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## A REMARK ON JAMES NUMBERS OF STIEFEL MANIFOLDS

Dedicated to Professor Nobuo Shimada on his 60th birthday

HIDEAKI ŌSHIMA

(Received July 13, 1983)

### 1. Introduction

The purpose of this note is to supply a few relations between the unstable and stable James numbers of Stiefel manifolds.

Let  $F$  be the field  $H$  of the quaternions or the field  $C$  of the complex numbers, and  $d$  the dimension of  $F$  over the field of the real numbers. Let  $G(F^n)$  be the symplectic group  $Sp(n)$  or the unitary group  $U(n)$  according as  $F$  is  $H$  or  $C$ . The stunted quasi-projective space  $Q_{n,k} = Q_n / Q_{n-k}$  is a subspace of the Stiefel manifold  $O_{n,k} = G(F^n) / G(F^{n-k})$  (see e.g. [8]). There exist the quotient maps  $q_r: Q_{n,k} \rightarrow Q_{n,k-r}$  and  $p_r: O_{n,k} \rightarrow O_{n,k-r}$ . Let  $i': Q_{n,k} \rightarrow O_{n,k}$  be the inclusion map. Then  $i' \circ q_r = p_r \circ i'$  and  $i': Q_{n,1} \rightarrow O_{n,1}$  is the identity map of the  $(dn-1)$ -dimensional sphere  $S^{dn-1}$ .

Applying the homotopy functor  $\pi_{dn-1}(\quad)$  and the stable homotopy functor  $\pi_{dn-1}^s(\quad)$  to  $q_{k-1}$  and  $p_{k-1}$ , we define the unstable James numbers (see [7])  $Q\{n, k\} = Q_F\{n, k\}$ ,  $O\{n, k\} = O_F\{n, k\}$  and the stable James numbers  $Q^s\{n, k\} = Q_F^s\{n, k\}$ ,  $O^s\{n, k\} = O_F^s\{n, k\}$  by the following equations:

$$\begin{aligned} q_{k-1*} \pi_{dn-1}(Q_{n,k}) &= Q\{n, k\} \pi_{dn-1}(S^{dn-1}), \\ p_{k-1*} \pi_{dn-1}(O_{n,k}) &= O\{n, k\} \pi_{dn-1}(S^{dn-1}), \\ q_{k-1*} \pi_{dn-1}^s(Q_{n,k}) &= Q^s\{n, k\} \pi_{dn-1}^s(S^{dn-1}), \\ p_{k-1*} \pi_{dn-1}^s(O_{n,k}) &= O^s\{n, k\} \pi_{dn-1}^s(S^{dn-1}); \end{aligned}$$

whenever  $1 \leq k \leq n$ . As easily seen (see e.g. [12]), we have

$$(1.1) \quad \begin{aligned} Q^s\{n, k\} &\mid Q\{n, k\}, O^s\{n, k\} \mid O\{n, k\}, O\{n, k\} \mid Q\{n, k\}, \\ Q^s\{n, k\} &\mid Q^s\{n, k+1\}, Q\{n, k\} \mid Q\{n, k+1\} \text{ and } O\{n, k\} \mid O\{n, k+1\}; \end{aligned}$$

where  $a \mid b$  means that  $b$  is a multiple of  $a$ . In [12] we proved

$$(1.2) \quad Q^s\{n, k\} = O^s\{n, k\}.$$

The stable James number  $O^s\{n, k\}$  has been investigated by various au-

thors, but the unstable ones  $Q\{n, k\}$ ,  $O\{n, k\}$  have been done not so much (see e.g. [7], [13], [15], [18]). By [2], [3], [4] we have

$$(1.3) \quad O_H\{n, n\} = \begin{cases} 2 \cdot (2n-1)! & \text{if } n \text{ is even} \\ (2n-1)! & \text{if } n \text{ is odd;} \end{cases}$$

$$O_C\{n, n\} = O_C\{n, n-1\} = (n-1)!.$$

Our first result is an easy consequence of the results of Mukai [10], [11].

**Theorem 1.** (i)  $O_H\{n, n\} = O_H^s\{n, n\} = a \cdot Q_H\{n, n\}$ , where  $a=1$  if  $n$  is even,  $a=1$  or  $1/2$  if  $n$  is odd.

(ii)  $O_C\{n, n\} = O_C^s\{n, n\} = Q_C\{n, n\} = O_C\{n, n-1\} = O_C^s\{n, n-1\} = Q_C\{n, n-1\}$ .

