

## Math 214, Homework 9.

21-1. Let  $G$  be a Lie group acting continuously on a topological manifold  $M$ .

Suppose the action map  $(\cdot) : G \times M \rightarrow M$  is proper.

Then, for any compact  $K \subseteq M \times M$ , let  $\pi_1, \pi_2 : M \times M \rightarrow M$  be the projection maps onto the first and second coordinates. By definition both maps are continuous, so  $K_1 = \pi_1(K)$  and  $K_2 = \pi_2(K)$  are compact subsets of  $M$ .

Then  $K_1 \times K_2$  is compact and contains  $K$ .

Now, let  $\Theta : G \times M \rightarrow M \times M$  be the map  $(g, p) \mapsto (p, g \cdot p)$ .

$$\begin{aligned} \Theta^{-1}(K_1 \times K_2) &= \{(g, p) : p \in K_1, g \cdot p \in K_2\} \\ &= \{(g, p) : p \in K_1\} \cap \{(g, p) : g \cdot p \in K_2\} \\ &= (G \times K_1) \cap (\cdot)^{-1}(K_2) \end{aligned}$$

which, as the intersection of a closed set and a compact set, is compact.

Since  $M \times M$  is Hausdorff,  $K$  is closed, and thus  $\Theta^{-1}(K)$  is a closed subset of the compact set  $\Theta^{-1}(K_1 \times K_2)$ . So  $\Theta^{-1}(K)$  is compact.

Thus  $\Theta$  is proper, and so is the action.

But the action may be proper while the action map is not.

Indeed, let  $G = M = \mathbb{R}$ ,  $G$  acting on  $M$  by addition.

Then  $(\cdot)^{-1}(0) = \{(x, -x) : x \in \mathbb{R}\}$ , which is not compact.

So the action map is not proper. However, for  $n \in \mathbb{N}$ ,

$$\Theta^{-1}([-n, n] \times [-n, n]) = \{(t, x) : x \in [-n, n], t + x \in [-n, n]\} \subseteq [-2n, 2n] \times [-n, n]$$

is bounded, so the preimage of any compact subset of  $\mathbb{R}^2$  under  $\Theta$  is closed and bounded, hence compact. So  $\Theta$  and the action are proper.

21-5. Suppose a Lie group  $G$  acts smoothly and freely on a smooth manifold  $M$ .

Suppose that the orbit space  $M/G$  has a smooth manifold structure for which the quotient map  $\pi : M \rightarrow M/G$  is a smooth submersion.

Then for any neighborhood  $U \subseteq M/G$  and any smooth local section  $\sigma : U \rightarrow M$  of  $\pi$ , the map  $f : (g, x) \mapsto g \cdot \sigma(x)$  on  $G \times U$  is smooth. If  $g \cdot \sigma(x) = h \cdot \sigma(y)$  then  $x = \pi(\sigma(x)) = \pi(g \cdot \sigma(x)) = \pi(h \cdot \sigma(y)) = \pi(\sigma(y)) = y$ , so  $g \cdot \sigma(x) = h \cdot \sigma(x)$  and since the action is free  $g = h$  and  $f$  is injective.

Also, for  $p \in \pi^{-1}(U)$ ,  $\pi(p) \in U$ , and  $\sigma(\pi(p)) \in \{g \cdot p : g \in G\}$ .

Then there is an  $h \in G$  such that  $f(h, \pi(p)) = h \cdot \sigma(\pi(p)) = p$ , and  $f$  maps onto  $\pi^{-1}(U)$ .

As a smooth, bijective map to  $\pi^{-1}(U)$ ,  $f$  is a homeomorphism when restricted to any compact subset of  $G \times U$ . In particular, if  $p_i$  is a sequence in  $\pi^{-1}(U)$  such that  $p_i \rightarrow p \in \pi^{-1}(U)$ , we may restrict to a neighborhood of  $f^{-1}(p)$  with compact closure in  $G \times U$  and this compact neighborhood will be mapped homeomorphically to compact neighborhood of  $p$  in  $\pi^{-1}(U)$ . Taking a tail of the sequence which maps into this neighborhood, it pulls back to a convergent sequence in  $G \times U$ . So  $f^{-1}(p_i)$  converges.

Let  $p_i \in M$ ,  $g_i \in G$  be sequences such that  $p_i \rightarrow p$  and  $g_i \cdot p_i \rightarrow q$ . Then picking a local section  $\sigma : U \rightarrow M$  with  $\pi(q) \in U$ , we have that  $\pi(g_i \cdot p_i) = \pi(p_i) \rightarrow \pi(q)$ , so that  $\pi(g_i \cdot p_i), \pi(p_i)$  are in  $U$  for large enough  $i$ .

Then  $g_i \cdot p_i, p_i \in \pi^{-1}(U)$  for such  $i$ , and applying  $f^{-1}$  we find sequences  $h_i, k_i \in G$  such that  $h_i \cdot \sigma(\pi(p_i)) = p_i$ ,  $k_i \cdot \sigma(\pi(p_i)) = g_i \cdot p_i$ , and that  $(h_i, \pi(p_i)), (k_i, \pi(p_i))$  are convergent sequences in  $G \times M/G$ . Then  $h_i^{-1}$  and  $k_i$  are convergent sequences in  $G$ .

