

## Rigidity and exotic models for the $K$ -local stable homotopy category

CONSTANZE ROITZHEIM

Can the model structure of a stable model category be recovered from the triangulated structure of its homotopy category? This paper introduces a new positive example for this, namely the  $K$ -local stable homotopy at the prime 2. For odd primes, however, this is not true: we discuss a counterexample given by Jens Franke and show how such exotic models for the  $K$ -local stable homotopy category at odd primes can be detected.

[55P42](#); [55P60](#)

### 1 Introduction

When two model categories  $\mathcal{C}$  and  $\mathcal{D}$  are Quillen equivalent, then their homotopy categories  $\mathrm{Ho}(\mathcal{C})$  and  $\mathrm{Ho}(\mathcal{D})$  are equivalent. But on the other hand, if there is an equivalence between the homotopy categories of two model categories, can anything be said about the underlying model structures?

For the stable homotopy category  $\mathrm{Ho}(\mathcal{S})$ , that is, the homotopy category of spectra, there is the following result of Schwede [17]:

**Rigidity Theorem** (Schwede [17]) *Let  $\mathcal{C}$  be a stable model category, and*

$$\Phi: \mathrm{Ho}(\mathcal{S}) \longrightarrow \mathrm{Ho}(\mathcal{C})$$

*an equivalence of triangulated categories. Then the underlying model categories  $\mathcal{S}$  and  $\mathcal{C}$  are Quillen equivalent.*

Usually, when passing from the model category level to the homotopy level, information can be lost, as “higher homotopy information” like mapping spaces or algebraic  $K$ -theory is defined via the model structure of the underlying model category. However, the **Rigidity Theorem** says that for spectra, all such higher homotopy information is encoded in the triangulated structure of the stable homotopy category.

Now the next question could be if there is a similar result for Bousfield localisations of the stable homotopy category with respect to certain homology theories. In this paper, we consider localisation with respect to 2–local complex  $K$ –theory  $K_{(2)}$  with

$$K_{(2)*} = \mathbb{Z}_{(2)}[v_1, v_1^{-1}], \quad |v_1| = 2.$$

The  $K_{(2)}$ –local model structure is a model structure on the category of spectra where the weak equivalences are the  $K_{(2)*}$ –isomorphisms (see [Definition 3.1](#)). For the resulting  $K_{(2)}$ –local stable homotopy category we present the following positive answer to the rigidity question which is the main result of this paper:

**$K_{(2)}$ –local Rigidity Theorem** *Let  $\mathcal{C}$  be a stable model category, let  $L_1\mathcal{S}$  denote the  $K$ –local category of spectra at the prime 2, and let*

$$\Phi: \mathrm{Ho}(L_1\mathcal{S}) \longrightarrow \mathrm{Ho}(\mathcal{C})$$

*be an equivalence of triangulated categories. Then  $L_1\mathcal{S}$  and  $\mathcal{C}$  are Quillen equivalent.*

**Remark** The notation  $L_1$  for  $K_{(p)}$ –localisation for a prime  $p$  refers to the general context of chromatic localisation: the notation  $L_n$  is often used to denote Bousfield localisation with respect to the Johnson–Wilson theories  $E(n)$  with

$$E(n)_* = \mathbb{Z}_{(p)}[v_1, v_2, \dots, v_n, v_n^{-1}], \quad |v_i| = 2p^i - 2,$$

and in particular,  $L_{K_{(p)}} = L_{E(1)}$ .

The proof divides into two main parts. Firstly, we modify the [Universal Property of Spectra](#) introduced by Schwede and Shipley in [\[18, 5.1\]](#) to obtain a Quillen functor pair

$$X \wedge -: L_1\mathcal{S} \rightleftarrows \mathcal{C} : \mathrm{Hom}(X, -)$$

for  $X = \Phi(L_1S^0)$  where  $L_1S^0$  denotes the  $K_{(2)}$ –local sphere.

Secondly, we consider the left derived functor  $X \wedge^L -$  composed with the inverse of  $\Phi$

$$\mathrm{Ho}(L_1\mathcal{S}) \xrightarrow{X \wedge^L -} \mathrm{Ho}(\mathcal{C}) \xrightarrow{\Phi^{-1}} \mathrm{Ho}(L_1\mathcal{S}).$$

It is an exact endofunctor of the homotopy category of  $K_{(2)}$ –local spectra, mapping the  $K_{(2)}$ –local sphere  $L_1S^0$  to itself. The spectrum  $L_1S^0$  is a so-called small weak generator of  $L_1\mathcal{S}$ . We show that any exact endofunctor fixing this small weak generator must be a self-equivalence, thus  $X \wedge^L -$  is an equivalence of categories induced by a left Quillen functor. This means that  $L_1\mathcal{S}$  and  $\mathcal{C}$  are Quillen equivalent.

This paper is organised as follows: [Section 2](#) gives a brief review of the relevant definitions. In [Section 3](#), the Quillen pair  $X \wedge -: L_1\mathcal{S} \rightleftarrows \mathcal{C} : \mathrm{Hom}(X, -)$  is constructed.

We prove it to be a Quillen equivalence in [Section 4](#). Next, [Section 5](#) summarizes the necessary computations in the homotopy groups of the  $K_{(2)}$ -local sphere and the  $K_{(2)}$ -local mod-2 Moore spectrum.

As we explain in the last section, there cannot be an odd primary version of the  $K_{(2)}$ -local Rigidity Theorem. For odd primes, Jens Franke constructed an equivalence of triangulated categories

$$\mathcal{R}: \mathcal{D}^{2p-2}(\mathcal{B}) \longrightarrow \mathrm{Ho}(L_1\mathcal{S})$$

between the homotopy category of  $K$ -local spectra at an odd prime  $p$  and the derived category of so-called quasi-periodic cochain complexes over a certain abelian category  $\mathcal{B}$  (see Franke [\[7, 3.1\]](#)). However, the underlying model categories  $\mathcal{C}^{2p-2}(\mathcal{B})$  and  $L_1\mathcal{S}$  are *not* Quillen equivalent. This means that  $\mathcal{C}^{2p-2}(\mathcal{B})$  is a so-called “exotic model” for  $L_1\mathcal{S}$ . Last, we give a criterion whether a model for the  $K_{(p)}$ -local stable homotopy category is exotic or not.

As for a prime  $p$  any algebraic model for  $\mathrm{Ho}(L_1\mathcal{S})$  is exotic, the  $K_{(2)}$ -local Rigidity Theorem implies that, in particular, the  $K_{(2)}$ -local stable homotopy category is not equivalent to the derived category of an abelian category.

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## 2 Stable model categories – a review

Model categories were introduced in the 1960s by Quillen to provide a set-theoretically clean device to describe homotopy [\[13\]](#). A *model category* is a category equipped with classes of morphisms called weak equivalences, fibrations and cofibrations satisfying certain axioms (see, for example, Hovey [\[11, 1.1\]](#)). These axioms enable us to define a notion of homotopy between morphisms.

Very roughly speaking, one then obtains the *homotopy category*  $\mathrm{Ho}(\mathcal{C})$  of a model category  $\mathcal{C}$  by formally inverting the weak equivalences, while the model category axioms ensure that the result is indeed a category.

In order to compare model categories, one studies morphisms of model categories, so-called Quillen functors.

**Definition 2.1** Let  $\mathcal{C}$  and  $\mathcal{D}$  be two model categories. An adjoint pair of functors  $F: \mathcal{C} \rightleftarrows \mathcal{D} :G$  is called a *Quillen functor pair* if  $F$  preserves cofibrations and trivial cofibrations (that is, cofibrations that are also weak equivalences), or equivalently, if  $G$  preserves fibrations and trivial fibrations (that is, fibrations that are also weak equivalences).

**Notation** Throughout this paper, we use the following convention: for an adjoint functor pair  $F: \mathcal{C} \rightleftarrows \mathcal{D} :G$ , the top arrow denotes the left adjoint and the bottom arrow the right adjoint.

Cofibrations are marked  $\mathop{\longrightarrow}\limits>$ , fibrations  $\mathop{\longrightarrow}\limits\gg$  and weak equivalences  $\xrightarrow{\sim}$ .

If an adjoint pair of functors is a Quillen pair, it induces an adjoint pair of functors  $LF: \text{Ho}(\mathcal{C}) \rightleftarrows \text{Ho}(\mathcal{D}) :RG$  (see [11, Lemma 1.3.10]).

**Definition 2.2** A Quillen functor pair is called a *Quillen equivalence* if in addition, for all cofibrant  $X \in \mathcal{C}$  and fibrant  $Y \in \mathcal{D}$ , a morphism  $f: FX \rightarrow Y$  is a weak equivalence if and only if its adjoint  $\bar{f}: X \rightarrow GY$  is.

One can conclude that a Quillen functor pair is a Quillen equivalence if and only if it induces an equivalence of homotopy categories [11, Prop. 1.3.13]. But not only do Quillen equivalent model categories have equivalent homotopy categories, they also have the “same homotopy theory” in the sense that the higher homotopy information mentioned in the introduction such as mapping spaces is preserved by Quillen equivalences.

For a pointed model category  $\mathcal{C}$ , one can define an adjoint pair of *suspension and loop functors*

$$\Sigma: \text{Ho}(\mathcal{C}) \rightleftarrows \text{Ho}(\mathcal{C}) :\Omega.$$

Without loss of generality let  $X \in \mathcal{C}$  be fibrant and cofibrant. We choose a factorisation  $X \mathop{\longrightarrow}\limits> C \xrightarrow{\sim} *$  of the unique morphism from  $X$  into the terminal object. The suspension  $\Sigma X$  of  $X$  is defined as the pushout of the diagram

$$* \longleftarrow X \mathop{\longrightarrow}\limits> C.$$

Dually, choosing a factorisation  $* \xrightarrow{\sim} A \mathop{\longrightarrow}\limits\gg X$ , the loop functor  $\Omega X$  of  $X$  is defined as the pullback of the diagram

$$* \longrightarrow X \longleftarrow A.$$

These constructions are not functorial or adjoint on  $\mathcal{C}$ , but they become functorial and adjoint in the homotopy category  $\mathrm{Ho}(\mathcal{C})$ .

**Definition 2.3** A pointed, complete and cocomplete model category  $\mathcal{C}$  is called *stable* if  $\Sigma$  and  $\Omega$  are inverse equivalences of homotopy categories.

Examples for stable model categories are provided by the category of spectra  $\mathcal{S}$  (see the beginning of [Section 3](#)) or chain complexes  $\mathcal{C}(\mathcal{A})$  for certain abelian categories  $\mathcal{A}$ .

The homotopy category  $\mathrm{Ho}(\mathcal{C})$  of a stable model category  $\mathcal{C}$  carries the structure of a triangulated category, where the exact triangles are given by the fiber and cofiber sequences [[11](#), 7.1.6].

In particular, the stable homotopy category  $\mathrm{Ho}(\mathcal{S})$  and the derived category  $\mathcal{D}(\mathcal{A})$  of an abelian category  $\mathcal{A}$  are triangulated categories.

Furthermore, note the following: given a Quillen pair  $F: \mathcal{C} \rightleftarrows \mathcal{D} : G$  with  $\mathcal{C}$  and  $\mathcal{D}$  being stable model categories, the left derived and right derived functors  $LF$  and  $RG$  are exact functors, that is, preserve exact triangles. This justifies the general rigidity question for stable model categories, namely, whether two stable model categories whose homotopy categories are equivalent as triangulated categories, are Quillen equivalent. However, the Rigidity Theorems for  $\mathrm{Ho}(\mathcal{S})$  and  $\mathrm{Ho}(L_1\mathcal{S})$  do not claim that the given equivalence  $\Phi$  is induced by a Quillen functor, they just claim that the given stable model categories are linked by some Quillen equivalence. The question about possible uniqueness of this Quillen functor is still unanswered.

