

Some Counterexamples in the Theory of Embedding Manifolds in Codimension Two

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§1. Introduction.

A famous theorem due to Browder, Casson, Sullivan, Haefliger and Wall (referred to as BCSHW) states that a homotopy equivalence $f: M \rightarrow W$ of a closed m -manifold M to a compact $(m+q)$ -manifold W is homotopic to a piecewise linear (PL) embedding provided that codimension q is greater than or equal to three [14, §11.3.4]. This theorem naturally leads to a question asking whether the corresponding result holds in the case the codimension $q=2$. It is proven by Cappell and Shaneson that for any closed even dimensional (say, m -dimensional) manifold M with *finite* fundamental group of certain type, there are infinitely many $(m+2)$ -manifolds W , simple homotopy equivalent to M , such that any simple homotopy equivalence $f: M \rightarrow W$ cannot be homotopic to a PL embedding [3]. Consequently, the BCSHW theorem fails in codimension two.

In this paper, we shall give a rather simple example which shows this failure.

THEOREM 1. *Let m be a positive integer with $m \equiv 2 \pmod{4}$. Then there exists a compact orientable PL $(m+2)$ -manifold W^{m+2} with the following properties: W^{m+2} has the homotopy type of a product of spheres $S^1 \times S^{m-1}$, but no homotopy equivalence $f: S^1 \times S^{m-1} \rightarrow W^{m+2}$ is homotopic to a PL embedding.*

Here a PL embedding means a not necessarily locally flat one. It should be noted that our example has an *infinite* fundamental group contrasting with Cappell and Shaneson's examples¹⁾.

Our method of construction also gives a remarkable example of a knotted torus.

THEOREM 2. *Let $m \equiv 2 \pmod{4}$ and suppose $m \geq 6$. There exists a locally flat PL embedding*

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1) For $m \geq 6$ the fundamental group of our example is an infinite cyclic group. The existence of such an example contradicts an announcement in [2, p. 578, line 10].

$$i: S^1 \times S^{m-2} \rightarrow S^1 \times S^m$$

which induces an isomorphism of fundamental groups but cannot be extended to any PL embedding of $S^1 \times D^{m-1}$ into $S^1 \times D^{m+1}$.

Note that, in knotted spheres, any PL embedding $S^n \rightarrow S^{n+2}$ can be extended to a PL embedding of disks $D^{n+1} \rightarrow D^{n+3}$ by conical extension.

§ 2. The obstruction to finding a locally flat spine.

In this section, we recall some results of codimension two surgery [7]. Proofs will be omitted. For a detailed account, refer to [7].

Suppose that a compact oriented PL manifold W^{m+2} of dimension $m+2$ has the same simple homotopy type as an oriented, connected, finite Poncaré complex X of formal dimension $m \geq 5$. Then one of the most fundamental problems would be to find a closed PL m -submanifold M^m of W^{m+2} such that the inclusion mapping $M^m \rightarrow W^{m+2}$ is a simple homotopy equivalence. If such a submanifold exists, we shall call it a *spine* of W^{m+2} . Although in this paper we are mainly concerned with PL embeddings which are not locally flat in general, we first formulate an obstruction theory to finding a *locally flat* spine.

Given an $m+2$ -manifold W^{m+2} satisfying the above condition, one can find a locally flat closed m -submanifold L^m which is exterior $\left[\frac{m}{2}\right]$ -connected²⁾ [5, Lemma 3.4]. Furthermore, the isomorphism class of the fundamental group $\pi_1(W-L)$ is independent of the choice of L^m . The inclusion $W-L \subset W$ induces an onto homomorphism $\pi \rightarrow \pi'$ of fundamental groups whose kernel is generated by a central element t . The element t is represented by the 'positive' S^1 -fiber of the associated S^1 -bundle with a D^2 -bundle neighbourhood N of L^m . The i -th relative homotopy groups $\pi_i(W-L, N-L)$ has the structure of a (left) $\mathbf{Z}\pi$ -module $\left(i \geq \left[\frac{m}{2}\right] + 1\right)$. Here note that the ring $\mathbf{Z}\pi$ (or $\mathbf{Z}\pi'$) is equipped with an involution ' $-$ ' defined by $g \mapsto g^{-1}$.

