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On non-linear cell bundles

By MORRIS W. HIRSCH*

A useful property of the orthogonal group $O(n)$ is that it leaves invariant the unit ball and unit sphere of R^n . Consequently one may pass freely from R^n bundles to D^n and S^{n-1} bundles. This convenient coincidence does not occur in the topological category $\mathcal{T}$, or in the piecewise linear (PL) category $\mathcal{P}$. William Browder showed [1] that some R^n bundles do not contain any D^n subbundles. The purpose of this paper is to prove that stably the situation is better. The following result is proved, valid in both $\mathcal{T}$ and $\mathcal{P}$.

THEOREM A. *Let B be a polyhedron.*

(a) *Let ξ be an R^n bundle over B , and ε^1 the trivial R^1 bundle. Then there exists a D^{n+1} bundle η such that $\xi \oplus \varepsilon^1 = \text{int } \eta$.*

(b) *Let η_0 and η_1 be D^n bundles over B , and δ^1 the trivial D^1 bundle. If $\text{int } \eta_0 \sim \text{int } \eta_1$, then $\eta_0 \oplus \delta^1 \sim \eta_1 \oplus \delta^1$.*

Part (a) in the category $\mathcal{T}$ is due to Barry Mazur (unpublished).

In the proof of Theorem A the following result is needed.

THEOREM B. *Let ξ be an R^n bundle over B . There exists an S^n bundle $\zeta = (p, E, B)$ with a section $f: B \rightarrow E$ such that $\xi = (p|E - f(B), E - f(B), B)$. Moreover the pair (ζ, f) is unique up to isomorphism.*

All definitions and lemmas will apply to both $\mathcal{P}$ and $\mathcal{T}$ unless the contrary is explicitly indicated.

Outline of the proof of Theorem A

Let KY be the functor assigning to B the set of isomorphism classes of Y bundles over B . Let K_0Y assign the set of isomorphism classes of bundles-plus-sections.

It will be proved that the natural transformation $\text{COMP}: K_0S^n \rightarrow KR^n$, arising from an identification $R^n = S^n - x_0$, is an isomorphism. The commutativity of the

MAIN DIAGRAM:

$$\begin{array}{ccc}
 KD^n & \xrightarrow{\text{INT}} & KR^n \\
 \downarrow \oplus \delta^1 & \nearrow \approx \text{COMP} & \downarrow \oplus \varepsilon^1 \\
 & K_0S^n & \\
 \swarrow \text{CYL} & & \searrow \\
 KD^{n+1} & \xrightarrow{\text{INT}} & KR^{n+1}
 \end{array}$$

* The author is a Sloan Fellow.

will be established, where CYL is defined (intuitively) by assigning to an S^n bundle its mapping cylinder. Part (a) of Theorem A follows from commutativity in the lower quadrilateral, and (b) from the upper.

Bundles with semi-simplicial structural groups

Let $G = \{G_k\}$ be a semi-simplicial (s.s.) group of homeomorphisms of a space Y . That is, each element of G_k is a homeomorphism $f: \Delta_f \times Y \rightarrow \Delta_k \times Y$ of the form $f(x, y) = (x, f_x(y))$. Call such a map a Y twist. Here Δ_k is the standard k simplex. If $\lambda: \Delta_j \rightarrow \Delta_k$ is a simplicial map, the corresponding s.s. operator $\lambda: G_k \rightarrow G_j$ is defined by setting

$$(\lambda f)_x = f_{\lambda(x)}.$$

Let $p: E \rightarrow B$ be a map. A Y trivialization of $\xi = (p, E, B)$ is a homeomorphism $h: E \rightarrow B \times Y$ that makes the diagram

$$\begin{array}{ccc} E & \xrightarrow{h} & B \times Y \\ & \searrow p \quad \swarrow p_1 & \\ & B & \end{array}$$

commute. (Projection on the first factor is always denoted by p_1 .) Given this trivialization and a map $f: B' \rightarrow B$, the induced trivialization $f^*h = h'$ of the induced map $f^*\xi = (p', E', B')$ is defined like this. Put

$$E' = \{(x, y) \in B' \times E \mid f(x) = p(y)\},$$

and $p'(x, y) = x$. Then $h': E' \rightarrow B' \times Y$ is given by $h'(x, y) = (x, h(y))$.

A local Y trivialization of a map (p, E, B) is a pair (U, h) where h is a Y trivialization of $(p|_{p^{-1}U}, U)$, and $U \subset B$ is open. A Y atlas for (p, E, B) is a family $\{(U_i, h_i)\}$ of local Y trivializations such that $B = \bigcup U_i$. If a Y atlas exists, then (p, E, B) is called a Y bundle.

The trivial Y bundle over B is $(p_1, B \times Y, B)$.