### 3 The Quillen functor pair

#### 3.1 Universal property of spectra

In this section, we construct a Quillen functor pair between the category of spectra equipped with the  $K_{(2)}$ -local model structure  $L_1\mathcal{S}$  and our given stable model category  $\mathcal{C}$ .

Throughout this paper,  $\mathcal{S}$  denotes the category of *spectra* with the stable Bousfield–Friedlander model structure [[4](#)]. Here a spectrum  $X$  is a sequence of pointed simplicial sets  $(X_0, X_1, \dots)$  together with structure maps  $\sigma_n^X: \Sigma X_n \rightarrow X_{n+1}$ . A morphism  $f: X \rightarrow Y$  of spectra is a collection of morphisms of pointed simplicial sets  $f_n: X_n \rightarrow Y_n$  that are compatible with the structure maps, that is,  $f_{n+1} \circ \sigma_n^X = \sigma_n^Y \circ \Sigma f_n$  for all  $n \geq 0$ . The  $K_{(2)}$ -local model structure on the category of spectra is a localisation of the Bousfield–Friedlander model structure:

**Definition 3.1** ( $K_{(2)}$ -local model structure for spectra) A morphism of spectra  $f: A \rightarrow B$  is called a

- *weak equivalence* if  $K_{(2)*}f: K_{(2)*}(A) \rightarrow K_{(2)*}(B)$  is an isomorphism,
- *cofibration*, if the induced map

$$\Sigma B_n \cup_{\Sigma A_n} A_{n+1} \rightarrow B_{n+1}$$

is a cofibration of simplicial sets for all  $n \geq 1$  and  $A_0 \rightarrow B_0$  is a cofibration of simplicial sets,

- *fibration* if  $f$  has the right lifting property with respect to trivial cofibrations, that is, cofibrations that are also  $K_{(2)*}$ -isomorphisms.

**Remark** A spectrum  $X$  is fibrant with respect to this model structure if and only if it is  $K_{(2)}$ -local in  $\text{Ho}(\mathcal{S})$  and an  $\Omega$ -spectrum.

With the above choices, the category of spectra becomes a stable model category, denoted by  $L_1\mathcal{S}$ . (For the definition of generalised Bousfield localisations see Hirschhorn [9, Definition 3.3.1]. For the existence of Bousfield localisations with respect to a generalised homology theory, see [9, Theorem 4.1.1]. The author believes that this theorem can be applied to this special case by using the set-theoretical methods of Bousfield [1, Sections 10–11]. However, the author does not know of any written reference for such a proof.)

Now, to construct our desired Quillen functor pair between  $L_1\mathcal{S}$  and  $\mathcal{C}$ , we use the following.

**Universal Property of Spectra** (Schwede–Shiely [18]) *Let  $\mathcal{C}$  be a stable model category, and let  $X \in \mathcal{C}$  be fibrant and cofibrant. Then there is a Quillen adjoint functor pair*

$$X \wedge -: \mathcal{S} \rightleftarrows \mathcal{C} : \text{Hom}(X, -)$$

where  $X \wedge -$  sends the sphere spectrum  $S^0$  to  $X$ .

Forgetting their model structures,  $\mathcal{S}$  and  $L_1\mathcal{S}$  are the same categories, so the above property gives us an adjoint pair of functors

$$X \wedge -: L_1\mathcal{S} \rightleftarrows \mathcal{C} : \text{Hom}(X, -)$$

for any  $X$ . However, it is not obvious under which conditions this functor pair is a Quillen functor pair.

Before we answer this, let us briefly summarize the construction of the functor

$$\mathrm{Hom}(X, -): \mathcal{C} \longrightarrow \mathcal{S}.$$

For simplicity, let us assume  $\mathcal{C}$  to be a pointed *simplicial* model category, that is, a category equipped with three functors

$$\begin{aligned} - \otimes -: \mathcal{C} \times \mathrm{sSet}_* &\longrightarrow \mathcal{C} \\ (-)^{(-)}: \mathrm{sSet}_*^{op} \times \mathcal{C} &\longrightarrow \mathcal{C} \\ \mathrm{map}_{\mathcal{C}}(-, -): \mathcal{C}^{op} \times \mathcal{C} &\longrightarrow \mathrm{sSet}_* \end{aligned}$$

satisfying certain adjunction properties and compatibility with the model structure on  $\mathcal{C}$ . (For details, see Goerss and Jardine [8, Definition II.2.1].)

**Notation** In the pointed case, the first functor is usually denoted  $- \wedge -$  instead of  $- \otimes -$ . However, we choose to write  $- \otimes -$  to avoid confusion with the functor  $X \wedge -$  as in the [Universal Property of Spectra](#).

For  $Y \in \mathcal{C}$ , we define the  $n^{th}$  level space of the spectrum  $\mathrm{Hom}(X, Y)$  to be

$$\mathrm{Hom}(X, Y)_n := \mathrm{map}_{\mathcal{C}}(\omega^n X, Y) \in \mathrm{sSet}_*$$

where  $\omega^n X$  is a cofibrant replacement of an  $n^{th}$  desuspension of  $X$ . We define  $\omega^n X$  inductively by setting  $\omega^0 X = X$  and for  $n \geq 1$  by choosing a factorisation

$$* \longrightarrow \omega^n X \xrightarrow[\varphi_n]{\sim} \Omega(\omega^{n-1} X).$$

By  $\tilde{\varphi}_n$  we denote the morphism  $\Sigma\omega^n X \longrightarrow \omega^{n-1} X$  that is adjoint to  $\varphi_n$ . The structure map  $\Sigma \mathrm{Hom}(X, Y)_{n-1} \longrightarrow \mathrm{Hom}(X, Y)_n$  of the spectrum  $\mathrm{Hom}(X, Y)$  is now given by the adjoint of the map

$$\mathrm{map}_{\mathcal{C}}(\omega^{n-1} X, Y) \xrightarrow{\mathrm{map}_{\mathcal{C}}(\tilde{\varphi}_n, Y)} \mathrm{map}_{\mathcal{C}}(\Sigma\omega^n X, Y) \simeq \Omega \mathrm{map}_{\mathcal{C}}(\omega^n X, Y).$$

As  $\omega^n X$  is cofibrant in  $\mathcal{C}$ , the functor  $\mathrm{map}_{\mathcal{C}}(\omega^n X, -): \mathcal{C} \longrightarrow \mathrm{sSet}_*$  preserves fibrations and trivial fibrations (see Hovey [11, Section 5]). One can conclude from this that the functor  $\mathrm{Hom}(X, -): \mathcal{C} \longrightarrow \mathcal{S}$  preserves fibrations and trivial fibrations (as shown in Schwede and Shipley [18, 6.2]). In particular,  $\mathrm{Hom}(X, Y)$  is an  $\Omega$ -spectrum for fibrant  $Y$ , which is something we are going to make use of in the proof of the next proposition.

**Proposition 3.2** *Let  $\Phi: \text{Ho}(L_1\mathcal{S}) \rightarrow \text{Ho}(\mathcal{C})$  be an equivalence of triangulated categories, and let  $X$  be a cofibrant and fibrant object in  $\mathcal{C}$  isomorphic to  $\Phi(L_1S^0)$ . Then*

$$X \wedge -: L_1\mathcal{S} \rightleftarrows \mathcal{C} : \text{Hom}(X, -)$$

*is a Quillen functor pair with respect to the  $K_{(2)}$ -local model structure on the left side.*

This proposition will be proven at the end of [Section 3.2](#).

**Notation** Throughout the rest of this paper,  $X$  will be a fixed fibrant and cofibrant replacement of  $\Phi(L_1S^0)$ . For a stable model category  $\mathcal{D}$ , and  $A, B$  in  $\mathcal{D}$ ,  $[A, B]_*^{\mathcal{D}}$  denotes the graded group of morphisms in the homotopy category of  $\mathcal{D}$ . All spectra are assumed to be 2-local, in particular  $S^0 = S_{(2)}^0$ . By  $M$  we denote the mod-2 Moore spectrum  $M(\mathbb{Z}/2)$ .

### 3.2 $v_1$ -periodicity

The key ingredient in the proof of the proposition is showing that the spectra  $\text{Hom}(X, Y)$  are  $K_{(2)}$ -local for all fibrant  $Y \in \mathcal{C}$ . A spectrum  $A$  is  $K_{(2)}$ -local if and only if  $v_1^4$  induces an isomorphism of its mod-2 homotopy groups  $[M, A]_*^{\mathcal{S}}$  (see Bousfield [[2](#), Section 4]). To be more precise:

For a prime  $p$ , let  $K(1)$  denote the first Morava  $K$ -theory with

$$K(1)_* = \mathbb{Z}/p[v_1, v_1^{-1}].$$

Any  $p$ -local finite spectrum  $A$  with  $H\mathbb{Q}_*(A) = 0$  but  $K(1)_*(A) \neq 0$  possesses a  $v_1$ -self map (see Hopkins and Smith [[10](#), Section 3]), that is, a map

$$v_1^{p^i}: \Sigma^{p^i(2p-2)} A \rightarrow A$$

inducing an isomorphism in  $K(1)$ -homology. The notation is standard but slightly misleading since it seems to imply that  $v_1^{p^j}$  is a power of an existing morphism  $v_1$ . However, this need not be the case:

In the case  $p = 2$ , the mod-2 Moore spectrum  $M$  has a  $v_1$ -self map

$$v_1^4: \Sigma^8 M \rightarrow M$$

that induces an isomorphism in  $K(1)$ -homology, or in this case equivalently,  $K_{(2)}$ -homology. This is the smallest degree  $v_1$ -self map that can be realised on  $M$ . Also, this  $v_1$ -self map  $v_1^4$  need not be unique, but our methods do not depend on this choice.



**Lemma 3.3** *The map*

$$(v_1^4)^*: [M, \text{Hom}(X, Y)]_n^{\mathcal{S}} \longrightarrow [M, \text{Hom}(X, Y)]_{n+8}^{\mathcal{S}}$$

is an isomorphism for all  $n \in \mathbb{Z}$  and all  $Y \in \mathcal{C}$ . Thus,  $\text{Hom}(X, Y)$  is  $K_{(2)}$ -local for all  $Y$ .

Before we prove this lemma, we have to look at the image of certain elements in  $\pi_* L_1 S^0$  under the functor  $X \wedge -$ , namely the Hopf elements  $\eta \in \pi_1 L_1 S^0$ ,  $\nu \in \pi_3 L_1 S^0$  and  $\sigma \in \pi_7 L_1 S^0$ , and further, the elements  $y_0 \in \pi_0 L_1 S^0$ ,  $y_1 \in \pi_1 L_1 S^0$  and  $\mu \in \pi_9 L_1 S^0$ .

(For details about the generators of the stable homotopy groups of the  $K_{(2)}$ -local sphere and their multiplicative relations see the table of generators of  $\pi_* L_1 S^0$  at the beginning of [Section 5.1](#).)

**Lemma 3.4** *For  $\eta, \nu, \sigma, y_0, y_1$ , and  $\mu$  in  $\pi_* L_1 S^0$  as before, we have*

$$\begin{aligned} X \wedge \eta &= \Phi(\eta) \text{ or } \Phi(\eta) + \Phi(y_1) & X \wedge \mu &= \Phi(\mu) \text{ or } \Phi(\mu) + \Phi(\eta^2 \sigma) \\ X \wedge \nu &= u\Phi(\nu) \text{ for some odd } u \in \mathbb{Z} & X \wedge \sigma &= \bar{u}\Phi(\sigma) \text{ for some odd } \bar{u} \in \mathbb{Z} \\ X \wedge y_0 &= \Phi(y_0) & X \wedge y_1 &= \Phi(y_1). \end{aligned}$$

**Notation** Here, by  $X \wedge -$  we actually mean the left derived functor  $L(X \wedge -)$  of the Quillen functor  $X \wedge -: \mathcal{S} \rightarrow \mathcal{C}$  in the [Universal Property of Spectra](#) (see Schwede and Shipley [18]). However, we omit the  $L$  in the notation for simplicity.

