

*Fusion systems and self equivalences of  $p$ -completed classifying spaces  
of finite groups of Lie type*

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- 1 *Groups, classifying spaces, and fusion systems*
- 2 *Equivalences between fusion systems of finite groups of Lie type at primes different from the defining characteristic*
- 3 *Fusion systems of finite simple groups of Lie type are tame*

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*Groups, classifying spaces, and fusion systems*Fix a prime  $p$ .

$$\begin{array}{ccccccc}
 \mathcal{F}_p(G) & \leftarrow & G & \mapsto & BG & \mapsto & BG_p^\wedge \\
 \text{fusion} & & \text{finite} & & \text{classifying} & & p\text{-completed} \\
 \text{system} & & \text{group} & & \text{space} & & \text{classifying space}
 \end{array}$$

## Classifying spaces

Given a finite group  $G$  there is a universal contractible free  $G$ -space  $EG$ .

The *classifying space* of  $G$  is the space of orbits

$$BG = EG/G.$$

It is determined by  $G$ , up to homotopy.

Examples

- $G = \mathbb{Z}/2$ ,  $E\mathbb{Z}/2 \simeq S^\infty$  and  $B\mathbb{Z}/2 \simeq \mathbb{R}P^\infty$ .
- $G$  discrete,  $BG \simeq K(G, 1)$ . Determined by  $\pi_i(K(G, 1)) = \begin{cases} G & \text{if } i = 1, \\ 0 & \text{otherwise.} \end{cases}$

There are different ways to construct  $BG$ :

- For a discrete group  $G$ , take a wedge of circles indexed by a set of generators of the group, then attach 2-cells corresponding to the relations, so that the fundamental group of the complex is  $G$ , then attach higher cells to kill all higher homotopy groups. The resulting complex is  $BG$ .
- Bar construction is a functorial construction of  $BG$ . A homomorphism  $\varphi: G \rightarrow H$  induces a continuous map  $B\varphi: BG \rightarrow BH$ .

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*$p$ -equivalences and  $p$ -completion*

Fix a prime  $p$ .

Two spaces  $X$  and  $Y$  are  $p$ -equivalent if there is a 3rd space  $Z$  and maps

$$X \longrightarrow Z \longleftarrow Y$$

that induce isomorphisms in cohomology with coefficients in  $\mathbb{F}_p$ .

**Bousfield-Kan  $p$ -completion** is a coaugmented functor  $\ell_X: X \longrightarrow X_p^\wedge$  that turns  $p$ -equivalences into homotopy equivalences.

That is, a map  $f: X \longrightarrow Y$  induces an isomorphism in mod  $p$  cohomology

$$f^*: H^*(Y; \mathbb{F}_p) \xrightarrow{\cong} H^*(X; \mathbb{F}_p)$$

if and only if it induces a homotopy equivalence after  $p$ -completion:

$$f_p^\wedge: X_p^\wedge \xrightarrow{\cong} Y_p^\wedge$$

Example:

- For  $S^1 \simeq B\mathbb{Z}$ , we have  $(S^1)_p^\wedge \simeq B\mathbb{Z}_p$  and the coaugmentation  $\ell_{B\mathbb{Z}}: B\mathbb{Z} \longrightarrow B\mathbb{Z}_p$  is given by the inclusion of the integers in the  $p$ -adic integers.

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## The $p$ -completion of $BG$

- If  $P$  is a finite  $p$ -group, then  $BP$  is  $p$ -complete.
- In general,  $BG$  is not  $p$ -complete:
  - $\pi_1(BG_p^\wedge) \cong G/O^p(G)$ , where  $O^pG$  is the maximal normal  $p$ -perfect subgroup of  $G$ .
  - The universal cover is  $BO^p(G)_p^\wedge$ . Usually, it carries a rich higher homotopy structure, with non-trivial homotopy groups in arbitrarily large dimensions.

Example:

- Fix an odd prime  $p$ . Form the semidirect product  $\mathbb{Z}/p^r \rtimes \mathbb{Z}/2$ . Then:

$$\Omega(B(\mathbb{Z}/p^r \rtimes \mathbb{Z}/2))_p^\wedge \simeq S^3\{p^r\}$$

(homotopy fibre of the degree  $p^r$  self map of  $S^3$ .) and therefore that  $(B(\mathbb{Z}/p^r \rtimes \mathbb{Z}/2))_p^\wedge$  supports the  $p$ -primary part of the homotopy groups of  $S^3$ .

