

FRAMED COBORDISM AND CLASSIFICATION OF FREE QUOTIENTS

ŁUKASZ P. MICHALAK

Adam Mickiewicz University in Poznań

In this talk we will show how framed cobordism of systems of non-separating 2-sided submanifolds in a closed manifold can be used to classify epimorphisms onto free groups up to equivalence and strong equivalence. Such a classification is known for surface groups and was done by Grigorchuk–Kurchanov–Zieschang by using other methods. We use an extended Pontryagin–Thom construction to associate for any system of submanifolds an induced homomorphism to a free group. We will present geometric operations on submanifolds which realize elementary Nielsen transformations on induced homomorphisms. These results are motivated by the notion of Reeb graph of a function on a manifold, which leads to both free quotient of fundamental group of manifold and system of submanifold.

The talk is based on joint work with Waclaw Marzantowicz.