

# $\mathbb{Z}_2^n$ -SUPERMANIFOLDS

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**60 YEARS ALBERTO IBORT FEST**  
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# Contents

- Batchelor-Gawędzki theorem
- Sign-rules and  $\mathbb{Z}_2^n$ -graded algebras
- $\mathbb{Z}_2^n$ -supermanifolds
- $n$ -fold vector bundles
- Superization of  $n$ -fold vector bundles
- Colored Batchelor-Gawędzki theorem
- Sketch of the proof: embedding  $C_M^\infty \hookrightarrow \mathcal{A}_M$

The talk is based on a joint work with **Tiffany Covolo** and **Norbert Poncin**:

- The category of  $\mathbb{Z}_2^n$ -supermanifolds, *J. Math. Phys.* **57** (2016), 073503 (16pp).
- Splitting theorem for  $\mathbb{Z}_2^n$ -supermanifolds, *J. Geom. Phys.* **110** (2016), 393-401.

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# Batchelor-Gawędzki theorem

- A **vector bundle** is a locally trivial fibration  $\tau : E \rightarrow M$  which, locally over  $U \subset M$ , reads  $\tau^{-1}(U) \simeq U \times \mathbb{R}^n$  and admits an atlas in which local trivializations transform linearly in fibers

$$U \cap V \times \mathbb{R}^n \ni (x, y) \mapsto (x, A(x)y) \in U \cap V \times \mathbb{R}^n,$$

$$A(x) \in \mathrm{GL}(n, \mathbb{R}).$$

- The latter property can also be expressed in the terms of the gradation in which base coordinates  $x$  have degrees 0 and 'linear coordinates'  $y$  have degree 1. Linearity in  $y$ 's is now equivalent to the fact that changes of coordinates respect the degrees.
- This implies that there is a well-defined **homogeneity structure**, i.e. an action of the multiplicative monoid of reals,

$$h : \mathbb{R} \times E \ni (t, v) \mapsto h_t(v) \in E, \quad h_t(x, y) = (x, ty),$$

(multiplication by reals) and its infinitesimal generator  $\nabla_E = y^a \partial_{y^a}$  (the **Euler/Liouville vector field**).

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# Batchelor-Gawędzki theorem

- Actually, one can prove (Grabowski-Rotkiewicz '09) that a vector bundle structure is just a homogeneity structure  $h$  on a manifold  $E$  which is **regular**, i.e.

$$\left. \frac{d}{dt} \right|_{t=0} h_t(v) = 0 \Leftrightarrow v \in M = h_0(E).$$

- A homogeneity structure defines  $\mathbb{N}$ -graded algebra generated by homogeneous functions:  $f \in C^\infty(E)$  is **homogeneous of degree**  $k \in \mathbb{N}$  if  $f \circ h_t = t^k f$  ( $\nabla_E(f) = kf$ ).
- If we replace the local fiber coordinates  $(y^i)$  of degree 1 with coordinates  $(\xi^i)$  which are not only of degree 1 but also odd,  $\xi^i \xi^j = -\xi^j \xi^i$ , then the coordinate transformations

$$(x, \xi) \mapsto (x, A(x)\xi)$$

remain consistent and define a supermanifold  $\Pi E = E[1]$  with  $M$  being its body.

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# Batchelor-Gawędzki theorem

- Each coordinate neighbourhood  $U \subset M$  is then a ringed space with the sheaf  $\mathcal{O}_U$  of supercommutative rings

$$\mathcal{O}_U(V) = C^\infty(V)[\xi^1, \dots, \xi^n]$$

of Grassmann polynomials in variables  $(\xi^i)$  and coefficients in the algebra  $C^\infty(V)$  of smooth functions on  $V \subset U$ .

## Theorem (Gawędzki '77, Batchelor '79)

Any supermanifold  $\mathcal{M}$  with the body  $M$  is (non-canonically) diffeomorphic with a supermanifold  $\Pi E$  for a vector bundle  $\tau : E \rightarrow M$ .

The superalgebra  $\mathcal{A}(\mathcal{M})$  of smooth (super)functions on  $\mathcal{M}$  is then isomorphic with the Grassmann algebra

$$A^\bullet(E) = \bigoplus_{j=1}^n \text{Sec}(\wedge^j E),$$

of multi-sections of  $E$ , where  $n$  is the rank of  $E$ .

