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## **TWISTED COHOMOLOGY THEORIES AND THE SINGLE OBSTRUCTION TO LIFTING**

LAWRENCE LOUIS LARMORE

# TWISTED COHOMOLOGY THEORIES AND THE SINGLE OBSTRUCTION TO LIFTING

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

In this paper single obstruction  $\Gamma(f) \in H^1(K, L, f; \mathcal{E})$  is defined.  $\mathcal{E}$  is a so-called  $B$ -spectrum, and  $H^*(\ ; \mathcal{E})$  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  $\delta(g_0, g_1; h) \in H(K, L, f; \mathcal{E})$  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 § 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  $f: K \rightarrow B$  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  $f|_L$  and  $f|_{K \cup L}$  to be denoted simply as  $F$ . A map  $\pi: X \rightarrow Y$  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  $e: E \rightarrow B$  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:

$$\begin{array}{ccc} E & \xrightarrow{\alpha} & A \\ e \searrow & & \swarrow a \\ & B & \end{array}$$

We denote this map  $\alpha: e \rightarrow a$ . A *pointed*  $B$ -bundle is an ordered triple  $(E, e, e')$  such that  $e: E \rightarrow B$  is a fibration and  $e': B \rightarrow E$  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*  $B$ -bundle is an ordered quadruple  $(E, e, e', e'')$  such that  $(E, e)$  is a  $B$ -bundle 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  $\alpha: e \rightarrow a$  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  $\mathcal{H}_B$  be the category of  $B$ -bundles and  $B$ -bundle maps. Let  $\mathcal{H}_B^*$  and  $\mathcal{H}_B^{**}$  be the categories of pointed and bi-pointed  $B$ -bundles and maps, respectively. We obviously have forgetful functors  $\alpha: \mathcal{H}_B^{**} \rightarrow \mathcal{H}_B^*$  and  $\beta: \mathcal{H}_B^* \rightarrow \mathcal{H}_B$  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  $\alpha$ ,  $\beta$ , or  $\beta \circ \alpha$ . We also define functors as follows:

$S: \mathcal{H}_B \rightarrow \mathcal{H}_B^{**}$  two-point suspension

$\Sigma: \mathcal{H}_B^* \rightarrow \mathcal{H}_B^*$  one-point suspension

$\Omega: \mathcal{H}_B^* \rightarrow \mathcal{H}_B^*$  looping

$P: \mathcal{H}_B^{**} \rightarrow \mathcal{H}_B$  paths from the South pole to the North pole

$S(E, e) = (S_B E, s, s')$  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  $\alpha: e \rightarrow a$  and  $\beta: \Sigma e \rightarrow a$  are pointed  $B$ -bundle maps, we say that  $\alpha$  and  $\beta$  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  $a = (A, \alpha, \alpha', \alpha'')$  a bi-pointed  $B$ -bundles. We say that maps  $\alpha: e \rightarrow Pa$  and  $\beta: Se \rightarrow a$  (where  $\beta$  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  $h: L \rightarrow E$  is a lifting of  $f|L$ . If  $L$  is empty, write  $[K: e]_f$ . If  $e = (E, e, e')$  is pointed, write  $[K, L; e]_f$  for  $[K, L, e' | L; e]_f$ . If  $\alpha: e \rightarrow a$  is a  $B$ -bundle map, let  $\alpha_*: [K, L, h; e]_f \rightarrow [K, L, \alpha \circ h; a]_f$  be the function where  $\alpha_*[g] = [\alpha \circ g]$ , where  $[g]$  is the fiber-homotopy rel  $L$  class of any lifting  $g$  of  $f$  rel  $h$ . If  $r: (K', L') \rightarrow (K, L)$  is a map of  $C.W.$  pairs, let  $r^*: [K, L, h; e]_f \rightarrow [K', L, h \circ r; e]_{f \circ r}$  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  $r: (K', L') \rightarrow (K, L)$  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  $n \geq 1$ , 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  $n^{\text{th}}$  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  $k \leq n$ . If  $\alpha: e \rightarrow a$  is any  $B$ -bundle map, where  $e$  and  $a$  are both  $n$ -simple or both pointed (and  $\alpha$  is pointed) or  $e$  is pointed and  $a$  is  $n$ -simple,  $\alpha$  induces a homomorphism  $\alpha_*: \pi_n e \rightarrow \pi_n a$  in the obvious way.

