

Intro to Homotopy Theory

Katharine Adamyk

August 23, 2017

Outline

- 1 Intro to Homotopy
- 2 Fundamental Group
- 3 Homotopy Groups
- 4 An Open Problem
- 5 A Strategy

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Algebraic Topology

What is homotopy theory?

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Topological space

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Topological space \Rightarrow algebraic structure

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Topological space \Rightarrow algebraic structure \Rightarrow info about space

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All kinds of fun stuff

The World We Live In

Some Preliminaries

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- All our maps are continuous and all our spaces are “nice”.

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Some Preliminaries

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- A based space is a topological space X with a distinguished point $*$.
- A based map is a map of based spaces that takes basepoint to basepoint.

What is a Homotopy?

Formal Definition

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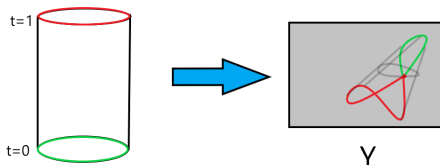
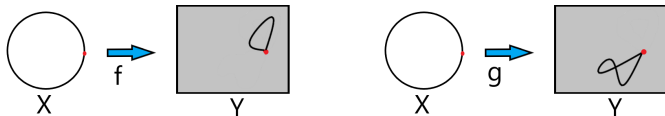
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- $H(x, 1) = g(x)$
- $H(*, t) = *$ for all $t \in I$

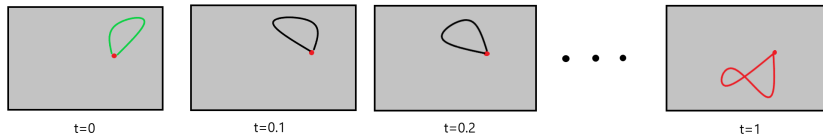
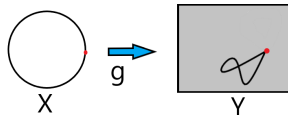
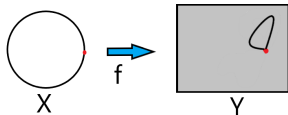
What is a Homotopy?

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What is a Homotopy?

Intuition



Homotopy Classes

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So, \simeq is an equivalence relation on maps $X \rightarrow Y$.

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Fundamental Group

Preliminaries

Fundamental Group

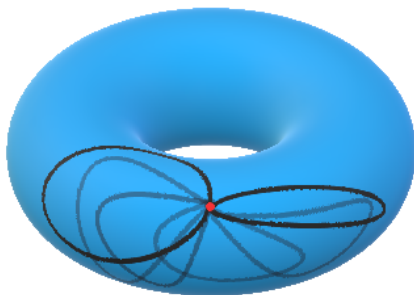
Preliminaries

- A **loop** on X is a map $\gamma : S^1 \rightarrow X$ where S^1 is the circle.

Fundamental Group

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- A **loop** on X is a map $\gamma : S^1 \rightarrow X$ where S^1 is the circle.
- Two loops are in the same **homotopy class** if there exists a homotopy between them.



Fundamental Group

Definition

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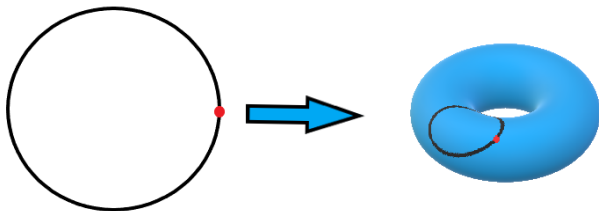
The **fundamental group** of a topological space X , $\pi_1(X)$, is the set of homotopy classes of loops on X with the operation of loop concatenation.

