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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

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

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_{*}.

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*.

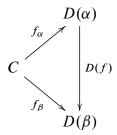
Limits.

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_{α} is continuous, $f_{\alpha}^{-1}(K)$ is closed in X_{α} for each $\alpha \in A$ and thus since X_{α} 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 Π : Top \rightarrow Grpd for the claimed functor.

Step 1: Definition of Π 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

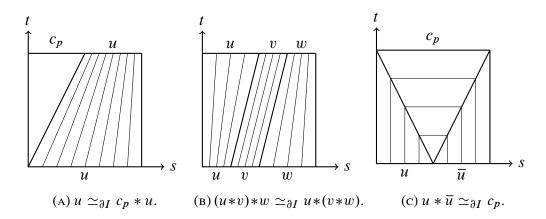


Figure 1. Visualization of the proof that $\Pi(X)$ is a grupoid object.

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

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 Π 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 Π 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 π_1 immediately follows from the functoriality of Π .

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 $X \in \text{ob}(\mathsf{Top})$ 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, Φ_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 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 ι_{α} 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 φ_{α} 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

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

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

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

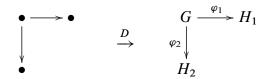
$$= \varphi_{\alpha_1}(g_1) \cdots \varphi_{\alpha_n}(g_n)$$

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

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.

Proof. Consider the diagram $D: A \rightarrow Grp$



and define N to be the normal subgroup of $H_1 * H_2$ generated by elements of the form $[(\varphi_1(g^{-1}), \varphi_2(g))]$ for $g \in G$. Let $K := (H_1 * H_2)/N$. Then

$$G \xrightarrow{\varphi_1} H_1$$

$$\varphi_2 \downarrow \qquad \qquad \downarrow \pi \circ \iota_1$$

$$H_2 \xrightarrow{\pi \circ \iota_2} K$$

commutes. Indeed, if $g \in G$, we have that $(\pi \circ \iota_1 \circ \varphi_1)(g) = [(\varphi_1(g))] N$ and similarly $(\pi \circ \iota_2 \circ \varphi_2)(g) = [(\varphi_2(g))] N$. Then

$$[(\varphi_1(g))]^{-1}[(\varphi_2(g))] = [(\varphi_1(g)^{-1})][(\varphi_2(g))] = [(\varphi_1(g^{-1}))][(\varphi_2(g))] \in N.$$

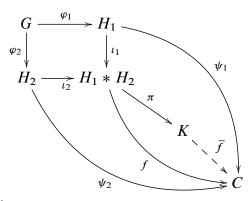
Suppose that we have another cocone on *D*:

$$G \xrightarrow{\varphi_1} H_1$$

$$\varphi_2 \downarrow \qquad \qquad \downarrow \psi_1$$

$$H_2 \xrightarrow{\psi_2} C$$

By proposition 2.3, there exists a unique morphism of groups $f: H_1 * H_2 \to C$ and we thus get the following diagram:



To show that $N \subseteq \ker f$ is left as an exercise. Hence by the factorization theorem (see [Gri07, p. 23]), f factors uniquely through π , i.e. there exists a unique morphism of groups $\overline{f}: K \to C$ such that $\overline{f} \circ \pi = f$.

Exercise 2.3. In the previous proposition, verify that $N \subseteq \ker f$.

Definition 2.3 (Amalgamated Free Product). The pushout of a diagram

$$G \xrightarrow{\varphi_1} H_1$$

$$\downarrow^{\varphi_2} \downarrow$$

$$\downarrow^{\varphi_2}$$

$$H_2$$

in Grp is called the amalgamated free product of H_1 and H_2 along $(G, \varphi_1, \varphi_2)$, written $H_1 *_{(G,\varphi_1,\varphi_2)} H_2$.

The Seifert-Van Kampen Theorem and its Consequences.

Theorem 2.3 (Seifert-Van Kampen). Let $X \in \text{ob}(\mathsf{Top})$, (U, V) an open cover for X, such that U, V and $U \cap V$ are path connected. Moreover, let $p \in U \cap V$. Then

$$\pi_1(X, p) \cong \pi_1(U, p) *_{(\pi_1(U \cap V, p), \pi_1(\iota_U), \pi_1(\iota_V))} \pi_1(V, p), \tag{8}$$

where $\iota_U:U\cap V\hookrightarrow U$ and $\iota_V:U\cap V\hookrightarrow V$ denote inclusion.

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 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

$$[v_0, \dots, v_k] := \left\{ \sum_{i=0}^k s_i v_i : s_i \ge 0 \text{ for all } i = 0, \dots, k \text{ and } \sum_{i=0}^k s_i = 1 \right\}.$$
 (9)

equipped with the subspace topology. Moreover, we define the *standard n-simplex* Δ^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

$$C_n(X) := \begin{cases} F\left(\mathsf{Top}(\Delta^n, X)\right) & n \ge 0, \\ 0 & n < 0. \end{cases}$$
 (10)

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 σ a singular n-simplex in X for $n \ge 1$. We define $\varphi_k^n : \Delta^{n-1} \to \Delta^n$, called the k-th face map, by

$$\varphi_k^n(s_0,\ldots,s_{n-1}) := \begin{cases} (0,s_0,\ldots,s_{n-1}) & k=0,\\ (s_0,\ldots,s_{k-1},0,s_k,\ldots,s_{n-1}) & 1 \le k \le n-1. \end{cases}$$
(11)

Define now

$$\partial \sigma := \sum_{k=0}^{n} (-1)^k \sigma \circ \varphi_k^n \in U\left(C_{n-1}(X)\right)$$
 (12)

to be the **boundary of** σ . 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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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 $(\partial_n)_{n\in\mathbb{Z}}$.

Applications

The Brouwer Fixed Point Theorem.

Definition 3.5 (Retract). Let $X \in \text{ob}(\mathsf{Top})$ and $S \subseteq X$ a subspace. We say that S is a retract of X, if the inclusion $\iota: S \hookrightarrow X$ admits a retraction in Top .

Lemma 3.1. Let $n \in \omega$. Then \mathbb{S}^n is not a retract of \mathbb{B}^{n+1} .

Proof.

□<++>

Theorem 3.2 (Brouwer Fixed Point Theorem). *Let* $n \in \mathbb{Z}$, $n \ge 1$. *Then every mapping* $f \in \mathsf{Top}(\mathbb{B}^n, \mathbb{B}^n)$ *has a fixed point.*

Proof.

□<++>

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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