

# AN APPLICATION OF THE PATH-SPACE TECHNIQUE TO THE THEORY OF TRIADS

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One of the most powerful tools in homotopy theory is the homotopy groups of a triad introduced by Blakers and Massey in [1]. Our aim here is to develop systematically the formal, elementary aspects of the theory of a generalized triad and the mapping track associated with it. This will be used in §5 to deduce a result (Theorem 5.5) which seems to be closely related to an exact sequence established by Brown [2].

There is an application of our theorem to the realization problem of Whitehead products. In this direction we obtain the following result: given  $\theta \in H^{n'+1}(\pi, n; \pi')$  and a pairing  $W : \pi' \otimes \pi \rightarrow G$  such that the cup-product  $\theta \cup \iota$  relative to  $W$  lies in the image of  $\theta^* : H^{n+n'+1}(\pi', n'+1; G) \rightarrow H^{n+n'+1}(\pi, n; G)$ , there exists a space whose first invariant is  $\theta$  and whose Whitehead product pairing is just  $W$ , where  $\iota \in H^n(\pi, n; \pi)$  is the basic class.

It will be assumed that all spaces and mappings occurring in this paper are taken from the category with base-points, and the notations introduced in [12] will be used without specific reference.

## § 1. The mapping track of a triad

In this paper we shall understand by a *triad*  $(f : g)$  a pair of maps  $A \xrightarrow{f} Y \xleftarrow{g} B$ . For such a triad the following construction is basic:

$$E_{f,g} = \{(\mathbf{a}, b, \beta) \in A \times B \times Y^I \mid f(\mathbf{a}) = \beta(0), g(b) = \beta(1)\},$$

$$\text{Ker}(f : g) = \{(\mathbf{a}, b) \in A \times B \mid f(\mathbf{a}) = g(b)\}.$$

These constructions give rise to the following diagrams:

$$(1.1) \quad \begin{array}{ccccc} & & A & & \\ & \nearrow \pi_1 & & \searrow f & \\ \text{Ker}(f : g) & & & & Y \\ & \searrow \pi_2 & & \nearrow g & \\ & & B & & \end{array}$$

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$$(1.2) \quad \begin{array}{ccccc} & & \Omega A & & A \\ & \nearrow \Omega P_1 & \searrow \Omega f & & \nearrow P_1 \\ \cdots \rightarrow \Omega E_{f,g} & & \Omega Y & \xrightarrow{I} & E_{f,g} \\ & \searrow \Omega P_2 & \nearrow \Omega g & & \searrow P_2 \\ & & \Omega B & & B \end{array} \begin{array}{ccc} & & Y \\ & \nearrow f & \\ & & \end{array}$$

where  $\Omega$  is the loop functor; the maps are defined by setting  $\pi_1(a, b) = a$ ,  $\pi_2(a, b) = b$ ,  $P_1(a, b, \beta) = a$ ,  $P_2(a, b, \beta) = b$ ,  $I(\beta) = (a_0, b_0, \beta)$ , and  $Y^I$  denotes the space of paths  $I = [0, 1] \rightarrow Y$  with CO-topology. We note that (1.1) is commutative and (1.2) is homotopy-commutative.

We shall call  $E_{f,g}$  the *mapping track* of a triad  $(f : g)$ . In case  $f$  and  $g$  are inclusions this has been considered by Hu [5]. Various specializations of  $(f : g)$  yield various spaces. For example, we have

$$\begin{array}{ll} EY = \{\beta \in Y^I \mid \beta(0) = y_0\}, & \text{for } y_0 \xrightarrow{1} Y \xleftarrow{1} Y, \\ E_f = \{(x, \beta) \in X \times EY \mid f(x) = \beta(1)\}, & \text{for } y_0 \xrightarrow{f} Y \xleftarrow{f} X, \\ Z_f = \{(x, \beta) \in X \times Y^I \mid f(x) = \beta(1)\}, & \text{for } Y \xrightarrow{1} Y \xleftarrow{f} X, \\ E_{\bar{f}} = \{(x, \beta) \in X \times Y^I \mid f(x) = \beta(0), \beta(1) = y_0\}, & \text{for } X \xrightarrow{f} Y \xleftarrow{f} y_0, \\ E^-Y = \{\beta \in Y^I \mid \beta(1) = y_0\}, & \text{for } Y \xrightarrow{1} Y \xleftarrow{1} y_0, \end{array}$$

We have furthermore that  $\text{Ker}(f : g) = A \cap B$  for inclusions  $A \xrightarrow{f} Y, B \xrightarrow{g} Y$  and, when  $g$  is a fibering,  $\text{Ker}(f : g)$  is the fibering *induced* by  $f$  from  $g$ .

PROPOSITION 1.3.  $(a, b, \beta) \rightarrow (b, a, \beta^{-1})$  yields a homeomorphism  $E_{f,g} \rightarrow E_{g,f}$ .

THEOREM 1.4. If  $g$  is a fibering then  $E_{f,g}$  is homotopically equivalent to the induced fibre space  $\text{Ker}(f : g)$ .

*Proof.* Let  $A : Z_g \rightarrow B^I (\lambda : Z_g \rightarrow B)$  be, respectively, a (path) lifting function for  $g$  (see [12], p. 113). Define  $\Phi : \text{Ker}(f : g) \rightarrow E_{f,g}$  and  $\Psi : E_{f,g} \rightarrow \text{Ker}(f : g)$  as follows:

$$(1.5) \quad \Phi(a, b) = (a, b, e_y), \quad y = f(a) = g(b),$$

$$(1.6) \quad \Psi(a, b, \beta) = (a, \lambda(b, \beta)),$$

where  $e_y$  is the constant path at  $y$ . Since there exists a homotopy between  $1_B : B \rightarrow B$  and the map  $b \rightarrow \lambda(b, e_y)$  which moves points along fibres, it follows that  $\Psi\Phi \simeq 1$ .  $\Phi\Psi \simeq 1$  is shown by considering a homotopy given by



where  $J = \Psi \circ I$ ,  $\Psi: E_{f,g} \rightarrow \text{Ker}(f : g)$  being an equivalence in the proof of Theorem 1.4.

*Proof.* This follows from Theorems 1.4 and 1.7, since  $P_1 = \pi_1\Psi$  and  $P_2 \simeq \pi_2\Psi$ .

**PROPOSITION 1.9.**  $P_1: E_{f,g} \rightarrow A$ ,  $P_2: E_{f,g} \rightarrow B$  and  $P_1 \times P_2: E_{f,g} \rightarrow A \times B$  are fiberings with fibres  $E_g$ ,  $E_{\bar{f}}$  and  $\Omega Y$  respectively.

*Proof.* A path lifting function  $\lambda$  for  $P_1$  is defined by setting

$$\lambda(a, b, \beta, \alpha)(s) = (\alpha(s), b, \beta_s),$$

for  $0 \leq s \leq 1$ ,  $\alpha \in A'$ ,  $\alpha(1) = a$ , in which  $\beta_s$  is a path in  $Y$  given by

$$\beta_s(t) = \begin{cases} f\alpha(2t + s), & 0 \leq t \leq \frac{1-s}{2}, \\ \beta\left(\frac{2t + s - 1}{1+s}\right), & \frac{1-s}{2} \leq t \leq 1. \end{cases}$$

Similarly for  $P_2$  and  $P_1 \times P_2$ .

**§ 2. Transformation between triads**

Let the following diagram be given :

$$(2.1) \quad \begin{array}{ccccc} A & \xrightarrow{f} & Y & \xleftarrow{g} & B \\ \psi_1 \downarrow & & \varphi \downarrow & & \downarrow \psi_2 \\ A' & \xrightarrow{f'} & Y' & \xleftarrow{g'} & B' \end{array}$$

If (2.1) is homotopy-commutative, then we say that (2.1) is a *transformation* from a triad  $(f : g)$  to a triad  $(f' : g')$ . We call it a *map* if it is strictly commutative.

