

We defined the fundamental group functor

$\pi_1: \text{Pointed Spaces} \longrightarrow \text{Groups}$

$$(X, x_0) \longmapsto \pi_1(X, x_0)$$

(pointed  
space)

(group of homotopy classes of  
loops in  $X$  with mult  
 $[f] * [g] = [f * g]$ )

$$h: (X, x_0) \rightarrow (Y, y_0) \longmapsto \pi_1(h): \pi_1(X, x_0) \rightarrow \pi_1(Y, y_0)$$

(map of pointed spaces  
i.e.  $h(x_0) = y_0$ )

$[f] \mapsto [h \circ f]$   
(homomorphism of groups)

This is a functor because

$$\pi_1(h \circ k) = \pi_1(h) \circ \pi_1(k)$$

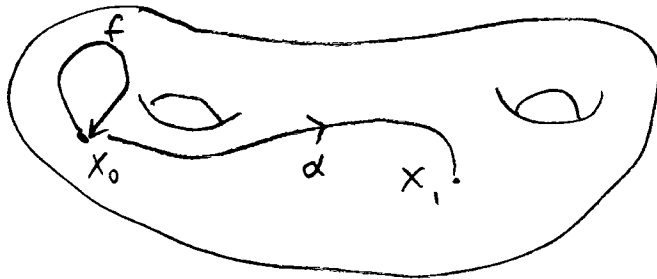
$$\pi_1(1_{(X, x_0)}) = 1_{\pi_1(X, x_0)}$$

It was stated but not proven that  $\pi_1(h)$  is a homomorphism.

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Pf: } \pi_1(h)([f] * [g]) &= \pi_1(h)([f * g]) \\ &= [h \circ (f * g)] \\ &= [(h \circ f) * (h \circ g)] \quad \downarrow \text{check this step!} \\ &= [h \circ f] * [h \circ g] \\ &= \pi_1(h)(f) * \pi_1(h)(g) \end{aligned}$$

Next: How are  $\pi_1(X, x_0)$  and  $\pi_1(X, x_1)$  related?

Suppose  $\alpha$  is a path with  $\alpha(0) = x_0$ ,  $\alpha(1) = x_1$ .



Define a function

$$\hat{\alpha}: \pi_1(X, x_0) \rightarrow \pi_1(X, x_1)$$

$$\text{by } \hat{\alpha}([f]) = [\bar{\alpha} * f * \alpha]$$

Thm 52.1  $\hat{\alpha}$  is a group isomorphism.

$$\text{Pf. } \hat{\alpha}([f] * [g]) = [\bar{\alpha} * f * g * \alpha]$$

$$= [\bar{\alpha} * f] * [e_{x_0}] * [g * \alpha]$$

$$= [\bar{\alpha} * f * \alpha * \bar{\alpha} * g * \alpha]$$

$$= [\bar{\alpha} * f * \alpha] * [\bar{\alpha} * g * \alpha]$$

$$= \hat{\alpha}([f]) * \hat{\alpha}([g])$$

so  $\hat{\alpha}$  is a homomorphism.

$\hat{\alpha}$  has  $\hat{\alpha}^{-1}$  as its inverse:

$$\hat{\alpha} \circ \hat{\alpha}^{-1}([f]) = [\bar{\alpha} * (\underbrace{\bar{\alpha}^{-1}}_{\alpha} * f * \bar{\alpha}) * \alpha]$$

$$= [f]$$

and similarly for  $\hat{\alpha}^{-1} \circ \hat{\alpha}$ .


□

Defn: If  $X$  is a path-connected space,  $X$  is called simply connected if  $\pi_1(X, x_0) = 0$  for some (and hence every)  $x_0 \in X$ .

Examples:

$D^2 = \text{circle}$  is simply connected

$\mathbb{R}^n$  is simply connected

$\mathbb{R}^2 - \{0\}$  is not simply connected: 

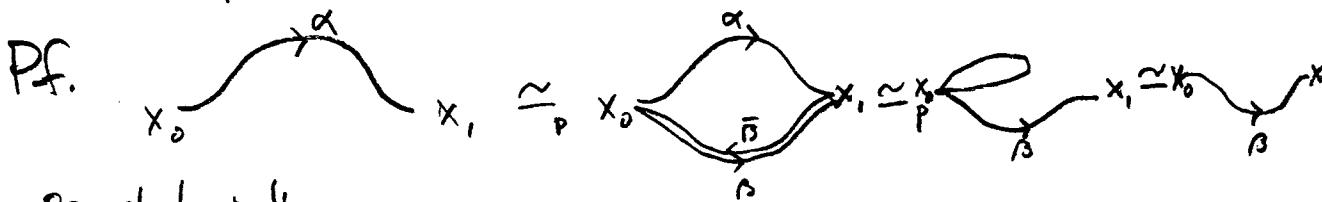
$\mathbb{R}^3 - \{0\}$  is simply connected

$\mathbb{R}^3 - \text{line}$  is not s.c.