Since the proof of this lemma is rather long, we postpone it until a separate appendix. We continue with the proof of [Lemma 3.3](#).

**Proof** We now prove [Lemma 3.3](#), that is, that the mod-2 homotopy groups of  $\text{Hom}(X, Y)$  are  $v_1^4$ -periodic for all  $Y \in \mathcal{C}$ . By adjunction, it suffices to prove that

$$(X \wedge v_1^4)^*: [X \wedge M, Y]_n^{\mathcal{C}} \longrightarrow [X \wedge \Sigma^8 M, Y]_n^{\mathcal{C}}$$

is an isomorphism for all integers  $n$ . Via the equivalence  $\Phi$ , the left and right side are isomorphic to  $[M, \Phi^{-1}(Y)]_n^{L_1 \mathcal{S}}$  and  $[\Sigma^8 M, \Phi^{-1}(Y)]_n^{L_1 \mathcal{S}}$ , respectively. Since  $(v_1^4)^*$  is an isomorphism between these two groups, and therefore

$$\Phi(v_1^4)^*: [X \wedge M, Y]_n^{\mathcal{C}} \longrightarrow [X \wedge \Sigma^8 M, Y]_n^{\mathcal{C}}$$

is an isomorphism, we will now investigate how  $X \wedge v_1^4$  differs from  $\Phi(v_1^4)$  by making use of the preceding lemma and the computations in [Section 5](#).

The element  $X \wedge v_1^4$  lies in  $[X \wedge \Sigma^8 M, X \wedge M]_0^c$ , which, via  $\Phi$  and [Computation 5.7](#), is isomorphic to

$$[M, M]_8^{L_1\mathcal{S}} \cong \mathbb{Z}/4\{v_1^4\} \oplus \mathbb{Z}/2\{\widetilde{\eta\sigma} \circ \text{pinch}, \text{Id}_{L_1M} \wedge \eta\sigma\}.$$

By [Corollary 5.8](#),  $2v_1^4 = \text{incl} \circ \mu \circ \text{pinch}$ , so by [Lemma 3.4](#), either

$$\begin{aligned} 2(X \wedge v_1^4) &= (X \wedge \text{incl}) \circ (X \wedge \mu) \circ (X \wedge \text{pinch}) \\ &= \Phi(\text{incl}) \circ \Phi(\mu) \circ \Phi(\text{pinch}) \\ &= \Phi(\text{incl} \circ \mu \circ \text{pinch}) = \Phi(2v_1^4) \\ &= 2\Phi(v_1^4) \end{aligned}$$

or

$$\begin{aligned} 2(X \wedge v_1^4) &= (X \wedge \text{incl}) \circ (X \wedge \mu) \circ (X \wedge \text{pinch}) \\ &= \Phi(\text{incl}) \circ (\Phi(\mu) + \Phi(\eta^2\sigma)) \circ \Phi(\text{pinch}) \\ &= \Phi(\text{incl} \circ \mu \circ \text{pinch}) + 0 = \Phi(2v_1^4) \\ &= 2\Phi(v_1^4) \end{aligned}$$

as either  $X \wedge \mu = \Phi(\mu)$  or  $X \wedge \mu = \Phi(\mu) + \Phi(\eta^2\sigma)$ . (Note that  $\text{incl} \circ \eta^2\sigma \circ \text{pinch} = 0$  by [\(3\)](#).)

This means that  $X \wedge v_1^4$  can only differ from  $\Phi(v_1^4)$  by an element of order at most two, that is,

$$X \wedge v_1^4 = \Phi(v_1^4) + \Phi(T), \quad \text{for some } T \in [M, M]_8^{L_1\mathcal{S}}, \quad 2T = 0.$$

We will now show that all such  $v_1^4 + T$  are isomorphisms in  $\text{Ho}(L_1\mathcal{S})$ .

We will see that each  $T \in [M, M]_8^{L_1\mathcal{S}}$  with  $2T = 0$  induces the zero map in  $K_{(2)}$ -homology. It is enough to check this for  $2v_1^4$ ,  $\eta\sigma \circ \text{pinch}$  and  $\text{Id}_{L_1M} \wedge \eta\sigma$  as each  $T$  in question is a sum of those.

The elements  $\eta \in \pi_1 L_1 S^0$  and  $\text{pinch} \in [M, S^0]_{-1}^{L_1\mathcal{S}}$  both induce the zero map in  $K_{(2)}$ -homology for degree reasons, as  $K_{(2)*}(S^0)$  is concentrated in even degrees. Hence,

$K_{(2)*}(\text{Id}_{L_1M} \wedge \eta\sigma)$ ,  $K_{(2)*}(\eta\sigma \circ \text{pinch})$  and  $K_{(2)*}(2v_1^4) = K_{(2)*}(\text{incl} \circ \mu \circ \text{pinch})$  are zero. (For the last equation, see [Corollary 5.8](#).)

The element  $v_1^4$  is of course a  $K_{(2)*}$ -isomorphism, and thus, each  $v_1^4 + T$  also is, as

$$K_{(2)*}(v_1^4 + T) = K_{(2)*}(v_1^4) + K_{(2)*}(T) = K_{(2)*}(v_1^4) + 0 = K_{(2)*}(v_1^4).$$

Consequently, every  $v_1^4 + T$  is an isomorphism in  $\mathrm{Ho}(L_1\mathcal{S})$ . Hence, by adjunction,

$$(v_1^4)^*: [M, \mathrm{Hom}(X, Y)]_n^{\mathcal{S}} \longrightarrow [M, \mathrm{Hom}(X, Y)]_{n+8}^{\mathcal{S}}$$

is an isomorphism for all  $n$  and  $Y$ , so  $\mathrm{Hom}(X, Y)$  is a  $K_{(2)}$ -local spectrum for all  $Y \in \mathcal{C}$ .  $\square$

Finally, we can prove [Proposition 3.2](#), which says that for  $X \cong \Phi(L_1\mathcal{S}^0)$ , the [Universal Property of Spectra](#) provides a Quillen functor pair between  $L_1\mathcal{S}$  and  $\mathcal{C}$ .

**Proof** We show that the functor

$$\mathrm{Hom}(X, -): \mathcal{C} \longrightarrow L_1\mathcal{S}$$

is a right Quillen functor, that is, preserves fibrations and trivial fibrations.

Since the cofibrations in  $\mathcal{S}$  are the same as in  $L_1\mathcal{S}$ , the left adjoint

$$X \wedge -: L_1\mathcal{S} \longrightarrow \mathcal{C}$$

preserves cofibrations because  $X \wedge -: \mathcal{S} \longrightarrow \mathcal{C}$  is already a Quillen functor by the [Universal Property of Spectra](#). Via adjunction it follows that

$$\mathrm{Hom}(X, -): \mathcal{C} \longrightarrow L_1\mathcal{S}$$

preserves trivial fibrations.

Now it remains to show that  $\mathrm{Hom}(X, -)$  preserves fibrations. By Dugger [\[6, A.2\]](#) it suffices to show that  $\mathrm{Hom}(X, -)$  preserves fibrations between fibrant objects. We do this in the following steps:

- for  $Y \in \mathcal{C}$  fibrant,  $\mathrm{Hom}(X, Y)$  is fibrant in  $L_1\mathcal{S}$
- $\mathrm{Hom}(X, -)$  sends fibrations to level fibrations
- level fibrations between fibrant objects in  $L_1\mathcal{S}$  are fibrations.

Let  $Y \in \mathcal{C}$  be fibrant. Then, by Schwede and Shipley [\[18, 6.2\]](#), the spectrum  $\mathrm{Hom}(X, Y)$  is an  $\Omega$ -spectrum, as also described at the beginning of Subsection 3.1. By [Lemma 3.3](#),  $\mathrm{Hom}(X, Y)$  is  $K_{(2)}$ -local. So since in  $L_1\mathcal{S}$  the fibrant objects are exactly the  $K_{(2)}$ -local  $\Omega$ -spectra,  $\mathrm{Hom}(X, Y)$  is fibrant for fibrant  $Y$ .

By construction, the functor  $\mathrm{Hom}(X, -)$  sends fibrations to level fibrations, see [\[18, 6.2\]](#). But level fibrations between fibrant objects are fibrations in  $L_1\mathcal{S}$ :

Let  $A, B \in L_1\mathcal{S}$  be fibrant, and let  $f: A \rightarrow B$  be a level fibration. As both  $A$  and  $B$  are fibrant,  $f$  is a fibration in  $\mathcal{S}$ . In  $L_1\mathcal{S}$  we use the Factorisation Axiom to factor  $f$  as the composite of a fibration and a trivial cofibration

$$A \xrightarrow{\tilde{i}} C \xrightarrow{p} \twoheadrightarrow B.$$

By assumption,  $B$  is fibrant, and so must be  $C$ . So  $i$  is a  $K_{(2)*}$ -isomorphism between  $K_{(2)*}$ -local spectra and therefore a  $\pi_*$ -isomorphism. Also,  $i$  is a cofibration in  $\mathcal{S}$  since it is a cofibration in  $L_1\mathcal{S}$ , so  $i$  is a trivial cofibration in  $\mathcal{S}$ .

Consequently,  $i$  has the left lifting property in  $\mathcal{S}$  with respect to the level fibration  $f$

$$\begin{array}{ccc} A & \xlongequal{\quad} & A \\ \downarrow i & \nearrow h & \downarrow f \\ C & \xrightarrow{p} & B. \end{array}$$

This gives us a commutative diagram in  $L_1\mathcal{S}$

$$\begin{array}{ccccc} & & id & & \\ & & \curvearrowright & & \\ A & \xrightarrow{i} & C & \xrightarrow{h} & A \\ \downarrow f & & \downarrow p & & \downarrow f \\ B & \xlongequal{\quad} & B & \xlongequal{\quad} & B \end{array}$$

which says that  $f$  is a retract of the  $L_1\mathcal{S}$ -fibration  $p$  and therefore a fibration in  $L_1\mathcal{S}$  by the Retract Axiom of model categories.

Putting these steps together, we have shown that  $\text{Hom}(X, -)$  is a right Quillen functor, which proves the proposition. □

### 4 The Quillen equivalence

Again, let  $\Phi: \text{Ho}(L_1\mathcal{S}) \rightarrow \text{Ho}(\mathcal{C})$  be an equivalence of triangulated categories and let  $X$  be a fibrant and cofibrant replacement of  $\Phi(L_1\mathcal{S}^0)$ . In the last section we modified the [Universal Property of Spectra](#) (see Schwede and Shipley [18]) to construct a Quillen functor pair

$$X \wedge -: L_1\mathcal{S} \rightleftarrows \mathcal{C} : \text{Hom}(X, -).$$

This section will be devoted to showing that  $(X \wedge -, \text{Hom}(X, -))$  is a Quillen equivalence.

**Notation** The left derived functor of the Quillen functor  $X \wedge -: L_1\mathcal{S} \rightarrow \mathcal{C}$  will be denoted  $X \wedge^L -$ .

