

LATTICES OF A LIE GROUP AND SEIFERT FIBRATIONS

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§1. Introduction

Let  $L$  be a Lie group with finitely many components,  $K$  a maximal compact subgroup of  $L$ , and  $S$  a connected closed normal subgroup of  $L$ . Then  $KS$  is closed, and we have a fiber bundle

$$K \backslash KS \rightarrow K \backslash L \rightarrow KS \backslash L.$$

$L$  acts on  $K \backslash L$  by right multiplication.  $L$  acts also on  $KS \backslash L$  by right multiplication; let  $N$  denote the kernel of this action, i.e.,  $N = \{ g \in L; KSxg = KSx \text{ for all } x \in L \}$ . The action of  $N$  on  $K \backslash L$  leaves all fibers invariant; in other words, we have a family of right  $N$ -spaces parametrized over  $KS \backslash L$ .

Lemma 1. The right  $N$ -spaces  $K \backslash KSx$  ( $x \in L$ ) are equivalent.

Proof. Since  $K$  is compact,  $K \backslash L$  has an  $L$ -invariant Riemannian metric. Fix such a Riemannian metric. Pick two distinct fibers  $K \backslash KSx$  and  $K \backslash KSy$  ( $x, y \in L$ ). It suffices to construct an  $N$ -equivariant diffeomorphism from  $K \backslash KSx$  onto  $K \backslash KSy$  when they are sufficiently close to each other, because  $KS \backslash L$  is connected.

Fix a point  $p$  of  $K \backslash K S_x$  and let  $d$  be the distance between  $p$  and  $K \backslash K S_y$ .  $K \backslash L$  is complete and  $K \backslash K S_y$  is closed; therefore,  $d$  is positive and can be achieved as the length of a geodesic  $\gamma$  connecting  $p$  and a point  $q$  of  $K \backslash K S_y$ .  $S$  is contained in  $N$  and acts transitively on each fiber. The action of an element  $s$  of  $S$  sends  $\gamma$  to a geodesic  $\gamma \cdot s$  of the same length  $d$  connecting  $p \cdot s$  and  $q \cdot s$ . Thus the distance from a point of  $K \backslash K S_x$  to  $K \backslash K S_y$  is independent of the choice of the point, and  $\gamma$  is one of the shortest geodesic connecting  $K \backslash K S_x$  and  $K \backslash K S_y$ . Therefore  $\gamma$  is perpendicular to  $K \backslash K S_x$  at  $p$ . Let  $(T_p(K \backslash K S_x))^\perp$  denote the orthogonal complement of the tangent space  $T_p(K \backslash K S_x)$  of  $K \backslash K S_x$  at  $p$  in the tangent space of  $K \backslash L$  at  $p$ . As the exponential map  $\text{Exp}$  is a diffeomorphism near the origin, any fiber  $K \backslash K S_z$  that meets  $\text{Exp}(V)$  meets  $\text{Exp}(V)$  exactly once, where  $V$  is a sufficiently small neighborhood in  $(T_p(K \backslash K S_x))^\perp$  of the origin. This implies that  $\gamma$  is the unique geodesic of length  $d$  connecting  $p$  and  $K \backslash K S_y$ , as long as  $K \backslash K S_y$  is sufficiently close to  $K \backslash K S_x$ . Let us suppose that this is the case. Then the correspondence  $p \cdot s \mapsto q \cdot s$  ( $s \in S$ ) defines a diffeomorphism  $K \backslash K S_x \rightarrow K \backslash K S_y$ , which is obviously  $N$ -equivariant because it sends a point in  $K \backslash K S_x$  to the unique point closest to it in  $K \backslash K S_y$  and  $N$  acts on  $K \backslash L$  by isometries.  $\square$

Remark. The  $N$ -equivariant diffeomorphism above defines a local trivialization of the fiber bundle  $K \backslash L \rightarrow K S \backslash L$  so that the action of  $N$  on  $K \backslash L$  is locally a product of the action of  $N$  on a fiber and the action of a trivial group on the base.

