

SAG v. DGA

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1 Smoothness vs smoothness

Definition 1.1 (Strong modules). *Let A be a connective \mathcal{E}_∞ -ring spectrum. An A -module M is **strong** if for every $n \in \mathbb{Z}$, the canonical map $\pi_0(M) \otimes_{\pi_0 R} \pi_n(R) \rightarrow \pi_n(M)$ is an isomorphism of abelian groups.*

*An A -algebra $A \rightarrow B$ is **strong** if B is strong as an A -module.*

Recall that we have the following:

Lemma 1.2 ([HA, Remark 7.2.4.22]). *A connective A -module M has Tor-amplitude 0 if and only if M is strong and $\pi_0 M$ is (classically) flat.*

Lemma 1.3 ([SAG, Lemma B.1.3.3]). *Let B be an A -algebra of finite presentation. Then $\mathbb{L}_{B/A} = 0$ if and only if B is strong and $\pi_0 A \rightarrow \pi_0 B$ is (classically) étale.*

This suggests a first definition of smoothness.

Definition 1.4 (Fibre smoothness). *A morphism $\varphi: A \rightarrow B$ of connective \mathcal{E}_∞ -ring spectra is **fibre smooth** if it is strong and $\pi_0 \varphi$ is classically smooth.*

The name is justified by the following result, which shows that fibre smoothness can be expressed as a condition on geometric fibres.

Proposition 1.5 ([SAG, Proposition 11.2.3.6]). *A morphism $\varphi: A \rightarrow B$ almost of finite presentation is fibre smooth if and only if for every geometric κ -point $A \rightarrow \kappa$, with κ an algebraically closed field, $\kappa \otimes_A B$ is a truncated ring which is (classically) regular.*

The classical theory of smoothness suggests that we should understand this definition in terms of lifting against nilpotent closed immersions.

Proposition 1.6 ([SAG, Corollary 11.2.4.2]). *Let $\varphi: A \rightarrow B$ be a flat morphism of connective \mathcal{E}_∞ -ring spectra such that $\pi_0 B$ is finitely presented over $\pi_0 A$. The following are equivalent:*

- φ is fibre smooth,

- for every surjection of (truncated) commutative rings $R \rightarrow \bar{R}$ with nilpotent kernel, every solid diagram

$$\begin{array}{ccc}
 A & \longrightarrow & R \\
 \downarrow & \nearrow \text{---} & \downarrow \\
 B & \longrightarrow & \bar{R}
 \end{array} \tag{1}$$

admits a dashed lift.

It thus appears that the notion of fibre-smoothness is not fully satisfying, in that it is not derived enough to capture non-truncated nilpotent quotients. In fact, we can quantify more precisely the failure to see non-truncated structure.

Lemma 1.7 ([Stacks, Tag 07BU and Tag 00TC] or [SAG, Proposition 11.2.4.1]). *Let A and B be classical commutative rings, and $A \xrightarrow{\varphi} B$ a map of finite presentation. The following are equivalent:*

- φ is smooth
- for every prime \mathfrak{p} of B , $\pi_1(\mathbb{L}_{B/A})_{\mathfrak{p}} = 0$ and $\Omega_{B/A, \mathfrak{p}}^1 \simeq \pi_0(\mathbb{L}_{B/A})_{\mathfrak{p}}$ is a (classically) projective (iff finite free, iff flat) $B_{\mathfrak{p}}$ -module,
- $\tau_{\leq 1}\mathbb{L}_{B/A}$ is equivalent to a finite (classically) projective B -module in degree 0.

Thus, the notion of fibre smoothness only considers the 1-truncation of the cotangent complex, not all of its degrees. To obtain a fully “derived” or spectral notion, it thus seems natural to replace the projectivity hypothesis on $\Omega_{B/A}^1$ by one on $\mathbb{L}_{B/A}$.

Lemma 1.8 ([SAG]). *For $A \rightarrow B$ be a morphism of connective \mathcal{E}_{∞} -ring spectra, the following are equivalent:*

- the cotangent complex $\mathbb{L}_{B/A}$ is projective (as a connective B -module),
- every lifting problem such as in eq. (1) but with $R \rightarrow \bar{R}$ any map of connective \mathcal{E}_{∞} -ring spectra inducing on π_0 a surjection with nilpotent kernel admits a solution.

Definition 1.9 (Differential smoothness). *A map satisfying the equivalent conditions above is said to be **formally differentially smooth**. A map f is **differentially smooth** if it is formally differentially smooth and $\pi_0 f$ is finitely presented.*

Remark 1.10. If φ is differentially smooth, its cotangent complex (which, by definition, is projective) has finite rank. This is because $\pi_0 \mathbb{L}_{\varphi}$ is $\Omega_{\pi_0 \varphi}^1$, which is finitely presented.

Remark 1.11 ([SAG, Remark 11.2.2.3]). A map φ is differentially smooth if and only if it is locally (or equivalently, just almost) of finite presentation and \mathbb{L}_{φ} is a flat module (i.e., of Tor-amplitude 0). This justifies the mild generalisation of **quasismooth** maps as those whose cotangent complex has Tor-amplitude concentrated in $[0, 1]$.

