

# Proseminar zu Algebraische Topologie

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Di 12:05 – 12:50, 2A310 (UZA2)

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1. Let  $I := [0, 1] \subseteq \mathbb{R}$  denote the compact unit interval, consider the equivalence relation on  $I \times I$  generated by  $(x, 0) \sim (x, 1)$ ,  $x \in I$ , and  $(0, y) \sim (1, y)$ ,  $y \in I$ , and let  $p: I \times I \rightarrow X := (I \times I)/\sim$  denote the canonical projection onto the quotient space. Show that the map

$$f: I \times I \rightarrow S^1 \times S^1, \quad f(x, y) := (e^{2\pi i x}, e^{2\pi i y}),$$

factorizes to a homeomorphism,  $X \cong S^1 \times S^1$ . More precisely, show that there exists a (unique) continuous map  $\bar{f}: X \rightarrow S^1 \times S^1$  such that  $\bar{f} \circ p = f$ , and prove that  $\bar{f}$  is a homeomorphism. Here  $S^1 := \{z \in \mathbb{C} : |z| = 1\}$  denotes the unit circle.

2. Let  $R > r > 0$  and consider the following subspace (surface) in  $\mathbb{R}^3$ ,

$$T := \left\{ (x, y, z) \in \mathbb{R}^3 : (\sqrt{x^2 + y^2} - R)^2 + z^2 = r^2 \right\}.$$

Construct a homeomorphism  $T \cong S^1 \times S^1$ .

3. For  $n \in \mathbb{N}_0$  let  $S^n := \{x \in \mathbb{R}^{n+1} : \|x\| = 1\}$  denote the unit sphere. On  $S^n \times [-1, 1]$  consider the equivalence relation generated by  $(x, 1) \sim (y, 1)$  und  $(x, -1) \sim (y, -1)$ ,  $x, y \in S^n$ . Show that the quotient space  $(S^n \times [-1, 1])/\sim$  is homeomorphic to  $S^{n+1}$ . Provide drawings for  $n = 0$  and  $n = 1$ .

4. Let  $(X, x_0)$  and  $(Y, y_0)$  be two pointed spaces such that  $\pi_1(Y, y_0) = 0$ . Show that the canonical projection,  $p: X \times Y \rightarrow X$ ,  $p(x, y) := x$ , and the inclusion,  $\iota: X \rightarrow X \times Y$ ,  $\iota(x) := (x, y_0)$ , induce mutually inverse group isomorphisms,  $p_*: \pi_1(X \times Y, (x_0, y_0)) \rightarrow \pi_1(X, x_0)$  and  $\iota_*: \pi_1(X, x_0) \rightarrow \pi_1(X \times Y, (x_0, y_0))$ , i.e.  $p_* \circ \iota_* = \text{id}_{\pi_1(X, x_0)}$  and  $\iota_* \circ p_* = \text{id}_{\pi_1(X \times Y, (x_0, y_0))}$ .

5. Suppose  $g, h: I \rightarrow X$  are two paths from  $x_0 := g(0) = h(0)$  to  $x_1 := g(1) = h(1)$ . Show that the isomorphisms

$$\beta_g: \pi_1(X, x_1) \xrightarrow{\cong} \pi_1(X, x_0) \quad \text{and} \quad \beta_h: \pi_1(X, x_1) \xrightarrow{\cong} \pi_1(X, x_0)$$

coincide if and only if  $[g\bar{h}]$  is contained in the center of  $\pi_1(X, x_0)$ .

6. A subset  $X \subseteq \mathbb{R}^n$  is called *star shaped*, if there exists  $z \in X$  with the following property:  $x \in X$ ,  $t \in [0, 1] \Rightarrow (1-t)x + tz \in X$ , i.e. the affine segment connecting  $x$  with  $z$  is entirely contained in  $X$ , for every  $x \in X$ . Any such  $z$  is called a *center* of  $X$ . Show that star shaped subsets are simply connected. Conclude that the  $\mathbb{C} \setminus (-\infty, 0]$  is simply connected.

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<sup>1</sup>Further problems will be posted at: <http://www.mat.univie.ac.at/~stefan/AT13.html>

7. Let  $P \in S^n$ , and show:

- (i) If  $Q \in S^n$  and  $Q \neq P$ , then  $S^n \setminus \{P, Q\}$  is homeomorphic to  $S^{n-1} \times \mathbb{R}$ .
- (ii) The closed upper hemisphere,  $H := \{x \in S^n : \langle x, P \rangle \geq 0\}$ , is homeomorphic to the closed unit disk,  $D^n := \{x \in \mathbb{R}^n : \|x\| \leq 1\}$ .