Let  $E^\infty: \pi_r(\ ) \rightarrow \pi_r^s(\ )$  be the stabilization homomorphism. Since  $Q_{n,k}$  and  $O_{n,k}$  are  $(d(n-k+1)-2)$ -connected (see e.g. [8]), it follows from Freudenthal suspension theorem that  $E^\infty: \pi_{dn-1}(Q_{n,k}) \rightarrow \pi_{dn-1}^s(Q_{n,k})$  and  $E^\infty: \pi_{dn-1}(O_{n,k}) \rightarrow \pi_{dn-1}^s(O_{n,k})$  are surjective whenever  $n \geq 2k-1$ . Thus  $Q\{n, k\} = Q^s\{n, k\}$  and  $O\{n, k\} = O^s\{n, k\}$  if  $n \geq 2k-1$ . As seen in [13], if  $n < 2k-1$ , then  $O\{n, k\} \neq O^s\{n, k\}$  in general.

We consider the case  $n=2k-2$ . Since  $(O_{2k-2,k}, Q_{2k-2,k})$  is  $(2dk-d-3)$ -connected (see e.g. [8]) and  $d(2k-2)-1 \leq 2dk-d-3$ , it follows that  $i_*^s: \pi_{d(2k-2)-1}(Q_{2k-2,k}) \rightarrow \pi_{d(2k-2)-1}(O_{2k-2,k})$  is surjective, so that

$$(1.4) \quad O\{2k-2, k\} = Q\{2k-2, k\}.$$

Our second result is

**Theorem 2.** (iii) If  $F=H$  or  $F=C$  and  $k$  is odd, then  $O\{2k-2, k\} = O^s\{2k-2, k\}$ .

(iv) If  $F=C$  and  $k$  is even, then  $O\{2k-2, k\}/O^s\{2k-2, k\} = 1$  or 2.

**REMARK 1.** In [13] we proved (iv) by a different method from the one in this note, and showed that  $O_C\{2k-2, k\}/O_C^s\{2k-2, k\}$  is 1 if  $k=2, 6$  and it is 2 if  $k=4, 8$ .

**REMARK 2.** In [13] we did not determine  $O_H\{8, 5\}$ . Now (iii) says that  $O_H\{8, 5\} = O_H^s\{8, 5\}$  which was calculated in [12].

**REMARK 3.** I know of no case where  $O_H\{n, k\} \neq O_H^s\{n, k\}$ .

## 2. Proof of Theorem 1

The assertions are trivial when  $n=1$ . So we assume that  $n \geq 2$ .

Let  $E$  denote both the reduced suspension functor in the category of pointed spaces and the suspension homomorphism in homotopy groups. For a continuous map  $f: S' \rightarrow X$ , we denote the order of  $f$  in  $\pi_r(X)$  and  $\pi_r^s(X)$  by  $\#f$

and  $\#E^\infty f$ , respectively.

As well known (see e.g. [8]), we have a  $CW$ -decomposition

$$Q_n = Q_{n,n} = e^0 \cup e^{d-1} \cup e^{2d-1} \cup \dots \cup e^{dn-1}$$

such that  $Q_m$  is a subcomplex of  $Q_n$  provided  $m < n$ , so

$$(2.1) \quad Q_{n,k} = e^0 \cup e^{d(n-k+1)-1} \cup \dots \cup e^{dn-1}.$$

Let  $T'_{n-1}: (B^{dn-1}, S^{dn-2}) \rightarrow (Q_n, Q_{n-1})$  be a characteristic map of the top cell, and let  $T_{n-1}: S^{dn-2} \rightarrow Q_{n-1}$  be the restriction of  $T'_{n-1}$  to  $S^{dn-2}$ , the boundary of the disk  $B^{dn-1}$ . Let also  $T'_{n-1,k-1} = q_{n-k} \circ T'_{n-1}: (B^{dn-1}, S^{dn-2}) \rightarrow (Q_{n,k}, Q_{n-1,k-1})$  and  $T_{n-1,k-1} = q_{n-k} \circ T_{n-1}: S^{dn-2} \rightarrow Q_{n-1,k-1}$ .

