

ERRATA AND COMMENTS ON PUBLICATIONS

ALEKSANDAR MILIVOJEVIĆ

The weak form of Hirzebruch’s prize question via rational surgery, [13].

- **Inconsequential errata.** Two silly typos that appeared during the process of extracting and reorganizing the argument as given in my thesis Section 3.5 (where these typos do not appear): First, on p.5, in the second iteration of writing the degree 24 part of the \hat{A} , the minus sign in front should be in the numerator alongside $769728p_2^3$, as it is a few lines above. The correct expression (the one given a few lines above) is the one used later on. Second, in the middle of p.6: “Hence, $\hat{A}(M, TM \otimes \mathbb{C}) = 1$ ” should of course say “Hence, $\hat{A}(M, TM \otimes \mathbb{C}) = 0$ ” (and $= 0$ is used in the next line and throughout).

On the minimal sum of Betti numbers on an almost complex manifold, [1].

- **Inconsequential erratum.** The following statement at the beginning of Section 4 is incorrect: “By Adams’ solution of the Hopf invariant one problem, any $2n$ -dimensional manifold admitting a minimal cellular decomposition with three cells (that is, one 0-cell, one n -cell, and one $2n$ -cell) has the homotopy type of $\mathbb{R}P^2$, $\mathbb{C}P^2$, $\mathbb{H}P^2$, or $\mathbb{O}P^2$ ”. The claim is true for $2n = 2$ and $2n = 4$. There are six such homotopy types for $2n = 8$, and sixty homotopy types for $2n = 16$ by Eells–Kuiper, all realized by closed PL manifolds [6, p.1].

As far as I can tell, whether or not there are such closed *smooth* manifolds with distinct homotopy types is not explicitly addressed in [6]. In any case, Kramer addresses this in [8]. Namely, he builds closed topological manifolds, called “models” and denoted $M_{a,b}$ in a given dimension (with dimensions 8 and 16 being of interest), which cover all the possible above enumerated homotopy types.

In dimension 8, $M_{1+2t,s}$ is smoothable if and only if $s = 0$ and $t \equiv 0, 7, 48, 55 \pmod{56}$. In dimension 16, $M_{7(1+2u),s}$ is smoothable if and only if $s = 0$ and $u \equiv 0, 127, 16128, 16255 \pmod{16256}$ [8, Theorem 7.4].

As for homotopy types: in dimension 8, $M_{r,s}$ is homotopy equivalent to $M_{r',s'}$ if and only if $r + 12s \equiv \pm(r' + 12s') \pmod{24}$, and in dimension 16, $M_{r,s}$ is homotopy equivalent to $M_{r',s'}$ if and only if $r + 60s \equiv \pm(r' + 60s') \pmod{240}$ [8, Theorem 8.4].

In dimension 8 we can thus take $M_{1,0}$ and $M_{15,0}$ to obtain smooth projective plane-like manifolds with distinct homotopy types. In dimension 16 we can take $M_{7,0}$ and $M_{1785,0}$.

These manifolds indeed have cell decompositions with three cells: by [8, Proposition 2.3] and [8, Corollary 2.6] they are simply connected with integral cohomology ring $\mathbb{Z}[x]/(x^3)$, and hence by a result of Smale (see e.g. [15, Proposition 4.1]) they have the desired cell decomposition.

Another proof of the persistence of Serre symmetry in the Frölicher spectral sequence.

- **Inconsequential erratum.** In [9, p.1], “or more generally, *Moišezon*” should be “or more generally, in Fujiki class \mathcal{C} ”.

Spin^h and further generalisations of spin, [2].

- **Consequential erratum**, published corrigendum: <https://www.sciencedirect.com/science/article/pii/S0393044022002595>. In short, we do not have a proof that all orientable non-compact 6- and 7-manifolds admit spin^h structures. It is true that all compact orientable

manifolds of dimension ≤ 7 are spin^h , and in fact the compactness assumption can be removed in dimension ≤ 5 . We realized we could prove this without invoking [4] at all, and instead using earlier results of Atiyah, Dupont, and Hirsch. In dimensions 6 and 7 we can get that non-compact orientable 6- and 7-manifolds are spin^h under the additional assumption that all 4-torsion in $H^5(-; \mathbb{Z})$ is also 2-torsion.