8. Let  $\text{SO}_2 := \{U \in \mathcal{M}_{2 \times 2}(\mathbb{R}) : U^t U = I, \det(U) = 1\}$  denote the group of orthogonal  $(2 \times 2)$ -matrices with determinant 1, equipped with the topology induced from  $\mathcal{M}_{2 \times 2}(\mathbb{R}) = \mathbb{R}^4$ . Show that

$$f: S^1 \rightarrow \text{SO}_2, \quad f(x, y) := \begin{pmatrix} y & x \\ -x & y \end{pmatrix},$$

is a homeomorphism,  $S^1 \cong \text{SO}_2$ . Conclude that  $\pi_1(\text{SO}_2) \cong \mathbb{Z}$ , and provide an explicit loop in  $\text{SO}_2$ , which represents a generator of  $\pi_1(\text{SO}_2)$ .

9. Let  $\text{SU}_2 := \{U \in \mathcal{M}_{2 \times 2}(\mathbb{C}) : U^* U = I, \det(U) = 1\}$  denote the group of unitary  $(2 \times 2)$ -matrices with determinant 1, equipped with the topology induced from  $\mathcal{M}_{2 \times 2}(\mathbb{C}) = \mathbb{C}^4$ . Consider the sphere  $S^3 = \{(z, w) \in \mathbb{C}^2 : |z|^2 + |w|^2 = 1\}$  as a subspace of  $\mathbb{C}^2$ , and show that

$$f: S^3 \rightarrow \text{SU}_2, \quad f(z, w) := \begin{pmatrix} \bar{w} & z \\ -\bar{z} & w \end{pmatrix},$$

is a homeomorphism,  $S^3 \cong \text{SU}_2$ . Conclude that  $\text{SU}_2$  is simply connected.

10. Let  $A \subseteq \mathbb{R}^n$  be an affine subspace of codimension  $k := n - \dim(A)$ . Show that  $\mathbb{R}^n \setminus A$  is simply connected, provided  $k \geq 3$ . Furthermore, in the case  $k = 2$ , show that  $\pi_1(\mathbb{R}^n \setminus A) \cong \mathbb{Z}$ , and exhibit an explicit loop in  $\mathbb{R}^n \setminus A$ , which represents a generator of  $\pi_1(\mathbb{R}^n \setminus A)$ . Hint: Construct a homeomorphism  $\mathbb{R}^n \setminus A \cong (\mathbb{R}^k \setminus \{0\}) \times \mathbb{R}^{\dim(A)}$ .

11. Show that every continuous map  $f: I^2 \rightarrow I^2$  has at least one fixed point, where  $I^2 := I \times I$ . Hint: Construct a homeomorphism  $I^2 \cong D^2$ , where  $D^2 := \{x \in \mathbb{R}^2 : \|x\| \leq 1\}$  denotes the closed unit disk.

12. Show:  $CS^{n-1} \cong D^n$ .

13. Show:  $D^n/S^{n-1} \cong S^n$ .

14. Let  $X, Y_1, Y_2$  be topological spaces, and let  $p_i: Y_1 \times Y_2 \rightarrow Y_i$  denote the canonical projections,  $i = 1, 2$ . Show that the two maps,  $(p_i)_*: [X, Y_1 \times Y_2] \rightarrow [X, Y_i]$ ,  $i = 1, 2$ , determine a map,

$$[X, Y_1 \times Y_2] \xrightarrow{\cong} [X, Y_1] \times [X, Y_2],$$

which is a bijection.

15. Show that a continuous map,  $f: X \rightarrow Y$ , is a homotopy equivalence if and only if there are continuous maps  $g: Y \rightarrow X$  and  $h: Y \rightarrow X$ , such that  $g \circ f \simeq \text{id}_X$  and  $f \circ h \simeq \text{id}_Y$ .

