

*On the existence of positive scalar curvature metrics  
on non-simply-connected manifolds*

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**Introduction**

In [2], Gromov and Lawson showed that a non-spin, simply connected, closed manifold of dimension greater than 4 admits a Riemannian metric of positive scalar curvature. Furthermore they showed that, for a simply connected closed manifold which is spin, the existence of such a metric depends only on the spin cobordism class and that the vanishing of the KO-characteristic number  $\alpha(X)$  defined by Milnor is not necessary but almost sufficient for the existence of such a metric. Note that the number  $\alpha(X)$  coincides essentially with the genus  $\hat{A}(X)$  if the dimension of the manifold  $X$  is divisible by 4.

In [3], they proved the vanishing of the higher  $\hat{A}$ -genus for a closed spin manifold which admits a metric of positive scalar curvature but which is not necessarily simply connected.

This paper deals with the existence problem of a Riemannian metric of positive scalar curvature for an orientable manifold with some fundamental group and gives an almost complete answer when the fundamental group is  $\mathbf{Z}_p$ ;  $p$  odd or  $p=2$ ,  $\mathbf{F}_m$  (a free group of  $m$  generators) or  $\bigoplus_k \mathbf{Z}$ , provided that the dimension of the non spin manifold is assumed to be greater than  $k$ .

In section 1, we extend the method in [2] and show that under some conditions, a bordism which preserves a fundamental group preserves the property that a manifold admits a metric of positive scalar curvature.

In section 2, we interpret the bordism which preserves the fundamental group from the standpoint of the  $G$ -bordism theory. Then the problem is reduced to seeking nice generators of the  $G$ -bordism group.

In the remainder of this paper, we shall give the almost final solution when the fundamental group  $G$  is isomorphic to  $\mathbf{Z}_p$ ;  $p$  odd or  $p=2$ ,  $\bigoplus_k \mathbf{Z}$  or  $\mathbf{F}_m$  (also when  $G$  is a finite group only for the case of spin manifolds). Here, we use the notion of " $G$ -connected sums" instead of usual connected sum in the statement of our final result. In section 4, we consider the bordism invariant  $\hat{a} : \Omega_*(X) \rightarrow H_*(\pi_1(X); \mathbf{Q})$  which replaces the higher  $\hat{A}$ -genus in our argument.

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### 1. Bordisms preserving metrics of positive scalar curvature

In this section we prove two theorems concerning bordisms preserving metrics of positive scalar curvature. They are generalizations of Theorem B and Theorem C in [1].

**THEOREM 1.1.** *Let  $X_1$  be a closed connected oriented spin manifold of dimension  $\geq 5$ . If there are a closed oriented spin manifold  $X_2$  with a metric of positive scalar curvature and a spin bordism  $W$  which satisfy two conditions:*

- 1)  $\partial W = X_2 - X_1$
- 2)  $\iota_{1*} : \pi_1(X_1) \cong \pi_1(W)$

where  $\iota_1 : X_1 \rightarrow W$  is the inclusion, then  $X_1$  also carries a metric of positive scalar curvature. (Note that  $X_2$  is not necessarily connected.)

**PROOF.** First recall the following.

**THEOREM 1.2.** (Gromov and Lawson [2], Schoen and Yau [4]). *Let  $X$  be a compact manifold which carries a Riemannian metric of positive scalar curvature. Then any manifold which can be obtained from  $X$  by performing surgeries in codimension  $\geq 3$  also carries a metric with positive scalar curvature.*

Consider a smooth triad  $(W; X_1, X_2)$  as in Theorem 1.1 and a self indexing Morse function  $f$ . By definition,  $f$  has two properties:

- 1)  $f(X_1) = -(1/2)$ ,  $f(X_2) = n + (1/2)$  where  $n = \dim W$ .
- 2)  $f(p) = \text{index}(p)$  at each critical point  $p$  of  $f$ .

If we cancel index 0, index 1 and index 2 critical points of  $f$ ,  $X_1$  also carries positive scalar curvature from Theorem 1.2.

A pair  $(Y, X)$  is called  $r$ -connected if any map  $g : (L, K) \rightarrow (Y, X)$  with  $L$  a CW complex of dimension  $\leq r$  and  $K$  a subcomplex, is homotopic as a map of pairs to a map taking  $L$  into  $X$ . Let  $(B; M_-, M_+)$  be a bordism. We call  $(B, M_-)$  *geometrically  $r$ -connected* if there is a self indexing Morse function for the triad  $(B; M_-, M_+)$  with no critical points of index  $\leq r$ .

In [7], Wall proved the following theorem using the geometric cancellation theorem.

**THEOREM 1.3.** *Let  $(B; M_-, M_+)$  be an  $n$ -dimensional bordism with  $(B, M_-)$   $r$ -connected and  $r \leq n - 4$ . Then it is geometrically  $r$ -connected.*

In view of Theorem 1.3 and its proof, it is enough for us to show that it is possible to take  $W$  such that  $(W, X_1)$  is  $r$ -connected.

Since  $X_1$  is connected, we may assume that  $W$  is connected. Then  $(W, X_1)$  is 0-connected. By the assumption,  $\pi_1(W, X_1)$  is isomorphic to  $\{1\}$  and  $(W, X_1)$  is 1-connected. Homotopy exact sequences show that  $\pi_2(W, X_1) \cong \pi_2(W)/\iota_{1*}\pi_2(X_1)$ . The Hurewicz homomorphism followed by the second Stiefel Whitney class  $\pi_2(W) \rightarrow H_2(W) \rightarrow \mathbf{Z}_2$  detects the triviality of normal bundles of embedded 2-spheres. Since  $W$  is spin, we can kill all the elements of  $\pi_2(W)$ . Then  $\pi_2(W, X_1)$  is isomorphic to  $\{1\}$  and  $(W, X_1)$  is 2-connected.