Now suppose that m is even: $m=2n$. A key observation in [7] was that the $\mathbf{Z}\pi$ -module $G = \pi_{n+1}(W-L, N-L)$ carries a $(-1)^n t$ -hermitian form $\lambda: G \times G \rightarrow \mathbf{Z}\pi$ in the sense of Bourbaki, ALGÈBRE, ch. 9, §3, n° 1) and a 'quadratic form' $\mu: G \rightarrow \mathbf{Z}\pi / \{a - (-1)^n \bar{a}t; a \in \mathbf{Z}\pi\}$ which are related as $\lambda(x, x) = \mu(x) + (-1)^n \mu(\bar{x})t$, $\mu(x+y) = \mu(x) + \mu(y) + \lambda(x, y)$. The form (G, λ, μ) is not necessarily non-singular, but it becomes non-singular over $\mathbf{Z}\pi'$ after being tensored with $\mathbf{Z}\pi'$. Thus we obtain a $(-1)^n t$ -hermitian form which is defined over $\mathbf{Z}\pi$ and becomes non-singular over $\mathbf{Z}\pi'$. We call a form of this type³⁾ a $(-1)^n$ -Seifert form over $\pi \rightarrow \pi'$. One can define the concept of *stably null-cobordant Seifert forms*, analogously to that of

2) A *taut* submanifold in the sense of Thomas and Wood [13].

3) The form of essentially the same type was independently discovered by M Freedman [4].

split hermitian inner product spaces [9] or kernels [14]. Thus we can obtain the 'Witt group' of $(-1)^n$ -Seifert forms. It is an abelian group and is denoted by $P_{2n}(\pi \rightarrow \pi')$.

Returning to our geometrical situation, the 'Witt class' of the $(-1)^n$ -Seifert form from (G, λ, μ) associated with L^{2n} does not depend on the choice of L^{2n} and only depends on W^{2n+2} . Moreover, denoting the class by $\eta(W^{2n+2}) \in P_{2n}(\pi \rightarrow \pi')$, W^{2n+2} admits a locally flat spine if and only if $\eta(W^{2n+2}) = 0$, provided that $2n \geq 6$.

Our result in [7] is slightly more general. It concerns not only the absolute case but also the relative case and can be stated as follows:

THEOREM 2.1. [7, Theorem 5.10] *Let (W^{2n+2}, K^{2n-1}) be a pair consisting of a compact oriented PL $2n+2$ -manifold W and a locally flat, oriented, closed $(2n-1)$ -submanifold K^{2n-1} in the boundary ∂W . Suppose that the pair (W^{2n+2}, K^{2n-1}) has the same simple homotopy type as an oriented, connected, finite Poincaré pair (X^{2n}, Y^{2n-1}) of formal dimension $2n \geq 6$. Then there is canonically defined a unique obstruction element $\eta(W, K)$ in the group $P_{2n}(\pi \rightarrow \pi')$ which vanishes if and only if W admits a locally flat proper $2n$ -submanifold M^{2n} with $\partial M = K$ such that the inclusion map $M^{2n} \hookrightarrow W^{2n+2}$ is a simple homotopy equivalence. Here the homomorphism $\pi \rightarrow \pi'$ is associated with an exterior n -connected, locally flat $2n$ -submanifold L^{2n} with $\partial L = K$, and is defined to be $\pi_1(W-L) \rightarrow \pi_1(W)$.*

As in the absolute case, such M^{2n} will be called a spine of (W, K) .

Next we shall state a realization theorem of the obstruction. Let K^{2n-1} be an oriented, closed PL $(2n-1)$ -manifold with $\pi_1(K) \cong \pi'$. Let $\pi \rightarrow \pi'$ be an onto homomorphism whose kernel is generated by a central element t . By a result of Wall [14, p. 125], such a homomorphism can be realized by an oriented S^1 -bundle $E \rightarrow K$ with the total space E , so that the induced homomorphism $\pi_1(E) \rightarrow \pi_1(K)$ is identical with $\pi \rightarrow \pi'$. (The identification sends t to the element of $\pi_1(E)$ represented by an oriented fiber.) Let N be the total space of the D^2 -bundle associated with $E \rightarrow K$.

