ON THE HOMOTOPY TYPE OF ANR'S

J. H. C. WHITEHEAD

Two maps, f_0 , $f_1: X \to Y$ are said (cf. [1, pp. 49, 50] and [2, p. 344]) to be *n*-homotopic if, and only if, $f_0\phi \simeq f_1\phi$ for every map, $\phi: P \to X$, of every (finite) polyhedron, P, of at most n dimensions. By an *n*-homotopy inverse of a map, $f: X \to Y$, or an *n*-homotopy equivalence we mean the same as a homotopy inverse or a homotopy equivalence with homotopy replaced by n-homotopy throughout the definition.

By a CR-space we shall mean a connected compactum, which is an ANR (absolute neighborhood retract). Any CR-space, X, is dominated by a finite simplicial complex [5, Theorems 12.2, 16.2, pp. 93, 99], even if its dimensionality is infinite. We shall use ΔX to denote the minimum dimensionality of all (finite, simplicial) complexes which dominate X. Then $\Delta X \leq \dim X$ and we may think of ΔX as a kind of "quasi-dimensionality," noticing, however, that ΔX may be less than dim X, even if X is itself a finite polyhedron.

Let X, Y be CR-spaces, and let $N = \max (\Delta X, \Delta Y)$. Let $f: X \to Y$ be a given map and let $f_n: \pi_n(X) \to \pi_n(Y)$ be the homomorphism induced by f. If f is a homotopy equivalence then f_n is an isomorphism onto for each $n \ge 1$. In §3 below we prove a sharper theorem than the converse, namely:

THEOREM 1. If $f_n:\pi_n(X)\to\pi_n(Y)$ is an isomorphism onto for each $n=1, \dots, N$, then $f:X\to Y$ is a homotopy equivalence.³

Received by the editors January 26, 1948.

¹ Cf. [1]. Numbers in brackets refer to the references cited at the end of the paper. ² In this case the homomorphisms $H_n(Y) \to H_n(X)$ induced by $g: Y \to X$ are all onto,

In this case the homomorphisms $H_n(Y) \to H_n(X)$ induced by $g: Y \to X$ are all onto, likewise the induced homomorphisms $\pi_n(Y) \to \pi_n(X)$, assuming X, Y to be arcwise connected. In fact $H_n(Y)$, or $\pi_n(Y)$ ($n \ge 2$), may be represented as the direct sum of $H_n(X)$, or $\pi_n(X)$, and the kernel of this homomorphism.

³ If X and Y are of the same homotopy type, then each dominates the other and $\Delta X = \Delta Y$. Theorem 1 is formulated with a view to applications in which it is possible to calculate separate upper bounds for ΔX , ΔY (for example, dim X, dim Y).

We shall also prove:

THEOREM 2. The map $f: X \to Y$ is an (N-1)-homotopy equivalence if, and only if, $f_n: \pi_n(X) \to \pi_n(Y)$ is an isomorphism onto for each $n=1, \dots, N-1$.

If $\Delta X = \Delta Y = 0$ then it is obvious that X and Y, being connected, are both absolute retracts. Therefore any map, $X \rightarrow Y$, is a homotopy equivalence and Theorem 1, likewise Theorem 3 below, is trivial. Similarly Theorems 2 and 4 are trivial if $N \le 1$. Therefore we shall assume that $N \ge 1$ in Theorems 1 and 3 and $N \ge 2$ in Theorems 2 and 4.

Theorem 2 is significant in the theory of polyhedra or cell complexes. For the (n-1)-homotopy type of the n-section is a homotopy invariant of a given complex K (that is, is the same for any complex of the same homotopy type). It is equivalent to what I have previously called the n-group (see [6] and [7]) of K, but now propose to call the n-type. These statements will be proved in a later paper in which the n-type of a complex will be further discussed.

A map $f: X \to Y$ is not necessarily an m-homotopy equivalence if f_1, \dots, f_m are isomorphisms onto, where m < N-1. For example, let Y be a complex projective plane, let $X \subset Y$ be a 2-sphere, which is a complex line in Y, and let $f: X \to Y$ be the identity. If $g: Y \to X$ were a 2-homotopy inverse of f, then $g \mid X = gf: X \to X$ would be of degree +1 and would therefore induce the identical automorphism of $\pi_3(X)$. But $f_3\pi_3(X) = 0$. Therefore it would be absurd to suppose that $g \mid X$ can be extended to a map $g: Y \to X$.

Theorem 1, restricted to polyhedra and weakened by replacing N by max (dim X+1, dim Y), is essentially a restatement of parts of Theorems 15 and 17 in [6, pp. 273 and 277]. The generalization to CR-spaces was suggested by a theorem proved by Sze-Tsen Hu in [9]. However we do not actually use Hu's theorem. Instead we follow Lefschetz's approach to the subject and eventually deduce Hu's theorem in a modified form. Of course Theorem 1 does not mean that X and Y are necessarily of the same homotopy type if $\pi_n(X) \approx \pi_n(Y)$ for all values of n. The crux of the matter is not merely that $\pi_n(X) \approx \pi_n(Y)$ but that a certain set of isomorphisms, $f_n: \pi_n(X) \to \pi_n(Y)$, can be "realized geometrically" by means of a map $f: X \to Y$. Let X be the universal covering space of a given CR-space, X, with base point $x_0 \in X$. Then a point, $\tilde{x} \in \tilde{X}$, is a homotopy class of

⁴ For example $\pi_n(P^4 \times S^3) \approx \pi_n(S^5 \times S^2)$ for every $n \ge 1$, where P^4 is a complex projective plane and S^7 is an r-sphere. This example is due to Hsien-Chung Wang. For other examples see [10].

