

Info

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Covering space of a topological space

Definition. Covering space of a topological space

A continuous map between topological spaces

$$\pi : Y \rightarrow X$$

is a **covering space map** if π is *surjective* and for any $x \in X$, $\exists U_x(\text{open}) \subseteq X$ of x such that

$$\pi^{-1}U_x = \bigsqcup_{a \in \pi^{-1}(x)} Y_a$$

where $\pi|_{V_a} : V_a \rightarrow U_x$ is a homeomorphism for each $a \in \pi^{-1}(x)$.

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and continuous map

$$h : Y \times [0, 1] \rightarrow X$$

then for *any chosen lift $\tilde{f}$ of the initial $h(-, 0) := f_0 : Y \rightarrow X$*

$$\tilde{f} : Y \rightarrow \tilde{X}, \pi \circ \tilde{f} = f$$

we have a **unique lift of h**

$$\exists! \tilde{h} : Y \times [0, 1] \rightarrow \tilde{X}, \pi \circ \tilde{h} = h$$

with the initial $\tilde{h}(-, 0) = \tilde{f}$.

- Every path $h : \{\bullet\} \times [0, 1] \rightarrow X$ can be uniquely lifted $\tilde{h} : \{\bullet\} \times [0, 1] \rightarrow \tilde{X}$ once the initial point $\tilde{h}(\bullet, 0) \in \pi^{-1}(h(0)) \subseteq \tilde{X}$ has been chosen.
- Constant homotopies lift to constant homotopies.
- Let a homotopy $h : Y \times [0, 1] \rightarrow X$ such that $\tilde{h}|_{A \times [0, 1]}$ is a constant homotopy lifts to $\tilde{h} : Y \times [0, 1] \rightarrow \tilde{X}$. Then $\tilde{h}$ restricts to the constant homotopy ?
 - Homotopy of paths rel to endpoints lifts to homotopy of paths rel to endpoints.

Definition. The universal cover of a topological space

Let (X, x_0) be a *globally and locally path-connected, semi-locally simply-connected* topological space with base point x_0 . We define the **universal covering space of X** as the set of all homotopy classes (relative to endpoints) of paths in X starting at x_0

$$U(X, x_0) := \frac{\{\gamma : [0, 1] \rightarrow X, \gamma(0) = x_0\}}{\text{homotopy rel to } \{0, 1\}}$$

and give it the topology generated by

$$U_{[\gamma]} := \{[\gamma \cdot \eta] : \eta : [0, 1] \rightarrow U, \eta(0) = \gamma(1)\}$$

for all path connected open sets $U \subseteq X$ for which $\pi_1(U) \rightarrow \pi_1(X)$ is trivial. With the map

$$p_{U(X, x_0)} : U(X) \rightarrow X \\ [\gamma] \mapsto \gamma(1)$$

we define the **universal cover** as

$$p_{U(X)} : (U(X, x_0), [x_0]) \rightarrow (X, x_0)$$

and the universal **covering group action**

$$\pi_1(X, x_0) \curvearrowright U(X, x_0) \\ [\gamma] \mapsto \text{Deck}(x_0, \tilde{\gamma}(1))$$

where $\tilde{\gamma}$ is the unique lift of the loop γ .

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is a simply-connected covering space.

A simply-connected covering space of a topological space is therefore called a **universal cover**. It is unique up to isomorphism, so one is justified in calling it **the** universal cover. ^[1]

We have the *Galois correspondence* of covering spaces:

sett.Top.map covering.corr				
Correspondence between covering spaces and subgroups of the fundamental group				
Let X just have a universal covering space? or path-connected, semi-locally simply connected required?				
covering space (Y, y)	$p_*\pi_1(Y, y) =: H$	surjective homomorphism to Deck group	lift homomorphism from fundamental group to Monodromy group	restriction homomorphism from Deck group to Monodromy group
any covering spaces (possibly not path-connected)			homomorphism $\pi_1(X, x) \rightarrow \text{AutS}$ whose image is defined as $\text{Mon}(p)$	
n -sheeted covering spaces (possibly not path-connected)			conjugacy class of homomorphisms $\pi_1(X, x) \rightarrow S_n$ for n upto?	
if surjective then cover is path connected?			classes of surjective homomorphisms (cannot happen when $\pi_1(X, x)$ is Abelian for example)	
path-connected <i>based</i> covering spaces $p : (Y, y) \rightarrow (X, x)$ that induces $p_* : \pi_1(Y, y) \hookrightarrow \pi_1(X, x)$	subgroups $H := p_*\pi_1(Y, y)$ of $\pi_1(X, x)$	surjective homomorphism $N(H) \rightarrow \text{Deck}(Y, y)$ whose kernel is H that gives us $\frac{N(H)}{H} \cong \text{Deck}(Y, y)$	$\pi_1(X, x) \rightarrow \text{AutS}$	$\text{res} : \text{Deck}(Y, p) \rightarrow \pi_1(X, x)$ is an <i>injective</i> group homomorphism. There <i>exists a unique</i> Deck transformation between y_1, y if $p_*\pi_1(Y, y_1) = p_*\pi_1(Y, y)$
	by <i>covering</i> group action through Deck transformations $\frac{U(X, x)}{H}$			
path-connected covering spaces (ignoring base points)	conjugacy classes of subgroups of $\pi_1(X, x)$			
$Y_1 \rightarrow Y_2 \rightarrow X$	$H_1 \leq H_2 \leq \pi_1(X, x)$			

