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#### CHAPTER 1

#### **Foundations**

### **Basic Category Theory**

**Categories.** We use the first order theory of Neumann-Bernays-Gödel (BNG) as described in [Men15, p. 231].

**Definition 1.1 (Category).** A category & consists of

- A class ob( $\mathcal{C}$ ), called the **objects of**  $\mathcal{C}$ .
- A class  $mor(\mathcal{C})$ , called the morphisms of  $\mathcal{C}$ .
- Two functions dom:  $mor(\mathcal{C}) \to ob(\mathcal{C})$  and  $cod: mor(\mathcal{C}) \to ob(\mathcal{C})$ , which assign to each morphism f in  $\mathcal{C}$  its **domain** and **codomain**, respectively.
- For each  $X \in ob(\mathcal{C})$  a function  $ob(\mathcal{C}) \to mor(\mathcal{C})$  which assigns a morphism  $id_X$  such that  $dom id_X = cod id_X = X$ .
- A function

$$\circ : \{ (g, f) \in \operatorname{mor}(\mathcal{C}) \times \operatorname{mor}(\mathcal{C}) : \operatorname{dom} g = \operatorname{cod} f \} \to \operatorname{mor}(\mathcal{C})$$
 (1)

mapping (g, f) to  $g \circ f$ , called **composition**, such that  $dom(g \circ f) = dom f$  and  $cod(g \circ f) = cod g$ .

Subject to the following axioms:

• (Associativity Axiom) For all  $f, g, h \in mor(\mathcal{C})$  with dom h = cod g and dom g = cod f, we have that

$$(h \circ g) \circ f = h \circ (g \circ f). \tag{2}$$

• (Unit Axiom) For all  $f \in mor(\mathcal{C})$  with dom f = X and cod f = Y we have that

$$f = f \circ id_X = id_Y \circ f. \tag{3}$$

**Remark 1.1.** Let  $\mathcal{C}$  be a category. For  $X, Y \in ob(\mathcal{C})$  we will abreviate

$$\mathcal{C}(X,Y) := \{ f \in \text{mor}(\mathcal{C}) : \text{dom } f = X \text{ and } \text{cod } f = Y \}.$$

Moreover,  $f \in \mathcal{C}(X, Y)$  is depicted as

$$f: X \to Y.$$
 (4)

**Example 1.1.** Let \* be a single, not nearer specified object. Consider as morphisms the class of all cardinal numbers and as composition cardinal addition. By [Hal12, pp. 112–113], cardinal addition is associative and  $\varnothing$  serves for the identity id<sub>\*</sub>.

**Definition 1.2 (Locally Small, Hom-Set).** A category  $\mathcal{C}$  is said to be **locally small** if for all  $X, Y \in \mathcal{C}$ ,  $\mathcal{C}(X, Y)$  is a set. If  $\mathcal{C}$  is locally small,  $\mathcal{C}(X, Y)$  is called a **hom-set** for all  $X, Y \in \mathcal{C}$ .

#### Functors.

**Definition 1.3 (Functor).** Let  $\mathcal{C}$  and  $\mathcal{D}$  be categories. A functor  $F: \mathcal{C} \to \mathcal{D}$  is a pair of functions  $(F_1, F_2)$ ,  $F_1: ob(\mathcal{C}) \to ob(\mathcal{D})$ , called the **object function** and  $F_2: mor(\mathcal{C}) \to mor(\mathcal{D})$ , called the **morphism function**, such that for every morphism  $f: X \to Y$  we have that  $F_2(f): F_1(X) \to F_1(Y)$  and  $(F_1, F_2)$  is subject to the following **compatibility conditions**:

- For all  $X \in ob(\mathcal{C})$ ,  $F_2(id_X) = id_{F_1(X)}$ .
- For all  $f \in \mathcal{C}(X,Y)$  and  $g \in \mathcal{C}(Y,Z)$  we have that  $F_2(g \circ f) = F_2(g) \circ F_2(f)$ .

**Remark 1.2.** Let  $F: \mathcal{C} \to \mathcal{D}$  be a functor. It is convenient to denote the components  $F_1$  and  $F_2$  also with F.

### Subcategories.

**Definition 1.4 (Subcategory).** Let  $\mathcal{C}$  be a category. A subcategory S of  $\mathcal{C}$  consists of

- A subclass  $ob(S) \subseteq ob(C)$ .
- A subclass  $mor(S) \subseteq mor(C)$ .

Subject to the following conditions:

• For all  $X \in \mathcal{S}$ ,  $id_{\mathcal{S}} \in mor(\mathcal{S})$ .

**Example 1.2 (Top\*).** Define the objects of Top\* to be the class of all tuple (X, p), where X is a topological space and  $p \in X$ . Moreover, given objects (X, p) and (Y, q) in Top\*, define Top\*  $((X, p), (Y, q)) := \{ f \in \text{Top}(X, Y) : f(p) = q \}$ . It is easy to check that Top\* is a category, called the *category of pointed topological spaces*.

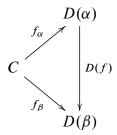
#### Limits.

**Definition 1.5 (Diagram).** Let C be a category and A a small category. A functor  $A \to C$  is called a **diagram in C of shape A**.

**Definition 1.6** (Cone and Limit). Let  $\mathcal{C}$  be a category and  $D: A \to \mathcal{C}$  a diagram in  $\mathcal{C}$  of shape A. A cone on D is a tuple  $(C, (f_{\alpha})_{\alpha \in A})$ , where  $C \in \mathcal{C}$  is an object, called the vertex of the cone, and a family of arrows in  $\mathcal{C}$ 

$$\left(C \xrightarrow{f_{\alpha}} D(\alpha)\right)_{\alpha \in A}. \tag{5}$$

such that for all morphisms  $f \in A$ ,  $f : \alpha \to \beta$ , the triangle



commutes. A (small) limit of D is a cone  $(L, (\pi_{\alpha})_{\alpha \in A})$  with the property that for any other cone  $(C, (f_{\alpha})_{\alpha \in A})$  there exists a unique morphism  $\overline{f}: C \to L$  such that  $\pi_{\alpha} \circ \overline{f} = f_{\alpha}$  holds for every  $\alpha \in A$ .

