# UNSTABLE HOMOTOPY GROUPS AND LIE ALGEBRAS

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ABSTRACT. We survey the role of Lie algebras in the study of unstable homotopy groups.

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#### 1. INTRODUCTION

Let X be a pointed space. The Whitehead product

 $[-,-]:\pi_i(X)\otimes\pi_j(X)\to\pi_{i+j-1}(X)$ 

gives  $\pi_*(X)$  the structure of a graded shifted Lie algebra. This structure is most easily conceptualized by its relationship to the Samelson product, which is given by the commutator on the loop space

$$\langle -, - \rangle : \pi_i(\Omega X) \otimes \pi_j(\Omega X) \to \pi_{i+j}(\Omega X).$$

Samelson showed that under the isomorphism  $\pi_{i+1}(X) \cong \pi_i(\Omega X)$ , the two products agree up to a sign [Sam53].

This Lie algebra structure is fundamentally unstable in nature — there is no vestige of it in the context of stable homotopy groups. It captures the difference between unstable and stable homotopy groups in a manner made precise by Curtis's lower central series [Cur65], Rector's mod p lower central series [Rec66] and its relationship to simplicial restricted Lie algebras, and Quillen's differential graded Lie algebra model of unstable rational homotopy theory [Qui69].

In this paper we will review these now classical ideas, and their more recent development in the context of Goodwillie calculus [Goo03]. Specifically, we will discuss the results of Arone, Ching, Taggart and the second author on Koszul duality and its interaction with Goodwillie calculus [Chi05], [AC11], [Esp22], [MT24], Konovalov's work on simplicial restricted Lie algebras [Kon23], and the generalization of Quillen's Lie algebra model of rational homotopy theory to the unstable  $v_n$ -periodic context of Heuts, Rezk, and the first author [Heu21], [BR20a].

The recurring theme will be the following:

Unstable homotopy groups = 
$$\begin{pmatrix} \text{stable homotopy groups} \\ + \\ \text{Lie algebra information} \end{pmatrix}$$

**Conventions.** We will denote the following  $\infty$ -categories by

sSet = simplicial sets (a.k.a. spaces) sSet<sub>\*</sub> = pointed spaces sSet<sup> $\geq n$ </sup> = (n - 1)-connected spaces Sp = spectra

We will use  $(-)^{\vee}$  to denote the Spanier-Whitehead dual. Given an  $\infty$ -category  $\mathcal{C}$ , and objects  $X, Y \in \mathcal{C}$ , we let

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\mathcal{C}(X,Y)
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denote the associated space of maps, and

$$[X,Y] = [X,Y]_{\mathcal{C}}$$

denote the corresponding set of homotopy classes of maps. If  $\mathcal{C}$  is a stable  $\infty$ -category, we will let

 $\underline{\mathcal{C}}(X,Y)$ 

denote the mapping spectrum.

p will always denote a prime number. For elements  $\boldsymbol{x}_i$  of a Lie algebra L, we will let

$$[x_1, \dots, x_k] = [x_1, [x_2, \dots [x_{k-1}, x_k] \dots]]$$

denote the iterated Lie bracket.

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Symmetric sequences. Fix a presentably symmetric monoidal stable  $\infty$ -category  $(\mathcal{C}, \otimes, 1_{\mathcal{C}})$ , and let

$$\operatorname{Seq}_{\Sigma}(\mathcal{C})$$

denote the  $\infty$ -category of symmetric sequences in  $\mathcal{C}$ , whose objects are sequences

$$\{\mathcal{X}_i \in \mathcal{C}^{B\Sigma_i}\}_{i>0}.$$

We will identify C with the full subcategory of  $\operatorname{Seq}_{\Sigma}(C)$  consisting of sequences concentrated in degree 0:

$$X := \{X, 0, 0, \ldots\}.$$

The  $\infty$ -category Seq<sub> $\Sigma$ </sub>(C) has a monoidal structure  $\circ$  given by

$$(\mathcal{X} \circ \mathcal{Y})_i := \bigoplus_{i=i_1+\dots+i_k} \operatorname{Ind}_{\Sigma_{i_1,\dots,i_k}}^{\Sigma_i} \mathcal{X}_k \otimes \mathcal{Y}_{i_1} \otimes \dots \otimes \mathcal{Y}_{i_k},$$

where  $\Sigma_{i_1,\ldots,i_k} \leq \Sigma_i$  is the subgroup which preserves the partition  $i = i_1 + \cdots + i_k$ . The unit of this monoidal structure is  $1_*$ , given by

$$1_* := \{0, 1_{\mathcal{C}}, 0, 0, \ldots\} \in \operatorname{Seq}_{\Sigma}(\mathcal{C}).$$

The  $\infty$ -category Seq<sub> $\Sigma$ </sub>(C) also possesses a symmetric monoidal structure  $\otimes$  given by

(2.1) 
$$(\mathcal{X}\otimes\mathcal{Y})_i := \bigoplus_{i=i_1+i_2} \operatorname{Ind}_{\Sigma_{i_1}\times\Sigma_{i_2}}^{\Sigma_i} \mathcal{X}_{i_1}\otimes\mathcal{Y}_{i_2}.$$

