

## ON REAL $J$ -HOMOMORPHISMS

Dedicated to Professor A. Komatu on his 70th birthday

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1. In the present work we consider a Real analogue of  $J$ -homomorphisms in the sense of [3]. We use here the notation in [4], §§1 and 9 and [9], §2 for the equivariant homotopy groups which are discussed by Bredon [5] and Levine [10]. Moreover we shall use notations and terminologies of [4], §1 without any references.

Let us denote by  $GL(n, \mathbf{C})$  (resp.  $GL(\infty, \mathbf{C})$ ) the general linear group of degree  $n$  (resp. the infinite general linear group) over the complex numbers with involutions induced by complex conjugation. Let  $X$  be a finite pointed  $\tau$ -complex. Then, by following the construction of usual  $J$ -homomorphisms (cf. [13], p. 314, [2]) we can define homomorphisms

$$(1.1) \quad \begin{aligned} J_{R,n}: [\Sigma^{p,q}X, GL(n, \mathbf{C})]^\tau &\rightarrow [\Sigma^{p+n, q+n}X, \Sigma^{n,n}]^\tau \\ \text{and} \quad J_R: [\Sigma^{p,q}X, GL(\infty, \mathbf{C})]^\tau &\rightarrow \pi_s^{0,0}(\Sigma^{p,q}X) \end{aligned}$$

for  $p \geq 0$  and  $q \geq 1$  where let  $\pi_s^{0,0}(\Sigma^{p,q}X) = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} [\Sigma^{p+n, q+n}X, \Sigma^{n,n}]^\tau$ . We now give definitions of  $J_{R,n}$  and  $J_R$  below. Let  $\Omega_d^{n,n} \Sigma^{n,n}$  denote the subspace of  $\Omega^{n,n} \Sigma^{n,n}$  consisting of maps of degree  $d$  in the usual sense. Let  $\gamma$  be the  $\tau$ -map of  $\Sigma^{n,n}$  induced by the correspondence of  $R^{n,n}$  such that  $(x_1, \dots, x_{2n}) \mapsto (x_1, \dots, x_{2n-1}, -x_{2n})$ . By adding  $\gamma$  to the elements of  $\Omega_1^{n,n} \Sigma^{n,n}$  with respect to the loop addition along fixed coordinates of  $\Sigma^{n,n}$  we have a  $\tau$ -map  $t: \Omega_1^{n,n} \Sigma^{n,n} \rightarrow \Omega_0^{n,n} \Sigma^{n,n}$ . Then we obtain  $J_{R,n}$  by assigning to a base-point-preserving  $\tau$ -map  $f: \Sigma^{p,q}X \rightarrow GL(n, \mathbf{C})$  the adjoint of the composite

$$\Sigma^{p,q}X \xrightarrow{f} GL(n, \mathbf{C}) \xrightarrow{i} \Omega_1^{n,n} \Sigma^{n,n} \xrightarrow{t} \Omega_0^{n,n} \Sigma^{n,n}$$

where  $i$  is the canonical inclusion map.

As is easily seen the diagram

$$\begin{array}{ccc} [\Sigma^{p,q}X, GL(n+1, \mathbf{C})]^\tau & \xrightarrow{J_{R,n+1}} & [\Sigma^{p+n+1, q+n+1}X, \Sigma^{n+1, n+1}]^\tau \\ \uparrow j_* & & \uparrow \Sigma_*^{1,1} \\ [\Sigma^{p,q}X, GL(n, \mathbf{C})]^\tau & \xrightarrow{J_{R,n}} & [\Sigma^{p+n, q+n}X, \Sigma^{n,n}]^\tau \end{array}$$

is commutative under the identification  $\Sigma^{r,s} \wedge \Sigma^{p,q} = \Sigma^{r+p, s+q}$  where  $j_*$  is the

homomorphism induced by a canonical inclusion map  $j: GL(n, \mathbf{C}) \subset GL(n+1, \mathbf{C})$  and  $\Sigma_*^{1,1}$  is the suspension homomorphism ([4], (7.2)). Therefore, by taking the direct limits we get a homomorphism

$$J_{R,\infty}: \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} [\Sigma^{p,q} X, GL(n, \mathbf{C})]^\tau \rightarrow \pi_s^{0,0}(\Sigma^{p,q} X).$$

