

SINGULARITIES OF n -SPHERES IN $(n+2)$ -SPACE

by

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Introduction

R. H. Fox and J. W. Milnor have bestowed some consideration on the singularities of a 2-sphere S^2 in euclidean 4-space R^4 from any imbedding S^2 in R^4 [1 and 2: p. 1655].* Below is given a partial explanation of the consideration mentioned above :—

An oriented polygonal simple closed curve S^1 either in (oriented) euclidean 3-space R^3 or in the (oriented) 3-sphere S^3 will be called a *knot*, and their combinatorial equivalence class will be called the same *knot type*.

Given an oriented polyhedral surface M^2 in 4-space R^4 , one can measure the local singularity of M^2 at a point x as follows: Choose a small sphere S^3 in R^4 with center at x . Then S^3 intersects M^2 in an oriented closed curve S^1 . We say that x is a *singular* or *non-singular* point according as S^1 is knotted or unknotted. In either case, if S^1 belongs to the knot type k , we will say that the singularity at the point x is of *type k* .

Let k be a knot type with representative S^1 in R^3 . Let H^4 be the half space $R^3 \times [0, \infty)$ in $R^4 = R^3 \times (-\infty, \infty)$. We define that k is of *trivial knot cobordism class*, if there exists a non-singular, polyhedral 2-cell E^2 in H^4 with S^1 as its boundary.

By a non-singular 2-cell, we mean a 2-cell such that each interior point is non-singular in the above sense, and such that each boundary point x is non-singular in the following sense. A small sphere S^3 with center x intersects the half space H^4 in a 3-cell E^3 , and intersects the cell E^2 in an arc E^1 spanning E^3 . We require that this arc E^1 will be unknotted in E^3 .

The product of two knot types can be defined in the usual way. (See 3: Definition 4).

One of Fox and Milnor's results is as follows: —

A collection $\{k_1, k_2, \dots, k_n\}$ of knot types can occur as the collection of singularities of a 2-sphere in 4-space if and only if the product $k_1 k_2 \dots k_n$ is of the trivial knot cobordism class.

By Argument [5: p. 119] — the argument that the only euclidean space

* The bracketed number indicates the number of reference given at the end of this paper.

in which we can knot S^n is $(n+2)$ -dimensions, although the Schoenflies-Mazur-Brown theorem gives an unknotting of S^n in S^{n+1} , — we will generalize the result into an n -sphere in euclidean $(n+2)$ -space from a combinatorial point of view, but in the simple case which is 1-flat (see p. 7).

It is hoped, therefore, that such terms as spheres, elements, spaces and manifolds — all used in this paper — will be deemed oriented and combinatorial, so long as a notice is not given.

V. K. A. M. Gugenheim [3, 4] states that an n -sphere ($n \geq 2$) in an $(n+2)$ -sphere may be regarded as a generalization of the knot — the generalization called *n-knot* — and that the same can be said of several other concepts of the knot which is not yet generalized; for example, a congruence class of n -knots is called an *n-knot type*.

In this paper, the knot cobordism class — the term created by Fox, Milnor and Kervaire [Math. review. 8511 (1961) and 2] — will be adopted into *n-knots*.

The main theorems are Theorems 2 and 3 of 4 which lead to the conclusion of this paper, one of the essential parts of which, however, Theorem 1 makes.

1. Definitions and Notations*

1. 1.

Let R^q be a q -dimensional metric euclidean space. By *simplex* we shall mean closed euclidean simplex, by *complex*, rectilinear closed locally finite simplicial complex of some euclidean space. Let K be a complex; we denote by $|K|$ the point set covered by the simplexes of K ; such a point set will be called a *polyhedron*, and K a *partition* (or simplicial subdivision) of the polyhedron. Polyhedra having isomorphic partitions will be said to be *equivalent*. By a *q-element* we shall mean a polyhedron equivalent to a q -simplex, by a *q-sphere*, one equivalent to the boundary of a $(q+1)$ -simplex.

Let K be a complex and A one of its simplexes. The set of all simplexes of K having A as a face is denoted by $St(A, K)$ and referred to as the *star of A in K*. The set of simplexes of K which are faces opposite A in some simplex of $St(A, K)$ is defined by $Lk(A, K)$ and referred to as the *link of A in K*.

A *combinatorial q-manifold M* is defined as a complex M such that $|St$

* The author of this paper is indebted to Prof. Gugenheim for his exact and exhaustive definitions and notations.

For $n < m$, an n -sphere S^n either in m -sphere S^m or in m -space R^m will be called (n, m) -knot and each their congruence class will be called (n, m) -knot type and we denote a set of congruence classes of n -spheres of m -sphere or m -space, by the use of $[n, m]$.

1. 2

Punctured knot.* Let M^n be an n -manifold in the upper half m -space $H_+^m (= R^{m-1} \times [0, \infty])$, and let K, L be the partitions of M^n, H_+^m , respectively, such that K is the subcomplex of $L, \partial M^n \subset R^{m-1} (= R^{m-1} \times 0)$ and $\text{int } M^n \subset R^{m-1} \times (0, \infty)$. Let P be a vertex of K . By $[P, K, L]$ we will denote $[|Lk(P, K)|, |LK(P, L)|]$ in brief.

Case I: $P \in \text{int } M^n$

It is clear that the pair $[P, K, L]$ represents an element of $[n-1, m-1]$ which is a set of congruence classes of $(n-1, m-1)$ -knot type.

Case II: $P \in \partial M^n$

In this case is given a generalized way of interpreting of $[P, K, L]$ as a knot as follows: —

$Lk[P, L]$ is an $(m-1)$ -element E_1^{m-1} such that $\partial Lk(P, L) \subset R^{m-1} \times 0$ and $\text{int } Lk(P, L) \subset R^{m-1} \times (0, \infty)$. $|\partial Lk(P, L)|$ is an $(m-2)$ -sphere S^{m-2} . In R^{m-1} , there is an $(m-1)$ -element E_2^{m-1} with S^{m-2} as its boundary. Then $E_1^{m-1} \cup E_2^{m-1}$ is an $(m-1)$ -sphere S^{m-1} by the Alexander's theorem [6: p. 314].

