

## ***On $(k+1)$ -ad homotopy groups***

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A. L. Blakers and W. S. Massey<sup>1)</sup> have defined triad homotopy groups and used it for the problem of absolute and relative homotopy groups. They also referred to  $(k+1)$ -ad homotopy groups. I want here to prove the exactness of sequence of  $(k+1)$ -ad homotopy groups, and apply to the simplest case. The author wishes to express his cordial thanks to Prof. A. Komatu, and Mr. J. Nagata, for their encouragement in this paper.

### **1. Notation and terminology.**

Let  $X$  and  $Y$  be topological spaces,  $A_1, \dots, A_k$  subspaces of  $X$ , and  $B_1, \dots, B_k$  subspaces of  $Y$ .

The notation

$$(1.1) \quad f: (X; A_1, \dots, A_k) \rightarrow (Y; B_1, \dots, B_k)$$

means that  $f$  is a continuous function defined on  $X$  with values in  $Y$ , satisfying the condition

$$f(A_i) \subset B_i, \quad (i=1, 2, \dots, k).$$

If the sets  $A_1, \dots, A_k$  have a non-vacuous intersection,  $A_1 \cap A_2 \cap \dots \cap A_k = C \neq \emptyset$ , we call the ordered collection of spaces  $(X; A_1, \dots, A_k)$  a  $(k+1)$ -ad. An  $n$ -cell  $E^n$  is the set of vectors  $\mathfrak{x} = (x_1, \dots, x_n)$ , where  $0 \leq x_i \leq 1$ .

The symbol  $F_n^k(X; A_1, \dots, A_k, p_0)$  ( $p_0 \in A_1 \cap A_2 \cap \dots \cap A_k$ ) will denote the function space of all maps

$$f: (E^n \times E^k) \rightarrow (X),$$

such that, for all vectors  $\mathfrak{x} = (x_1, \dots, x_n) \in E^n$  and  $\mathfrak{y} = (y_1, \dots, y_k) \in E^k$ ,

$$(1.2) \quad \begin{aligned} f(x_1, \dots, x_n, y_1, \dots, y_k) &= p_0 \quad (\text{if one of } x_i = 0 \text{ or } 1, \text{ or one of } y_j = 1), \\ f(x_1, \dots, x_n, y_1, \dots, y_k) &\in A_i \quad (\text{if } y_i = 0), \end{aligned}$$

and we introduce the compact open topology in it.

Analogously, we use another symbol  $\overline{F}_n^k(X; A_1, \dots, A_k)$ , which is the function space of all maps

$$f: (\dot{E}^{n+1} \times E^k) \rightarrow X,$$

such that

$$(1.3) \quad f(x_1, \dots, x_{n+1}, y_1, \dots, y_k) = p_0 \quad (\text{if } \mathfrak{x} = (x_1, 0 \dots 0) \text{ or } x_i = 0 \text{ or } x_i = 1 \text{ or one of } y_j = 1),$$

$$f(x_1, \dots, x_{n+1}, y_1, \dots, y_k) \in A_j \quad (\text{if } y_j=0).$$

We can introduce in both of them an operation of addition as follows:

Namely, if  $f, g \in F_n^k(X; A_1, \dots, A_k)$  or  $\bar{f}, \bar{g} \in \bar{F}_n^k(X; A_1, \dots, A_k)$ , we define  $h=f+g, \bar{h}=\bar{f}+\bar{g}$  by

$$\begin{aligned} h(x_1, \dots, x_n, y_1, \dots, y_k) &= \begin{cases} f(2x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n, y_1, \dots, y_k) & (0 \leq x_1 \leq \frac{1}{2}), \\ g(2x_1-1, x_2, \dots, x_n, y_1, \dots, y_k) & (\frac{1}{2} \leq x_1 \leq 1), \end{cases} \\ \bar{h}(x_1, \dots, x_{n+1}, y_1, \dots, y_k) &= \begin{cases} \bar{f}(2x_1, x_2, \dots, x_{n+1}, y_1, \dots, y_k) & (0 \leq x_1 \leq \frac{1}{2}), \\ \bar{g}(2x_1-1, x_2, \dots, x_{n+1}, y_1, \dots, y_k) & (\frac{1}{2} \leq x_1 \leq 1). \end{cases} \end{aligned}$$

We can readily prove that the homotopy classes of  $F_n^k$  or  $\bar{F}_n^k$  make a group.