paths, with fixed end points, joining x_0 to the point $p\tilde{x} \in X$, where p is the projection, $p: \tilde{X} \rightarrow X$, which is thus defined. Thus \tilde{X} contains a base point, $\tilde{x}_0 \in \tilde{X}$, which corresponds to the constant path on x_0 . If $\pi_1(X) = 1$ we identify \tilde{X} with X, taking $\tilde{x} = p\tilde{x}$. Let $H_n(\tilde{X})$ be the nth homology group of \tilde{X} . Let Y be another CR-space, let \tilde{Y} , $H_n(\tilde{Y})$ be similarly defined and let **p** also denote the projection $p: \tilde{Y} \to Y$. Then a given map $f: X \to Y$ can be "lifted" into a unique map $\tilde{f}: \tilde{X} \to \tilde{Y}$, such that $fp = p\tilde{f}$, $\tilde{f}\tilde{x}_0 = \tilde{y}_0$, where $y_0 = fx_0$ and \tilde{y}_0 are the base points in Y and \tilde{Y} . The map \tilde{f} induces homomorphisms $H_n(\tilde{X})$ $\to H_n(\tilde{Y})$, which we shall also describe as induced by $f: X \to Y$. In particular Y may be a finite, ΔX -dimensional polyhedron, which dominates X, and $f: X \to Y$ a map with a left inverse $g: Y \to X$. Let $\tilde{g}: \tilde{Y} \to \tilde{X}$ be the map obtained by lifting g. Then a homotopy $gf \rightarrow 1$ may be lifted into a homotopy $\tilde{g}\tilde{f}{\longrightarrow}u$, where $u:\tilde{X}{\longrightarrow}\tilde{X}$ is a transformation in the covering group (that is, pu = p). Therefore $u^{-1}\tilde{g}$ is a left homotopy inverse of \tilde{f} (likewise $\tilde{f}u^{-1}$ is a right homotopy inverse of \tilde{g}) and \tilde{Y} dominates \tilde{X} . It follows that $H_n(\tilde{X}) = 0$ if $n > \dim \tilde{Y} = \dim Y = \Delta X$. Therefore, if X, Y are any two CR-spaces, $H_n(\tilde{X}) = 0$, $H_n(\tilde{Y}) = 0$ if $n > \max(\Delta X, \Delta Y)$. We shall prove:

THEOREM 3. If X, Y are any CR-spaces, then a map $f: X \to Y$ is a homotopy equivalence if each of the induced homomorphisms $f_1: \pi_1(X) \to \pi_1(Y)$, $H_n(\tilde{X}) \to H_n(\tilde{Y})$ $(n = 2, 3, \cdots)$ is an isomorphism onto.

As a corollary to this we have:

COROLLARY 1. If X, Y are simply connected CR-spaces, then a map $f: X \rightarrow Y$ is a homotopy equivalence if each of the induced homomorphisms $H_n(X) \rightarrow H_n(Y)$ $(n = 2, 3, \cdots)$ is an isomorphism onto.

Let X be a finite cell complex. Then the groups $H_n(\tilde{X})$ may be defined in terms of chain groups, $C_n(\tilde{X})$, which are free $\Re(X)$ -modules, where $\Re(X)$ is the group ring of $\pi_1(X)$, with integral coefficients. According to Eilenberg and Steenrod a map, $f: X \to Y$, of X into another complex Y, is said to be *cellular* if, and only if, $fX^n \subset Y^n$ for each $n = 0, 1, \cdots$, where X^n , Y^n are the n-sections of

⁵ It is to be understood that all our homology groups are defined, as in [12], in terms of singular chains with integral coefficients.

⁶ That is, a complex of the sort defined on p. 1235 of [7] or in a forthcoming book by S. Eilenberg and N. E. Steenrod.

⁷ Cf. [11, chap IV, §17]. The generalization from ordinary polyhedral complexes to the more general cell complexes will be described in the book by Eilenberg and Steenrod. $C_n(\widetilde{X})$ is the relative homology group $H_n(\widetilde{X}^n, \widetilde{X}^{n-1})$, where \widetilde{X}^r is the r-section of \widetilde{X} . For an account of chain mappings and chain equivalences see [4] and [12].

X, Y. A cellular map, $f: X \to Y$, determines a chain mapping, $\gamma: C_n(\tilde{X}) \to C_n(\tilde{Y})$, which is an operator homomorphism, for each $n = 0, 1, \cdots$, in the sense that $\gamma(\rho c) = (\alpha \rho) \gamma c$, where $\rho \in \Re(X)$, $c \in C_n(\tilde{X})$ and $\alpha: \Re(X) \to \Re(Y)$ is the homomorphism induced by $f_1: \pi_1(X) \to \pi_1(Y)$.

A chain mapping $\gamma: C(\tilde{X}) \to C(\tilde{Y})$ of the family $C(\tilde{X}) = \{C_n(\tilde{X})\}$ into the family $C(\tilde{Y}) = \{C_n(\tilde{Y})\}$ is defined in purely algebraical terms as a homomorphism, $\alpha: \pi_1(X) \to \pi_1(Y)$, together with a family of operator homomorphisms, $\gamma: C_n(\tilde{X}) \to C_n(\tilde{Y})$, such that $\partial \gamma = \gamma \partial$, where ∂ is the boundary operator. If γ is the chain mapping, which is induced by some (cellular) map $f: X \to Y$, then f will be described as a geometrical realization of γ . From Theorem 2 we have the corollary:

COROLLARY 2. If a given chain equivalence $\gamma: C(\tilde{X}) \to C(\tilde{Y})$ has a geometrical realization, $f: X \to Y$, then f is a homotopy equivalence.

This corollary shows that the problem of determining conditions for a given chain mapping to have a geometrical realization is fundamental in the homotopy theory of complexes. In a later paper we shall prove that, if X is at most 3-dimensional, then any chain mapping, $\gamma: C(\tilde{X}) \to C(\tilde{Y})$, has a geometrical realization, subject to certain conditions on $\gamma: C_0(\tilde{X}) \to C_0(\tilde{Y})$.

Let X, Y, $f: X \rightarrow Y$ be as in Theorem 2 and let $N = \max (\Delta X, \Delta Y)$. Then we prove, as a companion to Theorem 2:

THEOREM 4. The map $f: X \to Y$ is an (N-1)-homotopy equivalence if (a) each of the induced homomorphisms $f_1: \pi_1(X) \to \pi_1(Y)$, $H_n(\tilde{X}) \to H_n(\tilde{Y})$ $(n=0, \dots, N-2)$ is an isomorphism onto,

- (b) the induced homomorphism $H_{N-1}(\tilde{X}) \rightarrow H_{N-1}(\tilde{Y})$ is onto,
- (c) $f_{N-1}: \pi_{N-1}(X) \rightarrow \pi_{N-1}(Y)$ is an isomorphism into.

