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THE GEOMETRY OF THE MAP  $p: Q \rightarrow BU(1) \rightarrow BU$

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## S U M M A R Y

We study several geometric constructions associated to the map  $\eta : QBU(1) \rightarrow BU$ . Using techniques of infinite loop spaces, we define a set of universal characteristic classes  $\hat{c}_k$ , proving that they agree with the Chern classes. We get geometric interpretations of them in terms of the  $k$ -tuple points of immersions. Also, we show some cases where this description is useful.

## INTRODUCTION

In this dissertation we study the geometry of the map  $\eta : Q BU(1) \rightarrow BU$ , following the ideas developed by B.J. Sanderson in [26] to study Mahowald's map  $\Omega^2 S^3 \rightarrow BU$ . We describe the contents chapter by chapter.

Chapter 1 gives a slight introduction to the main categories used in the work. In the first paragraph, we look into Adams description of the category of spectra (see [1]), including the definition of the homology and cohomology theories associated to a spectrum.

In the second paragraph we give May's description of the category of infinite loop spaces (see [21]).

Chapter 2 contains the general theory of infinite loop spaces to construct the map  $\eta$ . In the first paragraph we state May's recognition principle for infinite loop spaces ([20]), proving that  $BU$  is an infinite loop, as in [21]. Then,  $\eta$  is defined as the unique infinite loop map extending the inclusion  $BU(1) \subset BU$ . The last paragraph gives the approximation of  $Q BU(1)$  by  $c(BU(1))$  for a convenient coefficient system  $\mathcal{C}$  as in [9].

The main goal of chapter 3 is to define universal characteristic classes  $\bar{c}_k \in H^{2k}(BU, \mathbb{Z})$ . The first paragraph follows Snaith ([27]) and Becker ([3]) to construct a map  $\tau : BU \rightarrow Q BU(1)$  that is the right homological inverse of  $\eta$ . We begin the second paragraph by stating the stable splitting of  $QX$  got by F.Cohen-P. May and L. Taylor in [9]. We are then able to identify their space  $D_r(F(\mathbb{R}^m), BU(1))$  as  $T_Y^{(r)}$ , the Thom space of the vector bundle  $Y^{(k)} = E\Sigma_k \times_{\Sigma_k} Y^k$ . We prove also that  $B Y^{(k)} = E\Sigma_k \times_{\Sigma_k} BU(1)^k$  is homotopic to the classifying space

of  $\Sigma_k / U(1)$ -principal bundles,  $B\Sigma_k / U(1)$ . Then, the map induced by the inclusion of groups

$$p_k = Bi_k : B \Sigma_k / U(1) \rightarrow BU(k)$$

classifies  $\gamma^{(k)}$  and  $\hat{c}_k$  can be defined as the composition

$$\Sigma^\infty BU \xrightarrow{\tau} \Sigma^\infty Q BU(1) \xrightarrow{h_k} \Sigma^\infty T\gamma^{(k)} \xrightarrow{p_k} \Sigma^\infty MU(k) \hookrightarrow \Sigma^{2k} MU \xrightarrow{t} \Sigma^{2k} H\mathbb{Z}$$

where  $t$  is the universal Thom class, so

$$\hat{c}_k = \tau^* h_k^* (t\gamma^{(k)})$$

$t\gamma^{(k)}$  being the Thom class of the vector bundle  $\gamma^{(k)}$ .

Chapter 4 is devoted to identifying  $\hat{c}_k$  in terms of the universal Chern classes  $c_k$ . We do this by evaluating the Kronecker product  $\langle \hat{c}_k, a \rangle$  for any  $a \in H_{2k}(BU; \mathbb{Z})$ . Since  $H_*(BU; \mathbb{Z})$  is a polynomial ring on the classes  $\{a_i\}_{i \in \mathbb{N}}$ , we only need to know

$$\langle \hat{c}_k, a_{i_1}, \dots, a_{i_n} \rangle = \langle t\gamma^{(k)}, h_{k*} \tau_* (a_{i_1}, \dots, a_{i_n}) \rangle$$

If we reduce the coefficients mod  $p$  for a prime  $p$ , we can use the calculations done in [8] and [24] to get that  $\tau_*$  is the inclusion and  $h_{k*}$  annihilates all monomials but  $a_1^k$ . Using [16], we prove that  $\langle t\gamma^{(k)}, a_1^k \rangle = 1$  so  $\hat{c}_k = c_k$  as elements of  $H^*(BU; \mathbb{Z}_p)$ . As this is true for any  $p$ , an easy argument shows that  $\hat{c}_k = c_k$  in  $H^*(BU; \mathbb{Z})$ .

The three following chapters have the general aim of getting a geometric description of  $\hat{c}_k(\xi)$ , for  $\xi$  a complex vector bundle over a weakly complex compact manifold  $M$ .

It is known that such  $\xi$  is classified by a homotopy class of maps

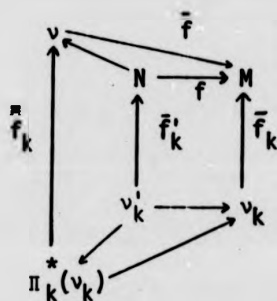
$$f_\xi : M \rightarrow BU.$$



Using  $\tau$ , we define the composite map

$$f'_\varepsilon = \tau \circ f_\varepsilon : M \rightarrow QBU(1),$$

and we study such maps in chapter 5. The first paragraph recalls the work of Koschorke and Sanderson [17], classifying the homotopy class of  $f'$  by a bordism class of triples  $[(N, g, \bar{g})]$ , where  $g$  is an embedding of  $N$  into  $M \times \mathbb{R}^\infty$  projecting to an immersion  $f: N \rightarrow M$  and  $\bar{g}$  classifies the normal bundle of  $f$ ,  $\nu$ , as a complex line bundle. In the second paragraph, we study the manifold of  $k$ -tuple points,  $N_k$ , proving that the map  $f_k: N_k \rightarrow M$  induced by  $f$  is an immersion with normal bundle  $\nu_k = \nu^k / \Sigma_k$ . The last paragraph begins with some properties of the manifold of based  $k$ -tuple points,  $N'_k$ , proving that the map  $f'_k: N'_k \rightarrow M$  induced by the projection is an immersion with normal bundle  $\nu'_k = \nu^{k-1} \times \{0\} / \Sigma_k$ . Then, we define an extension of  $f$  to  $\nu$  in good position,  $\bar{f}$ , to be one that has, for any  $k$ , maps  $\bar{f}_k, \bar{f}'_k, \bar{\bar{f}}_k$  extending  $f_k, f'_k$ , making commutative the diagram



We prove that the map  $h_k \circ f_\varepsilon |_{M-Im f_{k+1}}$  is homotopic to the Thom-Pontrjagin construction of a bundle  $M_k \rightarrow N_k$ .

Chapter 6 is the tedious proof of the existence and uniqueness, up to

isotopy, of extensions in good position. First, we prove the existence of a very particular kind of chart and, then, we glue them inductively by using a<sup>n</sup> isotopy result similar to the one in Mather's notes [19] .

In chapter 7 we complete the geometric description of  $\hat{c}_k(\xi)$ . The first paragraph contains an exposition of complex bordism and cobordism theory as sketched by Quillen in [25] getting, in particular, the interpretation of the duality theorems of Lefschetz and Poincaré and the elements representing the Thom class and the fundamental class of a weakly complex manifold  $M$ . Using it, in the last paragraph we get that

$$i_*(P D(\hat{c}_k(\xi))) = i_* ( f_{k*} ( [N_k] ) )$$

where  $i$  is the inclusion map  $i : M \rightarrow (M, \text{Im } \bar{f}_{k+1})$  and  $[N_k]$  is the fundamental class of  $[N_k]$ . As  $i_*$  is a monomorphism we get the appropriate description of  $\hat{c}_k(\xi)$ .

In the last chapter we try to recover some information about  $\xi$  from the triple  $(N, g, \bar{g})$ . In the first paragraph we have a closer look at the map  $\eta$ , and we use it to give, in the second paragraph, a general description of  $\xi$  together with some interesting particular cases.

The work ends with an appendix on  $BU$  where we prove a result used in proving that the map  $\tau$  is the right homotopical inverse of  $\eta$  .

# CHAPTER 1: A description of the categories used.

We work most of the time in the category,  $\text{Top}$ , of compactly generated weakly Hausdorff topological spaces and continuous maps between them. The associated based category  $\text{Top}_*$  has as objects spaces of  $\text{Top}$  together with a non degenerate base point, and as morphisms, maps of  $\text{Top}$  that preserve the base point. Then, when we say a space, we mean an object of  $\text{Top}$  and a based space is an object of  $\text{Top}_*$ .

These categories have been studied recently (see [18], [28], [31]) and all the usual constructions (like taking suspensions or loops) are well defined in them. Also, they are good categories for doing homotopy theory and the associated homotopy categories are  $H\text{Top}$  and  $H\text{Top}_*$ .

There are two interesting functors between them :  
the forgetful functor

$$F : \text{Top}_* \rightarrow \text{Top} \quad (\text{or } F : H\text{Top}_* \rightarrow H\text{Top})$$

that forgets the base point, and the functor

$$(\ )^+ : \text{Top} \rightarrow \text{Top}_* \quad (\text{or } (\ )^+ : H\text{Top} \rightarrow H\text{Top}_*)$$

that adds a disjoint base point to each space (i.e.  $X^+ = X \amalg \{*\}$ ).

Sometimes, we shall use the categories,  $\text{CW}$ , of CW complexes and cellular maps and,  $H\text{CW}$ , of spaces having the homotopy type of a CW complex and homotopy classes of maps between them. This category was studied in [22] and it is closed under the usual constructions. The associated pointed categories are  $\text{CW}_*$  and  $H\text{CW}_*$ .

### §1.1 The stable category

In this paragraph we describe in short Boardman's stable category as done in [1], [2].

1.1 DEFINITION.- A CW-spectrum  $E$  is given by

- i) A sequence of based complexes  $\{E_n\}$ ,
- ii) A sequence of cellular inclusions  $\{\epsilon_n\}$  where  $\epsilon_n: SE_n \rightarrow E_{n+1}$ , and  $SE_n$  is the suspension of  $E_n$ .

Notice that the existence of  $\epsilon_n$  is equivalent to the existence of adjoints

$$\hat{\epsilon}_n: E_n \rightarrow E_{n+1}$$

and the spectrum  $E$  is called an  $\Omega$ -spectrum if the maps  $\hat{\epsilon}_n$  are weak equivalences for every  $n$ . The index set may run over the integers or over  $\mathbb{N} = \{0, 1, 2, 3, \dots\}$ .

1.2 NOTE.- Given a sequence of based complexes  $\{E_n\}_{n \in \mathbb{N}}$  and maps  $\{\epsilon_n\}_{n \in \mathbb{N}}$ , where  $\epsilon_n: SE_n \rightarrow E_{n+1}$  we can replace them inductively by homotopy equivalent complexes  $\{E_n^i\}_{n \in \mathbb{N}}$  and cellular inclusions  $\{\epsilon_n^i\}_{n \in \mathbb{N}}$  giving a spectrum.

1.3 EXAMPLES.- a) Let  $G$  be a group. We say that a based complex  $X$  is the  $n^{\text{th}}$  Eilenberg-MacLane space of  $G$  if the homotopy groups of  $X$  are

$$\pi_i(X, *) = \begin{cases} G & \text{if } i=n \\ 0 & \text{otherwise.} \end{cases}$$

This complex is unique up to homotopy (see [30]) and we call it  $K(G, n)$ .

Then, the Eilenberg-MacLane spectrum of  $G$ , called  $\mathbb{H}G$ , is defined as follows:

- i) The spaces are the Eilenberg-MacLane spaces

$$\mathbb{H}G_n = K(G, n)$$

- ii) The weak homotopy equivalences

$$\epsilon_n : K(G, n) \rightarrow \Omega(K(G, n+1))$$

are given by the uniqueness of the  $n^{\text{th}}$  Eilenberg-MacLane space up to homotopy since.

$$\pi_i(\Omega(K(G, n+1))) = \pi_{i+1}(K(G, n+1)) = \begin{cases} G & \text{if } i=n \\ 0 & \text{otherwise.} \end{cases}$$

- b) Let  $BU(n)$  be the classifying space of  $n$ -dimensional complex vector bundles and  $\gamma^n$  the universal  $n$ -dimensional complex vector bundle over it. For a definition see Chapter 2.

We define the spectrum  $MU$  as follows:

- i) The spaces are

$$MU_{2n} = MU(n) \text{ the Thom space of } \gamma^n \text{ for } n \in \mathbb{N}$$

$$MU_{2n+1} = S MU(n)$$

- ii) The maps are:

$$\epsilon_{2n} : S MU(n) \rightarrow S MU(n) \text{ the identity}$$

$$\epsilon_{2n+1} : S^2 MU(n) \rightarrow MU(n+1) \text{ the map of Thom spaces}$$

associated to the bundle map induced by the inclusion

$$\begin{array}{ccc} \epsilon_1^1 \otimes \gamma^n & \longrightarrow & \gamma^{n+1} \\ \downarrow & & \downarrow \\ BU(n) & \longrightarrow & BU(n+1) \end{array}$$

where  $\epsilon_1^1$  is the trivial 1-dimensional complex vector bundle.

1.4 DEFINITION.- A strict map between two spectra,

$$f : E \rightarrow E' ,$$

is given by a sequence of maps  $\{f_n\}$  , where

$$f_n : E_n \rightarrow E'_n ,$$

and the diagram,

$$\begin{array}{ccc} S E_n & \xrightarrow{S f_n} & S E'_n \\ \epsilon_n \downarrow & & \downarrow \epsilon'_n \\ E_{n+1} & \xrightarrow{f_{n+1}} & E'_{n+1} \end{array}$$

commutes for each  $n$ .

1.5 EXAMPLE.- It is known that, for any based space  $X$ ,  $\tilde{H}^k(X; \mathbb{Z})$  is isomorphic to the group  $[X, K(\mathbb{Z}, k)]$  , so the Thom class of the complex vector bundle  $\gamma^n, t(\gamma^n)$ , can be interpreted as a homotopy class of maps.

$$t(\gamma^n) : MU(n) \rightarrow K(\mathbb{Z}, 2n) .$$

Choosing inductively the maps  $t_n$  so that

$$t_{2n} : MU(n) \rightarrow K(\mathbb{Z}, 2n) \quad \text{is in the above class. and}$$

$$t_{2n+1} : S MU(n) \rightarrow K(\mathbb{Z}, 2n+1) \quad \text{is given by the suspension of } t_{2n} .$$

we get a strict map of spectra,

$$t : MU \rightarrow H\mathbb{Z} .$$

1.6 DEFINITION.- We say that a spectrum  $E'$  is a subspectrum of  $E$  if for any  $n$ ,  $E'_n$  is a subcomplex of  $E_n$  and  $\epsilon'_n$  is the restriction of  $\epsilon_n$ . We say that  $E'$  is cofinal in  $E$  if for any cell  $e_\alpha$  in  $E_n$  there is some  $N$  such that the  $N^{\text{th}}$  suspension of  $e_\alpha$  lies in  $E'_{n+N}$ .

1.7 DEFINITION.- A map between spectra

$$f : E \rightarrow E'$$

is a class of couples  $(\bar{E}, \bar{f})$ , where  $\bar{E}$  is a cofinal subspectrum of  $E$  and,

$$f : \bar{E} \rightarrow E' ,$$

is a strict map of spectra. Two couples  $(\bar{E}_1, \bar{f}_1)$  and  $(\bar{E}_2, \bar{f}_2)$  are equivalent if the restrictions of both maps to  $\bar{E}_1 \cap \bar{E}_2$  agree.

With these objects and morphisms, we define the category  $Sp$ . See [1] or [30] for further details.

1.8 DEFINITION.- Let  $E$  be a spectrum and  $X$  a based space. We define the spectrum  $E \wedge X$  by

$$i) \text{ The spaces } (E \wedge X)_n = E_n \wedge X$$

$$ii) \text{ The maps } \gamma(E_n \wedge X) \rightarrow E_{n+1} \wedge X$$

are given by  $\epsilon_n$ .

We can define a homotopy between maps of spectra

$$F : f_0 \sim f_1$$

as a map  $F : E \wedge I^+ \rightarrow E'$  such that the composites  $F \circ i_\epsilon = f_\epsilon$  for  $\epsilon=0,1$  where  $i_\epsilon : E \rightarrow E \wedge I^+$  are the obvious inclusions.

We denote by  $[E, E']$  the set of homotopy classes of maps from  $E$  to  $E'$ , and define the category  $HSp$ , whose objects are those of  $Sp$  and whose morphism from  $E$  to  $E'$  are the elements of  $[E, E']$ .

1.9 DEFINITION.- We define the  $k^{th}$  translation functor.

$$\tau^k : Sp \rightarrow Sp$$

on objects by

$$i) \quad \Sigma^k(E)_n = E_{n+k}$$

$$ii) \quad \epsilon(\Sigma^k(E))_n = \epsilon_{n+k}$$

and on morphisms by

$$\Sigma^k ( [ (E, \bar{f}) ] ) = [ (\Sigma^k(E), \Sigma^k(\bar{f})) ]$$

$$\text{where } \Sigma^k(\bar{f})_n = \bar{f}_{n+k}.$$

The induced functor on  $HSp$  is still called  $\Sigma^k$

1.10 DEFINITION.- The suspension functor

$$\Sigma^\infty : CH_* \rightarrow Sp$$

is defined as follows:

For any complex  $X$ ,  $\Sigma^\infty(X)$  is the spectrum given by

$$i) \quad (\Sigma^\infty(X))_n = S^n X$$

$$ii) \quad \epsilon_n : S(S^n X) \rightarrow S^{n+1}(X) \text{ is the associativity homeomorphism.}$$

For any map  $f: X \rightarrow Y$ , the strict map of spectra.

$$\Sigma^\infty f : \Sigma^\infty(X) \rightarrow \Sigma^\infty(Y)$$

is given by  $(\Sigma^\infty f)_n = S^n f$ .

As in 1.9, we also denote the induced functor in homotopy by  $\Sigma^\infty$ .

We say that  $f$  is a stable map between two based complexes  $X$  and  $Y$ , if it is a map of the associated suspension spectra

$$f : \Sigma^\infty(X) \rightarrow \Sigma^\infty(Y).$$

Notice that a stable map induces maps  $f : E \wedge X \rightarrow E \wedge Y$ , for any spectrum  $E$ .



1.11 DEFINITION.- Let  $E$  be a spectrum. We define the associated  $n^{\text{th}}$  reduced homology and cohomology groups of a based complex,  $X$ , to be

$$\tilde{E}_n(X) = [\Sigma^\infty S^0, \Sigma^{-n}(E \wedge X)]$$

$$\tilde{E}^n(X) = [\Sigma^\infty X, \Sigma^n(E)] \quad \text{for any } n \in \mathbb{Z}.$$

Then, a stable map,  $f$ , from  $X$  to  $Y$  induces, by composition, the homomorphism,

$$f_n : \tilde{E}_n(X) \rightarrow \tilde{E}_n(Y)$$

$$f^n : \tilde{E}^n(X) \rightarrow \tilde{E}^n(Y) \quad \text{for any } n \in \mathbb{N}.$$

In this way  $\{\tilde{E}_n\}$  and  $\{\tilde{E}^n\}$  give homology and cohomology theories, from the category of CW complexes and stable maps.

Similarly, by composition, any map of spectra

$$f : E \rightarrow E'$$

induces natural transformations between the associated reduced homology and cohomology theories.

We define the (unreduced) homology and cohomology of a complex  $X$  as:

$$E_n(X) = \tilde{E}_n(X^+) \quad , \quad \text{and}$$

$$E^n(X) = \tilde{E}^n(X^+) \quad .$$

1.12 REMARK.- i) If  $E$  is an  $\Omega$ -spectrum there is an isomorphism

$$\tilde{E}_n(X) \xrightarrow{\sim} [X, E_n] \quad \text{for any } n \quad (\text{see [30]}).$$

Then, the reduced cohomology associated to the spectrum  $HG$  is isomorphic to the singular cohomology with coefficients in  $G$ .

ii) The reduced homology and cohomology theories associated to the spectrum  $MU$  are the complex bordism and cobordism as we shall see in chapter 7 .

## 1.2 Infinite loop spaces .

In this paragraph, we study the category of infinite loop spaces.

**1.13 DEFINITION.-** An infinite loop space  $X$  is a sequence  $\{X_n, a_n\}_{n \in \mathbb{N}}$  where, for each  $n$  :

- i)  $X_n$  is a based space, and
- ii)  $a_n$  is a homeomorphism,  $a_n : \Omega X_{n+1} \xrightarrow{\sim} X_n$ .

Obviously, each infinite loop space has an associated  $\Omega$ -spectrum.

**1.14 DEFINITION.-** A morphism of infinite loop spaces

$$f : X \rightarrow Y$$

is a sequence of maps  $\{f_n\}_{n \in \mathbb{N}}$ , where,  $f_n : X_n \rightarrow Y_n$  and for each  $n$ , the diagram

$$\begin{array}{ccc} X_n & \xrightarrow{f_n} & Y_n \\ \uparrow a_n & & \uparrow a_n \\ \Omega X_{n+1} & \xrightarrow{\Omega f_{n+1}} & \Omega Y_{n+1} \end{array}$$

commutes.

We have defined the category  $I_\infty$  of infinite loop spaces and morphisms

**1.15 DEFINITION.-** The functor

$$(\ )_0 : I_\infty \rightarrow \text{Top}_*$$

is defined as follows:

- i) On objects,  $(X)_0 = X_0$
- ii) On morphisms,  $(f)_0 = f_0$

We say that a space is an infinite loop space if it is in the image of  $(\ )_0$  and similarly with maps.

1.16 DEFINITION.- We define the functor

$$\Omega^\infty : Sp \rightarrow I_\infty$$

as follows:

For any spectrum  $E$  we define  $\Omega^\infty(E)_n = \lim \Omega^{m-n} E_m$  where the limit is taken with respect to the maps

$$\Omega^{m-n} E_m \xrightarrow{\Omega^{m-n} e_m} \Omega^{m-n} \Omega E_{m+1} \xrightarrow{\sim} \Omega^{(m+1)-n} E_{m+1}$$

the homeomorphisms  $\Omega(\Omega^\infty(E)_{n+1}) \rightarrow \Omega^\infty(E)_n$  are given by the limit of the identities.

For any morphism  $f = [(E, \bar{f})]$  the associated map is defined cellularly as follows:

Let  $e_\alpha$  be a cell of  $E_m$  and let  $N$  be an index such that  $S^N e_\alpha$  lies in  $\bar{E}_{m+N}$ . Then, there is defined the map

$$\hat{f} : e_\alpha \rightarrow \Omega^N E'_{m+N},$$

giving the restriction of the map  $\Omega^\infty(f)_n$  to  $\Omega^{m-n} e_\alpha$ . In the limit, these restrictions glue together, giving maps

$$\Omega^\infty(f)_n : \Omega^\infty(E)_n \rightarrow \Omega^\infty(E')_n$$

that produce a morphism of infinite loop spaces.

By abuse of notation we denote also by  $\Omega^\infty$  the composite functor

$$Sp \rightarrow CW_*$$

and also the induced functor in the homotopy categories.