16. Put  $Z := \{0\} \cup \{\frac{1}{n} : n \in \mathbb{N}\} \subseteq \mathbb{R}$ , and consider the subspace

$$X := (Z \times I) \cup (I \times \{0\}) \subseteq \mathbb{R}^2.$$

Moreover, let  $P := (0, 0) \in X$ ,  $Q := (0, 1) \in X$  and  $A := I \times \{0\} \subseteq X$ . Show:

- (i)  $A$  is a deformation retract of  $X$ .
- (ii)  $\{P\}$  is a deformation retract of  $X$ .
- (iii)  $X$  is contractible.
- (iv) The inclusion  $\{Q\} \rightarrow X$  is a homotopy equivalence.
- (v)  $\{Q\}$  is *not* a deformation retract of  $X$ .

Hint for (v): Suppose conversely,  $H: X \times I \rightarrow X$  is a retracting deformation onto  $\{Q\}$ , i.e.  $H_0 = \text{id}_X$ ,  $H_1(x) = Q$  for all  $x \in X$ , and  $H_t(Q) = Q$  for all  $t \in I$ . Show that for every neighborhood  $U$  of  $Q$  there exists a neighborhood  $V$  von  $Q$  such that  $H(V \times I) \subseteq U$ . Conclude that each point in  $V$  can be connected with  $Q$  by a path in  $U$ . Choosing  $U$  sufficiently small, this leads to a contradiction.

17. Show that a continuous map,  $f: S^1 \rightarrow S^1$ , is a homotopy equivalence if and only if  $\deg(f) = \pm 1$ .

18. Prove the following generalization of Proposition I.4.4: Suppose  $n \in \mathbb{N}$  and put  $\zeta := e^{2\pi i/n} \in S^1$ , i.e.  $\zeta^n = 1$ . Moreover, let  $f: S^1 \rightarrow S^1$  be a continuous map such that  $f(\zeta z) = f(z)$ , for all  $z \in S^1$ . Then  $\deg(f) \equiv 0 \pmod n$ .

19. Prove the following generalization of Theorem I.4.8: Suppose  $n \in \mathbb{N}$  and put  $\zeta := e^{2\pi i/n} \in S^1$ , i.e.  $\zeta^n = 1$ . Moreover, let  $f: S^1 \rightarrow S^1$  be a continuous map such that  $f(\zeta z) = \zeta f(z)$ , for all  $z \in S^1$ . Then  $\deg(f) \equiv 1 \pmod n$ . In particular,  $f$  is not nullhomotopic, provided  $n \geq 2$ . Hint: Replace the antipodal map  $A$  in the proof of Theorem I.4.8 by the rotation  $R: S^1 \rightarrow S^1$ ,  $R(z) := \zeta z$ .

20. Let  $G_\alpha$  be groups,  $\alpha \in A$ . Show that the canonical homomorphism,

$$\bigoplus_{\alpha \in A} G_\alpha^{\text{ab}} \xrightarrow{\cong} \left( \bigoplus_{\alpha \in A} G_\alpha \right)^{\text{ab}},$$

is an isomorphism. Here  $G^{\text{ab}} := G/[G, G]$  denotes the Abelianization of  $G$ .

21 (Hamilton's quaternions). Let  $\mathbb{H}$  denote the set of all complex  $(2 \times 2)$ -matrices of the form  $\begin{pmatrix} z & w \\ -\bar{w} & \bar{z} \end{pmatrix}$ ,  $z, w \in \mathbb{C}$ . Show that, with respect to ordinary matrix addition and multiplication,  $\mathbb{H}$  satisfies all axioms of a field, except commutativity of multiplication ( $\mathbb{H}$  is a division ring/skew field). Put

$$1 := \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix}, \quad \mathbf{i} := \begin{pmatrix} i & 0 \\ 0 & -i \end{pmatrix}, \quad \mathbf{j} := \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 1 \\ -1 & 0 \end{pmatrix}, \quad \mathbf{k} := \begin{pmatrix} 0 & i \\ i & 0 \end{pmatrix}.$$

Show that  $\{1, \mathbf{i}, \mathbf{j}, \mathbf{k}\}$  is a basis of the real vector space underlying  $\mathbb{H}$ . Check that  $\mathbf{i}^2 = \mathbf{j}^2 = \mathbf{k}^2 = -1$ , and

$$\mathbf{ij} = \mathbf{k}, \quad \mathbf{jk} = \mathbf{i}, \quad \mathbf{ki} = \mathbf{j}, \quad \mathbf{ji} = -\mathbf{k}, \quad \mathbf{kj} = -\mathbf{i}, \quad \mathbf{ik} = -\mathbf{j}.$$

