

COROLLARY (6.2). If  $(X, a)$  is a compact  $n$ -dimensional metric  $Z_p$ -space with one fixed point (or none) and with the action free outside the fixed point set, then  $(X, a)$  equivariantly embeds in  $(\mathbb{R}^{2n+1}, \beta)$  if  $n$  is odd and in  $(\mathbb{R}^{2n+1}, \beta')$  if  $n$  is even.

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## Some remarks concerning the fundamental dimension of the cartesian product of two compacta

by

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**Abstract.** It is proved that  $\text{Fd}(X \times Y) = \text{Fd}(X) + \text{Fd}(Y)$  if  $Y$  is an  $n$ -dimensional continuum such that  $H^n(Y; G) \neq 0$  for every  $G \neq 0$  and if  $X$  is a compactum and  $\text{Fd}(X) \neq 2$  or  $\text{Fd}(X) = 2$  and  $X$  is not approximatively 2-connected.

We will consider the problem of computing the fundamental dimension of  $X \times Y$ , where  $X$  and  $Y$  are compacta. From this point of view the notion of an  $\mathcal{F}$ -continuum will be very convenient. A continuum  $X$  with  $0 \neq \text{Fd}(X) = n < \infty$  belongs to a class  $\mathcal{F}$  (in other words  $X$  is an  $\mathcal{F}$ -continuum) iff for every abelian group  $G \neq 0$  the  $n$ -dimensional Čech cohomology group  $H^n(X; G)$  of  $X$  with coefficients in  $G$  is non-trivial.

Using the universal coefficient theorem and the Künneth formula for homology and cohomology ([13] p. 244 and p. 336), one can check that the class  $\mathcal{F}$  contains all connected  $n$ -dimensional ANR-sets with the non-trivial  $n$ -dimensional Čech homology group  $H_n(X)$  over the group  $Z$  of integer numbers (in particular, all closed orientable manifolds) and that  $X \times Y \in \mathcal{F}$  for all  $X, Y \in \mathcal{F}$ .

It is known ([10] p. 74) that there exists a sequence  $G_1, G_2, \dots$  of non-trivial countable abelian groups such that if  $X$  is an  $n$ -dimensional compactum with  $H^n(X; G_k) = 0$  for every  $k = 1, 2, \dots$ , then  $H^n(X; G) = 0$  for every group  $G$ .

This fact together with the theorem which states ([6] p. 137) that for every countable group  $G$  and its character group  $G^*$  the group  $H_n(X; G^*)$  is the character group of  $H^n(X; G)$  and with the Pontriagin duality ([12] p. 259) imply that if  $X$  is an  $n$ -dimensional continuum and  $H_n(X; G) \neq 0$  for every  $G \neq 0$ , then  $X \in \mathcal{F}$  ( $H_n(X; H)$  denotes the Čech homology group of  $X$  over  $H$ ).

It is clear that the class  $\mathcal{F}$  is closed with respect to the one-point union.

In [11] it is proved that  $\text{Fd}(X \times Y) = \text{Fd}(X) + \text{Fd}(Y)$  for every compactum  $X$  with  $\text{Fd}(X) \geq 3$  and every  $Y \in \mathcal{F}$ .

The purpose of this note is to generalize the last theorem and to show that the assumption that  $\text{Fd}(X) \geq 3$  may be replaced by the assumption that  $\text{Fd}(X) \neq 2$  or  $\text{Fd}(X) = 2$  and  $X$  is not approximatively 2-connected.

In the final part of the paper we give an algebraic characterization of all compacta  $X$  such that  $\text{Fd}(X \times Y) = \text{Fd}(X) + \text{Fd}(Y)$  for every  $Y \in \mathcal{F}$ .

If  $f_1: X_1 \rightarrow Y_1$  and  $f_2: X_2 \rightarrow Y_2$  are continuous functions, then  $f_1 \times f_2$  will denote the map from  $X_1 \times X_2$  to  $Y_1 \times Y_2$  defined by

$$f_1 \times f_2(x_1, x_2) = (f_1(x_1), f_2(x_2)) \quad \text{for every } (x_1, x_2) \in X_1 \times X_2.$$

For all CW complexes  $X, Y$  and a map  $f: (X, x_0) \rightarrow (Y, y_0)$  ( $x_0 \in X$  and  $y_0 \in Y$ ) we will denote (respectively) by  $\tilde{X}, X^{(n)}, f_{\#}$  and  $f_*^s$  ( $s \geq 2$ ) the universal covering space of  $X$ , the  $n$ -skeleton of  $X$ , and the homomorphisms  $f_{\#}: \pi_1(X, x_0) \rightarrow \pi_1(Y, y_0)$  and  $f_*^s: \pi_s(X, x_0) \rightarrow \pi_s(Y, y_0)$  induced by  $f$ .

We assume that the reader is familiar with the theory of shape and knows the notion of procategory (for references see [2] and [8]).

In the last section a knowledge of cohomology groups with local coefficients (see [15] and [13] p. 281) will also be assumed.

