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STABLE MAPS BETWEEN CLASSIFYING SPACES

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The purpose of this short note is to advertise and reprove the following remarkable result of Goro Nishida [8]. Let G and Π be finite groups with p -Sylow subgroups G_p and Π_p .

Theorem 1. If BG is p -locally a stable retract of $B\Pi$, then G_p is isomorphic to a subgroup of Π_p .

The hypothesis means that the localization at p of the suspension spectrum of BG is a retract of that of $B\Pi$. If these localizations are equivalent, we can conclude more.

Corollary 2. If BG and $B\Pi$ are p -locally stably equivalent, then G_p and Π_p are isomorphic.

This is surprising because BG is p -locally a stable retract and thus a stable wedge summand of BG_p . The corollary implies that data about this wedge summand is forcing information about the complementary wedge summand.

Since a nilpotent group is the product of its p -Sylow subgroups, we have the following immediate consequence.

Corollary 3. If G and Π are nilpotent and BG and $B\Pi$ are stably equivalent, then G and Π are isomorphic.

It can be shown by example that stable equivalence fails to imply isomorphism for general finite groups. However, the following weaker conclusion is well-known.

Corollary 4. If $\phi: G \rightarrow \Pi$ is a homomorphism which induces an isomorphism on integral homology, then ϕ is an isomorphism.

Proof. Since $B\phi$ is a homology isomorphism, it is a stable equivalence. Let $\Lambda = \text{Im}(\phi)$. Since $B\phi$ factors through $B\Lambda$, BG is a stable retract of $B\Lambda$.

By the theorem and the fact that Λ is a quotient of G , the groups G_p , Λ_p , and Π_p are isomorphic for each prime p . Thus G , Λ , and Π all have the same order. Since G and Λ have the same order, ϕ is a monomorphism; since G and Π have the same order, ϕ is an isomorphism.

In fact, as we shall explain, Theorem 1 is a direct application of an earlier result of Lewis, McClure, and myself [3] which gives a complete algebraic description of the group of stable maps $BG \rightarrow B\Pi$. In turn, we were led to this description by ideas and questions of Adams, Gunawardena, and Miller (see [1, §9]).

We begin with the relevant algebraic definitions. Let $A^+(G, \Pi)$ be the semi-group of isomorphism classes of finite Π -free $(G \times \Pi)$ -sets, addition being disjoint union. We let G act from the left and Π from the right on such sets. Let $A(G, \Pi)$ be the associated Grothendieck group. Clearly $A(G, \Pi)$ is the free Abelian group generated by the transitive $(G \times \Pi)$ -sets in $A^+(G, \Pi)$. Each such set S has the form $(G \times \Pi)/\Delta\rho$, where ρ is a homomorphism from some subgroup H of G to Π and

$$\Delta\rho = \{(h, \rho(h)) \mid h \in H\}.$$

Two such S are isomorphic if and only if the corresponding subgroups of $G \times \Pi$ are conjugate. We prefer to express $(G \times \Pi)/\Delta\rho$ in the equivalent form

$$G \times_{\rho} \Pi = (G \times \Pi)/(\sim), \text{ where } (gh, \pi) \sim (g, \rho(h)\pi)$$

for $g \in G$, $h \in H$, and $\pi \in \Pi$. The left action of G and right action of Π are evident.

We shall later need certain subgroups of $A(G, \Pi)$. Let $A'(G, \Pi)$ be the Grothendieck group of those $S \in A^+(G, \Pi)$ such that S/Π is G -fixed point free. Clearly $A'(G, \Pi)$ is spanned by those $G \times_{\rho} \Pi$ such that ρ is defined on a proper subgroup H of G . Let $A_S(G, \Pi)$ be the Grothendieck group of G -singular sets $S \in A^+(G, \Pi)$; that is, we require each $s \in S$ to be fixed by some $g \neq e$ in G . It is easy to check that $A_S(G, \Pi)$ is spanned by those $G \times_{\rho} \Pi$ such that ρ is not a monomorphism; when ρ is a monomorphism, $G \times_{\rho} \Pi$ is G -free. Thus the quotient

$$A(G, \Pi)/(A'(G, \Pi) + A_S(G, \Pi))$$

is free Abelian on those $G \times_{\rho} \Pi$ (if any!) such that ρ is a monomorphism defined on all of G . The relevance to Theorem 1 is clear.