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- Let  $\mathcal{A}$  be a  $G$ -graded  $K$ -algebra  $\mathcal{A} = \bigoplus_{g \in G} \mathcal{A}^g$ . Elements  $x$  from  $\mathcal{A}^g$  are called  $G$ -homogeneous of degree or weight  $g =: \deg(x)$ . The algebra  $\mathcal{A}$  is said to be  $\varphi$ -commutative if

$$ab = \varphi(\deg(a), \deg(b))ba,$$

for all  $G$ -homogeneous elements  $a, b \in \mathcal{A}$ .

# Sign-rules and $\mathbb{Z}_2^n$ -graded algebras

- let  $K$  be a commutative unital ring,  $K^\times$  be the group of invertible elements of  $K$ , and let  $G$  be a commutative semigroup. A map  $\varphi : G \times G \rightarrow K^\times$  is called a **commutation factor** on  $G$  if

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- Homogeneous elements  $x$  with  $p(\deg(x)) = p(g) := \varphi(g, g) = -1$  are **odd**, the other homogeneous elements are **even**. Graded algebras with commutation rules of this kind are known under the name **color algebras**. In this talk we will be interested in color associative algebras whose commutation factor is just a sign.
- In what follows,  $K$  will be  $\mathbb{R}$  and  $\varphi$  will take the form

$$\varphi(g, h) = (-1)^{\langle g, h \rangle},$$

for a ‘scalar product’  $\langle -, - \rangle : G \times G \rightarrow \mathbb{Z}$ . This means that we use the **commutation factor** as the **sign rule**. In this note we confine ourselves to  $G = \mathbb{Z}_2^n$  and the standard ‘scalar product’ of  $\mathbb{Z}_2^n$ , what will lead to  $\mathbb{Z}_2^n$ -Supergeometry with nicer categorical properties than the standard Supergeometry. More precisely, we propose a generalization of differential  $\mathbb{Z}_2$ -Supergeometry to the case of a  $\mathbb{Z}_2^n$ -grading in the structure sheaf.

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## Example

The **real Clifford algebra**  $\text{Cl}_{p,q}(\mathbb{R})$  is the associative  $\mathbb{R}$ -algebra generated by  $e_i$ , where  $1 \leq i \leq n$  and  $n = p + q$ , of  $\mathbb{R}^n$ , modulo the relations

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The pair of integers  $(p, q)$  is called the **signature**. Note that, as a vector space,  $\text{Cl}_{p,q}(\mathbb{R})$  is isomorphic to the Grassmann algebra  $\bigwedge \langle e_1, \dots, e_n \rangle$  on the chosen generators.  $\text{Cl}_{p,q}(\mathbb{R})$  is often understood as quantization of the Grassmann algebra (in the same sense as the Weyl algebra is a quantization of the symmetric algebra).

The Clifford algebra  $\text{Cl}_{p,q}(\mathbb{R})$  is a  $\mathbb{Z}_2^{p+q+1}$ -commutative associative algebra with the degree of  $e_i$  being  $(0, \dots, 0, 1, 0, \dots, 0, 1)$ .

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Actually, from the scalar product on  $\mathbb{Z}_2^n$  we can obtain arbitrary sign rule. For, let  $S$  be a finite set, say  $S = \{1, \dots, m\}$ , and let  $\varphi : S \times S \rightarrow \{\pm 1\}$  be any symmetric function. We can understand  $\varphi$  as a sign rule for the associative algebra  $\mathcal{A}$  generated freely by elements  $y^i$ ,  $i = 1, \dots, m$ , modulo the commutation identities

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We then have the following.

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There is  $n \leq 2m$  and a map  $\sigma : S \rightarrow \mathbb{Z}_2^n$ ,  $i \mapsto \sigma_i$ , such that

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# $\mathbb{Z}_2^n$ -supermanifolds

- The first idea is to define the function sheaf  $\mathcal{O}_U$  of a  $\mathbb{Z}_2^n$ -superdomain  $\mathcal{U} = (U, \mathcal{O}_U)$ , over any open  $V \subset U$ , as the  $\mathbb{Z}_2^n$ -commutative associative unital  $\mathbb{R}$ -algebra

$$\mathcal{O}_U(V) = C_U^\infty(V)[\xi^1, \dots, \xi^q]$$

of polynomials in the indeterminates  $\xi^a$  of degrees  $\deg(\xi^a) \in \mathbb{Z}_2^n \setminus \{0\}$  with coefficients in smooth functions of  $V$ .