1.17 PROPOSITION [2]  $\Sigma^\infty$  and  $\Omega^\infty$  are adjoint functors.

□

If we define  $Q = \Omega^\infty \Sigma^\infty$ , then it is easy to prove the following result,

1.18 PROPOSITION.-

- i)  $Q(X)$  is the infinite loop space generated by  $X$ ; i.e.,  $X$  is included in  $Q(X)$  and any map to an infinite loop space  $f: X \rightarrow Y$  has a unique extension to a map of infinite loop spaces

$$\bar{f} : QX \rightarrow Y$$

- ii) For any based CW complexes  $X, Y$ , there is a 1:1 correspondence

$$[\Sigma^{\infty} X, \Sigma^{\infty} Y] \xrightarrow{\sim} [X, Q(Y)]$$

given by adjunction.

□

Notice that by i) there is a unique map of infinite loop spaces

$$c : Q QX \rightarrow QX$$

extending the identity; it is called the "collapsing map".

CHAPTER 2 : The map  $\eta : QBU(1) \rightarrow BU$

The object of this chapter is the definition and study of the map

$$\eta : QBU(1) \rightarrow BU$$

, the unique map of infinite loop spaces that extends the inclusion. To do this, we need two standard results of infinite loop space theory, the "recognition principle", to know when a space is homotopic to an infinite loop space, and the "approximation theorem", giving the structure of  $QX$  for a connected space  $X$ . These results are given in the next two paragraphs.

§2.1  $BU$  as infinite loop space.

To state and use the "recognition principle", we need some familiarity with the concept of operad and examples of it.

2.1 DEFINITION.- An operad  $\mathcal{C}$  is

i) A sequence of spaces  $\{\mathcal{C}(n)\}_{n \geq 0}$  with  $\mathcal{C}(0) = \{*\}$

ii) A composition law for any  $n, j_1, \dots, j_n$

$$\phi : \mathcal{C}(n) \times \mathcal{C}(j_1) \times \dots \times \mathcal{C}(j_n) \rightarrow \mathcal{C}(j)$$

where  $j = \sum_{i=1}^n j_i$ ; and an element  $1 \in \mathcal{C}(1)$  satisfying:

A) For each  $n$  and  $c \in \mathcal{C}(n)$

$$\phi(1; c) = c$$

B) For each  $n$  and  $c \in \mathcal{C}(n)$

$$\phi(c; \underbrace{1, \dots, 1}_{n \text{ copies}}) = c$$

iii) For each  $n$ ; a right  $\Sigma_n$ -action on  $\mathcal{C}(n)$

$$\alpha : \mathcal{C}(n) \times \Sigma_n \rightarrow \mathcal{C}(n)$$

where  $\Sigma_n$  is the symmetric group of  $n$  letters. We denote

this action by  $\alpha(c, \sigma) = c\sigma$ , and it satisfies:

A) For each  $c \in \mathcal{C}(n)$ ,  $c_i \in \mathcal{C}(j_i)$ ,  $i=1, \dots, n$  and  $\sigma \in \Sigma_n$

$$\phi(c\sigma; c_1, \dots, c_n) = \phi(c; c_{\sigma^{-1}(1)}, \dots, c_{\sigma^{-1}(n)}) \sigma(j_1, \dots, j_n)$$

where  $\sigma(j_1, \dots, j_n)$  acts on  $(1, \dots, j)$  by permuting the blocks

$$B_1 = (1, \dots, j_1) \quad B_2 = (j_1+1, \dots, j_1+j_2) \dots \quad B_n = (\sum_{i=1}^{n-1} j_i+1, \dots, j)$$

as  $\sigma$  does with  $(1, \dots, n)$ .

B) For each  $c \in \mathcal{C}(n)$ ,  $c_i \in \mathcal{C}(j_i)$  and  $\sigma_i \in \Sigma_{j_i}$   $i=1, \dots, n$

$$\phi(c; c_1\sigma_1, \dots, c_n\sigma_n) = \phi(c; c_1, \dots, c_n) (\sigma_1 \otimes \dots \otimes \sigma_n) \quad \text{where}$$

$(\sigma_1 \otimes \dots \otimes \sigma_n)$  acts on  $(1, \dots, j)$  leaving the blocks  $B_i$  fixed and permuting the letters in each  $B_i$  as  $\sigma_i$  does.

2.2 EXAMPLES.- 1) Let  $X$  be a space. We define the endomorphisms operad of  $X$ ,  $\mathcal{E}_X$ , as follows:

i)  $\mathcal{E}_X(n) = \{f: X^n \rightarrow X : f \text{ is a continuous map}\}$

ii)  $\phi: \mathcal{E}_X(n) \times \mathcal{E}_X(j_1) \times \dots \times \mathcal{E}_X(j_n) \rightarrow \mathcal{E}_X(j)$  is given by composition: i.e.  $\phi(f; g_1, \dots, g_n) = f(g_1x, \dots, g_nx)$

iii) The  $\Sigma_n$ -action on  $\mathcal{E}_X(n)$  is given by composition; i.e. for any  $\sigma \in \Sigma_n$  we define  $\sigma: X^n \rightarrow X^n$  by the formula  $\sigma(x_1, \dots, x_n) = (x_{\sigma(1)}, \dots, x_{\sigma(n)})$ . Then the action is given by  $f\sigma = f \circ \sigma$

2) Let  $\mathcal{R}^\infty$  be the limit of  $\{\mathcal{R}^n\}_{n \in \mathbb{N}}$  with respect to the maps

$$\mathcal{R}^n \rightarrow \mathcal{R}^n \times \{0\} \rightarrow \mathcal{R}^{n+1}.$$

We define the isometries operad,  $\mathcal{L}_\infty$ , as follows:

i)  $\mathcal{L}_\infty(n) = \{\psi: (\mathcal{R}^\infty)^n \rightarrow \mathcal{R}^\infty : \psi \text{ is an injective linear isometry}\}$

ii) and iii). As in 1), the composition law and the  $\Sigma_n$ -action are given by composition.

3) Let  $I^r = [0,1]^r$  be the standard cube in  $\mathbb{R}^r$ . We call an r-little cube a map  $c: \text{int } I^r \rightarrow \text{int } I^r$ , of the type  $x_1 x, \dots, x x_r$ , where  $x_i: (0,1) \rightarrow (0,1)$  is a strictly increasing affine map.

We define the r-little cubes operad,  $\mathcal{C}_r$  as follows:

i)  $\mathcal{C}_r(n) = \{(c_1, \dots, c_n): c_i \text{ are } r\text{-cubes with disjoint closures}\}$

ii)  $\phi: \mathcal{C}_r(n) \times \mathcal{C}_r(j_1) \times \dots \times \mathcal{C}_r(j_n) \rightarrow \mathcal{C}_r(j)$  is given by composition;

$$\begin{aligned} \phi((c_1, \dots, c_n); (d_1^1, \dots, d_{j_1}^1), \dots, (d_1^n, \dots, d_{j_n}^n)) = \\ = (c_1 \circ d_1^1, \dots, c_1 \circ d_{j_1}^1, \dots, c_n \circ d_1^n, \dots, c_n \circ d_{j_n}^n) \end{aligned}$$

iii)  $(c_1, \dots, c_n)_\sigma = (c_{\sigma(1)}, \dots, c_{\sigma(n)})$

In all three cases is easy to show that they are operads and the identity map is the 1.

2.3 DEFINITION.- A morphism between two operads

$$f: \mathcal{C} \rightarrow \mathcal{C}',$$

is a sequence of maps,  $\{f_n\}_{n \in \mathbb{N}}$ , with  $f_n: \mathcal{C}(n) \rightarrow \mathcal{C}'(n)$  and satisfying

i) For each  $n, j_1, \dots, j_n$ , the diagrams

$$\begin{array}{ccc} \mathcal{C}(n) \times \mathcal{C}(j_1) \times \dots \times \mathcal{C}(j_n) & \xrightarrow{\phi} & \mathcal{C}(j) \\ \downarrow f_n \times f_{j_1} \times \dots \times f_{j_n} & & \downarrow f_j \\ \mathcal{C}'(n) \times \mathcal{C}'(j_1) \times \dots \times \mathcal{C}'(j_n) & \xrightarrow{\phi} & \mathcal{C}'(j) \end{array}$$

commute.

ii)  $f_1(1_{\mathcal{C}}) = 1_{\mathcal{C}'}$

iii) For each  $n$ , the diagrams

$$\begin{array}{ccc} \mathcal{C}(n) \times \Sigma_n & \xrightarrow{\alpha} & \mathcal{C}(n) \\ \downarrow f_n \times 1 & & \downarrow f_n \\ \mathcal{C}'(n) \times \Sigma_n & \xrightarrow{\alpha'} & \mathcal{C}'(n) \end{array}$$

commute.

2.4 EXAMPLE.- If we identify the  $r$ -little cube  $c_1$ , with the  $(r+1)$ -little cube  $c_1 \times 1$ , we get a morphism of operads.

$$\mathcal{C}_r \rightarrow \mathcal{C}_{r+1}$$

given by the inclusions  $\mathcal{C}_r(n) \subset \mathcal{C}_{r+1}(n)$ . We can define a new operad  $\mathcal{C}_\infty$  by  $\mathcal{C}_\infty(n) = \bigcup_{r=1}^{\infty} \mathcal{C}_r(n)$  and we get inclusions  $\mathcal{C}_r \subset \mathcal{C}_\infty$ , for any  $r$ .

2.5 DEFINITION.- Let  $\mathcal{C}$  be an operad and  $X$  a space. We said that  $X$  is a  $\mathcal{C}$ -space if there is a morphism of operads

$$\theta: \mathcal{C} \rightarrow \mathcal{E}_X,$$

that we call a  $\mathcal{C}$ -action on  $X$ .

Notice that  $\theta$  is given by a sequence of maps

$$\theta_n: \mathcal{C}(n) \times X^n \rightarrow X$$

commuting with the composition law and the  $\Sigma_n$ -action.

2.6 DEFINITION.- An operad  $\mathcal{C}$  is an  $E_\infty$ -operad if, for any  $n$ ,  $\mathcal{C}(n)$  is contractible and the  $\Sigma_n$ -action on  $\mathcal{C}(n)$  is free.

A space  $X$  is an  $E_\infty$ -space if it has a  $\mathcal{C}$ -action for some  $E_\infty$ -operad  $\mathcal{C}$ .

2.7 EXAMPLES 1)  $\mathcal{L}_\infty$  is an  $E_\infty$ -operad since the  $\Sigma_n$ -action is obviously free and  $\mathcal{L}_\infty(n)$  is contractible for any  $n$  (see [21]).



2)  $\mathcal{E}_\infty$  is an  $E_\infty$ -operad since the  $\Sigma_n$ -action is free and  $\mathcal{E}_\infty(n)$  has the homotopy type of the space,

$$F(\mathbb{R}^\infty, n) = \{(x_1, \dots, x_n) \in (\mathbb{R}^\infty)^n : x_i \neq x_j \text{ for } i \neq j\} \text{ (see [17])}$$

and

$$F(\mathbb{R}^\infty, n) \text{ is contractible ([11])}.$$

**2.8 PROPOSITION.-** Let  $X$  be an infinite loop space. Then, it has a natural  $\mathcal{E}_\infty$ -action (in particular, any infinite loop space is an  $E_\infty$ -space).

Proof.- Let  $Y_r$  be such that  $X = \Omega^r Y_r$ . We define the maps

$$\Theta_n : \mathcal{E}_r(n) \times (\Omega^r Y_r)^n \rightarrow \Omega^r Y_r,$$

where  $\Theta_n((c_1, \dots, c_n); f_1, \dots, f_n) : (I^r, \partial I^r) \rightarrow (Y_r, *)$  is the map sending any  $x$ , lying in  $\text{Im } c_i$  to  $f_i(c_i^{-1}(x))$  and any point outside  $\bigcup_{i=1}^n \text{Im } c_i$  to the base point.

These maps produce a  $\mathcal{E}_r$ -action on  $X$ . So,  $X$  is a  $\mathcal{E}_r$ -space for any  $r$ , and, as such actions are compatible,  $X$  is a  $\mathcal{E}_\infty$ -space.

□

The recognition principle is a partial converse of this result.

**2.9 THEOREM.-** [20] Let  $X$  be a connected  $E_\infty$ -space. Then  $X$  has the weak homotopy type of an infinite loop space.

□

Now, we define the space  $BU$ , in a way appropriate to prove that it is an infinite loop spaces.

**2.10 DEFINITION.-** The Stiefel manifold of  $k$ -frames in  $\mathbb{C}^n$  is defined as the space

$$V_{k,n} = \{(X_1, \dots, X_k) \in (\mathbb{C}^n)^k : \{X_i\}_{i=1}^k \text{ is orthonormal}\},$$

with the topology induced by  $(\mathbb{C}^n)^k$ .

The Grassmann manifold of  $k$ -planes in  $\mathbb{C}^n$  is the space

$$G_{k,n} = \{V \subset \mathbb{C}^n : V \text{ is a } k\text{-dimensional complex subspace of } \mathbb{C}^n\},$$

with the quotient topology of the map

$$\gamma : V_{k,n} \rightarrow G_{k,n}$$

that sends each  $k$ -frame into the subspace that it generates.

Over  $G_{k,n}$ , we define the  $k$ -dimensional complex vector bundle  $\gamma_{k,n}$  by  $E\gamma_{k,n} = \{(x, V) : x \in V \in G_{k,n}\}$

Using the isomorphism  $\mathbb{C}^n \cong \mathbb{C}^k \times \mathbb{C}^{n-k}$ , we can consider  $G_{k,n}$  as the set of  $k$ -planes in  $\mathbb{C}^k \times \mathbb{C}^{n-k}$ .

Identifying a  $k$ -plane in  $\mathbb{C}^k \times \mathbb{C}^{n-k}$  with the one in  $\mathbb{C}^k \times \mathbb{C}^{n+1-k}$  given by inclusion

$$\mathbb{C}^{n-k} \xrightarrow{\sim} \mathbb{C}^{n-k} \times \{0\} \rightarrow \mathbb{C}^{n+1-k},$$

we have an inclusion  $G_{k,n} \subset G_{k,n+1}$ , and we define  $BU(k) = \bigcup_{n=k}^{\infty} G_{k,n}$ .

In the same way we have  $\gamma^k = \bigcup_{n=k}^{\infty} \gamma_{k,n}$

2.11 THEOREM [23]  $BU(k)$  classifies classes of isomorphic  $k$ -dimensional complex bundles over any paracompact space, and  $\gamma^k$  is its universal bundle.

□

Identifying a  $k$ -plane  $V \subset \mathbb{C}^k \times \mathbb{C}^{n-k}$  with the  $(k+1)$ -plane  $\mathbb{C} \oplus V \subset \mathbb{C}^{k+1} \times \mathbb{C}^{n-k}$  we get an inclusion  $G_{k,n} \subset G_{k+1,n+1}$  and in the limit we have  $BU(k) \subset BU(k+1)$ , so we can define  $BU = \bigcup_{k=1}^{\infty} BU(k)$ .

2.12 THEOREM [23]  $BU$  classifies *stable* classes of complex bundles over any paracompact space.

□

Let  $U(n)$  be the group of unitary automorphisms of  $\mathbb{C}^n$  and  $U(k, \ell)$  the group of unitary automorphisms of  $\mathbb{C}^k \times \mathbb{C}^\ell$ . Then we have the following results.

2.13 PROPOSITION.- The map

$$\alpha : \frac{U(k, n-k)}{U(k) \times U(n-k)} \rightarrow G_{k,n}$$

given by  $\alpha([g]) = g(\mathbb{C}^k \times \{0\})$  is a homeomorphism

Proof.- As both spaces are compact Hausdorff, it is enough to see that  $\alpha$  is a continuous bijection.

$\alpha$  is continuous since it is the map induced by the continuous map

$$\bar{\alpha} : U(k, n-k) \rightarrow V_{k,n}$$

given by  $\bar{\alpha}(g) = (g(e_1), \dots, g(e_k))$  where  $(e_1, \dots, e_n)$  is the standard basis of  $\mathbb{C}^k \times \mathbb{C}^{n-k}$ .

The bijectivity of  $\alpha$  is immediate.

□

2.14 THEOREM.- In the limit, the maps

$$\alpha : \frac{U(k, \infty)}{U(k) \times U(\infty)} \rightarrow BU(k), \text{ and}$$

$$\alpha : \frac{U(\infty, \infty)}{U(\infty) \times U(\infty)} \rightarrow BU$$

are homeomorphisms.

Proof.- It is an immediate consequence of 2.13 and the fact that the maps  $\alpha$  commute both with the inclusions  $G_{k,n} \subset G_{k,n+1}$  and  $G_{k,n} \subset G_{k+1,n+1}$ .

□

2.15 REMARK.- By 2.14, a point  $x \in BU$ , can be interpreted either as a subspace of  $\mathbb{C}^\infty \times \mathbb{C}^\infty$  of the type  $\dots 0 \mathbb{C} 0 \dots 0 \mathbb{C} 0 V 0 \{0\} 0 \dots 0 \{0\} 0 \dots$ , where  $V$  is a  $k$ -dimensional subspace of some  $\mathbb{C}^k \times \mathbb{C}^{n-k}$ , or as a class of unitary automorphisms of  $\mathbb{C}^\infty \times \mathbb{C}^\infty$ .

Also, by fixing a bijective linear isometry  $\mathbb{C}^\infty \times \mathbb{C}^\infty \xrightarrow{\sim} \mathbb{C}^\infty$  we have both interpretations with  $\mathbb{C}^\infty$  instead of  $\mathbb{C}^\infty \times \mathbb{C}^\infty$ .

2.16 THEOREM [21].-  $BU$  has the homotopy type of an infinite loop space

Proof.- We want to prove that  $BU$  is an  $\mathcal{L}_\infty$ -space, so we need to define maps  $h_n : \mathcal{L}_\infty(n) \times (BU)^n \rightarrow BU$ .

Let be  $g \in \mathcal{L}_\infty(n)$  and  $x_i \in BU$  for  $i=1, \dots, n$ . Choose automorphism

$$f_i : \mathbb{C}^\infty \times \mathbb{C}^\infty \rightarrow \mathbb{C}^\infty \times \mathbb{C}^\infty$$

representing  $x_i$ . Then,  $h_n(g; x_1, \dots, x_n)$  is the class of the automorphism

$$f : \mathbb{C}^\infty \times \mathbb{C}^\infty \rightarrow \mathbb{C}^\infty \times \mathbb{C}^\infty$$

defined as follows:

$g_{\mathbb{C}}$  the complexification of  $g$ . On  $\text{Im}(g_{\mathbb{C}} \times g_{\mathbb{C}})$ ,  $f$  is the unique map that makes the following diagram commute

$$\begin{array}{ccccc} (\mathbb{C}^\infty \times \mathbb{C}^\infty)^n & \xrightarrow{\text{sh}} & (\mathbb{C}^\infty)^n \times (\mathbb{C}^\infty)^n & \xrightarrow{g_{\mathbb{C}} \times g_{\mathbb{C}}} & \mathbb{C}^\infty \times \mathbb{C}^\infty \\ \downarrow f_1 \times \dots \times f_n & & & & \downarrow f \\ (\mathbb{C}^\infty \times \mathbb{C}^\infty)^n & \xrightarrow{\text{sh}} & (\mathbb{C}^\infty)^n \times (\mathbb{C}^\infty)^n & \xrightarrow{g_{\mathbb{C}} \times g_{\mathbb{C}}} & \mathbb{C}^\infty \times \mathbb{C}^\infty \end{array}$$

, where  $\text{sh}$  is the appropriate reordering map.

On the complementary subspace of  $\text{Im}(g_{\mathbb{C}} \times g_{\mathbb{C}})$  we define  $f$  as the identity.

It is easy to prove that the class of  $f$  is independent of the choice of  $f_1$  and that the maps  $h_n$  so defined, commute with the composition law and the  $\Sigma_n$ -action.

□

Now, we define the map

$$\eta : Q BU(1) \rightarrow BU$$

as the unique map of infinite loop spaces extending the inclusion.

## §2.2 The space $QBU(1)$

We give a sketch of the proof of the approximation theorem for the space  $QX$ , when  $X$  is a connected space, and look with some detail into the case  $X = BU(1)$ . To do it we need to develop the concept of a coefficient system ( see [ 9 ]).

2.17 DEFINITION.- The category  $\Lambda$  has as objects the finite sets:

$$\underline{n} = \{0, 1, \dots, n\}$$

based at 0, and as morphism from  $\underline{n}$  to  $\underline{m}$ , all the injective based maps

$$\phi : \underline{n} \rightarrow \underline{m}.$$

It is easy to see that any such map  $\phi$  decompose as the product of a permutation  $\sigma \in \Sigma_n$  and an injective order-preserving based map from  $\underline{n}$  to  $\underline{m}$ ,  $\bar{\phi}$ . Also, any injective order-preserving based map,  $\bar{\phi}$ , decomposes as a finite product of "degeneracy" maps

$$\sigma_{q,n} : \underline{n} \rightarrow \underline{n+1} \quad \text{for } q = 0, \dots, n$$

where

$$\sigma_{q,n}(i) = \begin{cases} i & \text{if } i \leq q \\ i+1 & \text{if } i > q \end{cases}$$

2.18 DEFINITION.- A coefficient system,  $\mathcal{F}$ , is a contravariant functor.

$$\mathcal{F} : \Lambda \rightarrow \text{Top}_*$$

where  $\mathcal{F}(\underline{0}) = \{*\}$

From now on, we will denote  $\mathcal{F}(\underline{n})$  simply by  $\mathcal{F}_n$ , and  $\mathcal{F}_n$  has an obvious  $\Sigma_n$ -action.

Notice that to know  $\mathcal{F}$  on morphisms we only need to know it on the elements of  $\Sigma_n$  and the "degeneracy" maps.

2.19 EXAMPLES.- 1) Any operad,  $\mathcal{P}$ , has associated a natural structure of coefficient system taking  $\mathcal{P}_n = \mathcal{P}(n)$ . Then  $\mathcal{P}(\sigma)$  is given by the  $\Sigma_n$ -action on  $\mathcal{P}(n)$  for any  $\sigma \in \Sigma_n$  and  $\sigma_{q,n} = \mathcal{P}(\sigma_{q,n})$  is the map given by

$$\sigma_{q,n}(c) = \phi(c, s_q) \quad \text{for any } c \in \mathcal{P}(n)$$

where  $s_q = (1, \dots, 1, *, 1, \dots, 1) \in \mathcal{P}(1)^q \times \mathcal{P}(0) \times \mathcal{P}(1)^{n-q}$ .

2) The Stiefel coefficient system.  $\mathcal{V}_\infty$  is defined as follows:

On objects

$$\begin{aligned} \mathcal{V}_{\infty, n} &= V_{n, \infty} = \{(v_1, \dots, v_n) \in (R^\infty)^n : \{v_i\} \text{ is orthonormal}\} \\ &= \{\phi: R^n \rightarrow R^\infty : \phi \text{ is an injective linear isometry}\} \end{aligned}$$

For any injective based map  $\phi \in \Lambda(n, m)$  we define the associated injective linear isometry

$$\phi: R^n \rightarrow R^m$$

given by

$$\phi(x_1, \dots, x_n) = (0, \dots, \underbrace{x_1}_{\phi(1)}, \dots, \underbrace{x_2}_{\phi(2)}, \dots, \underbrace{x_n}_{\phi(n)}, \dots, 0)$$

and the map  $\phi = \mathcal{V}_\infty(\phi)$  is given by composition.

