

# A note on homotopy spheres

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## § 0. Introduction

All manifolds will mean compact oriented smooth manifolds without any further notices. In [5] J. Milnor and M. Kervaire has determined  $bP_m$ , the group of homotopy spheres which bound parallelizable manifolds. If  $m = 4k$  ( $k \neq 1$ ), then  $bP_{4k}$  is the cyclic group of order  $\sigma_k/8$ . In this paper we will consider the group of homotopy spheres which bound manifolds of dim  $m$ , whose Spivak normal fiber spaces are trivial. We denote it by  $bF_m$ . We show that there exists an analogy of the above fact for  $bF_m$ . We define  $bF_m^0$  to be the group of homotopy spheres which bound manifolds of dim  $m$  whose Spivak normal fiber spaces are trivial and whose indexes are zero. Then  $bF_m^0$  is a subgroup of  $bF_m$ . Let  $f_k$  be  $1/8 \min \{n \in \mathbb{Z} \mid n \text{ is the index of a closed manifold of dim } 4k \text{ whose Spivak normal fiber space is trivial. } n > 0\}$ . Then we have

**THEOREM 0. 1** i) If  $m \geq 6$ , then  $bF_m = bP_m$ . ii) If  $m = 4k$ , then the group  $bF_m/bF_m^0$  is isomorphic to a cyclic group of order  $f_k$ .

**THEOREM 0. 2** Let  $d_{2n}$  be the greatest common divisor of  $2^{4n-2}(2^{4n-1}-1)$  numerator  $(B_m/4m)$  and  $2 \left\{ 2^{2n-1} \cdot (2^{2n-1}-1) \cdot a_n \cdot \text{numerator} \left( \frac{B_n}{4n} \right) \right\}^2$ . Then  $f_{2n} \leq d_{2n}$ . Especially if  $k=1$ , then  $f_2=4$  which is equivalent to  $bF_8^0 \cong \mathbb{Z}_7$ .

§ 1 is devoted to preliminaries. Theorem 0.1 will be proved in § 2. In § 3 we will give some computations and a proof of Theorem 0.2.

## § 1. Preliminaries

We quote some results due to D. Sullivan [8]. Let  $F/0$  be the fiber of the map,  $BSO \rightarrow BSF$ . Let  $W$  be a simply connected manifold with a boundary  $\partial W \neq \emptyset$ . Let  $hS(W)$  denote the concordance classes of  $h$ -smoothings  $h: (W', \partial W') \rightarrow (W, \partial W)$  of  $W$ .

(1.1) If  $\dim W \geq 6$ , then there is a bijection  $\eta, hS(W) \rightarrow [W, F/0]$ . Moreover if a  $h$ -smoothing,  $h: (W', \partial W') \rightarrow (W, \partial W)$  corresponds to  $f: W \rightarrow F/0$  by  $\eta$ , then the stable tangent bundle  $\tau_{w'}$  of  $W'$  is equivalent to  $h^* \tau_w \oplus h^* f^*(\gamma)$ , where  $\gamma$  is a universal  $F/0$ -bundle [8, 9].

If  $\partial W$  is a homotopy sphere of  $\dim \partial W = m-1$ , let a map  $\bar{d}: hS(W) \rightarrow \theta_{m-1}$  be defined as follows.  $\theta_{m-1}$  denotes the group of homotopy spheres of

$\dim = m-1$ . Let  $h$  be as above and  $\alpha$  the class of  $h$ . Then we put  $\bar{d}(\alpha) = \{\partial W - \partial W'\}$ . Let  $\hat{W} = W \cup_{\partial W} C(\partial W)$ , where  $C$  is cone and  $\bar{d} \circ \eta^{-1} = d$ . D. Sullivan has defined a surgery obstruction  $\mathcal{S}: [\hat{W}, F/0] \rightarrow \mathbf{Z}$  if  $m=4k$ . Let  $\gamma: [W, F/0] \rightarrow [W, F/0]$  be a restriction. Then we have the following commutative diagram which is implicit in [8].

$$(1.2) \quad \begin{array}{ccccc} & \mathcal{S} & & & \\ [W, F/0] & \longrightarrow & \mathbf{Z} & \longrightarrow & \mathbf{Z}\sigma_k/8 \\ \downarrow & & & & \downarrow \\ [W, F/0] & \longrightarrow & \theta_{4k-1} & \longrightarrow & bP_{4k} \end{array}$$

