Global complex obstructions to a real Morse modification (Klein's enigma)

Oleg Viro a joint work with Slava Kharlamov

July 5, 2017

Felix Klein, *Über eine neue Art von Riemann'schen Flächen,* Mathematische Annalen, **10**, (1876), 398-416:

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A real algebraic curve of type I does not admit any development. (German: "sind entwicklungsfähig nicht" - is not viable)

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Example: A curve of type I.

























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The talk is about this theorem and its high-dimensional generalizations.



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The distribution of isotopy classes of non-singular plane projective curves between the types in low degrees.

degree	type I	type II
1	1	0
2	1	1
3	1	1
4	2	4
5	3	6
6	14	50












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Thus the $b_*(A_{\mathbb{R}})$ does not increase.
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The real part $A_{\mathbb{R}}$ cannot divide the complexification $A_{\mathbb{C}}$,

as $\operatorname{codim}_{A_{\mathbb{C}}} A_{\mathbb{R}} = \dim A > 1$.

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A non-empty real algebraic curve $A_{\mathbb{R}}$ divides its complexification $A_{\mathbb{C}}$ $\iff A_{\mathbb{R}}$ is zero-homologous mod 2 in $A_{\mathbb{C}}$. A real algebraic variety A is said to be of **type I** if $A_{\mathbb{R}}$ is non-empty and zero-homologous mod 2 in $A_{\mathbb{C}}$.

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A is of type I \iff the conjugation form is even and $A_{\mathbb{R}} \neq \emptyset$.

Stiefel orientations generalize both orientations and Spin-structures.

A Stiefel *k*-orientation of an O_n -bundle ξ is $o \in H^k(V_{n,n-k}(\xi); \mathbb{Z}_2)$ such that its restriction to $\widetilde{H^k}(V_{n,n-k}; \mathbb{Z}_2)$ is non-trivial for any fiber.

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$$a \xrightarrow{v_2}{c} v_1$$

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In the case of a surface of type I with $b_1(A_{\mathbb{C}}) = 0$ the result is Stiefel k-orientations with k = 0, 1, i.e., a semi-orientation and Spin-structure.

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Then o(S, v) = 0. **Proof.** Use the complex vanishing cycle for evaluating o(S, v).



Theorem. If *A* is a real algebraic surface of type I with $b_1(A_{\mathbb{C}}) = 0$, then $b_0(A_{\mathbb{R}})$ cannot increase under a single Morse-Lefschetz modification.

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two-fold covering of the projective plane ramified in quartic. Torus turns into Klein bottle with a handle.

Theorem. If *A* is a real algebraic surface of type I with $b_1(A_{\mathbb{C}}) = 0$, and $A \subset B$, where *B* is a non-singular real algebraic 3-variety with orientable $B_{\mathbb{R}}$, then $b_*(A_{\mathbb{R}})$ cannot increase under a single embedded Morse-Lefschetz modification of *A* in *B*.

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Counter-examples to Klein in each odd dimension ≥ 3 .

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Counter-examples to Klein in each odd dimension ≥ 3 . If n is odd, then $Q_{p,q}$ are of type I iff p and q are even.

Counter-examples to Klein in each even dimension ≥ 4 .

For a a real algebraic subvariety A of a projective space P^m , denote by l(A) the maximal i such that the inclusion homomorphism $H_i(A_{\mathbb{R}};\mathbb{Z}_2) \to H_i(\mathbb{R}P^m;\mathbb{Z}_2)$

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This is a work in progress.
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