## String cobordism at the prime 3

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MSU at p = 2

Wilson spaces and Hopf rings

 $H_* BO(8)$  and  $H_* MO(8)$ 

Two change of rings isomorphisms

String cobordism or *MString* is Haynes Miller's name for the spectrum also known as MO(8),

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The Adams spectral sequence for MO(8)



Its homotopy type at the prime 2 is quite complicated and still not fully understood.



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At each prime larger than 3, it is known to split as a wedge of suspensions of the Brown-Peterson spectrum *BP*.



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Our goal is to study MO(8) at the prime 3.

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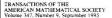
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Our goal is to study  $MO\langle 8 \rangle$  at the prime 3. This is the sweet spot in that its homotopy type is both interesting and accessible. It is the subject of a 1995 paper by Hovey and the third author.



## THE 7-CONNECTED COBORDISM RING AT p = 3

## MARK A. HOVEY AND DOUGLAS C. RAVENEL

ABSTRACT. In this paper, we study the cobordism spectrum MO(8) at the prime 3. This spectrum is important because it is conjectured to play the role for elliptic cohomology that Spin cobordism plays for real K-theory. We show that the torsion is all killed by 3, and that the Adams-Novikov spectral sequence collapses after only 2 differentials. Many of our methods apply more generally. String cobordism at the prime 3

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It is useful to compare this problem with the study of *MSO* (oriented cobordism) and *MSU* (special unitary cobordism) at the prime 2. String cobordism at the prime 3

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•  $A_* = P(\zeta_1, \zeta_2, ...)$  with  $|\zeta_i| = 2^i - 1$ .



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•  $\mathcal{A}_* = P(\zeta_1, \zeta_2, ...)$  with  $|\zeta_i| = 2^i - 1$ . This is the homology of the mod 2 Eilenberg-Mac Lane spectrum  $H\mathbb{Z}/2$ .



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- $(\mathcal{A}//\mathcal{A}(0))_* = P(\zeta_1^2, \zeta_2, \zeta_3, ...)$ . This is the homology of the integer Eilenberg-Mac Lane spectrum *H***Z**.



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- $(\mathcal{A}//\mathcal{A}(0))_* = P(\zeta_1^2, \zeta_2, \zeta_3, ...)$ . This is the homology of the integer Eilenberg-Mac Lane spectrum *H***Z**. There is one such summand for each monomial in the graded ring  $P(x_4, x_8, x_{12}, ...)$ .



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- $(\mathcal{A}//\mathcal{A}(0))_* = P(\zeta_1^2, \zeta_2, \zeta_3, ...)$ . This is the homology of the integer Eilenberg-Mac Lane spectrum *H***Z**. There is one such summand for each monomial in the graded ring  $P(x_4, x_8, x_{12}, ...)$ .

There is a corresponding splitting of the spectrum  $MSO_{(2)}$  into a wedge of integer and mod 2 Eilenberg-Mac Lane spectra. The Adams spectral sequence for MSO collapses from  $E_2$ .



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 $H_*MSU$  is the "double" of  $H_*MSO$ .



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• The double of  $\mathcal{A}_*$ ,  $P(\zeta_1^2, \zeta_2^2, \dots)$  with  $|\zeta_i| = 2^i - 1$ .



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- The double of  $A_*$ ,  $P(\zeta_1^2, \zeta_2^2, ...)$  with  $|\zeta_i| = 2^i 1$ . This is the homology of the spectrum *BP*.
- The double of  $(\mathcal{A}//\mathcal{A}(0))_*$ ,  $P(\zeta_1^4, \zeta_2^2, \zeta_3^2, \dots)$ .



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- The double of  $A_*$ ,  $P(\zeta_1^2, \zeta_2^2, ...)$  with  $|\zeta_i| = 2^i 1$ . This is the homology of the spectrum *BP*.
- The double of (A//A(0))\*, P(\(\zeta\_1^4, \zeta\_2^2, \zeta\_3^2, \dots)\)). You might think this is the homology of a new spectrum X.



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 $H_*MSU$  is the "double" of  $H_*MSO$ . This means that as a comodule over the dual mod 2 Steenrod algebra  $A_*$ ,  $H_*MSO$  splits as a direct sum of suspensions of two types:

- The double of A<sub>∗</sub>, P(ζ<sup>2</sup><sub>1</sub>, ζ<sup>2</sup><sub>2</sub>,...) with |ζ<sub>i</sub>| = 2<sup>i</sup> − 1. This is the homology of the spectrum BP.
- The double of  $(\mathcal{A}//\mathcal{A}(0))_*$ ,  $P(\zeta_1^4, \zeta_2^2, \zeta_3^2, \dots)$ . You might think this is the homology of a new spectrum *X*. There is one such summand for each monomial in the graded ring  $P(y_8, y_{16}, y_{24}, \dots)$ .



