

Home assignment 2: spectral sequences

The monodromy of Gauss-Manin local system

Definition 2.1. Let $\pi : E \rightarrow B$ be a locally trivial fibration with fiber F . The family of cohomology of fibers of π is locally trivial, (this means that the cohomology of the fibers is locally the same as the cohomology of the base?) but it might have *the monodromy*. In other words, the group $\pi_1(B)$ naturally acts on the algebra $H^*(F)$ by automorphisms. To obtain this action, take a loop in B and trivialize the family π along small intervals of this loop; this gives an identification of $H^*(F)$ with itself, which might be non-trivial.

Remark (Understanding the monodromy action of cohomology). (From [StackExchange](#)) Let $f : X \rightarrow U$ be a proper surjective submersion and fix $u_0 \in U$.

For any path $\gamma \subset U$, there is a canonical diffeomorphism $\phi_\gamma : f^{-1}(\gamma(0)) \rightarrow f^{-1}(\gamma(1))$, using ψ_j (by a theorem of Ehresmann, all the fibers of f are diffeomorphic).

Now, for any loop γ , split γ into paths $\gamma_i \subset U_i$ and you can compose these diffeomorphisms to get a diffeomorphism

$$\phi_{\gamma_n} \circ \dots \circ \phi_{\gamma_1} : f^{-1}(u_0) \rightarrow f^{-1}(\gamma(u_0))$$

It induces a map on homology: you can check that it is well defined up to homotopy.

Exercise 2.1. Let $\phi^* : \mathbb{Z} \rightarrow \text{Aut}(H^*(F))$ be an automorphism induced by a homeomorphism $\phi : F \rightarrow F$. Construct a locally trivial family over a circle with monodromy in cohomology induced by ϕ^* .

Attempt of proof. As I understand the exercise, I must show what could be the total space E of a locally trivial fibration $F \rightarrow E \rightarrow S^1$ such that the monodromy action is ϕ^* .

An automorphism of $H^\bullet(S^1) = \mathbb{Z} \oplus \mathbb{Z}$ must be of the form $(n, m) \mapsto (an, bn)$ for some $a, b \in \mathbb{Z}$. (However since it is determined by a single number it looks like there will be less options.)

I think the possibility $b = 0$ corresponds to $E = S^1 \times \mathbb{R}$ since a loop in the base is just a translation. My guess is that $a = b$ corresponds to $S^1 \times S^1$, and $a = -b$ to a Klein bottle. \square

Leray-Serre spectral sequence

Exercise 2.4. Let $\pi : E \rightarrow B$ be a fibration with the fiber a torus. Assume the $d_2 = 0$. Prove that all differentials vanish.

Proof. Since $d_2 = 0$, we have that $E_3^{p,q} = E_2^{p,q}$. Then

$$d_3 : H^p(B) \otimes H^q(T) \longrightarrow H^{p+3}(B) \otimes H^{q-2}(T),$$

so the only way it could be non-zero is for $q = 2$, which implies that

$$H^p(B) \otimes H^2(T) \cong H^{p+3}(B) \otimes H^0(T) \iff H^p(B) \cong H^{p+3}(B)$$

But I don't see why this couldn't happen. . . □

Exercise 2.5. Let $\pi : E \rightarrow B$ be a fibration with the fiber a torus. Assume that the pullback map $\pi^* : H^2(B) \rightarrow H^2(E)$ is injective. Prove that all differentials d_i vanish.

Solution. I'm not sure how to use the hypothesis since I usually deal with the total space after computing the E_∞ page via the filtration. . . □

Exercise 2.6. Let $\pi : E \rightarrow B$ be a fibration with the fiber a complex projective space. Assume that $d_2 = 0$ and $d_3 = 0$. Prove that all differentials d_i vanish.

Solution. Since a complex projective space has cohomology equal to the coefficients in even dimensions and 0 in odd dimensions, we have the following second page of the spectral sequence:

\vdots							
6	$H^0(B)$	$H^1(B)$	$H^2(B)$	$H^3(B)$	$H^4(B)$	$H^5(B)$	
5							
4	$H^0(B)$	$H^1(B)$	$H^2(B)$	$H^3(B)$	$H^4(B)$	$H^5(B)$	
3							
2	$H^0(B)$	$H^1(B)$	$H^2(B)$	$H^3(B)$	$H^4(B)$	$H^5(B)$	
1							
0	$H^0(B)$	$H^1(B)$	$H^2(B)$	$H^3(B)$	$H^4(B)$	$H^5(B)$	\dots
	0	1	2	3	4	5	\dots

It is immediate that d_4 is also zero, meaning that $E_2 = E_3 = E_4 = E_5$. However the case of d_5 is not so obvious since we get a map

$$d_5 : H^0(B) \rightarrow H^5(B)$$

that could be non-zero. The same will happen for all odd-index differentials. □

Exercise 2.7. Let $\tau : F \rightarrow E$ be the standard embedding map. Prove that the sequence

$$0 \longrightarrow H^1(B) \xrightarrow{\pi^*} H^1(E) \xrightarrow{\tau^*} H^1(F) \xrightarrow{d_2} H^2(B) \xrightarrow{\pi^*} H^2(E)$$

is exact.

