

# Introduction

Group theory  $\subset$  topology  
via fundamental gp

$$X = \text{CW } \subset \mathcal{X}$$

$$G = \pi_1(X)$$

$$\tilde{X} = \text{univ. cover}$$

$$G \curvearrowright \tilde{X} \quad \text{via deck transformations}$$

Def  $X$  is aspherical  
if  $\tilde{X}$  is contractible

eg.  $\mathbb{R}P^2$  (since  $\pi_i(\tilde{X}) = \pi_i(X)$ ,  
 $i > 1$ )

$$\pi_i(X) = 0 \quad \forall i \geq 2.$$

aspherical

Fact :  $\forall G$ ,  $\exists$  CW cx  
 $X$  s.t.  $\pi_1(X) \cong G$ .

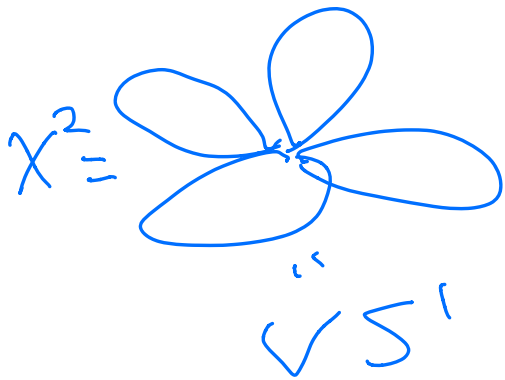
$X$  is unique up to homotopy

$X \cong BG$  classifying  
 space

$\exists X^2$ , 2-dim

with  $\pi_1(X^2) = G$ .

Pf  $G = \langle S^1 | R \rangle$



$$\bigcup_{w \in R} \bigvee D^2$$

$$w: \partial D^2 \rightarrow S^1$$

Remark if  $G$  has

torsion,  $BG$   $\omega$ -dim'l

2)  $G$  acts freely on  $EG$   
 $= \tilde{B}G$

Def'n  $G \curvearrowright X$  is proper

means 1)  $X/G$  is Hausdorff

2) Each isotropy subgp  
is finite,  $G_x = \{g \in G \mid gx = x\}$

Examples of aspherical

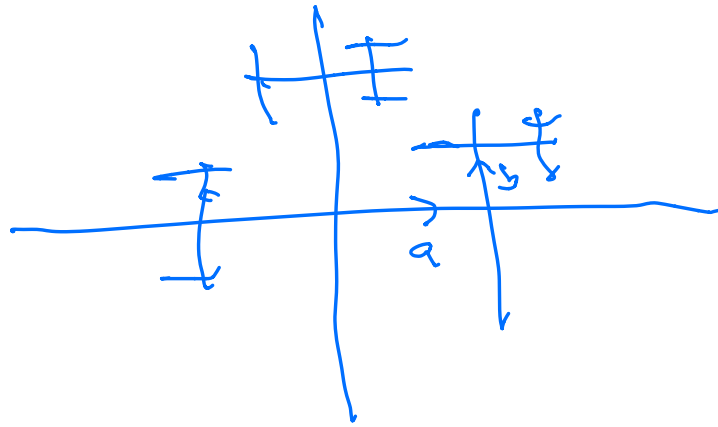
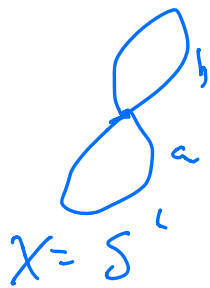
CW complexes,

1) a)  $X = S^1$ ,  $\tilde{X} = \mathbb{R}$

$$G = \pi_1(X) = \mathbb{Z}$$

b)  $X =$  a connected  
2-rank

$$\pi_1(X) = \text{free group} = C$$



c) Product of graphs

$$X = X_1 \times X_2$$

$$\dim X = 2$$

cells = (squares, edges  
or vertices)

2)  $\dim X = 2$

a)  $X = \text{surface} = M^2$

$X$  is a spherical  $(\Leftrightarrow) X \cong S^2$   
or  $\cong \mathbb{R}P^2$

e.g.  $X = S^1 \times S^1 = T^2$

$\mathbb{R}^2 = B(\mathbb{Z} \times \mathbb{Z})$

b) Many 2-dim  $X^2$   
(presentation complexes  
are aspherical)

1-relator g.p.s

$X^2 = VS^1 \cup_f D^2$

$f: \partial D^2 \rightarrow VS^1$

if  $f \neq g^m$  for  $m \geq 1$

$g \in \pi_1(VS^1)$   
The (Cayley graph)

Then  $X$  is aspherical

Small cancellation  
theory:

Thm ~~Small~~  $G = \text{small}$   
cancellation  $gp$ . Then  
 $X^n$  is spherical.

