

Hurewicz Theorem: (simple version)

①

Thm:

- If  $X$  is  $(n-1)$ -connected ( $n \geq 2$ ), then the reduced homology  $\tilde{H}_i(X) = 0$  for  $i < n$ , and  $\pi_n(X) \cong H_n(X)$
- If  $(X, A)$  is  $(n-1)$ -conn. ( $n \geq 2$ ) and  $A \neq \emptyset$  simply connected, then  $H_i(X, A) = 0$  for  $i < n$  and  $\pi_n(X, A) \cong H_n(X, A)$ .

(however no such nice relation between  $H_i$  and  $\pi_i$  for  $i > n \dots$ )

\* Ex:  $H_i(S^n) = 0$  for  $0 \leq i < n$  and  $H_n(S^n) \cong \pi_n(S^n) \cong \mathbb{Z}$ .

\* Can be used to compute  $\pi_2(X)$  even if  $X$  not simply connected, by computing for universal cover:  $\pi_2(X) \cong \pi_2(\tilde{X}) \cong H_2(\tilde{X})$ .

\* Rmk:

- absolute version follows from relative one by setting  $A = \text{pt}$ ; conversely by excision
- rel. version assumes  $A$  simply-connected, and  $X$  as well (since  $(X, A)$  1-connected);  $\exists$  more complicated version that doesn't require this. (cf. below)
- recall for  $\pi_1$  and  $H_1$ :  $X$  connected  $\Rightarrow H_1 = \text{abelianization of } \pi_1$ .

Pf: by CW-approximation, can assume  $X$  is a CW-complex and  $(X, A)$  is a CW-pair. Relative case then reduces to absolute case since by excision, for a CW-pair  $\pi_i(X, A) \cong \pi_i(X/A) \quad \forall i \leq n$  (seen last time)  
 $H_i(X, A) \cong \tilde{H}_i(X/A) \quad \forall i$ .

Moreover, in absolute case, CW-approx.  $\Rightarrow$  can assume  $X = \text{point} \cup (\text{cells of dim.} \geq n)$ . This immediately implies  $\tilde{H}_i(X) = 0 \quad \forall i < n$ .

Cells of  $\text{dim.} \geq n+2$  have no impact on  $\pi_n$  or  $H_n \Rightarrow$  reduce to case where  $X = \left( \bigcup_{\alpha} S_{\alpha}^n \right) \cup \left( \bigcup_{\beta} e_{\beta}^{n+1} \right)$ , attached by basepoint-preserving maps  $\varphi_{\beta}: S^n \rightarrow X^n$  [CW-approximation gives this].

As seen last time,  $\pi_n(X) = \bigoplus_{\alpha} \mathbb{Z} / \langle [\varphi_{\beta}] \rangle$   $\begin{array}{l} \left( \text{i.e. } \pi_n(X) \cong \text{coker of } \partial \text{ map} \right. \\ \pi_{n+1}(X, X^n) \longrightarrow \pi_n(X^n) \\ \cong \bigoplus_{\beta} \mathbb{Z} \quad \quad \quad = \bigoplus_{\alpha} \mathbb{Z} \end{array} \right)$

But cellular homology calc. gives same answer!  
SINCE NO  $(n-1)$ -cells,

$$H_n(X) = \text{coker of cellular } \partial \text{ map } H_{n+1}(X^{n+1}, X^n) \xrightarrow{\partial} H_n(X^n) \quad , \quad \partial([e_{\beta}^{n+1}]) = \sum c_{\alpha\beta} [S_{\alpha}^n],$$

$$= C_{n+1} = \bigoplus_{\beta} \mathbb{Z} \quad = C_n = \bigoplus_{\alpha} \mathbb{Z} \quad c_{\alpha\beta} = \text{degree of } \varphi_{\beta} \text{ onto } S_{\alpha}^n$$

$c_{\alpha\beta} = \text{degree of } q_{\alpha} \circ \varphi_{\beta}$  ( $q_{\alpha} = \text{collapse all but } S_{\alpha}^n$ ); since  $\pi_n(S^n) \cong \mathbb{Z}$  is given by degree,

$c_{\alpha\beta}$  is also the coefft of  $[\varphi_{\beta}] \in \pi_n(X^n) \cong \bigoplus \mathbb{Z}$  on summed or

(2)

Corollary: homology version of Whitehead's thm.

|| A map  $f: X \rightarrow Y$  b/w simply conn. CW-complexes is a homotopy eq $\cong$  iff  $f_*: H_n(X) \rightarrow H_n(Y)$  is an isomorphism  $\forall n$ .