3) Let  $X$  be a space. The coefficient system  $F(X)$  of configurations in  $X$  is defined as follows:

On objects

$$F(X)_n = F(X, n) = \{(x_1, \dots, x_n) \in X^n : x_i \neq x_j \text{ for any } i \neq j\}$$

For any injective based map  $\phi \in \Lambda(n, m)$  we define the map

$$\phi: F(X, m) \rightarrow F(X, n)$$

by

$$\phi(x_1, \dots, x_m) = (x_{\phi(1)}, \dots, x_{\phi(n)})$$

2.20 DEFINITION.~ A morphism between coefficient system  $f: \mathcal{C} \rightarrow \mathcal{C}'$  is a natural transformation between the functors  $\mathcal{C}$  and  $\mathcal{C}'$ .

Notice that the associated maps  $f_n: \mathcal{C}_n \rightarrow \mathcal{C}'_n$  are maps of  $\Sigma_n$ -spaces.

2.21 EXAMPLES 1) Any morphism between operads induces a morphism between the associated coefficient systems.

2) We define the morphism.

$$\kappa: \mathcal{C}_\infty \rightarrow F(\mathbb{R}^m)$$

given by the maps

$$\kappa: \mathcal{C}_{\infty, n} \rightarrow F(\mathbb{R}^m, n)$$

that sends each little  $r$ -cube to its center and the configuration we get in  $\text{int } I^m$  to  $\mathbb{R}^m$  by a chosen homeomorphism

3) We define the morphism

$$\beta: \mathcal{V}_\infty \rightarrow F(\mathbb{R}^n)$$

given by the maps

$$\beta_n: \mathcal{V}_{n, \infty} \rightarrow F(\mathbb{R}^n, n)$$

that send the  $n$ -frame  $\{x_i\}_{i=1}^n$  to the configuration in  $\mathbb{R}^n$ ,  $\{x_i\}_{i=1}^n$ .

4) We define the morphism

$$\alpha: \mathcal{Z}_\infty \rightarrow \mathcal{V}_\infty$$

given by the maps

$$\alpha_n: \mathcal{Z}_{\infty, n} \rightarrow \mathcal{V}_{n, \infty}$$

where

$$\alpha_n(f) = (f(e_{11}), \dots, f(e_{1n}))$$

where  $\{e_j\}_{j=1}^n$  is the standard basis of the  $i^{\text{th}}$  factor of  $(\mathbb{R}^n)^n$ .

Now we associate, in a natural way, to each coefficient system,  $\mathcal{C}$ , a construction on topological spaces denoted  $c$ .



2.22 DEFINITION.- Let  $\mathcal{C}$  be a coefficient system. We define the functor,

$$c: \text{Top}_* \rightarrow \text{Top}_*$$

as follows:

For any based space  $X$

$$c X = \frac{\prod_{r=0}^{\infty} \mathcal{C}_r \times X^r}{\sim}$$

, the quotient of the space  $\prod_{r=0}^{\infty} \mathcal{C}_r \times X^r$  by the equivalence relation generated by the relations

$$(c; x_1, \dots, x_r) \sim (c; x_{\phi(1)}, \dots, x_{\phi(r)}) \text{ for any } \phi \in A(r, s)$$

where  $x_{\phi(i)} = x_i$  if  $i \neq \phi(i)$

For any morphism  $g: X \rightarrow Y$ , the map

$$c g: c X \rightarrow c Y$$

is given by

$$c g( [(c; x_1, \dots, x_r)] ) = [(c; g(x_1), \dots, g(x_r))].$$

Notice that for any morphism of coefficient systems  $f: \mathcal{C} \rightarrow \mathcal{C}'$  we have a natural transformation  $f: c \rightarrow c'$  given, for any space  $X$ , by the map

$$f_X: c X \rightarrow c' X$$

defined by

$$f_X( [(c; x_1, \dots, x_r)] ) = [(f_r(c); x_1, \dots, x_r)]$$

2.23 REMARK.- If we define

$$F_n c X = \text{Im} \left( \prod_{r=0}^n \mathcal{C}_r \times X^r \rightarrow c X \right)$$

We get a natural filtration of  $c X$ , that is preserved by  $c g$  for any map  $g: X \rightarrow Y$  so we can consider the functor  $c$  taking values in the category of filtered topological spaces.

Also, for any map of coefficient systems  $f: \mathcal{C} \rightarrow \mathcal{C}'$ ,  $f_X$  preserves the filtration, so the natural transformation  $f$  can be considered too in the category of filtered topological spaces.

2.24 LEMMA [9] .- i) The inclusion  $F_{n-1} \subset X \rightarrow F_n \subset X$  is a cofibration  
ii) the diagram

$$\begin{array}{ccc} \mathcal{C}_n \times_{\Sigma_n} \sigma_n X & \rightarrow & F_{n-1} \subset X \\ \downarrow & & \downarrow \\ \mathcal{C}_n \times_{\Sigma_n} X^n & \rightarrow & F_n \subset X \end{array}$$

is a push out, where  $\sigma_n X = \bigcup_{i=0}^{n-1} X^i \times \{*\} \times X^{n-i-1}$

Now it is easy to prove inductively the following

2.25 PROPOSITION [9] .- Let  $f: \mathcal{C} \rightarrow \mathcal{C}'$  be a morphism of coefficient systems. Then,

i) if, for any  $n$ ,  $\Sigma_n$  acts freely on  $\mathcal{C}_n$  and  $\mathcal{C}'_n$  and  $f_n$  is a weak homotopy equivalence, then  $f_X$  is a weak homotopy equivalence for any  $X$ .

ii) if, for any  $n$ ,  $f_n$  is an equivariant homotopy equivalence, then  $f_X$  is a homotopy equivalence for any  $X$ .

2.26 DEFINITION.- Let  $X$  be a based space. The map

$$\alpha_n: c_n X \rightarrow \Omega^n S^n X$$

is given by:

$$\alpha_n([ (c_1, \dots, c_r), (x_1, \dots, x_r) ]): (I^n, \partial I^n) \rightarrow (S^n X, *)$$

is the map that sends a point  $t \in \text{Im } c_i$  to  $(c_i^{-1}(t), x)$  and any point  $t \notin \bigcup_{i=1}^r \text{Im } c_i$  to the base point.

As the  $\alpha_n$  are compatible, in the limit we get

$$\alpha_\infty: c_\infty X \rightarrow QX$$

2.27 THEOREM ([20]).- If  $X$  is connected, then  $\alpha_n$  is a weak homotopy equivalence for any  $n$  (even  $n = \infty$ ).

2.28 COROLLARY.- If  $X$  is connected and  $\mathcal{C}$  is any of  $\mathcal{C}_\infty$ ,  $F(\mathbb{R}^\infty)$ ,  $\mathcal{U}_\infty$  or  $\mathcal{Z}_\infty$ ,  $cX$  has the weak homotopy type of  $QX$ .

Proof.- The maps  $\alpha, \beta, k$  of 2.21 satisfy 2.25 so any two of the  $cX$  have the same weak homotopy type. Thus by 2.27 each one has the weak homotopy type of  $QX$ .

In particular, we want to study the space  $F(\mathbb{R}^\infty)(BU(1))$  since it has the homotopy type of  $QBU(1)$ .

2.29.- DEFINITION.- Let  $G$  be a group. Then,  $\Sigma_n \wr G$  is the group of  $(n \times n)$ -matrices with entries in  $G$  such that each row or column has a unique non-zero entry. The composition law is given by the product of matrices and the law in  $G$ .

If  $G=U(1)$ , we have an obvious inclusion

$$\Sigma_n \wr U(1) \subset U(n),$$

and using it, we can interpret the elements of  $\Sigma_n \wr U(1)$  as unitary transformations of  $\mathbb{C}^n$  that act by permuting the elements of the standard basis and multiplying them by modulus one scalars.

2.30 PROPOSITION.- If we define  $B(\Sigma_n \wr U(1)) = \frac{U(n, \infty)}{(\Sigma_n \wr U(1)) \times U(\infty)}$ , then

it is the classifying space of  $\Sigma_n \wr U(1)$ -principal bundles.

Proof.- With this definition, it is easy to see that  $B(\Sigma_n \wr U(1))$  is the quotient of  $EU(n)$ , the total space of the universal  $U(n)$ -principal bundle, by the  $\Sigma_n \wr U(1)$ -action induced by the inclusion  $\Sigma_n \wr U(1) \subset U(n)$ .

Since  $EU(n)$  is contractible and the  $\Sigma_n/U(1)$  action is free the quotient is the classifying space of  $\Sigma_n/U(1)$ -principal bundles ([30]).

We define

$p_n: B \Sigma_n/U(1) \rightarrow BU(n)$  as the limit map of

$$p_{n,k}: \frac{U(n,m)}{\Sigma_n/U(1) \times U(m)} \rightarrow \frac{U(n,m)}{U(n) \times U(m)}$$

Let

$$q_n: F(\mathbb{R}^\infty, n) \times_{\Sigma_n} BU(1)^n \rightarrow B(\Sigma_n/U(1))$$

be a map classifying the  $\Sigma_n/U(1)$ -principal bundle

$$F(\mathbb{R}^\infty, n) \times EU(1)^n \rightarrow F(\mathbb{R}^\infty, n) \times_{\Sigma_n} BU(1)^n.$$

then we have the following results.

2.31 PROPOSITION.-  $q_n$  is a homotopy equivalence.

Proof.-  $EU(1)$  and  $F(\mathbb{R}^\infty, n)$  are contractible, so  $F(\mathbb{R}^\infty, n) \times EU(1)^n$  is a contractible space. As the obvious  $\Sigma_n/U(1)$  action is free, the quotient space  $F(\mathbb{R}^\infty, n) \times_{\Sigma_n} BU(1)^n$  is a classifying space for  $\Sigma_n/U(1)$ -principal bundles and  $F(\mathbb{R}^\infty, n) \times EU(n)$  is the universal bundle ([30]). Thus the map  $q_n$  that classifies it has to be an equivalence.

□

2.32 PROPOSITION.- The diagram

$$\begin{array}{ccc} F(\mathbb{R}^\infty, n) \times_{\Sigma_n} BU(1)^n & \xrightarrow{q_n} & B(\Sigma_n/U(1)) \\ \uparrow \tau_n & & \uparrow \\ F(\mathbb{R}^\infty, n-1) \times_{\Sigma_{n-1}} BU(1)^{n-1} & \xrightarrow{q_{n-1}} & B(\Sigma_{n-1}/U(1)) \end{array}$$

commutes up to homotopy, where the map  $\tau_n$  is given by a chosen  $\Sigma_{n-1}$ -equivariant inclusion of  $F(\mathbb{R}^\infty, n-1)$  in  $F(\mathbb{R}^\infty, n)$  and the right hand vertical map is induced by the inclusion of groups.

Proof.- It is easy to see that the  $\Sigma_n/U(1)$ -principal bundle classified by the map  $q_n \circ \tau_n$  has a reduction to the pull-back by  $q_{n-1}$  of the universal  $\Sigma_{n-1}/U(1)$ -principal bundle.

By induction, we choose maps

$$\bar{q}_n : B(\Sigma_n/U(1)) \longrightarrow F(\mathbb{R}^\infty, n) \times_{\Sigma_n} BU(1)^n$$

that are homotopy inverses of  $q_n$  and, also, they commute the above diagram.

Now, we define  $i_n$  as the composition

$$B(\Sigma_n/U(1)) \xrightarrow{\bar{q}_n} F(\mathbb{R}^\infty, n) \times_{\Sigma_n} BU(1)^n \longrightarrow F_n(F(\mathbb{R}^\infty)(BU(1)))$$

2.33 PROPOSITION.- The diagram

$$\begin{array}{ccc} B(\Sigma_n/U(1)) & \xrightarrow{i_n} & F_n(F(\mathbb{R}^\infty)(BU(1))) \\ \uparrow & & \uparrow \\ B(\Sigma_{n-1}/U(1)) & \xrightarrow{i_{n-1}} & F_{n-1}(F(\mathbb{R}^\infty)(BU(1))) \end{array}$$

commutes up to homotopy.

Proof.- It follows immediately from the definition of  $i_n$ .

We choose a map

$$i_\infty : B(\Sigma_\infty/U(1)) \longrightarrow F(\mathbb{R}^\infty)(BU(1))$$

such that  $i_\infty \circ i_n : B(\Sigma_n/U(1)) \sim i_n$

### CHAPTER 3 . Definition of the Characteristic Classes $\hat{c}_k$ .

As seen in chapter 1, to define  $\hat{c}_k \in H^{2k}(BU; \mathbb{Z})$ , it is enough to give the corresponding maps:

$$\hat{c}_k : \Sigma^\infty BU \rightarrow \Sigma^{2k} \mathbb{H}\mathbb{Z}.$$

They are the composite maps

$$\Sigma^\infty BU \xrightarrow{\tau} \Sigma^\infty \wr BU(1) \xrightarrow{\hat{h}_k} \Sigma^\infty T\gamma(k) \xrightarrow{t_k} \Sigma^{2k} \mathbb{H}\mathbb{Z},$$

where  $\tau$  is defined in §3.1 following [27],  $\hat{h}_k$  is the splitting map of §3.2 (see [9]) and  $t_k$  is the Thom class of the bundle  $\gamma^{(k)} = F(\mathbb{R}^\infty, k) \times_{\Sigma_k} (\gamma)^k$ .

#### §3.1 The map $\tau : BU \rightarrow \wr BU(1)$

The construction is done by inductive use of the "transfer".

3.1 THEOREM ([4]).-Let  $\xi$  be a fibre bundle over a finite complex  $B$ , with fibre a compact  $G$ -manifold, where  $G$  is a compact Lie group. Then, there is a stable map, called the transfer map,

$$\tau(\xi) : B^+ \rightarrow E^+$$

such that the composite of the maps induced in singular cohomology, with coefficient in a ring  $R$ ,

$$H^*(B; R) \xrightarrow{p^*} H^*(E; R) \xrightarrow{\tau^*} H^*(B; R)$$

is the multiplication by  $\chi(F)$ , the Euler characteristic of  $F$ .

Moreover, the construction is natural with respect to morphisms of fibre bundles.

3.2 THEOREM.- Let

$$p_n : B \Sigma_n / U(1) \rightarrow BU(n)$$

be the map defined in 2.30. Then, there is a stable map

$$\tau_n : BU(n)^+ \rightarrow B \Sigma_n / U(1)^+$$

that is the right homological inverse of  $p_n$ .

Proof.- The bundles,

$$p_{n,k} : \frac{U(n,k)}{(\Sigma_n / U(1)) \times U(k)} \rightarrow \frac{U(n,k)}{U(n) \times U(k)}$$

have fibre the  $U(n)$  manifold  $\frac{U(n)}{\Sigma_n / U(1)}$ .

By 3.1 there are stable maps,

$$\tau_{n,k} : \left( \frac{U(n,k)}{U(n) \times U(k)} \right)^+ \rightarrow \left( \frac{U(n,k)}{\Sigma_n / U(1) \times U(k)} \right)^+,$$

such that  $p_{n,k} \circ \tau_{n,k}$  induces in singular cohomology multiplication by  $x(U(n)/\Sigma_n / U(1)) = 1$  (by [15]).

As the  $\tau_{n,k}$  commute with the inclusions, there is in the limit a stable map,

$$\tau_n : BU(n)^+ \rightarrow B \Sigma_n / U(1)^+$$

such that the map  $p_n \circ \tau_n$  induces the identity in singular cohomology.

Thus  $\tau_n$  is the right homological inverse of  $p_n$ .

To be able to take the limit of the  $\tau_n$ , we use the following

3.3 THEOREM [27].- Let  $\xi$  be a fibre bundle with fibre the compact  $G$ -manifold  $F$ , for  $G$  a compact Lie group, and  $\xi_G$  the associated  $G$ -principal bundle. Let  $F_1$  be a  $G$ -submanifold of  $F$  and  $N$  an equivariant tubular neighbourhood of  $F_1$  in  $F$ . If there is an equivariant vector field on  $F$  such that the induced vector field on  $\partial N$  is homotopic to the outward normal field through a homotopy of non-zero vector fields, and the vectors have moduli 1 outside  $N$ , the diagram

$$\begin{array}{ccc} B^+ & \xrightarrow{\tau(p')} & (E \times_{\xi_G}^* F_1)^+ \\ & \searrow \tau & \downarrow \\ & & (E \times_{\xi_G}^* F)^+ = E\xi^+ \end{array}$$

commutes.

3.4 THEOREM.- Let

$$p_\infty : B\Sigma_\infty/U(1) \rightarrow BU$$

be the limit of  $p_n$ . Then, there is a stable map,

$$\tau_\infty : BU^+ \rightarrow B\Sigma_\infty/U(1)^+$$

that is the right homological inverse of  $p_\infty$ .

Proof.- Snaith proved, in [27], that the inclusion

$$\frac{U(n)}{\Sigma_n/U(1)} \rightarrow \frac{U(n+1)}{\Sigma_{n+1}/U(1)}$$

satisfies the hypothesis of 3.3, so the diagram.

$$\begin{array}{ccc} BU(n)^+ & \xrightarrow{\tau'_n} & \left( EU(n+1)|_{BU(n)} \times_{U(n)} \frac{U(n)}{\Sigma_n/U(1)} \right)^+ = B\Sigma_n/U(1)^+ \\ & \searrow \tau'_n & \downarrow \\ & & \left( EU(n+1)|_{BU(n)} \times_{U(n)} \frac{U(n+1)}{\Sigma_{n+1}/U(1)} \right)^+ \end{array}$$

commutes.



The diagram of  $U(n+1)/\Sigma_{n+1} \int U(1)$  bundles

$$\begin{array}{ccc} EU(n+1) \Big|_{BU(n)} \times_{J(n)} \frac{U(n+1)}{\Sigma_{n+1} \int U(1)} & \longrightarrow & BU(n) \\ \downarrow & & \downarrow \\ EU(n+1) \times_{U(n+1)} \frac{U(n+1)}{\Sigma_{n+1} \int U(1)} & \longrightarrow & BU(n+1) \end{array}$$

commutes; so, by naturality of the transfer, the diagram

$$\begin{array}{ccc} BU(n)^+ & \xrightarrow{\tau_n} & \left( EU(n+1) \Big|_{BU(n)} \times_{U(n+1)} \frac{U(n+1)}{\Sigma_{n+1} \int U(1)} \right)^+ \\ \downarrow & & \downarrow \\ BU(n+1)^+ & \xrightarrow{\tau_{n+1}} & \left( EU(n+1) \times_{U(n+1)} \frac{U(n+1)}{\Sigma_{n+1} \int U(1)} \right)^+ = B\Sigma_{n+1} \int U(1)^+ \end{array}$$

commutes.

Thus, the diagram

$$\begin{array}{ccc} BU(n)^+ & \xrightarrow{\tau_n} & B\Sigma_n \int U(1)^+ \\ \downarrow & & \downarrow \\ BU(n+1)^+ & \xrightarrow{\tau_{n+1}} & B\Sigma_{n+1} \int U(1)^+ \end{array}$$

commutes, and we get in the limit a stable map

$$\tau_\infty : BU^+ \rightarrow B\Sigma_\infty \int U(1)^+$$

that is, obviously, the right homological inverse of  $p_\infty$ .

□

As proved in [3], the same holds for

$$\tau_\infty : BU \rightarrow B\Sigma_\infty \int U(1)$$

3.5 DEFINITION.- We define the map  $\tau : BU \rightarrow Q BU(1)$  as the composite

$$BU \xrightarrow{\hat{\tau}_\infty} Q B\Sigma_\infty U(1) \xrightarrow{Q(i_\infty)} Q Q BU(1) \xrightarrow{c} Q BU(1),$$

where  $\hat{\tau}_\infty$  is the adjoint of the stable map  $\tau_\infty$ .

3.6 LEMMA [27] .- The maps

$$B \Sigma_n U(1) \xrightarrow{i_n} Q BU(1) \xrightarrow{\eta} BU \quad \text{and}$$

$$B \Sigma_n U(1) \xrightarrow{p_n} BU(n) \subset BU$$

induce the same homomorphism in homology.  $\square$

3.7 THEOREM [27] .-  $\tau$  is the right homological inverse of  $\eta$ .

Proof.- By 3.6, for any  $n$ ,  $\eta \circ \tau|_{BU(n)}$  induces in homology the same map as  $p_n \circ \tau_n$ , i.e. the identity.  $\square$

3.8 COROLLARY.-  $\tau$  is the right homotopical inverse of  $\eta$ .

Proof.- It follows directly from 3.7 and the Appendix.

### §3.2 Stable splitting of the space $c X$ .

In this paragraph, we study the splitting of the space  $c X$  in the wedge of less complicated spaces  $D_n(\mathcal{C}, X)$ , for any coefficient system  $\mathcal{C}$ .

3.9 DEFINITION.- Given a coefficient system  $\mathcal{C}$  and a space  $X$ , we define

$$D_n(\mathcal{C}, X) = \frac{F_n c X}{F_{n-1} c X}.$$

As any morphism between coefficient systems  $f: \mathcal{P} \rightarrow \mathcal{P}'$  induces a map  $f_X: cX \rightarrow c'X$  preserving the filtration, it induces also maps

$$f_n: D_n(\mathcal{P}, X) \rightarrow D_n(\mathcal{P}', X)$$

3.10 PROPOSITION [9].-  $D_n(\mathcal{P}, X)$  is homeomorphic to the quotient

$$\mathcal{P}_n \times_{\Sigma_n} X^n / \mathcal{P}_n \times_{\Sigma_n} \sigma_n X.$$

Proof.- The map  $\mathcal{P}_n \times_{\Sigma_n} X^n \rightarrow F_n c X \rightarrow D_n(\mathcal{P}, X)$  sends  $\mathcal{P}_n \times_{\Sigma_n} \sigma_n X$  to the base point, so it induces a map

$$\frac{\mathcal{P}_n \times_{\Sigma_n} X^n}{\mathcal{P}_n \times_{\Sigma_n} \sigma_n X} \rightarrow D_n(\mathcal{P}, X)$$

It is easy to see that it is a homeomorphism.

□

As there is an obvious homeomorphism,

$$\frac{\mathcal{P}_n \times_{\Sigma_n} X^n}{\mathcal{P}_n \times_{\Sigma_n} \sigma_n X} \rightarrow \frac{\mathcal{P}_n \times_{\Sigma_n} X^{(n)}}{\mathcal{P}_n \times_{\Sigma_n} \{*\}},$$

where  $X^{(n)} = \bigwedge_{i=1}^n X$  is the  $n^{\text{th}}$  smash power of  $X$ ,  $D_n(\mathcal{P}, X)$  is also homeomorphic to the latter space.

3.11 PROPOSITION.- Let  $f: \mathcal{C} \rightarrow \mathcal{C}'$  be a morphism of coefficient systems. Then ,

i) if , for any  $n$  ,  $\mathcal{E}_n$  acts freely on  $\mathcal{C}_n$  and  $\mathcal{C}'_n$  , and  $f_n$  is a weakhomotopy equivalence, so is the induced map  $f_n$  .

ii) if , for any  $n$  ,  $f_n$  is an equivariant homotopy equivalence, then the induced map  $f_n$  is a homotopy equivalence.

3.12 DEFINITION.- Let  $\mathcal{P}$  be a coefficient system, and we define  $\beta_k = \mathcal{P}_k / \mathcal{I}_k$  . If  $r = \binom{n}{k}$  and the set <sup>of ordered injections  $k \rightarrow n$</sup>  is  $\{\psi_1, \dots, \psi_r\}$  .

we define the map

$$\epsilon_{k,n} : \mathcal{P}_n \rightarrow (\beta_k)^r$$

by

$$\epsilon_{k,n}(c) = ( [c \psi_1] , \dots , [c \psi_r] ) .$$

We say that  $\mathcal{P}$  is separated if  $\text{Im } \epsilon_{k,n} \subset F(\beta_k, r)$  for any  $k, n$  .

