

Given  $G_1 \xleftarrow{f_1} H \xrightarrow{f_2} G_2$  gp homs, let  $G_1 *_H G_2 := (G_1 * G_2)/\bar{C}$  for  
 $C = \{f_1(g)f_2(g)^{-1} \mid g \in H\} \subseteq G_1 * G_2$  and  $\bar{C}$  its normal closure;  
 $G_1 *_H G_2$  is the amalgamated free product of  $G_1, G_2$  along  $H$ .

Prop  $G_1 *_H G_2$  is the pushout of  $G_1 \xleftarrow{f_1} H \xrightarrow{f_2} G_2$  in  $\text{Grp}$ , i.e.

$$\begin{array}{ccccc} & H & \xrightarrow{f_2} & G_2 & \\ f_1 \downarrow & \nearrow & & \downarrow \iota_2 & \searrow \varphi_2 \\ G_1 & \xrightarrow{\iota_1} & G_1 *_H G_2 & \xrightarrow{\exists! \varphi_1} & K \end{array}$$

Pf Given  $\varphi_1, \varphi_2$  making the diagram commute, we get a hom  $\psi: G_1 *_H G_2 \rightarrow K$   
 s.t.  $\psi(g_i) = \varphi_i(g_i)$  since  $G_1 *_H G_2$  is coproduct in  $\text{Grp}$ . If  $g \in H$ ,  
 $\iota_1 f_1(g) = \iota_2 f_2(g)$  i.e.  $f_1(g)f_2(g)^{-1} = e \in G_1 *_H G_2$ . Thus

$C \subseteq \ker \psi \leq G_1 *_{\mathbb{H}} G_2 \Rightarrow \bar{C} \subseteq \ker \psi$ . Thus  $\psi$  induces

$$\begin{array}{ccc} G_1 * G_2 & \xrightarrow{\psi} & K \\ \downarrow & \nearrow \varphi & \\ G_1 *_{\mathbb{H}} G_2 & & \end{array}$$

by univ property of quotients, and the  
 $\varphi_{bi} = \psi_i$  by def'ns. Uniqueness follows from  
 $G_1, G_2$  generating  $G_1 *_{\mathbb{H}} G_2$ .  $\square$

Thm For  $G_1 \leftarrow H \xrightarrow{f_1} G_2$  gp homs and presentations

$$G_1 \cong \langle \alpha_1, \dots, \alpha_m \mid p_1, \dots, p_r \rangle$$

$$G_2 \cong \langle \beta_1, \dots, \beta_n \mid \sigma_1, \dots, \sigma_s \rangle$$

$$H \cong \langle \gamma_1, \dots, \gamma_p \mid \tau_1, \dots, \tau_t \rangle, \quad (\text{Note: Just need } \gamma_1, \dots, \gamma_p \text{ generate.})$$

we have  $G_1 *_{\mathbb{K}} G_2 \cong \langle \alpha_1, \dots, \alpha_m, \beta_1, \dots, \beta_n \mid p_1, \dots, p_r, \sigma_1, \dots, \sigma_s, u_i = v_1, \dots, u_p = v_p \rangle$

for  $u_i = f_1(\gamma_i)$  in terms of  $\{\alpha_i\}$ ,  $v_i = f_2(\gamma_i)$  in terms of  $\{\beta_i\}$ .  $\square$

In particular, if  $H = \mathbb{Z}$ , then  $G_1 *_{\mathbb{H}} G_2 \cong G_1 * G_2$ .

