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**Autor:** Body, Richard / Mimura, Mamoru / Shiga, Hiroo  
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## ***p*-universal spaces and rational homotopy types**

Richard Body, Mamoru Mimura, Hiroo Shiga and Dennis Sullivan

**Abstract.** We prove that the  $p$ -universality of a space does not depend on a prime  $p$  but only on its rational homotopy type. The minimal model of such a rational homotopy type is characterized by the existence of the trivial endomorphism in the closure of its automorphism group.

**Mathematics Subject Classification (1991).** Primary 55P60, 55P62.

**Keywords.**  $p$ -universality, having positive weights, 1-parameter subgroup defined over  $\mathbb{Q}$ .

### **1. Introduction**

Let  $p$  be a prime or 0. A map  $f : X \rightarrow Y$  between topological spaces is called a  $p$ -equivalence if the induced homomorphism

$$f^* : H^*(Y; \mathbb{Z}/p\mathbb{Z}) \rightarrow H^*(X; \mathbb{Z}/p\mathbb{Z})$$

is an isomorphism. A  $p$ -equivalence, however, is not an equivalence relation; in particular, the symmetry does not hold in general. In [MT] Mimura and Toda introduced a class of spaces in which a  $p$ -equivalence is an equivalence relation. They called such spaces  $p$ -universal. About 20 years ago the first and the fourth authors observed in the unpublished draft [BS] that the  $p$ -universality does not depend on a particular prime  $p$  but on its rational homotopy type, although they gave only the outline of the proof. The purpose of the present note is to give a detailed proof of it and to show that the class of  $p$ -universal spaces coincides exactly with that of spaces whose rational homotopy type has "positive weights" in the sense of Morgan and Sullivan. That is, our main theorem is stated as follows.

**Theorem A.** *Let  $X$  be a simply connected finite CW-complex. Then the following statements are equivalent:*

- (1)  *$X$  is  $p$ -universal for a prime  $p$  or 0;*
- (2) *the rational homotopy type of  $X$  has positive weights;*
- (3)  *$X$  is  $p$ -universal for any prime  $p$  and 0.*

We also prove

**Theorem B.** *Let  $X$  be a simply connected CW-complex such that*

$$\sum_{i=2}^{\infty} \dim_{\mathbb{Q}} \pi_i(X) \otimes \mathbb{Q} < \infty.$$

*Then there is a  $p$ -universal space  $K$  for any prime  $p$  having the same rational homotopy type as  $X$  if and only if  $X$  has positive weights.*

Theorem A does not hold for infinite complexes (see Remark 3.6). In §2 we study a space whose rational homotopy type has positive weights. In Theorem 2.7 we give a various characterization of it and show that it is independent of the ground field. In fact, the characterization (1) in Theorem 2.7 is stated in [BS]. The method there is to show that the closure of  $\mathbb{Q}$ -split torus of the group of automorphisms of minimal model in the space of endomorphisms contains a zero homomorphism. The detailed proof, however, was not given in [BS]. We give here its proof by using the Galois group action on one parameter subgroups. In §3 we prove (1)  $\Rightarrow$  (2) in Theorem A by using (1) in Theorem 2.7. Then following the idea of [BS], we realize the one parameter subgroup  $\lambda(q)$ , where  $q$  is a positive integer, by a self map of  $K$  which has the same rational homotopy type as a given complex. From this, we prove Theorem B as well as (2)  $\Rightarrow$  (3) of Theorem A. Finally we show in Proposition 3.7 that homogeneous spaces of compact Lie groups are  $p$ -universal for any prime  $p$  and 0.

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## 2. Positive weights

Let  $V = \bigoplus_{n \geq 2} V^n$  be a graded vector space and denote by  $m = \Lambda(V)$  a minimal differential graded-commutative algebra (minimal DGA for short) over  $\mathbb{Q}$  ([H] and [Su1]). Let  $\mathbb{K}$  be a field such that  $\mathbb{Q} \subseteq \mathbb{K} \subseteq \mathbb{C}$ . We take a basis  $\{x_1^{(n)}, \dots, x_{k_n}^{(n)}\}$  for  $V^n \otimes \mathbb{K}$  and assign a positive integer  $w(x_j^{(n)})$  to each  $x_j^{(n)}$ . The integer  $w(x_j^{(n)})$  is called the *weight* of  $x_j^{(n)}$ . Let  $U_s^n$  be a subspace of  $V^n \otimes \mathbb{K}$  spanned by the elements with weight  $s$ . We extend the definition of the weight by

$$w(x_i^{(n)} \cdot x_j^{(m)}) = w(x_i^{(n)}) + w(x_j^{(m)}).$$

Then for  $m^+$  the ideal of positive elements, we have the weight decomposition

$$m^+ = \bigoplus_{s \geq 1} U_s, \quad \text{where} \quad U_s = \bigoplus_{n \geq 2} U_s^n.$$

Let  $X$  be a CW-complex and denote by  $m(X) = \Lambda(\bigoplus_{n \geq 2} V^n)$  its minimal model with a differential operator  $d$ .

**Definition 2.1.** The  $\mathbb{K}$ -homotopy type of a CW-complex  $X$ ,  $m(X) \otimes \mathbb{K}$ , is said to have  $\mathbb{K}$ -positive weights if we can choose a basis  $\{x_1^{(n)}, \dots, x_{k_n}^{(n)}\}$  of  $V^n \otimes \mathbb{K}$  for  $n \geq 2$  and give weight  $w(x_i^{(n)})$  for each  $x_i^{(n)}$  such that it satisfies

$$w(dx_i^{(n)}) = w(x_i^{(n)}) \quad (i = 1, \dots, k_n; n \geq 2). \quad (1)$$

In this case we simply say that  $X$  has  $\mathbb{K}$ -positive weights.

