

86. Connection of Topological Manifolds

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Introduction. The notion of connection for topological fibre bundles has been introduced by the author ([1], [2]). Then a connection of a topological manifold X should be defined to be a connection of the tangent microbundle ([10]) of X . The purpose of this note is to show the existence of connection for any paracompact topological manifold and state some related topics. The details will appear in the *Journal of the Faculty of Science, Shinshu University*, Vol. 5, 1970.

1. Connection of topological fibre bundles. Let $\xi = \{g_{UV}(x)\}$ be a topological G -bundle over a normal paracompact space X , where G is a topological group, $\{g_{UV}(x)\}$ is the transition function of ξ with covering system $\{U\}$. Then a connection $\theta = \{s_U(x_0, x_1)\}$ of ξ is a collection of the germ (at the diagonal of $U \times U$) of G -valued function $s_U(x_0, x_1)$ such that

$$S_U(x, x) = e, \text{ the unit of } G,$$

$$g_{UV}(x_0)s_V(x_0, x_1)g_{VU}(x_1) = s_U(x_0, x_1).$$

We denote by $\mathcal{G} = \underline{\mathcal{G}}_G$ the sheaf of germs of the germ (at the diagonal of $X \times X$) of G -valued function $\{t_U(x_0, x_1)\}$ such that

$$t_U(x, x) = e,$$

$$g_{UV}(x_1)t_V(x_0, x_1)g_{VU}(x_1) = t_U(x_0, x_1),$$

then we can define a cohomology class $o(\xi)$ of $H^1(X, \mathcal{G})$ such that ξ has a connection if and only if $o(\xi)$ vanishes in $H^1(X, \mathcal{G})$ ([3]).

In fact, if G is either of

- (i) *There is a topological ring $R \supset G$ such that there is a neighbourhood $U(e)$ of e in R which is contained in G ,*
- (ii) *G is a locally compact, connected, locally connected solvable group,*

then a G -bundle ξ has a connection ([1], [3]).

If $\theta = \{s_U(x_0, x_1)\}$ is a connection of ξ , then

$$\delta\theta = \{s_U(x_1, x_2)s_U(x_0, x_2)^{-1}s_U(x_0, x_1)\}$$

is called the curvature of θ . We can prove that if the value of $\delta\theta$ is contained in H , a subgroup of G , then the connected component of the structure group of ξ is reduced to H ([1], [2]).

Note 1. If $G = \mathbb{C}^*$, the multiplicative group of complex numbers without 0, then the Alexander-Spanier class of $\delta\theta$ is the 1-st (complex)

Chern class of ξ ([3]).

Note 2. Regarding the total space of the principal bundle of ξ to be a G -space E , we can define a connection of ξ to be a germ (at the diagonal of $E \times E$) of a G -valued function s such that

$$s(x, x) = e, \\ s(x\alpha, y\beta) = \alpha^{-1}s(x, y)\beta, \quad x, y \in E, \alpha, \beta \in G.$$

2. Bundles which have no connections. Let \mathcal{E} be a normal paracompact space, then we have the following exact sequence.

$$0 \longrightarrow Z(\mathcal{E}) \xrightarrow{i} C(\mathcal{E}) \xrightarrow{j} C^*(\mathcal{E}) \xrightarrow{\delta} H^1(\mathcal{E}, Z) \longrightarrow 0,$$

where $Z(\mathcal{E})$, $C(\mathcal{E})$ and $C^*(\mathcal{E})$ are the groups of continuous integer valued functions, complex valued functions and C^* -valued functions on \mathcal{E} , i is the inclusion, j is given by

$$j(f) = \exp 2\pi\sqrt{-1}f.$$

We set $j(C(\mathcal{E})) = C_0^*(\mathcal{E})$. Then if X is a normal paracompact space, we have

$$H^p(X, C_0^*(\mathcal{E})) = H^{p+1}(X, Z(\mathcal{E})), \quad p \geq 1,$$

and the exact sequence

$$\begin{aligned} \dots \longrightarrow H^1(X, C_0^*(\mathcal{E})) \xrightarrow{\iota} H^1(X, C^*(\mathcal{E})) \xrightarrow{\delta^*} \\ \longrightarrow H^1(X, H^1(\mathcal{E}, Z)) \xrightarrow{\delta} H^2(X, C_0^*(\mathcal{E})) \longrightarrow \dots \end{aligned}$$