**Operads.** An operad in  $\mathcal{C}$  is a monoid in  $(\operatorname{Seq}_{\Sigma}(\mathcal{C}), \circ)$ .

- (2.2) We shall say that an operad  $\mathcal{O}$  is *reduced* if  $\mathcal{O}_0 = 0$  and  $\mathcal{O}_1 = 1$ .
- (2.3) Given an operad  $\mathcal{O}$  in  $\mathcal{C}$ , we will let  $\operatorname{Mod}_{\mathcal{O}}^{rt}/\operatorname{Mod}_{\mathcal{O}}^{lt}$  denote right/left modules over  $\mathcal{O}$ .
- (2.4) The  $\otimes$ -product of right  $\mathcal{O}$ -modules is again an  $\mathcal{O}$ -module, so  $\otimes$  endows  $\operatorname{Mod}_{\mathcal{O}}^{rt}$  with a symmetric monoidal structure (see [Fre09]).
- (2.5) If an operad  $\mathcal{O}$  is reduced, then the canonical map

 $\mathcal{O} \to \mathbf{1}_*$ 

is a map of operads, and in particular  $1_*$  is both a left and right  $\mathcal{O}$ -module. (2.6) An object  $X \in \mathcal{C}$  gives rise to a symmetric sequence  $X^{\otimes} \in \operatorname{Seq}_{\Sigma}(\mathcal{C})$  with

$$(X^{\otimes})_i := X^{\otimes i}$$

An  $\mathcal{O}$ -coalgebra structure on X induces a right  $\mathcal{O}$ -module structure on  $X^{\otimes}$ .

(2.7) A left  $\mathcal{O}$ -module structure on  $X \in \mathcal{C}$  (regarded as a symmetric sequence concentrated in degree 0) is an  $\mathcal{O}$ -algebra structure on X.

**Coendomorphism operads.** For objects  $X, Y \in C$ , define a symmetric sequence of spectra  $\mathcal{H}om_{\mathcal{C}}(X, Y)$  by

$$\mathcal{H}om_{\mathcal{C}}(X,Y)_i := \underline{\mathcal{C}}(X,Y^{\otimes i}).$$

- (2.8) The symmetric sequence  $\mathcal{H}om_{\mathcal{C}}(X, X)$  admits a canonical operad structure (sometimes referred to as the *coendomorphism operad*).
- (2.9) The symmetric sequence of spectra  $\mathcal{H}om_{\mathcal{C}}(X,Y)$  is canonically a right  $\mathcal{H}om_{\mathcal{C}}(Y,Y)$ -module and a left  $\mathcal{H}om_{\mathcal{C}}(X,X)$ -module.
- (2.10) The *n*-sphere operad is defined to be the coendomorphism operad in spectra

 $\mathcal{S}^n := \mathcal{H}om_{\mathrm{Sp}}(S^n, S^n).$ 

Using the fact that C is tensored over spectra, we can define the *nth* suspension  $\sigma^n \mathcal{O}$  of an operad  $\mathcal{O}$  to be the operad

$$\sigma^n \mathcal{O} := \mathcal{S}^n \otimes \mathcal{O}.$$

If A is an  $\sigma^n \mathcal{O}$ -algebra, then  $\Sigma^n A$  is an  $\mathcal{O}$ -algebra.

**Koszul duality.** Ching originally defined Koszul duality of operads/modules in spectra using bar constructions [Chi05]. Recently, Espic [Esp22] introduced a more conceptual homotopy invariant construction, which he showed was equivalent to Ching's.

Given a reduced operad of spectra  $\mathcal{O}$ , its *Koszul dual* is defined to be the coendomorphism operad

$$K(\mathcal{O}) := \mathcal{H}om_{\mathrm{Mod}_{\mathcal{O}}^{rt}}(1_*, 1_*).$$

Given  $\mathcal{M} \in \operatorname{Mod}_{\mathcal{O}}^{rt}$ , its Koszul dual is defined to be the right  $K(\mathcal{O})$ -module

$$K_{\mathcal{O}}(\mathcal{M}) := \mathcal{H}om_{\mathrm{Mod}_{\mathcal{D}}^{rt}}(\mathcal{M}, 1_*).$$

There are equivalences [Esp22], [MT24]

$$K(\mathcal{O}) \simeq B(1_*, \mathcal{O}, 1_*)^{\vee},$$
  
$$K_{\mathcal{O}}(\mathcal{M}) \simeq B(\mathcal{M}, \mathcal{O}, 1_*)^{\vee}$$

where B(-, -, -) denotes the two-sided monoidal bar construction. Given an  $\mathcal{O}$ coalgebra X, we define the spectrum of *primitives* by

$$\operatorname{Prim}_{\mathcal{O}}(X) := \underline{\operatorname{Mod}}_{\mathcal{O}}^{rt}(1_*, X^{\otimes})$$

It follows from the definition of  $K(\mathcal{O})$  that  $\operatorname{Prim}_{\mathcal{O}}(X)$  naturally has the structure of a  $K(\mathcal{O})$ -algebra.

The Lie operad. Let Comm be the reduced commutative operad in spectra, given by the symmetric sequence

$$\{0, S, S, S, \ldots\}.$$

Define the spectral Lie operad to be the shift of the Koszul dual

$$\mathcal{L}ie := \sigma K(\mathcal{C}omm).$$

It is shown in [Chi05] that there is an isomorphism of operads

$$H\mathbb{Z}_*\mathcal{L}ie\cong\mathcal{L}ie^{\mathbb{Z}},$$

where  $\mathcal{L}ie^{\mathbb{Z}}$  denotes the Lie operad in abelian groups. For a commutative ring k, algebras over

$$\mathcal{L}ie^k := k \otimes \mathcal{L}ie^{\mathbb{Z}}$$

1

in  $Mod_k$  are Lie algebras over k.