Also, as  $X$  is compact we have a canonical isomorphism  $\mu: \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} [\Sigma^{p,q} X, GL(n, \mathbf{C})]^\tau \rightarrow [\Sigma^{p,q} X, GL(\infty, \mathbf{C})]^\tau$ . So we define  $J_R$  to be the composite  $J_{R,\infty} \mu^{-1}$ .

Taking  $X = S^{0,1}$  in (1.1)  $J_R$  becomes the homomorphism from  $\pi_{p,q}(GL(\infty, \mathbf{C}))$  to  $\pi_{p,q}^s$ . The aim of this paper is to prove the following theorem for the homomorphism

$$(1.2) \quad J_R: \pi_{2p-2k, 2p+2k-1}(GL(\infty, \mathbf{C})) \rightarrow \pi_{2p-2k, 2p+2k-1}^s$$

for  $p \geq k \geq 0$  and  $p+k \geq 1$ .

**Theorem.** *The image  $J_R(\pi_{2p-2k, 2p+2k-1}(GL(\infty, \mathbf{C})))$  of the homomorphism (1.2) is a cyclic group of the following order:*

$$\begin{aligned} m(2p) & \quad \text{if either } p, k \text{ are even or odd} \\ \frac{1}{2} m(2p) & \quad \text{if } p \text{ is even and } k \text{ is odd} \\ m(2p) \text{ or } 2m(2p) & \quad \text{if } p \text{ is odd and } k \text{ is even} \end{aligned}$$

where  $m(t)$  is the numerical function as in [1], II, p. 139.

2. Let  $X$  be a compact pointed  $\tau$ -space throughout this section.

Let  $KR$  denote the Real  $K$ -functor [3]. Then a similar proof to the complex case gives rise to a canonical isomorphism

$$(2.1) \quad [X, GL(\infty, \mathbf{C})]^\tau \cong \widetilde{KR}(\Sigma^{0,1} X)$$

(cf. [8], Chap. I, Theorem 7.6) and so we may consider  $J_R$  of (1.1) the homomorphism from  $\widetilde{KR}^{-1}(\Sigma^{p,q} X)$  to  $\pi_s^{0,0}(\Sigma^{p,q} X)$  through this isomorphism. In particular, there exist isomorphisms

$$(2.2) \quad \pi_{2p-2k, 2p+2k-1}(GL(\infty, \mathbf{C})) \cong \widetilde{KR}(\Sigma^{2p-2k, 2p+2k}) \cong \widetilde{KO}(S^{4k}) \cong Z$$

by (2.1) and the Real Thom isomorphism theorem [3]. Similarly we have isomorphisms

$$(2.3) \quad \pi_{4p-1}(GL(\infty, \mathbf{C})) \cong \tilde{K}(S^{4p}) \cong \tilde{K}(S^{4k}) \cong Z$$

in the complex  $K$ -theory.

Let  $\psi: \pi_{p,q}(X) \rightarrow \pi_{p+q}(X)$  and  $\psi: \pi_{p,q}^s(X) \rightarrow \pi_{p+q}^s(X)$  denote the forgetful homomorphisms [4,5]. Then, from the above discussion we have the following commutative diagram:

$$(2.4) \quad \begin{array}{ccc} \widetilde{KO}(S^{4k}) & \xrightarrow{c} & \widetilde{K}(S^{4k}) \\ \downarrow \cong & & \downarrow \cong \\ \pi_{2p-2k, 2p+2k-1}(GL(\infty, \mathbf{C})) & \xrightarrow{\psi} & \pi_{4p-1}(GL(\infty, \mathbf{C})) \\ \downarrow J_R & & \downarrow J_U \\ \pi_{2p-2k, 2p+2k-1}^s & \xrightarrow{\psi} & \pi_{4p-1}^s \end{array}$$

where  $c$  is the natural complexification homomorphism and  $J_U$  is the complex stable  $J$ -homomorphism.

