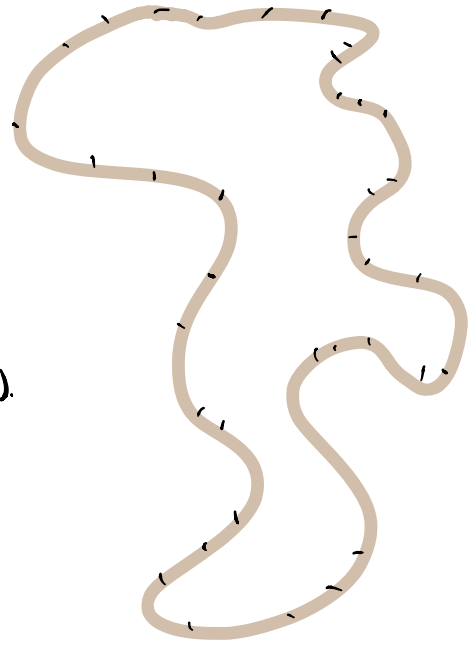
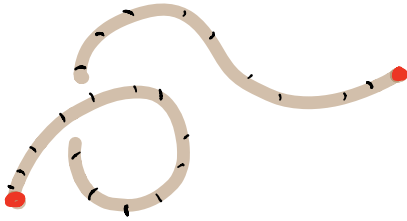


# Most ropes have two ends

joint with Federica Pasquotto  
(Leiden)



## Programme

- My favourite theorem(s).
- Escaping a maze.
- Joey's problem
- A little bit of math: mod 2 - degree theory
- A solution to Joey's problem
- Equivariant mathematics.
- Degree theory for orbifolds.

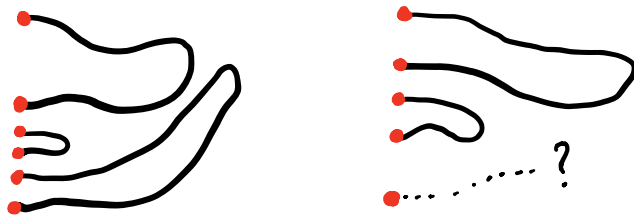
# My favourite theorem:

Thm: Let  $M$  be a connected, compact manifold of dimension one. Then  $M$  is diffeomorphic to

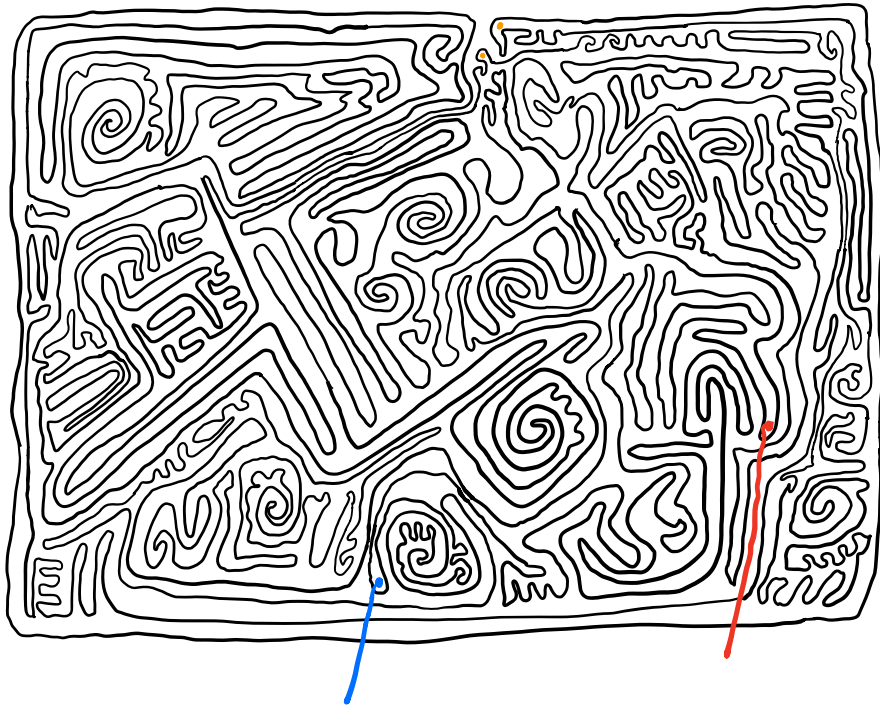
$$[0,1] \quad \text{or} \quad S^1$$


Corollary: The number of boundary components of a one-dim compact mfd is even.

