

Day 15

We are proving the classification theorem

Theorem: For B paracompact and Hausdorff,

$$\left\{ \begin{array}{l} \text{homotopy} \\ \text{classes of maps} \\ B \rightarrow G_n(\mathbb{R}^\infty) \end{array} \right\} =: [B, G_n(\mathbb{R}^\infty)] \xrightarrow[\cong]{\Psi} \text{Vect}^n(B) = \left\{ \begin{array}{l} \text{rank } n \text{ vector} \\ \text{bundles over } B \end{array} \right\}$$

$$[B] \xrightarrow{\quad} f^*(\mathcal{X}^n)$$

Last time, we showed that Ψ is surjective.

Ψ injective

Recall from last lecture that if one has a map $\hat{F}: E \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^\infty$ that is linear and injective on each fiber $E_b \xrightarrow{\hat{F}} \mathbb{R}^\infty$, then there is a bundle map

$$\begin{array}{ccc} E & \xrightarrow{F} & E(\mathcal{X}^n) \subseteq G_n \times \mathbb{R}^\infty \quad (G_n = G_n(\mathbb{R}^\infty)) \\ \downarrow & & \downarrow \\ B & \xrightarrow{f} & G_n \end{array}$$

where $F(e) = ([\hat{F}(E_{\pi(e)})], \hat{F}(e))$ $f(b) = ([\hat{F}(E_b)])$.

Conversely, if one has a bundle map

$$\begin{array}{ccc} E & \xrightarrow{F} & E(\mathcal{X}^n) \subseteq G_n(\mathbb{R}^\infty) \times \mathbb{R}^\infty \\ \pi \downarrow & & \downarrow \\ B & \xrightarrow{f} & G_n(\mathbb{R}^\infty) \end{array}$$

Then $F: E_b \rightarrow \{f(b)\} \times \mathbb{R}^\infty$ is linear and injective.

Let $\hat{F}: E \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^\infty$ be $\hat{F} = \text{pr}_2 \circ F$ where $\text{pr}_2 =$ projection to 2nd factor. So $\hat{F}: E_b \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^\infty$ is linear and injective.

Thus bundle maps to \mathcal{X}^n are equivalent to maps

$$F: E \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^\infty$$

that are linear and injective on each fiber.

Theorem 1: Any two bundle maps from a rank n vector bundle ξ to γ^n are bundle-homotopic

Proof: Given bundle maps, get $\hat{F}_i: E \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^\infty$

linear and injective on each fiber. It suffices to produce a homotopy $\hat{F}_t: E \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^\infty$ that is linear and injective for all t on each fiber.

There are two cases to consider

Case 1: $\hat{F}_0(e)$ is never a multiple of $\hat{F}_1(e)$ whenever $e \neq \vec{0}$.

In this case, we can define

$$\hat{F}_t(e) = (1-t)\hat{F}_0(e) + t\hat{F}_1(e)$$

Then \hat{F}_t is lin. and injective on each fiber.

Case 2: Define

$$d_{\text{even}}: \mathbb{R}^\infty \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^\infty \quad \text{and} \quad d_{\text{odd}}: \mathbb{R}^\infty \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^\infty$$

$$e_i \mapsto e_{2i} \quad \quad \quad e_i \mapsto e_{2i+1}$$

to be the linear injective maps where $e_i = (0, \dots, 0, \overset{\uparrow}{1}, 0, \dots)$.

Then \hat{F}_0 and $d_{\text{odd}} \circ \hat{F}_0$ so we can use case 1 to show they are homotopic with the homotopy linear and injective on each fiber. Do the same for \hat{F}_1 and $d_{\text{even}} \circ \hat{F}_1$. Moreover, the images of $d_{\text{odd}} \circ \hat{F}_0$ and $d_{\text{even}} \circ \hat{F}_1$ only intersect in $\vec{0}$; thus they satisfy Case 1 as well. Thus

$$\hat{F}_0 \sim d_{\text{odd}} \circ \hat{F}_0 \sim d_{\text{even}} \circ \hat{F}_1 \sim \hat{F}_1. \quad \blacksquare$$

Suppose $\Psi([f]) = \Psi([g])$, that is $f, g: B \rightarrow G_n(\mathbb{R}^\infty)$ with $f^*(\gamma^n) \cong g^*(\gamma^n)$. Then we have bundle maps

$$\begin{array}{ccc}
 f^*(\gamma^n) & \xrightarrow{\tilde{f}} & \gamma^n \\
 \downarrow & & \downarrow \\
 B & \xrightarrow{f} & G_n(\mathbb{R}^\infty)
 \end{array}
 \quad + \quad
 \begin{array}{ccc}
 f^*(\gamma^n) & \xrightarrow{\tilde{g}} & g^*(\gamma^n) \xrightarrow{\tilde{g}} \gamma^n \\
 \searrow & & \downarrow \\
 & & B \xrightarrow{g} G_n(\mathbb{R}^\infty)
 \end{array}$$

By the previous theorem, the bundle maps \tilde{f} and $\tilde{g} \circ \eta$ are bundle homotopic, and so the maps the cover are as well. Hence $f \sim g$. Thus Ψ is injective!

We have shown everything except well-definedness.

Ψ is well-defined

Theorem 1: If $\xi = E \xrightarrow{\pi} B$ is a vector bundle over B $f_0, f_1: X \rightarrow B$ are homotopic maps from X a paracompact and Hausdorff space, then $f_0^*(\xi)$ is isomorphic to $f_1^*(\xi)$.

Note: This is also true for principal G -bundles.

We will prove a slightly stronger theorem.

Theorem 1': If $E \xrightarrow{\pi} X \times [0, 1]$ is a vector bundle with X paracompact and Hausdorff then $E \cong E|_{X \times \{1\}} \times [0, 1]$ where

$$\begin{array}{ccc}
 E|_{X \times \{1\}} \times [0, 1] & (e, t) & \\
 \downarrow & \downarrow & \\
 X \times [0, 1] & \pi(e) &
 \end{array}$$

Hence $E|_{X \times \{0\}} \cong E|_{X \times \{1\}}$ (as bundles).

Theorem 1' \Rightarrow Theorem 1 : Suppose $f_0 \sim f_1$, via $F: X \times I \rightarrow B$.
 Then $F^*(\xi)$ is a bundle over $X \times [0,1]$, and its restriction to $X \times \{i\}$ is isomorphic to $f_i^*(\xi)$ for $i=0,1$:

$$\begin{array}{ccccc}
 f_i^*(\xi) = (F \cdot j_i)^*(\xi) & \longrightarrow & F^*(\xi) & \longrightarrow & E \\
 \downarrow & & \downarrow & & \downarrow \pi = \xi \\
 X \times \{i\} & \xrightarrow{j_i} & X \times [0,1] & \xrightarrow{F} & B \\
 & \searrow & \text{---} & \nearrow & \\
 & & f_i & &
 \end{array}$$

Use naturality of pullbacks:

$$(g \circ f)^*(\xi) \cong g^*(f^*(\xi))$$

So by Theorem 1', $f_0^*(\xi) \cong f_1^*(\xi)$.

• We will prove Theorem 1' next time!

Important Corollary : Any bundle over a contractible, paracompact, Hausdorff base space is trivial.

Proof: Since B is contractible, $\text{id}: B \rightarrow B$ is homotopic to a constant map $c: B \rightarrow B$. Theorem 1 implies

$$\xi \cong (\text{id})^*(\xi) \cong c^*(\xi) \cong \text{product bundle.}$$