In the following we identify  $\Sigma^{r,s} \wedge \Sigma^{p,q}$  with  $\Sigma^{r+p,s+q}$ . Regarding  $\Sigma^{1,0}$  as the one-point compactification of  $R^{1,0}$  with  $\infty$  as base-point, the quotient  $\Sigma^{1,0}/\{0, \infty\}$  is homeomorphic to  $S^1 \vee S^1$  as  $\tau$ -spaces where  $S^1 \vee S^1$  has the involution  $T$  interchanging factors. For a base-point-preserving map  $f: S^{p+q} \rightarrow X$ , define a  $\tau$ -map  $\tilde{f}: \Sigma^{p,q} \rightarrow X$  by the composition

$$\begin{aligned} \Sigma^{p,q} &= \Sigma^{p-1,0} \wedge \Sigma^{1,0} \wedge \Sigma^{0,q} \xrightarrow{1 \wedge \pi \wedge 1} \Sigma^{p-1,0} \wedge (\Sigma^{1,0}/\{0, \infty\}) \wedge \Sigma^{0,q} \\ &\approx (\Sigma^{p-1,0} \wedge S^1 \wedge \Sigma^{0,q}) \vee (\Sigma^{p-1,0} \wedge S^1 \wedge \Sigma^{0,q}) \xrightarrow{f \vee \tau f \tau'} X \end{aligned}$$

for  $p, q \geq 1$  where  $\pi$  is the natural projection,  $\tau$  is the involution of  $X$  and  $\tau'$  is the involution of  $(\Sigma^{p-1,0} \wedge S^1 \wedge \Sigma^{0,q}) \vee (\Sigma^{p-1,0} \wedge S^1 \wedge \Sigma^{0,q})$  induced by that of  $\Sigma^{p-1,q+1} = \Sigma^{p-1,0} \wedge S^1 \wedge \Sigma^{0,q}$  and  $T$ . Then the correspondence  $f \mapsto \tilde{f}$  determines a homomorphism

$$(2.5) \quad \alpha: \pi_{p+q}(X) \rightarrow \pi_{p,q}(X)$$

for  $p, q \geq 1$  (cf. [5], p. 286, [4], (10.5)).

Let  $J_{U,n}: \pi_{4p-1}(GL(n, \mathbf{C})) \rightarrow \pi_{4p-1+2n}(S^{2n})$  be the complex  $J$ -homomorphism. Let  $\alpha_n: \pi_{4p-1}(GL(n, \mathbf{C})) \rightarrow \pi_{2p-2k, 2p+2k-1}(GL(n, \mathbf{C}))$  and  $\alpha_n: \pi_{4p-1+2n}(S^{2n}) \rightarrow \pi_{2p-2k+n, 2p+2k-1+2n}(\Sigma^{n,n})$  denote the homomorphisms of (2.5) for  $X = GL(n, \mathbf{C})$  and  $X = \Sigma^{n,n}$  respectively. Then we have the commutative diagram:

$$\begin{array}{ccc} \pi_{4p-1}(GL(n, \mathbf{C})) & \xrightarrow{\alpha_n} & \pi_{2p-2k, 2p+2k-1}(GL(n, \mathbf{C})) \\ \downarrow J_{U,n} & & \downarrow J_{R,n} \\ \pi_{4p-1+2n}(S^{2n}) & \xrightarrow{\alpha_n} & \pi_{2p-2k+n, 2p+2k-1+2n}(\Sigma^{n,n}). \end{array}$$