Outline of solution. In [nLab](#) we see how to construct such an exact sequence using certain connectedness assumptions on the base and the fiber. The idea is similar to Gysin and Wang exact sequences below: connectedness and Hurewicz theorem make the first homology groups (except the 0-th) vanish, just like in the case of the sphere.

More explicitly, if the base is $(n_1 - 1)$ connected and the fiber is $(n_2 - 1)$ -connected,

$$\begin{aligned} H_k(B) &= 0, & 0 < k < n_1 \\ H_k(F) &= 0, & 0 < k < n_2 \end{aligned}$$

This could then be taken to cohomology via Poincaré duality if both B and F are manifolds (this is necessary because Hurewicz theorem is for homology).

Then we find that the only possible non-vanishing differential is on the k -th page and of the form (asterisk represents some index I have not computed)

$$d_k : E_k^* = H^*(B) \longrightarrow E_k^* = H^*(F)$$

As in my proofs below, to extend this to an exact sequence involving the cohomology of the total space we use the convergence of the spectral sequence (the E_∞ terms) and the associated filtration. \square

Exercise 2.8. Let $F = S^k$, that is, $\pi : E \rightarrow B$ is a sphere bundle. Prove that all differentials d_{k+1} vanish. Construct the *Gysin exact sequence*

$$\dots \longrightarrow H^p(B) \longrightarrow H^{p+k+1}(B) \xrightarrow{\pi^*} H^{p+k+1}(E) \longrightarrow H^{p+1}(B) \longrightarrow \dots$$

Solution. (This argument is adapted from the construction of Wang exact sequence found in [Wikipedia](#)). We have that $E_2^{p,q} = H^p(B) \otimes H^q(S^k)$ can only be non-zero for $q = 0, k$. This means that the only non-zero differentials are of the form

$$d_{k+1} : E_2^{p,k} \cong H^p(B) \longrightarrow E_2^{p+k+1,0} \cong H^{p+k+1}(B)$$

$$\begin{array}{ccccccc} H^0(B) \otimes H^k(S^k) & H^1(B) \otimes H^k(S^k) & \dots & H^k(B) \otimes H^k(S^k) & & & \\ \vdots & & & & & & \vdots \\ & \searrow d_{k+1} & & \searrow d_{k+1} & & & \\ H^0(B) \otimes H^0(S^k) & \dots & H^{k+1}(B) \otimes H^0(S^k) & H^{k+2}(B) \otimes H^0(S^k) & & & \end{array}$$

which means that $E^{k+1} = E^\infty$. Since $E^{k+1} = \ker d_{k+1} / \text{img } d_{k+1}$, we can write

$$\begin{array}{ccccccc}
0 & \longrightarrow & \ker d_{k+1} & \longrightarrow & H^p(B) & \xrightarrow{d_{k+1}} & H^{p+k+1}(B) \longrightarrow \text{coker } d_{k+1} \longrightarrow 0 \\
& & \parallel & & & & \parallel \\
& & \frac{\ker d_{k+1}}{\text{img } d_{k+1}} & & & & \frac{E^{p+k+1,0}}{\text{img } d_{k+1}} \\
& & \parallel & & & & \parallel \\
& & E_{k+1}^{p,k} & & & & E_{k+1}^{p+k+1,0} \\
& & \parallel & & & & \parallel \\
& & E_\infty^{p,k} & & & & E_\infty^{p+k+1,0}
\end{array}$$

This is the "first half" of the Gysin sequence. For the other half we must compute the E_∞ terms. We use the filtration

$$H^n(E) = F^0 H^n \supset F^1 H^n \supset \dots \supset F^n H^n$$

that we know to satisfy

$$E_\infty^{p,q} \cong \frac{F^p H^{p+q}}{F^{p+1} H^{p+q}}.$$

We may write (I'm not completely sure why this works)

$$\begin{array}{ccccccc}
0 & \longrightarrow & E_\infty^{p+k+1,0} & \longrightarrow & H^{p+k+1}(E) & \longrightarrow & E_\infty^{p+1,k} \longrightarrow 0 \\
& & \parallel & & & & \parallel \\
& & \frac{F^{p+k+1} H^{p+k+1}}{F^{p+k+2} H^{p+k+1}} & & & & \frac{F^{p+1} H^{p+k+1}}{F^{p+2} H^{p+k+1}}
\end{array}$$

Putting this together with the first sequence we computed, we get that

$$\rightarrow E_\infty^{p,k} \rightarrow H^p(B) \xrightarrow{d_{k+1}} H^{p+k+1}(B) \rightarrow E_\infty^{p+k+1,0} \rightarrow H^{p+k+1}(E) \rightarrow E_\infty^{p+1,k} \rightarrow$$

and we simply remove the E_∞ terms to get the Gysin sequence

$$\longrightarrow H^p(B) \xrightarrow{d_{k+1}} H^{p+k+1}(B) \longrightarrow H^{p+k+1}(E) \longrightarrow H^{p+1}(B) \longrightarrow$$

Remark. I still cannot see why the map $H^{p+k+1}(B) \rightarrow H^{p+k+1}(E)$ is the map induced by the projection.

