

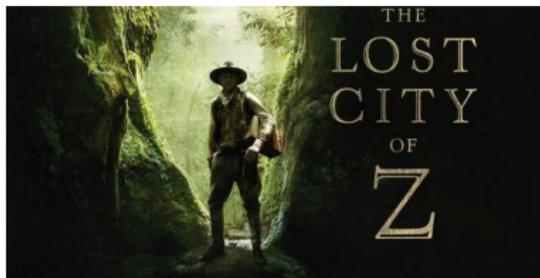


Doug Ravenel

The Lost Telescope of Z

Electronic Computational Homotopy Theory Seminar

March 9, 2017



Doug Ravenel
University of Rochester

Introduction

The triple loop space
approach

The construction of
 $y(n)$

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

The Adams spectral
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and $Y(n)$

Disproving the
Telescope Conjecture
for $n \geq 2?$

Going equivariant

This talk began in discussions last summer with



Agnes Beaudry



Mark Behrens



Prasit Bhattacharya

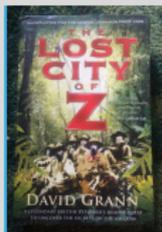


Dominic Culver



Zhouli Xu

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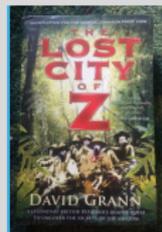
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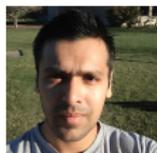
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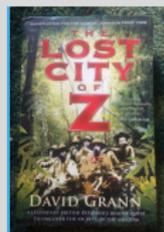
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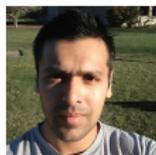
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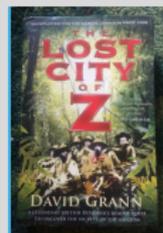


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It has 32 cells in dimensions ranging from 0 to 16.

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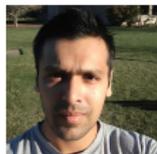
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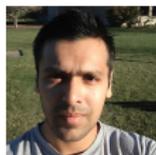
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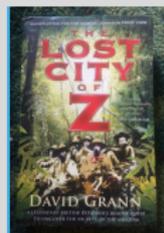


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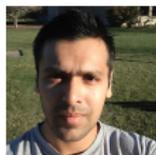
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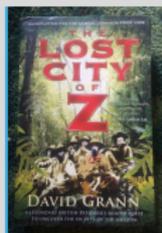


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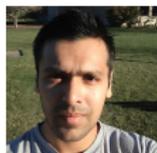
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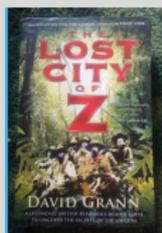
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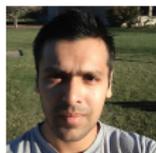
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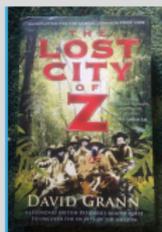


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It could be an interesting test case for the Telescope Conjecture,



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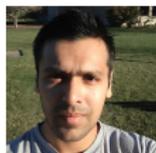
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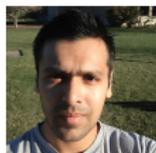
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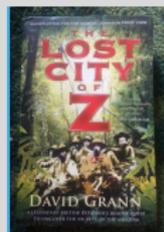
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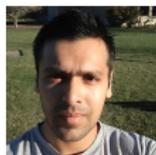
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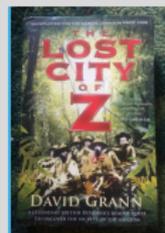
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Z might have a motivic analog. This could lead to additional structure in its Adams spectral sequence.



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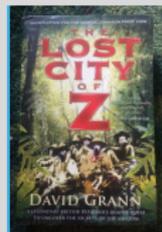
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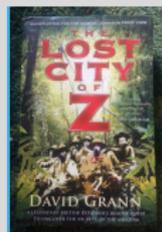
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I first made the Telescope Conjecture in the late '70s and published it in 1984.

LOCALIZATION WITH RESPECT TO CERTAIN PERIODIC HOMOLOGY THEORIES

By DOUGLAS C. RAVENEL*

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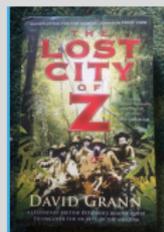
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The $n = 1$ case is due to Mahowald for $p = 2$ and to Miller for odd primes.