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**1. The fundamental dimension.** Suppose that  $W$  is a finite CW complex and  $f: X \rightarrow W$  is a map. We say (see [9]) that  $\omega(f) \leq n$  iff there exists a homotopy  $\varphi: X \times [0, 1] \rightarrow W$  such that

$$(1.1) \quad \varphi(x, 0) = f(x) \quad \text{for every } x \in X$$

and

$$(1.2) \quad \varphi(X \times \{1\}) \subset W^{(n)}.$$

If  $(X, x_0), (W, w_0)$  are pointed CW complexes and  $f: (X, x_0) \rightarrow (W, w_0)$ , then the condition  $\omega(f) \leq n$  implies that there exists a homotopy  $\varphi: X \times [0, 1] \rightarrow W$  which satisfies (1.1) and (1.2) and fixes  $x_0$ . We can infer this fact from the cellular approximation theorem (see [13] p. 404 and [13] p. 57, Exercise D4).

The following theorem characterizes compacta with the fundamental dimension  $\leq n$  (see [9] p. 214 and compare [3] p. 80).

(1.3) THEOREM. *Let a compactum  $X$  be the inverse limit of an inverse sequence  $\{X_k, p_k^{k+1}\}$  of finite CW complexes and let  $n$  be a natural number or 0. Then the following conditions are equivalent:*

(a)  $\text{Fd}(X) \leq n$ ,

(b) for every  $k$  there exists a  $k'$  such that  $\omega(p_k^{k'}) \leq n$ .

If  $(X, x_0)$  is a pointed compactum and  $\text{Fd}(X) \leq n$ , then Theorem (1.3) implies that we can assume that  $(X, x_0) = \varprojlim \{(X_k, x_k), p_k^{k+1}\}$ , where  $(X_k, x_k)$  is a pointed finite CW complex and  $\omega(p_k^{k+1}) \leq n$  for every  $k = 1, 2, \dots$ . It follows that  $p_k^{k+1}$  is homotopic (in the pointed sense) with a map  $q_k^{k+1}: (X_{k+1}, x_{k+1}) \rightarrow (X_k, x_k)$  such that  $q_k^{k+1}(X_{k+1}) \subset X_k^{(n)}$ . It is clear that  $\text{Sh}(X, x_0) = \text{Sh}(Y, y_0)$  and  $\dim Y \leq n$ , where  $(Y, y_0) = \varprojlim \{(X_k, x_k), q_k^{k+1}\}$ .

Hence, we obtain

(1.4) PROPOSITION. *For every pointed compactum  $(X, x_0)$  there exists a pointed compactum  $(Y, y_0)$  such that  $\text{Sh}(X, x_0) = \text{Sh}(Y, y_0)$  and  $\dim Y = \text{Fd}(X)$ .*

Remark. Proposition (1.4) was first proved by S. Spieß ([14]).

Let

$$d(X, Y) = \text{Fd}(X) + \text{Fd}(Y) - \text{Fd}(X \times Y)$$

for every compactum  $X$  and every  $Y \in \mathcal{F}$ .

In [11] the author has proved the following

(1.5) THEOREM. *If  $3 \leq \text{Fd}(X)$ , then  $d(X, Y) = 0$  for every  $\mathcal{F}$ -continuum  $Y$ . One can easily prove that the following corollary holds:*

(1.6) COROLLARY. *Suppose that  $X$  is a compactum and  $\text{Fd}(X) < \infty$ . The number  $d(X, Y)$  does not depend on  $Y \in \mathcal{F}$  such that  $\text{Fd}(X \times Y) \geq 3$ . If there exists a  $Y_0 \in \mathcal{F}$  such that  $d(X, Y_0) = 0$  and  $\text{Fd}(X \times Y_0) \geq 3$ , then  $d(X, Y) = 0$  for every  $Y \in \mathcal{F}$ .*

Proof. Let  $Y$  be an arbitrary  $\mathcal{F}$ -continuum such that  $\text{Fd}(X \times Y) \geq 3$ . From Theorem (1.5) we infer that

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Fd}(X) + \text{Fd}(Y) + 3 - d(X, S^3) &= \text{Fd}(X \times S^3) + \text{Fd}(Y) = \text{Fd}((X \times S^3) \times Y) \\ &= \text{Fd}((X \times Y) \times S^3) = \text{Fd}(X \times Y) + 3 \\ &= \text{Fd}(X) + \text{Fd}(Y) + 3 - d(X, Y) \end{aligned}$$

and

$$d(X, Y) = d(X, S^3).$$

This completes the proof of the first part of Corollary (1.6).

Let us assume that  $Y, Y_0$  are  $\mathcal{F}$ -continua such that  $\text{Fd}(X \times Y_0) \geq 3$  and  $d(X, Y_0) = 0 \neq d(X, Y)$ . From Theorem (1.5) we infer that

$$\text{Fd}(X \times Y_0 \times Y) = \text{Fd}(X) + \text{Fd}(Y_0) + \text{Fd}(Y).$$

On the other hand we have

$$\text{Fd}(X \times Y_0 \times Y) \leq \text{Fd}(X \times Y) + \text{Fd}(Y_0) < \text{Fd}(X) + \text{Fd}(Y_0) + \text{Fd}(Y).$$

The proof of our corollary is finished.

In section four we will use the notion of a generalized local system of coefficients (see [11]).

