

Tangential structures

(numbers of theorems and def. correspond to Freed's notes)

- Main example to keep in mind - orientations on vector bundles.

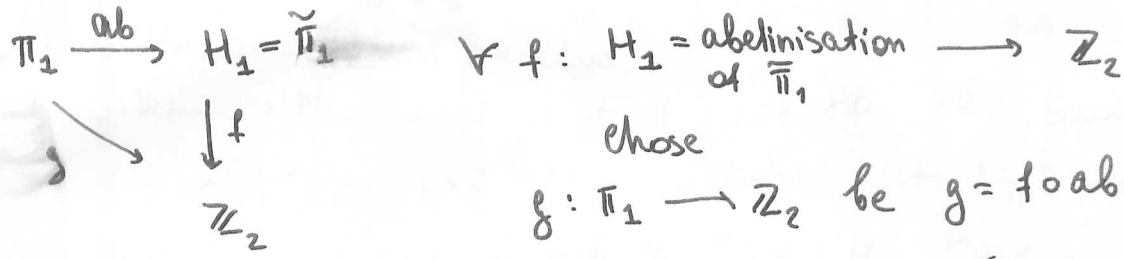
Obstruction to existence of an orientation (Exercise 9.2 - Remark 9.3)

Claim For a vector bundle $V \downarrow M$ \exists an orientation iff

$$\omega_2(V) = 0, \text{ where } \omega_1 \text{ is a first Stiefel-Whitney class.}$$

$$\omega_2(V) = H^2(M, \mathbb{Z}_2) = \text{Hom}(H_2(M, \mathbb{Z}_2), \mathbb{Z}_2) = \text{Hom}(\pi_1(M, m), \mathbb{Z}_2)$$

where the last = is true because:



$\forall g: \pi_1 \rightarrow \mathbb{Z}_2 \exists! f: \tilde{\pi}_1 \rightarrow \mathbb{Z}_2$:
 $g = f \circ \text{ab}$ by universal property of abelisation.

Construct $\exists \omega: \pi_1(M, m) \rightarrow \mathbb{Z}_2$ as follows:

Recall that for V we have $\mathcal{O}(V) \downarrow M$ - orientation double cover

consider $p^{-1}(m)$ (where $m \in M$ some fixed point).
 $p^{-1}(m)$ consists of 2 points \Rightarrow can be identified with \mathbb{Z}_2 .

$\forall f \in \pi_1(M, m)$ take a lift \tilde{f} such that $\tilde{f}(0) = 0$
 Such lift $\exists!$ by lifting properties of covering.

Define $\omega(f) = \tilde{f}(1)$.

By the above ω can be viewed as an element of $H^1(M, \mathbb{Z}_2)$.

If $\omega(f) = 0 \Rightarrow \tilde{f}(1) = 0 \forall f \in \pi_1 \Rightarrow \mathcal{O}(V) = M \times \mathbb{Z}_2$, as it is not path-connected (otherwise path from 0 to 1 will give after a projection as loop $f: \omega(f) = 1$)

If an orientation exist, then \exists section of $\theta(V) \Rightarrow \theta(V) = M \times \mathbb{Z}_2$,
 \Rightarrow it's not path connected \Rightarrow there is no $\tilde{f}: \tilde{f}(0) = 0 \Rightarrow$
 $\tilde{f}(1) = 1$
 $\omega \equiv 0$.

$\Rightarrow \omega$ is really an obstruction to existence of orientation.

? Why it's exactly ω_1 ?

• First, observe, that for f -map of vector bundles:

$$\begin{array}{ccc} V & \rightarrow & V' \\ \downarrow & & \downarrow \\ M & \rightarrow & M' \end{array}$$

such that $f^*(V') = V$ we have

$$f^*(\omega') = \omega - \text{just by construction.}$$

(Could be checked straightforward)

• Second, as \mathbb{R} 's for first is true, it's sufficient to show that for $V = E\mathbb{Z}_2$ $M = B\mathbb{Z}_2$ $\omega = \omega_1$.

$$B\mathbb{Z}_2 = \mathbb{R}P^0, \quad H^*(\mathbb{R}P^0, \mathbb{Z}_2) = \mathbb{Z}_2[\omega_1]$$

$$E\mathbb{Z}_2 = S^0, \quad \text{and it is path-connected} \Rightarrow \omega \neq 0 \Rightarrow$$

$$\boxed{\omega = \omega_1}$$

Reduction of a structure group

Let H, G be Lie groups and $\varphi: H \rightarrow G$ homomorphism.

