

ON A GENERALIZATION OF THE ABSTRACT MORSE COMPLEX AND ITS APPLICATIONS

SUK HO HONG

Introduction

Klingenberg refers in [4] the fact that the homology group of the space \mathcal{A} of closed H^1 curves on a manifold is isomorphic to that of the Morse complex. In this paper, we generalize the fact above and at the same time give a proof to it through cell decomposition method under a strong non degeneracy condition.

We first introduce so-called generalized Morse complex on a space X with an action of Lie group G and an invariant energy function E on X . The case of the space \mathcal{A} of closed curves is obviously obtained through $G = S^1$.

Next we apply the Morse complex argument to the space \mathcal{A} , where the isotropy group is closely related to the multiplicity. And we find the cycle $Z(c)$ constructed by Shikata-Klingenberg [1] is at most finite order in the homology of the Morse complex. Thus from a close investigation of the order of the cycle $Z(c)$ on $H_*(X)$, we deduce a relation between the torsion and the divisibility of multiplicities of a certain geodesic.

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§ 1. On G -action which generalizes S^1 -action on \mathcal{A}

1-1. Let X be a C^{r+1} -manifold ($r \geq 0$) with a G -action of a compact Lie group such that the isotropy group $I(p)$ at $p \in X$ is discrete for any $p \in X$. Suppose X admits an invariant Morse function E , i.e.,

$$E: X \longrightarrow \mathbf{R}$$

is C^r -function such that $E(gp) = E(p)$ for any $g \in G$ and let φ be the gradient flow of E , then φ is G -equivariant:

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$$\varphi(gp) = g\varphi(p)$$

for any $g \in G$ and $p \in X$.

For a critical point c of E , we set

$$S(c) = \{p \in X: \varphi_s(p) \longrightarrow c \text{ as } s \longrightarrow \infty\}$$

$$U(c) = \{p \in X: \varphi_s(p) \longrightarrow c \text{ as } s \longrightarrow -\infty\}$$

then $S(c)$ and $U(c)$ are called the stable and unstable manifolds respectively.

THEOREM 1. *If c is non-degenerated, $\text{Codim } G \cdot S(c) = \text{index } c$.*

Proof. Denote by $T_p(M)$ the tangent space of a submanifold M at p , then from the non degeneracy assumption above we have a natural splitting

$$T_p(U(c)) \oplus T_p(G \cdot S(c)) = T_p(X)$$

since

$$\dim U(c) = \text{index } c,$$

we have

$$\text{codim } G \cdot S(c) = \text{index } c.$$

We choose from each G -orbit $G \cdot c$ of a critical point c , a representative c and call them a pure critical point representing c and denote the set of pure critical point by Γ .

We introduce a polar coordinate system $(u, t)_c$ for $u \in S(T_c(U(c)))$ and $t \in (0, \infty)$ where $S(T_c(U(c))) = \{u \in T_c(U(c)), \|u\| = 1\}$ in the unstable manifold $U(c)$ of a critical point c by mapping $(u, t)_c$ onto $\varphi_t(u)$. We deduce the following property for the polar coordinate easily:

LEMMA 2. $g(u, t)_c = (gu, t)_{gc}$ where we used the notation gu also for the G -action on the tangent space.

It is obvious that if any two flows $\varphi_t(u), \varphi_{t'}(u')$ ($u \in T_c(U(c)), u' \in T_{c'}(U(c'))$) have an intersection for finite t, t' , then they are agree entirely, therefore we may refer this fact as follows:

LEMMA 3. *If $(u, t)_c = (u', t')_{c'}$ for $c' \in G \cdot c$, then*

$$u = u', t = t' \text{ and } c = c'.$$

We refer the following property (P) at the strong non degeneracy of E :

(P) : All the critical point c are non degenerate and for any critical points c, c' , the stable and unstable manifolds have a generic intersection.

