

AN \mathbb{R} -MOTIVIC v_1 -SELF-MAP OF PERIODICITY 1

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ABSTRACT. We consider a nontrivial action of C_2 on the type 1 spectrum $\mathcal{Y} := M_2(1) \wedge C(\eta)$, which is well-known for admitting a 1-periodic v_1 -self-map. The resultant finite C_2 -equivariant spectrum \mathcal{Y}^{C_2} can also be viewed as the complex points of a finite \mathbb{R} -motivic spectrum $\mathcal{Y}^{\mathbb{R}}$. In this paper, we show that one of the 1-periodic v_1 -self-maps of \mathcal{Y} can be lifted to a self-map of \mathcal{Y}^{C_2} as well as $\mathcal{Y}^{\mathbb{R}}$. Further, the cofiber of the self-map of $\mathcal{Y}^{\mathbb{R}}$ is a realization of the subalgebra $\mathcal{A}^{\mathbb{R}}(1)$ of the \mathbb{R} -motivic Steenrod algebra. We also show that the C_2 -equivariant self-map is nilpotent on the geometric fixed-points of \mathcal{Y}^{C_2} .

1. INTRODUCTION

In classical stable homotopy theory, the interest in periodic v_n -self-maps of finite spectra lies in the fact that one can associate to each v_n -self-map an infinite family in the chromatic layer n stable homotopy groups of spheres. Therefore, interest lies in constructing type n spectra and finding v_n -self-maps of lowest possible periodicity on a given type n spectrum. This, in general, is a difficult problem, though progress has been made sporadically throughout the history of the subject [T, DM, BP, BHM, N, BEM, BE]. With the modern development of motivic stable homotopy theory, one may ask if there are similar periodic self-maps of finite motivic spectra.

Classically any non-contractible finite p -local spectrum admits a periodic v_n -self-map for some $n \geq 0$. This is a consequence of the thick-subcategory theorem [HS, Theorem 7], aided by a vanishing line argument [HS, §4.2]. In the classical case all the thick tensor ideals of $\mathbf{Sp}_{p,\text{fin}}$ (the homotopy category of finite p -local spectra) are also prime (in the sense of [B]). The thick tensor-ideals of the homotopy category of cellular motivic spectra over \mathbb{C} or \mathbb{R} are not completely known (but see [HO]). However, one can gather some knowledge about the prime thick tensor-ideals in $\text{Ho}(\mathbf{Sp}_{2,\text{fin}}^{\mathbb{R}})$ (the homotopy category of 2-local cellular \mathbb{R} -motivic spectra) through the Betti realization functor

$$\beta : \text{Ho}(\mathbf{Sp}_{2,\text{fin}}^{\mathbb{R}}) \longrightarrow \text{Ho}(\mathbf{Sp}_{2,\text{fin}}^{C_2})$$

using the complete knowledge of prime thick-subcategories of $\text{Ho}(\mathbf{Sp}_{2,\text{fin}}^{C_2})$ [BS].

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The prime thick tensor-ideals of $\mathrm{Ho}(\mathbf{Sp}_{2,\mathrm{fin}}^{C_2})$ are essentially the pull-back of the classical thick subcategories along the two functors, the geometric fix point functor

$$\Phi^{C_2} : \mathrm{Ho}(\mathbf{Sp}_{2,\mathrm{fin}}^{C_2}) \longrightarrow \mathrm{Ho}(\mathbf{Sp}_{2,\mathrm{fin}})$$

and the forgetful functor

$$\Phi^e : \mathrm{Ho}(\mathbf{Sp}_{2,\mathrm{fin}}^{C_2}) \longrightarrow \mathrm{Ho}(\mathbf{Sp}_{2,\mathrm{fin}}).$$

Let \mathcal{C}_n denote the thick subcategory of $\mathrm{Ho}(\mathbf{Sp}_{2,\mathrm{fin}})$ consisting of spectra of type at least n . The prime thick-subcategories,

$$\mathcal{C}(e, n) = (\Phi^e)^{-1}(\mathcal{C}_n) \text{ and } \mathcal{C}(C_2, n) = (\Phi^{C_2})^{-1}(\mathcal{C}_n),$$

are the only prime thick subcategories of $\mathrm{Ho}(\mathbf{Sp}_{2,\mathrm{fin}}^{C_2})$.

Definition 1.1. We say a spectrum $X \in \mathrm{Ho}(\mathbf{Sp}_{2,\mathrm{fin}}^{C_2})$ is of *type* (n, m) iff $\Phi^e(X)$ is of type n and $\Phi^{C_2}(X)$ is of type m .

For a type (n, m) spectrum X , a self-map $f : X \rightarrow X$ is periodic if and only if at least one of $\{\Phi^e(f), \Phi^{C_2}(f)\}$ are periodic (see [BGH, Proposition 3.17]).

Definition 1.2. Let $X \in \mathrm{Ho}(\mathbf{Sp}_{2,\mathrm{fin}}^{C_2})$ be of type (n, m) . We say a self-map $f : X \rightarrow X$ is

- (i) a $v_{(n,m)}$ -self-map of mixed periodicity (i, j) if $\Phi^e(f)$ is a v_n -self-map of periodicity i and $\Phi^{C_2}(f)$ is a v_m -self-map of periodicity j ,
- (ii) a $v_{(n,\mathrm{nil})}$ -self-map of periodicity i if $\Phi^e(f)$ is a v_n -self-map of periodicity i and $\Phi^{C_2}(f)$ is nilpotent, and,
- (iii) a $v_{(\mathrm{nil},m)}$ -self-map of periodicity j if $\Phi^e(f)$ is a nilpotent self-map and $\Phi^{C_2}(f)$ is a v_m -self-map of periodicity j .

Example 1.3. The sphere spectrum \mathbb{S}_{C_2} is of type $(0, 0)$. The degree 2 map is a $v_{(0,0)}$ -self-map. In general, if we consider the v_n -self-map of a type n spectrum with trivial action of C_2 , then the resultant equivariant self-map is a $v_{(n,n)}$ -self-map.

Example 1.4. Let $\mathbb{S}_{C_2}^{1,1}$ denote the C_2 -equivariant sphere which is the one-point compactification of the real sign representation. The unstable twist-map

$$\epsilon_u : \mathbb{S}_{C_2}^{1,1} \wedge \mathbb{S}_{C_2}^{1,1} \longrightarrow \mathbb{S}_{C_2}^{1,1} \wedge \mathbb{S}_{C_2}^{1,1}$$

stabilizes to a nonzero element $\epsilon \in \pi_{0,0}(\mathbb{S}_{C_2})$. Let $\mathfrak{h} = 1 - \epsilon \in \pi_{0,0}(\mathbb{S}_{C_2})$ be the stabilization of the map

$$\mathfrak{h}_u = 1 - \epsilon_u : \mathbb{S}_{C_2}^{3,2} \longrightarrow \mathbb{S}_{C_2}^{3,2}.$$

Note that on the underlying space ϵ is of degree -1 , while on the fixed points it is the identity. Therefore $\Phi^e(\mathfrak{h})$ is multiplication by 2, whereas $\Phi^{C_2}(\mathfrak{h})$ is trivial. Thus \mathfrak{h} is a $v_{(0,\mathrm{nil})}$ -self-map. Thus $\mathcal{C}^{C_2}(\mathfrak{h})$ is of type $(1, 0)$.

Example 1.5. The equivariant Hopf-map $\eta_{1,1} \in \pi_{1,1}(\mathbb{S}_{C_2})$ is the Betti realization of the \mathbb{R} -motivic Hopf-map η [M2, DI3]. Up to a unit, it is the stabilization of the projection map

$$\pi : \mathbb{S}_{C_2}^{3,2} \simeq \mathbb{C}^2 \setminus \{\mathbf{0}\} \longrightarrow \mathbb{C}\mathbb{P}^1 \cong \mathbb{S}_{C_2}^{2,1},$$

where the domain and the codomain are given the C_2 -structure using complex conjugation. On fixed-points, the map π is the projection map

$$\pi : \mathbb{R}^2 \setminus \{\mathbf{0}\} \longrightarrow \mathbb{R}\mathbb{P}^1,$$

which is a degree 2 map. From this we learn that while $\Phi^e(\eta_{1,1})$ is nilpotent, $\Phi^{C_2}(\eta_{1,1})$ is the periodic v_0 -self-map. Hence, $\eta_{1,1}$ is a $v_{(\text{nil},0)}$ -self-map and the cofiber $C(\eta_{1,1})$ is of type $(0, 1)$.

Remark 1.6. In the C_2 -equivariant stable homotopy groups, the usual Hopf-map (sometimes referred to as the ‘topological Hopf-map’) is different from $\eta_{1,1}$ of [Example 1.5](#). The ‘topological Hopf-map’ $\eta_{1,0} \in \pi_{1,0}(\mathbb{S}_{C_2})$ should be thought of as the stabilization of the unstable Hopf-map

$$(\eta_{1,0})_u : \mathbb{S}_{C_2}^{3,0} \longrightarrow \mathbb{S}_{C_2}^{2,0}$$

where both domain and codomain are given the trivial C_2 -action.

Definition 1.7. We say a spectrum $X \in \text{Ho}(\mathbf{Sp}_{2,\text{fin}}^{\mathbb{R}})$ is of type (n, m) if $\beta(X)$ is of type (n, m) . We call an \mathbb{R} -motivic self-map

$$f : X \rightarrow X$$

a $v_{(n,m)}$ -self-map, where m and n are in $\mathbb{N} \cup \{\text{nil}\}$ (but not both nil), if $\beta(f)$ is a C_2 -equivariant $v_{(n,m)}$ -self-map.

Remark 1.8. The maps ‘multiplication by 2’ (of [Example 1.3](#)), h (of [Example 1.4](#)), and $\eta_{1,1}$ (of [Example 1.5](#)) admit \mathbb{R} -motivic lifts along β and provide us with examples of a $v_{(0,0)}$ -self-map, $v_{(0,\text{nil})}$ -self-map and $v_{(\text{nil},0)}$ -self-map of the \mathbb{R} -motivic sphere spectrum $\mathbb{S}_{\mathbb{R}}$, respectively.

A theorem of Balmer and Sanders [BS] asserts that $\mathcal{C}(e, n) \subset \mathcal{C}(C_2, m)$ if and only if $n \geq m+1$. In particular, $\mathcal{C}(e, n)$ is contained in $\mathcal{C}(C_2, n-1)$. Consequently, there are no type (n, m) (C_2 -equivariant or \mathbb{R} -motivic) spectra if $n \geq m+2$. Their result also implies the following:

Proposition 1.9. *Let $X \in \text{Ho}(\mathbf{Sp}_{2,\text{fin}}^{C_2})$ be of type $(n+1, n)$ for some n . Then X cannot support a $v_{(n+1,\text{nil})}$ -self-map.*

The proposition holds since the cofiber of such a self-map would be of type $(n+2, n)$, contradicting the results of Balmer-Sanders. In particular, neither $C^{C_2}(\mathbf{h})$ nor $C^{\mathbb{R}}(\mathbf{h})$ supports a $v_{(1,\text{nil})}$ -self-map. However, it is possible that $C^{C_2}(\mathbf{h})$ as well as $C^{\mathbb{R}}(\mathbf{h})$ can admit a $v_{(1,0)}$ -self-map or a $v_{(\text{nil},0)}$ -self-map. In fact, $\eta_{1,1} \in \pi_{1,1}(\mathbb{S}_{\mathbb{R}})$ and $\eta_{1,1} \in \pi_{1,1}(\mathbb{S}_{C_2})$ induce $v_{(\text{nil},0)}$ -self-maps of $C^{\mathbb{R}}(\mathbf{h})$ and $C^{C_2}(\mathbf{h})$ respectively. In [Section 5](#), we show that:

Theorem 1.10. *The spectrum $C^{\mathbb{R}}(\mathbf{h})$ does not admit a $v_{(1,0)}$ -self-map.*

However, it is possible that $C^{C_2}(\mathfrak{h})$ admits a $v_{(1,0)}$ -self-map (for details see [Remark 5.6](#)). In contrast to the classical case, there is no guarantee that a finite C_2 -equivariant or \mathbb{R} -motivic spectrum will admit *any* periodic self-map, or at least nothing concrete is known yet. This question must be studied!