Let  $X$  be a continuum. By a *generalized local system of abelian groups on  $X$*  we understand a pair  $(\{X_k, p_k^{k+1}\}, \mathcal{L}_k) = \underline{\mathcal{L}}$  consisting of an inverse sequence of finite CW complexes  $\{X_k, p_k^{k+1}\}$  associated with  $X$  (this means that  $\text{Sh}(X) = \text{Sh}(\varprojlim \{X_k, p_k^{k+1}\})$ ) and a sequence  $\mathcal{L}_k$ , where  $\mathcal{L}_k$  is a local system of abelian groups on  $X_k$  for every  $k = 1, 2, \dots$  and  $\mathcal{L}_{k+1}$  is induced on  $X_{k+1}$  by  $\mathcal{L}_k$  and the map  $p_k^{k+1}$ .

For every generalized local system of abelian groups  $\underline{\mathcal{L}} = (\{X_k, p_k^{k+1}\}, \mathcal{L}_k)$  on a continuum  $X$  the direct limit  $H^n(X; \underline{\mathcal{L}})$  of the direct sequence of abelian groups

$\{H^n(X_k; \mathcal{L}_k), (p_k^{k+1})^*\}$  ( $H^n(X_k; \mathcal{L}_k)$  denotes the  $n$ -dimensional cohomology group of  $X_k$  with coefficients in  $\mathcal{L}_k$  and  $(p_k^{k+1})^*: H^n(X_k; \mathcal{L}_k) \rightarrow H^n(X_{k+1}; \mathcal{L}_{k+1})$  denotes the homomorphism which is induced by  $p_k^{k+1}$ ) will be called an  $n$ -dimensional cohomology group of  $X$  with coefficients in  $\mathcal{L}$ .

If  $X \neq \emptyset$  is a continuum, then let us denote by  $c[X]$  (see [11]) the maximum of numbers  $n$  (finite or infinite) such that there is a generalized local system of coefficients  $\mathcal{L}$  on  $X$  such that  $H^n(X; \mathcal{L}) \neq 0$ .

In [11] it is proved that

$$(1.7) \quad c[X] \leq \text{Fd}(X) \leq \max(2, c[X])$$

for every continuum  $X$  with  $\text{Fd}(X) < \infty$ .

It follows from the analysis (see [11]) of the proof of (1.7) that the following theorem holds:

(1.8) THEOREM. If  $X$  is a continuum with  $3 \leq n = \text{Fd}(X) < \infty$  and  $\{X_k, p_k^{k+1}\}$  is an arbitrary sequence of  $n$ -dimensional finite CW complexes such that its inverse limit has the same shape as  $X$ , then for every  $k = 1, 2, \dots$  there exists a local system of abelian groups  $\mathcal{L}_k$  on  $X_k$  such that  $\mathcal{L} = (\{X_k, p_k^{k+1}\}, \mathcal{L}_k)$  is a generalized local system on  $X$  and  $H^n(X; \mathcal{L}) \neq 0$ .

**2. Two algebraic lemmas.** If  $G$  is a multiplicative group and  $Z$  is the ring of integers, then the integral group ring  $Z(G)$  of  $G$  is the set of all finite formal sums  $\sum n_i g_i$ ,  $n_i \in Z$  and  $g_i \in G$ , with addition and multiplication given by

$$\sum n_i g_i + \sum m_i g_i = \sum (n_i + m_i) g_i$$

and

$$(\sum n_i g_i)(\sum m_j g_j) = \sum (n_i m_j) g_i g_j.$$

We will employ the following lemma:

(2.1) LEMMA. Let  $G$  be a non-trivial multiplicative group and

$$0 \neq z = n_1 g_1 + n_2 g_2 + \dots + n_k g_k \in Z(G).$$

For every element  $a \in G$  with the order  $\geq k$  there exists a natural number  $l \leq k$  such that  $(1a^l - 1e)z \neq 0$ , where  $e$  is the unit of  $G$ .

Proof. Without loss of generality we may assume that

$$(2.2) \quad n_i \neq 0 \quad \text{and} \quad g_i \neq g_j \quad \text{for all } i, j = 1, 2, \dots, k \text{ such that } i \neq j.$$

Let us suppose that our lemma does not hold.

This means that there is an  $a \in G$  satisfying the following condition:

$$(2.3) \quad a^s \neq e \quad \text{and} \quad n_1 a^s g_1 + n_2 a^s g_2 + \dots + n_k a^s g_k = n_1 g_1 + n_2 g_2 + \dots + n_k g_k$$

for  $s = 1, 2, \dots, k$ .

