

Exodromy for stratified topological spaces

(after MacPherson, Treumann, Curry-Patel)

| Stratified spaces


Def Let P be a finite poset. The Alexandrotf topology on P is the topology whose opens are the upwards closed sets, e.g.


$$P_{\geq p} = \{q \in P \mid q \geq p\}.$$

Ex In $P = \{0 < 1\} = [1]$, the opens are $\emptyset, \{1\}, [1]$.
(Sierniński space)

Def A \mathcal{P} -stratified space is a pair (X, f) where X is a topological space and $f: X \rightarrow \mathcal{P}$ a continuous function.
 (Often: abuse of notation (X, \mathcal{P}) .)

Ex (1) I
 $\rightarrow \{0 < 1\}$.

(2) S^1
 $\rightarrow \{0 < 1\}$.

(3) S^2
 $\rightarrow \{0 < 1 < 2\}$.

(4) Products: if (X, \mathcal{P}) , (X', \mathcal{P}') are stratified

spaces, then $(X \times X', P \times P')$ is stratified over $P \times P'$.



(Older references: usually only $P = [a]$.)

Notation $X_{\geq p} := f^{-1}(P_{\geq p})$, $X_p = f^{-1}(p)$, etc ...

\downarrow open in X \uparrow locally closed

Def Let \mathcal{C} be a category (e.g. poset). Then $\mathcal{C}^{\triangleright} = \mathcal{C} \amalg \{\infty\}$

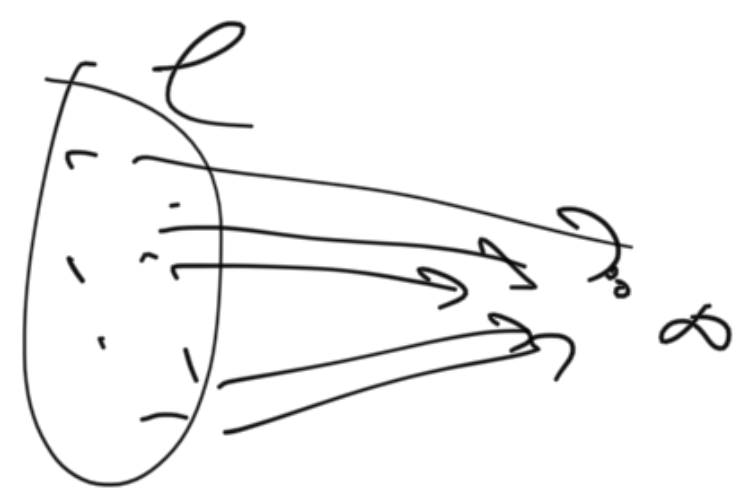
with

$\mathcal{C}^{\triangleright}(x,y) = \begin{cases} \mathcal{C}(x,y) & x,y \in \mathcal{C} \\ * & y = \infty \end{cases}$

\downarrow terminal
 (right cone)

$$1 \quad \emptyset \quad x = \infty, y \in \mathcal{C}.$$

Picture



Similarly, \mathcal{C}^Δ :

(left cone)



Remark If \mathcal{P} is a poset, then so are $\mathcal{P}^\Delta, \mathcal{P}^\triangleright$.

Ex $[n]^\Delta \cong [n+1] \cong [n]^\triangleright$.

Def The cone $\mathcal{C}X$ of a topological space X is $(X \times \mathbb{R}_{>0}) \cup \{*\}$
 where $U \subseteq \mathcal{C}X$ is open iff $U \cap (X \times \mathbb{R}_{>0})$ is open

and $x \in U \Rightarrow X \times (0, \varepsilon) \subseteq U$ for some $\varepsilon > 0$.

Remark There is a natural map $(X \times \mathbb{R}_{\geq 0}) \xrightarrow[X \times 0]{\text{Id}} CX$,
which is a homeomorphism if X is compact Hausdorff.

But for $X = \mathbb{R}_{>0}$, CX has funny opens: e.g.

$$\left\{ (x, y) \in \mathbb{R}_{>0} \times \mathbb{R}_{>0} \mid y < x \right\} \cup \{x\}$$

is not open in CX .



