

On the mod p cohomology of the spaces of free loops on the Grassman and Stiefel manifolds

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§ 0. Introduction.

Let ΩX be a space of loops on X and ΛX a space of free loops on X . We will call a fibration $\Omega X \hookrightarrow \Lambda X \xrightarrow{\pi} X$ a free loop fibration on X where $\pi(w) = w(1)$ for $w \in \Lambda X$. Let \mathbf{K}_p be a field of characteristic p . When is ΩX totally non-homologous to zero in ΛX with respect to a field \mathbf{K}_p ?

We call a commutative algebra $A(y_1, \dots, y_l) \otimes \mathbf{K}_p[x_1, \dots, x_n] / (\rho_1, \dots, \rho_m)$ over a field \mathbf{K}_p is GCI algebra if ρ_1, \dots, ρ_m is a regular sequence (see [4; p. 95]) or $m=0$ where $\deg y_i$ is odd and $\deg x_i$ is even if $p \neq 2$. (see [5; Definition, p. 893].) In [5], L. Smith has proved the following.

THEOREM 1 ([5; Theorem 4.1]). *Let X be a simply connected space such that $H^*(X; \mathbf{K}_0)$ is a GCI algebra. Then ΩX is totally non-homologous to zero in ΛX with respect to \mathbf{K}_0 if and only if $H^*(X; \mathbf{K}_0)$ is a free commutative algebra, in which case $H^*(\Lambda X; \mathbf{K}_0) \cong H^*(X; \mathbf{K}_0) \otimes H^*(\Omega X; \mathbf{K}_0)$ as an algebra.*

In this paper, using methods which L. Smith has given in [5], we will examine whether ΩX is totally non-homologous to zero in ΛX with respect to \mathbf{K}_p for cases where $X = U(m+n)/U(m) \times U(n)$, $Sp(m+n)/Sp(m) \times Sp(n)$, $Sp(n)/U(n)$, $SO(m+n)/SO(n)$, $SU(m+n)/SU(n)$, $Sp(m+n)/Sp(n)$, $\mathbb{C}P(2)$ and $p \geq 2$.

In order to obtain our results, we will consider the Eilenberg-Moore spectral sequence of a fibre square

$$\begin{array}{ccc} \Lambda X & \longrightarrow & X \\ \mathcal{F}(X) := \downarrow & & \downarrow \Delta \\ X & \xrightarrow{\Delta} & X \times X \end{array} \quad (\text{see [5]}),$$

where Δ is a diagonal map. Throughout this paper, $\mathcal{F}(X)$ means the above fibre square.

For a space X , let $T(X)$ denote a set of prime numbers p such that ΩX is totally non-homologous to zero in ΛX with respect to \mathbf{K}_p .