

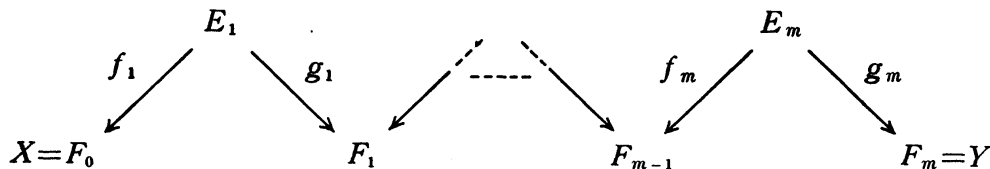
## A RELATION BETWEEN $k$ -th $UV^{k+1}$ GROUPS AND $k$ -th STRONG SHAPE GROUPS

By

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### 1. Introduction

Compacta  $X$  and  $Y$  are  $UV^n$ -equivalent provided that there exist sequences  $\{E_i\}_{1 \leq i \leq m}$  and  $\{F_i\}_{0 \leq i \leq m}$  of compacta and sequences  $\{f_i\}_{1 \leq i \leq m}$  and  $\{g_i\}_{1 \leq i \leq m}$  of  $UV^n$ -maps  $f_i: E_i \rightarrow F_{i-1}$  and  $g_i: E_i \rightarrow F_i$ , where  $F_0 = X$  and  $F_m = Y$ . Replacing  $UV^n$ -maps with  $CE$ -maps, we have the definition of  $CE$ -equivalence.



It is well known that finite-dimensional  $CE$ -equivalent compacta are shape equivalent (see [D-S]). The first example that shows the gap between shape equivalence and  $CE$ -equivalence was found by Ferry [Fe1]. In [Fe3], it was shown that  $UV^m$ -equivalent  $n$ -dimensional compacta are shape equivalent. Next Daverman and Venema [D-V] constructed an  $n$ -dimensional  $LC^{n-2}$ -continuum which is shape equivalent but not  $UV^{n-1}$ -equivalent to  $S^1$ . Mroziak [Mr1] obtained a method to have continua which are shape equivalent but not  $UV^1$ -equivalent to each other. Moreover Mroziak [Mr2] improved the method and had a strategy to construct a  $LC^n$ -continuum  $Y$  from any  $LC^{n+1}$ -continuum  $X$  with  $\pi_1(X)$  infinite such that they are shape equivalent but not  $UV^{n+1}$ -equivalent. As a criterion of  $UV^n$ -equivalence he introduced the notions of  $UV^n$ -component  $\pi_0^{(n)}(X)$  [Mr1],  $k$ -th  $UV^n$ -homotopy group  $\pi_k^{(n)}(X)$  and  $k$ -th  $CE$ -homotopy group  $\pi_k^{CE}(X)$  [Mr2]. Venema [Ve] investigated the groups and showed that  $\pi_k^{(k+1)}(X) = \pi_k^{(k+2)}(X) = \dots = \pi_k^{CE}(X)$  for every continuum  $X$  and that  $\pi_n^{(n)}(Y) = 0$  for every  $UV^n$ -continuum  $Y$ .

In this paper we consider a relation between  $\pi_k^{(k+1)}(X)$  and the  $k$ -th strong shape group  $\underline{\pi}_k(X)$  [Q]. We define a natural homomorphism  $s_k: \pi_k^{(k+1)}(X) \rightarrow \underline{\pi}_k(X)$  and show that, if  $\text{pro-}\pi_1(X)$  is profinite,  $s_k$  is an isomorphism. As its

consequence we have that if  $\text{pro-}\pi_1(X)$  is profinite, and  $\pi_0^{(1)}(X)=\{X\}$  and  $\pi_k^{(k+1)}(X)=0$  for  $k=1, \dots, n$ , then a continuum  $X$  is  $UV^n$ .

## 2. Definitions and lemmas.

By the Hilbert cube  $Q$ , we mean the countable product of closed unit intervals  $I=[0, 1]$ . By  $S^k$  and  $D^k$ , we denote the  $k$ -sphere and the  $k$ -ball, respectively. For each  $k \in \mathbb{N}$ , a compactum  $X$  is a  $UV^k$ -compactum provided that for every embedding  $i: X \rightarrow M$  of  $X$  into an ANR  $M$  and every neighborhood  $U$  of  $i(X)$  in  $M$ , there is a neighborhood  $V$  of  $i(X)$  in  $M$  such that  $U \supset V$  and the homomorphism  $\pi_j(V) \rightarrow \pi_j(U)$  induced by the inclusion is trivial for  $j \leq k$ . For each compacta  $X$  and  $Y$ , a surjective map  $f: X \rightarrow Y$  is  $UV^k$  provided that each point preimage  $f^{-1}(y)$  is a  $UV^k$ -compactum. For a subspace  $Z$  of  $X$  and  $x \in X$ , by  $d(x, Z)$  we denote the number  $\inf\{d(x, z) \mid z \in Z\}$ , and set  $N_\varepsilon(Z) = \{x \in X \mid d(x, Z) < \varepsilon\}$ .

