

# Topology

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## Assignment-5

### § Question 2

#### Definition 2.1 ► Even action

We say a group  $G$  acts on a topological space  $X$  **evenly** if for any  $x \in X$  has an neighbourhood  $U$  such that  $\forall h \neq g \in G$ ,

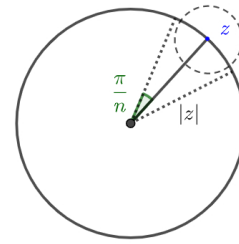
$$gU \cap hU = \emptyset$$

(i). The group  $\mu_n$  of all  $n^{\text{th}}$  roots of unity in  $\mathbb{C}$  acts on  $\mathbb{C}$  by left multiplication

- Show that this action is not even.
- The same action of  $\mu_n$  on  $\mathbb{C}^\times = \mathbb{C} - \{0\}$  is even.

**Solution.** If we act  $\mu_n$  on any neighbourhood,  $U$  around 0 we can see that  $\{0\} \in g \cdot U$  for all  $g \in \mu_n$ , which means  $\{0\} \in gU \cap hU$  for any neighbourhood  $U$  (of 0) and  $g \neq h \in \mu_n$ . So, this action is not even.

- Consider,  $z$  be a point in the complex plane which is not zero. Take a circle of radius  $|z|$  centered at origin. when we are acting  $\mu_n$  on  $z$ , it's rotating along the circle of given radius with some multiple of  $\frac{2\pi}{n}$ .



Now we will look at the arc of the circle which makes angle  $\frac{2\pi}{n}$  at center and keeps  $z$  at the middle of the arc. We will construct a circle centered at  $z$  and touching the radii which are  $\frac{2\pi}{n}$  angle apart from each other. we can see that radius of such circle will be  $|z| \sin \frac{\pi}{n}$ .

Now consider an open disk centered at  $z$  with radius  $\frac{|z|}{2} \sin \frac{\pi}{n}$ . Call this disk  $D_z$ . When we translate  $D_z$  by the group action of  $\mu_n$ , the disk will move in such a way that its center stay at the circle and the center will move  $\frac{2\pi k}{n}$  angle, where  $k \in \{0, \dots, n-1\}$ . we can clearly see that  $D_z \cap g \cdot D_z = \emptyset$ ,  $e \neq g \in \mu_n$ . Now by symmetry we can say that  $g \cdot D_z \cap h \cdot D_z = \emptyset$  for all  $g \neq h \in \mu_n$ .

(iii). Let  $G$  be the subgroup of the group of all self homeomorphisms of  $\mathbb{R}^2$  generated by the translation  $(x, y) \mapsto (x + 1, y)$  and the map  $(x, y) \mapsto (-x, y + 1)$ . Prove that this is an even action of  $G$  on  $\mathbb{R}^2$ . Also show that  $\mathbb{R}^2/G$  is the Klein bottle.

**Solution.** Let,  $\varphi_1, \varphi_2$  be the homeomorphisms corresponding  $(x, y) \mapsto (x + 1, y)$  and  $(x, y) \mapsto (-x, y + 1)$  respectively. The group generated by these two homeomorphisms is given as following,

$$G = \langle \varphi_1, \varphi_2 \rangle$$

We can see that,  $\varphi_1 \circ \varphi_2 = \varphi_2 \circ \varphi_1^{-1}$  and  $\varphi_2 \circ \varphi_1 = \varphi_1^{-1} \circ \varphi_2$ . So any element in the group  $G$  can be written as  $\varphi_1^m \circ \varphi_2^n$  for some  $m, n \in \mathbb{Z}$ . Generators of the group are distance preseving homeomorphisms. So and element of the group is distance preseving homeomorphism. For any point  $(x, y) \in \mathbb{R}^2$  take an open disk centered at that point with diameter  $d < 1$ . Call this disk  $D_{(x,y)}$ , we will show,  $g(D_{(x,y)}) \cap h(D_{(x,y)}) = \emptyset$ . Which means the group action is even.