The commutativity is proved as follows. For a  $\tau$ -map  $g: \Sigma^{2p-2k, 2p+2k-1} \rightarrow GL(n, \mathbf{C})$

we denote by  $\text{adg}$  the adjoint of the composition:  $\Sigma^{2p-2k, 2p+2k-1} \xrightarrow{g} GL(n, \mathbf{C}) \subset \Omega_1^{n,n}$   $\Sigma^{n,n} \xrightarrow{\tilde{t}} \Omega_0^{n,n} \Sigma^{n,n}$ . Then  $J_{R,n}$  is given by the assignment  $g \mapsto \text{adg}$  as in §1. In the above, forgetting the  $Z_2$ -action we get the homomorphism  $J_{U,n}$ . Hence we also use the same notation for maps in the complex case. Let us define a map  $\lambda: S^n \wedge S^{2p-2k} \wedge S^n \wedge S^{2p+2k-1} \rightarrow S^n \wedge S^n \wedge S^{2p-2k} \wedge S^{2p+2k-1}$  by  $\lambda(u_1 \wedge v_1 \wedge u_2 \wedge v_2) = u_1 \wedge u_2 \wedge v_1 \wedge v_2$  ( $u_1, u_2 \in S^n, v_1 \in S^{2p-2k}, v_2 \in S^{2p+2k-1}$ ). And we define a map

$f' : S^{4p-1+2n} \rightarrow S^{2n}$  by  $f' = (\text{adf})\lambda$  for a map  $f : S^{4p-1} \rightarrow GL(n, \mathbf{C})$ . Then  $f' \simeq \text{adf}$  since the degree of  $\lambda$  is 1, and so  $\tilde{f}' \simeq \widetilde{\text{adf}}$ . Besides we see easily that  $\tilde{f}' = \text{adf}$ . Therefore  $\widetilde{\text{adf}} \simeq_{\tau} \text{adf}$  which implies  $\alpha_n J_{U,n}([f]) = J_{R,n} \alpha_n([f])$  where  $[f]$  denotes the homotopy class of  $f$ .

Here, by taking the direct limits we get the commutative diagram

$$(2.6) \quad \begin{array}{ccc} \pi_{4p-1}(GL(\infty, \mathbf{C})) & \xrightarrow{\alpha} & \pi_{2p-2k, 2p+2k-1}(GL(\infty, \mathbf{C})) \\ \downarrow J_U & \alpha & \downarrow J_R \\ \pi_{4p-1}^s & \longrightarrow & \pi_{2p-2k, 2p+2k-1}^s \end{array}$$

where each  $\alpha$  is defined as the direct limit of  $\alpha_n$ . As in proof of the commutativity of the above diagram, we can show that the lower homomorphism  $\alpha$  is well-defined.

By the definition of  $\alpha$  it follows that the realification homomorphism  $r : \tilde{K}^{-1}(S^{4p-1}) \rightarrow \widetilde{KR}^{-1}(\Sigma^{2p-2k, 2p+2k-1})$  [12] coincides with  $\alpha : \pi_{4p-1}(GL(\infty, \mathbf{C})) \rightarrow \pi_{2p-2k, 2p+2k-1}(GL(\infty, \mathbf{C}))$  through the natural isomorphisms. Because,  $\psi\alpha = 1 + *$ ,  $\psi = c$ ,  $cr = 1 + *$  and  $c$  is injective where  $*$  is the operation on  $K(X)$  defined in [12], §2. Thus, by (2.2), (2.3) and (2.6) we get the commutative diagram

$$(2.7) \quad \begin{array}{ccc} \tilde{K}(S^{4k}) & \xrightarrow{r} & \widetilde{KO}(S^{4k}) \\ \downarrow \cong & & \downarrow \cong \\ \pi_{4p-1}(GL(\infty, \mathbf{C})) & \xrightarrow{\alpha} & \pi_{2p-2k, 2p+2k-1}(GL(\infty, \mathbf{C})) \\ \downarrow J_U & \alpha & \downarrow J_R \\ \pi_{4p-1}^s & \longrightarrow & \pi_{2p-2k, 2p+2k-1}^s \end{array}$$

where  $r$  is the realification homomorphism.