- However, for a proper development of differential calculus, we must be able to compose elements of degree 0 with smooth functions. But what is  $F(x + \xi^2)$  for a 1-variable smooth function  $F$ , a variable  $x$  and a formal even variable  $\xi$ ?
- Since  $\xi$  is not nilpotent, the Taylor formula  $F(x + \xi^2) = \sum_k \frac{1}{k!} F^{(k)}(x) \xi^{2k}$  leads to a formal power series.
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# $\mathbb{Z}_2^n$ -supermanifolds

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A (smooth)  $\mathbb{Z}_2^n$ -supermanifold (or a color supermanifold)  $\mathcal{M}$  of dimension  $p|q$ ,  $p \in \mathbb{N}$ ,  $q = (q_1, \dots, q_{2^n-1}) \in \mathbb{N}^{2^n-1}$ , is a locally  $\mathbb{Z}_2^n$ -ringed space  $(M, \mathcal{O}_M)$  that is locally isomorphic to the  $\mathbb{Z}_2^n$ -superdomain  $(\mathbb{R}^p, C_{\mathbb{R}^p}^\infty[[\xi^1, \dots, \xi^q]])$ , where  $q = \sum_k q_k$ , where  $\xi^1, \dots, \xi^q$  are  $\mathbb{Z}_2^n$ -commuting formal variables of which  $q_k$  have the  $k$ -th degree in  $\mathbb{Z}_2^n \setminus \{0\}$ , and where  $C_{\mathbb{R}^p}^\infty$  is the function sheaf of the Euclidean space  $\mathbb{R}^p$ .

Roughly, a  $\mathbb{Z}_2^n$ -supermanifold can be viewed as a topological space  $M$ , which is covered by  $\mathbb{Z}_2^n$ -graded  $\mathbb{Z}_2^n$ -commutative coordinate systems  $(x, \xi)$  ( $x$  can be interpreted as a homeomorphism  $x(m) \rightleftharpoons m(x)$  between its Euclidean open range  $U$  and an open subset of  $M$  (which is often also denoted by  $U$ )) and is endowed with coordinate transformations that respect the  $\mathbb{Z}_2^n$ -degree and satisfy the cocycle condition.

**Example.** If  $\mathcal{M}$  is a  $\mathbb{Z}_2^n$ -supermanifold, then  $T\mathcal{M}$  and  $T^*\mathcal{M}$  are canonically  $\mathbb{Z}_2^{n+1}$ -supermanifolds.

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# Double vector bundles

In geometry and applications one often encounters **double vector bundles**, i.e. manifolds equipped with two vector bundle structures which are **compatible** in a categorical sense. They were defined by Pradines and studied by Mackenzie, Grabowska and Urbański as **vector bundles in the category of vector bundles**. More precisely:

## Definition

A **double vector bundle**  $(D; A, B; M)$  is a system of four vector bundle structures

$$\begin{array}{ccc} D & \xrightarrow{q_B^D} & B \\ q_A^D \downarrow & & \downarrow q_B \\ A & \xrightarrow{q_A} & M \end{array}$$

in which  $D$  has two vector bundle structures, on bases  $A$  and  $B$ . The latter are themselves vector bundles on  $M$ , such that each of the four structure maps of each vector bundle structure on  $D$  (namely the bundle projection, zero section, addition and scalar multiplication) is a morphism of vector bundles with respect to the other structures.

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# The structure of double vector bundles

- In the above diagram, we refer to  $A$  and  $B$  as the **side bundles** of  $D$ , and to  $M$  as the **double base**.
- In the two side bundles, the addition and scalar multiplication are denoted by the usual symbols  $+$  and juxtaposition, respectively.
- We distinguish the two zero-sections, writing  $0^A : M \rightarrow A, m \mapsto 0_m^A$ , and  $0^B : M \rightarrow B, m \mapsto 0_m^B$ .
- In the vertical bundle structure on  $D$  with base  $A$ , the vector bundle operations are denoted by  $+_A$  and  $\cdot_A$ , with  $\tilde{0}^A : A \rightarrow D, a \mapsto \tilde{0}_a^A$ , for the zero-section.
- Similarly, in the horizontal bundle structure on  $D$  with base  $B$  we write  $+_B$  and  $\cdot_B$ , with  $\tilde{0}^B : B \rightarrow D, b \mapsto \tilde{0}_b^B$ , for the zero-section.
- The two structures on  $D$ , namely  $(D, q_B^D, B)$  and  $(D, q_A^D, A)$  will also be denoted, respectively, by  $\tilde{D}_B$  and  $\tilde{D}_A$ , and called the **horizontal bundle structure** and the **vertical bundle structure**.