Corollary: A compact zero dimensional <sup>compact</sup> manifold is the boundary of a compact one dimensional manifold iff it has an even number of points



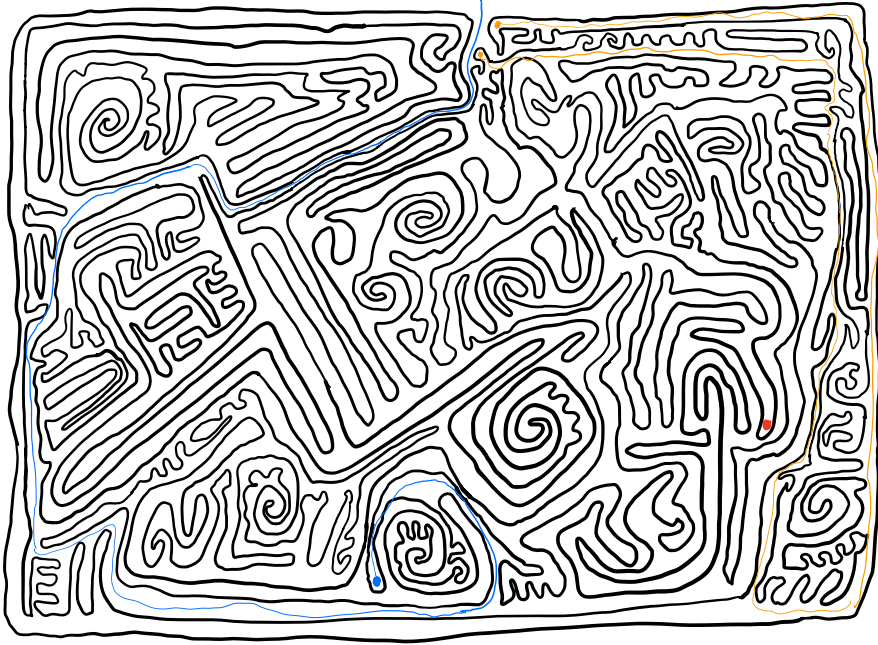
Can I escape this maze?



# intersection 0 mod 2  $\Rightarrow$  I can escape this maze

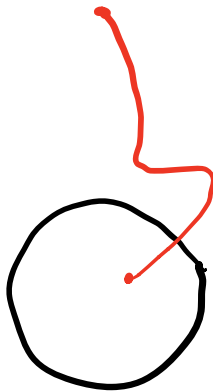
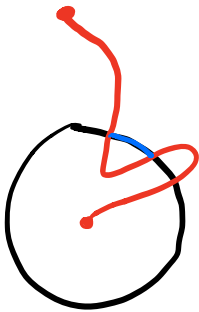
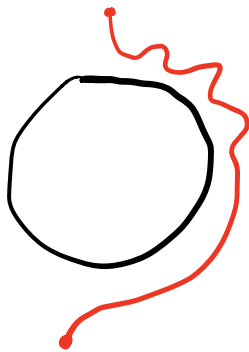
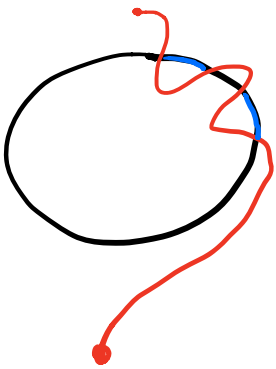
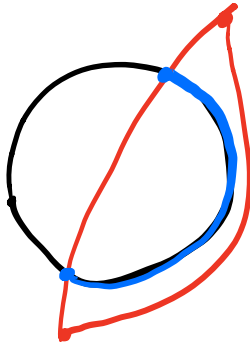
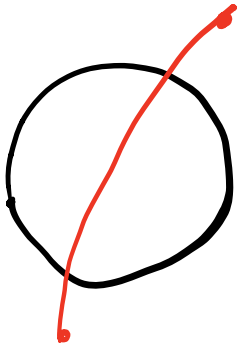
# intersection 1 mod 2  $\Rightarrow$  I cannot escape

# Solutions





A simple maze.



