

THE EQUIVALENCE OF FIBER SPACES AND BUNDLES¹

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Communicated by Hans Samelson, October 8, 1959

1. Introduction. The objective of this paper is to verify the conjecture made in [2] that every Hurewicz fibration [3] over a polyhedral base is fiber homotopy equivalent to a Steenrod fiber bundle [6]. The result relies heavily on Milnor's universal bundle construction [4] and the following extension [2] of a theorem of A. Dold [1].

THEOREM. *If $\{E_1, p_1, X\}$ and $\{E_2, p_2, X\}$ are Hurewicz fibrations over a connected CW-complex X and if $f: E_1 \rightarrow E_2$ is a fiber-preserving map such that f restricted to some fiber is a homotopy equivalence, then f is a fiber homotopy equivalence.*

2. The associated bundle. Let $\pi: E \rightarrow X$ denote a map, where X is a connected, locally finite polyhedron. Furthermore following Milnor's notation in [4], let \tilde{S} , \tilde{E} , \tilde{G} denote, respectively, the simplicial paths in X , the simplicial paths emanating from a fixed vertex v_0 and the simplicial loops at v_0 . If $\alpha = [x_n, \dots, x_0]$ is a simplicial path in X we will find it convenient to set $\alpha(0) = x_0$, $\alpha(1) = x_n$. Now, define

$$\Omega_\pi = \{(e, \alpha) \in E \times \tilde{S} \mid \pi(e) = \alpha(0)\}$$

and a map $\xi: \Omega_\pi \rightarrow X$ by

$$\xi(e, \alpha) = \alpha(1).$$

Furthermore, let

$$A = \xi^{-1}(v_0) = \{(e, \alpha) \mid \pi(e) = \alpha(0), \alpha(1) = v_0\}.$$

LEMMA. $\{\Omega_\pi, \xi, X, A, \tilde{G}\}$ is a Steenrod fiber bundle.

PROOF. Since the proof is entirely analogous to Milnor's proof [4] that \tilde{E} is a bundle over X , we content ourselves with a brief outline. The action $\mu: \tilde{G} \times A \rightarrow A$ is defined as follows:

$$\mu[g, (e, \alpha)] = (e, g\alpha).$$

Now, let v_j denote a vertex in X and V_j the star neighborhood of v_j . The coordinate functions

$$\phi_j: V_j \times A \rightarrow \xi^{-1}(V_j)$$

are defined by

¹ This research was supported, in part, by the Wisconsin Alumni Research Foundation.