Remark If X is P -stratified, then CX is P^Δ -stratified:

$$\bar{f} : CX \rightarrow P^\Delta$$

$$\begin{array}{ccc}
 * & \mapsto & -\infty \\
 (x, t) & \mapsto & f(x)
 \end{array}$$

Picture



$-\infty$ \hookrightarrow whatever f was (forgetting the $\mathbb{R}_{>0}$ -coordinate)

Def (HA, Def A.5.5, with simplifying assumptions)

A \mathcal{P} -stratified space X is conically stratified if every $x \in X_p$ (for all $p \in \mathcal{P}$) has a neighbourhood U_x of the form $\mathbb{R}^q \times Y$ for some \mathcal{P}_p -stratified space Y .

Leuric: any? $\hookrightarrow \mathcal{P}_p^\Delta = \mathcal{P}_p$ - stratified.

Such an open U_x is called a basic open.

Ex Anything nice:



near equator:

$$\begin{array}{c} / / / \\ \hline / / / \end{array} = \mathbb{R}^x \cdot \begin{array}{c} / \\ \cdot \\ / \end{array} \\ = \mathbb{R}^x \cdot \mathbb{C}(\{x, y\})$$

near point:

$$\begin{array}{c} / / / \\ \hline / / / \end{array} = \begin{array}{c} / \\ \cdot \\ / \end{array} \cdot \mathbb{C}(\{x, y\}) \\ = \mathbb{C}(\{x, y\}) \\ \mathbb{L}S^1 \cong S^0$$

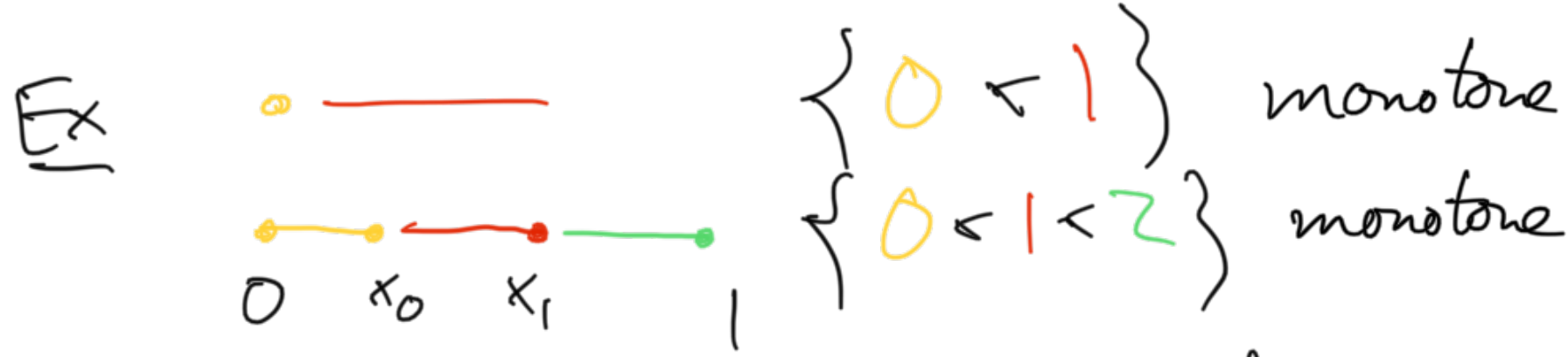
Def A morphism $(X, \mathcal{P}) \rightarrow (Y, \mathcal{Q})$ of stratified spaces is a commutative diagram

$$\begin{array}{ccc} X & \longrightarrow & Y \\ | & & | \end{array}$$

$$\begin{array}{c} \cup \\ P \end{array} \longrightarrow \begin{array}{c} \downarrow \\ Q \end{array} .$$

Exit paths

Def An $[n]$ -stratification $I \xrightarrow{f} [n]$ is monotone if f is monotone.



\hookrightarrow denoted $(I, \{0, x_0, x_1, \dots, x_n, 1\})$.



Def (Curry - Patel version)

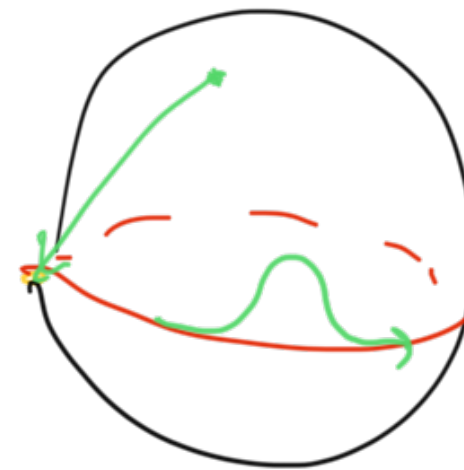
(v D)

An exit path in a stratified space (X, τ) is a morphism $\alpha: (I, [n]) \rightarrow (X, \mathcal{P})$ from a monotone stratification to (X, \mathcal{P}) .

