

# Note on equivariant cellular and homology theory

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## 1 Recollection of some classical results in homotopy theory

### 1.1 Adjunction Formulas

#### 1.1.1 Unbased Case.

Let  $X$ ,  $Y$  and  $Z$  be 'good' topological spaces. Then we have adjunction formula:

$$\text{Map}(X \times Y, Z) \cong \text{Map}(X, \text{Map}(Y, Z)) \cong \text{Map}(X, Z^Y).$$

If we consider the homotopy classes, we have

$$[X \times Y, Z] \cong [X, Z^Y].$$

#### 1.1.2 Based case.

In based case, one has two basic constructions:  $X \vee Y$  and  $X \wedge Y$ . And one has:

$$[X \wedge Y, *; Z, *] \cong [X, *; Z^Y, *].$$

In particular, one has:

$$[S^n X, *; Y, *] \cong [X, *; \Omega Y, *].$$

#### 1.1.3 Weak equivalence

Recall that a continuous map  $f : X \rightarrow Y$  is called *weak homotopy equivalence* if  $\pi_*(f) : \pi_*(X) \rightarrow \pi_*(Y)$  induces isomorphism.

## 1.2 CW complex

### 1.2.1 Construction of CW complex

Recall that  $X$  is a CW-complex if there is a sequence:

$$X_0 \subset X_1 \subset X_2 \dots \subset X_n \subset X_{n+1} \dots$$

such that:

$$X_{n+1} = X_n \cup (\sqcup D_\alpha^{n+1}), f_\alpha : S^n \rightarrow X_n.$$

When  $X$  and  $Y$  are CW complexes and  $f : X \rightarrow Y$  is a weak homotopy equivalence, *Whitehead theorem* implies  $f$  is a homotopy equivalence.

### 1.2.2 CW homology

For CW-homology, we have a chain group  $C_n(X)$ :

$$H_{n+1}(X_{n+1}, X_n) \xrightarrow{\partial} H_n(X_n, X_{n-1}) \xrightarrow{\partial} H_{n-1}(X_{n-1}, X_{n-2})$$

Then the *CW homology group* of  $X$  is defined to be  $H_n(X) := \text{Ker} \partial / \text{Im} \partial$ .

## 2 $G$ -CW complex and $G$ -Whitehead theorem

### 2.1 Some Basic definition of $G$ -spaces

#### 2.1.1 $G$ -space

Let  $G$  be a topological group and  $X$  be a topological space.

- $X$  is a  $G$ -space,  $G \curvearrowright X$ , if  
 $G \times X \rightarrow X, (g, x) \mapsto gx$  with  $g_1(g_2x) = (g_1g_2)x$  and  $ex = x$ .
- $f : X \rightarrow Y$ ,  $f$  is a  $G$ -map if  $f(gx) = gf(x)$ .
- Let  $G \curvearrowright X$ , and  $H \subset G$  be a closed subgroup.

$$X^H := \{x \in X | hx = x, h \in H\}.$$

Furthermore,  $WH = NH/H \curvearrowright X^H$ , where  $NH := \{g \in G | gHg^{-1} = H\}$ .

- Let  $x \in X$ ,  $G_x := \{g \in G | gx = x\}$  is called the isotropy group of  $x$ .
- For  $G \curvearrowright X$  and  $G \curvearrowright Y$ , the diagonal action induces  $G \curvearrowright X \times Y$ .

#### 2.1.2 Adjunction

Let  $X$  and  $Y$  be  $G$ -spaces. Now we consider the space  $\text{Map}(X, Y)$ .

- $\text{Map} X, Y$  is a  $G$ -space with action:

$$g \cdot f(x) := gf(g^{-1}x).$$

$$\text{Map}(X, Y)^G := \{f | f(gx) = gf(x)\}.$$

- We have  $G$ -homeomorphism:

$$\text{Map}(X \times Y, Z) \cong \text{Map}(X, \text{Map}(Y, Z)).$$

For convenience, consider the category  $GU$  of  $G$ -spaces and  $G$ -maps.