Let  $GL(\infty, \mathbf{R})$  denote the infinite general linear group over the real numbers and  $J_o$  denote the real stable  $J$ -homomorphism in stable dimensions  $4p-1$ . Let us put

$$g_\Lambda = J_\Lambda(1), \quad \Lambda = O, U \text{ or } R,$$

identifying  $\pi_{4p-1}(GL(\infty, \mathbf{R}))$ ,  $\pi_{4p-1}(GL(\infty, \mathbf{C}))$  and  $\pi_{2p-2k, 2p+2k-1}(GL(\infty, \mathbf{C}))$  with  $Z$ . Then, from (2.4), (2.7) and [12], (2.2) we see that

$$(2.8) \quad \alpha(g_U) = \begin{cases} 2g_R & \text{if } k \text{ is even} \\ g_R & \text{if } k \text{ is odd} \end{cases}$$

and 
$$\psi(g_R) = \begin{cases} g_U & \text{if } k \text{ is even} \\ 2g_U & \text{if } k \text{ is odd} \end{cases}$$

Furthermore it is known that

$$(2.9) \quad g_U = \begin{cases} 2g_o & \text{if } p \text{ is even} \\ g_o & \text{if } p \text{ is odd} \end{cases}$$

and the order of  $g_o$  is equal to the number  $m(2p)$  ([1], II, Theorem (2.7) and [11]) which is divisible by 8 ([1], II, p.139).

Let  $o(p,k)$  denote the order of the image of (1.2). Then, by (2.8) and (2.9), we obtain

**Lemma.** For  $p > k$ ,

$$o(p,k) = \begin{cases} dm(2p) & \text{if either } k, p \text{ are even or odd} \\ 2dm(2p) & \text{if } k \text{ is even and } p \text{ is odd} \\ \frac{1}{2}dm(2p) & \text{if } k \text{ is odd and } p \text{ is even} \end{cases}$$

where  $d = \frac{1}{2}$  or 1.

We shall give a proof of Theorem in §§3–5.

3. Proof for  $p > k$ ,  $k$  odd and  $p$  even. By [5], Fig. we have an exact sequence

$$\pi_{2p-2k-1, 2p+2k}^s \xrightarrow{\psi} \pi_{4p-1}^s \xrightarrow{\alpha} \pi_{2p-2k, 2p+2k-1}^s$$

(cf. [4], (10.5)). Therefore, if we suppose that  $o(p,k) = \frac{1}{4}m(2p)$  then  $\alpha(\frac{1}{2}m(2p)g_o) = \frac{1}{4}m(2p)g_R = 0$  by (2.8), (2.9) and so there exists an equivariant map

$$f: \Sigma^{2p-2k-1+n, 2p+2k+n} \rightarrow \Sigma^{n,n} \quad \text{for } n \text{ sufficiently large}$$

such that the image of the homotopy class of  $f$  by  $\psi$  is  $\frac{1}{2}m(2p)g_o$ .

Since  $k$  is odd,

$$\widetilde{KR}(\Sigma^{2p-2k-1+n, 2p+2k+n}) \cong \widetilde{KO}(S^{4k+1}) = 0$$

and  $\widetilde{KR}(\Sigma^{2p-2k-1+n, 2p+2k+n+1}) \cong \widetilde{KO}(S^{4k+2}) = 0.$

Therefore we have the commutative diagram

$$\begin{array}{ccccccc} 0 \leftarrow \widetilde{KR}(\Sigma^{n,n}) & \leftarrow & \widetilde{KR}(\Sigma^{n,n} \cup C\Sigma^{2p-2k-1+n, 2p+2k+n}) & \leftarrow & \widetilde{KR}(\Sigma^{2p-2k-1+n, 2p+2k+n+1}) & \leftarrow & 0 \\ & & c \downarrow \cong & & c \downarrow & & = 0 \\ 0 \leftarrow \widetilde{K}(S^{2n}) & \leftarrow & \widetilde{K}(S^{2n} \cup_{f'} CS^{4p-1+2n}) & \leftarrow & \widetilde{K}(S^{4p+2n}) & \leftarrow & 0 \end{array}$$

