

# Lecture 8: Deforming spaces.

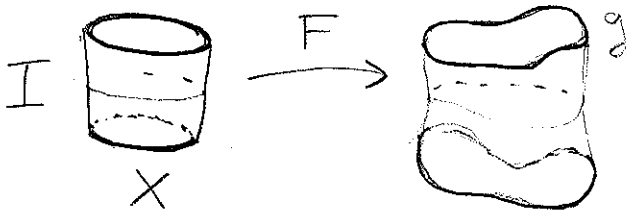
Last time:  $h: (X, x_0) \rightarrow (Y, y_0)$  gives a

homomorphism  $h_*: \pi_1(X, x_0) \rightarrow \pi_1(Y, y_0)$

$$[f] \rightarrow [h \circ f]$$

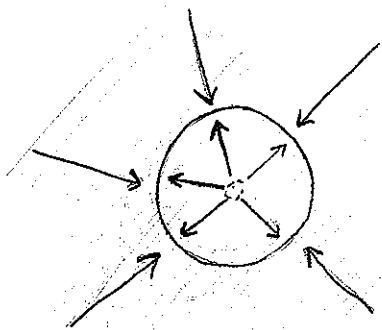
Previously:  $f, g: X \rightarrow Y$  are homotopic if

$\exists F: X \times I \rightarrow Y$  with  $F(x, 0) = f(x)$  and  $F(x, 1) = g(x)$  for all  $x \in X$ .



Def: A retraction of a space  $X$  to a subspace  $A$  is a map  $r: X \rightarrow A$  with  $r|_A = id_A$ .

Ex:  $X = \mathbb{R}^2 \setminus \{0\}$ ,  $A = S^1$ ,  $r(x) = \frac{x}{|x|}$



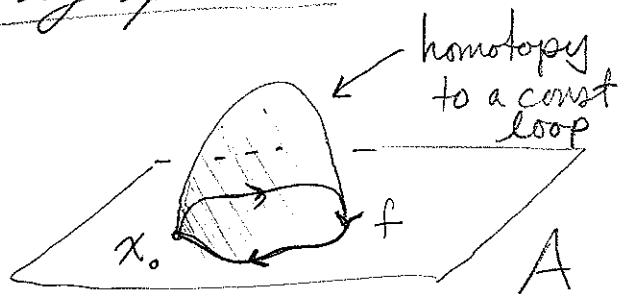
Lemma: If  $X$  retracts to  $A$ , then

$$\pi_1(A, x_0) \xrightarrow{i_*} \pi_1(X, x_0) \text{ is 1-1}$$

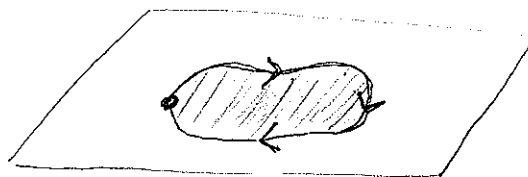
where  $i: A \hookrightarrow X$  is inclusion.

So:  $\pi_1 X \cong \mathbb{Z}$ . [In fact, they're equal...]

Pf by picture:



Use  $r$  to push homotopy down into  $A$



$$[f] \text{ in } \ker(i_*) \implies [f] = 1.$$

Pf by Algebra: Have

$$\pi_1(A, x_0) \xrightarrow{i_*} \pi_1(X, x_0) \xrightarrow{r_*} \pi_1(A, x_0)$$

$$r_* \circ i_* = (r \circ i)_* = (\text{id}_A)_* = \text{id}$$

and so  $i_*$  is 1-1. ▣

Note: When  $X$  retracts to  $A$ , don't always have

$$\pi_1 A \cong \pi_1 X. \text{ E.g. } r: \text{figure-eight} \rightarrow \text{circle}$$

Notation: For

$$F: X \times I \rightarrow Y$$

there is an assoc. family of maps  $f_t: X \rightarrow Y$

defined by  $f_t(x) = F(x, t)$ . [E.g.  $F$  is a homotopy

between  $f_0$  and  $f_1$ .]

Def:  $X$  deformation retracts to  $A$ , if there is a family of maps  $f_t: X \rightarrow X$  with  $f_0 = id_X$ ,  $f_t(X) \subseteq A$ , and  $f_t|_A = id_A$  for all  $t$ .

