

Higher homotopy groups and cell complexes

Theorem: Suppose X is a cell complex and Y is obtained from X by attaching an $(n+1)$ cell along a map $f: (S^n, s_0) \rightarrow (X^n, x_0)$
 The inclusion $i: X \hookrightarrow Y$ induces

$$i_*: \pi_k(X, x_0) \rightarrow \pi_k(Y, x_0)$$

and for $k < n$ i_* is an isomorphism

and for $k = n$ i_* is surjective and $\ker(i_*)$ is generated by $B_f[\gamma]$ for all $[\gamma] \in \pi_n(X, x_0)$.

$$\pi_n(Y, x_0) \cong \pi_n(X, x_0) / \ker(i_*)$$

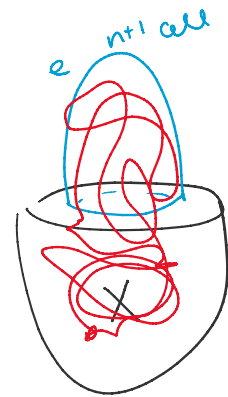


Proof: Surjectivity $i_*: \pi_n$:

For any $[\gamma] \in \pi_n(Y, x_0)$

Initially γ may intersect the

$$(n+1) \text{ cell } \gamma: (S^n, s_0) \rightarrow (Y, x_0)$$



$i < n+1$

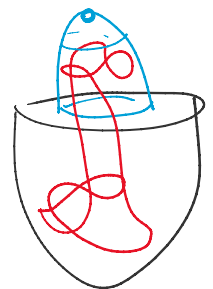
so there is a homotopy of γ such that image of γ misses a point in e^{n+1}

e^{n+1} - pt def retracts to $\partial e^{n+1} \subset X^n$

so an further homotopy γ' off of e^{n+1}

Then image of γ' is in X

so $[\gamma'] \in \text{im}(i_*)$.

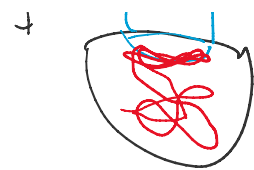


Injectivity for $i < n$:

$$\gamma: (S^i, s_0) \rightarrow (X, x_0)$$

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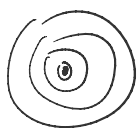
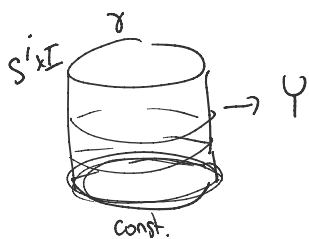
Suppose $i_X[\gamma] = 0$

i.e. if γ is homotopic to constant in Y

want to show it is homotopic to constant through a homotopy in X .

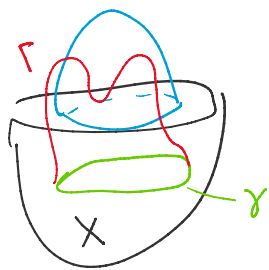
γ is homotopic to a constant in $Y \Leftrightarrow$

$$\exists \Gamma: D^{i+1} \rightarrow Y \text{ s.t. } \Gamma|_{\partial D^{i+1}} = \gamma$$



If $i+1 < n+1 \Leftrightarrow i < n$

then can homotope Γ to avoid a point in e^{n+1}
 + then def retract Γ off of e^{n+1} , fixing Γ on ∂D^{i+1}



homotope Γ



$\Rightarrow \exists$ homotopy in X
 from γ to constant
 $[\gamma] = 1 \in \pi_i(X, x_0)$

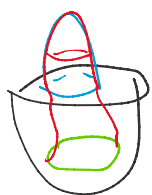
$i = n$ case

Same idea to start

$$\gamma: (S^n, s_0) \rightarrow (X, x_0)$$

$$i_X[\gamma] = 0 \Leftrightarrow \exists \Gamma: D^{n+1} \rightarrow Y \text{ s.t. } \Gamma|_{\partial D^{n+1}} = \gamma$$

Now try to homotope Γ and it gets stuck on e^{n+1}

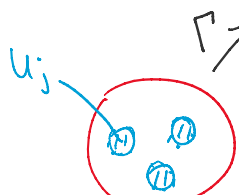


Up to homotopy can adjust Γ (fixing ∂D^{n+1})

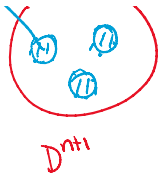
so that

$$\Gamma^{-1}(e^{n+1}) = \bigcup_{j=1}^N U_j$$

s.t. $\Gamma|_{U_j}$ is a homeomorphism to e^{n+1}

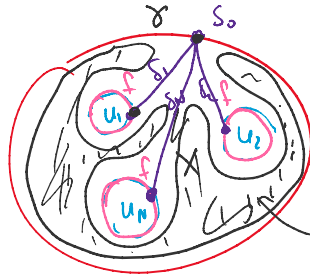


$\gamma = s_0$



U_j

f is attaching map for the $n+1$ cell



gives a homotopy from γ to $\prod_{j=1}^n B_{S_j}[f]$

$\Rightarrow \text{Ker } i_*$ is generated by $B_S[f]$

\square

Remark: The theorem said nothing about $\text{add } n+1 \text{ cell}$

$$i_*: \pi_k(X, x_0) \rightarrow \pi_k(Y, x_0) \quad \text{when } k \geq n+1.$$

Defn: G abelian group, $n \geq 1$ ($n=1$ G can be any group)
 $K(G, n)$ is a topological space X with

$$\pi_n(X, x_0) \cong G$$

$$\text{and } \pi_k(X, x_0) = 0 \text{ for } k \neq n.$$

Theorem: for any G, n There exists a cell complex which is a $K(G, n)$.

