

Raphael Zentner's instanton class – notes

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If you want to contribute to these notes in any way (e.g., you have spotted a typo), [email psuwara at impan dot pl](mailto:psuwara@impan.pl).

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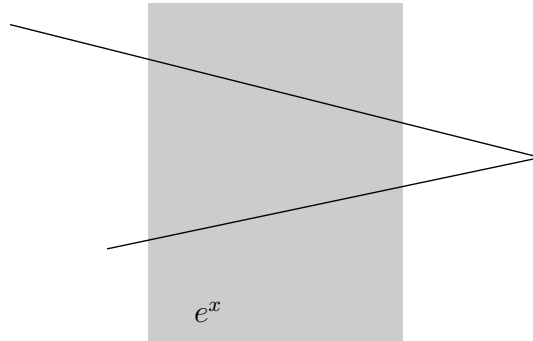


Figure 1: This is a test drawing. I am sure Inkscape will prove useful later on, but for now just consider it a weird piece of art.

1 Lecture 1: 15 IV 2021

1.1 Motivation

Theorem 1.1 (Donaldson's Theorem A). *If X^4 is a smooth oriented 4-manifold such that the intersection form*

$$Q_X : H^2(X; \mathbb{Z}) \rightarrow H^2(X; \mathbb{Z}) \rightarrow \mathbb{Z}$$

$$Q_X(a, b) = \langle a \cup b, [X] \rangle$$

is negative definite. Then Q_X is equivalent over \mathbb{Z} to the diagonal pairing

$$\mathbb{Z}^{b_2(X)} \times \mathbb{Z}^{b_2(X)} \rightarrow \mathbb{Z}$$

$$(a, b) \mapsto a^t(-\text{Id})b$$

In contrast:

Theorem 1.2 (Freedman). *For any symmetric bilinear unimodular form Q over \mathbb{Z} there exists a topological simply-connected 4-manifold X for which $Q_X \simeq Q$.*

Since there are many negative definite unimodular quadratic forms, we obtain the following:

Corollary 1.3. *There are many topological 4-manifolds which do not admit a smooth structure.*

Other results:

Theorem 1.4 (Furuta). *Brieskorn homology 3-spheres generate a subgroup $\mathbb{Z}^\infty \subseteq \Theta_{\mathbb{Z}}^3$ of the homology cobordism group.*

Theorem 1.5 (Donaldson). *The h -cobordism theorem doesn't hold in dimension 4.*

Theorem 1.6 (Taubes). *There exist infinitely many distinct smooth structures on \mathbb{R}^4 .*

Note the latter is false for all \mathbb{R}^n for $n \neq 4$!

Theorem 1.7 (Kronheimer-Mrowka, Property P). *If $K \subseteq S^3$ is a knot and $K \neq U$, U is the unknot, then there exists an irreducible representation $\pi_1 \left(S_{\frac{p}{q}}^3 \right) \rightarrow SU(2)$ if $\left| \frac{p}{q} \right| \leq 2$.*

Theorem 1.8 (Zentner). *If $Y \neq S^3$ is a closed 3-manifold then there exist non-trivial representations $\pi_1(Y) \rightarrow \mathrm{SL}(2, \mathbb{C})$.*

1.2 Fibre bundles

We'll talk about principal fibre bundles, associated vector bundles and connections.

Sources include: Helga Baum: Eichfeld-theorie, Kobayashi-Monizu: Foundations of Differential Geometry.

Definition 1.9 (principal fibre bundle). Let G be a Lie group. A smooth map $\pi : P \rightarrow M$ is called a principal fibre bundle if

- G acts freely on P from the right and is transitive on the fibres,
- π is locally trivial, i.e., for each $x \in M$ there is an open neighborhood $U \ni x$ and a diffeomorphism $\varphi : \pi^{-1}(U) \rightarrow U \times G$ such that (here the diagram comes, oh my) commutes and φ is G -equivariant: $\varphi(p) = (\pi(p), h)$ implies $\varphi(pg) = (\pi(p), hg)$.

Exercise 1.10. π admits a global trivialisation if and only if $\pi : P \rightarrow M$ admits a section $s : M \rightarrow P$ (i.e. $\pi \circ s = \text{id}_M$).

Example 1.11 (Hopf bundles). $S^{2n+1} \subseteq \mathbb{C}^{k+1}$ with S^1 -action by multiplication ($S^1 \subset \mathbb{C}$). Then $\pi : S^{2n+1} \rightarrow \mathbb{C}P^n = S^{2n+1}/S^1 = (\mathbb{C}^{k+1} \setminus \{0\})/\mathbb{C}^*$ is a principal S^1 -bundle. ♣

Example 1.12 (quaternionic Hopf bundles). $S^{4n+3} \subseteq \mathbb{H}^{n+1}$, $S^3 \subset \mathbb{H}$ unit spheres. S^3 acts on S^{4n+3} in two different ways, from the right $((q_0, \dots, q_n), q) \mapsto (q_0q, \dots, q_nq)$ or from the left $((q_0, \dots, q_n), q) \mapsto (\bar{q}q_0, \dots, \bar{q}q_n)$ (note that for $q \in S^3$ we have $q^{-1} = \bar{q}$).

Then $\pi : S^{4n+3} \rightarrow \mathbb{H}P^n$ is a principal S^3 -bundle. In particular one gets $S^7/\pi\mathbb{H}P^1 \simeq S^4$. ♣

Example 1.13 (frame bundles). If $\pi : E \rightarrow M$ is a (complex, real, hermitian, euclidean, etc.) vector bundle of rank r , then

$$P_E = \{(e_1, \dots, e_r) \in E^r \mid (e_1, \dots, e_r) \text{ is a (complex, real, unitary, orthogonal, etc.) basis of } E_m = \pi^{-1}(m)\}$$

has a G -action ($\text{GL}(r, \mathbb{C})$, $\text{GL}(r, \mathbb{R})$, $\text{U}(r)$, $\text{O}(r)$, etc.). This forms $\pi : P_E \rightarrow M$, a principal G -bundle. The action is given by $(e_1, \dots, e_r)g = (\sum_{i=1}^r g'_{1i}e_i, \dots, \sum_{i=1}^r g'_{ri}e_i)$ where $g^{-1} = (g'_{ij})_{i,j=1,\dots,r}$. ♣

Example 1.14 (homogeneous spaces). $H \subseteq G$ closed Lie subgroup, G/H is a homogeneous space and $G \rightarrow G/H$ is a principal H -bundle. ♣

1.3 Associated bundles

Definition 1.15 (associated bundle). Let $\pi : P \rightarrow M$ be a principal G -bundle. Suppose V is a vector space and $\rho : G \rightarrow \text{Aut}(V)$ is a group homomorphism. Then $P \times V$ has a right G -action via $(p, v)g = (pg, \rho(g^{-1})v)$ and $\pi : E = P \times_{\rho} V = (P \times V)/G \rightarrow M$ is the associated bundle to P and ρ .

Exercise 1.16. $\pi : E \rightarrow M$ given by $[p, v] \mapsto \pi(p)$ is a vector bundle.

A tautology:

E a G -vector bundle of rank r , $G(E)$ G -frame bundle, then $G(E) \times_G \mathbb{K}^r \rightarrow E$ given by $[(e_1, \dots, e_r), (z_1, \dots, z_r)] \mapsto \sum z_i e_i$ is an isomorphism of vector bundles.

Further examples:

$$\begin{aligned} TM &= \text{GL}(M) \times_{\rho_{\text{can}}} \mathbb{R}^n \\ T^*M &= \text{GL}(M) \times_{\rho_{\text{can}}^*} (\mathbb{R}^n)^* \\ \Lambda^k M &= \text{GL}(M) \times_{\rho_{\text{can}} \wedge \dots \wedge \rho_{\text{can}}} \Lambda^k(\mathbb{R}^n)^* \end{aligned}$$

Example 1.17 (tautological line bundle over $\mathbb{C}P^n$).

$$H = \{(l, \xi) \in \mathbb{C}P^n \times \mathbb{C}^{n+1} \mid \xi \in l\}$$

Then

$$\begin{aligned} H &\rightarrow L \\ (l, \xi) &\mapsto l \end{aligned}$$

is a complex line bundle. ♣

On the other hand, consider $\pi : S^{2n+1} \rightarrow \mathbb{C}P^n$, $\rho_k : S^1 \rightarrow \text{Aut}(\mathbb{C})$

$$z \mapsto (\xi \mapsto z^k \xi).$$

Exercise 1.18.

$$\begin{aligned} H &\simeq S^{2k+1} \times_{\rho_1} \mathbb{C} \\ H^* &\simeq S^{2k+1} \times_{\rho_{-1}} \mathbb{C} \\ H^{\otimes l} &\simeq S^{2k+1} \times_{\rho_k} \mathbb{C} \end{aligned}$$

Denote the Lie algebra of G by \mathfrak{g} . Then

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Ad} : G &\rightarrow \text{Aut}(G) \\ g &\mapsto (h \mapsto ghg^{-1}) \end{aligned}$$

induces

$$\begin{aligned} \text{ad} : G &\rightarrow \text{Aut}(\mathfrak{g}) \\ g &\mapsto (d \text{Ad}_g)_e : \mathfrak{g} \rightarrow \mathfrak{g} \end{aligned}$$

i.e., take the differential of Ad_g at $e \in G$. Also define

$$\text{ad}(P) = P \times_{\text{ad}} \mathfrak{g}.$$

By the way,

$$\begin{aligned} (d \text{ad})_e : \mathfrak{g} &\rightarrow \text{End}(\mathfrak{g}), \\ X &\mapsto (Y \mapsto [X, Y]). \end{aligned}$$

1.4 Connections in principal bundles

Let $\pi : P \rightarrow M$ a principal G -bundle. Define

$$VTP = \ker(d\pi : TP \rightarrow TM).$$

From the free G -action we get a linear map

$$\begin{aligned} \mathfrak{g} &\rightarrow \Gamma(TP) \\ \xi &\mapsto \xi^\# \end{aligned}$$

where $\xi_p^\# = \left. \frac{d}{dt} \right|_{t=0} (\rho e^{t\xi})$ using the $e^v = \exp(v)$ the exponential map of G .