Remark 1 For an orientation it is a homomorphism $GL_n^+ \rightarrow GL_n$

Remark 2 Everything above much more intuitive, if φ is an inclusion.

Motivation: we want to go from principal G bundles to principal H bundles and other way around.

Def (9.8 i) Associated principal bundle

Let $\begin{array}{c} Q \\ \downarrow \\ M \end{array}$ be principal H bundle. We will construct $\begin{array}{c} Q_G \\ \downarrow \\ M \end{array}$ - principal G -bundle.

Consider $\begin{array}{c} Q \times G \\ \downarrow \\ M \end{array}$. H acts freely from the right on $Q \times G$:

$(q, g)h := (g \cdot h, \rho(h)^{-1}g)$ where $q \in Q, g \in G, h \in H$.

Let $Q_G := (Q \times G) / H$

Notice, that this is a principal G -bundle.

- Fiber: fix fiber of Q and fix it's isomorphism with H .

Fibers of $(Q \times G) / H$ comes from fibers of Q .

Under the isomorphism of one fixed fiber with H we look at pairs $[(h, g)]$ of $(Q \times G) / H$.

$(h, g)h^{-1} = (e, \rho(h)g) \Rightarrow [(h, g)] = [(e, \rho(h)g)]$ in Q_G .

So we see that each fiber is really G , as by taking $h=e$ and choosing different g we will receive all G .

- Action of G :

Define $[(q, g)] \tilde{g} = [(gq, g\tilde{g})]$ for $q \in Q, g, \tilde{g} \in G$

As we multiply from the right, and

H acts on G from the left in our definition of action on $Q \times G$, this actions commute and this is a correct definition.

- Transition functions

Let F and \tilde{F} will be two fibers of Q over the same point but under different indications of with H , coming from different ~~charts~~ element of covering of M .

(Probably better: chose covering \mathcal{U} of M : $\mathcal{U} = \{U\}$ and for each U it's preimage in Q is isomorphic with $U \times H$.

Chose a point in $U_1 \cap U_2$ and trivialisation of fibers F and \tilde{F}

Then a transition map from F to \tilde{F} is some element h_t from H , as H - a Lie group and Q - principal H -bundle.

(U) and trivialisations give rise to trivialisations of Q_G .
An Fibers F and \tilde{F} became $F \times G / H$ and $\tilde{F} \times G / H$.

$[(e, g)] \in F \times G / H \rightarrow [(h_t, g)] = [(e, \rho(h_t)g)] \in \tilde{F} \times G / H$

So $g(h_t)$ is a new transition map. We will use it later.

- $Q \subset Q_g$ when g is an inclusion.

Then $g(h) = h$, so ~~with points~~ ~~example~~

$$Q \rightarrow Q \times G$$

$q \rightarrow (q, e)$ is also inclusion after projection

$$Q \times G \rightarrow Q \times G / H$$

Def (9.8ii) Reduction of the structure group

Let $\begin{matrix} P \\ \downarrow \\ M \end{matrix}$ be a principal G -bundle. Then a reduction to H is

a pair (Q, ϑ) where Q is a principal H -bundle $\begin{matrix} Q \\ \downarrow \\ M \end{matrix}$ and

ϑ is an isomorphism of principal G -bundles

$$Q_g \xrightarrow{\vartheta} P$$

$$\begin{matrix} \downarrow & \downarrow \\ & M \end{matrix}$$

- Reduction is something which is not necessarily exist.

An isomorphism of reductions of (Q, ϑ) and (Q', ϑ') is

an isomorphism of H -bundles Q and Q' .

There is an alternative definition of a reduction:

choose some trivialisation atlas $\mathcal{U} = \{U, \varphi_{U \cap U'}\}$ of P and choose maps from $U \cap U'$ to H such that composed with φ they will give $\varphi_{U \cap U'}$.

So a reduction is a way to see already existing transition maps as elements of H .

The proof that these two definitions are equivalent comes from the our φ thinking about transition maps for Q_g above.

• Assume again $g: H \hookrightarrow G$ is an inclusion.

