

Math 5605

# Algebraic Topology


Book 1



If  $X, Y$  are top. spaces,  $f: X \rightarrow Y$  is continuous if  $f^{-1}(U) \subseteq X$  is open whenever  $U \subseteq Y$  is open.

$f: X \rightarrow Y$  is a homeomorphism if  $f$  is bijective and  $f, f^{-1}$  are continuous.


$X \cong Y$  are homeomorphic if there exists a homeomorphism  $X \xrightarrow{\cong} Y$ .

$\mathbb{R}^2 \not\cong S^1$  since  $S^2$  is compact;  $\mathbb{R}^2$  is not.

$S^2 \cong \{(x, y, z) \in \mathbb{R}^3 : x^2 + y^2 + z^2 = 1\} =$  

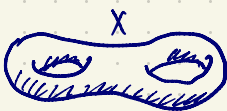

$S^2 \not\cong T^2 = \coprod_{S^1} S^1 =$    $=$  

$S^2, T^2$  are compact surfaces. They are locally homeomorphic but not globally homeomorphic.

$T^1 = S^1 =$    $=$  circle  $\cong \{z \in \mathbb{C} : |z| = 1\}$

$S^2 \not\cong T^2$  because  $S^2$  is simply connected whereas  $T^2$  is not.

In  $S^1$ , every closed path can be "continuously shrink" to a point (homotopic to a point, i.e. null-homotopic)

$X$    $\not\cong$   $T^2$  

although both surfaces are compact, connected, not simply connected

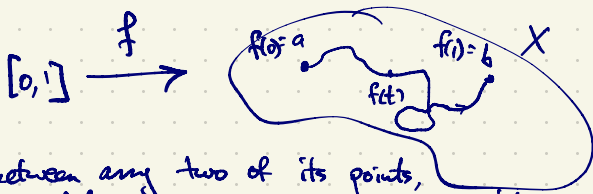
These two surfaces have different fundamental group:  $\pi_1(X)$  is nonabelian,  $\pi_1(T^2) \cong \mathbb{Z}^2$  is a (nontrivial) abelian group.

If  $X \cong Y$  (homeomorphic) then  $\pi_1(X) \cong \pi_1(Y)$ .

For much of alg. top., the algebraic invariants that we define are actually invariant under the weaker equivalence relation of homotopy equivalence.

Eg. For every  $n \geq 0$ ,  $\mathbb{R}^n$  is homotopy equivalent to  $\mathbb{R}^0 = \{0\}$ .

Given points  $a, b \in X$  (a topological space), a path from  $a$  to  $b$  is a <sup>(continuous)</sup> function  $f: [0, 1] \rightarrow X$  such that  $f(0) = a, f(1) = b$ .



All maps (unless indicated otherwise) are assumed to be continuous.

If  $X$  has a path between any two of its points, then  $X$  is path-connected. For the time being, we'll assume  $X$  is path-connected. (In general, we instead define the fundamental groupoid of  $X$ .) If  $\varphi: [0, 1] \rightarrow [0, 1]$  (recall: continuous) such that  $\varphi(0) = 0, \varphi(1) = 1$  then  $f \circ \varphi: [0, 1] \rightarrow X$  is just a reparameterization of the same path and we don't distinguish it from  $f$ .

If  $f, g: [0, 1] \rightarrow X$  are paths such that  $f(1) = g(0)$  then we can concatenate them to form a new path from  $f(0)$  to  $g(1)$ :



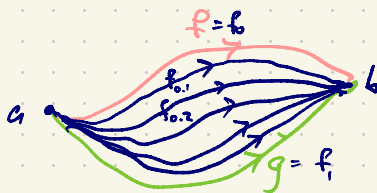
$(fg)h$  is the same path as  $f(gh)$  after reparameterization:

$$((fg)h)(t) = \begin{cases} f(4t) & t \in [0, \frac{1}{4}] \\ g(4t-1) & t \in [\frac{1}{4}, \frac{1}{2}] \\ h(4t-1) & t \in [\frac{1}{2}, 1] \end{cases}$$

$$(f(gh))(t) = \begin{cases} f(2t) & t \in [0, \frac{1}{2}] \\ g(4t-2) & t \in [\frac{1}{2}, \frac{3}{4}] \\ h(4t-3) & t \in [\frac{3}{4}, 1] \end{cases}$$