## Thm (Seifert - van Kampen)

$X = U \cup V$  a space,  $U, V \in X$  open,

$U \cap V$  path conn'd,  $p \in U \cap V$  then  
then the inclusion maps

$U \hookrightarrow U \cap V \hookrightarrow V$  induce an isomorphism

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



George Seifert  
1897 - 1996



Egbert van Kampen  
1908 - 1942

In diagrams,  $U \cap V \hookrightarrow V$  induces  $\pi_1(U \cap V, p) \rightarrow \pi_1(V, p)$

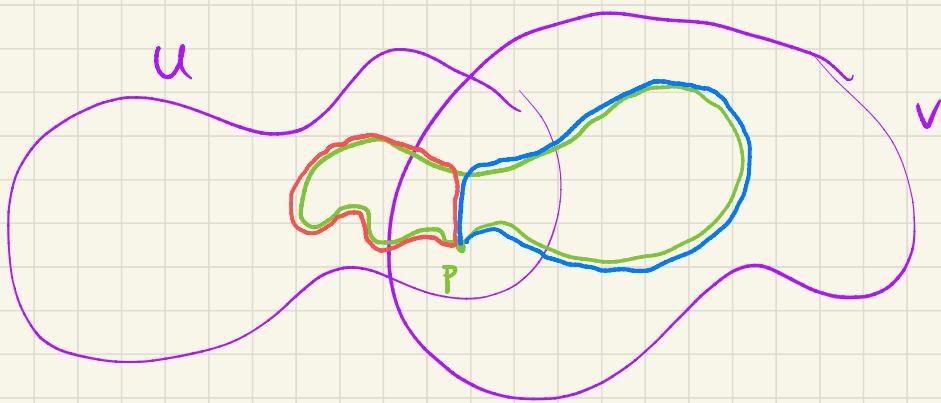
$$\begin{array}{ccc} \downarrow & \lrcorner & \downarrow \\ U & \longrightarrow & X \end{array}$$

$$\begin{array}{ccccc} \pi_1(U, p) & \xrightarrow{\quad} & \pi_1(U \cap V, p) & \xrightarrow{\quad} & \pi_1(V, p) \\ \downarrow & \lrcorner & \downarrow & & \downarrow \\ \pi_1(U, p) & \xrightarrow{\quad} & \pi_1(U, p) *_{\pi_1(U \cap V, p)} \pi_1(V, p) & \xrightarrow{\quad \cong \quad} & \pi_1(X, p) \end{array}$$

or, more simply,

$$\begin{array}{ccc} \pi_*(U \cap V, p) & \longrightarrow & \pi_*(V, p) \\ \downarrow & & \downarrow \\ \pi_*(U, p) & \longrightarrow & \pi_*(X, p) \end{array}$$

Idea Decompose loops in  $X$  into concatenations/words of loops in  $U$  and loops in  $V$  to get elements of  $\pi_*(U, p) * \pi_*(V, p)$  then remember that loops in  $U \cap V$  have two different names!



Proof deferred — applications first!

Special case 1 If  $U \cap V$  is simply conn'd, then  $\pi_1(X, p) \cong \pi_1(U, p) * \pi_1(V, p)$ .

Special case 2 If  $U$  is simply conn'd, then  $\pi_1(X, p) \cong \pi_1(V, p) / H$   
for  $H = j_* \pi_1(U \cap V, p)$ . (Here  $j: U \cap V \hookrightarrow V$ .)

E.g.  $X =$    $U = X \cdot a, V = X \cdot b$  are both  $\cong S^1$   
 $U \cap V \cong *$

$$\pi_1(X, p) \cong \pi_1(U, p) * \pi_1(V, p) \cong \mathbb{Z} * \mathbb{Z}.$$

Wedge Sums  $p \in X$  is a nondegenerate base point if  $p$  has a nbhd admitting a strong deformation retract onto  $p$ . ( $U \xrightarrow{\sim} p$  s.t.  $cr = id_U$  nbd  $p$ ).

Lemma Suppose  $p_i \in X_i$  is a nondegenerate base point for  $i=1, \dots, n$ . Then  $* = [p_i]$  is a nondegenerate basepoint of  $X_1 \vee \dots \vee X_n$ .



