

## Segal-Becker theorem for $KR$ -theory

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### § 1. Introduction.

The purpose of this paper is to prove the following result.

**THEOREM 1.1.** *Let  $X$  be a based finite  $\mathbf{Z}_2$ -complex in the sense of [5]. Then there exists a natural split epimorphism*

$$\lambda_* : \{X, CP^\infty\}_{\mathbf{Z}_2} \longrightarrow \tilde{K}_R(X).$$

As corollaries of this theorem we deduce the results of G. Segal [12] and J. C. Becker [4].

First we fix our notation.

Let  $X$  be a compact based  $\mathbf{Z}_2$ -space and let

$$\tilde{K}_R(X) = K_R(X, *)$$

be the reduced  $KR$ -group of Atiyah [2]. If  $X$  and  $Y$  are based  $\mathbf{Z}_2$ -spaces, then  $[X, Y]_{\mathbf{Z}_2}$  denotes the set of  $\mathbf{Z}_2$ -homotopy classes of based  $\mathbf{Z}_2$ -maps from  $X$  to  $Y$ . Let  $\mathbf{R}^{p,q}$  be the representation of  $\mathbf{Z}_2$  on  $\mathbf{R}^{p+q}$  given by

$$g(x_1, \dots, x_{p+q}) = (-x_1, \dots, -x_p, x_{p+1}, \dots, x_{p+q}), \quad g \in \mathbf{Z}_2,$$

and let  $\Sigma^{p,q} = (\mathbf{R}^{p,q})^c$  be the one-point compactification of  $\mathbf{R}^{p,q}$ . Then we define the stable  $\mathbf{Z}_2$ -homotopy group  $\{X, Y\}_{\mathbf{Z}_2}$  to be  $\lim_{\substack{\longrightarrow \\ n}} [\Sigma^{n,n} \wedge X, \Sigma^{n,n} \wedge Y]_{\mathbf{Z}_2}$ . Let  $CP^n$  be the complex projective space with the involution  $\sigma$  given by

$$\sigma[z_0, \dots, z_n] = [\bar{z}_0, \dots, \bar{z}_n].$$

The construction of  $\lambda_*$  is given as follows.

Let  $BR$  denote a classifying space for stable Real vector bundles so that  $\tilde{K}_R(X) = [X, BR]_{\mathbf{Z}_2}$ . (We shall give a specific model for  $BR$  in § 3.) For a  $\mathbf{Z}_2$ -space  $X$ ,

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$$Q_{\mathbf{Z}_2}(X) = \lim_{\substack{\longrightarrow \\ n}} F(\Sigma^{n,n}, \Sigma^{n,n} \wedge X)$$

denotes the equivariant infinite loop space, where  $F(,)$  denotes the based function space with the natural  $\mathbf{Z}_2$ -action. Then by use of the Bott periodicity of  $KR$ -groups [2], we can define an infinite loop space structure

$$\xi: Q_{\mathbf{Z}_2}(BR) \longrightarrow BR$$

similarly as for  $BU$ .

Note that the canonical line bundle over  $CP^n$  is a Real line bundle in the canonical way. Let

$$j: CP^\infty \longrightarrow BR$$

be a  $\mathbf{Z}_2$ -map which classifies the stable class of the canonical Real line bundle. Then put

$$\lambda = \xi \circ Q_{\mathbf{Z}_2}(j): Q_{\mathbf{Z}_2}(CP^\infty) \longrightarrow BR.$$

Then using the natural isomorphism

$$\{X, CP^\infty\}_{\mathbf{Z}_2} \cong [X, Q_{\mathbf{Z}_2}(CP^\infty)]_{\mathbf{Z}_2},$$

we obtain a natural homomorphism

$$\lambda_*: \{X, CP^\infty\}_{\mathbf{Z}_2} \longrightarrow \tilde{K}_R(X).$$

By forgetting  $\mathbf{Z}_2$ -action in the above argument we obtain a natural homomorphism

$$\lambda'_*: \{X, CP^\infty\} \longrightarrow \tilde{K}(X).$$

Then we have

COROLLARY 1.2 (Segal [12]). *Let  $X$  be a finite complex. Then  $\lambda'_*$  is a split epimorphism.*

PROOF. We have a commutative diagram

$$\begin{array}{ccc} \{X \times S^0/* \times S^0, CP^\infty\}_{\mathbf{Z}_2} & \xrightarrow{\lambda_*} & \tilde{K}_R(X \times S^0/* \times S^0) \\ \phi' \downarrow & & \downarrow \phi \\ \{X, CP^\infty\} & \xrightarrow{\lambda'_*} & \tilde{K}(X) \end{array}$$

where  $S^0$  is the zero-sphere with free involution and  $\phi', \phi$  are the restriction maps on the subspace  $X = X \times \{0\} \subset X \times S^0$ , which are known [3] to be natural isomorphisms.

Next consider the case that  $X$  is a trivial  $\mathbf{Z}_2$ -space. Then clearly  $\tilde{K}_R(X) = \widetilde{KO}(X)$ . The following proposition will be proved in §4.

PROPOSITION 1.3. *Let  $X$  be a finite complex with trivial  $\mathbf{Z}_2$ -action. Then there exists a natural isomorphism*

$$\{X, CP^\infty\}_{\mathbb{Z}_2} \cong \{X, BO(2)\} \oplus \{X, BO(1)\}.$$

Moreover, we have via this isomorphism

$$\lambda_* = \mu_{2*} \oplus \mu_{1*} : \{X, CP^\infty\}_{\mathbb{Z}_2} \longrightarrow \tilde{K}_R(X) = \tilde{KO}(X),$$

where  $\mu_2 : QBO(2) \rightarrow BO$  and  $\mu_1 : QBO(1) \rightarrow BO$  are the extensions of the standard inclusions  $BO(2) \rightarrow BO$  and  $BO(1) \rightarrow BO$  respectively.

COROLLARY 1.4 (Becker [4]). Let  $X$  be a finite complex. Then  $\mu_{2*} : \{X, BO(2)\} \rightarrow \tilde{KO}(X)$  is a split epimorphism.

## §2. The equivariant transfer homomorphism.

In this section we recall the definition of the transfer homomorphism in equivariant cohomology theories [8].

