

1. Pullback bundles

Def. Given a (complex) vector bundle $\pi: E \rightarrow B$ and a map $f: X \rightarrow B$, there is an induced vector bundle $f^*(E)$ over X , called the pullback of E by f , given by the pullback diagram:

$$\begin{array}{ccc} f^*(E) & \longrightarrow & E \\ \downarrow & \text{P.b.} & \downarrow \pi \\ X & \xrightarrow{f} & B \end{array}$$

(Note. $f^*(E)$ is unique up to bundle isomorphism).

Prop (Elementary properties of pullback bundles)

- (1) $f^*g^*(E) \cong (gf)^*(E)$. \Rightarrow pullback of bundles is a contravariant functor.
- (2) $\mathbb{1}^*(E) \cong E$.
- (3) $f^*(E_1 \oplus E_2) \cong f^*(E_1) \oplus f^*(E_2)$
- (4) $f^*(E_1 \otimes E_2) \cong f^*(E_1) \otimes f^*(E_2)$

Denote by $\text{Vect}^{\mathbb{C}}(X)$ the set of isomorphism classes of v. bs over X .

Then $\text{Vect}(X)$ is a semi-ring:

(\oplus, \otimes) , ① additive identity = zero vector bundle: $E \oplus 0 = E$. $\mathbb{C}^n \oplus \mathbb{C}^0 = \mathbb{C}^n$.

② multiplicative identity = trivial line bundle: $E \otimes \mathbb{C} = E$
 $\mathbb{C}^n \otimes \mathbb{C} = \mathbb{C}^n$.

Lem. If B is compact, then for any vector bundle $E \rightarrow B$, there exists a bundle $E' \rightarrow B$ such that $E \oplus E' \cong \mathbb{C}^n = B \times \mathbb{C}^n$ for some n .

Theorem: Let $p: E \rightarrow B$ be a vector bundle. Suppose that X is compact Hausdorff and that $f_0 \cong f_1: X \rightarrow B$, then there is an isomorphism $f_0^*(E) \cong f_1^*(E)$.

Proof. Let $H: X \times I \rightarrow B$ be a homotopy between f_0 and f_1 ; that is $H_0 = f_0, H_1 = f_1$.

Then it suffices to show that $H_0^*(E) = H^*(E)|_{X \times \{0\}} \cong H^*(E)|_{X \times \{1\}} = H_1^*(E)$

Since X is compact, then there is a finite cover $\{U_1, \dots, U_n\}$ of X ; moreover, we can assume that $H^*(E)$ is trivial over each $U_i \times I$.

By the associated partition of unity, there are functions $f_i: X \rightarrow I$ s.t. $\text{Supp}(f_i) \subseteq U_i, \sum_{i=1}^n f_i = 1$.

Define $\Psi_i = \varphi_1 + \dots + \varphi_i$, then $\Psi_0 = 0, \Psi_n = 1$. Set $X_i = \{(x, \Psi_i(x)) \in X \times I \mid x \in X\}$
 $= \text{graph}(\Psi_i)$
 Then the projection $q_i: X_i \rightarrow X_i, q_i(x, \Psi_i(x)) = (x, \Psi_{i-1}(x))$ is a homeomorphism.

$$\begin{array}{c} E|_{X_i} = E_i \xrightarrow{\quad h_i \quad} E_{i-1} \\ \downarrow p_i \qquad \qquad \downarrow p_{i-1} \\ U_i \times \Psi_i(x) \subseteq X_i \xrightarrow{\quad \cong \quad} X_{i-1} \end{array}$$

Since $H^*(E)$ is trivial over $U_i \times I$, we may put $P^*(U_i \times I) = U_i \times I \times \mathbb{C}^n$,
 then $h_i(x, \Psi_i(x), v) = (x, \Psi_{i-1}(x), v)$,
 $\forall (x, \Psi_i(x)) \in P^*(U_i \times I)$

Clearly h_i is a homeomorphism

$\Rightarrow h = h_1 h_2 \cdots h_n: E_n \rightarrow E_0$ is then an isomorphism: $H_i^*(E) \xrightarrow{\cong} H_0^*(E)$
 $\downarrow \qquad \qquad \qquad \downarrow$
 $X \times \{1\} \xrightarrow{\cong} X \times \{0\}$ \square .