### 4.1 Homotopy type of $\text{Hom}(X, X)$

Our first goal is to show that  $\text{Hom}(X, X)$  is stably equivalent to the  $K_{(2)}$ -local sphere spectrum. Define

$$\iota: S^0 \longrightarrow \text{Hom}(X, X)$$

to be the morphism adjoint to the isomorphism  $X \wedge S^0 \cong X$ . Since  $\text{Hom}(X, X)$  is  $K_{(2)}$ -local by Lemma 3.3,  $\iota$  factors over the  $K_{(2)}$ -local sphere

$$\begin{array}{ccc} S^0 & \xrightarrow{\iota} & \text{Hom}(X, X) \\ L_1 \downarrow & \nearrow \lambda & \\ L_1 S^0 & & \end{array}$$

**Proposition 4.1** *The map  $\lambda$  is a  $\pi_n$ -isomorphism for all integers  $n$ .*

**Proof** We have the following diagram

$$\begin{array}{ccc} \pi_n L_1 S^0 \cong [S^0, S^0]_n^{L_1 S} & \xrightarrow{\lambda_*} & [S^0, \text{Hom}(X, X)]_n^S \\ X \wedge^L - \downarrow & \nearrow \cong & \text{adj} \\ [X, X]_n^C & & \end{array}$$

It is commutative because, by definition of  $\lambda$ , for  $\alpha \in \pi_* L_1 S^0$  the image of  $X \wedge^L \alpha$  under the adjunction isomorphism is precisely  $\lambda \circ \alpha$ . Hence,  $\lambda_*$  is an isomorphism if and only if

$$X \wedge^L -: [S^0, S^0]_n^{L_1 S} \longrightarrow [X, X]_n^C$$

is an isomorphism. We show that

$$\Psi: [S^0, S^0]_n^{L_1 S} \xrightarrow{X \wedge^L -} [X, X]_n^C \xrightarrow{\Phi^{-1}} [S^0, S^0]_n^{L_1 S}$$

is an isomorphism for all  $n$ .

The statement that  $\Psi$  is an isomorphism in degree 0 through 9 follows directly from Lemma 3.4 (see also the table at the beginning of Section 5.1). Therefore, by adjunction,  $\lambda_*$  is an isomorphism in degree 0 through 9. It follows that  $\lambda$  also induces an isomorphism between all rational homotopy groups of  $L_1 S^0$  and  $\text{Hom}(X, X)$  as these are concentrated in degree zero.

Using the exact triangle

$$L_1 S^0 \xrightarrow{2} L_1 S^0 \xrightarrow{\text{incl}} L_1 M \xrightarrow{\text{pinch}} L_1 S^1$$

together with the 5–lemma, it follows that

$$\Psi: [M, S^0]_n^{L_1\mathcal{S}} \longrightarrow [M, S^0]_n^{L_1\mathcal{S}}$$

is an isomorphism for  $n = 0, \dots, 8$ . (We are still using our fixed isomorphism  $X \wedge M \cong \Phi(L_1M)$  which is omitted from our notation.)

Now  $M$  has a  $v_1$ –self map  $v_1^4$  that induces an isomorphism in  $K_{(2)}$ –homology, so

$$v_1^4: \Sigma^8 L_1M \longrightarrow L_1M$$

is an isomorphism in  $\text{Ho}(L_1\mathcal{S})$ . Using the commutative diagram

$$\begin{array}{ccc} [M, S^0]_n^{L_1\mathcal{S}} & \xrightarrow{\Psi} & [M, S^0]_n^{L_1\mathcal{S}} \\ (v_1^4)^* \downarrow \cong & & (\Psi(v_1^4))^* \downarrow \cong \\ [M, S^0]_{n+8}^{L_1\mathcal{S}} & \xrightarrow{\Psi} & [M, S^0]_{n+8}^{L_1\mathcal{S}} \end{array}$$

we obtain by induction that

$$\Psi: [M, S^0]_n^{L_1\mathcal{S}} \longrightarrow [M, S^0]_n^{L_1\mathcal{S}}$$

is an isomorphism for all integers  $n$ . (Note that the commutativity of the above diagram does not depend on the choice of the fixed isomorphisms  $X \wedge M \cong \Phi(L_1M)$  and  $X \wedge S^0 \cong \Phi(L_1S^0)$ .) Hence, by adjunction,  $\lambda$  gives an isomorphism on the mod–2 homotopy groups of  $L_1S^0$  and  $\text{Hom}(X, X)$ .

But any map that induces isomorphisms between the rational homotopy groups and the mod–2 homotopy groups of 2–local spectra must be a weak equivalence. Thus,

$$\lambda_*: \pi_n L_1S^0 \longrightarrow \pi_n \text{Hom}(X, X)$$

is an isomorphism for all  $n$ , so  $L_1S^0$  and  $\text{Hom}(X, X)$  are stably equivalent via  $\lambda$ .  $\square$

With this, we can now prove the [K<sub>\(2\)</sub>–local Rigidity Theorem](#):

### 4.2 Proof of the Main Theorem

**Theorem 4.2** *Let  $\Phi: \text{Ho}(L_1\mathcal{S}) \longrightarrow \text{Ho}(\mathcal{C})$  be an equivalence of triangulated categories,  $X$  a fibrant and cofibrant replacement of  $\Phi(L_1S^0)$ , and*

$$X \wedge -: L_1\mathcal{S} \rightleftarrows \mathcal{C} : \text{Hom}(X, -)$$

*the Quillen functor pair from [Proposition 3.2](#). Then  $(X \wedge -, \text{Hom}(X, -))$  is a Quillen equivalence.*

**Proof** By Hovey [11, 1.3.16], it suffices to show the following:

- (1)  $\mathrm{RHom}(X, -): \mathrm{Ho}(\mathcal{C}) \longrightarrow \mathrm{Ho}(L_1\mathcal{S})$  reflects isomorphisms
- (2) The map  $A \longrightarrow \mathrm{RHom}(X, X \wedge^L A)$  is an isomorphism for all  $A \in \mathrm{Ho}(L_1\mathcal{S})$ .

(Here  $\mathrm{RHom}(X, -)$  denotes the right derived functor of the Quillen functor  $\mathrm{Hom}(X, -): \mathcal{C} \longrightarrow L_1\mathcal{S}$ .)

To prove these two points, we make use of the fact that  $\mathrm{Ho}(L_1\mathcal{S})$  is a compactly generated triangulated category:

The  $K_{(2)}$ -local sphere is a small weak generator in  $\mathrm{Ho}(L_1\mathcal{S})$ , that is,  $[S^0, -]^{L_1\mathcal{S}}$  commutes with coproducts and detects isomorphisms. So by Keller [12, 4.2], any triangulated subcategory of  $\mathrm{Ho}(L_1\mathcal{S})$  that is closed under coproducts and containing the sphere must already be  $\mathrm{Ho}(L_1\mathcal{S})$  itself. Since  $\Phi$  is an equivalence of triangulated categories,  $\Phi(L_1S^0) = X$  is a small weak generator for  $\mathrm{Ho}(\mathcal{C})$ , that is, any triangulated subcategory of  $\mathrm{Ho}(\mathcal{C})$  that is closed under coproducts and containing  $X$  is again  $\mathrm{Ho}(\mathcal{C})$  itself.

Let us first show that  $\mathrm{RHom}(X, -)$  reflects isomorphisms. For a morphism  $f: Y \longrightarrow Z$  in  $\mathcal{C}$ , let  $\mathrm{RHom}(X, f): \mathrm{RHom}(X, Y) \longrightarrow \mathrm{RHom}(X, Z)$  be an isomorphism in  $\mathrm{Ho}(L_1\mathcal{S})$ , so

$$[S^0, \mathrm{RHom}(X, Y)]_*^{L_1\mathcal{S}} \xrightarrow{\mathrm{RHom}(X, f)} [S^0, \mathrm{RHom}(X, Z)]_*^{L_1\mathcal{S}}$$

is an isomorphism. By adjunction,

$$[X, Y]_*^{\mathcal{C}} \xrightarrow{f_*} [X, Z]_*^{\mathcal{C}}$$

is an isomorphism.

But as  $X$  is a generator in  $\mathrm{Ho}(\mathcal{C})$  (see above), it detects isomorphisms, so

$$f: Y \longrightarrow Z$$

is an isomorphism in  $\mathrm{Ho}(\mathcal{C})$  which proves the first point.

To prove the second point, we define  $\mathcal{T}$  to be the full subcategory of  $\mathrm{Ho}(L_1\mathcal{S})$  containing those  $A \in \mathrm{Ho}(L_1\mathcal{S})$  such that

$$A \longrightarrow \mathrm{RHom}(X, X \wedge^L A)$$

is an isomorphism. We want to prove that  $\mathcal{T} = \mathrm{Ho}(L_1\mathcal{S})$ .

Since  $\mathrm{RHom}(X, -)$  and  $X \wedge^L -$  are exact functors,  $\mathcal{T}$  is triangulated. By Proposition 4.1,  $L_1S^0 \in \mathcal{T}$ . Now let  $A_i, i \in I$ , be a family of objects in  $\mathcal{T}$ . We want to prove that  $\coprod_{i \in I} A_i \in \mathcal{T}$ . By adjunction,

$$\left[ S^0, \mathrm{RHom}\left(X, X \wedge^L \left(\coprod_i A_i\right)\right) \right]_*^{L_1S} \cong \left[ X, X \wedge^L \left(\coprod_i A_i\right) \right]_*^C.$$

As a left adjoint,  $X \wedge^L -$  commutes with coproducts, so

$$\left[ X, X \wedge^L \left(\coprod_i A_i\right) \right]_*^C \cong \left[ X, \coprod_i (X \wedge^L A_i) \right]_*^C.$$

Since  $X \cong \Phi(L_1S^0)$  is small, we have

$$\left[ X, \coprod_i (X \wedge^L A_i) \right]_*^C \cong \bigoplus_i \left[ X, X \wedge^L A_i \right]_*^C \cong \bigoplus_i \left[ S^0, \mathrm{RHom}(X, X \wedge^L A_i) \right]_*^{L_1S}.$$

As  $A_i \in \mathcal{T}$  for all  $i$ ,

$$\left[ S^0, A_i \right]_*^{L_1S} \cong \left[ S^0, \mathrm{RHom}(X, X \wedge^L A_i) \right]_*^{L_1S},$$

induced by

$$A_i \xrightarrow{\cong} \mathrm{RHom}(X, X \wedge^L A_i).$$

So by naturality of the preceding isomorphisms,

$$\left[ S^0, \coprod_i A_i \right]_*^{L_1S} \cong \left[ S^0, \mathrm{RHom}\left(X, X \wedge^L \left(\coprod_i A_i\right)\right) \right]_*^{L_1S}$$

is an isomorphism induced by the map

$$\coprod_i A_i \longrightarrow \mathrm{RHom}\left(X, X \wedge^L \left(\coprod_i A_i\right)\right).$$

Since the  $K_{(2)}$ -local sphere detects isomorphisms, this map is an isomorphism in  $\mathrm{Ho}(L_1S)$ .

So we have seen that  $\mathcal{T}$  is triangulated, contains  $L_1S^0$  and is closed under coproducts.

As  $\mathrm{Ho}(L_1S)$  is compactly generated with generator  $L_1S^0$ , every triangulated subcategory of  $\mathrm{Ho}(L_1S)$  containing  $L_1S^0$  that is closed under coproducts must already be  $\mathrm{Ho}(L_1S)$  itself by the criterion of Keller mentioned earlier, so  $\mathcal{T} = \mathrm{Ho}(L_1S)$ . This means that

$$A \longrightarrow \mathrm{RHom}(X, X \wedge^L A)$$

is an isomorphism for all  $A \in \mathrm{Ho}(L_1S)$ .



We can now conclude that  $(X \wedge -, \text{Hom}(X, -))$  is a Quillen equivalence for  $X \cong \Phi(L_1 S^0)$ . So, given an equivalence of triangulated categories

$$\Phi: \text{Ho}(L_1 \mathcal{S}) \longrightarrow \text{Ho}(\mathcal{C})$$

we have proven that  $\mathcal{C}$  and  $L_1 \mathcal{S}$  are Quillen equivalent, which proves the  $K$ -local Rigidity Theorem at the prime 2.  $\square$

## 5 Computations

For our main proofs we need information about  $[M, M]_*^{L_1 \mathcal{S}}$  and  $[S^0, M]_*^{L_1 \mathcal{S}}$  in certain degrees. The necessary computations will be summarized in this section.

