

II CW-complexes

2.1 Def: let X a space. A CW-decomposition of X consists of

(a) A filtration $X^{(-1)} = \emptyset \subset X^{(0)} \subset X^{(1)} \subset \dots$ indexed by $\mathbb{N} \cup \{-1\}$; require $X = \bigcup_{n=-1}^{\infty} X^{(n)}$ and X has the weak topology w.r.t. the filtration: $U \subset X$ open $\Leftrightarrow \forall n, U \cap X^{(n)}$ open in $X^{(n)}$.

(b) For all $n \in \mathbb{N}$, $X^{(n)}$ is obtained from $X^{(n-1)}$ as a push-out of the form

$$\begin{array}{ccc} \coprod_{\sigma \in J_n} S^{n-1} & \xrightarrow{\coprod \varphi_\sigma} & X^{(n-1)} \\ \downarrow \sqcup & \lrcorner & \downarrow \\ \coprod_{\sigma \in J_n} D^n & \xrightarrow{\coprod \chi_\sigma} & X^{(n)} \end{array}$$

Here $D^n = \{x \in \mathbb{R}^n; \|x\| \leq 1\}$
 $S^{n-1} = \partial D^n \hookrightarrow D^n$
($S^{-1} = \emptyset \hookrightarrow D^0 = \{0\}$).

Here J_n is a set.

A CW-complex is a space X equipped with a CW-decomposition (omitted from the notation).

2.2 Terminology: For $n \in \mathbb{N}$ and $\sigma \in J_n$, we call

$e_\sigma^n := e_\sigma := \chi_\sigma(\overset{\circ}{D}_n)$ an "open n -cell of X "
(Δ w.l. an open subset in general), and

$\bar{e}_\sigma^n := \bar{e}_\sigma := \chi_\sigma(D_n)$ a "closed n -cell of X ".

We call φ_σ the attaching map of e_σ and χ_σ its characteristic map.

We call $X^{(n)}$ the n -skeleton of X .

We say X is a finite CW-complex if it has finitely many open cells. If $J_n \neq \emptyset, J_k = \emptyset$ for $k > n$, we say that X has dimension n . ①

2.3 Proposition: Let X be a CW-complex.

(a) As a set, X is the disjoint union of its open cells:

$$X = \coprod_{n \in \mathbb{N}} \coprod_{\sigma \in \mathcal{J}_n} e_\sigma$$

(b) X is Hausdorff

(c) Each e_σ^n is open in $X^{(n)}$, and \bar{e}_σ^n is closed in X ; likewise $X^{(n)}$ is closed in X .

(d) If $K \subset X$ is compact, then it is included in a finite number of cells.

(e) X has the weak topology with respect to the closed cells.

proof (a) From the pushout definition, we see that

$$\text{we have homeo } \coprod_{\sigma \in \mathcal{J}^n} \overset{\circ}{D}_\sigma^n \rightarrow X^{(n)} \setminus X^{(n-1)}, \text{ and}$$

$$X^{(n)} \setminus X^{(n-1)} = \coprod_{\sigma \in \mathcal{J}^n} e_\sigma^n. \text{ By induction this proves (a).}$$

(b) First, we show by induction on n that $X^{(n)}$ is Hausdorff.

$X^{(0)}$ is discrete, so this is clear. Suppose $n \geq 1$ and

$X^{(n-1)}$ Hausdorff. Then we have a quotient map

$$\pi : Z = X^{(n-1)} \amalg \coprod_{\sigma \in \mathcal{J}_n} \overset{\circ}{D}_\sigma^n \rightarrow X^{(n)}.$$

Choose $x, y \in X^{(n)}$, and representant \tilde{x}, \tilde{y} in $X^{(n-1)} \amalg \coprod_{\sigma \in \mathcal{J}_n} \overset{\circ}{D}_\sigma^n$ (these are unique).

(1°) $\tilde{x}, \tilde{y} \in X^{(n-1)}$ Choose U_{n-1}, V_{n-1} open disjoint nbhds of \tilde{x}, \tilde{y} in $X^{(n-1)}$. Then we can take

$$U'_n = U_{n-1} \amalg \coprod_{\sigma \in \mathcal{J}_n} \left\{ \omega \in \overset{\circ}{D}_\sigma^n ; \|\omega\| > 0, \varphi_\sigma\left(\frac{\omega}{\|\omega\|}\right) \in U_{n-1} \right\}$$

and similarly V'_n . Then $U_n = \pi(U'_n), V_n = \pi(V'_n)$ are open, disjoint nbhds of x, y resp. in $X^{(n)}$.

(2)

Note also that $U_n \cap X^{(n-1)} = U_{n-1}$.

(2°) $x \in X^{(n-1)}$ and $y \in \overset{\circ}{D}_\sigma^n$.

Take $U' = X^{(n-1)} \cup \bigcup_{\sigma \in J_{n-1} \cup \{\sigma\}} \overset{\circ}{D}_\sigma^n \cup \{w \in \overset{\circ}{D}_\sigma^n; \|w\| \geq \frac{1}{2}(\|x\|+1)\}$

$V' = \{w \in \overset{\circ}{D}_\sigma^n; \|w\| < \frac{1}{2}(1+\|x\|)\}$.

Then $\pi(U') =: U$, $\pi(V') =: V$ are open, disjoint nbhd's of x and y resp.

(3°) $x, y \in \bigcup_{\sigma \in J_n} \overset{\circ}{D}_\sigma^n$: separate them here.

Now we can prove that X is Hausdorff: take $x, y \in X$ with $x \neq y$. $\exists n \in \mathbb{N}$, $x, y \in X^{(n)}$. Thus $\exists U_n, V_n$ open nbhd of x and y in $X^{(n)}$, disjoint.

Construct inductively U_m, V_m ($m \geq n+1$) as in (1°)

above, and take $U = \bigcup_{m \geq n+1} U_m$, $V = \bigcup_{m \geq n+1} V_m$.

(c) It is obvious that e_σ^n is open in $X^{(n)}$ since $\pi^{-1}(e_\sigma^n) = \overset{\circ}{D}_\sigma^n \subset X^{(n-1)} \cup \bigcup_{\sigma \in J_n} \overset{\circ}{D}_\sigma^n$ is open.

Also, $\overline{e_\sigma^n} = X_\sigma(D^n)$ is closed in X (the image of the compact $D^n \rightarrow X^{(n-1)} \rightarrow X$ in X , which is Hausdorff).

By induction, we see that $X^{(n)} \cap X^{(k)}$ is closed in $X^{(n)}$ for all k ; thus it is closed in X .

(d) Suppose $A \subset X$ meets each open cell of X in at most one point. Then A is closed and discrete as a subspace.

Show this for $A \cap X^{(n)}$ in $X^{(n)}$ for all n . For $n=0$, it is obvious since $X^{(0)}$ discrete. Suppose $B = A \cap X^{(n)}$ is closed & discrete in $X^{(n)}$. Since $X^{(n)}$ closed in $X^{(n+1)}$, B also closed and discrete in $X^{(n+1)}$. Obviously $C = A \cap (X^{(n+1)} \setminus X^{(n)}) = \bigcup_{\sigma \in J_n} A \cap e_\sigma^{n+1}$ is also closed and discrete in $X^{(n+1)}$. ③

Thus A is closed and discrete in X .

If $K \subset X$ is compact, form A by choosing a point in each open cell that meets K . Then A is discrete compact, so finite.

