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SEMI-TOPOLOGICAL CYCLE THEORY I

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We study algebraic varieties parametrized by topological spaces and enlarge the domain of Lawson homology and morphic cohomology to this category. We prove a Lawson suspension theorem and a splitting theorem. A version of the Friedlander–Lawson moving lemma is obtained to prove a duality theorem between Lawson homology and morphic cohomology for smooth semi-topological projective varieties. K -groups for semi-topological projective varieties and Chern classes are also constructed.

1. Introduction

Algebraic cycles are basic ingredients in studying invariants of algebraic varieties. The collection of all r -dimensional algebraic cycles of a projective variety X forms a topological abelian group $Z_r(X)$. Lawson [1989] studied these groups from a homotopical viewpoint and proved a suspension theorem that serves as a cornerstone for Lawson homology and morphic cohomology developed later [Friedlander 1991; Friedlander and Lawson 1992; 1997; 1998]. A continuous map $f : S^n \rightarrow Z_r(X)$ from the n -sphere to $Z_r(X)$ can be viewed as a family of algebraic cycles parametrized by S^n . This family can also be considered as an “algebraic cycle” on $X \times S^n$. This motivates us to consider algebraic varieties parametrized by topological spaces and consider algebraic cycles on them.

When the base space is an algebraic variety and the parametrization is algebraic, this is just the relative theory of algebraic varieties. The main point of our study is that our base spaces are usually very general topological spaces, so their rings of continuous complex-valued functions are not Noetherian. This makes classical algebraic methods difficult to apply. It is well known in the algebraic case when we wish a family of algebraic varieties to behave well we need the family to be flat over the base scheme. The flatness of a family of varieties is equivalent to the property that the family is the pull back of the universal family over a Hilbert scheme by an algebraic morphism to the Hilbert scheme. So to obtain a nice theory, we define our “semi-topological variety” to be a continuous map from a topological space S

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to some Hilbert scheme with some additional technical assumptions. We are able to define semi-topological algebraic cycles on semi-topological projective varieties and extend the definition of Lawson homology and morphic cohomology to them. This paper is the first part of this theory. A Hodge theory and a Riemann–Roch theorem will be given in a forthcoming paper.

Let us give a brief overview of this paper. In Section 2, we define semi-topological projective varieties and algebraic cycles on them. Some basic topological properties of semi-topological cycle groups are studied. In Section 3, we prove the Lawson suspension theorem and a splitting theorem for semi-topological projective varieties. In Section 4, we give a version of the Friedlander–Lawson moving lemma for semi-topological projective varieties and use it to prove a duality theorem between the Lawson homology and morphic cohomology for semi-topological smooth projective varieties. In Section 5, we compute the Lawson homology group of divisors in a semi-topological smooth projective variety. In Section 6, we construct K -groups and Chern classes.

2. Semi-topological varieties

Let us briefly recall the construction of cycle groups of complex projective varieties. For a complex projective variety X , we write $\mathcal{C}_{r,d}(X)$ for the collection of all effective r -cycles of degree d on X . According to the Chow theorem, $\mathcal{C}_{r,d}(X)$ is a projective variety. Let $\mathcal{C}_r(X) = \coprod_{d \geq 0} \mathcal{C}_{r,d}(X)$ be the Chow monoid and $Z_r(X) = [\mathcal{C}_r(X)]^+$ be the naive group completion of $\mathcal{C}_r(X)$. Let

$$K_{r,d}(X) = \coprod_{d_1+d_2=d} \pi(\mathcal{C}_{r,d_1}(X) \times \mathcal{C}_{r,d_2}(X)),$$

where $\pi : \mathcal{C}_r(X) \times \mathcal{C}_r(X) \rightarrow Z_r(X)$ is the map $(a, b) \mapsto a - b$. We have a filtration

$$K_{r,0}(X) \subseteq K_{r,1}(X) \subseteq \cdots = Z_r(X).$$

Each $K_{r,d}(X)$ is compact and the topology of $Z_r(X)$ is the weak topology induced from this filtration. With this topology, $Z_r(X)$ is a topological abelian group. If Y is also a projective variety, we write $Z_r(Y)(X)$ for the group of algebraic r -cocycles on X with values in Y , that is, $c \in Z_r(Y)(X)$ if $c \in Z_{r+k}(X \times Y)$ where k is the dimension of X , the projection from c to X is surjective and fibers of c over X are r -cycles in Y .

Throughout this paper, S is a compact topological space with base point s_0 . We write \mathbb{P}_S^n for $\mathbb{P}^n \times S$.

Definition 2.1. A semi-topological projective variety over S is a continuous map $\mathbb{X} : S \rightarrow \text{Hil}_p \mathbb{P}^n$ such that $\mathbb{X}_s := \mathbb{X}(s)$ is a normal projective variety for all $s \in S$, where $\text{Hil}_p \mathbb{P}^n$ is the Hilbert scheme of \mathbb{P}^n associated to a Hilbert polynomial p .

We write $\mathbb{X} \subset \mathbb{P}_S^n$ in this case. We define the dimension of \mathbb{X} to be the dimension of \mathbb{X}_{s_0} , and write $|\mathbb{X}_{s_0}|$ for the algebraic variety corresponding to \mathbb{X}_{s_0} .

Definition 2.2. Suppose that $\mathbb{X} \subset \mathbb{P}_S^n$, $\mathbb{Y} \subset \mathbb{P}_S^m$ are semi-topological projective varieties over S . Let

$$Z_r(\mathbb{Y})(\mathbb{X}) := \left\{ \alpha \in \text{Map}((S, s_0), (Z_k(\mathbb{P}^n \times \mathbb{P}^m), 0)) \mid \alpha(s) \in Z_r(\mathbb{Y}_s)(\mathbb{X}_s) \right\},$$

where $k = r + \dim \mathbb{X}$. Let $Z_{k, \leq e}(\mathbb{P}^n \times \mathbb{P}^m)$ be the image of

$$\coprod_{e_1 + e_2 \leq e} \mathcal{C}_{k, e_1}(\mathbb{P}^n \times \mathbb{P}^m) \times \mathcal{C}_{k, e_2}(\mathbb{P}^n \times \mathbb{P}^m)$$

in $Z_k(\mathbb{P}^n \times \mathbb{P}^m)$. The topology of $Z_k(\mathbb{P}^n \times \mathbb{P}^m)$ is the weak topology induced from the filtration

$$Z_{k, \leq 0}(\mathbb{P}^n \times \mathbb{P}^m) \subseteq Z_{k, \leq 1}(\mathbb{P}^n \times \mathbb{P}^m) \subseteq \cdots = Z_k(\mathbb{P}^n \times \mathbb{P}^m).$$