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$$H_*X = P(\zeta_1^4, \zeta_2^2, \zeta_3^2, \dots).$$

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$$H_*X = P(\zeta_1^4, \zeta_2^2, \zeta_3^2, \dots)$$

We find that

$$\pi_*X \cong \pi_*bo \otimes P(v_2, v_3, \ldots),$$

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where  $v_n \in \pi_{2(2^n-1)}$  (in Adams filtration 1) is related to the generator of  $\pi_*BP$  of the same name.

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where  $v_n \in \pi_{2(2^n-1)}$  (in Adams filtration 1) is related to the generator of  $\pi_*BP$  of the same name. Recall that  $\pi_*bo$  has torsion in dimensions congruent to 1 and 2 modulo 8.

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Here is the Adams  $E_2$  page for the hypothetical summand X of  $MSU_{(2)}$ .

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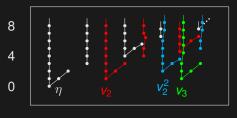
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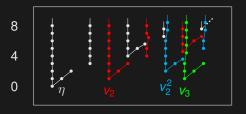
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In 1966 Pierre Conner and Ed Floyd proved that the torsion in  $\pi_*MSU$  is also confined to dimensions congruent to 1 and 2 modulo 8.

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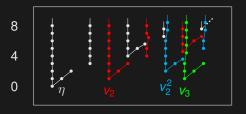
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In 1966 Pierre Conner and Ed Floyd proved that the torsion in  $\pi_*MSU$  is also confined to dimensions congruent to 1 and 2 modulo 8. This means  $\eta v_2$  must be killed by an Adams differential.

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$$P(\zeta_1^4, \zeta_2^2, \zeta_3^2, \dots) \otimes P(y_8, y_{16}, y_{24}, \dots) \subset H_*MSU.$$

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$$P(\zeta_1^4, \zeta_2^2, \zeta_3^2, \dots) \otimes P(y_8, y_{16}, y_{24}, \dots) \subset H_*MSU.$$

The Conner-Floyd theorem leads to Adams differentials

 $d_2(y_{2^{n+1}}) = \eta v_n \qquad \text{for } n \geq 2,$ 

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The Conner-Floyd theorem leads to Adams differentials

$$d_2(y_{2^{n+1}}) = \eta v_n \qquad \text{for } n \geq 2,$$

which we call Pengelley differentials.

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The Conner-Floyd theorem leads to Adams differentials

$$d_2(y_{2^{n+1}}) = \eta v_n \qquad \text{for } n \geq 2,$$

which we call Pengelley differentials.

This means that *MSU* does not split as expected into a wedge of suspensions of *X* and *BP*.

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The Conner-Floyd theorem leads to Adams differentials

$$d_2(y_{2^{n+1}}) = \eta v_n \qquad \text{for } n \ge 2,$$

which we call Pengelley differentials.

This means that MSU does not split as expected into a wedge of suspensions of X and BP. Instead of X, Pengelley gets a spectrum BoP with an additive  $A_*$ -comodule isomorphism

$$H_*BoP \cong P(\zeta_1^4, \zeta_2^2, \zeta_3^2, \dots) \otimes E(y_8, y_{16}, y_{32}, \dots).$$

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BoP is not known to be a ring spectrum,

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*BoP* is not known to be a ring spectrum, but it is known to support a map to *bo* inducing an isomorphism of torsion in  $\pi_*$ .

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Pengelley shows that  $MSU_{(2)}$  is equivalent to a wedge of suspensions of BoP and BP.

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Pengelley shows that  $MSU_{(2)}$  is equivalent to a wedge of suspensions of *BoP* and *BP*.

Spoiler: Our goal is to prove a similar statement about  $MO(8)_{(3)}$ .

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*BoP* is not known to be a ring spectrum, but it is known to support a map to *bo* inducing an isomorphism of torsion in  $\pi_*$ .

Pengelley shows that  $MSU_{(2)}$  is equivalent to a wedge of suspensions of *BoP* and *BP*.

**Spoiler:** Our goal is to prove a similar statement about  $MO\langle 8 \rangle_{(3)}$ . Our analog of *BoP* supports a map to *tmf* (instead of *bo*) inducing an isomorphism of torsion in  $\pi_*$ .