- $G \curvearrowright K$  with trivial action,

$$GU(K, X) \cong \text{Map}(K, X^G),$$

$$GU(X, K) \cong \text{Map}(X/G, K)$$

- Let  $H \subset G$ ,  $H \curvearrowright X$  and  $G \times_H Y := G \times Y / (gh, y) \sim (g, hx)$

$$HU(Y, X) \cong GU(G \times_H Y, X).$$

$$HU(X, Y) \cong GU(X, \text{Map}_H(G, Y)).$$

where  $G \curvearrowright \text{Map}_H(G, Y) := \{f|H - \text{map}, H \curvearrowright G\}$  with action  $gf(g') = f(g'g)$ .

- When  $H \curvearrowright Y$  extends to  $H \subset G \curvearrowright Y$ , or  $Y$  is a  $G$ -space, then

$$G \times_H Y \cong_G G/H \times Y$$

$$\text{Map}_H(G, Y) \cong_G \text{Map}(G/H, X)$$

### 2.1.3 $G$ -homotopy

Two  $G$ -maps  $f_1, f_2 : X \rightarrow Y$  are called  $G$ -homotopy if there exists a  $G$ -map:

$$h : X \times [0, 1] \rightarrow Y$$

where  $[0, 1]$  is the trivial  $G$ -space and  $h_0 = f_1, h_1 = f_2$ . Then

$GU$  still denotes the category of  $G$ -spaces and  $G$ -maps.

$hGU$  denotes the category of  $G$ -spaces and *homotopy classes* of  $G$ -maps.

### 2.1.4 Weak equivalence

**Definition 2.1.**  $G$ -map  $f : X \rightarrow Y$  is called *weak homotopy equivalence* if  $f^H : X^H \rightarrow Y^H$  is an ordinary weak homotopy equivalence.

We hope we can find a " $G$ -CW complex" to make weak equivalence becomes homotopy equivalence.

$\bar{h}GU$  denotes the category of  $G$ -spaces and *homotopy classes* of  $G$ -maps with all weak equivalence maps invertible.

## 2.2 Based $G$ -spaces

### 2.2.1 Based construction

- We call  $G \curvearrowright X$  a  $G$ -based space if  $\exists x \in X$ , based point, with trivial action  $G \curvearrowright x$ .
- For unbased case  $G \curvearrowright Y$ , we can construct  $G \curvearrowright Y_+$ .
- When  $G \curvearrowright X$  and  $G \curvearrowright Y$  are based, so is  $G \curvearrowright X \vee Y$  and  $G \curvearrowright X \wedge Y$ .

### 2.2.2 Based Adjunctions

Let  $G \curvearrowright X$  and  $G \curvearrowright Y$  be two  $G$ -based spaces.  $F(X, Y)$  denotes based maps. In based case: we have:

- $G \curvearrowright F(X, Y)$  is a  $G$ -based space.
- $F(X \wedge Y, Z) \cong_G F(X, F(Y, Z))$ .
- Denote  $G\mathcal{F}$  the category of based  $G$ -spaces and based  $G$ -maps.
- $G\mathcal{F}(K, X) \cong F(K, X^G)$ ,  $G\mathcal{F}(X, K) \cong F(X/G, K)$  when  $G \curvearrowright K$  is trivial.
- When  $H \curvearrowright Y$ ,  
 $G\mathcal{F}(G_+ \wedge_H Y, X) \cong H\mathcal{F}(Y, X)$  and  $H\mathcal{F}(X, Y) \cong G\mathcal{F}(X, F_H(G_+, Y))$
- If  $H \subset G \curvearrowright Y$  then  
 $G_+ \wedge_H Y \cong_G (G/H)_+ \wedge X$  and  $F_H(G_+, Y) \cong F(G/H_+, X)$ .

### 2.2.3 Based $G$ -homotopy

**Definition 2.2.** We call two based  $G$ -maps  $f_1, f_2 : X \rightarrow Y$  based  $G$ -homotopy if  $\exists$   $G$ -based map  $h : X \wedge I_+ \rightarrow Y$  with  $h_0 = f_1$  and  $h_1 = f_2$ .

Similarly, we can define  $hG\mathcal{F}$  and  $\bar{h}G\mathcal{F}$ .  
 $[X, Y]_G := \bar{h}G\mathcal{F}(X, Y)$ .

**Remark 2.3.** When  $X, Y$  are  $G$ -CW complexes, we hope  $[X, Y]_G = hG\mathcal{F}(X, Y)$ .

### 2.2.4 Homotopy fiber and cofiber

Let  $f : X \rightarrow Y$  be a based  $G$ -map.