Now suppose that we are given a locally flat spine K_1 of N . Let K_0 be the zero cross-section of $N \rightarrow K$. Then the pair $(N \times [0, 1], K_0 \times \{0\} \cup K_1 \times \{1\})$ is simple homotopy equivalent to $(K \times [0, 1], K \times \{0\} \cup K \times \{1\})$, hence the obstruction $\eta(N \times [0, 1], K_0 \times \{0\} \cup K_1 \times \{1\}) \in P_{2n}(\pi \rightarrow \pi')$ is well-defined by Theorem 2.1.

We have the following

THEOREM 2.2. *Suppose $2n \geq 6$. Let γ_0 be any prescribed element of $P_{2n}(\pi \rightarrow \pi')$. Then there exists a locally flat spine K_1^{2n-1} of N such that $\eta(N \times [0, 1], K_0 \times \{0\} \cup K_1 \times \{1\}) = \gamma_0$.*

Theorem 2.2 follows from [7, Lemma 5.2] and the relative s -cobordism theorem.

§3. An example of a (-1) -Seifert form over $(Z \rightarrow 1) \times Z$

Let $(Z \rightarrow 1) \times Z$ denote the projection $Z \times Z \rightarrow Z$ of the direct product of

infinite cyclic groups to the second factor. These groups are considered to be multiplicative and let t (or s) be the positive generator of the first (or the second) factor of $\mathbf{Z} \times \mathbf{Z}$.

In the category whose objects are onto homomorphisms of groups $\pi \rightarrow \pi'$, the kernels of which are generated by a preferred central element t , we define a morphism

$$(\pi_1 \rightarrow \pi_1') \implies (\pi_2 \rightarrow \pi_2')$$

to be a pair (h, h') of homomorphisms which makes the diagram commute:

$$\begin{array}{ccc} \pi_1 & \xrightarrow{h} & \pi_2 \\ \downarrow & & \downarrow \\ \pi_1' & \xrightarrow{h'} & \pi_2' \end{array}$$

(h is assumed to preserve the preferred element t .)

Then there is the 'inclusion' morphism

$$(\mathbf{Z} \rightarrow 1) \implies (\mathbf{Z} \rightarrow 1) \times \mathbf{Z}$$

defined by the pair of inclusions to the first factors: $\mathbf{Z} \subset \mathbf{Z} \times \mathbf{Z}$, $1 \subset 1 \times \mathbf{Z}$. By the functorial property of the P -groups [7, p. 301], we have a homomorphism

$$i_* : P_{2n}(\mathbf{Z} \rightarrow 1) \longrightarrow P_{2n}((\mathbf{Z} \rightarrow 1) \times \mathbf{Z})$$

induced by the 'inclusion' morphism.

The aim of this section is to show that if $m=4k+2$, the homomorphism i_* is not surjective. For this, it will suffice to give a (-1) -Seifert form over $(\mathbf{Z} \rightarrow 1) \times \mathbf{Z}$ whose 'Witt class' in $P_{4k+2}((\mathbf{Z} \rightarrow 1) \times \mathbf{Z})$ is not contained in the image of i_* . Such an example is given as follows:

$$\begin{aligned} (G, \lambda, \mu) : G &= Ax_1 \oplus Ax_2, \\ \lambda(x_1, x_2) &= -\overline{\lambda(x_2, x_1)}t = -s^{-1} \\ \mu(x_1) &= s-1, \quad \mu(x_2) = -1, \\ A &= \mathbf{Z}[t, t^{-1}, s, s^{-1}]. \end{aligned}$$