Let $Z_{r, \leq e}(\mathbb{Y})(\mathbb{X}) := \text{Map}((S, s_0), (Z_{k, \leq e}(\mathbb{P}^n \times \mathbb{P}^m), 0)) \cap Z_r(\mathbb{Y})(\mathbb{X})$. We equip $\text{Map}((S, s_0), (Z_{k, \leq e}(\mathbb{P}^n \times \mathbb{P}^m), 0))$ with the compact-open topology and we give $Z_{r, \leq e}(\mathbb{Y})(\mathbb{X})$ the subspace topology. From the filtration

$$Z_{r, \leq 0}(\mathbb{Y})(\mathbb{X}) \subseteq Z_{r, \leq 1}(\mathbb{Y})(\mathbb{X}) \subseteq \cdots = Z_r(\mathbb{Y})(\mathbb{X})$$

we equip $Z_r(\mathbb{Y})(\mathbb{X})$ with the weak topology.

Then it is not difficult to see that $Z_r(\mathbb{Y})(\mathbb{X})$ is a topological abelian group.

Definition 2.3. If \mathbb{Y}, \mathbb{Y}' are two semi-topological projective varieties, we say that \mathbb{Y}' is a subvariety of \mathbb{Y} , denoted by $\mathbb{Y}' \subseteq \mathbb{Y}$, if $\mathbb{Y}'_s \subseteq \mathbb{Y}_s$ for all $s \in S$. We write $\mathbb{Y} - \mathbb{Y}'$ for the assignment $(\mathbb{Y} - \mathbb{Y}')(s) := \mathbb{Y}_s - \mathbb{Y}'_s$ for $s \in S$ and call $\mathbb{Y} - \mathbb{Y}'$ a semi-topological Zariski open set of \mathbb{Y} .

Definition 2.4. Suppose $\mathbb{X} \subset \mathbb{P}_S^n$, $\mathbb{Y} \subset \mathbb{P}_S^m$. Suppose for each $s \in S$, $f_s : \mathbb{X}_s \rightarrow \mathbb{Y}_s$ is a given morphism of projective varieties. The assignment $s \mapsto f_s$ is said to be a morphism between \mathbb{X} and \mathbb{Y} , and we write $f : \mathbb{X} \rightarrow \mathbb{Y}$, if $s \mapsto \text{gr } f_s \in \mathcal{C}_r(\mathbb{P}^n \times \mathbb{P}^m)$ is continuous, where $\text{gr } f_s$ is the graph of f_s .

Definition 2.5. If $f : \mathbb{X} \rightarrow \mathbb{Y}$ is a morphism of semi-topological projective varieties, define $f_* : Z_r(\mathbb{X})(\mathbb{W}) \rightarrow Z_r(\mathbb{Y})(\mathbb{W})$ by

$$(f_*\alpha)(s) := q_{s*}(\left(\mathbb{W}_s \times \text{gr } f_s\right) \bullet p_s^*(\alpha(s))),$$

where $p : \mathbb{W} \times \mathbb{X} \times \mathbb{Y} \rightarrow \mathbb{W} \times \mathbb{X}$, $q : \mathbb{W} \times \mathbb{X} \times \mathbb{Y} \rightarrow \mathbb{W} \times \mathbb{Y}$ are projections.

Proposition 2.6. *The map f_* is continuous.*

Proof. First, p_s^* and q_{s*} are clearly continuous and that $(\mathbb{W}_s \times \text{gr } f_s)$ meets $p_s^*(\alpha(s))$ properly. It follows that the intersection product on cycles intersecting properly is continuous [Fulton 1998]. Thus f_* is continuous. \square

Proposition 2.7. *If \mathbb{Y}' is a subvariety of \mathbb{Y} , then $Z_r(\mathbb{Y}')(\mathbb{X})$ is closed in $Z_r(\mathbb{Y})(\mathbb{X})$.*

Proof. For $\alpha \in Z_{r,\leq e}(\mathbb{Y})(\mathbb{X}) - Z_{r,\leq e}(\mathbb{Y}')(\mathbb{X})$, there is $s_1 \in S$ such that

$$\alpha(s_1) \in Z_{r,\leq e}(\mathbb{Y}'_{s_1})(\mathbb{X}_{s_1}) - Z_{r,\leq e}(\mathbb{Y}'_{s_1})(\mathbb{X}_{s_1}).$$

Since $Z_{r,\leq e}(\mathbb{Y}'_{s_1})(\mathbb{X}_{s_1})$ is closed in $Z_{r,\leq e}(\mathbb{Y}_{s_1})(\mathbb{X}_{s_1})$ [Teh 2010, Proposition 2.9], there is a V open in $Z_{k,\leq e}(\mathbb{P}^n \times \mathbb{P}^m)$ such that

$$\alpha(s_1) \in V \cap Z_{r,\leq e}(\mathbb{Y}_{s_1})(\mathbb{X}_{s_1}) \subset Z_{r,\leq e}(\mathbb{Y}_{s_1})(\mathbb{X}_{s_1}) - Z_{r,\leq e}(\mathbb{Y}'_{s_1})(\mathbb{X}_{s_1}).$$

Let

$$W = \{\beta \in \text{Map}((S, s_0), (Z_{k,\leq e}(\mathbb{P}^n \times \mathbb{P}^m), 0)) \mid \beta(s_1) \in V\}.$$

Then W is open in $\text{Map}((S, s_0), (Z_{k,\leq e}(\mathbb{P}^n \times \mathbb{P}^m), 0))$ and

$$\alpha \in W \cap Z_{r,\leq e}(\mathbb{Y})(\mathbb{X}) \subseteq Z_{r,\leq e}(\mathbb{Y})(\mathbb{X}) - Z_{r,\leq e}(\mathbb{Y}')(\mathbb{X}).$$

Therefore, the set $Z_{r,\leq e}(\mathbb{Y})(\mathbb{X}) - Z_{r,\leq e}(\mathbb{Y}')(\mathbb{X})$ is open and $Z_{r,\leq e}(\mathbb{Y}')(\mathbb{X})$ is closed in $Z_{r,\leq e}(\mathbb{Y})(\mathbb{X})$. We then have that $Z_r(\mathbb{Y}')(\mathbb{X})$ is closed in $Z_r(\mathbb{Y})(\mathbb{X})$. \square

