

On the Cohomology of the Classifying Spaces of $PSU(4n+2)$ and $PO(4n+2)$

By

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§0. Introduction

The quotients of $SU(m)$ and $SO(2m)$ by their centers $\Gamma_m = \left\{ e^{\frac{2\pi j\sqrt{-1}}{m}} \begin{pmatrix} 1 & \cdot & 0 \\ 0 & \cdot & 1 \end{pmatrix}; 0 \leq j < m \right\}$ and $\Gamma_2 = \left\{ \pm \begin{pmatrix} 1 & \cdot & 0 \\ 0 & \cdot & 1 \end{pmatrix} \right\}$ are denoted by $PU(m)$ and $PO(2m)$ respectively.

The purpose of this paper is to determine the module structure of the cohomology mod 2 of the classifying spaces $BPU(4n+2)$ and $BPO(4n+2)$.

The method is first to determine the E_2 -term of the Eilenberg-Moore spectral sequence by constructing an injective resolution for $H^*(G; \mathbf{Z}_2)$, ($G = SU(4n+2)/\Gamma_2, PO(4n+2)$). Then by making use of naturality of the Eilenberg-Moore spectral sequence we show that the spectral sequence with \mathbf{Z}_2 -coefficient collapses for these G .

Our results are

Theorem. *As a module*

$$H^*(BPU(4n+2); \mathbf{Z}_2) \cong \mathbf{Z}_2[a_2, a_3, x'_{8i+8}, y(I)]/R,$$

where $1 \leq l \leq 2n$ and R is an ideal generated by $a_3 y(I), y(I)^2 + \sum_{j=1}^l x_{8i_1+8} \dots a_{2i_j+2} \dots x_{8i_r+8}$ and $y(I)y(J) + \sum f_i y(I_i)$.

Theorem. *As a module*

$$H^*(BPO(4n+2); \mathbf{Z}_2) \cong \mathbf{Z}_2[a_2, x_{4i+4}, y'(I)]/R,$$

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where $1 \leq l \leq 2n$ and R is an ideal generated by $a_2 y'(I), y'(I)^2 + \sum x_{4i_1+4} \dots a_{i_j+1} \dots x_{4i_r+4}$ and $y'(I)y'(J) + \sum f'_i y'(I_i)$.

In the above theorems I runs over all sequences of integers (i_1, \dots, i_r) satisfying $1 \leq r \leq 2n$ and $1 \leq i_1 < \dots < i_r \leq 2n$. (For details see §5.)

The paper is organized as follows:

In the first section we show that there exists a sort of “stability” in $H^*(BG; \mathbb{Z}_2)$. §2 is used to calculate $H^*(U(n)/\Gamma_p; \mathbb{Z}_p)$. In §3 we determine the E_2 -term of the Eilenberg-Moore spectral sequence, $\text{Cotor}_{H^*(G; \mathbb{Z}_2)}(\mathbb{Z}_2, \mathbb{Z}_2)$, for $G = PO(4n+2), PU(4n+2)$. In the next section, §4, we show that the Eilenberg-Moore spectral sequence (with \mathbb{Z}_2 -coefficient) collapses for these G . §5 is devoted to showing that the elements a_i 's in the above theorems, namely Theorems 4.9 and 4.12, are in the transgression image. In the last section, the generators x_{8l+8} and x_{4l+4} in Theorems 4.9 and 4.12 are shown to be represented by certain exterior power representations.

Throughout the paper the map $BH \rightarrow BG$ induced from a homomorphism $H \rightarrow G$ of groups is denoted by the same symbol.

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§1. Quotients of $SU(n)$ and $SO(n)$

Notation. $I_n = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & & 0 \\ & \ddots & \\ 0 & & 1 \end{pmatrix} \in U(n)$ the identity matrix,

$$C(n) = \{ \alpha I_n; |\alpha| = 1 \text{ and } \alpha \in \mathbb{C} \},$$

$$\Gamma_m = \{ w I_n; w^m = 1 \text{ and } w \in \mathbb{C} \} \subset C(n).$$

Then $C(n)$ (resp. Γ_m) is the center of the unitary group $U(n)$ (resp. $SU(n)$). In particular we have the inclusions

$$\Gamma_2 = \left\{ \pm \begin{pmatrix} 1 & & 0 \\ & \ddots & \\ 0 & & 1 \end{pmatrix} \right\} \subset SO(2n) \subset SU(2n).$$

Hereafter we use the following

Notation.

$$G_i(m) = SU(m)/\Gamma_i \quad \text{for a subgroup } \Gamma_i \text{ of the center } \Gamma_m,$$

$$G_m(m) = PU(m) = PSU(m) \cong U(m)/C(m),$$

$$G(2n) = G_2(2n) = SU(2n)/\Gamma_2,$$

$$PO(2n) = SO(2n)/\Gamma_2.$$

Denote by π the natural projections $SU(m) \rightarrow G_i(m)$ and $SO(2n) \rightarrow PO(2n)$

Consider the k -fold diagonal map:

$$\Delta_k: SU(n) \longrightarrow (SU(n))^k \longrightarrow SU(nk),$$

$$\Delta_k: SO(n) \longrightarrow (SO(n))^k \longrightarrow SO(nk),$$

where Δ_k is the diagonal embedding:

$$\Delta_k(A) = \begin{pmatrix} A & & 0 \\ & \ddots & \\ 0 & & A \end{pmatrix}.$$

For the identity matrix I_n then we have

$$\Delta_k(I_n) = I_{nk} \quad \text{and} \quad \Delta_k(-I_n) = -I_{nk}.$$

So for even n there exist maps $G(n) \rightarrow G(nk)$ and $PO(n) \rightarrow PO(nk)$ such that the following diagrams commute:

$$\begin{array}{ccc} SU(n) & \xrightarrow{\Delta_k} & SU(nk) & & SO(n) & \longrightarrow & SO(nk) \\ \downarrow \pi & & \downarrow \pi & & \downarrow \pi & & \downarrow \pi \\ G(n) & \longrightarrow & G(nk) & & PO(n) & \longrightarrow & PO(nk), \end{array}$$

We denote them by the same symbol:

$$\Delta_k: G(n) \longrightarrow G(nk), \quad \Delta_k: PO(n) \longrightarrow PO(nk).$$

Notation.

$$C(n, k) = SU(nk)/\Delta_k SU(n),$$

$$R(n, k) = SO(nk)/\Delta_k SO(n).$$

So we have fiberings:

$$(1.1) \quad SU(n) \xrightarrow{\Delta_k} SU(nk) \xrightarrow{p} C(n, k).$$

$$(1.2) \quad SO(n) \xrightarrow{\Delta_k} SO(nk) \xrightarrow{p} R(n, k),$$

Remark 1.3.

- (1) $C(n, k)$ is homeomorphic to $G_l(nk)/\Delta_k G_l(n)$ for $l|n$.
- (2) $R(2n, k)$ is homeomorphic to $PO(2nk)/\Delta_k PO(2n)$.

Now recall from [4] and [5] the following

Proposition 1.4.

$$(1) \quad H^*(SU(n); \mathbf{Z}) \cong \Delta(u_3, \dots, u_{2n-1}),$$

$$H^*(U(n); \mathbf{Z}) \cong \Delta(u_1, u_3, \dots, u_{2n-1}),$$

where $\deg u_{2i-1} = 2i-1$ and u_{2i-1} is universally transgressive with $\tau(u_{2i-1}) = c_i$ the i -th universal Chern class.

$$(2) \quad H^*(SO(n); \mathbf{Z}_2) \cong \Delta(v_1, \dots, v_{n-1}),$$

where $\deg v_{i-1} = i-1$ and v_{i-1} is universally transgressive with $\tau(v_{i-1}) = w_i$ the i -th universal Stiefel-Whitney class.

Then

Proposition 1.5. (1) For any integer $k > 0$ and any prime p with $(k, p) = 1$, we have

$$H^*(C(n, k); \mathbf{Z}_p) \cong \Delta(\bar{x}_{2n+1}, \dots, \bar{x}_{2nk-1})$$

where $\deg \bar{x}_{2i+1} = 2i+1$ and $\rho^* \bar{x}_{2i+1} = u_{2i+1}$.

(2) For any odd integer $k > 0$ we have

$$H^*(R(n, k); \mathbf{Z}_2) \cong \Delta(\bar{z}_n, \dots, \bar{z}_{nk-1})$$

where $\deg \bar{z}_i = i$ and $\rho^* \bar{z}_i = v_i$.

