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TWISTED COHOMOLOGY THEORIES AND THE SINGLE OBSTRUCTION TO LIFTING

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Consider any fibration $p: E \to B$, any finite C.W. — pair (K, L), and any maps $f: K \to B$ and $h: L \to E$ such that $p \circ h = f \mid L$. A map $g: K \to E$ such that $p \circ g = f$ and $g \mid L = h$ we call a lifting of f rel h.

In this paper single obstruction $\Gamma(f) \in H'(K, L, f; \mathcal{C})$ is defined. \mathcal{C} is a so-called B-spectrum, and H^* (; \mathcal{C}) is cohomology in that spectrum. If a lifting of f rel h exists, $\Gamma(f) = 0$; this condition is also sufficient if the fiber of p is k-connected and dim $(K/L) \leq 2k + 1$.

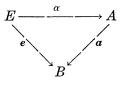
If g_0 and g_1 are liftings of f rel h, a single obstruction $\delta(g_0, g_1; h) \in H(K, L, f; \mathscr{C})$ is also defined; if g_0 and g_1 are connected by a homotopy of liftings of f rel h $\delta(g_0, g_1; h) = 0$; this condition is, also sufficient if p is k-connected and $\dim(K/L) \leq 2k$.

In $\S 4$, a spectral sequence is constructed for cohomology in a *B*-spectrum, based on the Postnikov tower of that spectrum, and the relationship between the single obstruction and the classical obstructions is defined.

For similar treatments, see Becker [1], [2], and Meyer [5].

Throughout this paper, let (K, L) be a finite C. W. pair, B any space, and $f: K \to B$ any map. All spaces and maps shall be in the category CG of compactly generated spaces and maps, as described by Steenrod [7], and all constructions (i.e., function spaces, quotient space, Cartesian products) shall be as defined in that paper. When possible without confusion, we shall allow $f \mid L$ and $f \mid K \cup L$ to be denoted simply as F. A map $\pi: X \to Y$ we call a *fibration* if it has a local product structure; the polyhedral covering homotopy extension property [4] is then satisfied.

2. Basic concepts. We define a *B*-bundle to be an ordered pair (E, e) such that $e: E \to B$ is a fibration. A *B*-bundle map from a *B*-bundle e = (E, e) to another *B*-bundle a = (A, a) is defined to be a commutative diagram:



We denote this map $\alpha: e \to a$. A pointed B-bundle is an ordered triple (E, e, e') such that $e: E \to B$ is a fibration and $e': B \to E$ is a pointing, i.e., $e \circ e' = 1$, the identity on B. We call e' a pointing because it chooses a base-point for each fiber of e. A bi-pointed Bbundle is an ordered quadruple (E, e, e', e'') such that (E, e) is a Bbundle and e' and e'' are both pointings. If e = (E, e, e') and a =(A, a, a') are pointed B-bundles, a B-bundle map $\alpha: e \to a$ is a pointed map if $\alpha \circ e' = a'$. Similarly, we can define bi-pointed maps between bi-pointed bundles. Two bundle maps (or pointed bundle maps, or bi-pointed bundle maps) are said to be homotopic if there exists a homotopy of bundle maps (or pointed bundle maps, or bi-pointed bundle maps) connecting them.

If e = (E, e) is a *B*-bundle, $e^{-1}b$ is called the fiber of *e* over *b*, for any $b \in B$. If e = (E, e, e') is a pointed *B*-bundle, each fiber, $(e^{-1}b, e'b)$ is a pointed space. If e = (E, e, e', e'') is bi-pointed, we say that e'b is the South pole of $e^{-1}b$, while e''b is the North pole.

Let \mathscr{X}_B be the category of *B*-bundles and *B*-bundle maps. Let \mathscr{X}_B^* and \mathscr{X}_B^{**} be the categories of pointed and bi-pointed *B*-bundles and maps, respectively. We obviously have forgetful functors $\alpha: \mathscr{X}_B^{**} \to \mathscr{X}_B^*$ and $\beta: \mathscr{X}_B^* \to \mathscr{X}_B$ where $\alpha(E, e, e', e'') = (E, e, e')$ and $\beta(E, e, e') =$ (E, e). We shall, whenever convenient, identify any object with its image under α , β , or $\beta \circ \alpha$. We also define functors as follows:

- S: $\mathscr{X}_{\scriptscriptstyle B} \to \mathscr{X}_{\scriptscriptstyle B}^{**}$ two-point suspension
- $\Sigma: \mathscr{X}_{\scriptscriptstyle B}^* \to \mathscr{X}_{\scriptscriptstyle B}^*$ one-point suspension
- $\Omega: \mathscr{X}_{\scriptscriptstyle B}^* \to \mathscr{X}_{\scriptscriptstyle B}^* \text{ looping}$

P: $\mathscr{X}_{B}^{**} \to \mathscr{X}_{B}$ paths from the South pole to the North pole $S(E, e) = (S_{B}E, s, s', s'')$ where $S_{B}E$ is the quotient space of $E \times I$ obtained by identifying (x, 0) with (y, 0) and (x, 1) with (y, 1) for any $x, y \in e^{-1}b$ for any $b \in B$. For all $[x, t] \in S_{B}E$, s[x, t] = ex, while s'b = [x, 0] and s''b = [x, 1] for all $b \in B$, where x is any element in the fiber of e over b. $\Sigma(E, e, e) = (\Sigma_{B}E, s, s')$ where $\Sigma_{B}E$ is the quotient space of $E \times I$ obtained by identifying (x, 0) with $((e' \circ e)x, t)$ (x, 1) for any $x \in E$ and any $t \in I$. Then s[x, t] = ex for all $[x, t] \in \Sigma_{B}E$ and s'b = [e'b, 0] for any $b \in B$.

 $\Omega(E, e, e') = (\Omega_B E, \sigma, \sigma')$ where $\Omega_B E$ is the space of all loops in E based on e'(B) which lie in a single fiber of $e; \sigma \alpha = (e \circ \alpha)(0)$ for all $\alpha \in \Omega_B E$, and $(\sigma'b)t = e'b$ for all $b \in B$, and all $t \in I$. $P(E, e, e', e'') = (P_B E, p)$ where $P_B E$ is the space of all paths from e'(B) to e''(B) which lie in a single fiber, and $p\alpha = (e \circ \alpha)(0)$ for all $\alpha \in P_B E$.

