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by 11 pm.

The fundamental group.

(X, x_0) X is a topological space

$x_0 \in X$ base point

We will give a group structure to the set of homotopy classes

$$([0, 1], \{0, 1\}) \rightarrow (X, \{x_0\}) .$$

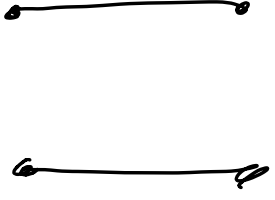
First we need to define the

operation :

$$f, g: ([0, 1], \{0, 1\}) \rightarrow (X, \{x_0\})$$
$$f * g(t) = \begin{cases} f(2t) & t \in [0, \frac{1}{2}] \\ g(2t-1) & t \in (\frac{1}{2}, 1] \end{cases}$$

when $t = \frac{1}{2}$
 $f(2(\frac{1}{2})) = g(2(\frac{1}{2})-1)$
continuous

* defines a binary operation on paths



GROUPS

A group is a pair (G, \cdot) where G is a set and \cdot is a binary operation satisfying:

Closure

If $a, b \in G \Rightarrow a \cdot b \in G$.

identity

There exists an $e \in G$ s.t.

$$a \cdot e = e \cdot a = a \quad \forall a \in G.$$

inverse

$\forall a \in G, \exists a^{-1} \in G$ such that $a \cdot a^{-1} = a^{-1} \cdot a = e$.

associativity

$\forall a, b, c \in G$ we have

$$(a \cdot b) \cdot c = a \cdot (b \cdot c).$$

EXAMPLES

2. \mathbb{Z} with operation of addition.

Closure $n, m \in \mathbb{Z} \Rightarrow n+m \in \mathbb{Z}$

identity $0 \in \mathbb{Z}$ is the identity

since $0+n = n+0 = n \quad \forall n \in \mathbb{Z}$

inverses If $n \in \mathbb{Z}$ the $-n \in \mathbb{Z}$ is the inverse since

$$n + (-n) = (-n) + n = 0.$$

ASSOC $(n+m) + s = n + (m+s)$.

2. X is a topological space.

$G = \text{Homeo}(X) =$ homeomorphisms of X to itself

binary operation is composition

CLOSURE

Given $f, g \in \text{Homeo}(X) \Rightarrow f \circ g \in \text{Homeo}(X)$.

NOTE: $f \circ g$ is not necessarily $=$ to $g \circ f$.

Identity

Define $e: X \rightarrow X$ by $e(x) = x$
 $\forall x \in X$.

$$\Rightarrow f \circ e = e \circ f = f \quad \forall f \in \text{Homeo}(X)$$

$$f \circ e(x) = f(x)$$

Inverses

Since $f \in \text{Homeo}(X) \Rightarrow \exists f^{-1} \in \text{Homeo}(X)$

with $f \circ f^{-1} = f^{-1} \circ f = e$.

ASSOC

$$(f \circ g) \circ h = f \circ (g \circ h)$$

Given $f : ([0,1], [0,1]) \rightarrow (X, [x_0, x_1])$

We let $[f]$ be the equivalence class
of maps homotopic to f as pairs.
(path homotopic)

We've defined $f * g$.

We need to show that

$[f] * [g] = [f * g]$ is well defined.

That is we need to show

if $f_0 \simeq_p f_1$ and $g_0 \simeq_p g_1$

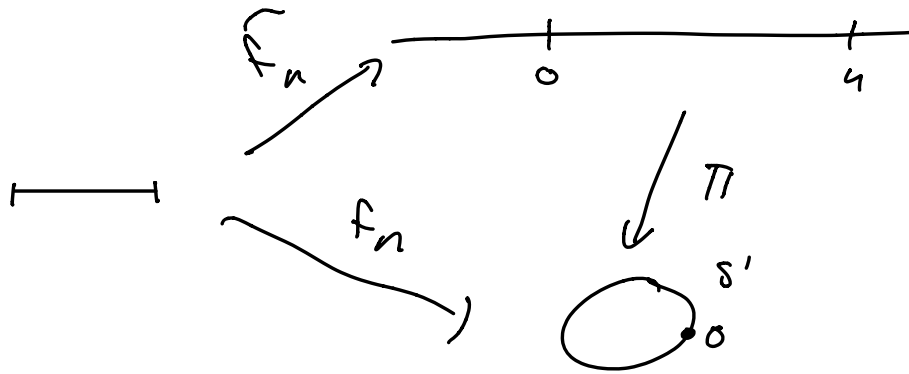
then $[f_0 * g_0] = [f_1 * g_1]$.