We call a manifold  $W$  *F-parallelizable* if its Spivak normal fiber space is trivial. As an immediate consequence of (1.1) we have the following

**COROLLARY 1.2.** *Let  $W$  be a simply connected F-parallelizable manifold with  $\partial W \neq \emptyset$  and  $\dim W \geq 6$ . Then there exists a  $h$ -smoothing,  $h: (W', \partial W') \rightarrow (W, \partial W)$  so that  $W'$  is a parallelizable manifold.*

(PROOF) Since  $W$  is *F-parallelizable*, we can choose a spherical trivialization  $t$  of the stable normal bundle  $\nu_w$  of  $W$ . Then  $(\nu_w, t)$  is an  $F/0$ -bundle [8, 9] and there is a map  $f: W \rightarrow F/0$  so that  $f^*(\gamma) = \nu_w$ . Then  $h: (W', \partial W') \rightarrow (W, \partial W)$  corresponding to  $f$  is what we want.

We use (1.2) in §3.

## §2. $bF_m$ and $bF_m^0$

It follows from [6, Lemma 1] that an almost parallelizable closed manifold is *F-parallelizable*. Let  $W$  be an *F-parallelizable* manifold with  $\partial W$  a homotopy sphere.  $\hat{W} = W \cup_{\partial W} C(\partial W)$  is a *p.l.* manifold. Then we have

**LEMMA 2.1**  *$\hat{W}$  is an F-parallelizable p.l. manifold.*

(PROOF) The proof is the same as that of [6, Lemma 1] by considering in piecewise linear category.

By Lemma 2.1 we need not consider an almost *F-parallelizable* manifold.

**PROOF OF THEOREM 0.1** i) Let  $\Sigma$  bound an *F-parallelizable* manifold  $W$ . We embed  $W$  in  $D^{N+1}$  ( $N$  is sufficiently large) so that  $\Sigma \subset S^N$ . If we choose a spherical trivialization  $t$  of the normal disk bundle of  $W$ , then it follows from Lemma 2.1 that  $t|_{\Sigma}$  is reduced to a framing. If we consider the construction of the homomorphism,  $\theta_{m-1}/bP_m \rightarrow \Pi_{m-1}^S/\text{Im } J$  [5, Theorem 4.1], then it is easy to see  $bF_m/bP_m \rightarrow \Pi_{m-1}^S/\text{Im } J$  is a zero map, which completes the proof.

**LEMMA 2.2** *If  $W^{4k}$  is an F-parallelizable closed manifold, then the index of  $W$  ( $\equiv I(W)$ ) is divisible by 8.*

(PROOF) Let  $\nu_w$  be a stable normal bundle of  $W$ ,  $E$  its associated disk bundle and  $t: E \rightarrow D^N$ , a spherical trivialization of  $E$  so that  $t$  is transverse regular on zero of unit  $N$ -disk  $D^N$ . If we put  $W' = t^{-1}(0)$ , and  $\pi$  the projection:  $W' \rightarrow W$ , then  $\tau_{w'} \oplus \varepsilon^N = \pi^* \tau_w \oplus \pi^* \nu_w$ . Since

$$\begin{array}{ccc} -(\tau_w + \varepsilon^N) & \rightarrow & -\pi^*(\tau_w \oplus \nu_w) \\ \downarrow & & \downarrow \\ W' & \longrightarrow & W \end{array}$$

is a normal map,  $I(W) - I(W')$  is divisible by 8.  $I(W') = 0$ , since  $W'$  is parallelizable, so  $I(W)$  is divisible by 8.

LEMMA 2.3 Let  $\Sigma_i$  bound  $F$ -parallelizable manifold  $W_i$  of  $\dim 4k$  ( $i=0, 1$ ). Then  $\Sigma_0 - \Sigma_1 \in bF_{4k}^0$  if and only if  $I(W_0) \equiv I(W_1) \pmod{8 \cdot f_k}$

(PROOF) The proof is just the same as that of [5, Theorem 7.5].

PROOF OF THEOREM 0.1 ii) We can define an injective homomorphism;  $bF_{4k}/bF_{4k}^0 \rightarrow \mathbb{Z}_{f_k}$  by mapping  $\Sigma_0$  into  $1/8 I(W_0) \pmod{f_k}$ . It follows from Theorem 0.1, i) that this is surjective.