If  $X$  and  $Y$  are compact metric spaces and  $j: Y \rightarrow W$  is an embedding into a compact AR  $W$ , then an *approaching map*  $\underline{f}: X \rightarrow Y$  is a pair  $(f, j)$ , where  $f$  is a map  $f: X \times [0, \infty) \rightarrow W$  such that for each neighborhood  $U$  of  $j(Y)$ , there is an  $m \in \mathbb{N}$  such that  $f(X \times [m, \infty)) \subset U$ . Two approaching maps  $\underline{f}, \underline{g}: X \rightarrow Y$  ( $\underline{f} = (f, j)$ ,  $\underline{g} = (g, j)$ ) are *homotopic through approaching maps*, if there is an approaching map  $\underline{H}: X \times I \rightarrow Y$  ( $\underline{H} = (H, j)$ ) such that  $\underline{H}|X \times \{0\} = \underline{f}$  and  $\underline{H}|X \times \{1\} = \underline{g}$  [Fe2].

Let  $h: X \rightarrow Y$  be a map and let  $i: X \rightarrow Q$  and  $j: Y \rightarrow Q$  be embeddings. Define an embedding  $l: X \rightarrow Q \times Q$  by  $l(x) = (j \circ h(x), i(x))$  and the projection  $\text{proj}: Q \times Q \rightarrow Q$  by  $\text{proj}(a, b) = a$ . We assume that  $X \subset Q \times Q$  by the above embedding  $l$ , and  $\text{proj}|X = h$ . We take the metric on  $Q \times Q$  to be the supremum of the metrics on two factors,

LEMMA 1. *Let  $h: X \rightarrow Y$  be a  $UV^k$ -map as above. If  $P$  is a finite  $k$ -dimensional polyhedron,  $S$  is a subpolyhedron of  $P$ ,  $\underline{f} = (f, j): P \rightarrow Y$  is an approaching map, and  $\underline{g} = (g, l): S \rightarrow X$  is an approaching map with  $\text{proj} \circ g = f|S \times [0, \infty)$ , then there is an extension  $g^*: P \times [0, \infty) \rightarrow Q \times Q$  of  $g$  such that  $(g^*, l)$  is an approaching map and that  $\underline{f}$  and  $(\text{proj} \circ g^*, j)$  are homotopic through approaching maps.*

PROOF. By Corollary 1.2 of [Fe3], we get a sequence  $\{\delta_n\}_{n \geq 0}$  of positive numbers satisfying:

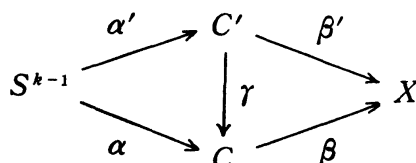
- (1)  $\delta_n < \min\{\delta_{n-1}, 1/2^n\}$  for  $n \geq 1$ ,  $\delta_0 < 1$  and
- (2) for any finite  $(k+1)$ -dimensional polyhedron  $K$ , subpolyhedron  $L$  of  $K$ , map  $\alpha: K \rightarrow N_{\delta_n}(Y)$  and map  $\alpha_0: L \rightarrow N_{\delta_n}(X)$  with  $\text{proj} \circ \alpha_0 = \alpha|L$ , there exists an extension  $\alpha^*: K \rightarrow N_{\delta_{n-1}}(X)$  of  $\alpha_0$  such that  $\text{proj} \circ \alpha^* = \alpha$ .