## 3. The Goodwillie spectral sequence

The Goodwillie tower. Goodwillie calculus [Goo03], [Lur17, Ch.6] associates to a reduced functor between presentable pointed  $\infty$ -categories a *Taylor tower* of degree *n* polynomial approximations

$$F \to \cdots \to P_n(F) \to \cdots \to P_1(F).$$

In the context where F is the identity functor

$$\mathrm{Id}: \mathrm{sSet}_* \to \mathrm{sSet}_*,$$

the fibers take the form [Joh95], [Chi05]

$$D_n(\mathrm{Id})(X) \simeq \Omega^\infty \sigma^{-1} \mathcal{L}ie_n \otimes_{h\Sigma_n} \Sigma^\infty X^{\otimes n}$$

and for X connected and  $\mathbbm{Z}\text{-complete}$  the map

$$X \to P_{\infty}(\mathrm{Id})(X) := \varprojlim_{n} P_{n}(\mathrm{Id})(X)$$

is an equivalence [AK98]. It follows that for a connected  $\mathbb{Z}$ -complete space there is a Goodwillie spectral sequence

(3.1) 
$${}^{gss}E_1^{t,*}(X) = \pi_t \mathcal{L}ie(\Sigma^{-1}\Sigma^{\infty}X) \Rightarrow \pi_{t+1}X,$$

where

$$\mathcal{L}ie(Y) \simeq \bigoplus_{n} \mathcal{L}ie_n \otimes_{h\Sigma_n} Y^{\otimes n}$$

is the free spectral Lie algebra on a spectrum Y. Note that the  $E_1$ -term is a Lie algebra, and the GSS converges to a Lie algebra, but it has not been proven that this spectral sequence is a spectral sequence of Lie algebras.

The homotopy and homology of free spectral Lie algebras. We are led to compute the homotopy groups of  $\mathcal{L}ie(Y)$  for  $Y \in Sp$ . We shall do this for the *p*-completions for every prime *p*.

The homotopy groups of any bounded below p-complete spectrum Z can be studied using the mod p Adams spectral sequence

$$\operatorname{Ext}_{A^{op}}^{s,t}(\mathbb{F}_p, (H\mathbb{F}_p)_*Z) \Rightarrow \pi_{t-s}Z.$$

Here  $\mathcal{A}$  is the mod p Steenrod algebra, whose dual action gives  $(H\mathbb{F}_p)_*Z$  an  $\mathcal{A}^{op}$ module structure. Thus the input needed to study the homotopy groups of the p-completion of  $\sigma^{-1}\mathcal{L}ie(Y)$  is the homology  $(H\mathbb{F}_p)_*\sigma^{-1}\mathcal{L}ie(Y)$ .

We first consider the case of p = 2. Suppose that L is a 2-complete  $\mathcal{L}ie$ -algebra. Since

(3.2) 
$$\mathcal{L}ie_2 \simeq S^{\sigma-1}$$

where  $\sigma$  is the sign representation, the *Lie*-algebra structure gives a map

$$(H\mathbb{F}_2)_*(\Sigma^{\sigma-1}L^{\otimes 2})_{h\Sigma_2} \to (H\mathbb{F}_2)_*L.$$

In addition to endowing  $(H\mathbb{F}_2)_*L$  with the structure of a graded Lie algebra, it also gives rise to *Lie-Dyer-Lashof operations* [Beh12]

(3.3) 
$$\bar{Q}^i : (H\mathbb{F}_p)_t L \to (H\mathbb{F}_p)_{t+i} L$$

which satisfy the allowablity conditions [AC20]

• 
$$\bar{Q}^i x = 0$$
 if  $i < |x|$ .

- $\bar{Q}^i x = [x, x]$  if i = |x|.  $[x, \bar{Q}^i y] = 0$ .

The algebra of all such operations  $\hat{\mathcal{R}}$  is subject to Lie-Adem relations [Beh12, Sec. 1.4] which give rise to a basis of admissible monomials

$$\bar{Q}^{i_1}\cdots \bar{Q}^{i_\ell}$$

with  $i_m > 2i_{m+1}$ .

Antolín Camarena [AC20] showed that  $(H\mathbb{F}_2)_*\mathcal{L}ie(Y)$  is the free allowable  $\bar{\mathcal{R}}$ -Lie algebra on  $(H\mathbb{F}_2)_*Y$ . Specifically, if  $\{x_i\}$  is a basis of  $(H\mathbb{F}_2)_*Y$ , then  $(H\mathbb{F}_2)_*\mathcal{L}ie(Y)$ has a basis

(3.4) 
$$\bar{Q}^{i_1}\cdots \bar{Q}^{i_\ell}[x_{j_1},\ldots,x_{j_k}]$$

where the brackets range over a basis of the free graded Lie algebra over  $\mathbb{F}_2$  on the generators  $\{x_j\}, i_m > 2i_{m+1}, \text{ and } i_\ell > |x_{j_1}| + \dots + |x_{j_k}|.$ 

