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## BÖKSTEDT PERIODICITY AND BOTT PERIODICITY

DMITRY KALEDIN

Joint with A. Fonarev.

We want to present a new proof of a known theorem, namely the computation of  $THH_*(\mathbb{F}_p)$ . Let  $A \in D(\mathbb{S})$  be an  $\mathbb{E}_1$ -ring spectrum, and we want to take M and A-bimodule for coefficients.

**Definition 1.** THH(A, M) is defined as the homotopy colimit of the following diagram:

$$M := A \land M := A \land A \land M \cdots$$

where the maps are given by the action of A on M.

Specifically, we want to work over  $k = \mathbb{F}_p$  or another perfect field of characteristic p. We have an adjunction between D(k) and  $D(\mathbb{S})$  which gives us a symmetric lax monoidal comonad Q on D(k). In particular, if A/k is associative and unital and M an A-bimodule, then  $A \wedge M = Q(A) \otimes_k M$ . Then we can recognise  $THH(A, M) = HH_*(Q(A), M)$ , where this latter is sometimes called Maclane homology of A with coefficients in  $M HM_*(A, M)$ . Eilenberg-Maclane knew about the comonad Q in the '50s already.

Uses:

- (1) Maclane cohomology also exists, which gives  $HM_*(k,k)$  a Hopf algebra structure.
- (2) Q(k) is the dual Steenrod algebra, though Q is not k-linear, and there exists some spectra sequence converging to it. In particular, its' something of the form  $k[\sigma, A_i, B_i]$  with |sigma| = 2,  $|A_i| = 2p^i - 1$ ,  $|B_i| = 2p^i$  for  $i \ge 1$ .

If p > 2, that spectral sequence is miraculously highly degenerate, and only  $\sigma$  lasts to the  $E_{\infty}$  page, so that  $THH(k) = k[\sigma]$  (Bökstedt).

Notes by Ian Coley.

## DMITRY KALEDIN

Observe: that  $\sigma$  will always survive to the end. Assume that  $\sigma$  is not nilpotent. Then "we are done", using another spectra sequence  $k[\varepsilon, C_i, D_i]$  converging to Maclane cohomology. Because of the Hopf algebra structure, we know that  $\langle \sigma^p, \varepsilon^p \rangle = 0$ . because  $\sigma$  isn't nilpotent,  $\varepsilon^p = 0$ . Then we conclude  $\partial C_1 = \varepsilon^p$  so  $\partial A_1 \neq 0$  and  $B_1$  survives. Then go by induction on the index of A, B.

Some reasoning along these lines allows us to do the computation.

Anyway, here's the idea: we need to prove that  $\sigma$  is not nilpotent by constructing some sort of multiplicative map out of THH. There is a general method by which we can do this:

**Stabilization:** Let I be a pointed small category with finite coproducts, say  $I = \Gamma_*$  the category of finite pointed sets. Let  $\operatorname{Ho}(I) = \operatorname{Ho}(\operatorname{Fun}(I, \operatorname{Top}_*))$ . Since I is pointed, it makes sense to refer to additive functors  $F: I \to \operatorname{Top}_*$  as those that sends coproducts to products.

If  $X \in \text{Ho}(I)$  is (the image of) an additive functor, then  $\pi_0 X(*)$  is a commutative monoid. We call it X(\*) grouplike if it happens to be a group.

**Definition 2.** An additive functor  $F \in \text{Ho}(I)$  is *stable* if for all  $i \in I$ , F restricted to the collection  $\{\coprod i\}$  is grouplike. Let  $\text{Ho}^{\text{st}}(I) \subset \text{Ho}(I)$  be the full subcategory of stable functors.

**Theorem 3.** There is a left adjoint to the inclusion of stable functors, i.e. there is a localization stab:  $Ho(I) \rightarrow Ho^{st}(I)$ . Moreover, if I is monoidal, then for  $F: I \rightarrow Top_*$  lax monoidal, stab F is still lax monoidal.

**Trace functors:** If we also have isomorphisms  $\tau_{i,i'} \colon F(i \otimes i') \to F(i' \otimes i)$ , then stab F also will

Finally, we can move ourselves from  $\text{Top}_*$  to k-cdgas and everything still works. So now let I be the category of finite dimensional k-vector spaces.

**Example 4.** Examples of functors and their stabilizations.

- (1)  $T(M) = M^{\otimes p}$ , then stab T = 0.
- (2)  $C(M) = (M^{\otimes p})^{\tau}$ , where  $\tau$  is the cyclic permutation on p elements. Then stab  $C(M) = \tau^{\leq 0} \check{C}^*(C_p, M^{\otimes p})$ , the 0-truncation of the Tate cohomology complex. We can see that  $\check{H}^i(C_p, M^{\otimes p}) \cong M$  for all i. This functor is lax monoidal and comes with a trace functor on  $(M \otimes N)^{\otimes p}$  which twists M by  $\tau$  but does not twist N. So something like that passes to the stabilization.

Now consider  $\psi: M \to C(M)$  which sends m to  $m^{\otimes p}$ . This functor is super not additive. This gives us a map  $M \to \operatorname{stab} C(M)$  which is not k-linear.

Lemma 5. The composition

$$M \xrightarrow{\operatorname{stab}\psi} \tau^{\leq 0} \check{C}^*(C_p, M^{\otimes p}) \to (M^{\otimes p})_{\tau}[1]$$

is not zero (as it would be if it were k-linear), and in fact is the same as the Bockstein  $\beta: M \to M[1]$  post composed with  $M[1] \to (M^{\otimes p})_{\tau}[1]$ .

THH also appears as a stabilization of something, but of what? Let  $\mathcal{C} \in \mathbf{Cat}$  be a small category, and let  $M: \mathcal{C}^{\mathrm{op}} \times \mathcal{C} \to \mathbf{Sets}$  be a functor. Then define the cyclic nerve

$$N^{\mathrm{cyc}}_{\bullet}(\mathcal{C}, M) \in \mathbf{sSet}$$

with k-simplices  $c_0 \to c_1 \to \cdots \to c_k$  with an element  $m \in M(c_k, c_0)$  to "loop it". If we postcompose with geometric realization, we get something we can stabilize.

For (A, M) over k, let P(A) be the category of finitely generated projective *A*-modules. Then let  $P(M): P(A)^{\text{op}} \times P(A) \to \{k\text{-vector spaces}\}$  be given by  $P \times P' \mapsto \text{Hom}_k(M \otimes_A P, P').$ 

**Theorem 6.** THH(A, M) is the stabilization of the cyclic nerve  $N^{\text{cyc}}_{\bullet}(P(A), P(M))$ 

We have two additional structures:

- (1) For any M,  $N_{\bullet}^{\text{cyc}}(P(A), P(-))$  is lax monoidal.
- (2) There's a trace functor structure that's more obvious if M is finitely generated projective as a left or right A-module. The nextend by taking filtered colimits of such.

Now, consider  $\varphi \colon N^{\text{cyc}}_{\bullet}(P(k), P(M)) \to (M^{\otimes p})_0$  the constant simplicial set. The zero simplices on the left are  $P \in P(k)$  with an endomorphism  $a \colon P \to P$ . We send this to the trace of  $a^p$  in  $M^{\otimes p}$ , and it lands in  $(M^{\otimes p})^{\tau}$  the  $\tau$ -invariant part.

Now we let M = k and stabilize. We can look at stab  $\varphi$  and get a better idea of the structure of the (a priori) computation that the lefthand side is THH(k, k).