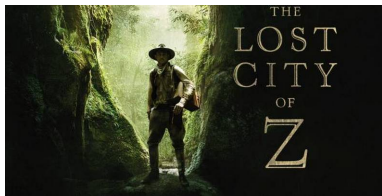


The Lost Telescope of Z

Electronic Computational Homotopy Theory Seminar

March 9, 2017



Doug Ravenel
University of Rochester

The Lost Telescope
of Z



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approach

The construction of
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Going equivariant

This talk began in discussions last summer with



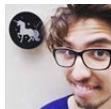
Agnes Beaudry



Mark Behrens



Prasit Bhattacharya



Dominic Culver



Zhouli Xu

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It has 32 cells in dimensions ranging from 0 to 16.

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The homotopy of its $K(2)$ -localization is very nice.



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It could be an interesting test case for the Telescope Conjecture,



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Z might have a motivic analog.



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Z might have a motivic analog. This could lead to additional structure in its Adams spectral sequence.



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What is the Telescope Conjecture?

I first made the Telescope Conjecture in the late '70s and published it in 1984.

LOCALIZATION WITH RESPECT TO CERTAIN PERIODIC HOMOLOGY THEORIES

By DOUGLAS C. RAVENEL*

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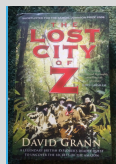
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The $n = 1$ case is due to Mahowald for $p = 2$ and to Miller for odd primes.



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In 1989 there was a homotopy theory program at MSRI.



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Something happened there that led me to think I could disprove the conjecture for $n \geq 2$.

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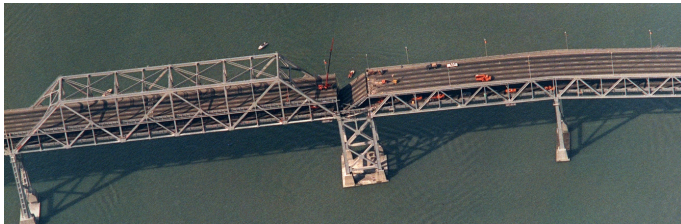
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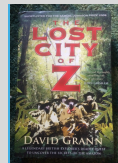


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Earthquake of October 17, 1989

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A few years later the proof fell through.

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DISCLAIMER: Having bet on
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The triple loop space approach

Recall that the mod 2 dual Steenrod algebra is

$$A_* = \mathbf{Z}/2[\xi_1, \xi_2, \dots] \quad \text{with } |\xi_n| = 2^n - 1.$$

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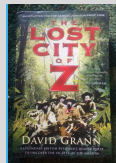
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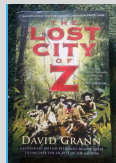
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$$H_* C_{v_2} = \mathbf{Z}/2[\xi_1, \xi_2, \xi_3]/(\xi_1^8, \xi_2^4, \xi_3^2) = A(2)_*.$$



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The triple loop space approach (continued)

The Bhattacharya-Egger spectrum Z has

$$H_*Z = \mathbf{Z}/2[\xi_1, \xi_2]/(\xi_1^8, \xi_2^4).$$

and a self map

$$\Sigma^6 Z \xrightarrow{v_2} Z \longrightarrow C_{v_2} = \text{cofiber}.$$

with

$$H_*C_{v_2} = \mathbf{Z}/2[\xi_1, \xi_2, \xi_3]/(\xi_1^8, \xi_2^4, \xi_3^2) = A(2)_*.$$

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In MRS we have spectra $y(n)$ for all $n > 0$ with

$$H_*y(n) = \mathbf{Z}/2[\xi_1, \xi_2, \dots, \xi_n].$$



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Unlike Y and Z , it is an **associative ring spectrum**.



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$$H_* y(n) = \mathbf{Z}/2[\xi_1, \xi_2, \dots, \xi_n].$$

It has a self-map

$$\Sigma^{2(2^n-1)} y(n) \xrightarrow{v_n} y(n)$$

inducing an isomorphism in $K(n)_*(-)$, the n th Morava K-theory.