### § 3. On the number $f_k$ and computations

Let  $(W, \Sigma)$  be an  $F$ -parallelizable manifold of  $\dim 4k$ . Then the image  $d([W, F/0])$  is contained in  $bF_{4k}^0$ . In fact, if  $h; (W', \partial W') \rightarrow (W, \partial W)$  is a  $h$ -smoothing, then  $W'$  becomes an  $F$ -parallelizable manifold [2, Theorem 3.6] and  $I(W \# W') = I(W) - I(W') = 0$ . Moreover we will show Lemma 3.3. So we can give some elements of  $bF_{4k}^0$  by using (1.2) if we choose a convenient manifold  $W$ . In the sequel let  $W^{4k}$  satisfy the following conditions (C); 1)  $\partial W$  is a homotopy sphere, 2)  $W$  is parallelizable, 3)  $W$  is  $(2k-1)$  connected, 4)  $H_{2k}(W; \mathbb{Z})$  is of rank  $l$ . Then  $H_{2k}(W)$  becomes a free module of rank  $l$ . Then  $W$  has the homotopy type of  $\bigvee_{i=1}^l S_i^{2k}$ . Let  $\alpha$  be the composition map;

$S_{4k-1} \xrightarrow{h} \partial W \hookrightarrow W \xrightarrow{\beta} \bigvee_{i=1}^l S_i^{2k} \rightarrow S^{2k}$ , where  $S_{4k-1} \rightarrow \partial W$  is a map of degree 1,  $h$  a homotopy equivalence,  $\beta$  any map.

LEMMA 3.1 Let  $W$  and  $\alpha$  be as above, then the suspension of  $\alpha$  is zero.

(PROOF) Let  $V = W \cup_{\partial W} (W - \text{Int } D^{4k})$ . There is an extension  $\tilde{R}$  over  $V$  of  $\alpha$ . In fact, since  $\partial W$  is a retraction of  $(W - \text{Int } D^{4k})$ , we have a retract  $R; (W - \text{Int } D^{4k}) \rightarrow \Sigma$ . It is clear that  $R|_{S^{4k-1}}; S^{4k-1} \rightarrow \Sigma$  is of degree 1. Consider the following diagram,

$$\begin{array}{ccc} \Pi_{4k-1}(S^{2k}) & \longrightarrow & \Pi_{2k-1}^s \\ & \searrow A_1 & \downarrow A_2 \\ & & \Omega_{2k-1}^{fr} \end{array}$$

, where both  $A_1$  and  $A_2$  are the homomorphism constructed by the usual transversal arguments. We fix an framing of  $\tau_V$  which is induced from that of  $W \cup (-W)$ . Let  $\bar{R}$  be transversal regular on the base point of  $S^{2k}$  and  $\bar{R}^{-1}(pt) = N$ . Then  $A_1(\alpha) = [\partial N \text{ with an induced framing}] = 0$ . Q. E. D.

PROPOSITION 3.2 *If (C) without (2) holds for  $W$ ,  $k=2n$ , and  $\xi \in \tilde{K}0(\hat{W})$ , then  $\langle ph(\xi), [\hat{W}] \rangle \equiv 0 \pmod{1}$ .*

(PROOF) Let  $k$  be the inverse map of  $h$ . Since  $\tilde{K}0(\bigvee_{i=1}^l S_i^{4n}) \cong \bigoplus_{i=1}^l \tilde{K}0(S_i^{4n}) \cong \mathbb{Z} \oplus \cdots \oplus \mathbb{Z}$ , we write an element  $k^*(i_w)^*(\xi)$  by  $(b_1, b_2, \dots, b_l)$ . Let  $\beta: \bigvee_{i=1}^l S_i^{4n} \rightarrow S^{4n}$  be a map represented by degree  $(b_1, b_2, \dots, b_l)$ . Then  $\beta^*(1) = (b_1, \dots, b_l)$ . We define  $\alpha$  as in Lemma 3.1 by using  $\beta$ .  $\alpha$  induces a map  $\hat{\alpha}: \hat{W} \rightarrow S^{4n} \cup e^{8n}$ .

