

Home assignment 2: Cohomology of local systems

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

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

Exercise 2.2 (*MN cohomology of Hopf manifold vanishes*) Let $M = \mathbb{R}^n \setminus \{0\} / (x \sim 2x)$ be a Hopf manifold, θ 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 λ ” form in the class of any given closed differential form $\alpha \in \Lambda^*(M)$. Then the *usual* cohomology class of α 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. \square

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

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

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 $d_B + (-1)^i d_A + \phi : B_i \oplus A_{i+1} \rightarrow B_{i+1} \oplus A_{i+2}$.

$$d_B + (-1)^i d_A + \phi : B_i \oplus A_{i+1} \longrightarrow B_{i+1} \oplus A_{i+2}$$

$$(b^i, a^{i+1}) \longmapsto (d_B b^i, (-1)^i d_A a^{i+1} \underbrace{\phi}_{?})$$

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 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 π , $\Lambda_X^1(M)$ 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 with average to zero. Prove that $\frac{d}{dt}$ is invertible on C^∞ .
- (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,

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

But what is the cohomology of the circle? It vanishes for $i > 1$, and $H^1(S^1) = \mathbb{Z}$.

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

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

Giving the sequence

$$\begin{aligned} \cdots \rightarrow 0 \rightarrow H_X^0(M) \rightarrow H^0(M) \cong H^0(X) \otimes H^0(S^1) \xrightarrow{\text{res}} H^0(X) \rightarrow H^0(S^1) = \mathbb{R} \rightarrow \\ \rightarrow H_X^1(M) \rightarrow H^1(X) \rightarrow H^1(S^1) = \mathbb{R} \rightarrow H_X^2(M) \rightarrow 0 \rightarrow \cdots \end{aligned}$$

So I wonder if the sequence

$$0 \longrightarrow H_X^0(M) \longrightarrow H^0(X) \longrightarrow \mathbb{R}$$

gives

$$H_X^0(M) \cong H^0(X) \otimes C^\infty S^1$$

Looks like not.

Note. Looks like using Serre spectral sequence (adding the hypothesis that X is simply connected yields $H_X^0(M) \cong H^0(X) \otimes H^0(S^1)$. So the question of how the smooth functions $C^\infty S^1$ appear remains a mystery.

2. 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 $t \in S^1$. Likewise, d_X is a derivation mapping $f \mapsto d_X f$, which is a form, so to get a number I should pair it with a vector field.
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 circle bundle continued)

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