

Given spaces X, Y

$$\mathcal{C}(X, Y) = \left\{ \begin{array}{l} \text{all continuous mappings} \\ X \longrightarrow Y \end{array} \right\}$$

For $f, g \in \mathcal{C}(X, Y)$, $f \approx g$ if

\exists continuous $H: X \times [0, 1] \longrightarrow Y$

$$\left. \begin{array}{l} f(x) = H(x, 0) \\ g(x) = H(x, 1) \end{array} \right\} \forall x \in X$$

$$[X, Y] = \mathcal{C}(X, Y) / \approx$$

Examples

① $Y = \mathbb{R}^n$, $n \geq 1$; or star-shaped

$X = \text{any space}$

$c: X \longrightarrow Y$, $c(x) = 0 \in \mathbb{R}^n$ constant

$$[X, \mathbb{R}^n] = \text{singleton} = \{[c]\}$$

Every $f: X \longrightarrow \mathbb{R}^n$, $f \approx c$

② $X = S^1$, $Y = \mathbb{C} \setminus \{0\} = \mathbb{R}^2 \setminus \{(0,0)\}$

$f \in \mathcal{C}(S^1, \mathbb{C} \setminus \{0\}) \longmapsto$ Invariant $\in \mathbb{Z}$
winding number

$$\# [S^1, \mathbb{C} \setminus \{0\}] \cong \# \mathbb{Z}$$

$$\# [S^1, \mathbb{R}^n] = 1$$

Expect: $\mathbb{C} \setminus \{0\} \neq \mathbb{R}^n$

Theorem you need!

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then \forall space X , $[X, Y_1], [X, Y_2]$ are bijective

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then \forall space Y , $[X_1, Y], [X_2, Y]$ are bijective

Idea of proof

Let $\varphi: Y_1 \rightarrow Y_2$ be a homeomorphism

Define $\varphi_{\#}: [X, Y_1] \rightarrow [X, Y_2]$ by

$$[f] \longmapsto [\varphi \circ f]$$

$$\begin{array}{ccc} : X \rightarrow Y_1 & & : X \rightarrow Y_1 \rightarrow Y_2 \end{array}$$

Qu. What do we need to check?

(i) $\varphi_{\#}$ is well-defined, i.e. $[f] = [g] \Rightarrow [\varphi f] = [\varphi g]$

(ii) 1-1 } Hope: $(\varphi_{\#})^{-1} = (\varphi^{-1})_{\#}$

(iii) onto }

More precisely

$$(i) [f] = [g] \Rightarrow [\varphi \circ f] = [\varphi \circ g]$$

$$f \simeq g$$

$$\downarrow h_{\#}$$

$$\varphi \circ f \simeq \varphi \circ g$$

$$\downarrow \varphi \circ h_{\#}$$

$$(ii) \left\{ \begin{array}{l} (ii) \\ (iii) \end{array} \right. (\varphi_{\#})^{-1} = (\varphi^{-1})_{\#} \quad [f] \xrightarrow{\varphi_{\#}} [\varphi \circ f] \xrightarrow{(\varphi^{-1})_{\#}} [\varphi^{-1} \circ \varphi \circ f]$$

More general,

$$\begin{array}{ccccc} [f] & \xrightarrow{\varphi_{\#}} & [\varphi \circ f] & \xrightarrow{\psi_{\#}} & [\psi \circ \varphi \circ f] \\ \parallel & & & & \parallel \\ [g] & \longrightarrow & [\varphi \circ g] & \longrightarrow & [\psi \circ \varphi \circ g] \end{array}$$

The crucial argument used in (i), (ii), (iii) is the result below.

Ultimate Theorem Let X, Y, Z be spaces and

$$X \begin{array}{c} \xrightarrow{f_0} \\ \xrightarrow{f_1} \end{array} Y \begin{array}{c} \xrightarrow{g_0} \\ \xrightarrow{g_1} \end{array} Z. \text{ If } f_0 \stackrel{F}{\simeq} f_1 \text{ and } g_0 \stackrel{G}{\simeq} g_1$$

then $g_0 \circ f_0 \stackrel{H}{\simeq} g_1 \circ f_1 \simeq g_1 \circ f_0 \simeq g_0 \circ f_1 : X \rightarrow Z$