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The Telescope Conjecture says that $v_n^{-1} y(n)$, the colimit or **telescope** obtained by iterating the self map,

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The Telescope Conjecture says that $v_n^{-1} y(n)$, the colimit or **telescope** obtained by iterating the self map, and $L_{K(n)} y(n)$, the Bousfield localization with respect $K(n)$,

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The Telescope Conjecture says that $v_n^{-1} y(n)$, the colimit or **telescope** obtained by iterating the self map, and $L_{K(n)} y(n)$, the Bousfield localization with respect $K(n)$, **are the same**.

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The Telescope Conjecture says that $v_n^{-1} y(n)$, the colimit or **telescope** obtained by iterating the self map, and $L_{K(n)} y(n)$, the Bousfield localization with respect $K(n)$, **are the same**.

We have ways to study the homotopy groups of both of them.

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The construction of $y(n)$

Consider the diagram

$$\begin{array}{ccc} S^1 & \xrightarrow{f} & BO \\ & \searrow i & \nearrow g \\ & \Omega^2 S^3 & \end{array}$$

where

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Consider the diagram

$$\begin{array}{ccc} S^1 & \xrightarrow{f} & BO \\ & \searrow i & \nearrow g \\ & \Omega^2 S^3 & \end{array}$$

where

- f represents the nontrivial element of $\pi_1 BO = \mathbf{Z}/2$,

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The construction of $y(n)$

Consider the diagram

$$\begin{array}{ccc} S^1 & \xrightarrow{f} & BO \\ & \searrow i & \nearrow g \\ & \Omega^2 S^3 & \end{array}$$

where

- f represents the nontrivial element of $\pi_1 BO = \mathbf{Z}/2$,
- i is the adjoint of the identity map on $\Sigma^2 S^1 = S^3$ and

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- f represents the nontrivial element of $\pi_1 BO = \mathbf{Z}/2$,
- i is the adjoint of the identity map on $\Sigma^2 S^1 = S^3$ and
- g is the extension of f given by the infinite loop space structure on BO .



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- f represents the nontrivial element of $\pi_1 BO = \mathbf{Z}/2$,
- i is the adjoint of the identity map on $\Sigma^2 S^1 = S^3$ and
- g is the extension of f given by the infinite loop space structure on BO .

We know that

$$H_* \Omega^2 S^3 = \mathbf{Z}/2[u_1, u_2, \dots] \quad \text{with } |u_n| = 2^n - 1 = |\xi_n|.$$



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The construction of $y(n)$ (continued)

$$\begin{array}{ccc} S^1 & \xrightarrow{f} & BO \\ & \searrow i \quad \nearrow g & \\ & \Omega^2 S^3 & \end{array}$$

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$$\begin{array}{ccc} S^1 & \xrightarrow{f} & BO \\ & \searrow i \quad \nearrow g & \\ & \Omega^2 S^3 & \end{array}$$

$$H_* \Omega^2 S^3 = \mathbf{Z}/2[u_1, u_2, \dots] \quad \text{with } |u_n| = 2^n - 1 = |\xi_n|.$$

Let $y(\infty)$ denote the Thom spectrum induced by g .

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Let $y(\infty)$ denote the Thom spectrum induced by g . Long ago Mahowald showed that it is the mod 2 Eilenberg-Mac Lane spectrum $H\mathbf{Z}/2$.

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$$\begin{array}{ccc} S^1 & \xrightarrow{f} & BO \\ & \searrow i \quad \nearrow g & \\ & \Omega^2 S^3 & \end{array}$$

$$H_* \Omega^2 S^3 = \mathbf{Z}/2[u_1, u_2, \dots] \quad \text{with } |u_n| = 2^n - 1 = |\xi_n|.$$

Let $y(\infty)$ denote the Thom spectrum induced by g . Long ago Mahowald showed that it is the mod 2 Eilenberg-Mac Lane spectrum $H\mathbf{Z}/2$.

We will construct subspaces W_n of $\Omega^2 S^3$ with

$$H_* W_n = \mathbf{Z}/2[u_1, u_2, \dots, u_n],$$

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Let $y(\infty)$ denote the Thom spectrum induced by g . Long ago Mahowald showed that it is the mod 2 Eilenberg-Mac Lane spectrum $H\mathbf{Z}/2$.

We will construct subspaces W_n of $\Omega^2 S^3$ with

$$H_* W_n = \mathbf{Z}/2[u_1, u_2, \dots, u_n],$$

and $y(n)$ will be the corresponding Thom spectrum.

