

122. The Fixed Point Set of an Involution and Theorems of the Borsuk-Ulam Type

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1. Statement of results. In this note, h^* will denote either the unoriented cobordism theory \mathcal{N}^* or the usual cohomology theory with \mathbb{Z}_2 -coefficients $H^*(; \mathbb{Z}_2)$. The corresponding equivariant cohomology theory for \mathbb{Z}_2 -spaces will be denoted by $h_{\mathbb{Z}_2}^*$.

Let M be a manifold and σ an involution on M .¹⁾ We define an embedding $\Delta: M \rightarrow M^2 = M \times M$ by $\Delta(x) = (x, \sigma x)$. Then Δ is equivariant with respect to the involution σ on M and the involution T on M^2 which is defined by $T(x_1, x_2) = (x_2, x_1)$. Let $\Delta_1: h_{\mathbb{Z}_2}^q(M) \rightarrow h_{\mathbb{Z}_2}^{q+m}(M^2)$ denote the Gysin homomorphism for Δ , where $m = \dim M$. We put $\theta(\sigma) = \Delta_1(1) \in h_{\mathbb{Z}_2}^m(M^2)$.

In the present note we shall give an explicit formula for $\theta(\sigma)$ and apply it to get theorems of the Borsuk-Ulam type. Our results generalize those of Nakaoka [3], [4]. From the formula for $\theta(\sigma)$ we shall also derive a sort of integrality theorem concerning the fixed point set of σ ; see Theorem 4. Detailed accounts will appear elsewhere.

Let S^∞ be the infinite dimensional sphere with the antipodal involution. The projection $\pi: S^\infty \times M^2 \rightarrow S^\infty \times M^2$ induces the Gysin homomorphism $\pi_1: h^*(M^2) \rightarrow h_{\mathbb{Z}_2}^*(M^2)$ and the usual homomorphism $\pi^*: h_{\mathbb{Z}_2}^*(M^2) \rightarrow h^*(M^2)$. Let $d: M \rightarrow M^2$ be the diagonal map. Since $d(M)$ is the fixed point set of T , $h_{\mathbb{Z}_2}^*(d(M))$ is isomorphic to $h_{\mathbb{Z}_2}^*(pt) \otimes_{h^*(pt)} h^*(M)$ and d induces $d^*: h_{\mathbb{Z}_2}^*(M^2) \rightarrow h_{\mathbb{Z}_2}^*(pt) \otimes_{h^*(pt)} h^*(M)$.

Lemma 1. *The homomorphism*

$$\pi^* \oplus d^*: h_{\mathbb{Z}_2}^*(M^2) \rightarrow h^*(M^2) \oplus (h_{\mathbb{Z}_2}^*(pt) \otimes_{h^*(pt)} h^*(M))$$

is injective.

We denote by S the multiplicative set $\{w_1^k | k \geq 1\}$ in $h_{\mathbb{Z}_2}^*(pt) = h^*(P^\infty)$ where w_1 is the universal first Stiefel-Whitney class. If X is a \mathbb{Z}_2 -space then $h_{\mathbb{Z}_2}^*(X)$ is an $h_{\mathbb{Z}_2}^*(pt)$ -module and we can consider the localized ring $S^{-1}h_{\mathbb{Z}_2}^*(X)$ of $h_{\mathbb{Z}_2}^*(X)$ with respect to S . Note that $h_{\mathbb{Z}_2}^*(pt)$ is isomorphic to a formal power series ring $h^*(pt)[[w_1]]$ and $h_{\mathbb{Z}_2}^*(pt) \otimes_{h^*(pt)} h^*(M)$

1) In this note we work in the smooth category. All manifolds will be connected, compact and without boundary unless otherwise stated.

is canonically embedded in $(S^{-1}h_{\mathbb{Z}_2}^*(pt)) \otimes_{h^*(pt)} h^*(M)$.

