

K - Theory (equivariant)

— References

- Hatcher A. Vector bundles and K -theory
- Segal G. Equivariant K -theory

— Vector bundles

E, B — topological spaces together with

$p: E \rightarrow B$ satisfying

(1) $\forall b \in B$, $p^{-1}(b)$ is a vector space.

(2) $\forall b \in B$, $\exists U$, an open nbhd of b , s.t. diagram commutes.

$$\begin{array}{ccc} p^{-1}(U) & \xrightarrow[\cong]{\text{homeo}} & U \times \mathbb{C}^n \\ & \searrow & \swarrow \text{pr} \\ & U & \end{array}$$

— Examples

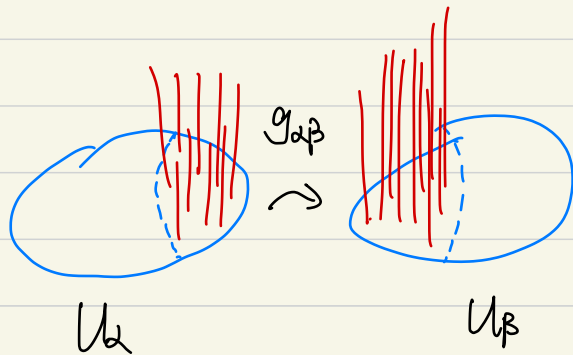
- The trivial bundle $B \times \mathbb{C}^n$.
- Tangent bundle of a differential manifold.
- Mobius band $M \rightarrow S^1$, $[0,1] \times \mathbb{R} / (0,t) \sim (1,-t)$.

Its orthogonal bundle $M^\perp \subseteq \mathbb{R}^3$ consisting of all "orthogonal lines" is isomorphic to M .

For bundles E_1, E_2 over B , we can take direct sum

$E_1 \oplus E_2$ and tensor product $E_1 \otimes E_2$.

□ $E_1 \rightarrow B$, for U_α and U_β , there is a map $g'_{\alpha\beta}: U_\alpha \cap U_\beta \rightarrow$



$GL(\mathbb{C}^n)$ which tell us how to

patch such trivial pieces together,

a way to construct bundles.

For $E_2 \rightarrow B$, $g^2_{\alpha\beta}: U_\alpha \cap U_\beta \rightarrow GL(\mathbb{C}^n)$, then for $E_1 \oplus E_2 \rightarrow B$

$g_{\alpha\beta}$ should be $g^1_{\alpha\beta} \oplus g^2_{\alpha\beta}$ $\begin{bmatrix} g^1_{\alpha\beta} & | \\ \hline & g^2_{\alpha\beta} \end{bmatrix}$

Similarly, $E_1 \otimes E_2$ could construct from $g_{\alpha\beta} = g_{\alpha\beta}^1 \otimes g_{\alpha\beta}^2$:

$$U_\alpha \cap U_\beta \rightarrow GL(\mathbb{C}^n)$$



— Remark

- nontrivial \oplus nontrivial may be trivial. ($M \oplus M$)
- nontrivial \oplus trivial may be trivial. ($TS^n \oplus NS^n$)

Assume B is compact Hausdorff from now on.

— Fact 1 : $\forall E \rightarrow B, \exists E' \rightarrow B$ such that $E \oplus E'$ is trivial

Suppose $f: A \rightarrow B, E \rightarrow B$, then there is $E' \rightarrow A$ fitting

into the diagram with $\tilde{f}: p^{-1}(a) \rightarrow p^{-1}(f(a))$ is isomorphism for

$$\begin{array}{ccc} E' & \xrightarrow{\tilde{f}} & E \\ p \downarrow & & \downarrow p \\ A & \xrightarrow{f} & B \end{array}$$

each $a \in A$. Such E' is unique up to isomorphism,

E' is just the fiber product of E ,

$$\begin{array}{ccc} & & E \\ & & \downarrow p \\ A & \xrightarrow{f} & B \end{array}$$

Let $\text{Vect}_{\mathbb{C}}(B)$ denote all bundles over B (up to iso)

then $f: A \rightarrow B$ induces $f^*: \text{Vect}_{\mathbb{C}}(B) \rightarrow \text{Vect}_{\mathbb{C}}(A)$ with

- $(fg)^*(E) \cong g^*f^*(E)$,
- $\mathbb{1}^*(E) \cong E$,
- $f^*(E_1 \oplus E_2) \cong f^*(E_1) \oplus f^*(E_2)$, and
- $f^*(E_1 \otimes E_2) \cong f^*(E_1) \otimes f^*(E_2)$.

