

Lecture 07. Fundamental Groups III

Review: ① $\pi_1(X, x_0) = [I, \partial I; X, x_0]$

$I = [0, 1]$ $= [S^1, s_0; X, x_0] = [S^1, X]$ is a group under the multiplication $[\alpha] \cdot [\beta] = [\alpha \cdot \beta]$.

② $\pi_1(X, x_0)$ is independent of the choices of base points x_0 .

$\phi_\gamma: \pi_1(X, x_0) \cong \pi_1(X, x_1)$ if $\exists \gamma: I \rightarrow X, \gamma(0) = x_0, \gamma(1) = x_1$.

$$[\alpha] \mapsto [\gamma^{-1} \circ \alpha \circ \gamma] = [\gamma \delta^{-1} \cdot [\alpha] \cdot \gamma]$$

③ $\pi_1(X, x_0) \xrightarrow{f\#} \pi_1(Y, y_0): (f\#) = g_0 \circ f\#; (id_X)\# = id_{\pi_1(X)}$

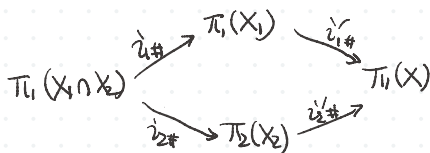
④ $\pi_1(X, x_0)$ is a homotopy invariant. $X \simeq Y \Rightarrow \pi_1(X) \cong \pi_1(Y)$.
 ($\Leftrightarrow \pi_1(X) \neq \pi_1(Y) \Rightarrow X \not\simeq Y$)

④ Van Kampen Theorem

$X = X_1 \cup X_2, X_1 \cap X_2, X_1, X_2 \subseteq X$ are path-connected open subsets $x_0 \in X_1 \cap X_2$, then there is an isomorphism.

$$\pi_1(X) \cong \pi_1(X_1) * \pi_1(X_2) / N,$$

$$N = \langle \{ i_{1\#}(\alpha) i_{2\#}(\alpha)^{-1} \mid \forall \alpha \in \pi_1(X_1 \cap X_2) \} \rangle$$



Examples. ① $\pi_1(S^1) \cong \mathbb{Z}$.

$$\pi_1(S^1 \vee S^1) \cong \pi_1(S^1) * \pi_1(S^1) \cong \mathbb{Z} * \mathbb{Z}$$



$$S^1 \vee S^1 = (S^1, s_1) \cup (S^2, s_2) / s_1 \sim s_2$$

$$\pi_1(\bigvee_{i=1}^n S^1) \cong \pi_1(\bigvee_{i=1}^m S^1) * \pi_1(S^1) \cong *_{i=1}^n \mathbb{Z} \cong F_n, \text{ the free group generated by } n \text{ elements.}$$

true for $n = \infty$.

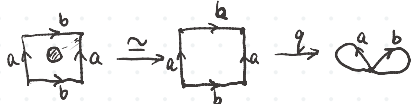
$$X_1 = \text{figure-eight} \cong S^1$$

$$X_1 \cap X_2 \cong X \cong \{*\}$$

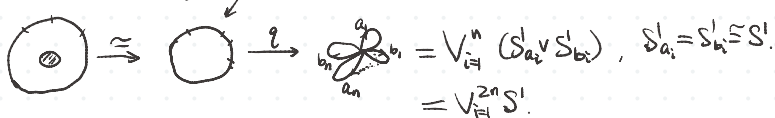
$$X_2 = \text{figure-eight} \cong S^1$$

$$\pi_1(X_1 \cap X_2) \cong \pi_1(*) = 0$$

$$\textcircled{2} T^2 \setminus \dot{D}^2 \cong S^1 \vee S^1$$



nT^2 is represented by $a_1 b_1 a_1^{-1} b_1^{-1} \dots a_n b_n a_n^{-1} b_n^{-1}$



$$\text{Thus } nT^2 \setminus \dot{D}^2 \cong V_{i=1}^{2n} S^1 = V_{i=1}^n (S_{a_i}^1 \vee S_{b_i}^1)$$

mP^2 is represented by $a_1^2 \dots a_m^2$.

$$\text{Similarly } mP^2 \setminus \dot{D}^2 \cong V_{i=1}^m S_{a_i}^1$$

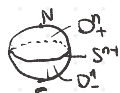
$\textcircled{3} S^n (n \geq 2)$ has trivial fundamental groups: $\pi_1(S^n) = 0$ for $n \geq 2$.