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Two change of rings isomorphisms

 $H_*BoP \cong P(\zeta_1^4, \zeta_2^2, \zeta_3^2, \dots) \otimes E(y_8, y_{16}, y_{32}, \dots).$ 

*BoP* is not known to be a ring spectrum, but it is known to support a map to *bo* inducing an isomorphism of torsion in  $\pi_*$ .

Pengelley shows that  $MSU_{(2)}$  is equivalent to a wedge of suspensions of *BoP* and *BP*.

**Spoiler:** Our goal is to prove a similar statement about  $MO\langle 8 \rangle_{(3)}$ . Our analog of *BoP* supports a map to *tmf* (instead of *bo*) inducing an isomorphism of torsion in  $\pi_*$ . Hence we call it *BmP*.

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# The space $BO(8)_{(3)}$ is a Wilson space,

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The space  $BO\langle 8 \rangle_{(3)}$  is a Wilson space, meaning that is has both torsion free homology and torsion free homotopy.

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The space  $BO(8)_{(3)}$  is a Wilson space, meaning that is has both torsion free homology and torsion free homotopy. Such spaces are classified by Steve Wilson in a 1973 paper.

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Given a spectrum E,

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Given a spectrum E, let  $E_k$  denote the kth space in its  $\Omega$ -spectrum.

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Given a spectrum *E*, let  $E_k$  denote the *k*th space in its  $\Omega$ -spectrum. We are interested in the spectra *BP* and  $BP\langle n \rangle$ .

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Given a spectrum  $\vec{E}$ , let  $\vec{E}_k$  denote the *k*th space in its  $\Omega$ -spectrum. We are interested in the spectra *BP* and *BP* $\langle n \rangle$ . Let  $e_n = (p^{n+1} - 1)/(p - 1) = 1 + p + \dots + p^n$ .

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Then Wilson shows the following:

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•  $BP_k$  is a Wilson space for each k.

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Given a spectrum  $\vec{E}$ , let  $\vec{E}_k$  denote the *k*th space in its  $\Omega$ -spectrum. We are interested in the spectra *BP* and *BP* $\langle n \rangle$ . Let  $e_n = (p^{n+1} - 1)/(p - 1) = 1 + p + \dots + p^n$ .

Then Wilson shows the following:

- $BP_k$  is a Wilson space for each k.
- $BP\langle n \rangle_k$  is one for  $k \leq 2e_n$ .

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Given a spectrum  $\vec{E}$ , let  $\vec{E}_k$  denote the *k*th space in its  $\Omega$ -spectrum. We are interested in the spectra BP and  $BP\langle n \rangle$ . Let  $e_n = (p^{n+1} - 1)/(p - 1) = 1 + p + \dots + p^n$ .

Then Wilson shows the following:

- $BP_k$  is a Wilson space for each k.
- $BP\langle n \rangle_k$  is one for  $k \leq 2e_n$ .
- Every Wilson space is equivalent to a product of these BP(n)ks.

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Then Wilson shows the following:

- $BP_k$  is a Wilson space for each k.
- $BP\langle n \rangle_k$  is one for  $k \leq 2e_n$ .
- Every Wilson space is equivalent to a product of these BP(n)ks.
- In particular, for such k, BP⟨n⟩<sub>k</sub> is a factor of BP<sub>k</sub> and of BP⟨n'⟩<sub>k</sub> for each n' > n.

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Given a homotopy commutative ring spectrum *E* (such as *BP* or  $BP\langle n \rangle$ ),

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•  $E_k$  is an infinite loop space,

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• *E<sub>k</sub>* is an infinite loop space, so *H<sub>\*</sub>E<sub>k</sub>* (with field coefficients) is a Hopf algebra.

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*E<sub>k</sub>* is an infinite loop space, so *H<sub>\*</sub>E<sub>k</sub>* (with field coefficients) is a Hopf algebra. Given *x*, *y* ∈ *H<sub>\*</sub>E<sub>k</sub>*, we denote their product by *x* ∗ *y*, the star product.

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- The multiplication in *E* induces maps  $E_k \times E_\ell \rightarrow E_{k+\ell}$ .

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- These two products make the graded space *E*, into a graded ring object in the category of coalgebras,

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- These two products make the graded space E<sub>•</sub> into a graded ring object in the category of coalgebras, a Hopf ring. The star and circle products are related by the Hopf ring distributive law,

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- These two products make the graded space *E*. into a graded ring object in the category of coalgebras, a Hopf ring. The star and circle products are related by the Hopf ring distributive law, in which they correspond respectively to addition and multiplication.

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 $[x] \in H_0 E_{-m},$ 

the Hurewicz image of  $x \in \pi_0 E_{-m}$ .