We denote by  $m(X)(n)$  the sub DGA of  $m(X)$  generated by the elements of degree  $\leq n$  and by  $m(X)(n)^i$  the subspace spanned by the elements of degree  $i$ . We also denote by  $G_n(\mathbb{Q})$  the group of  $\mathbb{Q}$ -DGA automorphisms of  $m(X)(n)$ . If we fix a  $\mathbb{Q}$ -basis of  $m(X)(n)^i$  for  $i = 2, \dots, 2n$ , then  $G_n(\mathbb{Q})$  is represented by the subgroup of  $\mathrm{GL}(N, \mathbb{Q})$  defined by polynomial equations with coefficients in  $\mathbb{Q}$ , where  $N = \sum_{i=2}^{2n} \dim_{\mathbb{Q}} m(X)(n)^i$ . Let  $G_n$  be the subgroup of  $\mathrm{GL}(N, \mathbb{C})$  defined by the same equations. Then  $G_n$  is an algebraic group defined over  $\mathbb{Q}$  and  $G_n(\mathbb{Q})$  is the set of  $\mathbb{Q}$ -rational points of  $G_n$ .

For any field  $\mathbb{K} \supset \mathbb{Q}$ , there is a maximal torus  $T^{\mathbb{K}}$  of the connected component of  $G_n$  defined over  $\mathbb{K}$  by Theorem 18.2 of [B]. Then by Proposition of [B; p.121] we have a decomposition over  $\mathbb{K}$

$$T^{\mathbb{K}} = T_a^{\mathbb{K}} \cdot T_d^{\mathbb{K}}, \quad T_a^{\mathbb{K}} \cap T_d^{\mathbb{K}} = \text{finite}, \quad (2)$$

where  $T_a^{\mathbb{K}}$  is the largest anisotropic subtorus defined over  $\mathbb{K}$  and  $T_d^{\mathbb{K}}$  is the largest split (i.e., diagonalizable over  $\mathbb{K}$ ) subtorus of  $T^{\mathbb{K}}$ .

Let  $\mathbb{C}^*$  be the multiplicative group of  $\mathbb{C}$ .

**Definition 2.2.** A group homomorphism  $\lambda : \mathbb{C}^* \rightarrow G_n$  is called a one parameter subgroup of  $G_n$  defined over  $\mathbb{K}$  if it is represented by

$$\lambda(t) = \left\{ \begin{pmatrix} t^{a_1} & & 0 \\ & \ddots & \\ 0 & & t^{a_N} \end{pmatrix} \mid t \in \mathbb{C}^* \right\}$$

with respect to some  $\mathbb{K}$ -basis of  $\bigoplus_{i=2}^{2n} m(X)(n)^i \otimes \mathbb{K}$ , where  $a_1, \dots, a_N$  are integers.

**Proposition 2.3.** Let  $\mathbb{K}$  be a field such that  $\mathbb{Q} \subseteq \mathbb{K} \subseteq \mathbb{C}$ . A CW-complex  $X$  has  $\mathbb{K}$ -positive weights if and only if, for each  $n$ , there is a one parameter subgroup  $\lambda(t)$  of  $T_d^{\mathbb{K}}$  defined over  $\mathbb{K}$  such that  $\lim_{t \rightarrow 0} \lambda(t) = 0$ , where the topology of  $G_n$  is the metric one induced from  $\mathbb{C}^{N^2}$ .

*Proof.* If  $X$  has  $\mathbb{K}$ -positive weights, then the correspondence

$$\lambda(t) : x \mapsto t^s x \quad (x \in U_s, t \in \mathbb{K}^*)$$

defines a one parameter subgroup of  $T_d^{\mathbb{K}}$  satisfying the required property. In fact, one can take  $s$  positive by the assumption that  $X$  has  $\mathbb{K}$ -positive weights. Conversely, if there is a one parameter subgroup  $\lambda(t)$  of  $T_d^{\mathbb{K}}$  defined over  $\mathbb{K}$  such that  $\lim_{t \rightarrow 0} \lambda(t) = 0$ , one can choose a basis for  $\bigoplus_{i=2}^{2n} m(X)(n)^i \otimes \mathbb{K}$  and positive integers  $a_1, \dots, a_N$  so that  $\lambda(t)$  is represented by

$$\lambda(t) = \left\{ \begin{pmatrix} t^{a_1} & & \\ & \ddots & \\ & & t^{a_N} \end{pmatrix} \mid t \in \mathbb{K}^* \right\}. \quad (3)$$

Then one obtains a weight decomposition of  $m(X)(n) \otimes \mathbb{K}$  by putting

$$U_{a_i} = \{x \in m(X)(n) \otimes \mathbb{K} \mid \lambda(t)x = t^{a_i}x\} \quad \text{for } i = 1, \dots, N. \quad \square$$

Let  $E_n$  and  $G_n$  be the set of  $\mathbb{C}$ -DGA endomorphisms and the set of  $\mathbb{C}$ -DGA automorphisms of  $m(X)(n) \otimes \mathbb{C}$  respectively. Then  $E_n$  is an algebraic set defined over  $\mathbb{Q}$  and  $G_n$  is a Zariski open set of  $E_n$ . Recall that the Zariski closure of  $G_n$  in  $E_n$  coincides with the metric closure of  $G_n$  in  $E_n$  (see for example [M]), which we denote by  $\overline{G_n}^E$ .

**Lemma 2.4.** *Let  $B$  be a Borel subgroup of  $G_n$ . If the zero homomorphism is contained in  $\overline{G_n}^E$ , then so is in the metric closure of  $B$ .*

*Proof.* Let  $M$  be a compact maximal subgroup of  $G_n$ . Then  $M$  acts on the complete variety  $G_n/B$  transitively, and hence we have

$$G_n = M \cdot B.$$

Let  $\{x_n\}$  be a sequence of the points in  $M \cdot B$  such that  $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} x_n = 0$ . Then each  $x_n$  can be expressed as

$$x_n = u_n \cdot b_n,$$

where  $u_n \in M$  and  $b_n \in B$ . There is an accumulation point  $\alpha$  of  $\{u_n\}$  such that  $\alpha \in M$ , since  $M$  is compact. Then

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \alpha \cdot b_n = 0.$$

Hence by multiplying  $\alpha^{-1}$  we have

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} b_n = 0. \quad \square$$

By (4) of Theorem 10.6 of [B] we have a semi-direct product decomposition

$$B = T_1 \cdot U,$$

where  $T_1$  is a maximal torus of  $G_n$  and  $U$  is a unipotent subgroup of  $G_n$  by Corollary 11.3 of [B], since  $B$  is solvable by definition.