If  $G$  is a lattice of  $L$ , the action of  $L$  on  $K \backslash L$  restricts

to an action of  $G$  on  $K \backslash L$ .  $H = G \cap N$  is a normal subgroup of  $G$  which leaves the fibers invariant. By lemma 1, we have a fiber bundle:

$$K \backslash KS/H \rightarrow K \backslash L/H \rightarrow KS \backslash L.$$

The quotient group  $\Gamma = G/H$  acts on  $K \backslash L/H$  and  $KS \backslash L$  such that  $(K \backslash L/H)/\Gamma = K \backslash L/G$  and  $(KS \backslash L)/\Gamma = KS \backslash L/G$ ; the fiber bundle map induces a map:

$$q: K \backslash L/G \rightarrow (KS \backslash L)/\Gamma.$$

Note that  $KS \backslash L$  can be naturally identified with  $(S \backslash KS) \backslash (S \backslash L)$ , which has an  $(S \backslash L)$ -invariant (and hence  $L$ -invariant) Riemannian metric. Thus  $\Gamma$  can be thought of as a subgroup of the group  $I(KS \backslash L)$  of all the isometries of  $KS \backslash L$  with respect to this Riemannian metric.

Suppose that  $\Gamma$  is discrete in  $I(KS \backslash L)$ . Then the isotropy subgroup  $\Gamma_v$  of  $\Gamma$  at  $v \in KS \backslash L$  is finite for each  $v$ , and the inverse image  $q^{-1}([v])$  of the orbit  $[v] \in (KS \backslash L)/\Gamma$  is  $((K \backslash KSx)/H)/\Gamma_v$ , where  $v = KSx$  ( $x \in L$ ). Thus a "fiber" of  $q$  is homeomorphic to a quotient of the "general fiber"  $K \backslash KS/H$  by an action of a finite group; i.e.,  $q$  is a Seifert fibration [2].

In this article, we will prove the following structure theorem using a suitable closed connected normal subgroup  $S$ .

**Theorem 2.** Let  $L$  be a non-compact Lie group with finitely many components,  $K$  a maximal compact subgroup of  $L$ ,  $G$  a lattice of  $L$ . Then there is an orbifold Seifert fibration

$$K \backslash L / G \rightarrow O^m,$$

where  $O^m$  is a Riemannian orbifold of dimension  $m > 0$  and of non-positive sectional curvature. If  $L$  is amenable,  $O^m$  can be chosen to be flat.

The proof will occupy the following two sections. Some special cases of theorem 2 have been known; see Farrell and Hsiang [3, 4] and Quinn [8]. In §4, we will rationally compute the Wall groups of virtually poly-cyclic groups in terms of certain homology theory using the Seifert fibration.

## §2. Non-amenable case

Recall that a Lie group  $L$  with finitely many components is amenable if and only if  $L/R$  is compact, where  $R$  denotes the radical (= the unique maximal connected normal solvable subgroup) of  $L$ . See Milnor [6]. In this section we handle the case when  $L$  is not amenable. We use  $R$  as  $S$ , following [4]; i.e., we are going to show that

$$K \backslash L / G \rightarrow KR \backslash L / G$$

is a Seifert fibration with the desired property. As in the previous section, identify  $KR \backslash L$  with  $(R \backslash KR) \backslash (R \backslash L) = \mathbb{R}^m$  ( $m > 0$ ).  $R \backslash L$  is a non-compact semi-simple Lie group, and  $R \backslash KR$  is a maximal compact subgroup of  $R \backslash L$ . Using the Cartan decomposition and the Killing form, one can introduce an

