

Paths in Euclidean space

L. C. Hoehn (loganh@nipissingu.ca)

joint with:

L. G. Oversteegen

E. D. Tymchatyn

Nipissing University

July 23, 2014

Summer Topology Conference

College of Staten Island

Paths

Let $n \geq 1$ be fixed.

Paths

Let $n \geq 1$ be fixed.

A *path* is a continuous function $\gamma : [0, 1] \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^n$.

Paths

Let $n \geq 1$ be fixed.

A *path* is a continuous function $\gamma : [0, 1] \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^n$.

$\mathcal{C}[0, 1] = \{\gamma : \gamma \text{ is a path}\}$, with metric

$$d_{\text{sup}}(\gamma_1, \gamma_2) = \sup\{|\gamma_1(t) - \gamma_2(t)| : t \in [0, 1]\}$$

Paths

Let $n \geq 1$ be fixed.

A *path* is a continuous function $\gamma : [0, 1] \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^n$.

$\mathcal{C}[0, 1] = \{\gamma : \gamma \text{ is a path}\}$, with metric

$$d_{\text{sup}}(\gamma_1, \gamma_2) = \sup\{|\gamma_1(t) - \gamma_2(t)| : t \in [0, 1]\}$$

Reparameterization: $\gamma_1 \approx \gamma_2$ if there are non-decreasing onto maps $m_1, m_2 : [0, 1] \rightarrow [0, 1]$ such that

- γ_i is constant on each fiber $m_i^{-1}(s)$, $s \in [0, 1]$, for both $i = 1, 2$; and
- $\gamma_1 \circ m_1^{-1} = \gamma_2 \circ m_2^{-1}$.

Paths

Let $n \geq 1$ be fixed.

A *path* is a continuous function $\gamma : [0, 1] \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^n$.

$\mathcal{C}[0, 1] = \{\gamma : \gamma \text{ is a path}\}$, with metric

$$d_{\text{sup}}(\gamma_1, \gamma_2) = \sup\{|\gamma_1(t) - \gamma_2(t)| : t \in [0, 1]\}$$

Reparameterization: $\gamma_1 \approx \gamma_2$ if there are non-decreasing onto maps $m_1, m_2 : [0, 1] \rightarrow [0, 1]$ such that

- γ_i is constant on each fiber $m_i^{-1}(s)$, $s \in [0, 1]$, for both $i = 1, 2$; and
- $\gamma_1 \circ m_1^{-1} = \gamma_2 \circ m_2^{-1}$.

Let $\Pi = \{[\gamma] : \gamma \text{ is a path}\} = \mathcal{C}[0, 1] / \approx$

Paths

Let $n \geq 1$ be fixed.

A *path* is a continuous function $\gamma : [0, 1] \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^n$.

$\mathcal{C}[0, 1] = \{\gamma : \gamma \text{ is a path}\}$, with metric

$$d_{\text{sup}}(\gamma_1, \gamma_2) = \sup\{|\gamma_1(t) - \gamma_2(t)| : t \in [0, 1]\}$$

Reparameterization: $\gamma_1 \approx \gamma_2$ if there are non-decreasing onto maps $m_1, m_2 : [0, 1] \rightarrow [0, 1]$ such that

- γ_i is constant on each fiber $m_i^{-1}(s)$, $s \in [0, 1]$, for both $i = 1, 2$; and
- $\gamma_1 \circ m_1^{-1} = \gamma_2 \circ m_2^{-1}$.

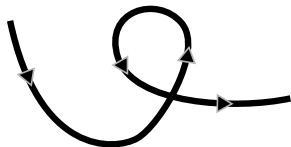
Let $\Pi = \{[\gamma] : \gamma \text{ is a path}\} = \mathcal{C}[0, 1] / \approx$

Metric d on Π :

$$d([\gamma_1], [\gamma_2]) = \inf\{d_{\text{sup}}(\lambda_1, \lambda_2) : \lambda_1 \in [\gamma_1], \lambda_2 \in [\gamma_2]\}$$