This completes the proof of Theorem 1.1.

**THEOREM 1.4.** *Let  $X_1$  be a closed connected oriented manifold of dimension  $\geq 5$  such that the universal covering  $\tilde{X}_1$  of  $X_1$  is not spin. If there are a closed oriented manifold  $X_2$  with a metric of positive scalar curvature and an oriented bordism  $W$  which satisfy two conditions:*

- 1)  $\partial W = X_2 - X_1$
- 2)  $\iota_{1*} : \pi_1(X_1) \cong \pi_1(W)$

where  $\iota_1 : X_1 \rightarrow W$  is inclusion, then  $X_1$  also carries a metric of positive scalar curvature.

**PROOF.** The proof of the above theorem is similar to that of Theorem 1.1. The difference lies in the elimination of index 2 critical points.

Since  $\tilde{X}_1$  is not spin, the Hurewicz isomorphism followed by the second Stiefel Whitney class of  $\tilde{X}_1 : \pi_2(\tilde{X}_1) \cong H_2(\tilde{X}_1) \rightarrow \mathbf{Z}_2$  is surjective. Hurewicz homomorphisms and Stiefel Whitney classes are natural. It follows that  $\pi_2(X_1) \rightarrow H_2(X_1) \rightarrow \mathbf{Z}_2$  is surjective. On the one hand, we can eliminate the kernel of  $\pi_2(W) \rightarrow H_2(W) \rightarrow \mathbf{Z}_2$  by surgeries because the generators are represented by 2-spheres with trivial normal bundles. Thus after surgeries, we may assume that  $\pi_2(W) = 0$  or  $\mathbf{Z}_2$ . We see  $\iota_{1*} : \pi_2(X_1) \rightarrow \pi_2(W)$  is surjective by naturality and hence  $\pi_2(W)/\iota_{1*}\pi_2(X_1) = 0$ . This shows that  $(W, X_1)$  is 2-connected. Then the result follows from Theorem 1.3.

**2. The bordism preserving positive scalar curvature and the bordism with a free action**

Throughout this section,  $X_1$  denotes a closed connected oriented manifold with  $\pi_1(X_1)$  isomorphic to a group  $G$  and  $\tilde{X}_1$  denotes the universal covering of  $X_1$ . To use the  $G$ -bordism theory, we consider the following situations.

SITUATION A). There exists a compact oriented manifold  $W$  such that  $\partial W = X_2 - X_1$  where  $X_2$  is a closed oriented manifold (not necessarily connected), and that the inclusion  $\iota_1: X_1 \rightarrow W$  gives an isomorphism  $\iota_{1*}: \pi_1(X_1) \rightarrow \pi_1(W)$ .

SITUATIONS B). There exists a connected oriented manifold  $\tilde{W}$  satisfying the following conditions:

1)  $\tilde{W}$  admits an orientation preserving free  $G$  action such that  $W = \tilde{W}/G$  is compact.

2)  $\partial \tilde{W} = \tilde{X}_2 - \tilde{X}_1$  where  $\tilde{X}_2$  is an oriented manifold.

3) On  $\tilde{X}_1$ , the  $G$  action agrees with the action of  $\pi_1(X_1)$  as the covering transformation group.

THEOREM 2.1. *Situation A) and B) are equivalent.*

PROOF. Taking the universal covering spaces, it is easy to see A) implies B).

Conversely, we assume Situation B). Consider the homotopy exact sequences of  $\pi: \tilde{W} \rightarrow W$  and  $\pi|_{\tilde{X}_1}: \tilde{X}_1 \rightarrow X_1$ . We get a commutative diagram:

$$\begin{array}{ccccccc}
 2.2 & & 1 & \longrightarrow & \pi_1(\tilde{W}) & \xrightarrow{\pi_*} & \pi_1(W) & \xrightarrow{\partial} & G & \longrightarrow & 1 \\
 & & & & & & \uparrow & & \parallel & & \\
 & & & & & & 1 & \longrightarrow & \pi_1(X_1) & \longrightarrow & G & \longrightarrow & 1.
 \end{array}$$

If we eliminate  $\pi_1(\tilde{W})$  by equivariant surgeries, A) follows.

Take an imbedding  $\alpha: S^1 \rightarrow S_\alpha \subset W$  which represents an element of  $\pi_*(\pi_1(\tilde{W})) \subset \pi_1(W)$ . Then there exists a lift of  $\alpha$ ,  $\beta: S^1 \rightarrow S_\beta \subset \tilde{W}$ , such that  $\pi|_{S_\beta}: S_\beta \rightarrow S_\alpha$  is a diffeomorphism. Since  $G$  acts transitively on each fiber of  $\pi: \tilde{W} \rightarrow W$ ,  $\pi^{-1}(S_\alpha) = \sum_{g \in G} gS_\beta$  (disjoint union). We can surgery  $S_\alpha$  and all the  $gS_\beta$  at once without destroying Situation B).

Next, we show that we can eliminate  $\pi_1(\tilde{W})$  after doing these surgeries finitely many times. If we consider  $G$  to be a covering transformation group, the rows in 2.2 are exact as group homomorphisms. Since  $X_1$  is compact,  $G$  is a finitely generated group with finite relations. Let  $\{c_k\}$  be a system of generators of  $G$  with relations  $\{f_i(c_k) = 1\}$ . There are elements of  $\pi_1(W)$   $\{d_k\}$  such that  $\partial d_k = c_k$ . Take elements of  $\pi_1(W)$   $\{e_m\}$  so that  $\{d_k, e_m\}$  are the generators of  $\pi_1(W)$ . If  $\partial e_m = \prod_i (c_{k_i})^{n_i}$ , we replace  $e_m$  by  $(\prod_i (d_{k_i})^{n_i})^{-1} e_m$ . So we may assume  $\partial e_m = 1$ .