Example 1.12 ([SAG, Proposition 11.2.4.4.]). If A is a \mathbb{Q} -algebra (which is equivalent to $\pi_0 A$ being a \mathbb{Q} -algebra), an A -algebra is fibre smooth if and only if it is differentially smooth.

Example 1.13 (Standard smooth maps). The canonical map $A \rightarrow A\{x_1, \dots, x_n\} = \text{Sym}_A(A^n)$ is differentially smooth; indeed $\mathbb{L}_{A\{x_1, \dots, x_n\}/A} \simeq A^n$.

Proposition 1.14 ([SAG, Proposition 11.2.2.1]). *A finitely presented morphism $A \rightarrow B$ of connective \mathcal{E}_∞ -ring spectra is differentially smooth if and only if there exists a collection of elements $b_1, \dots, b_k \in \pi_0 B$ generating its unit ideal, and étale maps $A\{x_1, \dots, x_{n_i}\} \rightarrow B[b_i^{-1}]$ (so a factorisation of $A \rightarrow B[b_i^{-1}]$ as a composition of a standard smooth map and an étale map).*

We now globalise these notions.

Lemma 1.15 ([SAG, Propositions 11.2.5.1–11.2.5.4]). *The conditions of being fibre smooth and differentially smooth are étale-local on the (geometric) source and fppf-local on the (geometric) target.*

Definition 1.16. *A morphism $f: X \rightarrow Y$ of spectral Deligne–Mumford stack is **differentially smooth** (resp. **fibre smooth**) if for any commutative square*

$$\begin{array}{ccc} \text{Spét } B & \longrightarrow & X \\ g \downarrow & & \downarrow f \\ \text{Spét } A & \longrightarrow & Y \end{array} \quad (2)$$

in which the horizontal maps are étale, the map $g^\sharp: A \rightarrow B$ is a differentially smooth (resp. fibre smooth) map of connective \mathcal{E}_∞ -ring spectra.

Finally, we can see that the globalised notions of smoothness are compatible with the global cotangent complex.

Theorem 1.17 ([SAG, Proposition 17.1.5.1, Proposition 17.3.9.4]). *A morphism $f: X \rightarrow Y$ of spectral Deligne–Mumford stack such that $\pi_0 f$ is (classically) locally of finite presentation is **differentially smooth** (resp. **fibre smooth**) if and only if it satisfies any (equivalently, all) of the following equivalent conditions:*

1. *the global cotangent complex $\mathbb{L}_{X/Y}$ is locally free of finite rank (resp., f is flat and $\pi_1(\mathbb{L}_{X/Y}|_{\text{Spét } \kappa}) \simeq 0$ for any κ -point of X),*
2. *for any connective \mathcal{E}_∞ -ring spectrum (resp., any classical commutative ring) A and any A point $\xi: \text{Spét } A \rightarrow X$, $\xi^* \mathbb{L}_{X/Y}$ is a projective A -module (resp., $\tau_{\leq 1} \xi^* \mathbb{L}_{X/Y}$ is projective),*
3. *for any connective \mathcal{E}_∞ -ring spectrum (resp., any classical commutative ring) A and any square-zero extension A^n of A by a connective (resp., truncated) A -module, any solid*

lifting problem

$$\begin{array}{ccc}
 \mathrm{Spét} A & \longrightarrow & X \\
 \downarrow & \nearrow \text{dashed} & \downarrow \\
 \mathrm{Spét} A^n & \longrightarrow & Y
 \end{array} \tag{3}$$

admits a dashed solution.

2 Affine spaces and projectives spaces

Definition 2.1. Let M be an \mathcal{E}_∞ -monoid in types. For any \mathcal{E}_∞ -ring spectrum R , we set $R^{[M]} := R \otimes_{\mathbb{S}} \Sigma^\infty M$, endowed with its structure of cogebra in R -algebras, which is cogrouplike if and only if M is grouplike.

Example 2.2. Let \mathbb{F} be the free monoid on one generator, and $\mathbb{F} \rightarrow \overline{\mathbb{F}}$ its group completion.

We have

$$\mathbb{F} \simeq \mathrm{FinSet} \simeq \coprod_{n \in \mathbb{N}} \mathcal{B} \mathcal{S}_n \tag{4}$$

and, by the Barratt–Priddy–Quillen theorem,

$$\overline{\mathbb{F}} \simeq \coprod_{n \in \mathbb{Z}} \mathcal{B} \mathcal{S}_\infty. \tag{5}$$

Note that, by formal nonsense, we also have $\overline{\mathbb{F}} \simeq \Omega^\infty \mathbb{S}$.

By combining universal properties, it is clear that $R^{[\mathbb{F}]} \simeq R\{t\} = \mathrm{Sym}_R(R)$ is the **free** R -algebra on one generator. Likewise, $R^{[\mathbb{F}^n]} \simeq R\{t_1, \dots, t_n\} = \mathrm{Sym}_R(R^{\oplus n})$. Concomitantly, one can see (cf. [Gre17, Proposition 2.1.7]) that $R^{[\overline{\mathbb{F}^n}]} := R\{t_1^\pm, \dots, t_n^\pm\}$ is a localisation of $R\{t_1, \dots, t_n\}$ at the elements $t_1, \dots, t_n \in \pi_0(R\{t_1, \dots, t_n\})$.