# Enough with the thinking



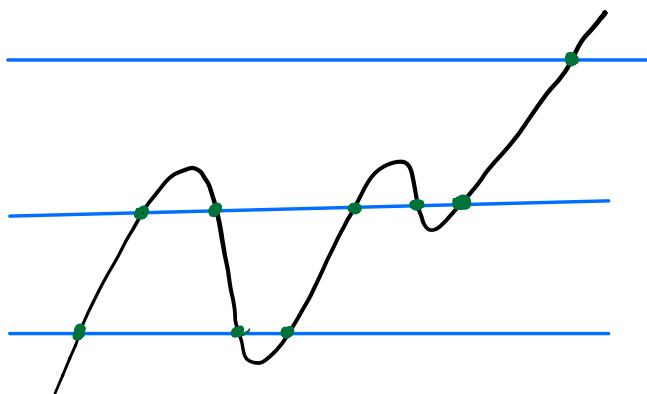
Let's have a break.

Question: Why can Joey do this?

# Towards a solution to Joey's problem

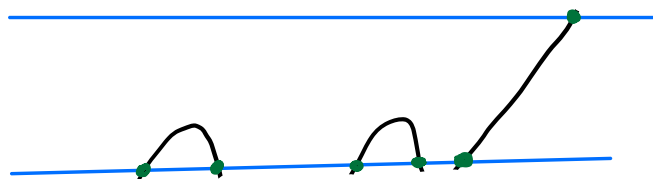
A mathy application of ropes having an even number of ends

$f: \mathbb{R} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$   
how many solutions does  
 $f(x) = c$   
have?



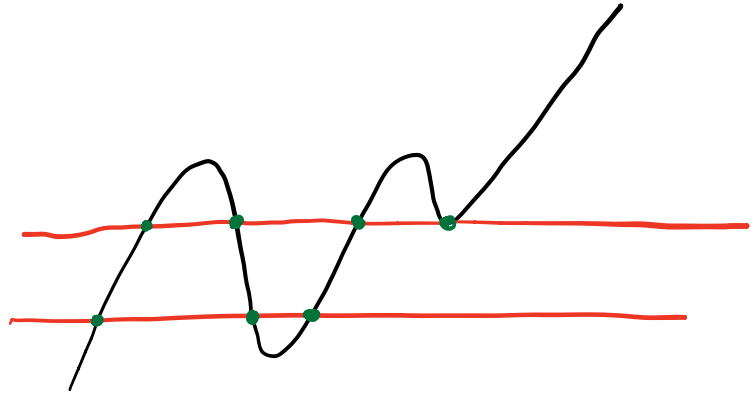
Observation:  $1 = 5 = 3 \pmod{2}$

Why is this true?

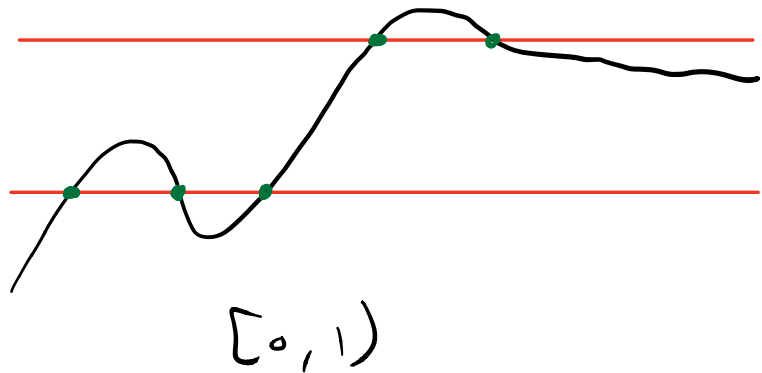


What can go wrong?

Works only for  
generic  
values  
(Sard's theorem)



need growth behavior  
at  $\pm \infty$   
(proper maps or  
closed manifolds.)

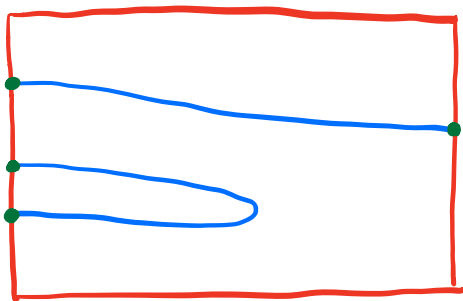
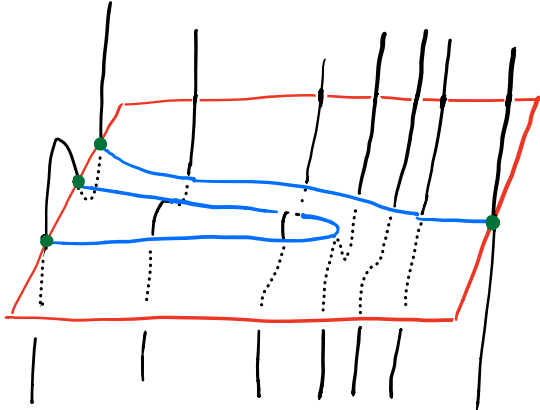