Cor. If $f: X \rightarrow B$ is a homotopy equivalence between compact spaces,

then $f^*: \text{Vect}_n(B) \rightarrow \text{Vect}_n(X)$ is bijection.

In particular, $\text{Vect}_n(B) = \{B \times \mathbb{C}^n\}$ if B is contractible.

② $f^*: \text{Vect}(B) \rightarrow \text{Vect}(X)$ is an isomorphism of semirings

$\text{Hotop}_{\text{comp.}} \xrightarrow{\text{Vect}(-)} \underline{\text{Semi-Rings}}$ is a contravariant functor

$$\begin{array}{ccc} X & \xrightarrow{\quad} & \text{Vect}(X) \\ f \downarrow & & \uparrow f^* \\ Y & \xrightarrow{\quad} & \text{Vect}(Y) \end{array}$$

- Theorem. Let X be compact Hausdorff based topological space.
- (Fact)
- For any $E \in \text{Vect}(X)$, $\exists! F \in \text{Vect}(X)$ s.t. $E \oplus F = \Sigma^n (= X \times \mathbb{C}^n)$
 - $[X, BU(n) = G_n(\mathbb{C}^\infty)] \xrightarrow{1:1} \text{Vect}_n(X)$

$$f \mapsto f^*(EU(n)) \quad \leftarrow \quad X \xrightarrow{f} BU(n)$$

$EU(n) \xrightarrow{\pi} BU(n)$ is the universal classifying fibration.

2. Introduction to complex topological K-theory

- X is any a ^{based} topological space.
- $\text{Vect}(X) :=$ the set of isomorphism classes of vector bundles over X
- $\text{Vect}_n(X) := \{\xi \in \text{Vect}(X) \mid \text{rank } \xi = n\}$
- $\text{Vect}_n(X) \subseteq \text{Vect}_{n+1}(X) \rightsquigarrow \text{Vect}(X) = \underset{n \rightarrow \infty}{\text{colim}} \text{Vect}_n(X)$
 $\xi \mapsto \xi \oplus E$.
- $(\text{Vect}(X), \oplus)$ is a commutative Semigroup/Semiring
 (\oplus) $(\oplus; \otimes)$
- Grothendieck group $K_0(A)$ of a Semigroup (A, \oplus)
 - $F(A)$: the free abelian group generated by elements of A
 - $E(A)$: the subgroup of $F(A)$ generated by elements of the form: $a+a-(a \oplus a')$, $\forall a, a' \in A$. $\Rightarrow K_0(A) = F(A)/E(A)$, in $K_0(A)$, $a+a' := [a \oplus a']$.
- Universal property: $\forall \alpha: A \rightarrow G$ a semigroup homomorphism,
 $\exists! \bar{\alpha}: K_0(A) \rightarrow G$ st. $\alpha = \bar{\alpha} \circ l: A \xrightarrow{l} K_0(A) \xrightarrow{\bar{\alpha}} G$.

Examples • $(A, \oplus) \in \underline{\text{projective } R\text{-mod}}$ $\xrightarrow{\quad}$ algebraic K_0 -groups

• $(A, \oplus) \in \text{Vect}(\text{HoTop}_{\text{comp}})$ \rightsquigarrow (complex) topological K-groups.

• Second definition of $K_0(A)$ (A, \oplus) Semigroup.

