

# Home assignment 2: Cohomology of local systems

**Remark 2.1** Throughout this assignment, all manifolds are assumed to be connected.

**Exercise 2.1** (*Weight  $\lambda$  closed forms are  $W\lambda$  exact*) Let  $\lambda > 0$  be a real number. Define *weight  $\lambda$  homogeneous forms* on  $\mathbb{R}^n \setminus \{0\}$  as differential forms  $\eta$  which satisfy  $\rho_t^* \eta = t^\lambda \eta$ , where  $\rho_t$  is a homothety map  $z \mapsto tz$ ,  $t \in \mathbb{R}$ . Prove that a closed weight  $\lambda$  form is a differential of a weight  $\lambda$  form, for any  $\lambda \neq 1$ .

*Solution by Bruno.* (To be added.) □

**Exercise 2.2** (*MN cohomology of Hopf manifold vanishes*) Let  $M = \mathbb{R}^n \setminus \{0\} / (x \sim 2x)$  be a Hopf manifold,  $\theta$  a closed, non-exact 1-form,  $d_\theta = d + \theta$ , and  $H_\theta^*(M)$  cohomology of the complex  $(\Lambda^*(M), d_\theta)$  (*Morse-Novikov cohomology*). Prove that  $H_\theta^i(M) = 0$  for all  $i$ .

**Hint.** Use the previous exercise.

*Solution.* In view of Exercise 2.1 we are inclined to look for a “weight  $\lambda$ ” form in the class of any given closed differential form  $\alpha \in \Lambda^*(M)$ . Then the *usual* cohomology class of  $\alpha$  vanishes.

**Misha:** the standard way to do this is to “average” the forms using a compact Lie group. So maybe ask GPT to what this means exactly. □

**Exercise 2.3** ( *$\theta$  exact  $\implies$  MN cohomology = dr cohomology*) Let  $\theta$  be an exact 1-form on a manifold  $M$ . Construct an isomorphism between the complexes  $(\Lambda^i(M), d_\theta)$  and  $(\Lambda^i(M), d)$ .

*Solution by Bruno.* Using exponential map. Do you remember? □

**Exercise 2.4** ( *$\theta$  closed  $\implies$  MN vanishes iff  $\theta$  exact*) Let  $\theta$  be a closed 1-form on a connected manifold. Prove that  $H_\theta^0(M) \neq 0$  if and only if  $\theta$  is exact.

*Solution by Bruno.* I don’t remember. There is an easy way using sheaves? □

**Definition 2.1** A *complex of vector spaces* is a collection of  $\{A_i, i \in \mathbb{Z}\}$  of vector spaces equipped with the *differential*  $d : A_i \rightarrow A_{i+1}$  such that  $d^2 = 0$ ; its *cohomology groups* are  $\frac{\ker d}{\text{img } d}$ . *Morphism of complexes*  $\phi : (A_*, d_A) \rightarrow (B_*, d_B)$  is a collection of homomorphisms

$\phi_i : A_i \rightarrow B_i$  commuting with the differentials. *The cone* of such a morphism is a complex  $C_i := B_i \oplus A_{i+1}$  with the differential  $d_B + (-1)^i d_A + \phi : B_i \oplus A_{i+1} \rightarrow B_{i+1} \oplus A_{i+2}$ .

$$\begin{aligned} d_B + (-1)^i d_A + \phi : B_i \oplus A_{i+1} &\longrightarrow B_{i+1} \oplus A_{i+2} \\ (b^i, a^{i+1}) &\longmapsto (d_B b^i, (-1)^i d_A a^{i+1} \underbrace{\phi}_{?}) \end{aligned}$$

**Exercise 2.5** Let  $A_* \xrightarrow{\phi} B_*$  be a morphism of complexes of vector spaces, and  $C_*$  its cone. Construct a long exact sequence

$$\cdots \rightarrow H^{i-1}(C_*) \rightarrow H^i(A_*) \rightarrow H^i(B_*) \rightarrow H^i(C_*) \rightarrow H^{i+1}(A_*) \rightarrow \cdots$$

**Note:** the indices are different in the answer.

*Solution by Lada.* I realise that

$$0 \longrightarrow B_i \longrightarrow B_i \oplus A_{i+1} \longrightarrow A_{i+1} \longrightarrow 0$$

which by the fundamental theorem of homological algebra gives a long exact sequence

$$\cdots \rightarrow H^k(B) \rightarrow H^k(B_i \oplus A_{i+1}) = H^k(C_i) \rightarrow H^k(A_{i+1}) \rightarrow H^{k+1}(B_{i+1}) \rightarrow \cdots$$

□

**Exercise 2.6 (The trivial circle bundle)** Let  $X$  be a manifold,  $M := X \times S^1$ , and  $\pi : M \rightarrow S^1$  the standard projection. Denote by  $T_X^1(M)$  the bundle of vectors tangent to the fibers of  $\pi$ ,  $\Lambda_X^1(M)$  its dual, and  $\Lambda_X^*(M)$  the corresponding Grassmann algebra. Consider the de Rham differential  $d_X$  acting on  $\Lambda_X^*(M)$  fiberwise along  $X$ .