Since  $f$  is an approaching map, there is a monotone increasing sequence  $\{i_n\}_{n \geq 1}$  with  $f(P \times [i_n, \infty)) \subset N_{\delta_{n+1}}(X)$  for  $n \geq 1$ . For each  $n \in N$  set  $f_n = f|_{P \times [i_n, i_{n+1}]}$ . By (2) we get an extension  $g_n: P \times [i_n, i_{n+1}] \rightarrow N_{\delta_n}(X)$  of  $g|_{S \times [i_n, i_{n+1}]}$  with  $\text{proj} \circ g_n = f_n$ . For each  $n \in N$ , define  $H_n: P \times I \rightarrow N_{\delta_n}(Y)$  by  $H_n(x, t) = f(x, i_{n+1})$  for each  $x \in P$  and  $t \in I$ , and  $H_{n,0}: P \times \{0, 1\} \rightarrow N_{\delta_n}(X)$  by  $H_{n,0}(x, 0) = g_n(x, i_{n+1})$ ,  $H_{n,0}(x, 1) = g_{n+1}(x, i_{n+1})$  for each  $x \in P$ . And by (2) there exists an extension  $H^*_n: P \times I \rightarrow N_{\delta_{n-1}}(X)$  of  $H_{n,0}$  with  $\text{proj} \circ H^*_n = H_n$ . Define  $g^*_n: P \times [i_n, i_{n+1}] \rightarrow Q \times Q$  as

$$g^*_n(x, (1-t)i_n + ti_{n+1}) = \begin{cases} g_n(x, (1-2t)i_n + 2ti_{n+1}) & \text{if } t \in [0, 1/2] \\ H^*_n(x, 2t-1) & \text{if } t \in [1/2, 1] \end{cases}$$

Then  $g^* = \bigcup_{n \in N} g^*_n: P \times [i_1, \infty) \rightarrow Q \times Q$  is a desired extension of  $g$  and the proof is finished.

For each pointed compactum  $(X, x_0)$  and each  $k \geq 1$ , let  $UV^m_k(X, x_0)$  be the class of all triples  $\Delta = (C, \alpha, \beta)$ , where  $C$  is a  $UV^m$  compactum and  $\alpha: S^{k-1} \rightarrow C$ ,  $\beta: C \rightarrow X$  are maps with  $\beta \circ \alpha(S^{k-1}) = \{x_0\}$ . Given two such triples  $\Delta = (C, \alpha, \beta)$  and  $\Delta' = (C', \alpha', \beta')$ , we write  $\Delta' \geq \Delta$  if there exists a map  $\gamma: C' \rightarrow C$  such that commutativity holds in each triangle of the following diagram.



Let  $\equiv$  denote the equivalence relation generated by  $\geq$  (i.e.  $\Delta' \equiv \Delta$  iff there exists a sequence of triples  $\Delta_1 = \Delta, \Delta_2, \dots, \Delta_{2r+1} = \Delta'$  in  $UV^m_k(X, x_0)$  such that  $\Delta_{2i} \geq \Delta_{2i+1}$ ,  $i = 1, \dots, r$ ) and let  $\pi_k^{(m)}(X, x_0) = UV^m_k(X, x_0) / \equiv$ . The equivalence class of  $\Delta = (C, \alpha, \beta)$  in  $\pi_k^{(m)}(X, x_0)$  will be denoted by  $[\Delta] = [C, \alpha, \beta]$ .

Let  $\kappa: S^{k-1} \rightarrow (S^{k-1}, *) \vee (S^{k-1}, *)$  denote the usual comultiplication map on the  $H$ -cogroup  $S^{k-1}$  and  $\mu: (X, x_0) \vee (X, x_0) \rightarrow X$  the folding map. For  $[\Delta_i] = [C_i, \alpha_i, \beta_i] \in \pi_k^{(m)}(X, x_0)$ ,  $i = 1, 2$ , define a multiplication by

$$(\$) \quad [\Delta_1][\Delta_2] = [(C_1, \alpha_1(*)) \vee (C_2, \alpha_2(*)), (\alpha_1 \vee \alpha_2) \circ \kappa, \mu \circ (\beta_1 \vee \beta_2)].$$

Obviously this is a group multiplication on  $\pi_k^{(m)}(X, x_0)$ : The neutral element is  $\Delta x_0 = [ \{*\}, \text{const}, \text{const} ]$ , where  $\text{const}$  is the constant map. An inverse for  $[\Delta] = [C, \alpha, \beta]$  is given by  $[\Delta^{-1}]$ , where  $\Delta^{-1} = (C, \alpha \circ \nu, \beta)$  and  $\nu: S^{k-1} \rightarrow S^{k-1}$  is the usual homotopy inverse on the  $H$ -cogroup  $S^{k-1}$  (see [Mr2]).