$(R \setminus L)$ -invariant (and hence  $L$ -invariant) Riemannian metric  $g$  on  $\mathbb{R}^m$  with non-positive sectional curvature. In fact, any  $(R \setminus L)$ -invariant Riemannian metric on  $\mathbb{R}^m$  has non-positive sectional curvature. See Helgason [5]. Thus we have a homomorphism  $\Phi: L \rightarrow I(\mathbb{R}^m, g)$ . Let  $\Gamma$  denote the image  $\Phi(G)$  of  $G$ . To prove the theorem, it suffices to show that  $\Gamma$  is discrete in  $I(\mathbb{R}^m, g)$ . Let  $\tau$  denote the natural projection  $L \rightarrow R \setminus L$ . If the image  $\tau(G)$  of  $G$  in  $R \setminus L$  is discrete, then  $\Gamma$  is obviously discrete. Unfortunately  $\tau(G)$  may not be discrete in general. We remedy this situation as follows.

Let  $L_0$  denote the identity component of  $L$ .  $G \cap L_0$  is a subgroup of  $G$  with finite index. Therefore it suffices to show that  $\Phi(G \cap L_0)$  is discrete in  $I(\mathbb{R}^m, g)$ . As  $(R \setminus (K \cap L_0)R) \setminus (R \setminus L_0)$  can be naturally identified with  $\mathbb{R}^m$ , we may assume from the beginning that  $L$  is connected.

Now there is a semi-simple Lie subgroup  $S$  of  $L$  such that  $L = SR$  and such that  $S \cap R$  is discrete (Levi decomposition). Let  $\sigma: S \rightarrow \text{Aut}(R)$  denote the action of  $S$  on  $R$ . A sufficient condition for  $\tau(G)$  to be discrete in  $R \setminus L$  is that the identity component  $(\ker \sigma)_0$  of the kernel of  $\sigma$  has no compact factors (Raghunathan[9], p.150). Let  $C$  denote the unique maximal compact normal subgroups of  $(\ker \sigma)_0$ . It is a characteristic subgroup of  $(\ker \sigma)_0$ , and hence it is normal in  $\ker \sigma$  and in  $S$ . On the other hand,  $C$  commutes with elements of  $R$ . Therefore  $C$  is normal in  $L$ . Let  $\pi: L \rightarrow L/C$  denote the natural projection, and let  $L' = \pi(L)$ ,  $S' = \pi(S)$ ,  $R' = \pi(R)$ ,  $G' = \pi(G)$ ,  $K' = \pi(K)$ . Then  $S$  is semi-simple,  $R'$  is the radical of  $L'$ ,  $G'$  is a lattice of  $L'$ ,

and  $K'$  is a maximal compact subgroup of  $L'$ . Let  $\sigma': S' \rightarrow \text{Aut} R'$  denote the action of  $S'$  on  $R'$ . Then it is easily observed that  $\ker \sigma' = (\ker \sigma)/C$ , since  $C \cap R$  is finite. So the identity component of  $\ker \sigma'$  has no compact factors, and this implies that the image  $G''$  of  $G'$  in  $R' \backslash L'$  is discrete. Thus the action of  $G$  on  $\mathbb{R}^m$  factors through a properly discontinuous action of  $G''$  on  $K' R' \backslash L = K R \backslash L$ . Therefore,  $\Gamma$  is discrete in  $I(\mathbb{R}^m, g)$ . This completes the proof of theorem 2 when  $L$  is not amenable.

Remark. Let  $q: K \backslash L / G \rightarrow K R \backslash L / G$  be the Seifert fibration constructed above. Then the "fiber"  $q^{-1}(K R x G)$  over the point  $K R x G \in K R \backslash L / G$  ( $x \in L$ ) is homeomorphic to

$$(x^{-1} K x) \backslash (x^{-1} K R x) / (x^{-1} K R x \cap G).$$

It is easily observed that  $x^{-1} K R x \cap G$  is a uniform lattice (= discrete cocompact subgroup) of  $x^{-1} K R x$ . In particular, we have

Corollary 3. Let  $L$  be a Lie group with finitely many components,  $K$  a maximal compact subgroup of  $L$ ,  $R$  the radical of  $L$ , and  $G$  a lattice of  $L$ . Then  $K R \cap G$  is a uniform lattice of  $K R$ .