Fundamental Group

Definition

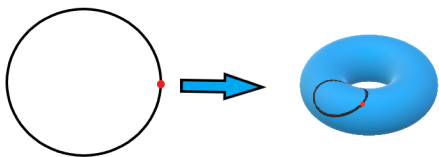
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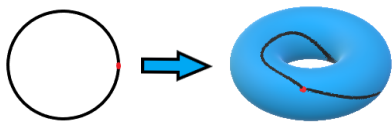


Fundamental Group

Group Operation



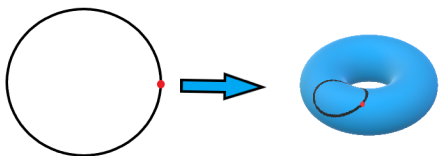
$$A: S^1 \rightarrow X$$



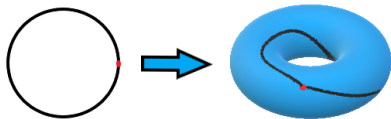
$$B: S^1 \rightarrow X$$

Fundamental Group

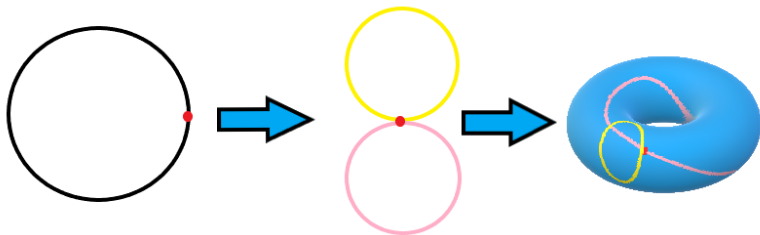
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$$A: S^1 \rightarrow X$$



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$$A + B: S^1 \rightarrow X$$

Fundamental Group

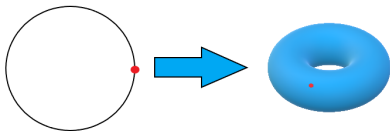
Identity

- The identity element of $\pi_1(X)$ is the constant loop.

Fundamental Group

Identity

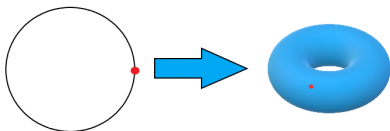
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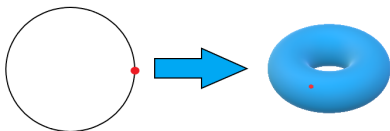


- A loop that is in the same homotopy class as the constant loop is called **contractible**.

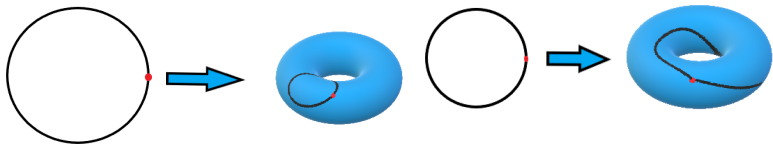
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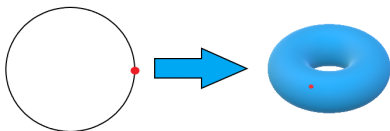
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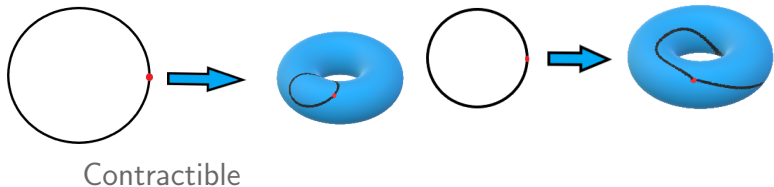
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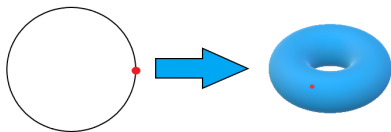


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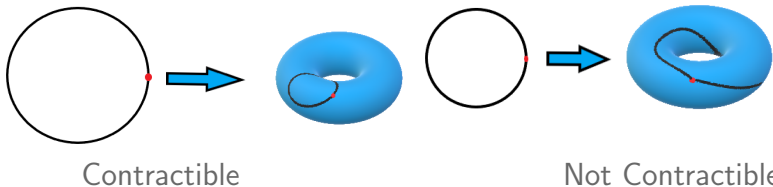
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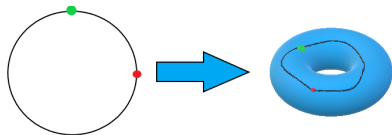