Under these conditions the count mod 2  
is well-defined

This count is stable under perturbations:

$$H: [0,1] \times \mathbb{R} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$$

$$H(t, x) = (1-t)f(x) + tg(x)$$



The preimage of a regular value of  $H$  is a one-dim mfd with boundary

$$H^{-1}(y) \cap \{0\} \times \mathbb{R} = f^{-1}(y)$$

$$H^{-1}(y) \cap \{1\} \times \mathbb{R} = g^{-1}(y)$$

$$\# f^{-1}(y) + \# g^{-1}(y) = 0 \pmod{2}$$

$$\# f^{-1}(y) = \# g^{-1}(y) \pmod{2}$$

## The mod-2 degree

Def

Let  $f: M^n \rightarrow N^n$  smooth map  
(proper if  $M$  &  $N$  non compact)

connected

The mod-2 degree is

$$\deg_2(f) = \# f^{-1}(y) \pmod{2}.$$

for some  $y$  regular

Observations:

- 1) Independent of regular value  $y$
- 2) Independent of homotopy i.e.

$$H: [0,1] \times M \rightarrow N$$

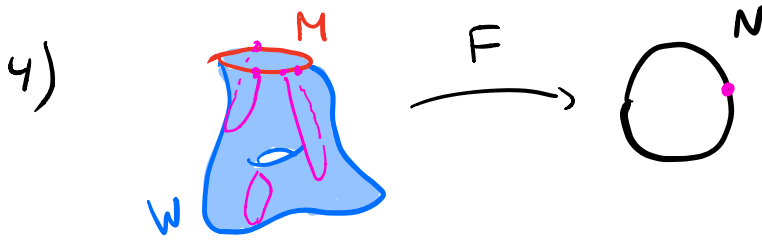
Then  $\deg_2 f = \deg_2 g$  where  $f(x) = H(0,x)$   
 $g(x) = H(1,x)$ .

- 3) If  $\deg_2 f = 1$  then  $f$  is surjective

$\Rightarrow$

$f(x) = c$  has a solution for all  $c \in N!$

## Extensions of mappings and the degree



Suppose  $M = \partial W$  and  $f$  extends

$$\text{over } W \quad F: W \longrightarrow N$$
$$(F|_{\partial W} = f: M \longrightarrow N)$$

Then  $\deg_2 f = 0$  **Why?**

5 For any compact manifold  $W$  with boundary  $\partial W$

There is no map

$$r: W \longrightarrow \partial W$$

$$\text{s.t. } r|_{\partial W} = \text{id}_{\partial W}.$$

**Why?**

## A Theorem to help Joey from friends.

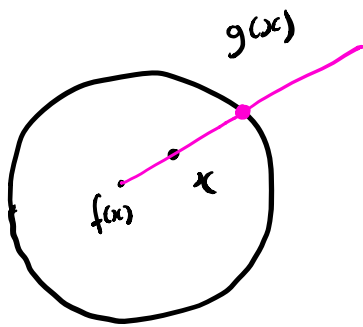
Thm (Brouwer) Every map  $f: D^2 \rightarrow D^2$  has a fixed point (i.e.  $\exists x \in D^2$  s.t.  $f(x) = x$ )

(Joey can always stand on the map)

Pf: suppose  $x \neq f(x) \forall x$  (Joey can't stand on the map)



Construct a map  $g: D^2 \rightarrow S^1$



$$x \in S^1$$

$$g(x) = x$$

$$g|_{D^2} = \text{id}$$



Many many consequences: Topology (of course), Dynamical systems  
(Poincaré-Bendixon, ...), Game theory (Nash equilibria...)

, ...