For p odd, Kjaer [Kja18] constructed the odd primary analog of the Lie-Dyer-Lashof operations (3.3), and he showed that  $(H\mathbb{F}_p)_*\mathcal{L}ie(Y)$  admits a basis analogous to (3.4). However he was unable to determine the odd primary Lie-Adem relations. In the case of the prime 2, they were deduced in [Beh12] from a classical computation of the transfer

$$(H\mathbb{F}_2)_*B\Sigma_4 \to (H\mathbb{F}_2)_*B\Sigma_2 \wr \Sigma_2$$

due to Kahn and Priddy [Pri73]. Surprisingly, the formula for the odd primary analog of this transfer was unknown. One interesting corollary of the work of [Kon23] (which we will discuss in Section 4) is that he is able to determine these odd primary Lie-Adem relations.

### 4. The mod p lower central series and restricted Lie algebras

The Rector spectral sequence. Adapting the work of Curtis [Cur65] to the pprimary setting, Rector [Rec66] studied the spectral sequence associated to the the  $\mod p$ -lower central series

$$\Gamma^p_s G = \langle [g_1, \dots, g_i]^{p^j} : ip^j \ge s \rangle \le G$$

of a simplicial group G, whose associated graded is a simplicial graded restricted Lie algebra over  $\mathbb{F}_p$ . A graded restricted Lie algebra  $L_*$  (over a field of characteristic p) is a graded Lie algebra which possesses an additional operation

$$\xi: L_t \to L_{pt}$$

which satisfies certain axioms (see [MM65]).

Consider the following diagram of  $\infty$ -categories and functors.

where

sGp = simplicial groups

 $\mathrm{sLie}_{\mathbb{F}_p}^{gr.res} = \mathrm{simplicial}$  graded restricted Lie algebras over  $\mathbb{F}_p$ 

$$sCoAlg_{\mathbb{F}_p}^{Comm} = (non-counital) simplicial cocommutative coalgebras over  $\mathbb{F}_p$$$

 $\mathrm{sHopf}_{\mathbb{F}_p} = \mathrm{simplicial\ cocommutative\ Hopf\ algebras\ over\ }\mathbb{F}_p$ 

 $\mathrm{sHopf}_{\mathbb{F}_p}^{gr.prim} = \mathrm{simplicial}$  cocommutative primitively generated graded Hopf algebras and

 $\Omega X$  = the Kan loop group of a simplicial set X

 $\mathbb{F}_p X$  = the free simplicial  $\mathbb{F}_p$ -module of a simplicial set X

 $\widetilde{\mathbb{F}}_p X$  = the free reduced simplicial  $\mathbb{F}_p$ -module of a pointed simplicial set X

V(L) = the universal enveloping algebra (of a graded restricted Lie algebra L)

 $C(A) = C(\mathbb{F}_p, \mathbb{F}_p \oplus A, \mathbb{F}_p)$ , the cobar construction on a non-counital coalgebra A(where  $\mathbb{F}_p \oplus A$  denotes the coaugmented counital coalgebra associated to A)

 $I^{\bullet}A$  = the filtration of A given by powers of the augmentation ideal

 $\mathcal{C}^{fil}$  = filtered objects of  $\mathcal{C}$ 

 $\operatorname{gr}_{\bullet} = \operatorname{the}$  associated graded of a filtered object

The left-hand square of (4.1) commutes when restricted to  $\mathrm{sSet}^{\geq 2}_*$  by the convergence of the Eilenberg-Moore spectral sequence. The right-hand rectangle of (4.1) is shown to commute in [BC70]. The universal enveloping algebra functor V in (4.1) is an equivalence by [MM65], where the inverse functor is given by taking primitives

$$\operatorname{Prim}: \operatorname{sHopf}_{\mathbb{F}_n}^{gr.prim} \to \operatorname{sLie}_{\mathbb{F}_n}^{gr.res}$$

Because the Kan loop group is level-wise free, the image of X under the various functors of (4.1) is given by

where  $\mathcal{L}ie^r$  denotes the free restricted Lie algebra and T denotes the tensor algebra. Note that each of these carries a natural grading with  $\Sigma^{-1}\widetilde{\mathbb{F}}_p X$  in degree 1. The filtration  $\Gamma^p_{\bullet}\Omega X$  gives rise to the Rector spectral sequence

$$T^{ss}E_1^{t,*}(X) = \pi_t \mathcal{L}ie^r(\Sigma^{-1}\widetilde{\mathbb{F}}_p X) \Rightarrow \pi_{t+1}X$$

which converges for X simply connected [Rec66].

**Remark 4.2.** The spectral sequence associated to the filtration  $I^{\bullet}\mathbb{F}_{p}\Omega X$  is the Eilenberg-Moore spectral sequence. Thus, by (4.1), the Hurewicz homomorphism induces a map from the Rector spectral sequence to the Eilenberg-Moore spectral sequence.