Fundamental Group

Inverses

Fundamental Group

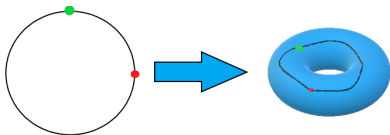
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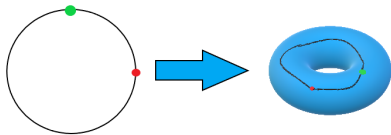
$$f \in [f]$$

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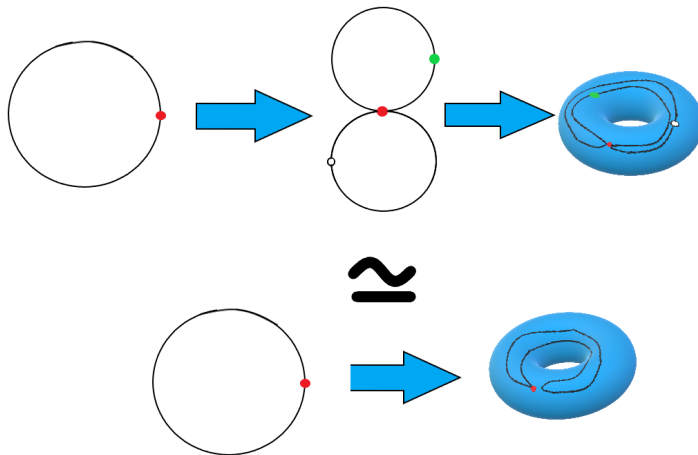
$$f \in [f]$$



$$g \in [f]^{-1}$$

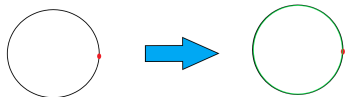
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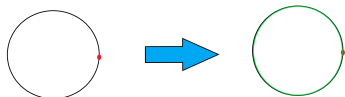
Fundamental Group

Examples



Fundamental Group

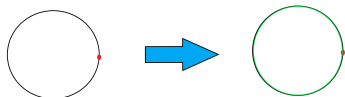
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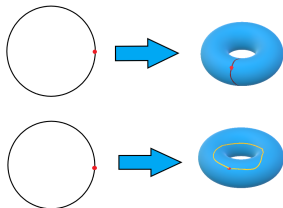
$$\pi_1(S^1) = \mathbb{Z}$$

Fundamental Group

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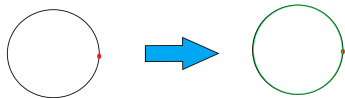


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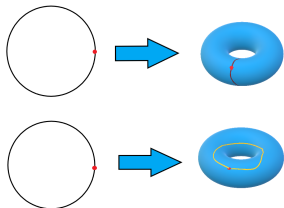


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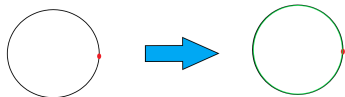
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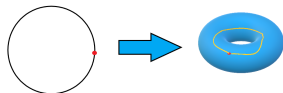
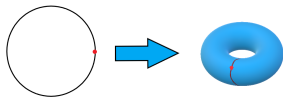
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Fundamental Group

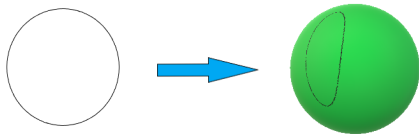
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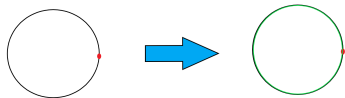


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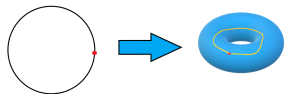
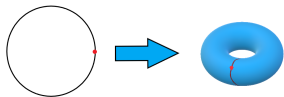