ASSERTION 2.3.  $\pi_*(\pi_1(W))$  is generated by the set:

$\{g^{-1}f_i(d_k)g, h^{-1}e_k h; g, h \text{ are elements of the subgroup } D \text{ generated by } \{d_k\}\}$ .

PROOF. Take  $g \in \pi_*(\pi_1(\tilde{W})) \subset \pi_1(W)$ .  $g$  is of the form  $\prod_{i=1}^p b_i a_i$  where  $a_i = a_i(d_k) \in D$  and  $b_i$  is the product of some elements of  $\{e_m\}$ . We transform this as follows.

$$\begin{aligned} g &= a_1(a_1^{-1}b_1a_1)b_2a_2 \cdots \\ &= a_1a_2(a_2^{-1}a_1^{-1}b_1a_1a_2)(a_2^{-1}b_2a_2) \cdots \end{aligned}$$

Iterating similar transformations, we get

$$\begin{aligned} g &= \prod_{i=1}^p a_i \prod_{i=1}^p \left( \prod_{j=i}^p a_j \right)^{-1} b_i \left( \prod_{j=1}^p a_j \right) \\ &= \prod_{i=1}^p a_i \prod_{i=1}^q h_i^{-1} e_m^{\pm 1} h_i \quad (h_i \in D) \end{aligned}$$

Since  $g \in \pi_*(\pi_1(\tilde{W}))$ , we have  $\partial g = 1$ . Hence, if we think  $\partial$  as a homomorphism from a free group generated by  $\{d_k, e_m\}$  to a free group generated by  $\{c_k\}$  defined by the correspondence  $\partial d_k = c_k$  and  $\partial e_m = 1$ , then  $\partial g = \prod_{i=1}^p a(c_k)$  can be transformed into 1 using  $\{f_l(c_k) = 1\}$ . Namely, we can write

$$\prod_{i=1}^p a_i(c_k) = \prod_{j=1}^r g_j(c_k) f_{l_j}(c_k)^{\pm 1} g_j^{-1}(c_k)$$

where  $g_j(c_k)$  is an element of the free group generated by  $\{c_k\}$ . Replacing  $c_k$  by  $d_k$  formally, we have

$$\prod_{i=1}^p a_i(d_k) = \prod_{j=1}^r g_j(d_k) f_{l_j}(d_k)^{\pm 1} g_j^{-1}(d_k).$$

We conclude that

$$g = \prod_{j=1}^r g_j f_{l_j}(d_k)^{\pm 1} g_j^{-1} \prod_{i=1}^q h_i^{-1} e_m^{\pm 1} h_i \quad (g_j, h_i \in D).$$

This completes the proof of Assertion 2.3.

By Assertion 2.3, we need the elimination of a finite set  $\{f_l(d_k), e_m\}$  only. This completes the proof of Theorem 2.1.

### 3. G-connected sums

In this section, we consider only manifolds of dimension  $\geq 3$ .

DEFINITION 3.1. Let  $M_1$  and  $M_2$  be closed connected spin manifolds whose fundamental groups are isomorphic to a group  $G$ . We call a closed connected spin manifold  $M_3$  a  $G$ -connected sum of  $M_1$  and  $M_2$  if it satisfies the following

conditions :

- 1) There is a spin manifold  $B$  such that  $\partial B = M_3 - (M_1 + M_2)$ .
- 2)  $\pi_1(M_3) \cong G$ .
- 3)  $\iota_i : \pi_1(M_i) \cong \pi_1(B)$  where  $\iota_i$  is the inclusion mapping  $M_i \rightarrow B$ ;  $i=1, 2, 3$ .

We shall denote by  $[M_1 \# M_2]_G$  the set of all  $G$ -connected sums of  $M_1$  and  $M_2$ .

PROPOSITION 3.2. *We can construct a manifold  $M_3$  satisfying the conditions of Definition 3.1 by surgerying 1-spheres imbedded in the connected sum of  $M_1$  and  $M_2$ .*

PROOF. If  $M_1 \# M_2$  denotes the usual connected sum of  $M_1$  and  $M_2$ , then  $\pi_1(M_1 \# M_2)$  is isomorphic to the free product  $G * G$ . Identifying the same elements of left and right  $G$ , we get a homomorphism  $\rho : G * G \rightarrow G$ . The composition of the classifying map of the universal covering of  $M_1 \# M_2 : M_1 \# M_2 \rightarrow K(G * G, 1)$  and the map  $K(G * G, 1) \rightarrow K(G, 1)$  whose induced map  $\pi_1(K(G * G, 1)) \rightarrow \pi_1(K(G, 1))$  coincides with  $\rho$  gives a map  $f : M_1 \# M_2 \rightarrow K(G, 1)$ .

Let  $E$  be the universal  $G$ -bundle over  $K(G, 1)$ . Then, using the homotopy exact sequences of  $p : f^*E \rightarrow M_1 \# M_2$  and  $E \rightarrow K(G, 1)$ , we easily see that the induced bundle  $f^*E$  is connected.

Note that in the homotopy exact sequences of  $p : f^*E \rightarrow M_1 \# M_2$ ,  $\partial : \pi_1(M_1 \# M_2) \rightarrow G$  coincides with  $\rho : G * G \rightarrow G$ . In fact, if we restrict  $f^*E$  on  $M_i - D_i$ ;  $i=1, 2$  where  $D_i$  is a disk embedded in  $M_i$ ,  $f^*E|_{M_i - D_i}$  can be seen as the universal covering space since  $\pi_1(M_i) \cong \pi_1(M_i - D_i) \cong G \subset \pi_1(M_1 \# M_2)$  and  $\rho|_{\pi_1(M_i - D_i)}$  is an isomorphism  $G \rightarrow G$ . Identifying  $G$  with the covering transformation group,  $\partial$  coincides with  $\rho$  because they coincide on left and right  $G$  which generate  $G * G$ .