**Lemma 2.5.** *If the closure (metric) of  $B$  contains 0, so does the closure of  $T_1$ .*

*Proof.* Let  $\{x_n\}$  be a sequence of  $B$  such that  $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} x_n = 0$ . We can express  $x_n$  by an upper triangular matrix

$$x_n = \begin{pmatrix} \beta_{11} & \cdots & \beta_{1N} \\ & \ddots & \vdots \\ 0 & & \beta_{NN} \end{pmatrix}.$$

Since  $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \beta_{ii} = 0$  for  $i = 1, 2, \dots, N$  and since

$$\begin{pmatrix} \beta_{11} & & 0 \\ & \ddots & \\ 0 & & \beta_{NN} \end{pmatrix} \in T_1,$$

we have the lemma.  $\square$

There exists a maximal torus  $T^\mathbb{Q}$  of  $G_n$  defined over  $\mathbb{Q}$ . Then, if  $\overline{G_n^E}$  contains 0, so does the metric closure of  $T^\mathbb{Q}$  by Lemmas 2.4 and 2.5, since maximal tori of  $G_n$  are conjugate. By Corollary 18.8 of [B],  $T^\mathbb{Q}$  splits over a finite normal extension  $\mathbb{K}$  of  $\mathbb{Q}$  so that the elements of the  $\mathbb{K}$ -rational points  $T^\mathbb{Q}(\mathbb{K})$  are diagonalizable over  $\mathbb{K}$ . That is, with respect to some  $\mathbb{K}$ -basis for  $m(X)(n) \otimes \mathbb{K}$ ,  $T^\mathbb{Q}$  can be represented as

$$\left\{ \begin{pmatrix} t_1^{a_1^1} \cdots t_m^{a_m^1} & & 0 \\ & \ddots & \\ 0 & & t_1^{a_1^N} \cdots t_m^{a_m^N} \end{pmatrix} \mid t_1, \dots, t_m \in \mathbb{K}^* \right\}, \quad (4)$$

where  $\mathbb{K}^*$  is the multiplicative group of  $\mathbb{K}$ ,  $m$  is the dimension of  $T^\mathbb{Q}$  and  $a_i^j$  are integers for  $1 \leq i \leq m, 1 \leq j \leq N$ .

**Lemma 2.6.** *If the closure (metric) of  $T^\mathbb{Q}$  contains 0, there is a one parameter subgroup  $\lambda(t)$  of  $T^\mathbb{Q}$  defined over  $\mathbb{K}$  such that*

$$\lim_{t \rightarrow 0} \lambda(t) = 0.$$

In particular the metric closure of the  $\mathbb{K}$ -rational points  $T^{\mathbb{Q}}(\mathbb{K})$  contains 0.

*Proof.* We denote a matrix in (4) by  $M(t_1, \dots, t_m)$ . By the assumption there is a sequence  $\{M(x_1^{(k)}, \dots, x_m^{(k)})\}_{k=1}^{\infty}$  such that

$$\lim_{k \rightarrow \infty} |(x_1^{(k)})^{a_1^j} \cdots (x_m^{(k)})^{a_m^j}| = 0 \quad \text{for } j = 1, \dots, m. \quad (5)$$

We choose a positive number  $t < 1$  such that  $x_{\ell}^{(k)} = t^{\alpha_{\ell}^k} e^{i\theta_{\ell}^k}$ , where  $\alpha_{\ell}^k$  and  $\theta_{\ell}^k$  are real numbers. Then

$$|(x_1^{(k)})^{a_1^j} \cdots (x_m^{(k)})^{a_m^j}| = t^{\sum_{\ell=1}^m \alpha_{\ell}^k a_{\ell}^j}.$$

By (5) for large  $k$ , the numbers  $\sum_{\ell=1}^m \alpha_{\ell}^k \cdot a_{\ell}^j$  for  $j = 1, \dots, N$  are simultaneously positive. Then from the density of  $\mathbb{Q}$  in  $\mathbb{R}$ , we can choose rational numbers  $\beta_1, \dots, \beta_m$  so that

$$\sum_{\ell=1}^m \beta_{\ell} a_{\ell}^j > 0 \quad \text{for } j = 1, \dots, N.$$

Hence we have integers  $P_1, \dots, P_m$  such that

$$\sum_{\ell=1}^m P_{\ell} a_{\ell}^j > 0 \quad \text{for } j = 1, \dots, N.$$

Then the one parameter subgroup defined by

$$\lambda(t) = \{M(t^{P_1}, \dots, t^{P_m}) \mid t \in \mathbb{C}^*\}$$

satisfies

$$\lim_{t \rightarrow 0} \lambda(t) = 0. \quad \square$$

Thus we have proved, by virtue of Proposition 2.3 together with Lemmas 2.4, 2.5 and 2.6, that  $m(X)(n)$  has  $\mathbb{K}$ -positive weights, if  $\overline{G_n}^E$  contains 0, where  $\mathbb{K}$  is a finite normal extension of  $\mathbb{Q}$ .

