

Introduction to stable homotopy theory

Exercise sheet n° 5

1.
 - i. Let M be a commutative monoid. Let $F(M)$ be $(M \times M)/\sim$, where $(a, b) \sim (a', b')$ if there exists a $c \in M$ such that $a + b' + c = a' + b + c$, with addition defined component-wise. Prove that $F(M)$ is an abelian group, and that the construction can be extended to a functor $F : \mathbf{CMon} \rightarrow \mathbf{Ab}$ which is a left adjoint to the forgetful functor U .
 - ii. Let $i : M \rightarrow UF(M)$ be the unit map. Prove that $i(m) = i(m')$ if and only if there exists a $c \in M$ such that $m + c = m' + c$.
 - iii. Prove that i is injective if and only if M is *cancellative*, i.e. $a + b = a' + b$ implies $a = a'$, for all $a, a', b \in M$. In this case the c in the definition of $F(M)$ and in the previous part can be taken to be 0.
 - iv. Let $F'(M)$ be the abelian group defined as the quotient of the free abelian group $LU(M)$ on the set $U(M)$, quotiented by the subgroup generated by the elements $a \oplus a' - (a + a')$ where $+$ is the sum in M and \oplus is the sum in $LU(M)$. Prove that F' is also a left adjoint to $U : \mathbf{Ab} \rightarrow \mathbf{CMon}$, and therefore $F \cong F'$.
2. Let X be a pointed compact space. Prove that $\mathcal{E}(X) \cong \tilde{K}(X)$.¹
3. Let X be a finite-dimensional pointed CW-complex and F be a spectrum. The skeletal filtration on X begets a right half-plane spectral sequence with 1-st page $E_1^{p,q} = F^{p+q}(X_p/X_{p-1})$ and the differentials are the ones computing reduced cellular cohomology with coefficients in $F^q(S^0)$, so that $E_2^{p,q} \cong \tilde{H}^p(X; F^q(S^0))$ (ordinary cohomology). It converges to $F^{p+q}(X)$:

$$E_2^{p,q} = \tilde{H}^p(X; F^q(S^0)) \Rightarrow F^{p+q}(X).$$

See [Hat04, Page 537], [Sel97, 13.1.6], [Ada74, III.7], [Boa99] for details on this *Atiyah–Hirzebruch spectral sequence*. Use it to compute:

- i. $KU^*(\mathbb{C}P^n)$. More generally, compute $KU^*(X)$ where X is a finite CW-complex with no odd-degree cohomology.
 - ii. $KU^*(\Sigma_g)$ where Σ_g is the real compact orientable surface of genus g .
4. Let \mathcal{C} be a category and \mathcal{W} be a class of morphisms in \mathcal{C} . Suppose $f : X \rightarrow Y$, $g : Y \rightarrow Z$ and $g \circ f : X \rightarrow Z$ are in \mathcal{W} . Prove that the zig-zag $Z \xleftarrow{g} Y \xleftarrow{f} X$ is equivalent to $Z \xleftarrow{g \circ f} X$ under the equivalence relation of zig-zags in $\mathcal{C}[\mathcal{W}^{-1}]$.
5. Let $F : \mathcal{C} \rightarrow \mathcal{A}$ be a functor. Let \mathcal{W} be the class of weak equivalences given by the arrows in \mathcal{C} which are mapped to an isomorphism via F . Prove that $\mathcal{C}[\mathcal{W}^{-1}]$ satisfies the following closure properties, so in particular $\mathbf{Sp}[\text{stable eq.}^{-1}]$ satisfies them:
 - i. The 2-out-of-3 property: If $X \xrightarrow{f} Y \xrightarrow{g} Z$, then if two of f , g , or $g \circ f$ is a weak equivalence, so is the third one.
 - ii. \mathcal{W} is a wide subcategory: it is closed under composition and contains all objects and identities of \mathcal{C} .

¹Recall that $\mathcal{E}(X)$ denotes the abelian group of stable equivalence classes of complex vector bundles over X .

- iii. Closure under retracts: Given the following commutative diagram, if f is a weak equivalence, then so is a .

$$\begin{array}{ccccc}
 & & \text{id} & & \\
 & \curvearrowright & & \curvearrowleft & \\
 A & \xrightarrow{i} & X & \xrightarrow{r} & A \\
 \downarrow a & & \downarrow f & & \downarrow a \\
 A' & \xrightarrow{i'} & X' & \xrightarrow{r'} & A' \\
 & \curvearrowleft & & \curvearrowright & \\
 & & \text{id} & &
 \end{array}$$

6. i. Recall that homotopy groups of spaces commute with arbitrary products.
 ii. Let X, Y be spectra and $k \in \mathbb{Z}$. Prove that $\pi_k(X \times Y) \cong \pi_k(X) \times \pi_k(Y)$ naturally; more generally, π_k preserves finite products.
 iii. Prove that the arbitrary product of Ω -spectra is an Ω -spectrum, and deduce that homotopy groups of Ω -spectra commute with infinite products.
 iv. Prove that homotopy groups of spectra may not commute with infinite products. (*Hint: consider the spectra $S^{\leq i}$, which have S^n in the levels n up to i , after which they have $*$.*)

REFERENCES

- [Ada74] J. F. Adams. *Stable homotopy and generalised homology*. Chicago Lectures in Mathematics. University of Chicago Press, Chicago, Ill.-London, 1974.
 [Boa99] J. Michael Boardman. Conditionally convergent spectral sequences. In *Homotopy invariant algebraic structures (Baltimore, MD, 1998)*, volume 239 of *Contemp. Math.*, pages 49–84. Amer. Math. Soc., Providence, RI, 1999.
 [Hat04] Allen Hatcher. Spectral sequences. *preprint*, 2004. Available at <https://pi.math.cornell.edu/~hatcher/AT/ATch5.pdf>.
 [Sel97] Paul Selick. *Introduction to homotopy theory*, volume 9 of *Fields Institute Monographs*. American Mathematical Society, Providence, RI, 1997.