

J. Morava - Interview with Boileau-Drinfeld

2/29/00

Complex bordism is graded cobordism-Nilpotent acts (diff of any) soiling grading: incorporates from grading  
even-odd always preserved, anticommut. Supersymmetries?  
don't seem to act. Forget grading full differs each...  
real more care for infinite complexes.

Finite complex  $\rightarrow$  0-mod on stack of formal groups  
so get module over any ring  $R$  from formal gp over  $K$   
- kind of cobordism theory for any formal group...  
Usual convention:  $K(n)^*(\mathbb{P}^{\infty}, \mathbb{F}_n)$  cobordism theory, eff-mod  
 $K(n)^*(\mathbb{P}^{\infty}, \mathbb{F}_n)$ :  $[Ep](c_i) = c_i^q$ ,  $q = p^n$   
height  $n$ . No good coord-free construction.  
Ref: U. Würgler, Conf. in Pognan, LNM, ~1994?

Question about multiplicative structure --- trouble at  $p=2$

$n=1$   $K(1)^*$  is essentially  $K$ -theory with  $\mathbb{F}_p$  coeffs —

NO commutative multiplication at prime 2

- commutator  $[x, y] \sim yB(x)y^{-1}$  Bottstein.

Same for complex cobordism - have noncommutative multiplication.

$MU(\text{space})$  is module over  $\oplus$  [mod of formal gps]  
no ring structure etc...?

Product in  $MU$ :  $MU(X)$  an algebra:  $V \times W \rightarrow X$   
 $V \xrightarrow{f} X$     $W \xrightarrow{g} X$  maps  $\Rightarrow$  take  $\downarrow$   $\downarrow$   
 $V \times W \rightarrow X \times X$

Other picture  $[X, MU] = \lim_{k \rightarrow \infty} \{ \pi^{n+k} \pi_1 X, MU(k) \}$   
stabilized picture

$BV(k) \times BV(l) \rightarrow BV(k+l)$  .

$\uparrow$                        $\uparrow$   
 $\xi_k \times \xi_l \longrightarrow \xi_{k+l}$  Universal bundle

On Thom complexes  $BV(k)^{\xi_k} \wedge BV(l)^{\xi_l} \rightarrow BV(k+l)^{\xi_{k+l}}$   
 $MU(k) \wedge MU(l) \rightarrow MU(k+l)$

Ring spectrum — get product on  $[X, MU]$   
(everything on pointed spaces..)

Suspension = join with circle, join & suspension don't commute

Kirillov: bordism of join more or less tensor product,  
up to higher terms

Specialize: want hope to get commutative one

Want  $H^*(pt)$  coming for any formal group,  $H^*(-)$  modules over this ring. — too naive since rings aren't commutative... what happens to tensor product etc.:  
ring of constants always commutative...

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$K(1)(RP^2, \mathbb{F}_2)$  source of all difficulties (K-theory)  
 } (grad)commutative up to two torsion  
 relates in dg K-theory to  $\{ -1, -1 \} \neq 0 \dots$   
 }  $x^2$  need not be zero for  $x$  odd: is it almost supercommutative?  
 }  $H^*(RP^2, \mathbb{F}_2)$  is commutative not exterior.  
 } - problem is more severe than this...

$$xy - yx = \beta(\text{something}), \beta^2 = 0 \Rightarrow$$

$$xy + yx = \beta(xy) \text{ makes sense.}$$

$Q$  is interaction of involution on  $MU(X \times X)$  & product  
description  $MU(x) \otimes MU(x) \dots$

M. Boardman: topf algebra of operations not 2.

Lazard ring  $V \hookrightarrow \text{Spec } L$  subvariety.

$X \hookrightarrow \partial_X^*$  sheaf  $MU(X)$  of  $MU^*$ -modules

$i^* \partial_X^* \dashrightarrow \partial_X^*$  how to construct such pullbacks?  
 $\downarrow \quad \quad \quad i \quad \quad \quad \text{Spec } L$  usual pullback doesn't preserve  
exactness --- won't be

(cohomology)  $\dashrightarrow$  need derived pullback  $R\Gamma^* \mathcal{D}$   
 $\exists$  construction when  $V$  is complete intersection  
or open (loc preserves exactness)  $\dashrightarrow$  have spectrum relating K-theory  
strata (orbits of questions) are complete intersections

$[p](T) = pT + \dots + V_1 T^p + \dots$  p-series, or formal gro-  
Strata at p defined by  $V_1, V_2, \dots, V_{n+1} = 0$ .

$MU$   $\in$  (Spectra),  $\exists$  morphisms  $V_1, \dots, V_{n+1}: \underline{MU} \rightarrow$   
(of positive degrees)

$\rightarrow$  take cokernel; hard in homotopy theory  
(need EKMM etc...)

$$\underline{MU} \xrightarrow{\sim} \underline{MC}$$

$$\begin{array}{ccc} V_2 & \downarrow & \bar{V}_n \\ \underline{MU} & \xrightarrow{\sim} & \underline{MC} \end{array}$$

take some kind of cone.

