

The Atiyah-Jänich theorem and its twisted refinement

An introduction to category theory for freshmen

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Mathematics colloquium?

I recommend you to keep asking the following question.

Question

Why is it that the mathematics the speaker is discussing **good** mathematics?

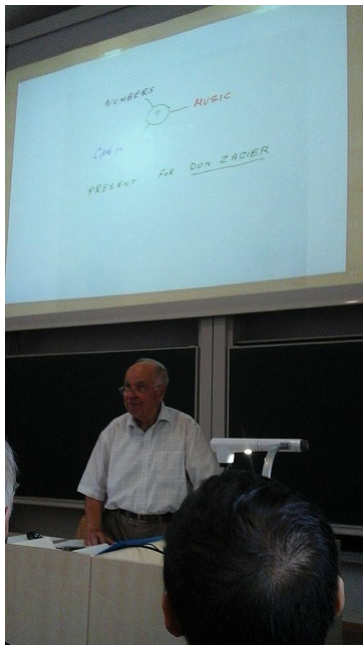
† in this talk: Not self-contained, too advanced, or will not be explained with care.

Dieser Index ist ebenfalls eine Homotopieinvariante. (Für die Definition von $K(X)$ s. [2].) Es sei A_1 der Raum der Fredholm-Operatoren in $H \oplus H$. Wir fassen A vermöge $B \rightarrow B \oplus \text{Id}$ als einen Teilraum von A_1 auf und bezeichnen mit $[X, A, A_1]$ die Menge der Homotopieklassen in A_1 von Abbildungen von X in A . Wir definieren in A zwei Verknüpfungen, die $[X, A, A_1]$ zu einem kommutativen Ring machen. $[\dots, A, A_1]$ ist dann ein Funktor von der Kategorie der topologischen Räume in die Kategorie der kommutativen Ringe. Wir beweisen (Satz 2): Der Index \mathcal{I} definiert einen Isomorphismus der Funktoren $[\dots, A, A_1]$ und K . Nachdem nun N. KUIPERS [7] die Zusammenziehbarkeit der unitären Gruppe des Hilbertraumes bewiesen hat, kann man hieraus sogar folgern, daß \mathcal{I} einen Isomorphismus zwischen $[\dots, A]$ und K herstellt.

Bisher war von Fredholm-Operatoren im komplexen Hilbertraum die Rede. In der Tat behandeln wir zugleich den Fall reeller und (was die additive Struktur angeht) quaternionaler Fredholm-Operatoren und erhalten entsprechende Ergebnisse.

Auf ganz andere Weise bewies kürzlich R. PALAIS (z. T. nach Vorschlägen von M. ATIYAH), daß A und $\mathbb{Z} \times BU$ homotopieäquivalent sind. BU ist dabei der klassifizierende Raum der unendlichen unitären Gruppe. R. PALAIS gab den Beweis in einem Vortrag in Bonn (Juni 1964) an. Es sei A die Banachalgebra der stetigen linearen Operatoren von H in sich, K das abgeschlossene Ideal der kompakten Operatoren, $p: A \rightarrow A/K =: \mathfrak{A}$ die Projektion. \mathfrak{A}^* sei die Gruppe der Einheiten in \mathfrak{A} , dann ist A gerade $p^{-1}(\mathfrak{A}^*)$, und p induziert daher eine surjektive Abbildung $\beta: A \rightarrow \mathfrak{A}^*$. Nach Resultaten von E. MICHAEL [9] ist $\beta: A \rightarrow \mathfrak{A}^*$ eine Serre-Faserung, und da die Fasern zusammenziehbar sind (K ist konvex!), induziert β Isomorphismen in allen Homotopiegruppen. Daraus folgt in unserem Falle sogar, daß β eine Homotopieäquivalenz ist. Denn wie J. MILNOR beweist [10a, Lemma 4], wird jede offene Teilmenge eines Banachraumes durch einen CW-Komplex dominiert, A und \mathfrak{A}^* sind offene Teilmengen von Banachräumen, nach WHITEHEAD [14] ist daher β eine Homotopieäquivalenz.