Example 2.3. Let \mathbb{N} be the free 0-truncated monoid on one generator, and $\mathbb{N} \rightarrow \mathbb{Z}$ its group completion. We have $\mathbb{N} = \tau_{\leq 0} \mathbb{F} = \pi_0 \mathbb{F}$ and $\mathbb{Z} = \tau_{\leq 0} \overline{\mathbb{F}} = \pi_0 \overline{\mathbb{F}}$ so that eq. (4) and eq. (5) give $\mathbb{N} \simeq \coprod_{n \in \mathbb{N}} *$ and $\mathbb{Z} \simeq \coprod_{n \in \mathbb{Z}} *$.

We then define, for any \mathcal{E}_∞ -ring spectrum R , the **polynomial** R -algebra on n generators as $R[t_1, \dots, t_n] := R^{[\mathbb{N}^n]}$, and likewise $R[t_1^\pm, \dots, t_n^\pm] := R^{[\mathbb{Z}^n]}$.

Definition 2.4. Let R be an \mathcal{E}_∞ -ring spectrum. The **spectral affine n -space** over R is $\mathbb{A}_{R, \mathbb{Q}}^n := \mathrm{Spét} R[t_1, \dots, t_n]$. The **flat affine n -space** over R is $\mathbb{A}_{R, b}^n = \mathrm{Spét} R[t_1, \dots, t_n]$.

Remark 2.5. Expanding out the definition, we have that for any R -algebra A ,

$$\mathbb{A}_{R, \mathbb{Q}}^n(T) = \mathrm{hom}_{R\text{-Alg}}(R\{t_1, \dots, t_n\}, A) \simeq \mathrm{hom}_{R\text{-Mod}}(R^n, A) \simeq (\Omega^\infty A)^n, \tag{6}$$

recovering the expected definition of the functor of points of affine n -space. Meanwhile, $\mathbb{A}_{R, b}^1(A) \simeq \mathrm{hom}_{\mathcal{E}_\infty\text{-Alg}(\infty\text{-Grpb})}(\mathbb{N}, (\Omega^\infty A, \times))$ will be interpreted as the type of **strictly commutative** elements of $\Omega^\infty A$.

Proposition 2.6. $\mathbb{A}_{\mathbb{R}, \mathbb{Q}}^n$ is differentially smooth over $\mathrm{Spét} \mathbb{R}$, but not flat unless \mathbb{R} is a \mathbb{Q} -algebra, and $\mathbb{A}_{\mathbb{R}, b}^n$ is fibre smooth over $\mathrm{Spét} \mathbb{R}$ but not differentially smooth unless \mathbb{R} is a \mathbb{Q} -algebra.

Proof. Differential smoothness of $\mathbb{A}_{\mathbb{R}, \mathbb{Q}}^n$ is established easily from the fact (proved in [HA, Proposition 7.4.3.14] by comparing the universal properties) that the cotangent complex of $\mathbb{R} \rightarrow \mathrm{Sym}_{\mathbb{R}}(M)$ is $M \otimes_{\mathbb{R}} \mathrm{Sym}_{\mathbb{R}}(M)$.

For $\mathbb{A}_{\mathbb{R}, b}^n$, we use the fact that $\mathbb{R}[t_1, \dots, t_n] \simeq \bigoplus_{n \in \mathbb{N}} \mathbb{R}^n$, from which strongness is easily established, and then notice that $\pi_0(\mathbb{R}[t_1, \dots, t_n]) \simeq (\pi_0 \mathbb{R})[t_1, \dots, t_n]$. \square

Remark 2.7. As shown in [BM04, Theorem 5] (cf. also [Gre17, Lemma 2.2.6] for a modern proof) For any \mathcal{E}_{∞} -monoid M , and any \mathcal{E}_{∞} -ring spectrum \mathbb{R} , we have $\mathbb{L}_{\mathbb{R}^{\mathrm{[M]}/M}} \simeq \mathcal{B}^{\infty} M^{\mathrm{grp}} \otimes_{\mathbb{S}} \mathbb{R}^{\mathrm{[M]}}$ where $\mathcal{B}^{\infty} : \mathcal{E}_{\infty}\text{-Alg}(\infty\text{-Grpd})^{\mathrm{gp}} \simeq \mathrm{Sp}^{\mathrm{cn}}$ is inverse to Ω^{∞} .

Definition 2.8. We set $\mathbb{G}_{m, \mathbb{R}, \mathbb{Q}} = \mathrm{Spét}(\mathbb{R}\{t^{\pm 1}\})$ and $\mathbb{G}_{m, \mathbb{R}, b} = \mathrm{Spét}(\mathbb{R}\{t^{\pm 1}\})$.

Remark 2.9. For any \mathbb{R} -algebra A , we have $\mathbb{G}_{m, \mathbb{R}, \mathbb{Q}}(A) = \Omega^{\infty} A \times_{\pi_0 A} \pi_0 A^{\times}$.