To state our main theorem we need some notations. Let $P: h^q(M) \rightarrow h_{\mathbb{Z}_2}^{2q}(M^2)$ be the Steenrod-tom Dieck operation; see [4], [6]. For $u \in h^q(M)$ we define $P_0(u)$ to be $d^*P(u)/w_1^{2q}$. Then P_0 is extended to a ring homomorphism $P_0: h^*(M) \rightarrow (S^{-1}h_{\mathbb{Z}_2}^*(pt)) \otimes_{h^*(pt)} h^*(M)$. For a real vector bundle ξ over a CW-complex X its h^* -theory Wu classes $v_\alpha(\xi) \in h^*(X)$ are defined in a similar way as in [5]. The Wu classes of the tangent bundle of a manifold X will be denoted by $v_\alpha(X)$. Finally we define $a_j(x) \in h^*(pt)[[x]]$ by

$$F(x, y) = \sum_{0 \leq j} a_j(x)y^j$$

where F is the formal group law of the theory h^* . For a multi-index $\alpha = (\alpha_1, \alpha_2, \dots)$ we put $a^\alpha(x) = \prod_{1 \leq j} a_j^{\alpha_j}(x)$, $l(\alpha) = \sum_j \alpha_j$ and $|\alpha| = \sum_j j\alpha_j$, cf. [6].

Theorem 2. *Let M be a manifold and σ an involution on M . Let F be the fixed point set of σ . F is a disjoint union of submanifolds F_1, \dots, F_l .*

i) $\pi^*\theta(\sigma) \in h^*(M^2)$ is given by

$$\pi^*\theta(\sigma) = \Delta_1(1)$$

where the Δ_1 on the right-hand side is the usual Gysin homomorphism $h^*(M) \rightarrow h^*(M^2)$. If $\{u_i\}$ is a homogeneous $h^*(pt)$ basis of $h^*(M)$ and $\Delta_1(1) = \sum a_{ij}u_i \times u_j$ with $a_{ij} \in h^*(pt)$ then the a_{ij} 's satisfy the relation

$$\sum_j a_{ij}c_{jk} = \delta_{ik} \quad (\text{the Kronecker } \delta)$$

where $c_{jk} = p_!(u_j \cup \sigma^*u_k)$ with $p: M \rightarrow pt$.

ii) $d^*\theta(\sigma) \in h_{\mathbb{Z}_2}^*(pt) \otimes_{h^*(pt)} h^*(M) \subset (S^{-1}h_{\mathbb{Z}_2}^*(pt)) \otimes_{h^*(pt)} h^*(M)$

is given by

$$d^*\theta(\sigma) = w_1^m \frac{\sum_{i=1}^l \sum_{\alpha} w_1^{2(-l(\alpha)+|\alpha|)} a^{2\alpha}(w_1) P_0(j_1(v_\alpha(F_i)^2))}{\sum_{\alpha} w_1^{-l(\alpha)+|\alpha|} a^\alpha(w_1) P_0(v_\alpha(M))}$$

where j_1 is the Gysin homomorphism of the inclusion $j: F \subset M$ and $m = \dim M$.

Remark 3. *In Theorem 2, when the theory h^* is the usual cohomology theory $H^*(; \mathbb{Z}_2)$, the formula for $d^*\theta(\sigma)$ reduces to*

$$d^*\theta(\sigma) = w_1^m P_0 \left(\left\{ \sum_{i=1}^l \sum_{s=0}^{[f_i/2]} j_1(v_s(F_i)^2) \right\} / \left\{ \sum_{s=0}^{[m/2]} v_s(M) \right\} \right)$$

where $f_i = \dim F_i$.

Theorem 4. *Let M, σ and F_i be as in Theorem 2. Suppose that $h^* = H^*(; \mathbb{Z}_2)$. If we write*

$$\sum_{i=1}^l \sum_{s=0}^{[f_i/2]} j_1(v_s(F_i)^2) / \sum_{s=0}^{[m/2]} v_s(M) = \sum_{i=0}^m u_i$$

where $u_i \in H^i(M; \mathbb{Z}_2)$, then we must have

$$u_i = 0 \quad \text{for } i > \frac{m}{2}.$$

Corollary 5. *Under the situation of Theorem 4 the element $\theta(\sigma) \in H_{\mathbb{Z}_2}^m(M^2; \mathbb{Z}_2)$ is given by*

$$\theta(\sigma) = \sum_{i=0}^{[m/2]} w_1^{m-2i} P(u_i) + \theta_1$$

where θ_1 is characterized by the conditions

a) $\theta_1 \in \pi_1$ -image

and

b) $\pi^* \theta_1 = \Delta_1(1) + u_{m/2} \times u_{m/2}$.

