

The Milnor-Hirzebruch problem, complex cobordisms, and theta divisors

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Every complex manifold has a fixed complex structure in its tangent bundle.

Every smooth algebraic variety over \mathbb{C} is a complex manifold.

Every symplectic manifold has a complex structure in its tangent bundle, but in general a symplectic manifold is not a complex manifold, as the symplectic form might not be integrable.

A manifold M^{2n} with the tangent bundle TM^{2n} is called almost complex if there exist an n -dimensional complex vector bundle $\xi \rightarrow M^{2n}$ with an isomorphism of real vector bundles $TM^{2n} \cong r\xi$.

Let M^m be a smooth oriented real manifold with the tangent bundle TM^m .

A **stable complex structure** (a **U -structure**) (ξ, c) on M^m is a complex N -dimensional vector bundle $\xi \rightarrow M^m$ with an orientation preserving isomorphism of real vector bundles

$$c: TM^m \oplus (2N - m)\mathbb{R} \cong r\xi,$$

where $(2N - m)\mathbb{R}$ is the trivial real vector bundle with the canonical orientation.

A manifold M^m with a chosen U -structure is called a **U -manifold**.

Example. For any $k \in \mathbb{Z}$ there exists a U -structure on $\mathbb{C}P^1$ where

$\xi = \eta^{2k} + \mathbb{C}^{N-1}$ and $\eta \rightarrow \mathbb{C}P^1$ is the tautological complex line bundle over the complex projective line with the first Chern class $c_1(\eta) = z \in H^2(\mathbb{C}P^1; \mathbb{Z}) = \mathbb{Z}$ and $(z, \langle \mathbb{C}P^1 \rangle) = 1$.

Let $\zeta \rightarrow X$ be a real $2n$ -dimensional oriented vector bundle over a finite CW-complex X .

Theorem (E. Thomas, 1967)

The bundle ζ admits a complex structure if and only if it is stably isomorphic to $r\xi$ where $\xi \rightarrow X$ is a complex bundle such that the Chern class $c_n(\xi)$ is equal to its Euler class $e(\zeta)$.

Corollary

A U -manifold M^{2n} with an isomorphism $TM^{2n} \oplus (2N - 2n)\mathbb{R} \cong r\xi$ is almost complex if and only if the number $(c_n(\xi), \langle M^{2n} \rangle)$ is equal to the Euler characteristic $\chi(M^{2n})$, where $\langle M^{2n} \rangle \in H_{2n}(M^{2n}, \mathbb{Z}) = \mathbb{Z}$ is the fundamental cycle determined by the orientation of the manifold M^{2n} .

Two closed m -dimensional U -manifolds M_1 and M_2 are called **bordant** if there exists a real $(m+1)$ -dimensional U -manifold W such that its boundary ∂W is a disjoint union of M_1 and M_2 , and the restriction of the U -structure of W to M_i coincides with the U -structure on M_i for $i = 1, 2$.

Two closed m -dimensional U -manifolds M_1 and M_2 are called **cobordant** if there exists a real $(m+1)$ -dimensional manifold $W \subset \mathbb{R}^{2N+m+1}$ with the complex normal bundle νW such that the boundary ∂W is a disjoint union of M_1^m and M_2^m , and the restriction of the normal bundle νW to M_i coincides with the complex structure of the normal bundle νM_i for $i = 1, 2$.

The bordism and cobordism classes of a U -manifold M^n are denoted by $[M^n]$. (Note that by definition, the bordism class of $[M^n]$ has dimension n and its cobordism class has dimension $-n$.)

The U -manifold $M^n \times [0, 1]$ defines the bordism of the manifolds $M_1 = M^n$ and M_2 , where M_2 differs from M_1 by the orientation of the fundamental cycle. Thus we can define the class $-[M^n]$ for every U -manifold M^n .

The sum of the bordism classes of two closed U -manifolds M_1^m and M_2^m is defined as

$$[M_1^m] + [M_2^m] = [M_1^m \sqcup M_2^m],$$

where $M_1^m \sqcup M_2^m$ is the disjoint union of M_1^m and M_2^m .

The product of the bordism classes of $M_1^{m_1}$ and $M_2^{m_2}$ is defined by

$$[M_1^{m_1}][M_2^{m_2}] = [M_1^{m_1} \times M_2^{m_2}].$$

Thus we obtain the commutative graded ring $\Omega^U = \sum_{m \geq 0} \Omega_m^U$,

where Ω_m^U is the group of bordism classes of m -dimensional U -manifolds.

Similarly, we obtain the graded ring $\Omega_U = \sum_{m \geq 0} \Omega_U^{-m}$,

where Ω_U^{-m} is the group of cobordism classes of m -dimensional U -manifolds.

A continuous map $f: M^k \rightarrow X$ where M^k is some closed U -manifold is called a k -dimensional **U -cycle** of the space X .

Two U -cycles (M_1^k, f_1) and (M_2^k, f_2) are called **bordant** if there are a U -manifold W^{k+1} with boundary $\partial W^{k+1} = M_1^k \sqcup M_2^k$ and a continuous map $F: W \rightarrow X$ such that $F|_{\partial W} = f_1 \sqcup f_2$.

The set of bordism classes of k -dimensional U -cycles forms **the bordism group** $U_k(X)$ where $k = 0, 1, \dots$

The notions of U -cocycle and U -cobordism are more complicated. They use the Pontryagin–Thom construction and the theory of transversally regular mappings of smooth manifolds.

The set of cobordism classes of k -dimensional U -cocycles forms **the cobordism group** $U^k(X)$ where $k \in \mathbb{Z}$.

The homology theory $U_*(X)$ based on the groups $\{U_k(X), k = 0, 1, \dots\}$ and the cohomology theory $U^*(X)$ based on the groups $\{U^k(X), k \in \mathbb{Z}\}$ are called **the complex bordism theory** and **the complex cobordism theory** respectively.

From the correspondence between stable complex structures in tangent and normal bundles of a manifold M^m , $m = 0, 1, 2, \dots$, it follows that the groups Ω_m^U and Ω_U^{-m} are isomorphic.

For $X = \{pt\}$, this isomorphism can be considered as the Poincare duality isomorphism $\Omega_m^U = U_m(\{pt\}) = U^{-m}(\{pt\}) = \Omega_U^{-m}$ for the 0-dimensional U -manifold $\{pt\}$.