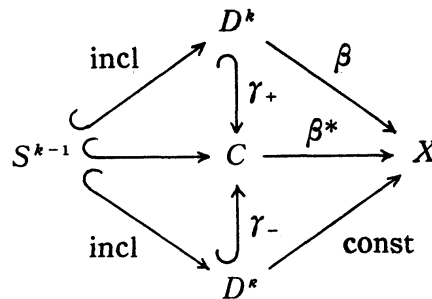
LEMMA 2. Let  $(X, x_0)$  be a pointed compactum and  $k \geq 1$ . Then for each  $[C, \alpha, \beta] \in \pi_k^{(k+1)}(X, x_0)$ , there exists a  $[C', \alpha', \beta'] \in \pi_k^{(k+1)}(X, x_0)$  such that



each  $[\beta] \in \pi_k(X, x_0)$ , where  $\beta: D^k \rightarrow X$  is a map with  $\beta(S^{k-1}) = \{x_0\}$ , define  $t_k([\beta]) = [D^k, \text{incl}, \beta]$ . Here,  $\text{incl}: S^{k-1} \rightarrow D^k$  is the inclusion map [Mr2].

LEMMA 3. If  $X = \varinjlim(K_i, f_i)$ , where each  $K_i$  is a finite polyhedron and each  $f_i$  is an  $AF^i$ -map, then the homomorphism  $t_k: \pi_k(X, x_0) \rightarrow \pi_k^{(k+1)}(X, x_0)$  is isomorphic for each  $k \geq 1$ .

PROOF. a) Injectivity. Let  $\beta$  be a map  $\beta: D^k \rightarrow X$  such that  $t_k([\beta]) = [D^k, \text{incl}, \beta] = 0 \in \pi_k^{(k+1)}(X, x_0)$ . By the proof of Theorem 2.7 in [Mr2], there exist  $UV^{k+1}$ -compactum  $C$  and maps satisfying the following commutative diagram:



Define  $\gamma: S^k \rightarrow C$  by  $\gamma|_{\text{the upper hemisphere}} = \gamma_+$ ,  $\gamma|_{\text{the lower hemisphere}} = \gamma_-$ . Let  $i: C \rightarrow Q$  be an embedding. Since  $C$  is  $UV^{k+1}$ , we get a map  $\gamma^*: D^{k+1} \times [0, \infty) \rightarrow Q$  such that  $(\gamma^*, i)$  is an approaching map and  $\gamma^*(x, t) = \gamma(x)$  for each  $x \in S^k, t \in [0, \infty)$ . There is an extension  $\beta^{**}: Q \rightarrow \text{CMap}^+((K_i, f_i))$  of  $\beta^*$ . By Corollary 5.5 of [Fe2], there exists a map  $g^*: D^{k+1} \times [0, \infty) \rightarrow \text{CMap}^+((K_i, f_i))$  such that  $g^*(x, \infty) = \beta^{**} \circ \gamma(x)$  for each  $x \in S^k$ , and that  $g^*(S^k \times \{\infty\}) \subset X$ . Since  $[g^*|_{S^k \times \{\infty\}}] = [\beta^{**} \circ \gamma] = [\beta] \in \pi_k(X, x_0)$ ,  $[\beta] = 0$ .

b) Surjectivity. Let  $[C, \alpha, \beta] \in \pi_k^{(k+1)}(X, x_0)$ . By Lemma 2 we may assume that  $\dim C \leq k+2$  and  $\alpha$  is an embedding. Since  $C$  is  $UV^k$ , we get a map  $\varphi: D^k \times [0, \infty) \rightarrow Q$  such that  $\varphi(x, t) = \alpha(x)$  for each  $x \in S^{k-1}$  and  $t \in [0, \infty)$ , and that  $(\varphi, i)$  is an approaching map, where  $i: C \rightarrow Q$  is an embedding. The mapping cylinder  $M(\varphi)$  of  $\varphi$  is the space obtained from  $(S^{k-1} \times [0, \infty) \times I) \oplus (\varphi(D^k \times [0, \infty)) \cup C)$  by identifying for each  $y \in \varphi(D^k \times [0, \infty))$  the set  $(\varphi^{*-1}(y) \times \{1\}) \cup \{y\}$  to a single point. Identifying of  $C$  and  $D^k \times [0, \infty) \times [0, 1)$  as subspaces of  $M(\varphi)$ , we set

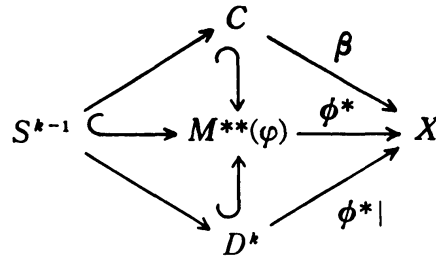
$$M^{**}(\varphi) = C \cup \{[x, s, s/(1+s)] \in M(\varphi) \mid x \in D^k, s \in [0, \infty)\} \supset M^*(\varphi)$$

(see Lemma 2).