JÄNICH, K.
Math. Annalen 161, 129–142 (1965)

Vektorraumbündel und der Raum der Fredholm-Operatoren

Von

KLAUS JÄNICH in Bonn

Einleitung

Unter einem Fredholm-Operator in einem separablen komplexen Hilbertraum H verstehen wir einen stetigen linearen Operator, dessen Bild abgeschlossen ist und dessen Kern und Cokern von endlicher Dimension sind. (Vgl. [6].) Die Differenz dieser beiden Dimensionen heißt der Index des Operators. Die Topologie im Raum \mathcal{A} der Fredholm-Operatoren werde durch die Operator-Norm gegeben.

Der Index ist eine Homotopieinvariante der Abbildungen des einpunktigen Raumes in \mathcal{A} , und zwar eine charakterisierende: Zwei Punkte in \mathcal{A} haben genau dann denselben Index, wenn sie durch einen stetigen Weg in \mathcal{A} verbindbar sind.

Eine interessante Klasse von Beispielen von Fredholm-Operatoren bilden die linearen elliptischen Differentialoperatoren in Vektorraumbündeln über kompakten Mannigfaltigkeiten. Nachdem es durch die Index-Formel von ATIYAH-SINGER [3] möglich geworden ist, die Indices solcher Operatoren mittels gewisser Cohomologieklassen zu berechnen, hat sich bei vielen numerischen Daten, die man in der algebraischen Topologie Vektorraumbündeln und Mannigfaltigkeiten zuordnet, herausgestellt, daß sie sich als Indices gewisser Differentialoperatoren realisieren lassen, die den Mannigfaltigkeiten bzw. Bündeln in kanonischer Weise zugeordnet sind (vgl. [3], [8]).

Wir betrachten nun stetige Abbildungen eines kompakten topologischen Raumes X in \mathcal{A} . Solch eine Abbildung kann z. B. durch eine Schar elliptischer Differentialoperatoren gegeben sein, die in geeigneter Weise auf den Fasern einer separablen Mannigfaltigkeit definiert sind. Da der Index auf jeder Zu-

Outline

Categories

Definition of a category

Examples of categories

Interlude: Some algebraic structures

Vector bundles

Interlude: Vector spaces and topological spaces

Definition of a vector bundle and a bundle map

Examples of vector bundles

Functors

Definition of a functor and its motivation

Examples of functors

Interlude: Some operator theory

Natural transformations

Definition and the Atiyah-Jänich theorem

Twisted Atiyah-Jänich theorem

Fredholm section definition of twisted K -theory

Twisted vector bundles and twisted K -theory

Twisted Atiyah-Jänich theorem

Categories

Definition

A **category** \mathcal{C} is a datum consisting of the following data:

- (1) \mathcal{C} the totality of *objects*
- (2) For any $x, y \in \mathcal{C}$ the totality of *morphisms* (or “arrows”)
 $\text{Hom}_{\mathcal{C}}(x, y)$

satisfying

- There is a *composition* between morphisms:

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Hom}_{\mathcal{C}}(x, y) \times \text{Hom}_{\mathcal{C}}(y, z) &\xrightarrow{\circ} \text{Hom}_{\mathcal{C}}(x, z) \\ (f, g) &\mapsto g \circ f \end{aligned}$$

- The composition is associative:

$$(h \circ g) \circ f = h \circ (g \circ f) \quad \text{for all composable triples } (f, g, h).$$

- There is an *identity morphism* $\mathbf{1}_x$ for every $x \in \mathcal{C}$ satisfying
 $f \circ \mathbf{1}_x = f = \mathbf{1}_y \circ f$, for all $f \in \text{Hom}_{\mathcal{C}}(x, y)$.

Categories

A Category



Exercise

What is $\text{Hom}_{\mathcal{C}}(x, z)$? What about $\text{Hom}_{\mathcal{C}}(z, z)$?

Remark

† Objects \mathcal{C} and morphisms $\text{Hom}_{\mathcal{C}}(x, y)$ do not have to form a set. If both are sets, we say the category \mathcal{C} is **small**. If \mathcal{C} is enriched over the category **Sets**, it is said to be **locally small**.

