

# 8 - formal group laws

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A formal group  $F$  over a ring  $R$  is a power series  
 (commutative 1-dim'l) satisfying

$$x +_F y \in R[[x, y]]$$

$$(1) \quad x +_F 0 = 0 +_F x = x$$

$$(2) \quad (x +_F y) +_F z = x +_F (y +_F z)$$

$$(3) \quad x +_F y = y +_F x$$

Note 
$$x +_F y = x + y + \sum_{i, j \geq 1} a_{ij} x^i y^j$$

Formal group law  $E$  on  $\mathbb{C}P^1$  of deg  $k$

$$c_i^E(v_1 \otimes v_2) = \sum_{i_1 + i_2 = i} c_{i_1}^E(v_1) c_{i_2}^E(v_2)$$

$$c_i^E(L_1 \otimes L_2) = \sum a_{ij} c_i^E(L_1)^i c_i^E(L_2)^j = c_i^E(L_1) c_i^E(L_2)$$

usual example

$$\begin{array}{ccc} L_1 \otimes L_2 & \rightarrow & L_{k+1} \\ \uparrow & & \uparrow \\ \mathbb{C}P^1 \times \mathbb{C}P^1 & \rightarrow & \mathbb{C}P^1 \end{array}$$

$$a_{ij} = E_{k(i+j-1)}$$

$$E^*(\mathbb{C}P^1 \times \mathbb{C}P^1) \leftarrow E^*(\mathbb{C}P^1)$$

$$\begin{array}{ccc} \downarrow & & \downarrow \\ E^*[[x, y]] & & E^*[x] \end{array}$$

$$x +_E y \longleftarrow x$$

Satisfies

$$x +_E 0 = 0 +_E x = x$$

$$x +_E (y +_E z) = (x +_E y) +_E z$$

$$x +_E y = y +_E x$$

Note  $x +_E y = x + y + \sum_{i>0} a_i x^i y^i$

Examples

$E = HR$

$x +_{HR} y = x + y$  additive.

$K$ -thly

$K^0(X) = \mathbb{Z}\{\text{Vect}_{\mathbb{Q}}(X)\} / [v] + [w] = [v \oplus w]$  (a ring)

$B\mathbb{U} \times \mathbb{Z}$

$U$

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$U$

(Fact:  $K$  is a commutative spectrum)

$\pi_i K = \pi_0 K_i = \begin{cases} \mathbb{Z}, & i = \text{even} \\ 0, & i = \text{odd} \end{cases}$

$\tilde{K} = \text{ub of } \pi_{d=0}$

$\pi_2 K = \tilde{K}^0(S^2) = \tilde{K}^0(\mathbb{C}P^1) = \mathbb{Z}\{[S] - 1\}$

$\downarrow$   
 $\beta$

$([S] - 1)^2 = 0$

$\pi_1 K = \mathbb{Z}[B, B^{-1}]$

(cf.  $\tilde{H}^2(S^2) = \mathbb{Z}\{x\}$   
 $x^2 = 0$ )

$\tilde{K}^{i-2}(X) \xrightarrow{\cong} \tilde{K}^i(X)$   
 $\bullet \beta$

(co) of matrix  $\leftrightarrow$  class of generator of  $E^*(\mathbb{C}P^{\infty})^{L_{\infty}}$   
"class of  $c_i E$ "  $\parallel$   $\tilde{E}^*(\mathbb{C}P^{\infty})$

$\tilde{E}^*(\mathbb{C}P^{\infty}) \longrightarrow \tilde{E}^*(\mathbb{C}P^1) = \pi_{-4+2} E$   
 $\downarrow$   $\downarrow$

$$\begin{array}{ccc} \mathbb{F}(\mathbb{C}P^1) & \longrightarrow & \mathbb{F}(\mathbb{C}P^1) = \mathbb{Z}_{+ + \mathbb{Z}} \\ \downarrow & & \downarrow \\ x & \xrightarrow{\quad\quad\quad} & u \quad u^{-1}. \end{array}$$

$$\begin{array}{ccc} \tilde{K}^0(\mathbb{C}P^\infty) & \longrightarrow & \tilde{K}^0(\mathbb{C}P^1) \cong \mathbb{Z}_2 \\ \downarrow & & \downarrow \\ [\mathbb{Z}]^{-1} & \xrightarrow{\quad\quad\quad} & [\mathbb{Z}]^{-1} \xrightarrow{\quad\quad\quad} \beta \end{array}$$

FGL:  $x +_k y = x + y + xy$  Multiplicative

Def: a map of FGL's / R

$$f: F \rightarrow F'$$

is a power series  $f(x) \in R[[x]]$

satisfying  $f(x +_F y) = f(x) +_{F'} f(y)$

Note,  $f$  is an isomorphism if

$$f(x) = ux + \sum_{i \geq 1} b_i x^{i+1} \quad u \in R^\times$$

i.e.  $f'(0) \in R^\times$

Def  $f$  is a strict iso if  $f'(0) = 1$

i.e.  $f(x) = x + \sum_{i \geq 1} b_i x^{i+1}$

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Lemma: Let  $x_{E'}^1 \gamma$  and  $x_E^2 \gamma$  be  
two formal sps over  $E_x$  arising from  
two different  $cx$  orientations of  $E$

then  $x_{E'}^1 \gamma \cong x_E^2 \gamma$

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