Originally done geometrically, in terms of cobordism with singularities, use Koszul complex of complete singularity....

- but need to choose explicit geometric representation, see a posteriori: Index of classes.

Singularities - corner-type problems.

Some difficulty as with multiplicities at  $r=2$ .

$V \times V \odot$  flip map, reduce into mapping torus over  $S^1$  dim  $V$  even, torus is odd dim,  $MV^{\text{odd}} = 0$

$\Rightarrow$  torus is the boundary of surgery

$$\underline{MV} \xrightarrow{V} \underline{MV} \longrightarrow \text{cobord}$$

Handle of cobord are  $MV^{\text{odd}} / ([V])$

$[X, \text{cobord}]_n = MV / ([V])^+ (X)$  : is this an  $MV^*/([V])$ -module?  
obviously  $MV^*$  module ~~is~~ i.e. does mult. by

$$[V] = 0 \text{ "universally" ?}$$

Obstruction to this & class of mapping tori...

XY Cobordism classes with singularities of type  $V_1, \dots, V_n$ ,

$$[\partial M] = \frac{1}{k} \text{ cone on } V_k \times (-)$$

$Y \times X$  is cobord class with sing of type  $V_1, \dots, V_n, V_1, \dots, V_n$

But this theory is  $MV^* [V_1, \dots, V_n] \otimes_{\text{green}} (\beta V_1, \dots, \beta V_n)_{\text{blue}}$   
 $\text{blue} \otimes \text{blue} \text{ Backtrack}$

$\Rightarrow$  get multiplication, but very tricky!

Cobordism operations essentially same.

$$(K\alpha) \hookrightarrow h^n$$

$$\begin{array}{c} K\alpha \\ K\alpha \circ f \\ K\alpha \circ f \end{array} \hookrightarrow h^m$$

$\exists$  universal deformation in normal direction  
"connection"

af2 Steenrod algebra: formal distributions on formal additive group.

In general Steenrod co algebra (dual)

$$A^* = F_2 [\xi_1, \xi_2, \dots] \text{ polynomial, } \Delta \xi_k = \sum_{i+j=k} \xi_i^p \otimes \xi_j$$

Spec  $A^*$

p odd  $A^* = P(G, \dots) \otimes E(C, \dots)$  poly  $\otimes$  exterior  
Milnor's Bocksteins

Milnor's  $\beta$ 's :  $Q_k : H^* \rightarrow H^{*+2p^k-1}$ , derivations,

$$P(\xi, \dots) \leftrightarrow \text{Aut}(\widehat{G}_a) \quad E(N)$$

$E(\xi, \dots) \leftrightarrow$  exterior algebra on normal sheaf to  $\widehat{G}_a$   
in moduli of formal groups (Cochranean CN)

$$N = H^2(\widehat{G}_a, \mathbb{H}_p) \quad \text{Lichtenbaum Tate clef function group}$$

Bockstein, core as normal directions to each  $K_{\text{tors}}$ )  
along  $K(-)$  ...

$$\partial M = \coprod \text{Core } K_p \times (Q_p)_M \quad \text{Bockstein stars}$$

$\sim Q_p^2 = 0$ : just place of singularity of  $\partial M$ .

Has action  $E^*(N) \otimes \text{node} \rightarrow \text{node}$

Normal normal connection/direction, natural under automorph.  
 $A_{(2)}$  noncommutative, extension of exterior by smoothing with polynomial

$(\mathcal{M}, \mathcal{L})$  triangulated functor from stable homotopy category to derived category of equivariant sheaves on "Spec  $\mathbb{Z}/2\mathbb{Z}$ "  $\mathcal{L}$ .  
(moduli stack of 1-dim formal groups)

$$X \mapsto \mathcal{O}_X^* \quad \text{Index } * \in \{0, 1\} \quad \text{even/odd graded}$$

$SHot$ ,  $\otimes$ -triangulated,  $(SHot)_{\text{compact}}$  compact objects  
 $\Rightarrow$  coh. Functor  $X \mapsto \mathcal{O}_X^*$   $SHot \rightarrow \mathbb{Z}/2\mathbb{Z}$ -graded coherent sheaves of grad-comm algebras over  $(F_{\text{GFS}})$

Over  $\mathbb{Q}$ :  $\text{pt}/G_m$ , get  $H^*(X; \mathbb{Q})$

No notion of cobordological functor with values in algebras ...  
shifts in degree don't make sense

from  $H_0(\text{spaces}) \rightarrow$  sheaves of algebras  
but after suspension ( $\rightarrow SHot$ ) lose alg. structure  
 $H_0(\text{Spac}) \rightarrow \mathbb{Z}/2\mathbb{Z}$ -gr. sheaves of gr.-com. algebras.