Ex



✓



✗

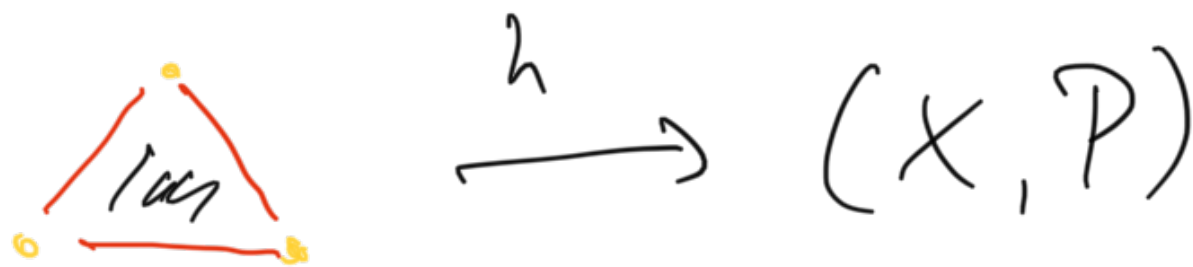
Def The concatenation of exit paths $\alpha: (I, [n]) \rightarrow (X, \mathcal{P})$, $\beta: (I, [m]) \rightarrow (X, \mathcal{P})$ with $\alpha(1) = \beta(0)$ is the map $\alpha \cdot \beta: (I, [m+n]) \rightarrow (X, \mathcal{P})$

$$p \circ \alpha : (I, [0, 1]) \rightarrow (I, [0, 1])$$

$$t \longmapsto \begin{cases} \alpha(2t) & 0 \leq t \leq \frac{1}{2} \\ \beta(2t-1) & \frac{1}{2} \leq t \leq 1 \end{cases}$$

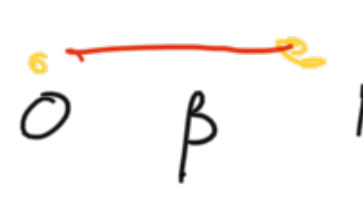
Remark An isomorphism $(I, [a]) \rightarrow (I, [a])$ of monotone stratification induces a reparametrisation on exit paths $(I, [a]) \rightarrow X$.

Def An elementary homotopy $\alpha \Rightarrow \beta$ from $\alpha : (I, \langle 0, \frac{1}{2}, 1 \rangle) \rightarrow (X, P)$ to $\beta : (I, \langle 0, 1 \rangle) \rightarrow (X, P)$ is a map



