

THE UNREASONABLE EFFECTIVENESS OF RIGHT MODULES IN HOMOTOPY THEORY

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ABSTRACT. Here is a list of theorems which can be proven by contemplating the category of right modules over a spectral operad. We expect some of these results, particularly those about chromatic homotopy theory and 1-semiadditivity, are known to experts.

Hypotheses 0.1. *We consider presentable categories C such that $\mathrm{Sp}(C) = \mathrm{Sp}_E$, a Bousfield localization of spectra. All operads are reduced and level-wise finite spectra. All functors are finitary, i.e. commute with filtered colimits. B denotes the covariant theory of bar-cobar duality, and K denotes its dual contravariant theory. These exist for algebras, modules, comodules, etc.*

Proposition 0.2. *Suppose $\partial_* \mathrm{Id}_C$ is level-wise finite. If $F : C \rightarrow \mathrm{Sp}_E$ also has level-wise finite derivatives, then we have an equivalence*

$$\partial_* F \simeq B(\mathrm{Hom}^\Sigma(F, \Sigma_C^\infty), \mathrm{CoEnd}(\Sigma_C^\infty), 1)^\vee =: K(\mathrm{Hom}^\Sigma(F, \Sigma_C^\infty)).$$

Here

$$\mathrm{Hom}^\Sigma(-, -) := \{\mathrm{Nat}((-), (-)^{\wedge n})\}$$

is an enrichment in $\mathrm{SymSeq}(\mathrm{Sp}_E)$ and $\mathrm{CoEnd}(-)$ is the endomorphism object.

For any F there is a right $K(\mathrm{CoEnd}(\Sigma_C^\infty))$ -module structure on $\partial_*(F)$ which when $\partial_* F$ is level-wise finite, arises in the above way.

Corollary 0.3. *If $c \in C$ is compact, then there is an equivalence*

$$\partial_* \Sigma_E^\infty C(c, -) \simeq K(\{(\Sigma_C^\infty c)^{\wedge n}\}_{n \in \mathbb{N}}).$$

Example 0.4. If C is a reasonable localization of spaces, then

$$\mathrm{CoEnd}(\Sigma_C^\infty) \simeq \mathrm{com}_E,$$

and the formula for the derivatives of a representable functor recovers the localized formula due to Goodwillie. The associated right lie_E module structure agrees with the localization of Arone-Ching's.

Corollary 0.5. *If O is a level-wise finite reduced operad, then*

$$\mathrm{CoEnd}(\Sigma_{\mathrm{Alg}_O}^\infty) \simeq K(O).$$

Hence $\partial_* F$ has a right O -module structure. If A is a compact object in Alg_O , then

$$\partial_* \Sigma_E^\infty \mathrm{Alg}_O(A, -) \simeq K(\mathrm{forget}_{\mathrm{Coalg}}^{\mathrm{RMod}}(B(A))).$$

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¹This formula is applying the O -bar construction to the algebra A , and then applying $K(O)$ -Koszul duality to the associated right $K(O)$ -module.

Corollary 0.6. *If O, P are Morita equivalent² level-finite, reduced operads, then there is some $X \in \text{Pic}(\text{Sp}_E)$ ³ such that*

$$O \simeq P \wedge \text{End}(X).$$

Corollary 0.7. *If O is a level-finite reduced operad, then any reasonable theories of bar-cobar duality for O -algebras are equivalent.*

Proposition 0.8 (Folklore). *If $B(R)$ is Σ -finite⁴, then there is an equivalence*

$$P_\infty B(R, O, -)(A) \simeq \Omega(B(R), B(O), B(A)).$$

In particular, if $B(O)$ is Σ -finite applying this to O establishes that the unit of bar-cobar duality for algebras is an equivalence when the Goodwillie tower converges.

Corollary 0.9 (Ayala-Francis). *For a framed n -manifold, the Goodwillie approximation of the factorization homology of an E_n -algebra A is*

$$P_\infty \left(\int_M (-) \right)(A) \simeq \int^{M^+} \Sigma^n B(A).$$

Proposition 0.10 (cf. Heuts). *If M is a coanalytic monad⁵ on the category Sp_{T_h} ⁶ which is induced by an adjunction with right adjoint forget , then M is the monad associated to the operad $\text{End}(\text{forget})$.*

Corollary 0.11. *Heuts' Lie algebra model of unstable homotopy theory*

$$\text{Top}_{v_h} \simeq \text{Alg}_{\text{lie}}(\text{Sp}_{T_h})$$

can be implemented by taking a v_h periodic space X to $\Phi(X)$ ⁷ with the tautological action of $\text{End}(\Phi) \simeq \text{lie}_{T_h}$. If F is a polynomial, then it may be written as

$$X \rightarrow B(\partial_* F, \text{lie}, \Phi(-)).$$

Theorem 0.12 (Behrens-Rezk, Heuts). *If the Goodwillie tower of the identity converges at $X \in \text{Top}_{v_h}$, then there is an equivalence of Lie algebras*

$$\Phi(X) \simeq \Omega(1, \text{com}_{T_n}, \Sigma_{T_n}^\infty X).$$

Theorem 0.13 (Conjecture of Arone-Ching). *There is a notion of divided power right O -modules such that for $F : \text{Top}_* \rightarrow \text{Sp}$, $\partial_* F$ has a divided power right lie-module structure. This assignment induces an equivalence*

$$\text{Poly}(\text{Top}_*, \text{Sp}) \simeq \text{RMod}_{\text{lie}}^{dp, < \infty}.$$

A version holds for reasonable localizations of Top_ .*

Proposition 0.14. *If Alg_O for $O \in \text{Operad}(\text{Sp}_E)$ has*

$$\text{Poly}(\text{Top}_*, \text{Sp}) \simeq \text{RMod}_O^{dp, < \infty}.$$

then Sp_E is 1-semiadditive.

²Morita equivalent means equivalent categories of algebras.

³The Picard group $\text{Pic}(\text{Sp}_E)$ is the group of objects invertible with respect to the smash product.

⁴Level-wise equivariantly a finite Borel Σ_i -spectrum.

⁵In the T_n -local setting this just means it splits like the free-forgetful monad of an operad.

⁶This is the telescopic spectrum which appears in chromatic homotopy theory.

⁷ $\Phi : \text{Top}_{v_h} \rightarrow \text{Sp}_{T_h}$ is the Bousfield-Kuhn functor, a section of $\Omega_{v_h}^\infty$.

Corollary 0.15. *Suppose C is a reasonable localization of n -connected, pointed spaces such that*

$$C \simeq \mathrm{Alg}_O(\mathrm{Sp}_E),$$

then Sp_E is 1-semiadditive.