It is denoted by  $\pi_n^k(X; A_1, \dots, A_k)$ . And we shall call it the  $(k+n)$ -th or  $(k+n)$ -dimensional homotopy group of  $(k+1)$ -ad  $(X; A_1, \dots, A_k)$ .

We can define isomorphisms,

$$\varphi_m: \pi_m(F_n^k(X; A_1, \dots, A_k), k_0) \approx \pi_{m+n}^k(X; A_1, \dots, A_k).$$

And the group  $\pi_n^k(X; A_1, \dots, A_k)$  is abelian if  $n \geq 2$  as is readily seen, where  $k_0$  denotes the constant map  $k_0(x, y) = p_0$ .

## 2. Exact sequence.

THEOREM 2.1. *The sequence*

$$\begin{aligned} \rightarrow \pi_n^k(X; A_1, \dots, A_k) &\xrightarrow{\beta} \pi_n^{k-1}(A_1; A_1 \cap A_2, \dots, A_1 \cap A_k) \xrightarrow{i} \pi_n^{k-1}(X; A_2, \dots, A_k) \\ &\xrightarrow{j} \pi_{n-1}^k(X; A_1, \dots, A_k) \rightarrow \end{aligned}$$

is an exact sequence. ( $i, j$  are injections and  $\beta$  is a boundary operator)

*Proof.*

The proof breaks up into six parts.

(a)  $j \circ i = 0$ .

Let  $\alpha \in \pi_n^{k-1}(A_1; A_1 \cap A_2, \dots, A_1 \cap A_k)$  be represented by a map  $f: E^n \times E^{k-1} \rightarrow X$ , where  $f(x_1, \dots, x_n, y_2, \dots, y_k) \in A_1 \cap A_i$  (if  $y_i=0$  ( $i=2, \dots, k$ )). If  $i(f) = g \in \bar{\alpha} = i\alpha \in \pi_n^{k-1}(X; A_2, \dots, A_k)$ ,

$$g(x_1, \dots, x_n, y_2, \dots, y_k) = f(x_1, \dots, x_n, y_2, \dots, y_k).$$

Let  $(j \circ i)(f) = j(g) = h \in \bar{\alpha} \in \pi_{n-1}^k(X; A_1, \dots, A_k)$  be the  $(j-)$  image of  $g$ . Then

$$h: E^{n-1} \times E^k \rightarrow X,$$

and  $h(x_1, \dots, x_{n-1}, y_1, \dots, y_k) \in A_i$  (if  $y_i=0, i=1, 2, \dots, k$ ). Therefore, we may write  $h$  as a function of  $(x_1, \dots, x_{n-1}, y_1, y_2, \dots, y_k)$  such that

$$h(x_1, \dots, x_{n-1}, y_1, y_2, \dots, y_k) = g(x_1, \dots, x_{n-1}, x_n, y_2, \dots, y_k) \quad (\text{if } y_1 = x_n).$$

Then  $h(x_1, \dots, x_{n-1}, 0, y_2, \dots, y_k) = p_0$ .

Let  $\Psi(x_1, \dots, x_{n-1}, y_1, y_2, \dots, y_k, t) = h(x_1, \dots, x_{n-1}, (1-t)y_1 + t, y_2, \dots, y_k)$ .

Then  $\Psi(x, y, 0) = h(x, y)$ ,  $\Psi(x, y, 1) = p_0$  Hence  $h \simeq 0$ .

(b)  $i \circ \beta = 0$

Let  $\alpha \in \pi_n^k(X; A_1, \dots, A_k)$  be represented by  $f: E^n \times E^k \rightarrow X$ , then  $\beta(f) = g$  is a function such that

$$g: E^n \times E^{k-1} \rightarrow A_1$$

and  $g(x_1, \dots, x_n, y_2, \dots, y_k) = f(x_1, \dots, x_n, 0, y_2, \dots, y_k)$ .