whose restrictions to the edges are





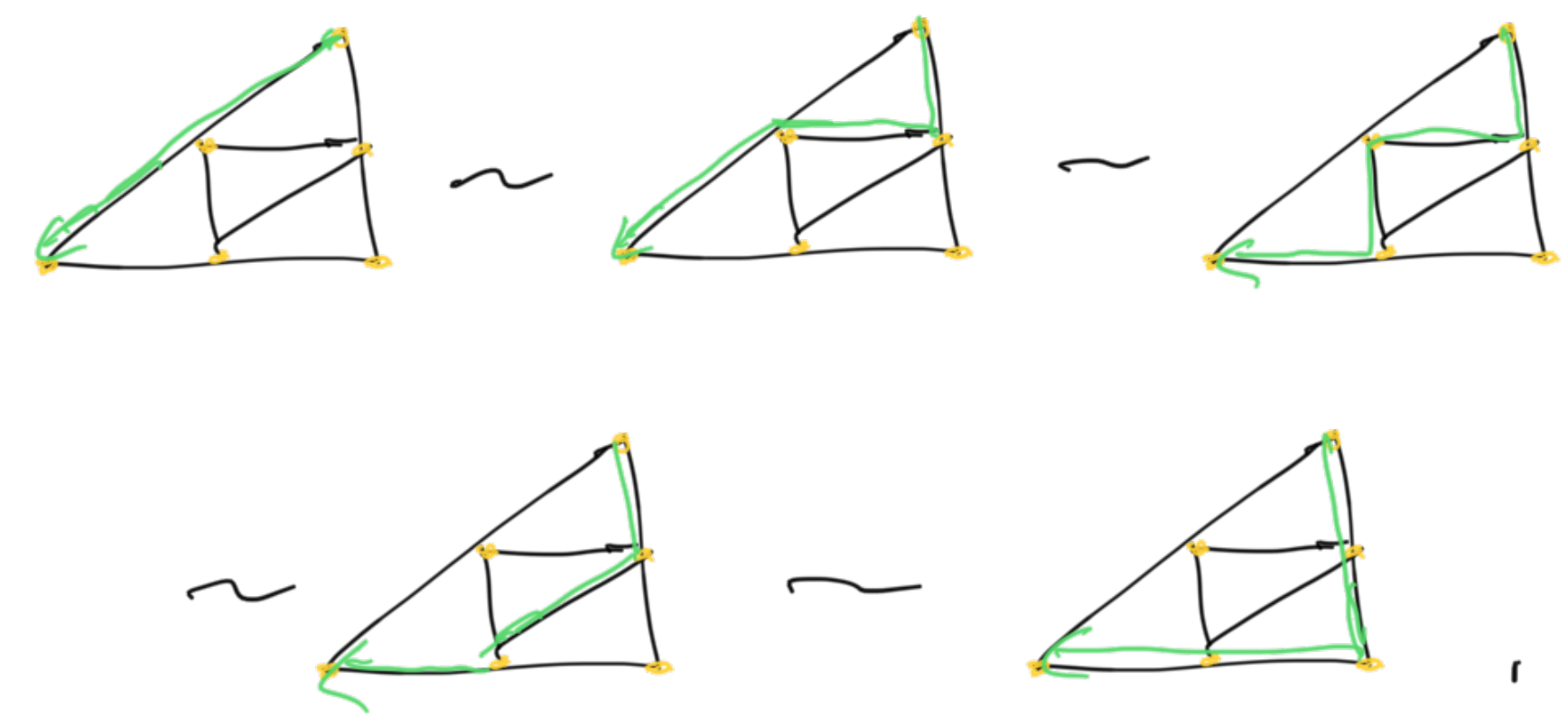
and such that the image of h is contained in a basic open neighbourhood U_x of $x = \alpha(0) = \beta(0)$.

Def Homotopy equivalence is the relation generated by

$$\gamma_1 * \alpha * \gamma_2 \sim \gamma_1 * \beta * \gamma_2$$

when $\alpha \Rightarrow \beta$, up to reparametrisation.

Picture



Def The exit path category $\underline{\text{Exit}}_p(X)$ has

- Objects: $|X|$ (points of X),
- morphisms: equivalence classes of exit paths.

It has a natural functor $\underline{\text{Exit}}_p(X) \rightarrow \mathcal{P}$.

$$\begin{array}{lcl} x & \mapsto & f(x) \\ \alpha & \mapsto & (f(\alpha(0)) \leftarrow f(\alpha(1))) \end{array}$$

Ex (0) If $P = \{*\}$, then $\underline{\text{Exit}}_p(X) = \Pi_1(X)$ (fundamental groupoid, assume X is "nice").