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

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

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

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

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

is  $n$ -connected. If  $a$  is a connected pointed  $B$ -bundle,  $\alpha$  is connected if and only if the fiber of  $\alpha$  is  $n$ -connected.

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

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

LEMMA 2.2. *Suppose  $\alpha$  is  $n$ -connected for some  $n \geq 0$ . Then:*  
 (i)  $\alpha_*$  is onto if  $\dim(K/L) \leq n$ . (ii)  $\alpha_*$  is one-to-one if  $\dim(K/L) \leq n - 1$ .

*Proof.* The connectivity of  $\alpha$  equals the connectivity of the fiber of  $\alpha: E \rightarrow A$ , 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  $g_0, g_1: K \rightarrow E$  are both liftings of  $f \text{ rel } h$ .

LEMMA 2.3. *If  $\alpha$  is  $n$ -connected for some  $n \geq 1$ , 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  $\dim(K/L) \leq n - 1$ .*

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

$$f^{-1}a = (f^{-1}A, f^{-1}a, f^{-1}(\alpha \circ g_0), f^{-1}(\alpha \circ g_1));$$

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  $f \text{ rel } e' | L$ ,  $g$  and  $g'$ , let  $g + g': K \rightarrow \Omega_B E$  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  $f \text{ rel } e' | L$ . We define  $[g] + [g'] = [g + g']$ ; it is trivial to verify that the operation is well-defined.

THEOREM 3.1.  $[K, L; \Omega e]_f$  is a group under the operation “+” with identity  $[e']$ .

*Proof.* Let  $[g]^{-1} = [g^{-1}]$  for any lifting  $g$  of  $f \text{ rel } e' \mid L$ , 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  $f \text{ rel } e' \mid L$ , a fiber homotopy  $\text{rel } L$  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

$$\mathcal{E} = (\{e_i\}_{i \geq m}, \{\varepsilon_i\}_{i \geq m})$$

for some integer  $m$  such that:

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

Furthermore, we say that  $\mathcal{E}$  is a  $\Omega_B$ -spectrum if  $\varepsilon_i$  is a homotopy equivalence (in the category  $\mathcal{E}_B^*$ ) for each  $i$ , and we say that  $\varepsilon$  is a weak  $\Omega_B$ -spectrum if  $\varepsilon_i$  is infinitely connected for all  $i \geq m$ . We say that  $\varepsilon$  is *stabilizing* if, for each integer  $n$ , there exists an integer  $N \geq m$  such that  $\varepsilon_i$  is  $(n+i)$ -connected for all  $i \geq N$ . The  $e_i$  are called the elements of the spectrum, the  $\varepsilon_i$  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  $\pi_n(\mathcal{E})$  for any integer  $n$ , to be the direct limit  $\text{Lim}_{i \rightarrow \infty} \pi_{n+i} e_i$ , under the system of homomorphisms

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

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

Henceforth, we shall assume that  $\mathcal{E} = (\{e_i\}_{i \geq m}, \{\varepsilon_i\}_{i \geq m})$  is a  $B$ -spectrum.

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

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

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

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

is a map, an induced homomorphism

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

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  $p: (K'', L'') \rightarrow (K, L)$  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,

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

is an isomorphism.

For any integer  $n$ , we define a connecting homomorphism

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

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

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:

$$\begin{aligned} \cdots \longrightarrow H^{n-1}(L, f; \mathcal{E}) &\xrightarrow{\delta} H^n(K, L, f; \mathcal{E}) \xrightarrow{j^*} H^n(K, f; \mathcal{E}) \\ &\xrightarrow{i^*} H^n(L, f; \mathcal{E}) \xrightarrow{\delta} H^{n+1}(K, L, f; \mathcal{E}) \longrightarrow \cdots \end{aligned}$$

REMARK 3.5. If  $r_t: (K', L') \rightarrow (K, L)$ ,  $0 \leq t \leq 1$ , 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  $f_t: K \rightarrow B$ ,  $0 \leq t \leq 1$ , is a homotopy such that  $f_0 = f$ . Let  $F: K \times I \rightarrow B$  be the map where  $F(x, t) = f_t x$  for all

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

$$F_\# = (i_1)_\# \circ (i_0)_\#^{-1}: H^*(K, L, f; \mathcal{E}) \longrightarrow H^*(K, L, f; \mathcal{E}),$$

clearly an isomorphism. Again without proof, we state:

