

# Construction of TMF

- Survey of EC: phrase existence of  $(M_{\text{ell}}, \mathcal{O}_{\text{top}})$  as a moduli problem. Elliptic curves over  $E_{\infty}$ -rings. ~~EC~~  
Lurie's representability  $\Rightarrow$  derived Deligne-Mumford stack.  
Must show  $\pi_0$  of this is  $\cong M_{\text{ell}}$ .

- G-HM approach. Start with  $M_{\text{ell}}$ , work with presheaves of  $E_{\infty}$  rings thereon. TMF is supposed to exist integrally; we'll construct it prime-by-prime and rationally. Just as we have

$$\begin{array}{ccc} \mathbb{Z}_r & \rightarrow & \mathbb{T}_r \mathbb{Z}_p \\ \downarrow & & \downarrow \\ \mathbb{Q} & \rightarrow & \mathbb{T}_r \mathbb{Q}_p \end{array}$$

a fun way to define  $\mathbb{Z}_r$ , we'll have a ~~pad~~ pb square

$$\begin{array}{ccc} \mathcal{O}_r^{\text{top}} & \rightarrow & \mathbb{T}_r(\mathbb{Z}_p, \mathcal{O}_r^{\text{top}}) \\ \downarrow & & \downarrow \text{obv} \\ (\mathbb{Z}_p)_r^{\text{top}} \mathbb{Q} & \rightarrow & (\mathbb{T}_r(\mathbb{Z}_p, \mathcal{O}_r^{\text{top}}))_{\mathbb{Q}} \end{array}$$

$L_p \mathbb{Q}$ . Must describe all objs and bottom map.

Recall the "chromatic square"

$$\begin{array}{ccc} L_{\mathbb{F}_p} X & \rightarrow & L_{K(n)} X \\ \downarrow & & \downarrow \\ L_{E(n-1)} X & \rightarrow & L_{E(n)} X \end{array}$$

Similar in spirit to the above. Here  $n$  will be  $\mathbb{Z}_r$ ,

$\mathcal{O}_{\text{top}}$  should be  $E(2)$ -local, and everything is  $p$ -complete.  
 So  $E(1)$ -localization =  $K(1)$ -loc. Motivated by this, we'll  
 define a pb of sheaves of

$$\begin{array}{ccc} \mathcal{O}_p^{\text{top}} & \longrightarrow & (\mathcal{L}_{\text{ss}}) \otimes \mathcal{O}_{K(2)}^{\text{top}} \\ \downarrow & & \downarrow \\ (\text{ord}) \otimes \mathcal{O}_{K(1)}^{\text{top}} & \xrightarrow{?} & (\mathcal{L}_{\text{ss}}) \otimes \mathcal{O}_{K(1)}^{\text{top}} \end{array}$$

Again, must define all objs and bottom map.

Note:  $M_{\text{ell}}^{\text{ss}}$  is given by completion at a the closed  
 sub stack

$$(M_{\text{ell}}^{\text{ss}})_{\mathbb{F}_p} \longrightarrow (\overline{M}_{\text{ell}})$$

and  $M_{\text{ell}}^{\text{ord}}$  is the moduli stack of ell curves over  
 $p$ -complete rings with ord reduction. ~~are~~ Both

$M_{\text{ell}}^{\text{ss}}$  and  $M_{\text{ell}}^{\text{ord}}$  map to  $(\overline{M}_{\text{ell}})_p$ .

To construct  $\mathcal{O}_{K(2)}^{\text{top}}$ : let  $f: R \rightarrow M_{\text{ell}}^{\text{ss}}$  be a formal  
 étale open. ~~Some~~ Formal étaleness means exactly that  
 $f$  is the universal deformation of  $f_0: R/I \rightarrow (M_{\text{ell}}^{\text{ss}})_{\mathbb{F}_p}$ .  
 Plus,  $(M_{\text{ell}}^{\text{ss}})_{\mathbb{F}_p}$  is 0-dim, so  $R/I \cong \prod_i \mathbb{F}_q$ .

Serre-Tate: to deform an EC, enough to deform its  $p$ -dir  
 group. ~~For~~ Since  $f$  is ss, this = formal group.

We know the univ deformation of a formal group of ht 2 over

$$\mathbb{F}_q: \text{It's at } \overline{M}_{\text{ell}} \text{ over } \mathbb{Z}_q[\mu, \text{D}].$$



Hopkins-Miller: we can specify this. ~~The~~  
 $\Rightarrow \mathcal{O}_{\mathbb{Z}/p\mathbb{Z}}^{\text{top}}$ .

Let  $M_{\text{ell}}^{\text{ord}}(p^\infty)$  be the ~~object representing~~ moduli object of  $(C, \eta)$ , where  $C$  is an ell curve over a  $p$ -complete ring and  $\eta: \hat{C} \xrightarrow{\sim} \mathbb{P}^{\text{ord}}$ . Obv  $M_{\text{ell}}^{\text{ord}}(p^\infty) \rightarrow M_{\text{ell}}^{\text{ord}}$ .