We give two adjoint constructions. First, let e = (E, e, e') and a = (A, a, a') be two pointed *B*-bundles. If $\alpha: e \to \Omega a$ and $\beta; \Sigma e \to a$ are pointed *B*-bundle maps, we say that α and β are *adjoints* of each

other if, for any $x \in E$ and any $t \in I$, $\beta[x, t] = (\alpha x)t$. Second, let e = (E, e) be a *B*-bundle and a = (A, a, a', a'') a bi-pointed *B*-bundles. We say that maps $\alpha: e \to Pa$ and $\beta: Se \to a$ (where β is bi-pointed) are adjoints of each other if $\beta[x, t] = (\alpha x)t$ for all $x \in E$ and all $t \in I$.

Let $[K, L, h; e]_f$ denote the set of rel L fiber-homotopy classes of liftings of f to E rel h, where e = (E, e) is a B-bundle and $h: L \to E$ is a lifting of $f \mid L$. If L is empty, write $[K: e]_f$. If e =(E, e, e') is pointed, write $[K, L; e]_f$ for $[K, L, e' \mid L; e]_f$. If $\alpha: e \to a$ is a B-bundle map, let $\alpha_i: [K, L, h; e]_f \to [K, L, \alpha \circ h; a]_f$ be the function where $\alpha_i[g] = [\alpha \circ g]$, where [g] is the fiber-homotopy rel Lclass of any lifting g of f rel h. If $r: (K', L') \to (K, L)$ is a map of C.W. pairs, let $r^*: [K, L, h; e]_f \to [K', L, h \circ r; e]_{f \circ r}$ be the function where $r^*[g] = [g \circ r]$. We omit the proof (based in part on the PCHEP of e) of the following lemma:

LEMMA 2.1. If $r: (K', L') \to (K, L)$ is a homotopy equivalence of pairs, then $r^*: [K, L, h; e]_f \cong [K', L', h \circ r; e]_{f \circ r}$.

Let e = (E, e) be a *B*-bundle. If each fiber of *e* is connected, we say that *e* is connected. Similarly, if each fiber of *e* is *n*connected, or *n*-simple, for some integer $n \ge 1$, we say that *e* is *n*connected, or *n*-simple. If *e* is *n*-simple, define $\pi_n e$ to be the local system of Abelian groups over *B* such that, for every $b \in B$, $(\pi_n e)b = \pi_n(e^{-1}b)$. We call $\pi_n e$ the n^{th} homotopy group system of *e*. Similarly, if *e* is pointed, we can define $\pi_n e$ whether *e* is *n*-simple or not, since every fiber has a base-point. Note that *e* is *n*-connected if and only if *e* is connected and $\pi_k e = 0$ for all $k \le n$. If $\alpha: e \to a$ is any *B*bundle map, where *e* and *a* are both *n*-simple or both pointed (and α is pointed) or *e* is pointed and *a* is *n*-simple, α induces a homomorphism $\alpha_t: \pi_n e \to \pi_n a$ in the obvious way.

Let $\alpha: e \to a$ be any *B*-bundle map, where e = (E, e) and a = (A, a, a'). We define the *fiber* of α to be the *B*-bundle c = (C, c) where *C* is the space of all ordered pairs (x, σ) such that $x \in E$ and σ is a path in *A* such that $\sigma(0) \in a'(B)$, $\sigma(1) = \alpha x$, and $(a \circ \sigma)t = ex$ for all $t \in I$; and where $c(x, \sigma) = ex$ for all $(x, \sigma) \in C$. If e = (E, e, e') is pointed, then $c'b = (e'b, \sigma)$ gives a pointing of *c*, where $\sigma t = a'b$ for all $t \in I$. The reader will note that for any $b \in B$, $c^{-1}b$ is precisely the fiber of $\alpha: e^{-1}b \to a^{-1}b$. The following sequence is thus exact, if $\alpha: e \to a$ is pointed:

$$\cdots \longrightarrow \pi_n(\Omega e) \xrightarrow{(\Omega \alpha)_{\sharp}} \pi_n(\Omega a) \xrightarrow{j_{\sharp}} \pi_n c \xrightarrow{i_{\sharp}} \pi_n e \xrightarrow{\alpha_{\sharp}} \pi_n a$$

where $i(x, \sigma) = \sigma(1)$ for all $(x, \sigma) \in C$, and $j(\tau) = (c'b, \tau)$ for all $\tau \in \Omega_{\scriptscriptstyle B}A$, where $b = (a, \tau)$ (1).

Now if $\alpha: e \to a$ is a *B*-bundle map, we say that α is *n*-connected for any $n \ge 0$ if, for all $b \in B$ and $y \in a^{-1}b$, the space

$$\{(x, \sigma) \in e^{-1}b \times (a^{-1}b)^I : \sigma(0) = y, \sigma(1) = \sigma x\}$$

is *n*-connected. If a is a connected pointed *B*-bundle, α is connected if and only if the fiber of α is *n*-connected.

Suppose now that $\alpha: e \rightarrow a$ is a *B*-bundle map. Consider

$$\alpha_{\sharp}$$
: $[K, L, h; e]_f \longrightarrow [K, L, \alpha \circ h; a]_f$.

LEMMA 2.2. Suppose α is n-connected for some $n \ge 0$. Then: (i) α_{\sharp} is onto if dim $(K/L) \le n$. (ii) α_{\sharp} is one-to-one if dim $(K/L) \le n - 1$.

Proof. The connectivity of α equals the connectivity of the fiber of $\alpha: E \to A$, considered as a map of spaces. Simple application of ordinary obstruction theory enables us to complete the proof in a routine manner; we omit the details.

Suppose now that $g_0, g_1: K \to E$ are both liftings of f rel h.

LEMMA 2.3. If α is n-connected for some $n \ge 1$, then g_0 and g_1 are homotopic rel h if and only if $\alpha \circ g_0$ and $\alpha \circ g_1$ are homotopic, rel L; provided dim $(K/L) \le n - 1$.