The one parameter subgroup  $\lambda(t)$  defined over  $\mathbb{K}$  in Lemma 2.6 is represented by matrices  $S(t)$  with respect to some  $(\mathbb{Q})$ -basis of  $\bigoplus_{i=2}^{2n} m(X)(n)^i$  such that each entry  $b_{ij}$  of  $S(t) = (b_{ij})$  is in  $\mathbb{K}$  if  $t \in \mathbb{K}^*$ . For an element  $\sigma$  of the Galois group  $G(\mathbb{K}/\mathbb{Q})$ , we set

$$S(t)^{\sigma} = (b_{ij}^{\sigma}).$$

Then the entries of the matrix

$$A(t) = \prod_{\sigma \in G(\mathbb{K}/\mathbb{Q})} S(t)^\sigma$$

are in  $\mathbb{Q}$  if  $t \in \mathbb{K}^*$ . Hence  $A(t)$  defines elements of  $T^\mathbb{Q}(\mathbb{Q})$ , the  $\mathbb{Q}$ -rational points of  $T^\mathbb{Q}$ . For  $t \in \mathbb{Q}^*$  we decompose  $\bigoplus_{i=2}^{2n} m(X)(n)^i$  into  $A(t)$ -invariant, irreducible  $\mathbb{Q}$ -subspaces

$$\bigoplus_{i=2}^{2n} m(X)(n)^i = \bigoplus_{j=1}^{\ell} V_j.$$

The restriction of  $\lambda(t)$  for  $t \in \mathbb{Q}^*$  on  $V_j$  is represented by a matrix  $A_j(t)$  whose entries are in  $\mathbb{Q}$ . The matrix  $A_j(t)$  is diagonalizable over  $\mathbb{K}$ ; there is an invertible matrix  $P_j$  with entries in  $\mathbb{K}$  such that

$$B_j(t) = P_j^{-1} A_j(t) P_j = \begin{pmatrix} k_1(t) & & 0 \\ & \ddots & \\ 0 & & k_{n_j}(t) \end{pmatrix},$$

where  $k_1(t), \dots, k_{n_j}(t)$  are eigenvalues of  $A_j(t)$  which are conjugate over  $\mathbb{Q}$  if  $t \in \mathbb{Q}^*$ . For an element  $\sigma$  of the Galois group  $G(\mathbb{K}/\mathbb{Q})$  we set

$$B_j^\sigma(t) = \begin{pmatrix} k_1(t)^\sigma & & \\ & \ddots & \\ & & k_{n_j}(t)^\sigma \end{pmatrix}.$$

Then we have

$$C_j(t) = \prod_{\sigma \in G(\mathbb{K}/\mathbb{Q})} B_j^\sigma(t) = \begin{pmatrix} r_j(t) & & \\ & \ddots & \\ & & r_j(t) \end{pmatrix},$$

where  $r_j(t)$  is in  $\mathbb{Q}^*$  if  $t \in \mathbb{Q}^*$ . Hence if we set

$$D(t) = \begin{pmatrix} P_1 & & \\ & \ddots & \\ & & P_\ell \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} C_1(t) & & \\ & \ddots & \\ & & C_\ell(t) \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} P_1^{-1} & & \\ & \ddots & \\ & & P_\ell^{-1} \end{pmatrix},$$

then it is of the form

$$D(t) = \begin{pmatrix} r_1(t) & & & & \\ & \ddots & & & \\ & & r_1(t) & & \\ & & & \ddots & \\ & & & & r_\ell(t) \\ & & & & & \ddots \\ & & & & & & r_\ell(t) \end{pmatrix}.$$

Then the matrix  $D(t)$  defines a one parameter subgroup  $\mu(t)$  of  $T^\mathbb{Q}$  defined over  $\mathbb{Q}$  such that  $\lim_{t \rightarrow 0} \mu(t) = 0$ .

Then we have the following:

**Theorem 2.7.** *The following conditions are equivalent:*

- (1) *The Zariski closure of  $G_n$  in  $E_n$  contains the zero homomorphism for each  $n$ ,*
- (2)  *$X$  has  $\mathbb{C}$ -positive weights,*
- (3)  *$X$  has  $\mathbb{Q}$ -positive weights.*

*Proof.* [(1)  $\Rightarrow$  (2)] The metric closure of  $G_n$  in  $E_n$  contains 0 for  $n \geq 2$ . Then by Lemmas 2.4, 2.5 and 2.6 there is a one parameter subgroup  $\lambda(t)$  of  $T^\mathbb{Q}$  defined over  $\mathbb{K}$  such that  $\lim_{t \rightarrow 0} \lambda(t) = 0$ . Hence by Proposition 2.3  $X$  has  $\mathbb{K}$ -positive weights, where  $[\mathbb{K} : \mathbb{Q}] < \infty$ . In particular, we have (2).

[(2)  $\Rightarrow$  (3)] If  $X$  has  $\mathbb{K}$ -positive weights for such a field  $\mathbb{K}$  that  $[\mathbb{K} : \mathbb{Q}] < \infty$ , then from the above argument we have a one parameter subgroup  $\mu(t)$  of  $T^\mathbb{Q}$  defined over  $\mathbb{Q}$  such that  $\lim_{t \rightarrow 0} \mu(t) = 0$ . Hence by Proposition 2.3 we have (3).

[(3)  $\Rightarrow$  (1)] This is obvious by Proposition 2.3. □

If  $X$  is a formal space, then one can see that it has  $\mathbb{Q}$ -positive weights by grading automorphisms (see [Su 1] and [Shi]). Thus, the property “having positive weights” does not depend on the ground field, as does in the case of formal spaces ([Su 1]).

### 3. $p$ -universal spaces

In this section, we will prove that the rational homotopy type of a  $p$ -universal space has positive weights. Among the various definitions of the  $p$ -universality ([MOT]), we adopt the following for the sake of our convenience:

**Definition 3.1.** A simply connected CW-complex  $X$  is called  $p$ -universal if for any prime  $q$  different from  $p$ , there exists a map  $f : X \rightarrow X$  such that

- (1)  $f_* : H_*(X; \mathbb{Z}/p\mathbb{Z}) \rightarrow H_*(X; \mathbb{Z}/p\mathbb{Z})$  is isomorphic,
- (2)  $f_* \otimes 1 : \pi_*(X) \otimes \mathbb{Z}/q\mathbb{Z} \rightarrow \pi_*(X) \otimes \mathbb{Z}/q\mathbb{Z}$  is trivial.