We shall also need various maps relating the groups $A(G, \Pi)$ as G and Π vary. These will model corresponding operations between stable maps, and we shall give more information than is relevant to Theorem 1. For a third group Γ , we have a composition pairing

$$\gamma: A(\Pi, \Gamma) \otimes A(G, \Pi) \rightarrow A(G, \Gamma).$$

It is specified on $T \in A^+(\Pi, \Gamma)$ and $S \in A^+(G, \Pi)$ by

$$\gamma(T \otimes S) = S \times_{\Pi} T = (S \times T)/(\sim), \text{ where } (s\pi, t) \sim (s, \pi t)$$

for $s \in S$, $\pi \in \Pi$, and $t \in T$. It is easy to check the following closure properties.

Lemma 5. The pairing γ restricts to pairings

$$A(\Pi, \Gamma) \otimes A^+(G, \Pi) \rightarrow A^+(G, \Gamma)$$

and

$$A(\Pi, \Gamma) \otimes A_S(G, \Pi) \rightarrow A_S(G, \Gamma).$$

It is also easy to give an explicit formula for γ (although we shall not have occasion to use it).

Lemma 6. Let $S = G \times_{\rho} \Pi$, $\rho: H \rightarrow \Pi$, and $T = \Pi \times_{\sigma} \Gamma$, $\sigma: \Lambda \rightarrow \Gamma$. Let $K = \text{Im}(\rho)$ and let $\{\pi\} \subset \Pi$ be a set of double coset representatives for $K \backslash \Pi / \Lambda$. Let $\Lambda^{\pi} = \pi \Lambda \pi^{-1}$ and let $c(\pi): \Lambda^{\pi} \rightarrow \Lambda$ be the conjugation isomorphism. Define ξ_{π} to be the composite

$$\rho^{-1}(K \cap \Lambda^{\pi}) \xrightarrow{\rho} K \cap \Lambda^{\pi} \subset \Lambda^{\pi} \xrightarrow{c(\pi)} \Lambda \xrightarrow{\sigma} \Gamma.$$

Then $S \times_{\Pi} T$ is isomorphic as a $(G \times \Gamma)$ -set to $\coprod_{\pi} G \times_{\xi_{\pi}} \Gamma$.

Proof. Define $\phi_{\pi}: G \times_{\xi_{\pi}} \Gamma \rightarrow S \times_{\Pi} T$ by $\phi_{\pi}(g, \gamma) = ((g, e), (\pi, \gamma))$ for $g \in G$ and $\gamma \in \Gamma$. Then ϕ_{π} is a well-defined injection of $(G \times \Gamma)$ -sets, and $S \times_{\Pi} T$ is the disjoint union of the images of the ϕ_{π} .

For a monomorphism $\psi: \Lambda \rightarrow \Pi$ and any homomorphism $\phi: H \rightarrow G$, we have a restriction homomorphism

$$\beta: A(G, \Pi) \rightarrow A(H, \Lambda).$$

It is specified by $\beta(S) = {}_{\phi} S_{\psi}$, where ${}_{\phi} S_{\psi}$ denotes S regarded as a left H and right Λ set by pullback along ϕ and ψ . When ϕ and ψ are inclusions, we use the notation ${}_H S_{\Lambda}$ (and delete H if $H = G$ or Λ if $\Lambda = \Pi$). We may express restriction in terms of composition since

$$(1) \quad {}_{\phi} S_{\psi} = {}_{\phi} G \times_G S \times_{\Pi} \Pi_{\psi} = \gamma(\Pi_{\psi} \otimes S \otimes {}_{\phi} G).$$

