# Abstract

These notes are based on Julius Shaneson's lectures for the course "Algebraic Topology, Part I" at UPenn. Any mistake in what follows is my own.

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# 1 Background material

# 1.1 Lecture 1

Here are the topics for the course:

- fiber bundles over cell complexes,
- spectral sequences,
- characteristic classes, and
- cobordism theory.

To start, let's review some basic concepts from homology theory.

**Definition 1.1.1.** A (finite) cell complex is a (topological) space X that can be written as  $\bigcup_{n=0}^{K} X^n$  for some  $K \in \mathbb{N}$  (called the *dimension of X*) where

- $X^0$  is chosen to be finite,
- $X^n = \frac{X^{n-1} \coprod D_1^n \coprod \cdots \coprod D_{k_n}^n}{x \sim \varphi_i(x)}$ ,
- $D_i^n \cong D^n := \{x \in \mathbb{R}^n : |x| \le 1\}$  for each  $i \in \{1, \dots, k_n\}$ , and
- $\varphi_i: \partial D_i^n = S^{n-1} \to X^{n-1}$ , called an attaching map.

Terminology. Each  $D_i^n$  is called an n-cell of X.

Every attaching map  $\varphi_i:\partial D_i^n\to X^{n-1}$  can be extended to a *characteristic map* given by the composition

$$D_i^n \hookrightarrow X^{n-1} \coprod D_1^n \coprod \cdots \coprod D_{k_n}^n \twoheadrightarrow X^n \hookrightarrow X.$$

**Example 1.1.2.** There are at least two ways of endowing  $S^2$  with a cell structure.

- 1.  $X^0 \equiv \{N, S\}, \ X^1 \equiv X^0 \cup_{\varphi_1} D_1^1 \cup_{\varphi_2} D_2^1$  where each  $\varphi_i$  is an embedding, and  $X^2 \equiv X^1 \cup_{\varphi_1'} D_1^2 \cup_{\varphi_2'} D_2^2$  where each  $\varphi_i'$  is an embedding.
- 2.  $\operatorname{pt} \cup_{\varphi} D^2$  where  $\varphi$  identifies the equator of the upper half-sphere with  $\operatorname{pt}$ .

**Definition 1.1.3.** A cell complex X is regular if every characteristic map  $D_i^n \to X$  is an embedding.

**Definition 1.1.4.** Given a family of functors  $\{H_n : \mathbf{Top}^2 \to \mathbf{Ab}\}_{n \in \mathbb{N}}$  where  $\mathbf{Top}^2$  denotes the category of (topological) pairs, we say that  $H_i$  is a *homology functor* if each of the following properties holds.

1. (LES) For any pair (X, A) of space, there is a natural long exact sequence

$$\cdots \longrightarrow H_i(A) \longrightarrow H_i(X) \longrightarrow H_i(X,A) \xrightarrow{\partial} H_{i-1}(A) \longrightarrow \cdots$$

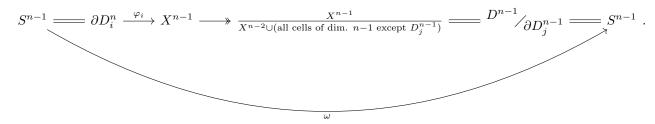
where  $H_i(Z) := H_i(Z, \emptyset)$  for any space Z.

- 2. (Excision) If  $\operatorname{cl}(A) \subset \underset{open}{U} \subset X$ , then  $H_i(X \setminus A, U \setminus A) \cong H_i(X, U)$ .
- $3. \ (\mbox{Dimension}) \ H_i(\mbox{pt}) = \begin{cases} 0 & i \neq 0 \\ \mathbb{Z} & i = 0 \end{cases}.$
- 4. (Homotopy) If f and g are homotopic, then  $f_* = g_*$ , where  $h_* := H_i(h)$  for any map  $h: (X, A) \to (Y, B)$ .

**Theorem 1.1.5.** There exists a family of homology functors.

**Example 1.1.6.** In singular homology theory, we have that  $H_i(S^n) = \begin{cases} \mathbb{Z} & i = 0, n \\ 0 & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$ .

Let X be a cell complex. Let  $C_n(X)$  denote the free abelian group on the set of all n-cells of X. Define  $\partial: C_n(X) \to C_{n-1}(X)$  by  $\partial[D_i^n] = \sum_{j=1}^{k_{n-1}} \lambda_{ij} [D_j^{n-1}]$  where  $\lambda_{ij}$  is defined, up to sign, as follows. Consider the map



Then let  $\lambda_{ij}$  satisfy  $\omega_*(x) = \lambda_{ij}x$  with x a chosen generator (i.e., orientation) of  $H_{n-1}(S^{n-1}) \cong \mathbb{Z}$ . Terminology. The integer  $\lambda_{ij}$  is called the degree of  $\omega$ , denoted by  $\deg(\omega)$ .

**Theorem 1.1.7.**  $\partial_n \partial_{n+1} = 0$ , and  $H_n(X) \cong \ker \partial_n /_{\operatorname{im} \partial_{n+1}}$ , which is independent of our choice of generator x.

**Example 1.1.8.** Suppose that  $f: S^n \to S^n$  is smooth. By Sard's theorem, we can find a regular value  $x \in S^n$ . There is some neighborhood U of x such that  $f^{-1}(U) = U_1 \cup \cdots \cup U_n$  for some n. Using the inverse function theorem and the compactness of  $S^n$ , it follows that  $f^{-1}$  is of the form  $\{x_1, \ldots, x_n\}$ . Note that the differential  $(df)_{x_i}: S^n_{x_i} \to S^n_x$  satisfies  $\det(df)_{x_i} = \pm 1$ . In fact,

$$\deg(f) = \sum_{i=1}^{n} \det (df)_{x_i}.$$

**Exercise 1.1.9.** Prove that any finite cell complex  $X = X^K$  is homotopy equivalent to a regular cell complex. (Hint: Consider the map  $S^{n-1} \to X^{n-1} \times D^n$  given by  $x \mapsto (\varphi(x), x)$  where  $\varphi$  denotes an attaching map of X.)

*Proof.* Let us construct recursively a finite sequence  $A^0, A^1, \ldots, A^K$  of spaces such that each  $A^i$  carries the stricture of a regular cell complex and is homotopy equivalent to  $X^i$ . For each  $n \in \{1, \ldots, K\}$ , let  $k_n$  denote the necessarily finite number of attaching maps  $\varphi_{\alpha_1}, \ldots, \varphi_{\alpha_{k_n}} : S^{n-1} \to X^{n-1}$  for the *n*-skeleton of X. Let

$$A^0 = X^0 \times D^1_{\alpha_1} \times \cdots D^1_{\alpha_{k_1}},$$

viewed as a product of finite cell-complexes. Note that the topology of  $A^0$  is precisely the product topology. Thus,  $A^0$  is homotopy equivalent to  $X^0$  as  $D^1$  is contractible. Now, suppose that  $0 \le n \le K-1$  and that we have constructed our desired space  $A^n$ . This means that there is some homotopy equivalence  $\gamma_n: X^n \to A^n$ . Form  $A^{n+1}$  by attaching finitely many (n+1)-cells  $e_{\alpha_1}^{n+1}, \ldots, e_{\alpha_{k_{n+1}}}^{n+1}$  to  $Z_n \equiv A^n \times D_{\alpha_1}^{n+1} \times \cdots \times D_{\alpha_{k_{n+1}}}^{n+1}$  via the maps

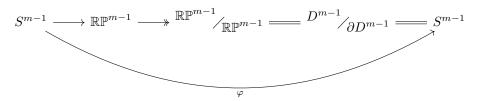
$$\psi_{\alpha_i}: S^n \to A^n \times D_{\alpha_1}^{n+1} \times \dots \times D_{\alpha_{k_{n+1}}}^{n+1}$$
$$x \mapsto \left(\gamma_n \circ \varphi_i(x), 0, \dots, 0, \underbrace{x}_{i\text{-th spot}}, 0, \dots, 0\right)$$

where  $Z_n$  is viewed as a product of finite cell complexes (whose topology is precisely the product topology). It is easy to see that  $A^{n+1}$  is homotopy equivalent to  $X^{n+1}$ . Moreover, since each map  $\psi_{\alpha_i}$  is an embedding and any n-disk has the structure of a regular cell complex, we see from our construction of  $(A^i)$  that  $A^K$  has the structure of a regular cell complex. By design, this space is homotopy equivalent to  $X^K$ , thereby completing our proof.

# 1.2 Lecture 2

**Example 1.2.1 (Real projective space).** Recall that  $\mathbb{RP}^n = S^n/_x \sim -x$ . Then  $\mathbb{RP}^n = \mathbb{RP}^{n-1} \cup_{\pi_{n-1}} D^n$  where  $\pi_{n-1}: S^{n-1} \to \mathbb{RP}^{n-1}$  denotes the canonical projection. Thus,  $\mathbb{RP}^n$  is an n-dimension cell complex with  $(\mathbb{RP}^n)^m = \mathbb{RP}^m$  for each integer  $0 \le m \le n$ .

Now, for each  $0 \leq m \leq n$ , we have that  $C_m(\mathbb{RP}^n) \cong \mathbb{Z}$  with generator  $[D^m]$ . To determine  $\partial[D^m] \in C_{m-1}(\mathbb{RP}^m)$ , we must find the degree of the map



Assume, for convenience, that m=2. Choose a regular value  $p \in S^1$  so that  $\varphi^{-1}(p) = \{N, S\}$ . Let  $\varphi_T$  and  $\varphi_B$  denote the restrictions of  $\varphi$  to the top and bottom components of  $S^1 \setminus \{(-1,0),(1,0)\}$ , respectively. Note that both of these are homeomorphisms and thus have degrees equal to  $\pm 1$ . If  $a: S^{m-1} \to S^{m-1}$  denotes the antipodal map, we have that  $\varphi_B \circ a = \varphi_T$ . Hence  $(d\varphi)_S \circ (da)_N = (d\varphi)_N$ . Since  $\deg(a) = \det(da) = (-1)^m$ , it follows that

$$\deg(\varphi) = \begin{cases} \pm 2 & m \text{ even} \\ 0 & m \text{ odd} \end{cases}.$$

Thus, we get a chain complex

$$0 \longrightarrow C_n(\mathbb{RP}^n) \xrightarrow{\kappa_1} C_{n-1}(\mathbb{RP}^n) \xrightarrow{\kappa_2} \cdots \xrightarrow{0} C_2(\mathbb{RP}^n) \xrightarrow{\pm 2} C_1(\mathbb{RP}^n) \xrightarrow{0} C_0(\mathbb{RP}^n) \longrightarrow 0$$

where 
$$\kappa_1 = \begin{cases} 0 & n \text{ odd} \\ \pm 2 & n \text{ even} \end{cases}$$
 and  $\kappa_2 = \begin{cases} \pm 2 & n \text{ odd} \\ 0 & n \text{ even} \end{cases}$ .

This proves that

$$H_{i}(\mathbb{RP}^{n}) = \begin{cases} \mathbb{Z} & i = 0 \\ \mathbb{Z}/2 & i = 1 \\ 0 & i = 2 \end{cases}$$
$$\mathbb{Z}/2 & i < n \\ 0 & i < n \\ 0 & i > n \\ \mathbb{Z} & i = n \text{ odd} \\ 0 & i > n \end{cases}$$

Next, let's introduce some fundamental concepts from homotopy theory.

**Definition 1.2.2.** Let M(X,Y) denote the set of maps  $X \to Y$ .

1. For any compact  $C \subset X$  and open  $U \subset Y$ , let

$$N(C,U) = \{ f: X \to Y \mid f(C) \subset U \}.$$

The compact-open topology on M(X,Y) consists of all unions of finite intersections of subsets of the form N(C,U). Under this topology, M(X,Y) is called a mapping space.

2. The *n*-th loop space of a pointed space (X, x) is

$$\Omega^{n-1}(X,x) := M((D^{n-1}, \partial D^{n-1}), (X,x)),$$

which is a subset of  $M(D^{n-1}, X)$ .