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The construction of $y(n)$ (continued)



In the early 50s John James defined the reduced product $J_k X$ (for any space X) as a certain quotient of $X^{\times k}$

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The construction of $y(n)$ (continued)



In the early 50s James defined the reduced product $J_k X$ (for any space X) as a certain quotient of $X^{\times k}$ and showed that $J_\infty X$ is equivalent to $\Omega \Sigma X$.

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The construction of $y(n)$ (continued)



In the early 50s James defined the reduced product $J_k X$ (for any space X) as a certain quotient of $X^{\times k}$ and showed that $J_\infty X$ is equivalent to $\Omega \Sigma X$.

He showed there is a 2-local fiber sequence

$$\Omega^2 S^{2^{n+1}+1} \rightarrow J_{2^n-1} S^2 \rightarrow \Omega S^3 \rightarrow \Omega S^{2^{n+1}+1}.$$



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Note that ΩS^3 is equivalent to a CW complex



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Note that ΩS^3 is equivalent to a CW complex with a single cell in each even dimension.



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Note that ΩS^3 is equivalent to a CW complex with a single cell in each even dimension. $J_{2^n-1} S^2$ is its $(2^{n+1} - 1)$ -skeleton.

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Our space W_n is $\Omega J_{2^n-1} S^2$,



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The construction of $y(n)$ (continued)



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Our space W_n is $\Omega J_{2^n-1} S^2$, so it maps to $\Omega^2 S^3$ as desired.



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$$\Omega^2 S^{2^{n+1}+1} \rightarrow J_{2^n-1} S^2 \rightarrow \Omega S^3 \rightarrow \Omega S^{2^{n+1}+1}.$$

Note that ΩS^3 is equivalent to a CW complex with a single cell in each even dimension. $J_{2^n-1} S^2$ is its $(2^{n+1} - 1)$ -skeleton.

Our space W_n is $\Omega J_{2^n-1} S^2$, so it maps to $\Omega^2 S^3$ as desired. The MRS spectrum $y(n)$ is the Thomification of

$$\Omega J_{2^n-1} S^2 \longrightarrow \Omega^2 S^3 \xrightarrow{g} BO.$$



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The MRS spectrum $y(n)$ is the Thomification of

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The construction of $y(n)$ (continued)

The MRS spectrum $y(n)$ is the Thomification of

$$\Omega J_{2^n-1} S^2 \longrightarrow \Omega^2 S^3 \xrightarrow{g} BO.$$

From James' 2-local fiber sequence

$$\Omega^3 S^{2^{n+1}+1} \rightarrow \Omega J_{2^n-1} S^2 \rightarrow \Omega^2 S^3$$

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The construction of $y(n)$ (continued)

The MRS spectrum $y(n)$ is the Thomification of

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From James' 2-local fiber sequence

$$\Omega^3 S^{2^{n+1}+1} \rightarrow \Omega J_{2^n-1} S^2 \rightarrow \Omega^2 S^3$$

we get maps of spectra

$$\Sigma^\infty S^{|v_n|} \rightarrow \Sigma^\infty \Omega^3 S^{2^{n+1}+1} \rightarrow y(n) \rightarrow H\mathbb{Z}/2.$$



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The construction of $y(n)$ (continued)

The MRS spectrum $y(n)$ is the Thomification of

$$\Omega J_{2^n-1} S^2 \longrightarrow \Omega^2 S^3 \xrightarrow{g} BO.$$

From James' 2-local fiber sequence

$$\Omega^3 S^{2^{n+1}+1} \rightarrow \Omega J_{2^n-1} S^2 \rightarrow \Omega^2 S^3$$

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where the map $S^{|v_n|} \rightarrow \Omega^3 S^{2^{n+1}+1}$ is the inclusion of the bottom cell. Since $y(n)$ is the Thom spectrum for a loop map, it is an associative ring spectrum. The composite map above leads to the desired v_n -self map of $y(n)$.