- homotopy fiber  $F_f := \{(\omega, x) | \omega(1) = f(x)\}$  is well-defined and  $G \curvearrowright F_f$ .
- homotopy cofiber  $C_f := Y \cup_f CX$  is well defined and  $G \curvearrowright C_f$ .

## 2.3 $G$ -CW complex

### 2.3.1 Definition

Similar to ordinary CW-complex, we regard  $G/H$  as the basic 'point' :

**Definition 2.4.** A  $G$ -CW complex  $X$  consists of:

- $X_0 \subset X_1 \subset \dots \subset X_n \subset X_{n+1} \subset \dots$
- $X_0$ : disjoint union of orbits  $G/H$ .
- $X_{n+1} = X_n \cup (\sqcup_\alpha G/H_\alpha \times D^{n+1})$  with  $G$ -maps  $G/H_\alpha \times S^n \rightarrow X_n$ .
- $G$ -closure finiteness and  $G$ -weak topology

- Note that  $X/G$  is a  $CW$ -complex

**Remark 2.5.** We like to consider the case when all  $n$ -cells are finite!

**Remark 2.6.** If  $G \curvearrowright Y$  and  $Y$  is a  $CW$ -complex,  $Y$  is not necessary a  $G$ - $CW$  complex and  $X/G$  may not be a  $CW$  complex.

**Definition 2.7.** We call a  $G$ - $CW$  based space when  $X_0$  is a point, every  $X_n$  are based and the attaching map  $G/H_+ \wedge S^n$  are based.

### 2.3.2 $\nu$ -equivalence

Recall in ordinary case,  $g : X \rightarrow Y$  is  $n$ -equivalence if  $\pi_i(g)$  is isomorphism when  $i < n$  and epimorphism  $i = n$ .  $\nu$ -equivalence is an equivariant generalization.

Let  $G \curvearrowright X$ . Consider a function:

$$\nu : \{\text{conjugacy classes of subgroups of } G\} \rightarrow \{-1, 0, 1, 2, \dots, \infty\}$$

**Definition 2.8.** We call  $e : Y \rightarrow Z$  is a  $\nu$ -equivalence if  $e^H : Y^H \rightarrow Z^H$  is a  $\nu(H)$  equivalence for all  $H$ .  $\nu(H) = -1$  when  $X^H = \emptyset$ .

A  $G$ - $CW$  complex  $X$  has dimension  $\nu$  if the cells of orbit type  $G/H$  all have dimension  $\leq \nu(H)$ .

**Remark 2.9.** Here we include  $\infty$  for the definition of weak homotopy equivalence.

**Theorem 2.10** ( $G$ -Whitehead). Let  $e : Y \rightarrow Z$  be a  $\nu$ -equivalence and  $X$  be a  $G$ - $CW$  complex.

$$hGU(X, Y) \rightarrow hGU(X, Z).$$

is bijective if  $X$  has dimension  $< \nu$  and surjective when dimension  $= \nu$ .

**Corollary 2.11.** If  $e : Y \rightarrow Z$  is a  $\nu$ -equivalence between  $G$ - $CW$  complexes of dimension less than  $\nu$ , then  $e$  is a  $G$ -homotopy equivalence.

When  $\nu(H) := \infty$ ,  $e : Y \rightarrow Z$  is a  $\nu$ -equivalence is equivalent to say  $e$  is a weak equivalence. Hence, by Theorem 2.10

**Corollary 2.12.** Weak homotopy equivalence  $e : Y \rightarrow Z$  between  $G$ - $CW$  complexes implies  $e$  is a  $G$ -homotopy equivalence.

### 2.3.3 $G$ - $CW$ approximation

**Theorem 2.13.** Let  $(X, A)$  and  $(Y, B)$  be relative  $G$ - $CW$  complexes,  $(X', A')$  subcomplex of  $(X, A)$ .  $f : (X, A) \rightarrow (Y, B)$  be a  $G$ -map and  $f|(X', A')$  is cellular. Then  $f$  is homotopic  $\text{rel } X' \cup A$  to a cellular map  $g : (X, A) \rightarrow (Y, B)$ .

**Corollary 2.14.** Any  $G$ -map  $f : X \rightarrow Y$  between  $G$ - $CW$  complexes is homotopic to a cellular map. Any two homotopic cellular maps are cellularly homotopic.