Proof. We have a bi-pointed K-bundle map $f^{-1}\alpha$: $f^{-1}e \to f^{-1}a$, where $f^{-1}e = (f^{-1}E, f^{-1}e, f^{-1}g_0, f^{-1}g_1)$ and

$$f^{-1} a = (f^{-1} A, \, f^{-1} a, \, f^{-1} (lpha \, \circ \, g^{\scriptscriptstyle 0}), \, f^{-1} (lpha \, \circ \, g_{\scriptscriptstyle 1}))$$
 ;

and $Pf^{-1}\alpha$; $Pf^{-1}e \rightarrow Pf^{-1}a$ is (n-1)-connected. A section of $Pf^{-1}e$ is equivalent to a fiber homotopy, rel L, of g_0 with g_1 , while a section of Pf^{-1} a is equivalent to a fiber homotopy, rel L, of $\alpha \circ g_0$ with $\alpha \circ g_1$. Apply Lemma 2.2, and we are done.

3. B-Spectra. Suppose e = (E, e, e') is a pointed B-bundle. We define an operation "+" on $[K, L, \Omega e]_f$ as follows: for any two liftings of f rel $e' \mid L$, g and g', let $g + g' \colon K \to \Omega_B E$ be the map where ((g+g')x)t = (gx)(2t) if $0 \leq t \leq 1/2$, g'(x)(2t-1) if $1/2 \leq t \leq 1$, for all $x \in K$. Then g + g' is also a lifting of f rel $e' \mid L$. We define [g] + [g'] = [g+g]'; it is trivial to verify that the operation is well-defined.

THEOREM 3.1. [K, L; Ωe]_f is a group under the operation "+" with identity [e'].

Proof. Let $[g]^{-1} = [g^{-1}]$ for any lifting g of f rel e' | L, where $(g^{-1}x)t = (gx)(1-t)$ for all $x \in K$ and all $t \in I$; it is routine to check that the group axioms are satisfied.

THEOREM 3.2. [K, L; $\Omega^2 e$]_f is an Abelian group.

Proof. We omit the details; if g and g' are both liftings of f rel $e' \mid L$, a fiber homotopy rel L of g + g' with g' + g can easily be constructed in the same manner as the proof that $[X; \Omega^2 Y]$ is Abelian for pointed spaces X and Y, but the construction is done fiberwise over B.

DEFINITION 3.1. A B-spectrum is an ordered pair

$$\mathscr{E} = (\{e_i\}_{i \ge m}, \{\varepsilon_i\}_{i \ge m})$$

for some integer m such that:

- (i) For each $i \ge m$, e_i is a pointed B-bundle.
- (ii) For each $i \ge m$, $\varepsilon_i: e_i \to e_{i+1}$ is a pointed B-bundle map.

Furthermore, we say that \mathscr{C} is a $\Omega_{\mathcal{B}}$ -spectrum if ε_i is a homotopy equivalence (in the category $\mathscr{K}_{\mathcal{B}}^*$) for each *i*, and we say that ε is a weak $\Omega_{\mathcal{B}}$ -spectrum if ε_i is infinitely connected for all $i \geq m$. We say that ε is *stabilizing* if, for each integer *n*, there exists an integer $N \geq m$ such that ε_i is (n+i)-connected for all $i \geq N$. The e_i are called the elements of the spectrum, the ε_i are called the connection maps, and *m* is called the starting value. If the first finitely many elements of a spectrum are altered, no change occurs in cohomology with coefficients in that spectrum; in that sense, the starting value is arbitrary. We define the homotopy of a spectrum $\pi_n(\mathscr{C})$ for any integer *n*, to be the direct limit $\operatorname{Lim}_{i\to\infty} \pi_{n+i}e_i$, under the system of homomorphisms

$$(\varepsilon)_{i\sharp}: \pi_{n+i}e_i \longrightarrow \pi_{n+i}\Omega e_{i+1} \cong \pi_{n+i+1}e_{i+1}$$

thus $\pi_n(\mathscr{C})$ is a local system of Abelian groups on *B*. Note that $\pi_n(\mathscr{C})$ need not be zero for negative values of *n*.

Henceforth, we shall assume that $\mathscr{C} = (\{e_i\}_{i \ge m}, \{\varepsilon_i\}_{i \ge m})$ is a *B*-spectrum.

DEFINITION 3.2. For any integer *n*, let $H^n(K, L, f; \mathscr{C})$ be the direct limit of the system of groups $\{[K, L; \Omega^{i-n}e_i]_f\}$ and homomorphisms $\{(\Omega^{i-n}\varepsilon_i)_i\}$. (If L is empty, we write $H^n(K, f; \mathscr{C})$.) For any $i \ge \min(n, m)$, let

$$[K, L; \Omega^{i-n}e_i]_f \longrightarrow H^n(K, L, f; \mathscr{C})$$

be called the representation. If \mathscr{C} is stabilizing, the direct limit is achieved eventually, i.e., beyond some point, all representations are bijective; if \mathscr{C} is a weak $\Omega_{\mathcal{B}}$ -spectrum, the direct limit is achieved immediately, i.e., all representations are bijective. We call $H^*(K, L, f; \mathscr{C})$ the cohomology of the triple (K, L, f) with coefficients in the spectrum \mathscr{C} . If (K', L') is another C.W. pair, and

 $r: (K', L') \longrightarrow (K, L)$

is a map, an induced homomorphism

$$r^*: H^*(K, L, f; \mathscr{C}) \longrightarrow H^*(K', L', f \circ r; \mathscr{C})$$

can be defined in the obvious way.

Henceforth, let (K'', L'') be the pair $(K \times \{1\} \cup L \times I, L \times \{0\})$, and let p; $(K'', L'') \to (K, L)$ be projection onto the first factor. The reader can easily verify that p is a relative homotopy equivalence, and hence by the direct limit version of Lemma 2.1,

$$p^*: H^*(K, L, f; \mathscr{C}) \longrightarrow H^*(K'', L'', f \circ p; \mathscr{C})$$

is an isomorphism.

