

path connected / path
components of X

path composition:

$$f: I \rightarrow X$$

$$g: I \rightarrow X$$



$$f \cdot g: I \rightarrow X$$

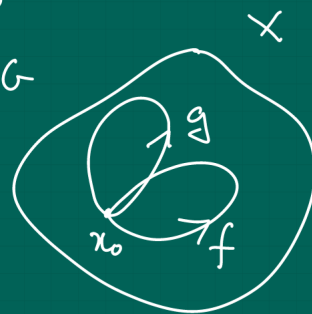
$$f \cdot g(t) = \begin{cases} f(2t) & 0 \leq t \leq \frac{1}{2} \\ g(2t-1) & \frac{1}{2} \leq t \leq 1 \end{cases}$$

Recall G group

operation $G \times G \rightarrow G$

- identity
- inverses
- associativity

not necessarily
abelian



Fundamental group

intuition



Defn two loops are equivalent
if they are homotopic rel endpoints
REL(ATIVE TO)

Propⁿ This is an equivalence
relation on loops

Proof · reflexive $f \sim f$

$$F(x, t) = f(x)$$

· symmetry $f \sim g \Rightarrow g \sim f$

$$f \sim g \Rightarrow F: I \times I \longrightarrow X$$

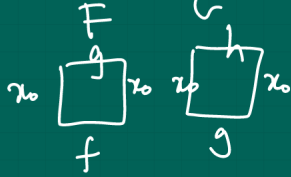
$$\begin{array}{ccc} x_0 & \square & x_0 \\ & \uparrow g & \\ & f & \end{array}$$

consider $\bar{F}: I \times I \longrightarrow X$

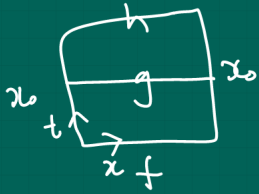
$$\bar{F}(x, t) = F(x, 1-t)$$

$$\begin{array}{ccc} x_0 & \square & x_0 \\ & \uparrow f & \\ & g & \end{array} \Rightarrow g \sim f$$

• transitive $f \simeq g, g \simeq h, f \simeq h$



$$H: I \times I \rightarrow X$$



$$H(x, t) =$$

$$F(x, t) \quad 0 \leq t \leq \frac{1}{2}$$

$$G(x, 2t-1) \quad \frac{1}{2} \leq t \leq 1$$

Notation fundamental group $\pi_1(X, x_0)$

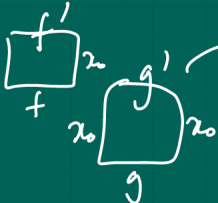
as a set: equivalence classes of loops up to homotopy rel endpoints

operation: path composition

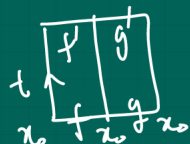
$$[f][g] = [f \cdot g]$$

check well defined, i.e.

$f \simeq f', g \simeq g'$ then $f \cdot g \simeq f' \cdot g'$

$f \simeq f'$ by F  $\rightarrow X$
 $g \simeq g'$ by G 

define $H: I \times I \rightarrow X$



$H(x, t) =$

$F(2x, t) \quad 0 \leq x \leq \frac{1}{2}$

$G(2x-1, t) \quad \frac{1}{2} \leq x \leq 1$

so $[f][g] = [f \cdot g]$ well defined $\square$

set: loops, homotopy rel endpoints

operation: $[f][g] = [f \cdot g]$

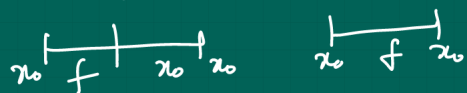
check group properties

Defn $e: I \rightarrow X$ constant loop
 $x \mapsto x_0$

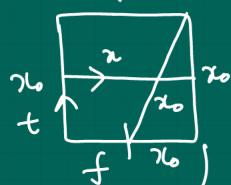
Claim $[e]$ is the group identity

$[e][f] = [e] = [f][e]$

check $[f]^n[e] = [f]$



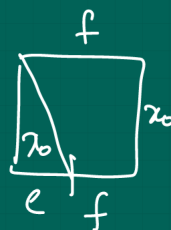
want $f \cdot e \simeq f$



$F(x, t) =$

$$\begin{cases} x_0 & \text{if } x \geq \frac{1}{2}t + \frac{1}{2} \\ f(x(2-t)) & x \leq \frac{1}{2}t + \frac{1}{2} \end{cases}$$