**Definition 1.2.3 (Higher homotopy groups).** If  $n \geq 2$ , then the *n*-th homotopy group of (X, x) is

$$\pi_n(X, x) := \pi_1(\Omega^{n-1}X, e_x).$$

Recall that  $\pi_1(-)$  is a functor  $\mathbf{Top}_* \to \mathbf{Grp}$ . Also,  $\Omega^{n-1}(-)$  is a functor  $\mathbf{Top}_* \to \mathbf{Top}$  defined on morphisms  $f: (X, x) \to (Y, y)$  by post-composition with f. Therefore, it's easy to see that  $\pi_n(-)$  is a functor  $\mathbf{Top}_* \to \mathbf{Grp}$  as well.

Notation. Let  $f_* = \pi_n(f)$  for any  $f: (X, x) \to (Y, y)$ .

**Proposition 1.2.4.** There is a homeomorphism  $M(X \times Y, Z) \cong M(X, M(Y, Z))$  so long as Y is locally compact and Hausdorff.

In particular, we have a composite

$$M(([0,1],\{0,1\}),(M((D^{n-1},\partial),(X,x)),e_x)) \hookrightarrow M([0,1],M(D^{n-1},X)) \xrightarrow{\cong} M([0,1] \times D^{n-1},X),$$

whose image is precisely  $M((D^n, \partial), (X, x)) \cong M((S^n, \mathsf{pt}), (X, x))$ . This proves that  $\pi_n(X, x)$  consists of all homotopy classes of maps  $(I^n, \partial) \to (X, x)$  under the operation [f] \* [g] = [f \* g] where

$$f * g(t_1, \dots, t_n) = \begin{cases} f(2t_1, t_2, \dots, t_n) & 0 \le t_1 \le \frac{1}{2} \\ f(2t_1 - 1, t_2, \dots, t_n) & \frac{1}{2} \le t \le 1 \end{cases}.$$

**Proposition 1.2.5.** If  $n \geq 2$ , then  $\pi_n(X, x)$  is abelian.

Remark 1.2.6. A map  $f: S^{n-1} \to X$  is homotopic to the constant map if and only if there is some g such that

$$\int_{S^{n-1}}^{n} \xrightarrow{g} X$$

commutes.

**Theorem 1.2.7 (Whitehead).** If  $f: X \to Y$  is a map of connected cell complexes, then f is a homotopy equivalence if and only if  $f_*: \pi_n(X, x) \to \pi_n(Y, y)$  is an isomorphism for each  $n \in \mathbb{N}$ .

# 1.3 Lecture 3

**Definition 1.3.1.** If  $x \in A \subset X$ , then the *n*-th relative homotopy group  $\pi_n(X, A, x)$  consists of all homotopy classes of maps  $(D^n, S^{n-1}, x_0) \to (X, A, x)$ .

We see that

$$M((D^n, S^{n-1}, x), (X, A, x_0)) \cong M((I^n, I^{n-1} \times \{1\}, \underbrace{\partial I^n \setminus \operatorname{Int}(I^{n-1} \times \{1\})}_{\partial_0 I^n}), (X, A, x_0))$$

by considering the homeomorphism  $(I^n/\partial_0 I^n, \partial I^n/\partial_0 I^n) \cong (D^n, S^{n-1})$ . Therefore,  $\pi_n(X, A, x)$  can be viewed as consisting of all homotopy classes of maps  $(I^n, \partial I^n, \partial_0 I^n) \to (X, A, x)$ .

**Definition 1.3.2.** In order to interpret an exact sequence involving objects in the category of pointed sets, we define the kernel of a function  $f:(X,x)\to (Y,y)$  of pointed sets as  $\ker f\equiv f^{-1}(y)$ .

# Proposition 1.3.3.

- 1. If  $n \geq 2$ , then  $\pi_n(X, A, x)$  is, in fact, a group.
- 2. If n > 3, then  $\pi_n(X, A, x)$  is abelian.

3. We have a long exact sequence

$$\cdots \longrightarrow \pi_n(A,x) \longrightarrow \pi_n(X,x) \longrightarrow \pi_n(X,A,x) \xrightarrow{\partial} \pi_{n-1}(A,x)$$

$$\pi_{n-1}(X,x) \longleftrightarrow \cdots \longrightarrow \pi_0(A,x) \longrightarrow \pi_0(X,x) \longrightarrow 0$$

with 
$$\partial[f] = [f \upharpoonright_{I^{n-1}}].$$

**Theorem 1.3.4 (Hurewicz).** Let  $n \in \mathbb{N}_{\geq 2}$ . If  $\pi_i(X) = 0$  for each i < n, then  $\pi_n(X) \cong H_n(X)$ .

Note 1.3.5. This result can't be improved in general. For example,  $\pi_3(S^2) \cong \mathbb{Z}$ , whereas  $H_3(S^2) = 0$ .

Let  $A \subset X$  be a subcomplex. Recall that  $H_i(X, A) \cong H_i(X/A.*)$  for each  $i \geq 1$ . But it is *not* the case that  $\pi_i(X, A) \cong \pi_i(X/A.*)$ , for otherwise  $\pi_i(S^n) \cong \pi_i(D^n, S^{n-1}) \cong \pi_i(S^{n-1})$ , which is known to be false exactly when i > 2n - 2.

Example 1.3.6.  $\pi_4(S^3) \cong \mathbb{Z}/2 \not\cong \pi_4(S^4)$ .

Finally, let's review the notion of a fibration of spaces.

Recall that if  $p: E \to B$  is a covering projection, then TFAE.

- 1. For any  $f: Z \to B$ , there exists a unique  $\hat{f}: Z \to E$  such that  $p \circ \hat{f} = f$ .
- 2.  $f_*(\pi_1(Z)) \subset p_*(\pi_1(E))$ .

The existence of  $\hat{f}$  follows from the fact that any covering space satisfies the homotopy lifting property.

**Definition 1.3.7 (Fibration).** Suppose that  $p: E \to B$  is any map. We say that p is a *fibration* if it satisfies the homotopy lifting property, i.e., given a commutative square

$$\begin{array}{ccc} X \times \{0\} & \stackrel{\widehat{f_0}}{\longrightarrow} & E \\ & & \downarrow^p, \\ X \times [0,1] & \stackrel{f}{\longrightarrow} & B \end{array}$$

where X is a cell complex, there is some G such that

$$X \times \{0\} \xrightarrow{\widehat{f_0}} E$$

$$\downarrow p$$

$$X \times [0,1] \xrightarrow{f} B$$

commutes.

**Theorem 1.3.8.** If  $p: E \to B$  is a fibration with  $e \in F := p^{-1}(b)$ , then

$$p_*: \pi_i(E, F, e) \xrightarrow{\cong} \pi_i(B, b, b) = \pi_i(B, b).$$

*Proof.* Let  $f:(I^n,\partial I^n)\to (B,b)$ . To prove that  $p_*$  is surjective, it suffices to find some  $G:(I^n,\partial I^n)\to (E,F)$  such that

commutes, for in this case  $[p \circ G'] = [f]$ . Since p is a fibration, there is some G such that

$$I^{n-1} \times \{0\} \longrightarrow \{e\} \hookrightarrow F \hookrightarrow E$$

$$\downarrow p$$

$$I^{n-1} \times [0,1] \longrightarrow f$$

commutes. But  $(I^n, \partial_0 I^n) \cong (I^n, I^{n-1} \times \{0\})$ , and thus such a G' is enough.

Corollary 1.3.9. We have a long exact sequence

$$\cdots \longrightarrow \pi_i(F,e) \longrightarrow \pi_i(E,e) \longrightarrow \pi_i(B,b) \stackrel{\partial}{\longrightarrow} \pi_{i-1}(F,e) \longrightarrow \cdots$$

# Example 1.3.10.

1. Suppose that

$$\begin{array}{ccc} X \times \{0\} & \stackrel{\hat{f}}{\longrightarrow} & B \times F \\ & & \downarrow^{\pi_B} \\ X \times [0,1] & \stackrel{f}{\longrightarrow} & B \end{array}$$

commutes. Then  $\hat{f}(x,0) = (\hat{f}_1(x,0), \hat{f}_2(x,0))$  where  $\hat{f}_1(x,0) = f(x,0)$ . Let  $G(X,t) = (f(x,t), \hat{f}_2(x,0))$ . Then

$$X \times \{0\} \xrightarrow{\widehat{f_0}} B \times F$$

$$\downarrow G \qquad \downarrow \pi_B$$

$$X \times [0,1] \xrightarrow{f} B$$

commutes, so that  $\pi_B$  is a fibration. (Moreover,  $\pi_n(B \times F) \cong \pi_n(B) \times \pi_n(F)$ .)

- 2. Let  $A \subset X$  be a subcomplex. The map  $\varphi: M(X,Y) \to M(A,Y)$  defined by  $f \mapsto f \upharpoonright_A$  is a fibration.
- 3. Define the *Hopf fibration* as the quotient map

$$S^3 = \{(z_1, z_2) \in \mathbb{C}^2 \mid z_1 \overline{z_1} + z_2 \overline{z_2} = 1\} \twoheadrightarrow S^3 /_{r \sim -r} = \mathbb{CP}^1 = S^2.$$

Corollary 1.3.11.  $\pi_3(S^3) \cong \pi_3(S^2)$ .

*Proof.* Since we have an exact sequence

$$\pi_3(S^1) \longrightarrow \pi_3(S^3) \longrightarrow \pi_3(S^2) \longrightarrow \pi_2(S^1)$$
,

it suffices to show that both  $\pi_3(S^1)$  and  $\pi_2(S^1)$  are trivial. To this end, note that since  $\pi_1(S^k) = 0$  for every k > 1, we can always find, for any  $f: S^k \to S^1$ , a map  $\hat{f}$  such that

$$S^{k} \xrightarrow{\hat{f}} S^{1}$$

commutes. Thus, f is homotopic to the constant map. Since f was arbitrary, our proof is complete.  $\Box$ 

**Definition 1.3.12.** A map  $p: E \to B$  is locally trivial if for any  $b \in B$ , there exist a neighborhood  $U \ni b$  in B, a space F, and a homeomorphism  $\varphi: p^{-1}(U) \xrightarrow{\cong} U \times F$  such that  $\pi_U \circ \varphi = p \upharpoonright_{p^{-1}(U)}$ .

**Theorem 1.3.13.** Any locally trivial map  $p: E \to B$  is a fibration whenever B is a cell complex.

Exercise 1.3.14. Prove that the Hopf fibration is locally trivial.

*Proof.* For each  $k \in \{0,1\}$ , let  $U_k = \{[z_0,z_1] \in \mathbb{CP}^1 \mid z_k \neq 0\}$ . Then  $U_0$  and  $U_1$  form an open cover of  $\mathbb{CP}^1$ . Note that the preimage of  $U_k$  under the Hopf fibration q is precisely  $\{(z_0,z_1) \in S^3 \mid z_k \neq 0\}$ . Define  $f:q^{-1}(U_k) \to U_k \times S^1$  by

$$(z_0, z_1) \mapsto \left( [z_0, z_1], \frac{z_k}{|z_k|} \right).$$

This is clearly continuous. Further, define the map  $g: U_k \times S^1 \to q^{-1}(U_k)$  by

$$([z_0, z_1], e^{i\theta}) \mapsto \frac{e^{i\theta}|z_k|}{z_k|(z_0, z_1)|} (z_0, z_1).$$

Since  $U_k$  is a saturated open set, we have that the restriction of q to  $q^{-1}(U_k)$  is a quotient map. But  $g \circ q \upharpoonright_{q^{-1}(U_k)}$  is continuous, so that g is also continuous by the characteristic property of quotient maps. Finally, it is easy to verify that g and f are inverses of each other and that  $\pi_{U_I} \circ f = p \upharpoonright_{q^{-1}(U_k)}$ .

# 1.4 Lecture 4

**Theorem 1.4.1.** Let  $A \subset X$  be a subcomplex. Define  $r : M(X,Y) \to M(A,Y)$  by  $r(f) = f \upharpoonright_A$ . Then r is a fibration.

*Proof.* We must fill any diagram of the form

$$Z \times \{0\} \xrightarrow{\hat{f}} M(X,Y)$$

$$\downarrow \qquad \qquad \downarrow r \qquad .$$

$$Z \times [0,1] \xrightarrow{f} M(A,Y)$$

It suffices to find a map  $\overline{F}$  such that

$$Z \times \{0\} \times X \xrightarrow{\hat{f}} Y$$

$$\downarrow \qquad \qquad \downarrow \qquad \qquad \downarrow$$

$$Z \times [0,1] \times X \qquad \qquad Y$$

$$\uparrow \qquad \qquad \downarrow$$

$$Z \times [0,1] \times A$$

commutes for, in this case, we can set  $F(z,t)(x) = \overline{F}(z,t,x)$ .