Applying  $\pi_*^s(\quad)$  to the cofibre sequence

$$S^{dn-2} \xrightarrow{T_{n-1,k-1}} Q_{n-1,k-1} \rightarrow Q_{n,k} \xrightarrow{q_{k-1}} S^{dn-1},$$

we obtain the exact sequence

$$\pi_{dn-1}^s(Q_{n,k}) \xrightarrow{q_{k-1}^*} \pi_{dn-1}^s(S^{dn-1}) \xrightarrow{(ET_{n-1,k-1})_*} \pi_{dn-1}^s(EQ_{n-1,k-1}).$$

It follows from the cell structure of  $Q_{n-1,k-1}$  that  $\pi_{dn-1}^s(EQ_{n-1,k-1})$  is finite, so  $\#E^\infty T_{n-1,k-1}$  is finite. Hence the exactness implies that

$$(2.2) \quad Q^s\{n, k\} = \#E^\infty T_{n-1,k-1}.$$

Next we see the unstable case. Consider the homotopy exact sequence of the pair  $(Q_{n,k}, Q_{n-1,k-1})$ :

$$\pi_{dn-1}(Q_{n,k}) \xrightarrow{j_*} \pi_{dn-1}(Q_{n,k}, Q_{n-1,k-1}) \xrightarrow{\partial} \pi_{dn-2}(Q_{n-1,k-1}).$$

By definition  $\partial(T'_{n-1,k-1}) = T_{n-1,k-1}$ . Let  $q': (Q_{n,k}, Q_{n-1,k-1}) \rightarrow (S^{dn-1}, *)$  be the collapsing map. Then  $q'_*(T'_{n-1,k-1})$  generates  $\pi_{dn-1}(S^{dn-1})$ . If  $n > k$  or  $F = H$ , then, by Blakers–Massey [1],  $q'_*: \pi_{dn-1}(Q_{n,k}, Q_{n-1,k-1}) \rightarrow \pi_{dn-1}(S^{dn-1})$  is an isomorphism, so  $T'_{n-1,k-1}$  generates  $\pi_{dn-1}(Q_{n,k}, Q_{n-1,k-1})$ . Since  $q'_* \circ j_* = q_{k-1}^*$ , it follows that the order of  $T_{n-1,k-1}$  is equal to the order of the cokernel of  $q_{k-1}^*: \pi_{dn-1}(Q_{n,k}) \rightarrow \pi_{dn-1}(S^{dn-1})$  provided  $n > k$  or  $F = H$ . Hence the following lemma implies that

$$(2.3) \quad Q\{n, k\} = \#T_{n-1,k-1} \quad \text{if } n > k \text{ or } F = H.$$

**Lemma (2.4).** *The order of  $T_{n-1,k-1}$  is finite if  $n > k$  or  $F = H$ .*

Since  $T_{n-1,k-1} = q_{n-k} \circ T_{n-1}$  and since  $T_{n-1,k-1} = q_{n-k-1} \circ T_{n-1,n-2}$  if  $n > k$ , it is sufficient for proving (2.4) to show that  $\#T_{n-1}$  is finite if  $F = H$ , and  $\#T_{n-1,n-2}$  is finite if  $F = C$ .

The rest of this section is devoted to the proofs of (2.4) and Theorem 1.

We consider the case  $F=H$ . In [11] Mukai proved that  $\#T_{n-1}=\#E^\infty T_{n-1}=2\cdot(2n-1)!$  if  $n$  is even;  $\#E^\infty T_{n-1}=(2n-1)!$  and  $\#T_{n-1}/(2n-1)!=1$  or 2 if  $n$  is odd. Hence we obtain (2.4) and (i) follows from (1.1), (1.2), (1.3), (2.2), (2.3).

We see the case  $F=C$ . Let  $P_n$  be the  $(n-1)$ -dimensional complex projective space, and let  $P_n^+$  be the union of  $P_n$  and a base point. We then have  $Q_n=E(P_n^+)$  and  $Q_{n,n-1}=EP_n$  (see e.g. [8]). Note that there is a homotopy equivalence  $E(P_n^+) \simeq EP_n \vee S^1$  which makes the following triangle commutative up to homotopy:

$$\begin{array}{ccc} Q_n = E(P_n^+) & \simeq & EP_n \vee S^1 \\ q_1 \searrow & & \swarrow p \\ Q_{n,n-1} = EP_n & & \end{array}$$

where  $p$  is the projection. Hence  $q_1$  has a left homotopy inverse, so

$$(2.5) \quad q_1: \pi_{2n-1}(Q_n) \rightarrow \pi_{2n-1}(Q_{n,n-1}) \text{ is surjective.}$$

Let  $SU(n)$  be the special unitary group and let  $h: O_{n,n-1}=U(n)/(U(1) \times 1_{n-1}) \rightarrow SU(n)$  be the homeomorphism defined by

$$h(A \bmod U(1) \times 1_{n-1}) = A \begin{pmatrix} 1/|A| & & & \\ 1 & & & \\ & \ddots & \ddots & \\ & & \ddots & \\ & & & 1 \end{pmatrix}.$$