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

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

$$G_\# \circ F_\# = (F+G)_\#: H^*(K, L, f; \mathcal{E}) \longrightarrow H^*(K, L, f_2; \mathcal{E})$$

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

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

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

$$\mathcal{E} = \mathcal{E}(e) = (\{e_i\}_{i \geq 1}, \{\varepsilon_i\}_{i \geq 1})$$

be the  $B$ -spectrum where  $e_i = \sum^{i-1} Se$  for all  $i \geq 1$ , and  $\varepsilon_i: e_i \rightarrow \Omega e_{i+1}$  is adjoint to the identity on  $e_{i+1} = \sum e_i$ . We call  $\mathcal{E}$  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  $\Gamma(f; h) \in H^1(K, L, f; \mathcal{E})$  (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  $H: K'' \rightarrow S_B E$  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  $f_t: K \rightarrow B$ , for  $0 \leq t \leq 1$ , is a homotopy, and if  $h_t: L \rightarrow E$  is a homotopy such that  $e \circ h_t = f_t|L$  for all  $t$ , and if  $F(x, t) = f_t x$  for all  $(x, t) \in K \times I$ , then  $F_\# \Gamma(f_0; h_0) = \Gamma(f_1; h_1)$ ; 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  $g: K \rightarrow E$  be such a lifting. Let  $H_u: K'' \rightarrow S_B E$ , 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  $n \geq 1$ , 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,  $(\Omega^{i-1}\varepsilon_i): \Omega^{i-1}e_i \rightarrow \Omega^i e_{i+1}$  is  $(2n+i-1)$ -connected for all  $i \geq 1$ , whence, by Lemma 2.2, the representation

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

is one-to-one and onto. Thus  $[H] = [s' \circ f \circ p]$ . Let  $H_i: K'' \rightarrow S_B E$  be a fiber-homotopy rel  $L''$  such that  $H_1 = H$  and  $H_0 = s' \circ f \circ p$ ; define  $G: K'' \rightarrow P_B S_B E$  to be the map where  $(Gy)u = H_u y$  for all  $y \in K''$ . Let  $i: e \rightarrow PSe$  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  $f_0, g_1: K \rightarrow E$  are liftings of  $f$  rel  $h$ . We define  $\Delta(g_0, g_1; h) \in H^0(K, L, f; \mathcal{E})$ , the single obstruction to fiber homotopy, rel  $L$ , of  $g_0$  with  $g_1$ , to be  $(p^*)^{-1}$  of the representation in  $H^0(K'', L'', f \circ p; \mathcal{E})$  of  $[G] \in [K'', L''; \Omega Se]_{f \circ p}$ , where for all  $(x, t) \in K''$  and all  $0 \leq u \leq 1$ :

$$G(x, t)u = \begin{cases} [g_1 x, 2u] & \text{if } t = 0 \text{ and } 0 \leq u \leq 1/2 \\ [g_0 x, 2-2u] & \text{if } t = 0 \text{ and } 1/2 \leq u \leq 1 \\ [hx, 2u(1-t)] & \text{if } x \in L \text{ and } 0 \leq u \leq 1/2 \\ [hx, (2-2u)(1-t)] & \text{if } x \in L \text{ and } 1/2 \leq u \leq 1. \end{cases}$$

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  $\Delta(g_0, g_1; h) = 0$ .*

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

$$G_v(x, t)u = \begin{cases} [g_{2v-1} x, 2u] & \text{if } t = 1, 0 \leq u \leq 1/2, \text{ and } 1/2 \leq v \leq 1. \\ [g_0 x, 2-2u] & \text{if } t = 1, 1/2 \leq u \leq 1, \text{ and } 1/2 \leq v \leq 1. \\ [hx, 2u(1-t)] & \text{if } x \in L, 0 \leq u \leq 1/2, \text{ and } 1/2 \leq v \leq 1. \\ [hx, (2-2u)(1-t)] & \text{if } x \in L, 1/2 \leq u \leq 1, \text{ and } 1/2 \leq v \leq 1. \\ [g_0 x, 4uv(1-t)] & \text{if } 0 \leq u \leq 1/2 \text{ and } 0 \leq v \leq 1/2. \\ [g_0 x, 4(1-u)v(1-t)] & \text{if } 1/2 \leq u \leq 1 \text{ and } 0 \leq v \leq 1/2. \end{cases}$$

