

# ON THE REALIZATION OF HOMOLOGY CLASSES BY SUBMANIFOLDS

BY  
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**1. Introduction.** In [1] R. Thom defines when a cohomology class in a manifold is realizable for a closed subgroup of an orthogonal group. He also defines when a homology class is realizable by a submanifold. He then shows the following.

Let  $m$  be the dimension of a compact orientable differentiable manifold  $M$ . Any cohomology class of dimension 1, 2,  $m-6$ ,  $m-5$ ,  $\dots$ ,  $m$  is realizable for the orthogonal group  $O(1)=1$ ,  $O(2)$ ,  $O(m-6)$ ,  $O(m-5)$ ,  $\dots$ ,  $O(m)$  respectively. If a class  $z \in H_{m-k}(M; Z)$  can be realized by a submanifold, then the cohomology class  $u \in H^k(M; Z)$  which is dual to  $z$  satisfies

$$Sl_p^{2r(p-1)+1}(u) = 0$$

for all integers  $r$  and all odd primes  $p$ . Here  $Sl_p^{2r(p-1)+1}$  denotes the Steenrod reduced power [4] which operates on the cohomology group with integral coefficients  $Z$ . All homology classes with integral coefficients of compact orientable differentiable manifolds of dimension  $<10$  are realizable by submanifolds.

We consider compact differentiable manifolds which are not necessarily orientable, and we ask whether the cup-products and the Steenrod squares [3] of realizable cohomology classes can be realized. It was stated by Thom [1] that cup-products of realizable classes are also realizable. We shall give another proof of this result (see §3 below). As for squares of realizable classes with integers modulo 2 as coefficients, we have the following result. Let  $u$  be a cohomology class of dimension  $n$  in a compact differentiable manifold of dimension  $m+n$ . If  $u$  is realizable for the group  $O(k) \subset O(n)$  ( $k \leq n$ ), then the cohomology class  $Sq^k(u)$  is also realizable (see §5 below).

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**2. Preliminaries.** In this section, we summarize the theory of Thom [1 and 2]. Let<sup>(1)</sup>  $G$  be a closed subgroup of the orthogonal group  $O(n)$ . Let  $S$  denote an  $(n-1)$ -sphere fiber space over a finite cell complex  $K$  with the structural group  $G$  and let  $A$  be the mapping cylinder of the projection of  $S$  onto  $K$ .  $A$  becomes a fiber space over  $K$  with a closed  $n$ -cell  $b_n$  as fiber. Its projection is induced by that of  $S$ . We denote by  $A'$  the complement of  $S$  in  $A$  which is a fiber space over  $K$  with fiber, an open  $n$ -cell  $b_n$ .

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<sup>(1)</sup> If  $G$  is a compact Lie group, then there is an integer  $n$  such that  $G$  is isomorphic to a subgroup of  $O(n)$ .

Throughout this paper,  $\mathfrak{G}$  will denote the group of integers or integers modulo 2. When dealing with the nonorientable case<sup>(2)</sup>  $\mathfrak{G}$  will denote only the group of integers modulo 2.

By the theory of fiber spaces with open cells as fibers, we have a canonical isomorphism  $\phi^*$  of the  $r$  dimensional cohomology group  $H^r(K; \mathfrak{G})$  onto the  $r+n$  dimensional cohomology group  $H^{r+n}(A'; \mathfrak{G}) = H^{r+n}(A, S; \mathfrak{G})$ .  $H^n(A, S; \mathfrak{G})$  is the first nonvanishing cohomology group.

We denote by  $S_{G,n}$  and  $B_G$  the universal fiber space and the classifying space respectively, for  $(n-1)$ -sphere fiber spaces over finite cell complexes of bounded dimension with the structural group  $G$  (see [5]). We may assume  $B_G$  is a grassmann manifold. Let  $A_{G,n}$  be the mapping cylinder of the projection of  $S_{G,n}$  onto  $B_G$  and let  $A'_{G,n}$  be the complement of  $S_{G,n}$  in  $A_{G,n}$ . In particular, we denote  $S_{O(n),n}$ ,  $A_{O(n),n}$  and  $A'_{O(n),n}$  by  $S_{O(n)}$ ,  $A_{O(n)}$  and  $A'_{O(n)}$  for the sake of brevity.