The homotopy of free simplicial restricted Lie algebras. In order to compute the  $E_1$ -term of the Rector spectral sequence, we observe that the homotopy groups of a simplicial restricted Lie algebra L over  $\mathbb{F}_p$  have algebraic structure [BC70]. The *restricted* structure arises from a factorization of the Lie algebra structure maps through maps

$$\mathcal{L}ie_n^{\mathbb{F}_p} \otimes^{h\Sigma_n} L^{\otimes n} \to L.$$

This endows  $\pi_*L$  with the structure of a graded restricted Lie algebra. Furthermore we get  $\lambda$ -operations coming from the mod p cohomology of  $\Sigma_p$ . For simplicity, we restrict attention to the case where p = 2. In this case, it follows from (3.2) that the map

$$\mathcal{L}ie_2^{\mathbb{F}_2} \otimes^{h\Sigma_2} L^{\otimes 2} \to L$$

induces operations

$$\lambda_i: \pi_t L \to \pi_{t+i} L$$

for  $i \geq 0$ , which satisfy the *instability conditions* 

• 
$$x\lambda_i = 0$$
 if  $i > |x|$ .

• 
$$x\lambda_i = \xi(x)$$
 if  $i = |x|$ .

•  $[x, y\lambda_i] = 0$  if i < |y|.

The algebra of all such operations  $\Lambda$  is subject to Adem relations [BCK<sup>+</sup>66], which give rise to a basis of admissible monomials

$$\lambda_{i_1} \cdots \lambda_{i_\ell}$$

with  $2i_m \ge i_{m+1}$ . The  $\Lambda$ -algebra is Koszul dual to the Steenrod algebra  $\mathcal{A}$  [Pri73] and as such possesses a differential d such that

$$H^*(\Lambda) = \operatorname{Ext}_{\mathcal{A}}(\mathbb{F}_2, \mathbb{F}_2).$$

Bousfield and Curtis [BC70] showed that for a simplicial  $\mathbb{F}_2$ -module Y, the homotopy groups  $\pi_*\mathcal{L}ie^r(Y)$  form the free unstable  $\Lambda$ -Lie algebra on  $\pi_*Y$ . Specifically, if  $\{x_i\}$  is a basis of  $\pi_*Y$ , then  $\pi_*\mathcal{L}ie^r(Y)$  has a basis

$$[x_{j_1},\ldots,x_{j_k}]\lambda_{i_1}\cdots\lambda_{i_\ell}$$

where the brackets range over a basis of the free graded Lie algebra over  $\mathbb{F}_2$  on the generators  $\{x_j\}, 2i_m \geq i_{m+1}, \text{ and } i_1 < |x_{j_1}| + \cdots + |x_{j_k}|$ .

The Rector spectral sequence is a spectral sequence of Lie algebras. The first potentially non-trivial differential on Lie algebra generators is given by the formula [BC70]

$$(4.3) \quad d_{2^{\ell}}^{rss}(\sigma^{-1}x \cdot \lambda_I) = \sum [\sigma^{-1}x'_i, \sigma^{-1}x_i]\lambda_I + \sigma^{-1}x \cdot d\lambda_I + \sum_j \sigma^{-1}x \operatorname{Sq}^j_* \cdot \lambda_{j-1}\lambda_I$$

for  $x \in (\widetilde{HF}_2)_*X$  with  $\Delta(x) = \sum_i x'_i \otimes x''_i$ . It is shown in [BC70] that for sufficiently nice spaces, the Rector spectral sequence is isomorphic to the unstable Adams spectral sequence after re-indexing.

The algebraic Goodwillie spectral sequence. Konovalov [Kon23] related the Rector spectral sequence to the Goodwillie spectral sequence. Specifically, he showed that the *algebraic Goodwillie spectral sequence* associated to the Goodwillie tower of the functor<sup>1</sup>

$$\mathcal{L}ie^r(\Sigma^{-1}\widetilde{\mathbb{F}}_p(-)): \mathrm{sSet}_* \to \mathrm{sLie}_{\mathbb{F}_p}^{res}$$

takes the form

(4.4) 
$$^{agss}E_1 = (H\mathbb{F}_p)_*\mathcal{L}ie(\Sigma^{-1}\Sigma^{\infty}X) \otimes \Lambda \Rightarrow \pi_*\mathcal{L}ie^r(\Sigma^{-1}\widetilde{\mathbb{F}}_pX).$$

The spectral sequence (4.4) is a spectral sequence of Lie algebras, and Konovalov [Kon23, Rmk. 8.3.7] showed that the spectral sequence is *completely determined* by explicit differentials on Lie algebra generators given by formulas discovered by Lin [Lin81] in his proof of the algebraic Kahn-Priddy theorem.

The conjecture is that the algebraic Goodwillie spectral sequence fits into a "commuting square" of spectral sequences<sup>2</sup>

Such a commuting square would allow for the lifting of AGSS differentials to GSS differentials.

#### 5. LIE ALGEBRA MODELS OF RATIONAL HOMOTOPY THEORY

**Rational homotopy theory.** Quillen famously showed that simply connected rational homotopy theory can be modeled by simplicial Lie algebras over  $\mathbb{Q}$ . He

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup>Technically, Konovalov studied the case of restricted Lie algebras over the algebraic closure  $\overline{\mathbb{F}}_p$ . This was so he could use the action of the units of  $\overline{\mathbb{F}}_p$  to prove degeneration results — his results then carry over to  $\mathbb{F}_p$ .

 $<sup>^2\</sup>mathrm{By}$  "commuting square" we mean that the square of spectral sequences arises from a bifiltered object.

accomplished this by observing that diagram (4.1) simplifies to a diagram of equivalences of  $\infty$ -categories (the equivalence (\*) was also studied by Sullivan [Sul77]).