$S^1$  is not s.c.

$S^2$  is s.c.

Lem 52.4: Let  $X$  be s.c. Then any two paths  $\alpha, \beta$   $x_0 \xrightarrow{\alpha} x_1$  are path-homotopic, where  $x_0, x_1 \in X$ .



or, algebraically

$$[\alpha] \approx [\alpha] * [e_{x_1}] \approx [\alpha] * [\tilde{\beta}] * [\beta] = [e_{x_0}] * [\beta] = [\beta]$$

|  
by s.c.

□

Next goal:  $\pi_1(S^1, x_0) \cong \mathbb{Z}$ .

For this, we need the idea of

## COVERING SPACES

Defn: Let  $p: E \rightarrow B$  be a surjective map of spaces. An open set  $U \subset B$  is called evenly covered by  $p$  if

$$p^{-1}(U) = \bigcup_{\alpha} V_{\alpha}$$

where  $V_{\alpha}$  are disjoint open sets in  $E$ , called slices, and

$$p|_{V_{\alpha}}: V_{\alpha} \rightarrow U$$

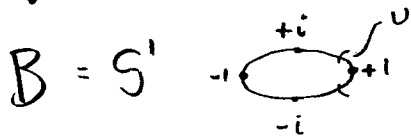
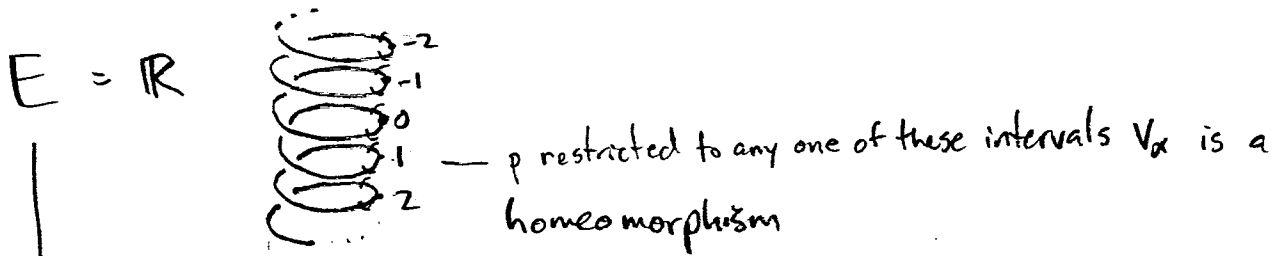
is a homeomorphism for each  $\alpha$ .

Defn: If every  $b \in B$  has a neighborhood that is evenly covered by  $p$ , then  $p$  is called a covering map,  $E$  is called a covering space of  $B$ , and  $B$  is called the base space.

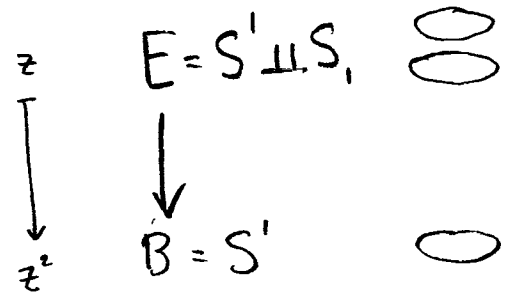
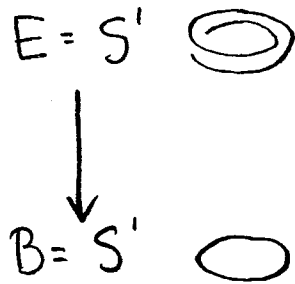
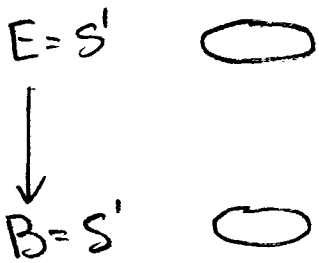
Ex (Thm 53.1) I identify  $S^1$  with unit complex numbers. The map

$$p: \mathbb{R} \rightarrow S^1 \\ x \mapsto e^{2\pi i x}$$

is a covering map.



Other covering spaces:



two-fold covers