Pf For each  $i$ , choose nbhd  $W_i$  of  $p_i$  in  $X_i$  admitting a strong defin retraction  $r_i: W_i \rightarrow p_i$  and let  $H_i: W_i \times I \rightarrow W_i$  be the associated htpy id $_{W_i} \simeq \iota_{p_i}, r_i$ . Define  $H: (\coprod W_i) \times I \rightarrow \coprod W_i$  with  $H|_{W_i \times I} = H_i$ .

Now  $q: \coprod X_i \rightarrow V X_i$  restricted to  $\coprod W_i$  is a quotient onto a nbhd  $W$  of  $*$   $\Rightarrow q \times \text{id}_I$  is a quotient map and  $q \circ H$  respects the identifications so descends to  $(V W_i) \times I$  yielding a strong def retract onto  $*$ .  $\square$

Thm Let  $X_1, \dots, X_n$  be spaces with nondegenerate base points  $p_j \in X_j$ . Then the map  $\ast \prod_{i=1}^n \pi_1(X_i, p_i) \rightarrow \pi_1(V X_i, \ast)$  induced by  $i_j: X_j \hookrightarrow V X_i$  ( $j=1, \dots, n$ ) is an isomorphism.

Pf  $n=2$  Choose nbhds  $W_i$  in which  $p_i$  is a strong def retract, and let  
 $U = q(X_1 \sqcup W_2)$ ,  $V = q(W_1 \sqcup X_2)$ .

Then  $U, V \subseteq X_1 \vee X_2$  are open and

$$* \rightarrow U \cap V$$

$$X_1 \hookrightarrow U$$

$$X_2 \hookrightarrow V$$

are htpy equiv.

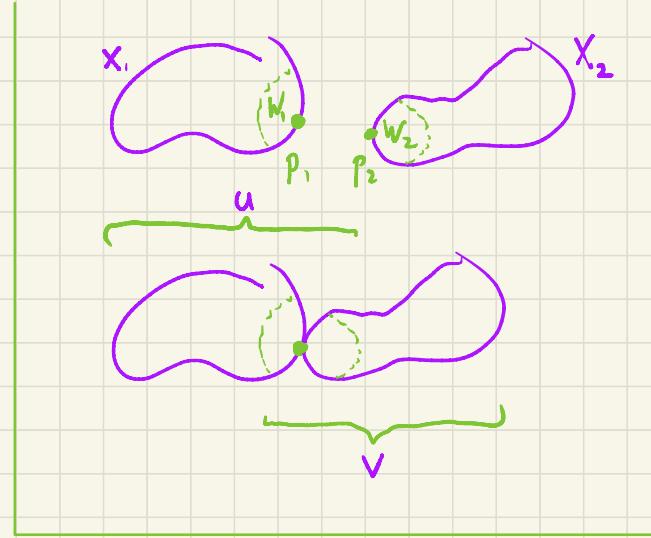
Since  $U \cap V$  is simply conn'd,

$$\text{special case 1} \Rightarrow \pi_1(U, *) * \pi_1(V, *) \xrightarrow{\cong} \pi_1(X_1 \vee X_2, *)$$