### 5.1 Generators and relations of $\pi_* L_1 S^0$

First, let us look at the homotopy groups of the  $K_{(2)}$ -local sphere (see, for example, Bousfield [2, Proposition 4.5] or Ravenel [14, 8.15]). The ring homomorphism

$$L_1: \pi_* S^0 \longrightarrow \pi_* L_1 S^0$$

induced by  $K_{(2)}$ -localisation is surjective in degrees  $\geq 2$ , and it has a cokernel isomorphic to  $\mathbb{Z}/2$  in degrees 0 and 1. There is a unique order 2 element of  $\pi_0 L_1 S^0$  called  $y_0$ , and  $y_1 = \eta y_0$  is a generator of the second  $\mathbb{Z}/2$  summand in  $\pi_1 L_1 S^0$ . The other elements of  $\pi_* L_1 S^0$  are given the names of their (not necessarily unique) preimage in  $\pi_* S^0$ . So in low degrees we have the elements shown in Table 1.

$k$	$\pi_k L_1 S^0$	$k$	$\pi_k L_1 S^0$
0	$\mathbb{Z}_{(2)}\{\iota\} \oplus \mathbb{Z}/2\{y_0\}$	5	0
1	$\mathbb{Z}/2\{\eta, y_1\}$	6	0
2	$\mathbb{Z}/2\{\eta^2\}$	7	$\mathbb{Z}/16\{\sigma\}$
3	$\mathbb{Z}/8\{v\}$	8	$\mathbb{Z}/2\{\eta\sigma\}$
4	0	9	$\mathbb{Z}/2\{\eta^2\sigma, \mu\}$

Table 1

Moreover, we have

$$(1) \quad 4v = \eta^3, \eta y_1 = 0, y_0^2 = 0, y_1^2 = 0, \sigma y_1 = 0 \quad \text{and} \quad \mu y_0 = \eta^2 \sigma$$

by Ravenel [14, 8.15.(d)]. Furthermore, we make use of the following Toda bracket relations:

$$\begin{aligned} 8\sigma &= \langle \nu, 8, \nu \rangle \\ \mu &\in \langle 2, 8\sigma, \eta \rangle \quad (\text{indeterminacy: } \eta^2\sigma) \end{aligned}$$

The element  $\mu$  is the unique element of the second Toda bracket with Adams filtration five. For a reference for the relations, see Toda [19, Lemma 5.13, Lemma 10.9, tables in Chapter XIV].

**Notation** Throughout this paper, we read Toda brackets from right to left, that is, in the same direction as the composition of morphisms.

## 5.2 Homotopy groups and endomorphisms of $L_1M$

We will now compute some homotopy groups of the  $K_{(2)}$ -local mod-2 Moore spectrum. The long exact homotopy sequence of the exact triangle

$$L_1S^0 \xrightarrow{2} L_1S^0 \xrightarrow{\text{incl}} L_1M \xrightarrow{\text{pinch}} L_1S^1$$

splits into short exact sequences of the form

$$0 \longrightarrow \pi_{m+1}L_1S^0/(2) \xrightarrow{\text{incl}_*} \pi_{m+1}L_1M \xrightarrow{\text{pinch}_*} \{\pi_m L_1S^0\}_2 \longrightarrow 0.$$

Here,  $\{\pi_m L_1S^0\}_2$  denotes the 2-torsion of the group  $\pi_m L_1S^0$ , that is, all  $x \in \pi_m L_1S^0$  with  $2x = 0$ .

Let  $x \in \{\pi_m L_1S^0\}_2$ , and  $\tilde{x} \in \pi_{m+1}L_1M$  a lift of  $x$ , that is, an element with  $\text{pinch} \circ \tilde{x} = x$ . We have  $\text{pinch}_*(2\tilde{x}) = 0$ , so  $2\tilde{x}$  has a unique preimage under the map  $\text{incl}_*$ . This preimage is  $\eta x \in \pi_{m+1}L_1S^0/(2)$ , as

$$\text{incl}_*(\eta x) = (\text{incl} \circ \eta \circ \text{pinch}) \circ \tilde{x} = 2\tilde{x},$$

remembering  $\text{incl} \circ \eta \circ \text{pinch} = 2 \text{Id}_{L_1M}$ .

**Notation** A preimage of an element  $x$  under the pinch map will be denoted by  $\tilde{x}$ . This  $\tilde{x}$  need not be unique, but the following computations do not depend on the choice of such an  $\tilde{x}$  unless stated.

For some particular examples this gives us

**Computation 5.1**  $\pi_0 L_1M \cong \mathbb{Z}/2\{\text{incl}, \text{incl} \circ \gamma_0\}$

**Computation 5.2**  $\pi_1 L_1 M \cong \mathbb{Z}/4\{\tilde{y}_0\} \oplus \mathbb{Z}/2\{\text{incl} \circ \eta\}$

**Computation 5.3**  $\pi_8 L_1 M \cong \mathbb{Z}/2\{\text{incl} \circ \eta\sigma, \widetilde{8\sigma}\}$

**Computation 5.4**  $\pi_9 L_1 M \cong \mathbb{Z}/4\{\widetilde{\eta\sigma}\} \oplus \mathbb{Z}/2\{\text{incl} \circ \mu\}$

Also, note that

$$(2) \quad \text{incl} \circ y_1 \circ \text{pinch} = \text{incl} \circ \eta y_0 \text{ pinch} = 2\tilde{y}_0 \text{ pinch} = \tilde{y}_0(2 \text{ pinch}) = 0,$$

and

$$(3) \quad \text{incl} \circ \eta^2 \sigma \circ \text{pinch} = 2\widetilde{\eta\sigma} \text{ pinch} = \widetilde{\eta\sigma}(2 \text{ pinch}) = 0.$$

To specify the element  $\widetilde{8\sigma}$  in [Computation 5.3](#) and for further applications we need the following:

**Lemma 5.5**  $8\sigma = \text{pinch} \circ v_1^4 \circ \text{incl}$  in  $\text{Ho}(L_1 S)$ .

**Proof** The element  $\text{pinch} \circ v_1^4 \circ \text{incl}$  lies in  $\pi_7 L_1 S^0$ . Since  $2 \text{ pinch} = 0$ , it has order at most two, so the element in question is either  $8\sigma$  or  $0$ .

Assume that  $\text{pinch} \circ v_1^4 \circ \text{incl} = 0$ , then  $v_1^4 \circ \text{incl}$  factors over the fiber of the pinch map, which, after  $K_{(2)}$ -localisation, gives us the commutative diagram

$$\begin{array}{ccc} \Sigma^8 L_1 M & \xrightarrow{v_1^4} & L_1 M \\ \text{incl} \uparrow & & \uparrow \text{incl} \\ L_1 S^8 & \xrightarrow{\varphi} & L_1 S^0 \end{array}$$

The element  $\varphi$  lies in  $\pi_8 L_1 S^0 \cong \mathbb{Z}/2\{\eta\sigma\}$ , so  $\varphi = \eta a$  for either  $a = 0$  or  $a = \sigma$ . We now apply the  $m^{\text{th}}$   $K(1)$ -homology to the above diagram, using this factorisation of  $\varphi$ :

$$\begin{array}{ccccc} K(1)_m(L_1 S^8) & \xrightarrow{\text{incl}_*} & K(1)_m(\Sigma^8 L_1 M) & \xrightarrow{(v_1^4)_*} & K(1)_m(L_1 M) \\ \eta_* \downarrow & & & & \uparrow \text{incl}_* \\ K(1)_m(L_1 S^7) & \xrightarrow{a_*} & & & K(1)_m(L_1 S^0) \end{array}$$

For even  $m$ ,  $\text{incl}_* = K(1)_m(\text{incl})$  is an isomorphism, and the map  $v_1^4$  is a  $K(1)_*$ -isomorphism, so the upper row is an isomorphism for even  $m$ . However,  $\eta_*$  lowers the degree by one, so it must be zero since the  $K(1)$ -homology of the sphere is concentrated in even degrees. Thus, we have arrived at a contradiction.

So since there is no  $\varphi \in \pi_8 L_1 S^0$  with  $\text{incl} \circ \varphi = v_1^4 \circ \text{incl}$ , the composition  $\text{pinch} \circ v_1^4 \circ \text{incl} \in \pi_7 S^0$  is nonzero, has order two and therefore must be  $8\sigma$ .  $\square$

**Corollary 5.6**  $\pi_8 L_1 M \cong \mathbb{Z}/2\{\text{incl} \circ \eta\sigma, v_1^4 \circ \text{incl}\}$

$\square$

**Computation 5.7**  $[M, M]_8^{L_1 S} \cong \mathbb{Z}/4\{v_1^4\} \oplus \mathbb{Z}/2\{\widetilde{\eta\sigma} \circ \text{pinch}, \text{Id}_{L_1 M} \wedge \eta\sigma\}$

**Proof** We consider the short exact sequence

$$(4) \quad 0 \longrightarrow \pi_9 L_1 M / (2) \xrightarrow{\text{pinch}^*} [M, M]_8^{L_1 S} \xrightarrow{\text{incl}^*} \{\pi_8 L_1 M\}_2 \longrightarrow 0.$$

Let  $x \in \{\pi_8 L_1 M\}_2$ ,  $\bar{x} \in [M, M]_8^{L_1 S}$  with  $\text{incl}^*(\bar{x}) = \bar{x} \circ \text{incl} = x$ . Since  $2 \text{Id}_{L_1 M} x = 0$ , the element  $2\bar{x}$  has a unique preimage  $q \in \pi_9 L_1 M / (2)$ . This  $q$  lies in the Toda bracket  $\langle 2 \text{Id}_{L_1 M}, x, 2 \rangle$ :

$$\begin{array}{ccccccc}
 L_1 S^8 & \xrightarrow{2} & L_1 S^8 & \xrightarrow{x} & L_1 M & \xrightarrow{2 \text{Id}_{L_1 M}} & L_1 M \\
 & & \searrow \text{incl} & & \uparrow \bar{x} & & \uparrow q \in \langle 2 \text{Id}_{L_1 M}, x, 2 \rangle \\
 & & & & \Sigma^8 L_1 M & & \\
 & & & & \searrow \text{pinch} & & \\
 & & & & & & L_1 S^9
 \end{array}$$

So to determine whether  $2\bar{x} = 0$  for any  $x \in \{\pi_8 L_1 M\}_2$ , we have to compute the brackets  $\langle 2 \text{Id}_{L_1 M}, v_1^4 \circ \text{incl}, 2 \rangle$  and  $\langle 2 \text{Id}_{L_1 M}, \text{incl} \circ \eta\sigma, 2 \rangle$ .