Definition 2.10. The *spectral projective n -space* is $\mathbb{P}_{\mathbb{R}, \mathbb{Q}}^n = (\mathbb{A}_{\mathbb{R}, \mathbb{Q}}^{n+1} \setminus \{0\}) / \mathbb{G}_{m, \mathbb{R}, \mathbb{Q}}$, and the *flat projective n -space* is $\mathbb{P}_{\mathbb{R}, b}^n = (\mathbb{A}_{\mathbb{R}, b}^{n+1} \setminus \{0\}) / \mathbb{G}_{m, \mathbb{R}, b}$.

Proposition 2.11 ([Gre17, Theorem 2.6.18, Proposition 2.8.16]). *The projective spaces admit the usual atlases by affine spaces.*

In particular, $\mathbb{P}_{\mathbb{R}, \mathbb{Q}}^n$ and $\mathbb{P}_{\mathbb{R}, b}^n$ are spectral algebraic spaces.

Proposition 2.12 ([SAG, Theorem 19.2.6.2, Remark 19.2.6.4]). *For any \mathcal{E}_{∞} -ring A , $\mathbb{P}_{\mathbb{R}, \mathbb{Q}}^n(A)$ can be described as the equivalent types:*

1. *the core of the subcategory of $A\text{-Mod}_{/A^{n+1}}$ on those $L \rightarrow A^{n+1}$ admitting a retraction and such that $\mathrm{Sym}_A L$ is a line bundle (equivalently, L projective of rank 1)*
2. *the type of (naturally \mathbb{T} -graded) line bundles $E = \mathrm{Sym}_A L$ (so locally equivalent to $A\{t\}$) on $\mathrm{Spét} A$ with an \mathbb{T} -equivariant map $A\{t_0, \dots, t_n\} \rightarrow E$ which is surjective on π_0 .*

Proposition 2.13 ([Gre17, Remark 2.8.18]). *For any \mathcal{E}_{∞} -ring A , $\mathbb{P}_{\mathbb{R}, b}^n(A)$ is the type of (naturally \mathbb{Z} -graded) flat line bundles E (locally equivalent to $A[t]$) with a \mathbb{Z} -equivariant map of algebras $A\{t_0, \dots, t_n\} \rightarrow E$ which is surjective on π_0 .*

3 Derived algebraic geometry

3.1 Animation

Definition 3.1.1 (Animation). *Let \mathcal{C} be a cocomplete 1-category generated under 1-colimits (so, equivalently by [ČS19, (5.1.1.1)], under sifted 1-colimits) by its subcategory $\mathcal{C}^{\mathrm{sfp}}$ of objects strongly of finite presentation (aka compact projective). The *animation* of \mathcal{C} , denoted $\mathcal{A}\mathrm{ni}(\mathcal{C})$, is the ∞ -category freely generated under sifted colimits by $\mathcal{C}^{\mathrm{sfp}}$.*

Explicitly, this means that, for any ∞ -category \mathcal{D} with sifted colimits, an ∞ -functor $\mathcal{F}: \mathcal{C}^{\text{sfp}} \rightarrow \mathcal{D}$ determines an essentially unique sifted colimits-preserving ∞ -functor $\mathbb{L}\mathcal{F}: \mathcal{A}\text{ni}(\mathcal{C}) \rightarrow \mathcal{D}$, which restricts to \mathcal{F} on $\mathcal{C}^{\text{sfp}} \subset \mathcal{A}\text{ni}(\mathcal{C})$.

Remark 3.1.2 (Why sifted colimits?). Recall that an **algebraic theory** (or **Lawvere theory**) is a 1-category \mathcal{T} with finite products, and a **model** of \mathcal{T} is a product-preserving functor $\mathcal{T} \rightarrow \mathcal{S}\text{et}$. Then, by [ARV10, Theorem 4.13], the category of models of \mathcal{T} is the sifted colimits completion of \mathcal{T}^{op} .

Thus, the idea of animation is that if we can present \mathcal{C} as the category of models of the algebraic theory \mathcal{C}^{sfp} , then $\mathcal{A}\text{ni}(\mathcal{C})$ is the ∞ -category of models of \mathcal{C}^{sfp} seen as an “algebraic ∞ -theory”.

Proposition 3.1.3 (Quillen, Bergner, [HTT, Corollary 5.5.9.3]). *Let \mathcal{C} be as above and such that \mathcal{C}^{sfp} admits finite products. Then $\mathcal{A}\text{ni}(\mathcal{C})$ can be modelled (through an appropriate model structure) by the category of finite product-preserving functors $\mathcal{C}^{\text{sfp,op}} \rightarrow \mathfrak{s}\mathcal{S}\text{et}$ (so, of simplicial objects in \mathcal{C}).*

The construction of the animation of \mathcal{C} thus recovers Quillen’s definition of the non-abelian derived ∞ -category of \mathcal{C} (and the model structure on $\mathfrak{s}\mathcal{C}$ is induced from the Kan–Quillen model structure on $\mathfrak{s}\mathcal{S}\text{et}$ through the monadic functor $\mathcal{C} \rightarrow \mathcal{S}\text{et}$ from viewing \mathcal{C} as a category of models of a Lawvere theory).

