

# On some Lusternick–Schnirelmann type invariants

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**Abstract.** In this paper, we show that the invariant  $R_0(X)$ , introduced in [15], coincides with  $cat_0(X)$  for any rationally elliptic space  $X$ . Additionally, we define, for any space  $X$  over an arbitrary field  $\mathbb{K}$ , an *Ext-version* homotopy invariant  $L_{\mathbb{K}}(X)$  of the Ginsburg invariant  $l_{\mathbb{K}}(X)$ . Then, we establish the equality between  $L_0(X) := L_{\mathbb{Q}}(X)$  and  $l_0(X)$  in the case where  $X$  is rationally elliptic.

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## Introduction

In [16], the author introduced, for any topological space  $X$ , what is subsequently called the *Toomer invariant*  $e_{\mathbb{K}}(X)$ , over a given field  $\mathbb{K}$ . This invariant is defined as the least integer  $p$  for which the term  $E_{\infty}^{p,q}$  in the Milnor-Moore spectral sequence:

$$Ext_{H_*(\Omega X; \mathbb{K})}^{p,q}(\mathbb{K}, \mathbb{K}) \implies H^{p+q}(X; \mathbb{K}) \quad (1)$$

is non-zero. The author then showed that  $e_{\mathbb{K}}(X)$  provides a lower bound for the *Lusternik-Schnirelmann category* (LS category for short), denoted  $cat(X)$  [11] and defined as the smallest number (plus one, for normalization) of open sets that are contractile in  $X$  and form a cover of  $X$ . That is,

$$e_{\mathbb{K}}(X) \leq cat(X)$$

for any field  $\mathbb{K}$ . The study of this invariant has led to interesting results in practice. Among these, we cite Y. Félix and S. Halperin's analogous inequality  $e_0(X) \leq cat_0(X)$  [3, Theorem 4.7], where  $e_0(X) := e(X_0)$  and  $cat_0(X) :=$

$cat(X_0)$ , with  $X_0$  being the rationalization space of  $X$ . Several specialists in rational homotopy theory worked then hard to specify the largest class of spaces for which these two invariants are equal. Referring to [8], we know that this class includes all Poincaré duality spaces over  $\mathbb{Q}$  (see §2). In particular, it includes all rationally elliptic spaces, which are characterized by their rational cohomology  $H^*(X, \mathbb{Q})$  and rational homotopy  $\pi_*(X) \otimes \mathbb{Q}$ , both of which are finite-dimensional. These results are achieved using Sullivan's approach to rational homotopy theory, which associates to every simply connected space  $X$  (having the homotopy type of a finite-type CW-complex) a unique (up to isomorphism) *minimal Sullivan algebra*  $(\Lambda V, d)$ . This algebra satisfies  $H^*(X, \mathbb{Q}) \cong H(\Lambda V, d)$  and  $V \cong Hom_{\mathbb{Z}}(\pi_*(X), \mathbb{Q})$ . Here,  $(\Lambda V, d)$  is a commutative differential graded algebra (cdga for short) with specific properties (see §2).

In what follows, unless otherwise stated,  $X$  will denote a simply connected finite-type CW-complex, and  $(\Lambda V, d)$  will denote its minimal Sullivan model (or simply its "minimal model").

Referring to [3] (see also [8]),  $cat_0(X) = cat(\Lambda V, d)$  where the later is defined as the least integer  $m$  such that the projection:

$$p : (\Lambda V, d) \rightarrow \left( \frac{\Lambda V}{\Lambda_{\geq m+1} V}, \bar{d} \right)$$

has a retraction as a morphism of cdga's, while  $e_0(X) := e(\Lambda V, d)$  is the least integer  $m$  such that  $p$  is injective in cohomology. An equivalent definition of  $e(\Lambda V, d)$  is given using the isomorphism, established in [3], between (1) and the so-called *Ext-Milnor-Moore* spectral sequence [8, Proposition 9.1] (see §2):

$$E_2^{p,q} = H^{p,q}(\Lambda V, d_2) \Rightarrow H^{p+q}(\Lambda V, d). \quad (2)$$

as follows:

$$e(\Lambda V, d) = \sup\{p \mid \text{such that } E_{\infty}^{p,q} \neq 0\}. \quad (3)$$

Here,  $E_{\infty}^{p,q}$  is the infity term of (2).