What kind of obj is  $M_{\text{ell}}^{\text{ord}}(p^\infty)$ ? Actually (hard work) it's a formal affine scheme. "Coordinatizing" the fg is enough to trivialize  $\omega$ , so if

$$M_{\text{ell}}^{\text{ord}}(p^\infty) = \text{Spf}(V_\infty^\wedge)$$

we call  $V_\infty^\wedge$  the ring of  $\mathbb{Q}$ - $p$ -adic modular functions.

Prop.  $V_\infty^\wedge$  is a  $\theta$ -ring.

We need <sup>ring homo</sup>  $\psi^k$  for  $k \in \mathbb{Z}_p^\times$ ,  $\psi^k$  lifting Frob, a ring homo, and  $\theta$  with  $\psi^k(x) = x^k + p\theta(x)$ .  $V_\infty^\wedge$  is torsion-free, so we don't need to worry about  $\theta$ .

$\mathbb{Z}_p^\times$  acts on  $\mathbb{P}^{\text{ord}}$ , so  $\psi^k$  comes from changes of co-ordinates.  $\psi^k$  comes from studying the  $k$ th power endomorphism of a curve! It is given or  $q$ -expansions by ~~raising~~  $q \mapsto q^k$ .

To construct  $\mathcal{O}_{\text{ell}}^{\text{top}}$ , we first construct its spectrum of sections over  $M_{\text{ell}}^{\text{ord}}(p)$ , (which is also formally affine.)

Thm. If  $W$  is defined by

$$\mathrm{Spf}(W) \xrightarrow{\Gamma} \mathrm{Mod}_{\mathrm{ell}}(p^\infty)$$

$$\downarrow \\ \mathrm{Spf}(R) \longrightarrow \mathrm{Mod}_{\mathrm{ell}} \downarrow$$

elliptic se

then  $W \cong (K_p^\wedge)_0 E$ . Moreover, this ISO entwines the Adams ops with the  $\mathbb{Z}_p^\times$  action on the right.

Pf Comes from the fact that

$$\mathrm{Mod}_{\mathrm{ell}}(p^\infty) \xrightarrow{\mathrm{Spf}} \pi_0 K_p^\wedge$$

$$\downarrow \\ \mathrm{Mod}_{\mathrm{ell}} \longrightarrow \mathrm{Mod}_{\mathrm{Sfg}}$$

~~We apply this to  $\mathrm{Spf}(R) = \mathrm{Mod}_{\mathrm{ell}}(p)$ .~~

hb.  $(K_p^\wedge)_0 E$  is a  $\theta$ -ring, but  $W \cong (K_p^\wedge)_0 E$  may not preserve  $\psi^p$ . If it doesn't, you don't have the right  $E_\infty$  st.

We apply this to  $\mathrm{Spf}(R) = \mathrm{Mod}_{\mathrm{ell}}(p)$ . The obstructions to realizing  $W$  as  $(K_p^\wedge)_0$  of a  $K(1)$ -local  $E_\infty$ -ring vanish. Let this  $E_\infty$ -ring be denoted  $\mathrm{tmf}(p)^{\mathrm{ord}}$ .

$$W_{2x} = \omega^{\otimes x} (\mathrm{Spf}(W))$$

Define  $\mathrm{tmf}_{K(1)} = (\mathrm{tmf}(p)^{\mathrm{ord}})_{h\mathbb{Z}/p}^x$ .

Let  $\mathrm{Spf}(R) \xrightarrow{f} \mathcal{M}_{\mathrm{ell}}^{\mathrm{ord}}$  be étale. Then the  $\mathcal{O}$ -ring

$$W \cong (K_p^\wedge)_{\mathcal{O}_K} E_f$$

is a  $K_p^\wedge \widehat{\mathrm{tmf}}_{K((t))}$ -algebra. There are a  $\mathcal{O}$ -ring homology groups containing obstructions to realizing it as a  $\widehat{\mathrm{tmf}}_{K((t))}$ -alg, and these too vanish. This provides a construction of  $\mathcal{O}_{K((t))}^{\mathrm{top}}$ . The construction of

$$\alpha: (K_{\mathrm{ord}})_* \mathcal{O}_{K((t))}^{\mathrm{top}} \rightarrow ((K_{\mathrm{ss}})_* \mathcal{O}_{K((t))}^{\mathrm{top}})_{K((t))}$$

is similar in spirit; I won't go into details.

We have constructed  $\mathcal{O}_p^{\mathrm{top}}$ . Now let's construct  $\mathcal{O}_{\mathbb{Q}}^{\mathrm{top}}$ .

The whole  $E_{\infty}$  game collapses rationally, and so this is much easier. If

$$f: \mathrm{Spec}(R) \rightarrow (\mathcal{M}_{\mathrm{ell}})_{\mathbb{Q}}$$

is étale, then the sections over  $f$  should be

$$\pi_{2t} E_f = \Gamma(f_* \omega)^{\otimes t}$$

Let  $R_*$  be defined by  $R_{2t} = \Gamma((f_* \omega)^{\otimes t})$ . Then we define

$$\mathcal{O}_{\mathbb{Q}}^{\mathrm{top}}(f) = H(R_*).$$