Gluing algebras to points

Birgit Richter

Celebrating Women in Mathematical Sciences, Copenhagen, 16th of May 2024 In an early example, one glues the commutative monoid $(\mathbb{N},+,0)$ to points in a space:

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where $SP^nX \to SP^{n+1}(X)$ sends $[x_1, \ldots, x_n]$ to $[x_0, x_1, \ldots, x_n]$. By counting multiplicities, you can write elements $[x_1, \ldots, x_n]$ as $\sum_{x \in X \setminus \{x_0\}} m_x x$ with $m_x \in \mathbb{N}$ and $m_x = 0$ for almost all $x \in X$. In an early example, one glues the commutative monoid $(\mathbb{N},+,0)$ to points in a space:

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Some categories are suitable for encoding algebraic properties: We consider finite sets $\{0, 1, ..., n\}$ with the natural ordering 0 < 1 < ... < n and call this ordered set [n] for all $n \ge 0$.

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so m codifies a commutative multiplication. Note that m is also associative.

Hochschild homology

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Here, $b = \sum_{i=0}^{n} (-1)^{i} d_{i}$ where $d_{i}(a_{0} \otimes \ldots \otimes a_{n}) = a_{0} \otimes \ldots \otimes a_{i} a_{i+1} \otimes \ldots a_{n}$ for i < n and $d_{n}(a_{0} \otimes \ldots \otimes a_{n}) = a_{n}a_{0} \otimes \ldots \otimes a_{n-1}$. A simplicial set is a functor $X : \Delta^{op} \to Sets$.

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$$d_i(j) = \begin{cases} j, & j < i \\ i, & j = i < n, \\ j - 1, & j > i. \end{cases} (0, \quad j = i = n),$$

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The circle had a cyclic ordering of the points, so A could be taken to be associative:



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If $f: [m] \to [n] \in \Delta$, then the induced map $f^*: \mathcal{L}_X(R)_n \to \mathcal{L}_X(R)_m$ is given by $f^*(\bigotimes_{x \in X_n} r_x) = \bigotimes_{y \in X_m} b_y$ with $b_y = \prod_{f(x)=y} r_x$ where the product over the empty set is defined to be $1 \in R$. In higher dimensions, the simplicial structure maps can merge points in all possible directions, so we need commutativity.

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- The case X = S¹ × ... × S¹ yields torus homology. For any two finite simplicial sets X and Y we always get

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So one can view torus homology as iterated (topological) Hochschild homology.

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connecting the algebraic K-theory of a ring R to its (topological) Hochschild homology. (*HR* is the Eilenberg-MacLane spectrum of R.)

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So iterating K-theory produces homotopically interesting objects.

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Theorem [Dundas-Lindenstrauss-R 2018; Mandell] For all $n \ge 2$:

$$\pi_*\mathcal{L}_{\mathcal{S}^n}(\mathbb{F}_p) \cong \operatorname{Tor}_{*,*}^{\pi_*\mathcal{L}_{\mathcal{S}^{n-1}}(\mathbb{F}_p)}(\mathbb{F}_p,\mathbb{F}_p)$$

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as a graded commutative algebra (with total grading). If we assume enough cofibrancy, then $\mathcal{L}_X(R)$ only depends on the homotopy type of X. What if it just depended on the homotopy type of ΣX ?

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Theorem [Dundas-Tenti 2018]:

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So the Loday construction is not stable in general.

Lindenstrauss-R, 2022: Thom spectra associated to Ω^{∞} -maps are stable, (real and complex) topological K-theory is stable and $HR \rightarrow HR/(a_1, \ldots, a_n)$ is stable if R is a commutative ring and the sequence (a_1, \ldots, a_n) is regular, ...

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In stable homotopy these are genuine commutative *G*-ring spectra. For these objects we (=Lindenstrauss-R-Zou) can define equivariant Loday constructions:

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Some important known equivariant homology theories can be identified as equivariant Loday constructions.



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