

# Mod $p$ Decomposition of Compact Lie Groups

By

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## § 0. Introduction

Let  $p$  be a prime number. A simply connected CW-complex  $X$  is called mod  $p$  decomposable into  $r$  spaces if there exist simply connected CW-complexes  $X_i$  ( $1 \leq i \leq r$ ) such that  $\tilde{H}^*(X_i; Z_p) \neq 0$ , and if there exists a  $p$ -equivalence  $f: \prod_{1 \leq i \leq r} X_i \rightarrow X$ . A mod  $p$  decomposition  $\prod_{1 \leq i \leq r} X_i \rightarrow X$  is irreducible if each  $X_i$  is not mod  $p$  decomposable.

In the present paper we shall consider the mod  $p$  decomposition of simply connected simple Lie groups. For Lie groups (more generally, for finite  $H$ -complexes) there is a well-known rational decomposition

$$G \simeq \prod_0 S^{2n_i-1}$$

into the product of spheres. J.-P. Serre has shown a similar decomposition into a product of spheres for primes greater than a fixed prime depending on  $G$  using the class theory. Then our main theorem is stated as follows. If a compact Lie group has no  $p$ -torsion, then as is well known  $H^*(G; Z_p) \cong A(x_1, \dots, x_r)$  is the exterior algebra with  $\deg x_i = 2n_i - 1$ . We define an integer  $r(G)$  to be the number of  $n_i$ 's which are distinct in  $Z_{p-1}$ .

**Main Theorem.** *Let  $G$  be a simply connected, simple Lie group without  $p$ -torsion. Then if  $G \neq Spin(2n)$ ,  $G$  is irreducibly mod  $p$  decomposable into  $r(G)$  spaces and  $Spin(2n)$  is irreducibly mod  $p$  decomposable into  $r(G) + 1$  spaces.*

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For more concrete expression of our results see Theorems 3.5, 4.1 and 8.1 (cf. Theorem 4.2 of [6]).

The factors of the mod  $p$  decomposition of  $G$  are, what we call, mod  $p$  *Stiefel complexes*  $B_m^k(p)$  having the following properties:

- (1)  $H^*(B_m^k(p); Z_p) \cong \Lambda(x_{2m+1}, x_{2m+1+q}, \dots, x_{2m+1+(k-1)q})$  with  $q=2(p-1)$ ,
- (2) there exists a map

$$f: B_m^k(p) \rightarrow W_{m+s,s}, \quad s=1+(k-1)(p-1)$$

inducing an epimorphism of  $Z_p$ -cohomology.

The proof of the main theorem for the classical groups is quite different from that for the exceptional groups.

Among classical groups,  $SU(n)$  is particularly important and mod  $p$  decompositions of  $Sp(n)$  and  $Spin(n)$  follow from that of  $SU(n)$  by the result of Harris [6]. Our mod  $p$  decomposition of  $SU(n)$  is an unstable version of the mod  $p$  decomposition of  $p$ -adic complete  $K$ -theory (hence the decomposition of  $B\hat{U}_p$ ) by Sullivan [21, 22], and the localization technique is used to make the decomposition in the category of finite complexes.

For the exceptional groups, first we introduce a spectral sequence which is quite useful to compute the homotopy groups of a certain complex, especially a complex whose cohomology mod  $p$  is an exterior algebra. Then we construct  $B_m^k(p)$  and embed them (in the mod  $p$  sense) into  $G$  by making use of the obstruction theory, after calculating  $\pi_*(G;p)$ , the  $p$ -component of  $\pi_*(G)$ , by the above spectral sequence.

The paper is organized as follows:

Chapter I The classical cases.

- § 1. Localization of CW-complexes,
- § 2. A construction of Sullivan,
- § 3. Mod  $p$  decomposition of  $SU(n)$ ,
- § 4. Mod  $p$  decomposition of the other classical groups,

Chapter II Mod  $p$  Stiefel complex  $B_m^k(p)$ .

- § 5. Existence of  $B_m^k(p)$ ,
- § 6. A spectral sequence for meta-stable homotopy,
- § 7. Characterization of some  $B_m^k(p)$ ,

Chapter III The exceptional cases.

§ 8. Mod  $p$  decomposition of  $p$ -torsion free exceptional groups,

§ 9. Mod 5 decomposition of  $E_7$  and  $E_7/G_2$ ,

§ 10. Mod 7 decomposition of  $E_7$  and  $E_8$ .

In § 1 the localization theory is summarized. Details of Sullivan's construction (an unstable version of the Adams operation) are given in § 2. Then mod  $p$  decompositions of the classical Lie groups are proved in § 3 and § 4. The complex  $B_m^k(p)$ , which is a factor in the mod  $p$  decomposition, is constructed in § 5. A spectral sequence converging to meta-stable homotopy groups of a space is constructed in § 6. The complexes  $B_m^k(p)$  are characterized for particular  $k, m, p$  in § 7. The section 8 is to discuss the mod  $p$  decomposition of the  $p$ -torsion free exceptional groups and to state the main theorem for them. In § 9 the mod 5 decomposition of  $E_7$  and in § 10 the mod 7 decomposition of  $E_7$  and  $E_8$  are proved.

Unless otherwise stated, the coefficient  $Z$  of the integral (co)homology shall be omitted.

The present paper is the revised version of the two mimeographed notes [12] and [17] circulated in 1970 and 1971 respectively. In fact, the note [17] corresponds to Chapter I which was written by G. Nishida. The note [12] corresponds to Chapter II and Chapter III, although entirely rewritten, and they were written by H. Toda and M. Mimura.

## Chapter I The Classical Cases

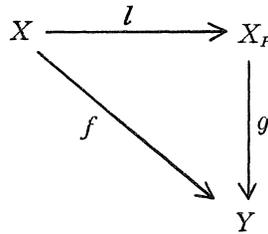
### § 1. Localization of $CW$ -Complexes

Let  $P$  be a set of prime numbers and let  $Q_p$  denote the ring of fractions whose denominators are, in the lowest term, prime to  $p$  for any  $p \in P$ . If  $P$  is the void set,  $Q_P \cong Q$  is denoted by  $Q_{(0)}$ .

The notion of localization of  $CW$ -complexes at  $P$  is defined by Bousfield-Kan [5], Mimura-Nishida-Toda [16], Sullivan [21, 22] and others. According to Sullivan, we define the localization of a  $CW$ -complex as follows. A  $CW$ -complex  $Y$  is called  $P$ -local if  $\pi_*(Y)$  is a  $Q_P$ -module. A continuous map

$$l: X \rightarrow X_P$$

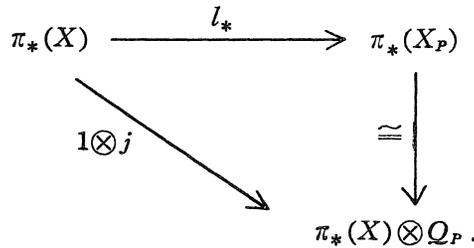
from a 1-connected CW-complex  $X$  to a  $P$ -local space  $X_P$  is called *the localization* if for any map  $f: X \rightarrow Y$ ,  $Y$   $P$ -local, there exists a map  $g: X_P \rightarrow Y$ , unique up to homotopy such that the diagram



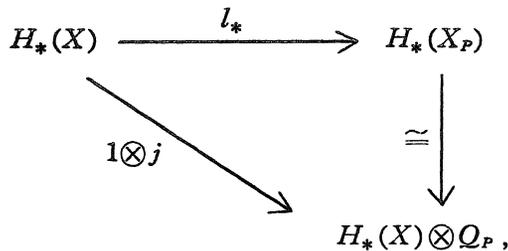
is homotopy commutative. Then for 1-connected CW-complexes, the localization theorem is stated as follows.

**Theorem 1.1** ([21]). *Let  $X$  and  $X_P$  be 1-connected CW-complexes and let  $l: X \rightarrow X_P$  be a map. Then the following conditions are equivalent:*

- (i)  $l$  is a localization,
- (ii) there is an isomorphism  $\pi_*(X_P) \cong \pi_*(X) \otimes Q_P$  which makes the following diagram commutative



- (iii) there is an isomorphism  $H_*(X_P) \cong H_*(X) \otimes Q_P$  which makes the following diagram commutative



where  $j:Z \rightarrow Q_P$  is the canonical injection.

**Theorem 1.2** ([21]). *In the homotopy category of 1-connected CW-complexes, there exists a covariant functor  $L$  and a natural transformation  $\phi: Id \rightarrow L$  such that, for any complex  $X$ ,  $\phi_X: X \rightarrow L(X) = X_P$  is a localization.*

Now we recall the notion of  $P$ -equivalence and  $P$ -universality [13, 15]. If  $p$  is a prime or 0, we denote by  $Z_p$  the prime field of characteristic  $p$ . Then a map  $f: X \rightarrow Y$  is called a  $P$ -equivalence if

$$f_*: H_+(X; Z_p) \rightarrow H_+(Y; Z_p)$$

is an isomorphism for any  $p \in P$  and  $p = 0$ . It is known that  $P$ -equivalence is an equivalence relation in the category of  $P$ -universal spaces. Then we have

**Theorem 1.3** ([16]). *Let  $X$  and  $Y$  be 1-connected CW-complexes of finite type. Then a map  $f: X \rightarrow Y$  is a  $P$ -equivalence if and only if  $f_P: X_P \rightarrow Y_P$  is a homotopy equivalence.*

Now a countable 1-connected CW-complex  $Y$  is called *finite  $P$ -local* if  $H_+(X)$  is a finitely generated  $Q_P$ -module.

**Proposition 1.4.** *Let  $Y$  be a mod 0  $H$ -space. Then  $Y$  is finite  $P$ -local if and only if there exists a 1-connected finite complex  $X$  and  $Y \simeq X_P$ . Furthermore such a complex  $X$  is unique up to  $P$ -equivalence.*

*Proof.* The “if part” is obvious. So assume that  $Y$  is finite  $P$ -local. Let

$$l: Y \rightarrow Y_{(0)}$$

be the localization at 0. By assumption,  $H_+(Y_{(0)}) \cong H_+(Y) \otimes Q$  is a finitely generated  $Q$ -module. Since  $Y$  is a mod 0  $H$  space, we have a homotopy equivalence:

$$Y_{(0)} \simeq \coprod K(Q, 2n_i - 1).$$

Then we see that

$$Y_{(0)} \simeq (\prod S^{2n_i-1})_{(0)} .$$

Consider the diagram

$$\begin{array}{ccc}
 & & (\prod S^{2n_i-1})_{\bar{P}} \\
 & & \downarrow l \\
 Y & \xrightarrow{l} & Y_{(0)} \simeq (\prod S^{2n_i-1})_{(0)}
 \end{array}$$

where  $\bar{P}$  is the complementary set of  $P$ . Let  $X = Y \times_{Y_0} (\prod S^{2n_i-1})_{\bar{P}}$  be the pull-back. Then we have a homotopy commutative diagram

$$\begin{array}{ccc}
 X & \xrightarrow{g} & (\prod S^{2n_i-1})_{\bar{P}} \\
 f \downarrow & & \downarrow l \\
 Y & \xrightarrow{l} & Y_{(0)} .
 \end{array}$$

Let  $F$  be the fibre of  $l: (\prod S^{2n_i-1})_{\bar{P}} \rightarrow Y_{(0)}$  which is also the fibre of  $f: X \rightarrow Y$ . Since  $l$  is the localization, we see easily from Theorem 1.1 that  $\tilde{H}_*(F)$  is a  $\bar{P}$ -torsion group. Consider the  $Q_P$ -coefficient homology spectral sequence associated with the fibring:

$$F \rightarrow X \rightarrow Y .$$

Since  $\tilde{H}_*(F; Q_P) = 0$ , we see that

$$f_*; H_*(X) \otimes_{Q_P} \rightarrow H_*(Y) \otimes_{Q_P} \simeq H_*(Y)$$

is an isomorphism. This shows that  $f$  is the localization. Similarly we can see that  $H_*(X)$  is a finitely generated abelian group. Hence we may take  $X$  as a finite complex. Meanwhile  $Y$  is a mod 0  $H$ -space and hence  $P$ -universal ([13]). Then uniqueness up to  $P$ -type of a complex  $X$  follows from Theorem 5.3 of [16]. Q.E.D.

**Lemma 1.5.** *If  $p \in P$  or  $p = 0$ , then  $l^*: H^*(X_P; Z_p) \rightarrow H^*(X; Z_p)$  is an isomorphism. If  $p \notin P$ , then  $\tilde{H}^*(X_P; Z_p) = 0$ .*

Proof is easy using the universal coefficient theorem.

### § 2. A Construction of Sullivan

In this section we shall state the Sullivan’s construction of unstable Adams operations for the classifying spaces of  $U(n)$  and  $SU(n)$ , and

give some easy consequences of the construction.

**Theorem 2.1** (Sullivan [21]). *Let  $n$  be an integer. Let  $q$  be a prime  $>n$ , then there exists a map  $\psi^q:BG \rightarrow BG$ ,  $G=U(n)$  or  $SU(n)$ , such that  $(\psi^q)^*c_i = q^i c_i$  where  $c_i \in H^{2i}(BG; Z)$  is the  $i$ -th Chern class.*

We give an outline of the proof. Let  $G_{n,k}(C)$  be the Grassmannian variety. It is shown (Theorem 5.2 [21]) that the ‘‘complete etale homotopy type’’ of  $BU(n) = \lim_{\substack{\rightarrow \\ k}} G_{n,k}(C)$  is equivalent to the profinite completion  $BU(n)^\wedge$  of the classical homotopy of  $BU(n)$ . Since the algebraic variety  $G_{n,k}(C)$  is defined over  $\mathbb{Q}$ , the natural action of the Galois group  $\text{Gal}(\tilde{\mathbb{Q}}/\mathbb{Q})$  on the etale homotopy type of  $G_{n,k}(C)$  defines the action of  $\text{Gal}(\tilde{\mathbb{Q}}/\mathbb{Q})$  on  $G_{n,k}(C)^\wedge$  and  $BU(n)^\wedge$ , where  $\tilde{\mathbb{Q}}$  denotes the field of algebraic numbers. The action on cohomology is given as follows (Cor. 5.5, [21]). It is known that there is a canonical epimorphism

$$A: \text{Gal}(\tilde{\mathbb{Q}}/\mathbb{Q}) \rightarrow \hat{Z}^*$$

where  $\hat{Z}^*$  is the group of units of the profinite completion of  $Z$ , and  $\text{Ker } A \cong [\text{Gal}(\tilde{\mathbb{Q}}/\mathbb{Q}), \text{Gal}(\tilde{\mathbb{Q}}/\mathbb{Q})]$ . Let  $\sigma \in \text{Gal}(\tilde{\mathbb{Q}}/\mathbb{Q})$  and let  $A(\sigma) = \alpha$ . Then

$$\sigma^*(c_i) = \alpha^i c_i,$$

where  $c_i \in H^{2i}(BU(n)^\wedge; Z) \cong Z[c_1, \dots, c_n]$  is the Chern class.

Now let  $q$  be a prime and let  $[q]$  denote the set of all primes except  $q$ . Let

$$\bar{q} = \{q, q, \dots, q, 1, q, q, \dots\} \in \prod Z_p^* = Z^*,$$

where 1 is the coordinate of  $\hat{Z}_q^*$ . Let  $\sigma \in \text{Gal}(\tilde{\mathbb{Q}}/\mathbb{Q})$  be such that  $A(\sigma) = \bar{q}$ . Next let  $\tilde{q} = \{1, \dots, 1, q, 1, \dots\} \in \hat{Z}$  such that  $\tilde{q} \cdot \bar{q} = q \in Z \subset \hat{Z}$ . We shall show that if  $q > n$ , then there exists a map

$$\lambda: BU(n)^\wedge \rightarrow BU(n)^\wedge$$

such that

$$\lambda^* = \tilde{q}^k \cdot \text{id}: H^{2k}(BU(n)^\wedge; Z) \rightarrow H^{2k}(BU(n)^\wedge; Z).$$

Let  $T^n \subset U(n)$  be a maximal torus and let  $N \subset U(n)$  be the normalizer

of  $T^n$ . Then the Weyl group is  $N/T^n \cong \Sigma_n$  and hence we may identify  $BN$  with  $E\Sigma_n \times BT^n/\Sigma_n$ , where  $E\Sigma_n$  is a universal  $\Sigma_n$ -space. If  $q > n$ , then from the fibring

$$BT^n \xrightarrow{i} BN \rightarrow B\Sigma_n$$

we see that

$$i^*: H^*(BN; Z_q) \rightarrow H^*(BT^n; Z_q)$$

is injective and  $\text{Im } i^* \cong H^*(BT^n; Z_q)^{\Sigma_n}$ , the invariant subgroup of  $\Sigma_n$ . Hence we see that the induced homomorphism

$$H^*(BU(n); Z_q) \rightarrow H^*(BN; Z_q)$$

is an isomorphism. Since  $BN$  has a bad fundamental group, namely  $\pi_1 = \Sigma_n$ , we consider the canonical projection

$$BN = E\Sigma_n \times BT^n/\Sigma_n \xrightarrow{\pi} BT^n/\Sigma_n.$$

Then by the Leray spectral sequence of the above map, we see that

$$\pi^*: H^*(BT^n/\Sigma_n; Z_q) \rightarrow H^*(BN; Z_q)$$

is an isomorphism.

**Lemma 2.2.** *Let  $X$  be a 1-connected CW-complex. Then the symmetric product  $SP^n(X) = X^n/\Sigma_n$  is 1-connected.*

*Proof.* Let  $K$  be an s.s. complex and let  $|K|$  be the geometric realization of  $K$ . Then it is known that there exists a canonical weak homotopy equivalence

$$|SP^n(K)| \rightarrow SP^n|K|.$$

Let  $S(X)$  be the singular complex of  $X$ . As is well known  $S(X)$  has a minimal complex  $K$  as a deformation retract. Then if  $X$  is 1-connected,  $K$  has unique 0 and 1 simplexes. Hence so does  $SP^n(K)$  and we see that  $|SP^n(K)|$  has no 1-cell. Therefore we see that  $SP^n(X)$  is 1-connected.

Q.E.D.

Then by the obstruction theory we obtain a homotopy equivalence:

$$h: BU(n)_q^\wedge \rightarrow (BT^n/\Sigma_n)_q^\wedge$$

such that the following diagram is commutative:

$$\begin{array}{ccc} (BT^n)_q^\wedge & \xrightarrow{i^\wedge} & BU(n)_q^\wedge \\ & \searrow \pi & \downarrow \\ & & (BT^n/\Sigma_n)_q^\wedge \end{array}$$

Let  $f: BT \rightarrow BT$  be a map of degree  $q$  on  $H^2(BT; Z)$ . Then  $f^n: BT^n \rightarrow BT^n$  defines a map on  $BT^n/\Sigma_n$  and hence defines a map  $g: BU(n)_q^\wedge \rightarrow BU(n)_q^\wedge$  such that  $g \cdot i^\wedge \simeq i^\wedge (f^n)^\wedge$ . Then by the homotopy equivalence  $BU(n)^\wedge \rightarrow BU(n)_q^\wedge \times BU(n)_{[q]}^\wedge$ , we define

$$\lambda = g \times id: BU(n)^\wedge \rightarrow BU(n)^\wedge.$$

Note that  $H^*(BU(n)^\wedge; \hat{Z}) \cong H^*(BU(n)_q^\wedge; \hat{Z}_q) \otimes H^*(BU(n)_{[q]}^\wedge; Z_{[q]})$  by the Künneth formula and by the fact  $H^*(X_q^\wedge; \hat{Z}_p) = 0$  if  $q \neq p$  and if  $X$  is 1-connected and of finite type. Then comparing  $\lambda$  with  $(f^n)_q^\wedge \times id: (BT^n)^\wedge \rightarrow (BT^n)^\wedge$ , we have

$$\lambda^* = \tilde{q}^k \cdot id: H^{2k}(BU(n)^\wedge; \hat{Z}) \rightarrow H^{2k}(BU(n)^\wedge; \hat{Z}).$$

Now let us consider the composition

$$\lambda \sigma: BU(n)^\wedge \rightarrow BU(n)^\wedge,$$

then  $(\lambda \sigma)^* = q^k \cdot id$  on  $H^{2k}(BU(n)^\wedge; Z)$ .

Since the rational type of  $BU(n)$  is homotopy equivalent to  $\prod_{k=1}^n K(Q, 2k)$ , we can define easily a map

$$r: BU(n)_{(0)} \rightarrow BU(n)_{(0)}$$

such that  $r^* = q^k \cdot id$  on  $H^{2k}(BU(n)_{(0)}; Q)$ .