DEFINITION 1. Let  $M(G, n)$  be the space which we get from  $A_{G,n}$  by identifying its boundary  $S_{G,n}$  to a point. We call the space  $M(G, n)$  the *cell complex corresponding to the subgroup  $G$  of  $O(n)$* . We denote  $M(O(n), n)$  simply by  $M(O(n))$ .

We have the natural isomorphisms of cohomology groups,

$$H^r(A'_{G,n}; \mathfrak{G}) = H^r(A_{G,n}, S_{G,n}; \mathfrak{G}) = H^r(M(G, n); \mathfrak{G})$$

where  $r > 0$ . It is quite easy to see that  $H^0(M(G, n); \mathfrak{G}) = \mathfrak{G} \phi_{G,n}^*$  denotes the canonical isomorphism in the fiber structure  $A'_{G,n}$ ,

$$\phi_{G,n}^*: H^{r-n}(B_G; \mathfrak{G}) \approx H^r(A'_{G,n}; \mathfrak{G}) = H^r(M(G, n); \mathfrak{G})$$

where  $r \geq n$ . Therefore the cohomology groups  $H^r(M(G, n); \mathfrak{G})$  of dimensions  $r \geq n$  are obtained by raising dimensions of cohomology groups of the classifying space  $B_G$  by the integer  $n$ .  $H^n(M(G, n); \mathfrak{G})$  is the first cohomology group which does not vanish in dimension  $> 0$ . This group is generated by the class,

$$(1) \quad U_{G,n} = \phi_{G,n}^*(1_G) \in H^n(M(G, n); \mathfrak{G})$$

where  $1_G$  is the unit class of  $H^*(B_G; \mathfrak{G})$ . We call the class  $U_{G,n}$  the *fundamental class* of  $M(G, n)$ . We denote  $U_{O(n),n}$  simply by  $U_{O(n)}$ .

DEFINITION 2. Let  $A$  be a topological space and let  $u$  be a class of  $H^n(A; \mathfrak{G})$ .  $u$  is said to be *realizable for  $G \subset O(n)$*  or *has  $G$ -realization*, if there is a map  $f: A \rightarrow M(G, n)$  such that  $u = f^* U_{G,n}$ .

DEFINITION 3. Let  $W$  be a submanifold of dimension  $p$  in a compact differentiable manifold  $V$  of dimension  $m$  and of class  $C^\infty$ , where  $p$  is an integer such that  $m \geq p \geq 0$ . The inclusion mapping  $i: W \subset V$  induces a homomorphism  $i_*$  of the homology group  $H_p(W; \mathfrak{G})$  into the homology group  $H_p(V; \mathfrak{G})$ .

<sup>(2)</sup> Orientability means that of the fiber space  $S$ , therefore, of  $A$ . In this case,  $G$  is connected.

If a homology class  $z$  of  $H_p(W; \mathfrak{G})$  is the image of the fundamental class of  $W$ , then we say that the class  $z$  is realized by the submanifold  $W$ .

Now we state the following fundamental theorem [1, Chap. II]:

**THEOREM 1.** *Let  $V$  be a compact differentiable manifold of dimension  $m$  and of class  $C^\infty$ , and let  $n$  be an integer such that  $m \geq n \geq 0$ . A cohomology class  $u \in H^n(V; \mathfrak{G})$  is realizable for the group  $G \subset O(n)$  if and only if the dual homology class<sup>(3)</sup>  $z$  of  $u$  is realized by a submanifold  $W$  of dimension  $m - n$  and the fiber space consisting of normal vectors on the submanifold  $W$  in  $V$  has the group  $G$  as its structural group.*