The argument analogous to those of section 2 shows that we can eliminate  $p_*\pi_1(f^*E) \subset \pi_1(M_1 \# M_2)$  by equivariant surgeries preserving spin structures. We get a compact spin manifold with boundary  $B'$  and its connected  $G$ -covering  $q : \tilde{B}' \rightarrow B'$  which has properties :

- 1)  $\partial B' = M_3 - (M_1 \# M_2)$ .
- 2)  $\tilde{B}'|_{M_1 \# M_2} = f^*E$ .
- 3)  $q^{-1}(M_3)$  is 1-connected.

Killing  $q_*\pi_1(\tilde{B}') \subset \pi_1(B')$  by the same technique as before, we may assume  $G \cong \pi_1(M_3) \cong \pi_1(B')$ . It is easily seen that  $\pi_1(M_1 \# M_2) \rightarrow \pi_1(B') \cong \pi_1(M_3)$  is  $\rho : G * G \rightarrow G$ .

On the one hand, there is a spin bordism  $B''$  such that  $\partial B'' = M_1 \# M_2 - (M_1 + M_2)$ . We can easily see that the manifold  $B$  obtained by patching  $B'$  and  $B''$  along  $M_1 \# M_2$  satisfies the desired conditions.

REMARK. Let  $X, Y$  be manifolds with their fundamental groups isomorphic

to a group  $G$ . Let  $f: X \rightarrow BG$  and  $g: Y \rightarrow BG$  denote the classifying maps of the universal coverings  $\tilde{X} \rightarrow X$  and  $\tilde{Y} \rightarrow Y$  respectively. Then the set  $[X \# Y]_G$  defines a unique class  $[X, f] + [Y, g]$  in  $\Omega_*(BG)$ . We define inductively  $[\#_l X]_G = [X \# [\#_{l-1} X]_G]_G$  and call this  $l$ -fold  $G$ -connected sums of  $X$ . Then  $[\#_l X]_G = l[X, f]$  in  $\Omega_*(BG)$ .

**4. The  $G$ -bordism invariant  $\hat{a}$**

Let  $X$  be a topological space and let  $\Omega_*(X)$  denote the bordism group of  $X$  as in [3].

DEFINITION 4.1. Consider a pair  $(M, f)$  where  $M$  is a closed oriented manifold and  $f: M \rightarrow X$  is a continuous map. We define  $\hat{a}(M, f) \in H_*(X; \mathbf{Q})$

$$\hat{a}(M, f) = f_*([\![M]\!] \cap \hat{A}(M))$$

where  $[\![M]\!]$  is a fundamental class and  $\hat{A}(M)$  is the characteristic class associated with a multiplicative sequence  $(x/2)/\sinh(x/2)$ .

PROPOSITION 4.2. 1)  $(M, f)$  depends only on the bordism class of  $(M, f)$ . So we get a map  $\hat{a}: \Omega_*(X) \rightarrow H_*(X; \mathbf{Q})$ .

- 2)  $\hat{a}(\alpha + \beta) = \hat{a}(\alpha) + \hat{a}(\beta)$  where  $\alpha, \beta \in \Omega_*(X)$ .
- 3)  $\hat{a}(\alpha \xi) = \hat{a}(\alpha) \hat{A}(\xi)$  where  $\alpha \in \Omega_*(X)$  and  $\xi \in \Omega_*$ .
- 4) For a continuous map  $\varphi: X \rightarrow Y$ ,  $\hat{a}\varphi_* = \varphi_* \hat{a}$ .

The proof of Proposition 4.2 is straightforward, so we omit it.

Next, we shall see the relation of  $\hat{a}$  with the higher  $\hat{A}$ -genus  $\hat{\mathfrak{A}}$ . For the definition of  $\hat{\mathfrak{A}}$ , see [1], page 215.

Let  $G$  be a finitely generated group and let  $\bar{G}$  denote the free abelian group  $G/[G, G]/\text{Tor}$ . There is a map  $\phi: K(G, 1) \rightarrow K(\bar{G}, 1)$  such that  $\phi_*: \pi_1(K(G, 1)) \rightarrow \pi_1(K(\bar{G}, 1))$  equals the quotient map  $G \rightarrow \bar{G}$ .

Suppose the rank of  $\bar{G}$  is equal to  $N$ . Then  $K(\bar{G}, 1) = T^N$  and  $H_*(K(\bar{G}, 1); \mathbf{Q}) = H_*(T^N; \mathbf{Q})$ .

Consider now a closed manifold  $M$  with its fundamental group isomorphic to  $G$  and the classifying map  $f: M \rightarrow K(G, 1)$ .  $\phi \cdot f$  induces the isomorphism  $(\phi \cdot f)_*: H_1(M; \mathbf{Q}) \rightarrow H_1(T^N; \mathbf{Q})$ . We identify  $\wedge^* H_1(M; \mathbf{Q})$  with  $H_*(T^N; \mathbf{Q})$  by this isomorphism. It is a routine matter to verify the following.