**Note 1.4.2.** Suppose that such an  $\overline{F}$  exists. Define  $g: Z \times X \to Y$  by  $g(z,x) = \hat{f}(z,0,x)$ . Define  $h: Z \times X \times [0,1] \to Y$  by  $H(z,x,t) = \overline{F}(z,t,x)$ . Then

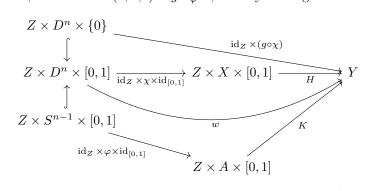
commutes where  $K(z, a, t) = \bar{f}(z, t, a)$ . In the case where  $Z = \mathsf{pt}$ , this means that if  $K : A \times [0, 1] \to Y$  is a homotopy from a map  $f : A \to Y$  and g extends f to X, then there exists a homotopy  $H : X \times [0, 1] \to Y$  such that  $H \upharpoonright_{A \times [0, 1]} = K$ . In other words, the extension problem for cell complexes is a homotopy problem.

Let's return to proving our theorem. By induction, it suffices to consider just the case where  $X = A \cup_{\varphi} D^n$ , with characteristic map  $\chi: D^n \to X$ . Thus, it suffices to find a map w such that

$$Z \times D^{n} \times \{0\}$$

$$\downarrow \qquad \qquad \downarrow \qquad$$

commutes for, in this case, we can set  $H(z,x,t)=g\cup_{\varphi}w$ , thereby making



commute. To this end, define the retraction  $u: D^n \times [0,1] \to D^n \times \{0\} \cup S^{n-1} \times [0,1]$  by picking a point \* directly above the cylinder  $D^n \times [0,1]$  and then sending any point x in the cylinder to the unique point where  $D^n \times \{0\} \cup S^{n-1} \times [0,1]$  intersects the line containing \* and x. Now, define w so that

commutes.  $\Box$ 

**Exercise 1.4.3.** Let  $x \in X$ . Consider the loop space  $\Omega(X,x) \equiv M((S^1,\mathsf{pt}),(X,x))$ . Prove that  $\pi_n(\Omega X) \cong \pi_{n+1}(X)$ .

*Proof.* Consider the path space  $PX \equiv \{\gamma : [0,1] \to X \mid \gamma(0) = x\}$  of (X,x), equipped with the compact-open topology. We claim that PX is contractible. Indeed, define  $K : PX \times [0,1] \to PX$  by

$$(\gamma, t) \mapsto (s \mapsto \gamma(s(1-t)))$$
.

Then K is a homotopy from  $id_{PX}$  to the constant map at the constant path at x.

Define the map  $p: PX \to X$  by  $\gamma \mapsto \gamma(1)$ . Then  $p^{-1}(x) = \Omega(X)$ . By Corollary 1.3.9, it suffices to show that p is a fibration. To this end, suppose that the square

$$Y \times \{0\} \xrightarrow{\hat{f}} PX$$

$$\downarrow p$$

$$Y \times [0,1] \xrightarrow{f} X$$

commutes. Define  $H: Y \times [0,1] \to PX$  by  $(y,t) \mapsto H(y,t)$  where

$$H(y,t)(s) = \begin{cases} \hat{f}(y) ((1+t)s) & 0 \le s \le \frac{1}{1+t} \\ f(y,(1+t)s-1) & \frac{1}{1+t} \le s \le 1 \end{cases}.$$

We see that H is continuous when viewed as a function of (y, t, s) and thus is continuous. It is easy to check that

$$Y \times \{0\} \xrightarrow{\hat{f}} PX$$

$$\downarrow p$$

$$Y \times [0,1] \xrightarrow{f} X$$

commutes, as desired.

Let  $p: E \to B$  be a map. Recall that the pullback of p along  $f: X \to B$  is given explicitly as

$$f^*E \equiv \{(x,e) \in X \times E \mid f(x) = p(e)\}.$$

Let  $f^*p$  denote the map  $\pi_X \upharpoonright_{f^*E}$ .

**Proposition 1.4.4.** If p is a fibration, then so is  $f^*p$ .

**Lemma 1.4.5.** If p is locally trivial, then so is  $f^*p$ .

*Proof.* Let  $a \in X$ . Since p is locally trivial by assumption, we can find a neighborhood U of f(a) in B and a homeomorphism  $\varphi: p^{-1}(U) \to U \times F$ . Observe that

$$(f^*p)^{-1}(f^{-1}(U)) = \{(x,e) \mid f(x) = p(e), \ f(x) \in U\} \subset f^{-1}(U) \times p^{-1}(U).$$

Further, we have a map  $\psi: f^{-1}(U) \to p^{-1}(U) \to f^{-1}(U) \times F$  given by  $(x, e) \mapsto (x, \pi_F(\varphi(e)))$ . Define  $\lambda: f^{-1}(U) \times F \to (f^*p)^{-1}(f^{-1}(U))$  by  $(x, y) \mapsto (x, \varphi^{-1}(f(x), y))$ . Using the fact that

$$p^{-1}(U) \xrightarrow{\varphi} U \times F$$

$$\downarrow^{\pi_U}$$

$$U$$

commutes, it is easy to check that  $\psi$  and  $\lambda$  are inverses of each other.

# 1.5 Lecture 5

**Theorem 1.5.1.** Let B be a cell complex and let  $p: E \to B$  be locally trivial. Then p is a fibration.

*Proof.* It suffices to prove the following claim:

If  $h: Z \to X \times [0,1]$  is locally trivial,  $X = \bigcup_{i=0}^n X^i$  is a cell complex, and  $\sigma_0: X \times \{0\} \to Z$  satisfies  $h \circ \sigma_0 = \mathrm{id}_{X \times \{0\}}$ , then there is some map  $\sigma: X \times [0,1] \to Z$  such that  $\sigma_{X \times \{0\}} = \sigma_0$  and  $h \circ \sigma = \mathrm{id}_{X \times [0,1]}$ .

For, in this case, Lemma 1.4.5 implies that given any commutative square

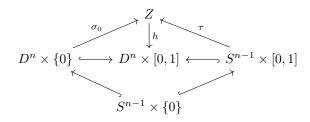
$$\begin{array}{ccc} X \times \{0\} & \xrightarrow{\hat{f}} & E \\ & & \downarrow p \,, \\ X \times [0,1] & \xrightarrow{f} & B \end{array}$$

we can find some  $\sigma$  such that

$$f^*E \xrightarrow{\sigma_0} F \xrightarrow{f^*E} \downarrow^p \\ X \times \{0\} \xrightarrow{G} X \times [0,1] \xrightarrow{f} B$$

commutes where  $\sigma_0(x,0) = (x,0,\hat{f}(x,0)).$ 

For induction, let us assume that our claim is true for each  $X^0, X^1, \ldots, X^{n-1}$ . We may assume, wlog, that  $X = D^n$ . It suffices to find a map  $\tau : S^{n-1} \times [0,1] \to Z$  such that  $h \circ \tau = \mathrm{id}_{S^{n-1} \times [0,1]}$  and



commutes since there is a retraction  $D^n \times [0,1] \to D^n \times \{0\} \cup S^{n-1} \times [0,1]$ . Fix a positive integer m. For any  $i \in \mathbb{N}$ , let  $a_i = \frac{i}{m}$  and let  $I_j = [a_j, a_{j+1}]$ . By making m large enough, we can ensure that  $p \upharpoonright_{p^{-1}(I_{j_1} \times \cdots I_{j_{n+1}})}$  is trivial.

Claim.  $p \upharpoonright_{p^{-1}(I_{i_1} \times I_{i_n} \times \cdots [0,1])}$  is also trivial.

# 2 Fiber bundles

**Definition 2.0.1.** A topological group G is a group such that both multiplication  $G \times G \xrightarrow{\mu} G$  and inversion  $G \xrightarrow{(-)^{-1}} G$  are continuous.

**Definition 2.0.2 (Fiber bundle).** Let G be a topological group.

- 1. A fiber F of G is a space equipped with a faithful (i.e., injective) group action  $\rho: G \to \operatorname{Homeo}(F) \subset M(F,F)$ .
- 2. An atlas for the structure of a (fiber) bundle with group G and fiber F on a map  $p: E \to B$  consists of
  - (a) a family  $(U_{\alpha}, h_{\alpha})_{\alpha \in A}$  where each  $U_{\alpha}$  is open and each  $h_{\alpha}$  is a homeomorphism  $p^{-1}(U_{\alpha}) \to U_{\alpha} \times F$  and
  - (b) a family of continuous transition functions  $\{h_{\beta\alpha}: U_{\alpha} \cap U_{\beta} \to G\}_{\alpha,\beta \in A}$

such that

i 
$$B = \bigcup_{\alpha \in A} U_{\alpha}$$
,  
ii  $\pi_{U_{\alpha}} \circ h_{\alpha} = p \upharpoonright_{p^{-1}(U_{\alpha})}$ , and  
iii  $x \in U_{\alpha} \cap U_{\beta} \implies h_{\beta} \circ h_{\alpha}^{-1}(x, f) = (x, h_{\beta\alpha}(x) \cdot f)$ 

- 3. Two atlases are *compatible* if their union is an atlas.
- 4. A bundle structure on B is a maximal atlas on p.

Terminology. If B is equipped with a bundle structure, then we say that p is a (fiber) bundle.

# Example 2.0.3.

1. The tangent bundle  $\pi: TM \to M$  of a smooth n-manifold M is a bundle with group  $GL(n,\mathbb{R})$ .

*Proof.* Let  $(U, \varphi)$  be any coordinate chart for M with coordinate functions  $(x^i)$ . Define  $h : \pi^{-1}(U) \to U \times \mathbb{R}^n$  by

$$v^{i} \frac{\partial}{\partial x^{i}}(p) \mapsto (p, (v^{1}, \dots, v^{n})).$$

It is clear that  $\pi_U(h(p)) = \pi(c)$  for any  $c \in \pi^{-1}(U)$ . To see that h is a homeomorphism, note that the composite  $(\varphi \times \mathrm{id}_{\mathbb{R}^n}) \circ h : \pi^{-1}(U) \to \varphi(U) \times \mathbb{R}^n$  is given by

$$v^i \frac{\partial}{\partial x^i}(p) \mapsto (x^1(p), \dots, x^n(p), v^1, \dots, v^n),$$

the inverse of which is given by  $(x^1, \ldots, x^n, v^1, \ldots, v^n) \mapsto v^i \frac{\partial}{\partial x^i} (\varphi^{-1}(x))$ . Therefore,  $(\varphi \times id_{\mathbb{R}^n}) \circ h$  is given locally by

$$(x^1, \dots, x^n, v^1, \dots, v^n) \mapsto (\tilde{x}^1(x), \dots, \tilde{x}^n(x), \frac{\partial \tilde{x}^1}{\partial x^j}(x)v^j, \dots, \frac{\partial \tilde{x}^n}{\partial x^j}(x)v^j),$$

which is smooth. Thus, h is a diffeomorphism as the composition of two diffeomorphisms. In particular, h is a homeomorphism.

It remains to describe the transition functions  $\{h_{\beta\alpha}: U_{\alpha} \cap U_{\beta} \to \mathrm{GL}(n,\mathbb{R})\}$  for TM. Note that

$$U_{\alpha\beta} \times \mathbb{R}^n \xleftarrow{h_{\alpha}} \pi^{-1}(U_{\alpha\beta}) \xrightarrow{h_{\beta}} U_{\beta\alpha} \times \mathbb{R}^n$$

$$\downarrow^{\pi} \qquad \downarrow^{\pi}$$

$$U_{\alpha\beta}$$

commutes. In particular,  $\pi_1 \circ h_\beta \circ h_\alpha^{-1} = \pi_1$ , which implies that  $h_\beta \circ h_\alpha^{-1}(u,v) = (u, f(u,v))$  for some smooth map  $f: U_{\alpha\beta} \times \mathbb{R}^n \to \mathbb{R}^n$ . This must be a linear isomorphism when restricted to  $\{u\} \times \mathbb{R}^n$  for any  $u \in U_{\alpha\beta}$ , which is uniquely determined by an element  $h_{\beta\alpha}(u)$  of  $GL(n,\mathbb{R})$  (provided that we have fixed a basis of  $\mathbb{R}^n$ ). Hence

$$h_{\beta} \circ h_{\alpha}^{-1}(u,v) = (u, h_{\beta\alpha}(u)v).$$

Since the map  $h_{\beta\alpha}: U_{\alpha\beta} \to \mathrm{GL}(n,\mathbb{R})$  is continuous, our proof is complete.