Let  $m(X) = \Lambda(\bigoplus_{n \geq 2} V^n)$  be a minimal model of  $X$ . Then we have a diagram

$$\begin{array}{c} V^n \xrightarrow[\varphi]{} \text{Hom}(\pi_n(X), \mathbb{Q}) \\ \cup \\ \text{Hom}(\pi_n(X), \mathbb{Z}), \end{array}$$

where  $\varphi$  is a linear isomorphism of  $\mathbb{Q}$ -vector spaces ([Su], [H]). Let  $L^n$  be the free abelian subgroup of  $V^n$  which is mapped isomorphically by  $\varphi$  onto  $\text{Hom}(\pi_n(X), \mathbb{Z})$ . We form a multiplicative lattice:

$$\hat{L}(X) = \Lambda(\bigoplus_{n \geq 2} L^n).$$

Then  $\hat{L}(X)$  is a free graded commutative algebra over  $\mathbb{Z}$ . Denote by  $\hat{L}(X)\langle n \rangle$  the sub  $\mathbb{Z}$ -module of the elements of degrees  $\leq n$ .

Suppose that  $X$  is  $p$ -universal. Then the map  $f : X \rightarrow X$  in Definition 3.1 induces an automorphism  $\hat{f} : \hat{L}(X) \rightarrow \hat{L}(X)$  such that  $\hat{f}$  preserves  $\hat{L}(X)$ . Let  $\{e_1, \dots, e_s, h_1, \dots, h_t\}$  be a basis for  $\hat{L}(X)\langle n \rangle$  such that

$$e_i \in \bigoplus_{j=2}^n L^i \quad (i = 1, \dots, s)$$

and

$$h_j \in \hat{L}(X)^+ \cdot \hat{L}(X)^+ \quad (j = 1, \dots, t),$$

where  $\hat{L}(X)^+$  is the set of the elements of positive degrees. Then by (2) of Definition 3.1 with respect to this basis, the restriction  $\hat{f}|_{\hat{L}(X)\langle n \rangle}$  is represented by a matrix with integer entries

$$C = \left( \begin{array}{c|c} A & * \\ \hline 0 & B \end{array} \right)$$

such that each entry of  $A$  and  $B$  is divisible by  $q$ . Let  $\mathbb{K}$  be a finite field extension of  $\mathbb{Q}$  containing all the eigenvalues of  $C$ . Let  $\nu_q$  be a normal valuation of  $\mathbb{Q}$  defined by

$$\nu_q\left(\frac{aq^s}{b}\right) = q^{-s},$$

where  $a, b$  are integers prime to  $q$ . We extend  $\nu_q$  to  $\mathbb{K}$ , which is also denoted  $\nu_q$  by abuse of notation. All the coefficients except the highest degree of the equation

$$\det(tI - C) = t^\ell + a_{\ell-1}t^{\ell-1} + \dots + a_0 = 0 \quad (6)$$

are divisible by  $q$ , where  $\ell = s + t$  is the dimension of  $\hat{L}(X)\langle n \rangle$ .

Let  $\lambda$  be one of eigenvalues of  $C$ . Then we have

$$\nu_q(\lambda^\ell) = \nu_q(-(a_{\ell-1}\lambda^{\ell-1} + \cdots + a_0)).$$

Since  $\lambda$  is an algebraic integer, we have

$$\nu_q(\lambda) \leq 1.$$

Hence we have

$$\nu_q(-(a_{\ell-1}\lambda^{\ell-1} + \cdots + a_0)) \leq \max(\nu_q(a_{\ell-1}), \dots, \nu_q(a_0)) \leq q^{-1},$$

from which we have

$$\nu_q(\lambda^\ell) \leq q^{-1}. \quad (7)$$

Let  $G_n$  be the set of  $\mathbb{K}$ -DGA automorphisms of  $\hat{L}(X)\langle n \rangle \otimes \mathbb{K}$ . We choose a basis of  $\hat{L}(X)\langle n \rangle \otimes \mathbb{K}$  so that  $C$  is represented by an upper triangular matrix

$$C' = \begin{pmatrix} \lambda_1 & * & & \\ & \ddots & & \\ 0 & & \lambda_\ell & \\ & & & \ddots \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} \lambda_1 & & 0 & \\ & \ddots & & \\ 0 & & \lambda_\ell & \\ & & & \ddots \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} 1 & * & & \\ & \ddots & & \\ 0 & & 1 & \\ & & & \ddots \end{pmatrix},$$

where  $\lambda_1, \dots, \lambda_\ell$  are the eigenvalues of  $C$ . Then the matrix

$$C_s = \begin{pmatrix} \lambda_1 & & 0 & \\ & \ddots & & \\ 0 & & \lambda_\ell & \\ & & & \ddots \end{pmatrix}$$

is the semi-simple part of  $C'$ . By the Jordan decomposition, one can see that  $C_s$  is also an element of  $G_n(\mathbb{K})$ , the set of  $\mathbb{K}$ -rational points of  $G_n$ .

Let  $\alpha(X_{11}, X_{12}, \dots, X_{nn})$  be a polynomial with coefficients in  $\mathbb{Q}$  such that

$$\alpha(g) = 0 \quad \text{for all } g \in \text{Aut}_{\mathbb{C}}(m(X)(n) \otimes \mathbb{C}).$$

Then after multiplying some integer, the equation

$$\alpha(C_s^k) = 0 \quad (k = 1, 2, \dots)$$

will become

$$\sum_{t \geq 1} \sum_{i_1 + \cdots + i_\ell = t} a_{i_1 \dots i_\ell} \lambda_1^{ki_1} \cdots \lambda_\ell^{ki_\ell} + d = 0,$$

where  $a_{i_1 \dots i_\ell}$  and  $d$ , the constant term of  $\alpha$ , are all integers. Then by using (7) we have

$$\nu_q(\sum_{t \geq 1} \sum_{i_1 + \cdots + i_\ell = t} a_{i_1 \dots i_\ell} \lambda_1^{ki_1} \cdots \lambda_\ell^{ki_\ell}) \leq q^{-\psi(k)},$$

where  $\psi(k)$  is an integer such that

$$\lim_{k \rightarrow \infty} \psi(k) = \infty.$$

As  $k$  can be arbitrarily large, the constant term  $d$  must be zero. This implies that the Zariski closure of  $G_n$  in  $E_n$  contains 0.