Consider the following two exact sequences,

$$\begin{array}{ccccccc} 0 & \longrightarrow & \tilde{K}0(S^{8n}) & \xrightarrow{p_*} & \tilde{K}0(S^{4n} \cup e^{8n}) & \xrightarrow{(i_{S^{4n}})^*} & \tilde{K}0(S^{4n}) \longrightarrow 0 \\ & & \parallel & & \downarrow (\hat{\alpha})^* & & \downarrow h^* \circ \beta^* \\ 0 & \longrightarrow & \tilde{K}0(S^{8n}) & \xrightarrow{p_*} & \tilde{K}0(\hat{W}) & \xrightarrow{(i_w)^*} & \tilde{K}0(\bigvee_{i=1}^l S_i^{4n}) \longrightarrow 0. \end{array}$$

Let  $x$  be an element of  $\tilde{K}0(S^{4n} \cup e^{8n})$  so that  $(i_{S^{4n}})^*x = 1$ . Then  $(i_w)^*(\xi - (\hat{\alpha})^*x) = 0$ , so there exists an element  $y \in \tilde{K}0(S^{8n})$  so that  $\xi - (\hat{\alpha})^*y = p^*y$ .  $\langle ph(\xi), [\hat{W}] \rangle = \langle ph((\hat{\alpha})^*x), [\hat{W}] \rangle + \langle ph(p^*y), [\hat{W}] \rangle = \langle phx, (\hat{\alpha})_*[\hat{W}] \rangle + \langle phy, [S^{8n}] \rangle \equiv a_n (e \text{ invariant of } \alpha) \pmod{1}$ . It follows from Lemma 3.1 that  $e$  invariant of  $\alpha = 0(1)$ . Q. E. D.

LEMMA 3.3 *If  $W$  is a simply connected  $F$ -parallelizable manifold whose boundary is a homotopy sphere  $\Sigma$ , and  $\dim W \geq 6$ , then  $r; [\hat{W}, F/0] \rightarrow [W, F/0]$  is onto.*

(PROOF) Consider the exact sequence;  $[\hat{W}, F/0] \rightarrow [W, F/0] \rightarrow [\Sigma, F/0]$ . The image  $d([W, F/0])$  is contained in  $bF_m$ , that is, in  $bP_m$ . The commutativity of the following diagram shows that the map  $[W, F/0] \rightarrow [\Sigma, F/0]$  is a zero map

$$\begin{array}{ccc} hs(W) & \longrightarrow & [W, F/0] \\ \downarrow & & \downarrow \\ bP_m & \longrightarrow & hs(\Sigma) = \theta_{m-1} \longrightarrow [\Sigma, F/0]. \end{array} \quad \text{Q. E. D.}$$

For the rest of this section we will prove the following

THEOREM 3.4 *Let (C) hold for  $W$  and  $l \neq 0$ . If  $k=2n$ , then the image*

$d([\hat{W}, F/0])$  consists of all  $\left\{2^{2n-1}(2^{2n-1}-1) \cdot a_n \text{ numerator } \left(\frac{B_n}{4n}\right)^2 \cdot \varphi(b_1, \dots, b_l) \pmod{\sigma_k/8}\right\}$ , where  $\varphi$  is a quadratic form associated with the pairing  $H_{2k}(\hat{W}) \otimes H_{2k} \hat{W}(\cdot) \rightarrow H_{4k}(\hat{W})$  and  $b_i$  are integers. If  $k$ ; odd, then the image  $d([\hat{W}, F/0])=0$ .

(PROOF) According to [1, Theorem 3. 7], the image of  $i_*; \pi_{4n}(F/0) \rightarrow \pi_{4n}(BSO) \cong \mathbb{Z}$  is generated by  $m(2n)$ . In the diagram

$$\begin{array}{ccccc} [S^{8n}, F/0] & \xrightarrow{P_*} & [\hat{W}, F/0] & \xrightarrow{r_*} & [W, F/0] \cong \bigoplus_1^l \pi_{4n}(F/0) \\ \downarrow i_* & & \downarrow i_* & & \downarrow i_* \\ [S^{8n}, BSO] & \xrightarrow{P_*} & [\hat{W}, BSO] & \xrightarrow{r_*} & [W, BSO] \cong \bigoplus_1^l \pi_{4n}(BSO) \end{array}$$

