

On the coalgebraic ring and  
Bousfield-Kan spectral sequence  
for a Landweber exact spectrum

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**Abstract**

*We construct a Bousfield-Kan (unstable Adams) spectral sequence based on an arbitrary (and not necessarily connective) ring spectrum  $E$  with unit and which is related to the homotopy groups of a certain unstable  $E$  completion  $X_E^\wedge$  of a space  $X$ . For  $E$  an  $\mathbb{S}$ -algebra this completion agrees with that of the first author and R. Thompson [7]. We also establish in detail the Hopf algebra structure of the unstable cooperations*

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(the coalgebraic module)  $E_*(\underline{E}_*)$  for an arbitrary Landweber exact spectrum  $E$ , extending work of the second author with M. Hopkins [15] and with P. Turner [20] and giving basis-free descriptions of the modules of primitives and indecomposables. Taken together, these results enable us to give a simple description of the  $E_2$ -page of the  $E$ -theory Bousfield-Kan spectral sequence when  $E$  is any Landweber exact ring spectrum with unit. This extends work of the first author and others and gives a tractable unstable Adams spectral sequence based on a  $v_n$ -periodic theory for all  $n$ .

## Introduction

An unstable Adams spectral sequence computes homotopy theoretic information for a space  $X$  from homological information. More specifically, such a spectral sequence based on a homology theory  $E_*(-)$  seeks, under certain hypotheses, to compute the homotopy of an appropriate  $E$ -completion of  $X$  from an Ext group (in a suitable category) involving  $E_*(X)$ . This paper identifies, for  $E$  a general ring spectrum with unit, an unstable  $E$ -completion  $X_E^\wedge$  of  $X$  and an associated  $E$ -theory Bousfield-Kan spectral sequence with  $E_2$ -term the homology of a certain unstable cobar complex. When  $E$  is an arbitrary Landweber exact spectrum [22] we obtain a more tractable description of the  $E_2$ -term, and, when  $E$  additionally has the structure of an  $\mathbb{S}$ -algebra in the sense of [13], our completion  $X_E^\wedge$  and spectral sequence agree with those of [7]. In order to obtain the description of the  $E_2$ -term we prove a number of results on the generalised homology of the spaces in the  $\Omega$ -spectrum for

a Landweber exact theory  $E$ , that is, on the coalgebraic ring  $F_*(\underline{E}_*)$ . These results are of independent interest; see, for example, [14].

The first example of an unstable Adams spectral sequence based on a theory  $E$  other than ordinary homology was that of the first author with E. Curtis and H. Miller [5] which considered the case of a connective theory  $E$  and concentrated in particular on the case of  $BP$ -theory. This provided a sequence that converged to the  $p$ -localisation of the unstable homotopy of an odd dimensional sphere and identified the  $E_2$ -term as an Ext group in a non-abelian category of unstable  $BP_*(BP)$ -coalgebras. Using results of Wilson [25], the  $E_2$ -term was given a simpler, and more computationally practical, interpretation as the homology of an unstable cobar complex and which could be further considered [4] as the homology of a certain subcomplex of the *stable* cobar complex. This spectral sequence and subsequent variations were generalisations of that of Bousfield and Kan [9] and we refer throughout to all these models as Bousfield-Kan spectral sequences.

A more mysterious gadget however has been that of a Bousfield-Kan spectral sequence based on a *periodic* theory  $E$ . Theories  $E$  one would naturally wish to consider include complex  $K$ -theory, the Johnson-Wilson theories  $E(n)$  and the Morava  $E$ - and  $K$ -theories; for technical reasons one is probably going to make easiest headway with those theories  $E$  which are also Landweber exact, as in the connective example  $BP$  successfully dealt with by [5] and subsequent papers. With R. Thompson, the first author has developed a framework [7] to define and study sequences based on periodic theories. The requirements on  $E$  to set such a sequence up, to identify the  $E_2$ -term in a practical and

computable manner, and to prove convergence to an identifiable object are however significant. In brief, convergence is proved, in appropriate cases, to a certain ‘unstable  $E$ -completion’ of the underlying space  $X$ , where this completion is defined as  $\text{Tot}$  of a certain cosimplicial space, and is defined only when  $E$  is represented by an  $\mathbb{S}$ -algebra in the sense of [13]. Of the example theories  $E$  listed above, to present knowledge this rules out all but complex  $K$ -theory and the Morava  $E$ -theories.

The understanding of the  $E_2$ -page of any of these Bousfield-Kan spectral sequences involves in large part having good and well understood structure in the unstable  $E$ -theory cooperation algebras, that is, in the *coalgebraic ring* [19] or *Hopf ring* [24]  $E_*(\underline{E}_*)$  where the  $\underline{E}_r$  denote the spaces in the  $\Omega$ -spectrum for  $E$ -theory. In [7] the  $E_2$ -term was identified in a practical manner under the hypotheses that each  $E_*(\underline{E}_r)$  was free as an  $E_*$ -module and that the submodule of primitives  $PE_*(\underline{E}_r)$  inject under infinite stabilisation in the stable cooperation ring  $E_*(E)$ . Work of the second author and M. Hopkins [15] showed that these hypotheses were satisfied for a Landweber exact theory  $E$  whose coefficients were ‘not too large’: this included the cases of  $K$ -theory and the Johnson-Wilson theories  $E(n)$ , but not the  $\mathbb{S}$ -algebra examples of the Morava  $E$ -theories. Between these two sets of requirements on  $E$  – for convergence and for the computation of the  $E_2$ -term – fully satisfactory results in [7] were obtainable only when  $E$  was taken as complex  $K$ -theory.

The main results of this paper fall into three sections. In section 1 we study in depth the homology and generalised homology of the spaces  $\underline{E}_r$  in the  $\Omega$ -spectrum for an arbitrary Landweber exact theory  $E$ , assuming

only that the coefficients  $E_*$  are concentrated in even dimensions (an assumption which fails only in rather artificial examples). These results extend those of [15], removing the size restrictions on the coefficients, proving for example (Theorem 1.4) that the algebras  $F_*(\underline{E}_r)$  for a wide class of homology theories  $F_*(-)$  are polynomial or exterior for  $r$  even or odd respectively. However, they go further than the type of results in [15], giving also basis-free descriptions (Theorem 1.10) of the modules of primitives and indecomposables associated to the  $F_*(\underline{E}_r)$ . Unusually for results on the coalgebraic ring  $F_*(\underline{E}_*)$  for theories  $F$  and  $E$ , these results give explicit descriptions of the individual Hopf algebras  $F_*(\underline{E}_r)$ , rather than just implicit descriptions in terms of the global object  $F_*(\underline{E}_*)$ . We also relate (Corollary 1.11) the modules  $PF_*(\underline{E}_r)$  and  $QF_*(\underline{E}_r)$  to the primitives and indecomposables of the universal example  $MU_*(\underline{MU}_*)$ . These results are of independent interest in the study of the homology of  $\Omega$ -spectra, having applications, for example, to group cohomology [14] and [18]. In the case of certain completed spectra, such as the Morava  $E$ -theories and the Baker-Würgler completions  $\widehat{E}(n)$  [3], these results have parallels with those of [16] where the homological effects of completion on  $\Omega$ -spectra are examined using rather different methods.

In section 2 we suppose  $E$  merely to be a ring spectrum with a unit. For a space  $X$  we define a notion (Definition 2.2) of  $E$ -completion of  $X$ , denoted  $X_E^\wedge$ . If  $E$  is an  $\mathbb{S}$ -algebra then the space  $X_E^\wedge$  turns out to be homotopy equivalent to the  $E$ -completion of  $X$  as defined in [7]. The  $E$ -theory Bousfield-Kan spectral sequence related to the homotopy groups of this space  $X_E^\wedge$  is introduced and we identify (Theorem 2.8) the  $E_2$ -page as the homology of an unstable cobar complex.