(e) It suffices to show that $X^{(n)}$ has the weak topology with respect to $\{ \bar{e}_\sigma^k ; k \leq n, \sigma \in \mathcal{I}_k \}$, which is easy.

2.4 Remarks (1) CW stands for "closure finite"

(each cell is attached to only finitely many cells, which is obvious from (d) since \bar{e} compact), and "weak topology".

(2) From the definition, $X^{(0)}$ is discrete (homeo to $\coprod_{\sigma \in \mathcal{I}_0} D_\sigma^0$).

(3) The requirement that X has the weak topology w.r.t. $\{X^{(n)}, n \in \mathbb{N}\}$ is needed only if X ∞ -dim'l.

(4) One can show that the dimension of a CW-complex does

not depend on the chosen CW-decomposition.

(5) The topology of a CW-complex X has nice features that we only mention. For proofs, see eg. Hatcher (Appendix):

- X is normal (T4)

- X is paracompact (every open cover has a locally finite refinement)

- X is locally contractible; in particular:

- X locally path connected and semi-locally simply connected

In particular, path-components = connected components, and if X is connected, it admits a universal covering space

$$\tilde{X} \xrightarrow{p} X$$

- X is locally compact \Leftrightarrow each point $x \in X$ admits a neighborhood that meets only finitely many cells.

2.5 Definition. If $(X, A) \in \text{Top}^2$, a CW-decomposition of X relative to A is obtained as in 2.1 by taking $X^{(-1)} = A$. If X is endowed with such a CW-decomp., we say that (X, A) is a relative CW-complex.

If $A = \{x_0\}$, we write $(X, A) = (X, x_0)$: this is a pointed CW-complex. Notation: $(X, A)^{(n)}$ or just $X^{(n)}$.

2.6 Definition A subspace A of a CW-complex X is called a sub-complex if admits a CW-decomposition with each cell of A being a cell of X .

2.7 Remarks (1) If A is a sub-complex of a CW-cx X , then the CW-decomposition of X makes (X, A) a relative CW-cx in an obvious way!

(2) A sub-cx A of a CW-cx X is compact if and only if it is finite.

(3) A relative CW (X, A) is Hausdorff $\Leftrightarrow A$ is.

2.8 Def: Let X, Y be (relative) CW-complexes. A map $f: X \rightarrow Y$ is called cellular if $\forall n \in \mathbb{N} \cup \{-1\}$, $f(X^{(n)}) \subset Y^{(n)}$.

2.9 Examples: Obviously, the inclusion of a sub-complex $A \hookrightarrow X$ is a cellular map. Thus the examples $S^n \hookrightarrow S^{n+1}$, $\mathbb{R}^n \hookrightarrow \mathbb{R}^{n+1}$, $\mathbb{F}P^n \hookrightarrow \mathbb{F}P^{n+1}$, etc. are cellular.

The next proposition summarizes standard constructions on CW-complexes.

2.10 Proposition:

(a) If (X, A) is a relative CW complex, then the quotient X/A is a pointed CW-cx with one -1 cell (the class of A), and one cell for each (relative) cell of (X, A) . (5)

Moreover, the quotient map $q: (X, A) \rightarrow (X/A, *)$ is cellular.

(b) If A is a sub-complex of a CW-complex X , Y is a CW-complex, and $f: A \rightarrow Y$ is cellular, then the push-out

$$\begin{array}{ccc} A & \xrightarrow{f} & Y \\ \downarrow \bar{f} & & \downarrow \\ X & \xrightarrow{\bar{f}} & X \amalg_f Y \end{array}$$

is a CW-complex having Y as subcomplex with one (relative) cell for each cell of X that is not a cell of A .

Moreover, we have an isomorphism $X/A \rightarrow X \amalg_f Y / Y$ induced by \bar{f} .

(c) If $X_0 \rightarrow X_1 \rightarrow X_2 \rightarrow \dots$ is a sequence of inclusions of subcomplexes, then its limit inherits a CW-decomposition, for which each X_i is a sub-complex.

(d) If X, Y are CW-complexes, and if $(I^m, \partial I^m) \xrightarrow{\chi_e} (X^{(m)}, X^{(m-1)})$, $(I^n, \partial I^n) \xrightarrow{\chi_f} (Y^{(n)}, Y^{(n-1)})$ are cells, let the product-cell $e \times f$ be defined as $I^{m+n} = I^m \times I^n \xrightarrow{\chi_e \times \chi_f} X \times Y$.

Then, endowed with the weak topology with respect to the (closed) product cells, $X \times Y$ inherits a CW-structure.

If X or Y is locally compact (e.g. finite), then the weak and product topology agree.

proof: elementary, and left as exercises

We can endow I with the cell structure having two 0-cells and one 1-cell. Then, if X is a CW, we endow $X \times I$ with the product CW-structure. Then $X \times \{0\}$ and $X \times \{1\}$

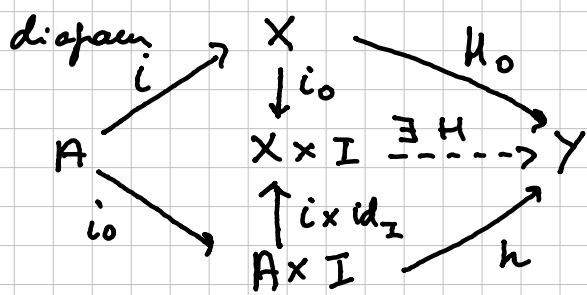
are obviously sub-complexes of $X \times I$.

2.11 Def: let X, Y be CW-complexes and $f, g: X \rightarrow Y$ cellular.

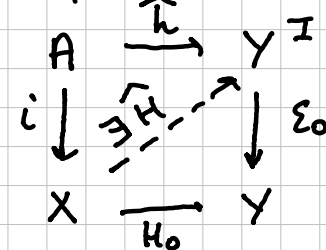
A cellular homotopy from f to g is a cellular map

$H: X \times I \rightarrow Y$ that is a homotopy from f to g .

2.12 Def: a map $i: A \rightarrow X$ has the homotopy extension property with respect to a space Y , if given a commutative



adjointed picture:



the dotted map H exists*.

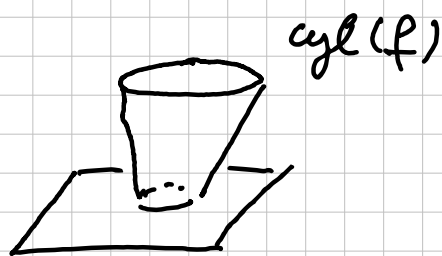
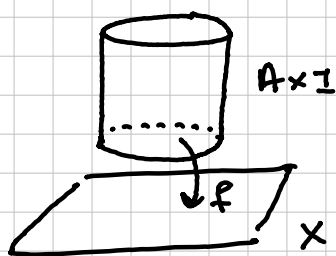
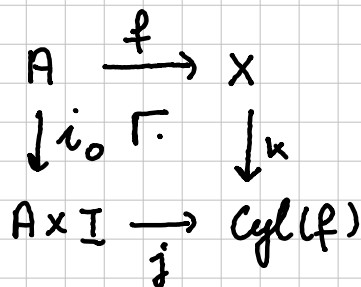
The dotted map \hat{H} exists*.

The map $i: A \rightarrow X$ is called a cofibration if it has the HEP

w.r.t. all spaces Y . (* \rightarrow resulting diagram must commute!)