Moreover if $f_0 \simeq f_1: A \rightarrow B$, then $f_0^* = f_1^*: \text{Vect}_{\mathbb{C}}(B) \rightarrow$

$\text{Vect}_{\mathbb{C}}(A)$. This leads us to the definition of K -groups.

— K -Theory.

$\varepsilon^n \rightarrow X$, n -dimensional trivial bundle over X .

$E_1 \sim E_2$ if $E_1 \oplus \varepsilon^n \cong E_2 \oplus \varepsilon^m$ for some m and n .

Under \sim relation, $\text{Vect}_{\mathbb{C}}(X)$ forms a group, $\tilde{K}(X)$. ε^0 is the zero element. \perp

$E_1 \cong_s E_2$ if $E_1 \oplus \varepsilon^n \cong E_2 \oplus \varepsilon^n$ for some n . To make $\text{Vect}_{\mathbb{C}}(X)$

become a group under \cong_S , consider all former differences $E - E'$

we say $E_1 - E_1' = E_2 - E_2'$ iff $E_1 \oplus E_2' \cong_S E_2 \oplus E_1'$. Then we call this

group $K(X)$. $(E_1 - E_1') + (E_2 - E_2') = (E_1 \oplus E_2) - (E_1' \oplus E_2')$.

— The ring structure on $K(X)$ is also obvious,

$$(E_1 - E_1') \otimes (E_2 - E_2') = E_1 \otimes E_2 - E_1 \otimes E_2' - E_1' \otimes E_2 + E_1' \otimes E_2'.$$

Hence $K(X)$ is a commutative ring. Now if $f: X \rightarrow Y$,

$f^*: K(Y) \rightarrow K(X)$ satisfying those properties. Hence

$K(\cdot)$ is a functor $: \text{Htp} \rightarrow \text{Rings}$

— Remark: $x_0 \rightarrow X$, $K(X) \rightarrow K(x_0) \cong \mathbb{Z}$, the kernel can be identified with $\tilde{K}(X)$ and $K(X) \cong \tilde{K}(X) \oplus \mathbb{Z}$, (cohomology theory and reduced cohomology theory.)

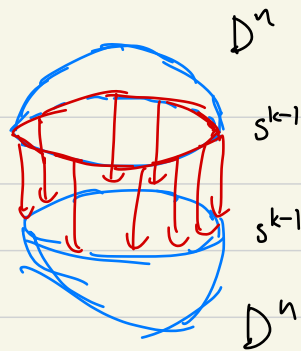
— Examples. D^n can only admit trivial bundles for $D^n \cong \{\text{pt}\}$. Hence

for given $f: S^{k-1} \rightarrow GL(\mathbb{C}^n)$, we can construct $E_f \rightarrow S^n$. In fact,

$$[S^{k-1}, GL(\mathbb{C}^n)] \xleftrightarrow{\text{bij}} \text{Vect}_{\mathbb{C}}^n(S^k).$$

Let $k=1$, S^1 can only admit trivial bundle,

therefore $k(S^1) = \mathbb{Z}$.



As for $k=2$, $S^2 = \mathbb{C}P^1$, let $H \rightarrow \mathbb{C}P^1$ be the canonical line

bundle, i.e. $H = \{(v, l) \in \mathbb{C}^2 \times \mathbb{C}P^1 \mid v \in l\}$.

$\mathbb{C}P^1 : [z_0, z_1] \rightarrow [z_0/z_1, 1] = \mathbb{C} \cup \{\infty\} \cong S^2$, under this

situation, $D_0^2 = [z, 1]$, $|z| \leq 1$ and D_∞^2 can be written as

$[1, z_1/z_0] = [1, z^{-1}]$ with $|z| \leq 1$. $\lambda(z, 1) = \lambda z(1, z^{-1})$, hence

$f: S^1 \rightarrow GL(\mathbb{C})$ is just $f(z) = z$. Now, $H^2 + 1 = (H \oplus H) \oplus 1$ has

clutching function: $\begin{bmatrix} z^2 & \\ & 1 \end{bmatrix}$ and $2H = H \oplus H$ has clutching function