Examples of categories

(1) Any set is a category.

Example

We verify $\mathbf{n} = \{1, 2, \dots, n\}$ is a category.

Objects: \mathbf{n} itself.

Morphisms: $\text{Hom}(i, j) = \emptyset$ for all $i \neq j \in \mathbf{n}$ and
 $\text{Hom}(i, i) = \mathbf{1}_i$ for all $i \in \mathbf{n}$.

(2) **Sets** the category of all sets

Objects: All sets

Morphisms: $\text{Hom}(A, B) =$ all functions from A to B , for any sets A and B .

Interlude: Some algebraic structures

Definition

A **commutative monoid** is a set M endowed with an addition $+$ which is commutative, associative, and has the identity $0 \in M$

Example

$(\mathbb{N} \cup \{0\}, +)$ the set of all nonnegative integers.

Definition

An **abelian group** is a commutative monoid $(M, +)$ satisfying that, for every $x \in M$ there is $-x \in M$ so that $x + (-x) = 0$ holds.

Example

$(\mathbb{Z}, +)$ the set of all integers with addition.

Definition

A **morphism** of commutative monoids from $(M, +_M)$ to $(N, +_N)$ is a function $f : M \rightarrow N$ satisfying that

$$f(m_1 +_M m_2) = f(m_1) +_N f(m_2) \quad \text{for all } m_1, m_2 \in M.$$

Examples of categories (continued)

(3) **CMon** the category of all commutative monoids

Objects: All commutative monoids

Morphisms: $\text{Hom}(M, N) =$ all morphisms of commutative monoids from M to N , for any $M, N \in \mathbf{CMon}$.

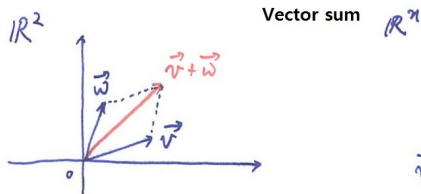
(4) **Ab** the category of all abelian groups

Objects: All abelian groups

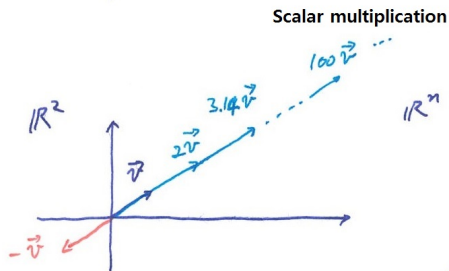
Morphisms: $\text{Hom}(A, B) =$ all morphisms of abelian group from A to B , for any $A, B \in \mathbf{Ab}$.

Interlude: Real vector spaces

$$\mathbb{R}^n := \{(v_1, v_2, v_3, \dots, v_n) : v_1, \dots, v_n \in \mathbb{R}\}.$$



$$\vec{v} = (v_1, \dots, v_n) \in \mathbb{R}^n$$
$$\vec{w} = (w_1, \dots, w_n) \in \mathbb{R}^n$$
$$\vec{v} + \vec{w} = (v_1 + w_1, \dots, v_n + w_n) \in \mathbb{R}^n$$

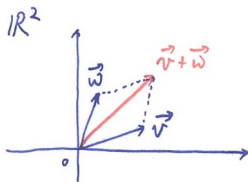


$$\vec{v} = (v_1, \dots, v_n) \in \mathbb{R}^n$$
$$c \in \mathbb{R}$$
$$c\vec{v} = (cv_1, \dots, cv_n) \in \mathbb{R}^n$$

Interlude: Complex vector spaces

$$\mathbb{C}^n := \{(v_1, v_2, v_3, \dots, v_n) : v_1, \dots, v_n \in \mathbb{C}\}.$$