(1) Take the $\{0 < 1\}$ -stratification on \mathbb{R} given by

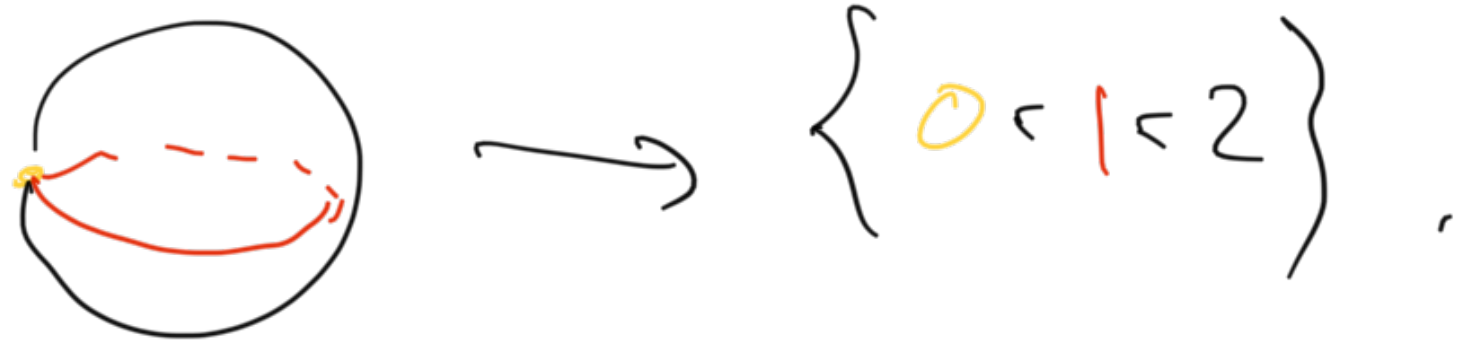


Then

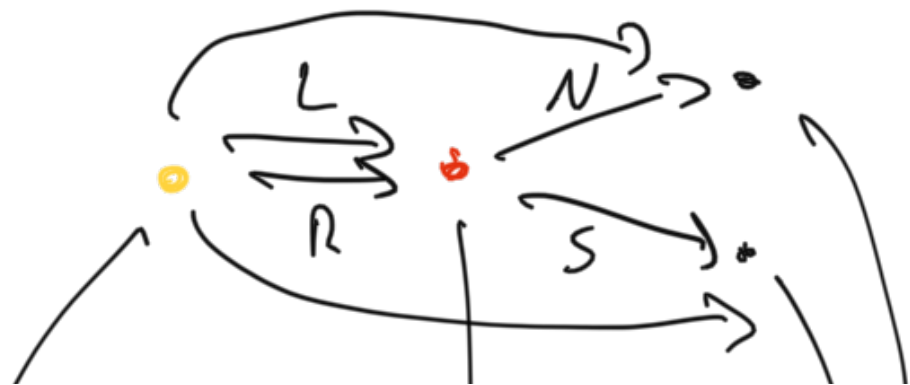
$$\text{Exit}_p(\mathbb{R}) \approx \left\{ \begin{array}{c} x_0 \quad x_1 \quad \dots \quad x_n \\ \swarrow \searrow \quad \swarrow \searrow \quad \dots \quad \swarrow \searrow \\ \bullet \quad \bullet \quad \dots \quad \bullet \quad \bullet \end{array} \right\} \rightarrow \left\{ \begin{array}{c} \bullet \\ \downarrow \\ \bullet \end{array} \quad \left. \begin{array}{c} 0 \\ \uparrow \\ -1 \end{array} \right\}$$

(no Automorphisms)

(2) Consider



Then $\text{Exit}_p(X)$ is equivalent to



$$\begin{aligned} \text{NoL} &= \text{NoR} \\ \text{SoL} &= \text{SoR} \end{aligned}$$

Aut=1

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3 Van Kampen theorem

Def A complete covering of X is a collection $\underline{U} = \{U_i\}$ of open subsets such that each $U_i \cap U_j$ (and X) is covered by $U_k \in \underline{U}$.

Prop (Stratified van Kampen theorem) (X, P) conically stratified topological space.

For any complete covering \underline{U} of X , the map

$$\begin{array}{c} \text{2-column} \\ \xrightarrow{\quad} \\ \underline{U} \in \underline{U} \end{array} \text{Exit}_P(\underline{U}) \longrightarrow \text{Exit}_P(X)$$

is an equivalence.

Pf (Sketch)

• On objects: $|X| = \operatorname{colim}_{U \in \mathcal{U}} |U|$.

• On morphisms:

* surjectivity: break down a path into parts in a single U

* injectivity: reduce to a single elementary homotopy in a basic open U_x . Do some subdivision to get a finite chain of elementary homotopies in U_x . \square


4. Constructible sheaves & exodromy equivalence

Recall: a sheaf of sets \mathcal{F} on (X, \mathcal{P}) is constructible

if each $\mathcal{F}|_{X_p}$ is locally constant. Write $\underline{\text{Cons}}_p(X, \underline{\text{Set}})$ for the category of constructible sheaves.

Thm (MacPherson, Treumann, ~~...~~) ^{finite}
 Let (X, P) be a conically stratified space. Then the categories $\underline{\text{Cons}}_p(X, \underline{\text{Set}})$ and $[\underline{\text{Exit}}_p(X), \underline{\text{Set}}]$ are equivalent.

Prop If (X, P) is conically stratified, and $x \in X_p$ then basis neighbourhoods of x are $U_x \cong \mathbb{R}^d \times CY$.
 \downarrow stratified \downarrow $P_{>p}$ -stratified.

Then $x \in \underline{\text{Exit}}_p(U_x)$ is initial: 

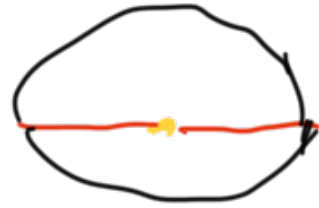
$$\underline{\text{Exit}}_p(x, y) = \{ \alpha: x \rightarrow y \text{ exit} \} / \cong \cong \mathbb{R}^d \times CY$$

(---, cone pt).

