

I Motivation

**Def (Poincaré algebra)** A connected ( $\Leftrightarrow A^0 = \mathbb{k}$ ) gea  $A^* = \bigoplus_{i=0}^{\infty} A^i$  over a field  $\mathbb{k}$  is called a **Poincaré algebra** of formal dimension  $n$  if:

- (i)  $A^j = 0$  for  $j > n$ .
- (ii)  $A^n \cong \mathbb{k}$
- (iii) the bilinear pairing  $A^i \otimes A^{n-i} \rightarrow A^n \cong \mathbb{k}$  is non-degenerate  $\Leftrightarrow$  the map  $A^i \rightarrow \text{Hom}_{\mathbb{k}}(A^{n-i}, \mathbb{k})$  is an isomorphism.

**Claim** Let  $M^n$  be a closed connected orientable manifold. Then  $H^*(M; \mathbb{Q})$  is a Poincaré algebra of formal dimension  $n$ .

II Manifolds

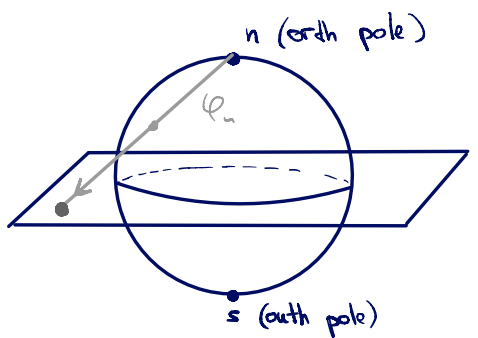
**Def (Topological manifold)** A Hausdorff second countable topological space  $M$  is called a **topological manifold** (resp. **top. manifold with boundary**) of dimension  $n$  if each point  $x \in M$  has a neighborhood homeomorphic to an open subset of  $\mathbb{R}^n$  (resp. of  $\mathbb{R}_{\geq 0} \times \mathbb{R}^{n-1}$ ).

**Def (Boundary)** Let  $M$  be a manifold with boundary. The subset  $\partial M$  of points  $x \in M$  that do not have a neighborhood homeomorphic to an open subset of  $\mathbb{R}^n$  is called the boundary of  $M$ .

**Def (Closed manifold)** A compact manifold without boundary is called **closed**.

Examples:

- (i)  $\mathbb{R}^n$  any open subset of  $\mathbb{R}^n$ .
- (ii)  $S^n := \{(x^1, \dots, x^n) \in \mathbb{R}^{n+1} \mid \sum (x^i)^2 = 1\}$   
Two charts:  $\varphi_n : S^n \setminus \{n\} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^n$   
 $(x^1, \dots, x^n) \mapsto \left(\frac{x^1}{1-x^{n+1}}, \dots, \frac{x^n}{1-x^{n+1}}\right)$   
 $\varphi_s : S^n \setminus \{s\} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^n$   
 $(x^1, \dots, x^n) \mapsto \left(\frac{x^1}{1+x^{n+1}}, \dots, \frac{x^n}{1+x^{n+1}}\right)$   
with transition maps:  $\varphi_s \circ \varphi_n^{-1}, \varphi_n \circ \varphi_s^{-1} : \mathbb{R}^n \setminus \{0\} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^n \setminus \{0\}$   
 $(t^1, \dots, t^n) \mapsto \left(\frac{t^1}{\|t\|^2}, \dots, \frac{t^n}{\|t\|^2}\right)$
- (iii)  $n$ -dimensional torus  $T^n$ ;
- (iv) real and complex projective spaces  $\mathbb{R}P^n$  &  $\mathbb{C}P^n$ .



with boundary:

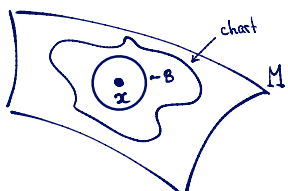
- (i)  $D^n$ ;
- (ii) solid torus  $S^1 \times D^2$ .

Non-examples:

- (i)  $\mathbb{A}^n$
- (ii)  $\mathbb{R}P^{\infty} = \bigcup_{n=0}^{\infty} \mathbb{R}P^n$  &  $\mathbb{C}P^{\infty} = \bigcup_{n=0}^{\infty} \mathbb{C}P^n$

**Proposition 1** Let  $M^n$  be a topological manifold. Then for any  $x \in M$ :  $H_i(M, M \setminus \{x\}; \mathbb{R}) \cong \begin{cases} 0 & \text{if } i < n; \\ \mathbb{R} & \text{if } i = n. \end{cases}$

$\triangleright$  Let  $B$  be an open ball around  $x$  (sits inside of a neighborhood of  $x$  homeomorphic to a subset of  $\mathbb{R}^n$ ).  
 $\Rightarrow Z = M \setminus B$  is closed.





▷ STEP 1. If the assertion holds for compact  $A, B$  and  $A \cap B$ , then it holds for  $A \cup B$ .

