

3. Tangential thickness and normal invariants

Suppose that M and N are closed ~~pieces~~
 n -manifolds and $k \geq 3$ is such that $n+k \geq 6$.

Surgery theory then yields the following criteria
 for $M \times \mathbb{R}^k$ and $N \times \mathbb{R}^k$ to be homeomorphic ~~is~~
 (and k)

PROPOSITION 3.1. If M and N are as above,

then $M \times \mathbb{R}^k$ is homeomorphic to $N \times \mathbb{R}^k$ if and

only if the compact bounded manifolds $M \times D^k$

and $N \times D^k$ are h -cobordant in the following

sense: There is a compact manifold with

boundary X^{n+k+1} and a compact manifold with

boundary $W^{n+k} \subseteq \partial X$ such that the following

hold:

- (i) ∂W^{n+k} is homeomorphic to
a disjoint union of $M \times S^{k-1}$

and $N \times S^{k-1}$

$$(ii) \exists X^{m+k+1} \cong M \times D^k \cup W \cup N \times D^k,$$

where $M \times D^k \cap W = M \times S^{k-1}$ and

$$N \times D^k \cap W = N \times S^{k-1}.$$

(iii) The inclusion of pairs $(M \times D^k, M \times S^{k-1})$

$$\subseteq (\exists X, W) \subseteq (X, W) \text{ and } (N \times D^k, N \times S^{k-1})$$

$$\subseteq (\exists X, W) \subseteq (X, W) \text{ are homotopy$$

equivalences of pairs.

Sketch of proof. This is fairly standard. If $M \times \mathbb{R}^k$ and $N \times \mathbb{R}^k$ are homeomorphic, then the homeomorphism maps $M \times D^k$ into some ~~large disk~~ subset $M \times r \cdot D^k$, where $r \cdot D^k$ is the disk of radius r for some very large value of r . Let W be the bounded manifold $N \times r \cdot D^k - \text{Interior}(M \times D^k)$, and take X to be

$N \times D^k \times [0, 1]$. The decomposition of ∂X in (iii) is then given by identifying $M \times D^k$ with $M \times D^k \times \{0\}$, W with $W \times \{0\}$, and $N \times D^k$ with $N \times D^k \times \{1\} \cup N \times \partial(D^k) \times [0, 1]$.

It is then fairly straight forward to check that the inclusions in (iii) are homotopy equivalences of pairs. Conversely, if we are given X as in the theorem, then since $k \geq 3$ and $m+k \geq 6$ one can apply theorem, then it follows that $X - \text{Interior}(W)$ is a proper k -cobordism from $M \times \text{Interior}(D^k) \cong M \times \mathbb{R}^k$ to $N \times \text{Interior}(D^k)$ in the sense of [1], and by the proper k -cobordism theorem of [1] it follows that $M \times \mathbb{R}^k$ and $N \times \mathbb{R}^k$ are homeomorphic. \square

This result allows us to analyse the homotopy-

COMPLEMENT 3.2. Similar results are true
in the categories of piecewise linear (PL) or
smooth manifolds if we stipulate that all manifolds
lie in the given category and the homeomorphisms
are (respectively) PL homeomorphisms or
diffeomorphisms.

This is true because one has analogs of the
 proper topological proper h -cobordism theorem
 in the PL and smooth categories (^{in fact} ~~indeed~~, they
 pre-date the topological version). In the smooth
 category there are some issues ^{about rounding} ~~involving~~ ∂
 corners in a product of two bounded smooth manifolds,
 but there are standard ways of addressing such points
 (e.g., see [GIL.3] or the treatment in [DONADY-HERAULT]).
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These results lead to the use of surgery-
theoretic structure sets; the latter are defined for
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closed manifolds in [, pp. 17-18], and one
can ^{treat} study the bounded case using ^{maps and} homotopy

equivalences of pairs as in Chapter 10 of
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Wall's book []. Specifically, Proposition

3.1 translates into the following statement.