We use the algebra homomorphisms  $\mathbb{C} \rightarrow \mathbb{H}$ ,  $z \mapsto \begin{pmatrix} z & 0 \\ 0 & \bar{z} \end{pmatrix}$ , and  $\mathbb{R} \rightarrow \mathbb{H}$ ,  $a \mapsto \begin{pmatrix} a & 0 \\ 0 & a \end{pmatrix}$ , to regard  $\mathbb{R}$  and  $\mathbb{C}$  as subalgebras of  $\mathbb{H}$ , respectively. For  $x \in \mathbb{H}$ , the conjugate

quaternion is defined by  $\bar{x} := x^*$  where  $x^*$  denotes the conjugate transposed of the matrix  $x$ . For instance,  $\bar{1} = 1$ ,  $\bar{\mathbf{i}} = -\mathbf{i}$ ,  $\bar{\mathbf{j}} = -\mathbf{j}$  and  $\bar{\mathbf{k}} = -\mathbf{k}$ . Show  $\bar{\bar{x}} = x$ ,  $\overline{x+y} = \bar{x} + \bar{y}$  and  $\overline{xy} = \bar{y}\bar{x}$  for alle  $x, y \in \mathbb{H}$ , and  $\overline{ax} = a\bar{x}$  for all  $a \in \mathbb{R}$  and  $x \in \mathbb{H}$ . Furthermore, show that  $\bar{x} = x$  iff  $x \in \mathbb{R} \subseteq \mathbb{H}$ . The real part of  $x \in \mathbb{H}$  is defined by  $\text{Re}(x) := (x + \bar{x})/2 = \text{tr}(x)/2 \in \mathbb{R}$ . In particular,  $\text{Re}(1) = 1$  and  $\text{Re}(\mathbf{i}) = \text{Re}(\mathbf{j}) = \text{Re}(\mathbf{k}) = 0$ . Show  $\text{Re}(xy) = \text{Re}(yx)$  for all  $x, y \in \mathbb{H}$ . Show that  $\langle x, y \rangle := \text{Re}(x\bar{y})$  defines in Euclidean inner product on  $\mathbb{H}$  such that  $\{1, \mathbf{i}, \mathbf{j}, \mathbf{k}\}$  becomes an orthonormal basis. Verify  $\langle xy, z \rangle = \langle y, \bar{x}z \rangle$ ,  $\langle yx, z \rangle = \langle y, z\bar{x} \rangle$  and  $\langle \bar{x}, \bar{y} \rangle = \langle x, y \rangle$ , for all  $x, y, z \in \mathbb{H}$ . Show that the associated norm,  $|x|^2 := \langle x, x \rangle = x\bar{x} = \bar{x}x$ , is multiplicative,  $|xy| = |x||y|$ . Conclude that multiplication in  $\mathbb{H}$  restricts to a group structure on  $S^3 = \{x \in \mathbb{H} : |x| = 1\}$ . Observe that this group coincides with  $\text{SU}_2$ .

22. We consider  $\mathbb{H}^n := \mathbb{H} \times \cdots \times \mathbb{H}$  as a left  $\mathbb{H}$ -modul, i.e. for  $\lambda \in \mathbb{H}$  and  $(x_1, \dots, x_n) \in \mathbb{H}^n$  we put  $\lambda(x_1, \dots, x_n) := (\lambda x_1, \dots, \lambda x_n)$ . Show that  $x \sim y \Leftrightarrow \exists \lambda \in \mathbb{H} : \lambda x = y$  defines an equivalence relation on  $\mathbb{H}^{n+1} \setminus \{0\}$ . Show that the quotient space  $\mathbb{H}\text{P}^n := (\mathbb{H}^{n+1} \setminus \{0\})/\sim$  is a compact Hausdorff space. Construct a continuous map  $\varphi: S^{4n-1} \rightarrow \mathbb{H}\text{P}^{n-1}$  such that

$$\mathbb{H}\text{P}^n \cong \mathbb{H}\text{P}^{n-1} \cup_{\varphi} D^{4n}.$$

Conclude that  $\mathbb{H}\text{P}^n$  is simply connected. Moreover, observe that  $\mathbb{H}\text{P}^1 \cong S^4$ . Hint: Proceed as in the complex case.