$\begin{bmatrix} z & \\ & z \end{bmatrix}$. Since $GL(\mathbb{C}^2)$ is path-connected, there is a path α_t

connecting the ~~the~~ identity matrix to the matrix interchange two

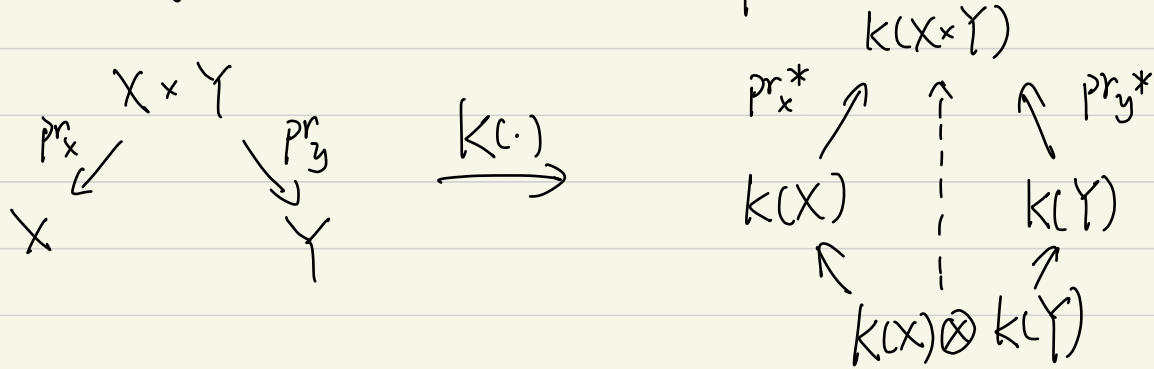
factors of $\mathbb{C} \times \mathbb{C}$. Therefore $(z \oplus 1) \alpha_t (1 \oplus z) \alpha_t$ connecting $z \oplus z$

and $z^2 \oplus 1$. Hence there is a relation $H^2 + 1 = 2H$, or $(H - 1)^2 = 0$.

in $k(S^2)$, hence we get a map:

$$\mathbb{Z}[H]/(H-1)^2 \longrightarrow k(S^2) \quad (*)$$

and in fact, this is an isomorphism. As usual,



$$a \otimes b \longmapsto \text{pr}_x^*(a) \cdot \text{pr}_y^*(b)$$

- Fundamental theorem :

$$k(X) \otimes \mathbb{Z}[H]/(H-1)^2 \rightarrow k(X) \otimes k(S^2) \rightarrow k(S^2 \times X)$$

is an isomorphism. Hence $k(S^2) = \mathbb{Z}[H]/(H-1)^2$.

→ Cohomology Theory.

$$A \rightarrow X \rightarrow X/A \text{ induces } \tilde{K}(X/A) \rightarrow \tilde{K}(X) \rightarrow \tilde{K}(A)$$

which is exact. Then consider the cofibration sequence :

$$\begin{array}{ccccccc}
 A \rightarrow X \rightarrow X \cup CA \rightarrow (X \cup CA) \cup CX \rightarrow [(X \cup CA) \cup CX] \cup C(X \cup CA) \rightarrow & & & & & & \\
 \downarrow & & & & & & \\
 A \rightarrow X \rightarrow X/A \rightarrow SA \rightarrow SX \rightarrow S(X/A) \rightarrow \dots & & & & & &
 \end{array}$$

therefore there is a long exact sequence:

$$\dots \rightarrow \tilde{K}(S(X/A)) \rightarrow \tilde{K}(SX) \rightarrow \tilde{K}(SA) \rightarrow \tilde{K}(X/A) \rightarrow \tilde{K}(X) \rightarrow \tilde{K}(A)$$

Now suppose $X = A \vee B$, then $\tilde{K}(X) \rightarrow \tilde{K}(A)$ is surjective

so does $\tilde{K}(SX) \rightarrow \tilde{K}(SA)$, hence

$$\tilde{k}(SX) \rightarrow \tilde{k}(SA) \xrightarrow{0} \tilde{k}(X/A) \rightarrow \tilde{k}(X) \rightarrow \tilde{k}(A) \rightarrow 0$$

$$\text{splits into } \tilde{k}(A \vee B) = \begin{matrix} \parallel \\ \tilde{k}(B) \end{matrix} \tilde{k}(A) \oplus \tilde{k}(B).$$

As we mentioned above $\tilde{k}(X)$ could be identified with the kernel of $k(X) \rightarrow k(x_0)$, hence $\tilde{k}(X)$ can be regarded as an ideal of $k(X)$ vanishing on $k(x_0)$.