Here ι is the map induced from the inclusion. Then we can prove

Theorem. *Regarding $C^*(\mathcal{E})$ to be a topological group by the compact open topology, a $C^*(\mathcal{E})$ -bundle over X has connection if and only if its class in $H^1(X, C^*(\mathcal{E}))$ (defined by its transition functions) belongs in ι -image.*

For example, if $X = \mathcal{E} = S^1$, then

$$\begin{aligned} H^1(S^1, C_0^*(S^1)) &= H^2(S^1, Z) = 0, \\ H^2(S^1, C_0^*(S^1)) &= H^3(S^1, Z) = 0, \\ H^1(S^1, H^1(S^1, Z)) &= H^1(S^1, Z) = Z. \end{aligned}$$

Hence we get $H^1(S^1, C^*(S^1)) = Z$, and its non-trivial element does not belong in ι -image.

Therefore the equivalence classes of $C^*(S^1)$ -bundles over S^1 are in 1-1 correspondence with Z , and no non-trivial $C^*(S^1)$ -bundle over S^1 has topological connections.

3. Connection of microbundles. A microbundle \mathfrak{X} over X is a sequence $X \xrightarrow{i} E \xrightarrow{j} X$ with commutative diagram

$$\begin{array}{ccc} & \mathfrak{X} & \\ & \downarrow \varphi_{\mathfrak{X}} & \\ U & & U \\ \begin{array}{c} \nearrow i \\ \searrow \iota \end{array} & & \begin{array}{c} \nwarrow j \\ \nearrow p \end{array} \\ & U \times \mathbb{R}^n & \end{array} \quad \iota(x) = x \times 0, \quad p(x, a) = x,$$

where U and \mathfrak{X} are the open sets of X and E ([10]). If X is a normal paracompact space, then a microbundle over X is regarded to be an $H_0(n)$ -bundle over X ([6], [9]), where $H_0(n)$ is the group of all homeomorphisms of \mathbf{R}^n which fix the origin with compact open topology. Similarly, a microbundle over a normal paracompact space is regarded to be an $H_*(n)$ -bundle, where $H_*(n)$ is the group of the germs of the elements of $H_0(n)$ at the origin (for the detailed definition and the method of the construction of $H_*(n)$ -bundles associated to a microbundle, see [4]).

The definition of connection of a microbundle \mathfrak{X} should be different either we regard \mathfrak{X} to be an $H_0(n)$ -bundle or an $H_*(n)$ -bundle, and the existence of a connection of \mathfrak{X} as an $H_*(n)$ -bundle follows from the existence of a connection of \mathfrak{X} as an $H_0(n)$ -bundle. But since we get

$$H^1(X, \mathcal{G}_{H_0(n)}) = H^1(X, \mathcal{G}_{H_*(n)}), \quad n \geq 5,$$

under the natural map by virtue of the annulus theorem ([7], [12], see also [5]), we obtain

Lemma 1. *A microbundle \mathfrak{X} over a normal paracompact space has a connection as an $H_0(n)$ -bundle if and only if \mathfrak{X} has a connection as an $H_*(n)$ -bundle if $n \geq 5$.*

Note. Since we know the homotopy types of $H_0(1)$ and $H_0(2)$ are $O(1)$ and $O(2)$. Lemma 1 is also true for $n = 1, 2$.

