A KNOTTED CELL PAIR WITH KNOT GROUP Z

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In [2], L. C. Glaser and I proved that a locally flat cell pair (C, C') of type (n, k) was unknotted if n - k was either 1 or was greater than $2, n \ge 4$. We also proved that if n - k = 2 and both C - C' and Bd C - Bd C' have the homotopy type of the 1-sphere, then (C, C') is unknotted, $n \ge 6$. Theorem 3 of this paper gives examples of cell pairs (C, C') of type (n, n - 2), $n \ge 6$, such that $\pi_1(C - C') = Z$, but $\pi_1(Bd C - Bd C') \neq Z$.

It should be noted that the results obtained here can also be obtained in a piecewise linear or differentiable setting rather than the locally flat setting. In proving Theorem 4 in the differentiable case, one must apply the so-called "smoothing the corners" process; otherwise the proofs are not significantly different from what is done here.

Let C be an n-cell and C' be a k-cell, then (C, C') is called a cell pair of type (n, k) if C' is a spanning cell of C; that is, the boundary of C' is contained in the boundary of C and the interior of C' is contained in the interior of C. The boundary of a cell D is denoted by Bd D. A cell pair, or a sphere pair, is called unknotted if it is homeomorphic to the appropriate standard cell pair, or standard sphere pair. Finally, let (E^n, E^k) and (E^n_+, E^k_+) denote the standard Euclidean space pair of type (n, k) and the standard closed Euclidean half-space pair of type (n, k) respectively. A manifold pair (W, W') is called locally flat if each point w of W' has a neighborhood homeomorphic to (E^n, E^k) or (E^n_+, E^k_+) according to whether w is in the interior of W' or on the boundary of W'.

THEOREM 1 (Hudson and Sumners, see Cor. 2 of [3]). For $n \ge 4$ there exists a locally flat sphere pair (S, S') of type (n, n - 2) such that

(1) (S, S') is unknotted,

(2) $S = E \cup F$ n-cells with Bd $E = Bd F = E \cap F$,

(3) $S' = E' \cup F'$ where E' and F' are locally flat spanning (n - 2)-cells of E and F respectively, and

(4) $\pi_1(E - E') \neq Z$ and $\pi_1(F - F') \neq Z$.

As stated above, this theorem was proved by J. F. P. Hudson and D. W. L. Sumners in [3]. They gave a method of constructing such cell pairs. We suggest here an alternative construction. This method, using twist spinning,

Received January 14, 1967.

¹ This research was supported in part by the National Science Foundation.

² The author would like to thank the referee for pointing out several errors in the original manuscript and for making several useful suggestions, in particular, for pointing out the work of Hudson and Sumner [3].