Proof. (1) The map $\Delta_k: SU(n) \rightarrow SU(nk)$ induces a map $\Delta_k: BSU(n) \rightarrow BSU(nk)$ which gives the k -fold Whitney sum of complex vector bundles. Thus

$$(1.6) \quad \Delta_k^*(c_i) = \sum_{i_1 + \dots + i_k = i} c_{i_1} \dots c_{i_k} = kc_i + (\text{decomposables}).$$

For the Serre cohomology spectral sequence with \mathbb{Z}_p -coefficient $\{E_r^{*,*}\}$ of the fibering

$$SU(nk) \longrightarrow C(n, k) \longrightarrow BSU(n),$$

we have

$$E_2^{*,*} = \mathbb{Z}_p[c_2, \dots, c_n] \otimes \Lambda(u_3, \dots, u_{2nk-1})$$

and

$$E_\infty^{*,*} \cong \mathcal{G}r(H^*(C(n, k); \mathbb{Z}_p)).$$

Then it follows from Proposition 1.4 and (1.6) that

$$d_{2i}(1 \otimes u_{2i-1}) = kc_i \otimes 1 \quad \text{for } 2 \leq i \leq n$$

and all other differentials are trivial. So we get

$$\mathcal{G}r(H^*(C(n, k); \mathbb{Z}_p)) \cong E_\infty^{*,*} \cong E_{2n+1}^{*,*} \cong \Lambda(u_{2n+1}, \dots, u_{2nk-1}).$$

Since $(k, p) = 1$, (1.6) implies that $\Delta_k^*: H^*(SU(nk); \mathbb{Z}_p) \rightarrow H^*(SU(n); \mathbb{Z}_p)$ is epimorphic, and hence $SU(n)$ is totally non-homologous to zero in the fibering (1.1). Thus $\rho^*: H^*(C(n, k); \mathbb{Z}_p) \rightarrow H^*(SU(nk); \mathbb{Z}_p)$ is monomorphic.

(2) is proved quite similarly.

Q.E.D.

Theorem 1.7. (1) Let p be a prime, k an integer with $(k, p) = 1$ and $l|n$. Then $\Delta_k^*: H^i(BG_l(nk); \mathbb{Z}_p) \rightarrow H^i(BG_l(n); \mathbb{Z}_p)$ is isomorphic for $i \leq 2n$ and monomorphic for $i \leq 2n + 1$.

(2) Let k be an odd integer. Then $\Delta_k^*: H^i(BPO(2kn); \mathbb{Z}_2) \rightarrow H^i(BPO(2n); \mathbb{Z}_2)$ is isomorphic for $i \leq n - 1$ and monomorphic for $i \leq n$.

Proof. Proposition 1.5 applied with the Serre exact sequence (Proposition 5 of [12]) for the fiberings

$$C(n, k) \longrightarrow BG_l(n) \longrightarrow BG_l(nk)$$

$$R(2n, k) \longrightarrow BPO(2n) \longrightarrow BPO(2nk)$$

gives the results.

Q.E.D.

Notation. For each rational number k , define $v_p(k)$ to be the exponent of p when k is expressed as a product of powers of distinct primes.

Corollary 1.8. (1) *If $v_p(n)=v_p(m)$, then as algebras there hold*

$$H^*(BG_l(n); \mathbf{Z}_p) \cong H^*(BG_l(m); \mathbf{Z}_p) \quad \text{for } * \leq 2\min(m, n).$$

(2) *If $v_2(m)=v_2(n)$, then as algebras there hold*

$$H^*(BPO(2n); \mathbf{Z}_2) \cong H^*(BPO(2m); \mathbf{Z}_2) \quad \text{for } * \leq \min(m, n).$$

In the below we denote by ϕ the diagonal map in $H^*(G; \mathbf{Z}_p)$ induced from the multiplication on a group G . Put $\bar{\phi}=(\eta \otimes \eta) \circ \phi$, where $\eta: H^*(G; \mathbf{Z}_p) \rightarrow \sum_{i>0} H^i(G; \mathbf{Z}_p)$ is the natural projection.

Now we recall from [3] and [5] the following facts:

Proposition 1.9. *Let $n=p^r n'$ with $(p, n')=1$ and $l|n$. Then*

$$H^*(G_l(n); \mathbf{Z}_p) \cong \mathbf{Z}_p[y]/(y^{p^r}) \otimes \Lambda(x_1, \dots, \hat{x}_{2p^r-1}, \dots, x_{2n-1}),$$

where $\deg y=2$ and $\deg x_{2i-1}=2i-1$.

Proposition 1.9'. *There exist generators $y \in H^1(G(4n+2); \mathbf{Z}_2)$ and $x_{2i+1} \in H^{2i+1}(G(4n+2); \mathbf{Z}_2)$, $2 \leq i \leq 4n+1$, such that*

(1) $H^*(G(4n+2); \mathbf{Z}_2) \cong \Lambda(y, y^2, x_5, \dots, x_{8n+3}),$

(2) $\bar{\phi}(y)=0, \quad \bar{\phi}(x_{4j+1})=0 \quad \text{for } 1 \leq j \leq 2n,$

$$\bar{\phi}(x_{4j+3})=x_{4j+1} \otimes y^2 \quad \text{for } 1 \leq j \leq 2n,$$

(3) $Sq^{2k}x_{2i-1}=(k, i-k-1)x_{2i+2k-1}.$

Remark 1.9''. $\bar{\phi}(x_{4j+3} + \text{decomp.}) \neq 0.$

Proposition 1.10. *There exist generators $y \in H^1(PO(4n+2); \mathbf{Z}_2)$ and*

$z_i \in H^i(PO(4n+2); \mathbf{Z}_2)$, $2 \leq i \leq 4n+1$, such that

(1) $H^*(PO(4n+2); \mathbf{Z}_2) \cong \Delta(y, z_2, \dots, z_{4n+1})$,

(2) $\bar{\phi}(y) = 0, \bar{\phi}(z_{2k}) = 0$ for $1 \leq k \leq 2n$,

$\bar{\phi}(z_{2k+1}) = z_{2k} \otimes y$ for $1 \leq k \leq 2n$,

(3) $Sq^i z_k = (k-j, j)z_{j+k}$.

Notation. $PS(X; p)$ = the Poincaré series of X over \mathbf{Z}_p , i.e.,

$$PS(X; p) = \sum_{i=0}^{\infty} \{\text{rank } H^i(X; \mathbf{Z}_p)\} t^i.$$

Using this expression we obtain from Propositions 1.5, 1.9 and 1.10:

$$PS(G_l(n); p) \cdot PS(C(n, k); p) = PS(G_l(nk); p) \quad \text{for } (k, p) = 1,$$

$$PS(PO(2n); 2) \cdot PS(R(n, k); 2) = PS(PO(2nk); 2).$$

Thus we have

Proposition 1.11. (1) *The cohomology Serre spectral sequence with \mathbf{Z}_p -coefficient for the fibering $G_l(n) \rightarrow G_l(nk) \rightarrow C(n, k)$ collapses if $(k, p) = 1$.*

(2) *The cohomology Serre spectral sequence with \mathbf{Z}_2 -coefficient for the fibering $PO(2n) \rightarrow PO(2nk) \rightarrow R(2n, k)$ collapses.*

Now we choose generators in $H^*(G(4n+2); \mathbf{Z}_2)$ and $H^*(PO(4n+2); \mathbf{Z}_2)$ appropriately.

Lemma 1.12. *In Proposition 1.9' we may choose generators $y, x_{2i+1}, 2 \leq i \leq 4n+1$, of $H^*(G(4n+2); \mathbf{Z}_2)$ by using the correspondent generators in $H^*(G(4n-2); \mathbf{Z}_2)$ and in $H^*(C(4n-2, 2n+1); \mathbf{Z}_2)$ as follows:*

$$y = \Delta_{2n-1}^* \circ \Delta_{2n+1}^*{}^{-1}(y),$$

$$x_{2i+1} = \Delta_{2n-1}^* \circ \Delta_{2n+1}^*{}^{-1}(x_{2i+1}), \quad 2 \leq i \leq 4n-3,$$

$$x_{2i+1} = \Delta_{2n-1}^* \circ p^*(\bar{x}_{2i+1}), \quad 4n-2 \leq i \leq 4n+1.$$

Proof. This is clear from Proposition 1.11. Q.E.D.

Similarly

Lemma 1.13. *In Proposition 1.10 we may choose generators $y, z_i, 2 \leq i \leq 4n+1$, of $H^*(PO(4n+2); \mathbf{Z}_2)$ by using the correspondent generators in $H^*(PO(4n-2); \mathbf{Z}_2)$ and in $H^*(R(4n-2, 2n+1); \mathbf{Z}_2)$ as follows:*

$$\begin{aligned}
 y &= \Delta_{2n-1}^* \circ \Delta_{2n+1}^*{}^{-1}(y), \\
 z_i &= \Delta_{2n-1}^* \circ \Delta_{2n+1}^*{}^{-1}(z_i), \quad 2 \leq i \leq 4n-3, \\
 z_i &= \Delta_{2n-1}^* \circ p^*(z_i), \quad 4n-2 \leq i \leq 4n+1.
 \end{aligned}$$

Proposition 1.14. (1) *In $H^*(C(4n-2, 2n+1); \mathbf{Z}_2) \cong \Lambda(\bar{x}_{8n-3}, \bar{x}_{8n-1}, \bar{x}_{8n+1}, \bar{x}_{8n+3}, \dots)$ there hold $Sq^4 \bar{x}_{8n-3} = \bar{x}_{8n+1}$ and $Sq^4 \bar{x}_{8n-1} = \bar{x}_{8n+3}$.*
 (2) *In $H^*(R(4n-2, 2n+1); \mathbf{Z}_2) \cong \Lambda(\bar{z}_{4n-2}, \bar{z}_{4n-1}, \bar{z}_{4n}, \bar{z}_{4n+1}, \dots)$ there hold $Sq^2 \bar{z}_{4n-2} = \bar{z}_{4n}$ and $Sq^2 \bar{z}_{4n-1} = \bar{z}_{4n+1}$.*

Proof. (1) and (2) follow from (3) of Proposition 1.9' and (3) of Proposition 1.10 respectively. Q.E.D.