For any integer n, we define a connecting homomorphism

$$\delta: H^n(L, f; \mathscr{C}) \longrightarrow H^{n+1}(K, L, f; \mathscr{C})$$

as follows. For any $a \in H^n(L, f; \mathscr{C})$, pick $i \ge m$ and $[g] \in [L; \mathcal{Q}^{i-n}e_i]_f$ representing a. Consider $\mathcal{Q}^{i-n}e_i = \mathcal{Q}\mathcal{Q}^{i-n-1}e_i$. Let $p^*\delta a$ be the image, in the direct limit, of $[G] \in [K'', L''; \mathcal{Q}^{i-n-1}e_i]_{f \circ p}$, where G(x, t) = (gx)tfor all $x \in L$ and $t \in I$, and where G(x, 1) = a'(fx) for all $x \in K$, where a' is the pointing of $\mathcal{Q}^{i-n-1}e_i$; δa is well-defined since p^* is an isomorphisms.

The following remarks (analogous to some of the Eilenberg Steenrod axioms for a cohomology theory [3]) we state without proof:

REMARK 3.3. The following long sequence is exact, where i and j are inclusions:

$$\cdots \longrightarrow H^{n-1}(L, f; \mathscr{C}) \xrightarrow{\delta} H^n(K, L, f; \mathscr{C}) \xrightarrow{j^*} H^n(K, f; \mathscr{C})$$
$$\xrightarrow{i^*} H^n(L, f; \mathscr{C}) \xrightarrow{\delta} H^{n+1}(K, L, ; \mathscr{C}) \longrightarrow \cdots .$$

REMARK 3.5. If $r_t: (K', L') \to (K, L)$, $0 \le t \le 1$, is a homotopy of maps, where (K', L') is another C.W. pair, such that $f \circ r_t = f \circ r_0$ for all t, then $r_1^* = r_0^*$.

Suppose now that $f_t: K \to B$, $0 \le t \le 1$, is a homotopy such that $f_0 = f$. Let $F: K \times I \to B$ be the map where $F(x, t) = f_t x$ for all

 $(x, t) \in K \times I$. Let $i_0, i_1: (K, L) \to (K \times I, L \times I)$ be the inclusions along 0 and 1, respectively. According to Lemma 2.1., $(i_j)_{\sharp}$ is an isomorphism for j = 0 or 1. Let

$$F_{\sharp} = (i_{1})_{\sharp} \circ (i_{0})_{\sharp}^{-1} \colon H^{*}(K, L, f; \mathscr{C}) \longrightarrow H^{*}(K, L, f; \mathscr{C}) ,$$

clearly an isomorphism. Again without proof, we state:

REMARK 3.6. F_{\sharp} depends only on the homotopy class of F, rel $K \times \{0, 1\}$.

REMARK 3.7. If G is a homotopy of f_1 with f_2 , then

$$G_{\sharp} \circ F_{\sharp} = (F+G)_{\sharp} \colon H^*(K, L, f; \mathscr{C}) \longrightarrow H^*(K, L, f_2; \mathscr{C})$$

where (F+G)(x, t) = F(x, 2t) if $0 \le t \le 1/2$; G(x, 2t) if $1/2 \le t \le 1$, for all $x \in K$.

An immediate question one may ask is: if $f_1 = f$, is F_{\sharp} the identity? The answer is generally no.

4. The associated spectrum and the single obstruction. Let e = (E, e) be a B-bundle and $h: L \to E$ a lifting of f | L. Let

$$\mathscr{E} = \mathscr{E}(e) = (\{e_i\}_{i \ge 1}, \{\varepsilon_i\}_{i \ge 1})$$

be the *B*-spectrum where $e_i = \sum_{i=1}^{i-1} Se$ for all $i \ge 1$, and $\varepsilon_i: e_i \to \Omega e_{i+1}$ is adjoint to the identity on $e_{i+1} = \sum e_i$. We call \mathscr{C} the *B*-spectrum associated to e. We shall write $e_1 = Se = (S_B E, s, s', s'')$.

Recall $(K'', L'') = (K \times \{1\} \cup L \times I, L \cup \{0\})$. We define $\Gamma(f; h) \in H^1(K, L, f; \mathscr{C})$ (or simply $\Gamma(f)$ when L is empty, or when h is understood), the single obstruction to lifting f rel h, to be $(p^*)^{-1}$ of the representation of $[H] \in [K'', L''; Se]_{f \circ p}$, where $H: K'' \to S_B E$ is the map such that H(x, t) = [hx, t] for all $(x, t) \in L \times I$, and $H(x, 1) = (e'' \circ f)x$, the North pole of $e^{-1}fx$, for all $x \in K$. We leave it to the reader to verify that if $f_t: K \to B$, for $0 \leq t \leq 1$, is a homotopy, and if $h_t: L \to E$ is a homotopy such that $e \circ h_t = f_t \mid L$ for all t, and if $F(x, t) = f_t x$ for all $(x, t) \in K \times I$, then $F_{\sharp}\Gamma(f_0; h_0) = \Gamma(f_1; h_1)$; i.e., $\Gamma(f; h)$ is a homotopy invariant.

THEOREM 4.2. If f has a lifting to E rel h, $\Gamma(f; h) = 0$.

Proof. Let $g: K \to E$ be such a lifting. Let $H_u: K'' \to S_B E$, for $0 \leq u \leq 1$, be the rel L'' lifting of $f \circ p$ where $H_u(x, t) = [gx, tu]$ for all $0 \leq t, u \leq 1$. Then $H_1 = H$, while $H_0 = s' \circ f \circ p$, and we are done.

THEOREM 4.3. If e is (n-1)-connected for some $n \ge 1$, and if

dim $(K/L) \leq 2n - 1$, then f has a lifting to E rel h if and only if $\Gamma(f; h) = 0$.

Proof. "Only if" is the previous theorem. Suppose then that $\Gamma(f; h) = 0$. Without loss of generality, we may assume that L has empty interior, whence dim $K'' \leq 2n - 1$. By a Serre spectral sequence argument, $(\Omega^{i-1}\varepsilon_i): \Omega^{i-1}e_i \to \Omega^i e_{i+1}$ is (2n+i-1)-connected for all $i \geq 1$, whence, by Lemma 2.2, the representation

$$[K'', L''; e_1]_{f \circ p} \longrightarrow H^1(K'', L'', f \circ p; \mathscr{C})$$

is one-to-one and onto. Thus $[H] = [s' \circ f \circ p]$. Let $H_t: K'' \to S_B E$ be a fiber-homotopy rel L'' such that $H_1 = H$ and $H_0 = s' \circ f \circ p$; define $G: K'' \to P_B S_B E$ to be the map where $(Gy)u = H_u y$ for all $y \in K''$. Let $i: e \to PSe$ be adjoint to the identity on $Se = e_1$. Again, by a Serre spectral sequence argument, i is (2n-2)-connected. Since $[K'', L'', i \circ h: PSe]_{f \circ p}$ is nonempty, $[K, L, h; e]_f$ is nonempty by Lemmas 2.1 and 2.2, and we are done.