The results of section 2 are very general but as they stand offer small hope for specific computation. In section 3 we build on them in the special case of a Landweber exact ring spectrum (with unit), using the work of section 1 on the coalgebraic ring for such a spectrum. The main result here is a ‘change of rings’ theorem that identifies (Theorem 3.1) the  $E_2$ -page of the  $E$ -theory Bousfield-Kan spectral sequence of section 2 as an Ext group in a convenient, moreover abelian, category. This applies to spaces  $X$  such as torsion free H-spaces and odd dimensional spheres. We note also (Remark 3.11) that a similar result holds for spaces such as  $\Omega S^{2n+1}$ , though care is needed for such examples as, by the work of section 1, the relevant Hopf algebras  $E_*(\underline{E}_{2r})$  in the computation are not primitively generated. Taken together, the results of this article allow for the construction and description of an unstable Adams spectral sequence based on a  $v_n$ -periodic theory for any positive integer  $n$ , extending the framework of [7] which established the  $v_1$ -periodic case.

**Notation** The convention we use for denoting spaces, spectra, *etc.* related to a theory  $E$  is as follows. For a theory  $E$  we write  $E_*(-)$  and  $E^*(-)$  for the generalised  $E$ -homology and cohomology,  $\mathbf{E}$  for the associated spectrum when we wish to consider it as an explicit object in the stable category, and  $\underline{E}_r$  and  $\underline{E}_*$  for the spaces in the  $\Omega$ -spectrum and for the  $\Omega$ -spectrum itself. Thus the space  $\underline{E}_r$  represents the cohomological functor  $E^r(-)$  in the sense that  $E^r(X) = [X, \underline{E}_r]$  for any space  $X$ . The  $\underline{E}_r$  are related by equivalences  $\Omega \underline{E}_{r+1} \simeq \underline{E}_r$ .

# 1 The coalgebraic module $F_*(\underline{E}_*)$

Throughout this section we shall assume that  $\underline{E}_*$  is an  $\Omega$ -spectrum representing a Landweber exact cohomology theory [22]. Such theories include the examples of complex cobordism  $MU$  and the Brown-Peterson theories  $BP$  [1], the Johnson-Wilson theories  $E(n)$  [21] and their  $I_n$ -adic completions  $\widehat{E(n)}$  [3] as well as Morava  $E$ -theory, complex  $K$ -theory, various forms of elliptic cohomology [23] and their completions. For simplicity in the statement of our results, we assume the coefficients  $E_*$  are concentrated in even degrees; this is satisfied by all standard examples including all those just mentioned. As  $\mathbf{E}$  is necessarily a module spectrum over  $\mathbf{MU}$ , the mod  $p$  homology  $H_*(\underline{E}_*; \mathbb{F}_p)$  will be a *coalgebraic module* over both  $H_*(\underline{MU}_*; \mathbb{F}_p)$  and  $\mathbb{F}_p[MU^*]$  in the sense of [19]; if, as will in fact generally be the case,  $\mathbf{E}$  is a ring spectrum,  $H_*(\underline{E}_*; \mathbb{F}_p)$  will be a coalgebraic ring (Hopf ring) and a coalgebraic algebra over these objects as well. We assume the notation and results on  $H_*(\underline{MU}_*; \mathbb{F}_p)$  to be found in [24] and the notions of coalgebraic algebra as in [19, 24]. If  $\mathbf{E}$  is a  $p$ -local spectrum then similar statements hold on replacement of  $MU$  by  $BP$ .

The work of [19] establishes in particular a tensor product  $\overline{\otimes}$  in the category of  $\mathbb{F}_p[MU^*]$  coalgebraic modules; note that this is quite distinct from the tensor product of the underlying  $\mathbb{F}_p$  coalgebras. The main theorem of [20] tells us

**Theorem 1.1**  $H_*(\underline{E}_*; \mathbb{F}_p) \cong H_*(\underline{MU}_*; \mathbb{F}_p) \overline{\otimes}_{\mathbb{F}_p[MU^*]} \mathbb{F}_p[E^*].$  □

**Corollary 1.2**  $H_*(\underline{E}_{2r+1}; \mathbb{F}_p)$  is an exterior algebra.

**Proof** Consider the indecomposable quotient  $QH_*(\underline{E}_{2r+1}; \mathbb{F}_p)$ . Unwinding the definition of  $\overline{\otimes}$ , elements in this quotient are represented by sums of  $\circ$  products of elements of the form  $q\overline{\otimes}x$  where  $q$  represents an indecomposable in an odd  $MU$  space and  $x \in \mathbb{F}_p[E^*] = H_0(\underline{E}_*; \mathbb{F}_p)$  (this follows from the fact that  $E^*$  is concentrated in even dimensions). As  $QH_*(\underline{MU}_s; \mathbb{F}_p)$  lies in odd homological dimensions if  $s$  is odd, [24], we conclude that  $QH_*(\underline{E}_{2r+1}; \mathbb{F}_p)$  lies in odd homological dimension.

Thus any finite dimensional sub-Hopf algebra of  $H_*(\underline{E}_{2r+1}; \mathbb{F}_p)$  lies in a finite dimensional sub-Hopf algebra generated by odd dimensional elements, and so is an exterior algebra. As  $H_*(\underline{E}_{2r+1}; \mathbb{F}_p)$  is the colimit of its finite dimensional subalgebras, the result follows.  $\square$

**Corollary 1.3**  $H_*(\underline{E}_{2r}; \mathbb{F}_p)$  is a polynomial algebra and homology suspension induces an isomorphism  $QH_*(\underline{E}_{2r}; \mathbb{F}_p) \cong QH_*(\underline{E}_{2r+1}; \mathbb{F}_p)$ .

**Proof** This is an immediate consequence of Corollary 1.2 and the homology Eilenberg-Moore spectral sequence [12]

$$\text{Cotor}^{H_*(\underline{E}_{2r+1}; \mathbb{F}_p)}(\mathbb{F}_p, \mathbb{F}_p) \implies H_*(\underline{E}_{2r}; \mathbb{F}_p).$$

As  $H_*(\underline{E}_{2r+1}; \mathbb{F}_p)$  is exterior, the  $E^2$ -page is already polynomial and is concentrated in even degrees. The sequence thus collapses and the result follows.  $\square$

We require knowledge of  $F_*(\underline{E}_*)$  for more general theories  $F$  than just mod  $p$  homology; for example we need results with  $F = E$  for the unstable homotopy spectral sequences later, but other examples are of importance too. For the remainder of this article we shall assume that  $F$  is a  $p$ -local ring spectrum, with coefficients torsion free and concentrated

in even dimensions. We shall have occasion also to consider a version of a theory  $F$  with coefficients reduced mod  $p$ ; such homology of a space  $X$  will be denoted  $F_*(X; \mathbb{F}_p)$ .

**Theorem 1.4** *Suppose  $\underline{E}_*$  and  $F$  are as above. Then  $F_*(\underline{E}_s)$  is a free  $F_*$  module, with algebra structure polynomial for  $s$  even and exterior for  $s$  odd.*

**Proof** Begin with the case  $F = H\mathbb{Z}_{(p)}$ . As  $H_*(\underline{E}_{2r}; \mathbb{F}_p)$  is polynomial, and in even dimensions, its generators lift to polynomial generators of the torsion free algebra  $H_*(\underline{E}_{2r}; \mathbb{Z}_{(p)})$ . From this we can deduce that the homology of the odd spaces  $H_*(\underline{E}_{2r+1}; \mathbb{Z}_{(p)})$  are torsion free, exterior algebras, generated by the suspensions of generators of  $H_*(\underline{E}_{2r}; \mathbb{Z}_{(p)})$ . The result for general  $F$  follows by a collapsing Atiyah-Hirzebruch spectral sequence argument.  $\square$

**Corollary 1.5** *For  $\underline{E}_*$  and  $F$  as above,  $F_*(\underline{E}_*)$  is a  $F_*(\underline{MU}_*)$  coalgebraic module; if  $\mathbf{E}$  is a ring spectrum,  $F_*(\underline{E}_*)$  is also a coalgebraic ring.*