- Pf:
- after replacing  $Y$  by (homotopy equivalent) mapping cylinder  $M_f = [0,1] \times X \cup Y / \sim$  can assume  $f = \text{inclusion } X \hookrightarrow Y$
  - $X, Y$  simply connected  $\Rightarrow (Y, X)$  is 1-connected too, and Hurewicz applies.  
So: the first nonzero  $\pi_{n+1}(Y, X)$  is isomorphic to the first nonzero  $H_n(Y, X)$ .
  - if  $f_*$  isoms. on  $H_n$   $\forall n$  then l.e.s. in homology  $\Rightarrow H_n(Y, X) = 0 \quad \forall n$ .  
Hence  $\pi_{n+1}(Y, X) = 0 \quad \forall n$   
l.e.s. in homotopy  $\Rightarrow \pi_n(X) \xrightarrow{f_*} \pi_n(Y)$  isom.  $\forall n$   
Hence by Whitehead's thm,  $f$  is a homotopy eq $\cong$ .

- This statement is false when  $\pi_i \neq 0$ , for at least 2 reasons:

- 1)  $\pi_i$  nonabelian and  $H_i$  only sees its abelianization.

(e.g. Poincaré sphere  $S^3 / (\text{group of order 120 with trivial abelianization})$  misses point.  
has  $H_1 = H_1(\text{point})$  but nontrivial  $\pi_1$ .)

- 2) even when  $\pi_i$  is abelian, the action of  $\pi_i$  on  $\pi_n$  is missing from homology.

Ex:  $X = (S^1 \vee S^n) \cup e^{n+1}$  where  $e^{n+1}$  is attached along map  
 $S^n \rightarrow S^1 \vee S^n$  representing  $2t-1 \in \pi_n(S^1 \vee S^n) = \mathbb{Z}[t, t^{-1}]$

i.e. on universal cover,  $\dots \xrightarrow{\text{map}} \underline{\text{e}^{n+1}} \dots$ .

$$\begin{aligned} & \bullet \text{univ. covr. } \cong \bigvee_{\infty} S^n \cup \left( \bigcup_{\infty} e^{n+1} \right) \\ & \Rightarrow \pi_n(X) \cong \mathbb{Z}[t, t^{-1}] / (2t-1) \mathbb{Z}[t, t^{-1}] \stackrel{\substack{\cong \mathbb{Z}\left[\frac{1}{2}\right] \subset \mathbb{Q} \\ \text{map } t \mapsto \frac{1}{2}}}{\sim} \end{aligned}$$

(where  $\pi_i(X) \cong \pi_i(S^1) = \mathbb{Z}$ ,  $\pi_i(X) = 0$  for  $1 \leq i < n$ )

- however, in homology, cellular boundary map

$$C_{n+1} = H_{n+1}(X, X^n) = \mathbb{Z} \cdot \{e^{n+1}\} \xrightarrow{d} C_n = H_n(X^n) = \mathbb{Z} \cdot [S^n] \text{ is an isom. since}$$

degree of attaching map onto  $S^n$  is  $2-1=1$ .

so  $H_n(X) = H_{n+1}(X) = 0$ , in fact  $H_i(X) \cong H_i(S^1) \quad \forall i$ .

So incl.  $S^1 \hookrightarrow X$  induces  $\cong$  on  $H_i$ ,  $\cong$  on  $\pi_i$  for  $i < n$  but not  $i=n$ . ( $\Rightarrow$  not h.e.).

The Hurewicz map: the isom.  $\pi_n \cong H_n$  in Hurewicz theorem is induced by natural map which is always defined (but not always  $\cong$ ), the Hurewicz map

$$h: \pi_n(X, A, x_0) \longrightarrow H_n(X, A)$$

given  $[f]$  homotopy class of  $f: (D^n, \partial D^n) \rightarrow (X, A)$

recall  $H_n(D^n, \partial D^n) \cong \mathbb{Z}$  with generator  $\alpha$  (= the  $n$ -cell)

$$\Rightarrow h([f]) = f_*[\alpha] \quad f_*: H_n(D^n, \partial D^n) \rightarrow H_n(X, A).$$

Well-defined: If  $f, g$  homotopic then  $f_* = g_*$  on  $H_n \Rightarrow h([f]) = h([g]) \checkmark$ .

Prop:  $\parallel h: \pi_n(X, A, x_0) \rightarrow H_n(X, A)$  is a group homomorphism ( $n \geq 1$ )  
 $\Rightarrow \pi_n(X, A)$  group.

