

## $\mathcal{E}(X)$ FOR NON-SIMPLY CONNECTED $H$ -SPACES

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### § 0. Introduction.

Let  $X$  be a path-connected  $H$ -space with a unit  $x_0$  and let  $\mathcal{E}(X)$  be the group of homotopy classes of homotopy equivalences:  $(X, x_0) \rightarrow (X, x_0)$ . In the case of  $X$  being simply connected, D.M. Sunday, J.R proved that if  $\text{rank}(\pi_i(X)) \geq 2$ , for some  $i$ , then  $\mathcal{E}(X)$  contains a non abelian free subgroup (Theorem B-(2) of [3]). In this paper we investigate the case of an associative  $H$ -space  $X$  being not simply connected and having the homotopy type of a  $CW$ -complex.

THEOREM A. *There exists a splitting exact sequence:*

$$\{1\} \longrightarrow \nu^{-1}(1) \longrightarrow \mathcal{E}(X) \xrightarrow{\nu} GL(n, Z) \longrightarrow \{1\},$$

where  $n$  is the rank of  $\pi_1(X, x_0)$ .

Especially, since  $GL(n, Z)$  is not of finite rank for  $n \geq 2$  we have

COROLLARY. *If  $\text{rank}(\pi_1(X, x_0)) \geq 2$  then  $\mathcal{E}(X)$  is not of finite rank.*

Next let  $\mathcal{E}_H(X)$  be the subgroup of  $\mathcal{E}(X)$  consisting of homotopy-homomorphisms ( $H$ -maps), then we have

THEOREM B. *If the natural homomorphism*

$$\pi_1(Z(X), x_0) \longrightarrow \pi_1(X, x_0)/\text{Torsion}$$

*is onto, where  $Z(X)$  denotes the homotopy-centre of  $X$ , then  $\mathcal{E}_H(X)$  contains  $GL(n, Z)$  as a semi-direct factor.*

In addition, if we assume that  $\pi_1(X, x_0)$  is torsion free we have

COROLLARY.  *$\mathcal{E}(X)$  is isomorphic to the direct sum  $GL(n, Z) \oplus K(X)$ , where  $K(X)$  denotes the kernel of the natural representation*

$$\mathcal{E}_H(X) \longrightarrow \text{Aut}(\pi_1(X, x_0)) = GL(n, Z).$$