

$\hat{h}$  coincides with  $M$  on  $S \times [0, \frac{1}{3}]$  and  $S \times [\frac{2}{3}, 1]$ .  $\square$

REMARK. - If  $G$  is an undirected graph, it is not necessary to construct the extension  $\hat{k}$  of the function  $F$ . (See Remark to Theorem 11).

7) Case of  $n$  subspaces and  $n$  subgraphs.  
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The previous results can be easily generalized to the case between  $(n+1)$ -tuples (see [3], §8b and [5], §11).

Let  $S$  be a compact topological space,  $G$  a finite directed graph,  $S_1, \dots, S_n$  closed subspaces of  $S$  and  $G_1, \dots, G_n$  subgraphs of  $G$ , such that  $S_j$  is a subspace of  $S_i$  and  $G_j$  a subgraph of  $G_i$ ,  $\forall i, j = 1, \dots, n$ ,  $j > i$ . In this case we have to consider functions  $f: S, S_1, \dots, S_n \rightarrow G, G_1, \dots, G_n$  between  $(n+1)$ -tuples and their restrictions  $f_1: S_1 \rightarrow G_1, \dots, f_n: S_n \rightarrow G_n$ .

7a) Given a c.o-regular function  $f: S, S_1, \dots, S_n \rightarrow G, G_1, \dots, G_n$ , where  $S$  is compact and  $S_1, \dots, S_n$  are closed subspaces, by [5], §11.6, we can construct  $n$  closed neighbourhoods  $U_i$  of  $S_i$ ,  $i = 1, \dots, n$  and a c.o-regular extension  $k: S, U_1, \dots, U_n \rightarrow G, G_1, \dots, G_n$  such that  $k: S, S_1, \dots, S_n \rightarrow G, G_1, \dots, G_n$  is c.o-homotopic to  $f$ . Now, for all the pairs  $U_i, S_i$ ,  $i = 1, \dots, n$ , we determine a closed neighbourhood  $K_i$  of  $S_i$ , included in  $\overset{\circ}{U}_i$ . Then, if the filter  $\mathcal{W}$  is the uniformity of  $S$ , by following the proof of Proposition 9, we can obtain:

- i) a vicinity  $V \in \mathcal{W}$  such that  $V(A_1^k) \cap \dots \cap V(A_n^k) \neq \emptyset$ ,  $\forall r$ -tuple  $a_1, \dots, a_r$  non-headed of  $G$ ;
- ii)  $\forall i = 1, \dots, n$  a vicinity  $Z_i$  of the trace-filter  $\mathcal{W}_i$  of  $\mathcal{W}$  on  $U_i \times U_i$ , such that  $Z_i(A_1^{k_i}) \cap \dots \cap Z_i(A_s^{k_i}) = \emptyset$ ,  $\forall s$ -tuple  $a_1, \dots, a_s$  non-headed of  $G_i$ , and, consequently, we obtain a vicinity  $V_i \in \mathcal{W} / Z_i = V_i \cap (U_i \times U_i)$ . At least, we choose a symmetric vicinity  $W$ , such that  $W \circ W \subset V \cap V_1 \cap \dots \cap V_n$  and  $W(K_i) \subset U_i$ ,  $i = 1, \dots, n$ .

Given, now, a  $W$ -partition  $P = \{X_j\}$ ,  $j \in J$ , of the space  $S$ , we define a relation  $g: S, \overset{\circ}{K}_1, \dots, \overset{\circ}{K}_n \rightarrow G, G_1, \dots, G_n$  by putting,  $\forall X_j$ ,  $j \in J$ , the constant value:

$$g(X_j) = \begin{cases} \text{a vertex of } H_G(\{f(X_j)\}) & \text{if } X_j \cap K_1 = \emptyset \\ \text{a vertex of } H_{G_1}(\{f_1(X_j)\}) & \text{if } X_j \cap K_1 \neq \emptyset \text{ and } X_j \cap K_2 = \emptyset \\ \dots\dots\dots & \\ \text{a vertex of } H_{G_n}(\{f_n(X_j)\}) & \text{if } X_j \cap K_n \neq \emptyset. \end{cases}$$

Similarly to Proposition 9, we verify that  $g$  is c. quasi-regular and that every o-pattern  $h$  of  $g$  is c.o-homotopic to  $f$ . Hence we can give:

**THEOREM 13.** - (The second normalization theorem between  $n$ -tuples).  
 Let  $S, S_1, \dots, S_n$  be a  $(n+1)$ -tuple of topological spaces, where  $S$  is compact and  $S_1, \dots, S_n$  are closed subspaces of  $S$ ,  $G, G_1, \dots, G_n$  a  $(n+1)$ -tuple of finite directed graphs and  $f: S, S_1, \dots, S_n \rightarrow G, G_1, \dots, G_n$  a completely o-regular function. Then, if the filter  $\mathcal{W}$  is the uniformity of  $S$ , we can determine  $n$  closed neighbourhoods  $K_i$  of  $S_i$ ,  $i=1, \dots, n$  and a vicinity  $W \in \mathcal{W}$  such that, for all the  $W$ -partitions  $P = \{X_j\}_{j \in J}$ , there exists a function  $h: S, \overset{\circ}{K}_1, \dots, \overset{\circ}{K}_n \rightarrow G, G_1, \dots, G_n$  which is completely o-regular, weakly  $P$ -constant and completely o-homotopic to  $f$ .  $\square$

**REMARK 1.** - If  $S$  is a compact metric space, we can determine a positive real number  $r$  and consider partitions with mesh  $< r$ .

