Power maps in algebra and topology

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(Joint work with J. Rognes)

Let $t: C \to A$ be a twisting cochain, where C is a connected, coaugmented chain coalgebra and A is an augmented chain algebra over an arbitrary PID R. I'll explain the construction of a twisted extension of chain complexes

$$A \to H(t) \to C$$

of which both the Hochschild complex of an associative algebra and the coHochschild complex of a coassociative coalgebra are special cases. We call H(t) the Hochschild complex of t.

When A is a chain Hopf algebra, I'll give conditions under which H(t) admits an r^{th} -power map extending the usual r^{th} -power map on A and lifting the identity on C. In particular, both the Hochschild complex of any cocommutative Hopf algebra and the coHochschild complex of the normalized chain complex of a double suspension admit power maps. Moreover, if K is a double suspension, then the power map on the coHochschild complex of the normalized chain complex of K is a model for the topological power map on the free loops on K, illustrating the topological relevance of our algebraic construction.