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  $n \geq 1$ , and if  $\dim(K/L) \leq 2n-2$ , then  $g_0$  and  $g_1$  are fiber homotopic if and only if  $\Delta(g_0, g_1; h) = 0$ .*

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

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

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

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

where  $i: e \rightarrow PSe$  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  $i_*: [K, L, h; e]_f \rightarrow [K, L, i \circ h; PSe]_f$  is onto by Lemma 2.2. Choose  $g'$  to be any  $\text{rel } h$  lifting of  $f$  such that  $i_*[g'] = [s']$ . 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  $f \text{ rel } h$ , 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  $n \geq 1$ , and if  $\dim(K/L) \leq 2n-2$ , then  $[K, L, h; e]_f$  has the structure of an affine group, and, if nonempty, is isomorphic to  $H^0(K, L, f; \mathcal{E})$ .*

*Proof.* See Becker [1] for the definition of an affine group. Pick any  $[g_0] \in [K, L, h; e]_f$ . Let  $\iota: [K, L, h; e]_f \rightarrow H^0(K, L, f; \mathcal{E})$  be given by  $\iota[g] = \Delta(g_0, g; h)$ . 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  $H^*(K, L, f; \mathcal{E})$ .* Let  $\mathcal{E} = (\{e_i\}_{i \geq m}, \{\varepsilon_i\})$  and  $\mathcal{A} = (\{a_i\}_{i \geq n}, \{\alpha_i\})$  be *B-spectra*. We define a *B-spectrum map*  $\nearrow: \mathcal{E} \rightarrow \mathcal{A}$  of *degree  $d$*  to be an indexed collection  $\{f_i\}_{i \geq p}$  of pointed *B-bundle maps*, where  $p \geq \max(m, n-d)$ , such that for any  $i \geq p$ ,  $f_i: e_i \rightarrow a_{i+d}$  and the following diagram is commutative:

$$\begin{array}{ccc} e_i & \xrightarrow{\varepsilon_i} & e_{i+1} \\ \downarrow f_i & & \downarrow f_{i+1} \\ a_{i+d} & \xrightarrow{\alpha_{i+d}} & a_{i+d+1} . \end{array}$$

We can define  $\nearrow_\#: H^k(K, L, f; \mathcal{E}) \rightarrow H^{k+d}(K, L, f; \mathcal{A})$  for any integer  $k$  to be the direct limit of the  $(f_i)_\#$ ; similarly we can define

$$\nearrow_\#: \pi_k(\mathcal{E}) \longrightarrow \pi_{k-d}(\mathcal{A})$$

for any integer  $k$ .

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

$$\begin{aligned} D_i &= \{(x, \sigma) \in E_i \times A_{i+d}^t : \sigma(0) = (a'_{i+d} \circ e_i)x, \sigma(1) \\ &= f_i x, \text{ \& } a_{i+d}(\sigma t) = e_i x \text{ for all } t \in I\} , \end{aligned}$$

$d'_i(x, \sigma) = e_i x$  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  $\delta_i: d^i \rightarrow \Omega d_{i+1}$  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  $\nearrow$ ):

$$(5-1) \quad \mathcal{A} \xrightarrow{\nearrow} \mathcal{D} \xrightarrow{\mathcal{I}} \mathcal{E} \xrightarrow{\nearrow} \mathcal{A}$$

where  $\mathcal{I} = \{g_i\}_{i \geq p}$  has degree 0 and  $\nearrow = \{h_i\}_{i \geq p+d-1}$  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:

$$\begin{aligned} \cdots \longrightarrow \pi_{k-d+1}(\mathcal{A}) &\xrightarrow{\mathcal{I}_\#} \pi_k(\mathcal{D}) \xrightarrow{\mathcal{I}_\#} \pi_k(\mathcal{E}) \xrightarrow{\mathcal{I}_\#} \pi_{k-d}(\mathcal{A}) \longrightarrow \cdots \\ \cdots \longrightarrow H^{k+d-1}(K, L, f; \mathcal{A}) &\xrightarrow{\mathcal{I}_\#} H^k(K, L, f; \mathcal{D}) \xrightarrow{\mathcal{I}_\#} H^k(K, L, f; \mathcal{E}) \\ &\xrightarrow{\mathcal{I}_\#} H^{k+d}(K, L, f; \mathcal{A}) \longrightarrow \cdots \end{aligned}$$

We say that  $\mathcal{I}: \mathcal{E} \rightarrow \mathcal{A}$  is  $k$ -connected if  $\mathcal{D}$  is  $k$ -connected, and we say that  $\mathcal{I}$  is  $k$ -coconnected if  $\mathcal{D}$  is  $k$ -coconnected, i.e.,  $\pi_r(\mathcal{D}) = 0$  for all  $r \geq k$ .