Remark. We found this form in a study of a 'spineless' 4-manifold [8]. Note that the matrix $(\lambda(x_i, x_j))$ of the form is given by

$$\begin{bmatrix} (s-1) - (s^{-1}-1)t, & -s^{-1} \\ st & , -1+t \end{bmatrix}$$

LEMMA 3.1. *The element γ_0 of $P_{4k+2}(\mathbf{Z} \rightarrow 1) \times \mathbf{Z}$ represented by the above form is not in the image of i_* .*

Proof. We construct two left inverses ρ_+ , ρ_- of the homomorphism i_* as follows: Let (G, λ, μ) be a (-1) -Seifert form over $(\mathbf{Z} \rightarrow 1) \times \mathbf{Z}$. Then by substitution $s=1$, it gives rise to a (-1) -Seifert form over $\mathbf{Z} \rightarrow 1$, and this defines the homomorphism

$$\rho_+ : P_{4k+2}(\mathbf{Z} \rightarrow 1) \times \mathbf{Z} \longrightarrow P_{4k+2}(\mathbf{Z} \rightarrow 1).$$

The substitution $s=-1$ gives another homomorphism

$$\rho_- : P_{4k+2}(\mathbf{Z} \rightarrow 1) \times \mathbf{Z} \longrightarrow P_{4k+2}(\mathbf{Z} \rightarrow 1).$$

Since both homomorphisms are left inverses of i_* , if the element γ_0 were in the image of i_* , we would have $\rho_+(\gamma_0) = \rho_-(\gamma_0)$. However, this is not the case. To show this, we define the Murasugi signature [10]:

$$\sigma_M : P_{4k+2}(\mathbf{Z} \rightarrow 1) \longrightarrow \mathbf{Z}.$$

Let (G, λ, μ) be a (-1) -Seifert form over $\mathbf{Z} \rightarrow 1$. By substitution $t=-1$, the $(-1)t$ -hermitian form λ gives rise to a symmetric bilinear form over \mathbf{Q} defined on $G \otimes_{\mathbf{P}} \mathbf{Q}$, where $\Gamma = \mathbf{Z}[t, t^{-1}]$. $\sigma_M(G, \lambda, \mu)$ is defined to be the signature of this symmetric bilinear form. It is not difficult to see the above definition gives a well defined homomorphism σ_M .

Now let us compute $\sigma_M \rho_{\pm}(\gamma_0)$ using the matrix which was given in *Remark* in page 52:

$$\sigma_M \rho_+(\gamma_0) = \text{sign} \begin{pmatrix} 0, & -1 \\ -1, & -2 \end{pmatrix} = 0,$$

$$\sigma_M \rho_-(\gamma_0) = \text{sign} \begin{pmatrix} -4, & 1 \\ 1, & -2 \end{pmatrix} = -2.$$

Therefore, $\rho_+(\gamma_0) \neq \rho_-(\gamma_0)$. This completes the proof of 3.1.

Remark. Lemma 3.1 was announced in [8]. This lemma implies that Shaneson's splitting formula which was proven for Wall groups [12] does not hold in our P -groups.

Let $h: \pi \rightarrow \pi'$ be an onto homomorphism whose kernel is generated by a preferred central element z . Then a morphism $b: (\pi \rightarrow \pi') \Rightarrow (id: \pi' \rightarrow \pi')$ is defined by $b = (h, id)$. The morphism induces a homomorphism $b_*: P_{2n}(\pi \rightarrow \pi') \rightarrow P_{2n}(\pi' \rightarrow \pi')$. Since $P_{2n}(\pi' \rightarrow \pi')$ is identical with the Wall group $L_{2n}(\pi')$, we have obtained a homomorphism

$$b_* : P_{2n}(\pi \rightarrow \pi') \longrightarrow L_{2n}(\pi').$$

See [7, p. 309]. In particular, we have

$$b_* : P_{4k+2}(\mathbf{Z} \rightarrow 1) \times \mathbf{Z} \longrightarrow L_{4k+2}(\mathbf{Z}).$$