Let now  $G_t, H_t, 0 \leq t \leq 1$ , be fixed homotopies such that  $G_0 = f'\psi_1, G_1 = \varphi f, H_0 = g'\psi_2, H_1 = \varphi g$ . We define  $\chi = E(\psi_1, \varphi, \psi_2 ; G, H) : E_{f,g} \rightarrow E_{f',g'}$  by setting

$$(2.2) \quad \chi(a, b, \beta) = (\psi_1(a), \psi_2(b), \beta')$$

where  $\beta'$  is the path in  $Y'$  given by

$$\beta'(s) = \begin{cases} G_{3s}(a), & 0 \leq s \leq \frac{1}{3}, \\ \varphi\beta(3s - 1), & \frac{1}{3} \leq s \leq \frac{2}{3}, \\ H_{3-3s}(b), & \frac{2}{3} \leq s \leq 1. \end{cases}$$

For a map (2.1) we shall set  $\beta' = \varphi\beta$  in (2.2), and denote simply by  $E(\psi_1, \varphi, \psi_2)$ .

Further let

$$\begin{array}{ccccc} A' & \xrightarrow{f'} & Y' & \xleftarrow{g'} & B' \\ \phi'_1 \downarrow & & \varphi' \downarrow & & \downarrow \phi'_2 \\ A'' & \xrightarrow{f''} & Y'' & \xleftarrow{g''} & B'' \end{array}$$

be another transformation with homotopies  $G'_t, H'_t$  such that  $G'_0 = f''\phi'_1, G'_1 = \varphi'f', H'_0 = g''\phi'_2, H'_1 = \varphi'g'$ . Consider the homotopies  $(G' \circ G), (H' \circ H)$  which are given by

$$(G' \circ G)_t(a) = \begin{cases} G'_{2t}\psi_1(a), & 0 \leq t \leq \frac{1}{2}, \\ \varphi'G_{2t-1}(a), & \frac{1}{2} \leq t \leq 1, \end{cases}$$

$$(H' \circ H)_t(b) = \begin{cases} H'_{2t}\psi_2(b), & 0 \leq t \leq \frac{1}{2}, \\ \varphi'H_{2t-1}(b), & \frac{1}{2} \leq t \leq 1, \end{cases}$$

for  $a \in A, b \in B$ . Then it is immediate to verify

PROPOSITION 2.3.  $E(\psi'_1\psi_2, \varphi'\varphi, \psi'_2\psi_2; G' \circ G, H' \circ H)$  is homotopic to  $E(\psi'_1, \varphi', \psi'_2; G', H') \circ E(\psi_1, \varphi, \psi_2; G, H)$ .

PROPOSITION 2.4. Let (2.1) be given and let  $\varphi \simeq \bar{\varphi}, \psi_1 \simeq \bar{\psi}_1, \psi_2 \simeq \bar{\psi}_2$ . Then there exist homotopies  $\bar{G} : f'\bar{\psi}_1 \simeq \bar{\varphi}f$  and  $\bar{H} : g'\bar{\psi}_2 \simeq \bar{\varphi}g$  such that  $E(\bar{\psi}_1, \bar{\varphi}, \bar{\psi}_2; \bar{G}, \bar{H}) \simeq E(\psi_1, \varphi, \psi_2; G, H)$ .

Proof. Let  $\varphi^\tau : \varphi \simeq \bar{\varphi}, \psi_1^\tau : \psi_1 \simeq \bar{\psi}_1, \psi_2^\tau : \psi_2 \simeq \bar{\psi}_2$ . Define  $G_t^\tau : A \rightarrow Y'$  by

$$G_t^\tau = \begin{cases} f' \circ \psi_1^{\tau-3t}, & 0 \leq t \leq \frac{\tau}{3}, \\ G_{(3t-\tau)(3-2\tau)^{-1}}, & \frac{\tau}{3} \leq t \leq 1 - \frac{\tau}{3}, \\ \varphi^{3t+\tau-3} \circ f, & 1 - \frac{\tau}{3} \leq t \leq 1, \end{cases}$$

and define  $H_t$  similarly. Then  $E(\psi_1^\tau, \varphi^\tau, \psi_2^\tau; G_t^\tau, H_t^\tau)$  gives the desired homotopy.

PROPOSITION 2.5.  $E(1_A, 1_Y, 1_B; G, H)$  is a homotopy equivalence.

Proof. Let  $G^-, H^-$  be defined by  $G_t^- = G_{1-t}, H_t^- = H_{1-t}, 0 \leq t \leq 1$ . By

Proposition 2.3 we have  $E(1_A, 1_Y, 1_B; G^-, H^-) \circ E(1_A, 1_Y, 1_B; G, H) \simeq E(1_A, 1_Y, 1_B; G^- \circ G, H^- \circ H)$ . If  $G_t^\tau, H_t^\tau, 0 \leq \tau \leq 1$ , are defined by

$$G_t^\tau = \begin{cases} G_{1-2^{-\tau}t}, & 0 \leq t \leq \frac{1}{2}, \\ G_{1-2^\tau(1-t)}, & \frac{1}{2} \leq t \leq 1, \end{cases}$$

and similarly for  $H_t$ , then we have

$$E(1, 1, 1; G^- \circ G, H^- \circ H) \simeq E(1, 1, 1; f, g)$$

by the homotopy  $E(1, 1, 1; G_t^\tau, H_t^\tau)$ . Since  $E(1, 1, 1; f, g)$  is homotopic to the identity map of  $E_{f,g}$ , it follows that  $E(1, 1, 1; G^-, H^-)$  is a left homotopy inverse of  $E(1, 1, 1; G, H)$ . We see similarly that  $E(1, 1, 1; G^-, H^-)$  is a right homotopy inverse, and this completes the proof.

As an immediate consequence of the above three propositions we have

**THEOREM 2.6.** *Let a transformation (2.1) be given, and suppose that vertical maps are homotopy equivalences. Then  $E(\phi_1, \varphi, \phi_2; G, H)$  is also an equivalence, that is,  $E_{f,g}$  is an invariant object under homotopy equivalences.*

Now we see that a transformation (2.1) gives rise to a new map:

$$(2.7) \quad \begin{array}{ccccc} E_{\psi_1} & \xrightarrow{\chi_1} & E_\varphi & \xleftarrow{\chi_2} & E_{\psi_2} \\ P\psi_1 \downarrow & & P\varphi \downarrow & & \downarrow P\psi_2 \\ A & \xrightarrow{f} & Y & \xleftarrow{g} & B \end{array}$$

where  $\chi_1 = E(f', f; G)$  and  $\chi_2 = E(g', g; H)$ . From (2.1) and (2.7) we obtain a sequence

$$(2.8) \quad E_{\chi_1, \chi_2} \xrightarrow{E(P\psi_1, P\varphi, P\psi_2)} E_{f,g} \xrightarrow{E(\phi_1, \varphi, \phi_2; G, H)} E_{f',g'}$$

We shall prove

**PROPOSITION 2.9.** (2.8) *induces, for any space  $V$ , an exact sequence*

$$\pi(V, E_{\chi_1, \chi_2}) \longrightarrow \pi(V, E_{f,g}) \xrightarrow{\chi_*} \pi(V, E_{f',g'}).$$