In order to deal with polyhedra rather than simplicial complexes, we shall consider only s.s. groups of homeomorphisms of Y having the following property. If $f: \Delta_k \times Y \rightarrow \Delta_k \times Y$ is in the group, and $g: \Delta_j \rightarrow \Delta_k$ is a PL map, then $g^*f: \Delta_j \times Y \rightarrow \Delta_j \times Y$ is also in the group, where $(g^*f)_x = f_{g(x)}$.

Suppose B is a polyhedron, $\xi = (p, E, B)$ a Y bundle, and $G = \{G_k\}$ an s.s. group of homeomorphisms of Y . A G structure on ξ is an atlas $\Phi = \{(U_i, h_i)\}_{i \in A}$ for ξ having the following property, and maximal in this property: for each $i, j \in A$, there is an ordered triangulation T of the polyhedron $U_i \cap U_j$ such that, if $t: \Delta_k \rightarrow U_i \cap U_j$ is an ordered simplex of T , then the following twist belongs to G_k :

$$(t^*h_i) \cdot (t^*h_j)^{-1}: \Delta_k \times Y \longrightarrow \Delta_k \times Y.$$

Here t^*h_i is the trivialization of the bundle $t^*(\xi|U_i)$ over Δ_k induced from h_i by $t: \Delta_k \rightarrow U_i$. The pair (ξ, Φ) is called a (G, Y) bundle.

It is clear that if $\Phi = \{(U_i, h_i)\}$ is a G structure for ξ , and if $f: B' \rightarrow B$ is a PL map, then the G atlas $f^*\Phi = \{(f^{-1}U_i, f^*h_i)\}$ is contained in a unique G structure for $f^*\xi$. Therefore if ξ denotes a (G, Y) bundle, then $f^*\xi$ has a well defined G structure; thus $f^*\xi$ will also denote a (G, Y) bundle.

If (ξ, Φ) and (ξ', Φ') are (G, Y) bundles over B , an *isomorphism* $g: \xi \rightarrow \xi'$ is a homeomorphism $g: E_\xi \rightarrow E_{\xi'}$ covering 1_B such that if $(U, h) \in \Phi'$, then $(U, hg) \in \Phi$. If such an isomorphism exists, we write $\xi \sim \xi'$.

The *covering homotopy theorem* is true in the sense that if $f_0, f_1: B' \rightarrow B$ are homotopic PL maps, and ξ is a (G, Y) bundle over B , then $f_0^*\xi \sim f_1^*\xi$. (See [3].)

The s.s. group of all Y twists (in the proper category $\mathcal{P}$ or $\mathcal{T}$) is denoted by $G(Y)$. A $(G(Y), Y)$ bundle is the same thing as a Y bundle over a polyhedron. Let $K(G, Y)$ denote the contravariant functor (from $\mathcal{P}$ to sets) that assigns to the polyhedron B the set of isomorphism classes of (G, Y) bundles over B . Put $K(G(Y), Y) = KY$. If Y is endowed with a base point y_0 , let $G(Y, y_0)$ denote the s.s. subgroup of $G(Y)$ whose k simplices are the twists $\Delta_k \times Y \rightarrow \Delta_k \times Y$ leaving $\Delta_k \times y_0$ fixed. Put $K(G(Y, y_0), Y) = K_0Y$.

Semi-simplicial fibrations

If $A \subset Y$ is a subspace, let $G(Y, A)$ denote the subgroup of $G(Y)$ leaving A invariant. (That is, $G_k(Y, A)$ consists of those twists carrying $\Delta_k \times A$ onto itself.) Put $K(G(Y, A), Y) = K(Y, A)$. If G is any subgroup of $G(Y, A)$, there is defined the restriction homomorphism $G \rightarrow G(A)$ and $G \rightarrow G(Y - A)$, and the inclusion homomorphism $G \rightarrow G(Y)$. Each (G, Y) bundle has associated to it a natural A subbundle; there is defined a morphism $K(G, Y) \rightarrow KA$. Examples of these morphisms are:

- ∂ : $KD^n \rightarrow KS^{n-1}$, where $S^{n-1} = \partial D^n$;
- INT: $KD^n \rightarrow KR^n$, where $R^n = \text{int } D^n$;
- COMP: $K_0S^n \rightarrow KR^n$, where $R^n = S^n - x_0$.

[These morphisms are special cases of the following general fact.

LEMMA 1. *Let G and H be s.s. groups of homeomorphisms of spaces Y and Z respectively. An s.s. homomorphism $\varphi: G \rightarrow H$ induces a morphism $\varphi_*: K(G, Y) \rightarrow K(H, Z)$. If φ induces isomorphisms of homotopy groups, then φ_* is an isomorphism.*

PROOF. This theorem is a semi-simplicial analogue of a well known fact

about topological transformations groups. It may be proved directly through a simplex-by-simplex approach (compare [2]), or classifying spaces can be used, as in [3].

Let D^n denote a topological or PL closed n cell.