---

3) 3-manifolds  
are usually spherical

Thm (Sphere Thm -

Poincaré Conjecture)

$$\pi_2(M^3) \neq 0$$

$\Rightarrow \exists$  essential  
 $\Rightarrow \exists$  embedded  $S^2 \subset M^3$

$\Rightarrow$  either  $M^3 = M_1 \# M_2$

or  $M^3 = S^2 \times S^1$

or  $M^3 = (S^2 \times S^1)/\mathbb{Z}_2$

Thm If  $M^3$  is closed  
 $\exists$  m.f.d.d, which is  
 prime (not connected sur-  
 $\partial \pi_1(M^3) = \emptyset$   
 Then  $M^3$  is spherical.

4) Nonpositively  
 curved Riemannian

$M^n$   $\kappa(M^n) =$  sectional  
 curv.

Thm If  $M^n$  is  
 closed,  $\kappa(M^n) \leq 0$

Then  $M^n$  is spherical

---

$T^n$   $\kappa(T^n) = 0$

$$\tilde{T}^n = \mathbb{R}^n$$

$$\tilde{M}^n = H^n = \text{hyperbolic space}$$

Then (Cartan - Hadamard)  $\pi(\mathbb{R}^n) \cong \mathbb{R}^n$

$$T_x M^n \xrightarrow{\exp} M^n$$

$$\cong \mathbb{R}^n$$

is a covering map

---

Standard Example

of NPC cube complexes

Input = simplicial cx  
=  $L$

$$\text{Vert}(L) = I$$

---

Define a subcomplex



$$P_L \subset [-1, 1]^I$$

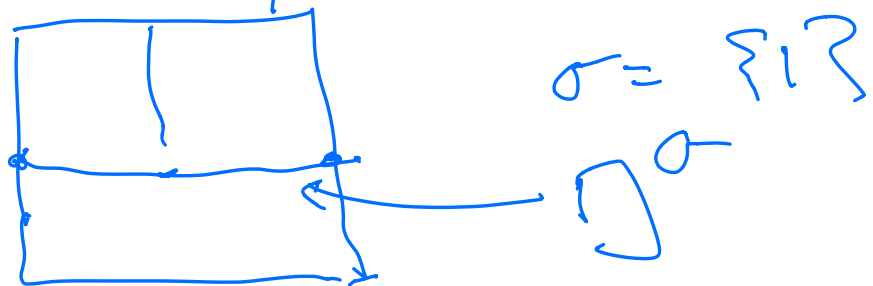
$$\cap \prod_{\sigma \in L} [-1, 1]^\sigma$$

$$\sigma \in L$$

$$\square^\sigma \subset \text{ox} [-1, 1]^{\text{vert } \sigma}$$

= cube determined

$$I = \{1, 2\}$$



$$P_L = \bigcup_{\sigma \in L} \text{faces } [-1, 1]^I$$

which parallel  $\square^\sigma$

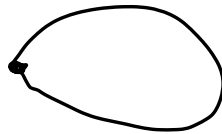
Jan 8

Classical,  
cell complex is finite  
collection of convex cells  
in some Euclidean space  
s.t.  $\cap$  of two cells  
 $= \emptyset$  or common face.