Proof

Construct $H: X \times [0, 1] \rightarrow Z$ by

$$H(x, t) = G(F(x, t), t)$$

The other homotopies are similar

Mapping of a pair

Let $A \subset X, B \subset Y$. Denote $f: (X, A) \rightarrow (Y, B)$

meaning $f: X \rightarrow Y$ and $f(A) \subset B$

Loop. Let X be a space with $x_0 \in X$

A loop in X based at x_0 is a continuous

$$\gamma: ([a, b], \{a, b\}) \rightarrow (X, x_0)$$

$$\text{i.e. } \gamma(a) = \gamma(b) = x_0$$

A path begins and ends at x_0

Alternatively, may study

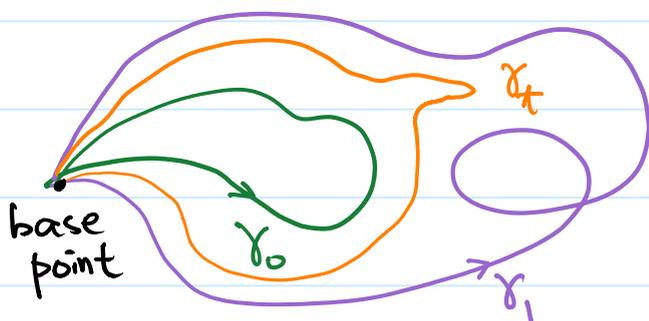
$$\gamma: (S^1, 1) \rightarrow (X, x_0)$$

Given two loops $\gamma_0, \gamma_1 : [0, 1] \rightarrow X$ at x_0 , they are loop homotopic if there exists a loop homotopy $L : [0, 1] \times [0, 1] \rightarrow X$ such that

$$\left. \begin{aligned} L(s, 0) &= \gamma_0(s) \\ L(s, 1) &= \gamma_1(s) \end{aligned} \right\} s \in [0, 1] \quad \text{normal homotopy}$$

$$L(0, t) = L(1, t) = x_0 \quad \forall t \in [0, 1]$$

at any time t , it is a loop based at x_0



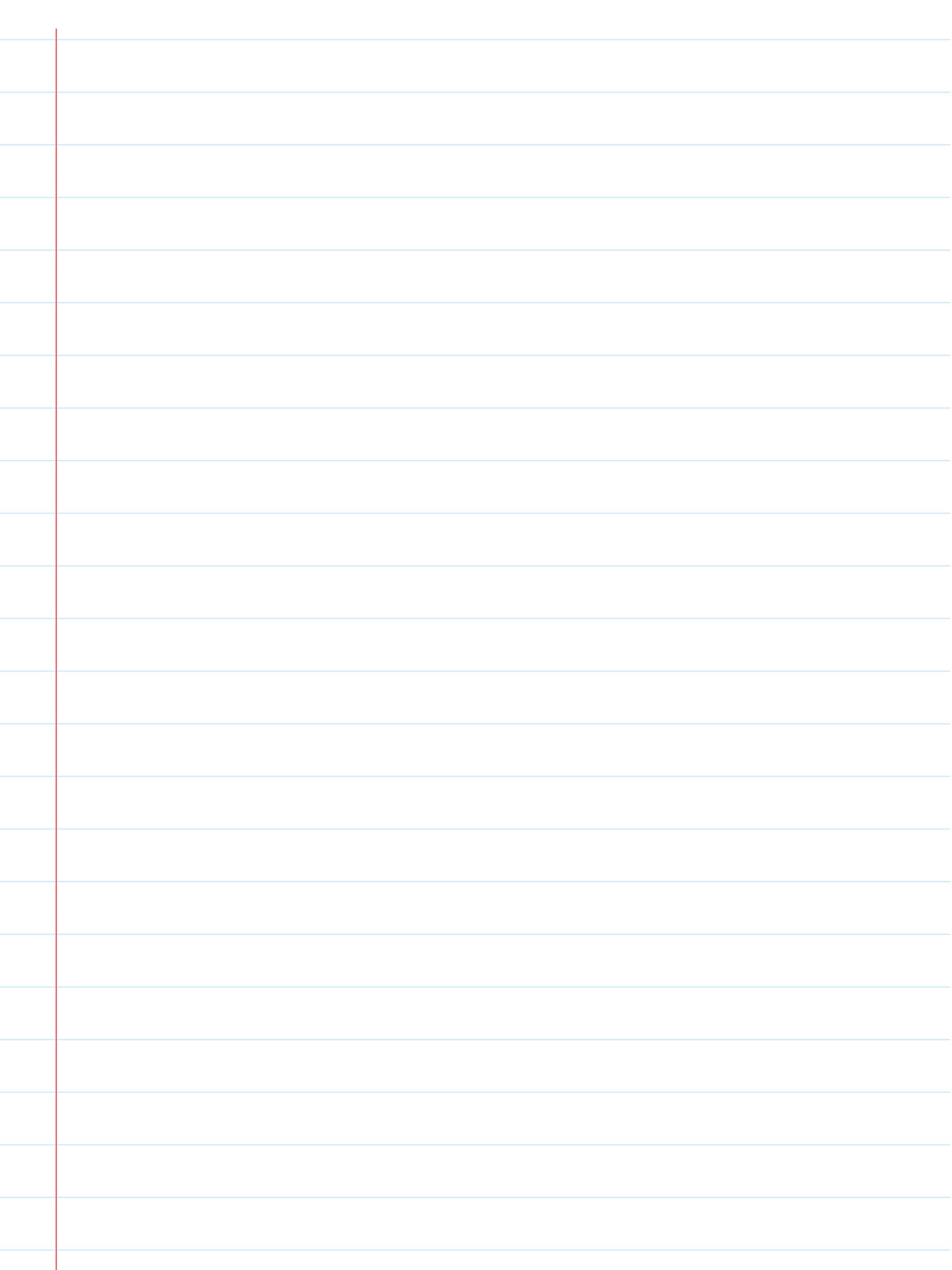
For $f, g : (X, A) \rightarrow (Y, B)$ with $f|_A \equiv g|_A$

