

# Geometry II

Felix Chen

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**Remark 0.0.1** — On the existence of triangulation

### §0.1 Homotopy

**Definition 0.1.1** (Homotopy). Given two continuous maps  $f, g : X \rightarrow Y$ , if there exists a continuous map

$$H : X \times [0, 1] \rightarrow Y$$

such that  $f = H_0, g = H_1$ , where  $H_t = H|_{X \times \{t\}}$ , then we say  $f$  and  $g$  are **homotopic**, denoted by  $f \simeq g$ , and the map  $H$  is a **homotopy**.

**Definition 0.1.2** (Relative homotopy). Let  $A \subset X$ ,  $f, g : X \rightarrow Y$ , and  $f|_A = g|_A$ . We say  $f$  and  $g$  are homotopic relative to  $A$  ( $f \simeq g \text{ rel } A$ ), if  $H$  satisfies  $H_t|_A = f|_A$ .

More often we'll talk about homotopy between paths, here by path we mean a map  $\gamma : [0, 1] \rightarrow X$ . We say two paths are homotopic if they are homotopic relative to the endpoints (i.e.  $\{0, 1\}$ ).

#### Proposition 0.1.3

The homotopic relation is an equivalence relation.

Besides studying the homotopy of maps, we can also consider the homotopy between spaces:

**Definition 0.1.4.** We say two topological spaces  $X, Y$  are **homotopy equivalent** or have the same **homotopy type**, if there exists  $f : X \rightarrow Y$ ,  $g : Y \rightarrow X$ , such that

$$f \circ g = \text{id}_Y, \quad g \circ f = \text{id}_X.$$

#### Example 0.1.5

The following spaces are homotopy equivalent:



**Definition 0.1.6** (Fundamental groups). Let  $\Omega(X, x_0)$  denote all the loops starting at  $x_0$ , i.e.  $\gamma : [0, 1] \rightarrow X$  with  $\gamma(0) = \gamma(1) = x_0$ .

Define the **fundamental group** of  $X$  to be:

$$\pi_1(X, x_0) = \Omega(X, x_0) / \simeq,$$

where  $\simeq$  is the homotopy relative to  $x_0$ .

We define the group operation to be the *concatenation* of paths, denoted by  $(a, b) \mapsto ab$ , where

$$ab(t) = \begin{cases} a(2t), & t \in [0, \frac{1}{2}]; \\ b(2t - 1), & t \in [\frac{1}{2}, 1]. \end{cases}$$

**Proposition 0.1.7**

The concatenation descends to a well-defined group operation:

$$\pi_1(X, x_0) \times \pi_1(X, x_0) \rightarrow \pi_1(X, x_0).$$

*Proof.* Just some trivial checking. Note that the inverse of  $a$  is just  $\bar{a}(t) := a(1 - t)$ .  $\square$

**Proposition 0.1.8**

An homeomorphism  $f : (X, x_0) \rightarrow (Y, y_0)$  will induce a group homomorphism  $f_\# : \pi_1(X, x_0) \rightarrow \pi_1(Y, y_0)$ .

Note that  $X$  may be disconnected, so the fundamental group is dependent of the base point  $x_0$ . If  $\gamma = \langle c \rangle$  is a homotopy class of paths from  $x_0$  to  $x_1$ , then  $\gamma$  induces a group homomorphism:

$$\gamma_\# : \pi_1(X, x_0) \rightarrow \pi_1(X, x_1) : \langle a \rangle \mapsto \langle \bar{c}ac \rangle.$$

It's easy to see  $\gamma_\#$  is an isomorphism.

Hence  $\pi_1(X, x_0)$  only depends on the path connected components of  $x_0$ . Thus if  $X$  is path connected, and  $X, Y$  are homotopy equivalent, then  $\pi_1(X, x_0) \cong \pi_1(Y, y_0)$ , or sometimes we can leave the base point out, just write  $\pi_1(X) \cong \pi_1(Y)$ .