Let  $j: M^{**}(\varphi) \rightarrow Q$  be an embedding. We will construct a map  $\phi: M^{**}(\varphi) \times [0, \infty) \rightarrow Q$  with  $(\phi, j)$  an approaching map satisfying the following condition:

$$(\#) \quad \phi(x, t) = x \quad \text{for each } x \in M^*(\varphi) \text{ and } t \in [0, \infty).$$

For a while, we assume that there exists a map  $\phi$  as above. Let  $\beta^*: Q \rightarrow \text{CMap}^+(K_i, f_i)$  be an extension of  $\beta$  satisfying  $\beta^*([x, s, s/(1+s)]) = \beta(x)$  for each  $x \in S^{k-1}$  and  $s \in [0, \infty)$  and apply Corollary 5.5 of [Fe2] to  $\beta^* \circ \phi$ , then there exists a map  $\phi^*: M^{**}(\varphi) \rightarrow X$  with  $\phi^*|M^*(\varphi) = \beta^*|M^*(\varphi)$ . Identifying  $D^k$  with  $\{[x, 0, 0] \in M(\varphi) \mid x \in D^k\}$ , and from the following commutative diagram:



and the fact that  $M^{**}(\varphi)$  and  $C$  are shape equivalent, we have  $t_k([\phi^*|D^k]) = [C, \alpha, \beta]$ . Therefore it is sufficient to construct a map  $\phi$  with the condition (#).

Since  $C$  and  $M^*(\varphi)$  are shape equivalent,  $M^*(\varphi)$  is  $UV^{k+1}$ . There exists a sequence  $\{U_n\}_{n \geq -2}$  of neighborhoods of  $M^*(\varphi)$  in  $Q$  such that

- (1)  $U_n \supset U_{n+1}$  for each  $n \geq -2$ , and
- (2) for each  $n \geq -2$ ,  $l \leq k+1$  and map  $\alpha: S^l \rightarrow U_{n+1}$ , there exists an extension  $\alpha^*: D^{l+1} \rightarrow U_n$  of  $\alpha$ .

Since  $M(\varphi) \supset M^*(\varphi)$ , there exists a monotone sequence  $\{s_m\}_{m \geq 0}$  of positive numbers such that  $D^k \times \{s_m\} = \{[x, s_m, s_m/(1+s_m)] \in M(\varphi) \mid x \in D^k\} \subset U_{3m+1}$  for each  $m \geq 0$ . By (2), there exists a map  $\alpha_m: D^k \rightarrow U_{3m+1}$  with  $\alpha_m(x) = [x, 0, 0] \in M^*(\varphi)$  for each  $x \in S^{k-1}$ . Identifying  $D^k \times [0, s_m]$  with  $\{[x, s, s/(1+s)] \in M(\varphi) \mid x \in D^k, s \in [0, s_m]\}$ , by (2) we have a map  $\phi'_m: D^k \times [0, s_m] \rightarrow U_{3m}$  such that  $\phi'_m(x, 0) = \alpha_m(x)$  for each  $x \in D^k$ , and  $\phi'_m(x, t) = [x, t, t/(1+t)]$  for each  $(x, t) \in S^{k-1} \times [0, s_m] \cup D^k \times \{s_m\}$ . Since  $\phi'_m(D^k \times \{0\}) \cup \phi'_{m+1}(D^k \times \{0\}) \subset U_{3m}$ , by (2) there exists a map  $\phi''_m: D^{k+1} \rightarrow U_{3m-1}$  with  $\phi''_m|$  the upper hemisphere  $= \phi'_m|D^k \times \{0\}$  and  $\phi''_m|$  the lower hemisphere  $= \phi'_{m+1}|D^k \times \{0\}$ . Applying (2) to  $D^k \times [s_m, s_{m+1}] \subset U_{3m+1}$ , and three maps  $\phi'_m, \phi'_{m+1}$  and  $\phi''_m$ , then we get a map  $\phi^*_{m, m+1}: D^k \times [0, s_m] \times [m, m+1] \rightarrow U_{3m-2}$  satisfying that

$$\begin{aligned} \phi^*_{m, m+1}(x, t, m) &= \phi'_m(x, t) && \text{if } (x, t) \in D^k \times [0, s_m], \\ \phi^*_{m, m+1}(x, t, m) &= [x, t, t/(1+t)] && \text{if } (x, t) \in D^k \times [s_m, s_{m+1}] \text{ and} \\ \phi^*_{m, m+1}(x, t, m+1) &= \phi'_{m+1}(x, t) && \text{if } (x, t) \in D^k \times [0, s_m]. \end{aligned}$$