Let $A(G) = A(G, e)$, where e is the trivial group; this is just the usual Burnside ring of G . We have homomorphisms

$$\epsilon: A(G, \Pi) \rightarrow A(G) \quad \text{and} \quad \eta: A(G) \rightarrow A(G, \Pi)$$

specified by $\epsilon(S) = S/\Pi$ for $S \in A^+(G, \Pi)$ and $\eta(R) = R \times \Pi$ for $R \in A^+(G)$. These too can be expressed in terms of composition since

$$(2) \quad \epsilon(S) = S \times_{\Pi} 1 = \gamma(1 \otimes S) \quad \text{and} \quad \eta(R) = R \times \Pi = \gamma(\Pi \otimes R),$$

where $1 \in A^+(\Pi)$ is the trivial left Π -set with one element and $\Pi \in A^+(e, \Pi)$ is Π

regarded as a free right π -set. Note that $A(e, \pi)$ is a copy of Z with π as generator.

Obviously ϵ_π is the identity map of $A(G)$. Define $K(G, \pi) = \text{Ker}(\epsilon)$. We then have a direct sum decomposition

$$A(G, \pi) = K(G, \pi) \oplus {}_\pi A(G).$$

For $Y \in A(G, \pi)$, let \tilde{Y} denote the component of Y in $K(G, \pi)$. Thus $\tilde{Y} = Y - \epsilon_\pi(Y)$ and, in particular, $\tilde{S} = S - ((S/\pi) \times \pi)$. We need a smidgen of explicit calculation.

Lemma 7. Let H be a non-trivial subgroup of G and consider the $(H \times G)$ -set ${}_H G$ and the $(G \times H)$ -set G_H . In $A(H, H)$,

$$\gamma(\tilde{G}_H \otimes {}_H \tilde{G}) \equiv \sum_{c(g)} {}^H H \pmod{A'(H, H) + A_S(H, H)},$$

where g runs through a set of coset representatives for $WH = NH/H$ and $c(g): H \rightarrow H$ is conjugation, $c(g)(h) = g^{-1}hg$.

Proof. Let $t: H \rightarrow G$ be the trivial homomorphism, $t(h) = e$. We have $\tilde{G}_H = G_H - (G/H) \times H$ and, since ${}_H G/G = 1$, ${}_H \tilde{G} = {}_H G - tG$. Thus

$$\begin{aligned} \gamma(\tilde{G}_H \otimes {}_H \tilde{G}) &= {}_H G \times_G G_H - tG \times_G G_H - {}_H G \times_G (G/H \times H) + tG \times_G (G/H \times H) \\ &= {}_H G_H - tG_H - {}_H (G/H) \times H + t(G/H) \times H \\ &= {}_H G_H - {}_H (G/H) \times H, \end{aligned}$$

the last equality holding since tG_H and $t(G/H) \times H$ are isomorphic $(H \times H)$ -sets. (Scholium: [8, p.18] gives ${}_H G_H - tG_H$ as the answer here.) Since $H \neq e$, it is clear that ${}_H (G/H) \times H$ is in $A_S(H, H)$. Let $\{g\} \subset G$ be a set of double coset representatives for $H \backslash G/H$, so that ${}_H G_H = \bigsqcup_g HgH$ as an $(H \times H)$ -set. Clearly $(HgH)/H = 1$ if and only if $hg \in gH$ for all $h \in H$, that is, if and only if $g \in NH$. Thus, for $g \notin NH$, HgH is in $A'(H, H)$. For $g \in NH$, $h \mapsto gh$ specifies an $(H \times H)$ -isomorphism $c(g)H \rightarrow HgH$, and of course we have one such double coset representative g in each coset of NH/H . (Scholium: [8, p.18] says these HgH are all $(H \times H)$ -isomorphic.)

