

# 1 Fibrations

## Theorem 1.1 (Leray-Serre spectral sequence)

If  $E \xrightarrow{p} B$  is a Serre fibration and  $B$  is a simply connected CW complex (only need  $\pi_1(B)$  acts trivially on  $H_*(F)$ ). Then there exists a spectral sequence that converges to  $G(H_*(E))$  with  $E_{s,t}^2 = H_s(B; H_t(F))$ .

**Remark 1.2** There is a similar cohomology spectral sequence with  $E_2^{s,t} = H^s(B; H^t(F))$ .

*Proof.* Exercise: show  $d^1$  is the boundary map for chain complex  $C_*^{CW}(B; H_t(F))$ .  $\square$

## Lemma 1.3

$$H_{s+t}(E^s, E^{s-1}) \cong C_s(B; H_t(F)).$$

*Proof.* Exercise: for  $p > 0$ ,  $H_p(Y) \cong H_{p+1}(\Sigma Y)$ .

Recall  $\Sigma Y \cong S^1 \wedge Y = S^1 \times Y / S^1 \vee Y$ . Also  $S^p = S^1 \wedge \cdots \wedge S^1$   $p$  times. There exists an  $S^s$  in  $D^s \times F / S^{s-1} \times F$  by taking a point in  $F$ .

Exercise: for any spaces  $X, Y, Z$  with  $Y \subseteq X$

$$\frac{X \times Z}{(Y \times Z) \cup (X \times \{*\})} \cong \frac{X/Y \times Z}{(\{*\} \times Z) \vee (X \times \{*\} / Y \times \{*\})}.$$

Exercise: think about  $t = 0, 1$ .  $\square$

## Theorem 1.4

For  $k \geq 2$ ,

$$H_q(\Omega S^k) = \begin{cases} \mathbb{Z} & q = a(k-1), a \geq 0 \\ 0 & \text{else} \end{cases}$$

*Proof.* Apply Theorem 4 and Lemma 1.  $\square$

**Theorem 1.5** (Gysin sequence)

Let  $E \xrightarrow{p} B$  be a fibration with fiber  $S^n$  and  $B$  a CW complex. Assume  $\pi_1(B)$  acts trivially on  $H_*(S^n)$ , there exists an exact sequence

$$\dots H_r(E) \xrightarrow{p_*} H_r(B) \rightarrow H_{r-n-1}(B) \rightarrow H_{r-1}(E) \xrightarrow{p_*} H_{r-1}(B) \dots$$

for  $k \geq n + 1$ .

*Proof.* Apply Theorem 4 and Lemma 1. □

Exercise: If  $E \xrightarrow{p} S^n$  is a fibration with fiber  $F$ , show there exists an exact sequence

$$\dots H_r(F) \rightarrow H_r(E) \rightarrow H_{r-n}(F) \rightarrow H_{r-1}(F) \rightarrow \dots$$

called the Wang sequence.

Let's consider a cohomology version:

**Theorem 1.6** (Leray-Serre for cohomology)

Let  $E \xrightarrow{p} B$  be a Serre fibration with  $B$  a CW complex where  $\pi_1(B)$  acts trivially on  $H^*(F)$ . There exists a spectral sequence converging to  $G(H^*(F))^{s,t}$  with  $E_2^{s,t} = H^s(B; H^t(F))$  and

- (1)  $\{E_r^{s,t}\}$  is a bigraded algebra, *i.e.* there exists a product  $E_r^{s,t} \times E_r^{p,q} \rightarrow E_r^{s+p, t+q}$
- (2)  $d_r : E_r \rightarrow E_r$  is a derivation  $(r, -r + 1)$ , *i.e.*

$$d_r(a \cdot b) = (d_r a) \cdot b + (-1)^{p+q} a \cdot d_r b$$

- (3)  $E_2^{*,0} \cong H^*(B)$  as rings and  $E_2^{0,*} \cong H^*(F)$  as rings.

**Remark 1.7** The product structure on  $E_2^{s,t}$  is

$$H^p(B; H^q(F)) \times H^s(B; H^t(F)) \rightarrow H^{p+s}(B; H^q(F) \otimes H^t(F))$$

and compose with the cup product on  $H^q(F) \otimes H^t(F)$ .

**Example 1.8**

$\mathbb{C}P^n$ .

**Theorem 1.9**

$H^*(U(n)) \cong \Lambda(x_1, x_3, \dots, x_{2n+1})$  with  $\deg x_i = i$ .

**Remark 1.10** From this we can compute  $H^*(BU(n)) \cong \mathbb{Z}[c_1, \dots, c_n]$  where  $c_i$  has degree  $2i$  (this is Theorem II.17).