Conversely, if $f: X \to Y$ is an (N-1)-homotopy equivalence, so is the lifted map, $\tilde{f}: \tilde{X} \to \tilde{Y}$, and $H_n(\tilde{X}) \to H_n(\tilde{Y})$ is an isomorphism onto for $n = 0, 1, \dots, N-1$.

2. A lemma on mapping cylinders. Let A, B be any two spaces and $A_0 \subset A$, $B_0 \subset B$ any subsets of A, B. We shall say that the pair (B, B_0) dominates (A, A_0) if, and only if, there are maps, $f: (A, A_0) \to (B, B_0)$ and $g: (B, B_0) \to (A, A_0)$, such that gf is deformable into the identity by a homotopy of the form $\xi_t: (A, A_0) \to (A, A_0)$.

Let X, Y be any compacta and $f: X \rightarrow Y$ a given map. We form the topological product $X \times I$ and, replacing X by a homeomorph, if necessary, assume that no two of X, Y, $X \times I$ have a point in common.

⁸ It is to be understood that the homomorphism $f_1:\pi_1(X)\to\pi_1(Y)$ associated with a chain equivalence is an automorphism onto.

Let Z be the mapping cylinder, which is formed by identifying $(x, 0) \in X \times I$ with x and (x, 1) with $fx \in Y$ for each $x \in X$. Let P, Q be compacta, which dominate X, Y, respectively, and let $\lambda: X \to P$, $\lambda': P \to X$, $\mu: Y \to Q$, $\mu': Q \to Y$ be maps such that $\lambda' \lambda \approx 1$, $\mu' \mu \approx 1$. Let R be the mapping cylinder of the map $\mu f \lambda': P \to Q$. Then our lemma is:

LEMMA 1. The pair (R, P) dominates (Z, X).

Let $\xi_i: X \to X$ and $\eta_i: Y \to Y$ be homotopies such that $\xi_0 = \lambda' \lambda$, $\xi_1 = 1$, $\eta_0 = \mu' \mu$, $\eta_1 = 1$ and let $\nu: (Z, X) \to (R, P)$ be given by

$$\nu(x, t) = (\lambda x, 2t) & \text{(if } 0 \le 2t \le 1) \\
= \mu f \xi_{2t-1} x & \text{(if } 1 \le 2t \le 2), \\
\nu y = \mu y & \text{(} x \in X, y \in Y).$$

This is single-valued, hence continuous (see [8, §5]), since $(\lambda x, 1) = (\mu f \lambda') \lambda x = \mu f \xi_0 x$, $\mu f \xi_1 x = \mu f x$. Let $\nu' : (R, P) \rightarrow (Z, X)$ be given by

$$\nu'(p, t) = (\lambda' p, 2t) \qquad \text{(if } 0 \le 2t \le 1)$$

$$= \eta_{2-2t} f \lambda' p \qquad \text{(if } 1 \le 2t \le 2),$$

$$\nu' q = \mu' q \qquad (p \in P, q \in Q).$$

This is single-valued since $(\lambda' p, 1) = f \lambda' p = \eta_1 f \lambda' p$ and $\eta_0 f \lambda' p = \mu' \cdot (\mu f \lambda') p$. The map $\nu' \nu : (Z, X) \rightarrow (Z, X)$ is given by

$$\nu'\nu(x, t) = \nu'(\lambda x, 2t) \qquad \text{(if } 0 \le 2t \le 1)$$

$$= \nu'\mu f \xi_{2t-1} x \qquad \text{(if } 1 \le 2t \le 2),$$

$$\nu'\nu \gamma = \nu'\mu \gamma,$$

or by

$$\nu'\nu(x, t) = (\lambda'\lambda x, 4t) \qquad \text{(if } 0 \le 4t \le 1) \\
= \eta_{2-4t}f\lambda'\lambda x \qquad \text{(if } 1 \le 4t \le 2) \\
= \mu'\mu f \xi_{2t-1}x \qquad \text{(if } 1 \le 2t \le 1), \\
\nu'\nu y = \mu'\mu y.$$

The desired homotopy, $\zeta_*:(Z, X) \rightarrow (Z, X)$, is given by

$$\zeta_{s}(x, t) = (\xi_{s}x, (4 - 3s)t) & (\text{if } 0 \leq t \leq 1/(4 - 3s)) \\
= \eta_{2-(4-3s)t}f\xi_{s}x & (\text{if } 1/(4 - 3s) \leq t \leq (2 - s)/(4 - 3s)) \\
= \eta_{s}f\xi_{\rho(s,t)}x & (\text{if } (2 - s)/(4 - 3s) \leq t \leq 1), \\
\zeta_{s}y = \eta_{s}y,$$

⁹ The points in X, Y shall retain their individualities in Z, so that X, $Y \subset Z$.

where $\rho(s, t) = \{(4-3s)t+3s-2\}/2$. It is easy to verify that ζ_s is single-valued and that $\zeta_0 = \nu'\nu$, $\zeta_1 = 1$. Moreover $\zeta_s x = \xi_s x \in X$ if $x = (x, 0) \in X$. Therefore (R, P) dominates (Z, X).

3. Proof of Theorem 1. Let X, Y and $f: X \rightarrow Y$ satisfy the conditions of Theorem 1 and let Z be the mapping cylinder of f. The theorem will follow from [1, Theorem 3.7, p. 45] (see also [3]), when we have proved that X is a deformation retract of Z.