LEMMA 2. *Let $0 \in \text{int } D^n$. The inclusion homomorphism $i: \mathbf{G}(D^n, 0) \rightarrow \mathbf{G}(D^n)$ is a homotopy equivalence. Therefore the induced morphism $i_* K_0 D^n \rightarrow K D^n$ is an isomorphism.*

PROOF. Let $\mathbf{S}(\text{int } D^n)$ denote the singular complex of $\text{int } D^n$ (using PL singular simplices for the category $\mathcal{P}$). Define an s.s. map $e: \mathbf{G}(D^n) \rightarrow \mathbf{S}(\text{int } D^n)$ as follows. Given $f \in G_k(D^n)$, define $e(f): \Delta_k \rightarrow \text{int } D^n$ by $e(f)(x) = f_x(0)$. Since e is constant on each coset of $\mathbf{G}(D^n, 0)$, there is induced a map

$$\tilde{e}: \mathbf{G}(D^n)/\mathbf{G}(D^n, 0) \longrightarrow \mathbf{S}(\text{int } D^n).$$

It is easy to see that $\tilde{e}$ is injective; we shall show that e , and hence $\tilde{e}$, is surjective.

In the category $\mathcal{T}$ this is quite easy. Consider D^n as the unit ball in R^n . Given $x \in \text{int } D^n$, let $g^x: D^n \rightarrow D^n$ be the homeomorphism taking 0 to x , and mapping each segment $0z$ linearly onto xz for each $z \in \partial D^n$. Given $u: \Delta_k \rightarrow \text{int } D^n$ in $S_k(\text{int } D^n)$, define $v: \Delta_k \times D^n \rightarrow \Delta_k \times Y$ by $v_x = g^{u(x)}$. Since $e(v) = u$, this proves that $\tilde{e}$ is surjective.

Surjectivity in the PL case follows from Hudson [4]; alternatively, the proof just given for $\mathcal{T}$ can be adapted.

We have proved that $\tilde{e}: \mathbf{G}(D^n)/\mathbf{G}(D^n, 0) \rightarrow \mathbf{S}(\text{int } D^n)$ is an isomorphism of s.s. complexes. The projection $\mathbf{G}(D^n) \rightarrow \mathbf{G}(D^n)/\mathbf{G}(D^n, 0)$ is an s.s. fibration. Since $\mathbf{S}(\text{int } D^n)$ is contractible, the lemma follows.

Let A and B be subspaces of Y . Let $\mathbf{G}_A(Y) \subset \mathbf{G}(Y)$ and $\mathbf{G}_A(Y, B) \subset \mathbf{G}(Y, B)$ be the s.s. subgroups leaving A (pointwise) fixed. Let $r: \mathbf{G}(Y, A) \rightarrow \mathbf{G}(A)$ denote the restriction homomorphism. Let $\text{bdry } A$ denote the boundary of A in Y .

LEMMA 3. *Suppose that $\text{bdry } A$ is invariant under every homeomorphism of A , and has a collar neighborhood in $Y - \text{int } A$. Then the sequence*

$$\mathbf{G}_A(Y) \xrightarrow{i} \mathbf{G}(Y, A) \xrightarrow{r} \mathbf{G}(A)$$

is an s.s. fibration.

PROOF. Let $C = \text{image of } \mathbf{G}(Y, A) \text{ in } \mathbf{G}(A) \text{ under } r$. It is easy to see that r induces an isomorphism $\mathbf{G}(Y, A)/\mathbf{G}_A(Y) \rightarrow C$. Therefore it suffices to prove that C is the union of arc components of $\mathbf{G}(A)$. It must be proved that if $f \in G_k(A)$ has a vertex in C , then $f \in C$. In other words, given a twist $f: \Delta_k \times A \rightarrow \Delta_k \times A$ such that $f|_{\Delta_0 \times A}$ extends to a homeomorphism of $\Delta_0 \times Y$, then f extends to a twist $g: \Delta_k \times Y \rightarrow \Delta_k \times Y$. Put $A' = \text{bdry } A$, and

let $\theta: A' \times [0, 2] \rightarrow Y - \text{int } A$ be a collaring, that is, an embedding such that $\theta(a, 0) = a$. Let $\Delta_0 = z \in \Delta_k$, and let $f_z: A \rightarrow A$ extend to a homeomorphism $F: Y \rightarrow Y$. Let $\varphi: \Delta_k \times I \rightarrow \Delta_k$ be a strong deformation retraction to z . Now define $g: \Delta_k \times \theta(A' \times [0, 1]) \rightarrow \Delta_k \times \theta(A' \times [0, 1])$ by:

$$g(x, \theta(a, t)) = (x, \theta(f_{\varphi(x, t)}(a), t)) .$$

Since A' is invariant under $f_{\varphi(x, t)}$, clearly g belongs to $G_k(\theta(A' \times [0, 1])$ and leaves invariant $\Delta_k \times \theta(A' \times 0)$ and $\Delta_k \times \theta(A' \times 1)$. Moreover, on $\Delta_k \times \theta(A' \times 0)$, g reduces to f , while on $\Delta_k \times \theta(A' \times 1)$, g is given by

$$g(x, \theta(a, 1)) = (x, \theta(F(a), 1)) .$$

Let $\psi_0: A' \times [1, 2] \rightarrow A' \times [0, 2]$ be the homeomorphism taking each segment $a \times [1, 2]$ linearly onto $a \times [0, 2]$, preserving orientation. Define

$$\psi_1 = \theta\psi_0\theta^{-1}: \theta(A' \times [1, 2]) \longrightarrow \theta(A' \times [0, 2]) .$$

