

Since the RHS can be expressed in terms of the earlier Newton polynomials $s_0=1, s_1, \dots, s_{k-1}$, we obtain

a recursive def'n for s_k which we write in terms of new variables t_i (which we will substitute with $\sigma_i(x_1, \dots, x_n)$ shortly).

Def'n $s_k(t_1, \dots, t_k) = \left(\sum_{i=0}^{k-1} (-1)^{k-i+1} s_i(t_1, \dots, t_i) t_{k-i} \right) + (-1)^k t_k^k$

The recursion begins with $s_1(t_1) = 1$.

Lecture 5 We now need to prove the Fact:

Prop'n: The polynomials $s_k(t_1, \dots, t_k)$ defined above satisfy:

$$s_k(\sigma_1(x_1, \dots, x_n), \dots, \sigma_k(x_1, \dots, x_n)) = x_1^k + \dots + x_n^k$$

for any $n \geq 1$.

Pf: By induction.

For $k=1$, both sides are $\sum_{i=1}^n x_i$. Assuming the result

for $l < k$, we have (when $n \geq k$)

$$s_k(\sigma_1(x_1, \dots, x_n), \dots, \sigma_k(x_1, \dots, x_n)) = \sum_{i=1}^{k-1} (-1)^{k-i+1} s_i(\sigma_1(x_1, \dots, x_n), \dots, \sigma_i(x_1, \dots, x_n)) \sigma_{k-i}(x_1, \dots, x_n) + (-1)^{k-1} k \sigma_k(x_1, \dots, x_n)$$

$$\begin{aligned} &= \left(\sum_{i=1}^{k-1} (-1)^{k-i+1} (x_1^i + \dots + x_n^i) \sigma_{k-i}(x_1, \dots, x_n) \right) + (-1)^{k+1} k \sigma_k(x_1, \dots, x_n) \\ &\stackrel{\text{by induction}}{=} \sum_{i=0}^{k-1} (-1)^{k-i+1} (x_1^{i+1} + \dots + x_n^{i+1}) \sigma_{k-i}(x_1, \dots, x_n) \\ &\stackrel{\text{by eq'n (*)}}{=} x_1^k + \dots + x_n^k \end{aligned}$$

So we get the desired formula, at least when $k=n$.
i.e. by expanding $\sigma_k = \prod_{i=1}^k (x_i - x_j)$

To prove the formula for $k > n$, we simply write

$$S_k(\sigma_1(x_1, \dots, x_n), \dots, \sigma_k(x_1, \dots, x_n)) = S_k(\sigma_1(x_1, \dots, x_n, \overbrace{0, \dots, 0}^{k-n}), \dots, \sigma_k(x_1, \dots, x_n, \overbrace{0, \dots, 0}^{k-n}))$$

$$= x_1^k + \dots + x_n^k + 0^k + \dots + 0^k = x_1^k + \dots + x_n^k$$

by $k=n$ case

as desired.

On the other hand, say $k \leq n$. Then by the theory of symmetric poly's, we know that there exists a

polynomial $S_{k,n}(t_1, \dots, t_k)$ such that

$$(\star) S_{k,n}(\sigma_1(x_1, \dots, x_n), \dots, \sigma_k(x_1, \dots, x_n)) = x_1^k + \dots + x_n^k.$$

Now

$$S_{k,n}(\sigma_1(x_1, \dots, x_k), \dots, \sigma_k(x_1, \dots, x_k))$$

$$= S_{k,n}(\sigma_1(x_1, \dots, x_k, \overbrace{0, \dots, 0}^{n-k}), \dots, \sigma_k(x_1, \dots, x_k, \overbrace{0, \dots, 0}^{n-k}))$$

$$= x_1^k + \dots + x_k^k + 0^k + \dots + 0^k = S_k(\sigma_1(x_1, \dots, x_k), \dots, \sigma_k(x_1, \dots, x_k)).$$

But the theory of symmetric polynomials also says that

there is a unique polynomial in k variables such that

$$p(\sigma_1(x_1, \dots, x_k), \dots, \sigma_k(x_1, \dots, x_k)) = x_1^k + \dots + x_k^k.$$

Since both $S_{k,n}$ and S_k satisfy this equation, we

must have $S_k = S_{k,n}$, meaning that S_k satisfies (\star) . \square

We can now show that the Chern character is a ring homomorphism:

Theorem: The Function

$$\text{Vect}(X) \xrightarrow{\text{Ch}} H^*(X; \mathbb{Q})$$

$$[V] \longmapsto \dim V + \sum_{k>0} \frac{S_k(c_1 V, \dots, c_k V)}{k!} \in \bigoplus_{i=0}^{\infty} H^{2i}(X; \mathbb{Q})$$

extends uniquely to a ring homomorphism

$$\text{Ch}: K^0(X) \longrightarrow H^*(X; \mathbb{Q}).$$

PF: We are forced to define

$$\text{Ch}([V] - [W]) = \dim V - \dim W + \sum_{k>0} \frac{S_k(c_1 V, \dots, c_k V) - S_k(c_1 W, \dots, c_k W)}{k!}$$

and we must check that this is a ring homomorphism.