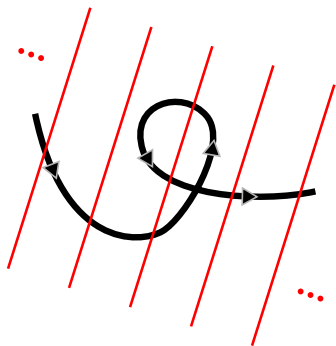
Alternative path length (in \mathbb{R}^2)

Given a path $\gamma : [0, 1] \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^2 \dots$



Alternative path length (in \mathbb{R}^2)

Given a path $\gamma : [0, 1] \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^2 \dots$

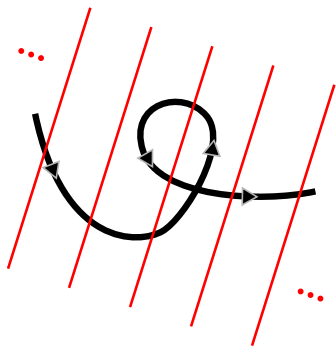


Cut by family of lines obtained from $\mathbb{R} \times \mathbb{Z}$ by

- Translating vertically by $x \in [0, 1]$;
- Rotating by angle $t\pi$, $t \in [0, 1]$;
- Scaling by factor $\mu \in (0, 1]$.

Alternative path length (in \mathbb{R}^2)

Given a path $\gamma : [0, 1] \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^2 \dots$



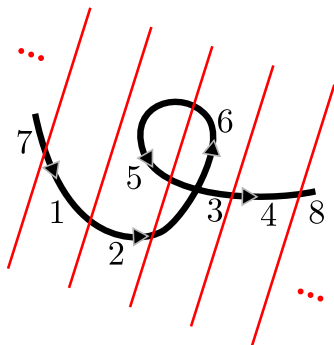
Cut by family of lines obtained from $\mathbb{R} \times \mathbb{Z}$ by

- Translating vertically by $x \in [0, 1]$;
- Rotating by angle $t\pi$, $t \in [0, 1]$;
- Scaling by factor $\mu \in (0, 1]$.

This splits path into subpaths C_n .

Alternative path length (in \mathbb{R}^2)

Given a path $\gamma : [0, 1] \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^2 \dots$



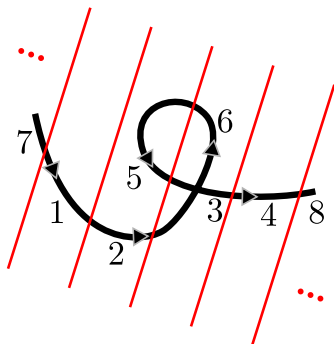
Cut by family of lines obtained from $\mathbb{R} \times \mathbb{Z}$ by

- Translating vertically by $x \in [0, 1]$;
- Rotating by angle $t\pi$, $t \in [0, 1]$;
- Scaling by factor $\mu \in (0, 1]$.

This splits path into subpaths C_n .

Alternative path length (in \mathbb{R}^2)

Given a path $\gamma : [0, 1] \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^2 \dots$



Cut by family of lines obtained from $\mathbb{R} \times \mathbb{Z}$ by

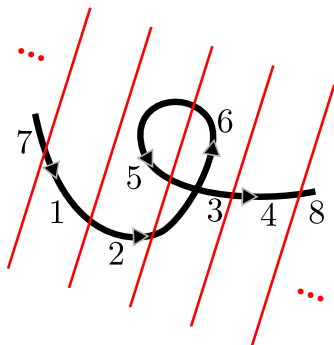
- Translating vertically by $x \in [0, 1]$;
- Rotating by angle $t\pi$, $t \in [0, 1]$;
- Scaling by factor $\mu \in (0, 1]$.

This splits path into subpaths C_n .

$\|\gamma(C_n)\|_t =$ distance the section C_n goes across its strip.

Alternative path length (in \mathbb{R}^2)

Given a path $\gamma : [0, 1] \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^2 \dots$



Cut by family of lines obtained from $\mathbb{R} \times \mathbb{Z}$ by

- Translating vertically by $x \in [0, 1]$;
- Rotating by angle $t\pi$, $t \in [0, 1]$;
- Scaling by factor $\mu \in (0, 1]$.

