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Chapter 1

Week 1

Day 1

Lecture 1: Lot's of definitions!

Plan

We are going to try and compute

$$\pi_*(E^{hC_6} \wedge V(0)).$$

Let's define a few things.

- C_6 is a cyclic group of order 6.
- E^{hC_6} is a Morava E -theory and this is a spectrum (think a space).
- $E(n, p)$ has n the chromatic height and p a prime.
- $G \curvearrowright$ on sets, spaces, or spectra.
- Let S be a space with a G -action.

$$\begin{aligned} S^G &= \{s \in S \mid g \cdot s = s \ \forall g \in G\} \\ &= \{G\text{-fixed points of } S\} \end{aligned}$$

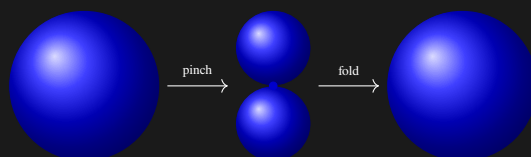
$$E^{hC_6} := \{\text{homotopy } G \text{ fixed points}\}$$

- $X \wedge Y$ is the smash product of X, Y and is defined to be

$$X \wedge Y := \frac{X \times Y}{X \vee Y}.$$

- $V(0) := \mathbb{S}/2$ the Moore space. Take a sphere S^n , and consider the degree map $S^n \xrightarrow{m} S^n$. Here is an instance of this map.

$$S^n \xrightarrow{2} S^n \vee S^n \rightarrow S^n.$$



The thing to take away is that for a degree m -map between n -spheres, you can create this map as a composition

$$S^n \xrightarrow{\text{pinch}} \bigvee_1^m S^n \xrightarrow{\text{fold}} S^n$$

to get a degree m map. More details about this can be found in [Hat02, §2.2]

- The sphere spectrum is a topological object which can be written as

$$\mathbb{S} := \{S^0, S^1, S^2, \dots\}.$$

FACT: We can define a degree m map on the sphere spectrum.

- Fiber/cofiber sequences: In spectra, fiber and cofiber sequences are the same! This is an analog of a short exact sequence for groups. Here's an example. Consider the map

$$\begin{array}{ccc} \mathbb{Z} & \xrightarrow{\times 2} & \mathbb{Z} \\ 0 & \longmapsto & 0 \\ 1 & \longmapsto & 2. \end{array}$$

The kernel of this map is 0! The cokernel of this map is $\mathbb{Z}/2$. This gives a short exact sequence of groups

$$0 \rightarrow \mathbb{Z} \xrightarrow{\times 2} \mathbb{Z} \rightarrow \mathbb{Z}/2 \rightarrow 0.$$

We can do an analog with spectra to get

$$\mathbb{S} \xrightarrow{2} \mathbb{S} \rightarrow \underbrace{V(0)}_{\text{cofiber}(2)} \rightarrow \Sigma \mathbb{S} \xrightarrow{\Sigma 2} \Sigma \mathbb{S} \rightarrow \Sigma V(0) \rightarrow \dots$$

Note: there is a way to understand fibers and cofibers as pushout and pullback diagrams.

- For spaces Σ , aka reduced suspension, exists for all $n \in \mathbb{N}$; you can suspend a space however many times you want, Σ^n . In spectra-land, you can *negatively*-suspend a space, aka desuspend the space, i.e. you can do Σ^n for all $n \in \mathbb{Z}$.
- $\pi_* = \bigoplus_{i \in \mathbb{Z}} \pi_i$. Here

$$\pi_n(X) := \text{Maps}(S^n, X)_{/\text{homotopy}}.$$

Sometimes we write this as $[S^n, X]$ so we have to type less!