Let  $G$  be a finite group and  $\Gamma$  a compact Lie group. Let  $\alpha : G \rightarrow \text{Aut } \Gamma$  be a homomorphism and let  $\Gamma \times_\alpha G$  be the semi-direct product. In [8] we have defined the notion of a principal  $(\Gamma, \alpha, G)$ -bundle  $\tilde{p} : \tilde{E} \rightarrow B$ , namely,  $\tilde{E}$  is a  $\Gamma \times_\alpha G$ -space such that free as a  $\Gamma$ -space,  $B$  is a  $G$ -space and  $B \cong \tilde{E}/\Gamma$  via the projection  $\tilde{p}$ . Let  $F$  be a compact smooth  $\Gamma \times_\alpha G$ -manifold and suppose that  $B$  is compact. Then we obtain a  $(\Gamma, \alpha, G)$ -bundle

$$F \xrightarrow{i} E = \tilde{E} \times_\Gamma F \xrightarrow{p} B.$$

Choose a  $\Gamma \times_\alpha G$ -embedding  $F \subset W$  into a Euclidean  $\Gamma \times_\alpha G$ -space  $W$ . Then since  $B$  is compact, there exists a  $G$ -vector bundle  $\eta$  over  $B$  and a  $G$ -vector space  $V$  such that

$$(\tilde{E} \times_\Gamma W) \oplus \eta \cong B \times V.$$

Now if  $E_1$  and  $E_2$  are fibre bundles over  $B$ , then  $E_1 \times_B E_2$  denotes the fibre product. Note that  $X \mapsto (\tilde{E} \times_\Gamma X) \times_B \eta$  is a functor on  $\Gamma \times_\alpha G$ -spaces. Let  $\nu(F)$  be the normal bundle of  $F$  in  $W$ . Then we have  $\Gamma \times_\alpha G$ -maps

$$W \xleftarrow{i} \nu(F) \xrightarrow{j} \nu(F) \oplus \tau(F) \cong F \times W$$

where  $j(\nu) = (\nu, 0)$ . Then applying the above functor we obtain  $G$ -maps

$$(\tilde{E} \times_\Gamma W) \times_B \eta \xleftarrow{i'} (\tilde{E} \times_\Gamma \nu(F)) \times_B \eta \xrightarrow{j'} (\tilde{E} \times_\Gamma (F \times W)) \times_B \eta.$$

By definition,  $(\tilde{E} \times_\Gamma W) \times_B \eta \cong (\tilde{E} \times_\Gamma W) \oplus \eta \cong B \times V$ , and by [8, Lemma 2.2],  $(\tilde{E} \times_\Gamma (F \times W)) \times_B \eta \cong E \times V$ . We remark that if  $p$  is a differentiable  $(\Gamma, \alpha, G)$ -bundle then the  $G$ -embedding

$$E = \tilde{E} \times_\Gamma F \longrightarrow (\tilde{E} \times_\Gamma W) \times_B \eta \cong B \times V$$

is  $G$ -homotopic to the projection  $p: E \rightarrow B$  and the normal bundle  $\nu(E, B \times V)$  is just  $(\tilde{E} \times_{\Gamma} \nu(F)) \times_B \eta$ .

Now clearly  $i': (\tilde{E} \times_{\Gamma} \nu(F)) \times_B \eta \rightarrow B \times V$  is an embedding onto an open set and  $j': (\tilde{E} \times_{\Gamma} \nu(F)) \times_B \eta \rightarrow E \times V$  is a proper map. Hence by taking the one-point compactification we obtain a  $G$ -map  $B_+ \wedge V^c \rightarrow E_+ \wedge V^c$ , where  $+$  means a disjoint base point. By taking the limit over  $V$  we obtain a stable  $G$ -map

$$t = t(p): B_+ \longrightarrow E_+$$

which is independent of choices of the embedding  $F \subset W$  and  $\eta$  ([8]), and is called a trace of the bundle  $p = (F \rightarrow E \rightarrow B)$ .

Now let  $M$  be a closed  $G$ -manifold. Then the unique map  $p: M \rightarrow *$  is a  $(\{e\}, G)$ -bundle, and we obtain a trace  $t: S^0 \rightarrow M_+$ . We define the equivariant Euler characteristic  $\chi_G(M)$  by  $\pi \circ t \in \{S^0, S^0\}_G \cong A(G)$ , where  $\pi: M_+ \rightarrow S^0$  is the projection and  $A(G)$  is the Burnside ring of  $G$  (see [11]). Let  $H$  be a subgroup of  $G$  and let  $\phi_H: A(G) \rightarrow \mathcal{Z}$  be the ring homomorphism given by  $\phi_H(S) = \# \{S^H\}$  for a finite  $G$ -set  $S$ .

LEMMA 2.1. *Let  $M$  be a closed  $G$ -manifold and let  $H$  be a subgroup of  $G$ . Then we have  $\phi_H(\chi_G(M)) = \chi(M^H)$ , where  $M^H = \{x \in M; h(x) = x \text{ for any } h \in H\}$ .*

PROOF. Let  $\phi_H: \{S^0, S^0\}_G \rightarrow \mathcal{Z}$  be the ring homomorphism given by  $\phi_H(\{f\}) = \deg(f^H)$  for a  $G$ -map  $f: V^c \rightarrow V^c$ . By the result of [11], we can replace  $A(G)$  and  $\phi_H$  with  $\{S^0, S^0\}_G$  and  $\phi_H$ . Now  $\chi_G(M)$  is represented by a  $G$ -map

$$V^c \xrightarrow{t} M_+ \wedge V^c \xrightarrow{\pi} V^c$$

and by the definition of the trace we see easily that

$$t^H: (V^H)^c \longrightarrow M_+^H \wedge (V^H)^c$$

is a trace of the manifold  $M^H$ . This shows the lemma.

Let now  $F$  be a closed  $\Gamma \times_{\alpha} G$ -manifold and  $F'$  a  $\Gamma \times_{\alpha} G$ -submanifold. Let  $N$  be a closed  $\Gamma \times_{\alpha} G$ -invariant tubular neighborhood of  $F'$  in  $F$ . We assume that there exists a non-singular  $\Gamma \times_{\alpha} G$ -invariant vector field  $\Delta$  on  $\overline{F - N}$  whose restriction to  $\partial N$  lies in the tangent space of  $\partial N$ . Let  $\tilde{\mathcal{F}}: \tilde{E} \rightarrow B$  be a principal  $(\Gamma, \alpha, G)$ -bundle. Let  $\xi = (F \rightarrow E \rightarrow B)$  and  $\xi' = (F' \rightarrow E' \rightarrow B)$  be the associated bundles with fibre  $F$  and  $F'$ , respectively. Let  $i: E' \rightarrow E$  be the natural inclusion. Then we obtain

PROPOSITION 2.2. *With the above assumptions the following diagram is  $G$ -homotopy commutative*

$$\begin{array}{ccc}
 & & E_+ \\
 & \nearrow^{t(\xi)} & \uparrow i \\
 B_+ & & \\
 & \searrow_{t(\xi')} & E'_+
 \end{array}$$

PROOF. Let  $X$  and  $Y$  be locally compact  $G$ -spaces. We define a locally proper  $G$ -map from  $X$  to  $Y$  to be a proper  $G$ -map  $f: U \rightarrow Y$  for some open subset  $U$  of  $X$ . Let  $f_0$  and  $f_1$  be locally proper  $G$ -maps from  $X$  to  $Y$ . A  $G$ -homotopy  $H$  of  $f_0$  and  $f_1$  is a locally proper  $G$ -map  $H$  from  $X \times I$  to  $Y$  whose restriction to  $X \times \{i\}$  is  $f_i$ ,  $i=0, 1$ . It is clear that a locally proper  $G$ -map defines a  $G$ -map  $f: X^c \rightarrow Y^c$  and similarly for homotopy.

Now we choose a  $\Gamma \times_\alpha G$ -embedding  $F \subset W$  into a Euclidean  $\Gamma \times_\alpha G$ -space. Then  $F' (\subset F) \subset W$ . Then we obtain locally proper  $\Gamma \times_\alpha G$ -maps

$$\begin{aligned}
 W \supset \nu(F) &\xrightarrow{k} \nu(F) \oplus \tau(F) \cong F \times W \\
 W \supset \nu(F') &\xrightarrow{k'} \nu(F') \oplus \tau(F') \cong F' \times W.
 \end{aligned}$$

We first show that the locally proper  $\Gamma \times_\alpha G$ -maps  $k$  and  $(j \times id) \circ k'$  are homotopic, where  $j: F' \rightarrow F$  is the inclusion.