2. Let  $p: E \to B$  be any bundle with group  $\{e\}$ . Then p is the trivial bundle, i.e., is isomorphic to the projection map.

*Proof.* We have that  $h_{\beta} = h_{\alpha}$  on  $p^{-1}(U_{\alpha} \cap U_{\beta}) = p^{-1}(U_{\alpha}) \cap p^{-1}(U_{\beta})$ , so that  $h \equiv \bigcup_{\alpha \in A} h_{\alpha}$  is a well-defined homeomorphism  $E \cong B \times F$ .

#### 2.1 Lecture 6

Let  $\{(U_{\alpha}, h_{\alpha})\}$  be a bundle structure with group G and fiber F on  $p: E \to B$ . Let  $U = U_{\alpha} \cap U_{\beta} \cap U_{\gamma}$ . Consider the commutative diagram

$$U \times F \xrightarrow[h_{\alpha}^{-1}]{h_{\alpha}^{-1}} p^{-1}(U) \xrightarrow[h_{\beta}]{h_{\gamma}} U \times F \xrightarrow[h_{\beta}^{-1}]{h_{\gamma}} p^{-1}(U) \xrightarrow[h_{\gamma}]{h_{\gamma}} U \times F$$

The bottom row is given by  $(u, f) \mapsto (u, h_{\beta\alpha}(u) \cdot f) \mapsto (u, h_{\gamma\beta}(u) \cdot (h_{\beta\alpha}(u) \cdot f)) = (u, (h_{\gamma\beta}(u)h_{\beta\alpha}(u)) \cdot f)$ , and the top composite is given by  $(u, f) \mapsto (u, h_{\gamma\alpha}(u) \cdot f)$ . It follows that

$$h_{\gamma\beta}(u)h_{\beta\alpha}(u) = h_{\gamma\alpha}(u)$$

for each  $u \in U$ . This property is known as the *cocycle condition*.

**Theorem 2.1.1.** Let G be a topological group acting on a space F. Suppose that  $\{U_{\alpha}\}$  is an open cover of B and  $\{h_{\beta\alpha}: U_{\alpha} \cap U_{\beta} \to G\}$  is a family of continuous functions satisfying the cocycle condition. Then there exists a bundle  $p: E \to B$  with group G, fiber F, and transition functions  $h_{\beta\alpha}$ .

*Proof sketch.* Let  $E = \coprod_{\alpha} U_{\alpha} \times F_{\nearrow \sim}$  where  $(u, f)_{\alpha} \sim (u, h_{\beta\alpha}(u) \cdot f)_{\beta}$ . Define  $p : E \to B$  by  $(u, f) \mapsto u$ .  $\square$ 

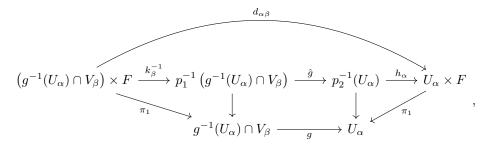
**Definition 2.1.2 (Bundle map).** A morphism of bundles  $p_1$  and  $p_2$  with group G and fiber F is a commutative square of the form

$$E_1 \xrightarrow{\hat{g}} E_2$$

$$\downarrow^{p_1} \qquad \qquad \downarrow^{p_2} .$$

$$B_1 \xrightarrow{g} B_2$$

Suppose that  $(\hat{g}, g)$  is a bundle map  $p_1 \to p_2$ . Let  $\{(U_\alpha, h_\alpha)\}$  and  $\{(V_\beta, k_\beta)\}$  be bundle structures on  $B_2$  and  $B_1$ , respectively. We have a commutative diagram



so that  $d_{\alpha\beta}(x,f) = (g(x), \lambda_{\alpha\beta}(x) \cdot f)$  for some continuous map  $\lambda_{\alpha\beta} : g^{-1}(U_{\alpha}) \cap V_{\beta} \to G$ . Letting  $W = g^{-1}(U_{\alpha} \cap U_{\alpha'}) \cap (V_{\beta} \cap V_{\beta'})$ , we have that

$$h_{\alpha'\alpha}(w)\lambda_{\alpha\beta}(w)k_{\beta\beta'}(w) = \lambda_{\alpha'\beta'}(w) \tag{\dagger}$$

for every  $w \in W$ .

**Exercise 2.1.3 (Pullback bundle).** Let  $\{(U_{\alpha}, h_{\alpha})\}$  be a bundle structure on  $p : E \to B$  with group G and consider the pullback diagram

$$g^*E \longrightarrow E \\ \downarrow g^*p \downarrow \qquad \qquad \downarrow p . \\ X \longrightarrow B$$

Define  $h'_{\beta\alpha}: g^{-1}(U_{\alpha}) \cap g^{-1}(U_{\beta}) \to G$  as the composite  $h_{\beta\alpha} \circ g$  restricted to  $g^{-1}(U_{\alpha} \cap U_{\beta})$ . Show that the family  $\{h'_{\beta\alpha}\}$  induces a bundle structure on  $g^*p$ .

Theorem 2.1.4. Every bundle map

$$E_1 \xrightarrow{\hat{g}} E_2$$

$$\downarrow^{p_1} \qquad \qquad \downarrow^{p_2}$$

$$B_1 \xrightarrow{g} B_2$$

factors as

$$E_{1} \xrightarrow{\tau} g^{*}E_{2} \xrightarrow{\bar{g}} E_{2}$$

$$\downarrow^{p_{1}} \qquad \downarrow^{g^{*}p_{2}} \qquad \downarrow^{p_{2}}$$

$$B_{1} \xrightarrow{\operatorname{id}_{B_{1}}} B_{1} \xrightarrow{g} B_{2}$$

where  $\tau(e) = (p_1(e), \hat{g}(e))$  for any  $e \in E_1$ .

# 2.2 Lecture 7

**Note 2.2.1.** If  $\{h_{\beta\alpha}: U_{\alpha} \cap U_{\beta} \to G\}$  is a family of transition functions, then

$$h_{\alpha\beta}(x) = (h_{\beta\alpha}(x))^{-1}$$

for any  $x \in U_{\alpha} \cap U_{\beta}$ . In particular,  $h_{\alpha\alpha}(x) = (h_{\alpha\alpha}(x))^{-1}$ .

Theorem 2.2.2. Any bundle map of the form

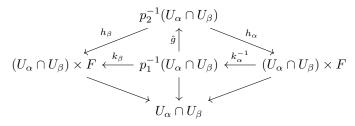
$$E_1 \xrightarrow{\hat{g}} E_2$$

$$\downarrow^{p_2}$$

$$B$$

is an isomorphism.

Proof. Note that



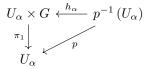
commutes. We have that  $h_{\beta} \circ \hat{g} \circ k_{\alpha}^{-1}(x, f) = (x, \lambda_{\beta\alpha}(x) \cdot f)$ . Thus, if  $h_{\alpha}(e) = (x, f)$ , then  $h_{\alpha}(\hat{g}(e)) = (x, \lambda_{\alpha\alpha}(x) \cdot d)$ . Let

$$(\hat{g})^{-1}(e) = k_{\alpha}^{-1}(x, \lambda_{\alpha\alpha}(x)^{-1} \cdot f)$$

where  $(x, f) = h_{\alpha}(e)$ . If this is well-defined on  $E_2$  (??), then it indeed equals the inverse of  $\hat{g}$ . Moreover, by Note 2.2.1, it is easy to check that  $d_{\alpha'\beta'}(x)^{-1}$  satisfies (†), and thus it can be shown that  $(\hat{g})^{-1}$  is a bundle map.

Corollary 2.2.3. Every bundle  $E \to X$  is isomorphic to the pullback of E by  $id_X$ .

Let  $\{(U_{\alpha}, h_{\alpha})\}$  be a bundle structure with group G and fiber G on  $p: E \to X$ . In particular,



commutes. Define the free action  $E \times G \to E$  by

$$e \cdot g = h_{\alpha}^{-1} \left( h_{\alpha}(e) \cdot g \right).$$

where  $p(e) \in U_{\alpha}$  and  $(u,h) \cdot g \equiv (u,hg)$ . This is well-defined because it does not depend on our choice of  $\alpha$ . Indeed, suppose that p(e) also belongs to  $U_{\beta}$ . We have that  $h_{\alpha}(e) = (p(e),h)$  and  $h_{\beta}(e) = (p(e),h')$  for some  $h,h' \in G$ . Then  $e \cdot g = h_{\alpha}^{-1}(p(e),hg)$ , and we must show that this equals  $h_{\beta}^{-1}(p(e),h'g)$ . Note that  $h_{\beta}(e \cdot g) = (p(e),h_{\beta\alpha}(p(e))hg)$ . But

$$(p(e),h_{\beta\alpha}(p(e))h) = h_{\beta}\left(h_{\alpha}^{-1}\left(p(e),h\right)\right) = \left(p(e),h'\right),$$

so that  $h_{\beta\alpha}(p(e))h = h'$ , and thus  $h_{\beta}(e \cdot g) = (p(e), h'g)$ , as desired.

Note 2.2.4.  $E/G \cong \{p^{-1}(x) \mid x \in X\} \cong X$ .

**Definition 2.2.5 (Balanced product).** Let F be a space. The balanced product  $E \times_G F$  of E and F is the quotient space  $E \times F /_{\sim}$  where

$$(e,f) \sim (eg,g^{-1}f)$$

for any  $e \in E$  and  $f \in F$ .

By the universal property of the quotient space, there is a unique map  $\bar{p}$  such that

$$E \times F \longrightarrow E \times_G F$$

$$p \circ \pi_E \downarrow \qquad \qquad (\star)$$

Notation. Let  $\mathcal{B}(X, G, \rho, F)$  denote the set of all isomorphism classes of bundles over X with group G and fiber F.

**Lemma 2.2.6.**  $\bar{p}$  is a bundle with group G and fiber F.

*Proof.* As  $(g, f) \sim (e_G, gf)$ , we see that  $(U \times G) \times_G F \cong U \times F$ . Thus, we can endow  $\bar{p}$  with local trivializations and transition functions that are exactly similar to those for p.

**Proposition 2.2.7.** The function  $p \mapsto \bar{p}$  defines a set isomorphism  $\mathcal{B}(X, G, \rho, G) \xrightarrow{\cong} \mathcal{B}(X, G, \rho, F)$ .

Let  $p_1: E \to B_1$  and  $p_2: E \to B_2$  be bundles. Let  $e_1 \in E_1$ ,  $e_2 \in E_2$ , and  $b_1 \in B_1$ . Question. Can we find a bundle map

$$E_1 \xrightarrow{p_1} E_2$$

$$\downarrow^{p_2}$$

$$B_1 \xrightarrow{p_2} B_2$$

such that  $e_1 \mapsto e_2$  and  $e_1 \mapsto b_1$ ?

Define the action  $G \times E_2 \to E_2$  by  $g * e_2 = e_2 \cdot g^{-1}$ . From this, we obtain a bundle

$$\psi: \underbrace{E_1 \times_G E_2}_{(E_1 \times E_2)/G} \to E_1 \times_G \mathsf{pt} \cong B_1$$

with fiber  $E_2$ .

**Lemma 2.2.8.** There is a one-to-one correspondence between bundle maps  $p_1 \rightarrow p_2$  and sections of  $\psi$ .

*Proof.* Suppose that  $\sigma$  is a section of  $\psi$ . As G acts freely on  $E_1 \times E_2$ , we see that for any  $e \in E_1$ , there exists a unique  $\tilde{e}$  such that  $\sigma(p(e)) = [(e, \tilde{e})]$ . Define  $\hat{g} : E_1 \to E_2$  by  $e \mapsto \tilde{e}$ . This respects the action of G and thus must be a bundle map.

