

A Low-Dimensional Counterexample to the HK-Conjecture



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The HK-Conjecture

Conjecture (Matui)

Let \mathcal{G} be a groupoid that is 2nd countable, locally compact Hausdorff, étale, essentially principal, minimal, and ample. Then

$$K_*(C_r^*(\mathcal{G})) \cong \bigoplus_i H_{2i+*}(\mathcal{G}).$$

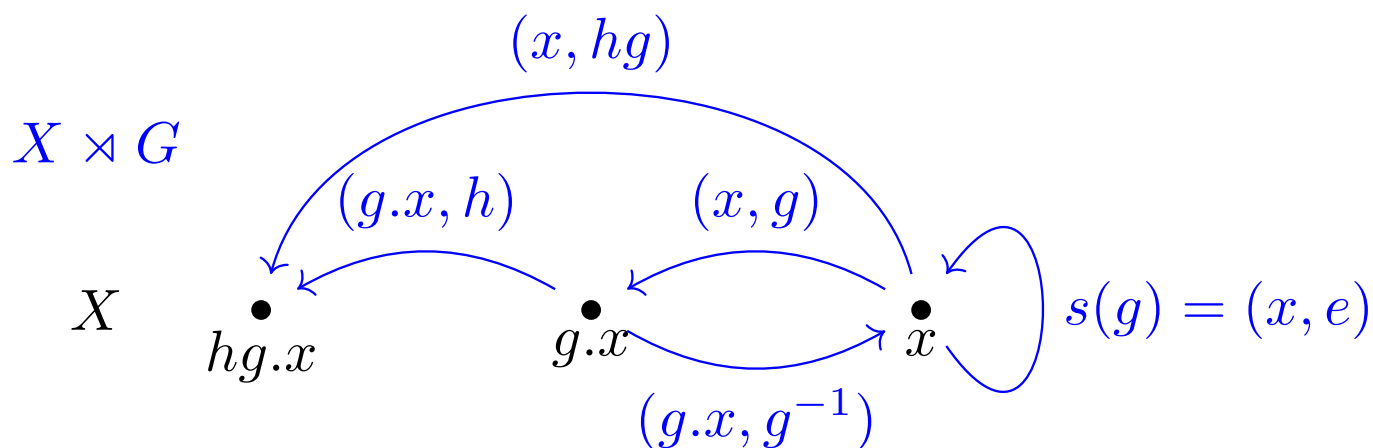
Some results:

Positive	Negative
AF groupoids [M '15, FKPS '19]	Certain generalized odometers [S '20, D '23]
Groupoids from shifts of finite type [M '15]	Certain non-free actions on the Cantor set [OS '21]
Certain k -graph groupoids [FKPS '19]	
Dynamic asymptotic dimension ≤ 2 [BDGW '23]	
<i>Principal</i>	<i>ess principal</i>

Action Groupoids

Let X be a space and G a (topological) group acting on X

The **action groupoid** is $X \rtimes G := X \times G$ with composition encoding group multiplication



$X \rtimes G$ is:

- étale $\iff G$ is discrete
- principal and minimal $\iff G \curvearrowright X$ freely and minimally (resp.)
- ample $\iff X$ is a Cantor set

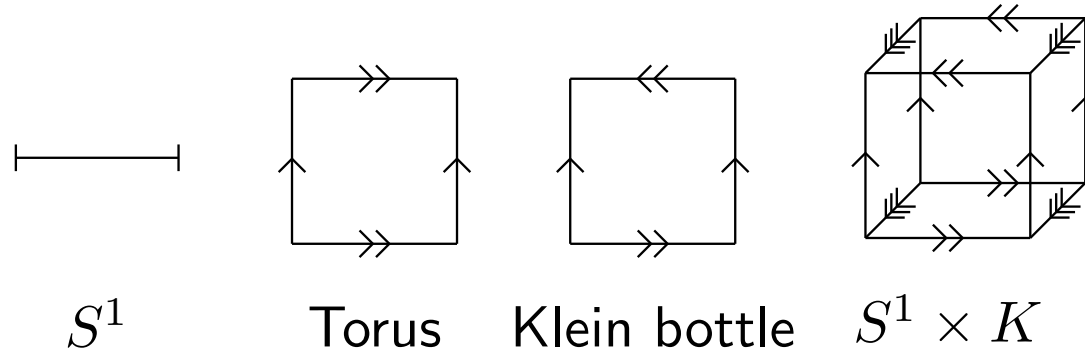
Flat Manifolds

Definition

A **flat manifold** Y is a closed Riemannian d -manifold with zero curvature.

- $Y \cong \frac{\mathbb{R}^d}{\pi_1(Y)}$ and $\pi_1(Y)$ is a torsionfree subgroup of $O(n) \ltimes \mathbb{R}^d$

Examples:



Theorem (Epstein–Shub '68)

Let Y be a flat manifold. Then there exists a locally expansive surjection $g : Y \rightarrow Y$. Moreover, g is an n -fold cover for some $n \geq 2$.

Generalized Odometers

Let Y be a flat manifold and $g : Y \rightarrow Y$ an expansive self-cover.