**Proof** This result is a standard and formal argument (see, for example, [24]) and follows as soon as a Künneth theorem

$$F_*(\underline{E}_r \times \underline{E}_s) \cong F_*(\underline{E}_r) \otimes_{F_*} F_*(\underline{E}_s)$$

is established. This holds by the freeness result of (1.4).  $\square$

For  $\mathbf{E}$  a ring spectrum, recall the algebraic model coalgebraic rings  $F_*^R(\underline{E}_*)$  and  $F_*^Q(\underline{E}_*)$  constructed in [24] and [17] respectively. The former,  $F_*^R(\underline{E}_*)$ , is the free  $F_*[E^*]$  coalgebraic algebra generated by certain

classes arising from the complex orientation on  $E$ , modulo specific relations arising from the interaction of the  $E$  and  $F$  formal group laws; the latter,  $F_*^Q(\underline{E}_*)$ , can be constructed as a certain sub-coalgebraic ring of the rational object  $F\mathbb{Q}_*(\underline{E}\mathbb{Q}_*)$ . There are natural maps

$$F_*(\underline{E}_*) \xleftarrow{\tau} F_*^R(\underline{E}_*) \longrightarrow F_*^Q(\underline{E}_*).$$

**Corollary 1.6** *For  $E$  and  $F$  as above, there are isomorphisms of coalgebraic rings*

$$F_*(\underline{E}_*) \cong F_*^R(\underline{E}_*) \cong F_*^Q(\underline{E}_*).$$

**Proof** That  $\tau$  is an isomorphism follows from [20] and the corresponding result for  $MU$ , [24]. This, together with the fact that  $F_*(\underline{E}_*)$  is torsion free by Theorem 1.4, gives the second isomorphism using [17] corollary 6.3.  $\square$

We seek now to describe the modules of primitives  $PF_*(\underline{E}_s)$  and indecomposables  $QF_*(\underline{E}_s)$  for the Hopf algebras  $F_*(\underline{E}_s)$ . One of the main ideas of [17] is that when  $F_*(\underline{E}_*)$  is torsion free (as here), simple descriptions of its algebra structure can be obtained by identifying its image in the rational coalgebraic ring  $F\mathbb{Q}_*(\underline{E}\mathbb{Q}_*)$ . The following result allows analagous descriptions of  $PF_*(\underline{E}_s)$  and  $QF_*(\underline{E}_s)$  by embedding these modules in the *stable* object  $F_*(E)$ .

**Proposition 1.7** *For  $E$  and  $F$  as above, homology suspension induces monomorphisms*

$$\begin{aligned} PF_*(\underline{E}_s) &\longrightarrow F_{*-s}(E) \\ QF_*(\underline{E}_s) &\longrightarrow F_{*-s}(E). \end{aligned}$$

**Proof** The proof is essentially given by the following commutative diagram

$$\begin{array}{ccccc}
PF_*(\underline{E}_s) & \xrightarrow{\iota} & QF_*(\underline{E}_s) & \xrightarrow{\sigma_s} & F_{*-s}(E) \\
& & \downarrow Q\rho_* & & \downarrow \rho_* \\
& & QF\mathbb{Q}_*(\underline{E}_s) & \xrightarrow{\sigma_s} & F\mathbb{Q}_{*-s}(E).
\end{array}$$

The map  $\iota$  is the natural map from primitives to indecomposables; as  $F_*(\underline{E}_*)$  is torsion free, by (1.4), this is an inclusion. Infinite homology suspension from the  $s^{\text{th}}$  space is denoted by  $\sigma_s$  and  $\rho$  indicates the rationalisation map  $F \rightarrow F\mathbb{Q}$ . Then Theorem 1.4 tells us that the left hand vertical map  $Q\rho_*$  is a monomorphism, and the analysis of rational coalgebraic rings in [17] shows that the suspension  $\sigma_s: QF\mathbb{Q}_*(\underline{E}_s) \rightarrow F\mathbb{Q}_{*-s}(E)$  is also monic.  $\square$

This result allows us to give a basis free description of  $PF_*(\underline{E}_s)$  and  $QF_*(\underline{E}_s)$  as a submodule of the stable module  $F_*(E)$ . This generalizes the construction of [4], definition 2.13. First though we need to recall some standard notation for elements in coalgebraic rings; see [24] for further details.

Recall there are classes  $b_t \in H_{2t}(\underline{MU}_2)$ . When localized at a prime  $p$  (as here) it is customary to denote the class  $b_{p^s}$  by  $b_{(s)} \in H_{2p^s}(\underline{MU}_2)$ . We shall use this notation throughout, reserving the names  $b_t$  (without brackets) for elements of the *stable* module  $F_*(E)$ , as below. There is also the suspension element  $e \in H_1(\underline{MU}_1)$  with the relation  $e\circ e = -b_{(0)}$ . For  $v$  a homogeneous element of  $MU_*$ , say  $v \in MU_{|v|} = \pi_0(\underline{MU}_{-|v|})$ , we have the element  $[v] \in H_0(\underline{MU}_{-|v|})$ , its Hurewicz image; note that  $v \in MU_{|v|} = MU^{-|v|}$  and  $|v| \geq 0$ . By [24],  $H_*(\underline{MU}_*; \mathbb{Z}_{(p)})$  is generated as a coalgebraic ring by the classes  $[v]$ ,  $e$  and  $b_{(s)}$ . The algebraic models

$F_*^R(\underline{E}_*)$  are by definition generated by the analogous elements  $[v]$ ,  $e$  and  $b_{(s)}$  with the  $v$  homogenous elements of  $E_*$ , and by Corollary 1.6 we know the corresponding classes also generate  $F_*(\underline{E}_*)$ .

The suspension homomorphisms,  $\sigma_s: F_*(\underline{E}_s) \rightarrow F_{*-s}(E)$  send  $b_{(i)}$  to  $b_i \in F_{2p^i-2}(E)$ , kill  $*$  products and take  $\circ$  products to multiplication in  $F_*(E)$ ; note in particular that  $\sigma_2: b_{(0)} \mapsto 1$ . For  $v$  a homogeneous element of  $E_*$ , we denote also by  $v$  the image of  $[v]$  under suspension in  $F_{|v|}(E)$ ; this is additionally the image of  $v$  in  $F_*(E)$  under the right unit  $F_* \rightarrow F_*(E)$ .

We shall denote the free  $E_*$  module generated by a class  $\iota_n$  in dimension  $n$  by  $M_n$ , or, when we need to indicate the  $\Omega$  spectrum considered, by  $M_n^E$ . This is useful for keeping track of the domain of the stabilization map,  $\sigma_s: F_*(\underline{E}_s) \rightarrow F_{*-s}(E)$  and is accomplished by defining the range of  $\sigma_s$  to be  $F_{*-s}(E) \otimes_{E_*} M_s$ . In this notation  $b_{(i)} \in F_{2p^i}(\underline{E}_2)$  maps to  $b_i \otimes \iota_2$  while a class such as  $b_{(i)} \circ [v] \in F_{2p^i}(\underline{E}_{2-|v|})$  maps to  $b_i \otimes v \iota_{2-|v|}$ . Notice that the suspension homomorphisms now preserve dimension.

For each finite sequence of non-negative integers  $I = (i_1, i_2, \dots, i_n)$  we write  $b^I$  for the stable element

$$b^I = b_1^{i_1} b_2^{i_2} \cdots b_n^{i_n} \in F_*(E).$$

The *length* of  $I$  is the integer  $l(I) = i_1 + \cdots + i_n$ . Write  $b^{\circ I}$  for the *unstable* element  $b_{(1)}^{\circ i_1} \circ \cdots \circ b_{(n)}^{\circ i_n} \in F_*(\underline{E}_{2l(I)})$ . Of course  $\sigma_{2l(I)}: b^{\circ I} \mapsto b^I$ . More generally, any element of the form  $(b_{(0)}^{\circ r} \circ b^{\circ I} + \text{decomposables})$  suspends to  $b^I$ .

**Definition 1.8** *Let  $M$  be a free, graded  $E_*$ -module. Write  $U_F(M)$  for the sub- $F_*$ -module of  $F_*(E) \otimes_{E_*} M$  spanned by all elements of the form*

$b^I \otimes m$  where  $2l(I) < |m|$ .

**Definition 1.9** Let  $M$  be a free, graded  $E_*$ -module. Write  $V_F(M)$  for the sub- $F_*$ -module of  $F_*(E) \otimes_{E_*} M$  spanned by all elements of the form  $b^I \otimes m$  where  $2l(I) \leq |m|$ .

The special case of the next result for  $E = F = BP$  was proved in [4, 5].