*Proof.* First we shows that  $\chi \circ E(P\psi_1, P\varphi, P\psi_2)$  is nullhomotopic. Take any point of  $E_{\chi_1, \chi_2}$ , that is  $(a, \alpha', b, \beta', \gamma, \tilde{\tau}) = x \in A \times EA' \times B \times EB' \times Y^I \times (EY')^I$  such that

$$\begin{aligned} \psi_1(a) = \alpha'(1), \psi_2(b) = \beta'(1), \varphi_\gamma(s) = \tilde{\gamma}(1, s), 0 \leq s \leq 1, \\ f(a) = \gamma(0), g(b) = \gamma(1), \tilde{\gamma}(0, t) = \gamma'_t, \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \tilde{\gamma}(s, 0) &= \begin{cases} f'\alpha'(2s), & 0 \leq s \leq \frac{1}{2}, \\ G_{2s-1}(a), & \frac{1}{2} \leq s \leq 1, \end{cases} \\ \tilde{\gamma}(s, 1) &= \begin{cases} g'\beta'(2s), & 0 \leq s \leq \frac{1}{2}, \\ H_{2s-1}(b), & \frac{1}{2} \leq s \leq 1. \end{cases} \end{aligned}$$

Therefore

$$\chi \circ E(P\psi_1, P\varphi, P\psi_2)(a, \alpha', b, \beta', \gamma, \tilde{\gamma}) = (\alpha'(1), \beta'(1), \delta),$$

where  $\delta$  is the path in  $Y'$  given by

$$\delta(t) = \begin{cases} G_{3t}(a), & 0 \leq t \leq \frac{1}{3}, \\ \varphi_\gamma(3t-1), & \frac{1}{3} \leq t \leq \frac{2}{3}, \\ H_{3-3t}(b), & \frac{2}{3} \leq t \leq 1. \end{cases}$$

Let  $\rho : I \times I \rightarrow I \times I$  be a homeomorphism such that  $\rho(0 \times I) = 0 \times I$ ,  $\rho(I \times i) = [0, \frac{1}{2}] \times i$ ,  $i = 0$  or  $1$ ,  $\rho(1 \times [0, \frac{1}{3}]) = [\frac{1}{2}, 1] \times 0$ ,  $\rho(1 \times [\frac{2}{3}, 1]) = [\frac{1}{2}, 1] \times 1$ ,  $\rho(1 \times [\frac{1}{3}, \frac{2}{3}]) = 1 \times I$  and  $\rho$  is linear on the indicated segments. Then it is clear that  $(x, \tau) \rightarrow (\alpha'(\tau), \beta'(\tau), \tilde{\gamma}_\rho|_{\tau \times I})$  is a homotopy deforming  $x \rightarrow (\alpha'(1), \beta'(1), \delta)$  into the constant map.

Conversely, let  $k : V \rightarrow E_{f,g}$  be expressed by

$$k(v) = (a(v), b(v), \gamma(v)), \quad v \in V$$

and let  $(A_t(v), B_t(v), C_t(v)) : 0 \simeq \chi \circ k(v)$ . We denote by  $\alpha'(v)$  and  $\beta'(v)$  the paths determined by  $A_t(v), B_t(v)$  respectively, and we define  $\tilde{\gamma}(v) : I \times I \rightarrow Y'$  by  $\tilde{\gamma}(v)(t, s) = C_{t'}(v)(s')$ , where  $(t', s') = \rho^{-1}(t, s)$ . It is obvious that  $h : V \rightarrow E_{\chi_1, \chi_2}$ , given by

$$h(v) = (a(v), \alpha'(v), b(v), \beta'(v), \gamma(v), \tilde{\gamma}(v)),$$

satisfies  $k = E(P\psi_1, P\varphi, P\psi_2) \circ h$ . Thus the proof is complete.

Applying the above proposition and Theorem 2.6, and noting that  $E_{\Omega f, \Omega g}$  is homeomorphic to  $\Omega E_{f, g}$ , we reach the final result.

**THEOREM 2.10.** *Every transformation (2.1) induces, for any space  $V$ , an exact sequence*

$$\cdots \xrightarrow{(\Omega\chi)_*} \pi(V, \Omega E_{f', g'}) \rightarrow \pi(V, E_{\chi_1, \chi_2}) \rightarrow \pi(V, E_{f, g}) \xrightarrow{\chi_*} \pi(V, E_{f', g'}).$$

**COROLLARY 2.11.** *Let  $A \xrightarrow{f} Y \xleftarrow{g} B$  be a triad and suppose there exists a map  $h : A \rightarrow B$  such that  $g \circ h = f$ . Then the sequence*

$$\cdots \rightarrow \pi(V, \Omega E_g) \rightarrow \pi(V, E_h) \rightarrow \pi(V, E_f) \rightarrow \pi(V, E_g)$$

*is exact.*

*Proof.* Apply Theorem 2.10 to the map

$$\begin{array}{ccccc} y_0 & \longrightarrow & Y & \xleftarrow{f} & A \\ \downarrow & & \downarrow 1 & & \downarrow h \\ y_0 & \longrightarrow & Y & \xleftarrow{g} & B \end{array}$$

Finally, we prove

**LEMMA 2.12.** *For an arbitrary triad  $A \xrightarrow{f} Y \xleftarrow{g} B$ , there exists a homotopically equivalent triad  $A \xrightarrow{j_1} M \xleftarrow{j_2} B$  such that  $j_1$  and  $j_2$  are both inclusions and cofibrations.*

*Proof.* It suffices to take for  $M$  the mapping cylinder of  $f \vee g : A \vee B \rightarrow Y$ ,  $j_1$  and  $j_2$  being natural inclusions.

### § 3. Some exact sequences

In this section we extend exact sequences established by Massey [9] and Hu [5]. Given a triad  $A \xrightarrow{f} Y \xleftarrow{g} B$ , let

$$\begin{aligned} T_{f, g} &= \{(\alpha, \beta, \tilde{\tau}) \in EA \times EB \times EY \mid \tilde{\tau}(s, 1) = f\alpha(s), \tilde{\tau}(1, t) = g\beta(t)\}, \\ S_{f, g} &= \{(\alpha, \beta) \in EA \times EB \mid f\alpha(1) = g\beta(1)\}. \end{aligned}$$

We observe that  $S_{f, g}$  is just  $E_i$  for the natural inclusion  $i = \pi_1 \times \pi_2 : \text{Ker}(f : g) \rightarrow A \times B$ . Corresponding to these constructions we consider the following maps:



$$\begin{aligned}
 p &: T_{f,g} \rightarrow S_{f,g} \text{ defined by } p(\alpha, \beta, \tilde{\gamma}) = (\alpha, \beta), \\
 m &: S_{f,g} \rightarrow \Omega Y \text{ defined by } m(\alpha, \beta) = (f\alpha) \cdot (g\beta)^{-1}, \\
 n &: \Omega^2 Y \rightarrow T_{f,g} \text{ defined by } n(\tilde{\gamma}) = (e_{a_0}, e_{b_0}, \tilde{\gamma}), \\
 r_1 &: S_{f,g} \rightarrow E_{\pi_1} \text{ defined by } r_1(\alpha, \beta) = (\alpha(1), \beta(1), \alpha), \\
 r_2 &: S_{f,g} \rightarrow E_{\pi_2} \text{ defined by } r_2(\alpha, \beta) = (\alpha(1), \beta(1), \beta).
 \end{aligned}$$

These maps are obviously imbedded into the following sequences

$$(3.1) \quad \dots \xrightarrow{\Omega m} \Omega^2 Y \xrightarrow{n} T_{f,g} \xrightarrow{p} S_{f,g} \xrightarrow{m} \Omega Y,$$

$$(3.2) \quad \dots \xrightarrow{\Omega r_1} \Omega E_{\pi_1} \xrightarrow{q_2} \Omega B \xrightarrow{u_2} S_{f,g} \xrightarrow{r_1} E_{\pi_1},$$

$$\dots \xrightarrow{\Omega r_2} \Omega E_{\pi_2} \xrightarrow{q_1} \Omega A \xrightarrow{u_1} S_{f,g} \xrightarrow{r_2} E_{\pi_2},$$

in which  $u_2 : \Omega B \rightarrow S_{f,g}$  and  $q_2 : \Omega E_{\pi_1} \rightarrow \Omega B$  are defined by

$$\begin{aligned}
 u_2(\beta) &= (e_{a_0}, \beta), \\
 q_2(\alpha, \beta, \tilde{\alpha}) &= \beta^{-1} \quad \text{for } \alpha \in \Omega A, \beta \in \Omega B, \tilde{\alpha} \in \Omega EA \\
 &\quad \text{such that } f\alpha = g\beta, \tilde{\alpha}(1, t) = \alpha(t),
 \end{aligned}$$

and  $u_1$  and  $q_1$  are similarly defined.

