

# Algebraic topology and algebraic number theory

## Graduate Student Topology & Geometry Conference

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<http://math.berkeley.edu/~ericp/latex/talks/austin-2014.pdf>

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# Formal groups

In this talk,  $p$  is an *odd* prime and  $k$  is a finite field,  $\text{char } k = p$ .

## Definition

A *formal group law* is a power series  $x +_F y \in R[[x, y]]$  satisfying  
 $x +_F 0 = x$ ,  $x +_F y = y +_F x$ ,  $x +_F (y +_F z) = (x +_F y) +_F z$ .

## Idea

Complex geometry: these come from charts on Lie groups.  
Arithmetic geometry: take a more exotic  $R$  than  $\mathbb{C}$ , like  $\mathbb{F}_p$ .

## Example: $\mathbb{G}_m$

The formal multiplicative group  $\mathbb{G}_m$  is presented by

$$x +_{\mathbb{G}_m} y = 1 - (1 - x)(1 - y) = x + y - xy.$$

# Some local class field theory

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## Theorem (Lubin–Tate)

For a local number field  $K$ , there is a *maximal abelian extension*:

$$\text{Gal}(K^{\text{ab}}/K) = \text{Gal}(\bar{K}/K)^{\text{ab}}.$$

One can construct it explicitly by studying the torsion points of a certain formal group  $\Gamma_K$  over  $\mathcal{O}_K$ .

Example:  $K = \mathbb{Q}_p$

$\Gamma_{\mathbb{Q}_p}$  is given by  $\mathbb{G}_m$ . “Torsion points” of  $\mathbb{G}_m$  are unipotent elements, and in fact  $\mathbb{Q}_p^{\text{ab}} = \mathbb{Q}_p(\zeta_n : n > 0)$ .

# Fields in stable homotopy theory

A *field spectrum* is a ring spectrum with Künneth isomorphisms.

E.g.:

$$\left. \begin{array}{l} H^{dR} = H\mathbb{R}, \\ H\mathbb{F}_p, \end{array} \right\} \text{ordinary}$$

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## Theorem (Devnatz–Hopkins–Smith)

There is a bijection

$$\left\{ \begin{array}{l} \text{formal groups} \\ \text{over } k \end{array} \right\} \xrightarrow{K} \left\{ \begin{array}{l} \text{2-periodic} \\ \text{field spectra} \\ \text{with } \pi_0 = k \end{array} \right\}.$$

The spectrum  $K(\Gamma)$  is called *the Morava K-theory for  $\Gamma$* .

Example:  $\Gamma = \mathbb{G}_m$

$KU/p$  is a model for  $K(\mathbb{G}_m)$ .

# Homology operations and Morava $E$ -theories

Our three examples come with natural “deformations”:

$$H\mathbb{R} \rightarrow H\mathbb{R}, \quad H\mathbb{Z}_p \rightarrow H\mathbb{F}_p, \quad KU_p^\wedge \rightarrow KU/p.$$

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**Theorem (Morava et al.)**

For  $d = \text{ht}(\Gamma)$  finite,  $K(\Gamma)$  has  $d$  Bocksteins, giving a spectrum

$$E(\Gamma) \rightarrow K(\Gamma)$$

called *the Morava  $E$ -theory for  $\Gamma$* . It takes values in modules over  $\text{Def}(\Gamma) = \mathbb{W}(k)[[u_1, \dots, u_{d-1}]]$  with an  $\text{Aut } \Gamma$  action.

**Example:  $\Gamma = \mathbb{G}_m$**

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# Homotopy groups via $L$ -functions

$E(\Gamma)$  is valued in modules over  $\text{Def}(\Gamma) = \mathbb{W}(k)[[u_1, \dots, u_{d-1}]]$  with an  $\text{Aut } \Gamma$  action.

Theorem (Harris–Taylor et al., “local Langlands correspondence”)

There is a correspondence among certain representations of:

$$\text{Aut } \Gamma, \quad \text{GL}_d(K), \quad W_K \subset \text{Gal}(\bar{K}/K).$$

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Theorem (Salch(–Morava), special case of  $\Gamma = \mathbb{G}_m$ )

For nice enough finite cell complexes  $X$ , there is an  $L$ -function

$$L(E(\mathbb{G}_m)_*(X); s).$$

It is analytic to the right of a pole at  $s = \dim X$ , and its special values at  $s > \dim X$  have denominators encoding the ranks of the  $E(\mathbb{G}_m)$ -local homotopy groups of  $X$  away from 2.