Let  $i(g) = h$ , then

$$h: E^n \times E^{k-1} \rightarrow X,$$

and  $h(x_1, \dots, x_n, y_2, \dots, y_k) = g(x_1, \dots, x_n, y_2, \dots, y_k)$ . Therefore,  $f(x_1, \dots, x_n, 0, y_2, \dots, y_k) = h(x_1, \dots, x_n, y_2, \dots, y_k) \in X$  and  $f(x_1, \dots, x_n, 1, y_2, \dots, y_k) = p_0$ . This means that  $h \simeq 0$ .

(c)  $\beta \circ j = 0$ .

As above we take one mapping  $f \in \alpha \in \pi_n^{k-1}(X; A_2, \dots, A_k)$ . And, let  $j(f) = g$ ,  $\beta(g) = h$ . Then  $g(x_1, \dots, x_{n-1}, y_1, y_2, \dots, y_k) = f(x_1, \dots, x_{n-1}, x_n, y_2, \dots, y_k)$  (if  $y_1 = y_n$ ) and  $h(x_1, \dots, x_{n-1}, y_2, \dots, y_k) = g(x_1, \dots, x_{n-1}, 0, y_2, \dots, y_k)$ , whence  $h(x_1, \dots, x_{n-1}, y_2, \dots, y_k) = f(x_1, \dots, x_{n-1}, 0, y_2, \dots, y_k) = p_0$  and  $h = 0$ .

(d)  $(\beta)^{-1}(0) \subset \text{image of } j$ .

Let  $f \in \alpha \in \pi_n^k(X; A_1, \dots, A_k)$ , and

$$\beta(f) = g \simeq 0.$$

$$f(x_1, \dots, x_n, 0, y_2, \dots, y_k) = g(x_1, \dots, x_n, y_2, \dots, y_k) \in A_1.$$

We may assume that  $g(x_1, \dots, x_n, y_2, \dots, y_k) = p_0$ . Then, let  $\varphi$  be a mapping such that

$$\varphi(x_1, \dots, x_n, x_{n+1}, y_2, \dots, y_k) = f(x_1, \dots, x_n, y_1, \dots, y_k) \quad (\text{if } x_{n+1} = y_1).$$

Obviously,

$$\varphi: E^{n+1} \times E^{k-1} \rightarrow X,$$

$$\varphi(x_1, \dots, x_n, 0, y_2, \dots, y_k) = f(x_1, \dots, x_n, 0, y_2, \dots, y_k) = p_0.$$

Hence

$$\varphi \in \alpha \in \pi_{n+1}^{k-1}(X; A_2, \dots, A_k)$$

and  $j(\varphi) = f$ .

(e)  $(i)^{-1} \subset \text{image of } \beta$ .

Take an element  $f$  of  $\alpha \in \pi_n^{k-1}(A_1; A_1 \cap A_2, \dots, A_1 \cap A_k)$ , and assume  $i(f) = g \simeq 0$ . Then

$$g(x_1, \dots, x_{n-1}, x_n, y_2, \dots, y_k) = f(x_1, \dots, x_n, y_2, \dots, y_k).$$

And there exists a mapping such that

$$\begin{aligned}\Psi: E^n \times E^{k-1} \times E^1 &\rightarrow X, \text{ and} \\ \Psi(x_1, \dots, x_n, y_2, \dots, y_k, t) &\in X, \\ \Psi(x_1, \dots, x_n, y_2, \dots, y_k, t) &\in A \text{ (if } y_i=0, i=2, \dots, k), \\ \Psi(x_1, \dots, x_n, y_2, \dots, y_k, 0) &= g(x_1, \dots, x_n, x_2, \dots, y_k), \\ \Psi(x_1, \dots, x_n, y_2, \dots, y_k, 1) &= p_0.\end{aligned}$$

New, let  $\varphi$  be such a mapping that satisfies

$$\varphi(x_1, \dots, x_{n-1}, x_n, y_1, y_2, \dots, y_n) = \Psi(x_1, \dots, x_n, y_2, \dots, y_k, t) \quad (\text{if } y_1=t).$$

Then

$$\begin{aligned}\varphi: E^n \times E^k &\rightarrow X, \text{ and} \\ \varphi(x_1, \dots, x_{n-1}, x_n, 0, y_2, \dots, y_k) &\in A_1.\end{aligned}$$