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$$[x] \in H_0 E_{-m},$$

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When *E* is complex oriented, we get a map  $\mathbf{C}P^{\infty} \rightarrow E_2$ ,

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When *E* is complex oriented, we get a map  $\mathbb{C}P^{\infty} \to E_2$ , under which we have

$$H_{2k}\mathbf{C}P^{\infty} \ni \beta_k \longmapsto b_k \in H_{2k}E_2.$$

where  $\beta_k$  is the usual generator of  $H_{2k}CP^{\infty}$ .

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where  $\beta_k$  is the usual generator of  $H_{2k} \mathbb{C} P^{\infty}$ .  $b_k$  is known to be decomposable under the star product when k is not a power of p.

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Two change of rings isomorphisms

We are interested in elements of the form

$$[v']b^{J} = [v_1^{i_1} \dots v_n^{i_n}]b_1^{i_0}b_p^{i_1} \dots \in H_{2m}BP\langle n \rangle_{2k}$$

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where the multiplication is the circle product,

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where the multiplication is the circle product,

$$m = ||J|| := j_0 + j_1 p + j_2 p^2 + \dots$$

and

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We are interested in elements of the form

$$[v^{l}]b^{J} = [v_{1}^{i_{1}} \dots v_{n}^{i_{n}}]b_{1}^{i_{0}}b_{p}^{i_{1}} \dots \in H_{2m}BP\langle n \rangle_{2k}$$

where the multiplication is the circle product,

$$m = ||J|| := j_0 + j_1 p + j_2 p^2 + \dots$$

and

$$k = |I| - ||I|| + |J|$$
  
=  $i_1 + \cdots + i_n - (i_1 p + \cdots + i_n p^n) + j_0 + j_1 + j_2 + \dots$ 

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It is known that  $H_*BP\langle n \rangle_{2k}$  for  $k \leq e_n$  is generated by such elements as a ring under the star product,

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It is known that  $H_*BP\langle n \rangle_{2k}$  for  $k \le e_n$  is generated by such elements as a ring under the star product, subject to the Hopf ring relation,

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$$m = ||J|| := j_0 + j_1 p + j_2 p^2 + \dots$$

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It is known that  $H_*BP\langle n \rangle_{2k}$  for  $k \leq e_n$  is generated by such elements as a ring under the star product, subject to the Hopf ring relation, which is related to the formal group law.

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$$k = |I| - ||I|| + |J|$$
  
=  $i_1 + \dots + i_n - (i_1p + \dots + i_np^n) + j_0 + j_1 + j_2 + \dots$ 

It is known that  $H_*BP\langle n \rangle_{2k}$  for  $k \leq e_n$  is generated by such elements as a ring under the star product, subject to the Hopf ring relation, which is related to the formal group law. For example, it implies that for each  $t \geq 0$ ,

$$[v_1]b^p_{p^t}=-b^{*p}_{p^t}\in H_{2p^{t+1}}BP\langle n
angle_2.$$

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We will refer to computations with the elements  $[v']b^{J}$ ,

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We will refer to computations with the elements  $[v']b^{J}$ , using the Hopf ring distributive law and the Hopf ring relation,

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We will refer to computations with the elements  $[v^{I}]b^{J}$ , using the Hopf ring distributive law and the Hopf ring relation, as bee keeping.



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It is known that  $H_*BP\langle n \rangle_{2k}$  is a polynomial algebra under the star product when  $k < e_n$ ,

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It is known that  $H_*BP\langle n \rangle_{2k}$  is a polynomial algebra under the star product when  $k < e_n$ , but not for the borderline case  $k = e_n$ .

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It is known that  $H_*BP\langle n \rangle_{2k}$  is a polynomial algebra under the star product when  $k < e_n$ , but not for the borderline case  $k = e_n$ . Recall that  $e_1 = 1 + p$ .

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At p = 3,  $BO\langle 8 \rangle$  is the borderline Wilson space  $BP\langle 1 \rangle_8$ .

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The Adams spectral sequence for  $MO\langle 8 \rangle$ 

It is known that  $H_*BP\langle n \rangle_{2k}$  is a polynomial algebra under the star product when  $k < e_n$ , but not for the borderline case  $k = e_n$ . Recall that  $e_1 = 1 + p$ .

At p = 3,  $BO\langle 8 \rangle$  is the borderline Wilson space  $BP\langle 1 \rangle_8$ . Its homology has a polynomial factor and a truncated polynomial factor of height 3.