Thus by Theorem 2.7, we have proved the following:

**Proposition 3.2.** *If  $X$  is  $p$ -universal for a prime  $p$ , the rational homotopy type of  $X$  has  $\mathbb{Q}$ -positive weights.*

Let  $X$  be a CW-complex such that  $\pi_i(X) \otimes \mathbb{Q} = 0$  for  $i \geq n_0$ , where  $n_0$  is some positive integer.

**Proposition 3.3.** *If there is a one parameter subgroup  $\lambda(t)$  of  $\text{Aut}(m(X))$  such that  $\lim_{t \rightarrow 0} \lambda(t) = 0$ , then there is a CW-complex  $K$  satisfying the following conditions:*

- (a) *there is a 0-equivalence  $g : X \longrightarrow K$ ,*
- (b) *for any two distinct primes  $p, q$ , there is a  $p$ -equivalence  $f_q : K \longrightarrow K$  inducing  $f_{q\sharp} \otimes 1 = 0 : \pi_*(K) \otimes \mathbb{Z}/q\mathbb{Z} \longrightarrow \pi_*(K) \otimes \mathbb{Z}/q\mathbb{Z}$ .*

Proposition 3.3 follows from Lemma 3.4 below.

We can represent  $\lambda(t)$  by

$$\lambda(t) = \left\{ \begin{pmatrix} t^{a_1} & & \\ & \ddots & \\ & & t^{a_m} \end{pmatrix} \mid t \in \mathbb{Q}^* \right\}$$

with respect to some  $\mathbb{Z}$ -basis for  $L(X)\langle n \rangle$ , where  $a_1, \dots, a_m$  are positive integers. In particular,  $\lambda(s)$  preserves  $\hat{L}(X)$  for a positive integer  $s$ .

**Lemma 3.4.** *For each positive integer  $n$ , there is a complex  $K_n$  such that the following conditions are satisfied:*

- (a) *there is a DGA isomorphism*

$$\rho_n : m(X)(n) \longrightarrow m(K_n);$$

(b)

$$\pi_i(K_n) = \begin{cases} \text{torsion free} & \text{for } i \leq n \\ 0 & \text{for } i > n \end{cases};$$

- (c) *for any distinct primes  $p$  and  $q$ , there is a  $p$ -equivalence*

$$f_q : K_n \longrightarrow K_n$$

satisfying the following conditions:

(1) the induced homomorphism

$$f_{q\sharp} \otimes 1 : \pi_*(K_n) \otimes \mathbb{Z}/q\mathbb{Z} \longrightarrow \pi_*(K_n) \otimes \mathbb{Z}/q\mathbb{Z}$$

is trivial;

(2) the following diagram is commutative:

$$\begin{array}{ccc} m(X)(n) & \xrightarrow{\lambda(q)_n} & m(X)(n) \\ \downarrow \rho_n & & \downarrow \rho_n \\ m(K_n) & \xrightarrow{\hat{f}_q} & m(K_n), \end{array}$$

where  $\hat{f}_q$  is a map induced by  $f_q$  and  $\lambda(q)_n$  is the restriction of  $\lambda(q)$  on  $m(X)(n)$ .

*Proof.* We will prove the lemma by induction on  $n$ . As an inductive hypothesis we assume that there is a complex  $K_n$  satisfying the conditions (a)  $\sim$  (c). We can choose a basis  $\{e_1, \dots, e_s\}$  for  $L^{n+1}$  ( $\simeq \text{Hom}_{\mathbb{Z}}(\pi_{n+1}(X), \mathbb{Z})$ ) such that each  $e_i$  is an eigenvector of  $\lambda(q)_{n+1}$ . Then  $de_i \in m(X)(n)$  is an either an eigenvector or 0. Let  $N$  be a positive integer such that  $Nde_i$  ( $i = 1, \dots, s$ ) represents an element of  $H^{n+2}(K_n; \mathbb{Z})$  via  $\rho_n$ . Then  $(de_1, \dots, de_s)$  represents an element

$$\chi \in [K_n, K(\mathbb{Z}^s/N, n+2)],$$

where  $[\ , \ ]$  denotes the set of homotopy classes. Since  $L^{n+1} \simeq \mathbb{Z}^s/N$  as  $\mathbb{Z}$ -modules,  $\lambda_q$  induces a map

$$\lambda_q : K(\mathbb{Z}^s/N, n+2) \longrightarrow K(\mathbb{Z}^s/N, n+2)$$

so that the diagram

$$\begin{array}{ccc} K_n & \xrightarrow{f_q} & K_n \\ \downarrow \chi & & \downarrow \chi \\ K(\mathbb{Z}^s/N, n+2) & \xrightarrow{\lambda_q} & K(\mathbb{Z}^s/N, n+2) \end{array}$$

is homotopy commutative. Let

$$\Omega K(\mathbb{Z}^s/N, n+2) \longrightarrow P \xrightarrow{\pi} K(\mathbb{Z}^s/N, n+2) \quad (7)$$

be the path fibration. Let  $\hat{\lambda}_q : P \longrightarrow P$  be a map defined by  $\hat{\lambda}_q(\ell)(t) = \lambda_q(\ell(t))$ , where  $\ell \in P$  and  $t \in [0, 1]$ . Set

$$\begin{aligned} K_{n+1} &= \{(x, \ell) \in K_n \times P \mid \chi(x) = \pi(\ell)\}, \\ C_{n+1} &= \{(x, \ell) \in K_n \times P \mid \lambda_q \chi(x) = \pi(\ell)\}, \\ E_{n+1} &= \{(x, \ell) \in K_n \times P \mid \chi f_q(x) = \pi(\ell)\}. \end{aligned}$$