Observe that $\xi^\# \in \Gamma(VTP)$.

Exercise 1.19. Denote by R_g the right g -action. Then the diagram commutes:

$$\begin{array}{ccc} VTP_p & \xleftarrow{\#} & \mathfrak{g} \\ \downarrow dR_g & & \downarrow \text{ad}_{g^{-1}} \\ VTP_{pg} & \xleftarrow{\#} & \mathfrak{g} \end{array}$$

Exercise 1.20. $[\xi, \eta]^\# = [\xi^\#, \eta^\#]$

Lemma 1.21. We get a trivialization $\# : P \times \mathfrak{g} \rightarrow VTP$.

Definition 1.22 (connection). A connection on P is a $\dim M$ -dimensional subbundle $H \subset TP$ which is complementary to VTP , i.e., $H \cap VTP = 0$ and $TP = VTP + H$ (shortly $TP = VTP \oplus H$) and equivariant with respect to the G -action, i.e., $dR_g(H) = H$ for any $g \in G$.

Remark 1.23. $d\pi|_H : H \rightarrow TM$ is an isomorphism.

Definition 1.24 (connection 1-form). If H is a connection on $\pi : P \rightarrow M$, then we define the associated connection 1-form $\omega_H \in \Omega^1(P; \mathfrak{g})$ by the composition

$$TP_p \xrightarrow{\text{pr}_{\parallel H}} VTP_p \xrightarrow[\simeq]{(\#)^{-1}} \mathfrak{g}$$

Remark 1.25. $\omega_H(X^\#) = X$

Remark 1.26. $R_g^* \omega_H = \text{ad}_{g^{-1}} \omega_H$ by [Exercise 1.19](#) and since H is R_g -invariant.

Remark 1.27. $H = \ker(\omega_H : TP \rightarrow \mathfrak{g})$

Lemma 1.28. Suppose on the other hand that $\omega \in \Omega^1(P; \mathfrak{g})$ satisfies $\omega(X^\#) = X$ for any $X \in \mathfrak{g}$ and $R_g^* \omega = \text{ad}_{g^{-1}} \omega$ for any $g \in G$. Then $H_\omega = \ker(\omega : TP \rightarrow \mathfrak{g})$ is a connection.

Remark 1.29. The two constructions are inverses to each other: $\ker \omega_H = H$ and $\omega_{H_\omega} = \omega$.

Definition 1.30 (notation for connections). We write A for a connection and H_A or ω_A to make explicit its manifestation.

Definition 1.31 (*horizontal forms of type ρ*). Let $\alpha \in \Omega^k(P; V)$ and $\rho : G \rightarrow \text{Aut}(V)$. The α is called

- horizontal $\alpha(\xi_1, \dots, \xi_k) = 0$ whenever any ξ_i is vertical,
- of type ρ if $R_g^* \alpha = \rho(g)^{-1} \circ \alpha$.

Denote horizontal forms of type ρ by

$$\Omega_{\text{horiz}, \rho}^k(P; V).$$

Proposition 1.32.

$$\begin{aligned} \Omega_{\rho, \text{horiz}}^k(P; V) &\xrightarrow{\sim} \Omega^k(M; P \times_{\rho} V) \\ \omega &\mapsto \bar{\omega} \end{aligned}$$

is an isomorphism, where

$$\Omega^k(M; P \times_{\rho} V) = \Gamma(M; \Lambda^k T^* M \otimes P \times_{\rho} V)$$

and

$$\bar{\omega}_x(v_1, \dots, v_k) = [p, \omega(\xi_1, \dots, \xi_k)]$$

where $\pi(p) = x$ and $d\pi_p(\xi_i) = v_i$ for any i .

Remark 1.33. The bracket above does not denote the Lie bracket but the equivalence class of an element in $P \times_{\rho} V$.

Proof. Independence of lifts: if $d\pi_p(\xi_i) = d\pi_p(\xi'_i)$ then $\xi_i - \xi'_i \in VTP$, so by horizontality of ω we get $\omega(\dots, \xi_i, \dots) = \omega(\dots, \xi'_i, \dots)$.

Independence of $p \in \pi^{-1}(x)$ follows since ω is of type ρ . \square

Suppose ω_A and $\omega_{A'}$ are two 1-forms. Then

$$\omega_A - \omega_{A'} \in \Omega_{\text{ad}, \text{horiz}}^1(P; \mathfrak{g})$$

and therefore there exists $a \in \Omega_{\text{ad}, \text{horiz}}^1(P; \mathfrak{g})$ such that $\omega_{A'} = \omega_A + a$. We conclude that

Lemma 1.34. *The space of connections on $P \rightarrow M$ is an affine space over $\Omega_{\text{ad}, \text{horiz}}^1(P; \mathfrak{g}) \simeq \Omega^1(M; \text{ad}(P))$.*

2 Recitation 1: 20 IV 2021

2.1 Line bundles over the projective space

$S^1 \hookrightarrow S^{2n+1} \rightarrow \mathbb{C}P^n$ is an S^1 -bundle with action

$$((z_0, \dots, z_n), w) \mapsto (z_0 w, \dots, z_n w)$$

Let

$$\rho_k : \begin{cases} S^1 & \rightarrow \text{Aut}(\mathbb{C}) \\ z & \mapsto \text{mult}_{z^k} \end{cases}$$

for $k \in \mathbb{Z}$. Get the associated bundle $P \times_{\rho_k} \mathbb{C} \rightarrow \mathbb{C}P^n$, a complex line bundle.

On the other hand we have H as defined in 1.17. The claim is that $S^{2k+1} \times_{\rho_k} \mathbb{C} \simeq H^{\otimes k}$, where H^{-1} is defined as $H^* = \text{Hom}_{\mathbb{C}}(H, \mathbb{C})$.

Starting with ρ_1 , we define

$$\begin{array}{ccc} P \times \mathbb{C} & \xrightarrow{f_1} & H \\ \downarrow & \searrow \bar{f}_1 & \downarrow \\ P \times_{\rho_1} \mathbb{C} & \longrightarrow & \mathbb{C}P^n \end{array}$$

via

$$((z_0, \dots, z_r), w) \xrightarrow{f_1} ([z_0, \dots, z_r], (z_0, \dots, z_r) \cdot w).$$

We directly check it descends to a bundle homomorphism. Since it is an isomorphism on fibers, it is a bundle isomorphism because of the general fact:

Proposition 2.1.

$$\begin{aligned} \text{GL}(n) &\rightarrow \text{GL}(n) \\ (\text{Aut}(V) &\rightarrow \text{Aut}(V)) \\ B &\mapsto B^{-1} \end{aligned}$$

is a smooth map (polynomial for $U(n), O(n), \dots$).

Similarly, for $k > 0$ define

$$\begin{aligned} P \times \mathbb{C} &\xrightarrow{f_k} H^{\otimes k}, \\ ((z_0, \dots, z_r), w) &\mapsto w \cdot (\underline{z} \otimes \dots \otimes \underline{z}). \end{aligned}$$

The action of G via $R_g \times \rho_k$ gives $(z, w) \simeq (z \cdot u, u^{-1}w)$ and f_k descends to the quotient since $(zu)^{\otimes k} = u^k z$.

We turn to the case $k < 0$. Start with $k = -1$.

$$\begin{aligned} P \times \mathbb{C} &\xrightarrow{f^{-1}} H^* \\ (z, w) &\mapsto w \cdot \langle z, - \rangle_{\mathbb{C}} \end{aligned}$$

This works because for $u \in S^1$, $\bar{u} \cdot u = 1$.