# A proof of the fundamental theorem of algebra.

Thm A <sup>odd degree</sup> non-constant polynomial

$$p(z) = z^n + a_{n-1}z^{n-1} + \dots + a_0 \quad (a_i \in \mathbb{C})$$

has a root:  $\exists z_0 \in \mathbb{C}$  s.t.  $p(z_0) = 0$

Pf  $p: \mathbb{C} \rightarrow \mathbb{C}$

$$H: [0, 1] \times \mathbb{C} \rightarrow \mathbb{C}$$

$$H(t, z) = z^n + (1-t)a_{n-1}z^{n-1} + \dots + (1-t)a_0$$

$$H(0, z) = p(z)$$

$$H(1, z) = z^n$$

# solutions to  $z^n = 1$

$$\deg_{\mathbb{C}}(z^n) = n \pmod{2}$$

if  $n$  is odd,  $\deg_{\mathbb{C}}(z^n) = n \pmod{2} = 1$   
if  $n$  is even,  $\deg_{\mathbb{C}}(z^n) = n \pmod{2} = 0$   
if  $n$  is odd,  $\deg_{\mathbb{C}}(z^n) = n \pmod{2} = 1$   
if  $n$  is even,  $\deg_{\mathbb{C}}(z^n) = n \pmod{2} = 0$

# ( The integer valued degree )

suppose  $f$  maps between oriented manifolds.

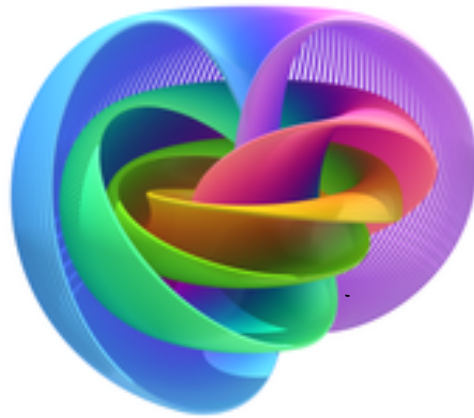
Then  $f^{-1}(y)$  carries orientation.

$$\deg f = \sum_{x \in f^{-1}(y)} \text{sign } df_x$$

$$\deg f \pmod{2} = \deg_2 f.$$

This gadget can be used to prove the full FTA.

Enough with the thinking



Let's have another break.

# Equivariant topology

## Common theme in mathematics.

- $M$  parametrizes objects one is interested in
  - (Moduli space of complex structures, elliptic curves, metrics with curvature conditions, orbits in dyn system)

- Objects possess symmetry.  
(E.g. by reparametrization)

$\Rightarrow$  group  $G$  acting on  $M$ .

- True interest is in  $M/G$
- Want to do calculus/geometry on  $M/G$

When is this possible?

## Ex The Hopf fibration

$z \in S^1 \subseteq \mathbb{C}$  acts on  $S^3 \subseteq \mathbb{C}^2$

via  $z(v, w) = (zv, zw)$

$(\mathbb{C}P^1 = S^3/S^1)$  parametrizes complex lines in  $\mathbb{C}^2$

$$h: S^3 \rightarrow S^2 \subset \mathbb{C} \times \mathbb{R}$$
$$h(v, w) = (2v\bar{w}, |v|^2 - |w|^2)$$

- Identifies  $S^3/S^1$  with the manifold  $S^2$

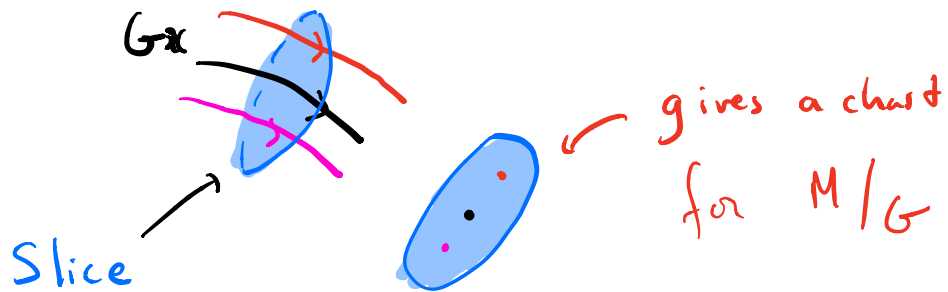
When is  $M/G$  a manifold?

- When is  $M/G$  a manifold?

$M, G$  compact and  $G$  acts freely.

