Table of Contents

Introduction ix

I. Complexes of Sheaves and Their Cohomology

1. Injective resolutions and sheaf cohomology 1
2. Spectral sequences and complexes of sheaves 13
3. Čech cohomology and hypercohomology 24
4. de Rham cohomology 34
5. Deligne and Cheeger-Simons cohomologies 46
6. The Leray spectral sequence 54

II. Line Bundles and Geometric Quantization

1. Classification of line bundles 62
2. Line bundles with connection 70
3. Central extension of the Lie algebra of hamiltonian vector fields . 85
4. Central extension of a group of symplectic diffeomorphisms 94
5. Generalizations of Kostant's central extension 103

III. Kähler Geometry of the Space of Knots

1. The space of singular knots 110
2. Topology of the space of singular knots 115
3. Tautological principal bundles 121
4. The complex structure 126
5. The symplectic structure 135
6. The riemannian structure 144
7. The group of unimodular diffeomorphisms 152

IV. Degree 3 Cohomology: The Dixmier-Douady Theory

1. Infinite-dimensional algebra bundles 158
2. Connections and curvature 168
3. Examples of projective Hilbert space bundles 175

V. Degree 3 Cohomology: Sheaves of Groupoids

1. Descent theory for sheaves 182
2. Sheaves of groupoids and gerbes 191
3. Differential geometry of gerbes 205
4. The canonical sheaf of groupoids on a compact Lie group 219
5. Examples of sheaves of groupoids 228

VI. Line Bundles over Loop Spaces

1. Holonomy of line bundles 234
2. Construction of the line bundle 236
3. The line bundle on the space of knots 243
4. Central extension of loop groups 247
5. Relation with smooth Deligne cohomology 250
6. Parallel transport for sheaves of groupoids 254

VII. The Dirac Monopole

1. Dirac's construction 257
2. The sheaf of groupoids over S^3 264
3. Obstruction to $SU(2)$-equivariance 268

Bibliography 278

List of Notations 286

Index 295