

§7 Fibrations

We dualize what we've done for cofibrations via HEP and introduce "nice surjections" that satisfy a homotopy lifting property (HLP).

Def 7.1 A map $p: E \rightarrow B$ has the HLP for a space X if for any map $f: X \rightarrow E$, the total space, and any homotopy $H: X \times I \rightarrow B$, the base space, there exists a lift in the commutative diagram

$$\begin{array}{ccc} X & \xrightarrow{f} & E \\ \text{id} \downarrow & \nearrow F & \downarrow p \\ X \times I & \xrightarrow{H} & B \end{array}$$

We suppose $p \circ f = H \circ \text{id}$ and F verifies $p \circ F = H$ and $F \circ \text{id} = f$.

Def 7.2 A map p is a (Hurewicz) fibration if it has the HLP for all spaces X .

Note: A Serre fibration has the HLP for all cubes I^n , $\forall n \geq 0$.

Remark 7.3 Homotopy equivalences, fibrations, and cofibrations equip Top with a "Quillen model structure", (Quillen: 1967; Strøm: 1968). There's another model structure with weak equivalences, retracts of relative cell complexes, Serre fibrations.

Just like for fibrations, there is a universal lifting problem, namely using a path space $P(p)$

$$\begin{array}{ccc}
 \text{map}(I, E) & \xrightarrow{\quad \text{ev}_0 \quad} & E \\
 \downarrow p_x & \nearrow \gamma & \downarrow p \\
 \text{map}(I, B) & \xrightarrow{\quad \text{ev}_0 \quad} & B
 \end{array}$$

elements of $P(p)$ are pairs $(e, \beta) \in E \times \text{map}(I, B)$ st. $\beta(0) = p(e)$

The universal property of the pullback gives us a map γ .

Proposition 7.4

The map p is a fibration iff γ has a section $s: P(p) \rightarrow \text{map}(I, E)$ st. $\gamma \circ s = \text{id}$

proof: Let us first translate the HLP

$$\begin{array}{ccc} X & \xrightarrow{f} & E \\ \downarrow \text{id} & \lrcorner & \downarrow p \\ X \times I & \xrightarrow{H} & B \end{array}$$

adjunction
 $\rightsquigarrow$

$$\begin{array}{ccc} X & \xrightarrow{f} & E \\ \downarrow H & \lrcorner & \downarrow p_* \\ \text{map}(I, E) & \xrightarrow{\text{ev}_g} & E \\ & \downarrow p_* & \\ & \text{map}(I, B) & \xrightarrow{\text{ev}_g} B \end{array}$$

If p is a fibration, then it must have the HLP for $P(p) = X$, choose $f: P(p) \rightarrow E$, $H: P(p) \rightarrow \text{map}(I, B)$ given by the pullback construction, then F is the section we wanted.

Conversely if s exists, then we can choose, for any X , the map

$$F: X \rightarrow P(p) \xrightarrow{s} \text{map}(I, E).$$

□

Proposition 7.5

(i) composition of fibrations is a fibration

(ii) pullback of a fibration is a fibration

proof: (i)

$$\begin{array}{ccc} X & \xrightarrow{f} & Z \\ \downarrow & \lrcorner & \downarrow q \\ X \times I & \xrightarrow{H} & B \end{array}$$

② $\downarrow q$
 ① $\downarrow p$

(ii)

② by universal property of pullback

$$\begin{array}{ccccc} X & \xrightarrow{f} & E' & \xrightarrow{g} & E \\ \downarrow & \lrcorner & \downarrow p' & \lrcorner & \downarrow p \\ X \times I & \xrightarrow{H} & B & \xrightarrow{g} & B \end{array}$$

② $\downarrow p'$
 ① $\downarrow p$

□

Lemma 7.6

Let $i: A \hookrightarrow B$ be a (closed) cofibration of locally compact Hausdorff spaces. Then $i^*: \text{map}(B, Z) \rightarrow \text{map}(A, Z)$ is a fibration for any Z .

proof. We convert the HL problem into a new problem by adjunction

$$\begin{array}{ccc}
 X \times A & \xrightarrow{i_0} & X \times A \times I \\
 \downarrow X \times i & & \downarrow X \times i \times I \\
 X \times B & \xrightarrow{i_0} & X \times B \times I
 \end{array}
 \quad \begin{array}{c}
 \nearrow H \\
 \searrow \tilde{F}
 \end{array}
 \rightarrow Z$$

f

$$\begin{array}{ccc}
 X & \xrightarrow{f} & \text{map}(B, Z) \\
 \downarrow & \nearrow \tilde{f} & \downarrow Li^* \\
 X \times I & \xrightarrow{H} & \text{map}(A, Z)
 \end{array}$$

Since i is a cofibration, so is $X \times i$, hence the map $\tilde{F}$ exists. $\square$

Examples. (1) $\{0\} \subset I$, $\{0, 1\} \subset I$ induce fibrations

$$\text{map}(I, Z) \xrightarrow{ev_0} Z$$

$$\text{map}(I, Z) \xrightarrow{ev_{0,1}} Z \times Z$$

$$Z \xrightarrow{\quad} (Z(0), Z(1))$$

(2) $F \times B \xrightarrow{p_2} B$ is a fibration, called "trivial".