We may assume the following conditions:

(i) By the collaring theorem, we can identify

$$N \cong N' \cup (\partial N \times I), \quad \partial N' = \partial N \times \{0\}, \quad \partial(\overline{F-N}) = \partial N \times \{1\}$$

$$\text{and } F = N' \cup (\partial N \times I) \cup \overline{F-N}.$$

Let  $\pi: \nu(F) \rightarrow F$ ,  $\pi': N' \rightarrow F'$  and  $\pi'': \partial N \times I \rightarrow I$  be the projections.

(ii)  $\nu(F) = \{x \in W; \|\overrightarrow{\pi(x)x}\| < 1\}$  and  $N' = \{z \in F; \|\overrightarrow{\pi'(z)z}\| < 1\}$ , where  $\|\cdot\|$  is the  $\Gamma \times_\alpha G$ -invariant norm in  $W$ .

(iii) The non-singular  $\Gamma \times_\alpha G$ -invariant vector field  $\mathcal{A}$  is extended on  $(\partial N \times I) \cup \overline{F-N}$  so that  $\mathcal{A}$  is tangent to  $\partial N \times \{s\}$  for any  $s \in I$ .

(iv)  $\|\mathcal{A}(x)\| = 1$  in  $W$  for any  $x \in (\partial N \times I) \cup \overline{F-N}$ .

Note that we can identify  $\nu(F)|_{N'-\partial N'}$  with the tubular neighborhood of  $F'$  in  $W$ . We deform a normal vector in  $\nu(F)|_{N'-\partial N'}$  to a vector normal to  $F'$  in a canonical way, and deform  $k: \nu(F)|_{F-N'} \rightarrow F \times W$  to the trivial map  $\emptyset \rightarrow F \times W$ .

Recall that  $k(x) = (\pi(x), \overrightarrow{\pi(x)x})$  for  $x \in \nu(F)$  and that  $(j \times id) \circ k'(x) = (\pi' \pi(x), \overrightarrow{\pi' \pi(x)x})$  for  $x \in \nu(F)|_{N'-\partial N'}$ .

We define a locally proper  $\Gamma \times_\alpha G$ -map  $H$  from  $\nu(F) \times I$  to  $F \times W$  by

$$H(x, t) = (H_1(x, t), H_2(x, t)) \in F \times W,$$

where  $H_1(x, t)$  is the canonical path connecting  $\pi(x)$  and  $\pi'\pi(x)$  in  $N'$  if  $\pi(x) \in N' - \partial N'$ , equal to  $\pi(x)$  if  $\pi(x) \in \overline{F - N}$ , and can be canonically extended on all  $\nu(F)$  to be a continuous  $I \times_\alpha G$ -map, and

$$H_2(x, t) = \begin{cases} \overrightarrow{\pi(x)x + t\pi'\pi(x)\pi(x)} & \text{if } \pi(x) \in N' - \partial N' \\ \overrightarrow{\pi(x)x + t\mathcal{A}(\pi(x))} & \text{if } \pi(x) \in F - N \\ \overrightarrow{\pi(x)x + t\{1 - 2s + 2s\|\overrightarrow{\pi'\pi(x)\pi(x)}\|^{-1}\}\overrightarrow{\pi'\pi(x)\pi(x)}} & \\ \quad \text{if } \pi(x) \in \partial N \times I, s = \pi''\pi(x) \text{ and } 0 \leq s \leq 1/2 \\ \overrightarrow{\pi(x)x + tK(2s - 1; \|\overrightarrow{\pi'\pi(x)\pi(x)}\|^{-1}\overrightarrow{\pi'\pi(x)\pi(x)}, \mathcal{A}(\pi(x)))} & \\ \quad \text{if } \pi(x) \in \partial N \times I, s = \pi''\pi(x) \text{ and } 1/2 \leq s \leq 1, \end{cases}$$

where  $K(s; v, w) = \|(1-s)v + sw\|^{-1}\{(1-s)v + sw\}$  which is well-defined when  $v$  and  $w$  are linearly independent. The domain of  $H$  is the open set

$$\{(x, t) \in \nu(F) \times I; \|H_2(x, t)\| < 1\}.$$

$H_2$  is well-defined because  $\overrightarrow{\pi'\pi(x)\pi(x)}$  and  $\mathcal{A}(\pi(x))$  are linearly independent and  $\|\mathcal{A}(\pi(x))\| = 1$  for any  $\pi(x) \in \partial N \times I$ . If  $\pi(x) \in \overline{F - N}$  and  $t = 1$ , then the domain is empty because  $\|\mathcal{A}\| = 1$  and  $\mathcal{A}$  is normal to  $\overrightarrow{\pi(x)x}$ . If  $\pi(x) \in \partial N \times I$  and  $t = 1$ , then the domain is empty because  $\|\overrightarrow{\pi'\pi(x)\pi(x)}\| \geq 1$ ,  $\|K\| = 1$  and  $\overrightarrow{\pi(x)x}$  is normal to both  $\overrightarrow{\pi'\pi(x)\pi(x)}$  and  $K$ .

Thus  $H$  is the required locally proper  $I \times_\alpha G$ -homotopy of  $k$  and  $(j \times id) \circ k'$ .

Now to define the homotopy between the traces of  $\xi$  and  $\xi'$ , consider the functor  $(\tilde{E} \times_\Gamma (\ )) \times_B \eta$ . Then clearly we obtain a homotopy between the locally proper  $G$ -maps

$$(\tilde{E} \times_\Gamma W) \times_B \eta \supset (\tilde{E} \times_\Gamma \nu(F)) \times_B \eta \longrightarrow (\tilde{E} \times_\Gamma (F \times W)) \times_B \eta$$

and

$$\begin{aligned} (\tilde{E} \times_\Gamma W) \times_B \eta &\supset (\tilde{E} \times_\Gamma \nu(F')) \times_B \eta \\ &\longrightarrow (\tilde{E} \times_\Gamma (F' \times W)) \times_B \eta \longrightarrow (\tilde{E} \times_\Gamma (F \times W)) \times_B \eta. \end{aligned}$$

This completes the proof.

Let  $h_G^*$  be a generalized  $G$ -cohomology theory in the sense of [7]. For a  $(I; \alpha, G)$ -bundle  $\xi = (F \rightarrow E \rightarrow B)$  where  $F$  is a closed smooth manifold and  $B$  is compact, we define the transfer homomorphism

$$p_! : h_G^*(E) \longrightarrow h_G^*(B)$$

by  $p_! = (\sigma^V)^{-1}t(\xi)^*\sigma^V$ , where  $t(\xi) : B_+ \wedge V^c \rightarrow E_+ \wedge V^c$  is a trace of  $\xi$  and  $\sigma^V : \tilde{h}_G^q(X) \rightarrow \tilde{h}_G^{q+V}(X \wedge V^c)$  is the suspension isomorphism. It is known [8] that  $h_G^*(X)$  is a  $\pi_G^*(pt.) = \{S^0, S^0\}_G$ -module and  $p_!$  is a  $\pi_G^*(pt.)$ -module homomorphism. Let  $\omega \in$

$\pi_G^0(pt.)$  and let  $M$  be a  $\pi_G^0(pt.)$ -module. We denote by  $M[\omega^{-1}]$  the localization of  $M$  with respect to the multiplicative set  $\{\omega^n\}_{n=1,2,\dots}$ . Now we need the following generalization of [8, Theorem 4.7].