23. Consider  $S^3 := \{x \in \mathbb{H} : |x| = 1\}$  and

$$\mathbb{I} := 1^\perp = \{x \in \mathbb{H} : \bar{x} = -x\} = \{x \in \mathbb{H} : \text{Re}(x) = 0\} \cong \mathbb{R}^3,$$

see Problem 21. Show that for  $x \in S^3$  and  $y \in \mathbb{I}$  the expression  $\lambda_x(y) := xy\bar{x}$  defines an  $\mathbb{R}$ -linear map  $\lambda_x: \mathbb{I} \rightarrow \mathbb{I}$ . Show that  $\lambda_x$  is an isometry, i.e.  $|\lambda_x(y)| = |y|$  for all  $x \in S^3$  and  $y \in \mathbb{I}$ . Conclude that we obtain a continuous map  $\lambda: S^3 \rightarrow \text{SO}_3$ . Show that  $\lambda$  is a surjective homomorphism of groups with kernel  $\ker(\lambda) = \{\pm 1\}$ . Show that  $\lambda$  factorizes to a homeomorphism,  $\mathbb{R}\text{P}^3 \cong \text{SO}_3$ . *Hint for the surjectivity of  $\lambda$ :* For  $\pm 1 \neq x \in S^3$  the isometry  $\lambda_x$  is a rotation by the angle  $2 \arccos(\text{Re}(x))$  around the axis spanned by  $x - \bar{x}$ . To see this verify:

- (i) The points on the subspace spanned by  $x - \bar{x}$  are fixed points of  $\lambda_x$ .
- (ii) If  $y \in \mathbb{I}$  and  $\langle y, x - \bar{x} \rangle = 0$ , then  $\langle x, y \rangle = 0$ , hence  $y\bar{x} = xy$  and thus  $2\langle \lambda_x(y), y \rangle = 2(2(\text{Re}(x))^2 - 1)|y|^2$ .
- (iii) Use the relation  $\arccos(2t^2 - 1) = 2 \arccos(t)$ ,  $0 \leq t \leq 1$ , to show that the angle between  $\lambda_x(y)$  and  $y$  is  $2 \arccos(\text{Re}(x))$ .

Finally, recall that every element of  $\text{SO}_3$  can be written as a product of rotations.

Alternatively, one can observe that the differential of the map  $\lambda: S^3 \rightarrow \text{SO}_3$  at the identity is invertible and use the implicit function theorem to conclude that the image of  $\lambda$  contains a neighborhood of the identity in  $\text{SO}_3$ . Since  $\lambda$  is a homomorphism and since  $\text{SO}_3$  is connected, this implies that  $\lambda$  is onto.

24. Determine the fundamental group of  $X := (S^1 \times S^1)/(\{1\} \times S^1)$ .

25. Let  $M_1$  and  $M_2$  be two connected topological  $n$ -manifolds.<sup>2</sup> Choose open subsets  $U_i \subseteq M_i$ , homeomorphisms  $\varphi_i: U_i \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^n$  and put  $\dot{M}_i := M_i \setminus \varphi_i^{-1}(B^n)$ ,  $i = 1, 2$ . Consider  $A := \varphi_2^{-1}(S^{n-1}) \subseteq \dot{M}_2$  and the map  $\varphi: A \rightarrow \dot{M}_1$ ,  $\varphi := \varphi_1^{-1} \circ \varphi_2$ . Show that the connected sum,  $M_1 \sharp M_2 := \dot{M}_1 \cup_{\varphi} \dot{M}_2$ , is a topological  $n$ -manifold. Moreover, show that  $\pi_1(M_1 \sharp M_2) \cong \pi_1(M_1) * \pi_1(M_2)$ , provided  $n \geq 3$ .

26. Let  $L_1, \dots, L_n$  be mutually different lines through the origin in  $\mathbb{R}^3$ . Determine  $\pi_1(\mathbb{R}^3 \setminus (L_1 \cup \dots \cup L_n))$ .

27 (Geometric realization of simplicial complexes). An (abstract) *simplicial complex*,  $\Delta$ , is a set of finite subsets of some set  $S$ , i.e.  $\Delta \subseteq 2^S$ , with the following property: if  $\sigma \in \Delta$  and  $\tau \subseteq \sigma$ , then  $\tau \in \Delta$ . If  $\sigma \in \Delta$  has precisely  $k+1$  elements, then  $\sigma$  is said to be of *dimension  $k$*  and is called  *$k$ -simplex* of  $\Delta$ . 0-simplices are also called *vertices* of  $\Delta$ , the set of all vertices will be denoted by  $V(\Delta)$ . A simplicial complex is called *finite* if  $\Delta$  is finite, equivalently,  $V(\Delta)$  is finite.