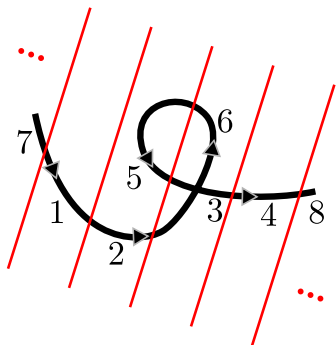
This splits path into subpaths C_n .

$\|\gamma(C_n)\|_t =$ distance the section C_n goes across its strip.

$$L^{x,t,\mu}(\gamma) = \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{\|\gamma(C_n)\|_t}{2^n}$$

Alternative path length (in \mathbb{R}^2)

Given a path $\gamma : [0, 1] \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^2 \dots$



Cut by family of lines obtained from $\mathbb{R} \times \mathbb{Z}$ by

- Translating vertically by $x \in [0, 1]$;
- Rotating by angle $t\pi$, $t \in [0, 1]$;
- Scaling by factor $\mu \in (0, 1]$.

This splits path into subpaths C_n .

$\|\gamma(C_n)\|_t =$ distance the section C_n goes across its strip.

$$L^{x,t,\mu}(\gamma) = \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{\|\gamma(C_n)\|_t}{2^n}$$

$$\text{len}(\gamma) = \int_0^1 \int_0^1 \int_0^1 L^{x,t,\mu}(\gamma) dx dt d\mu.$$

Compare with Cannon, Conner, Zastrow (2002) and Morse (1936).

Properties of len

For any path $\gamma : [0, 1] \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^n$:

Properties of \mathbf{len}

For any path $\gamma : [0, 1] \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^n$:

- $0 \leq \mathbf{len}(\gamma) < 1$

Properties of \mathbf{len}

For any path $\gamma : [0, 1] \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^n$:

- $0 \leq \mathbf{len}(\gamma) < \infty$
- If $\Phi : \mathbb{R}^n \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^n$ is an isometry, then $\mathbf{len}(\Phi \circ \gamma) = \mathbf{len}(\gamma)$

Properties of \mathbf{len}

For any path $\gamma : [0, 1] \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^n$:

- $0 \leq \mathbf{len}(\gamma) < \infty$
- If $\Phi : \mathbb{R}^n \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^n$ is an isometry, then $\mathbf{len}(\Phi \circ \gamma) = \mathbf{len}(\gamma)$
- If $\lambda \approx \gamma$, then $\mathbf{len}(\lambda) = \mathbf{len}(\gamma)$

Properties of \mathbf{len}

For any path $\gamma : [0, 1] \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^n$:

- $0 \leq \mathbf{len}(\gamma) < \infty$
- If $\Phi : \mathbb{R}^n \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^n$ is an isometry, then $\mathbf{len}(\Phi \circ \gamma) = \mathbf{len}(\gamma)$
- If $\lambda \approx \gamma$, then $\mathbf{len}(\lambda) = \mathbf{len}(\gamma)$
- Let S parameterize the straight line segment from $\gamma(0)$ to $\gamma(1)$. Then $\mathbf{len}(S) \leq \mathbf{len}(\gamma)$

Properties of \mathbf{len}

For any path $\gamma : [0, 1] \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^n$:

- $0 \leq \mathbf{len}(\gamma) < \infty$
- If $\Phi : \mathbb{R}^n \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^n$ is an isometry, then $\mathbf{len}(\Phi \circ \gamma) = \mathbf{len}(\gamma)$
- If $\lambda \approx \gamma$, then $\mathbf{len}(\lambda) = \mathbf{len}(\gamma)$
- Let S parameterize the straight line segment from $\gamma(0)$ to $\gamma(1)$. Then $\mathbf{len}(S) \leq \mathbf{len}(\gamma)$
- If $[a, b] \subseteq [0, 1]$, then $\mathbf{len}(\gamma|_{[a,b]}) \leq \mathbf{len}(\gamma)$

Properties of \mathbf{len}

For any path $\gamma : [0, 1] \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^n$:

- $0 \leq \mathbf{len}(\gamma) < \infty$
- If $\Phi : \mathbb{R}^n \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^n$ is an isometry, then $\mathbf{len}(\Phi \circ \gamma) = \mathbf{len}(\gamma)$
- If $\lambda \approx \gamma$, then $\mathbf{len}(\lambda) = \mathbf{len}(\gamma)$
- Let S parameterize the straight line segment from $\gamma(0)$ to $\gamma(1)$. Then $\mathbf{len}(S) \leq \mathbf{len}(\gamma)$
- If $[a, b] \subseteq [0, 1]$, then $\mathbf{len}(\gamma|_{[a,b]}) \leq \mathbf{len}(\gamma)$
- If $c \in (0, 1)$, then $\mathbf{len}(\gamma) \leq \mathbf{len}(\gamma|_{[0,c]}) + \mathbf{len}(\gamma|_{[c,1]})$

Properties of \mathbf{len}

For any path $\gamma : [0, 1] \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^n$:

- $0 \leq \mathbf{len}(\gamma) < \infty$
- If $\Phi : \mathbb{R}^n \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^n$ is an isometry, then $\mathbf{len}(\Phi \circ \gamma) = \mathbf{len}(\gamma)$
- If $\lambda \approx \gamma$, then $\mathbf{len}(\lambda) = \mathbf{len}(\gamma)$
- Let S parameterize the straight line segment from $\gamma(0)$ to $\gamma(1)$. Then $\mathbf{len}(S) \leq \mathbf{len}(\gamma)$
- If $[a, b] \subseteq [0, 1]$, then $\mathbf{len}(\gamma|_{[a,b]}) \leq \mathbf{len}(\gamma)$
- If $c \in (0, 1)$, then $\mathbf{len}(\gamma) \leq \mathbf{len}(\gamma|_{[0,c]}) + \mathbf{len}(\gamma|_{[c,1]})$
- \mathbf{len} is a continuous function $\mathcal{C}[0, 1] \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$

Properties of \mathbf{len}

For any path $\gamma : [0, 1] \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^n$:

- $0 \leq \mathbf{len}(\gamma) < \infty$
- If $\Phi : \mathbb{R}^n \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^n$ is an isometry, then $\mathbf{len}(\Phi \circ \gamma) = \mathbf{len}(\gamma)$
- If $\lambda \approx \gamma$, then $\mathbf{len}(\lambda) = \mathbf{len}(\gamma)$
- Let S parameterize the straight line segment from $\gamma(0)$ to $\gamma(1)$. Then $\mathbf{len}(S) \leq \mathbf{len}(\gamma)$
- If $[a, b] \subseteq [0, 1]$, then $\mathbf{len}(\gamma|_{[a,b]}) \leq \mathbf{len}(\gamma)$
- If $c \in (0, 1)$, then $\mathbf{len}(\gamma) \leq \mathbf{len}(\gamma|_{[0,c]}) + \mathbf{len}(\gamma|_{[c,1]})$
- \mathbf{len} is a continuous function $\mathcal{C}[0, 1] \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$

The function \mathbf{len} can be defined analogously for any map γ from a locally connected continuum X to \mathbb{R}^n .

Parameterization by **len**

Given a path γ , the *parameterization of γ by **len*** is the path $\tilde{\gamma} \in [\gamma]$ such that $\mathbf{len}(\tilde{\gamma}|_{[0,s]}) = s \cdot \mathbf{len}(\gamma)$ for all $s \in [0, 1]$.

Parameterization by **len**

Given a path γ , the *parameterization of γ by **len*** is the path $\tilde{\gamma} \in [\gamma]$ such that $\mathbf{len}(\tilde{\gamma}|_{[0,s]}) = s \cdot \mathbf{len}(\gamma)$ for all $s \in [0, 1]$.

$\tilde{\Pi}$ = the set of all standard parameterizations of paths $[0, 1] \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^n$.

Parameterization by **len**

Given a path γ , the *parameterization of γ by **len*** is the path $\tilde{\gamma} \in [\gamma]$ such that $\mathbf{len}(\tilde{\gamma}|_{[0,s]}) = s \cdot \mathbf{len}(\gamma)$ for all $s \in [0, 1]$.

$\tilde{\Pi}$ = the set of all standard parameterizations of paths $[0, 1] \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^n$.

Theorem

$\tilde{\Pi}$ is a closed subset of $\mathcal{C}[0, 1]$, and the function $[\gamma] \mapsto \tilde{\gamma}$ is a homeomorphism from Π to $\tilde{\Pi}$.