“For the same reason $|Lk(P, K)|$ is an $(n-1)$ -element E_1^{n-1} such that $\partial Lk(P, K) \subset R^{m-1} \times 0$ and $\text{int } (P, K) \subset R^{m-1} \times (0, \infty)$. In this case, $\partial |Lk(P, K)|$ is an $(n-2)$ -sphere S^{n-2} , and $\partial M^n \cap R^{m-1}$ is an $(n-1)$ -element E_2^{n-1} with S^{n-2} as its boundary. Then $E_1^{n-1} \cup E_2^{n-1}$ is an $(n-1)$ -sphere S^{n-1} and $S^{n-1} \subset S^{m-1}$.

$[S^{n-1}, S^{m-1}]$ which has been constructed now, is an $(n-1, m-1)$ -knot.”

Definition 1. Let $P \in \partial M^n$ be the vertex of K . The pair $[P, K, L]$ is called the punctured $(n-1, m-1)$ -knot, and its knot type is called k , if the knot $[S^{n-1}, S^{m-1}]$, which was constructed in the above, has the knot type** k .

2. Trivial Knot Cobordism Class

Proposition 1 given below is on the basis of Gugenheim's argument [4: p. 135.]

Proposition 1. The $(n-1, m-1)$ -knot types for the common vertex of any two partitions of an n -manifold M^n in an m -space R^m are exactly the same as

* The author has adopted the term “punctured knot”, as he called, for convenience, after the name of a “punctured” oriented n -sphere which was described by Prof. Solomon Lefschetz on page 170 of his book entitled “Introduction To Topology”, 1949, and [4: p. 132; 7. 14].

** The $(n-1, m-1)$ -knot is represented by the $(n-1)$ -knot or simply knot if $(m-1)$ or $(n-1, m-1)$ is clear. The same can be said of the knot type.

each other.

Proof. Let x be a vertex of K and let L_1 and L_2 be any two partitions of R^m with x as their common vertex. $B_1 = Lk(x, L_1)$ and $B_2 = Lk(x, L_2)$ are composed of all the opposite faces of x in the x -containing simplexes of L_1 and L_2 , respectively. Then ray \overrightarrow{xy} ($y \in B_1$) and B_1 have only one point y in common. Since $B_2 = LK(x, L_2)$, $\overrightarrow{xy} \cap B_2$ has only one point z . Then there is homeomorphism $\varphi: B_1 \rightarrow B_2$ by $\varphi(y) = z$. It is also known that φ is +PLO by [4: p. 135: 7. 32].

By $p * A$ we denote the complex composed of all the simplexes that have both p and the vertices of each simplex of A —as vertices also of the complex. We call the complex the *join* of p and A .

Proposition 2. *Let p be a point of a manifold M . Then we can find the partition of M with p as its vertex.*

Proof. If K be any partition of M , p is either a vertex of K or an interior point of a simplex A of K . If p is a vertex of K , K is one of the required partitions. If p is in $\text{int } A$, the join of ∂A and p which is denoted $\partial A * p$, is a partition of A . Hence the partitions of K with $p * \{\partial St(A, K)\}$ as its subcomplex are the required partitions of M .

Proposition 2 holds good with either an m -space R^m or a half m -space H^m . Hence the knot type of M^n in R^m or H^m at p , which is defined in the both cases of p , is in $\text{int } M^n$ and is in ∂M^n , is determined uniquely (proposition 1).

For $n < m$, we call a pair $[S_1^n, S_2^n]$ a trival (n, m) -knot, so long as S_1^n is congruent to the boundary of an $(n+1)$ -simplex in S_1^m .

From propositions 1 and 2, for any point p of M^n , the $(n-1, m-1)$ -knot type at p is determined uniquely.

We can say, therefore, that any point p of M^n in R^m is *nonsingular* or *singular* according as the $(n-1)$ -knot type k at p is trivial or not, and that the singularity of M^n at the point p is of *type k* , if the knot type belongs to k .

Proposition 3. *Let Δ^r ($r=1, 2, \dots, n$) be an r -simplex of an n -manifold M^n in euclidean $(n+2)$ -space R^{n+2} and let p_1, p_2 be two points of $\text{int } \Delta^r$. Then their singularities will be one and the same.*

Proof. Let K, L be the same means as that of Proposition 2. Each of the two elements $|St(p_1, K)|$ and $|St(p_2, K)|$ of p_1 and p_2 in K , respectively, is $|St(\Delta^r, K)|$, if we subdivide K by p_1 and p_2 , each partition independent of the other. That is:

$$(1) \quad |St(p_1, K)| = |St(p_2, K)| = |St(\Delta^r, K)|$$

By the same process, it is also found that

$$(2) \quad |St(p_1, L)| = |St(p_2, L)| = |St(\Delta^r, L)|$$

Combining each of the three terms of (1) with its correlate term of (2),[†] we find:

$$(3) \quad [\rho_1, K, L] = [\rho_2, K, L].$$

From propositions 1 and 2 and the above mentioned (3) we will lead to the conclusion that the proof of proposition 3 is complete.

Note: Proposition 3 hold good with ρ_i ($i=1$ or 2) which, is in $\partial\Delta^r$ if (1) and (2) are hold.

Definition 2. For any r -simplex Δ^r ($r=0, 1, \dots, n$) of K in L , we call the knot type of $[\Delta^r, K, L]$ the singularity of Δ^r , which may contain the trivial knot type.

We say that M^n is 0-flat if any r -simplex of M^n is non-singular concerning each r and that, M^n is 1-flat* if any r -simplex of M^n is non-singular concerning each $r > 0$.

In the sense of 0-flat, 1-flat, we require that any above r -simplex in both the interior and the boundary of M^n , will be nonsingular.