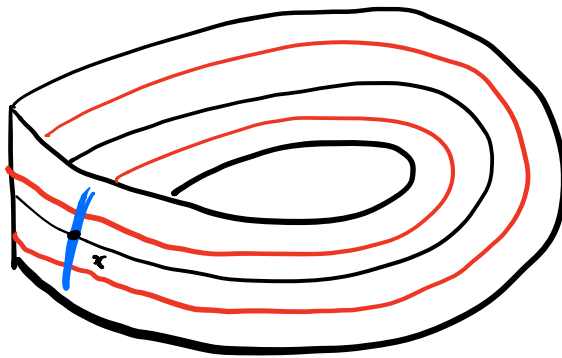
$$g \cdot x \neq x \quad \forall x \in M \quad g \in G.$$

Idea:



If  $G_x = \{g \in G \mid gx = x\}$  is trivial  
every orbit close to the orbit through  $x$   
intersects the orbit uniquely.

But there are situations where  $G_x \neq 0$



$$G_x = \mathbb{Z}_2.$$

Nearby orbits can intersect the slice  
multiple times.

$G_x$  acts on the slice.

# Orbifolds

Charts for orbit space should be  $\mathbb{R}^d / G_x$

$d$  dim slice (depends on dim  $G_x$ )

Simplifying assumption:  $G_x$  is finite  
(so  $d$  is constant)

Def: An  $d$ -dim orbifold  $\mathcal{O}$  is a space locally modelled on  $\mathbb{R}^d / G_x$  ( $x \in \mathcal{O}$ )

+ technical conditions

Thm: Any semi-free  $\leftarrow$  finite stabilisers action of  $G$  on  $M$  defines orbifold structure on  $M/G$ .



## Ex Weighted Hopf action

let  $p, q$  coprime (e.g. 2 & 3)

Then  $S^1$  acts on  $S^3$  via

$$z(v, w) = (z^p v, z^q w)$$

This action is semi-free:

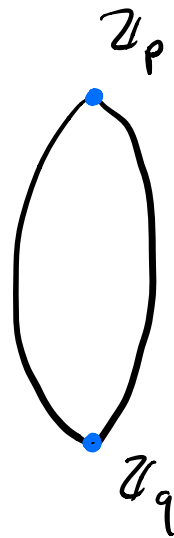
Pf:  $S^1_{(v, w)}$   $z, v \neq 0$

$$z \in S^1 \text{ st } (z^p v, z^q w) = (v, w)$$

$$z^p = 1 \quad z^q = 1$$

$$S^1_{(v, 0)} = \mathbb{Z}_p$$

$$S^1_{(0, w)} = \mathbb{Z}_q$$



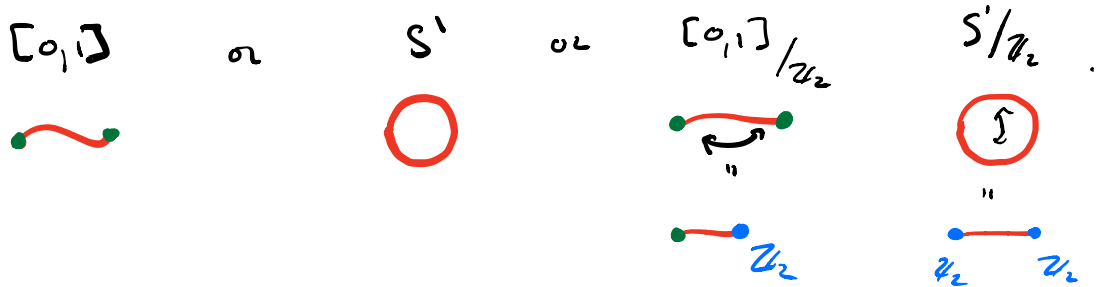
$(p, q)$ -spindle

Underlying space is homeomorphic to  $S^2$ , but -----

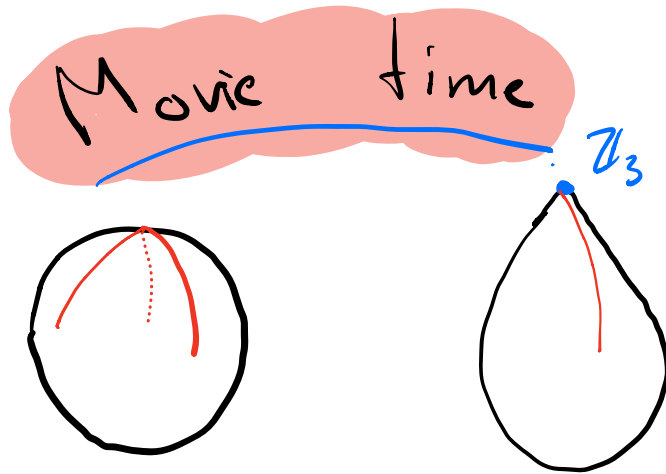
# Orbiropes

Goal: degree theory for orbifolds

Thm: Classification of <sup>connected compact</sup> one-dim orbifolds with bdy



Orbiropes can have an odd number of ends!



