

Isomorphic and Homotopy Paths

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An isomorphic path is a pair of two functions and two maps that reflect elements of each other.

$$(f, h)[g_{i \rightarrow n}, e_{i \rightarrow n}]_{iso}$$

$$f \Leftrightarrow e_n \cdot h \cdot g_i$$

$$h \Leftrightarrow g_n \cdot f \cdot e_i$$

$$f[g_{i \rightarrow n}] \Leftrightarrow h$$

$$h[e_{i \rightarrow n}] \Leftrightarrow f$$

$$e_{in} \cdot g^{in} \Leftrightarrow id_{(A, B)}$$

$$g_{in} \cdot e^{in} \Leftrightarrow id_{(C, D)}$$

$$f : A \rightarrow B$$

$$g_{i \rightarrow n} : (A \rightarrow C, B \rightarrow D)$$

$$h : C \rightarrow D$$

$$e_{i \rightarrow n} : (C \rightarrow A, D \rightarrow B)$$

Reflexivity (This is called the identity isomorphic path):

$$(f, f)[id, id]_{iso} \Leftrightarrow (f, f)[id, id]_{iso}$$

Symmetry:

$$(f, h)[g_{i \rightarrow n}, e_{i \rightarrow n}]_{iso} \Leftrightarrow (h, f)[e_{i \rightarrow n}, g_{i \rightarrow n}]_{iso}$$

Transitivity:

$$(f_0, f_1)[g_{01}, g_{10}]_{iso} \wedge (f_1, f_2)[g_{12}, g_{21}]_{iso} \Leftrightarrow (f_0, f_2)[g_{12} \cdot g_{01}, g_{10} \cdot g_{21}]_{iso} \Leftrightarrow (f_0, f_2)[g_{02}, g_{20}]_{iso}$$

If any path exists for any function that has a collection of isomorphic paths, then all isomorphic paths are contractible by a family of paths.

$$\exists x \{ f_x[g_{xh}] \Leftrightarrow h \} \Leftrightarrow \forall x \{ f_x[g_{xh}] \Leftrightarrow h \}$$

$$(f_0, f_1)[g_{01}, g_{10}]_{iso}[g_{0h}, g_{1h}]$$

$$(f_0, f_1)[g_{0h}, g_{1h}][g_{01}[g_{0h} \rightarrow g_{1h}], g_{10}[g_{1h} \rightarrow g_{0h}]]_{iso}$$

$$(f_0[g_{0h}], f_1[g_{1h}])[id, id]_{iso}$$

$$(h, h)[id, id]_{iso}$$

In general, an isomorphic path satisfies the following:

$$[x_0, x_1]_{\text{iso}}[y_0, y_1] \Leftrightarrow [y_0, y_1][x_0[y_0 \rightarrow y_1], x_1[y_1 \rightarrow y_0]]_{\text{iso}}$$

This way of propagating a copy of the path to the left gives rise to the idea of a “homotopy path”, a higher N-dimensional path between isomorphic paths. It serves a syntactic purpose to propagate a copy to the left and “erase” the leftovers from the inner isomorphic paths.

$$[x_i]_{\text{hom}}[y_i] \Leftrightarrow [y_i][x_i[y^i]]_{\text{hom}}$$

A homotopy path allows one to separate the isomorphic structure of functions and their mappings. One can also put a homotopy path bracket inside a homotopy path bracket.

For example, this is how to prove that two different isomorphic paths are contractible to the same path:

$$\begin{aligned} & ((f_0, f_1), (f_2, f_3))[[g_{01}, g_{10}]_{\text{iso}}, [g_{23}, g_{32}]_{\text{iso}}]_{\text{hom}}[[g_{0h}, g_{1h}], [g_{2h}, g_{3h}]] \\ & ((f_0, f_1), (f_2, f_3))[[g_{0h}, g_{1h}], [g_{2h}, g_{3h}]][[g_{01}, g_{10}]_{\text{iso}}[g_{0h}, g_{1h}], [g_{23}, g_{32}]_{\text{iso}}[g_{2h}, g_{3h}]]_{\text{hom}} \\ & ((f_0, f_1)[g_{0h}, g_{1h}], (f_2, f_3)[g_{2h}, g_{3h}])[[g_{01}[g_{0h} \rightarrow g_{1h}], g_{10}[g_{1h} \rightarrow g_{0h}]_{\text{iso}}, [g_{23}[g_{2h} \rightarrow g_{3h}], g_{32}[g_{3h} \rightarrow g_{2h}]]_{\text{iso}}]_{\text{hom}} \\ & ((f_0[g_{0h}], f_1[g_{1h}]), (f_2[g_{2h}], f_3[g_{3h}]))[[\text{id}, \text{id}]_{\text{iso}}, [\text{id}, \text{id}]_{\text{iso}}]_{\text{hom}} \\ & ((h, h), (h, h))[[\text{id}, \text{id}]_{\text{iso}}, [\text{id}, \text{id}]_{\text{iso}}]_{\text{hom}} \end{aligned}$$