$$S^n = D_+^n \cup D_-^n$$

$$X_1 \cap X_2 = S^{n-1}$$

$$X_1 \cong D_+^n \cong \{N\}$$

$$X_2 \cong D_-^n \cong \{S\}$$



$$D_+^n = \{\alpha_1, \dots, \alpha_{n+1}\} \in S^n \mid \alpha_{n+1} \geq 0\}$$

By the van Kampen theorem, $\pi_1(X) \cong \pi_1(X_1) * \pi_1(X_2) / N = 0$

$$\textcircled{4} S \cong S \# S^2$$

a surface



$$X_1 = S \setminus \dot{D}^2$$

$$X_2 = \dot{D}^2, \quad X_1 \cap X_2 \cong S^1$$

By the van Kampen theorem,

$$\pi_1(S) \cong \pi_1(S \setminus \dot{D}^2) * \pi_1(\dot{D}^2) / N$$

$$\cong \pi_1(S \setminus \dot{D}^2) * e_2 / \langle i_{1\#}(\alpha) i_{2\#}(\alpha)^{-1} \rangle$$

$$S^1 \cong S^1 \xrightarrow{i_1} X_1, \quad S^1 \cong S^1 \xrightarrow{i_2} X_2 \cong *$$

$$\alpha = [S^1]$$

$$\cong \pi_1(S \setminus \dot{D}^2) / \langle i_{1\#}(\alpha) \rangle$$

$$(i) S = nT^2, \quad \pi_1(nT^2) \cong \pi_1(V_{i=1}^n (S_{a_i}^1 \vee S_{b_i}^1)) / \langle a_1 b_1 a_1^{-1} b_1^{-1} \dots a_n b_n a_n^{-1} b_n^{-1} \rangle$$

$$i_{1\#}(\alpha) \cong \langle a_1 b_1 a_1^{-1} b_1^{-1} \dots a_n b_n a_n^{-1} b_n^{-1} \rangle = \langle \alpha_1 \beta_1 \dots \alpha_n \beta_n \mid \alpha_1 \beta_1 \alpha_1^{-1} \beta_1^{-1} \dots \alpha_n \beta_n \alpha_n^{-1} \beta_n^{-1} \rangle$$

$$(ii) S = mP^2, \quad \pi_1(mP^2) \cong \pi_1(V_{\mathbb{R}}^m S_{a_i}^1) / \langle a_1^2 \cdots a_m^2 \rangle \\ \cong \langle \alpha_1, \dots, \alpha_m \mid \alpha_1^2 \cdots \alpha_m^2 \rangle.$$

Abelianization of groups

$$G = \langle A \mid R \rangle$$

$$G^{ab} := \langle A \mid R \cup \{aba'b^{-1} \mid \forall a, b \in A\} \rangle \\ = G / [G, G], \quad [G, G] = \langle \{aba'b^{-1} \mid a, b \in G\} \rangle.$$

Example ① If G is commutative, $G^{ab} \cong G$, $[G, G] = 0$
 $gh = hg$

$$\textcircled{2} F_n = \langle x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n \rangle$$

$$F_n^{ab} = \langle x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n \mid x_i x_j = x_j x_i \rangle = \langle x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n \mid \frac{x_i x_j x_i^{-1} x_j^{-1}}{1} \rangle \\ = \langle k_1 x_1 + k_2 x_2 + \dots + k_n x_n \mid k_i \in \mathbb{Z} \rangle \\ \cong \mathbb{Z} \oplus \dots \oplus \mathbb{Z} \text{ (n copies)} \cong \mathbb{Z}^n$$

More general, $G = C_1 * C_2 * \dots * C_n$, C_i are cyclic groups,

$$G^{ab} \cong C_1 \oplus C_2 \oplus \dots \oplus C_n.$$

Basic property: If $G_1 \cong G_2$, then $G_1^{ab} \cong G_2^{ab}$.

$$(G_1^{ab} \not\cong G_2^{ab} \Rightarrow G_1 \not\cong G_2).$$

Application. $\pi_1(nT^2) \cong \langle \alpha_1, \beta_1, \dots, \alpha_n, \beta_n \mid \alpha_i \beta_i \alpha_i^{-1} \beta_i^{-1} \dots \alpha_n \beta_n \alpha_n^{-1} \beta_n^{-1} \rangle$

$$\pi_1(nT^2)^{ab} \cong \langle \alpha_1, \beta_1, \dots, \alpha_n, \beta_n \mid \alpha_i \beta_i \alpha_i^{-1} \beta_i^{-1} \dots \alpha_n \beta_n \alpha_n^{-1} \beta_n^{-1}, \alpha_i \beta_j \alpha_i^{-1} \beta_j^{-1} \rangle$$

$$\cong \langle \alpha_1, \beta_1, \dots, \alpha_n, \beta_n \mid \alpha_i \beta_j \alpha_i^{-1} \beta_j^{-1}, \forall i, j \leq n \rangle$$

$$\alpha_i \beta_j = \beta_j \alpha_i$$

$$\cong \bigoplus_{i=1}^n \mathbb{Z} \langle \alpha_i \rangle \oplus \mathbb{Z} \langle \beta_i \rangle \cong \mathbb{Z}^{2n}.$$

