

Exact sequences in the Steenrod algebra.

By Aiko NEGISHI

(Received Nov. 2, 1957)

J. P. Serre [1] has proved that the cohomology algebra $H^*(Z_2; q, Z_2)$ of the Eilenberg-MacLane complex $K(Z_2, q)$ with Z_2 coefficients is a polynomial algebra generated by $Sq^I(u_q)$, where u_q is the generator of $H^q(Z_2; q, Z_2)$ and I runs over the admissible sequences with excess $< q$, Sq^I being the iterated Steenrod squaring operations. He has proved thereby that $H^{n+q}(Z_2; q, Z_2)$ remains 'stable' for $q > n$, and put $A^n(Z_2, Z_2) = H^{n+q}(Z_2; q, Z_2)$. The graded algebra $\sum_{n=0}^{\infty} A^n(Z_2, Z_2)$ is denoted by $A^*(Z_2, Z_2)$ and is called the *Steenrod algebra* (Cf. Adem [2], [3]). Following Adem [2], we shall denote the generators of $A^*(Z_2, Z_2)$ with Sq^I instead of $Sq^I(u_q)$. The multiplication between these generators is determined by Adem's relations (Adem [2], [3]).

$$(1) \quad Sq^\alpha Sq^\beta = \sum_{t=0}^{[\alpha/2]} \binom{\beta-t-1}{\alpha-2t} Sq^{\alpha+\beta-t} Sq^t \pmod 2, \quad 0 \leq \alpha < 2\beta.$$

Let I_0 be any fixed sequence of integers. We can define a homomorphism α'_{I_0} of $A^*(Z_2, Z_2)$ into itself by $\alpha'_{I_0} Sq^I = Sq^{I_0} Sq^I$, and another homomorphism α''_{I_0} by $\alpha''_{I_0} Sq^I = Sq^I Sq^{I_0}$. If M is a certain fixed submodule of $A^*(Z_2, Z_2)$, then $Sq^I \rightarrow \alpha'_{I_0} Sq^I \pmod M$ or $\alpha''_{I_0} Sq^I \pmod M$ define respectively cohomology operations. These operations are of interest in view of topological applications. (Cf. Cartan [4], Serre [1]).

In this paper, we consider the operator α'_n defined by $\alpha'_n Sq^I = Sq^{2^n} Sq^I$ ($n=0, 1, \dots$). We denote the module generated by the sums of the images of α'_i ($i=0, 1, \dots, n$) with M_n for $n \geq 0$, and put $M_{-2} = M_{-1} = 0$. Obviously we have $M_n \supset M_{n-1}$. We shall give explicitly the generators of $M_n \pmod M_{n-1}$ (Theorem 1) and those of $A^*(Z_2, Z_2) \pmod M_n$ (Corollary of Theorem 1), and apply this to prove the following result. We can define α_{n+3} and β_{n+3} for $n \geq -2$ so that the following diagram is commutative, where p_n is the natural homomorphism $A^*(Z_2, Z_2) \rightarrow A^*(Z_2, Z_2)/M_n$ for $n \geq 0$, and $p_{-2} = p_{-1} = id$.

$$\begin{array}{ccccc} A^*(Z_2, Z_2) & \xrightarrow{\alpha'_{n+3}} & A^*(Z_2, Z_2) & \xrightarrow{\alpha'_{n+3}} & A^*(Z_2, Z_2) \\ p_n \downarrow & & p_{n+1} \downarrow & & p_{n+2} \downarrow \\ A^*(Z_2, Z_2)/M_n & \xrightarrow{\beta_{n+3}} & A^*(Z_2, Z_2)/M_{n+1} & \xrightarrow{\beta_{n+3}} & A^*(Z_2, Z_2)/M_{n+2}. \end{array}$$

Then we shall prove that *the sequence*

$A^*(Z_2, Z_2)/M_n \xrightarrow{\beta_{n+3}} A^*(Z_2, Z_2)/M_{n+1} \xrightarrow{\alpha_{n+3}} A^*(Z_2, Z_2)/M_{n+2}$ is exact for $n = -2, -1, 0, 1, \dots$ (Theorem 2). The exactness of this sequence for $n = -2, -1$ was proved by Professor T. Yamanoshita [5], who suggested to the author to occupy herself with this question. The author wishes to express her sincere thanks to Professor T. Yamanoshita for his kind suggestions and advices and also to Professor S. Iyanaga for his constant encouragement during the preparation of this paper.