It is easily seen that  $E_m$  is homeomorphic to  $T_{f,g}$ . Thus we have

PROPOSITION 3.3. *The sequence (3.1) induces an exact sequence*

$$\dots \xrightarrow{n_*} \pi(V, T_{f,g}) \xrightarrow{p_*} \pi(V, S_{f,g}) \xrightarrow{m_*} \pi(V, \Omega Y).$$

Now we consider  $l_1 : \Omega B \rightarrow E_{r_1}$  and  $l_2 : \Omega A \rightarrow E_{r_2}$  defined by

$$l_1(\beta) = (e_{a_0}, \beta; e_{a_0}, e_{b_0}, \tilde{e}), \quad l_2(\alpha) = (\alpha, e_{b_0}; e_{a_0}, e_{b_0}, \tilde{e})$$

where  $\tilde{e} : I \times I \rightarrow A$  (or  $B$ ) is the constant map. Then we prove

LEMMA 3.4.  *$l_1$  and  $l_2$  are homotopy equivalences.*

*Proof.* Every point of  $E_{r_1}$  is of the form  $(\alpha, \beta; \alpha', \beta', \tilde{\gamma}) \in EA \times EB \times EA \times EB \times EEA$ , where  $f\alpha(1) = g\beta(1)$ ,  $\alpha'(1) = \alpha(1)$ ,  $\beta'(1) = \beta(1)$ ,  $\tilde{\gamma}(s, 1) = \alpha(s)$ ,  $\tilde{\gamma}(1, t) = \alpha'(t)$ . We define  $h_1 : E_{r_1} \rightarrow \Omega B$  by

$$h_1(\alpha; \beta; \alpha', \beta', \tilde{\gamma}) = \beta \cdot (\beta')^{-1}.$$

Clearly  $h_1 \circ l_1 \simeq 1$ .  $l_1 \circ h_1$  is also deformed into the identity map by the following homotopy :

$$(\alpha, \beta; \alpha', \beta', \tilde{\gamma}) \rightarrow (\alpha_\tau, \beta_\tau; \alpha'_{0,\tau}, \beta'_{0,\tau}, \tilde{\gamma}_\tau), \quad 0 \leq \tau \leq 1,$$

where

$$\alpha_\tau(s) = \tilde{\gamma}(s, \tau), \quad \tilde{\gamma}_\tau(t, s) = \tilde{\gamma}(t, \tau s),$$

$$\beta_\tau(s) = \begin{cases} \beta\left(\frac{2s}{1+\tau}\right), & 0 \leq s \leq \frac{1+\tau}{2}, \\ \beta'(\tau + 2 - 2s), & \frac{1+\tau}{2} \leq s \leq 1. \end{cases}$$

By Lemma 3.4 we have

PROPOSITION 3.5. (3.2) *induce exact sequences*

$$\pi(V, \Omega E_{\pi_1}) \xrightarrow{q_{2*}} \pi(V, \Omega B) \xrightarrow{u_{2*}} \pi(V, S_{f,g}) \xrightarrow{r_{1*}} \pi(V, E_{\pi_1})$$

and

$$\pi(V, \Omega E_{\pi_2}) \xrightarrow{q_{1*}} \pi(V, \Omega A) \xrightarrow{u_{1*}} \pi(V, S_{f,g}) \xrightarrow{r_{2*}} \pi(V, E_{\pi_2})$$

The above Propositions 3.3 and 3.5 may be regarded as an extension of the exact sequences established by Massey [9].

We now observe that (1.1) yields maps  $\chi_1 = E(f, \pi_2) : E_{\pi_1} \rightarrow E_g$  and  $\chi_2 = E(g, \pi_1) : E_{\pi_2} \rightarrow E_f$ , and that  $E_{\chi_1}$  and  $E_{\chi_2}$  can be identified with  $T_{f,g}$ . Thus we conclude

PROPOSITION 3.6. *The sequences*

$$\rightarrow \pi(V, \Omega E_g) \rightarrow \pi(V, T_{f,g}) \rightarrow \pi(V, E_{\pi_1}) \xrightarrow{\chi_{1*}} \pi(V, E_g)$$

and

$$\rightarrow \pi(V, \Omega E_f) \rightarrow \pi(V, T_{f,g}) \rightarrow \pi(V, E_{\pi_2}) \xrightarrow{\chi_{2*}} \pi(V, E_f)$$

are exact.

This is a generalization of exact sequences of a usual triad [1].

Finally we prove

PROPOSITION 3.7. *Let  $A \xrightarrow{f} Y \xleftarrow{g} B$  be a triad in which  $g$  is a fibering.*

*Then*

- (i)  $\chi_1 : E_{\pi_1} \rightarrow E_g$  *is a homotopy equivalence;*
- (ii)  $T_{f,g}$  *is contractible;*
- (iii)  $\chi_2 : E_{\pi_2} \rightarrow E_f$  *has a right inverse.*

*Proof.*  $\chi_1$  is given by  $\chi_1(a, b, \alpha) = (b, f\alpha)$  for  $(a, b, \alpha) \in A \times B \times EA$  with  $f(a) = g(b)$ ,  $\alpha(1) = a$ . Let  $\lambda : Z_g \rightarrow B$  denote a lifting function for  $g$ . We define

$\Gamma_1 : E_g \rightarrow E_{\pi_1}$  by setting  $\Gamma_1(b, \gamma) = (a_0, \lambda(b, \gamma), e_{a_0})$  for  $\gamma \in EY, g(b) = \gamma(1)$ . It follows at once that  $\Gamma_1$  is a homotopy inverse of  $\lambda_1$ , which prove (i). (ii) is an immediate consequence of (i) and Proposition 3.6. To prove (iii), consider  $\Gamma_2 : E_f \rightarrow E_{\pi_2}$  which is defined by  $\Gamma_2(a, \gamma) = (a, \lambda(b_0, \gamma^{-1}), A(b_0, \gamma^{-1})^{-1})$ , where  $A : Z_g \rightarrow B'$  is the path lifting function with which  $\lambda$  is associated. Clearly  $\lambda_2 \circ \Gamma_2 = 1$ , as we wish to prove.

§ 4. Cotriad

In order to dualize the preceding results, we shall call  $A \xleftarrow{f} X \xrightarrow{g} B$  a *cotriad* and denote by  $\langle f : g \rangle$ . Then the argument is quite automatic, but briefly indicated.

With a given cotriad  $A \xleftarrow{f} X \xrightarrow{g} B$ , we associate the following spaces:

$C_{f,g}$  = the space obtained from  $A \cup X \times I \cup B$  by the identifications

$$(x, 0) = f(x), (x, 1) = g(x), (x_0, s) = (x_0, t), x \in X, s, t \in I,$$

$\text{Coker } \langle f : g \rangle$  = the space obtained from  $A \cup B$  by the identifications

$$f(x) = g(x), x \in X.$$

In case  $f$  and  $g$  are inclusions  $\text{Coker } \langle f : g \rangle$  is the union of  $A$  and  $B$ , and in case  $g$  is a cofibering it is the cofiber space induced by  $f$ . Further,  $C_{f,g}$ , which may be called the mapping cylinder of a co-triad  $\langle f : g \rangle$ , has already appeared in the book of Eilenberg-Steenrod [4], p. 51, G, 4 for inclusions  $f$  and  $g$ .