Then one can show that

reductions are in 1-to-1 correspondence with sections of the G/H bundle $P/H \rightarrow M$.

Let $\mu: G \rightarrow G/H$ a projection map.

Notice that for a principal G -bundle P , $P_\mu \cong P/H$ as G/H bundles.

Suppos we have $\sigma: M \rightarrow P/H$ - a section.

P can be viewed as H -bundle on P/H .

Then we can take $G^*(P) \rightarrow P$ an H -bundle. $G^*(P)$.

$$\begin{array}{ccc} G^*(P) & \rightarrow & P \\ \downarrow \sigma & & \downarrow \\ M & \xrightarrow{\sigma} & P/H \end{array}$$

As σ is a section $G^*(P) \rightarrow P$ is an inclusion. \Rightarrow we find a reduction

If we have reduction $Q \Rightarrow$ we have an inclusion $Q \subset Q_g \cong P$ which gives us a section of $Q_g/H \cong P/H$ - as it comes to class of $[e]$.

Some examples

1) Let $g: O(n) \hookrightarrow GL_n(\mathbb{R})$, $V \rightarrow M$ - real vector bundle of rank n with metric, $\beta_0(V)$ - the fibration, consistion of orthonormal frames.

Then $\beta_0(V)$ is a ^{Q} reduction from definition above, $\beta(V) = P$ (recall: $\beta(V)$ is all frames of V) and so

$\beta_0(V)_g \cong \beta(V)$ correspond to V .

2) Let $g: SO(n) \hookrightarrow O(n)$ or $GL_n^+ \hookrightarrow GL_n$.

From the above reductions in this case correspond to

sections of $\beta(V)/GL_n^+$ (or $\beta(V)/SO(n)$), which are $\mathcal{O}(V)$

by definition. \rightarrow So the choice of an orientation on V is a choice of reduction of structure group from GL_n to GL_n^+ , or from $O(n)$ to $SO(n)$.

From now let H, G be compact.

Recall that each $g: H \rightarrow G$ gives rise to $B_g: BH \rightarrow BG$ - map of classifying spaces. Moreover, it is a fibration, so it has a homotopy lifting property.

$B_g^*(EG) \rightarrow EG$ Consider a pullback of EG by B_g .

$$\begin{array}{ccc} \downarrow & & \downarrow \\ BH & \xrightarrow{B_g} & BG \end{array}$$

Claim $B_g^*(EG) \cong (EH)_g$ - a bundle, associated to EH by $g: H \rightarrow G$

I convinced myself in it, looking at a construction of BG and BH .

There were a suggestion during the seminar to look at universal properties.

Proposition (9.38) Let $\begin{array}{c} P \\ \downarrow \\ M \end{array}$ is a principal G -bundle and

$f: M \rightarrow BG$ is its classifying map.

Then \checkmark Reduction to group H are in 1-to-1 correspondence with lifts $\tilde{f}: M \rightarrow BH: f = B_g \circ \tilde{f}$

$$\begin{array}{ccc} \tilde{f} & \rightarrow & BH \\ & & \downarrow B_g \\ M & \xrightarrow{f} & BG \end{array}$$

• from \tilde{f} to reduction Q :

$$\begin{array}{ccc} (EH)_g & \xrightarrow{\quad} & \\ P & \rightarrow & EG \\ \downarrow & & \downarrow \\ M & \xrightarrow{f} & BG \\ \tilde{f} \downarrow & \nearrow B_g & \\ BH & & \end{array}$$

Let's look at $\tilde{f}^*(EH)_g$:

$$\tilde{f}^*(EH)_g \stackrel{\text{claim above}}{\cong} \tilde{f}^*(B_g^*(EG)) = f^*(EG) = P$$

$$\Rightarrow \tilde{f}^*(EH)_g = P, \text{ so}$$

Chose $Q = \tilde{f}^*(EH)$ then

$$Q_g = \tilde{f}^*(EH)_g = \tilde{f}^*(EH)_g$$

as a construction of associated bundle is natural (as it comes from direct product).

Notice, that if you will chose \tilde{f}' homotopic to \tilde{f} , then $\tilde{f}'^*(EH) \cong \tilde{f}^*(EH)$ - gives isomorphic reductions.