Corollary 6. *Under the situation of Theorem 4 assume moreover that $\dim F_i < \dim M/2$ for all i . Then*

$$\sum_{i=1}^l \sum_{s=0}^{[f_i/2]} j_1(v_s(F_i)^2) = 0$$

and $\theta(\sigma) \in H_{\mathbb{Z}_2}^*(M^2; \mathbb{Z}_2)$ is characterized by the conditions

a) $\theta(\sigma) \in \pi_1$ -image

and

b) $\pi^* \theta(\sigma) = \Delta_1(1)$.

Corollary 7. *Let M be an m -manifold which is a \mathbb{Z}_2 -homology sphere and σ an involution on M . Then, in the usual homology theory $H^*(; \mathbb{Z}_2)$, the element $\theta(\sigma) \in H_{\mathbb{Z}_2}^m(M^2; \mathbb{Z}_2)$ is given by*

$$\theta(\sigma) = \begin{cases} \pi_1(1 \times \mu) & \text{if } \sigma \text{ is not trivial,} \\ w_1^m + \pi_1(1 \times \mu) & \text{if } \sigma \text{ is trivial,} \end{cases}$$

where $\mu \in H^m(M; \mathbb{Z}_2)$ is the cofundamental class.

Now let N be another manifold with an involution τ and $f : N \rightarrow M$ a continuous map. We put

$$A(f) = \{y \mid y \in N, f\tau(y) = \sigma f(y)\}$$

and define an equivariant map $\hat{f} : N \rightarrow M^2$ by $\hat{f}(y) = (f(y), f\tau(y))$. The following is fundamental for our theorems of the Borsuk-Ulam type.

Theorem 8. *If $A(f) = \emptyset$ then the class $\hat{f}^* \theta(\sigma) \in h_{\mathbb{Z}_2}^m(N)$ vanishes.*

Corollary 9. *Let \bar{f} denote the restriction of f on the fixed point set $F(\tau)$ of τ . Suppose that we have*

$$\bar{f}^* \left(\sum_{i=1}^l \sum_{s=0}^{[f_i/2]} j_1(v_s(F_i)^2) \right) \neq 0$$

in $H_{\mathbb{Z}_2}^*(pt) \otimes H^*(F(\tau); \mathbb{Z}_2)$ then the set $A(f)$ is not empty.

When the involution τ on N is free the module $h_{\mathbb{Z}_2}^*(N)$ is canonically identified with $h^*(N/\mathbb{Z}_2)$.

Corollary 10. *Let M and N be manifolds of the same dimension m . Let σ be an involution on M such that $\dim F_i < \frac{m}{2}$ for all components F_i of the fixed point set of σ . Let τ be a free involution on N and $f : N \rightarrow M$ a continuous map. Then, in the usual cohomology,*

Let τ be a free involution on N and $f : N \rightarrow M$ a continuous map. Then, in the usual cohomology,

the evaluation of the class $\hat{f}^*\theta(\sigma) \in H^m(N/Z_2)$ on the fundamental class $[N/Z_2]$ is given by

$$\langle [N/Z_2], \hat{f}^*\theta(\sigma) \rangle = \hat{\chi}(f)$$

where $\hat{\chi}(f)$ is the equivariant Lefschetz number of f as defined in [3]. Consequently if $\hat{\chi}(f) \neq 0$, then $A(f) \neq \phi$.