**Theorem 2.15.** For any  $G$ -space  $X$ ,  $\exists \gamma : \Gamma X \rightarrow X$ , s.t.  $\Gamma X$  is  $G$ - $CW$  and  $\gamma$  is weak homotopy equivalence.

$$[X, y]_G := \bar{h}GU(\Gamma X, \Gamma Y) = hGU(\Gamma X, \Gamma Y).$$

### 3 $G$ -CW Homology and cohomology

#### 3.1 ordinary homology and cohomology theories

##### 3.1.1 A category $\mathcal{G}$

Let  $\mathcal{G}$  be a category with  $ob\mathcal{G} : G/H$  and  $\mathcal{G}(G/H, G/K) : G\text{-map}$ .

Note that for  $G\text{-map}$ ,  $f : G/H \rightarrow G/K$ :

$$\exists f, f(eH) = gK \Leftrightarrow g^{-1}Hg \subset K.$$

We can also define the category:  $h\mathcal{G}$ .

##### 3.1.2 Coefficient System

A *Coefficient system* is a contravariant functor:  $h\mathcal{G} \rightarrow \mathcal{A}b$

**Example 3.1.**  $\underline{\pi}_n(X)$ :

$$\begin{array}{ccc} G/H & \longrightarrow & \pi_n(X^H) \\ f \downarrow & & \uparrow \\ G/K & \longrightarrow & \pi_n(X^K) \end{array}$$

Note that when  $f(eH) = gK$ , we have  $X^K \rightarrow X^H$ ,  $x \mapsto gx$ .

In fact, we have a decomposition if functors:

$$h\mathcal{G} \rightarrow h\mathcal{T} \rightarrow \mathcal{A}b$$

$$G/H \rightarrow X^H \rightarrow \pi_n(X^H).$$

Now we have a new category:  $\mathcal{CS}$ , whose objects are coefficient systems and morphisms are natural transformations.

Since  $+$ , *ker* and *coker* of coefficient systems are well-defined.

**Lemma 3.2.**  $\mathcal{CS}$  is an *Abel category*.

Then, one can do homological algebra over  $\mathcal{CS}$ .

##### 3.1.3 Cohomology

Let  $G \curvearrowright X$  be a  $G$ -CW complex. Define a functor:  $\underline{C}_n(X) := \underline{H}_n(X_n, X_{n-1}; \mathbb{Z})$ . Then,

$$\underline{C}_n(X)(G/H) = H_n(X_n^H, X_{n-1}^H; \mathbb{Z}).$$

We have natural transformation  $d$ :

$$d : \underline{C}_n(X) \rightarrow \underline{C}_{n-1}(X),$$

$$d : \underline{H}_n(X_n, X_{n-1}; \mathbb{Z}) \rightarrow \underline{H}_{n-1}(X_{n-1}, X_{n-2}; \mathbb{Z})$$

Since  $dd = 0$ , then we obtain a chain complex of coefficient system  $\underline{C}_*(X)$ .

Let  $M \in ob\mathcal{CS}$  and let

$$C_G^n(X, M) := Hom_{\mathcal{CS}}(\underline{C}_n(X), M), \delta = d^*,$$

is a cochain complex of *abelian groups*.

The cohomology is defined to be:

$$H_G^*(X; M) := Ker\delta / Im\delta.$$

### 3.1.4 Homology

Let  $M \in ob\mathcal{CS}$ , and  $N$  be convariant functor:  $h\mathcal{G} \rightarrow \mathcal{Ab}$ . We define an **abelian group**:

$$M \otimes_{\mathcal{G}} N := (\sum M(G/H) \otimes N(G/H)) / (mf^*, n) \sim (m, f_*n)$$

where  $f : G/H \rightarrow G/K$ .

Then we obtain a chain complex of abelian groups:

$$C_n^G(X, N) = \underline{C}_n(X) \otimes_{\mathcal{G}} N$$

and

$$H_*^G(X; N) := H_*(C_n^G(X, N)).$$

**Remark 3.3.** For more details, see

### 3.1.5 Dimension axion

If  $G \curvearrowright X = G/H$  is just 0-cell, then we have formula:

$$H_G^*(G/H, M) = H_G^0(G/H, M) \cong M(G/H).$$

$$H_*^G(G/H, N) = H_0^G(G/H, N) \cong N(G/H).$$

**Remark 3.4.**  $\underline{H}_0(G/H)$  is projective and so is  $\underline{C}_n(X)$ .

## References

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