- (a) (cohomology of the vectors tangent to fibers is cohomology of base  $\otimes$  smooth functions on circle) Prove that the cohomology of  $(\Lambda_X^*(M), d_X)$  is isomorphic to  $H^*(X) \otimes C^\infty S^1$ .
- (b) Let  $\frac{d}{dt}$  be the derivative along the circle. Prove that  $\frac{d}{dt}$  commutes with  $d_X$ .
- (c) Let  $C_0^\infty S^1$  denote the functions which average to zero. Prove that  $\frac{d}{dt}$  is invertible on  $C_0^\infty$ .
- (d) Prove that the kernel and the cokernel of  $H^*(X) \otimes C^\infty S^1 \xrightarrow{d/dt} H^*(X) \otimes C^\infty S^1$  are naturally isomorphic to  $H^*(X)$ .

*Solution.*

1. Now I remember: it's Künneth formula! As I recall,

$$H^*(X \times S^1) = H^*(X) \otimes H^*(S^1).$$

Now I realise: it's the cohomology of the vectors tangent to the fibers of the circle bundle! I think it's the kernel of the map induced by the projection  $\pi : X \times S^1 \rightarrow S^1$ , namely

$$T_X(M) = \ker \pi_* = \{v \in TM : \pi_*(v) = 0 \in TS^1\}$$

So this will inject in the total bundle:

$$0 \longrightarrow T_X(M) \longrightarrow T(X \times S^1) \longrightarrow TS^1 \longrightarrow 0$$

Take Grassman algebra functor to get

$$0 \longrightarrow \Lambda_X^*(M) \longrightarrow \Lambda^*(M) \longrightarrow \Lambda^*(S^1) \longrightarrow 0$$

Giving the sequence

$$\begin{aligned} \cdots \rightarrow 0 \rightarrow H_X^0(M) \rightarrow H^0(M) \rightarrow H^0(S^1) \rightarrow \\ \rightarrow H_X^1(M) \rightarrow H^1(M) \rightarrow H^1(S^1) \rightarrow H_X^2(M) \rightarrow \cdots \end{aligned}$$

To compute the cohomology of  $M$  we use Künneth formula:

$p + q$	$H^{p+q}(M)$
0	$H^0(X) \otimes H^0(S^1) = H^0(X) \otimes \mathbb{R}$
1	$H^1(X) \otimes H^0(S^1) \oplus H^0(X) \otimes H^1(S^1)$ $= H^1(X) \otimes \mathbb{R} \oplus H^0(X) \otimes \mathbb{R}$
2	$H^0(X) \otimes H^2(S^1) \oplus H^1(X) \otimes H^1(S^1) \oplus H^2(X) \otimes H^0(S^1)$ $= H^1(X) \otimes \mathbb{R} \oplus H^2(X) \otimes \mathbb{R}$
3	$H^3(X) \otimes \mathbb{R} \oplus H^2(X) \otimes \mathbb{R}$
4	$H^4(X) \otimes \mathbb{R} \oplus H^3(X) \otimes \mathbb{R}$
5	$H^5(X) \oplus \mathbb{R} \oplus H^4(X) \otimes \mathbb{R}$

Giving

$$\begin{aligned} \cdots \rightarrow 0 \rightarrow H_X^0(M) \rightarrow H^0(X) \otimes \mathbb{R} \rightarrow H^0(S^1) \rightarrow \\ \rightarrow H_X^1(M) \rightarrow H^1(X) \otimes \mathbb{R} \oplus H^0(X) \otimes \mathbb{R} \rightarrow H^1(S^1) \rightarrow \cdots \\ \rightarrow H_X^2(M) \rightarrow H^1(X) \otimes \mathbb{R} \oplus H^2(X) \otimes \mathbb{R} \rightarrow 0 \rightarrow \cdots \\ \rightarrow H_X^3(M) \rightarrow H^3(X) \otimes \mathbb{R} \oplus H^2(X) \otimes \mathbb{R} \rightarrow 0 \rightarrow \cdots \end{aligned}$$

So I wonder how to finish. Perhaps using some spectral sequence?

- Here we must think that  $\frac{d}{dt}$  is a derivation  $f \mapsto \frac{df}{dt}\Big|_t$ , where the latter is actually a smooth function depending on  $t \in S^1$ .

Then I'd like to see  $d_X$  as a derivation, but I don't know how. The following probably doesn't make sense:  $f \mapsto d_X f$ , which is a form, so to get a number I should pair it with a vector field. So actually there *is* a canonical vector field on  $S^1$ , say, unit tangent vector field in a fixed direction. This would give me a number, what number?

The number is:  $d_X f \left( \frac{d}{dt} \right) = \frac{df}{dt} \frac{dt}{dt} = \frac{df}{dt} \Big|_t$

3. (ChatGPT.) First notice that for any  $f \in C^\infty S^1$  the integral of its derivative vanishes by the fundamental theorem of calculus. To construct an inverse define for  $g \in C^\infty S^1$  the primitive  $f(t) = \int_0^t g(y) dy$ . Then  $\int_{S^1} f(t) dt$  **vanishes because...**

□

**Exercise 2.7** (The trivial circle bundle continued)

**Exercise 2.8** (MN of trivial circle bundle vanishes for  $X$  compact and  $\theta = \pi^* dt$ )