

Topology 26

O.H. Th: 5:15 - 7:15

Fr: 10 - 11

Mon: 2 - 5 pm

- Path Connectedness

Announcements

- Final exam a week from today
- Next time Advertisement for 550 B.

Def | Given $x, y \in X$ a path in X from x to y is a continuous map $f: [0, 1] \rightarrow X$ with $f(0) = x$ and $f(1) = y$. X is path connected if any two points can be joined by a path.

Lemma | If X is path connected, then X is connected.

Pf | Suppose X is path connected and has a separation $X = A \cup B$. Pick $a \in A$ and pick $b \in B$. Since X is path connected there exists a continuous function $f: [0, 1] \rightarrow X$ with $f(0) = a$ and $f(1) = b$. Recall $[0, 1]$ is connected and the continuous image of connected is connected. Hence, $f([0, 1])$ is connected. By a previous lemma, $f([0, 1]) \subset A$ or $f([0, 1]) \subset B$. Either conclusion contradicts the fact that $A \cap B = \emptyset$, $a \in A$ and $b \in B$. \square 23.2

Prop: If A is a connected subspace of X and $A \subset B \subset \overline{A}$, then B is connected.

Pf] Suppose B has a separation $B = C \cup D$.

Since A is connected, then by Munkres 23.2,

$A \subset C$ or $A \subset D$. WLOG say $A \subset C$.

Hence, $\overline{A} \subset \overline{C}$ and $B \subset \overline{C}$. Thus

$D \cap \overline{C} \neq \emptyset$. This contradicts Munkres 23.1 which says $D \cap \overline{C} = \emptyset$. So, B has no separation. \square

Key example

"Topologists sine curve"

$$F: (0, 1] \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^2, F(t) = \left(t, \sin\left(\frac{1}{t}\right)\right)$$

Claim] $F((0, 1])$ is connected.

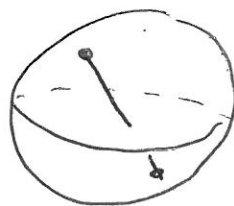
Pf] This follows from the fact that $(0, 1]$ is p.c. and F is continuous.

Claim] $\overline{F((0, 1])} = F((0, 1]) \cup (\{0\} \times [-1, 1])$

Pf] exercise.

Examples of path connected spaces

- \mathbb{R}^n
- $B^n = \{ \vec{x} \in \mathbb{R}^n \mid \|\vec{x}\| \leq 1 \}$
- Any "convex" subset of \mathbb{R}^n
- $\mathbb{R}^n - \{ \vec{0} \}$ for $n \geq 2$.



Lemma | The continuous image of a path connected space is path-connected.

PF | Let X be path connected and let $f: X \rightarrow Y$ be a continuous map. Let $a, b \in f(X)$.

Pick $x \in f^{-1}(a)$ and $y \in f^{-1}(b)$.

Since X is path connected there is a path $g: [0, 1] \rightarrow X$ from x to y . Since f and g are continuous,

then $f \circ g: [0, 1] \rightarrow Y$ is a path from a to b . \square

Claim | S^n for $n \geq 1$ is path connected.

$f: \mathbb{R}^n - \{ \vec{0} \} \rightarrow S^{n-1}$, $f(\vec{x}) = \frac{\vec{x}}{\|\vec{x}\|}$
is a continuous map. Since $\mathbb{R}^n - \{ \vec{0} \}$ is p.c. for $n \geq 2$ then S^k is p.c. for $k \geq 1$. \square

Note: by our previous prop, $\overline{F((0,1])}$ is connected.

Claim $\overline{F((0,1])}$ is not path connected.

Pf Suppose, to form a contradiction, that there is a path γ from some point $a \in \{0\} \times [-1,1]$ to some point b in $F((0,1])$. We can choose to represent γ as a parametrization $\gamma(t) = (x(t), y(t))$. WLOG we can assume $x(t) > 0$ for $t > 0$.

Hence, $y(t) = \sin\left(\frac{1}{x(t)}\right)$ for $t > 0$.

Note $\left\{\frac{1}{n}\right\} \rightarrow 0$ as $n \rightarrow \infty$

For each $n \geq 1$ there exist $u_n \in (0, x(\frac{1}{n}))$

$$\sin\left(\frac{1}{u_n}\right) = (-1)^n$$

Now x is continuous, so $\exists t_n \in (0, \frac{1}{n})$ s.t. $x(t_n) = u_n$

$$\text{Thus } y(t_n) = \sin\left(\frac{1}{x(t_n)}\right) = (-1)^n$$

Since $t_n \rightarrow 0$ but $y(t_n)$ does not converge

we have a contradiction to continuity of γ . \square

Topology 27

- Preview of 55013

Announcements

- Final Tues. May 13th 5-7pm
- 8 questions

Recall: A path in X is a continuous map $f: [0, 1] \rightarrow X$

Def | Given $x_0 \in X$, a loop in X based at x_0 is a path $f: [0, 1] \rightarrow X$ s.t. $f(0) = f(1) = x_0$.