Parameterization by **len**

Given a path γ , the *parameterization of γ by **len*** is the path $\tilde{\gamma} \in [\gamma]$ such that $\mathbf{len}(\tilde{\gamma}|_{[0,s]}) = s \cdot \mathbf{len}(\gamma)$ for all $s \in [0, 1]$.

$\tilde{\Pi}$ = the set of all standard parameterizations of paths $[0, 1] \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^n$.

Theorem

$\tilde{\Pi}$ is a closed subset of $\mathcal{C}[0, 1]$, and the function $[\gamma] \mapsto \tilde{\gamma}$ is a homeomorphism from Π to $\tilde{\Pi}$.

Corollary

A set $\mathcal{F} \subseteq \Pi$ is closed (respectively, compact) if and only if $\tilde{\mathcal{F}} = \{\tilde{\gamma} : [\gamma] \in \mathcal{F}\}$ is a closed (respectively, compact) subset of $\mathcal{C}[0, 1]$.

Families of paths

Let $\mathcal{F} \subseteq \Pi$.

Families of paths

Let $\mathcal{F} \subseteq \Pi$.

(†): *For each $\varepsilon > 0$, there is a positive integer N such that for every $[\gamma] \in \mathcal{F}$, there is no collection of more than N pairwise disjoint subintervals of $[0, 1]$ whose images under γ have diameters $\geq \varepsilon$.*

Families of paths

Let $\mathcal{F} \subseteq \Pi$.

(†): For each $\varepsilon > 0$, there is a positive integer N such that for every $[\gamma] \in \mathcal{F}$, there is no collection of more than N pairwise disjoint subintervals of $[0, 1]$ whose images under γ have diameters $\geq \varepsilon$.

Theorem

- If (†) holds, then the family $\tilde{\mathcal{F}} = \{\tilde{\gamma} : [\gamma] \in \mathcal{F}\}$ is equicontinuous.

Families of paths

Let $\mathcal{F} \subseteq \Pi$.

(\dagger): For each $\varepsilon > 0$, there is a positive integer N such that for every $[\gamma] \in \mathcal{F}$, there is no collection of more than N pairwise disjoint subintervals of $[0, 1]$ whose images under γ have diameters $\geq \varepsilon$.

Theorem

- If (\dagger) holds, then the family $\tilde{\mathcal{F}} = \{\tilde{\gamma} : [\gamma] \in \mathcal{F}\}$ is equicontinuous.
- Conversely, if an equicontinuous family can be formed by choosing parameterizations of all the paths in \mathcal{F} , then (\dagger) holds.

Families of paths

Let $\mathcal{F} \subseteq \Pi$.

(\dagger): For each $\varepsilon > 0$, there is a positive integer N such that for every $[\gamma] \in \mathcal{F}$, there is no collection of more than N pairwise disjoint subintervals of $[0, 1]$ whose images under γ have diameters $\geq \varepsilon$.

Theorem

- If (\dagger) holds, then the family $\tilde{\mathcal{F}} = \{\tilde{\gamma} : [\gamma] \in \mathcal{F}\}$ is equicontinuous.
- Conversely, if an equicontinuous family can be formed by choosing parameterizations of all the paths in \mathcal{F} , then (\dagger) holds.

Theorem

$\overline{\mathcal{F}}$ is compact if and only if:

- 1 the set $\{\gamma(0) : [\gamma] \in \mathcal{F}\}$ is bounded; and
- 2 \mathcal{F} satisfies the property (\dagger).

Midpoint parameterization

Given a path γ , let $m \in (0, 1)$ be such that $\mathbf{len}(\gamma|_{[0,m]}) = \mathbf{len}(\gamma|_{[m,1]})$.

Midpoint parameterization

Given a path γ , let $m \in (0, 1)$ be such that $\mathbf{len}(\gamma|_{[0,m]}) = \mathbf{len}(\gamma|_{[m,1]})$.

The *midpoint parameterization of γ* is the path $\gamma^* \in [\gamma]$ such that

- $\gamma^*|_{[\frac{1}{2},0]}$ is the parameterization by **len** of $\gamma|_{[m,0]}$; and
- $\gamma^*|_{[\frac{1}{2},1]}$ is the parameterization by **len** of $\gamma|_{[m,1]}$.