Finally to get a map on the ordinary homotopy type  $BU(n)$  from maps on the profinite type and on the rational type, we must check the coherence condition ([22]). Here the coherence map is a canonical homotopy equivalence

$$c: (BU(n)^\wedge)_{(0)} \rightarrow (BU(n)_{(0)})_f^\wedge,$$

where  $X_f^\wedge$  denotes the formal completion ([21]). The coherence condition requires that the map  $(\lambda \sigma)_{(0)}$  on  $(BU(n)^\wedge)_{(0)}$  is homotopic to  $(r)_f^\wedge$  on

$(BU(n)_{(0)})_f^\wedge$  after identifying by  $c$ .

Note that we have a homotopy equivalence

$$(BU(n)_{(0)})_f^\wedge \simeq \prod_{k=1}^n K(Q \otimes \widehat{Z}, 2k).$$

But it is clear that  $(\lambda\sigma)_{(0)}$  and  $(r)_f^\wedge$  are homotopic after this further identification. Therefore by the pull-back of  $\lambda\sigma$  and  $r$  we obtain a map (in general not unique up to homotopy)

$$\psi^q : BU(n) \rightarrow BU(n)$$

satisfying the required property. Now  $BSU(n)$  is the fibre of the map  $BU(n) \rightarrow BU(1) = K(Z, 2)$  corresponding to the first Chern class. Hence  $\psi^q$  restricts to  $\psi^q : BSU(n) \rightarrow BSU(n)$ . Q.E.D.

### § 3. Mod $p$ Decomposition of $SU(n)$

Let  $n$  be a positive integer and  $q > n$  a prime. Let  $\psi^q : BSU(n) \rightarrow BSU(n)$  be a map defined in § 2. By applying the loop functor, we obtain a map

$$\Omega\psi^q : SU(n) \rightarrow SU(n).$$

Recall that  $H^*(SU(n); Z) \cong \Lambda(h_2, \dots, h_n)$  is the exterior algebra generated by the universal transgressive generators  $h_i$  with  $\deg h_i = 2i - 1$ . Since  $(\psi^q)^*x = q^k x$  for any  $x \in H^{2k}(BSU(n); Z)$  by Theorem 2.1, we have

$$(\Omega\psi^q)^*h_i = q^i h_i.$$

Let  $k_r : SU(n) \rightarrow SU(n)$  be the map defined by  $k_r(x) = x^{-q^r}$  for  $x \in SU(n)$ . We define a map

$$\lambda_{q,r} = \Omega\psi^q \cdot k_r : SU(n) \rightarrow SU(n)$$

as the composite

$$SU(n) \xrightarrow{d} SU(n) \times SU(n) \xrightarrow{\Omega\psi^q \times k_r} SU(n) \times SU(n) \xrightarrow{\mu} SU(n),$$

where  $d$  is the diagonal map and  $\mu$  is the multiplication of  $SU(n)$ .

**Lemma 3.1.**  $(\lambda_{q,r})^*(h_i) = (q^i - q^r) h_i$ .

*Proof.* Note that  $h_i$  is primitive. Then as is easily seen,  $k_r^*(h_i) = -q^r h_i$  and

$$\begin{aligned} (\lambda_{q,r})^*(h_i) &= d^*(\Omega\psi^q \times k_r)^* \mu^*(h_i) \\ &= d^*(\Omega\psi^q \times k_r)^*(h_i \otimes 1 + 1 \otimes h_i) \\ &= (q^i - q^r) h_i. \end{aligned} \qquad \text{Q.E.D.}$$

**Lemma 3.2.** *Let  $n$  be a positive integer and  $p$  a prime. Then there exists a prime  $q > n$  which is a primitive root mod  $p$ .*

*Proof.* Let  $k$  be a primitive root mod  $p$ . Then so is  $k + pt$  for any positive integer  $t$ . Since  $(k, p) = 1$ , there exist infinitely many primes of this form by the classical theorem of Dirichlet. This proves the lemma. Q.E.D.

**Proposition 3.3.** *Let  $n$  and  $p$  be as in Lemma 3.2. Then for each  $m$ ,  $2 \leq m \leq \min(n, p)$ , there exists a 1-connected finite complex  $X_m(n)$  and there exists a map  $f_m: SU(n) \rightarrow X_m(n)$  satisfying*

i) 
$$H^*(X_m(n); \mathbb{Z}_p) \cong A(x_m, x_{m+p-1}, \dots, x_{m+s(p-1)}),$$

where  $\deg x_i = 2i - 1$  and  $s = \left\lfloor \frac{n-m}{p-1} \right\rfloor$  is the largest integer  $\leq \frac{n-m}{p-1}$ ,

ii) 
$$f_m^*(x_i) = h_i.$$

*Proof.* We choose a prime as in Lemma 3.2. Let

$$g_m : SU(n) \rightarrow SU(n)$$

be the composition of  $\lambda_{q,i}$ ,  $2 \leq i \leq n$ ,  $i \not\equiv m \pmod{p-1}$ . Let  $q_1, q_2, \dots$  be all primes except  $p$  and let  $d_k = q_1^k \dots q_k^k$ . Let  $r_k(x) = x^{d_k}$ ,  $x \in SU(n)$ . Consider the sequence

$$SU(n) \xrightarrow{r_1} SU(n) \xrightarrow{g_m} SU(n) \xrightarrow{r_2} SU(n) \xrightarrow{g_m} SU(n) \xrightarrow{r_3} \dots$$

Let  $\tilde{X}_m(n)$  be the telescope of the sequence. As is easily seen,

$$r_k^*(h_i) = d_k h_i$$

and by Theorem 2.1 and by Lemma 3.1

$$g_m^*(h_i) = \prod_{\substack{2 \leq i \leq n \\ i \not\equiv m \pmod{p-1}}} (q^i - q^t) h_i.$$

If  $i \not\equiv m \pmod{p-1}$ ,  $c = \prod_{\substack{2 \leq i \leq n \\ i \not\equiv m \pmod{p-1}}} (q^i - q^t) = 0$  and if  $i \equiv m \pmod{p-1}$  then  $c \not\equiv 0 \pmod{p}$  by Lemma 3.2. From this we see easily that

$$H^*(\tilde{X}_m(n); Z_p) \cong A(y_m, y_{m+p-1}, \dots, y_{m+s(p-1)})$$

and

$$H^*(\tilde{X}_m(n); Q) \cong A(y'_m, y'_{m+p-1}, \dots, y'_{m+s(p-1)}),$$

where  $\deg(y_i) = \deg(y'_i) = 2i - 1$  and  $s = \left\lfloor \frac{n-m}{p-1} \right\rfloor$ . Since  $X_m(n)$  is 1-connected, we see that  $\tilde{X}_m(n)$  is finite  $p$ -local and is a mod 0  $H$ -space. Then by Proposition 1.4, there exists a finite complex  $X_m(n)$  (unique up to  $p$ -equivalence) such that

$$X_m(n)_p \simeq \tilde{X}_m(n).$$

Let  $j: SU(n) \rightarrow \tilde{X}_m(n)$  be the canonical inclusion map and let  $l: X_m(n) \rightarrow X_m(n)_p \simeq \tilde{X}_m(n)$  be the localization map. Note that  $\pi_i(X_m(n)_p, X_m(n))$  is a torsion group without elements of order  $p$ . Then by the obstruction theory, we see that the map  $j$  can be compressed into  $X_m(n)$  after composing  $k_i: SU(n) \rightarrow SU(n)$  for some  $l$ , i.e., there is a map

$$f_m: SU(n) \rightarrow X_m(n)$$

such that the diagram

$$\begin{CD} SU(n) @>j>> \tilde{X}_m(n) \\ @V{k_i}VV @VV{l}V \\ SU(n) @>f_m>> X_m(n) \end{CD}$$

is homotopy commutative. Note that  $k_i$  is a  $p$ -equivalence and  $(k_i)^*(h_i) = d_i h_i$ . Then by Lemma 1.6,

$$H^*(X_m(n); Z_p) \cong A(x_m, x_{m+p-1}, \dots, x_{m+s(p-1)})$$

and

$$f_m^*(x_i) = c h_i, \quad c \not\equiv 0 \pmod{p}. \tag{Q.E.D.}$$

Although the mod  $p$  splitting of  $SU(n)$  follows immediately from the above proposition, we state it in a slightly different form. Put

$$f = \prod_{m=2}^p f_m : SU(n) \rightarrow \prod_{m=2}^p X_m(n),$$

where  $X_m(n) = *$  if  $m > n$ . By the above proposition  $f$  is a  $p$ -equivalence. Since  $SU(n)$  is  $p$ -universal, there exists a converse  $p$ -equivalence

$$g : \prod_{m=2}^p X_m(n) \rightarrow SU(n)$$

by [13]. Let  $g_m$  denote the composite  $X_m(n) \xrightarrow{\subset} \prod_{i=2}^p X_i(n) \xrightarrow{g} SU(n)$ . The construction of  $X_m(n)$  depends on a choice of the map  $\psi^q : BSU(n) \rightarrow BSU(n)$ . (Note that  $\psi^q$  is not uniquely determined). However we have

**Proposition 3.4.** *Let  $Y_m(n)$  be a finite complex ( $2 \leq m \leq p$ ) and let  $a_m : Y_m(n) \rightarrow SU(n)$  be a map such that  $H^*(Y_m(n); Z_p) \cong A(y_m, y_{m+p-1}, \dots, y_{m+s(p-1)})$ ,  $s = \left\lfloor \frac{n-m}{p-1} \right\rfloor$  and  $a_m^* : H^*(SU(n); Z_p) \rightarrow H^*(Y_m(n); Z_p)$  is an epimorphism. Then*

- i)  $Y_m(n)$  is  $p$ -equivalent to  $X_m(n)$ ,
- ii) if  $m + s(p-1) \leq n \leq n' < m + (s+1)(p-1)$ , then  $Y_m(n)$  is  $p$ -equivalent to  $Y_m(n')$ ,
- iii) there exists a sequence

$$Y_m(m + s(p-1)) \rightarrow Y_m(m + (s+1)(p-1)) \rightarrow S^{2m+2(s+1)(p-1)-1}$$

which is  $p$ -equivalent to a fibring.

*Proof.* Let  $m + s(p-1) \leq n < m + (s+1)(p-1)$ . Let  $g'_m : X_m(m + s(p-1)) \xrightarrow{g_m} SU(m + s(p-1)) \rightarrow SU(n)$  be the composite and let

$$g' : X_m(m + s(p-1)) \times \prod_{i \neq m} X_i(n) \xrightarrow{g'_m \times \prod_{i \neq m} g_i} \prod_{i \neq m} SU(n) \xrightarrow{\mu} SU(n),$$

where  $\mu$  is the multiplication. Similarly consider

$$g'' : Y_m(n) \times \prod_{i \neq m} X_i(n) \xrightarrow{a_m \times \prod_{i \neq m} g_i} \prod_{i \neq m} SU(n) \xrightarrow{\mu} SU(n).$$

Then clearly  $g'$  and  $g''$  are  $p$ -equivalences. Since all spaces in the above are  $p$ -universal, we see easily that  $Y_m(n)$  is  $p$ -equivalent to  $X_m(m + s(p-1))$ . This proves i) and ii).

Next let

$$SU(m+p-2+s(p-1)) \xrightarrow{i} SU(m+(s+1)(p-1)) \xrightarrow{\pi} S^{2m+2(s+1)(p-1)-1}$$

be the usual fibring. Let  $\pi'$  be the composite

$$X_m(m+(s+1)(p-1)) \xrightarrow{g_m} SU(m+(s+1)(p-1)) \xrightarrow{\pi} S^{2m+2(s+1)(p-1)-1}$$

and let  $F$  be the fibre of  $\pi'$ . Then we have a homotopy commutative diagram:

$$\begin{CD} SU(m+p-2+s(p-1)) @>i>> SU(m+(s+1)(p-1)) @>\pi>> S^{2m+2(s+1)(p-1)-1} \\ @V a VV @V g_m VV @| \\ F @>i'>> X_m(m+(s+1)(p-1)) @>\pi'>> S^{2m+2(s+1)(p-1)-1} \end{CD}$$

where  $a$  is an induced map. Then easily we see that  $a:F \rightarrow SU(m+p-2+s(p-1))$  satisfies the condition of the proposition and by i) and ii) we have

$$F \underset{p}{\simeq} X_m(m+s(p-1)).$$

This completes the proof. Q.E.D.

Now by the above proposition, if  $m+s(p-1) < n < m+(s+1)(p-1)$ ,  $X_m(n)$  uniquely determines a mod  $p$  homotopy type which we denote by  $B_m^{s+1}(p)$  by an abuse of notation (cf. § 5). Then from the above argument, we obtain

**Theorem 3.5.** *Let  $p$  be a prime and let  $1 \leq m < p$  be an integer. Then for any positive integer  $k$ , there exists a space  $B_m^k(p)$  and there exists a  $p$ -equivalence*

$$\coprod_{1 \leq m < p} B_m^{k(n,m)}(p) \rightarrow SU(n),$$

where  $k(n, m) = \left\lceil \frac{n-m-1}{p-1} \right\rceil$ .

**Corollary 3.6.** *Let  $p, m$  and  $k$  be as above. Then the space  $B_n^k(p)$  is a mod  $p$   $H$ -space.*

**Remark 3.7.** In § 5 there is given a slightly different definition

of  $B_m^k(p)$  for general  $m$ . The difference with this definition is to require the existence of a map to  $SU(m+1+(k-1)(p-1))/SU(m)$  instead of  $SU(n)$ . In this weaker definition, it is not known in general if  $B_m^k(p)$  is unique up to  $p$ -equivalence.

§ 4. Mod  $p$  Decomposition of the Other Classical Groups

In this section,  $p$  denotes always an odd prime. Let  $F \xrightarrow{i} E \xrightarrow{p} B$  be a fibration. A map  $s: B \rightarrow E$  is called a *cross-section* mod  $p$  if  $p \circ s$  is a  $p$ -equivalence. Let  $E$  be an  $H$ -space mod  $p$  with the mod  $p$  multiplication  $\mu$ . Suppose  $p: E \rightarrow B$  admits a cross section mod  $p$ . Now if  $F, E$  and  $B$  are 1-connected finite CW-complexes, then  $F \times B \xrightarrow{i \times s} E \times E \xrightarrow{\mu} E$  gives a  $p$ -equivalence by Serre's class theory.

Consider the canonical bundles associated with the classical groups:

$$\begin{aligned} Sp(n) &\rightarrow SU(2n) \rightarrow SU(2n)/Sp(n), \\ Spin(2n+1) &\rightarrow SU(2n+1) \rightarrow SU(2n+1)/Spin(2n+1), \\ Spin(2n-1) &\rightarrow Spin(2n) \rightarrow S^{2n-1}. \end{aligned}$$

B. Harris [6] has shown that such bundles have cross-section mod  $p$  for odd  $p$ . Hence we have  $p$ -equivalences:

$$\begin{aligned} Sp(n) \times (SU(2n)/Sp(n)) &\underset{p}{\simeq} SU(2n), \\ Spin(2n+1) \times (SU(2n+1)/Spin(2n+1)) &\underset{p}{\simeq} SU(2n+1), \\ Spin(2n-1) \times S^{2n-1} &\underset{p}{\simeq} Spin(2n). \end{aligned}$$

It is also shown in [6] that  $Sp(n) \underset{p}{\simeq} Spin(2n+1)$ .

**Theorem 4.1.** *Let  $p$  be an odd prime. Let  $k_{a,b} = \left[ \frac{2(a-b)}{p-1} \right] + 1$ . Then there exist the following  $p$ -equivalences:*

$$\begin{aligned} Sp(n) &\underset{p}{\simeq} Spin(2n+1) \underset{p}{\simeq} \prod_{m=1}^{(p-1)/2} B_{2m}^{k_{n+1,m}}(p), \\ Spin(2n) &\underset{p}{\simeq} S^{2n-1} \times \prod_{m=1}^{(p-1)/2} B_{2m}^{k_{n-1,m}}(p), \\ SU(2n)/Sp(n) &\underset{p}{\simeq} \prod_{m=1}^{(p-1)/2} B_{2m}^{k_{n-1,m}}(p), \end{aligned}$$

$$SU(2n+1)/Spin(2n+1) \simeq \prod_p \prod_{m=1}^{(p-1)/2} B_{2m}^{k_{2n,m}}(p).$$

Proof is straightforward from Theorem 3.5 by virtue of the above formula and will be left to the reader.

**Theorem 4.2.** *SU(n) has no mod p decomposition into p spaces. Let p be odd, then Sp(n) and Spin(2n+1) have no mod p decomposition into  $\frac{p+1}{2}$  spaces. Sp(n) has no mod 2 decomposition into 2 spaces.*

*Proof.* Assume that  $SU(n)$  is mod  $p$  decomposable into  $p$  spaces, i.e.,  $\prod_{i=1}^p X_i \simeq_p SU(n)$ . It is easy to see that  $H^*(X_i; Z_p)$  is an exterior algebra and hence there exists a number  $t$  such that the degree of the lowest generator of  $H^*(X_i; Z_p)$  is greater than  $2p+1$ . Let  $x$  be such a generator and let  $k = \deg x$ . Then clearly the mod  $p$  Hurewicz homomorphism  $h: \pi_k(\prod X_i) \otimes_{Z_p} \rightarrow H_k(\prod X_i; Z_p)$  is non-trivial. Hence so is  $h: \pi_k(SU(n)) \otimes_{Z_p} \rightarrow H_k(SU(n); Z_p)$ . But since  $k \geq 2p+1$ , this is a contradiction. For  $Sp(n)$  and  $Spin(2n+1)$ , the proof is quite similar. Q.E.D.

## Chapter II Mod p Stiefel Complex $B_m^k(p)$

### § 5. Existence of $B_m^k(p)$

Throughout this chapter  $p$  will be an odd prime and we use the notation  $q = 2(p-1)$ .

**Definition 5.1.** i) A map  $f: X \rightarrow Y$  is called a mod  $p$  injection (resp. a mod  $p$  surjection) if  $f$  induces an epimorphism (resp. a monomorphism)  $f^*: H^*(Y; Z_p) \rightarrow H^*(X; Z_p)$ .

ii) A complex  $B$  is called to be of  $p$ -type  $(n_1, n_2, \dots, n_l)$  and indicated by  $B = B(n_1, n_2, \dots, n_l)$  if

$$H^*(B; Z_p) = A(x_{n_1}, \dots, x_{n_l}),$$

where  $\deg x_{n_i} = n_i$ ,  $i = 1, \dots, l$ , and each cell of  $B$  represents an additive base of  $H^*(B; Z_p)$ .

Note that

(5.1) if  $X$  is 1-connected and  $H^*(X; Z_p) = \Lambda(x_{n_1}, \dots, x_{n_i})$  for  $\dim \leq n_1 + \dots + n_i$ , then there is a complex  $B$  of  $p$ -type  $(n_1, \dots, n_i)$  with a mod  $p$  injection  $f: B \rightarrow X$ .

**Definition 5.2.** We call a complex  $B_m^k(p)$  of  $p$ -type  $(2m+1, 2m+1+q, \dots, 2m+1+(k-1)q)$ ,  $q=2(p-1)$ , a mod  $p$  Stiefel complex if there exists a mod  $p$  injection

$$f: B_m^k(p) \rightarrow SU(m+1+(k-1)(p-1))/SU(m) = W_{m+s,s},$$

where  $s=1+(k-1)(p-1)$ .

Note that

(5.2)  $H^*(W_{m+s,s}; Z) = \Lambda(x_{2m+1}, x_{2(m+1)+1}, \dots, x_{2(m+s-1)+1})$  and in  $Z_p$ -coefficient we can choose the generators  $x_{2(m+j)+1}$  such that  $f^*(x_{2(m+j)+1}) = 0$  for  $j \not\equiv 0 \pmod{p-1}$  and  $f^*(x_{2m+1+iq}) = x_{2m+1+iq}$  for  $0 \leq i < k$ .

**Example 5.3.1.**  $B_m^1(p) = S^{2m+1}$ .

**Example 5.3.2.**  $B_m^2(p) = S^{2m+1} \times S^{2m+2p-1}$  if  $m \equiv 0 \pmod{p}$  and  $B_m^2(p) = B_m(p)$  if  $m \not\equiv 0 \pmod{p}$ , where  $B_m(p)$  is a  $S^{2m+1}$ -bundle over  $S^{2m+2p-1}$  given in [11, 18].