Morphisms in  $(F_{\text{GFS}})$ : all bord changes, not just strict isomorphisms.

Over  $\mathbb{Q}$ :  $G_m \circ \mathcal{O}$ : sheaf on  $BG_m$  =  
graded vector space.

Even, odd parts will both be  $G_m$ -tors.

$G_a$  is char  $p$ ! So add. progress law, get  $\mathbb{Z}$ -gradings

Other theories can have stable group ( $n \Rightarrow$  don't get Z-grading)  $\oplus_{\mathbb{Z}} k(n) \supseteq \mathbb{Z} (p^{n-1})$  cyclic grading  
even odd  $p^n$  roots of unity

Suspension of  $X \leftrightarrow \oplus \mathcal{O}_{S^2}$  like bundle defined  
by two-sphere  $\mathcal{O}_{\Sigma^2 X}^* = \mathcal{O}_X^{*+1}$

$$\mathcal{O}_{\Sigma^2 X} \cong \mathcal{O}_X \otimes \mathcal{O}_{S^2} : \text{non-equivariantly } \mathcal{O}_{\Sigma^2 X} \cong \mathcal{O}_X$$

Parameter corresponds to Chern generator: so  $\mathcal{O}_{S^2}$   
corresponds to tangent bundle of  $S^2 \dots$  basic character of  $\text{Gr}^*$   
for  $S'$ : can't take square root ... maybe need not  
but  $\sqrt{\text{Gr}^*}$  as ~~square~~ extensor accounts for  
grading,  $\mathbb{Z}/2 \in \text{Center } \sqrt{\text{Gr}^*}$ .

→ Gerbe of square roots of basic line bundle  
... are these symmetries of line acting or two-sheeted covering?

$$\mathcal{O}_{S^1} = \mathcal{O}_0 [e]/(e^2) \cdot \mathcal{O}_{S^1} = \mathcal{O}$$

for species (non-reduced cobordism)

for spectra: ...

$\mathcal{O}_{S^2}$  should be canonical bundle over  $(\text{Fins})$ ,  
fiber is Lie algebra of formal group.

Should have square root of this bundle,  $\mathcal{O}_{S^1}$ .

In char 0  $\mathcal{O}_{\text{Gr}^*}$ , acts by standard character on tangent soc.  
need square root of this! i.e. double covering  
of diffeo  $\supset$  center  $\mathbb{Z}/2$ .

Given stack & line bundle construct super-stack  
via gerbe of square roots of bundle

$$I \rightarrow \text{Diff}_0 \rightarrow \widetilde{\text{Diff}} \rightarrow \widetilde{\mathbb{G}}_m \rightarrow I$$

$$\mathbb{Z}[t_k/k_{\geq 1}] \quad T \mapsto t_0 T + \sum_{k \geq 1} t_k T^{k+1}$$

Mores in Brauer volume ...: cobordism correspondence

$Z \rightarrow X = Y \leftarrow$  Lie-algebra-square-root covers ...

$H_0(\text{Spec}) \rightarrow$  Sheaves on superstack

Suspension  $\rightarrow \oplus \mathcal{O}_{S^1}$

join  $\rightarrow$  tensor product moduli space Tor ...

Dual Hopf algebra  $MV_* \otimes \mathbb{S}^*$

- degrees get mixed up  
 $\text{Maps } (\mathbb{S}^m, \mathbb{S}^n) = 0 \text{ if } m < n$

Alg-top intrinsically 1-dim: everything built from spheres ...  $\rightsquigarrow$  1-dim fund gps (Atiyah)

1-dim:  $(\mathbb{P}^\infty = BS^1)$

Borel model of equivariant cobordism very "small"  
 - fiber at identity of relative bigger object on some group object ...

$X, Y = S^0 : \text{Ext}(G, (\text{canonical})^*)$

Lie bundle is tangent to universal 1-dim fibral group  
 $m/m^2$  cotangent.  $0 \rightarrow \text{can}^2 \rightarrow m/m^2 \rightarrow m/m^2 \rightarrow 0$   
 - splits over fixed point but

not nec over adiabatic space ...  $\rightarrow$  canonical  
 $\text{Ext}'(O(-2), O(-1)) \leftrightarrow \text{Ext}'(G \text{ by adiab.})$   
 - - - elab of  $E_2$  term. Does it sum?

On big cell of stratification: localization of K-theory

- gives first line of spectral sequence  
 where image of  $J$  lies.

Elliptic coh gives zero only at primes 2, 3,  $\mathbb{R}$  (compact to K-theory)  
 gives everything up to dim 55

TMF agrees with classical modular forms away from 2, 3  
 Analog at higher pros comes from ht p-1 at p.  
 e.g.  $p=3$  ht 2 contributes ...