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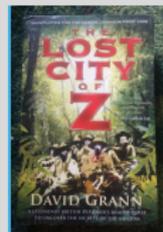
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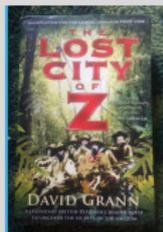
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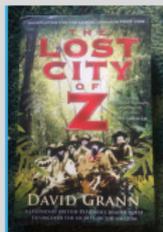
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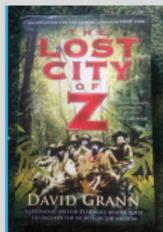
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Earthquake of October 17, 1989



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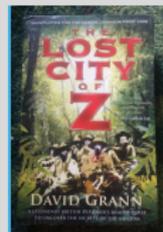
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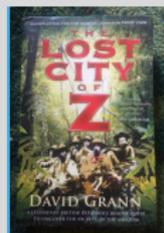
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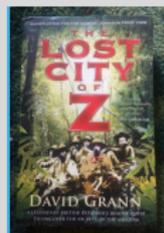
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DISCLAIMER: Having bet on
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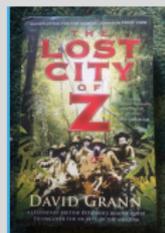
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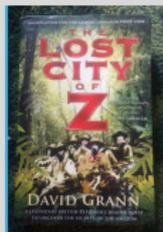
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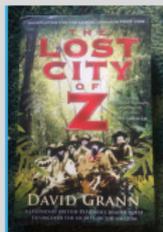
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Recall that the mod 2 dual Steenrod algebra is

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



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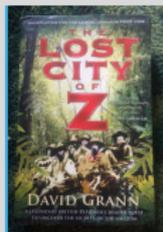
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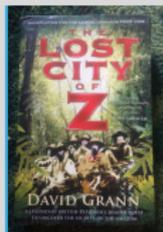
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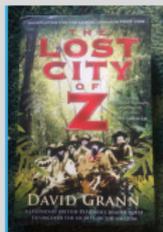
The triple loop space approach

Recall that the mod 2 dual Steenrod algebra is

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

Mahowald had a spectrum Y with $H_* Y = \mathbf{Z}/2[\xi_1]/(\xi_1^4)$ or “half” of $A(1)_* = \mathbf{Z}/2[\xi_1, \xi_2]/(\xi_1^4, \xi_2^2)$. It has a self map

$$\Sigma^2 Y \xrightarrow{v_1} Y \longrightarrow C_{v_1} = \text{cofiber}$$



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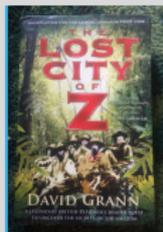
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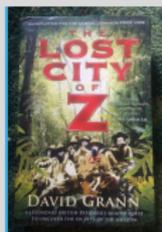
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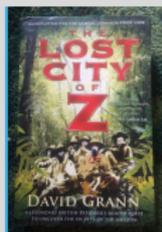
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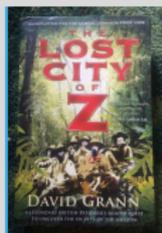
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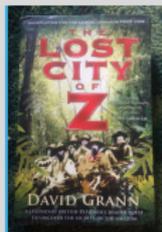
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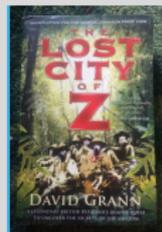
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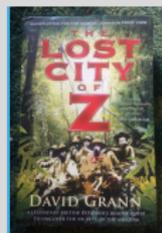
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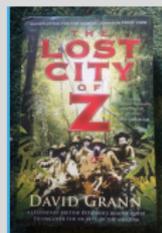
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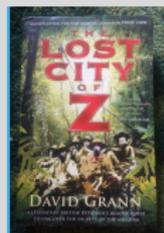
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Unlike Y and Z , it is an **associative ring spectrum**.



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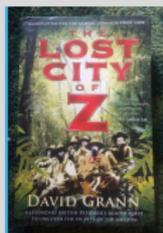
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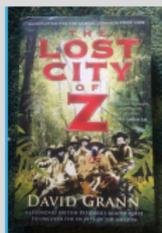
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inducing an isomorphism in $K(n)_*(-)$, the n th Morava K-theory.