A homotopy rel A is a continuous mapping

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

$$H(x, 0) = f(x), \quad H(x, 1) = g(x), \quad x \in X$$

$$H(x, t) = f(x) = g(x), \quad x \in A, \quad t \in [0, 1]$$



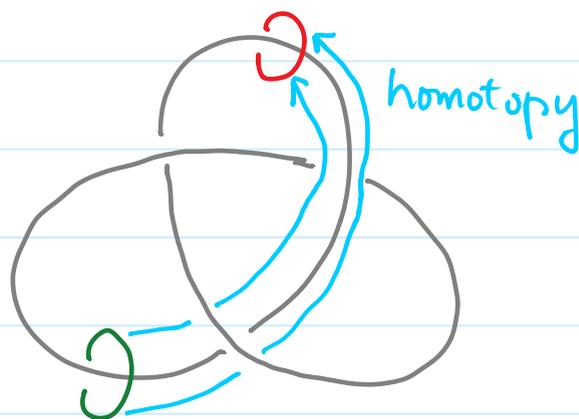
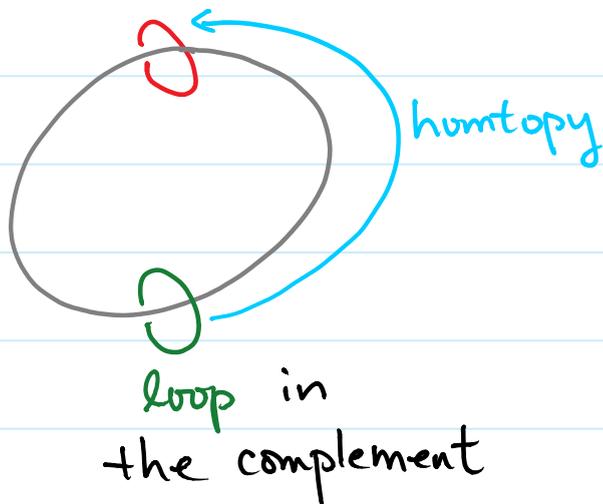
Example of importance of base point