Now, let  $A \subset B_1$  and suppose that

$$\begin{array}{ccc} p_1^{-1}(A) & \longrightarrow & E_2 \\ \downarrow & \alpha & \downarrow^{p_2} \\ A & \longrightarrow & B_2 \end{array}$$

is a bundle map. Then  $\alpha$  extends when ??. Also, the corresponding section

$$\sigma: A \to p^{-1}(A) \times_G E_2 \subset E_1 \times_G E_2$$

extends.

**Definition 2.2.9 (Principal bundle).** Let G be a topological group. A principal G-bundle is a fiber bundle with group G and fiber G with G acting on itself by left translation.

**Theorem 2.2.10.** Let f and g be homotopic maps  $X \to Y$ . Let  $p: E \to Y$  be any bundle with group G and fiber F. Then  $f^*p \cong g^*p$ .

# 2.3 Lecture 8

Before proving this, we wish to determine when, given any two bundles  $p_1: E_1 \to B_1$  and  $p_2: E_2 \to B_2$  and any map  $g: B_1 \to B_2$ , we can find a map  $\hat{g}$  such that

$$E_1 \xrightarrow{\hat{g}} E_2$$

$$\downarrow^{p_1} \qquad \qquad \downarrow^{p_2}$$

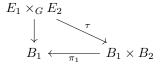
$$B_1 \xrightarrow{g} B_2$$

commutes.

Define the diagonal action  $\Delta G$  of G on  $E_1 \times E_2$  by

$$(e_1, e_2) \cdot h = (e_1 \cdot h, e_2 \cdot h),$$

so that  $E_1 \times_G E_2 = E_1 \times E_2 / \Lambda_G$ . By  $(\star)$ , we can find a unique map  $\tau$  such that



commutes.

**Exercise 2.3.1.** Show that  $\hat{g}$  exists if and only if there is some  $\lambda: B_1 \to E_1 \times_G E_2$  such that  $\tau(\lambda(b_1)) = (b_1, g(b_1))$ .

Proof.

( $\iff$ ) As G acts freely on  $E_1 \times E_2$ , we see that  $(e,e') \sim (e,e'') \implies e' = e''$  for any  $e',e'' \in E_2$ . Hence for any  $e \in E_1$ , there exists a unique  $\hat{e} \in E_2$  such that  $\lambda(p_1(e)) = [(e,\hat{e})]$ . Let  $\hat{g}(e) = \hat{e}$ . Then  $\hat{g}$  is clearly continuous and G-equivariant, and thus  $(\hat{g},g)$  is a bundle map.

( $\Longrightarrow$ ) Consider the homeomorphism  $\varphi: B_1 \xrightarrow{\cong} E_1/_G$  with  $\varphi(b) = p_1^{-1}(b)$ . Let  $b \in B_1$ . Let  $\varphi(b) = [e]$ . Define  $\lambda: B_1 \to E_1 \times_G E_2$  by  $\lambda(b) = [(e, \hat{g}(e))]$ . Since  $\hat{g}$  is G-equivariant, we see that  $\lambda$  is well-defined. Further,  $\lambda$  is continuous as the quotient of the map

$$f: E_1 \to E_1 \times E_2, \quad f(x) = (x, \hat{g}(x))$$

by G. Finally, it is easy to check that  $\tau(\lambda(b_1)) = (b_1, g(b_1))$  for any  $b_1 \in B_1$ .

**Lemma 2.3.2.**  $\tau$  is locally trivial, hence a fibration.

*Proof.* Locally, we have that  $E_1 \cong U \times G$  and  $E_2 \cong V \times G$ , so that  $E_1 \times E_2 \cong U \times V \times G \times G$ . It follows that, locally,  $E_1 \times_G E_2 \cong U_1 \times U_2 \times G \times G / \Delta G$  where  $\Delta G \equiv \{(g,g) \mid g \in G\}$ .

Remark 2.3.3. In fact,  $\tau$  is a bundle with fiber  $G \times G/_{\Delta G} \cong G$ .

*Proof of Theorem 2.2.10.* Due to Proposition 2.2.7, we may assume that p is a principal G-bundle. By assumption, there is some homotopy  $H: X \times I \to Y$  from f to g. Let  $\omega = H^*p$ . Then

$$f^*p = \omega \upharpoonright_{\omega^{-1}(X \times \{0\})} : \omega^{-1}(X \times \{0\}) \to X \times \{0\} \cong X$$
  
 $g^*p = \omega \upharpoonright_{\omega^{-1}(X \times \{1\})} : \omega^{-1}(X \times \{1\}) \to X \times \{1\} \cong X.$ 

Therefore, it suffices to show that  $f^*p \times \mathrm{id}_I \cong \omega$  such that the diagram

$$f^*E \times I \xrightarrow{\cong} H^*E \xrightarrow{} E$$

$$f^*p \times \mathrm{id}_I \downarrow \qquad \qquad \downarrow p$$

$$X \times I = X \times I \xrightarrow{} Y$$

commutes. For, in this case, our isomorphism restricts over  $X \times \{1\}$ , i.e.,  $g^*p = \omega \upharpoonright_{X \times \{1\}} \cong f^*p$ . It thus suffices to exhibit a bundle map  $f^*p \times I \to \omega$  over  $\mathrm{id}_{X \times I}$  that equals the identity over  $\omega \upharpoonright_{X \times \{0\}} = f^*p$ .

Remark 2.3.4. It is easy to show that there is some bundle map  $f^*p \times id_I \to \omega$ . Indeed, by the homotopy lifting property, we obtain a section  $\sigma$  fitting into the commutative diagram

$$(f^*E \times I) \times_G H^*E$$

$$\downarrow^{\gamma}_{j\sigma}$$

$$X \times \{0\} \longrightarrow X \times I$$

in which case we obtain our desired map by Lemma 2.2.8. As mentioned, however, we want a bundle map that equals the identity over  $f^*p$ .

To get such a map, we must find a section  $\lambda$  such that

$$(f^*E \times I) \times_G H^*E$$

$$X \times \{0\} \xrightarrow{\lambda_0} X \times I \xrightarrow{\Delta} (X \times I) \times (X \times I)$$

commutes. But  $\lambda$  must exist since  $\tau$  is a fibration by virtue of Lemma 2.3.2.

Corollary 2.3.5. Any bundle over a contractible space B is trivial.

*Proof.* Let  $i: \mathsf{pt} \to B$  and  $\pi: B \to \mathsf{pt}$  denote inclusion and projection, respectively. Then

$$p \cong (\mathrm{id})^* p$$
$$\cong (i\pi)^* p$$
$$\cong \pi^* \underbrace{i^* p}_{\text{trivial}},$$

which is trivial since the pullback of a trivial bundle is trivial.

Corollary 2.3.6. Every bundle p over  $X \times I$  is isomorphic to  $(p \upharpoonright_{p^{-1}(X \times \{0\})}) \times \mathrm{id}_I$ .

**Example 2.3.7.** Consider  $S^1 \subset \mathbb{R}^2$  with center the origin. Let  $p: E \to S^1$  be a bundle with group G and fiber F. Cover  $S^1$  with the open intervals  $I_1 := S^1 \setminus \{-1\}$  and  $I_2 := S^1 \setminus \{1\}$ . We may assume that  $F = p^{-1}(-1)$ . Then  $E = E_1 \cup E_2$  where  $E_i \cong I_i \times F$  via, say,  $\varphi_i$  for each i = 1, 2. By Corollary 2.3.6, we see that

$$\varphi_1 \upharpoonright_{\varphi_1^{-1}(\{1\} \times F)} = \varphi_2 \upharpoonright_{\varphi_2^{-1}(\{-1\} \times F)} = \mathrm{id}_F.$$

Moreover, the transition function  $\varphi_2^{-1} \circ \varphi_1 \upharpoonright_{p^{-1}(1)} : F \to F$  is given by multiplication by some  $g \in G$ . Hence the map  $G \to \mathcal{B}(S^1, G, F)$  is surjective. In fact, it can be shown that this maps descends to an isomorphism

$$\pi_0\left(G\right) \cong {}^{G}\!\!/_{G_0} \stackrel{\cong}{\longrightarrow} \mathcal{B}\left(S^1,G,F\right)$$

where  $G_0$  denotes the connected component of  $e_G$ .

For example, if  $G = F = GL(n, \mathbb{R})$ , then  $\pi_0(G)$  consists of the set of matrices with positive determinant and the set of matrices with negative determinant, so that  $\mathcal{B}(S^1, G, F) \cong \mathbb{Z}/2$ .

**Example 2.3.8.** The set  $\mathcal{B}(S^2, G, F)$  is isomorphic to the set of homotopy classes of maps  $S^1 \to G$ , As it turns out, we can ignore base points, so that  $\mathcal{B}(S^2, G, F) \cong \pi_1(G)$ .

For example, if G = F = SO(2), then  $G \cong S^1$ , so that  $\mathcal{B}(S^2, G, F) \cong \mathbb{Z}$ .

# 2.4 Lecture 9

**Theorem 2.4.1.** Let X be a cell complex with dim  $X \le n$ . Let  $A \subset X$  be a subcomplex. Let  $p : E \to X$  be a bundle with fiber F such that  $\pi_i(F, f) = 0$  for each  $i \le n-1$ . Suppose that  $\sigma_0 : A \to E$  satisfies  $p \circ \sigma_0(a) = a$  for each  $a \in A$ . Then  $\sigma_0$  extends to a section  $\sigma : X \to E$  of p.

$$\begin{array}{ccc}
& E \\
& \downarrow & \uparrow & \uparrow \\
A & & \longrightarrow & X
\end{array}$$

*Proof.* First, assume that X is a regular complex. Since X is finite, we may assume that  $X = A \cup_{S^{k-1}} D^k$  where  $k \leq n$ . Further, we may assume, wlog, that  $X = D^k$ . Thus, we must find a section  $\sigma$  such that

$$S^{k-1} \hookrightarrow D^k$$

commutes. Since  $D^k$  is contractible, we have that  $E \cong D^k \times F$ . Then  $\sigma_0(x) = (x, \tilde{\sigma}_0(x))$  for each  $x \in S^{k-1}$ . But  $\tilde{\sigma}_0(x) : S^{k-1} \to F$  extends to a map  $\tilde{\sigma} : D^k \to F$  because  $\pi_{k-1}(F) = 0$ . Hence we can take  $\sigma$  to be the map defined by  $x \mapsto (x, \tilde{\sigma}(x))$ .

Next, drop the assumption that X is regular. Using Exercise 1.1.9, we get a homotopy equivalence

$$(X,A)$$
 $(\overline{X},\overline{A})$ 
 $(\overline{X},\overline{A})$ 
regular

of pairs. Define  $\overline{A} \to g^*E$  by  $\bar{\sigma}_0(a) = (a, \sigma_0(g(a)))$ . By our preceding discussion, this extends to a section  $\bar{\sigma}$  on  $\overline{X}$ . We wish to find  $\sigma$  such that

commutes. But since  $p \cong h^*g^*p$ , we have a commutative diagram

$$g^*E \longleftarrow h^*g^*E \xrightarrow{\cong} E$$

$$\bar{\sigma} (\downarrow g^*p \qquad h^*g^*p \downarrow p$$

$$X \longleftarrow h$$

from which we obtain our desired section  $\sigma$ .

*Notation.*  $[X,Y] := (\text{homotopy classes of maps } X \to Y).$ 

Corollary 2.4.2. Let  $p: E \to B$  be a principal G-bundle and suppose that  $\pi_i(E) = 0$  for any  $i \le n-1$ . The function  $\chi_X: [X, B] \to \mathcal{B}(X, G, G)$  given by  $f \mapsto f^*p$  is bijective.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup>As dim  $\overline{X}$  > dim X, we tacitly rely on the fact that  $\pi_i(F)$  is trivial for large enough i.

Proof.

Surjective: Let  $p_1: E_1 \to X$  be a bundle. Due to Theorem 2.1.4, it suffices to find a bundle map  $(\hat{f}, f)$  such that

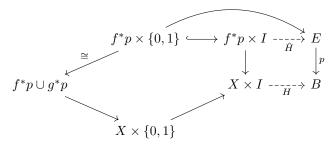
$$E_1 \xrightarrow{-\hat{f}} E$$

$$\downarrow^{p_1} \qquad \qquad \downarrow$$

$$X \xrightarrow{f} B$$

commutes. Such a map can be found precisely when there exists a section of the bundle  $E_1 \times_G E \to X$ , which holds by applying Theorem 2.4.1 to the case where  $A = \emptyset$ .