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The Adams-Novikov spectral sequence for $L_{K(n)}y(n)$

Let $Y(n)$ denote the telescope associated with $y(n)$. Then we have

$$BP_* = \mathbf{Z}_{(2)}[v_1, v_2, \dots] \quad \text{where } |v_i| = 2^{i+1} - 2$$

$$BP_*(BP) = BP_*[t_1, t_2, \dots] \quad \text{where } |t_i| = 2^{i+1} - 2$$

$$BP_*(y(n)) = (BP_*/I_n)[t_1, t_2, \dots, t_n]$$

$$\text{where } I_n = (2, v_1, \dots, v_{n-1})$$

$$BP_*(Y(n)) = BP_*(L_{K(n)}y(n)) = v_n^{-1}BP_*(y(n))$$

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$$BP_*(Y(n)) = BP_*(L_{K(n)}y(n)) = v_n^{-1}BP_*(y(n))$$

The Adams-Novikov E_2 -term for $L_{K(n)}y(n)$ is

$$E_2 = \mathbf{Z}/2[v_n^{\pm 1}, v_{n+1}, \dots, v_{2n}] \otimes E(h_{n+i,j}: 1 \leq i \leq n, 0 \leq j < n)$$

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where $h_{n+i,j} = [t_{n+i}^{2^j}]$. The second factor is an exterior algebra on n^2 generators. This E_2 -term is **finitely generated** as a module over the ring

$$R(n) = \mathbf{Z}/2[v_n^{\pm 1}, v_{n+1}, \dots, v_{2n}].$$



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The Adams spectral sequences for $y(n)$ and $Y(n)$

Since

$$H_* y(n) = \mathbf{Z}/2[\xi_1, \xi_2, \dots, \xi_n],$$

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The Adams spectral sequences for $y(n)$ and $Y(n)$

Since

$$H_*y(n) = \mathbf{Z}/2[\xi_1, \xi_2, \dots, \xi_n],$$

a standard change-of-rings argument shows that

$$\mathrm{Ext}_{A_*}(\mathbf{Z}/2, H_*y(n)) \cong \mathrm{Ext}_{A[n]_*}(\mathbf{Z}/2, \mathbf{Z}/2)$$

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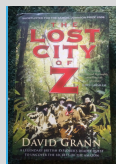
where

$$A[n]_* = \mathbf{Z}/2[\xi_{n+1}, \xi_{n+2}, \dots].$$

This leads to an Adams E_1 -term of the form

$$E_1 = P(v_n, v_{n+1}, \dots) \otimes P(h_{n+i,j} : i > 0, j \geq 0)$$

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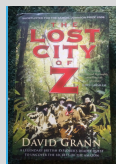
$$E_1 = P(v_n, v_{n+1}, \dots) \otimes P(h_{n+i,j} : i > 0, j \geq 0)$$

where, for such i and j ,

$$v_{n+i-1} = [\xi_{n+i}] \in E_1^{1, 2^{n+i}-1},$$

$$h_{n+i,j} = [\xi_{n+i}^{2^{j+1}}] \in E_1^{1, 2^j(2^{n+i}-1)}$$

$$\text{and } d(v_{2n+i}^{2^j}) = \sum_{0 \leq k < i} v_{n+k}^{2^j} h_{n+i+j-k, n+k} = v_n^{2^j} h_{n+i+j, n} + \dots$$



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Localizing the Adams spectral sequence for $y(n)$

The Adams spectral sequence for a spectrum X is based on an Adams resolution,

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Localizing the Adams spectral sequence for $y(n)$

The Adams spectral sequence for a spectrum X is based on an Adams resolution, which is a diagram of the form

$$X = X_0 \leftarrow X_1 \leftarrow X_2 \leftarrow X_3 \leftarrow \dots$$

with certain properties.

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with certain properties. When $X = y(2)$, the self map $\Sigma^6 X_i \rightarrow X_i$ lifts to X_{i+1} , and we get a diagram

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$$\begin{array}{ccccccc}
 X_0 & \longleftarrow & X_1 & \longleftarrow & X_2 & \longleftarrow & X_3 \longleftarrow \dots \\
 \downarrow & & \downarrow & & \downarrow & & \downarrow \\
 \Sigma^{-6} X_0 & \longleftarrow & \Sigma^{-6} X_1 & \longleftarrow & \Sigma^{-6} X_2 & \longleftarrow & \Sigma^{-6} X_3 \longleftarrow \dots \\
 \downarrow & & \downarrow & & \downarrow & & \downarrow \\
 \Sigma^{-12} X_0 & \longleftarrow & \Sigma^{-12} X_1 & \longleftarrow & \Sigma^{-12} X_2 & \longleftarrow & \Sigma^{-12} X_3 \longleftarrow \dots \\
 \downarrow & & \downarrow & & \downarrow & & \downarrow \\
 \vdots & & \vdots & & \vdots & & \vdots
 \end{array}$$