Additivity: We want to show that $\text{Ch}(V \oplus W) = \text{Ch}(V) + \text{Ch}(W)$

(the formula on formal differences then follows formally).

We'll use the splitting principle; that is, we want

a map $f: Y \rightarrow X$ s.t. $f^*: H^*(X; \mathbb{Q}) \rightarrow H^*(Y; \mathbb{Q})$ is injective,

and f^*V, f^*W are sums of line bdlcs. For integer

coeff's, this is achieved by iterated use of projective

bdles. The proof of the proj. bdlc thm also works with

\mathbb{Q} -coeff's, so $H^*(E; \mathbb{Q}) \rightarrow H^*(PE; \mathbb{Q})$ is always injective.

But in fact (see HW 3) an injection $H^0 X \hookrightarrow H^0 Y$ w/ χ -coeff's always gives an injection w/ Q -coeff's.

Now, it suffices to show $ch(L_1 \otimes \dots \otimes L_n) = \sum ch(L_i)$, for any line bdl's L_1, \dots, L_n . But this was exactly how we defined ch :

$$\begin{aligned} ch(L_1 \otimes \dots \otimes L_n) &= n + \frac{\sum_{k>0} s_k(c_1(L_1 \otimes \dots \otimes L_n), \dots, c_k(L_1 \otimes \dots \otimes L_n))}{k!} \\ &= n + \frac{\sum_{k>0} s_k(\sigma_1(c_1 L_1, \dots, c_1 L_n), \dots, \sigma_k(c_1 L_1, \dots, c_1 L_n))}{k!} \\ &= n + \frac{\sum_{k>0} (c_1 L_1)^k + \dots + (c_1 L_n)^k}{k!} = \sum_{i=1}^n \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} \frac{c_1 L_i^k}{k!} \\ &= \sum_{i=1}^n e^{c_1 L_i} \end{aligned}$$

We originally defined $Ch(L_i) = e^{c_1 L_i}$ for line bdl's but we do need to check that this is consistent

without general def'n, i.e. that $\sum_{k=0}^{\infty} \frac{(c_1 L)^k}{k!} = \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} \frac{s_k(c_1 L, \dots, c_1 L)}{k!}$ all zero

Claim: For each k , $s_k(t, 0, \dots, 0) = t^k$.

PF: By induction on k , using the recursion relation.

For $k=0$, $s_0 = 1 = (c_1 L)^0$. Assuming the Claim for $k < k$, we have

$$s_k(t, 0, \dots, 0) = (-1)^{k+1} k \cdot 0 + \sum_{i=1}^{k-2} (-1)^{k-i+1} s_i(t, 0, \dots, 0) \cdot 0 + (-1)^{k-(k-1)+1} s_{k-1}(t, 0, \dots, 0) t$$

induction $(t^{k-1}) \cdot t = t^k$ □

Multiplicativity: We need to show that

$$\text{Ch}(V \otimes W) = \text{Ch}(V) \cdot \text{Ch}(W).$$

We again can check the case of sums of line bundles, and then apply the splitting principle.

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Ch}((L_1 \oplus \dots \oplus L_n) \otimes (L'_1 \oplus \dots \oplus L'_m)) &= \text{Ch}(\bigoplus_{i,j} L_i \otimes L'_j) \\ &\stackrel{\text{Additivity}}{=} \sum_{i,j} \text{Ch}(L_i \otimes L'_j) = \sum_{i,j} e^{c(L_i \otimes L'_j)} \\ &= \sum_{i,j} e^{c_1 L_i + c_1 L'_j} = \sum_{i,j} e^{c_1 L_i} e^{c_1 L'_j}. \end{aligned}$$

On the other hand,

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Ch}(L_1 \oplus \dots \oplus L_n) \cdot \text{Ch}(L'_1 \oplus \dots \oplus L'_m) &= \left(\sum_i \text{Ch}(L_i) \right) \left(\sum_j \text{Ch}(L'_j) \right) \\ &= \sum_{i,j} (\text{Ch}(L_i)) (\text{Ch}(L'_j)) = \sum_{i,j} e^{c_1 L_i} e^{c_1 L'_j}. \quad \square \end{aligned}$$