Therefore

$$\beta\varphi = f.$$

(f)  $(j)^{-1}(0) \subset \text{image of } i.$

Let  $f \in \alpha \in \pi_n^{k-1}(X; A_2, \dots, A_k)$ , and

$$j(f) = g \simeq 0.$$

Then,  $f: E^n \times E^{k-1} \rightarrow X$ ,

$$g: E^{n-1} \times E^k \rightarrow X,$$

$$g(x_1, \dots, x_{n-1}, y_1, y_2, \dots, y_k) = f(x_1, \dots, x_{n-1}, x_n, y_2, \dots, y_k) \quad (\text{if } y_1=x_n).$$

There exists a mapping  $\Psi$  such that

$$\begin{aligned}\Psi: E^{n-1} \times E^k \times E^1 &\rightarrow X, \\ \Psi(x_1, \dots, x_{n-1}, y_1, \dots, y_k, 0) &= g(x_1, \dots, x_{n-1}, y_1, \dots, y_k), \\ \Psi(x_1, \dots, x_{n-1}, y_1, \dots, y_k, 1) &= p_0,\end{aligned}$$

and

$$\Psi(x_1, \dots, x_{n-1}, 0, y_2, \dots, y_k, t) \in A_1.$$

Now, let  $h$  be such a mapping that satisfies following relations,

$$\begin{aligned}h: E^n \times E^{k-1} &\rightarrow A_1, \\ h(x_1, \dots, x_{n-1}, x_n, y_2, \dots, y_k) &= \Psi(x_1, \dots, x_{n-1}, 0, y_2, \dots, y_k, t) \quad (\text{if } x_n=t).\end{aligned}$$

Then, obviously,

$$j(f) = g \simeq 0, \quad i(h) \simeq f.$$

### 3. Applications.

Let  $X = S^{n_1} \vee S^{n_2} \vee S^{n_3} \vee \dots \vee S^{n_k}$ , ( $S^{n_i}$  is an  $n_i$ -dimensional sphere, and they have only one point in common.) and assume that

$$n_1 \leq n_2 \leq \dots \leq n_k.$$

And consider the  $(k+1)$ -ad  $(X; S^{n_1}, S^{n_2}, \dots, S^{n_k})$ , if  $Y \supset X$ ,

$$\begin{aligned} &\rightarrow \pi_q^{k+1}(Y; X, S^{n_1}, S^{n_2}, \dots, S^{n_k}) \rightarrow \pi_q^k(X; S^{n_1}, S^{n_2}, \dots, S^{n_k}) \rightarrow \pi_q^k(Y; S^{n_1}, S^{n_2}, \dots, S^{n_k}) \\ &\rightarrow \dots \text{ is exact.} \end{aligned}$$

And  $\pi_q^{k+1}(Y; X, S^{n_1}, \dots, S^{n_k}) = \pi_{q+k+1}(Y, X)$  from the following theorem.

**THEOREM 3.1.** *If  $(Y; X, A_1, \dots, A_k)$  is a  $(k+2)$ -ad and  $X \supset A_i (i=1 \dots k)$ ,*

*then*  $\pi_q^{k+1}(Y; X, A_1, \dots, A_k) = \pi_{q+k+1}(Y, X)$ .

*Proof.*

Let  $f \in \alpha \in \pi_q^{k+1}(Y; X, A_1, \dots, A_k)$ .

Then  $f(x, y_1, \dots, y_{k+1}) \in Y \quad (x \in E^q),$   
 $f(x, 0, y_2, \dots, y_{k+1}) \in X,$   
 $f(x, y_1, \dots, y_i, 0, y_{i+2}, \dots, y_{k+1}) \in A_i.$

Let  $\varphi$  be such a mapping that

$$\begin{aligned} \varphi: E^q \times E^{k+1} \times E^1 &\rightarrow E^q \times E^{k+1} \\ \varphi(x, y, 0) &= (x, y), \quad \varphi(x, y, t) \in (E^q \times E^{k+1})^* \end{aligned}$$

for  $(x, y) \in (E^q \times E^{k+1})^*$ ,

$$\varphi(x, y, 1) = p_0 \quad \text{for } x \in E^q, y_1 \neq 0.$$

Then  $f(x, y) = f\varphi(x, y, 0) \simeq f\varphi(x, y, 1) \in \pi_{q+k+1}(Y, X)$ .