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At p = 3,  $BO\langle 8 \rangle$  is the borderline Wilson space  $BP\langle 1 \rangle_8$ . Its homology has a polynomial factor and a truncated polynomial factor of height 3. Its first few generators are

$$y_8 = b_1^4 \quad \text{with } y_8^3 = 0$$
  

$$x_{12} = b_1^3 b_3 \quad x_{16} = b_1^2 b_3^2$$
  

$$y_{20} = b_1 b_3^3 \quad \text{with } y_{20}^3 = 0$$
  

$$x_{24} = b_1^3 b_9 \qquad y_{24} = b_3^4 - b_1^3 b_9 \quad \text{with } y_{24}^3 = 0$$
  

$$x_{28} = b_1^2 b_3 b_9 \qquad x_{32} = b_1 b_3^2 b_9$$
  

$$\vdots$$

 $x_{52} = [v_1]b_1^2b_3^2b_9^2$ , the first appearance of  $[v_1]$ 

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Two change of rings isomorphisms

$$egin{aligned} \mathcal{H}_*\mathcal{BO}raket{8}&\cong\mathcal{P}(x_{4m}:m\geq 3,2m
eq 1+3^n)\ &\otimes\Gamma(y_{2(1+3^n)}:n\geq 0), \end{aligned}$$

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where  $\Gamma(y)$  denotes the divided power algebra on y, which is dual to the polynomial algebra on the dual of y.

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where  $\Gamma(y)$  denotes the divided power algebra on y, which is dual to the polynomial algebra on the dual of y. For example,

$$\Gamma(y_8) \cong P(y_8, y_{24}, y_{72}, \dots)/(y_{8\cdot 3^i}^3)$$

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and the Verschiebung map V, the dual of the *p*th power map, divides each subscript by 3.

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It is not hard to work out the right action of the mod 3 Steenrod algebra A on  $H_*BO(8)$ ,

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$$\Gamma(y_8) \cong P(y_8, y_{24}, y_{72}, \dots)/(y_{8\cdot 3^i}^3)$$

and the Verschiebung map V, the dual of the *p*th power map, divides each subscript by 3.

It is not hard to work out the right action of the mod 3 Steenrod algebra A on  $H_*BO\langle 8 \rangle$ , and on the Thom isomorphic ring  $H_*MO\langle 8 \rangle$ .

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We want to study the 3-primary Adams spectral sequence for MO(8).

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We want to study the 3-primary Adams spectral sequence for MO(8). Recall that

$$\mathcal{A}_* \cong E(\tau_0, \tau_1, \dots) \otimes P(\zeta_1, \zeta_2, \dots),$$

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$$\mathcal{A}_* \cong \mathcal{E}(\tau_0, \tau_1, \dots) \otimes \mathcal{P}(\zeta_1, \zeta_2, \dots),$$

with  $|\tau_n| = 2 \cdot 3^n - 1$  and  $|\zeta_n| = 2 \cdot 3^n - 2$ .

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$$\mathcal{P}_*\cong P(\zeta_1,\zeta_2,\dots).$$

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 ${\mathcal A}$  has a subalgebra  ${\mathcal E}$  with

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Here  $a_n$  corresponds to  $v_n \in \pi_* BP$ ,

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Here  $a_n$  corresponds to  $v_n \in \pi_*BP$ , where  $v_0 = 3$ .

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$$\operatorname{Ext}_{\mathcal{E}_*}(\mathbf{Z}/3,\mathbf{Z}/3)\cong P(a_0,a_1,\dots)=:V.$$

Here  $a_n$  corresponds to  $v_n \in \pi_*BP$ , where  $v_0 = 3$ . It has Adams filtration 1 and topological dimension  $2(3^n - 1)$ .

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Two change of rings isomorphisms

There is a Cartan-Eilenberg spectral sequence converging to our Adams  $E_2$ -page with

$$\begin{split} E_1^{*,*,*} &\cong \operatorname{Ext}_{\mathcal{P}_*} \left( \mathbf{Z}/3, \operatorname{Ext}_{\mathcal{E}_*} \left( \mathbf{Z}/3, H_* M O(8) \right) \right) \\ &\cong \operatorname{Ext}_{\mathcal{P}_*} \left( \mathbf{Z}/3, H_* M O(8) \otimes V \right). \end{split}$$

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The Adams spectral sequence for MO(8)

(1)

There is a Cartan-Eilenberg spectral sequence converging to our Adams  $E_2$ -page with

$$\begin{split} E_1^{*,*,*} &\cong \operatorname{Ext}_{\mathcal{P}_*} \left( \mathbf{Z}/3, \operatorname{Ext}_{\mathcal{E}_*} \left( \mathbf{Z}/3, \mathcal{H}_* M O(8) \right) \right) \\ &\cong \operatorname{Ext}_{\mathcal{P}_*} \left( \mathbf{Z}/3, \mathcal{H}_* M O(8) \otimes V \right). \end{split}$$

The coaction of  $\mathcal{E}_*$  on  $H_*MO(8)$  is trivial since the latter is concentrated in even dimensions.