This isomorphism extends to the Poincare–Atiyah duality isomorphism between complex bordisms and cobordisms for any U -manifold X^n

$$D_U: U_m(X^n) \rightarrow U^{n-m}(X^n).$$

Let $\lambda = (i_1, \dots, i_k)$, $i_1 \geq \dots \geq i_k > 0$ be a partition of some integer number $n = i_1 + \dots + i_k = |\lambda|$.

Let $\xi \rightarrow M$ be a complex bundle giving a U -structure on M .

Using the splitting principle of complex vector bundles, one can define the class $c_\lambda(\xi) \in H^{2n}(M, \mathbb{Z})$ as the characteristic class corresponding to the monomial symmetric function $m_\lambda(t) = t_1^{i_1} \dots t_k^{i_k} + \dots$. Set $c_\lambda = c_{(n)}$ for $\lambda = (n)$ and $c_\lambda = c_n$ for $\lambda = (1, \dots, 1)$.

Let us define the tangent Chern class $c_\lambda(TM)$ of a U -manifold M as $c_\lambda(\xi)$.

The tangent Chern number $c_\lambda(M^{2n})$, $|\lambda| = n$, of U -manifold M^{2n} is defined as

$$c_\lambda(M^{2n}) := (c_\lambda(TM^{2n}), \langle M^{2n} \rangle).$$

We have $p(n)$ Chern numbers $c_\lambda(M^{2n})$, which depend only on the bordism class of M^{2n} . Here $p(n)$ is the number of the partitions of $n \in \mathbb{N}$.

The values $p(n)$ for $n = 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, \dots$ are $1, 2, 3, 5, 7, 11, 15, \dots$

The generating function of $p(n)$ is

$$1 + \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} p(n)x^n = \prod_{j=1}^{\infty} (1 - x^j)^{-1}.$$

In the case of cobordism classes, it is more convenient to use [the normal Chern numbers](#) $c_\lambda^\nu(M^{2n})$ for the normal bundle νM^{2n} in the form

$$c_\lambda^\nu(M^{2n}) := (c_\lambda(\nu M^{2n}), \langle M^{2n} \rangle).$$

Since $TM^{2n} + \nu M^{2n}$ is a trivial bundle, the normal Chern numbers can be expressed through the tangent Chern numbers $c_\lambda(M^{2n})$ via the formula

$$\sum_{\lambda=(\lambda', \lambda'')} c_{\lambda'}(TM^{2n}) c_{\lambda''}^\nu(\nu M^{2n}) = 0, \quad |\lambda| > 0.$$

The numbers $\{c_\lambda(M^{2n})\}$ and $\{c_\lambda^\nu(M^{2n})\}$ contain the same information about the U -manifold M^{2n} .

Theorem (Milnor, Novikov, 1960)

The graded complex bordism ring Ω^U is isomorphic to the graded polynomial ring $\mathbb{Z}[y_1, \dots, y_n, \dots]$ in variables y_n , $n \in \mathbb{N}$, $\deg y_n = 2n$.

Two closed $2n$ -dimensional U -manifolds M_1 and M_2 are U -bordant if and only if $c_\lambda(M_1) = c_\lambda(M_2)$ for all partitions λ such that $|\lambda| = n$.

The same is true for the complex cobordism ring Ω_U with the degrees of the multiplicative generators $-2n$.

In his celebrated monograph (1956), Hirzebruch introduced the characteristic class $Td(\xi)$ of complex vector bundles ξ . From his results, one can obtain

$$Td(\xi) = 1 + \sum_{n \geq 1} \frac{1}{\gamma_n} T_n(\xi),$$

where $\gamma_n = \prod_p p^{\lfloor \frac{n}{p-1} \rfloor}$, p runs through all primes, and $T_n(\xi) = T_n(c_1, \dots, c_n)$ is a homogeneous integer polynomial of $\deg 2n$ in the characteristic classes $c_k(\xi)$.

First polynomials T_n are

$$T_1 = c_1, \quad T_2 = c_2 + c_1^2, \quad T_3 = c_2 c_1, \quad T_4 = -c_4 + c_3 c_1 + 3c_2 c_1^2 - c_1^4.$$

The numbers γ_n where $\gamma_1 = 2$, $\gamma_2 = 12$, $\gamma_3 = 24$, $\gamma_4 = 720$, ... form the sequence A091137, see the On-line Encyclopedia of Integer Sequences (OEIS).

Note that $\gamma_{2n+1} = 2\gamma_{2n}$, $n > 0$.

The Todd genus $Td(M^{2n})$ of a U -manifold M^{2n} is the number $Td(M^{2n}) = (Td(\xi), \langle M^{2n} \rangle)$, where $\xi \rightarrow M^{2n}$ is a complex vector bundle giving a U -structure on the manifold M^{2n} .

Combining the Hirzebruch's construction with the Milnor–Novikov theorem, one can obtain

Theorem

The characteristic Todd class $Td(\xi)$ is uniquely determined by the fact that the Todd genus defines a unique ring homomorphism $Td: \Omega_U \rightarrow \mathbb{Z}$ such that $Td(\mathbb{C}P^n) = 1$, $n \in \mathbb{N}$.

Let's put $\beta_\lambda(n) = \prod_{q=1}^k (i_q + 1)$, where $\lambda = (i_1 \geq \dots \geq i_k)$, $|\lambda| = \sum_{q=1}^k \lambda_q = n$.

Lemma

The number $\gamma_n = \prod_p p^{\lfloor \frac{n}{p-1} \rfloor}$ is the least common multiple of the set of numbers $(\beta_\lambda(n), |\lambda| = n)$.

Corollary

1) *For any $p(n)$ -dimensional vector $(c_\lambda, |\lambda| = n) \in \mathbb{Z}^{p(n)}$, there exists a unique bordism class $[M^{2n}]$ such that $c_\lambda(TM^{2n}) = \gamma_n \cdot c_\lambda$ for any λ , $|\lambda| = n$. This class $[M^{2n}]$ is an integer polynomial in $[\mathbb{C}P^1], \dots, [\mathbb{C}P^n]$.*

2) *The number γ_n is the minimum among all numbers $\gamma \in \mathbb{N}$ for which the statement 1) is true.*

Theorem (Milnor, 1958)

Any bordism class $[M^{2n}] \in \Omega_{2n}^U$ contains a nonsingular complex algebraic variety (not necessarily connected).