**Remark 1.3.** In the setting of definition 1.6, if  $(L, (\pi_{\alpha})_{\alpha \in A})$  is a limit of D, we sometimes reffering to L only as the limit of D and we write

$$L = \lim_{\leftarrow A} D. \tag{6}$$

#### CHAPTER 2

## The Fundamental Group

## The Fundamental Grupoid

## Construction of the fundamental Grupoid.

**Lemma 2.1** (Gluing Lemma). Let  $X, Y \in \text{ob}(\mathsf{Top})$ ,  $(X_{\alpha})_{\alpha \in A}$  a finite closed cover of X and  $(f_{\alpha})_{\alpha \in A}$  a finite family of maps  $f_{\alpha} \in \mathsf{Top}(X_{\alpha}, Y)$  such that  $f_{\alpha}|_{X_{\alpha} \cap X_{\beta}} = f_{\beta}|_{X_{\alpha} \cap X_{\beta}}$  for all  $\alpha, \beta \in A$ . Then there exists a unique  $f \in \mathsf{Top}(X, Y)$  such that  $f|_{X_{\alpha}} = f_{\alpha}$  for all  $\alpha \in A$ .

*Proof.* Let  $x \in X$ . Since  $(X_{\alpha})_{\alpha \in A}$  is a cover of X, we find  $\alpha \in A$  such that  $x \in X_{\alpha}$ . Define  $f(x) := f_{\alpha}(x)$ . This is well defined, since if  $x \in X_{\alpha} \cap X_{\beta}$  for some  $\beta \in A$ , we have that  $f(x) = f_{\beta}(x) = f_{\alpha}(x)$ . Clearly  $f|_{X_{\alpha}} = f_{\alpha}$  for all  $\alpha \in A$  and f is unique. Let us show continuity. To this end, let  $K \subseteq Y$  be closed. Then

$$f^{-1}(K) = X \cap f^{-1}(K)$$

$$= \bigcup_{\alpha \in A} X_{\alpha} \cap f^{-1}(K)$$

$$= \bigcup_{\alpha \in A} (X_{\alpha} \cap f^{-1}(K))$$

$$= \bigcup_{\alpha \in A} (X_{\alpha} \cap f_{\alpha}^{-1}(K)).$$

Since each  $f_{\alpha}$  is continuous,  $f_{\alpha}^{-1}(K)$  is closed in  $X_{\alpha}$  for each  $\alpha \in A$  and thus since  $X_{\alpha}$  is closed,  $f^{-1}(K)$  is closed as a finite union of closed sets.

**Theorem 2.1.** There is a functor Top  $\rightarrow$  Grpd.

*Proof.* The proof is divided into several steps. Let us denote  $\Pi$ : Top  $\rightarrow$  Grpd for the claimed functor.

Step 1: Definition of  $\Pi$  on objects. Let  $X, Y \in \text{ob}(\mathsf{Top}), f, g \in \mathsf{Top}(X, Y)$  and  $A \subseteq X$ . A map  $F \in \mathsf{Top}(X \times I, Y)$  is called a **homotopy from X to Y relative to A**, if

- F(x,0) = f(x), for all  $x \in X$ .
- F(x, 1) = g(x), for all  $x \in X$ .
- F(x,t) = f(x) = g(x), for all  $x \in A$  and for all  $t \in I$ .

If there exists a homotopy between f and g relative to A we say that f and g are **homotopic** relative to A and write  $f \simeq_A g$ . If we want to emphasize the homotopy relative to A, we write  $F : f \simeq_A g$ .

**Lemma 2.2.** Let  $X, Y \in \text{ob}(\mathsf{Top})$  and  $A \subseteq X$ . Then being homotopic relative to A is an equivalence relation on  $\mathsf{Top}(X,Y)$ .

*Proof.* Define a binary relation  $R_A \subseteq \text{Top}(X, Y) \times \text{Top}(X, Y)$  by

$$fR_Ag$$
 :  $\Leftrightarrow$   $f \simeq_A g$ .

Let  $f \in \text{Top}(X, Y)$ . Define  $F \in \text{Top}(X \times I, Y)$  by

$$F(x,t) := f(x)$$
.

Then clearly  $F: f \simeq_A f$ . Hence  $R_A$  is reflexive.

Let  $g \in \text{Top}(X, Y)$  and assume that  $fR_Ag$ . Thus  $G : f \simeq_A g$ . Define  $F \in \text{Top}(X \times I, Y)$  by

$$F(x,t) := G(x, 1-t).$$

Then it is easy to check that  $F: g \simeq_A f$  and so  $R_A$  is symmetric.

Finally, let  $h \in \text{Top}(X, Y)$  and suppose that  $fR_Ag$  and  $gR_Ah$ . Hence  $F_1: f \simeq_A g$  and  $F_2: g \simeq_A h$ . Define  $F \in \text{Top}(X \times I, Y)$  by

$$F(x,t) := \begin{cases} F_1(x,2t) & 0 \le t \le \frac{1}{2}, \\ F_2(x,2t-1) & \frac{1}{2} \le t \le 1. \end{cases}$$

Continuity of F follows by an application of the gluing lemma 2.1. Then it is easy to check that  $F: f \simeq_A h$  and hence  $R_A$  is transitive.

Let  $X \in \text{ob}(\mathsf{Top})$  and u a path in X from p to q. Define the **path class [u] of u** by  $[u] := [u]_{R_{\mathcal{U}}}$ . Define now

- ob  $(\Pi(X)) := X$ .
- $\Pi(X)(p,q) := \{[u] : u \text{ is a path from } p \text{ to } q\} \text{ for all } p,q \in X.$
- Let  $p \in X$ . Then define  $\mathrm{id}_p \in \Pi(X)(p,p)$  by  $\mathrm{id}_p := [c_p]$ , where  $c_p$  is the constant path defined by  $c_p(s) := p$  for all  $s \in I$ .
- And  $\Pi(X)(q,r) \times \Pi(X)(p,q) \to \Pi(X)(p,r)$  by

$$([v],[u]) \mapsto [u * v]$$

Where  $u * v \in \text{Top}(p, r)$  is the *concatenated path of u and v*, defined by

$$(u*v)(s) := \begin{cases} u(2s) & 0 \le t \le \frac{1}{2}, \\ v(2s-1) & \frac{1}{2} \le t \le 1 \end{cases}.$$

Continuity follows again from the gluing lemma 2.1 whereas well definedness follows from the next lemma.