1-2. We compute $H_*(X)$ through a cell decomposition of X . We first decompose $G \cdot U(c)$ into cells: Consider the covering space

$$\pi : G \longrightarrow G/I(c)$$

with the right hand $I(c)$ -action and decompose the base manifold $G/I(c)$ into cells $\{\bar{A}\}$ such that the covering π is trivial over each simplex $\bar{A} \in \{\bar{A}\}$. Then $A(\bar{A}) = \pi^{-1}(\bar{A})$ splits into a disjoint union $\{A_i(\bar{A})\}$ of homeomorphic cells in G on which $I(c)$ acts effectively and transitively from the right. We choose and fix a representative $A_c(\bar{A})$ from the inverse image $\{A_i(\bar{A})\}$ of each cell \bar{A} in $\{\bar{A}\}$.

LEMMA 4. *If there exist points p, p', q, q' such that*

$$p \in A_c(\bar{A}), \quad p' \in A_c(\bar{A}'), \quad q, q' \in U(c)$$

and

$$pq = p'q' \quad \text{for cells } \bar{A}, \bar{A}' \in \{\bar{A}\}$$

then we have

$$\bar{A} = \bar{A}', \quad p = p' \quad \text{and} \quad q = q'.$$

In fact, in the polar coordinate on $U(c)$, we have

$$p(u, t)_c = p'(u', t')_c$$

therefore from Lemma 3, we see

$$pc = p'c$$

that is

$$p = p'x, \quad x \in I(c).$$

Since π is $I(c)$ -covering, we have $x = \text{id}$.

PROPOSITION 5. *The cell $A_c(\bar{A})$ in G defines a cell $A_c(\bar{A}) \cdot U(c)$ in $G \cdot U(c)$ which is homeomorphic to $A_c(\bar{A}) \times U(c)$ in the interior.*

Proof. If $(p, q), (p', q') \in A_c(\bar{A}) \times U(c)$ are mapped onto the same point through the multiplication, we have immediately from Lemma 4 that

$$p = p' \quad \text{and} \quad q = q'.$$

PROPOSITION 6. *The cells $A_c(\bar{A}) \cdot U(c)$, $A_c(\bar{A}') \cdot U(c)$ have no interior intersection for $\bar{A} \neq \bar{A}'$.*

Proof. It is also obvious from Lemma 4 that the existence of the interior intersection

$$pq = p'q' \quad \text{for } p \in A_c(\bar{A}), p' \in A_c(\bar{A}'),$$

$q, q' \in U(c)$ implies $p = p'$, $\bar{A} = \bar{A}'$.

Since $U(c) = gU(c)$ for any $g \in I(c)$ as sets we finally see that

$$\begin{aligned} G \cdot U(c) &= \bigcup_{\{\bar{A}\}} \bigcup_i A_i(\bar{A}) \cdot U(c) \\ &= \bigcup_{\{\bar{A}\}} \bigcup_{g \in I(c)} A_c(\bar{A}) \cdot gU(c) \\ &= \bigcup_{\{\bar{A}\}} A_c(\bar{A}) \cdot U(c) \end{aligned}$$

that is, the cells $A_c(\bar{A}) \cdot U(c)$ for $\bar{A} \in \{\bar{A}\}$ cover $G \cdot U(c)$.

THEOREM 7. *The cells $A_c(\bar{A}) \cdot U(c)$ give a cell decomposition of $G \cdot U(c)$.*

We see that a subdivision of the decomposition of $G \cdot U(c)$ induces a decomposition on $bd(G \cdot U(c))$ as follows: First, property (P) yields that $S(T_c(U(c)))$ is divided into cells by its intersection with the (weak) stable manifold $S(c_-)$ of critical points c_- of lower indexes than c , in fact the intersection

$$S(T_c(U(c))) \cap S(c_-)$$

is an open submanifold $S(T_c(U(c)))$ of dimension

$$\text{index } c - \text{index } c_- - 1$$

and the boundary of each one of the submanifold again splits into a union of submanifolds of this kind.

Thus taking product by small cell $\Delta \subset G$ to these cells, we can divide $\Delta \cdot S(T_c(U(c)))$ into cells. Therefore for a sufficiently fine decomposition $\{\bar{A}\}$ of G we see that the decomposition of $A_c(\bar{A}) \cdot S(T_c(U(c)))$ defines a natural decomposition of $A_c(\bar{A}) \cdot U(c)$ through the polar coordinate. Take a decomposition $\{\bar{A}\}$ of G so fine that the covering projection $\pi : G \rightarrow G/I(c_-)$ is trivial over \bar{A} for any pure critical point c_- such that $S(c_-) \cap S(T_c(U(c))) \neq \emptyset$, then we see that $\{\bar{A} \cdot bdU(c)\}$ decomposes $G \cdot bdU(c)$ into cells, because $bdU(c)$ is ω -limit of $S(T_c(U(c)))$.