Hence  $\varphi^*(\pi_q^{k+1}(Y; X, A_1, \dots, A_k)) = \pi_{q+k+1}(Y, X)$ . Now, let  $i^*: \pi_{q+k+1}(Y, X) \rightarrow \pi_q^{k+1}(Y; X, A_1, \dots, A_k)$  be the homomorphism induced by injection,

then  $\varphi^* \circ i^* = \text{identity}, \quad i^* \circ \varphi^* = \text{identity}.$

Therefore  $\pi_q^{k+1}(Y; X, A_1, \dots, A_k) = \pi_{q+k+1}(Y, X)$ .

Now, let  $Y = S^{n_1} \times \dots \times S^{n_k}$ .

If  $f \in \alpha \in \pi_q^k(Y, S^{n_1}, \dots, S^{n_k})$ ,

then  $f(x_1, \dots, x_q, y_1, \dots, y_k) = f_1(x, y) \times f_2(x, y) \times \dots \times f_k(x, y)$ , where  $f_i(x, y)$  is a projection of  $f(x, y)$  into  $S^{n_i}$ .

Let  $\mathcal{O}_i(x, y, t)$  be such a mapping that

$$\begin{aligned} \mathcal{O}_i: E^q \times E^k \times E^1 &\rightarrow E^q \times E^k \\ \mathcal{O}_i(x, y_1, \dots, y_k, 0) &= (x, y_1, \dots, y_k) \\ \mathcal{O}_i(x, y_1, \dots, y_{i-1}, y_i, y_{i+1}, \dots, y_k, t) &= (x, y_1, \dots, y_{i-1}, (1-t)y_i + t, y_{i+1}, \dots, y_k) \\ \mathcal{O}_i(x, y_1, \dots, y_{i-1}, y_i, y_{i+1}, \dots, y_k, 1) &= (x', y') \text{ where } y' = (y'_1, \dots, y'_k) \text{ and } y'_i = 1. \end{aligned}$$

Such a mapping obviously exists.

Then, we consider following mappings,

$$\begin{aligned} f_i(\mathcal{O}_i(x, y, t)) &= \varphi_i(x, y, t), \\ \varphi_i(x, y, 1) &\in S^{n_1} \vee \dots \vee S^{n_{i-1}} \vee S^{n_{i+1}} \vee \dots \vee S^{n_k}, \end{aligned}$$

and also  $\varphi_i(\mathfrak{z}, \mathfrak{y}, 1) \in S^{n_i}$ . Therefore  $\varphi_i(\mathfrak{z}, \mathfrak{y}, t) = \hat{p}_0$  (the common point of  $S^{n_i}$ ),

$$\begin{array}{ccc} \prod_{(i)} \varphi_i(\mathfrak{z}, \mathfrak{y}, 0) = f(\mathfrak{z}, \mathfrak{y}), & \prod_{(i)} \varphi_i(\mathfrak{z}, \mathfrak{y}, 1) = \hat{p}_0. \\ \uparrow & \uparrow \\ \text{direct product} & \text{direct product} \end{array}$$

Therefore  $f(\mathfrak{z}, \mathfrak{y}) \simeq 0$ .

That is to say  $\pi_q^k(S^{n_1} \times S^{n_2} \times \cdots \times S^{n_k}; S^{n_1}, \dots, S^{n_k}) = 0$

Therefore  $\pi_q^k(X; S^{n_1}, S^{n_2}, \dots, S^{n_k}) = \pi_{q+k}(S^{n_1} \times \cdots \times S^{n_k}, X)$ .

