

§ 1.3 Covering Spaces

Recall (Feb 14). Covering space of X :

$p: Y \rightarrow X$ locally looking like $V_1 \sqcup V_2 \sqcup \dots$

$U \subset X$ open neigh. of $x \in X$

$V_i \subset Y$ open, homeo to U (by $p|_{V_i}: V_i \rightarrow U$)

$p^{-1}(U) = V_1 \sqcup V_2 \sqcup \dots$ for the induced top.

U is evenly covered by p .

Ex. $p: \mathbb{R} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}/\mathbb{Z} (\cong S^1)$, $t \mapsto [t]$.

Blanket assumption: spaces are (path)-conn.

and locally path conn. ($\forall x \in X$, $U \ni x \exists x \in V \subset U$
open V is path conn.)

What is "the biggest covering" over X ?

\tilde{X} conn. $p: \tilde{X} \rightarrow X$ cov. s.t.

any other cov. $q: Y \rightarrow X$ factors p ($\tilde{X} \rightarrow Y \rightarrow X$)

Prop 1.33 $x_0 \in X$, $y_0 \in q^{-1}(x_0)$, $\tilde{x}_0 \in p^{-1}(x_0)$

Then $\exists \tilde{f}: \tilde{X} \rightarrow Y$ s.t. $q \circ \tilde{f} = p$ iff $p_*(\pi_1(\tilde{X}, \tilde{x}_0)) \subset q_*(\pi_1(Y, y_0))$

(Then a universal \tilde{X} should have the smallest $\pi_1(\tilde{X}, \tilde{x}_0)$
 guaranteed if $\pi_1(\tilde{X}, \tilde{x}_0) = \{e\}$. (\tilde{X} is simply connected))

Pf. Only if: $q_* \tilde{f}_* = p_*$ and $\tilde{f}_*(\pi_1(\tilde{X}, \tilde{x}_0)) \subset \pi_1(Y, y_0)$

If: Step 1 Candidate for $f(\tilde{x})$

$\gamma^{\tilde{X}}$: path (in \tilde{X}) from \tilde{x}_0 to \tilde{x}

set $\gamma^X = p \circ \gamma^{\tilde{X}}$ path in X , γ' : lift of γ^X to

a path in Y , starting at y_0 (γ' is unique)

$f(\tilde{x}) = \gamma'(1)$ (endpoint of γ').

Step 2 f is well-defined.

$\tilde{\gamma}^x$ another path from \tilde{x}_0 to \tilde{x}

$\rightsquigarrow \gamma^x = p \circ \tilde{\gamma}^x$, γ' lift of γ^x starting at y_0

$\gamma^x, \tilde{\gamma}^x$: paths from x_0 to $p(\tilde{x})$

$\rightsquigarrow \gamma^x \cdot \tilde{\gamma}^x = p \circ (\tilde{\gamma}^x \cdot \tilde{\gamma}^x)$ loop at x_0
inv. path

(in the img of p_x)

$\Rightarrow \exists$ lift h' of $h \sim \gamma^x \cdot \tilde{\gamma}^x$ as a loop based at y_0
 $\text{img } p_x \subset \text{img } q_x$ path homotop

lift of path homotop. shows: the lift of $\gamma^x \cdot \tilde{\gamma}^x$ is also a loop at y_0 .

uniqueness of lifts: γ' and $\tilde{\gamma}'$ have the same endpoints

Step 3 f is cont.

fix $\tilde{x} \in \tilde{X}$, neigh. U of $p(\tilde{x})$ evenly covered

by p and q , $\tilde{U} \subset \tilde{X}$ comp. of $p^{-1}(U)$

(containing \tilde{x}).

$V \subset Y$ comp of $q^{-1}(U)$ containing $f(\tilde{x})$

$\rightsquigarrow f|_{\tilde{U}}: \tilde{U} \rightarrow V$ is homeo.
(identity \tilde{U}, V with U) \square

Realization of univ. covering.

X locally simply conn. ($\forall x \in X, \exists \text{ open } U \ni x \in U \subset \cup V$
 V simply conn.)

x_0 fixed basept. in X

$\Rightarrow \tilde{X} = \{ [\gamma] : \gamma \text{ path in } X, \text{ starting at } x_0 \}$

$p: \tilde{X} \rightarrow X, [\gamma] \mapsto \gamma(1)$

$\tilde{x}_0 = [\text{const path at } x_0]$

Topology on \tilde{X}

V simply conn. open neigh of x .

γ : path from x_0 to x .

$$\Rightarrow \tilde{V} = \{[\gamma, \gamma'] : \gamma' \text{ path from } x \text{ to } x' \in V \text{ in } V\}$$

$p|_{\tilde{V}} : \tilde{V} \rightarrow V$ is bijective.

the sets of the form \tilde{V} form a basis of topology on \tilde{X} .

Example $X = \mathbb{R}/\mathbb{Z}$ $x_0 = [0]$,

$$\tilde{X} = \mathbb{R} \quad \tilde{x}_0 = 0$$

paths from $[0]$ to $[t]$ lift to paths from 0 to $t+n$, $n \in \mathbb{Z}$

lass $Y = \mathbb{R}/k\mathbb{Z}$ $k=2,3,4, \dots$ $y_0 = [0]_Y$

$$q : Y \rightarrow X \quad [t]_Y \mapsto [t]_X$$

$q_* (\pi_1(Y, y_0)) \subset \pi_1(X, x_0)$ corr. to $k\mathbb{Z} \subset \mathbb{Z}$.

generator of $\pi_1(Y, y_0)$ is $\gamma(t) = [kt]$ ($0 \leq t \leq 1$)

Classification of covering spaces

Galois correspondence (Th'm 1.38)

{ subgroups $H \subset \pi_1(X, x_0)$ }

\longleftrightarrow { covering spaces $q: Y \rightarrow X$

& $y_0 \in q^{-1}(x_0)$ }

{ subgrps H up to conjugacy }

\longleftrightarrow { cov. sp. $q: Y \rightarrow X$ }

Ex. $X = \mathbb{R}/\mathbb{Z}$ subgrps of $\mathbb{Z} : k\mathbb{Z}$ $k=0,1,2, \dots$

$k=0$ corr to \mathbb{R} $k>0$ corr to $\mathbb{R}/k\mathbb{Z}$