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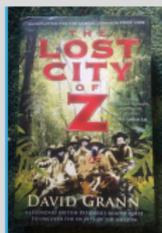
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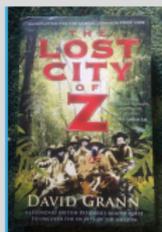
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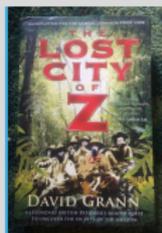
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We have ways to study the homotopy groups of both of them.



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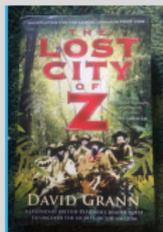
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The construction of $y(n)$

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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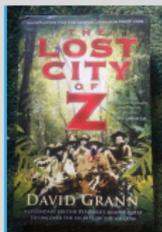
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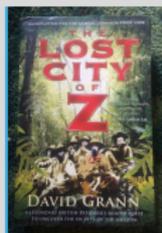
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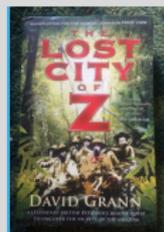
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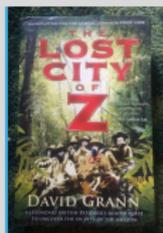
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We know that

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



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



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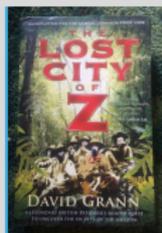
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Let $y(\infty)$ denote the Thom spectrum induced by g . Long ago Mahowald showed that it is the mod 2 Eilenberg-Mac Lane spectrum $H\mathbf{Z}/2$.



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

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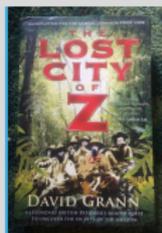
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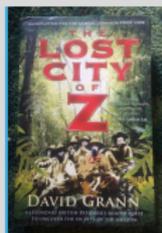
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In the early 50s James defined the reduced product $J_k X$ (for any space X) as a certain quotient of $X^{\times k}$



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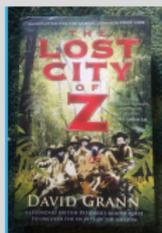
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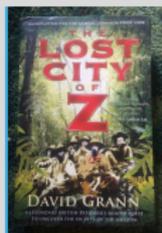


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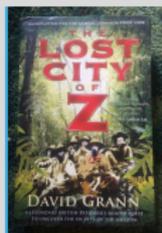


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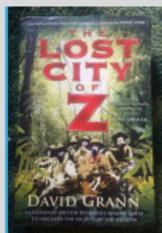
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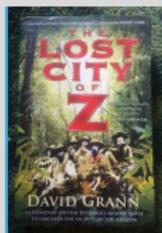
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Our space W_n is $\Omega J_{2^{n-1}} S^2$, so it maps to $\Omega^2 S^3$ as desired. The MRS spectrum $y(n)$ is the Thomification of

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



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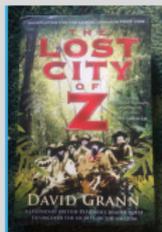
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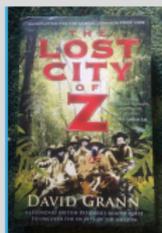
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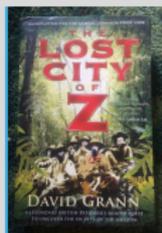
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From James' 2-local fiber sequence

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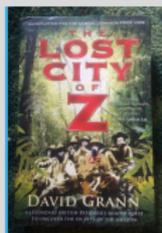
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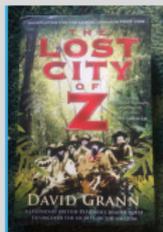
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The Adams-Novikov spectral sequence for $L_{K(n)}y(n)$

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

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

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

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

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

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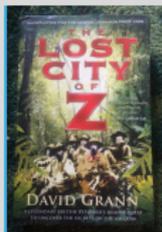
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The Adams-Novikov E_2 -term for $L_{K(n)}y(n)$ is

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



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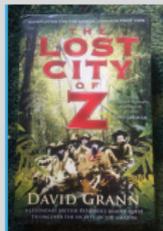
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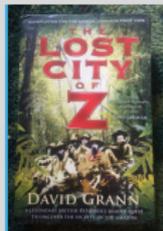
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where $h_{n+i,j} = [t_{n+i}^{2^j}]$. The second factor is an exterior algebra on n^2 generators.