2.13. Definition. Suppose given a map $f: A \rightarrow X$

The cylinder of f , $\text{cyl}(f)$, is given as the push-out



The maps $A \times I \xrightarrow{f \times \text{id}_I} X \times I \xleftarrow{i_0} X$ induce a canonical map $s: \text{Cyl}(f) \rightarrow X \times I$.

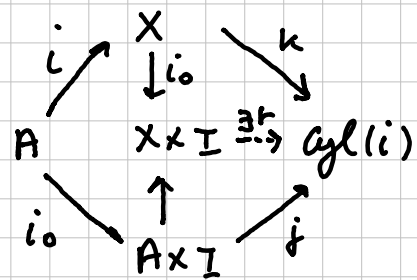
2.14 Lemma: Suppose given $A \xrightarrow{i} X$. TFAE:

(a) i is a cofibration

(b) $s: \text{Cyl}(i) \rightarrow X \times I$ has a retraction:

$\exists r: X \times I \rightarrow \text{Cyl}(i)$ with $r \circ s = \text{id}_{\text{Cyl}(i)}$.

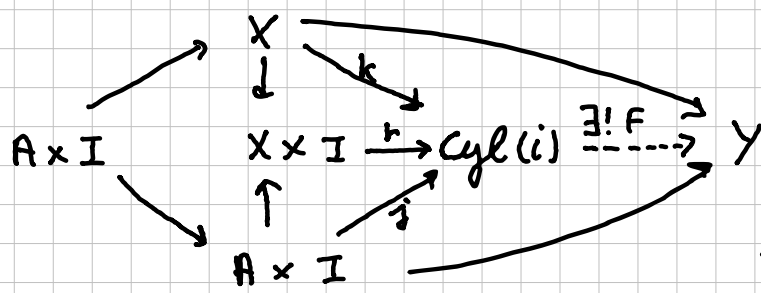
proof: (a) \Rightarrow (b) r is then given as the solution of the following HE prob:



Since $\text{Cyl}(i)$ is the p.o., this forces $r \circ s = \text{id}_{\text{Cyl}(i)}$.

(b) \Rightarrow (a) Suppose given such an $r : X \times I \rightarrow \text{Cyl}(i)$.

Given any HE problem: Since $\text{Cyl}(i)$ is the p.o.,



$\exists! F : \text{Cyl}(i) \rightarrow Y$ making the diag. commute.

Therefore $F \circ r$ is

a solution to the HEP, and i is a cofibration. \square

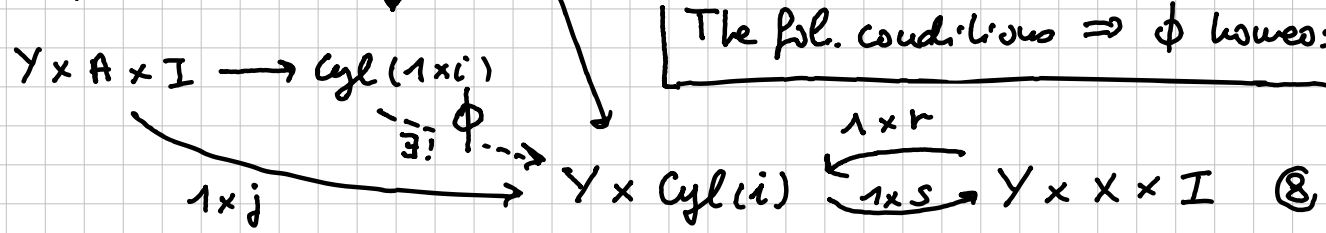
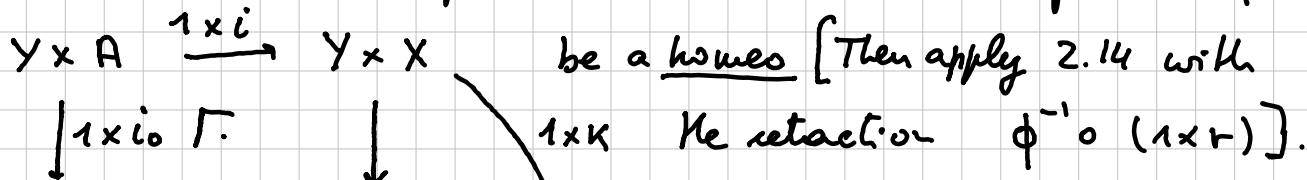
2.15 Exercise: If $A \xrightarrow{i} X$ is a cofibration, then it is an embedding (onto a closed subspace if X Hausdorff).

Therefore, we can assume that given a cofibration $i : A \rightarrow X$, it is the inclusion of a subspace (of course, the converse is not true in general).

2.16 Examples: (a) $S^{n-1} \hookrightarrow D^n$ ($\partial I^n \hookrightarrow I^n$) are cofibrations (see the retraction given at 1.18).

(b) Assume $A \xrightarrow{i} X$ is a cofibration, Y a space. A sufficient condition for $Y \times A \xrightarrow{1 \times i} Y \times X$ to be a cofibration, is

that the induced map (which is a continuous bijection) ϕ



(i) A closed (then $Y \times A \times I$ and $Y \times X$ closed in $Y \times \text{Cyl}(i)$), so $Y \times \text{Cyl}(i)$ is the pushout, and ϕ is a homeo.

(ii) Y is Hausdorff locally compact (use exp. law).

(c) We deduce that $X \times \partial I \rightarrow X \times I$ cofib. $\forall X$ (by (i))

(d) "Cobase change preserves cofibrations": given a p.o.

$$\begin{array}{ccc} A & \rightarrow & B \\ i \downarrow \Gamma & & \downarrow j \\ X & \rightarrow & Y \end{array} \quad \text{then } i \text{ cofibration} \Rightarrow j \text{ cofibration.}$$

(e) We can factorize any map $X \xrightarrow{f} Y$ as

$$X \xrightarrow{i} \text{Cyl}(f) \xrightarrow{q} Y, \text{ where } i: X = X \times \{1\} \hookrightarrow X \times I \xrightarrow{j} \text{Cyl}(f)$$

and $q: \text{Cyl}(f)$ is induced:

$$\begin{array}{ccc} X & \xrightarrow{f} & Y \\ i_0 \downarrow \Gamma & & \downarrow k \\ X \times I & \xrightarrow{j} & \text{Cyl}(f) \xrightarrow{q} Y \\ & \searrow & \downarrow \text{!} \\ & & Y \end{array}$$

Then $q \circ k = 1_Y$ and $k \circ q \simeq 1_{\text{Cyl}(f)}$ (easy exercise!)

$(x, t) \mapsto f(x)$

Now it is easy to see that i is a cofibration: we take the following variation of the def of $\text{cyl}(f)$:

$$\begin{array}{ccc} X \times \partial I & \xrightarrow{f \cup 1_X} & Y \amalg X \\ \alpha \downarrow \Gamma & & \downarrow k \cup i \\ X \times I & \rightarrow & \text{Cyl}(Y) \end{array}$$

Since α cofibration, by (d) so is $k \cup i$, \Rightarrow so are k and i .

