

## RATIONAL EQUIVALENCE OF FIBRATIONS WITH FIBRE $G/K$

STEPHEN HALPERIN AND JEAN CLAUDE THOMAS

**1. Introduction.** Let  $\xi_\nu : F \rightarrow E_\nu \xrightarrow{\pi_\nu} B$  be two Serre fibrations with same base and fibre in which all the spaces have the homotopy type of simple CW complexes of finite type. We say they are *rationally homotopically equivalent* if there is a homotopy equivalence  $(E_1)_\mathbf{Q} \xrightarrow{\cong} (E_2)_\mathbf{Q}$  between the localizations at  $\mathbf{Q}$  which covers the identity map of  $B_\mathbf{Q}$ .

Such an equivalence implies, of course, an isomorphism of cohomology algebras (over  $\mathbf{Q}$ ) and of rational homotopy groups; on the other hand isomorphisms of these classical algebraic invariants are usually (by far) insufficient to establish the existence of a rational homotopy equivalence.

Nonetheless, as we shall show in this note, for certain fibrations rational homotopy equivalence is in fact implied by the existence of an isomorphism of cohomology algebras. While these fibrations are rare inside the class of all fibrations, they do include principal bundles with structure groups a connected Lie group  $G$  as well as many associated bundles with fibre  $G/K$ . (These, of course, are the fibrations which are basic to differential geometry.)

More precisely, call  $\xi_1$  and  $\xi_2$  *h-equivalent* if they are rationally homotopically equivalent, and *c-equivalent* if there is a commutative diagram

$$(1.1) \quad \begin{array}{ccccc} & & H^*(E_1) & \xrightarrow{j_1^*} & H^*(F) \\ & \nearrow \pi_1^* & \downarrow \cong f & & \downarrow \cong \bar{f} \\ H^*(B) & & & & \\ & \searrow \pi_2^* & H^*(E_2) & \xrightarrow{j_2^*} & H^*(F) \end{array}$$

in which  $f$  and  $\bar{f}$  are isomorphisms of graded algebras. (Cohomology of spaces is singular, with rational coefficients.) If  $\bar{f} = \text{id}$ ,  $\xi_1$  and  $\xi_2$  are *strictly c-equivalent*. Finally, if

$$\zeta^* : H^*(F) \rightarrow \text{Hom}_{\mathbf{Z}}(\pi_*(F); \mathbf{Q})$$

---

Received August 1, 1980.

is dual to the Hurewicz homomorphism we say  $\xi_1$  and  $\xi_2$  are  $c$ - $\pi$ -equivalent if there is a commutative diagram

$$(1.2) \quad \begin{array}{ccc} & H^*(E_1) & \xrightarrow{\zeta^* j_1^*} \text{Hom}(\pi_*(F); \mathbf{Q}) \\ \pi_1^* \nearrow & \cong \downarrow f & \cong \downarrow \eta \\ H^*(B) & & \\ \pi_2^* \searrow & H^*(E_2) & \xrightarrow{\zeta^* j_2^*} \text{Hom}(\pi_*(F); \mathbf{Q}) \end{array}$$

in which  $f$  (respectively,  $\eta$ ) is an isomorphism of graded algebras (respectively graded spaces).

Evidently  $h$ -equivalence implies  $c$ -equivalence and  $c$ - $\pi$ -equivalence, and it is easy to see that the converses usually fail. If, however,  $K$  is a closed connected subgroup of a connected Lie group  $G$  we have

**THEOREM I.** *Let  $\xi_\nu : G/K \rightarrow E_\nu \rightarrow B$  be fibrations as described at the start of the introduction, and suppose that  $\xi_1$  is associated with a principal  $G$ -bundle via the standard action of  $G$  on  $G/K$ . Then*

- (i)  $\xi_1$  and  $\xi_2$  are  $h$ -equivalent if and only if they are  $c$ - $\pi$ -equivalent.
- (ii) If  $j_1^*$  is surjective then  $\xi_1$  and  $\xi_2$  are  $h$ -equivalent if and only if they are strictly  $c$ -equivalent.

**COROLLARY.** *Let  $\xi : G/K \rightarrow E \rightarrow B$  be a Serre fibration of simple spaces which is  $c$ -equivalent to the trivial fibration  $B \times G/K$ . Then it is  $h$ -equivalent to  $B \times G/K$ .*

*Proof.* The isomorphism  $f : H^*(E) \xrightarrow{\cong} H^*(B) \otimes H^*(G/K)$ , inducing the automorphism  $\tilde{f}$  of  $H^*(G/K)$  can be composed with  $\text{id} \otimes \tilde{f}^{-1}$  to show that  $\xi$  is strictly  $c$ -equivalent to the trivial fibration. Now apply Theorem I (ii) with  $\xi_1$  the trivial fibration.

For many homogeneous spaces  $G/K$ , an automorphism of  $H^*(G/K)$  automatically factors over  $\zeta^*$  to yield an automorphism of  $\text{Hom}(\pi_*(G/K); \mathbf{Q})$ ; see Section 4. (Indeed we know of no example where this fails although these presumably abound!) For such spaces as fibre  $c$ -equivalence implies  $c$ - $\pi$ -equivalence and hence (when one fibration is associated with a principal bundle)  $h$ -equivalence.

By contrast, if  $\alpha, \beta \in \pi_2(S^2 \vee S^2)$  are the obvious basis and  $\phi = [\alpha, [\alpha, \beta]] \in \pi_4(S^2 \vee S^2)$ , set

$$F = (S^2 \vee S^2 \cup_\phi e^5) \vee S^5.$$

Then

$$H^+(F) = H^+(S^2) \oplus H^+(S^2) \oplus H^+(S^5) \oplus H^+(S^5)$$

and the automorphism which interchanges the two elements of degree 5 does not factor over  $\zeta^*$ .