In the following, we have often to deal with binomial coefficients mod 2. The following formula of Cartan [3] is fundamental for us. If the dyadic expansions of n and r are respectively $\sum_{i=0}^n 2^i a_i$ and $\sum_{j=0}^m 2^j b_j$, and $n \geq m$, then

$$(2) \quad \binom{n}{r} = \binom{2^n a_n + \dots + 2a_1 + a_0}{2^m b_m + \dots + 2b_1 + b_0} \equiv \binom{a_n}{0} \binom{a_{n-1}}{0} \dots \binom{a_{m+1}}{0} \binom{a_m}{b_m} \dots \binom{a_0}{b_0} \pmod{2}.$$

In particular, we have

$$(3) \quad \binom{\beta - t - 1}{2^n - 2t} \equiv \binom{\beta + 2^{n+1} - t - 1}{2^n - 2t} \pmod{2}.$$

These binomial coefficients appear in Adem's relation for $\text{Sq}^{2^n} \text{Sq}^\beta$. Hereafter we shall denote $\text{Sq}^{i_1} \text{Sq}^{i_2} \dots \text{Sq}^{i_r}$ with (i_1, i_2, \dots, i_r) . Often we denote such (i_1, i_2, \dots, i_r) with I . We denote the collection of all admissible sequences of the form $(2^{n+1} k_1, 2^n k_2, \dots, 2^{n-j+3} k_{j-1}, 2^{n-j+1}(2k_j+1), 2^{n-j} k_{j+1}, \dots, 2k_n, k_{n+1}, i_{n+2}, \dots, i_r)$ ($j=1, \dots, n+1$) with N_j^n and an arbitrary sequence belonging to N_j^n generally with I_j^n . For the above $I_j^n \in N_j^n$ we denote the sequence $(2^{n+1} k_1, 2^n k_2, \dots, 2k_{n+1}, i_{n+2}, \dots, i_r)$ with I^n . As easily verified, for every admissible sequence J there is uniquely determined a pair of integers (n, j) such that $J = I_j^n \in N_j^n$. Setting $N^n = \bigcup_j N_j^n$ we have $I^n \in N^{n+m}$ for $m > 0$. (Here and in what follows k_1, k_2, \dots denote always non negative integers.)

Now, if we identify N^n with the free module over Z generated by the collection N^n , then we have

THEOREM 1. $M_n = N^n \oplus M_{n-1}$, that is, I_j^n 's ($j=1, \dots, n+1$) are not contained in M_{n-1} and generate M_n/M_{n-1} .

PROOF. The case $n=0$ means $I_1^0 = (2k_1+1, i_2, \dots, i_r) = (1, 2k_1, i_2, \dots, i_r) \equiv 0 \pmod{M_0}$, and $I^0 = (2k_1, i_2, \dots, i_r) \not\equiv 0 \pmod{M_0}$. This is easily seen from $(1, 1) = 0$ and $(1, 2k) = (2k+1)$. Assume, inductively, that the theorem is true for $n-1$, i. e.

$$(4) \quad I_j^{n-1} \equiv 0 \pmod{M_{n-1}} \text{ i. e. } I_j^{n-1} \equiv (2^{n-1}, I) \pmod{M_{n-2}} \text{ for some } I.$$

According to (1), (2) and the inductive assumption $\sum_{i < n} N^i = M_{n-1}$

$$\begin{aligned}
 (2^n, 2^{n+1} k_1) &= \sum_{t=0}^{2^{n-1}} \binom{2^{n+1} k_1 - t - 1}{2^n - 2t} (2^n + 2^{n+1} k_1 - t, t) \equiv \binom{2^{n+1} k_1 - 1}{2^n} (2^n(2k_1 + 1)) \\
 &= \binom{2^{n+1}(k_1 - 1) + 2^{n+1} - 1}{2^n} (2^n(2k_1 + 1)) \\
 &= \binom{2^{n+1}(k_1 - 1) + 2^n + 2^{n-1} + \dots + 1}{2^n} (2^n(2k_1 + 1)) \\
 &= \binom{k_1 - 1}{0} \binom{1}{1} \binom{1}{0} \dots \binom{1}{0} (2^n(2k_1 + 1)) \equiv (2^n(2k_1 + 1)) \pmod{M_{n-1}}.
 \end{aligned}$$

Therefore

$$\begin{aligned}
 (5) \quad I_1^n &= (2^n(2k_1 + 1), 2^{n-1} k_2, \dots, 2k_n, i_{n+1}, \dots, i_r) \\
 &\equiv (2^n, 2^{n+1} k_1, 2^{n-1} k_2, \dots, 2k_n, i_{n+1}, \dots, i_r) \pmod{M_{n-1}}, \\
 (5') \quad &\equiv 0 \pmod{M_n}.
 \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
 (2^n, 2^{n+1} k_0 - 2^{n-1}) &= \sum_{t=0}^{2^{n-1}} \binom{2^{n+1} k_0 - 2^{n-1} - t - 1}{2^n - 2t} (2^{n+1} k_0 + 2^{n-1} - t, t) \\
 &\equiv \binom{2^{n+1} k_0 - 2^n - 1}{2^n - 2^n} (2^{n+1} k_0, 2^{n-1}) \equiv (2^{n+1} k_0, 2^{n-1}) \pmod{M_{n-1}}.
 \end{aligned}$$

