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Higher dimensional manifolds with S^1 -category two

A subset U of a closed topological n -manifold M is S^1 -contractible (in M) if there exist maps $f: U \rightarrow S^1$, $\alpha: S^1 \rightarrow M$ such that the inclusion of U into M is homotopic to αf .

M has S^1 -category $\leq k$ if it can be covered by k open subsets which are S^1 -contractible.

Previously we have determined, for $n \leq 3$, the n -manifolds with S^1 -category 2.

Theorem 1 *If $n > 3$ and M^n has S^1 -category 2 then M^n is an n -sphere or an S^{n-1} -bundle over S^1 .*

With J. C. Gómez-Larrañaga and W. Heil.