Extend ψ_1 to a homeomorphism $\psi: Y - \theta(A' \times [0, 1]) \rightarrow Y$ by making ψ the identity on $Y - \theta(A' \times [0, 2])$. Now extend g over $\Delta_k \times (Y - \theta(A' \times [0, 1]))$ by $g = 1 \times \psi F \psi^{-1}$. This completes the proof of Lemma 3.

COROLLARY 4. *Suppose that Y is a manifold such that*

(a) *the restriction $r: \mathbf{G}(Y) \rightarrow \mathbf{G}(\partial Y)$ is surjective;*

and

(b) *$G_{\partial Y}(Y)$ is contractible.*

Then $r: \mathbf{G}(Y) \rightarrow \mathbf{G}(\partial Y)$ is a homotopy equivalence. Therefore the morphism $r_: KY \rightarrow K\partial Y$ is bijective.*

Cones

For any space Y , let CY denote the cone on Y . That is, CY is obtained from $Y \times I$ by collapsing $Y \times 1$ to a point. If Y is a compact polyhedron embedded in R^k , then CY is the join of Y with a point of $R^{k+1} - R^k$; thus CY is also a compact polyhedron.

Our next objective is to define a morphism $\text{CYL}: KY \rightarrow KCY$ which assigns to the Y bundle $\xi = (p, E, B)$ the CY bundle whose total space is the mapping cylinder $M(p)$ and whose projection is the natural map $M(p) \rightarrow B$. In the topological category the definition just given is sufficient; it is easy to see that the isomorphism class of $\text{CYL}(\xi)$ depends only on that of ξ . In fact, given an isomorphism $f: E \rightarrow E'$ of Y bundles $\xi = (p, E, B)$ and $\xi' = (p', E', B)$, there is an obvious extension of f to a homeomorphism $M(p) \rightarrow M(p')$ which is an isomorphism $\text{CYL}(\xi) \rightarrow \text{CYL}(\xi')$ of CY bundles. If ξ and ξ' are PL bundles, however, g may fail to be PL, as simple examples illustrate. For this reason, CYL must be defined more carefully for the PL category.

Identify Y with a subspace of CY in the natural way.

LEMMA 5. *Let Y be compact. Then the restriction homomorphism $r: G(CY, Y) \rightarrow G(Y)$ is a homotopy equivalence.*

PROOF. Lemma 3 will be used, with (Y, A) of Lemma 2 replaced by the present (CY, Y) . It must be shown that

(i) $G_r(CY)$ is contractible,

and

(ii) $r: G(CY, Y) \rightarrow G(Y)$ is surjective.

The identification

(iii) $CP \times CQ = C((CP \times Q) \cup (P \times CQ))$ will be used.

To prove (ii), assume inductively that $r_i: G_i(CY, Y) \rightarrow G_i(Y)$ is surjective for $i < k$; it must be proved that r_k is then surjective. Given $f: \Delta_k \times Y \rightarrow \Delta_k \times Y$ in $G_k(Y)$, an extension of f to a CY twist $g: \Delta_k \times CY \rightarrow \Delta_k \times CY$ must be found. We may assume that g is already defined over Δ_k , by the inductive assumption. That is, we assume a homeomorphism h of $\Delta_k \times CY$ which extends $f|_{\partial\Delta_k}$, and which commutes with projection on $\partial\Delta_k$. Now $\Delta_k = C(\partial\Delta_k)$. Therefore, by (iii), we have

(iv) $\Delta_k \times CY = C((\Delta_k \times Y) \cup (\partial\Delta_k \times CY))$.

The homeomorphism $f \cup h$ is defined on $(\Delta_k \times Y) \cup (\partial\Delta_k \times CY)$; the cone on $f \cup h$ is a homeomorphism of $\Delta_k \times CY$ which extends $f \cup h$. The identification (iv) has the property that projection on Δ_k is preserved by $C(f \cup h)$. Since the cone on a PL map is again PL, (ii) is proved for $\mathcal{P}$ as well as $\mathcal{T}$.