**Lemma 2.3.** Suppose that  $[u_1], [u_2] \in \Pi(X)(p,q)$  and  $[v_1], [v_2] \in \Pi(X)(q,r)$  such that  $[u_1] = [u_2]$  and  $[v_1] = [v_2]$ . Then  $[u_1 * v_1] = [u_2 * v_2]$ .

*Proof.* By assumption we have  $G: u_1 \simeq_{\partial I} u_2$  and  $H: v_1 \simeq_{\partial I} v_2$ . Define  $F \in \text{Top}(I \times I, X)$  by

$$F(s,t) := \begin{cases} G(2s,t) & 0 \le s \le \frac{1}{2}, \\ H(2s-1,t) & \frac{1}{2} \le s \le 1. \end{cases}$$

Again, continuity follows from the gluing lemma 2.1 and it is easy to check that  $F: u_1 * v_1 \simeq_{\partial I} u_2 * v_2$ .

Let us now check that  $\Pi(X)$  is indeed a category. Let  $[u] \in \Pi(X)(p,q)$ . We want to show that  $u \simeq_{\partial I} c_p * u$ . To this end, we consider figure 1a and conclude that a suitable homotopy is given by  $F \in \text{Top}(I \times I, X)$  defined by

$$F(s,t) := \begin{cases} p & 0 \le 2s \le t, \\ u\left(\frac{2s-t}{2-t}\right) & t \le 2s \le 2. \end{cases}$$

Similarly, considering figure 1b leads to  $F \in \text{Top}(I \times I, X)$  defined by

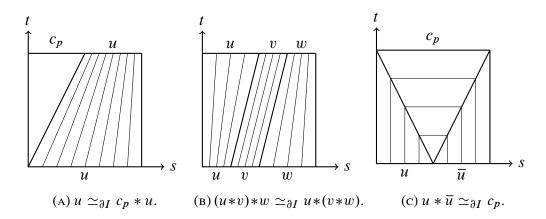


Figure 1. Visualization of the proof that  $\Pi(X)$  is a grupoid object.

$$F(s,t) := \begin{cases} u\left(\frac{4s}{t+1}\right) & -1 \le 4s - 1 \le t, \\ v(4s - t - 1) & t \le 4s - 1 \le t + 1, \\ w\left(\frac{4s - t - 2}{4 - t - 2}\right) & t + 1 \le 4s - 1 \le 3. \end{cases}$$

Lastly, we check that  $\Pi(X)$  is a grupoid. To this end, for a path u from p to q, define its reverse path  $\overline{u}$  by

$$\overline{u}(s) := u(1-s).$$

We claim that  $u * \overline{u} \simeq_{\partial I} c_p$ . From figure 1c we deduce that  $F \in \text{Top}(I \times I, X)$  is given by

$$F(s,t) := \begin{cases} u(2s) & 0 \le 2s \le 1 - t, \\ u(1-t) & 1 - t \le 2s \le t + 1, \\ \overline{u}(2s-1) & t + 1 \le 2s \le 2. \end{cases}$$

Step 2: Definition of  $\Pi$  on morphisms. Let  $f \in \text{Top}(X, Y)$ . Then  $\Pi(f)$  is a functor from  $\Pi(X)$  to  $\Pi(Y)$ . Define  $\Pi(f)$  as follows:

- Let  $p \in \text{ob}(\Pi(X))$ . Then define  $\Pi(f)(p) := f(p) \in \text{ob}(\Pi(Y))$ .
- Let  $[u] \in \Pi(X)(p,q)$ . Then define  $\Pi(f)[u] := [f \circ u] \in$ . We have to check that this definition is independent of the choice of the representative.

**Lemma 2.4.** Let u and v be paths from p to q in X and suppose that [u] = [v]. Then for any  $f \in \text{Top}(X, Y)$  we also have that  $[f \circ u] = [f \circ v]$ .

*Proof.* Suppose that  $H: u \simeq_{\partial I} v$ . Define  $F \in \text{Top}(I \times I, Y)$  by

$$F(s,t) := (f \circ F)(s,t).$$

Then  $F: f \circ u \simeq_{\partial I} f \circ v$ .

Checking that  $\Pi$  satisfies the functorial properties is left as an exercise.  $\square$ 

**Exercise 2.1.** Check that  $\Pi : \mathsf{Top} \to \mathsf{Grpd}$  is indeed a functor.

## The Fundamental Group.

**Lemma 2.5.** Let  $\mathcal{G}$  be a locally small grupoid. Then for every  $X \in \text{ob}(\mathcal{G})$ ,  $\mathcal{G}(X, X)$  can be equipped with a group structure.

*Proof.* Since  $\mathcal{G}$  is locally small,  $\mathcal{G}(X,X)$  is a set for every  $X \in \text{ob}(\mathcal{G})$ . Define a multiplication  $\mathcal{G}(X,X) \times \mathcal{G}(X,X) \to \mathcal{G}(X,X)$  by  $gh := h \circ g$ . Clearly, this multiplication is associative. Moreover, the identity element is given by  $\text{id}_X \in \mathcal{G}(X,X)$  and since every  $g \in \mathcal{G}(X,X)$  is an isomorphism, the multiplicative inverse is given by the inverse in  $\mathcal{G}(X,X)$ .