Next, consider the (rational) *Ext-Eilenberg-Moore spectral sequence* introduced in [13] (see §2) :

$$Ext_{(\Lambda V, d_2)}^{p,q}(\mathbb{Q}, (\Lambda V, d_2)) \Longrightarrow Ext_{(\Lambda V, d)}^{p+q}(\mathbb{Q}, (\Lambda V, d)). \quad (4)$$

In [15], the second author introduced the invariant  $R(\Lambda V, d)$  defined similarly to  $e(\Lambda V, d)$ , as follows:

$$R(\Lambda V, d) = \sup\{p \mid \text{such that } E_{\infty}^{p,q} \neq 0\}, \quad (5)$$

where  $E_{\infty}^{p,q}$  stands here for the infity term of (4). He then constructed an isomorphism between the spectral sequence (4) and the *topological Eilenberg-Moore*

spectral sequence [15, Theorem 1.2]:

$$\text{Ext}_{H_*(\Omega X; \mathbb{Q})}^{p,q}(\mathbb{Q}, H_*(\Omega X; \mathbb{Q})) \implies \text{Ext}_{C_*(\Omega X, \mathbb{Q})}^{p+q}(\mathbb{Q}, C_*(\Omega X, \mathbb{Q})) \quad (6)$$

by which he introduced a new (topological) homotopy invariant:

$$R_0(X) := R(\Lambda V, d).$$

The first main result of this paper extends (in the rational case) the result of [15, Theorem 1.1] as follows :

**Theorem 1.** *Let  $X$  be a rationally elliptic space. Then :*

$$R_0(X) = e_0(X) = \text{cat}_0(X).$$

Our second result is related to rational Ginsburg's lower bound invariant  $l_0(X)$  of  $\text{cat}_0(X)$  [9]. This invariant is defined as the greatest integer  $t \geq 2$  such that the differential  $\delta_t$  of the  $t$ -th page  $(E_t^{*,*}, \delta_t)$  of (1) is non-zero. In other words,  $l_0(X) = t$  if and only if  $E_\infty^{*,*} = E_{t+1}^{*,*}$ . Clearly, one may similarly define  $l(\Lambda V, d)$  in terms of (2) and immediately conclude, thanks to the isomorphism between (1) and (2) [3, Proposition 9.1], that  $l_0(X) = l(\Lambda V, d)$ .

Likewise to  $R_0(X)$  and  $R(\Lambda V, d)$ , we introduce, in this paper, the *Ext-Ginsburg invariant*  $L_0(X)$  (resp.  $L(\Lambda V, d)$ ) as the greatest integer  $t \geq 2$  such that the differential  $\delta_t$  in the  $t$ -th term,  $(E_t^{*,*}, \delta_t)$  of (6) (resp.  $d_t$  in the  $t$ -th term  $(E_t^{*,*}, d_t)$  of (4)) is non-zero. Again, by the isomorphism between (6) and (4) [15, Theorem 1.2], we have  $L_0(X) = L(\Lambda V, d)$ .

As a second result, we prove the following

**Theorem 2.** *Let  $X$  be a rationally elliptic space. Then,  $L_0(X) = l_0(X)$ .*

## 1 Preliminaries

In this section, unless otherwise stated, our ground field  $\mathbb{K}$  is of characteristic zero. The main references are [8] and [6].

### 1.1 Sullivan model

Let  $V = \bigoplus_{i=0}^{+\infty} V^i$  be a graded  $\mathbb{K}$ -vector space,  $TV$  the graded tensor algebra on  $V$ , and  $\Lambda V = TV/I$  the free commutative graded algebra, where  $I$  is the graded ideal generated by homogeneous elements of the form  $v \otimes w - (-1)^{|v||w|} w \otimes v$  for  $v, w \in V$ . Here and henceforth,  $|v|$  denotes the degree of  $v$ .