(f) If $A \xrightarrow{i} X$ is a cofibration, then so is

$$(X \times \partial I) \cup A \times I \hookrightarrow X \times I \quad (\text{easy exercise, as in example (c) above, which is the case } A = \emptyset).$$

2.17 Proposition: If (X, A) is a relative CW-complex, then the inclusion $A \hookrightarrow X$ is a cofibration

Proof: suppose given:

$$\begin{array}{ccc} & & X \\ & \nearrow i & \downarrow \\ A & & X \times I \\ & \searrow i_0 & \uparrow \\ & & A \times I \end{array} \quad \begin{array}{ccc} & & Y \\ & \nearrow h_0 & \downarrow \\ & & X \times I \xrightarrow{h} Y \\ & \searrow h & \uparrow \\ & & A \times I \end{array}$$

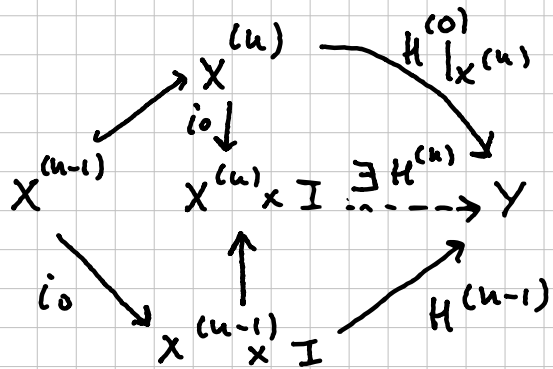
We construct $H^{(u)}: X^{(u)} \times I \rightarrow Y$

by induction on u , with

$$H^{(u)} \upharpoonright X^{(u-1)} \times I = H^{(u-1)}$$

$H^{(-1)} = h$; Suppose $H^{(u-1)}$ given. (9)

We have a pushout diagram $\coprod S^{n-1} \rightarrow X^{(n-1)}$
 Obviously, by 2.16 (a), $\coprod i$ is $\downarrow \coprod i \Gamma$. $\downarrow i_{n-1}$
 cofibration, thus so is i_n . (2.16 (d)) $\coprod D^n \rightarrow X^{(n)}$
 Thus we can find a solution $H^{(n)}$ to the problem:



Thus the collection $\{H^{(n)}\}$
 provides $H: X \times I \rightarrow Y$
 (weak topology!). \square

2.18 Proposition: Suppose given $(Y, B) \in \text{Top}^2$, and
 $n \in \mathbb{N} \cup \{\infty\}$. TFAE:

- (a) (Y, B) is n -connected.
- (b) If (X, A) is a rel. CW-complex of $\dim \leq n$, for any $f: (X, A) \rightarrow (Y, B)$, $\exists f \stackrel{H}{\simeq} g$ rel A with $g(X) \subset B$.
 Moreover, if $\dim X < n$, any two such g are homotopic rel A (as maps $X \rightarrow B$).

proof (a) \Rightarrow (b). Suppose such $f: (X, A) \rightarrow (Y, B)$ given.
 By induction on $k \geq 0$, we construct a homotopy $H^k: X \times I \rightarrow Y$
 such that:
 (i) $H_0^k = f$
 (ii) H^k is a homotopy relative $X^{(k-1)}$
 (iii) $H_1^k(X^{(k)}) \subset B$.

For $k=0$, since (Y, B) is 0-connected, we can choose a path $u_\sigma: I \rightarrow Y$ from $f(D_\sigma^0)$ to B for any $\sigma \in J_0$.

This defines $h: X^{(0)} \times I = (X^{(-1)} \coprod_{\sigma \in J_0} D_\sigma^0) \times I \rightarrow Y$: take $h_t|_A = f$ and $h_t|_{D_\sigma^0} = u_\sigma$. Using H^k $\textcircled{10}$

$X^{(0)} \hookrightarrow X$ is a cofibration, we extend this homotopy to $H^0: X \times I \rightarrow Y$; obviously it satisfies (i)-(ii)-(iii).

Suppose $k < n$ and H^k constructed; consider

$$\begin{array}{ccc} \coprod_{\sigma \in J_{k+1}} S_\sigma^k & \xrightarrow{\varphi} & X^{(k)} & \xrightarrow{H_1^k} & B & \text{since } (Y, B) \text{ is } n\text{-con.} \\ \downarrow \Gamma & & \downarrow & & \downarrow & \text{and } k+1 \leq n, \\ \coprod_{\sigma \in J_{k+1}} D_\sigma^{k+1} & \xrightarrow{\chi} & X^{(k+1)} & \xrightarrow{H_1^k} & Y & f_n \circ \chi \simeq \tilde{\chi} \text{ rel } (\coprod S_\sigma^k) \\ & & \text{with } \tilde{\chi}(\coprod D_\sigma^{k+1}) \subset B. & & & \end{array}$$

$$\begin{array}{ccc} (\coprod S_\sigma^k) \times I & \longrightarrow & X^{(k)} \times I \\ \downarrow \Gamma & & \downarrow \\ (\coprod D_\sigma^{k+1}) \times I & \longrightarrow & X^{(k+1)} \times I \\ & \searrow \tilde{h} & \downarrow \\ & & Y \end{array}$$

The outer diagram commutes since $h \text{ rel } (\coprod S_\sigma^k)$. We deduce $\exists \tilde{h}: X^{(k+1)} \times I \rightarrow Y$

rel $X^{(k)}$ with the property that $\tilde{h}_1(X^{(k+1)}) \subset B$.

Using that $X^{(k+1)} \hookrightarrow X$ is a cofibration, we can extend \tilde{h} to $H^{k+1}: X \times I \rightarrow Y$.

Obviously H^{k+1} satisfies (i)-(ii)-(iii).

Now we take the concatenation of homotopies

$H^0 * \dots * H^k = H$, and H is as required by the proposition. If $n = \infty$, we take an infinite concatenation:

$$H = \ast_{i=0}^{\infty} H^i \text{ by } H(x, t) = \begin{cases} H^i(x, 2^{i+1}(t-1+2^{-i})), & 1-2^{-i} \leq t \leq 1-2^{-(i-1)} \\ H^i(x, 1) & x \in X^{(i)}, t=1. \end{cases}$$

By the weakness of CW, this is well-defined! If $\dim X < n$ and $g \simeq f, g' \simeq f \text{ rel } B$, repeat the same argument to the pair $(X \times I, X \times \partial I \cup A) \rightarrow (Y, B)$.

(b) \Rightarrow (a) This is clear by taking $(X, A) = (I^k, \partial I^k)$ for all $0 \leq k \leq n$, and using lemma 1.45. \square (11)

2.19 The Whitehead : $f: Y \rightarrow Z$ is a n -connected map, and let X be a CW-cx of dimension k , $n, k \in \mathbb{N} \cup \{\infty\}$.

$f_*: [X, Y] \rightarrow [X, Z]$ is $\begin{cases} \text{bijective if } \dim k < n \\ \text{surjective if } \dim k = n \end{cases}$

In the pointed case, the same is true.

proof : We can assume f is the inclusion of a subspace (using the (pointed) cylinder). Then apply 2.18 to

the pair $(X, A) := (X, \phi)$ for surjectivity and

$(X, A) := (X \times I, X \times \partial I)$ for injectivity.

For the pointed case, use $(X, \{x_0\})$ and

$(X \times I, X \times \partial I \cup \{x_0\} \times I)$ respectively. \square

2.20 The (Whitehead) : Let $f: Y \rightarrow Z$ be a map between CW-cx.

(a) f is a homotopy equivalence $\Leftrightarrow f$ is a weak

equivalence (i.e. an n -equivalence $\forall n \in \mathbb{N}$).