The goal of this paper is rather modest. We consider the classical spectrum

$$\mathcal{Y} := M_2(1) \wedge C(\eta)$$

that admits, up to homotopy, 8 different v_1 -self-maps of periodicity 1 [[DM](#), Section 2] (see also [[BEM](#)]). We ask ourselves if the v_1 -self-maps can preserve symmetries upon providing \mathcal{Y} with interesting C_2 -equivariant structures. We will consider four C_2 -equivariant lifts of the spectrum \mathcal{Y} ,

- (i) $\mathcal{Y}_{\text{triv}}^{C_2}$, where the action of C_2 is trivial,
- (ii) $\mathcal{Y}_{(2,1)}^{C_2} := C^{C_2}(2) \wedge C^{C_2}(\eta_{1,1})$, with $\Phi^{C_2}(\mathcal{Y}_{(2,1)}^{C_2}) = M_2(1) \wedge M_2(1)$,
- (iii) $\mathcal{Y}_{(\mathfrak{h},0)}^{C_2} := C^{C_2}(\mathfrak{h}) \wedge C^{C_2}(\eta_{1,0})$, with $\Phi^{C_2}(\mathcal{Y}_{(\mathfrak{h},0)}^{C_2}) = \Sigma C(\eta) \vee C(\eta)$, and,
- (iv) $\mathcal{Y}_{(\mathfrak{h},1)}^{C_2} := C^{C_2}(\mathfrak{h}) \wedge C^{C_2}(\eta_{1,1})$, with $\Phi^{C_2}(\mathcal{Y}_{(\mathfrak{h},1)}^{C_2}) = \Sigma M_2(1) \vee M_2(1)$.

The C_2 -spectra $\mathcal{Y}_{\text{triv}}^{C_2}$, $\mathcal{Y}_{(2,1)}^{C_2}$ and $\mathcal{Y}_{(\mathfrak{h},1)}^{C_2}$ are of type $(1, 1)$, and $\mathcal{Y}_{(\mathfrak{h},0)}^{C_2}$ is of type $(1, 0)$. There are unique \mathbb{R} -motivic lifts of the classes 2 , \mathfrak{h} , $\eta_{1,0}$, and $\eta_{1,1}$, and therefore we have unique \mathbb{R} -motivic lifts of $\mathcal{Y}_{\text{triv}}^{C_2}$, $\mathcal{Y}_{(2,1)}^{C_2}$, $\mathcal{Y}_{(\mathfrak{h},0)}^{C_2}$, and $\mathcal{Y}_{(\mathfrak{h},1)}^{C_2}$ which we will simply denote by $\mathcal{Y}_{\text{triv}}^{\mathbb{R}}$, $\mathcal{Y}_{(2,1)}^{\mathbb{R}}$, $\mathcal{Y}_{(\mathfrak{h},0)}^{\mathbb{R}}$, and $\mathcal{Y}_{(\mathfrak{h},1)}^{\mathbb{R}}$, respectively. In this paper we prove:

Theorem 1.11. *The \mathbb{R} -motivic spectrum $\mathcal{Y}_{(\mathfrak{h},1)}^{\mathbb{R}}$ admits a $v_{1,\text{nil}}$ -self-map*

$$v : \Sigma^{2,1} \mathcal{Y}_{(\mathfrak{h},1)}^{\mathbb{R}} \longrightarrow \mathcal{Y}_{(\mathfrak{h},1)}^{\mathbb{R}}$$

of periodicity 1.

By applying the Betti realization functor we get:

Corollary 1.12. *The C_2 -equivariant spectrum $\mathcal{Y}_{(\mathfrak{h},1)}^{C_2}$ admits a 1-periodic $v_{1,\text{nil}}$ -self-map*

$$\beta(v) : \Sigma^{2,1} \mathcal{Y}_{(\mathfrak{h},1)}^{C_2} \longrightarrow \mathcal{Y}_{(\mathfrak{h},1)}^{C_2}.$$

Corollary 1.13. *The geometric fixed-point spectrum of the telescope*

$$\beta(v)^{-1} \mathcal{Y}_{(\mathfrak{h},1)}^{C_2}$$

is contractible.

Classically, the cofiber of a v_1 -self-map on \mathcal{Y} is a realization of the finite subalgebra $\mathcal{A}(1)$ of the Steenrod algebra \mathcal{A} . We see a very similar phenomenon in the \mathbb{R} -motivic as well as in the C_2 -equivariant cases. The C_2 -equivariant Steenrod algebra \mathcal{A}^{C_2} as well as the \mathbb{R} -motivic Steenrod algebra $\mathcal{A}^{\mathbb{R}}$ admit subalgebras analogous to $\mathcal{A}(1)$ (generated by Sq^1 and Sq^2) [[H](#), [R2](#)], which we denote by $\mathcal{A}^{C_2}(1)$ and $\mathcal{A}^{\mathbb{R}}(1)$, respectively. We observe that:

Theorem 1.14. *The spectrum $C^{\mathbb{R}}(v) := \text{Cof}(v : \Sigma^{2,1}\mathcal{Y}_{(h,1)}^{\mathbb{R}} \rightarrow \mathcal{Y}_{(h,1)}^{\mathbb{R}})$ is a type $(2,1)$ complex whose bigraded cohomology is a free $\mathcal{A}^{\mathbb{R}}(1)$ -module on one generator.*

Corollary 1.15. *The bigraded cohomology of the C_2 -equivariant spectrum*

$$C^{C_2}(\beta(v)) \cong \beta(C^{\mathbb{R}}(v))$$

is a free $\mathcal{A}^{C_2}(1)$ -module on one generator.

Our last main result in this paper is the following.

Theorem 1.16. *The spectrum $\mathcal{Y}_{(h,0)}^{\mathbb{R}}$ does not admit a $v_{(1,0)}$ -self-map.*

The above results immediately raise some obvious questions. Pertaining to self-maps one may ask: Does $\mathcal{Y}_{(2,1)}^{\mathbb{R}}$ admit a $v_{1,\text{nil}}$ -self-map? Does $\mathcal{Y}_{(2,1)}^{\mathbb{R}}$ or $\mathcal{Y}_{(h,1)}^{\mathbb{R}}$ admit a $v_{(1,1)}$ -self-map? Does $\mathcal{Y}_{\text{triv}}^{\mathbb{R}}$, $\mathcal{Y}_{(2,1)}^{\mathbb{R}}$ or $\mathcal{Y}_{(h,1)}^{\mathbb{R}}$ admit $v_{(\text{nil},1)}$ -self-map? Or more generally, how many different homotopy types of each kind of periodic self-maps exist? Related to $\mathcal{A}^{\mathbb{R}}(1)$, one may inquire: How many different $\mathcal{A}^{\mathbb{R}}$ -module structures can be given to $\mathcal{A}^{\mathbb{R}}(1)$? Can those $\mathcal{A}^{\mathbb{R}}$ -modules be realized as a spectrum? Are the realizations of $\mathcal{A}^{\mathbb{R}}(1)$ equivalent to cofibers of periodic self-maps of $\mathcal{Y}_{(i,j)}^{\mathbb{R}}$? We hope to address most, if not all, of the above questions in our upcoming work (see [Remark 3.21](#), [Remark 4.18](#) and [Remark 5.6](#)).

1.1. Outline of our method. We first construct a spectrum $\mathcal{A}_1^{\mathbb{R}}$ which realizes the algebra $\mathcal{A}^{\mathbb{R}}(1)$ using a method of Smith (outlined in [\[R1, Appendix C\]](#)) which constructs new finite spectra (potentially with larger number of cells) from known ones. The idea is as follows. If X is a p -local finite spectrum then the permutation group Σ_n acts on $X^{\wedge n}$. One may then use an idempotent $e \in \mathbb{Z}_{(p)}[\Sigma_n]$ to obtain a split summand of the spectrum $X^{\wedge n}$. As explained in [\[R1, Appendix C\]](#), Young tableaux provide a rich source of such idempotents. For a judicious choice of e and X , the spectrum $e(X^{\wedge n})$ can be interesting.

We exploit the relation that $h \cdot \eta_{1,1} = 0$ in $\pi_{*,*}(\mathbb{S}_{\mathbb{R}})$ [\[M2\]](#) to construct an \mathbb{R} -motivic analogue of the question mark complex. The cell-diagram of the question mark complex is as described in the picture below. For a choice of idempotent element e

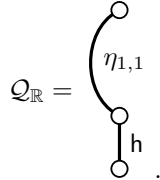


FIGURE 1.17. Cell-diagram of the \mathbb{R} -motivic question mark complex

in the group ring $\mathbb{Z}_{(2)}[\Sigma_3]$, we observe that $e(H^{*,*}(\mathcal{Q}_{\mathbb{R}})^{\otimes 3})$ is a free $\mathcal{A}^{\mathbb{R}}(1)$ -module. This is the cohomology of an \mathbb{R} -motivic spectrum $\tilde{e}(\mathcal{Q}_{\mathbb{R}}^{\wedge 3})$, which we call $\Sigma^{1,0}\mathcal{A}_1^{\mathbb{R}}$ (see [\(3.4\)](#) for details). The observation requires us to develop a criterion that will detect freeness for modules over certain subalgebras of $\mathcal{A}^{\mathbb{R}}$. Writing $M_2^{\mathbb{R}}$ for the \mathbb{R} -motivic cohomology of a point, we prove:

Theorem 1.18. *A finitely generated $\mathcal{A}^{\mathbb{R}}(1)$ -module M is free if and only if*

- (1) M is free as an $\mathbb{M}_2^{\mathbb{R}}$ -module, and
- (2) $\mathbb{F}_2 \otimes_{\mathbb{M}_2^{\mathbb{R}}} M$ is a free $\mathbb{F}_2 \otimes_{\mathbb{M}_2^{\mathbb{R}}} \mathcal{A}^{\mathbb{R}}(1)$ -module.

The cohomology of $\mathcal{A}_1^{\mathbb{R}}$ provides an $\mathcal{A}^{\mathbb{R}}$ -module structure on $\mathcal{A}^{\mathbb{R}}(1)$, which immediately gives us a short exact sequence

$$0 \rightarrow H^{*,*}(\Sigma^{3,1}\mathcal{Y}_{(h,1)}^{\mathbb{R}}) \rightarrow H^{*,*}(\mathcal{A}_1^{\mathbb{R}}) \rightarrow H^{*,*}(\mathcal{Y}_{(h,1)}^{\mathbb{R}}) \rightarrow 0$$

of $\mathcal{A}^{\mathbb{R}}$ -modules. Thus, we get a candidate for a $v_{1,\text{nil}}$ -self-map in the \mathbb{R} -motivic Adams spectral sequence

$$\bar{v} \in \text{Ext}_{\mathcal{A}^{\mathbb{R}}}^{*,*,*}(H^{*,*}(\mathcal{Y}_{(h,1)}^{\mathbb{R}}), H^{*,*}(\mathcal{Y}_{(h,1)}^{\mathbb{R}})) \Rightarrow [\mathcal{Y}_{(h,1)}^{\mathbb{R}}, \mathcal{Y}_{(h,1)}^{\mathbb{R}}]_{*,*}$$

which survives as there is no potential target for a differential supported by \bar{v} .

Organization of the paper. In [Section 2](#), we review the \mathbb{R} -motivic Steenrod algebra $\mathcal{A}^{\mathbb{R}}$, discuss the structure of its subalgebra $\mathcal{A}^{\mathbb{R}}(n)$, and prove [Theorem 1.18](#). In [Section 3](#), we construct the spectrum $\mathcal{A}_1^{\mathbb{R}}$ that realizes the subalgebra $\mathcal{A}^{\mathbb{R}}(1)$ and prove that it is of type (2,1). In [Section 4](#), we prove [Theorem 1.11](#) and [Theorem 1.14](#); i.e., we show that $\mathcal{Y}_{(h,1)}^{\mathbb{R}}$ admits a $v_{1,\text{nil}}$ -self-map and that its cofiber has the same $\mathcal{A}^{\mathbb{R}}$ -module structure as that of $H^{*,*}(\mathcal{A}_1^{\mathbb{R}})$. In [Section 5](#), we show the non-existence of a $v_{(1,0)}$ -self-map on $C^{\mathbb{R}}(h)$ and $\mathcal{Y}_{(h,0)}^{\mathbb{R}}$; i.e., we prove [Theorem 1.10](#) and [Theorem 1.16](#).

Acknowledgement. The authors are indebted to Nick Kuhn for explaining some of the subtle points of Smith's work exposed in [\[R1\]\[Appendix C\]](#), which is the key idea behind [Theorem 1.11](#). The authors also benefited from conversations with Mark Behrens, Dan Isaksen, and Zhouli Xu.