Similarly, $\pi_1(m\mathbb{P}^2)^{ab} \cong \langle \alpha_1, \dots, \alpha_m \mid \alpha_1^2 \dots \alpha_m^2, \alpha_i \alpha_j = \alpha_j \alpha_i \rangle$
 $\cong \langle \alpha_1, \dots, \alpha_m \mid 2(\alpha_1 + \dots + \alpha_m) \rangle$
 $\cong \langle \frac{\alpha_1 + \dots + \alpha_m}{\alpha_1}, \alpha_2, \dots, \alpha_m \mid 2 \frac{(\alpha_1 + \dots + \alpha_m)}{\alpha_1}, \alpha_i \alpha_j = \alpha_j \alpha_i \rangle$
 $\cong \langle \alpha'_1 \mid 2\alpha'_1 \rangle \oplus \langle \alpha_2 \rangle \oplus \dots \oplus \langle \alpha_m \rangle$
 $\cong \mathbb{Z}/2 \oplus \mathbb{Z} \oplus \dots \oplus \mathbb{Z} \cong \mathbb{Z}/2 \oplus \mathbb{Z}^{m-1}$

Clearly, $\pi_1(n\mathbb{T}^2)^{ab} \cong \pi_1(n'\mathbb{T}^2)^{ab}$ if $n \neq n'$.
 $\pi_1(m\mathbb{P}^2)^{ab} \cong \pi_1(m'\mathbb{P}^2)^{ab}$ if $m \neq m'$
 $\pi_1(n\mathbb{T}^2)^{ab} \not\cong \pi_1(m\mathbb{P}^2)^{ab}, \forall m, n$

$\Rightarrow \left. \begin{array}{l} \pi_1(n\mathbb{T}^2) \not\cong \pi_1(n'\mathbb{T}^2) \text{ if } n \neq n' \\ \pi_1(m\mathbb{P}^2) \not\cong \pi_1(m'\mathbb{P}^2) \text{ if } m \neq m' \\ \pi_1(n\mathbb{T}^2) \not\cong \pi_1(m\mathbb{P}^2), \forall m, n \end{array} \right\} \Rightarrow \left. \begin{array}{l} \pi_1(n\mathbb{T}^2) \not\cong \pi_1(n'\mathbb{T}^2) \text{ if } n \neq n' \\ \pi_1(m\mathbb{P}^2) \not\cong \pi_1(m'\mathbb{P}^2) \text{ if } m \neq m' \\ \pi_1(n\mathbb{T}^2) \not\cong \pi_1(m\mathbb{P}^2), \forall m, n \end{array} \right\}$

$\Rightarrow \left\{ \begin{array}{l} n\mathbb{T}^2 \not\cong n'\mathbb{T}^2, n \neq n' \\ m\mathbb{P}^2 \not\cong m'\mathbb{P}^2, m \neq m' \\ m\mathbb{P}^2 \not\cong n\mathbb{T}^2, \forall m, n \end{array} \right.$

Any two surfaces of different forms in $\{n\mathbb{T}^2, m\mathbb{P}^2\}$ are not homeomorphic. \square

Theorem (Brouwer's fixed point theorem)

Every map $f: D^n \rightarrow D^n$ has a fixed point: $\exists x_0 \in D^n$, st $f(x_0) = x_0$

proof of the case $n=2$.

Suppose that $\forall x \in D^2, f(x) \neq x, x - f(x) \neq 0, \forall x \in D^2$.

Define $g(x) = \frac{x - f(x)}{\|x - f(x)\|} : D^2 \rightarrow S^1$.



$h: S^1 \xrightarrow{i} D^2 \xrightarrow{g} S^1 \rightarrow h \cong \text{id}_{S^1}$

Check that $h(x) \neq -x, \forall x \in \partial D^2$. (Exercise).

$\forall t \in [0, 1], H_t(x) = (1-t)h(x) + t(-x) \neq 0$.

$G_t(x) = \frac{H_t(x)}{\|H_t(x)\|} : S^1 \rightarrow S^1$, give a homotopy $h \cong \text{id}_{S^1}$.