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$$X = X_0 \leftarrow X_1 \leftarrow X_2 \leftarrow X_3 \leftarrow \dots$$

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$$\begin{array}{ccccccc}
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 \Sigma^{-12} X_0 & \longleftarrow & \Sigma^{-12} X_1 & \longleftarrow & \Sigma^{-12} X_2 & \longleftarrow & \Sigma^{-12} X_3 \longleftarrow \dots \\
 \downarrow & & \downarrow & & \downarrow & & \downarrow \\
 \vdots & & \vdots & & \vdots & & \vdots
 \end{array}$$

This leads to a [localized Adams spectral sequence](#) converging to the homotopy of

$$Y(n) = v_n^{-1} y(n).$$



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Localizing the Adams spectral sequence for $y(n)$ (continued)

This localization converts

$$E_1 = P(v_n, v_{n+1}, \dots) \otimes P(h_{n+i,j} : i > 0, j \geq 0)$$

converging to $\pi_* y(n)$

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Localizing the Adams spectral sequence for $y(n)$ (continued)

This localization converts

$$E_1 = P(v_n, v_{n+1}, \dots) \otimes P(h_{n+i,j}: i > 0, j \geq 0)$$

converging to $\pi_* y(n)$ to

$$E_2 = P(v_n^{\pm 1}, v_{n+1}, \dots, v_{2n}) \otimes P(h_{n+i,j}: i > 0, 0 \leq j < n)$$

converging to $\pi_* Y(n)$.

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Localizing the Adams spectral sequence for $y(n)$ (continued)

This localization converts

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converging to $\pi_* Y(n)$. For $n = 2$ this reads

$$E_2 = P(v_2^{\pm 1}, v_3, v_4) \otimes P(h_{2+i,0}, h_{2+i,1} : i > 0).$$

It is **likely** that for $i > 0$ there are Adams differentials

$$d_2 h_{4+i,0} = v_2 h_{2+i,1}^2$$

$$d_4 h_{3+i,1} = v_2 h_{2+i,0}^4.$$



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In the localized Adams spectral sequence for $Y(2)$ we have

$$E_2 = P(v_2^{\pm 1}, v_3, v_4) \otimes P(h_{2+i,0}, h_{2+i,1} : i > 0).$$

with **likely** differentials

$$d_2 h_{4+i,0} = v_2 h_{2+i,1}^2 \quad \text{and} \quad d_4 h_{3+i,1} = v_2 h_{2+i,0}^4.$$

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with **likely** differentials

$$d_2 h_{4+i,0} = v_2 h_{2+i,1}^2 \quad \text{and} \quad d_4 h_{3+i,1} = v_2 h_{2+i,0}^4.$$

This would leave

$$E_5 = E_\infty = P(v_2^{\pm 1}, v_3, v_4) \otimes E(h_{3,0}, h_{3,1}, h_{4,0}) \otimes E(b_{3,0}, b_{4,0}, b_{5,0}, \dots)$$

where $b_{i,0} = h_{i,0}^2$. This is **infinitely generated** over the ring

$$R(2) = P(v_2^{\pm 1}, v_3, v_4)$$



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Localizing the Adams spectral sequence for $y(n)$ (continued)

In the localized Adams spectral sequence for $Y(2)$ we have

$$E_2 = P(v_2^{\pm 1}, v_3, v_4) \otimes P(h_{2+i,0}, h_{2+i,1} : i > 0).$$

with **likely** differentials

$$d_2 h_{4+i,0} = v_2 h_{2+i,1}^2 \quad \text{and} \quad d_4 h_{3+i,1} = v_2 h_{2+i,0}^4.$$

This would leave

$$E_5 = E_\infty = P(v_2^{\pm 1}, v_3, v_4) \otimes E(h_{3,0}, h_{3,1}, h_{4,0}) \otimes E(b_{3,0}, b_{4,0}, b_{5,0}, \dots)$$

where $b_{i,0} = h_{i,0}^2$. This is **infinitely generated** over the ring

$$R(2) = P(v_2^{\pm 1}, v_3, v_4)$$

while $\pi_* L_{K(2)} y(2)$ is **finitely generated** over it.