2. THE \mathbb{R} -MOTIVIC STEENROD ALGEBRA AND A FREENESS CRITERION

We begin by reviewing the \mathbb{R} -motivic Steenrod algebra $\mathcal{A}^{\mathbb{R}}$ following Voevodsky [\[V\]](#). The algebra $\mathcal{A}^{\mathbb{R}}$ is the bigraded homotopy classes of self-maps of the \mathbb{R} -motivic Eilenberg-Mac Lane spectrum $\text{HF}_2^{\mathbb{R}}$:

$$\mathcal{A}^{\mathbb{R}} = [\text{HF}_2^{\mathbb{R}}, \text{HF}_2^{\mathbb{R}}]_{*,*}.$$

The unit map $\mathbb{S}_{\mathbb{R}} \rightarrow \text{HF}_2^{\mathbb{R}}$ induces a canonical projection map

$$\epsilon : \mathcal{A}^{\mathbb{R}} \longrightarrow \mathbb{M}_2^{\mathbb{R}} := [\mathbb{S}_{\mathbb{R}}, \text{HF}_2^{\mathbb{R}}]_{*,*} \cong \mathbb{F}_2[\tau, \rho],$$

where $|\tau| = (0, -1)$ and $|\rho| = (-1, -1)$. Further, using the multiplication map $\text{HF}_2^{\mathbb{R}} \wedge \text{HF}_2^{\mathbb{R}} \rightarrow \text{HF}_2^{\mathbb{R}}$ one can give $\mathcal{A}^{\mathbb{R}}$ a left $\mathbb{M}_2^{\mathbb{R}}$ -module structure as well as a right $\mathbb{M}_2^{\mathbb{R}}$ -module structure. Voevodsky shows that $\mathcal{A}^{\mathbb{R}}$ is a free left $\mathbb{M}_2^{\mathbb{R}}$ -module. There is an analogue of the classical Adem basis in the motivic setting, and Voevodsky established motivic Adem relations, thereby completely describing the multiplicative structure of $\mathcal{A}^{\mathbb{R}}$.

The motivic Steenrod algebra $\mathcal{A}^{\mathbb{R}}$ also admits a diagonal map, so that its left $\mathbb{M}_2^{\mathbb{R}}$ -linear dual is an algebra over \mathbb{F}_2 . Note that $\mathcal{A}^{\mathbb{R}}$ is an \mathbb{F}_2 -algebra but not an $\mathbb{M}_2^{\mathbb{R}}$ -algebra as τ is not a central element since

$$(2.1) \quad \text{Sq}^1(\tau) = \rho \neq \tau \text{Sq}^1.$$

This complication is also reflected in the fact that the pair $(\mathbb{M}_2^{\mathbb{R}}, \text{hom}_{\mathbb{M}_2^{\mathbb{R}}}(\mathcal{A}^{\mathbb{R}}, \mathbb{M}_2^{\mathbb{R}}))$ is a Hopf-algebroid, and not a Hopf-algebra like its complex counterpart. The underlying algebra of the dual \mathbb{R} -motivic Steenrod algebra is given by

$$\mathcal{A}_*^{\mathbb{R}} \cong \mathbb{M}_2^{\mathbb{R}}[\xi_{i+1}, \tau_i : i \geq 0] / (\tau_i^2 = \tau \xi_{i+1} + \rho \tau_{i+1} + \rho \tau_0 \xi_{i+1})$$

where ξ_i and τ_i live in bidegree $(2^{i+1} - 2, 2^i - 1)$ and $(2^{i+1} - 1, 2^i - 1)$, respectively. The complete description of the Hopf-algebroid structure can be found in [V].

Ricka¹ [R2] identified the quotient Hopf-algebroids of $\mathcal{A}_*^{\mathbb{R}}$ (see also [H]). In particular, there are quotient Hopf-algebroids

$$\mathcal{A}^{\mathbb{R}}(n)_* = \mathcal{A}_*^{\mathbb{R}} / (\xi_1^{2^n}, \dots, \xi_n^2, \xi_{n+1}, \dots, \tau_0^{2^{n+1}}, \dots, \tau_n^2, \tau_{n+1}, \dots)$$

which can be thought of as analogues of the quotient Hopf-algebra

$$\mathcal{A}(n)_* = \mathcal{A}_* / (\xi_1^{2^{n+1}}, \dots, \xi_{n+1}^2, \xi_{n+2}, \dots)$$

of the classical dual Steenrod algebra \mathcal{A}_* . It is an algebraic fact that

$$\tau^{-1}(\mathcal{A}^{\mathbb{R}}(n)_*/(\rho)) \cong \mathbb{F}_2[\tau^{\pm 1}] \otimes \mathcal{A}(n)_*$$

as Hopf algebras. The quotient Hopf-algebroid $\mathcal{A}^{\mathbb{R}}(n)_*$ is the $\mathbb{M}_2^{\mathbb{R}}$ -linear dual of the subalgebra $\mathcal{A}^{\mathbb{R}}(n)$ of $\mathcal{A}^{\mathbb{R}}$, which is generated by $\{\tau, \rho, \text{Sq}^1, \text{Sq}^2, \dots, \text{Sq}^{2^n}\}$.

Even though τ is not in the center (2.1), ρ is in the center. We make use of this fact to prove the following result.

Lemma 2.2. *A finitely-generated $\mathcal{A}^{\mathbb{R}}(n)$ -module M is free if and only if*

- (1) M is free as an $\mathbb{F}_2[\rho]$ -module, and,
- (2) $M/(\rho)$ is a free $\mathcal{A}^{\mathbb{R}}(n)/(\rho)$ -module.

Proof. The ‘only if’ part is trivial. For the ‘if’ part, choose a basis $\mathcal{B} = \{b_1, \dots, b_n\}$ of $M/(\rho)$ and let $\tilde{b}_i \in M$ be any lift of b_i . Let F denote the free $\mathcal{A}^{\mathbb{R}}(n)$ -module generated by \mathcal{B} and consider the map

$$f : F \rightarrow M$$

which sends $b_i \mapsto \tilde{b}_i$. We show that f is an isomorphism by inductively proving that f induces an isomorphism $F/(\rho^n) \cong M/(\rho^n)$ for all $n \geq 1$. The case of $n = 1$ is true by assumption.

¹ Ricka actually identified the quotient Hopf-algebroids of the C_2 -equivariant dual Steenrod algebra. However, the difference between the \mathbb{R} -motivic Steenrod algebra and the C_2 -equivariant Steenrod algebra lies only in the coefficient rings and results of Ricka easily identifies the quotient Hopf-algebroids of the \mathbb{R} -motivic Steenrod algebra.

For the inductive argument, first note that the diagram

$$\begin{array}{ccccccc} 0 & \longrightarrow & F/(\rho^{n-1}) & \xrightarrow{\cdot\rho} & F/(\rho^n) & \longrightarrow & F/(\rho) \longrightarrow 0 \\ \parallel & & \downarrow f_{n-1} & & \downarrow f_n & & \downarrow f_0 & \parallel \\ 0 & \longrightarrow & M/(\rho^{n-1}) & \xrightarrow{\cdot\rho} & M/(\rho^n) & \longrightarrow & M/(\rho) \longrightarrow 0 \end{array}$$

is a diagram of $\mathcal{A}^{\mathbb{R}}(n)$ -modules (since ρ is in the center) where the horizontal rows are exact. The map f_0 is an isomorphism by assumption (2), and f_{n-1} is an isomorphism by the inductive hypothesis; hence, f_n is an isomorphism by the five lemma. \square

Proof of Theorem 1.18. The result follows immediately from Lemma 2.2 combined with [HK, Theorem B] and the fact that

$$\mathcal{A}^{\mathbb{C}}(n) = \mathcal{A}^{\mathbb{R}}(n)/(\rho). \quad \square$$

The work of Adams and Margolis [AM] provides a freeness criterion for modules over finite-dimensional subalgebras of the classical Steenrod algebra. For an $\mathcal{A}(n)$ -module M and element $x \in \mathcal{A}(n)$ such that $x^2 = 0$, one can define the Margolis homology of M with respect to x as

$$\mathcal{M}(M, x) = \frac{\ker(x : M \rightarrow M)}{\text{img}(x : M \rightarrow M)}.$$

Theorem 2.3. [AM, Theorem 4.4] *A finitely generated $\mathcal{A}(n)$ -module M is free if and only if $\mathcal{M}(M, P_t^s) = 0$ for $0 < s < t$ with $s + t \leq n$.*

Remark 2.4. In the classical Steenrod algebra, P_t^s is the element dual to $\xi_t^{2^s}$. In terms of the Milnor basis, this is $\text{Sq}(\overbrace{0, \dots, 0}^{t-1}, 2^s)$. The element P_t^0 is often denoted by Q_{t-1} .

Note that

$$\mathcal{A}^{\mathbb{R}}(n)_*/(\rho, \tau) = \frac{\mathbb{F}_2[\xi_1, \dots, \xi_n]}{(\xi_1^{2^n}, \dots, \xi_n^{2^n})} \otimes \Lambda(\tau_0, \dots, \tau_n)$$

as a Hopf-algebra. Further, if we forget the motivic grading, we have an isomorphism

$$(2.5) \quad \mathcal{A}^{\mathbb{R}}(n)/(\rho, \tau) \cong \varphi\mathcal{A}(n-1) \otimes \Lambda(P_1^0, \dots, P_n^0),$$

where $\varphi\mathcal{A}(n-1)$ denotes the ‘double’ (see [M1, Chapter 15, Proposition 11]) of $\mathcal{A}(n-1)$. Let

$$\bar{P}_t^s = (\xi_t^{2^s})^* \in \mathcal{A}^{\mathbb{R}}(n).$$

It can be shown that

$$(\bar{P}_t^s)^2 \equiv 0 \pmod{(\rho, \tau)}$$

for $s \leq t$. Combining (2.5), Theorem 2.3 and a similar result for primitively generated exterior Hopf-algebras [AM, Theorem 2.2], we deduce:

Lemma 2.6. *A finitely generated $\mathcal{A}^{\mathbb{R}}(n)/(\rho, \tau)$ -module \bar{M} is free if and only if $\mathcal{M}(\bar{M}, \bar{P}_t^s) = 0$ whenever $0 \leq s \leq t$ and $1 \leq s + t \leq n + 1$.*

We end this section by recording the following corollary, which is immediate from [Theorem 1.18](#) and [Lemma 2.6](#).

Corollary 2.7. *A finitely generated $\mathcal{A}^{\mathbb{R}}(n)$ module M is free if and only if*

- (1) M is free as an $\mathbb{M}_2^{\mathbb{R}}$ -module, and,
- (2) $\mathcal{M}(M \otimes_{\mathbb{M}_2^{\mathbb{R}}} \mathbb{F}_2, \bar{P}_s^t) = 0$ for $0 \leq t \leq s$ and $s + t = n + 1$.

3. A REALIZATION OF $\mathcal{A}^{\mathbb{R}}(1)$

Consider the \mathbb{R} -motivic question mark complex $\mathcal{Q}_{\mathbb{R}}$, as introduced in [Subsection 1.1](#). Let Σ_n act on $\mathcal{Q}_{\mathbb{R}}^{\wedge n}$ by permutation. Any element $e \in \mathbb{Z}_{(2)}[\Sigma_n]$ produces a canonical map

$$\tilde{e} : \mathcal{Q}_{\mathbb{R}}^{\wedge n} \longrightarrow \mathcal{Q}_{\mathbb{R}}^{\wedge n}.$$

Now let e be the idempotent

$$e = \frac{1 + (1\ 2) - (1\ 3) - (1\ 3\ 2)}{3}$$

in $\mathbb{Z}_{(2)}[\Sigma_3]$, and denote by \bar{e} the resulting idempotent of $\mathbb{F}_2[\Sigma_3]$. We record the following important property of \bar{e} which is a special case of [\[R1, Theorem C.1.5\]](#).

Lemma 3.1. *If V is a finite-dimensional \mathbb{F}_2 -vector space, then $\bar{e}(V^{\otimes 3}) = 0$ if and only if $\dim V \leq 1$.*

The following result, which gives the values of \bar{e} on induced representations, is also straightforward to verify:

Lemma 3.2. *Suppose that $W = \text{Ind}_{C_2}^{\Sigma_3} \mathbb{F}_2$ is induced up from the trivial representation of a cyclic 2-subgroup. Then $\bar{e}(W) \cong \mathbb{F}_2$. Moreover, for the regular representation $\mathbb{F}_2[\Sigma_3] = \text{Ind}_e^{\Sigma_3} \mathbb{F}_2$, we have $\dim \bar{e}(\mathbb{F}_2[\Sigma_3]) = 2$.*

We also record the fact that when $\dim_{\mathbb{F}_2} V = 2$ and $\dim_{\mathbb{F}_2} W = 3$ then

$$(3.3) \quad \dim_{\mathbb{F}_2} \bar{e}(V^{\otimes 3}) = 2 \quad \text{and} \quad \dim_{\mathbb{F}_2} \bar{e}(W^{\otimes 3}) = 8,$$

as we will often use this.