The proof of this theorem uses the construction by which Milnor showed that for any non-singular complex algebraic manifold M^{2n} there exists a non-singular complex algebraic manifold \hat{M}^{2n} such that

$$[\hat{M}^{2n}] = -[M^{2n}].$$

The following Milnor-Hirzebruch problem (1958) **is still open**:

*Which sets of $p(n)$ integers c_λ , $|\lambda| = n$, can be realised as the Chern numbers $c_\lambda(M^n)$ of some smooth complex **irreducible** algebraic variety?*

According to the Milnor–Novikov theorem, this problem is equivalent to the following problem:

*Describe all the bordism classes $[M^{2n}] \in \Omega_{2n}^U$ that contain as representatives some smooth complex **irreducible** algebraic varieties.*

For $n = 1$ the solution of this problem is classical:

The cobordism class $[M^2] \in \Omega_2^U$ contains some irreducible smooth complex algebraic variety if and only if $c_1(M^2) = 2 - 2g$, $g = 0, 1, \dots$

The multiplicative transformation of cohomology theories

$$ch_U : U^*(X) \rightarrow H^*(X, \Omega_U \otimes \mathbb{Q}),$$

which for $X = \{pt\}$ is the canonical embedding $\Omega_U \subset \Omega_U \otimes \mathbb{Q} : 1 \rightarrow 1 \otimes 1$, is called the **Chern-Dold character in complex cobordism**.

Theorem (Buchstaber, 1970)

1) For every $n \in \mathbb{N}$, **there is the unique** cobordism class $[\mathcal{B}^{2n}] \in \Omega_U^{-2n}$ such that

$$c_\lambda^\nu(\mathcal{B}^{2n}) = 0 \text{ for } \lambda \neq (n) \text{ and } c_{(n)}^\nu(\mathcal{B}^{2n}) = (n+1)!.$$

2) $Td(\mathcal{B}^{2n}) = (-1)^n$.

3) The Chern-Dold character ch_U is **uniquely** defined by the formula

$$ch_U(u) = \beta(z) = z + \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} [\mathcal{B}^{2n}] \frac{z^{n+1}}{(n+1)!},$$

where $u = c_1^U(\eta) \in U^2(\mathbb{C}P^\infty)$ and $z = c_1^H(\eta) \in H^2(\mathbb{C}P^\infty; \mathbb{Z})$ are

the first Chern classes of the universal line bundle $\eta \rightarrow \mathbb{C}P^\infty$

in the complex cobordisms theory and cohomology theory respectively.

Consider the tensor product of universal bundles

$$\eta_1 \otimes_{\mathbb{C}} \eta_2 \rightarrow \mathbb{C}P^{\infty} \times \mathbb{C}P^{\infty}.$$

The formal group of geometric cobordisms is given by the series

$$c_1^U(\eta_1 \otimes_{\mathbb{C}} \eta_2) = F_U(u, v) = u + v + \sum_{i,j} a_{i,j} u^i v^j, \quad a_{i,j} \in \Omega_U^{-2(i+j-1)},$$

where $u = c_1^U(\eta_1)$, $v = c_1^U(\eta_2)$ (S.P. Novikov, A.S. Mishchenko, 1967).

Theorem (A.S. Mishchenko, 1967)

The logarithm $g(u)$ of the formal group $F_U(u, v)$ is given by the series

$$g(u) = u + \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} [\mathbb{C}P^n] \frac{u^{n+1}}{n+1}, \quad \text{i.e. } g(F_U(u, v)) = g(u) + g(v).$$

Theorem (Buchstaber, 1970)

$$F_U(u, v) = \frac{u + v + \sum_{i,j} [H_{i,j}] u^i v^j}{\mathbb{C}P(u) \mathbb{C}P(v)}, \quad \text{where } \mathbb{C}P(u) = 1 + \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} [\mathbb{C}P^n] u^n,$$

and $H_{i,j} \subset \mathbb{C}P^i \times \mathbb{C}P^j$ are smooth *irreducible* algebraic Milnor hypersurfaces. The coefficients $a_{i,j}$ of the series $F_U(u, v)$ generate the whole ring Ω_U .

Universal formal group

Consider the ring $\mathcal{L} = \mathbb{Z}[\alpha_{i,j}]$, $i, j \in \mathbb{N}$. Let us introduce the series

$$\mathcal{F}(u, v) = u + v + \sum_{i,j} \alpha_{i,j} u^i v^j \in \mathcal{L}[[u, v]]$$

and polynomials $p_{i,j,k} \in \mathcal{L}$ defined by the generating series

$$\sum_{i \geq 1, j \geq 1, k \geq 1} p_{i,j,k} u^i v^j w^k = \mathcal{F}(\mathcal{F}(u, v), w) - \mathcal{F}(u, \mathcal{F}(v, w)).$$

Let $\mathcal{J} \subset \mathcal{L}$ be the ideal generated by polynomials $\alpha_{i,j} - \alpha_{j,i}$ and $p_{i,j,k}$.

The universal one-dimensional commutative formal group is given by the series

$$F(u, v) = u + v + \sum_{i,j} b_{i,j} u^i v^j \text{ over the ring } L = \mathcal{L}/\mathcal{J},$$

where $b_{i,j}$ are the images of the coefficients $\alpha_{i,j}$ of the series $\mathcal{F}(u, v)$ under the projection $\mathcal{L} \rightarrow L$.

Theorem (Lazard, 1955)

There exists an isomorphism $L \cong \mathbb{Z}[b_1, \dots, b_n, \dots]$.

Theorem (Quillen, 1969)

The ring homomorphism $L \rightarrow \Omega_U$, which determines the formal group $F_U(u, v)$, is an isomorphism, and therefore the universal formal group $F(u, v)$ can be identified with the formal group $F_U(u, v)$ over Ω_U .