• from reduction to \tilde{f} :

Let g be a classifying map for Q :
$$\begin{array}{ccc} Q & \rightarrow & EH \\ \downarrow & & \downarrow \\ M & \xrightarrow{g} & BH \end{array}$$
, so $Q = g^*(EH)$

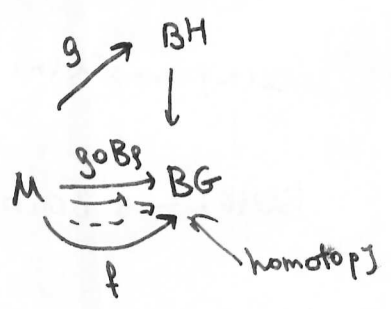
Then we have following diagram:

$$\begin{array}{ccccc} P \simeq Q_g & \rightarrow & EH_g & \rightarrow & EG \\ \downarrow & & \downarrow & & \downarrow \\ M & \xrightarrow{g} & BH & \xrightarrow{B_g} & BG \end{array}$$
 as $Q = g^*(EH) \Rightarrow$
 $Q_g = g^*(QEH_g) = g^*(B_g^*(EG))$, as was above

Then $g \circ B_g$ is a classifying map for Q_g .

Let f be a classifying map for P .

As $Q_g \simeq P \Rightarrow f \sim g \circ B_g$ - homotopy eq.



By homotopy lifting property $\exists \tilde{f}: M \rightarrow BH$ such that \tilde{f} homotopic to g and lifts f .

As we see, homotopy class of \tilde{f} changes isomorphic class of Q . So we are done.

General tangential structures

Recall that we define $BO(n) = \varinjlim GZ(n, n+q)$

where $GZ(n, n+q) \rightarrow GZ(n, n+q+1)$ -
 as n -dim subspace of $\mathbb{R}^{q+n} \rightsquigarrow n$ -dim subspace of $\mathbb{R}^{n+q} \oplus \mathbb{R}^1$

Also one can define a map $GZ(n, n+q) \rightarrow GZ(n+1, n+q+1)$ -
 it keeps the quotient of \mathbb{R}^{n+q} by chosen n -dim subspace to be quotient of \mathbb{R}^{n+q+1} by chosen $n+1$ -dim subspace.

(If you think about $GZ(n, n+q)$ as $n \times (n+q)$ matrices of rank n , quotient by $GL(n+q)$ action, then matrix A goes to matrix $\begin{bmatrix} A & 0 \\ 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$ - which represents a class in $GZ(n+1, n+q+1)$)

This maps induce map of colimits: $BO(n) \rightarrow BO(n+1)$.

Then we define $BO = \varinjlim BO(n)$

Def (8.45) A n -dim. tangential structure is a topological space $\mathcal{X}(n)$ and a fibration $\pi(n): \mathcal{X}(n) \rightarrow BO(n)$

A stable tangential structure is a topological space \mathcal{X} and a fibration $\mathcal{X} \rightarrow BO$.

Notice, that after we once fix n -dim structure, then there is a natural way to receive a k -dim structures for all $k < n$: take a pull back of $\mathcal{X}(n)$ to $BO(k)$ under the map of $BO(k) \rightarrow BO(n)$.

$$\begin{array}{ccc} \mathcal{X}(k) & \longrightarrow & \mathcal{X}(n) \\ \downarrow & & \downarrow \\ BO(k) & \longrightarrow & BO(n) \end{array}$$

Similarly, a choice of \mathcal{X} -stable tangential structure immediately gives us $\mathcal{X}(n)$ for every n : take a pullback to $BO(n)$ under the map $BO(n) \rightarrow BO$

$$\begin{array}{ccc} \mathcal{X}(n) & \longrightarrow & \mathcal{X} \\ \downarrow & & \downarrow \\ BO(n) & \longrightarrow & BO \end{array}$$

This suggest another way of thinking about stable tangential structures: chose n and for all $k \geq n$ chose $\mathcal{X}(k)$ such that the diagram commute and take a direct limit.

$$\begin{array}{ccccccc} \mathcal{X}(n) & \longrightarrow & \mathcal{X}(n+1) & \longrightarrow & \mathcal{X}(n+2) & \longrightarrow & \dots \\ \downarrow & & \downarrow & & \downarrow & & \\ BO(n) & \longrightarrow & BO(n+1) & \longrightarrow & BO(n+2) & \longrightarrow & \dots \end{array}$$

(Probably we need not just commute, but $\mathcal{X}(k)$ is a pullback of $\mathcal{X}(k+1)$).