, we can choose elements  $v_i$  ( $i=1, 2, \dots, l$ ) so that  $i_* r_*(v_i) = m(2n)$  since  $r_*$  is onto [Lemma 3. 3]. For any element  $x$  of  $[\hat{W}, F/0]$  there exists elements  $y$  of  $\pi_{8n}(F/0)$ ,  $z$  of  $[\hat{W}, F/0]$  and integers  $b_i$  ( $i=1, 2, \dots, l$ ) so that  $i_* x = P_* y + i_*(\sum b_i v_i) + i_* z$  and  $i_* r_* z = 0$ . Then  $\mathcal{S}(x) = 1/8 \langle L(\hat{W}) (1 - L(i_* x)), [\hat{W}] \rangle = -1/8 \langle L_{2n}(i_* x), [\hat{W}] \rangle = -1/8 \langle \sum_{i=1}^l L_{2n}(b_i v_i) + L_{2n}(P_* y) + L_{2n}(i_* z) + \sum_{i < j} b_i b_j L_n(v_i) L_n(v_j), [\hat{W}] \rangle = -1/8 \langle \sum_{i=1}^l \frac{1}{2} S_n^2 b_i^2 p_n^2(v_i) + \sum_{i < j} b_i b_j S_n^2 p_n(v_i) p_n(v_j), [\hat{W}] \rangle = - \left\langle \frac{1}{4} S_n \cdot m(2n) \cdot a_n \cdot (2n-1)! \left( \sum_{i=1}^l b_i u_i \right)^2, [\hat{W}] \right\rangle = - \left\{ \frac{1}{4} S_n \cdot m(2n) \cdot a_n (2n-1)! \right\}^2 \varphi(b_1, \dots, b_l) = - \left\{ 2^{2n-1}(2^{2n-1}-1) a_n \cdot \text{numerator} \left( \frac{B_n}{4n} \right)^2 \varphi(b_1, \dots, b_l) \right\}$ . Here we used the following facts and Lemma 3. 5.

(1)  $L_{2n} = s_{2n} p_{2n} + 1/2(s_n^2 - s_{2n}) p_n^2 + \text{other terms}$ , where  $s_n = \frac{2^{2n}(2^{2n-1}-1)}{(2n)!} B_n$  ( $n \geq 1$ ). [4]

(2) Let  $v_i$  and  $u_i$  be the generators of  $\tilde{K}0(S^{4n})$  and  $H^{4n}(S^{4n})$  respectively. Then  $p_n(v_i) = a_n \cdot (2n-1)! u_i$ . If  $k$  is odd, then  $i_*; \pi_{2k}(F/0) \rightarrow \pi_{2k}(BSO)$  is zero. And the similar argument show the assertion. Q.E.D.

LEMMA 3. 5 For an element  $\xi$  of  $[\hat{W}, F/0]$ ,  $1/8 \langle L_{2n}(i_* \xi), [\hat{W}] \rangle \equiv 1/8 \langle 1/2 s_n^2 p_n^2(\xi), [W] \rangle \pmod{\sigma_{2n}/8}$ , where  $W$  is in Proposition 3. 2.

(PROOF) It follows from (1) that we need to prove  $1/8 \langle s_{2n}(p_{2n}(\xi) - 1/2 p_n^2(\xi)), [\hat{W}] \rangle \equiv 0 \pmod{\sigma_{2n}/8}$ . By [7], we may write  $i_* \xi = \sum_i k_i^{e_i} (\phi_R^{k_i} - 1)(\xi_i)$  for some integers  $k_i, e_i$  and  $\xi_i \in \tilde{K}0(\hat{W})$ .  $1/8 \langle s_{2n}(p_{2n}(\xi) - 1/2 p_n^2(\xi)), [\hat{W}] \rangle = \langle 2^{4n-2}(2^{4n-1}-1) \frac{B_{2n}}{8n} \cdot ph(\xi), [\hat{W}] \rangle = 2^{4n-2}(2^{4n-1}-1) \frac{B_{2n}}{8n} \sum_i k_i^{e_i} (k_i^{4n} - 1) \langle ph(\xi_i), [\hat{W}] \rangle$ .

It follows from [1, p. 139] and Proposition 3. 2. Q.E.D.

PROOF OF THEOREM 0. 2 The first part of Theorem 0. 2 follows from Theorem 3. 4. since there exists  $(a_1, \dots, a_l)$  so that  $\varphi(a_1, \dots, a_l) = 2$ . It is sufficient to prove the latter part to show that any homotopy sphere of  $bF_8^0$  is represented in the image  $d$ . Let a homotopy sphere  $\Sigma$  bound an  $F$ -parallelizable manifold with  $I(W) = 0$ . Then we may consider  $W$  3-connected, In fact, we can make  $W$  3-connected by framed surgery, since a spherical trivialization over 3-skelton reduces to a framing. Now we have a  $h$ -smoothing  $h; (W', \partial W') \rightarrow (W, \partial W)$  so that  $W'$  is parallelizable, 3-connected and  $I(W') = 0$ . So  $\Sigma = \partial W \# (-\partial W')$  since  $I(W') = 0$ . Q.E.D.

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