The bottom cell of $\tilde{e}(\mathcal{Q}_{\mathbb{R}}^{\wedge 3})$ is in degree $(1, 0)$, and we define

$$(3.4) \quad \mathcal{A}_1^{\mathbb{R}} := \Sigma^{-1,0} \tilde{e}(\mathcal{Q}_{\mathbb{R}}^{\wedge 3}) = \Sigma^{-1,0} \text{hocolim}_{\rightarrow} (\mathcal{Q}_{\mathbb{R}}^{\wedge 3} \xrightarrow{\tilde{e}} \mathcal{Q}_{\mathbb{R}}^{\wedge 3} \xrightarrow{\tilde{e}} \dots).$$

The purpose of this section is to prove the following theorem.

Theorem 3.5. *The spectrum $\mathcal{A}_1^{\mathbb{R}}$ is a type $(2, 1)$ complex whose bi-graded cohomology $H^{*,*}(\mathcal{A}_1^{\mathbb{R}})$ is a free $\mathcal{A}^{\mathbb{R}}(1)$ -module on one generator.*

3.1. $\mathcal{A}_1^{\mathbb{R}}$ is of type $(2, 1)$. Let $\mathcal{A}_1^{C_2} := \beta(\mathcal{A}_1^{\mathbb{R}})$ and $\mathcal{Q}_{C_2} := \beta(\mathcal{Q}_{\mathbb{R}})$. Note that we have a C_2 -equivariant splitting

$$\mathcal{Q}_{C_2}^{\wedge 3} \simeq \tilde{e}(\mathcal{Q}_{C_2}^{\wedge 3}) \vee (1 - \tilde{e})(\mathcal{Q}_{C_2}^{\wedge 3})$$

which splits the underlying spectra as well as the geometric fixed-points, as both Φ^e and Φ^{C_2} are additive functors.

We will identify the underlying spectrum $\Phi^e(\mathcal{A}_1^{C_2})$ by studying the \mathcal{A} -module structure of its cohomology with \mathbb{F}_2 -coefficients. Firstly, note that

$$\Phi^e(\mathcal{A}_1^{C_2}) \simeq \Sigma^{-1} \tilde{e}(\Phi^e(\mathcal{Q}_{C_2}^{\wedge 3})) \simeq \Sigma^{-1} \tilde{e}(\mathcal{Q}^{\wedge 3}),$$

where \mathcal{Q} is the classical question mark complex, whose $\mathrm{H}\mathbb{F}_2$ -cohomology as an \mathcal{A} -module is well understood. It consists of three \mathbb{F}_2 -generators a , b , and c in internal degrees 0, 1, and 3, such that $\mathrm{Sq}^1(a) = b$ and $\mathrm{Sq}^2(b) = c$ are the only nontrivial relations, as displayed in [Figure 3.6](#).

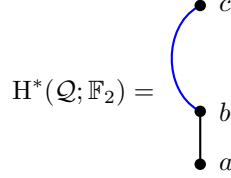


FIGURE 3.6. We depict the \mathcal{A} -structure of $\mathrm{H}^*(\mathcal{Q}; \mathbb{F}_2)$ by marking Sq^1 -action by black straight lines and Sq^2 -action by blue curved lines between the \mathbb{F}_2 -generators.

Because of the Kunneth isomorphism and the fact that the Steenrod algebra is cocommutative, we have an isomorphism of \mathcal{A} -modules

$$\mathrm{H}^{*+1}(\Phi^e(\mathcal{A}_1^{C_2}); \mathbb{F}_2) \cong \mathrm{H}^*(\tilde{e}(\mathcal{Q}^{\wedge 3}); \mathbb{F}_2) \cong \bar{e}(\mathrm{H}^*(\mathcal{Q}; \mathbb{F}_2)^{\otimes 3}).$$

Lemma 3.7. *The underlying $\mathcal{A}(1)$ -module structure of $\mathrm{H}^*(\Phi^e(\mathcal{A}_1^{C_2}); \mathbb{F}_2)$ is free on a single generator.*

Proof. Let us denote the \mathcal{A} -module $\mathrm{H}^*(\mathcal{Q}; \mathbb{F}_2)$ by V . Since $\dim \mathcal{M}(V, Q_i) = 1$ for $i \in \{0, 1\}$, it follows from the Kunneth isomorphism of Q_i -Margolis homology groups, cocommutativity of the Steenrod algebra, and [Lemma 3.1](#) that

$$\mathcal{M}(\bar{e}(V^{\otimes 3}), Q_i) = \bar{e}(\mathcal{M}(V, Q_i)^{\otimes 3}) = 0$$

for $i = \{1, 2\}$. It follows from [\[AM, Theorem 3.1\]](#) that $\mathrm{H}^*(\Phi^e(\mathcal{A}_1^{\mathbb{R}}); \mathbb{F}_2)$ is free as an $\mathcal{A}(1)$ -module. It is singly generated because of [\(3.3\)](#). \square

We explicitly identify the image of $\bar{e} : \mathrm{H}^*(\mathcal{Q}; \mathbb{F}_2)^{\otimes 3} \rightarrow \mathrm{H}^*(\mathcal{Q}; \mathbb{F}_2)^{\otimes 3}$ in [Figure 3.8](#).

Remark 3.9. Using the Cartan formula, we can identify the action of Sq^4 on $\Phi^e(\mathcal{A}_1^{C_2})$. We notice that its \mathcal{A} -module structure is isomorphic to $A_1[00]$ of [\[BEM\]](#). Since such an \mathcal{A} -module is realized by a unique 2-local finite spectrum, we conclude

$$\Phi^e(\mathcal{A}_1^{C_2}) \simeq A_1[00]$$

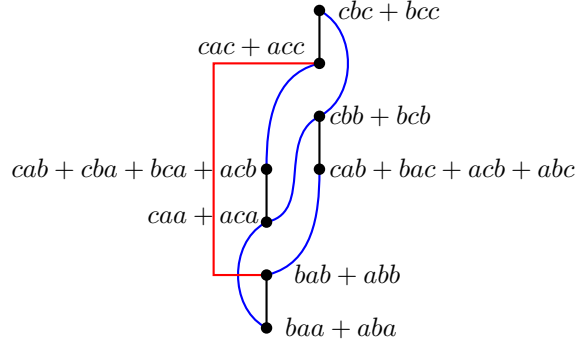


FIGURE 3.8. The \mathcal{A} -module structure of $H^*(\Phi^e(\mathcal{A}_1^{C_2}); \mathbb{F}_2)$: Black straight lines, blue curved lines, and red boxed lines represent the Sq^1 -action, Sq^2 -action, and Sq^4 -action, respectively.

and is of type 2.

Our next goal is to understand the homotopy type of the geometric fixed-point spectrum $\Phi^{C_2}(\mathcal{A}_1^{C_2})$. First observe that the geometric fixed-points of the C_2 -equivariant question mark complex \mathcal{Q}_{C_2} is the *exclamation mark* complex

$$\mathcal{E} := \begin{array}{c} \circ \\ | \\ \circ \\ | \\ \circ \end{array} \simeq \mathbb{S}^0 \vee \Sigma M_2(1)!$$

This is because $\Phi^{C_2}(\mathfrak{h}) = 0$ and $\Phi^{C_2}(\eta_{1,1}) = 2$. Secondly,

$$H^{*+1}(\Phi^{C_2}(\mathcal{A}_1^{C_2}); \mathbb{F}_2) \cong H^*(\bar{e}(\mathcal{E}^{\wedge 3}); \mathbb{F}_2) \cong \bar{e}(H^*(\mathcal{E}; \mathbb{F}_2)^{\otimes 3})$$

is an isomorphism of \mathcal{A} -modules. We explicitly calculate the \mathcal{A} -module structure of $H^*(\Phi^{C_2}(\mathcal{A}_1^{C_2}); \mathbb{F}_2)$ from the above isomorphism and record it in [Figure 3.10](#).

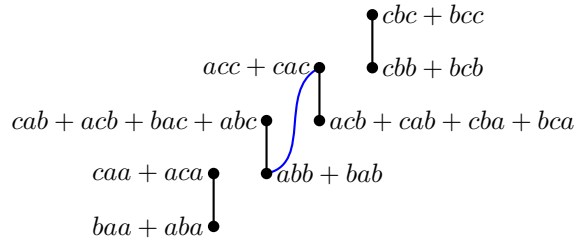


FIGURE 3.10. The \mathcal{A} -module structure of $H^*(\Phi^{C_2}(\mathcal{A}_1^{C_2}); \mathbb{F}_2)$.

Lemma 3.11. *The finite spectrum $\Phi^{C_2}(\mathcal{A}_1^{C_2})$ is a type 1 spectrum and equivalent to*

$$\Phi^{C_2}(\mathcal{A}_1^{C_2}) \simeq M_2(1) \vee \Sigma(M_2(1) \wedge M_2(1)) \vee \Sigma^3 M_2(1).$$

Proof. From [Figure 3.10](#), it is clear that we have an isomorphism of \mathcal{A} -modules

$$\mathrm{H}^*(\Phi^{C_2}(\mathcal{A}_1^{C_2}); \mathbb{F}_2) \cong \mathrm{H}^*\left(\mathrm{M}_2(1) \vee \Sigma(\mathrm{M}_2(1) \wedge \mathrm{M}_2(1)) \vee \Sigma^3 \mathrm{M}_2(1); \mathbb{F}_2\right).$$

It is possible that the \mathcal{A} -module $\mathrm{H}^*(\Phi^{C_2}(\mathcal{A}_1^{C_2}); \mathbb{F}_2)$ may not realize to a unique finite spectrum (up to weak equivalence). However, other possibilities can be eliminated from the fact that $\mathcal{E}^{\wedge 3}$ splits Σ_3 -equivariantly into four components:

$$\mathcal{E}^{\wedge 3} \simeq \mathbb{S} \vee \left(\bigvee_{i=1}^3 \Sigma \mathrm{M}_2(1) \right) \vee \left(\bigvee_{i=1}^3 \Sigma^2 \mathrm{M}_2(1)^{\wedge 2} \right) \vee \Sigma^3 \mathrm{M}_2(1)^{\wedge 3}.$$

The idempotent \tilde{e} annihilates $\mathbb{S} \cong \mathbb{S}^{\wedge 3}$, and [Lemma 3.2](#) implies that

$$\begin{aligned} \tilde{e} \left(\bigvee_{i=1}^3 \Sigma \mathrm{M}_2(1) \right) &\simeq \Sigma \mathrm{M}_2(1) \quad \text{and} \\ \tilde{e} \left(\bigvee_{i=1}^3 \Sigma^2 \mathrm{M}_2(1) \wedge \mathrm{M}_2(1) \right) &\simeq \Sigma^2 \mathrm{M}_2(1) \wedge \mathrm{M}_2(1). \end{aligned}$$

Similarly, we see using [\(3.3\)](#) that

$$\mathrm{H}^*(\tilde{e}(\Sigma^3 \mathrm{M}_2(1)^{\wedge 3})) \cong \bar{e}(\mathrm{H}^*(\Sigma \mathrm{M}_2(1))^{\otimes 3}) \cong \mathrm{H}^*(\Sigma^3 \mathrm{M}_2(1)).$$

Hence, the result. \square

3.2. The cohomology of $\mathcal{A}_1^{\mathbb{R}}$ is free over $\mathcal{A}^{\mathbb{R}}(1)$. Next, we analyze the $\mathcal{A}^{\mathbb{R}}$ -module structure of $\mathrm{H}^{*,*}(\mathcal{A}_1^{\mathbb{R}})$. We begin by recalling some general properties of the cohomology of motivic spectra.