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

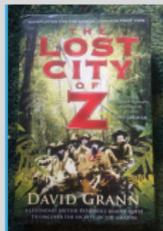
$$BP_*(Y(n)) = BP_*(L_{K(n)}y(n)) = v_n^{-1}BP_*(y(n))$$

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

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

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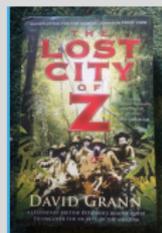
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The Adams spectral sequences for $y(n)$ and $Y(n)$

Since

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

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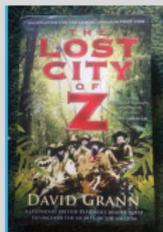
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$$H_*y(n) = \mathbf{Z}/2[\xi_1, \xi_2, \dots, \xi_n],$$

a standard change-of-rings argument shows that

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



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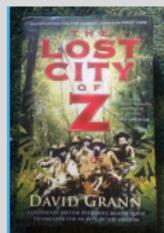
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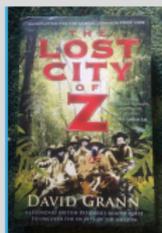
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This leads to an Adams E_1 -term of the form

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



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This leads to an Adams E_1 -term of the form

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

where, for such i and j ,

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

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

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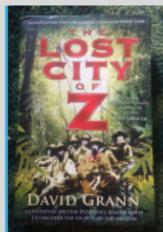
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Localizing the Adams spectral sequence for $y(n)$

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

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

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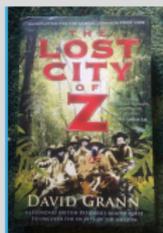
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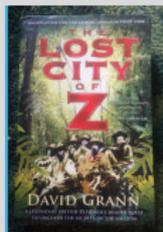
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$$\begin{array}{cccccc}
 X_0 & \longleftarrow & X_1 & \longleftarrow & X_2 & \longleftarrow & X_3 & \longleftarrow & \dots \\
 \downarrow & & \downarrow & & \downarrow & & \downarrow & & \\
 \Sigma^{-6} X_0 & \longleftarrow & \Sigma^{-6} X_1 & \longleftarrow & \Sigma^{-6} X_2 & \longleftarrow & \Sigma^{-6} X_3 & \longleftarrow & \Sigma^{-6} X_4 & \longleftarrow & \dots \\
 \downarrow & & \\
 \Sigma^{-12} X_0 & \longleftarrow & \Sigma^{-12} X_1 & \longleftarrow & \Sigma^{-12} X_2 & \longleftarrow & \Sigma^{-12} X_3 & \longleftarrow & \Sigma^{-12} X_4 & \longleftarrow & \Sigma^{-12} X_5 & \longleftarrow & \dots \\
 \downarrow & & \\
 \vdots & &
 \end{array}$$



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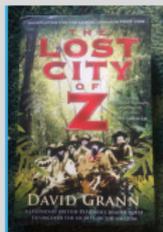
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 \downarrow & & \\
 \vdots & &
 \end{array}$$

This leads to a localized Adams spectral sequence converging to the homotopy of

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

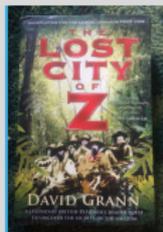
Localizing the Adams spectral sequence for $y(n)$ (continued)

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)

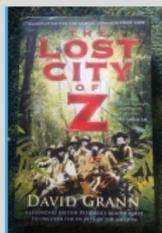
This localization converts

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

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)

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

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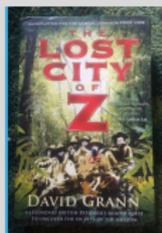
converging to $\pi_* Y(n)$. For $n = 2$ this reads

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

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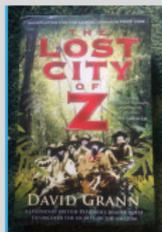
Localizing the Adams spectral sequence for $y(n)$ (continued)

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

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



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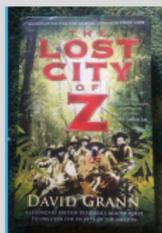
$$d_2 h_{4+i,0} = v_2 h_{2+i,1}^2 \quad \text{and} \quad d_4 h_{3+i,1} = v_2 h_{2+i,0}^4.$$

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

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

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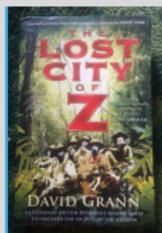
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where $b_{i,0} = h_{i,0}^2$. This is **infinitely generated** over the ring

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

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



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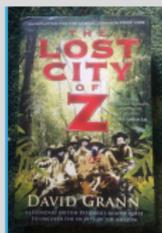
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Disproving the Telescope Conjecture for $n \geq 2$?