Moreover,  $(k_i^{-1}g_i h_i) \cdot \sigma(\pi(p_i)) = (k_i^{-1}g_i) \cdot p_i = k_i^{-1} \cdot (k_i \cdot \sigma(\pi(p_i))) = \sigma(\pi(p_i))$ , so by freeness of the action  $k_i^{-1}g_i h_i = e$  and  $g_i = k_i h_i^{-1}$ . The product of convergent sequences is convergent. Thus  $g_i$  converges and we have shown that the action is proper.

21-9. Let  $\mathbb{Z}$  act on  $\mathbb{R}^2$  by  $n \cdot (x, y) = (x + n, (-1)^n y)$ .

The action is smooth because  $\mathbb{Z}$  is zero-dimensional, so we may fix  $n$  and vary  $(x, y)$  to check smoothness (upon which the action map is affine, hence smooth).

To check freeness, suppose  $(x, y) \in \mathbb{R}^2$  and that  $n \cdot (x, y) = (x, y)$ . Then  $x + n = x$ , so  $n = 0$ . Thus only the identity element fixes any  $(x, y)$  and the action is free.

To check properness, suppose  $(x_k, y_k)$  is a sequence in  $\mathbb{R}^2$  which converges,  $n_k$  a sequence in  $\mathbb{Z}$ , and that  $n_k \cdot (x_k, y_k)$  converges in  $\mathbb{R}^2$ . Then  $(x_k + n_k, (-1)^{n_k} y_k)$  converges, so in particular  $x_k + n_k$  converges. The difference of two convergent sequences in  $\mathbb{R}$  is convergent, so  $x_k + n_k - x_k = n_k$  is convergent.

By the equivalent characterizations of properness, this shows that the action is proper.

Now, with  $\mathbb{Z}$  acting on  $\mathbb{R}$  by translation, we can consider  $\mathbb{R}^2$  to be the trivial vector bundle over  $\mathbb{R}$  by the map  $\pi : \mathbb{R}^2 \rightarrow \mathbb{R} : (x, y) \mapsto x$ .  $\mathbb{Z}$  acts smoothly, freely, and properly on  $\mathbb{R}$  and  $\mathbb{R}^2$ , and  $\pi$  is  $\mathbb{Z}$ -equivariant (since the action in the first variable is just the action on  $\mathbb{R}$ ).

Moreover, when  $x$  and  $n$  are fixed, the map  $y \mapsto (-1)^n y$  is linear. Then we can define the map  $\pi' : \mathbb{R}^2/\mathbb{Z} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}/\mathbb{Z}$  by  $\mathbb{Z} \cdot (x, y) \mapsto \mathbb{Z} \cdot x$ , this is well-defined because if  $\mathbb{Z} \cdot (x, y) = \mathbb{Z} \cdot (u, v)$  then  $x = u + n$  for some  $n$  and  $\mathbb{Z} \cdot x = \mathbb{Z} \cdot u$ .

$\pi$  is a surjective smooth map, for  $x \in \mathbb{R}/\mathbb{Z}$  we have  $\pi^{-1}(x) \cong \mathbb{R}$ , and we may take local trivializations to be the identity map into  $\mathbb{R}^2$  on slices  $((-\varepsilon + x, \varepsilon + x) \times \mathbb{R})/\mathbb{Z}$ .

This, as a sketch of problem 21-8, shows that the Mobius bundle over  $S^1 = \mathbb{R}/\mathbb{Z}$ , defined exactly to be  $\mathbb{R}^2/\mathbb{Z}$ , is a nontrivial smooth rank-1 vector bundle (nontrivial because when one moves from  $x$  to  $x + 1$ , by the action the  $y$  coordinate is negated).

Also, by theorem 21.13 the quotient map is a smooth normal covering map. (Since we haven't covered anything around covering maps or covering groups, my assumption is that this part of the question is not required).

21-16. For  $V$  an  $n$ -dimensional vector space,  $K = (k_1, \dots, k_m)$  with  $0 < k_1 < \dots < k_m < n$ , we have an action of  $\text{GL}(V)$  on  $F_K(V)$  by  $A \cdot (S_1, \dots, S_m) = (AS_1, \dots, AS_m)$ .

For any  $(S_1, \dots, S_m), (T_1, \dots, T_m) \in F_K(V)$ , we may pick bases  $\{e_1, \dots, e_{k_1}\}, \{f_1, \dots, f_{k_1}\}$  for  $S_1$  and  $T_1$ , complete each to bases  $\{e_1, \dots, e_{k_2}\}$  and  $\{f_1, \dots, f_{k_2}\}$  for  $S_2$  and  $T_2$ , and so on until we have bases  $\{e_1, \dots, e_n\}, \{f_1, \dots, f_n\}$  for  $V$ , where

for each  $i$  from 1 to  $m$ ,  $\{e_1, \dots, e_{k_i}\}$  is a basis for  $S_i$  and  $\{f_1, \dots, f_{k_i}\}$  is a basis for  $T_i$ .