From (2.2) and (2.3) we infer that for every  $s = 1, 2, \dots, k$  there exists a function  $\alpha_s: \{1, 2, \dots, k\} \rightarrow \{1, 2, \dots, k\}$  such that

$$(2.4) \quad n_i g_i = n_{\alpha_s(i)} a^s g_{\alpha_s(i)} \quad \text{for } i = 1, 2, \dots, k \quad \text{and} \quad \alpha_s(i) \neq \alpha_s(j) \quad \text{for } i \neq j.$$

If  $\alpha_s(1) = 1$ , then  $n_1 g_1 = n_1 a^s g_1$ , and  $g_1 = a^s g_1$ , and  $a^s = e$ . Therefore

$$(2.5) \quad \alpha_s(1) \neq 1 \quad \text{for every } s = 1, 2, \dots, k.$$

Let us observe also that

$$\alpha_{s_1}(i) \neq \alpha_{s_2}(i) \quad \text{for } s_1, s_2, i = 1, 2, \dots, k \text{ such that } s_1 \neq s_2.$$

Indeed, from  $s_1 > s_2$  and  $\alpha_{s_1}(i) = \alpha_{s_2}(i)$  we conclude that  $n_i g_i = n_{\alpha_{s_1}(i)} a^{s_1} g_{\alpha_{s_1}(i)} = n_{\alpha_{s_2}(i)} a^{s_2} g_{\alpha_{s_2}(i)}$  and  $a^{s_1 - s_2} = e$ .

Therefore  $1 \in \{\alpha_1(1), \alpha_2(1), \dots, \alpha_k(1)\}$  contradicting (2.4) and (2.5). Thus the proof of Lemma (2.1) is completed.

If  $(W, w_0)$  is a pointed topological space, then every element  $\sigma$  of a multiplicative group  $\pi_1(W, w_0)$  induces an automorphism  $h_\sigma: \pi_k(W, w_0) \rightarrow \pi_k(W, w_0)$  of an additive ( $k \geq 2$ ) group  $\pi_k(W, w_0)$  (see [5], Theorem (14.1) of Chapter IV or [13] p. 379).

It is well known that for every pointed connected CW complex  $(W, w_0)$  and  $k > 1$  the group  $\pi_k(W, w_0)$  is a left  $Z(\pi_1(W, w_0))$ -module where

$$z\alpha = n_1 h_{\sigma_1}(\alpha) + n_2 h_{\sigma_2}(\alpha) + \dots + n_l h_{\sigma_l}(\alpha)$$

for  $\alpha \in \pi_k(W, w_0)$  and  $z = n_1 \sigma_1 + n_2 \sigma_2 + \dots + n_l \sigma_l \in Z(\pi_1(W, w_0))$ .

We recall (7) that if  $M$  is a left  $R$ -module and if there exists a  $B \subset M$  such that for every  $m \in M$  we have

$$(2.6) \quad m = r_1 b_1 + \dots + r_k b_k \quad \text{where } r_i \in R \text{ and } b_i \in B \text{ for } i = 1, 2, \dots, k$$

and such that presentation (2.6) is unique, then  $M$  is said to be a free  $R$ -module and  $B$  is said to be a basis for  $M$ .

Let  $(X, x_0) +_{\text{top}} (Y, y_0) = X \times \{y_0\} \cup \{x_0\} \times Y \subset X \times Y$  for all pointed compacta  $(X, x_0)$  and  $(Y, y_0)$  ([2] p. 136).

We shall also use the following

(2.7) LEMMA. Let  $k \geq 2$  and  $(Y, y_0) = (X, x_0) +_{\text{top}} (S^k, s_0)$  where  $(X, x_0)$  is a pointed connected CW complex with  $\pi_i(X, x_0) = 0$  for every  $i = 2, 3, \dots, k$ . Then  $\pi_k(Y, y_0)$  is a free left  $Z(\pi_1(Y, y_0))$ -module and the basis of  $\pi_k(Y, y_0)$  consists of one element  $\varepsilon \in \pi_k(Y, y_0)$ .

Proof. Let  $p: (\tilde{X}, x) \rightarrow (X, x_0)$  be a universal covering projection for  $(X, x_0)$ . It is easy to check that a map  $q: (\tilde{Y}, y) = (X \times \{s_0\} \cup p^{-1}(x_0) \times S^k, (x, s_0)) \rightarrow (Y, y_0)$  given by the formula

$$q(x) = \begin{cases} (p(y), s_0) & \text{for } x = (y, s_0) \in X \times \{s_0\}, \\ (y, s) & \text{for } x = (y, s) \in p^{-1}(x_0) \times S^k \end{cases}$$

is a universal covering projection for  $(Y, y_0)$ .

Using the fact that  $q_*^k: \pi_k(Y, y) \rightarrow \pi_k(Y, y_0)$  is an isomorphism one can easily verify that for every  $g \in \pi_k(Y, y_0)$  there exists an  $n_1 \sigma_1 + \dots + n_l \sigma_l \in Z(\pi_1(Y, y_0))$  such that

$$g = (n_1 \sigma_1 + \dots + n_l \sigma_l) \varepsilon$$

where  $\varepsilon$  is an element of  $\pi_k(Y, y_0)$  which is induced by a map  $\alpha: (S^k, s_0) \rightarrow (Y, y_0)$  defined by the formula

$$\alpha(s) = (x_0, s) \quad \text{for every } s \in S^k.$$

It is clear that  $z_1 \varepsilon \neq z_2 \varepsilon$  for all  $z_1, z_2 \in Z(\pi_1(Y, y_0))$  such that  $z_1 \neq z_2$ .