2.2 Lie bracket exercise

We wanna prove $[X, Y]^{\#} = [X^{\#}, Y^{\#}]$ as well as commutativity of the diagram:

$$\begin{array}{ccc} TP_p & \xleftarrow{\#} & \mathfrak{g} \\ \downarrow dR_g & & \downarrow \text{ad}_{g^{-1}} \cdot \\ TP_{pg} & \xleftarrow{\#} & \mathfrak{g} \end{array}$$

The commutativity of the diagram is proven this way:

$$\begin{aligned} (\text{ad}_{g^{-1}}(X))_{pg}^{\#} &= \left. \frac{d}{dt} \right|_{t=0} pge^{t \text{ad}_{g^{-1}}(X)} \\ &= \left. \frac{d}{dt} \right|_{t=0} pgg^{-1}e^{sX}g \\ &= \left. \frac{d}{ds} \right|_{s=0} pe^{sX}g \\ &= \left. \frac{d}{ds} \right|_{s=0} R_g(pe^{sX}) \\ &= dR_g(X_p^{\#}) \end{aligned}$$

Now recall that on one hand, in the Lie algebra, we have

$$[X, Y] = \left. \frac{d}{ds} \right|_{s=0} \text{ad}_{e^{sX}}(Y)$$

and on a manifold, if ϕ_{ξ}^t denotes the flow of ξ , then

$$[\xi, \eta](p) = \left. \frac{d}{dt} \right|_{t=0} d\phi_{\xi}^{-t} \left(\eta_{\phi_{\xi}^t(p)} \right).$$

We have $G \hookrightarrow P \rightarrow M$. Firstly we claim $\phi_{X^\#}^t = R_{e^{tX}}$:

$$\begin{aligned} R_{e^{tX}}(p) &= \left. \frac{d}{ds} \right|_{s=0} R_{e^{(t+s)X}}(p) \\ &= X_{pe^{tX}}^\# = X_{R_{e^{tX}}(p)}^\# \end{aligned}$$

because $R_{e^{(t+s)X}} = R_{e^{sX}} \circ R_{e^{tX}}$.

$$\begin{aligned} [X^\#, Y^\#](p) &= \left. \frac{d}{dt} \right|_{t=0} dR_{e^{-tX}} \left(Y_{e^{tX}(p)}^\# \right) \\ &= \left. \frac{d}{dt} \right|_{t=0} dR_{e^{-tX}} \left. \frac{d}{ds} \right|_{s=0} (pe^{tX}) e^{sY} \\ &= \left. \frac{d}{dt} \right|_{t=0} \left. \frac{d}{ds} \right|_{s=0} R_{e^{tX} e^{sY} e^{-tX}}(p) \\ &= \left. \frac{d}{dt} \right|_{t=0} R_{\text{ad}_{e^{tX}}(Y)}(p) \\ &= [X, Y]^\#(p) \end{aligned}$$

2.3 Additions to the lecture

Recall that we have $d : \Omega^* N \rightarrow \Omega^{*+1} N$ defined by

$$\begin{aligned} d\omega(\xi_0, \dots, \xi_k) &= \sum_{i=0}^k (-1)^i \tilde{\xi}_i \omega(\tilde{\xi}_0, \dots, \hat{\tilde{\xi}}_i, \dots, \tilde{\xi}_k) \\ &\quad + \sum_{i < j} (-1)^{i+j} \omega([\tilde{\xi}_i, \tilde{\xi}_j], \tilde{\xi}_0, \dots, \hat{\tilde{\xi}}_i, \dots, \hat{\tilde{\xi}}_j, \dots, \tilde{\xi}_k) \end{aligned}$$

where $\tilde{\xi}_i$ is a vector field with $\tilde{\xi}_i(x) = \xi_i$ (the formula is independent of the choice of $\tilde{\xi}_i$). In particular, for a 1-form we have

$$d\omega(\xi, \eta) = \xi\omega(\eta) - \eta\omega(\xi) - \omega([\xi, \eta]).$$

Notice that d does not in general preserve $\Omega_{p, \text{horiz}}^*(P, V)$.

Example 2.2. Consider $P = \mathbb{R} \times \mathbb{R} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ given by $(t, s) \mapsto t$. Then $\omega = f(s)dt$ is horizontal, but $d\omega = \frac{\partial f}{\partial s} ds \wedge dt$ is not horizontal unless $\frac{\partial f}{\partial s} \equiv 0$. ♣

If we have a connection A on the principal G -bundle $P \rightarrow M$ with horizontal subbundle H_A , then define for $\alpha \in \Omega(P, V)$ the differential

$$d_A \alpha = d\alpha \circ \text{pr}_{H_A}$$

i.e., $(d_A \alpha)(\xi_1, \dots, \xi_k) = d\alpha(\text{pr}_{H_A} \xi_1, \dots, \text{pr}_{H_A} \xi_k)$.

Remark 2.3. $d_A \alpha$ is necessarily horizontal, whether or not α has been.

Remark 2.4. If α is of type $\rho : G \rightarrow \text{Aut}(V)$, then $d_A \alpha$ is also of this type (because H_A is R_g -invariant).

In particular, get

$$d_A : \Omega_{\text{horiz}, \rho}^k(P, V) \rightarrow \Omega_{\text{horiz}, \rho}^{k+1}(P, V).$$

Definition 2.5. d_A is called the covariant derivative of the connection A on P .

Remark 2.6. $d^2 = 0$, but $d_A \circ d_A \neq 0$ in general.

Definition 2.7. d_A descends to

$$\begin{array}{ccc} \Omega_{\rho, \text{horiz}}^k(P; V) & \xrightarrow{d_A} & \Omega_{\rho, \text{horiz}}^{k+1}(P; V) \\ \downarrow -, \simeq & & \downarrow -, \simeq \\ \Omega^k(M; P \times_{\rho} V) & \xrightarrow{\bar{d}_A} & \Omega^{k+1}(M; P \times_{\rho} V) \end{array}$$

which we denote by \bar{d}_A .

Definition 2.8. Let $E \rightarrow M$ be a vector bundle. A map

$$\nabla : \Gamma(E \rightarrow M) \rightarrow \Omega^1(E \rightarrow M) = \Gamma(T^*M \otimes E)$$

satisfying the Leibniz rule

$$\nabla(fs) = df \otimes s + f \cdot \nabla s$$

for any $f \in \mathcal{C}^\infty(M)$ and $s \in \Gamma(E)$ is called a covariant derivative.

Proposition 2.9. Let $P \rightarrow M$ be a G -principal bundle and $\rho : G \rightarrow \text{Aut}(V)$, then

$$\bar{d}_A : \Gamma(M; P \times_\rho V) \rightarrow \Omega^1(M; P \times_\rho V)$$

is a covariant derivative on the vector bundle $P \times_\rho V$.

Proof. Unravel the definitions. □

Definition 2.10. Let $\gamma : [0, 1] \rightarrow M$ be a smooth path. We say $s \in \Gamma(E)$ is parallel with respect to ∇ if $(\nabla s)(\dot{\gamma}(t)) = 0$ for any t . Then $s(\gamma(1))$ is the result of parallel transport of s along γ .

Note that for geodesics we have $\nabla_{\dot{\gamma}(t)} \dot{\gamma}(t) \equiv 0$.

On the other hand, having

$$\begin{array}{ccc} G & \hookrightarrow & P \\ & & \downarrow \\ & & M \end{array}$$

we would like to take a path in M and lift it to a horizontal path in P , to get parallel transport. We'll do that soon.

3 Lecture 2: 22 IV 2021

Recall we have $d_A = d \circ \text{pr}_A$, that is $d_A \alpha = d\alpha \circ \text{pr}_A$.

3.1 Parallel transport

Consider a bundle

$$\begin{array}{ccc} G & \hookrightarrow & P \\ & & \downarrow \pi \\ & & M \end{array}$$

and a path $\gamma : [a, b] \rightarrow M$. Suppose A is a connection on P , $u \in \pi^{-1}(\gamma(a))$. Then $\exists! \tilde{\gamma}_u : [a, b] \rightarrow P$ such that $\tilde{\gamma}_u(t) \in (H_A)_{\gamma(t)}$.

Proof: $d\pi_{H_A} : H_A \xrightarrow{\cong} TM$.

Recall that H_A is a complement of VTP in TP and is R_g -invariant.

Definition 3.1 (parallel transport). We get a map

$$\text{Par}_\gamma^A : \begin{cases} \pi^{-1}(\gamma(a)) & \rightarrow \pi^{-1}(\gamma(b)) \\ u & \mapsto \tilde{\gamma}_u(b) \end{cases}$$

which is called the parallel transport of γ with respect to A .

Proposition 3.2 (properties of parallel transport). $\text{Par}_{\gamma*\mu}^A = \text{Par}_\mu^A \circ \text{Par}_\gamma^A$ and $\text{Par}_\gamma^A \circ R_g = R_g \circ \text{Par}_\gamma^A$.

Proof. Because H_A is R_g -invariant. □

Exercise 3.3. If Par_γ^A only depends on the endpoint of γ , then the bundle $P \rightarrow M$ is trivial and A is the trivial connection ($P \simeq M \times G$, trivial connection is $H = \text{pr}_1^*TM$).

Proof. Hint: define a global section by parallel transport. □

By [Proposition 3.2 \(properties of parallel transport\)](#) Par_γ^A descends to

$$\text{Par}_\gamma^{E,A} : \begin{cases} E_{\gamma(a)} & \rightarrow E_{\gamma(b)} \\ [p, v] & \mapsto [\text{Par}_\gamma^A(p), v] \end{cases}$$

on $E = P \times_\rho V$.

Definition 3.4 (covariant constancy). Suppose ∇ is a covariant derivative on $E \rightarrow M$ be a smooth path. A section $s \in \Gamma(E \rightarrow M)$ is said to be covariantly constant along γ if

$$(\nabla s)(\dot{\gamma}(t)) = 0 \text{ for all } t \in [0, 1].$$

Remark 3.5. This is a differential equation for γ^*s on $\gamma^*E \rightarrow [0, 1]$.

This also gives a notion of parallel transport

$$\text{Par}_\gamma^\nabla : \begin{cases} E_{\gamma(0)} & \rightarrow E_{\gamma(1)} \\ e & \mapsto s(\gamma(1)) \end{cases}$$

if s is covariantly constant along γ and $e = s(\gamma(0))$.

Proposition 3.6. *If ∇_A is a covariant derivative on $E = P \times_\rho V$ coming from a connection A on P , then*

$$\text{Par}_\gamma^{E,A} = \text{Par}_\gamma^{\nabla_A},$$

i.e., the two notions coincide.

Proof.

Given in exercises. Review.