### §3. Amenable case

Now let us assume that  $L$  is non-compact and amenable. Let  $K$  be a maximal compact subgroup and  $R$  the radical of  $L$  as

before. Since  $L$  is amenable,  $L = KR$ .

We define a sequence  $N^{(j)}$  ( $j \geq -1$ ) of closed characteristic subgroups of  $L$  as follows:

- (1)  $N^{(-1)}$  is the radical  $R$ ,
- (2)  $N^{(0)}$  is the nil-radical, i.e., the maximal connected normal nilpotent subgroup, of  $L$ ,
- (3)  $N^{(j)}$  is the commutator subgroup  $[N^{(j-1)}, N^{(j-1)}]$  of  $N^{(j-1)}$ , for  $j > 0$ .

It may not be so obvious that  $N^{(j)}$ 's are closed when  $j > 0$ ; in general, the commutator subgroup of a Lie group may not be closed. This will be observed later, and we continue the construction. There exists an integer  $k$  such that  $N^{(k)} = \{1\}$ . Consider the following sequence:

$$L = KN^{(-1)} \supset KN^{(0)} \supset KN^{(1)} \supset \dots \supset KN^{(k)} = K.$$

There exists an integer  $i$  ( $\geq 0$ ) such that

$$L = KN^{(-1)} = KN^{(0)} = \dots = KN^{(i-1)} \neq KN^{(i)},$$

because  $L$  is non-compact. Let us write  $M = N^{(i-1)}$  and  $N = N^{(i)}$ . We introduce a flat  $L$ -invariant Riemannian metric on  $KN \setminus L$ .

Let us study the action of  $L$  on  $KN \setminus L$  defined by right multiplication. An element  $ky$  of  $KM = L$  ( $k \in K$ ,  $y \in M$ ) acts on an element  $KNx$  ( $x \in M$ ) of  $KN \setminus L$  as follows:

$$\begin{aligned} KNx \cdot (ky) &= KNxky \\ &= KN(k^{-1}xk)y. \end{aligned}$$

Note that we have  $[M, M] \subset N$ ; we identify the coset space  $KN \backslash L$  with the simply-connected abelian Lie group  $(K \cap M)N \backslash M = \mathbb{R}^m$  ( $m > 0$ ). Now the induced action of  $L$  on  $\mathbb{R}^m$  is:

$$(K \cap M)N x \cdot (ky) = (K \cap M)N(k^{-1}xk)y.$$

The following are easily observed: (1) this action, when restricted to  $K$ , defines a homomorphism  $\alpha: K \rightarrow \text{Aut}(\mathbb{R}^m)$  and its image  $\alpha(K)$  lies in the orthogonal group  $O(m)$  with respect to some inner product of  $\mathbb{R}^m$ , and (2) if  $k \in K \cap M$ , then  $(K \cap M)N x \cdot k = (K \cap M)N k^{-1}xk = (K \cap M)N(k^{-1}xkx^{-1})x = (K \cap M)N x$  for  $x \in M$ , and so  $K \cap M$  acts trivially on  $\mathbb{R}^m$ . Let  $\beta: M \rightarrow (K \cap M)N \backslash M$  denote the natural projection. We now define a map  $\Phi: L = KM \rightarrow \alpha(K) \times ((K \cap M)N \backslash M) \subset O(m) \times \mathbb{R}^m = I(\mathbb{R}^m)$  by sending  $ky$  ( $k \in K, y \in M$ ) to  $(\alpha(k), \beta(y)) \in O(m) \times \mathbb{R}^m$ . This is a well-defined homomorphism. Here  $\times$ 's denote the obvious semi-direct products. Let  $\Gamma$  denote the image of  $G$  by  $\Phi$  in  $I(\mathbb{R}^m)$ .