Theorem I is proved via minimal models. The proof applies verbatim to the larger class of *rational fibrations* ([7]) which are “two stage”, and so we work in that setting. Rational fibrations and some necessary facts about models are recalled in Section 2 where also we define “two stage” and state the relevant generalization of Theorem I (Theorem II).

In Section 3 we derive the explicit form of the model of a fibration associated with a principal bundle via the action of  $G$  on  $G/K$ . (This is established in [3, Theorem IX, Section 12.30] for smooth bundles and real coefficients.) This, in particular, gives the rational model for  $G/K$ . (The real version is due to Cartan [2].) It also shows that such fibrations are two stage, so that Theorem I does follow from Theorem II. In Section 4 we show that for many homogeneous spaces  $c$ -equivalent fibrations with fibre  $G/K$  are automatically  $c$ - $\pi$ -equivalent (so that Theorem I may be applied). Finally, Section 5 contains the proof of Theorem II.

**2. Rational fibrations.** Henceforth we adopt the terminology of [7; Sections 1–4] with  $\mathbf{Q}$  as ground field. For more details see [5]. Thus for a topological space  $S$ ,  $H^*(S)$  denotes its rational singular cohomology algebra and  $(A(S), d)$  the c.g.d.a. of rational polynomial differential forms on the singular simplices of  $S$ . If  $S$  is path connected and equipped with a basepoint  $\pi_\psi^*(S)$  denotes its  $\psi$ -homotopy space: if  $m_S: (\Lambda X, d) \xrightarrow{\cong} (A(S), d)$  is a model (in the sense of Sullivan) we put

$$Q(\Lambda X) = \Lambda^+X / \Lambda^+X \cdot \Lambda^+X$$

and denote by  $\zeta: \Lambda^+X \rightarrow Q(\Lambda X)$  the projection. A differential  $Q(d)$  is induced in  $Q(\Lambda X)$  and

$$\pi_\psi^*(S) = H(Q(\Lambda X), Q(d)).$$

(The decomposition  $\Lambda^+X = X \oplus (\Lambda^+X \cdot \Lambda^+X)$  allows us to identify  $X \cong Q(\Lambda X)$  but not  $d|_X = Q(d)$ ). Identifying  $H(\Lambda X)$  with  $H^*(S)$  via  $m_S^*$  we obtain  $\zeta^*: H^+(S) \rightarrow \pi_\psi^*(S)$ . When  $S$  is simple and  $H^*(S)$  is a graded space of finite type then

$$\pi_\psi^*(S) = \text{Hom}_{\mathbf{Z}}(\pi_*(S); \mathbf{Q})$$

and  $\zeta^*$  is the dual of the Hurewicz homomorphism.

A *rational fibration*  $\xi: F \xrightarrow{j} E \xrightarrow{\pi} B$  is (cf. [7, Definition 4.5]) a sequence of base-point preserving continuous maps between pointed, path connected topological spaces, such that a certain condition on the minimal models is satisfied. Rational fibrations include ([5, Theorem 20.3]) Serre

fibrations of path connected spaces in which one of  $H^*(B)$ ,  $H^*(F)$  is a graded space of finite type, and  $\pi_1(B)$  acts nilpotently in each  $H^p(F)$ . In particular fiber bundles associated with a  $G$ -principal bundle when  $G$  is a path connected group, and one of  $H^*(B)$ ,  $H^*(F)$  has finite type are rational fibrations.

With each rational fibration  $\xi : F \xrightarrow{j} E \xrightarrow{\pi} B$  is associated ([7, Definition 4.8]) its  $\Lambda$ -minimal  $\Lambda$  model: a commutative diagram of c.g.d.a. morphisms

$$(2.1) \quad \begin{array}{ccccc} (\Lambda Y, d_B) & \xrightarrow{i} & (\Lambda Y \otimes \Lambda X, d_E) & \xrightarrow{\rho} & (\Lambda X, d_F) \\ \downarrow m_B \simeq & & \downarrow \simeq m_E & & \downarrow \simeq m_F \\ (A(B), d) & \xrightarrow{A(\pi)} & (A(E), d) & \xrightarrow{A(j)} & (A(F), d) \end{array}$$

in which the vertical arrows are models and  $m_B$  and  $m_F$  are minimal. Note in the upper row only the differential  $d$  in  $\Lambda Y \otimes \Lambda X$  depends on  $\xi$ ; the algebras and the other maps depend only on the fixed  $B$  and  $F$ .

*2.2 Definition.* A rational fibration is *two stage* if its  $\Lambda$ -minimal  $\Lambda$ -model (2.1) can be written

$$\Lambda Y \xrightarrow{i} \Lambda Y \otimes \Lambda X_0 \otimes \Lambda X_1 \xrightarrow{\rho} \Lambda X_0 \otimes \Lambda X_1$$

with  $d_E(X_0) = 0$  and  $d_E(X_1) \subset \Lambda Y \otimes \Lambda X_0$ . A space  $F$  is *two stage* if its minimal model has the form  $(\Lambda X_0 \otimes \Lambda X_1, d_F)$  with  $d_F(X_0) = 0$  and  $d_F(X_1) \subset \Lambda X_0$ .