Recall that there is a functor k constructed by Steenrod [1967] from the category of topological spaces to the category of compactly generated spaces that acts like a retraction. Furthermore, for any topological space X , X and $k(X)$ have the same homology and homotopy groups. Recall that by the construction in [Teh 2008], if H is a normal closed subgroup of G and both are compactly generated, then the short exact sequence $0 \rightarrow H \rightarrow G \rightarrow G/H \rightarrow 0$ gives a fibration

$$\begin{array}{ccc} B_H & \longrightarrow & B_G \\ & & \downarrow \\ & & B_{G/H}, \end{array}$$

where BG is the classifying space of G . Thus we have a long exact sequence of homotopy groups

$$\cdots \rightarrow \pi_n(H) \rightarrow \pi_n(G) \rightarrow \pi_n(G/H) \rightarrow \pi_{n-1}(H) \rightarrow \cdots .$$

Combined with the Steenrod functor k , once we have some complicated topological abelian groups that form the short exact sequence stated above, we get a long exact sequence of homotopy groups. The following is an application of this result.

Definition 2.8. Let

$$Z_r(\mathbb{Y}; \mathbb{Y}')(\mathbb{X}) := \frac{Z_r(\mathbb{Y})(\mathbb{X})}{Z_r(\mathbb{Y}')(\mathbb{X})} \quad \text{and} \quad Z^t(\mathbb{X}) := Z_r(\mathbb{P}_S^t; \mathbb{P}_S^{t-1})(\mathbb{X}),$$

where \mathbb{Y}' is a semi-topological subvariety of \mathbb{Y} .

Corollary 2.9. We have a long exact sequence of homotopy groups

$$\cdots \rightarrow \pi_n Z_r(\mathbb{Y}')(\mathbb{X}) \rightarrow \pi_n Z_r(\mathbb{Y})(\mathbb{X}) \rightarrow \pi_n Z_r(\mathbb{Y}; \mathbb{Y}')(\mathbb{X}) \rightarrow \pi_{n-1} Z_r(\mathbb{Y}')(\mathbb{X}) \rightarrow \cdots .$$

Definition 2.10. Let $pt : S \rightarrow \text{Hil}_p \mathbb{P}^n$ be a constant map whose image is a point in \mathbb{P}^n . Then $Z_r(\mathbb{Y})(pt)$ is isomorphic to $Z_r(\mathbb{Y})(pt')$ for any two such maps pt, pt' . We write $Z_r(\mathbb{Y}) := Z_r(\mathbb{Y})(pt)$ without referring to which point we take. The map pt is called a point map.

Definition 2.11. Define

$$\mathbb{H}_{S,n}(\mathbb{X}) := \pi_n Z_0(\mathbb{X}) \quad \text{and} \quad \mathbb{H}_S^n(\mathbb{X}) := \pi_{2m-n} Z^m(\mathbb{X}),$$

where m is the dimension of \mathbb{X} .

Example 2.12. When $S = S^0$ is the 0-dimensional sphere, and $\mathbb{X} = X \times S^0$ for some projective variety X , then

$$\mathbb{H}_{S,n}(\mathbb{X}) = \pi_n Z_0(X) \cong H_n(X)$$

by the Dold–Thom theorem. If X is smooth, then

$$\mathbb{H}_S^n(\mathbb{X}) = \pi_{2m-n} Z^m(X) \stackrel{FL}{\cong} \pi_{2m-n} Z_0(X) \cong H_{2m-n}(X) \stackrel{PD}{\cong} H^n(X),$$

where FL and PD are the Friedlander–Lawson and Poincaré duality isomorphisms.

3. Suspension theorem and splitting theorem

Let us recall that if $X \subseteq \mathbb{P}^n$ and $x_\infty \in \mathbb{P}^{n+1} \setminus \mathbb{P}^n$, the suspension $\mathbb{Z}X$ of X with respect to x_∞ is the join of X and x_∞ .

Definition 3.1. Suppose that $\mathbb{Y} \subseteq \mathbb{P}_S^m$ and pt is a point map with image in $\mathbb{P}^{m+1} \setminus \mathbb{P}^m$. The suspension of \mathbb{Y} with respect to pt is the semi-topological subvariety

$$(\mathbb{Z}_{pt} \mathbb{Y})(s) := \mathbb{Z}_{pt(s)} \mathbb{Y}_s.$$

So we have $\mathbb{Z}_{pt} \mathbb{Y} \subseteq \mathbb{P}_S^{m+1}$. The suspension induces a map

$$\mathbb{Z}_{pt} : Z_k(\mathbb{P}^n \times \mathbb{P}^m) \longrightarrow Z_{k+1}(\mathbb{P}^n \times \mathbb{P}^{m+1})$$

by suspending \mathbb{P}^m . Hence for each $\alpha \in Z_r(\mathbb{Y})(\mathbb{X})$, \mathbb{Z}_{pt} induces a semi-topological cycle in $Z_{r+1}(\mathbb{Z}\mathbb{Y})(\mathbb{X})$ by

$$(\mathbb{Z}_{pt} \alpha)(s) := \mathbb{Z}_{pt} \alpha(s).$$

Theorem 3.2. *Let $pt = [0 : \dots : 0 : 1] \in \mathbb{P}^{m+1}$, $\mathbb{Y} \subseteq \mathbb{P}_S^m$, and $\mathbb{X} \subseteq \mathbb{P}_S^n$. Then $\mathbb{Z}_{pt*} : Z_r(\mathbb{Y})(\mathbb{X}) \rightarrow Z_{r+1}(\mathbb{Z}_{pt}\mathbb{Y})(\mathbb{X})$ is a weak homotopy equivalence.*

Proof. We write \mathbb{Z} for \mathbb{Z}_{pt} . Let

$$T_{r+1}(\mathbb{Z}\mathbb{Y})(\mathbb{X}) := \left\{ \alpha \in Z_{r+1}(\mathbb{Z}\mathbb{Y})(\mathbb{X}) \mid \begin{array}{l} \alpha(s) \text{ meets } \mathbb{X}_s \times \mathbb{Y}_s \text{ properly} \\ \text{in } \mathbb{X}_s \times \mathbb{Z}\mathbb{Y}_s, \text{ for all } s \in S \end{array} \right\}.$$