Example 3.1.4. • The category of sets is generated under sifted 1-colimits by the finite sets. Its animation is the ∞ -category $\mathcal{A}\text{ni}(\mathcal{S}\text{et}) \simeq \infty\text{-Grpd}$ of ∞ -groupoids or types (thus also known as animated sets, or simply “anima”).

- The animation of the category of groups (whose strongly finitely presented objects are the free groups on finite sets) is equivalent to the ∞ -category of grouplike \mathcal{E}_1 -monoids in types. However, the animation of the category of *abelian* groups, which through the Dold–Kan correspondence is equivalent to the connective derived ∞ -category of \mathbb{Z} , is *not* equivalent to grouplike \mathcal{E}_∞ -monoids in $\infty\text{-Grpd}$ (as the latter is the ∞ -category of connective \mathbb{S} -modules).
- The ∞ -category $\mathcal{A}\text{ni}(\mathcal{R}\text{ing})$ of **animated rings** is, by definition, the animation of the category of rings (whose strongly finitely presented objects are the retracts of finite type polynomial \mathbb{Z} -algebras). Since every retract of a polynomial algebra is in particular a quotient, and thus a sifted colimit, of polynomial algebras, we will generally see $\mathcal{A}\text{ni}(\mathcal{R}\text{ing})$ as the sifted colimits completion of the category $\mathcal{P}\text{oly}$ of finite type polynomial \mathbb{Z} -algebras.

Lemma 3.1.5 ([SAG, Corollary 25.1.4.3]). *For any classical ring \mathbb{R} , there is an equivalence of ∞ -categories $\mathcal{A}\text{ni}(\mathbb{R}\text{-Alg}^\heartsuit) \simeq \mathcal{A}\text{ni}(\mathcal{R}\text{ing})_{\mathbb{R}/}$.*

We may thus define the ∞ -category of animated \mathbb{R} -algebras, for any animated ring \mathbb{R} , to be the slice of the ∞ -category of animated rings under \mathbb{R} .

Remark 3.1.6. The inclusion $i: \mathcal{P}\text{oly} \rightarrow \mathcal{E}_\infty\text{-Ring}^{\text{cn}}$ determines an ∞ -functor $\theta := \mathbb{L}i: \mathcal{A}\text{ni}(\mathcal{R}\text{ing}) \rightarrow \mathcal{E}_\infty\text{-Ring}^{\text{cn}}$. The image by θ of an animated ring A will be denoted A° and called the **underlying \mathcal{E}_∞ -ring spectrum** of A .

Notation 3.1.7. For A an animated ring, we let $A\text{-}\mathcal{M}\text{od}$ be the ∞ -category of A° -modules.

Remark 3.1.8. Any animated ring A can be seen in particular as an \mathcal{E}_1 -algebra in animated abelian groups, and the connective part of $A\text{-}\mathcal{M}\text{od}$ coincides with the ∞ -category of “animated” A -modules in this sense.

If A is a classical (truncated) ring, then $A\text{-}\mathcal{M}\text{od}^{\text{cn}}$ is equivalent to $\mathcal{A}\text{ni}(A\text{-}\mathcal{M}\text{od}^\heartsuit)$.

In fact, the following strenghtening of this Remark will be useful when discussing the algebraic cotangent complex (and, later, symmetric powers).

For this, let $\mathcal{R}\text{ing}\mathcal{M}\text{od}^\heartsuit$ be the category of pairs of a ring and a (classical) module over it, and let $\mathcal{A}\text{ni}(\mathcal{R}\text{ing})\mathcal{M}\text{od}^{\text{cn}}$ be the ∞ -category of pairs (A, M) where A is an animated ring and M is a connective A -module. Let finally $\mathcal{R}\text{ing}\mathcal{M}\text{od}^{\text{ssfp}}$ be the full subcategory of $\mathcal{R}\text{ing}\mathcal{M}\text{od}^\heartsuit$ on the pairs (A, M) where A is a polynomial ring of finite type and M a free A -module of finite rank.

Lemma 3.1.9 ([SAG, Proposition 25.2.1.2]). *The objects of $\mathcal{R}\text{ing}\mathcal{M}\text{od}^{\text{ssfp}}$ provide a set of strongly finitely presented objects generating $\mathcal{A}\text{ni}(\mathcal{R}\text{ing})\mathcal{M}\text{od}^{\text{cn}}$ under sifted colimits.*

That is, $\mathcal{A}\text{ni}(\mathcal{R}\text{ing})\mathcal{M}\text{od}^{\text{cn}} \simeq \mathcal{A}\text{ni}(\mathcal{R}\text{ing}\mathcal{M}\text{od}^\heartsuit)$.

We now turn back to animated rings themselves, and their comparison with \mathcal{E}_∞ -ring spectra.