Let $g_s: Z \to Z$ be the deformation which is given by $g_s \mid Y = 1$, $g_s(x, t) = (x, s+t-st)$ $(0 \le s \le 1)$. Then $g_0 = 1$, $g_1Z = Y$ and $g_1x = fx$ for each $x = (x, 0) \in X$. Let $k: Z \to Y$ be the map which is given by $kz = g_1z$ for each $z \in Z$. Then $g_1 = jk$, f = ki, where i, j are the identical maps $i: X \to Z$, $j: Y \to Z$. Let $\pi_n(X)$, $\pi_n(Z)$, $\pi_n(Z)$, X be referred to a base point $x_0 \in X$, and $\pi_n(Y)$ to $fx_0 \in Y$ as base point. Let $i_n: \pi_n(X) \to \pi_n(Z)$, $k_n: \pi_n(Z) \to \pi_n(Y)$ be the homomorphisms induced by i, k and let $j_n: \pi_n(Y) \to \pi_n(Z)$ be the homomorphism induced by j and the segment (cf. [13] and [6, pp. 279 et seq.]) (x_0, I) , which joins x_0 to fx_0 . Since $kj = 1: Y \to Y$, $jk = g_1 \cong 1: Z \to Z$ and since g_sx_0 travels along the segment (x_0, I) in the homotopy g_s , it follows that j_n is an isomorphism onto and that k_n is its inverse. Since f = ki we have $f_n = k_n i_n$. Therefore $i_n = j_n f_n$ and i_n , like f_n , is an isomorphism onto for $n = 1, \dots, N$.

Let $2 \le n \le N$ and consider the homotopy sequence

$$(3.1) \pi_n(X) \xrightarrow{1} \pi_n(Z) \xrightarrow{2} \pi_n(Z, X) \xrightarrow{3} \pi_{n-1}(X) \xrightarrow{4} \pi_{n-1}(Z),$$

in which (1) is i_n and (4) is i_{n-1} . Since (1) is onto it follows from the exactness of the sequence that (2) maps $\pi_n(Z)$ into zero. Since (4) is an isomorphism it follows that (3) is into zero and (2) is onto. Therefore $\pi_n(Z, X) = 0$ for $n = 1, \dots, N$, where $\pi_1(Z, X) = 0$ means that $i_1:\pi_1(X) \to \pi_1(Z)$ is onto. Notice that if, in addition, i_{N+1} is onto, then it follows from (3.1) that $\pi_{N+1}(Z, X) = 0$.

Let P be a finite, ΔX -dimensional simplicial complex, which dominates X, and Q a finite, ΔY -dimensional simplicial complex which dominates Y. Let R, λ , μ , η_t , etc. mean the same as in §2. Since Z is (obviously) arcwise connected and since $\pi_n(Z, X) = 0$ for $n = 1, \dots, N \ge \dim Q$ it follows from a standard argument that

¹⁰ We distinguish between maps $u:A\rightarrow B$, $v:A\rightarrow C$, where $B\subset C$, $B\neq C$, even if ua=va for each $a\in A$.

¹¹ Since X is arcwise connected this is equivalent to the condition that any arc in Z, with its end points in X, is deformable, with its end points held fixed, into an arc in X.

¹² [14, p. 526]. This argument is recapitulated, in a slightly more general form, in §8 below (Lemma 5).

there is a homotopy, $\delta_t: Q \to Z$, such that $\delta_0 = \nu' \mid Q = j\mu'$, $\delta_1 Q \subset X$. Therefore $\delta_t \mu: Y \to Z$ is a homotopy such that $\delta_0 \mu = j\mu' \mu = j\eta_0$, $\delta_1 \mu Y \subset \delta_1 Q \subset X$. Moreover we assume, as we obviously may, that $\delta_1 \mu f x_0 = x_0$, where x_0 is the base point of $\pi_n(X)$ and $\pi_n(Z)$. Let $h_t: Y \to Z$ be the homotopy which is given by

$$h_t = j\eta_{1-2t} \qquad (\text{if } 0 \le 2t \le 1)$$
$$= \delta_{2t-1}\mu \qquad (\text{if } 1 \le 2t \le 2).$$

Then $h_0 = j$, $h_1 Y \subset X$, $h_1 x_0 = x_0$. Therefore the resultant of the homotopy $g_t: Z \to Z$, followed by $h_t k: Z \to Z$, is a deformation, $\Delta_t: Z \to Z$, such that $\Delta_0 = 1$, $\Delta_1 Z \subset X$, $\Delta_1 x_0 = x_0$.

Let $c \in \pi_1(Z)$ be the element which is represented by the track of x_0 in the homotopy Δ_t . Since i_1 is onto we have $c = i_1 a$ for some $a \in \pi_1(X)$. Let $\theta_0: (S^n, p_0) \to (Z, x_0)$ be a map representing a given element $\gamma \in \pi_n(Z)$ ($n \ge 2$), where p_0 is the base point in the standard n-sphere S^n . Then $\theta_t = \Delta_t \theta_0$ is a deformation of θ_0 into the map $\theta_1 = i\theta$, where $\theta: (S^n, p_0) \to (X, x_0)$ is given by $\theta p = \Delta_1 \theta_0 p$ ($p \in S^n$). Therefore

$$\gamma = c i_n \alpha = (i_1 a)(i_n \alpha) = i_n(a\alpha),$$

where $\alpha \in \pi_n(X)$ is the element represented by θ and $ci_n\alpha$, $a\alpha$ are the images of $i_n\alpha$, α in the automorphisms ([13] and [6, pp. 279 et seq.]) determined by c, a. Hence i_n is onto for every $n \ge 1$. Taking n = N+1, it follows from (3.1) that $\pi_{N+1}(Z, X) = 0$.

It follows from an extension of a theorem due to Borsuk ([15] and [8]) that Z is an ANR. Therefore the homotopy, $\delta_t\colon Q\to Z$, defined above, can be extended, first throughout $P\cup Q$ by defining $\delta_t p=\nu' p\in X$ if $p\in P$, and then to a homotopy $\delta_t'\colon R\to Z$, such that $\delta_0'=\nu'$. Since $\pi_n(Z,X)=0$ if $1\leq n\leq N+1$ and since $N+1\geq \dim R$, it follows from repeated applications of Lemma 5, in §8 below (cf. the proof of Lemma 6), that there is a homotopy, $\rho_t\colon R\to Z$, rel. P (that is, $\rho_t|P=\rho_0|P$), such that $\rho_0=\delta_1'$, $\rho_1R\subset X$. The resultant of δ_t' , followed by ρ_t , is a homotopy, $\phi_t\colon R\to Z$, rel. P, such that $\phi_0=\nu'$, $\phi_1R\subset X$. Therefore the resultant of $\xi_{1-t}\colon (Z,X)\to (Z,X)$, followed by $\phi_t\nu$, is a homotopy, $\psi_t\colon (Z,X)\to (Z,X)$, such that $\psi_0=1,\psi_1Z\subset X$. It follows from [1, Theorem 1.4, p. 42], and [3] that X is a deformation retract of Z and the proof is complete.