**3. Main results.** Let us prove the following

(3.1) THEOREM. *If  $\text{Fd}(X) = 1$  and  $Y \in \mathcal{F}$ , then  $\text{Fd}(X \times Y) = \text{Fd}(Y) + 1$ .*

Before beginning the proof of Theorem (3.1) we have to show the following lemma:

(3.2) LEMMA. *Let  $(K, k_0)$ ,  $(W, w_0)$  be a finite pointed connected CW complexes,  $s_0 \in S^2$ , and let  $f: (W, w_0) \rightarrow (K \times S^2, (k_0, s_0))$  be a map. The following conditions are equivalent:*

- (a)  $\omega(f) \leq 2$ ,
- (b) *there exists a homotopy  $\varphi: W \times [0, 1] \rightarrow K \times S^2$  such that*

$$\varphi(x, t) = f(x) \quad \text{for every } (x, t) \in W \times \{0\} \cup \{w_0\} \times [0, 1]$$

and

$$\varphi(W \times \{1\}) \subset K^{(2)} \times \{s_0\} \cup \{k_0\} \times S^2.$$

*Proof.* It is evident that (b)  $\Rightarrow$  (a).

Now let us assume that condition (a) is satisfied.  $S^2$ ,  $K$  and  $K \times S^2$  are finite CW complexes and  $(S^2)^{(0)} = (S^2)^{(1)} = \{s_0\}$  and

$$(K \times S^2)^{(2)} = K^{(2)} \times \{s_0\} \cup K^{(2)} \times (s_0) \cup K^{(0)} \times S^2.$$

From the definition of  $\omega$  we infer that there is a homotopy  $\varphi': W \times [0, 1] \rightarrow K \times S^2$  such that

$$\varphi'(x, t) = f(x) \quad \text{for } x \in W \times \{0\} \cup \{w_0\} \times [0, 1]$$

and

$$\varphi'(W \times \{1\}) \subset (K \times S^2)^{(2)}.$$

It is easy to check that a homotopy  $\varphi: W \times [0, 1] \rightarrow K \times S^2$  defined by the formula

$$\varphi(x, t) = \begin{cases} \varphi'(x, 2t) & \text{for } x \in W \text{ and } 0 \leq t \leq \frac{1}{2}, \\ \psi(p_1 \varphi'(x, 1), p_2 \varphi'(x, 1)) & \text{for } x \in W \text{ and } \frac{1}{2} \leq t \leq 1, \end{cases}$$

where  $p_1: K \times S^2 \rightarrow K$  and  $p_2: K \times S^2 \rightarrow S^2$  are projections and  $\psi: K \times [0, 1] \rightarrow K$  is a homotopy which compress  $K^{(0)}$  to  $k_0$  and fixes  $k_0$ , satisfies the required conditions.

*Proof of Theorem (3.1).* It is sufficient to show that  $\text{Fd}(X \times S^2) = 3$  (see Corollary (1.6)).

For simplicity, we will assume that  $(X, x_0) = \varinjlim \{(X_k, x_k), p_k^{k+1}\}$  where  $(X_k, x_k)$  is a finite pointed connected CW complex with  $\dim X_k \leq 1$ .

This implies that  $(X \times S^2, (x_0, s_0)) = \varinjlim \{(X_k \times S^2, (x_k, s_0)), p_k^{k+1} \times \text{id}_{S^2}\}$ .

Let us suppose that  $\text{Fd}(X \times S^2) = 2$ .

From Theorem (1.3) and Lemma (3.2) we infer that for every  $k$  there exist a  $k' > k$  and a homotopy  $\varphi: (X_{k'} \times S^2) \times [0, 1] \rightarrow X_{k'} \times S^2$  such that

$$\varphi(y, t) = (p_k^k(x), s) \quad \text{for } (y, t) = ((x, s), t) \in (X_{k'} \times S^2) \times \{0\} \cup \{(x_k, s_0)\} \times [0, 1]$$

and

$$\varphi(Y_1 \times \{1\}) \subset X_k \times \{s_0\} \cup \{x_k\} \times S^2 = (X_k, x_k) +_{\text{top}} (S^2, s_0) = (Y_2, y_2)$$

and such that  $(p_k^k)_\# : \pi_1(X_{k'}, x_k) \rightarrow \pi_1(X_k, x_k)$  is a non-trivial homomorphism, where  $(Y_1, y_1) = (X_{k'} \times S^2, (x_k, s_0))$ .

Let  $\varepsilon_1 \in \pi_2(Y_1, y_1)$  be the generator of  $\pi_2(Y_1, y_1)$  and let  $\varepsilon_2$  be an element of  $\pi_2(Y_2, y_2)$  such that  $\{\varepsilon_2\}$  is a basis for  $Z(\pi_1(Y_2, y_2))$ -module  $\pi_2(Y_2, y_2)$  (see Lemma (2.7)).

Setting

$$q(x, s) = \varphi((x, s), 1) \quad \text{for } (x, s) \in Y_1 = X_{k'} \times S^2,$$

we obtain a map  $q: (Y_1, y_1) \rightarrow (Y_2, y_2)$ .

It is clear that the homomorphism  $q_\# : \pi_1(Y_1, y_1) \rightarrow \pi_1(Y_2, y_2)$  is non-trivial and that the homomorphism  $q_\#^2 : \pi_2(Y_1, y_1) \rightarrow \pi_2(Y_2, y_2)$  is a monomorphism.