Vector sum



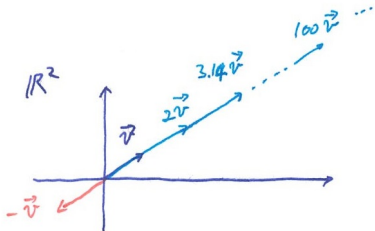
\mathbb{R}^n or \mathbb{C}^n

$$\vec{v} = (v_1, \dots, v_n) \in \mathbb{R}^n \text{ or } \mathbb{C}^n$$

$$\vec{w} = (w_1, \dots, w_n) \in \mathbb{R}^n \text{ or } \mathbb{C}^n$$

$$\vec{v} + \vec{w} = (v_1 + w_1, \dots, v_n + w_n) \in \mathbb{R}^n \text{ or } \mathbb{C}^n$$

Scalar multiplication



\mathbb{R}^n or \mathbb{C}^n

$$\vec{v} = (v_1, \dots, v_n) \in \mathbb{R}^n \text{ or } \mathbb{C}^n$$

$$c \in \mathbb{R} \text{ or } \mathbb{C}$$

$$c\vec{v} = (cv_1, \dots, cv_n) \in \mathbb{R}^n \text{ or } \mathbb{C}^n$$

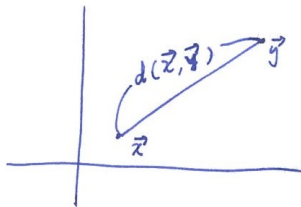
Interlude: Topological spaces

A **metric space** is a set endowed with the notion of "distance".

\mathbb{R}^2 *Generalize* \rightsquigarrow

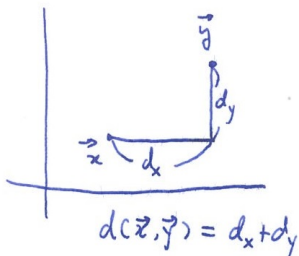
Metric Spaces

Set \swarrow distance \swarrow
 (X, d)



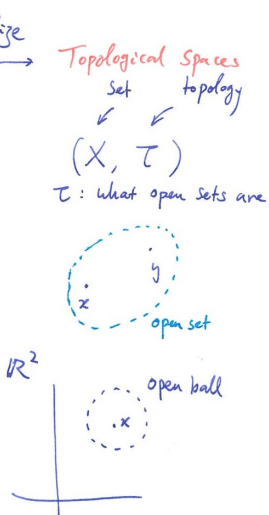
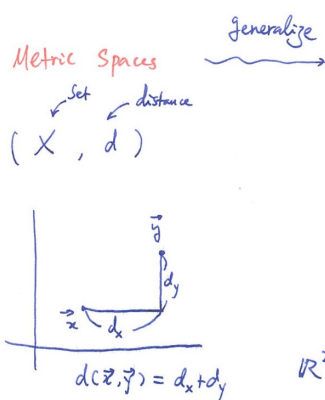
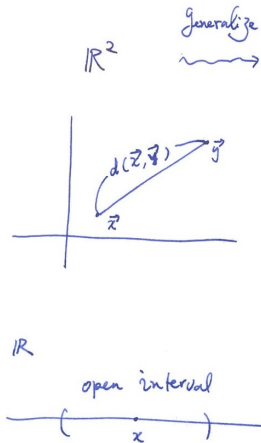
\mathbb{R}

open interval



Interlude: Topological spaces

A **topological space** is a set endowed with the notion of “nearness”.

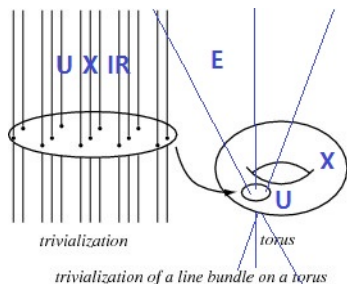


Definition of a vector bundle

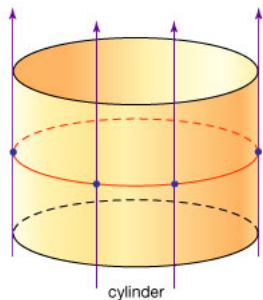
Definition

A topological real (resp. complex) **vector bundle** of rank n over a space X is a space E and a map $p : E \rightarrow X$ satisfying that

- For each $x \in X$, the inverse image $p^{-1}(x)$ is a n -dimensional real (resp. complex) vector space.
- For every $x \in X$, there is an open neighborhood U of x such that the map from $U \times \mathbb{R}^n$ (resp. $U \times \mathbb{C}^n$) to $p^{-1}(U)$ is a homeomorphism and fiberwise linear isomorphism.