PROPOSITION 3.7. Let M , N and k be ^{and} PL ^{closed connected}

or topological manifolds, let $k \geq 3$ and $\dim M =$

$\dim N \geq 5$, and let $f: M \rightarrow N$ be a homotopy

equivalence. Then $M \times D^k$ is PL homeomorphic

(resp., homeomorphic) to $N \times D^k$ if and only

if the normal invariant in $[N, G/PL]$ (resp.,

$[N, G/Top]$) lies in the image of $[N, G_k]$ ~~under~~

In order to translate Proposition 3.1

and Complement 3.2 into the language of

structure sets, we need to ~~use~~ work with

certain function spaces. Following James []^{ITERATED SUSPENSION},

we shall denote the identity component of the

continuous function

space $\mathcal{F}(S^{k-1}, S^{k-1})$ by SG_k , and SF_{k-1} will

denote the

subspace of base point preserving maps.

By the results of [JAMES and J. STASHEFF], there is a Serre

$$\text{fibration } SF_{k-1} \rightarrow SG_k \rightarrow S^{k-1} \text{ and}$$

a corresponding classifying space fibration

$$S^{k-1} \rightarrow BSF_{k-1} \rightarrow BSG_k. \text{ The space}$$

of degree zero basepoint preserving self-maps

is homeomorphic to the iterated loop space $\Omega^{k-1} S^{k-1}$

and the map $\omega: \Omega^{k-1} S^{k-1} \rightarrow SF_{k-1}$ sending

$f: S^{k-1} \rightarrow S^{k-1}$ to the composite

$$\begin{array}{c} \text{PUT ON} \\ \text{A SINGE} \\ \text{LINE} \end{array} \quad \begin{array}{c} S^{k-1} \xrightarrow{\text{PINCH}} S^{k-1} \vee S^{k-1} \xrightarrow{\text{fold}} S^{k-1} \vee S^{k-1} \\ \searrow \text{FOLD} \\ S^{k-1} \end{array}$$

is a homotopy equivalence; it is important

to note that this homotopy equivalence does not

send the loop sum on $\Omega^{k-1} S^{k-1}$ to SF_{k-1} .

Conversely, the Hopf construction [Stasheff, Section XI.4]

The unreduced suspension functor defines continuous homomorphisms $SG_k \rightarrow SF_{k+1}$, and if $\Omega^{k-1} \Omega^{k-1} \rightarrow \Omega^k S^k$ is the suspension map induced by the suspension adjoint $\sigma: S^{k-1} \rightarrow \Omega S^k$, then we have the following homotopy

in which $\Omega_0^m Y$ is the path component of the constant map in $\Omega^m Y$.

commutative diagram:

$$(3.3) \quad \begin{array}{ccc} \Omega_0^{k-1} S^{k-1} & \xrightarrow{\Omega^{k-1} \sigma} & \Omega_0^k S^k \\ \downarrow w_{k-1} & & \downarrow w_k \\ SF_{k-1} & \longrightarrow & SG_k \longrightarrow SF_k \end{array}$$

The preceding chain of ^{maps} inclusions can be extended by adjoining SG_{k+1} on the right, and if we take limits we obtain a topological monoid that is denoted by SG or SF_{\bullet} .

~~With this preparation, we can restate Proposition 3.4 in the piecewise linear PL~~

With this preparation, we can restate Proposition 3.1 and Complement 3.2 in the piecewise linear (PL) and topological categories as follows:

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under the map induced by the composite

$$G_k \rightarrow G \rightarrow G/PL \text{ (resp., } G_k \rightarrow G \rightarrow G/Top).$$

There is an analog of this result in the smooth category, but the proof is longer and we shall not need the smooth version of Proposition 3.3.

PROOF. We begin with the case of the PL category since the argument is simpler ~~and~~ but ^{to be} also contains the ideas employed in the topological category. Given a homotopy equivalence $f: M \rightarrow N$, we want to consider the homotopy structure on $N \times D^k$ given by the product map $f \times id(D^k)$. Standard properties of normal invariants imply that $\eta[f \times id(D^k)] = p^* \eta(f)$, where $\eta[\dots]$ denotes the normal invariant and