If  $n_1 = n_2 = \cdots = n_k < n_{k+1}$ ,

then 
$$\begin{aligned} & \pi_q^k(S^{n_1} \vee S^{n_2} \vee \cdots \vee S^{n_k}; S^{n_1}, \dots, S^{n_k}) \\ &= \pi_{q+k}(S^{n_1} \times S^{n_2} \times \cdots \times S^{n_k}, S^{n_1} \vee S^{n_2} \vee \cdots \vee S^{n_k}) \\ &= H_{q+k}(S^{n_1} \times S^{n_2} \times \cdots \times S^{n_k}, S^{n_1} \vee S^{n_2} \vee \cdots \vee S^{n_k}) \quad \text{if } q+k=2n_1. \\ &= \sum_{\substack{i+j=2n_1 \\ i < j}} H_{n_i}(S^{n_i}) \otimes H_j(S^{n_j}) \end{aligned}$$

Therefore  $\pi_{2n_1}(S^{n_1} \vee S^{n_2} \vee \cdots \vee S^{n_k})$

$$= \pi_{2n_1}(S^{n_1}) + \pi_{2n_1}(S^{n_2}) + \cdots + \pi_{2n_1}(S^{n_k}) + \sum_{\substack{i+j=2n_1 \\ i < j}} H_i(S^{n_i}) \otimes H_j(S^{n_j}).$$

Theorem 3.2.

We consider a  $(k+1)$ -ad  $(X; A_1, \dots, A_k)$ , and let  $X^{**}$  be a fibre space over  $X$  with fibre  $F$  in the sense of Serre.<sup>4)</sup> Analogously let  $A_i^{**} (i \geq 2)$  be a fibre space over  $A_i (i \geq 2)$  with the same fibre.

Now, also, we consider a fibre space over  $A_1$  with fibre  $F_1 \subset F$ , and denote this by  $A_1^*$ , and denote by  $A_{[\tau_1, \alpha]}^*$  the fibre space over  $A_{[\tau_1, \alpha]}$  with fibre  $F_1$ , where  $[\alpha]$  is a subset of  $(2, \dots, k)$ . Then, using these notations,

$$\pi_q^k(X; A_1, \dots, A_k) = \pi_q^k(X^{**}; A_1^*, A_2^{**}, \dots, A_k^{**}).$$

*Proof.* We consider the diagram

$$\begin{array}{ccccc} \rightarrow \pi_q^k(X^{**}; A_1^*, A_2^{**}, \dots, A_k^{**}) & \rightarrow & \pi_q^{k-1}(A_1^*, A_{12}^k, \dots, A_{1k}^k) & \rightarrow & \pi_q^{k-1}(X^{**}; A_2^{**}, \dots, A_k^{**}) \\ & & \downarrow \hat{p}_2 & & \downarrow \hat{p}_1 \\ \rightarrow \pi_q^k(X; A_1, A_2, \dots, A_k) & \longrightarrow & \pi_q^{k-1}(A_1; A_{12}, \dots, A_{1k}) & \rightarrow & \pi_q^{k-1}(X; A_2, \dots, A_k), \end{array}$$

where  $A_i^* (i \geq 2)$  denotes the fibre space over  $A_i$  and with fibre  $F_1$ , and  $A_{1,i} = A_{[\tau_1, i]}$ . Moreover,  $\hat{p}_1, \hat{p}_2$  are projections and

$$\hat{p}_1|_{A_1^*} = \hat{p}_2,$$

Obviously  $\hat{p}_1, \hat{p}_2$  are isomorphisms onto by the induction hypothesis. Therefore by the "five" lemma  $\pi_q^k(X^{**}, A_1^*, A_2^{**}, \dots, A_k^{**}) = \pi_q^k(X; A_1, \dots, A_k)$

THEOREM 3.3.

If  $(k+1)$ -ad  $(X; A_1, \dots, A_k)$  is given, then

$$\pi_q^k(X; A_1, \dots, A_k) = \pi_q^{k-1}(A_1^*; A_{12}^*, \dots, A_{1k}^*),$$

where

$$\begin{aligned} A_1^* &= \{\omega(t) \mid 0 \leq t \leq 1, \omega(0) = p_0, \omega(t) \in A_1, \omega(1) \in A_1\}, \\ A_{1\alpha}^* &= \{\omega(t) \mid \omega(0) = p_0, \omega(t) \in A_{\tau_1}, \omega(1) \in A_{\tau_1\omega}\}. \quad (\alpha \geq 2) \end{aligned}$$

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