3.13 EXAMPLES .-  $\mathcal{U}_*$  ,  $\mathcal{V}_*$  ,  $F(R^m)$  and  $\mathcal{L}_*$  are separated.

3.14 DEFINITION.- Let  $\mathcal{P}$  be a separated coefficient system. We define the map

$$j_{k,n} : \mathcal{P}_n \times X^n \rightarrow F(\beta_k, r) \times D_k(\mathcal{P}, X)^r$$

as

$$j_{k,n}(c; x_1, \dots, x_n) = (\epsilon_{k,n}(c); [c\psi_1; (x_{\psi_1(1)}, \dots, x_{\psi_1(k)})], \dots, [c\psi_r; (x_{\psi_r(1)}, \dots, x_{\psi_r(k)})] ) .$$

As it is equivariant with respect to the actions of  $\Sigma_n$  on the domain and  $\Sigma_r$  on the range, we have in the limit the map

$$j_k : c X \rightarrow F(\beta_k)(D_k(\beta, X)).$$

To get the splitting maps  $h_k$ , we need a technical result of [9]

3.15 THEOREM.- There is a covariant functor,  $W$ , from the category of coefficient systems to the category of pointed topological spaces, with the following natural maps

- i) A contraction of  $W(\beta) : \text{i.e. a homotopy } d: 0 \sim 1.$
- ii) For each  $k$ , an injection  $e_k : \beta_k \rightarrow W(\beta)$
- iii) An inclusion  $i : \coprod_{k=1}^{\infty} W(\beta) \rightarrow W(\beta)$
- iv) An inclusion  $j : R^{\infty} \rightarrow W(\beta)$

□

Notice that by i)  $F(W(\beta))(X)$  has the weak homotopy type of  $QX$ , for any connected space  $X$ . We denote the equivalence as  $w$ .

3.16 DEFINITION.- Let  $\beta$  be a separated coefficient system. We define the map

$$h_k : c X \xrightarrow{j_k} F(\beta_k)(D_k(\beta, X)) \xrightarrow{F(e_k)} F(W(\beta))(D_k(\beta, X)) \xrightarrow{w} Q(D_k(\beta, X))$$

and  $\hat{h}_k$  is the adjoint stable map.

By abuse of notation  $h_k$  and  $\hat{h}_k$  represent also the restrictions to  $F_n \subset X$ , for any  $n$ .

3.17 PROPOSITION.- The map

$$\hat{h}_n : \Sigma^{\infty} F_n \subset X \rightarrow \Sigma^{\infty} D_n(\beta, X)$$

is induced by the obvious identification map.

Proof. It is immediate since the map

$$j_{n,n} : \mathcal{C}_n \times X^n \rightarrow F(\beta_n, 1) \times D_n(\mathcal{C}, X)$$

is given by the identification.

□

Now we can state the splitting theorem.

3.18 THEOREM [9].- Let  $\mathcal{C}$  be a separated coefficient system. Then, the sum of the maps  $\hat{h}_1, \dots, \hat{h}_n$

$$\hat{k}_n : \Sigma^\infty F_n \subset X \rightarrow \Sigma^\infty \bigvee_{k=1}^n D_k(\mathcal{C}, X)$$

is a stable homotopy equivalence for any  $X$  and any  $n$  (even  $n=\infty$ ).

3.19 COROLLARY.- Let  $X$  be a connected space and  $\mathcal{C}$  a separated coefficient system with  $\mathcal{C}_n$  contractible for any  $n$ . Then  $QX$  splits stably as the wedge of  $D_k(\mathcal{C}, X)$ .

Proof.- It follows from 3.18 since in this case  $QX$  has the stable homotopy type of  $cX$ .

□

### § 3.3 Definition of $\hat{C}_k$ .

We study the splitting in the case  $\mathcal{P} = F(\mathbb{R}^\infty)$  and  $X = BU(1)$ . We drop the index  $\mathcal{P}$  when there is no possible confusion.

**3.20 THEOREM.** - Let  $X = T(\xi)$  be the Thom space of the vector bundle  $\xi$ . Then  $D_k(X)$  is homeomorphic to  $T(\xi^{(k)})$  where  $\xi^{(k)} = F(\mathbb{R}^\infty, k) \times_{\Sigma_k} (\xi)^k$ .

Proof. - Choose a riemannian metric on  $\xi$  and let  $D(\xi)$ ,  $S(\xi)$  be the associated disc and sphere bundle.

On  $\xi^{(k)}$  we have an obvious metric induced by the one on  $\xi$ . With this metric we have.

$$D(\xi^{(k)}) = F(\mathbb{R}^\infty, k) \times_{\Sigma_k} D(\xi)^k$$

$$S(\xi^{(k)}) = F(\mathbb{R}^\infty, k) \times_{\Sigma_k} \left( \bigcup_{i=1}^k D(\xi)^{i-1} \times S(\xi) \times D(\xi)^{k-i} \right)$$

and the identification map

$$F(\mathbb{R}^\infty, k) \times_{\Sigma_k} D(\xi)^k \rightarrow \frac{F(\mathbb{R}^\infty, k) \times_{\Sigma_k} T(\xi)^k}{F(\mathbb{R}^\infty, k) \times_{\Sigma_k} \{*\}}$$

induces the homeomorphism

$$T(\xi^{(k)}) \cong D_k(T(\xi))$$

□

**3.21 COROLLARY.** -  $D_k(BU(1))$  has the homotopy type of  $T(\gamma^{(k)})$

Proof. - As  $BU(1)$  has the homotopy type of  $T(\gamma)$ ,  $D_k(BU(1))$  has the homotopy type of  $D_k(T(\gamma))$  but it is, by 3.21,  $\simeq$  of  $T(\gamma^{(k)})$ .

□

As  $\gamma^{(k)}$  is classified by the map.

$$F(\mathbb{R}^{\infty} \times k) \times_{\Sigma_k} BU(1)^k \cong B\Sigma_k \cup U(1) \xrightarrow{p_k} BU(k)$$

it has a standard orientation and Thom class,  $t_k$ , induced by its complex structure.

3.23 DEFINITION.- The characteristic class  $\hat{c}_k \in H^{2k}(BU; \mathbb{Z})$  is the one represented by the stable map

$$\Sigma^{\infty} BU \xrightarrow{\tau} \Sigma^{\infty} Q BU(1) \xrightarrow{\hat{h}_k} \Sigma^{\infty} D_k(BU(1)) \cong \Sigma^{\infty} T_Y(k) \xrightarrow{t_k} \Sigma^{2k} \mathbb{H}\mathbb{Z}$$



# CHAPTER 4 : Characterization of $\hat{c}_k$ .

In this chapter, we characterize the elements  $\hat{c}_k \in H^{2k}(BU; \mathbb{Z})$  in terms of the universal Chern classes,  $\{c_n\}_{n \in \mathbb{N}}$ . To do it, we evaluate the Kronecker product  $\langle \hat{c}_k, a \rangle$  on a basis of  $H_{2k}(BU; \mathbb{Z})$ , and we use the duality between the singular homology and cohomology of  $BU$ .

The best way to evaluate  $\langle \hat{c}_k, a \rangle$ , is to reduce it mod  $p$ , for any prime  $p$ , and to use the calculations of the singular homology with  $\mathbb{Z}_p$  coefficients for iterated loop spaces, as stated in the first paragraph.

## §4.1 Behaviour of the map $\hat{h}_k$ in homology.

For any space  $X$ , and any  $E_\infty$ -operad  $\mathcal{P}$ ,  $cX$  has a natural structure of  $H$ -space ; so,  $H_*(cX, \mathbb{Z}_p)$  is a  $\mathbb{Z}_p$ -algebra with the associated Pontrjagin product. Our aim, in this paragraph, is to describe it as it is done in [8] for any  $p$ .

4.1 THEOREM [8], [10].- Let  $\mathcal{P}$  be an  $E_\infty$ -operad and  $X$  a  $\mathcal{P}$ -space. Then,

- a) If  $p=2$ , for any,  $i, n$ , there are natural homeomorphisms,

$$Q^i : H_n(X; \mathbb{Z}_2) \rightarrow H_{n+i}(X; \mathbb{Z}_2)$$

such that

- |     |                |    |                |
|-----|----------------|----|----------------|
| i)  | $Q^i(x) = 0$   | if | $\deg x > i$   |
| ii) | $Q^i(x) = x^2$ | if | $\deg x = i$ . |

- b) If  $p \neq 2$ , for any  $i, n$ , there are natural homeomorphisms

$$Q^i : H_n(X; \mathbb{Z}_p) \rightarrow H_{n+2i(p-1)}(X; \mathbb{Z}_p)$$

such that

$$\begin{aligned} \text{i)} \quad Q^i(x) &= 0 & \text{if } \deg x > 2i \\ \text{ii)} \quad Q^i(x) &= x^p & \text{if } \deg x = 2i \end{aligned}$$

□

For use in the next definition, let

$$\beta : H_n(X; \mathbb{Z}_p) \rightarrow H_{n-1}(X; \mathbb{Z}_p)$$

be the Bockstein map associated to the short exact sequence,

$$0 \rightarrow \mathbb{Z}_p \rightarrow \mathbb{Z}_{p^2} \rightarrow \mathbb{Z}_p \rightarrow 0$$

4.2 DEFINITION.- a) If  $p=2$ , for any finite sequence of natural numbers,  $I=(i_1, \dots, i_k)$ , we define its length as  $\ell(I)=k$ , and the associated homomorphism

$$Q^I = Q^{i_1} \circ \dots \circ Q^{i_k}.$$

We say that  $I$  is admissible if, for any  $j$ ,  $2i_j \geq i_{j-1}$ .

b) If  $p \neq 2$ , for any finite sequence of natural numbers  $I=(\epsilon_1, i_1, \epsilon_2, i_2, \dots, \epsilon_k, i_k)$ , where, for any  $j$ ,  $\epsilon_j$  is equal to 0 or 1 and  $i_j > \epsilon_j$ , we define its length as  $\ell(I)=k$  and the associated homomorphism

$$Q^I = \beta^{\epsilon_1} \circ Q^{i_1} \circ \beta^{\epsilon_2} \circ Q^{i_2} \circ \dots \circ \beta^{\epsilon_k} \circ Q^{i_k}.$$

We say that  $I$  is admissible if, for any  $j$ ,  $p i_j - \epsilon_j \geq i_{j-1}$ .

Now, we can state a result giving the structure of  $H_*(cX; \mathbb{Z}_p)$  in terms of  $H_*(X; \mathbb{Z}_p)$ , valid for any prime  $p$ .

4.3 THEOREM [8], [10].- Let  $\{x_\alpha\}_{\alpha \in A}$  be a basis of  $H_*(X; \mathbb{Z}_p)$  as  $\mathbb{Z}_p$ -module. Identifying  $x_\alpha$  with its image in  $H_*(cX; \mathbb{Z}_p)$  under the inclusion  $X \subset cX$ ;  $H_*(cX; \mathbb{Z}_p)$  is the free graded commutative algebra generated by the set

$$\{Q^I(x_\alpha)_{\alpha \in A} \text{ and } I \text{ is admissible}\}.$$

□

So,  $H_*(c X; \mathbb{Z}_p)$  is generated as  $\mathbb{Z}_p$ -module by the set

$$\{Q^{I_1}(x_{\alpha_1}) Q^{I_2}(x_{\alpha_2}) \dots Q^{I_n}(x_{\alpha_n}) : n \in \mathbb{N}, \alpha_i \in \Lambda \text{ and } I_i \text{ is admissible, for any, } i\}.$$

To state a similar result for  $F_k(c X)$ , we need to define the height of such monomials. For any  $x = Q^{I_1}(x_{\alpha_1}) \dots Q^{I_n}(x_{\alpha_n})$ , its height is

$$h(x) = \sum_{i=1}^n p^{l(I_i)}.$$

4.4 THEOREM [24]- Let  $\{x_\alpha\}_{\alpha \in \Lambda}$  be, as before, a basis of  $H_*(X; \mathbb{Z}_p)$  as  $\mathbb{Z}_p$ -module. Then, the inclusion induces a monomorphism in homology

$$H_*(F_k c X; \mathbb{Z}_p) \rightarrow H_*(c X; \mathbb{Z}_p)$$

with image the  $\mathbb{Z}_p$ -module generated by the monomials of height less, or equal than  $k$ .

□

With this, it is easy to prove.

4.5 THEOREM.-  $H_*(D_k(\beta, X); \mathbb{Z}_p)$  is isomorphic, as  $\mathbb{Z}_p$ -module, to the one generated by the monomials of height  $k$ .

Proof.- As the inclusion  $F_{k-1}(c X) \subset F_k(c X)$  is a cofibration, we have

$$\tilde{H}_*(D_k(\beta, X); \mathbb{Z}_p) \rightarrow H_*(F_k(c X), F_{k-1}(c X); \mathbb{Z}_p).$$

By 4.4, this inclusion induces a monomorphism in homology, so the long exact sequence splits, giving.

$$0 \rightarrow H_*(F_{k-1}(c X); \mathbb{Z}_p) \rightarrow H_*(F_k(c X); \mathbb{Z}_p) \rightarrow H_*(F_k(c X), F_{k-1}(c X); \mathbb{Z}_p) \rightarrow 0.$$

As  $\mathbb{Z}_p$  is a field, this exact sequence splits giving an isomorphism,

$$\bar{H}_*(D_k(\mathcal{C}, X); \mathbb{Z}_p) = \frac{H_*(F_k(cX); \mathbb{Z}_p)}{H_*(F_{k-1}(cX); \mathbb{Z}_p)}$$

, and the  $\mathbb{Z}_p$ -module on the right is generated by the set of monomials of height  $k$ .

□

4.6 THEOREM.- The stable map  $\hat{h}_k$  induces in homology the map  $(\hat{h}_k)_*$  which sends each monomial of height  $k$  to itself and all the others to zero.

Proof.- As the triangle.

$$\begin{array}{ccc} F_k(cX) & & \\ \downarrow & \searrow p_k & \\ cX & \xrightarrow{\hat{h}_k} & D_k(\mathcal{C}, X) \end{array}$$

commutes, all we need is to know the action of  $p_k$ .

By 4.5, it is obvious that  $p_k$  sends the monomials of height  $k$  to themselves and any other to zero.

□

#### §4.2 Evaluation of $\langle \hat{c}_k, a \rangle$ .

We are going to use the classical result on the homology and cohomology of  $BU$ :

4.7 THEOREM [30].- Let  $c_n \in H^{2n}(BU; \mathbb{Z})$  be the universal Chern class.

Then

- i)  $H^*(BU; \mathbb{Z})$  is the free graded commutative  $\mathbb{Z}$ -algebra generated by them, i.e.

$$H^*(BU; \mathbb{Z}) = \mathbb{Z}[c_1, \dots, c_n, \dots].$$

If  $\rho_p : H^*(\ ; \mathbb{Z}) \rightarrow H^*(\ ; \mathbb{Z}_p)$  is the natural transformation induced by the projection  $\mathbb{Z} \rightarrow \mathbb{Z}_p$ , we have.

- ii)  $H^*(BU; \mathbb{Z}_p)$  is the free graded commutative  $\mathbb{Z}_p$ -algebra generated by the images  $\rho_p(c_k)$ ; i.e.

$$H^*(BU; \mathbb{Z}_p) = \mathbb{Z}_p[\rho_p(c_1), \dots, \rho_p(c_n), \dots], \text{ and}$$

- iii) The induced map,

$$\rho_p : H^*(BU; \mathbb{Z}) \rightarrow H^*(BU; \mathbb{Z}_p),$$

sends  $c_n$  to  $\rho_p(c_n)$  and reduces the coefficients mod  $p$ .

□

4.8 THEOREM [30].- There are elements  $a_n \in H_{2n}(BU(1); \mathbb{Z})$  such that

- i)  $H_*(BU(1); \mathbb{Z})$  is the  $\mathbb{Z}$ -module generated by  $\{a_n\}_{n \in \mathbb{N}}$

- ii)  $H_*(BU; \mathbb{Z})$  is the free graded commutative  $\mathbb{Z}$ -algebra generated by the images under the inclusion  $BU(1) \subset BU$ , that we call also  $a_n$ ; i.e.

$$H_*(BU; \mathbb{Z}) = \mathbb{Z}[a_1, \dots, a_n, \dots].$$

The same results are true with homology with coefficients in  $\mathbb{Z}_p$  and the elements  $\rho_p(a_n)$ , and the map  $\rho_p$  is induced by reduction of coefficients mod  $p$ , as before.

□

The action of the map

$$\tau : BU \rightarrow QBU(1)$$

in homology, is easy to calculate using that  $\tau$  is a map of H-spaces ([27]).

4.9 THEOREM.- The map

$$\tau_* : H_*(BU; \mathbb{Z}_p) \rightarrow H_*(QBU(1); \mathbb{Z}_p)$$

is the inclusion; i.e.,  $\tau_*(\rho_p(a_{r_1}), \dots, \rho_p(a_{r_n})) = \rho_p(a_{r_1}) \dots \rho_p(a_{r_n})$ .

Proof.- As  $\tau$  is an H-space map, all we need is to prove that  $\tau_*(\rho_p(a_n)) = \rho_p(a_n)$ , since  $\tau_*$  commutes with the Pontrjagin product.

Recall that  $\tau$  was constructed inductively starting with

$$\tau_1 = 1_{BU(1)} : BU(1) \rightarrow BU(1)$$

so the diagram

$$\begin{array}{ccc} BU(1) & \xrightarrow{\quad} & BU \\ & \searrow & \downarrow \tau \\ & & QBU(1) \end{array}$$

commutes, thus  $\tau_*(\rho_p(a_n)) = \rho_p(a_n)$ .

□

The last calculation we need is  $\langle \rho(t_Y^{(k)}), \rho_p(a^k) \rangle$ , where  $t_Y^{(k)}$  is the Thom class of the vector bundle  $\gamma^{(k)}$ .

4.10 PROPOSITION.- Let  $\xi$  be an oriented vector bundle over a complex  $B$  with a unique 0-cell,  $\{*\}$ . Giving to  $T\xi$  a cell structure with the suspensions of the cells of  $B$ , the Thom class  $t(\xi) \in H^q(T\xi, \mathbb{Z})$  is represented by the cochain that has value 1 over the  $q$ -cell  $p^{-1}(\{*\})$  and 0 on any other cell.

Proof.- By definition, if

$$j : S^q \rightarrow T(\xi)$$

is induced by the inclusion  $p^{-1}(\{*\}) \rightarrow E\xi$ ,  $t(\xi)$  is the Thom class if  $j^*(t(\xi))$  is a generator of  $H^*(S^q; \mathbb{Z})$ . As  $j$  is a cellular map,  $t(\xi)$  is 1 evaluated on  $p^{-1}(\{*\})$  and this is the only  $q$ -cell of  $T(\xi)$ .  $\square$

4.11 PROPOSITION.- The element  $\rho_p(a_1)^k \in H_{2k}(T\gamma^{(k)}, \mathbb{Z}_p)$  is represented by the cell  $\{*\} \times_{\mathbb{Z}_k} D(\gamma|_{S^2})^k$ .

Proof.- By [15] this cell represents  $\rho_p(a_1)^k \in H_{2k}(D_k(\mathbb{C}_1, S^2); \mathbb{Z}_p)$ .

So, taking cellular maps

$$D_k(\mathbb{C}_1, S^2) \rightarrow D_k(\mathbb{C}_\infty, BU(1)) \simeq T\gamma^{(k)}$$

we can consider  $\rho_p(a_1)^k$  represented by the same cell, in  $H_{2k}(T\gamma^{(k)}, \mathbb{Z}_p)$   $\square$

4.12 COROLLARY.- For any  $p$ ,

$$\langle \rho_p(t\gamma^{(k)}), \rho_p(a_1^k) \rangle = 1$$

Proof.- It is immediate, since by 4.10  $\rho_p(t\gamma^{(k)})$  is one on the cell representing  $\rho_p(a_1^k)$ .  $\square$

4.13 THEOREM.- For any prime  $p$

$$\rho_p(\hat{c}_k) = \rho_p(c_k) \in H^{2k}(BU, \mathbb{Z}_p)$$

Proof.- We evaluate  $\rho_p(\hat{c}_k)$  on the basis of monomials in  $\{a_n\}_{n \in \mathbb{N}}$

$$\langle \rho_p(\hat{c}_k), \rho_p(a_{i_1}) \dots \rho_p(a_{i_n}) \rangle = \langle \tau^* h_k^*(t_Y^{(k)}), \rho_p(a_{i_1}), \dots, \rho_p(a_{i_n}) \rangle$$

= (by naturality of the Kronecker product)

$$= \langle t(Y)^k, h_{k*}(\tau_*(\rho_p(a_{i_1}), \dots, \rho_p(a_{i_n}))) \rangle =$$

$$(\text{by 4.9}) = \langle t(Y)^k, h_{k*}(\rho_p(a_{i_1}) \dots \rho_p(a_{i_n})) \rangle$$

To be non-zero the last product, we need,

$$h(\rho_p(a_{i_1}), \dots, \rho_p(a_{i_n})) = k, \quad \text{so} \quad n=k$$

and

$$\deg(\rho_p(a_{i_1}), \dots, \rho_p(a_{i_k})) = 2k, \quad \text{so} \quad \rho_p(a_{i_1}) \dots \rho_p(a_{i_k}) = \rho_p(a_i)^k$$

Then

$$\langle \rho_p(\hat{c}_k), \rho_p(a_{i_1}), \dots, \rho_p(a_{i_n}) \rangle = \begin{cases} 1 & \text{if } \rho_p(a_{i_1}) \dots \rho_p(a_{i_n}) = \rho_p(a_i)^k \\ & \text{by 4.12} \\ 0 & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

As  $\rho_p(\hat{c}_k)$  is the dual of  $\rho_p(a_i)^k$  with respect to the basis of monomials in  $\rho_p(a_n)$ , it is  $\rho_p(c_k)$ . (see [6]).

4.14 THEOREM.-  $\hat{c}_k = c_k$  in  $H^{2k}(BU; \mathbb{Z})$ .



Proof. By 4.8,  $\hat{c}_k$  is a homogeneous polynomial of degree  $2k$  in  $\{c_n\}_{n \in \mathbb{N}}$  and the coefficient  $\alpha_{i_1 \dots i_n}$  of  $c_{i_1} \dots c_{i_n}$  satisfies

$$\text{i) } \alpha_{i_1 \dots i_n} \equiv 0 \pmod{p}, \text{ for any } p, \text{ if } c_{i_1} \dots c_{i_n} \neq c_k, \\ \text{so } \alpha_{i_1 \dots i_n} = 0.$$

$$\text{ii) } \alpha_k \equiv 1 \pmod{p}, \text{ for any } p, \text{ so } \alpha_k = 1, \\ \text{thus } \hat{c}_k = c_k. \quad \square$$

# CHAPTER 5.- Some results on immersions.

The next goal of this work, is to get a geometric interpretation of the elements

$$\hat{c}_k(\xi) \in H^{2k}(M; \mathbb{Z})$$

, for any weakly complex manifold  $M$ . In order to do that, we assume we have a complex bundle on  $M$ ,  $\xi$ , classified by a map

$$f_\xi : M \rightarrow BU,$$

that lifts to a map

$$f'_\xi : M \xrightarrow{f} BU \xrightarrow{\tau} QBU(1)$$

that has a nice geometric interpretation, given in [17], that we analyse in the first paragraph. The second one deals with the action of the map  $h_k^*$  on this interpretation. The last paragraph looks into the advantages of working with extensions in good position.