(b) If $\dim Y \leq k$ and $\dim Z \leq k$, it suffices

that $f_*: \pi_q(Y, y) \rightarrow \pi_q(Z, f(y))$ be bijective

$\forall y \in Y, \forall q \leq k$.

proof. Assume $f: Y \rightarrow Z$ is a weak equivalence.

Then by 2.19 ($n = \infty$), $[X, Y] \xrightarrow{f_*} [X, Z]$ is an iso for

any CW-cx X . Taking $X = Z$, we obtain that

$\exists g \in [Z, Y]$ with $[f \circ g] = f_*([g]) = [\text{Id}_Z]$; Thus g

is a left homotopy inverse of f . We deduce that g is

also a weak equivalence [$\forall n \in \mathbb{N}, \forall y \in Y,$

$\pi_n(Y, y) \xrightarrow{g_*} \pi_n(Z, f(y))$ is an iso with left inverse

g_* , so $g_*: \pi_n(Z, z) \rightarrow \pi_n(Y, g(z)) \forall n, \forall z \in Z$]

Thus, by the same argument, g has a left inverse $\textcircled{12}$

h with $[g] \circ [h] = [\text{id}_Y]$. We deduce $[f] = [h]$ and g is a homotopy inverse of f ; so f is a homotopy equivalence.

(b) Same argument, using 2.19 with $n < \infty$. \square

We deduce that a CW complex X is contractible iff $X \neq \emptyset$, $\pi_k(X, x) = 0 \quad \forall x \in X, \forall k \in \mathbb{N}$.

2.21 lemma Let (X, A) be a relative CW cx. Then

The pair $(X, X^{(n)})$ is n -connected.

proof: First, we prove by induction on $l \geq n$ that the pair $(X^{(l)}, X^{(n)})$ is n -connected. For $l = n$ this is obvious since $(X^{(n)}, X^{(n)})$ is ∞ -connected.

Assume $l > n$ given and $(X^{(l)}, X^{(n)})$ n -connected.

We first show that $(X^{(l+1)}, X^{(l)})$ is l -connected; suppose $X^{(l+1)}$ is obtained from $X^{(l)}$ by attaching $l+1$ -cells along $\{\varphi_\sigma: S^l \rightarrow X^{(l)}\}_{\sigma \in J}$ and $\{\chi_\sigma: D^{l+1} \rightarrow X^{(l+1)}\}_{\sigma \in J}$.

Take $U_0 = \bigsqcup_{\sigma \in J} e_\sigma \subset X^{(l+1)}$ (the union of open cells) and $U_1 = \bar{B} \cup \bigcup_{\sigma \in J} (\bar{e}_\sigma \setminus \chi_\sigma(0))$. Then obviously U_0, U_1 are open, $U_0 \cup U_1 = X^{(l+1)}$, and $U_0 \cap U_1 = \bigsqcup_{\sigma \in J} (e_\sigma \setminus \chi_\sigma(0)) \neq \emptyset$; we assume (U_1, U_0) 0 -connected.

Since we know that (D^{l+1}, S^l) is l -connected, so is $(U_0, U_0 \cap U_1)$. Thus $(U_0, U_0 \cap U_1) \rightarrow (U_1, U_0 \cap U_1)$ is l -connected, thus $(X^{(l+1)}, U_1)$ is l -connected.

But $U_1 \cong X^{(l)}$, so also $(X^{(l+1)}, X^{(l)})$ is l -connected.

To finish the iteration, use Exercise 1.9 and the exact sequence of the triple $(X^{(l+1)}, X^{(l)}, X^{(n)})$. $\textcircled{13}$

Then use $(X, X^{(n)}) = \text{Colum}_k (X^{(n+k)}, X^{(n)})$
 and the (relative) version of Exercise 1.10. \square

2.22 Theorem (cellular approximation): Let X, Y be two CW-complexes, $A \subset X$ a sub-complex (possibly empty), and $f: X \rightarrow Y$ a map such that $f|_A: A \rightarrow Y$ is cellular. Then $f \simeq g$ rel A where g is cellular.

Moreover, given a homotopy between two cellular maps, $f \stackrel{H}{\simeq} g$ rel $A: X \rightarrow Y$, H can be chosen cellular.

proof: as earlier! Construct inductively a sequence of homotopies $H^n: X \times I \rightarrow Y$ rel $A \cup X^{(n-1)}$, $n \in \mathbb{N}$, with $H^0 = f$, $H_1^n = H_0^{n+1}$, $H_1^n(X^{(n)}) \subset Y^{(n)}$.

Then the infinite concatenation will do.

Can start with H^{-1} (constant homotopy) for the initialization.

To do the iteration, let us just assume given $n \in \mathbb{N}$, $f: X \rightarrow Y$ with $f|_A$ cellular and $f(X^{(n)}) \subset Y^{(n)}$.

We have the attaching of cells: since $(Y, Y^{(n+1)})$ is

$$\begin{array}{ccc} \mathbb{Z} S^n & \xrightarrow{\varphi} & X^{(n)} \xrightarrow{f} Y^{(n)} \text{ (n+1) connected, and dim} \\ \downarrow & & \downarrow & (\mathbb{Z} D^{n+1}, \mathbb{Z} S^n) = n+1, \\ \mathbb{Z} D^{n+1} & \xrightarrow{\chi} & X^{(n+1)} \xrightarrow{f} Y \end{array}$$

we can define $f \circ X$ to a map into $Y^{(n+1)}$ rel $\mathbb{Z} S^n$.

This is given by a homotopy $H^{(n+1)}: A \cup X^{(n+1)} \times I \rightarrow Y$ rel $A \cup X^{(n)}$, with $H_0^{(n+1)} = f$ and $H_1^{(n+1)}(X^{(n+1)}) \subset Y^{(n+1)}$.

Using that $A \cup X^{(n+1)} \hookrightarrow X$ is a cofibration, extend the homotopy to $X \times I$.

This proves: $\exists g$ cellular, $f \stackrel{H}{\simeq} g$ rel (A) .

If f and g are both cellular, we can suppose

If cellular also: apply the above proof to the relative CW.

$$(X \times I, X \times \partial I \cup A \times I) \xrightarrow{H} Y. \quad \square$$

2.23 Theorem (CW-approximation) Let $\ell \geq -1$, A, Y spaces (not CW) and $f: A \rightarrow Y$ a ℓ -con. map. Suppose $\ell \leq n \leq \infty$ given. Then there exists a relative CW- ℓ (X, A) and an extension $F: X \rightarrow Y$ of f , such that F is n -connected. If A is a relative CW, then X can be chosen so that (X, A) is a relative CW-pair.

proof: We start with $X^{(-1)} = A$, $f^{(-1)} := f: X^{(-1)} \rightarrow Y$.

We inductively on k define $f^{(k)}: X^{(k)} \rightarrow Y$ such that

- $$\left. \begin{array}{l} \text{(i)} \quad X^{(k)} \text{ obtained from } X^{(k-1)} \text{ by attaching } k\text{-cells,} \\ \text{(ii)} \quad f^{(k)}|_{X^{(k-1)}} = f^{(k-1)}, \\ \text{(iii)} \quad f^{(k)} \text{ is } k\text{-connected.} \end{array} \right\} \forall k \geq 0$$

Then take $X = \bigcup_{k \geq -1}^n X^{(k)}$ (weak top) and $F: X \rightarrow Y$ with $F|_{X^{(k)}} = f^{(k)}$.

Note: since at step k we attach only k -cells, if $f^{(k-1)}$ was $(k-1)$ -connected, so will be $f^{(k)}$; so we just need to check that $f^{(k)}$ is bijective on π_{k-1} and surjective on π_k .