Lemma 3.1.10 ([SAG, Proposition 25.1.5.2]). *Let R be a classical commutative ring. The functor $\mathbb{Z}\text{-}\mathcal{M}\text{od}^{\text{cn}} \rightarrow \mathbb{S}\text{-}\mathcal{M}\text{od}^{\text{cn}} \simeq \mathcal{E}_\infty\text{-}\mathcal{A}\text{lg}(\infty\text{-}\mathcal{G}\text{rpd})^{\text{gp}} \xrightarrow{R^{[-1]}} R\text{-}\mathcal{A}\text{lg}$ factors as*

$$\mathbb{Z}\text{-}\mathcal{M}\text{od}^{\text{cn}} \xrightarrow{R^{[-1]}} \mathcal{A}\text{ni}(R\text{-}\mathcal{A}\text{lg}^\heartsuit) \xrightarrow{\theta} R\text{-}\mathcal{A}\text{lg} \quad (7)$$

where the functor $R^{[-1]}$ commutes with sifted colimits (and in fact with all small colimits).

This means that whenever a grouplike \mathcal{E}_∞ -monoid in types M , seen as a connective spectrum, carries a structure of \mathbb{Z} -module, its group R -algebra carries a structure of animated ring: $R^{[M]} \simeq (R^{L[M]})^\circ$.

Example 3.1.11. Applying this to \mathbb{Z} , we find that $\mathbb{G}_{m,R,b}$ carries a structure of derived scheme.

Lemma 3.1.12 ([SAG, Remark 25.1.3.6]). *Let A be an animated R -algebra, for R a classical ring. There is an isomorphism $\pi_\bullet A^\circ \simeq \pi_\bullet \text{hom}(R[t], A)$.*

This implies that we may think of $\text{hom}(R[t], A)$ as the **underlying type** of the animated R -algebra A .

Proposition 3.1.13 ([SAG, Propositions 25.1.2.4, 25.1.2.2]). *The ∞ -functor $\theta: \mathcal{A}\text{ni}(\mathcal{R}\text{ing}) \rightarrow \mathcal{E}_\infty\text{-}\mathcal{R}\text{ing}^{\text{cn}}$ is both monadic and comonadic. In particular, it is conservative and preserves both limits and colimits (such as tensor products).*

Over \mathbb{Q} , it is even an equivalence of ∞ -categories.

Remark 3.1.14. Write *rect* for the right adjoint to θ . Looking through the adjunction, we find that for any \mathcal{E}_∞ -ring spectrum A , the underlying type of *rect*(A) is $\text{hom}(Z[t], \text{rect } A) \simeq \text{hom}(Z[t], A)$, identified in remark 2.5 as the type of **strictly commutative elements** of A .

3.2 The algebraic cotangent complex

Construction 3.2.1. Consider the functor $\mathbf{RingMod}^{\text{ssfp}} \rightarrow \mathbf{Ring} \hookrightarrow \mathcal{A}\mathbf{ni}(\mathbf{Ring})$ sending a pair (A, M) to the trivial square-zero extension $A \oplus M$, seen as an animated ring. We denote its left derived ∞ -functor $\mathcal{A}\mathbf{ni}(\mathbf{Ring})\mathbf{Mod}^{\text{cn}} \rightarrow \mathcal{A}\mathbf{ni}(\mathbf{Ring})$ as $(A, M) \mapsto A \oplus^{\mathbb{L}} M$.

As explained in [SAG, Remark 25.3.1.2], we have for any animated ring A and connective A -module M an equivalence $(A \oplus^{\mathbb{L}} M)^{\circ} \simeq A^{\circ} \oplus M$.

Note that the A -algebra $A \oplus^{\mathbb{L}} M$ is canonically augmented over A .

Definition 3.2.2. Let A be an animated ring. For any connective A -module M , we denote $\text{Der}_A(A, M)$ the type $\text{hom}_{/A}(A, A \oplus^{\mathbb{L}} M)$ of A -*derivations* of A into M .

An **algebraic cotangent complex** of A is an A -module $\mathbb{L}\Omega_A^1$ corepresenting the functor $M \mapsto \text{Der}_A(A, M)$.

Lemma 3.2.3. For any animated ring A , the functor $M \mapsto \text{Der}_A(A, M)$ is corepresentable, that is A admits an algebraic cotangent complex.

Remark 3.2.4 (Explicit construction of the algebraic cotangent complex). Write the animated ring A as the quotient of a simplicial object \tilde{A}_{\bullet} , each of whose term is a polynomial ring of possibly infinite type (in other words, take a quasi-free resolution of A). Then $\mathbb{L}\Omega_A^1$ is the quotient of the simplicial object $A \otimes_{\tilde{A}_{\bullet}} \Omega_{\tilde{A}_{\bullet}/\mathbb{Z}}^1$.

We now wish to relate the algebraic cotangent complex of an animated ring A to the (topological) cotangent complex of its underlying \mathcal{E}_{∞} -ring spectrum A° .

Proposition 3.2.5 ([SAG, Proposition 25.3.5.1]). Let $\varphi: A \rightarrow B$ be a morphism of animated rings, and suppose that there is $m \geq -1$ such that $\text{fib } \varphi$ is m -connective. Then $\text{fib}(\mathbb{L}_{B^{\circ}/A^{\circ}} \rightarrow \mathbb{L}\Omega_{A/B}^1)$ is $(m+3)$ -connective.

Example 3.2.6. Any map φ is (-1) -connective. It follows that $\text{fib}(\mathbb{L}_{\varphi^{\circ}} \rightarrow \mathbb{L}\Omega_{\varphi}^1)$ is 2-connective, i.e. the difference between the cotangent complexes always lies outside of the “quasi-smooth domain” $[0, 1]$.