**Theorem 1.10** The image of the suspension homomorphism,  $\sigma_s: QF_*(\underline{E}_s) \rightarrow F_{*-s}(E) \otimes_{E_*} M_s \cong F_*(E)$  lies in  $V(M_s)$  and

$$\sigma_s: QF_*(\underline{E}_s) \rightarrow V(M_s)$$

is an isomorphism.

Furthermore the image of  $\sigma_s|_{PF_*(\underline{E}_s)}$  lies in  $U(M_s)$  and

$$\sigma_s: PF_*(\underline{E}_s) \rightarrow U(M_s)$$

is an isomorphism.

**Proof** We start with the identification of the image of the indecomposables  $QF_*(\underline{E}_s)$  with  $V_F(M_s)$ . As  $\sigma_s$  on  $QF_*(\underline{E}_s)$  is monomorphic this will prove the first statement. We begin with the case where  $s$  is even.

By Corollary 1.6 we know that any element of  $QF_*(\underline{E}_s)$  can be written as a  $F_*$ -linear sum of elements of the form  $b_{(0)}^{\circ r} \circ b^{\circ I} \circ [v]$  with  $r \geq 0$ . Such an element suspends to  $b^I \otimes v\iota_s$ . The condition that an element  $b_{(0)}^{\circ r} \circ b^{\circ I} \circ [v]$  lies in the  $F$ -homology of the  $s^{\text{th}}$  space  $\underline{E}_s$  is that  $2r + 2l(I) - |v| = s$ , thus  $2l(I) \leq |v| + s = |v\iota_s|$  and so the image of  $\sigma_s$  lies in  $V_F(M_s)$ .

Conversely, if  $b^I \otimes v_{\iota_s}$  lies in  $V_F(M_s)$  then  $2l(I) - |v| \leq s$  and so  $b^I \otimes v_{\iota_s} = \sigma_s(b_{(0)}^{or} \circ b^{\circ I} \circ [v])$  where  $2r = s + |v| - 2l(I) \geq 0$ . Hence  $\sigma_s$  is onto  $V_F(M_s)$  and the isomorphism for even spaces is shown.

The result for odd spaces is very similar; note that circle multiplication by  $e$  induces a one to one correspondence between  $QF_*(\underline{E}_{2t})$  and  $QF_*(\underline{E}_{2t+1})$ .

The result for primitives is again similar and follows immediately after making the observation that  $PF_*(\underline{E}_s)$  for even  $s$  is the  $F_*$ -linear span of elements of the form  $b_{(0)}^{or} \circ b^{\circ I} \circ [v]$  with  $r > 0$ . Also, for odd  $s$  there is an isomorphism  $PF_*(\underline{E}_s) \cong QF_*(\underline{E}_s)$ .  $\square$

The  $F_*$ -module  $QF_*(\underline{E}_s)$  is not as it stands an  $E_*$  module, but may be modified to be so. Looking at all the spaces together, the bigraded object  $QF_*(\underline{E}_*)$  is an  $E_*$  module under the action  $x \otimes v \mapsto x \circ [v]$  for  $x \in QF_*(\underline{E}_*)$  and  $v \in E_*$ . (Verification that  $x \circ [v + w] = x \circ [v] + x \circ [w]$  in  $QF_*(\underline{E}_*)$  is left as an exercise in coalgebraic modules: see the axioms listed in [24].)

We may modify the construction of  $V_F(M_s)$  so as also to carry the action of  $E_*$  by considering the corresponding bigraded object  $V_F(M_*)$  equipped with the action  $(y \otimes v_{\iota_s}) \otimes w \mapsto y \otimes v w_{\iota_{s-|w|}}$ . Define a global suspension map  $\sigma: QF_*(\underline{E}_*) \rightarrow V_F(M_*)$  as  $\sigma_s$  on the component  $QF_*(\underline{E}_s)$ . With these definitions and the previous result it may easily be checked that  $\sigma$  is a  $F_*$ - $E_*$  bimodule isomorphism. Similar constructions may be made and results established for the objects of primitives  $PF_*(\underline{E}_*)$  and  $U_F(M_*)$ .

Our second description of the modules of primitives and indecomposables for  $F_*(\underline{E}_s)$  can now be given in terms of a simple relation to

those of the universal theories. As in the underlying philosophy of [24], etc., this requires us to consider all spaces  $\underline{E}_s$  together.

**Corollary 1.11** *Let  $E$  and  $F$  be as above. Then there are isomorphisms*

$$QF_*(\underline{E}_*) = F_* \otimes_{MU_*} QMU_*(\underline{MU}_*) \otimes_{MU_*} E_* = QF_*(\underline{MU}_*) \otimes_{MU_*} E_*$$

$$PF_*(\underline{E}_*) = F_* \otimes_{MU_*} PMU_*(\underline{MU}_*) \otimes_{MU_*} E_* = PF_*(\underline{MU}_*) \otimes_{MU_*} E_*$$

where  $\otimes$  means tensor product of modules in the standard sense. Assuming  $E$  is  $p$ -local, analogous results hold on replacing  $MU$  by  $BP$ .

**Proof** We prove the first line, concerning the indecomposable functor: the proof of the version involving the primitives is essentially identical. Note also that the equality

$$F_* \otimes_{MU_*} QMU_*(\underline{MU}_*) \otimes_{MU_*} E_* = QF_*(\underline{MU}_*) \otimes_{MU_*} E_*$$

follows immediately since each  $MU_*(\underline{MU}_s)$  is a free (left)  $MU_*$  algebra and hence  $F_* \otimes_{MU_*} QMU_*(\underline{MU}_*) = QF_*(\underline{MU}_*)$ .

We show that  $QF_*(\underline{E}_*) = QF_*(\underline{MU}_*) \otimes_{MU_*} E_*$ . By Theorem 1.10 it suffices to show that  $V_F(M_*^E) = V_F(M_*^{MU}) \otimes_{MU_*} E_*$ . Of these, the left hand side is the (bigraded) sub- $F_*$ -module of  $F_*(E) \otimes_{E_*} M_*^E$  spanned in grading  $s$  by elements  $b^I \otimes m_{\nu_s}$  satisfying  $2l(I) \leq |\nu_s|$ . As  $E$  is Landweber exact, and, by definition,  $M_*^E$  and  $M_*^{MU}$  are free over  $E_*$  and  $MU_*$  respectively in each grading,

$$F_*(E) \otimes_{E_*} M_*^E = F_*(MU) \otimes_{MU_*} E_* \otimes_{E_*} M_*^E = F_*(MU) \otimes_{MU_*} M_*^{MU} \otimes_{MU_*} E_*.$$

Under this equivalence, the element  $b^I \otimes m \iota_s \in V_F(M_*^E) \subset F_*(E) \otimes_{E_*} M_*^E$  is then identified with

$$b^I \otimes \iota_s \otimes m \in V_F(M_*^{MU}) \otimes_{MU_*} E_* \subset F_*(MU) \otimes_{MU_*} M_*^{MU} \otimes_{MU_*} E_*.$$

This is also onto  $V_F(M_*^{MU}) \otimes_{MU_*} E_*$  as the map  $MU \rightarrow E$  induces a left inverse.  $\square$

The constructions  $U_F$  and  $V_F$  may be extended to other  $E_*$  modules  $M$ . For an arbitrary non-negatively graded left  $E_*$ -module  $M$  let

$$F_1 \xrightarrow{f} F_0 \rightarrow M \rightarrow 0$$

be exact with  $F_0$  and  $F_1$  free over  $E_*$ . Then  $U_F$  may be extended to  $M$  by defining

$$U_F(M) = \text{coker}(U_F(f): U_F(F_1) \rightarrow U_F(F_0)).$$

$V_F$  is similarly extended to such  $E_*$ -modules.