PROPOSITION 2.3\*. Let  $\xi=(F \rightarrow E \xrightarrow{\hat{p}} B)$  be a  $(\Gamma, \alpha, G)$ -bundle, where  $F$  is a closed smooth manifold. Suppose that  $B$  is a finite  $G$ -complex in the sense of [5]. Then the composition of  $\pi_G^*(pt.)[\chi_G(F)^{-1}]$ -module homomorphisms

$$p_!p^*: h_G^*(B)[\chi_G(F)^{-1}] \longrightarrow h_G^*(B)[\chi_G(F)^{-1}]$$

is an isomorphism.

PROOF. Let  $B^{(0)}$  be the 0-skeleton of  $B$ . Then  $B^{(0)}$  is a union of  $G$ -orbits  $G/H$ . Let  $\tilde{E} \xrightarrow{\tilde{p}} B$  be the principal  $(\Gamma, \alpha, G)$ -bundle associated with  $\xi$ . Let  $G/H \subset B^{(0)}$ . The principal bundle  $\tilde{p}^{-1}(G/H) \rightarrow G/H$  is clearly identified with the canonical projection

$$\Gamma \times_{\alpha} G / \{e\} \times_{\alpha} H \longrightarrow G/H.$$

Then the associated bundle with fibre  $F$  over  $G/H$  is easily seen to be the product bundle

$$G/H \times F \longrightarrow G/H.$$

Now let  $\omega(\xi) = p_!p^*(1) \in \pi_G^0(B)$ , where  $1 \in \pi_G^0(B)$  is the unit. Let  $\pi: B \rightarrow pt.$  be the unique  $G$ -map. Then by the naturality ([8, Proposition 4.4]) of the transfer we have

$$i^*(\omega(\xi) - \pi^*\chi_G(F)) = 0,$$

where  $i: B^{(0)} \rightarrow B$  is the inclusion. Then the proposition follows from the similar argument of [8, Theorem 4.7].

Now let  $K_R^*$  ( $* \in RO(\mathbf{Z}_2)$ ) be the Real  $K$ -theory of Atiyah [2].  $K_R^*$  is a generalized  $\mathbf{Z}_2$ -cohomology theory, and  $K_R^0(X)$  is the Grothendieck group  $K_R(X)$  of Real vector bundles over  $X$ . A  $(\Gamma, \alpha, \mathbf{Z}_2)$ -bundle  $F \rightarrow E \xrightarrow{\hat{p}} B$  is called a finite  $\mathbf{Z}_2$ -covering if  $F$  is a finite set. In this case, just alike for the usual  $K$ -group (Atiyah [1]), we can define the geometric transfer homomorphism ("direct image")

$$\tau: K_R(E) \longrightarrow K_R(B).$$

PROPOSITION 2.4.

$$\tau = p_!: K_R^0(E) \longrightarrow K_R^0(B).$$

PROOF. As  $F$  is of zero-dimensional, the normal bundle  $\nu(F)$  in the construction of the trace is isomorphic to  $F \times W$ , and the trace

$$t(p): B_+ \wedge V^c \longrightarrow E_+ \wedge V^c$$

is by definition the one-point compactification of the inclusion

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<sup>\*</sup>) Added in proof: The proof of Proposition 2.3 works only in the case  $G = \mathbf{Z}_2$ ,  $\Gamma = U(n)$ ,  $\alpha; \mathbf{Z}_2 \rightarrow \text{Aut } U(n)$  is the conjugation. This was pointed out to us by K. Iriye.

$$B \times V \cong (\tilde{E} \times_{\Gamma} W) \times_{B\eta} \xrightarrow{i} (\tilde{E} \times_{\Gamma} \nu(F)) \times_{B\eta} \cong E \times V.$$

We regard the real  $\mathbf{Z}_2$ -module  $V$  as a complex vector space with the usual  $\mathbf{Z}_2$ -action given by the conjugation of complex numbers. Then the suspension isomorphism  $\sigma^V$  in the  $K_{\mathbb{R}}^*$ -theory is defined by the composition

$$K_{\mathbb{R}}(X) \xrightarrow{\otimes A} K_{\mathbb{R}}(X \times V) \xleftarrow[f]{\cong} \tilde{K}_{\mathbb{R}}(X_+ \wedge V^c)$$

where  $A$  is the Thom element and  $f$  is the canonical isomorphism (see [10]).

We shall use the following lemma.

LEMMA 2.5. *Let  $i: X \hookrightarrow Y$  be the inclusion of an open subset. Assume that  $Y$  is locally compact and that every Real vector bundle over  $Y$  has an inverse bundle. Let*

$$\xi = [\xi_0 \xrightarrow{\partial} \xi_1] \in K_{\mathbb{R}}(X)$$

and

$$\zeta = [\zeta_0 \xrightarrow{\partial'} \zeta_1] \in K_{\mathbb{R}}(Y)$$

be complexes of Real vector bundles over  $X$  and  $Y$  respectively. Namely  $\partial$  is a bundle homomorphism which is isomorphic outside a compact subset  $\text{supp}(\xi)$  of  $X$ , similarly for  $\partial'$ .

Assume that

$$\text{supp}(\zeta) \subset X \quad \text{and} \quad \zeta|_X = \xi$$

as an element of  $K_{\mathbb{R}}(X)$ . Then

$$\zeta = f \circ (i^c)^* \circ f^{-1}(\xi),$$

where  $(i^c)^*: \tilde{K}_{\mathbb{R}}(X^c) \rightarrow \tilde{K}_{\mathbb{R}}(Y^c)$  is induced by the one-point compactification of  $i$ .

PROOF. This follows easily from the excision property of  $K_{\mathbb{R}}$ -groups (see [10]).

We return to the proof of Proposition 2.4.

Take a Real vector bundle  $\alpha$  over  $E$ . We have to show that

$$\tau(\alpha) \otimes A = f \circ (i^c)^* \circ f^{-1}(\alpha \otimes A)$$

in  $K_{\mathbb{R}}(B \times V)$ , where

$$(i^c)^* = t(p)^*: \tilde{K}_{\mathbb{R}}(E_+ \wedge V^c) \longrightarrow \tilde{K}_{\mathbb{R}}(B_+ \wedge V^c).$$

Here

$$\alpha \otimes A = [\alpha \otimes \lambda_0 \xrightarrow{id \otimes \partial^E} \alpha \otimes \lambda_1] \in K_{\mathbb{R}}(E \times V)$$

and

$$\tau(\alpha) \otimes A = [\tau(\alpha) \otimes \lambda_0 \xrightarrow{id \otimes \partial^B} \tau(\alpha) \otimes \lambda_1] \in K_{\mathbb{R}}(B \times V),$$



where  $\lambda_0$  and  $\lambda_1$  are trivial bundles and  $\text{supp}(\alpha \otimes \lambda) = E \times \{0\}$ ,  $\text{supp}(\tau(\alpha) \otimes \lambda) = B \times \{0\}$ .