The fibre of a two stage fibration is a two stage space, as are  $H$  spaces, homogeneous spaces (Section 4) and pure spaces [4]. On the other hand the rational fibration

$$S_{\mathbf{0}}^5 \times S_{\mathbf{0}}^7 \times S_{\mathbf{0}}^9 \rightarrow E \rightarrow S_{\mathbf{0}}^3 \times S_{\mathbf{0}}^5$$

with  $\Lambda$ -model

$$(\Lambda(b_3, b_3'), 0) \rightarrow (\Lambda(b_3, b_3', x_5, x_7, x_9), d_E) \rightarrow (\Lambda(x_5, x_7, x_9), 0)$$

and

$$d_E x_5 = b_3 b_3', \quad d_E x_7 = b_3 x_5, \quad d_E x_9 = b_3 x_4$$

is not two stage, even though its fibre is a two stage space.

Now fix path connected pointed spaces  $F$  and  $B$  and consider the class of all rational fibrations  $\xi$  with fibre  $F$  and base  $B$ . We say that two such rational fibrations  $\xi_\nu : F \rightarrow E_\nu \rightarrow B, \nu = 1, 2$ , are *rationally homotopically equivalent* (*h-equivalent*) if their  $\Lambda$ -minimal  $\Lambda$ -models are connected by c.g.d.a. isomorphisms

$$\phi : (\Lambda Y \otimes \Lambda X, d_1) \xrightarrow{\cong} (\Lambda Y \otimes \Lambda X, d_2) \quad \text{and} \quad \bar{\phi} : (\Lambda X, d) \xrightarrow{\cong} (\Lambda X, d)$$

such that  $\phi \circ i = i$  and  $\bar{\phi} \circ \rho = \rho \circ \phi$ . If we can choose  $\phi$  so that  $\bar{\phi} = \text{id}$  then we say  $\xi_1$  and  $\xi_2$  are *strictly h-equivalent*.

When  $\xi_1, \xi_2$  are genuine fibrations in which  $F, E_\nu$  and  $B$  have the homotopy type of simple CW complexes of finite type, then  $\xi_1$  and  $\xi_2$  are *h-equivalent* if and only if their localizations at  $\mathbf{Q}$  have the same fibre homotopy type. Thus the definition above of *h-equivalent* extends the definition in the introduction for Serre fibrations of simple spaces.

The definitions of (strict) *c-equivalence* and of *c- $\pi$ -equivalence* given in the introduction apply verbatim to rational fibrations, except that  $\text{Hom}_{\mathbf{Z}}(\pi_*(F); \mathbf{Q})$  has to be replaced by  $\pi_{\psi^*}(F)$ .

*2.3 Remark.* Suppose that  $\xi_1$  and  $\xi_2$  are *c-equivalent* and that the diagram (1.1) can be chosen so that  $\bar{f} = \alpha^*$  for some automorphism  $\alpha$  of the model  $(\Lambda X, d_F)$  for  $F$ . Then  $\xi_1$  and  $\xi_2$  are *c- $\pi$ -equivalent*. In particular strict *c-equivalence* implies *c- $\pi$ -equivalence*.

If  $F$  is formal (cf. [8] or [6]) every automorphism of  $H^*(F)$  is of the form  $\bar{f} = \alpha^*$  and so in this case *c-equivalence* always implies *c- $\pi$ -equivalence*.

In Section 3 we shall show that a fibration  $G/K \rightarrow E \rightarrow B$  associated with a principal  $G$ -bundle ( $G/K$  as in Theorem I) is two stage. As well we recover the classical fact that  $\dim \pi_{\psi^*}(G/K) < \infty$ . With these results Theorem I is a special case of

**THEOREM II.** *Let  $\xi_\nu : F \xrightarrow{j_\nu} E_\nu \xrightarrow{\pi_\nu} B$  be rational fibrations with  $\xi_1$  two-stage. Assume that  $\pi_{\psi^*}(F)$  is a graded space of finite type. Then*

- (i)  $\xi_1$  and  $\xi_2$  are *h-equivalent* if and only if they are *c- $\pi$ -equivalent*.
- (ii) If  $j_1^*$  is surjective, then  $\xi_1$  and  $\xi_2$  are *strictly h-equivalent* if and only if they are *strictly c-equivalent*.

The exact same proof of the corollary in the introduction yields

**COROLLARY.** *Let  $\xi : F \rightarrow E \rightarrow B$  be a rational fibration in which  $F$  is a two stage space and  $\pi_{\psi^*}(F)$  is a graded space of finite type. If  $\xi$  is *c-equivalent* to the trivial fibration  $B \times F$  then it is *strictly h-equivalent* to  $B \times F$ .*

*2.4 Remark.* Evidently (strict) *h-equivalence* implies (strict)-*c-equivalence* in any rational fibration. The reverse implication can easily fail. For instance the rational fibration  $S_{\mathbf{Q}}^2 \vee S_{\mathbf{Q}}^2 \rightarrow E \rightarrow S_{\mathbf{Q}}^3$  of [9-VI.1, (6)] is *strictly c-equivalent* (and hence *c- $\pi$ -equivalent*) to the trivial fibration.

The minimal model of  $E$ , however, is not isomorphic with that of  $(S_Q^2 \vee S_Q^2) \times S_Q^3$ .