**Proposition 1.12**

$$\begin{aligned} V_F(M_s \otimes \mathbb{Z}/p) &\cong QF_*(\underline{E}_s; \mathbb{F}_p) \\ U_F(M_s \otimes \mathbb{Z}/p) &\cong \text{Im}(PF_*(\underline{E}_s; \mathbb{F}_p) \rightarrow QF_*(\underline{E}_s; \mathbb{F}_p)). \end{aligned}$$

**Proof** Since  $F_*(\underline{E}_s)$  is a free algebra, there is a diagram with rows short exact

$$\begin{array}{ccccccc} 0 & \rightarrow & QF_*(\underline{E}_s) & \xrightarrow{\times p} & QF_*(\underline{E}_s) & \rightarrow & QF_*(\underline{E}_s; \mathbb{Z}/p) \rightarrow 0 \\ & & \parallel & & \parallel & & \\ 0 & \rightarrow & V_F(M_s) & \xrightarrow{\times p} & V_F(M_s) & \rightarrow & V_F(M_s \otimes \mathbb{Z}/p) \rightarrow 0. \end{array}$$

Hence there is an induced isomorphism  $QF_*(\underline{E}_s; \mathbb{F}_p) \rightarrow V_F(M_s \otimes \mathbb{Z}/p)$ .

A similar proof gives the second isomorphism.  $\square$

**Remark 1.13** Since in practice our cohomology theories tend to be  $\mathbb{Z}_{(p)}$  local it can be advantageous to use  $BP$  generators. The generators  $h_i = c(t_i)$ , where the  $t_i$  are the standard generators for  $BP_*(BP)$  and  $c$  denotes the canonical anti-isomorphism, have proven to be useful for unstable calculations. Following ([5], 8.5) we may replace the generator  $b_i$  with  $h_i$  in Theorem 1.10.

We conclude this section with an example to help clarify these definitions.

**Example 1.14** Let  $F = E = BP$ . We claim that  $ph_1 \otimes \iota_1$  defines a non-zero element in  $V_{BP}(M_1 \otimes \mathbb{Z}/p) = QBP_*(\underline{BP}_1; \mathbb{F}_p)$ , but which suspends to zero in  $QBP_*(\underline{BP}_2; \mathbb{F}_p)$ . To see that  $ph_1 \otimes \iota_1$  is indeed in  $V_{BP}(M_1 \otimes \mathbb{Z}/p)$ , note that the right action formula tells us that  $ph_1 = v_1 \cdot 1 - 1 \cdot v_1$ . Thus

$$ph_1 \otimes \iota_1 = v_1 \otimes \iota_1 - 1 \otimes v_1 \cdot \iota_1,$$

an element of  $V_{BP}(M_1)$ . This element is not divisible by  $p$  in  $V_{BP}(M_1)$ , and so is not zero in  $V_{BP}(M_1 \otimes \mathbb{Z}/p)$ . On the other hand,  $h_1 \otimes \iota_2$  is an element of  $V_{BP}(M_1)$  and so  $ph_1 \otimes \iota_2$  is  $p$ -divisible in  $V_{BP}(M_1)$  and thus is zero in  $V_{BP}(M_1 \otimes \mathbb{Z}/p)$ . In general,  $V_F(M_s \otimes \mathbb{Z}/p)$  is not a submodule of  $F_*(E)$ : when working mod  $p$  the unstable classes do not necessarily inject into the stable module.

In a similar fashion the right action formula for  $ph_1$  can be used to show that  $ph_1^n$  is a non-zero element in  $V_{BP}(M_{2n-1} \otimes \mathbb{Z}/p)$  but which suspends to zero in  $V_{BP}(M_{2n} \otimes \mathbb{Z}/p)$ .

**Example 1.15** Consider the Araki generators  $w_i \in BP_{2p^i-2}$ , as in [2],

$$pm_n = \sum_{0 \leq j \leq n} m_i(w_{n-i}^{p^i}); \quad w_0 = p.$$

We prefer the Araki generators to the Hazewinkel generators because of the integral form of Ravenel's formulæ

$$\sum^{F^*} h_j^{p^i} \cdot w_i = \sum^{F^*} w_j^{p^i} \cdot h_i.$$

Here  $\Sigma^F c(\gamma_i)$  is the formal group sum,  $c$  is the canonical anti-isomorphism and  $\Sigma^{F^*} \gamma_i = c(\Sigma^F c(\gamma_i))$ . (*i.e.*,  $\Sigma^{F^*}$  looks like the usual formal group law, but the formal group coefficients act on the right). It is easy to check that the Ravenel formulæ imply that  $\Sigma^{F^*} h_j^{p^i} \cdot w_i = \Sigma^{F^*} w_j^{p^i} \cdot h_i$  hold also in  $V_F(M_s^E)$  and  $V_F(M_s^E \otimes \mathbb{Z}/p)$  with  $s \geq 2$ . There are similar formulæ involving the Hazewinkel generators, but they are only true stably mod  $p$ . We do not know if the Hazewinkel generators satisfy similar, mod  $p$  formulæ, unstably.

If  $E = E(1)$ , Adams' summand of  $p$ -local  $K$ -theory, or equivalently the first Johnson-Wilson theory and we take  $F$  to be  $H$ , integral homology, these formulæ reduce to

$$\left( \sum^{F^*} h_j^p \cdot w_1 \right) \otimes \iota_s = 0 \text{ in } V_{H^*}(M_s \otimes \mathbb{Z}/p) \text{ if } s \geq 2.$$

Using the grading, this implies that  $h_j^p \cdot w_1 \otimes \iota_s = 0$  here. (Notice that  $h_j^p \cdot w_1 \otimes \iota_2 = h_j^p \otimes w_1 \cdot \iota_2$  and  $w_1 \cdot \iota_2$  has degree  $2p$  so this class is defined.)

## 2 The BKSS for $E$ -theory

Let  $\mathcal{S}$  be the category of pointed CW complexes and suppose  $\mathbf{E}$  is a ring spectrum with unit. Associated to  $\mathbf{E}$  is a functor  $T_E: \mathcal{S} \rightarrow \mathcal{S}$  given by sending  $X$  to  $\Omega^\infty(\mathbf{E} \wedge \Sigma^\infty X)$ . There are natural transformations  $\phi: 1_{\mathcal{S}} \rightarrow T_E$  and  $\mu: T_E^2 = T_E \circ T_E \rightarrow T_E$  induced by the unit and the multiplication in  $E$  respectively and these make  $(T_E, \phi, \mu)$  a *triple* up to homotopy. See, for example, [6, §2], [7, §4] and [8] for details of the notions of triple, cotriple, their associated categories and derived functors, as used in this and the next section.

If  $\mathbf{E}$  is an  $\mathbb{S}$ -algebra in the sense of [13] (for example,  $K$ -theory), it is shown in [7] that  $(T_E, \phi, \mu)$  is in fact a triple on the category  $\mathcal{S}$ . Following [10] there is then a cosimplicial space,  $\mathbf{T}_E X$ , with coface maps and codegeneracies denoted  $d^i$  and  $s^j$  respectively. The *completion of  $X$  with respect to  $\mathbf{E}$*  is taken as

$$X_E^\wedge = \text{Tot}(\mathbf{T}_E X).$$

The  $E_2$ -page of the Bousfield-Kan spectral sequence associated to  $X_E^\wedge$  is identified [7] with the homology of the *unstable cobar complex*,

$$E_2^s(X) = \pi^s \pi_* \mathbf{T}_E X = H^s(\pi_* \mathbf{T}_E X, \partial),$$

where  $\pi_* \mathbf{T}_E X$  is considered as a cochain complex with coboundary map  $\partial = \Sigma(-1)^i \pi_* d^i$ .

We wish however to be able to consider an ‘ $E$ -completion’ of a space  $X$  and a corresponding  $E$ -theory Bousfield-Kan spectral sequence whenever  $E$  is an arbitrary ring spectrum with a unit. In this section we use the results of [11] to construct (2.2) a space  $X_E^\wedge$  for any such  $E$ , and

prove it to be homotopic to the construction in [7] if  $\mathbf{E}$  is an  $\mathbb{S}$ -algebra. In Theorem 2.8 we identify the  $E_2$ -term of the  $E$ -theory Bousfield-Kan spectral sequence as an unstable cobar complex.

We recall the notion [11] of a *restricted cosimplicial space*, i.e., a “cosimplicial space” without the codegeneracies.