Definition 3. We say that the $(n-1)$ -knot type k belongs to the trivial knot cobordism class, if a 0-flat combinatorial oriented n -element E^n lies in H^{n+2} ($H^{n+2} = R^{n+1} \times (-\infty, 0]$ or $H^{n+2} = R^{n+1} \times [0, \infty)$) with S^{n-1} in R^{n+1} as its boundary, such that $\text{int } E^n$ lies in $H^{n+2} - R^{n+1}$ and $[S^{n-1}, R^{n+1}]$ has the knot type k .

3. Product of Some Two $(n-1)$ -Knots

3.1.

Let M^q be a q -manifold and E^q a q -element such that

$$M^q \cap E^q = \partial M^q \cap \partial E^q = E^{q-1}$$

a $(q-1)$ -element. We say that M^q and E^q have regular contact in E^{q-1} .

Let $M^q \subset R^n$ be a q -manifold and $E_1^q \subset M^q$ a q -element such that

$$\partial M^q \cap \partial E_1^q \supset E^{q-1},$$

a $(q-1)$ -element. Keep $E_2^q \subset R^n$ in regular contact with M^q in E^{q-1} and let q -element $E_1^q \cup E_2^q$ be flat in R^n . Then we call E_2^q a flat attachment to M^q .

Let E_1^q, E_2^q be disjoint oriented q -elements of R^n and let g^q be a flat oriented q -element which is a positive flat attachment both to E_1^q and to E_2^q ; we say that g^q is a positive flat connection between E_1^q and E_2^q . In this case, $G^q = E_1^q \cup g^q \cup E_2^q$ is an oriented q -element and we call that G^q the connected sum of E_1^q and E_2^q and denote $G^q = E_1^q \# E_2^q$, or $G^q = [E_1^q, g^q, E_2^q]$.

Let E^q and S^q be a q -element and a q -sphere of R^n , respectively. We

* It will be notice that the definition of p -flat in this paper is different from one of the p -flat in [4: p. 135; 7. 33].

say that $E^q(S^q)$ is *flat* in R^n , if it is congruent to a q -simplex (the boundary of a $(q+1)$ -simplex). And if $E^q(S^q)$ is flat in R^n , then it is of course \mathcal{O} -flat, but the converse is not true.

For $i=1, 2$,

- (i) Let S_1^q, S_2^q be oriented and disjointed q -spheres of R^n .
- (ii) Let $E_1^q, E_2^q \subset R^n$ be disjointed n -elements such that $S_1^q \subset E_1^q$ and $S_2^q \cap E_1^q \supset e_1^q$ q -element.
- (iii) Let g^{q+1} be a flat $(q+1)$ -element such that

$$g^{q+1} \cap E_1^q = \partial g^{q+1} \cap \partial E_1^q = e_1^q$$

and such that g^{q+1}, S_2^q induce opposite orientation in e_1^q . Then

(iv) $U^q = \text{cl} [S_1^q \cup S_2^q \cup g^{q+1} - e_1^q - e_2^q]$

(where cl indicates 'closure') is a q -sphere of R^n , which can be oriented so that $S_2^q \subset U^q$; in this case, we say that g^{q+1} is a *positive flat connection* between S_1^q and S_2^q and we write

$$U^q = (S_1^q, S_2^q, g^{q+1}) \text{ or } U^q = S_1^q \# S_2^q$$

and call that U^q is the *connected sum* of S_1^q and S_2^q .

Let $S_i^r (r < q; i=1, 2)$ be each sphere in S^q and let $g^{r+1} \subset S^q$ be a positive flat connection between S_1^r and S_2^r , and let $e_i^r \subset S_i^r$ be r -elements as e_i^q in the process of making (S_1^q, S_2^q, g^{q+1}) . Suppose that we can make $U^r = (S_1^r, S_2^r, g^{r+1})$ in U^q .

Definition 4. Under the above preparations, we call the knot $[U^r, U^q] (r < q)$ the product of the knots $[S_1^r, S_2^r]$ and $[S_1^q, S_2^q]$.

3. 2.

Let S^n be an n -sphere in R^{n+2} and let K, L be partitions of S^n, R^{n+2} respectively, such that K is a subcomplex of L . By L', L'' we will understand the first, second barycentric partitions of L , respectively, and let K', K'' be the first, second barycentric partitions of K . Let p_1, p_2 be the only two singular points of S^n , each belonging to types k_1, k_2 , respectively.

Remember: —

$$E_i^{n+2} = |St(p_i, L'')|, \quad S_i^{n+1} = \partial E_i^{n+2} \quad (i=1, 2),$$

$$E_i^n = |St(p_i, K'')|, \quad S_i^{n-1} = \partial E_i^n \quad (i=1, 2).$$

p_1 and p_2 are connected with each other by a simple polygonal arc E^1 of K . Let

$$p_1 = x_0, x_1, \dots, x_{l-1}, x_l = p_2$$

be the vertices of E^1 in L' in this order and suppose

$$F_i^{n+2} = |St(x_i, L'')|, \quad (i=0, 1, \dots, l),$$

$$F_i^{n+2} \cap F_{i+1}^{n+2} = E_i^{n+1}, \quad i=0, 1, \dots, l-1).$$

This is possible since F_i^{n+2} and F_{i+1}^{n+2} retain regular contact with each other, judging from the construction of F_i^{n+2} .

Specially put

$$F_0^{n+2} = E_1^{n+2}, \quad F_1^{n+2} = E_2^{n+2}.$$

Put

$$g^{n+2} = F_1^{n+2} \cup F_2^{n+2} \cup \dots \cup F_{i-1}^{n+2},$$

and put

$$E_0^{n+1} = e_1^{n+1}, \quad E_{i-1}^{n+1} = e_2^{n+1}.$$

Theorem 1. *We can make the product of $[p_1, K'', L'']$ and $[p_2, K'', L'']$, under the above preparations.*

Let K be a subcomplex of a q -manifold M^q . By a *regular neighborhood* of K in M^q , we shall mean a subcomplex $U(K, M^q)$ of M^q such that:

- (1) $U(K, M^q)$ is a q -manifold.
- (2) $U(K, M^q)$ contracts geometrically into K .