**Proposition 2.1.** There is a functor  $Top_* \to Grp$ .

*Proof.* Define  $\pi_1 : \mathsf{Top}_* \to \mathsf{Grp}$  on objects  $(X, p) \in \mathsf{Top}_*$  by

$$\pi_1(X, p) := \Pi(X)(p, p).$$

By theorem 2.1 together with lemma 2.5,  $\pi_1(X, p)$  is actually a group, called the **fundamental group of** X with basepoint p. On morphisms  $f \in \text{Top}_*((X, p), (Y, q))$ , define

$$\pi_1(f) := \Pi(f) : \Pi(X)(p, p) \to \Pi(Y)(q, q).$$

Let  $[u], [v] \in \pi_1(X, p)$ . Then

$$\pi_{1}([u][v]) = \Pi(f)([u][v])$$

$$= \Pi(f)[u * v]$$

$$= [f \circ (u * v)]$$

$$= [(f \circ u) * (f \circ v)]$$

$$= \Pi(f)[u]\Pi(f)[v]$$

$$= \pi_{1}(f)[u]\pi_{1}(f)[v].$$

Thus  $\pi_1(f)$  is a morphism in Grp. Functoriality of  $\pi_1$  immediately follows from the functoriality of  $\Pi$ .

**Lemma 2.6.** Let  $X \in \text{ob}(\mathsf{Top})$ ,  $p \in X$  and A be the path component of X containing p. Then  $\pi_1(\iota)$ , where  $\iota : A \hookrightarrow X$  denotes the inclusion, is an isomorphism.

*Proof.* Suppose  $[u] \in \ker \pi_1(\iota)$ . Then  $[\iota \circ u] = [c_p]$  and Hence  $F : \iota \circ u \simeq_{\partial I} c_p$ . Since  $I \times I$  is path connected and  $p \in F(I \times I)$ , it follows that  $F(I \times I) \subseteq A$  and thus  $F : u \simeq_{\partial I} c_p$  in A and hence  $[u] = [c_p]$ . To see that  $\pi_1(\iota)$  is surjective, just observe that  $u(I) \subseteq A$  for  $[u] \in \pi_1(X, p)$  since u(I) is path connected and  $p \in u(I)$ .

**Lemma 2.7.** Let  $X \in ob(\mathsf{Top})$  be path connected and  $p, q \in X$ . Then

$$\pi_1(X, p) \cong \pi_1(X, q).$$

*Proof.* Since X is path connected we find a path v from p to q in X. Define a mapping  $\Phi_v: \pi_1(X,p) \to \pi_1(X,q)$ 

$$\Phi_v [u] := [\overline{v} * u * v].$$

Clearly,  $\Phi_v$  is invertible with inverse  $\Phi_{\overline{v}}$ . Moreover, for [u],  $[w] \in \pi_1(X, p)$  we have that

$$\Phi_{v}([u][w]) = \Phi_{v}[u * w] 
= [\overline{v} * u * w * v] 
= [\overline{v} * u * v * \overline{v} * w * v] 
= [\overline{v} * u * v] [\overline{v} * w * v] 
= \Phi_{v}[u] \Phi_{v}[w].$$

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

**Definition 2.1** (Exponential Quotient Map). The mapping  $\varepsilon : \mathbb{R} \to \mathbb{S}^1$  defined by

$$\varepsilon(x) := e^{2\pi i x} \tag{7}$$

is called the exponential quotient map.

**Proposition 2.2** (Lifting Property of the Circle). Let  $n \in \mathbb{Z}$ ,  $n \geq 0$ ,  $X \subseteq \mathbb{R}^n$  compact and convex,  $p \in X$ ,  $f \in \mathsf{Top}_*((X, p), (\mathbb{S}^1, 1))$  and  $m \in \mathbb{Z}$ . Then there exists a unique map  $\tilde{f} \in \mathsf{Top}_*((X, p), (\mathbb{R}, m))$ , called the **lifting of** f, such that

$$(\mathbb{R}, m)$$

$$\downarrow \varepsilon$$

$$(X, p) \xrightarrow{f} (\mathbb{S}^1, 1)$$

commutes.

*Proof.* We show first existence and then uniqueness.

Step 1: Existence. Since X is compact and f is continuous, f is uniformly continuous on X. Thus we find  $\delta > 0$  such that |f(x) - f(y)| < 2, whenever  $|x - y| < \delta$ , i.e. f(x) and f(y) are not antipodal points. Moreover, since X is compact, X is bounded and hence we find  $N \in \mathbb{N}$ , such that  $|x - y| < N\delta$  holds for all  $x, y \in X$ . Let  $x \in X$ . For  $0 \le k \le N$ , define  $L_k : X \to X$  by

$$L_k(x) := \left(1 - \frac{k}{N}\right)p + \frac{k}{N}x.$$

Those are well defined functions since X is convex. Moreover, each  $L_k$  is continuous. Indeed, it is easy to check that  $L_k$  is Lipschitz. Also, for each  $0 \le k < N$ ,  $f(L_k(x))$  and  $f(L_{k+1}(x))$  are not antipodal for all  $x \in X$ . Indeed, it is easy to check that  $|L_k(x) - L_{k+1}(x)| < \delta$  holds for all  $x \in X$ . For  $0 \le k < N$  define  $g_k : X \to \mathbb{S}^1 \setminus \{-1\}$  by

$$g_k(x) := \frac{f(L_{k+1}(x))}{f(L_k(x))}.$$

Clearly  $g_k$  is well defined and continuous as a composition of continuous functions. Let  $\text{Log}: \mathbb{S}^1 \setminus \{-1\} \to \mathbb{C}$  denote the principal branch of the logarithm. Define  $\tilde{f}: X \to \mathbb{R}$  by

$$\widetilde{f}(x) := m + \frac{1}{2\pi i} \sum_{k=0}^{N-1} \text{Log}(g_k(x)).$$

Clearly,  $\tilde{f}$  is continuous and moreover we have that  $\tilde{f}=m$  since  $g_k(p)=1$  for all  $0 \le k < N$ . Finally, for any  $x \in X$  we have that

$$(\varepsilon \circ \widetilde{f})(x) = \varepsilon(m) \prod_{k=0}^{N-1} g_k(x) = \frac{f(L_N(x))}{f(L_0(x))} = \frac{f(x)}{f(p)} = f(x).$$

Step 2: Uniqueness. Suppose  $\tilde{g} \in \mathsf{Top}_* ((X, p), (\mathbb{R}, m))$  is another such function. Define  $\varphi \in \mathsf{Top}_* ((X, p), (\mathbb{R}, 0))$  by

$$\varphi(x) := \tilde{f}(x) - \tilde{g}(x).$$

Then clearly  $\varepsilon \circ \varphi = 1$  and thus  $\varphi(X) \subseteq \mathbb{Z}$ . Since X is convex, X is connected and so  $\varphi = 0$ .