Theorem (Buchstaber, 1970)

The series

$$ch_U(u) = \beta(z) = z + \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} [\mathcal{B}^{2n}] \frac{z^{n+1}}{(n+1)!}$$

is *the exponential* of the formal group of geometric cobordisms

$$F(u, v) = u + v + \sum_{i,j} a_{i,j} u^i v^j, \quad \text{i.e.} \quad \beta(z + w) = F(\beta(z), \beta(w)).$$

Corollary

The inverse of the series $\beta(z)$ is

$$\beta^{-1}(u) = u + \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} [\mathbb{C}P^n] \frac{u^{n+1}}{n+1} = g(u), \quad \text{i.e.} \quad F(u, v) = \beta(g(u) + g(v)).$$

*The question of the existence of a smooth *irreducible* algebraic variety in the cobordism class $[\mathcal{B}^{2n}]$ had remained open since 1970.*

Let $A^{n+1} = \mathbb{C}^{n+1}/\Gamma$ be a principally polarised abelian variety (ppav).

The line bundle L , which polarizes it, has one-dimensional space of holomorphic sections generated by the classical Riemann θ -function

$$\theta(z, \tau) = \sum_{m \in \mathbb{Z}^{n+1}} \exp[\pi i(m, \tau m) + 2\pi i(m, z)], \quad z \in \mathbb{C}^{n+1}, \quad \tau^t = \tau, \quad \text{Im } \tau > 0.$$

Theorem (Andreotti & Mayer, 1967)

For a generic ppav, the theta divisor $\Theta^n \subset A^{n+1}$ given by $\theta(z, \tau) = 0$ is irreducible smooth algebraic variety of general type.

The cobordism class $[\Theta^n]$ does not depend on the choice of the abelian variety A^{n+1} .

For example,

- $\Theta^1 \cong \mathcal{C} \subset A^2 = J(\mathcal{C})$ for a smooth hyperelliptic curve \mathcal{C} of genus 2;
- $\Theta^2 \cong S^2(\mathcal{C}) \subset A^3 = J(\mathcal{C})$ for a smooth non-hyperelliptic curve \mathcal{C} of genus 3.

For $n \geq 3$, a general ppav is not Jacobian.

Theorem (Buchstaber & Veselov, 2020)

As *a representative* of $[\mathcal{B}^{2n}]$, one can take *a smooth theta divisor* Θ^n of a general principally polarised abelian variety A^{n+1} , i.e. the exponential of the universal formal group can be written in the form

$$\beta(z) = z + \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} [\Theta^n] \frac{z^{n+1}}{(n+1)!}.$$

Set $\Theta^\lambda = \Theta^{i_1} \times \cdots \times \Theta^{i_k}$, $|\lambda| = i_1 + \cdots + i_k = n$, and $(\lambda + 1)! = (i_1 + 1)! \cdots (i_k + 1)!.$

Corollary

For any smooth *irreducible* algebraic manifold Θ^λ , $\lambda = (i_1, \dots, i_k)$, $|\lambda| = n$, we have

1. $c_{\lambda'}^\vee(\Theta^\lambda) = 0$ for $\lambda' \neq \lambda$ and $c_\lambda^\vee(\Theta^\lambda) = (\lambda + 1)!;$
2. $Td(\Theta^\lambda) = (-1)^n.$

Set $\mathbb{C}P_U = \mathbb{Z}[[\mathbb{C}P^1], \dots, [\mathbb{C}P^n], \dots] \subset \Omega_U$, $\Theta_U = \mathbb{Z}[[\Theta^1], \dots, [\Theta^n], \dots] \subset \Omega_U$.

Theorem

The rings Θ_U and $\mathbb{C}P_U$ are S -modules, where S is the Landweber–Novikov algebra in the theory $U^(\cdot)$.*

Using formulas $\beta(g(u)) = u$ and $\frac{d}{du}g(u) = 1 + [\mathbb{C}P^1]u + \dots \in \mathbb{C}P_U[[u]]$ we obtain:

$$-[\Theta^1] = [\mathbb{C}P^1], \quad -[\Theta^n] = n![\mathbb{C}P^n] + \sum_{k=1}^{n-1} [\Theta^{n-k}]P_{n,k}, \quad n > 1,$$

where $P_{n,k} \in \mathbb{C}P_U$ are homogeneous polynomials of degree k with **positive** coefficients.

Theorem

$$\Theta_U \subset \mathbb{C}P_U.$$

Examples:

$$\begin{aligned} -[\Theta^2] &= 2[\mathbb{C}P^2] + 3[\Theta^1][\mathbb{C}P^1], \\ -[\Theta^3] &= 6[\mathbb{C}P^3] + 6[\Theta^2][\mathbb{C}P^1] + [\Theta^1](3[\mathbb{C}P^1]^2 + 8[\mathbb{C}P^2]). \end{aligned}$$

From the formula $F(u, v) = u + v + \sum a_{i,j} u^i v^j = \beta(g(u) + g(v))$, we obtain:

Corollary.

Any cobordism class $a_{i,j} \in \Omega_U^{-2n}$, $i + j = n + 1$, $1 \leq i, j \leq n$, can be written in the form

$$i!j!a_{i,j} = [\Theta^n] + \sum_{k=1}^{n-1} [\Theta^{n-k}] P_{i,j}^k,$$

where $P_{i,j}^k$ are homogeneous polynomials of degree k in $[\mathbb{C}P^1], \dots, [\mathbb{C}P^k]$ with **integer positive** coefficients.

Examples: $a_{1,1} = [\Theta^1]$,

$$2a_{2,1} = [\Theta^2] + [\Theta^1][\mathbb{C}P^1],$$

$$6a_{1,3} = [\Theta^3] + 3[\Theta^2][\mathbb{C}P^1] + 2[\Theta^1][\mathbb{C}P^2],$$

$$4a_{2,2} = [\Theta^3] + 2[\Theta^2][\mathbb{C}P^1] + [\Theta^1][\mathbb{C}P^1]^2.$$

Lemma (Buchstaber, 1970)

The Todd class $Td_U(\xi)$ of a complex vector bundle ξ over a CW-complex X with values in $H^(X, \Omega_U \otimes \mathbb{Q})$ is uniquely defined by the following properties:*

1) *For every two complex vector bundles ξ_1 and ξ_2 over X ,*

$$Td_U(\xi_1 \oplus \xi_2) = Td_U(\xi_1) Td_U(\xi_2);$$

2) *For any U -manifold M^{2n} ,*

$$(Td_U(TM^{2n}), \langle M^{2n} \rangle) = [M^{2n}].$$

Theorem (Buchstaber & Veselov, 2020)

The Todd class of ξ can be expressed in terms of theta divisors by the formula

$$Td_U(\xi) = 1 + \sum_{\lambda} c_{\lambda}(-\xi) \frac{[\Theta^{\lambda}]}{(\lambda + 1)!},$$

where the sum is over all partitions $\lambda = (i_1, \dots, i_k)$ such that $0 < |\lambda| \leq \dim_{\mathbb{C}} \xi$,

$\Theta^{\lambda} = \Theta^{i_1} \times \dots \times \Theta^{i_k}$, and $(\lambda + 1)! = (i_1 + 1)! \dots (i_k + 1)!$.