This implies

$$\begin{aligned}
 (6) \quad I_{j+1}^n &= (2^{n+1} k_0, I_j^{n-1}) = (2^{n+1} k_0, 2^{n-1}, I) \equiv (2^n, 2^{n+1} k_0 - 2^{n-1}, I) \pmod{M_{n-1}}, \\
 (6') \quad &\equiv 0 \pmod{M_n}
 \end{aligned}$$

($j=1, \dots, n$). By (4), (5) and (6), I_j^n 's ($j=1, \dots, n+1$) are not contained in M_{n-1} but contained in M_n . If now $I^n = (2^{n+1} k_1, 2^n k_2, \dots, 2k_{n+1}, i_{n+2}, \dots, i_r) \in M_n$, then there would exist, by the inductive hypothesis the relation $(2^{n-1}, 2^{n-1} + 2^m) \equiv (2^n, 2^m) \pmod{M_{n-1}}$ for $n > m$, an I with $I^n \equiv (2^n, I) \pmod{M_{n-1}}$, where I has a form $I^{n-1} = (2^n k'_1, 2^{n-1} k'_2, \dots, 2k'_n, i_{n+1}, \dots, i_r)$. And we have

$$\begin{aligned}
 (2^n, I^{n-1}) &= (2^n, 2^n k'_1, 2^{n-1} k'_2, \dots, 2k'_n, i_{n+1}, \dots, i_r) \\
 &= \sum_{t=0}^{2^{n-1}} \binom{2^n k'_1 - t - 1}{2^n - 2t} (2^n + 2^n k'_1 - t, t, 2^{n-1} k'_2, \dots, 2k'_n, i_{n+1}, \dots, i_r).
 \end{aligned}$$

Therefore $(2^n, I^{n-1})$ becomes an $I^n \pmod{M_{n-1}}$, only when $t=0$ and k'_1 is odd.

But in this case the coefficient $\binom{2^n k'_1 - 1}{2^n} = \binom{2^n(k'_1 - 1) + 2^n - 1}{2^n} \equiv 0 \pmod{2}$.

Therefore $I^n \notin M_n$, and I_j^n 's ($j=1, \dots, n+1$) generate M_n/M_{n-1} .

COROLLARY. I^n 's generate $A^*(Z_2, Z_2)/M_n$.

To prepare for the proof of the next theorem, we list here some formulas which are easily proved by (3). The formulas (7) to (14) (which are congruences mod M_{i-2}) are used to calculate β_i -images $(2^i, I)$ ($i=0, 1, \dots$). Let $I=(a, I')$ be a given sequence. Then $(2^i, I)=(2^i, a, I')$ is contained in M_{i-2} , if

a is not a multiple of 2^{i-2} , by Theorem 1, and the formula $(2^{i-2}, 2^{i-1} + 2^{i-2} + 2^m) \equiv (2^i, 2^m) \pmod{M_{i-2}}$ for $m < i-2$, so that we have only to consider the case $a = 2^{i-2}b$. By (3), we have $(2^i, 2^{i-2}b) \equiv (2^i, 2^{i-2}b')$ if $b \equiv b' \pmod{2^3}$. For $(2^i, 2^{i-2}(2^3k+j))$ $j=0, 1, \dots, 7$, we have

$$\begin{aligned}
(7) \quad & (2^i, 2^{i-2} \cdot 2^3k) \equiv (2^{i+1}k+2^i) + (2^{i+1}k+2^{i-1}, 2^{i-1}) && \pmod{M_{i-2}} \\
(8) \quad & (2^i, 2^{i-2}(2^3k+1)) \equiv (2^{i+1}k+2^i, 2^{i-2}) && \pmod{M_{i-2}} \\
(9) \quad & (2^i, 2^{i-2}(2^3k+2)) \equiv (2^{i+1}k+2^i, 2^{i-1}) && \pmod{M_{i-2}} \\
(10) \quad & (2^i, 2^{i-2}(2^3k+3)) \equiv 0 && \pmod{M_{i-2}} \\
(11) \quad & (2^i, 2^{i-2}(2^3k+4)) \equiv (2^{i+1}k+2^{i-1} \cdot 3, 2^{i-1}) && \pmod{M_{i-2}} \\
(12) \quad & (2^i, 2^{i-2}(2^3k+5)) \equiv (2^{i+1}(k+1), 2^{i-2}) && \pmod{M_{i-2}} \\
(13) \quad & (2^i, 2^{i-2}(2^3k+6)) \equiv (2^{i+1}(k+1)+2^{i-1}) + (2^{i+1}(k+1), 2^{i-1}) && \pmod{M_{i-2}} \\
(14) \quad & (2^i, 2^{i-2}(2^3k+7)) \equiv 0 && \pmod{M_{i-2}}.
\end{aligned}$$