We have

$$q_\#^2(\varepsilon_1) = (n_1 \sigma_1 + \dots + n_k \sigma_k) \varepsilon_2,$$

where  $0 \neq n_1 \sigma_1 + \dots + n_k \sigma_k \in Z(\pi_1(Y_2, y_2))$ .

Let us denote by  $\tau$  an element of  $\pi_1(Y_1, y_1)$  such that  $a = q_\#(\tau)$  is a non-trivial element of  $\pi_1(Y_2, y_2)$ .

Since  $\pi_1(Y_2, y_2)$  is isomorphic with a free group  $\pi_1(X_k, x_k)$ , we conclude that  $q_\#(\tau^s) = a^s$  is a non-trivial element of  $\pi_1(Y_2, y_2)$  for every  $s = 1, 2, \dots$

Lemma (2.1) implies that there exists a natural number  $s_0 \leq k$  such that

$$(1e - 1a^{s_0})(n_1 \sigma_1 + \dots + n_k \sigma_k) \neq 0$$

( $e$  is the unit of  $\pi_1(Y_2, y_2)$ ).

It follows that

$$n_1 \sigma_1 + n_2 \sigma_2 + \dots + n_k \sigma_k \neq n_1 q_\#(\tau^{s_0}) \sigma_1 + \dots + n_k q_\#(\tau^{s_0}) \sigma_k$$

and

$$q_\#^2(\varepsilon_1) = (n_1 \sigma_1 + n_2 \sigma_2 + \dots + n_k \sigma_k) \varepsilon_2 \neq (n_1 q_\#(\tau^{s_0}) \sigma_1 + \dots + n_k q_\#(\tau^{s_0}) \sigma_k) \varepsilon_2.$$

On the other hand,

$$\begin{aligned} q_\#^2(\varepsilon_1) &= q_\#^2(\tau^{s_0} \varepsilon_1) = (1q_\#(\tau^{s_0})) \cdot q_\#^2(\varepsilon_1) = 1a^{s_0} \cdot q_\#^2(\varepsilon_1) \\ &= n_1 q_\#(\tau^{s_0}) \sigma_1 + \dots + n_k q_\#(\tau^{s_0}) \sigma_k. \end{aligned}$$

Thus the proof is finished.

In this section, for every space  $X$  and for every map  $f: X \rightarrow Y$  we denote by  $H_n(X)$  the  $n$ -dimensional singular homology group of  $X$  with integer coefficients and by  $\widehat{(f)}_n: H_n(X) \rightarrow H_n(Y)$  the homomorphism which is induced by  $f$ .

Let  $(X, x_0), (Y, y_0)$  be connected pointed CW complexes and let  $p: (\tilde{X}, a_0) \rightarrow (X, x_0), q: (\tilde{Y}, b_0) \rightarrow (Y, y_0)$  be universal covering projections. Then for every map  $f: (X, x_0) \rightarrow (Y, y_0)$  we will denote by  $\tilde{f}: (\tilde{X}, a_0) \rightarrow (\tilde{Y}, b_0)$  the (unique) lifting of  $f$ :  $(\tilde{X}, a_0) \rightarrow (\tilde{Y}, y_0)$ .

Let  $\mathfrak{B}_0$  be a category whose objects are connected pointed CW complexes and whose morphisms are homotopy classes (in the pointed sense) of maps. It is well known that the tilde  $\sim$  induces a functor from  $\mathfrak{B}_0$  to  $\mathfrak{B}_0$ . This functor assigns to every object  $(W, w_0)$  of  $\mathfrak{B}_0$  its universal covering space  $(\tilde{W}, w)$  and to every morphism  $[f]$  of  $\mathfrak{B}_0$  represented by a map  $f: (W, w_0) \rightarrow (V, v_0)$  the homotopy class  $[\tilde{f}]$  of  $\tilde{f}: (\tilde{W}, w) \rightarrow (\tilde{V}, v)$ .

As an immediate consequence of this fact we obtain the following

(3.3) LEMMA. *If  $\underline{X} = \{X_k, p_k^{k+1}\}$  and  $\underline{Y} = \{Y_k, q_k^{k+1}\}$  are sequences of polyhedra and  $\text{Sh}(\varinjlim \{X_k, p_k^{k+1}\}) = \text{Sh}(\varinjlim \{Y_k, q_k^{k+1}\})$ , then*

$$\underline{H} = \{H_n(\tilde{X}_k), (\widehat{p_k^{k+1}})_n\} \quad \text{and} \quad \{H_n(Y_k), (\widehat{q_k^{k+1}})_n\} = \underline{G}$$

are isomorphic progroups for every  $n = 0, 1, 2, \dots$

Now let us prove the following

(3.4) THEOREM. *If  $(X, x_0)$  is not approximatively 2-connected pointed continuum and  $\text{Fd}(X) = 2$ , then  $\text{Fd}(X \times Y) = \text{Fd}(X) + \text{Fd}(Y)$  for every  $Y \in \mathcal{F}$ .*

Proof. Without loss of generality we may assume that  $(X, x_0)$  is the inverse limit of an inverse sequence of 2-dimensional polyhedra,  $\{(X_k, x_k), p_k^{k+1}\}$ .