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## Fusion system of a finite group

### Definition

Let  $G$  be a finite group, fix a prime  $p$  and  $S \in \text{Syl}_p(G)$ , then the fusion system of  $G$ ,  $\mathcal{F}_p(G)$ , is a category with

- **Objects:**  $P \leq S$ , the subgroups of  $S$ , and
- **Morphisms:**

$$\text{hom}_{\mathcal{F}_p(G)}(P, Q) = \{\varphi: P \rightarrow Q \mid \exists g \in G, \varphi(x) = gxg^{-1}\} \cong N_G(P, Q)/C_G(P)$$

### Fusion preserving isomorphisms

If  $H$  is another finite group we will say that the fusion systems of  $G$  and  $H$  are equivalent:

$$\mathcal{F}_p(G) \simeq \mathcal{F}_p(H)$$

if there is  $R \in \text{Syl}_p(H)$  and an isomorphism  $f: S \rightarrow R$  that preserves fusion:

$$\varphi \in \text{hom}_{\mathcal{F}_p(G)}(P, Q) \implies (f|_Q) \circ \varphi \circ (f|_P)^{-1} \in \text{Hom}_{\mathcal{F}_p(H)}(f(P), f(Q))$$

*Martino-Priddy conjecture*

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*Martino-Priddy*: The fusion system can be reconstructed from the  $p$ -completed classifying space. Given finite groups  $G$  and  $H$ , if  $BG_p^\wedge \simeq BH_p^\wedge$  then  $\mathcal{F}_p(G) \simeq \mathcal{F}_p(H)$ .

*M-P conjecture* (1996):

$$BG_p^\wedge \simeq BH_p^\wedge \iff \mathcal{F}_p(G) \simeq \mathcal{F}_p(H)$$

*Oliver* (2004, 2006): M-P conjecture is true. (The proof depends on the classification of finite simple groups.)

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## Equivalences between fusion systems of finite groups of Lie type at primes different from the defining characteristic

### Theorem (B-Møller-Oliver)

Let  $\mathbb{G}$  be a connected reductive group scheme over  $\mathbb{Z}$ . Fix a prime  $p$ , and finite fields  $\mathbb{F}_q, \mathbb{F}_{q'}$  of char  $\neq p$ , then:

- (a)  $\mathcal{F}_p(\mathbb{G}(q)) \simeq \mathcal{F}_p(\mathbb{G}(q'))$  if  $\overline{\langle q \rangle} = \overline{\langle q' \rangle} \leq \mathbb{Z}_p^\times$
- (b)  $\mathcal{F}_p(\tau\mathbb{G}(q)) \simeq \mathcal{F}_p(\tau\mathbb{G}(q'))$  if  $\mathbb{G} = A_n, D_n, E_6$ ,  $\tau$  a graph automorphism, and  $\overline{\langle q \rangle} = \overline{\langle q' \rangle}$ .
- (c) In case the Weyl group of  $\mathbb{G}$  contains an element which acts on the maximal torus by inverting all elements:  $\psi^{-1}$ , then

$\mathcal{F}_p(\mathbb{G}(q)) \simeq \mathcal{F}_p(\mathbb{G}(q')), \quad \mathcal{F}_p(\tau\mathbb{G}(q)) \simeq \mathcal{F}_p(\tau\mathbb{G}(q'))$  if  $\mathbb{G}$  and  $\tau$  are as in (b) provided  $\overline{\langle -1, q \rangle} = \overline{\langle -1, q' \rangle} \leq \mathbb{Z}_p^\times$ .