(5.1) 
$$(\operatorname{sSet}_{*})_{\mathbb{Q}}^{\geq 2} \xrightarrow{\Omega} \operatorname{sGp}_{\mathbb{Q}}^{\geq 1}$$
$$(\operatorname{sCoAlg}_{\mathbb{Q}}^{\mathcal{C}omm})^{\geq 2} \xrightarrow{\simeq} \operatorname{sHopf}_{\mathbb{Q}}^{\mathcal{C}onn}$$
$$\operatorname{Prim}_{\mathcal{C}omm} \downarrow^{\simeq} \qquad U\left( \bigvee_{\mathbb{V}}^{\mathcal{L}} \operatorname{Prim}_{\operatorname{Alg}_{\sigma^{-1}\mathcal{L}ie}}(\operatorname{Sp}_{\mathbb{Q}})^{\geq 2} \xrightarrow{\simeq} \operatorname{sLie}_{\mathbb{Q}}^{\geq 1} \right)$$

Here, U refers to the universal enveloping algebra, and  $\operatorname{Prim}_{\mathcal{C}omm}$  is the derived primitives construction described in Section 2.

The rational Goodwillie tower. In the rational case, the Goodwillie spectral sequence is the spectral sequence obtained from the bracket-length filtration on  $PrimQ\Omega X$ , and takes the form [Wal06]

$$\mathcal{L}ie^{\mathbb{Q}}(\Sigma^{-1}(\widetilde{H}\mathbb{Q})_*X) \Rightarrow \pi_{*+1}X_{\mathbb{Q}}.$$

In this case the spectral sequence is known to be a spectral sequence of Lie algebras. The  $d_1$ -differential is determined by its effect on Lie algebra generators: for  $x \in (\widetilde{HQ})_*X$  with  $\Delta(x) = \sum x'_i \otimes x''_i$  this differential is given by [Qui69, Apx B]

$$d_1^{gss}(\sigma^{-1}x) = \frac{1}{2} \sum_i (-1)^{|x_i'|} [\sigma^{-1}x_i', \sigma^{-1}x_i''].$$

Thus if X is of finite type, the  $E_1$ -page is the Harrison complex associated to the ring  $(H\mathbb{Q})^*X$ , and the  $E_2$ -page is its Andre-Quillen cohomology.

## 6. Lie algebra models of unstable $v_n$ -periodic homotopy theory

**The Bousfield-Kuhn functor.** Recall that a *p*-local finite complex X is called *type* n if it is K(n-1)-acyclic, and  $K(n) \otimes X \neq 0$ . The periodicity theorem of Hopkins-Smith [HS98] implies that a *p*-local finite complex V of type n admits an asymptotically unique  $v_n$ -self-map: a K(n)-equivalence

$$v: \Sigma^{t+N} V \to \Sigma^t V$$

for  $t \gg 0$ . The unstable  $v_n$ -periodic homotopy groups (with coefficients in V) of a pointed space X are defined to be

$$v_n^{-1}\pi_*(X;V) := v^{-1}[\Sigma^*V,X].$$

The corresponding stable  $v_n$ -periodic homotopy groups

$$v_n^{-1}\pi_*^s(X;V) := \varprojlim_k v_n^{-1}\pi_{*+k}(\Sigma^k X;V)$$

are the homotopy groups of the telescope

$$v^{-1}V^{\vee}\otimes\Sigma^{\infty}X.$$

Thus the stable  $v_n$ -periodic homotopy type of X is encoded in the Bousfield localization

$$(\Sigma^{\infty}X)_{T(n)} \in \operatorname{Sp}_{T(n)}$$

where  $T(n) := v^{-1}V^{\vee}$  (this localization is independent of the choice of V and v-self map).

The Bousfield-Kuhn functor

$$\Phi_n : \mathrm{sSet}_* \to \mathrm{Sp}_{T(n)}$$

encodes these unstable  $v_n\mbox{-}{\rm periodic}$  homotopy groups, in the sense that there are natural isomorphisms

$$\pi_*\Phi_n(X) \otimes V^{\vee} \cong v_n^{-1}\pi_*(X;V).$$

The completed unstable  $v_n$ -periodic homotopy groups are defined to be

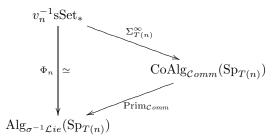
$$v_n^{-1}\pi_*^{\wedge}(X) := \pi_*\Phi_n(X)$$

A generalization of rational homotopy theory. Let  $v_n^{-1}$ sSet<sub>\*</sub> denote the  $\infty$ category obtained by inverting the  $v_n^{-1}\pi_*^{\wedge}$ -isomorphisms. Heuts [Heu21] showed that  $\Phi_n(X)$  canonically admits the structure of a  $\sigma^{-1}\mathcal{L}ie$  algebra which is compatible with the Whitehead product on homotopy groups, and proved that the induced functor

$$\Phi_n: v_n^{-1} \mathrm{sSet}_* \xrightarrow{\simeq} \mathrm{Alg}_{\sigma^{-1} \mathcal{L}ie}(\mathrm{Sp}_{T(n)})$$

is an equivalence of  $\infty$ -categories.