Corollary 11. *Let M be an m -manifold which is a Z_2 -homology sphere with an involution σ . Let N be an m -manifold with a free involution τ and $f: N \rightarrow M$ a map. Then we have*

$$\langle [N/Z_2], \hat{f}^*\theta(\sigma) \rangle = \begin{cases} 1 + \deg f & \text{if } \sigma \text{ is trivial,} \\ \deg f & \text{if } \sigma \text{ is not trivial.} \end{cases}$$

Consequently if σ is not trivial and $\deg f \neq 0$, then $A(f) \neq \phi$.

2. Indication of proofs. Lemma 1 is a consequence of the following structure theorem for $h_{Z_2}^*(M^2)$ and a localization theorem due to tom Dieck [2] applied to the diagonal map d .

Theorem 12. *In $h_{Z_2}^*(M^2)$ the union $\bigcup_{k \geq 1} (\cup w_1^k\text{-kernel})$ coincides with π_1 -image which is isomorphic to $h^*(M^2)/h^*(M^2)^T$ through π_1 . The homomorphism π^* restricted on π_1 -image is injective. The quotient $h_{Z_2}^*(M^2)/(\pi_1\text{-image})$ is a free $h_{Z_2}^*(pt)$ -module and is generated by P -image. Its rank is equal to the rank of the $h^*(pt)$ -module $h^*(M)$.*

Theorem 12 is proved using the Gysin exact sequence of the double covering $\pi: S^\infty \times M^2 \rightarrow S^\infty \times_{Z_2} M^2$ and the following properties of π_1, π^* and P :

$$\begin{aligned} \pi^*\pi_1(u \times v) &= u \times v + v \times u, \\ \pi^*P(u) &= u \times u. \end{aligned}$$

Part i) of Theorem 2 follows from the commutativity of the diagram

$$\begin{array}{ccc} h^*(M) & \xrightarrow{\Delta_1} & h^*(M^2) \\ \pi^* \uparrow & & \uparrow \pi_* \\ h_{Z_2}^*(M) & \xrightarrow{\Delta_1} & h_{Z_2}^*(M^2) \end{array}$$

which holds since π is a covering projection.

In order to prove Part ii) we consider the submanifolds $\Delta(M)$ and $d(M)$ of M^2 . They are invariant under the action T . Their intersection is canonically identified with F . Let $j': F \subset \Delta(M)$ and $j: F \subset d(M)$ be the inclusions. Let $\nu_{j'}$ and ν_d be the normal bundles of j' and d respectively. We see that $\Delta(M)$ and $d(M)$ cut each other cleanly along F , that is, $\nu_{j'}$ is a subbundle of $j^*\nu_d$. Thus we have the excess bundle $E = j^*\nu_d/\nu_{j'}$, and it follows from the clean intersection formula (cf. [6]) that

$$d^*\Delta_1(1) = j_1(e(E))$$

where $e(E) \in h_{Z_2}^*(pt) \otimes_{h^*(pt)} h^*(F)$ is the h^* -theory Euler class of the bundle E with Z_2 -action. In our situation we have

Lemma 13. *The bundle E is isomorphic to the normal bundle ν_a of the diagonal map $d' : F \rightarrow F^2$ where the Z_2 -action on ν_a is induced from T .*

From Lemma 13 and the clean intersection formula applied to the commutative diagram

$$\begin{array}{ccc} F & \xrightarrow{d'} & F^2 \\ j \downarrow & & \downarrow j^2 \\ M & \xrightarrow{d} & M^2 \end{array}$$

we infer that

$$(*) \quad d^* \Delta_1(1) = d^* \left(\frac{(j^2)_1(d'_1(1)^2)}{d_1(1)} \right),$$

in $(S^{-1}h_{Z_2}^*(pt) \otimes_{h^*(pt)} h^*(M))$. But we have a formula due to Nakaoka [5] which expresses $d_1(1)$ in terms of $\nu_a(M)$, P_0 and $\alpha^*(w_1)$ and a similar one for $d'_1(1)$. Using these in (*) we obtain the formula in Part ii) of Theorem 2.

Finally Theorem 8 follows from the fact that $\hat{f}^* \theta(\sigma)$ is the Poincaré dual (in the equivariant cohomology) of $\hat{f}^{-1}(\Delta(M)) = A(f)$ in N .

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