Then we define a map

$$\tilde{\lambda}_q : K_{n+1} \longrightarrow C_{n+1}$$

by  $\tilde{\lambda}_q(x, \ell) = (x, \hat{\lambda}_q(\ell))$ . Since  $\lambda_q \circ \chi$  is homotopic to  $\chi \circ f_q$ , there is a homotopy equivalence  $h : C_{n+1} \longrightarrow E_{n+1}$  so that the diagram

$$\begin{array}{ccc} C_{n+1} & \xrightarrow{h} & E_{n+1} \\ \downarrow & & \downarrow \\ K_n & \xrightarrow{\text{Id}} & K_n \end{array}$$

is commutative, where the vertical maps are the restrictions of the projection  $K_n \times P \longrightarrow K_n$  respectively. We define a map

$$\tilde{f}_q : E_{n+1} \longrightarrow K_{n+1}$$

by  $\tilde{f}_q(x, \ell) = (f_q(x), \ell)$ . Then the diagram

$$\begin{array}{ccc} E_{n+1} & \xrightarrow{\tilde{f}_q} & K_{n+1} \\ \downarrow & & \downarrow \\ K_n & \xrightarrow{f_q} & K_n \end{array}$$

is commutative. By setting  $\bar{f}_q = \tilde{f}_q \circ h \circ \tilde{\lambda}_q$ , we have a commutative diagram

$$\begin{array}{ccc} K_{n+1} & \xrightarrow{\bar{f}_q} & K_{n+1} \\ \downarrow & & \downarrow \\ K_n & \xrightarrow{f_q} & K_n \end{array}$$

We will show that the map  $\bar{f}_q : K_{n+1} \longrightarrow K_{n+1}$  satisfies (a)  $\sim$  (c). First of all, (a) is easy to show from the construction. The other part is easily obtained from the following homotopy commutative diagram:

$$\begin{array}{ccc} K(\mathbb{Z}^s/N, n+1) & \longrightarrow & K_{n+1} \longrightarrow K_n \\ \downarrow \bar{\lambda}_q & & \downarrow f_q \quad \downarrow f_q \\ K(\mathbb{Z}^s/N, n+1) & \longrightarrow & K_{n+1} \longrightarrow K_n, \end{array} \quad (8)$$

and the fact that  $\bar{\lambda}_q$  is represented on  $\pi_{n+1}(K(\mathbb{Z}^s/N, n+1))$  by a diagonal matrix whose entries are positive integer power of  $q$ .  $\square$

Now we will complete the proof of Theorem A.

Let  $X$  be a finite complex whose rational homotopy type has  $\mathbb{Q}$ -positive weights. Then by Lemma 3.4 and Proposition 2.2 we obtain a complex  $K_n$  satisfying the following two conditions for any two distinct primes  $p$  and  $q$ :

(1)  $K_n$  has the same rational homotopy type as the  $n$ -th stage of the Postnikov tower of  $X$ ;  
 (2) for any distinct primes  $p$  and  $q$ , there is a  $p$ -equivalence  $f_q$  such that

$$f_{q\sharp} \otimes 1 = 0 : \pi_*(K_n) \otimes \mathbb{Z}/q\mathbb{Z} \longrightarrow \pi_*(K_n) \otimes \mathbb{Z}/q\mathbb{Z}.$$

Let  $n$  be the dimension of  $X$  and  $K_{n+1}^i$  be the  $i$ -skeleton of  $K_{n+1}$ . Then  $K_{n+1}^i$  has the homotopy type of a finite CW-complex. The homomorphism  $i_*^n : H_n(K_{n+1}^n; \mathbb{Z}) \longrightarrow H_n(K_{n+1}; \mathbb{Z})$  induced by the inclusion  $i_n : K_{n+1}^n \longrightarrow K_{n+1}$  is surjective. From the homology sequence of the pair  $(K_{n+1}, K_{n+1}^n)$  we have an exact sequence

$$H_{n+1}(K_{n+1}; \mathbb{Z}) \xrightarrow{j_*} H_{n+1}(K_{n+1}, K_{n+1}^n; \mathbb{Z}) \xrightarrow{\partial_*} H_n(K_{n+1}^n; \mathbb{Z}) \xrightarrow{i_n^*} H_n(K_{n+1}; \mathbb{Z}).$$

Since  $H_n(K_{n+1}^n; \mathbb{Z})$  is free, we have a direct sum decomposition of a free  $\mathbb{Z}$ -module

$$H_{n+1}(K_{n+1}, K_{n+1}^n; \mathbb{Z}) = \text{Im } j^* \oplus A,$$

where  $A$  is isomorphic to  $\ker i_n^*$  by  $\partial_*$ . We may assume that the map  $f_q : K_{n+1} \longrightarrow K_{n+1}$  is cellular; let  $f_q^n : K_{n+1}^n \longrightarrow K_{n+1}^n$  be the restriction. Then  $A$  is  $f_{q*}$ -invariant. We may regard  $A$  as a free submodule of  $\pi_{n+1}(K_{n+1}, K_{n+1}^n)$ . Let  $\{\alpha_1, \dots, \alpha_m\}$  be a basis of  $A$ . Let  $K$  be a complex obtained from  $K_{n+1}^n$  by attaching  $m$  cells of dimension  $n+1$  via  $\partial_{\sharp} \alpha_i$  ( $i = 1, \dots, m$ ), where

$$\partial_{\sharp} : \pi_{n+1}(K_{n+1}, K_{n+1}^n) \longrightarrow \pi_n(K_{n+1}^n)$$

is the boundary operator. From the construction we may regard  $K$  as a subcomplex of  $K_{n+1}$  such that

$$\begin{aligned} H_i(K; \mathbb{Z}) &\simeq H_i(K_{n+1}; \mathbb{Z}) & \text{for } i \leq n, \\ H_i(K; \mathbb{Z}) &= 0 & \text{for } i > n. \end{aligned}$$