The following formulas (15) to (18) are used to calculate α_i -images $(2^i, I) \pmod{M_{i-1}}$ ($i=0, 1, \dots$). Similarly as in the above case, we have only to consider $(2^i, 2^{i-1}c)$ with $c \pmod{2^3}$, i. e. $(2^i, 2^{i-1}(2^2k+j))$, $j=0, 1, 2, 3$.

$$\begin{aligned}
(15) \quad & (2^i, 2^{i-1} \cdot 2^2k) \equiv (2^{i+1}k+2^i) && \pmod{M_{i-1}} \\
(16) \quad & (2^i, 2^{i-1}(2^2k+1)) \equiv (2^{i+1}k+2^i, 2^{i-1}) && \pmod{M_{i-1}} \\
(17) \quad & (2^i, 2^{i-1}(2^2k+2)) \equiv 0 && \pmod{M_{i-1}} \\
(18) \quad & (2^i, 2^{i-1}(2^2k+3)) \equiv (2^{i+1}(k+1), 2^{i-1}) && \pmod{M_{i-1}}.
\end{aligned}$$

In calculating α'_n images, we may proceed as follows in utilizing (15) to (18). Let $I = (2^{i-1}c_1, 2^{i-2}c_2, \dots, i_i, \dots, i_r) = (2^{i-1}c_1, I') = (2^{i-1}c_1, 2^{i-2}c_2, I'')$ be an admissible sequence. By (15) to (18), the following three cases occur:

$$\begin{aligned}
1) \quad & (2^i, 2^{i-1}(2^2k_1+1), 2^{i-2}c_2, I'') \\
& \equiv (2^{i-1}(2^2k_1+2), 2^{i-1}, 2^{i-2}c_2, I'') \pmod{M_{i-1}} \quad (2^2k_1+1 \geq c_2) \\
2) \quad & (2^i, 2^{i-1}(2^2k_1+3), 2^{i-2}c_2, I'') \\
& \equiv (2^{i-1} \cdot 2^2(k_1+1), 2^{i-1}, 2^{i-2}c_2, I'') \pmod{M_{i-1}} \quad (2^2k_1+3 \geq c_2) \\
3) \quad & (2^i, 2^{i-1} \cdot 2^2k_1, 2^{i-2}c_2, I'') \\
& \equiv (2^{i-1}(2^2k_1+2), 2^{i-2}c_2, I'') \pmod{M_{i-1}} \quad (2^2k_1 \geq c_2).
\end{aligned}$$

The right hand side of 3) is obviously admissible. Those of 1) and 2) may not be admissible. Then we transform $(2^{i-1}, 2^{i-2}c_2)$ again by (15) to (18). Let $c_2 = 2^2k_1+1$ in 1), then $(2^{i-1}(2^2k_1+2), 2^{i-1}, 2^{i-2}c_2, I'')$ $= (2^{i-1}(2^2k_1+2), 2^{i-1}, 2^{i-2}(2^2k_1+1), I'') = (2^{i-1}(2^2k_1+1), 2^i k_1 + 2^{i-1}, 2^{i-2}, I'')$ by (16), and then $2^{i-1}(2^2k_1+2) - 2(2^i k_1 + 2^{i-1}) = 0$. Therefore the result satisfies the admissibility condition for the first two terms. The same is also true in case

$2^2k_1+1 > c_2$ as is easily seen. Let $c_2=2^2k_1+3$ in 2), then $(2^{i-1} \cdot 2^2(k_1+1), 2^{i-1}, 2^{i-2}c_2, I'') = (2^{i-1} \cdot 2^2(k_1+1), 2^{i-1}, 2^{i-2}(2^2k_1+3), I'') = (2^{i-1} \cdot 2^2(k_1+1), 2^i(k_1+1), 2^{i-2}, I'')$ by (18), and then $2^{i-1} \cdot 2^2(k_1+1) - 2\{2^i(k_1+1)\} = 0$. Again the result satisfies the admissibility condition for the first two terms, and this is also true in case $2^2k_1+3 > c_2$. Thus we may calculate α'_n images straightforwardly beginning by the 'head'.