Suppose now that $f_0, g_1: K \to E$ are liftings of f rel h. We define $\Delta(g_0, g_1; h) \in H^0(K, L, f; \mathscr{C})$, the single obstruction to fiber homotopy, rel L, of g_0 with g_1 , to be $(p^*)^{-1}$ of the representation in $H^0(K'', L'', f \circ p; \mathscr{C})$ of $[G] \in [K'', L''; \Omega Se]_{f \circ p}$, where for all (x, t) K'' and all $0 \leq u \leq 1$:

$$G(x, t)u = \begin{cases} [g_1x, 2u] \text{ if } t = 0 \text{ and } 0 \leq u \leq 1/2 \\ [g_0x, 2-2u] \text{ if } t = 0 \text{ and } 1/2 \leq u \leq 1 \\ [hx, 2u(1-t)] \text{ if } x \in L \text{ and } 0 \leq u \leq 1/2 \\ [hx, (2-2u)(1-)] \text{ if } x \in L \text{ and } 1/2 \leq u \leq 1 \end{cases}$$

We leave it to the reader to check that $\Delta(g_0, g_1; h)$ is a homotopy invariant in the same sense that $\Gamma(f; h)$ is.

Hence forth, we shall write $\Omega Se = (\Omega_B S_B E, c, c')$.

Theorem 4.4. If g_0 and g_1 are fiber-homotopic rel h, then $\varDelta(g_0, g_1; h) = 0$.

Proof. Let g_t be a fiber homotopy rel *L*. Let $G_v: K'' \to \Omega_B S_B E$, $0 \leq v \leq 1$, be the rel L'' fiber homotopy, where for all $0 \leq u, v \leq 1$:

$$G_v(x,t)u = egin{cases} & [g_{2v-1}x,2u] ext{ if } t=1, \ 0 \leq u \leq 1/2, ext{ and } 1/2 \leq v \leq 1 \ . \ & [g_0x,2-2u] ext{ if } t=1, \ 1/2 \leq u \leq 1, ext{ and } 1/2 \leq v \leq 1 \ . \ & [hx,2u(1-t)] ext{ if } x \in L, \ 0 \leq u \leq 1/2, ext{ and } 1/2 \leq v \leq 1 \ . \ & [hx,(2-2u)(1-t)] ext{ if } x \in L, \ 1/2 \leq u \leq 1, ext{ and } 1/2 \leq v \leq 1 \ . \ & [g_0x,4uv(1-t)] ext{ if } 0 \leq u \leq 1/2 ext{ and } 0 \leq v \leq 1/2 \ . \ & [g_0x,4(1-u)v(1-t)] ext{ if } 1/2 \leq u \leq 1 ext{ and } 0 \leq v \leq 1/2 \ . \end{cases}$$

Note that $G_1 = G$ and $G_0 = c' \circ f \circ p$, and we are done.

THEOREM 4.5. If e is (n-1)-connected for some $n \ge 1$, and if $\dim(K/L) \le 2n-2$, then g_0 and g_1 are fiber homotopic if and only if $\Delta(g_0, g_i; h) = 0$.

Proof. "Only if" is the previous theorem. Suppose, then, that $\Delta(g_0, g_1; h) = 0$. Then G is fiber homotopic, rel L", to c', since by Lemma 2.2, $[K'', L''; \Omega Se]_{f \circ p} \to H^0(K'', L'', f \circ p; \mathscr{C})$ is onto. A routine argument using Lemma 2.1 then shows that $i \circ g_0$ is fiber homotopic, rel $i \circ h$, to $i \circ g_1$, where $i: e \to PSe$ is adjoint to the identity on Se. Our result follows immediately from Lemma 2.3.

THEOREM 4.6. If g is any lifting of f rel h, and if $d \in H^0(K, L, f; \mathscr{C})$, then there exists some lifting g' of f rel h, such that $\Delta(g, g'; h) = d$, provided e is (n-1)-connected for some $n \ge 1$ and $\dim(K/L) \le 2n - 1$.

Proof. The representation $[K, L; \Omega Se]_f \to H^0(K, L, f; \mathscr{C})$ is onto by Lemma 2.2; pick a lifting, H, of $f \operatorname{rel} c^0 \circ f \mid L$ which represents d. Let s be the lifting of f to $P_B S_B E$:

$$(sx)t = egin{cases} (Hx)(2t) & ext{if } 0 \leq t \leq 1/2 \ ((i \circ g)x)(2t-1) & ext{if } 1/2 \leq t \leq 1 \end{cases}$$

where $i: e \to PSe$ is adjoint to the identity map of Se. Now by the *PCHEP* of *PSe*, s is fiber homotopic to a lifting s' where $s|L' = i \circ h$. Now $i_{i}: [K, L, h; e]_{f} \to [K, L, i \circ h; PSe]_{f}$ is onto by Lemma 2.2. Choose g' to be any rel h lifting of f such that $i_{i}[g'] = [s']$. We leave it to the reader to verify that $\Delta(g, g'; h) = d$.

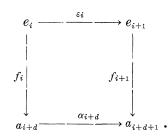
The proof of the next theorem we omit; it is a routine homotopy argument of the type the reader should by now be familiar with.

THEOREM 4.7. If
$$g_0$$
, g_1 , and g_2 are liftings of f rel h , then
 $\Delta(g_0, g_2; h) = \Delta(g_0, g_1; h) + \Delta(g_1, g_2; h)$.

COROLLARY 4.8. (Becker) If e is (n-1)-connected for some $n \ge 1$, and if $\dim(K/L) \le 2n - 2$, then $[K, L, h; e]_f$ has the structure of an affine group, and, if nonempty, is isomorphic to $H^0(K, L, f; \mathscr{C})$.