Denote by $\hat{\cdot} : \Gamma(M; P \times_\rho V) \rightarrow \Gamma_\rho(P; V)$ and $\bar{\cdot} : \Gamma_\rho(P; V) \rightarrow \Gamma(M; P \times_\rho V)$ the isomorphisms...

which

$$\begin{aligned} (\nabla_{\dot{\gamma}(t)}^A s)(\gamma(t)) &= (\bar{d}_A s)(\dot{\gamma}(t)) \\ &= d_A \hat{s}(\dot{\gamma}(t)) \\ &= [\tilde{\gamma}(t), d_A \hat{s}(\dot{\gamma}(t))] \\ &= [\tilde{\gamma}(t), ds(\dot{\gamma}(t))] \\ &= \left[\tilde{\gamma}(t), \frac{d}{dt} s(\tilde{\gamma}(t)) \right] \\ &= \left[\text{Par}_\gamma^A(\tilde{\gamma}(0)), \frac{d}{dt} s(\tilde{\gamma}(t)) \right] \\ &= \text{Par}_{\gamma_t}^{A,E} \left(\left[\tilde{\gamma}(0), \frac{d}{dt} \hat{s}(\tilde{\gamma}(t)) \right] \right) \end{aligned}$$

where $\gamma_t = \gamma|_{[0,t]}$. This is because

Missed.

If $\frac{d}{dt} \hat{s}(\tilde{\gamma}(t)) = 0$ for any t , then $\hat{s}(\tilde{\gamma}(1)) = \hat{s}(\tilde{\gamma}(0))$.

Now $s(\gamma(1)) = \text{Par}_\gamma^{\nabla^A}(s(\gamma(0)))$ if $\nabla_{\dot{\gamma}(t)}^A s \equiv 0$.

On the other hand

$$\begin{aligned} [\text{Par}_\gamma^A(\tilde{\gamma}(0)), \hat{s}(\tilde{\gamma}(0))] &= \text{Par}_\gamma^{A,E}(s(\gamma(0))) \\ &= [\tilde{\gamma}(0), \hat{s}(\tilde{\gamma}(0))] \\ &= [\tilde{\gamma}(1), \hat{s}(\tilde{\gamma}(0))] \\ &= [\tilde{\gamma}(1), \hat{s}(\tilde{\gamma}(1))] \text{ if } * \text{ holds} \\ &= s(\gamma(1)). \end{aligned}$$

We thus proved that $\text{Par}_\gamma^{A,E}(s(\gamma(0))) = s(\gamma(1))$

What?

□

3.2 Curvature

Definition 3.7. Let $P \xrightarrow{\pi} M$ be a G -principal bundle and A a connection on P . Then $\Omega_A = d_A \omega_A = d\omega_A \circ \text{pr}_{H_A}$ is called the curvature of A .

Remark 3.8. Recall: if X is a manifold and $H \subseteq TX$ is a subbundle, then H is called involutive if $[\eta, \xi] \subseteq H$ for all vector fields $\eta, \xi \in \Gamma(X; H)$.

Theorem 3.9 (Frobenius). *Locally there are submanifolds $Y \subseteq X$ such that $TY = H$ if and only if H is involutive.*

Proposition 3.10. $\Omega_A \equiv 0 \iff H_A \text{ is involutive}$

Proof. Let $\xi, \eta \in \Gamma(P; H_A)$. Then

$$\begin{aligned} \Omega_A(\xi, \eta) &= d\omega_A(\xi, \eta) \\ &= \xi \cdot \omega_A(\eta) - \eta \cdot \omega_A(\xi) - \omega_A([\xi, \eta]) \\ &= -\omega_A([\xi, \eta]) \\ &\neq 0 \text{ iff } [\xi, \eta] \text{ has a vertical component.} \end{aligned}$$

where we used that $\omega_A(\eta) = \omega_A(\xi) = 0$ by the definition of ω_A .

The last statement in the equation follows since $\omega_A|_{VTP} : VTP \rightarrow P \times \mathfrak{g}$ is an isomorphism. \square

Proposition 3.11. $R_g^* \Omega_A = \text{ad}_{g^{-1}}$

Proof.

$$\begin{aligned}
R_g^* d_A \omega_A &= d\omega_A \circ \text{pr}_{H_A} \circ dR_g \\
&= d\omega_A \circ dR_g \circ \text{pr}_{H_A} \text{ since } H_A \text{ is } G\text{-invariant} \\
&= dR_g^* \omega_A \circ \text{pr}_{H_A} \\
&= d \text{ad}_{g^{-1}} \omega_A \circ \text{pr}_{H_A} \text{ since } R_g^* \omega_A = \text{ad}_{g^{-1}} \\
&= \text{ad}_{g^{-1}} \circ \Omega_A \text{ by commutativity of } d \text{ and ad}
\end{aligned}$$

\square

So $\Omega_A \in \Omega_{horiz,ad}^2(P; \mathfrak{g})$. Under $\Omega_{horiz,ad}^2(P; \mathfrak{g}) \simeq \Omega^2(M; \text{ad}(P)) = P \times_{\text{ad}} \mathfrak{g}$ we denote the image by $F_A = \bar{\Omega}_A$.

Proposition 3.12 (Cartan's formula). $\Omega_A = d\omega_A + \frac{1}{2}[\omega_A \wedge \omega_A]$, where the latter is a hybrid notation for $[\cdot, \cdot] \otimes \wedge$.

Proof. Check for $\Omega_A(\xi, \eta)$.

Say first ξ, η are both vertical vector fields, without loss of generality $\xi = X_p^\#$ and $\eta = Y_p^\#$. Then LHS is identically zero since horizontal. RHS is this.

$$\begin{aligned}
&\left(d\omega_A + \frac{1}{2} [\omega_A \wedge \omega_A] \right) (X^\#, Y^\#) \\
&= d\omega_A(X^\#, Y^\#) + \frac{1}{2} [\omega_A(X^\#), \omega_A(Y^\#)] - \frac{1}{2} [\omega_A(Y^\#), \omega_A(X^\#)] \\
&= X^\# \omega_A(Y^\#) - Y^\# \omega_A(X^\#) - \omega_A([X^\#, Y^\#]) + [\omega_A(X^\#), \omega_A(Y^\#)] \\
&= -\omega_A([X, Y]^\#) + [X, Y] \text{ since } \omega_A(X^\#) = X \text{ and is constant} \\
&= -[X, Y] + [X, Y] = 0
\end{aligned}$$

Now let one vector field be horizontal \tilde{v} , that is, G -invariant horizontal

lift of $v \in \Gamma(TM)$. Again LHS is zero, and compute the RHS.

$$\begin{aligned}
d\omega_A(\tilde{v}, X^\#) &= \tilde{v}\omega_A(X^\#) - X^\#\omega_A(\tilde{v}) - \omega_A([\tilde{v}, X^\#]) \\
&= \tilde{v}(X) - X^\#(0) - \omega_A([\tilde{v}, X^\#]) = 0 \text{ since} \\
[X^\#, \tilde{v}]_p &= \left. \frac{d}{dt} \right|_{t=0} d(R_{e^{-tX}}\tilde{v}_{pe^{tX}}) \\
&= \left. \frac{d}{dt} \right|_{t=0} d(\tilde{v}_p) \text{ since } \tilde{v} \text{ is a } G\text{-invariant horizontal lift} \\
&= 0
\end{aligned}$$

$$[\omega_A \wedge \omega_A](\tilde{v}, X^\#) = 0 \text{ since } \tilde{v} \text{ is horizontal.}$$

Now both are horizontal and R_g -invariant, \tilde{v}, \tilde{w} . LHS is:

$$\begin{aligned}
\Omega_A(\tilde{v}, \tilde{w}) &= d\omega_A(\tilde{v}, \tilde{w}) \\
&= \tilde{v}\omega_A(\tilde{w}) - \tilde{w}\omega_A(\tilde{v}) - \omega_A([\tilde{v}, \tilde{w}]) \\
&= 0 \text{ since } \omega_A(\text{horizontal}) = 0.
\end{aligned}$$

RHS is

$$(d\omega_A + \frac{1}{2}[\omega_A \wedge \omega_A])(\tilde{v}, \tilde{w}) = d\omega_A(\tilde{v}, \tilde{w}) + 0.$$

□

Proposition 3.13. *Let $\alpha \in \Omega^1(P; V)$. Then $d_A\alpha = d\alpha + \rho_*(\omega_A) \wedge \alpha$ where $\rho : G \rightarrow \text{Aut}(V)$ and $\rho_* : \mathfrak{g} \rightarrow \text{End}(V)$ is its derivative.*

Proof. Just as with Cartan's formula, check on pairs of vertical and horizontal, horizontal and horizontal, vertical and vertical sections. □

Remark 3.14. Also true for $\alpha \in \Omega_{\rho, \text{horiz}}^k(P; V)$, where $(\rho_*(\omega_A) \wedge \alpha)(\xi_0, \dots, \xi_k) = \sum_{i=0}^k (-1)^i \rho_*(\omega_A(\xi_i))\alpha(\xi_0, \dots, \hat{\xi}_i, \dots, \xi_k)$.

Recall that for any two connections A, A' there exists a 1-form $a \in \Omega_{\rho\text{-eq, horiz}}^1(P; \mathfrak{g})$ such that $\omega_{A'} = \omega_A + a$.