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$$\text{i.e., } \begin{cases} \text{ord}_p(q) = \text{ord}_p(q') = s \text{ and } v_p(q^s - 1) = v_p(q'^s - 1), \text{ if } p \text{ is odd,} \\ q \equiv q' \pmod{8} \text{ and } v_2(q^2 - 1) = v_2(q'^2 - 1), \text{ if } p = 2. \end{cases}$$

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Some additional cases:

- If  $q \equiv 1 \pmod{p}$ , then

$$\text{for } p \neq 3, \quad \mathcal{F}_p(G_2(q)) \simeq \mathcal{F}_p({}^3D_4(q)), \text{ and}$$

$$\text{for } p \neq 2, \quad \mathcal{F}_p(F_4(q)) \simeq \mathcal{F}_p({}^2E_6(q))$$

*Ingridients of the proof*

(A) Results by Friedlander and by Jackowski-McClure-Oliver:

If  $\mathbb{G}$  is a connected reductive group scheme over  $\mathbb{Z}$  and  $(p, q) = 1$ , there is a homotopy pull-back square

$$\begin{array}{ccc}
 B^\tau \mathbb{G}(q)_p^\wedge & \longrightarrow & B\mathbb{G}(\mathbb{C})_p^\wedge \\
 \downarrow & & \downarrow \Delta \\
 B\mathbb{G}(\mathbb{C})_p^\wedge & \xrightarrow{1 \times \tau \psi^q} & B\mathbb{G}(\mathbb{C})_p^\wedge \times B\mathbb{G}(\mathbb{C})_p^\wedge
 \end{array}$$

where  $\psi^q$  is the unstable Adams map of exponent  $q$  and  $\tau$  a graph automorphism. ( $B\mathbb{G}(\mathbb{C})_p^\wedge \simeq B\mathbb{G}_p^\wedge$ ,  $G$  the unitary form of  $\mathbb{G}(\mathbb{C})$ .)

The case  $\mathbb{G} = GL$  was first considered by Quillen in order to compute  $H^*(GL_n(q), \mathbb{F}_p)$ . (Related to his work on  $K$ -theory of finite fields.)



*Ingridients of the proof*

(B) Homotopy fixed points:  $B^T \mathbb{G}(q)_p^\wedge \simeq (BG_p^\wedge)^{h(\tau\psi^q)}$ .

In a homotopy pull-back diagram:

$$\begin{array}{ccc}
 E & \longrightarrow & X \\
 \downarrow & & \downarrow \Delta \\
 X & \xrightarrow{1 \times \alpha} & X \times X
 \end{array}$$

we can interpret

$$E \simeq X^{h\alpha} = \text{Map}_{\mathbb{Z}}(\mathbb{R}, X),$$

the space of homotopy fixed points, after rigidifying the action of  $\mathbb{Z}$  on  $X$  given by  $\alpha$ .

Furthermore,  $X^{h\alpha} \simeq \Gamma(X_{h\alpha} \downarrow S^1)$  is a space of sections of the fibre bundle:

$$X \longrightarrow X_{h\alpha} \longrightarrow S^1$$

where  $X_{h\alpha} = X \times I / \sim$ ,  $(0, x) \sim (1, \alpha(x))$ , is the mapping torus.

## Ingridients of the proof

Key observation: Sometimes  $X \longrightarrow X_{h\alpha} \longrightarrow S^1 (\simeq B\mathbb{Z})$  extends to a fibration

$$X_p^\wedge \longrightarrow (X_{h\alpha})_p^\wedge \longrightarrow (S^1)_p^\wedge (\simeq B\mathbb{Z}_p)$$

thus, the action of  $\mathbb{Z}$  generated by  $\alpha$  extends to an action of  $\mathbb{Z}_p$ .

### Theorem

Fix a prime  $p$ ,  $X$  a connected and  $p$ -complete space satisfying

- $H^*(X, \mathbb{F}_p)$  Noetherian
- $\text{Out}(X)$  detected  $\hat{H}^*(X, \mathbb{Z}_p) := \varprojlim H^*(X, \mathbb{Z}/p^k)$ .