Let  $\{U_\mu\}$  be a  $\mathbf{Z}_2$ -invariant finite open covering of  $B$  such that each  $p|_{U_\mu}$  is trivial, say

$$p^{-1}(U_\mu) = \coprod_{j=1}^k W_\mu^j.$$

Then by definition of the geometric transfer,

$$\tau(\alpha)|_{U_\mu} = \bigoplus_{j=1}^k \alpha|_{W_\mu^j}.$$

We define a complex vector bundle homomorphism

$$\phi_\mu^j(s) : \alpha|_{W_\mu^j} \otimes \lambda_0 \longrightarrow \alpha|_{W_\mu^j} \otimes \lambda_1 \quad (s \in I)$$

over  $W_\mu^j \times V \cong U_\mu \times V$  by

$$\phi_\mu^j(s)_{(x,v)}(y \otimes w) = y \otimes \partial_{v-s\pi \circ i(x,0)}^B(w)$$

for  $x \in W_\mu^j$ ,  $y \in \alpha_x$ ,  $v, w \in V$ ,  $s \in I$ , where  $\pi : B \times V \rightarrow V$  is the projection.

Then  $\bigoplus_{j=1}^k \phi_\mu^j$  defines a bundle homomorphism

$$\Delta_\mu : \left( \bigoplus_j \alpha|_{W_\mu^j} \otimes \lambda_0 \right) \times I \longrightarrow \left( \bigoplus_j \alpha|_{W_\mu^j} \otimes \lambda_1 \right) \times I$$

over  $U_\mu \times V \times I$ . Since  $\pi$  and  $i$  are  $\mathbf{Z}_2$ -maps,  $\Delta_\mu$  is a Real vector bundle homomorphism.

Now  $\{\Delta_\mu\}$  defines a bundle homomorphism

$$\Delta : (\tau(\alpha) \otimes \lambda_0) \times I \longrightarrow (\tau(\alpha) \otimes \lambda_1) \times I$$

because  $\pi \circ i(x, 0) \in V$  does not depend on the choice of  $\mu$  with  $x \in W_\mu^j \subset E$ . It is clear that  $\Delta|_{B \times V \times \{0\}} = id \otimes \partial^B$  and  $\text{supp}(\Delta|_{B \times V \times \{1\}}) = i(E \times \{0\}) \subset B \times V$ . Thus if we define

$$\beta = [\tau(\alpha) \otimes \lambda_0 \xrightarrow{\Delta|_{B \times V \times \{1\}}} \tau(\alpha) \otimes \lambda_1] \in K_R(B \times V),$$

we have  $\beta = \tau(\alpha) \otimes \lambda$  in  $K_R(B \times V)$ .

If  $\beta|_{E \times V} = \alpha \otimes \lambda$  in  $K_R(E \times V)$ , then Lemma 2.5 applies, and the proposition follows.

Consider the canonical injection

$$\alpha \hookrightarrow p^*\tau(\alpha)$$

of bundles over  $E$ . This injection splits:

$$p^*\tau(\alpha) = \alpha \oplus \gamma, \quad \text{where } \gamma|_{W_\mu^j} = \bigoplus_{k \neq j} \alpha|_{W_\mu^k}.$$

We apply this splitting to

$$\beta|_{E \times V} = [\rho^* \tau(\alpha) \otimes \lambda_0 \xrightarrow{\Delta|_{E \times V \times \{1\}}} \rho^* \tau(\alpha) \otimes \lambda_1].$$

The restriction to  $\alpha \otimes \lambda_0$  of  $\Delta$  is equal to  $id \otimes \iota^* \partial^E$ , where  $\iota$  denotes the inclusion of an open neighborhood of zero, which is identified with  $V$ , because if we restrict  $\Delta$  to  $\alpha \otimes \lambda_0|_{W_\mu^j \times V}$ , then

$$\begin{aligned} \Delta_{(x, v)}(y \otimes w) &= \phi_\mu^j(1)_{(x, \pi i(x, v))}(y \otimes w) \\ &= y \otimes \partial_{\pi i(x, v) - \pi i(x, 0)}^B(w). \end{aligned}$$

On the other hand, the restriction to  $\gamma \otimes \lambda_0$  of  $\Delta$  is an isomorphism, because the restriction to  $\gamma \otimes \lambda_0|_{W_\mu^j \times V}$  is  $\bigoplus_{k \neq j} \phi_\mu^k(1)$ , the domain of which is out of  $\text{supp}(\partial^B)$ .

Now clearly

$$\begin{aligned} [\alpha \otimes \lambda_0 \xrightarrow{id \otimes \iota^* \partial^E} \alpha \otimes \lambda_1] &= [\alpha \otimes \lambda_0 \xrightarrow{id \otimes \partial^E} \alpha \otimes \lambda_1] \\ &= \alpha \otimes A \in K_R(E \times V) \end{aligned}$$

by Lemma 2.5. Thus

$$\beta|_{E \times V} = \alpha \otimes A \oplus [\gamma \otimes \lambda_0 \xrightarrow{\cong} \gamma \otimes \lambda_1] = \alpha \otimes A$$

in  $K_R(E \times V)$ . This completes the proof.

REMARK 2.6. The same proof applies to the  $K_G^*$ -theory for a finite group  $G$ , and

$$\tau = p_1: K_G^0(E) \longrightarrow K_G^0(B).$$

### §3. Some homogeneous spaces.

Let  $U(n)$  be the unitary group with the involutive automorphism  $\alpha: \mathbf{Z}_2 \rightarrow \text{Aut } U(n)$  given by  $\alpha(g)(A) = \bar{A}$ , where  $\bar{A}$  is the conjugate of  $A \in U(n)$ . If  $H$  is a closed  $\mathbf{Z}_2$ -subgroup of  $U(n)$ , then the homogeneous space  $U(n)/H$  is a  $\mathbf{Z}_2$ -manifold.

Let  $T^n$  be the maximal torus of  $U(n)$  and let  $N(T^n)$  be the normalizer of  $T^n$ . Then we have a  $\mathbf{Z}_2$ -manifold  $U(n)/N(T^n)$ . In order to determine the  $\mathbf{Z}_2$ -Euler characteristic of  $U(n)/N(T^n)$ , we consider the fixed point submanifold  $(U(n)/N(T^n))^{\mathbf{Z}_2}$ .

Given a matrix  $A \in U(n)$ ,  $[A]$  denotes the class in  $U(n)/N(T^n)$ . If  $[A] \in (U(n)/N(T^n))^{\mathbf{Z}_2}$ , then  $\bar{A} = A \cdot S \cdot P$  for some  $S \in \Sigma_n \subset U(n)$  and  $P \in T^n$ . Since  $\bar{\bar{A}} = A$ , we see easily that  $S^2 = I$ ,  $S \cdot P = P \cdot S$ , and that the conjugacy class of  $S$  in  $\Sigma_n$  is independent of the choice of  $A$  in the class  $[A]$ . Then clearly  $(U(n)/N(T^n))^{\mathbf{Z}_2}$  is the disjoint union  $\prod_{k=0}^{[\frac{n}{2}]} C_k$ , where the open set  $C_k$  consists of  $[A]$  whose  $S$  is conjugate to



$P = \text{diag}(\lambda_1, \bar{\lambda}_1, \dots, \lambda_k, \bar{\lambda}_k, \pm 1, \dots, \pm 1)$ ,  
namely,

$$X = S \cdot Q_{n,k} \cdot P \cdot Q_{n,k}^{-1} \in N(SO(2)^k \times \mathbf{Z}_2^{n-2k}).$$

This completes the proof.