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

$$\begin{array}{ccccccc} \cdots & \longrightarrow & \mathcal{E}_{k+1} & \xrightarrow{\mathcal{I}_{k+1}} & \mathcal{E}_k & \xrightarrow{\mathcal{I}_k} & \mathcal{E}_{k-1} \longrightarrow \cdots \\ & & \swarrow \mathcal{I}_{k+1} & \uparrow \mathcal{I}_k & \nwarrow \mathcal{I}_{k-1} & & \\ & & & \mathcal{E} & & & \end{array}$$

such that for any integer  $r$ , there exists an integer  $N$  such that  $\mathcal{I}_k$  is  $r$ -connected for all  $k \geq N$ , and an integer  $M$  such that  $\mathcal{E}_k$  is  $r$ -coconnected for all  $k \leq M$ . We are thus assured that  $H^*(K, L, f; \mathcal{E})$  is isomorphic to the inverse limit  $\text{Lim}_{k \rightarrow \infty} H(K, L, f; \mathcal{E}_k)$  under the homomorphisms  $(\mathcal{I}_k)_\#$ . An important special case of a resolution of  $\mathcal{E}$  is a Postnikov resolution: that is where  $(\mathcal{I}_k)_\#: \pi_r(\mathcal{E}) \rightarrow \pi_r(\mathcal{E}_k)$  is an isomorphism for all  $r \leq k$ , and where each  $\mathcal{E}_k$  is  $(k+1)$ -coconnected. In § 6, we shall show that every  $B$ -spectrum has a Postnikov resolution.

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

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

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

$$(\mathcal{I}_q)_\#: H^{p-q}(K, L, f; \mathcal{E}) \longrightarrow H^{p-q}(K, L, f; \mathcal{E}_q).$$

(The conditions that  $\mathcal{I}_k$  is highly connected for large  $k$  and  $\mathcal{E}_k$  is highly coconnected for small  $k$  insures that the filtration has only finitely many distinct terms.) For any  $k$ , consider the fibration sequence of  $\mathcal{I}_k$ :

$$\mathcal{E}_{k-1} \xrightarrow{\varepsilon_k} \mathcal{K}_k \xrightarrow{\delta_k} \mathcal{E}_k \xrightarrow{\mathcal{I}_k} \mathcal{E}_{k-1} .$$

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

$$D_2^{p,q} = H^{p-q}(K, L, f; \mathcal{E}_q) .$$

Let  $(\mathcal{I}_q)_\# = i_2: D_2^{p,q} \rightarrow D_2^{p-1,q-1}$ ,  $(\varepsilon_{q+1})_\# = j_2: D_2^{p,q} \rightarrow E_2^{p+2,q+1}$ , and

$$(\delta_q)_\# = k_2: E_2^{p,q} \longrightarrow D_2^{p,q} .$$

Using general spectral sequence arguments, we can verify that

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

and that  $E_\infty^{p,q} = G^{p-1,q-1}/G^{p,q}$  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  $D_1^{p,q} = H^{p,q}(K^p \cup L, f; \mathcal{E})$  and  $E_1^{p,q} = C^p(K, L, f^{-1}\pi_q(\mathcal{E}))$ , the group of cochains with coefficients in the local system  $f^{-1}\pi_q(\mathcal{E})$  over  $K$ . Let  $i_1: D_1^{p,q} \rightarrow D_1^{p-1,q-1}$  and  $k_1: E_1^{p,q} \rightarrow D_1^{p,q}$  be the homomorphisms induced by the appropriate inclusions, and let  $j_1: D_1^{p,q} \rightarrow E_1^{p+1,q}$  be the connecting homomorphism of the pair  $(K^{p+1} \cup L, K^p \cup L)$ . The differential  $d_1: C^p(K, L; f^{-1}\pi_q(\mathcal{E})) \rightarrow C^{p+1}(K, L; f^{-1}\pi_q(\mathcal{E}))$  is then the usual co-boundary on cochains with local coefficients, hence