- Let X be a space, and let $f \in \pi_n(X), g \in \pi_m(X)$, meaning that we have

$$f : S^n \rightarrow X, \quad g : S^m \rightarrow X.$$

What is $f \cdot g$ if we're talking about π_* having a “ring structure.” Then we have

$$\begin{array}{ccccc} & & X \wedge S^m & & \\ & \nearrow f \wedge \mathbb{1} & & \searrow \mathbb{1} \times g & \\ S^{n+m} = S^n \wedge S^m & \xrightarrow{f \wedge g} & X \wedge X & \xrightarrow{\mu} & X \\ & \searrow \mathbb{1} \wedge g & & \nearrow f \wedge \mathbb{1} & \\ & & S^n \wedge X & & \end{array}$$

which gives us a map $\pi_{n+m}(X \wedge X)$. If we have a map $X \wedge X \xrightarrow{\mu} X$, then we're good; this is an honest to goodness ring! An instance of this is S^0 . Try it out! For us $V(0) = \text{Cofiber}(2)$ is not a ring.

Spectra

Definition 1: Spectrum

A spectrum^a X is a collection of pointed spaces

$$\{X_0, X_1, X_2, \dots\} = \{X_n\}_{n \in \mathbb{N}}$$

together with structure maps

$$\Sigma X_n \rightarrow X_{n+1}.$$

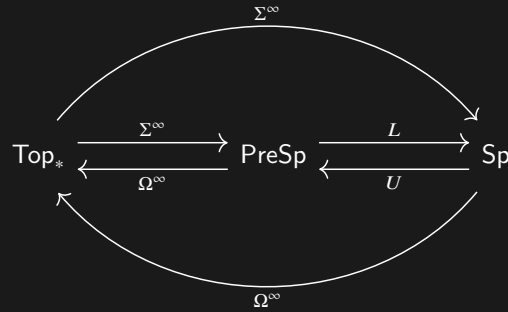
^aWhat we describe here is sometimes referred to as a prespectrum. Some people require a spectrum to have the structure maps as $X_n \rightarrow \Omega X_{n+1}$ and homeomorphisms.

Example 1

1. The sphere spectrum $\mathbb{S} = \{S^0, S^1, \dots\}$ and homeomorphisms $\Sigma S^n \xrightarrow{\cong} S^{n+1}$.
2. Suspension spectrum $\Sigma^\infty X = \{X, \Sigma X, \Sigma^2 X, \dots\}$ with structure maps

$$\Sigma(\Sigma^\infty X)_n = \Sigma \Sigma^n X \xrightarrow{\cong} \Sigma^{n+1} X = (\Sigma^\infty X)_{n+1}.$$

3. For some (non-suspension) spectra, we can describe the spaces, but for the majority of spectra, we cannot.



$$\begin{aligned} \text{PreSp} &\xrightarrow{L} \text{Sp} \\ (X_n)_{n \in \mathbb{N}} &\longmapsto (LX_n)_{n \in \mathbb{N}}, & LX_n &:= \text{colim} (X_n \hookrightarrow \Omega X_{n+1} \hookrightarrow \Omega^2 X_{n+2} \hookrightarrow \dots) \\ \text{Sp} &\xrightarrow{\Omega^\infty} \text{Top}_* \\ (X_n)_{n \in \mathbb{N}} &\longmapsto X_0. \end{aligned}$$

“Why were spectra invented?” you may ask. One answer comes in the form of Brown’s representability theorem. To understand this, we need a few definitions.

Definition 2

A generalized homology theory E is a functor

$$E : \text{Spaces} \rightarrow \text{GradedAbGrps}$$

with the properties

- Homotopy: Homotopic spaces have the same homology.
- Exactness: Exact sequence in homology from a cofiber sequence.
- Excision: If $X = A \cup B$, then $E_*(A, A \cap B) \rightarrow E_*(X, B)$ is an isomorphism.

- Additivity: Coproducts in Spaces induce coproducts in homology.

For more details, see [Wikipedia on generalized cohomology](#).