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The Adams spectral sequence for *MO*(8)

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There is a Cartan-Eilenberg spectral sequence converging to our Adams  $E_2$ -page with

$$\begin{split} E_1^{*,*,*} &\cong \operatorname{Ext}_{\mathcal{P}_*}\left(\mathbf{Z}/3,\operatorname{Ext}_{\mathcal{E}_*}\left(\mathbf{Z}/3,\mathcal{H}_*\mathcal{MO}\langle 8\rangle\right)\right) \\ &\cong \operatorname{Ext}_{\mathcal{P}_*}\left(\mathbf{Z}/3,\mathcal{H}_*\mathcal{MO}\langle 8\rangle\otimes \mathcal{V}\right). \end{split}$$

(1)

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The Adams spectral sequence for MO(8)

The coaction of  $\mathcal{E}_*$  on  $H_*MO(8)$  is trivial since the latter is concentrated in even dimensions. This leads to the second isomorphism of (1).

Let

$$J = (x_{12}^3, x_{16}^3, x_{52}, x_{160}, \dots) \subseteq H_* MO\langle 8 \rangle,$$

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Two change of rings isomorphisms

Let

$$J = (x_{12}^3, x_{16}^3, x_{52}, x_{160}, \dots) \subseteq H_* MO(8),$$

the change of rings ideal.

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Let

$$J = (x_{12}^3, x_{16}^3, x_{52}, x_{160}, \dots) \subseteq H_* MO\langle 8 \rangle,$$

the change of rings ideal. One can show that

 $\operatorname{Ext}_{\mathcal{P}_*}\left(\mathbf{Z}/3, H_*MO\langle 8\rangle\right) \cong \operatorname{Ext}_{\mathcal{P}(1)_*}\left(\mathbf{Z}/3, H_*MO\langle 8\rangle/J\right),$ 

the first change of rings isomorphism,

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the first change of rings isomorphism, where

 $\begin{array}{r} \textbf{36} \quad \textbf{48} \quad \textbf{52} \quad \textbf{160} \\ \mathcal{P}(1)_* = \mathcal{P}_* / (\zeta_1^9, \ \zeta_2^3, \ \zeta_3, \ \zeta_4, \dots) \\ = \mathcal{P}(\zeta_1, \zeta_2) / (\zeta_1^9, \zeta_2^3) \end{array}$ 

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the first change of rings isomorphism, where

 $\mathcal{P}(1)_* = \mathcal{P}_* / (\zeta_1^9, \ \zeta_2^3, \ \zeta_3, \ \zeta_4, \dots)$  $= \mathcal{P}(\zeta_1, \zeta_2) / (\zeta_1^9, \zeta_2^3)$ 

is dual to the subalgebra  $\mathcal{P}(1) \subseteq \mathcal{P}$  generated by the Steenrod operations  $\mathcal{P}^1$  and  $\mathcal{P}^3$ .

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the first change of rings isomorphism, where

 $\mathcal{P}(1)_* = \mathcal{P}_* / (\zeta_1^9, \ \zeta_2^3, \ \zeta_3, \ \zeta_4, \dots)$  $= \mathcal{P}(\zeta_1, \zeta_2) / (\zeta_1^9, \ \zeta_2^3)$ 

is dual to the subalgebra  $\mathcal{P}(1) \subseteq \mathcal{P}$  generated by the Steenrod operations  $P^1$  and  $P^3$ . This is a major simplification.

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$$\operatorname{Ext}_{\mathcal{P}_*}(\mathbf{Z}/3, H_*MO(8)) \cong \operatorname{Ext}_{\mathcal{P}(1)_*}(\mathbf{Z}/3, L),$$

where  $L = H_*MO\langle 8 \rangle / J$  and  $\mathcal{P}(1)_* = P(\zeta_1, \zeta_2)/(\zeta_1^9, \zeta_2^3)$ .

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The algebra  $\mathcal{P}(1)$  is noncommutative, has rank 27 (as a vector space), and has a complicated Ext group.

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where  $L = H_*MO\langle 8 \rangle / J$  and  $\mathcal{P}(1)_* = P(\zeta_1, \zeta_2) / (\zeta_1^9, \zeta_2^3)$ .

The algebra  $\mathcal{P}(1)$  is noncommutative, has rank 27 (as a vector space), and has a complicated Ext group. The dual of  $\zeta_2$  is

$$Q := [P^3, P^1] = P^3 P^1 - P^4$$
 with  $Q^3 = 0$ .

