Lecture 2 - The fundamental group functor. Homotopy of maps

## Algebraic Topology (SS 2023-24)

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## Overview

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1. Recap
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2. The fundamental group
3. Change of basepoint
4. Extending $\pi_{1}$ to a functor
5. Homotopy of maps
6. The fundamental group
7. Change of basepoint
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4. Extending $\pi_{1}$ to a functor




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- Examples: "all continuous maps", "all continuous maps which are homeomorphisms", "Lipschitz-continuous maps", "group homomorphisms", "ring homomorphisms" etc.


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- $F(s \circ t)=F(s) \circ F(t)$ for all composable morphisms $s, t$.


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- This allows us to define $\pi_{0}(f)$.

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Algebraic Topology
4. Extending 1 to a functor

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- The inverse is defined as $[\sigma]^{-1}:=\left[\sigma^{-1}\right]$, where $\sigma^{-1}(x):=\sigma(1-x)$.

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- Note that the argument in the last proof shows that if $\sigma: a \stackrel{p}{\rightsquigarrow} b$ then $\sigma^{-1} \sigma$ is a loop at $a$ which is contractible.

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1. Recap
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2. The fundamental group
3. Change of basepoint
4. Extending $\pi_{1}$ to a functor
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Algebraic Topolog
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This corollary allows us to somewhat informally talk about the fundamental group $\pi_{1}(X)$ of $X$, without referring to a chosen point of $X$, whenever $X$ is path-connected.

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- morphisms between $(X, a)$ and $(Y, b)$ : all continuous maps $f: X \rightarrow Y$ such that $f(a)=f(b)$.
- We extend $\pi_{1}$ to a functor on this category: we need to define $\pi_{1}(f)$ as some homomorphism between the groups $\pi_{1}(X, a)$ and $\pi_{1}(Y, b)$. By convention $\pi_{1}(f)$ will be usually denoted by $f_{*}$.
- For a loop $\sigma$ in $X$ at $a$ we define $f_{*}([\sigma]):=[f \circ \sigma]$.
- $f_{*}$ is well defined: if $F: I \times I \rightarrow X$ is a homotopy between $\sigma$ and $\tau$ then $f \circ F$ is a homotopy between $f \circ \sigma$ and $f \circ \tau$.
- $f_{*}$ is a group homomorphism: $f \circ(\sigma \tau)=(f \circ \sigma)(f \circ \tau)$, which is clear by the definition of concatenation.


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This finishes the definition of the fundamental group functor.
5. Homotopy of maps

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- If a space $X$ is path-connected and $\pi_{1}(X)=\{0\}$ then we say that $X$ is simply connected.

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## THANK YOU FOR YOUR ATTENTION!

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