We can now extend Ch to a map (an additive homomorphism, at least)

$$K^1 X = \tilde{K}^0(SX) \longrightarrow \bigoplus_{i=0}^{\infty} H^{2i+1}(X; \mathbb{Q}) \subset M^*(X; \mathbb{Q}).$$

This is achieved by the diagram

$$\begin{array}{ccc} K^0(SX) & \xrightarrow{\text{Ch}} & \bigoplus H^{2i}(SX; \mathbb{Q}) \\ \downarrow & & \downarrow \\ K^0(\text{pt}) & \xrightarrow{\text{Ch}} & \bigoplus H^{2i}(\text{pt}; \mathbb{Q}), \end{array}$$

which (upon taking kernels) yields the Chern Character

$$K^1 X := \tilde{K}^0(SX) \longrightarrow \bigoplus_{i=0}^{\infty} \tilde{H}^{2i}(SX; \mathbb{Q}) \cong \bigoplus_{i=0}^{\infty} H^{2i-1}(X; \mathbb{Q}).$$

Our goal is to show that Ch is an isomorphism whenever X is a finite CW complex. We need two basic facts from K -theory:

1) Exact Sequence (Hatcher VB Prop. 2.9)

If $A \subset X$ is closed (X is Hausdorff) then the sequence $A \hookrightarrow X \rightarrow X/A$ induces an exact sequence

$$\tilde{K}^0(X/A) \xrightarrow{q^*} \tilde{K}^0(X) \xrightarrow{i^*} \tilde{K}^0(A)$$

2) Bott Periodicity (Hatcher VB Thm 2.11)

There are natural isomorphisms

$$\beta: \tilde{K}^0(X) \xrightarrow{\cong} \tilde{K}^0(S^2 X)$$

(unreduced) double suspension

for all compact Hausdorff space X . The map β is essentially tensor product with $[x_i] = 1$, where x_i is the tautological bundle over $S^2 \cong \mathbb{C}P^1$.

2) will allow us to compute Ch for spheres;

and using 1) we can extend to all finite CW complexes.

Proof of 1 (Sketch):

• $i^* q^* = (q i)^*$, but $q i$ is constant so $(q i)^*$ is 0 on \tilde{K}^0 .

• To show that $\text{Ker}(i^*) \subseteq \text{Im}(q^*)$, first

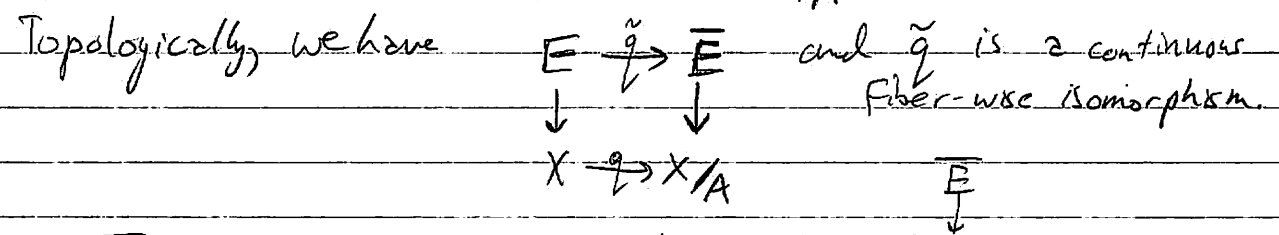
note that $\tilde{K}^0(\mathbb{Z})$ is just $\text{Vect}(\mathbb{Z}) / \text{stable isom.}$, so we

just want to show that if i^*E is stably trivial, then i^*E is stably isomorphic to some q^*V . \cup

Since $i^*E = E|_A$ is stably trivial, we have $(E \oplus \mathbb{R}^n)|_A \cong \mathbb{R}^m$ for some n and m . We'll show that since this bdlc is trivial over A , it is in fact the pullback of a bdlc over X/A .

In fact, say E is a bdlc over X which is trivial over A .

Fixing a trivialization φ over A , we can identify the various fibers over A to form a quotient space $\bar{E} = E / \varphi^{-1}(a, v) \sim \varphi^{-1}(a', v)$.



It remains only to check that X/A is locally trivial on a nbhd of the basept $A/A \in X/A$.

If A is a subcomplex of a CW cplx X , then one has a nbhd $U \supset A$ which deformation retracts to A . Then the

BHT $\Rightarrow E|_U$ is isomorphic to $r^*E|_A \cong \mathbb{R}^m$ (r the retraction $U \rightarrow A$).