We assume $\ell = -1$ (otherwise start induction at $k = \ell$).

Case $k = -1$: If $f_*: \pi_0 A \rightarrow \pi_0 Y$ surjective, take $X^{(0)} = A$ and $f^{(0)} = f$. Otherwise take $X^{(0)} = A \amalg \amalg_{\sigma \in \mathcal{J}_0} D_\sigma^0$

with $\mathcal{J}_0 = \pi_0 Y \setminus \pi_0 A$, and $f^{(0)}(D_\sigma^0) \in \sigma \subset Y$.

Case $k = 0$ Assume $f_*: \pi_0 X^{(0)} \rightarrow \pi_0 Y$ surjective.

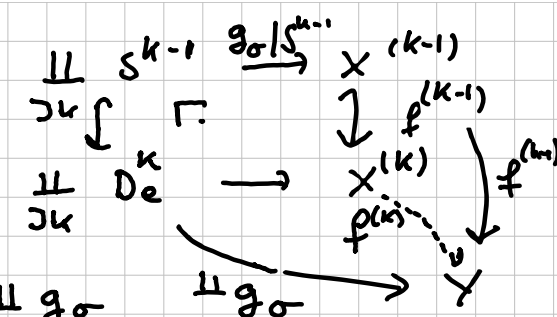
If u, v are different path component of A mapping to the same comp. of Y , choose $u \in U, v \in V, \alpha: I \rightarrow Y$ a path in Y from $f^{(0)}(u)$ to $f^{(0)}(v)$. Then attach a 1-cell D_α^1 to $X^{(0)}$ with end points u, v , and use α to extend

$f^{(0)}$ to $X^{(0)} \cup D_\alpha^1$. Repeat until have a π_0 -iso.
 The resulting map $g: Z = X^{(0)} \cup \bigcup_{\sigma \in \mathcal{J}_1} \bar{e}_\sigma^1 \rightarrow Y$ is not nec. a
 surjection on π_1 . Repeat the procedure by attaching 1-cells
 to Z (will same end point, so not changing π_0) to ensure
 that the resulting map $f^{(1)}: X^{(1)} \rightarrow Y$ is surjective on π .

Assume $k \geq 2$, and $f^{(k-1)}: X^{(k-1)} \rightarrow Y$ $(k-1)$ -connected constructed.
 Suppose $f^{(k-1)}$ is the inclusion of a subspace (using
 mapping cylinder $X^{(k-1)} \hookrightarrow \text{Cyl}(f^{(k-1)}) \simeq Y$.
 Can also assume $X^{(k-1)}$ (and thus Y) are path-connected.

Take $*$ in $X^{(k-1)}$, and choose a family of maps
 $\{g_\sigma: (D^k, S^{k-1}; *) \rightarrow (Y, X^{(k-1)}, *)\}_{\sigma \in \mathcal{J}_k}$ that generate
 $\pi_k(Y, X^{(k-1)}, *)$ as a $\pi_k(X^{(k-1)}, *)$ -module.

Along these maps, attach k -cells. $\coprod_{\mathcal{J}_k} S^{k-1} \xrightarrow{g_\sigma} X^{(k-1)}$
 to obtain $X^{(k)}$, and let
 $f^{(k)}$ be the map induced
 on the push-out $X^{(k)}$ by $f^{(k-1)}$ and $\coprod g_\sigma$



Then obviously $f^{(k)}: \pi_k(X^{(k)}, *) \rightarrow \pi_k(Y, *)$ is
 surjective. Consider the diagram with exact rows

$$\begin{array}{ccccccccc} \pi_k(X^{(k-1)}) & \rightarrow & \pi_k(X^{(k)}) & \rightarrow & \pi_k(X^{(k)}, X^{(k-1)}) & \rightarrow & \pi_{k-1}(X^{(k-1)}) & \rightarrow & \pi_{k-1}(X^{(k)}) & \rightarrow & 0 \\ = \downarrow & & \textcircled{1} \downarrow & & \textcircled{2} \downarrow & & = \downarrow & & \textcircled{3} \downarrow & & \\ \pi_k(X^{(k-1)}) & \rightarrow & \pi_k(Y) & \rightarrow & \pi_k(Y, X^{(k-1)}) & \rightarrow & \pi_{k-1}(X^{(k-1)}) & \rightarrow & \pi_{k-1}(Y) & \rightarrow & 0 \end{array}$$

$\textcircled{2}$ surjective \Rightarrow $\textcircled{3}$ is surjective; since it was surjective, it is
 also bijective: ($\downarrow \downarrow \downarrow \downarrow \downarrow \Rightarrow$ middle row injective).

$\textcircled{2}$ surjective row implies $\textcircled{1}$ surjective ($\downarrow \downarrow \downarrow \downarrow \downarrow \Rightarrow$ mid. row surj.)
 $\Rightarrow f^{(k)}$ k -connected! If wished, could assume all g_σ cellular.
 \square \square

Remark: X obtained from A by attaching only cells of dim k with $l+1 \leq k \leq n$. In particular if Y is n -connected, can assume the CW-approx $X \rightarrow Y$ chosen so that X has 1 0-cell, and no cells of dim k with $1 \leq k \leq n$.

2.24 Def + Lemma (Naturality) Let Y be a space. If X is a CW-complex and $X \xrightarrow{f} Y$ a weak equivalence, we call f a CW-approximation of Y (It exists thanks to 2.22 with $A = \emptyset$). If $Y_1 \xrightarrow{g} Y_2$ is a map, and $f_i: X_i \rightarrow Y_i$ ($i=1,2$) are CW-approximations, then there exists a map $h: X_1 \rightarrow X_2$, unique up to homotopy, such that $g \circ f_1 \simeq f_2 \circ h$. In particular, a CW-approx. $X_1 \rightarrow Y_1$ is unique up to unique homotopy equivalence.

$$\begin{array}{ccc} & & \downarrow \exists! \text{ho.} \\ & & \downarrow g \\ X_2 & \longrightarrow & Y_2 \end{array}$$

The same holds in the pointed case.

proof: This is just an application of 2.19, since

$[X_1, X_2] \xrightarrow{f_2^*} [X_1, Y_2]$ is bijective. \square

2.25 Theorem (Freudenthal's isomorphism). If (X, x_0) is a pointed CW-complex, and if (X, x_0) is n -connected, then

$\Sigma_{\#}: \pi_m(X, x_0) \rightarrow \pi_{m+1}(\Sigma X, x_0)$ is an isomorphism for $0 \leq m \leq 2n$, and is surjective for $m = 2n+1$.

2.26 Lemma: Let $A \hookrightarrow X$ be a cofibration, $a \in A$, and $p: (X, A) \rightarrow (X/A, a)$ the quotient. If $\pi_i(A, a) = 0$ and $\pi_j(X, A, a) = 0$ for $0 \leq i \leq k$, $1 \leq j \leq l$, then

$$p_{\#}: \pi_n(X, A, a) \rightarrow \pi_n(X/A, a)$$

is an iso for $1 \leq n \leq k+l$, and surj. for $n = k+l+1$.