[7: p. 293].

We shall prove Theorem 1 by the following lemmas.

Lemma 1. *Let N^n be an m -manifold in an m -manifold W^m with no boundary, and let N^m and $E^m \subset W^m$ have the positive regular contact in an $(m-1)$ -element E^{m-1} . Then*

$$N^m \equiv N^m \cup E^m.$$

Lemma 2. *Let $M^q \subset R^n$ ($q < n$) q -manifold with no boundary and let E_i^q ($i=1, 2$) be disjointed flat q -elements in M^q . Let $F_i = U(E_i^q, M^q)$ be any regular neighborhood of E_i^q in M^q . Then there are*

- (i) +PLO $\varphi_1: E_1^q \longrightarrow E_2^q$,
- (ii) +PLO $\varphi_2: M^q \longrightarrow M^q$,

such that

$$\varphi_2|E_1^q = \varphi_1.$$

- (iii) +PLO $\varphi: R^n \longrightarrow R^n$,

such that

$$\varphi M^q = M^q,$$

$$\varphi E_1^q = E_1^q,$$

$$\varphi F_1 = F_2.$$

Lemma 3. *We can make a connected sum of S_1^{n+1} and S_2^{n+1} in R^{n+2} .*

Lemma 4. *We can make a connected sum of S_1^{n-1} and S_2^{n-1} in S^{n+1} ($= S_1^{n+1} \# S_2^{n+1}$).*

Proof of Lemma 1. From the hypothesis of this argument, E^m is a flat attachment to N^m by [8 p. 101; Lemma 2]. Consequently,

$$N^m \equiv N^m \cup E^m$$

by [4: p. 129; Theorem 6*].

Proof of Lemma 2.

(i) Since E_i^q ($i=1, 2$) are flat q -elements in M^q , there are

$$+PLO \theta_i: E_i^q \longrightarrow \Delta^q$$

in M^q , where Δ^q is a q -simplex. Then

$$\varphi_1 = \theta_2^{-1} \theta_1$$

is a $+PLO$ and $\varphi_1 E_1^q = E_2^q$.

(ii) We can choose a polyhedron $P_1 \subset M^q$ such that $P_1 \subset M^q - E_1^q - E_2^q$ and P_1 does not disconnect M^q .

Then there is a $+PLO$ $\varphi_2: M^q \longrightarrow M^q$ such that

$$\varphi_2 | E_1^q = \varphi_1,$$

$$\varphi_2 | P_1 = 1,$$

$$\varphi_2 \approx 1,$$

by the theorem on homogeneity of manifolds [3: p. 32; Theorem 3].

(iii)

(a) $F_i = U(E_i^q, M^q)$ ($i=1, 2$) are flat q -elements which is clear from proposition 1 and the definition of the regular neighborhood. In passing any star neighborhood is a regular neighborhood. By (ii), there is $+PLO$ $\varphi_2: M^q \longrightarrow M^q$, such that $\varphi_2 | E_1^q = \varphi_1$. Then $\varphi_2 F_1 (\subset M^q)$ is $\bar{U}(E_2^q, M^q)$ a regular neighborhood of E_2^q in M^q .

(b) There is a $+PLO$ $\theta_3: M^q \longrightarrow M^q$ such that

$$\theta_3 \varphi_2 F_1 = F_2,$$

$$\theta_3 \varphi_2 | E_1^q = \varphi_1$$

by [7: p. 293; Theorem 23_q].

(c) Let $U(E_i^q, M^q) = F_i$. $U(F_i, M^q) = \bar{F}_i$ ($i=1, 2$), then \bar{F}_i are flat q -elements such that $F_i \subset \text{int } \bar{F}_i$. We can choose a polyhedron P_2 such that

$$P_2 \subset R^n - \bar{F}_1 - \bar{F}_2,$$

and that P_2 does not disconnect M^q . Then there is a $+PLO$ $\varphi_3: R^n \longrightarrow R^n$ such that

$$\varphi_3 M^q = M^q,$$

$$\varphi_3 | P_2 = 1,$$

$$\varphi_3 | F_1 = \theta_3 \varphi_2$$

by [3: p. 33; Theorem 9] which is the generalized theorem of [3: p. 32; Theorem 3].

That is: There is a $+PLO$ $\varphi = \varphi_3: R^n \longrightarrow R^n$ such that

$$\varphi M^q = M^q,$$

$$\varphi U(E_1^q, M^q) = U(E_2^q, M^q),$$

$$\varphi E_1^q = E_2^q,$$

$$\varphi | P_2 = 1,$$

which proves Lemma 2.

Proof of Lemma 3. The following conditions are satisfied: —

- (i) $S_1^{n+1} \cap S_2^{n+1} = \phi$ since $E_1^{n+2} \cap E_2^{n+2} = \phi$, where $E_i^{n+2} = St(p_i, L'')$, ($i=1, 2$) in R^{n+2} .
- (ii) $S_i^{n+1} \subset E_i^{n+2}$ ($i=1, 2$) since $S_i^{n+1} = \partial E_i^{n+2}$,
 $S_i^{n+1} \cap \partial E_i^{n+2} \supset e_i^{n+1}$ ($i=1, 2$),

where

- $E_1^{n+2} \cap F_1^{n+2} = e_1^{n+1}$, $F_{i-1}^{n+2} \cap E_i^{n+2} = e_i^{n+1}$.
- (iii) F_1^{n+2} and F_{i+1}^{n+2} ($i=0, 1, \dots, l-1$) have the positive regular contact in E_i^{n+1} which is clear from the construction of F_i^{n+2} . Then $F_i^{n+2} \cup F_{i+1}^{n+2}$ ($i=1, 2, \dots, l-2$) are flat $(n+2)$ -elements in R^{n+2} by Lemma 1.