Proposition 3.15. $\Omega_{A+a} = \Omega_A + d_A a + \frac{1}{2}[a \wedge a]$

Proof.

$$\begin{aligned}
 \Omega_{A+a} &= d\omega_{A+a} + \frac{1}{2}[\omega_{A+a} \wedge \omega_{A+a}] \\
 &= d\omega_A + da + \frac{1}{2}[\omega_A \wedge \omega_A] \\
 &\quad + \frac{1}{2}[\omega_A \wedge a] + \frac{1}{2}[a \wedge \omega_A] + \frac{1}{2}[a \wedge a] \\
 &= \Omega_A + da + [\omega_A \wedge a] + \frac{1}{2}[a \wedge a] \\
 &= \Omega_A + d_A a + \frac{1}{2}[a \wedge a]
 \end{aligned}$$

applying the previous proposition to $\rho = \text{ad}$, $\rho_* = [-,]$. □

Proposition 3.16 (Bianchi's identity). $d_A \Omega_A = 0$

Proof.

$$\begin{aligned}
 d_A \Omega_A(\xi, \eta, \lambda) &= d\Omega_A(\xi, \eta, \lambda) + [\omega_A \wedge \Omega_A](\xi, \eta, \lambda) \text{ by a Proposition} \\
 &= \frac{1}{2}d[\omega_A \wedge \omega_A](\xi, \eta, \lambda) + [\omega_A \wedge d\omega_A](\xi, \eta, \lambda) + [\omega_A \wedge \frac{1}{2}[\omega_A \wedge \omega_A]](\xi, \eta, \lambda) \\
 &= \frac{1}{2}[d\omega_A \wedge \omega_A](\dots) - \frac{1}{2}[\omega_A \wedge d\omega_A](\dots) + [\omega_A \wedge d\omega_A](\dots) \\
 &\quad + \frac{1}{2}[\omega_A \wedge [\omega_A \wedge \omega_A]](\dots) \\
 &= \frac{1}{2}[\omega_A \wedge [\omega_A \wedge \omega_A]](\xi, \eta, \lambda).
 \end{aligned}$$

Now without loss of generality $\xi, \eta, \lambda = X^\#, Y^\#, Z^\#$ for $X, Y, Z \in \mathfrak{g}$. So the last term is zero because of the Jacobi identity $[X, [Y, Z]] + [Y, [Z, X]] + [Z, [X, Y]] = 0$. □

Proposition 3.17. For $\alpha \in \Omega_{\text{horiz}, \rho}^k(P; V)$ and A a connection on P we have $d_A d_A \alpha = \rho_*(\Omega_A) \wedge \alpha$.

Proof.

$$\begin{aligned} d_A d_A \alpha &= d(d\alpha + \rho_*(\omega_A) \wedge \alpha) \\ &\quad + \rho_*(\omega_A) \wedge (d\alpha + \rho_*(\omega_A) \wedge \alpha) \text{ by a Proposition above} \\ &= \rho_*(d\omega_A) \wedge \alpha - \rho_*(\omega_A) \wedge d\alpha \\ &\quad + \rho_*(\omega_A) \wedge d\alpha + \rho_*(\omega_A) \wedge \rho_*(\omega_A) \wedge \alpha \end{aligned}$$

Now

$$\begin{aligned} (\rho_*(\omega_A) \wedge \rho_*(\omega_A))(\xi, \eta) &= (\rho_*(\omega_A)(\xi))\rho_*(\omega_A)(\eta) - \rho_*(\omega_A)(\eta)\rho_*(\omega_A)(\xi) \\ &= [\rho_*(\omega_A)(\xi), \rho_*(\omega_A)(\eta)] \text{ Lie bracket in } \text{End}(V) \\ &= \rho_*([\omega_A(\xi), \omega_A(\eta)]) \text{ since } \rho_* \text{ is a Lie alg. homom.} \\ &= \rho_*\left(\frac{1}{2}[\omega_A \wedge \omega_A]\right)(\xi, \eta) \text{ from Cartan's formula.} \end{aligned}$$

The last step is the following. Write $\omega = \sum X_i \alpha_i$ where $X_i \in \mathfrak{g}$ and $\alpha_i \in \Omega^1(P)$.

$$\begin{aligned} [\bar{\omega}_A \wedge \omega_A](\xi, \eta) &= \sum_{i,j} [X_i, X_j] \alpha_i \wedge \alpha_j(\xi, \eta) \\ &= \sum_{i,j} [X_i, X_j] (\alpha_i(\xi)\alpha_j(\eta) - \alpha_i(\eta)\alpha_j(\xi)) \\ &= [\omega_A(\xi), \omega_A(\eta)] - [\omega_A(\eta), \omega_A(\xi)] \\ &= 2[\omega_A(\xi), \omega_A(\eta)] \end{aligned}$$

which finishes the proof. □

Definition 3.18 (*curvature of a covariant derivative*).

The curvature of a covariant derivative $\nabla : \Gamma(E) \rightarrow \Gamma(T^*M \otimes E)$ is defined by

$$R^\nabla(\xi, \eta) = \nabla_\xi \nabla_\eta - \nabla_\eta \nabla_\xi - \nabla_{[\xi, \eta]}$$

Proposition 3.19. *If A is a connection on $P \rightarrow M$ then on $P \times_\rho V$ we get a covariant derivative ∇^A induced from A . Then $R^{\nabla^A} = \rho_*(F_A)$ where $F_A \in \Omega^2(M; \text{ad}(P) = P \times_{\text{ad}} \mathfrak{g})$ and $\rho_* : \mathfrak{g} \rightarrow \text{End}(V)$.*

Proof. Exercise. □

Next time we will consider

$$\begin{array}{ccc} G \wr P & \overset{f}{\dashrightarrow} & Q \wr H \\ & \searrow & \swarrow \\ & M & \end{array}$$

which is defined to be a bundle homomorphism for a Lie group homomorphism $\phi : G \rightarrow H$ if $f(pg) = f(p)\phi(g)$ for any p, g .

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$\phi : \mathfrak{g} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ (or \mathbb{C}) polynomial of degree k , alternatively $\phi : \mathfrak{g}^k \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ multilinear and invariant under permutations (symmetric).

Suppose ϕ is ad-invariant:

$$\phi(\text{ad}_g X_1, \dots, \text{ad}_g X_k) = \phi(X_1, \dots, X_k)$$

for any $g \in G$ and $X_1, \dots, X_k \in \mathfrak{g}$.

Apply this to $g = e^{tX}$ and differentiate at $t = 0$. Get

$$\begin{aligned} 0 &= \left. \frac{d}{dt} \right|_{t=0} \phi(\text{ad}_{e^{tX}} X_1, \dots, \text{ad}_{e^{tX}} X_k) \\ &= \phi([X, X_1], X_2, \dots, X_k) + \phi(X_1, [X, X_2], X_3, \dots, X_k) + \dots \end{aligned} \tag{1}$$

Let A be a connection on $P \rightarrow M$, define

$$c_\phi(A) = \phi(\Omega_A \wedge \dots \wedge \Omega_A) \in \Omega_{horiz}^{2k}(P)$$

where the curvature Ω_A of A is exterior multiplied $2k$ times.

Two facts from last time: $d_A \Omega_A = 0$ (Bianchi identity) and if $\alpha \in \Omega_{horiz, \rho}(P; V)$ then

$$d_A \alpha = d\alpha + \rho_*(\omega_A) \wedge \alpha \tag{2}$$

(using a hybrid notation at the end, where $\rho_* : \mathfrak{g} \rightarrow \text{End}(V)$).

Proposition 4.1. $c_\phi(A)$ is closed and for any other connection A' on P the difference $c_\phi(A) - c_\phi(A')$ is exact, hence $[c_\phi(A)] \in H^{2k}(P; \mathbb{R})$ is independent of A .

Proof.

$$\begin{aligned}
dc_\phi(A) &= \phi(d\Omega_A \wedge \Omega_A \wedge \dots \wedge \Omega_A) + \phi(\Omega_A \wedge d\Omega_A \wedge \Omega_A \wedge \dots \wedge \Omega_A) \\
&= k \cdot \phi(d\Omega_A \wedge \Omega_A \wedge \dots \wedge \Omega_A) \\
&= k \cdot \phi((d\Omega_A + [\omega_A \wedge \Omega_A]) \wedge \Omega_A \wedge \dots \wedge \Omega_A) \\
&= k \cdot \phi(d_A \Omega_A \wedge \Omega_A \wedge \dots) \\
&= 0 \text{ by Bianchi identity}
\end{aligned}$$

Indeed, (1) implies

$$0 = \phi([\omega_A \wedge \Omega_A] \wedge \Omega_A \wedge \dots \wedge \Omega_A) + \phi(\Omega_A \wedge [\omega_A \wedge \Omega_A] \wedge \dots \wedge \Omega_A) + \dots$$

□

Let A' be another connection, $a = A' - A \in \Omega_{horiz, ad}^1(P; \mathfrak{g})$. Then $A_t = A + ta$ is a path of connections from A to A' . Then

$$\begin{aligned}
\Omega_{A_t} &= \Omega_A + d_A(ta) + \frac{1}{2}t^2[a \wedge a] \\
\implies \frac{d}{dt}\Omega_{A_t} &= d_A a + t[a \wedge a] \\
&= d_{A_t} a
\end{aligned}$$

Lemma 4.2. If $B \in \Omega_{horiz}^*(P; \mathbb{R})$ is G -invariant, then $d_A B = dB$.