where  $f'$  is a representative of  $\frac{1}{2}m(2p)g_o$ ,  $CA$  is the cone of  $A$  and  $c$  is the natural complexification homomorphism ([12], §2). This diagram implies that  $e_c(f') = 0$ , which contradicts to the fact that  $e_c(f') = \frac{1}{2}$  ([1], IV, §7). Hence we see by Lemma that  $o(p,k) = \frac{1}{2}m(2p)$ .

4. Proof for  $p > k$  and  $p, k$  even or odd. Using the notation of Landweber for the stable homotopy groups [9], by [5], Fig. and (12) we have the following commutative diagram in which the columns and the rows are exact sequences:

$$\begin{array}{ccccc}
 & & 0 & & 0 \\
 & & \downarrow & & \downarrow \\
 \lambda_{2p-2k-1, 2p+2k}^s & \xrightarrow{\psi^*} & \pi_{4p-1}^s & \xrightarrow{\alpha^*} & \lambda_{2p-2k, 2p+2k-1}^s \\
 & & \downarrow & \parallel & \downarrow \\
 \pi_{2p-2k-1, 2p+2k}^s & \xrightarrow{\psi} & \pi_{4p-1}^s & \xrightarrow{\alpha} & \pi_{2p-2k, 2p+2k-1}^s
 \end{array}$$

for  $k \geq 0$ . ( $\lambda_{p,q}^s$  and  $\pi_{p,q}^s$  are Bredon's  $\pi_{p+q,p}^*$  and  $\pi_{p+q,p}$  respectively.) If we assume that  $o(p,k) = \frac{1}{2}m(2p)$ , then  $\alpha(\frac{1}{2}m(2p)g_O) = \frac{1}{2}m(2p)g_R = 0$  by (2.8), (2.9) and therefore there is an equivariant map

$$\tilde{f}: \Sigma^{2p-2k-1+n, 2p+2k+n} / \Sigma^{0, 2p+2k+n} \rightarrow \Sigma^{n,n} \text{ for } n \text{ sufficiently large}$$

such that the image of the homotopy class of  $\tilde{f}$  by  $\psi^*$  is  $\frac{1}{2}m(2p)g_O$ .

Consider the diagram

$$\begin{array}{ccc}
 \Sigma^{2p-2k-1+n, 2p+2k+n} / \Sigma^{0, 2p+2k+n} & & \tilde{f} \\
 \uparrow \pi & \searrow f & \\
 \Sigma^{2p-2k-1+n, 2p+2k+n} & \xrightarrow{\quad} & \Sigma^{n,n}
 \end{array}$$

where  $f = \tilde{f}\pi$  and  $\pi$  is the map collapsing  $\Sigma^{0, 2p+2k+n}$  to a point.

Putting

$$\begin{aligned}
 A &= \widetilde{KO}_{Z_2}(\Sigma^{2p-2k-1+n, 2p+2k+n} / \Sigma^{0, 2p+2k+n}), \\
 B &= \widetilde{KO}_{Z_2}(\Sigma^{2p-2k-1+n, 2p+2k+n}), \\
 C &= \widetilde{KO}_{Z_2}(\Sigma^{2p-2k-1+n, 2p+2k+n+1})
 \end{aligned}$$

and taking

$$n \equiv 0 \pmod{8},$$

we have by [9], Lemma 4.1

$$A \cong KO^{-2p-2k-n-1}(P^{2p-2k-2+n})$$

where  $P^m$  is the real projective  $m$ -space and we have by [6] and [9], Theorem 3.1

$$A \cong \begin{cases} 0 & \text{if } p=2q, k=2l \text{ and } q+l \text{ is odd} \\ & \text{or } p=2q+1, k=2l+1 \text{ and } q+l \text{ is even} \\ Z_2 \oplus Z_2 & \text{if } p=2q, k=2l \text{ and } q+l \text{ is even} \\ & \text{or } p=2q+1, k=2l+1 \text{ and } q+l \text{ is odd,} \end{cases}$$