Let $\Lambda \subseteq \mathbb{P}^{m+1} \times \mathbb{P}^1 \times \mathbb{P}^{m+1}$ be the closed subvariety constructed in [Friedlander 1991, Proposition 3.2], which is a geometric description of Lawson's holomorphic taffy. Let $\Lambda_t := \Lambda \bullet (\mathbb{P}^{m+1} \times \{t\} \times \mathbb{P}^{m+1})$, $t \in \mathbb{C}$. Then for $\alpha \in T_{r+1}(\mathbb{Z}\mathbb{Y})(\mathbb{X})$,

$$\Phi_t(\alpha) := q_{t*}(p_t^* \alpha \bullet (\mathbb{P}^n \times \Lambda_t)) \in T_{r+1}(\mathbb{Z}\mathbb{Y})(\mathbb{X}),$$

where

$$\begin{aligned} p_t : \mathbb{P}^n \times \mathbb{P}^{m+1} \times \{t\} \times \mathbb{P}^{m+1} &\rightarrow \mathbb{P}^n \times \mathbb{P}^{m+1}, \\ q_t : \mathbb{P}^n \times \mathbb{P}^{m+1} \times \{t\} \times \mathbb{P}^{m+1} &\rightarrow \mathbb{P}^n \times \mathbb{P}^{m+1}, \end{aligned}$$

are the projections to the first and second, and to the first and fourth factors, respectively. If $t = 0$, then $\Phi_0(\alpha) \in \mathbb{Z}Z_r(\mathbb{Y})(\mathbb{X})$. It is not difficult to see that Φ is a strong deformation retract of $T_{r+1}(\mathbb{Z}\mathbb{Y})(\mathbb{X})$ to $\mathbb{Z}Z_r(\mathbb{Y})(\mathbb{X})$.

Let $x_1 = [0 : \dots : 0 : 1] \in \mathbb{P}^{m+2}$ and $x_2 = [0 : \dots : 0 : 1 : 1] \in \mathbb{P}^{m+2}$. Recall that by [Friedlander and Lawson 1998, Proposition 2.3], for any $d > 0$, there is an $e(d) > 0$ such that for any $e > e(d)$, there is a line L_e in $\mathcal{C}_{m+1,e}(\mathbb{P}^{m+2})$ containing $e\mathbb{P}^{m+1}$ such that we have a map

$$\Psi_e : Z_{r+1, \leq d}(\mathbb{P}^{m+1}) \times L_e \rightarrow Z_{r+1, \leq de}(\mathbb{P}^{m+1}), \quad (Z, D) \mapsto p_{2*}((x_1 \# Z) \bullet D),$$

where $p_2 : \mathbb{P}^{m+2} - \{x_2\} \rightarrow \mathbb{P}^{m+1}$ is the projection with center $\{x_2\}$. Furthermore, for $D \in L_e - \{e\mathbb{P}^m\}$, $\Psi_e(Z, D) \in T_{r+1, de}(\mathbb{P}^{m+1})$ and $\Psi_e(Z, e\mathbb{P}^m) = eZ$. When we restrict to cycles having support in $\mathbb{Z}\mathbb{Y} \subseteq \mathbb{P}^{m+1}$, by checking the definition of Ψ_e , we get a map

$$\Psi_e : Z_{r+1, \leq d}(\mathbb{Z}\mathbb{Y}) \times L_e \rightarrow Z_{r+1, \leq de}(\mathbb{Z}\mathbb{Y})$$

with the corresponding properties. For $\alpha \in Z_{r+1, \leq d}(\mathbb{Z}\mathbb{Y})(\mathbb{X})$, define

$$\Psi_e(Z, D)(s) := p_{2*}((x_1 \# \alpha(s)) \bullet (D \times \mathbb{X}_s)).$$

This map is continuous in s and has the same homotopy property as before. Note that if $f : C \rightarrow Z_{r+1}(\mathbb{Z}\mathbb{Y})(\mathbb{X})$ is a map from a compact topological space C , the image $\text{Im } f$ is compact and $\text{Im } f \subseteq Z_k(\mathbb{P}^n \times \mathbb{P}^m)$. By [Teh 2010, Lemma 2.8], $\text{Im } f \subseteq Z_{k, \leq d}(\mathbb{P}^n \times \mathbb{P}^m)$ for some $d > 0$. Therefore $\text{Im } f \subseteq Z_{r+1, \leq d}(\mathbb{Z}\mathbb{Y})(\mathbb{X})$.

We show that the map $i_* : T_{r+1}(\mathbb{Z}\mathbb{Y})(\mathbb{X}) \rightarrow Z_{r+1}(\mathbb{Z}\mathbb{Y})(\mathbb{X})$ induced from the inclusion is a weak homotopy equivalence. Let $[f] \in \pi_n(Z_{r+1}(\mathbb{Z}\mathbb{Y})(\mathbb{X}))$ be a base

point preserving continuous map. Since $\text{Im } f$ is compact, $\text{Im } f \subseteq Z_{r+1, \leq d}(\mathbb{Z}\mathbb{Y})(\mathbb{X})$ for some d . Then by the result above, there is a map

$$\Psi_e : Z_{r+1, \leq d}(\mathbb{Z}\mathbb{Y})(\mathbb{X}) \times L_e \rightarrow Z_{r+1, \leq de}(\mathbb{Z}\mathbb{Y})(\mathbb{X}),$$

such that $\Psi_e(f(s), e\mathbb{P}^m) = f(s)$ and $\Psi_e(f(s), D) \in T_{r+1}(\mathbb{Z}\mathbb{Y})(\mathbb{X})$ for all D in $L_e - \{e\mathbb{P}^m\}$. Hence $i_*[\Psi_e(f, D)] = [f]$, which implies that i_* is surjective. For injectivity, if $[g] \in \pi_n T_{r+1}(\mathbb{Z}\mathbb{Y})(\mathbb{X})$ is mapped to 0 by i_* in $Z_{r+1}(\mathbb{Z}\mathbb{Y})(\mathbb{X})$, then i_*g can be extended to a map $\tilde{g} : D^{n+1} \rightarrow Z_{r+1}(\mathbb{Z}\mathbb{Y})(\mathbb{X})$, where D^{n+1} is the unit closed ball. Again, by choosing some Ψ_e , we can show that \tilde{g} is homotopic to some

$$\Psi_e(\tilde{g}, D) : D^{n+1} \rightarrow T_{r+1}(\mathbb{Z}\mathbb{Y})(\mathbb{X}).$$

Thus $[g] = 0$. Combining this with the previous result, the proof is complete. \square

Theorem 3.3 (splitting theorem). *If \mathbb{X} is a semi-topological projective variety, there is a map*

$$\xi_t : Z_0(\mathbb{P}^t)(\mathbb{X}) \rightarrow Z^t(\mathbb{X}) \times Z^{t-1}(\mathbb{X}) \times \cdots \times Z^0(\mathbb{X})$$

that is a weak homotopy equivalence.