Proof. Use (2) with ρ trivial. □

$$\begin{aligned}
\frac{d}{dt}c_\phi(A_t) &= k \cdot \phi\left(\frac{d\Omega_{A_t}}{dt} \wedge \Omega_{A_t} \wedge \dots \wedge \Omega_{A_t}\right) \\
&= k \cdot \phi(d_{A_t}a \wedge \Omega_{A_t} \wedge \dots \wedge \Omega_{A_t}). \\
&= k \cdot d_{A_t}\phi(a \wedge \Omega_{A_t} \wedge \dots \wedge \Omega_{A_t}) \text{ by Bianchi} \\
&= k \cdot d\phi(a \wedge \Omega_{A_t} \wedge \dots \wedge \Omega_{A_t}) \text{ by Lemma} \\
\implies c_\phi(A') - c_\phi(A) &= d\left(k \int_0^1 \phi(a \wedge \Omega_{A_t} \wedge \dots \wedge \Omega_{A_t})\right).
\end{aligned}$$

This finishes the proof of the proposition.

Example 4.3. If \mathfrak{g} matrix Lie algebra of a matrix Lie group G , then $\det(t \cdot \text{Id} + X) = \sum_{k=0}^{\text{rk}(G)} t^k \phi_k(X)$ and ϕ_k is an ad_G -invariant polynomial of degree $\text{rk}(G) - k$. ♣

Example 4.4. $G = U(1)$ then $\mathfrak{g} = \mathfrak{u}(1) = i\mathbb{R}$. ♣

Remark 4.5. If $P = M \times G$ is the trivial bundle, then it admits the trivial connection pr_1^*TM which has 0 curvature (is integrable).

This implies $[c_\phi] = 0$ for any ϕ in this case.

Lemma 4.6. If $\rho : G \rightarrow \text{Aut}(V)$ is trivial, then

$$\Omega^*(M; P \times_\rho V) \simeq \Omega_{\text{horiz}, \rho}^*(P; V)$$

given by π^* .

Notice that $d\pi^* = \pi^*$. Therefore there exists a unique class $\check{c}_\phi(A) \in \Omega(M; \mathbb{R})$ such that $\pi^*\check{c}_\phi(A) = c_\phi(A)$. In fact $\check{c}_\phi(A) = \phi(F_A \wedge \dots \wedge F_A)$ where $F_A \in \Omega^2(M; \text{ad}(P))$.

Example 4.7.

$$\begin{array}{ccc}
S^1 & \hookrightarrow & S^3 \\
& & \downarrow \\
& & S^2
\end{array}$$

Hopf fibration given by $\mathbb{C} \ni (z, w) \rightarrow [z : w] \in \mathbb{C}P^1$. We will apply the above to $c_\phi(A) = -\frac{1}{2\pi i}\Omega_A \in \Omega^2(S^3; \mathbb{R})$.

The ad -action is trivial for $G = S^1$.

Anyway, what is $[\check{c}_\phi(A)] \in H_{\text{dR}}^2(S^2; \mathbb{R})$? we have the deRham isomorphism $H_{\text{dR}}^2(S^2) \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ given by $[\omega] \mapsto \int_{S^2} \omega$. Chart for $\mathbb{C}P^1$ is

$$\begin{aligned} \phi: \mathbb{C} &\rightarrow \mathbb{C}P^1 \\ u &\mapsto [u : 1]. \end{aligned}$$

Then $\phi(\mathbb{C}) = \mathbb{C}P^1 \setminus \{[1 : 0]\}$.

Exercises:

$$\begin{aligned} \omega_A &= \bar{w}dw + \bar{z}dz \\ \Omega_A &= d\Omega_A \\ &= d\bar{w} \wedge dw + d\bar{z} \wedge dz \\ &= -dw \wedge d\bar{w} - dz \wedge d\bar{z}. \end{aligned}$$

Need to find $F_A \in \Omega^2(S^2; i\mathbb{R})$ such that $\pi^*F_A = \Omega_A$. We will express F_A through the chart f .

We are looking for a section:

$$\begin{array}{c} \pi^{-1}(\phi(\mathbb{C})) \subset S^3 \\ \begin{array}{c} \uparrow \pi \\ s \downarrow \\ \phi(\mathbb{C}) \end{array} \end{array}$$

and in fact $F_A|_{\phi(\mathbb{C})} = s^*\Omega_A$ because then $\pi^*F_A = \pi^*s^*\Omega_A = \Omega_A$ because something.

$$\begin{array}{c} \pi^{-1}(\phi(\mathbb{C})) \subset S^3 \\ \begin{array}{c} \uparrow \pi \\ s \downarrow \\ \mathbb{C} \xrightarrow{\phi} \phi(\mathbb{C}) \subset S^3 \end{array} \end{array}$$

A candidate is $s([u : 1]) = \frac{(u,1)}{\sqrt{|u|^2+1}}$. Note it is well-defined since $s(p) = \frac{(\phi^{-1}(p),1)}{\sqrt{|\phi^{-1}(p)|^2+1}}$. Now take $F_A = s^*\Omega_A$ and thus $\phi^*F_A = \phi^*s^*\Omega_A = (s \circ \phi)^*\Omega_A$ and $s \circ \phi(u) = \frac{(u,1)}{\sqrt{|u|^2+1}}$. Get

$$(s \circ \phi)^*\Omega_A = - \left(d \left(\frac{u}{\sqrt{|u|^2+1}} \right) \wedge d \left(\frac{\bar{u}}{\sqrt{|u|^2+1}} \right) \right) + 0$$

$$d\left(\frac{u}{\sqrt{|u|^2+1}}\right) = \frac{du}{\sqrt{|u|^2+1}} - \frac{1}{2}u \frac{\bar{u}du + u\bar{d}\bar{u}}{(|u|^2+1)^{3/2}}$$

and similarly for \bar{u} . At the end

$$\begin{aligned} (s \circ \phi)^* \Omega_A &= -\frac{du \wedge d\bar{u}}{|u|^2+1} - \frac{1}{2} \frac{|u|^2}{(|u|^2+1)^2} du \wedge d\bar{u} - \frac{1}{2} \frac{|u|^2}{(|u|^2+1)^2} du \wedge d\bar{u} + 0 \\ &= -\left(\frac{du \wedge d\bar{u}}{(|u|^2+1)^2}\right) \end{aligned}$$

and thus

$$\begin{aligned} \int_{\mathbb{C}P^1} \left(-\frac{1}{2\pi i} F_A\right) &= \int_{\phi(\mathbb{C})} \left(-\frac{1}{2\pi i} F_A\right) \\ &= \int_{\mathbb{C}} \left(-\frac{1}{2\pi i} \phi^* F_A\right) \\ &= \int_{\mathbb{C}} \frac{1}{2\pi i} \frac{du \wedge d\bar{u}}{(1+|u|^2)^2} \\ &= -\int_{\mathbb{C}} \frac{1}{\pi} \frac{dx \wedge dy}{(1+|u|^2)^2} \\ &= -\frac{1}{\pi} \int_0^{2\pi} \left(\int_0^\infty \frac{r dr}{(1+r^2)^2} \right) d\phi \\ &= -2 \cdot \left(\frac{1}{2} \left(\frac{-1}{1+r^2} \right) \right) \Big|_0^\infty \\ &= -1 \end{aligned}$$

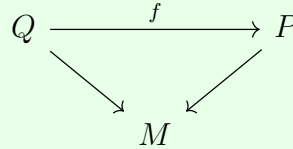
Conclusion: $-1 = [c(\text{Hopf bundle})] \in H_{\text{dR}}^2(\mathbb{C}P^1)$. ♣

4.1 Reduction and extension of the structure group

Let $\lambda : H \rightarrow G$ be a Lie group homomorphism. Let $\pi : P \rightarrow M$ be a principal G -bundle.

Definition 4.8. A λ -reduction of P is a principal H -bundle $\pi' : Q \rightarrow M$ together with a map $f : Q \rightarrow P$ satisfying:

-



is commutative,

- $f(ph) = f(p)\lambda(h)$ for any $p \in Q, h \in H$ (i.e., of type λ).

Example 4.9. $SO(M) \hookrightarrow Gl(M)$ inclusion of the oriented orthonormal frame bundle is a $SO(n)$ -reduction of the frame bundle of M (exists if TM is orientable). ♣

Remark 4.10. P admits a λ -reduction iff there exists cocycles (g_{ik}) coming from cocycles $h_{ik} : U_i \cap U_k \rightarrow H$ such that $g_{ik} = \lambda(h_{ik})$.

Example 4.11.

$$\begin{aligned}
 \lambda : S^1 &\rightarrow S^1 \\
 z &\mapsto z^2
 \end{aligned}$$

Claim: the Hopf bundle $S^3 \rightarrow S^2$ does not admit a λ -reduction.

Exercise. Use Chern classes later on. ♣

Example 4.12. A $U(n)$ -principal bundle $P \rightarrow M$ admits a reduction to a $SU(n)$ -principal bundle iff $P \times_{\det} \mathbb{C}$ is the trivial bundle. ♣

By the way, if we consider the unique connected double cover $Spin(n) \rightarrow SO(n)$ then a $SO(n)$ -bundle admits a reduction to a $Spin(n)$ -bundle if $w_2(P \times_{can} \mathbb{R}^2) = 0$.

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We proved a proposition first.

Then we proved this:

Proposition 5.1. *If $E = P \times_\rho V$, A a connection on P , then*

$$\begin{array}{ccc} \Gamma_G(P; V) & \xrightarrow{\rho_*} & a \\ \downarrow & & \downarrow \\ a & \longrightarrow & a \end{array}$$

Proof.

Missed.