Theorem 1: Brown's representability Theorem

There is an isomorphism between generalized (co)homology theories and spectra. Given a spectrum \mathcal{E} , the homology is given by

$$\mathcal{E}_*(X) = \pi_*(\mathcal{E} \wedge X).$$

The cohomology associated to the spectrum \mathcal{E} is given by

$$\mathcal{E}^*(X) = [X, \mathcal{E}].$$

Definition 3: Fiber Sequences

We'll come back to this! The key is that in spectra land, it goes back and forth in both directions.

FACT 1

Any fiber sequence $X \rightarrow Y \rightarrow Z$ gives rise to a long exact sequence in π_* ,

$$\begin{array}{ccccccc} & & & & \cdots & \longrightarrow & \pi_{k+1}Z \\ & & & \swarrow & & & \\ \pi_k X & \longrightarrow & \pi_k Y & \longrightarrow & \pi_k Z & & \\ & & \nwarrow & & \swarrow & & \\ \pi_{k-1} X & \longrightarrow & \cdots & & & & \end{array}$$

Lecture 2: Algebra

Rings

First, let's talk about commutative (*order of multiplication doesn't matter*), unital (*the ring has the element 1*) rings. Every time I write R as a ring, I mean this version of a ring.

Example 2

- \mathbb{Z}
- \mathbb{Z}/n for $n \geq 2$
- $\mathbb{F}_p := \mathbb{Z}/p$ with p a prime. A special case of this is $\mathbb{F}_2 = (\{0, 1\}, +, \times)$.
- $\mathbb{Z}[x]$, $\mathbb{F}_2[x]$, $R[x]$, aka polynomial rings in one variable.
- $\frac{\mathbb{F}_2[x]}{(x^3+1)}$, a ring mod out by an ideal.
- $\mathbb{Z}[G]$ for G an abelian group, the group ring.
- $\mathbb{F}_4 := \frac{\mathbb{F}_2[x]}{(x^2+x+1)}$, the field with $4 (= 2^2)$ elements.
- $\mathbb{Z}[[x]] = \{\sum_0^\infty a_k x^k \mid \forall k, a_k \in \mathbb{Z}\}$, the power series ring
- $\mathbb{Z}((x))$, the Laurent series ring.

Modules

Definition 4: Module

module M over a commutative ring R is an abelian group M together with a scaling map

$$R \otimes M \rightarrow M$$

$$r \otimes m \mapsto r \cdot m.$$

Example 3

A vector space V over the ring \mathbb{R} (or any field \mathbb{F}) is the same thing as an \mathbb{R} -module.

Example 4

If R is a ring, then an ideal $I \subseteq R$ is the same thing as a submodule of R .

Exact Sequences

Definition 5: Short Exact Sequence

A short exact sequence is

$$0 \rightarrow M' \xrightarrow{f} M \xrightarrow{g} M'' \rightarrow 0,$$

such that

$$\ker(\text{each map}) = \text{Im}(\text{previous map}).$$

For specificity, we need

- i. f is injective
- ii. g is surjective
- iii. $\ker g = \operatorname{Im} f$.

Example 5

Let R be a field, say \mathbb{F}_2 , let V be an R -vector space and let $W \leq V$ be a subspace. Then

$$0 \rightarrow W \rightarrow V \rightarrow V/W \rightarrow 0$$

is a short exact sequence.

Example 6

Let $R = \mathbb{Z}$. Consider the map

$$0 \rightarrow \mathbb{Z}/2 \xrightarrow{\begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 \end{bmatrix}} \mathbb{Z}/2 \oplus \mathbb{Z}/2 \xrightarrow{\begin{bmatrix} 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix}} \mathbb{Z}/2 \rightarrow 0.$$

What is the composition of these maps? Is this sequence exact?

Example 7

Let $R = \mathbb{Z}$. Then consider the sequence

$$0 \rightarrow \mathbb{Z}/2 \xrightarrow{(-) \cdot 2} \mathbb{Z}/4 \xrightarrow{(\cdot) \bmod 2} \mathbb{Z}/2 \rightarrow 0.$$

Is this a short exact sequence? If so, how does it compare to the prior example?