**Definition 2.1** *Suppose  $(T, \phi)$  is an augmented functor on  $\mathcal{S}$ , i.e., a functor  $T: \mathcal{S} \rightarrow \mathcal{S}$  equipped with a natural transformation  $\phi: 1_{\mathcal{S}} \rightarrow T$ . Let  $X$  be a space in  $\mathcal{S}$ . Define the restricted cosimplicial space  $\widehat{\mathbf{T}}X$  to be the restricted cosimplicial resolution with respect to  $T$  given by*

$$(\widehat{\mathbf{T}}X)^k = T^{k+1}X$$

*in codimension  $k$ , and coface maps given by*

$$((\widehat{\mathbf{T}}X)^{k-1} \xrightarrow{d^i} (\widehat{\mathbf{T}}X)^k) = (T^k X \xrightarrow{T^i \phi T^{k-i}} T^{k+1} X).$$

We may describe a restricted cosimplicial space as a diagram in  $\mathcal{S}$  as follows. Let  $\Delta_{\text{rest}}$  denote the *restricted simplicial category*, that is the category whose objects are finite ordered sets  $[n] = \{0, 1, \dots, n\}$  ( $n \geq 0$ ) and whose morphisms are strictly monotone maps. A restricted, unaugmented, cosimplicial space,  $\mathbf{C}_{\text{rest}}$  is equivalent to a functor

$$\mathbf{C}_{\text{rest}}: \Delta_{\text{rest}} \rightarrow \mathcal{S}.$$

In particular  $\widehat{\mathbf{T}}_E X \in \mathcal{S}^{\Delta_{\text{rest}}}$ .

The full simplicial category,  $\Delta$ , is the category whose objects are the sets  $[n]$  and whose morphisms are all weakly monotone maps. Then a cosimplicial space is a functor

$$\mathbf{C}: \Delta \rightarrow \mathcal{S}.$$

So  $\mathbf{C} \in \mathcal{S}^\Delta$ .

Let  $J: \Delta_{\text{rest}} \rightarrow \Delta$  be the inclusion functor. Then there is a natural transformation

$$J^*: \mathcal{S}^\Delta \rightarrow \mathcal{S}^{\Delta_{\text{rest}}},$$

essentially the forgetful functor from cosimplicial spaces to restricted cosimplicial spaces.

**Definition 2.2** For a general ring spectrum with unit  $\mathbf{E}$ , define  $X_E^\wedge$ , the  $E$ -completion of  $X$ , to be  $\text{holim}_{\leftarrow} \widehat{\mathbf{T}}_E X$ .

Strictly speaking, this definition only requires  $\mathbf{E}$  to have a unit. However, we shall need  $\mathbf{E}$  to have a ring structure directly after the next definition, which introduces an object lying between a cosimplicial space and a restricted cosimplicial space.

**Definition 2.3** A modified cosimplicial space is a restricted cosimplicial space with codegeneracies that satisfy cosimplicial-like identities

$$\begin{aligned} d^j d^i &= d^i d^{j-1} & i < j \\ s^j d^i &\simeq d^i s^{j-1} & i < j \\ &\simeq \text{id} & i = j, j+1 \\ &\simeq d^{i-1} s^j & i > j+1 \\ s^j s^i &\simeq s^{i-1} s^j & i > j \end{aligned}$$

where the first identity is the usual cosimplicial identity, but the rest are required to hold only up to homotopy.

**Remark 2.4** If  $\mathbf{E}$  is a ring spectrum with unit, then, for  $X \in \mathcal{S}$ , the triple  $(T_E, \phi, \mu)$  induces a modified cosimplicial space which we also

denote by  $\mathbf{T}_E X$ . Clearly any cosimplicial space  $\mathbf{C}$  is also a modified cosimplicial space and so if  $X$  is an  $\mathbb{S}$ -algebra the two objects denoted  $\mathbf{T}_E X$  agree.

**Remark 2.5** Corollary 3.9 of [11] proves that  $\mathrm{Tot}(\mathbf{C}) = \mathrm{holim}_{\leftarrow}(\mathbf{C}_{\mathrm{rest}})$  when  $\mathbf{C} = J^* \mathbf{C}_{\mathrm{rest}}$ . In particular, if  $\mathbf{E}$  is an  $\mathbb{S}$ -algebra, the completion  $X_E^\wedge$  defined in [7] agrees with that of Definition 2.2.

**Remark 2.6** It is not possible to apply  $\mathrm{Tot}$  to modified cosimplicial spaces. However, after applying  $\pi_*$  we obtain a cosimplicial group  $\pi_* \mathbf{T}_E X$  which we view as a diagram  $\pi_* \mathbf{T}_E X \in \mathcal{A}^\Delta$ , where  $\mathcal{A}$  is the category of abelian groups. Applying  $\pi_*$  to  $\widehat{\mathbf{T}}_E X$  gives an object in  $\mathcal{A}^{\Delta_{\mathrm{rest}}}$  which is  $J^*(\pi_* \mathbf{T}_E X)$ .

For a wide class of diagrams  $\underline{X} \in \mathcal{S}^I$  Bousfield and Kan [10], XI 7.1, define a spectral sequence related to the groups  $\pi_* \mathrm{holim}_{\leftarrow} \underline{X}$ .

**Definition 2.7** For  $X \in \mathcal{S}$  and  $\mathbf{E}$  a ring spectrum with unit, define  $E_r^{*,*}(X)$ , the  $E$ -theory Bousfield-Kan spectral sequence of  $X$ , as the Bousfield-Kan spectral sequence for  $\widehat{\mathbf{T}}_E X \in \mathcal{S}^{\Delta_{\mathrm{rest}}}$ .

**Theorem 2.8**  $E_2^{s,*}(X)$  is isomorphic to the homology of the unstable cobar complex. That is to say  $E_2^{s,*}(X) = \pi^s \pi_* \mathbf{T}_E X$

**Remark 2.9** Recall the cohomotopy  $\pi^s \underline{A}$  of a cosimplicial abelian group  $\underline{A}$  is defined [10], X 7.1, as the cohomology  $H^s(ch(\underline{A}), \partial)$  where  $(ch(\underline{A}), \partial)$  is the cochain complex given by  $ch(\underline{A})^n = \underline{A}^n$  and  $\partial = \sum (-1)^i d^i$ .

**Proof of (2.8)** Let  $I$  be either  $\Delta$  or  $\Delta_{\mathrm{rest}}$ . For  $\underline{X} \in \mathcal{S}^I$  the  $E_2$ -page is given by

$$E_2^{s,t} = \lim_{\leftarrow}^s \pi_t \underline{X}$$

([10] page 309). Since  $\pi_*\mathbf{T}_E X$  is a cosimplicial group,  $\lim_{\leftarrow}^s \pi_*\mathbf{T}_E X = \pi^s \pi_*\mathbf{T}_E X$  ([10], XI 7.3 (i)) and it suffices to show that

$$\lim_{\leftarrow}^s \pi_*\widehat{\mathbf{T}}_E X = \lim_{\leftarrow}^s \pi_*\mathbf{T}_E X.$$

For any fixed  $n$ , denote by  $\underline{K}^I(n) \in \mathcal{S}^I$  the diagrams of Eilenberg-Mac Lane spaces  $K(A, n)$  which correspond to  $\pi_*\mathbf{T}_E X \in \mathcal{A}^\Delta$  and  $\pi_*\widehat{\mathbf{T}}_E X \in \mathcal{A}^{\Delta_{\text{rest}}}$  for the respective  $I$  (see [10], XI 7.2). Then for  $s \leq n$  (again from [10], XI 7.2)

$$\begin{aligned} \lim_{\leftarrow}^s \pi_*\mathbf{T}_E X &= \pi_{n-s} \operatorname{holim}_{\leftarrow} \underline{K}^\Delta(n) \\ \lim_{\leftarrow}^s \pi_*\widehat{\mathbf{T}}_E X &= \pi_{n-s} \operatorname{holim}_{\leftarrow} \underline{K}^{\Delta_{\text{rest}}}(n) \end{aligned}$$

However,  $J: \Delta_{\text{rest}} \rightarrow \Delta$  is left cofinal ([11] page 193). Thus

$$J^*: \operatorname{holim}_{\leftarrow} \underline{K}^\Delta(n) \rightarrow \operatorname{holim}_{\leftarrow} \underline{K}^{\Delta_{\text{rest}}}(n)$$

is a homotopy equivalence. Since  $n$  was arbitrary, it follows that  $\lim_{\leftarrow}^s \pi_*\mathbf{T}_E X = \lim_{\leftarrow}^s \pi_*\widehat{\mathbf{T}}_E X$  for all  $s$ .  $\square$

### 3 The Unstable Cobar Complex for $E$ -theory

Section 2 identifies the  $E_2$ -page of the Bousfield-Kan spectral sequence for a ring spectrum with unit  $\mathbf{E}$  as the homology of the cochain complex  $ch(\pi_*\mathbf{T}_E X)$ . However, for practical purposes, as in [5, 7], *etc.*, it is important to be able to reinterpret this in terms of a more manageable object, in practice as the homology of a sub-complex of the *stable* cobar

complex, *i.e.*, as an Ext group over a more convenient (in particular, abelian) category.