If $X, Y \in \mathbf{Sp}_{2, \text{fin}}^{\mathbb{R}}$ such that $\mathrm{H}^{*,*}(X)$ is free as a left $\mathbb{M}_2^{\mathbb{R}}$ -module, then we have a Künneth isomorphism [[DI2](#), Proposition 7.7]

$$(3.12) \quad \mathrm{H}^{*,*}(X \wedge Y) \cong \mathrm{H}^{*,*}(X) \otimes_{\mathbb{M}_2^{\mathbb{R}}} \mathrm{H}^{*,*}(Y)$$

as the relevant Künneth spectral sequence collapses. Further, if $\mathrm{H}^{*,*}(X)$ is free as a left $\mathbb{M}_2^{\mathbb{R}}$ -module, then so is $\mathrm{H}^{*,*}(X \wedge Y)$. The $\mathcal{A}^{\mathbb{R}}$ -module structure of $\mathrm{H}^{*,*}(X \wedge Y)$ can then be computed using the Cartan formula. The comultiplication map of $\mathcal{A}^{\mathbb{R}}$ is left $\mathbb{M}_2^{\mathbb{R}}$ -linear, coassociative and cocommutative [[V](#), Lemma 11.9], which is also reflected in the fact that its $\mathbb{M}_2^{\mathbb{R}}$ -linear dual is a commutative and associative algebra. Thus, when $\mathrm{H}^{*,*}(X)$ is a free left $\mathbb{M}_2^{\mathbb{R}}$ -module, the elements of $\mathbb{F}_2[\Sigma_n]$ acts on

$$\mathrm{H}^{*,*}(X^{\wedge n}) \cong \mathrm{H}^{*,*}(X) \otimes_{\mathbb{M}_2^{\mathbb{R}}} \cdots \otimes_{\mathbb{M}_2^{\mathbb{R}}} \mathrm{H}^{*,*}(X)$$

via permutation and commutes with the action of $\mathcal{A}^{\mathbb{R}}$. This also implies that $\mathbb{F}_2[\Sigma_n]$ also acts on

$$\mathrm{H}^{*,*}(X^{\wedge n})/(\rho, \tau) \cong (\mathrm{H}^{*,*}(X)/(\rho, \tau)) \otimes \cdots \otimes \mathrm{H}^{*,*}(X)/(\rho, \tau)$$

and commutes with the action of $\mathcal{A}^{\mathbb{R}}//\mathbb{M}_2^{\mathbb{R}}$. From the above discussion we may conclude that

$$(3.13) \quad \mathrm{H}^{*,*}(\mathcal{A}_1^{\mathbb{R}}) \cong \Sigma^{-1} \bar{e}(\mathrm{H}^{*,*}(\mathcal{Q}_{\mathbb{R}})^{\otimes 3})$$

is an isomorphism of $\mathcal{A}^{\mathbb{R}}$ -module.

We will also rely upon the following important property of the action of the motivic Steenrod algebra on the cohomology of a motivic space (as opposed to a motivic spectrum):

Remark 3.14 (Instability condition for \mathbb{R} -motivic cohomology). If X is an \mathbb{R} -motivic space then $H^{*,*}(X)$ admits a ring structure, and, for any $u \in H^{n,i}(X)$, the \mathbb{R} -motivic squaring operations obey the rule

$$\mathrm{Sq}^{2i}(u) = \begin{cases} 0 & \text{if } n < 2i \\ u^2 & \text{if } n = 2i. \end{cases}$$

This is often referred to as the *instability condition*.

To understand the $\mathcal{A}^{\mathbb{R}}$ -module structure of $H^{*,*}(\mathcal{Q}_{\mathbb{R}})$, we first make the following observation regarding $H^{*,*}(C^{\mathbb{R}}(\mathfrak{h}))$ (as $C^{\mathbb{R}}(\mathfrak{h})$ is a sub-complex of $\mathcal{Q}_{\mathbb{R}}$) using an argument very similar to [DI1, Lemma 7.4].

Proposition 3.15. *There are two extensions of $\mathcal{A}^{\mathbb{R}}(0)$ to an $\mathcal{A}^{\mathbb{R}}$ -module, and these $\mathcal{A}^{\mathbb{R}}$ -modules are realized as the cohomology of $C^{\mathbb{R}}(\mathfrak{h})$ and $C^{\mathbb{R}}(2)$.*

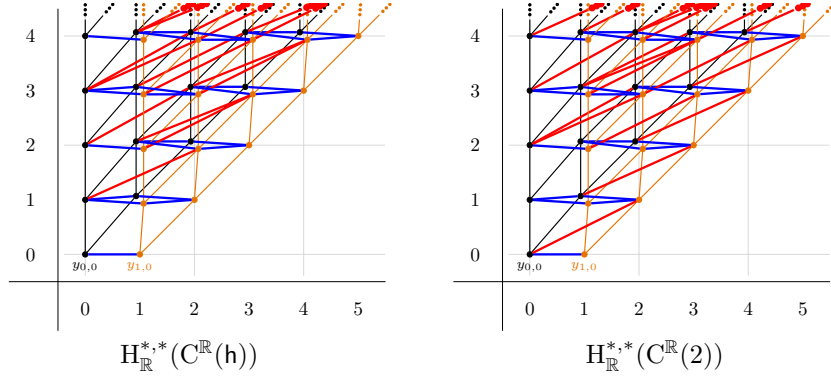


FIGURE 3.16. The x -axis represents the negative of topological dimension, y -axis represents the negative of motivic weight, vertical line of length $(0, 1)$ represents τ -multiplication, diagonal line of length $(1, 1)$ represents ρ -multiplication, blue line represents Sq^1 -action and red line represents Sq^2 -action.

Proof. For degree reasons, the only choice in extending $\mathcal{A}^{\mathbb{R}}(0)$ to an $\mathcal{A}^{\mathbb{R}}$ -module is the action of Sq^2 on the generator in bidegree $(0, 0)$. Writing $y_{0,0}$ for the generator in degree $(0, 0)$ and $y_{1,0}$ for $\mathrm{Sq}^1(y_{0,0})$ in (cohomological) bidegree $(1, 0)$. The two possible choices are

- $\mathrm{Sq}^2(y_{0,0}) = 0$ and
- $\mathrm{Sq}^2(y_{0,0}) = \rho \cdot y_{1,0}$.

We can realize the degree 2 map as an unstable map $S^{1,0} \rightarrow S^{1,0}$, and we will write $C^{\mathbb{R}}(2)_u$ for the cofiber. We deduce information about the $\mathcal{A}^{\mathbb{R}}$ -module structure of

$H^{*,*}(\mathbb{C}^{\mathbb{R}}(2))$ by analyzing the cohomology ring of $S^{1,1} \wedge \mathbb{C}^{\mathbb{R}}(2)_u$ using the instability condition of [Remark 3.14](#). First, note that in

$$H^{*,*}(S^{1,1}) \cong \mathbb{M}_2^{\mathbb{R}} \cdot \iota_{1,1}$$

we have the relation $\iota_{1,1}^2 = \rho \cdot \iota_{1,1}$ [[V](#), Lemma 6.8]. Also note that

$$H^{*,*}((\mathbb{C}^{\mathbb{R}}(2)_u)_+) \cong \mathbb{M}_2^{\mathbb{R}}[x]/(x^3)$$

where x is in cohomological degrees $(1, 0)$. Therefore, in

$$H^{*,*}(S^{1,1} \wedge \mathbb{C}^{\mathbb{R}}(2)_u) = \mathbb{M}_2^{\mathbb{R}} \cdot \iota_{1,1} \otimes_{\mathbb{M}_2^{\mathbb{R}}} \mathbb{M}_2^{\mathbb{R}}\{x, x^2\}$$

the instability condition implies

$$\mathrm{Sq}^2(\iota_{1,1} \otimes x) = \iota_{1,1}^2 \otimes x^2 = \rho \cdot \iota_{1,1} \otimes x^2.$$

Here the space-level cohomology class x^2 corresponds to the spectrum-level class $y_{1,0}$. Therefore, $\mathrm{Sq}^2(y_{0,0}) = \rho \cdot y_{1,0}$ in $H^{*,*}(\mathbb{C}^{\mathbb{R}}(2))$. This is also reflected in the fact that multiplication by 2 is detected by $h_0 + \rho h_1$ in the \mathbb{R} -motivic Adams spectral sequence [[D11](#), §8].

On the other hand h is the ‘zeroth \mathbb{R} -motivic Hopf-map’ detected by the element h_0 in the motivic Adams spectral sequence. It follows that $\mathrm{Sq}^2(y_{0,0}) = 0$. \square

In order to express the $\mathcal{A}^{\mathbb{R}}$ -module structure on $H^{*,*}(X)$ for a finite spectrum X , it is enough to specify the action of $\mathcal{A}^{\mathbb{R}}$ on its left $\mathbb{M}_2^{\mathbb{R}}$ -generators as the action of τ and ρ multiples are determined by the Cartan formula.

Example 3.17. Let $\{y_{0,0}, y_{1,0}\} \subset H^{*,*}(\mathbb{C}^{\mathbb{R}}(h))$ denote a left $\mathbb{M}_2^{\mathbb{R}}$ -basis of $H^{*,*}(\mathbb{C}^{\mathbb{R}}(h))$. The data that

- $\mathrm{Sq}^1(y_{0,0}) = y_{1,0}$
- $\mathrm{Sq}^2(y_{0,0}) = 0$

completely determines the $\mathcal{A}^{\mathbb{R}}$ -module structure of $H^{*,*}(\mathbb{C}^{\mathbb{R}}(h))$.

Proposition 3.18. $H^{*,*}(\mathcal{Q}_{\mathbb{R}})$ is a free $\mathbb{M}_2^{\mathbb{R}}$ -module generated by a, b and c in cohomological bidegrees $(0, 0)$, $(1, 0)$ and $(3, 1)$, and the relations

- (1) $\mathrm{Sq}^1(a) = b$,
- (2) $\mathrm{Sq}^2(b) = c$,
- (3) $\mathrm{Sq}^4(a) = 0$.

completely determine the $\mathcal{A}^{\mathbb{R}}$ -module structure of $H^{*,*}(\mathcal{Q}_{\mathbb{R}})$.

Proof. $H^{*,*}(\mathcal{Q}_{\mathbb{R}})$ is a free $\mathbb{M}_2^{\mathbb{R}}$ -module because the attaching maps of $\mathcal{Q}_{\mathbb{R}}$ induce trivial maps in $H^{*,*}(-)$. The first two relations can be deduced from the obvious maps

- (1) $\mathbb{C}^{\mathbb{R}}(h) \rightarrow \mathcal{Q}_{\mathbb{R}}$
- (2) $\mathcal{Q}_{\mathbb{R}} \rightarrow \Sigma^{1,0} \mathbb{C}^{\mathbb{R}}(\eta_{1,1})$

which are respectively surjective and injective in cohomology.

Let $h^u : S^{3,2} \rightarrow S^{3,2}$ and $\eta_{1,1}^u : S^{3,2} \rightarrow S^{2,1}$ denote the unstable maps that stabilize to h and $\eta_{1,1}$, respectively. The unstable \mathbb{R} -motivic space $\mathcal{Q}_{\mathbb{R}}^u$ (which stabilizes to $\mathcal{Q}_{\mathbb{R}}$) can be constructed using the fact that the composite of the unstable maps

$$S^{4,3} \xrightarrow{\Sigma^{1,1}\eta_{1,1}^u} S^{3,2} \xrightarrow{h^u} S^{3,2}$$

is null. Thus $H^{*,*}(\mathcal{Q}_{\mathbb{R}}^u)$ consists of three generators a_u, b_u and c_u in bidegrees $(3, 2)$, $(4, 2)$ and $(6, 3)$. It follows from the instability condition that $Sq^4(a_u) = 0$. \square

Proof of Theorem 3.5. From Remark 3.9 and Lemma 3.11, we deduce that $\mathcal{A}_1^{\mathbb{R}}$ is a type $(2, 1)$ complex. To show that the bi-graded \mathbb{R} -motivic cohomology of $\mathcal{A}_1^{\mathbb{R}}$ is free as an $\mathcal{A}^{\mathbb{R}}(1)$, we make use of Corollary 2.7.

