

THE OPERATIONS ρ_R^k ON THE GROUP $\tilde{K}_R(CP^n)$

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The operations ρ_C^k and ρ_R^k play significant roles in K -theory. Their definitions and the actions on the K -groups of diverse complexes are described in [2].

In this note, we calculate the action of ρ_R^k on the reduced K -rings of a complex projective space CP^n . The method used here is the same as the one which is employed by J. F. Adams in the calculation of ρ_R^k on the ring $\tilde{K}_R(S^{4n})$ [2. (5.18)].

Preliminaries. Let CP^n be the (complex) n -dimensional complex projective space and $\tilde{K}_C(CP^n)$ (resp. $\tilde{K}_R(CP^n)$) be its complex (resp. real) (reduced) K -rings. We write

$$\begin{aligned}c &: \tilde{K}_R(CP^n) \longrightarrow \tilde{K}_C(CP^n), \\r &: \tilde{K}_C(CP^n) \longrightarrow \tilde{K}_R(CP^n), \\t &: \tilde{K}_C(CP^n) \longrightarrow \tilde{K}_C(CP^n)\end{aligned}$$

for the homomorphisms induced by complexification, realification and complex conjugation. As is well-known ([1], Lemma 3.9), we have

$$cr = 1 + t,$$

$$rc = 2.$$

The ring $\tilde{K}_C(CP^n)$ is generated by one generator μ which satisfies the relation $\mu^{n+1}=0$ ([1], Theorem 7.2). The ring $\tilde{K}_R(CP^n)$ is generated by one generator $\omega=r\mu$ which satisfies the following relations:

$$\begin{aligned}\omega^{2w+1} &= 0, & \text{if } n &= 4w, \\2(\omega^{2w+1}) &= 0, \quad \omega^{2w+2} = 0, & \text{if } n &= 4w+1,\end{aligned}$$