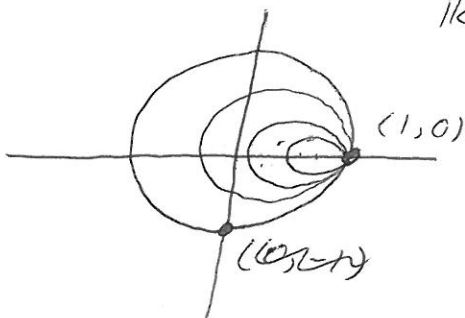
We want a natural notion of equivalence of based loops.

Def | Two loops f, g based at $x_0 \in X$ are homotopic

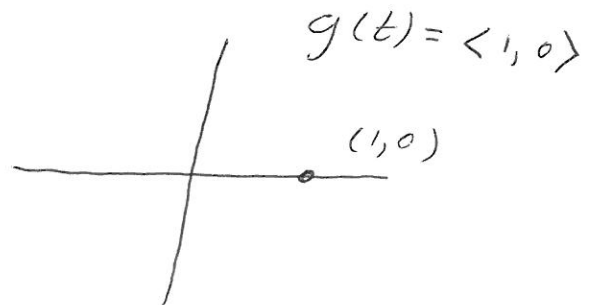
If there exists a continuous function

$$F: [0, 1] \times [0, 1] \rightarrow X \text{ s.t. } F(0, t) = f(t) \text{ and } F(1, t) = g(t). \\ F(s, 0) = x_0 = F(s, 1).$$

Ex | $f(t) = \left\langle \begin{matrix} \cos(2\pi t) \\ \sin(2\pi t) \end{matrix} \right\rangle$
 \mathbb{R}^2



path homotopic to
constant
 based loop
 at $(1, 0)$



$$F(s, t) = \left\langle (1-s) \cos(2\pi t) + s, (1-s) \sin(2\pi t) \right\rangle$$

There is a binary operation on based loops called concatenation (or stacking).

If f and g are loops based at x_0 , then

$$f * g : [0, 1] \rightarrow X$$

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

Let Y be the set of loops based at x_0 .

Let \sim be the equivalence relation on Y that $f \sim g$ if f is homotopic to g .

Claim Y/\sim under the binary operation of stacking is a group!

Recall group axioms

- ① Closure ($f * g$ is still a loop based at x_0)
- ② Identity element (the constant loop is the identity)
- ③ Inverse element ($f(1-t)$ is the inverse of $f(t)$)
- ④ associativity ($f * (g * h) = (f * g) * h$).

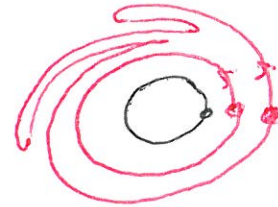
π_1 is denoted $\pi_1(X, x_0)$ and is known as the fundamental group of X based at x_0 .

Examples

$$\pi_1(\mathbb{R}^2, (0,0)) \cong \{1\}$$

$$\pi_1(S^1, (1,0)) \cong \mathbb{Z}$$

↑
take a week



$$\pi_1(S^1 \times S^1, (1,0) \times (1,0)) \cong \mathbb{Z} \oplus \mathbb{Z}$$

$$\pi_1(S^1 \cup D^2) \cong \pi_1(D^2) \cong \{1\} \cong \frac{\langle a \rangle}{\langle\langle a=1 \rangle\rangle}$$

$$\pi_1(S^1 \cup \mathbb{R}P^2) \cong \pi_1(\mathbb{R}P^2) \cong \frac{\langle a \rangle}{\langle\langle a^2=1 \rangle\rangle} = \langle a \mid a^2=1 \rangle$$

This is called a group presentation

$$\left\langle \frac{a}{\text{generators}} \mid \frac{a^2=1}{\text{relations}} \right\rangle \cong \mathbb{Z}_2$$

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

the free group on two variables.

$$\text{So, } \pi_1\left(\bigvee_{i=1}^n S^1\right) \cong F_n \text{ (free group on } n\text{-generators)}$$

Def) A group is finitely presented if it can be constructed from a finite list of generators and a finite list of relations.

$$\langle a, b, c \mid aba^{-1}b^{-1} = 1, c^3 = 1 \rangle$$

$$\pi_1\left(\text{[diagram: a figure-eight with loops } a \text{ and } b \text{]} \cup \text{[diagram: a square with edges } a, b, a^{-1}, b^{-1} \text{]} \cup \text{[diagram: a triangle with edges } c, c, c \text{]} \right) \cong$$

$$\langle a, b, c \mid aba^{-1}b^{-1} = 1, c^3 = 1 \rangle$$

Topology contains all group theory

2-dimensional CW complexes can all be embedded in \mathbb{R}^5 . So, subspaces of \mathbb{R}^5 contain all group theory.