It remains to observe that  $N^{(j)}$ 's are closed and that  $\Gamma$  is a discrete subgroup of  $I(\mathbb{R}^m)$ . To do this we use the following lemma:

Lemma 4. If  $N$  is a connected nilpotent Lie group and  $H$  is a discrete cocompact subgroup of  $N$ , then the commutator subgroup  $[N, N]$  is closed in  $N$  and  $H \cap [N, N]$  is cocompact in  $[N, N]$ .

Proof: This is well-known if  $N$  is simply-connected, so consider the universal cover  $p: U \rightarrow N$  of  $N$ ; it can be identified with the natural projection  $U \rightarrow U/\Pi$ , where  $\Pi$  is the kernel of



$p$ . To see that  $[N, N]$  is closed in  $N$ , it suffices to show that  $N/[N, N]$  is Hausdorff. As  $p^{-1}([N, N]) = \Pi[U, U]$ , we have homeomorphisms:

$$\begin{aligned} N/[N, N] &\cong U/\Pi[U, U] \\ &\cong (U/[U, U]) / (\Pi[U, U]/[U, U]). \end{aligned}$$

Here  $U/[U, U]$  is a Lie group, because  $U$  is simply-connected and hence its commutator subgroup  $[U, U]$  is closed. Note that the preimage  $p^{-1}(H)$  of  $H$  is discrete and cocompact in  $U$ . Since  $U$  is simply-connected,  $p^{-1}(H) \cap [U, U]$  is cocompact in  $[U, U]$ . Therefore, the image  $p^{-1}(H)[U, U]/[U, U]$  of  $p^{-1}(H)$  by projection:  $U \rightarrow U/[U, U]$  is discrete. As  $\Pi \subset p^{-1}(H)$ ,  $\Pi[U, U]/[U, U]$  is also discrete and hence closed in  $U/[U, U]$ . Therefore  $(U/[U, U]) / (\Pi[U, U]/[U, U])$  is Hausdorff. This proves the first statement as observed above.

Since we have homeomorphisms:

$$\begin{aligned} [N, N]/H \cap [N, N] &\cong \Pi[U, U] / p^{-1}(H) \cap \Pi[U, U] \\ &\cong [U, U] / p^{-1}(H) \cap [U, U], \end{aligned}$$

the second statement is obvious.  $\square$

Now we prove

Lemma 5.  $N^{(j)}$ , s are closed subgroups of  $L$ , and  $\Gamma$  is a crystallographic subgroup of  $I(\mathbb{R}^m)$ .

Proof: If  $G \cap R$  is cocompact in  $R = N^{(-1)}$ , then  $G \cap N^{(0)}$  is a discrete cocompact subgroup of  $N^{(0)}$  and we can apply lemma 4 to

prove that  $N^{(j)}$ 's are closed for  $j \geq 1$ . Unfortunately,  $G \cap R$  may not be cocompact in  $R$ , in general. To remedy this situation we introduce a quotient Lie group  $L'$  of  $L$  as in the previous section. We may assume that  $L$  is connected. We have Levi decomposition  $L = SR$ , where  $S$  is a connected semi-simple (and hence compact) subgroup,  $R$  is the radical as above, and the intersection  $S \cap R$  is finite. Let  $\sigma: S \rightarrow \text{Aut}(R)$  denote the action of  $S$  on  $R$ . The identity component  $(\ker \sigma)_0$  of  $\ker \sigma$  is a connected compact normal subgroup of  $L$ , because it commutes with elements of  $R$ . In particular,  $(\ker \sigma)_0 \subset \ker \alpha \subset K$ . Let  $\pi: L \rightarrow L/(\ker \sigma)_0$  be the natural map. Now define:  $L' = L/(\ker \sigma)_0$ ,  $G' = \pi(G)$ ,  $K' = \pi(K)$ ,  $S' = \pi(S)$ ,  $R' = \pi(R)$ . Then  $G'$  is a lattice of  $L'$ ,  $K'$  is a maximal compact subgroup of  $L'$ ,  $S'$  is a semi-simple subgroup of  $L'$ ,  $R'$  is the radical of  $L'$ , and the action  $\sigma': S' \rightarrow \text{Aut}(R')$  of  $S'$  on  $R'$  is almost faithful, i.e.,  $\ker \sigma'$  is finite.