Proposition 7.8 (turning a map into a fibration)

Let $f: X \rightarrow Y$ be any map. Then there exists a factorisation $f: X \xrightarrow{\sim} P(f) \rightarrow Y$ as a homotopy equivalence followed by a fibration.

proof: Consider the following pullback $P \rightarrow \text{map}(I, Y)$

The pullback of the fibration $\text{ev}_{0,1}$ is a fibration $P \rightarrow X \times Y$.

$$\begin{array}{ccc} & & \downarrow \text{ev}_{0,1} \\ & \downarrow \lrcorner & \\ X \times Y & \xrightarrow{f \times Y} & Y \times Y \end{array}$$

P consists of triples $(x, y, \beta) \in X \times Y \times \text{map}(I, Y)$ st. $f(x) = \beta(0)$, $y = \beta(1)$. So in fact $P \simeq P(f)$

$$\begin{aligned} (x, y, \beta) &\mapsto (x, \beta) \\ (x, \beta(1), \beta) &\longleftarrow (x, \beta) \end{aligned}$$

Composing $P \rightarrow X \times Y \rightarrow Y$ gives the fibration we wanted. The homotopy equivalence is

$$\begin{aligned} X &\xrightarrow{\sim} P(f) & (\dots) \\ x &\mapsto (x, c_{f(x)}) & \text{in Deck} \\ & & \text{constant path.} \end{aligned}$$

□

Sometimes we need to lift homotopies with fixed conditions on a subspace (cf. [Bredon]).

Lemma 7.10

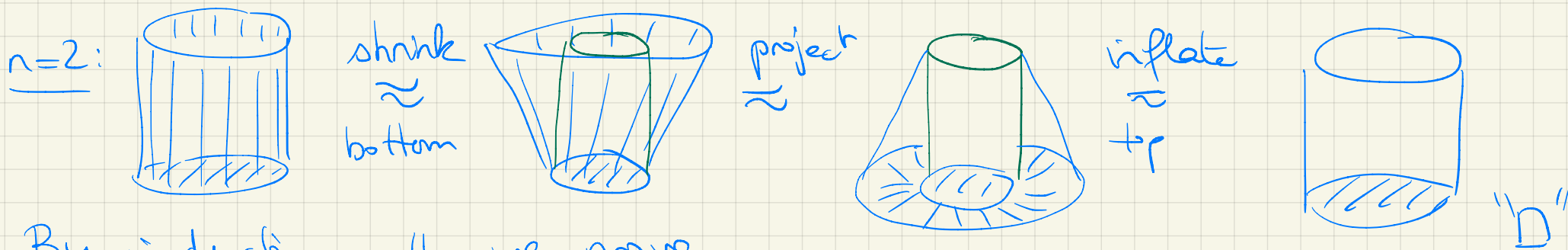
Let p be a fibration. Any solid arrow commutative diagram

$$D^n \times 0 \cup S^{n-1} \times I \longrightarrow E$$

$$\begin{array}{ccc} \downarrow & \nearrow & \downarrow p \\ D^n \times I & \longrightarrow & B \end{array}$$

admits a dotted lift.

proof: The pair $(D^n \times I, D^n \times 0 \cup S^{n-1} \times I)$ is homeomorphic to $(D^n \times I, D^n \times 0)$.



By induction cells we prove.

Corollary 7.11

Let $p: E \rightarrow B$ be a fibration, and $Y \times 0 \cup X \times I \rightarrow E$
 $X \subset Y$ be a sub CW-complex, then the
 HL problem admits a solution.

$$\begin{array}{ccc} Y \times 0 \cup X \times I & \longrightarrow & E \\ \downarrow & \nearrow & \downarrow p \\ Y \times I & \longrightarrow & B \end{array}$$

Theorem 7.11

Let $i: X \subset Y$ be a strong deformation retract ^(of CW-comps) and $p: E \rightarrow B$ be a fibration. Then any lifting problem of the form

$$\begin{array}{ccc} X & \xrightarrow{f} & E \\ \downarrow i & \nearrow \alpha & \downarrow p \\ Y & \xrightarrow{g} & B \end{array}$$

proof: The inclusion $i: X \subset Y$ admits a retraction $r: Y \rightarrow X$ st. $roi = id_X$ and ior is homotopic to id_Y relative to X . Let F be such a homotopy starting id_X .