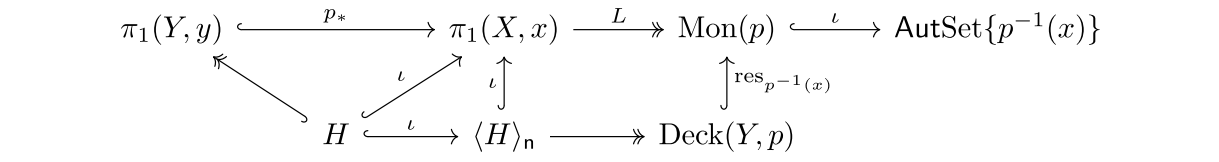
covering space (Y, y)	$p_*\pi_1(Y, y) =: H$	surjective homomorphism to Deck group	lift homomorphism from fundamental group to Monodromy group	restriction homomorphism from Deck group to Monodromy group
<i>normal</i> covering spaces p of X that induces $p_* : \pi_1(Y, y) \hookrightarrow \pi_1(X, x_0)$	<i>normal</i> subgroups $H = p_*\pi_1(Y, y)$ of $\pi_1(X, x_0)$	surjective homomorphism $\pi_1(X, x) \rightarrow \text{Deck}(Y, p)$ whose kernel is $p_*\pi_1(Y, y)$ that gives us $\frac{\pi_1(X, x)}{H} \cong \text{Deck}(Y, p)$	$\pi_1(X, x) \rightarrow \text{AutS}(p^{-1}(x))$ is a group homomorphism whose kernel is H , hence $\frac{\pi_1(X, x)}{H} \cong \text{Mon}(p^{-1}(x))$	$\text{res} : \text{Deck}(Y, p) \cong \text{AutS}(p^{-1}(x))$ There exists a Deck transformation between any pair of elements in $p^{-1}(x)$.
	quotients by properly discontinuous <i>transitive</i> group action through Deck transformations			
n -cyclic cover	normal subgroup H such that $\frac{\pi_1(X, x)}{H} \cong \mathbb{Z}_n$	$\text{Deck}(Y, p) \cong \mathbb{Z}_n$		
infinite cyclic cover	normal subgroup H such that $\frac{\pi_1(X, x)}{H} \cong \mathbb{Z}$	$\text{Deck}(Y, p) \cong \mathbb{Z}$		
<i>Abelian</i> covering spaces	<i>normal</i> subgroups that contain <u>the commutator subgroup</u>	$\frac{\pi_1(X, x)}{H} \cong \text{Deck}(Y, p)$ becomes an Abelian group!		$\text{res} : \text{Deck}(Y, p) \cong \text{AutS}(p^{-1}(x))$ is an isomorphism of Abelian groups
<i>Universal Abelian</i> covering space	$H = [\pi_1(X, x), \pi_1(X, x)]$ the <u>commutator subgroup</u>	$\frac{\pi_1(X, x)}{H} \cong \text{Deck}(Y, p)$ becomes the largest Abelian (as a quotient) group!		$\text{res} : \text{Deck}(Y, p) \cong \text{AutS}(p^{-1}(x))$ is an isomorphism of Abelian groups
the <i>universal cover</i> whose fundamental group is 0	the subgroup is 0			
	$\frac{U(X, x)}{0}$			

Let $p : (Y, y) \rightarrow (X, x)$ be a path-connected covering space inducing $p_* : \pi_1(Y, y) \rightarrow \pi_1(X, x)$ then

$$\text{Deck}(Y, p) \cong \frac{\langle p_*\pi_1(Y, y) \rangle_n}{p_*\pi_1(Y, y)}$$

and in particular if Y is a normal cover then H is a normal subgroup so

$$\text{Deck}(Y, p) \cong \frac{\pi_1(X, x)}{p_*\pi_1(Y, y)}$$



Definition. The covering space functor

Covering_X : basedCovering(X) → subGrpπ₁(X, x₀)

is a functor that maps

• objects:

$$p : (Y, y) \rightarrow (X, x_0) \mapsto p_*\pi_1(Y, y)$$

• morphisms:

$$\begin{array}{c} Y_1 \\ \downarrow^F \\ Y_2 \end{array} \mapsto p_*\pi_1(Y_1, y) \leq p_*\pi_1(Y_2, y)$$

Maybe

$$p \begin{array}{c} (Y, y) \\ \downarrow \\ (X, x_0) \end{array} \mapsto p_* \begin{array}{c} \pi_1(Y, y) \\ \downarrow \\ \pi_1(X, x_0) \end{array}$$

Current note has 1 direct children and 1 total descendants.

- [structures based on sets](#)
 - [Topological spaces](#)
 - [Covering space of a topological space](#)
 - [Correspondence between covering spaces and subgroups of the fundamental group](#)

And it has 29 siblings.

- [structures based on sets](#)
 - [Topological spaces](#)
 - [Group action on topological spaces](#)
 - [Discrete subgroup acting on coset space](#)
 - [Basis and subbasis for a topology](#)
 - [Principal \$G\$ -bundles over topological spaces](#)

$$G \curvearrowright P \rightarrow X$$
 - [Vector bundles over topological spaces](#)
 - [Closure of a subset of topological space](#)
 - [Locally compact and 2-countable Hausdorff topological spaces are paracompact with countable refinement](#)
 - [Covering dimension of topological spaces](#)
 - $\text{EndTop}(X, Y)$
 - [Eilenberg–Steenrod functors](#)

$$(H_n : \mathbf{Top} \times \mathbf{Top} \rightarrow \mathbf{Ab}, \partial_n)$$
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