Construct a Cantor set $\Omega = \varprojlim \left(\frac{\pi_1(Y)}{g_*^i \pi_1(Y)}, \text{coset inclusion} \right)$.

Then $\pi_1(Y) \curvearrowright \Omega$ by group multiplication.

The action groupoid $\mathcal{G} = \Omega \rtimes \pi_1(Y)$ is a **generalized odometer**.

Example ($Y = S^1 \subseteq \mathbb{C}$ and $g : Y \rightarrow Y$ is $g(z) = z^2$)

$$\frac{\mathbb{Z}}{2\mathbb{Z}} \xleftarrow{\times 2} \frac{\mathbb{Z}}{4\mathbb{Z}} \xleftarrow{\times 2} \frac{\mathbb{Z}}{8\mathbb{Z}} \xleftarrow{\times 2} \dots$$

In binary: $\frac{\mathbb{Z}}{2\mathbb{Z}} = \{0, 1\}$, $\frac{\mathbb{Z}}{4\mathbb{Z}} = \{00, 01, 10, 11\}$, ...

Then $\Omega = \{0, 1\}^{\mathbb{N}}$ and $\mathbb{Z} \curvearrowright \Omega$ as the $(0, 1)$ -odometer:

$$1 \cdot (0, 0, 0, 0 \dots) = (1, 0, 0, 0, \dots)$$

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More on Generalized Odometers

Let Y be a flat manifold and $g : Y \rightarrow Y$ an n -fold expansive self-cover. $\mathcal{G} = \Omega \rtimes \pi_1(Y)$ satisfies the hypotheses of the HK-conjecture:

- ① étale: $\pi_1(Y)$ discrete
- ② ample: Ω is a Cantor set
- ③ minimal: action is minimal [Cortez–Petite '08]
- ④ principal: g expansive \implies action is free [Deeley '23]

Theorem (Scarparo '20, Deeley '23)

$$H_*(\mathcal{G}) \cong \varinjlim (H_*(Y), \text{tr}_H)$$

where tr_H is the transfer map in homology, which satisfies $g_* \circ \text{tr}_H = \times n$.

$$K_*(C_r^*(\mathcal{G})) \cong \varinjlim (K_*(Y), \text{tr}_K)$$

where tr_K is the transfer map in K -homology.

The Goal

Let Y be a flat manifold, $g : Y \rightarrow Y$ an n -fold expansive self-cover, and $\mathcal{G} = \Omega \rtimes \pi_1(Y)$ the associated generalized odometer.

Theorem (Scarparo '20, Deeley '23)

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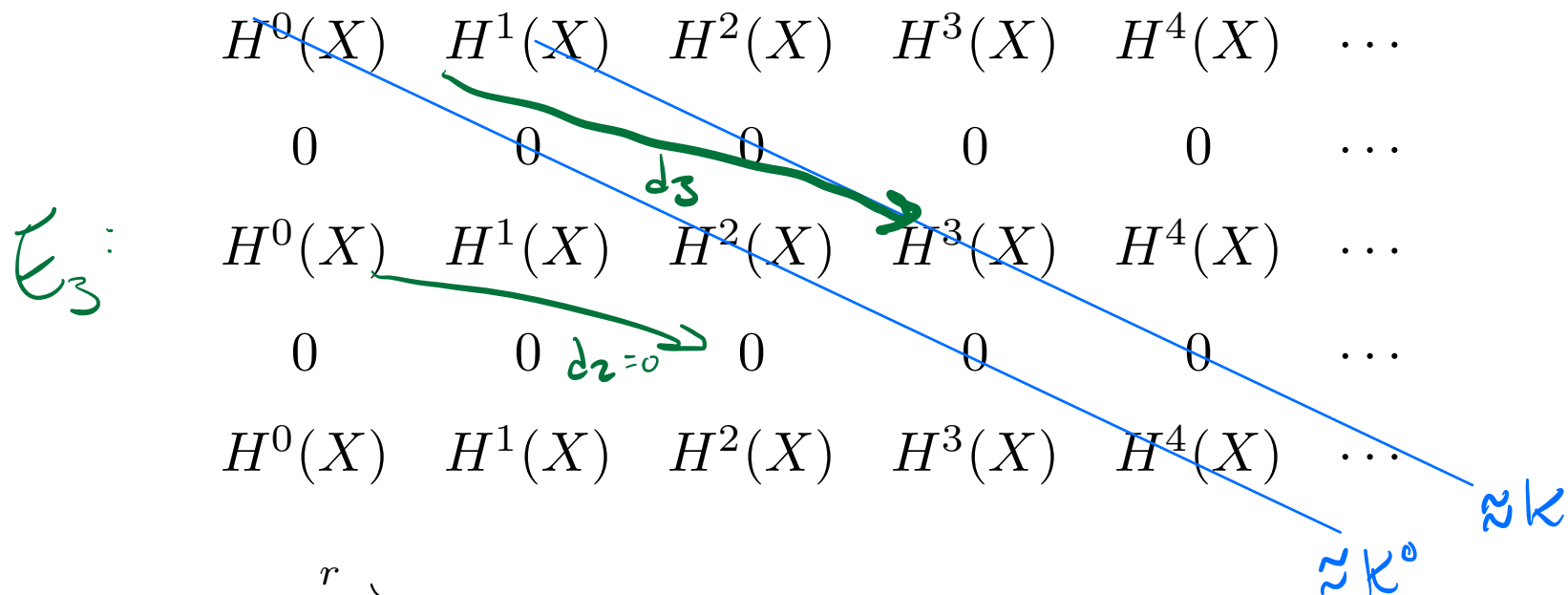
Goal: Find a flat manifold Y with