For a second pair of finite groups (G', π') , we have the pairing

$$\wedge: A(G, \pi) \otimes A(G', \pi') \rightarrow A(G \times G', \pi \times \pi')$$

given by Cartesian products of finite sets. In particular, using the restriction associated to the diagonal $G \rightarrow G \times G$, we see that $A(G, \pi)$ is an $A(G)$ -module. Of course, there is a whole slew of formal identities and coherence isomorphisms relating the various operations we have introduced.

Turning to spaces, we agree to use the same letter to denote a based space and its suspension spectrum, and similarly for maps. We let X_+ denote the

union of a space X and a disjoint basepoint. A set $S \in A^+(G, \Pi)$ may be viewed as the total space of a principal Π -bundle with G action through bundle maps. We let EG be the standard contractible free G -space and have the principal Π -bundle

$$\xi(S): EG \times_G S \rightarrow EG \times_G S/\Pi.$$

We also write $\xi(S)$, or ξ for short, for its classifying map

$$(EG \times_G S/\Pi)_+ \rightarrow B\Pi_+.$$

We have a (not necessarily connected) finite cover

$$EG \times_G S/\Pi \rightarrow EG \times_G 1 = BG,$$

and we write $\tau(S)$, or τ , for its stable transfer map

$$BG_+ \rightarrow (EG \times_G S/\Pi)_+.$$

Both ξ and τ are additive in S , and we define

$$\alpha: A(G, \Pi) \rightarrow [BG_+, B\Pi_+]$$

to be the unique homomorphism such that $\alpha(S) = \xi(S) \circ \tau(S)$, where $[X, Y]$ denotes the Abelian group of stable maps $X \rightarrow Y$. For $H \subset G$, $EG \times_G G/H = EG/H$ is a model for BH , and we write 1 or 1_H^G for the natural cover $BH \rightarrow BG$ and τ or τ_H^G for its transfer. If $S = G \times_\rho \Pi$, $\rho: H \rightarrow \Pi$, then $S/\Pi = G/H$ and $\alpha(S)$ is the composite

$$BG_+ \xrightarrow{\tau_H^G} BH_+ \xrightarrow{B\rho} B\Pi_+.$$

In particular, if $H = G$, then $S = \rho \Pi$ and $\alpha(S) = B\rho$. Clearly $\alpha({}_H G) = 1_H^G$ and $\alpha(G_H) = \tau_H^G$; this explains the interest of Lemma 7.

We relate γ , β , ϵ , n , and \wedge to operations between stable maps. We could use Lemma 6 to prove the following result, but we prefer to give a conceptual argument due to Adams.

Proposition 8. The following diagram commutes.

$$\begin{array}{ccc} A(\Pi, \Gamma) \otimes A(G, \Pi) & \xrightarrow{\gamma} & A(G, \Gamma) \\ \alpha \otimes \alpha \downarrow & & \downarrow \alpha \\ [B\Pi_+, B\Gamma_+] \otimes [BG_+, B\Pi_+] & \xrightarrow{\text{composition}} & [BG_+, B\Gamma_+] \end{array}$$

Proof. Let $S \in A^+(G, \Pi)$ and $T \in A^+(\Pi, \Gamma)$ and observe that

$$(S \times_\Pi T)/\Gamma = S \times_\Pi (T/\Gamma).$$

We have a Π -bundle map $\tilde{\xi}(S): EG \times_G S \rightarrow E\Pi$ with base map $\xi(S)$ and a Γ -bundle map $\tilde{\xi}(T): E\Pi \times_\Pi T \rightarrow E\Gamma$ with base map $\xi(T)$. The top two squares are maps of principal Γ -bundles and the bottom square is a pullback in the diagram

$$\begin{array}{ccccc}
 EG \times_G S \times_{\Pi} T & \xrightarrow{\tilde{\xi}(S) \times 1} & E\Pi \times_{\Pi} T & \xrightarrow{\tilde{\xi}(T)} & E\Gamma \\
 \downarrow & & \downarrow & & \downarrow \\
 EG \times_G S \times_{\Pi} T/\Gamma & \xrightarrow{\tilde{\xi}(S) \times 1} & E\Pi \times_{\Pi} T/\Gamma & \xrightarrow{\xi(T)} & B\Gamma \\
 \downarrow & & \downarrow & & \\
 EG \times_G S/\Pi & \xrightarrow{\xi(S)} & B\Pi & &
 \end{array}$$