4. Tangent microbundle. The tangent microbundle τ of a paracompact manifold X is given by the sequence

$$X \xrightarrow{\Delta} X \times X \xrightarrow{p} X, \quad \Delta(X) = (x, x), \quad p(x, y) = x,$$

with the local trivialization

$$\varphi_U(x, y) = (x, h_U(y) - h_U(x)),$$

where $\{U\}$ is an open covering of X , $\{h_U\}$, $h_U: U \rightarrow \mathbf{R}^n$, are the homeomorphisms by which the manifold structure of X is given ([10]). Then, setting

$$h_{U,x}(y) = h_U(y) - h_U(x),$$

the (representations of) transitions of τ as an $H_*(n)$ -bundle ($n = \dim X$) are given by

$$g_{UV}(x) = h_{U,x} h_{V,y}^{-1}.$$

Then we get

$$h_{U,x_0}^{-1} s_U(x_0, x_1) h_{U,x_1} = h_{V,x_0}^{-1} s_V(x_0, x_1) h_{V,x_1},$$

if $\{s_U(x_0, x_1)\}$ is a connection of τ as an $H_*(n)$ -bundle. Hence we obtain

Lemma 2. *The tangent microbundle τ of X has a connection as an $H_*(n)$ -bundle if and only if there exists a homeomorphism $t(x_0, x_1)$ such that*

(*) $t(x, x)$ is the identity map on some neighbourhood of x ,

(**) $t(x_0, x_1)$ is a homeomorphism from a neighbourhood of x_1 to a neighbourhood of x_0 which maps x_1 to x_0 ,

(***) $t(x_0, x_1)$ depends continuously on x_0, x_1 (for the detailed definition of the continuity of t , cf. [4]), if x_0, x_1 belongs in $U(\Delta(X))$, where $U(\Delta(X))$ is a neighbourhood of $\Delta(X)$, the diagonal of $X \times X$, in $X \times X$.

5. Existence of $t(x_0, x_1)$. On U , a coordinate neighbourhood of X , we can construct $t(x_0, x_1) = t_U(x_0, x_1)$ by

$$\begin{aligned} (\#) \quad t_U(x_0, x_1)(y) &= h_U^{-1}(h_U(y) + h_U(x_0) - h_U(x_1)). \end{aligned}$$

Then setting

$$r_{UV}(x)(y) = t_U(x, y)t_V(x, y)^{-1},$$

we can regard (the class of) $r_{UV}(x)$ is an element of $F_*(\mathbf{R}^n, H_*(n))$, the group of the germs at the origin of the continuous maps from \mathbf{R}^n into $H_*(n)$ such that whose value at the origin is the identity of $H_*(n)$. Hence $\{r_{UV}(x)\}$ defines an $F_*(\mathbf{R}^n, H_*(n))$ -bundle over X (the definition and the method of the construction of an $F_*(\mathbf{R}^n, H_*(n))$ -bundle is similar that of an $H_*(n)$ -bundle, cf. [4]). Then since $F_*(\mathbf{R}^n, H_*(n))$ is contractible and X is paracompact normal, there exists a collection of continuous maps $\{q_U(x)\}$, $q_U(x): U \rightarrow F_*(\mathbf{R}^n, H_*(n))$, such that

$$r_{UV}(x) = q_U(x)q_V(x)^{-1},$$

([8], [11]). Hence we get

$$q_U(x, y)^{-1}t_U(x, y) = q_V(x, y)^{-1}t_V(x, y),$$

where $q_U(x, y)$ is given by $q_U(x)(y) = q_U(x)(h_U^{-1}(y))$. Therefore, setting

$$t(x_0, x_1)|U = q_U(x_0, x_1)^{-1}t_U(x_0, x_1),$$

we obtain the existence of $t(x_0, x_1)$ which satisfies the conditions of Lemma 2. Hence we have

Theorem. *If X is a normal paracompact (topological) manifold, then X has a topological connection if we regard τ , the tangent microbundle of X , to be an $H_*(n)$ -bundle.*

By Lemma 1, we also obtain

Corollary. *If $n \geq 5$, then τ has a connection as an $H_0(n)$ -bundle.*

Note 1. We can show, any $t(x_0, x_1)$ which satisfies the conditions of Lemma 2, is written

$$t(x_0, x_1)|U = q'_U(x_0, x_1)^{-1}t_U(x_0, x_1),$$

where $t_U(x_0, x_1)$ is given by (#), locally. Hence we may consider a connection of a topological manifold is an infinitesimal parallel displacement as the classical case.

Note 2. τ also has a connection as an $H_0(n)$ -bundle if $n=1$ or 2 . Similarly, for infinite dimensional manifolds, we obtain same result.

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