Lemma

The number $\gamma_n = \prod_p p^{\lfloor \frac{n}{p-1} \rfloor}$, $n \in \mathbb{N}$, is the least common multiple of the set of numbers $((\lambda + 1)!, |\lambda| = n)$.

Set $b_\lambda = \frac{\gamma_n}{(\lambda+1)!} \in \mathbb{N}$. Then $(b_\lambda : |\lambda| = n)$ is the vector of mutually-prime numbers.

$$n = 1 : \lambda = (1), \gamma_1 = 2, b_\lambda = 1.$$

$$n = 2 : \lambda = ((2), (1, 1)), \gamma_2 = 12, (b_\lambda) = (2, 3).$$

$$n = 3 : \lambda = ((3), (2, 1), (1, 1, 1)), \gamma_3 = 24, (b_\lambda) = (1, 2, 3).$$

Let us introduce the characteristic Θ_U -polynomials of complex vector bundles $\xi \rightarrow X$ by

$$T_{U,n}(\xi) = \sum_{|\lambda|=n} b_\lambda c_\lambda(-\xi)[\Theta^\lambda] \in H^{2n}(X; \Theta_U), \quad n \geq 1.$$

Theorem

$$Td_U(\xi) = 1 + \sum_{n \geq 1} \frac{1}{\gamma_n} T_{U,n}(\xi).$$

Theorem

For any $p(n)$ -dimensional vector $(c_\lambda, |\lambda| = n) \in \mathbb{Z}^{p(n)}$, there exists a U -manifold $M^{2n}(c_\lambda)$ whose cobordism class is uniquely determined by the condition

$$c_\lambda^\nu(M^{2n}(c_\lambda)) = \gamma_n \cdot c_\lambda \quad \text{for any } \lambda, |\lambda| = n.$$

Thus:

1. For any vector $(c_\lambda, |\lambda| = n) \in \mathbb{Z}^{p(n)}$,

$$\sum_{|\lambda|=n} b_\lambda c_\lambda [\Theta^\lambda] = [M^{2n}(c_\lambda)] \in \Theta_U.$$

2. For any U -manifold M^{2n} ,

$$\gamma_n[M^{2n}] = \sum_{|\lambda|=n} b_\lambda c_\lambda^\nu(M^{2n})[\Theta^\lambda] \in \Theta_U.$$

Example:

$$12[\mathbb{C}P^2] = 2c_{(2)}^\nu(\mathbb{C}P^2)[\Theta^2] + 3c_{(1,1)}^\nu(\mathbb{C}P^2)[\Theta^1]^2,$$

where $c_{(2)}^\nu(\mathbb{C}P^2) = -3$, $c_{(1,1)}^\nu(\mathbb{C}P^2) = 6$. Thus $2[\mathbb{C}P^2] = -[\Theta^2] + 3[\Theta^1]^2$.

A quasitoric manifold M^{2n} is a U -manifold with a chose of

1. The effective action of a compact torus T^n whose set of fixed points is finite.
2. An equivariant isomorphism

$$c: TM^{2n} \oplus (2N - 2n)\mathbb{R} \rightarrow r\xi,$$

where ξ is a fixed N -dimensional complex vector T^n -bundle over M^{2n} .

3. Mappings

$$\psi: V \rightarrow \{\Lambda_i : i = 1, \dots, q\}, \quad \varepsilon: [q] \rightarrow \{\pm 1\},$$

where $V = (v_1, \dots, v_q) \subset M^{2n}$ is the set of the fixed points of the T^n -action, $\psi(i) = \Lambda_i = (\Lambda_i^1, \dots, \Lambda_i^n)$ is the set of non-trivial weights of the representation ϱ_i of the torus T^n in $TM_{v_i}^{2n}$, and $\varepsilon(i)$ is the sign of the fixed point v_i .

For projective toric manifolds and also for the quasi-toric manifolds with equivariant almost complex structures, we have $\varepsilon(i) = 1$ for all $i \in [q]$.

Theorem (Buchstaber–Panov–Ray, 2010)

Let M^{2n} be some quasitoric manifold. Then

$$\sum_{i=1}^q \varepsilon(i) \prod_{j=1}^n \frac{1}{\beta(\langle \Lambda_i^j, x \rangle)} = \mathcal{L}(M^{2n})(x),$$

where $x = (x_1, \dots, x_n)$, and $\mathcal{L}(M^{2n})(x)$ is the symmetrical series in x such that $\mathcal{L}(M^{2n})(0) = [M^{2n}]$.

Corollary

For any quasitoric manifold M^{2n} , the formula

$$\gamma_n \mathcal{L}(M^{2n})(0) = \sum_{|\lambda|=n} b_\lambda c_\lambda^\nu(M^{2n}) [\Theta^\lambda]$$

gives the local formulas for the Chern numbers $c_\lambda^\nu(M^{2n})$ for any λ , $|\lambda| = n$.

Example. Set $a = x_1 - x_2$, $b = x_2 - x_1$, $c = x_3 - x_1$. Then

$$\mathcal{L}(\mathbb{C}P^2)(x) = \frac{1}{\beta(-a)\beta(c)} + \frac{1}{\beta(-b)\beta(a)} + \frac{1}{\beta(-c)\beta(b)} = \frac{1}{2}(3[\Theta_1^1]^2 - [\Theta^2]) + o(x).$$

We obtain

$$\frac{1}{2}(3[\Theta^1]^2 - [\Theta^2]) = c_{(1,1)}^\nu(\mathbb{C}P^2) \frac{[\Theta^1]^2}{4} + c_{(2)}^\nu(\mathbb{C}P^2) \frac{[\Theta^2]}{3!},$$

i.e. $c_{(1,1)}^\nu(\mathbb{C}P^2) = 6$ and $c_{(2)}^\nu(\mathbb{C}P^2) = -3$.