Proof. See Becker [1] for the definition of an affine group. Pick any $[g_0] \in [K, L, h; e]_f$. Let $\iota: [K, L, h; e]_f \to H^0(K, L, f; \mathscr{C})$ be given by $\iota[g] = \varDelta(g_0, g; h)$. This function is well-defined, one-to-one, and onto, and induces an affine group structure on $[K, L, h; e]_f$ which is independent of the choice of g_0 , by Theorems 4.4, 4.5, 4.6, and 4.7. We leave the details to the reader.

5. B-spectrum maps and a spectral sequence for $H^*(K, L, f; \mathscr{C})$. Let $\mathscr{C} = (\{e_i\}_{i \ge m}, \{\varepsilon_i\})$ and $\mathscr{A} = (\{a_i\}_{i \ge n}, \{\alpha_i\})$ be B-spectra. We define a B-spectrum map $\not : \mathscr{C} \to \mathscr{A}$ of degree d to be an indexed collection $\{f_i\}_{i \ge p}$ of pointed B-bundle maps, where $p \ge \max(m, n-d)$, such that for any $i \ge p$, $f_i: e_i \to a_{i+d}$ and the following diagram is commutative:



We can define $f_{\sharp}: H^k(K, L, f; \mathscr{C}) \to H^{k+d}(K, L, f; \mathscr{M})$ for any integer k to be the direct limit of the $(f_i)_{\sharp}$; similarly we can define

$$f_{\sharp}: \pi_k(\mathscr{C}) \longrightarrow \pi_{k-d}(\mathscr{A})$$

for any integer k.

Let $\mathscr{D} = (\{d_i\}_{i \ge p}, \{\delta_i\})$ be the *fiber* of \nearrow , defined as follows. For any $i \ge p$, $d_i = (D_i, d_i, d'_i)$ where

$$egin{aligned} D_i &= \{(x,\,\sigma)\in E_i imes A_{i+d}^{\scriptscriptstyle I}\colon \sigma(0) \,=\, (a_{i+d}^\prime\circ e_i)x,\,\sigma(1)\ &= f_ix,\,\&\,\,a_{i+d}(\sigma t) \,=\, e_ix\,\,\, ext{for all}\,\,t\in I\}\;, \end{aligned}$$

 $d_i(x, \sigma) = e_i x$ for all $(x, \sigma) \in D_i$ and $d'_i b = (e'_i b, \langle b \rangle)$ for all $b \in B$, where $\langle b \rangle t = a'_{i+d} b$ for all $t \in I$. Let $\delta_i: d^i \to \Omega d_{i+1}$ be defined as follows: For any $(x, \sigma) \in D_i$ and any $t \in I$, $(\delta_i(x, \sigma))t = ((\varepsilon_i x)t, \tau)$, where $\tau u = (\alpha_{i+d}(\sigma u))t$ for all $u \in I$. Consider the sequence of *B*-spectra and *B*-spectrum maps (called the fibration sequence of /):

$$(5-1) \qquad \qquad \mathcal{A} \xrightarrow{h} \mathcal{D} \xrightarrow{g} \mathcal{C} \xrightarrow{f} \mathcal{A}$$

where $\mathscr{I} = \{g_i\}_{i \ge p}$ has degree 0 and $\mathscr{I} = \{h_i\}_{i \ge p+d-1}$ has degree -d+1; defined as follows: For any $(x, \sigma) \in D_i$, $h_i(x, \sigma) = x$; and for any $y \in A_i$, $g_i y = ((e'_{i-d+1} \circ a_i)y, \alpha_i y)$. The sequence (5-1) is analogous to the fibration sequence for any map of pointed spaces (where F is the fiber of f):

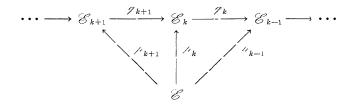
$$Y \longrightarrow F \longrightarrow X \xrightarrow{f} Y .$$

As in that case, we may, in a straightforward manner, verify the exactness of the long sequences:

$$\cdots \longrightarrow \pi_{k-d+1}(\mathscr{A}) \xrightarrow{\mathscr{I}_{\sharp}} \pi_{k}(\mathscr{D}) \xrightarrow{\mathscr{I}_{\sharp}} \pi_{k}(\mathscr{C}) \xrightarrow{\mathscr{I}_{\sharp}} \pi_{k-d}(\mathscr{A}) \longrightarrow \cdots$$
$$\cdots \longrightarrow H^{k+d-1}(K, L, f; \mathscr{A}) \xrightarrow{\mathscr{I}_{\sharp}} H^{k}(K, L, f; \mathscr{D}) \xrightarrow{\mathscr{I}_{\sharp}} H^{k}(K, L, f; \mathscr{A}) \longrightarrow \cdots$$

We say that $f: \mathscr{C} \to \mathscr{A}$ is k-connected if \mathscr{D} is k-connected, and we say that f is k-coconnected if \mathscr{D} is k-coconnected, i.e.,

Henceforth in this section, let $\mathscr{C} = (\{e_i\}_{i \geq m}, \{\varepsilon_i\})$ be a *B*-spectrum. We define a *resolution* of \mathscr{C} to be a commutative diagram of *B*-spectra, where each map has degree 0:



such that for any integer r, there exists an integer N such that $\not/_k$ is r-connected for all $k \geq N$, and an integer M such that \mathscr{C}_k is rcoconnected for all $k \leq M$. We are thus assured that $H^*(K, L, f: \mathscr{C})$ is isomorphic to the inverse limit $\lim_{k\to\infty} H(K, L, f; \mathscr{C}_k)$ under the homomorphisms $(\mathscr{I}_k)_{\sharp}$. An important special case of a resolution of \mathscr{C} is a Postnikov resolution: that is where $(\mathscr{I}_k)_{\sharp}: \pi_r(\mathscr{C}) \to \pi_r(\mathscr{C}_k)$ is an isomorphism for all $r \leq k$, and where each \mathscr{C}_k is (k+1)-coconnected. In § 6, we shall show that every B-spectrum has a Postnikov resolution.