**Remark 0.1.9** — If  $x_0 = x_1$ , then  $\gamma \mapsto \gamma_\#$  gives a homomorphism  $\pi_1(X, x_0) \rightarrow \text{Aut}(\pi_1(X, x_0))$ .

**Example 0.1.10**

If  $X \simeq \{pt\}$ , then  $\pi_1(X) \cong \{1\}$ . In this case,  $X$  is called a **contractible space**. Note that the inverse is not true, e.g.  $X = S^n$  for  $n \geq 2$ . Path connected spaces with trivial fundamental group are called **simple connected** spaces.

Some classic contractible space includes convex sets in  $\mathbb{R}^n$ , trees in graph theory and cones  $CX = X \times [0, 1] / X \times \{1\}$ .

Some more complex contractible examples including “a house with two rooms”, the equitorial inclusion  $S^\infty = \bigcup_{n=0}^\infty S^n$  with limit topology, i.e. the largest topology s.t.  $S^n \rightarrow S^\infty$  continuous.

There are several concepts:

- Retraction:  $f : X \rightarrow A$ ,  $A \subset X$ ,  $f|_A = \text{id}_A$ .
- Deformation retraction:  $f$  as above with  $i \circ f \simeq \text{id}_X$ , where  $i : A \rightarrow X$  is the inclusion.
- Strong deformation retraction:  $f$  as above with  $i \circ f \simeq \text{id}_X \text{ rel } A$ .

The set  $A$  is called (strong) deformation kernel of  $f$ .

**Example 0.1.11** (Differences between deformation and strong deformation)

Let  $X$  be the following space:

$$([0, 1] \times \{0\}) \cup ([0, 1]_{\mathbb{Q}} \times [0, 1])$$

We know  $X \simeq \{pt\}$ , but  $\{q\} \times [0, 1]$  is deformation kernel but not strong deformation kernel.

## §0.2 Fundamental groups

After introducing the fundamental groups, a natural question arises: how to compute the fundamental group of a given space? We first state the main result of this section:

**Theorem 0.2.1** (Van Kampen)

Let  $X = U' \cup U''$  be a topology space such that  $U', U''$  are open and  $W = U' \cap U''$  path connected, then for  $x_0 \in W$ , we have

$$\pi_1(X, x_0) \cong \pi_1(U', x_0) * \pi_1(U'', x_0) / N,$$

where  $N$  is the smallest normal subgroup generated by

$$i'_\#(\delta) i''_\#(\delta^{-1}) : \delta \in \pi_1(W, x_0),$$

$$\begin{array}{ccccc} & & U' & & \\ & i' \nearrow & & \searrow j' & \\ W & & & & X \\ & i'' \searrow & & \nearrow j'' & \\ & & U'' & & \end{array}$$

and  $*$  means free product.

Note that this theorem is useless when both  $U', U''$  have trivial fundamental groups. Thus we need to find a space with nontrivial fundamental group first. One of the simplest example is  $S^1$ :

$$\pi_1(S^n, x_0) \cong \begin{cases} \{1\}, & n \geq 2, \\ \mathbb{Z}, & n = 1. \end{cases}$$

Let  $X \vee Y := X \sqcup Y / (x_0 = y_0)$ , then  $\pi_1(X \vee Y) = \pi_1(X) * \pi_1(Y)$ . Thus  $\pi_1(\underbrace{S^1 \vee \cdots \vee S^1}_k) = \mathbb{Z} * \cdots * \mathbb{Z} = \mathbb{F}_k$ , the free group of rank  $k$ .