Remark. See [9] for the results of the symplectic case.

§2. Quotients of $U(n)$

In this section let p be a prime and n an integer such that $(n, p) = 1$. Then obviously

$$(2.1) \quad H^*(BPU(n); \mathbf{Z}_p) \cong H^*(BSU(n); \mathbf{Z}_p).$$

The following are easily obtained:

$$(2.2) \quad H^*(BC(n); \mathbf{Z}_p) \cong \mathbf{Z}_p[\alpha] \quad \text{with } \deg \alpha = 2.$$

$$(2.3) \quad H^*(B\Gamma_p; \mathbf{Z}_p) \cong \begin{cases} \mathbf{Z}_2[t] & \text{with } \deg t = 1 \text{ for } p = 2 \\ \mathbf{Z}_p[\mu] \otimes \Lambda(\lambda) & \text{with } \deg \mu = 2, \deg \lambda = 1, \\ & \delta \lambda = \mu \text{ for } p: \text{ odd,} \end{cases}$$

where δ is the Bockstein operator.

Consider the cohomology Serre spectral sequence with \mathbb{Z}_p -coefficient associated with the fibering:

$$(2.4) \quad BC(n) \xrightarrow{i'} BU(n) \longrightarrow BPU(n),$$

where i' is induced from the natural inclusion $C(n) \subset U(n)$. The map i'^* is epimorphic since the spectral sequence collapses by (2.2) and by the fact that $H^3(BPU(n); \mathbb{Z}_p) = H^3(BSU(n); \mathbb{Z}_p) = 0$. Let $j: \Gamma_p \subset C(n)$ be the inclusion. Then

$$(2.5) \quad \text{Im } j^* \cong \begin{cases} \mathbb{Z}_p[\mu] & \text{for } p: \text{ odd} \\ \mathbb{Z}_2[t^2] & \text{for } p=2. \end{cases}$$

Putting $i = i' \circ j$ and choosing μ (or t) suitably we get

$$(2.6) \quad i^*(c_1) = \begin{cases} \mu & \text{for } p: \text{ odd} \\ t^2 & \text{for } p=2. \end{cases}$$

Let $\{E_r^{*,*}\}$ be the cohomology Serre spectral sequence with \mathbb{Z}_p -coefficient associated with the fibering $U(n) \xrightarrow{\pi} U(n)/\Gamma_p \longrightarrow B\Gamma_p$. Since the generators in $H^*(U(n); \mathbb{Z}_p) \cong \Lambda(u_1, u_3, \dots, u_{2n-1})$ are universally transgressive, they are transgressive with respect to this fibering. In particular we have

$$\tau(u_1) = i^*(c_1)$$

where τ is the transgression.

Therefore $E_{q,b} = 0$ if $a \geq 2$, and hence

$$(2.7) \quad E_3 \cong E_\infty \cong \begin{cases} \Lambda(\lambda) \otimes \Lambda(u_3, u_5, \dots, u_{2n-1}) & \text{for } p: \text{ odd} \\ \Lambda(t) \otimes \Lambda(u_3, u_5, \dots, u_{2n-1}) & \text{for } p=2. \end{cases}$$

Proposition 2.8. $H^*(U(n)/\Gamma_p; \mathbb{Z})$ is p -torsion free and hence it is torsion free.

Proof is left to the reader.

It follows from this proposition

Theorem 2.9. *Let $(n, p)=1$. Then*

$$H^*(U(n)/\Gamma_p; \mathbf{Z}_p) \cong \Lambda(\bar{\lambda}, u'_3, \dots, u'_{2n-1})$$

such that

- (1) $\bar{\lambda}$ and u'_{2i-1} are universally transgressive (and hence they are primitive),
- (2) $\deg \bar{\lambda}=1$ and $\deg u'_{2i-1}=2i-1$,
- (3) $\pi^*(u'_{2i-1})=u_{2i-1}$ for the projection $\pi: U(n) \rightarrow U(n)/\Gamma_p$.

Proof. (1) and (2) follow from (2.7) and the Borel's theorem (Theorem 13.1 of [4]). (3) is clear, since $\pi^*(u'_{2i-1}) \neq 0$ by (2.7) and since $\pi^*(u'_{2i-1})$ are universally transgressive. Q.E.D.

§3. The E_2 -term of the Eilenberg-Moore Spectral Sequence

Put $A=H^*(G(4n+2); \mathbf{Z}_2)$ for simplicity and regard A as a coalgebra over \mathbf{Z}_2 , where the coalgebra structure $\bar{\phi}$ is given by Proposition 1.9'.

Let L be a \mathbf{Z}_2 -submodule of $A^+ = \sum_{i>0} H^i(G(4n+2); \mathbf{Z}_2)$ generated by $\{y, y^2, x_{4j+1}, x_{4i+3}\}, 1 \leq i, j \leq 2n$. Let $s: L \rightarrow sL$ be the suspension. We express the corresponding elements as $sL = \{a_2, a_3, a_{4j+2}, b_{4i+4}\}, 1 \leq i, j \leq 2n$. Let $\iota: L \rightarrow A$ be the inclusion and $\theta: A \rightarrow L$ the projection

$$\begin{array}{ccccc}
 L & \longrightarrow & A & \longrightarrow & L \\
 & \searrow s^{-1} & \uparrow i & \downarrow \bar{\theta} & \swarrow s \\
 & & sL & &
 \end{array}$$

such that $\theta \circ \iota = 1_L$. Define $\bar{\theta}: A \rightarrow sL$ by $\bar{\theta} = s \circ \theta$ and $\bar{\iota}: sL \rightarrow A$ by $\bar{\iota} = \iota \circ s^{-1}$. Consider the tensor algebra $T(sL)$. Denote by I the ideal of $T(sL)$ generated by $\text{Im}((\bar{\theta} \otimes \bar{\theta}) \circ \bar{\phi}) \circ \text{Ker } \bar{\theta}$. Put $\bar{X} = T(sL)/I$. Then $\bar{X} \cong \mathbf{Z}_2[a_2, a_3, a_{4j+2}, b_{4i+4}], 1 \leq i, j \leq 2n$.

The map $\bar{d} = (\bar{\theta} \otimes \bar{\theta}) \circ \bar{\phi} \circ \bar{\iota}$ on sL can be extended over \bar{X} , since $\bar{d}(I) \subset I$. Further, \bar{d} satisfies $\bar{d} \circ \bar{d} = 0$ on \bar{X} . So \bar{X} is a differential algebra. Now we construct the twisted tensor product $X = A \otimes \bar{X}$ with respect to $\bar{\theta}$ following Brown (cf. [7], [8] or [13]). Then $X = A \otimes \bar{X}$ is a dif-

ferential A -comodule with the differential operator $d=1\otimes\bar{d}+(1\otimes\psi)\circ(1\otimes\bar{\theta}\otimes 1)\circ\phi\otimes 1$, where ϕ is the diagonal structure in A and ψ is the multiplication in \bar{X} . More concretely,

$$\begin{aligned} dy &= a_2, & dy^2 &= a_3, \\ dx_{4j+1} &= a_{4j+2}, & 1 \leq j \leq 2n, \\ dx_{4i+3} &= b_{4i+4} + x_{4i+1}a_3, & 1 \leq i \leq n. \end{aligned}$$

Now we define weight in X as follows:

$A:$	y	y^2	x_{4j+1}	x_{4i+3}
$\bar{\theta} \downarrow$				
$\bar{X}:$	a_2	a_3	a_{4j+2}	b_{4i+4}
weight	0	0	0	1

The weight of a monomial is a sum of the weight of each element. Put $F_i = \{x \mid \text{weight } x \leq i\}$. Then

$$\begin{aligned} E_0X &= \sum_i F_i/F_{i-1} \\ &\cong A(y, y^2, x_{4j+1}, x_{4i+3}) \otimes \mathbf{Z}_2[a_2, a_3, a_{4j+2}, b_{4i+4}], \end{aligned}$$

where the induced differential operator d_0 is given by

$$d_0y = a_2, \quad d_0y^2 = a_3, \quad d_0x_{4j+1} = a_{4j+2}, \quad d_0x_{4i+3} = b_{4i+4}.$$

Thus E_0X is acyclic and hence X is acyclic. Namely $X = A \otimes \bar{X}$ is an injective resolution for A over \mathbf{Z}_2 . Therefore by definition

$$H^*(\bar{X}; \bar{d}) = \text{Cotor}^A(\mathbf{Z}_2, \mathbf{Z}_2).$$

As described above the differential operator \bar{d} in $\bar{X} = \mathbf{Z}_2[a_2, a_3, a_{4j+2}, b_{4i+4}]$ is given by

$$\begin{aligned} \bar{d}a_i &= 0 \quad \text{for } i = 2, 3, 4j+2 \quad (1 \leq j \leq 2n), \\ \bar{d}b_{4i+4} &= a_{4i+2}a_3 \quad (1 \leq i \leq 2n). \end{aligned}$$

For simplicity we put $P = \mathbf{Z}_2[a_{4j+2}; 1 \leq j \leq 2n]$ and $Q = \mathbf{Z}_2[b_{4i+4}^2;$

$1 \leqq i \leqq 2n$]. Let C be a submodule of \bar{X} generated by $\{b_{4i+4}^{\varepsilon_1} \dots b_{4n+4}^{\varepsilon_{2n}}; \varepsilon_i = 0 \text{ or } 1\}$. Then as a module

$$\bar{X} \cong \mathbf{Z}_2[a_2] \otimes Q \otimes \mathbf{Z}_2[a_3] \otimes P \otimes C.$$

We remark that as a chain complex, \bar{X} may be thought of as a tensor product of $(\mathbf{Z}_2[a_2] \otimes Q)$ with a trivial differential operator d_0 and $(\mathbf{Z}_2[a_3] \otimes P \otimes C)$ with a differential operator d_1 such that $d_1(a_3) = d_1(a_{4j+2}) = 0$ and $d_1(b_{4i+4}) = a_3 a_{4i+2}$. Therefore

$$\begin{aligned} H(\bar{X}: \bar{d}) &\cong H(\mathbf{Z}_2[a_2] \otimes Q: d_0) \otimes H(\mathbf{Z}_2[a_3] \otimes P \otimes C: d_1) \\ &\cong \mathbf{Z}_2[a_2] \otimes Q \otimes H(\mathbf{Z}_2[a_3] \otimes P \otimes C: d_1). \end{aligned}$$

For $f \in P \otimes C$ there hold $d_1(f) = a_3 \bar{f}$ for some $\bar{f} \in P \otimes C$. Then we define $\bar{d}_1: P \otimes C \rightarrow P \otimes C$ by $\bar{d}_1(f) = \frac{d_1(f)}{a_3}$.