Proof. Recall that there is an isomorphism $\mathbb{P}^n \cong \mathcal{C}_{0,n}(\mathbb{P}^1)$ for any positive integer n . The projection map

$$\mathbb{P}^t \cong \mathcal{C}_{0,t}(\mathbb{P}^1) \rightarrow \mathcal{C}_{0,(i)}(\mathbb{P}^k), \quad x_1 + \cdots + x_t \mapsto \sum_{\substack{I \subset \{1, \dots, t\} \\ |I|=k}} x_I,$$

where $x_I = x_{i_1} + \cdots + x_{i_t}$ for $I = \{i_1, \dots, i_t\}$, induces a map

$$\xi_t : Z_0(\mathbb{P}_S^t)(\mathbb{X}) \rightarrow Z_0(\mathbb{P}_S^k)(\mathbb{X}) \rightarrow Z^k(\mathbb{X})$$

for $0 \leq k \leq t$. We have a commutative diagram

$$\begin{array}{ccc} Z_0(\mathbb{P}_S^{t-1})(\mathbb{X}) & \xrightarrow{\xi_{t-1}} & Z^{t-1}(\mathbb{X}) \times \cdots \times Z^0(\mathbb{X}) \\ \downarrow & & \downarrow \\ Z_0(\mathbb{P}_S^t)(\mathbb{X}) & \xrightarrow{\xi_t} & Z^t(\mathbb{X}) \times Z^{t-1}(\mathbb{X}) \times \cdots \times Z^0(\mathbb{X}) \\ \downarrow q & & \downarrow p \\ Z^t(\mathbb{X}) & \xrightarrow{=} & Z^t(\mathbb{X}), \end{array}$$

where q is the quotient map and p is the projection map. From the homotopy sequence associated to the vertical columns, we get the result by induction on t . \square

4. Moving lemma

Let $H = \text{Hil}_p \mathbb{P}^n$ be the Hilbert scheme of \mathbb{P}^n associated to the Hilbert polynomial p , and let $\pi : \tilde{H} \rightarrow H$ be the universal family over H . Suppose each algebraic variety parametrized by H is of dimension m . Let $U_{\tilde{H}}(d) \subset \mathbb{P}(\Gamma(\mathbb{O}_{\mathbb{P}^n_H}(d)^{m+1}))$ be the Zariski open set of those $F = (f_0, \dots, f_m)$ such that

$$\mathcal{L}_F := \{(t, h) \in \mathbb{P}^n_H \mid F_h(t) = 0\}$$

misses \tilde{H} , where $F_h = (f_{0,h}, \dots, f_{m,h})$ is obtained by pulling back F by the inclusion $z \mapsto (z, h)$ from \mathbb{P}^n to \mathbb{P}^n_H . Then F induces a finite morphism $p_F : \tilde{H} \rightarrow \mathbb{P}^n_H$ by $p_F(x) := p_{F_{\pi(x)}}(x)$.

For $Y \in \mathcal{C}_{r, \leq e}(\tilde{H})(H)$ and $Z \in \mathcal{C}_{\ell, \leq e}(\tilde{H})(H)$, let

$$Y \star_F Z := \{(y, z) \in Y \times_H Z \mid y \neq z, p_F(y) \neq p_F(z)\},$$

where $Y \times_H Z$ is the fiber product of Y and Z over H .

By following a similar approach as in [Friedlander and Lawson 1998, Proposition 1.3], we get the following result:

Proposition 4.1. *Suppose that $r + \ell \geq m$, $e \in \mathbb{N}$. There is a Zariski closed subset $\mathcal{B}(d)_e \subset U_{\tilde{H}}(d)$ with $\lim_{d \rightarrow \infty} \text{Fcodim } \mathcal{B}(d)_e = \infty$, where*

$$\text{Fcodim } \mathcal{B}(d)_e = \min_h \{\text{codim } \mathcal{B}(d)_{e,h}\} \quad \text{and} \quad \mathcal{B}(d)_{e,h} := \{F_h \mid F \in \mathcal{B}(d)_{e,h}\},$$

such that for any $Y \in \mathcal{C}_{r, \leq e}(\tilde{H})(H)$ and $Z \in \mathcal{C}_{\ell, \leq e}(\tilde{H})(H)$, $|Y_h| \star_{F_h} |Z_h|$ has pure dimension $r + \ell - m$ whenever $F \in U_{\tilde{H}}(d) - \mathcal{B}(d)_e$.

Now let $\mathbb{X} : S \rightarrow H$ be a semi-topological projective variety. Then the pullback $\mathbb{X}^* \mathbb{P}^n_H = \mathbb{P}^n_S$ and for $F \in \mathbb{P}(\Gamma(\mathbb{O}_{\mathbb{P}^n_H}(d)^{m+1}))$, we set $\mathbb{X}^* F(x, s) := F(x, \mathbb{X}(s))$ and have $\mathbb{X}^* F \in \mathbb{P}(\Gamma(\mathbb{O}_{\mathbb{P}^n_S}(d)^{m+1}))$. Define $p_{\mathbb{X}^* F} : \mathbb{X}^*(\tilde{H}) \rightarrow \mathbb{P}^n_H$ by

$$p_{\mathbb{X}^* F}(x, s) := p_{F_{\mathbb{X}(s)}}(x),$$

where $x \in \tilde{H}$, $s \in S$. For $\alpha \in \mathcal{Z}_{r, \leq e}(\mathbb{X})$, $\beta \in \mathcal{Z}_{\ell, \leq e}(\mathbb{X})$,

$$\alpha \star_{\mathbb{X}^* F} \beta := \{(a, b) \in |\alpha| \times_S |\beta| \mid a \neq b, p_{\mathbb{X}^* F}(a, s) \neq p_{\mathbb{X}^* F}(b, s)\},$$

where $|\alpha|$ and $|\beta|$ denote the support of α and β respectively.

Let $U_{\tilde{H}}(d) \subset \mathbb{P}(\Gamma(\mathbb{O}_{\mathbb{P}^n_S}(d)^{m+1}))$ be the semi-topological Zariski open set of those $F = (f_0, \dots, f_m)$ such that

$$\mathcal{L}_F := \{(t, s) \in \mathbb{P}^n_S \mid F_s(t) = 0\}$$

misses $\mathbb{X}^* \tilde{H}$. Then by taking $\tilde{\mathcal{B}}(d)_e = \mathbb{X}^*(\mathcal{B}(d)_e)$, from the above result, we also have enough good projections for semi-topological projective varieties when the degree is large enough.