**3. Associated fibrations.** Let  $\lambda : K \rightarrow G$  be the inclusion of a closed connected subgroup of a connected Lie group  $G$ . Because they are connected the classifying spaces  $B_K, B_G$  are 1-connected, and it is a classical result of Borel [1, Theorem 19.1] that  $H^*(B_K)$  and  $H^*(B_G)$  are finitely generated polynomial algebras  $\Lambda Q_K$  and  $\Lambda Q_G$ . (Use Iawasawa's theorem to reduce to the compact case.) In particular, the minimal models are given by

$$(\Lambda Q_K, 0) \rightarrow (A(B_K), d) \quad \text{and} \quad (\Lambda Q_G, 0) \rightarrow (A(B_G), d).$$

Now the inclusion  $\lambda : K \rightarrow G$  induces  $B(\lambda) : B_K \rightarrow B_G$  and in the corresponding homotopy commutative diagram

$$(3.1) \quad \begin{array}{ccc} A(B_G) & \xrightarrow{A(B(\lambda))} & A(B_K) \\ \uparrow & & \uparrow \\ \Lambda Q_G & \xrightarrow{\mu} & \Lambda Q_K \end{array}$$

we must have  $\mu = B(\lambda)^*$ . Define c.g.d.a.  $(\Lambda Q_G \otimes \Lambda Q_K \otimes \Lambda P_G, D)$  as follows:

$$P_G^k = Q_G^{k+1}; D(Q_G \oplus Q_K) = 0 \text{ and} \\ D(1 \otimes 1 \otimes x) = x \otimes 1 \otimes 1 - 1 \otimes B(\lambda)^*x \otimes 1, x \in P_G.$$

Define a commutative diagram of c.g.d.a. homomorphisms

$$(3.2) \quad \begin{array}{ccc} & & \Lambda Q_K \\ & \nearrow^{B(\lambda)^*} & \uparrow \sigma \\ \Lambda Q_G & & \\ & \searrow & \\ & & \Lambda Q_G \otimes \Lambda Q_K \otimes \Lambda P_G \end{array}$$

with  $\sigma(x) = 0, x \in P_G; \sigma(y) = y, y \in Q_K; \sigma(z) = B(\lambda)^*z, z \in Q_G$ . A simple calculation shows that

$$\sigma^* : H(\Lambda Q_G \otimes \Lambda Q_K \otimes \Lambda P_G) \rightarrow \Lambda Q_K$$

is an isomorphism.

On the other hand if  $G \rightarrow E_G \rightarrow B_G$  is the universal bundle for  $G$  we may take  $B_K = E_G/K$  and  $B(\lambda)$  the projection of the bundle

$$(3.3) \quad G/K \longrightarrow E_G/K \xrightarrow{B(\lambda)} B_G.$$

Combining (3.1) and (3.2) we can construct a commutative diagram

$$\begin{array}{ccccc}
 (A(B_G), d) & \xrightarrow{A(B(\lambda))} & (A(B_K), d) & \longrightarrow & (A(G/K), d) \\
 \uparrow \simeq \gamma & & \uparrow \simeq \beta & & \uparrow \alpha \\
 (\Lambda Q_G, 0) & \xrightarrow{i} & \Lambda Q_G \otimes \Lambda Q_K \otimes \Lambda P_G, D) & \xrightarrow{\rho} & (\Lambda Q_K \otimes \Lambda P_G, \bar{D})
 \end{array}$$

in which  $\gamma^*, \beta^*$  are isomorphisms and  $\rho$  is defined by  $\rho(Q_G) = 0, \rho =$  identity in  $Q_K, P_G$ . Note that this determines  $\bar{D}$ .

Because  $B_G$  is 1-connected and  $H^*(B_G)$  has finite type, [5, Theorem 20.3] shows that  $\alpha^*$  is an isomorphism.

Now let  $G \rightarrow P \rightarrow B$  be a principal  $G$  bundle. It pulls back from the universal bundle via a classifying map  $\phi : B \rightarrow B_G$ , and the associated bundle  $\xi : G/K \rightarrow E \rightarrow B$  is then the pull-back of (3.3) via  $\phi$ . Let

$$(\Lambda Y, d_B) \xrightarrow{m_B} (A(B), d)$$

be a minimal model and choose a homomorphism

$$(\Lambda Q_G, 0) \xrightarrow{\tau} (\Lambda Y, d_B)$$

so that  $m_B^* \tau^* = \phi^*$ . Then

$$\begin{array}{ccc}
 A(B_G) & \xrightarrow{A(\phi)} & A(B) \\
 \uparrow & & \uparrow m_B \\
 (\Lambda Q_G, 0) & \xrightarrow{\tau} & (\Lambda Y, d_B)
 \end{array}$$

is a homotopy commutative diagram.

Since  $B_G$  is 1-connected and  $H^*(G/K)$  has finite type it follows that  $\xi$  is a rational fibration. Hence by [5, Section 20.5] a  $\Lambda$ -model (not necessarily  $\Lambda$ -minimal) for  $\xi$  is given by

$$\begin{array}{ccccc}
 (A(B), d) & \longrightarrow & (A(E), d) & \longrightarrow & (A(G/K), d) \\
 \uparrow m_B \simeq & & \uparrow \simeq & & \uparrow \simeq \\
 (\Lambda Y, d_B) & \longrightarrow & (\Lambda Y \otimes \Lambda Q_K \otimes \Lambda P_G, D_\xi) & \longrightarrow & (\Lambda Q_K \otimes \Lambda P_G, \bar{D}),
 \end{array}$$

where

$$\begin{aligned} D_\xi(y \otimes 1 \otimes 1) &= d_B y \otimes 1 \otimes 1, D_\xi(1 \otimes z \otimes 1) = 0, \\ D_\xi(1 \otimes 1 \otimes x) &= \tau x \otimes 1 \otimes 1 - 1 \otimes B(\lambda)^* x \otimes 1, \\ y \in Y, z \in Q_K, x \in P_G. \end{aligned}$$

It follows (cf. [3, Proposition VII, Section 3.22]) that the  $\Lambda$ -minimal  $\Lambda$ -model has the form

$$(3.4) \quad (\Lambda Y, d_B) \xrightarrow{i} (\Lambda Y \otimes \Lambda Q \otimes \Lambda P, d) \xrightarrow{p} (\Lambda Q \otimes \Lambda P, \bar{d}),$$

where  $d(1 \otimes Q \otimes 1) = 0$  and  $d(1 \otimes 1 \otimes P) \subset \Lambda Y \otimes \Lambda Q \otimes 1$ . In particular,  $\xi$  is two stage.