We have just seen that, if all goes according to plan, the Adams-Novikov spectral sequence shows that

$$\pi_* L_{K(2)} y(2) = P(v_2^{\pm 1}, v_3, v_4) \otimes E(h_{3,0}, h_{3,1}, h_{4,0}, h_{4,1})$$



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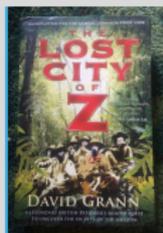
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while the localized Adams spectral sequence shows that

$$\pi_* Y(2) = P(v_2^{\pm 1}, v_3, v_4) \otimes E(h_{3,0}, h_{3,1}, h_{4,0}) \otimes E(b_{3,0}, b_{4,0}, b_{5,0}, \dots).$$



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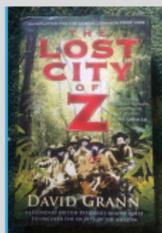
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There is a similar story for $n > 2$ and for odd primes.



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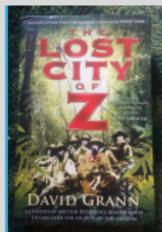
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There is a similar story for $n > 2$ and for odd primes. The Telescope Conjecture says these two graded groups are the same, so this appears to disprove it.



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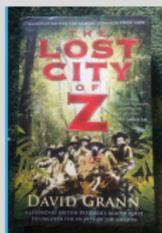
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What could go wrong?



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Disproving the Telescope Conjecture for $n \geq 2$?

We have just seen that, if all goes according to plan, the Adams-Novikov spectral sequence shows that

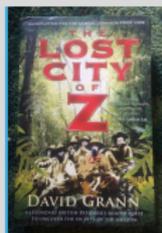
$$\pi_* L_{K(2)} Y(2) = P(v_2^{\pm 1}, v_3, v_4) \otimes E(h_{3,0}, h_{3,1}, h_{4,0}, h_{4,1})$$

while the localized Adams spectral sequence shows that

$$\pi_* Y(2) = P(v_2^{\pm 1}, v_3, v_4) \otimes E(h_{3,0}, h_{3,1}, h_{4,0}) \otimes E(b_{3,0}, b_{4,0}, b_{5,0}, \dots).$$

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.

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



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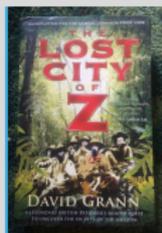
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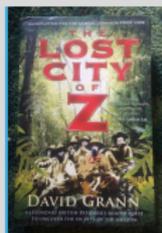
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What could go wrong? We do not have complete control over differentials in the localized Adams spectral sequence. The ones we “know” about could be preempted by others that we don’t know about. **Mahowald, Shick and I were unable to rule out this possibility.**



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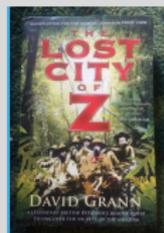
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If this approach is to succeed, we need some more structure in the localized Adams spectral sequence for $Y(n)$.



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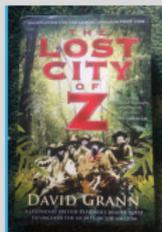
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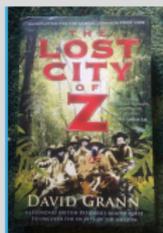
Going equivariant

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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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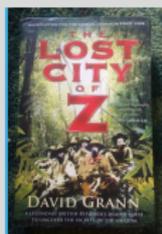
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We can add another space and get

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



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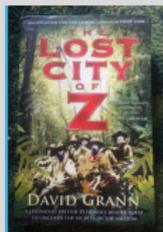
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$$\begin{array}{ccccc} S^1 & \xrightarrow{i} & \Omega^2 S^3 & \xrightarrow{g} & BO \\ & & \uparrow & & \uparrow a_k \\ & & \Omega J_{2^n-1} S^2 & \xrightarrow{g_n} & \Omega(SU(k+1)/SO(k+1)). \end{array}$$



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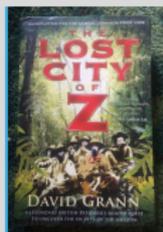
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$$\begin{array}{ccccc} S^1 & \xrightarrow{i} & \Omega^2 S^3 & \xrightarrow{g} & BO \\ & & \uparrow & & \uparrow a_k \\ & & \Omega J_{2^n-1} S^2 & \xrightarrow{g_n} & \Omega(SU(k+1)/SO(k+1)). \end{array}$$

The map a_k is related to Bott's proof of his Periodicity Theorem.