**Corollary 2.1.** Let  $u, v \in \Omega(\mathbb{S}^1, 1)$  such that [u] = [v]. If  $\widetilde{u}, \widetilde{v} : (I, 0) \to (\mathbb{R}, 0)$  are the liftings of u and v, respectively, then  $[\widetilde{u}] = [\widetilde{v}]$ .

*Proof.* Let  $F: u \simeq_{\partial I} v$ . By proposition 2.2, we find  $\widetilde{F} \in \mathsf{Top}_* \big( (I \times I, (0,0)), (\mathbb{R},0) \big)$ , such that  $\varepsilon \circ \widetilde{F} = F$ . We claim that  $\widetilde{F}: \widetilde{u} \simeq_{\partial I} \widetilde{v}$ . For  $s \in I$  define  $\widetilde{u}_0(s) := \widetilde{F}(s,0)$ . Then  $\widetilde{u}_0(0) = \widetilde{F}(0,0) = 0$  and since  $\widetilde{u}_0$  is continuous we have that  $\widetilde{u}_0 \in \mathsf{Top}_* \big( (I,0), (\mathbb{R},0) \big)$ . Moreover

$$(\varepsilon \circ \widetilde{u}_0)(s) = \varepsilon (\widetilde{F}(s,0)) = F(s,0) = u(s)$$

for all  $s \in I$  and thus  $\widetilde{u}_0$  is a lifting of u. But by proposition 2.2, liftings are unique and thus  $\widetilde{u}_0 = \widetilde{u}$ . Next define  $\widetilde{w}_0(t) := \widetilde{F}(0,t)$  for all  $t \in I$ . Then  $\widetilde{w}_0(0) = \widetilde{F}(0,0) = 0$  and so  $\widetilde{w}_0 \in \mathsf{Top}_*((I,0),(\mathbb{R},0))$ . Moreover

$$(\varepsilon \circ \widetilde{w}_0)(t) = \varepsilon \left( \widetilde{F}(0, t) \right) = F(0, t) = u(0) = v(0) = 1.$$

for all  $t \in I$ . Thus

$$(\mathbb{R},0)$$

$$\downarrow \varepsilon$$

$$(I,0) \xrightarrow{\widetilde{w}_0} (\mathbb{S}^1,1)$$

commutes. But also  $c_0$  makes the above diagram commute. By uniqueness,  $\widetilde{w}_0 = c_0$ . Define  $\widetilde{v}_0(s) := \widetilde{F}(s,1)$  for all  $s \in I$ . Then  $\widetilde{v}_0(0) = \widetilde{F}(0,1) = \widetilde{w}_0(1) = 0$  and it is easy to check that  $\widetilde{v}_0$  is a lift for v. Hence  $\widetilde{v}_0 = \widetilde{v}$ . Finally, define  $\widetilde{w}_1(t) := \widetilde{F}(1,t)$  for all  $t \in I$ . Then  $\widetilde{w}_1(0) = \widetilde{F}(1,0) = \widetilde{u}(1)$  and thus  $\widetilde{w}_1 \in \mathsf{Top}_* \big( (I,0), (\mathbb{R}, \widetilde{u}(0)) \big)$ . Moreover

$$(\varepsilon \circ \widetilde{w}_1)(t) = \varepsilon \left( \widetilde{F}(1, t) \right) = F(1, t) = v(1) = u(1) = 1$$

for all  $t \in I$ . By proposition 2.2, we have again that  $\widetilde{w}_1 = c_{\widetilde{u}(1)}$ . So  $F : \widetilde{u} \simeq_{\partial I} \widetilde{v}$ .  $\square$ 

**Definition 2.2** (**Degree**). Let  $u \in \Omega(\mathbb{S}^1, 1)$ . The **degree of u**, written deg u, is defined by deg  $u := \widetilde{u}(1)$ , where  $\widetilde{u}$  is the unique lift of u such that  $\widetilde{u}(0) = 0$ .

# Theorem 2.2 (Fundamental Group of the Circle). $\pi_1(\mathbb{S}^1) \cong \mathbb{Z}$ .

*Proof.* Define deg :  $\pi_1(\mathbb{S}^1, 1) \to \mathbb{Z}$  by deg  $[u] := \deg u$ . This is well defined by corollary 2.1, since if [u] = [v], then  $[\widetilde{u}] = [\widetilde{v}]$  and in particular  $\widetilde{u}(1) = \widetilde{v}(1)$ . Step 1: deg  $\in$  Grp  $(\pi_1(\mathbb{S}^1, 1), (\mathbb{Z}, +))$ . Let  $[u], [v] \in \pi_1(\mathbb{S}^1, 1)$  and  $m := \deg [u]$ ,  $n := \deg [v]$ . Moreover, let  $\widetilde{u}$  and  $\widetilde{v}$  denote the unique liftings of u and v, respectively, such that  $\widetilde{u}(0) = 0$  and  $\widetilde{v}(0) = 0$ . Define

$$\widetilde{w}(s) := \begin{cases} \widetilde{u}(2s) & 0 \le s \le \frac{1}{2}, \\ m + \widetilde{v}(2s - 1) & \frac{1}{2} \le s \le 1. \end{cases}$$

Clearly  $\widetilde{w}$  is continuous and  $\widetilde{w}(0) = 0$ . Hence  $\widetilde{w} \in \mathsf{Top}_*((I,0),(\mathbb{R},0))$ . Also we have that  $\varepsilon \circ \widetilde{w} = u * v$  and thus  $\widetilde{w}$  is the lift of u \* v. But  $\widetilde{w}(1) = m + n$  and so

$$\deg([u][v]) = \deg[u * v] = \deg(u * v) = \widetilde{w}(1) = m + n = \deg[u] + \deg[v].$$

Step 2: deg is injective. Suppose deg [u] = 0. Then  $\tilde{u}(1) = 0$  and thus  $\tilde{u} \in \Omega(\mathbb{R}, 0)$ . Since  $\mathbb{R}$  is contractible, we have that  $[\tilde{u}] = [c_0]$  and thus

$$[u] = [\varepsilon \circ \widetilde{u}] = \pi_1(\varepsilon) [\widetilde{u}] = \pi_1(\varepsilon) [c_0] = [c_1].$$

Thus ker(deg) is trivial.