$p^*: [N \times G/PL] \rightarrow [N \times D^k, G/PL]$ is induced
 by the coordinate projection map $p: N \times D^k \rightarrow N$;
 since D^k is contractible, the map p^* is an
 isomorphism. Since $k \geq 3$ it follows that

the maps $\pi_i (M \times S^k) \rightarrow \pi_i (M \times D^k)$ are

isomorphisms for $i = 0, 1$, and hence the

π - π Theorem of [WALL BOOK, Chapter 4] implies

that the normal invariant map

$$\underbrace{(\text{bbs})}_{\Sigma} (M \times D^k) \rightarrow [M \times D^k, G/PL]$$

is 1-1 and onto. By the Embedding Theorem

[ROURKE]

[1]

of Browder, Carson, Haefliger, Sullivan and Wall

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[, (8.10), p. 161] there is a k -dimensional block bundle []

over N , say ξ , and a PL homeomorphism ρ from
 its total space $E(\xi)$ to $M \times D^k$ such that

$[f \times id(D^k)] \circ \varphi$ is homotopic to the identity.

These data ~~determine~~ ^{correspond to unique} a homotopy class $\alpha \in [N, G_k/\tilde{P}L_k]$ with the following properties:

(i) The image of α in $[N, G/PL]$

under a canonical stabilization map

$$G_k/\tilde{P}L_k \rightarrow G/PL \text{ (which is a}$$

homotopy equivalence) is the normal

invariant $m(\xi)$.

(ii) The image of α in $[N, B\tilde{P}L_k]$ under

a canonical map $G_k/\tilde{P}L_k \rightarrow B\tilde{P}L_k$

classifies the block bundle ξ_0 .

By the

~~The classifying class in $[N, B\tilde{P}L_k]$ determined by ξ_0 is the trivial class if and only if~~

the construct

In the theory of block bundles, a block bundle ξ

is trivial if and only if $E(\xi)$ is PL homeomorphic to $N \times D^n$. Therefore $M \times D^n$ is PL homeomorphic to $N \times D^n$ if and only if the image of α in $[N, BPL_k]$ is trivial; since the latter is true if and only if α lies in the image of the map $[N, G_k] \rightarrow [N, G_k/PL_k]$, the result follows in the PL category.

The proof in the topological category is similar, but one must replace the theory of PL block bundles with a corresponding theory of topological regular neighborhoods as in [EDWARDS TOP REG NBHDS] and [RAMCKI ROUGH SANDERSON TOP NEIGHBORHOODS]. As noted in [RAMCKI], p. 174, the stabilization map $G_k/Top_k \rightarrow G/Top$ is a homotopy equivalence if $k \geq 3$.

and []. One crucial step in the PL proof uses the fact that the stabilization map $G_k/PL_k \rightarrow G/PL$ is a homotopy equivalence if $k \geq 3$; the corresponding fact for the map $G/Top_k \rightarrow G/Top$ is contained in [] ROURKE SANDERSON TOP NBHDS.

If X is a finite cell complex, then diagram (3.3) yields an isomorphism of sets from the stable cohomotopy group $\{X, S^0\}$ to $[X, SG]$, and under this isomorphism the image of $[X, SG_k] \rightarrow [X, SG]$ is sandwiched between the images of the iterated suspensions $[S^{k-1}X, S^{k-1}] \rightarrow \{X, S^0\}$ and $[S^kX, S^k] \rightarrow \{X, S^0\}$. The results of [] show that the images of $[X, SG_k] \rightarrow [X, SG]$

corresponds to the image of $[S^k X, S^k] \rightarrow [X, S^0]$ if $\dim X \leq 2k-2$. We shall also need the following criteria for ~~lift~~ determining whether a class in $[X, SG]$ lifts back to $[X, SG_k]$:

PROPOSITION 3.5. Let X be a connected finite complex, and let $\alpha \in [X, SG]$ be a class such that α lifts to $[X, SG_3]$; take the group structures on these spaces induced by the composition products on the function spaces $\mathcal{F}(S^3, S^3)$ and $\lim_{m \rightarrow \infty} \mathcal{F}(S^m, S^m)$. Then $\alpha = \alpha_1 \alpha_2$ where α_2 lies in the image of $[X, SO] \rightarrow [X, SG]$ (where SO is the group $\lim_{m \rightarrow \infty} SO_m$) and α_1 corresponds to an element in the image of

$$[\Omega^2 X, S^2] \longrightarrow \{X, S^0\}.$$

PROOF. It will suffice to show that the images of $[X, SG_3]$ and $[X, SF_2]$ in $[X, G/O]$ are equal, for this implies that the image of $[X, SG_3]$ in $[X, SG]$ is generated by $[X, SF_2]$ and $[X, S^0]$, and by (3.3) the image of $[X, SF_2]$ in $[X, SG]$ corresponds to the image of $[\Omega^2 X, S^2]$ in $\{X, S^0\}$.

