

MATH 592

1/22/2024

Equivalence of categories:  $F: \mathcal{C} \rightarrow \mathcal{D}$ ,  $G: \mathcal{D} \rightarrow \mathcal{C}$ ,

$$GF \cong \text{Id}_{\mathcal{C}}, \quad FG \cong \text{Id}_{\mathcal{D}}$$

*natural isomorphism*

Discussion: Tomorrow 1/23 1-2 PM EH 5822

$\text{Cat}^0$

Objects = small categories

Morphisms = functors up to natural isomorphism

Isomorphism in  $\text{Cat}^0$  = equivalence of categories

Groupoid<sup>0</sup>

Objects = groupoids

$$\text{Mor}_{\text{Groupoid}^0}(x, y) = \text{Mor}_{\text{Cat}^0}(x, y)$$

*full subcategory<sup>x, y groupoids</sup>*

We proved that

$$\Pi_1 \text{Top} \longrightarrow \text{Groupoid}^b$$

fundamental groupoid  
spaces, homotopy classes of maps

$\therefore$  Homotopy-equivalent spaces have equivalent fundamental groupoids.

Theorem: More on equivalence of categories:

Let  $\mathcal{C}$  be any category, and let  $\mathcal{C}_0$  be a full subcategory on a class of objects of  $\mathcal{C}$  which contains precisely one representative from each isomorphism class of objects. Then  $\mathcal{C}$  and  $\mathcal{C}_0$  are equivalent.  $\mathcal{C}_0$  is called a skeleton of  $\mathcal{C}$ .

Proof sketch:  $\mathcal{C}_0 \xrightarrow{F} \mathcal{C}$

?  $G: \mathcal{C} \rightarrow \mathcal{C}_0$ . For each object  $x$ , choose an isomorphism

$\gamma_x: x \xrightarrow{\sim} x_0$  where  $x_0 \in \text{Obj } \mathcal{C}_0$ . (Technical advice: choose  $\gamma_x = \text{Id}$  if  $x \in \text{Obj } \mathcal{C}_0$ .)

$$G(x) = x_0$$

$$f: x \rightarrow y$$

$$G(f):$$

$$\begin{array}{ccc} x & \xrightarrow{f} & y \\ \gamma_x^{-1} \uparrow \sim & & \downarrow \sim \gamma_y \\ x_0 & & y_0 \end{array}$$

HW ①: Finish the proof that this pair  $F, G$  is an equivalence of categories.



What is the skeleton of a groupoid  $\Gamma$ ? Choose one object in each isomorphism class:  $\text{Obj } \Gamma_0$ .

$$\text{Mor } \Gamma_0 = \bigsqcup_{x \in \text{Obj } \Gamma_0}$$

$$\text{Aut}_\Gamma(x)$$

a group is a groupoid with a single object

disjoint union of categories;  
not morphisms between the different summands.  
the group of all <sup>iso</sup>isomorphisms  $x \rightarrow x$   
(but we are in a groupoid)

Applying to the fundamental groupoid  $\pi(X)$ :

$$\text{Obj } \pi(X)_0 = \pi_0 X = \{\text{path-connected components of } X\}$$

just a set

$X / x \sim y$  if there is a path from  $x$  to  $y$ .

To recap: For a space  $X$ , choose a set  $X_0 \subseteq X$  where  $X_0$  contains exactly one point in each path-component of  $X$ . ( $X_0 \cong \pi_0 X$ )

Then we can write

$$\pi(X) = \bigsqcup_{x \in X_0} \pi_1(X, x).$$

A space  $X$  is called path-connected if it has only one path-component.  
( $\pi_0 X \cong \{*\}$ )

We see that if  $X$  is path-connected, then  $\pi X$  is equivalent to  $\pi_1(X, x)$  for any  $x \in X$ .

What is equivalence of groups? From HW, a functor on groups is just a homomorphism of groups.

HW (2): Prove that for two homomorphisms  $f, g: G \rightarrow H$  a natural transformation  $f \rightarrow g$  (thought of as functors) is the same thing as specifying an element  $\alpha \in H$  such that

$$(\forall x \in G) \quad g(x) = \alpha^{-1} f(x) \alpha$$

Conjugate homomorphisms.

Observation: a conjugate of an isomorphism is an isomorphism.

Theorem:  $\pi_1$  gives a functor from the full subcategory of  $\mathbf{hTop}$  on path-connected spaces to  $\mathbf{Grp}^0$ .  $\square$

Object: groups  
Morphisms: conjugacy classes  
of homomorphisms.

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If  $X$  is path-connected, I can say: Calculate  $\pi_1(X)$ .

↑  
determined up to  $\cong$ ,  
 $\cong$  for different base points determined  
up to conjugation; depends on the choice of path  
between them.