To prove (i), suppose a k simplex σ of $G_r(CY)$ is given whose boundary is at the identity $1 \in G_r(CY)$. We must find a homotopy of σ to 1 rel $\partial\sigma$. Passing to homeomorphisms, we are given a twist

$$f: \Delta_k \times CY \longrightarrow \Delta_k \times CY$$

such that $f|_{\Delta_k \times Y} = 1$, and $f|_{\partial\Delta_k \times CY} = 1$. We must define

$$F: \Delta_k \times CY \times I \longrightarrow \Delta_k \times CY \times I$$

which preserves projection on $\Delta_k \times I$, such that

$$F = 1 \quad \text{on } (\Delta_k \times Y \times I) \cup (\partial\Delta_k \times CY \times I) \cup (\Delta_k \times CY \times 1)$$

and

$$F = f \quad \text{on } \Delta_k \times CY \times 0.$$

Thus we are given a homeomorphism G of

$$(\Delta_k \times Y \times I) \cup (\partial\Delta_k \times CY \times I) \cup (\Delta_k \times CY \times \partial I)$$

that must be extended over $\Delta_k \times CY \times I$, preserving projection on $\Delta_k \times I$. Put $\Delta_k = C(\partial\Delta_k)$ and $I = C(\partial I)$. Then iterating (iii) gives

$$\begin{aligned}\Delta_k \times CY \times I \\ = C((\Delta_k \times Y \times I) \cup (\partial\Delta_k \times CY \times I) \cup (\Delta_k \times CY \times \partial I)).\end{aligned}$$

Hence we define $F = CG$. If G is PL, so is F . This completes the proof of Lemma 5.

Now we define the morphism $\text{CYL}: KY \rightarrow KCY$ to be the composition

$$KY \xrightarrow{r_*^{-1}} K(CY, Y) \xrightarrow{i_*} KCY$$

where $i: \mathbf{G}(CY, Y) \rightarrow \mathbf{G}(CY)$ is the inclusion. (It can be shown that the total space of $\text{CYL}(\xi)$ can be chosen to be the mapping cylinder of the projection of ξ , but we do not need this fact).

In the special case $Y = S^{n-1}$, identify $CY = D^n$, and observe that

$$\mathbf{G}(D^n, S^{n-1}) = \mathbf{G}(D^n).$$

LEMMA 6. *The morphisms $\text{CYL}: KS^{n-1} \rightarrow KD^n$ and $r_* = \partial: KD^n \rightarrow KS^{n-1}$ are inverse to each other.*

Commutativity relations

If $\eta = (p, E, B)$ is a D^n bundle, define a $D^n \times I$ bundle

$$\eta \oplus \delta^1 = (p', E \times I, B),$$

where p' is the composition $E \times I \xrightarrow{p_1} E \xrightarrow{p} B$.

LEMMA 7. $\eta \oplus \delta^1 \sim \text{CYL}(\eta)$.

PROOF. To make sense of Lemma 7, identify $(D^n \times I, D^n \times 0)$ with (CD^n, D^n) by a homeomorphism taking $(x, 0)$ to x for $x \in D^n$. Now both $\eta \oplus \delta^1$ and $\text{CYL}(\eta)$ are CD^n bundles. Moreover, each has a $\mathbf{G}(CD^n, D^n)$ structure that, under the restriction homomorphism $r: \mathbf{G}(CD^n, D^n) \rightarrow \mathbf{G}(D^n)$, gives η . Since, by Lemma 5, $r_*: K(CD^n, D^n) \rightarrow KD^n$ is an isomorphism, it follows that $\eta \oplus \delta^1 \sim \text{CYL}(\eta)$.

Identify S^n with the union $D^n \cup D_-^n$ of two n cells having a common boundary and disjoint interiors. We have $D^n \subset S^n \subset CS^n$. Now identify the pair (CS^n, D^n) with (CD^n, D^n) by a homeomorphism fixed on D^n . Further, identify D^{n+1} with CD^n as in the proof of Lemma 7.

Let $d: \mathbf{G}(D^n) \rightarrow \mathbf{G}(S^n)$ be the homomorphism that doubles every homeomorphism of D^n .

LEMMA 8. *Under the identifications just described, the following diagram of morphisms commutes:*

$$\begin{array}{ccc} KD^n & & \\ \text{CYL} \downarrow & \searrow d_* & \\ KD^{n+1} & \xleftarrow{\text{CYL}} & KS^n \end{array}$$

PROOF. Let ξ be a D^n bundle. By Lemma 7 we replace $\bigoplus \partial^1$ by $\text{CYL}: KD^n \rightarrow KCD^n = KD^{n+1}$. Both $\text{CYL}(\xi)$ and $\text{CYL}(d_*\xi)$ are CD^n bundles with group $G(CD^n, D^n)$ which give rise to the same D^n bundle under the restriction isomorphism $r_*: K(CD^n, D^n) \rightarrow KD^n$. Lemma 8 follows.

If $f: Y \rightarrow X$ is a homeomorphism, let $f_*: KY \rightarrow KX$ denote the obvious isomorphism of functors.

An n cell $E^n \subset \text{int } D^n$ is called *concentric* if there exists a homeomorphism $D^n - \text{int } E^n \approx \partial D^n \times I$. This condition is always satisfied in the PL case.