A *Sullivan algebra* is a free commutative differential graded algebra of the form  $(\Lambda V, d)$ , with  $V$  has a well-ordered basis  $\{v_\alpha\}$  such that  $dv_\alpha \in \Lambda V_{<\alpha}$ , with

$V_{<\alpha}$  being the subspace of  $V$  generated by  $\{v_\beta, \alpha < \beta\}$ . Such an algebra is said *minimal* if the differential satisfies :

$$\text{Im}d \subseteq \Lambda^+V.\Lambda^+V.$$

When  $V^0 = \mathbb{K}$  and  $V^1 = 0$  (i.e.  $(\Lambda V, d)$  is 1-connected), this is equivalent to :

$$d(V) \subseteq \Lambda^{\geq 2}V = \bigoplus_{i \geq 2} \Lambda^i V.$$

A (*minimal*) *Sullivan model* for a commutative differential graded algebra  $(A, d)$  is a quasi-isomorphism (i.e. a morphism inducing an isomorphism in cohomology)

$$m : (\Lambda V, d) \xrightarrow{\cong} (A, d)$$

from a (minimal) Sullivan algebra  $(\Lambda V, d)$ . It is well known [8, Proposition 12,2] that any cdga  $(A, d)$  with  $H^0(A) = \mathbb{K}$  and  $H^1(A) = 0$  has a minimal Sullivan model. In particular, for a path-connected topological space  $X$ , a Sullivan model for  $X$  over  $\mathbb{Q}$  is a Sullivan model for the singular cochain complex  $C^*(X; \mathbb{Q})$  :

$$m : (\Lambda V, d) \xrightarrow{\cong} C^*(X; \mathbb{K}).$$

Recall that  $X$  is said to be *rationally elliptic* if its rational cohomology and rational homotopy are both finite-dimensional. In terms of its minimal Sullivan model  $(\Lambda V, d)$ , this means that  $\dim H(\Lambda V, d) < \infty$  and  $\dim V < \infty$ .

Recall also that a finite-dimensional graded algebra  $A$  is said to be *Poincaré duality algebra* over  $\mathbb{K}$  if it is commutative and satisfies the following conditions:

- (1)  $A^m \cong \mathbb{K}\omega$  for some integer  $m \geq 0$ .
- (2) For all  $p$ , the bilinear form  $A^p \otimes A^{m-p} \rightarrow A^m \cong \mathbb{K}$  is a non-degenerate.

The generating element  $\omega$  of degree  $m$  is called the *fundamental class* of  $A$ . As a particular case of interest for our purposes, the cohomology  $H^*(X, \mathbb{Q})$  of any rationally elliptic space  $X$  is a Poincaré duality algebra over  $\mathbb{Q}$  [8]. We then say that  $X$  is a *Poincaré duality space* over  $\mathbb{Q}$ . The fundamental class, denoted  $\omega$ , of  $H^*(X, \mathbb{Q})$  is called the *fundamental class* of  $X$ , and its degree, denoted  $N$ , is called the *formal dimension* of  $X$  (or of  $(\Lambda V, d)$ ).

## 1.2 The evaluation map.

Let  $(A, d)$  be an augmented differential graded algebra (dga) over a field  $\mathbb{K}$ , and  $\alpha : (P, d) \xrightarrow{\cong} (\mathbb{K}; 0)$  be a minimal semifree resolution of  $K$  [8]. This defines

the differential graded complex  $(\mathcal{A}, \mathcal{D})$ , where  $\mathcal{A} = \text{Hom}_{(A,d)}((P, d), (A, d))$  and  $\mathcal{D}$ , its differential, is given by :

$$\mathcal{D}(f) = f \circ d - (-1)^{|f|} d \circ f.$$

This induces, the map of complexes :

$$\begin{array}{ccc} ev : (\text{Hom}_{(A,d)}((P, d), (A, d)), D) & \longrightarrow & (A, d) \\ f & \longmapsto & f(p) \end{array}$$

where  $p \in P$  is a cocycle representing  $1_{\mathbb{K}}$ .

