

On iterated suspensions I.

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Introduction

The $(n+t)$ -th homotopy groups $\pi_{n+t}(S^n)$ of n -spheres S^n are stable if $n > t+1$ with respect to Freudenthal's suspension homomorphism $S: \pi_{n+t}(S^n) \rightarrow \pi_{n+t+1}(S^{n+1})$, and the t -stem group π_t^S is the limit of $\{\pi_{n+t}(S^n)\}$.

Throughout this paper p will denote an odd prime which is fixed. $\pi_i(X, A; p)$ indicates the p -primary component of $\pi_i(X, A)$. Serre [10] obtained the following direct sum decomposition:

$$\pi_{i+1}(S^{2m}; p) \approx \pi_i(S^{2m-1}; p) \oplus \pi_{i+1}(S^{4m-1}; p).$$

So, we shall devote to consider the groups $\pi_{2m-1+t}(S^{2m-1}; p)$ and $2k$ -fold iterated suspensions

$$S^{2k}: \pi_{2m-1+t}(S^{2m-1}; p) \rightarrow \pi_{2(m+k)-1+t}(S^{2(m+k)-1}; p).$$

Moore [8] and Serre [10] proved that the above homomorphism S^{2k} is an isomorphism if $t < 2m(p-1) - 2$, that is, the group $\pi_{2m-1+t}(S^{2m-1}; p)$ is stable if $m > (t+2)/2(p-1)$ and denoted by $(\pi_t^S; p)$.

The homomorphism S^2 is related with groups $\pi_i(\Omega^2 S^{2m+1}, S^{2m-1})$ by the following exact sequence:

$$\begin{aligned} \cdots \rightarrow \pi_{i+1}(\Omega^2 S^{2m+1}, S^{2m-1}) \xrightarrow{\partial} \pi_i(S^{2m-1}) \xrightarrow{S^2} \pi_{i+2}(S^{2m+1}) \\ \xrightarrow{H^{(2)}} \pi_i(\Omega^2 S^{2m+1}, S^{2m-1}) \xrightarrow{\partial} \cdots \end{aligned}$$

In [13, Th. (8.3)] the author gave an exact sequence