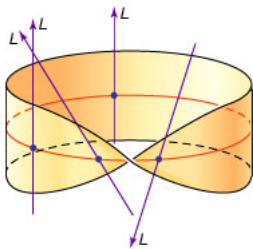


Examples of vector bundles

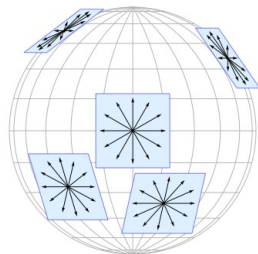


cylinder

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Möbius band



Tangent bundle on a 2-sphere

Definition of a bundle map

Definition

Let $p_E : E \rightarrow X$ and $p_F : F \rightarrow X$ be vector bundles over X . A **bundle map** is a continuous map $\varphi : E \rightarrow F$ which is fiberwise isomorphism and making the following diagram commutative.

$$\begin{array}{ccc} E & \xrightarrow{\varphi} & F \\ p_E \searrow & & \swarrow p_F \\ & X & \end{array}$$

Examples of categories (continued)

(6) **Spaces** the category of all “spaces”

Objects: All spaces († compact Hausdorff topological spaces)

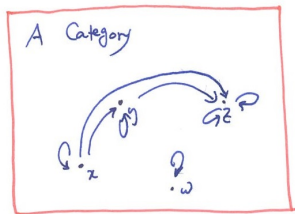
Morphisms: $\text{Hom}(X, Y) =$ all continuous functions from X to Y , for any $X, Y \in \mathbf{Spaces}$.

(7) $\mathbf{Bun}_{\mathbb{C}}(X)$ the category of all complex vector bundles over X

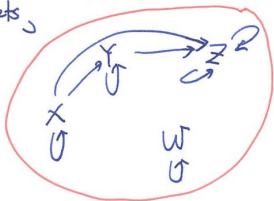
Objects: All complex vector bundles over X .

Morphisms: $\text{Hom}(E, F) =$ all bundle maps from E to F , for any $E, F \in \mathbf{Bun}_{\mathbb{C}}(X)$.

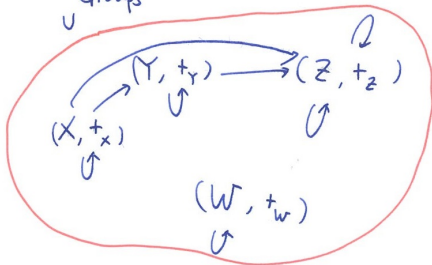
Functors: Motivation



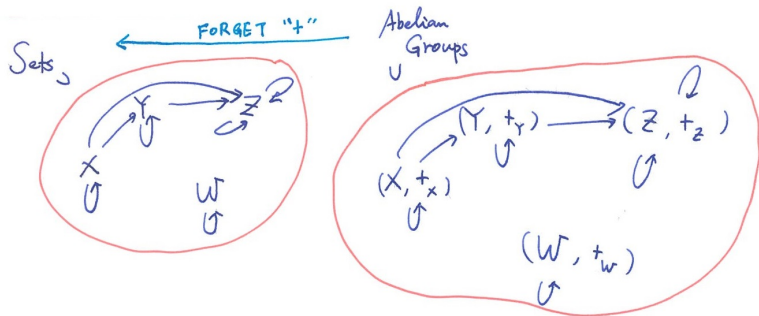
Sets



Abelian Groups



Functors: Motivation



Definition of a functor

Definition

Let \mathcal{C} and \mathcal{D} be categories. A **functor** F from \mathcal{C} to \mathcal{D} is an assignment that