**Example 5.3.3.**  $B_{2n+1}^k(3) = X_{n+k,k} = Sp(n+k)/Sp(n)$  with the natural map  $f: B_{2n+1}^k(3) \rightarrow SU(2n+2k)/SU(2n+1)$ .

**Example 5.3.4.** By Theorem 3.5, for  $1 \leq m \leq p$  there exists  $B_m^k(p)$  with

$$\begin{aligned} f: B_m^k(p) &\rightarrow SU(m+1+(k-1)(p-1)) \\ &\rightarrow SU(m+1+(k-1)(p-1))/SU(m). \end{aligned}$$

In meta-stable ranges we have the following theorems.

**Theorem 5.4.** *If  $k(2m + 1 + (k - 1)(p - 1)) < 2(m + 1)p - 2$ , there exists  $B_m^k(p)$  uniquely up to  $p$ -equivalence.*

**Theorem 5.5.** *If*

$$(\alpha) \quad (k - 1)(2m + 1 + k(p - 1)) < 2(m + 2)p - 2$$

or

$$(\beta) \quad m \text{ is odd and } (k - 1)(2m + 1 + k(p - 1)) < 2(m + 3)p - 2,$$

there exists a  $B_m^k(p)$  which is a  $S^{2m+1}$ -bundle over  $B_{m+p-1}^{k-1}(p)$ .

First we recall James' work [8]. For each positive integer  $s$ , there associates a James number  $b = b_s$ , such that for all positive integers  $n$  and  $N$ , there are maps

$$j_i : S^{2Nb}W_{n+i,i} \rightarrow W_{n+i+Nb,i} \quad \text{for } i \leq s$$

satisfying the commutativity of the diagram

$$\begin{array}{ccccc} S^{2Nb}W_{n+i-1,i-1} & \xrightarrow{S^{2Nb}i} & S^{2Nb}W_{n+i,i} & \xrightarrow{S^{2Nb}p} & S^{2(n+i+Nb)-1} \\ \downarrow j_{i-1} & & \downarrow j_i & & \downarrow j_1 = id \\ W_{n+i+Nb-1,i-1} & \xrightarrow{i} & W_{n+i+Nb,i} & \xrightarrow{p} & S^{2(n+i+Nb)-1} \end{array}$$

where  $W_{t+i,i} = SU(t+i)/SU(t)$  and  $\xrightarrow{i}, \xrightarrow{p}$  are the natural fiberings.

We put

$$K_{t+i,i} = S(CP^{t+i-1}/CP^{t-1}).$$

According to Yokota [25],  $K_{t+i,i}$  is embedded in  $W_{t+i,i}$  such that  $(W_{t+i,i}, K_{t+i,i})$  is  $(4t+3)$ -connected and  $H^*(K_{t+i,i})$  has an additive base  $\{y_{2(t+j)-1}\}$  for the restrictions  $y_{2(t+j)-1}$  of the generators  $x_{2(t+j)-1}$  of  $H^*(W_{t+i,i})$ .

So, by taking  $N$  sufficiently large, we have the following homotopy commutative diagram:

$$\begin{array}{ccccc} S^{2Nb}W_{n+i-1,i-1} & \xrightarrow{S^{2Nb}i} & S^{2Nb}W_{n+i,i} & \xrightarrow{S^{2Nb}p} & S^{2(n+i+Nb)-1} \\ \downarrow j_{i-1} & & \downarrow j_i & & \downarrow j_1 = id \\ K_{n+i+Nb-1,i-1} & \xrightarrow{i} & K_{n+i+Nb,i} & \xrightarrow{p} & S^{2(n+i+Nb)-1} \end{array}$$

in which the lower sequence is a cofibering.

Using (5. 2) and the above diagram inductively we have

(5. 3)  $j_s : S^{2Nb}W_{n+s,s} \rightarrow K_{n+s+Nb,s}$  and the adjoint map  $J_s : W_{n+s,s} \rightarrow \Omega^{2Nb}K_{n+s+Nb,s}$  satisfy  $j_s^*(y_{2(n+i+Nb)+1}) = S^{2Nb}x_{2(n+i)+1}$  and  $J_s^*(\sigma^{2Nb}y_{2(n+i-Nb)+1}) = x_{2(n+i)+1}$ . Thus  $j_s$  is a mod  $p$  surjection and  $J_s$  is a mod  $p$  injection.

By Corollary 9. 5 of [16]

(5. 4) we have a  $p$ -equivalence

$$g' : K_{n+s+Nb,s} \rightarrow \bigvee_{i=0}^{p-2} L_i,$$

where  $L_i = S^M \cup e^{M+q} \cup \dots \cup e^{M+hq}$  for  $M = M_i = 2(n+i+Nb)+1$  and  $h = h_i = \left[ \frac{s-i-1}{p-1} \right]$ .

From (5. 2), (5. 3) and (5. 4) we remark that

(5. 5) there is a mod  $p$  surjection  $S^{2N}B_m^k(p) \rightarrow L_0$  for sufficiently large  $N$ , given the existence of  $B_m^k(p)$ , where  $L_0 = S^{2m+2N+1} \cup e^{2m+2N+1+q} \cup \dots \cup e^{2m+2N+1+(k-1)q}$ .

An easy calculation, using Corollary 3. 3 of [24], shows

(5. 6)  $H^*(\Omega^{2Nb}L_i; Z_p) = A(x_{2n+2i+1}, x_{2n+2i+1+q}, \dots, x_{2n+2i+1+hq})$  for  $\dim < 2(n+i+1)p-2$ ,

and for the composite map

$$g = g' \circ J_s : W_{n+s,s} \rightarrow \Omega^{2Nb} \left( \bigvee_{i=0}^{p-2} L_i \right),$$

(5. 7)  $g^* : H^*(\Omega^{2Nb} \left( \bigvee_{i=0}^{p-2} L_i \right); Z_p) \rightarrow H^*(W_{n+s,s}; Z_p)$

are isomorphisms for  $\dim < 2(n+1)p-2$ .

Then it follows from (5. 1) that

(5.8) if  $(h+1)(2n+2i+1+h(p-1)) < 2(n+i+1)p-2$  there exist a complex  $B_i$  of type  $(2n+2i+1, 2n+2i+1+q, \dots, 2n+2i+1+hq)$  and a mod  $p$  injection

$$f_i : B_i \rightarrow \mathcal{O}^{2Nb} L_i.$$

*Proof of Theorem 5.4.* Let  $n=m$ ,  $s=1+(k-1)(p-1)$  and consider the following diagram:

$$\begin{array}{ccc} W_{m+s,s} & \xrightarrow{g} & \mathcal{O}^{2Nb}(\bigvee_{i=0}^{p-2} L_i) \\ \uparrow f & & \uparrow j_0 \\ B_0 & \xrightarrow{h} & B_0 \end{array}$$

where  $j_0$  is the composite map of  $f_0: B_0 \rightarrow \mathcal{O}^{2Nb} L_0$  and the inclusion  $\mathcal{O}^{2Nb} L_0 \rightarrow \mathcal{O}^{2Nb}(\bigvee_i L_i)$ . By the assumption,  $\dim B_0 < 2(m+1)p-2$ . By Corollary 1.4 of [13],  $B_0$  is  $p$ -universal. Applying Theorem 2.1 of [15], we have that there exist a  $p$ -equivalence  $h$  and a mod  $p$  injection  $f$  such that the above diagram homotopy commutes. Thus  $B_0 = B_m^k(p)$ .

Given a  $B_m^k(p)$  with a mod  $p$  injection  $f: B_m^k(p) \rightarrow W_{m+s,s}$ , consider the composition

$$\bar{g} : B_m^k(p) \xrightarrow{f} W_{m+s,s} \xrightarrow{g} \mathcal{O}^{2Nb}(\bigvee_i L_i) \xrightarrow{\text{proj}} \mathcal{O}^{2Nb} L_0.$$

It is easy to see that  $\bar{g}^*: H^*(\mathcal{O}^{2Nb} L_0; Z_p) \rightarrow H^*(B_m^k(p); Z_p)$  are isomorphisms for  $\dim < 2(m+1)p-2$ . Apply the above discussion to  $\bar{g}$ , in place of  $g$ , then we get a mod  $p$  injection  $\bar{f}: B_0 \rightarrow B_m^k(p)$  which is a  $p$ -equivalence. Q.E.D.

*Proof of Theorem 5.5.* First consider the case  $(\alpha)$ . Let  $n=m+1$ ,  $s=(k-1)(p-1)$  and apply Theorem 2.1 of [15] to the diagram

$$\begin{array}{ccc} W_{m+1+s,s} & \xrightarrow{g} & \mathcal{O}^{2Nb}(\bigvee_i L_i) \\ \uparrow f' & & \uparrow j_{p-2} \\ B_{p-2} & \xrightarrow{h'} & B_{p-2} \end{array}$$

The condition  $(\alpha)$  is equivalent to  $\dim B_{p-2} < 2(m+2)p-2$ . So, we get a mod  $p$  injection  $f': B_{p-2} \rightarrow W_{m+1+s,s}$ . By composing the projection  $W_{m+1+s,s} \rightarrow W_{m+1+s,s-p+2}$ , we see that  $B_{p-2} = B_{m+p-1}^{k-1}(p)$ . Consider the sphere bundle

$S^{2m+1} \rightarrow W_{m+1+s,1+s} \rightarrow W_{m+1+s,s}$  and let  $B$  be the total space of the sphere bundle induced by  $f'$ . Then  $B$  is an  $S^{2m+1}$ -bundle over  $B_{m+p-1}^{k-1}(p)$  with the induced map  $f: B \rightarrow W_{m+1+s,1+s}$ . Obviously  $f$  is a mod  $p$  injection and  $B = B_m^k(p)$ .

For the case  $(\beta)$ , let  $s' = s/2$ ,  $m' = (m+1)/2$  and use the composition

$$g': X_{m'+s',s'} = Sp(m'+s')/Sp(m') \rightarrow W_{m+1+s,s}$$

$$\xrightarrow{g} \Omega^{2Nb} \left( \bigvee_{i=0}^{p-2} L_i \right) \xrightarrow{\text{proj}} \Omega^{2Nb} \left( \bigvee_{j=1}^{(p-1)/2} L_{2j-1} \right)$$

in place of  $g$ . We see that  $g'^*$  are isomorphisms of  $H^*( ; Z_p)$  for  $\dim < 2(m+3)p-2$ . Then the case  $(\beta)$  is proved similarly. Q.E.D.

A slight generalization of Theorems 5.4, 5.5 may be obtained in unstable ranges, as will be seen in the proof of Proposition 5.6.

For small values of  $k$  we have

- Proposition 5.6.** (i)  $B_m^k(p)$  exists if  $k=1, k=2, k=3$ .  
 (ii)  $B_m^4(p)$  exists if  $p > 3$  or if  $p=3$  and  $m$  is odd.

*Proof.* By Proposition 3.4,  $B_m^k(p)$  exists for  $m < p$ . So, we may assume that  $m \geq p$ .

For  $k=3$ , the condition  $(\alpha)$  of Theorem 5.5 is equivalent to  $m > \frac{p-1}{p-2}$  which is satisfied for  $m \geq p \geq 3$ . Thus  $B_m^3(p)$  exists. The existence of  $B_m^1(p)$  and  $B_m^2(p)$  is easily proved.

For  $k=4$ , the conditions  $(\alpha)$  and  $(\beta)$  of Theorem 5.5 are equivalent to  $m > \frac{4p-3}{p-3}$  and  $m > \frac{3p-3}{p-3}$  respectively. Thus  $B_m^4(p)$  exists for  $p > 5$  and for  $p=5$  and  $m \neq 5, 6, 8$ . For odd  $m$ , Example 5.3.3 shows the existence of  $B_m^4(3)$ .

Consider the construction of  $B_8^4(5)$  along the proof of Theorem 5.5. Then the only difficulty is to extend a map  $f$  of  $B_{12}^3(5)$  into  $W_{21,12} = SU(21)/SU(9)$  over the top cell of  $B_{12}^3(5)$ , and the obstruction lies in the kernel of  $S^{2Nb}: \pi_{98}(S^{19}) \rightarrow \pi_{98+2Nb}(S^{19+2Nb})$ . By [24], this  $S^{2Nb}$  is a mod 5 injection. Thus  $B_8^4(5)$  can be constructed.  $B_5^4(5)$  is similarly constructed by using  $X_{9,6} = Sp(9)/Sp(3)$ .

Finally, the obstruction to construct  $B_6^4(5)$  lies in the kernel of

$g_*: \pi_{86}(SU(9)/SU(7)) \rightarrow \pi_{86}(Q^{2Nb}(S^{15+2Nb} \vee S^{17+2Nb}))$ . Here  $SU(9)/SU(7)$  is  $p$ -equivalent to  $S^{15} \times S^{17}$  and  $g_*$  is equivalent to  $S^{2Nb} \times S^{2Nb}$  on  $\pi_{86}(S^{15}) \times \pi_{86}(S^{17})$  which is mod 5 injective by [24]. Thus  $B_6^4(5)$  can be constructed. Q.E.D.

§ 6. A Spectral Sequence for Meta-stable Homotopy

In this section all homotopy groups  $\pi_i(X)$  are localized at  $p$  and considered on 1-connected spaces of finite type. We use the notations

$$\pi_i(X: p) = \pi_i(X) \otimes Z_{(p)},$$

$$(G_i: p) = G_i \otimes Z_{(p)} \quad \text{for} \quad G_i = \lim_n \pi_{i+n}(S^n),$$

where

$$Z_{(p)} = \left\{ \frac{n}{m} \mid m, n \in \mathbb{Z}; (m, p) = 1 \right\}.$$

Let  $n$  be an odd integer  $\geq 3$ . We shall give a functor which associates a spectral sequence  $\{E_{s,t}^r\}$  for each  $n$ -connected map  $f: B \rightarrow X$ , satisfying the following properties.

(6.1) (i)  $E_{s,t}^1 = 0$  for  $s < n$ ,  $E_{n,t}^1 = \pi_{n+t}(B: p)$  and  $E_{s,t}^1 = \pi_{n+t}(B_s: p)$  for  $s > n$ , where  $B_s = \bigvee S^n$  is a bouquet of  $n$ -spheres.

(ii) With respect to the differential  $d^r: E_{s,t}^r \rightarrow E_{s-r,t+r-1}^r$

$$d^r d^r = 0 \quad \text{and} \quad H(E_{s,t}^r) \cong E_{s,t}^{r+1}.$$

(iii)  $E_{s,t}^r = E_{s,t}^\infty$  for  $r > \text{Max}(s-n, t+1)$ .  $E_{s,t}^\infty = D_{s,t}/D_{s-1,t+1}$  and  $D_{n,t} = E_{n,t}^\infty = \text{Im}(f_*: \pi_{n+t}(B: p) \rightarrow \pi_{n+t}(X: p))$  for a filtration

$$\pi_{s+t}(X: p) = D_{s+t,0} \supset \dots \supset D_{s,t} \supset D_{s-1,t+1} \supset \dots \supset D_{n,s+t-n}.$$

(iv)  $d^1(E_{s,t}^1) \subset p \cdot E_{s-1,t}^1$  for  $s-1 > n$ .

(v) For each  $\gamma \in \pi_{n+u}(S^n)$ , there associates a map (composition)  $\cdot \gamma: E_{s,t}^r \rightarrow E_{s,t+u}^r$  of the spectral sequences such that  $\beta \cdot \gamma = \beta \circ (S^r \gamma)$  for  $\beta \in \pi_{n+t}(B_s: p) = E_{s,t}^1$  and similar for  $\beta \in D_{s,t} \subset \pi_{s+t}(X: p)$ .

(vi) A spectral sequence converging to  $\pi_{s+t}(X, B: p)$  is obtained by taking  $E_{n,t}^r = D_{n,t} = 0$ .

Let  $N = \{n_1, n_2, \dots\}$  be a strictly increasing sequence of positive inte-

gers  $n_i > 3$ , and let

$$n = n_1 - 1 \text{ if } n_1 \text{ is even and } n = n_1 - 2 \text{ if } n_1 \text{ is odd.}$$

**Theorem 6.1.** *For the map  $f: B \rightarrow X$  assume that*

$$H^*(X; Z_p) = B^* \otimes A(x_{n_i}: n_i \text{ is odd}) \otimes Z_p[x_{n_i}: n_i \text{ is even}]$$

for  $\dim < M + 1 \leq p(n + 1)$ ,  $f^*(x_{n_i}) = 0$  and  $f^*|_{B^*}$  is an isomorphism of  $B^*$  onto  $H^*(B; Z_p)$ . Then the above spectral sequence  $\{E_{s,t}^r\}$  satisfies the following properties.

(i) Let  $s < M$ , then  $B_s = S^n$  ( $s \in N$ ) and  $B_s = *$  ( $s \notin N$ ).

(ii) Let  $\beta \in E_{s,t}^r$  for  $1 \leq r \leq q$ ,  $s < M$  and  $s, s - r \in N$ . If  $r = 1$ ,  $d^1(\beta) = a\beta$  for an integer  $a \equiv 0 \pmod{p}$  satisfying  $(\delta/a)x_{s-1} = x_s \pmod{\text{decomp.}}$  for  $a \neq 0$ .  $d^r(\beta) = 0$  if  $1 < r < q$ . If  $r = q$ ,  $d^q(\beta) = b\alpha_1 \cdot \beta$  for some  $b \in Z_p$  satisfying  $\mathcal{P}^1 x_{s-q} = bx_s \pmod{\text{decomp.}}$ , where  $\alpha_1 \in \pi_{n+q-1}(S^n: p)$  is detected by  $\mathcal{P}^1$ .

In the following (iii) and (iv), we assume that  $s, s - r \in N$ ,  $s < M$ ,  $\alpha \circ S^{r-1}\beta = \beta \circ S^r\gamma = 0$  for  $\alpha \in \pi_{n+r-1}(S^n: p) = E_{s-r,r-1}^1$ ,  $\beta \in \pi_{n+t}(S^n: p) = E_{s,t}^1$ ,  $\gamma \in \pi_{n+u}(S^n)$ ,  $d^r(\iota) = \alpha$  for the identity class  $\iota \in \pi_n(S^n: p) = E_{s,0}^1$  and  $\xi$  indicates a suitably chosen element of

$$\{\alpha, S^{r-1}\beta, S^{r+t-1}\gamma\} \subset \pi_{n-t+r+u}(S^n) = E_{s-r,t+r+u}^1.$$

Moreover we assume  $E_{s-i,t+i}^1 = 0$  for  $1 \leq i < r$ .

(iii) If  $[\beta] \in \pi_{s+t}(X: p)$  is represented by  $\beta \in E_{s,t}^\infty$ , then  $[\beta] \cdot \gamma \in \pi_{s+t+u}(X: p)$  is represented by  $\xi \in E_{s-r,t+r+u}^\infty$ .

(iv) If  $d^{r'}(\delta) = \beta$  for some  $\delta \in E_{s+r',t-r'+1}^r$ , then  $d^{r+r'}(\delta \cdot \gamma) = \xi \in E_{s-r',t-r'+u}^{r+r'}$ .

(v) If  $B = S^{2m+1}$ , by shifting  $E_{n,t}^r$  to  $E_{2m+1,t}^r$ , the above (ii), (iii), (iv) are satisfied for  $s - r = 2m + 1$ .

**Corollary 6.2.** *If  $\pi_k(X, B; p) \neq 0$  for some  $k < M - 1$ , then  $k = s + t$  for some  $s \in N$  and  $t$  with  $(G_t: p) \neq 0$ .*

The construction of the spectral sequence and the proofs of (6.1) and Theorem 6.1 will be given at the end of this section.

We shall show some applications. Recall the following results on the stable homotopy groups of spheres from [23].

(6. 2) For  $t < (2p + 1)q - 2$ , the groups  $(G_i; p)$  have the following generators:

$$\begin{aligned} (G_0; p) &= Z_{(p)} \langle \iota \rangle, & \iota & \text{ is the class of the identity,} \\ (G_{r q - 1}; p) &= Z_p \langle \alpha_r \rangle & & \text{ for } 0 < r < 2p \text{ and } r \neq p, \\ (G_{s p q - 1}; p) &= Z_{p^2} \langle \alpha'_{s p} \rangle & & \text{ for } s = 1, 2, \ p \alpha'_{s p} = \alpha_{s p}, \\ (G_{s p q - 2s}; p) &= Z_p \langle \beta_1^s \rangle & & \text{ for } s = 1, 2, \\ (G_{(s p + 1) q - 2s - 1}; p) &= Z_p \langle \alpha_1 \beta_1^s \rangle & & \text{ for } s = 1, 2. \end{aligned}$$

(6. 3)  $\alpha_1 \alpha_r = \alpha_1 \alpha'_{s p} = 0$  and  $\{\alpha_1, \alpha_r, p\iota\}$  contains  $\alpha_r/r$  ( $= \alpha'_{s p}/s$  for  $r = sp$ ).