Usually, cell cx  $X = \text{top space}$   
(the union) formed by  
gluing convex cells via  
isometries of faces



allowed



Standard examples of cell

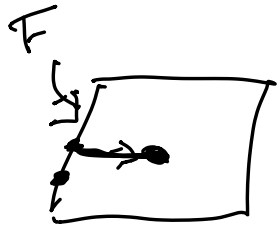
Simplex =  = affine span  
of  $n+1$  pts

cube = 

simplicial cx = each cell = simple  
classical cell  
cx

$\Delta$ -complex = "drop classical

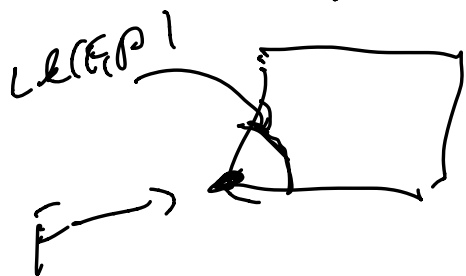
Links



$F \subset P = \text{convex cell}$   
 " face  
 $x \in \text{Int } F$

$N(F, P) = \text{inward pointing tangent vectors which are } \perp \text{ to}$

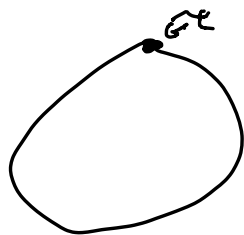
$Lk(F, P) = \text{unit vectors in } N(F, P)$



$X = \text{cell } c_X$   
 $x \in X$  is a cell

$$Lk(x, X) = \bigcup_{\sigma \supset x} Lk(x, \sigma)$$

wrong if faces are glued to them.



$$Lk(x, X) = 2 \text{ pts} = S^0$$

---

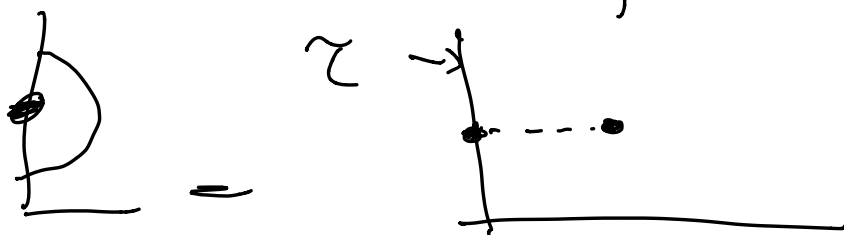
$\epsilon$ -neighbourhoods

$x = 0\text{-cell} \in \text{Vert } X$

$N_\varepsilon(x) = \varepsilon\text{-nbhd of } x$

$\partial N_\varepsilon(x) = \{y \in N_\varepsilon \mid d(y, x) = \varepsilon\}$

$$= \text{Lk}(x, X)$$



$$\text{Lk}(z, X) = \bigcup_{\sigma \ni z} N_\varepsilon(z, \sigma)$$

$= \partial(\text{Normal "link"})$

The local topology of  $X$  is determined by  $\text{Lk}$

Thm  $x \in X$

$$\text{Lk}(x, X) \cong \partial N_\varepsilon(x, X)$$

i.e. locally

$$N_\varepsilon(x) \cong \text{Cone}(\text{Lk}(x, X))$$

Cor  $\text{Lk}(x, X) = S^{n-1}$

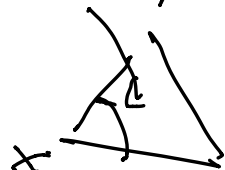
$\forall x \in \text{Vert}(X) \implies$

$X$  is  $n$ -dim.  $n \geq 1$

Examples

1)  $X = \Delta^n$

$Lk(x, X)$

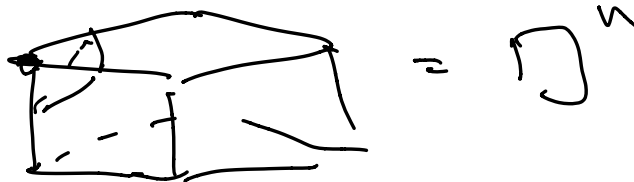


$Lk(x, \Delta^n) = \partial \Delta^{n-1}$

2)  $X = \partial \Delta^n = S^{n-1}$

$Lk(x, \partial \Delta^n) = S^{n-2}$

3)