- takes an object to an object; $\mathcal{C} \ni x \xrightarrow{F} F(x) \in \mathcal{D}$.
- takes a morphism to a morphism;
 $\text{Hom}_{\mathcal{C}}(x, y) \ni f \xrightarrow{F} F(f) \in \text{Hom}_{\mathcal{D}}(F(x), F(y))$.

satisfying that

- (1) $F(\mathbf{1}_x) = \mathbf{1}_{F(x)}$ for all $x \in \mathcal{C}$.
- (2) $F(g \circ f) = F(g) \circ F(f)$ for any composable pair $(f, g) \in \text{Hom}_{\mathcal{C}}(x, y) \times \text{Hom}_{\mathcal{C}}(y, z)$.

Definition of a **contravariant** functor

Definition

Let \mathcal{C} and \mathcal{D} be categories. A **contravariant functor** F from \mathcal{C} to \mathcal{D} is an assignment that

- takes an object to an object; $\mathcal{C} \ni x \xrightarrow{F} F(x) \in \mathcal{D}$.
- takes a morphism to a morphism;
 $\text{Hom}_{\mathcal{C}}(x, y) \ni f \xrightarrow{F} F(f) \in \text{Hom}_{\mathcal{D}}(F(y), F(x))$.

satisfying that

- (1) $F(\mathbf{1}_x) = \mathbf{1}_{F(x)}$ for all $x \in \mathcal{C}$.
- (2) $F(g \circ f) = F(f) \circ F(g)$ for any composable pair $(f, g) \in \text{Hom}_{\mathcal{C}}(x, y) \times \text{Hom}_{\mathcal{C}}(y, z)$.

Examples of functors

(1) † Taking isomorphism classes

$$\begin{aligned} \text{isom} : \mathbf{Cat} &\longrightarrow \mathbf{Sets} \\ \mathcal{C} &\mapsto \text{isom}(\mathcal{C}) \end{aligned}$$

(2) Group completion / Inclusion

$$K : \mathbf{CMon} \begin{array}{c} \xrightarrow{\text{Group compl.}} \\ \xleftarrow{\text{inclusion}} \end{array} \mathbf{Ab} : \text{Incl}$$

Construction For any $(M, +) \in \mathbf{CMon}$,
 $K(M, +) = (M \times M) / \Delta M$, where $\Delta M = \{(m, m) : m \in M\}$.

Examples of functors

(3) Topological K -theory

$$K^0 : \mathbf{Spaces}^{\text{op}} \longrightarrow \mathbf{Ab}$$

$$X \mapsto K^0(X)$$

Construction $K^0(X) = K(\text{isom}(\mathbf{Bun}_{\mathbb{C}}(X)), \oplus)$

\oplus : the direct sum of vector bundles.

(4) \dagger Homotopy classes of maps into a space \mathcal{F}

$$[-, \mathcal{F}] : \mathbf{Spaces}^{\text{op}} \longrightarrow \mathbf{Sets}$$

$$X \mapsto [X, \mathcal{F}] := \pi_0 \text{Map}(X, \mathcal{F})$$

Interlude: Some operator theory †

Let \mathcal{H} be the infinite dimensional separable complex Hilbert space. $\mathcal{B}(\mathcal{H})$ denotes the space of bounded operators on \mathcal{H} .

Definition

$\text{Fred}(\mathcal{H}) := \{T \in \mathcal{B}(\mathcal{H}) : \dim(\ker T) < \infty \text{ and } \dim(\text{coker } T) < \infty\}$

Proposition

$\text{Fred}(\mathcal{H})_{\text{norm}}$ has a homotopy commutative and homotopy associative H -space structure.

Corollary

$\pi_0 \text{Map}(X, \text{Fred}(\mathcal{H})) \in \mathbf{Ab}$.

Natural transformations

Definition

Let $F, G : \mathcal{C} \rightarrow \mathcal{D}$ be functors. A **natural transformation** $\eta : F \Rightarrow G$ is an assignment $\eta_X : F(X) \rightarrow G(X)$ for all $X \in \mathcal{C}$ making the following diagram commutative.

$$\begin{array}{ccc} X & & F(X) \xrightarrow{\eta_X} G(X) \\ \downarrow f & & \downarrow F(f) \quad \downarrow G(f) \\ Y & & F(Y) \xrightarrow{\eta_Y} G(Y) \end{array}$$

A natural transformation η is called a **natural isomorphism** if η_X is invertible for every $X \in \mathcal{C}$.