We have now the (homotopy-) commutative diagrams

(4.1)

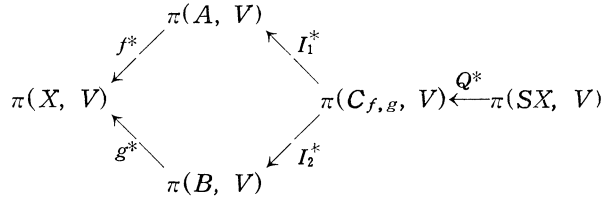
$$\begin{array}{ccc}
 & A & \\
 f \nearrow & & \searrow i_1 \\
 X & & \text{Coker } \langle f : g \rangle \\
 g \searrow & & \nearrow i_2 \\
 & B & 
 \end{array}$$

(4.2)

$$\begin{array}{ccccccc}
 & & A & & SA & & \\
 & & \nearrow I_1 & & \nearrow SI_1 & & \\
 & & X & \xrightarrow{Q} & SX & \xrightarrow{\quad} & SC_{f,g} \longrightarrow \\
 f \nearrow & & & & \searrow Sf & & \searrow SI_1 \\
 X & & & & & & \\
 g \searrow & & \nearrow I_2 & & \searrow Sg & & \nearrow SI_2 \\
 & & B & & SB & & 
 \end{array}$$

where  $i_1, i_2, I_1$  and  $I_2$  are appropriate injections, and  $Q$  is the map which pinches  $A \cup B$  to a point.

(4.3) (4.2) induces, for any space  $V$ , an exact diagram :



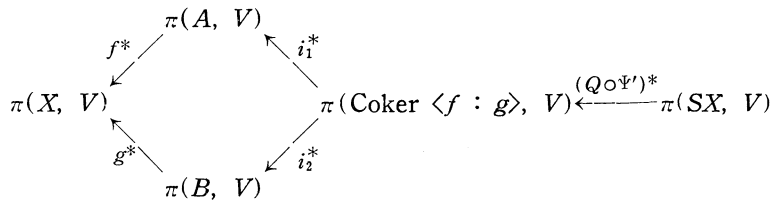
Let us now suppose that  $g$  is a cofibering with an extension function  $\lambda' : B \rightarrow M_g$ . Let  $\vartheta' : C_{f,g} \rightarrow \text{Coker} \langle f : g \rangle$  and  $\psi' : \text{Coker} \langle f : g \rangle \rightarrow C_{f,g}$  be the maps defined by

$$\begin{aligned}
 \vartheta'(a) = a, \vartheta'(b) = b, \vartheta'(x, s) = f(x) = g(x), & \text{ for } a \in A, b \in B, x \in X, 0 \leq s \leq 1, \\
 \psi'(a) = a, \psi'(b) = \bar{\lambda}'(b) & \text{ for } a \in A, b \in B,
 \end{aligned}$$

where  $\bar{\lambda}'$  denotes the composition  $B \xrightarrow{\lambda'} M_g \rightarrow C_{f,g}$ .

(4.4) The above  $\vartheta'$  and  $\psi'$  are mutually inverse homotopy equivalences.

(4.5) The following diagram is exact :



We note that this may be considered as a generalization of the Mayer-Vietoris cohomology sequence of a proper triad [4], p. 43.

Let

$$\begin{array}{ccccc}
 A & \xleftarrow{f} & X & \xrightarrow{g} & B \\
 \psi_1 \downarrow & & f' \downarrow \varphi \downarrow & & \downarrow \psi_2 \\
 A' & \xleftarrow{f'} & X' & \xrightarrow{g'} & B'
 \end{array}$$

be homotopy-commutative, and let  $G_t : f'\varphi \simeq \psi_1 f$  and  $H_t : g'\varphi \simeq \psi_2 g$  be homotopies. We define  $\mathcal{H}' = C(\psi_1, \varphi, \psi_2 : G, H) : C_{f,g} \rightarrow C_{f',g'}$  by

$$\begin{aligned} \mathcal{Z}'(a) &= \phi_1(a), \mathcal{Z}'(b) = \phi_2(b), & a \in A, b \in B, \\ \mathcal{Z}'(x, s) &= \begin{cases} G_{1-3s}(x), & 0 \leq 3s \leq 1, \\ (\varphi(x), 3s-1), & 1 \leq 3s \leq 2, \\ H_{3s-2}(x), & 2 \leq 3s \leq 3, \end{cases} \end{aligned}$$

(4.6) If  $\phi_1, \varphi$  and  $\phi_2$  are homotopy equivalences, then so is  $\mathcal{Z}'$ .

Let  $A \xleftarrow{f} X \xrightarrow{g} B$  be a cotriad, and let us consider

$T'_{f,g}$  = the space obtained from  $CA \cup CCX \cup CB$  by the identifications:

$$(x, s, 1) = (f(x), s), (x, 1, t) = (g(x), t), x \in X, 0 \leq s, t \leq 1,$$

$S'_{f,g}$  = the space obtained from  $CA \cup CB$  by the identifications:

$$(f(x), 1) = (g(x), 1), x \in X.$$

Then the following sequences are obviously defined:

$$(4.7) \quad SX \xrightarrow{m'} S'_{f,g} \xrightarrow{p'} T'_{f,g} \xrightarrow{n'} S^2 X \rightarrow \dots$$

$$(4.8) \quad C_{i_1} \rightarrow S'_{f,g} \rightarrow SB \rightarrow SC_{i_1} \rightarrow \dots \text{ and } C_{i_2} \rightarrow S'_{f,g} \rightarrow SA \rightarrow SC_{i_2} \rightarrow \dots$$

$$(4.9) \quad C_f \rightarrow C_{i_2} \rightarrow T'_{f,g} \rightarrow SC_f \rightarrow \dots \text{ and } C_g \rightarrow C_{i_1} \rightarrow T'_{f,g} \rightarrow SC_g \rightarrow \dots$$

It is easy to verify

(4.10) The above sequences (4.7)-(4.9) induces exact sequences.

(4.11) Let  $A \xleftarrow{f} X \xrightarrow{g} B$  be a cotriad in which  $g$  is a cofibering. Then

- (i)  $C(f, i_2) : C_g \rightarrow C_{i_1}$  is a homotopy equivalence;
- (ii)  $T'_{f,g}$  is contractible;
- (iii)  $C(g, i_1) : C_f \rightarrow C_{i_2}$  has a left inverse.

This proposition shows that  $\pi(T'_{f,g}, K(\pi, n))$  is an analogue of cohomology groups of a triad (cf. [4], p. 204, Theorem 11.3)

### § 5. Cohomology of induced fibrations

Let  $A \xrightarrow{f} Y \xleftarrow{g} B$  be a triad in which all spaces are assumed to be path-connected. We now define

$$\mu, \Pi_1 : (E_f^- \times E_g, \Omega Y \times E_g) \rightarrow (E_{f,g}, E_g)$$

by setting

$$\begin{aligned} \mu(a, \gamma, b, \delta) &= (a, b, \gamma \cdot \delta), \\ \Pi_1(a, \gamma, b, \delta) &= (a, b_0, \gamma) \end{aligned}$$

for  $(a, \gamma, b, \delta) \in A \times E^-Y \times B \times EY$  with  $f(a) = \gamma(0)$ ,  $g(b) = \delta(1)$ .

**THEOREM 5.1.**  $(\mu^* - \Pi_1^*) \circ P_1^* : H^q(A, a_0) \rightarrow H^q(E_f^- \times E_g, \Omega Y \times E_g)$  is trivial for all  $q \geq 0$ .

*Proof.* This is clear, since we have  $P_1 \circ \mu(a, \gamma, b, \delta) = a = P_1 \circ \Pi_1(a, \gamma, b, \delta)$ .