By the naturality of transfer on pullbacks, there results a commutative diagram

$$\begin{array}{ccccc}
 BG_+ & \xrightarrow{\tau(S)} & (EG \times_G S/\Pi)_+ & \xrightarrow{\tau} & (EG \times_G S \times_{\Pi} T/\Gamma)_+ \\
 \searrow \alpha(S) & & \downarrow \xi(S) & & \downarrow \tilde{\xi}(S) \times 1 \\
 & & B\Pi_+ & \xrightarrow{\tau(T)} & (E\Pi \times_{\Pi} T/\Gamma)_+ \\
 & & \searrow \alpha(T) & & \downarrow \xi(T) \\
 & & & & B\Gamma_+
 \end{array}$$

By the transitivity of transfer, the horizontal composite is $\tau(S \times_{\Pi} T)$. By the first diagram, the vertical composite is $\xi(S \times_{\Pi} T)$. Thus $\alpha(T)\alpha(S) = \alpha(S \times_{\Pi} T)$.

Corollary 9. The following diagram commutes for a monomorphism $\psi: \Lambda \rightarrow \Pi$ and a homomorphism $\phi: H \rightarrow G$.

$$\begin{array}{ccc}
 A(G, \Pi) & \xrightarrow{\beta} & A(H, \Lambda) \\
 \downarrow \alpha & & \downarrow \alpha \\
 [BG_+, B\Pi_+] & \xrightarrow{[B\phi, \tau(\psi)]} & [BH_+, B\Lambda_+]
 \end{array}$$

Proof. $B\phi = \alpha(\phi)$, while $\tau(\psi) = \alpha(\Pi_{\psi})$ is the transfer associated to $B\psi: B\Lambda \rightarrow B\Pi$. The conclusion is immediate from formula (1).

Let $\epsilon: B\Pi_+ \rightarrow S^0$ send all of $B\Pi$ to the non-basepoint of S^0 and let $\eta: S^0 \rightarrow B\Pi_+$ send the non-basepoint to the basepoint in $B\Pi$. In fact, Be is a point, hence $Be_+ = S^0$, and ϵ and η are induced by the trivial homomorphism $\Pi \rightarrow e$ and the inclusion $e \rightarrow \Pi$.

Corollary 10. The following diagram commutes.

$$\begin{array}{ccccc}
 A(G) & \xrightarrow{\eta} & A(G, \Pi) & \xrightarrow{\epsilon} & A(G) \\
 \downarrow \alpha & & \downarrow \alpha & & \downarrow \alpha \\
 [BG_+, S^0] & \xrightarrow{\eta_*} & [BG_+, B\Pi_+] & \xrightarrow{\epsilon_*} & [BG_+, S^0]
 \end{array}$$

Proof. Clearly $\alpha(1) = \epsilon$ and $\alpha(\pi) = \eta$, where $1 \in A(\pi)$ and $\pi \in A(\pi, \epsilon)$ are as in formula (2). The conclusion follows.

Of course, $\epsilon\eta: S^0 \rightarrow S^0$ is the identity and $B\pi_+$ splits stably as the wedge of $B\pi$ and S^0 , and similarly for G . Since $[S^0, B\pi] = 0$, the kernel of ϵ_* may be identified with $[BG, B\pi]$.

Corollary 11. $\alpha: A(G, \pi) \rightarrow [BG_+, B\pi_+]$ restricts to a homomorphism
 $K(G, \pi) \rightarrow [BG, B\pi]$.