$f, g$  are homotopic  
but  $h$  is not homotopic to  $f, g$



More precisely, we require a map  $[0, 1]^2 \rightarrow X$   
 $(s, t) \mapsto f(s, t) = f_s(t)$   
 such that  $f_0 = f$  i.e.  $f_0(t) = f(t)$   
 $f_1 = g$  i.e.  $f_1(t) = g(t)$   
 $f_s(0) = a$   
 $f_s(1) = b$  for all  $s \in [0, 1]$   
 This is a homotopy from  $f$  to  $g$ .

We say  $f, g$  are homotopic if there is a continuous family of paths from  $a$  to  $b$  in  $X$ ,  $f_s$  ( $s \in [0, 1]$ ) with  $f_0 = f, f_1 = g$ .

If  $\varphi: [0,1] \rightarrow [0,1]$  is a map with  $\varphi(0)=0$ ,  $\varphi(1)=1$  then the reparameterized path  $f \circ \varphi: [0,1] \rightarrow X$  is homotopic to  $f$ . A homotopy from  $f$  to  $f \circ \varphi$  is

$$[0,1]^2 \rightarrow X$$

$$(s,t) \mapsto f(\underbrace{(1-s)t + s\varphi(t)}_{\uparrow [0,1]}) = f_s(t)$$

$$f_0(t) = f(t)$$

$$f_s(t) = f(\varphi(t))$$

$$f_s(0) = f((1-s) \cdot 0 + s \cdot \varphi(0)) = f(0)$$

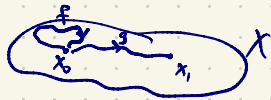
$$f_s(1) = f((1-s) \cdot 1 + s \cdot \varphi(1)) = f(1)$$

Fix  $x_0 \in X$ . Assume  $X$  is path-connected.  $\pi_1(X, x_0)$  is the group of all homotopy classes of paths from  $x_0$  to  $x_0$  in  $X$  under concatenation. It turns out  $\pi_1(X, x_0) \cong \pi_1(X, x_1)$  for all  $x_0, x_1 \in X$ .

This gives the fundamental group  $\pi_1(X)$ .

$$\pi_1(\mathbb{R}^n) = 1 \quad (\text{trivial group}).$$

$$\pi_1(S^1) \cong \mathbb{Z} \quad (\text{free group on one generator})$$



Fix  $g$  path in  $X$  from  $x_0$  to  $x_1$ .

A isomorphism  $\phi: \pi_1(X, x_0) \rightarrow \pi_1(X, x_1)$

$$f \xrightarrow{\phi} \bar{g}fg$$

$$gf\bar{g} \xleftarrow{\phi^{-1}} h$$

$$\phi(f_1 f_2) = \bar{g} f_1 f_2 g = (\bar{g} f_1 g)(\bar{g} f_2 g)$$

$$f_1, f_2 \in \pi_1(X, x_0)$$

$\gamma$ : Identity in  $\pi_1(X, x_0)$



$$\gamma(t) = x_0 \quad \text{for } t \in [0,1]$$

$$\gamma f = f \gamma = f \quad \text{for all } f \in \pi_1(X, x_0)$$

The inverse of  $f \in \pi_1(X, x_0)$  is

$$\bar{f}(t) = f(1-t), \quad t \in [0,1]$$

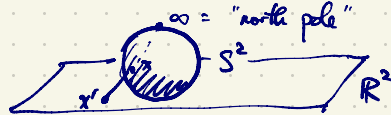
(same path in the reverse direction)



$$f \bar{f} = \bar{f} f = \gamma = \text{null path}$$

$\pi_1(S^2) = 1$  (trivial group: all closed paths in  $S^2$  are null-homotopic)