A typical case of  $X$  is the following one.

$$(6. 4) \quad H^*(X; Z_p) = \Lambda(x_{2m+1}, \mathcal{P}^1 x_{2m+1}, \dots, \mathcal{P}^{k-1} x_{2m+1}), \quad 1 < k \leq p.$$

**Proposition 6. 3.** For a 2-connected  $X$  with the property (6. 4),  $\pi_t(X; p) = 0$  for  $t < \text{Min}(2(m + 1)p - 3, 2m + (2p + 1)q - 1)$  except for the following:

$$\begin{aligned} \pi_{2m+1+jq}(X; p) &= Z_{(p)} \langle [p^j \iota (2m + 1 + jq)] \rangle & & \text{ for } 0 \leq j < k, \\ \pi_{2m+jq}(X; p) &= Z_p \langle [\alpha_{j-k+1} (2m + 1 + (k-1)q)] \rangle & & \\ & & & \text{ for } k \leq j < p \text{ and } p + k \leq j < 2p, \\ \pi_{2m+jq}(X; p) &= Z_{p^{k+1}} \langle [\alpha_{j-k+1} (2m + 1 + (k-1)q)] \rangle & & \text{ for } p \leq j < p + k - 1, \\ \pi_{2m+(p+k-1)q}(X; p) &= Z_{p^{k+1}} \langle [\alpha'_p (2m + 1 + (k-1)q)] \rangle, \end{aligned}$$

with the exception

$$\pi_{2m+pq}(X; p) = Z_{p^p} \langle [\alpha_2 (2m + 1 + (p-2)q)] \rangle \quad \text{for } k = p,$$

and, in addition for  $k < p$ ,

$$\begin{aligned} \pi_{2m+1+spq-2s}(X; p) &= Z_p \langle [\beta_1^s (2m + 1)] \rangle & & \text{ for } s = 1, 2, \\ \pi_{2m+(p+k)q-2}(X; p) &= Z_p \langle [\alpha_1 \beta_1 (2m + 1 + 2(k-1)q)] \rangle. \end{aligned}$$

Here  $\gamma(s) \in E_{s,t}^r$  indicates the element whose stable class is  $\gamma$ , and  $[\gamma(s)] \in \pi_{s+t}(X; p)$  is represented by the permanent cycle  $\gamma(s) \in E_{s,t}^\infty$ .

*Proof.* For  $t < 2(m+1)p - 3$ ,  $\pi_t(S^{2m+1}; p)$  is stable. We use the spectral sequence  $\{E_{s,t}^r\}$  converging to  $\pi_t(X; p)$  with  $E_{s,t}^1 = (G_t; p)$  for  $s = 2m + 1 + iq$  ( $0 \leq i < k$ ). The first non-trivial differential is  $d^q$  and it is computed by (ii) of Theorem 6.1 and by (6.3), (6.4), and  $E_{s,t}^{q+1}$  has the following generators:

$$\begin{aligned} & p\iota(2m + 1 + iq) \quad \text{for } 0 \leq i < k, \\ & \alpha_r(2m + 1 + iq) \quad \text{for } 0 \leq i < k, 2 \leq r, i \not\equiv 0 \pmod{p} \text{ and } i + r \leq 2p, \\ & \alpha'_{sp}(2m + 1 + iq) \quad \text{for } 0 \leq i < k, s = 1, 2 \text{ and } sp + i \leq 2p, \\ & \alpha_1(2m + 1 + (k-1)q), \beta_1(2m + 1), \alpha_1\beta_1(2m + 1 + (k-1)q) \end{aligned}$$

and  $\beta_1^2(2m + 1)$ .

Next we have

(6.5)  $d^{f,q}(p^{f-1}\iota(2m + 1 + iq)) = \alpha_f(2m + 1 + (i-f)q)$  for  $1 \leq f \leq i$  up to non-zero coefficients.

This is true for  $f=1$  by (ii) of Theorem 6.1 and proved inductively by use of (iv) of Theorem 6.1 and (6.3). For dimensional reasons and by the following lemma, the other non-trivial differentials are  $d^{(p-1)q}(\alpha_1\beta_1^{s-1}(2m + 1 + (p-1)q)) = \beta_1^s(2m + 1)$ ,  $s = 1, 2$ , of the case  $k=p$ . By use of (ii) of Theorem 6.1 and (6.3), we see that the groups  $\pi_{2m+jq}(X; p)$  are cyclic. Consequently we obtain the required results. Q.E.D.

In the above proof, the only differentials in question are

$$d^{i,q}(\alpha_{p-i}(2m + 1 + iq)) = a \cdot \beta_1(2m + 1) \quad \text{for some } a \in Z_p.$$

The element  $\beta_1(2m + 1)$  is stable only if  $m \geq p$ .

**Lemma 6.4.** *Let  $m \geq p$  and  $1 \leq i \leq k$ . Then*

$$d^{i,q}(\alpha_{p-i}(2m + 1 + iq)) = 0 \quad \text{for } i < p - 1$$

and  $d^{(p-1)q}(\alpha_1\beta_1^{s-1}(2m + 1 + (p-1)q)) = \beta_1^s(2m + 1)$  for  $k=p$  up to non-zero coefficients.

*Proof.* We shall consider a complex

$$L_m^k = S^{2m+1} \cup e^{2m+1+q} \cup \dots \cup e^{2m+1+(k-1)q} \quad \text{with} \quad \mathcal{P}^{k-1} \neq 0$$

for  $k \leq p \leq m$ . Denote by  $L_m^j$  the  $2m+1+(j-1)q$  skeleton of  $L_m^k$ , by  $i_j: L_m^j \rightarrow L_m^{j+1}$  the inclusion and by

$$\gamma_k \in \pi_{2m+(k-1)q}(L_m^{k-1})$$

the attaching class of the top cell  $e^{2m+1+(k-1)q}$ . First we prove

(6.6)<sub>k</sub>. For  $2 \leq k \leq p$ , there exists a complex  $L_m^k$  such that  $\gamma_k = \gamma_{k,k-1}$ ,  $p \cdot \gamma_{k,j+1} = i_{j*} \gamma_{k,j}$  ( $1 \leq j < k-1$ ) and  $\gamma_{k,1} = \alpha_{k-1}(2m+1)$  up to non-zero coefficients, for a series of elements  $\gamma_{k,j} \in \pi_{2m+(k-1)q}(L_m^k)$ .

This is obvious for  $k=2$ ,  $L_m^2 = S^{2m+1} \cup e^{2m+1+q}$  the mapping cone of  $\alpha_1(2m+1)$ . Assume that (6.6)<sub>k-1</sub> holds for  $k > 2$  and consider  $L_{m+q-1}^{k-1}$ . We define  $L_m^k$  as the mapping cone of a map  $f: SL_{m+q-1}^{k-1} \rightarrow S^{2m+1}$  such that  $f|SL_{m+q-1}^1 = f|S^{2m+2q}$  represents  $\alpha_1(2m+1)$ . The existence of such a map  $f$  follows from  $\pi_{2m+jq-1}(S^{2m+1}; p) = (G_{jq-2}; p) = 0$  for  $1 < j < p$ . The attaching class  $\gamma_k$  is given by a coextension of the attaching class  $S\gamma_{k-1}$  for  $SL_{m+q-1}^{k-1}$ . If  $\gamma_{k,j+1}$  is given by a coextension of  $S\gamma_{k-1,j}$ ,  $p \cdot \gamma_{k,j+1}$  is a coextension of  $pS\gamma_{k-1,j} = Si_{j-1*}S\gamma_{k-1,j-1}$ . Then  $p \cdot \gamma_{k,j+1} = i_{j*} \gamma_{k,j}$  for a coextension  $\gamma_{k,j}$  of  $S\gamma_{k-1,j-1}$ . Since  $\gamma_{k,2}$  is a coextension of  $S\gamma_{k-1,1} = \gamma_{k-2}$  in the mapping cone  $L_m^2$  of  $\alpha_1(2m+1)$ ,  $p \cdot \gamma_{k,2} = i_{1*} \{ \alpha_1(2m+1), \alpha_{k-2}, p\} = i_{1*}(\alpha_{k-1}(2m+1))$  by (6.3). Thus (6.6)<sub>k</sub> is proved by induction on  $k$ .

Next we show

(6.7) Let  $j_k: S^{2m+1} \rightarrow L_m^k$  be the inclusion. Then  $j_{p*}(\beta_1(2m+1)) = 0$  and  $j_{k*}(\alpha_p'(2m+1))$  is divisible by  $p^{k-1}$  if  $k < p$ .

Consider the map  $f: SL_{m+q-1}^{p-1} \rightarrow S^{2m+1}$  and try to extend  $f$  over  $SL_{m+q-1}^p$ . The obstruction to the extension is

$$f_*(S\gamma_p) \in \pi_{2m+pq-1}(S^{2m+1}; p) = Z_p \langle \beta_1(2m+1) \rangle.$$

Assume that  $f_*(S\gamma_p) = 0$ , then  $f$  can be extended over  $\bar{f}: SL_{m+q-1}^p \rightarrow S^{2m+1}$ . Then in the mapping cone of  $\bar{f}$  we have  $\mathcal{P}^1 \mathcal{P}^{p-1} \neq 0$  which contradicts to the Adem relation  $\mathcal{P}^1 \mathcal{P}^{p-1} = 0$ . Thus  $f_*(S\gamma_p) \neq 0$ , and in the mapping cone  $L_m^p$  of  $f$ ,  $j_{p*}(\beta_1(2m+1)) = 0$ .

It follows from (6.6)<sub>p</sub> that  $f_*(S\gamma_{p,k-1}) = p^{p-k} i_{1*}(\beta_1(2m+1)) = 0$  for

$k < p$ . Thus there exists a coextension  $\xi_k \in \pi_{2m+pq}(L_m^k)$  of  $S\gamma_{p,k-1}$ . Then  $p^{k-2}\xi_k = i_*'\eta$  for a coextension  $\eta$  of  $\gamma_{p,1} = \alpha_{p-1}$  and for the inclusion  $i': L_m^2 \rightarrow L_m^k$ . By (6.3),  $p \cdot \eta = i_{1*}\{\alpha_1(2m+1), \alpha_{p-1}, p\alpha\} = i_{1*}(\alpha_p'(2m+1))$ . Thus  $p^{k-1}\xi_k = i_*'(p \cdot \eta) = j_{k*}(\alpha_p'(2m+1))$ , which completes the proof of (6.7).

Now we go back to the proof of the lemma. A mod  $p$  injection  $S^{2m+1} = L_m^1 \rightarrow X$  can be extended over a map  $g: L_m^k \rightarrow X$  since  $\pi_{2m+iq}(X: p) = 0$ ,  $1 \leq i < k$ , as is seen in the proof of Proposition 6.3. Since  $\alpha_p'(2m+1)$  is divisible by  $p^{k-1}$ , so is it in  $X$ , and  $\pi_{2m+pq}(X: p)$  contains a cyclic group of order  $p^{k+1}$ . By counting the orders of generators in  $E_{s,2m+pq}^1$ , we have that  $\alpha_{p-i}(2m+1+iq)$ ,  $i < p-1$ , are permanent cycles for  $k < p$ .

In the case  $k = p$ ,  $\beta_1(2m+1)$  vanishes in  $L_m^p$ , so does it in  $X$  and  $E^\infty$ , and  $d^{iq}(\alpha_{p-i}(2m+1+iq)) = \beta_1(2m+1)$  for some  $i$ . If  $i < p-1$ ,  $\alpha_1(2m+1+(p-1)q)$  is a permanent cycle. Then by use of (iii) of Theorem 6.1 and (6.3), we see that  $\alpha_j(2m+1+(p-j)q)$  are permanent cycles successively for  $j=1, 2, \dots, p-1$ . This contradicts to the above result for  $j=p-i$ . Thus  $d^{(p-1)q}(\alpha_1(2m+1+(p-1)q)) = \beta_1(2m+1)$ . By (iv) of Theorem 6.1,  $d^{(p-1)q}(\alpha_1\beta_1(2m+1+(p-1)q)) = \beta_1^2(2m+1)$ . Q.E.D.

**Remark 6.5.** For the case  $H^*(X; Z_p) = Z_p[x_{2m+2}, \mathcal{P}^1x_{2m+2}, \dots, \mathcal{P}^{k-1}x_{2m+2}]$  for  $\dim < 2p(m+1)$ , a result parallel to Proposition 6.3 holds by considering  $SL_m^k$  or  $\Omega X$ . In general  $H^*(X; Z_p)$  may be the tensor product of some subalgebras of the above type and the type of (6.4), and the discussions of differentials in the proof of Proposition 6.3 are valid. In particular, Lemma 6.4 may be applicable provided there exists a mod  $p$  injection  $g: L_m^k \rightarrow X$ .

If the connectedness is lower, such as  $B_1^k(p)$ , Proposition 6.3 is not so useful. In such a case it is convenient to consider the fiber  $F_k$  of the mod  $p$  injection  $B_1^k(p) \rightarrow B_1^\infty(p)$  because

$$(6.8) \quad \pi_t(B_1^\infty(p): p) = Z_{(p)} \text{ for } t \equiv 3 \pmod{q} \text{ and } = 0 \text{ for } t \not\equiv 3 \pmod{q}.$$

Then we have

$$(6.9) \quad H^*(F_k; Z_p) = Z_p[x_{2+kq}, x_{2+(k+1)q}, x_{2+(k+2)q}, \dots] \text{ for } \dim < p(2+kq) - 2 \text{ and } \mathcal{P}^1x_{2+jq} = (j-1)x_{2+(j+1)q}.$$

Computing  $\pi_i(F_k: p)$  and applying the exact sequence

$$\cdots \rightarrow \pi_{i+1}(B_1^\infty(p)) \rightarrow \pi_i(F_k) \rightarrow \pi_i(B_1^k(p)) \rightarrow \pi_i(B_1^\infty(p)) \rightarrow \cdots$$

and also using the fact that  $\pi_i(B_1^k(p))$  is finite for  $i > 3 + (k-1)q$ , we have the following

**Proposition 6.6.** *Let  $2 \leq k \leq p+1$ . For  $t < \text{Min}((kp+1)q-1, (2p+k+1)q)$  the group  $\pi_t(B_1^k(p): p)$  vanishes except the following values of  $t$ :*

$$\begin{aligned} t &= iq + 3 && \text{for } 0 \leq i < k, \\ t &= iq + 2 && \text{for } i \geq k, \\ t &= iq + 1 && \text{for } i \geq p + 2, \\ t &= (k+p)q, (2p+2)q-1, (2p+2)q, (k+2p)q-2, \\ & (3p+2)q-3, (3p+2)q-2, (3p+2)q-1. \end{aligned}$$

For the group structure of non-trivial  $\pi_t(B_1^k(p): p)$ , see [7].

We shall construct the spectral sequence  $\{E_{s,t}^r\}$  for a given  $n$ -connected map  $f: B \rightarrow X$ . For the sake of simplicity, every space will be localized at  $p$ ;  $\pi_*( : p) = \pi_*( )$ . We define a sequence of fiberings

$$(6.10)_s \quad F_s \xrightarrow{i} B_s \xrightarrow{f} F_{s-1} \quad (s = n, n+1, n+2, \dots)$$

by giving maps  $f = f_s$  inductively. For  $s = n$ ,  $f_n = f: B_n = B \rightarrow X = F_{n-1}$ , then  $F_n$  is  $(n-1)$ -connected. For  $s > n$ , given an  $(n-1)$ -connected  $F_{s-1}$ , there exists a bouquet  $B_s = \bigvee S^n$  of  $n$ -spheres with a map  $f_s: B_s \rightarrow F_{s-1}$  such that  $f_s^*: H^n(F_{s-1}; Z_p) \cong H^n(B_s; Z_p)$ , then the fibre  $F_s$  is  $(n-1)$ -connected.

Note that  $B_s$  and  $f_s$  are unique up to  $p$ -equivalence.

Put

$$A_{s,t}^1 = \begin{cases} \pi_{n+t}(F_s) & \text{for } s \geq n, \\ \pi_{s+t+1}(X) & \text{for } s < n, \end{cases} \quad E_{s,t}^1 = \begin{cases} \pi_{n+t}(B_s) & \text{for } s \geq n, \\ 0 & \text{for } s < n. \end{cases}$$

The following exact sequences are those of homotopy groups for the fiberings  $(6.10)_s$ ,  $s \geq n$ , and trivial ones ( $\partial_1 = id$ ) for  $s < n$ :

$$\cdots \rightarrow A_{s-1,t+1}^1 \xrightarrow{\partial_1} A_{s,t}^1 \xrightarrow{i_1} E_{s,t}^1 \xrightarrow{f_1} A_{s-1,t}^1 \xrightarrow{\partial_1} A_{s,t-1}^1 \rightarrow \cdots$$

So, we have an exact couple ( $r=1$ ) and derived couples ( $r=2, 3, \dots$ )  $(A^r, E^r; \partial_r, i_r, f_r)$ ,  $A^r = \sum A_{s,t}^r$ ,  $E^r = \sum E_{s,t}^r$  with exact sequences

$$\dots \rightarrow A_{s^1, r-1, t-r-1}^r \xrightarrow{i_r} E_{s,t}^r \xrightarrow{f_r} A_{s-1, t}^r \xrightarrow{\partial_r} A_{s, t-1}^r \xrightarrow{i_r} \dots,$$

where  $A_{s,t}^{r+1} = \partial_r(A_{s-1, t+1}^r) = (\partial_1)^r A_{s-r, t+r}^1$ ,  $\partial_{r+1} = \partial_1|A^{r+1}$ ,  $E_{s,t}^{r+1} \cong H(E_{s,t}^r)$  with respect to the differential

$$d^r = i_r \circ f_r : E_{s,t}^r \rightarrow E_{s-r, t+r-1}^r,$$

$f_{r+1}$  is induced by  $f_r$  and  $i_{r+1}$  by  $i_r \partial_r^{-1}$ .

*Proof of (6.1).* The properties (i) and (ii) are obvious.

Put  $D_{s,t} = \text{Ker}((\partial_1)^{s-n+1} : \pi_{s+t}(X) = A_{n-1, s+t-n}^1 \rightarrow A_{s, t-1}^1)$ , then

$$\pi_{s+t}(X)/D_{s,t} \cong A_{s, t-1}^{s-n+1} = A_{s, t-1}^r \quad \text{for } r \geq s-n+1.$$

Since  $F_s$  ( $s \geq n$ ) is  $(n-1)$ -connected,  $A_{s,t}^r = 0$  if  $s \geq n$  and  $t < 0$ . So, we get a short exact sequence

$$0 \rightarrow E_{s,t}^r \xrightarrow{f_r} A_{s-1, t}^r \xrightarrow{\partial_r} A_{s, t-1}^r \rightarrow 0 \quad \text{for } r > \text{Max}(t+1, s-n).$$

From these results (iii) follows easily by putting  $E_{s,t}^\infty = E_{s,t}^r$  for  $r > \text{Max}(t+1, s-n)$ .

For  $g = i \circ f : B_s \rightarrow F_{s-1} \rightarrow B_{s-1}$ ,  $g^* = 0 : H^n(B_{s-1}; Z_p) \rightarrow H^n(B_s; Z_p)$ . So, there exists a map  $g' : B_s \rightarrow B_{s-1}$  such that  $g$  is homotopic to  $g' \circ (p \cdot id)$ . Then (iv) follows.

The compositions  $\beta \cdot \gamma = \beta \circ (S^u \gamma)$ ,  $\beta \in \pi_{n+t}(\ )$ , define a map  $\cdot \gamma : (A_{s,t}^1, E_{s,t}^1) \rightarrow (A_{s, t+u}^1, E_{s, t+u}^1)$  of the exact couple. Then (v) follows.

From the fibering (6.10)<sub>n</sub>,  $\pi_{s+t}(X, B) \cong \pi_{s+t-1}(F_n)$ . Use  $f : B_{n-1} \rightarrow F_n$  in place of  $f : B \rightarrow X$ , then we get a spectral sequence  $\{E_{s,t}^r\}$  converging to  $\pi_*(F_n)$  with  $'E_{s,t}^1 = E_{s,t}^1$  for  $s \neq n$  and  $'E_{n,t}^1 = 0$ . Then (iv) follows.