Midpoint parameterization

Given a path γ , let $m \in (0, 1)$ be such that $\mathbf{len}(\gamma|_{[0,m]}) = \mathbf{len}(\gamma|_{[m,1]})$.

The *midpoint parameterization of γ* is the path $\gamma^* \in [\gamma]$ such that

- $\gamma^*|_{[\frac{1}{2},0]}$ is the parameterization by **len** of $\gamma|_{[m,0]}$; and
- $\gamma^*|_{[\frac{1}{2},1]}$ is the parameterization by **len** of $\gamma|_{[m,1]}$.

Define $r : [0, 1] \rightarrow [0, 1]$ by $r(t) = 1 - t$. Then $\gamma^* \circ r = (\gamma \circ r)^*$.

Midpoint parameterization

Given a path γ , let $m \in (0, 1)$ be such that $\mathbf{len}(\gamma|_{[0,m]}) = \mathbf{len}(\gamma|_{[m,1]})$.

The *midpoint parameterization of γ* is the path $\gamma^* \in [\gamma]$ such that

- $\gamma^*|_{[\frac{1}{2},0]}$ is the parameterization by **len** of $\gamma|_{[m,0]}$; and
- $\gamma^*|_{[\frac{1}{2},1]}$ is the parameterization by **len** of $\gamma|_{[m,1]}$.

Define $r : [0, 1] \rightarrow [0, 1]$ by $r(t) = 1 - t$. Then $\gamma^* \circ r = (\gamma \circ r)^*$.

Given two arcs $A_1, A_2 \subset \mathbb{R}^n$ and a bijection f between their endpoint sets,

Midpoint parameterization

Given a path γ , let $m \in (0, 1)$ be such that $\mathbf{len}(\gamma \upharpoonright_{[0,m]}) = \mathbf{len}(\gamma \upharpoonright_{[m,1]})$.

The *midpoint parameterization of γ* is the path $\gamma^* \in [\gamma]$ such that

- $\gamma^* \upharpoonright_{[\frac{1}{2},0]}$ is the parameterization by **len** of $\gamma \upharpoonright_{[m,0]}$; and
- $\gamma^* \upharpoonright_{[\frac{1}{2},1]}$ is the parameterization by **len** of $\gamma \upharpoonright_{[m,1]}$.

Define $r : [0, 1] \rightarrow [0, 1]$ by $r(t) = 1 - t$. Then $\gamma^* \circ r = (\gamma \circ r)^*$.

Given two arcs $A_1, A_2 \subset \mathbb{R}^n$ and a bijection f between their endpoint sets, parameterize by paths γ_1, γ_2 so that $f(\gamma_1(0)) = \gamma_2(0)$, $f(\gamma_1(1)) = \gamma_2(1)$.

Midpoint parameterization

Given a path γ , let $m \in (0, 1)$ be such that $\mathbf{len}(\gamma|_{[0,m]}) = \mathbf{len}(\gamma|_{[m,1]})$.

The *midpoint parameterization of γ* is the path $\gamma^* \in [\gamma]$ such that

- $\gamma^*|_{[\frac{1}{2},0]}$ is the parameterization by **len** of $\gamma|_{[m,0]}$; and
- $\gamma^*|_{[\frac{1}{2},1]}$ is the parameterization by **len** of $\gamma|_{[m,1]}$.

Define $r : [0, 1] \rightarrow [0, 1]$ by $r(t) = 1 - t$. Then $\gamma^* \circ r = (\gamma \circ r)^*$.

Given two arcs $A_1, A_2 \subset \mathbb{R}^n$ and a bijection f between their endpoint sets, parameterize by paths γ_1, γ_2 so that $f(\gamma_1(0)) = \gamma_2(0)$, $f(\gamma_1(1)) = \gamma_2(1)$. Then $F = \gamma_2^* \circ (\gamma_1^*)^{-1}$ is a canonical homeomorphism $A_1 \rightarrow A_2$ extending f .