Let  $h$  be a classifying map of  $K$  into  $B_G$  for the fiber space  $S$ . Then it induces a fiber mapping  $H$  of  $A$  into  $A_{G,n}$ . Commutativity holds in the diagram,

$$(2) \quad \begin{array}{ccc} & H & \\ & \downarrow & \\ A & \xrightarrow{\quad} & A_{G,n} \\ p \downarrow & h & \downarrow p_{G,n} \\ K & \xrightarrow{\quad} & B_G \end{array}$$

where  $p$  and  $p_{G,n}$  are the projections of the fiber structures  $A$  and  $A_{G,n}$  which are naturally induced by the projections  $S \rightarrow K$  and  $S_{G,n} \rightarrow B_G$ . The commutativity of (2) induces that of the following diagram of homomorphisms of cohomology groups,

$$(3) \quad \begin{array}{ccc} H^n(A'; \mathfrak{G}) & \xleftarrow{H'^*} & H^n(A'_{G,n}; \mathfrak{G}) \\ \phi^* \uparrow & & \uparrow \phi_{G,n}^* \\ H^0(K; \mathfrak{G}) & \xleftarrow{h^*} & H^0(B_G; \mathfrak{G}) \end{array}$$

where  $H'$  is the mapping of  $A'$  into  $A'_{G,n}$  induced by  $H$ .

Obviously, the homomorphism  $p^*$  induced by  $p$  gives us an isomorphism of  $H^r(K; \mathfrak{G})$  onto  $H^r(A; \mathfrak{G})$ . We put  $\phi^*(1) = U_n \in H^n(A'; \mathfrak{G})$  where  $1$  is the unit class of the cohomology ring  $H^*(K; \mathfrak{G})$ . Let  $\beta^*$  be the homomorphism of  $H^n(A'; \mathfrak{G}) = H^n(A, S; \mathfrak{G})$  into  $H^n(A; \mathfrak{G})$  induced by the inclusion map  $\beta$  of  $(A, 0)$  into  $(A, S)$ . The cohomology class  $W_n = p^{*-1}\beta^*U_n$  in  $H^n(K; \mathfrak{G})$  is called the *fundamental characteristic class* of the  $(n-1)$ -sphere fiber space  $S$ . In below, we shall denote  $p^*W_n$  by the same symbol  $W_n$ .

The isomorphism  $\phi^*$  has the following important property<sup>(4)</sup>,

$$(4) \quad \phi^*(x \cup y) = p^*x \cup \phi^*y$$

<sup>(3)</sup> We remark the fact that if  $V$  is orientable, then duality means the Poincaré duality, i.e., the isomorphism of the homology group  $H_{m-n}(V; Z)$  onto the cohomology group  $H^n(V; Z)$ , and if  $V$  is nonorientable, then we take the coefficient group  $Z_2$  and duality means the isomorphism of Poincaré-Veblen, i.e., the isomorphism of  $H_{m-n}(V; Z_2)$  onto  $H^n(V; Z_2)$ .

<sup>(4)</sup> The cup-product is defined by the multiplication among integers.

for cohomology classes  $x, y$  in  $H^*(K; \mathfrak{G})$ . If we put  $y=1$ , then the formula (4) gives us

$$(5) \quad \phi^*(x) = p^*x \cup U_n$$

for every class  $x$  in  $H^*(K; \mathfrak{G})$ . Also  $\phi^*$  commutes with the Steenrod square operations.

The *Stiefel-Whitney class*  $W_j$  of dimension  $j$  ( $0 \leq j \leq n$ ), is defined as the fundamental characteristic class of the associated  $(j-1)$ -sphere fiber space over the  $j$ -skeleton  $K_j$  of  $K$ .

**THEOREM 2.** *The Stiefel-Whitney class  $W_j$  of the  $(n-1)$ -sphere fiber space  $S$  satisfies the following formula,*

$$(6) \quad Sq^i U_n = U_n \cup W_j \quad \text{for } 0 \leq j \leq n$$

where  $Sq^i$  denotes the Steenrod square operation which raises dimension by  $j$ .

The proof of this theorem can be found in [2, Chap. II, Theorem II].

We remark that the relation (6) leads to the topological invariance of the Stiefel-Whitney classes of compact differentiable manifolds.