Def an $\mathcal{X}(n)$ structure on a m -dim manifold M ($n \geq m$) is a lift $\tilde{f}: M \rightarrow \mathcal{X}(n)$ of f -classifying map: $M \rightarrow BO(n)$ map for $\tilde{TM} = TM \oplus \mathbb{R}^{n-m}$.

$$\begin{array}{ccc} & \tilde{f} \nearrow & \mathcal{X}(n) \\ & & \downarrow \pi(n) \\ M & \xrightarrow{f} & BO(n) \end{array}$$

A stable structure \mathcal{X} is a family of coherent structures $\mathcal{X}(n)$ for n sufficiently large.

Examples 1) (9.50) Take $\mathcal{X} = EO$. Then this gives stable framing of TM - a framing for $TM \oplus \mathbb{R}^k$ for some $k, k \geq 0$

2) (9.49). Trivial structure. Put $\mathcal{X} = BO$.

3) (9.52) An orientation is a stable structure $\mathcal{X} = BSO$.
 An orientation on \tilde{TM} gives rise to orientation on TM ,
 (if we agree on standart orientation on \mathbb{R}^k) $\Rightarrow \mathcal{X}(n) = BSO(n)$

4) For every sequence of groups $G(n) \rightarrow G(n+1) \rightarrow \dots$ and
~~we~~ maps $G(n) \rightarrow O(n)$: everything commute we can
 chose $\mathcal{X}(n) = BG(n)$.

One more example: $Spin(n)$ wich is double cover of $SO(n)$.

The ~~homotopy~~ lifting property from (9.38) suggests definition:
Def An isomorphism of $\mathcal{X}(n)$ structures on manifold M is a homotopy
 between lifting $M \rightarrow \mathcal{X}(n)$.

Def The universal $\mathcal{X}(n)$ bundle

Let's fix $\mathcal{X} \rightarrow BO$ and $\mathcal{X}(n) \xrightarrow{\pi(n)} BO(n)$ for $n \in \mathbb{Z}^{\geq 0}$.

Let $S(n) = EO(n)$ - universal tautological bundle.

Take $\pi(n)^*(S(n))$. It has an $\mathcal{X}(n)$ -structure: $\mathcal{X}(n) \xrightarrow{\tilde{\pi}(n)} BO(n)$
 id map from $\mathcal{X}(n)$ to $\mathcal{X}(n)$.

From now we will denote $\pi(n)^*(S(n))$ as " $S(n)$ ", and also
 all it's pullbacks, when it is clear wich maps we consider.

Proposition (9.60). There exist a commutative diagram, so
 $\mathcal{X}(n)$ -structure on M is given by classifying
 map for \tilde{TM} .

$$\begin{array}{ccc} \tilde{TM} & \rightarrow & S(n) \\ \downarrow \tilde{f} & & \downarrow \\ M & \rightarrow & \mathcal{X}(n) \end{array}$$

$$\tilde{TM} = \tilde{f}^*(S(n)) = \tilde{f}^* \pi(n)^*(S(n)) = \tilde{f}^* "S(n)"$$

$$\begin{array}{ccc} \tilde{f} & \rightarrow & \mathcal{X}(n) \\ & & \downarrow \pi(n) \\ M & \xrightarrow{f} & BO(n) \end{array}$$

Involution

Notice that \exists involution $G_2(k, n+k) \leftrightarrow G_2(n, n+k)$
 wich takes $V \subset \mathbb{R}^{n+k}, \dim V = k$ and sends it to $\mathbb{R}^{n+k} \setminus V$.

\Rightarrow it induces an involution of double colimits: $BO \overset{i}{\leftarrow} BO$.