THEOREM 2. *The sequence*

$$A^*(Z_2, Z_2)/M_n \xrightarrow{\beta_{n+3}} A^*(Z_2, Z_2)/M_{n+1} \xrightarrow{\alpha_{n+3}} A^*(Z_2, Z_2)/M_{n+2}$$

is exact for $n = -2, -1, 0, 1, 2, \dots$.

PROOF. $\text{Im } \beta_{n+3} \subset \text{Ker } \alpha_{n+3}$ is easily seen by putting $i = n+3$ and $k = 0$ in (17). Now we shall show that $\text{Ker } \alpha_{n+3} \subset \text{Im } \beta_{n+3}$ by induction. If $n = -2$, we obtain by putting $i = 1$ in (15) to (18),

$$\begin{aligned} (2, 2^2k) &\equiv (2^2k+2) && \text{mod } M_0 \\ (2, 2^2k+1) &\equiv (2^2k+2, 1) && \text{mod } M_0 \\ (2, 2^2k+2) &\equiv 0 && \text{mod } M_0 \\ (2, 2^2k+3) &\equiv (2^2(k+1), 1) && \text{mod } M_0. \end{aligned}$$

Therefore the kernel of α_1 is generated by

$$\begin{aligned} &(2^2k+2, i_2, \dots, i_r), \\ &(2^2k_1+1, 2k_2+1, i_3, \dots, i_r), \\ &(2^2k_1+3, 2k_2+1, i_3, \dots, i_r) \text{ and} \\ &(2^2k_1+1, 2k_2, i_3, \dots, i_r) + (2^2k_1, 2k_2+1, i_3, \dots, i_r). \end{aligned}$$

Put $i = 1$ in (7), (9), (11) and (13), then we obtain

$$\begin{aligned} (2, 2^2k) &= (2^2k+2) + (2^2k+1, 1) \\ (2, 2^2k+1) &= (2^2k+2, 1) \\ (2, 2^2k+2) &= (2^2k+3, 1) \\ (2, 2^2k+3) &= (2^2(k+1)+1) + (2^2(k+1), 1). \end{aligned}$$

Thus

$$\begin{aligned} (2, 2^2k_1, 2k_2+1, i_3, \dots, i_r) &= (2^2k_1+2, 2k_2+1, i_3, \dots, i_r) \\ (2, 2^2k_1, 2k_2, i_3, \dots, i_r) + (2, 2^2(k_1-1)+3, 2k_2+1, i_3, \dots, i_r) &= (2^2k_1+2, 2k_2, i_3, \dots, i_r) \\ (2, 2^2(k_1-1)+3, 2k_2+1, i_3, \dots, i_r) &= (2^2k_1+1, 2k_2+1, i_3, \dots, i_r) \\ (2, 2^2k_1+2, 2k_2, i_3, \dots, i_r) &= (2^2k_1+3, 2k_2+1, i_3, \dots, i_r) \\ (2, 2^2(k_1-1)+3, 2k_2, i_3, \dots, i_r) &= (2^2k_1+1, 2k_2, i_3, \dots, i_r) + (2^2k_1, 2k_2+1, i_3, \dots, i_r). \end{aligned}$$

This shows that $\text{Ker } \alpha_1 \subset \text{Im } \beta_1$, and therefore $\text{Ker } \alpha_1 = \text{Im } \beta_1$.

Assume, inductively, that the theorem is true for integers $< n+3$. Let K_t denote the kernel of α_t for $t < n+3$. Then by our assumption, the α'_t image of $p_{t-2}^{-1} K_t$ is generated by I_j^{t-1} ($j=1, \dots, t$) mod M_{t-2} and $p_{t-2}^{-1} K_t$ is generated by $(2^t, I^{t-3})$ mod M_{t-2} . Under this assumption, we shall prove the following two lemmas. Hereafter we identify K_t with $p_{t-2}^{-1} K_t$.