Note that  $h \circ i': EP_n = Q_{n,n-1} \rightarrow SU(n)$  is the inclusion map defined in [20]. Hence in the following commutative diagram  $h_* \circ i'_*$  is surjective by Proposition 4.2 of [16].

$$\begin{array}{ccc} \pi_{2n-1}(Q_n) & \xrightarrow{i'_*} & \pi_{2n-1}(U(n)) \\ q_1 \downarrow & & \cong \downarrow p_1 \\ \pi_{2n-1}(Q_{n,n-1}) & \xrightarrow{i'_*} & \pi_{2n-1}(O_{n,n-1}) \xrightarrow{h_*} \pi_{2n-1}(SU(n)) \\ & & \cong \end{array}$$

It follows that the lower  $i'_*$  is surjective and so is the upper  $i'_*$  from (2.5). Thus we have

$$(2.6) \quad Q_C\{n, n\} = O_C\{n, n\}.$$

On the other hand we can take  $T_{n-1,n-2}=E\gamma_{n-1}$  where  $\gamma_{n-1}: S^{2n-3} \rightarrow P_{n-1}$  is the canonical  $S^1$ -fibration. It is well known (see e.g. [10]) that  $\#E\gamma_{n-1}=\#E^\infty\gamma_{n-1}=(n-1)!$ . Thus we have (2.4) and

$$(2.7) \quad Q_C\{n, n-1\} = Q_C^c\{n, n-1\} = (n-1)!$$

by (2.2), (2.3). Therefore (ii) follows from (1.1), (1.2), (1.3), (2.6), (2.7). This completes the proofs of (2.4) and Theorem 1.

### 3. EHP-sequence

Let  $X, Y$  be  $r$ -connected  $CW$ -complexes which have exactly one vertex  $*$ , and let  $f: X \rightarrow Y$  be a continuous map with  $f(*)=*$ . We then have a diagram consisting of the exact *EHP*-sequences for  $i \leq 3r+1$  (see e.g. [9], [19]):

$$\begin{array}{ccccccc} E & H & P & E \\ \pi_i(X) \rightarrow \pi_{i+1}(EX) \rightarrow \pi_{i+1}(E(X \wedge X)) \rightarrow \pi_{i-1}(X) \rightarrow \cdots \\ \downarrow f_* E & \downarrow (Ef)_* H & \downarrow (E(f \wedge f))_* P & \downarrow f_* E \\ \pi_i(Y) \rightarrow \pi_{i+1}(EY) \rightarrow \pi_{i+1}(E(Y \wedge Y)) \rightarrow \pi_{i-1}(Y) \rightarrow \cdots \end{array}$$

In the next section we shall use

**Lemma (3.1).** *The above diagram commutes.*

By using Theorem 5.3 of [6] and following faithfully the construction of the *EHP*-sequence, we can prove (3.1). We omit the details.

### 4. Proof of Theorem 2

For an abelian group  $A$ ,  $A/\text{Tor}$  denotes the quotient group of  $A$  by its torsion subgroup, and  $\pi: A \rightarrow A/\text{Tor}$  denotes the quotient homomorphism. Let  $Z$  be the infinite cyclic group.

By (2.1) we have

$$(4.1) \quad \pi_{dn-1}^s(Q_{n,k})/\text{Tor} \cong Z.$$

It follows that  $Q^s\{n, k\} \neq 0$  from (2.2) and that  $Q\{n, k\} \neq 0$  from (2.3), (2.6), (1.3). Thus we have

**Lemma (4.2).**  $\pi \circ E^\infty \neq 0: \pi_{dn-1}(Q_{n,k}) \rightarrow \pi_{dn-1}^s(Q_{n,k})/\text{Tor}.$

From now on we denote  $Q_{2k-2,k}$  by  $Q$ . By (1.1), (1.2), (1.4), (4.1) and (4.2), Theorem 2 is equivalent to

**Proposition (4.3).** *Let  $n=2k-2$ . Then the image of  $\pi \circ E^\infty: \pi_{dn-1}(Q) \rightarrow \pi_{dn-1}^s(Q)/\text{Tor}$  is  $a \cdot \pi_{dn-1}^s(Q)/\text{Tor}$ , where  $a=1$  if  $F=H$  or  $k$  is odd,  $a=1$  or  $2$  if  $F=C$  and  $k$  is even.*

**Proof.** We consider the case  $F=C$  only, because we can prove the assertion for the case  $F=H$  by a similar but slightly easier method to the following one.