The Atiyah-Jänich theorem

Theorem (Atiyah (1964), Jänich (1964))

There is a natural isomorphism

$$\text{Index} : K^0(-) \Rightarrow [-, \text{Fred}(\mathcal{H})]$$

of functors from $\mathbf{Spaces}^{\text{op}} \rightarrow \mathbf{Ab}$.

Remark

It **establishes a bridge** between **topology** and **analysis**.

Sketch of Atiyah's construction †

How do we get a map?

$$T \in \text{Map}(X, \text{Fred}(\mathcal{H}))$$



$$X = \bigcup_{i=1}^n U_{x_i}$$

$$V := \bigcap_{i=1}^n \underbrace{(\ker T(\alpha_i))^{\perp}}_{\text{Has fin. codim}}$$

Still has a fin. codim

$$X \times \mathcal{H} \longrightarrow \mathcal{H} / T(x)(V) \quad \text{topologize } \mathcal{H} / T(x)(V) \text{ using quotient top.}$$

Prop.: \mathcal{H} / TV is a vector bundle over X .

$$\stackrel{\text{denote}}{=} \mathcal{H} / TV$$

Construction: $T \in \text{Map}(X, \text{Fred}(\mathcal{H})) \xrightarrow{\text{Index}} [\mathcal{H} / TV] - [\mathcal{H} / V]$

This map is well-defined, homotopy invariant, 1-1 (by Kuiper's theorem), and onto.

Fredholm section definition of twisted K -theory †

Definition

Let $P \in \mathbf{Bun}_{PU(\mathcal{H})}(X)$, and ρ the representation of $PU(\mathcal{H})$ on $\text{Fred}(\mathcal{H})$. The P -**twisted K -theory** is

$$K^0(X; P) := \pi_0 \text{Section}(X, P \times_{\rho} \text{Fred}(\mathcal{H}))$$

Twisted vector bundles †

Definition (Karoubi, Bouwknegt et al (BCMMS), Waldorf, ...)

$\mathcal{U} = \{U_i\}_{i \in I}$ be an open cover of X

λ : a $U(1)$ -valued completely normalized Čech 2-cocycle.

A λ -**twisted vector bundle** E over X :

A family of product bundles $\{U_i \times \mathbb{C}^n : U_i \in \mathcal{U}\}_{i \in \Lambda}$

Transition maps

$$g_{ji} : U_{ij} \rightarrow U(n)$$

satisfying

$$g_{ii} = \mathbf{1}, \quad g_{ji} = g_{ij}^{-1}, \quad g_{kj}g_{ji} = g_{ki}\lambda_{kji}.$$

Twisted K -group †

Definition (Karoubi, Bouwknegt et al (BCMMS), ...)

The **twisted K -theory** of X defined on an open cover \mathcal{U} with a $U(1)$ -gerbe twisting λ .

$$K^0(\mathcal{U}, \lambda) := K(\text{isom}(\mathbf{Bun}(\mathcal{U}, \lambda), \oplus)).$$

By taking colimit along refinements of open cover,

$$K^0(X, \text{colim} \lambda) := \text{colim} K^0(\mathcal{U}, \lambda).$$

Twisted Atiyah-Jänich theorem (In progress) †

Let $P \in \mathbf{Bun}_{PU(\mathcal{H})}(X)$ and the Dixmier-Douady class $DD(P)$ represents a torsion class in $H^3(X; \mathbb{Z})$. There is a natural isomorphism

$$\text{Index} : K^0(-; P)_{\text{Fred}} \Rightarrow K^0(-; \lambda_P)_{\text{tw.v.b.}}$$

of functors from $\mathbf{Spaces}^{\text{op}} \rightarrow \mathbf{Ab}$.

Vielen Dank!