PROPOSITION 4.3. Let  $G, M, f$  be as above. Moreover, we assume that  $M$  is spin. Then under the above identification,

$$\phi_* \hat{a}(M, f) = \hat{\mathfrak{A}}(M) \in \wedge^* H_1(M; \mathbf{Z})/\text{Tor} \subset \wedge^* H_1(M; \mathbf{Q}) = H_*(T^N; \mathbf{Q}).$$

DEFINITION 4.4. For  $M$  as above, we define  $\hat{a}(M)$  to be  $\hat{a}(M, f)$  where  $f: M \rightarrow K(G, 1)$  is the classifying map. This is well defined since  $f$  is unique up to homotopy.

**5. Application**

Throughout this section,  $M$  denotes a closed connected manifold of dimension  $n \geq 5$  and  $\tilde{M}$  denotes its universal covering space.

THEOREM 5.1. *If  $\pi_1(M)$  is isomorphic to  $Z_p$  ( $p$  odd) and  $M$  is not spin,  $M$  has a Riemannian metric of positive scalar curvature.*

PROOF. As an  $\Omega_*$ -module,  $\Omega_*(Z_p)$  is generated by  $[Z_p, Z_p]$  and  $[T_i, S^{2i-1}]$ ;  $i=1, 2, 3, \dots$  where  $[Z_p, Z_p]$  is the class of the action of  $Z_p$  on itself and  $T_i$  is the standard  $Z_p$  action on the sphere  $S^{2i-1}$  (cf. [1], p. 90). Then in  $\Omega_*(Z_p)$ ,

$$[\pi_1(M), \tilde{M}] = a_0 [N_0] [Z_p, Z_p] + \sum_{i=1}^{(n+1)/2} a_i [N_i] [T_i, S^{2i-1}]$$

where  $a_i$  denote integers and  $[N_i] \in \Omega_{n-2i+1}$ .

By Theorem 2.1, we have a compact oriented manifold  $W$  which satisfies the conditions:

$$\partial W = M - (a_0 N_0 + \sum_{i=1}^{(n+1)/2} a_i N_i S^{2i-1} / T_i)$$

$$\iota_* : \pi_1(M) \cong \pi_1(W).$$

Since  $T_i$  preserves the standard metric of  $S^{2i-1}$ ,  $S^{2i-1}/T_i$  admits a metric of positive scalar curvature. Note that  $M$  is not spin. Then Theorem 1.4 shows that  $M$  carries a metric of positive scalar curvature.

THEOREM 5.2. *If  $\pi_1(M)$  is isomorphic to  $Z_2$  and  $\tilde{M}$  is not spin,  $M$  has a metric of positive scalar curvature.*

PROOF. In [5], K. Shibata determined the structure of  $\Omega_*(Z_2)$ . In particular, as an  $\Omega_*$ -module,  $\Omega_*(Z_2)$  has the following two types of generators.

- 1)  $[a, S^0]$  and  $[a, S^{2i+1}]$ ;  $i=1, 2, 3, \dots$ , where  $a$  is an antipodal involution.
- 2)  $E^{2i+1}(W_\omega)$ ;  $i=1, 2, 3, \dots$ ,  $\omega \in \pi$  where  $\pi$  is the set of partitions of the form  $(a_1, \dots, a_r)$  with unequal parts  $a_i$  none of which is a power of 2.

$W_\omega$  is described as follows.

Let  $\mathcal{W}_* = Z_2[X_{2k-1}, X_{2k}; k \neq 2^i, (X_{2i})^2]$  be the polynomial subalgebra of  $\mathfrak{R}_*$  defined by Wall in [6]. For an  $n$ -sphere  $S^n$  and an antipodal involution  $a$ ,  $\hat{\Omega}_*(S^n, a)$  (resp.  $\hat{\Omega}_*(S^n, a)$ ) denotes the set of bordism classes of triples  $(N, \mu, f)$  with  $N$  a closed oriented differentiable manifold,  $\mu: N \rightarrow N$  a fixed point free differentiable involution which preserves (resp. reverses) the orientation,



and  $f : (N, \mu) \rightarrow (S^n, a)$  a continuous equivariant map. The map  $\eta : \Omega_{\mathbb{R}}^*(S^1, a) \rightarrow \mathfrak{N}_{\mathbb{R}}$  sending  $[N, \mu, f]$  to  $[N/\mu]$  is a (ring) isomorphism onto  $\mathfrak{W}_{\mathbb{R}}$ . For each partition  $\omega \in \pi$ ,  $W_\omega \in \hat{\Omega}_{\mathbb{R}}^*(S^1, a)$  is given by  $W_\omega = \eta^{-1}(X_\omega)$  where  $X_\omega = X_{2a_1} \cdots X_{2a_r}$  for  $\omega = (a_1, \dots, a_r)$  and  $|\omega| = a_1 + \dots + a_r$ .

We shall give an explicit expression of  $E^{2i+1}(W_\omega)$ .

Since  $w_1(X_\omega)$  comes from the integral class, we have an orientation bundle  $\bar{X}_\omega \rightarrow X_\omega$  with an orientation reversing action  $\mu_\omega$  on  $\bar{X}_\omega$  which is induced by the classifying map  $f_\omega : X_\omega \rightarrow S^1$ . Then  $W = [\bar{X}_\omega, \mu_\omega, f_\omega] \in \hat{\Omega}_{\mathbb{R}}^*(S^1, a)$ .

LEMMA 5.3.

$$E^{2i+1}(W_\omega) = [a \times 1, (S'^{2i+1} \times \bar{X}_\omega) / \bar{a} \times \mu_\omega]$$

where

$$S'^{2i+1} = \{(z_0, \dots, z_{i+1}, t) \in \mathbf{C}^{i+1} \times \mathbf{R}; z_0 \text{ is real, } |z_0|^2 + \dots + |z_{i+1}|^2 + t^2 = 1\}$$

and the action  $\bar{a}$  on  $S'^{2i+1}$  is given by the correspondence

$$(z_0, \dots, z_{i+1}, t) \longrightarrow (-z_0, \dots, -z_{i+1}, t)$$

and  $a$  denotes the antipodal involution of  $S'^{2i+1}$ .

