

# Exercises 02 #5

$$E \rightarrow X \text{ covering}$$

$$z \in X \Rightarrow \text{Fiber of } z$$

$$= \text{inverse image of } \{z\}$$

Two parts of this exercise depend upon the following:

Theorem The set of arc components of  $E/A$  is in 1-1 correspondence with the cosets  $\pi_1(X) / f_*[\pi_1(A)]$ .

Proof. Choose a basepoint  $z \in A \subseteq X$ .

① Suppose  $u, v \in E/A$  map to  $z$ , and write them as  $w \cdot a, w \cdot b$  for a suitable basepoint in  $E/A$  which maps to  $z$ .

If  $w \cdot a$  and  $w \cdot b$  are in the same component of  $E/A$ , then there is a curve joining them, and it projects to some  $c \in \pi_1(A)$ . By the construction of the  $\pi_1(X)$  action on the fiber of  $z$  in  $X$ ,

it follows that  $w \cdot b = w \cdot a \cdot f_*(c)$ ,

so  $a$  and  $b$  go to the same class in  $\pi_1(X) / f_*[\pi_1(A)]$ :

(\*)

$$a, b \in \pi_1(X)$$

(2) conversely, suppose that  $a = b f_*(c)$  for some  $c \in \pi_1(A)$ . Then by path lifting we know that  $w \cdot a$  and  $w \cdot b$  lie in the same component of  $E/A$ .  $\square$

### Application to (i)-(iii)

(i) The ~~many~~ components of  $E/A$  are in 1-1 correspondence with  $\pi_1(X)$ , and each component contains a unique point in the fiber of  $z$ . Hence the restriction of  $E/A$  to each component is 1-sheeted.

(ii) The set of components is  $\pi_1(X) / f_*[\pi_1(A)]$ , which is one point if  $f_*$  is onto. Hence  $E/A$  is connected.

(iii) Pick a component  $C$  of  $E/A$  and a base point  $w \in C$  which maps to  $z$ . Let  $\gamma: I \rightarrow C$  be a base point preserving closed curve. Then  $\gamma \simeq$  constant in  $E$ , and we have

$$\pi_1(C) \longrightarrow \pi_1(E) = \{1\}$$

$$\begin{array}{ccc} p'_* \downarrow & \cong & \downarrow p_* \\ \pi_1(A) & \xrightarrow[\text{1-1}]{f_*} & \pi_1(X) \end{array} \quad p' = p|_C$$

From the diagram it follows that  $f_* p'_* [\gamma]$  is trivial. Since  $f_*$  and  $p'_*$  are 1-1, it follows that  $[\gamma]$  is trivial.  $\square$

Exercises 02 #8

This uses the formula for finding the number of generators of  $\pi_1(X)$  if  $X \rightarrow Y$  is a finite covering of graph complexes.

$$F_2 = \pi_1 \left( \begin{array}{c} \text{graph} \\ \text{graph} \end{array} \right) \text{ free gens } x, y.$$

$$\mathbb{D} \quad H_3 = \text{Kernel } \begin{array}{ccc} F_2 & \longrightarrow & \mathbb{Z}_2 \\ x & \longrightarrow & 0 \\ y & \longrightarrow & 1 \end{array} \quad \text{the formula}$$

implies  $H_3$  is free on 3 generators.

Suppose we have constructed

$H_k \subseteq \dots \subseteq H_3$ ; we need to construct  $H_{k+1}$ . Take  $K \subseteq H_{k+1}$  to be a free group on two free generators (just pick 2 from some set of  $k$  free gens. for  $H_k$ ), and let  $K_0 \subseteq K$  be the index 2 subgroup with 3 generators. Finally, take  $H_{k+1}$  to be the group generated by  $K_0$  and the extra generators of  $H_k$ . If  $K_1 =$  free subgroup gen by the generators, then we have

$$H_{k+1} \cong K_0 * K_1 \text{ (free product)}$$

$$\subseteq K * K_1 = H_k, \text{ so}$$

$H_{k+1}$  is free on  $k+1$  generators.