Corollary 3.2.7 ([SAG, Variant 25.3.5.2]). For any animated ring A , $\text{fib}(\mathbb{L}_{A^{\circ}/\mathbb{S}} \rightarrow \mathbb{L}\Omega_{A/\mathbb{Z}}^1)$ is 2-connective.

Proof. The comparison map $\mathbb{L}_{A^{\circ}/\mathbb{S}} \rightarrow \mathbb{L}\Omega_{A/\mathbb{Z}}^1$ factors as $\mathbb{L}_{A^{\circ}/\mathbb{S}} \xrightarrow{\kappa} \mathbb{L}_{A^{\circ}/\mathbb{Z}} \rightarrow \mathbb{L}\Omega_{A/\mathbb{Z}}^1$, and $\text{fib}(\kappa) \simeq A \otimes_{\mathbb{Z}} \mathbb{L}_{\mathbb{Z}/\mathbb{S}}$, which is 2-connective because $\text{cofib}(\mathbb{S} \rightarrow \mathbb{Z})$ is 2-connective. \square

Theorem 3.2.8 ([Sch01, Theorem 4.4], [SAG, Corollary 25.3.3.3.]). Let A be an animated ring. There is an \mathcal{E}_1 -ring spectrum A^+ such that $\mathcal{S}\mathbf{p}(\mathcal{A}\mathbf{ni}(\mathbf{Ring})_{/A}) \simeq A^+\text{-Mod}$.

In particular, $\mathbb{L}_{A^{\circ}/\mathbb{Z}}$ carries a canonical structure of left A^+ -module.

Idea of proof. The functor $\mathcal{S}\mathbf{p}(\mathcal{A}\mathbf{ni}(\mathbf{Ring})_{/A}) \rightarrow \mathcal{S}\mathbf{p}(\mathcal{S}\mathbf{p}) \simeq \mathcal{S}\mathbf{p}$ induced by the construction $(B \rightarrow A) \mapsto \text{fib}(B^{\circ} \rightarrow A^{\circ})$ is monadic. We then take A^+ to be the image of \mathbb{S} under the monad in question. \square

Proposition 3.2.9 ([SAG, Remark 25.3.3.7]). *For any morphism of animated rings $A \rightarrow B$, we have $\mathbb{L}\Omega_{A/B}^1 \simeq A^\circ \otimes_{A^+} \mathbb{L}\Lambda_{A^\circ/B}$.*

Proposition 3.2.10 ([Sch01, §7.9], [SAG, Proposition 25.3.4.2]). *There is an equivalence of spectra $A^\circ \otimes_{\mathbb{S}} \mathbb{Z} \xrightarrow{\simeq} A^+$.*

Note however that it is only an equivalence of the underlying spectra, not of ring spectra (necessarily so, since $A^\circ \otimes_{\mathbb{S}} \mathbb{Z}$ is \mathcal{E}_∞ while A^+ is only \mathcal{E}_1). Furthermore, the natural variant $\mathbb{Z} \otimes_{\mathbb{S}} A^\circ \rightarrow A^+$ is *not* an equivalence (not even of spectra).

4 Spectral and chromatic phenomena in less-commutative geometry

4.1 Symmetric algebras and shearing

Construction 4.1.1. For any $n \in \mathbb{N}$, consider the functor $\mathbb{K}\text{ing}\mathbb{M}\text{od}^{\text{sfp}} \rightarrow \mathbb{K}\text{ing}\mathbb{M}\text{od}^{\text{sfp}}$ given by $(A, M) \mapsto (A, \pi_0 \text{Sym}_A^n M)$. We denote its left derived functor as $\mathbb{A}\text{ni}(\mathbb{K}\text{ing})\mathbb{M}\text{od}^{\text{cn}} \rightarrow \mathbb{A}\text{ni}(\mathbb{K}\text{ing})\mathbb{M}\text{od}^{\text{cn}}$, $(A, M) \mapsto (A, \mathbb{L}\text{Sym}_A^n M)$.

Doing the same thing with the exterior powers \bigwedge_A^n or the divided powers Γ_A^n instead of the symmetric powers gives functors $\mathbb{L}\bigwedge_A^n$ and $\mathbb{L}\Gamma_A^n$.

Proposition 4.1.2 (Illusie, [SAG, Proposition 25.2.4.2]). *Let A be an animated ring and M a connective A -module. For every $n \geq 0$, there are equivalences of A -modules*

$$\mathbb{L}\text{Sym}_A^n(\Sigma M) \simeq \Sigma^n \mathbb{L}\bigwedge_A^n M \quad \text{and} \quad \mathbb{L}\bigwedge_A^n(\Sigma m) \simeq \Sigma^n \mathbb{L}\Gamma_A^n(M). \quad (8)$$

Lemma 4.1.3 ([SAG, Construction 25.2.2.6]). *For any animated ring A and connective A -module M , the total symmetric power $\mathbb{L}\text{Sym}_A^\bullet(M) := \bigoplus_{n \geq 0} \mathbb{L}\text{Sym}_A^n(M)$ admits a canonical structure of animated ring.*

Furthermore, the functor

$$\begin{aligned} \mathbb{A}\text{ni}(\mathbb{K}\text{ing})\mathbb{M}\text{od}^{\text{cn}} &\rightarrow \text{Fun}([1], \mathbb{A}\text{ni}(\mathbb{K}\text{ing})) \\ (A, M) &\mapsto (A \rightarrow \mathbb{L}\text{Sym}_A^\bullet M) \end{aligned} \quad (9)$$

is left-adjoint to $(A \rightarrow B) \mapsto (A, B^\circ)$.