The *evaluation map* of  $(A, d)$  is :

$$ev_{(A,d)} := H(ev) : \text{Ext}_{(A,d)}(\mathbb{K}, (A, d)) \longrightarrow H(A, d).$$

Here,  $\text{Ext}_{(A,d)}(\mathbb{K}, (A, d)) = H(\mathcal{A}, \mathcal{D})$ , where  $\text{Ext}$  is the Eilenberg-Moore differential functor [6].

It is well known that  $ev_{(A,d)}$  is independent of the choice of  $(P, d)$  and  $p$  [13, 14]. In particular, for any topological path-connected space  $X$ ,  $ev_{C^*(X; \mathbb{K})}$  is called the *evaluation map of  $X$*  over  $\mathbb{K}$ . It is an homotopy invariant of  $X$ . Another important invariant is the  $\mathbb{K}$ -*formal dimension of  $X$*  [6, §5], denoted  $fd(X, \mathbb{K})$ , and defined as the greatest integer  $r \in \mathbb{Z}$  such that  $[\text{Ext}_{C^*(X; \mathbb{K})}(\mathbb{K}, C^*(X; \mathbb{K}))]^r \neq 0$  or  $-\infty$  if  $\text{Ext}_{C^*(X; \mathbb{K})}(\mathbb{K}, C^*(X; \mathbb{K})) = 0$ . By [6, §Remark 1.3 ],  $fd(\Lambda V, d) = fd(X, \mathbb{Q})$  for any minimal Sullivan model of  $X$ .

A Sullivan algebra  $(\Lambda V, d)$  is called a *Gorenstein algebra* if its dimension fulfills  $\dim \text{Ext}_{(\Lambda V, d)}(\mathbb{K}, (\Lambda V, d)) = 1$ . It is well known that if  $\dim V < \infty$ , then  $(\Lambda V, d)$  is a Gorenstein algebra [6]. Moreover,  $ev_{(\Lambda V, d)} \neq 0$  if and only if  $\dim H(\Lambda V, d) < \infty$  [13]. Thus, when  $\dim V < \infty$ ,  $(\Lambda V, d)$  is elliptic if and only if  $ev_{(\Lambda V, d)} \neq 0$ . The space  $X$  is said a *Gorenstein space* over  $\mathbb{Q}$  if its model  $(\Lambda V, d)$  is.

### 1.3 Spectral sequences

Our main references for spectral sequences are [12] and [8].

A spectral sequence consists in a sequence of differential bigraded vector spaces  $E_r^{*,*}$ , together with a sequence of isomorphisms  $\sigma_r : E_{r+1}^{*,*} \xrightarrow{\cong} H(E_r^{*,*})$ . That is, for any integer  $r$ , we have  $E_r^{*,*} = \bigoplus E_r^{p,q}$ , and there is a linear map  $d_r^{p,q} : E_r^{p,q} \longrightarrow E_r^{p+r, q-r+1}$ , of degree  $+1$  and bidegree  $(r, 1-r)$ , such that  $d_r^{p+r, q-r+1} \circ d_r^{p,q} = 0$ . Thus, for any  $r \geq 0$ ,  $(E_r^{*,*}, d_r^{*,*})$  is a cochain complex.

A spectral sequence  $(E_r^{*,*}, d_r^{*,*})$  is said *convergent* if, for each pair  $(p, q)$ , there exists an integer  $r(p, q)$  such that  $E_r^{p,q} = E_{r(p,q)}^{p,q}$  holds for all  $r \geq r(p, q)$ . We denote  $E_{\infty}^{p,q} = E_{r(p,q)}^{p,q}$ .