This implies

$$\begin{aligned} \left(R_x^{\nabla^A}(v_x, w_x)\varphi \right)(x) &= R_x^{\nabla^A}(v_x, w_x)[p, \hat{\varphi}] \\ &= [p, (\tilde{v}_p \cdot (\tilde{w} \cdot \hat{\varphi}) - \tilde{w}_p \cdot (\tilde{v} \cdot \hat{\varphi}) - \widetilde{[v, w]}_p \cdot \hat{\varphi})(p)] \text{ by } (*) \\ &= [p, \left([\tilde{v}, \tilde{w}] \cdot \hat{\varphi} - \widetilde{[v, w]}_p \cdot \hat{\varphi} \right)(p)] \end{aligned}$$

The commutator $[\tilde{v}, \tilde{w}]$ does not need to be horizontal since H_A may not be involutive, but $d\pi([\tilde{v}, \tilde{w}]) = [d\pi(\tilde{v}), d\pi(\tilde{w})] - [v, w] = d\pi(\widetilde{[v, w]})$. So we get

$$\begin{aligned} &= [p, (\Pi_V([\tilde{v}, \tilde{w}]) \cdot \hat{\varphi})(p)] \\ &= -[p, \omega_A([\tilde{v}, \tilde{w}]_p^\# \cdot \hat{\varphi})] \text{ by definition of } \omega_A \\ &= -[p, \Omega_A(\tilde{v}, \tilde{w})^\# \cdot \hat{\varphi}] \end{aligned}$$

And note that d_A

Missed.

$$\begin{aligned} \Omega_A(\tilde{v}, \tilde{w})^\# \cdot \hat{\varphi}(p) &= \left. \frac{d}{dt} \right|_{t=0} \varphi \left(p e^{t\hat{\Omega}_A(\tilde{v}, \tilde{w})} \right) \\ &= \left. \frac{d}{dt} \right|_{t=0} \rho \left(e^{-t\Omega_A(\tilde{v}, \tilde{w})} \right) \\ &= -\rho_*(\Omega_A(\tilde{v}, \tilde{w}))\hat{\varphi}(p) \end{aligned}$$

And we end with

$$= [p, \rho_*(\Omega_A(\tilde{v}, \tilde{w}))\hat{\varphi}(p)]$$

and thus

$$R_x^{\nabla^A}(v_x, w_x)[p, \hat{\varphi}(p)] = [p, \rho_*(\Omega_A(\tilde{v}, \tilde{w}))\hat{\varphi}(p)]$$

□

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6 Lecture 4: 6 V 2021

Example 6.1. Of a reduction. The tangent bundle to $\mathbb{C}P^2$ admits a reduction with respect to $S^1 \rightarrow S^1, z \mapsto z^2$, and thus a spin structure. ♣

Definition 6.2. In the above situation (previous lecture), P is called a λ -extension of Q .

Extensions always exist. Indeed, let us take

$$\begin{array}{ccc} H & \hookrightarrow & Q \\ & & \downarrow \\ & & M \end{array}$$

and $\lambda : H \rightarrow G$. Then taking $P = Q \times G/H$ where H acts by

$$(h, (q, g)) \mapsto (qh, \lambda(h)g).$$

The right G -action on P is induced from

$$((q, g), g') \mapsto (q, gg').$$

Then $f : Q \rightarrow P$ of type λ is given by $f(q) = [q, e]$.

6.1 Reductions, extensions and connections

Proposition 6.3. *Let*

$$\begin{array}{ccc} Q & \xrightarrow{f} & P \\ & \searrow \pi_Q & \swarrow \pi_P \\ & & M \end{array}$$

and f be of type $\lambda : H \rightarrow G$. Let A be a connection on Q . Then there is a unique connection A' on P such that $df_q((H_A)_q) = (H_{A'})_{f(q)} \subseteq TP$ for any q . Thus satisfies:

$$f^*\omega_{A'} = \lambda_* \circ \omega_A, \quad (3)$$

$$f^*\Omega_{A'} = \lambda_* \circ \Omega_A. \quad (4)$$

Here $\lambda_* : \mathfrak{g} \rightarrow \mathfrak{h}$ is the associated Lie algebra homomorphism.

Proof. Let $p = f(q)g$. Define

$$(H_{A'})_p = dR_g \left(df_q \left((H_A)_q \right) \right).$$

Check that this is independent of q with the property $\pi_P(p) = \pi_Q(q)$ (this uses the H -invariance of H_A and the fact that f is of type λ).

The $H_{A'}$ then are clearly G -invariant and they form a complement:

$$\begin{aligned} \pi_P \circ f &= \pi_Q \\ \implies (d\pi_P)_{f(q)} \circ df_q|_{H_A} &\xrightarrow{\cong} TM_{\pi_Q(q)} \end{aligned}$$

so $df_q((H_A)_q)$ is a complement to $VTP_{f(q)} = \ker(d\pi_P)_{f(q)}$. So $H_{A'}$ is a connection. Uniqueness follows from the required G -invariance.

Consider $X \in \mathfrak{h}$.

$$(f^*\omega_{A'})(X^\#) = \omega_{A'}(df(X^\#)) \text{ by definition.}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
df_q(X^\#) &= \left. \frac{d}{dt} \right|_{t=0} f(qe^{tX}) \\
&= \left. \frac{d}{dt} \right|_{t=0} f(q)\lambda(e^{tX}) \\
&= \left. \frac{d}{dt} \right|_{t=0} f(q)e^{t\lambda_*X} \\
&= (\lambda_*X)^\#_{f(q)} \\
&= \omega_A \cdot ((\lambda_*(X))^\#) \\
&= \lambda_*(X)
\end{aligned}$$

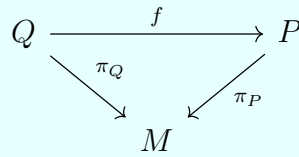
This proves the first formula, (3). The second formula, (4), follows from this and

$$\begin{aligned}
\Omega_{A'} &= d\omega_{A'} + \frac{1}{2}[\omega_{A'} \wedge \omega_{A'}] \\
\implies f^*\Omega_{A'} &= df^*\omega_{A'} + \frac{1}{2}[f^*\omega_{A'} \wedge f^*\omega_{A'}] \\
&= d\lambda_*\omega_A + \frac{1}{2}[\lambda_*\omega_A \wedge \lambda_*\omega_A] \\
&= \lambda_*\Omega_A \text{ because } \lambda_* \text{ is a Lie alg. hom.}
\end{aligned}$$

□

Definition 6.4. A' is called the λ -extension of A and A the λ -reduction of A' .

Proposition 6.5. *Let*



be a morphism of type $\lambda : H \rightarrow G$ such that λ_ is a Lie algebra isomorphism. Suppose A is a connection on P . then there exists a unique connection A' denoted by f^*A such that $f^*\omega_A = \lambda_*\omega_{A'}$.*

Proof. Define

$$\omega_{A'} = \lambda_*^{-1} \circ f^* \omega_A \in \Omega^*(Q; \mathfrak{h}).$$

□

For instance, this applies to

$$\text{Spin}(n) \xrightarrow{2:1} \text{SO}(n)$$

$$\text{Spin}^c(n) \xrightarrow{2:1} \text{SO}(n) \times S^1$$

both inducing Lie algebra isomorphisms.

Definition 6.6 (bundle isomorphism). A bundle homomorphism f of type id_G is called a bundle isomorphism. In particular, $f : P \rightarrow P$ of type id_G is called a bundle automorphism.

Definition 6.7 (gauge group). $\text{Aut}(P) = \{f : P \rightarrow P \text{ of type } \text{id}_G\}$ is called the gauge group of P .

Remark 6.8.

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Aut}(P) &\simeq \mathcal{C}_G^\infty(P; G) \\ &= \{\varphi : P \rightarrow G \mid \varphi(pg) = \text{Ad}_g \varphi(p) (= g^{-1} \varphi(p) g) \forall p, g\} \end{aligned}$$

Indeed, given φ we set $f(p) = p\varphi(p)$ and get $f(pg) = pg\varphi(pg) = pgg^{-1}\varphi(p)g = f(p)g$.

In other words,

$$\text{Aut}(P) \simeq \Gamma(M; \text{Ad}(P) = P \times_{\text{Ad}} G).$$

Note $\text{Ad}(P)$ is not a principal G -bundle.

Proposition 6.9. Let $f \in \text{Aut}(P)$ and $\varphi_f : P \rightarrow G$ be the associated map. Then f^*A (defined by $\omega_{f^*A} = f^*\omega_A$) satisfies:

1. $\omega_{f^*A} = \text{Ad}_{\varphi_f^{-1}} \omega_A + \varphi_f^{-1} d\varphi$ (the last one is left multiplication in the Lie group),
2. $d_{f^*A} = f^* \circ d_A \circ (f^*)^{-1}$, $\Omega_{f^*A} = \text{Ad}_{\varphi_f^{-1}} \circ \Omega_A$.

Proof. Exercise. (Baum, Thm 3.22) □

6.2 Chern-Weil theory again

$$\begin{array}{ccc} G & \hookrightarrow & P \\ & & \downarrow \\ & & M \end{array}$$

principal bundle. Consider $\phi : \mathfrak{g}^k \rightarrow \mathbb{C}$ which is Ad-invariant and symmetric. Get

$$c_\phi(A) = \phi(\Omega_A^{\wedge k}) \in \Omega_{horiz, G-inv}^{2k}(P; \mathbb{C}).$$

We have seen $dc_\phi(A) = 0$ and $c_\phi(A') = c_\phi(A) \in d\Omega_{horiz, G-inv}^*(P; \mathbb{R})$.