Using a resolution of \mathcal{C} , (5-2), we construct a spectral sequence for $H^*(K, L, f; \mathcal{C})$. For any integer r, we have a filtration of $H^r(K, L, f; \mathcal{C})$:

$$0 \subset \cdots \subset G^{r+q,q} \subset G^{r+q-1,q-1} \subset \cdots H^r(K, L, f; \mathscr{C})$$

where $G^{p,q}$ is the kernel of

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 $\pi_r(\mathscr{D}) = 0$ for all $r \ge k$.

$$(\swarrow_q)_{\sharp} \colon H^{p-q}(K, L, f; \mathscr{C}) \longrightarrow H^{p-q}(K, L, f: \mathscr{C}_q)$$
.

(The conditions that \aleph_k is highly connected for large k and \mathscr{C}_k is highly coconnected for small k insures that the filtration has only finitely many distinct terms.) For any k, consider the fibration sequence of \aleph_k : $\mathscr{C}_{k-1} \xrightarrow{\mathfrak{e}_k} \mathscr{K}_k \xrightarrow{\mathfrak{d}_k} \mathscr{C}_k \xrightarrow{\mathscr{I}_k} \mathscr{C}_{k-1} .$

Recall that \mathcal{I}_k and \mathcal{J}_k have degree 0, and \mathcal{I}_k has degree 1. For any integers p and q, define $E_2^{p,q} = H^{p-q}(K, L, f; \mathcal{H}_q)$ and

 $D_2^{p,q} = H^{p-q}(K, L, f; \mathscr{C}_q) .$ Let $(\mathscr{P}_q)_{\sharp} = i_2: D_2^{p,q} \to D_2^{p-1,q-1}, \ (*_{q+1})_{\sharp} = j_2: D_2^{p,q} \to E_2^{p+2,q+1}, \text{ and}$ $(*_q)_{\sharp} = k_2: E_2^{p,q} = \longrightarrow D_2^{p,q} .$

Using general spectral sequence arguments, we can verify that

$$d_r: E_2^{p,q} \longrightarrow E_2^{p+r,q+r-1}$$
 for all $r \ge 2$,

and that $E^{p,q}_{\infty} = G^{p-1,q-1}/G^{p,q}$ for all p and q.

In the special case that (5-2) is a Postnikov resolution, we can construct an E_1 term of the spectral sequence as follows. Let K^r be the *r*-skeleton of *K*, for any $r: K^r = \emptyset$ if r < 0. For any p and q, let $D_1^{p,q} = H^{p,q}(K^p \cup L, f; \mathscr{C})$ and $E_1^{p,q} = C^p(K, L, f^{-1}\pi_q(\mathscr{C}))$, the group of cochains with coefficients in the local system $f^{-1}\pi_q(\mathscr{C})$ over *K*. Let $i_1: D_1^{p,q} \to D_1^{p-1,q-1}$ and $k_1: E_1^{p,q} \to D_1^{p,q}$ be the homomorphisms induced by the appropriate inclusions, and let $j_1: D_1^{p,q} \to E_1^{p+1,q}$ be the connecting homomorphism of the pair $(K^{p+1} \cup L, K^p \cup L)$. The differential $d_1: C^p(K, L; f^{-1}\pi_q(\mathscr{C})) \to C^{p+1}(K, L; f^{-1}\pi_q(\mathscr{C}))$ is then the usual coboundary on cochains with local coefficients, hence

$$E_2^{\,p,q}=H^p(K,\,L;\,f^{-1}\pi_q(\mathscr{C}))$$
 .

We leave the rather routine verification that the above E_1 , D_1 , i_1 , j_1 , and k_1 yield the correct E_2 , D_2 , etc., to the reader. (Hint: If \mathscr{E} is *k*-connected, $H^p(K, L, f; \mathscr{E}) = 0$ for all $p \ge n - k$, where $n = \dim(K/L)$.)

We now explore the relation between the single obstruction and the classical obstructions. Let us suppose that e = (E, e) is a kconnected B-bundle, for some $k \ge 1$, and that diagram (5-2) is a Postnikov system for $\mathscr{C} = \mathscr{C}(e)$. For any integer r, let $\iota_r: \pi_r e \to \pi_r(\mathscr{C})$ be the composition

$$\pi_r e \longrightarrow \pi_r PSe \cong \pi_r \Omega Se \cong \pi_{r+1} e_1 \longrightarrow \pi_r(\mathscr{C})$$
,

an isomorphism if $r \leq 2k$. Now suppose that $f \mid K^m \cap L$ has a rel h lifting, g^m , for some integer m. Then

$$i^* \Gamma(f, h) = \Gamma(f \mid K^m \cup L; h) = 0$$

by Theorem 4.2. Consider the commutative diagram of groups and homomorphisms:

$$\begin{split} H^{1}(K, L, f; \mathscr{K}_{m}) & \xrightarrow{(\mathscr{I}_{m})_{\sharp}} H^{1}(K, L, f; \mathscr{C}_{m}) \xrightarrow{(\mathscr{I}_{m})_{\sharp}} H^{1}(K, L, f; \mathscr{C}) \\ & \uparrow \\ & \downarrow \\ & \downarrow \\ H^{k+1}(K, L, f^{-1}\pi_{m}(\mathscr{C})) & H^{1}(K, L, f; \mathscr{C}_{m-1}) \\ & \uparrow \\ & f^{(\mathcal{I}_{m})_{\sharp}} \\ & H^{k+1}(K, L; f^{-1}\pi_{m}e) . \end{split}$$

Since \mathscr{C}_{m-1} is *m*-coconnected,

$$i^*: H^{\scriptscriptstyle 1}(K, L, f; \, {\mathscr C}_{m-1}) \longrightarrow H^{\scriptscriptstyle 1}(K^m \cup L, L, f; \, {\mathscr C}_{m-1})$$

is an isomorphism. Thus $(\swarrow_{m-1})_{\sharp}\Gamma(f;h) = 0$. Since \mathscr{K}_m is the fiber of \mathscr{I}_m , $(\nearrow_m)_{\sharp}\Gamma(f;h) \in (\mathscr{I}_m)_{\sharp}H^1(K,L,\mathscr{K}_m)$. The classical obstruction to extending g^m over $K^{m+1} \cup L$, $\gamma(g^m) \in H^{k+1}(K,L;f^{-1}\pi_m e)$ up to some indeterminacy. It is a routine matter of checking definitions to verify that $(\mathscr{I}_m)_{\sharp}(\mathcal{I}_m)_{\sharp}\gamma(g^m) = (\nearrow_m)_{\sharp}\Gamma(f;h)$.

