

Lecture 7: Applications of π_1

Last time: Thm $\pi_1 S^1 = \mathbb{Z}$, $\pi_1(\infty) = \text{FreeGroup}(a, b)$
 [Soon will give Van Kampen's Thm, let us compute π_1 .]

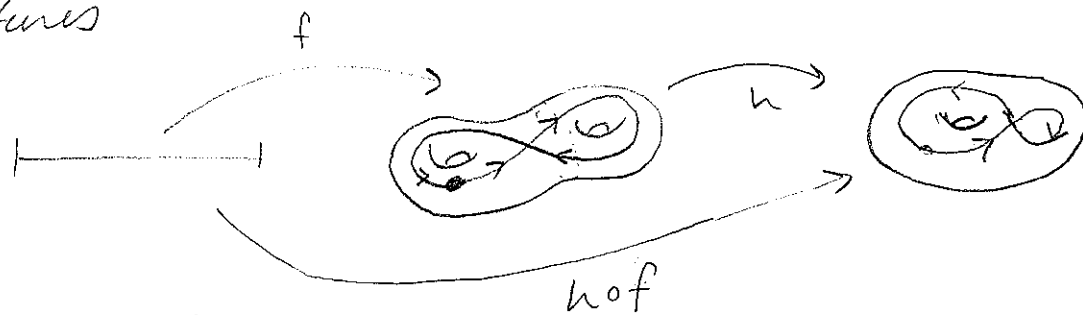
Today:

Fund Thm of Algebra: Every non-constant poly $p(z) \in \mathbb{C}[z]$ has a root in \mathbb{C} .

Brouwer Fixed Point Thm: For every cont map $h: D^2 \rightarrow D^2$, there is an $x \in D^2$ with $f(x) = x$.

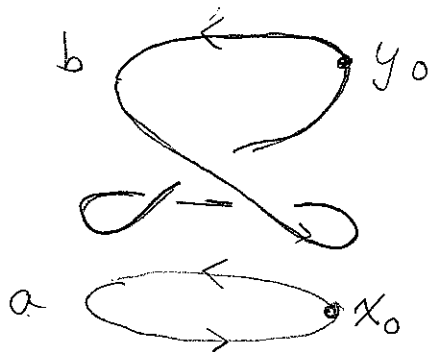
Induced maps: $h: (X, x_0) \rightarrow (Y, y_0)$ gives
 [Functoriality.] $h_*: \pi_1(X, x_0) \rightarrow \pi_1(Y, y_0)$ via
 $[f.] \rightarrow [h \circ f.]$

In pictures



h_* is a group homomorphism.

Ex: $h: S^1 \rightarrow S^1$
 $z \mapsto z^2$



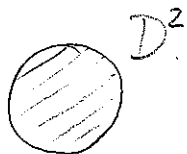
Then
 $h_*: \pi_1(S^1, y_0) \rightarrow \pi_1(S^1, x_0)$
 $\parallel \qquad \qquad \parallel$
 $\langle b \rangle \qquad \qquad \langle a \rangle$
 $b \mapsto a^2$

Written additively, $h_*: \mathbb{Z} \rightarrow \mathbb{Z}$ is mult by 2.

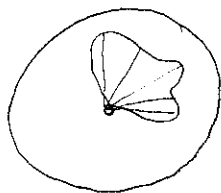
in general, $z \mapsto z^n$ induces mult by n on $\pi_1 S^1$.

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Q: What is $\pi_1(D^2)$, where $D^2 = \{x \in \mathbb{C} \mid |x| \leq 1\}$

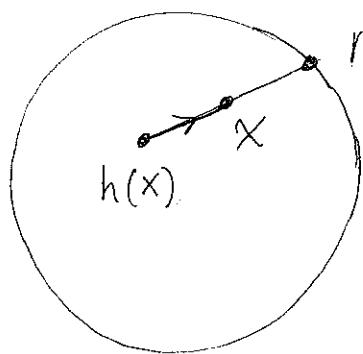


A: Trivial.



Given $f: [0,1] \rightarrow D^2$
a loop at $\vec{0}$, set
 $F(s,t) = tf(s)$.

Proof of B.T.P.T: Suppose $h: D^2 \rightarrow D^2$ has no fixed points. Define $r: D^2 \rightarrow S^1$ via the

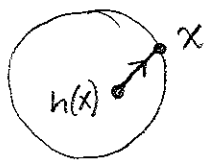


fixed points. Define $r: D^2 \rightarrow S^1$ via the picture at left. Note r is continuous. [Explicitly, can find a formula for $r(x)$ by noting

$$r(x) = t(x - h(x)) + x \text{ where } t \geq 0$$


is chosen so that $|r(x)| = 1$.]