LEMMA 9. *Let $E^n \subset \text{int } D^n$ be a concentric n cell. There exists a homomorphism $t: G(D^n) \rightarrow G(D^n, E^n)$ and a homeomorphism $v: D^n \rightarrow E^n$ making this diagram commutative:*

$$\begin{array}{ccc} & K(D^n, E^n) & \\ t_* \nearrow & \downarrow i_* & \searrow r_* \\ KD^n = KD^n & \approx & KE^n \\ & v_* & \end{array}$$

PROOF. Let $u: \partial D^n \times I \rightarrow D^n - \text{int } E^n$ be a homeomorphism such that $u(x, 0) = x$. Let $v: D^n \rightarrow E^n$ be a homeomorphism such that, for $x \in \partial D^n$, $v(x) = u(x, 1)$.

Given an element $f: \Delta_k \times D^n \rightarrow \Delta_k \times D^n$ of $G_k(D^n)$, define another element $t_k(f) g: \Delta_k \times D^n \rightarrow \Delta_k \times D^n$ as follows. For each $x \in \Delta_k$, $g_x: D^n \rightarrow D^n$ is given by

$$g_x|E^n = vf_xv^{-1}$$

and

$$g_x|D^n - \text{int } E^n = u(f_x| \partial D^n \times 1)u^{-1}.$$

That is, if $(z, y) \in \partial D^n \times I$, then $g_x u(z, y) = u(f_x(z), y)$. It is easy to see that g is a well defined homomorphism $G_k(D^n) \rightarrow G_k(D^n, E^n)$, and that the sequence $\{t_k\}$ is an s.s. homomorphism $t: G(D^n) \rightarrow G(D^n, E^n)$. Moreover, it is clear that the following diagram commutes:

$$\begin{array}{ccc} G(D^n) & \xrightarrow{t} & G(D^n, E^n) \\ \downarrow r & & \downarrow i \\ G(\partial D^n) & \xleftarrow{r} & G(D^n) \end{array}$$

Since $r_*: KD^n \rightarrow K\partial D^n$ is bijective (Lemma 6), the triangle

$$\begin{array}{ccc} & K(D^n, E^n) & \\ t_* \nearrow & \downarrow r_* & \\ KD^n = KD^n & & \end{array}$$

commutes. The construction of t gives commutativity in the triangle

$$\begin{array}{ccc} K(D^n, E^n) & & \\ \downarrow i_* & \searrow r_* & \\ KD^n & \xrightarrow{v_*} & KE^n, \end{array}$$

which completes the proof of Lemma 9.

LEMMA 10. *Let $E^n \subset \text{int } D^n$ be a concentric n cell. The restriction morphism $r_*: K(\text{int } D^n, E^n) \rightarrow KE^n$ is bijective.*

PROOF. By Lemma 3, it suffices to prove that

(i) $G_{E^n}(\text{int } D^n)$ is contractible.

and

(ii) $r: G(D^n, E^n) \rightarrow G(E^n)$ is surjective.

The restriction homomorphism $G_{E^n}(\text{int } D^n) \rightarrow G_{\partial D^n}(\text{int } D^n - \text{int } E^n)$ is clearly an isomorphism. Let $R_+ = [0, \infty)$, and identify $\text{int } D^n - \text{int } E^n$ with $S^{n-1} \times R_+$. From [2, Lem. 6] it follows that $G_{S^{n-1} \times 0}(S^{n-1} \times R_+)$ is contractible, which proves (i). And (ii) is obvious from the identification above.

Recall the identification $S^n = D^n \cup D_-^n$, and the doubling homomorphism $d: G(D^n) \rightarrow G(S^n)$. Let $x_0 \in \text{int } D^n$, and let $x_1 \in \text{int } D_-^n$ be the corresponding point. Let $E^n \subset \text{int } D^n$ be a concentric n cell whose interior contains x_0 . Let $w: (S^n - x_1, D^n) \approx (\text{int } D^n, E^n)$ be a homeomorphism.

From now on, unlabeled arrows denote inclusion or restriction morphisms.

LEMMA 11. *Under the choice of base points $x_0 \in D^n$ and $x_1 \in S^n$, the following diagram commutes:*

$$\begin{array}{ccc} KD^n & \longrightarrow & K(\text{int } D^n) \\ \downarrow & & \uparrow \\ K_0 D^n & & w_* \\ \downarrow d_* & & \uparrow \\ K_0 S^n & \longrightarrow & K(S^n - x_1) \end{array}$$

PROOF. The idea behind the proof is this. We must prove two $\text{int } D^n$ bundles isomorphic. One, say ξ , is the complement of a section of an S^n bundle which is the double of a D^n bundle η . Thus ξ contains an E^n subbundle isomorphic to η . The other $\text{int } D^n$ bundle is just $\text{int } \eta$. It follows from Lemma 9 that η is isomorphic to a D^n bundle containing an E^n subbundle isomorphic to η . Therefore the problem is this: prove that if two $\text{int } D^n$ bundles contain isomorphic E^n subbundles, they are themselves isomorphic. This is proved by Lemma 10. The technical details follow.