LEMMA 1. *For simplicity, we denote the numbers of the type $2^{i-1}(2^2k+j)$*

generally with m_i^j ($j=0, 1, 2, 3$, $i=1, 2, 3, \dots$). (m_0^0, m_0^2 will mean even and odd numbers respectively.) Then $\text{Ker } \alpha_{n+3}$ is generated by elements of the following type

$$(19) \quad (m_{n+3}^2, i_2, \dots, i_r)$$

$$(20) \quad (m_{n+3}^1, K_{n+2})$$

$$(21) \quad (m_{n+3}^3, K_{n+2})$$

$$(22) \quad (m_{n+3}^0, I_j^{n+1})$$

$$(23) \quad (m_{n+3}^1, m_{n+2}^0, i_3, \dots, i_r) + (m_{n+3}^0, m_{n+2}^2, i_3, \dots, i_r)$$

$$(24) \quad (m_{n+3}^{\lambda_0}, m_{n+2}^{\lambda_1}, m_{n+1}^{\lambda_2}, \dots, m_{n-k+2}^{\lambda_{k+1}}, i_{k+3}, \dots, i_r)$$

$$+ (m_{n+3}^{\mu_0}, m_{n+2}^{\mu_1}, m_{n+1}^{\mu_2}, \dots, m_{n-k+2}^{\mu_{k+1}}, i_{k+3}, \dots, i_r) \quad k=1, \dots, n+2,$$

where always $\lambda_0=1$, $\lambda_{k+1}=0$, $\mu_0=0$, $\mu_{k+1}=2$ and $\{\lambda_1, \dots, \lambda_k\}$ is any sequence of k terms composed of numbers 1, 3 (such as $\{1, 1\}$, $\{1, 3\}$, $\{3, 1\}$, $\{3, 3\}$ if $k=2$, there are 2^k such sequences) and μ_i is 0 or 2 according as λ_i is 3 or 1.

PROOF. By (17), we immediately see that elements of the type (19) are in $\text{Ker } \alpha_{n+3}$. As easily seen, we have only to consider as generators of $\text{Ker } \alpha_{n+3}$ the elements of the form (m_{n+3}^j, I) and their sums.

Consider first the elements of the form (m_{n+3}^j, K_{n+2}) . By (16), our assumption of induction and (5), (6), we have

$$\begin{aligned} (2^{n+3}, m_{n+3}^1, K_{n+2}) &\equiv (2^{n+3}(2k+1), 2^{n+2}, K_{n+2}) \\ &\equiv \sum (2^{n+3}(2k+1), I_j^{n+1}) \equiv \sum I_j^{n+2} \equiv 0 \quad \text{mod } M_{n+2}. \end{aligned}$$

Thus elements of the type (20) are in $\text{Ker } \alpha_{n+3}$. We see in the same way, that also elements of the type (21) are in $\text{Ker } \alpha_{n+3}$. By (15) to (18), these are obviously only elements of the form (m_{n+3}^j, K_{n+2}) which are in $\text{Ker } \alpha_{n+3}$.

Now consider the elements of the form (m_{n+3}^j, I) where I is not in K_{n+2} . We see immediately by (17) and (15) that elements of the forms (19), (22) are in $\text{Ker } \alpha_{n+3}$, and also that these are only such elements contained in $\text{Ker } \alpha_{n+3}$.

Consider finally elements of the form $(m_{n+3}^j, I) + (m_{n+3}^{j'}, I')$. Generators of $\text{Ker } \alpha_{n+3}$ of this type will be called *compound generators*. By Theorem 1, we must have $j=0$, $j'=1$ or $j=1$, $j'=0$ in the compound generators which are not contained in (20) and (21). To fix the notation, we shall put $j=0$, $j'=1$. Now we have by (15) to (18)

$$(25) \quad (2^{n+3}, m_{n+3}^1, m_{n+2}^0, i_3, \dots, i_r) \equiv (m_{n+3}^2, m_{n+2}^2, i_3, \dots, i_r) \quad \text{mod } M_{n+2}$$

$$(26) \quad (2^{n+3}, m_{n+3}^1, m_{n+2}^1, i_3, \dots, i_r) \equiv (m_{n+3}^2, m_{n+2}^2, 2^{n+1}, i_3, \dots, i_r) \quad \text{mod } M_{n+2}$$

$$(2^{n+3}, m_{n+3}^1, m_{n+2}^2, i_3, \dots, i_r) \equiv 0 \quad \text{mod } M_{n+2}$$

$$(27) \quad (2^{n+3}, m_{n+3}^1, m_{n+2}^3, i_3, \dots, i_r) \equiv (m_{n+3}^2, m_{n+2}^0, 2^{n+1}, i_3, \dots, i_r) \quad \text{mod } M_{n+2}.$$

And similarly

$$(28) \quad (2^{n+3}, m_{n+3}^0, m_{n+2}^0, i_3, \dots, i_r) \equiv (m_{n+3}^2, m_{n+2}^0, i_3, \dots, i_r) \pmod{M_{n+2}}$$

$$(29) \quad (2^{n+3}, m_{n+3}^0, m_{n+2}^1, i_3, \dots, i_r) \equiv (m_{n+3}^2, m_{n+2}^1, i_3, \dots, i_r) \pmod{M_{n+2}}$$

$$(30) \quad (2^{n+3}, m_{n+3}^0, m_{n+2}^2, i_3, \dots, i_r) \equiv (m_{n+3}^2, m_{n+2}^2, i_3, \dots, i_r) \pmod{M_{n+2}}$$

$$(31) \quad (2^{n+3}, m_{n+3}^0, m_{n+2}^3, i_3, \dots, i_r) \equiv (m_{n+3}^2, m_{n+2}^3, i_3, \dots, i_r) \pmod{M_{n+2}}.$$