Lemma 6.10. $\Omega_{horiz, G-inv}^*(P; \mathbb{C}) \simeq \Omega^*(M; \mathbb{C})$ where the inverse map is given by π^* .

Thus there is $\bar{c}_\phi(A)$ such that $\pi^*\bar{c}_\phi(A) = c_\phi(A)$, and we define

$$c_\phi(P) = [\bar{c}_\phi(A)] \in H^{2k}(M; \mathbb{C}).$$

Definition 6.11 (Weil homomorphism). We get the Weil homomorphism

$$\begin{aligned} W_P : S_G^*(\mathfrak{g}) &\longrightarrow H_{dR}^*(M; \mathbb{C}) \\ \phi &\longmapsto c_\phi(P) \end{aligned}$$

defined on the algebra of symmetric multilinear forms.

Definition 6.12. Given $f : N \rightarrow M$, we call $f^*P = \{(n, p) \in N \times P \mid f(n) = \pi(p)\}$ the pull-back bundle, and get

$$\begin{array}{ccc} f^*P & \xrightarrow{\hat{f}(n,p)=p} & P \\ \downarrow & & \downarrow \pi \\ N & \xrightarrow{f} & M \end{array}$$

Proposition 6.13. *If A is a connection on P , then there is a unique connection A' on f^*P such that $\omega_{A'} = \hat{f}^*\omega_A$.*

Proof. Define it by this formula, $\omega_{A'} = \hat{f}^*\omega_A$. Check:

$$\begin{aligned}\omega_{A'}(X^\#) &= \omega_A(\hat{f}_*X^\#) \\ &= \omega_A(X^\#) = X.\end{aligned}$$

□

Theorem 6.14 (functoriality of the Weil homomorphism). *For the Weil homomorphism we have*

1. $c_\phi(f^*P) = f^*c_\phi(P)$ (or, $W_{f^*P} = f^*W_P$),
2. if

$$\begin{array}{ccc} Q & \xrightarrow{f} & P \\ & \searrow & \swarrow \\ & M & \end{array}$$

and ω of type λ , $\phi \in S_G^*(\mathfrak{g})$ and $\phi_\lambda = \phi \circ \lambda_* \in S_G^*(\mathfrak{h})$, then $c_{\phi_\lambda}(Q) = c_\phi(P)$ (i.e., $W_P(\phi) \circ \lambda_* = W_Q(\phi_\lambda)$).

Proof. (1) follows from the previous proposition:

$$\begin{aligned}c_\phi(f^*P) &= [\bar{c}_\phi(\hat{f}^*A)] \\ &= [f^*c_\phi(A)] \\ &= f^*c_\phi(P)\end{aligned}$$

(2) as well, use the above proposition with the push-forward connection and notice f induces id on M . □

Remark 6.15. It can be shown that any principal G -bundle admits a reduction to a maximal compact subgroup (e.g., $U(n) \subseteq GL(n, \mathbb{C})$).

6.3 Chern classes of vector bundles

$$\begin{aligned} U(n) &= \{B \in \mathrm{GL}(n, \mathbb{C}) \mid B^* B = \mathrm{id}\} \\ \mathfrak{u}(n) &= \{X \in \mathfrak{gl}(n, \mathbb{C}) \mid X^* = -X\} \end{aligned}$$

Definition 6.16. $\phi_k : \mathfrak{gl}(n, \mathbb{C}) \rightarrow \mathbb{C}$ is given by

$$\det\left(t - \frac{1}{2\pi i} X\right) = \sum_{k=0}^n \phi_k(X) t^{n-k}.$$

Then ϕ_k are Ad-invariant and $\phi_k|_{\mathfrak{u}(n)}$ take real values. (proof: $\overline{\det\left(t - \frac{1}{2\pi i} X\right)} = \det\left(t + \frac{1}{2\pi i} \overline{X^t}\right) = \det\left(t - \frac{1}{2\pi i} X\right)$).

Any $X \in \mathfrak{u}(n)$ is diagonalizable, $X = \begin{pmatrix} \lambda_1 & & \\ & \ddots & \\ & & \lambda_n \end{pmatrix}$. Thus

$$\det\left(t - \frac{1}{2\pi i} X\right) = \prod_{i=1}^n \left(t - \frac{\lambda_i}{2\pi i}\right)$$

which implies that

$$\phi_1(X) = -\frac{1}{2\pi i} \mathrm{tr}(X)$$

and

$$\begin{aligned} \phi_2(X) &= \sum_{i < j} \lambda_i \lambda_j \left(-\frac{1}{4\pi^2}\right) \\ &= -\frac{1}{8\pi^2} \left(\sum_{i,j} \lambda_i \lambda_j - \sum_i \lambda_i^2\right) \\ &= \frac{1}{8\pi^2} (\mathrm{tr}(X^2) - \mathrm{tr}(X) \mathrm{tr}(X)) \end{aligned}$$

and so on, to

$$\phi_n(X) = \left(-\frac{1}{2\pi i}\right)^n \det(X).$$

Theorem 6.17. *The elements $\phi_0, \dots, \phi_n \in \mathrm{Sym}_{U(n)}^*(\mathfrak{u}(n))$ are algebraically independent and generate $\mathrm{Sym}_{U(n)}^*(\mathfrak{u}(n))$.*

Proof. $\phi_k(X) = \left(-\frac{1}{2\pi i}\right)\sigma_k(\lambda_1, \dots, \lambda_n)$, where σ_k is the k -th elementary symmetric polynomial. These symmetric polynomials have the required property. \square

Theorem 6.18. *Let $E = P \times_{\rho_{can}} \mathbb{C}^n$, where P is a principal $U(n)$ -bundle. Then*

$$c_k(E) = [\phi_k(F_A \wedge \dots \wedge F_A)] \in H_{dR}^{2k}(M; \mathbb{R})$$

is the image of the Chern class under

$$H^{2k}(X; \mathbb{Z}) \rightarrow H^{2k}(X; \mathbb{R}) \simeq H_{dR}^{2k}(X).$$

The element

$$\begin{aligned} c(E) &= \left[\det \left(1 - \frac{1}{2\pi i} F_A \right) \right] \\ &= c_0(E) + c_1(E) + \dots + c_n(E) \end{aligned}$$

is called the total Chern class.

Proof. Sketch. Chern classes are characterized by the axioms:

- $c_1(E_1) = c_1(E_2)$ if $E_1 \simeq E_2$,
- $c(f^*E) = f^*c(E)$ for any $f : N \rightarrow M$,
- $c(E_1 \oplus E_2) = c(E_1) \cdot c(E_2)$, (cup product)
- $c_k(E^*) = (-1)^k c_k(E)$, $c(\underline{\mathbb{C}}^n) = 1$,
- $\langle c_1(H), [\mathbb{C}P^1] \rangle = -1$ where $H \rightarrow \mathbb{C}P^1$ is the tautological line bundle.

The first two follow from the functoriality of the Weil homomorphism, [Theorem 6.14](#).

When $E_1 \oplus E_2$ has a reduction to a $GL(n_1, \mathbb{C}) \times GL(n_2, \mathbb{C})$ -bundle, take a connection respecting this reduction and apply [Theorem 6.14](#).

E^* is associated to the dual representation $U(n) \rightarrow (\mathbb{C}^n)^*$, $(\rho_{can})^* : u(n) \rightarrow \mathfrak{gl}(n, \mathbb{C})$ mapping $X \mapsto X^* = -X$.
 We have verified $c_1(H) = -1$ last time. □

Example 6.19. $c_1(E) = -\frac{1}{2\pi i} [\text{tr}(F_A)]$
 $c_2(E) = \frac{1}{8\pi^2} [\text{tr}(F_A \wedge F_A) - \text{tr}(F_A) \wedge \text{tr}(F_A)]$ ♣

Remark 6.20. If we have a reduction to $SU(n)$, then $c_1(E) = 0$.

Proof. $\phi_1|_{\mathfrak{su}(n)} = -\frac{1}{2\pi i} \text{tr}|_{\mathfrak{su}(n)} = 0$ since elements in $\mathfrak{su}(n)$ are traceless. □

6.4 Pontryagin classes

Definition 6.21 (Pontryagin classes). If $E \rightarrow M$ is a real vector bundle, then $p_k(E) = (-1)^k c_{2k}(E^{\mathbb{C}})$ is a Pontryagin class.

The total Pontryagin class is $p(E) = 1 + p_1(E) + \dots \in H_{dR}^{4*}(M; \mathbb{R})$.

Theorem 6.22. These can be obtained by the above approach from $\det(t - \frac{1}{2\pi} X) = \sum_{k=0}^n \psi_k(X) t^{n-k}$ on $\mathfrak{gl}(n)$ and $\psi_{2k+1}|_{\mathfrak{o}(n)} = 0$ for any k , where $\mathfrak{o}(n)$ is the Lie algebra of $O(n) = \{A | AA^t = \text{id}\}$, so $\mathfrak{o}(n) = \{X | X^t = -X\}$.

For instance $\text{tr}(X) = \text{tr}(X^t) = \text{tr}(-X) = -\text{tr}(X)$ which implies $\text{tr}(X) = 0$.

Random notes

Remind Raphael about recording if needed.

Raphael's lecture notes are available at

https://drive.google.com/file/d/10F8GW2ad0rY9Y0Q1UyJbJ1s_GGP9Nasb/view?usp=sharing.