Notice that Theorem 1 follows more directly on the alternative hypothesis that $f_n:\pi_n(X)\to\pi_n(Y)$ is an isomorphism onto for $n=1,\dots,m-1$ and f_m is onto, where $m=\max(\Delta X+1,\Delta Y)=\dim R$. For in this case it follows from (3.1) that $\pi_n(Z,X)=0$ for $n=1,\dots,m$ and the paragraph showing that $\pi_{N+1}(Z,X)=0$ is unnecessary.

Let Z and $X \subset Z$ be CR-spaces and let $\pi_n(Z, X) = 0$ for $n = 1, \dots, m = \max (\Delta X + 1, \Delta Z)$. Then it follows from the homotopy sequence (3.1) that $i_n : \pi_n(X) \to \pi_n(Z)$ is an isomorphism onto for $n = 1, \dots, m-1$ and that i_m is onto. Therefore the identity map $i: X \to Z$ is a homotopy equivalence, whence X is a deformation retract of Z. Hence we have the modified form of Hu's generalization of Hurewicz's theorem ([14, Theorem IV, p. 522] and [9]):

COROLLARY.¹³ If $\pi_n(Z, X) = 0$ for $n = 1, \dots, \max(\Delta X + 1, \Delta Z)$, then X is a deformation retract of Z.

4. Proof of Theorem 2. Let $f_n:\pi_n(X)\to\pi_n(Y)$ be an isomorphism onto for $n=1, \dots, N-1$. Using the same notation as in §3, we shall prove that $i: X \rightarrow Z$ is an (N-1)-homotopy equivalence. Since $k: Z \rightarrow Y$ is a homotopy equivalence and f = ki it will then follow that f is an (N-1)-homotopy equivalence. It follows from (3.1) that $\pi_n(Z, X) = 0$ for $n = 1, \dots, N-1$. Therefore there is a homotopy, $\delta_t: Q \to Z$, such that $\delta_0 = i\mu'$, $\delta_1 Q^{N-1} \subset X$, where Q^n is the *n*-section of Q. Since i_{N-1} is an isomorphism it follows from an argument which is similar to one used in proving Lemma 6, in §8 below, that $\delta_1 | Q^{N-1}$ can be extended to a map $i\theta$, where θ is of the form $\theta: Q \rightarrow X$. Then $i\theta \mid Q^{N-1} \simeq j\mu' \mid Q^{N-1}$. Since θ , μ , k are of the form $k: Z \to Y$, $\mu: Y \to Q$, $\theta: O \rightarrow X$ they have a resultant $\theta \mu k: Z \rightarrow X$. I say that $\theta \mu k$ is an (N-1)homotopy inverse of $i: X \rightarrow Z$. For let K be a finite polyhedron of at most N-1 dimensions and let $\phi: K \rightarrow X$ be a given map. Then $\mu ki\phi$ maps K into Q and is homotopic to a map, $\phi': K \rightarrow Q$, such that $\phi' K \subset Q^{N-1}$. Since $i\theta \mid Q^{N-1} \simeq j\mu' \mid Q^{N-1}$ it follows that $i\theta \phi' \simeq j\mu' \phi'$. Therefore

$$i\theta\mu ki\phi \simeq i\theta\phi' \simeq j\mu'\phi' \simeq j\mu'\mu ki\phi.$$

Since $\mu'\mu \simeq 1$, $jk \simeq 1$ it follows that

$$i\theta\mu ki\phi \simeq iki\phi \simeq i\phi$$

and hence that $\theta \mu k i \phi \simeq \phi$, according to Lemma 6 below. Therefore $\theta \mu k i \simeq_{N-1} 1$. A similar but rather simpler argument shows that $i\theta \mu k \simeq_{N-1} 1$. Therefore i, and hence $f: X \to Y$, is an (N-1)-homotopy equivalence.

Conversely let $f: X \to Y$ have an (N-1)-homotopy inverse,

¹³ If dim $(Z-X) < \Delta X + 1$ this is weaker than Hu's version.

¹⁴ This is nontrivial because of questions concerning the base point. For example, let u, u': $(S^n, p_0) \rightarrow (X, x_0)$ be maps representing two given elements of $\pi_n(X) = \pi_n(X, x_0)$. Assume that $gfx_0 = x_0$. Then the images of p_0 will, in general, describe circuits, which represent different elements of $\pi_1(X, x_0)$, in the homotopies $gfu \simeq u$, $gfu' \simeq u'$.

g: $Y \rightarrow X$. Let vertices $p_0 \in P^0$, $q_0 \in Q^0$ be chosen as base points for all the groups $\pi_n(P)$, $\pi_n(Q)$ and let $x_0 = \lambda' p_0$, $y_0 = \mu' q_0$ be taken as base points for $\pi_n(X)$, $\pi_n(Y)$. After suitable homotopies of λ , μ , if necessary, we assume that $\lambda x_0 = p_0$, $\mu y_0 = q_0$. We then deform f so that $fx_0 = y_0$ and finally g so that $gy_0 = x_0$. Let $g_n : \pi_n(Y) \rightarrow \pi_n(X)$ be the homomorphism induced by g and let λ_n , μ_n , λ_n' , μ_n' be the homomorphisms of $\pi_n(X)$, $\pi_n(Y)$, $\pi_n(P)$, $\pi_n(Q)$, which are induced by λ , μ , λ' , μ' . Since $\lambda'\lambda \simeq 1$, $\mu'\mu \simeq 1$ we have $\lambda_n'\lambda_n = \alpha_n$, $\mu_n'\mu_n = \beta_n$, where α_n , β_n are automorphisms of $\pi_n(X)$, $\pi_n(Y)$. Also $gf\lambda' | P^{N-1} \simeq \lambda' | P^{N-1}$, whence $g_n f_n \lambda_n' = \alpha_n' \lambda_n'$ if $1 \le n \le N-1$, where $\alpha_n' : \pi_n(X) \rightarrow \pi_n(X)$ is an automorphism. Therefore