Now the trivialization of $E|_U$ descends to a trivialization of $\bar{E}|_{U/A}$; note that U/A is open in X/A . (Check: $U \times_{(a,v) \sim (a',v)} \mathbb{R}^m \cong U/A \times_{X/A} \mathbb{R}^m$)

We need to understand the Bott Periodicity map.

$$\beta: \tilde{K}^0 X \rightarrow \tilde{K}^0(S^2 X)$$

↑ unreduced suspension

This will be the composite

$$\begin{aligned} \tilde{K}^0 X &\rightarrow \tilde{K}^0(S^2) \otimes \tilde{K}^0 X \xrightarrow{\tilde{\mu}} \tilde{K}^0(S^2 X) \\ [\alpha] &\longmapsto [\gamma_1] \otimes [\alpha] \end{aligned}$$

where $\tilde{\mu}$ built out of the map

$$\begin{aligned} K^0 X \otimes K^0 Y &\xrightarrow{*} K^0(X \times Y) \\ [V] \otimes [W] &\longmapsto [\pi_1^* V \otimes \pi_2^* W]. \end{aligned}$$

We need to replace $S^2 \times X$ with $S^2 X \cong S^2 \wedge X = S^2 \times X / S^2 \vee X$

↑ reduced suspension

Claim: 1) The image under $*$ of $\tilde{K}^0(X) \otimes K^0(Y)$

lies in $\text{Im}(\tilde{K}^0(X \wedge Y) \rightarrow \tilde{K}^0(X \times Y))$.

2) The map $\tilde{K}^0(X \wedge Y) \xrightarrow{\pi^*} \tilde{K}^0(X \times Y)$ is injective.

We can now define

$$\tilde{K}^0(X) \otimes \tilde{K}^0(Y) \xrightarrow{\tilde{\mu}} \tilde{K}^0(X \wedge Y)$$

to simply be the map $*$: $K^0(X) \otimes K^0(Y) \rightarrow K^0(X \times Y)$

restricted to $\tilde{K}^0(X) \otimes \tilde{K}^0(Y)$ and considered as

a map into $\tilde{K}^0(X \wedge Y) \hookrightarrow \tilde{K}^0(X \times Y)$.

Proof of Claim: First, note that $\tilde{K}^0(X) \otimes \tilde{K}^0(Y) \hookrightarrow \tilde{K}^0(X \times Y) \xrightarrow{\cong} \tilde{K}^0(X \vee Y)$ has image in $\tilde{K}^0(X \times Y)$ (by a simple calculation).
 We have the short exact sequence

$$\tilde{K}^0(X \vee Y) \xrightarrow{i_*} \tilde{K}^0(X \times Y) \xrightarrow{j_*} \tilde{K}^0(X \vee Y)$$

So to show that $\text{Im}(\tilde{K}^0(X) \otimes \tilde{K}^0(Y) \rightarrow \tilde{K}^0(X \times Y))$ lands in $\text{Im} j_*$, we just need to check that $i^*(\alpha \otimes \beta) = 0 \in \tilde{K}^0(X \vee Y)$. Note that the maps

$$X \hookrightarrow X \vee Y \hookrightarrow Y = (X \vee Y) / X$$

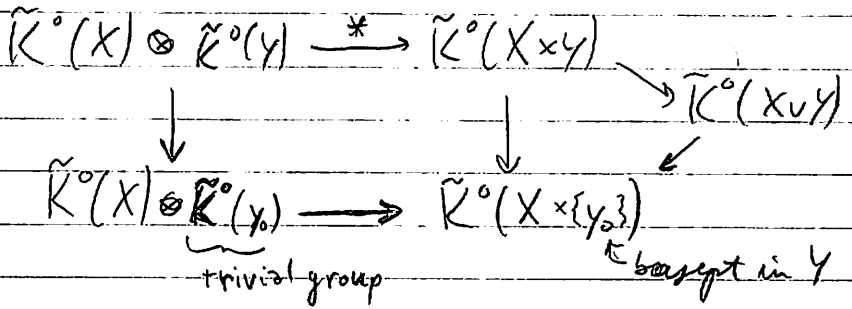
give splittings of

$$\tilde{K}^0(Y) \rightarrow \tilde{K}^0(X \vee Y) \rightarrow \tilde{K}^0(X)$$

so the restriction maps $i_X^*: \tilde{K}^0(X \vee Y) \rightarrow \tilde{K}^0(X)$
 $i_Y^*: \tilde{K}^0(X \vee Y) \rightarrow \tilde{K}^0(Y)$

give an isomorphism $\tilde{K}^0(X \vee Y) \xrightarrow{i_X^* \oplus i_Y^*} \tilde{K}^0(X) \oplus \tilde{K}^0(Y)$.