A *simplicial map*,  $f: \Delta' \rightarrow \Delta$ , between two simplicial complexes,  $\Delta'$  and  $\Delta$ , is a map  $f: V(\Delta') \rightarrow V(\Delta)$  such that  $f(\sigma) \in \Delta$  for all  $\sigma \in \Delta'$ . Convince yourself, that the composition of simplicial maps is again a simplicial map, and so is the identical map,  $\text{id}_{\Delta}$ . A simplicial map  $f: \Delta' \rightarrow \Delta$  is called *isomorphism*, if there exists a simplicial map  $g: \Delta \rightarrow \Delta'$  such that  $f \circ g = \text{id}_{\Delta}$  and  $g \circ f = \text{id}_{\Delta'}$ .

A subset  $\Delta' \subseteq \Delta$  of a simplicial complex  $\Delta$  is called a *subcomplex* if  $\Delta'$  is a simplicial complex itself. In this case the natural inclusion  $V(\Delta') \rightarrow V(\Delta)$  is a simplicial map  $\Delta' \rightarrow \Delta$ . Let  $\text{Sk}_k(\Delta) \subseteq \Delta$  denote the  *$k$ -skeleton* of  $\Delta$ , i.e. set of all simplices of dimension at most  $k$ . Observe that  $\text{Sk}_k(\Delta)$  is subcomplex of  $\Delta$ .

The geometric realization,  $|\Delta|$ , of a finite simplicial complex  $\Delta$  with vertices  $V := V(\Delta)$ , is the compact topological space

$$|\Delta| := \left\{ \lambda: V \rightarrow \mathbb{R} \mid \lambda \geq 0, \sum_{v \in V} \lambda(v) = 1, \text{supp}(\lambda) \in \Delta \right\} \subseteq \mathbb{R}^V \cong \mathbb{R}^n,$$

where  $n$  denotes the cardinality of  $V$ . Show that

$$|\Delta| = \bigcup_{\sigma \in \Delta} \langle \sigma \rangle$$

where  $\langle \sigma \rangle$  denotes the convex hull of the unit vectors in  $\mathbb{R}^V$  corresponding to  $\sigma \subseteq V$ . The geometric realization of a simplicial map,  $f: \Delta' \rightarrow \Delta$ , is the continuous map  $|f|: |\Delta'| \rightarrow |\Delta|$  where  $|f|(\lambda')(v) := \sum_{f(v')=v} \lambda'(v')$ . Show that this is indeed well defined and continuous. Moreover, verify

$$|f \circ g| = |f| \circ |g| \quad \text{and} \quad |\text{id}_{\Delta}| = \text{id}_{|\Delta|}$$

for any other simplicial map  $g: \Delta'' \rightarrow \Delta'$ . Conclude that the geometric realization of a simplicial isomorphism is a homeomorphism.

<sup>2</sup>Recall that a topological  $n$ -manifold is a paracompact Hausdorff space which is locally homeomorphic to  $\mathbb{R}^n$ .

28.

- (i) Let  $\Delta^n$  denote the abstract simplicial complex consisting of all subsets of  $\{0, \dots, n\}$  and show  $|\Delta^n| \cong D^n$ .
- (ii) Let  $\dot{\Delta}^n = \text{Sk}_{n-1}(\Delta^n)$  denote the abstract simplicial complex consisting of all subsets of  $\{0, \dots, n\}$  which have at most  $n$  elements, and show  $|\dot{\Delta}^n| \cong S^{n-1}$ .
- (iii) Describe an abstract simplicial complex  $\Delta$  with geometric realization  $|\Delta| \cong S^1 \times S^1$ .