A filtration  $FA$  on a (commutative) differential graded algebra (dga)  $(A, d)$  is defined as a family of graded subalgebras  $\{F^p A\}$ , for  $p \in \mathbb{Z}$ , linked by the inclusions :

$$\dots \subseteq F^{p+1}A \subseteq F^p A \subseteq F^{p-1}A \subseteq \dots \subseteq A,$$

such that  $dF^p A \subseteq F^p A$  for all integers  $p \in \mathbb{Z}$ . Such an algebra is said a filtered algebra and denoted  $(A, FA, d)$ . Its filtration induces naturally a filtration on  $H(A, d)$  given by :

$$F^p H(A, d) = \text{Im}(H(F^p A) \longrightarrow H(A)),$$

and a spectral sequence  $(E_r^{*,*}, d_r)$  [8]. This spectral sequence is said convergent to  $H(A, d)$  if  $E_\infty^{p,q} \cong G^{p,q}H(A, d) = F^p H(A)/F^{p+1}H(A)$ . If this is the case, we write :

$$E_2^{p,q} \implies H^{p+q}(A, d).$$

The filtration  $FA$  on a dga  $(A, d)$  is said to be *bounded* if, for each  $p$ , there exist two integers  $s(p)$  and  $n(p)$  so that :

$$0 = F^{s(p)}A \subseteq F^{s(p)-1}A \subseteq \dots \subseteq F^{n(p)}A \subseteq A.$$

In such situation, the associated spectral sequence to  $(A, FA, d)$  converges to  $H(A, d)$  [12]. Its zero-term is  $(E_0^{p,q}(A), d_0) = (G^{p,q}A, Gd)$ , and its first term is  $(E_1^{p,q}(A), d_1) = (H^{p,q}(GA, Gd), d_1)$ .

Below, we provide examples of spectral sequences that will be used in the next section.

Consider a minimal Sullivan algebra  $(\Lambda V, d)$  and express the differential as  $d = d_k + d_{k+1} + \dots$  (where  $k \geq 2$  by minimality). Note that  $d_k$  is also a differential.

We filter  $\Lambda V$  as follows :

$$F^p(\Lambda V) = \Lambda^{\geq p}V, \quad p \geq 0. \quad (7)$$

This is an increasing and bounded filtration, hence, it defines the *algebraic Milnor-Moore spectral sequence*:

$$E_k^{p,q}(\Lambda V) = H^{p,q}(\Lambda V, d_k) \implies H^{p+q}(\Lambda V, d). \quad (8)$$

Next, consider the dga  $A = (Hom_{(\Lambda V, d)}((\Lambda V \otimes \Lambda sV, \delta), (\Lambda V, d)), D)$ , where  $(\Lambda V \otimes \Lambda sV, \delta)$  is a  $(\Lambda V, d)$ -semifree resolution of  $\mathbb{K}$  [8]. The differential  $\delta$  extends that of  $\Lambda V$  by  $\delta(sv) = v - sdv$  for all  $v \in V$  [4]. We filter  $A$  by :

$$F^p(A) = \{f \in A, | f(\Lambda sV) \subseteq \Lambda^{\geq p}V\}, \quad p \geq 0. \quad (9)$$

This filtration gives rise to the *algebraic Eilenberg-Moore spectral sequence* [14] (see also [15]) :

$$E_k^{p,q}(A) = Ext_{(\Lambda V, d_k)}^{p,q}(\mathbb{K}, (\Lambda V, d_k)) \implies Ext_{(\Lambda V, d)}^{p+q}(\mathbb{K}, (\Lambda V, d)). \quad (10)$$

**Remark 1.** As defined, it is clear that the evaluation map  $ev_{(\Lambda V, d)}$  preserves the filtration (9) and (7). In particular, it induces a morphism between the spectral sequences (4) and (2). That is, there is a sequence of differential graded vector spaces, denoted  $E_i^{p,q}(ev) : E_i^{p,q}(A) \rightarrow E_i^{p,q}(\Lambda V)$  for  $k \leq i \leq \infty$ , between the corresponding pages.

In a similar way, we consider the *minimal free model*  $(TW, d)$  of the (commutative) dga  $(A, d)$  [5] and again express the differential as  $d = d_k + d_{k+1} + \dots$  (where  $k \geq 2$  by minimality). Filtering  $TW$  by  $F^p(TW) = T^{\geq p}(W)$  defines [5, Proposition A.8] the following spectral sequence :

$$E_k^{p,q}(TW) = Ext_{H(TW, d)}^{p,q}(\mathbb{K}, \mathbb{K}) \implies Ext_{(TW, d)}^{p+q}(\mathbb{K}, \mathbb{K}) = H(TW, d). \quad (11)$$

When  $(TW, d)$  designate the Adams-Hilton model of  $X$  [5], this spectral sequence is isomorphic to (1) (cf. [6, Remark 1.3]). As for Sullivan models, an easy calculation shows that indeed  $Ext_{H(TW, d)}^{p,q}(\mathbb{K}, \mathbb{K})$ .