$$g_n f_n \alpha_n = g_n f_n \lambda_n' \lambda_n = \alpha_n' \lambda_n' \lambda_n$$
$$= \alpha_n' \alpha_n,$$

whence $g_n f_n = \alpha'_n$. Similarly $f_n g_n = \beta'_n$ where $\beta'_n : \pi_n(Y) \to \pi_n(Y)$ is an automorphism. Hence¹⁶ it easily follows that f_n is an isomorphism onto and the theorem is established.

5. Lemmas on homology. Let A and $B \subset A$ be any arcwise connected spaces. Then we have:

LEMMA 2. If the injection homomorphism $i_1:\pi_1(B)\to\pi_1(A)$ is an isomorphism (into) then $\pi_2(A, B)$ is Abelian.

Consider the homotopy sequence

$$\pi_2(A) \xrightarrow{1} \pi_2(A, B) \xrightarrow{2} \pi_1(B) \xrightarrow{3} \pi_1(A).$$

If (3) is an isomorphism, then (2) is into zero and (1) is onto. Therefore the lemma follows from the fact that $\pi_2(A)$ is Abelian.

LEMMA 3. If $\pi_1(A) = 1$ then the natural homomorphism $\pi_2(A, B) \to H_2(A, B)$ is onto and its kernel is the commutator subgroup of $\pi_2(A, B)$. If also $\pi_1(B) = 1$ and $H_r(A, B) = 0$ for $r = 1, 2, \dots, n-1$ $(n \ge 2)$, then the natural homomorphism $\pi_n(A, B) \to H_n(A, B)$ is an isomorphism onto.

This is an extension of a theorem due to W. Hurewicz, to which it reduces in case B is a single point. S. Eilenberg [12, p. 443] has given a proof of Hurewicz's theorem which, with minor modifications, establishes Lemma 3.

On combining Lemmas 2 and 3 we have the following lemma.

¹⁵ These are inner automorphisms if n=1 and are due to the operators in $\pi_1(X)$, $\pi_1(Y)$ if n>1.

¹⁶ Cf. (7.4) below.

LEMMA 4. If $\pi_1(A) = 1$, $\pi_1(B) = 1$, $H_n(A, B) = 0$ for every value of n, then $\pi_n(A, B) = 0$ for each n.

- 6. Proof of Theorem 3. Let $f: X \to Y$ be a map which induces isomorphisms of $\pi_1(X)$ and $H_n(\tilde{X})$ $(n=0, 1, \cdots)$ onto $\pi_1(Y)$ and $H_n(\tilde{Y})$ and let the notation be the same as in §3. Let \tilde{Z} be the universal covering space of Z, with $x_0 \in X$ as base point. Since $f_1:\pi_1(X)$ $\rightarrow \pi_1(Y)$ is an isomorphism onto it follows from an argument used at the beginning of §3 that $i_1:\pi_1(X)\to\pi_1(Z)$ is an isomorphism onto. Therefore we may identify \tilde{X} , and similarly \tilde{Y} , with the sub-sets of \tilde{Z} which cover X and Y respectively. Then it follows from arguments similar to those at the beginning of $\S 3$, including (3.1), with X, Y, Z replaced by \tilde{X} , \tilde{Y} , \tilde{Z} and homotopy groups replaced by homology groups, that all the relative homology groups $H_n(\tilde{Z}, \tilde{X})$ $(n=1, 2, \cdots)$ are zero. Since $\pi_1(\tilde{X}) = 1$, $\pi_1(\tilde{Z}) = 1$ it follows from Lemma 4 that $\pi_n(\tilde{Z}, \tilde{X}) = 0$ for each $n \ge 1$. Therefore $\pi_n(Z, X) = 0$ $(n \ge 2)$ and $i_1: \pi_1(X)$ $\rightarrow \pi_1(Z)$ is onto. Therefore the theorem follows from the proof of the simpler version of Theorem 1, which was mentioned towards the end of §3.
- 7. **Proof of Theorem 4.** It follows from the conditions (a), (b) of Theorem 4 and from (3.1), with X, Y, Z replaced by \tilde{X} , \tilde{Y} , \tilde{Z} and homotopy groups replaced by homology groups, that $H_n(\tilde{Z}, \tilde{X}) = 0$ for $n = 2, \dots, N-1$. Therefore $\pi_n(\tilde{Z}, \tilde{X}) = 0$ and hence $\pi_n(Z, X) = 0$ for $n = 2, \dots, N-1$. Also f_1 is onto, whence $\pi_1(Z, X) = 0$, and f_{N-1} is an isomorphism. Therefore the first half of Theorem 4 follows from the proof of Theorem 2.

The second half of Theorem 4 is trivial if N=2, since \tilde{X} and \tilde{Y} are simply connected. Therefore we assume that $N \ge 3$. Using the same notation as before, let \tilde{P} be the universal covering space of P, with a base point $p_0 \in P^0$. As at the end of §4, let the base points $x_0 \in X$, $y_0 \in Y$, $q_0 \in Q^0$ be such that

$$(7.1) x_0 = \lambda' p_0 = gy_0, y_0 = \mu' q_0 = fx_0,$$

and let \tilde{x}_0 , \tilde{p}_0 , etc., be the base points in \tilde{X} , \tilde{P} , etc. Let $\tilde{\lambda}': \tilde{P} \to \tilde{X}$ be the map which covers $\lambda': P \to X$, meaning that $\tilde{\lambda}' \tilde{p}_0 = \tilde{x}_0$ and $\lambda' p = p \tilde{\lambda}'$, where p denotes both projections $p: \tilde{P} \to P$, $p: \tilde{X} \to X$. According to a remark in §1 the map $\tilde{\lambda}'$ has a right homotopy inverse, $\tilde{\lambda}: \tilde{X} \to \tilde{P}$.