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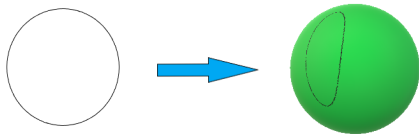
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$$\pi_1(S^1) = \mathbb{Z}$$



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$$\pi_1(S) = 0$$

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Spheres

Definition

The n -sphere is

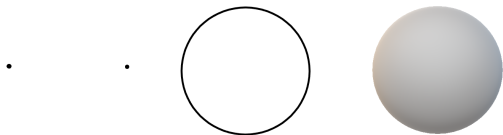
$$S^n = \left\{ (x_0, x_1, \dots, x_n) \in \mathbb{R}^{n+1} \mid \sqrt{x_0^2 + x_1^2 + \dots + x_n^2} = 1 \right\}$$

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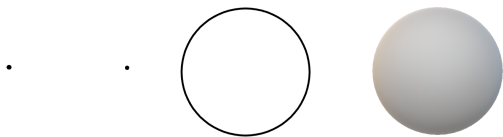


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S^0

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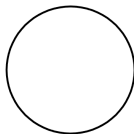
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S^0



S^1



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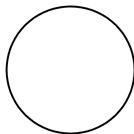
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S^0



S^1



S^2

Homotopy Group

Definition

The n^{th} homotopy group of a space X , $\pi_n(X)$, is the set of homotopy classes of based maps $S^n \rightarrow X$. The group operation is defined by composing the wedge of two maps with the pinch map $S^n \rightarrow S^n \vee S^n$.

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The Dream

$\pi_n(S^m)$
for all $n, m \in \mathbb{Z}_{\geq 0}$

	π_1	π_2	π_3	π_4	π_5	π_6	π_7	π_8	π_9	π_{10}	π_{11}	π_{12}	π_{13}	π_{14}	π_{15}
S^0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
S^1	Z	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
S^2	0	Z	Z	Z ₂	Z ₂	Z ₁₂	Z ₂	Z ₂	Z ₃	Z ₁₅	Z ₂	Z ₂ ²	Z ₁₂ ×Z ₂	Z ₈₄ ×Z ₂ ²	Z ₂ ²
S^3	0	0	Z	Z ₂	Z ₂	Z ₁₂	Z ₂	Z ₂	Z ₃	Z ₁₅	Z ₂	Z ₂ ²	Z ₁₂ ×Z ₂	Z ₈₄ ×Z ₂ ²	Z ₂ ²
S^4	0	0	0	Z	Z ₂	Z ₂	Z×Z ₁₂	Z ₂ ²	Z ₂ ²	Z ₂₄ ×Z ₃	Z ₁₅	Z ₂	Z ₂ ³	Z ₁₂₀ ×Z ₁₂ ×Z ₂	Z ₈₄ ×Z ₂ ⁵
S^5	0	0	0	0	Z	Z ₂	Z ₂	Z ₂₄	Z ₂	Z ₂	Z ₂	Z ₃₀	Z ₂	Z ₂ ³	Z ₇₂ ×Z ₂
S^6	0	0	0	0	0	Z	Z ₂	Z ₂	Z ₂₄	0	Z	Z ₂	Z ₆₀	Z ₂₄ ×Z ₂	Z ₂ ³
S^7	0	0	0	0	0	0	Z	Z ₂	Z ₂	Z ₂₄	0	0	Z ₂	Z ₁₂₀	Z ₂ ³
S^8	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	Z	Z ₂	Z ₂	Z ₂₄	0	0	Z ₂	Z×Z ₁₂₀

The Dream

Revised

The Dream

Revised

For large enough k , $\pi_{n+k}(S^k)$ is constant. We call this eventually reached group $\pi_n^S(S^0)$, the n^{th} stable homotopy group of S^0 or the n^{th} stable stem.

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$$\pi_n^S(S^0)$$

for all $n \in \mathbb{Z}$

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Localization

One Prime at a Time

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One strategy is to see what we can discover about the p -torsion part of $\pi_n(S^0)$, then assemble that information for every prime p .

Thanks!