Midpoint parameterization

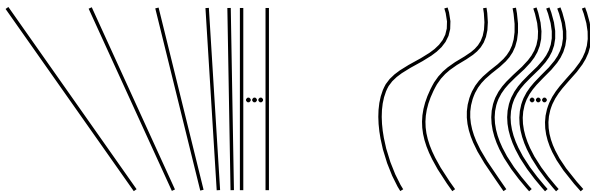
Given a path γ , let $m \in (0, 1)$ be such that $\text{len}(\gamma|_{[0,m]}) = \text{len}(\gamma|_{[m,1]})$.

The *midpoint parameterization* of γ is the path $\gamma^* \in [\gamma]$ such that

- $\gamma^*|_{[\frac{1}{2},0]}$ is the parameterization by **len** of $\gamma|_{[m,0]}$; and
- $\gamma^*|_{[\frac{1}{2},1]}$ is the parameterization by **len** of $\gamma|_{[m,1]}$.

Define $r : [0, 1] \rightarrow [0, 1]$ by $r(t) = 1 - t$. Then $\gamma^* \circ r = (\gamma \circ r)^*$.

Given two arcs $A_1, A_2 \subset \mathbb{R}^n$ and a bijection f between their endpoint sets, parameterize by paths γ_1, γ_2 so that $f(\gamma_1(0)) = \gamma_2(0)$, $f(\gamma_1(1)) = \gamma_2(1)$. Then $F = \gamma_2^* \circ (\gamma_1^*)^{-1}$ is a canonical homeomorphism $A_1 \rightarrow A_2$ extending f .



Midpoint parameterization

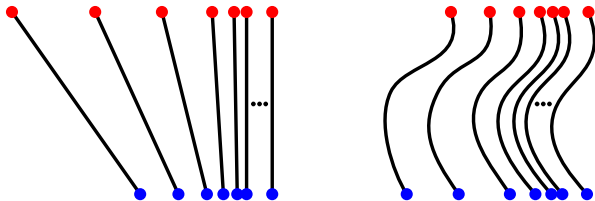
Given a path γ , let $m \in (0, 1)$ be such that $\mathbf{len}(\gamma|_{[0,m]}) = \mathbf{len}(\gamma|_{[m,1]})$.

The *midpoint parameterization* of γ is the path $\gamma^* \in [\gamma]$ such that

- $\gamma^*|_{[\frac{1}{2},0]}$ is the parameterization by \mathbf{len} of $\gamma|_{[m,0]}$; and
- $\gamma^*|_{[\frac{1}{2},1]}$ is the parameterization by \mathbf{len} of $\gamma|_{[m,1]}$.

Define $r : [0, 1] \rightarrow [0, 1]$ by $r(t) = 1 - t$. Then $\gamma^* \circ r = (\gamma \circ r)^*$.

Given two arcs $A_1, A_2 \subset \mathbb{R}^n$ and a bijection f between their endpoint sets, parameterize by paths γ_1, γ_2 so that $f(\gamma_1(0)) = \gamma_2(0)$, $f(\gamma_1(1)) = \gamma_2(1)$. Then $F = \gamma_2^* \circ (\gamma_1^*)^{-1}$ is a canonical homeomorphism $A_1 \rightarrow A_2$ extending f .



Midpoint parameterization

Given a path γ , let $m \in (0, 1)$ be such that $\mathbf{len}(\gamma|_{[0,m]}) = \mathbf{len}(\gamma|_{[m,1]})$.

The *midpoint parameterization* of γ is the path $\gamma^* \in [\gamma]$ such that

- $\gamma^*|_{[\frac{1}{2},0]}$ is the parameterization by \mathbf{len} of $\gamma|_{[m,0]}$; and
- $\gamma^*|_{[\frac{1}{2},1]}$ is the parameterization by \mathbf{len} of $\gamma|_{[m,1]}$.

Define $r : [0, 1] \rightarrow [0, 1]$ by $r(t) = 1 - t$. Then $\gamma^* \circ r = (\gamma \circ r)^*$.

Given two arcs $A_1, A_2 \subset \mathbb{R}^n$ and a bijection f between their endpoint sets, parameterize by paths γ_1, γ_2 so that $f(\gamma_1(0)) = \gamma_2(0)$, $f(\gamma_1(1)) = \gamma_2(1)$. Then $F = \gamma_2^* \circ (\gamma_1^*)^{-1}$ is a canonical homeomorphism $A_1 \rightarrow A_2$ extending f .