Pf: need to show  $(f+g)_*$  induces  $f_* + g_*$  on homology.

Let  $c: D^n \rightarrow D^n \vee D^n$  collapse  $D^{n-1}$   to point, then  $f+g \cong (f \vee g) \circ c$ .

$$\begin{array}{ccccc}
 H_n(D^n, \partial D^n) & \xrightarrow{c_*} & H_n(D^n \vee D^n, \partial D^n \vee \partial D^n) & \xrightarrow{(f \vee g)_*} & H_n(X, A) \\
 \downarrow \text{inclusion} & & \downarrow \text{isom.} & & \\
 H_n(D^n, \partial D^n) \oplus H_n(D^n, \partial D^n) & & & & \\
 \cong \mathbb{Z} \oplus \mathbb{Z} & & & & \\
 (1, 1) & & & & \\
 (1, 0) & \nearrow & & & \nearrow h([f]) \\
 (0, 1) & \nearrow & & & \nearrow h([g]) \\
 & & & & \\
 & & & \text{since } (f \vee g) \circ i_1 = f & \\
 & & & (f \vee g) \circ i_2 = g & \\
 & & & \Rightarrow (f+g)_*: \text{gen.} \mapsto h([f]) + h([g]) &
 \end{array}$$

- Similarly, absolute case:  $h: \pi_n(X, x_0) \rightarrow H_n(X)$  homomorphism for  $n \geq 1$ .  
 $[f] \mapsto h([f]) = f_*(\alpha)$   
 $f: S^n \rightarrow X$   $\alpha \in H_n(S^n) \cong \mathbb{Z}$  generator.

Hurewicz maps fit into comm. diagram of l.e.s. for pair  $(X, A)$

& are natural w.r.t. maps of spaces.

$$\begin{array}{ccccccc}
 \dots & \rightarrow & \pi_{n+1}(X, A) & \xrightarrow{\partial} & \pi_n(A) & \rightarrow & \dots \\
 & & \downarrow h & & \downarrow h & & \\
 \dots & \rightarrow & H_{n+1}(X, A) & \xrightarrow{\cong} & H_n(A) & \rightarrow & \dots
 \end{array}$$

- Back to failure of Hurewicz for non-simply connected spaces:

the issue is that for  $f: (S^n, s_0) \rightarrow (X, x_0)$ ,  $h([f]) = f_*(\text{gen. of } H_n(S^n))$  is insensitive to change of base point and non-basept-preserving homotopies.

(4)

So if  $[\gamma] \in \pi_1(X, x_0)$ ,  $\gamma \cdot f$  and  $f$  have same image:

$$h([\gamma][f]) = h([f]).$$

Hence elements of the form  $[\gamma][f] - [f]$  are always in  $\ker(h)$ .

Eg- for  $S^1 \vee S^n$ ,  $h: \pi_n(S^1 \vee S^n) \rightarrow H_n(S^1 \vee S^n)$

$$\begin{array}{ccc} \mathbb{Z}[t^{\pm 1}] & \longrightarrow & \mathbb{Z} \\ t^k & \longmapsto & 1 \end{array}$$

Similarly in relative case:  $h: \pi_n(S^1 \vee S^n, S^1) \rightarrow H_n(S^1 \vee S^n, S^1)$  (same as by b.e.s.)

$$\begin{array}{ccc} \mathbb{Z}[t^{\pm 1}] & & \mathbb{Z} \\ t^k & \longmapsto & 1 \end{array}$$

so even though  $(S^1 \vee S^n, S^1)$  is  $(n-1)$ -connected,  $h: \pi_n \rightarrow H_n$  not iso!

However: This is the only issue preventing Hurewicz when  $\pi_i(A) \neq 0$ :

Define  $\pi'_n(X, A, x_0) := \pi_n(X, A, x_0) / ([\gamma][f] - [f])$ ,  $[f] \in \pi_n(X, A, x_0)$   
 $[\gamma] \in \pi_1(A)$

Then  $h$  descends to  $h': \pi'_n(X, A, x_0) \rightarrow H_n(X, A)$

Thm (Hurewicz):  $\begin{cases} (X, A) \text{ } (n-1)\text{-connected pair of path-connected spaces,} \\ n \geq 2, A \neq \emptyset, \text{ then } H_i(X, A) = 0 \text{ for } i < n \text{ and} \\ h': \pi'_n(X, A, x_0) \rightarrow H_n(X, A) \text{ isomorphism.} \end{cases}$

(we won't prove this).

Next topic: fiber bundles