

# I. Van Kampen's Theorem

Recap  $X$  space, compute  $\pi_1(X)$

if  $X = |K|$ , then  $\pi_1(X) \cong \pi_1(|K|) \cong E(K, p) \cong G(K, T)$

$G(K, T)$  is straight forward ↑ edge group theorem

to compute, although possibly tedious.

Today  $X = A \cup B$ . Describe  $\pi_1(X)$  in terms  
of  $\pi_1(A)$ ,  $\pi_1(B)$ ,  $\pi_1(A \cap B)$ .

$K$  Simplicial complex

$K_1, K_2$  subcomplexes w/

$$K = K_1 \cup K_2$$

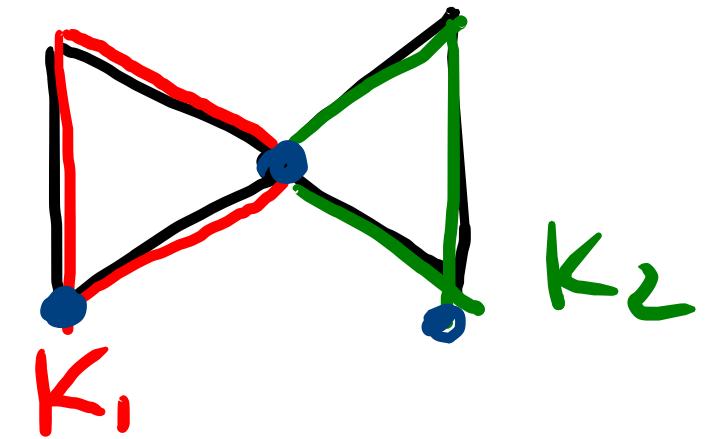
$p \in K_1 \cap K_2$  vertex.

Assume  $K_1 \cap K_2$  connected

Example  $|K| = S^1 \vee S^1$

If  $L \subset K$  subcomplex, then

there's a homomorphism  $E(L, p) \rightarrow E(K, p)$



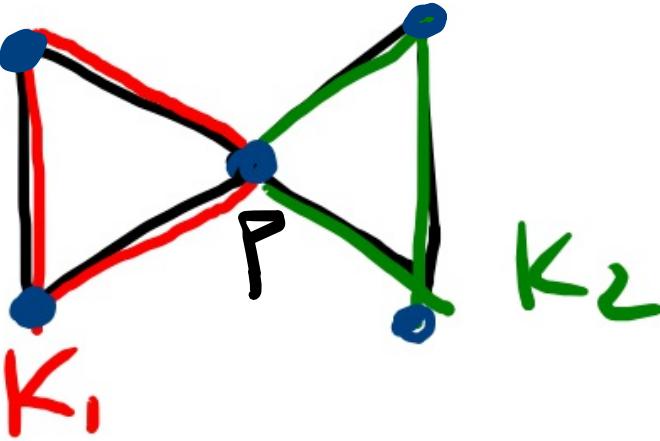
with  $K = K_1 \cup K_2$

$$\begin{array}{ccc} & j_1: E(K_1, P) & \\ E(K_1 \cap K_2, P) & \nearrow & \searrow \\ & j_2: E(K_2, P) & \end{array}$$

Thm (van Kampen)  $E(K, P)$  is the quotient of  
 $E(K_1, P) * E(K_2, P)$  by adding relations  
 $j_1(\varepsilon) = j_2(\varepsilon)$  for  $\varepsilon \in E(K_1 \cap K_2, P)$ .