Q.E.D.

For homogeneous elements  $x_\alpha$ ,  $A(x_\alpha)$  denotes the free commutative algebra generated by  $\{x_\alpha\}$ , i.e.,

$$A(x_\alpha) = A(x_\alpha; \deg x_\alpha \text{ is odd}) \otimes Z_p[x_\alpha; \deg x_\alpha \text{ is even}].$$

**Lemma 6.7.** *Let  $F \rightarrow B \xrightarrow{f} X$  be a fibering,  $x_\alpha \in \text{Ker}(f^* : H^{n_\alpha}(X; Z_p) \rightarrow H^{n_\alpha}(B; Z_p))$  and let  $B^*$  be a submodule of  $H^*(X; Z_p)$  such that*

$f^*|B^*: B^* \rightarrow H^*(B; Z_p)$  is bijective. Assume that the natural map, defined by cup product,

$$B^* \otimes A(x_\alpha) \rightarrow H^*(X; Z_p)$$

is bijective for  $\dim < M$  and injective for  $\dim = M$ , then, for the cohomology suspensions  $\sigma(x_\alpha) \in H^{n_\alpha-1}(F; Z_p)$ , the natural map

$$A(\sigma(x_\alpha)) \rightarrow H^*(F; Z_p)$$

is bijective for  $\dim < \text{Min}(M-1, p(m-1))$  and injective for  $\dim = \text{Min}(M-1, p(m-1))$ , where  $m = \text{Min}(\deg x_\alpha = n_\alpha: \text{odd})$ .

This is proved by use of the comparison theorem (cf. Cor. 3.3 of [24]).

*Proof of Theorem 6.1.* Applying Lemma 6.7 successively we have

(6.11) the natural map  $A(\sigma^{s-n+1}x_{n_i}; n_i \in N, s < n_i < M) \rightarrow H^*(F_s; Z_p)$  is bijective for  $\dim < M-s+n-1$  and injective for  $\dim = M-s+n-1$ .

Then (i) follows immediately.

Let  $s, s-1 \in N$ . Then  $d^1(t) = at$  for the degree  $a$  of  $g = i \circ f: S^n = B_s \rightarrow F_{s-1} \rightarrow B_{s-1} = S^n$ .  $a \equiv 0 \pmod{p}$  by (iv) of (6.1). Then  $(\delta/a)(\sigma^{s-n-1}x_{s-1}) = \sigma^{s-n-1}x_s$  in  $H^*(F_{s-2}; Z_p) = \{\sigma^{s-n-1}x_{s-1}, \sigma^{s-n-1}x_s, \dots\}$  if  $a \neq 0$ , whence  $(\delta/a)x_{s-1} = x_s \pmod{\text{decomp.}}$ . By (v) of (6.1),  $d^1(\beta) = d^1(t \cdot \beta) = at \cdot \beta = a\beta$ , and the first half of (ii) is proved.

Let  $s \in N$ ,  $\bar{g}: S^{n+t} \rightarrow F_s$  be a map, put  $g = i \circ \bar{g}: S^{n+t} \rightarrow B_s$  and let  $L = S^n \cup e^{n+t+1}$  be the mapping cone of  $g$ . The following (6.12) is proved by constructing maps.

(6.12) There exists an extension  $h: L \rightarrow F_{s-1}$  of  $f: B_s \rightarrow F_{s-1}$  such that  $\partial_1(h_*\tilde{\zeta}) = \bar{g}_*(\zeta)$  holds for any coextension  $\tilde{\zeta} \in \pi_{n+t+u+1}(L)$  of  $\zeta \in \pi_{n+t+u}(S^{n+t})$ .

Apply this to the case  $t=0$ ,  $\bar{g} = f: S^n \rightarrow F_s$  and  $L = S^n \cup e^{n+1}$ . In the homotopy exact sequence of the fibering (6.10) $_{s-t}$ :

$$[S^i L, F_{s-i-1}] \xrightarrow{\partial_*} [S^{i-1} L, F_{s-i}] \xrightarrow{i_*} [S^{i-1} L, B_{s-i}]$$

the last term vanishes for  $1 \leq i < r-1$  ( $< q$ ) by (6. 2). Thus there exists an element  $\eta \in [S^{r-2} L, F_{s-r+1}]$  such that  $(\partial_*)^{r-2} \eta = \{h\}$ .  $d^r(\beta) = g_*(\beta) = 0$  for  $\beta \in E_{s,t}^1$ . So there exists a coextension  $\tilde{\beta} \in \pi_{n+t+1}(L)$  of  $\beta \in E_{s,t}^1 = \pi_{n+t}(S^n)$ . From

$$f_1(\beta) = \bar{g}_*(\beta) = \partial_1(\{h\} \circ \tilde{\beta}) = \partial_1((\partial_*)^{r-2} \eta \circ \tilde{\beta}) = (\partial_1)^{r-1}(\eta \circ S^{r-2} \beta)$$

we have that  $f_1(\eta \circ S^{r-2} \tilde{\beta}) = i_*(\eta) \circ S^{r-2} \tilde{\beta}$  represents  $d^r(\beta)$ , where  $i: F_{s-r} \rightarrow B_{s-r} = S^n$ . If  $1 < r < q$ ,  $i_*(\eta) \in [S^{r-2} L, S^n] = 0$  by (6. 2), and  $d^r(\beta) = 0$ . If  $r = q$ ,  $i_*(\eta) = \pi^*(b \cdot \alpha_1)$  for the projection  $\pi: S^{q-2} L \rightarrow S^{n+q-1}$  and for some  $b \in Z_p$ . Then  $d^q(\beta)$  is represented by

$$i_*(\eta) \circ S^{q-2} \tilde{\beta} = (b \cdot \alpha_1) \circ \pi_*(S^{q-2} \tilde{\beta}) = (b \cdot \alpha_1) \circ S^{q-1} \beta = b \alpha_1 \cdot \beta.$$

Let  $K = S^n \cup C(S^{q-2} L) = (S^n \vee S^{q-1} B_{s-1}) \cup e^{n+q}$  be the mapping cone of a representative of  $\eta$ . Then we can construct a map of  $K$  into  $F_{s-r-1}$  inducing isomorphisms of  $H^n$  and  $H^{n+q}$ . Then the relation  $\mathcal{P}^1 x_{s-q} = b x_s$  (mod decomp.) follows from (6. 11), completing the proof of (ii).

Next consider the property (iii). From the assumption  $d^r(t) = \alpha$ ,  $f_1(t) = (\partial_1)^{r-1} \bar{\alpha}$  and  $i_1(\bar{\alpha}) = \alpha$  for some  $\bar{\alpha} \in A_{s-r, r-1}^1$ . Apply (6. 12) to a representative  $\bar{g}$  of  $\bar{\alpha}$ , then  $L = S^n \cup e^{n+r}$  is the mapping cone of  $\alpha$  and  $h: L \rightarrow F_{s-r-1}$  satisfies  $h|S^n = f$  and  $\partial_1(h_* \tilde{\zeta}) = \bar{g}_*(\zeta) = \bar{\alpha} \cdot \beta$  for  $\zeta = S^{r-1} \beta$ . Then  $f_1(\beta) = (\partial_1)^{r-1} \bar{\alpha} \cdot \beta = (\partial_1)^r(h_* \tilde{\zeta})$ . Since  $\beta$  represents  $[\beta]$ ,  $f_1(\beta) = (\partial_1)^r (\partial_1)^{s-r-n} [\beta]$ . From the assumption  $E_{s+t, t-i}^1 = 0$ ,  $1 \leq i < r$ , it follows that  $(\partial_1)^r: A_{s-r-1, r+t}^1 \rightarrow A_{s-1, t}^1$  is injective. So,  $(\partial_1)^{s-r-n} [\beta] = h_* \tilde{\zeta}$ . Since  $\tilde{\zeta}$  is a coextension of  $S^{r-1} \beta$ ,  $\tilde{\zeta} \circ S^{t+r} \gamma = j_*(\xi)$  for a  $\xi$  of  $\{\alpha, S^{r-1} \beta, S^{r+t-1} \gamma\}$ , where  $j: S^n \rightarrow L$  is the inclusion. Then the equality

$$(\partial_1)^{s-r-n}([\beta] \cdot \gamma) = h_* \tilde{\zeta} \circ S^{r+t} \gamma = h_* j_* \xi = f_1(\xi)$$

shows that  $\xi$  represents  $[\beta] \cdot \gamma$ , and (iii) is proved.

Consider the property (iv). The equality  $d^r(\delta) = \beta$  means that  $f_1(\delta) = (\partial_1)^{r-1} \bar{\beta}$  and  $i_1(\bar{\beta}) = \beta$  for some  $\bar{\beta} \in A_{s,t}^1$ . Apply (6. 12) to the representative  $\bar{g}$  of  $\bar{\beta}$ , then  $L = S^n \cup e^{n+t+1}$  is the mapping cone of  $\beta$  and  $h: L \rightarrow F_{s-1}$  satisfies  $h|S^n = f$  and  $\partial_1(h_* \tilde{\zeta}) = \bar{g}_* \zeta = \bar{\beta} \cdot \gamma$  for  $\zeta = S^r \gamma$ . Let  $j: S^n \rightarrow L$  be the inclusion and  $\eta_1 \in [L, F_{s-1}]$  be the class of  $h$ , then  $j^*(\eta_1) = f_1(\delta) = (\partial_1)^{r-1} \bar{\alpha}$  and  $i_1(\bar{\alpha}) = \alpha$ . In the exact and commutative diagram

$$\begin{array}{ccccccc}
 & & & & & & [S^{n+t+i}, B_{s-i}] \\
 & & & & & & \uparrow \beta^* \\
 & & & & & & [S^{n+i}, B_{s-i}] \xrightarrow{f_i} [S^{n+i}, F_{s-i-1}] \xrightarrow{\partial_i} [S^{n+i-1}, F_{s-i}] \xrightarrow{i_i} [S^{n+i-1}, B_{s-i}] \\
 & & & & & & \uparrow j^* \\
 & & & & & & [S^i L, B_{s-i}] \xrightarrow{f_i} [S^i L, F_{s-i-1}] \xrightarrow{\partial_i} [S^{i-1} L, F_{s-i}] \xrightarrow{i_i} [S^{i-1} L, B_{s-i}] \\
 & & & & & & \uparrow j^* \\
 & & & & & & [S^{n+t+i}, B_{s-i}], \\
 & & & & & & \uparrow \pi^*
 \end{array}$$

$E_{s-i, t+i}^1 = [S^{n+t+i}, B_{s-i}] = 0$  for  $1 \leq i < r$  by the assumption. By diagram chasing, we get a sequence of elements  $\eta_i \in [S^{i-1}L, B_{s-i}]$ ,  $i = 2, 3, \dots, r$ , such that  $\partial_*(\eta_i) = \eta_{i-1}$  and  $j^*(\eta_i) = (\partial_i)^{r-i}\bar{\alpha}$ . Since  $j^*i_*(\eta_r) = i_1j^*(\eta_r) = i_1(\bar{\alpha}) = \alpha$ ,  $i_*\eta_r \in [S^{r-1}L, S^n]$  is an extension of  $\alpha$ . Since  $\tilde{\zeta}$  is a coextension of  $S^r\gamma$ ,  $i_*(\eta_r \circ S^{r-1}\tilde{\zeta}) = \xi \in \{\alpha, S^{r-1}\beta, S^{r+t-1}\gamma\}$ . This and the equality

$$\begin{aligned}
 f_1(\delta \cdot \gamma) &= (\partial_1)^{r'-1}(\bar{\beta} \cdot \gamma) = (\partial_1)^{r'}(h_*\zeta) = (\partial_1)^{r'}(\eta_1 \circ \tilde{\zeta}) \\
 &= (\partial_1)^{r+r'-1}(\eta_r \circ S^{r-1}\tilde{\zeta})
 \end{aligned}$$

show that  $d^{r+r'}(\delta \cdot \gamma) = \xi$ , proving (iv).

When  $B = S^{2m+1}$ , we define the spectral sequence by putting

$$A_{s,t}^1 = \begin{cases} \pi_{n+t}(F_s) & \text{for } s \geq n, \\ \pi_{s+t}(F_n) & \text{for } 2m+1 \leq s < n, \\ \pi_{s+t+1}(X) & \text{for } s < 2m+1, \end{cases}$$

$$E_{s,t}^1 = \begin{cases} \pi_{n+t}(B_s) & \text{for } s \geq n, \\ \pi_{s+t}(S^{2m+1}) & \text{for } s = 2m+1, \\ 0 & \text{for } s < n, \quad s \neq 2m+1. \end{cases}$$

Then we get the required spectral sequence in (v). Q.E.D.

### § 7. Characterization of Some $B_m^k(p)$

We shall try to characterize  $B_m^k(p)$  of some type by its cohomological structure.

**Proposition 7.1.** *Assume that  $m \not\equiv 0 \pmod{p}$ ,  $m \neq 2p^2 - 3p - 1$  and  $m < 2p^2 - 2p - 1$ . Let  $B$  be a complex of  $p$ -type  $(2m+1, 2m+2p-1)$  such*

that  $H^*(B; Z_p) = A(x_{2m+1}, \mathcal{L}^1 x_{2m+1})$ . Then  $B$  is  $p$ -equivalent to  $B_m^2(p)$ .

*Proof.*  $B = S^{2m+1} \cup e^{2m+2p-1} \cup e^{4m+2p}$ . From  $m \not\equiv 0 \pmod{p}$  we have  $H^*(B_m^2(p); Z_p) = A(x_{2m+1}, \mathcal{L}^1 x_{2m+1})$ . We consider an extension  $B \rightarrow B_m^2(p)$  of a mod  $p$  injection  $S^{2m+1} \rightarrow B_m^2(p)$ . The obstruction to the extension lies in  $\pi_{2m+2p-2}(B_m^2(p):p)$  and  $\pi_{4m+2p-1}(B_m^2(p):p)$ . These homotopy groups are in the meta-stable range and they are computed in Proposition 6.3 when  $4m+2p-1 < 2m+1+2(2p+1)(p-1)-2$ , i.e.,  $m < 2p^2-2p-1$ . By Proposition 6.3,  $\pi_{2m+2p-2}(B_m^2(p):p) = 0$  and the case  $\pi_{4m+2p-1}(B_m^2(p):p) \neq 0$  may occur only if  $4m+2p-1 = 2m+1+2p(p-1)-2$  or  $= 2m+1+4p(p-1)-4$ , that is,  $m = p^2$  or  $m = 2p^2-3p-1$  which are excluded by the assumption. Thus we have an extension  $B \rightarrow B_m^2(p)$  which is a  $p$ -equivalence by the naturality of  $\mathcal{L}^1$ . Q.E.D.

**Proposition 7.2.** Assume that  $p > 3$ ,  $m \not\equiv 0, 1 \pmod{p}$ ,  $m < p^2 - 2p$  and  $m \neq p-1$ ,  $\frac{p(p-1)}{2} - 1, p^2 - 4p + 2$ . Let  $B$  be a complex of  $p$ -type  $(2m+1, 2m+2p-1, 2m+4p-3)$  such that  $H^*(B; Z_p) = A(x_{2m+1}, \mathcal{L}^1 x_{2m+1}, \mathcal{L}^2 x_{2m+1})$ . Then  $B$  is  $p$ -equivalent to  $B_m^3(p)$ .

*Proof.*  $B$  consists of cells of dimensions  $i+1$  for

$$i = 2m, 2m+2p-2, 2m+4p-4, 4m+2p-1, 2m+4p-3, \\ 4m+6p-5, 6m+6p-4.$$

As in the previous proof it is sufficient to show that  $\pi_i(B_m^3(p):p) = 0$  for the above values of  $i$ .

Let  $m < p$ . By Proposition 6.6, we see that the possibility of  $\pi_i(B_m^3(p):p) \neq 0$  is  $i = 4m+2p-1 = 2m+4p-3$  or  $i = 2m+1+2k(p-1)-1 = 6m+6p-4$ , that is,  $m = p-1$  or  $2m = (k-1)(p-1)-1$ . The first case is excluded and the second one does not occur since  $p-1$  is even.

Let  $m \geq p$ . Then the homotopy groups are in the meta-stable range and computed in Proposition 6.3 for  $i < 2m+1+2(2p+1)(p-1)-2$ , that is,  $m < p^2-2p$  for  $i = 6m+6p-4$ . Then an obstruction may appear in the following cases:

$$2m+1+2p(p-1)-2,$$

$$2m + 1 + 4p(p - 1) - 4 = 4m + 2p - 1, 4m + 4p - 3, 4m + 6p - 5,$$

$$6m + 6p - 4 = 2m + 1 + 2k(p - 1) - 1, 2m + 4p - 3 + 2(p + 1)(p - 1) - 3.$$

The cases  $2m + 1 + 4p(p - 1) - 4 = \dots$  do not occur since  $p - 1$  is even. The remaining cases are excluded by assumption. Q.E.D.

**Proposition 7.3.** *Assume that  $p > 5$ ,  $m \not\equiv 0, 1, 2 \pmod{p}$ ,  $\frac{5p-3}{p-4} < m < \frac{(2p-5)(p-1)}{3} - 1$ ,  $3m \neq (p-6)(p-1) - 2$ ,  $2(p-3)(p-1) - 3$ ,  $2m \not\equiv -2 \pmod{p-1}$  and  $m \not\equiv -1, -2 \pmod{p-1}$ . Let  $B$  be a complex of  $p$ -type  $(2m + 1, 2m + 2p - 1, 2m + 4p - 3, 2m + 6p - 5)$  such that  $H^*(B; Z_p) = \Lambda(x_{2m+1}, \mathcal{P}^1 x_{2m+1}, \mathcal{P}^2 x_{2m+1}, \mathcal{P}^3 x_{2m+1})$ . Then  $B$  is  $p$ -equivalent to  $B_m^4(p)$ .*

*Proof.* As before, it suffices to show  $\pi_{2m+1+j}(B_m^4(p):p) = 0$  for  $j = 2m + 2k(p - 1)$  ( $k = 1, 2, 3, 4, 5$ ),  $j = 4m + 2k(p - 1) + 1$  ( $k = 3, 4, 5, 6$ ) and for  $j = 6m + 12(p - 1) + 2$ . These  $j$  are not of the form  $2h(p - 1) - 1$ . So, we need to exclude the cases  $j = 2p(p - 1) - 2$ ,  $j = 6(p - 1) + 2(p + 1) \cdot (p - 1) - 3$  and  $j = 4p(p - 1) - 4$ . And, we see that the assumptions on  $m$  are sufficient to construct a  $p$ -equivalence  $B \rightarrow B_m^4(p)$ . Q.E.D.

**Proposition 7.4.** *Let  $B$  be a complex of  $p$ -type  $(3, 2p + 1, \dots, 3 + (k - 1)q)$ ,  $k = 3, 4, 5$ , and let  $\emptyset$  be a secondary operation which detects  $\alpha_2$ .*

(i) *If  $k = 3$  and  $H^*(B; Z_p) = \Lambda(x_3, \mathcal{P}^1 x_3, \emptyset x_3)$ , then  $B$  is  $p$ -equivalent to  $B_1^3(p)$ .*

(ii) *If  $k = 4$ ,  $p > 3$  and  $H^*(B; Z_p) = \Lambda(x_3, \mathcal{P}^1 x_3, \emptyset x_3, \mathcal{P}^1 \emptyset x_3)$ , then  $B$  is  $p$ -equivalent to  $B_1^4(p)$ .*

(iii) *If  $k = 5$ ,  $p > 7$  and  $H^*(B; Z_p) = \Lambda(x_3, \mathcal{P}^1 x_3, \emptyset x_3, \mathcal{P}^1 \emptyset x_3, \mathcal{P}^2 \emptyset x_3)$ , then  $B$  is  $p$ -equivalent to  $B_1^5(p)$ .*

The proof is given by use of Proposition 6.6 and omitted.

In the sequel of this section we consider the complexes  $B_{11}^4(7)$ ,  $B_9^3(5)$  and  $B_1^5(5)$  which have been not characterized by the previous propositions

and will be used in the next chapter. Note that these three complexes are unique up to  $p$ -equivalence by Theorem 5.4 and Proposition 3.4.

First we see that the only obstruction to construct a  $p$ -equivalence  $B = B(23, 35, 47, 59) \rightarrow B_{11}^4(7)$  lies in  $\pi_{105}(B_{11}^4(7):7)$  which is generated by  $[\beta_1(23)]$ . This obstruction can be removed by use of the following Lemma 7.5.