Local picture



near •



$$\frac{1 \ 1 \ 1}{1 \ 1}$$



Construction of functors

Define $\Phi : [\underline{\text{Exit}}_p(X), \underline{\text{Set}}] \rightleftarrows \underline{\text{Consp}}_p(X) : \Psi$ as follows:

• Given $F : \underline{\text{Exit}}_p(X) \rightarrow \underline{\text{Set}}$, define Open(X)^{op}

$$\Phi(\mathcal{F}): \mathcal{T}(X) \rightarrow \underline{\text{Set}}$$

$$U \mapsto \lim_{x \in \underline{\text{Exit}}_p(U)} \mathcal{F}(x)$$

$$(U \subseteq V) \mapsto \left(\lim_{x \in \underline{\text{Exit}}_p(V)} \mathcal{F}(x) \right) \rightarrow \lim_{x \in \underline{\text{Exit}}_p(U)} \mathcal{F}(x)$$

Then $\Phi(\mathcal{F})$ is a constructible sheaf:

* If \underline{U} is a complete covering, van Kampen gives

$$\underline{\text{Exit}}_p(X) = 2\text{-colim}_{\underline{U \in \mathcal{U}}} \underline{\text{Exit}}_p(U)$$

Thus,

$$\Phi(\mathcal{F})(X) = \lim_{x \in \underline{\text{Exit}}_p(X)} \mathcal{F}(x) = \lim_{x \in \left(2\text{-colim}_{\underline{U \in \mathcal{U}}} \underline{\text{Exit}}_p(U) \right)} \mathcal{F}(x)$$

$$= \lim_{u \in \underline{U}} \lim_{x \in \underline{\text{Exit}}_p(u)} \mathcal{F}(x) = \lim_{u \in \underline{U}} \mathcal{F}(u),$$

which is the Sheaf condition,

* If $x \in X_p$, and $U_x \subseteq V_x$ are basic opens, then x is initial in both $\underline{\text{Exit}}_p(U_x)$ and $\underline{\text{Exit}}_p(V_x)$, so

$$\Phi(\mathcal{F})(U_x) = \mathcal{F}(x) = \Phi(\mathcal{F})(V_x),$$

This shows that $\Phi(\mathcal{F})|_{V_x} \rightarrow \Phi(\mathcal{F})|_{U_x}$ is an isomorphism.

But the $U_x \cap X_p$ form a basis of neighborhoods of $x \in X_p$, so $\Phi(\mathcal{F})|_{X_p}$ is locally constant.

• Given $\gamma \in \underline{\text{Cons}}_p(x)$, define

$$\gamma \cap \Gamma(\rho) : \underline{\text{Exit}}_p(x) \rightarrow \text{Set}$$

$\mathcal{F}(y) : \underline{\text{Exit}}(P(\cdot), x)$

$x \mapsto \mathcal{G}_x = \mathcal{G}(U_x)$ for any basic open $U_x \ni x$.

If $\alpha : (I, [a]) \rightarrow (X, P)$ is an exit path from x to y contained in U_x , define $\mathcal{F}(\mathcal{G})(\alpha)$ as the specialisation map

$$\mathcal{G}_x \xleftarrow{\sim} \mathcal{G}(U_x) \longrightarrow \mathcal{G}_y.$$

Check:

* It does not depend on U_x ;

* Check that it factors through elementary homotopies.

Prop Clearly \mathcal{F} and \mathcal{I} are functorial.

To check that they are inverses:

$$\mathcal{F}(\mathcal{I}) = \text{colim} \lim \mathcal{F}(y)$$

\dashv \dashv \dashv

$$\overline{U \ni x} \quad y \in \text{Fit}_p(U)$$
$$= \text{colim}_{U_x \ni x} \mathcal{F}(x) = \mathcal{F}(x),$$

so $\mathcal{F} \circ \mathcal{I} = \text{id}$. Similarly, using the Sheaf condition and the fact that $\mathcal{G}_x = \mathcal{G}(U_x)$, we recover

$$\mathcal{G}(U) = \lim_{\substack{V \in \underline{U}_{\text{std}} \\ U_x}} \mathcal{G}(V) = \lim_{x \in \text{Fit}_p(U)} \mathcal{G}_x, \quad \square$$