[\pi_1 Q] \rightarrow \text{End}(V)$  For some vector space  $V$ .



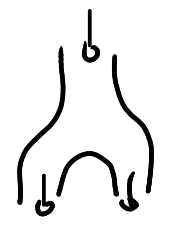
Further consequences: The Fukaya category is part of "extended" TFT

Viterbo, Abouzaid-Schwarz,  
Cieliebak-Lutsev ...

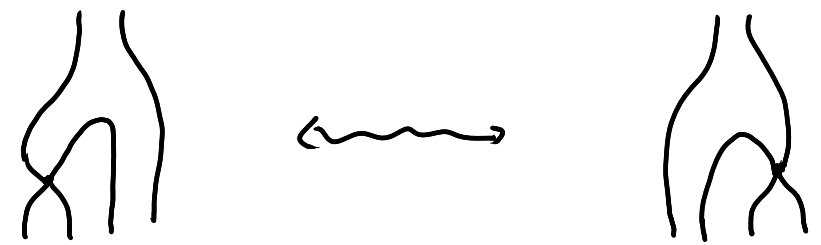


Not covered

Secondary operations: On  $HF^*(L, L)$  there is a coproduct  
Highly degenerate. Obtain secondary operation on



$Cone(H^*(L) \rightarrow HF^*(L, L))$



Thm (L. Ng): If  $Q = S^3$ , then coproduct & higher analogues applied  
to conormal bundles of  $S^1 \hookrightarrow S^3$  detect unknot.

## Smooth Structure:

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Thm: If  $\Sigma$  is a htpy sphere which embeds as a Lagrangian in  $T^*S^{4k+1}$ , then  $\Sigma$  bounds a compact parallelisable manifold.

Note: ① h-cobordism implies  $T^*\Sigma \stackrel{\text{diff}}{\simeq} T^*S^{4k+1}$   
②  $\exists \Sigma$  which do not bound parallelisable.

Strategy: Explicit construction of a bounding manifold from solutions to a PDE, using the Hopf fibration.

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New approach by S. Basu distinguishes smooth structures on lens spaces using string topology.