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Two change of rings isomorphisms

$$\operatorname{Ext}_{\mathcal{P}_*}(\mathbf{Z}/3, H_*MO\langle 8\rangle) \cong \operatorname{Ext}_{\mathcal{P}(1)_*}(\mathbf{Z}/3, L),$$

where  $L = H_*MO\langle 8 \rangle / J$  and  $\mathcal{P}(1)_* = P(\zeta_1, \zeta_2)/(\zeta_1^9, \zeta_2^3)$ .

The algebra  $\mathcal{P}(1)$  is noncommutative, has rank 27 (as a vector space), and has a complicated Ext group. The dual of  $\zeta_2$  is

$$Q := [P^3, P^1] = P^3 P^1 - P^4$$
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The  $\mathcal{P}(1)$ -module *L* is free over the subalgebra *T* generated by *Q*.

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$$\operatorname{Ext}_{\mathcal{P}(1)_{*}}(\mathbf{Z}/3,L) \cong \operatorname{Ext}_{\mathcal{P}(1)'_{*}}(\mathbf{Z}/3,L')$$

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$$\mathcal{P}(1)'_* = \mathcal{P}(\zeta_1)/(\zeta_1^9),$$

and  $L' \subseteq L$  is the subring on which Q acts trivially.

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## Similarly in the Adams spectral sequence for MO(8),

$$\begin{split} \Xi_2 &= \operatorname{Ext}_{\mathcal{P}_*} \left( \mathbf{Z}/3, H_* MO\langle 8 \rangle \otimes V \\ &\cong \operatorname{Ext}_{\mathcal{P}(1)_*} \left( \mathbf{Z}/3, L \otimes V \right) \\ &\cong \operatorname{Ext}_{\mathcal{P}(1)'_*} \left( \mathbf{Z}/3, (L \otimes V)' \right) \end{split}$$

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where  $\mathcal{P}(1)'_* = \mathcal{P}(\zeta_1)/\zeta_1^9$  and

$$(L \otimes V)' := \ker Q \subseteq L \otimes V.$$

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## The Adams spectral sequence for $MO\langle 8 \rangle$ (continued)

Here is the first P(1)'-summand of L'.

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Here is the first P(1)'-summand of L'.

where  $\overline{y}_{20} = y_{20} + y_8 x_{12}$ , and  $\overline{y}_{24} = y_{24} - y_8 x_{16}$ .

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Here is the first P(1)'-summand of L'.

where  $\overline{y}_{20} = y_{20} + y_8 x_{12}$ , and  $\overline{y}_{24} = y_{24} - y_8 x_{16}$ . Here is the next one, which is free.

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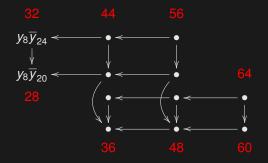
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Here is a third one.



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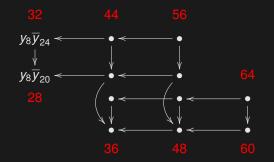
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Here is a third one.



This one is isomorphic to the first one tensored with a rank 2 module in the first column.

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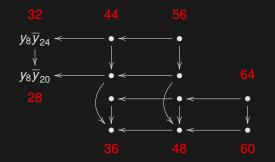
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In each case the Ext group is easy to compute.

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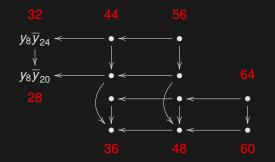
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In each case the Ext group is easy to compute. It turns out that both L' and  $(L \otimes V)'$  decompose as a direct sum of  $\mathcal{P}(1)'$ -modules of these three types.

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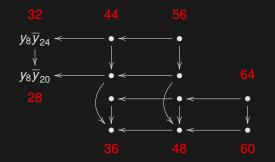
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In each case the Ext group is easy to compute. It turns out that both *L'* and  $(L \otimes V)'$  decompose as a direct sum of  $\mathcal{P}(1)'$ -modules of these three types. Each free summand of *L'* corresponds to summand of the spectrum  $MO\langle 8 \rangle$  equivalent to a suspension of *BP*.