While this result gives a fantastic generalization of Quillen's simplicial Lie model of rational homotopy theory, it tells us nothing about the homotopy type of  $\Phi_n(X)$ . To that end, one can imitate Quillen's approach to the rational case. It is shown in [Heu21] (see also [BR20a]) that the diagram



is lax commutative in the sense that there is a natural transformation called the  $\mathit{comparison\ map}$ 

(6.1) 
$$c_X : \Phi_n(X) \to \operatorname{Prim}_{\mathcal{C}omm} \Sigma^{\infty}_{T(n)} X.$$

We shall say the a space X is  $\Phi_n$ -good if the map

(6.2) 
$$X \to P_{\infty}(\Phi_n)(X)$$

is an equivalence.

One of the main results of [Heu21] is

**Theorem 6.3** (Heuts). The comparison map (6.1) is an equivalence for X which are  $\Phi_n$ -good.

Theorem 6.3 improved upon the main result of [BR20a], which showed that if X is finite with (6.2) a K(n)-equivalence (i.e. X is  $\Phi_{K(n)}$ -good), then the comparison map (6.1) is a K(n)-equivalence. If n = 1, the validity of the telescope conjecture [Bou79, Prop. 4.2] implies  $\Phi_1(X)$  is K(1)-local. The telescope conjecture has been shown to be false for n > 1 [BHLS23].

Arone and Ching discovered yet another approach to Theorem 6.3 in the case where X is finite, assuming certain results about Koszul duality of right modules, which was described in [BR20b, Sec. 9]. These Koszul duality results have now been proven [MT24], and in the next two subsections we will proceed to give a concise recapitulation of the Arone-Ching approach to Theorem 6.3.

### Koszul duality and calculus. For a functor

 $F: \mathrm{sSet}_* \to \mathrm{Sp}$ 

define the Koszul dual derivatives to be the spectrum of natural transformations

$$\partial^k(F) := \underline{\operatorname{Nat}}_X(F(X), \Sigma^{\infty} X^{\otimes k})$$

The diagonal of X induces a right *Comm*-module structure on  $\partial^*(F)$ . Using the Yoneda lemma, there is a natural transformation

$$F(X) \to \underline{\mathrm{Mod}}_{\mathcal{C}omm}^{rt}(\partial^*(F), \Sigma^{\infty} X^{\otimes})$$

which gives an approximation of F(X).

The derivatives  $\partial_*(F)$  were shown in [AC11] to possess a right  $\sigma^{-1}\mathcal{L}ie$ -module structure. The reason that we refer to  $\partial^*(F)$  as the Koszul dual derivatives of F is that if each  $\partial_i F$  is a finite spectrum, there is an equivalence [AC11, Example 17.28] of right  $\mathcal{C}omm = K(\sigma^{-1}\mathcal{L}ie)$ -modules

(6.4) 
$$\partial^*(F) \simeq K_{\sigma^{-1}\mathcal{L}ie}(\partial_*(F)).$$

It follows from the results of [MT24] that if X and all of the derivatives  $\partial_k(F)$  are finite, then Koszul duality gives an equivalence

$$\underline{\mathrm{Mod}}_{\mathcal{C}omm}^{rt}(\partial^*(F), \Sigma^{\infty} X^{\otimes}) \simeq \underline{\mathrm{Mod}}_{\sigma^{-1}\mathcal{L}ie}^{rt}(\partial_*(\Sigma^{\infty}\mathrm{sSet}_*(X, -)), \partial_*(F)) =: \Psi(F)(X)$$
  
where

$$\Psi(F)(X) \simeq \varprojlim_{k} \Psi_{k}(F) = \varprojlim_{k} \underline{\mathrm{Mod}}_{\sigma^{-1}\mathcal{L}ie}^{rt} (\partial_{\leq k}(\Sigma^{\infty} \mathrm{sSet}_{*}(X, -)), \partial_{\leq k}(F))$$

is the fake Taylor tower of [AC15].<sup>3</sup>

There is a map from the Taylor tower to the fake Taylor tower, giving a diagram of fiber sequences [AC11, Rmk. 4.2.27]

$$(6.5) \qquad \begin{array}{c} \partial_{k}(F) \otimes_{h\Sigma_{k}} \Sigma^{\infty} X^{\otimes k} \longrightarrow P_{k}(F)(X) \longrightarrow P_{k-1}(F)(X) \\ & & \downarrow \\ & & \downarrow \\ \partial_{k}(F) \otimes^{h\Sigma_{k}} \Sigma^{\infty} X^{\otimes k} \longrightarrow \Psi_{k}(F)(X) \longrightarrow \Psi_{k-1}(F)(X) \end{array}$$

where N is the norm map.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup>In [AC11],[AC15], the notation  $\Phi_k(F)$  is used, but we instead use  $\Psi_k$  to avoid conflict with the notation for the Bousfield-Kuhn functor.

**Proof of Theorem 6.3.** We may now explain how the theory of the previous subsection specializes in the case of  $F = \Phi_n$  to prove Theorem 6.3 in the case where X is finite.