We suppose for this section that  $\mathbf{E}$  is a Landweber exact ring spectrum with unit and (largely for convenience) that  $\mathbf{E}$  is  $p$ -local with coefficients  $E_*$  concentrated in even dimensions. Let  $\mathcal{M}$  be the category of free, graded  $E_*$ -modules. Drawing on the results of [5, 6, 7] and those of sections 1 and 2, we introduce a certain associated abelian category  $\mathcal{U}$ . Our main theorem is the following.

**Theorem 3.1** *Suppose  $\mathbf{E}$  is a Landweber exact ring spectrum with unit. Suppose  $M \in \mathcal{M}$  has  $E_*$ -module generators only in odd degrees and suppose  $X$  is a space with  $E_*(X) \cong \Lambda(M)$  as coalgebras, where  $\Lambda(M)$  is the  $E_*$ -Hopf algebra defined by letting  $M$  be the submodule of primitives, *i.e.*,  $\Lambda(M)$  is the exterior algebra on  $M$ . Then the  $E_2$ -term of the  $E$ -theory Bousfield-Kan spectral sequence of  $X$  can be identified as*

$$E_2^{s,t}(X) \cong \text{Ext}_{\mathcal{U}}^s(E_*(S^t), M).$$

**Example 3.2** Spaces  $X$  satisfying the hypotheses of the theorem include torsion free H-spaces and odd dimensional spheres.

We begin by defining functors  $G$  and  $U: \mathcal{M} \rightarrow \mathcal{M}$ . Here and below we draw on a number of the results of section 1 with  $F = E$ , *i.e.*, in this section we deal only with the coalgebraic ring  $E_*(\underline{E}_*)$ .

**Definition 3.3** *For a free  $E_*$ -module  $M$  define*

- (a)  $G(M)$  to be  $E_*(\underline{EM}_0)$ , where  $\mathbf{EM}$  denotes the spectrum realizing the homology theory  $E_*(-) \otimes_{E_*} M$ .
- (b)  $U(M)$  to be  $PG(M)$ , the primitive elements in  $G(M)$ .

Both  $G$  and  $U$  are functorial; they take values in  $\mathcal{M}$ , the category of free  $E_*$  modules, by the results of section 2.

**Remark 3.4 (a)** As  $M$  is a free  $E_*$ -module, it is helpful to observe that  $\underline{EM}_0 = \Omega^\infty \mathbf{E}M$  is a product of spaces in the  $\Omega$  spectrum associated to  $\mathbf{E}$  indexed by a set of generators of  $M$ . In particular, if  $\{g_i\}$  are a set of  $E_*$  generators of  $M$  with  $g_i$  in dimension  $|g_i|$ ,

$$\underline{EM}_0 = \Omega^\infty \left( \bigvee_i \Sigma^{-|g_i|} \mathbf{E} \right) = \prod_i \underline{E}_{-|g_i|}.$$

Moreover, with this notation,  $M \cong \pi_* (\bigvee_i \Sigma^{-|g_i|} \mathbf{E}) = \pi_* (\prod_i \underline{E}_{-|g_i|})$ .

**(b)** Note that  $G$  is closely related to the functor  $T_E: \mathcal{S} \rightarrow \mathcal{S}$  of section 2. For a space  $X \in \mathcal{S}$  with  $E_*(X) \in \mathcal{M}$ , there is an isomorphism

$$G(E_*(X)) \cong E_*(T_E(X)).$$

**(c)** Note also that  $U(M)$  is identical to the construction  $U_E(M)$  of section 1. There is of course a similar functor  $V: \mathcal{M} \rightarrow \mathcal{M}$  based on the indecomposable quotient of  $G(M)$  and given by the construction  $V_E(M)$  of section 1, but it will play no part in the proof of Theorem 3.1.

**Proposition 3.5** *The unit and product in  $\mathbf{E}$  respectively induce natural transformations*

$$\delta^G: G \rightarrow G^2 \quad \epsilon^G: G \rightarrow I$$

*making  $(G, \delta^G, \epsilon^G)$  a cotriple on the category  $\mathcal{M}$ . There are similar natural transformations  $\delta^U: U \rightarrow U^2$ ,  $\epsilon^U: U \rightarrow I$  making  $(U, \delta^U, \epsilon^U)$  also a cotriple on  $\mathcal{M}$  and a sub-cotriple of  $(G, \delta^G, \epsilon^G)$ .*

**Proof** The proof is essentially as in sections 6 and 7 of [5]; moreover, with the first observations of Remark 3.4 the maps  $\delta^G$  and  $\epsilon^G$ , for example, may be written explicitly. Alternatively, for Landweber exact  $\mathbf{E}$ , given the definition (1.8) and Theorem 1.10, the result on  $(U, \delta^U, \epsilon^U)$  also follows from the coaction formulæ for the  $b_i$ .  $\square$

**Remark 3.6** As usual the cotriples define categories  $\mathcal{G}$  and  $\mathcal{U}$  of  $G$ , respectively  $U$ , coalgebras: writing  $C$  for either  $G$  or  $U$ , recall that a  $C$  coalgebra in  $\mathcal{M}$  is an object  $M \in \mathcal{M}$  with a map  $\psi: M \rightarrow CM$  such that

$$\epsilon^C \psi = Id_M: M \rightarrow M \quad \text{and} \quad \delta^C \psi = (C\psi)\psi: M \rightarrow C^2M$$

(see [5, §5] for details).

In particular, recall that if  $M \in \mathcal{M}$  then  $CM$  is naturally a  $C$  coalgebra with map  $\psi$  on  $CM \rightarrow C^2M$  given by  $\delta^C$ . There are adjoint functors

$$\mathcal{M} \begin{array}{c} \xrightarrow{C} \\ \xleftarrow{J} \end{array} \mathcal{C}$$

where  $J$  denotes the forgetful functor. The adjunction gives natural isomorphisms

$$\text{Hom}_{\mathcal{C}}(D, CM) \cong \text{Hom}_{\mathcal{M}}(D, M)$$

for any  $D \in \mathcal{C}$  (where we identify  $D$  with its image under the forgetful functor).

Strictly speaking, we shall abuse notation and write  $C$  not only for the functor  $\mathcal{M} \rightarrow \mathcal{C}$  above, but also for the functor  $JC: \mathcal{M} \rightarrow \mathcal{M}$  of the cotriple  $(C, \delta^C, \epsilon^C)$  on  $\mathcal{M}$  and for the other composite,  $CJ: \mathcal{C} \rightarrow \mathcal{C}$ , the functor of the adjoint *triple*  $(C, \mu^C, \eta^C)$  on  $\mathcal{C}$ , as in [5, §5].

For  $\mathcal{C} = \mathcal{G}$  or  $\mathcal{U}$  and objects  $W \in \mathcal{C}$  we recall the notions of *cosimplicial resolution* over  $\mathcal{C}$ , as in [8, 2.5] and [6, 2.2] and the resulting derived functors  $\text{Ext}_{\mathcal{C}}(E_*, W)$ .

**Definition 3.7** A cosimplicial resolution,  $\mathbf{N}$ , over  $\mathcal{C}$ , of  $W \in \mathcal{C}$  consists of objects  $N^n \in \mathcal{C}$  for  $n \geq -1$  and, for every pair of integers  $(i, n)$  with  $0 \leq i \leq n$ , coface and codegeneracy maps (in  $\mathcal{C}$ )

$$d^i: N^{n-1} \rightarrow N^n, \quad s^i: N^{n+1} \rightarrow N^n$$

satisfying the usual cosimplicial identities (cf. 2.3) and such that

- (a)  $N^{-1} = W$ ;
- (b) for  $n \geq 0$  there is an  $M_n \in \mathcal{M}$  with  $N^n = CM_n$ ;
- (c)  $H^n(J\mathbf{N}) = 0$  for  $n \geq -1$ .