LEMMA 3.2.

$$\chi_{\mathbf{Z}_2}(U(n)/N(T^n)) = 1 \in A(\mathbf{Z}_2).$$

PROOF. By Lemma 2.1, it is sufficient to show that  $\chi(U(n)/N(T^n)) = 1$  and  $\chi((U(n)/N(T^n))^{\mathbf{Z}_2}) = 1$ . The first equality is well known ([6], p. 27). Now

$$\chi((U(n)/N(T^n))^{\mathbf{Z}_2}) = \sum_k \chi(C_k).$$

We have a fibre bundle

$$\begin{aligned} O(2k)/N_{O(2k)}(T^k) &\longrightarrow O(n)/N_{O(n)}(T^k \times \mathbf{Z}_2^{n-2k}) \\ &\longrightarrow O(n)/O(2k) \times N_{O(n-2k)}(\mathbf{Z}_2^{n-2k}). \end{aligned}$$

It is also known [6] that  $\chi(O(2k)/N(T^k)) = 1$ . If  $k = \lfloor n/2 \rfloor$ , then the base space is either one point or  $\mathbf{R}P^{n-1} = O(n)/O(n-1) \times \mathbf{Z}_2$ . Hence the Euler characteristic is 1. Now if  $k < \lfloor n/2 \rfloor$ , then  $\chi(O(n)/O(2k)) = 0$  and  $N_{O(n-2k)}(\mathbf{Z}_2^{n-2k})$  is finite. Hence  $\chi(O(n)/O(2k) \times N_{O(n-2k)}(\mathbf{Z}_2^{n-2k})) = 0$ . This completes the proof.

Now let  $F_n = U(2n)/N(T^{2n})$ . Then  $F_n$  is a  $U(2n) \times_{\alpha} \mathbf{Z}_2$ -space. Let  $U(2n) \subset U(2n) \times U(2) \subset U(2n+2)$  be the standard inclusion and we regard  $F_{n+1}$  as a  $U(2n) \times_{\alpha} \mathbf{Z}_2$ -space via the standard inclusion. We define a  $U(2n) \times_{\alpha} \mathbf{Z}_2$ -embedding

$$j: F_n \longrightarrow F_{n+1}$$

by  $j([A]) = [A \oplus Q]$  for  $[A] \in U(2n)/N(T^{2n})$ , where  $Q$  is the  $(2 \times 2)$ -matrix defined in Lemma 3.1. Let

$$S^1 = SO(2) \cong \{e\} \times SO(2) \subset U(2n) \times U(2) \subset U(2n+2).$$

Then  $S^1$  is a subgroup of  $U(2n+2)$  with the trivial  $\mathbf{Z}_2$ -action. Therefore  $F_{n+1}$  is a  $(U(2n) \times_{\alpha} \mathbf{Z}_2) \times S^1$ -manifold.

LEMMA 3.3.  $F_n = (F_{n+1})^{S^1}$ .

PROOF. Remark that  $[Q] \in F_1^{\mathbf{Z}_2}$  lies in  $C_1 = C_1(F_1)$  in Lemma 3.1 and  $C_1(F_1) = *$ . Hence  $[X \cdot Q] = [Q]$  for any  $X \in O(2)$ . Let  $[A] \in F_n$  and let  $X \in S^1$ . Then

$$X \cdot [A \oplus Q] = [A \oplus X \cdot Q] = [A \oplus Q] \in F_{n+1},$$

hence  $F_n \subset (F_{n+1})^{S^1}$ . Next let  $[B] \in (F_{n+1})^{S^1}$ . Then

$$B^{-1} \cdot S^1 \cdot B \subset N(T^{2n+2}) \subset U(2n+2).$$

This implies that  $[B]$  is of the form  $[A \oplus Y]$  for some  $Y \in U(2)$ , and since  $Y^{-1} \cdot S^1 \cdot Y \subset N(T^2)$ , we see that  $Y \in [Q]$  and  $[B] = [A \oplus Q]$ . This completes the

proof.

Now we define  $\mathbf{Z}_2$ -equivariant homogeneous spaces of  $U(4n)$ :

$$\begin{aligned} B_n &= U(4n)/U(2n) \times U(2n) \\ E_n &= U(4n)/N_{U(2n)}(T^{2n}) \times U(2n) \\ \bar{E}_n &= U(4n)/T^1 \times N_{U(2n-1)}(T^{2n-1}) \times U(2n) \\ P_n &= U(4n)/T^1 \times U(4n-1). \end{aligned}$$

There are canonical projections:

$$\begin{aligned} p_n &: E_n \longrightarrow B_n \\ \pi_n &: \bar{E}_n \longrightarrow E_n \\ q_n &: \bar{E}_n \longrightarrow P_n, \end{aligned}$$

among which  $p_n$  is a  $(U(2n), \alpha, \mathbf{Z}_2)$ -bundle with fibre  $F_n = U(2n)/N(T^{2n})$  associated with the principal  $(U(2n), \alpha, \mathbf{Z}_2)$ -bundle  $U(4n)/U(2n) \rightarrow U(4n)/U(2n) \times U(2n)$ , and  $\pi_n$  is a  $(\Sigma_{2n}, \text{trivial}, \mathbf{Z}_2)$ -bundle with fibre  $[2n] = \Sigma_{2n}/\Sigma_{2n-1}$  associated with the principal  $(\Sigma_{2n}, \text{trivial}, \mathbf{Z}_2)$ -bundle  $U(4n)/T^{2n} \times U(2n) \rightarrow U(4n)/N(T^{2n}) \times U(2n)$ .

Let  $\mathcal{C}^{4n} \rightarrow \mathcal{C}^{4n+4}$  be the inclusion given by

$$(z_1, \dots, z_{4n}) \longmapsto (z_1, \dots, z_{2n}, 0, 0, z_{2n+1}, \dots, z_{4n}, 0, 0).$$

Then associated with this inclusion, we can define an inclusion

$$\oplus: U(4n) \times U(2) \times U(2) \longrightarrow U(4n+4).$$

Let  $I \in U(2)$  be the unit matrix and  $Q \in U(2)$  as before. Then we define  $\mathbf{Z}_2$ -embeddings

$$B_n \longrightarrow B_{n+1} \quad \text{and} \quad P_n \longrightarrow P_{n+1}$$

by  $[A] \rightarrow [A \oplus I \oplus I]$  for  $[A] \in B_n$  or  $P_n$ , and

$$E_n \longrightarrow E_{n+1} \quad \text{and} \quad \bar{E}_n \longrightarrow \bar{E}_{n+1}$$

by  $[A] \rightarrow [A \oplus Q \oplus I]$  for  $[A] \in E_n$  or  $\bar{E}_n$ , respectively. Note that  $Q^2 \in N(T^2)$  and the latter ones are  $\mathbf{Z}_2$ -embeddings.