The goal of this section is to prove

**THEOREM 5.2.** Let  $A$  be a  $r$ -connected space ( $r \geq 2$ ) with non-degenerate base-point  $a_0$  and let  $Y$  be a  $t$ -connected space ( $t \geq 2$ ) with non-degenerate base-point  $y_0$ . Suppose further that  $E_g$  is  $s$ -connected,  $s \geq 1$ . Then the sequence

$$H^q(A, a_0) \xrightarrow{P_1^*} H^q(E_{f,g}, E_g) \xrightarrow{\mu^* - \Pi_1^*} H^q(E_f^- \times E_g, \Omega Y \times E_g)$$

is exact for  $q \leq r + s + t + 2$ .

*Proof.* Given a transformation (2.1), we have  $\mu \circ (\gamma_1 \times \gamma_2) \simeq \gamma \circ \mu$ ,  $\Pi_1 \circ (\gamma_1 \times \gamma_2) = \gamma \circ \Pi_1$  and  $\phi_1 \circ P_1 = P_1 \circ \gamma$ , where  $\gamma = E(\phi_1, \varphi, \phi_2; G, H)$ ,  $\gamma_1 = E(\phi_1, \varphi, 0; G, 0)$ ,  $\gamma_2 = E(0, \varphi, \phi_2; 0, H)$ . Therefore we can assume, by Lemma 2.12, that  $f$  and  $g$  are inclusions.

Let now  $(Y; A, B)$  be a usual triad with base-point  $y_0$ . For subspaces  $K$  and  $L$  of  $Y$ , let  $E_{K,L}$  denote the space of paths  $\gamma$  in  $Y$  such that  $\gamma(0) \in K$  and  $\gamma(1) \in L$ . We shall write  $\mu$  for multiplication of paths in  $Y$ ,  $\Pi_1$  for the projection on the first factor and  $P_1, P_2$  for the maps taking, respectively, the initial and final point of paths. Let  $W = \left\{ \gamma \in E_{A,Y} \mid \gamma\left(\frac{1}{2}\right) = y_0 \right\}$ . We need the following two lemmas:

**LEMMA 5.3.** (a) There exists a neighborhood  $V_1$  of  $E_{y_0,B}$  in  $E_{A,B}$  such that  $E_{y_0,B}$  is a strong deformation retract of  $V_1$ .

(b) There exists a neighborhood  $V_2$  of  $\Omega Y$  in  $E_{A,y_0}$  such that  $\Omega Y$  is a strong deformation retract of  $V_2$ .

(c) There exists a neighborhood  $V_3$  of  $W$  in  $E_{A,Y}$  such that  $(W, W \cap (E_{A,B} \cup EY))$  is a strong deformation retract of  $(V_3, V_3 \cap (E_{A,B} \cup EY))$ .

**LEMMA 5.4.**  $(E_{A,Y}, E_{A,B} \cup EY \cup W)$  is  $(r + s + t + 3)$ -connected.

The first lemma is easily checked in a manner similar to those in [17] (cf. [15]), and the proof of the second will be postponed later.

Consider now the following commutative diagram

$$\begin{array}{ccccc}
 H^q(A, a_0) & \xrightarrow{P_1^*} & H^q(E_{A,B}, E_{y_0,B}) & \xrightarrow{\mu^* - \Pi_1^*} & H^q(E_{A,y_0} \times E_{y_0,B}, \Omega Y \times E_{y_0,B}) \\
 P_1^* \downarrow \wr & & k_1^* \uparrow \wr & & k_2^* \uparrow \wr \\
 H^q(E_{A,Y}, EY) & \xrightarrow{i^*} & H^q(E_{A,B} \cup EY, EY) & \xrightarrow{\mu^* - \Pi_1^*} & H^q(E_{A,y_0} \times E_{y_0,B} \cup \Omega Y \times EY, \Omega Y \times EY) \\
 & & \delta \downarrow & & \delta \downarrow \\
 & & H^{q+1}(E_{A,Y}, E_{A,B} \cup EY) & \xrightarrow{\mu^*} & H^{q+1}(E_{A,y_0} \times EY, E_{A,y_0} \times E_{y_0,B} \cup \Omega Y \times EY) \\
 & & \parallel & & \mu^* \uparrow \wr \\
 H^{q+1}(E_{A,Y}; E_{A,B} \cup EY, W) & \rightarrow & H^{q+1}(E_{A,Y}, E_{A,B} \cup EY) & \xrightarrow{j^*} & H^{q+1}(W, W \cap (E_{A,B} \cup EY)),
 \end{array}$$

in which  $\delta$  are coboundary homomorphisms,  $i, j, k_1, k_2$  are appropriate inclusions and  $\mu$  at the right lower corner is a homeomorphism. Since the vertical  $P_1$  is a homotopy equivalence,  $P_1^*$  is an isomorphism onto. By Lemma 5.3 and Theorem 11.3 of Eilenberg-Steenrod [4],  $k_1^*$  and  $k_2^*$  are excision isomorphisms, and moreover we see from Lemma 5.4 that

$$H^{q+1}(E_{A,Y}; E_{A,B} \cup EY, W) \approx H^{q+1}(E_{A,Y}, E_{A,B} \cup EY \cup W) = 0$$

for  $q \leq r + s + t + 2$ .

We next remark that the bottom line is a triadic cohomology sequence of a triad  $(E_{A,Y}; E_{A,B} \cup EY, W)$  and hence exact. Take any element  $x \in H^q(E_{A,B}, E_{y_0,B})$  such that  $(\mu^* - \Pi_1^*)(x) = 0$  for  $q \leq r + s + t + 2$ ; then  $j^* \delta k_1^{*-1}(x) = 0$ . Since  $j^*$  is a monomorphism, there exists a  $y \in H^q(A, a_0)$  such that  $k_1^{*-1}(x) = i^* P_1^*(y)$ , noting that  $\text{Ker } \delta = \text{Im } i^*$ . Thus  $x = P_1^*(y)$  which completes the proof of Theorem 5.2.

Suppose now that there is given a triad  $A \xrightarrow{f} Y \xleftarrow{g} B$  such that  $g$  is a fibering with fibre  $F$ . We denote by  $\lambda : Z_g \rightarrow B$  a lifting function for  $g$  (see [12], p. 113). We define

$$\tilde{\mu}, \tilde{\Pi}_1 : (E_f^- \times F, \Omega Y \times F) \rightarrow (\text{Ker}(f : g), F)$$

by  $\tilde{\mu}(a, \gamma, b) = (a, \lambda(b, \gamma))$ ,  $\tilde{\Pi}_1(a, \gamma, b) = (a, \lambda(b_0, \gamma))$  for  $a \in A, \gamma \in E^- Y, b \in B$  with  $f(a) = \gamma(0), g(b) = y_0$ . In view of Theorem 1.4 we see that these maps correspond to  $\mu, \Pi_1$  in Theorem 5.2. Thus we conclude

**THEOREM 5.5.** *Let  $(f : g)$  be as above. Suppose further that  $A, F, Y$  are respectively  $r, s, t$ -connected,  $r \geq 2, s \geq 1, t \geq 2$ , and that  $A$  and  $Y$  have non-degenerate base-points. Then the sequence*

$$H^q(A, a_0) \xrightarrow{\pi_1^*} H^q(\text{Ker}(f : g), F) \xrightarrow{\tilde{\mu}^* - \tilde{\Pi}_1^*} H^q(E_{\tilde{f}} \times F, \Omega Y \times F)$$

is exact for  $q \leq r + s + t + 2$ .

In case  $s = t - 1$ , it seems likely that the above theorem gives a geometric version to a part of an exact sequence obtained by E. H. Brown ([2], p. 240).

Finally, we shall give a proof of Lemma 5.4.