Here is another example, using unknowns to extract equations:

$$\begin{aligned} & ((f_0, f_1), (f_0, f_2))[[g_{01}, g_{10}]_{\text{iso}}, [g_{02}, g_{20}]_{\text{iso}}]_{\text{hom}}[[x_0, x_1], [x_2, x_3]] \\ & ((f_0, f_1), (f_0, f_2))[[x_0, x_1], [x_2, x_3]][[g_{01}, g_{10}]_{\text{iso}}[x_0, x_1], [g_{02}, g_{20}]_{\text{iso}}[x_2, x_3]]_{\text{hom}} \\ & ((f_0, f_1)[x_0, x_1], (f_0, f_2)[x_2, x_3])[[g_{01}[x_0 \rightarrow x_1], g_{10}[x_1 \rightarrow x_0]]_{\text{iso}}, [g_{02}[x_2 \rightarrow x_3], g_{20}[x_3 \rightarrow x_2]]_{\text{iso}}]_{\text{hom}} \\ & ((f_0[x_0], f_1[x_1]), (f_0[x_2], f_2[x_3]))[[g_{01}[x_0 \rightarrow x_1], g_{10}[x_1 \rightarrow x_0]]_{\text{iso}}, [g_{02}[x_2 \rightarrow x_3], g_{20}[x_3 \rightarrow x_2]]_{\text{iso}}]_{\text{hom}} \end{aligned}$$

The equations to be solved are extracted from the homotopy path bracket:

$$\begin{aligned} g_{01}[x_0 \rightarrow x_1] & \Leftrightarrow g_{02}[x_2 \rightarrow x_3] \\ g_{10}[x_1 \rightarrow x_0] & \Leftrightarrow g_{20}[x_3 \rightarrow x_2] \\ x_0 & \Leftrightarrow \text{id} \quad x_1 \Leftrightarrow g_{12} \quad x_2 \Leftrightarrow \text{id} \quad x_3 \Leftrightarrow \text{id} \\ g_{01}[\text{id} \rightarrow g_{12}] & \Leftrightarrow g_{02}[\text{id} \rightarrow \text{id}] \Leftrightarrow g_{02} \\ g_{10}[g_{12} \rightarrow \text{id}] & \Leftrightarrow g_{20}[\text{id} \rightarrow \text{id}] \Leftrightarrow g_{20} \end{aligned}$$

Inserting:

$$\begin{aligned} & ((f_0[\text{id}], f_1[g_{12}]), (f_0[\text{id}], f_2[\text{id}]))[[g_{01}[\text{id} \rightarrow g_{12}], g_{10}[g_{12} \rightarrow \text{id}]]_{\text{iso}}, [g_{02}[\text{id} \rightarrow \text{id}], g_{20}[\text{id} \rightarrow \text{id}]]_{\text{iso}}]_{\text{hom}} \\ & ((f_0, f_1[g_{12}]), (f_0, f_2))[[g_{01}[\text{id} \rightarrow g_{12}], g_{10}[g_{12} \rightarrow \text{id}]]_{\text{iso}}, [g_{02}, g_{20}]_{\text{iso}}]_{\text{hom}} \\ & ((f_0, f_1[g_{12}]), (f_0, f_2))[[g_{02}, g_{20}]_{\text{iso}}, [g_{02}, g_{20}]_{\text{iso}}]_{\text{hom}} \end{aligned}$$

Solution:

$$f_1[g_{12}] \Leftrightarrow f_2$$