Step 3: deg is surjective. Let  $m \in \mathbb{Z}$ . Then

$$\deg\left[\varepsilon^{m}\right] = \deg \varepsilon^{m} = \widetilde{\varepsilon^{m}}(1) = m.$$

### The Seifert-Van Kampen Theorem

#### Coproducts and Pushouts in Grp.

**Proposition 2.3 (Coproducts in Grp).** Grp has all small coproducts.

*Proof.* Let  $A \in \text{ob}(\mathsf{Set})$  and A be the small category defined as the discrete category with  $\text{ob}(\mathsf{A}) := A$ , i.e.

• • • • • • •

Let  $D: A \to \operatorname{Grp}$  be a functor. Hence we get a family  $(G_{\alpha})_{\alpha \in A}$  in  $\operatorname{Grp}$ , where  $G_{\alpha} := D(\alpha)$  for all  $\alpha \in A$ . A word in  $(G_{\alpha})_{\alpha \in A}$  is a finite sequence in  $\coprod_{\alpha \in A} G_{\alpha}$ . A word in  $(G_{\alpha})_{\alpha \in A}$  will simply be written as  $(g_1, \ldots, g_n)$ , where  $g_k \in G_{\alpha}$  for some  $\alpha \in A$ . The *empty word* is denoted by (). Let W denote the set of all words in  $(G_{\alpha})_{\alpha \in A}$ . On W define a multiplication by *concatenation* 

$$(g_1, \ldots, g_n)(h_1, \ldots, h_m) := (g_1, \ldots, g_n, h_1, \ldots, h_m).$$

An elementary reduction is an operation of one of the following forms:

- $(g_1, \ldots, g_k, g_{k+1}, \ldots, g_n) \mapsto (g_1, \ldots, g_k g_{k+1}, \ldots, g_n)$ , where  $g_k, g_{k+1} \in G_\alpha$  for some  $\alpha \in A$ .
- $(g_1, \ldots, g_{k-1}, 1_{\alpha}, g_{k+1}, \ldots, g_n) \mapsto (g_1, \ldots, g_{k-1}, g_{k+1}, \ldots, g_n).$

Let  $\sim$  denote the equivalence relation on W generated by elementary reductions.

**Lemma 2.8.**  $W/\sim$  together with concatenation of representatives is an element of Grp.

Proof. Define

$$[(g_1,\ldots,g_n)][(h_1,\ldots,h_m)] := [(g_1,\ldots,g_n,h_1,\ldots,h_m)].$$

It is left to the reader to show that this is well defined and that  $\mathcal{W}/\sim$  is indeed a group.  $\square$  The group defined in lemma 2.8 will be denoted by  $\bigstar_{\alpha\in A}G_{\alpha}$  and called the *free product of*  $(G_{\alpha})_{\alpha\in A}$ . Let us define a cocone on D. For this consider the inclusions  $\iota_{\alpha}: G_{\alpha} \to \bigstar_{\alpha\in A}G_{\alpha}$  defined by

$$\iota_{\alpha}(g) := [(g)]$$

for all  $\alpha \in A$ . It is immediate from

$$\iota_{\alpha}(gh) = [(gh)] = [(g,h)] = [(g)][(h)] = \iota_{\alpha}(g)\iota_{\alpha}(h)$$

for  $g,h\in G_{\alpha}$ , that  $\iota_{\alpha}$  is a morphism of groups. Since there are only the identity morphisms in A,  $\left(\bigstar_{\alpha\in A}G_{\alpha},(\iota_{\alpha})_{\alpha\in A}\right)$  is a cocone on D. Let us show that this is in fact a universal cocone. To this end, suppose that  $\left(C,(\varphi_{\alpha})_{\alpha\in A}\right)$  is another cocone on D. Define a mapping  $\overline{f}: \bigstar_{\alpha\in A}G_{\alpha}\to C$  by

$$\overline{f}[(g_1,\ldots,g_n)] := \varphi_{\alpha_1}(g_1)\cdots\varphi_{\alpha_n}(g_n)$$

where  $g_k \in G_{\alpha_k}$ . Then  $\bar{f}$  is easily seen to be well defined since each  $\varphi_{\alpha}$  is a morphism of groups. Moreover, if  $g \in G_{\alpha}$ , then

$$(\bar{f} \circ \iota_{\alpha})(g) = \bar{f}[(g)] = \varphi_{\alpha}(g)$$

for all  $\alpha \in A$ . Suppose that  $f: \bigstar_{\alpha \in A} G_{\alpha} \to C$  is another homomorphism of groups such that  $f \circ \iota_{\alpha} = \varphi_{\alpha}$  for all  $\alpha \in A$ . Then for  $[(g_1, \ldots, g_n)] \in \bigstar_{\alpha \in A} G_{\alpha}$  we have

$$f [(g_1, \dots, g_n)] = f([(g_1)] \cdots [(g_n)])$$

$$= f [(g_1)] \cdots f [(g_n)]$$

$$= f (\iota_{\alpha_1}(g_1)) \cdots f (\iota_{\alpha_n}(g_n))$$

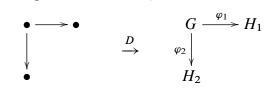
$$= \varphi_{\alpha_1}(g_1) \cdots \varphi_{\alpha_n}(g_n)$$

$$= \overline{f} [(g_1, \dots, g_n)].$$

**Exercise 2.2.** Check that  $W/\sim$  is indeed a group with the declared group structure and that  $\overline{f}$  is indeed well defined.