6. Construction of the Postnikov resolution of \mathscr{C} . For every integer, n, we define a functor $K_n: \mathscr{X}_B^* \to \mathscr{X}_B^*$ as follows. If n < 0, let K_n be the identity. Otherwise, if e = (E, e, e') is a pointed *B*bundle, let B^{n+1} be a (topological) (n+1)-ball with boundary S^n and basepoint $* \in S^n$. Let $E_B^{S^n}$ be the space of all continuous maps $h: S^n \to E$ such that $h(*) \in e'(B)$ and $e \circ h$ is constant. Let $\varepsilon: E_B^{S^n} \to E$ be the evaluation map, and let $(K_n)_B E = E \cup_{\varepsilon} (E_B^{S^n} \times B^{n+1})$. We define $K_n e$ to be the pointed *B*-bundle $((K_n)_B E, \mathbf{k}, \mathbf{k}')$, where $\mathbf{k}' = e'$, $\mathbf{k} \mid E = \mathbf{e}$, and $\mathbf{k}(h, b) = (\mathbf{e} \circ h)$ (*) for all $(h, b) \in (E_B^{S^n} \times B^{n+1})$. If $\alpha:$ $e \to a$ is any pointed *B*-bundle map, we define $K_n \alpha: K_n e \to K_n a$ in the obvious way: $K_n \alpha \mid = \alpha$, and $(K_n \alpha)(h, b) = (\alpha \circ h, b)$ for all $(h, b) \in E_B^{S^n} \times B^{n+1}$. A very simple homotopy argument shows:

REMARK 6.1. (i) For all k < n, $i_{\sharp}: \pi_k e \to \pi_k(K_k e)$ is an isomorphism, where $i: e \to K_n e$ is the inclusion. (ii) $\pi_n(K_n e) = 0$.

We define functors $K_n^r: \mathscr{X}_B^* \to \mathscr{X}_B^*$ for all integers $n \leq r$, inductively, as follows: $K_n^n = K_n$, and $K_n^{r+1} = K_{r+1}K_n^r$ for all $n \leq r$. It is very simple to see that the "union" $\bigcup_{r=n}^{\infty} K_n^r$ is also a functor, which we call $K_n^{\infty}: \mathscr{X}_B^* \to \mathscr{X}_B^*$. We call K_n, K_n^r , and K_n^{∞} homotopy-killing functors. The following remark is an immediate Corollary of 6.1:

REMARK 6.2. (i) $i_{\sharp}: \pi_k e \to \pi_k(K_n^{\infty} e)$ is an isomorphism for all k < n, where $i: e \to K_n e$ is the inclusion. (ii) $\pi_k(K_n e) = 0$ for all $k \ge n$.

Thus K_n^{∞} is the analogue of the $(n-1)^{\text{th}}$ stage in the Postnikov tower of a space. In order to pass to spectra, we must examine the relationship between the homotopy-killing functors and the looping functor. We define a pointed *B*-bundle map $T_n: K_n \mathcal{Q}e \to \mathcal{Q}K_{n+1}e$ for all integers *n* as follows: If $n \leq -2$, T_n is the identity. If n = -1, $T_n = \mathcal{Q}i: \mathcal{Q}e \to \mathcal{Q}K_0e$, where $i: e \to K_0e$ is the inclusion. Otherwise, let $T_n: \mathcal{Q}_BE \cup_{\epsilon}((\mathcal{Q}_BE)^{S^n} \times B^{n+1}) \to \mathcal{Q}_B(E \cup_{\epsilon}(E_B^{S^{n+1}} \times B^{n+1}))$ be the identity on \mathcal{Q}_BE , and for any $(h, b) \in (\mathcal{Q}_BE)_B^{S^n} \times B^{n+1}$, and any $t \in I$, let $(T_n(h, b))t = (h, [b, t])$. Note: $B^{n+2} = \sum B^{n+1}$ and $(\mathcal{Q}_BE)_B^{S^n} = E_B^{S^{n+1}}$. We leave it to the reader to verify that $(T_n)_{\sharp}: \pi_k(K_n\mathcal{Q}e) \to \pi_k(\mathcal{Q}K_{n+1}e)$ is an isomorphism for all $k \leq n$.

Similarly, we define $T_n^r: K_n^r \Omega e \to K_{n+1}^{r+1} e$ inductively for all $n \leq r$ as follows: $T_n^n = T_n$, and $T_n^{r+1} = T_{r+1} \circ (K_{r+1}T_n^r)$ for all $r \geq n$. In an obvious way we can then define $T_n: K_n^\infty \Omega e \to \Omega K_{n+1}^\infty e$. We leave the proof of the following to the reader:

REMARK 6.3. The *B*-bundle map $T_n: K_n^{\infty} \Omega e \to \Omega K_{n+1}^{\infty} e$ is a weak homotopy equivalence.

We are now ready to define the Postnikov resolution of *B*-spectrum $\mathscr{C} = (\{e_i\}_{i \geq m}, \{\varepsilon_i\})$. For each integer *n*, let

$${\mathscr C}_n=(\{K_{n+i+1}^\infty e_i\}_{i\geq m},\,\{T_{n+i+1}^\infty\circ (K_{n+i+1}arepsilon_i)\})$$
 .

Let $\mathscr{V}_n: \mathscr{C} \to \mathscr{C}_n = \{p_i\}_{i \geq m}$, where $p_i: e_i \to K_{n+i+1}e_i$ is the inclusion, and let $\mathscr{V}_n: \mathscr{C}_n \to \mathscr{C}_{n-1} = \{q_{n,i}\}_{i \geq m}$, where $q_{n,i} = K_{n+i+1}^{\infty}j: K_{n+i+1}^{\infty}e_i \to K_{n-i+1}e_i$, where $j: e_i \to K_{n+i}e_i$ is the inclusion. The resolution of \mathscr{C} described above (see diagram (5-2)) is a Postnikov resolution, by Remarks 6.2 and 6.3.

I wish to thank the referee for many helpful suggestions.

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