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There is a similar story for $n > 2$ and for odd primes.



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There is a similar story for $n > 2$ and for odd primes. The Telescope Conjecture says these two graded groups are the same, so this appears to disprove it.



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What could go wrong?



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What could go wrong? We do not have complete control over differentials in the localized Adams spectral sequence.



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What could go wrong? We do not have complete control over differentials in the localized Adams spectral sequence. The ones we “know” about could be preempted by others that we don’t know about.



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What could go wrong? We do not have complete control over differentials in the localized Adams spectral sequence. The ones we “know” about could be preempted by others that we don’t know about. **Mahowald, Shick and I were unable to rule out this possibility.**



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If this approach is to succeed, we need some more structure in the localized Adams spectral sequence for $Y(n)$.

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If this approach is to succeed, we need some more structure in the localized Adams spectral sequence for $Y(n)$. Here I will outline a way to get $y(n)$ and $Y(n)$ into a C_2 -equivariant setting.

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Recall that the construction of $y(n)$ involved the diagram

$$\begin{array}{ccccc} S^1 & \xrightarrow{i} & \Omega^2 S^3 & \xrightarrow{g} & BO \\ & & \uparrow & & \\ & & \Omega J_{2^n-1} S^2 & & \end{array}$$



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We can add another space and get

$$\begin{array}{ccccc} S^1 & \xrightarrow{i} & \Omega^2 S^3 & \xrightarrow{g} & BO \\ & & \uparrow & & \uparrow \\ & & \Omega J_{2^n-1} S^2 & \Rightarrow & \Omega(SU(k+1)/SO(k+1)) \end{array} \quad \text{for } k \gg 0.$$



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Going equivariant (continued)

$$\begin{array}{ccccc}
 S^1 & \xrightarrow{i} & \Omega^2 S^3 & \xrightarrow{g} & BO \\
 & & \uparrow & & \uparrow a_k \\
 & & \Omega J_{2^n-1} S^2 & \xrightarrow{g_n} & \Omega(SU(k+1)/SO(k+1)).
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The map a_k is related to Bott's proof of his Periodicity Theorem.



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The map a_k is related to Bott's proof of his Periodicity Theorem. In mod 2 homology we have

$$\begin{aligned}
 H_* BO &= \mathbf{Z}/2[b_1, b_2, \dots] \quad \text{where } |b_i| = i, \\
 H_* \Omega(SU(k+1)/SO(k+1)) &= \mathbf{Z}/2[b_1, \dots, b_k]
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and the loop map g_n exists for $k \geq 2^n - 1$.



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$$\begin{array}{ccc}
 H\mathbf{Z}/2 & \longrightarrow & MO \\
 \uparrow & & \uparrow \\
 y(n) & \longrightarrow & w(k),
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where $w(k)$ is the Thom spectrum induced by the map a_k .



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One can show that

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 \end{array}$$

is the fixed point set of the following diagram of C_2 -spaces:

$$\begin{array}{ccccc}
 S^\rho & \xrightarrow{i} & \Omega^{1+\rho} S^{1+2\rho} & \xrightarrow{g} & BU_{\mathbf{R}} \\
 & & \uparrow & & \uparrow a_k \\
 & & \Omega^\rho J_{2^n-1} S^{2\rho} & \xrightarrow{g_n} & \Omega^\sigma SU(k+1)_{\mathbf{R}}
 \end{array}$$

where



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where

- $BU_{\mathbf{R}}$ and $SU_{\mathbf{R}}$ denote the spaces BU and SU equipped with a C_2 -action related to complex conjugation,



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- σ denotes the sign representation of C_2 and



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 \end{array}$$

where

- $BU_{\mathbf{R}}$ and $SU_{\mathbf{R}}$ denote the spaces BU and SU equipped with a C_2 -action related to complex conjugation,
- σ denotes the sign representation of C_2 and
- $\rho = 1 + \sigma$ denotes its regular representation.



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Here is our C_2 -diagram again.