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

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  $\mathcal{E}$  is  $k$ -connected,  $H^p(K, L, f; \mathcal{E}) = 0$  for all  $p \geq n - k$ , 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  $k$ -connected  $B$ -bundle, for some  $k \geq 1$ , and that diagram (5-2) is a Postnikov system for  $\mathcal{E} = \mathcal{E}(e)$ . For any integer  $r$ , let  $\iota_r: \pi_r e \rightarrow \pi_r(\mathcal{E})$  be the composition

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

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

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

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

$$\begin{array}{ccccc}
 H^1(K, L, f; \mathcal{K}_m) & \xrightarrow{(\jmath_m)_\#} & H^1(K, L, f; \mathcal{E}_m) & \xrightarrow{(\jmath_m)_\#} & H^1(K, L, f; \mathcal{E}) \\
 \uparrow = & & \downarrow (\mathcal{I}_m)_\# & \swarrow (\jmath_{m-1})_\# & \\
 H^{k+1}(K, L, f^{-1}\pi_m(\mathcal{E})) & & H^1(K, L, f; \mathcal{E}_{m-1}) & & \\
 \uparrow (\ell_m)_\# & & & & \\
 H^{k+1}(K, L; f^{-1}\pi_m e) & & & &
 \end{array}$$

Since  $\mathcal{E}_{m-1}$  is  $m$ -coconnected,

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

is an isomorphism. Thus  $(\jmath_{m-1})_\# \Gamma(f; h) = 0$ . Since  $\mathcal{K}_m$  is the fiber of  $\mathcal{I}_m$ ,  $(\jmath_m)_\# \Gamma(f; h) \in (\jmath_m)_\# H^1(K, L, \mathcal{K}_m)$ . 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  $(\jmath_m)_\# (\ell_m)_\# \gamma(g^m) = (\jmath_m)_\# \Gamma(f; h)$ .

**6. Construction of the Postnikov resolution of  $\mathcal{E}$ .** For every integer,  $n$ , we define a functor  $K_n: \mathcal{Z}_B^* \rightarrow \mathcal{Z}_B^*$  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  $h: S^n \rightarrow E$  such that  $h(*) \in e'(B)$  and  $e \circ h$  is constant. Let  $\varepsilon: E_B^{S^n} \rightarrow E$  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  $((K_n)_B E, k, k')$ , where  $k' = e'$ ,  $k|_E = e$ , and  $k(h, b) = (e \circ h)(*)$  for all  $(h, b) \in (E_B^{S^n} \times B^{n+1})$ . If  $\alpha: e \rightarrow a$  is any pointed  $B$ -bundle map, we define  $K_n \alpha: K_n e \rightarrow K_n a$  in the obvious way:  $K_n \alpha|_E = \alpha$ , 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  $k < n$ ,  $i_*: \pi_k e \rightarrow \pi_k(K_k e)$  is an isomorphism, where  $i: e \rightarrow K_n e$  is the inclusion. (ii)  $\pi_n(K_n e) = 0$ .

We define functors  $K_n: \mathcal{Z}_B^* \rightarrow \mathcal{Z}_B^*$  for all integers  $n \leq r$ , inductively, as follows:  $K_n = K_n$ , and  $K_{r+1} = K_{r+1} K_r^r$  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  $K_n^\infty: \mathcal{Z}_B^* \rightarrow \mathcal{Z}_B^*$ . We call  $K_n$ ,  $K_n^r$ , and  $K_n^\infty$  *homotopy-killing* functors. The following remark is an immediate Corollary of 6.1:

REMARK 6.2. (i)  $i_*: \pi_k e \rightarrow \pi_k(K_n^\infty e)$  is an isomorphism for all  $k < n$ , where  $i: e \rightarrow K_n e$  is the inclusion. (ii)  $\pi_k(K_n e) = 0$  for all  $k \geq n$ .