Let $t: G(D^n) \rightarrow G(D^n, E^n)$ be the homomorphism of Lemma 9. Since the composition $KD^n \xrightarrow{t_*} K(D^n, E^n) \xrightarrow{i_*} KD^n$ is the identity, it suffices to prove commutativity in

$$\begin{array}{ccc} KD^n & \xrightarrow{t_*} & K(D^n, E^n) \longrightarrow K(\text{int } D^n, E^n) \\ \uparrow & & \downarrow \\ K_0 D^n & & K(\text{int } D^n) \\ d_* \downarrow & & \uparrow w_* \\ K_0 S^n & \longrightarrow & K(S^n - x_1). \end{array}$$

Next, observe that $d_*: K_0 D^n \rightarrow K_0 S^n$ factors through $K(S^n, D^n \cup x_1)$. Therefore it suffices to prove commutativity in

$$\begin{array}{ccc} KD^n & \xrightarrow{t_*} & K(D^n, E^n) \longrightarrow K(\text{int } D^n, E^n) \\ \uparrow & & \uparrow \\ K_0 D^n & & \\ d_* \downarrow & & w_* \\ K(S^n, D^n \cup x_1) & \longrightarrow & K(S^n - x_1, D^n) \end{array}$$

By Lemma 10, the restriction morphism $K(\text{int } D^n, E^n) \rightarrow KE^n$ is bijective. Therefore it suffices to prove commutativity in

$$\begin{array}{ccc} KD^n & \xrightarrow{t_*} & K(D^n, E^n) \\ \downarrow d_* & & \downarrow \\ & & KE^n \\ & & \uparrow w_0 \\ K(S^n, D^n) & \longrightarrow & KD^n \end{array}$$

where $w_0 = w|D^n$. The composition

$$KD^n \xrightarrow{d_*} K(S^n, D^n) \xrightarrow{r_*} KD^n$$

is obviously the identity. The required commutativity therefore follows from Lemma 9. Lemma 11 is proved.

For any spaces Y, Z , let m (perhaps with subscripts) denote the multiplication homomorphism $G(Y) \rightarrow G(Y \times Z)$ defined by $m(f) = f \times 1_Z$.

LEMMA 12. *Let Y be a manifold without boundary. Let $h: (0, \infty) \rightarrow R$ be a homeomorphism fixed on $[1, \infty)$. Then this diagram commutes:*

$$\begin{array}{ccc}
 K(Y \times [0, \infty)) & \xrightarrow{r_*} & K(Y \times 0) = KY \\
 \downarrow & & \swarrow m_* \\
 K(Y \times (0, \infty)) & \xrightarrow{h_*} & K(Y \times R)
 \end{array}$$

PROOF. (Note first that the restriction $K(Y \times [0, \infty)) \rightarrow K(Y \times (0, \infty))$ exists because $\partial Y = \emptyset$.) By [2, Lem. 6] and Lemma 3, the multiplication morphism $m_*: KY \rightarrow K(Y \times [0, \infty))$ is inverse to r_* , which is an isomorphism. Therefore it suffices to prove the commutativity of

$$\begin{array}{ccc}
 K(Y \times (0, \infty)) & \xleftarrow{m_*} & KY \\
 \downarrow & & \downarrow m^* \\
 K(Y \times (0, \infty)) & \xrightarrow{h_*} & K(Y \times R) .
 \end{array}$$

Clearly m_* factors through $K(Y \times [0, \infty), Y \times [1, \infty))$, and similarly for m_* . It suffices, therefore, to prove commutative the diagram

$$\begin{array}{ccc}
 K(Y \times [0, \infty), Y \times [1, \infty)) & \xleftarrow{m_*} & KY \\
 \downarrow r_* & & \downarrow m_* \\
 K(Y \times (0, \infty), Y \times [1, \infty)) & \xrightarrow{h_*} & K(Y \times R, Y \times [1, \infty)) .
 \end{array}$$

Let $s_*: K(Y \times R, Y \times [1, \infty)) \rightarrow K(Y \times [1, \infty))$ be the restriction morphism. It is obvious that $s_*m_* = s_*h_*r_*m_{1*}: KY \rightarrow K(Y \times [1, \infty))$. Since s_* is an isomorphism. Lemma 12 is proved.

Identify $R^{n+1} = R^n \times R$, and let $\oplus \varepsilon^1: KR^n \rightarrow KR^{n+1}$ denote the multiplication morphism m_* .