In the end of this section, we mention a property of the canonical isomorphism for *double fiber structures*. Let  $A''$  be a fiber structure over  $A'$  with an open cell as fiber.  $\phi'^*$  denotes the canonical isomorphism for  $A''$  over  $A'$ . Obviously,  $A''$  is a fiber structure over  $K$  with the open cell which is product cell of the fiber of  $A'$  over  $K$  and that of  $A''$  over  $A'$ .  $\phi''^*$  denotes the isomorphism for  $A''$  over  $K$ , then we have the relation

$$(7) \quad \phi''^* = \phi'^* \phi^*.$$

### 3. Cup-products of realizable cohomology classes.

**THEOREM 3.** *Suppose that  $K$  is a finite cell complex and that  $u_1 \in H^{k_1}(K; \mathfrak{G})$  and  $u_2 \in H^{k_2}(K; \mathfrak{G})$ . If  $u_1$  and  $u_2$  are  $O(k_1)$ - and  $O(k_2)$ -realizable, respectively, then the cup-product<sup>(6)</sup>  $u_1 \cup u_2$  is  $O(k_1+k_2)$ -realizable.*

**Proof.** By Definition 2, there exists two mappings,  $f_1: K \rightarrow M(O(k_1))$  and  $f_2: K \rightarrow M(O(k_2))$  having the following properties. For the sake of brevity, we use the notations  $U_1, U_2$  instead of  $U_{O(k_1)}, U_{O(k_2)}$ . Then the relations,

$$f_1^* U_1 = u_1, \quad f_2^* U_2 = u_2$$

hold.

Now we shall define a mapping  $\bar{H}$  of the product space  $M(O(k_1)) \times M(O(k_2))$  into the cell complex  $M(O(k_1+k_2))$  as follows:  $A_{O(k_1)} \times A_{O(k_2)}$  is a fiber space over the product space  $B_{O(k_1)} \times B_{O(k_2)}$  with fiber, the  $(k_1+k_2)$ -cell  $\bar{b}_1 \times \bar{b}_2$  and with structural group, the orthogonal group  $O(k_1+k_2)$ . Since

<sup>(6)</sup> The cup-product is defined by the multiplication of the ring  $\mathfrak{G}$ . Further, Theorem 3 holds generally in the case where the coefficient group is any ring.

$O(k_1+k_2)$  contains the group  $O(k_1) \times O(k_2)$ , we can take the universal fiber space  $A_{O(k_1+k_2)}$  over  $B_{O(k_1+k_2)}$  and a classifying map  $h$  of  $B_{O(k_1)} \times B_{O(k_2)}$  into  $B_{O(k_1+k_2)}$  which induces the fiber space  $A_{O(k_1)} \times A_{O(k_2)}$  from  $A_{O(k_1+k_2)}$ . Let  $H$  be the mapping of  $A_{O(k_1)} \times A_{O(k_2)}$  into  $A_{O(k_1+k_2)}$  induced by the classifying map  $h$ . Since  $H$  maps the boundary of  $A_{O(k_1)} \times A_{O(k_2)}$  into that of  $A_{O(k_1+k_2)}$ ,  $H$  defines a continuous mapping  $\bar{H}$  of the product cell complex  $M(O(k_1)) \times M(O(k_2))$  into the complex  $M(O(k_1+k_2))$ .

Let  $j_1$  and  $j_2$  be the projections of  $M(O(k_1)) \times M(O(k_2))$  onto  $M(O(k_1))$  and  $M(O(k_2))$  respectively, defined by the formulae,

$$j_1(x, y) = x, \quad j_2(x, y) = y$$

for each point  $(x, y) \in M(O(k_1)) \times M(O(k_2))$ . Similarly, we define the projections  $j'_1$  and  $j'_2$  of  $A'_{O(k_1)} \times A'_{O(k_2)}$  onto  $A'_{O(k_1)}$  and  $A'_{O(k_2)}$  respectively. Let  $U'_1$  and  $U'_2$  be the fundamental classes in the cohomology groups  $H^{k_1}(A'_{O(k_1)}; \mathfrak{G})$  and  $H^{k_2}(A'_{O(k_2)}; \mathfrak{G})$  which correspond naturally to  $U_1$  and  $U_2$ .

We consider a cellular subdivision of the space  $A'_{O(k_1)}$  as follows: We can suppose a simplicial subdivision of the base space  $B_{O(k_1)}$  which satisfies the condition that each simplex is contained in a coordinate neighborhood. We take product cells of such simplexes with the  $k_1$ -cell of the fiber. These cells make a cellular subdivision of  $A'_{O(k_1)}$ . In the similar way, we can suppose such cellular subdivisions of the space  $A'_{O(k_2)}$  and of the space  $A'_{O(k_1+k_2)}$ . Then we have:

LEMMA 1. *Under the above conditions, the relation*

$$(8) \quad H'^* U'_{O(k_1+k_2)} = j_1'^* U'_1 \cup j_2'^* U'_2$$

holds, where  $H'$  is the mapping of  $A'_{O(k_1)} \times A'_{O(k_2)}$  into  $A'_{O(k_1+k_2)}$  induced by  $H$  and  $U'_{O(k_1+k_2)}$  is the fundamental class in  $H^{k_1+k_2}(A'_{O(k_1+k_2)}; \mathfrak{G})$  which correspond naturally to  $U_{O(k_1+k_2)}$ .