Thus we see that the sum of (25) and (30), i. e. (23) is in $\text{Ker } \alpha_{n+3}$. These are obviously only compound generators of $\text{Ker } \alpha_{n+3}$ determined by first two terms. For (26) and (30) we compare further by (15) to (18)

$$(32) \quad (2^{n+3}, m_{n+3}^1, m_{n+2}^1, m_{n+1}^0, i_4, \dots, i_r) \equiv (m_{n+3}^2, m_{n+2}^2, 2^{n+1}, m_{n+1}^0, i_4, \dots, i_r) \\ \equiv (m_{n+3}^2, m_{n+2}^2, m_{n+1}^2, i_4, \dots, i_r) \pmod{M_{n+2}}$$

$$(33) \quad (2^{n+3}, m_{n+3}^1, m_{n+2}^1, m_{n+1}^1, i_4, \dots, i_r) \equiv (m_{n+3}^2, m_{n+2}^2, 2^{n+1}, m_{n+1}^1, i_4, \dots, i_r) \\ \equiv (m_{n+3}^2, m_{n+2}^2, m_{n+1}^2, 2^n, i_4, \dots, i_r) \pmod{M_{n+2}}$$

$$(34) \quad (2^{n+3}, m_{n+3}^1, m_{n+2}^1, m_{n+1}^2, i_4, \dots, i_r) \\ \equiv (m_{n+3}^2, m_{n+2}^2, 2^{n+1}, m_{n+1}^2, i_4, \dots, i_r) \equiv 0 \pmod{M_{n+2}}$$

$$(35) \quad (2^{n+3}, m_{n+3}^1, m_{n+2}^1, m_{n+1}^3, i_4, \dots, i_r) \equiv (m_{n+3}^2, m_{n+2}^2, 2^{n+1}, m_{n+1}^3, i_4, \dots, i_r) \\ \equiv (m_{n+3}^2, m_{n+2}^2, m_{n+1}^0, 2^n, i_4, \dots, i_r) \pmod{M_{n+2}}.$$

$$(36) \quad (2^{n+3}, m_{n+3}^0, m_{n+2}^2, m_{n+1}^0, i_4, \dots, i_r) \equiv (m_{n+3}^2, m_{n+2}^2, m_{n+1}^0, i_4, \dots, i_r) \pmod{M_{n+2}}$$

$$(37) \quad (2^{n+3}, m_{n+3}^0, m_{n+2}^2, m_{n+1}^1, i_4, \dots, i_r) \equiv (m_{n+3}^2, m_{n+2}^2, m_{n+1}^1, i_4, \dots, i_r) \pmod{M_{n+2}}$$

$$(38) \quad (2^{n+3}, m_{n+3}^0, m_{n+2}^2, m_{n+1}^2, i_4, \dots, i_r) \equiv (m_{n+3}^2, m_{n+2}^2, m_{n+1}^2, i_4, \dots, i_r) \pmod{M_{n+2}}$$

$$(39) \quad (2^{n+3}, m_{n+3}^0, m_{n+2}^2, m_{n+1}^3, i_4, \dots, i_r) \equiv (m_{n+3}^2, m_{n+2}^2, m_{n+1}^3, i_4, \dots, i_r) \pmod{M_{n+2}}.$$

By comparing (32) and (38), we see that

$$(m_{n+3}^1, m_{n+2}^1, m_{n+1}^0, i_4, \dots, i_r) + (m_{n+3}^0, m_{n+2}^2, m_{n+1}^2, i_4, \dots, i_r)$$

is in $\text{Ker } \alpha_{n+3}$. In the same way we see that

$$(m_{n+3}^1, m_{n+2}^3, m_{n+1}^0, i_4, \dots, i_r) + (m_{n+3}^0, m_{n+2}^2, m_{n+1}^2, i_4, \dots, i_r)$$

is also in $\text{Ker } \alpha_{n+3}$. Thus we obtain as compound generators of $\text{Ker } \alpha_{n+3}$ elements of the form (24) with $k=1$, and these are obviously only compound generators determined by first three terms. Other compound generators are obtained in the same way.

LEMMA 2. $\text{Ker } \alpha_{n+3} \subset \text{Im } \beta_{n+3}$.

