

Lecture III Van Kampen Theorem

$X = \bigcup_{\alpha} A_{\alpha}$ ← path connected open,
 each contains the basepoint

$j_{\alpha} : \pi_1(A_{\alpha}) \rightarrow \pi_1(X)$ - homomorphism

This extends to $\Phi : \ast_{\alpha} \pi_1(A_{\alpha}) \rightarrow \pi_1(X)$
 free product

let $\ast_{\alpha} G_{\alpha} = \{g_1 \dots g_m\}$ - finite length $\mathbb{Z}_2 \ast \mathbb{Z}_2$ - good example

Φ is often surjective, except nontrivial kernel

$i_{\alpha\beta} : \pi_1(A_{\alpha} \cap A_{\beta}) \rightarrow \pi_1(A_{\alpha})$ $j_{\alpha} i_{\alpha\beta} = i_{\beta} i_{\beta\alpha} \Rightarrow$
 $i_{\alpha\beta}(\omega) i_{\beta\alpha}(\omega)^{-1} \in \ker \Phi$
 $\forall \omega \in \pi_1(A_{\alpha} \cap A_{\beta})$
 \Rightarrow kernel contains all elements

Theorem If $X = \bigcup A_{\alpha}$, each containing $x_0 \in X$
 and if $A_{\alpha} \cap A_{\beta}$ is path connected $\Rightarrow \Phi : \ast_{\alpha} \pi_1(A_{\alpha}) \rightarrow \pi_1(X)$
 is surjective. If, in addition $A_{\alpha} \cap A_{\beta} \cap A_{\gamma}$ is
 path-connected $\Rightarrow \ker \Phi$ is the normal subgroup
 N generated by $i_{\alpha\beta}(\omega) i_{\beta\alpha}(\omega)^{-1}$ for $\omega \in \pi_1(A_{\alpha} \cap A_{\beta})$
 $\Rightarrow \pi_1(X) \cong \ast_{\alpha} \pi_1(A_{\alpha}) / N$

Examples Wedge sums $\bigvee_{\alpha} X_{\alpha} = \bigcup_{\alpha} X_{\alpha} / \text{all basepoints identified}$

If each of $x_{\alpha} \in X_{\alpha}$, x_{α} - deformation retract of U_{α} - open neighborhood in X_{α}

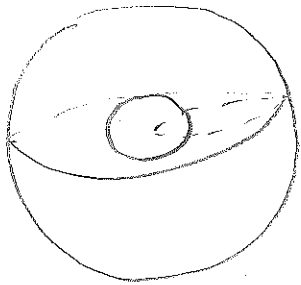
Then X_{α} is a def. retract of $A_{\alpha} = X_{\alpha} \vee_{\beta \neq \alpha} U_{\beta}$

$\Phi : \ast_{\alpha} \pi_1(X_{\alpha}) \rightarrow \pi_1(\bigvee_{\alpha} X_{\alpha})$ - isom.

For example $\pi_1(\bigvee_n S^1)$ - free group $\mathbb{Z} * \dots * \mathbb{Z}$ (12)

Ex. Show that the fundamental group of any connected graph is free.

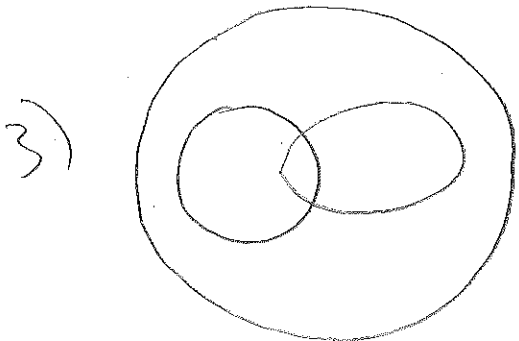
Ex. 1) Linking of circles
 $\mathbb{R}^3 \setminus$ single circle



$$S^1 \vee S^2 \Rightarrow \pi_1(\mathbb{R}^3 \setminus A) \cong \mathbb{Z}$$

since $\pi_1(S^2) = 0$

2) $\mathbb{R}^3 \setminus (A \cup B)$ unlinked circles
 $S^1 \vee S^1 \vee S^2 \vee S^2$ $\mathbb{Z} * \mathbb{Z}$



$$\pi^2 \vee S^2$$

$$\pi_1(S^1 \times S^1) \cong \mathbb{Z} \times \mathbb{Z}$$

More van Kampen: Genus g surface Σ_g

$U_0 = \Sigma_g \setminus \{p\}$, U_p - disk neighb. Σ_g

$$\Sigma_g = U_0 \cup U_p$$

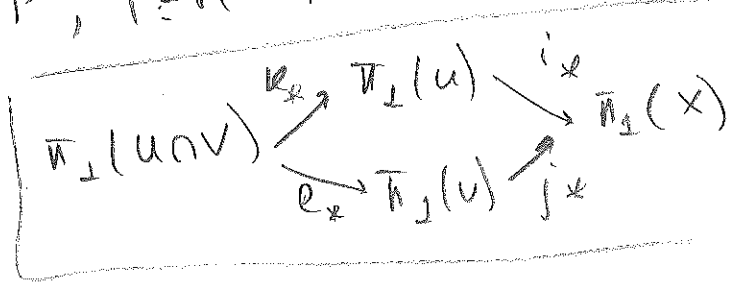
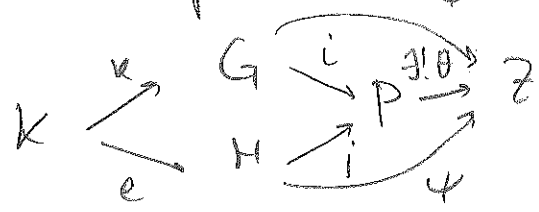
$$U_0 \cap U_p \cong S^1$$

$S^1 \rightarrow U_p$ - trivial

while $S^1 \rightarrow U_0$ $1 \in \mathbb{Z} \rightarrow a_1 b_1 a_1^{-1} b_1^{-1} \dots a_g b_g a_g^{-1} b_g^{-1}$

$$\pi_1(\Sigma_g) = ?$$

Def. Given groups G, H, K and homomorphisms $K \xrightarrow{\kappa} G$, $K \xrightarrow{\ell} H$ a pushout consists of a group P , homomorphisms $i: G \rightarrow P$, $j: H \rightarrow P$ such that $i\kappa = j\ell$.



any homomorphism $\phi: G \rightarrow Z$, $\psi: H \rightarrow Z$ s.t. $\phi\kappa = \psi\ell$
 $\exists!$ θ -homomorphism $P \rightarrow Z$ s.t. diagram commutes

Theorem If $K \xrightarrow{\kappa} G \xrightarrow{i} P$ and $K \xrightarrow{\kappa} G \xrightarrow{i'} P'$
 $K \xrightarrow{\ell} H \xrightarrow{j} P$ and $K \xrightarrow{\ell} H \xrightarrow{j'} P'$
 both pushout diagrams, then $\exists!$ isomorphism $\theta: P \rightarrow P'$ s.t. $\theta i = i'$, $\theta j = j'$

Proof. exercise.

Pushouts in terms of free products

