

Review fix a top space X with basept x

$$\pi_1(X, x) = \{[\gamma] \mid \text{loops } \gamma \text{ in } X \text{ based at } x\}$$

for any pointed cts map $f : (X, x)$ to (Y, y) , have a

homomorphism $f_* : \pi_1(X, x)$ to $\pi_1(Y, y)$

defined by $f_*([\gamma]) = [f \circ \gamma]$

Thm for any $f : (X, x)$ to (Y, y) ,
 $g : (Y, y)$ to (Z, z) ,

we have

$$(g \circ f)_* = g_* \circ f_* : \pi_1(X, x) \text{ to } \pi_1(Z, z)$$

Pf

$$\begin{aligned}(g_* \circ f_*)([\gamma]) &= [g \circ (f \circ \gamma)] \\ &= [(g \circ f) \circ \gamma] \\ &= (g \circ f)_*([\gamma]) \quad \square\end{aligned}$$

[why “thm” if so easy? more useful than it seems]

Cor if f is a (pointed) homeomorphism
then f_* is a group isomorphism

Pf if $g = f^{-1}$, then $g_* = f_*^{-1}$

today: $\pi_1(\mathbb{R}^n, x)$, $\pi_1(S^n, x)$
for any $n \geq 0$

hard case: S^1

[some details will be left till much later]

(Munkres \approx §52, 54) [but I am skipping around]

Df we say X is simply connected iff
 X is path connected and
 $\pi_1(X, x)$ is trivial for some/any x

Thm for all $n \geq 0$, every convex subspace
 $A \subset \mathbb{R}^n$ is simply connected

in fact, generalizes to star-convex A

- convex: for all a, b in A , the segment between a and b stays in A
- star-convex: there is some a in A s.t., for all b in A , the segment between a and b stays in A

[note: line segments given by $(1 - t)a + tb$]
the claim for star-convex A will be PS7, #4 part (2)

Idea of Pf path-connectedness easy

use the “straight-line nulhomotopy” from any γ to the constant loop

formally, the n -sphere is

$$S^n = \{(x_0, x_1, \dots, x_n) \mid \sum_i x_i^2 = 1\}$$

in the subspace topology from analytic \mathbb{R}^{n+1}

note that S^n is path connected,
but not star-convex, let alone convex

Thm for any $n \geq 2$, the n -sphere
is simply connected

Naïve Pf Idea [Munkres 370, #2]

pick a basepoint x

pick a loop $\gamma : [0, 1] \rightarrow S^n$ based at x

pick a point p in S^n not in $\text{im}(\gamma)$

there is a homeomorphism $S^n - \{p\} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^n$:

namely, stereographic projection

[how to finish?] \mathbb{R}^n is simply-connected

so $[\gamma] = [e_x]$ [i.e., γ nullhomotopic] in $S^n - \{p\}$

hence $[\gamma] = [e_x]$ in S^n

[but where did we use $n \geq 2$?]

Problem how do we know p exists?
there are awful things called
space-filling curves...

Claim if $n \geq 2$, then any loop based at x is
path-homotopic to a non-surjective loop

fix the loop γ based at x

fix open hemispheres B and C s.t.

$$B \cup C = S^n$$

$B \cap C$ is homeo to an open annulus

$$S^{n-1} \times (-\varepsilon, \varepsilon)$$

$x \in B \cap C$

note that $C - B$ is nonempty

[draw this]

we will path-homotope γ to a loop avoiding $C - B$
[idea: look at where γ crosses between B and C]

for all s in $[0, 1]$, pick $\delta_s > 0$ small enough that
if $U_s = (s - \delta_s, s + \delta_s)$, then either
 $\gamma(U_s) \subset B$ or $\gamma(U_s) \subset C$
[possible bc B, C are open]

then $\{U_s\}_s$ is an open cover of $[0, 1]$
so it has a finite subcover $\{U_{s_j}\}_{0 \leq j \leq N}$

after removing elts, can assume no U_{s_j}
contains another

after merging elts, can assume that
if $\gamma(U_{s_j}) \subset B$, then $\gamma(U_{s_{j+1}}) \subset C$,
and vice versa

let t_j in $U_{s_j} \cap U_{s_{j+1}}$ for $0 \leq j \leq N - 1$
now we have [draw]

$$0 = t_0 < t_1 < t_2 < \dots < t_{N-1} < t_N = 1$$

s.t. for all j , $\gamma(t_j)$ in $B \cap C$
and either $\gamma([t_j, t_{j+1}]) \subset B$
or $\gamma([t_j, t_{j+1}]) \subset C$

for j s.t. $\gamma([t_j, t_{j+1}]) \subset C$,
we path-homotope that restriction of γ
to a path between t_j and t_{j+1} inside $B \cap C$
[as $B \cap C = S^{n-1} \times (-\varepsilon, \varepsilon)$, this uses $n \geq 2$]
after gluing, get the desired loop avoiding $C - B$ \square

first part of this argument adapts to a proof of:

Thm if $i : B \rightarrow X$ and $j : C \rightarrow X$ are inclusions of open subsets s.t.
 $X = B \cup C$,
 $B \cap C$ is path-connected,
 then for all $x \in B \cap C$, the images of

$$i_* : \pi_1(B, x) \rightarrow \pi_1(X, x),$$

$$j_* : \pi_1(C, x) \rightarrow \pi_1(X, x)$$

together generate $\pi_1(X, x)$

that is: every elt of $\pi_1(X, x)$ is a (finite) iterated composition of elts of $\text{im}(i_*)$ and $\text{im}(j_*)$

Cor if B and C are simply connected above,
 then X is simply connected

Rem PS7, #8 asks for a setup where
 X is simply connected but B, C are not

Rem turns out: if $B, C \subset S^1$ are open s.t.
 $S^1 = B \cup C$,
 $B \cap C$ is path-connected,
 then either $B = S^1$ or $C = S^1$
 so thm does not give insight for $X = S^1$

Thm $\pi_1(S^1, x)$ is [what?] isomphc to $(\mathbb{Z}, +)$
 for any $x \in S^1$

say $x = (1, 0)$ in $S^1 \subset \mathbb{R}^2$

[what map $\mathbb{Z} \rightarrow \pi_1(S^1, x)$ gives the iso?]

for all n in \mathbb{Z} , let $\omega_n : [0, 1] \rightarrow S^1$ be def by

$$\omega_n(s) = (\cos(2\pi ns), \sin(2\pi ns))$$

then take $\Phi(n) = [\omega_n]$

Claim 1 Φ is a homomorphism $\mathbb{Z} \rightarrow \pi_1(S^1, x)$

Claim 2 Φ is bijective

Pf of Claim 1 want $[\omega_m] * [\omega_n] = [\omega_{m+n}]$

let $p : \mathbb{R} \rightarrow S^1$ be $p(x) = (\cos(2\pi x), \sin(2\pi x))$

[draw]

for any a, b in \mathbb{Z} , let $\omega_{\{a, b\}} : [0, 1] \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ be

$$\omega_{\{a, b\}}(s) = (1 - s)a + sb$$

if $b - a = n$, then $\omega_n = p \circ \omega_{\{a, b\}}$
so it remains to show

$$[\omega_{\{a, b\}}] * [\omega_{\{b, c\}}] = [\omega_{\{a, c\}}]$$

this is easier