Remark 1

$\mathbb{Z}/2 \oplus \mathbb{Z}/2 \neq \mathbb{Z}/4$ as groups. Prove it!

Oftentimes, we are interested in some module M , and we know that it fits into a short exact sequence

$$0 \rightarrow M' \rightarrow M \rightarrow M'' \rightarrow 0$$

where M', M'' are known. Determining M given M' and M'' is called an extension problem.

Definition 6: p -adics

Another ring of interest is the p -adic integers \mathbb{Z}_p also denoted \mathbb{Z}_p^\wedge where \wedge means completed. Another way to write this is

$$\begin{aligned} \mathbb{Z}_p &= \mathbb{Z}_p^\wedge = \varprojlim \mathbb{Z}/p^k \\ &= \varprojlim (\cdots \rightarrow \mathbb{Z}/p^3 \rightarrow \mathbb{Z}/p^2 \rightarrow \mathbb{Z}/p \rightarrow 0) \\ &= \{(a_1, a_2, \dots) \mid a_i \in \mathbb{Z}/p^i, \quad a_{i+1} \equiv a_i \pmod{p^i}\}. \end{aligned}$$

Day 1 Exercises

Exercise 1

If $m, n > 1$ are integers, construct an exact sequence of abelian groups of the form

$$0 \longrightarrow \mathbb{Z}/m \longrightarrow \mathbb{Z}/mn \longrightarrow \mathbb{Z}/n \longrightarrow 0.$$

Exercise 2

If

$$0 \longrightarrow V' \xrightarrow{f} V \xrightarrow{g} V'' \longrightarrow 0$$

is a short exact sequence of vector spaces, prove that

$$\dim V = \dim V' + \dim V''$$

Exercise 3

If

$$0 \longrightarrow V' \xrightarrow{f} V \xrightarrow{g} V'' \longrightarrow 0$$

is a short exact sequence of vector spaces, prove that $V \cong V' \oplus V''$. (Bonus: Is this isomorphism canonical? In other words, does it require any choices?)

$$0 \longrightarrow M' \xrightarrow{f} M \xrightarrow{g} M'' \longrightarrow 0$$

such that M is NOT isomorphic to $M' \oplus M''$.

Exercise 4

(The Splitting Lemma) Suppose

$$0 \longrightarrow M' \xrightarrow{f} M \xrightarrow{g} M'' \longrightarrow 0$$

is a short exact sequence of modules. Prove that the following are equivalent.

1. $M \cong M' \oplus M''$, f is the standard inclusion, and g is the standard projection.
2. There exists a map $s : M'' \rightarrow M$ such that $g \circ s = id_{M''}$.
3. There exists a map $t : M \rightarrow M'$ such that $t \circ f = id_{M'}$.

Exercise 5

Generalizing 1., if

$$0 \longrightarrow V_n \xrightarrow{f_n} V_{n-1} \xrightarrow{f_{n-1}} \cdots \xrightarrow{f_2} V_1 \xrightarrow{f_1} V_0 \longrightarrow 0$$

is an exact sequence of vector spaces, prove that

$$\dim V_n - \dim V_{n-1} + \cdots \pm \dim V_1 \mp \dim V_0 = 0$$

Exercise 6

What are all possible group maps from

1. \mathbb{Z} to \mathbb{F}_2 ?
2. \mathbb{F}_2 to \mathbb{F}_2 ?
3. \mathbb{Z} to \mathbb{F}_4 ?
4. \mathbb{F}_4 to \mathbb{F}_2 ?
5. \mathbb{F}_2 to \mathbb{F}_4 ?
6. \mathbb{Z}_2 to \mathbb{F}_2 ?