If  $k=2$ , then the assertion is trivial by Theorem 1. So we assume that  $k \geq 3$ . By (2.1) we have

$$Q = e^0 \cup e^{2k-3} \cup e^{2k-1} \cup \cdots \cup e^{4k-5},$$

and so

$$(4.4) \quad Q \wedge Q = e^0 \cup e^{4k-6} \cup e^{4k-4} \cup e^{4k-4} \cup \dots \cup e^{8k-10}.$$

Let  $i: S^{2k-3} = e^0 \cup e^{2k-3} = Q_{k-1,1} \rightarrow Q$  be the inclusion. Since  $Q$  is  $(2k-4)$ -connected, it follows that

$$(4.5) \quad E^\infty: \pi_{4k-2}(E^3 Q) \rightarrow \pi_{4k-5}^i(Q) \text{ is an isomorphism, and}$$

$$(4.6) \quad E: \pi_{4k-3}(E^2 Q) \rightarrow \pi_{4k-2}(E^3 Q) \text{ is surjective.}$$

By (3.1) we have the commutative diagram:

$$\begin{array}{ccccccc} \pi_{4k-1}(E^3 S^{2k-3}) & \xrightarrow{H} & \pi_{4k-1}(E^5(S^{2k-3} \wedge S^{2k-3})) & \cong & \pi_{4k-1}(S^{4k-1}) & \cong & Z \\ \downarrow (E^3 i)_* & & \downarrow (E^5(i \wedge i))_* & & & & \\ \pi_{4k-1}(E^3 Q) & \xrightarrow{H} & \pi_{4k-1}(E^5(Q \wedge Q)) & \xrightarrow{P} & \pi_{4k-3}(E^2 Q) & \xrightarrow{E} & \pi_{4k-2}(E^3 Q). \end{array}$$

By (4.4) and Blakers–Massey [1],  $\pi_{4k}(E^5(Q \wedge Q), S^{4k-1}) \cong \pi_{4k-1}(E^5(Q \wedge Q), S^{4k-1}) \cong 0$ , so the above  $(E^5(i \wedge i))_*$  is an isomorphism. As well known (see e.g. Proposition 2.7 of [17]), the upper  $H$  is not zero, hence so is the lower  $H$ . Thus the image of  $P$  is finite, so that, by (4.6),  $E$  induces an isomorphism

$$(4.7) \quad \tilde{E}: \pi_{4k-3}(E^2 Q)/\text{Tor} \cong \pi_{4k-2}(E^3 Q)/\text{Tor}.$$

Consider the  $EHP$ -sequence:

$$\pi_{4k-2}(E^3(Q \wedge Q)) \xrightarrow{P} \pi_{4k-4}(EQ) \xrightarrow{E} \pi_{4k-3}(E^2 Q) \xrightarrow{H} \pi_{4k-3}(E^3(Q \wedge Q)).$$

By (4.4) and Blakers–Massey [1],  $\pi_{4k-3}(E^3(Q \wedge Q), S^{4k-3}) \cong \pi_{4k-2}(E^3(Q \wedge Q), S^{4k-3}) \cong 0$ , so  $E^3(i \wedge i)$  induces a surjection  $(Z_2 \cong) \pi_{4k-2}(S^{4k-3}) \rightarrow \pi_{4k-2}(E^3(Q \wedge Q))$  and an isomorphism  $(Z \cong) \pi_{4k-3}(S^{4k-3}) \cong \pi_{4k-3}(E^3(Q \wedge Q))$ . Thus it follows that

$$(4.8) \quad \pi_{4k-2}(E^3(Q \wedge Q)) \text{ is finite, and}$$

$$(4.9) \quad \pi_{4k-3}(E^3(Q \wedge Q)) \cong Z.$$

The kernel of  $E$  is finite by (4.8). The cokernel of  $E$  is torsion free by (4.9), while it is finite by (4.1), (4.2), (4.5), (4.7), hence it is zero, so  $E$  is surjective. Thus  $E$  induces an isomorphism

$$(4.10) \quad \tilde{E}: \pi_{4k-4}(EQ)/\text{Tor} \cong \pi_{4k-3}(E^2 Q)/\text{Tor}.$$