Therefore $\tilde{k}(X) \otimes \tilde{k}(Y) \rightarrow k(X \times Y)$ restricting zero on

$k(X \times \{y_0\} \cup \{x_0\} \times Y) = k(X \vee Y) = k(X) \oplus k(Y)$, which yields a

map $\tilde{K}(X) \otimes \tilde{K}(Y) \rightarrow \tilde{K}(X \wedge Y)$. $a \otimes b \mapsto a * b = \text{pr}_x^*(a) \text{pr}_y^*(b)$

$$k(X) \otimes k(Y) \cong \tilde{K}(X) \otimes \tilde{K}(Y) \oplus \tilde{K}(X) \oplus \tilde{K}(Y) \oplus \mathbb{Z}$$



$\parallel \quad \parallel \quad \parallel$

$$k(X \times Y) \cong \tilde{K}(X \wedge Y) \oplus \underbrace{\tilde{K}(X) \oplus \tilde{K}(Y)}_{\tilde{K}(X \vee Y)} \oplus \mathbb{Z}$$

— Both periodicity $\beta: \tilde{K}(X)$

\parallel

Now consider $\tilde{K}(S^2) \otimes \tilde{K}(X) \xrightarrow{\text{red}}$ $\tilde{K}(S^2 \wedge X) = \tilde{K}(S^2 X)$

sending $a \in \tilde{K}(X)$ to $(H-1) \otimes a \mapsto (H-1) * a$. Bott periodic theorem just says that β is an isomorphism.

— Remark: $\tilde{K}(S^2)$ viewed as an ideal of $K(S^2) = \mathbb{Z}[H]/(H-1)^2$ is generated by $(H-1)^{\cong \mathbb{Z}}$, and the ring structure is trivial since $(H-1)^2 = 0$

Now we going back to the long exact sequence

$$\tilde{K}(S^2 A) \rightarrow \tilde{K}(S(X/A)) \rightarrow \tilde{K}(SX) \rightarrow \tilde{K}(SA) \rightarrow \tilde{K}(X/A) \rightarrow \tilde{K}(X) \rightarrow \tilde{K}(A)$$

writing $\tilde{K}^{-n}(X) = \tilde{K}(S^n X)$ and $\tilde{K}^{-n}(X, A) = \tilde{K}(S^n(X/A))$,

it becomes

$$\begin{array}{ccccccc} \tilde{K}^{-2}(A) & \rightarrow & \tilde{K}^{-1}(X, A) & \rightarrow & \tilde{K}^{-1}(X) & \rightarrow & \tilde{K}^{-1}(A) \rightarrow \tilde{K}^0(X, A) \rightarrow \\ & & \parallel & & \parallel & & \parallel \\ \tilde{K}^0(X, A) & \rightarrow & \tilde{K}^0(X) & \rightarrow & \tilde{K}^0(A) & \rightarrow & \tilde{K}^1(X, A) \rightarrow \tilde{K}^1(X) \rightarrow \dots \end{array}$$

where $\tilde{K}^{2i}(X) = \tilde{K}(X)$ and $\tilde{K}^{2i+1}(X) = \tilde{K}(SX)$ for $i > 0$

To summarize :

$$\begin{array}{ccccc}
 \tilde{K}^0(X, A) & \longrightarrow & \tilde{K}^0(X) & \longrightarrow & \tilde{K}^0(A) \\
 \uparrow & & & & \downarrow \\
 \tilde{K}^1(A) & \longleftarrow & \tilde{K}^1(X) & \longleftarrow & \tilde{K}^1(X, A)
 \end{array}$$

- Proposition: Just as in classical cohomology theory,

$$\alpha \in \tilde{K}^i(X), \beta \in \tilde{K}^j(X), \alpha\beta = (-1)^{ij} \beta\alpha.$$

- Corollary: $\tilde{K}(S^{2n}) \cong \tilde{K}(S^2) \cong \mathbb{Z}$ generated by $(H-1)* \cdots *(H-1)$

and $\tilde{K}(S^{2n+1}) \cong \tilde{K}(S^1) = 0$

— Equivariant K -Theory.

