**Meeting:** 1001, Evanston, Illinois, SS 13A, Special Session on Algebraic Topology: Interactions with Representation Theory and Algebraic Geometry

1001-55-276David Gepner\* (gepner@uiuc.edu), Department of Mathematics, 1409 W. Green Street,<br/>Urbana, IL 61801. The Circle-Equivariant Sigma Orientation. Preliminary report.

Let E be an even periodic ring spectrum. By the Thom isomorphism,  $E^0 MU\langle 6 \rangle$  is canonically identified with the sections of a naturally occuring line bundle over spec  $E^0 BU\langle 6 \rangle$ . We describe this line bundle in terms of a description of spec  $E^0 BU\langle 6 \rangle$  due to Neil Strickland. We identify the subset of ring maps from  $MU\langle 6 \rangle$  to E with the set of cubical structures on the formal group of E, giving a new proof of a result of Ando-Hopkins-Strickland. This formulation has the advantage that it generalizes naturally to the  $S^1$ -equivariant case. (Received August 29, 2004)