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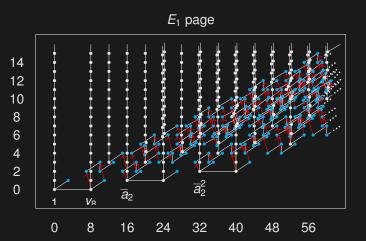
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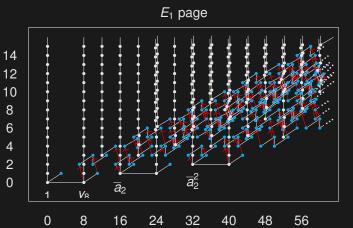
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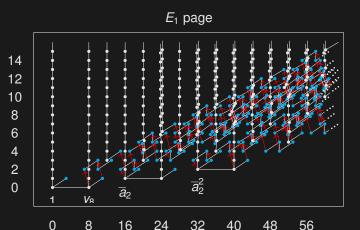
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The Adams spectral sequence for  $MO\langle 8 \rangle$ 

This chart shows Adams  $d_1$ s and  $d_2$ s in for the subalgebra of L' generated by  $y_8$ ,  $x_{12}$ ,  $\overline{y}_{20}$  and  $\overline{y}_{24}$ .



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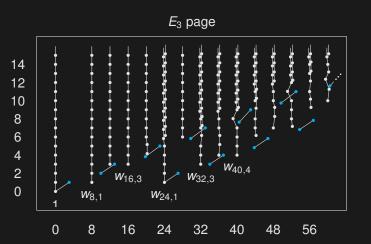
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The Adams spectral sequence for  $MO\langle 8 \rangle$ 

0 8 16 24 32 40 48 56 This chart shows Adams  $d_1$ s and  $d_2$ s in for the subalgebra of L' generated by  $y_8$ ,  $x_{12}$ ,  $\overline{y}_{20}$  and  $\overline{y}_{24}$ . The 48-dimensional class  $\overline{a}_2^3$  is excluded to avoid clutter.



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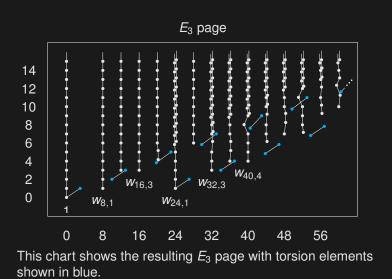
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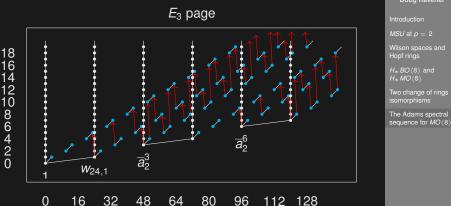
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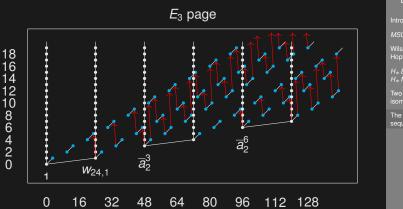
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. ...



This is the previous chart with  $\overline{a}_2^3$  tensored in.

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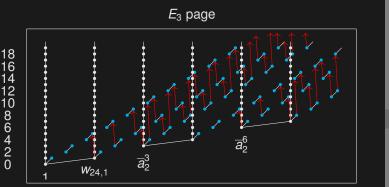
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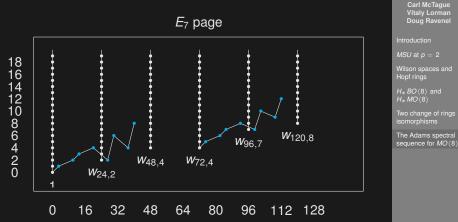
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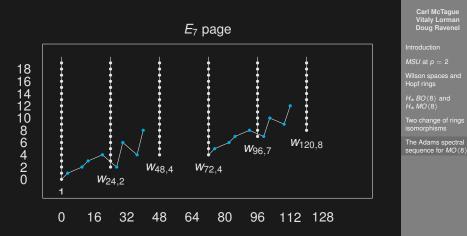
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The Adams spectral sequence for  $MO\langle 8 \rangle$ 

0 16 32 48 64 80 96 112 128 This is the previous chart with  $\overline{a}_2^3$  tensored in. It shows a larger range of dimensions with higher Toda type differentials, with more elements removed to avoid clutter.



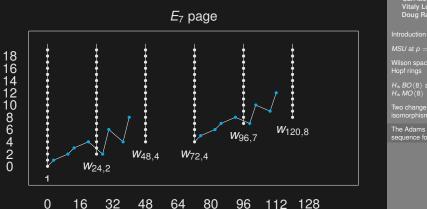
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Thus shows the resulting  $\textit{E}_{\infty}$  page with torsion elements in blue.

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Thus shows the resulting  $E_{\infty}$  page with torsion elements in blue. They coincide with Dominic Culver's 2019 description of the 3-primary torsion in  $\pi_* tmf$ , which is 144-dimensional periodic.



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Wilson spaces and

 $H_* BO(8)$  and



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