Corollary 4.2. *Let $\mathbb{X} \subseteq \mathbb{P}_S^n$ be a semi-topological projective variety of dimension m . Suppose that $r + \ell \geq m$, $e \in \mathbb{N}$. There is a semi-topological Zariski closed subset $\tilde{\mathcal{B}}(d)_e \subseteq U_{\mathbb{X}}(d)$ with $\lim_{d \rightarrow \infty} \text{Fcodim } \mathcal{B}(d)_e = \infty$ such that for $\alpha \in Z_{r, \leq e}(\mathbb{X})$ and $\beta \in Z_{\ell, \leq e}(\mathbb{X})$, $|\alpha_s| \star_{F_s} |\beta_s|$ has pure dimension $r + \ell - m$, where $F \in U_{\mathbb{X}}(d) - \tilde{\mathcal{B}}(d)_e$.*

Once we know how to find good projections for semi-topological projective varieties, following an argument in [Friedlander and Lawson 1998], we get a moving lemma for semi-topological projective varieties.

Theorem 4.3. *Let $\mathbb{X} \subseteq \mathbb{P}_S^n$ be a semi-topological projective variety of dimension m . Let r, ℓ, e be nonnegative integers with $r + \ell \geq m$. Then there exist an open set \mathbb{C} of $\{0\}$ in C and a continuous map*

$$\tilde{\Psi} : \mathcal{C}_\ell(\mathbb{X}) \times \mathbb{C} \rightarrow \mathcal{C}_\ell(\mathbb{X})^2,$$

such that $\pi \circ \tilde{\Psi}$ induces by linearity a continuous map

$$\Psi : Z_\ell(\mathbb{X}) \times \mathbb{C} \rightarrow Z_s(\mathbb{X})$$

satisfying the following properties. Let $\psi_p = \Psi|_{Z_s(\mathbb{X}) \times \{p\}}$ for $p \in \mathbb{C}$.

- (1) $\psi_0 = \text{Id}$.
- (2) For any $p \in \mathbb{C}$, ψ_p is a continuous group homomorphism.
- (3) For any $\alpha \in Z_{\ell, \leq e}(\mathbb{X})$, $\beta \in Z_{r, \leq e}(\mathbb{X})$, and any $p \neq 0$ in \mathbb{C} , each component of excess dimension of the intersection $|\alpha(s)| \cap |\psi_p(Z)|$ is contained in the singular locus of $|\mathbb{X}_s|$, for $s \in S$.

Let (\mathbb{X}, \mathbb{Y}) be a pair of semi-topological projective varieties in \mathbb{P}_S^n , where $\mathbb{Y} \subseteq \mathbb{X}$. We say that a map $f : (\mathbb{X}, \mathbb{Y}) \rightarrow (\mathbb{X}', \mathbb{Y}')$ between two pairs of semi-topological varieties is a relative isomorphism if $f : \mathbb{X} \rightarrow \mathbb{X}'$ is a semi-topological morphism such that $f : \mathbb{X} - \mathbb{Y} \rightarrow \mathbb{X}' - \mathbb{Y}'$ is an isomorphism of semi-topological quasi-projective varieties. The following example is the most important case to us.

Example 4.4. Define $\phi : (\mathbb{X} \times_S \mathbb{P}_S^t, \mathbb{X} \times_S \mathbb{P}_S^{t-1}) \rightarrow (\mathbb{Z}'\mathbb{X}, \mathbb{P}_S^{t-1})$ by

$$\phi(([x_0 : \dots : x_n], s), ([a_0 : \dots : a_t], s)) := ([a_0 x_0 : \dots : a_0 x_n : a_1 : \dots : a_t], s),$$

where we identify the \mathbb{P}_S^{t-1} of the second pair to the hyperplane at infinity of $\mathbb{Z}'\mathbb{X}$. Then it is not difficult to see that ϕ is a relative isomorphism.

The following lemma is a special case used in order to define the cycle groups for a quasi-projective variety (see [Lima-Filho 1992]), but it is enough to prove the duality theorem.

Lemma 4.5. *Suppose that $f : (\mathbb{X}, \mathbb{Y}) \rightarrow (\mathbb{X}', \mathbb{Y}')$ is a relative isomorphism, where $\dim \mathbb{Y}' < r$, then $Z_r(\mathbb{X})/Z_r(\mathbb{Y})$ is weakly homotopic equivalent to $Z_r(\mathbb{X}')/Z_r(\mathbb{Y}')$ and $Z_r(\mathbb{X}')/Z_r(\mathbb{Y}')$ is isomorphic to $Z_r(\mathbb{X}')$.*

Proof. The map $f : \mathbb{X} \rightarrow \mathbb{X}'$ induces group homomorphisms $f_* : Z_r(\mathbb{X}) \rightarrow Z_r(\mathbb{X}')$ and $f_* : Z_r(\mathbb{Y}) \rightarrow Z_r(\mathbb{Y}')$. Since f restricted to $\mathbb{X} - \mathbb{Y}$ is injective, this gives the injectivity of $f_* : Z_r(\mathbb{X})/Z_r(\mathbb{Y}) \rightarrow Z_r(\mathbb{X}')/Z_r(\mathbb{Y}')$. But since $r > \dim \mathbb{Y}'$, $Z_r(\mathbb{Y}') = \{0\}$. Hence f_* is surjective and $Z_r(\mathbb{X}')/Z_r(\mathbb{Y}') = Z_r(\mathbb{X}')$. \square

By using the moving lemma, we got the following duality theorem that is proved by similar arguments in [Friedlander and Lawson 1997].