Let  $\alpha, \beta$  be self equivalences of  $X$  with  $\overline{\langle \alpha \rangle} = \overline{\langle \beta \rangle}$  in  $\text{Out}(X)$ , then

$$X^{h\alpha} \simeq X^{h\beta}.$$

Here,  $\text{Out}(X)$  is given the  $p$ -adic topology determined by the basis of open neighborhoods of the identity:

$$U_k = \{[f] \in \text{Out}(X) \mid f^* = \text{id on } H^*(X, \mathbb{Z}/p^k)\}$$

## Abstract fusion systems

### Definition (Puig)

A fusion system  $\mathcal{F}$  over a finite  $p$ -group  $S$  consists of a set  $\text{Hom}_{\mathcal{F}}(P, Q)$  for every pair  $P, Q$  of subgroups of  $S$  such that

$$\text{Hom}_S(P, Q) \subseteq \text{Hom}_{\mathcal{F}}(P, Q) \subseteq \text{Inj}(P, Q)$$

and form a category where every morphism decomposes as an isomorphism followed by an inclusion.

It is saturated if it satisfies some extra axioms. [▶ Axioms](#)

### Definition

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## Known examples of exotic fusion systems

- 1 There is only one known family of exotic fusion systems at the prime 2:  $Sol(q)$ ,  $q$  an odd prime power.  
 $Sol(q)$  are saturated fusion systems studied by Solomon, later by Benson, and formalized by Levi-Oliver, defined over the Sylow 2-subgroup of  $Spin(7, q)$ .
- 2 [Ruiz-Viruel] Classification of saturated fusion systems defined over the extraspecial groups of order  $p^3$  and exponent  $p$ , ( $p$  odd prime): There are exactly 3 exotic examples at the prime 7.
- 3 [Diaz-Ruiz-Viruel] Complete the classification of saturated fusion systems over finite  $p$ -groups of rank 2. New exotic examples appear at the prime 3.
- 4 [B-Møller] Construction of classifying spaces of new exotic examples:  
 $BX(m, r, n)(q)$   $n \geq p$  and  $r > 2$ ,  $BX_{29}(q)$   $p = 5$ ,  $q \equiv 1 \pmod{p}$ , and  $BX_{34}(q)$ ,  $p = 7$  and  $q \equiv 1 \pmod{p}$ .
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## Tame systems

### Definition

A saturated fusion system  $\mathcal{F}$  over a finite  $p$ -group  $S$  is tame if there exists a finite group  $G$  such that

- (i)  $\mathcal{F} \simeq \mathcal{F}_p(G)$ , (realizable).
- (ii) The natural map

$$\kappa_G: \text{Out}(G) \longrightarrow \text{Out}(BG_p^\wedge)$$

is split surjective (tamely realized by  $G$ ).

[Andersen-Oliver-Ventura] Fusion systems that are not tamely realized are reductions of exotic systems.

This has to be made precise by defining *reduced* fusion systems and a *reduction process*. This is based in know extension theory for saturated fusion systems.

*Theorem (Joint work in progress with J. Møller and B. Oliver)*

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*End*

## Saturation Axioms for fusion systems

Let  $\mathcal{F}$  be a fusion system over a  $p$ -group  $S$ .

- ① A subgroup  $P \leq S$  is *fully centralized* in  $\mathcal{F}$  if  $|C_S(P)| \geq |C_S(P')|$  for all  $P' \leq S$  which is  $\mathcal{F}$ -conjugate to  $P$ .
- ② A subgroup  $P \leq S$  is *fully normalized* in  $\mathcal{F}$  if  $|N_S(P)| \geq |N_S(P')|$  for all  $P' \leq S$  which is  $\mathcal{F}$ -conjugate to  $P$ .

### Definition

A fusion system  $\mathcal{F}$  over a  $p$ -group  $S$  is *saturated* if the following two conditions hold:

- (I) For all  $P \leq S$  which is fully normalized in  $\mathcal{F}$ ,  $P$  is fully centralized in  $\mathcal{F}$  and  $\text{Aut}_S(P) \in \text{Syl}_p \text{Aut}_{\mathcal{F}}(P)$ .
- (II) If  $P \leq S$  and  $\varphi \in \text{Hom}_{\mathcal{F}}(P, S)$  are such that  $\varphi P$  is fully centralized, and if we set

$$N_{\varphi} = \{g \in N_S(P) \mid \varphi c_g \varphi^{-1} \in \text{Aut}_S(\varphi P)\},$$

then there is  $\bar{\varphi} \in \text{Hom}_{\mathcal{F}}(N_{\varphi}, S)$  such that  $\bar{\varphi}|_P = \varphi$ .