Lemma 3.1. *The chain complex $(P \otimes C: \bar{d}_1)$ is acyclic.*

Proof. Consider the Koszul resolution of the exterior algebra $A(b_{4i+4}; 1 \leqq i \leqq 2n)$. Q. E. D.

Proposition 3.2. *Let $f \in \mathbf{Z}_2[a_3] \otimes P \otimes C$. Then $d_1 f = 0$ iff there exists an element $g \in \mathbf{Z}_2[a_3] \otimes P \otimes C$ such that $d_1(g) = a_3 f$, or else $f = 1 \otimes 1 \otimes 1$.*

Proof. Sufficiency is clear, since \bar{X} is a polynomial algebra.

(Necessity) It suffices to prove necessity for an element $f \in \mathbf{Z}_2 \otimes P \otimes C \cong P \otimes C$. Suppose $d_1(f) = 0$. Then $a_3 \bar{f} = 0$, and hence $\bar{f} = 0$. So by definition $\bar{d}_1(f) = 0$, from which we deduce that $f = 1 \otimes 1 \otimes 1$ or else by Lemma 3.1 that there is an element $g \in P \otimes C$ such that $\bar{d}_1(g) = f$. Thus $a_3 f = d_1(g)$. Q. E. D.

Let $I = (i_1, \dots, i_r)$ be a sequence of integers satisfying

$$(3.3) \quad 1 \leqq r \leqq 2n \quad \text{and} \quad 1 \leqq i_1 < \dots < i_r \leqq 2n.$$

We put $y(I) = \frac{1}{a_3} \bar{d}(b_{4i_1+4} \dots b_{4i_r+4})$.

It follows from Proposition 3.2 that a system of generators of

$\text{Ker } \bar{d}$ over $\mathbf{Z}_2[a_2, a_3, a_{4j+2}, b_{4i+4}^2]$ is $\{1, y(I)\}$, where I runs over all sequences satisfying (3.3).

Theorem 3.4. For $A = H^*(G(4n+2); \mathbf{Z}_2)$

$$\text{Cotor}^A(\mathbf{Z}_2, \mathbf{Z}_2) \cong \mathbf{Z}_2[a_2, a_3, x'_{8l+8}, y(I)]/R,$$

where $x'_{8l+8} = \{b_{4l+4}^2\}$ for $1 \leq l \leq 2n$ and I runs over all sequences satisfying (3.3). Further R is the ideal generated by $a_3 y(I), y(I)^2 + \sum_{j=1}^r x'_{8i_1+8} \cdots a_{4i_j+2} \cdots x'_{8i_r+8}$ and $y(I)y(J) + \sum_i f_i y(I_i)$, where f is a polynomial of a_2, a_3, x'_{8i_j+8} 's.

Remark 3.5. $y(\{i\}) = a_{4i+2}$. For $I = (i_1, \dots, i_r), (r \geq 2)$, $y(I)$ can be defined inductively. Put $I' = (i_1, \dots, i_{r-1})$. Suppose that $y(I') = \{\frac{1}{a_3} \bar{d}(b_{4i_1+4} \dots b_{4i_{r-1}+4})\}$ is defined. Then $y(I) = y(I', i_r) = \{(b_{4i_1+4} \dots b_{4i_{r-1}+4}) a_{4i_r+2} + y(I') b_{4i_r+4}\} = \langle y(I'), a_3, a_{4i_r+2} \rangle$, the Massey product.

Remark 3.6. The relation $y(I)y(J) + \sum f_i y(I_i)$ can be obtained by calculation on the cochains, since $\{1, y(I)\}$ is a system of generators over $\mathbf{Z}_2[a_2, a_3, x'_{8l+8}]$.

Now we consider the case $A = H^*(PO(4n+2); \mathbf{Z}_2)$. By a similar argument to the before we have $\bar{X} = \mathbf{Z}_2\{a_2, a_{2j+1}, b_{2i+2}\}/R, 1 \leq i, j \leq 2n$, where R is the ideal generated by $[a_{2k+1}, b_{2k+2}] + a_{4k+1} a_2, 1 \leq k \leq n$ and $[r, s]$ for other pairs of generators (r, s) ($[x, y] = xy + yx$). We define weight in $X = A \otimes \bar{X}$, the twisted tensor product with respect to $\bar{\theta}$:

A	y	z_{2j}	z_{2i+1}
$\bar{\theta} \downarrow$			
\bar{X}	a_2	a_{2j+1}	b_{2i+2}
weight	0	0	1

Put $F_i = \{x \mid \text{weight } x \leq i\}$ as before. Then

$$E_0 X = \Sigma F_i / F_{i-1} \\ \cong A(y) \otimes A(z_{2j}, z_{2i+1}) \otimes \mathbf{Z}_2[a_2, a_{2j+1}, b_{2i+2}],$$

where the induced differential operator is given by $d_0y=a_2, d_0z_{2j}=a_{2j+1}$ and $d_0z_{2i+1}=b_{2i+2}$. It shows that E_0X and hence X is acyclic.

The differential operator \bar{d} in \bar{X} is given by $\bar{d}a_j=0$ for any j and $\bar{d}b_{2i+2}=a_{2i+1}a_2$. By a similar, although a little bit complicated, calculation to the before, we obtain the following.

For a sequence of integers $I=(i_1, \dots, i_r)$ satisfying (3.3) we put $y'(I) = \frac{1}{a_2} \bar{d}(b_{2i_1+2} \dots b_{2i_r+2})$.

Theorem 3.7. For $A=H^*(PO(4n+2); \mathbf{Z}_2)$

$$\text{Cotor}^A(\mathbf{Z}_2, \mathbf{Z}_2) \cong \mathbf{Z}_2[a_2, x'_{4l+4}, y'(I)]/R,$$

where $x'_{4l+4}=b_{2l+2}^2+a_2b_{4l+2}$ for $1 \leq l \leq n$ and $=b_{2l+2}^2$ for $n+1 \leq l \leq 2n$ and I runs over all sequences satisfying (3.3). Further R is the ideal generated by $a_2y'(I), y'(I)^2 + \sum_{j=1}^r x'_{4i_j+4} \dots a_{2i_j+1}^2 \dots x'_{4i_r+4}$ and $y'(I)y'(J) + \sum_i f_i y'(I_i)$.

Remark 3.8. $y'(\{i\})=a_{2i+1}$, For $I=(i_1, \dots, i_r)$, $y'(I)$ can also be defined inductively. i.e.,

$$y'(I) = \langle y'(I'), a_2, a_{2i_r+1} \rangle, \text{ where } I=(I', i_r).$$

The following results can easily be obtained.

Proposition 3.9.

- (1) $\text{Cotor}^{H^*(U(2n+1); \mathbf{Z}_2)}(\mathbf{Z}_2, \mathbf{Z}_2) \cong \mathbf{Z}_2[\bar{c}_1, \dots, \bar{c}_{2n+1}]$,
with $\text{deg } \bar{c}_i = 2i$.
- (2) $\text{Cotor}^{H^*(U(2n+1)/\Gamma_2; \mathbf{Z}_2)}(\mathbf{Z}_2, \mathbf{Z}_2) \cong \mathbf{Z}_2[a'_2, \bar{c}'_2, \dots, \bar{c}'_{2n+1}]$,
with $\text{deg } a'_2 = 2$ and $\text{deg } \bar{c}'_i = 2i$.
- (3) $\text{Cotor}^{H^*(SO(4n+2); \mathbf{Z}_2)}(\mathbf{Z}_2, \mathbf{Z}_2) \cong \mathbf{Z}_2[\bar{w}_2, \bar{w}_3, \dots, \bar{w}_{4n+2}]$,
with $\text{deg } \bar{w}_i = i$.
- (4) $\text{Cotor}^{H^*(Sp(2n+1); \mathbf{Z}_2)}(\mathbf{Z}_2, \mathbf{Z}_2) \cong \mathbf{Z}_2[\bar{q}_1, \dots, \bar{q}_{2n+1}]$,
with $\text{deg } \bar{q}_i = 4i$.

$$(5) \quad \text{Cotor}^{H^*(PSp(2n+1); \mathbf{Z}_2)}(\mathbf{Z}_2, \mathbf{Z}_2) \cong \mathbf{Z}_2[a'_2, a'_3, \bar{q}'_2, \dots, \bar{q}'_{2n+1}],$$

with $\deg a'_i = i$ and $\deg \bar{q}'_i = 4i$.

$$(6) \quad \text{Cotor}^{H^*(SU(4n+2); \mathbf{Z}_2)}(\mathbf{Z}_2, \mathbf{Z}_2) \cong \mathbf{Z}_2[\bar{c}_2, \dots, \bar{c}_{2n+1}],$$

with $\deg \bar{c}_i = 2i$.