Let,  $g$  is an element in  $G$  then  $g = \varphi_1^m \circ \varphi_2^n$ . So,  $g.D_{(x,y)} = \{((-1)^n + u + m, v + n) : (u, v) \in D_{(x,y)}\}$ . If there is a point  $(x', y')$  the intersection of  $D_{(x,y)}$  and  $g.D_{(x,y)}$  then distance between  $(x', y')$  and  $((-1)^n x' + m, y' + n)$  is  $< d$ . which means ,

$$\sqrt{(((-1)^n - 1)x' + m)^2 + n^2} \leq d < 1$$

since  $n$  is an integer we must have  $n = 0$  and then  $m^2 \leq d < 1$  which means  $m = 0$  i.e  $g = e$ . If  $g$  is not identity then  $g(D_{(x,y)}) \cap D_{(x,y)} = \emptyset$ . We can see that  $\varphi_1(x, y), \varphi_2(x, y)$  are atleast 1-unit distance apart from  $(x, y)$ . By the similar calculation as above, for any two distinct element  $g, h \in G$  we can say that  $g(x, y)$  and  $h(x, y)$  are atleast 1-unit apart from each other  $\square$

If  $(x, y)$  lies in  $\mathbb{R}^2$ , by applying the homeomorphism  $\varphi_1^m$  for some appropriate integer  $m$  to  $(x, y)$ , we can convert it to a point  $(a, y)$  where  $a \in [0, 1)$  (this is like taking fractal part). Then by applying the homeomorphism  $\varphi_2^n$  for some appropriate integer  $n$  to  $(a, y)$ , we get the point  $((-1)^n a, b)$  where  $b \in [0, 1]$ . If  $n$  is even, we get a point lying in  $[0, 1]^2$  lying in the same equivalence class as  $(x, y)$  in  $\mathbb{R}^2/G$ . Otherwise another application of  $g$  gives us such a point lying in  $[0, 1]^2$ . Moreover no two points in  $[0, 1]^2$  lie in the same equivalence class of  $\mathbb{R}^2/G$ . So  $\mathbb{R}^2/G$  can be identified with the space  $[0, 1]^2$  with the quotient topology induced.

Consider the unit square  $\mathcal{S} = [0, 1] \times [0, 1]$  We can see that any orbit of the given action has a representative on  $\mathcal{S}$ . If we look at the point interior of the square, they are representative of themselves. This is because any  $g \in G$  must take a point atleast 1-distance apart from itself by translation. We will look on the boundary of the square where, the points of the form  $(0, y)$  are representative with  $(1, y)$  (by  $\varphi_1$ ) and the points of the form  $(x, 1)$  representative with  $(1 - x, 0)$  (by  $\varphi_1 \circ \varphi_2^{-1}$ ). We can also see all four vertex belong to same orbit.  $(0, y)$  and  $(x, 1)$  can't be representative to eachother if  $0 < x, y < 1$  this is clearly because the distance in  $y$ -coordinate is greater than 0 but less than 1. Similarly we can show  $(0, y), (1, y)$  can't be representative with  $(x, 0)$  and  $(x, 1)$  in any means.

Since, any orbit of the action has a representative in  $\mathcal{S}$  we can say that the orbit can be written as  $[(x, y)]$ . Where  $(x, y) \in \mathcal{S}$ . Let,  $q : \mathbb{R}^2 \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^2/G$  be the quotient map. The restriction  $q_S = q|_S$  will induce a quotient map to the orbit space on  $\mathcal{S}$ , which is basically a

map send  $(x, y)$  to  $[(x, y)]$ . i.e  $q_S : \mathcal{S} \rightarrow$  orbit space on  $\mathcal{S}$  (this is because  $q_S$  is a continuous surjective map from compact to Hausdorff space. It was shown in class that  $X/G$  is Hausdorff when a group  $G$  is acting on a Hausdorff topological space  $X$ ). Let,  $\pi : \mathcal{S} \rightarrow K$  be the identification map from  $\mathcal{S}$  to Klein bottle  $K$ . Define a map  $\phi$  from the orbit space to  $K$  as each orbit  $[(x, y)] \mapsto (x, y)$ . Here  $(x, y)$  is the point in  $K$  corresponding to the point in  $(x, y)$ .

$$\begin{array}{ccc} \mathcal{S} & & \\ \pi \downarrow & \searrow q_s & \\ K & \xleftarrow{\psi} & \text{orbit space on } \mathcal{S} \end{array}$$

For the  $\psi$  we have constructed the above diagram commutes. Now, It's not hard to see that  $\psi$  is one one and onto i.e. bijective. Here,  $\psi \circ q_s = \pi$  since  $q_s$  is continuous and  $\pi$  is quotient map we can say  $\psi$  is a continuous (**done in class**) and bijective map. Since  $q_s$  is also a quotient map from compact set, orbit space on  $\mathcal{S}$  is also compact and we know Klein bottle is a surface without boundary (**discussed in class**) it is Hausdorff. So, by closed map lemma (**done in class**) a continuous bijective map from a compact space to Hausdorff space is homeomorphism. Hence, orbit space on  $\mathcal{S}$  which is equal to orbit space on  $\mathbb{R}^2$  is homeomorphic to Klein bottle  $K$ .