$$B \cong Z, C \cong Z_2 \quad \text{if } p, k \text{ are even}$$

and

$$B \cong Z, C = 0 \quad \text{if } p, k \text{ are odd.}$$

In any case  $A, C$  are torsion groups and  $B$  is a free abelian group. Hence  $f^* = \pi^* \tilde{f}^* : \widetilde{KO}_{Z_2}(\Sigma^{n,n}) \rightarrow B$  is a zero map since  $\pi^* : A \rightarrow B$  is so. And therefore we have the commutative diagram

$$(4.1) \quad \begin{array}{ccccc} 0 \leftarrow \widetilde{KO}_{Z_2}(\Sigma^{n,n}) & \leftarrow & \widetilde{KO}_{Z_2}(\Sigma^{n,n} \cup C\Sigma^{2p-2k-1+n, 2p+2k+n}) & \leftarrow & C \\ & \rho \downarrow & \rho \downarrow & & \rho \downarrow \\ 0 \leftarrow \widetilde{KO}(S^{2n}) & \leftarrow & \widetilde{KO}(S^{2n} \cup CS^{4p-1+2n}) & \leftarrow & \widetilde{KO}(S^{4p+2n}) \leftarrow 0 \\ & & & & \cong Z \end{array}$$

where  $f'$  is a representative of  $\frac{1}{2}m(2p)g_0$  and  $\rho$  is the forgetful homomorphism.

From [9], Theorem 3.1 and Proposition 3.4 we see that  $\widetilde{KO}_{Z_2}(\Sigma^{8m, 8m})$  is a free  $RO(Z_2)$ -module with a single generator  $u$  for which the Adams operation  $\psi^k$  satisfy

$$(4.2) \quad \psi^k(u) = \begin{cases} k^{8m}u + \frac{1}{2}k^{8m}(H-1)u & \text{if } k \text{ is even} \\ k^{8m}u + \frac{1}{2}(k^{8m} - k^{4m})(H-1)u & \text{if } k \text{ is odd} \end{cases}$$

for  $m > 0$  where  $H$  is a canonical, non-trivial, 1-dimensional representation of  $Z_2$ . Since  $\rho(u)$  becomes a generator of  $\widetilde{KO}(S^{16m})$ , (4.1) and (4.2) imply that  $e'_R(f') = 0$ . On the other hand  $e'_R(f') = \frac{1}{2} ([1], IV, \S 7)$ . This contradiction and Lemma show that  $o(p, k) = m(2p)$ .

5. Proof for  $p = k$ . Considering the following diagram

$$\begin{array}{ccc} \pi_{0, 4p-1}(GL(\infty, \mathbf{C})) & \xrightarrow{\varphi} & \pi_{4p-1}(GL(\infty, \mathbf{R})) \\ \downarrow J_R & & \downarrow J_O \\ \pi_{0, 4p-1}^s & \xrightarrow{\varphi} & \pi_{4p-1}^s \end{array}$$

where  $\varphi$  is the fixed-point homomorphism [4, 5] we see that this diagram is commutative and therefore  $o(p, p)$  is divisible by  $m(2p)$ .

Let us denote by  $\Omega_d^n S^n$  the space of base-point-preserving maps of  $S^n$  into itself of degree  $d$ , by  $GL(n, \mathbf{R})$  the general linear group of degree  $n$  over the real numbers and by  $GL(n, \mathbf{R})_0$  its identity component. Then the real  $J$ -homomorphism  $J_{0,n} : \pi_{4p-1}(GL(n, \mathbf{R})) \rightarrow \pi_{4p-1+n}(S^n)$  is induced by the composition

$$GL(n, \mathbf{R})_0 \xrightarrow{i'} \Omega_1^n S^n \xrightarrow{t'} \Omega_0^n S^n$$

where  $i'$  is the inclusion map and  $t'$  is a similar one to  $t$  in §1 ([2], §1). Particularly, if  $n \geq 4p + 1$  then we may consider  $J_{0,n}$  the stable real  $J$ -homomorphism  $J_0: \pi_{4p-1}(GL(\infty, \mathbf{R})) \rightarrow \pi_{4p-1}^s$ .