The group S_{n+1} acts on \mathbb{R}^{n+1} by permuting the coordinates. Denote by $\sigma_i \in S_{n+1}$ the permutation of the i -th and $(i+1)$ -th coordinates for $i = 1, \dots, n$.

The regular n -dimensional permutohedron $\Pi^n \subset \mathbb{R}^{n+1}$, $n = 0, 1, \dots$, is the convex hull of the S_{n+1} -orbit $(\sigma v_*, \sigma \in S_{n+1})$ of the point $v_* = (0, 1, \dots, n)$.

The polyhedron Π^n is simple. Its vertex v_* is connected by edges to n vertices $\sigma_i v_*$, $i = 1, \dots, n$.

Consider the standard action of the algebraic torus $(\mathbb{C}^*)^{n+1} \subset \mathbb{C}^{n+1}$ on the manifold $Fl(\mathbb{C}^{n+1})$ of complete complex flags in \mathbb{C}^{n+1} .

The permutohedral variety M_Π^n is the compactification of the orbit $(\mathbb{C}^*)^{n+1} w$ of a general point $w \in Fl(\mathbb{C}^{n+1})$.

The toric variety M_Π^n is a smooth irreducible projective algebraic manifold with the effective action of a compact torus $T^n = T^{n+1}/T_*^1$, where $T^{n+1} \subset (\mathbb{C}^*)^{n+1}$ and $T_*^1 \subset T^{n+1}$ is the diagonal subgroup.

The image of the moment map $\mu: M_{\Pi}^n \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^{n+1}$ is the permutohedron Π^n whose vertices correspond to the fixed points $\mu^{-1}(\sigma v_*)$ under the action of the torus T^n on M_{Π}^n , where $v_* = (0, 1, \dots, n)$.

It follows from the theory of toric manifolds that the vectors $\Lambda_*^1 = (1, -1, 0, \dots, 0), \dots, \Lambda_*^n(0, \dots, 0, 1, -1)$ are the weights under the action of the torus T^n in the tangent space $T(M_{\Pi}^n)_{w_*}$ where $w_* = \mu^{-1}(v_*)$.

All fixed points are of sign "+".

Corollary

$$\sum_{\sigma \in S_{n+1}} \sigma \prod_{i=1}^n \frac{1}{\beta(x_i - x_{i+1})} = \mathcal{L}(M_{\Pi}^n)(x), \text{ where } \mathcal{L}(M_{\Pi}^n)(0) = [M_{\Pi}^n].$$

Examples: $[M_{\Pi}^1] = -[\Theta^1], \quad [M_{\Pi}^2] = [\Theta^2].$

Set $\Delta_n = \prod_{1 \leq i < j \leq n} (x_i - x_j)$. The Weil operator W_n is the linear operator

$$W_n: \mathbb{Q}[[x_1, \dots, x_n]] \rightarrow \text{Sym}_n, \quad W_n(x^\xi) = \frac{1}{\Delta_n} \sum_{\sigma \in S_n} \text{sign}(\sigma) \sigma(x^\xi),$$

where $\text{Sym}_n \subset \mathbb{Q}[[x_1, \dots, x_n]]$ is the ring of symmetric power series, $\xi = (j_1, \dots, j_n)$, and $x^\xi = x_1^{j_1} \cdots x_n^{j_n}$.

From the definition of the Schur polynomials $Sh_\lambda(x_1, \dots, x_n)$, $\lambda = (\lambda_1 \geq \dots \geq \lambda_n \geq 0)$, it follows that

$$W_n(x^{\lambda+\delta}) = Sh_\lambda(x_1, \dots, x_n), \quad \delta = (n-1, n-2, \dots, 1, 0).$$

We have $W_n(x^\delta) = 1$, $W_n(\Delta_n(x)) = n!$. Moreover

- $W_n(x^\xi) = 0$ if $j_1 \geq \dots \geq j_n \geq 0$ and $\xi \neq \lambda + \delta$ for some $\lambda = (\lambda_1 \geq \dots \geq \lambda_n \geq 0)$;
- $W_n(x^\xi) = \text{sign}(\sigma) W_n(\sigma x^\xi)$ where $\xi = (j_1, \dots, j_n)$ and $\sigma \xi = \xi'$, $\xi' = (j'_1 \geq \dots \geq j'_n \geq 0)$;
- W_n is homomorphism of Sym_n -modules.

Choose a series $a(z) = 1 + \sum_{m \geq 1} a_m z^m$ and consider the series $b(z) = z + \sum_{m \geq 1} b_m z^{m+1}$ such that $a(z)b(-z) = -z$.

Set $\tilde{a}(z) = 1 + \sum_{m=1}^n a_m z^m$ and let's introduce the polynomials

$$\pi_n(x) = \tilde{\Delta}_{n+1}(x) \prod_{i=1}^n \tilde{a}(x_i - x_{i+1}) \quad \text{where} \quad \tilde{\Delta}_{n+1}(x) \prod_{i=1}^n (x_i - x_{i+1}) = \Delta_{n+1}(x).$$

Theorem (*)

For any $n \geq 1$, $W_{n+1}(\pi_n(x))|_{x=0} = (n+1)!b_n$.

Examples:

$$x^\delta = x_1 : \pi_1(x) = \tilde{a}(x_1 - x_2) = 1 + a_1(x_1 - x_2)$$

$$W_2(\pi_1(x)) = 2a_1 = 2b_1$$

$$\begin{aligned} x^\delta = x_1^2 x_2 : \pi_2(x) &= (x_1 - x_3) \tilde{a}(x_1 - x_2) \tilde{a}(x_2 - x_3) = \\ &= 1 + \dots + a_1^2(x_1 - x_2)(x_2 - x_3)(x_1 - x_3) + a_2(x_1 - x_3)[(x_1 - x_2)^2 + (x_2 - x_3)^2] + \dots \end{aligned}$$

$$W_3(\pi_2(x)) = 6(a_1^2 - a_2) = 6b_2$$

Consider the series $\beta(z) = z + \sum_{n \geq 1} [\Theta^n] \frac{z^{n+1}}{(n+1)!}$ and take the series $a(z)$ such that $a(z)\beta(-z) = -z$. Then from the Buchstaber–Panov–Ray Theorem (2010),

$$\mathcal{L}(M_{\Pi}^n)(x) = W_{n+1} \left(\tilde{\Delta}_{n+1} \prod_{i=1}^n a(x_i - x_{i+1}) \right),$$

where W_{n+1} is the Weyl operator.