$Lk(x, \square^n) = \Delta^{n-1}$

In cubical cx  $Lk$  ~~is~~ vertex  
 $=$  simplicial cx

Recall  $\mathcal{P}_L$

$L = \text{Simpl.}$   
<sup>units</sup>

$\mathcal{I} = \text{Vert}(L) \cup$

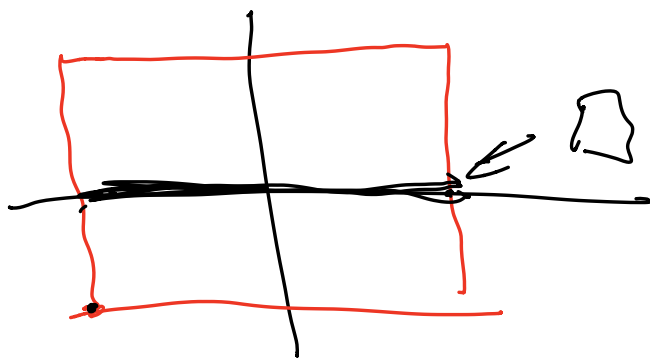
Goal: define  $P_L \subset [-1, 1]^d$

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Vert}(P_L) &= \text{Vert}([-1, 1]^I) \\ &= \{ (\varepsilon_i) \mid \varepsilon_i \in \{\pm 1\} \} \\ &= \{\pm 1\}^I \end{aligned}$$

link vertex in  $P_L = L$

$\sigma \in L$  be a simplex

$$\square^\sigma = [-1, 1]^{\text{Vert} \sigma} \subset \mathbb{R}^I$$



$\sigma =$  ~~interior~~  $\square^\sigma$

$\partial \sigma =$  has 2 end p. n

$$P_L = \bigcup_{\sigma \in L} \square^\sigma \quad \text{faces parallel to } \square^\sigma$$

Ex a)  $L = \Delta^{n-1}$

$$P_L = \square^n$$

b)  $L =$   $m$ -gon  $=$   $5^1$   $m$  vertices,  $m$  edges



$$= 2^{m-2} (4-m)$$

$$X = 2 - 2g \quad g = \frac{2-X}{2}$$

$$g = \frac{2 - 2^{m-2} (4-m)}{2}$$

$$= 1 - 2^{m-3} (4-m)$$

$M^2 =$  Surface of genus  $g$

$$C_2 = \{\pm 1\} \quad C_2^{\mathbb{I}}$$

acts on  $[-1, 1]^{\mathbb{I}}$

generated by  $r_i$

$$r_i : \begin{array}{l} x_i \rightarrow -x_i \\ x_j \rightarrow x_j \end{array}$$

$C_2^{\mathbb{I}} \curvearrowright [-1, 1]^{\mathbb{I}}$   $j \neq i$   
 generated  
 reflections



$P_L$  is stable under  
this action

June 10

$L =$  simplicial  $ex$

$P_L$  associated cube  $ex$



$\tilde{P}_L =$  univ. cover of  $P_L$

$$C_2 = \{\pm 1\}$$

$$(C_2)^{\mathbb{I}} \cong [-1, 1]^{\mathbb{I}}$$

$\therefore$  on  $P_L$ .

$i \in \mathbb{I}$ ,  $R_i =$  reflection across  
hyperplane  $x_i = 0$

$$(C_2)^{\mathbb{I}} = \langle r_i \rangle$$

$W_L =$  gp of all lifts of  
of element of  $(C_2)^{\mathbb{I}}$  to  
 $\tilde{P}_L$ .

Let  $\rho_i =$  lift of  $r_i$   
which takes  $v$  to adjacent  
vertex along edge type  $i$

Prop We short exact  
sequence

$$1 \rightarrow \pi_1(\tilde{P}_L) \rightarrow W_L \rightarrow (C_2)^{\mathbb{I}} \rightarrow 1$$