Denote $\mathcal{X}^\perp = \mathcal{L}^*(\mathcal{X})$ for \mathcal{X} -stable tangential structure.

$$\begin{array}{ccc} \mathcal{X}^\perp & \rightarrow & \mathcal{X} \\ \downarrow & & \downarrow \\ \mathbb{B}O & \xrightarrow{i} & \mathbb{B}O \end{array}$$

Notice that if V, V^\perp - vector bundles on M , $\dim V = n, \dim V^\perp = k$
 $V \oplus V^\perp = \underline{\mathbb{R}^{n+k}}$ then the following diagram commute:

$$\begin{array}{ccc} M \rightarrow G_2(n, n+k) \rightarrow \mathbb{B}O \\ \searrow \quad \quad \quad \uparrow i \\ \quad \quad \quad G_2(k, n+k) \rightarrow \mathbb{B}O \end{array}$$

where first two maps $M \rightarrow G_2(n, n+k)$ and $M \rightarrow G_2(k, n+k)$ are classifying for V and V^\perp resp.

No we want to switch between stable tangential \mathcal{X} -structures and stable normal \mathcal{X}^\perp -structures, like in 5-th lecture.

Def By stable normal \mathcal{X}^\perp -structure we mean a map $M \rightarrow \mathcal{X}^\perp$ lifting the stable classifying map for \mathcal{V} -normal bundle, arising from embedding of M to \mathbb{A}^{m+k} . ($\dim M = m$). Fix ~~the~~ ^{some} embedding.

Notice, that stable \mathcal{X} -structure is a coherent family of maps from M to $\mathcal{X}(n)$, which are classifying maps for $\tilde{T}M$ by discussion in (9.60). But maps from $M \rightarrow \mathcal{X}(n)$, arising as lifts for $M \rightarrow \mathbb{B}O(n)$ can be viewed as a coherent family of maps to $M \rightarrow G_2(n, n')$ for n, n' large enough.

Then we can repeat a discussion in 9.60, denote by $\mathcal{X}(n, n')$ a pull back of $\mathcal{X}(n)$ under $G_2(n, n') \rightarrow \mathbb{B}O(n)$ and have following:

$$\begin{array}{ccccccc} \tilde{T}M & \mathcal{X}(n, n') & \rightarrow & \mathcal{X} & \rightarrow & \mathcal{X}^\perp & \\ \downarrow & \downarrow & & \downarrow & & \downarrow & \\ M & \rightarrow & G_2(n, n') & \rightarrow & \mathbb{B}O & \xrightarrow{i} & \mathbb{B}O \end{array}$$

After composition with i we receive a map from $M \rightarrow \mathcal{X}^\perp$.

$$\tilde{T}M \oplus \mathcal{V} = \underline{\mathbb{R}^r} \leftarrow \text{large.}$$

\Rightarrow By above the composition of all \rightarrow in the bottom gives a classifying map for $\mathcal{V} \Rightarrow$ we have the tangen normal stable structure from tangential one. Notice, that final result does not depend from $M \hookrightarrow \mathbb{A}^{m+k}$.

Back to bordisms

(6)

Let now M be a manifold with boundary.

Recall, $T(\partial M) \oplus \mathbb{J} = TM$ and \mathbb{J} is trivializable.

So $TM = \widetilde{T(\partial M)}$ in our notations.

If M has an $\mathcal{X}(n)$ (or \mathcal{X}) structure, then ∂M also:

precompose map from $M \rightarrow \mathcal{X}(n)$ with $\partial M \hookrightarrow M$ and because $TM = \widetilde{T(\partial M)}$ we automatically have $\mathcal{X}(n)$ (or \mathcal{X}) structure on ∂M .

Let's say that Y_0 is bordant to Y_1 as manifolds with \mathcal{X} -structure if they are bordant in a usual sense, X from the definition of bordism has \mathcal{X} structure, and \mathcal{X} -structures on Y_i and on Y_i as a part of ∂X are isomorphic.

Freed's claim This is an equivalence relation.

Problem: Remember for an orientation if X a bordism

from Y_0 to Y_1 , then $-X$ is bordism from Y_1 to Y_0 , where $-X$ denotes opposite orientation. How do we know for general \mathcal{X} -structure that any other structure exists?

When we change roles of Y_0 and Y_1 $\widetilde{TY}_{\bullet i} \rightarrow \widetilde{TY}_{\bullet i}$

$$TY_{\bullet i} \oplus \mathbb{R} \xrightarrow{\text{id} \oplus -\text{id}} TY_{\bullet i} \oplus \mathbb{R}.$$

It's an isomorphism as vector bundles.

It could be not an isomorphism of bundles with additional structure (as in case of orientation). It gives new \mathcal{X} -structure on Y_i , but we don't know how to extend it to new structure on X .