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# Double vector bundles - compatibility conditions

The condition that each vector bundle operation in  $D$  is a morphism with respect to the other is equivalent to the following conditions, known as the **interchange laws**:

$$(d_1 +_B d_2) +_A (d_3 +_B d_4) = (d_1 +_A d_3) +_B (d_2 +_A d_4),$$

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# Double vector bundles

- We can extend the concept of a **double vector bundle** of Pradines to  **$n$ -fold vector bundles**.
- However, thanks to our simple description in terms of a homogeneity structure, the 'diagrammatic' definition of Pradines can be substantially simplified.
- As two vector bundle structure on the same manifold are just two regular homogeneity structures, the obvious concept of compatibility leads to the following:

## Definition (Grabowski-Rotkiewicz)

A **double graded bundle** is a manifold equipped with two homogeneity structures  $h^1, h^2$  which are **compatible** in the sense that

$$h_t^1 \circ h_s^2 = h_s^2 \circ h_t^1 \quad \text{for all } s, t \in \mathbb{R}.$$



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$$h_t^1 \circ h_s^2 = h_s^2 \circ h_t^1 \quad \text{for all } s, t \in \mathbb{R}.$$

# $n$ -fold vector bundles

The above condition can also be formulated as commutation of the corresponding Euler vector fields,  $[\nabla^1, \nabla^2] = 0$ .

For vector bundles this is equivalent to the concept of a double vector bundle in the sense of Pradines and Mackenzie.

## Theorem (Grabowski-Rotkiewicz)

*The concept of a double vector bundle, understood as a particular double graded bundle in the above sense, coincides with that of Pradines.*

All this can be extended to  $n$ -fold vector bundles in the obvious way:

## Definition

A  $n$ -fold vector bundle is a manifold equipped with  $n$  regular homogeneity structures  $h^1, \dots, h^n$  which are compatible in the sense that

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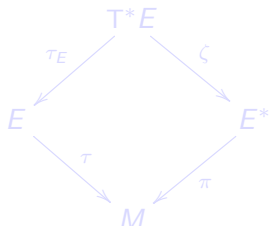
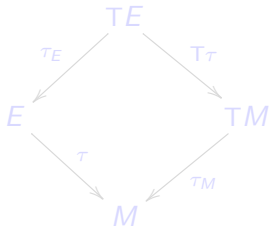
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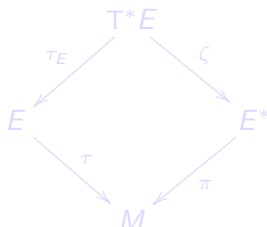
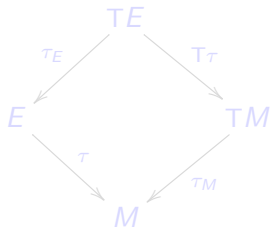
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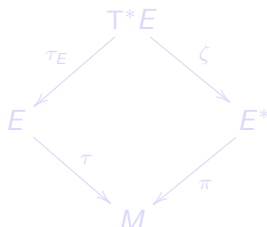
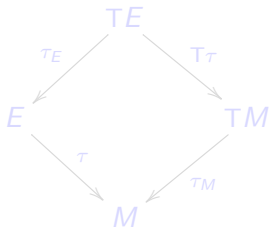
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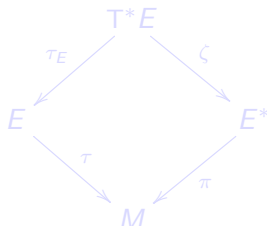
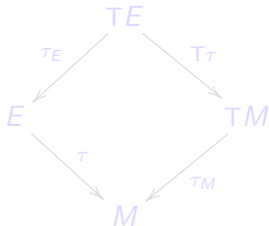
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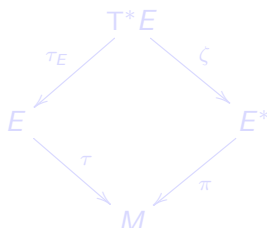
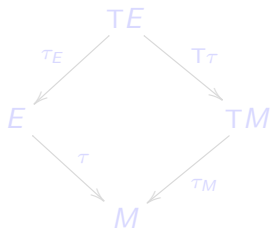
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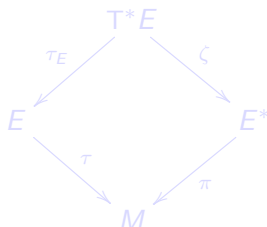
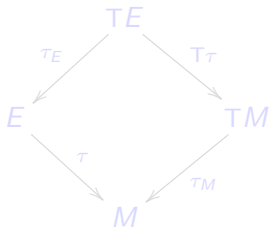
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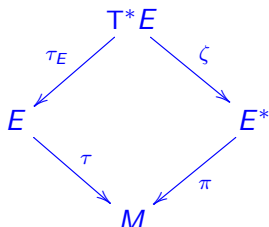
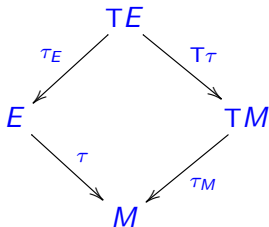
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# $n$ -fold vector bundles - splitting theorem