Since $H^{*,*}(\mathcal{A}_1^{\mathbb{R}})$ is a summand of a free $M_2^{\mathbb{R}}$ -module, it is projective as an $M_2^{\mathbb{R}}$ -module. In fact, $H^{*,*}(\mathcal{A}_1^{\mathbb{R}})$ is free, as projective modules over (graded) local rings are free. Also note that the elements

$$\bar{P}_1^0, \bar{P}_1^1, \bar{P}_2^0 \in \mathcal{A}^{\mathbb{R}}(1)/(\rho, \tau) \cong \Lambda(\bar{P}_1^0, \bar{P}_1^1, \bar{P}_2^0)$$

are primitive. Hence we have a Kunneth isomorphism in the respective Margolis homologies, in particular we have,

$$\mathcal{M}(H^{*,*}(\mathcal{A}_1^{\mathbb{R}})/(\rho, \tau), \bar{P}_t^s) = \bar{e}(\mathcal{M}(H^{*,*}(\mathcal{Q}_{\mathbb{R}})/(\rho, \tau), \bar{P}_t^s)^{\otimes 3})$$

for $(s, t) \in \{(0, 1), (1, 1), (0, 2)\}$. Since $\dim_{\mathbb{F}_2} \mathcal{M}(H^{*,*}(\mathcal{Q}_{\mathbb{R}})/(\rho, \tau), \bar{P}_t^s) = 1$, by Lemma 3.1

$$\mathcal{M}(\mathcal{A}_1^{\mathbb{R}}/(\rho, \tau), \bar{P}_t^s) = 0$$

for $(s, t) \in \{(0, 1), (1, 1), (0, 2)\}$. Thus, by Corollary 2.7 we conclude that $H^{*,*}(\mathcal{A}_1^{\mathbb{R}})$ is a free $\mathcal{A}^{\mathbb{R}}(1)$ -module. A direct computation shows that

$$\dim_{\mathbb{F}_2} H^{*,*}(\mathcal{A}_1^{\mathbb{R}})/(\rho, \tau) = 8,$$

hence $H^{*,*}(\mathcal{A}_1^{\mathbb{R}})$ is $\mathcal{A}^{\mathbb{R}}(1)$ -free of rank one. \square

3.3. The $\mathcal{A}^{\mathbb{R}}$ -module structure. Using the description (3.13) and Cartan formula we make a complete calculation of the $\mathcal{A}^{\mathbb{R}}$ -module structure of $H^{*,*}(\mathcal{A}_1^{\mathbb{R}})$. Let $a, b, c \in H^{*,*}(\mathcal{Q}_{\mathbb{R}})$ as in Proposition 3.18. In Figure 3.20 we provide a pictorial representation with the names of the generators that are in the image of the idempotent \bar{e} . For convenience we relabel the generators in Figure 3.20, where the indexing on a new label records the cohomological bidegrees of the corresponding generator. The following result is straightforward, and we leave it to the reader to verify.

Lemma 3.19. *In $H^{*,*}(\mathcal{A}_1^{\mathbb{R}})$, the underlying $\mathcal{A}^{\mathbb{R}}(1)$ -module structure, along with the relations*

- (1) $Sq^4(v_{0,0}) = 0$,
- (2) $Sq^4(v_{1,0}) = \tau \cdot w_{5,2}$,
- (3) $Sq^4(v_{2,1}) = 0$,
- (4) $Sq^4(v_{3,1}) = 0 = Sq^4(w_{3,1})$,

$$(5) \text{Sq}^8(v_{0,0}) = 0,$$

completely determine the $\mathcal{A}^{\mathbb{R}}$ -module structure.

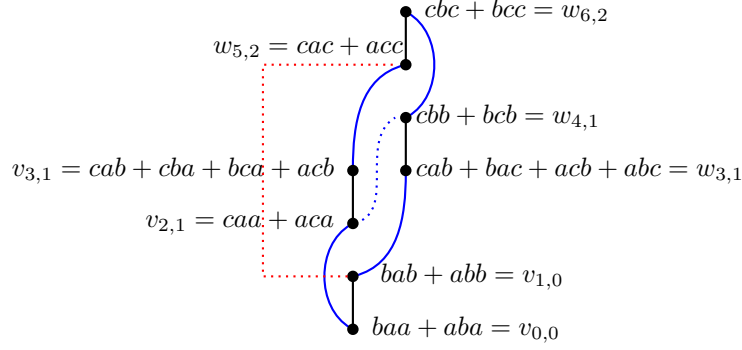


FIGURE 3.20. We depict the $\mathcal{A}^{\mathbb{R}}$ -module structure of $H^{*,*}(\mathcal{A}_1)$. The black, blue, and red lines represent the action of motivic Sq^1 , Sq^2 , and Sq^4 , respectively. Black dots represent $\mathbb{M}_2^{\mathbb{R}}$ -generators, and a dotted line represents that the action hits the τ -multiple of the given $\mathbb{M}_2^{\mathbb{R}}$ -generator.

Remark 3.21. In upcoming work, we show that $\mathcal{A}^{\mathbb{R}}(1)$ admits 128 different $\mathcal{A}^{\mathbb{R}}$ -module structures. Whether all of the 128 $\mathcal{A}^{\mathbb{R}}$ -module structures can be realized by \mathbb{R} -motivic spectra, or not, is currently under investigation.

4. AN \mathbb{R} -MOTIVIC v_1 -SELF-MAP

With the construction of $\mathcal{A}_1^{\mathbb{R}}$, we hope that any one of $\mathcal{Y}_{(i,j)}^{\mathbb{R}}$ fits into an exact triangle

$$(4.1) \quad \Sigma^{2,1}\mathcal{Y}_{(i,j)}^{\mathbb{R}} \xrightarrow{v} \mathcal{Y}_{(i,j)}^{\mathbb{R}} \longrightarrow \mathcal{A}_1^{\mathbb{R}} \longrightarrow \Sigma^{3,1}\mathcal{Y}_{(i,j)}^{\mathbb{R}} \xrightarrow{\Sigma v} \dots$$

in $\text{Ho}(\mathbf{Sp}_{2,\text{fin}}^{\mathbb{R}})$. The motivic weights prohibit $\mathcal{A}_1^{\mathbb{R}}$ from being the cofiber of a self-map on $\mathcal{Y}_{\text{triv}}$ or $\mathcal{Y}_{(h,0)}$. We will also see that the spectrum $\mathcal{Y}_{(2,1)}^{\mathbb{R}}$ cannot be a part of (4.1) because of its $\mathcal{A}^{\mathbb{R}}$ -module structure (see Lemma 4.5). If $\mathcal{Y}_{(i,j)} = \mathcal{Y}_{(h,1)}^{\mathbb{R}}$ in (4.1), then the map v will necessarily be a $v_{1,\text{nil}}$ -self-map because $\mathcal{Y}_{(h,1)}^{\mathbb{R}}$ is of type (1, 1) and $\mathcal{A}_1^{\mathbb{R}}$ is of type (2, 1). The main purpose of this section is to prove Theorem 1.11 and Theorem 1.14 by showing that $\mathcal{Y}_{(h,1)}^{\mathbb{R}}$ does fit into an exact triangle very similar to (4.1)

$$\Sigma^{2,1}\mathcal{Y}_{(i,j)}^{\mathbb{R}} \xrightarrow{v} \mathcal{Y}_{(i,j)}^{\mathbb{R}} \longrightarrow C^{\mathbb{R}}(v) \longrightarrow \Sigma^{3,1}\mathcal{Y}_{(i,j)}^{\mathbb{R}} \xrightarrow{\Sigma v} \dots$$

where $C^{\mathbb{R}}(v)$ is of type (2, 1) and $H^{*,*}(C^{\mathbb{R}}(v)) \cong H^{*,*}(\mathcal{A}_1^{\mathbb{R}})$ as $\mathcal{A}^{\mathbb{R}}$ -modules but potentially may have a homotopy type different than that of $\mathcal{A}_1^{\mathbb{R}}$. We begin by discussing the $\mathcal{A}^{\mathbb{R}}$ -module structures of $H^{*,*}(\mathcal{Y}_{(h,1)}^{\mathbb{R}})$.

Using Adem relations, one can show that the element

$$Q_1 := \text{Sq}^1 \text{Sq}^2 + \text{Sq}^2 \text{Sq}^1 \in \mathcal{A}^{\mathbb{R}}(1)$$

squares to zero. Let $\Lambda(Q_1)$ denote the exterior subalgebra $\mathbb{M}_2^{\mathbb{R}}[Q_1]/(Q_1^2)$ of $\mathcal{A}^{\mathbb{R}}(1)$. Let $\mathcal{B}^{\mathbb{R}}(1)$ denote the $\mathcal{A}^{\mathbb{R}}(1)$ -module

$$\mathcal{B}^{\mathbb{R}}(1) := \mathcal{A}^{\mathbb{R}}(1) \otimes_{\Lambda(Q_1)} \mathbb{M}_2^{\mathbb{R}}.$$

Both $\mathcal{Y}_{(2,1)}^{\mathbb{R}}$ and $\mathcal{Y}_{(h,1)}^{\mathbb{R}}$ are realizations of $\mathcal{B}^{\mathbb{R}}(1)$. In other words:

Proposition 4.2. *There is an isomorphism of $\mathcal{A}^{\mathbb{R}}(1)$ -modules*

$$\mathrm{H}^{*,*}(\mathcal{Y}_{(i,j)}^{\mathbb{R}}) \cong \mathcal{B}^{\mathbb{R}}(1)$$

for $(i, j) \in \{(2, 1), (h, 1)\}$.

Proof. Note that $\mathrm{H}^{*,*}(\mathcal{Y}_{(i,j)}^{\mathbb{R}})$ is cyclic as an $\mathcal{A}^{\mathbb{R}}(1)$ -module for $(i, j) \in \{(2, 1), (h, 1)\}$. Thus we have a map

$$(4.3) \quad f_i : \mathcal{A}^{\mathbb{R}}(1) \rightarrow \mathrm{H}^{*,*}(\mathcal{Y}_{(i,j)}^{\mathbb{R}}).$$

The result follows from the fact that Q_1 acts trivially on $\mathrm{H}^{*,*}(\mathcal{Y}_{(i,j)}^{\mathbb{R}})$ and a dimension counting argument. \square

Remark 4.4. Let $\{y_{0,0}, y_{1,0}\}$ be the $\mathbb{M}_2^{\mathbb{R}}$ -basis of $\mathrm{H}^{*,*}(\mathbb{C}^{\mathbb{R}}(h))$ or $\mathrm{H}^{*,*}(\mathbb{C}^{\mathbb{R}}(2))$, so that $\text{Sq}^1(y_{0,0}) = y_{1,0}$, and let $\{x_{0,0}, x_{2,1}\}$ a basis of $\mathbb{C}^{\mathbb{R}}(\eta_{1,1})$, so that $\text{Sq}^2(x_{0,0}) = x_{2,1}$. If we consider the $\mathbb{M}_2^{\mathbb{R}}$ -basis $\{v_{0,0}, v_{1,0}, v_{2,1}, v_{3,1}, w_{3,1}, w_{3,2}, w_{4,2}, w_{5,3}, w_{6,3}\}$ of $\mathcal{A}^{\mathbb{R}}(1)$ from [Subsection 3.3](#), then the maps f_i of (4.3) are given as in [Table 1](#).

TABLE 1. The maps f_2 and f_h

x	$f_2(x)$	$f_h(x)$
$v_{0,0}$	$y_{0,0}x_{0,0}$	$y_{0,0}x_{0,0}$
$v_{1,0}$	$y_{1,0}x_{0,0}$	$y_{1,0}x_{0,0}$
$v_{2,1}$	$y_{0,0}x_{2,0} + \rho \cdot y_{1,0}x_{0,0}$	$y_{0,0}x_{2,0}$
$v_{3,1}$	$y_{1,0}x_{2,0}$	$y_{1,0}x_{2,0}$
$w_{3,1}$	$y_{1,0}x_{2,0}$	$y_{1,0}x_{2,0}$
$w_{4,2}$	0	0
$w_{5,3}$	0	0
$w_{6,3}$	0	0

Lemma 4.5. *The $\mathcal{A}^{\mathbb{R}}$ -module structures on $\mathrm{H}^{*,*}(\mathcal{Y}_{(2,1)}^{\mathbb{R}})$ and $\mathrm{H}^{*,*}(\mathcal{Y}_{(h,1)}^{\mathbb{R}})$ are given as in [Figure 4.6](#).*

Proof. The result is an easy consequence of a calculation using the Cartan formula

$$\text{Sq}^4(xy) = \text{Sq}^4(x)y + \tau \text{Sq}^3(x)\text{Sq}^1(y) + \text{Sq}^2(x)\text{Sq}^2(y) + \tau \text{Sq}^1(x)\text{Sq}^3(y) + x\text{Sq}^4(y)$$

and the fact that $\text{Sq}^2(y_{0,0}) = \rho y_{1,0}$ in $\mathrm{H}^{*,*}(\mathbb{C}^{\mathbb{R}}(2))$, whereas $\text{Sq}^2(y_{0,0}) = 0$ in $\mathrm{H}^{*,*}(\mathbb{C}^{\mathbb{R}}(h))$ (see [Proposition 3.15](#)). \square

Remark 4.7. Comparing [Lemma 4.5](#) and [Lemma 3.19](#), we see that the $\mathcal{A}^{\mathbb{R}}(1)$ -module map f_2 , as in [Remark 4.4](#), cannot be extended to a map of $\mathcal{A}^{\mathbb{R}}$ -modules.