Next, consider the dga  $B = (Hom_{TW, d}((TW \otimes (\mathbb{K} \oplus sW), \delta), (TW, d)), D)$ , where  $(TW \otimes (\mathbb{K} \oplus sW), \delta)$  serves as a  $(TW, d)$ -semifree resolution of  $\mathbb{K}$  [8]. The differential  $\delta$  which extends that of  $TW$  and is specifically given by  $\delta(sv) = v - sdv$  for all  $v \in W$  (see [4, 8]). Additionally, filtering  $B$  by

$$F^p(B) = \{f \in B, | f(\mathbb{K} \oplus sW) \subseteq T^{\geq p}W\}; \quad p \geq 0,$$

we obtain the following spectral sequence, introduced in [1] :

$$E_k^{p,q}(B) = Ext_{(TW, d_k)}^{p,q}(\mathbb{K}, (TW, d_k)) \implies Ext_{(TW, d)}^{p+q}(\mathbb{K}, (TW, d)). \quad (12)$$

Once again using the Adams-Hilton model of  $X$ , we see that (12) is isomorphic to (6).

## 2 Proofs of the main results

Recall from the introduction that the  $R_0$ -invariant introduced in [15] for any simply connected finite-type CW-complex  $X$  is defined (with notations of §2) in terms of (4) and (6) as follows :

$$R_0(X) = R(\Lambda V, d) = \sup\{m | E_\infty^{m,*}(A) \neq 0\}.$$

This is indeed inspired from the definition of the Toomer's invariant of  $X$ , which is defined in terms of (1) and (2) as follows:

$$e_0(X) = e(\Lambda V, d) := \sup\{m | E_\infty^{m,*}(\Lambda V) \neq 0\}.$$

It is well known that when  $X$  is elliptic (and hence a Poincaré duality space),  $e(\Lambda V, d)$  can be equivalently defined in terms of the fundamental class  $\omega$  as follows:

$$e(\Lambda V, d) = \sup\{m \mid \omega \text{ can be represented by a cocycle in } \Lambda^{\geq m} V\}. \quad (13)$$

Referring to [15, Remark 3.4], when  $\dim V < \infty$  (i.e. when  $(\Lambda V, d)$  is a Gorenstein cdga), an equivalent definition of  $R(\Lambda V, d)$  is similarly given in terms of the generating class  $\Omega$  of  $Ext_{(\Lambda V, d)}^*(\mathbb{K}, (\Lambda V, d))$  as follows :

$$R(\Lambda V, d) = \sup\{m \mid \Omega \text{ can be represented by a cocycle in } F^m(A)\}, \quad (14)$$

where  $A = Hom_{(\Lambda V, d)}((\Lambda V \otimes \Lambda(sV), d), (\Lambda V, d))$ .

We now recall and prove our first main result.