In particular, in the long ex. seq of (X, A, a) , we can replace $\pi_n(X, A, a)$ by $\pi_n(X/A, a)$ in these degrees. (17)

proof: we consider the (unreduced) cone of $A \hookrightarrow X$, $C(X, A)$:

$$CA = A \times I / (A \times \{1\}) \quad (\text{unreduced cone of } A)$$

$$C(X, A) = (X \amalg CA) / \sim \quad X \ni a \sim (a, 0) \in (CA)$$

We also have the open cones $\overset{\circ}{CA} = A \times [0, 1)$ and $\overset{\circ}{C}(X, A) = (X \amalg \overset{\circ}{CA}) / \sim$. Then we have that the quotient map p factorizes as $(X, A) \xrightarrow{\alpha} (\overset{\circ}{C}(X, A), \overset{\circ}{CA}) \xrightarrow{\beta} (C(X, A), C(A)) \xrightarrow{\gamma} (C(X, A) / C(A), *) \cong (X/A, *)$. Here

- α is a htpy equivalence (admits a retraction up to htpy)
- β induces an iso (Σ_{n+1}) on π_n for $n \leq k + e (= k + p + 1)$
- γ is a htpy equivalence (since $C(A) \hookrightarrow C(X, A)$ is also a cofibration, and $C(A) \simeq *$).

To check β , use Blackers-Panney with respect to $U_0 = \overset{\circ}{C}(X, A)$ and $U_1 = (A \times (0, 1]) / (A \times \{1\})$

This needs moving the base point to a point in U_0 . \square

proof of 2.25: We consider the reduced cone of (X, x_0)

$$C(X, x_0) = X \times I / ((x \times \{1\}) \cup (\{x_0\} \times I))$$

Then $(C(X, x_0), X)$ is a CW-pair, and $X \hookrightarrow C(X, x_0)$ is a cofib. Since $C(X, x_0) \simeq *$, we see that

$$\pi_j(C(X, x_0), X, x_0) = 0 \quad \forall j \leq n+1. \text{ Thus } P_+, \text{ and}$$

$$\Sigma_+ : \pi_m(X, x_0) \xrightarrow{\partial_{m+1}^{-1}} \pi_{m+1}(C(X, x_0), X, x_0)$$

$$\begin{array}{ccc} \Sigma_+ \searrow & & \swarrow P_+ \\ & \pi_{m+1}(\Sigma X, x_0) & \end{array} \quad \begin{array}{l} \text{are iso for} \\ m \leq 2n \text{ and} \end{array}$$

surjective for $m = 2n+1$

2.27 Corollary (a) let X, Y be CW-complexes with Y

n -connected for some $n \geq 0$. Then

$\Sigma_+ : [X, Y]_* \rightarrow [\Sigma X, \Sigma Y]_*$ is $\begin{cases} \text{bijective if } \dim(X) \leq 2n \\ \text{surjective if } \dim(X) = 2n+1. \end{cases}$

(b) If $k \geq \dim(X) + 2$, and Z is any pointed CW, then $\Sigma_+ : [\Sigma^k X, \Sigma^k Z] \rightarrow [\Sigma^{k+1} X, \Sigma^{k+1} Z]$ is bijective.

proof: We take the unit $Y \xrightarrow{\sigma} \Omega \Sigma Y$ of the adjunction (Σ, Ω) , and obtain a commutative diagram

$$\begin{array}{ccc} \pi_m(Y) & \xrightarrow{\Sigma_+} & \pi_{m+1}(\Sigma Y) \\ \sigma_+ \searrow & & \nearrow \cong \text{ (adj.) (surj) if } m \leq 2n \\ & & \pi_m(\Omega \Sigma Y) \end{array} \quad \begin{array}{l} \text{Thus } \sigma_+ \text{ is a bijection} \\ \text{(surj) if } m \leq 2n \\ \text{(} m = 2n+1 \text{) by Freudenthal.} \end{array}$$

Thus σ is a $2n$ -connected, and we conclude using $[X, Y]_* \xrightarrow{\Sigma_+} [\Sigma X, \Sigma Y]$ and Whitehead 2.13.

$$\sigma_+ \rightarrow [X, \Omega \Sigma Y] \xrightarrow{\cong}$$

(b) By induction on k , using that ΣZ is connected, $\Sigma^2 Z$ is 1-connected (Van Kampen), and generally $\Sigma^k Z$ is $k-1$ -connected. \square

2.28 Definition: Let C be a category and W be a class of morphisms. A localization of C at W is a functor $\mathcal{Q} : C \rightarrow C[W^{-1}]$ such that

(a) For any $w \in W$, $\mathcal{Q}(w)$ is an iso.

(b) \mathcal{Q} is initial with that property

(c) $\mathcal{Q}^* : \text{Funct}(C[W^{-1}], A) \rightarrow \text{Funct}(C, A)$

is fully faithful.

2.29 Example: Let C be the category of (left) \mathbb{Z} -modules. Say that $f \in W \iff \mathbb{Z}(f) \otimes_{\mathbb{Z}} f$ is an iso. $\textcircled{13}$

Then $\mathbb{Z}\text{-mod}[W^{-1}] \cong \mathbb{Z}_{(p)}\text{-mod}$, and

$\mathcal{Q}: \mathbb{Z}\text{-mod} \rightarrow \mathbb{Z}_{(p)}\text{-mod}$

$M \mapsto \mathbb{Z}_{(p)} \otimes_{\mathbb{Z}} M$

2.30 Remark: Let us take W to be the class of weak equivalences on Top . If $\text{Top}[W^{-1}]$ exists, then it is not difficult to see that it is equivalent to $\text{Ho}(CW)$, the homotopy category of CW-complexes. Indeed, the functor $\mathcal{Q}: \text{Top} \rightarrow \text{Top}[W^{-1}]$ will factorize through $\text{hoTop}: \text{Top} \rightarrow \text{Ho}(\text{Top}) \rightarrow \text{Top}[W^{-1}]$

$\text{Top} \rightarrow \text{Ho}(\text{Top}) \rightarrow \text{Top}[W^{-1}]$
 $\uparrow \quad \nearrow \cong$
 $\text{Ho}(CW)$

A standard construction of $\text{Top}[W^{-1}]$ is given by model categories, using the following classes of morphisms: (18)

(1) Weak equivalence as given above.

(2) Fibrations are Serre fibrations.

(3) Cofibrations are the morphisms having the left lifting property with respect to fibrations that are weak-equivalences.

It can be shown that cofibrations are inclusions of (generalized)-CW or retracts of such inclusions.

↳ Here are sequential colimits of relative CW-inclusions.

This will be done in Homotopy 2.

We now want to make the link to homology.

Recall the axioms defining a (reduced) homology theory:

2.31 Definition: A reduced homology theory H_n on Top_*

is a family of functors $\{h_n: \text{HoTop}_* \rightarrow \mathcal{A}b\}_{n \in \mathbb{Z}}$

and natural isomorphisms $\sigma_n: h_n \rightarrow h_{n+1} \circ \Sigma$ (20)

satisfying:

(1) Exactness: If $A \hookrightarrow X$ is a cofibration, the sequence $h_n(A) \rightarrow h_n(X) \rightarrow h_n(X/A)$ is exact

(2) Additivity: The canonical maps induce an iso

$$\bigoplus_i h_n(X_i) \rightarrow h_n(\bigvee_i X_i)$$

for any family $\{X_i\}_{i \in I}$ in $hoTop_*$.

(3) Weak htpy: a weak hwsotopy induces an iso.

The graded group $h_*(S^0) = \bigoplus_n h_n(S^0)$ is called the (graded) gp of coefficients of (h, σ) .