(iv). Let  $G$  be a finite group action fixed point freely on a Hausdorff space  $Y$ , ie.  $g \cdot y = y$  for some  $g \in G, y \in Y \Rightarrow g = e$ . Prove that such an action is even.

**Solution.** Let,  $\{g_0(=1), g_1, g_2, \dots, g_n\}$  are element of  $G$ . Now consider  $\{x, g_1.x, \dots, g_n.x\}$  where  $x \in Y$ , all of these are distinct as the action is fixed point free. Since there are finitely many point in the above set we can separate them by disjoint open sets (**This was done in class**)\*\*.i.e there are open sets  $U_0, \dots, U_n$  with  $g_i.x \in U_i$  and  $g_j.x \in U_j$  and  $U_i \cap U_j = \emptyset$  for  $i \neq j$ .

Consider  $W_i = U_0 \cap g_i^{-1}U_i$  clearly this is open set since this is finite intersection of open sets and  $g^{-1}U_i$  open as the map  $x \mapsto g.x$  is continuous. So,  $W_i$  are open neighbourhood of  $x$ . Define,  $U = \bigcap_{i=1}^n W_i$ . This is also finite intersection of open sets which means it is open. We have  $g_i U \subset U_i$ . So,  $g_i U \cap U = \emptyset$ . And hence the action is free. ■

**\*\* Lemma :** There exist pairwise disjoint open neighbourhoods of  $g_1 \cdot y, \dots, g_n \cdot y$ .

*Proof.* Induction on  $n$ . For  $n = 1, 2$ , the statement is clear. Now suppose  $n > 2$ , and we have disjoint open neighbourhoods  $U'_1, \dots, U'_{n-1}$  of  $g_1 \cdot y, \dots, g_{n-1} \cdot y$  respectively. Then since  $Y$  is Hausdorff, and  $g_1 \cdot y, \dots, g_n \cdot y$  are all distinct points, there exist open sets  $V'_1, \dots, V'_{n-1}$  and open sets  $W'_1, \dots, W'_{n-1}$  such that  $g_i \cdot y \in V'_i$  for all  $1 \leq i \leq n-1$  and  $g_n \cdot y \in W'_i$  for all  $i$ , and  $V'_i \cap W'_i = \emptyset$  for all  $1 \leq i \leq n-1$ . Then  $U'_1 \cap V'_1, \dots, U'_{n-1} \cap V'_{n-1}, \bigcap_{i=1}^{n-1} W'_i$  are disjoint open neighbourhoods of  $g_1 \cdot y, \dots, g_{n-1} \cdot y, g_n \cdot y$  respectively. □

(v). We discussed an action of  $\mu_n$  on the complex sphere

$$S_C^{m-1} := \left\{ (z_1, \dots, z_m) : |z_1|^2 + \dots + |z_m|^2 = 1 \right\}$$

$\zeta \cdot (z_1, \dots, z_m) := (\zeta z_1, \dots, \zeta z_m)$ . Prove this is an even action.

**Solution.** Let  $(z_1, \dots, z_m)$  be an arbitrary point in  $S_{\mathbb{C}}^{m-1}$ . Then at least one of  $z_1, \dots, z_m$  is not zero; assume W.L.O.G. that  $z_1 \neq 0$ . Then by part (i) of this assignment, there exists an open neighbourhood  $U$  of  $z_1$  such that  $g, h \in \mu_n$  and  $g \neq h$  implies that  $g(U) \cap h(U) = \emptyset$ . Then  $U \times \prod_{i=1}^{n-1} \mathbb{C}$  is an open neighbourhood of  $(z_1, \dots, z_m)$  in  $\mathbb{C}^{m-1}$ . But then  $\left(U \times \prod_{i=1}^{n-1} \mathbb{C}\right) \cap S_{\mathbb{C}}^{m-1}$  is an open neighbourhood of  $(z_1, \dots, z_m)$  in  $S_{\mathbb{C}}^{m-1}$ , and  $g, h \in \mu_n$  and  $g \neq h$  implies that

$$g_i \left( \left( U \times \prod_{i=1}^{n-1} \mathbb{C} \right) \cap S_{\mathbb{C}}^{m-1} \right) \cap g_j \left( \left( U \times \prod_{i=1}^{n-1} \mathbb{C} \right) \cap S_{\mathbb{C}}^{m-1} \right) = \emptyset$$

And hence We are done. ■