- **Fundamental fact for applications:** There is a canonical isomorphism of double vector bundles

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- **Split  $n$ -fold vector bundles.** Let  $\{E_\sigma\}_{\sigma \in \mathbb{Z}_2^n \setminus \{0\}}$  be a family of vector bundles over  $M$ . Then  $E = \bigoplus_{\sigma \in \mathbb{Z}_2^n \setminus \{0\}} E_\sigma$  is canonically an  $n$ -fold vector bundle such that  $h_t^i$  is the multiplication by  $t$  in  $E_\sigma$  for those  $\sigma$  for which  $\sigma_i = 1$ .
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of a  $\mathbb{Z}_2^n$ -tuple vector bundle  $E$  are pairwise disjoint, so the order in which  $y_{\sigma^i}^{b_i}$  appear in the above formula is irrelevant if we assume that we replace  $y_\sigma^a$  with  $\xi_\sigma^a$  which (super)commute according to the  $\mathbb{Z}_2^n$ -rules of commutation, and these transformations correctly define an  $\mathbb{Z}_2^n$ -supermanifold.

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## Theorem

Any  $\mathbb{Z}_2^n$ -supermanifold is (non-canonically) isomorphic with a supermanifold of the form  $\Pi E$  for an  $n$ -tuple vector bundle (thus a split  $n$ -fold vector bundle).

- This result is equivalent to the statement that any smooth  $\mathbb{Z}_2^n$ -supermanifold can noncanonically be equipped with an atlas, whose coordinates  $(x^i, \xi_\sigma^a)$  transform according to

$$x'^i = x'^i(x), \quad \xi_\sigma^a = T_b^{a;\sigma}(x) \xi_\sigma^b.$$

- In other words, the coordinates of  $\mathbb{Z}_2^n$ -degree  $\sigma$  depend only on the old coordinates of the same degree  $\sigma$ .
- In the following, we consider sheafs  $\mathcal{A}_M, C_M^\infty, \dots$  over a smooth manifold  $M$ , but will, for simplicity, just write  $\mathcal{A}, C^\infty, \dots$



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- It is clear that locally the sheaves coincide. To prove that they are isomorphic, we will build a morphism  $\prod_{k \geq -1} \odot^{k+1} \mathcal{S} \rightarrow \mathcal{A}$  of sheaves of  $\mathbb{Z}_2^n$ -superalgebras. The idea is to extend a morphism  $\mathcal{S} \rightarrow \mathcal{A}$ , or  $\mathcal{J}/\mathcal{J}^2 \rightarrow \mathcal{J}$ .
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- To finalize the construction of the sheaf morphism  $\varphi : C^\infty \rightarrow \mathcal{A}$ , it now suffices to solve the consistency problem. Let  $U$  and  $V$  be  $\mathbb{Z}_2^n$ -chart domains and let  $\varphi_{k+1,U}$  and  $\varphi_{k+1,V}$  be the preceding extensions of  $\varphi_{k,U}$  and  $\varphi_{k,V}$ , respectively.
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- We have proved the following.

## Theorem

For any  $\mathbb{Z}_2^n$ -supermanifold  $(M, \mathcal{A}_M)$ , the short exact sequence

$$0 \rightarrow \mathcal{I}_M \rightarrow \mathcal{A}_M \xrightarrow{\varepsilon} C_M^\infty \rightarrow 0$$

of sheaves of  $\mathbb{Z}_2^n$ -commutative associative  $\mathbb{R}$ -algebras is noncanonically split.

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$$0 \rightarrow \mathcal{I}^2 \rightarrow \mathcal{I} \rightarrow \mathcal{S} = \mathcal{I}/\mathcal{I}^2 \rightarrow 0 \quad (1)$$

can be viewed as a short exact sequence of sheaves of  $C^\infty$ -modules.

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# THANK YOU FOR YOUR ATTENTION!

## Happy Birthday Alberto!