From now on, we shall work, when required, in the category of smooth (or  $C^\infty$ ) manifolds and maps. For each manifold  $M$ ,  $TM$  is its tangent bundle and  $T_x M$  is the fibre over  $x \in M$ , and for any smooth map  $f: N \rightarrow M$ ,  $df$  is the differential and it is a morphism of vector bundles

$$df : TN \rightarrow TM$$

## §5.1 Immersions and $[M, F(\mathbb{R}^m, T(\xi))]$ .

First, we recall some facts about immersions.

**5.1 DEFINITION.-** A map  $f: N \rightarrow M$  is said to be an immersion if, for any  $x \in N$ , the map

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## §5.1 Immersions and $(M, F(\mathbb{R}^\infty, T(\xi)))$ .

First, we recall some facts about immersions.

**5.1 DEFINITION.-** A map  $f: N \rightarrow M$  is said to be an immersion if, for any  $x \in N$ , the map

$$df_x: T_x N \rightarrow T_{f(x)} M$$

is a monomorphism.

Sometimes, it is useful to use the following characterization.

5.2 PROPOSITION.- A map  $f: N \rightarrow M$  is an immersion iff the induced map

$$TN \rightarrow f^* TM$$

is a vector bundle monomorphism.

Proof.- It follows immediatly from the definition.

□

Also, we shall use the existence and uniqueness of tubular neighbourhoods for immersions.

5.3 THEOREM.- [14] Let  $f: N \rightarrow M$  be an immersion. We define its normal bundle as

$$\nu = \frac{f^* TM}{TN}$$

Then,

i) There is an extension of  $f$  to an immersion

$$\tilde{f}: \nu \rightarrow M$$

ii) Any two extensions are regularly homotopic relative to  $f$ .

Now, we can state the geometric interpretation of  $[M, F(\mathbb{R}^m, T(\zeta))]$  in terms of immersions.

5.4 DEFINITION.- Let  $\zeta$  be an  $n$ -dimensional vector bundle over  $B$ . We define  $\mathcal{J}(M, \zeta)$  as the set of bordism classes of triples  $(N, g, \bar{g})$ , where

i) The map  $g = (f, e)$  is an embedding such that  $f: N \rightarrow M$  is an immersion and  $e: N \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^\infty$  is a map.

ii) Let  $\nu$  be the normal bundle of the immersion  $f$ . Then, the map  $\tilde{g}$  is a morphism of vector bundles

$$\begin{array}{ccc} E & \xrightarrow{\tilde{g}} & E \times \mathbb{R}^\infty \\ \downarrow \nu & & \downarrow \zeta \\ N & \xrightarrow{\tilde{g}_1} & B_\zeta \times \mathbb{R}^\infty \end{array}$$

and the projection

$$\tilde{g}_1: N \rightarrow B_\zeta \times \mathbb{R}^\infty \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^\infty$$

is the map  $e$ .

$\mathcal{J}(M, \zeta)$  is made an abelian group with the composition law induced by the disjoint union of manifolds.

5.5 DEFINITION.- Let  $\hat{M}$  be the one point compactification of  $M$ . We define the map

$$\beta: \mathcal{J}(M, \zeta) \rightarrow [\hat{M}, F(\mathbb{R}^\infty, T(\zeta))]$$

as follows:

For any element of  $\mathcal{J}(M, \zeta)$  we choose a representative  $(N, g, \tilde{g})$  and then we extend  $f$  to an immersion  $\tilde{f}: \nu \rightarrow M$  satisfying,

- i) The map  $(\tilde{f}, e \circ \pi_\nu): E_\nu \rightarrow M \times \mathbb{R}^\infty$  is an embedding, and
- ii) There is an integer  $n$  such that, for any  $m \in M$ ,  $\tilde{f}^{-1}(m)$  has at most  $n$ -points.

Now, the map  $\beta([N, g, \tilde{g}])$  is given by

$$\beta([N, g, \tilde{g}])(m) = \begin{cases} \{e(\pi_\nu(x)) : x \in \tilde{f}^{-1}(m)\} & \text{if } m \in \text{Im } \tilde{f} \\ * & \text{otherwise.} \end{cases}$$

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5.6 THEOREM [17].-  $g$  is a group morphism, with the group structure on  $[\hat{M}, F(\mathbb{R}^n, T(\xi))]$  given by the H-space structure of  $F(\mathbb{R}^n, T(\xi))$ .  $\square$

§5.2  $k$ -tuple points and the action of  $h_k^*$ .

First we describe the space of  $k$ -tuple points.

5.7 DEFINITION.- Let  $f: X \rightarrow Y$  be a map. The space of ordered  $k$ -tuple points of  $f$  is the subspace of  $F(X, k)$ .

$$\tilde{X}_k = \{(x_1, \dots, x_k) \in F(X, k) : \text{For any } i, j \quad f(x_i) = f(x_j)\}.$$

We define the map  $\tilde{f}_k: \tilde{X}_k \rightarrow Y$  by  $\tilde{f}_k(x_1, \dots, x_k) = f(x_1)$ .

Then, the following property is a direct consequence of the definition.

5.8 PROPOSITION.- Let  $f^k: F(X, k) \rightarrow Y^k$  be the restriction of the  $k^{\text{th}}$  power of  $f$ . Then,

$$\text{i) } \tilde{X}_k = (f^k)^{-1} (\text{diag}_k Y)$$

$$\text{ii) } \tilde{f}_k \text{ is the composite, } \tilde{X}_k \xrightarrow{f^k|} \text{diag}_k Y = Y.$$

$\square$

5.9 DEFINITION.- The space  $\tilde{X}_k$  has an obvious  $\Sigma_k$ -action, given by restriction of the action on  $X^k$  given by permuting factors. The space of  $k$ -tuple points of  $f$  is the quotient

$$X_k = \tilde{X}_k / \Sigma_k.$$

The map  $\tilde{f}_k$  is  $\Sigma_k$ -invariant, so, it induces a map  $f_k: X_k \rightarrow Y$ .

To repeat these constructions in the category of manifolds, we have to use "self-transverse" maps.

5.10 DEFINITION.- Let  $f: N \rightarrow M$  be a map between manifolds, and  $M'$  a submanifold of  $M$ . We say that  $f$  is transverse to  $M'$  at  $x \in N$  if it satisfies either

$$i) f(x) \notin M'$$

$$\text{or } ii) T_{f(x)}M = df(T_x N) + T_{f(x)}M'.$$

We say that  $f$  is transverse to  $M'$  if  $f$  is transverse to  $M'$  at  $x$ , for any  $x \in N$ .

5.11 PROPOSITION [12].- Let  $f$  be transverse to  $M'$ , then  $f^{-1}(M')$  is a submanifold of  $N$  and it has the same codimension as  $M'$  in  $M$ .

□

5.12 THEOREM [12].-Let  $C^\infty(N, M)$  be the space of all smooth maps from  $N$  to  $M$ , with the  $C^\infty$ -Whitney topology. Then, for any  $M'$ , submanifold of  $M$ , the set of maps transverse to  $M'$  is dense in  $C^\infty(N, M)$ .

□

5.13 DEFINITION.- Let  $f: N \rightarrow M$  be a map. We say that  $f$  is selftransverse, if, for any  $k$ , the map  $f^k$  is transverse to  $\text{diag}_k(M)$ .

5.14 NOTE.- As in 5.12, the set of selftransverse map is dense in  $C^\infty(N, M)$  ([12]). Since the set  $\text{Imm}(N, M)$ , of immersions of  $N$  in  $M$ , is open in  $C^\infty(N, M)$ , the set of all self-transverse immersions is dense in  $\text{Imm}(N, M)$ .

Now, we relate the normal bundle of an immersion with the normal bundle of its  $k$ -tuple points.

5.15 PROPOSITION.- Let  $f$  be a self-transverse map. Then, for any  $k$ ,  $\tilde{N}_k$  is a manifold and  $\tilde{f}_k$  is a map of manifolds.



Proof.- By 5.11,  $\tilde{N}_k$  is a submanifold of  $F(N,k)$ , that has the same codimension as  $\text{diag}_k M$  in  $M^k$ . The map  $\tilde{f}_k$  is smooth since it is the restriction of a smooth map.

□

5.16 THEOREM.- Let  $f$  be a self-transverse immersion and  $\nu$  its normal bundle. Then, the map  $\tilde{f}_k$  is an immersion, whose normal bundle  $\tilde{\nu}_k$  is isomorphic to the restriction to  $\tilde{N}_k$  of  $\nu^k$ .

Proof.- The tangent bundle of a product of manifolds is the product of tangent bundle, so

$$T(M^k) \simeq (TM)^k \quad \text{and} \quad T(N^k) \simeq (TN)^k$$

Since  $F(N,k)$  is open in  $N^k$ , its tangent bundle is the restriction of  $(TN)^k$ .

Also, the pull back commutes with the product, so

$$(f^k)^*((TM)^k) = (f^*(TM))^k.$$

Then, the normal bundle of the immersion  $f^k$  is

$$\frac{(f^k)^*(T(M^k))}{T(N^k)} \simeq \frac{(f^*(TM))^k}{(TN)^k} \simeq \nu^k$$

The restriction of  $\nu^k$ .

As  $f^k$  is transverse to  $\text{diag}_k(M)$ , the restriction

$$\tilde{N}_k = (f^k)^{-1} \text{diag}_k(M) \longrightarrow \text{diag}_k(M)$$

has the same normal bundle, i.e. the restriction of  $\nu^k$  to  $\tilde{N}_k$ .

To finish the proof we only need to observe that  $\tilde{f}_k$  is the product of  $f^k|_{\tilde{N}_k}$  and a diffeomorphism.

□

5.17 PROPOSITION.- Let  $f$  be a self-transverse map. Then  $N_k$  is a smooth manifold, and  $f_k$  is a map of manifolds.

Proof.- The  $\Sigma_k$ -action on  $\tilde{N}_k$  is smooth, free and properly discontinuous, so the space of orbits,  $N_k$ , is a smooth manifold and the induced map,  $f_k$ , is a smooth map ([6]).

□

5.18 THEOREM.- Let  $f$  be a self-transverse immersion and  $\nu$  its normal bundle. Then, the map  $f_k$  is an immersion, with normal bundle isomorphic to the quotient of  $\tilde{\nu}_k$  under the  $\Sigma_k$ -action given by permuting the factors.

Proof.- The  $\Sigma_k$ -actions on  $F(N,k)$  and  $M^k$  are smooth, so they induce a  $\Sigma_k$ -action on the tangent bundles and they are given also by permutation of factors.

The map  $f^k$  is  $\Sigma_k$ -equivariant, so the same applies to the map  $(df)^k$  and the inclusion  $TN^k \rightarrow f^*(TM)^k$  is compatible with the  $\Sigma_k$ -action.

Then, they induce a  $\Sigma_k$ -action on  $\nu^k$  and it is given by permutation of factors, Thus the map

$$f_k = \tilde{f}_k / \Sigma_k : N_k \rightarrow \text{diag}_k M$$

has normal bundle the quotient

$$\frac{\tilde{f}_k^*(TM) / \Sigma_k}{\tilde{TN}_k / \Sigma_k} = \frac{f^*(TM)^k / \Sigma_k}{TN^k / \Sigma_k} = \frac{f^*(TM)^k}{(TN)^k} / \Sigma_k = \tilde{\nu}_k / \Sigma_k .$$

□

To end this paragraph, we study the action of the map  $\hat{h}_k$  on the geometric interpretation given by 5.6 .

5.19 DEFINITION.- We define the map  $\theta^k : \mathcal{J}(M, \zeta) \rightarrow \mathcal{J}(M, \zeta^{(k)})$  as follows:

For any element of  $\mathcal{J}(M, \zeta)$ , we can choose a representative  $(N, g, \tilde{g})$  where  $g = (f, e)$  and  $f$  is a self-transverse immersion. We also choose embeddings  $e_k : N_k \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^\infty$ . We define

$$\theta^k([ (N, g, \tilde{g}) ]) = [ (N_k, g', \tilde{g}') ]$$

where,

- i)  $g' = (f_k, e_k)$ , with  $f_k$  the immersion defined in 5.9 .
- ii)  $\tilde{g}' = (\tilde{f}', \tilde{e}_k)$ , where  $\tilde{e}_k$  is an extension of the embedding  $e_k$  to  $E_{\nu_k}$ , and  $\tilde{f}'$  is the bundle map,

$$\begin{array}{ccc} E_{\nu_k} & \xrightarrow{\tilde{f}'} & E_{\zeta}^{(k)} \\ \downarrow & \tilde{f}'_! & \downarrow \\ N_k & \xrightarrow{\quad} & B_{\zeta}^{(k)} \end{array} ,$$

given as a quotient by the  $\Sigma_k$ -action of the product map of the restriction of  $\tilde{g}^k$ , and the map

$$E_{\nu_k} \rightarrow F(\mathbb{R}^\infty, k)$$

induced by  $e$ .

5.20 THEOREM.- [17] The diagram

$$\begin{array}{ccc} \mathcal{J}(M, \zeta) & \xrightarrow{\beta} & [ M, F(\mathbb{R}^\infty, T(\zeta)) ] \\ \downarrow \theta_k & & \downarrow h_k^* \\ \mathcal{J}(M, \zeta^{(k)}) & \xrightarrow{\beta} & [ M, F(\mathbb{R}^\infty, T(\zeta^{(k)})) ] \end{array}$$

commutes.

□

### §5.3 Pointed k-tuple points and good position.

Before defining good position, we need to study the manifold of pointed k-tuple points and its normal bundle.

5.21 DEFINITION.- Let  $f: X \rightarrow Y$  be a map. The space  $\tilde{X}_k$  has a  $\Sigma_{k-1}$  action induced by permuting the first  $(k-1)$ -factors. We define the space of pointed k-tuple points as  $X_k^i = \tilde{X}_k / \Sigma_{k-1}$ .

The projection of  $X^k$  in the  $k^{\text{th}}$  factor induces a map

$$p: \tilde{X}_k \rightarrow X$$

that is  $\Sigma_{k-1}$ -invariant so it induces a map  $f_k^i: X_k^i \rightarrow X$ .

Notice that we can also define the space of  $i^{\text{th}}$ -pointed k-tuple point as

$$X_k^{(i)} = \tilde{X}_k / \Sigma_{k-i}$$

Then, the identification map

$$\pi_k^{(i)}: X_k^{(i)} \rightarrow X_k^{(i-1)},$$

is a  $(k-i)$ -cover, and the diagram

$$\begin{array}{ccc} X_k^{(i)} & \xrightarrow{\pi_k^{(i)}} & X_k^{(i-1)} \\ f_k^{(i)} \downarrow & & \downarrow f_k^{(i-1)} \\ X & \xrightarrow{f} & Y \end{array}$$

commutes.

5.22 PROPOSITION.- Let  $f: N \rightarrow M$  be self transverse. Then, any  $N_k^{(i)}$  is a smooth manifold and  $f_k^i, \pi_k^{(i)}$  are smooth maps.

Proof.-  $\tilde{N}_k$  is a smooth manifold and, for any  $i$ , the  $\Sigma_{k-i}$ -action induced is smooth, free and properly discontinuous, so the quotient space  $N_k^{(i)}$  is a smooth manifold and the projections  $\pi_k^{(i)}$  are smooth. As  $p$  is a smooth map compatible with the  $\Sigma_{k-i}$ -action, the induced map  $f_k^i$  is a smooth map.

5.23 PROPOSITION.- Let  $f: N \rightarrow M$  be a self-transverse immersion. Then the map  $p: \tilde{N}_k \rightarrow N$  is an immersion with normal bundle  $\tilde{\nu}_k$  isomorphic to the restriction of the product bundle  $\nu^{k-1} \times \{0\}$ .

Proof.- Using a riemannian metric, we can see the normal bundle as the orthogonal complement of  $TN$  in  $f^* TM$  i.e.

$$f^*(TM) = TN \oplus \nu$$

so, using the product metric in  $TM^k$ , we have

$$\tilde{f}_k^*(TM) = T\tilde{N}_k \oplus \tilde{\nu}_k$$

By commutativity of

$$\begin{array}{ccc} \tilde{N}_k & \xrightarrow{p} & N \\ & \searrow \tilde{f}_k & \downarrow f \\ & & M \end{array}$$

we have

$$\tilde{f}_k^*(TM) = p^* f^*(TM) = p^*(TN \oplus \nu) = T\tilde{N}_k \oplus \nu(p) \oplus p^*(\nu)$$

so, as both are orthogonal complements

$$\tilde{\nu}_k = p^*(\nu) \oplus \nu(p)$$

But  $\tilde{\nu}_k$  is the restriction of  $\nu^k$  and  $p^*(\nu)$  is the restriction of  $\{0\} \times \nu$ , so,  $\nu(p) = \nu^{k-1} \times \{0\}$ .  $\square$

5.24 THEOREM.- Let  $f: N \rightarrow M$  be a self-transverse immersion. Then, the map  $f'_k$  is an immersion whose normal bundle  $v'_k$  is isomorphic to the quotient bundle  $\tilde{v}'_k/\Sigma_{k-1}$  where the  $\Sigma_{k-1}$ -action is given by permutation of factors.

Proof.- As in 5.18, we see the  $\Sigma_{k-1}$ -action on  $T\tilde{N}_k$  and  $TN$  induces one on  $\tilde{v}'_k$  given by permutation of factors. Then, as in 5.18, the normal bundle of  $f'_k$  is the quotient bundle.

□

NOTE.- There is a unique map of bundles, over  $\Pi_k$ .

$$\tilde{\pi}_k : \tilde{v}'_k \rightarrow v_k$$

closing the diagram,

$$\begin{array}{ccc} TN & \longrightarrow & TM \\ \uparrow & & \uparrow \\ v'_k & \longrightarrow & v_k \end{array}$$

and it is the quotient of the inclusion of bundles on  $\tilde{N}_k$

$$\tilde{v}'_k \subset \tilde{v}_k.$$

its image is the bundle  $\bigcup_{j=0}^{n-1} v^j \times \{0\} \times v^{k-j-1}/\Sigma_k$ , that we call also  $v'_k$  and it is the normal bundle of  $N_k \subset \text{Im } f$ .

Inductively we have the bundle over  $\tilde{N}_k$

$$\tilde{v}_k^{(i)} = v^{k-i} \times \{0\}$$

that gives a quotient bundle  $v_k^{(i)}$  on  $N_k^{(i)}$  and it is included in  $v_k$  by the quotient of the map

$$\tilde{v}_k^{(i)} \subset \tilde{v}_k$$

having as image in  $\tilde{v}_k$  the bundle

$$\bigcup_{j_1 + j_2 + \dots + j_i + i = k} v^{j_1} \times \{0\} \times v^{j_2} \times \{0\} \dots \times v^{j_i} / \Sigma_k$$

that we call also  $v_k^{(i)}$  and it is the normal bundle of  $N_k$  in  $\text{Im } f_i$

Then the bundles over  $N_k$

$$(v_k, v_k^i, v_k^{ii}, \dots, v_k^{(k-1)})$$

are the normal bundles of  $N_k$  in

$$(M, \text{Im } f_1, \text{Im } f_2, \dots, \text{Im } f_{k-1}).$$

Similarly, if we call also  $v_k^{(i)}$  the bundle over  $N_k^i$  induced by  $v_k^{(i)}$ , we have that the bundles over  $N_k^i$

$$(v_k^i, v_k^{ii}, \dots, v_k^{(k-1)})$$

are the normal bundles of  $N_k^i$  in

$$(N, \text{Im } f_1^i, \text{Im } f_2^i, \dots, \text{Im } f_{k-1}^i)$$

and there is an obvious map from one set of bundles to another.

Now we turn to the description of good position.

5.25 DEFINITION.- Let  $f: N \rightarrow M$  be a self-transverse immersion with normal bundle  $v$ . An immersion extending  $f$ .

$$\bar{f}: v \rightarrow M$$

is said to be in good position if, for any  $k$ , there are immersions

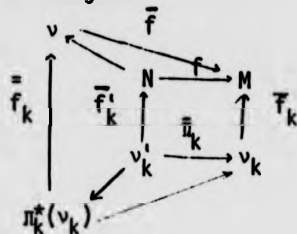
$$\bar{f}_k^i: v_k^i \rightarrow N, \text{ extending } f_k^i,$$

$$\bar{f}_k: v_k \rightarrow M, \text{ extending } f_k, \text{ and}$$

$$\bar{\bar{f}}_k: \pi_k^*(v_k) \rightarrow v, \text{ map of vector bundle over } f_k^i.$$

such that:

i) For any  $k$ , the diagram



commutes, where the inclusion  $v'_k \subset \pi_k^*(v_k)$  is induced by the obvious isomorphism,  $\pi_k^*(v_k) \simeq v'_k \otimes f_k^*(v)$ .

ii)  $\text{Im } \mathcal{F}_k$  is the set of multiple points of  $\mathcal{F}$  with multiplicity greater or equal to  $k$ .

In the next chapter we prove the existence and uniqueness of this extension, but now we are interested in seeing the importance of having one.

5.26 DEFINITION.- Let us assume that  $[(N, g, \bar{g})]$  lies in  $\mathcal{J}(M, \epsilon)$  and  $\mathcal{F}$  is an extension of  $f$  in good position. We define

$$\underline{M}_k = \text{cl}(\text{Im } \mathcal{F}_k - \text{Im } \mathcal{F}_{k+1}) \subset \text{Im } \mathcal{F}_k$$

$$\underline{N}_k = \text{cl}(\text{Im } f_k - \text{Im } \mathcal{F}_{k+1}) \subset \text{Im } \mathcal{F}_k$$

then, the obvious map  $\underline{M}_k \rightarrow \underline{N}_k$  is a cube bundle classified by the map

$$\underline{N}_k \rightarrow F(R, k) \times_{\Sigma_k} B\epsilon^k.$$

Also, the restriction

$$f_k \mid : f_k^{-1}(\underline{M}_k) \rightarrow M$$

is an embedding, so we can consider  $\underline{N}_k$  lying in  $M_k$  and  $\underline{M}_k$  in  $v_k$ .



so we have,

5.27 PROPOSITION.- The map associated to the triple  $(N, g, g)$ ,  $h$ , restricts to the composite

$$\underline{M}_k \rightarrow F(\mathbb{R}^\infty, k) \times_{\Sigma_k} ES^k \rightarrow F_k(F(\mathbb{R}^\infty, T(\zeta))).$$

□

5.28 COROLLARY.- If  $h$  is as in 5.27, it restricts to the map

$$M \sim \text{Im } \overline{F}_{k+1} \rightarrow F_k(F(\mathbb{R}^\infty, T(\zeta))).$$

Proof.- We glue the restrictions to  $\underline{M}_1, \underline{M}_2, \dots, \underline{M}_k$  and all of them factor through  $F_k$ .

□

5.29 PROPOSITION.- The composite map

$$M \sim \text{Im } \overline{F}_{k+1} \xrightarrow{h|} F_k(F(\mathbb{R}^\infty, T(\zeta))) \xrightarrow{h_k} T(\zeta^{(k)})$$

is the Thom Pontrjagin construction on the bundle  $\underline{M}_k \rightarrow \underline{N}_k$ .