Let  $\gamma_k: (\tilde{X}_k, a_k) \rightarrow (X_k, x_k)$  be a universal covering projection for every  $k = 1, 2, \dots$

We know that  $(X \times S^2, (x_0, s_0)) = \varinjlim \{(X_k \times S^2, (x_k, s_0)), p_k^{k+1} \times \text{id}_{S^2}\}$  and that  $\gamma_k \times \text{id}_{S^2}: (\tilde{X} \times S^2, (a_k, s_0)) \rightarrow (X_k \times S^2, (x_k, s_0))$  is a universal covering projection for every  $k = 1, 2, \dots$

It is clear that for every  $k = 1, 2, \dots$  we have

$$(\gamma_k)_*^2 (p_k^{k+1})_*^2 = (p_k^{k+1})_*^2 (\gamma_{k+1})_*^2$$

and

$$\Theta_2^k (p_k^{k+1})_*^2 = (\widehat{p_k^{k+1}})_2 \circ \Theta_2^k$$

where  $\Theta_2^k: \pi_2(\tilde{X}_k, a_k) \rightarrow H_2(\tilde{X}_k)$  is the Hurewicz homomorphism.

This means that the pair  $\alpha = (\text{id}_N, \Theta_2^k)$  is a morphism from a progroup  $\{\pi_2(X_k, x_k), (p_k^{k+1})_*\}$  to a progroup  $\underline{H}' = \{H_2(X_k), (\widehat{p_k^{k+1}})_2\}$ , where  $N$  denotes the set of natural numbers.

Since  $\Theta_2^k: \pi_2(X_k, a_k) \rightarrow H_2(X_k)$  is an isomorphism, we conclude that  $\alpha$  is an isomorphism of progroups and  $\underline{H}'$  is not trivial.

The Künneth theorem for singular homology ([13] p. 235) implies that the progroups  $\{H_4(X_k \times S^2), (\widehat{p_k^{k+1} \times \text{id}_{S^2}})_4\} = \underline{H}''$  and  $\underline{H}'$  are isomorphic.

Therefore

(3.5)  $\underline{H}''$  is not a trivial progroup.

The hypothesis that  $\text{Fd}(X \times S^2) \leq 3$  implies that  $X \times S^2$  has the same shape as the inverse limit of an inverse sequence  $\{Y_k, q_k^{k+1}\}$  of 3-dimensional polyhedra. From

Lemma (3.4) we infer that the progroups  $\underline{H}''$  and  $\underline{H}''' = \{H_4(\tilde{Y}_k), (\widehat{q_k^{k+1}})_4\}$  are isomorphic.

Since  $\dim \tilde{Y}_k \leq 3$  and  $H_4(\tilde{Y}_k) = 0$ , we conclude that  $\underline{H}''$  and  $\underline{H}'''$  are trivial progroups, in contradiction to (3.5). Thus the proof of (3.4) is finished.

Theorems (1.5), (3.1) and (3.4) give the following

(3.6) THEOREM. *If  $X$  is a compactum and  $\text{Fd}(X) \neq 2$  or  $\text{Fd}(X) = 2$  and  $X$  is not approximatively 2-connected, then  $\text{Fd}(X \times Y) = \text{Fd}(X) + \text{Fd}(Y)$  for every  $Y \in \mathcal{F}$ .*

Remark. The last theorem partially answers the question of K. Borsuk whether  $\text{Fd}(X \times S^n) = \text{Fd}(X) + n$  for  $X \neq \emptyset$  (see [1] and compare [11]).

It is known ([9] pp. 219 and 220) that if  $M$  is a PL  $n$ -manifold or a topological  $n$ -manifold with  $n \geq 6$  and a compactum  $X$  is a proper subset of  $M$ , then  $\text{Fd}(X) \leq n - 1$ .

Let  $M$  be a topological  $n$ -manifold and let  $X \subseteq M$  be a compactum such that  $\text{Fd}(X) = n$ , where  $n = 4, 5$ . Then  $X \times S^6 \subseteq M \times S^6$  and  $\text{Fd}(X \times S^6) \leq n + 5$ . On the other hand, Theorem (3.6) implies that  $\text{Fd}(X \times S^6) = n + 6$ .

We get the corollary

(3.7) COROLLARY. *If  $M$  is a topological  $n$ -manifold and a compactum  $X$  is a proper subset of  $M$ , then  $\text{Fd}(X) < n$ .*

Remark. Corollary (3.7) answers Problem (3.11) of [9].

**4. Final remarks and problems.** In this section we shall prove the following theorem:

(4.1) THEOREM. *Let  $X$  be a continuum with  $\text{Fd}(X) < \infty$ . Then the following conditions are equivalent:*

(a)  $\text{Fd}(X \times Y) = \text{Fd}(X) + \text{Fd}(Y)$  for every  $Y \in \mathcal{F}$ .

(b)  $c[X] = \text{Fd}(X)$ .

Proof. (a)  $\Rightarrow$  (b). We can assume that  $X = \varinjlim \{X_k, p_k^{k+1}\}$ , where  $X_k$  is a polyhedron and  $\dim X_k = \text{Fd}(X) = \dim X = n$ .