# Proposition 2.4 (Pushouts in Grp). Grp has all pushouts.

 $\mathit{Proof}.$  Consider the diagram  $D: \mathsf{A} \to \mathsf{Grp}$ 



#### CHAPTER 3

## **Singular Homology**

#### Free Abelian Groups

**Proposition 3.1.** The forgetful functor  $U : Ab \rightarrow Set$  admits a left adjoint.

*Proof.* We have to construct a functor  $F : Set \rightarrow Ab$ . Let S be a set. Define

$$F(S) := \{ f \in \mathbb{Z}^S : \text{supp } f \text{ is finite} \}.$$

Equipped with pointwise addition, F(S) is an abelian group. There is a natural inclusion  $\iota: S \hookrightarrow U\left(F(S)\right)$  sending  $x \in S$  to the function taking the value one at x and zero else. Hence we may regard elements of F(S) as formal linear combinations  $\sum_{x \in S} m_x x$ , where  $m_x \in \mathbb{Z}$  for all  $x \in S$ . Let  $G \in \text{ob}(\mathsf{Ab})$  be an abelian group and  $\varphi \in \mathsf{Ab}\left(F(S), G\right)$  a morphism of groups. Define  $\overline{\varphi} \in \mathsf{Set}\left(S, U(G)\right)$  by  $\overline{\varphi} := U(\varphi)$ . Conversly, if we have  $f \in \mathsf{Set}\left(S, U(G)\right)$ , define  $\overline{f} \in \mathsf{Ab}\left(F(S), G\right)$  by  $\overline{f}\left(\sum_{x \in S} m_x x\right) := \sum_{x \in S} m_x f(x)$ . This is well defined since all but finitely many  $m_x$  are zero and G is abelian. It is easy to check that  $\overline{f}$  is indeed a morphism of groups. Let  $\varphi \in \mathsf{Ab}\left(F(S), G\right)$ . Then

$$\begin{split} \overline{\overline{\varphi}} \left( \sum_{x \in S} m_x x \right) &= \sum_{x \in S} m_x \overline{\varphi}(x) \\ &= \sum_{x \in S} m_x U(\varphi)(x) \\ &= \sum_{x \in S} m_x \varphi(x) \\ &= \varphi \left( \sum_{x \in S} m_x x \right). \end{split}$$

And for  $f \in Set(S, U(G))$  we have that

$$\overline{\overline{f}}(x) = U(\overline{f})(x) = \overline{f}(x) = f(x).$$

Hence  $\overline{\overline{\varphi}} = \varphi$  and  $\overline{\overline{f}} = f$  and so we have a bijection

$$\mathsf{Ab}\left(F(S),G\right)\cong\mathsf{Set}\left(S,U(G)\right).$$

The mapping  $f \mapsto \overline{f}$  will be referred to as *extending by linearity*. To check naturality in S and G is left as an exercise.

**Exercise 3.1.** Check the naturality of the bijection in proposition 3.1. Also check that  $F : Set \to Ab$  is indeed a functor. F is called the *free functor from* **Set** *to* **Ab**.

**Definition 3.1** (Free Abelian Group). Let  $F : Set \to Ab$  be the free functor. For any set S, we call F(S) the free group generated by S.

#### **Chain Complexes**

**Definition 3.2 (Chain Complex).** A chain complex is a tuple  $(C_{\bullet}, \partial_{\bullet})$  consisting of a sequence  $(C_n)_{n \in \mathbb{Z}}$  in ob(Ab) and a sequence  $(\partial_n)_{n \in \mathbb{Z}}$  in mor(Ab), called **boundary operators**, such that we have  $\partial_n \in \mathsf{Ab}(C_n, C_{n-1})$  and  $\partial_n \circ \partial_{n+1} = 0$  for all  $n \in \mathbb{Z}$ .

**Definition 3.3 (Chain Maps).** Let  $(C_{\bullet}, \partial_{\bullet})$  and  $(C'_{\bullet}, \partial'_{\bullet})$  be two chain complexes. A **chain map**  $f_{\bullet}: C_{\bullet} \to C'_{\bullet}$  is a sequence  $(f_n)_{n \in \mathbb{Z}}$  in mor(Ab) such that  $f_n \in Ab(C_n, C'_n)$  and the diagram

$$C_{n} \xrightarrow{\partial_{n}} C_{n-1}$$

$$f_{n} \downarrow \qquad \qquad \downarrow f_{n-1}$$

$$C'_{n} \xrightarrow{\partial'_{n}} C'_{n-1}$$

commutes for all  $n \in \mathbb{Z}$ .

**Proposition 3.2.** There is a category with objects chain complexes and morphisms chain maps.

*Proof.* Let  $f_{\bullet}: C_{\bullet} \to C'_{\bullet}$  and  $g_{\bullet}: C'_{\bullet} \to C''_{\bullet}$  be chain maps. Define a map  $g_{\bullet} \circ f_{\bullet}$  by  $g_n \circ f_n$  for each  $n \in \mathbb{Z}$ . This defines a chain map. Moreover, for each chain complex  $C_{\bullet}$  define  $\mathrm{id}_{C_{\bullet}}$  by  $\mathrm{id}_{C_n}$  for all  $n \in \mathbb{Z}$ . It is easy to check, that then  $\circ$  is associative and the identity laws hold.

**Definition 3.4 (Comp).** The category in 3.2 is called the **category of chain complexes** and we refer to it as Comp.

**Theorem 3.1.** *There is a functor* Top  $\rightarrow$  Comp.

*Proof.* The proof is divided into several steps. Let us denote  $C_{\bullet}$ : Top  $\rightarrow$  Comp for the claimed functor.

