

Characteristic classes in singularity theory

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joint with

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Characteristic classes

Thom polynomials

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Characteristic classes

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and bundle sections

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■ **Singularities**
Local Theory



Characteristic Classes
Global Theory

- **Singularities** **Characteristic Classes**
Local Theory \longleftrightarrow *Global Theory*
- **Eg. vector field \vec{v} on a manifold M**
Poincaré–Hopf theorem: $\sum i_x(\vec{v}) = \chi(M)$

- $\xi \rightarrow M$ **line bundle**,
 $s \in \Gamma(\xi)$ **section**
 $H = \{s = 0\}$ **hyperplane**
 $[H] = c_1(\xi) \in H^2(M)$

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■ **Singularities $\Sigma \subset H$ have to occur in one-dimensional families**

- B – parameter space

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Singularity locus of the family

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- or

$$\underline{c_n(T^*M/B \otimes \xi)} \cdot c_1(\xi) \in H^{2n+2}(M)$$

■ More complicated singularities?

A_2 singularity

Hessian(s)=0

$$(x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n) \mapsto x_1^3 + x_2^2 + \dots + x_n^2$$

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- **Have to appear in 2-dimensional families.**

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- **or in $H^{2n+4}(M)$**

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where $c_* = c_*(T^*M/B)$ and $u = c_1(\xi)$

- Can be expressed by

$$3c_2(E^* - E) + c_1(E^* - E)t$$

where $E = TM/B \otimes \xi^{-\frac{1}{2}}$
 $t = c_1(\xi^{-\frac{1}{2}}) = -\frac{1}{2}u$

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- called Thom Polynomials
- We study the coefficients of Thom polynomials expanded in some distinguished basis of characteristic classes

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- 2) Thom polynomial is expressed by Schur Q -functions:

$$\mathcal{T}_\eta = \sum_{I,j} a_{I,j} Q_I(E^*) \cdot \left(\frac{t}{2}\right)^j,$$

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$$\mathcal{T}_\eta = \sum_{I,j} a_{I,j} Q_I(E^*) \cdot \left(\frac{t}{2}\right)^j$$

- Theorem: All the coefficients $a_{I,j}$ are nonnegative integers. *Mikosz, Pragacz, AW, 2008*

■ Schur Q -functions

$$Q_I(E^*) = \tilde{Q}_I(E^* - E), \quad \text{Pragacz, Ratajski,}$$

where $\tilde{Q}_I(-)$ is a polynomial on $c_*(-)$ such that:

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- ...

Pfaffian formulas

■ **Examples:**

$$\mathcal{T}_{A_1} = 1$$

$$\mathcal{T}_{A_2} = Q_1(E^*) = 2c_1(T^*M/B \otimes \xi^{\frac{1}{2}})$$

$$\mathcal{T}_{A_3} = 3Q_2 + tQ_1$$

$$\mathcal{T}_{A_4} = 3Q_{21} + 12Q_3 + 10tQ_2 + 2t^2Q_1$$

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- **Note: all coefficients are not only nonnegative.**
- **Also, they do not vanish.**


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1-dimensional family of cubic singularities, – corank of $D^2(s) = 3$

$\mathcal{T}_{P_8} = Q_{321} =$ 

■ ... much more complicated singularities

$$\begin{aligned} \mathcal{T}_{A_8} = & 18840Q_{61} + 20160Q_7 + 3123Q_{421} + 5556Q_{43} + 15564Q_{52} \\ & + t(71856Q_6 + 3999Q_{321} + 55672Q_{51} + 34780Q_{42}) \\ & + t^2(64524Q_{41} + 24616Q_{32} + 105496Q_5) \\ & + t^3(36048Q_{31} + 81544Q_4) \\ & + t^4(8876Q_{21} + 34936Q_3) \\ & + t^57848Q_2 \\ & + t^6720Q_1 \end{aligned}$$

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■ $\mathcal{T}_{E_8} = 93Q_{421} + 108Q_{43} + 204Q_{52} + 72Q_{61}$
 $+ t(99Q_{321} + 216Q_{51} + 414Q_{42})$
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■ *Kazarian (Rimanyi method + geometric argument)*

- Yet another positivity result *Pragacz, AW 2006*

The nonlocalized Thom polynomial associated to any singularity type η

$$\mathcal{T}_\eta(c_*(T^*M/B), c_1(\xi^*)) \cdot c_n(T^*M/B \otimes \xi)$$

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The nonlocalized Thom polynomial associated to any singularity type η

$$\mathcal{T}_\eta(c_*(T^*M/B), c_1(\xi^*)) \cdot c_n(T^*M/B \otimes \xi)$$

- can be expressed as a combination

$$\sum_I a_I S_I(c_*(T^*M/B - \xi^*)),$$

where $I = (i_1 \geq i_2 \geq i_3 \geq \dots)$ partition,
 $I \sim$ Schubert cell in Grassmannian
 $S_I(c_*)$ – Schur function

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- Theorem: The coefficients a_I are nonnegative.
- Formulas depend on $n = \dim M$,

e.g. $\mathcal{T}_{A_2} = n S_{1^{n+1}} + 2 S_{1^{n-1}2}$

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- **Another family of inequalities, obtained from various models of *classifying space of Legendrian singularities*.**
joint work with MM, PP, Kazarian
- \Rightarrow **effective cone of characteristic classes coming from effective cycles.**

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