## Examples

①  $S^1 \vee S^1$

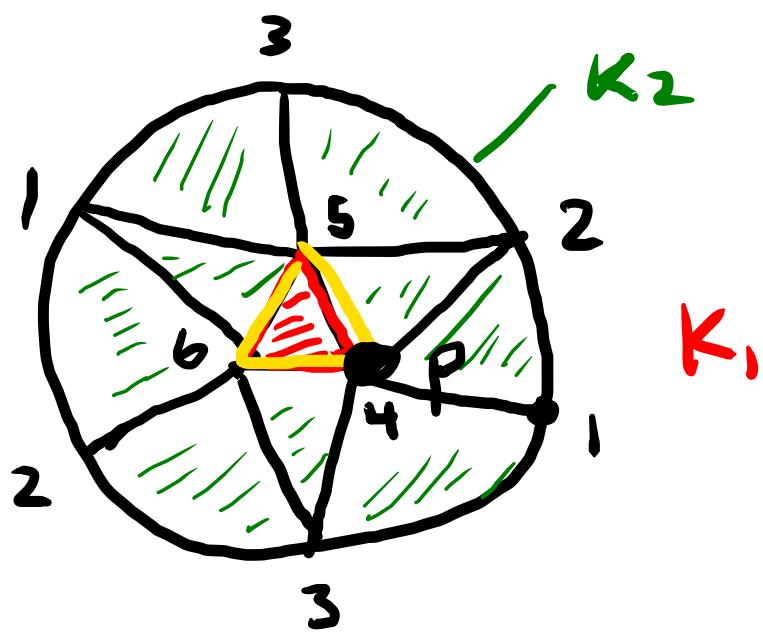
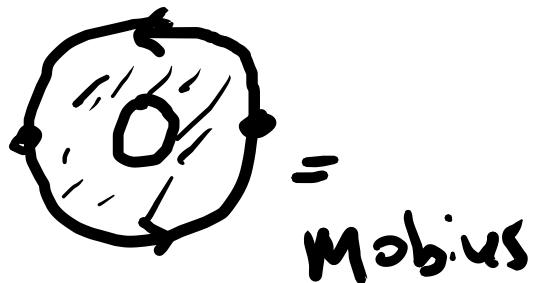


$$K_1 \cap K_2 = \{P\}$$

$$E(K_1, P) \cong E(K_1, P) * E(K_2, P)$$

$$\cong \mathbb{Z} * \mathbb{Z}$$

②  $RP^2$



$$E(K_1, P) = \{\beta\}$$

$$E(K_2, P) \cong \mathbb{Z}.$$

$$E(K_1 \cap K_2, P) \cong \mathbb{Z}$$

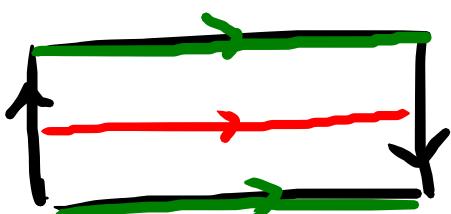
$E(K_1 \cap K_2, p)$  generated by 4564

$E(K_2, p)$  generated by 4514.

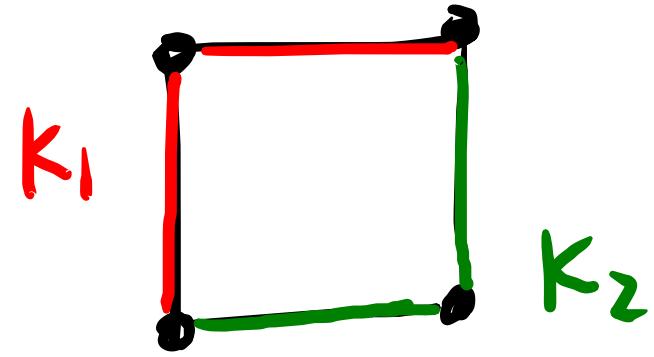
$$j_2: E(K_1 \cap K_2) \xrightarrow{z^2} E(K_2)$$

$$4564 \longmapsto 4564 \sim (4514) * (4514).$$

$$E(K) \cong \langle a \mid a^2 = 1 \rangle \cong \mathbb{Z}/2\mathbb{Z}.$$



③



Van Kampen  
does not apply

b/c  $K_1 \cap K_2$  is not connected.