**4. The model for  $G/K$ .** Let  $K, G$  be as in Section 3. Specializing equation (3.4) to the case  $B = \text{point}$  ( $Y = 0$ ) we obtain that the minimal model for  $G/K$  has the form  $(\Lambda Q \otimes \Lambda P, \bar{d})$ , where  $Q$  (respectively  $P$ ) is evenly (respectively oddly) graded,  $\bar{d}(Q) = 0$  and  $\bar{d}(P) \subset \Lambda Q$ . On the other hand, the preceding diagram gives us a (non-minimal) model of the form  $(\Lambda Q_K \otimes \Lambda P_G, \bar{D})$  with  $\bar{D}(Q_K) = 0$  and  $\bar{D}x = -B(\lambda)^* x, x \in P_G$ .

With these identifications many of the results in [3] go over from real to rational coefficients. We shall recall certain of these here. They will be applied to show that for certain classes of homogeneous spaces as fibre, cohomological equivalence of fibrations implies  $c$ - $\pi$ -equivalence.

First, recall from [3] that

$$\chi_\tau(G/K) = \dim \pi_\psi^{\text{even}}(G/K) - \dim \pi_\psi^{\text{odd}}(G/K) = \dim Q - \dim P.$$

Since  $\Lambda Q_K \otimes P_G$  is a model and since  $\dim Q_K = rkK, \dim P_G = \dim Q_G = rkG$  we have

$$\chi_\tau(G/K) = rkK - rkG.$$

On the other hand, if we interpret  $\zeta^*$  as a linear map  $H^+(G/K) \rightarrow P \oplus Q$  we may write it as the sum of two linear maps

$$\zeta_0^* : H^{\text{odd}}(G/K) \rightarrow P \quad \text{and} \quad \zeta_e^* : (H^{\text{even}})^+(G/K) \rightarrow Q.$$

Denote their respective kernels and images by  $N_0, \hat{P}$  and  $N_e, \hat{Q}$ . Using [3, Theorem II, Chapter 10 and diagram 11.1] we may identify  $H^*(G) = \Lambda P_G$  and  $\hat{P} = P_G \cap \text{Im } p^*$ , where  $p : G \rightarrow G/K$ .

Furthermore [3, Theorem V, Chapter 2] we may write

$$(\Lambda Q \otimes \Lambda P, \bar{d}) \cong (\Lambda \hat{P}, 0) \otimes (\Lambda \hat{Q} \otimes \Lambda \bar{P}, \bar{d});$$

here  $P = \hat{P} \oplus \bar{P}$ . Because  $H(\Lambda \hat{Q} \otimes \Lambda \bar{P})$  has finite dimension,  $\dim \bar{P} \geq \dim Q$ . If we set  $\text{def}(G/K) = \dim \bar{P} - \dim Q$  we have then

$$\begin{aligned} (4.1) \quad \text{def}(G/K) &= \dim \text{Im } \zeta_0^* - \chi_\tau(G/K) \\ &= rk G - rk K - \dim (P_G \cap \text{Im } p^*). \end{aligned}$$



The first equation describes  $\text{def } (G/K)$  as a homotopy invariant; the second in terms of Lie group invariants. It follows from [3, Theorem XI, Chapter 3] that  $G/K$  is formal if and only if  $\text{def } (G/K) = 0$ .

**4.2 PROPOSITION.** *Let  $K$  be any closed connected subgroup of a connected Lie group  $G$ . Then any automorphism,  $f$ , of the graded algebra  $H^*(G/K)$  embeds in a commutative diagram*

$$\begin{CD} H^{\text{odd}}(G/K) @>\zeta_0^*>> P \\ @Vf \cong VV @VV \cong Vg \\ H^{\text{odd}}(G/K) @>\zeta_0^*>> P \end{CD}$$

( $g$  is a linear isomorphism of graded spaces.)

*Proof.* We need only show that  $f$  preserves  $N_0$ . Let  $\omega \in H^{\text{odd}}(G/K)$ , and define a linear map  $\delta : H^*(G/K) \rightarrow H^*(G/K)$  by  $\delta(\beta) = \omega \cdot \beta$ . Because  $\omega$  has odd degree,  $\delta^2 = 0$ . We shall show that

$$(4.3) \quad \omega \notin N_0 \Leftrightarrow H(H^*(G/K), \delta) = 0.$$

Clearly this implies that  $f(N_0) = N_0$ .

If  $\omega \notin N_0$  write  $\zeta^*\omega = x$ ,  $0 \neq x \in \hat{P}$ . Write  $\hat{P} = (x) \oplus P_1$ ; then

$$H^*(G/K) = H(\Lambda Q \otimes \Lambda \hat{P}) \otimes \Lambda P_1 \otimes \Lambda(x) = A \otimes \Lambda(x).$$

Thus  $\omega = a \otimes 1 + 1 \otimes x$ , for some  $a \in A$ , and a simple calculation shows  $H(H^*(G/K), \delta) = 0$ .