$\Delta: A \rightarrow A \times A$ the diagonal map, $a \mapsto (a, a)$

$$K_0(A) := A \times A / \Delta(A), \text{ id} = \Delta(A)$$

$$\overline{(a, b)}^{-1} = \overline{(b, a)}. \Rightarrow K_0(A) \text{ is a group (abelian)}$$

We have: $(A: A \xrightarrow{i} A \times A \rightarrow K_0(A)).$ By the universal property of quotient groups,
 $a \mapsto (a, 0)$

Lemma: For any Semihomomorphism $\alpha: A \rightarrow B,$ there is a comm. diagram

$$\begin{array}{ccc} A & \xrightarrow{\alpha} & B \\ \downarrow i_A & & \downarrow \text{ls} \\ K_0(A) & \xrightarrow{K_0(\alpha)} & K_0(B) \end{array}$$

$(K_0(A), i_A)$ is a functor
 SemiGps \longrightarrow Ab

In particular, if A is a group, then i_A is an isomorphism.

Thus $K_0(A) = A \times A / \Delta(A)$ satisfies the required Universal property.

For any based topological space, $K(X) = K_0(\text{Vect}(X))$, ring.

notation: For any $E \in \text{Vect}(X)$, write $[E] = (\text{Vect}(X))(E) \in K(X)$.

• By definition, every element of $K(X)$ is of the form $[E] - [F]$.

• Let $G \in \text{Vect}(X)$ s.t. $F \oplus G = \Sigma^n,$ then

$$[E] - [F] = [E] + [G] - ([F] + [G]) = [E \oplus G] - [\Sigma^n] = [H] - [\Sigma^n]$$

That is, every element of $K(X)$ is of the form $[H] - [\Sigma^n]$

• $[E] = [F] \Leftrightarrow E \oplus G = F \oplus G$ for some $G \in \text{Vect}(X)$

$$\Leftrightarrow E \oplus \Sigma^n = F \oplus \Sigma^n \text{ for some } n$$

(i.e. E and F are stably equivalent).

$$K(X) \cong \text{Vect}(X) \oplus \mathbb{Z}$$

$$\text{e.g. } K(\mathbb{P}^1) \cong \mathbb{Z}$$

- Any map $f: X \rightarrow Y$ $\xrightarrow{\text{pullback}}$ $f^*: \text{Vect}_n(Y) \rightarrow \text{Vect}_n(X)$, $\forall n \geq 1$.

$$\xrightarrow{\text{ring homo}} f^*: K(Y) \rightarrow K(X).$$

moreover, $f \sim g \Rightarrow f^* = g^*$.

- Homotopical definition of $K(X)$.

X compact: $\widetilde{K}(X) = [X, BU]$

$$= [X, \underset{n}{\text{colim}} \, BU(n)]$$

$$= \underset{n}{\text{colim}} \, [X, BU(n)]$$

$$= \underset{n}{\text{colim}} \, \text{Vect}_n(X) = \text{Vect}(X).$$

$$\left| \begin{array}{l} U = \underset{n}{\text{colim}} \, U(n) \\ BU(n) = G_n(\mathbb{C}^\infty) \\ BU = \underset{n}{\text{colim}} \, BU(n). \end{array} \right.$$

$$\Rightarrow \text{Lem. } K(X) \cong [X, \mathbb{Z} \times BU] \cong \widetilde{K}(X) \oplus \mathbb{Z} \cong \widetilde{K}(X) \oplus K(\text{pt}) \cong \widetilde{K}(X_+)$$

$$0 \rightarrow \widetilde{K}(X) \rightarrow K(X) \xrightarrow{\epsilon = i^*} \mathbb{Z} \rightarrow 0 \quad \text{splitting exact seq.}$$

"K(pt)".

$$\text{Lem. } \widetilde{K}(\Sigma X) = [\Sigma X, BU] = [X, \Sigma BU] = [X, U].$$

$$\widetilde{K}^n(X) := \widetilde{K}(\Sigma^n X) = [\Sigma^n X, BU] = [X, \Sigma^n BU] = [X, \Sigma^{n-1} U], \forall n \geq 1.$$

- Relative complex K-group: $K(X, Y) \cong \widetilde{K}(X/Y)$. $K(X, \emptyset) = K(X)$.