Day 2

Chapter 2

Appendix

Definition 7: pullbacks

Let \mathcal{C} be a category which contains the diagram

$$\begin{array}{ccc} & Y & \\ & \downarrow g & \\ X & \xrightarrow{f} & Z \end{array}$$

A pullback of this diagram W is 3 pieces of information

- An object $W \in \text{ob}(\mathcal{C})$
- A map $W \xrightarrow{p_1} X$
- A map $W \xrightarrow{p_2} Y$

such that

- The diagram $\begin{array}{ccccc} W & \xrightarrow{p_2} & Y & & \\ p_1 \downarrow & \circlearrowleft & \downarrow g & & \\ X & \xrightarrow{f} & Z & & \end{array}$ commutes ^a

- If someone hands you a commutative diagram $\begin{array}{ccccc} A & \xrightarrow{h_2} & Y & & \\ h_1 \downarrow & \circlearrowleft & \downarrow g & & \\ X & \xrightarrow{f} & Z & & \end{array}$, then there is a *UNIQUE* map \tilde{h} such that

$$\begin{array}{ccccc} A & & & & \\ \tilde{h} \searrow & \circlearrowleft & & & \\ & W & \xrightarrow{p_2} & Y & \\ \circlearrowleft \uparrow & p_1 \downarrow & \circlearrowleft & \downarrow g & \\ & X & \xrightarrow{f} & Z & \end{array} \quad \begin{array}{c} h_2 \\ h_1 \end{array}$$

^b

Let \mathcal{C} be a category with a subcategory \mathcal{D} . We say \mathcal{D} is closed under pullbacks by morphisms in \mathcal{C} if for all

arrows $X \xrightarrow{f} Z$ in \mathcal{D} and for all $Y \xrightarrow{g} Z$ in \mathcal{C} such that we can form the pullback $\begin{array}{ccc} W & \xrightarrow{p_1} & Y \\ p_2 \downarrow & \lrcorner & \downarrow g \\ X & \xrightarrow{f} & Z \end{array}$, then the arrow

$W \xrightarrow{p_1} Z$ is in \mathcal{D} .

^a“ \cup ” is a ‘long’ hand for commutes, and people usually suppress it from notation.

^bAs a shorthand, people usually write the pullback like this:

$$\begin{array}{ccc} W & \longrightarrow & Y \\ \downarrow & \lrcorner & \downarrow \\ X & \longrightarrow & Z \end{array}$$

Definition 8: pushouts

Let \mathcal{C} be a category which contains the diagram

$$\begin{array}{ccc} Z & \xrightarrow{g} & Y \\ \downarrow f & & \\ X & & \end{array}.$$

A pushout of this diagram W is 3 pieces of information

- An object $W \in \text{ob}(\mathcal{C})$
- A map $X \xrightarrow{i_1} W$
- A map $Y \xrightarrow{i_2} W$

such that

- The diagram $\begin{array}{ccc} Z & \xrightarrow{g} & Y \\ \downarrow f & & \downarrow i_2 \\ X & \xrightarrow{i_1} & W \end{array}$ commutes

- If someone hands you a commutative diagram $\begin{array}{ccc} Z & \xrightarrow{g} & Y \\ \downarrow f & & \downarrow \ell_2 \\ X & \xrightarrow{\ell_1} & A \end{array}$, then there is a *UNIQUE* map $\tilde{\ell}$ such that

$$\begin{array}{ccc} Z & \xrightarrow{g} & Y \\ \downarrow f & & \downarrow i_2 \\ X & \xrightarrow{i_1} & W \end{array} \quad \begin{array}{c} \searrow \ell_2 \\ \downarrow \tilde{\ell} \\ \searrow \ell_1 \end{array} \quad \begin{array}{c} \\ \\ A \end{array}.$$

^a

^aAs a shorthand, people usually write the pushout like this:

$$\begin{array}{ccc} Z & \xrightarrow{g} & Y \\ \downarrow f & \lrcorner & \downarrow i_2 \\ X & \xrightarrow{i_1} & W \end{array}$$

Bibliography

[Hat02] Allen Hatcher. *Algebraic Topology*. Cambridge University Press, Cambridge, UK, 2002.

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