Besides —

For $i \neq j$,

$$F_i^{n+2} \cap F_j^{n+2} = \phi \text{ if } i \neq j \pm 1,$$

$$F_j^{n+2} \cap E_i^{n+2} = \phi \text{ if } i=1, 2; j=2, 3, \dots, l-2,$$

judging from $F_i^{n+2} = St(x_i, L'')$. Then g^{n+2} is a flat $(n+2)$ -element and

$$E_i^{n+1} = g^{n+2} \cap E_i^{n+2} = \partial g^{n+2} \cap \partial E_i^{n+2} \text{ (} i=1, 2\text{)}.$$

And g^{n+2} and S_i^{n+1} ($i=1, 2$) induce opposite orientations in E_i^{n+1} .

(iv) put

$$S^{n+1} = cl [S_1^{n+1} \cup S_2^{n+1} \cup \partial g^{n+2} - e_1^{n+1} - e_2^{n+1}].$$

Then

$$S_i^{n+1} \subset S^{n+1} \text{ (} i=1, 2\text{)}.$$

Thus, the conditions of the connected sum of the two spheres S_1^{n+1} and S_2^{n+1} are satisfied, which proves Lemma 3 completely.

Proof of Lemma 4. In order to connect S_1^{n-1} and S_2^{n-1} in S^{n+1} , it is sufficient to prove the existence of the positive flat connection between S_1^{n-1} and S_2^{n-1} in S^{n+1} since S_i^{n-1} ($i=1, 2$) are in S^{n+1} .

(a) Remember: —

(i) E^1 is a simple polygonal arc of K and

$$p_1 = x_0, x_1, \dots, x_{l-1}, x_l = p_2$$

are the vertices of E^1 in L' in this order. Let A_1 be the middle point of $\overline{p_1 x_1}$ and let A_2 be that of $x_{l-1} p_2$.

(ii) $F_i^{n+2} = |St(x_i, L'')|$, ($i=0, \dots, l$),

specially $E_i^{n+2} = |St(p_i, L'')|$, ($i=1, 2$),

$$F_i^{n+2} \cap F_{i+1}^{n+2} = E_i^{n+1}, \text{ (} i=0, \dots, l-1\text{),}$$

specially $E_1^{n+2} \cap F_1^{n+2} = e_1^{n+1}$, $E_2^{n+2} \cap F_{l-1}^{n+2} = e_2^{n+1}$.

$$g^{n+2} = F_1^{n+2} \cup F_2^{n+2} \cup \dots \cup F_{l-1}^{n+2}.$$

- (iii) $F_i^n = |St(x_i, K'')|$, $(i=0, 1, 2, \dots, l)$,
- specially $E_i^n = St(P_i, K'')$, $(i=1, 2)$.
- $F_i^n \cap F_{i+1}^n = E_i^{n-1}$ $(i=0, 1, \dots, l-1)$,
- specially $E_1^n \cap F_2^n = e_1^{n-1}$, $E_1^n \cap F_{l-1}^n = e_2^{n-1}$.
- $g^n = F_1^n \cup F_2^n \cup \dots \cup F_{l-1}^n$.

Then each one of (iii) is the intersection of S^n and that of (ii) which is correlate.

(b) $F_i^n (i=1, 2, \dots, l-1)$ are flat n -elements in S^n , and F_i^n and $F_{i+1}^n (i=1, 2, \dots, l-1)$ have the regular contact in E_i^{n-1} . Then $E_i^n \cap E_{i+1}^n$ are flat n -elements by Lemma 1. Thus g^n is a flat n -element. Since g^n and $E_i^n (i=1, 2)$ have the positive regular contact in e_i^{n-1} , g^n is a positive flat connection between S_1^{n-1} and S_2^{n-1} .

(c) Put

$$I^{n-1} = I_1 \times I_2 \times \dots \times I_{n-1}, \quad I^{n+2} = I^{n-1} \times I_n \times I_{n+1} \times I_{n+2},$$

where I_j is the interval $[-1, 1]$ of the j -axis of rectangular coordinates in R^{n+2} .

$$\begin{aligned} I_1^{n+1} &= I^{n-1} \times I_n \times I_{n+1} \times (-1), \\ I_2^{n+1} &= I^{n-1} \times I_n \times I_{n+1} \times 1, \\ I^n &= I^{n-1} \times 0 \times 0 \times I_{n+2}, \\ I_1^{n-1} &= I^{n-1} \times 0 \times 0 \times (-1), \\ I_2^{n-1} &= I^{n-1} \times 0 \times 0 \times 1. \end{aligned}$$

And

$$h^n = I^{n-1} \times 0 \times \{([0, 1] \times (-1)) \cup (1 \times [-1, 1]) \cup ([1, 0] \times 1)\},$$

$$B_1 = (0, 0, \dots, 0, -1),$$

$$B_2 = (0, 0, \dots, 0, 1).$$

(d) $[\partial g^n, \partial g^{n+2}]$, $[\partial I^n, \partial I^{n+2}]$ are each a trivial $(n-1, n+1)$ -knot. Then there is a $+PLO$ φ_1 such that

$$\varphi_1 \partial g^{n+2} = \partial I^{n+2}, \quad \varphi_1 \partial g^n = \partial I^n.$$