**Theorem 3.** (*Theorem 1*) *Let  $X$  be a rationally elliptic space. Then :*

$$R_0(X) = e_0(X) = cat_0(X).$$

*Proof.* First, note that since  $X$  is a Poincaré duality space over  $\mathbb{Q}$ , it follows from [7] that  $e_0(X) = cat_0(X)$ . Let  $(\Lambda V, d)$  be a minimal Sullivan model of  $X$ . By hypothesis,  $\dim V < \infty$ , and both  $(\Lambda V, d_k)$  and  $(\Lambda V, d)$  are Gorenstein algebras of the same formal dimension  $N$ , as established in [6, Theorem 5.2]. Therefore, the first term of the spectral sequence (4),  $E_k^{*,*}(A) = Ext_{(\Lambda V, d_k)}^*(\mathbb{K}, (\Lambda V, d_k))$ , is concentrated in a fixed bidegree  $(p, q)$  with  $p + q = N$ . By the convergence of (4), we have  $\dim E_\infty^{p,q}(A) = 1$ . It follows that  $R(\Lambda V, d)$  is precisely the integer  $p$ . For the remainder of the proof, we identify  $E_\infty^{p,q}(A)$  with  $Ext_{(\Lambda V, d)}^N(\mathbb{K}, (\Lambda V, d))$  and denote by  $\Omega_0 := [f_0]$  (resp.  $[\Omega]$ ) the unique generating class of  $E_k^{p,q}(A) = Ext_{(\Lambda V, d_k)}^N(\mathbb{Q}, (\Lambda V, d_k))$  (resp. of  $Ext_{(\Lambda V, d)}^N(\mathbb{K}, (\Lambda V, d))$ ).

**Case 1 :** Assume  $ev_{(\Lambda V, d_k)} \neq 0$ . Then  $(\Lambda V, d_k)$  is an elliptic cdga [14]. By homogeneity of  $d_k$ , its fundamental class  $\omega_0 = ev_{(\Lambda V, d_k)}[f_0] = [f_0(1)]$ , where  $f_0(1) \in (\Lambda^p V)^{p+q}$ . Note that the cocycle representing  $1_{\mathbb{Q}} \in \Lambda V \otimes \Lambda(sV)$  is necessarily  $1 =: 1_{\mathbb{Q}} \in V^0 = \mathbb{Q}$ . Therefore,  $e(\Lambda V, d_k) = p$ . By [10, Theorem 5], we conclude that  $e(\Lambda V, d) = p = R(\Lambda V, d)$ .

**Case 2 :** Assume  $ev_{(\Lambda V, d_k)} = 0$ . In this case,  $(\Lambda V, d_k)$  is not elliptic, but, since  $\dim V < \infty$  we still have  $\dim H^N(\Lambda V, d_k) < \infty$ . By [2, Theorem 2], there is a unique basis element in  $H^N(\Lambda V, d_k)$  that survives to the term  $E_\infty^{*,*}(\Lambda V)$ . Since  $(\Lambda V, d)$  is elliptic (and hence a Poincaré duality algebra) with formal dimension  $N$ , we may identify the one-dimensional vector spaces  $E_\infty^{*,*}(\Lambda V)$  and  $H^N(\Lambda V, d)$ . Let  $\omega$  denotes the generating element resulting from that identification and put, using (13),  $e(\Lambda V, d) = p'$  and  $(p', q')$ , the associated bidegree i.e. such that  $p' + q' = N$ . It results that  $E_\infty^{*,*}(\Lambda V) = E_\infty^{p',q'}(\Lambda V)$ . Once again, since  $(\Lambda V, d)$



is elliptic, the evaluation map  $ev_{(\Lambda V, d)} : Ext_{(\Lambda V, d)}^{*,*}(\mathbb{Q}, (\Lambda V, d)) \rightarrow H^N(\Lambda V, d)$  is non-zero. By Remark 1, the induced map  $E_{\infty}^{*,*}(ev) : E_{\infty}^{*,*}(A) \rightarrow E_{\infty}^{p', q'}(\Lambda V)$  is also non-zero. It follows that  $E_{\infty}^{*,*}(A) = E_{\infty}^{p', q'}(A)$ , and consequently,  $R(\Lambda V, d) = p' = e(\Lambda V, d)$ .

$\square$

Next, we introduce the *Ext-Ginsburg invariant*  $L_0(X)$  (cf. §1), defined in the same spirit of the Ginsburg's invariant  $l_0(X)$ , which was originally defined using the spectral sequence (1) [9]. By the isomorphism between (1) and (2) [3, Proposition 9.1],  $l_0(X)$  has the following algebraic characterization :

$$l(\Lambda V, d) = \sup\{j \geq 0 \mid d_j \neq 0\} = \min\{m \mid E_{m+1}^{*,*}(\Lambda V) = E_{\infty}^{*,*}(\Lambda V)\}$$

where  $d_j$  denotes the differential on the  $j$ -th page in the spectral sequence (2).