The map  $f_q^n$  can be extended to  $\tilde{f}_q : K \longrightarrow K$  so that the diagram

$$\begin{array}{ccccc} K_{n+1}^n & \hookrightarrow & K & \hookrightarrow & K_{n+1} \\ \downarrow f_q^n & & \downarrow \tilde{f}_q & & \downarrow f_q \\ K_{n+1}^n & \hookrightarrow & \tilde{K} & \hookrightarrow & K_{n+1} \end{array}$$

is homotopy commutative. Then  $\tilde{f}_q$  is a  $p$ -equivalence such that the induced homomorphism

$$\tilde{f}_q^* : H^*(K; \mathbb{Z}/q\mathbb{Z}) \longrightarrow H^*(K; \mathbb{Z}/q\mathbb{Z})$$

is trivial. Hence by (b) of Theorem 2.1 in [MOT],  $K$  is  $p$ -universal for all  $p$ . Finally we construct a 0-equivalence  $g : X \longrightarrow K$ . Since DGAs  $m(X)(n+1)$  and  $m(K_{n+1})$  are isomorphic, there is a homotopy equivalence between localized spaces at zero:

$$h : (X_{n+1})_{(0)} \longrightarrow (K_{n+1})_{(0)},$$

where  $X_{n+1}$  is the  $(n+1)$ -st stage of the Postnikov tower of  $X$ . Composing with the natural map and the localization map, we obtain a map

$$\phi_{n+1} : X \longrightarrow (K_{n+1})_{(0)}.$$

Since  $(K_{n+1})_{(0)}$  is obtained from  $(K_{n+1}^n)_{(0)}$  by attaching 'local cells' (cone over the local sphere) of dimension  $\leq n+1$  ([Su 2]). By the cellular approximation theorem we obtain a map  $X \longrightarrow (K_{n+1}^n)_{(0)}$ . By composing with the inclusion we have a map  $\phi : X \longrightarrow K_{(0)}$  such that  $\phi^*$  induces isomorphisms on rational cohomology.

Since  $K$  is  $p$ -universal for every  $p$  and 0, the map  $\phi$  factors as  $X \xrightarrow{g} K \xrightarrow{\ell} K_{(0)}$ . Then by Theorem 1.3 in [MT],  $X$  is also  $p$ -universal, and we have the desired result.

**Remark 3.6.** Theorem A does not hold for infinite complexes. Recall that the infinite quaternionic projective space  $\mathbb{H}P^\infty$  has the same rational homotopy type as the Eilenberg-MacLane space  $K(\mathbb{Z}, 4)$ , which is formal. As is well known, the degree of the induced map on  $H^4(\mathbb{H}P^\infty; \mathbb{Z})$  of a self map is odd square. Hence  $\mathbb{H}P^\infty$  is not  $p$ -universal ( $p \neq 2$ ) in the sense of Definition 3.1. However  $K(\mathbb{Z}, 4)$  is  $p$ -universal for any prime  $p$ .

As an application of Theorem A, we will show that homogeneous spaces of compact Lie groups are  $p$ -universal for any prime  $p$ .

Let  $G$  be a compact connected Lie group and  $H$  a closed connected subgroup of  $G$ . Let  $S^*(G)$  be the ring of polynomial function with value in  $\mathbb{R}$  on the Lie algebra  $L(G)$ . Then  $S^*(G)$  is a symmetric algebra of  $L(G)^* = \text{Hom}_{\mathbb{R}}(L(G), \mathbb{R})$ . The degree of the elements of  $L(G)^*$  is defined to be 2. Let  $S^*(G)^G$  be the invariant subalgebra under the adjoint action of  $G$ . Then  $S(G)^G$  is isomorphic to a graded polynomial algebra. Let  $A(G)$  be the exterior algebra of  $L(G)^*$ , and  $A(G)^G$  the invariant subalgebra under the adjoint action of  $G$ . Then  $A(G)^G$  is the exterior algebra of the primitive space  $P(G)$ . We have the transgression  $\tau : P(G) \longrightarrow S(G)^G$ . Let  $\gamma : S(G)^G \longrightarrow S(H)^H$  be the restriction of polynomial functions. Then we have a free DGA

$$A(G/H) = S(H)^H \otimes A(G)^G,$$

where the differential  $d_r$  is defined as follows:

$$\begin{aligned} d_r(x \otimes 1) &= 0, \quad \text{for } x \in S(H)^H, \\ d_r(1 \otimes y) &= \gamma\tau(y) \otimes 1, \quad \text{for } y \in P(G). \end{aligned}$$

The minimal model of  $G/H$  over  $\mathbb{R}$  is isomorphic to that of  $A(G/H)$ . Let  $m(G/H) \otimes \mathbb{R}$  be the minimal model of  $A(G/H)$ .

**Proposition 3.7.** Let  $G$  be a compact connected Lie group and  $H$  a closed connected subgroup. Then  $G/H$  is  $p$ -universal for any prime  $p$ .

*Proof.* By Theorem A, it is sufficient to show that the rational homotopy type of  $G/H$  has positive weights. For any  $t \in \mathbb{R}^*$ , there is a one parameter subgroup  $\lambda(t)$  of DGA automorphisms of  $A(G/H)$  defined by

$$\begin{aligned}\lambda(t)(x \otimes 1) &= t^{|x|}x \otimes 1, \\ \lambda(t)(1 \otimes y) &= t^{|y|+1}(1 \otimes y),\end{aligned}$$

where  $|z|$  denotes the degree of  $z$ . The lifting  $\psi(t)$  of  $\lambda(t)$  on  $m(G/H)$  gives elements of  $\text{Aut}_{\mathbb{R}}(m(G/H) \otimes \mathbb{R})$  such that  $\lim_{t \rightarrow 0} \psi(t) = 0$ . Then by Theorem 2.7 it has  $\mathbb{Q}$ -positive weights.  $\square$

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Mamoru Mimura  
 Department of Mathematics  
 Okayama University  
 Okayama, Japan, 700  
  
 Hiroo Shiga  
 Department of Mathematics  
 University of Ryukyus  
 Okinawa, Japan, 903-01

Dennis Sullivan  
 The Graduate school and University center  
 of the City University of New York  
 New York 10036-8099, USA  
 and  
 I. H. E. S.  
 35 route de Chartres  
 F-91440 Bures-Sur-Yvette, France

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