Since $e_i^{n-1} (i=1, 2)$ are $U(A_i, e_i^{n-1})$,

$$\varphi_1(A_i) \in \varphi_1 e_i^{n-1} \subset \partial I^n.$$

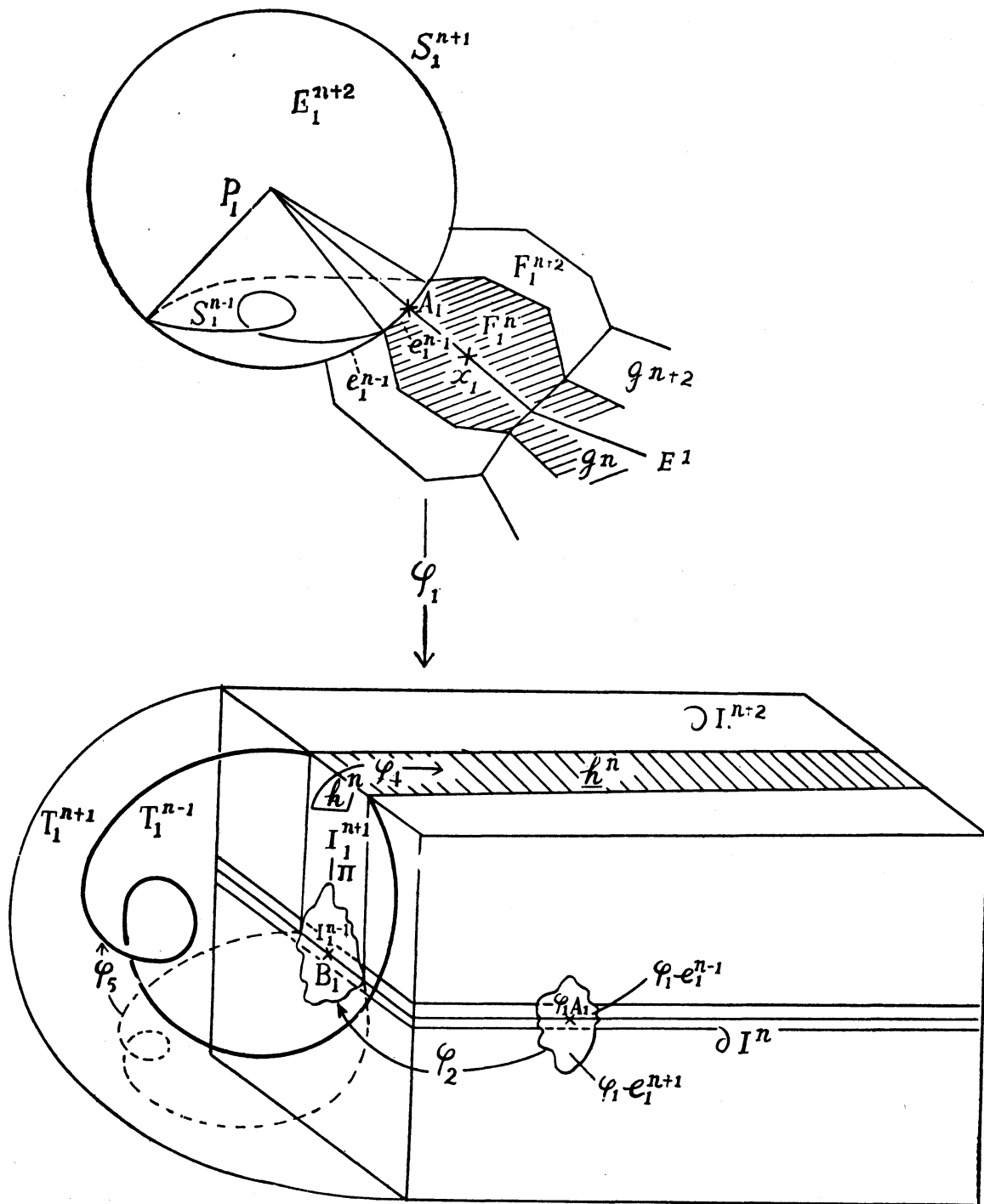
(e₁) Since e_1^{n-1} is $U(A_1, e_1^{n-1})$ and I_1^{n-1} is $U(B_1, I_1^{n-1})$, there is a $+PLO$ $\varphi_{21} : R^{n+2} \rightarrow R^{n+2}$ by Lemma 2 such that

$$\begin{aligned} \varphi_{21} \partial I^n &= \partial I^n, \\ \varphi_{21} \varphi_1 A_1 &= B_1, \\ \varphi_{21} \varphi_1 e_1^{n-1} &= I_1^{n-1}. \end{aligned}$$

(e₂) We can choose an $(n-1)$ -element P_2 in ∂I^n Lemma 2 such that

$$P_2 \supset \{(\varphi_{21} \varphi_1 e_1^{n-1}) \cup I_1^{n-1}\}.$$

Then by Lemma 2 again, there is a $+PLO$ $\varphi_{22} : R^{n+2} \rightarrow R^{n+2}$ such that



A bird's-eye view of the proof of Lemma 4

$$\begin{aligned}\varphi_{22} \partial I^n &= \partial I^n, \\ \varphi_{22} \varphi_{21} \varphi_1 A_2 &= B_2, \\ \varphi_{22} \varphi_{21} \varphi_1 e_2^{n-1} &= I_2^{n-1}, \\ \varphi_{22} | P_2 &= 1.\end{aligned}$$

Put

$$\varphi_2 = \varphi_{22} \varphi_{21}.$$

(f) Since e_i^{n+1} are $U(e_i^{n-1}, e_i^{n+1})$ and I_i^{n+1} are $U(I_i^{n-1}, I_i^{n+1})$, by Lemma 2 there are $+PLO \pi_i (i=1,2)$:

$$+PLO \pi_i \varphi_2 \varphi_1 e_i^{n+1} = I_i^{n+1},$$

under the same notice in the way of (e_1) and (e_2) .