For our more general setting, we define :

**Definition 1.** For a field  $\mathbb{K}$  of arbitrary characteristic and a simply connected finite type CW-complex  $X$ , the *the Ext-Ginsburg invariant* of  $X$  over  $\mathbb{K}$  is defined as :

$$L_{\mathbb{K}}(X) = \sup\{j \mid \delta_j \neq 0\},$$

where  $\delta_j$  denotes the differential of the  $j^{th}$  page of the spectral sequence (6) with  $\mathbb{K}$  replacing  $\mathbb{Q}$ . Equivalently,

$$L_{\mathbb{K}}(X) = \min\{m \mid E_{m+1}^{*,*} = E_{\infty}^{*,*}\}.$$

When  $\mathbb{K} = \mathbb{Q}$ , using the minimal Sullivan model  $(\Lambda V, d)$  of  $X$ , we similarly define :

$$L(\Lambda V, d) = \sup\{j \mid d_j \neq 0\} = \min\{m \mid E_{m+1}^{*,*}(A) = E_{\infty}^{*,*}(A)\},$$

where  $d_j$  denotes the differential on the  $j$ -th page of the spectral sequence (4). By the isomorphism between (6) and (4) established in [15, Theorem 1.1], we obtain the algebraic characterization of  $L_{\mathbb{Q}}(X)$  which we denote  $L_0(X)$  as follows:

$$L_0(X) = L(\Lambda V, d).$$

We now recall and prove our second main result.

**Theorem 4.** (Theorem 1.2) *Let  $X$  be a rationally elliptic space. Then:*

$$L_0(X) = l_0(X).$$

*Proof.* Since  $(\Lambda V, d)$  is elliptic and a Gorenstein algebra, the evaluation map  $ev_{(\Lambda V, d)}$  is non-zero. Therefore, it induces a non-zero isomorphism of one-dimensional spaces  $E_{\infty}^{p,q}(ev) : E_{\infty}^{p,q}(A) \rightarrow E_{\infty}^{p,q}(\Lambda V)$  for some unique bidegree  $(p, q)$ . By Remark 1 and the definition of  $L_0(X)$ , this isomorphism is precisely

$$E_{L_0(X)+1}^{p,q}(ev) : E_{L_0(X)+1}^{p,q}(A) \rightarrow E_{L_0(X)+1}^{p,q}(\Lambda V).$$

Thus,  $E_{\infty}^{p,q}(\Lambda V) = E_{L_0(X)+1}^{p,q}(\Lambda V)$ . By the definition of  $l_0(X)$ , we conclude that  $l_0(X) \leq L_0(X)$ .

On the other hand, by the identifications made above,  $H^N(\Lambda V, d) = E_{\infty}^{p,q}(\Lambda V) = E_{l_0(X)+1}^{p,q}(\Lambda V)$  is generated by the fundamental class  $\omega \in H^N(\Lambda V, d)$ . However,  $\omega = [f(1)] = ev_{(\Lambda V, d)}([f])$  for some  $[f] \in Ext_{(\Lambda V, d)}^N(\mathbb{Q}, (\Lambda V, d)) = E_{\infty}^{p,q}(A)$ . By Remark 1,  $[f] \in E_{l_0(X)+1}^{p,q}(A)$ , so  $E_{\infty}^{p,q}(A) = E_{l_0(X)+1}^{p,q}(A)$ . Consequently, by the definition of  $L_0(X)$ , we obtain  $L_0(X) \leq l_0(X)$ .  $\square$

**Remark 2.** Using the spectral sequence (11) (resp. (12)), we may define  $l_0(X)$  (resp.  $L_0(X)$ ) in terms of the minimal free model  $(TW, d)$  of  $C^*(X, \mathbb{Q})$ . This model is obtained [5] as the dual bar construction  $\Omega(TV, d)$  of the Adams-Hilton model  $(TV, d) \xrightarrow{\cong} C_*(\Omega(X), \mathbb{Q})$  of  $X$ . Recall that in  $(T(V), d)$ , each  $V_i$  has a basis indexed by the  $i + 1$ -cells of  $X$ .

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