also $e \cdot f = f$



identity ✓

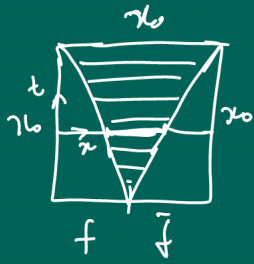
inverses

$$f: I \longrightarrow X \quad f \begin{matrix} \uparrow \\ \downarrow \end{matrix} \bar{f}$$

$$\bar{f}: I \longrightarrow X$$

$$\bar{f}(x) = f(1-x)$$

claim $[f][\bar{f}] = [e]$



want

$$f \cdot \bar{f} \simeq e$$



$$F(x, t) = \begin{cases} f(2x) & 0 \leq x \leq \frac{1-t}{2} \\ \bar{f}(\frac{1-t}{2}) & \text{otherwise} \\ \bar{f}(2x) & \frac{1+t}{2} \leq x \leq 1 \end{cases}$$

$$\text{so } f \cdot \bar{f} \simeq e$$

associativity $[f](g)(h)$
 $\simeq ([f](g))(h)$

$$f \cdot (g \cdot h) \simeq (f \cdot g) \cdot h$$



Conclusion we have defined
the fundamental group

$$\pi_1(X, x_0)$$

Examples

X contractible $\pi_1(X, x_0) = 1$

$$\pi_1(S^2) = 1$$

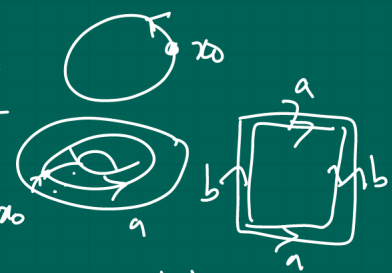


$$\pi_1(S^1) \cong \mathbb{Z}$$

$$\pi_1(S^1 \times S^1) \cong \mathbb{Z}^2$$

$$a \cdot b = b \cdot a$$

$$\pi_1(S^1 \vee S^1) = F_2 = \langle a, b \rangle$$



↑ free (non-abelian)
group on two
generators

$$F_2 = \langle a, b \rangle$$

set: all finite strings/
lists of letters in
 $\{a, b, a^{-1}, b^{-1}\}$

abbbab a^{-1} a^{-1} bb b^{-1} b^{-1}
up to equivalence:
 $uaa^{-1}v \sim uv$
 $ua^{-1}av \sim uv$

$$ubb^{-1}v \sim uv$$

$$ub^{-1}bv \sim uv$$

operation concatenation

example

$$\underbrace{ab\bar{a}b^{-1}}_g \quad \underbrace{bbbb\bar{a}a}_h$$

$$gh = ab\bar{a}b^{-1}bbbb\bar{a}a$$

$$\sim ab\bar{a}bbbb\bar{a}a$$

identity $e = \phi$

inverses $a a^{-1} = \phi = 1$

in general

$$(abab^{-1})^{-1} = a^{-1}b^{-1}a^{-1}b^{-1}$$

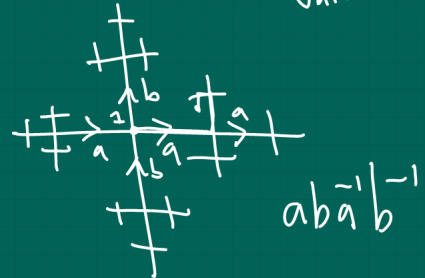
$$\underbrace{abab^{-1}a^{-1}b^{-1}a^{-1}b^{-1}}_{\phi=1}$$

associativity $\checkmark$.

$$\begin{array}{c} \text{a} \\ \curvearrowright \\ \text{b} \end{array} \quad ab \neq ba$$

Geometric model

infinite 4-valent tree



Thm $f: X \rightarrow Y$ cts

s.t. $f(x_0) = y_0$

induces a homomorphism

$$f_*: \pi_1(X, x_0) \rightarrow \pi_1(Y, y_0)$$

Furthermore, $f \simeq g$

$$\Rightarrow f_* = g_*$$

$$\gamma: I \rightarrow X$$

$$[\gamma] \mapsto [f \circ \gamma]$$

$$I \xrightarrow{\gamma} X \xrightarrow{f} Y$$

$$f \circ \gamma: I \rightarrow Y.$$