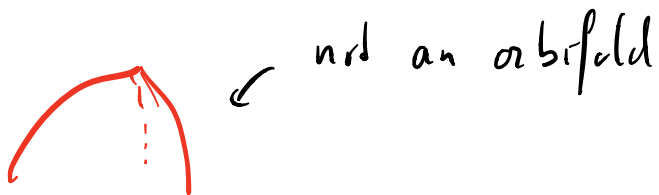
$$\mathbb{CP}^1$$

$$[z_0, z_1] \quad \mapsto$$

$$\mathbb{CP}^1(3, 1)$$

$$[z_0^3, z_1]$$

Every point on r.h.s. is regular value,  
 but preimage of curve is not an orbifold



# Orbifold degree theory.

Def (Pasquotto - R.) let  $f: P \rightarrow O$  be smooth map of orbifolds. Define, for regular  $y$

$$\deg_z(f; y) = \sum_{x \in f^{-1}(y)} \frac{|G_y|}{|G_x|} \pmod{2}$$

$$\deg(f; y) = \sum_{x \in f^{-1}(y)} \text{sign}(d\tilde{f}_x) \frac{|G_y|}{|G_x|}$$

under orientation assumptions

- These are **not** rational numbers.
- Singular points of the orbifold **can** be regular values
- Without further assumptions degree **does** depend on  $y$ , and is **not** a homotopy invariant.

Thm Suppose  $f: \mathcal{O} \rightarrow P$ ,  $P$  connected  
and  $\mathcal{O}$  does <sup>proper</sup> not have codim 1 singularities

\* Then  $\deg_2(f; y)$  does not depend on  $y$

\* Nor on homotopy class of  $f$ .

\*  $\deg_2(f) = 1 \Rightarrow f$  is surjective

+ similar statement for integer degree

First point is remarkable

orbifold diffeo group is not transitive

Ex:  $z \cdot (z_0, \dots, z_n) = (z^{q_0} z_0, \dots, z^{q_n} z_n)$

$q_i$ : pair wise coprime.  $\Rightarrow \mathbb{C}P(q) = S^{2n+1} / S^1 \approx \mathbb{C}^{n+1} \setminus \{0\} / \mathbb{C}^*$

$$f_q: \mathbb{C}^{n+1} \setminus \{0\} \longrightarrow \mathbb{C}^{n+1} \setminus \{0\}$$

$$f_q(z_0, \dots, z_n) = (z_0^{q_0}, \dots, z_n^{q_n})$$

$\Rightarrow f_q: \mathbb{C}P^n \longrightarrow \mathbb{C}P^n(q)$

$$g_q(z_0, \dots, z_n) = (z_0^{\frac{lcm(q)}{q_0}}, \dots, z_n^{\frac{lcm(q)}{q_n}})$$

$\Rightarrow g_q: \mathbb{C}P^n(q) \longrightarrow \mathbb{C}P^n$

$$\deg f_q = q_0 \cdots q_n \quad \deg g_q = \frac{(lcm(q))^n}{q_0 \cdots q_n}$$

$$h_{rq}: \mathbb{C}P^n(q) \xrightarrow{g_q} \mathbb{C}P^n \xrightarrow{f_r} \mathbb{C}P^n(r)$$

$$\deg h_{rq} = \frac{(lcm(q))^n}{q_0 \cdots q_n} r_0 \cdots r_n$$

## Some open problems

1) In manifold case degree *classifies*

$$[M^n, S^n] \xrightarrow{\text{deg } f} \mathbb{Z}$$

*M oriented*

$$[M^n, S^n] \xrightarrow{\text{deg}_2 f} \mathbb{Z}_2$$

*M is not oriented*

How does this work in orbifold setting?

2) If  $m > n$  there is a map

$$\Sigma[M^m, N^n] \xrightarrow[\text{of regular value}]{\text{preimage}} N_{m-n}(M)$$

*cobordism ring*

How does this work in orbifold world?

3) The orbifold cobordism ring is trivial. But not with assumptions on singularities.