Key: $r|_{S^1} = \text{id}|_{S^1}$



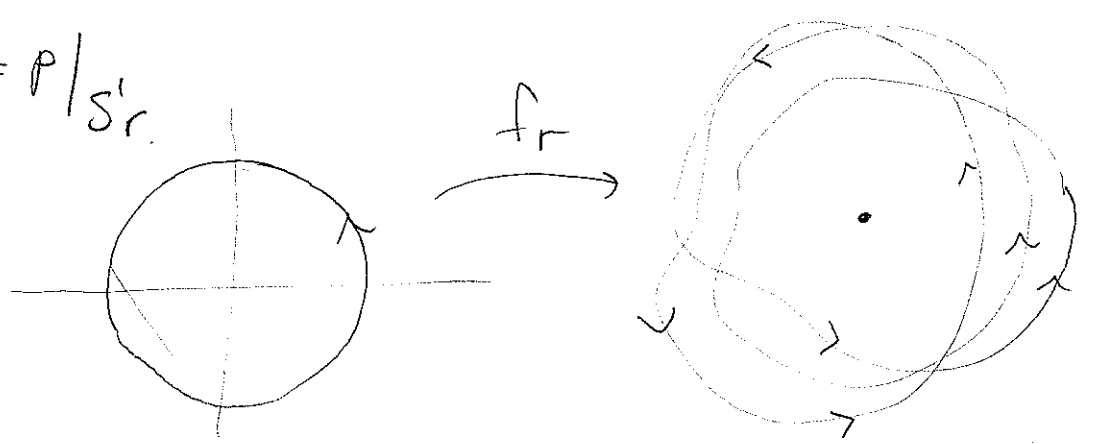
Claim: There does not exist $r: D^2 \rightarrow S^1$ with

$r|_{S^1} = \text{id}|_{S^1}$. [Such an r is called a retract of D^2 to S^1]

Pf 1: Consider the map $S^1 \rightarrow S^1$ which is the identity. By assumption, this extends to a map $D^2 \rightarrow S^1$. By HW, we know that $\mapsto \overrightarrow{a}$  must thus be trivial in $\pi_1 S^1$, a contradiction since it generates $\pi_1 S^1 = \mathbb{Z}$.

Pf 2: The map $r_*: \pi_1(D^2, 1) \rightarrow \pi_1(S^1, 1)$ has trivial image, since $\uparrow = 0$. If $f: [0, 1] \rightarrow S^1$ given by $s \mapsto e^{-2\pi s i}$, then $r_*([f]) = [r \circ f] = [\text{id}|_{S^1} \circ f] = [f]$ which generates $\pi_1(S^1, 1)$, a contradiction. 

Proof of the F.T.A. Let $p(z) = z^n + a_{n-1}z^{n-1} + \dots + a_0$ be any polynomial. Let $S'_r = \{z \in \mathbb{C} \mid |z| = r\}$, $Y = \mathbb{C} \setminus \{0\}$. For r large have $f_r: S'_r \rightarrow Y$ given by $f_r = p|_{S'_r}$.



Claim 1: $\pi_1 Y = \mathbb{Z}$, char by winding number.

Claim 2: The map $\pi_1(S_r^1) \rightarrow \pi_1(Y)$ is mult by n .

[Argue claim 1 is plausible, as is claim 2 if you consider $a_k = 0$.]

Assume p has no roots. Then

$$\begin{array}{ccccc} & & & & \downarrow \\ & & \xrightarrow{f_r} & & \\ S_r^1 & \xrightarrow{i} & \mathbb{C} & \xrightarrow{p} & Y \end{array}$$

and so

$$\begin{array}{ccccc} \mathbb{Z} & & 0 & & \mathbb{Z} \\ \pi_1(S_r^1) & \xrightarrow{i_*} & \pi_1(\mathbb{C}) & \xrightarrow{p_*} & \pi_1(Y) \\ & & \xrightarrow{f_{r*}} & & \uparrow \end{array}$$

Note that $p_* \circ i_* = f_{r*}$ but the first is the 0 map and the other mult by n . Thus $n=0$ or p is constant.

Formalization: Consider $f_r: I \rightarrow S^1$ given by

$$f_r(s) = \frac{p(re^{-2\pi si})/p(r)}{|p(re^{-2\pi si})/p(r)|} \text{ which makes sense if } p \text{ has no zeros.}$$

This is a loop at 1, and equal to 0 in $\pi_1 S^1$ (take $r \rightarrow 0$)
O.T.O.H., when r is large, see that $[f]_1 = n[\text{gen}]$.