Ell. curve  $\rightarrow$  f.gps is "formally smooth": but stabilizing  
 on ell curve side smaller.

Evidence with condition: ht in for  $X \iff$  ht not for  $LX$   
 $K(\text{loop spaces}) \leftrightarrow$  ell coh ( $X$ )

$$\begin{array}{ccc} H_T^*(LX) & \sim & KX \\ \text{ht} = 0 & & \text{ht} \neq 0 \end{array} \quad K_T LX \sim \begin{array}{c} \text{Ell } X \\ \text{ht } 2 \end{array}$$

have Line bundle which is square root of the Lie algebra...

- considering square rootation : 1-dim odd vector space  
 & 1-dim even, square goes odd  $\rightarrow$  superconductor.  
 Can we lift this to formal group level?

Adams-Novikov S.S. :  $X \mapsto \partial_X^*$  covariant.

$${}^{\text{(")}} E_2 = \underset{\text{stack}}{\operatorname{Ext}^*}(\mathcal{O}_Y, \mathcal{O}_X) \Rightarrow \operatorname{Gr}_{\infty}[XY] = \operatorname{Ext} \text{ in stack}$$

$$[XY] = \lim_{\leftarrow} \operatorname{Map}[S^{k+1} \times S^k Y]$$

not quite...

$$[S^0, X] \Rightarrow H^*(\text{stack}, \mathcal{O}_X)$$

On homology theory (coherent version)  
 $X = S^0$   $[S^0 Y] = \pi_1 S(Y) \Leftarrow \text{if } (\text{stack}, \mathcal{O}_Y(n))$

two indexes :  $\operatorname{Ext}^*(\mathcal{O}_Y, \mathcal{O}(n)) \Rightarrow [XY]$

Hopkins : stack of elliptic curves instead.

$$f(x^{-i}) = f(X) \partial^i Y, \text{ formal autos are } f(X) = \sum a_i X^i$$

Composition:  $f(g(x)) = \sum f_i g_k \partial^i X^{p^{k+i}}$   
 $\Rightarrow$  coproduct  $\Delta f_i = \sum_{j+k=i} f_j \otimes f_k^{(p)}$

Adams-Novikov:  $E_2^{s=1} = \operatorname{Ext}_{S\text{-stack}}^s(\mathcal{O}_X, \mathcal{O}_X) \Rightarrow \operatorname{Ext}_{\text{Lie}(S^1)}^s(X, Y)$   
 $s = (1\text{-dim f.g.s})$

$t \in \mathbb{Z}$  ...  $X$  Auto complex: bundle b.s.

"no absolute topology" - can shift : term  $\square$   
 $\operatorname{Ext}$  here are just cohomology as ~~MU~~  $\square$  ~~Adams~~ Adams-Novikov  
 $MU_* MU^*$  - module.....

Homology version:  $X$  finite cx  $MU_* X = 0$   $\times < 0$

Lichtenbaum-Novikov coalgebra  $LN = MU_*(pt) \otimes S_*$  ( $\square$   $\times < 0$ )

$S_* = \text{tors or group of elts}$

$\operatorname{Ext}(MU_*(X), MU_*(X))$  - everyting positively graded  
 $LN$ -coalgebra



order 2  $\eta : S^3 \rightarrow S^2$  best fibration map - natural candidate  
 order 24  $\downarrow : S^7 \rightarrow S^3$  for Dyer-Lashof extens. class  
 (guarantees  $\pi^{n+1}(S^n) = \mathbb{Z}/h$ )

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Any cohomology theory is a fiber functor for stable homotopy category  $\Rightarrow$  automatically enriched by its operations.  $\Rightarrow$  Adams spectral sequence  
 trying to calculate maps in stable homotopy category from Ext groups over operations... won't suffice  
 to filtering for periodic features : e.g. K-theory just calculates bottom row ...  $H^*$  will but not efficiently.

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$G$  simple Lie group  $\pi_3(G) \cong \mathbb{Z} \Rightarrow$   
 $G \rightarrow H(\mathbb{Z}, 3)$  E-M space  
Fact:  $E_8 \rightarrow H(\mathbb{Z}, 3)$  homotopy equivalence up to dim. 12!

$BU\langle 6 \rangle$  : 6-connected cover of  $BU$  ...

$H^* BU = \bigcup_{C_i} \mathbb{Z} \oplus \mathbb{Z} \oplus \mathbb{Z} \oplus \mathbb{Z}$  etc so

$BU\langle 6 \rangle$  just means killing off  $C_1, C_2$

$MO\langle 8 \rangle$ : kill a Stiefel-Whitney  $w_3$  : "String" manifold  
 free loop space is spin. Higher  $MO\langle n \rangle$ 's &  $BU\langle n \rangle$ 's have nasty big cohomology ...