**Proof.**  $A'_{O(k_1)} \times A'_{O(k_2)}$  has a double fiber structure,  $A'_{O(k_1)} \times B_{O(k_2)}$  over  $B_{O(k_1)} \times B_{O(k_2)}$  and  $A'_{O(k_1)} \times A'_{O(k_2)}$  over  $A'_{O(k_1)} \times B'_{O(k_2)}$ . Let  $\phi_1^*$ ,  $\phi_2^*$  denote the canonical isomorphisms for these fiber structures, respectively, and let  $\phi^*$  denote that for  $A'_{O(k_1)} \times A'_{O(k_2)}$  over  $B_{O(k_1)} \times B_{O(k_2)}$ . (7) gives us the relation,

$$\phi^* = \phi_2^* \phi_1^*.$$

By using the commutativity of (3), we have that<sup>(6)</sup>

$$\begin{aligned} H'^* U'_{O(k_1+k_2)} &= H'^* \phi_{O(k_1+k_2)}^* (1_{O(k_1+k_2)}) = \phi^* (1) \\ &= \phi_2^* \phi_1^* (1) = \phi_2^* (j_1'^* U'_1) \\ &= j_1'^* U'_1 \cup j_2'^* U'_2. \end{aligned}$$

<sup>(6)</sup> For simplicity, we denote the canonical isomorphism  $\phi_{O(k_1+k_2),n}^*$  by  $\phi_{O(k_1+k_2)}^*$ , if  $n = k_1 + k_2$ .

Thus Lemma 1 has proved.

We have a diagram of the homomorphisms  $\overline{H}^*$ ,  $H'^*$ ,  $j_1^* \cup j_2^*$ ,  $j_1'^* \cup j_2'^*$  and if the isomorphisms of the cohomology groups induced by identifying the boundaries,  $S_{O(k_i)}$  in  $A_{O(k_i)}$  ( $i=1, 2$ ) and  $S_{O(k_1+k_2)}$  in  $A_{O(k_1+k_2)}$  to a point, respectively,

$$\begin{array}{ccc}
 H^{k_1}(A'_{O(k_1)}; \mathfrak{G}) \times H^{k_2}(A'_{O(k_2)}; \mathfrak{G}) & = & H^{k_1}(M(O(k_1)); \mathfrak{G}) \times H^{k_2}(M(O(k_2)); \mathfrak{G}) \\
 j_1'^* \cup j_2'^* \downarrow & & \downarrow j_1^* \cup j_2^* \\
 H^{k_1+k_2}(A'_{O(k_1)} \times A'_{O(k_2)}; \mathfrak{G}) & \rightarrow & H^{k_1+k_2}(M(O(k_1)) \times M(O(k_2)); \mathfrak{G}) \\
 H'^* \uparrow & & \uparrow \overline{H}^* \\
 H^{k_1+k_2}(A'_{O(k_1+k_2)}; \mathfrak{G}) & = & H^{k_1+k_2}(M(O(k_1+k_2)); \mathfrak{G}),
 \end{array}$$

where the horizontal arrow is a canonical homomorphism of cohomology groups which is induced by the inclusion mapping of pairs of spaces,

$$(A_{O(k_1)} \times A_{O(k_2)}, 0) \rightarrow (A_{O(k_1)} \times A_{O(k_2)}, (A_{O(k_1)} \times A_{O(k_2)})').$$

Since the above diagram is commutative, the relation (8) leads to the formula,

$$(8') \quad \overline{H}^* U_{O(k_1+k_2)} = j_1^* U_1 \cup j_2^* U_2,$$

which plays an important roll in the proof of Theorem 3.