We begin with the following commutative diagram whose rows are ^{explicitly} fibrations:

$$\begin{array}{ccccccccc} S^0_2 & \longrightarrow & S^0_3 & \longrightarrow & S^2 & \longrightarrow & BS^0_2 & \longrightarrow & BS^0_3 \\ \downarrow & & \downarrow & & \downarrow = & & \downarrow & & \downarrow \\ SF_2 & \longrightarrow & SG_3 & \longrightarrow & S^2 & \longrightarrow & BSF_2 & \longrightarrow & BSG_3 \end{array}$$

It follows that the fibers of $BS^0_2 \longrightarrow BSF_2$ and $BS^0_3 \longrightarrow BSG_3$, which are SF_2/BS^0_2 and

SF_3/SO_3 , are homotopy equivalent. Since

SF_3
the map $SO_3 \rightarrow SO$ is well known to be

2-connected and $SF_3 \rightarrow SF$ is also 2-connected

by ^{James} [], it follows that $SF_3/SO_3 \rightarrow G/O$ is

also 2-connected, and therefore $\pi_1(SF_3/SO_3) \cong$

$\pi_1(G/O) = \{0\}$, so that SF_2/SO_2 is also simply

connected. Furthermore, since SO_2 is spherical

it follows that the composite of the universal

covering space projection $\widetilde{SF}_2 \rightarrow SF_2$ and the

canonical map $SF_2 \rightarrow SF_2/SO_2$ is a homotopy

equivalence. Thus we have shown that the images

of ~~$[X, G/O]$~~ $[X, G_3/O_3]$
of $[X, SF_3]$ and $[X, SF_2]$ in $[X, G/O]$ are equal.

Finally, since the image of $[X, \widetilde{SF}_2]$ lies between

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the images of $[X, \widetilde{SF}_2]$ and $[X, G_3]$ ^{exist} it follows

that the images of all three of these groups in

$[X, G/O]$ must coincide. \square

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the image of j_* . Furthermore, since α_1 lies in the image of $[X, S\mathbb{F}_2]$, and by (3.3) it follows that α_1 corresponds to an element in the image of $[S^2 X, S^2] \rightarrow \{X, S^0\}$.

PROPOSITION 3.6. Let p be an odd prime, let $h \geq 2$, and let $\alpha \in [X, S\mathbb{G}]$ be an element of order p^r for some $r > 0$. Then α lies in the image of $[X, S\mathbb{G}_{2^h}] \rightarrow [X, S\mathbb{G}]$ if and only if α corresponds to an element in the image of $[S^{2^h-1} X, S^{2^h-1}] \rightarrow \{X, S^0\}$.

PROOF. We shall work with p -localizations in the sense of Sullivan SULLIVAN 1970 MIT. Since connected H -spaces all have good localizations ^{at p , it is} ~~we can~~ these spaces meaningful to ~~talk~~ discuss $S\mathbb{G}_{(p)}$, $S\mathbb{G}_{2^h(p)}$

$$SF_{2k-1}(p) \simeq \Omega^{2k-1}(p), \text{ and } SO_{2k}(p) \simeq \Omega_0^\infty S^\infty(p)$$

and $\Omega_0^{2k-1} S^{2k-1}(p)$, where $\Omega_0^m Y$ denotes the _{path} component of the constant map in the

iterated loop space $\Omega^m Y$. Note that if W is

an arcwise connected H -space whose homotopy groups are all finite, then W is naturally homotopy equivalent to the weak

product of its localizations $W(q)$ at all primes q ; in particular,

~~this~~ this applies to the H -spaces $SG_{2k} \simeq \Omega_0^\infty S^\infty$

$$\text{and } SF_{2k-1} \simeq \Omega_0^{2k-1} S^{2k-1}$$

Recall that we have a fibration

$$SO_{2k-1} \longrightarrow SO_{2k} \longrightarrow S^{2k-1}$$

and the tangent bundle of $T(S^{2k})$ corresponds

to a map $S^{2k-1} \longrightarrow SO_{2k} \longrightarrow S^{2k-1}$ such that

the composite $S^{2k-1} \longrightarrow SO_{2k} \longrightarrow S^{2k-1}$ has degree 2.