**Example 0.2.2**

Since  $nT^2$  is formed by  $2n$  loops (borders of the polynomial representation) fused with a disk. Note that  $W = U' \cap U'' \cong S^1$ , so

$$\pi_1(nT^2) = \langle a_1, b_1, \dots, a_n, b_n \mid [a_1, b_1] \cdots [a_n, b_n] = 1 \rangle.$$

Similarly,

$$\pi_1(mP^2) = \langle c_1, \dots, c_m \mid c_1^2 \cdots c_m^2 = 1 \rangle.$$

**Example 0.2.3**

For product spaces, we have

$$\pi_1(X \times Y, (x_0, y_0)) \cong \pi_1(X, x_0) \times \pi_1(Y, y_0).$$

In fact the isomorphism can be written down with  $i_x, i_y, p_x, p_y$ , i.e.  $p_{x\#} \times p_{y\#}$  and  $(i_{x\#}, i_{y\#})$ .

**Theorem 0.2.4**

$\pi_1(S^1) \cong \mathbb{Z}$ , where the generating element is id.

*Proof.* Consider the map  $p : \mathbb{R} \rightarrow S^1$ , with  $t \mapsto e^{2\pi it}$ .

Given any path  $\gamma : [0, 1] \rightarrow S^1$ , we can find a unique path  $\tilde{\gamma} : [0, 1] \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ , s.t.  $\tilde{\gamma}(0) \in \mathbb{Z}$  is any given base point. We denote this map by  $\Phi$ ,  $\gamma \mapsto \tilde{\gamma}(1)$ , where we require  $\tilde{\gamma}(0) = 0$ .

We can prove that  $\Phi(\alpha\beta) = \Phi(\alpha) + \Phi(\beta)$ , and  $\Phi$  only depends on the homotopy class of  $\gamma$ , so  $\Phi$  induces a homomorphism of  $\pi_1(S^1) \rightarrow \mathbb{Z}$ .

**Remark 0.2.5** — Since every homotopy  $[0, 1] \times [0, 1] \rightarrow S^1$  can be lifted uniquely, and the endpoints of each path form a path in  $\mathbb{R}$ , but it's always contained in  $\mathbb{Z}$ , hence it must be constant.

Note that

- $\Phi$  is surjective since  $s \mapsto e^{2\pi i ms}$  is mapped to  $m$  under  $\Phi$ ;
- $\Phi$  is injective since  $\ker \Phi = \{1\}$ : if  $\tilde{\gamma}(1) = 0$ , then  $\tilde{\gamma} \simeq \text{const}$ , so  $\gamma = p \circ \tilde{\gamma} \simeq \text{const}$ .

So  $\Phi$  is an isomorphism,  $\pi_1(S^1) \cong \mathbb{Z}$ . □

Next we'll prove Van Kampen theorem (0.2.1). In fact we only need to prove that:

**Claim 0.2.6.** The map

$$j'_\# * j''_\# : \pi_1(U', x_0) * \pi_1(U'', x_0) \rightarrow \pi_1(X, x_0)$$

is a surjective homomorphism, and its kernel is the normal closure generated by  $i'_\#(\delta)i''_\#(\bar{\delta})$ .

Clearly it's a group homomorphism.

For any  $\gamma \in \pi_1(X, x_0)$ , it can be decompose to  $a_1 b_1 a_2 \cdots a_k b_k$ , where  $a_i \subset U', b_i \subset U''$ , let the partition points be  $p_1, \dots, p_k, q_1, \dots, q_k \in W$ , and denote  $s_i, t_i$  the path from  $x_0$  to  $p_i, q_i$ . So we have

$$\gamma = \underbrace{a_1 \bar{s}_1}_{\in \pi_1(U', x_0)} \cdot \underbrace{s_1 b_1 \bar{t}_1}_{\in \pi_1(U'', x_0)} \cdots$$

Thus  $j'_\# * j''_\#$  is indeed surjective.

At last we'll study its kernel, let  $\gamma \in \ker j'_\# * j''_\#$ . Since  $\gamma \simeq \{x_0\}$ , say the homotopy is  $H : [0, 1] \times [0, 1] \rightarrow U' \cup U''$ .