§4. Collapsing of the Eilenberg-Moore Spectral Sequence

Let G be a topological group. In 1959 Eilenberg-Moore constructed a new type of spectral sequence $\{E_r(G), d_r\}$ such that

$$(1) \quad E_2(G) \cong \text{Cotor}^{H^*(G, \mathbf{Z}_p)}(\mathbf{Z}_p, \mathbf{Z}_p),$$

$$(2) \quad E_\infty(G) \cong \mathcal{G}rH^*(BG; \mathbf{Z}_p).$$

Furthermore, this spectral sequence satisfies naturality for a homomorphism $f: G \rightarrow G'$. We denote by $f^*: E_r(G') \rightarrow E_r(G)$ the induced homomorphism.

In this section we will show that the Eilenberg-Moore spectral sequence collapses for various (G, p) . In particular, we will show that for $G = G(4n+2)$ and $PO(4n+2)$ the Eilenberg-Moore spectral sequence with \mathbf{Z}_2 -coefficient collapses.

The following directly follows from Theorem 2.9:

Proposition 4.1. *Let $(n, p) = 1$. Then the Eilenberg-Moore spectral sequence collapses for $(G, p) = (U(n)/\Gamma_p, p)$.*

By Kono [9] $H^*(PSp(2n+1); \mathbf{Z}_2)$ is transgressively generated and hence we have

Proposition 4.2. *The Eilenberg-Moore spectral sequence collapses for $(G, p) = (PSp(2n+1), 2)$.*

The following result will be used below. The proof is easy and left to the reader.

Proposition 4.3. (1) *The Eilenberg-Moore spectral sequence col-*

lapses for $G = U(2n + 1)/\Gamma_2, SO(4n + 2), U(2n + 1), PSp(2n + 1), SU(4n + 2)$ and $Sp(2n + 1)$.

(2) The elements \bar{c}_i and \bar{w}_i in Proposition 3.9 represent c_i and w_i respectively. The elements \bar{q}'_i and \bar{c}'_i do q'_i and c'_i in $H^*(BG; \mathbf{Z}_2)$ such that $\pi^*(c'_i) = c_i + (\text{decomp.})$ and $\pi^*(q'_i) = q_i + (\text{decomp.})$, where π is the covering homomorphism.

For simplicity we use the following

Notation.

$$\begin{aligned}
 A_1 &= H^*(U(2n + 1); \mathbf{Z}_2), \\
 A_2 &= H^*(U(2n + 1)/\Gamma_2; \mathbf{Z}_2), \\
 A_3 &= H^*(SO(4n + 2); \mathbf{Z}_2), \\
 A_4 &= H^*(PO(4n + 2); \mathbf{Z}_2), \\
 B_1 &= H^*(Sp(2n + 1); \mathbf{Z}_2), \\
 B_2 &= H^*(PSp(2n + 1); \mathbf{Z}_2), \\
 B_3 &= H^*(SU(4n + 2); \mathbf{Z}_2), \\
 B_4 &= H^*(G(4n + 2); \mathbf{Z}_2).
 \end{aligned}$$

Case I. $H^*(PO(4n + 2); \mathbf{Z}_2)$.

Consider the commutative diagram

$$\begin{array}{ccc}
 U(2n + 1) & \xrightarrow{i} & SO(4n + 2) \\
 \downarrow \pi & & \downarrow \pi \\
 U(2n + 1)/\Gamma_2 & \xrightarrow{i} & PO(4n + 2)
 \end{array}$$

where π is the projection and i 's are the standard maps (cf. §6).

Lemma 4.4. *The elements $a'_2 \in \text{Cotor}^{A_2}(\mathbf{Z}_2, \mathbf{Z}_2)$ and $a_2 \in \text{Cotor}^{A_4}(\mathbf{Z}_2, \mathbf{Z}_2)$ are permanent cycles and $i^*(a_2) = a'_2$.*

Proof. Recall $H^*(B\mathbf{Z}_2; \mathbf{Z}_2) \cong \mathbf{Z}_2[t]$. In the commutative diagram

$$\begin{array}{ccc}
 & B\mathbf{Z}_2 & \\
 \swarrow & & \searrow \\
 BU(2n+1) & \longrightarrow & BSO(4n+2) \\
 \downarrow \pi & & \downarrow \pi \\
 B(U(2n+1)/\mathbf{Z}_2) & \longrightarrow & BPO(4n+2)
 \end{array}$$

the elements a_2 and a'_2 represent the transgression images of t , and hence they are permanent cycles. For dimensional reason we have $i^*(a_2) = a'_2$.
 Q.E.D.

The following relations among the elements in Theorem 3.7 and Proposition 3.9 are easily checked to be true:

(4.5.1) $\pi^*(x'_{4i}) = \bar{w}_{2i}^2 + W_i$, where W_i is a sum of monomials containing elements of lower degree,

(4.5.2) $i^*(\bar{w}_{2i}) = \bar{c}_i + (\text{decomp.})$, (see § 6),

(4.5.3) $\pi^*(\bar{c}'_i) = \bar{c}_i + (\text{decomp.})$,

(4.5.4) $\pi^*(a_2) = \pi^*(a'_2) = 0$.

Therefore

(4.6) $i^*(x'_{4i}) = \bar{c}'_i{}^2 + \gamma_i$, where γ_i is a sum of monomials containing elements of lower degree.

Let $E_r(1)$ be the Eilenberg-Moore spectral sequence with \mathbf{Z}_2 -coefficient for $PO(4n+2)$ and $\{E_r(2), d_r\}$ be the cartesian product of the Eilenberg-Moore spectral sequences of $U(2n+1)/\Gamma_2$ and $SO(4n+2)$, i.e.,

$$E_r(2) = \text{Cotor}^{A_2}(\mathbf{Z}_2, \mathbf{Z}_2) \times \text{Cotor}^{A_3}(\mathbf{Z}_2, \mathbf{Z}_2) \text{ and } d_r = 0$$

for all $r \geq 2$. Then the map $i^* \times \pi^*$ induces a homomorphism between the spectral sequences:

$$E_r(1) \longrightarrow E_r(2) \quad \text{for } r \geq 2.$$

Lemma 4.7. $i^* \times \pi^*: E_2(1) \rightarrow E_2(2)$ is injective.

Proof. Let f_1 be a sum of monomials containing a_2 and f_2 a sum of those not containing a_2 . Suppose $(i^* \times \pi^*)(f_1 + f_2) = 0$ from which $\pi^*(f_1 + f_2) = \pi^*(f_2) = 0$ and hence $f_2 = 0$ by (4.5.1). Meanwhile $(i^* \times \pi^*)(f_1 + f_2) = 0$ implies $i^*(f_1 + f_2) = 0$, which implies $i^*(f_1) = 0$, and hence $f_1 = 0$ by (4.6). Thus $i^* \times \pi^*$ is injective. Q.E.D.

Thus we have shown

Theorem 4.8. *The Eilenberg-Moore spectral sequence with \mathbf{Z}_2 -coefficient collapses for $G = PO(4n + 2)$.*

In fact, Lemma 4.7 indicates that all differentials in $E_r(1)$ are trivial. An immediate corollary is

Theorem 4.9. *As a module*

$$H^*(BPO(4n + 2); \mathbf{Z}_2) \cong \mathbf{Z}_2[a_2, x'_{4l+4}, y'(I)]/R,$$

where $1 \leq l \leq 2n$, I runs over all sequences satisfying (3.3) and R is the ideal generated by $a_2 y'(I), y'(I)^2 + \sum_{j=1}^r x_{4i_1+4} \cdots a_{2i_j+1} \cdots x_{4i_r+4}$ and $y'(I)y'(J) + \sum_i f_i y'(I_i)$.

Case II. $H^*(G(4n + 2); \mathbf{Z}_2)$.

Consider the commutative diagram

$$\begin{array}{ccc} Sp(2n + 1) & \xrightarrow{i} & SU(4n + 2) \\ \downarrow \pi & & \downarrow \pi \\ PSp(2n + 1) & \xrightarrow{i} & G(4n + 2) \end{array}$$

where π is the projection and i 's are the standard maps.

Lemma 4.4'. *The elements $a_i \in \text{Cotor}^{B^4}(\mathbf{Z}_2, \mathbf{Z}_2)$ and $a'_i \in \text{Cotor}^{B^2}(\mathbf{Z}_2, \mathbf{Z}_2)$ are permanent cycles and $i^*(a_i) = a'_i$ for $i = 2, 3$.*

Proof is similar to that of Lemma 4.4.