Theorem 4.6 (Duality theorem). *Suppose that $\mathbb{X} \subseteq \mathbb{P}_S^n, \mathbb{Y} \subseteq \mathbb{P}_S^k$, where $\dim \mathbb{X} = m$, and \mathbb{X}, \mathbb{Y} are smooth, that is, each $\mathbb{X}_s, \mathbb{Y}_s$ is smooth. Then there is a weak homotopic equivalence $i_* : Z_k(\mathbb{Y})(\mathbb{X}) \cong Z_{m+k}(\mathbb{X} \times \mathbb{Y})$, where i is the inclusion.*

Corollary 4.7. *Suppose that \mathbb{X} is a smooth semi-topological projective variety of dimension m . If $0 \leq t \leq m$, then $Z^t(\mathbb{X})$ is weakly homotopic equivalent to $Z_{m-t}(\mathbb{X})$.*

Proof. $Z^t(\mathbb{X}) = \frac{Z_0(\mathbb{P}^t)(\mathbb{X})}{Z_0(\mathbb{P}^{t-1})(\mathbb{X})} \cong \frac{Z_m(\mathbb{X} \times \mathbb{P}_S^t)}{Z_m(\mathbb{X} \times \mathbb{P}_S^{t-1})} \cong \frac{Z_m(\mathbb{X} \times \mathbb{P}_S^t)}{Z_m(\mathbb{X} \times \mathbb{P}_S^{t-1})} \cong Z_m(\mathbb{X} \times \mathbb{P}_S^t) \cong Z_{m-t}(\mathbb{X})$. \square

5. Semi-topological divisors

Suppose that the dimension of \mathbb{X} is greater than 0. Let

$$K[\mathbb{X}] = \mathcal{C}(S)[z_0, \dots, z_n]/I(\mathbb{X}) = \bigoplus_{d \geq 0} K_d(\mathbb{X}),$$

where $\mathcal{C}(S)$ is the ring of complex-valued continuous functions on S , and $K_d(\mathbb{X})$ is the collection of homogeneous polynomials of degree d in $K[\mathbb{X}]$.

Proposition 5.1. *If $f \in \mathcal{C}(S)[z_0, \dots, z_n]$ is homogenous of degree d and is not the zero polynomial for any $s \in S$, then f defines an effective semi-topological divisor $(f) \in \mathcal{C}_{n-1}(\mathbb{P}_S^n)$ by*

$$(f)(s) := (f_s)$$

for $s \in S$, where (f_s) is the divisor on \mathbb{P}^n defined by f_s .

Proof. Since f_s is not the zero polynomial for any $s \in S$, (f_s) is an effective divisor for any $s \in S$. From the definition of the Chow form, we see that the coefficients of the Chow form $F_{(f_s)}$ of (f_s) are continuous functions of the coefficients of f . This implies that the assignment $(f) : S \rightarrow \mathcal{C}_{n-1,d}(\mathbb{P}^n)$ is continuous. \square

Definition 5.2. Let $\mathcal{C}(S)[z_0, \dots, z_n]_{d,\mathbb{X}}$ be the collection of all $f \in \mathcal{C}(S)[z_0, \dots, z_n]$ of degree d such that (f_s) meets \mathbb{X}_s properly in \mathbb{P}^n for all $s \in S$. For $f + I(\mathbb{X})$ in $K_d(\mathbb{X})$, where $f \in \mathcal{C}(S)[z_0, \dots, z_n]_{d,\mathbb{X}}$, let

$$(f + I(\mathbb{X}))(s) := (f_s) \bullet \mathbb{X}_s$$

for $s \in S$. Then $(f + I(\mathbb{X}))$ is a semi-topological divisor on \mathbb{X} . Let

$$W_d(\mathbb{X}) := \{(f + I(\mathbb{X})) \mid f \in \mathcal{C}(S)[z_0, \dots, z_n]_{d,\mathbb{X}}\}.$$

Let $W(\mathbb{X}) = \coprod_{d \geq 0} W_d(\mathbb{X})$ and

$$Z_{m-1}(\mathbb{X})^{lin} = \{\alpha - \beta \mid \text{where } \alpha, \beta \in W(\mathbb{X}), \alpha(s_0) = \beta(s_0)\}.$$

We say that a semi-topological divisor $D \in Z_{m-1}(\mathbb{X})$ is semi-topologically linearly equivalent to zero if $D \in Z_{m-1}(\mathbb{X})^{lin}$.

Proposition 5.3. *Let $T_d(\mathbb{X}) = \{(f) \mid f \in \mathcal{C}(S)[z_0, \dots, z_n]_{d, \mathbb{X}}\}$, $T(\mathbb{X}) = \coprod_{d \geq 0} T_d(\mathbb{X})$ and $\tilde{T}(\mathbb{X}) := \{(f) - (g) \mid (f)(s_0) = (g)(s_0), (f), (g) \in T(\mathbb{X})\} \subseteq Z_{m-1}(\mathbb{X})$.*

- (1) $\tilde{T}(\mathbb{X})$ is isomorphic as a topological group to $Z_{m-1}(\mathbb{X})^{lin}$.
- (2) $\tilde{T}(\mathbb{X})$ is weakly homotopy equivalent to $Z_{n-1}(\mathbb{P}_S^n)$ where $\mathbb{X} \subseteq \mathbb{P}_S^n$.

Proof. The isomorphism between $\tilde{T}(\mathbb{X})$ and $Z_{m-1}(\mathbb{X})^{lin}$ is given by the natural map $(f) - (g) \mapsto (f + I(\mathbb{X})) - (g + I(\mathbb{X}))$. By the moving lemma, for any $\epsilon > 0$, there is an integer $e(d)$ such that for any $k > e(d)$ there is a continuous function $\Theta_k : Z_{n-1, \leq \epsilon}(\mathbb{P}^n) \times \ell^0 \rightarrow Z_{n-1, k\epsilon}(\mathbb{P}^n)$ such that:

- (1) $\Theta_k(c, 0) = kc$.
- (2) $\Theta_k(c, t)$ meets \mathbb{X}_s properly for $t \in \ell^0 \setminus \{0\}$.

Then, by following exactly the argument for proving the suspension theorem, we show that the inclusion $i_* : \tilde{T}(\mathbb{X}) \rightarrow Z_{n-1}(\mathbb{P}_S^n)$ is a weak homotopy equivalence. \square

Proposition 5.4. *Suppose that $\mathbb{X} \subseteq \mathbb{P}_S^n$ is a semi-topological variety of dimension m . Then $Z_{m-1}(\mathbb{X})^{lin}$ is weakly homotopy equivalent to $\text{Map}((S, s_0), (Z_0(\mathbb{P}^1), 0))$. In particular,*

$$\pi_\ell Z_{m-1}(\mathbb{X})^{lin} = \begin{cases} H^2(S), & \text{if } \ell = 0, \\ H^1(S), & \text{if } \ell = 1, \\ H^0(S), & \text{if } \ell = 2, \\ 0, & \text{otherwise.} \end{cases}$$

Proof. We have a homeomorphism

$$\mathcal{C}(S)[z_0, \dots, z_n]_d \rightarrow \text{Map}(S, \mathbb{C}^{\binom{n+d}{d}}), \quad f \mapsto \text{coefficients of } f.$$