The statement in the paragraph preceding [2, Remark 3.5], that every orientable n -manifold is $\text{spin}^{n-\alpha(n)}$ (where $\alpha(n)$ is the number of one's in the binary expansion of n) should at least be qualified with a compactness assumption. Removing the compactness assumption, we can of course appeal to Whitney's immersion theorem to conclude that every orientable n -manifold is spin^{n-1} ; likewise for [2, Section 5].

On the topology of the space of almost complex structures on the six sphere, [7].

- **Inconsequential erratum** (the claim in question is a footnote not relevant to any argument in the paper). The argument given for the uniqueness (up to homotopy) of the lift to $BSU(3)$ from $BU(3)$ in [7, footnote on p.1270] is incorrect (cf. the inclusion of the homotopy fiber $\mathbb{Z}/2$ into the total space $B SO$ of the fibration $B SO \rightarrow B O$ being nullhomotopic as well). Of course, the lifts up to homotopy through lifts is a torsor over $H^1(M; \mathbb{Z})$. What the argument is showing is that there is a unique lift up to homotopy (not necessarily through lifts). Indeed, BU splits as $BSU \times BS^1$; a map to BU is thus a pair of maps (f_1, f_2) which then has a unique lift (up to homotopy) to BSU , namely f_1 .

Realization for almost complex manifolds.

- **Consequential erratum (fixed in published version)**. The realizability claim in dimensions $4k$ when the signature and Euler characteristic are zero in [10, p.1678, (1)] and [12, Corollary 3.1.2] needs the additional assumption that the quadratic form is in the image of the integral Witt ring; this is fixed in the published version [11, Corollary 6.4].
- **Improvement (included in published version)**. The restriction to dimensions not being congruent to four mod eight can be removed in [10, p.1677, Corollary] and [12, Corollary 3.1.1]; see the published version [11, Corollary 6.1].
- **Comment**. This is a comment on the following lemma used in [11], [12]: a homotopy commutative square of simply connected spaces

$$\begin{array}{ccc} A & \longrightarrow & B \\ \downarrow & & \downarrow \\ C & \longrightarrow & D \end{array}$$

where the vertical maps are rationalizations, is a homotopy pullback if and only if it is a homotopy pushout. This is a special case of [14, Lemma 6.1], used as [11, Proposition 5.5] (where the simply-connected assumption should have been made explicit) and [12, Lemma 2.3.4] (where it is properly stated). There is a sketch of proof of this statement in [14, Lemma 6.1], but I would like to point out that the “pullback implies pushout” direction is covered in detail in [3, Proposition 3.1].

It was a general question of Milgram on when fibrations are also cofibrations. See [3, p.1] for further discussion and references to a proof that (in particular), for a rationalization map $X \rightarrow X_{\mathbb{Q}}$ where X is simply connected, the fibration $F \rightarrow X \rightarrow X_{\mathbb{Q}}$, where F is the homotopy fiber, is also a cofibration.

To show the “pushout implies pullback” direction of [14, Lemma 6.1], we apply the above to the fibrations $F \rightarrow A \rightarrow C$ and $F' \rightarrow B \rightarrow D$. Then we extend both cofibration sequences to the right and consider the induced map on suspensions $\Sigma F \rightarrow \Sigma F'$. By assumption this map is an isomorphism on homotopy groups. Since F and F' are both connected, these spaces are simply connected and hence the map is an isomorphism on homology. This lets us conclude that the map $F \rightarrow F'$ is a homology isomorphism. Note that F and F' are connected, and are

nilpotent, being the homotopy fibers of maps of nilpotent spaces [5, Corollary 7.2] (in fact, only having nilpotent domain suffices). By Dror's generalized Whitehead theorem [5, §4.3], this map is a weak homotopy equivalence and hence the diagram is a homotopy pullback.

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MAX PLANCK INSTITUTE FOR MATHEMATICS, VIVATSGASSE 7, 53111 BONN
 Email address: milivojevic@mpim-bonn.mpg.de