

J. Lurie - Derived Algebraic Geometry & Elliptic Cohomology

Toronto 10/04

R : an even periodic ring spectrum -

$\pi_i(R) = 0$ if odd. Periodic: \exists invertible element in $\pi_2 R$. $B \in \pi_2 R$ (Bott element in K-theory, e.g.)

$\Rightarrow R(\mathbb{C}P^\infty)$: Atiyah-Hirzebruch SS degenerates (is noncanonically $\pi_0 R[[x]]$)

Even stronger statement: $\mathbb{C}P^\infty$ is comm group up to homotopy \Rightarrow formal group law

let $A = \pi_0 R$

$\text{Spf } R(\mathbb{C}P^\infty)$ is a formal group over A (commutative one-dim regard)

Reverse: start with comm ring A & formal group $/A$

\Rightarrow often construct even periodic ring spectra.

Lichtenber exact functor theorem - sufficient cond'n.

e.g. $\widehat{\mathbb{G}_m}/\mathbb{Z} \Rightarrow$ complex K-theory

Definition (Hopkins): An elliptic spectrum consists of

- even periodic ring spectrum R
- elliptic curve E over $\pi_0 R$
- an isomorphism $\text{Spf } R(\mathbb{C}P^\infty) \xrightarrow{\sim} E$ of formal groups.

Problems

1. Elliptic cohomology not functorial in elliptic curves
- goes through Lichtenber, Brown represen'tation, etc.
etc. not canonical construction on level of spectra
2. Want good ($A_{\text{ell}}, E_{\text{ell}}, \dots$) multiplicative structures ... can't see from Brown rep. construction,
maybe only see plain homotopy commutativity
3. Too many elliptic spectra! what universal choice

lift addressed by Hopkins-Miller TMF construction

Algebraic Geometry: \mathcal{M} universal elliptic curve over a ring, or a scheme, but have algebraic stack \mathcal{M} moduli stack of elliptic curves $M_{1,1}$
 $\{\text{elliptic curves}/Y\} \longleftrightarrow \{Y \rightarrow M\}$

(on cover M by ‘open pieces’ which are affine stacks).

$U = \text{Spec } A \xrightarrow{\sim} M$ open — Lichtenbaum applies,
so get elliptic spectrum $\mathcal{O}_{\text{der}}(U)$
corresponding to A & elliptic curve
classified by η .

So to open $U \rightarrow$ cobordism theory:

\mathcal{O}_{der} is a presheaf on M with values in
the homotopy category of spectra. $H_0(\text{Spectra})$

— Try to solve 1), 2) simultaneously: try to
glue together multiplicative spectra, much more
rigid, more tractable obstruction theory

Theorem (Goerss, Hopkins, Miller) \mathcal{O}_{der} ~~admits~~ admits a lift
— essentially unique — to a presheaf $\widetilde{\mathcal{O}_{\text{der}}}$
with values in E_∞ -ring spectra.

TMF as global sections of $\widetilde{\mathcal{O}_{\text{der}}}$.

Proof — the space of all lifts $\widetilde{\mathcal{O}_{\text{der}}}$ of \mathcal{O}_{der}
is nonempty & connected... so exists 2 unique
up to some homotopy ... but this space is
not simply connected. also can't expand
this construction to other contexts, eg equivariant -

Derived Algebraic Geometry

Definition A scheme is a topological space X with a sheaf of rings \mathcal{O}_X locally isomorphic to $\text{Spec } A$, $A = \text{commutative ring}$.

Replace commutative rings by functors
Topological version:

Def A derived scheme is a top space X with a sheaf of E_∞ ring spectra locally looks like $\text{Spec } A$, $A = E_\infty$ ring spectrum

\mathbb{A}^1 E_∞ ring spectrum \Rightarrow ~~$\text{Spec } A$~~
 $\text{Spec } A = \text{Spec } \pi_0 A$ as a topological space

On basis of open sets U_f ($f \in \pi_0 A$)

$$\mathcal{O}_{\text{Spec } \pi_0 A}(U_f) = (\pi_0 A)[f^{-1}]$$

$$\mathcal{O}_{\text{Spec } A}(U_f) = A[f^{-1}] \quad E_\infty \text{ ring spectrum}$$

X a derived scheme \Rightarrow underlying ordinary scheme X^{ord}
e.g. $(\text{Spec } A)^{\text{ord}} = \text{Spec } \pi_0 A$.

So Goerss-Hopkins-Miller give a derived algebraic stack.

Keep underlying "space" of M , give it \mathcal{O}^{der} as new structure.
 $\Rightarrow M^{\text{der}}$

What does M^{der} classify?

Suppose Y is a derived scheme.

Def An elliptic curve over Y is $p: E \rightarrow Y$
morphism of derived schemes s.t.
1. p is flat 2. $E^{\text{ord}} \rightarrow Y^{\text{ord}}$ is an elliptic curve
3. E is a "very commutative" group
(in strongest possible sense)

Group structure on derived elliptic curve not uniquely specified by choice of base point as in usual setting

M_{der} does not classify derived elliptic curve....

Def An enriched elliptic spectrum consists of

- an E_{∞} ring spectrum R
- an elliptic curve over R
- an equivalence $\text{Spt}(R^{\text{CP}^\infty}) \xrightarrow{\sim} \widehat{E}$
derived formal group

Theorem For any E_∞ ring spectrum A , \exists natural homotopy equivalences
 $\{ \text{Spec } A \rightarrow M_{der} \} \longleftrightarrow \{ \text{enriched elliptic spectra structures on } A \}$

— Gives new construction of M_{der} :

construct geometric object classifying this functor,
easy, hard part is to identify the
representing space has structure we want.

K-theory analog

R E_∞ ring spectrum.
Counterpart isomorphism $\text{Spt } R^{\text{CP}^\infty} \xrightarrow{\sim} \widehat{G_m}$

Step 1: Have a map $\text{Spt } R^{\text{CP}^\infty} \rightarrow \widehat{G_m}$
 $\Leftrightarrow \text{Spt } R^{\text{CP}^\infty} \rightarrow G_m$

Spt takes products into union!

this is a CP^∞ -parametrized family of maps
from $\text{Spec } R \rightarrow G_m$
 \Leftrightarrow elab in $G_m(R)$

So we're classifying (E_∞) rings $\mathbb{C}P^\infty \rightarrow GL_n(R)$
 $\Leftrightarrow \sum^\infty \mathbb{C}P^\infty \rightarrow R$

Step 2 Which is this an isomorphism?

$\mathbb{C}P^1 = S^2 \subset \mathbb{C}P^\infty \rightarrow \sum^\infty \mathbb{C}P^\infty$ canonical lift of $T_b(\sum^\infty \mathbb{C}P^\infty)$
 ... need B invertible

Theorem (Smith): $\sum^\infty \mathbb{C}P^\infty [B^{-1}] \cong K$.

Interpretation: K -theory classifies isomorphisms,
 \widehat{G}_- & $S^1 \wedge R^{\mathbb{C}P^\infty}$

Theorem pins down TMF canonically, up to
contractible space of choices.

e.g. string orientation of TMF comes canonically
 here, as do its equivariant twists.

Equivariant elliptic cohomology:
 have universal elliptic curve / moduli
 encoding S^1 -equivariant elliptic cohomology.
 Moduli over it give G -equivariant
 elliptic cohomology for G compact.