Therefore the map
 If we compose the map $S^{2k-1} \rightarrow SO_{2k}$ with
 the inclusion of SO_{2k} in SG_{2k} ~~then the~~ and
 the fibration $SG_{2k} \rightarrow S^{2k-1}$, the resulting
 composite also has degree 2 and therefore the
 map

$$SF_{2k-1} \times S^{2k-1} \rightarrow SG_{2k} \times SG_{2k} \xrightarrow{\text{mult}} SG_{2k}$$

becomes a homotopy equivalence when localized
 at the odd prime p . Since $S^{2k-1} \rightarrow SO_{2k} \rightarrow SO$
 is nullhomotopic, it follows that the image of

$$[X, SG_{2k}(p)] \text{ in } [X, SG_{2k}(p)] \cong [X, SG]_{(p)}$$

is equal to the image of $[X, SF_{2k-1}(p)]$, which

corresponds to the image of $[S^{2k-1}X, S^{2k}(p)] \cong$

$$[S^{2k-1}X, S^{2k-1}]_{(p)} \text{ in } \{X, S^0\}_{(p)}; \text{ note that the}$$

codomain of $\{X, S^0\}_{(p)}$ latter image is the Sylow p -subgroup with respect to

the loop sum, and likewise the domain is the Sylow p -subgroup of $[S^{2h-1}X, S^{2h-1}]$. These observations imply that if $\alpha \in [X, SG]$ is p -primary with respect to the composition and lifts to $[X, SG_{2n}]$ product (which is homotopy abelian), then α corresponds to an element of $[X, S^0]$ which desuspends to $[S^{2h-1}X, S^{2h-1}]$.

We shall also need the following result:

PROPOSITION 3.7. If $\alpha \in [X, SG]$ has odd order and lies in the image of $[X, SG_3]$, then α is trivial.

The image of α in $[X, G/O]$ is trivial.

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PROOF. By Proposition 3.5 we may assume that

α lies in the image of $[X, \widetilde{SF}_2]$, and since

the homotopy groups of \widetilde{SF}_2 and S_{p^2} are finite, we can say

Since the finite abelian group $[X, SG]$ splits into a product of the groups $[X, SG]_{(q)}$ where q runs through all odd primes, it will suffice to prove the result when the order of α is a power of some odd prime p .

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that α corresponds to a class in $\{X, S^0\}_{(p)}$ which lies in the image of $[S^2X, S^2]_{(p)}$.

If $h: S^3 \rightarrow S^2$ is the Hopf map, then the nontrivial fiber is S^1 , then composition with h defines a homotopy equivalence from $\Omega_0^2 S^3$ to $\Omega_0^2 S^2$, where $\Omega_0^m Y$ denotes the arc component of the constant map in $\Omega^m Y$. Therefore it follows that α corresponds to a class in $\{X, S^0\}_{(p)}$ which lies in the image of the composite

$$h_*: [S^2X, S^3]_{(p)} \longrightarrow [S^2X, S^2]_{(p)}$$

and hence α may be written as a composite

$\tau \circ \beta$, where β lies in $\{X, S^1\}_{(p)}$ and

τ denotes the image of h in $\{S^3, S^2\}_{(p)} \cong \{S^1, S^0\}_{(p)}$.

But since p is odd, the group $\{S^1, S^0\}_{(p)}$ is trivial, and therefore α corresponds to the trivial element of $\{X, S^0\}_{(p)}$.

Finally, since $\{S^1, S^0\} \cong \mathbb{Z}_2$ we have

$\{S^1, S^0\}_{(cp)} \cong \{0\}$, and hence v corresponds

to the trivial element of $\{X, S^0\}_{(cp)}$, where we interpret the latter ~~map~~ as a subgroup of $\{X, S^0\}$. \square

COROLLARY 3.8. The same conclusion holds if

we replace G/O by G/PL or G/Top . \square