Injective: Suppose that  $\chi_X(f) = \chi_X(g)$ . We must show that  $f \simeq g$ , i.e., that there is some bundle map  $(\hat{H}, H)$  such that



commutes. This is equivalent to finding a section  $\lambda$  such that

commutes where

$$\gamma(x,t) = \begin{cases} (x,t,f(x)) & t = 0\\ (x,t,g(x)) & t = 1 \end{cases}.$$

But this exists by Theorem 2.4.1 because  $\pi_i(E) = 0$  by assumption.

**Definition 2.4.3 (Classifying space).** A classifying space for principal G-bundles is a space B such that  $\chi_X$  is bijective for every cell complex X.

**Example 2.4.4.** Let  $G = \{\pm 1\}$ . Then any principal G-bundle over X is a two-fold covering space of X, i.e., a subgroup of index two in  $\pi(X)$ , i.e., a nontrivial homomorphism  $\pi_1 X \to G$ .

For example, let  $\{U_i\}$  denote the usual open covering of  $\mathbb{RP}^n = S^n/G$ . Let  $\pi: S^n \to \mathbb{RP}^n$  denote the projection map. We have that  $\pi^{-1}(U_i) \cong U_i \times G$ . Indeed, define  $h_i: \pi^{-1}(U_i) \to U_i \times G$  by

$$(x_0,\ldots,x_n)\mapsto\left(\left[x_0,\ldots,x_n\right],\frac{x_i}{\left|x_i\right|}\right),$$

the inverse of which is given by

$$(y_0, \dots y_n) \leftarrow ([x_0, \dots, x_n], \epsilon)$$
  
$$y_k \equiv \epsilon x_k \cdot \frac{|x_i|}{x_i}.$$

Note that any transition function  $h_{ji}: U_i \cap U_j \to G$  is given by  $h_{ji}(x) = -1$ .

Using the fact that  $\pi_1$  is the abelianization of  $H_1$  along with the universal coefficient theorem for cohomology, one can prove the following.

**Proposition 2.4.5.**  $\mathcal{B}(X,\mathbb{Z}_2,F)\cong [X,\mathbb{RP}^n]\cong \mathrm{Hom}(\pi_1(X),\mathbb{Z}/2)\cong H^1(X,\mathbb{Z}/2).$ 

Let  $w_1 \in H^1(\mathbb{RP}^n, \mathbb{Z}/2) \cong \mathbb{Z}_2$  be nonzero. Let  $p_1 : E \to X$  be a  $\mathbb{Z}/2$ -bundle. We call  $w_1(p_1) := f^*w_1 \in H^1(X, \mathbb{Z}/2)$  the first Stiefel-Whitney class of p.

# 2.5 Lecture 10

**Example 2.5.1.** Let  $n \in \mathbb{N}$ . Recall that  $\mathbb{CP}^n$ , by definition, consists of all the complex lines in  $\mathbb{C}^{n+1}$ . Let  $G = S^1$ . Then G acts on  $\mathbb{C}^{n+1}$  by  $g \cdot (z_0, \ldots, z_n) = (gz_0, \ldots, gz_n)$ . We have that  $\mathbb{CP}^n \cong S^{2n+1}$  where  $z \sim \zeta \cdot z$  for any  $\zeta \in S^1$ . Consider the projection map  $\pi : S^{2n+1} \twoheadrightarrow \mathbb{CP}^n$ . For each  $i \in \{0, \ldots, n\}$ , let  $H_i = \{z \in \mathbb{CP}^n \mid z_i = 0\} \cong \mathbb{CP}^{n-1}$  and let  $U_i = \mathbb{CP}^n \setminus H_i$ . Then the  $U_i$  form an open cover of  $\mathbb{CP}^n$ . Define  $h_i : \pi^{-1}(U_i) \to U_i \times S^1$  by  $(z_0, \ldots, z_n) \mapsto \left([z_0, \ldots, z_n], \frac{z_i}{|z_i|}\right)$ .

# Exercise 2.5.2

- 1. Prove that  $h_i$  is a homeomorphism.
- 2. Find the transition functions  $h_{ij}: U_i \cap U_i \to S^1$ .

Proof.

1. It is obvious that  $h_i$  is continuous. Define  $g_i:U_i\times S^1\to \pi^{-1}(U_i)$  by

$$([z_0, \dots, z_n], \epsilon) \mapsto (y_0, \dots, y_n)$$
  
$$y_k \equiv \epsilon z_k \cdot \frac{|z_i|}{z_i}, \ k = 0, \dots, n.$$

It is easy to check that this is well-defined and that  $g_i$  is the inverse of  $h_i$ . It remains to show that  $g_i$  is continuous. Consider the quotient map  $q := \pi \times \mathrm{id}_{S^1} : S^{2n+1} \times S^1 \to \mathbb{CP}^n \times S^1$ . Let  $\widetilde{U}_i = \{z \in S^{2n+1} \mid z_i \neq 0\}$ . Note that  $g_i \circ q \upharpoonright_{\widetilde{U}_i \times S^1}$  is clearly continuous. But  $\widetilde{U}_i \times S^1$  is both open in  $S^{2n+1} \times S^1$  and saturated with respect to q. Hence  $\upharpoonright_{\widetilde{U}_i \times S^1}$  is a quotient map, so that  $g_i$  is continuous.

2. Note that

$$h_i \circ h_j^{-1}\left(\left[z_0, \dots, z_n\right], \epsilon\right) = \left(\left[z_0, \dots, z_n\right], \epsilon \frac{|z_j|}{|z_j|} \cdot \frac{|z_j|}{|z_i|}\right)$$

for any  $[z_0, \ldots, z_n] \in U_i \cap U_j$ . This implies that

$$h_{ij}\left([z_0,\ldots,z_n]\right) = \frac{|z_j|}{z_j} \cdot \frac{z_i}{|z_i|}.$$

It follows that  $\pi$  is a principal  $S^1$ -bundle. Since each homotopy group  $\pi_i\left(S^{2n+1}\right)$  is trivial, Corollary 2.4.2 implies that

$$\mathcal{B}(X, S^1, F) \cong [X, \mathbb{CP}^n],$$

which for large enough n, is isomorphic to  $[X,\mathbb{CP}^{\infty}]$  where X denotes and any cell complex and

$$\mathbb{CP}^{\infty} \equiv \bigcup_{k \in \mathbb{N}} \mathbb{CP}^k$$

equipped with the weak topology.

**Definition 2.5.3.** An Eilenberg-MacLane space of type K(G,n) is a space satisfying

$$\begin{cases} \pi_i K = 0 & i \neq n \\ \pi_i K \cong G & i = n \end{cases}.$$

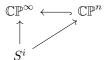
**Theorem 2.5.4.** If X is a cell complex, then  $[X, K(G, n)] \cong H^n(X, G)$ .

**Example 2.5.5.** By inspecting the long exact sequence

$$\cdots \longrightarrow \pi_2\left(S^{2n+1}\right) \longrightarrow \pi_2\left(\mathbb{CP}^n\right)$$

$$\underbrace{\pi_1\left(S^1\right)}_{\mathbb{Z}} \longrightarrow \pi_1\left(S^{2n+1}\right) \longrightarrow \cdots$$

we see that  $\mathbb{CP}^n$  is an Eilenberg-MacLane space of type  $K(\mathbb{Z},2)$ . Moreover, there is a commutative triangle



for any  $i \in \mathbb{N}$ . Thus,  $\pi_i(\mathbb{CP}^{\infty}) = \pi_i(\mathbb{CP}^n)$  when n is large enough. This means that  $\mathbb{CP}^{\infty}$  is also an Eilenberg-MacLane space of type  $K(\mathbb{Z}, 2)$ . By Theorem 2.5.4, we have that

$$\mathcal{B}(X, S^1, F) \cong H^2(X, \mathbb{Z})$$

whenever X is a cell complex.

For us, a CW complex refers to a cell complex X for which there may be infinitely many attaching maps of any dimension. In this name, "C" stands for the property *closure-finite*, i.e., every open cell  $e^i$  is contained in a finite subcomplex of X. Further, "W" stands for the weak topology, with which X is equipped.

*Remark* 2.5.6. Each of our results holds even if we assume that a certain space is merely a CW complex rather than a cell complex.

Note 2.5.7 (Milnor construction). There exists a functor  $TopGrp \rightarrow PrinBund$  that maps each topological group G to a principal G-bundle

$$E_G \xrightarrow{p_G} B_G$$

such that  $B_G$  is a CW complex and  $\pi_i(E_G) = 0$ . This means that  $B_G$  is a classifying space for principal G-bundles.

By applying our LES on homotopy groups to  $p_G$ , we see that  $\pi_i(B_G) \cong \pi_{i-1}(G)$ .

Alternatively, one can use the Brown representability theorem (nLab article) to obtain a classifying space  $B'_{G}$  (not necessarily a CW complex) because the pullback functor satisfies

- homotopy invariance,
- excision, and
- Mayer-Vietoris.

**Lemma 2.5.8.** Let  $p_1: E_1 \to B_1$  and  $p_2: E_2 \to B_2$  be classifying spaces for principal G-bundles. Then  $B_1 \simeq B_2$ .

*Proof.* By Corollary 2.4.2, there is some map  $f: B_1 \to B_2$  such that  $f^*p_2 \cong p_1$ . Likewise, there is some map  $g: B_2 \to B_1$  such that  $g^*p_1 \cong p_2$ . Therefore,

$$(f \circ g)^* p_2 \cong g^* f^* p_2$$
  

$$\cong g^* p_1$$
  

$$\cong p_2$$
  

$$\cong id_{B_*}^* p_2.$$

Therefore,  $f \circ g \simeq \mathrm{id}_{B_2}$ . Similarly,  $g \circ f \simeq \mathrm{id}_{B_1}$ .

In particular,  $B_G \simeq B'_G$ .

Example 2.5.9.  $B_{S^1} = \mathbb{CP}^{\infty}$ .

Let  $H \leq G$ . Consider the commutative square

$$E_{G} \xrightarrow{q} E_{G}/H$$

$$\downarrow^{p_{G}} \qquad \qquad \downarrow^{r} .$$

$$B_{G} = E_{G}/G$$

Note that, locally, r looks like the trivial map with fiber  $G_H$ . Thus, q locally looks like the map

$$U \times G \rightarrow U \times G/_{H}$$
.

This shows that if the natural projection  $G \to G/H$  is a principal H-bundle, then so is q. In this case, we have that  $B_H \simeq E_{G/H}$  by Corollary 2.4.2 together with Lemma 2.5.8.

**Theorem 2.5.10.** If G is a Lie group and H is a closed subgroup of G, then the natural projection  $G \to G/H$  is a principal H-bundle.

**Definition 2.5.11.** The orthogonal group  $O(n, \mathbb{R})$  is the group of  $n \times n$  real matrices A such that  $AA^t = A^t A = I_n$ , equivalently,  $Av \bullet Aw = v \bullet w$  for any  $v, w \in \mathbb{R}^n$ . We call such an A orthogonal.

In particular, if A is orthogonal, then ||Av|| = ||v|| for any  $v \in \mathbb{R}^n$ .

**Example 2.5.12.** The orthogonal group  $O(n, \mathbb{R})$  is a closed subgroup of  $GL(n, \mathbb{R})$  because  $O(n, \mathbb{R}) = f^{-1}(I_n)$  where  $f: GL(n, \mathbb{R}) \to GL(n, \mathbb{R})$  is given by  $X \mapsto XX^t$ . Let  $\gamma: GL(n, \mathbb{R}) \to O(n, \mathbb{R})$  denote the map given by the Gram-Schmidt procedure. Let  $i: O(n, \mathbb{R}) \to GL(n, \mathbb{R})$  denote the inclusion map. Then  $\gamma$  and i are homotopy inverses of each other, so that

$$GL(n, \mathbb{R}) \simeq O(n, \mathbb{R})$$
.

