

## References:

- Barnes & Reitzheim, Foundations:
- Adams, Stable Homotopy & Generalized Homology  
(part III)

## Suspension.

Spaces (= CGWH or sSets)

Spaces<sub>\*</sub> = pointed spaces

$[X, Y]$  = pointed homotopy classes of maps.

$$X \wedge Y = X \times Y / X \vee Y$$

$S^0$  is the monoidal unit.

The suspension of  $X$  is

$$\Sigma X = S^1 \wedge X = [0, 1] \times X / \begin{matrix} \{0\} \times X \\ \{1\} \times X \\ [0, 1] \times \ast \end{matrix}$$

ex.  $\Sigma S^n = S^{n+1}$ ,

$$[X, Y] \longrightarrow [\Sigma X, \Sigma Y].$$

Observation 1 ~ these preserve some information.

## Freudenthal suspension thm.

If  $X$  is a CW-complex of  $\dim \leq 2n$ ,  
if  $Y$  is  $n$ -connected ( $\pi_k Y = 0$  for  $k \leq n$ ),  
then  $[X, Y] \xrightarrow{\sim} [\Sigma X, \Sigma Y]$ .

Cor. If  $Y$  is  $n$ -connected,

$$\pi_k Y \xrightarrow{\sim} \pi_{k+1} \Sigma Y \quad \text{for } k \leq 2n.$$

Cor.  $\pi_{n+k} S^n \xrightarrow{\sim} \pi_{n+k+1} S^{n+1}$  for  $n \geq k+2$ .

ex.  $\pi_1 S^0 \rightarrow \pi_2 S^1 \rightarrow \pi_3 S^2 \rightarrow \pi_4 S^3 \rightarrow \pi_5 S^4 \rightarrow \dots$

$\begin{matrix} \parallel & \parallel & \parallel & \parallel & \parallel \\ 0 & 0 & \mathbb{Z} & \mathbb{Z}/2 & \mathbb{Z}/2 \end{matrix}$

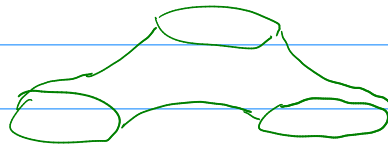
$$\pi_k^{st} S = \operatorname{colim}_{n \rightarrow \infty} \pi_{n+k} S^n$$

Observation 2. Many other things are stable.

ex.  $\tilde{H}^* X = \tilde{H}^{*+1} \Sigma X$

This preserves the action of the Steenrod operations, (not the cup product)

ex. Consider the group of  $n$ -manifolds with (complex structure, orientation, spin structure, ... ) up to bordism.



$\operatorname{Bord} G_n =$  bordism group of  $n$ -manifolds with  $G$ -structure.

Then defined spaces  $M G(n)$

$$\operatorname{Bord} G_n = \operatorname{colim}_{k \rightarrow \infty} \pi_{n+k} M G(k)$$

The Spanier-Whitehead category.

Objects: pairs  $(X, n)$  pointed

$X =$  finite CW-complex,  $n \in \mathbb{Z}$ .

$$\operatorname{Maps}_{sw}((X, n), (Y, m)) = \operatorname{colim}_{k \rightarrow \infty} \left[ \Sigma^{n+k} X, \Sigma^{m+k} Y \right]$$

$$(X, n+m) \cong (\Sigma^n X, m) \text{ in SW.}$$

Think of  $(X, n)$  as a formal suspension/desuspension.

In spaces,  $\pi_a S^b \times \pi_b S^c \xrightarrow{\circ} \pi_a S^c$ .

In SW,  $\pi_* S = \bigoplus_{n \in \mathbb{Z}} \text{Maps}_{\text{SW}}((S^0, n), (S^0, 0))$

is a graded ring.

$$(S^n, m) \cong (S^0, nm)$$

Metaphor 1 - Spectra are supposed to contain "infinite suspensions"  $\Sigma^\infty X$  of any pointed space  $X$ .  
Suspension is invertible.

Generalized cohomology theories.

Def. These are functors  $\tilde{E}^*: \text{Spaces}^{\text{op}} \rightarrow \text{GrAb}$   
such that:

①  $\tilde{E}^*$  is homotopy invariant.

②  $\tilde{E}^* X \cong \tilde{E}^{*+1} \Sigma X$ , natural in  $X$ .

③ If  $A \hookrightarrow X$  is an inclusion of pointed spaces, there's an exact sequence

$$\tilde{E}^*(X/A) \rightarrow \tilde{E}^*(X) \rightarrow \tilde{E}^*(A).$$

④  $\tilde{E}^*$  takes coproducts to products.

Unreduced:  $E^*(X) = \tilde{E}^*(X \amalg *)$ .