$$\cong \uparrow$$

$$\pi_1(X_1, p_1) * \pi_1(X_2, p_2)$$

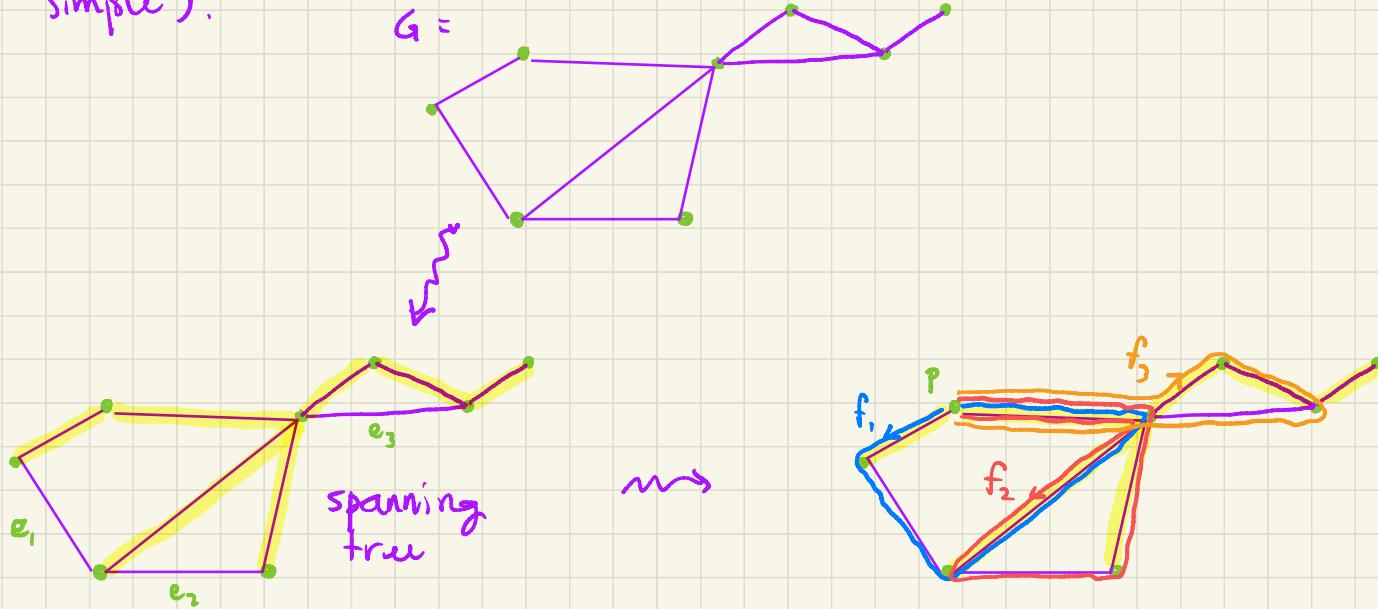
For the gen case, induce. □



$$\text{E.g. } \pi_1(\underbrace{S^1 \vee \dots \vee S^1}_n, *) \cong F([w_1], [w_2], \dots, [w_n]).$$

## Graphs (informally)

A graph is a CW complex of dimn  $\leq 1$  (undirected, not necessarily simple).



By SVK,  $\pi_1(G, p) \cong F([f_1], [f_2], [f_3])$ .

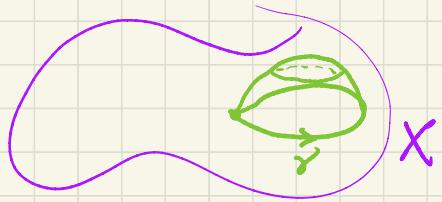
This works for all finite <sup>conn'd</sup> graphs:  $\pi_1(G, p) \cong$  free gp on  $n$  generators for  $n = \#$  edges not in spanning tree of conn'd component of  $p$ .

### $\pi_1(\text{CW cpxs})$

Prop (Attaching a disk)  $X = \text{path conn'd space}$ .

$$\begin{array}{ccc} \partial D & \xrightarrow{\varphi} & X \\ \downarrow & & \downarrow \\ \text{closed } 2\text{-cell} & \xrightarrow{\sim} D & \longrightarrow \tilde{X}, \end{array}$$

$v \in \partial D, \tilde{v} = \varphi(v) \in X,$   
 $\gamma = \varphi_*(\alpha) \in \pi_1(X, \tilde{v}) \text{ for}$   
 $\langle \alpha \rangle = \pi_1(\partial D, v).$



Then  $\pi_1(X, \tilde{v}) \xrightarrow{\text{surf}} \pi_1(\tilde{X}, \tilde{v})$  induced by  $X \hookrightarrow \tilde{X}$  with kernel  $\langle \overline{\gamma} \rangle$ .