Let us define a sequence  $N'^{(j)}$  ( $j \geq -1$ ) of characteristic subgroups of  $L'$  by:

$$(1) \quad N'^{(-1)} = R'$$

$$(2) \quad N'^{(0)} = \text{the nil-radical of } L'$$

$$(3) \quad N'^{(j)} = [N'^{(j-1)}, N'^{(j-1)}] \quad \text{for } j \geq 1,$$

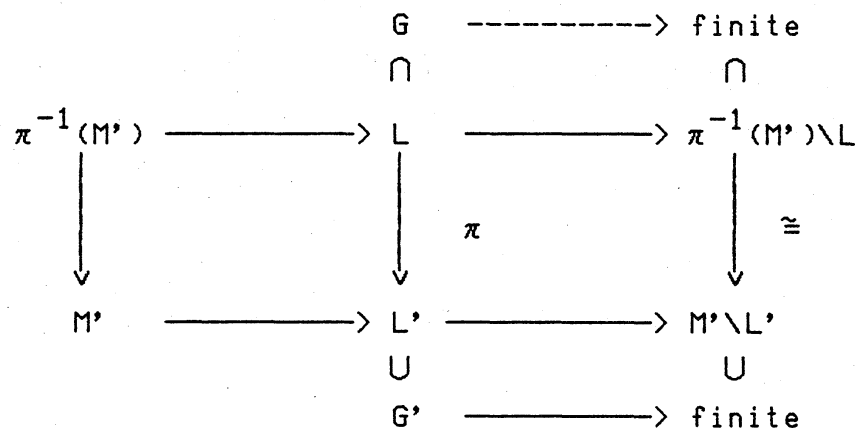
then  $G' \cap R'$  and  $G' \cap N'^{(0)}$  are cocompact in  $R'$  and  $N'^{(0)}$

respectively. By successively using lemma 4, we know that all  $N'^{(j)}$ 's are closed. Note that  $\pi|_R: R \rightarrow R'$  is a finite covering map; this implies that  $N^{(j)}$  is the identity component of  $(\pi|_R)^{-1}(N'^{(j)})$  for each  $j$ . Therefore  $N^{(j)}$ 's are closed in  $L$ .

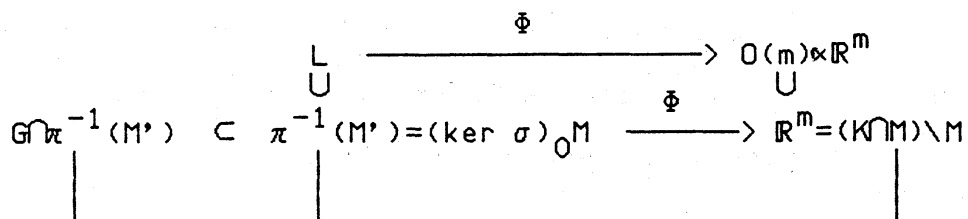
Next, we show that  $\Gamma$  is a discrete cocompact subgroup of  $I(\mathbb{R}^m)$ . Note that we have

$$L' = K'N'^{(-1)} = K'N'^{(0)} = \dots = K'N'^{(i-1)} \neq K'N'^{(i)}$$

for the same  $i$  and that  $K'N' \setminus K'M' = KN \setminus KM$ , where  $M' = N'^{(i-1)}$ ,  $N' = N'^{(i)}$ .  $G' \cap N'^{(j)}$  is cocompact in  $N'^{(j)}$  for all  $j$ . In particular  $G' \cap M'$  is cocompact in  $M'$ . So the image of  $G'$  in  $M' \setminus L'$  is discrete; furthermore, it is finite, because  $M' \setminus L'$  is compact. Looking at the diagram:



we know that  $G \cap \pi^{-1}(M')$  has a finite index in  $G$ . So it suffices to show that the image  $\Phi(G \cap \pi^{-1}(M'))$  is a discrete cocompact subgroup of  $I(\mathbb{R}^m)$ . As  $\ker \sigma \subset \ker \alpha$ ,  $\Phi$  sends elements in  $\pi^{-1}(M') = (\ker \sigma)_0 M$  to elements in  $\mathbb{R}^m \subset I(\mathbb{R}^m)$ . Now consider the following commutative diagram:



$$\begin{array}{ccc}
 \downarrow & \downarrow \pi & \downarrow (\pi|_M)_* \\
 G' \cap M' & \subset M' & \xrightarrow{\Phi'} (K' \cap M') N' \backslash M'
 \end{array}$$

where  $\Phi'$  is the natural map and  $(\pi|_M)_*$  is the map induced by the restriction of  $\pi$  to  $M$ ,  $\pi|_M: M \rightarrow M'$ .  $K \cap M$  and  $K' \cap M'$  are maximal compact subgroups of  $M$  and  $M'$ , respectively, and  $\pi(K \cap M) = K' \cap M'$ ; therefore,  $(\pi|_M)^{-1}(K' \cap M') = K \cap M$ . Using this, it is easily verified that  $(\pi|_M)^{-1}((K' \cap M') N')$  is compactly generated. Therefore  $(\pi|_M)_*$  is an isomorphism. Since  $(G' \cap M') \cap N' = G' \cap N'$  is cocompact in  $N'$ ,  $(G' \cap M') \cap (K' \cap M') N'$  is cocompact in  $(K' \cap M') N'$ ; so  $\Phi'(G' \cap M')$  is a discrete cocompact subgroup of  $(K' \cap M') N' \backslash M'$ . Therefore  $\Phi(G \cap \pi^{-1}(M'))$  is a discrete cocompact subgroup of  $\mathbb{R}^m$  (and hence in  $I(\mathbb{R}^m)$ ). This completes the proof of lemma 5.  $\square$

Thus  $K \backslash L / G \rightarrow K \backslash M / G$  is a desired Seifert fibration as observed in the first section. This completes the proof of theorem 2.

Remark. A fiber of the Seifert fibration above has the form  $K \backslash Kx \backslash G / G$ , and is homeomorphic to

$$(x^{-1} K x) \backslash (x^{-1} K x) / (x^{-1} K x \cap G).$$

If  $G$  is a lattice of  $L$  (which is automatically uniform), then  $x^{-1} K x \cap G$  is a uniform lattice of  $x^{-1} K x$ .

#### §4. A rational computation of Wall's L-groups

Let  $L$  be an amenable Lie group with finitely many components,  $K$  a maximal compact subgroup of  $L$ , and  $G$  a uniform lattice of  $L$ . Such a discrete group  $G$  is virtually poly-cyclic [6]. Conversely, any virtually poly-cyclic group can be embedded discretely and cocompactly in some amenable Lie group [1]. In this section we compute rationally the  $L$ -groups of  $G$  in terms of certain generalized homology of  $K \backslash L / G$ .

$K \backslash L$  is diffeomorphic to some euclidean space  $\mathbb{R}^n$  and the isotropy subgroup  $G_y = x^{-1} K x \cap G$  of  $G$  at  $y = Kx$  ( $x \in L$ ) is finite. The action of  $G$  on  $\mathbb{R}^n$  is free if  $G$  is torsion-free; in general,  $\mathbb{R}^n / G$  is an orbifold, which is Seifert fibered over some flat orbifold as observed in the previous section.

Let  $WG$  be a contractible free  $G$ -complex, and  $p$  denote the projection:  $(\mathbb{R}^n \times WG) / G \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^n / G$ , where  $G$  acts on  $\mathbb{R}^n \times WG$  diagonally. The preimage  $p^{-1}([y])$  of an orbit  $[y] \in \mathbb{R}^n / G$  by  $p$  is homeomorphic to  $WG / G_y$ , and  $p$  is a sort of Seifert fibration. (It is called a "stratified system of fibrations" in [7].)