Now we define a mapping  $f_1 * f_2$  from the cell complex  $K$  into the product cell complex  $M(O(k_1)) \times M(O(k_2))$  by the formula,

$$f_1 * f_2(a) = f_1(a) \times f_2(a), \quad a \in K.$$

Then this mapping induces a homomorphism  $(f_1 * f_2)^*$  of the cohomology group

$$H^{k_1+k_2}(M(O(k_1)) \times M(O(k_2)); \mathfrak{G})$$

into the cohomology group  $H^{k_1+k_2}(K; \mathfrak{G})$ . Using the property that these induced homomorphisms and the cup-products are commutative, we have the relation,

$$\begin{aligned}
 (9) \quad (f_1 * f_2)^*(j_1^* U_1 \cup j_2^* U_2) &= f_1^* U_1 \cup f_2^* U_2 \\
 &= u_1 \cup u_2,
 \end{aligned}$$

because it is easily seen that

$$\begin{aligned}
 f_1 &= j_1(f_1 * f_2), \\
 f_2 &= j_2(f_1 * f_2).
 \end{aligned}$$

We put  $f = \overline{H}(f_1 * f_2)$ . This is a continuous mapping of  $K$  into  $M(O(k_1+k_2))$ . Combining the formulae (8') and (9), we obtain the relation,

$$\begin{aligned}
 (10) \quad f^*U_{O(k_1+k_2)} &= (f_1 * f_2)^* H^* U_{O(k_1+k_2)} \\
 &= (f_1 * f_2)^* (j_1^* U_1 \cup j_2^* U_2) \\
 &= u_1 \cup u_2.
 \end{aligned}$$

The last formula (10) means that the class  $u_1 \cup u_2$  has an  $O(k_1+k_2)$ -realization.

**4. Applications of Theorem 3.** When the cell complex  $K$  stated above is an  $n$  dimensional differentiable manifold  $V$  of class  $C^\infty$ , we can use Theorem 1. Then we have the following result.

**COROLLARY 1.** *Let  $V$  be an  $n$  dimensional differentiable manifold of class  $C^\infty$ . Let  $z_1, z_2$  be homology classes of respective dimension  $n-k_1, n-k_2$  in  $V$ , where we suppose that  $k_1, k_2 \leq n$ . We take the integers or the integers modulo 2 as coefficients and take only the latter when  $V$  is nonorientable. If the classes  $z_1, z_2$  are realized by submanifolds, then their intersection class  $z_1 \cdot z_2$  is also realized by a submanifold.*

**Proof.** The homology class  $z_1 \cdot z_2$  is dual to the cohomology class  $u_1 \cup u_2$  where the class  $u_i$  is the dual of  $z_i$  ( $i=1, 2$ ) (H. Whitney [6]). This fact together with Theorem 1 and Theorem 3 yield Corollary 1.

Theorem 3 shows the existence of a mapping  $f$  of  $K$  into  $M(O(k_1+k_2))$ . We state this fact as Corollary 2.

**COROLLARY 2.** *If there exist continuous mappings  $f_1, f_2$  of the cell complex  $K$  into the cell complexes  $M(O(k_1))$  and  $M(O(k_2))$  which satisfy the condition that  $f_1^* U_1 = u_1, f_2^* U_2 = u_2$ . Then there exists a continuous mapping  $f$  of  $K$  into  $M(O(k_1+k_2))$  such that  $f^* U_{O(k_1+k_2)} = u_1 \cup u_2$ .*

So far we have proved that in a compact differentiable manifold the cup-product of two realizable classes is realizable. In the next sections, we shall study the Steenrod square operations of realizable cohomology classes.

**5. Squares of classes of  $n$  dimension having  $O(k)$ -realization.** In this section, we shall state theorems on the realizability of Steenrod square of  $n$  dimensional cohomology classes which are realizable for  $O(k) \subset O(n)$ .

Now we denote by  $V$  a compact differentiable manifold of dimension  $m+n$  and denote by  $W$  a submanifold in  $V$  of dimension  $m$ . Let  $z \in H_m(V; Z_2)$  be the homology class defined by  $W$  and  $u \in H^n(V; Z_2)$  be the cohomology class which is dual to  $z$ . Then the following is the main theorem of this note.