Ex:

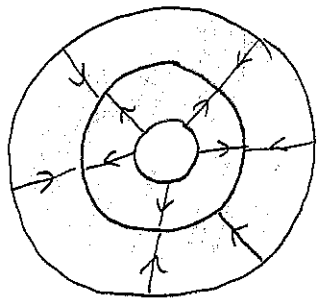
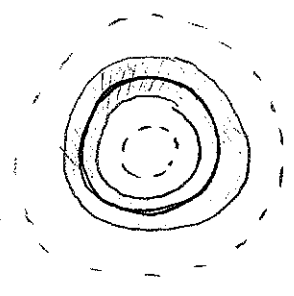
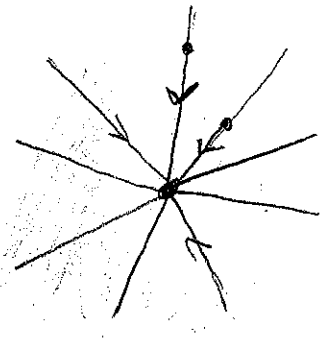


image of  $f_{1/2}$

$X = \{1/2 < |x| < 3/2\}$   
 $A = S^1$



Ex:  $X = \mathbb{R}^2$ ,  $A = \{0\}$  where  $f_t(x) = (1-t)x$



Ex:  $X = \mathbb{R}^2 \setminus \{0\}$ ,  $A = S^1$  (HW!)

Thm: if  $X$  def. retracts to  $A$ , then

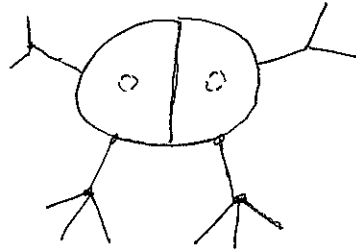
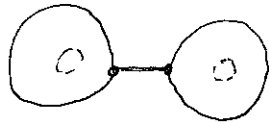
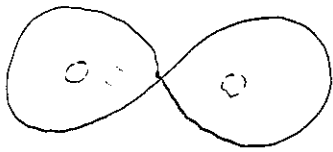
$i_*: \pi_1(A, x_0) \rightarrow \pi_1(X, x_0)$  is an isomorphism, where  $x_0 \in A$ .

Proof: if  $[g] \in \pi_1(X, x_0)$ , then  $g = f_0 \circ g$

$\simeq_p f_t \circ g$  since  $f_t(x_0) = x_0$  for all  $t$ . So

$i_*([f_t \circ g]) = [g]$ . So  $i_*$  is onto. ▣

Ex: The following subspaces are def. retracts of  $X = \mathbb{R}^2 \setminus \{\text{two pts}\} \Rightarrow$  all have  $\pi_1 = F_2 \leftarrow$  free gp on two gens.



Def:  $X$  and  $Y$  are homotopy equivalent if  $\exists$  maps  $X \xrightleftharpoons[f]{g} Y$  with  $g \circ f \simeq \text{id}_X$  and  $f \circ g \simeq \text{id}_Y$ . Write  $X \simeq Y$ .

Ex: Suppose  $X$  def. retracts to  $A$  via  $f_t$ . Then  $X \simeq A$ , via  $X \xrightleftharpoons[i]{f_1} A$  since  $f_1 \circ i = \text{id}_A$  and  $i \circ f_1 = f_1 \simeq f_0 = \text{id}_X$ .

Note: homotopy equivalence is an equivalence relation. Homotopy type is what Alg. Top "sees".

Fact:  $X \simeq Y$  iff  $\exists$  a space  $Z \supset A, B$  with  $X \simeq A$ ,  $Y \simeq B$  and  $Z$  def. retracting to both  $A$  and  $B$ .

Thm: If  $f: X \rightarrow Y$  is a homotopy equivalence, then  $f_*: \pi_1(X, x_0) \rightarrow \pi_1(Y, f(x_0))$  is an isomorphism.

Idea (ignoring base points!)

Lemma: If  $f_t: X \rightarrow Y$  is a family of maps, then  $(f_0)_* = (f_1)_*: \pi_1 X \rightarrow \pi_1 Y$ .

Then

$$\pi_1 X \begin{matrix} \xrightarrow{f_*} \\ \xleftarrow{g_*} \end{matrix} \pi_1 Y$$

and  $g_* \circ f_* = (g \circ f)_* = (\text{id}_X)_* = \text{id}_{\pi_1 X}$ .

Similarly,  $f_* \circ g_* = \text{id}_{\pi_1 Y}$ . Thus

$f_*$  and  $g_*$  are inverse bijections. ▣

For details, see Prop 1.18 in Hatcher.