LEMMA 13. Let $y_0 \in S^n$ be the base point of D^{n+1} and also of $\partial D^{n+1} = S^n$. Given a homeomorphism $\varphi: S^n - y_0 \approx R^n$, there exists a homeomorphism $\psi: \text{int } D^{n+1} \rightarrow R^{n+1}$ such that the diagram

$$\begin{array}{ccccc}
 K_0 S^n & \longrightarrow & K(S^n - y_0) & \xrightarrow{\varphi_*} & KR^n \\
 \text{CYL} \downarrow & & & & \downarrow \oplus \varepsilon^1 \\
 K_0 D^{n+1} & \longrightarrow & K(\text{int } D^{n+1}) & \xrightarrow{\psi_*} & KR^{n+1}
 \end{array}$$

commutes.

PROOF. Identify R^n with $S^n - y_0 = \partial(D^{n+1} - y_0)$ by φ . Let

$$\theta: D^{n+1} - y_0 \approx R^n \times [0, \infty)$$

be a homeomorphism such that $\theta(x) = (x, 0)$ for $x \in R^n$. Let $h: R^n \times (0, \infty) \approx R^n \times R$ be a homeomorphism fixed on $R^n \times [0, 1)$. The diagram

$$\begin{array}{ccccc}
 K_0 S^n & \longrightarrow & KR^n & \xrightarrow{\oplus \varepsilon^1} & K(R^n \times R) \\
 \text{CYL} \downarrow & & \swarrow & & \swarrow h_* \\
 K_0 D^{n+1} & \longrightarrow & K(D^{n+1} - y_0) & \xrightarrow{\theta_*} & K(R^n \times [0, \infty)) \longrightarrow K(R^n \times (0, \infty))
 \end{array}$$

commutes by Lemma 12. It follows that setting $\psi = h\theta | \text{int } D^{n+1}$ proves Lemma 13.

Now the commutativity of the main diagram can be established.

LEMMA 14. *There exist identifications $\text{int } D^n \approx R^n$, $\text{int } D^{n+1} \approx R^{n+1}$, and $S^n - x_0 \approx R^n$, that make the following diagram commutative:*

$$\begin{array}{ccc}
 KD^n & \xrightarrow{\text{INT}} & KR^n \\
 \downarrow \oplus \delta^1 & \searrow d' & \swarrow \text{COMP} \\
 & K_0 S^n & \\
 \downarrow \oplus \varepsilon^1 & \swarrow \text{CYL} & \downarrow \oplus \varepsilon^1 \\
 KD^{n+1} & \xrightarrow{\text{INT}} & KR^{n+1}
 \end{array}$$

Here INT and COMP are restriction morphisms, and d' is the composition $KD^n \xrightarrow{i_*^{-1}} K_0 D^n \xrightarrow{d_*} K_0 S^n$.

PROOF. Apply Lemmas 13, 11 and 8.

The proof of the main theorems will be completed as soon as it is proved that $\text{COMP}: K_0 S^n \rightarrow KR^n$ is bijective. This is trivial in the topological category, since every homeomorphism of $\Delta_k \times R^n$ extends uniquely to one of $\Delta_k \times S^n$. (If we were to use topological structure groups instead of semi-simplicial ones, the proof would be harder; it would require at least a proof of the fact [6], well known but not trivial, that the group of homeomorphisms of R^n is indeed a topological group.)

The next lemma completes the proof of the main theorems.

LEMMA 15. *The restriction homomorphism $G(S^n, x_0) \rightarrow G(S^n - x_0)$ is a homotopy equivalence.*

PROOF. We need consider only the PL case. Put $R^n = S^n - x_0$, and let $D^n \subset R^n$ be a closed n cell. Let $E(D^n, R^n)$ be the s.s. complex of embeddings $\Delta_k \times D^n \rightarrow \Delta_k \times R^n$ that preserve projection on Δ_k . Let $\pi: G(S^n, x_0) \rightarrow E(D^n, R^n)$ and $\pi': G(R^n) \rightarrow E(D^n, R^n)$ denote the restriction maps. Then this diagram commutes:

$$\begin{array}{ccc}
 G(S^n, x_0) & \longrightarrow & G(R^n) \\
 \pi \searrow & & \swarrow \pi' \\
 & E(D^n, R^n) &
 \end{array}$$

The lemma is proved by showing that π and π' are surjective fibrations with contractible fibres. That they are s.s. fibrations is a special case of a theorem of Hudson [4]. The base space has only two components, since two PL embeddings $D^n \rightarrow R^n$ are isotopic if and only if either both of them preserve, or both reverse orientation. Clearly each component meets the images of both π and π' . Since these maps are fibrations, surjectivity follows.

Let $B^n = S^n - \text{int } D^n$, and $\partial D^n = \partial B^n = S^{n-1}$. Then B^n is also a PL n cell. The fibre of π is isomorphic to $G_{S^{n-1}}(B^n, x_0)$. The proof of (i) in the proof of Lemma 5 shows also that $G_Y(CY, v)$ is contractible, where $v \in CY$ is the vertex of the cone. Therefore $G_{S^{n-1}}(B^n, x_0)$ is contractible. The fibre of π' is isomorphic to $G_{S^{n-1} \times 0}(S^{n-1} \times [0, \infty))$, which is contractible by [2, Lem. 6].

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