The following relations among the elements in Theorem 3.4 and Proposition 3.9 are easily checked to be true:

$$(4.10.1) \quad \pi^*(x'_{8l+8}) = \bar{c}_{2l+2}^2 + v_l,$$

$$(4.10.2) \quad \pi^*(\bar{q}'_i) = \bar{q}_i + (\text{decomp.}),$$

where v_l is a sum of monomials containing elements of lower degree,

$$(4.10.3) \quad \pi^*(a_i) = \pi^*(a'_i) = 0 \quad \text{for } i=2, 3,$$

$$(4.11) \quad i^*(\bar{c}_{2i}) = \bar{q}_i + (\text{decomp.}).$$

Lemma 4.7'. *Let $f \in \text{Cotor}^{B_4}(\mathbf{Z}_2, \mathbf{Z}_2)$ such that $\text{deg} f$ is odd. Then $i^*(f) = 0$ iff $f = 0$.*

Proof.
$$i^*(x'_{8l+8}) = \bar{q}'_{l+1}^2 + Q_l,$$

where Q_l is a sum of monomials containing elements of lower degree. So the elements $i^*(x'_{8l+8}), 1 \leq l \leq 2n, i^*a_3$ and i^*a_2 are algebraically independent. Q. E. D.

Theorem 4.10. *The Eilenberg-Moore spectral sequence with \mathbf{Z}_2 -coefficient collapses for $G = G(4n+2)$.*

Proof. Recall that a_2 and a_3 are permanent cycles. All generators of $\text{Cotor}^{B_4}(\mathbf{Z}_2, \mathbf{Z}_2)$ except a_3 are of even degree. So $d_r(\alpha)$ is of odd degree for $\alpha \in \{y(I), x'_{8l+8}\}$. By naturality $i^*d_r(\alpha) = d_r i^*(\alpha) = 0$. Hence by Lemma 4.7' $d_r(\alpha) = 0$. Thus all generators survive into E_∞ . Q. E. D.

Immediate corollaries are

Theorem 4.11. *As a module*

$$H^*(BG(4n+2); \mathbf{Z}_2) \cong \mathbf{Z}_2[a_2, a_3, x'_{8l+8}, y(I)]/R,$$

where $x'_{8l+8} = \{b_{4l+4}^2\}$ for $1 \leq l \leq 2n$ and I runs over all sequences satisfying (3.3) and R is the ideal generated by $a_3 y(I), y(I)^2 + \sum_{j=1}^r x_{8i_1+8} \cdots a_{4i_j+2} \cdots x_{8i_r+8}$ and $y(I)y(J) + \sum_i f_i y(I_i)$.

Theorem 4.12. *As a module*

$$H^*(BPU(4n+2); \mathbf{Z}_2) \cong \mathbf{Z}_2[a_2, a_3, x'_{8l+8}, y(I)]/R$$

with the same l, I and R as in Theorem 4.11.

§5. Some Generators in $H^*(BG(4n+2); \mathbb{Z}_2)$ and $H^*(BPO(4n+2); \mathbb{Z}_2)$

Let G be a compact, connected Lie group and H its closed subgroup. Let EG and EH be the total spaces of the universal G - and H -bundles respectively. Then the following diagram is commutative:

$$\begin{array}{ccccc}
 H & \longrightarrow & EH & \longrightarrow & BH \\
 \downarrow j & & \downarrow & & \downarrow \\
 G & \longrightarrow & EG & \longrightarrow & BG \\
 \downarrow p & & \downarrow & & \parallel \\
 G/H & \longrightarrow & BH & \longrightarrow & BG
 \end{array}$$

Then naturality of the transgression implies

Lemma 5.1. *Let k be a commutative field.*

- (1) *If $x \in H^*(G/H; k)$ is transgressive with respect to the bottom fibering, then $p^*(x) \in H^*(G; k)$ is universally transgressive.*
- (2) *If $x \in H^*(G; k)$ is universally transgressive, so is $j^*(x) \in H^*(H; k)$.*
- (3) *Suppose $H^i(G/H; k) = 0$ for $i < n$. Let $x \in H^i(G; k)$ and $i < n - 1$. If $j^*(x)$ is universally transgressive, so is x .*

Recall the following:

- (5.2) $G(2) = SO(3),$
- (5.3) $H^*(SO(3); \mathbb{Z}_2) = \mathbb{Z}_2[a]/(a^4)$ where a is universally transgressive.

Now we prove

Proposition 5.4. *The elements a and x_{4j+1} of $H^*(G(4n+2); \mathbb{Z}_2)$, $1 \leq j \leq 2n$, are all universally transgressive.*

Proof. Proof is induction on n . The case $n = 0$ is clear from (5.2) and (5.3). Suppose as the inductive hypothesis that the elements a and x_{4j+1} , $1 \leq j \leq 2n - 1$, are universally transgressive in $H^*(G(4n - 2);$

\mathbf{Z}_2). It follows from Proposition 1.5 and (2), (3) of Lemma 5.1 that the elements a and $x_{4j+1}, 1 \leq j \leq 2n-1$, are universally transgressive. Clearly the element \bar{x}_{8n-3} is transgressive with respect to the fibering $C(4n-2, 2n+1) \rightarrow BG(4n-2) \rightarrow BG((4n-2)(2n+1))$, and hence so is \bar{x}_{8n+1} , since $\bar{x}_{8n+1} = Sq^4 x_{8n-3}$ by Proposition 1.14. Thus by (1) of Lemma 5.1 the elements x_{8n-3} and x_{8n+1} are universally transgressive. Q.E.D.

It follows from (2.2) and (2.3) that $H^*(BG(2); \mathbf{Z}_2) \cong H^*(BSO(3); \mathbf{Z}_2) \cong \mathbf{Z}_2[a_2, a_3]$, where $a_2 = \tau(a)$ and $a_3 = \tau(a^2)$ with $\deg a_i = i$. As $\Delta_{2n+1}^* : H^i(BG(4n+2); \mathbf{Z}_2) \rightarrow H^i(BG(2); \mathbf{Z}_2)$ is isomorphic for $i \leq 4$ by (1) of Theorem 1.7, we denote by $a_2 = \tau(a)$ and $a_3 = \tau(a^2)$ the generators of $H^i(BG(4n+2); \mathbf{Z}_2) \cong \mathbf{Z}_2$ for $i = 2, 3$.

Lemma 5.5. $Sq^1 a_3 = 0$ and $Sq^2 a_3 = a_2 a_3$ in $H^*(BG(4n+2); \mathbf{Z}_2)$.

Proof. We obtain the above formula by virtue of the Wu formula, since a_i is the inverse image of Δ_{2n+1}^* of the i -th Stiefel-Whitney class. Q.E.D.

Proposition 5.6. *There exist elements $a_{4j+2}, 1 \leq j \leq 2n$, in $H^*(BG(4n+2); \mathbf{Z}_2)$ such that*

- (1) $\deg a_{4j+2} = 4j+2,$
- (2) $a_{4j+2} \equiv \tau(x_{4j+1}) \pmod{\text{(decomp.)}},$
- (3) $a_3 a_{4j+2} = 0.$

Proof. Proof is induction on n . The case $n=0$ is clear from (2.2) and (2.3). Suppose that the assertion is true for $BG(4n-2)$. By Theorem 1.7 the homomorphism $\Delta_{2n+\varepsilon}^*$ is injective for $\deg \leq 8n-4\varepsilon+1$ with $\varepsilon = \pm 1$. Put $a_i = \Delta_{2n-1}^* \circ \Delta_{2n+1}^{*-1}(a_i)$ for $i \leq 8n-6$. Then a_i satisfies the properties (1), (2), (3) by the inductive hypothesis. For the transgression τ of the fibering

$$(5.7) \quad C(4n-2, 2n+1) \longrightarrow BG(4n-2) \longrightarrow BG((4n-2)(2n+1))$$

we put $a_{8n-2} = \Delta_{2n-1}^* \tau(\bar{x}_{8n-3})$. The element $x_{8n-1} \in H^*(G(4n+2); \mathbf{Z}_2)$ is not universally transgressive, since it is not primitive by Proposition

1.9'. So the corresponding element \bar{x}_{8n-1} of $H^*(C(4n-2, 2n+1); \mathbf{Z}_2)$ is not transgressive in the fibering (5.7). That is, in the cohomology Serre spectral sequence $\{E_r^{*,*}, d_r\}$ with \mathbf{Z}_2 -coefficient of (5.7) we have $d_3(1 \otimes \bar{x}_{8n-1}) = a_3 \otimes \bar{x}_{8n-3}$, from which we get $a_3 \tau(\bar{x}_{8n-3}) = 0$. Applying Δ_{2n-1}^* we obtain $a_3 a_{8n-2} = 0$. Thus the element a_{8n-2} satisfies (1), (2), (3). Next, we put

$$a_{8n+2} = \Delta_{2n-1}^* \tau(\bar{x}_{8n+1}) + a_2 Sq^2 a_{8n-2} + a_3 Sq^1 a_{8n-2}.$$

Then

$$\begin{aligned} a_3 a_{8n+2} &= a_3 (Sq^4 a_{8n-2} + a_2 Sq^2 a_{8n-2} + a_3 Sq^1 a_{8n-2}) \\ &= Sq^4 (a_3 a_{8n-2}) \\ &= 0. \end{aligned}$$

So the element a_{8n+2} satisfies (1), (2), (3). Q.E.D.