Let $h_0, h_1: \tilde{X} \rightarrow A$ be maps of \tilde{X} in any space, A, and let

$$(7.2) h_0 \tilde{\lambda}' \mid \tilde{P}^{N-1} \simeq h_1 \tilde{\lambda}' \mid \tilde{P}^{N-1},$$

where \tilde{P}^n is the *n*-section of \tilde{P} . Let $\phi: K \to \tilde{X}$ be a given map, where

K is a polyhedron and dim $K \leq N-1$. Then $\lambda \phi : K \to \tilde{P}$ is homotopic to a map, ϕ' , such that $\phi' K \subset \tilde{P}^{N-1}$. Since $\lambda' \lambda \simeq 1$ we have $h_i \phi \simeq h_i \lambda' \lambda \phi \simeq h_i \lambda' \phi'$ (i = 0, 1). Since $\phi' K \subset \tilde{P}^{N-1}$ it follows from (7.2) that $h_0 \lambda' \phi' \simeq h_1 \lambda' \phi'$ and hence that $h_0 \phi \simeq h_1 \phi$. Therefore

$$(7.3) h_0 \simeq_{N-1} h_1,$$

in consequence of (7.2).

Let $f: X \to Y$ and $g: Y \to X$ be such that $gf \simeq_{N-1} 1$, $fg \simeq_{N-1} 1$ and let $\tilde{f}: \tilde{X} \to \tilde{Y}$, $\tilde{g}: \tilde{Y} \to \tilde{X}$ be the maps which cover f, g. Since $gf \simeq_{N-1} 1$ there is a homotopy, $\theta_t: P^{N-1} \to X$, such that $\theta_0 = gf\lambda' | P^{N-1}$, $\theta_1 = \lambda' | P^{N-1}$. It follows from (7.1) that $\theta_0 p_0 = \theta_1 p_0 = x_0$. Let θ_t be lifted into the homotopy, $\tilde{\theta}_t: \tilde{P}^{N-1} \to \tilde{X}$, such that $\tilde{\theta}_0 \tilde{p}_0 = \tilde{x}_0$, $\theta_t p = p\tilde{\theta}_t$. It follows from (7.1) that $\tilde{\theta}_0 = \tilde{g}\tilde{f}\lambda' | \tilde{P}^{N-1}$ and that $\tilde{\theta}_1 = u\lambda' | \tilde{P}^{N-1}$, where $u: \tilde{X} \to \tilde{X}$ is a transformation in the covering group. Hence it follows from (7.2) and (7.3), with $A = \tilde{X}$, $h_0 = \tilde{g}\tilde{f}$, $h_1 = u$, that $\tilde{g}\tilde{f} \simeq_{N-1} u$. Similarly $\tilde{f}\tilde{g} \simeq_{N-1} v$, where $v: \tilde{Y} \to \tilde{Y}$ is in the group of covering transformations. Let $\tilde{g} = u^{-1}\tilde{g}$. Then $\tilde{g}\tilde{f} \simeq_{N-1} 1$ and

(7.4)
$$\tilde{f}\bar{g} = (v^{-1}v)\tilde{f}\bar{g} \simeq_{N-1} (v^{-1}\tilde{f}\bar{g})\tilde{f}\bar{g} \\
= v^{-1}\tilde{f}(\tilde{g}\tilde{f})\bar{g} \simeq_{N-1} v^{-1}\tilde{f}u\bar{g} \\
= v^{-1}\tilde{f}\bar{g} \simeq_{N-1} 1.$$

Therefore \tilde{f} is an (N-1)-homotopy equivalence.

Since $\tilde{\lambda}'\tilde{\lambda} \simeq 1$ it follows that any (singular) cycle in \tilde{X} is homologous to a continuous ¹⁷ cycle. Similarly any cycle in \tilde{Y} is homologous to a continuous cycle. Therefore the homomorphism $H_n(\tilde{X}) \to H_n(\tilde{Y})$, which is induced by \tilde{f} , is obviously an isomorphism onto if $n \leq N-1$. This completes the proof.

8. Two lemmas. Let e^n $(n \ge 1)$ be an *n*-cell, which is an open subset of a Hausdorff space, A, and let $A_0 = A - e^n$. Let \bar{e}^n , the closure of e^n , be the image of an *n*-simplex, σ^n , in a map, $\phi: (\sigma^n, \dot{\sigma}^n) \to (\bar{e}^n, \bar{e}^n \cap A_0)$, such that $\phi \mid (\sigma^n - \dot{\sigma}^n)$ is a homeomorphism onto e^n . Let B and $B_0 \subset B$ be arcwise connected spaces such that $\pi_n(B, B_0) = 0$ and let $f_0: (A, A_0) \to (B, B_0)$ be a given map.

LEMMA 5. There is a homotopy, $f_t:(A, A_0) \rightarrow (B, B_0)$, rel. A_0 , such that $f_1A \subset A_0$.

Since $\pi_n(B, B_0) = 0$ there is a homotopy, $\psi_t: (\sigma^n, \dot{\sigma}^n) \to (B, B_0)$, rel.

¹⁷ For example, to the image under $\widetilde{\lambda}'$ of a continuous cycle in \widetilde{P} . By a continuous, *n*-dimensional cycle is meant the image in a map, $K^n \rightarrow \widetilde{X}$, of a cycle carried by an *n*-dimensional complex K^n .

 $\dot{\sigma}^n$, such that $\psi_0 p = f_0 \phi p$ $(p \in \sigma^n)$, $\psi_1 \sigma^n \subset B_0$. Let $g_t : \bar{e}^n \to B$ be given by $g_t = \psi_t \phi^{-1}$. Clearly $\phi^{-1} e^n$, and hence $g_t | e^n$, is single-valued. If $a \in \bar{e}^n - e^n = \bar{e}^n \cap A_0$, then $\phi^{-1} a \subset \dot{\sigma}^n$ and $g_t a = \psi_0 \phi^{-1} a = f_0 \phi \phi^{-1} a = f_0 a$. Therefore g_t is single-valued and hence continuous (see [8, §5]). Moreover $g_t | \bar{e}^n \cap A_0 = f_0 | \bar{e}^n \cap A_0$. Therefore the requirements of the lemma are satisfied by f_t , which is given by $f_t | A_0 = f_0, f_t | \bar{e}^n = g_t$.