LEMMA 3.2. *Let γ_0 be the element of Lemma 3.1 then $b_*(\gamma_0)=0$.*

Proof. Let (G, λ, μ) be the (-1) -Seifert form over $(\mathbf{Z} \rightarrow 1) \times \mathbf{Z}$ which was given earlier and represents γ_0 . Then, since $(G, \lambda, \mu) \otimes_{\mathbb{Z}} \mathbb{Z}[s, s^{-1}]$ is obtained by substitution $t=1$, $b_*(\gamma_0)$ is represented by the (-1) -hermitian form given by

$$\begin{aligned} (G', \lambda', \mu') : G' &= A'x_1 \oplus A'x_2, \\ \lambda'(x_1, x_2) &= -\overline{\lambda'(x_2, x_1)} = -s^{-1}, \\ \mu'(x_1) &= s-1, \quad \mu'(x_2) = -1, \\ A' &= \mathbf{Z}[s, s^{-1}]. \end{aligned}$$

From this, it follows that (G', λ', μ') is a kernel, for $x_1 - x_2$ generates a subkernel in the sense of Wall [14, Lemma 5.3]. This proves $b_*(\gamma_0)=0$.

§4. Proof of Theorem 1.

In case $m=2$, Theorem 1 was proven in [8]. So we may suppose that $m=4k+2 \geq 6$. Let $S^1 \times S^{m-2}$ be a product of 1- and $(m-2)$ -spheres. Since $\dim(S^1 \times S^{m-2}) = m-1 \geq 5$, one can find, by Theorem 2.2, a locally flat spine K_1^{m-1} of $S^1 \times S^{m-2} \times D^2$ such that the obstruction $\eta(S^1 \times S^{m-2} \times D^2 \times [0, 1], S^1 \times S^{m-2} \times \{0\} \times \{0\} \cup K_1 \times \{1\}) = \gamma_0$, where γ_0 is the element of $P_{4k+2}(\mathbf{Z} \rightarrow 1) \times \mathbf{Z}$ given in §3. We claim that K_1^{m-1} is PL homeomorphic with $S^1 \times S^{m-2}$. To prove this, construct a locally flat, oriented, proper m -submanifold V^m of $S^1 \times S^{m-2} \times D^2 \times [0, 1]$ such that $\partial V = S^1 \times S^{m-2} \times \{0\} \times \{0\} \cup K_1^{m-1} \times \{1\}$. V^m may be assumed to be exterior $\left[\frac{m}{2}\right]$ -connected [5, Lemma 3.4]. Since the inclusion $V^m \rightarrow S^1 \times S^{m-2} \times D^2 \times [0, 1]$ is $\left[\frac{m}{2}\right]$ -connected [7, Lemma 1.3], we have

$$H^2(V^m; \mathbf{Z}) \cong 0.$$

Therefore, the normal 2-disk bundle of V^m in $S^1 \times S^{m-2} \times D^2 \times [0, 1]$ is trivial, and we obtain a normal map in the sense of Browder [1]: $(V^m, \partial V^m) \rightarrow (S^1 \times S^{m-2} \times [0, 1], S^1 \times S^{m-2} \times \{0\} \cup S^1 \times S^{m-2} \times \{1\})$. By [7], the surgery obstruction for this normal map in the usual sense is $b_*(\gamma_0) \in L_{4k+2}(\mathbf{Z})$. However, Lemma 3.2 states that $b_*(\gamma_0)=0$. Thus we can perform surgery on V^m to make it an s -cobordism. This proves our assertion that $K_1^{m-1} \cong S^1 \times S^{m-2}$, [6].

Next, glue a copy of $S^1 \times D^{m-1} \times D^2$ ($\cong S^1 \times D^{m+1}$) to $S^1 \times S^{m-2} \times D^2 \times [0, 1]$ by identifying each point (θ, \hat{p}, ξ) of $S^1 \times \partial D^{m-1} \times D^2$ ($\subset S^1 \times D^{m-1} \times D^2$) with the point $(\theta, \hat{p}, \xi) \times \{0\}$ of $S^1 \times S^{m-2} \times D^2 \times [0, 1]$ to form a manifold Y which is again PL-homeomorphic with $S^1 \times D^{m+1}$. The new manifold Y contains in its boundary the locally flat $(m-1)$ -manifold $K_1^{m-1} \times \{1\}$ ($\subset S^1 \times S^{m-2} \times D^2 \times \{1\} \subset \partial Y$). The pair