Let  $L^{-\infty}(G)$  denote the limit of Ranicki's lower  $L$ -groups  $L^{(-j)}(\mathbb{Z}G)$  [10]. Modulo 2-torsion, it coincides with Wall's surgery obstruction group. We have a functor  $L^{-\infty}(-)$  from the category of spaces to the category of  $\Omega$ -spectra such that the homotopy group of  $L^{-\infty}(X)$  is equal to  $L_*^{-\infty}(\pi_1 X)$ . Applying  $L^{-\infty}(-)$  to each fiber of  $p$ , we obtain a sheaf of spectra, denoted  $L^{-\infty}(p)$ . F. Quinn defines the homology group  $H_*(\mathbb{R}^n / G; L^{-\infty}(p))$  of  $\mathbb{R}^n / G$  with coefficients  $L^{-\infty}(p)$ . See [7], [10]. The following is a rational computation of  $L_*^{-\infty}(G)$  in terms of this homology.

Theorem 6. Let  $G$  be as above, then there is a natural isomorphism

$$H_*(\mathbb{R}^n/G; \mathbb{L}^{-\infty}(p)) \otimes \mathbb{Z}[1/2] \rightarrow L_*^{-\infty}(G) \otimes \mathbb{Z}[1/2].$$

The map is induced by the following map between stratified systems of fibrations.

$$\begin{array}{ccc} (\mathbb{R}^n \times WG)/G & \xrightarrow{\text{id.}} & (\mathbb{R}^n \times WG)/G \\ \downarrow P & & \downarrow \\ \mathbb{R}^n/G & \xrightarrow{\quad} & \text{pt.} \end{array}$$

Note that  $(\mathbb{R}^n \times WG)/G = BG$  is a classifying space for  $G$  and that  $H_*(\text{pt.}; \mathbb{L}^{-\infty}(BG \rightarrow \text{pt.})) = L_*^{-\infty}(G)$  [10].

It is to be noted that theorem 6 says that the  $\mathbb{L}^{-\infty}(p)$  coefficient homology of  $\mathbb{R}^n/G$  is independent (modulo 2 torsion) of the action of  $G$  on  $\mathbb{R}^n$ . It is conceivable that the orbifold  $\mathbb{R}^n/G$  has a certain strong rigidity.

Proof of theorem 6. The proof is by induction on the dimension  $n$  of  $K \setminus L$ . Let  $q: \mathbb{R}^n/G \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^m/\Gamma$  denote the Seifert fibration constructed in §3. Modulo 2-torsion, we have

$$\begin{aligned} H_*(\mathbb{R}^n/G; \mathbb{L}^{-\infty}(p)) & \\ \cong H_*(\mathbb{R}^m/\Gamma; \bigcup_{w \in \mathbb{R}^m/\Gamma} H(q^{-1}(w)); \mathbb{L}^{-\infty}(p|q^{-1}(w))) & \\ \cong H_*(\mathbb{R}^m/\Gamma; \bigcup_w \mathbb{L}^{-\infty}((qp)^{-1}(w))) & \end{aligned}$$

$$= H_*(\mathbb{R}^m/\Gamma; \mathbb{L}^{-\infty}(qp))$$

by induction hypothesis, where  $H$  denote the homology theory spectrum [ibid.]. We can prove that  $H_*(\mathbb{R}^m/\Gamma; \mathbb{L}^{-\infty}(qp)) \otimes \mathbb{Z}[1/2]$  is naturally isomorphic to  $L_*^{-\infty}(G)$  using the proof of the main theorem of [ibid.] with only some obvious modifications, and this completes the proof of theorem 6.  $\square$

Corollary 7. (Novikov Conjecture) Let  $G$  be as above, then the assembly map

$$H_*(BG; \mathbb{L}^{-\infty}(1)) \rightarrow L_*^{-\infty}(G)$$

is rationally split injective.

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