$S^2 \cong \mathbb{R}^2 \cup \{\infty\}$  (one-point compactification)



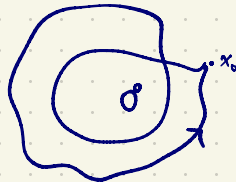
$x \mapsto x'$  is stereographic projection from the north pole  $\infty$



See Hatcher for general case including possibly space-filling curves.

$\pi_1(\mathbb{R}^2) = 1$

$\pi_1(\mathbb{R}^2 - \{0\}) \cong \mathbb{Z}$   
punctured plane



follows from the fact that

$\mathbb{R}^2 - \{0\}$  and  $S^1$  have the same homotopy type

$\mathbb{R}^3 - (x\text{-axis}) \simeq \mathbb{R}^2 - \{0\} \simeq S^1$

$\mathbb{R}^3 - \{0\} \simeq S^2$

- retraction
- deformation retraction
- strong deformation retraction
- homotopy
- relative homotopy
- homotopy equivalence

$X \simeq Y$ :  $X, Y$  are homotopic / have the same homotopy type / are homotopy equivalent

Note: this is weaker than  $X \cong Y$  (homeomorphic)

Hatcher writes  $X \approx Y$  for homeomorphic

Let  $A \subseteq X$  (subspace of a top. space).

A retraction  $f: X \rightarrow A$  is a <sup>(continuous)</sup> map such that  $f|_A = id_A = 1_A$  i.e.  $f(a) = a$  for all  $a \in A$ .

If such a map exists then  $A$  is a retract of  $X$ .

Eg.  $\mathbb{R}^n$  has a retraction to any one of its points. If  $a \in \mathbb{R}^n$  then the constant map  $\mathbb{R}^n \rightarrow \{a\}$ ,  $x \mapsto a$  is a retraction.

$\mathbb{R}^2 \rightarrow x\text{-axis}$ ,  $(x, y) \mapsto (x, 0)$ .

If  $S^1 \subset \mathbb{R}^2$  is the unit circle, then there is no retraction  $\mathbb{R}^2 \rightarrow S^1$ .  
(But this may not be obvious.)

A deformation retraction is (a homotopy from  $\text{id}_X$  to a retraction),  $A \subseteq X$ .

i.e.  $f: [0,1] \times X \rightarrow X$

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

$$f_0(x) = x$$

i.e.  $f_0 = \text{id}_X$

$$f_1(x) \in A$$

$f_1$  is a retraction  $X \rightarrow A$

$$f_t(a) = a \text{ for all } a \in A.$$

If a def. retraction exists from  $X$  to  $A \subseteq X$ , we say  $A$  is a deformation retract of  $X$ .

(This is stronger than retract)

Ex.  $f: [0,1] \times \mathbb{R}^2 \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^2$

$$f_t(x) = (1-t)x \text{ is a def. retraction to } \{0\}.$$

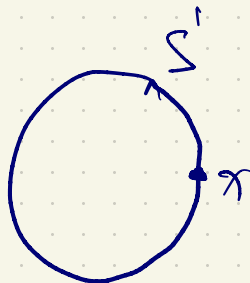
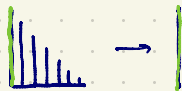
Ex.  $x \in S^1$   $x$  is a retract of  $S^1$  but not a def. retract of  $S^1$ .

A strong def. retract  $f: [0,1] \times X \rightarrow X$  :

$$f_0(x) = x \text{ i.e. } f_0 = \text{id}_X$$

$f_1$  is a retraction  $X \rightarrow A$

$$f_t|_A = \text{id}_A \text{ for all } t \in [0,1]$$



def. retract  
but not strong def. retract.