For a map  $f: S^{4p-1} \rightarrow \Omega_1^n S^n$ , define a map  $f': S^{4p-1} \rightarrow \Omega_1^{n,n} \Sigma^{n,n}$  by  $f'(x) = f(x) \wedge f(x)$  ( $x \in S^{4p-1}$ ). Here we regard  $S^n \wedge S^n$  as a space with involution switching factors and then  $S^n \wedge S^n \approx \Sigma^{n,n}$  as  $\tau$ -spaces. The assignment  $f \mapsto f'$  determines a homomorphism  $\omega': \pi_{4p-1}(\Omega_1^n S^n) \rightarrow \pi_{0,p-1}(\Omega_1^{n,n} \Sigma^{n,n})$ . And so we define a homomorphism

$$\omega: \pi_{4p-1}(\Omega_1^n S^n) \rightarrow \pi_{0,4p-1}^s$$

by the composition

$$\begin{aligned} \pi_{4p-1}(\Omega_1^n S^n) &\xrightarrow{\omega'} \pi_{0,4p-1}(\Omega_1^{n,n} \Sigma^{n,n}) \\ &\xrightarrow{t'_*} \pi_{0,4p-1}(\Omega_0^{n,n} \Sigma^{n,n}) \rightarrow \pi_{0,4p-1}^s \end{aligned}$$

where the unlabelled arrow is the obvious homomorphism. Then we can easily check that the diagram with the natural isomorphism  $\pi_{4p-1}(GL(n, \mathbf{R})) \cong \pi_{4p-1}(GL(\infty, \mathbf{R}))$

$$\begin{array}{ccc} \pi_{0,4p-1}(GL(\infty, \mathbf{C})) & \xrightarrow{\varphi} & \pi_{4p-1}(GL(\infty, \mathbf{R})) \cong \pi_{4p-1}(GL(n, \mathbf{R})) \\ \downarrow J_R & & \downarrow i'_* \\ \pi_{0,4p-1}^s & \xleftarrow{\omega} & \pi_{4p-1}(\Omega_1^n S^n) \end{array}$$

is commutative for  $n \geq 4p + 1$ . From the commutativity of this diagram and the fact that  $J_0$  factors into the following three homomorphism:

$$\begin{aligned} \pi_{4p-1}(GL(n, \mathbf{R})) &\xrightarrow{i'_*} \pi_{4p-1}(\Omega_1^n S^n) \xrightarrow{t'_*} \pi_{4p-1}(\Omega_0^n S^n) \\ &\cong \pi_{4p-1+n}(S^n) \end{aligned}$$

for  $n \geq 4p + 1$  ([12], §1), it follows that  $m(2p)$  is divisible by  $o(p, p)$ . This completes the proof of Theorem.

**6.** Finally we observe examples for the case  $k$  even and  $p$  odd.

By [5], (8) and [7], Table 1 we obtain

$$\lambda_{2,1}^s \cong Z_{12} \text{ and } \lambda_{6,5}^s \cong Z_{504}$$

using the Landweber's notation and so, making use of the exact sequence of [9], p.129, we have

$$\pi_{2,1}^s \cong Z_{24} \text{ and } \pi_{6,5}^s \cong Z_{504}.$$

Since  $m(2p) = 24$  and  $m(2p) = 504$  if  $p = 1$  and  $p = 3$  respectively, we get by Lemma



and the above isomorphisms  $o(p, k) = m(2p)$  for  $(p, k) = (1, 0), (3, 0)$ . We therefore conjecture that  $o(p, k) = m(2p)$  for  $k$  even and  $p$  odd generally.

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