Here  $J: \mathcal{C} \rightarrow \mathcal{M}$  is the forgetful functor and the homology of  $J\mathbf{N}$  is the homology of the cochain complex with groups  $JN^n$  and boundary maps  $\Sigma(-1)^i Jd^i$ .

The Ext groups  $\text{Ext}_{\mathcal{C}}(E_*, W)$  are then defined as the homology of chain complex associated to  $\text{Hom}_{\mathcal{C}}(E_*, \widetilde{J\mathbf{N}})$ , where  $\widetilde{J\mathbf{N}}$  denotes the unaugmented complex

$$0 \rightarrow JN_0 \rightarrow JN_1 \rightarrow JN_2 \rightarrow \cdots .$$

These are the derived functors of  $\text{Hom}_{\mathcal{C}}(E_*, -)$  by [8].

**Example 3.8** The  $\mathcal{C}$  cobar complex provides a standard example of a cosimplicial resolution. We illustrate it for  $\mathcal{C} = \mathcal{U}$ ; the case of  $\mathcal{G}$  is similar.

For  $W \in \mathcal{U}$ , consider the resolution with  $q^{\text{th}}$  module  $U^{q+1}(W)$ . The maps in the  $\mathcal{U}$  resolution are displayed in the diagram of  $E_*$ -modules

$$\begin{array}{ccccccc} & & & & \xrightarrow{d^0} & & \\ & & & & & & \\ W & \xrightarrow{d^0} & U(W) & \xrightarrow{d^1} & \dots & & \\ & & & & \xleftarrow{s^0} & & \end{array}$$

and are defined in terms of the triple  $(U, \mu^U, \eta^U)$  by

$$\begin{aligned} d^i &= U^i \eta^U U^{n-i} : U^n(W) \rightarrow U^{n+1}(W), & 0 \leq i \leq n, \\ s^i &= U^i \mu^U U^{n-i} : U^{n+2}(W) \rightarrow U^{n+1}(W), & 0 \leq i \leq n. \end{aligned}$$

The  $\mathcal{U}$  cobar complex is then the complex

$$W \xrightarrow{\partial} U(W) \xrightarrow{\partial} U^2(W) \xrightarrow{\partial} \dots$$

where  $\partial = \sum_{i=0}^n (-1)^n d^i : U^n(W) \rightarrow U^{n+1}(W)$ .

The embedding of the primitives in the stable cooperations, (1.7) and (1.10), shows that the acyclicity condition is satisfied since there is an extra codegeneracy  $s^{-1} : U^{q+1}(W) \rightarrow U^q(W)$  induced by the counit in  $E_*(E)$ :

$$U^{q+1}(C) \rightarrow E_*(E) \otimes U^q(C) \xrightarrow{\epsilon \otimes 1} U^q(C).$$

In particular, again by (1.10),  $\text{Ext}_{\mathcal{U}}(E_*, W)$  is the homology of a sub-complex of the *stable* cobar complex.

These constructions and the link between the functors  $G$  and  $\mathbf{T}_E$  of Remark 3.4(b) allow us to rewrite Theorem 2.8 as follows.

**Theorem 3.9** *For  $\mathbf{E}$  a ring spectrum with unit and  $X \in \mathcal{S}$  such that  $E_*(X) \in \mathcal{M}$ , there is a natural isomorphism*

$$E_2^{s,t}(X) = \text{Ext}_{\mathcal{G}}^s(E_*(S^t), E_*(X)). \quad \square$$

Theorem 3.1 will now follow upon proving

**Theorem 3.10** *Suppose  $\mathbf{E}$  is a Landweber exact ring spectrum with unit. For  $M \in \mathcal{M}$  with generators in odd degree and  $\Lambda(M)$  denoting the exterior algebra on  $M$  with  $M \subset \Lambda(M)$  the submodule of primitives, there is a natural isomorphism*

$$\mathrm{Ext}_{\mathcal{G}}^s(E_*(S^t), \Lambda(M)) \cong \mathrm{Ext}_{\mathcal{U}}^s(E_*(S^t), M).$$

**Proof** Let us write  $\mathbf{UM}$  for the  $\mathcal{U}$  cobar complex as in Example 3.8, *i.e.*, with  $q^{\mathrm{th}}$  space  $U^{q+1}(M)$ . Applying the functor  $\Lambda(-)$  gives a complex

$$\Lambda \mathbf{UM}: \quad \Lambda(M) \rightarrow \Lambda(U(M)) \rightarrow \Lambda(U^2(M)) \rightarrow \cdots .$$

Now let

$$Y^q = G(U^q(M))$$

for  $q \geq 0$ . Since  $M$  is concentrated in odd degrees the same is true for  $U^q(M)$ . By the theorems (1.4) and (1.10) we have natural isomorphisms

$$G(U^q(M)) \cong \Lambda(U^{q+1}(M))$$

and we can identify the complex  $\Lambda \mathbf{UM}$  as a complex

$$\mathbf{Y}: \quad \Lambda(M) \rightarrow G(M) \rightarrow G(U(M)) \rightarrow G(U^2(M)) \rightarrow \cdots .$$

The maps in  $\mathbf{Y}$  are coalgebra maps and  $E_*(E)$ -comodule maps. By [5, 7.3] the maps are in  $\mathcal{G}$  (note that [5, 7.3] does not require the assumption [5, 7.7] that the homology of the spaces in the  $\Omega$ -spectrum be cofree coalgebras – this is not satisfied in general). The extra codegeneracy in the  $\mathcal{U}$  cobar complex passes via  $\Lambda$  to an extra codegeneracy in  $\mathbf{Y}$ , showing  $\mathbf{Y}$  to be acyclic. Thus  $\mathbf{Y}$  is a  $\mathcal{G}$ -resolution of  $\Lambda(M)$ .

The Ext groups  $\text{Ext}_{\mathcal{G}}^s(E_*(S^t), \Lambda(M))$  can be obtained using the complex  $\mathbf{Y}$  by computing the homology of the complex

$$\text{Hom}_{\mathcal{G}}(E_*(S^t), Y^s) = \text{Hom}_{\mathcal{G}}(E_*(S^t), G(U^s(M))).$$

However, by the adjunction isomorphism mentioned in Remark 3.6 (applied twice), shows

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Hom}_{\mathcal{G}}(E_*(S^t), G(U^s(M))) &= \text{Hom}_{\mathcal{M}}(E_*(S^t), U^s(M)) \\ &= \text{Hom}_{\mathcal{U}}(E_*(S^t), U^{s+1}(M)). \end{aligned}$$

Thus  $\text{Ext}_{\mathcal{G}}(E_*(S^t), \Lambda(M))$  is isomorphic to the homology of the  $\mathcal{U}$ -cobar complex which by definition is precisely  $\text{Ext}_{\mathcal{U}}(E_*(S^t), M)$ .  $\square$

**Remark 3.11** The results of section 1 on the algebra structure of  $E_*(\underline{E}_*)$  allow further results to follow. For example, suppose for  $M \in \mathcal{M}$  we write  $\sigma^{-1}M$  for the isomorphic  $E_*$ -module with degrees shifted downward by one, *i.e.*, we let  $\sigma^{-1}M_t = M_{t+1}$ . Then Theorem 1.4 and its proof shows

$$\sigma^{-1}U(M) = QG(\sigma^{-1}M).$$

If we take  $M = E_*(S^{2n+1})$  then  $E_*(\Omega S^{2n+1}) = \sigma^{-1}M$  and an argument similar to that for  $BP$ -theory in [6], §6, shows that the complex  $\mathbf{Y}$  used in the proof of Theorem 3.10 may also be used to compute the  $E_2$ -page of the  $E$ -theory Bousfield-Kan spectral sequence for  $\Omega S^{2n+1}$ : for any odd dimensional sphere  $S^{2n+1}$  there is an isomorphism

$$E_2^{s,t-1}(\Omega S^{2n+1}) \cong E_2^{s,t}(S^{2n+1}).$$

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