**REMARK 2.** - If  $G$  is an undirected graph, the function  $g$  can be chosen  $P$ -constant. Moreover, since it is not necessary to replace  $f$  with an extension  $k$ , we have only to consider a symmetric vicinity  $W / W \circ W \subseteq V \cap V_1 \cap \dots \cap V_n$ .

7b) Now let  $C, C_1, \dots, C_n$  be a  $(n+1)$ -tuple of spaces which consists of a finite cellular complex  $C$  and of  $n$  subcomplexes  $C_1, \dots, C_n$ . A function  $f: |C|, |C_1|, \dots, |C_n| \rightarrow G, G_1, \dots, G_n$  is called *pre-cellular w.r.t.  $C, C_1, \dots, C_n$*  if:

- i)  $f: |C|, |st(C_1)|, \dots, |st(C_n)| \rightarrow G, G_1, \dots, G_n$  is c.o-regular;
- ii)  $f: |C| \rightarrow G$  is properly  $C$ -constant;
- iii)  $f: |C| \rightarrow G$  is properly  $C$ -constant in  $C_1$  (in  $C_2, \dots, C_n$ ).

Now, if  $f: S, S_1, \dots, S_n \rightarrow G, G_1, \dots, G_n$  is a c.o-regular function, where  $S$  is a compact triangulable space,  $S_1, \dots, S_n$  closed triangulable subspaces of  $S$ , we can consider c.o-regular extension  $k: S, U_1, \dots, U_n \rightarrow G, G_1, \dots, G_n$  and determine the positive real number  $r = \inf(\frac{\varepsilon}{2}, \frac{\varepsilon_1}{2}, \dots, \frac{\varepsilon_n}{2}, \eta_1, \eta_2, \dots, \eta_n)$  where  $\varepsilon = \inf(enl(A_1^k, \dots, A_r^k))$ ,  $\forall r$ -tuple  $a_1, \dots, a_r$  non-headed of  $G$ ,  $\varepsilon_i = \inf(enl(A_1^{k_i}, \dots, A_{s_i}^{k_i}))$ ,  $\forall s_i$ -tuple  $a_1, \dots, a_{s_i}$  non-headed of  $G_i$ , and  $\eta_i$  are such that  $W^{\eta_i}(S_i) \subset U_i$ ,  $i=1, \dots, n$ .

Given then a finite cellular decomposition  $C, C_1, \dots, C_n$  of  $S, S_1, \dots, S_n$  with mesh  $< r$ , we consider the following partition of  $C$ :  $D_0 = C - st(C_1)$ ,  $D_1 = st(C_1) - st(C_2), \dots, D_n = st(C_n)$  and we construct the c.quasi-regular function  $g: |C|, |st(C_1)|, \dots, |st(C_n)| \rightarrow G, G_1, \dots, G_n$ , by putting,  $\forall D_i$ ,

$\forall \sigma \in D_i, g(\sigma) =$  a vertex of  $H_{G_i}(\{k(\sigma)\})$ , where  $G_0 = G$ . We separate the cells of  $C$ , besides using the subsets  $D_i$ , also in the following way:

- i) cells included in  $C - C_1$ 
  - 1) cells  $\tau$  maximal in  $C$
  - 2) cells  $\sigma$  non-maximal in  $C$
- ii) cells included in  $C_1 - C_2$ 
  - 1) cells  $\tau$  maximal in  $C$
  - 2) cells  $\tau_1$  maximal in  $C_1$  and non-maximal in  $C$
  - 3) cells  $\sigma_1$  non-maximal in  $C_1$ .

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- $n+1$ ) cells included in  $C_n$ 
  - 1) cells  $\tau$  maximal in  $C$
  - 2) cells  $\tau_1$  maximal in  $C_1$  and non-maximal in  $C$
  - .....
  - $n+1$ ) cells  $\tau_n$  maximal in  $C_n$
  - $n+2$ ) cells  $\sigma_n$  non-maximal in  $C_n$ .

At least, we can construct, by induction, the o-pattern  $h$  in  $n+1$  steps by putting:

in the first step: 
$$\begin{cases} h(\tau) = g(\tau) \\ h(\sigma) = \text{a vertex of } H_{\Gamma}(g(st^m(\sigma))) \\ h(\tau_1) = \text{a vertex of } H_{\Gamma}(g(st^m(\tau_1))) \end{cases}$$

in the second step: 
$$\begin{cases} h(\sigma_1) = \text{a vertex of } H_{\Gamma}(h(st_{C_1}^m(\sigma_1))) \\ h(\tau_2) = \text{a vertex of } H_{\Gamma}(h(st_{C_1}^m(\tau_2))) \end{cases}$$

in the third step: 
$$\begin{cases} h(\sigma_2) = \text{a vertex of } H_{\Gamma}(h(st_{C_2}^m(\sigma_2))) \\ h(\tau_3) = \text{a vertex of } H_{\Gamma}(h(st_{C_2}^m(\tau_3))) \end{cases}$$

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in the  $(n+1)$  step:  $h(\sigma_n) = \text{a vertex of } H_{\Gamma}(h(st_{C_n}^m(\sigma_n)))$ ,  
 where,  $\forall \lambda \in C$ , we put  $\Gamma = G_i$  if  $\lambda \in D_i$ .