By (3.1) we have the following commutative diagram:

$$\begin{array}{ccccccc} & & Z_2 \{ \eta_{4k-5} \} & & & & \\ & & \uparrow \parallel & & & & \\ \pi_{4k-5}(S^{2k-3}) & \xrightarrow{E} & \pi_{4k-4}(S^{2k-2}) & \xrightarrow{H} & \pi_{4k-4}(S^{4k-5}) & \xrightarrow{P} & \pi_{4k-6}(S^{2k-3}) \\ \downarrow i_* & \xrightarrow{E} & \downarrow (Ei)_* & \xrightarrow{H} & \downarrow (E(i \wedge i))_* & \xrightarrow{P} & \downarrow i_* \\ \pi_{4k-5}(Q) & \rightarrow & \pi_{4k-4}(EQ) & \rightarrow & \pi_{4k-4}(E(Q \wedge Q)) & \rightarrow & \pi_{4k-6}(Q). \end{array}$$

Here  $\eta_2: S^3 \rightarrow S^2$  is the Hopf map and  $\eta_m = E^{m-2}\eta_2: S^{m+1} \rightarrow S^m$  for  $m \geq 2$ . By (4.4) and Blakers–Massey [1],  $\pi_{4k-4}(E(Q \wedge Q), S^{4k-5}) \cong 0$ . Thus  $(E(i \wedge i))_*$  is surjective, so  $\pi_{4k-4}(E(Q \wedge Q)) \cong \mathbb{Z}_2$  or 0. Hence the cokernel of the lower  $E$  is  $\mathbb{Z}_2$  or 0. Since  $\pi_{4k-4}(EQ)/Tor \cong \mathbb{Z}$  by (4.1), (4.5), (4.7), (4.10), it follows that the image of the homomorphism  $\tilde{E}: \pi_{4k-5}(Q)/Tor \rightarrow \pi_{4k-4}(EQ)/Tor$  induced by  $E$  is  $a \cdot \pi_{4k-4}(EQ)/Tor$ , where  $a=1$  or 2. Thus the assertion of (4.3) for  $k$  even follows from (4.5), (4.7) and (4.10). We can prove (4.3) for  $k$  odd by showing that  $\pi_{4k-4}(E(Q \wedge Q))$  is  $\mathbb{Z}_2$  if  $k$  is even and 0 if  $k$  is odd. But we will take a different method which can be applied to the case  $F=H$ .

As well known (see e.g. [19]),  $P(\eta_{4k-5}) = [l_{2k-3}, \eta_{2k-3}]$ , the Whitehead product, where  $l_{2k-3}$  is the identity map of  $S^{2k-3}$ . It follows from [5] that  $[l_{2k-3}, \eta_{2k-3}] = 0$  if and only if  $k$  is odd. We show that  $\tilde{E}: \pi_{4k-5}(Q)/Tor \rightarrow \pi_{4k-4}(EQ)/Tor$  is surjective if  $k$  is odd. Then the assertion of (4.3) for  $k$  odd follows from (4.5), (4.7) and (4.10).

Let  $k$  be odd. Then there is an element  $x$  in  $\pi_{4k-4}(S^{2k-2})$  such that  $H(x) = \eta_{4k-5}$  by exactness. Hence  $H((Ei)_*(x)) = E(i \wedge i)_*(H(x)) = E(i \wedge i)_*(\eta_{4k-5})$  which generates  $\pi_{4k-4}(E(Q \wedge Q))$ . Choose  $y$  in  $\pi_{4k-4}(EQ)$  such that  $\pi(y)$  generates the infinite cyclic group  $\pi_{4k-4}(EQ)/Tor$ . If  $H(y) = 0$ , then there exists  $y'$  in  $\pi_{4k-5}(Q)$  such that  $E(y') = y$ , so  $\tilde{E}(\pi(y')) = \pi(y)$  and  $\tilde{E}$  is surjective. If  $H(y) \neq 0$ , then  $\pi_{4k-4}(E(Q \wedge Q)) \cong \mathbb{Z}_2$  which is generated by  $H(y)$ . Hence  $H(y) = H((Ei)_*(x))$  and there exists  $y''$  in  $\pi_{4k-5}(Q)$  such that  $E(y'') = y - (Ei)_*(x)$ . Since  $\pi_{4k-4}(S^{2k-2})$  is finite as seen in [14], it follows that  $(Ei)_*(x)$  has a finite order and  $\tilde{E}(\pi(y'')) = \pi(y - (Ei)_*(x)) = \pi(y)$ , so that  $\tilde{E}$  is surjective. This completes the proofs of (4.3) and hence of Theorem 2.

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