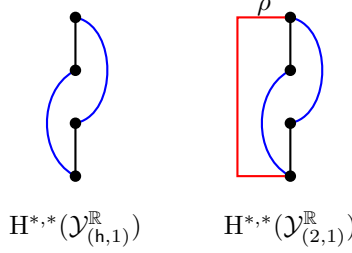


FIGURE 4.6. Black, blue, and red lines represent the action of Sq^1 , Sq^2 , and Sq^4 , respectively. Black dots represent $\mathbb{M}_2^{\mathbb{R}}$ -generators, and in the case of $\mathcal{Y}_{(2,1)}^{\mathbb{R}}$, Sq^4 on the bottom cell is ρ times the top cell.

Corollary 4.8. *There is an exact sequence of $\mathcal{A}^{\mathbb{R}}$ -modules*

$$(4.9) \quad 0 \longrightarrow H^{*,*}(\Sigma^{3,1}\mathcal{Y}_{(h,1)}^{\mathbb{R}}) \xrightarrow{\pi^*} H^{*,*}(\mathcal{A}_1^{\mathbb{R}}) \xrightarrow{\iota^*} H^{*,*}(\mathcal{Y}_{(h,1)}^{\mathbb{R}}) \longrightarrow 0.$$

Proof. From the description of the map f_h in Remark 4.4, along with Lemma 3.19 and Lemma 4.5, it is easy to check that f_h extends to an $\mathcal{A}^{\mathbb{R}}$ -module map and that

$$\ker f_h \cong H^{*,*}(\mathcal{Y}_{(h,1)}^{\mathbb{R}})$$

as $\mathcal{A}^{\mathbb{R}}$ -modules. □

The exact sequence (4.9) corresponds to a nonzero element in the E_2 -page of the \mathbb{R} -motivic Adams spectral sequence (also see Remark 4.12 and Remark 4.14)

$$(4.10) \quad \bar{v} \in \text{Ext}_{\mathcal{A}^{\mathbb{R}}}^{2,1,1}(H^{*,*}(\mathcal{Y}_{(h,1)}^{\mathbb{R}}) \wedge D\mathcal{Y}_{(h,1)}^{\mathbb{R}}, \mathbb{M}_2^{\mathbb{R}}) \Rightarrow [\mathcal{Y}_{(h,1)}^{\mathbb{R}}, \mathcal{Y}_{(h,1)}^{\mathbb{R}}]_{2,1},$$

where $D\mathcal{Y}_{(h,1)}^{\mathbb{R}} := F(\mathcal{Y}_{(h,1)}^{\mathbb{R}}, \mathbb{S}_{\mathbb{R}})$ is the Spanier-Whitehead dual of $\mathcal{Y}_{(h,1)}^{\mathbb{R}}$. If

Notation 4.11. Note that we follow [DI1, BI] in grading $\text{Ext}_{\mathcal{A}^{\mathbb{R}}}$ as $\text{Ext}_{\mathcal{A}^{\mathbb{R}}}^{s,f,w}$, where s is the stem, f is the Adams filtration, and w is the weight. We will also follow [GI1] in referring to the difference $s - w$ as the *coweight*.

Remark 4.12. Since $H^{*,*}(\mathcal{Y}_{(h,1)}^{\mathbb{R}})$ is $\mathbb{M}_2^{\mathbb{R}}$ -free, an appropriate universal-coefficient spectral sequence collapses and we get $H^{*,*}(D\mathcal{Y}_{(h,1)}^{\mathbb{R}}) \cong \text{hom}_{\mathbb{M}_2^{\mathbb{R}}}(H^{*,*}(\mathcal{Y}_{(h,1)}^{\mathbb{R}}), \mathbb{M}_2^{\mathbb{R}})$. Further, the Kunneth isomorphism of (3.12) gives us

$$H^{*,*}(\mathcal{Y}_{(h,1)}^{\mathbb{R}} \wedge D\mathcal{Y}_{(h,1)}^{\mathbb{R}}) \cong H^{*,*}(\mathcal{Y}_{(h,1)}^{\mathbb{R}}) \otimes_{\mathbb{M}_2^{\mathbb{R}}} H^{*,*}(D\mathcal{Y}_{(h,1)}^{\mathbb{R}}),$$

and therefore,

$$\text{Ext}_{\mathcal{A}^{\mathbb{R}}}^{*,*,*}(\mathbb{M}_2^{\mathbb{R}}, H^{*,*}(\mathcal{Y}_{(h,1)}^{\mathbb{R}} \wedge D\mathcal{Y}_{(h,1)}^{\mathbb{R}})) \cong \text{Ext}_{\mathcal{A}^{\mathbb{R}}}^{*,*,*}(H^{*,*}(\mathcal{Y}_{(h,1)}^{\mathbb{R}}), H^{*,*}(\mathcal{Y}_{(h,1)}^{\mathbb{R}})).$$

Theorem 1.11 follows immediately if we show that the element \bar{v} is a nonzero permanent cycle. The following lemma implies that a d_r -differential (for $r \geq 2$) supported by \bar{v} has no potential nonzero target.

Proposition 4.13. *For $f \geq 3$, $\text{Ext}_{\mathcal{A}^{\mathbb{R}}}^{1,f,1}(H^{*,*}(\mathcal{Y}_{(h,1)}^{\mathbb{R}}), H^{*,*}(\mathcal{Y}_{(h,1)}^{\mathbb{R}})) = 0$.*

In order to calculate $\text{Ext}_{\mathcal{A}^{\mathbb{R}}}^{*,*,*}(\mathbb{H}^{*,*}(\mathcal{Y}_{(h,1)}^{\mathbb{R}}), \mathbb{H}^{*,*}(\mathcal{Y}_{(h,1)}^{\mathbb{R}}))$, we filter the spectrum $\mathcal{Y}_{(h,1)}^{\mathbb{R}}$ via the evident maps

$$\begin{array}{ccccccc} Y_0 & \longrightarrow & Y_1 & \longrightarrow & Y_2 & \longrightarrow & Y_3. \\ \parallel & & \parallel & & \parallel & & \parallel \\ \mathbb{S}_{\mathbb{R}} & & \mathbb{C}^{\mathbb{R}}(\mathfrak{h}) & & \mathbb{C}^{\mathbb{R}}(\mathfrak{h}) \cup_{\mathbb{S}_{\mathbb{R}}} \mathbb{C}^{\mathbb{R}}(\eta_{1,1}) & & \mathcal{Y}_{(h,1)}^{\mathbb{R}} \end{array}$$

Note that $\mathbb{H}^{*,*}(Y_j)$ are free $\mathbb{M}_2^{\mathbb{R}}$ -modules. The above filtration results in cofiber sequences

$$Y_0 \longrightarrow Y_1 \longrightarrow \Sigma^{1,0}\mathbb{S}_{\mathbb{R}},$$

$$Y_1 \longrightarrow Y_2 \longrightarrow \Sigma^{2,1}\mathbb{S}_{\mathbb{R}}, \quad \text{and}$$

$$Y_2 \longrightarrow Y_3 \longrightarrow \Sigma^{3,1}\mathbb{S}_{\mathbb{R}},$$

which induce short exact sequences of $\mathcal{A}^{\mathbb{R}}$ -modules as the connecting map

$$\mathbb{C}^{\mathbb{R}}(Y_j \rightarrow Y_{j+1}) \longrightarrow \Sigma Y_j$$

induces the zero map in $\mathbb{H}^{*,*}(-)$. Thus, applying the functor $\text{Ext}_{\mathcal{A}^{\mathbb{R}}}^{*,*,*}(\mathbb{H}^{*,*}(\mathcal{Y}_{(h,1)}^{\mathbb{R}}), -)$ to these short-exact sequences, we get long exact sequences, which can be spliced together to obtain an Atiyah-Hirzebruch like spectral sequence

$$\begin{array}{c} E_1^{*,*,*} = \text{Ext}_{\mathcal{A}^{\mathbb{R}}}^{*,*,*}(\mathbb{H}^{*,*}(\mathcal{Y}_{(h,1)}^{\mathbb{R}}), \mathbb{M}_2^{\mathbb{R}})\{g_{0,0}, g_{1,0}, g_{2,1}, g_{3,1}\} \\ \Downarrow \\ \text{Ext}_{\mathcal{A}^{\mathbb{R}}}^{*,*,*}(\mathbb{H}^{*,*}(\mathcal{Y}_{(h,1)}^{\mathbb{R}}), \mathbb{H}^{*,*}(\mathcal{Y}_{(h,1)}^{\mathbb{R}})). \end{array}$$

An element $x \cdot g_{i,j}$ in the E_2 -page contributes to the degree $|x| - (i, j)$ of the abutment. Thus, [Proposition 4.13](#) is a straightforward consequence of the following [Proposition 4.15](#).

Remark 4.14. Because, $\mathbb{H}^{*,*}(\mathcal{Y}_{(h,1)}^{\mathbb{R}})$ is $\mathbb{M}_2^{\mathbb{R}}$ -free and finite, we have

$$\mathbb{H}_{*,*}(\mathcal{Y}_{(h,1)}^{\mathbb{R}}) \cong \text{hom}_{\mathbb{M}_2^{\mathbb{R}}}(\mathbb{H}^{*,*}(\mathcal{Y}_{(h,1)}^{\mathbb{R}}), \mathbb{M}_2^{\mathbb{R}}),$$

and therefore, $\text{Ext}_{\mathcal{A}^{\mathbb{R}}}^{s,f,w}(\mathbb{H}^{*,*}(\mathcal{Y}_{(h,1)}^{\mathbb{R}}), \mathbb{M}_2^{\mathbb{R}}) \cong \text{Ext}_{\mathcal{A}_*^{\mathbb{R}}}^{s,f,w}(\mathbb{M}_2^{\mathbb{R}}, \mathbb{H}_{*,*}(\mathcal{Y}_{(h,1)}^{\mathbb{R}}))$.

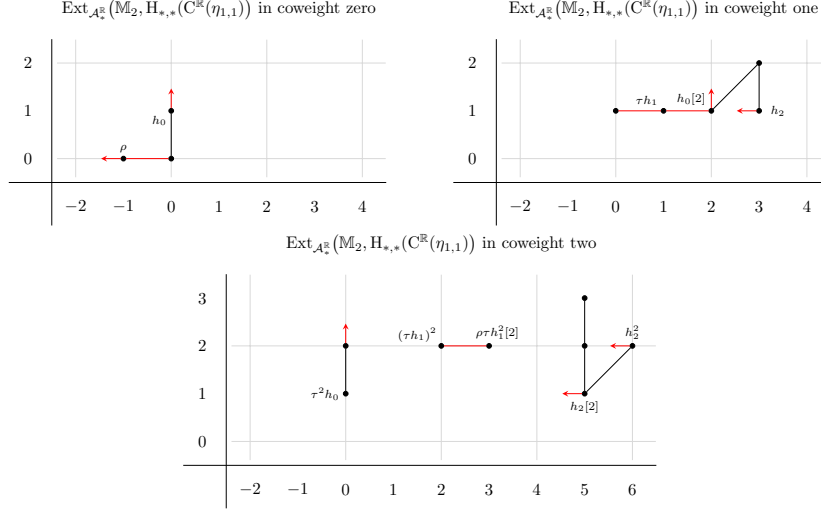
Proposition 4.15. For $f \geq 3$ and $(i, j) \in \{(0, 0), (1, 0), (2, 1), (3, 1)\}$, we have that

$$\text{Ext}_{\mathcal{A}_*^{\mathbb{R}}}^{1+i,f,1+j}(\mathbb{M}_2^{\mathbb{R}}, \mathbb{H}_{*,*}(\mathcal{Y}_{(h,1)}^{\mathbb{R}})) = 0.$$