Firstly, it follows from the general theory of [Goo03] that there is a natural equivalence

$$\Phi_n(P_k(\mathrm{Id})(X)) \simeq P_k(\Phi_n)(X)$$

and therefore

$$\partial_*(\Phi_n) \simeq (\sigma^{-1} \mathcal{L}ie_*)_{T(n)}.$$

It follows from (6.4) that the dual derivatives are given by

$$\partial^*(\Phi_n) \simeq (1_*)_{T(n)}$$

Since  $\sigma^{-1} \mathcal{L} i e_k$  is level-wise finite, we may apply Koszul duality for right modules [MT24] to deduce that there is an equivalence

$$\Psi(\Phi_n)(X) \simeq \underline{\mathrm{Mod}}_{\mathcal{C}omm}^{rt}(1_*, \Sigma_{T(n)}^{\infty} X^{\otimes}) = \mathrm{Prim}_{\mathcal{C}omm}(\Sigma_{T(n)}^{\infty} X).$$

Finally, since Kuhn proved norm maps in  $\text{Sp}_{T(n)}$  are equivalences [Kuh04], it follows from (6.5) that there is a natural equivalence

$$P_{\infty}(\Phi_n)(X) \xrightarrow{\simeq} \Psi(\Phi_n)(X)$$

We deduce that the comparison map (6.1) may be identified with the composite

$$\Phi_n(X) \to P_\infty(\Phi_n)(X) \xrightarrow{\simeq} \operatorname{Prim}_{\mathcal{C}omm}(\Sigma^\infty_{T(n)}X).$$

Theorem 6.3 follows.

The  $v_n$ -periodic Goodwillie spectral sequence. The Taylor tower for  $\Phi_n$  gives rise to the  $v_n$ -periodic Goodwillie spectral sequence (which converges when X is  $\Phi_n$ -good)

$$v_n^{-1 gss} E_1^{t,*}(X) = \pi_t \mathcal{L}ie(\Sigma^{-1} \Sigma^\infty X)_{T(n)} \Rightarrow v_n^{-1} \pi_{t+1}^\wedge(X).$$

Arone and Mahowald [AM99] showed that in the case where  $X = S^d$  (and d is odd if p is odd),  $v_n^{-1 gss} E^{t,k}(S^d) = 0$  unless  $k = p^i \leq p^n$ , and they use this to prove that spheres are  $\Phi_n$ -good. The  $v_1$ -periodic GSS was computed for  $S^d$  by Mahowald [Mah82] for p = 2 and Thompson [Tho90] for p odd.

As T(n)-local homotopy groups are largely incomputable at present for n > 1, one may alternatively consider the K(n)-local Goodwillie spectral sequence

$${}^{gss}_{K(n)} E^{t,*}_1 = \pi_t \mathcal{L}ie(\Sigma^{-1}\Sigma^{\infty}X)_{K(n)} \Rightarrow \pi_{t+1}\Phi_n(X)_{K(n)}$$

The K(2)-local GSS for  $S^3$  and  $p \ge 5$  was computed by Wang in [Wan15].

In general, the homotopy groups of the K(n)-localization of a spectrum Z may be computed by its K(n)-local Adams-Novikov spectral sequence, which by the Morava change of rings theorem [Mor85] takes the form

$$H_c^s(\mathbb{G}_n; (E_n)_t Z) \Rightarrow \pi_{t-s} Z_{K(n)}.$$

Here  $(E_n)_*Z$  is the (completed) Morava E-homology, and  $\mathbb{G}_n$  is the nth (extended) Morava stabilizer group. Thus the input needed to study the K(n)-local GSS is  $(E_n)_*\mathcal{L}ie(Z)$ . The Morava *E*-theory of  $\mathcal{L}ie(Z)$  was computed by Brantner [Bra17] in the case where  $(E_n)_*Z$  is flat over  $(E_n)_*$ . We briefly summarize his result. Let  $\Delta$  denote the Dyer-Lashof algebra for Morava *E*-theory, which acts on the Morava *E*-cohomology of any space. The algebra  $\Delta$  was shown by Rezk to be Koszul [Rez17]. Define the algebra of *Hecke operations*  $\mathcal{H}^{\mathcal{L}ie}$  to be the Koszul dual algebra of  $\Delta$  (in the sense of [Pri70]). For simplicity, assume *p* is odd. Then Brantner showed that  $(E_n)_*\mathcal{L}ie(Z)$ is the free complete Hecke-Lie algebra on  $(E_n)_*Z$ :

$$(E_n)_*\mathcal{L}ie(Z) = [\mathcal{H}^{\mathcal{L}ie} \otimes_{(E_n)_*} \mathcal{L}ie^{(E_n)_*}((E_n)_*Z)]_I^{\wedge}.$$

In the case of n = 2, the algebra  $\mathcal{H}^{\mathcal{L}ie}$ , and the Morava *E*-theory  $(E_2)_* \Phi_2(S^{2i+1})$ , was determined by Zhu [Zhu18].

The first non-trivial differentials in the K(n)-local GSS are given by analogs of the formula (4.3). In the case of n = 1 and p odd, Kjaer used this to compute the  $v_1$ -periodic GSS in its entirety for X a simply connected finite H-space [Kja19]. By comparing his results with the work of Bousfield [Bou99], Kjaer established that for p odd, all finite H-spaces are  $\Phi_1$ -good. This suggests that the higher chromatic analogs of the right-hand column of (5.1) should be better behaved than the higher chromatic analogs of the left-hand column. Progress on the study of T(n)-local Hopf algebras is being made in ongoing work of Brantner, Hahn, Heuts, and Yuan, who have proposed that it may be the case that all loop spaces are  $\Phi_n$ -good.

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