Let $X(n)$ denote the union of (weak) unstable manifolds over pure critical points of index lower than n or equal to n .

$$X(n) = \bigcup_{c \in \Gamma(n)} G \cdot U(c)$$

$$\Gamma(n) = \{c \in \Gamma, \quad \text{index } c \leq n\}.$$

Then it is easy to see that $X(n)$ can be decomposed into cells in the method above and

$$X = \bigcup_n X(n), \quad X(n) \subset X(n + 1).$$

Since any k -submanifold in X is pushed down into $X(k)$ by the flow.

THEOREM 8. *The homology $H_k(X)$ may be computed as the homology $H_k(X(n))$ of $X(n)$ ($k < n$) which is obtained as homology of a cell decomposition given by a subdivision of the cells $A_c(\bar{A}) \cdot U(c)$.*

1-3. We construct an abstract chain complex \mathcal{M} which is equivalent to the chain group over the cell complex above and we call it a generalized Morse complex. We fix an orientation on each cell of $\{\bar{A} \cdot U(c)\}$ by choosing an orientation in $U(c)$ and also one in $\bar{A} \in \{\bar{A}\}_c$ for each pure critical point $c \in \Gamma$. We then have an graded chain group $C(X)$ of oriented cell $\{\bar{A} \cdot U(c)\}$ by defining

$$\begin{aligned} \text{deg } \bar{A} \cdot U(c) &= \dim \bar{A} \cdot U(c) \\ &= \dim \bar{A} + \text{index } c. \end{aligned}$$

Let X^n be the union of cells in $X(m)$ of dimension lower than or equal to n ($n \geq m$) and take the boundary operator ∂ in the exact sequence for the triple (X^n, X^{n-1}, X^{n-2}) :

$$\partial: H_n(X^n, X^{n-1}) \longrightarrow H_{n-1}(X^{n-1}, X^{n-2})$$

then it is known that $C_n(X) = H_n(X^n, X^{n-1})$ and $C(X)$ turns out to be a chain complex together with the boundary ∂ (see [2], [6]), whose homology is equal to that of $X(m)$, thus we have

PROPOSITION 9. *Under the non degeneracy condition, we have a chain complex $C(X)$ over graded cells $\{\bar{A} \cdot U(c)\}$ so that*

$$H_*(C(X)) = H_*(X).$$

COROLLARY 10. *Under the same non degeneracy condition above, we*

see that the homology $H_*(C(X))$ of the cell complex is independent of the cell decomposition of X , especially that of G .

In order to describe the boundary operator ∂ , we start with a small cell $e = \tilde{A} \cdot U(c)$ in $H_n(X^n, X^{n-1})$, which is represented as the image of a (relative) product homeomorphism $\varphi = \varphi_1 \times \varphi_2$ of

$$\varphi_1: I^k \longrightarrow X$$

and

$$\varphi_2: I^m \longrightarrow X$$

such that $\pi: G \rightarrow G/I(c)$ is trivial over $\varphi_1(I) = \tilde{A}$:

$$\begin{array}{ccc} I^k \times I^m & \xrightarrow{\text{characteristic map}} & G \times U(c) \\ & \searrow \varphi = \varphi_1 \times \varphi_2 & \downarrow \text{multiplication} \\ & & X \end{array}$$

Since φ_* commutes with the boundary homeomorphism, we see that $\partial e = j_* \varphi_* \partial_* f$ for the fundamental class f in $H_n(I^k \times I^m, \text{bd}(I^k \times I^m))$, as is seen from the following diagram:

$$\begin{array}{ccc} H_n(I^k \times I^m, \text{bd}(I^k \times I^m)) & \xrightarrow{\partial_*} & H_{n-1}(\text{bd}(I^k \times I^m)) \\ \downarrow \varphi_* & & \downarrow \varphi_* \\ H_n(X^n, X^{n-1}) & \xrightarrow{\partial_*} & H_{n-1}(X^{n-1}) \\ & \searrow \partial & \downarrow j_* \\ & & H_{n-1}(X^{n-1}, X^{n-2}) \end{array}$$