Since  $\pi: \mathrm{GL}\,(n,\mathbb{R}) \to \underbrace{\mathrm{GL}\,(n,\mathbb{R})}_{M} / \underbrace{\mathrm{O}\,(n,\mathbb{R})}_{M}$  is an  $\mathrm{O}\,(n,\mathbb{R})$ -bundle by Theorem 2.5.10, our LES on homotopy

groups applied to  $\pi$  shows that  $\pi_i(M) = 0$  for each  $i \in \mathbb{N}$ . Further, our LES applied to the M-bundle  $r: B_{\mathcal{O}(n,\mathbb{R})} \to B_{\mathrm{GL}(n,\mathbb{R})}$  shows that

$$\pi_i\left(B_{\mathrm{O}(n,\mathbb{R})}\right) \cong \pi_i\left(B_{\mathrm{GL}(n,\mathbb{R})}\right)$$

for each i. By Theorem 1.2.7, it follows that

$$B_{\mathcal{O}(n,\mathbb{R})} \simeq B_{\mathrm{GL}(n,\mathbb{R})}.$$

An exactly similar argument proves that  $B_{U(n,\mathbb{C})} \simeq B_{GL(n,\mathbb{C})}$ .

Eventually, we want to describe  $H^*(B_G)$ . This will lead us to the notion of a spectral sequence.

# 2.6 Lecture 11

Before moving to spectral sequences, let us look at a couple more examples of fiber bundles.

**Example 2.6.1.** Let  $\{e_i\}_{1\leq i\leq n}$  denote the standard basis of  $\mathbb{R}^n$ . Consider the map  $\rho: \mathrm{GL}(n,\mathbb{R}) \to \mathbb{R}^n \setminus \{0\}$  given by  $A \mapsto Ae_n$  and its restriction  $\tau: \mathrm{O}(n,\mathbb{R}) \to S^{n-1}$ . Note that  $\rho^{-1}(e_n)$  consists of all  $n \times n$  matrices of the form

 $\begin{pmatrix} B & 0 \\ * & 1 \end{pmatrix}$ 

where B denotes an invertible  $(n-1) \times (n-1)$  matrix. This means that  $\rho^{-1}(e_n) \simeq GL(n-1,\mathbb{R})$ . Similarly, we see that  $\tau^{-1}(e_n) \simeq O(n-1,\mathbb{R})$ . Moreover, both  $\rho$  and  $\tau$  are locally trivial. In particular, this yields a LES

$$\pi_i(\mathcal{O}(n-1)) \xrightarrow{\longrightarrow} \pi_i(\mathcal{O}(n)) \xrightarrow{\longrightarrow} \pi_i(S^{n-1})$$

$$\pi_{i-1}(\mathcal{O}(n-1)) \xrightarrow{\longleftarrow} \cdots$$

Since  $\pi_i(S^{n-1})$  is trivial for any  $0 \le i \le n-2$ , we see that the map  $\pi_i(O(n-1)) \to \pi_i(O(n))$  is an isomorphism for any  $i \le n-3$  and an epimorphism when i = n-2. The same result holds with O(n) replaced by  $GL(n,\mathbb{R})$ .

**Example 2.6.2.** Consider the *Stiefel manifold*  $V_{n+k,k}$  consisting of orthonormal k-frames (i.e., k-tuples) in  $\mathbb{R}^{n+k}$ . If we view the standard basis of  $\mathbb{R}^k$  as the "zero element" of  $V_{n+k,k}$ , then we have a "short exact sequence"

$$0 \longrightarrow O(n) \stackrel{i}{\longleftrightarrow} O(n+k) \stackrel{p_1}{\longrightarrow} V_{n+k,k} \longrightarrow 0$$

where i is given by  $A \mapsto \begin{pmatrix} A & 0 \\ 0 & I \end{pmatrix}$  and  $p_1$  is given by  $A \mapsto (Ae_{n+1}, \dots, Ae_{n+k})$ . In this case,

$$V_{n+k,k} \cong \frac{\mathrm{O}(n+k)}{\mathrm{O}(n)},$$

a coset space. Note that i induces an isomorphism  $\pi_i(O(n)) \xrightarrow{\cong} O(n+k)$  for each  $i \leq n-2$  and an epimorphism when i = n-1.

Claim. The map  $p_1$  is a fiber bundle.

Proof. Let  $F \in V_{n+k,k}$  and choose any orthonormal basis B of the n-plane orthogonal to F. For any n-plane near B, take the orthogonal projection of B onto B' and then apply the Gram-Schmidt process to the new basis to obtain an orthonormal basis  $\underline{B'}$  of B'. The assignment  $B \mapsto \underline{B'}$  is continuous, and the space of all n-planes orthogonal to any (n+k)-plane near F is identifiable with  $V_n(\mathbb{R}^n) \cong O(n)$ . Therefore, we get a trivialization around F, which was arbitrary.

Using the LES obtained from Corollary 1.3.9, we see that  $\pi_i(V_{n+k,k}) = 0$  for each  $i \leq n-1$ . Consider now the Grassmann manifold

$$G_{n+k,k} \equiv \frac{\mathrm{O}(n+k)}{\mathrm{O}(n) \times \mathrm{O}(k)}$$

where each pair  $(A, B) \in O(n) \times O(k)$  is identified with the orthogonal  $(n + k) \times (n + k)$  matrix  $\begin{pmatrix} A & 0 \\ 0 & B \end{pmatrix}$ . Note that  $G_{n_k,k}$  may be viewed as the space of all k-dimensional planes in  $\mathbb{R}^{n+k}$ . Remark 2.6.3.

- The space  $E_{O(k)}$  consists of all orthonormal k-frames in  $\mathbb{R}^{\infty}$ .
- The Grassmannian  $B_{O(k)} \equiv B_{GL(k)} \equiv G_{\infty,k}$  consists of all k-planes in  $\mathbb{R}^{\infty}$ .
- Similarly, the space  $B_{U(k)}$  consists of all k-planes in  $\mathbb{C}^{\infty}$ .

Define  $p_2: V_{n+k,k} \to G_{n+k,k}$  by sending each  $v \in V_{n+k,k}$  to the subspace of  $\mathbb{R}^{n+k}$  spanned by v.

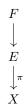
**Claim.** The map  $p_2$  is a principal O(k)-bundle.

*Proof.* This follows from the fact that  $O(n+k) \to G_{n+k,l}$  is a principal  $O(n) \times O(k)$ -bundle.

It follows that  $\pi_i(G_{n+k,k}) = 0$  for each  $i \leq n-2$ .

# 3 Spectral sequences

We are given a fibration:



where X is a connected cell complex and  $F = \pi^{-1}(x)$  for some distinguished point x.

Question. What is  $H_n(E)$  if we know  $H_n(F)$  and  $H_n(X)$ ?

Recall that  $H_n(X) = \frac{\ker \partial_n}{\operatorname{im} \partial_{n+1}}$  where  $\partial_n$  is defined as the composite

$$\overbrace{H_n(X^n, X^{n-1})}^{C_n(X)} \longrightarrow H_{n-1}(X^{n-1}) \longrightarrow \overbrace{H_{n-1}(X^{n-1}, X^{n-2})}^{C_{n-1}}(X) ,$$

where  $H_i(X^n, X^{n-1}) = 0$  for any  $i \neq n$ . Furthermore, letting  $E_n = \pi^{-1}(X_n)$ , we have that  $H_*(E_n, E_{n-1}) = C_*(X) \otimes H_*(F)$ .

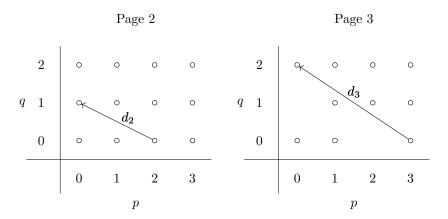
At this point, it is useful to generalize our situation by developing the theory of spectral sequences. For each  $r \in \mathbb{Z}_{\geq 0}$ , let  $\{E^r_{p,q}\}_{p,q \in \mathbb{Z}}$  be a family of abelian groups and let  $\{d^{p,q}_r: E^r_{p,q} \to E^r_{p-r,q+r-1}\}_{p,q \in \mathbb{Z}}$  be a family of maps (called *differentials*) such that

- (a)  $d_r^{p,q} \circ d_r^{p+r,q-r+1} = 0$  and
- (b)  $E_{p,q}^{r+1} = \frac{\ker d_r^{p,q}}{\operatorname{im} d_r^{p+r,q-r+1}}.$

Such a sequence  $(E^r, d_r)_{r \in \mathbb{Z}_{\geq 0}}$  of pairs is called a *homological spectral sequence*, and each double complex  $(E^r, d_r)$  is called the r-th page of the sequence.

Note 3.0.1.  $E^{r+1} = H_*(E^r, d_r)$ .

We shall consider only first-quadrant spectral sequences, i.e., those for which  $E_{p,q}^r = 0$  unless  $p, q \ge 0$ .



As a result, there is some  $k \in \mathbb{N}$  such that  $E^r = E^{r+1}$  for any  $r \geq k$ . Notation.  $E^{\infty} \coloneqq E^k$ . **Definition 3.0.2 (Convergence).** We say that a spectral sequence  $E^* := (E^r, d_r)$  converges to a sequence of abelian groups  $\{A_n\}_{n \in \mathbb{Z}_{>0}}$ , written as

$$E^* \Longrightarrow \{A_n\}$$
,

if for each n, there exists a filtration

$$\cdots \subset A_{-1,n+1} = \{0\} \subset A_{0,n} \subset \cdots A_{n-1,1} \subset A_{n,0} = A_n$$

of  $A_n$  such that  $\frac{A_{p,q}}{A_{p-1,q+1}} \cong E_{p,q}^{\infty}$ .

**Theorem 3.0.3.** Let B be a simply connected, path connected cell complex with n-skeleton  $B^n$  and suppose that  $\pi: E \to B$  is a fibration with fiber F. There exists a (first-quadrant) spectral sequence  $(E^r, d_r)$  that

- (a) converges to  $\{H_n(E)\}_{n\in\mathbb{Z}_{>0}}$  and
- (b) satisfies  $E_{p,q}^2 \cong H_p(B; H_q(F))$ .

The filtration  $D_{p,q} := (H_n(E))_{p+q=n}$  witnessing this convergence is given by  $\operatorname{im}(H_n(\pi^{-1}(B^p)) \to H_n(E))$ . Remark 3.0.4. This holds without the hypothesis that B is a cell complex.

Example 3.0.5. Consider the path space fibration



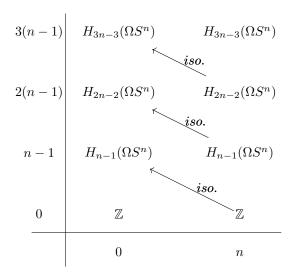
Recall that PX is contractible. Let  $n \geq 2$  and  $X = S^n$ . Then

$$E_{p,q}^2 \cong H_p(S^n; H_q(\Omega S^n)) = \begin{cases} H_q(\Omega S^n) & p = 0, n \\ 0 & \text{otherwise} \end{cases},$$

and  $(E^r, d_r) \Rightarrow \{\mathbb{Z}, 0, 0, \ldots\}$ . This means that  $d_k = 0$  for any  $k \neq n$ , so that

$$E^2 = E^3 = \dots = E^n$$
  
$$E^{n+1} = E^{n+2} = \dots = E^{\infty}.$$

As a result, each differential  $d_n^{p,q}$  is an isomorphism provided that  $(p,q) \neq (n,1-n)$  for, otherwise,  $E_{p,q}^{n+1}$  is nontrivial, which is impossible. Hence the *n*-th page looks like

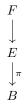


This implies that  $H_q(\Omega S^n) \cong H_{q+n-1}(\Omega X)$  for any  $q \in \mathbb{Z}_{\geq 0}$ . But  $\Omega S^n$  is path connected since  $S^n$  is simply connected. By induction, it follows that

$$H_q(\Omega X) \cong \begin{cases} \mathbb{Z} & q \equiv 0 \mod (n-1) \\ 0 & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$
.