**THEOREM 4.** *If the fiber space  $N(W)$  of normal vectors over the submanifold  $W$  in  $V$  has a field of  $(n-k)$ -linearly independent vectors where we suppose that  $k \leq n$ , then the square  $Sq^k(u)$  of the class  $u$  can be also realized.*

The condition of Theorem 4 is satisfied if and only if the fiber space  $N(W)$  has  $O(k)$  as its structural group. So, we can state the above fact simply as follows:

**THEOREM 5.** *If  $u \in H^n(V; Z_2)$  is realizable for  $O(k) \subset O(n)$ , then  $Sq^k(u)$  can be also realized.*

**REMARK.** If the Stiefel-Whitney class  $W_k \in H^k(W; Z_2)$  is realizable, then Theorem 5 follows from Theorem 3 immediately. In the following, however, we shall give the proof without the fact.

In order to prove Theorem 5, we state some preliminary results. By Theorem 1 there exists a mapping  $f$  of  $V$  into  $M(O(k), n)$  such that the homomorphism  $f^*$  of  $H^n(M(O(k), n); Z_2)$  into  $H^n(V; Z_2)$  induced by  $f$  satisfies the condition that

$$u = f^* U_{O(k), n}.$$

Next we consider the structure of the fiber space  $A_{O(k), n}$  over  $B_{O(k)}$ .

**LEMMA 2.** *The fiber structure  $A_{O(k), n}$  decomposes into the product of a closed  $(n-k)$ -cell  $b_{n-k}$  and  $A_{O(k)}$ .*

**Proof.** We can choose a system of coordinate transformations for the fiber space  $A_{O(k), n}$ , any transformation of which leaves certain  $n-k$  coordinates fixed in the fiber, a closed  $n$ -cell  $b_n$ .

**6. The proof of Theorem 5.** By Lemma 2 we can define a mapping of  $A_{O(k), n}$  onto  $A_{O(k)}$  which collapses the closed  $(n-k)$ -cell of fiber into a point. Let  $q$  be such a map. On the other hand, we denote the identity mapping of  $A_{O(k), n}$  onto itself by  $\alpha$ . We can define a mapping  $\alpha \oplus q$  of  $A_{O(k), n}$  into the Whitney sum  $A_{O(k), n} \oplus A_{O(k)}$  (see Wu [7]) in such a way that

$$(11) \quad \alpha \oplus q(x) = (\alpha(x), q(x)),$$

for each point  $x$  of  $A_{O(k), n}$ .  $A_{O(k), n} \oplus A_{O(k)}$  is a fiber space over  $B_{O(k)}$  with  $b_n \times b_k$  as its fiber. Let  $H$  denote a fiber mapping of  $A_{O(k), n} \oplus A_{O(k)}$  into the universal fiber space over  $A_{O(n+k)}$  which is induced by a classifying map. We denote by  $M$  the Whitney sum  $A_{O(k), n} \oplus A_{O(k)}$  the boundary of which is identified into a point. Let  $\bar{H}$  be the mapping of  $M$  into  $M(O(n+k))$  induced by  $H$ . Since  $\alpha \oplus q$  maps  $S_{O(k), n}$  into the boundary  $(A_{O(k), n} \oplus A_{O(k)})'$ , it induces a mapping  $[\alpha \oplus q]$  of  $M(O(k), n)$  into  $M$ . Then we get the following diagram of mappings of spaces,

$$(12) \quad \begin{array}{ccccc} A_{O(k), n} & \xrightarrow{\alpha \oplus q} & A_{O(k), n} \oplus A_{O(k)} & \xrightarrow{H} & A_{O(n+k)} \\ f \downarrow i & & [\alpha \oplus q] \downarrow i & & \downarrow \bar{H} \\ V \xrightarrow{f} M(O(k), n) & \xrightarrow{[\alpha \oplus q]} & M & \xrightarrow{\bar{H}} & M(O(n+k)) \end{array}$$

where the vertical arrow  $i$  shows the respective identifying map. In each square, commutativity holds.