*Proof of Lemma 5.4.* Since  $P_1 \times P_2$  are both fibre maps in the diagram

$$\begin{array}{ccc} \cdots \rightarrow \pi_i(W, W \cap (E_{A,B} \cup EY)) & \xrightarrow{j^*} & \pi_i(E_{A,Y}, E_{A,B} \cup EY) \rightarrow \cdots \\ & \searrow (P_1 \times P_2)_* & \swarrow (P_1 \times P_2)_* \\ & \pi_i(A \times Y, A \times B \cup y_0 \times Y) & \end{array}$$

exactness of the horizontal line implies  $\pi_i(E_{A,Y}; E_{A,B} \cup EY, W) = 0$  for  $i \geq 2$ . Hence, by considering the homotopy sequence of a tetrad  $(E_{A,Y}; E_{A,B} \cup EY \cup W, E_{A,B} \cup EY, W)$ , we have

$$\begin{aligned} \pi_{i+1}(E_{A,Y}, E_{A,B} \cup EY \cup W) &\approx \pi_{i+1}(E_{A,Y}; E_{A,B} \cup EY \cup W, E_{A,B} \cup EY, W) \\ &\approx \pi_i(E_{A,B} \cup EY \cup W; E_{A,B} \cup EY, W) \end{aligned}$$

for  $i \geq 2$ . But it follows from the Künneth theorem that

$$\pi_i(W, W \cap (E_{A,B} \cup EY)) \approx \pi_i(A \times Y, A \times B \cup y_0 \times Y) = 0$$

for  $i \leq r + s + 2$ , since  $(A, y_0)$  is  $r$ -connected and  $E_{y_0,B} = E_g$  is  $s$ -connected. On the other hand  $\pi_i(E_{A,B} \cup EY, W \cap (E_{A,B} \cup EY)) \approx \pi_i(E_{A,Y}, W)$  and, moreover, we see that  $\gamma \rightarrow \gamma \cdot e_y, y = \gamma(1)$ , yields a homotopy equivalence  $((E_{A,Y}, E_{A,y_0}) \rightarrow (E_{A,Y}, W))$ . Therefore it follows from  $(P_2)_* : \pi_i(E_{A,Y}, E_{A,y_0}) \approx \pi_i(Y, y_0)$  that  $(E_{A,B} \cup EY, W \cap (E_{A,B} \cup EY))$  is  $t$ -connected. Applying the Blakers-Massey theorem [1], we have that  $(E_{A,B} \cup EY \cup W; E_{A,B} \cup EY, W)$  is  $(r + s + t + 2)$ -connected and hence

$$(5.6) \quad \pi_i(E_{A,Y}, E_{A,B} \cup EY \cup W) = 0 \quad \text{for } 3 \leq i \leq r + s + t + 3.$$

Consider now the exact sequence

$$\begin{aligned} \pi_2(E_{A,Y}) \rightarrow \pi_2(E_{A,Y}, E_{A,B} \cup EY \cup W) \rightarrow \pi_1(E_{A,B} \cup EY \cup W) \rightarrow \pi_1(E_{A,Y}) \\ \rightarrow \pi_1(E_{A,Y}, E_{A,B} \cup EY \cup W) \rightarrow 0, \end{aligned}$$

where  $\pi_i(E_{A,Y}) \approx \pi_i(E_{A,Y}, EY) \approx \pi_i(A) = 0$  for  $i \leq 2$ . Upon noticing that  $\pi_1(W) \approx \pi_1(E_{A,y_0}) \approx \pi_2(Y, A) = 0$  and  $\pi_1(E_{A,B}) \approx \pi_1(E_{A,B}, E_{y_0,B}) \approx \pi_1(A) = 0$ , it



follows from van Kampen's theorem [13] that  $\pi_1(E_{A,B} \cup EY \cup W) = 0$ . Hence  $\pi_i(E_{A,Y}, E_{A,B} \cup EY \cup W) = 0$  for  $i = 1, 2$ . Combining this with (5.6), we obtain the desired conclusion.

§ 6. Realizability of Whitehead products

In this section we shall state a result which is dual to a theorem of I. M. James [8] as an application of Theorem 5.2. See also [6, 7, 11, 18].

Let  $f : X \rightarrow Y$  be a map in which  $Y$  possesses a non-degenerate base-point.  $\hat{\psi} : Z_f \rightarrow X$  denote the homotopy equivalence given by  $\hat{\psi}(x, \beta) = x, x \in X, \beta \in Y^I, f(x) = \beta(1)$ . We set  $Pf = \mathcal{P} \upharpoonright E_f$ . Let  $l : (E^-Y, \mathcal{Q}Y) \rightarrow (Z_f, E_f)$  be the inclusion,  $l(\beta) = (x_0, \beta)$ , and let  $P : (Z_f, E_f) \rightarrow (X, y_0)$  denote the map defined by  $P(x, \beta) = \beta(0)$

There is defined the path-multiplication  $\mu : E^-Y \times EY \rightarrow Y^I$  in an obvious manner. This induces maps  $E^-Y \times E_f \rightarrow Z_f$  and  $\mathcal{Q}Y \times E_f \rightarrow E_f$  which are denoted by the same letter  $\mu$ . In what follows, we use  $\pi_1, \pi_2$  to denote projections on the first and the second factors respectively.

We have then the following commutative diagram

$$\begin{array}{ccccccc}
 & & & & H^{q-1}(E_f) & & \\
 & & & & \uparrow i_2^* & \swarrow i_3^* & \\
 & & & & H^q(E^-Y \times E_f, \mathcal{Q}Y \times E_f) & \xleftarrow{\delta} & H^{q-1}(\mathcal{Q}Y \times E_f) & \xleftarrow{i_1^*} & H^{q-1}(E^-Y \times E_f) \\
 & & & & \uparrow \bar{\nu} & & \uparrow \nu & & \\
 H^q(E_f) & \xleftarrow{i^*} & H^q(Z_f) & \xleftarrow{j^*} & H^q(Z_f, E_f) & \xleftarrow{\delta} & H^{q-1}(E_f) \\
 (Pf)^* & \swarrow & \uparrow \hat{\psi}^* & & \uparrow P^* & & \\
 & & H^q(X) & \xleftarrow{f^*} & H^q(Y) & & 
 \end{array}$$

where  $\bar{\nu} = \mu^* - \pi_1^* l^*, \nu = \mu^* - \pi_2^* - \pi_1^*(If)^*, \delta$  are coboundary homomorphisms, and  $i, j, i_1, i_2, i_3$  are appropriate injections.

THEOREM 6.1. (a)  $\bar{\nu} \circ P^* = 0$ .

(b) If  $Y$  and  $E_f$  are respectively  $r$ - and  $s$ -connected,  $r \geq 2, s \geq 1$ , then  $P^* : H^q(Y) \rightarrow H^q(Z_f, E_f)$  is a monomorphism for  $q \leq r + s + 2$  and the sequence

$$H^q(Y) \xrightarrow{P^*} H^q(Z_f, E_f) \xrightarrow{\bar{\nu}} H^q(E^-Y \times E_f, \mathcal{Q}Y \times E_f)$$

is exact for  $q \leq 2r + s + 2$ .

(c)  $\delta$  is monomorphic on  $\text{Ker } i_2^*$  and  $\text{Im } \nu \subset \text{Ker } i_2^*$ .

The first half of (b) follows from Serre’s theorem since  $P$  is a fibre map with fibre  $E_f$ . (a) and (b) are obtained by applying Theorems 5.1 and 5.2 to a triad  $Y \xrightarrow{1} Y \xleftarrow{f} X$ . (c) is an immediate consequence of the fact that  $i_3^*$  is an isomorphism.

In the sequel assume that all spaces considered have the same homotopy type of a CW-complex. To simplify the notation we do not distinguish between a map and the homotopy class or the cohomology class it represents.