The fundamental class f splits into a cross product $f_1 \times f_2$ of

$$f_1 \in H_k(I^k, \text{bd } I^k),$$

$$f_2 \in H_m(I^m, \text{bd } I^m)$$

$$k = n - m = \dim \tilde{A}$$

$$m = \text{index } c$$

corresponding to \tilde{A} and to $U(c)$, respectively, therefore from the naturality as the boundary formula of the cross product, we have that

$$\begin{aligned} \partial e &= j_* \varphi_* \partial_* f \\ &= j_* \varphi_* (\partial_* f_1 \times f_2 + (-1)^k f_1 \times \partial_* f_2) \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
 &= (j_*\varphi_{1*}\partial_*f_1 \times j_*\varphi_{2*}f_2) + (-1)^k(j_*\varphi_{1*}f_1) \times (j_*\varphi_{2*}\partial_*f_2) \\
 &= \partial e_1 \times e_2 + (-1)^k e_1 \times \partial e_2
 \end{aligned}$$

Here the classes

$$\begin{aligned}
 e_1 &= j_*\varphi_{1*}f_1 \in H_k(X^k, X^{k-1}) \\
 e_2 &= j_*\varphi_{2*}f_2 \in H_m(X^m, X^{m-1})
 \end{aligned}$$

may be regarded as the classes representing \tilde{A} and $U(c)$ respectively. Moreover we may replace the cross product above by the multiplication of G on X because every cell under consideration acts effectively on $U(c)$, thus we see that

PROPOSITION 11. *The boundary operator ∂ in the cell decomposition of Theorem 8 in Section 1 satisfies that*

$$\partial(\tilde{A} \cdot U(c)) = (\partial\tilde{A}) \cdot U(c) + (-1)^k \tilde{A} \cdot \partial U(c), \quad \text{where } k = \dim \tilde{A}.$$

Finally we investigate $\tilde{A}, U(c)$ geometrically.

They may be considered as the homology classes represented as the classes of the boundaries

$$\begin{aligned}
 \partial\tilde{A} &= \partial e_1 = j_*(\varphi_1)_*\partial_*e_1 \in H_{k-1}(X^{k-1}, X^{k-2}) \\
 \partial U(c) &= \partial e_2 = j_*(\varphi_2)_*\partial_*U(c) \in H_{m-1}(X^{m-1}, X^{m-2}).
 \end{aligned}$$

Therefore $\partial U(c)$ can be regarded as the sum of $(m - 1)$ cells appearing on the boundary of $U(c)$ with the suitable coefficient, which we can count as the intersection number of $S(T_c(U(c)))$ with the (weak) stable manifold $S(\tilde{A}c_-)$ of codimension $m - 1$ for a cell $\tilde{A} \in G$ of dimension index $c_- - (m - 1)$.

LEMMA 12. *Let $[\tilde{A}c_-, c]$ be the intersection number of $S(T_c(U(c)))$ and the stable manifold $S(\tilde{A}c_-)$ of codimension $m - 1$, then we have*

$$\partial U(c) = \sum [\tilde{A}c_-, c] \tilde{A}U(c_-).$$

We introduce an abstract chain complex \mathcal{M} over the set Γ of the pure critical points as the chain group generated over formal elements

$$\{\tilde{A}c/\tilde{A}: \text{cell in } G, c \in \Gamma\}$$

with the degree given by

$$\text{degree } \tilde{A}c = \dim \tilde{A} + \text{index } c$$

and define the boundary operator ∂ as follows:

$$\begin{aligned} \partial c &= \sum [\tilde{A}c_-, c] \tilde{A}c_- \\ \partial \tilde{A}c &= \partial \tilde{A}c + (-1)^k \tilde{A} \partial c \quad \text{where } k = \dim \tilde{A}. \end{aligned}$$

Since we see easily that the chain complex \mathcal{M} is chain homotopic to $C(X)$, we deduce the following from Lemma 12, Propositions 9, 11.

THEOREM 13. $H_*(\mathcal{M}) = H_*(X)$.