The diagram (12) induces the following diagram of homomorphisms of cohomology groups and commutativity holds in each square;



$$(13) \quad \begin{array}{ccccc} H^*(A'_{O(k),n}; Z_2) & \xleftarrow{(\alpha \oplus q)^*} & H^*(A'_{O(k),n} \oplus A'_{O(k)}; Z_2) & \xleftarrow{H'^*} & H^*(A'_{O(n+k)}; Z_2) \\ \parallel & & \parallel & & \parallel \\ H^*(V; Z_2) & \xleftarrow{f^*} & H^*(M(O(k), n); Z_2) & \xleftarrow{[\alpha \oplus q]^*} & H^*(M; Z_2) & \xleftarrow{\bar{H}^*} & H^*(M(O(n+k)); Z_2), \end{array}$$

where  $H'$  is the mapping induced by  $H$ .

Let  $U'_i$ ,  $i=k, n, n+k$ , be the fundamental classes of  $A'_{O(k)}$ ,  $A'_{O(k),n}$ ,  $A'_{O(n+k)}$  respectively and let  $U_i$  be the fundamental classes of  $M(O(k))$ ,  $M(O(k), n)$ ,  $M(O(n+k))$  which correspond canonically to  $U_i$  respectively. Let  $j'_1, j'_2$  denote the projections of  $A'_{O(k),n} \oplus A'_{O(k)}$  onto  $A'_{O(k),n}$  and onto  $A'_{O(k)}$  respectively.

By the same argument as Lemma 1, we have the relation,

$$(14) \quad H'^* U'_{n+k} = j'^*_1 U'_n \cup j'^*_2 U'_k.$$

From definitions of  $\alpha \oplus q$  and of  $j'_i$ , we get the formulae,

$$j'_1(\alpha \oplus q) = \alpha,$$

$$j'_2(\alpha \oplus q) = q.$$

They lead to the relations,

$$(\alpha \oplus q)^* j'^*_1 = \text{the identity isomorphism,}$$

$$(\alpha \oplus q)^* j'^*_2 = q^*.$$

Using these formulae together with (14), we obtain the result,

$$\begin{aligned} (\alpha \oplus q)^* H'^* U'_{n+k} &= (\alpha \oplus q)^* (j'^*_1 U'_n \cup j'^*_2 U'_k) \\ &= (\alpha \oplus q)^* j'^*_1 U'_n \cup (\alpha \oplus q)^* j'^*_2 U'_k \\ &= U'_n \cup q^* U'_k. \end{aligned}$$

By definition of the Stiefel-Whitney class of dimension  $k$ , we have  $W_k = \beta^* q^* U'_k$ . Hence we obtain the following,

$$\begin{aligned} U'_n \cup q^* U'_k &= U'_n \cup \beta^* q^* U'_k \\ &= U'_n \cup W_k \\ &= Sq^k U'_n. \end{aligned}$$

We have, therefore, the relation

$$(15) \quad (\alpha \oplus q)^* H'^* U'_{n+k} = Sq^k U'_n.$$

(13) and (15) show that

$$(16) \quad [\alpha \oplus q]^* \bar{H}^* U_{n+k} = Sq^k U_n,$$

where

$$V \xrightarrow{f} M(O(k), n) \xrightarrow{[\alpha + q]} M \xrightarrow{\bar{H}} M(O(n+k)).$$

If we take the composite mapping  $\bar{H}[\alpha \oplus q]f$  of  $V$  into  $M(O(n+k))$ , we obtain, by (16), the result that

$$\begin{aligned} (\bar{H}[\alpha \oplus q]f)^* U_{n+k} &= f^*[\alpha \oplus q]^* \bar{H}^* U_{n+k} \\ &= f^* Sq^k U_n \\ &= Sq^k f^* U_n \\ &= Sq^k(u). \end{aligned}$$

Thus the result of Theorem 5 is completely proved.

**7. A general result.** Combining Theorem 3 and Theorem 5, we have a general result on the realizability of cohomology classes generated by cup-products and Steenrod square operations of realizable classes:

**THEOREM 6.** *Let  $U_i$ ,  $0 \leq i \leq r$ , be cohomology classes of dimension  $n_i$  which are dual to homology classes determined by submanifolds in a compact differentiable manifold  $V$ . Suppose each  $U_i$  is realizable for  $O(k_i) \subset O(n_i)$ . Then the cohomology class*

$$Sq^{k_1} U_1 \cup Sq^{k_2} U_2 \cup \dots \cup Sq^{k_r} U_r$$

*can be realized by a submanifold in  $V$ .*

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