# 3.1 Lecture 12

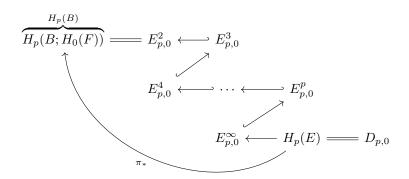
Suppose that



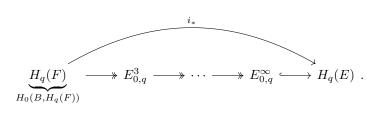
is a fibration with B simply connected and F path connected. Thanks to Theorem 3.2.5, we have the inclusion

$$E_{0,n}^{\infty} \cong \frac{D_{0,n}}{D_{-1,n+1}} = D_{0,n} \subset H_n(E)$$

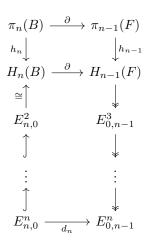
as well as a commutative (??) diagram



of abelian groups. Let i denote the inclusion map  $i: F \cong p^{-1}(b) \to E$  where b is any chosen element of B. This induces a map  $i_*$  in homology



Now, consider the commutative diagram



where  $h_n$  denotes the *Hurewicz homomorphism*, defined for an arbitrary path connected space X as follows. Let  $\gamma := [f]$  be any element of  $\pi_n(X, x)$ , so that f is a map  $(S^n, x_0) \to (X, x)$ . Choose any generator  $\tau \in H_n(S^n) \cong \mathbb{Z}$  and let

$$h(\gamma) = f_*(\tau) \in H_n(X).$$

Likewise, we can define the relative Hurewicz homomorphism  $\tilde{h}: \pi_n(X,A) \to H_n(X,A)$  by

$$[f:(D^n,S^{n-1},x_0)\to (X,A,\operatorname{pt})]\mapsto f_*(\sigma)$$

where  $\sigma$  is any chosen generator of  $H_n(D^n, S^{n-1}) \cong \mathbb{Z}$ .

**Theorem 3.1.1 (Hurewicz).** Let  $n \in \mathbb{Z}_{\geq 2}$ . If  $\pi_i(X) = 0$  for each  $1 \leq i \leq n-1$ , then  $h_n$  is an isomorphism and  $h_{n+1}$  is surjective.

**Theorem 3.1.2 (Relative Hurewicz).** Let  $n \in \mathbb{Z}_{\geq 2}$ . If both X and A are simply connected and  $\pi_i(X, A) = 0$  for each  $i \leq n-1$ , then  $\tilde{h}_n$  is an isomorphism and  $\tilde{h}_{n+1}$  is surjective.

Proof of Hurewicz theorem. Suppose that  $\pi_i(X) = 0$  for each  $1 \le i \le n-1$ . For induction, assume that  $h_{n-1}$  is an isomorphism for any path connected space. From Example 3.0.5, we gather that the *n*-th page of the spectral sequence induced by the path space fibration  $\Omega X \to PX \to X$  looks like

$$\begin{array}{c|cccc}
n-1 & H_{n-1}(\Omega X) & \bullet & H_{n-1}(\Omega X) \\
\hline
0 & \mathbb{Z} & H_n(X) \\
\hline
0 & n
\end{array}$$

where  $d_n$  is an isomorphism. Thanks to our inductive hypothesis together with Exercise 1.4.3, we have now a commutative square of the form

$$\pi_{n}(X) \xrightarrow{\frac{\partial}{\cong}} \pi_{n-1}(\Omega X)$$

$$\downarrow h_{n} \downarrow \qquad \qquad \downarrow h_{n-1} \qquad (*)$$

$$H_{n}(X) \xrightarrow{d_{n}} H_{n-1}(\Omega X)$$

This implies that  $h_n$  is an isomorphism. It remains to verify our base case. Note that  $\pi_1(\Omega X)$  is isomorphic to  $\pi_2(X)$  and thus abelian. It can be shown directly that  $h_1$  factors as a composite

$$\pi_1(\Omega X) \xrightarrow{\cong} \pi_1(\Omega X)^{\mathrm{ab}} \xrightarrow{\cong} H_1(\Omega X)$$

of isomorphisms. Hence  $h_2$  must be an ismorphism by (\*).

Question. Does a similar argument work for the relative Hurewicz theorem?

Corollary 3.1.3. Let X be path connected.

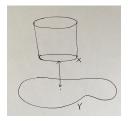
- 1.  $H_1(X) \cong \pi_1^{ab}(X)$ .
- 2. If X is simply connected and  $H_i(X) = 0$  for every  $1 \le i \le n-1$ , then  $\pi_i(X) = 0$  for every  $1 \le i \le n-1$ .
- 3. If  $\pi_i(X) = 0$  for each  $0 \le i \le n-1$ , then  $\widetilde{H}_i(X) = 0$  for each  $0 \le i \le n-1$ .

Let  $n \geq 2$  and pick any generator [f] of  $\pi_{n-1}(\Omega S^n) \cong \pi_n(S^n) \cong \mathbb{Z}$ . By Theorem 3.1.1, the induced map  $f_*: H_{n-1}(S^{n-1}) \to H_{n-1}(\Omega S^n)$  is an isomorphism.

Remark 3.1.4. Let  $g: X \to Y$  be any map of spaces. Recall the mapping cylinder

$$Cyl(g) \equiv \frac{(X \times I) \coprod Y}{(x,0) \sim g(x)}$$

of g.



This is precisely the pushout of the span  $X \times I \stackrel{\sigma_0}{\longleftrightarrow} X \stackrel{g}{\longrightarrow} Y$ . As it turns out, g factors as

$$X \xrightarrow{\iota} \operatorname{Cyl}(g) \xrightarrow{h} Y$$

for some deformation retraction h. Further,  $\iota$  is a so-called *cofibration*, the dual notion to a fibration.

Consider the subspace of  $\Omega S^n$  consisting of all great circles passing through, say, the north pole. This is

clearly homeomorphic to  $S^{n-1}$ . Thus, we get a LES in homology

From this, we deduce that

$$H_i(\Omega S^n, S^{n-1}) = \begin{cases} 0 & i \le 2n - 3\\ \mathbb{Z} & i = 2n - 2 \end{cases}$$

By Corollary 3.1.3(2), this means that

$$\pi_i(\Omega S^n, S^{n-1}) = \begin{cases} 0 & i \le 2n - 3\\ \mathbb{Z} & i = 2n - 2 \end{cases}.$$

This yields a LES in homotopy

which proves the following statement.

Theorem 3.1.5 (Suspension theorem). If  $0 \le i \le 2n-4$ , then  $\pi_i(S^{n-1}) \cong \pi_{i+1}(S^n)$ .

# 3.2 Lecture 13

As expected, spectral sequences have exact analogues in cohomology. Before introducing them, let us review a bit of singular cohomology theory. Let X be a cell complex and let  $n \in \mathbb{Z}_{\geq 0}$ . Recall that  $C_n(X)$  the free abelian group on the set of all n-cells of X and the boundary map  $\partial_n : C_n(X) \to C_{n-1}(X)$ . Let

$$C^n(X) = \operatorname{Hom}(C_n(X), \mathbb{Z})$$

and define the homomorphism  $\delta^n:C^n(X)\to C^{n+1}(X)$  by

$$\delta^n(\varphi) = \varphi \circ \partial_n.$$

Theorem 3.2.1.  $H^n(X) \cong \frac{\ker \delta^{n+1}}{\operatorname{im} \delta^n}$ .

Example 3.2.2.  $H_{2i}(\mathbb{CP}^n) \cong \mathbb{Z}$ .

**Theorem 3.2.3 (Poincaré duality).** If M is a connected orientable n-manifold, then  $H_i(M) \cong H^{n-i}(M)$ .

Now, a cohomological spectral sequence consists of the following data:

- for each  $r \in \mathbb{Z}_{\geq 0}$ , a family of abelian groups  $\{E^{p,q}_r\}_{p,q \in \mathbb{Z}}$  and
- a family of maps  $\left\{d_r^{p,q}: E_r^{p,q} \to E_r^{p+r,q-r+1}\right\}_{p,q \in \mathbb{Z}}$  (called differentials) such that
- $d_r^{p,q} \circ d_r^{p-r,q+r-1} = 0$  and
- $E_{r+1}^{p,q} = \frac{\ker d_r^{p,q}}{\lim d_r^{p-r,q+r-1}}$ .

Again, we shall consider only first-quadrant spectral sequences, i.e., those for which  $E_r^{p,q} = 0$  unless  $p, q \ge 0$ . As a result, there is some  $k \in \mathbb{N}$  such that  $E_r = E_{r+1}$  for any  $r \ge k$ .

Notation.  $E_{\infty} := E_k$ .

**Definition 3.2.4 (Convergence).** We say that a spectral sequence  $E_* := (E_r, d_r)$  converges to a sequence of abelian groups  $\{D^n\}_{n \in \mathbb{Z}_{>0}}$ , written as

$$E_* \Longrightarrow \{D^n\}$$
,

if for each n, there exists a filtration

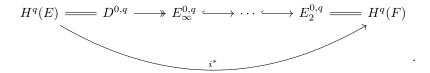
$$\cdots \subset D^{n+1,-1} = \{0\} \subset D^{n,0} \subset \cdots D^{1,n-1} \subset D^{0,n} = D^n$$

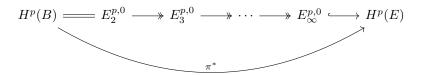
of  $D^n$  such that  $\frac{D^{p,q}}{D^{p+1,q-1}} \cong E^{p,q}_{\infty}$ .

**Theorem 3.2.5.** Let B be simply connected and path connected and suppose that  $\pi: E \to B$  is a fibration with fiber F. There exists a (first-quadrant) spectral sequence  $(E^r, d_r)$  that

- (a) converges to  $\{H^n(E)\}_{n\in\mathbb{Z}_{\geq 0}}$  and
- (b) satisfies  $E_2^{p,q} \cong H^p(B; H^q(F))$ .

In pictures, we have





# 4 Chern classes

Let X be a cell complex. Recall the *cup product* operation  $H^i(X) \times H^j(X) \xrightarrow{\smile} H^{i+j}(X)$  on cohomology, which is both bilinear and anti-commutative in the sense that

$$x \smile y = (-1)^{i+j}y \smile x.$$

Consider the constant map  $C_0(X) \to \mathbb{Z}$  given by  $D^0 \mapsto 1$ , which corresponds to an element **1** of  $H^0(X)$  via Theorem 3.2.1. We have that

$$-1 \smile x = x \smile 1 = 1$$
.

Suppose that Y is another cell complex. Let  $x \in H^i(X)$  and  $y \in H^j(X)$  and let f denote a map  $Y \to X$ . Then

$$f^*(x \smile y) = f^*(x) \smile f^*(y),$$

i.e.,  $f^*$  is a graded ring homomorphism. Now,  $X \times Y$  carries a cell complex structure with n-cells of the form

$$D^i \times D^j$$
,  $i+j=n$ 

and n-skeleton

$$(X \times Y)^n \equiv \bigcup_{i+j=n} X^i \times Y^j.$$

We have that

$$C_n(X \times Y) \cong C_n(X) \otimes_{\mathbb{Z}} C_n(Y)$$

and, in light of the equation  $\partial(D^i \times D^j) = (\partial D^i \times D^j) \cup (D^i \times \partial D^j)$ , that

$$\partial[D^i \times D^j] = \partial[D^i] \otimes D^j + (-1)^i [D^i] \otimes \partial[D^j].$$

Consider any two maps  $f: C_i(X) \to \mathbb{Z}$  and  $g: C_j(X) \to \mathbb{Z}$ , extending them both by 0 to the entire graded abelian group  $C_*(X)$ . Define  $f \otimes g: C_m(X \times Y) \cong C_m(X) \otimes C_m(Y) \to \mathbb{Z}$  by

$$(f \otimes g)(u \otimes v) = f(u) \cdot g(v).$$

**Proposition 4.0.1.**  $\delta(f \otimes g) = \delta f \otimes g + (-1)^i f \otimes \delta g$ .

As it turns out, this means that the map  $(f,g) \mapsto (f \otimes g)$  induces an operation  $H^i(X) \times H^j(Y) \xrightarrow{\times} H^{i+j}(X \times Y)$  on cohomology known as the *cross product*. The relation between the cup and cross product has the form  $\Delta^*(x \times y) = x \smile y$ , where  $\Delta : X \to X \times X$  denotes the diagonal map.

- 4.1 Lecture 14
- 4.2 Lecture 15
- 4.3 Lecture 16
- 5 Cobordism theory

To do.