Proof.- It is immediate, since the composition maps all the points in the cube bundle as the classifying map does and send the rest to the base point.

□

## CHAPTER 6 : Extensions in good position.

In this chapter, we construct an extension of a self-transverse immersion

$$f : N \rightarrow M$$

to an immersion of its normal bundle  $\nu$ , that is in good position.

It is done by glueing inductively a special type of chart described in the first paragraph.

### §6.1 Some preliminaries .

Let us prove the existence of a special type of chart.

**6.1 DEFINITION.-** Let  $V$  be a real vector space. The set of subspaces  $\{H_i\}_{i=1}^r$  is said to be in general position if, for any sequence  $1 \leq i_1 < \dots < i_s \leq r$ , we have

$$\text{cod}(H_{i_1} \cap \dots \cap H_{i_s}) = \text{cod } H_{i_1} + \dots + \text{cod } H_{i_s}.$$

Notice that, for any two different sets of subspaces of  $V$  in general position  $\{H_i\}_{i=1}^r$  and  $\{H_i^1\}_{i=1}^r$ , satisfying  $\dim H_i = \dim H_i^1$ , for any  $i$ , there is a linear automorphism of  $V$

$$\psi : V \rightarrow V,$$

such that, for any  $i$ ,  $\psi(H_i) = H_i^1$ .

**6.2 DEFINITION.** Let  $M$  be a manifold. The set of submanifolds  $\{M_i\}_{i=1}^r$  is said to be in general position at  $y \in M_1 \cap \dots \cap M_r$  if the set  $\{T_y M_i\}$ , of subspaces of  $T_y M$  is in general position.

The set of submanifolds  $\{M_i\}_{i=1}^r$  is said to be in general position

if for any  $1 \leq i_1 < \dots < i_s \leq r$  and any  $y \in M_{i_1} \cap \dots \cap M_{i_s}$ , the set of submanifolds  $\{M_{i_j}\}_{j=1}^s$  is in general position at  $y$ .

6.3 THEOREM ([12]).- Let  $\{M_i\}_{i=1}^r$  be a set of submanifolds of  $M$ , in general position at  $y \in M_{i_1} \cap \dots \cap M_{i_r}$ , and  $\{H_i\}_{i=1}^r$  a set of subspaces of  $\mathbb{R}^m$  in general position. Then, if  $\dim H_i = \dim M_i$  and  $m = \dim M$ , there is a chart at  $y$ ,

$$\phi : (W, y) \rightarrow (\mathbb{R}^m, 0)$$

such that, for any  $i$ ,  $\phi^{-1}(H_i) = M_i \cap W$ .

□

6.4 THEOREM.- Let  $f$  be a self-transverse immersion and let  $y$  be a point of  $M$  such that  $f^{-1}(y) = \{x_1, \dots, x_k\}$ . Then, the set of subspaces of  $T_y M$ ,  $\{df(Tx_i(N))\}_{i=1}^r$ , is in general position.

Proof.- Let us define  $H_i = df(Tx_i(N))$  and let  $\{i_j\}$  be a subsequence  $0 \leq i_1 < \dots < i_s \leq r$ .

We define

$$\bar{x} = (x_{i_1}, \dots, x_{i_s}) \in F(N, s)$$

$$\bar{y} = (y, \dots, y) \in \text{diag}_s M.$$

Then, we have  $f^S(F\bar{x}) = \bar{y}$ . As  $f$  is self-transverse,

$$\begin{aligned} T_y(M)^S &= df^S(T_{\bar{x}}(F(N, s))) + T_{\bar{y}} \text{diag}_s M = \\ &= (H_{i_1} \oplus \dots \oplus H_{i_s}) + T_{\bar{y}} \text{diag}_s M, \end{aligned}$$

so

$$s \cdot \dim M = \dim H_{i_1} + \dots + \dim H_{i_s} + \dim \text{diag}_s M - \dim(H_{i_1} \oplus \dots \oplus H_{i_s} \cap \text{diag}_s M)$$

Thus,

$$\text{cod } H_{i_1} + \dots + \text{cod } H_{i_s} = \dim M - \dim H_{i_1} \cap \dots \cap H_{i_s} = \text{cod } H_{i_1} \cap \dots \cap H_{i_s}$$

and the set  $\{H_i\}_{i=1}^r$  is in general position.

□

6.5 THEOREM.- Let  $f$  be a self-transverse immersion and  $a = \text{cod } f = \dim M - \dim I$ . For any  $y \in I$ , if  $f^{-1}(y) = \{x_1, \dots, x_r\}$ , there are

i) a chart for  $M$  at  $y$ ,  $\psi: (W, y) \rightarrow (\mathbb{R}^m, 0)$

ii) disjoint charts for  $I$  at  $x_i$ ,  $\phi_i: (U_i, x_i) \rightarrow (\mathbb{R}^n, 0)$

such that, if  $t = \dim M - r \cdot a$ , the composite map

$$(\mathbb{R}^t \times (\mathbb{R}^a)^{r-1}, \mathbb{R}^t) \xrightarrow{\phi_i^{-1}} (U_i, \text{Im } f'_r) \xrightarrow{f} (W, \text{Im } f_r) \xrightarrow{\psi} (\mathbb{R}^t \times (\mathbb{R}^a)^r, \mathbb{R}^t)$$

is defined and it is the inclusion

$$\mathbb{R}^t \times (\mathbb{R}^a)^{r-1} \xrightarrow{\sim} \mathbb{R}^t \times \bar{H}_i \hookrightarrow \mathbb{R}^t \times (\mathbb{R}^a)^r,$$

where  $\bar{H}_i = (\mathbb{R}^a)^{i-1} \times \{0\} \times (\mathbb{R}^a)^{r-i}$ .

Proof.-  $\text{Im } f'_r$  is a submanifold of  $I$  in a neighbourhood of  $x_i$ ; so, for each  $i$ , there are submanifold charts of  $\text{Im } f'_r$  at  $x_i$

$$\chi_i: (V_i, V_i \cap \text{Im } f'_r) \rightarrow (\mathbb{R}^n, \mathbb{R}^t),$$

such that they are pairwise disjoint and  $f|_{V_i}$  is an embedding.

We chose a submanifold chart of  $\text{Im } f_r$  at  $y$

$$\psi: (W, W \cap \text{Im } f_r) \rightarrow (\mathbb{R}^m, \mathbb{R}^t)$$

such that  $f^{-1}(W) \subset \bigcup_{i=1}^r V_i$  and they satisfy 6.3 with

$$H_i = \mathbb{R}^t \times \bar{H}_i \quad \text{and}$$

$$M_i = f(V_i)$$

If, now, we define  $U_i = V_i \cap f^{-1}(W)$ , the composite,

$$\phi : (\mathbb{R}^t \times (\mathbb{R}^a)^{r-1}, \mathbb{R}^t) \xrightarrow{x_i^{-1}} (U_i, \text{Im } f_r^i \cap U_i) \xrightarrow{f} (W, \text{Im } f_r \cap W) \xrightarrow{\psi} (\mathbb{R}^t \times (\mathbb{R}^a)^r, \mathbb{R}^t)$$

is a diffeomorphism onto  $(H_i, \mathbb{R}^t)$ .

Defining,

$$\phi_i : (U_i, \text{Im } f_r^i \cap U_i) \xrightarrow{x_i^{-1}} (\mathbb{R}^t \times (\mathbb{R}^a)^{r-1}, \mathbb{R}^t) \xrightarrow{\phi} (H_i, \mathbb{R}^t) \xrightarrow{\bar{p}_i} (\mathbb{R}^t \times (\mathbb{R}^a)^{r-1}, \mathbb{R}^t)$$

where  $\bar{p}_i$  is the projection into all factors but the  $i^{\text{th}}$ , we get the appropriate chart.

6.6 REMARK. If both  $M$  and  $N$  are compact manifolds, there are finite coverings by charts  $\{(W_j, \psi_j)\}_{j=1}^p$  and  $\{(U_{ji}, \phi_{ji})\}_{j=1}^p \prod_{i=1}^{r_j}$  such that

- i)  $W_j$  meets  $\text{Im } f_1, \text{Im } f_2, \dots, \text{Im } f_{r_j}$  but does not meet  $\text{Im } f_{r_j+1}$ .
- ii)  $f^{-1}(W_j) = \bigcup_{i=1}^{r_j} U_{ji}$ .
- iii) For any  $j$ ,  $(W_j, \psi_j)$  and  $\{(U_{ji}, \phi_{ji})\}_{i=1}^{r_j}$  satisfy 6.5.

Obviously then, these charts send the stratification

$$(M, \text{Im } f, \text{Im } f_2, \dots, \text{Im } f_r)$$

into the stratification of  $\mathbb{R}^t \times (\mathbb{R}^a)^r$  given by  $\{H_i\}$  and their finite intersections.

6.7 DEFINITION.- Let  $M'$  be a submanifold of  $M$ . A partial tubular neighbourhood of  $M'$  in  $M$  is a triple  $T = (\xi, \epsilon, e)$  where

- 1)  $\xi$  is an inner product bundle over  $M'$ .

If, now, we define  $U_i = V_i \cap f^{-1}(W)$ , the composite,

$$\phi : (\mathbb{R}^t \times (\mathbb{R}^a)^{r-1}, \mathbb{R}^t) \xrightarrow{x_i^{-1}} (U_i, \text{Im } f_r' \cap U_i) \xrightarrow{f} (W, \text{Im } f_r \cap W) \xrightarrow{\psi} (\mathbb{R}^t \times (\mathbb{R}^a)^r, \mathbb{R}^t)$$

is a diffeomorphism onto  $(H_i, \mathbb{R}^t)$ .

Defining,

$$\phi_i : (U_i, \text{Im } f_r' \cap U_i) \xrightarrow{x_i^{-1}} (\mathbb{R}^t \times (\mathbb{R}^a)^{r-1}, \mathbb{R}^t) \xrightarrow{\phi} (H_i, \mathbb{R}^t) \xrightarrow{\bar{p}_i} (\mathbb{R}^t \times (\mathbb{R}^a)^{r-1}, \mathbb{R}^t)$$

where  $\bar{p}_i$  is the projection into all factors but the  $i^{\text{th}}$ , we get the appropriate chart.

6.6 REMARK. If both  $M$  and  $N$  are compact manifolds, there are finite coverings by charts  $\{(W, \psi_j)\}_{j=1}^p$  and  $\{(U_{ji}, \phi_{ji})\}_{j=1}^p \prod_{i=1}^{r_j}$  such that

- i)  $W_j$  meets  $\text{Im } f_1, \text{Im } f_2, \dots, \text{Im } f_{r_j}$  but does not meet  $\text{Im } f_{r_j+1}$ .
- ii)  $f^{-1}(W_j) = \bigcup_{i=1}^{r_j} U_{ji}$ .
- iii) For any  $j$ ,  $(W_j, \psi_j)$  and  $\{(U_{ji}, \phi_{ji})\}_{i=1}^{r_j}$  satisfy 6.5.

Obviously then, these charts send the stratification

$$(M, \text{Im } f_1, \text{Im } f_2, \dots, \text{Im } f_r)$$

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6.7 DEFINITION.- Let  $M'$  be a submanifold of  $M$ . A partial tubular neighbourhood of  $M'$  in  $M$  is a triple  $T = (\xi, \epsilon, e)$  where

- i)  $\xi$  is an inner product bundle over  $M'$ .

ii)  $\epsilon$  is a map  $\epsilon : M' \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^+$

iii)  $e$  is an embedding into an open subset  $e : D_\epsilon(\xi) \rightarrow M$ .

where  $D_\epsilon(\xi)$  is the open disc bundle of radius  $\epsilon(y)$  over any  $y \in M$ .

In the case  $\epsilon=1$  it agrees with the definition of tubular neighbourhood.

Let  $T_1 = (\xi_1, \epsilon_1, e_1)$  and  $T_2 = (\xi_2, \epsilon_2, e_2)$  be two partial tubular neighbourhoods of  $M'$  in  $M$ , we say that the isomorphisms of inner product bundles

$$\psi : \xi_1 \longrightarrow \xi_2$$

is an isomorphism between  $T_1$  and  $T_2$  if there is a map  $\epsilon' : M' \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^+$  such that  $\epsilon' \leq \inf(\epsilon_1, \epsilon_2)$ , and the diagram

$$\begin{array}{ccc} D_{\epsilon'} & (\xi_1) & e_1 | \\ \psi \downarrow & & \searrow \\ D_{\epsilon'} & (\xi_2) & e_2 | \\ & & \nearrow \\ & & M \end{array}$$

commutes. Notice that if  $\epsilon_1 = \epsilon_2 = \epsilon' = 1$  we have the usual isomorphism between tubular neighbourhoods.

If  $T = (\xi, \epsilon, e)$  is a tubular neighbourhood of  $M'$  in  $M$  and

$$h : (M, M') \xrightarrow{\sim} (N, N')$$

is a diffeomorphism of manifold pairs, we define

$$h_*(T) = ((h^{-1})^* \xi, \epsilon \circ h^{-1}, h \circ e \circ h^{-1})$$

where  $h^{-1} : (h^{-1})^* \xi \rightarrow \xi$  is the isomorphism over  $h^{-1}$ .

6.8 LEMMA .- Let  $B$  be an open set in  $\mathbb{R}^{m'} \times \{0\} \subset \mathbb{R}^m$ ,  $(\xi_1, e_1)$  and

$(\xi_2, e_2)$  tubular neighbourhoods of  $B$  and  $\mathbb{R}^m$  in  $\mathbb{R}^m$ . For any compact set  $V' \subset B$  there is an isotopy

$$H : \mathbb{R}^m \times I \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^m$$

such that  $H_0 = \text{id}$ , and an isomorphism of vector bundles,

$$\psi : (H_1^{-1})^* \xi_1|_V \rightarrow \xi_2|_V,$$

inducing an isomorphism of tubular neighbourhoods.

Proof.- Let  $\beta : \xi_1|_B \rightarrow \xi_2|_B$  be the isomorphism of vector bundles given by the derivative of the map  $e_1 e_2^{-1}$ . Then, there exists an automorphism

$$\eta : \xi_2|_B \rightarrow \xi_2|_B$$

such that for any  $x \in B$   $\eta_x$  is self-adjoint and the composite  $\psi = \eta \circ \beta$  is an isomorphism of inner product bundles.

Now, we want to define the isotopy. Let  $\psi_t$  be the isomorphism of vector bundle,  $\psi_t = (1-t)\beta + t\psi$ .

Now, we chose a neighbourhood of  $V$  in  $B, V_1$ , such that the composition

$$V_1 \times I \xrightarrow{e_1^{-1} \times 1} \xi_1 \times I \xrightarrow{\psi_t} \xi_2 \xrightarrow{e_2} V_1$$

is defined. Let  $V_2 \subset V_1$  be a neighbourhood of  $V$  in  $B$  such that, for any  $0 \leq s, t \leq 1$ , we have  $g_s(V_2) \subset g_t(V_1)$ .

Let

$$\rho : \mathbb{R}^m \rightarrow [0,1]$$

be a smooth map with compact support in  $V_2$  and  $\rho = 1$  on a neighbourhood of  $V$ . Then, the maps



$$G_{s,t} : \mathbb{R}^m \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^m$$

defined by

$$G_{s,t}(x) = \begin{cases} (1-\rho(x))x + \rho(x) g_t g_s^{-1}(x) & x \in V_2 \\ x & x \notin V_2 \end{cases}$$

are smooth, and as  $G_{t,t}=1$ , there is a  $\delta > 0$  such that  $G_{s,t}$  is a diffeomorphism for any  $|s-t| < \delta$ .

Let  $n$  be such that  $1/n < \delta$ , then the maps,

$$H_t = G_{0,t/n}, \dots, G_{k-1/n,t}, t$$

give the required isotopy.

□

Notice that if the maps  $e_1 e_2^{-1}$  preserves the filtration of  $\xi_1$  and  $\xi_2$  given by the hyperplanes, all the construction can be done preserving it.

## §6.2 Construction of extensions in good position.

In this paragraph  $f$  is a self-transverse immersion of  $N$  in  $M$ . With the notation

$$(\xi, \xi', \xi'', \dots, \xi^{(n-1)}, P)$$

we mean an  $n$ -tuple of fiber bundles over the manifold  $P$  with fibre,

$$((\mathbb{R}^a)^n, \bigcup_{i=1}^n \bar{H}_i, \bigcup_{j,i=1}^n \bar{H}_i \cap \bar{H}_j, \dots, \bigcup_{i=1}^n L_i, \{0\})$$

when  $L_i = \{0\} \times \mathbb{R}^a \times \{0\}$  and  $\bar{H}_i$  are as in 6.5.

6.9 THEOREM.- Let  $N_k$  be the manifold of the deepest multiple points, then, there are embeddings:

$$\bar{f}'_k : (v'_k, v''_k, \dots, N'_k) \rightarrow (N, \text{Im } f'_2, \dots, \text{Im } f'_k)$$

$$\bar{f}_k : (v_k, v'_k, v''_k, \dots, N_k) \rightarrow (M, \text{Im } f, \text{Im } f_2, \dots, \text{Im } f_k)$$

such that the diagram

$$\begin{array}{ccc} (v'_k, v''_k, \dots, N'_k) & \xrightarrow{\bar{f}_k^{-1}} & (N, \text{Im } f'_2, \dots, \text{Im } f'_k) \\ \downarrow & & \downarrow f \\ (v_k, v'_k, v''_k, \dots, N_k) & \xrightarrow{\bar{f}_k} & (\text{Im } f, \text{Im } f_2, \dots, \text{Im } f_k) \end{array}$$

commutes.

Proof. - Without loss of generality, we can assume that  $N_k$  is connected, since otherwise we can repeat the construction for each component.

First, we reorder the coverings of 6.6, in such a way that  $\{W_i\}_{i=1}^{p_0}$  are all that meet  $\text{Im } f_k$ , and, for any  $\lambda$ ,  $\bigcup_{j=1}^{\lambda} W_j$  is connected.

$\{U_{j,i}\}_{i=1}^{p_0}$  is the associated covering of  $\text{Im } f'_k$  in  $N$ .

Now, we chose an open covering of  $\text{Im } f_k$ ,  $\{W'_j\}_{j=1}^{p_0}$ , satisfying

i)  $W'_i \subset \subset W_i \subset W_i$ , and

ii) For any  $\lambda$ ,  $\bigcup_{j=1}^{\lambda} W'_j$  is connected.

We define  $U'_{j,i} = U_{j,i} \cap f^{-1}(W'_j)$

For any  $j$ , we define the  $n$ -tuple of fibre bundles:

$$(\xi_j, \xi'_j, \xi''_j, \dots, W_j \cap \text{Im } f_k) = (W_j \cap \text{Im } f_k) \times ((\mathbb{R}^a)^k, \bigcup_{i=1}^k H_i, \bigcup_{i=1}^k H_i \cap H_i, \dots, \{0\})$$

and the embedding

$$\begin{aligned} e_j : (W_j \cap \text{Im } f_k) \times ((\mathbb{R}^a)^k, \bigcup_{i=1}^k H_i, \dots, \{0\}) & \xrightarrow{\psi_j \times 1} \mathbb{R}^t \times ((\mathbb{R}^a)^k, \bigcup_{i=1}^k H_i, \dots, \{0\}) \\ & \xrightarrow{\psi_j^{-1}} (M, \text{Im } f, \text{Im } f_2, \dots, \text{Im } f_k) \cap W_j. \end{aligned}$$

The couple  $(\varepsilon_j, e_j)$  is a tubular neighbourhood of  $W_j \cap \text{Im } f_k$  in  $M$ .

Similarly, we define the bundles,

$$(\varepsilon_{j1}, \varepsilon_{j2}, \dots, U_{j1} \cap \text{Im } f'_k) = (U_{j1} \cap \text{Im } f'_k) \times ((\mathbb{R}^a)^{k-1}, \bigcup_{h=1}^{k-1} H_h^1, \dots, \{0\})$$

and the embeddings

$$e_{j1} : (U_{j1} \cap \text{Im } f'_k) \times ((\mathbb{R}^a)^{k-1}, \bigcup_{h=1}^{k-1} H_h^1, \dots, \{0\}) \rightarrow (N, \text{Im } f'_2, \dots, \text{Im } f'_k) \cap U_{j1}$$

the bundle maps

$$\phi_j : \varepsilon_j = \coprod_{i=1}^k \varepsilon_{ji} \rightarrow \varepsilon_j$$

induced by the inclusions,

$$(\mathbb{R}^a)^{k-1} \xrightarrow{\sim} H_i \hookrightarrow (\mathbb{R}^a)^k$$

makes commutative the square

$$\begin{array}{ccc} \varepsilon_{j1} & \xrightarrow{e_{j1}} & N \\ \downarrow \phi_j & & \downarrow f \\ \varepsilon_j & \xrightarrow{e_j} & M \end{array}$$

Now, we construct tubular neighbourhood of  $N_k^1$  and  $N_k$  by glueing these bundles inductively after they have being changed by an isotopy, as follows:

Assume that we have already constructed a  $n$ -tuple of bundles

$$(\varepsilon_e, \varepsilon_e^1, \dots, B_e) \text{ on an open neighbourhood of } \bigcup_{j=1}^e (cl W_j) \cap \text{Im } f_k$$

in  $\text{Im } f_k$  and an embedding,

$$g_e : (\varepsilon_e, \varepsilon_e^1, \dots, B_e) \rightarrow (M, \text{Im } f_1, \dots, B_e)$$

also  $n$ -tuples of bundles  $(\zeta'_e, \dots, f^{-1}(B_e))$  and an embedding,

$$g'_e : (\zeta'_e, \dots, f^{-1}(B_e)) \rightarrow (N, \text{Im } f_2, \dots, f^{-1}(B_e))$$

and a map of bundles

$$\psi_e : (\zeta'_e, \dots, f^{-1}(B_e)) \rightarrow (\zeta'_e, \dots, B_e)$$

over  $f$  and such that  $f \circ g'_e = g_e \circ \psi_e$ .

Let  $A_e$  be an open set in  $\text{Im } f_k$  such that

$$\bigcup_{j=1}^e (cl W_j) \cap \text{Im } f_k \subset A_e \subset cl A_e \subset B_e.$$

Both  $(\varepsilon_{e+1}, e_{e+1})$  and  $(\zeta_e, g_e)$  are tubular neighbourhoods of  $B_e \cap W_{e+1}$  so, by 6.8, there is an isotopy,

$$H_t : M \times I \rightarrow M$$

preserving the filtration of  $M$  by  $\text{Im } f_1, \text{Im } f_2, \dots$ ,  
and an isomorphism,

$$\psi = (H_1^{-1})^* \varepsilon_{e+1} \big|_{A_e \cap W_{e+1}} \xrightarrow{\sim} \varepsilon_e \big|_{A_e \cap W_{e+1}}$$

preserving the filtrations of both bundles.

Then, we define

$$\zeta_{e+1} = \zeta_e \cup (H_1^{-1})^* \varepsilon_{e+1}$$

$$g_{e+1} = g_e \cup e_{e+1} \circ H_1$$

and, obviously, it is a tubular neighbourhood over  $(A_e \cup (W_{e+1} \cap \text{Im } f_k))$  in  $M$ .