Hence we obtain:

**THEOREM 14.** - (The third normalization theorem between  $(n+1)$ -tuples).  
 Let  $S, S_1, \dots, S_n$  be a  $(n+1)$ -tuple of topological spaces, where  $S$  is a compact triangulable space,  $S_1, \dots, S_n$  are closed triangulable subspaces,  $G, G_1, \dots, G_n$  a  $(n+1)$ -tuple of finite directed graphs and  $f: S, S_1, \dots, S_n \rightarrow G, G_1, \dots, G_n$  a completely o-regular function.. Then, for every finite cellular decomposition  $C, C_1, \dots, C_n$  of  $S, S_1, \dots, S_n$  with suitable mesh, there exists a function  $h: S, S_1, \dots, S_n \rightarrow G, G_1, \dots, G_n$  pre-cellular w.r. t.  $C, C_1, \dots, C_n$  and completely o-homotopic to  $f$ .  $\square$

By a procedure similar to that one used in the proofs of Theorems 8

and 12, we also obtain:

**THEOREM 15.** - (The third normalization theorem for homotopies of functions between  $(n+1)$ -tuples). Let  $S, S_1, \dots, S_n$  be a  $(n+1)$ -tuple of topological spaces, where  $S$  is a compact triangulable space,  $S_1, \dots, S_n$  are closed triangulable subspaces,  $G, G_1, \dots, G_n$  a  $(n+1)$ -tuple of finite directed graphs,  $C, C_1, \dots, C_n$  and  $D, D_1, \dots, D_n$  two finite cellular decompositions of  $S, S_1, \dots, S_n$  and  $e, f: S, S_1, \dots, S_n \rightarrow G, G_1, \dots, G_n$  two functions pre-cellular w.r.t.  $C, C_1, \dots, C_n$  and  $D, D_1, \dots, D_n$  respectively, which are  $o$ -homotopic. Then, from any finite cellular decomposition of the  $(n+1)$ -tuple  $S \times \left[\frac{1}{3}, \frac{2}{3}\right], S_1 \times \left[\frac{1}{3}, \frac{2}{3}\right], \dots, S_n \times \left[\frac{1}{3}, \frac{2}{3}\right]$ , of suitable mesh, which induces on the bases decompositions finer than  $C, C_1, \dots, C_n$  and  $D, D_1, \dots, D_n$ , we obtain a finite cellular decomposition  $\Gamma, \Gamma_1, \dots, \Gamma_n$  of the  $(n+1)$ -tuple  $S \times I, S_1 \times I, \dots, S_n \times I$ , and a homotopy between  $e$  and  $f$ , which is a pre-cellular function w.r.t.  $\Gamma, \Gamma_1, \dots, \Gamma_n$ .  $\square$

8) Case of homotopy groups.  
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Since the  $n$ -cube  $I^n$  is a triangulable compact manifold, we can apply the results of the previous paragraphs to the case of absolute and relative  $n$ -dimensional groups of regular homotopy. So we can choose, as representative of any homotopy class, a loop which is pre-cellular w.r.t. a suitable cellular decomposition of  $I^n$ . Now, the cellular decompositions of  $I^n$  which are relevant for applications, are the triangulations and the subdivisions into cubes (the latter are determined by a partition into  $k$  parts of equal size of every edge of  $I^n$ ). To construct the absolute groups  $Q_n(G, v)$  we consider  $o$ -regular loops i.e.  $o$ -regular functions  $f: I^n, \dot{I}^n \rightarrow G, v$  where  $\dot{I}^n$  is the boundary of  $I^n$  and  $v$  a vertex of  $G$ , whereas, in the case of relative groups  $Q_n(G, G', v)$  we use the  $o$ -regular relative loops, i.e.  $o$ -regular functions  $f: I^n, \dot{I}^n, J^{n-1} \rightarrow G, G', v$  where  $J^{n-1}$  is the union of the  $(n-1)$ -faces of  $I^n$ , different from the face  $x_n = 0$ . Since the subspaces  $\dot{I}^n, J^{n-1}$  are an union of faces of  $I^n$ , they are closed subspaces, which can be triangulated and subdivided into cubes. So, by applying the third normalization theorem (see Theorems 11 and 14), directly we obtain:

**THEOREM 16.** - On the previous assumptions, in every  $o$ -homotopy class of the group  $Q_n(G, v)$  (resp.  $Q_n(G, G', v)$ ) there exists a loop which is pre-cellular w.r.t. a suitable triangulation (subdivision into cubes) of  $I^n$ .