$$\begin{array}{ccc} X \times 0 \hookrightarrow X \times I \cup Y \times 1 & \xrightarrow{p_1 \circ r} & X \xrightarrow{f} E \\ \downarrow & \lrcorner & \downarrow p \\ Y \times 0 \xrightarrow{i_0} Y \times I & \xrightarrow{H} & Y \xrightarrow{g} B \end{array}$$

The second square commutes since F ends at ior . By Corollary 7.10 we have a dotted filler $H: Y \times I \rightarrow E$. Then we define $h = H \circ i_0$. Then $p \circ h \circ i_0 = g \circ F \circ i_0 = g \circ id_X = g$.
 $H(x, 0) = f \circ p_1(x, 0) = f(x)$ □

Remark: In general one can replace i with a cofibration which is a homotopy equivalence.

Theorem 7.13

Let $p: E \rightarrow B$ be a fibration, $B_0 \subset B$ a subspace containing b_0 , the base point. If $E_0 = p^{-1}(B_0) \subset E$, then p induces an isomorphism $\pi_n(E, E_0) \cong \pi_n(B, B_0)$ for any $n \geq 1$.

proof. ① p_* surjective. Let $b: (D^n, S^{n-1}) \rightarrow (B, B_0)$ be any map and consider

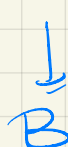
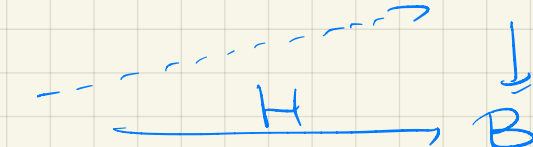
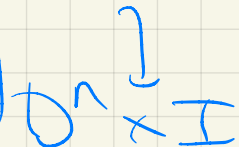
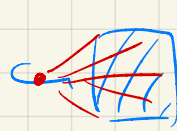
$$\begin{array}{ccc} * & \xrightarrow{\quad} & E \\ \downarrow & \nearrow \scriptstyle{e} & \downarrow p \\ D^n & \xrightarrow{\quad b \quad} & B \end{array}$$

The lift e exists by Theorem 7.12

and represents a preimage of $[b]$ in $\pi_n(E, E_0)$.

② p_* is injective. Let $f, f': (D^n, S^{n-1}) \rightarrow (E, E_0)$ be two maps s.t. $p \circ f \simeq p \circ f'$ via $H: D^n \times I \rightarrow B$.

Consider $D^n \times \{0, 1\} \cup * \times I \xrightarrow{(f, f') \cup e_0} E$ has a dotted by 7.12 again. So $f \simeq f'$. □



Corollary 7.13

Let $F = F_{b_0} = p^{-1}(b_0)$ be the fiber over the base point.
 Then $\pi_n(E, F) \cong \pi_n B$. In particular we have
 a les in π_* $\pi_{n+1} F \xrightarrow{i_*} \pi_{n+1} E \xrightarrow{p_*} \pi_{n+1} B \xrightarrow{\cong} \pi_n F \xrightarrow{i_*} \pi_n E \dots$

proof: The les in π_* for the pair (E, F) becomes
 the sequence indicated above. One can identify

$$p_* \text{ as } \begin{array}{ccccc} \pi_{n+1}(E, e_0) & \xrightarrow{i_*} & \pi_{n+1}(E, F) & \xrightarrow[p_*]{\cong} & \pi_{n+1}(B, b_0) \\ \parallel & & & & \parallel \\ \pi_{n+1} E & \xrightarrow{\quad\quad\quad} & & & \pi_{n+1} B \end{array} \quad \square$$

Example 7.14

The Hopf map $\eta: S^3 \rightarrow S^2$ can be seen as glued from two
 maps over hemispheres $D_+^2, D_-^2 \subset S^2$, namely trivial fibrations
 $S^1 \times D^2 \rightarrow D^2$, where $S^3 = S^1 \times D^2 \cup_{S^1 \times S^1} D^2 \times S^1$

It's a fibration (...) with $\text{Fib}(\eta) = S^1$.

The les gives $\pi_{n+1} S^1 \rightarrow \pi_{n+1} S^3 \xrightarrow{\cong} \pi_{n+1} S^2 \rightarrow \pi_n S^1 \rightarrow \pi_n S^3 \rightarrow \dots$

But $\pi_n S^1 = 0 \quad \forall n \geq 2$. Hence $\pi_{n+1} S^3 \cong \pi_{n+1} S^2 \quad \forall n \geq 2$

Of course $\pi_2 S^3 = 0$, and $\eta_*: \pi_3 S^3 \cong \mathbb{Z} \xrightarrow{1 \mapsto [\eta]} \pi_3 S^2 \cong \mathbb{Z}$.