At both  $H$  and  $\psi$  preserve the filtration. They lift to  $H'$  and  $\psi'$  on  $N, \zeta'$  and  $\zeta'$ , giving,

$$\zeta'_{e+1} = \zeta'_e \cup_{\Psi} (M'^{-1})^* \zeta'_{e+1}$$

$$g'_{e+1} = g'_e \cup_{\Psi} e'_{e+1} \circ \tilde{H}'_1$$

and a unique extension  $\Psi_{e+1}$ .

After finite induction, we have constructed a bundle  $\xi$ , and a embedding onto an open subset

$$g : \xi \rightarrow M$$

so for any  $y \in \text{Im } f_k$

$$\xi_y = T(\xi_y)_0 \xrightarrow{dg} T_y M \rightarrow T_y M / T_y \text{Im } f_k = (\nu_k)_y$$

is an isomorphism and, as presheaf filtration, it gives an isomorphism of bundles

$$\alpha : (\xi, \xi', \dots, N_k) \xrightarrow{\sim} (\nu_k, \nu'_k, \dots, N_k).$$

that lifts to an isomorphism

$$\alpha' : (\xi', \dots, N'_k) \xrightarrow{\sim} (\nu'_k, \dots, N'_k).$$

Thus, if we define

$$f'_k = g' \circ \alpha'^{-1} \quad \text{and} \quad f_k = g \circ \alpha^{-1}$$

we get the maps we were looking for.

□

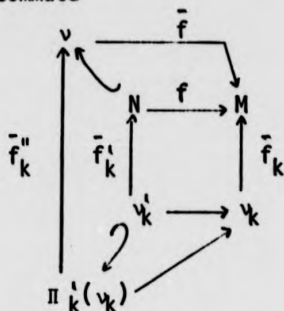
6.10 NOTE.- If we choose an isomorphism

$$\theta : \Pi_k^* (\nu_k) \xrightarrow{\sim} \tilde{f}_k^* (v),$$

we can define  $\tilde{f}_k^*$  as the composite of  $\theta$  and the map

$$f_k^* (v) \rightarrow v$$

Then, the map  $\bar{f} |_{\text{Im } \bar{f}'_k}$  is defined as the only one that make the following diagram commute



and, obviously,  $\bar{f}$  is in good position.

6.11 THEOREM.- Let  $f : N \rightarrow M$  be a self-transverse immersion. Then, there is an extension in good position

$$\bar{f} : v \rightarrow M$$

Proof.- It is done constructing, inductively, the maps

$$\bar{f}_\ell : v_\ell \rightarrow M$$

$$\bar{f}'_\ell : v'_\ell \rightarrow N$$

and then  $\bar{f}$  is defined as in 6.10.

If  $k$  is the deepest intersection, the result is 6.9.

We show how to construct  $\bar{f}_{k-1}$  and  $\bar{f}'_{k-1}$  from  $\bar{f}_k$  and  $\bar{f}'_k$

Let us define

$$(\bar{N}'_{k-1}, \bar{N}'_{k-1}) = f_{k-1}^{-1} (\text{Im } \bar{f}'_k, \bar{f}'_k (D(v'_k))) \quad \text{and}$$

$$(\bar{N}_{k-1}, \bar{N}_{k-1}) = f_{k-1}^{-1} (\text{Im } \bar{f}_k, \bar{f}_k (D(v_k))) .$$

Since  $f_{k-1}$  carries  $\bar{N}_{k-1}$  to the image of  $\bigcup_{u \in U} (0) \times u \times \{0\}$ , there are maps,

$$v_{k-1}|_{\bar{N}_{k-1}} \xrightarrow{\sim} v_k \xrightarrow{\sim} D(v_k) \quad \text{and}$$

$$v_{k-1}^i|_{\bar{N}_{k-1}^i} \xrightarrow{\sim} v_k^i \xrightarrow{\sim} D(v_k^i).$$

If we define  $g$  and  $q'$  as the composite of  $\bar{f}_k$  and  $\bar{f}_k'$  with the above diffeomorphism, the diagram,

$$\begin{array}{ccc} v_{k-1}^i|_{\bar{N}_{k-1}^i} & \xrightarrow{\quad} & N \\ \downarrow & & \downarrow f \\ v_{k-1}|_{\bar{N}_{k-1}} & \xrightarrow{\quad} & M \end{array}$$

commutes.

Now we proceed as in 6.9 constructing inductively  $\xi$  and  $\xi'$ , glueing charts on the bundles, leaving unchanged  $v_{k-1}^i|_{\bar{N}_{k-1}^i}$  and  $v_{k-1}|_{\bar{N}_{k-1}}$ .

Then, we get the maps  $\bar{f}_{k-1}'$  and  $\bar{f}_{k-1}$  and, the map  $\bar{f}|_{v|_{1m}} \bar{f}_{k-1}'$

is defined as in 6.10. It is in good position since the maps

$\bar{f}_{k-1}'$  and  $\bar{f}_{k-1}$  and the new maps

$$v_k \xrightarrow{\sim} D(v_k) \xrightarrow{\bar{f}_k} M \quad \text{and}$$

$$v_k^i \xrightarrow{\sim} D(v_k^i) \xrightarrow{\bar{f}_k^i} M$$

make the appropriate diagram commute.

Similarly, we proceed the induction downwards, shrinking at each step the width of the image of the normal bundle, and after a finite number of steps, we get the desired extension in good position

$$\bar{f} : v \rightarrow M.$$

□

6.11 REMARK.- By uniqueness of tubular neighbourhoods for immersions ([13]), any extension of  $f$  is regular homotopic to the one constructed, so any extension is regular homotopic to one in good position.



## CHAPTER 7 Geometric Interpretation of the Classes $\hat{C}_k$ .

To get this geometric interpretation, we have to use complex cobordism, so the first paragraph is a review of the theory, as sketched in ([25]), together with some results of [5].

### §7.1 Review of complex cobordism.

7.1 DEFINITION.- Let  $M$  be a manifold and  $\xi: M \rightarrow B\mathbb{O}$  be a map. A complex orientation of  $\xi$ , is a map,  $\xi': M \rightarrow BU$  such that the diagram

$$\begin{array}{ccc} M & \xrightarrow{\xi'} & BU \\ & \searrow \xi & \downarrow \\ & & B\mathbb{O} \end{array}$$

a specified commutes up to homotopy, where the map  $BU \rightarrow B\mathbb{O}$  is the limit of the inclusions  $BU(n) \rightarrow B\mathbb{O}(2n)$ .

The couple  $(M, \nu')$  is a weakly complex manifold if  $M$  is a compact manifold and  $\nu'$  is a complex orientation of a map

$$\nu: M \rightarrow B\mathbb{O}$$

classifying the stable normal bundle of  $M$ .

Similarly, we define weakly complex manifolds with boundary, making compatible the orientations of  $\text{int } M$  and  $\partial M$ .

7.2 DEFINITION.- For any pair of spaces,  $(X, A)$ , we consider the set of triples  $(M, \nu', f)$ , where  $(M, \nu')$  is an  $n$ -dimensional weakly complex compact manifold and  $f$  is a map of pairs,

$$f: (M, \partial M) \rightarrow (X, A).$$

On this set, we define the following equivalence relation:

Two triples  $(M, v', f)$  and  $(\bar{M}, \bar{v}', \bar{f})$  are cobordant if there is an  $(n+1)$ -dimensional weakly complex compact manifold  $(W, \zeta')$ , possibly with corners, and a map

$$F : W \rightarrow X$$

such that

- i)  $\partial W$  splits in three parts  $M, \bar{M}$  and  $\delta W$ , and  $M$  and  $\bar{M}$  are disjoint.
- ii)  $\zeta'$  on  $M$  and  $\bar{M}$  agrees with  $v'$  and  $\bar{v}'$ .
- iii)  $F|_M = f$ ,  $F|_{\bar{M}} = \bar{f}$  and  $F(\delta W) \subset A$ .

The set of equivalence classes,  $U_n(X, A)$ , is called the  $n^{\text{th}}$  complex bordism set and it is given a group structure with the operation induced by disjoint union of manifolds.

If  $g$  is a map of pairs

$$g : (X, A) \rightarrow (Y, B)$$

we define a homomorphism

$$g_n : U_n(X, A) \rightarrow U_n(Y, B)$$

by

$$g_n([ (M, v', f) ]) = [ (M, v', g \circ f) ] .$$

Obviously, the map defined is functorial.

As always, we define

$$U_n(X) = U_n(X, \emptyset) \quad \text{for any space } X$$

$$\tilde{U}_n((X, *)) = U_n(X, \{*\}) \quad \text{for any based space } (X, *)$$

7.3 THEOREM.- The functors  $\{U_n\}$  define a generalised homology theory on the category of pairs of topological spaces.

For a detailed proof see [5], we just recall that the boundary homomorphism

$$\partial_n : U_n(X, A) \rightarrow U_{n-1}(A),$$

is defined by

$$\partial_n([ (M, \nu', f) ]) = [ (\partial M, \nu|_{\partial M}, f|_{\partial M}) ],$$

and for any  $U \subset X$  open, the inverse map of the excision

$$e : (X - U, A - U) \hookrightarrow (X, A)$$

is given by

$$(e_*)^{-1}([ (M, \nu', f) ]) = [ (f^{-1}(X - U), \nu'|, f|) ].$$

Now, we define the associated cohomology theory.

7.4 DEFINITION.- Let  $f: N \rightarrow M$  be a map of manifolds, we define  $\text{cod } f = \dim M - \dim N$ . If  $\text{cod } f$  is even, we say that  $f$  has a complex orientation if there is a complex vector bundle over  $M$ ,  $\zeta$ , and an embedding  $e: N \rightarrow E\zeta$  such that the classifying map of the normal bundle has a complex orientation.

If  $\text{cod } f$  is odd, we say that  $f$  has a complex orientation if the map

$$N \xrightarrow{f} M \xrightarrow{\sim} M \times \{0\} \hookrightarrow M \times \mathbb{R}$$

has one.

Notice that a complex orientation of the map  $M \rightarrow *$  is equivalent to a complex orientation of the map classifying the stable normal bundle of  $M$ .

7.5 DEFINITION.~ Let  $M$  be a compact manifold. We consider the set of triples  $(N, f, \alpha)$  where  $N$  is a compact manifold,  $f: N \rightarrow M$  is a proper map of manifolds of codimension  $n$  and  $\alpha$  is a complex orientation of  $f$ .

Two triples  $(N, f, \alpha)$  and  $(N', f', \alpha')$  are cobordant, if there is a triple  $(W, F, \Lambda)$  where

- i)  $W$  is a compact manifold with  $\partial W = N \cup N' \cup \delta W$ .
- ii)  $F: W \rightarrow M \times I$  is a map of manifolds transverse to  $M \times \{i\}$  for  $i = 0, 1$ , and  $F|_N: N \rightarrow M \times \{0\}$  and  $F|_{N'}: N' \rightarrow M \times \{1\}$  agree with  $f$  and  $f'$ , and  $F(\delta W) \subset \partial M \times I$ .
- iii)  $\Lambda$  is a complex orientation of  $F$ .

The set of equivalence classes,  $U^n(X)$  is the  $n^{\text{th}}$  complex cobordism set and a group structure is given by the operation induced by disjoint union of manifolds.

Similarly, if  $(M, A)$  is a manifold pair, we can define  $U^n(M, A)$  as cobordism classes of triples  $(N, f, \alpha)$  where  $\text{Im } f \subset M - A$ .

To define the action of a map of manifolds  $g: M \rightarrow M'$  on the complex cobordism groups, we need to define transverse intersection, as follows:

Let  $[(N, f, \alpha)]$  be lying in  $U^n(M')$ . Let  $e: N \rightarrow E(\xi)$  be the embedding given by the complex orientation. We chose an embedding  $e': M \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^k$ . By 5.12 we can assume that  $E(\xi) \times M$  and  $N \times \mathbb{R}^k$  have transverse images in  $E_\xi \times \mathbb{R}^k$ . Then we define,  $N \pitchfork M$ , the transverse intersection of  $N$  and  $M$ , as the intersection of those images.

The map

$$f': N \pitchfork M \rightarrow M$$

is given by the second projection. Obviously, it has a complex orientation

$\alpha'$ , associated to  $\alpha$ , and the class  $[(N \wedge M, f', \alpha')] \in U^n(M)$ , is independent of all the choices involved. We have defined a homomorphism

$$g^n : U^n(M') \rightarrow U^n(M).$$

As before, we define  $\tilde{U}^n(X, *) = U^n(X, \{*\})$  for any pointed space  $(X, *)$ .

7.6 THEOREM.- The functors  $\{U^n\}$  define a generalised cohomology theory on the category of manifold pairs.

□

Now, we sketch a proof of the theorem stating that these theories agree with those associated to the spectrum  $MU$ .

7.7 THEOREM.- There are natural isomorphisms

$$\tilde{U}_*(X, *) \cong \tilde{MU}_*(X, *) \quad \text{for any pointed space } (X, *)$$

$$\tilde{U}^*(M, *) \cong \tilde{MU}^*(M, *) \quad \text{for any manifold } (M, *) .$$

Proof.- We prove it for  $X = S^0 = M$ . The general case essentially the same. Recall that the coefficients associated to  $MU$  are

$$\tilde{MU}_n(S^0) = \tilde{MU}^{-n}(S^0) = \lim_k [S^{2k-n}, MU(k)] .$$

Then we define the map

$$\alpha : \tilde{MU}_n(S^0) \rightarrow \tilde{U}_n(S^0)$$

as follows:

Let  $x \in \tilde{MU}_n(S^0)$ . We chose a representative  $(f) \in [S^{2k-n}, MU(k)]$  where  $f: S^{2k-n} \rightarrow MU(k)$  is transverse to  $BU(k) \subset MU(k)$  (it can be done by 5.12) and then, we define  $\alpha(x) = [f^{-1}(BU(k))]$ . It is easy to prove

that it is a well defined element of  $\tilde{U}_n(S^0)$ , independent of the choices.

Also, we define the map  $\beta : \tilde{U}_n(S^0) \rightarrow \tilde{MU}_n(S^0)$  on an element  $y = [(M, \nu)] \in \tilde{U}_n(S^0)$  by choosing an embedding  $e : M \hookrightarrow \mathbb{R}^{2k-n}$  such that the associated normal bundle has a complex orientation. Now, we extend  $e$  to an embedding  $\bar{e} : \nu(e) \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^{2k-n}$ .

Let  $(\bar{g}, g)$  be the classifying map of  $\nu$ . Then, we define

$$f : S^{2k-n} \rightarrow MU(k)$$

by

$$f(t) = \begin{cases} \bar{g}(e^{-1}(t)) & \text{if } t \in \text{Im } \bar{e} \\ * & \text{if } t \notin \text{Im } \bar{e} \end{cases}$$

i.e. the Thom-Pontrjagin construction associated to  $\nu(e)$ . If we define  $\beta(y) = [f]$ , it is easy to see that  $\beta$  is well defined and it is the inverse map of  $\alpha$ .

To end this paragraph, we state some results on duality of the  $U^*$  and  $U_*$  theories as proved in [5].

**7.8 DEFINITION.**- Let  $\xi$  be an  $n$ -dimensional bundle over  $M$  and  $\xi'$  a complex orientation of it. We define the class  $t(\xi) \in U^n(T(\xi))$  as

$$t(\xi) = [(M, i, \xi')]$$

where  $i : M \rightarrow T(\xi)$  is induced by the zero-section.

**7.9 PROPOSITION** [5] .-  $t(\xi)$  is a Thom class of  $\xi$ .

Proof.- It is immediate from the definition of Thom class.

7.10 THEOREM [5] .- i) Let  $M$  be an  $n$ -dimensional weakly complex closed manifold. Then, the Poincare duality isomorphism associated to  $t(v_M)$ ,

$$PD : U_q(M) \xrightarrow{\sim} U^{n-q}(M)$$

is given by

$$PD([ (N, f, \xi') ]) = [ (N, f, v') ]$$

when  $v'$  is the complex orientation of  $v_N$  given by  $\xi'$  and the complex orientation of  $v_M$ .

ii) Let  $M$  be an  $n$ -dimensional weakly complex compact manifold. Then, the Lefschetz duality isomorphism associated to  $t(v_M)$

$$LD : U_q(M, \partial M) \xrightarrow{\sim} U^{n-q}(M)$$

is given as the one above.

□

7.11 COROLLARY.- Let  $M$  be an  $n$ -dimensional weakly complex manifold. Then, the fundamental class associated to  $T(v_M)$  is given by  $[ (M, v'), 1 ] \in U^n(M)$ .

Proof.- It is the image of  $1 \in U_0(M)$  under the duality of 7.10.

□

## §7.2 Geometric interpretation of $c_k(\xi)$ .

In all this paragraph  $M$  is an  $n$ -dimensional weakly complex closed manifold and the map  $\xi : M \rightarrow BU$  classifies an isomorphism class of complex vector bundles.

7.12 LEMMA.- Let  $M'$  be a submanifold of  $M$  of codimension 0. Then, the diagram

$$\begin{array}{ccc}
 U_{n-q}(M) & \xrightarrow[\sim]{PD} & U^q(M) \\
 \downarrow i_* & & \downarrow j_* \\
 U_{n-q}(M, M') & & U^q(M, M') \\
 \uparrow e_* & & \uparrow \\
 U_{n-q}(M - \text{int } M', M') & \xrightarrow[\sim]{LD} & U^q(M - \text{int } M')
 \end{array}$$

commutes for every  $q$ , where the vertical maps are induced by the inclusion and  $e_*$  is an isomorphism by the excision property.

Proof.- Let  $x = [(N, \xi', f)] \in U_{n-q}(M)$ . As  $M'$  has codimension 0, the class  $i_*(x) = [(N, \xi', i \circ f)] \in U_{n-q}(M, M')$  can be represented by  $[(f^{-1}(cl(M-M')), \xi' | , i \circ f | )]$ .

Following  $x$  clock wise, we get

$$\begin{aligned}
 e_* LD^{-1} j_* PD ([ (N, \xi', f) ]) &= e_* LD^{-1} j_* ([ (N, f, \xi') ]) = (\text{by 7.10}) = \\
 &= e_* LD^{-1} ([ (f^{-1}(cl(M-M')), j \circ f, \xi') ]) = \\
 &= (\text{since } f \text{ is transverse to } M') = \\
 &= e_* ([ (f^{-1}(cl(M-M')), \xi' | , j \circ f | ) ]) = (\text{by 7.10}) = \\
 &= ([ (f^{-1}(cl(M-M')), \xi' | , e \circ j \circ f | ) ])
 \end{aligned}$$

and this is  $i_*(x)$  by the remark above.

□



Let  $\hat{c}_k^\vee(\xi)$  be the element of  $MU^{2k}(M)$  given by

$$\Sigma^\infty M \xrightarrow{\xi} \Sigma^\infty BU \xrightarrow{\tau} \Sigma^\infty QBU(1) \xrightarrow{\hat{h}_k} \Sigma^\infty T_Y(k) \xrightarrow{t_k} \Sigma^{2k} MU,$$

where  $t_k$  is the Thom class described in 7.8, so  $\hat{c}_k^\vee(\xi) = \xi^* \circ \tau^* \circ \hat{h}_k^*(t_k)$

If  $[(N, g, \bar{g})] \in (M, \gamma)$  is the element representing  $\tau \circ \xi$ , we choose an extension in good position  $\bar{f} : \nu \rightarrow M$  and we define  $M' = \text{Im } \bar{f}_{k+1}$ . Then we have the following result

7.13 THEOREM.

$$\iota_* (PD^{-1}(\hat{c}_k^\vee(\xi))) = \iota_*([(N_k, f_k, \nu_k)]) \in U_{n-2k}(M, \text{Im } \bar{f}_{k+1})$$

Proof. - The diagram

$$\begin{array}{ccccc} U^{2k}(M) & \xleftarrow{(\tau \circ \xi|)^{2k}} & U^{2k}(F(R^\infty, BU(1))) & & \\ \downarrow j^* & & \downarrow i_k^* & \nearrow \hat{h}_k^* & \\ U^{2k}(M - \text{int } M') & \xleftarrow{(\tau \circ \xi|)^{2k}} & U^{2k}(F_k(F(R^\infty, BU(1)))) & \xleftarrow{p_k^*} & U^{2k}(D_k(F(R^\infty), BU(1))) \end{array}$$

commutes, since the left hand square is induced by inclusions and restrictions and the right hand triangle commutes by 3.18.

By definition, of  $\hat{c}_k^\vee(\xi)$  above,

$$j^*(\hat{c}_k^\vee(\xi)) = j^* \circ (\tau \circ \xi)^* \circ \hat{h}_k^*(t_k) = (\tau \circ \xi|)^* p_k^*(t_k).$$

As by 5.30,  $\tau \circ \xi|$  is given by the Thom-Pontrjagin construction of  $M_k$  over  $N_k$ ,  $j^*(\hat{c}_k^\vee(M))$  is the Thom class of  $M_k$ , and  $\iota_*(PD^{-1}(\hat{c}_k^\vee(\xi))) = \iota_* LD^{-1} j^*(\hat{c}_k^\vee(\xi))$  is given by the same element,  $[(N_k, f_k), \nu_k]$ .

By definition, this element also represents  $i_*([N_k, f_k, v_k])$ .

□

**7.14 THEOREM.-** In singular cohomology theory, the Chern class  $c_k(\xi)$  is the Poincare dual of  $f_{k*}([N_k])$ , when  $[N_k]$  is the standard fundamental class of  $N_k$ .

Proof.- Using the natural transformation  $t$  from complex bordism and cobordism to singular homology and cohomology, 7.13 is true when we replace  $U_*$  by  $H_*$ , so

$$\iota_* \circ PD^{-1}(c_k(\xi)) = \iota_*(t([N_k, f_k, v_k])) = \iota_* f_{k*}([N_k]).$$

Since  $M'$  has the homotopy type of an  $(n-2(k+1))$  dimensional complex, the map  $\iota_*$  is a monomorphism in this dimension, so

$$PD^{-1}(c_k(\xi)) = f_{k*}([N_k]).$$

□

# CHAPTER 8 Description of the bundle associated to an immersion.

In the preceeding chapters, we associated to any map

$$\xi : M \rightarrow BU$$

the composite map,

$$\xi' : M \xrightarrow{\xi} BU \xrightarrow{\tau} QBU(1),$$

such that  $\eta \circ \xi'$  is homotopic to  $\xi$ . Then, replacing  $QBU(1)$  by the weakly homotopic space  $F(\mathbb{R}^\infty)(BU(1))$  and applying [17] we got a cobordism class  $[(N, g, \bar{g})]$  classifying the map  $\xi'$ .

Now, we want to describe the inverse procedure, i.e. given the triple  $(N, g, \bar{g})$  to get a description of the associated complex bundle.

## §8.1 More about infinite loop spaces.

We want a closer study of the loop structure of  $BU$ .

8.1 DEFINITION.- Let  $\mathcal{C}$  be an operad and  $C : \text{Top}_* \rightarrow \text{Top}_*$  its associated functor. The functor

$$F : \text{Top}_* \rightarrow \text{Top}_*$$

is called a  $\mathcal{C}$ -functor iff there is a natural transformation-

$$\lambda : F C \rightarrow F$$

such that the diagrams

$$\text{i) } \begin{array}{ccc} F & \xrightarrow{1_f} & F C \\ & \searrow & \downarrow \lambda \\ & & F \end{array}$$

and

$$\text{ii) } \begin{array}{ccc} F C C & \xrightarrow{\lambda_C} & F C \\ \downarrow \lambda^1 & & \downarrow \lambda \\ F C & \xrightarrow{\lambda} & F \end{array}$$

commute.