2.32 Example: (unreduced) singular homology $H_*(-; \mathbb{Z})$ provides a reduced homology theory $\tilde{H}_*(-; \mathbb{Z})$

defined by $\tilde{H}_n(X, \mathbb{Z}; \mathbb{Z}) = \ker (H_n(X, \mathbb{Z}) \rightarrow H_n(x_0, \mathbb{Z}))$.

Its coefficients are \mathbb{Z} , and $\tilde{H}_k(X; \mathbb{Z}) = 0 \ \forall k < 0$.

We leave it to the reader to deduce the construction of σ and the axioms from the Eilenberg-Steenrod axioms for $H_*(-; \mathbb{Z})$. The following proposition will be detailed in the exercises:

2.33 Proposition: If $f: X \rightarrow Y$ is a weak equivalence, then $H_*(X, \mathbb{Z}) \xrightarrow{f_*} H_*(Y, \mathbb{Z})$ is an isomorphism.

2.34 Definition: let $X \in Top_*$, and $k > 0$.

Choose a generator $i_0 \in \mathbb{Z} = \tilde{H}_0(S^0, \mathbb{Z})$, and

$i_n = \sigma^n(i_0) \in \tilde{H}_n(S^n, \mathbb{Z}) \cong \mathbb{Z}$.

Define $h_n: \pi_n(X) \rightarrow \tilde{H}_n(X, \mathbb{Z})$, $[\alpha] \mapsto \alpha_*(i_n) \in \mathbb{Z}$.

where $(I^n, \partial I^n) \xrightarrow{\alpha} (X, x_0)$. Then h_n is well-def,

is a homomorphism if $n \geq 1$, and defines a natural homomorphism of functors, called the Hurewicz homomorphism.

proof: left as an easy exercise; for the additivity, use the additivity axiom, together with the fact that the addition of $\pi_n(X)$ is induced by $S^n \rightarrow S^n \vee S^n$ pinch.

2.35 Theorem (Hurewicz) Let $n \geq 2$ and $(X, x_0) \in \text{Top}_*$ be $(n-1)$ -connected. Then $h_n: \pi_n(X, x_0) \rightarrow \tilde{H}_n(X, x_0)$ is an isomorphism. If (X, x_0) is connected, then h_n factors as

$$\begin{array}{ccc} \pi_n(X, x_0) & \xrightarrow{h_1} & \tilde{H}_1(X, x_0) \\ \downarrow q & & \cong \nearrow \uparrow \\ & & \pi_n(X, x_0) \end{array} \begin{array}{l} a \\ b \end{array}$$

proof: The case $n=1$ was proven earlier? Assume $n \geq 2$ and X $(n-1)$ -connected. Using CW approximation, we can assume that X is a CW complex with one zero cell and no cells of dimension k for $0 < k < n-1$.

$X^{(n-1)} = \{x_0\}$. Moreover, the inclusion $X^{(n+1)} \hookrightarrow X$

$\pi_n(X^{(n+1)}) \xrightarrow[\cong]{\cong} \pi_n(X)$ induces isos on π_n, \tilde{H}_n .

$\tilde{H}_n(X^{(n+1)}) \xrightarrow[\cong]{\cong} \tilde{H}_n(X)$ Thus we can assume we have a

cofiber seq $\underbrace{V S^n}_{A} \rightarrow \underbrace{\text{Cyl}(V \varphi_\sigma)}_B \rightarrow X = B/A$. We have

$\pi_n(A) \rightarrow \pi_n(B) \rightarrow \pi_n(X) \rightarrow 0$ Note that $B \cong \underbrace{V S^n}_{\sigma \in \mathcal{J}_n}$. So

$\downarrow \textcircled{1}$ $\downarrow \textcircled{2}$ $\downarrow h_n$ $\textcircled{1} + \textcircled{2}$ are isos

$\tilde{H}_n(A) \rightarrow \tilde{H}_n(B) \rightarrow \tilde{H}_n(X) \rightarrow 0$ if

$\prod_n (\bigvee_{i \in I} S^n) \xrightarrow{\alpha} \tilde{H}_n (\bigvee_{i \in I} S^n)$ is an iso for any set I .
 We know that $\pi_n(S^n) \rightarrow \tilde{H}_n(S^n)$ is an iso.

We also have that the can. map $\bigoplus_i \pi_k(S^n) \rightarrow \pi_k(\bigvee_i S^n)$ (For $k=n=1$, replace by $*$)
 is an iso (Ex. 4.3) for k in some finite range (including $k=n$). So by additivity, α is an iso.

We deduce: If X is simply connected and if for some $n \geq 2$, $\tilde{H}_i(X; \mathbb{Z}) = 0$ for all $i < n$, then X is n -connected. \square

2.36 Remark: Here is also a relative version:

For $(X, A) \in \text{Top}_*^2$, $n \geq 1$, let

$$h_n: \pi_n(X, A) \rightarrow H_n(X, A), \quad h_n[\alpha] = \alpha_+(j_n)$$

where $j_n = \partial_n^{-1}(i_n): H_n(D^n, S^{n-1}) \xrightarrow{\cong} H_{n-1}(S^{n-1})$

2.37 Proposition: (X, A) a CW pair of 1-conh. spaces.

Suppose that we have $n \geq 2$ and $H_i(X, A) = 0 \forall i < n$.

Then (X, A) is $(n-1)$ -connected, and

$h_n: \pi_n(X, A) \rightarrow H_n(X, A)$ is an iso.

proof: consider the commutative diagram

$$\begin{array}{ccc} \pi_k(X, A) & \xrightarrow{q_k^\pi} & \pi_k(X/A) \\ \downarrow h_k & & \downarrow h_k \\ H_k(X, A) & \xrightarrow{q_k^H} & \tilde{H}_k(X/A) \end{array} \quad \begin{array}{l} \text{Since } A \hookrightarrow X \text{ cofibrates} \\ \text{we know that } q_+^H \text{ is} \\ \text{an iso. Then work} \end{array}$$

by induction on k , for $2 \leq k \leq n$, using 2.25:

Since (X, A) 1-connected, q_k^π is an iso for $k=1, 2$.

By 2.34, h_2 is an iso, so so is h_2^1 .

Then $\pi_2(X, A) = 0$; reapply 2.25, etc. \square (23)

2.38 Theorem (Whitehead) : let $f: X \rightarrow Y$ be a map between 1-connected spaces, and $2 \leq n \leq \infty$. Suppose that $f_*: \tilde{H}_k(X) \rightarrow \tilde{H}_k(Y)$ is an iso for all $k < n$ and surjection for $k = n$.

Then $f: X \rightarrow Y$ is n -connected.

For $n = \infty$: a homology equivalence of simply connected spaces (CW-complex) is a weak-equivalence (a hty equivalence).

2.39 Example: Need 1-con. above! S^3 has a finite perfect subgroup of order 120: the binary icosahedral group I' . The quotient $P = S^3/I'$ of groups is a smooth, compact, orientable manifold: the Poincaré Sphere. We have a fibration $I' \rightarrow S^3 \xrightarrow{q} P$. So $\pi_k(S^3) \xrightarrow{\cong} \pi_k(P)$ if $k \geq 2$, and $\pi_1(P) \cong I'$. Moreover

$q_*: \tilde{H}_*(S^3; \mathbb{Z}) \rightarrow \tilde{H}_*(P; \mathbb{Z})$ is an iso for all $*$. See Exercise Sheet 5 for the details.