§2. Relations to torsion and divisibility

2-1. In case of the space Λ of closed curve, we have a natural S^1 -action on Λ through the action on the parameter;

$$\theta \cdot \alpha(t) = \alpha(\theta + t) \quad t, \theta \in S^1, \quad \alpha \in \Lambda.$$

If we remove the point curves Λ_0 from Λ , we have the S^1 -action on $\Lambda - \Lambda_0$ such that the isotropy $I(x)$ is discrete for any $x \in \Lambda - \Lambda_0$ thus we may apply our method to the case $X = \Lambda - \Lambda_0$, $G = S^1$.

In this case, we have a well known relation between the order of $\text{Iso}(x)$ and the multiplicity $m(x)$ of x defined as the maximal number m so that

$$x = \alpha \cdots \alpha = \alpha^m \quad \text{for some } \alpha \in \Lambda.$$

LEMMA 14. $\text{ord } I(x) = m(x)$.

We notice that when we consider the S^1 -action on the Morse complex \mathcal{M} , then also have a notion of isotropy $\text{Iso}(x)$ for a chain $x \in C$. In particular for a chain represented by a critical point c , we have $\text{Iso}(c)$ other than $I(c)$.

LEMMA 15. $\text{ord Iso}(c) = \text{ord } I(c)$ or $2\text{ord } I(c)$
 $= m(c)$ or $2m(c)$.

In fact, if the multiplication by $g \in I(c)$ on $U(c)$ preserves the orientation in $U(c)$, we have the first case, otherwise we take double in order to preserve the orientation and we have the second case.

On the other hand, Klingenberg constructed a energy function E on the space Λ which satisfies the condition (C). (cf. Klingenberg [4]). Therefore if we assume further the strong degeneracy on E , we may apply Theorem 13 to the space $\Lambda - S(\Lambda_0)$, where $S(\Lambda_0)$ denotes the stable manifold over Λ_0 and we reproduce the Klingenberg's announcement [4] on the homology of $\Lambda - S(\Lambda_0)$ with S^1 -action.

THEOREM 16. *The homology $H_*(\Lambda - S(\Lambda_0))$ of $\Lambda - S(\Lambda_0)$ is obtained as the homology of the Morse complex associated with $\Lambda - S(\Lambda_0)$ and E , provided that E satisfies the strong non degeneracy condition.*

It may be possible to weaken the strong non degeneracy condition to a weak non degeneracy, that is, only assuming the non degeneracy of each critical point, for this we return in near future.

Our purpose in the remaining is to investigate a relation between a torsion property of homology $H_*(X)$, (reduced to the Morse complex) and a behavior of the multiplicities which is related to the order of isotropy as an application of what we have discussed.

Our point is that we can deduce a type of divisibility even for the Finsler case provided the strong non degeneracy because our method is entirely topological and does not use the \mathfrak{A} -action which comes from Riemannian structure.

2-2. We investigate a torsion property of a cycle $Z(c)$ in \mathcal{M} constructed by Shikata-Klingenberg [1]. We quickly review here how $Z(c)$ is constructed over a pure critical point $c \in \Gamma$. Let \bar{m} be the order of isotropy of c , then we have

$$1/\bar{m} \cdot c = c ,$$

hence

$$1/\bar{m} \cdot \partial c = \partial c .$$

Thus we have an invariant chain ∂c in \mathcal{M} under the action of a subgroup $G(\bar{m})$ of S^1 generated by $1/\bar{m}$ and therefore we can split ∂c into a sum of invariant chains x_i which is invariant under the action of a subgroup $H_i \supset G(\bar{m})$:

$$\partial c = \sum_1^n x_i$$

Then the fact that

$$h_i x_i = x_i \quad \text{for } h_i \in H_i$$

implies that

$$\partial((1 - h_1) \cdots (1 - h_n)c) = 0 ,$$

yielding a cycle

$$Z(c) = (1 - h_1) \cdots (1 - h_n)c .$$

In order to investigate a further property of the cycle $Z(c)$, we consider the case $n = 1$, $H_1 \supseteq G(\bar{m})$.

LEMMA 17. *Let $h = 1/\text{ord } H_1$ then*

$$Z(c) = (1 - h)c$$

is at most a torsion element of $\text{ord}(H_1)$.