Relative Mayer-Vietoris sequence:

$$H_{n+1}(M, M \setminus (A \cap B)) \rightarrow H_n(M, M \setminus (A \cap B)) \xrightarrow{\Phi} H_n(M, M \setminus A) \oplus H_n(M, M \setminus B) \xrightarrow{\Psi} H_n(M, M \setminus (A \cup B))$$

For  $i > n$  we have  $H_i(M, M \setminus (A \cap B)) = H_i(M, M \setminus A) = H_i(M, M \setminus B) = 0 \implies H_i(M, M \setminus (A \cup B))$  is locked between two zeros  $\implies$  zero itself.

If  $\mu \in H_n(M, M \setminus (A \cup B))$  is s.t.  $\mu_x \in H_n(M, M \setminus \{x\})$  is zero for all  $x \in A \cup B \implies$  its images in  $H_n(M, M \setminus A)$  and  $H_n(M, M \setminus B)$  are zero by the assumption.  $\implies$  Since  $\Phi$  is injective,  $\mu = 0$ . (Proves (i)).

Let  $\mu_x, x \in A \cup B$  be a locally consistent choice of orientations  $\implies \exists! \mu_A \in H_n(M, M \setminus A), \mu_B \in H_n(M, M \setminus B)$

$\Psi(\mu_A, \mu_B) = \mu_A|_{A \cap B} - \mu_B|_{A \cap B} \in H_n(M, M \setminus (A \cap B))$ . its image is zero in  $H_n(M, M \setminus \{x\})$  for any  $x \in A \cap B$  since  $\Phi$  is injective

$\implies$  it is zero itself by assumption on  $A \cap B$ .  $\implies$  By exactness,  $(\mu_A, \mu_B)$  is the image of a unique element  $\mu_{A \cup B} \in H_n(M, M \setminus (A \cup B))$ . □

STEP 2. It is enough to prove the assertion for a compact subset of a single chart. (i.e. in  $\mathbb{R}^n$ )

Any compact subset  $A \subseteq M$  is a union of a finite number of compact subsets, s.t. each belongs to a chart  $\implies$  We can apply induction and STEP 1.

If  $U$  is a chart, then  $H_i(M, M \setminus A) \cong H_i(U, U \setminus A)$  by excision. □

$\implies$  From now on we assume  $M = \mathbb{R}^n$ .

STEP 3 If  $A \subseteq \mathbb{R}^n$  is a finite simplicial complex, s.t. its simplices are linearly embedded, then the assertion follows by induction, and it is enough to prove for one simplex. The latter follows from the definition of local consistency. □

STEP 4.  $A \subseteq \mathbb{R}^n$  compact

$\alpha \in H_i(\mathbb{R}^n, \mathbb{R}^n \setminus A)$  is represented by a relative cycle  $z$  and let  $C \subseteq \mathbb{R}^n \setminus A$  be a union of the images of the singular simplices of  $\partial z$ .

$A$  and  $C$  are compact  $\implies$  they have positive distance  $\delta > 0$  between them.

- Cover  $A$  with a finite piecewise linear simplicial complex  $K$  with  $K \cap C = \emptyset$ :
  - (i) cover  $A$  by one big enough simplex;
  - (ii) take barycentric subdivision s.t. the diameter of a piece is less than  $\delta$ .
  - (iii) take simplices that intersect  $A$ .

The same chain  $z$  represents a class  $\alpha_K \in H_n(\mathbb{R}^n, \mathbb{R}^n \setminus K)$  that maps to  $\alpha \in H_n(\mathbb{R}^n, \mathbb{R}^n \setminus A)$ .

By STEP 3,  $\alpha_K = 0$  for  $i > n \implies \alpha = 0$  and  $H_i(\mathbb{R}^n, \mathbb{R}^n \setminus A) = 0$  for  $i > n$ .

Finally, assume  $i = n$ . If  $\alpha_{K,x} = 0 \in H_n(\mathbb{R}^n, \mathbb{R}^n \setminus \{x\})$  for all  $x \in A$ , then it also holds for all  $x \in K$ .

Indeed, for any simplex  $\Delta \in K$  and any  $x \in \Delta$  the map  $H_n(\mathbb{R}^n, \mathbb{R}^n \setminus \Delta) \rightarrow H_n(\mathbb{R}^n, \mathbb{R}^n \setminus \{x\})$  is an iso.

STEP 3 now implies that  $\alpha_K = 0 \implies \alpha = 0$ , which concludes the proof of (i) and uniqueness part in (ii).

Existence: let  $\alpha_A \in H_n(\mathbb{R}^n, \mathbb{R}^n \setminus A)$  be the image of  $\alpha_B \in H_n(\mathbb{R}^n, \mathbb{R}^n \setminus B)$ , where  $B$  is a big ball containing  $A$ . □  
exists by definition of local consistency.