We define  $B = BR = \varinjlim B_n$ ,  $P = \varinjlim P_n$ ,  $E = \varinjlim E_n$  and  $\bar{E} = \varinjlim \bar{E}_n$ . It is clear that  $P$  is the complex projective space  $CP^\infty$  with the canonical involution given in §1. Note that  $B_n$  is the Grassmann manifold with the involution given by the conjugation. Then it is easy to see the following

LEMMA 3.4. *Let  $X$  be a based compact  $\mathbf{Z}_2$ -space. Then there is a natural isomorphism*

$$[X, BR]_{\mathbf{Z}_2} \cong \hat{K}_R(X).$$

#### §4. Proof of the theorem.

Consider the commutative diagram

$$\begin{array}{ccccc}
 E_n & \xrightarrow{j} & i^*E_{n+1} & \xrightarrow{i} & E_{n+1} \\
 p_n \downarrow & & \downarrow & & \downarrow p_{n+1} \\
 B_n & \xlongequal{\quad} & B_n & \xrightarrow{i} & B_{n+1}
 \end{array}$$

where  $i^*E_{n+1}$  is the bundle induced from  $p_{n+1}: E_{n+1} \rightarrow B_{n+1}$ . Then  $i^*E_{n+1}$  is a  $(U(2n), \alpha, \mathbf{Z}_2)$ -bundle with fibre  $F_{n+1}$  associated with the principal  $(U(2n), \alpha, \mathbf{Z}_2)$ -bundle  $U(4n)/U(2n) \rightarrow B_n$ . The inclusion  $j: E_n \hookrightarrow i^*E_{n+1}$  in the above diagram is the map induced from the  $U(2n) \times_{\alpha} \mathbf{Z}_2$ -embedding

$$F_n \hookrightarrow F_{n+1}.$$

By Lemma 3.3,  $F_{n+1}$  is a  $(U(2n) \times_{\alpha} \mathbf{Z}_2) \times S^1$ -manifold and  $F_n$  is the submanifold of  $S^1$ -fixed points. Then the  $S^1$ -flow determines a non-singular  $U(2n) \times_{\alpha} \mathbf{Z}_2$ -invariant vector field  $\Delta$  outside  $F_n$  satisfying the condition of Proposition 2.2. Therefore by Proposition 2.2 and by the naturality of the trace [8, Proposition 4.4], we see that the diagram of stable  $\mathbf{Z}_2$ -maps

$$\begin{array}{ccc}
 (E_n)_+ & \longrightarrow & (E_{n+1})_+ \\
 t(p_n) \uparrow & & \uparrow t(p_{n+1}) \\
 (B_n)_+ & \longrightarrow & (B_{n+1})_+
 \end{array}$$

is  $\mathbf{Z}_2$ -homotopy commutative. Therefore we can define a stable  $\mathbf{Z}_2$ -map

$$t: B_+ \longrightarrow E_+.$$

Let  $p = \varinjlim p_n: E \rightarrow B$  and let

$$\tilde{p}: Q_{\mathbf{Z}_2}(E_+) \xrightarrow{Q_{\mathbf{Z}_2}(p_+)} Q_{\mathbf{Z}_2}(B_+) \xrightarrow{r} Q_{\mathbf{Z}_2}(B) \xrightarrow{\xi} B = BR$$

be the extension of  $p$ , where  $r$  is the projection.

LEMMA 4.1.  $\tilde{p}_*: \{X, E_+\}_{\mathbf{Z}_2} \rightarrow \tilde{K}_R(X)$  is a split epimorphism.

PROOF. Let

$$p_{n!}: \pi_{\mathbf{Z}_2}^*(E_n) \longrightarrow \pi_{\mathbf{Z}_2}^*(B_n)$$

be the transfer homomorphism of the  $(U(2n), \alpha, \mathbf{Z}_2)$ -bundle

$$F_n \longrightarrow E_n \xrightarrow{p_n} B_n,$$

where  $\pi_{\mathbb{Z}_2}^*(\cdot)$  is the stable  $\mathbb{Z}_2$ -cohomotopy theory (see [8]). Then by Proposition 2.3 and Lemma 3.2, the composition

$$p_{n!} \circ p_n^* : \pi_{\mathbb{Z}_2}^*(B_n) \longrightarrow \pi_{\mathbb{Z}_2}^*(B_n)$$

is an isomorphism. Therefore the limit of this composition

$$t^* \circ p^* : \pi_{\mathbb{Z}_2}^*(B) \longrightarrow \pi_{\mathbb{Z}_2}^*(B)$$

is an isomorphism, and hence by the equivariant S-duality theorem ([13]) the composition of stable  $\mathbb{Z}_2$ -maps

$$p_+ \circ t : B_+ \xrightarrow{t} E_+ \xrightarrow{p_+} B_+$$

is a  $\mathbb{Z}_2$ -homotopy equivalence.

Let

$$\gamma : \{X, B_+\}_{\mathbb{Z}_2} \longrightarrow \{X, E_+\}_{\mathbb{Z}_2}$$

be the homomorphism induced by the stable map  $t : B_+ \rightarrow E_+$ . Then the composition

$$p_* \circ \gamma : \{X, B_+\}_{\mathbb{Z}_2} \longrightarrow \{X, B_+\}_{\mathbb{Z}_2}$$

is an isomorphism, and hence

$$p_* : \{X, E_+\}_{\mathbb{Z}_2} \longrightarrow \{X, B_+\}_{\mathbb{Z}_2}$$

is a split epimorphism.

On the other hand

$$(\xi \circ r)_* : \{X, B_+\}_{\mathbb{Z}_2} \longrightarrow K_{\mathbb{R}}(X)$$

is a split epimorphism because the composition

$$\xi \circ r \circ k \circ i : B \xrightarrow{i} Q_{\mathbb{Z}_2}(B) \xrightarrow{k} Q_{\mathbb{Z}_2}(B_+) \xrightarrow{r} Q_{\mathbb{Z}_2}(B) \xrightarrow{\xi} B$$

is  $\mathbb{Z}_2$ -homotopic to the identity, where  $i$  is the canonical inclusion and  $k$  is the right adjoint of the projection  $r$ .

This completes the proof.

Next consider the  $2n$ -fold  $\mathbb{Z}_2$ -covering

$$\pi_n : \bar{E}_n \longrightarrow {}^n E_n.$$

The following diagram is commutative :

$$\begin{array}{ccccc} E_n & \xleftarrow{\pi_n} & \bar{E}_n & \xrightarrow{q_n} & P_n \\ \downarrow & & \downarrow & & \downarrow \\ E_{n+1} & \xleftarrow{\pi_{n+1}} & \bar{E}_{n+1} & \xrightarrow{q_{n+1}} & P_{n+1} \end{array}$$

Let the stable map  $t(\pi_n): (E_n)_+ \rightarrow (\bar{E}_n)_+$  be the trace of  $\pi_n$ . Then we have the following

LEMMA 4.2. *The diagram of stable maps*

$$\begin{array}{ccccc} (E_n)_+ & \xrightarrow{t(\pi_n)} & (\bar{E}_n)_+ & \xrightarrow{q_n \circ r} & P_n \\ \downarrow & & & & \downarrow \\ (E_{n+1})_+ & \xrightarrow{t(\pi_{n+1})} & (\bar{E}_{n+1})_+ & \xrightarrow{q_{n+1} \circ r} & P_{n+1} \end{array}$$

is  $\mathbf{Z}_2$ -homotopy commutative.