This homeomorphism reduces to a homeomorphism

$$\mathcal{C}_{n-1, d}(\mathbb{P}^n) \cong \text{Map}(S, \mathbb{P}^{\binom{n+d}{d}-1}) \cong \text{Map}(S, \mathcal{C}_{0, \binom{n+d}{d}-1}(\mathbb{P}^1)).$$

Thus $Z_{n-1}(\mathbb{P}_S^n) \cong \text{Map}((S, s_0), (Z_0(\mathbb{P}^1), 0))$. From the result above, we have weak homotopy equivalences

$$Z_{m-1}(\mathbb{X})^{lin} \cong \tilde{T}(\mathbb{X}) \cong Z_{n-1}(\mathbb{P}_S^n) \cong \text{Map}((S, s_0), (Z_0(\mathbb{P}^1), 0)). \quad \square$$

6. Chern classes

Definition 6.1. Suppose that the dimension of a semi-topological variety \mathbb{X} is k . Let

$$\mathcal{C}^{s,1}(\mathbb{P}_S^n)(\mathbb{X}) := \{\alpha \in \text{Map}(S, \mathcal{C}_{k+n-s}(\mathbb{P}^m \times \mathbb{P}^n)) \mid \alpha(s) \in \mathcal{C}^{s,1}(\mathbb{P}^n)(|\mathbb{X}_s|)\},$$

where $\mathcal{C}^{s,1}(\mathbb{P}^n)(|\mathbb{X}_s|) := \mathcal{C}_{n-s,1}(|\mathbb{X}_s| \times \mathbb{P}^n)$.

By suspension, we have a sequence

$$\dots \rightarrow \mathcal{C}^{s,1}(\mathbb{P}^n)(\mathbb{X}) \rightarrow \mathcal{C}^{s,1}(\mathbb{P}^{n+1})(\mathbb{X}) \rightarrow \mathcal{C}^{s,1}(\mathbb{P}^{n+2})(\mathbb{X}) \rightarrow \dots$$

Let

$$\mathcal{C}^{s,1}(\mathbb{P}^\infty)(\mathbb{X}) := \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \mathcal{C}^{s,1}(\mathbb{P}^n)(\mathbb{X})$$

and let

$$\text{Vect}^s(\mathbb{X}) := [\mathcal{C}^{s,1}(\mathbb{P}^\infty)(\mathbb{X})]^+$$

be the group completion. Note that we do not fix a base point of $\text{Vect}^s(\mathbb{X})$. Let

$$\begin{aligned} \widetilde{\text{Vect}}^s(\mathbb{X}) &:= \{f - g \in \text{Vect}^s(\mathbb{X}) \mid f_{s_0} = g_{s_0}\}, \\ \widetilde{\text{Vect}}^s(\mathbb{X})_n &:= \{f - g \in \widetilde{\text{Vect}}^s(\mathbb{X}) \mid f, g \in \mathcal{C}^{s,1}(\mathbb{P}^n)(\mathbb{X})\}. \end{aligned}$$

Then we have sequences and maps

$$\begin{array}{ccc} \widetilde{\text{Vect}}^s(\mathbb{X})_n & \longrightarrow & Z_{n-s}(\mathbb{P}_S^n)(\mathbb{X}) \\ \cong \downarrow & & \downarrow \cong \\ \widetilde{\text{Vect}}^s(\mathbb{X})_{n+1} & \longrightarrow & Z_{n-s}(\mathbb{P}_S^{n+1})(\mathbb{X}) \\ \cong \downarrow & & \downarrow \cong \\ \vdots & & \vdots \end{array}$$

and we get a map

$$\widetilde{\text{Vect}}^s(\mathbb{X}) \rightarrow \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} Z_{n-s}(\mathbb{P}_S^n)(\mathbb{X}).$$

By taking π_0 on both sides, we get a homomorphism

$$\pi_0 \widetilde{\text{Vect}}^s(\mathbb{X}) \xrightarrow{\mathbf{c}} \pi_0 \left(\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} Z_{n-s}(\mathbb{P}_S^n)(\mathbb{X}) \right) \cong \pi_0 Z_o(\mathbb{P}_S^n)(\mathbb{X}) \cong \bigoplus_{i=0}^s L^i H^{2i}(\mathbb{X}).$$

Definition 6.2. For $[\alpha] \in \pi_0 \widetilde{\text{Vect}}^s(\mathbb{X})$, $\mathbf{c}([\alpha]) \in \bigoplus_{i=0}^s L^i H^{2i}(\mathbb{X})$ is called the total Chern class of $[\alpha]$.

The inclusions

$$\mathcal{C}^{s,1}(\mathbb{P}_S^n)(\mathbb{X}) \hookrightarrow \mathcal{C}^{s+1,1}(\mathbb{P}_S^{n+1})(\mathbb{X}) \hookrightarrow \mathcal{C}^{s+2,1}(\mathbb{P}_S^{n+2})(\mathbb{X}) \hookrightarrow \dots$$

induce inclusions on

$$\mathcal{C}^{s,1}(\mathbb{P}_S^\infty)(\mathbb{X}) \hookrightarrow \mathcal{C}^{s+1,1}(\mathbb{P}_S^\infty)(\mathbb{X}) \hookrightarrow \mathcal{C}^{s+2,1}(\mathbb{P}_S^\infty)(\mathbb{X}) \hookrightarrow \dots,$$

which induce again maps on

$$\widetilde{\mathbf{Vect}}^s(\mathbb{X}) \rightarrow \widetilde{\mathbf{Vect}}^{s+1}(\mathbb{X}) \rightarrow \widetilde{\mathbf{Vect}}^{s+2}(\mathbb{X}) \rightarrow \dots.$$

Let

$$\widetilde{\mathbf{Vect}}(\mathbb{X}) := \lim_{s \rightarrow \infty} \widetilde{\mathbf{Vect}}^s(\mathbb{X}).$$

Definition 6.3. Suppose that \mathbb{X} is a semi-topological projective variety. Let

$$K_n(\mathbb{X}) := \pi_n \widetilde{\mathbf{Vect}}(\mathbb{X}).$$

This is called the n -th K -group of \mathbb{X} .

This construction of Chern classes is a preparation for a proof of a Grothendieck–Riemann–Roch theorem for semi-topological projective varieties.

Example 6.4. When $S = S^0$, $\mathbb{X} = X \times S^0$ where X is a smooth projective variety. Then

$$K_n(\mathbb{X}) = K_n^{semi}(X),$$

where $K^n(X)$ is the semi-topological K -group of X constructed by Friedlander and Walker [2002; 2003].

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