EXAMPLE

Recall our maps

$$\tilde{f}_n(\epsilon) = n\epsilon$$

$$f_n: ([0, \beta], [0, \beta]) \rightarrow (S^1, [0])$$



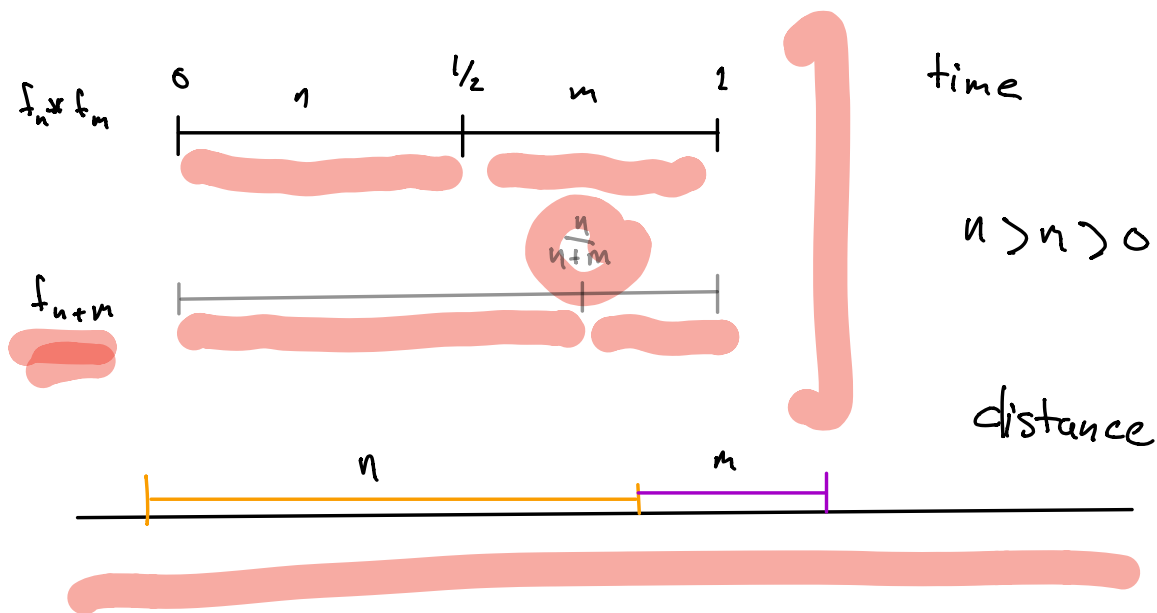
Then $f_n * f_m \simeq_p f_{n+m}$.

If $n \neq m$ then $f_n * f_m \neq f_{2n}$

but otherwise they are only homotopic.

To see $f_n * f_m \approx_p f_{n+m}$

we need to reparameterize

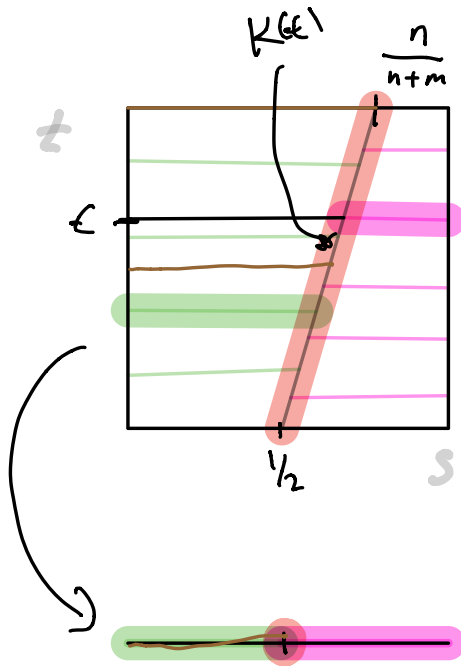


First define homotopy of

$$\text{id}: [0,1] \rightarrow [0,1]$$

that "stretches" $[0, 1/2]$ to $[0, \frac{n}{n+m}]$

and shrink $[1/2, 1]$ to $[\frac{n}{n+m}, 1]$.



$$G(s, \epsilon) = \begin{cases} \frac{s}{2k(\epsilon)} & \text{if } s \leq k(\epsilon) \\ & s > k(\epsilon) \end{cases}$$

$$(1-\epsilon) \frac{1}{2} + \epsilon \frac{n}{n+m} = k(\epsilon) = s$$

$$f_n * f_m \rightarrow \frac{(s - k(\epsilon))}{1 - k(\epsilon)} \cdot \frac{1}{2} + \frac{1}{2} \frac{(s - 1)}{k(\epsilon) - 1}$$

Define

$$h_\epsilon(s) = H(s, \epsilon) = (f_n * f_m) \circ G(s, \epsilon)$$

Then $h_0 = f_n * f_m$ and $h_1 = f_{n+m}$