Now we shall take  $\theta : K(\pi, n) \rightarrow K(\pi', n' + 1)$  instead of  $f : X \rightarrow Y$  in the foregoing consideration, where  $2 \leq n < n'$ , and consider  $\phi : E_\theta \rightarrow K(G, n + n')$ . Let  $W$  denote the Whitehead product pairing  $\pi' \otimes \pi \rightarrow G$  in  $E_\theta$ . We call  $E_\theta$  a space of type  $(W, \theta)$ . Let  $\iota \in H^n(\pi, n; \pi)$ ,  $\iota' \in H^{n'+1}(\pi', n' + 1; \pi')$  be basic classes respectively. In these situations it is proven that

LEMMA 6.2. (Meyer [10] and Peterson-Stein [14])  $\nu(\phi) = \pi_1^*(\iota') \cup \pi_2^*(P\theta)^*(\iota)$ , where  $\iota'$  denotes the suspension of  $\iota'$  and the cup-product is with respect to  $W$ .

The proof of our result stated in the introduction is based on the following theorem.

THEOREM 6.3.  $\delta(\phi) = P^*(\iota') \cup \hat{\Psi}^*(\iota) + P^*(\rho)$  for unique  $\rho \in H^{n+n'+1}(\pi', n' + 1; G)$ , where the cup-product is relative to  $W$ .

*Proof.* For convenience we consider the projection  $p_2 : E^-Y \times E_\theta \rightarrow E_\theta$  and the injection  $k : \Omega Y \times E_\theta \rightarrow E^-Y \times E_\theta$ , and let  $p : (E^-Y, \Omega Y) \rightarrow (Y, y_0)$  be the fibre map given by  $p(\beta) = \beta(0)$ .  $l_0 : E^-Y \rightarrow Z_0$  denotes the map determined by  $l$ . Since  $l_0^* \hat{\Psi}^*(\iota) = 0$ , we have  $\pi_1^* l^* [P^*(\iota') \cup \hat{\Psi}^*(\iota)] = 0$ . Further,

$$\begin{aligned} \bar{\nu} \delta(\phi) &= \delta \nu(\phi) = \delta [\pi_1^*(\iota') \cup \pi_2^*(P\theta)^*(\iota)] && \text{by Lemma 6.2,} \\ &= \delta [\pi_1^*(\iota') \cup k^* p_2^*(P\theta)^*(\iota)] \\ &= \delta \pi_1^*(\iota') \cup p_2^*(P\theta)^*(\iota) && \text{by [16], (3.2),} \\ &= \pi_1^* \delta(\iota') \cup \pi_2^* \hat{\Psi}^*(\iota), && \text{since } i \circ p_2 = \pi_2, \\ &= \pi_1^* p^*(\iota') \cup \pi_2^* \hat{\Psi}^*(\iota) \\ &= \pi_1^* l^* P^*(\iota') \cup \pi_2^* \hat{\Psi}^*(\iota) \\ &= \mu^* P^*(\iota') \cup \mu^* \hat{\Psi}^*(\iota) && \text{by Theorem 6.1 (a),} \\ &= \mu^* [P^*(\iota') \cup \hat{\Psi}^*(\iota)]. \end{aligned}$$

This calculation leads to  $\bar{\nu}[\delta(\phi) - P^*(\iota') \cup \hat{\Psi}^*(\iota)] = 0$ . Hence, by Theorem 6.1 (b), we see that there exists a unique  $\rho \in H^{n+n'+1}(\pi', n'+1; G)$  with the desired property.

**THEOREM 6.4.** *Let  $\theta : K(\pi, n) \rightarrow K(\pi', n'+1)$ , where  $2 \leq n < n'$ , and let  $\tilde{W} : \pi' \otimes \pi \rightarrow G$  be a given homomorphism. Let  $\theta \cup \iota$  denote the cup-product of  $\theta$  and the basic class of  $K(\pi, n)$  relative to  $\tilde{W}$ . Then there exists a space of type  $(\tilde{W}, \theta)$  if, and only if,  $\theta \cup \iota$  is contained in the image of the homomorphism*

$$\theta^* : H^{n+n'+1}(\pi', n'+1; G) \rightarrow H^{n+n'+1}(\pi, n; G).$$

*Proof.* Applying  $(\hat{\Psi}^*)^{-1}j^*$  to the formula in Theorem 6.3, we obtain  $0 = \theta^*(\iota') \cup \iota + \theta^*(\rho)$ , i.e.,  $\theta \cup \iota = -\theta^*(\rho)$ , which proves the “only if” part. Conversely, suppose there exists  $\rho \in H^{n+n'+1}(\pi', n'+1; G)$  such that  $-\theta^*(\rho) = \theta \cup \iota \text{ rel } \tilde{W}$ . Here “rel  $\tilde{W}$ ” indicates that the cup-product is to be taken relative to  $\tilde{W}$ . This shows that  $P^*(\iota') \cup \hat{\Psi}^*(\iota) \text{ rel } \tilde{W} + P^*(\rho)$  lies in the kernel of  $j^*$ , so that, by exactness of the cohomology sequence of the pair  $(Z_0, E_0)$ , there is  $\phi \in H^{n+n'}(E_0)$  such that  $\delta(\phi) = P^*(\iota') \cup \hat{\Psi}^*(\iota) \text{ rel } \tilde{W} + P^*(\rho)$ . We shall show that the space  $E_\delta$  is of type  $(\tilde{W}, \theta)$ . Let  $W$  denote the Whitehead product pairing in  $E_\delta$ . Now

$$\begin{aligned} &\delta[\pi_1^*(\iota') \cup \pi_2^*(P\theta)^*(\iota) \text{ rel } \tilde{W}] \\ &= \bar{\nu}[P^*(\iota') \cup \hat{\Psi}^*(\iota) \text{ rel } \tilde{W}] \quad \text{from the proof of Th. 6.3,} \\ &= \bar{\nu}\delta(\phi) = \delta\nu(\phi) \quad \text{by Theorem 6.1, (a),} \\ &= \delta[\pi_1^*(\iota') \cup \pi_2^*(P\theta)^*(\iota) \text{ rel } W] \quad \text{by Lemma 6.2.} \end{aligned}$$

Therefore, Theorem 6.1, (c), implies  $\pi_1^*(\iota') \cup \pi_2^*(P\theta)^*(\iota) \text{ rel } \tilde{W} = \pi_1^*(\iota') \cup \pi_2^*(P\theta)^*(\iota) \text{ rel } W$ . This means that  $\tilde{W} = W$ .

**COROLLARY 6.5.** *There always exists a space of type  $(W, 0)$ .*

**COROLLARY 6.6.** *Under the same notation as in Theorem 6.3, we have  $(I\theta)^*(\phi) = {}^1\rho$ .*

This is deduced by applying  $\delta^{-1}I^*$  to the formula in Theorem 6.3, where  $\delta : H^{n+n'}(\pi', n'; G) \simeq H^{n+n'+1}(E^-K(\pi', n'+1), \Omega K(\pi', n'+1); G)$ .

**COROLLARY 6.7.** *Let  $\theta : K(\pi, n) \rightarrow K(\pi', 2n)$ ,  $n \geq 2$ , and let  $W_1, W_2$  be, respectively, given pairings  $\pi \otimes \pi \rightarrow \pi'$ ,  $\pi' \otimes \pi \rightarrow G$ . Then there exists a space whose first invariant is  $\theta$  and whose Whitehead product pairings are just  $W_1$  and  $W_2$ , if, and only if,  $(\mu^* - \pi_1^* - \pi_2^*)(\theta) = \pi_1^*(\iota) \cup \pi_2^*(\iota) \text{ rel } W_1$  and  $\theta \cup \iota$*

rel  $W_2 \in \theta^* H^{3n}(\pi', 2n; G)$ , where  $\mu : K(\pi, n) \times K(\pi, n) \rightarrow K(\pi, n)$  is the  $H$ -structure map.

This follows from a result proved by Copeland [3].

**COROLLARY 6.8.** *If  $\text{cat } K(\pi, n) \leq 2$ , then there always exists a space of type  $(W, \theta)$ .*

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