Since  $2 \text{Id}_{L_1 M} = \text{incl} \circ \eta \circ \text{pinch}$ , the first bracket can be written as

$$\begin{aligned}
 \langle 2 \text{Id}_{L_1 M}, v_1^4 \circ \text{incl}, 2 \rangle &= \langle \text{incl} \circ \eta \circ \text{pinch}, v_1^4 \circ \text{incl}, 2 \rangle \\
 &= \langle \text{incl} \circ \eta, \text{pinch} \circ v_1^4 \circ \text{incl}, 2 \rangle \\
 &= \langle \text{incl} \circ \eta, 8\sigma, 2 \rangle \\
 &= \text{incl} \circ \langle \eta, 8\sigma, 2 \rangle
 \end{aligned}$$

where the second and fourth equality are due to the Juggling Theorem (see Ravenel [15, A1.4.6]) and the third equality is due to Lemma 5.5. This means that  $2v_1^4$  is hit in the short exact sequence by  $\text{incl} \circ \mu$  or  $\text{incl} \circ (\mu + \eta^2\sigma)$ , as  $\mu \in \langle \eta, 8\sigma, 2 \rangle$  with indeterminacy  $\eta^2\sigma$ . Since

$$\text{incl} \circ \eta^2\sigma \circ \text{pinch} = 2\widetilde{\eta\sigma} \text{ pinch} = 0 \quad \text{by (3),}$$

we have in either case

$$2v_1^4 = \text{incl} \circ \mu \circ \text{pinch} \neq 0.$$

The second bracket gives us

$$\begin{aligned} \langle 2 \text{Id}_{L_1 M}, \text{incl} \circ \eta \sigma, 2 \rangle &= \langle \text{incl} \circ \eta, \text{pinch} \circ \text{incl} \circ \eta \sigma, 2 \rangle \\ &= \langle \text{incl} \circ \eta, 0, 2 \rangle = 0. \end{aligned}$$

The indeterminacy here is  $2\pi_9 L_1 M$ , that is, zero in  $\pi_9 L_1 M / (2)$ . Applying these computations to the short exact sequence (4) gives us now the desired result: we now know that  $[M, M]_8^{L_1 \mathcal{S}} \cong \mathbb{Z}/4 \oplus \mathbb{Z}/2 \oplus \mathbb{Z}/2$  with  $v_1^4$  generating the  $\mathbb{Z}/4$  summand, and  $\tilde{\eta}\tilde{\sigma} \circ \text{pinch}$  generating one of the  $\mathbb{Z}/2$  summands. Looking at the sequence (4) again we see that any element  $P \in [M, M]_8^{L_1 \mathcal{S}}$  with  $P \circ \text{incl} = \text{incl} \circ \eta \sigma$  can be taken to be a generator of the other  $\mathbb{Z}/2$  summand, so we choose  $P = \text{Id}_{L_1 M} \wedge \eta \sigma$  (where  $\wedge$  denotes the smash product in the homotopy category of  $\mathcal{S}$ ).  $\square$

**Corollary 5.8**  $2v_1^4 = \text{incl} \circ \mu \circ \text{pinch} \neq 0$ .

## 6 The case against odd primes

As mentioned in the introduction, in the case of  $p > 2$ , rigidity for  $K_{(p)}$ -local spectra cannot hold because of an example constructed by Franke in [7]. In this section, we give a brief review of this exotic model and explain where the proof of the  $K_{(2)}$ -local Rigidity Theorem must fail when replacing 2 by an odd prime  $p$ .

### 6.1 Franke's exotic models

Throughout the rest of this section, let  $p$  denote an odd prime. Franke proves that the homotopy category of  $K_{(p)}$ -local spectra is triangulated equivalent to the derived category of  $(2p-2)$ -twisted cochain complexes over a certain abelian category  $\mathcal{B}$ .

**Theorem 6.1** (Franke [7]) *There is an equivalence of categories*

$$\mathcal{R}: \mathcal{D}^{2p-2}(\mathcal{B}) \longrightarrow \text{Ho}(L_1 \mathcal{S})$$

where  $\mathcal{D}^{2p-2}(\mathcal{B})$  denotes the derived category of twisted cochain complexes over an abelian category  $\mathcal{B}$ , and  $\text{Ho}(L_1 \mathcal{S})$  the homotopy category of  $K_{(p)}$ -local spectra for an odd prime  $p$ .

We are now going to explain the ingredients of this theorem. We begin with the abelian categories  $\mathcal{A}$  and  $\mathcal{B}$ . The category  $\mathcal{B}$  consists of  $\mathbb{Z}_{(p)}$ -modules together with the action

of Adams operations  $\psi^k, k \in \mathbb{Z}_{(p)}^*$ , satisfying some further conditions. (Details can be found in Bousfield [3] or Franke [7, 3.1], see also Clarke, Crossley and Whitehouse [5].)

To build the category  $\mathcal{A}$  out of the above category, we additionally need the following: Let  $T: \mathcal{B} \rightarrow \mathcal{B}$  denote the following self-equivalence:

For all  $M \in \mathcal{B}$ ,  $T(M) = M$  as a  $\mathbb{Z}_{(p)}$ -module, but on  $T(M)$ , the Adams operation  $\psi^k$  now equals  $k^{p-1}\psi^k: M \rightarrow M$  for all  $k \in \mathbb{Z}$ .

An object  $\mathcal{M} \in \mathcal{A}$  is defined as a collection of modules  $\mathcal{M} = (M_n)_{n \in \mathbb{Z}}$ , where  $M_n \in \mathcal{B}$ , together with isomorphisms

$$T(M_n) \xrightarrow{\cong} M_{n+2p-2} \quad \text{for all } n \in \mathbb{Z}.$$

The resulting category  $\mathcal{A}$  is equivalent to the category of  $E(1)_*E(1)$ -comodules, with  $E(1)$  denoting the Adams summand of  $p$ -local  $K$ -theory with coefficient groups

$$E(1)_* \cong \mathbb{Z}_{(p)}[v_1, v_1^{-1}], \quad |v_1| = 2p - 2.$$

Note the following: For  $X$  a spectrum, the  $E(1)_*E(1)$ -comodule  $E(1)_*(X)$  is an object of  $\mathcal{A}$  in the above sense by taking  $M_n := E(1)_n(X)$ , and the operations  $\psi^k$  being the usual Adams operations.

From now on  $\mathcal{B}$  will be viewed as the subcategory of  $\mathcal{A}$  consisting of those objects  $(M_n)_{n \in \mathbb{Z}}$  such that

$$M_n = \begin{cases} M & \text{if } n \equiv 0 \pmod{2p-2} \\ 0 & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

for a  $\mathbb{Z}_{(p)}$ -module  $M$  with Adams operations as before. This describes a so-called split of period  $2p - 2$  of  $\mathcal{A}$ :  $\mathcal{B} \subset \mathcal{A}$  is a Serre class such that

$$\begin{aligned} \bigoplus_{0 \leq i < 2p-2} \mathcal{B} &\longrightarrow \mathcal{A} \\ (B_i)_{0 \leq i < 2p-2} &\longmapsto \bigoplus_{0 \leq i < 2p-2} B_i[i] \end{aligned}$$

is an equivalence of categories, where  $[i]$  denotes the  $i$ -fold internal shift in the grading, that is,  $M[i]_n = M_{i-n}$ .

Now we describe the source of Franke’s equivalence.

**Definition 6.2** The category  $\mathcal{C}^{2p-2}(\mathcal{B})$  of twisted cochain complexes with values in  $\mathcal{B}$  is defined as follows:

An object is a cochain complex  $C^*$  with  $C^i \in \mathcal{B}$  for all  $i$  together with an isomorphism of cochain complexes

$$\alpha_C: T^{2p-2}(C^*) \longrightarrow C^*[2p-2] = C^{*+2p-2}.$$

The morphisms are those morphisms of cochain complexes  $f: C^* \rightarrow D^*$  that are compatible with the periodicity isomorphisms, that is, the following diagram commutes:

$$\begin{array}{ccc} T^{2p-2}(C^*) & \xrightarrow{\alpha_C} & C^*[2p-2] \\ T^{2p-2}(f) \downarrow & & \downarrow f[2p-2] \\ T^{2p-2}(D^*) & \xrightarrow{\alpha_D} & D^*[2p-2]. \end{array}$$

Such a cochain complex  $C^*$  is called *injective* if each  $C^i$  is injective in  $\mathcal{B}$ . A morphism in  $\mathcal{C}^{2p-2}(\mathcal{B})$  is called a *quasi-isomorphism* if it induces an isomorphism in cohomology.  $C^*$  is called *strictly injective* if it is injective, and, for each acyclic complex  $D^*$ , the cochain complex  $\text{Hom}_{\mathcal{C}^{2p-2}(\mathcal{B})}^*(D^*, C^*)$  is again acyclic.

**Proposition 6.3** (Franke [7, 1.3.3, Proposition 3]) *There is a model structure on  $\mathcal{C}^{2p-2}(\mathcal{B})$  such that*

- *weak equivalences are the quasi-isomorphisms,*
- *cofibrations are the monomorphisms,*
- *fibrations are the componentwise split epimorphisms with strictly injective kernel.*

**Notation**  $\mathcal{D}^{2p-2}(\mathcal{B})$  denotes the derived category of  $\mathcal{C}^{2p-2}(\mathcal{B})$ , that is, the homotopy category of this model category with respect to the above model structure.

Franke’s functor  $\mathcal{R}: \mathcal{D}^{2p-2}(\mathcal{B}) \rightarrow \text{Ho}(L_1\mathcal{S})$  now reconstructs a spectrum from the algebraic data given by  $C^*$  for each twisted cochain complex  $C^*$  over  $\mathcal{B}$ . The idea is to first associate a spectrum to each of the boundaries of  $C^*$  and the quotients of  $C^*$  by the boundaries. These spectra  $X_{\beta_i}$  and  $X_{\gamma_i}$  ( $1 \leq i \leq 2p-2$ ) are put into a diagram

$$\begin{array}{ccccccc} X_{\beta_1} & & \dots & & X_{\beta_{i-1}} & & X_{\beta_i} & & \dots & & X_{\beta_{2p-2}} \\ \uparrow & & \dots & & \uparrow & & \uparrow & & \dots & & \uparrow \\ X_{\gamma_1} & & \dots & & X_{\gamma_{i-1}} & & X_{\gamma_i} & & \dots & & X_{\gamma_{2p-2}} \end{array}$$

In the next step, the  $X_{\beta_i}$ ’s and  $X_{\gamma_i}$ ’s are pasted together by the homotopy colimit of this diagram. So all in all, the result is a spectrum  $X = \mathcal{R}(C^*) \in \text{Ho}(L_1\mathcal{S})$  assigned to a twisted cochain complex  $C^* \in \mathcal{D}^{2p-2}(\mathcal{B})$ .

The condition that  $p$  is odd is a special case of the condition that the splitting index of the abelian category  $\mathcal{A}$  (into  $2p - 2$  shifted copies of  $\mathcal{B}$ ) is bigger than the injective dimension of  $\mathcal{A}$ , which is 2. This ensures sparseness in certain Adams spectral sequences which the proof of Franke’s theorem relies on. For details, see Franke [7, Section 2] and Roitzheim [16, Section 1–3].

Next, we note that

**Proposition 6.4** *The categories  $\mathcal{D}^{2p-2}(\mathcal{B})$  and  $\text{Ho}(L_1\mathcal{S})$  are not Quillen equivalent. In particular,  $\mathbb{R}$  is not derived from a Quillen equivalence.*

**Proof** The proof of this relies on the mapping spaces with respect to  $\mathcal{D}^{2p-2}(\mathcal{B})$  and  $\text{Ho}(L_1\mathcal{S})$ . The categories  $\mathcal{D}^1(\mathcal{A})$  and  $\mathcal{D}^{2p-2}(\mathcal{B})$  are not simplicial, but the technique of framings of Hovey [11, Chapter 5] allows the definition of a reasonable mapping space functor

$$\text{map}_{\mathcal{C}}(-, -): \text{Ho}(\mathcal{C}) \times \text{Ho}(\mathcal{C}^{op}) \longrightarrow \text{Ho}(\text{sSet}_*)$$

for any pointed model category  $\mathcal{C}$ .

A Quillen equivalence  $F: \mathcal{C} \rightleftarrows \mathcal{D} :G$  would induce an isomorphism of mapping spaces

$$\text{map}_{\mathcal{C}}(X, Y) \xrightarrow{\sim} \text{map}_{\mathcal{D}}(LF(X), LF(Y))$$

for  $X, Y$  in  $\mathcal{C}$ .

Back to our special case: The category  $\mathcal{C}^{2p-2}(\mathcal{B})$  is abelian, so for all  $C_1, C_2 \in \mathcal{C}^{2p-2}(\mathcal{B})$ , the  $n$ -simplices of  $\text{map}_{\mathcal{C}^{2p-2}(\mathcal{B})}(C_1, C_2)$  form an abelian group, and the simplicial structure maps are group homomorphisms, so  $\text{map}_{\mathcal{C}^{2p-2}(\mathcal{B})}(C_1, C_2)$  is not just a simplicial set but a simplicial abelian group. From Goerss and Jardine [8, Proposition III.2.20], it follows that  $\text{map}_{\mathcal{C}^{2p-2}(\mathcal{B})}(C_1, C_2)$  is a product of Eilenberg–Mac Lane spaces. However, there are spectra for which the mapping spaces over  $L_1\mathcal{S}$  are not products of Eilenberg–Mac Lane spaces, for example  $\text{map}_{L_1\mathcal{S}}(S^0, S^0) \cong QL_1S^0 = \text{colim}_n \Omega^n L_1S^n$ . Thus,  $\mathcal{C}^{2p-2}(\mathcal{B})$  and  $L_1\mathcal{S}$  cannot be Quillen equivalent and  $\mathcal{C}^{2p-2}(\mathcal{B})$  provides an exotic model for  $L_1\mathcal{S}$ .  $\square$

### 6.2 A criterion for exotic models

In this subsection, let  $L_1\mathcal{S}$  denote the model category of spectra with the  $K_{(p)}$ -local model structure for  $p > 2$ . How can we check in general whether a stable model category  $\mathcal{C}$  provides an exotic model for  $L_1\mathcal{S}$  or not?