" K -Theory with group actions"

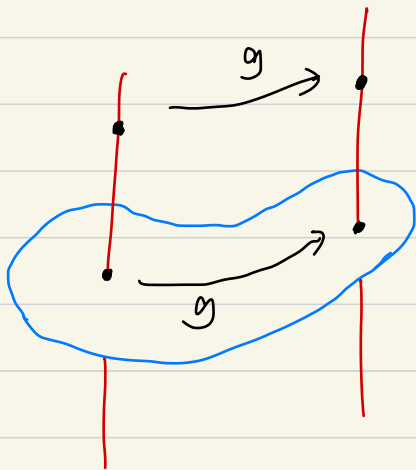
X a G -space means there is a ^{topo}group G acting continuously

on X . $1 \cdot x = x$ and $(gg') \cdot x = g \cdot (g' \cdot x)$.

$E \rightarrow X$ a G -bundle, if $p: E \rightarrow X$ is a vector bundle,

where E is a G -space as well and p is a G -map, that is

$\forall g \in G, g \circ p = p \circ g : E \rightarrow X$ (i.e. $g : E_x \rightarrow E_{gx}$)



An important example is $X = \{\text{pt}\}$ has trivial G -action and

$E \rightarrow X$ is a G -bundle, then E is a " G -module", i.e. a representation space of G .

— $K_G(\cdot)$

As ordinary k -Theory, consider formal differences $E - E'$ of all G -bundles over a base space X . $E_1 - E_1' = E_2 - E_2'$ iff \exists G -bundle F such that $E_1 \oplus E_2' \oplus F \cong E_2 \oplus E_1' \oplus F$. Then we denote this group by $K_G(X)$, it is a commutative ring respect to " \otimes ".

As expected, $K_G(\cdot)$ is a functor from the category of G -spaces and G -maps to the category of Rings, and a few properties still hold.

In particular, if Y is a H -space and X a G -space, and $\alpha: H \rightarrow G$, and $\varphi: Y \rightarrow X$, $\varphi(h, y) \mapsto (\alpha(h), \varphi(y))$. If E is a G bundle over X , then $\varphi^*E = \{(y, l) \mid l \in E_{\varphi(y)}\}$ is a H -bundle over Y .

— Examples :

$X = \{\text{pt}\}$, $K_G(\{\text{pt}\}) = R(G)$ the representation ring of G , generated by all simple G -modules, or equivalently all irreducible representations of G . (not easy to compute)

For a G -space, $X \xrightarrow{\pi} X/G$ induces $K(X/G) \rightarrow K_G(X)$,

since for each bundle $E \rightarrow X/G$, $\pi^*(E)$ admits G -actions

$$g(x, t) = (g \cdot x, t), \quad t \in E_{\pi(x)} = E_{\pi(gx)} = E_{g\pi(x)}.$$

Conversely, if $E \rightarrow X$ is a G -bundle and G acts freely on

X , then $E/G \rightarrow X/G$ is a bundle (need to verify), and hence

$k(X/G) \rightarrow k_G(X)$ is an isomorphism.

What if G acts trivially on X ?

- $k(X) \rightarrow k_G(X)$, $E \mapsto E$ with trivial G action.
- $R(G) \rightarrow k_G(X)$, inducing by $X \rightarrow \{\text{pt}\}$.

Together yields $R(G) \otimes k(X) \rightarrow k_G(X)$ which is an isomorphism.

— Example :

$E \rightarrow X$ a bundle, then $E^{\otimes m} \rightarrow X^{x^m}$ is naturally a Σ_m -bundle

the diagonal map $\Delta: X \rightarrow X^{x^m}$ induces $k_{\Sigma_m}(X^{x^m}) \rightarrow k_{\Sigma_m}(X)$. Since

Σ_m acting trivially on $X \simeq$ diagonal image, it follows that

$$p_m: k(X) \xrightarrow{p_m} k_{\Sigma_m}(X^{x^m}) \xrightarrow{\Delta^*} k_{\Sigma_m}(X) \rightarrow R(\Sigma_m) \otimes k(X), \text{ now for}$$

$$f \in \text{Hom}_{\mathbb{Z}}(R(\Sigma_m), \mathbb{Z}), \quad R(\Sigma_m) \otimes k(X) \xrightarrow{f \otimes 1} \mathbb{Z} \otimes k(X) = k(X) \text{ gives}$$

an operation on $k(X)$. In fact, operation of this types generates

"all" the operations in K -theory. [Rezk, 2006][M.F. Atiyah, 1966]