The real question: Calculate  $\pi_1(X)$  for more general spaces than

?  $X = S^n$ :  $\pi_1(S^1) = \mathbb{Z}$   
 $\pi_1(S^n) = 0 \quad n > 1$ .

$\pi_1(\infty), \pi_1(\text{figure-eight})$ .

The fundamental groupoid also helps with this.

Language of categories enables the discussion of universal properties.

Example (immediately needed, general discussion later): Pushout.

Suppose we have a category  $\mathcal{C}$ . Given a diagram  $\Delta$  of the form

$$\begin{array}{ccc} X_1 & \xrightarrow{f} & X_2 \\ g \downarrow & & \\ X_3 & & \end{array}$$

We are trying to define a "universal" commuting square

$$\begin{array}{ccc} X_1 & \xrightarrow{f} & X_2 \\ g \downarrow & \text{red } \dashrightarrow & \vdots \\ X_3 & \cdots \rightarrow & Y \end{array}$$

We write  $Y = X_3 \amalg_{X_1} X_2$

pushout diagram



What does universality (defining the product) mean?

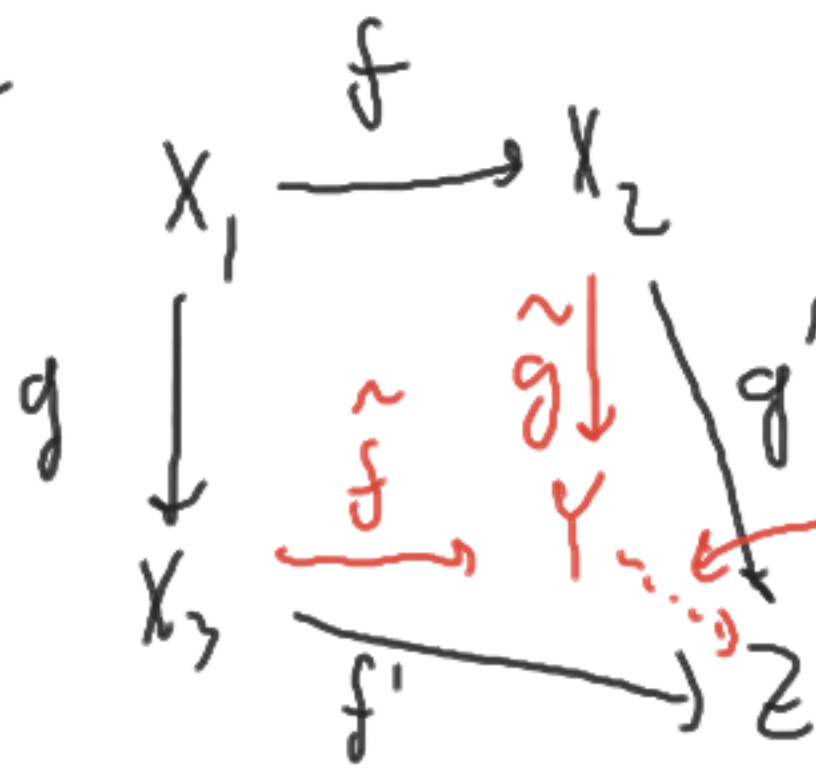
$$\begin{array}{ccc} X_1 & \xrightarrow{f} & X_2 \\ g \downarrow & & \downarrow \tilde{g} \\ X_3 & \xrightarrow{\tilde{f}} & Y \end{array}$$

commutes:  $\tilde{g} \circ f = \tilde{f} \circ g$

Whenever we have a diagram

there exists a unique  $g: Y \rightarrow Z$  such that

$$g \circ \tilde{g} = g', \quad g \circ \tilde{f} = f'$$



$$g' \circ f = f' \circ g$$

$\exists! g$

HW ③: Pushout in sets and topological spaces

$$\begin{array}{ccc} X & \xrightarrow{f} & Y \\ g \downarrow & & \\ Z & & \end{array}$$

In sets,  $Y \overset{f}{\underset{g}{\amalg}}_X Z = Y \amalg Z / f(x) \sim g(x) \text{ for } x \in X$

In Top, same thing with the quotient topology.

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When  $X = U \cup V$ ,  $U, V$  open: Then  $X = U \amalg_{U \cap V} V$ .

Theorem 1: The fundamental groupoid in this situation <sup>pushout.</sup> preserves pushouts.

$$\pi(X) = \pi(U) \amalg_{\pi(U \cap V)} \pi(V).$$

Theorem: In the above situation, assume  $U, V, U \cap V$  are path-connected.

Let  $x \in U \cap V$ . Then  $\pi_1(X, x)$  is the product of groups

$$\pi_1(U, x) \amalg \pi_1(U \cap V, x) \pi_1(V, x).$$

usual notation: \*

Schreier-Van Kampen Theorem.

Follow-up question: What does the product of groups look like?

This theorem "completely solves" the question of computing  $\pi_1$ .

Types of spaces for which we can ask the question: CW-complexes.