

Defn Let X, Y be top. sp and let $f: X \rightarrow Y$ be cts.

to say f is null-homotopic in Y means f is homotopic in Y to some constant map from X into Y .

If f is null-homotopic in Y , $f(X) \subseteq \underbrace{[[q]]}_{\text{path component of } q \text{ in } Y}$ for some $q \in X$.

and $\forall r \in Y$, f is homotopic in Y to the fn $\begin{matrix} X \\ \downarrow \\ X \end{matrix} \xrightarrow{f_r} r$ iff $r \in [[q]]$.

Pf: Suppose $H: f \simeq g_r$ in Y . Then $\forall x \in X$, the map $\begin{matrix} [0,1] \\ \downarrow \\ t \end{matrix} \mapsto H(x,t) \in Y$ is a cts path from $f(x)$ to $g_r(x) = r$, etc. \square

Notation. $\mathbb{C}^* = \mathbb{C} \setminus \{0\}$.

g Let X be a top. sp. and let $f: X \rightarrow \mathbb{C}^*$ be cts.

then f is null-homotopic in \mathbb{C}^* iff $f \simeq 1$ in \mathbb{C}^* .

EG let X be a top. sp. and let $f: X \rightarrow \mathbb{C}^*$ be cts.

Suppose there is a branch of $\log f$. Then f is null-homotopic.

Pf let g be the branch of $\log f$. $g: X \rightarrow \mathbb{C}$, g is cts,

and $e^g = f$. Let $H(x,t) = (1-t)g(x)$. $H: g \simeq 0$ in \mathbb{C}

or $H: X \times [0,1] \rightarrow \mathbb{C}^*$ by $H(x,t) = e^{(1-t)g(x)}$. $H: f \simeq 1$ in \mathbb{C}^* .

Conversely, let X be a topological space. let $f: X \xrightarrow{\text{cts}} \mathbb{C}^*$, and suppose $f \simeq 1$ in \mathbb{C}^* .

Then there is a branch of $\log f$.

(to be proved soon)

Reminder Let X be a top. sp., let $f: X \rightarrow \mathbb{C}^*$ be cts, and suppose g_1, g_2 are branches of $\log f$. Then $g_2 = g_1 + 2\pi i k$ where $k: X \rightarrow \mathbb{Z}$ is continuous (and so locally constant). Hence if X is connected, k is constant.

eg let $V = \{z \in \mathbb{C} : \operatorname{Re} z > 0\}$. There is a branch of $\log z$ in V ,

it is $\text{Log } z = \ln |z| + i \underset{\text{Arg } z}{\text{Arg } z} = g(z)$
 $\tan^{-1} \left(\frac{\text{Im } z}{\text{Re } z} \right)$

eg let V, g be as in the preceding example.

let $a \in \{i, -1, -i\}$. Then there is a branch of $\log z$ in aV .

Pf define g_a on aV by $g_a(z) = g(\frac{z}{a}) + b$ where $b = \begin{cases} i\frac{\pi}{2} & \text{if } a = i \\ i\pi & \text{if } a = -i \\ -i\frac{\pi}{2} & \text{if } a = -i \end{cases}$

Remark in $V \cap iV$, g and g_i

must agree, in V_{n-iV}, g, g_i

argue. Define G on $V_n \cup V_{n-1} \cup \dots \cup V_1$

$$G(z) = \begin{Bmatrix} g & v \\ g_i & i v \\ j_i & -i v \end{Bmatrix} \quad \int \frac{|g|}{g}$$

G is a branch of $\log z$ in $V_n \cup V_{n-1} \cup \dots \cup V_1$.

Notation: $\forall z \in \mathbb{C}^*$ $\text{Log } z = \ln |z| + i\theta$ where $\theta \in (-\pi, \pi]$.

on $V \cap iV \cap -iV$, Log agrees w/ G .

$$g' = \frac{f'}{f}$$

the principal logarithm.

$$g = \log f$$

Remark Likewise, $\forall \theta \in \mathbb{R}$, there is a branch of $\log z$ in $e^{i\theta}V$.

Hence $\forall z_0 \in \mathbb{C}^*$, there is a branch of $\log z$

$$\text{in } D(z_0, |z_0|) \subseteq e^{i\arg z_0} V.$$

$$\log f =$$

$$\sqrt{f} = e^{\frac{1}{2}\log f}$$

$$\log \sqrt{f} = \frac{1}{2} \log f$$

Theorem Let $f : [0,1] \rightarrow \mathbb{C}^*$ be cts.

Then there is a branch of $\log f$.

$$2 \log \sqrt{f} = \log f$$

Pf Let $E = \{a \in [0,1] : \text{there is a branch of } \log(f|_{[0,a]})\}$.

$$\log \sqrt{f}$$

$0 \in E$ since we can take $\log f = \log(f(0))$.

Suppose $a \in E$, $a < 1$. Then $f(a)$ is nonzero so \exists branch of $\log z$ in $D(f(a), |f(a)|)$, call it h .

let g be a branch of $\log(f|_{[0,a]})$. $g(a)$ and $h(f(a))$ are both

logarithms of a , so $\exists k \in \mathbb{Z}$ s.t. $h(f(a)) = g(a) + 2\pi i k$. replace h by $h - 2\pi i k$ so $h(f(a)) = g(a)$. Since f is cts, $\exists b \in (a,1]$ s.t. $f([a,b]) \subseteq D$.

So we can take $\tilde{g}(x) = \begin{cases} g(x) & x \leq a \\ h(f(x)) & x > a \end{cases}$ on $[0,b]$. Thus $b \in E$.

Suppose $\forall x < 1$, $x \in E$ (for some $b \in (0,1]$). f is cts at 1 so

\exists an $a < 1$ s.t. $f([a,1]) \subseteq D$. then let $\tilde{g} = \begin{cases} g & x < a \\ h \circ f & x \geq a \end{cases}$ so $b \in E$

thus $E = [0,1]$ so \exists a log of f in \mathbb{C}^* . \square