In fact, we are going to prove that the answer to this question relies on the behaviour of just one element in the stable homotopy groups of the sphere:  $\mathcal{C}$  is an exotic model for  $\text{Ho}(L_1\mathcal{S})$  if and only if  $X \wedge \alpha_1 = 0$  for  $\alpha_1 \in \pi_{2p-3}S^0$  and  $X \wedge -: \mathcal{S} \longrightarrow \mathcal{C}$  as before.



**The action of  $\pi_*S^0$  on morphism sets** We look at the action of  $\pi_*S^0$  on the morphism sets of a stable homotopy category  $\mathcal{C}$  in order to single out possible exotic models for  $\text{Ho}(L_1\mathcal{S})$ . In addition to the mapping space functor

$$\text{map}_{\mathcal{C}}(-, -): \text{Ho}(\mathcal{C}^{op}) \times \text{Ho}(\mathcal{C}) \longrightarrow \text{Ho}(\text{sSet}_*)$$

introduced in the proof of [Proposition 6.4](#), one can use framings again to define a functor

$$- \otimes -: \text{Ho}(\mathcal{C}) \times \text{Ho}(\text{sSet}_*) \longrightarrow \text{Ho}(\mathcal{C})$$

such that

$$A \otimes -: \text{Ho}(\text{sSet}_*) \xrightleftharpoons{\quad} \text{Ho}(\mathcal{C}) : \text{map}_{\mathcal{C}}(A, -)$$

is an adjoint functor pair for  $A \in \mathcal{C}$  (see Schwede and Shipley [\[18, Construction 2.4\]](#)). For  $Y, Z \in \mathcal{C}$ , we now use this functor to define a left action

$$\pi_n S^0 \otimes [Y, Z]_k^{\mathcal{C}} \xrightarrow{\mu} [Y, Z]_{n+k}^{\mathcal{C}}.$$

Let  $f \in [Y, Z]_k^{\mathcal{C}} = \text{Hom}_{\text{Ho}(\mathcal{C})}^0(\Sigma^k Y, Z) = \text{Hom}_{\text{Ho}(\mathcal{C})}^0(Y \otimes \mathbb{S}^k, Z)$ . (Note that the suspension functor  $\Sigma$  defined in [Section 2](#) is isomorphic to the functor  $- \otimes \mathbb{S}^1$ , with  $\mathbb{S}^1$  denoting the simplicial 1-sphere.) For  $\alpha \in \pi_n S^0$  we choose a representative  $a: \mathbb{S}^{n+l} \rightarrow \mathbb{S}^l$  in  $\text{Ho}(\text{sSet}_*)$ . The element  $f \otimes a$  now lies in  $[Y \otimes \mathbb{S}^k \otimes \mathbb{S}^{n+l}, Z \otimes \mathbb{S}^l]_0^{\mathcal{C}}$  which is isomorphic to  $[Y, Z]_{n+k}^{\mathcal{C}}$  since  $\mathcal{C}$  is stable.

**Definition 6.5** We now define  $\mu(\alpha, f) := \alpha \cdot f$  to be the unique element in  $[Y, Z]_{n+k}^{\mathcal{C}}$  such that  $(\alpha \cdot f) \otimes \text{id}_{\mathbb{S}^l} = f \otimes a$  in  $[Y \otimes \mathbb{S}^{n+k+l}, Z \otimes \mathbb{S}^l]_0^{\mathcal{C}}$ . (For details, see [\[18, Construction 2.4\]](#).)

**Definition 6.6** Let  $\mathcal{C}$  and  $\mathcal{D}$  be stable model categories. A functor

$$\Lambda: \text{Ho}(\mathcal{C}) \longrightarrow \text{Ho}(\mathcal{D})$$

is called  $\pi_*S^0$ -exact [\[18, Definition 2.2\]](#) if  $\Lambda$  is exact and  $\pi_*S^0$ -linear, that is, compatible with the  $\pi_*S^0$ -action.

There is an important example of a  $\pi_*S^0$ -linear functor: If  $F: \mathcal{C} \rightarrow \mathcal{D}$  is a left Quillen functor, then its left derived functor  $LF: \text{Ho}(\mathcal{C}) \rightarrow \text{Ho}(\mathcal{D})$  is  $\pi_*S^0$ -exact [\[18, Lemma 6.1\]](#). Later in this section, we are going to apply this to the left Quillen functor  $X \wedge -: \mathcal{S} \rightarrow \mathcal{C}$  from the [Universal Property of Spectra](#).

**Universal Property of  $K_{(p)}$ -local spectra** Let us return to the proof of the Universal Property for  $K_{(p)}$ -local spectra and its first step, the question whether the spectra  $\text{Hom}(X, Y)$  are  $K_{(p)}$ -local for  $Y \in \mathcal{C}$ . This is again equivalent to the mod- $p$  homotopy groups of  $\text{Hom}(X, Y)$  being  $v_1$ -periodic (see Bousfield [2, Section 4]).

Let  $M = M(\mathbb{Z}/p)$  denote the mod- $p$  Moore spectrum. For odd primes, the  $v_1$ -self map of  $M$  of smallest existing degree is not  $v_1^{p^2}$  as in the case  $p = 2$ , but

$$v_1: \Sigma^{2p-2}M \longrightarrow M$$

itself. So a spectrum  $\text{Hom}(X, Y)$  is  $K_{(p)}$ -local if and only if the precomposition morphism

$$(v_1)^*: [M, \text{Hom}(X, Y)]_n^S \longrightarrow [M, \text{Hom}(X, Y)]_{n+2p-2}^S$$

is an isomorphism for all  $n$ . By adjunction, this is equivalent to

$$(X \wedge v_1)^*: [X \wedge M, Y]_n^C \longrightarrow [X \wedge M, Y]_{n+2p-2}^C$$

being an isomorphism for all  $n$ . The morphism  $X \wedge v_1$  lies in

$$[X \wedge M, X \wedge M]_{2p-2}^C \cong [\Phi(L_1M), \Phi(L_1M)]_{2p-2}^C \cong [M, M]_{2p-2}^{L_1S} = \mathbb{Z}/p\{v_1\}.$$

So  $(X \wedge v_1)^*$  is either an isomorphism or the zero map.

The element  $\alpha_1 \in \pi_{2p-3}L_1S^0 = \mathbb{Z}/p\{\alpha_1\}$  factors as

$$\alpha_1 = \text{pinch} \circ v_1 \circ \text{incl},$$

which can be computed by similar methods to those in Section 5. It follows that  $X \wedge v_1 = 0$  if and only if  $X \wedge \alpha_1 = 0$ . Let us investigate the two cases  $X \wedge \alpha_1 = 0$  and  $X \wedge \alpha_1 \neq 0$  separately.

**Case 1:**  $X \wedge \alpha_1 = 0$  We are going to prove that in this case,  $\mathcal{C}$  and  $L_1S$  cannot be Quillen equivalent by using the  $\pi_*S^0$ -action defined earlier in this section.

The functor  $X \wedge -: \mathcal{S} \longrightarrow \mathcal{C}$  from the Universal Property of Spectra is a left Quillen functor, and therefore its left derived  $X \wedge -$  is  $\pi_*S^0$ -linear. (Again, we omit the  $L$  for left derived from our notation.) So the diagram

$$\begin{array}{ccc} \pi_*S^0 \otimes [S^0, S^0]_*^S & \xrightarrow{\mu} & [S^0, S^0]_*^S \\ \text{id} \otimes (X \wedge -) \downarrow & & \downarrow X \wedge - \\ \pi_*S^0 \otimes [X, X]_*^C & \xrightarrow{\mu} & [X, X]_*^C \end{array}$$

commutes. Consequently, for  $\alpha \in \pi_* S^0$  we have

$$\begin{aligned}
 X \wedge \alpha &= X \wedge (\text{Id}_{S^0} \cdot \alpha) \\
 &= (X \wedge -) \circ \mu(\alpha, \text{Id}_{S^0}) \\
 &= \mu \circ (\text{id} \otimes (X \wedge -))(\alpha, \text{Id}_{S^0}) \\
 &= \mu(\alpha, X \wedge \text{Id}_{S^0}) \\
 &= \mu(\alpha, \text{Id}_X) \\
 (5) \qquad &= \alpha \cdot \text{Id}_X .
 \end{aligned}$$

Let us assume that there is a functor

$$F: L_1\mathcal{S} \longrightarrow \mathcal{C}$$

that is part of a Quillen equivalence. (Without loss of generality, let  $F$  be a left Quillen functor.) So then its derived functor  $LF$  would be a  $\pi_* S^0$ -exact equivalence, in particular  $[S^0, S^0]_*^{L_1\mathcal{S}}$  and  $[X, X]_*^{\mathcal{C}}$  would be isomorphic as  $\pi_* S^0$ -modules. However, this cannot be the case as

$$\alpha_1 \cdot \text{Id}_X = X \wedge \alpha_1 = 0 \quad \text{and} \quad \alpha_1 \cdot \text{Id}_{S^0} = \alpha_1 \neq 0.$$

So we have shown

**Proposition 6.7** *If  $X \wedge \alpha_1 = 0$ , then  $L_1\mathcal{S}$  and  $\mathcal{C}$  are not Quillen equivalent.*

Next, we will see that the condition  $X \wedge \alpha_1 \neq 0$  is both necessary and sufficient for the existence of a Quillen equivalence between  $L_1\mathcal{S}$  and  $\mathcal{C}$ .

**Case 2:**  $X \wedge \alpha_1 \neq 0$  We have seen at the beginning of this subsection that  $X \wedge \alpha_1 \neq 0$  implies that the mod- $p$  homotopy groups of a spectrum  $\text{Hom}(X, Y)$  are  $v_1$ -periodic. Therefore, all  $\text{Hom}(X, Y)$  are  $K_{(p)}$ -local for  $Y \in \mathcal{C}$ . With the methods of [Proposition 3.2](#) it now follows that

$$X \wedge -: L_1\mathcal{S} \xleftrightarrow{\quad} \mathcal{C} : \text{Hom}(X, -)$$

is a Quillen functor pair for  $X = \Phi(L_1S^0)$ .

Analogously to [Section 4](#), we now show that  $\text{Hom}(X, X)$  is equivalent to the  $K_{(p)}$ -local sphere by showing that the map

$$\lambda: L_1S^0 \longrightarrow \text{Hom}(X, X)$$

is a  $\pi_*$ -isomorphism. Again, this is the case if and only if

$$\Psi: [S^0, S^0]_n^{L_1\mathcal{S}} \xrightarrow{X \wedge L_-} [X, X]_n^{\mathcal{C}} \xrightarrow{\Phi^{-1}} [S^0, S^0]_n^{L_1\mathcal{S}}$$

is an isomorphism for all  $n \in \mathbb{Z}$ . For  $n = -1, \dots, 2p - 1$  this follows easily as the only nontrivial homotopy groups of  $L_1S^0$  in this range are  $\pi_0 L_1S^0 = \mathbb{Z}_{(p)}\{\iota\}$  and  $\pi_{2p-3} L_1S^0 = \mathbb{Z}/p\{\alpha_1\}$  (see Ravenel [14, 8.10.(b)]). By our assumption that  $X \wedge \alpha_1 \neq 0$  we can conclude that  $\Psi(\alpha_1)$  is a nonzero multiple of  $\alpha_1$ . With the 5-lemma it follows that

$$\Psi: [M, S^0]_n^{L_1S} \longrightarrow [M, S^0]_n^{L_1S}$$

is an isomorphism for  $n = 0, \dots, 2p - 2$ .

