

MATH 695

10/7/2022

Comment: Using K -theory to construct elements in stable homotopy groups of spheres:

$$\alpha \in \pi_{2n+1}(U)$$

↑

$$\pi_{2n+1}(U(N))$$

↘

1-pt. compactification of \mathbb{C}^N

$$S^{2N} \rightarrow S^{2N}$$

↑ ↑
based

maps of degree 1, can get it to degree 0 by adding in $\pi_{2N} S^{2N}$

α still not based, but can move base point
to the base point: \leftarrow finite group

$$\alpha \mapsto \pi_{2n+1}^S(S^0)$$

(complex) J-homomorphism. Gives the

best one can do at primes $p > 2$. At $p = 2$,

use KO instead of K \rightarrow repeat our construction
for infinite orthogonal group O .

Theorem (BoH): $\Omega^8 O \simeq O$

\nearrow
real spinors

$$\Omega O \simeq O/U$$

$$\Omega O/U \simeq U/Sp$$

$$\Omega U/Sp \simeq BSp \times \mathbb{Z}$$

$$\Omega BSp \times \mathbb{Z} \simeq Sp$$

\nwarrow symplectic group
(compact form)
 $U Sp(n)$
 \uparrow
like unitary
group for
quaternions.

$$\Omega Sp \simeq Sp/U$$

$$\Omega Sp/U \simeq U/O$$

$$\Omega U/O \simeq BO \times \mathbb{Z}$$

Atiyah: K-theory and reality

Take the proof of Bott periodicity we did
and add complex conjugation. (All the steps we did
preserve it!)

↓
deduce real Bott periodicity via considerations
with real spinors.

So we get finer information from $J: \pi_{2n+1} KO \rightarrow \pi_{2n+1}^S S^0$

$i \bmod 8$	$\pi_i KO$
0	\mathbb{Z}
1	$\mathbb{Z}/2$
2	$\mathbb{Z}/2$
3	0
4	\mathbb{Z}
5	0
6	0
7	0

Adams: On the groups $J(X)$ I - IV.

(cyclic group of orders equal to denominators of Bernoulli numbers,

Back to a more general discussion.

What does algebraic topology see? ^{singular}

homotopy equivalence of general spaces is
therefore a relation. (homology, homotopy groups
will never tell the Cantor set
from the discrete set)

Smaller goal: The set of connected components??
What we can find is $\pi_0 X = \{ \text{path-components} \}$
 $[0,1] \rightarrow X$

Definition: A (continuous) map $f: X \rightarrow Y$ is called a weak equivalence if

$$\pi_0 f: \pi_0 X \xrightarrow{\cong} \pi_0 Y \quad \text{bifunction}$$

and for all $n \geq 1$ and all $x \in X$

$$\pi_n f: \pi_n(X, x) \xrightarrow{\cong} \pi_n(Y, f(x)).$$

Algebraic topology works in a category where weak equivalences are made into isomorphisms (e.g. derived category of spaces)

Also useful: "formal skeleton"

A map $f: X \rightarrow Y$ is called a 0-equivalence

if $\pi_0 f: \pi_0 X \rightarrow \pi_0 Y$ is onto

and an n -equivalence for $n > 0$ if

$$\pi_0 f: \pi_0 X \xrightarrow{\cong} \pi_0 Y$$

and for $k \geq 1, x \in X$

$$\pi_k f: \pi_k(X, x) \rightarrow \pi_k(Y, f(x))$$

is an isomorphism for $k < n$ and onto for $k = n$.

We have a category \mathcal{C} with some class of morphisms \mathcal{E} (usually we assume \mathcal{E} forms a subcategory, includes all \cong and satisfies the 2/3 property: $\begin{array}{ccc} & f & \\ & \searrow & \\ & g & \\ & \nearrow & \\ & h & \end{array} \quad h = g \circ f$ if two out of the maps f, g, h are in \mathcal{E} , so is the third).

A derived category (if one exists) is a category $D\mathcal{C}$ together with a functor $\mathbb{D} : \mathcal{C} \rightarrow D\mathcal{C}$ which sends $e \in \mathcal{E}$ into an isomorphism and is universal with that property:

$$\begin{array}{ccc}
 \mathcal{Y} & \xrightarrow{\Phi} & \mathcal{D}\mathcal{E} \\
 & \searrow F & \vdots \quad \mathcal{D}\Phi \\
 & & \mathcal{Q}
 \end{array}$$

F sends morphisms in \mathcal{E} into \mathcal{Q} morphisms then
 $\exists! \mathcal{D}\Phi$ which makes the diag. strictly commute.

Note: Φ must be a bijection on objects.

Alternative 2-categorical definition which is invariant
 to equivalence of categories.

Why might a derived category not exist? (set theory.)

(HW) ④ Prove that $U(1) \hookrightarrow U(n)$ is
a 1-equivalence.