Let A be a closed subset of a separable metric space, A', let B be a separable metric ANR and let $f_0:A\to B$ have an extension $f_0':A'\to B$. Then the homotopy, f_i , of Lemma 5 can be extended to a homotopy $f_i':A'\to B$.

Now let B be a separable, metric ANR and let the homomorphism, $i_n:\pi_n(B_0)\to\pi_n(B)$, which is induced by the identical map $i:B_0\to B$, be an isomorphism onto for $n=1, \cdots, m$. Then it follows from (3.1), with X, Z replaced by B_0 , B, that $\pi_n(Z, X)=0$ for $n=1, \cdots, m$. Let f_0 , $f_1:K^m\to B_0$ be maps of an m-dimensional, simplicial complex, K^m , into B_0 . Then we have:

LEMMA 6. If $if_0 \simeq if_1$ (in B) then $f_0 \simeq f_1$ (in B_0).

Let $g_t: K^m \to B$ be a deformation of $g_0 = if_0$ into $g_1 = if_1$ and let $g: K^m \times I \to B$ be given by $g(x, t) = g_t x$ $(x \in K^m)$. Let $C_n = (K^m \times 0) \cup (K^{n-1} \times I) \cup (K^m \times 1)$. Since $\pi_n(B, B_0) = 0$ $(n = 1, \dots, m)$ it follows from repeated applications of Lemma 5, with $\bar{e}^n = \sigma_i^{n-1} \times I$, where $\sigma_1^{n-1}, \sigma_2^{n-1}, \dots$ are the (n-1)-simplexes in K^m , that g is homotopic, rel. $(K^m \times 0) \cup (K^m \times 1)$, to a map $g': K^m \times I \to B$, such that $g'C_m \subset B_0$. Let $E_i^{m+1} = \sigma_i^m \times I$ $(i = 1, 2, \dots)$. Then $g'\dot{E}_i^{m+1} \subset B_0$ and $g' \mid \dot{E}_i^{m+1}$ is contractible in B. Since $i_m: \pi_m(B_0) \to \pi_m(B)$ is an isomorphism it follows that $g' \mid \dot{E}_i^{m+1}$ is contractible in B_0 . Therefore there is a map $h_i: E^{m+1} \to B_0$ such that $h_i p = g'p$ if $p \in \dot{E}_i^{m+1}$. Let $f: K^m \times I \to B_0$ be given by fp = g'p if $p \in C_m$, $fp = h_i p$ if $p \in E_i^{m+1}$. Then $f_i: K^m \to B_0$, given by $f_i x = f(x, t)$, is a homotopy of f_0 into f_1 , which completes the proof.

REFERENCES

- 1. R. H. Fox, Ann. of Math. vol. 44 (1943) pp. 40-50.
- 2. ——, Ann. of Math. vol. 42 (1941) pp. 333–370.
- 3. H. Samelson, Ann. of Math. vol. 45 (1944) pp. 448-449.
- 4. S. Lefschetz, Algebraic topology, Amer. Math. Soc. Colloquium Publications vol. 27, New York, 1942.
- 5. ——, Topics in topology, Annals of Mathematics Studies, No. 10, Princeton, 1942.
 - 6. J. H. C. Whitehead, Proc. London Math. Soc. vol. 45 (1939) pp. 243-327.
 - 7. ——, Ann. of Math. vol. 42 (1941) pp. 1197–1239.
- 8. ——, Note on a theorem due to Borsuk, Bull. Amer. Math. Soc. vol. 54 (1948) pp. 1125-1132.

- 9. Sze-Tsen Hu, Proc. Cambridge Philos. Soc. vol. 43 (1947) pp. 314-320.
- 10. Hsein-Chung Wang, Proceedings Akademie van Wetenschappen, Amsterdam, vol. 50 (1947).
 - 11. K. Reidemeister, Topologie der Polyeder, Leipzig, 1933.
 - 12. S. Eilenberg, Ann. of Math. vol. 45 (1944) pp. 407-447.
 - 13. ——, Fund. Math. vol. 32 (1939) pp. 167–175.
- 14. W. Hurewicz, Proceedings Akademie von Wetenschappen, Amsterdam, vol. 38 (1935) pp. 521-528.
 - 15. K. Borsuk, Fund. Math. vol. 24 (1935) pp. 249-558.

MAGDALEN COLLEGE, OXFORD UNIVERSITY

TOPOLOGICAL CHARACTERIZATION OF FIELDS WITH VALUATIONS

DANIEL ZELINSKY1

1. Introduction. A topological field is a (commutative) field which is also a topological space satisfying the separation axiom T_0 , and in which addition, subtraction and multiplication are continuous, two-variable functions. For our purposes it is unnecessary to assume that division is continuous.

If F is any field, topological or not, we define a (nonarchimedean) valuation of F to be a function v on F to a linearly ordered group Γ with the symbol 0 adjoined, such that

$$(1) v(xy) = v(x)v(y),$$

$$(2) v(x+y) \leq \max [v(x), v(y)],$$

(3)
$$v(x) = 0 \text{ if and only if } x = 0,$$

for all x, y of F. It is understood that for every γ of Γ , $0 < \gamma$ and $0\gamma = \gamma 0 = 0$. Such a valuation of a field defines a topology, with respect to which F is a topological field, when we specify that the neighborhoods of 0 in F are the sets $U(\gamma) = [x \in F | v(x) < \gamma]$, one for each γ in Γ . If F was a topological field to begin with and the topology defined by the valuation is the same as the original topology of F, we say that the valuation preserves the topology of F.

The question we intend to answer is, "Which topological fields have valuations preserving their topologies?"

Presented to the Society, April 17, 1948; received by the editors January 21, 1948.

¹ This paper was written while the author was a National Research Fellow in Mathematics.