For each  $m \geq 0$  define  $p_m: \{D^k \times [s_m, \infty) \cup C\} \times [m, m+1] \rightarrow M^{**}(\varphi)$  by  $p_m(x, t, s) = [x, t, t/(1+t)]$  for each  $(x, t, s) \in D^k \times [s_m, \infty) \times [m, m+1]$ , and

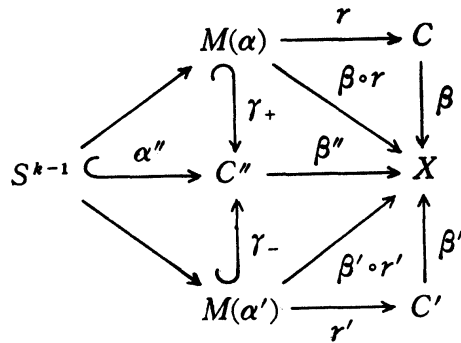
$p_m(y, s) = y$  for each  $(y, s) \in C \times [m, m+1]$ . We set

$$\begin{aligned} \phi_{m, m+1} &= \phi_{m, m+1}^* \cup p_m : M^{**}(\varphi) \times [m, m+1] \longrightarrow U_{3m-2}, \text{ and} \\ \phi &= \bigcup_{m \in \mathbb{N}} \phi_{m, m+1} : M^{**}(\varphi) \times [0, \infty) \longrightarrow U_{-2}. \end{aligned}$$

Clearly by the construction as above, the map  $\phi$  satisfies the condition (#).

### 3. Main results

The  $k$ -th homotopy pro-group, the  $k$ -th shape group and the strong shape group of a space  $X$  are denoted  $\text{pro-}\pi_k(X)$ ,  $\underline{\pi}_k(X)$  and  $\underline{\pi}_k(X)$ , respectively. We will construct a homomorphism  $s_k : \pi_k^{(k+1)}(X, x_0) \rightarrow \underline{\pi}_k(X, x_0)$ . Let  $[C, \alpha, \beta] \in \pi_k^{(k+1)}(X, x_0)$  and let  $i : C \rightarrow Q$  be an embedding. Since  $C$  is  $UV^{k+1}$ , there exists a map  $\phi_C : D^k \times [0, \infty) \rightarrow Q$  such that  $\phi_C(x, t) = \alpha(x)$  for each  $x \in S^{k-1}$  and  $t \in [0, \infty)$ , and that  $(\phi_C, i)$  is an approaching map. Suppose that  $X = \varprojlim (K_i, f_i)$ , where  $K_i$ 's are finite polyhedra, then there exists a map  $\beta^* : Q \rightarrow \text{CMap}^+((K_i, f_i))$  which is an extension of  $\beta$ . Define  $s_k : \pi_k^{(k+1)}(X, x_0) \rightarrow \underline{\pi}_k(X, x_0)$  by  $s_k([C, \alpha, \beta]) = [\beta^* \circ \phi_C]$ . Since  $C$  is  $UV^{k+1}$ , the definition as above is independent of a choice of  $\phi_C$ . By the proof of Theorem 2.7 in [Mr2], if  $[C, \alpha, \beta] = [C', \alpha', \beta']$ , there exists the following commutative diagram:



Here  $\gamma_+$  and  $\gamma_-$  are embeddings and  $[C'', \alpha'', \beta''] \in \pi_k^{(k+1)}(X, x_0)$ . By the commutative diagram as above,

$$[\beta \circ \phi_C] = [\beta \circ r \circ \phi_{M(\alpha)}] = [\beta'' \circ \phi_{C''}] = [\beta' \circ r' \circ \phi_{M(\alpha')}] = [\beta' \circ \phi_{C'}] \in \underline{\pi}_k(X, x_0).$$

$s_k$  turns out to be well-defined. Clearly  $s_k$  is a homomorphism.

An inverse sequence  $\{G_i, h_i\}$  of groups and homomorphisms is *profinite* if for each  $i$  there is a  $j > i$  such that  $\text{im } h_{i+1} \circ \dots \circ h_j(G_j) \subset G_i$  is finite. A continuum  $X$  has  $\text{pro-}\pi_1(X)$  *profinite* if whenever  $X$  is written as an inverse limit  $X = \varprojlim (K_i, \alpha_i)$  of finite CW complexes, the system  $\{\pi_1(K_i), \alpha_{i*}\}$  is profinite.

**MAIN THEOREM.** *If  $(X, x_0)$  is a pointed continuum with  $\text{pro-}\pi_1(X)$  profinite,*

then  $\pi_k^{(k+1)}(X, x_0)$  and  $\underline{\pi}_k(X, x_0)$  are isomorphic for each  $k \geq 1$ .