Thus  $K_n^\infty$  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  $T_n: K_n \Omega e \rightarrow \Omega K_{n+1} e$  for all integers  $n$  as follows: If  $n \leq -2$ ,  $T_n$  is the identity. If  $n = -1$ ,  $T_n = \Omega i: \Omega e \rightarrow \Omega K_0 e$ , where  $i: e \rightarrow K_0 e$  is the inclusion. Otherwise, let  $T_n: \Omega_B E \cup_\epsilon ((\Omega_B E)^{S^n} \times B^{n+1}) \rightarrow \Omega_B (E \cup_\epsilon (E_B^{S^{n+1}} \times B^{n+1}))$  be the identity on  $\Omega_B E$ , and for any  $(h, b) \in (\Omega_B E)^{S^n} \times B^{n+1}$ , and any  $t \in I$ , let  $(T_n(h, b))t = (h, [b, t])$ . Note:  $B^{n+2} = \sum B^{n+1}$  and  $(\Omega_B E)_B^{S^n} = E_B^{S^{n+1}}$ . We leave it to the reader to verify that  $(T_n)_*: \pi_k(K_n \Omega e) \rightarrow \pi_k(\Omega K_{n+1} e)$  is an isomorphism for all  $k \leq n$ .

Similarly, we define  $T_n^r: K_n^r \Omega e \rightarrow K_{n+1}^{r+1} e$  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  $T_n: K_n^\infty \Omega e \rightarrow \Omega K_{n+1}^\infty e$ . We leave the proof of the following to the reader:

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

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

$$\mathcal{E}_n = (\{K_{n+i+1}^\infty e_i\}_{i \geq m}, \{T_{n+i+1}^\infty \circ (K_{n+i+1} \varepsilon_i)\}).$$

Let  $\nearrow_n: \mathcal{E} \rightarrow \mathcal{E}_n = \{p_i\}_{i \geq m}$ , where  $p_i: e_i \rightarrow K_{n+i+1}^\infty e_i$  is the inclusion, and let  $\nearrow_n: \mathcal{E}_n \rightarrow \mathcal{E}_{n-1} = \{q_{n,i}\}_{i \geq m}$ , where  $q_{n,i} = K_{n+i+1}^\infty j: K_{n+i+1}^\infty e_i \rightarrow K_{n-i+1}^\infty e_i$ , where  $j: e_i \rightarrow K_{n+i}^\infty e_i$  is the inclusion. The resolution of  $\mathcal{E}$  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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# Pacific Journal of Mathematics

Vol. 41, No. 3

BadMonth, 1972

George E. Andrews, <i>Two theorems of Gauss and allied identities proved arithmetically</i> . . . . .	563
Stefan Bergman, <i>On pseudo-conformal mappings of circular domains</i> . . . . .	579
Beverly L. Brechner, <i>On the non-monotony of dimension</i> . . . . .	587
Richard Anthony Brualdi and John H. Mason, <i>Transversal matroids and Hall's theorem</i> . . . . .	601
Philip Throop Church and James Timourian, <i>Differentiable maps with 0-dimensional critical set. I</i> . . . . .	615
John H. E. Cohn, <i>Squares in some recurrent sequences</i> . . . . .	631
Robert S. Cunningham, Edgar Andrews Rutter and Darrell R. Turnidge, <i>Rings of quotients of endomorphism rings of projective modules</i> . . . . .	647
Eldon Dyer and S. Eilenberg, <i>An adjunction theorem for locally equiconnected spaces</i> . . . . .	669
Michael W. Evans, <i>On commutative P. P. rings</i> . . . . .	687
Ronald Lewis Graham, Hans Sylvain Witsenhausen and Hans Zassenhaus, <i>On tightest packings in the Minkowski plane</i> . . . . .	699
Stanley P. Gudder, <i>Partial algebraic structures associated with orthomodular posets</i> . . . . .	717
Karl Edwin Gustafson and Gunter Lumer, <i>Multiplicative perturbation of semigroup generators</i> . . . . .	731
Kurt Kreith and Curtis Clyde Travis, Jr., <i>Oscillation criteria for selfadjoint elliptic equations</i> . . . . .	743
Lawrence Louis Larmore, <i>Twisted cohomology theories and the single obstruction to lifting</i> . . . . .	755
Jorge Martinez, <i>Tensor products of partially ordered groups</i> . . . . .	771
Robert Alan Morris, <i>The inflation-restriction theorem for Amitsur cohomology</i> . . . . .	791
Leo Sario and Cecilia Wang, <i>The class of <math>(p, q)</math>-biharmonic functions</i> . . . . .	799
Manda Butchi Suryanarayana, <i>On multidimensional integral equations of Volterra type</i> . . . . .	809
Kok Keong Tan, <i>Fixed point theorems for nonexpansive mappings</i> . . . . .	829