# Intuition behind van Kampen

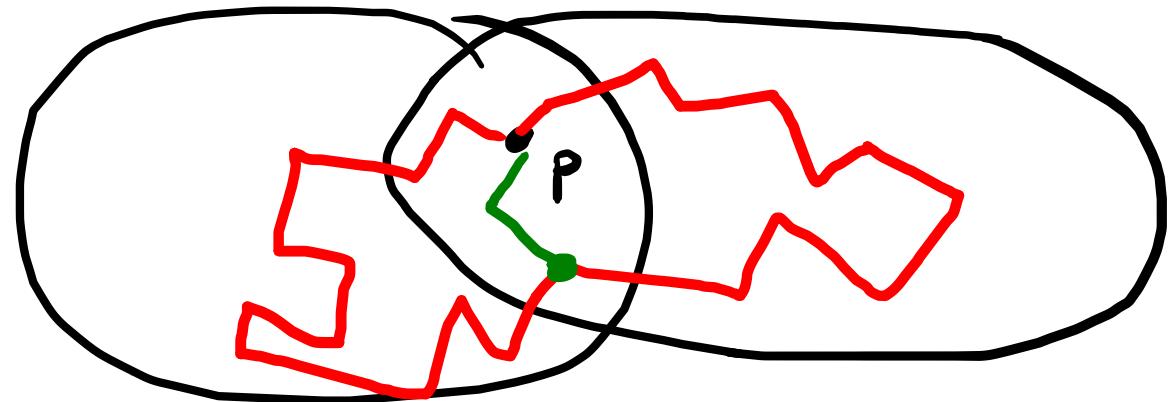
There is clearly a surjection

$$E(K_1) * E(K_2) \rightarrow E(K) :$$

any edge path  $p u_1 \cdots u_n p$

in  $K$  can be decomposed

into finite concatenation of edge loop. in  $K_1, K_2$



$K_1$

$K_2$

There are some obvious elements  
of  $\ker(E(K_1) * E(K_2) \rightarrow E(K))$ :

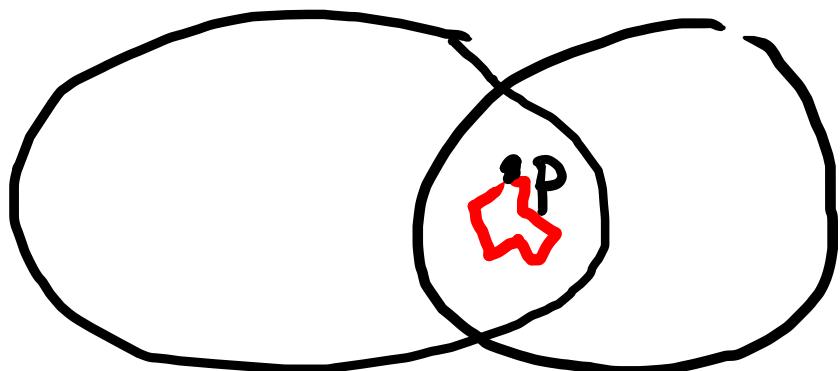
For  $\varepsilon \in E(K_1 \cap K_2)$

$\varepsilon$  can be viewed as

$\varepsilon_1 \in E(K_1)$  or  $\varepsilon_2 \in E(K_2)$ .

But  $\varepsilon_1, \varepsilon_2$  map to same loop in  $E(K)$

so  $\varepsilon_1, \varepsilon_2^{-1} \in \ker$ . This says these elements generate  
kernd.



## II. Simplicial approximation

Edge group thm  $\pi_1(|K|, p) \cong E(K, p)$

Defn  $K, L$  simplicial complexes. A map  
 $f: |K| \rightarrow |L|$  is simplcial if it sends  
simplices to simplices in a linear way.

Example  $|K| = [0, 1]$  

Consider maps  $|K| \rightarrow |K|$

$$\begin{aligned} f(x) &= x \\ f(x) &= 0 \end{aligned} \quad \left. \begin{array}{l} \\ \end{array} \right\} \text{Simplicial}$$

$$\begin{aligned} f(x) &= \frac{1}{2} \\ f(x) &= x^2 \end{aligned} \quad \left. \begin{array}{l} \\ \end{array} \right\} \text{not simplicial}$$

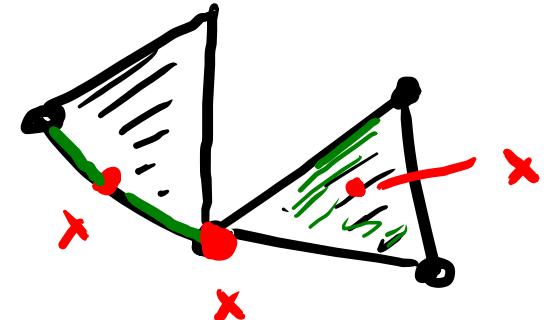
Given  $f: |K| \rightarrow |L|$  simplicial

get  $g: V(K) \rightarrow V(L)$

and  $g$  completely determines  $f$ :