Conversely, suppose  $H(H^*(G/K), \delta) = 0$ . If  $\text{deg } \omega = 1$  it is obvious by inspection that  $\omega \notin N_0$ . Suppose  $\text{deg } \omega > 1$ . Let  $u \in \Lambda Q \otimes \Lambda P$  be a cocycle representing  $\omega$ . Define a c.g.d.a.  $(\Lambda Q \otimes \Lambda P \otimes \Lambda v, \nabla)$  as follows:  $\nabla$  restricts to  $\bar{d}$  in  $\Lambda Q \otimes \Lambda P$ ,  $\text{deg } v = (\text{deg } \omega) - 1$ ,  $\nabla v = u$ . Set

$$F_p = \sum_{j=0}^p \Lambda Q \otimes \Lambda P \otimes \Lambda^j v;$$

this filtration defines a spectral sequence with  $E_1$  term  $(H^*(G/K) \otimes \Lambda v, \nabla_1)$ , where  $\nabla_1$  is zero in  $H^*(G/K)$  and  $\nabla_1 v = \omega$ . Thus the  $E_2$  term is given by

$$\begin{aligned} E_2 &= H^*(G/K)/\omega \cdot H^*(G/K) \oplus \sum_{j=1}^{\infty} H(H^*(G/K), \delta) \otimes \Lambda^j v \\ &= H^*(G/K)/\omega \cdot H^*(G/K). \end{aligned}$$

In particular,  $\dim E_2 < \infty$  and so

$$\dim H(\Lambda Q \otimes \Lambda P \otimes \Lambda v, \nabla) < \infty.$$

Now consider [4, Proposition 1], applied to the c.g.d.a.  $(\Lambda Q \otimes \Lambda P \otimes \Lambda v, \nabla_1)$ . Conclusion (2) of that proposition is false for  $v$  but conclusion (1) holds. The only hypothesis which is possibly unsatisfied is minimality. Thus  $(\Lambda Q \otimes \Lambda P \otimes \Lambda v, \nabla)$  cannot be minimal. Since  $(\Lambda Q \otimes \Lambda P, \bar{d})$  is minimal we conclude that  $0 \neq \zeta \nabla v = \zeta u = \zeta^* \omega$ ; i.e.,  $\omega \notin N_0$ .

- Consider now the following three classes of homogeneous spaces  $G/K$ :
- (1)  $\text{def}(G/K) = 0$  (i.e.,  $G/K$  is formal)
  - (2)  $\text{def}(G/K) = 1$
  - (3)  $K$  is a torus.

Note that class (1) contains the symmetric spaces [3, Section 11.5] as well as all the examples in [3, Chapter 11, Section 4]. In [3, Section 11.14] it is shown that  $Q(n)/SU(n)$  is in class (2) for  $n \geq 5$ .

**4.4 PROPOSITION.** *Suppose  $G/K$  belongs to one of the above classes. Then every automorphism  $f$  of the graded algebra  $H^*(G/K)$  embeds in a commutative diagram*

$$\begin{array}{ccc}
 H^+(G/K) & \xrightarrow{\zeta^*} & \pi_\psi^*(G/K) \\
 \downarrow f \cong & & \cong \downarrow g \\
 H^+(G/K) & \xrightarrow{\zeta^*} & \pi_\psi^*(G/K)
 \end{array}$$

in which  $g$  is an isomorphism of graded spaces.

In particular, for such spaces Theorem I remains valid when  $c$ - $\pi$ -equivalence is replaced by  $c$ -equivalence in the statement of (i).

*Proof.* The proposition is obvious in case (1) ( $G/K$  formal) because in that case  $f = \alpha^*$  for some automorphism,  $\alpha$ , of the model. We now consider cases (2) and (3). It is sufficient to show that  $f(N_0) = N_0$  and  $f(N_e) = N_e$ ; the first is already established in Proposition 4.2.

In case (2) write  $H^*(G/K) = H(\Lambda Q \otimes \Lambda \tilde{P}) \otimes \Lambda \tilde{P}$  with  $\dim \tilde{P} - \dim Q = 1$ . By [3, Theorem VII, Chapter 2] every cohomology class in  $H(\Lambda Q \otimes \Lambda \tilde{P})$  can be represented by a cocycle of the form  $\Phi \otimes 1 + \sum \Phi_i \otimes x_i$  with  $\Phi, \Phi_i \in \Lambda Q$  and  $x_i \in P$ . Note that  $[\Phi \otimes 1] \in H^{\text{even}}$  and  $[\sum \Phi_i \otimes x_i] \in H^{\text{odd}}$ . It follows easily that

$$N_e = H^+(G/K) \cdot H^+(G/K) \cap H^{\text{even}}(G/K)$$

and hence is preserved by  $f$ .

In case (3) observe that  $Q_K$  is concentrated in degree 2, and in fact that  $Q_K \cong H^2(G/K)$ . It follows that  $N_e = \sum_{j>1} H^{2j}(G/K)$  and hence is preserved by  $f$ .

**5. Proof of theorem II.** Let

$$(\Lambda Y, d_B) \xrightarrow{i_\nu} (\Lambda Y \otimes \Lambda X, d_\nu) \xrightarrow{\rho_\nu} (\Lambda X, d_F)$$

be the  $\Lambda$ -minimal  $\Lambda$ -models of  $\xi_\nu, \nu = 1, 2$ .