Facts  
acts  $W_L \cong \tilde{P}_L^1 = 1$ -skeleton  
Simply transitively on

Vert  $(P_L)$   
 Because  $C_2^I$  does on

Vert  $(P_L)$

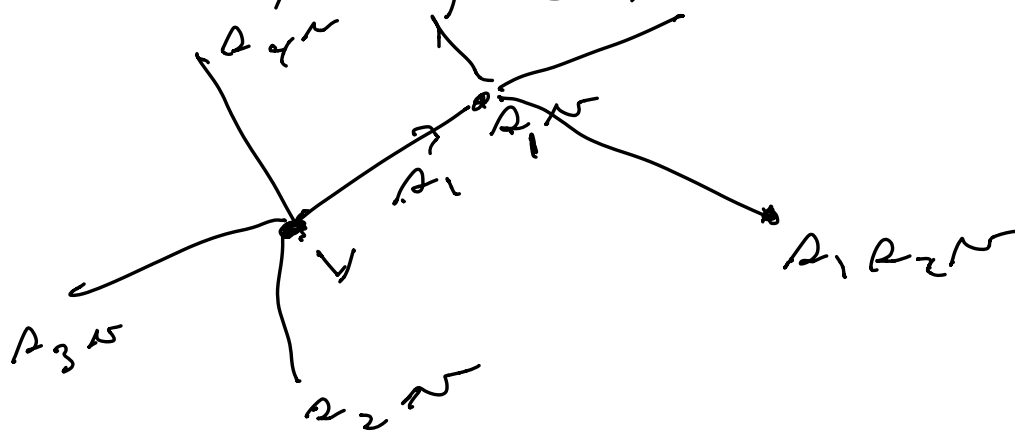
Remark  $(G, S)$  ← generators

Cay  $(G, S) = \text{graph}$

Vert set =  $G$

$g \xrightarrow{s} gs$  Edge =  $\{(g, gs)\}$

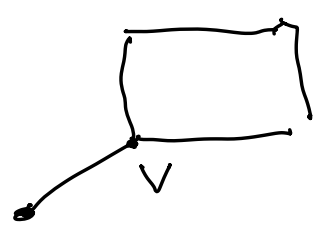
$G \rightsquigarrow \Omega = \text{graph}$   
 simply transitive  
 of Vert  $(\Omega)$   
 Then  $\Omega \cong \text{Cay}(G, S)$



$R = \text{left } \Omega$

Then  $\rho_i$  is ~~not~~ generator  
 for  $W_L = \langle \rho_i \rangle_{i \in I}$

Cayley 2-cx = simply 2 cx  
 $G \cong \text{Vert}(\text{Cay})$   
 1-skeleton = Cayley graph  
~~2-skeleton~~  
 2-cells ~~are~~ give relations



Each square  
 gives relation  
 of form  
 $\rho_i \rho_j = \rho_j \rho_i$

$$(\rho_i \rho_j)^2 = 1$$

Conclusion  $W_L$  has  
 presentation  $\langle S \mid \mathcal{R} \rangle$

$$S = \{ \rho_i \}_{i \in \text{Vert}(L)}$$

$$\mathcal{R} = \{ \rho_i^2 = 1, (\rho_i \rho_j)^2 = 1 \}$$

$\{i, j\} \in \text{Edge } L.$

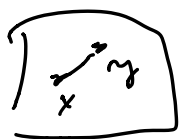
Remark  $W_2$  is

"right-angled Coxeter gp  
corresponding  $L$ "

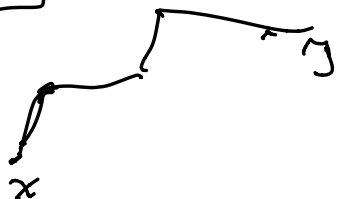
---

Discussion of CAT( $\delta$ )-metric space

$X =$  cube  $c_X$  (cell  $c_X$ )



$d(x, y) =$  usual distance



$d(x, y) = \inf \left\{ l(\gamma) \mid \begin{array}{l} \gamma \text{ is broken} \\ \text{geodesic} \end{array} \right\}$

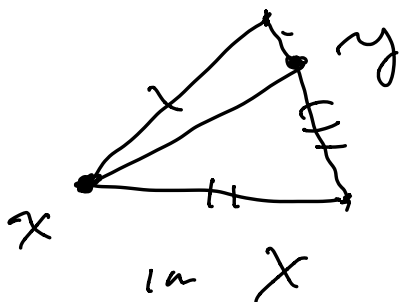
$X =$  geodesic space

means  $\exists$  path of length  
 $d(x, y)$  between any  
2 pts.

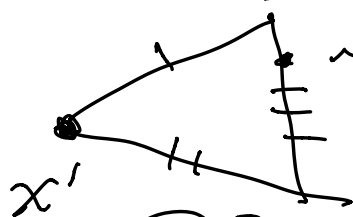
Suppose  $X =$  "geodesic space"

Def  $X$  is CAT(0)

Given any triangle in  $X$



(3 vertices & 3 edges)



$\mathbb{R}^2 =$  Euclidean plane

$$d(x, y) \leq d(x', y')$$

$\forall x, y$  in triangle

Curvature  $\leq 0$

CAT(0)

Toponogov

~~for~~  
Comparison

Alexandrov