We now use that  $v_1: \Sigma^{2p-2}M \longrightarrow M$  is an isomorphism in  $\text{Ho}(L_1S)$ , so by proceeding with exactly the same method as in Proposition 4.1 we conclude that  $\lambda: L_1S^0 \longrightarrow \text{Hom}(X, X)$  induces a  $\pi_*$ -isomorphism between  $L_1S^0$  and  $\text{Hom}(X, X)$ , and so, analogously to Theorem 4.2,

$$X \wedge -: L_1S \xrightleftharpoons{\sim} \mathcal{C} : \text{Hom}(X, -)$$

is a Quillen equivalence for odd primes.

We summarize this subsection in the following theorem:

**Theorem 6.8** *Let  $\Phi: \text{Ho}(L_1S) \longrightarrow \text{Ho}(\mathcal{C})$  be an equivalence of triangulated categories, where  $L_1S$  denotes the category of spectra with the  $K_{(p)}$ -local model structure for  $p$  odd. Then  $L_1S$  and  $\mathcal{C}$  are Quillen equivalent if and only if*

$$X \wedge \alpha_1 \neq 0, \quad \text{for } X = \Phi(L_1S^0), \quad \alpha_1 \in \pi_{2p-3}S^0 = \mathbb{Z}/p\{\alpha_1\}.$$

However, while this Theorem tells us if a model  $\mathcal{C}$  for  $L_1S$  is exotic or not, it does not answer the question of whether two exotic models are Quillen equivalent.

In particular, let us call a model *algebraic* if it is a model that is also an abelian category, such as Franke’s example  $\mathcal{C} = \mathcal{C}^{2p-2}(\mathcal{B})$ . An algebraic model is necessarily exotic by the mapping space argument given in the proof of Proposition 6.4. It would be interesting to find out if two algebraic models are automatically Quillen equivalent or not.

## Appendix A Proof of Lemma 3.4

**Lemma 3.4** For  $\eta, \nu, \sigma, y_0, y_1$ , and  $\mu$  in  $\pi_* L_1S^0$  as before, we have

$$\begin{aligned} X \wedge \eta &= \Phi(\eta) \text{ or } \Phi(\eta) + \Phi(y_1) & X \wedge \mu &= \Phi(\mu) \text{ or } \Phi(\mu) + \Phi(\eta^2\sigma) \\ X \wedge \nu &= u\Phi(\nu) \text{ for some odd } u \in \mathbb{Z} & X \wedge \sigma &= \bar{u}\Phi(\sigma) \text{ for some odd } \bar{u} \in \mathbb{Z} \\ X \wedge y_0 &= \Phi(y_0) & X \wedge y_1 &= \Phi(y_1). \end{aligned}$$

**Proof**  $X \wedge \eta$ : On the mod-2 Moore spectrum  $M$ ,  $2 \text{Id}_M$  factors as

$$M \xrightarrow{\text{pinch}} S^1 \xrightarrow{\eta} S^0 \xrightarrow{\text{incl}} M,$$

and this composition is nonzero. Here, pinch denotes the map that “pinches” off the bottom cell of  $M$ , and incl denotes the inclusion of the zero-sphere into the bottom cell of  $M$ . Consequently,  $2 \text{Id}_{L_1 M}$  factors as

$$L_1 M \xrightarrow{\text{pinch}} L_1 S^1 \xrightarrow{\eta} L_1 S^0 \xrightarrow{\text{incl}} L_1 M.$$

Recall that  $\eta$  survives  $K_{(2)}$ -localisation. We now consider the exact triangle

$$S^0 \xrightarrow{2} S^0 \xrightarrow{\text{incl}} M \xrightarrow{\text{pinch}} S^1$$

in  $\text{Ho}(S)$ . The functor  $X \wedge - : \text{Ho}(S) \rightarrow \text{Ho}(\mathcal{C})$  is exact on the homotopy level,  $\Phi$  is exact and  $X \wedge S^0 \cong \Phi(L_1 S^0)$ , so we can choose an isomorphism

$$X \wedge M \cong \Phi(L_1 M)$$

such that  $X \wedge \text{pinch}$  corresponds to  $\Phi(\text{pinch})$  and  $X \wedge \text{incl}$  corresponds to  $\Phi(\text{incl})$ .

The functor  $X \wedge -$  is additive on the homotopy level, so

$$(6) \quad X \wedge 2 \text{Id}_{L_1 M} = 2 \text{Id}_{X \wedge M} \neq 0,$$

since

$$[X \wedge M, X \wedge M]_0^{\mathcal{C}} \cong [\Phi(L_1 M), \Phi(L_1 M)]_0^{\mathcal{C}} \cong [M, M]_0^{L_1 S} \cong \mathbb{Z}/4\{\text{Id}_{L_1 M}\}.$$

Furthermore,  $2 \text{Id}_{X \wedge M}$  factors as

$$X \wedge M \xrightarrow{X \wedge \text{pinch}} X \wedge S^1 \xrightarrow{X \wedge \eta} X \wedge S^0 \xrightarrow{X \wedge \text{incl}} X \wedge M.$$

Consequently,

$$X \wedge \eta \in [X, X]_1^{\mathcal{C}} \cong \mathbb{Z}/2\{\Phi(\eta), \Phi(y_1)\}$$

cannot be zero.

Also,  $X \wedge \eta$  cannot be  $\Phi(y_1)$  either: the composition

$$L_1 M \xrightarrow{\text{pinch}} L_1 S^1 \xrightarrow{y_1} L_1 S^0 \xrightarrow{\text{incl}} L_1 M$$

is zero by equation (2) in Section 5. So if  $X \wedge \eta = \Phi(y_1)$ , then

$$\begin{aligned}
 2 \operatorname{Id}_{X \wedge M} &= (X \wedge \operatorname{incl}) \circ (X \wedge \eta) \circ (X \wedge \operatorname{pinch}) \\
 &= \Phi(\operatorname{incl}) \circ \Phi(y_1) \circ \Phi(\operatorname{pinch}) \\
 (7) \qquad \qquad &= \Phi(\operatorname{incl} \circ y_1 \circ \operatorname{pinch}) = \Phi(0) = 0,
 \end{aligned}$$

which is a contradiction to (6). It follows that either

$$(8) \qquad X \wedge \eta = \Phi(\eta) \quad \text{or} \quad X \wedge \eta = \Phi(\eta) + \Phi(y_1).$$

$X \wedge v$ : Whether  $X \wedge \eta = \Phi(\eta)$  or  $X \wedge \eta = \Phi(\eta) + \Phi(y_1)$ , we have

$$X \wedge \eta^3 = (X \wedge \eta)^3 = \Phi(\eta)^3.$$

as  $\eta y_1$  and  $y_1^2$  are both zero in  $\pi_* L_1 S^0$ . Since in  $\pi_3 L_1 S^0$  there is the relation  $\eta^3 = 4v$ , we have

$$4(X \wedge v) = X \wedge \eta^3 = 4\Phi(v).$$

As  $4\Phi(v) \neq 0$  in  $[X, X]_3^{\mathcal{C}} \cong \mathbb{Z}/8\{\Phi(v)\}$ ,  $X \wedge v$  has order eight in this group and is therefore a generator. Consequently

$$(9) \qquad X \wedge v = u\Phi(v), \quad \text{for some odd integer } u \in \mathbb{Z}.$$

$X \wedge \sigma$ : For  $X \wedge \sigma$  we look at the Toda bracket relation

$$8\sigma = \langle v, 8, v \rangle.$$

From this we obtain

$$X \wedge 8\sigma \in \langle X \wedge v, X \wedge 8, X \wedge v \rangle.$$

The indeterminacy of this Toda bracket is zero, thus, equality holds. By the computations above, we get

$$8(X \wedge \sigma) = X \wedge 8\sigma = \langle u\Phi(v), \Phi(8), u\Phi(v) \rangle = u^2\Phi(8\sigma)$$

which is nonzero in  $[X, X]_7^{\mathcal{C}} \cong \mathbb{Z}/16\{\Phi(\sigma)\}$ . We conclude that  $X \wedge \sigma$  has order 16 in this group, so

$$(10) \qquad X \wedge \sigma = \bar{u}\Phi(\sigma), \quad \text{for some odd integer } \bar{u} \in \mathbb{Z}.$$

$X \wedge \mu$ : Next, we use that  $\mu \in \langle 2, 8\sigma, \eta \rangle$  with indeterminacy  $\eta^2\sigma$ . It follows that

$$X \wedge \mu \in \langle X \wedge 2, X \wedge 8\sigma, X \wedge \eta \rangle.$$

Using our previous computations, this bracket either equals  $\langle 2, \Phi(8\sigma), \Phi(\eta) \rangle$  or  $\langle 2, \Phi(8\sigma), \Phi(\eta) + \Phi(y_1) \rangle$ .

In the first case,  $\langle 2, \Phi(8\sigma), \Phi(\eta) \rangle = \Phi(\langle 2, 8\sigma, \eta \rangle) = \{\Phi(\mu), \Phi(\mu) + \Phi(\eta^2\sigma)\}$  which is what we want.

For the second case, we compute

$$(11) \quad \langle 2, 8\sigma, \eta + y_1 \rangle \supseteq \langle 2, 8\sigma, \eta \rangle + \langle 2, 8\sigma, y_1 \rangle.$$

The bracket on the left side has indeterminacy  $\eta^2\sigma$ , which is the same as the indeterminacy of the first bracket on the right side. The last bracket has indeterminacy zero and contains the set  $\langle 2, 8\sigma, \eta \rangle y_0 = \{\mu y_0, \mu y_0 + \eta^2\sigma y_0\} = \{\eta^2\sigma\}$  (by the relations given in (1), so it equals  $\{\eta^2\sigma\}$ ). Thus, equality holds in (11), and we can also conclude in this case that

$$X \wedge \mu \in \{\Phi(\mu), \Phi(\mu) + \Phi(\eta^2\sigma)\}.$$

$X \wedge y_0$ : Next, we look at  $X \wedge y_0$ . Since  $y_0$  is the only nonzero torsion element in  $\pi_0 L_0 S^0 = \mathbb{Z}_{(2)} \oplus \mathbb{Z}/2$ , the element  $X \wedge y_0$  must be a torsion element as well, because the functor  $X \wedge -$  is additive. Consequently,  $X \wedge y_0$  either equals  $\Phi(y_0)$  or zero.

We now make use of the multiplicative relation  $\mu y_0 = \eta^2\sigma$  (see Ravenel [14, 8.15.(d)]). We have already seen that  $X \wedge \eta^2\sigma = \bar{u}\Phi(\eta^2\sigma) \neq 0$ , so  $X \wedge y_0$  cannot be zero. Consequently,

$$X \wedge y_0 = \Phi(y_0).$$

$X \wedge y_1$ : Now determining  $X \wedge y_1$  is easy: we have  $y_1 = \eta y_0$ , so

$$X \wedge y_1 = (X \wedge \eta)(X \wedge y_0) = \Phi(\eta)\Phi(y_0) \quad \text{or} \quad = \Phi(\eta)\Phi(y_0) + \Phi(y_0^2)$$

which in either case equals  $\Phi(y_1)$  since  $y_0^2 = 0$  by Ravenel [14, 8.15.(d)].  $\square$

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Department of Pure Mathematics, University of Sheffield  
 Hicks Building, Hounsfield Road, Sheffield, S3 7RH, UK  
[C.Roitzheim@sheffield.ac.uk](mailto:C.Roitzheim@sheffield.ac.uk)  
<http://www.roitzheim.staff.shef.ac.uk/>

Proposed: Paul Goerss  
 Seconded: Haynes Miller, Bill Dwyer

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