(i) We need only prove that  $c$ - $\pi$ -equivalence implies  $h$ -equivalence. Let

$$f: H(\Lambda Y \otimes \Lambda X, d_1) \xrightarrow{\cong} H(\Lambda Y \otimes \Lambda X, d_2) \quad \text{and} \quad \eta: X \xrightarrow{\cong} X$$

be isomorphisms such that  $f i_1^* = i_2^*$  and  $\eta \zeta^* \rho_1^* = \zeta^* \rho_2^*$ . (We have written  $X = \pi_\psi^*(F)$ ; cf. Section 2.)

Now set  $Z_0 = \text{Im}(\zeta^* \rho_1^*)$ . It follows from the hypothesis that  $\xi_1$  is two stage that  $X = X_0 \oplus X_1$  as in Definition 2.2; clearly  $X_0 \subset Z_0$ . Thus we may assume that  $X = Z_0 \oplus Z_1$  with  $d_1(1 \otimes Z_0) = 0$  and  $d_1(1 \otimes Z_1) \subset \Lambda Y \otimes \Lambda Z_0$ .

Choose a linear map  $\phi: 1 \otimes Z_0 \rightarrow (\Lambda Y \otimes \Lambda X) \cap \ker d_2$  such that  $[\phi(1 \otimes z)] = f[1 \otimes z], z \in Z_0$ . Then extend  $\phi$  to  $\Lambda Y \otimes \Lambda Z_0$  by setting  $\phi(y \otimes 1) = y \otimes 1, y \in Y$ . Clearly

$$\phi: (\Lambda Y \otimes \Lambda Z_0, d_1) \rightarrow (\Lambda Y \otimes \Lambda X, d_2)$$

is a c.g.d.a. homomorphism, and the diagram

$$(5.1) \quad \begin{array}{ccc} H(\Lambda Y \otimes \Lambda Z_0) & \longrightarrow & H(\Lambda Y \otimes \Lambda X, d_1) \\ & \searrow \phi^* & \downarrow \cong f \\ & & H(\Lambda Y \otimes \Lambda X, d_2) \end{array}$$

commutes.

Now for  $z \in Z_1, d_1(1 \otimes z)$  is a cocycle in  $\Lambda Y \otimes \Lambda Z_0$ . The diagram (5.1) shows that  $\phi^*[d_1(1 \otimes z)] = 0$ . Thus if  $z_i$  is a homogeneous basis of  $Z_1$  we can find  $u_i \in \Lambda Y \otimes \Lambda X$  so that  $d_2 u_i = \phi d_1(1 \otimes z_i)$ . Extend  $\phi$  to a c.g.d.a. homomorphism

$$\phi: (\Lambda Y \otimes \Lambda X, d_1) \rightarrow (\Lambda Y \otimes \Lambda X, d_2)$$

by setting  $\phi z_i = u_i$ .

It remains to show that  $\phi$  is an isomorphism. Because  $\phi$  is the identity in  $\Lambda Y$  it induces a homomorphism of c.g.d.a.'s  $\alpha: \Lambda X \rightarrow \Lambda X$  such that  $\rho_2 \phi = \alpha \rho_1$ . Let  $Q(\alpha): X \rightarrow X$  be the linear map such that  $\zeta \alpha = Q(\alpha) \zeta$ . Since  $\Lambda Y$  and  $\Lambda X$  are connected, it is clearly sufficient to prove  $Q(\alpha)$  is an isomorphism. Since  $X(\cong \pi_\psi^*(F))$  is a graded space of finite type we need only prove  $Q(\alpha)$  injective.

We show first that if  $Q(\alpha)$  becomes injective when restricted to some graded subspace  $W \subset X$ , then  $\phi$  restricted to  $\Lambda Y \otimes \Lambda W$  is also injective.

Indeed write  $X = U \oplus V$ , where  $U = Q(\alpha)W$  and define a homomorphism  $l : \Lambda Y \otimes \Lambda X \rightarrow \Lambda Y \otimes \Lambda X$  by

$$l(y \otimes 1) = y \otimes 1, l(1 \otimes u) = \phi(1 \otimes Q(\alpha)^{-1}u),$$

$$l(1 \otimes v) = 1 \otimes v, y \in Y, u \in U, v \in V.$$

Then  $\zeta_{\rho_2}l = \zeta_{\rho_2}$  and it follows, as above, that  $l$  is an isomorphism. Since  $l$  coincides with  $\phi$  in  $\Lambda Y \otimes \Lambda W$  we conclude that  $\phi$  is indeed injective in this subalgebra.

Next observe that for  $z \in Z_0$

$$Q(\alpha)z = \zeta_{\rho_2}\phi(1 \otimes z) = \zeta^*\rho_2^*[\phi(1 \otimes z)] = \zeta^*\rho_1^*f[1 \otimes z] = \eta z.$$

Thus  $Q(\alpha)$  is injective in  $Z_0$ . Assume it is injective in  $X^q$  for  $q < p$  and suppose for some  $x \in X^p$  that  $Q(\alpha)x = 0$ . This implies that

$$\phi(1 \otimes x) \in \Lambda^+Y \otimes \Lambda X + 1 \otimes \Lambda^+X \cdot \Lambda^+X.$$

Since  $\Lambda Y \otimes \Lambda X$  is connected we obtain

$$\phi(1 \otimes x) \in \Lambda Y \otimes \Lambda(X^{<p}).$$

Now  $\phi$  maps  $\Lambda Y \otimes \Lambda(X^{<p})$  into  $\Lambda Y \otimes \Lambda(X^{<p})$ . Since by our hypothesis  $Q(\alpha)$  is injective in  $X^{<p}$  the argument given above (with  $X^{<p}$  replacing  $X$ ) shows that it is an automorphism of  $\Lambda Y \otimes \Lambda(X^{<p})$ . Thus for some  $\Phi \in \Lambda Y \otimes \Lambda(X^{<p})$ ,  $\phi(1 \otimes x + \Phi) = 0$ , and so  $\phi d_1(1 \otimes x + \phi) = 0$ .