PROOF. We will show that  $s_k$  is an isomorphism.

First we may consider a special case that  $f_i$  is an  $AF^i$ -map for each  $i \geq 1$ . Then we will construct a homomorphism  $u_k: \underline{\pi}_k(X, x_0) \rightarrow \pi_k^{(k+1)}(X, x_0)$ . Let  $\varphi: S^k \times [0, \infty) \rightarrow \text{CMap}^+(K_i, f_i)$  such that  $\varphi(\{s_0\} \times [0, \infty)) = \{x_0\}$ , where  $s_0$  is the basepoint of  $S^k$ , and such that  $(\varphi, j)$  is an approaching map, where  $j: X \rightarrow \text{CMap}^+(K_i, f_i)$  is the inclusion. By Corollary 5.5 of [Fe2], there exists a map  $\varphi': S^k \rightarrow X$  such that defining  $\varphi'': S^k \times [0, \infty) \rightarrow X$  by  $\varphi''(x, t) = \varphi'(x)$  for each  $x \in S^k$  and  $t \in [0, \infty)$ ,  $[\varphi''] = [\varphi] \in \underline{\pi}_k(X, x_0)$ . Define  $u_k: \underline{\pi}_k(X, x_0) \rightarrow \pi_k^{(k+1)}(X, x_0)$  by  $u_k([\varphi]) = [D^k, \text{incl}, \varphi' \circ p]$ , where  $\text{incl}: S^{k-1} \rightarrow D^k$  is the inclusion and  $p: D^k \rightarrow D^k/S^{k-1} = S^k$  is the projection. Because of Corollary 5.5 of [Fe2] and [Mr2],  $u_k$  is well-defined. It is clear that  $s_k \circ u_k = \text{id}$ . Since  $t_k: \pi_k(X, x_0) \rightarrow \pi_k^{(k+1)}(X, x_0)$  is an isomorphism by Lemma 3, for each  $[C, \alpha, \beta] \in \pi_k^{(k+1)}(X, x_0)$  there exists a map  $\gamma: D^k \rightarrow X$  such that  $\gamma(S^{k-1}) = \{x_0\}$  and  $[C, \alpha, \beta] = [D^k, \text{incl}, \gamma]$ , where  $\text{incl}: S^{k-1} \rightarrow D^k$  is the inclusion. Because  $u_k \circ s_k([D^k, \text{incl}, \gamma]) = [D^k, \text{incl}, \gamma]$ ,  $u_k \circ s_k = \text{id}$ . That is,  $s_k$  is an isomorphism.

Next we consider the general case. Since  $\text{pro-}\pi_1(X)$  is profinite, by Theorem 3' and Lemma 3.2 of [Fe2], there exists a continuum  $X'$  such that  $X'$  and  $X$  are shape equivalent and  $X' = \varprojlim (K'_i, f'_i)$ , where  $K'_i$ 's are finite polyhedra and  $f'_i$ 's are  $AF^i$ -maps. Moreover, by Theorem 2 of [Fe3],  $X'$  and  $X$  are  $UV^n$ -equivalent for each  $n \geq 0$ . There exist a compactum  $X''$  and  $UV^{k+1}$ -maps  $\xi_1: X'' \rightarrow X$ ,  $\xi_2: X'' \rightarrow X'$ . Let  $x''_0 \in X''$  with  $\xi_1(x''_0) = x_0$ .

$$\begin{array}{ccccc}
 \pi_k^{(k+1)}(X, x_0) & \xleftarrow{\xi_{1*}} & \pi_k^{(k+1)}(X'', x''_0) & \xrightarrow{\xi_{2*}} & \pi_k^{(k+1)}(X', \xi''_2(x''_0)) \\
 \downarrow s_k & & \downarrow s_k'' & & \downarrow s_k' \\
 \pi_k(X, x_0) & \xleftarrow{\underline{\xi}_{1*}} & \pi_k(X'', x''_0) & \xrightarrow{\underline{\xi}_{2*}} & \pi_k(X', \xi''_2(x''_0)).
 \end{array}$$

By Theorem 1.6 of [Mr2],  $\xi_{1*}$  and  $\xi_{2*}$  are isomorphisms, and by Lemma 1,  $\underline{\xi}_{1*}$  and  $\underline{\xi}_{2*}$  are isomorphisms. Since this diagram is commutative and  $s_k'$  is an isomorphism, so is  $s_k$ .