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 & \uparrow & \uparrow i_k \\
 \Omega^\rho J_{2^n-1} S^{2\rho} & \xrightarrow{g_n} & \Omega^\sigma SU(k+1)_{\mathbf{R}}
 \end{array}
 \qquad
 \begin{array}{c}
 MU_{\mathbf{R}} \\
 \uparrow \\
 X(k)_{\mathbf{R}}
 \end{array}$$



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Going equivariant (continued)

Here is our C_2 -diagram again.

$$\begin{array}{ccc}
 S^\rho & \xrightarrow{i} \Omega^{1+\rho} S^{1+2\rho} & \xrightarrow{g} BU_{\mathbf{R}} \\
 & \uparrow & \uparrow i_k \\
 & \Omega^\rho J_{2^n-1} S^{2\rho} & \xrightarrow{g_n} \Omega^\sigma SU(k+1)_{\mathbf{R}}
 \end{array}
 \qquad
 \begin{array}{c}
 MU_{\mathbf{R}} \\
 \uparrow \\
 X(k)_{\mathbf{R}}
 \end{array}$$

with Thom spectra indicated on the right.



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Going equivariant (continued)

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 & & \Omega^\rho J_{2^n-1} S^{2\rho} & \xrightarrow{g_n} & \Omega^\sigma SU(k+1)_{\mathbf{R}} & & X(k)_{\mathbf{R}}
 \end{array}$$

with Thom spectra indicated on the right. Taking 2-local fibers of the vertical maps in the square gives

$$\begin{array}{ccc}
 \Omega^{1+\rho} S^{1+2\rho} & \xrightarrow{g} & BU_{\mathbf{R}} \\
 \uparrow & & \uparrow a_k \\
 \Omega^\rho J_{2^n-1} S^{2\rho} & \xrightarrow{g_n} & \Omega^\sigma SU(k+1)_{\mathbf{R}} \\
 \uparrow & & \uparrow \\
 \Omega^{2+\rho} S^{1+2^{n+1}\rho} & \longrightarrow & \Omega^\rho (SU/SU(k+1))_{\mathbf{R}}
 \end{array}$$



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Going equivariant (continued)

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 & & \uparrow \\
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 \Omega^{2+\rho} S^{1+2^{n+1}\rho} & \longrightarrow & \Omega^\rho (SU/SU(k+1))_{\mathbf{R}}
 \end{array}$$

The two fibers have the same connectivity when $k = 2^{n+1} - 2$.



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Going equivariant (continued)

$$\begin{array}{ccc}
 \Omega^{1+\rho} S^{1+2\rho} & \xrightarrow{g} & BU_{\mathbf{R}} \\
 \uparrow & & \uparrow a_{|v_n|} \\
 \Omega^{\rho} J_{2^n-1} S^{2\rho} & \xrightarrow{g_n} & \Omega^{\sigma} SU(1 + |v_n|)_{\mathbf{R}} \\
 \uparrow & & \uparrow \\
 \Omega^{2+\rho} S^{1+2^{n+1}\rho} & \longrightarrow & \Omega^{\rho}(SU/SU(1 + |v_n|))_{\mathbf{R}}
 \end{array}$$

The Lost Telescope
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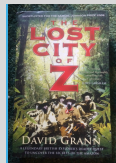
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 \end{array}$$

It follows that we have a map $y(n) \rightarrow w(|v_n|)$ inducing a monomorphism in mod 2 homology,



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$$S^{|v_n|} \rightarrow \Omega^3 S^{2^{n+1}+1} \rightarrow y(n) \rightarrow w(|v_n|),$$



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where $w(k)$ is the geometric fixed point set of the Thom spectrum $X(k)_{\mathbf{R}}$.



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where $w(k)$ is the geometric fixed point set of the Thom spectrum $X(k)_{\mathbf{R}}$. The above composite leads to a telescope $W(|v_n|)$



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$$\Sigma^{(1+|v_n|)\rho-1} X(|v_n|)_{\mathbf{R}} \rightarrow X(|v_n|)_{\mathbf{R}}.$$

The underlying spectrum of this telescope is contractible



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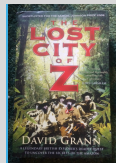
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$$\Sigma^{(1+|v_n|)\rho-1} X(|v_n|)_{\mathbf{R}} \rightarrow X(|v_n|)_{\mathbf{R}}.$$

The underlying spectrum of this telescope is contractible because the underlying map is known to be nilpotent.



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