PROOF. In the proof of Lemma 5.3, we follow the notations of [5]. By the definition of  $E^{2i+1}$ ,  $E^{2i+2}(W_\omega) \in \Omega_{\mathbb{R}}^*(S^{2i+3}, a)$  has the representation

$$[S_0^{2i+2} \times \bar{X}_\omega / a \times \mu_\omega, a \times 1, \hat{\mu}|_{(S_0^{2i+2} \times S^1/a \times a)} \cdot (id \times \bar{f}_\omega / a \times \mu_\omega)]$$

where

$$S_0^{2i+2} = \{(z_0, \dots, z_{i+2}) \in S^{2i+3}; z_0 \text{ is real}\}$$

and  $\hat{\mu} : (S^{2i+3} \times S^1/a \times a, a \times 1) \rightarrow (S^{2i+3}, a)$  is given by the multiplication  $\mu : S^{2i+3} \times S^1 \rightarrow S^{2i+3}$  and  $\bar{f}_\omega : \bar{X}_\omega \rightarrow S^1$  is the map which covers  $f_\omega$ .

$E^{2i+1} : \hat{\Omega}_{\mathbb{R}}^*(S^1, a) \rightarrow \hat{\Omega}_{\mathbb{R}}^*(S^{2i+2}, a)$  is defined by  $E^{2i+1} = \mathcal{A} \cdot E^{2i+2}$  where  $\mathcal{A}$  is the Smith homomorphism.

For simplicity, we write only  $\hat{\mu}$  or  $\mu$  for  $\hat{\mu}|_{(S_0^{2i+2} \times S^1/a \times a)}$  or  $\mu|_{S_0^{2i+2} \times S^1}$ . If we note  $f_\omega$  is surjective, it can be seen that  $\hat{\mu} \cdot (id \times \bar{f}_\omega / a \times \mu_\omega)$  is transverse to  $S^{2i+2} \subset S^{2i+3}$ . By the definition,  $\mu^{-1}(S^{2i+2}) = A^+ \cup A^-$  where

$$A^\pm = \{(z_0, \dots, z_{i+1}, \pm \{1 - (|z_0|^2 + \dots + |z_{i+1}|^2)\}^{1/2}, x) \in \mathbf{C}^{i+1} \times \mathbf{C}; z_0 \text{ is real, } |z_0|^2 + \dots + |z_{i+1}|^2 \leq 1\}.$$

The diffeomorphism  $S'^{2i+1} \times S^1 \rightarrow \mu^{-1}(S^{2i+2})$  is given by the correspondence:

$$(z_0, \dots, z_{i+1}, t, x) \longrightarrow (z_0, \dots, z_{i+1}, t/x, x)$$

Then we have the diffeomorphism  $S'^{2i+1} \times \bar{X}_\omega \rightarrow (id \times \bar{f})^{-1} \mu^{-1}(S^{2i+2})$  given by the

correspondence from  $S^{2i+1} \times \bar{X}_\omega$  into  $S_0^{2i+2} \times \bar{X}_\omega$ .

$$\{(z_0, \dots, z_{i+1}, t), y\} \longrightarrow \{(z_0, \dots, z_{i+1}, t/\bar{f}(y)), y\}$$

We can see that the action  $a \times 1$  (resp.  $\bar{a} \times \mu_\omega$ ) on  $S^{2i+1} \times \bar{X}_\omega$  is induced by the action  $a \times 1$  (resp.  $\bar{a} \times \mu_\omega$ ) on  $S_0^{2i+2} \times \bar{X}_\omega$  and this completes the proof of the lemma.

Since  $X_\omega$  is a product space of Dold manifolds,  $X_\omega$  admits a metric of positive scalar curvature.  $(S^{2i+1} \times \bar{X}_\omega / \bar{a} \times \mu_\omega) / a \times 1$  also carries positive scalar curvature. Then Theorem 5.2 follows by the argument analogous to that of Theorem 5.1.

**THEOREM 5.4.** *Let  $M$  be a spin manifold whose fundamental group is a finite group  $G$ . Suppose  $\hat{A}(M)=0$ , then there exists  $l \in \mathbb{N}$  such that each member of  $[\#_l M]_G$  carries a metric of positive scalar curvature.*

**PROOF.** Analogously to  $\Omega_*(G)$  (cf. [1], page 50), we can define  $\Omega_*^{\text{Spin}}(G)$ . Namely, each manifold is endowed with a spin structure and each action is accompanied with a lifted action on the associated principal  $\text{Spin}(\ast)$ -bundle. For a pair of spaces  $(X, A)$ , we can also define  $\Omega_*^{\text{Spin}}(X, A)$  when every manifold is spin.

**LEMMA 5.5.** 1)  $\Omega_*^{\text{Spin}}(G) \cong \Omega_*^{\text{Spin}}(BG)$  as  $\Omega_*^{\text{Spin}}$ -modules. This isomorphism is given by  $[T, N] \rightarrow [N/T, f]$  where  $f$  is the classifying map of  $N \rightarrow N/T$ .

2) As  $\Omega_*^{\text{Spin}} \otimes \mathbb{Q}$ -modules,  $\Omega_*^{\text{Spin}}(X, A) \otimes \mathbb{Q}$  is isomorphic to  $\Omega_*(X, A) \otimes \mathbb{Q}$  for any CW-pair  $(X, A)$ .

3)  $\Omega_*^{\text{Spin}}(G) \otimes \mathbb{Q} \cong \Omega_*(G) \otimes \mathbb{Q} \cong \Omega_* \otimes \mathbb{Q}$ .