In topology, we often need to study
Complement of a knot

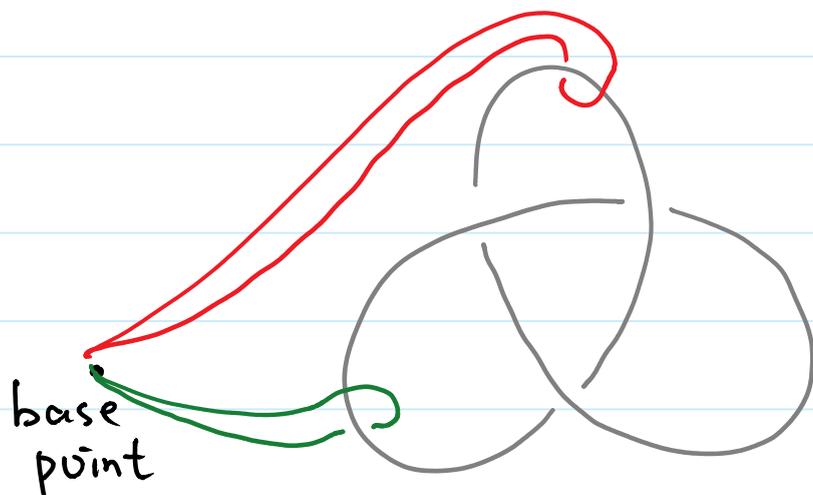
$\mathbb{R}^3 \setminus \text{circle}$

or

$\mathbb{R}^3 \setminus \text{Trefoil}$



If the loops have no base point, both $\mathbb{R}^3 \setminus \text{circle}$, $\mathbb{R}^3 \setminus \text{Trefoil}$ has this homotopy class



These two loops with base point are not homotopic. Therefore

$$\mathbb{R}^3 \setminus \text{circle} \neq \mathbb{R}^3 \setminus \text{Trefoil}$$

Concatenation Let $\alpha, \beta: [0, 1] \rightarrow X$ be paths such that $\alpha(1) = \beta(0)$, define a path

$$\alpha * \beta: [0, 1] \rightarrow X \text{ by}$$

$$\alpha * \beta(s) = \begin{cases} \alpha(2s) & \text{if } s \in [0, \frac{1}{2}] \\ \beta(2s-1) & \text{if } s \in [\frac{1}{2}, 1] \end{cases}$$



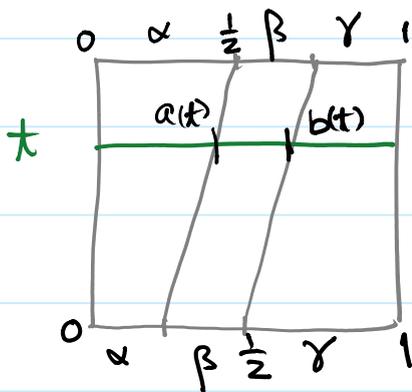
Note that as mappings from $[0, 1] \rightarrow X$

$$\alpha * (\beta * \gamma) \neq (\alpha * \beta) * \gamma$$

parameters



Proposition $(\alpha * \beta) * \gamma \simeq \alpha * (\beta * \gamma) \text{ rel } \{0, 1\}$



The homotopy needed

$$H(s, t) = \begin{cases} \alpha(\dots) & s \in [0, a(t)] \\ \beta(\dots) & s \in [a(t), b(t)] \\ \gamma(\dots) & s \in [b(t), 1] \end{cases}$$

so that the whole α, β, γ are travelled.

By high school math,

$$a(t) = \frac{1}{4}(1-t) + \frac{1}{2}t = \frac{1}{4} + \frac{t}{4}, \quad b(t) = \frac{1}{2} + \frac{t}{4}$$

$$\alpha\left(\frac{s}{a(t)}\right), \quad \beta\left(\frac{s-a(t)}{b(t)-a(t)}\right), \quad \gamma\left(\frac{s-b(t)}{1-b(t)}\right)$$

Group structure

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Knowing that associativity is true up to homotopy we need to check well-defined up to homotopy!

Proposition $\alpha_0 \simeq \alpha_1$ and $\beta_0 \simeq \beta_1$, perhaps rel $\{0,1\}$
Then $\alpha_0 * \beta_0 \simeq \alpha_1 * \beta_1$, perhaps rel $\{0,1\}$

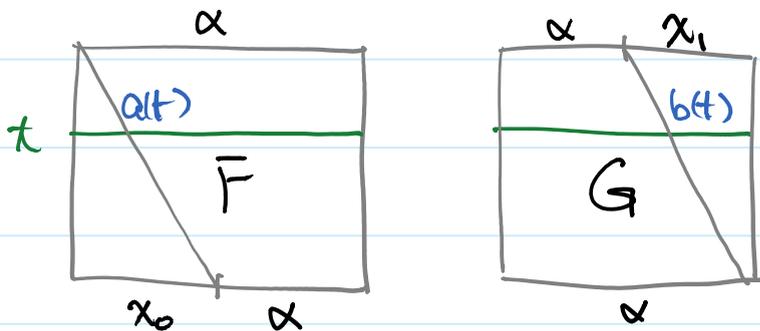
Result. $[\alpha] \cdot [\beta] = [\alpha * \beta]$ is well-defined
and $([\alpha] \cdot [\beta]) \cdot [\gamma] = [\alpha] \cdot ([\beta] \cdot [\gamma])$