But

$$d_1(1 \otimes x + \Phi) \in d_1(1 \otimes x + \Lambda Y \otimes \Lambda(X^{<p}))$$

$$\subset \Lambda Y \otimes \Lambda(Z_0 + X^{<p}).$$

Moreover, since  $Q(\alpha)$  is injective in  $Z_0$  and in  $X^{<p}$ , it is injective in  $Z_0 + X^{<p}$ . As we observed above, this implies that  $\phi$  is injective in  $\Lambda Y \otimes \Lambda(Z_0 + X^{<p})$ . In particular  $d_1(1 \otimes x + \Phi) = 0$ . Clearly

$$\zeta^*\rho_1^*[1 \otimes x + \Phi] = x.$$

We find, then, that

$$x \in \text{Im } \zeta^*\rho_1^* \cap \ker Q(\alpha) = Z_0 \cap \ker Q(\alpha) = 0.$$

Thus  $Q(\alpha)$  is injective in  $X^p$ .

This completes the proof of (i).

(ii) Here we assume  $\xi_1$  and  $\xi_2$  are strictly  $c$ -equivalent and prove they are strictly  $h$ -equivalent. Again write  $X = X_0 \oplus X_1$  with  $d_1(1 \otimes X_0) = 0$  and  $d_1(1 \otimes X_1) \subset \Lambda Y \otimes \Lambda X_0$ . By hypothesis we have an isomorphism

$$f: H(\Lambda Y \otimes \Lambda X, d_1) \xrightarrow{\cong} H(\Lambda Y \otimes \Lambda X, d_2)$$

such that  $f \circ i_1^* = i_2^*$  and  $\rho_2^* \circ f = \rho_1^*$ . Moreover  $\rho_1^*$  is surjective; hence so is  $\rho_2^*$ .

Choose a homogeneous basis  $z_i$  for  $X_0$  and choose  $d_2$ -cocycles  $w_i \in \Lambda Y \otimes \Lambda X$  so that  $f[1 \otimes z_i] = [w_i]$ . Then  $\rho_2^*[w_i] = [z_i]$ ; i.e.,  $z_i - \rho_2 w_i = d_F \Psi_i$ . Choose  $\Omega_i \in \Lambda Y \otimes \Lambda X$  so that  $\rho_2 \Omega_i = \Psi_i$ .

Extend the identity in  $\Lambda Y$  to a c.g.d.a. homomorphism

$$\phi : (\Lambda Y \otimes \Lambda X_0, d_1) \rightarrow (\Lambda Y \otimes \Lambda X, d_2)$$

by putting  $\phi z_i = w_i + d_2 \Omega_i$ . Let  $x_i$  be a homogeneous basis of  $X_1$ . Then  $d_1(1 \otimes x_i) \in \Lambda Y \otimes \Lambda X_0$ , and exactly as in (i) we can find  $u_i \in \Lambda Y \otimes \Lambda X$  so that  $d_2 u_i = \phi d_1(1 \otimes x_i)$ .

Because of our construction we have

$$\rho_2 \phi = \rho_1 : \Lambda Y \otimes \Lambda X_0 \rightarrow X_0.$$

Thus applying  $\rho_2$  to the last equation we find that

$$d_F(\rho_2 u_i - x_i) = 0.$$

Because  $\rho_2$  and  $\rho_2^*$  are surjective there are  $d_2$ -cocycles  $\Phi_i \in \Lambda Y \otimes \Lambda X$  such that  $\rho_2 \Phi_i = x_i - \rho_2 u_i$ . Extend  $\phi$  to a c.g.d.a. homomorphism

$$\phi : (\Lambda Y \otimes \Lambda X, d_1) \rightarrow (\Lambda Y \otimes \Lambda X, d_2)$$

by putting  $\phi(1 \otimes x_i) = \Phi_i + u_i$ . Then  $\rho_2 \phi = \rho_1$  continues to hold. It follows that  $\phi$  is an isomorphism.

#### REFERENCES

1. A. Borel, *Sur la cohomologie des espaces fibrés principaux et des espaces homogènes de groupes de Lie compacts*, Ann. of Math. 57 (1953), 115–207.
2. H. Cartan, *La transgression dans un groupe de Lie*, Colloque de Topologie (espaces fibres) Masson, Paris (1951), 51–71.
3. W. Greub et al., *Connections, curvature and cohomology III* (Academic Press, New York, 1976).
4. S. Halperin, *Finiteness in the minimal models of Sullivan*, Trans. Amer. Math. Soc. 230 (1977), 173–199.
5. ——— *Lectures on minimal models*, Publ. Internes de l'U.E.R. de Mathématiques Pures, Université de Lille I, 59650 Villeneuve d'Ascq.
6. S. Halperin and J. D. Stasheff, *Obstructions to homotopy equivalences*, Advances in Mathematics 32 (1979), 233–279.
7. S. Halperin, *Rational fibrations, minimal models, and fibrings of homogeneous spaces*, Trans. Amer. Math. Soc. 244 (1978), 199–224.
8. D. Sullivan, *Infinitesimal computations in topology*, Publ. de l'Institut des Hautes Etudes Scientifiques 47 (1977), 269–331.
9. J. C. Thomas, *Homotopie rationnelle des fibrés de Serre*, Thèse n° 473, Université de Lille I.

University of Toronto,  
Toronto, Ontario;  
Université de Lille I,  
Villeneuve D'Ascq, France