Theorem (Buchstaber & Veselov, 2023)

The cobordism classes of permutohedral manifolds M_{Π}^n and Θ -divisors Θ^n are related by the formula

$$[M_{\Pi}^n] = (-1)^n [\Theta^n], \quad n = 0, 1, \dots$$

Thus the Chern–Dold character ch_U is uniquely determined by the formula

$$ch_U(\Psi^{-1}(u)) = z + \sum_{n \geq 1} [M_{\Pi}^n] \frac{z^{n+1}}{(n+1)!},$$

where $\Psi^{-1}(u) = -\bar{u}$ is the Adams–Novikov operation in the theory $U^(\cdot)$ and $\bar{u} = \varphi(u)$ is the series such that $F_U(u, \bar{u}) = 0$.*

The first assertion follows from Theorem (*). The second assertion follows from the first one and the properties of the Chern–Dold character.

The Hirzebruch genus of theta divisors

Consider an algebra \mathcal{A} without additive torsion. The Hirzebruch genus of U -manifolds is given by the ring homomorphism $\Phi : \Omega_U \rightarrow \mathcal{A}$ determined by the characteristic power series

$$Q_\Phi(z) = 1 + \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} a_n z^n, \quad a_n \in \mathcal{A} \otimes \mathbb{Q}.$$

Theorem (Buchstaber & Veselov, 2020)

The exponential generating function of Hirzebruch genera $\{\Phi(\Theta^n), n \in \mathbb{N}\}$ of theta divisors is

$$\beta_\Phi(z) = z + \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \Phi(\Theta^n) \frac{z^{n+1}}{(n+1)!} = \frac{z}{Q_\Phi(z)}.$$

Since the ring Ω_U is generated by the coefficients of series $F_U(u, v)$, we have

Corollary

The series $Q(z) \in \mathcal{A} \otimes \mathbb{Q}$ defines the Hirzebruch genus $\Phi : \Omega_U \rightarrow \mathcal{A}$ if and only if all the coefficients of the formal group law

$$F_\Phi(u, v) = \beta_\Phi(\beta_\Phi^{-1}(u) + \beta_\Phi^{-1}(v))$$

belong to the ring \mathcal{A} .

The classical Todd genus $Td : \Omega_U \rightarrow \mathbb{Z}$ is given by the series

$$Q(z) = \frac{z}{1 - e^{-z}} \in \mathbb{Q}[[z]],$$

which defines **the exponential** of the group $F_{Td}(u, v) = u + v - uv$. Therefore

$$z + \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} Td(\Theta^n) \frac{z^{n+1}}{(n+1)!} = 1 - e^{-z} = z + \sum_{n \in \mathbb{N}} (-1)^n \frac{z^{n+1}}{(n+1)!}.$$

Thus, the Todd genus of the theta divisors Θ^n is $Td(\Theta^n) = (-1)^n$.

For any U -manifold M^{2n} , the Todd genus is given by the formula

$$Td(M^{2n}) = (-1)^n \sum_{|\lambda|=n} \frac{1}{(\lambda+1)!} c_{\lambda}^{\vee}(M^{2n}) = \frac{(-1)^n}{\gamma_n} \sum_{|\lambda|=n} b_{\lambda} c_{\lambda}^{\vee}(M^{2n}) \in \mathbb{Z}.$$

Example

Let $c_{\lambda}^{\vee}(M^{2n}) = 0$ if $\lambda \neq \lambda_*$. Then $c_{\lambda_*}^{\vee}(M^{2n})$ is divisible by $(\lambda_* + 1)!$.

Corollary

1. Let M^{2n} be a projective toric manifold. Then

$$\sum_{|\lambda|=n} b_{\lambda} c_{\lambda}^{\vee}(M^{2n}) = (-1)^n \gamma_n.$$

2. Let M^{2n} be a quasitoric manifold with an equivariant almost complex structure. Then

$$(-1)^n \sum_{|\lambda|=n} b_{\lambda} c_{\lambda}^{\vee}(M^{2n}) > 0.$$

For any U -manifold M^{2n} , the integer

$$c_n(M^{2n}) = (c_n(TM^{2n}), \langle M^{2n} \rangle)$$

determines the Hirzebruch genus $c: \Omega_U \rightarrow \mathbb{Z}$.

If a U -manifold M^{2n} is **complex** or **almost complex**, then the number $c_n(M^{2n})$ is equal to **the Euler characteristic** $\chi(M^{2n})$ of the manifold M^{2n} .

Since $\chi(\mathbb{C}P^n) = n + 1$, the Hirzebruch genus c corresponds to the formal group

$$F_c(u, v) = \frac{u + v - 2uv}{1 - uv}$$

with the **logarithm** $\frac{u}{1-u}$ and the exponential $\beta_c(z) = \frac{z}{1+z}$.

Since Θ^n are **complex** manifolds and $Q(z) = 1 + z$, we have

$$z + \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \chi(\Theta^n) \frac{z^{n+1}}{(n+1)!} = \frac{z}{1+z}.$$

Hence the Euler characteristic of the theta divisor Θ^n is $\chi(\Theta^n) = (-1)^n(n+1)!$

For $n \in \mathbb{N}$, denote by $\tau(M^{4n})$ the signature of the quadratic intersection form on the homology space $H_{2n}(M^{4n}; \mathbb{Q})$ of an oriented manifold. Set $\tau(M^{4n-2}) = 0$.

Since $\tau(\mathbb{C}P^{4n}) = 1$ and $\tau(\mathbb{C}P^{4n-2}) = 0$, the map $\tau: \Omega_U^{-2n} \rightarrow \mathbb{Z}$ gives the Hirzebruch L -genus with the characteristic series $Q(z) = \frac{z}{\tanh z}$.