Let  $B_{11}^4(7)^{(k)}$  denote the  $k$ -skeleton of  $B_{11}^4(7)$ . Let  $\xi \in \pi_{105}(B_{11}^4(7)^{(105)})$  be the class of the attaching map of the top cell  $e^{106}$  of  $B_{11}^4(7)^{(106)} = B_{11}^4(7)^{(105)} \cup e^{106}$  which represents  $x_{47}x_{59}$ .  $\beta_1(23)$  is a generator of the 7-component of  $\pi_{105}(S^{23})$ , and we denote by the same symbol  $\beta_1(23)$  its image  $[\beta_1(23)]$  in  $\pi_{105}(B_{11}^4(7)^{(105)})$  by the injection.

**Lemma 7.5.** *For each  $a \in Z_7$ , there exists a map  $h: B_{11}^4(7)^{(105)} \rightarrow B_{11}^4(7)^{(105)}$  such that  $h|_{S^{23}}$  is a mod 7 injection and  $h_*(\xi) = n \cdot \xi - a \cdot \beta_1(23)$ ,  $n \not\equiv 0 \pmod{7}$ .*

*Proof.* For the sake of simplicity, we put  $B = B_{11}^4(7)$  and  $B^k = B_{11}^4(7)^{(k)}$ .  $B^{70} = B^{59} \cup e^{70}$  for a cell  $e^{70}$  representing  $x_{23}x_{47}$ . Let  $\psi: B^{70} \rightarrow B^{70} \vee S^{70}$  be the map pinching an equator of  $e^{70}$  and let  $A: S^{70} \rightarrow B^{59}$  be a representative of  $[\alpha_1(59)] \in \pi_{70}(B:7)$ . Consider the composition

$$h_0: B^{70} \xrightarrow{\psi} B^{70} \vee S^{70} \xrightarrow{id \vee A} B^{70} \hookrightarrow B^{105}.$$

Since  $\beta_1(23)$  is the only obstruction,  $h_0$  can be extended to  $h_1: B^{105} \rightarrow B^{105}$ , and

$$h_{1*}(\xi) = m \cdot \xi + b \cdot \beta_1(23) \text{ for some } b \in Z_7 \text{ and } m \not\equiv 0 \pmod{7}.$$

Now we assume  $b = 0$  and deduce a contradiction. From  $b = 0$ , we have an extension  $h_2: B^{106} \rightarrow B^{106}$  of  $h_1$ . As in § 5, we have a mod 7 injection ( $M$ : large)

$$j: B^{106} \rightarrow \mathcal{Q}^{2M}L, \quad L = S^{2M+23} \cup e^{2M+35} \cup e^{2M+47} \cup e^{2M+59}.$$

It follows that  $\mathcal{D}^3 \neq 0$  in  $L$ . By the loop-multiplication we have a map

$$k = j^{-1} \cdot (j \circ h_2): B^{106} \rightarrow \mathcal{Q}^{2M}L.$$

Since  $h_2|_{B^{59}} = id$ ,  $k|_{B^{59}}$  is homotopic to zero and  $k$  is factored as  $B^{106} \xrightarrow{\text{proj}} B^{106}/B^{59} \xrightarrow{\bar{k}} \mathcal{Q}^{2M}L$ . Consider the adjoint map  $\bar{K}: S^{2M}(B^{106}/B^{59}) \rightarrow L$  and

let  $C=L \cup CS^{2M}(B^{106}/B^{59})$  be its mapping cone. Then  $\mathcal{P}^1(e^{2M+59})=CS^{2M}(x_{27}x_{47})$ . By Cartan's formula  $\mathcal{P}^3(x_{27}x_{47})=2x_{47}x_{59}$  in  $B^{106}/B^{59}$ . Thus we have  $\mathcal{P}^3\mathcal{P}^1\mathcal{P}^3(e^{2M+23})=2CS^{2M}(x_{47}x_{59})\neq 0$  which contradicts to Adem's relation  $\mathcal{P}^3\mathcal{P}^1\mathcal{P}^3=\mathcal{P}^3\mathcal{P}^4=0$ . Consequently we have proved that  $b\neq 0$ .

Let  $h$  be the  $t$ -fold iteration of  $h_1$ . Then  $h_*(\xi)=m^t\cdot\xi+b(1+m(t-1))\beta_1(23)$ . Since  $m, b\not\equiv 0 \pmod{7}, -a\equiv b(1+m(t-1)) \pmod{7}$  for suitable  $t$ , and the map  $h$  satisfies the condition of the lemma. Q.E.D.

If the obstruction to construct a  $p$ -equivalence  $B=B(23, 35, 47, 59) \rightarrow B_{11}^4(7)$  is  $a\cdot\beta_1(23)$ , the obstruction vanishes by changing the constructed map  $B^{(103)} \rightarrow B_{11}^4(7)^{(103)}$  by the composition with the map  $h$  of the lemma. So, we have

**Proposition 7.6.** *If  $\mathcal{P}^3x_{23}=x_{59}$  in a complex  $B$  of 7-type  $(23, 35, 47, 59)$ ,  $B$  is 7-equivalent to  $B_{11}^4(7)$ .*

Apply Proposition 6.3 to  $B_9^3(5)$ , then we have

(7.1)  $\pi_i(B_9^3(5):5)$  for  $i<97$  has the generators  $\iota(19), [5\cdot\iota(27)], [25\cdot\iota(35)], [\alpha_1(35)], [\alpha_2(35)], \beta_1(19), [\alpha_3(35)], [\alpha_4(35)], [\alpha_5'(35)], [\alpha_1\beta_1(35)], [\alpha_6(35)], [\alpha_7(35)]$  and  $\beta_1^2(19)$  of dimensions  $i=19, 27, 35, 42, 50, 57, 58, 66, 74, 80, 82, 90$  and 95 respectively.

Consider  $B=B(19, 27, 35)$  with  $\mathcal{P}^2\neq 0$ . Since the dimensions of the cells of  $B$  are 0, 19, 27, 35, 46, 54, 62, 81, the only obstruction to construct a 5-equivalence  $B \rightarrow B_9^3(5)$  lies in  $H^{31}(B; \pi_{80}(B_9^3(5):5))$ . Thus we obtain a 5-equivalence of the 62-skeletons:  $B^{(62)} \rightarrow B_9^3(5)^{(62)}$ . Let  $\xi \in \pi_{80}(B_9^3(5)^{(62)})$  be the attaching class of the 81-cell of  $B_9^3(5)=B_9^3(5)^{(62)} \cup e^{81}$ . By the exact sequence

$$0 \rightarrow \pi_{81}(B_9^3(5), B_9^3(5)^{(62)}:5) \xrightarrow{\partial} \pi_{80}(B_9^3(5)^{(62)}:5) \xrightarrow{i_*} \pi_{80}(B_9^3(5):5) \rightarrow 0,$$

there exists an element  $\gamma' \in \pi_{80}(B_9^3(5):5)$  with  $i_*\gamma'=[\alpha_1\beta_1(35)]$  and  $5\cdot\gamma'=m\cdot\xi$  for some  $m \in \mathbb{Z}$ . If  $m\not\equiv 0 \pmod{5}$ ,  $B_9^3(5)$  is 5-equivalent to the mapping cone  $C$  of  $m\cdot\xi$ , and  $x_{19}x_{27}x_{35}\neq 0$  in  $C$ . But, since  $m\cdot\xi=5\cdot\gamma', x_{19}x_{27}x_{35}=0$  in  $C$  contradicting the above. Thus  $m=5m', m' \in \mathbb{Z}$ , and

by putting  $\gamma = \gamma' - m' \cdot \xi$  we have

$$(7.2) \quad \pi_{80}(B_9^3(5)^{(62)} : 5) = Z_{(5)}\langle \xi \rangle + Z_5\langle \gamma \rangle \quad \text{with } i_*\xi = 0 \quad \text{and } i_*\gamma = [\alpha_1\beta_1 (35)].$$

Then we have easily:

(7.3) *Let  $B_9^3(5; a) = B_9^3(5)^{(62)} \cup e^{81}$  be the mapping cone of  $\xi + a \cdot \gamma$ . Then any complex of 5-type (19, 27, 35) with  $\mathcal{P}^2 \neq 0$  is 5-equivalent to  $B_9^3(5; a)$  for some  $a \in Z_5$ .*

**Proposition 7.7.** *Let  $B$  be a complex of 5-type (19, 27, 35) with  $H^*(B; Z_5) = \Lambda(x_{19}, \mathcal{P}^1x_{19}, \mathcal{P}^2x_{19})$ . Then the following three conditions are equivalent.*

- (i)  *$B$  is 5-equivalent to  $B_9^3(5)$ .*
- (ii) *There exists a map  $\mu: (S^3 \cup e^{19}) \times B \rightarrow B$  such that  $\mu^*(x_{19}) = x_{19} \otimes 1 + 1 \otimes x_{19}$  up to non-zero coefficients in  $Z_5$ .*
- (iii) *There exists a mod 5 surjection  $\rho: B \rightarrow S^{35}$ .*

*Proof.* (i)  $\Rightarrow$  (ii). It is sufficient to prove (ii) for  $B = B_9^3(5)$ . Let

$$g': W_{18,9} \rightarrow \Omega^{2M}(\vee L_i) \xrightarrow{\text{proj}} \Omega^{2M}L_0, \quad L_0 = S^{2M}(S^{19} \cup e^{27} \cup e^{35}),$$

be the map considered in § 5 ( $M$ : large) such that  $\bar{g} = g' \circ f: B_9^3(5) \rightarrow W_{18,9} \rightarrow \Omega^{2M}L_0$  induces isomorphisms of cohomology mod 5 for  $\dim < 98$ . Moreover  $\bar{g}_* : \pi_t(B_9^3(5) : 5) \cong \pi_t(\Omega^{2M}L_0 : 5)$  for  $t < 104$ ,  $t \neq 97$ , as is seen in the proof of Proposition 5.6. Then the composite map

$$B_1^5(5) \times B_9^3(5) \xrightarrow{f \times f} SU(18) \times W_{18,9} \xrightarrow{\text{action}} W_{18,9} \xrightarrow{g'} \Omega^{2M}L_0$$

restricted on  $B_1^5(5)^{(19)} \times B_9^3(5)$  is factored through  $\bar{g}$ , in the mod 5 sense, and we obtain a mod 5 surjection  $\mu': B_1^5(5)^{(19)} \times B_9^3(5) \rightarrow B_9^3(5)$ . Let  $S^3 \cup e^{4p-1}$  be the mapping cone of  $\alpha_2$ , then we have that

$$(7.4) \quad \text{there exists a mod } p \text{ injection } i: S^3 \cup e^{4p-1} \rightarrow B_1^k(p), \quad k \geq 3.$$

For, the inclusion  $S^3 \rightarrow B_1^k(p)$  is extendable over  $e^{4p-1}$  since  $\pi_{4p-2}(B_1^k(p) : p) = 0$ . Then  $i^*(\emptyset x_3) = \emptyset i^*(x_3) \neq 0$ , and (7.4) follows.

The composite map  $\mu = \mu' \circ (i \times id)$  satisfies (ii) for  $B = B_9^3(5)$ .

(ii)  $\Rightarrow$  (iii). By (7.3) we may assume  $B^{(62)} = B_9^3(5)^{(62)}$ . Put  $P = (S^3 \cup e^{19}) \times B^{(62)}$ ,  $\mu_1 = \mu|_P$ ,  $\mu_2 = \mu|_{P^{(73)}} : P^{(73)} \rightarrow B^{(62)}$  and let  $\eta \in \pi_{80}(P^{(73)})$  be the attaching class of the top cell  $e^{81} = P - P^{(73)}$ . From the assumption,  $\mu_1^*(x_{19}x_{27}x_{35}) = x_{19} \otimes x_{27}x_{35}$ . Thus  $\mu_1 : P \rightarrow B_9^3(5)$  has a non-zero degree on the top cell, and it defines a 5-equivalence of the mapping cone  $B^{(62)} \cup e^{81}$  of  $\mu_{2*}(\eta)$  onto  $B$ . So, we may assume that  $B$  is the mapping cone of  $\mu_{2*}(\eta)$ . Consider the composite map

$$P^{(73)} \xrightarrow{\mu_2} B^{(62)} \xrightarrow{\bar{g}} \mathcal{Q}^{2M}L_0 \xrightarrow{\bar{\pi}} \mathcal{Q}^{2M}S^{2M+35},$$

where  $\bar{\pi}$  is induced by the projection  $\pi : L_0 \rightarrow S^{2M+35} = L_0/L_0^{2M+27}$ .

We shall prove

$$(*) \quad \bar{\pi}_* \bar{g}_* \mu_{2*}(\eta) = 0.$$

Then  $\bar{\pi} \circ \bar{g}$  is extended over  $B$ , and the extended map gives the required mod 5 surjection  $\rho$  since the inclusion  $S^{35} \rightarrow \mathcal{Q}^{2M}S^{2M+35}$  induces isomorphisms of cohomology mod 5 for  $\dim < 178$ .

As is well-known the suspension  $S(A \times B)$  is homotopy equivalent to the one point union of  $SA$ ,  $SB$  and  $S(A \wedge B)$ . Put

$$K_2 = (S^3 \cup e^{19}) \wedge B^{(46)}, \quad K_1 = (S^3 \cup e^{19}) \wedge B^{(64)},$$

$$K_0 = K_1 \cup (S^3 \wedge B^{(62)}) \quad \text{and} \quad K = (S^3 \cup e^{19}) \wedge B^{(62)} = K_0 \cup e^{81},$$

then there is a map  $S^{2M}K \rightarrow S^{2M}P$  having degree 1 on the top cell. Thus, to prove (\*) it is sufficient to show that the composite map

$$S^{2M}K_0 \xrightarrow{G} L_0 \xrightarrow{\pi} S^{2M+35}$$

is mod 5 trivial for any map  $G$ .  $K_0 = K_1 \cup e^{65}$ ,  $K_1 = K_2 \cup e^{57} \cup e^{73}$  and  $K_2$  consists of cells of dimensions 0, 22, 30, 38, 46, 49, 54, 65.  $\pi_{2M+t}(L_0 : 5) \cong \pi_t(\mathcal{Q}^{2M}L_0 : 5) \cong \pi_t(B_9^3(5) : 5)$  for  $t < 97$ . So, by (7.1),  $G|_{K_2}$  is mod 5 trivial, and  $G$  is factored to

$$S^{2M}K_0 \xrightarrow{\text{proj}} S^{2M}(K_0/K_2) \xrightarrow{G_0} L_0,$$

where  $S^{2M}(K_0/K_2) = (S^{2M+57} \cup e^{2M+73}) \cup e^{2M+65}$ . Since  $\pi_{57}(B_9^3(5) : 5) = \langle \beta_1(19) \rangle$ ,  $G_0|_{S^{2M+57}}$  is homotopic to a map  $G'_0 : S^{2M+57} \rightarrow S^{2M+19}$ . Now we can extend the map  $G'_0$  to  $G' : S^{2M}(K_0/K_2) \rightarrow L_0^{2M+27}$  since  $\pi_{2M+72}(S^{2M+19} : 5) = 0$  and  $\beta_1 \cdot \pi_{2M+64}(S^{2M+57} : 5) = \langle \beta_1 \circ \alpha_1 \rangle$  is trivial in  $L_0^{2M+27}$ , the mapping cone of  $\alpha_1$ . The difference of  $G$  and  $G'$  is trivial since  $\pi_{2M+73}(L_0 : 5) = \pi_{2M+65}(L_0 : 5) = 0$ . Thus  $G$  is homotopic to  $G'$  and  $\pi \circ G$  is homotopic to the constant

map  $\pi \circ G'$ , and (\*) has been proved.

(iii)  $\Rightarrow$  (i). By Theorem 5.5 we have the following composition of fibre bundles

$$\rho_1: B_9^3(5) \rightarrow B_{13}^2(5) \rightarrow B_{17}^1(5) = S^{85}$$

which is a mod 5 surjection. By (7.3), we may put  $B = B_9^3(5; a)$ , then  $B^{(k)} = B_9^3(5)^{(k)}$  for  $k < 81$ . Compare mod 5 surjections  $\rho$  and  $\rho_1$  on  $B^{(82)}$ . We may assume that  $\rho|B^{(85)}$  is homotopic to  $\rho_1|B^{(85)}$ , by composing 5-equivalences  $S^{85} \rightarrow S^{85}$ . By (7.1),  $H^n(B; \pi_n(B_9^3(5):5)) = 0$  for  $35 < n < 81$ , and the homotopy can be extended to one between  $\rho|B^{(82)}$  and  $\rho_1|B^{(82)}$ . So, we may put  $\rho' = \rho|B^{(82)} = \rho_1|B^{(82)}$ . The existence of a mod 5 surjection onto  $S^{85}$  implies

$$\rho_*'(\xi) = 0 \quad \text{and} \quad a \cdot \rho_*'(\gamma) = \rho_*'(\xi + a \cdot \gamma) = 0.$$

It is easy to see that  $\rho_*'(\gamma) = \alpha_1 \beta_1(35)$  generates  $\pi_{80}(S^{85}:5) \cong Z_5$ . Thus  $a = 0$  and  $B = B_9^3(5; 0) = B_9^3(5)$ . Q.E.D.

In the proof we see that

(7.5)  $B_9^3(5; a)$  is 5-equivalent to  $B_9^3(5)$  if and only if  $a = 0$ .

Next from Proposition 6.6,  $\pi_t(B_1^5(5):5) = 0$  except for  $t = 3, 11, 19, 27, 35, 43, 50, 57, 58, 65, 66, 73, 74, 80, 81, 89, 90, 95, 96, \dots$

$B = B(3, 11, 19, 27, 35)$  consists of cells of dimensions 0, 3, 11, 14, 19, 22, 27, 30, 30, 33, 35, 38, 41, 46, 46, 49, 49, 54, 57, 57, 60, 62, 65, 65, 68, 73, 76, 81, 84, 92, 95. Thus  $H^n(B; \pi_{n-1}(B_1^5(5):5)) = 0$  if  $n \neq 81$ , and we have the following:

(7.6) Let  $B$  be a complex of 5-type  $(3, 11, 19, 27, 35)$  with  $\mathcal{P}^1 x_3 \neq 0$  and  $\mathcal{P}^2 \mathcal{O} x_3 \neq 0$ . Then  $B^{(76)}$  is 5-equivalent to  $B_5^1(5)^{(76)}$ . Further if  $B^{(81)}$  is 5-equivalent to  $B_1^5(5)^{(81)}$ , then  $B$  is 5-equivalent to  $B_1^5(5)$ .

**Proposition 7.8.** Let  $B$  be a complex of 5-type  $(3, 11, 19, 27, 35)$  with  $H^*(B; Z_5) = \Lambda(x_3, \mathcal{P}^1 x_3, \mathcal{O} x_3, \mathcal{P}^1 \mathcal{O} x_3, \mathcal{P}^2 \mathcal{O} x_3)$ . Then  $B$  is 5-equivalent to  $B_1^5(5)$  if and only if there exists a mod 5 surjection  $\pi: B \rightarrow B_9^3(5)$ .

*Proof.* As is seen in the first part of the proof of Proposition 7.7, the composite map

$$B_1^5(5) \xrightarrow{f} SU(18) \xrightarrow{\text{proj}} W_{18,9} \xrightarrow{g'} \mathcal{Q}^{2M}L_0$$

is factored to  $B_1^5(5) \xrightarrow{\pi_1} B_9^3(5) \xrightarrow{\bar{g}} \mathcal{Q}^{2M}L_0$  since  $\dim B_1^5(5) = 95 < 98$ . Thus we have a mod 5 surjection

$$\pi_1: B_1^5(5) \rightarrow B_9^3(5),$$

and the only if part of the proposition follows.