So $i^*(\alpha \otimes \beta) = 0 \in \tilde{K}^0(X \vee Y) \iff$ the restrictions of $i^*(\alpha \otimes \beta)$ to X and to Y are both trivial. But we have a diagram

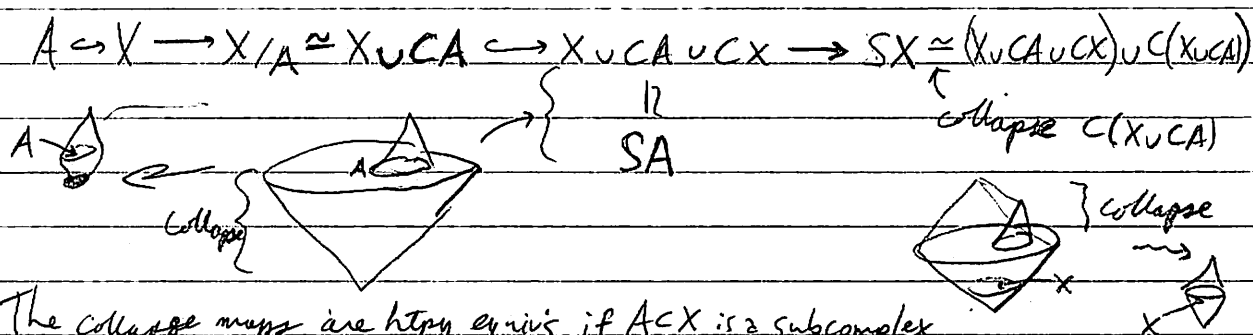


which gives $i^*(\alpha, \beta) |_X = 0$, and similarly for Y .

To prove 2), we need to extend the SES

$$\tilde{K}^0(X \wedge Y) \rightarrow \tilde{K}^0(X \times Y) \rightarrow \tilde{K}^0(X \vee Y)$$

to the left. This is done via the "Puppe Sequence"



The collapse maps are htpy equivs if $A \subset X$ is a subcomplex.

Each 3-term piece is of the form $B \hookrightarrow Z \hookrightarrow B/Z$ so we

SES associated to $X \cup CA \hookrightarrow X \cup CA \cup CX \rightarrow \frac{X \cup CA \cup CX}{X \cup CA} \cong SX$

$$\begin{array}{ccccccc} \tilde{K}^0\left(\frac{X \cup CA \cup CX}{X \cup CA}\right) & \rightarrow & \tilde{K}^0(X \cup CA \cup CX) & \rightarrow & \tilde{K}^0(X \cup CA) & & \\ \parallel & & \uparrow \cong & & \uparrow \cong & & \\ \tilde{K}^0(SX) & \rightarrow & \tilde{K}^0(SA) & \rightarrow & \tilde{K}^0(X/A) & \rightarrow & \tilde{K}^0(X) \rightarrow \tilde{K}^0(A) \\ & & \parallel & & \downarrow \cong & \nearrow & \\ & & \tilde{K}^0(X \cup CA)_X & \rightarrow & \tilde{K}^0(X \cup CA) & & \end{array}$$

SES for $X \hookrightarrow X \cup CA \rightarrow \frac{X \cup CA}{X} \cong SA$

Specializing, we have

$$\tilde{K}^0(S(X \wedge Y)) \rightarrow \tilde{K}^0(S(X \vee Y)) \oplus \tilde{K}^0(SA) \rightarrow \tilde{K}^0(SA) \rightarrow \tilde{K}^0(X \times Y) \rightarrow \tilde{K}^0(X \vee Y)$$

Splitting \nearrow

$$\begin{array}{ccc} \tilde{K}^0(S(X \vee Y)) & & \tilde{K}^0(S(X \vee Y)) \xrightarrow{\cong} \tilde{K}^0(S(X \wedge Y)) \\ \parallel & & \cong \\ \tilde{K}^0(SX) \oplus \tilde{K}^0(SY) & & \tilde{K}^0(SX) \oplus \tilde{K}^0(SY) \xrightarrow{\cong} \tilde{K}^0(SX \times SY) \xrightarrow{\cong} \tilde{K}^0(S(X \wedge Y)) \end{array}$$

The splitting $\Rightarrow \tilde{K}^0(S(X \vee Y)) \xrightarrow{\cong} \tilde{K}^0(S(X \wedge Y)) \Rightarrow \tilde{K}^0(X \times Y) \xrightarrow{\cong} \tilde{K}^0(X \wedge Y)$ as desired. \square