The L -genus corresponds to the formal group

$$F_L(u, v) = \frac{u + v}{1 + uv}$$

with the exponential $\beta_L(z) = \tanh z$. Since

$$\frac{z}{Q(z)} = \tanh z = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} 2^{2n+2} (2^{2n+2} - 1) B_{2n+2} \frac{z^{2n+1}}{(2n+2)!},$$

we have $\tau(\Theta^{2n-1}) = 0$, $\tau(\Theta^{2n}) = \frac{2^{2n+2}(2^{2n+2}-1)}{2n+2} B_{2n+2}$,

where B_n are the classical Bernoulli numbers: $B_{2n+1} = 0$, $n > 0$, and

$$B_0 = 1, B_1 = -\frac{1}{2}, B_2 = \frac{1}{6}, B_4 = -\frac{1}{30}, B_6 = \frac{1}{42}, B_8 = -\frac{1}{30}, B_{10} = \frac{5}{66}, \dots$$

Example. $\tau(\Theta^2) = -2$; $\tau(\Theta^4) = 16$.

The **Betti numbers** of the theta divisors Θ^n can be computed via the Lefschetz hyperplane theorem (Izadi–Wang, 2015).

Theorem

The homomorphism

$$i_* : H_k(\Theta^n, \mathbb{Z}) \rightarrow H_k(A^{n+1}, \mathbb{Z}), \quad i_* : \pi_k(\Theta^n) \rightarrow \pi_k(A^{n+1}),$$

induced by the embedding $i : \Theta^n \rightarrow A^{n+1}$, is an isomorphism for $k < n$ and an epimorphism for $k = n$.

Using Poincare duality, we obtain **all Betti numbers of Θ^n**

$$b_k(\Theta^n) = b_k(A^{n+1}) = \binom{2n+2}{k} = b_{2n-k}(\Theta^n) \text{ for } k < n.$$

Using the formula for the Euler characteristic, we obtain

$$b_n(\Theta^n) = (n+1)! + \frac{n}{n+2} \binom{2n+2}{n+1} = (n+1)! + nC_{n+1},$$

where $C_n = \frac{1}{n+1} \binom{2n}{n}$ is the n -th Catalan number.

The group $H^*(\Theta^n; \mathbb{Z})$ is **torsion-free**. The **multiplicative** structure of the ring $H^*(\Theta^n; \mathbb{Z})$ has **not** yet been fully described.

Let $H^{p,q}(X)$ be the Dolbeault cohomology group of a complex n -dimensional manifold X , and set $h^{p,q}(X) = \dim H^{p,q}(X)$.

Following Hirzebruch, consider the index of the elliptic operator

$$\bar{\partial} : \Omega^{p,q}(X) \rightarrow \Omega^{p,q+1}(X)$$

for fixed p and the corresponding index

$$\chi^p(X) := \sum_{q=0}^n (-1)^q h^{p,q}(X).$$

For $p = 0$, this is [the holomorphic Euler characteristic](#), which coincides with the Todd genus of X : $\chi^0(X) = Td(X)$ and is related to [the arithmetic genus](#) $\chi_a(X)$ by the formula

$$\chi_a(X) = (-1)^n (\chi^0(X) - 1).$$

To compute $\chi^p(X)$ for $p > 0$, introduce the generating polynomial

$$\chi_y(X) := \sum_{p=0}^n \chi^p(X) y^p.$$

Theorem (Hirzebruch, 1956)

The value of $\chi_y(X)$ can be given by the Hirzebruch genus with the generating power series

$$Q(x) = \frac{x(1 + ye^{-x(1+y)})}{1 - e^{-x(1+y)}}.$$

Applying now our general formula, we have

$$\sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \chi_y(\Theta^n) \frac{x^{n+1}}{(n+1)!} = \frac{1 - e^{-x(1+y)}}{1 + ye^{-x(1+y)}}.$$

Since

$$\frac{1 - e^{-x(1+y)}}{1 + ye^{-x(1+y)}} = \frac{e^{yx} - e^{-x}}{e^{yx} + ye^{-x}},$$

we obtain a particular case of the two-parameter Todd genus $Td_{s,t}$, $s = y$, $t = -1$.

Thus we have the following result.

Theorem

The χ_y -genus of the theta divisor Θ^n can be written in the form

$$\chi_y(\Theta^n) = (-1)^n A_{n+1}(-y),$$

where $A_n(s) = \sum_{k=0}^{n-1} A_{n,k} s^k$ is the Eulerian polynomial. In particular,

$$\chi^p(\Theta^n) = (-1)^{n-p} A_{n+1,p},$$

where $A_{n,p}$ are the Eulerian numbers.

The polynomials $A_n(s)$ were defined by Euler in 1755 by the relation

$$\sum_{k=1}^{\infty} k^n t^n = \frac{t A_n(t)}{(1-t)^{n+1}}.$$

Finally, we obtain all the Hodge numbers of the theta divisors:

Theorem

The Hodge numbers $h^{p,q}(\Theta^n)$ of the theta divisor Θ^n are given by

$$h^{p,q}(\Theta^n) = h^{p,q}(A^{n+1}) = \binom{n+1}{p} \binom{n+1}{q}, \quad p+q \leq n-1,$$

$$h^{p,q}(\Theta^n) = \binom{n+1}{n-p} \binom{n+1}{n-q} = \binom{n+1}{p+1} \binom{n+1}{q+1}, \quad p+q \geq n+1,$$

while for $p+q = n$ we have

$$h^{p,n-p}(\Theta^n) = A_{n+1,p} - S_{n,p},$$

where $A_{n,p}$ are the Eulerian numbers and $S_{n,p}$ is given by

$$S_{n,p} = (-1)^p \binom{n+2}{p+1} \left[(-1)^p \frac{2p-n}{n+2} \binom{n+1}{p} + \sum_{k=0}^{p-1} (-1)^k \binom{n+1}{k} \right].$$

Hodge symmetry: $h^{p,q} = h^{q,p}$; Serre duality: $h^{p,q} = h^{n-p,n-q}$.

The Hodge diamonds $\{h^{p,q} : p+q=2n; 0 \leq p, q \leq n\}$ of the theta divisors Θ^n have the following form (with Betti numbers shown in the right column):

for $n = 2$:

	1		1
	3	3	6
3	10	3	16
	3	3	6
	1		1

for $n = 3$:

			1				1			
			4			4				8
		6		1 6			6			28
	4		2 9			29		4		66
		6		1 6			6			28
			4			4				8
				1						1

for $n = 4$:

			1				1
			5		5		10
		10		25		10	45
	10		50		50		120
5		66		146		66	288
	10		50		50		120
		10		25		10	45
			5		5		10
				1			1



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Thank you for your attention!