Let  $F$  be the fibre of  $\pi_1$ , then we have easily that  $H^*(F; Z_5) = \Lambda(x_3, \mathcal{P}^1x_3)$ . By Proposition 6.6,  $\pi_t(F; 5) = 0$  for  $t=80, 81$ . It follows that  $\pi_{1*}: \pi_{80}(B_1^5(5); 5) \rightarrow \pi_{80}(B_9^3(5); 5)$  is an isomorphism. Since  $\pi_{1*}(x_{19}x_{27}x_{35}) \neq 0$ , the following (7.7) is obtained as in (7.2). Let  $\xi$  be the attaching class of the cell  $e^{81} = B_1^5(5)^{(81)} - B_1^5(5)^{(76)}$ .

$$(7.7) \quad \pi_{80}(B_1^5(5)^{(76)}; 5) = Z_{(5)}\langle \xi \rangle + Z_5\langle \gamma \rangle \quad \text{with } \pi_{1*}(\xi) = 0 \text{ and } \pi_{1*}(\gamma) = [\alpha_1\beta_1(35)].$$

Now assume the existence of a mod 5 surjection  $\pi: B \rightarrow B_9^3(5)$ . By (7.6) we may assume that  $B^{(76)} = B_1^5(5)^{(76)}$  and by (7.7) that  $B^{(81)} = B^{(76)} \cup e^{81}$  is (5-equivalent to) the mapping cone of  $\xi + a \cdot \gamma$  for some  $a \in Z_5$ . Obviously  $\pi_*(\xi + a \cdot \gamma) = 0$ . We shall prove

$$(*) \quad \rho_*\pi_{1*}(\xi + a \cdot \gamma) = 0 \text{ for the mod 5 surjection } \rho: B_9^3(5) \rightarrow S^{35}.$$

From (\*) and (7.7), we have easily  $a \cdot \alpha_1\beta_1(35) = 0$ , so  $a = 0$  and thus  $B^{(81)}$  is 5-equivalent to  $B_1^5(5)^{(81)}$ . Then, by (7.6),  $B$  is 5-equivalent to  $B_1^5(5)$ , completing the proof of the proposition.

To prove (\*), we may replace  $S^{35}$  by  $\mathcal{Q}^{2M}S^{2M+35}$  and (\*) by a condition in adjoint maps. Then it is sufficient to prove the following:

$$(7.8) \quad \text{Put } \eta = S^{2M}(\xi + a \cdot \gamma). \text{ For any mod } p \text{ surjections } \bar{\pi}, \bar{\pi}_1: S^{2M}B^{(76)} \rightarrow L_0 = S^{2M}(S^{19} \cup e^{27} \cup e^{35}) \text{ and for the projection } \bar{\rho}: L_0 \rightarrow S^{2M+35}, \bar{\rho}_*\bar{\pi}_*(\eta) = 0 \text{ implies } \bar{\rho}_*\bar{\pi}_*(\eta) = 0.$$

Here is an important remark.

(7.9)  $\eta$  is in the image of the injection homomorphism  $\pi_{2M+80}(S^{2M}B^{(65)}) \rightarrow \pi_{2M+80}(S^{2M}B^{(76)})$ .

For, if (7.9) is not true, then  $x_{19}x_{27}x_{35} \in \mathcal{P}^1H^{73}(B; Z_5)$  since the non-trivial elements of  $\pi_{2M+80}(S^{2M}(B^{(76)}/B^{(65)}))$  are detected by  $\mathcal{P}^1$ . But  $\mathcal{P}^1H^{73}(B; Z_5) = \langle \mathcal{P}^1(x_{11}x_{27}x_{35}) \rangle = 0$ . So, we have (7.9).

In (7.8) we may replace  $\bar{\pi}$  and  $\bar{\pi}_1$  by the compositions with 5-equivalences of  $L_0$ . For example, we may assume that  $\bar{\pi}|S^{2M}B^{(19)}$  is homotopic to  $\bar{\pi}_1|S^{2M}B^{(19)}$ . The primary obstruction to extend this homotopy is in  $H^{2M+27}(S^{2M}B; \pi_{2M+27}(L_0; 5)) \cong \pi_{27}(B_9^3(5); 5) = \langle [5 \cdot \iota(27)] \rangle$ . Let the obstruction be represented by  $g: S^{2M+27} \rightarrow L_0$ , and construct a 5-equivalence  $h: L_0 \rightarrow L_0$  such that  $h|S^{2M+19} = id$  and the difference  $id - h$  is represented by an extension of  $g$ . Then  $h \circ \bar{\pi}|S^{2M}B^{(27)}$  is homotopic to  $\bar{\pi}_1|S^{2M}B^{(35)}$ . Similarly, by a suitable change of  $\bar{\pi}$ , we have a homotopy between  $\bar{\pi}|S^{2M}B^{(35)}$  and  $\bar{\pi}_1|S^{2M}B^{(35)}$ . Since  $H^n(B; \pi_n(B_9^5(5); 5)) = 0$  for  $35 < n < 57$ , the homotopy is extended over  $S^{2M}B^{(54)}$ . Then the difference  $\bar{\pi} - \bar{\pi}_1$  is represented by the composite map

$$S^{2M}B^{(76)} \xrightarrow{p} S^{2M}(B^{(76)}/B^{(54)}) \xrightarrow{q} L_0.$$

As in the second part of the proof of Proposition 7.7,  $G \circ P|S^{2M}B^{(65)}$  is homotopic to a map  $G': S^{2M}B^{(65)} \rightarrow L_0^{2M+27}$ . Then by (7.9),

$$\bar{\rho}_* \bar{\pi}_*(\eta) - \bar{\rho}_* \bar{\pi}_{1*}(\eta) = \rho_* G_* p_*(\eta) = \rho_* G'_*(\eta) = 0$$

since  $\rho(L_0^{2M+27}) = *$ . This shows (7.8). Q.E.D.

### Chapter III The Exceptional Cases

#### § 8. Mod $p$ Decomposition of $p$ -torsion Free Exceptional Groups

By [11],

(8.1) *except the cases*

$$(G, p) = (G_2, 3), (E_7, 5), (E_7, 7), (E_8, 7),$$

*each  $p$ -torsion free exceptional group  $G$  is quasi- $p$ -regular, that is,*

$G$  is  $p$ -equivalent to a product of spheres and mod  $p$  Stiefel complexes  $B_m^k(p)$ .

For the case  $(G, p) = (G_2, 3)$ ,  $G_2$  is not mod 3 decomposable since

$$H^*(G_2; Z_3) = \Lambda(x_3, \Phi x_3).$$

$G_2$  is not 3-equivalent to our complex  $B_m^k(p)$ , but it is 3-equivalent to an analogous complex:

(8.2)  $G_2$  is 3-equivalent to a complex  $B$  of 3-type (3, 11) with a mod 3 injection  $f: B \rightarrow SU(6) = W_{6,5}$  (cf. Definition 5.2).

The main purpose of this chapter is to give a mod  $p$  decomposition of the remaining three cases in (8.1).

**Theorem 8.1.** (i)  $E_7 \simeq_5 B_1^5(5) \times B_7^2(5)$ ,

(ii)  $E_7 \simeq_7 B_1^3(7) \times B_5^3(7) \times S^{19}$ ,

(iii)  $E_8 \simeq_7 B_1^4(7) \times B_{11}^4(7)$ .

**Theorem 8.2.**  $E_7/F_4 \simeq_5 B_9^3(5)$  and  $E_7/G_2 \simeq_5 B_7^2(5) \times B_9^3(5)$ .

By Proposition 3.4 and Theorem 5.4, the complexes  $B_m^k(p)$  in the above theorems are characterized, up to  $p$ -equivalence, by their  $p$ -types  $(2m + 1, 2m + 1 + q, \dots, 2m + 1 + (k - 1)q)$  and the existence of mod  $p$  injections

$$(8.3) \quad f: B_m^k(p) \rightarrow SU(m + 1 + (k - 1)(p - 1)) / SU(m).$$

Propositions 7.1, 7.2, 7.3, 7.4 and 7.6 show that the complexes

$$B_7^2(5), B_1^3(7), B_5^3(7), B_1^4(7) \quad \text{and} \quad B_{11}^4(7)$$

are characterized by their cohomology rings with the operations  $\mathcal{P}^i$  ( $i = 1, 2, 3$ ) and  $\emptyset$ .

To characterize the complexes  $B_9^3(5)$  and  $B_1^3(5)$ , we need more properties as in Propositions 7.7 and 7.8.

**Remark 8.3.** If we weaken the existence of the mod  $p$  injection (8.3) to that of a mod  $p$  injection

$$(8.3)' \quad f' : B_m^k(p) \rightarrow SU(m+N)/SU(m), \quad N: \text{large},$$

then  $B_9^3(5)$  and  $B_1^5(5)$  are not characterized. In fact,  $B_9^3(5; a)$ ,  $a \neq 0$ , is not 5-equivalent to  $B_9^3(5)$  but a mod 5 injection  $f' : B_9^3(5; a) \rightarrow SU(22)/SU(9)$  exists. A complex  $B$  of 5-type  $(3, 11, 19, 27, 35)$  has a mod 5 injection  $B \rightarrow SU(22)$  if and only if it is 5-equivalent to a complex  $B_1^5(5; a)$  for some  $a \in Z_5$ , where  $B_1^5(5; a)$  is characterized by  $H^*(B_1^5(5; a); Z_5) = \Lambda(x_3, \mathcal{P}^1 x_3, \emptyset x_3, \mathcal{P}^1 \emptyset x_3, \mathcal{P}^2 \emptyset x_3)$  and a mod 5 surjection  $B_1^5(5; a) \rightarrow B_9^3(5; a)$ .  $B_1^5(5; a)$  is not 5-equivalent to  $B_1^5(5)$  if  $a \neq 0$ .

The existence of a mod 5 injection  $f' : B_9^3(5; a) \rightarrow SU(22)/SU(9)$  follows from that  $i_*'[\alpha_1 \beta_1(35)] = 0$  for the inclusion  $i' : B_9^3(5) \rightarrow B_9^4(5)$ . In the next section  $B_1^5(5)$  is constructed as the total space  $B$  of the principal  $G_2$ -bundle over  $B_9^3(5)$  induced by a mod 5 injection  $B_9^3(5) \rightarrow E_7/G_2$ . Let  $g : B_9^3(5) \rightarrow BG_2$  be a map which induces  $B$ . Consider  $B_9^3(5; a) = B_9^3(5)^{(62)} \cup e^{31}$  and  $g_*[\alpha_1 \beta_1(35)] \in \pi_{80}(BG_2; 5) \cong \pi_{79}(G_2; 5)$ . Since  $G_2$  is 5-equivalent to  $B_1^2(5)$ ,  $\pi_{79}(G_2; 5) = 0$  by Proposition 6.6. Thus  $g|_{B_9^3(5)^{(62)}}$  can be extended over  $g' : B_9^3(5; a) \rightarrow BG_2$ . Then  $B_1^5(5; a)$  is realized as the total space of the  $G_2$ -bundle induced by  $g'$  (cf. (5.1)).

The proof of Proposition 7.8 yields that there exists a mod 5 surjection  $B_1^5(5; a) \rightarrow S^{35}$  if and only if  $a = 0$ . Thus  $B_1^5(5; a)$  is not 5-equivalent to  $B_1^5(5)$  if  $a \neq 0$ . On the other hand, the only obstruction to construct a 5-equivalent  $B_1^5(5; a) \rightarrow B_1^5(5)$  is the element  $\gamma$  of (7.7) and it vanishes in  $B_1^9(5)$ , by Proposition 6.6. Thus there exists a mod 5 injection  $B_1^5(5; a) \rightarrow B_1^9(5) \rightarrow SU(22)$ . We have seen that a mod  $p$  injection of the type (8.3)' does not necessarily characterize the complex  $B_m^k(p)$ .

The statement (8.2) can be generalized as follows.

**Proposition 8.4.** *There exists a complex  $B$  of  $p$ -type  $(3, 4p-1)$  satisfying the following properties.*

- (i)  $H^*(B; Z_p) = \Lambda(x_3, \emptyset x_3)$ .
- (ii) *There exists a mod  $p$  injection  $B \rightarrow SU(2p)$ .*
- (iii) *There exists a mod  $p$  fibering  $B \rightarrow B_1^3(p) \rightarrow S^{2p+1}$ .*

(iv)  $B$  is a mod  $p$   $H$ -space.

One of the properties (i), (ii) and (iii) characterizes the complex  $B$  of type  $(3, 4p-1)$  up to  $p$ -equivalence.

*Proof.* For  $p=3$  this is true by (8.2), and also true even for  $p=2$  by putting  $B=S\mathbb{P}(2)$ ,  $B_1^3(2)=SU(4)$ . Let  $p \geq 5$ . Let  $g: B_1^3(p)^{(2p+1)}=S^3 \cup e^{2p+1} \rightarrow S^{2p+1}$  be a map of degree 1, and extend it over  $B_1^3(p)$ . The obstructions are in  $H^n(B_1^3(p); \pi_{n-1}(S^{2p+1}; p))$  for  $n=2p+4, 4p-1, 4p+2, 6p, 6p+3$ . So, the only obstruction is in  $H^{4p-1}(B_1^3(p); \pi_{4p-2}(S^{2p+1}; p)) \cong \pi_{4p-2}(S^{2p+1}; p) = Z_p \langle \alpha_1 \rangle$ . But this obstruction is trivial since  $\mathcal{L}^1 x_{2p+1} = 0$  in  $B_1^3(p)$ . Thus we have a mod  $p$  surjection  $g: B_1^3(p) \rightarrow S^{2p+1}$ , and let  $F$  be its fibre. Then  $H^*(F; Z_p) \cong \Lambda(x_3, \emptyset x_3)$ , and we obtain  $B$  by use of (5.1) as a complex of type  $(3, 4p-1)$   $p$ -equivalent to  $F$ . Obviously  $B$  satisfies (i), (iii) and (ii):  $B \rightarrow B_1^3(p) \rightarrow SU(2p)$ .

(iv) is proved by constructing a multiplication  $B \times B \rightarrow B$  directly, where the obstructions are in  $H^n(B \times B, B \vee B; \pi_{n-1}(B; p))$ . By the fibering (iii) we have an exact sequence

$$\pi_n(S^{2p+1}; p) \rightarrow \pi_{n-1}(B; p) \rightarrow \pi_{n-1}(B_1^3(p); p) \xrightarrow{g_*} \pi_{n-1}(S^{2p+1}; p).$$

Then it follows from Proposition 6.6 and (6.2) that  $\pi_{n-1}(B; p) = 0$  except for

$$n = 4, 2p+1, 4p-2, 4p, 6p-4, 6p-3, 8p-6, 8p-5, \\ 10p-8, 10p-7, \dots$$

Thus  $H^n(B \times B, B \vee B; \pi_{n-1}(B; p)) = 0$ , and (iv) is proved.

The proof of the last statement is easy and omitted. Q.E.D.

### § 9. Mod 5 Decomposition of $E_7$ and $E_7/G_2$

For  $p \geq 5$ , the simply connected compact exceptional groups  $G_2, F_4, E_7$  are  $p$ -torsion free and they have the following cohomology rings:

$$(9.1) \quad H^*(G_2; Z_p) = \Lambda(x_3, x_{11}), \\ H^*(F_4; Z_p) = \Lambda(x_3, x_{11}, x_{15}, x_{23})$$

and

$$H^*(E_7; Z_p) = A(x_3, x_{11}, x_{15}, x_{19}, x_{23}, x_{27}, x_{35}),$$

where  $x_i$ 's are universally transgressive elements of degree  $i$ .

As is well-known, we have a sequence of injective homomorphisms

$$G_2 \rightarrow Spin(7) \rightarrow Spin(9) \rightarrow F_4$$

with  $Spin(7)/G_2 = S^7$ ,  $Spin(9)/Spin(7) = S^{15}$  and  $F_4/Spin(9) = \Pi = S^8 \cup e^{16}$ . Thus

(9.2) we have an inclusion  $i: G_2 \rightarrow F_4$  such that  $i^*: H^*(F_4) \cong H^*(G_2)$  for  $\dim < 6$ .

Next, in [2], we have injective homomorphisms

$$F_4 \rightarrow E_6 \rightarrow E_7$$

such that for the quotient spaces  $E_6/F_4$  and  $E_7/E_6$ ,

(9.3) (i)  $H^*(E_6/F_4) = A(x_9, x_{17})$

and

(ii)  $H^*(\Omega(E_7/E_6)) = A(u_9, u_{17}) \otimes Z[u_{18}, u_{26}]$  for  $\dim \leq 26$ .

**Proposition 9.1.** *Let  $p \geq 5$ . With respect to the above injections  $G_2 \subset F_4 \subset E_7$ ,  $F_4$  (resp.  $G_2$ ) is totally non-homologous to zero mod  $p$  in  $E_7$  (resp.  $F_4$ ), and*

$$H^*(F_4/G_2; Z_p) = A(x_{15}, x_{23}),$$

$$H^*(E_7/F_4; Z_p) = A(x_{19}, x_{27}, x_{35})$$

and

$$H^*(E_7/G_2; Z_p) = A(x_{15}, x_{19}, x_{23}, x_{27}, x_{35}).$$

*Proof.* Consider the injection homomorphism  $i^*: H^*(E_7; Z_p) \rightarrow H^*(F_4; Z_p)$ . Applying (9.3) to the fibering  $\Omega(E_7/E_6) \rightarrow E_6/F_4 \rightarrow E_7/F_4$ , we see that  $E_7/F_4$  is 8-connected, and by (9.1) that  $i^*: H^*(E_7; Z_p) \cong H^*(F_4; Z_p)$  for  $\dim < 11$  and  $H^*(E_7/F_4; Z_p) = 0$  for  $\dim < 10$ . Again by (9.3) and the above fibering we have  $H^*(E_7/F_4; Z_p) = 0$  for  $\dim < 17$ . And,

by (9.1),

$$i^*: H^*(E_7; Z_p) \cong H^*(F_4; Z_p) \quad \text{for } \dim < 19.$$

Next, consider the mod  $p$  spectral sequence associated with the fibering

$$E_7 \rightarrow E_7/F_4 \rightarrow BF_4,$$

in which  $E_2^{**} \cong H^*(BF_4; Z_p) \otimes H^*(E_7; Z_p) = Z_p[x_4, x_{12}, x_{16}, x_{24}] \otimes A(x_3, x_{11}, x_{15}, x_{19}, x_{23}, x_{27}, x_{35})$ . By the above discussion, the transgression  $\tau$  satisfies  $\tau(x_i) = x_{i+1}$  for  $i = 3, 11, 15$ , up to non-zero coefficients. Then  $E_{17}^{**} \cong Z_p[x_{24}] \otimes A(x_{19}, x_{23}, x_{27}, x_{35})$ . For dimensional reasons,  $\tau(x_i) = 0$  for  $i = 19, 27, 35$ . Since  $E_7/F_4$  is finite dimensional,  $\tau(x_{23})$  must be non-trivial. Thus  $E_\infty^{**} \cong A(x_{19}, x_{27}, x_{35}) \cong H^*(E_7/F_4; Z_p)$ . Then, by (9.1), we see that the spectral sequence associated with the fibering  $F_4 \rightarrow E_7 \rightarrow E_7/F_4$  collapses, and  $F_4$  is totally non-homologous to zero in  $E_7$ .

Similarly but more easily, from (9.2) and (9.1) we have that  $G_2$  is totally non-homologous to zero mod  $p$  in  $F_4$  and  $H^*(F_4/G_2; Z_p) \cong A(x_{15}, x_{23})$ . The last statement also follows easily. Q.E.D.

Note that Proposition 9.1 is valid for  $p = 2, 3$  ( $[1, 2]$ ):

(9.4) *For  $p = 2, 3$ ,  $F_4$  (resp.  $G_2$ ) is totally non-homologous to zero mod  $p$  in  $E_7$  (resp.  $F_4$ ).*

Now we consider the case  $p = 5$ . By Theorem 4.2 of [11]

$$(9.5) \quad \begin{aligned} \mathcal{P}^1 x_3 = x_{11}, \quad \mathcal{P}^1 x_{11} = 0 \text{ in } G_2, F_4, E_7, \\ \mathcal{P}^1 x_{15} = x_{23}, \quad \mathcal{P}^1 x_{23} = 0 \text{ in } F_4, E_7, \end{aligned}$$

and

$$\mathcal{P}^1 x_{19} = x_{27}, \quad \mathcal{P}^1 x_{27} = x_{35} \text{ and } \mathcal{P}^1 x_{35} = 0 \text{ in } E_7.$$

Then it follows from Proposition 9.1 that

$$(9.6) \quad \begin{aligned} H^*(F_4/G_2; Z_5) &= A(x_{15}, \mathcal{P}^1 x_{15}), \\ H^*(E_7/F_4; Z_5) &= A(x_{19}, \mathcal{P}^1 x_{19}, \mathcal{P}^2 x_{19}) \end{aligned}$$

and

$$H^*(E_7/G_2; Z_5) = \Lambda(x_{15}, x_{19}, \mathcal{P}^1x_{15}, \mathcal{P}^1x_{19}, \mathcal{P}^2x_{19}).$$

By Theorem 2.3 of [14]

$$(9.7) \quad \emptyset x_3 = x_{19} \text{ in } H^*(E_7; Z_5).$$

**Proposition 9.2.**  $E_7/F_4$  is 5-equivalent to  $B_9^3(5)$ .

*Proof.* By (5.1), we may assume that  $E_7/F_4$  is a complex of 5-type (19, 27, 35). Apply Theorem 6.1 to the inclusion  $S^3 (\rightarrow G_2) \rightarrow E_7$ . Since  $\mathcal{P}^1x_{11} = 0$ , we have  $\pi_{19}(E_7, S^3; 5) = Z_{(5)} \langle [\iota(19)] \rangle$ . By use of a representative  $(E^{19}, S^{18}) \rightarrow (E_7, S^3)$  of  $[\iota(19)]$ , we get a complex  $S^3 \cup e^{19}$  and a mod 5 injection

$$g: S^3 \cup e^{19} \rightarrow E_7, \quad g^*(x_{19}) \neq 0.$$

Then it is easy to see that the composite map

$$\mu: (S^3 \cup e^{19}) \times (E_7/F_4) \xrightarrow{g \times id} E_7 \times (E_7/F_4) \xrightarrow{\text{action}} E_7/F_4$$

satisfies the condition (ii) of Proposition 6.6. Thus the proposition is proved by (9.6) and Proposition 6.6. Q.E.D.