Proposition 12. The following diagram commutes.

$$\begin{array}{ccc} A(G, \pi) \otimes A(G', \pi') & \xrightarrow{\wedge} & A(G \times G', \pi \times \pi') \\ \alpha \otimes \alpha \downarrow & & \downarrow \alpha \\ [BG_+, B\pi_+] \otimes [BG'_+, B\pi'_+] & \xrightarrow{\wedge} & [B(G \times G')_+, B(\pi \times \pi')_+] \end{array}$$

Proof. The suspension spectrum functor commutes with smash products, $X_+ \wedge Y_+ = (X \times Y)_+$ on the space level, and the classifying space functor commutes with products. Under the resulting identifications, the transfer commutes with products. (See [4] for a proof of this and of all other facts used about transfer.) Together with an obvious inspection of $(\pi \times \pi')$ -bundle maps, this shows that, for $S \in A^+(G, \pi)$ and $S' \in A^+(G', \pi')$, the composite

$$BG_+ \wedge BG'_+ \xrightarrow{\tau(S) \wedge \tau(S')} (EG \times_G S/\pi)_+ \wedge (EG' \times_{G'} S'/\pi')_+ \xrightarrow{\xi(S) \wedge \xi(S')} B\pi_+ \wedge B\pi'_+$$

may be identified with the composite

$$B(G \times G')_+ \xrightarrow{\tau(S \times S')} (E(G \times G') \times_{G \times G'} (S \times S')/(\pi \times \pi'))_+ \xrightarrow{\xi(S \times S')} B(\pi \times \pi')_+.$$

Giving $[BG_+, S^0]$ an $A(G)$ -module structure by pullback along the ring homomorphism $\alpha: A(G) \rightarrow [BG_+, S^0]$, we see that the evident $[BG_+, S^0]$ -module structure gives $[BG_+, B\pi_+]$ an $A(G)$ -module structure consistent under α with the $A(G)$ -module structure on $A(G, \pi)$. All maps appearing in Corollaries 10 and 11 are morphisms of $A(G)$ -modules. Let IG be the augmentation ideal of $A(G)$ and let \hat{M} denote the completion of an $A(G)$ -module M with respect to the IG -adic topology, $\hat{M} = \varprojlim M/(IG)^n M$. With these notations, Lewis, McClure, and I prove the following result [3].

Theorem 13. For any finite groups G and Π , α extends to an isomorphism

$$\hat{\alpha}: \hat{A}(G, \Pi) \rightarrow [BG_+, B\Pi_+].$$

Therefore $\hat{\alpha}$ restricts to an isomorphism

$$\hat{K}(G, \Pi) \rightarrow [BG, B\Pi].$$

In fact, if $W_\rho = N\Delta_\rho/\Delta_\rho$ for $\Delta_\rho = \{(h, \rho(h))\} \subset G \times \Pi$ (as above), we construct an explicit map of spectra

$$\bigvee_{\rho} BW_{\rho_+} \rightarrow F(BG_+, B\Pi_+)$$

such that the function spectrum on the right is a suitable completion of the wedge sum on the left; here we take one ρ for each basis element $G \times_{\rho} \Pi$ of $A(G, \Pi)$. The theorem stated results on passage to π_0 . when $\Pi = e$, the theorem is the original form of the Segal conjecture. The idea of the generalization runs as follows. An induction theorem of McClure and myself [6] reduces the problem to the case when G is a p -group. A transfer argument then reduces the problem to the case when Π is also a p -group. Here a diagram relating the maps α of the Segal conjecture for Π and $G \times \Pi$ to the maps α for the pairs $(G, W\Lambda)$, $\Lambda \subset \Pi$, allows an inductive reduction to the Segal conjecture for p -groups. The latter had not yet been proven when [3] and [6] were written, but has since been established by work of Carlsson and others [2, 1, 7]; see [5] for an overview. The following special case of [6, Lemma 5] gives a preliminary reduction.