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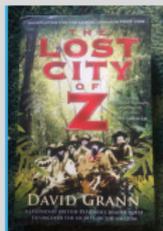
Going equivariant (continued)

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

$$H_* BO = \mathbf{Z}/2[b_1, b_2, \dots] \quad \text{where } |b_i| = i,$$

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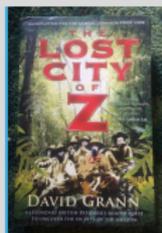
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$$\begin{array}{ccc}
 H\mathbf{Z}/2 & \longrightarrow & MO \\
 \uparrow & & \uparrow \\
 y(n) & \longrightarrow & w(k),
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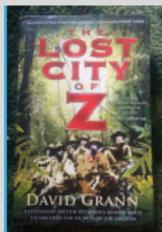
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Going equivariant (continued)

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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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 \end{array}$$

where

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



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where

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- σ denotes the sign representation of C_2 and



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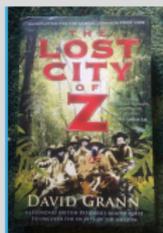
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- $BU_{\mathbf{R}}$ and $SU_{\mathbf{R}}$ denote the spaces BU and SU equipped with a C_2 -action related to complex conjugation,
- σ denotes the sign representation of C_2 and
- $\rho = 1 + \sigma$ denotes its regular representation.



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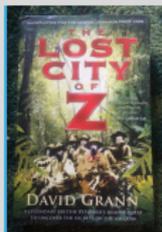
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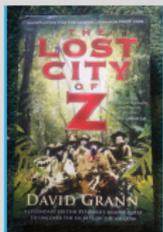
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Going equivariant (continued)

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



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with Thom spectra indicated on the right.



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

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

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



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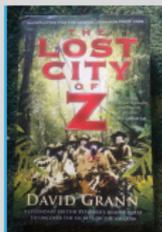
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 S^\rho & \xrightarrow{i} & \Omega^{1+\rho} S^{1+2\rho} & \xrightarrow{g} & BU_{\mathbf{R}} & & MU_{\mathbf{R}} \\
 & & \uparrow & & \uparrow i_k & & \uparrow \\
 & & \Omega^\rho J_{2^n-1} S^{2\rho} & \xrightarrow{g_n} & \Omega^\sigma SU(k+1)_{\mathbf{R}} & & 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

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

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



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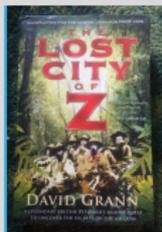
The Adams spectral sequences for $y(n)$ and $Y(n)$

Disproving the Telescope Conjecture for $n \geq 2$?

Going equivariant

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_{2n-1} S^{2\rho} & \xrightarrow{g_n} & \Omega^{\sigma} SU(1 + |v_n|)_{\mathbf{R}} \\
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 \Omega^{2+\rho} S^{1+2^{n+1}\rho} & \longrightarrow & \Omega^{\rho}(SU/SU(1 + |v_n|))_{\mathbf{R}}
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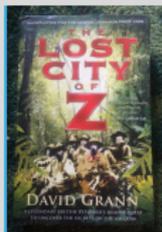
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It follows that we have a map $y(n) \rightarrow w(|v_n|)$ inducing a monomorphism in mod 2 homology,



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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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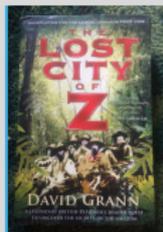
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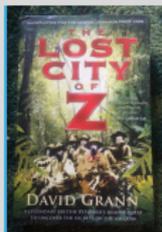
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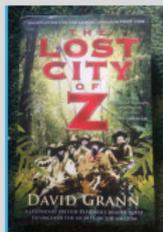
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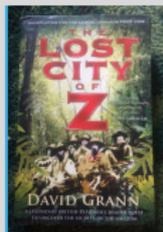
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The underlying spectrum of this telescope is contractible



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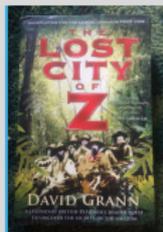
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The underlying spectrum of this telescope is contractible because the underlying map is known to be nilpotent.



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