

ONE MORE FACET OF A MAPPING THEOREM
FOR LUSTERNIK SCHNIRELMANN CATEGORY

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Let $f: X \rightarrow Y$ be a map of simply connected CW-spaces. When is $\text{cat}(X) \leq \text{cat}(Y)$? In [2] an answer has been given within rational homotopy category and in [3] within rational or tame homotopy theory. Here we prove a corresponding result using the theory of [1].

Let R be a subring of \mathbb{Q} containing $1/2, 1/3$ throughout.

Proposition: Let $f: X \rightarrow Y$ be a map of simply connected R -local CW-spaces. Let ΩY be decomposable over R ; assume that the homomorphism $(\Omega f)_*: \pi_*(\Omega X) \rightarrow \pi_*(\Omega Y)$ of M -Lie algebras (in the sense of [1]) has a left inverse in the category of M -Lie algebras.

Then $\text{cat}(X) \leq \text{cat}(Y)$.

We first explain the notions used in the proposition.

We work in the homotopy category of pointed spaces.

A connected complex X is called " R -local", if the reduced homology $\tilde{H}_*(X; \mathbb{Z})$ is an R -module. For X nilpotent we denote by $X \rightarrow X_R$ the localization of X with respect to the set of primes not invertible in R .

For $n > 0$ we set

$$\Omega_R^n := \begin{cases} S_R^n & n \text{ odd,} \\ \Omega S_R^n & n \text{ even,} \end{cases}$$

where Σ, Ω denotes the suspension resp. loop space functor.

For any connected finite dimensional complex X let $M^i(X) := R$ for $i = 0$ and $M^i(X) := [X, \Omega_R^i]$ for $i > 0$.

An H-space E is called "decomposable over R ", if E is homotopy equivalent to a weak direct product $\prod_{i \in I} \Omega_R^{n_i}$.

Let E be a connected grouplike R -local H-space. Then the Lie algebra $\pi_*(E)$ (with the Samelson product as Lie bracket) has an additional structure as an M -Lie algebra (see [1], chap. V, (2.12) and [4], section 7), i.e. there is an operation $(i, r > 0)$

$$\pi_i(E) \times M^i(S^r) \rightarrow \pi_r(E), \quad (\alpha, \zeta) \rightarrow \alpha \otimes \zeta,$$

defined by the formula

$$\alpha \otimes \zeta := \begin{cases} \alpha \zeta & \text{for } i \text{ odd,} \\ r_E(\Omega \Sigma \alpha) \zeta & \text{for } i \text{ even,} \end{cases}$$

where $r_E: \Omega \Sigma E \rightarrow E$ is an H-retraction (see [4], section 7). (Note that we do not notationally distinguish between maps and their homotopy classes). This operation obeys certain laws ([1], loc.cit.) which we do not need here.

Proof of the proposition: Let ΩY be homotopy equivalent to $\prod_{i \in I} \Omega_R^{n_i}$. Let $\alpha_i: S^{n_i} \rightarrow \Omega Y$ represent a generator (over R) of the direct summand $\pi_{n_i}(\Omega_R^{n_i})$ of $\pi_{n_i}(\Omega Y)$. For $m > 0$ let $M^{m,*} := \bigoplus_{j \geq 0} M^m(S^j)$; the maps α_i induce maps $M^{n_i,*} \rightarrow \pi_*(\Omega Y)$, $\zeta \mapsto \alpha_i \otimes \zeta$, such that the map $\bigoplus_{i \in I} M^{n_i,*} \rightarrow \pi_*(\Omega Y)$, $(\zeta_i)_{i \in I} \mapsto \sum \alpha_i \otimes \zeta_i$, is an isomorphism of R -modules. (This is proved in [1], chap. V, (3.13) in case $H_*(\Omega Y; R)$ is of finite type over R ; but this assumption is not needed).

Let now ϕ be a left inverse to $(\Omega f)_*: \pi_*(\Omega X) \rightarrow \pi_*(\Omega Y)$.

We define maps $\beta_i: \Omega_R^{n_i} \rightarrow \Omega X$ using $\phi(\alpha_i)$ as follows:

$$\beta_i := \begin{cases} \phi(\alpha_i) & \text{for } n_i \text{ odd,} \\ r_{\Omega X}(\Omega \Sigma(\phi(\alpha_i))) & \text{for } n_i \text{ even.} \end{cases}$$

Since ΩX may be thought of as an associative H-space with unit, the maps β_i can be multiplied together to a map $\beta: \Omega Y = \bigwedge_{i \in I} \Omega_R^{n_i} \rightarrow \Omega X$ with $\beta|_{\Omega_R^{n_i}}$ homotopic to β_i . We have $\beta_{i*}(\alpha_i) = \phi(\alpha_i)$, hence $\beta_{i*}(\alpha_i \otimes \zeta_i) = \beta_{i*}(\alpha_i) \otimes \zeta_i$. For n_i even this equation follows (see [4], section 7) from the fact that β_i is an H-map; for n_i odd the equality is trivial. (Note that also for n_i odd $\pi_*(\Omega_R^{n_i})$ is an M-Lie algebra, because $\Omega_R^{n_i}$ is group-like (comp. [1], chap. V, (1.9)). We now deduce the formula $\beta_i(\alpha_i) \otimes \zeta_i = \phi(\alpha_i) \otimes \zeta_i = \phi(\alpha_i \otimes \zeta_i)$, because ϕ commutes with the operation " \otimes " by assumption. Hence $\beta_{i*}: \pi_*(\Omega_R^{n_i}) \rightarrow \pi_*(\Omega X)$ coincides with $\phi|_{\pi_*(\Omega_R^{n_i})}$, hence $\beta_* = \phi$. It follows that there is a left inverse to Ωf up to homotopy. This implies $\text{cat}(X) \leq \text{cat}(Y)$ by [3], lemma 2.

Remark: By [4], appendix, the H-space ΩX is also decomposable over R .

References:

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