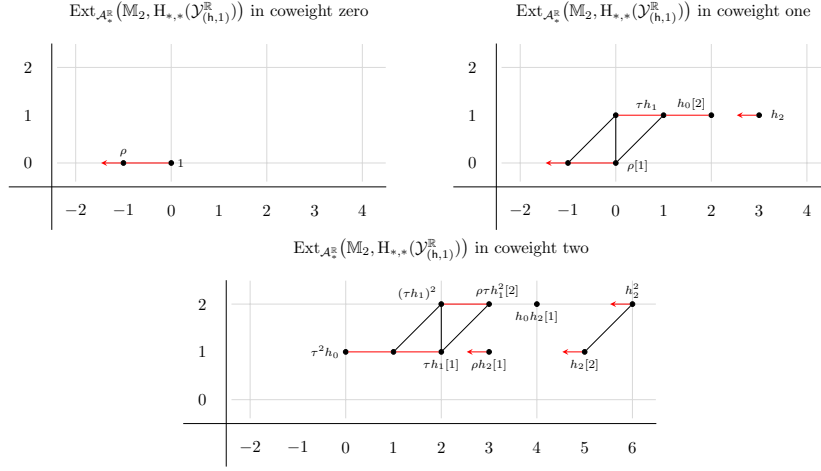
Proof. Our desired vanishing concerns only the groups $\text{Ext}_{\mathcal{A}_*^{\mathbb{R}}}(\mathbb{M}_2^{\mathbb{R}}, \mathbb{H}_{*,*}(\mathcal{Y}_{(h,1)}^{\mathbb{R}}))$ in coweights 0, 1 and 2. These groups can be easily calculated starting from the computations of $\text{Ext}_{\mathcal{A}_*^{\mathbb{R}}}^{*,*,*}(\mathbb{M}_2^{\mathbb{R}}, \mathbb{M}_2^{\mathbb{R}})$ in [\[DII\]](#) and [\[BI\]](#) and using the short exact sequences in $\text{Ext}_{\mathcal{A}_*^{\mathbb{R}}}$ arising from the cofiber sequences

$$\begin{array}{c} \Sigma^{1,1}\mathbb{S}_{\mathbb{R}} \xrightarrow{\eta_{1,1}} \mathbb{S}_{\mathbb{R}} \longrightarrow \mathbb{C}^{\mathbb{R}}(\eta_{1,1}) \quad \text{and} \\ \mathbb{C}^{\mathbb{R}}(\eta_{1,1}) \xrightarrow{\mathfrak{h}} \mathbb{C}^{\mathbb{R}}(\eta_{1,1}) \longrightarrow \mathbb{C}^{\mathbb{R}}(\mathfrak{h}) \wedge \mathbb{C}^{\mathbb{R}}(\eta_{1,1}) = \mathcal{Y}_{(h,1)}^{\mathbb{R}}. \end{array}$$

We display $\text{Ext}_{\mathcal{A}_*^{\mathbb{R}}}(\mathbb{M}_2^{\mathbb{R}}, \mathbb{H}_{*,*}(\mathbb{C}^{\mathbb{R}}(\eta_{1,1})))$ in coweights 0, 1 and 2 in the charts below.



We find that $\text{Ext}_{\mathcal{A}_\mathbb{Z}^*}(\mathbb{M}_2^{\mathbb{R}}, H_{*,*}(\mathcal{Y}_{(h,1)}^{\mathbb{R}}))$ is, in coweights zero, one and two, also given by the charts below.



The result follows from the above charts. \square

Remark 4.16. One can also resolve [Proposition 4.15](#) directly using the ρ -Bockstein spectral sequence

$$(4.17) \quad \begin{aligned} E_1 &:= \text{Ext}_{\mathcal{A}_\mathbb{Z}^*}(\mathbb{F}_2[\tau], H_{*,*}(\mathcal{Y}_{(h,1)}^{\mathbb{C}})) \otimes \mathbb{F}_2[\rho] \\ &\Downarrow \\ &\text{Ext}_{\mathcal{A}_\mathbb{Z}^*}(\mathbb{M}_2^{\mathbb{R}}, H_{*,*}(\mathcal{Y}_{(h,1)}^{\mathbb{R}})) \end{aligned}$$

and identifying a vanishing region for $\text{Ext}_{\mathcal{A}_\mathbb{Z}^*}^{s,f,w}(\mathbb{F}_2[\tau], H_{*,*}(\mathcal{Y}_{(h,1)}^{\mathbb{C}}))$. Even a rough estimate of the vanishing region using the E_1 -page of the \mathbb{C} -motivic May spectral sequence leads to [Proposition 4.15](#). Such an approach would avoid explicit calculations of $\text{Ext}_{\mathcal{A}^{\mathbb{R}}}$ as in [\[DI1\]](#) and [\[BI\]](#).

Proof of Theorem 1.11. Since Proposition 4.15 \implies Proposition 4.13, every map

$$v : \Sigma^{2,1}\mathcal{Y}_{(h,1)}^{\mathbb{R}} \longrightarrow \mathcal{Y}_{(h,1)}^{\mathbb{R}}$$

detected by \bar{v} of (4.10) is a nonzero permanent cycle. In order to finish the proof of Theorem 1.11 we must show that v is necessarily $v_{(1,\text{nil})}$ -self-map of periodicity 1. It is easy to see that the underlying map

$$\Phi^e(\beta(v)) : \Sigma^2\mathcal{Y} \longrightarrow \mathcal{Y}$$

is a v_1 -self-map of periodicity 1 as

$$C(\Phi^e(\beta(v))) \simeq \Phi^e(\beta(C^{\mathbb{R}}(v))) \simeq \mathcal{A}_1[00]$$

is of type 1 (see Remark 3.9). On the other hand,

$$\Phi^{C_2}(\beta(v)) : \Sigma^2(\Sigma M_2(1) \vee M_2(1)) \longrightarrow \Sigma M_2(1) \vee M_2(1)$$

is necessarily a nilpotent map because of [HS, Theorem 3(ii)] and the fact that a v_1 -self-map of $M_2(1)$ has periodicity at least 4 (see [DM] for details) which lives in $[M_2(1), M_2(1)]_{8k}$ for $k \geq 1$. \square

Proof of Theorem 1.14. Since v is a $v_{(1,\text{nil})}$ -self-map and $\mathcal{Y}_{(h,1)}^{\mathbb{R}}$ is of type (1, 1), it follows that $C^{\mathbb{R}}(v)$ is of type (2, 1). Moreover,

$$H^{*,*}(C^{\mathbb{R}}(v)) \cong H^{*,*}(\mathcal{A}_1^{\mathbb{R}})$$

as v is detected by \bar{v} of (4.10) in the E_2 -page of the Adams spectral sequence. Thus, $H^{*,*}(C^{\mathbb{R}}(v))$ is a free $\mathcal{A}^{\mathbb{R}}(1)$ -module on single generator. \square

Remark 4.18. It is likely that realizing a different $\mathcal{A}^{\mathbb{R}}$ -module structure on $\mathcal{A}^{\mathbb{R}}(1)$ as a spectrum (see also Remark 3.21) may lead to a 1-periodic v_1 -self-map on $\mathcal{Y}_{(2,1)}^{\mathbb{R}}$ as well as on $\mathcal{Y}_{(2,1)}^{C_2}$. We explore such possibilities in upcoming work.

5. NONEXISTENCE OF $v_{1,0}$ -SELF-MAP ON $C^{\mathbb{R}}(h)$ AND $\mathcal{Y}_{(h,0)}^{\mathbb{R}}$

Let X be a finite \mathbb{R} -motivic spectrum and let $f : \Sigma^{i,j}X \rightarrow X$ be a map such that

$$\Phi^{C_2}(\beta(f)) : \Sigma^{i-j}\Phi^{C_2}(\beta(X)) \longrightarrow \Phi^{C_2}(\beta(X))$$

is a v_0 -self-map. Then it must be the case that $i = j$, as v_0 -self-maps preserve dimension. Note that both $C^{\mathbb{R}}(h)$ and $\mathcal{Y}_{(h,0)}^{\mathbb{R}}$ are of type (1, 0).

Proposition 5.1. *The v_1 -self-maps of $M_2(1)$ are not in the image of the underlying homomorphism*

$$\Phi^e \circ \beta : [\Sigma^{8k,8k}C^{\mathbb{R}}(h), C^{\mathbb{R}}(h)]^{\mathbb{R}} \longrightarrow [\Sigma^{8k}M_2(1), M_2(1)].$$

Proof. The minimal periodicity of a v_1 -self-map of $M_2(1)$ is 4. Let $v : \Sigma^{8k}M_2(1) \rightarrow M_2(1)$ be a $4k$ -periodic v_1 -self-map. It is well-known that the composite

$$(5.2) \quad \Sigma^{8k}\mathbb{S} \hookrightarrow \Sigma^{8k}M_2(1) \xrightarrow{v} M_2(1) \longrightarrow \Sigma^1\mathbb{S}$$

is not null (and equals $P^{k-1}(8\sigma)$ where P is a periodic operator given by the Toda bracket $\langle \sigma, 16, - \rangle$.)

Suppose there exists $f : \Sigma^{8k,8k} C^{\mathbb{R}}(\mathfrak{h}) \rightarrow C^{\mathbb{R}}(\mathfrak{h})$ such that $\Phi^e \circ \beta(f) = v$. Then (5.2) implies that the composition

$$(5.3) \quad \Sigma^{8k,8k} \mathbb{S}_{\mathbb{R}} \hookrightarrow \Sigma^{8k,8k} C^{\mathbb{R}}(\mathfrak{h}) \xrightarrow{v} C^{\mathbb{R}}(\mathfrak{h}) \longrightarrow \Sigma^{1,0} \mathbb{S}$$

is nonzero as the functor $\Phi^e \circ \beta$ is additive. The composite of the maps in (5.3) is a nonzero element of $\pi_{*,*}(\mathbb{S}_{\mathbb{R}})$ in negative co-weight. This contradicts the fact that $\pi_{*,*}(\mathbb{S}_{\mathbb{R}})$ is trivial in negative co-weights [DI1]. \square

Proposition 5.4. *The v_1 -self-maps of \mathcal{Y} are not in the image of the underlying homomorphism*

$$\Phi^e \circ \beta : [\Sigma^{2k,2k} \mathcal{Y}_{(\mathfrak{h},0)}^{\mathbb{R}}, \mathcal{Y}_{(\mathfrak{h},0)}^{\mathbb{R}}]^{\mathbb{R}} \longrightarrow [\Sigma^{8k} \mathcal{Y}, \mathcal{Y}].$$

Proof. Let $v : \Sigma^{2k} \mathcal{Y} \rightarrow \mathcal{Y}$ denote a v_1 -self-map of periodicity k . Notice that the composite

$$(5.5) \quad \mathbb{S}^{2k} \hookrightarrow \Sigma^{2k} \mathcal{Y} \xrightarrow{v} \mathcal{Y} \longrightarrow \mathcal{Y}_{\geq 1}$$

where $\mathcal{Y}_{\geq 1}$ is the first coskeleton, must be nonzero. If not, then v factors through the bottom cell resulting in a map $\mathbb{S}^{2k} \rightarrow \Sigma^{2k} \mathcal{Y} \rightarrow \mathbb{S}$ which induces an isomorphism in $K(1)$ -homology, contradicting the fact that \mathbb{S} is of type 0.

If $f : \Sigma^{2k,2k} \mathcal{Y}_{(\mathfrak{h},0)}^{\mathbb{R}} \rightarrow \mathcal{Y}_{(\mathfrak{h},0)}^{\mathbb{R}}$ were a map such that $\Phi^e \circ \beta(f) = v$, then (5.5) would force one among the hypothetical composites (A), (B) or (C) in the diagram

$$\begin{array}{ccc} \Sigma^{2k,2k} \mathbb{S}_{\mathbb{R}} \hookrightarrow \Sigma^{2k,2k} \mathcal{Y}_{(\mathfrak{h},0)}^{\mathbb{R}} \longrightarrow \mathcal{Y}_{(\mathfrak{h},0)}^{\mathbb{R}} & \overset{p_3}{\dashrightarrow} & \Sigma^{3,0} \mathbb{S}_{\mathbb{R}} & (A) \\ & \searrow & \uparrow & \\ & & \text{Fib}(p_3) & \overset{p_2}{\dashrightarrow} \Sigma^{2,0} \mathbb{S}_{\mathbb{R}} & (B) \\ & \searrow & \uparrow & \\ & & \text{Fib}(p_2) & \overset{p_1}{\dashrightarrow} \Sigma^{1,0} \mathbb{S}_{\mathbb{R}} & (C) \end{array}$$

to exist as a nonzero map, thereby contradicting the fact that $\pi_{*,*}(\mathbb{S}_{\mathbb{R}})$ is trivial in negative co-weights. \square

Remark 5.6. The above results do not preclude the existence of a $v_{1,0}$ -self-map on $C^{C_2}(\mathfrak{h})$ and $\mathcal{Y}_{(\mathfrak{h},0)}^{C_2}$. Forthcoming work [GI2] of the second author and Isaksen shows that 8σ is in the image of $\Phi^e : \pi_{7,8}(\mathbb{S}_{C_2}) \rightarrow \pi_7(\mathbb{S})$ and suggests that $C^{C_2}(\mathfrak{h})$ supports a $v_{1,0}$ -self-map.

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