$G_0(x) = H_0(x) = h(x), G_1(x) = \frac{H_1(x)}{\|H_1(x)\|} = \frac{x}{\|x\|} = x$



Since $h \circ g \circ i \simeq \text{id}_{S^1}$, $h_{\#} = g_{\#} \circ i_{\#}$ is an isomorphism, contradiction!

$$\begin{array}{ccccc} \pi_1(S^1) & \xrightarrow{i_{\#}} & \pi_1(D^2) & \xrightarrow{g_{\#}} & \pi_1(S^1) \\ \cong & & 0 & & \cong \end{array}$$

Thus f has a fixed point. □

Realization of groups:

For every group G , there is a space X_G st $\pi_1(X_G) \cong G$.

proof. Every group G is a quotient group of some free group.

$$G = \langle A \mid R \rangle = \langle \alpha_a \mid \gamma_\beta \rangle \leftarrow \langle \alpha_a \rangle = \pi_1(\bigvee_{\alpha} S^1_{\alpha})$$

$$X_G = \left(\bigvee_{\alpha} S^1_{\alpha} \right) \cup_{\varphi_{\beta}} D^2_{\beta} \quad \varphi_{\beta}: \partial D^2_{\beta} = S^1_{\beta} \rightarrow \bigvee_{\alpha} S^1_{\alpha}, [\varphi_{\beta}] = \gamma_{\beta}$$

Then $\pi_1(X_G) \cong \langle \alpha_a \mid \gamma_{\beta} \rangle$. □

Contractible Spaces

A space X is contractible if $X \simeq \{*\}$.

Exercise. X is contractible $\Leftrightarrow X \simeq \{*\} \Leftrightarrow \text{id}_X \simeq e_X$.

Examples. ① $\mathbb{R}^n \simeq \{*\}$. Any convex subset of \mathbb{R}^n is contractible.

② Every tree is contractible.

$$\bigvee_x H \simeq *$$

Fact. Let A be a contractible (closed) subset of X , then

$$\underline{X \simeq X/A.}$$

• Every graph G is homotopic to a wedge sum of S^1 .

$$G \simeq \bigvee_{i=1}^m S^1_i, \quad m = \#\{\text{loops in } G\}.$$



③ $S^\infty = \bigcup_{n=1}^\infty S^n$ is contractible.

proof. $S^\infty \subseteq \mathbb{R}^{\mathbb{N}} = \bigcup_{n=1}^\infty \mathbb{R}^n$. Want to show $\text{id}_{S^\infty} \simeq e_{x_0}$

$$x = (x_1, x_2, \dots), \quad |x| = 1.$$

$$\text{Let } \sigma_0: \mathbb{R}^{\mathbb{N}} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^{\mathbb{N}}, \quad \sigma_0(x_1, x_2, \dots) = (0, x_1, x_2, \dots)$$

$$\text{Define } f_t(x) = (1-t)x + t\sigma_0(x): \mathbb{R}^{\mathbb{N}} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^{\mathbb{N}}.$$

$$\text{Then } \text{id}_{\mathbb{R}^{\mathbb{N}}} \stackrel{f_t}{\simeq} \sigma_0 \quad \begin{array}{c} \cup \\ S^\infty \end{array} \rightarrow \begin{array}{c} \cup \\ S^\infty \end{array}$$

$$\text{Define } g_t(x) = \frac{f_t(x)}{|f_t(x)|}: S^\infty \rightarrow S^\infty$$

$$g_0 = \text{id}_{S^\infty}, \quad g_1 = \sigma_0|_{S^\infty}. \quad \text{id}_{S^\infty} \simeq \sigma_0|_{S^\infty}$$

$$\sigma_0|_{S^\infty}: S^\infty \rightarrow S^\infty \hookrightarrow \mathbb{R}^{\mathbb{N}}$$

$$e_{(1,0,0,\dots)}: S^\infty \rightarrow \{(1,0,0,\dots) \in S^\infty\} \hookrightarrow \mathbb{R}^{\mathbb{N}}$$

$$\begin{aligned} h_t(x) &= (1-t)\sigma_0|_{S^\infty} + t e_{(1,0,0,\dots)} \\ &= ((1-t), tx_1, tx_2, \dots) \end{aligned}$$

$$\therefore h_0 \simeq h_1, \quad h_0 = \sigma_0|_{S^\infty} \simeq e_{(1,0,0,\dots)}$$

Thus $\text{id}_{S^\infty} \simeq e_{(1,0,0,\dots)}$, S^∞ is contractible.