Put $\pi = \pi_2 \pi_1$, and the result is:

$$\text{There is a } +PLO \varphi_3 = \pi \varphi_2 \varphi_1 : R^{n+2} \longrightarrow R^{n+2}$$

such that

$$\begin{aligned}\varphi_3 \partial g^{n+2} &= \partial I^{n+2}, \\ \varphi_3 e_i^{n+1} &= I_i^{n+1}, \\ \varphi_3 | e_i^{n-1} &= \pi_i \varphi_2 \varphi_1.\end{aligned}$$

Then

$$\varphi_3 \{ \text{cl} [\partial g^{n+1} - e_1^{n+1} - e_2^{n+1}] \} = \text{cl} [\partial I^{n+2} - (I_1^{n+1} \cup I_2^{n+1})].$$

$$(g) \text{ In } \partial I^{n+2}, \text{ there is } +PLO \varphi_4 : \partial I^{n+2} \longrightarrow \partial I^{n+2}$$

such that

$$\begin{aligned}\varphi_4 \underline{h}^n &= I^{n-1} \times 0 \times \{1 \times [-1, 1]\} = \underline{h}^n \\ \varphi_4 I_1^{n-1} &= I^{n-1} \times 0 \times 1 \times (-1) \\ \varphi_4 I_2^{n-1} &= I^{n-1} \times 0 \times 1 \times 1.\end{aligned}$$

If we choose $U(\underline{h}^n, \partial I^{n+2})$, $U(\underline{h}^n, \partial I^{n+2})$, there is a $+PLO \varphi_5 : R^{n+2} \longrightarrow R^{n+2}$, by Lemma 2 such that

$$\begin{aligned}\varphi_5 | \underline{h}^n &= \varphi_4. \\ \varphi_5 U(\underline{h}^n \partial I^{n+2}) &= U(\underline{h}^n \partial I^{n+2})\end{aligned}$$

(h) Let $T_i^{n-1}, T_i^{n+1} (i=1,2)$ be $\varphi_4 \varphi_3 S_i^{n-1}, \varphi_4 \varphi_3 S_i^{n+1}$, respectively. From the above process, there is a $+PLO \psi = \varphi_5 \varphi_3 : R^{n+2} \longrightarrow R^{n+2}$, such that

$$\begin{aligned}\psi \partial g^{n+2} &= \partial I^{n+2}, \\ \psi S_i^{n+1} &= T_i^{n+1}, \\ \psi \partial g^n &= \underline{\partial h}^n, \\ \psi S_i^{n-1} &= T_i^{n-1}.\end{aligned}$$

Since \underline{h}^n is in the $(n-1)$ -sphere $T_1^{n+1} \# T_2^{n+1}$, $\psi^{-1} \underline{h}^n$ is in S^{n+1} and it is a positive flat connection between S_1^{n-1} and S_2^{n-1} . This is the very n -element which we have long been seeking for.

All these prove Lemma 4 completely.

Proof of Theorem 1. This proof is clear from Lemmas 3 and 4 and

Definition 4.

4. Main Theorems

Under the above preliminaries, the main theorems are as follows: —

Theorem 2. *If a collection $\{k_1, k_2, \dots, k_m\}$ of $(n-1)$ -knot types can occur as a collection of all singularities of a 1-flat n -sphere S^n ($n > 2$) in euclidean $(n+2)$ -space R^{n+2} , then the product $k_1 k_2 \dots k_m$ is one of the trivial knot cobordism classes.*

Theorem 3. (A converse of Theorem 2).

If the product $k_1 k_2 \dots k_m$ of $(n-1)$ -knot types is a trivial knot cobordism class, then a collection $\{k_1, k_2, \dots, k_m\}$ of 1-flat $(n-1)$ -knot types can occur as a collection of singularities of S^n in R^{n+2} .

The notations used in Chapter 3, will also be used in Chapter 4.

Proof of Theorem 2. Remembering that K is a subcomplex of L , let K, L be partitions of S^n, R^{n+2} , and K'', L'' be the second barycentric partitions of K, L , respectively. And suppose that p_i ($i=1, 2, \dots, m$) are all singular points in M^n . From this it is clear that we can choose a polyhedron E^{n+2} in R^{n+2} such that

$$E_3^{n+2} \cup E_4^{n+2} \cup \dots \cup E_m^{n+2} \subset E^{n+2},$$

$$(E_1^{n+2} \cup E_2^{n+2}) \cap E^{n+2} = \phi$$

and E^{n+2} does not disconnect R^{n+2} .

Then, from [3: p. 37; 3.22 Lemma], there is an $(n+3)$ -element $F^{n+2} \subset R^{n+2}$ disjointed from E^{n+2} such that $E_1^{n+2} \cup E_2^{n+2} \subset \text{int } F^{n+2}$.

Theorem 1, therefore, lead to making a product of $[p_1, K'', L'']$ and $[p_2, K'', L'']$ in $\text{int } F^{n+2}$. In the analogous way, we can make another product of this product and $[p_3, K'', L'']$.

Repeat this method, and we can make a product of all knots, which are $[p_1, K'', L''], [p_2, K'', L''], \dots, [p_m, K'', L'']$.

Suppose the following:

$$E^{n+2} = E_1^{n+2} \# E_2^{n+2} \# \dots \# E_m^{n+2}$$

$$S^{n+1} = S_1^{n+1} \# S_2^{n+1} \# \dots \# S_m^{n+1}$$

$$e^n = E_1^n \# E_2^n \# \dots \# E_m^n$$

$$S^{n-1} = S_1^{n-1} \# S_2^{n-1} \# \dots \# S_m^{n-1}$$

$$f^n = cl[S^n - e^n].$$

Then

$$S^{i-1} \subset S^{n+1},$$

$$e^n \subset S^n, \text{ but } e^n \not\subset S^{n+1},$$

$$\partial e^n = S^{n-1},$$

and $\text{int } e^n$ has all singularities of S^n .

Reference [6: p. 316; 2 δ] illustrates that f^n is an n -element with S^{n-1} as its boundary. f^n has no singularity of S^n from the property of e^n .

E^{n+2} is an $(n+2)$ -element and it is flat in R^{n+2} from Newman's theorem on homogeneity of manifolds [3; p; 32]. Then E^{n+2} is congruent to a euclidean $(n+2)$ -ball V^{n+2} which is not a topological ball. By means of Stereographic projection,

$$\partial V^{n+2} \equiv R^{n+1} \cup \{\infty\}$$

where R^{n+1} is a euclidean $(n+1)$ -space. As the result, there is

$$+PLO \varphi : [R^{n+2} \cup \{\infty\}] \longrightarrow [R^{n+2} \cup \{\infty\}]$$

such that

$$\begin{aligned} \varphi(\partial E^{n+2}) &= R^{n+1} \cup \{\infty\}, \\ \varphi f^n &\subset H^{n+2}, \\ \varphi f^n &\text{ is } 0\text{-flat in } R^{n+2}, \\ \varphi \text{int } f^n &\subset H^{n+2} - R^{n+1}, \\ \varphi \partial f^n &= \varphi S^{n-1} \subset R^{n+1}. \end{aligned}$$

All this has led to the complete proof of Theorem 2.