PROOF. An easy calculation shows that  $\pi_{n+1}^{-1}(E_n) - \bar{E}_n$  is a disjoint union of two copies of  $E_n$ , which is mapped by  $q_{n+1}$  to a free  $\mathbf{Z}_2$ -orbit (=two points) in  $P_{n+1}$ .

Since  $P_{n+1}$  is arcwise connected, any stable  $\mathbf{Z}_2$ -map

$$(\mathbf{Z}_2)_+ \longrightarrow P_{n+1}$$

is  $\mathbf{Z}_2$ -homotopic to the trivial map, and the lemma follows.

By Lemma 4.2, we obtain a stable  $\mathbf{Z}_2$ -map

$$\rho: E_+ \longrightarrow P.$$

Now Theorem 1.1 follows immediately from Lemma 4.1 and the following

LEMMA 4.3. *The diagram*

$$\begin{array}{ccc} & & \{X, P\}_{\mathbf{Z}_2} \\ & \nearrow \rho_* & \downarrow \lambda_* \\ \{X, E_+\}_{\mathbf{Z}_2} & & \tilde{K}_{\mathbf{R}}(X) \\ & \searrow \tilde{p}_* & \end{array}$$

is commutative.

PROOF. Proposition 2.4 gives the geometric description of the trace of  $\pi_n$ , and the lemma is proved similarly to the proof of (4.4) of [4].

Finally we prove Proposition 1.3. By the result of [9], we have a homotopy equivalence

$$Q_{\mathbf{Z}_2}(CP_+^\infty)^{\mathbf{Z}_2} \simeq Q((CP_+^\infty)^{\mathbf{Z}_2}) \times Q((EZ_2 \times_{\mathbf{Z}_2} CP^\infty)_+).$$

Now clearly  $(CP^\infty)^{\mathbf{Z}_2} = BO(1)$  and  $EZ_2 \times_{\mathbf{Z}_2} CP^\infty = BO(2)$ . Hence

$$\{X, CP^\infty\}_{\mathbf{Z}_2} \cong \{X, BO(1)\} \oplus \{X, BO(2)\}$$

for a CW-complex  $X$  with trivial  $\mathbf{Z}_2$ -action.



Let  $C_n^{\mathbb{Z}_2}(X; B)$  be the set of isomorphism classes of pairs  $(\pi, f)$ , where  $\pi: \tilde{X} \rightarrow X$  is an  $n$ -fold  $\mathbb{Z}_2$ -covering and  $f: \tilde{X} \rightarrow B$  is a  $\mathbb{Z}_2$ -map. In [9] it is shown that the functor  $C_n^{\mathbb{Z}_2}(X; B)$  is classified by the  $\mathbb{Z}_2$ -space  $(E_{\mathbb{Z}_2}\Sigma_n \times B^n)/\Sigma_n$  where  $E_{\mathbb{Z}_2}\Sigma_n$  is the universal  $\Sigma_n$ -free  $\mathbb{Z}_2$ -contractible  $\Sigma_n \times \mathbb{Z}_2$ -space, and that there is the equivariant Barratt-Quillen map

$$\omega_n: (E_{\mathbb{Z}_2}\Sigma_n \times B^n)/\Sigma_n \longrightarrow Q_{\mathbb{Z}_2}(B_+).$$

Now let  $B=P=CP^\infty$ . The map which gives the above homotopy equivalence is given as follows.

Let

$$\begin{array}{c} \tilde{X} \xrightarrow{f} P^{\mathbb{Z}_2} \\ \pi \downarrow \\ X \end{array}$$

be in  $C_n(X; P^{\mathbb{Z}_2})$ ; then we take

$$\begin{array}{c} \tilde{X} \xrightarrow{i \circ f} P \\ \pi \downarrow \\ X \end{array}$$

in  $C_n^{\mathbb{Z}_2}(X; P)$ , where  $i: P^{\mathbb{Z}_2} \hookrightarrow P$  is the inclusion and  $X$  is considered as a trivial  $\mathbb{Z}_2$ -space. Thus the map

$$Q((P_+)^{\mathbb{Z}_2}) \longrightarrow Q_{\mathbb{Z}_2}(P_+)$$

is the one induced by the canonical inclusion and we see that

$$\lambda_*|_{(X, B O(1))} = \mu_{1*}.$$

On the other hand let

$$\begin{array}{c} \tilde{X} \xrightarrow{f} E\mathbb{Z}_2 \times_{\mathbb{Z}_2} P \\ \pi \downarrow \\ X \end{array}$$

be in  $C_n(X; E\mathbb{Z}_2 \times_{\mathbb{Z}_2} P)$ ; then we take

$$\begin{array}{c} \tilde{\tilde{X}} \xrightarrow{\tilde{f}} E\mathbb{Z}_2 \times P \simeq P \\ \pi \circ f^*(q) \downarrow \\ X \end{array}$$

in  $C_n^{\mathbb{Z}_2}(X; P)$ , where  $f^*(q): \tilde{\tilde{X}} \rightarrow \tilde{X}$  is the 2-fold covering induced from the canonical covering

$$q: EZ_2 \times P \longrightarrow EZ_2 \times_{Z_2} P.$$

Let  $\xi \rightarrow P$  be the canonical line bundle. Then

$$\eta = EZ_2 \times_{Z_2} \xi \longrightarrow EZ_2 \times_{Z_2} P = BO(2)$$

coincides with the canonical  $R^2$ -bundle.

In order to show that  $\lambda_*|_{(X, BO(2))} = \mu_{2*}$ , we have only to show that the canonical line bundle  $EZ_2 \times \xi$  over  $EZ_2 \times P \simeq P$  is transferred by the covering  $q$  to the complexification  $\eta \otimes C$  over  $EZ_2 \times_{Z_2} P = BO(2)$ .

Let

$$\phi: EZ_2 \times_{Z_2} P \longrightarrow (E_{Z_2} \Sigma_2 \times P^2) / \Sigma_2$$

be the map which classifies the 2-fold  $Z_2$ -covering

$$q \in C^{Z_2}(EZ_2 \times_{Z_2} P; P).$$

Then a direct calculation shows that  $((E_{Z_2} \Sigma_2 \times P^2) / \Sigma_2)^{Z_2}$  is a disjoint union of  $((E_{Z_2} \Sigma_2)^{Z_2} \times (P^{Z_2})^2) / \Sigma_2$  and  $E \times_{\Sigma_2} P$ , where

$$E = \{e \in E_{Z_2} \Sigma_2; \tau e = eg, \langle \tau \rangle = Z_2, \langle g \rangle = \Sigma_2\}.$$

Since  $q$  is the canonical free  $Z_2$ -covering, we can show that  $\phi$  maps  $EZ_2 \times_{Z_2} P$  onto  $E \times_{\Sigma_2} P \subset ((E_{Z_2} \Sigma_2 \times P^2) / \Sigma_2)^{Z_2}$ , and that  $\phi(e, x) = (e, x, \bar{x})$ . Therefore

$$\phi^*((E_{Z_2} \Sigma_2 \times \xi^2) / \Sigma_2) = EZ_2 \times_{Z_2} (\xi \oplus \bar{\xi}),$$

which is easily seen to be  $\eta \otimes C$ . This completes the proof.

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