If  $\pi_1(X, \tilde{v}) \cong \langle \beta_1, \dots, \beta_n \mid \sigma_1, \dots, \sigma_s \rangle$  then

$$\pi_1(\tilde{X}, \tilde{v}) \cong \langle \beta_1, \dots, \beta_n \mid \sigma_1, \dots, \sigma_s, \tau \rangle$$

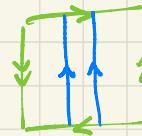
for  $\tau$  an expression for  $\gamma$  in terms of  $\{\beta_i\}$ .

$\circ \circ \circ \quad \left\{ \begin{array}{l} D \text{ kills } \gamma \\ \text{or} \\ D \text{ kills } \tau \end{array} \right.$

E.g.  $S^1 \xrightarrow[\tau]{\omega^2} S^1$   
 $\downarrow \qquad \downarrow$   
 $D^2 \longrightarrow RP^2$

$$\text{so } \pi_1(RP^2) = \omega^2 / \omega^{2\pi} \cong \mathbb{Z}/2\mathbb{Z}$$

Exe Check geometrically that

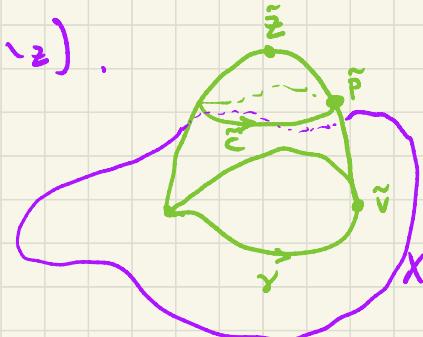


is path nullhomotopic.

Pf Sketch Take  $z \in D^\circ$ ,  $U = D^\circ$ ,  $V = X \sqcup (D \setminus z)$ .

Apply SK to  $\tilde{U} \cong *$ ,  $\tilde{V} = q(V) \cong \tilde{X}$ .  
 "dom"  $\tilde{X} \setminus \tilde{z}$

$$\text{Then } \pi_1(\tilde{X}, \tilde{p}) \cong \pi_1(\tilde{V}, \tilde{p}) / \langle [\tilde{c}] \rangle$$



by special case 2. Use a path from  $\tilde{p}$  to  $\tilde{v}$  to get the statement in terms of basepoint  $\tilde{v}$  and quotient by  $\langle \gamma \rangle$ .

Finally  $X$  is a dlf retract of  $\tilde{V}$  ( $b/c \partial D$  is a dlf retract of  $D \setminus z$ ) so we get the theorem.  $\square$

Prop Attaching an  $n$ -cell along its boundary does not alter  $\pi_1$ .

Pf Same but  $\tilde{U} \cap \tilde{V} \cong B^n \setminus O$  is simply conn'd.  $\square$

Thm  $X$  a conn'd finite CW cpx,  $v \in X_1$  is contained in the closure of every 2-cell. Let  $\beta_1, \dots, \beta_n$  generate  $\pi_1(X, v) = F(\beta_1, \dots, \beta_n)$

and let  $e_1, \dots, e_k$  be the 2-cells of  $X$ . For each  $i=1, \dots, k$

let  $\Phi_i : D_i \rightarrow X$  be a characteristic map for  $e_i$  taking  $v_i \in \partial D_i$  to  $v$ .

Let  $\Psi_i = \Phi_i|_{\partial D_i} : \partial D_i \rightarrow X$  be the attaching map, let

$\alpha_i$  generate  $\pi_1(\partial D_i, v_i)$ . and let  $\sigma_i$  be an expression for

$(\varphi_i)_{\alpha_i}(\alpha_i) \in \pi_1(X_i, v)$  in terms of  $\{\beta_i\}$ . Then

$$\pi_1(X, v) \cong \langle \alpha_1, \dots, \alpha_n \mid \sigma_1, \dots, \sigma_k \rangle. \quad \square$$