To prove Theorem 3.

Proposition 4. *Let S^{n-1} be the 0-flat $(n-1)$ -sphere in a euclidean $(n+1)$ -space R^{n+1} . If p is a point of $R^{n+1} \times (0, \infty)$, then $E^n - p$ is 0-flat in $R^{n+1} \times [0, \infty)$, where $E^n = p * S^{n-1}$.*

Proof. Let K_1, L_1 be the partitions of S^{n-1}, R^{n+1} , respectively, such that K_1 is the subcomplex of L_1 and let the partition K_2 of E^n is a partition constructed from K_1 by the standard cone and let L_2 be a partition of $R^{n+1} \times [0, \infty)$ containing K_2 as its subcomplex. Then all the simplexes of $E^n - p$ are either Δ^r ($r=0, 1, \dots, n-1$) in K_1 or $p * \Delta^r$.

Case I. The Simplex Δ^r in K_1

By the hypothesis, S^{n-1} is 0-flat. All simplexes of S^{n-1} , therefore, are non-singular.

Case II. The occasion of the Simplex being $\Delta^r * p$

Let β be any point of $E^n - p$ and $\alpha = \vec{p}\beta \cap S^{n-1}$, where α is a vertex of the subcomplex of K_1 . (We denote this subcomplex of K_1 by same K_1). Since K_1 is a subcomplex of L_1 ,

$$\begin{aligned} Lk(\beta, L_2) &= \partial \{ p * St(\alpha, L_1) \} \\ &\supset \partial \{ p * St(\alpha, K_1) \} \\ &= St(\alpha, K_1) \cup \{ p * Lk(\alpha, K_1) \} \\ &= Lk(\beta, K_2) \end{aligned}$$

Then there is $[\beta, K_2, L_2]$.

Since the knot $[\alpha, K_1, L_1]$ is trivial, on account of the hypothesis, there is a flat $(n-1)$ -element e^{n-1} in $Lk(\alpha, L_1)$ with $Lk(\alpha, K_1)$ as its boundary. That is:

$$e^{n-1} \equiv \Delta^{n-1} \text{ in } Lk(\alpha, L_1),$$

where Δ^{n-1} is an $(n-1)$ -simplex. Then

$$p * e^{n-1} \equiv p * \Delta^{n-1} = \Delta^n \text{ in } L_2.$$

where Δ^n is an n -simplex. That is:

There is an $(n-1)$ -element $(\partial \Delta^n - \Delta^{n-1})$ in L_2 with $\partial \Delta^{n-1}$ as its boundary. Therefore, $[\alpha, K_2, L_2]$ is trivial.

On the other hand, from Definition 1 and proposition 3 and its note.

$$[\alpha, K_2, L_2] = [\beta, K_2, L_2].$$

Consequently, $[\beta, K_2, L_2]$ is trivial.

Since β is any point of $p * \Delta^n - p$, the proof of case II is complete, which naturally will lead to the complete proof of proposition 4.

Proof of Theorem 3. From the hypothesis of Theorem 3 will follow the conclusion that there is an $(n-1)$ -sphere S^{n-1} in a euclidean $(n+1)$ -space $R^{n+1} \subset R^{n+2} = R^{n+1} \times (-\infty, \infty)$, which has the knot type $k_1 k_2 \cdots k_m$. Since the knot type $k_1 k_2 \cdots k_m$ belongs to the trivial knot cobordism class, there exists a 0-flat combinatorial n -element e^n in H^{n+2} with S^{n-1} as its boundary, such that $\text{int } e^n$ is in $H^{n+2} - R^{n+1}$.

And the same hypothesis will lead to the conclusion S^{n-1} is the connected sum of $S_1^{n-1}, S_2^{n-1}, \dots, S_m^{n-1}$, each having knot types k_1, k_2, \dots, k_m in R^{n+1} , respectively. We can choose all the points $p_i (i=1, 2, \dots, m)$ in $R^{n+1} \times (0, \infty)$, such that $p_i * S_i^{n-1}$ and $p_j * S_j^{n-1}$ are pairwise disjoint for $i \neq j$ as is clear from proposition 4. And $e_i^n = p_i * S_i^{n-1}$ will have the only one point p_i as its own singularity, which is also concluded from the same proposition.

On the other hand, we can choose each positive flat connection $g_i^n (i=1, 2, \dots, m-1)$ in H^{n+2} , such that g_i^n connects e_i^n with e_{i+1}^n in R^{n+1} and that they might be pairwise disjoint. Hence the connected sum is given below: —

$$f^n = e_1^n \# e_2^n \# \cdots \# e_m^n.$$

f^n whose boundary is an $(n-1)$ -sphere S^{n-1} , has points as its own singularity, each $p_i (i=1, \dots, m)$.

e^n and f^n are n -elements with their boundary called S^{n-1} and the interior parts of the two have no point in common with each other. $e^n \cup f^n$, therefore, is an n -sphere, according to J. W. Alexander's theorem [6: p. 314]. In this way, we have found our way to the conclusion that $e^n \cup f^n$ is the very sphere which we have long been reaching for.

And all this will give the complete proof of Theorem 3.

P. S.: At first, the trivial knot cobordism class was called *nullequivalent*

by Fox and Milnor, as shown in (I), who, however, have been dis-satisfied with this terminology. In result, Fox, in his work entitled "A Quich Trip Through Knot Theory", adopted the name *slice knot* proposed by Edwin E. Moise.

To my regret, however, it was after this paper was written when I met with this terminology. And this is the reason why I used the former terminology in this paper.

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