Then simply let  $A \in \text{GL}(V)$  be the linear map with  $A(e_i) = f_i$ , so that  $AS_i = T_i$  and  $A \cdot (S_1, \dots, S_m) = (AS_1, \dots, AS_m) = (T_1, \dots, T_m)$ . This shows the action is transitive.

Given a flag  $S = (S_1, \dots, S_m)$ , the isotropy subgroup  $G_S = \{A \in \text{GL}(V) : AS_i = S_i \forall i\}$

in the basis  $\{e_i\}$  above is given by the matrices 
$$\begin{pmatrix} A_1 & & * & * \\ & A_2 & & * \\ 0 & & \ddots & \\ 0 & 0 & & A_{m+1} \end{pmatrix}$$

where  $A_i$  is an invertible  $(k_i - k_{i-1}) \times (k_i - k_{i-1})$  matrix (with  $k_0 = 0, k_{m+1} = n$ ).

Indeed, such matrices are invertible because their determinant is the product of the determinants of the  $A_i$ , which is nonzero, and such matrices fix the flag because  $\{e_1, \dots, e_{k_i}\}$  are sent to linear combinations of  $\{e_1, \dots, e_{k_i}\}$ .

Such a subgroup is closed as the preimage of the zero vector in the map which picks out all matrix elements under the spaces taken up by the  $A_i$ .

Then by Theorem 21.20,  $F_K(V)$  has a unique smooth manifold structure which makes the action of  $\text{GL}(V)$  smooth, and  $\dim F_K(V) = \dim \text{GL}(V) - \dim G_S =$   
 $= n^2 - (n^2 - k_1(k_2 - k_1) - k_2(k_3 - k_2) - \dots - k_m(n - k_m)) = \sum_{i=1}^m k_i(k_{i+1} - k_i)$ .

In fact,  $F_K(V)$  is compact (no matter what  $K$  is) since  $\text{O}(V)$  also acts transitively on  $F_K(V)$ , we do the same as when we showed  $\text{GL}(V)$  acts transitively but we just normalize the  $\{f_i\}$  basis with respect to the  $\{e_i\}$  basis (taking an inner product on  $V$  for which  $\langle e_i, e_j \rangle = \delta_{ij}$ ). Then by the Homogeneous Space Characterization Theorem,  $F_K(V)$  is a quotient manifold of  $\text{O}(V)$ , hence compact since  $\text{O}(V)$  is compact.

19-1. Suppose  $D$  is a smooth involutive distribution on  $M$ . Let  $\mathcal{J}(D)$  be the space of differential forms on  $M$  which annihilate  $D$ . First of all, this is an ideal. Indeed, if  $\omega$  is a  $p$ -form which annihilates  $D$  and  $\eta$  is any 1-form, then for smooth sections  $X_1, \dots, X_{p+1}$ , we have  $(\eta \wedge \omega)(X_1, \dots, X_{p+1}) = \sum_i (-1)^{i+1} \eta(X_i) \omega(X_1, \dots, X_{i-1}, X_{i+1}, \dots, X_{p+1}) = 0$

So for any form  $\eta$ , we may write  $\eta$  as a sum of wedge products of 1-forms and by associativity of the wedge product  $\eta \wedge \omega$  annihilates  $D$ . So  $\mathcal{J}(D)$  is an ideal.

Moreover, for any  $p$ -form  $\eta \in \mathcal{J}(D)$  and any neighborhood  $U$  in  $M$  on which we have local defining forms for  $D$ ,  $\omega^1, \dots, \omega^{n-k}$ ,

we have that  $\eta = \sum_i \omega^i \wedge \beta^i$  for some  $(p-1)$ -forms  $\beta^i$  on  $U$  by Lemma 19.6.

Then  $d\eta = \sum_i d\omega^i \wedge \beta^i + (-1)^{p-1} \omega^i \wedge d\beta^i$ .

By the 1-form criterion for involutivity, the  $d\omega^i$  annihilate  $D$ , so  $d\omega^i, \omega^i \in \mathcal{J}(D|_U)$  and  $d\eta \in \mathcal{J}(D|_U)$  since  $\mathcal{J}(D|_U)$  is an ideal. This holds in a neighborhood of any  $p \in M$ .

So  $d\eta$  annihilates all of  $D$ , and  $d\eta \in \mathcal{J}(D)$ . Thus  $\mathcal{J}(D)$  is a differential ideal.

Now, suppose  $D$  is just a smooth distribution, and that  $\mathcal{J}(D)$  is a differential ideal. Then for any open set  $U \subseteq M$ , we have that  $\mathcal{J}(D|_U)$  is a differential ideal since restricting forms to neighborhoods does not affect their differential (which is locally defined).

Then in particular, for any smooth 1-form  $\omega$  that annihilates  $D$  on  $U$ ,  $\omega \in \mathcal{J}(D|_U)$ , so  $d\omega \in \mathcal{J}(D|_U)$  and  $d\omega$  also annihilates  $D$  on  $U$ .

This is the 1-form criterion for involutivity. So  $D$  is an involutive distribution.