Def. $\widetilde{K}^{-n}(X) := \widetilde{K}(\Sigma^n X)$ compact pairs.

$$K^{-n}(X, Y) := \widetilde{K}^{-n}(X/Y) = \widetilde{K}(\Sigma^n(X/Y)).$$

$$K^{-n}(X) := K^{-n}(X, \emptyset) = \widetilde{K}(\Sigma^n(X_+)).$$

- \widetilde{K}^{-n} is a contravariant functor.

- Fact (Bott Periodicity theorem): $U \cong \Omega^2 U \Rightarrow \widetilde{K}^2(X) \cong K(X)$.

Lem: For any compact pair (X, Y) , there is an exact seq.

$$K(X, Y) \xrightarrow{j^*} K(X) \xrightarrow{i^*} K(Y),$$

where $i: Y \hookrightarrow X$ and $j: (X, Y) \rightarrow (X, Y)$ are the inclusions.

proof: $j \circ i: Y \hookrightarrow X \hookrightarrow (X, Y) \rightsquigarrow i^* \circ j^* = (j \circ i)^* = 0$, that is, $\text{Im } j^* \subseteq \ker i^*$.

$\text{Ker } i^* \subseteq \text{Im } j^*$: Let $\xi \in \text{Ker } i^*$, $\xi = [E] - [\Sigma^n]$ for some n .

$$0 = i^* \xi \Rightarrow [E|_Y] = [\Sigma^n] \in K(Y).$$

$$\Leftrightarrow (E \oplus \Sigma^n)|_Y = \Sigma^n \oplus \Sigma^m \quad \text{for some } n$$

$\Rightarrow E \oplus \Sigma^m$ is a vector bundle over X/Y .

$$\rightsquigarrow \eta = [E \oplus \Sigma^m] - [\Sigma^n \oplus \Sigma^m] \in \widetilde{K}(X/Y) = K(X, Y).$$

$$j^*(\eta) = [E \oplus \Sigma^m] - [\Sigma^n \oplus \Sigma^m] = [E] - [\Sigma^n] = \xi. \quad \square$$

Cor: $K(X, Y) \xrightarrow{j^*} \widetilde{K}(X) \xrightarrow{i^*} \widetilde{K}(Y)$ is exact, since

$$K(X) = \widetilde{K}(X) \oplus K(Y).$$

prop: There is a natural exact seq:

$$\cdots \rightarrow K^{-2}(Y) \xrightarrow{\delta} K^{-1}(X, Y) \xrightarrow{j^*} K^{-1}(X) \xrightarrow{i^*} K^{-1}(Y) \xrightarrow{\delta} K^0(X, Y)$$

$$\qquad \qquad \qquad \xrightarrow{j^*} K^0(X) \xrightarrow{i^*} K^0(Y).$$

See Prop. 2.2.5 of Atiyah's book.

Cor: If Y is a retract of X , then $K^{-n}(X) \cong K^{-n}(Y) \oplus K^{-n}(X/Y)$, $\forall n \geq 0$.

Theorem: For any X and any $n \leq 0$, there is an isomorphism

$$K^{-n}(X) \cong K^{-2}(\text{pt}) \otimes K^{-n}(X) \xrightarrow{\cong} K^{-n-2}(X).$$

Exercise 1. Show that

① $\tilde{K}^{-n}(X \times Y) \cong \tilde{K}^{-n}(X \wedge Y) \oplus \tilde{K}^{-n}(X) \oplus \tilde{K}^{-n}(Y)$, $\forall n \geq 0$

② $\tilde{K}(S^2) \cong \mathbb{Z}$ ($\cong K^2(\text{pt})$), $\tilde{K}(S^1 = \emptyset) = 0$.

$$\Rightarrow \tilde{K}(S^m) = \begin{cases} \mathbb{Z} & m \text{ even} \\ 0 & m \text{ odd} \end{cases}$$

2. Compute $\tilde{K}(CP^2)$.

3. Let $P^{n+1}(k) = S^n \cup_k e^{n+1}$ be the mod k Moore space.

$k \geq 2$, compute $\tilde{K}(P^{n+1}(k))$.