8.2 NOTE [20].- The functor  $\Omega^j \Sigma^{i+j}$  is a  $\mathcal{C}_{i+j}$ -functor for any  $j \geq 1$  and  $i \geq 0$ .

Let us recall the "double bar" construction of May ([20]).

8.3 DEFINITION.- Let  $\mathcal{C}$  be an operad,  $F$  a  $\mathcal{C}$ -functor and  $X$  a  $\mathcal{C}$ -space. Then, we define the space  $B(F, \mathcal{C}, X)$  as the geometric realization of the simplicial complex  $B_*(F, \mathcal{C}, X)$  whose  $q$ -simplices are

$$B_q(F, \mathcal{C}, X) = F C^q(X),$$

the face maps are given as follows

$$\partial_0 \text{ by } \lambda 1_C^q : F C^{q+1}(X) \rightarrow F C^q(X)$$

$$\partial_i \text{ by } 1_F 1_C^{i-1} c 1^{q-i} : F C^{q+1}(X) \rightarrow F C^q(X)$$

$$\partial_q \text{ by } 1_F 1_C^q \theta : F C^{q+1}(X) \rightarrow F C^q(X)$$

where  $c$  is the collapsing map  $C \times C \rightarrow C$  and  $\theta$  is the  $\mathcal{C}$ -action on  $X$ .

The "degeneracy" maps are all given by the inclusion  $X \rightarrow CX$ .

8.4 NOTE [20].- This construction commutes (up to homotopy) with  $\Omega$ , i.e.

$$B(\Omega F, \mathcal{C}, X) \xrightarrow{\sim} \Omega B(F, \mathcal{C}, X).$$

Then for any  $E_\infty$ -operad,  $\mathcal{C}$ , if we define  $\mathcal{D}_{i+j} = \mathcal{C}_{i+j} \times \mathcal{C}$  we have, for any  $\mathcal{C}$ -space  $X$ ,

$$B(\Omega^j \Sigma^{i+j}, \mathcal{D}_{i+j}, X) = \Omega^j B(\Sigma^{i+j}, \mathcal{D}_{i+j}, X).$$

8.5 DEFINITION.- Let  $\mathcal{C}$  be an  $E_\infty$ -operad and  $X$  a  $\mathcal{C}$ -space. We define

$$B_i(X) = \lim_{\leftarrow} \Omega^j B(\Sigma^{i+j}, \mathcal{D}_{i+j}, X)$$

where the limit is taken with respect to the maps

$$\Omega^j B(\Sigma^{i+j}, \mathcal{D}_{i+j}, X) \rightarrow \Omega^j B(\Sigma^{i+j+1}, \mathcal{D}_{i+j+1}, X) \xrightarrow{\sim} \Omega^{j+1} B(\Sigma^{i+j+1}, \mathcal{D}_{i+j+1}, X).$$

It is obvious that  $\{B_i(X)\}_{i \geq 0}$  is an infinite loop space.

8.6 THEOREM [20].- Let  $\mathcal{C}$  and  $X$  be as in 8.5. Then, the maps

$$X \rightarrow B(D_n, \mathcal{D}_n, X) \rightarrow B(\Omega^n \Sigma^n, \mathcal{D}_n, X) \rightarrow \Omega^n B(\Sigma^n, \mathcal{D}_n, X)$$

give in the limit the map

$$i : X \rightarrow B(D_\infty, \mathcal{D}_\infty, X) \rightarrow B(Q, \mathcal{D}_\infty, X) \rightarrow B_0 X$$

where the first map is a homotopy equivalence, the second one is a group completion and the last map is a weak equivalence.

So, if  $X$  is connected,  $i$  is a weak equivalence.

□

8.7 PROPOSITION [26].- Let,  $\mathcal{C}$  be an  $E_\infty$ -operad and  $\Psi : \mathcal{C} \rightarrow \mathcal{C}_\infty$  a map of the associated coefficient systems.

Then, for any connected  $\mathcal{C}$ -space,  $X$ , the diagram

$$\begin{array}{ccc} C_\infty X & \xrightarrow{\sim} & C_\infty B_0 X \\ \uparrow \scriptstyle \Psi & & \downarrow \\ C X & & B_0 X \\ \downarrow & \xrightarrow{\sim} & \\ X & & \end{array}$$

commutes.

Proof.- The diagram

$$\begin{array}{ccccc}
 C_{\infty} X & \xleftarrow{\sim} & C_{\infty} (B(D_{\infty}, \mathcal{D}_{\infty}, X)) & \xrightarrow{\quad} & C_{\infty} B_0 X \\
 \uparrow \scriptstyle \wr & & \uparrow \scriptstyle \wr & & \uparrow \scriptstyle \wr \\
 D_{\infty} X & \xleftarrow{\sim} & D_{\infty} (B(D_{\infty}, \mathcal{D}_{\infty}, X)) & \xrightarrow{\quad} & D_{\infty} B_0 X \\
 \downarrow \scriptstyle \wr & & \downarrow \scriptstyle \wr & & \downarrow \scriptstyle \wr \\
 C X & & B(D_{\infty} D_{\infty}, \mathcal{D}_{\infty}, X) & & C_{\infty} B_0 X \\
 \downarrow & & \downarrow & & \downarrow \\
 X & \xleftarrow{\sim} & B(D, \mathcal{D}, X) & \xrightarrow{\sim} & B_0 X
 \end{array}$$

commutes, the bottom half by [ 20 ] and the upper half by naturality.

□

8.8 NOTE.- Then, the map  $\eta : Q BU(1) \rightarrow BU$  is the composition

$$Q BU(1) \rightarrow Q BU \rightarrow Q B_0 BU \rightarrow B_0 BU \xrightarrow{\sim} BU,$$

and using the commutative diagram

$$\begin{array}{ccccccc}
 Q(BU(1)) & \longrightarrow & Q BU & \longrightarrow & Q B_0 BU & \longrightarrow & B_0 BU \\
 \uparrow \scriptstyle \wr & & \uparrow \scriptstyle \wr & & \uparrow \scriptstyle \wr & & \uparrow \scriptstyle \wr \\
 F(\mathbb{R}^{\infty})(BU(1)) & \xrightarrow{k} & C_{\infty}(BU(1)) & \longrightarrow & C_{\infty} BU & \longrightarrow & C_{\infty} B_0 BU \longrightarrow B_0 BU \\
 \nearrow \scriptstyle \theta \circ \eta & & \uparrow \scriptstyle \wr & & \uparrow \scriptstyle \wr & & \uparrow \scriptstyle \wr \\
 L_{\infty} BU(1) & \longrightarrow & L_{\infty} BU & \xrightarrow{\theta} & BU & & 
 \end{array}$$

the map  $\eta$  is homotopic to the composition

$$Q(BU(1)) \xrightarrow{\sim} C_{\infty}(BU(1)) \xrightarrow{k} F(\mathbb{R}^{\infty})(BU(1)) \xrightarrow{\theta \circ \eta} L_{\infty}(BU(1)) \rightarrow L_{\infty} BU \xrightarrow{\theta} BU.$$

### §3.2 Description of the bundle.

We can now describe the complex vector bundle associated to a triple  $(N, g, \bar{g})$ .

8.9 THEOREM.- Let  $h : M \rightarrow F(\mathbb{R}^m) (BU(1))$  be the map associated to the triple  $(N, g, \bar{g})$ . Then, there are triples  $(N, g, \bar{g}_t)$ , such that the associated maps give a homotopy,

$$h_t : M \rightarrow F(\mathbb{R}^m) (BU(1)) ,$$

where  $h_0 = h$  and  $h_1$  factors as the composition

$$M \xrightarrow{\ell} L_\infty(BU(1)) \xrightarrow{\alpha} V_\infty(BU(1)) \xrightarrow{\beta} F(\mathbb{R}^m)(BU(1)) .$$

Proof.- To lift  $h$  over  $\beta$  by a homotopy as described, is equivalent to change for any  $m \in M$  the associated configuration in  $\mathbb{R}^m$  to an orthonormal one. This is achieved by induction on  $\{\text{Im } \bar{f}_k\}_{k=0}^n$ .

In the  $k^{\text{th}}$  step of the induction we have the map

$$h|_{N_k} : N_k \rightarrow F(\mathbb{R}^m; k)$$

and a homotopy from  $h|_{\partial N_k}$  to a map that factors as the composition

$$\partial N_k \rightarrow V_\infty(k) \rightarrow F(\mathbb{R}^m; k) .$$

We can extend it to a homotopy from  $h|_{N_k}$  to a map that factors

$$N_k \xrightarrow{\bar{\ell}} V_\infty(k) \rightarrow F(\mathbb{R}^m, k) .$$

This is extended to  $M_k$  composing with the projection.

Notice that if all the original configurations were orthonormal, the lifting can be achieved directly.

By a similar induction, we lift  $\tilde{\lambda}$  to a composition

$$M \longrightarrow L_{\infty}(BU(1)) \longrightarrow V_{\infty}(BU(1))$$

but this time no homotopy is involved.

8.10 REMARK.- Notice that if for any  $m \in M$ ,  $h(m) = [(x_1, \dots, x_k), (L_1, \dots, L_k)]$  and  $(x_1, \dots, x_k)$  are orthonormal in  $\mathbb{R}^m$ , the lifting is  $\lambda(m) = [e, (L_1, \dots, L_k)]$  where  $e \in L_{\infty}(k)$  has to satisfy  $e(e_{i1}) = x_i$  for any  $i$ .

8.11 THEOREM.- Let  $h$  be the composite

$$h : M \xrightarrow{\lambda} L_{\infty}(BU(1)) \xrightarrow{\alpha} V_{\infty}(BU(1)) \xrightarrow{\beta} F(\mathbb{R}^m)(BU(1)).$$

The associated complex vector bundle,  $\xi$ , is given as follows:

Let  $m \in M$  be such that  $\lambda(m) = [(e; (L_1, \dots, L_k))]$ . Then, the fibre  $\xi_m$  is  $A \oplus B \subset \mathbb{C}^m \times \mathbb{C}^m$ , where  $A$  is the orthogonal complement in  $\mathbb{C}^m \times \{0\}$  of the complex subspace generated by the configuration  $\psi(e)$ , and  $B = \bigoplus_{i=1}^k \hat{L}_i$ , where  $\hat{L}_i$  is the image of  $L_i$  by the map  $e_{\mathbb{C}}$ .

Proof.- We chose automorphisms

$$g_i : \mathbb{C} \times \mathbb{C}^m \rightarrow \mathbb{C} \times \mathbb{C}^m$$

representing  $L_i$ , and then, we define the map

$$g : \mathbb{C}^m \times \mathbb{C}^m \rightarrow \mathbb{C}^m \times \mathbb{C}^m$$



on  $\text{Im}(e_{\mathbb{C}} \times e_{\mathbb{C}})$  as the only one filling the diagram

$$\begin{array}{ccccccc}
 (\mathbb{C} \times \mathbb{C}^{\infty})^k & \rightarrow & (\mathbb{C}^{\infty} \times \mathbb{C}^{\infty})^k & \xrightarrow{\text{sh}} & (\mathbb{C}^{\infty})^k \times (\mathbb{C}^{\infty})^k & \xrightarrow{e_{\mathbb{C}} \times e_{\mathbb{C}}} & \mathbb{C}^{\infty} \times \mathbb{C}^{\infty} \\
 \downarrow \times g_1 & & & & & & \downarrow g \\
 (\mathbb{C} \times \mathbb{C}^{\infty})^k & \rightarrow & (\mathbb{C}^{\infty} \times \mathbb{C}^{\infty})^k & \xrightarrow{\text{sh}} & (\mathbb{C}^{\infty})^k \times (\mathbb{C}^{\infty})^k & \xrightarrow{e_{\mathbb{C}} \times e_{\mathbb{C}}} & \mathbb{C}^{\infty} \times \mathbb{C}^{\infty}
 \end{array}$$

On the orthogonal complement,  $g$  is defined as the identity.

Then  $\xi_m = g(\mathbb{C}^{\infty} \times \{0\})$ .

Let  $\bar{L}_i$  be the 1-dimensional subspace of  $\mathbb{C}^{\infty} \times \{0\}$  given by

$$\bar{L}_i = \mathbb{C} \times \{0\} \subset \mathbb{C} \times \mathbb{C}^{\infty} \xrightarrow{j_i} \mathbb{C}^k \times \mathbb{C}^k$$

where  $j_i$  is the inclusion in the  $i^{\text{th}}$  factor. Then,

$$g \circ (e_{\mathbb{C}} \times e_{\mathbb{C}})(\bar{L}_i) = (e_{\mathbb{C}} \times e_{\mathbb{C}}) \text{ sh } g_1(\bar{L}_i) = (e_{\mathbb{C}} \times e_{\mathbb{C}}) \text{ sh } (L_i) = \bar{L}_i.$$

On the other hand, the space  $A$  in the definition is orthogonal to  $\text{Im}(e_{\mathbb{C}} \times e_{\mathbb{C}})$ , so  $g$  is the identity on it and,  $g(A) = A$ . Thus  $\xi_m$  splits as indicated

#### 8.12 REMARK.

Recall that, if the map  $h$  is associated to the triple  $(N, g, g)$ , and  $\bar{f} : \nu \rightarrow M$  is an extension in good position of  $f$ , for any  $m \in M$  such that  $\bar{f}^{-1}(m) = (\alpha_1, \dots, \alpha_k)$  with  $\alpha_i \in \nu_{n_i}$ , in the associated  $h(m) = [(x_1, \dots, x_k); (L_1, \dots, L_k)]$  we have  $L_i = \bar{f}(n_i)$ .

To end this work, we get more detailed information in some particular cases

8.13 EXAMPLE.- Let us consider a map  $h : M \rightarrow F(\mathbb{R}^{\infty}) (BU(1))$  induced

by a map  $h : M \rightarrow F(\mathbb{R})(S^2)$ ,

As  $S^2 = T(\epsilon^2)$ , by 5.2, we can consider that it is represented by a triple  $(N, g, \bar{g})$  where  $f : N \rightarrow M$  is a codimension one immersion with trivial normal bundle. Then  $\bar{f} : N \times D^2 \rightarrow M$  is an extension of  $f$  in good position.

Let  $\alpha : S^2 \rightarrow \mathbb{C}P^1 = G_{1,2}$  be the one point extension of the map.

$$\alpha : D^2 \rightarrow \mathbb{C}P^1$$

defined by  $\alpha(\lambda) = [\lambda, 1] = L_\lambda$ . Then,  $[\alpha]$  generates  $\pi_2(\mathbb{C}P^1)$ .

Let  $q : N \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^\infty$  be a map such that, for any  $(x, z), (x', z') \in N \times D^2$  such that  $f(x, z) = f(x', z')$ ,  $q(x)$  is orthogonal to  $q(x')$ . We can then lift the map  $h$  to  $V_\infty(BU(1))$  using  $q$  and the lines  $\hat{L}_i$  in 8.11 are given as follows:

Let be  $u \in \mathbb{R}^\infty$ . Then, we define the map

$$u : \mathbb{R}^1 \times \mathbb{R}^1 \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^\infty \times \mathbb{R}^\infty$$

by  $u(s, t) = (s u, t u)$ . The subspaces  $\hat{L}_i$  are then  $q(x_i) \in (L_{z_i})$ .

8.14 EXAMPLE.- Let consider now the maps

$$h : M \rightarrow F(\mathbb{R}^\infty)(BU(1))$$

that factors through  $BU(1)$ .

By 5.26 a map that factors through  $F_k(F(\mathbb{R}^\infty)(BU(1)))$  can be represented by a triple  $(N, g, \bar{g})$  such that the immersion

$$f : N \rightarrow M$$

has multiple points of multiplicity at most  $k$ . So, a map that factors through  $BU(1)$  can be represented by a triple  $(N, g, g)$  where  $f$  is an embedding of  $N$  in  $M$ , whose normal bundle is classified by a map in  $BU(1)$ .

Obviously, the bundle associated to any triple of this particular type is the Thom-Pontrjagin construction on the normal bundle of  $N$  in  $M$ .

It is easy to see that the restriction  $\gamma|_{\mathbb{C}P^n}$  is represented by the inclusion  $\mathbb{C}P^n \subset \mathbb{C}P^{n+1}$ .

APPENDIX: On maps  $f : BU \rightarrow BU$ .

The goal of this appendix is to prove that a map  $f : BU \rightarrow BU$  that induces the identity in singular cohomology is itself homotopic to the identity. In order to do it, we have to recall the definition and some elementary properties of K-theory.

A.1 DEFINITION.- K-theory is the generalised cohomology theory  $\tilde{K}^*$  whose functors are given by, for any pointed space  $X$

$$\tilde{K}^{2n}(X) = [X, BU \times \mathbb{Z}] \quad \text{and}$$

$$\tilde{K}^{2n+1}(X) = [X, U] \quad , \quad \text{for any } n \geq 0 ,$$

where  $U = \lim U(n)$ .

The required natural equivalences at odd dimensions

$$\tilde{K}^{2n+1}(SK) \simeq \tilde{K}^{2n+2}(X) ,$$

are given by the homotopy equivalence  $SU \simeq BU \times \mathbb{Z}$  proved in Bott periodicity theorem ([29]), and the equivalences at even dimensions

$$\tilde{K}^{2n}(SX) \simeq \tilde{K}^{2n+1}(X) ,$$

are given by the equivalence  $\Omega BU \simeq U$ .

A.2 NOTE.- As  $\tilde{K}^n$  and  $\tilde{K}^{n+2}$  are naturally isomorphic, it is useful sometimes to consider  $\tilde{K}^*$  as a  $\mathbb{Z}_2$ -graded cohomology theory.

Also, when necessary, we associate to the singular cohomology with coefficient in  $R$ , the  $\mathbb{Z}_2$ -graded cohomology theory  $H^{**}(\ ; R)$  given by

$$\tilde{H}^{0*}(\ ; R) = \begin{matrix} 0 \\ n \geq 0 \end{matrix} \tilde{H}^{2n}(\ ; R) \quad \text{and}$$

$$\tilde{H}^{1*}(\ ; R) = \begin{matrix} 0 \\ n \geq 0 \end{matrix} \tilde{H}^{2n+1}(\ ; R) .$$

A.3 PROPOSITION [13] .- Let  $h^*$  and  $h'^*$  be two reduced cohomology theories and  $h^*(S^0), h'^*(S^0)$  their coefficient systems. Then

i) If  $h^*$  takes value in the category of  $\mathbb{Q}$ -vector spaces and

$$T, T' : h^* \rightarrow h'^* ,$$

are two natural transformations that agree on the coefficients, then  $T = T'$  .

ii) If both  $h^*$  and  $h'^*$  take values in the category of  $\mathbb{Q}$ -vector spaces and

$$T : h^*(S^0) \rightarrow h'^*(S^0)$$

is a homomorphism, there is a natural transformation

$$T : h^* \rightarrow h'^*$$

extending it.

□

A.4 NOTE.- As an immediate consequence, any cohomology theory,  $h^*$ , taking values in the category of  $\mathbb{Q}$ -vector spaces, is naturally equivalent to the theory  $\tilde{H}^*(\ ; \mathbb{Q}) \otimes h^*(S^0)$ .

The rest of the appendix, we assume some knowledge of the Atiyah-Hirzebruch spectral sequence of a homology theory  $h^*$ , in particular that it is associated to an exact couple,  $E C(X, h^*)$  and that the  $E^\infty$  terms are the quotients of the filtration of  $h^*(X)$  given by

$$F_p(h^*(X)) = \ker(h^*(X) \rightarrow h^*(X_{p-1}))$$

where  $X_{p-1}$  is the  $(p-1)$ -skeleton of the complex  $X$ .

A.5 DEFINITION.- The character of K-theory (or Chern character) is the composite natural transformation of  $\mathbb{Z}_2$ -graded cohomology theories.

$$ch : \tilde{K}^* \rightarrow \tilde{K}^* \otimes \mathbb{Q} \simeq \tilde{H}^{**}(\cdot; \mathbb{Q})$$

where the second map is the natural equivalence of A.3.

A.6 THEOREM.- Let  $X$  be a complex such that  $\tilde{H}^*(X, \mathbb{Z})$  is free. Then, the Chern character

$$ch(X) : \tilde{K}^*(X) \rightarrow \tilde{H}^{**}(\cdot; \mathbb{Q})$$

is a monomorphism.

Proof.- The character induces a homomorphism of  $\mathbb{Z}_2$ -graded exact couples

$$ch : E C(X; \tilde{K}^*) \rightarrow E C(X; \tilde{H}_Q^{**})$$

As  $\tilde{K}^*$  is  $\mathbb{Z}_2$ -graded ordinary cohomology with coefficients in  $\mathbb{Z}$  the  $E'$  term of its spectral sequence is  $\tilde{H}^{**}(X; \mathbb{Z})$ . Obviously, the  $E'$  term of the second exact couple is  $\tilde{H}^{**}(X; \mathbb{Q})$ , so we get that the induced homomorphism,

$$ch_{(1)} : \tilde{H}^{**}(X; \mathbb{Z}) \rightarrow \tilde{H}^{**}(X; \mathbb{Q}),$$

is the coefficient homomorphism, so it is a monomorphism.

As  $ch$  is a map of exact couples, it commutes with the differentials, so in particular

$$\bar{d}_1 \text{ch}_{(1)} = \text{ch}_{(1)} d_1.$$

Since  $\bar{d}_1 = 0$  and  $\text{ch}_{(1)}$  is a monomorphism,  $d_1 = 0$ .

Inductively we get  $d_2 = d_3 = \dots = 0$  so the  $E''$ -term is the  $E'$ -term.

The map

$$\text{ch}_- : \frac{F_* (\bar{K}^*(X))}{F_{*-1}(\bar{K}^*(X))} \longrightarrow H^{**}(X; \mathbb{Q})$$

is then a monomorphism, so the map

$$\text{ch} : \bar{K}^*(X) \rightarrow \bar{H}^{**}(X; \mathbb{Q})$$

is a monomorphism too.

□

**A.7 THEOREM.**— Let  $f: BU \rightarrow BU$  be a map such that the induced map in singular homology  $f_* : H^*(BU; \mathbb{Z}) \rightarrow H^*(BU; \mathbb{Z})$  is the identity. Then,  $f$  is homotopic to  $1_{BU}$ .

Proof.— The diagram

$$\begin{array}{ccc} K^*(BU) & \xrightarrow{f^*} & K^*(BU) \\ \downarrow \text{ch} & & \downarrow \text{ch} \\ H^{**}(BU; \mathbb{Q}) & \xrightarrow{f^* = 1} & H^{**}(BU; \mathbb{Q}) \end{array}$$

commutes, so

$$\text{ch } f^*(i_0) = f^*(\text{ch}(i_0)) = \text{ch}(i_0) = \text{ch } 1_{BU}^*(i_0),$$

where  $i_0$  is the inclusion

$$BU \approx BU \times \{0\} \hookrightarrow BU \times \mathbb{Z}$$

$H^*(BU; \mathbb{Z})$  is free, so, by A.6,  $ch$  is injective and then

$$f^*(i_0) = 1_{BU}^*(i_0).$$

So, there is a homotopy

$$F : BU \times I \rightarrow BU \times \mathbb{Z}$$

from  $i_0$  of to  $i_0 \circ 1_{BU}$ .

As  $BU \times I$  is connected,  $\text{Im } F \subset BU \times \{0\}$ , so we can lift to a homotopy

$$F : BU \times I \rightarrow BU$$

from  $f$  to  $1_{BU}$ .



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