It follows from Theorem (1.8) that there exists a generalized local system of coefficients  $\underline{\mathcal{L}} = (\{X_k \times S^3, p_k^{k+1} \times \text{id}_{S^3}\}, \underline{\mathcal{L}}_k)$  on  $X \times S^3$  such that

$$(4.2) \quad H^{n+3}(X \times S^3; \underline{\mathcal{L}}) \neq 0.$$

Let  $s_0 \in S^3$  and let  $\mathcal{X}_k$  be a local system on  $X_k \times \{s_0\} = Y_k$  which is a restriction of  $\underline{\mathcal{L}}_k$  to  $Y_k$ .

Setting

$$q_k^{k+1}(x, s_0) = (p_k^{k+1}(x), s_0) \quad \text{for every } x \in X_k$$

we get a map  $q_k^{k+1}: Y_{k+1} \rightarrow Y_k$ .

Let  $\alpha_k: X_k \times S^3 \rightarrow Y_k$  be a map defined by the formula

$$\alpha_k(x, s) = (x, s_0) \quad \text{for every } (x, s) \in X_k \times S^3$$

and let  $\mathcal{L}'_k$  be a local system induced on  $X_k \times S^3$  by  $\alpha_k$  and  $\mathcal{H}_k$ .

It is clear that  $\mathcal{H} = (\{Y_k, q_k^{k+1}\}, \mathcal{H}_k)$  and  $\mathcal{L}' = (\{X_k \times S^3, p_k^{k+1} \times \text{id}_{S^3}\}, \mathcal{L}'_k)$  are generalized local systems of abelian groups on  $X$  and  $X \times S^3$ .

Let us assume that  $H^n(X; \mathcal{H}) = 0$ .

Since  $S^3$  is simply connected, for every path  $\tau: [0, 1] \rightarrow X_k \times S^3$  from  $(x, s_0) \in Y_k$  to  $(y, s_0) \in Y_k$  the isomorphism  $\mathcal{L}_k(\tau): (\mathcal{L}_k)_{(x, s_0)} \rightarrow (\mathcal{L}_k)_{(y, s_0)}$  is the same as the isomorphism  $\mathcal{L}_k(\alpha_k \tau): (\mathcal{L}_k)_{(x, s_0)} \rightarrow (\mathcal{L}_k)_{(y, s_0)}$ , where  $(\mathcal{L}_k)_{(x, s_0)}$  and  $(\mathcal{L}_k)_{(y, s_0)}$  are groups of  $\mathcal{L}_k$  which correspond to the points  $(x, s_0)$  and  $(y, s_0)$  and  $\mathcal{L}_k(\tau)$  and  $\mathcal{L}_k(\alpha_k \tau)$  are isomorphisms which are induced by  $\tau$  and  $\alpha_k \tau$ .

This means that  $\mathcal{L}_k$  and  $\mathcal{L}'_k$  are canonically equivalent and that the groups  $H^{n+3}(X \times S^3; \underline{\mathcal{L}})$  and  $H^{n+3}(X \times S^3; \underline{\mathcal{L}}')$  are isomorphic.

Condition (4.2) implies that  $H^{n+3}(X \times S^3; \underline{\mathcal{L}}') \neq 0$ .

On the other hand, in the proof of Theorem (1.5) (see [11]) a more general case is considered and it is proved that

$$H^{n+3}(X \times S^3; \underline{\mathcal{L}}') \approx H^n(X; \mathcal{H}) \otimes H^3(S^3; Z) = 0.$$

Therefore  $H^n(X; \mathcal{H}) \neq 0$ .

The proof of Theorem (1.5) (see [11]) contains also the proof of the implication (b)  $\Rightarrow$  (a).

The proof of Theorem (4.1) is finished.

The following corollary is an immediate consequence of Theorems (3.6) and (4.1).

(4.3) COROLLARY. *Let  $X$  be a continuum with  $\text{Fd}(X) < \infty$ . Then  $c[X] \leq \text{Fd}(X) \leq \max(2, c[X])$ . If  $\text{Fd}(X) \neq 2$  or  $\text{Fd}(X) = 2$  and  $X$  is not approximately 2-connected, then  $\text{Fd}(X) = c[X]$ .*

Let us formulate some problems.

(4.4) PROBLEM. *Is it true that there exists an approximately 2-connected continuum  $X$  such that  $c[X] < \text{Fd}(X)$ ?*

(4.5) PROBLEM. *Is it true that  $\text{Fd}(X) = c[X]$  for every continuum  $X$  with  $\text{Fd}(X) < \infty$ ?*

(4.6) PROBLEM. *Is it true that  $\text{Fd}(X \times Y) = \text{Fd}(X) + \text{Fd}(Y)$  if  $X$  is a continuum and  $Y \in \mathcal{F}$ .*

A positive answer to Problem (4.4) would give negative answers to Problems (4.5) and (4.6).

It is also clear that if  $X$  is an approximately 2-connected continuum and  $c[X] < \text{Fd}(X) = 2$ , then  $\text{Fd}(X \times S^1) = 2$  and  $\text{Fd}(X \times Y) < \text{Fd}(X) + \text{Fd}(Y)$  for every  $Y \in \mathcal{F}$ .

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