$(Y, K_1^{m-1} \times \{1\})$ has the homotopy type of the pair $(S^1 \times D^{m-1}, \partial(S^1 \times D^{m-1}))$, and, by Theorem 2.1, the obstruction $\eta(Y, K_1^{m-1} \times \{1\})$ can be defined in $P_m((\mathbf{Z} \rightarrow 1) \times \mathbf{Z})$. By naturality of the obstruction [7, p. 305],

$$\begin{aligned} \eta(Y, K_1^{m-1} \times \{1\}) &= \eta(S^1 \times S^{m-2} \times D^2 \times [0, 1], S^1 \times S^{m-2} \times \{0\} \times \{0\} \cup K_1^{m-1} \times \{1\}) \\ &= \eta_0. \end{aligned}$$

Since $Y \cong S^1 \times D^{m+1}$, $\partial Y \cong S^1 \times S^m$ and $K_1^{m-1} \times \{1\} \cong S^1 \times S^{m-2}$, we have the following lemma:

LEMMA 4.1. *Let $m \equiv 2 \pmod{4}$. There is a locally flat embedding $i: S^1 \times S^{m-2} \rightarrow S^1 \times S^m$ which satisfies the following:*

- (1) *i induces an isomorphism of fundamental groups.*
- (2) *Considering i to be an embedding into the boundary of $S^1 \times D^{m+1}$, the pair $(S^1 \times D^{m+1}, i(S^1 \times S^{m-2}))$ is homotopy equivalent to $(S^1 \times D^{m-1}, \partial(S^1 \times D^{m-1}))$.*
- (3) *The obstruction $\eta(S^1 \times D^{m+1}, i(S^1 \times S^{m-2})) \in P_m((\mathbf{Z} \rightarrow 1) \times \mathbf{Z})$ is equal to η_0 of § 3.*

We continue the proof of Theorem 1. Let V^m be the locally flat submanifold of $S^1 \times S^{m-2} \times D^2 \times [0, 1]$ constructed earlier in this section. By gluing $S^1 \times D^{m-1} \times \{0\} (\subset S^1 \times D^{m-1} \times D^2)$ to $V^m (\subset S^1 \times S^{m-2} \times D^2 \times [0, 1])$ along $S^1 \times \partial D^{m-1} \times \{0\}$, we obtain a locally flat, exterior $\left[\frac{m}{2}\right]$ -connected submanifold \tilde{V} of Y . The normal 2-disk bundle of \tilde{V} in Y is trivial. Let $\phi: \tilde{V} \times D^2 \rightarrow Y$ be a normal frame. Restricting ϕ to the boundary, we have normal frame of $\partial \tilde{V} \subset \partial Y$, that is, a normal framing $\phi: S^1 \times S^{m-2} \times D^2 \rightarrow S^1 \times S^m$ of i , i being the embedding of Lemma 4.1. Take another copy of the product $S^1 \times D^{m-1} \times D^2$ and glue it to $Y (\cong S^1 \times D^{m+1})$ by identifying each point (θ, ρ, ξ) of $S^1 \times \partial D^{m-1} \times D^2 (\subset S^1 \times D^{m-1} \times D^2)$ with the point $\phi(\theta, \rho, \xi)$ of $S^1 \times S^m (\cong \partial Y)$. We have obtained a suitably oriented $(m+2)$ -manifold W^{m+2} :