If we wish to obtain exterior and divided power algebras, we need to consider the appropriate shifts in every position. For this, it is useful to remember that $\mathbb{L}\text{Sym}_A^\bullet M$ is a \mathbb{Z} -graded ring. Indeed, we wish to obtain animated ring structures on the graded modules

$$\mathbb{L}\bigwedge_A^\bullet M = \Sigma^{-\bullet} \mathbb{L}\text{Sym}^\bullet(\Sigma M) \quad \text{and} \quad \mathbb{L}\Gamma_A^\bullet M = \Sigma^{-2\bullet} \mathbb{L}\text{Sym}^\bullet(\Sigma^2 M), \quad (10)$$

that is on the **shearings** of $\mathbb{L}\text{Sym}_A^\bullet M$. In fact, we will focus on the even shearing as the odd ones are less understood.

In fact, to simplify matters, we will use the fact that the grading is actually an \mathbb{N} -grading (since shearing \mathbb{Z} -gradings requires the use of non-connective derived rings, and is poorly behaved).

Lemma 4.1.4 ([Lur15, Proposition 3.4.5]). *There is a \mathbb{Z} -graded \mathcal{E}_2 -ring spectrum $\mathbb{S}[\beta]$, whose underlying graded \mathcal{E}_1 -ring spectrum is freely generated by $\Sigma^{-2}\mathbb{S}(1)$, i.e. by a generator in degree 2 and weight 1.*

More specifically, multiplication by β^n provides an equivalence $\Sigma^{-2n}\mathbb{S} \rightarrow \mathbb{S}[\beta]_n$.

However, this \mathcal{E}_2 -structure is provably not \mathcal{E}_3 ; indeed there is an explicit topological extension to it extending to an \mathcal{E}_3 -structure.

Corollary 4.1.5 ([ABM22, Proposition 3.1]). *There is an \mathcal{E}_2 -monoidal equivalence $\mathbb{S}p^{\text{gr}} \rightarrow \mathbb{S}p^{\text{gr}}$ given by $(M_i) \mapsto (\Sigma^{2i}M_i)$.*

Remark 4.1.6. By [Rak20, Proposition 3.3.4], the shearing functor admits an \mathcal{E}_∞ -monoidal structure over \mathbb{Z} .

4.2 Spectral skew-fields and chromatic heights

Lemma 4.2.1. *Let A be an \mathcal{E}_1 -ring spectrum. The following are equivalent:*

- $\pi_\bullet A$ is a graded skew-field, that is every nonzero homogeneous element is invertible,
- every classical graded $\pi_\bullet A$ -module is free,
- every A -module (spectrum) is free.

Definition 4.2.2. *An \mathcal{E}_1 -ring spectrum A satisfying the equivalent conditions of the lemma is said to be a **spectral skew-field**.*

*If A is further endowed with a structure of \mathcal{E}_∞ -ring spectrum, we say it is a **spectral field**.*

Definition 4.2.3. *Two spectral skew-fields A and B have the same characteristic if $A \otimes B \neq 0$.*

Proposition 4.2.4 ([Lur24]). *Let A be a spectral skew-field. Then:*

- If the skew-field $\pi_0 A$ has characteristic zero, then A has the same characteristic as \mathbb{Q} .
- If the skew-field $\pi_0 A$ has characteristic $p > 0$ and $A^\bullet(\mathbb{B}\mathbb{Z}/(p)) = \pi_\bullet \text{hom}(\Sigma_+^\infty \mathbb{B}\mathbb{Z}/(p), A)$ has infinite rank over $\pi_\bullet A$, then A has the same characteristic as \mathbb{F}_p .
- Otherwise, if $\pi_0 A$ has characteristic $p > 0$, then $A^\bullet(\mathbb{B}\mathbb{Z}/(p))$ has rank p^n over $\pi_\bullet A$ for some $n \in \mathbb{N}$.

Theorem 4.2.5 (Morava (cf. [JW75]), [Lur10, Lecture 24 Proposition 9, Lecture 25 Corollary 9]). *For any $(p, n) \in \mathbb{P} \times \overline{\mathbb{N}}$, there exists a spectral skew field of π_0 -characteristic p and height n : the p -local Morava K -theory of chromatic height n , denoted $K_{(p)}(n)$.*

In particular, for any spectral skew-field A , there is (p, n) such that A carries a structure of $K_{(p)}(n)$ -module.

Remark 4.2.6. For $n > 0$, we have $\pi_\bullet K_{(p)}(n) \simeq \mathbb{F}_p[v_{(p),n}, v_{(p),n}^{-1}]$ where $v_{(p),n}$ has degree $2(p^n - 1)$.

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