Lemma 14. If G is a p -group, then the IG -adic topology coincides with the p -adic topology on the kernel of the restriction $A(G, \Pi) \rightarrow A(e, \Pi) \cong \mathbb{Z}$.

This implies the following specialization of Theorem 13.

Corollary 15. If G is a p -group, then $\alpha: A(G, \Pi) \rightarrow [BG_+, B\Pi_+]$ is a monomorphism and α induces isomorphisms

$$A(G, \Pi)_p^{\wedge} \rightarrow [BG_+, B\Pi_+]_p^{\wedge} \quad \text{and} \quad K(G, \Pi)_p^{\wedge} \rightarrow [BG, B\Pi]$$

upon p -adic completion.

Here $[BG, B\Pi]$ is already complete at p , so p -adic completion of $[BG_+, B\Pi_+]$ only entails p -adic completion of the summand $\mathbb{Z} = [S^0, S^0]$.

We can now prove Theorem 1. Let $f: BG \rightarrow B\Pi$ and $k: B\Pi \rightarrow BG$ be stable maps such that, p -locally, $kf \approx 1$. Of course, the suspension spectrum of BG is trivial away from the order of G , hence it splits as the wedge of its localizations at the primes dividing the order of G . Thus k and f need only be given p -locally. Let \tilde{h} denote the summand $BG \rightarrow B\Pi$ of a map $h: BG_+ \rightarrow B\Pi_+$; that is, $\tilde{h} = h - \eta_* \epsilon_*(h)$. It is standard that the composite

$$B\Pi \xrightarrow{\tilde{\tau}} B\Pi_p \xrightarrow{\tilde{i}} B\Pi$$

is a p -local stable equivalence. Let ζ be a p -local stable inverse to $\tilde{\tau} \tilde{\tau}$ and define f_p and k_p to be the respective composites

$$BG_p \xrightarrow{\tilde{\tau}} BG \xrightarrow{f} B\pi \xrightarrow{\tilde{\tau}} B\pi_p$$

and

$$B\pi_p \xrightarrow{\tilde{\tau}} B\pi \xrightarrow{\zeta} B\pi \xrightarrow{k} BG \xrightarrow{\tilde{\tau}} BG_p.$$

Obviously $k_p f_p$ is homotopic to the composite

$$BG_p \xrightarrow{\tilde{\tau}} BG \xrightarrow{\tilde{\tau}} BG_p.$$

By Corollary 15, there is an element $X \in K(G_p, \pi_p)$ such that $\alpha(X) \equiv f_p \pmod{p}$ and an element $Y \in K(\pi_p, G_p)$ such that $\alpha(Y) \equiv k_p \pmod{p}$. By Proposition 8, we have

$$\alpha(Y \otimes X) = \alpha(Y)\alpha(X) \equiv k_p f_p = \tilde{\tau} \tilde{\tau} \pmod{p}.$$

Here $\tilde{\tau} = \alpha(\tilde{G}_H)$ and $\tilde{\tau} = \alpha(\tilde{H}_G)$, $H = G_p$. We may assume that $G_p \neq e$ (since Theorem 1 is trivial if $G_p = e$), and we conclude from Lemma 7 and the injectivity of α that

$$\gamma(Y \otimes X) \equiv \sum_{c(g)} G_p \pmod{(p)} + A'(G_p, G_p) + A_s(G_p, G_p),$$

where g runs through a set of coset representatives for WG_p . Since the order of WG_p is prime to p , $\gamma(Y \otimes X) \neq 0$. Therefore, by Lemma 5,

$$X \neq 0 \pmod{A'(G_p, \pi_p) + A_s(G_p, \pi_p)}$$

and $A(G_p, \pi_p)$ must have at least one basis element $G_p \times_p \pi_p$ such that ρ is a monomorphism defined on all of G_p .

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