□

Exercise 2.11. Let $\pi : E \rightarrow B$ be a fibration with $B = S^k$. Prove that all differentials except d_k vanish. Construct an exact sequence

$$\dots \rightarrow H^{p+k}(F) \xrightarrow{\tilde{d}_k} H^p(F) \xrightarrow{\mu} H^{p+k}(E) \rightarrow H^{p+k+1}(F) \rightarrow \dots$$

where μ is multiplication by $\pi^* \text{Vol}_{S^k}$ and \tilde{d}_k is equal to d_k after the identification $H^p(F) = H^k(S^k) \otimes H^p(F) = E_2^{k,p}$

Solution. Like in Exercise 2.8 we see that the only non-zero differentials are

$$d_k : H^0(S^k) \otimes H^{k+p} \longrightarrow H^k(S^k) \otimes H^{p+1}(F)$$

because $E_2 = E_k$ looks like this:

$$\begin{array}{ccccc}
 H^0(S^k) \otimes H^{k+1}(F) & \cdots & & H^k(S^k) \otimes H^{k+1}(F) \\
 \searrow & & \cdots & & \searrow \\
 H^0(S^k) \otimes H^k(F) & \cdots & d_k & & H^k(S^k) \otimes H^k(F) \\
 \vdots & & & & \vdots \\
 \searrow & & d_k & & \searrow \\
 H^0(S^k) \otimes H^2(F) & \cdots & & & H^k(S^k) \otimes H^2(F) \\
 \searrow & & & & \searrow \\
 H^0(S^k) \otimes H^1(F) & \cdots & & & H^k(S^k) \otimes H^1(F) \\
 \searrow & & & & \searrow \\
 H^0(S^k) \otimes H^0(F) & \cdots & & & H^k(S^k) \otimes H^0(F)
 \end{array}$$

Again like in Exercise 2.8 we obtain a sequence

$$0 \longrightarrow E_{\infty}^{0,q} \longrightarrow H^q(F) \xrightarrow{d_k} H^{q-k+1}(F) \longrightarrow E_{\infty}^{k,q-k+1} \longrightarrow 0$$

Remark. The exercise has the map $H^{p+k}(F) \xrightarrow{\tilde{d}_k} H^p(F)$, but my computations suggest it should be $H^{p+k}(F) \xrightarrow{\tilde{d}_k} H^{p+1}(F)$.

Then we compute the E_{∞} terms using a filtration

$$H^n(E) = F^0 H^n \supset F^1 H^n \supset \cdots \supset F^n H^n, \quad E_{\infty}^{p,q} = \frac{F^p H^{p+q}}{F^{p+1} H^{p+q}}$$

which yields

$$0 \longrightarrow E_{\infty}^{k-1,q-k+1} \longrightarrow H^q(E) \longrightarrow E_{\infty}^{0,q} \longrightarrow 0$$

and then we get

$$\cdots \longrightarrow H^q(E) \longrightarrow H^q(F) \longrightarrow H^{q-k+1}(F) \longrightarrow H^{q+1}(E) \longrightarrow H^{q+1}(F) \longrightarrow \cdots$$

Remark. As in Exercise 2.8, I don't know why the map $H^{q-k+1}(F) \rightarrow H^{q+1}(E)$ should be multiplication by the volume form of S^k .

□

Exercise 2.11. Let $\pi : E \rightarrow B$ be a fibration with the fiber F an odd-dimensional sphere. Assume that the rings $H^*(B)$ and $H^*(E)$ are freely generated by generators in odd degrees. Prove that all d_i vanish.

Idea. Suppose $F = S^{2k+1}$. Like in exercise 2.8, we have the following situation on the second page of the associated spectral sequence:

$$\begin{array}{c|cccc}
 2k+1 & H^0(B) & H^1(B) & \cdots & H^{2k+1}(B) \\
 \vdots & & & & \\
 2 & & & & \\
 1 & & & & \\
 0 & H^0(B) & H^1(B) & \cdots & H^{2k+1}(B) \\
 \hline
 & 0 & 1 & \cdots & 2k+1
 \end{array}$$

so that the only non-zero differentials are d_{k+1} . Now since $H^*(B)$ is freely generated over \mathbb{K} , we may write

$$\begin{array}{c|cccc}
 2k+1 & a_{1,2k+1}\mathbb{K} & a_{2,2k+1}\mathbb{K} & \cdots & a_{2k+1,2k+1}\mathbb{K} \\
 \vdots & & & & \\
 2 & & & & \\
 1 & & & & \\
 0 & a_{1,1}\mathbb{K} & a_{1,2}\mathbb{K} & & a_{2k+1,1}\mathbb{K} \\
 \hline
 & 0 & 1 & \cdots & 2k+1
 \end{array}$$

where the relations between the $a_{i,j}$ is determined by the differentials and Leibniz rule... but I'm uncertain on how to continue. \square