Can use ③ and ④ to reduce computation of  $\tilde{E}^* X$  to  $\tilde{E}^* S^n$ , and ② to  $\tilde{E}^*(S^0) = E^*(*)$ .

ex.  $\tilde{H}^*(X; \mathbb{R})$ .  $\tilde{H}^*(S^0; \mathbb{R}) = \mathbb{R}$ .

ex.  $KU^0 X = \text{group completion of } \{ \text{iso classes of complex VBs} / X \}$   
 $RU^0 X = \ker(KU^0 X \rightarrow KU^0(*))$ .

$$\begin{array}{c}
 A \hookrightarrow X \longrightarrow X/A \\
 \searrow \qquad \qquad \qquad \uparrow \\
 \qquad \qquad \qquad X \cup (CA \longrightarrow \Sigma A \longrightarrow \Sigma X)
 \end{array}$$

$$\widetilde{K}U^{-n} X = \widetilde{K}U^0(\Sigma^n X) \text{ for } n > 0.$$

Bott periodicity:

$$\widetilde{K}U^0(X) \cong \widetilde{K}U^0(\Sigma^2 X),$$

$$\text{Define } \widetilde{K}U^n(X) = \widetilde{K}U^n(\Sigma^{2k} X) \cong \widetilde{K}U^{n-2k} X.$$

$$\widetilde{K}U^*(S^0) = \mathbb{Z}[\beta^{\pm 1}], \quad |\beta| = 2.$$

Metaphor 2. Since cohomology theories are stable invariants, they should be representable as spectra.

$$\begin{array}{ccc}
 X & \longrightarrow & \Sigma^\infty X \\
 \uparrow & & \uparrow \\
 \text{Spaces}_* & & \text{Spectra}
 \end{array}$$

Brown representability. For any  $\widehat{E}^*$ , there's a spectrum  $E$  such that  $\widehat{E}^n(X) = [\Sigma^{-n} \Sigma^\infty X, E]$ .

Infinite loop spaces.

Brown showed: for any  $\widehat{E}^*$ , there are spaces  $E^n$  such that

$$\widehat{E}^n(X) = [X, E^n].$$

ex.  $\widehat{H}^n(X; R) = [X, K(R, n)]$

this has  
 $\pi_n K(R, n) = R$   
 $\pi_k K(R, 0) = 0$  for  $k \neq n$ .

$$\text{ex. } \widetilde{K}U^n(X) = \begin{cases} [X, \mathbb{Z} \times BU] & (n \text{ even}) \\ [X, \Omega(\mathbb{Z} \times BU)] & (n \text{ odd}) \end{cases}$$

$$[X, E^n] \cong [\Sigma X, E^{n+1}] \cong [X, \Omega E^{n+1}].$$

$E^n \cong \Omega E^{n+1} \cong \Omega^2 E^{n+2} \cong \dots$   
 $E^n$  is an infinite loop space.

ex.  $K(\mathbb{R}, n) \cong \Omega K(\mathbb{R}, n+1) \cong \Omega^2 K(\mathbb{R}, n+2).$

ex.

$$\Omega^2 (\mathbb{Z} \times BU) = \Omega^2 BU \cong \mathbb{Z} \times BU.$$

So  $\mathbb{Z} \times BU$  is an infinite loop space.

If  $X$  is a loop space,  $X = \Omega X'$ ,

there's a multiplication map

$$X \times X \longrightarrow X.$$

$[A, X]$  is a group.

If  $X$  is a double loop space,

$[A, X]$  is an abelian group.

An infinite loop space has an  $E_\infty$  algebra structure

- a multiplication that's associative + commutative up to a homotopy that's as "coherent as possible".

Thm (May). Suppose  $X$  is an  $E_\infty$ -algebra, and

$\pi_0 X$  is a group. Then  $X$  is equivalent (as  $E_\infty$ -algebra) to an infinite loop space.

Metaphor 3. Every infinite loop space is associated to a spectrum.

$$E \longleftarrow \Omega^\infty E$$

$$[\Sigma^\infty X, E]_{Sp} \cong [X, \Omega^\infty E]_{\text{Spectra}}$$

In Spaces,  
cofiber sequence:  
 $A \rightarrow X \rightarrow X \cup CA \rightarrow \Sigma A \rightarrow \Sigma X$

induce LES on cohomology (& on homology).

fiber sequence:  
 $\Omega E \rightarrow \Omega B \rightarrow F \rightarrow E \rightarrow B$

induce LES on homotopy groups.

Spectra is a category "like Spaces"  
 in which fiber sequences are cofiber sequences & vice versa.

Other examples: derived category of a ring  $R$ ,  $\mathcal{D}(R)$

Abstract framework: stable model categories / stable  $\infty$ -categories.

Thm (Lurie) / Metaphor 4.

Spectra is the free presentable stable  $\infty$ -category on one object.

It's also the initial presentably symmetric monoidal stable  $\infty$ -category.

ex.  $\mathcal{D}(R) \simeq \{ \text{Modules over } HR \text{ inside spectra} \}$   
 $\uparrow$   
 represents  $\tilde{H}^*(\cdot; R)$ .

$$\underline{[\Sigma^\infty X, \Sigma^\infty Y]} = \text{cdim} [\Sigma^k X, \Sigma^k Y].$$