

REMARK. - If  $G$  is an undirected graph, it is not necessary to construct also the  $o$ -pattern to obtain a properly quasi-constant function. In this case the condition is reduced to  $h(\sigma) = a$  vertex of  $g(st^m(\sigma))$ .

4) *The third normalization theorem for homotopies.*

Let  $e, f: S \rightarrow G$  be two functions pre-cellular w.r.t. two finite decompositions  $C$  and  $K$  of  $S$  and  $F: S \times I \rightarrow G$  a complete  $o$ -homotopy between  $e$  and  $f$ . Then, for every sufficiently fine finite cellular decomposition  $\Gamma$  of  $S \times I$ , by Theorem 6, the function  $F$  can be replaced by a  $\Gamma$ -pre-cellular function  $\hat{h}: S \times I \rightarrow G$ . In order that the function  $\hat{h}$  may also be a homotopy between  $e$  and  $f$ , the restrictions of  $\hat{h}$  to  $S \times \{0\}$  and  $S \times \{1\}$  must coincide with  $e$  and  $f$ . Hence it is necessary that  $\hat{h}$  characterizes on  $S \times \{0\}$  and  $S \times \{1\}$  two decompositions  $\tilde{C}$  and  $\tilde{K}$  finer than  $C$  and  $K$ , since  $e$  and  $f$  are properly quasi-constant (see Remark to Definition 10). Nevertheless, as, for example, the value of the function  $\hat{h}$  on  $S \times \{0\}$  depends from the value assumed by the function  $F$  on the maximal cells of the star  $st(\tilde{C})$ , in general the restriction  $\hat{h}|_{\tilde{C}}$  is different from  $e$ . Consequently, at first, we must replace the homotopy  $F$  by a homotopy  $M$  given by:

$$M(x, t) = \begin{cases} e(x) & \forall x \in S, \quad \forall t \in \left[0, \frac{1}{3}\right] \\ F(x, 3t-1) & \forall x \in S, \quad \forall t \in \left[\frac{1}{3}, \frac{2}{3}\right] \\ f(x) & \forall x \in S, \quad \forall t \in \left[\frac{2}{3}, 1\right] \end{cases}$$

Then we have to construct suitable cellular decompositions of the three cylinders  $S \times \left[0, \frac{1}{3}\right]$ ,  $S \times \left[\frac{1}{3}, \frac{2}{3}\right]$  and  $S \times \left[\frac{2}{3}, 1\right]$ .

PROPOSITION 7. - Let  $S$  be a compact triangulable space,  $C$  a finite cellular decomposition of  $S$ ,  $G$  a finite graph and  $e: S \rightarrow G$  a properly  $C$ -constant function. If we consider the decomposition  $L = \{\{0\}, ]0, 1[, \{1\}\}$  of  $I$  and the product decomposition  $\Gamma = C \times L$  of the cylinder  $S \times I$ , then the function  $F: S \times I \rightarrow G$ , given by  $F(x, t) = e(x)$ ,  $\forall x \in S$ ,  $\forall t \in I$ , is properly  $\Gamma$ -constant.

*Proof.* - We have only to remark that a cell  $\tau$  is maximal in  $\Gamma$  iff  $\tau = \tau' \times ]0, 1[$ , where  $\tau'$  is a maximal cell in  $C$ . Then it results  $F(\tau) = e(\tau')$ .  $\square$

REMARK. - Since the restrictions  $F|_{S \times \{0\}}$  and  $F|_{S \times \{1\}}$  coincide with  $e$ , they are obviously  $C$ -constant.

So we obtain:

**THEOREM 8.** - (The third normalization theorem for homotopies). Let  $S$  be a compact triangulable space,  $G$  a finite directed graph,  $C, D$  two finite decompositions of  $S$  and  $e, f: S \rightarrow G$  two functions pre-cellular w.r.t.  $C$  and  $D$  respectively, which are completely o-homotopic. Then, from any finite cellular decomposition  $\Gamma_2$  of  $S \times \left[\frac{1}{3}, \frac{2}{3}\right]$  of suitable mesh which induces on the bases  $S \times \left\{\frac{1}{3}\right\}$  and  $S \times \left\{\frac{2}{3}\right\}$  decompositions  $\tilde{C}$  and  $\tilde{D}$  finer than  $C$  and  $D$ , we obtain a finite cellular decomposition  $\Gamma$  of  $S \times I$  and a homotopy between  $f$  and  $g$  which is a  $\Gamma$ -pre-cellular function.

*Proof.* - Let  $F: S \times I \rightarrow G$  be a complete o-homotopy between  $e$  and  $f$ . We define the complete o-homotopy  $M: S \times I \rightarrow G$  between  $e$  and  $f$  as in the introduction of this paragraph. Then, if we consider the restriction of  $M$  to  $S \times \left[\frac{1}{3}, \frac{2}{3}\right]$ , we can determine the real number  $r$ , upper bound of the mesh. Now if  $\Gamma_2$  is a finite cellular decomposition, satisfying the conditions of the theorem and with mesh  $< r$ , we can consider the cellular decomposition  $\Gamma = \Gamma_1 \cup \Gamma_2 \cup \Gamma_3$  of the cylinder  $S \times I$ , such that:

i)  $\Gamma_1$  is the product decomposition  $\tilde{C} \times L_1$  of  $S \times \left[0, \frac{1}{3}\right]$ , where  $L_1 = \left\{\left\{0\right\}, \left]0, \frac{1}{3}\left[ , \left\{\frac{1}{3}\right\}\right\}\right.$

ii)  $\Gamma_3$  is the product decomposition  $\tilde{D} \times L_3$  of  $S \times \left[\frac{2}{3}, 1\right]$ , where  $L_3 = \left\{\left\{\frac{2}{3}\right\}, \left] \frac{2}{3}, 1\left[ , \left\{1\right\}\right\}\right.$

Then we define the function  $\hat{g}: S \times I \rightarrow G$ , given by:

$$\hat{g}(\sigma) = \begin{cases} M(\sigma), & \forall \sigma \in \Gamma - \Gamma_2, \\ \text{a vertex of } H(\{M(\bar{\sigma})\}), & \forall \sigma \in \Gamma_2. \end{cases}$$

Afterwards, by Theorem 6, we construct the o-pattern  $\hat{h}$  of  $\hat{g}$ , by choosing as element of  $H(\hat{g}(st^m(\sigma)))$ , the value  $\hat{g}(\sigma) = M(\sigma)$  if  $\sigma \in \Gamma - \Gamma_2$ . By construction  $\hat{h}$  is a  $\Gamma$ -pre-cellular function. Hence  $\hat{h}$  is the sought homotopy since  $\hat{h}/_{S \times \{0\}} = e$  and  $\hat{h}/_{S \times \{1\}} = f$ .  $\square$

**REMARK.** - The finite cellular decomposition  $\Gamma$  induces on the bases  $S \times \{0\}$  and  $S \times \{1\}$  the decompositions  $\tilde{C}$  and  $\tilde{D}$ .

5) *The second normalization theorem between pairs.*

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Given a set  $A$ , a non-empty subset  $A'$  of  $A$ , a finite graph  $G$  and a subgraph  $G'$  of  $G$ , we can generalize Definition 4, by considering function  $f: A, A' \rightarrow G, G'$  which are quasi-constant w.r.t. a partition  $P = \{X_j\}$ ,  $j \in J$ , of  $A$ . In this case it follows that the image of every  $X_j$ , such that  $X_j \cap A' \neq \emptyset$ , necessary is a vertex of  $G'$ . Moreover, if  $A$  is a topo