Given  $x \in |K|$ ,  $\exists$  unique simplex  $\sigma \in K$

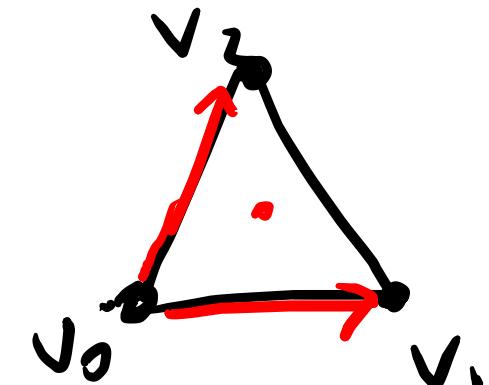
st.  $x$  is in the interior of  $|\sigma|$   
( $\sigma$  is called the carrier of  $x$ )



$$|\sigma| \subset |K| \subset \mathbb{R}^N$$

↳ simplex spanned  $v_0, \dots, v_d$

$$x = \sum_{i=1}^d a_i (v_i - v_0)$$



$$f(x) = \sum a_i (f(v_i) - f(v_0)) \quad (f \text{ linear on } \sigma)$$

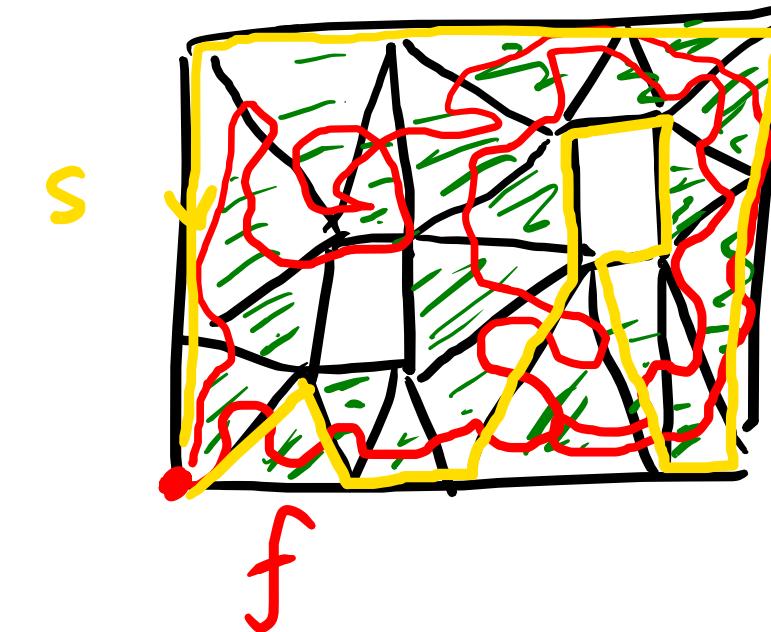
$$= \sum a_i (g(v_i) - g(v_0))$$

Note: given  $g: V(K) \rightarrow V(L)$   $\exists!$  simplicial  
 $f: |K| \rightarrow |L|$  st.  $f|_{V(K)} = g$ .

given any  $f: |K| \rightarrow |L|$

we'd like simplicial  $s: |K| \rightarrow |L|$

so that  $f \sim s$ .



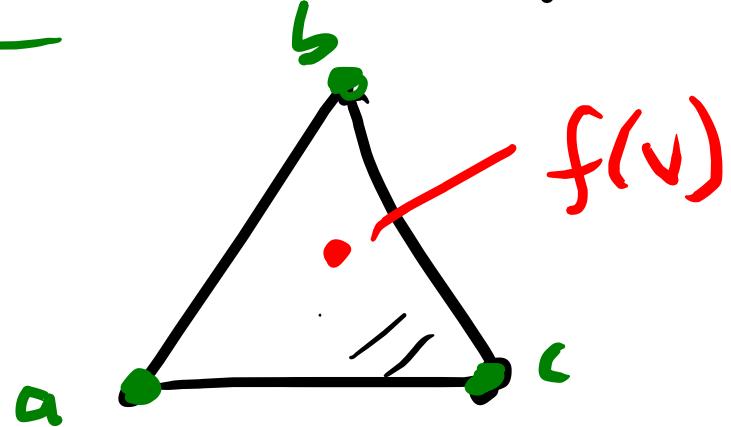
Petn.  $f: |K| \rightarrow |L|$  any map.

Say Simplicial map  $s: |K| \rightarrow |L|$

is a Simplicial approximation of  $f$  if

$s(x)$  is in carrier of  $f(x) \quad \forall x \in |K|$ .

$v$   
vertex of  $K$



triangle in  $|L|$

a simplicial  
approx must  
send  $v$  to  
one of  $a, b, c$ .