**PROOF.** The proof of 1) is referred to [1], page 51. 2) can be proved using the Eilenberg-Steenrod axioms for homology theory. Combining 1) and 2), we get 3).

Choose generators  $\{M_j\}_{j=1}^\infty$  of the polynomial algebra  $\Omega_*^{\text{Spin}} \otimes \mathbb{Q}$  where  $M_j$  is a closed spin manifold of dimension  $4j$  and  $M_j = \mathbb{H}P^j$  for  $j \geq 2$ . Since  $[M_1] = c[CP^2]$ ;  $c \in \mathbb{Q} - \{0\}$ ,  $\hat{A}(M_1) \neq 0$  and  $M_1$  cannot carry a metric of positive scalar curvature.

Let  $[G, G \times M_j]$  be the class where  $G$  acts on  $G \times M_j$  by the left multiplication. Let  $P$  be the ideal in  $\Omega_* \otimes \mathbb{Q}$  generated by  $\{M_j\}_{j \geq 2}$  and  $\tilde{P}$  the submodule of  $\Omega_*^{\text{Spin}}(G) \otimes \mathbb{Q}$  generated by  $[G, G \times M_j]$ ;  $j \geq 2$ . Then we get an isomorphism  $\Omega_*^{\text{Spin}}(G) \otimes \mathbb{Q} / \tilde{P} \rightarrow \Omega_* \otimes \mathbb{Q} / P$ . Moreover,  $\Omega_* \otimes \mathbb{Q} / P \cong \mathbb{Q}[M_1]$  (the polynomial algebra generated by  $[M_1]$ ) and the  $\hat{A}$ -genus gives an isomorphism  $\mathbb{Q}[M_1] \cong \mathbb{Q}$ .

Since  $\hat{A}(M)=0$ , we have  $[\pi_1(M), \tilde{M}] \in \tilde{P}$ . So there is a number  $l$  such that

$$l[\pi_1(M), \tilde{M}] = \sum_{j=2}^{\infty} [G, G \times M_j][N_j]$$

in  $\Omega_*^{\text{Spin}}(G)$  where  $[N_j] \in \Omega_*^{\text{Spin}}$ . Take any  $M' \in [\#_l M]_G$ . Then the universal covering  $\tilde{M}'$  of  $M'$  gives a pair  $[\pi_1(M'), \tilde{M}']$  which determines the same class as  $l[\pi_1(M), \tilde{M}]$  in  $\Omega_*^{\text{Spin}}(G)$ . It is easily seen that Theorem 2.1 holds when every manifold is spin. Then together with Theorem 1.1, the result follows.

**THEOREM 5.6.** *Assume that  $\pi_1(M) \cong \bigoplus_k \mathbf{Z}$ . If  $M$  is not spin and  $n > k$ , then  $M$  carries a metric of positive scalar curvature. If  $M$  is spin and  $\mathfrak{A}(M) = 0$ , there exists  $l \in \mathbf{N}$  such that each member of  $[\#_l M]_{\oplus_k \mathbf{Z}}$  carries a metric of positive scalar curvature.*

**PROOF.** Let  $N$  be an oriented manifold with an orientation preserving free  $G$  action  $T$  where  $G$  is a discrete group (not necessary finite). We consider only the case when  $N/G$  is compact. We can define the bordism class of such a pair  $(T, N)$ . Denote the collection of all such classes by  $\Omega_{C_*}(G) = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \Omega_{C_n}(G)$ . Just like the case of the finite group,  $\Omega_{C_*}(G)$  has an  $\Omega_*$ -module structure and  $\Omega_{C_*}(G)$  is isomorphic to  $\Omega_*(BG)$  as  $\Omega_*$ -modules.

First, note that  $B(\bigoplus_k \mathbf{Z}) = T^k$  (a  $k$  dimensional torus). We denote by  $S_i$  the 1-sphere at the  $i$ -th factor of  $T^k$  and its inclusion by  $\iota_i: S_i \rightarrow T^k; i=1, \dots, k$ . For each multi-index  $I = \{i_1, \dots, i_p\}$  such that  $1 \leq i_1 < \dots < i_p \leq k$ , let  $\iota_I: T_I \rightarrow T^k$  be the inclusion where  $T_I = S_{i_1} \times \dots \times S_{i_p}$ . If  $I = \phi$ ,  $T_\phi$  denotes one point in  $T^k$  and  $\iota_\phi$  is its inclusion.

**LEMMA 5.7.** *As an  $\Omega_*$ -module,  $\Omega_*(T^k)$  has a homogeneous base  $\{[T_I, \iota_I]\}$ .*

**PROOF.**  $\{\iota_I, [T_I]\}$  forms an additive base for  $H_*(T^k; \mathbf{Z})$ . Then by [1], Theorem (18.1), the result follows.

The argument analogous to the proof of Theorem 5.1 together with Lemma 5.7 shows that there is a bordism which preserves the fundamental group  $(W; M, \sum_I T_I \times M_I)$ . Since  $n > k$ ,  $T_I \times M_I$  carries positive scalar curvature. By Theorem 1.4, the first half follows.

By Lemma 5.7 and Lemma 5.5, we have an isomorphism  $\Omega_*^{\text{Spin}}(T^k) \otimes \mathbf{Q} \cong \sum_I [\iota_I, T_I] \Omega_* \otimes \mathbf{Q}$ .

