

Lemma 7.1 *The following two conditions on R_n are equivalent.*

- 1) *There is a homotopy section of $p : R_n \rightarrow B\widetilde{V}R_n$.*
- 2) *R_n admits a co- H -structure.*

Now we show the existence of a homotopy section of $p : B\widetilde{V}R_n \rightarrow R_n$. We define a map $s_0 : B\vee A_n \rightarrow B\vee \widetilde{B\vee A_n} \simeq B\vee \bigvee_{i \in \mathbb{Z}} \tau^i \cdot A_n$ as follows:

$$s_0|_B = \text{in}_B : B \rightarrow B\vee \bigvee_{i \in \mathbb{Z}} \tau^i \cdot A_n,$$

$$s_0|_{A_n} : A_n \xrightarrow{\{f,g\}} A_n \vee A_n \xrightarrow{\widetilde{\psi(\tau) \vee 1_{A_n}}} \tau \cdot A_n \vee A_n \xrightarrow{(\Psi(\tau^{-1}) \circ \text{in}_{\tau \cdot A_n}) \vee 1_{A_n}} B\vee \tau \cdot A_n \vee A_n \subset B\vee \bigvee_{i \in \mathbb{Z}} \tau^i \cdot A_n.$$

By (6.1), we have $p_0 \circ s_0 \sim 1_{B\vee(f+g)} \sim 1_{B\vee 1_{A_n}} = 1_{B\vee A_n}$. Since $n \geq 4$, it follows that $\pi_{n+4}(A_n \vee A_n) \cong \pi_{n+4}(A_n) \oplus \pi_{n+4}(A_n)$ for dimensional reasons. By Proposition 6.1, we have

$$s_0 \circ \Sigma^{n-3} \alpha \sim \text{in}_{A_n} \circ \Sigma^{n-3} \alpha : S^{n+4} \rightarrow B\vee A_n \subset B\vee \bigvee_{i \in \mathbb{Z}} \tau^i \cdot A_n,$$

$$s_0 \circ \Sigma^{n-3} \beta \sim \Psi(\tau^{-1}) \circ \text{in}_{\tau \cdot A_n} \circ \widetilde{\psi(\tau)} \circ \Sigma^{n-3} \beta : S^{n+4} \rightarrow A_n \rightarrow \tau \cdot A_n \rightarrow B\vee \tau \cdot A_n \subset B\vee \bigvee_{i \in \mathbb{Z}} \tau^i \cdot A_n.$$

Hence we obtain that

$$s_0 \circ (\Sigma^{n-3} \alpha + \psi(\tau) \circ \Sigma^{n-3} \beta) = s_0 \circ \Sigma^{n-3} \alpha + \Psi(\tau) \circ s_0 \circ \Sigma^{n-3} \beta$$

$$\sim \text{in}_{A_n} \circ \Sigma^{n-3} \alpha + \text{in}_{\tau \cdot A_n} \circ \widetilde{\psi(\tau)} \circ \Sigma^{n-3} \beta = \text{in}_{A_n \vee \tau \cdot A_n} \circ (\Sigma^{n-3} \alpha + \widetilde{\psi(\tau)} \circ \Sigma^{n-3} \beta).$$

Thus the map $s_0 \circ (\Sigma^{n-3} \alpha + \psi(\tau) \circ \Sigma^{n-3} \beta)$ is homotopic to the attaching map of the cell $1 \cdot e^{n+5}$. Hence it induces a map $s : R_n \rightarrow B\widetilde{V}R_n$ so that $p \circ s$ is clearly the identity up to homotopy.

By Lemma 7.1, we obtain the following theorem.

Theorem 7.2 *R_n is a co- H -space.*

8 Unsplittability of R_n

In this section, we show that R_n is not standard. We state the following well-known result:

Proposition 8.1 *The set of invertible elements in the group ring $\mathbb{Z}\pi$ is $\pm\pi \subset \mathbb{Z}\pi$.*

Proof. Since π is the infinite cyclic group, $\mathbb{Z}\pi$ is isomorphic with $\mathbb{Z}[x, \frac{1}{x}]$ the ring of Laurent polynomials with coefficients in \mathbb{Z} . We can express each Laurent polynomial in the form $x^i(a_\ell x^\ell + a_{\ell-1}x^{\ell-1} + \dots + a_1x^1 + a_0)$ with $a_\ell a_0 \neq 0$, $\ell \geq 0$ and $i \in \mathbb{Z}$. If the product of any two such Laurent polynomials, say $x^i(a_\ell x^\ell + \dots + a_0)$ and $x^j(b_m x^m + \dots + b_0)$, is equal to the unity, then we have that $i + j = \ell = m = 0$ and $a_0 b_0 = 1$. Hence every invertible element can be expressed as $\pm x^i$ for some $i \in \mathbb{Z}$. *qed.*