Quite similarly one can prove

Proposition 5.8. *There exist elements $a_2, a_{2j+1}, 1 \leq j \leq 2n$, in $H^*(BPO(4n+2); \mathbf{Z}_2)$ such that*

- (1) $\deg a_2 = 2, \deg a_{2j+1} = 2j + 1,$
- (2) $a_2 = \tau(y), a_{2j+1} \equiv \tau(z_{2j}), 1 \leq j \leq 2n,$
- (3) $a_2 a_{2j+1} = 0.$

Remark 5.9. The elements a_i in Theorems 4.9, 4.11 and 4.12 are thus the transgression images of some generators in $H^*(G(4n+2); \mathbf{Z}_2)$, $H^*(PU(4n+2); \mathbf{Z}_2)$ or $H^*(PO(4n+2); \mathbf{Z}_2)$. The relations among them are given in Propositions 5.6 and 5.8.

§6. Exterior Power Representations

To begin with we recall the definition of the exterior power representation (p. 90 of [14]).

Let G be a group and k a commutative field. Denote by $GL(n, k)$ the general linear group. Let $A = (a_{ij}): G \rightarrow GL(n, k)$ be a matrix rep-

resentation. For a pair of sequences of r integers $I=(i_1, \dots, i_r)$ and $J=(j_1, \dots, j_r)$ such that

$$(*) \quad \begin{aligned} 1 \leq i_1 < \dots < i_r \leq n, \\ 1 \leq j_1 < \dots < j_r \leq n, \end{aligned}$$

we define

$$a_{IJ}(x) = \det \begin{pmatrix} a_{i_1 j_1}(x) & \dots & a_{i_r j_1}(x) \\ \vdots & & \vdots \\ a_{i_1 j_r}(x) & \dots & a_{i_r j_r}(x) \end{pmatrix} \quad \text{for } x \in G.$$

Definition 6.1. Let $1 \leq r \leq n$. We define a representation $A^{(r)}(x): G \rightarrow GL(\binom{n}{r}, k)$ by

$$A^{(r)}(x) = \left(\begin{array}{c} \vdots \\ \dots \dots a_{IJ}(x) \end{array} \right)$$

where I and J run over all sequences satisfying $(*)$. We call $A^{(r)}$ the exterior power representation of degree r of G .

If G is a topological group and $k = \mathbf{R}$ or \mathbf{C} and if $A: G \rightarrow GL(n, k)$ is continuous, so is $A^{(r)}$, namely, $A^{(r)}$ is a representation of G .

When G is a compact group and $k = \mathbf{C}$ (resp. \mathbf{R}), we may suppose

$$A^{(r)}: G \longrightarrow U(\binom{n}{r}) \quad (\text{resp. } A^{(r)}: G \longrightarrow O(\binom{n}{r}))$$

by making use of the G -invariant Hermitian (resp. Riemannian) metric (see [2]).

Proposition 6.2. Let G be a subgroup of $GL(n, k)$. Let $A: G \rightarrow GL(n, k)$ be an inclusion. For $G \ni x = \begin{pmatrix} -1 & & 0 \\ 0 & \ddots & \\ & & -1 \end{pmatrix}$ we have $A^{(r)}(x) = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & & 0 \\ 0 & \ddots & \\ & & 1 \end{pmatrix} \in GL(\binom{n}{r}, k)$ if r is even.

Proof. By definition

$$a_{IJ}(x) = \begin{cases} (-1)^r & \text{if } I = J \\ 0 & \text{if } I \neq J. \end{cases} \quad \text{Q.E.D.}$$

In the below we regard the identity map $\lambda: G=U(n)\rightarrow U(n)$ (or the inclusion $\lambda: SU(n)\rightarrow U(n)$) as an n -dimensional complex representation.

Corollary 6.3. *Let n be even. Then there exists a map $\bar{\lambda}^{(2)}$ such that the right diagram commutes:*

$$\begin{array}{ccc} SU(n) & \xrightarrow{\lambda^{(2)}} & U\left(\binom{n}{2}\right) \\ & \searrow \pi & \nearrow \bar{\lambda}^{(2)} \\ & G(n) & . \end{array}$$

Let t_k be a generator of $H^2(BT^n; \mathbf{Z})$ corresponding to the torus

$$T^1 = \left\{ k \begin{pmatrix} 1 & & & & 0 \\ & \ddots & & & \\ & & 1 & e^{i\theta} & \\ & & & 1 & \ddots \\ 0 & & & & 1 \end{pmatrix} ; 0 \leq \theta < 2\pi \right\} \subset T_n \subset U(n).$$

Then according to Borel-Hirzebruch (p. 492 of [6]) the total Chern class $c(\lambda^{(2)})$ of the second exterior power representation $\lambda^{(2)}$ is given by

$$(6.4) \quad c(\lambda^{(2)}) = \prod_{1 \leq i < j \leq n} (1 + t_i + t_j) \in H^*(BU(n); \mathbf{Z}).$$

Remark 6.5. $t_1 + \dots + t_n = 0$ if $G = SU(n)$.

Let $\alpha_i, 1 \leq i \leq n$, be indeterminates with $\deg \alpha_i = 1$. Express

$$\prod_{1 \leq i < j \leq n} (1 + \alpha_i + \alpha_j) = \beta_1 + \dots + \beta_n + (\text{higher terms}),$$

where β_k is a homogeneous term of degree k . Denoting by σ_k the k -th elementary symmetric function, we have $\beta_k = a_k \sigma_k(\alpha_1, \dots, \alpha_n) + (\text{decomp.})$ for some integer a_k .

Lemma 6.6. *If n is odd, a_i is odd for $2 \leq i \leq n$.*

(A proof will be given at the end of the section.)

Let $i: Sp(n) \rightarrow SU(2n)$ be the usual inclusion map defined by

$$q_{ij} = \alpha_{ij} + j\beta_{ij} \mapsto c_{ij} = \begin{pmatrix} \alpha_{ij} & -\bar{\beta}_{ij} \\ \beta_{ij} & \bar{\alpha}_{ij} \end{pmatrix},$$

where $\alpha_{i,j}, \beta_{i,j} \in \mathbf{C}$.

Let s_i be a generator of $H^2(BT^n; \mathbf{Z})$ corresponding to the torus

$$T^1 = \left\{ i \begin{pmatrix} 1 & & & 0 \\ & \ddots & & \\ & & 1 & e^{i\theta} \\ 0 & & & \ddots & 1 \end{pmatrix} \in Sp(n) \right\} \subset T^n \subset Sp(n),$$

$; 0 \leq \theta < 2\pi$

Then

(6.7) $i^*(t_{2i-1}) = s_i$ and $i^*(t_{2i}) = -s_i$.

Consider the composite of the maps

$$BSp(n) \xrightarrow{i} BSU(2n) \xrightarrow{\lambda^{(2)}} BU(\binom{2n}{2}).$$

Proposition 6.8. *The mod 2 reduction of $i^*c(\lambda^{(2)})$ is given by*

$$i^*c(\lambda^{(2)}) = \prod_{1 \leq i < j \leq n} (1 + s_i^4 + s_j^4) \in H^*(BSp(n); \mathbf{Z}_2).$$

Proof.

$$\begin{aligned} i^*c(\lambda^{(2)}) &= i^*\left(\prod_{1 \leq i < j \leq 2n} (1 + t_i + t_j)\right) && \text{by (6.4)} \\ &= \prod_{1 \leq i < j \leq n} (1 + s_i + s_j)^4 && \text{by (6.7)} \\ &= \prod_{1 \leq i < j \leq n} (1 + s_i^4 + s_j^4). \end{aligned}$$

Q. E. D.

Next we consider the commutative diagram:

(6.9)
$$\begin{array}{ccccc} BSp(2n+1) & \xrightarrow{i} & BSU(4n+2) & \xrightarrow{\lambda^{(2)}} & BU(\binom{4n+2}{2}) \\ \downarrow \pi & & \downarrow \pi & \nearrow \lambda^{(2)} & \\ BPSp(2n+1) & \xrightarrow{i} & BG(4n+2) & & \end{array}$$

For the mod 2 reduction of the Chern class $c_{4i} \in H^{8i}(BU(\binom{4n+2}{2}); \mathbf{Z}_2)$ we put

$$x_{8i} = \bar{\lambda}^{(2)*}(c_{4i}) \in H^{8i}(BG(4n+2); \mathbf{Z}_2), \quad 2 \leq i \leq 2n+1.$$

Then by the commutativity of the diagram (6.9)

$$i^*\pi^*\Sigma x_{8i} = i^*\pi^*\bar{\lambda}^{(2)*}(\Sigma c_{4i})$$

$$\begin{aligned}
 &= i^* \lambda^{(2)*} (\Sigma c_{4i}) \\
 &= i^* c(\lambda^{(2)}) \\
 &= \prod_{1 \leq i < j \leq 2n+1} (1 + s_i^4 + s_j^4) \in H^*(BSp(2n+1); \mathbb{Z}_2).
 \end{aligned}$$

Apply Lemma 6.6 and we obtain

$$i^* \pi^* x_{8i} = \sigma_i(s_1^4, \dots, s_{2n+1}^4) + (\text{decomp}).$$

Denoting by q_i the mod 2 reduction of the i -th symplectic Pontrjagin class, we have

$$i^* \pi^* x_{8i} = q_i^2 + P,$$

where P is a sum of monomials containing q_j ($j < i$).