We identify  $H_*(T^k; \mathbf{Q})$  with  $\wedge^*(H_1(T^k; \mathbf{Z}) \otimes \mathbf{Q})$ . Denote  $\iota_i[S_i] \in H_1(T^k; \mathbf{Z})$  by  $x_i^*$ . We consider  $\hat{a}$  as a homomorphism  $\Omega_*^{\text{Spin}}(X) \otimes \mathbf{Q} \rightarrow H_*(X; \mathbf{Q})$  where  $X$  is any space. Since

$$\hat{a}([\iota_I, id_{T_I}]) = x_I^* \in H_*(T_I; \mathbf{Q}),$$

we get

$$\hat{a}([\iota_I, T_I]) = x_I^* \in H_*(T^k; \mathbf{Q})$$

where  $x_I^* = x_{i_1}^* \wedge \dots \wedge x_{i_p}^*$ , for  $I = \{i_1, \dots, i_p\}$ .

Let  $\{M_i\}_{i=1}^{\infty}$  be the base for the polynomial algebra  $\Omega_*^{\text{Spin}} \otimes \mathbf{Q}$  as before.  $P$

denotes an ideal generated by  $\{M_i\}_{i \geq 2}$ . Define the submodule  $\tilde{P} \subset \Omega_*^{\text{Spin}}(T^k)$  by  $\tilde{P} = \Sigma_I[T_I, \iota_I]P$ . Then we have isomorphisms:

$$\begin{aligned} \Omega_*^{\text{Spin}}(T^k) \otimes \mathbf{Q} / \tilde{P} &\cong \Sigma_I[T_I, \iota_I] \Omega_*^{\text{Spin}} \otimes \mathbf{Q} / P \\ &\cong \Sigma_I[T_I, \iota_I] \mathbf{Q}[M_1] \end{aligned}$$

Since  $\hat{A}(\xi) = 0$  for  $\xi \in P$ , we have  $\hat{\mathbf{a}}(\alpha) = 0$  for  $\alpha \in \tilde{P}$  by Proposition 4.2, 3).  $\hat{\mathbf{a}}$  is reduced to

$$\hat{\mathbf{a}} : \Omega_*^{\text{Spin}}(T^k) \otimes \mathbf{Q} / \tilde{P} \longrightarrow H_*(T^k).$$

LEMMA 5.8. *If  $\hat{\mathbf{a}}(\alpha) = 0$  for  $\alpha \in \Omega_*^{\text{Spin}}(T^k) \otimes \mathbf{Q}$ , then  $\alpha$  belongs to  $\tilde{P}$ .*

PROOF. Let  $\bar{\alpha}$  be the class of  $\alpha$  in  $\Omega_*^{\text{Spin}}(T^k) \otimes \mathbf{Q} / \tilde{P}$ .  $\bar{\alpha}$  is of the form  $\Sigma_I a_I [T_I, \iota_I] [M_1]^{(l - \dim T_I)/4}$ ;  $a_I \in \mathbf{Q}$ . Then we have

$$\hat{\mathbf{a}}(\alpha) = \Sigma_I a_I x_I^* \hat{A}(M_1)^{(l - \dim T_I)/4}.$$

On the one hand,  $\hat{\mathbf{a}}(\alpha) = 0$ . So  $a_I = 0$ . Then  $\bar{\alpha} = 0$ . This implies  $\alpha \in \tilde{P}$ .

By Proposition 4.3,  $\hat{\mathbf{a}}(M) = \hat{\mathfrak{U}}(M) = 0$ . Using Lemma 5.8, we see the class  $[M, f]$  belongs to  $\tilde{P}$  where  $f$  is the classifying map of the universal covering. The remainder of the proof is analogous to that of Theorem 5.4. The proof of Theorem 5.6 is completed.

THEOREM 5.9. *Assume that  $\pi_1(M) \cong \mathbf{F}_m$ . If  $M$  is not spin,  $M$  carries positive scalar curvature. If  $M$  is spin and  $\hat{\mathfrak{U}}(M) = 0$ , there exists  $l \in \mathbf{N}$  such that each member of  $[\#_l M]_{\mathbf{F}_m}$  carries a metric of positive scalar curvature.*

PROOF. The classifying space for  $\mathbf{F}_m$  is  $S^1 \vee \cdots \vee S^1$  ( $m$ -fold)  $= \vee_m S^1$ . Similarly to Lemma 5.7, we have the following.

LEMMA 5.10. *As an  $\Omega_*$ -module,  $\Omega_*(\vee_m S^1)$  has a homogeneous base*

$$\{[S_i, \iota_i]; i = 1, \dots, m, [x_0, \iota_0]\}$$

where  $S_i$  denotes the  $i$ -th 1-sphere of  $\vee_m S^1$  with the inclusion mapping  $\iota_i : S_i \rightarrow \vee_m S^1$  and  $x_0$  is the point in  $\vee_m S^1$  with the inclusion mapping  $\iota_0 : x_0 \rightarrow \vee_m S^1$ .

By the spectral sequence associated with the universal covering, we can see that  $H^2(M; \mathbf{Z}_2) \rightarrow H^2(\tilde{M}; \mathbf{Z}_2)$  is injective. Thus  $\tilde{M}$  is not spin. The remainder of the first half is analogous to that of Theorem 5.1.

There exists a continuous mapping  $\phi : \vee_m S^1 \rightarrow T^m$  such that the induced homomorphism  $\pi_1(\vee_m S^1) \rightarrow \pi_1(T^m)$  coincides with  $\mathbf{F}_m \rightarrow \mathbf{F}_m / [\mathbf{F}_m, \mathbf{F}_m]$ . Then by Proposition 4.3, we have  $\phi_* \hat{\mathbf{a}}(M) = \hat{\mathfrak{U}}(M)$ . Since  $\hat{\mathfrak{U}}(M) = 0$  and  $\phi_*$  is injective, we have  $\hat{\mathbf{a}}(M) = 0$ . The remainder of the proof is analogous to that of Theorem 5.6.

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