In fact, take

$$\Delta = [0, h]$$

and let

$$y = \Delta c$$

then we have

$$\begin{aligned} \partial y &= \partial \Delta \cdot c - \Delta \partial c \\ &= (1 - h)c - \Delta x_1 \\ &= Z(c) - \Delta \cdot x_1. \end{aligned}$$

Since x_1 is H_1 -invariant, it is expressed as a sum over H_1 :

$$x_1 = \sum_{k \in H_1} k u, \quad u \in \mathcal{M}.$$

Therefore

$$\Delta x_1 = \sum_{k \in H_1} k \cdot \Delta u = \left(\sum_{k \in H_1} k \Delta \right) \cdot u$$

may be expressed as $\Delta x_1 = S^1 \cdot u$.

Thus we have

$$\partial y = Z(c) - S^1 \cdot u.$$

On the other hand, consider $v = S^1 \cdot c$ then we see that

$$\begin{aligned} \partial v &= \partial S^1 \cdot c - S^1 \cdot \partial c \\ &= -S^1 \left(\sum_{k \in H_1} k \cdot u \right) \\ &= -\sum_{k \in H_1} k(S^1 \cdot u) \\ &= -\left(\sum_{k \in H_1} k \right) \cdot S^1 \cdot u \\ &= -(\text{ord } H_1) S^1 \cdot u. \end{aligned}$$

Hence we have that

$$(\text{ord } H_1) \partial y = (\text{ord } H_1) Z(c) + \partial v.$$

indicating that $Z(c)$ is at most of $\text{ord}(H_1)$ torsion in $H_*(\mathcal{M})$.

Next we take the case $n = 2$,

$$H_1 \supseteq G(\bar{m}), \quad H_2 \supseteq G(\bar{m})$$

and

$$H_1 \cap H_2 \neq H_1, H_2.$$

LEMMA 18. *Let*

$$h_1 = 1/\text{ord } H_1, \quad h_2 = 1/\text{ord } H_2$$

and $Z(c)$ is of the form

$$Z(c) = (1 - h_1)(1 - h_2)c$$

then it is zero in $H_*(\mathcal{M})$.

In fact, take $\Delta = [0, h]$ and let

$$y = \Delta(1 - h_2)c$$

then we see that

$$\begin{aligned} \partial y &= Z(c) - \Delta(1 - h_2)\partial c \\ &= Z(c) - \Delta(1 - h_2)(x_1 + x_2) \\ &= Z(c) - \Delta(1 - h_2)x_1 \\ &= Z(c) - (1 - h_2)S^1 \cdot u \end{aligned}$$

by the same u and by the same reasoning as in the case 1. Thus we see that

$$\partial y = Z(c).$$

In general, from a similar computation, we see easily that for $n \geq 2$, the homology class $Z(c)$ is zero, also we may remark that for the case $n = 1$ the homology classes $(1 - h)Z(c)$ is zero.

In [1] Shikata-Klingenberg deduced a modified divisibility lemma using a chain bounding the cycle $Z(c) + \mathcal{I}Z(c)$, for the involution \mathcal{I} in Δ keeping E invariant. Thus their theory is related to the Riemannian structure of the underlying manifold at this point. But we can cut this point off from the Riemannian structure by taking $Z(c)$ or $(1 - h)Z(c)$.

PROPOSITION 19. *We may apply Shikata-Klingenberg theory to the cycle $Z(c)$ or $(1 - h)Z(c)$ to have the divisibility lemma in the modified form*

even in case we do not have the involution \mathcal{I} , like in non symmetric Finsler space.

Remark 1. Shikata-Klingenberg theory uses $\pi_1(A) = 0$ on the way, therefore Katok's Finsler example on S^2 has nothing to do with the proposition above.

Remark 2. Shikata-Klingenberg's modified divisibility lemma is roughly as follows: Under a certain non degeneracy assumption as $\pi_1(A) = 0$, there exists a series $\{c_i\}$ of critical points in A , so that

$$m(c_i) | 2m(c_{i+1}) \quad \text{or} \quad m(c_{i+1}) | 2m(c_i)$$

where the $m(c)$ is the multiplicity of the curve c in A and is related to the order of isotropy $I(c)$.

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*Department of Mathematics
Nagoya University
Nagoya 464 Japan*

*Current address:
Department of Mathematics
Kon-kuk University
Seoul, Korea*