A space  $X$  will be called  $UV^n$ -connected provided that for any two points  $x, x' \in X$  there exist a  $UV^n$ -compactum  $C$  and a map  $\gamma: C \rightarrow X$  with  $x, x' \in \gamma(X)$ . By a  $UV^n$ -component of  $X$  we mean a maximal  $UV^n$ -connected subspace of  $X$ . Denote  $\pi_0^{(n)}(X)$  the set of all  $UV^n$ -components of  $X$ .

LEMMA 4. Let  $X$  be a continuum. If  $\pi_0^{(1)}(X) = \{X\}$ , then  $\underline{\pi}_0(X, x_0) = 0$  for



each  $x_0 \in X$ .

PROOF. Let  $x_0 \in X$  be an arbitrary point. Since  $\pi_0^{(1)}(X) = 0$ , for each  $x_1 \in X$  there exist a  $UV^1$ -compactum  $C$  and a map  $\gamma: C \rightarrow X$  with  $x_0, x_1 \in \gamma(C)$ . Let  $M$  and  $M'$  be AR's,  $i: C \rightarrow M$  and  $j: X \rightarrow M'$  be embeddings and  $\gamma^*: M \rightarrow M'$  be an extension of  $\gamma$ . Taking points  $y_0, y_1 \in C$  with  $\gamma^*(y_0) = x_0, \gamma^*(y_1) = x_1$ , since  $C$  is  $UV^1$ , there exists a map  $\phi: I \times [0, \infty) \rightarrow M$  such that  $(\phi, i)$  is an approaching map and  $\phi(\delta, t) = y_\delta$  for each  $t \in [0, \infty)$  and  $\delta \in \{0, 1\}$ . Since  $(\gamma^* \circ \phi, j)$  is an approaching map,  $\underline{\pi}_0(X, x_0) = 0$ .

COROLLARY. Let  $X$  be a continuum with  $\text{pro-}\pi_1(X)$  profinite. If  $\pi_0^{(1)}(X) = \{X\}$  and  $\pi_k^{(k+1)}(X, x_0) = 0$  for each  $x_0 \in X$  and  $k = 1, 2, \dots, n$ , then  $X$  is  $UV^n$ .

PROOF. It follows from Main theorem and Lemma 4 that  $\underline{\pi}_k(X, x_0) = 0$  for each  $x_0 \in X$  and  $k = 0, 1, \dots, n$ . By [Wa]  $\lim^1(\text{pro-}\pi_{k+1}(X, x_0)) = 0 = \underline{\pi}_k(X, x_0)$ . Moreover by Theorem 11 and Lemma 2 of Theorem 12 in §6.2 [M-S],  $\text{pro-}\pi_k(X, x_0) = 0$  for each  $x_0 \in X$  and  $k = 1, 2, \dots, n$ . Since  $X$  is connected,  $X$  is  $UV^n$ .

#### 4. Remarks and problems.

Mrozik [Mr2] and Venema [Ve] gave fundamental properties of  $k$ -th  $UV^n$ -groups for an arbitrary continuum  $X: \pi_k^{(1)}(X) = \pi_k^{(2)}(X) = \dots = \pi_k^{(k-1)}(X) = 0$  and  $\pi_k^{(k+1)}(X) = \pi_k^{(k+2)}(X) = \dots = \pi_k^{CE}(X)$ . Thus the groups have some meaning only in the cases  $n = k$  and  $k + 1$ . Moreover Venema showed that, for every  $UV^n$ -compactum  $X, \pi_n^{(n)}(X) = 0$ . Considering Corollary and Venema's result, we have a natural problem:

PROBLEM 1. Is a continuum  $X$  with  $\pi_k^{(k)}(X) = 0$  for  $k = 1, \dots, n$ , a  $UV^n$ -compactum?

On the other hand, we clearly have a natural homomorphism  $h_{k, k+1}: \pi_k^{(k+1)}(X, x_0) \rightarrow \pi_k^{(k)}(X, x_0)$  as follows: for each  $[C, \alpha, \beta] \in \pi_k^{(k+1)}(X, x_0)$  where  $C$  is  $UV^{k+1}$ , and  $\alpha: S^{k+1} \rightarrow C$  and  $\beta: C \rightarrow X$ , define

$$h_{k, k+1}([C, \alpha, \beta]) = [C, \alpha, \beta].$$

However, we do not have any information about  $h_{k, k+1}$ . It is obvious that if  $h_{k, k+1}$  is a monomorphism, Problem 1 has the affirmative answer. Therefore we pose the following problem:

PROBLEM 2. When is the homomorphism  $h_{k, k+1}$  a monomorphism? In particular, consider the case that  $\text{pro-}\pi_1(X)$  is profinite.

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