

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  $\gamma$  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.,  $\gamma$  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  $\gamma$  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  $\gamma$  to a loop avoiding  $C - B$   
[idea: look at where  $\gamma$  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  $\gamma$   
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  $x \in B \cap C$ ,

every elt of  $\pi_1(X, x)$  is a (finite) iterated composition of elts of the images of

$$\begin{aligned} i_* : \pi_1(B, x) &\rightarrow \pi_1(X, x), \\ j_* : \pi_1(C, x) &\rightarrow \pi_1(X, x) \end{aligned}$$

that is:  $\text{im}(i_*)$ ,  $\text{im}(j_*)$  jointly generate  $\pi_1(X, x)$

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

Claim 2  $\Phi$  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