$$W^{m+2} = S^1 \times D^{m-1} \times D^2 \cup_{\phi} Y.$$

W^{m+2} is homotopy equivalent to $S^1 \times S^{m-1}$. Moreover, in W^{m+2} , there is a locally flat exterior $\left[\frac{m}{2}\right]$ -connected, framed m -submanifold L^m defined to be $S^1 \times D^{m-1} \times \{0\} \cup \tilde{V} (\subset S^1 \times D^{m-1} \times D^2 \cup Y = W^{m+2})$. It is easy to see that the associated homomorphism with L^m , $\pi_1(W-L) \rightarrow \pi_1(W)$, is isomorphic with $(\mathbf{Z} \rightarrow 1) \times \mathbf{Z}$. By Theorem 2.1, the obstruction $\eta(W)$ to finding a locally flat spine is defined as an element of $P_m((\mathbf{Z} \rightarrow 1) \times \mathbf{Z})$, and by naturality of the obstruction,

$$\begin{aligned} \eta(W) &= \eta(Y, i(S^1 \times S^{m-2})) \\ &= \eta(Y, K_1^{m-1} \times \{1\}) \\ &= \eta_0 \end{aligned}$$

It remains to prove that W^{m+2} admits no PL spine. Suppose, on the contrary, that W^{m+2} admits a PL spine M^m . Let $j: M^m \rightarrow W^{m+2}$ be the PL embedding which is a homotopy equivalence. We apply Noguchi's obstruction theory [11] to the map j . Let C_k denote the knot cobordism group of locally flat PL k -knots in $k+2$ -spheres. Then his theory tells us that if $H_i(M^m; C_{m-i-1}) \cong 0$ for any i such that $m-2 \cong i \cong p$, then any PL embedding $f: M^m \rightarrow W^{m+2}$ is homotopic to a p -flat embedding, see [11, p. 204]. In our situation, M^m is homotopy equivalent to $S^1 \times S^{m-1}$ with $m \equiv 2 \pmod{4}$. Since $C_k \cong 0$ for any even integer $k \geq 0$, we have

$$H_i(M^m; C_{m-i-1}) \cong 0$$

for any i such that $m-2 \cong i \cong 1$. Therefore, $j: M^m \rightarrow W^{m+2}$ is homotopic to a 1-flat PL embedding j' . Then by the definition of 1-flatness, the PL spine $j'(M^m)$ may be assumed to be locally flat except at one point, at which the pair $(W^{m+2}, j'(M^m))$ is locally a cone over a knotted $(m-1)$ -sphere in a $(m+1)$ -sphere. By naturality of γ -obstruction and the fact that the knot cobordism group C_{m-1} is isomorphic to $P_m(\mathbf{Z} \rightarrow 1)$ ([7, Proposition 6.2]), the above observation implies that $\gamma(W^{m+2}) (= \gamma_0)$ is contained in the image of

$$i_*: P_m(\mathbf{Z} \rightarrow 1) \rightarrow P_m((\mathbf{Z} \rightarrow 1) \times \mathbf{Z}).$$

This contradicts Lemma 3.1. We have completed the proof of Theorem 1.

By the same method, one can prove a more general result:

THEOREM 4.2. *Let m be a positive integer with $m \equiv 2 \pmod{4}$. Let M^m be a closed m -manifold with $H_*(M^m; \mathbf{Z}) \cong H_*(S^1 \times S^{m-1}; \mathbf{Z})$. Then there exists a compact orientable $(m+2)$ -manifold W^{m+2} which is simple homotopy equivalent to M^m but admits no PL spine.*

§5. Proof of Theorem 2.

Let $i: S^1 \times S^{m-2} \rightarrow S^1 \times S^m$ be the locally flat PL embedding of Lemma 4.1. We shall show that i cannot be extended to any PL embedding $S^1 \times D^{m-1} \rightarrow S^1 \times D^{m+1}$. Suppose, on the contrary, that i is extended to a PL embedding $\phi: S^1 \times D^{m-1} \rightarrow S^1 \times D^{m+1} = Y$. Then a submanifold M^m of W^{m+2} defined by

$$\begin{aligned} M^m &= S^1 \times D^{m-1} \times \{0\} \cup \underset{i}{\phi}(S^1 \times D^{m-1}) \\ &\subset S^1 \times D^{m-1} \times D^2 \cup \underset{\phi}{Y} = W^{m+2} \end{aligned}$$

would be a PL spine of W^{m+2} . This contradicts what is proven in §4. This completes the proof.

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