$$K_*(Y) \not\cong \bigoplus_i H_{2i+*}(Y)$$

The Atiyah–Hirzebruch Spectral Sequence

For a CW-complex X “ $\bigoplus_i H^{2i+*}(X)$ approximates $K^*(X)$ ”:

$$E_2^{p,q} = H^p(X; K^q(\text{pt})) \text{ converges to } K^{p+q}(X)$$



Differentials $d_r \xrightarrow{r} \downarrow_{r-1}$ on r th page.

Taking d_r -cohomology gives $(r + 1)$ th page, and better approximation of $K^*(X)$.

$\hookrightarrow \frac{\text{ker}}{\text{im}}$

Counterexamples with $\dim(Y) \geq 9$

Theorem (Deeley '23)

For each $d \geq 9$ there exists a flat manifold Y with $\dim(Y) = d$ and an expansive self-cover $g : Y \rightarrow Y$ such that the associated generalized odometer is a counterexample to the HK-conjecture.

• $d_3 \neq 0$

Question: What is the minimal dimension of a flat manifold giving a counterexample to the HK-conjecture?

More on the Atiyah–Hirzebruch Spectral Sequence

(*)

$$\begin{array}{cccccc}
 H^0(X) & H^1(X) & H^2(X) & H^3(X) & H^4(X) & \dots \\
 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & \dots \\
 H^0(X) & H^1(X) & H^2(X) & H^3(X) & H^4(X) & \dots \\
 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & \dots \\
 H^0(X) & H^1(X) & H^2(X) & H^3(X) & H^4(X) & \dots
 \end{array}$$

Handwritten annotations: A green arrow labeled "Free" points to $H^1(X)$ in the first row. A green arrow labeled d_3 points from $H^3(X)$ in the second row to $H^3(X)$ in the third row.

Facts:

- If $\dim(X) \leq 3$ then $K^*(X) \cong \bigoplus_i H^{2i+*}(X)$
- (*) • d_r are 'pure torsion morphisms' $\implies d_r = 0$ for all r if $\dim(X) \leq 4$
- There is a short exact sequence when $\dim(X) \leq 4$

$$0 \rightarrow H^2(X) \rightarrow \tilde{K}^0(X) \rightarrow H^4(X) \rightarrow 0$$

AHSS Example: $\mathbb{R}P^4$

Let $X = \mathbb{R}P^4$. The AHSS becomes

$$\begin{array}{cccccccc}
 \mathbb{Z} & 0 & \mathbb{Z}_2 & 0 & \mathbb{Z}_2 & 0 & 0 & \cdots \\
 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & \cdots \\
 \mathbb{Z} & 0 & \mathbb{Z}_2 & 0 & \mathbb{Z}_2 & 0 & 0 & \cdots \\
 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & \cdots \\
 \mathbb{Z} & 0 & \mathbb{Z}_2 & 0 & \mathbb{Z}_2 & 0 & 0 & \cdots
 \end{array}$$

There is a short exact sequence

$$0 \rightarrow \mathbb{Z}_2 \rightarrow \tilde{K}^0(\mathbb{R}P^4) \rightarrow \mathbb{Z}_2 \rightarrow 0$$

$\mathbb{Z}_2 \oplus \mathbb{Z}_2$ \mathbb{Z}_4

and $\tilde{K}^0(\mathbb{R}P^4) \cong \mathbb{Z}_4$.

But $\mathbb{R}P^4$ is not flat.

Counterexample with $\dim(Y) = 4$

Theorem (C.)

There exists a flat manifold Y with $\dim(Y) = 4$ and an expansive self-cover $g : Y \rightarrow Y$ such that the associated generalized odometer is a counterexample to the HK-conjecture.

Proof sketch:

$$\dim(Y) = 4$$

- Show $\text{Torsion}(\bigoplus_i H^{2i}(Y)) \cong \mathbb{Z}_2^4$
- Use characteristic classes and ring structure of $H^*(Y; \mathbb{Z}_2)^1$ to find an explicit line bundle η on Y where $\eta - 1 \in K^0(Y)$ has order 4
- This gives $\text{Torsion}(K^0(Y)) \cong \mathbb{Z}_2^2 \oplus \mathbb{Z}_4$
- Use UCT to convert to $(K-)$ homology
- Show torsion subgroups in $\varinjlim(-, \text{tr})$ still differ²

¹Ring structure is computed in [KM]

²See [D], [ES]

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