On the other hand, since $i^*: H^m(BSU(4n+2); \mathbb{Z}_2) \rightarrow H^m(BSp(2n+1); \mathbb{Z}_2)$ is trivial for $m \not\equiv 0 \pmod{4}$, we have

$$i^* \pi^*(a_2) = i^* \pi^*(a_3) = i^* \pi^*(a_{4j+2}) = 0, \text{ and hence}$$

$$i^* \pi^*(y(I)) = 0.$$

Thus we have shown

Theorem 6.10. *There exist non-decomposable elements $x_{8i+8} \in H^{8i+8}(BG(4n+2); \mathbb{Z}_2)$, $1 \leq i \leq 2n$, such that $i^* \pi^*(x_{8i+8}) = q_{i+1}^2 + P$, where P is a sum of monomials containing q_j ($j < i+1$).*

Now we turn to the orthogonal case.

Let $\lambda: SO(n) \rightarrow O(n)$ be the natural inclusion and regard it as a real representation. As before we consider its exterior power representation $\lambda^{(2)}: SO(n) \rightarrow O(\binom{n}{2})$. The total Stiefel-Whitney class is then given as

$$w(\lambda^{(2)}) = \prod_{1 \leq i < j \leq 2n} (1 + t_i + t_j),$$

where t_i is a generator of $H^1(B(\mathbb{Z}_2)^n; \mathbb{Z}_2)$ corresponding to

$$\mathbb{Z}_2 = \left\{ i \left(\begin{array}{cccc} 1 & & & \\ & \ddots & & \\ & & 1 & \\ \cdots & & & \varepsilon \\ & & & & 1 & \\ & & & & & \ddots \\ & & & & & & 1 \end{array} \right) ; \varepsilon = \pm 1 \right\} \subset (\mathbb{Z}_2)^n \subset O(n).$$

Remark. $t_1 + \dots + t_n = 0.$

Let $i: U(n) \rightarrow SO(2n)$ be the inclusion defined by the correspondence $b + c\sqrt{-1} \mapsto \begin{pmatrix} b & -c \\ c & b \end{pmatrix}$. Let s_i be a generator of $H^1(B(\mathbf{Z}_2^n); \mathbf{Z}_2)$ corresponding to

$$\mathbf{Z}_2 = \left\{ i \left(\begin{matrix} 1 & & & & \\ & \ddots & & & \\ & & 1 & & \\ \cdots & \cdots & \cdots & \varepsilon & \\ & & & & 1 & \cdots \\ & & & & & & 1 \end{matrix} \right) ; \varepsilon = \pm 1 \right\} \subset (\mathbf{Z}_2)^n \subset U(n).$$

Then

$$(6.11) \quad i^*(t_{2i-1}) = i^*(t_{2i}) = s_i.$$

Let w_i be the Stiefel-Whitney class. Then

$$i^*(w_{2i-1}) = 0,$$

$$i^*(w_{2i}) = c_i, \text{ the mod 2 reduction of the } i\text{-th Chern class.}$$

Consider the following commutative diagram

$$\begin{array}{ccccc} BU(2n+1) & \xrightarrow{i} & BSO(4n+2) & \xrightarrow{\lambda^{(2)}} & BO\left(\binom{4n+2}{2}\right) \\ \downarrow \pi & & \downarrow \pi & \nearrow \bar{\lambda}^{(2)} & \\ B(U(2n+1)/\Gamma_2) & \xrightarrow{i} & BPO(4n+2) & & \end{array}$$

where π is the natural projection and $\bar{\lambda}^{(2)}$ the one induced from $\lambda^{(2)}$. Then

$$i^* \pi^* \bar{\lambda}^{(2)*} \left(\sum_{i=0}^l w_i \right) = i^*(w(\lambda^{(2)})) \quad \text{with } l = \binom{4n+2}{2},$$

where $w(\lambda^{(2)}) = \prod_{1 \leq i < j \leq 4n+2} (1 + t_i + t_j).$

So by Lemma 4.6 we have

$$i^* \pi^* \bar{\lambda}^{(2)*} \left(\sum_{i=0}^l w_i \right) = \prod_{1 \leq i < j \leq 2n+1} (1 + s_i^4 + s_j^4).$$

Thus by a similar argument to the unitary case we have

Theorem 6.12. *There exist non-decomposable elements $x_{4j+4} \in H^{4j+4}(BPO(4n+2); \mathbf{Z}_2)$, $1 \leq j \leq 2n$, such that $i^* \pi^* x_{4j+4} = c_{j+1}^2 + P$, where P is a sum of monomials containing c_k ($k < j+1$).*

First we consider the case $G = G(4n+2)$. The projection $\pi: SU(4n+2) \rightarrow G(4n+2)$ induces $\pi^*: \text{Cotor}^{B^4}(\mathbf{Z}_2, \mathbf{Z}_2) \rightarrow \text{Cotor}^{B^3}(\mathbf{Z}_2, \mathbf{Z}_2)$ on the E_2 -level of the Eilenberg-Moore spectral sequence. By naturality we have

$$\begin{aligned} \pi^* x'_{8i+8} &= \pi^* b_{4i+4}^2 \\ &= c_{2i+2}^2 \quad \text{for } 1 \leq i \leq 2n, \end{aligned}$$

which survives in the $E_\infty(SU(4n+2))$ -term, since $E_2(SU(4n+2)) \cong E_\infty(SU(4n+2)) \cong \mathcal{G}rH^*(BSU(4n+2); \mathbf{Z}_2)$ by Proposition 4.3. On the other hand, since $q_{i+1} = i^* c_{2i+2}$, it follows from Theorem 6.10 that for $\pi^*: H^*(BG(4n+2); \mathbf{Z}_2) \rightarrow H^*(BSU(4n+2); \mathbf{Z}_2)$ we have

$$\pi^* x_{8i+8} = c_{2i+2}^2 + P', \quad 1 \leq i \leq 2n,$$

where P' is a sum of monomials containing c_j ($j < i+1$).

Thus we obtain

Theorem 6.13. *The element $x'_{8i+8} \in \text{Cotor}^{B^4}(\mathbf{Z}_2, \mathbf{Z}_2)$ survives in the $E_\infty(G(4n+2))$ -term and represents $x_{8i+8} \in H^*(BG(4n+2); \mathbf{Z}_2)$.*

Similarly,

Theorem 6.13'. *The element $x'_{4i+4} \in \text{Cotor}^{A^4}(\mathbf{Z}_2, \mathbf{Z}_2)$ survives in the $E_\infty(PO(4n+2))$ -term and represents $x_{4i+4} \in H^*(BPO(4n+2); \mathbf{Z}_2)$.*

Proof of Lemma 6.6. Let m be an odd integer. We regard the identity map $\lambda: U(m) \rightarrow U(m)$ as an m -dimensional complex representation as before. Let t_k be a generator of $H^2(BT^m; \mathbf{Z})$ corresponding to the torus

$$T^1 = \left\{ k \left(\begin{array}{cccc} 1 & & & \\ & \ddots & & \\ & & 1 & \\ & & & e^{i\theta} \\ & & & & 1 \\ & & & & & \ddots \\ & & & & & & 1 \end{array} \right) \mid 0 \leq \theta < 2\pi \right\} \subset T^m \subset U(m).$$

Then by (6.4) the total Chern class of the exterior representation of degree 2 of λ is given by

$$c(\lambda^{(2)}) = \prod_{1 \leq i < j \leq m} (1 + t_i + t_j) \in H^*(BU(m); \mathbf{Z}).$$

We will show that the integer a_k is odd by taking $\alpha_i = t_i$ and $\beta_i = c_i(\lambda^{(2)})$, the i -th Chern class of $\lambda^{(2)}$.

Let Φ^k be the Adams operation on representations and ch_q the Chern character. Denote by λ^2 the tensor product $\lambda \otimes \lambda$.

Lemma 6.14. (1) $ch_q \Phi^2(\lambda) = 2^q ch_q(\lambda).$

(2) $\Phi^2(\lambda) = \lambda^2 - 2\lambda^{(2)}.$

(3) $ch_q(\lambda^2) = 2m ch_q(\lambda) + (\text{decomp}).$

(4) Let $m \geq 3$. For $\eta = \lambda$ or $\lambda^{(2)}$

$$ch_q(\eta) = -\frac{(-1)^q}{(q-1)!} c_q(\eta) + (\text{decomp}).$$

Proof. (1), (2), (3) follow directly from the definition (also see [1]).
 (4) follows from the Newton formula. Q.E.D.

By this lemma we have

$$\begin{aligned} ch_i(\lambda^{(2)}) &= \frac{1}{2} \{ch_i(\lambda^2) - ch_i(\Phi^2(\lambda))\} \\ &= \frac{1}{2} \{2(n - 2^{i-1})ch_i(\lambda)\} + (\text{decomp.}) \\ &= (n - 2^{i-1})ch_i(\lambda) + (\text{decomp.}). \end{aligned}$$

Now by (4) we obtain

$$\begin{aligned} c_i(\lambda^{(2)}) &= (n - 2^{i-1})c_i(\lambda) + (\text{decomp.}) \\ &= (n - 2^{i-1})\sigma_i(t_1, \dots, t_n) + (\text{decomp.}), \end{aligned}$$

where $(n - 2^{i-1})$ is odd if $i \geq 2$. Q.E.D.

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