Let

$$\Psi: \text{Ker } \mathcal{P}^2 (\subset H^{15}(X; Z_5)) \rightarrow H^{54}(X; Z_5) / \mathcal{P}^3 H^{30}(X; Z_5)$$

be the secondary operation associated with the Adem relation

$$\mathcal{P}^3 \mathcal{P}^2 = 0.$$

As is well-known (cf. § 6),  $\Psi$  detects the generator  $\beta_1(15)$  of  $\pi_{53}(S^{15}; 5) \cong Z_5$ .

**Lemma 9.3.** Let  $X = E_7$  and  $E_7/G_2$ . The secondary operation  $\Psi$  is defined on the generator  $x_{15}$  of  $H^{15}(X; Z_5)$  and  $\Psi(x_{15}) = 0$  with the trivial indeterminacy.

*Proof.* We consider the secondary operation  $\Psi$  for  $X = E_7, E_7/G_2$  and  $E_7 \times E_7$ . For these spaces  $X, H^{31}(X; Z_5) = 0$ . Thus  $\Psi$  is defined on

the whole of  $H^{15}(X; Z_5)$ . We see also  $H^{30}(E_7; Z_5) = Z_5\langle x_3x_{27}, x_{11}x_{19} \rangle$ ,  $H^{30}(E_7/G_2; Z_5) = 0$  and  $H^{30}(E_7 \times E_7; Z_5) = Z_5\langle 1 \otimes x_3x_{27}, 1 \otimes x_{11}x_{19}, x_3 \otimes x_{27}, x_{11} \otimes x_{19}, x_{15} \otimes x_{15}, \dots, x_{11}x_{19} \otimes 1 \rangle$ . By Cartan's formula and (9.5), we have that  $\mathcal{L}^3 H^{30}(X; Z_5) = 0$  and that the secondary operation

$$\Psi: H^{15}(X; Z_5) \rightarrow H^{54}(X; Z_5)$$

is a well-defined, single valued and natural homomorphism for  $X = E_7, E_7/G_2$  and  $E_7 \times E_7$ .

For the multiplication  $\mu: E_7 \times E_7 \rightarrow E_7$  and the projections  $p_1, p_2: E_7 \times E_7 \rightarrow E_7$  to each factor, we have

$$\begin{aligned} \mu^*(\Psi(x_{15})) &= \Psi(\mu^*(x_{15})) = \Psi(x_{15} \otimes 1 + 1 \otimes x_{15}) \\ &= \Psi(p_1^*(x_{15}) + p_2^*(x_{15})) = p_1^*(\Psi(x_{15})) + p_2^*(\Psi(x_{15})) \\ &= \Psi(x_{15}) \otimes 1 + 1 \otimes \Psi(x_{15}). \end{aligned}$$

This shows that  $\Psi(x_{15}) \in H^{54}(E_7; Z_5) = Z_5\langle x_{19}x_{35} \rangle$  is primitive, while  $x_{19}x_{35}$  is not primitive. Thus  $\Psi(x_{15}) = 0$  in  $H^{54}(E_7; Z_5)$ . Let  $\pi: E_7 \rightarrow E_7/G_2$  be the projection. By Proposition 9.1,  $\pi^*: H^*(E_7/G_2; Z_5) \rightarrow H^*(E_7; Z_5)$  is injective. Then the naturality  $\pi^*\Psi = \Psi\pi^*$  implies that  $\Psi(x_{15}) = 0$  in  $H^{54}(E_7/G_2; Z_5)$ . Q.E.D.

**Lemma 9.4.** *There exists a mod 5 injection  $f: B_9^3(5) \rightarrow E_7/G_2$ .*

*Proof.* Let  $f': B_9^3(5) \rightarrow E_7/F_4$  be a 5-equivalence given by Proposition 9.2 and let  $\pi: E_7/G_2 \rightarrow E_7/F_4$  be the bundle map with the fibre  $F_4/G_2$ . By (9.6) and Proposition 7.1,  $B_7^2(5)$  is 5-equivalent to  $F_4/G_2$ .

We consider to lift the map  $f'$  to a map  $f: B_9^3(5) \rightarrow E_7/G_2$  such that  $\pi \circ f$  is homotopic to  $f' \circ h$  for a 5-equivalence  $h: B_9^3(5) \rightarrow B_9^3(5)$ . The obstruction to the lifting is in  $H^n(B_9^3(5); \pi_{n-1}(F_4/G_2; 5))$ . The homotopy groups  $\pi_*(F_4/G_2; 5) \cong \pi_*(B_7^2(5); 5)$  are computed by applying Theorem 6.1 to a mod 5 injection  $S^{15} \rightarrow F_4/G_2$  or by use of the homotopy exact sequence for the fibering  $S^{15} \rightarrow B_7^2(5) \rightarrow S^{23}$  (cf. [12]). Then we have

$$(9.8) \quad \pi_i(F_4/G_2; 5) = 0 \text{ except for } i = 15, 23, 30, 38, 46, 53, 54, 62, 68, 70, 77, 78, 84, \dots, \text{ where } \pi_{53}(F_4/G_2; 5) \cong Z_5 \text{ is generated by the injection image of } \beta_1(15) \in \pi_{53}(S^{15}; 5).$$

Note that  $\pi_i(S^{15}; 5)$  is unstable for  $i \geq 77$ . Then the only obstruction is in  $H^{54}(B_9^3(5); \pi_{53}(F_4/G_2; 5))$ . So, there is a partial lifting  $f_1: B_9^3(5)^{(45)} \rightarrow E_7/G_2$ . Let  $\xi \in \pi_{54}(B_9^3(5)^{(45)})$  be the attaching class of the cell  $e^{54} = B_9^3(5)^{(54)} - B_9^3(5)^{(45)}$ , then

$$f_{1*}(\xi) = i_*(a \cdot \beta_1(15))$$

for some  $a \in Z_5$  and for a mod 5 injection  $i: S^{15} \rightarrow F_4/G_2 \rightarrow E_7/G_2$ . The obstruction vanishes if and only if  $a=0$ , whence the required lifting  $f$  exists.

Construct a complex

$$K = (B_9^3(5)^{(45)} \vee S^{15}) \cup e^{54}$$

by attaching a 54-cell  $e^{54}$  by  $i_{1*}(\xi) + i_{2*}(-a \cdot \beta_1(15))$ , where  $i_1$  and  $i_2$  are the inclusions of  $B_9^3(5)^{(45)}$  and  $S^{15}$  into  $B_9^3(5)^{(45)} \vee S^{15}$  respectively. Then the map  $f_1 \vee i: B_9^3(5) \vee S^{15} \rightarrow E_7/G_2$  can be extended over a map  $h_2: K \rightarrow E_7/G_2$  such that

$$h_2^*: H^i(E_7/G_2; Z_5) \cong H^i(K; Z_5) \text{ for } i=15, 54.$$

As before we see that the secondary operation  $\Psi: H^{15}(K; Z_5) \rightarrow H^{54}(K; Z_5)$  is well-defined and single valued. By the naturality  $\Psi h_2^* = h_2^* \Psi$ ,  $\Psi H^{15}(K; Z_5) = 0$ . Next let

$$p: K \rightarrow L = K/B_9^3(5)^{(45)} = S^{15} \cup e^{54}$$

be the map smashing  $B_9^3(5)^{(45)}$ . Then  $p^*: H^i(L; Z_5) \cong H^i(K; Z_5)$  for  $i = 15, 54$ , and  $\Psi H^{15}(L; Z_5) = 0$ . Since  $L$  is a mapping cone of  $a \cdot \beta_1(15)$  and since  $\Psi$  detects  $\beta_1(15)$ , we have that  $a=0$ , and the existence of the lifting  $f$  is proved. Q.E.D.

*Proof of Theorem 8.2.* Proposition 9.2 shows the first assertion. By Theorem 4.5 of [11], there is a 5-equivalence  $B_1^2(5) \times B_7^2(5) \rightarrow F_4$ . So, we have a mod 5 injection

$$g: B_7^2(5) \rightarrow F_4 \rightarrow E_7,$$

by Proposition 9.1. Then it is easy to see that the composite map

$$B_7^2(5) \times B_9^3(5) \xrightarrow{g \times f} E_7 \times (E_7/G_2) \xrightarrow{\text{action}} E_7/G_2$$

is a 5-equivalence, where  $f$  is the mod 5 injection given in Proposition

9. 4.

Q.E.D.

*Proof of (i) of Theorem 8. 1.* The mod 5 injection  $f: B_9^3(5) \rightarrow E_7/G_2$  of Lemma 9. 4 induces a map  $\bar{f}: B \rightarrow E_7$  of principal  $G_2$ -bundles, where  $B$  is the induced  $G_2$ -bundle over  $B_9^3(5)$ . It follows from Proposition 9. 1 that  $G_2$  is totally non-homologous to zero mod 5 in  $B$ . Then we have easily that  $\bar{f}$  is a mod 5 injection, the projection  $\pi: B \rightarrow B_9^3(5)$  is a mod 5 surjection and

$$H^*(B; Z_5) = \Lambda(x_3, \mathcal{P}^1x_3, \emptyset x_3, \mathcal{P}^1\emptyset x_3, \mathcal{P}^2\emptyset x_3)$$

by (9. 5) and (9. 7). By (5. 1), we may assume that  $B$  is a complex of 5-type (3, 11, 19, 27, 35). Then it follows from Proposition 7. 5 that  $B$  is 5-equivalent to  $B_1^5(5)$ . Thus we have a mod 5 injection  $f: B_1^5(5) \rightarrow E_7$ . Then the composite map

$$B_1^5(5) \times B_7^2(5) \xrightarrow{f \times g} E_7 \times E_7 \xrightarrow{\mu} E_7$$

is a 5-equivalence.

Q.E.D.

**§ 10. Mod 7 Decomposition of  $E_7$  and  $E_8$**

By Theorem 4. 2 of [11] and Theorem 2. 3 of [14],

$$(10. 1) \quad \text{in } H^*(E_7; Z_7) = \Lambda(x_3, x_{11}, x_{15}, x_{19}, x_{23}, x_{27}, x_{35}),$$

$$\mathcal{P}^1x_i = x_{i+12} \quad \text{for } i = 3, 11, 23,$$

$$\mathcal{P}^1x_i = 0 \quad \text{for } i = 15, 19, 27, 35$$

and  $\emptyset x_3 = x_{27};$

$$(10. 2) \quad \text{in } H^*(E_8; Z_7) = \Lambda(x_3, x_{15}, x_{23}, x_{27}, x_{35}, x_{39}, x_{47}, x_{59}),$$

$$\mathcal{P}^1x_i = x_{i+12} \quad \text{for } i = 3, 23, 27, 35, 47,$$

$$\mathcal{P}^1x_i = 0 \quad \text{for } i = 15, 39, 59$$

and  $\emptyset x_3 = x_{27}.$

Theorem 2. 3 of [14] is based on the existence of homomorphisms

$$\lambda: E_7 \rightarrow U(56) \quad \text{and} \quad \mu: E_8 \rightarrow U(240)$$

such that  $\lambda^*$  and  $\mu^*$  are isomorphisms of  $H^*( ; Z_7)$ . By use of Theorem 3.5, we have mod 7 surjections

$$\pi_7: U(56) \rightarrow B_1^{10}(7) \quad \text{and} \quad \pi_8: U(240) \rightarrow B_1^{40}(7).$$

Let  $F_7$  and  $F_8$  be the fibres of the compositions  $p_7 = \pi_7 \circ \lambda$  and  $p_8 = \pi_8 \circ \mu$  respectively. Thus we have fiberings

$$(10.3) \quad \begin{aligned} F_7 &\xrightarrow{i_7} E_7 \xrightarrow{p_7} B_1^{10}(7), \\ F_8 &\xrightarrow{i_8} E_8 \xrightarrow{p_8} B_1^{40}(7). \end{aligned}$$

**Lemma 10.1.** (i)  $H^*(F_7; Z_7) = A(x_{11}, x_{19}, x_{23}, x_{35}) \otimes Z_7[x_{38+12j}; j=0, 1, 2, \dots, 6]$  for  $\dim < 264$ , where  $\mathcal{P}^1 x_i = x_{i+12}$  for  $i = 11, 27, 38 + 12j$  ( $0 \leq j < 5$ ).

(ii)  $H^*(F_8; Z_7) = A(x_{23}, x_{35}, x_{47}, x_{59}) \otimes Z_7[x_{50+12j}; j=0, 1, 2, \dots]$  for  $\dim < 348$ , where  $\mathcal{P}^1 x_i = x_{i+12}$  for  $i = 23, 35, 47$  and for  $i = 50 + 12j$ ,  $j \not\equiv 4 \pmod{7}$ .

*Proof.* We shall prove (i). The proof of (ii) is similar, and left to the reader. As is well-known,

$$H^*(U(56); Z_7) = A(y_{2i+1}; i=0, 1, 2, \dots, 55)$$

for the suspension image  $y_{2i+1}$  of the  $(i+1)$ -th Chern class  $c_{i+1}$ . It follows from the Wu formula

$$(10.4) \quad \mathcal{P}^t y_{2i+1} = \binom{i}{t} y_{2i+12t+1}.$$

We shall show

(10.5)  $H^*(B_1^{10}(7); Z_7) = A(x'_{3+12j}; j=0, 1, 2, \dots, 9)$  for generators  $\{x'_{3+12j}\}$  satisfying  $p_7^*(x'_{3+12j}) = x_{3+12j}$  ( $i=0, 1, 2$ ),  $p_7^*(x'_{3+12j}) = 0$  ( $i=3, 4, \dots, 9$ ) and  $\mathcal{P}^t x'_{27} = x'_{27+12t}$  ( $t=1, 2, \dots, 7$ ).

Since  $p_7^*: H^3(B_1^{10}(7); Z_7) \cong H^3(E_7; Z_7)$ , we put  $x'_3 = p_7^{*-1}(x_3)$ ,  $x'_{15} = \mathcal{P}^1 x'_3$ ,  $x'_{27} = \mathcal{O}x'_3$  and  $x'_{27+12t} = \mathcal{P}^t x'_{27}$  for  $1 \leq t \leq 7$ . By the naturality,  $p_7^*(x'_k) = x_k$  for  $k=3, 15, 27$ . By (10.4),  $\pi_7^*(x'_k)$  are indecomposable. For  $1 \leq t \leq 7$ ,  $p_7^*(x'_{27+12t}) = \mathcal{P}^t x'_{27}$  is primitive and it vanishes since the

generators  $\{x_i\}$  of (10.1) span the set of the primitive elements in  $H^*(E_7; Z_7)$ . Thus (10.5) is proved.

Let  $\{E_r^{**}\}$  be the mod 7 cohomology spectral sequence associated with the first fibering of (10.3):  $E_2^{**} = H^*(B_1^{10}(7); Z_7) \otimes H^*(F_7; Z_7)$ . We construct a formal spectral sequence  $\{E_r^{**}\}$  by putting

$$'E_2^{**} = H^*(B_1^{10}(7); Z_7) \otimes F^*$$

with 
$$F^* = \Lambda(x_{11}, x_{19}, x_{23}, x_{35}) \otimes Z_7[x_{38+12j}; 0 \leq j \leq 6],$$

and by giving derivative differentials  $d_r$  by

$$d_r(H^*(B_1^{10}(7); Z_7) \otimes 1) = 0,$$

$$d_r(1 \otimes x_i) = 0 \quad \text{for } i = 11, 19, 23, 35,$$

$$d_r(1 \otimes x_{38+12j}) = 0 \quad (r \leq 38 + 12j) = x_{39+12j} \otimes 1 \quad (r = 39 + 12j).$$

Then it is directly verified that

$$'E_\infty^{**} \cong \Lambda(x_3, x_{15}, x_{27}) \otimes (x_{11}, x_{19}, x_{23}, x_{35}) \text{ for } \dim < 265.$$

The natural map defines a map  $f_2: 'E_2^{**} \rightarrow E_2^{**}$ . The differential  $d_r$  in  $E_r^{**}$  satisfies the properties corresponding to those in  $'E_r^{**}$ . Thus  $f_2$  induces a map  $f_r: 'E_r^{**} \rightarrow E_r^{**}$  of spectral sequences such that  $f_\infty$  is bijective for  $\dim < 265$ . By virtue of the comparison theorem, it follows from  $f_2: 'E_2^{*,0} \cong E_2^{*,0}$  that  $f_2: 'E_2^{0,*} = F^* \rightarrow E_2^{0,*} = H^*(F_4; Z_7)$  is bijective for  $\dim < 264$ . Thus (i) is proved. Q.E.D.

Now apply Theorem 6.1 to  $F_7$  and  $F_8$ . Then the following results are computed as in § 6.

**Lemma 10.2.** (i)  $\pi_i(F_7; 7) = 0$  except for  $i = 11, 19, 23, 30, 35, 38, 42, 46, 50, 54, 58, 62, 66, 70, 74, 78, 82, 86, 90, 93, 94, \dots$ . For  $i = 11, 19$ , there are mod 7 injections of  $S^i$  into  $F_7$ .

(ii)  $\pi_i(F_8; 7) = 0$  except for  $i = 23, 35, 47, 50, 59, 62, 70, 74, 82, 86, 94, 98, 105, 106, 109, 110, 118, 121, 122, 130, 132, 133, 134, 142, 145, 146, 152, 154, 157, 158, 165, 166, \dots$ . There is a mod 7 injection  $i: S^{23} \rightarrow F_8$  such that  $i_*(\beta_1(23))$  generates  $\pi_{105}(F_8; 7) \cong Z_7$ .

*Proof of (ii) of Theorem 8.1.* By (i) of Lemma 10.2, we have

mod 7 injections  $i_1': S^{11} \rightarrow F_7$  and  $i_2: S^{19} \rightarrow F_7$ . Also we have  $H^n(B_5^3(7); \pi_{n-1}(F_7; 7)) = 0$ . Thus  $i_1'$  can be extended, in the mod 7 sense, over a mod 7 injection  $i_1: B_5^3(7) \rightarrow F_7$ .

For the inclusion  $f': B_1^3(7) \rightarrow B_1^{10}(7)$ , consider a lifting  $f: B_1^3(7) \rightarrow E_7$  such that  $p_7 \circ f \simeq f' \circ h$  for a 7-equivalence  $h: B_1^3(7) \rightarrow B_1^3(7)$ . The obstructions to the lifting are trivial since  $H^n(B_1^3(7); \pi_{n-1}(F_7; 7)) = 0$  by (i) of Lemma 10.1. Then  $f$  exists and it is a mod 7 injection. The composite map

$$B_1^3(7) \times B_5^3(7) \times S^{19} \xrightarrow{f \times i_1 \times i_2} E_7 \times F_7 \times F_7 \\ \xrightarrow{id \times i_7 \times i_7} E_7 \times E_7 \times E_7 \xrightarrow{\text{multip}} E_7$$

is a 7-equivalence since it induces an epimorphism, thus an isomorphism, of the mod 7 cohomology. Q.E.D.

*Proof of (iii) of Theorem 8.1.* The proof is done similarly to that of (ii) by using (ii) of Lemma 10.2. The only difficulty is that  $H^n(B_{11}^4(7); \pi_{n-1}(F_8; 7)) \neq 0$  if  $n = 106$ . This obstruction is avoided by use of Lemma 7.5 as in proving Proposition 7.6. Thus (iii) of Theorem 8.1 is proved. Q.E.D.

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