# Homotopy groups via $L$ -functions

Example:  $L_{E(\mathbb{G}_m)} S^0$  (Adams–Hopkins–Ravenel)

The  $L$ -function associated to  $S^0$  is the Riemann  $\zeta$ -function.

$n$	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
$ \pi_{2n+1} L_{E(\mathbb{G}_m)} S^0 $	$2^3 3^1$	1	$2^4 3^1 5^1$	$2^1$	$2^3 3^2 7^1$	1	$2^5 3^1 5^1$
$\text{denom}(\zeta(-n))$	$2^2 3^1$	1	$2^3 3^1 5^1$	1	$2^2 3^2 7^1$	1	$2^4 3^1 5^1$

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## Idea

This set-up encourages us to work one prime at a time and invoke Euler factorizations and  $p$ -adic  $L$ -functions.

What might  $n \in \mathbb{Z}_p$  mean on the homotopy groups side?

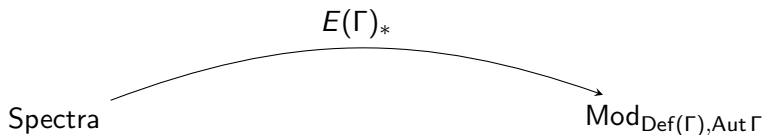
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Question

What are the  $\wedge$ -invertible objects in  $\text{Spectra}_{K(\Gamma)}$ ?

## Theorems (Hopkins–Mahowald–Sadofsky; Hopkins–Strickland)

For  $\Gamma = \mathbb{G}_m$  and  $p \geq 3$ ,  $\text{Pic} = \mathbb{Z}_p^\times \rtimes \mathbb{Z}/2$  (even spheres  $\rtimes S^1$ ).  
The homotopy groups of  $L_{K(\mathbb{G}_m)}\mathcal{S}^{-1}$  indexed on the  $\mathbb{Z}_p^\times$ -factor in  $\text{Pic}$  agree with the  $p$ -adic interpolation of the  $\zeta$ -function.

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## Theorems (Goerss, Hopkins, Mahowald, Rezk, Sadofsky)

- $\Gamma = \mathbb{G}_m$ ,  $p = 2$ :  $\mathbb{Z}/2 \times (\mathbb{Z}_2^\times \rtimes \mathbb{Z}/2)$ .
- $\Gamma = C_{ss}$ ,  $p \geq 5$ :  $(\mathbb{Z}_p \times \mathbb{Z}_p \times \mathbb{Z}/(p^2 - 1)) \rtimes \mathbb{Z}/2$ .
- $\Gamma = C_{ss}$ ,  $p = 3$ :  $\mathbb{Z}/3 \times \mathbb{Z}/3 \times ((\mathbb{Z}_3 \times \mathbb{Z}_3 \times \mathbb{Z}/(3^2 - 1)) \rtimes \mathbb{Z}/2)$ .

All other values unknown. How can we compute them? What can these say about Salch's  $L$ -functions?

## Bonus slide: Lines in the $K(\Gamma)$ -local category

### Theorem (Hopkins–Mahowald–Sadofsky)

A spectrum  $X$  is  $K(\Gamma)$ -locally invertible if and only if  $K(\Gamma)_*X$  is a  $K(\Gamma)_*$ -line (i.e.,  $\dim K(\Gamma)_*X = 1$ ).

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## Theorem (P.)

If  $X$  is a space with  $K(\Gamma)^*X$  a power series ring, there is a map

$$T_+L_{K(\Gamma)}\Sigma^\infty X \rightarrow L_{K(\Gamma)}\Sigma^\infty X$$

selecting its algebro-geometric tangent space on cohomology.

E.g.:

- $T_+\mathbb{C}P^\infty \simeq \mathbb{C}P^1 \simeq S^2$ .

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E.g.:

- $T_+\mathbb{C}P^\infty \simeq \mathbb{C}P^1 \simeq S^2$ .
- $T_+K(\mathbb{Q}_p/\mathbb{Z}_p, d) \simeq S^0[\det]$  for  $p \gg d$ .