Existence of Identity

Let $\alpha: [0,1] \rightarrow X$, $\alpha(0) = x_0$, $\alpha(1) = x_1$

$\kappa_0: [0,1] \rightarrow \{x_0\}$, $\kappa_1: [0,1] \rightarrow \{x_1\}$

Then $\kappa_0 * \alpha \simeq \alpha \simeq \alpha * \kappa_1$ rel $\{0,1\}$



$$F(s,t) = \begin{cases} x_0 & s \in [0, a(t)] \\ \alpha\left(\frac{s-a(t)}{1-a(t)}\right) & s \in [a(t), 1] \end{cases} \quad a(t) = \frac{1-t}{2}$$

$$G(s,t) = \begin{cases} \alpha\left(\frac{s}{b(t)}\right) & s \in [0, b(t)] \\ x_1 & s \in [b(t), 1] \end{cases} \quad b(t) = 1 - \frac{t}{2}$$

Existence of "Inverse"

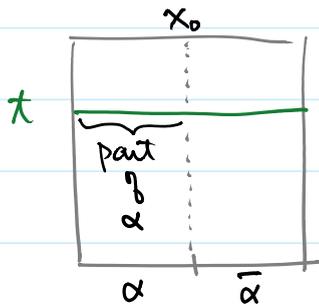
Let $\alpha: [0,1] \rightarrow X$, $\alpha(0) = x_0$, $\alpha(1) = x_1$

Define $\bar{\alpha}: [0,1] \rightarrow X$ by

$$\bar{\alpha}(s) = \alpha(1-s) \quad \text{travelling backward}$$

Then $\bar{\alpha}(0) = x_1$, $\bar{\alpha}(1) = x_0$

Proposition $\alpha * \bar{\alpha} \simeq c_{x_0}$, $\bar{\alpha} * \alpha \simeq c_{x_1}$ rel $\{0,1\}$



$$H(s,t) = \begin{cases} \alpha(2s(1-t)) & s \in [0, \frac{1}{2}] \\ \bar{\alpha}(\text{exercise}) & s \in [\frac{1}{2}, 1] \end{cases}$$

Fundamental Group $\pi_1(X, x_0)$

(i) Set of loop homotopy classes $[\alpha]$, where $\alpha: ([0,1], \{0,1\}) \rightarrow (X, x_0)$

(ii) $\alpha \simeq \beta$ rel $\{0,1\}$

(iii) $[\alpha] \cdot [\beta] = [\alpha * \beta]$

(iv) $1 = [c_{x_0}]$

(v) $[\alpha]^{-1} = [\bar{\alpha}]$

Need to check

① Well-defined: $\alpha_0 \simeq \alpha_1 \text{ rel } \{0,1\}$

$$\Rightarrow \gamma * \alpha_0 * \bar{\gamma} \simeq \gamma * \alpha_1 * \bar{\gamma} \text{ rel } \{0,1\}$$

proved similarly in $[\alpha][\beta] = [\alpha * \beta]$

② Bijection: Obvious inverse by $\bar{\gamma}$ from x_0 to x_1

③ homomorphism: for $[\alpha], [\beta] \in \pi_1(X, x_0)$

$$(\varphi[\alpha]) \cdot (\varphi[\beta]) = \varphi([\alpha][\beta])$$

$$(\underbrace{\gamma * \alpha * \bar{\gamma}}) * (\gamma * \beta * \bar{\gamma}) \quad \gamma * (\alpha * \beta) * \bar{\gamma}$$

Clearly $\bar{\gamma} * \gamma \simeq c$

Qu. For $[\alpha] \xrightarrow{\varphi} [\gamma * \alpha * \bar{\gamma}]$, is φ independent of choice of γ from x_1 to x_0 ?

Theorem If $X \simeq Y$ are path connected then $\pi_1(X, x_0) \cong \pi_1(Y, y_0)$

The proof is a routine exercise of homotopy.

Simply connected A path connected space X is 1-connected if $\pi_1(X, x_0)$ is trivial

Examples.

(1) X is contractible $\Rightarrow X$ is 1-connected

(2) S^2 , in general, $S^n, n \geq 2$ is 1-connected.

But they are not contractible