Proof: 1st choose a presentation for G

$$\langle \{x_\alpha\}_{\alpha \in A} \mid \{r_\beta\}_{\beta \in B} \rangle$$

↑
generators

$$\text{Let } X_0 = \bigvee_{\alpha \in A} S_\alpha^n$$

$$\pi_n(\bigvee_{\alpha \in A} S_\alpha^n, s_0) \cong \bigoplus_{\alpha \in A} \mathbb{Z}$$

$$\pi_k(\bigvee_{\alpha \in A} S_\alpha^n, s_0) = 0 \text{ for } k < n.$$

Don't know for $k > n$.

Attach an $n+1$ cell for each relation $r_\beta \xrightarrow{\text{result}} X_{n+1}$

+ use Theorem to say $\pi_k(X_0, x_0) \cong \pi_k(X_{n+1}, x_0)$ for $k < n$

and $\pi_n(X_{n+1}, x_0) \cong \pi_n(X_0, x_0) / \text{attaching maps} \rightarrow \pi_n$

$$\pi_k(X_{n+1}, x_0) = \begin{cases} 0 & k < n \\ G & k = n \\ ? & k > n \end{cases}$$

$\pi_{n+1}(X_{n+1}, x_0)$ may be nontrivial

For each generator of $\pi_{n+1}(X_{n+1}, x_0)$, attach an $(n+2)$ -cell imposing a relation killing that generator.

Call result of attaching $(n+2)$ -cells for all generators of $\pi_{n+1}(X_{n+1}, x_0)$

$$X_{n+2} \quad \pi_k(X_{n+2}, x_0) = \begin{cases} 0 & k < n \\ G & k = n \\ 0 & k = n+1 \\ ? & k \geq n+2 \end{cases}$$

Repeat over & over to gradually kill off more & more homotopy groups

X_{n+j} have right homotopy groups up to level $n+j$.

This specifies an infinite dimensional complex X which is a $K(G, n)$.

□

Example: A $K(\underline{\mathbb{Z}}, 2)$ is given by $\mathbb{C}P^\infty$

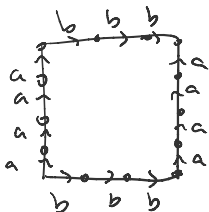
Downside of higher homotopy is its to compute & control

Upside: carries abt more info about homotopy type of X

Whitehead Theorem: If $f: X \rightarrow Y$ (CW complexes)

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induces isomorphisms $f_*: \pi_n(X) \rightarrow \pi_n(Y)$ then f is a homotopy equivalence.



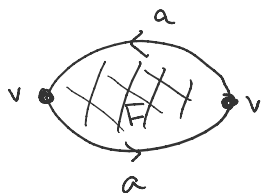
$$g \in G \quad \Phi: G \rightarrow \text{Homeo}(X)$$

$$\Phi(g)(x) =: g \cdot x$$

$$[\sigma] \in \pi_1(X, x_0)$$



$$B_g: \pi_n(X, x_0) \rightarrow \pi_n(X, x_0)$$



$$0 \xrightarrow{d_3} \mathbb{Z}/2\mathbb{Z} \langle F \rangle \xrightarrow{d_2 = \times 2} \mathbb{Z}/2\mathbb{Z} \langle a \rangle \xrightarrow{d_1 = 0} \mathbb{Z}/2\mathbb{Z} \langle v \rangle \xrightarrow{d_0} 0$$

$$d_1(a) = v - v$$

$$d_2(F) = a + a = 2a$$

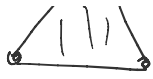
$$H_2(\mathbb{R}P^2; \mathbb{Z}/2) = \text{Ker } d_2 / \text{Im } d_3 \cong \mathbb{Z}/2\mathbb{Z}$$

$$H_1(\mathbb{R}P^2; \mathbb{Z}/2) = \text{Ker } d_1 / \text{Im } d_2 = \mathbb{Z}/2\mathbb{Z}$$

$$H_0(\mathbb{R}P^2; \mathbb{Z}/2) = \text{Ker } d_0 / \text{Im } d_1 = \mathbb{Z}/2\mathbb{Z}$$



$$d_n(\sigma) = \sum_{i=0}^n (-1)^i \sigma|_{\Gamma_{v_0 \dots \hat{v}_i \dots v_n}}$$



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over $\mathbb{Z}/2$ $(-1) = 1$

$$\text{so } d_n(\sigma) = \sum \sigma|_{[v_0 \dots \hat{v}_i \dots v_n]}$$

$$d_{n-1} \circ d_n = 0$$