PROOF. We can see as follows that the generators of the $\text{Ker } \alpha_{n+3}$ are the elements of $\text{Im } \beta_{n+3}$ by referring to the formulas (7) to (14). For (19), we have

$$(m_{n+3}^2, I) \equiv (2^{n+3}, m_{n+3}^0, I) + (2^{n+3}, 2^{n+4}(k-1) + 2^{n+1} \cdot 6, 2^{n+2}, I) \\ + (2^{n+3}, 2^{n+4}(k-1) + 2^{n+1} \cdot 5, 2^{n+2}, 2^{n+1}, I) \pmod{M_{n+1}}.$$

For (20), since $(m_{n+3}^1, K_{n+2}) \equiv \Sigma(m_{n+3}^1, 2^{n+2}, I^{n-1}) \pmod{M_n}$ by the inductive hypothesis,

$$\begin{aligned} (m_{n+3}^1, 2^{n+2}, I^{n-1}) &\equiv (2^{n+3}, 2^{n+4}(k-1) + 2^{n+1} \cdot 6, 2^{n+2}, I^{n-1}) \\ &\quad + (2^{n+3}, 2^{n+4}(k-1) + 2^{n+1} \cdot 5, 2^{n+2}, 2^{n+1}, I^{n-1}) \pmod{M_{n+1}}. \end{aligned}$$

For (21), we have

$$(m_{n+3}^3, K_{n+2}) = \Sigma(m_{n+3}^3, 2^{n+1}, I^{n-1}) \equiv \Sigma(2^{n+3}, m_{n+3}^2, I^{n-1}) \pmod{M_{n+1}}.$$

For (22),

$$\begin{aligned} (m_{n+3}^0, I^{n+1}) &= (m_{n+3}^0, 2^{n+2}, K_{n+2}) \equiv \Sigma(m_{n+3}^0, 2^{n+2}, 2^{n+2}, I^{n-1}) \\ &\equiv \Sigma(2^{n+3}, 2^{n+4}(k-1) + 2^{n+1} \cdot 5, 2^{n+2}, 2^{n+1}, I^{n-1}) \pmod{M_{n+1}}. \end{aligned}$$

For (23), we have

$$\begin{aligned} (m_{n+3}^1, m_{n+2}^0, I) &+ (m_{n+3}^0, m_{n+2}^2, I) \\ &\equiv (2^{n+3}, 2^{n+4}(k-1) + 2^{n+1} \cdot 6, m_{n+2}^0, I) + (2^{n+3}, 2^{n+4}(k-1) + 2^{n+1} \cdot 5, m_{n+2}^0, 2^{n+1}, I) \pmod{M_{n+1}}. \end{aligned}$$

For (24), we have in case $k=1$,

$$\begin{aligned} (m_{n+3}^1, m_{n+2}^1, m_{n+1}^0, I) &+ (m_{n+3}^0, m_{n+2}^2, m_{n+1}^2, I) \equiv (2^{n+3}, m_{n+3}^3, m_{n+2}^1, m_{n+1}^0, I) \pmod{M_{n+1}}. \\ (m_{n+3}^1, m_{n+2}^3, m_{n+1}^0, I) &+ (m_{n+3}^0, m_{n+2}^0, m_{n+1}^2, I) \\ &\equiv (2^{n+3}, m_{n+3}^3, m_{n+2}^3, m_{n+1}^0, I) + (2^{n+3}, 2^{n+4}(k-1) + 2^{n+1} \cdot 5, m_{n+2}^0, m_{n+1}^0, I) \pmod{M_{n+1}}. \end{aligned}$$

Also in case $k > 1$ we can proceed in the same way.

By this Lemma 2, we have $\text{Ker } \alpha_{n+3} = \text{Im } \beta_{n+3}$. This asserts the exactness of the sequence. Q. E. D.

Tokyo Woman's Christian College.
(Tokyo Joshi Daigaku)

References

- [1] J.P. Serre, Cohomologie modulo 2 des complexes d'Eilenberg-MacLane, Comment. Math. Helv., 27 (1953), pp. 198-282.
- [2] J. Adem, The iteration of the Steenrod squares in algebraic topology, Proc. Nat. Acad. Sci. U.S.A., 38 (1952), pp. 720-726.
- [3] J. Adem, The relations on Steenrod powers of cohomology classes, Algebraic Geometry and Topology, Princeton, (1957), pp. 191-238.
- [4] H. Cartan, Sur l'iteration des opérations de Steenrod, Comment. Math. Helv., 29 (1955), pp. 40-58.
- [5] T. Yamanoshita, Sûgaku, 8 (1956), pp. 33-37, (in Japanese).