Step 1: Construction of a sequence of abelian groups. Let  $v_0, \ldots, v_k \in \mathbb{R}^n$  for some  $n, k \in \mathbb{N}$ . We say that  $(v_0, \ldots, v_k)$  is **affinely independent** if  $(v_1 - v_0, \ldots, v_k - v_0)$ 

is linearly independent. We define the *k*-simplex spanned by  $(v_0, \ldots, v_k)$ , written  $[v_0, \ldots, v_k]$ , to be

$$[v_0, \dots, v_k] := \left\{ \sum_{i=0}^k s_i v_i : s_i \ge 0 \text{ for all } i = 0, \dots, k \text{ and } \sum_{i=0}^k s_i = 1 \right\}.$$
 (8)

equipped with the subspace topology. Moreover, we define the *standard n-simplex*  $\Delta^n$  to be the *n*-simplex spanned by  $(e_0, \ldots, e_n)$  where  $(e_{i+1})_i$  is the standard basis of  $\mathbb{R}^{n+1}$ . Let  $X \in \text{ob}(\mathsf{Top})$ . Define a *singular n-simplex in* X to be a map  $\sigma \in \mathsf{Top}(\Delta^n, X)$ . Let  $n \in \mathbb{Z}$ . Define

$$C_n(X) := \begin{cases} F\left(\mathsf{Top}(\Delta^n, X)\right) & n \ge 0, \\ 0 & n < 0. \end{cases}$$

$$\tag{9}$$

We will call elements of  $C_n(X)$  singular n-chains.

Step 2: Construction of boundary operators. Let  $X \in \text{ob}(\mathsf{Top})$  and  $\sigma$  a singular n-simplex in X for  $n \geq 1$ . We define  $\varphi_k^n : \Delta^{n-1} \to \Delta^n$ , called the k-th face map, by

$$\varphi_k^n(s_0,\ldots,s_{n-1}) := \begin{cases} (0,s_0,\ldots,s_{n-1}) & k=0,\\ (s_0,\ldots,s_{k-1},0,s_k,\ldots,s_{n-1}) & 1 \le k \le n-1. \end{cases}$$
(10)

Define now

$$\partial \sigma := \sum_{k=0}^{n} (-1)^k \sigma \circ \varphi_k^n \in U\left(C_{n-1}(X)\right) \tag{11}$$

to be the **boundary of**  $\sigma$ . Moreover, the **singular boundary operator** is defined to be  $\overline{\partial_n}$  and  $\partial_n := 0$  for  $n \le 0$ .

Step 3:  $\partial_n \circ \partial_{n+1} = 0$  for all  $n \in \mathbb{Z}$ . It is enough to consider  $n \ge 1$ , since  $\partial_n \circ \partial_{n+1} = 0$  holds trivially in the other cases. Let  $X \in \text{ob}(\mathsf{Top})$  and  $\sigma \in \mathsf{Top}(\Delta^{n+1}, X)$ . Then we have

$$(\partial_n \circ \partial_{n+1})(\sigma) = \partial_n \left( \sum_{k=0}^{n+1} (-1)^k \sigma \circ \varphi_k^{n+1} \right)$$

$$= \sum_{k=0}^{n+1} (-1)^k \partial_n \left( \sigma \circ \varphi_k^{n+1} \right)$$

$$= \sum_{k=0}^{n+1} \sum_{j=0}^{n} (-1)^{k+j} \sigma \circ \varphi_k^{n+1} \circ \varphi_j^n$$

$$= \sum_{0 \le k \le j \le n} (-1)^{k+j} \sigma \circ \varphi_k^{n+1} \circ \varphi_j^n + \sum_{0 \le j < k \le n+1} (-1)^{k+j} \sigma \circ \varphi_k^{n+1} \circ \varphi_j^n$$

$$= \sum_{0 \le j \le k \le n} (-1)^{k+j} \sigma \circ \varphi_j^{n+1} \circ \varphi_k^n + \sum_{0 \le j < k \le n+1} (-1)^{k+j} \sigma \circ \varphi_k^{n+1} \circ \varphi_j^n$$

$$= \sum_{0 \le j < k \le n+1} \left( (-1)^{k+j-1} \sigma \circ \varphi_j^{n+1} \circ \varphi_{k-1}^n + (-1)^{k+j} \sigma \circ \varphi_k^{n+1} \circ \varphi_j^n \right)$$

Step 4: Construction of chain maps. Let  $X,Y \in \text{ob}(\mathsf{Top})$  and  $f \in \mathsf{Top}(X,Y)$ . For  $n \geq 0$ , define  $f_n^\# : \mathsf{Top}(\Delta^n,X) \to U\left(C_n(Y)\right)$  by  $f^\# := f \circ \sigma$ . Extending this map by linearity yields a homomorphism  $f_n^\# : C_n(X) \to C_n(Y)$ . Moreover, set  $f_n^\# = 0$  for n < 0. Let  $n \geq 1$  and  $\sigma \in \mathsf{Top}(\Delta^n,X)$ . Then on one hand we have

$$(f_{n-1}^{\#} \circ \partial_n)(\sigma) = f_{n-1}^{\#} \left( \sum_{k=0}^n (-1)^k \sigma \circ \varphi_k^n \right) = \sum_{k=0}^n (-1)^k f \circ \sigma \circ \varphi_k^n$$

and on the other

$$(\partial_n \circ f_n^{\#})(\sigma) = \partial_n (f \circ \sigma) = \sum_{k=0}^n (-1)^k f \circ \sigma \circ \varphi_k^n.$$

Step 5: Checking functorial properties. We are ready to define the functor  $C_{\bullet}$ : Top  $\rightarrow$  Comp. Let  $C_{\bullet}(X)$  be the chain complex consisting of  $(C_n(X))_{n \in \mathbb{Z}}$  and  $(\partial_n)_{n \in \mathbb{Z}}$ .

## APPENDIX A

# **Set Theory**

# 1. Basic Concepts

**Problem A.1.** Let  $n \in \mathbb{N}$  and  $a_{kj} \in \mathbb{C}$  for k = 0, ..., n + 1, j = 0, ..., n. Show that

$$\sum_{k=0}^{n+1} \sum_{j=0}^{n} a_{kj} = \sum_{0 \le k \le j \le n} a_{kj} + \sum_{0 \le j < k \le n+1} a_{kj}.$$

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