We can partition  $[0, 1] \times [0, 1]$  to many small cells such that each cell's image is completely contained in either  $U'$  or  $U''$ .

TODO

Using the “word processing” method, since we've showed that  $\gamma = \alpha_1 \beta_1 \cdots$  where  $\alpha_i \subset U', \beta_i \subset U''$ . So actually we're saying that

$$\gamma = i'_\#(\alpha_1) i''_\#(\beta_1) \cdots$$

if we some  $\delta \subset U' \cap U''$ , then the conjugate of  $i'_\#(\delta) i''_\#(\delta)^{-1}$  can change  $\cdots i'_\#(\delta) \cdots$  to  $\cdots i''_\#(\delta) \cdots$ .

Thus if  $\gamma$  is in the kernel, it can indeed be written as a product of conjugates of  $i'_\#(\delta) i''_\#(\delta)^{-1}$ .

**Remark 0.2.7** — A more frequently used version is that  $W$  is a strong deformation kernel of some open neighborhood in  $X$ .

### Example 0.2.8

For any finite representation of a group

$$G = \langle x_1, \dots, x_n \mid R_1, \dots, R_n \rangle,$$

$G$  can be realized as the fundamental groups of a space: Let  $X$  be a CW-complex with a single 0-cell,  $n$  1-cells corresponding to  $x_i$ , and  $m$  2-cells corresponding to  $R_i$ .

**Remark 0.2.9** — The path connected condition of  $W$  can't be removed, e.g. two segments can fuse to  $S^1$ .

### Example 0.2.10

Let  $f : S \rightarrow S$  be a homeomorphism, where  $S$  is a closed surface. Consider the *mapping torus*:

$$M_f = S \times [0, 1] / \sim,$$

where  $(0, 0) \sim (f(x), 1)$ .

Let  $Y = S \times \{0\} \cup (\{x_0\} \times [0, 1])$ ,  $U'$  is an open neighborhood of  $Y$ ,  $U'' = M_f \setminus Y$ .

Observe that  $U' \simeq S \vee \text{circle}$ , and  $U'' \simeq (S \setminus \text{disk}) \times (\varepsilon, 1 - \varepsilon) \simeq S \setminus \text{disk}$ .

$$\pi_1(M_f) \cong \pi_1(X) * \langle t \rangle / (g \sim t f_\#(g) t^{-1}) \cong \pi_1(S) \rtimes_{f_\#} \langle t \rangle$$

Seifert-vanKampen: if  $i'_\#, i''_\#$  are both injective, then  $j'_\#, j''_\#$  are also injective.

Next we'll see some applications of fundamental groups:

- Brouwer fixed point theorem: A continuous map  $f : D^n \rightarrow D^n$  must have a fixed point.
- Invariance of the boundary: If  $x \in X$  has a neighborhood homeomorphic to  $\mathbb{R}^{n-1} \times [0, +\infty)$ , s.t.  $x \in \mathbb{R}^{n-1} \times \{0\}$ , then  $x$  doesn't have a neighborhood homeomorphic to  $\mathbb{R}^n$ .
- Invariance of regions: If  $U \subset \mathbb{R}^n$  open,  $f : U \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^n$  is a continuous injection, then  $f(U)$  is also open, i.e.  $f : U \rightarrow f(U)$  is a homeomorphism.

Here we can only prove the case  $n = 2$ , since the complete proof need homotopy groups of rank  $n$  (i.e.  $\pi_n$ ), but here we only introduced  $\pi_1$ . However, the idea is nearly identical.

*Proof.* Assume by contradiction that  $f$  has no fixed points, let  $g(x) = \frac{x-f(x)}{\|x-f(x)\|}$ , then  $g : D^n \rightarrow S^{n-1}$  is a deformation. Thus  $g_\# : \pi_1(D^2) \rightarrow \pi_1(S^1)$ , but  $\pi_1(D^2) = \{1\}, \pi_1(S^1) = \mathbb{Z}$ , contradiction!  $\square$