29. Let  $\Delta$  be a finite abstract simplicial complex. Show that the geometric realization of its  $k$ -skeleton can be obtained from the geometric realization of the  $(k-1)$ -skeleton by attaching simplices  $|\Delta^k|$  along maps defined on  $|\dot{\Delta}^k|$ . More precisely, show that

$$|\text{Sk}_k(\Delta)| \cong |\text{Sk}_{k-1}(\Delta)| \cup_{\varphi} \bigsqcup |\Delta^k|$$

for an appropriate continuous map  $\varphi: \bigsqcup |\dot{\Delta}^k| \rightarrow |\text{Sk}_{k-1}(\Delta)|$ . Conclude that the inclusion  $\text{Sk}_2(\Delta) \rightarrow \Delta$  induces an isomorphism

$$\pi_1(|\text{Sk}_2(\Delta)|, x_0) \cong \pi_1(|\Delta|, x_0).$$

30. A simplicial complex  $\Delta$  is called connected if its geometric realization,  $|\Delta|$ , is (path)connected. Show that  $\Delta$  is connected if and only if the following holds true: for any two vertices  $x, y$  of  $\Delta$  there exist vertices  $x = x_0, x_1, \dots, x_n = y$  such that  $\{x_{i-1}, x_i\}$  is a simplex of  $\Delta$ , for all  $i = 1, \dots, n$ . Hint: Show that  $\Delta$  is connected iff its 1-skeleton  $\text{Sk}_1(\Delta)$  is connected.

31 (Trees). A *tree* is a simply connected simplicial complex of dimension at most one.<sup>3</sup> Suppose  $T$  is a tree in a 1-dimensional simplicial complex  $\Delta$ , i.e.  $T$  is a subcomplex of  $\Delta$ . Show that the natural quotient map  $|\Delta| \rightarrow |\Delta|/|T|$  is a homotopy equivalence. Conclude that a 1-dimensional simplicial complex is a tree iff it is contractible.

32 (Maximal trees). Observe that every simplicial complex  $\Delta$  contains a maximal (with respect to inclusion of subcomplexes) tree. Assuming  $\Delta$  to be connected, show that a tree in  $\Delta$  is maximal iff it contains all vertices of  $\Delta$ .

33 (Fundamental group of 1-dimensional simplicial complexes). Let  $\Delta$  be a connected 1-dimensional simplicial complex, suppose  $T$  is a maximal tree in  $\Delta$ , and let  $e_1, \dots, e_k$  denote the 1-simplices of  $\Delta$  which are not contained in  $T$ . Show that the fundamental group of  $\Delta$  is free of rank  $k$  with generators corresponding to  $e_1, \dots, e_k$ . Moreover, show that  $\chi(\Delta) = 1 - k$  where the Euler characteristics  $\chi(\Delta)$  is defined as the number of 0-simplices minus the number of 1-simplices of  $\Delta$ . Conclude that a connected 1-dimensional simplicial complex is a tree if and only if  $\chi(\Delta) = 1$ .

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<sup>3</sup>A simplicial complex is called simply connected if its geometric realization is simply connected.

34 (Fundamental group of general simplicial complexes). Let  $\Delta$  be a connected simplicial complex, and suppose  $T$  is a maximal tree in  $\Delta$ . Let  $e_1, \dots, e_k$  denote the 1-simplices of  $\Delta$  which are not contained in  $T$ , and fix an orientation for each  $e_i$ . Moreover, let  $\sigma_1, \dots, \sigma_l$  denote all 2-simplices of  $\Delta$ . For every  $j \in \{1, \dots, l\}$  define an element  $r_j$  in the free group  $F(\{e_1, \dots, e_k\})$  by following the three edges (i.e. 1-simplices) of  $\sigma_j$  consecutively (starting at any vertex, proceeding according to either orientation), writing down  $e_i$  or  $e_i^{-1}$  for each edge which happens to be among the  $e_1, \dots, e_k$ , and disregarding the others (i.e. those edges which are in  $T$ ). More precisely, we write  $e_i$  if the orientations match and  $e_i^{-1}$  if they don't. Show that:

$$\pi_1(|\Delta|) \cong \langle e_1, \dots, e_k \mid r_1, \dots, r_l \rangle.$$

Hint: Use the van Kampen theorem, Problem 29 and Problem 33.

35. Use the previous problem to compute the fundamental groups of the 2-dimensional torus and the Kleinian bottle.

36. Suppose  $n, p \in \mathbb{N}$ ,  $n \geq 2$ ,  $q_1, \dots, q_n \in \mathbb{Z}$  are such that  $p$  and  $q_i$  are coprime,  $i = 1, \dots, n$ , and let  $L := L(p; q_1, \dots, q_n)$  denote the associated lense space. Show that  $[L, K] = 0$ , where  $K$  denotes the Kleinian bottle. In other words, show that any two continuous maps  $L \rightarrow K$  are homotopic. *Hint:* Show that every homomorphism  $\pi_1(L) \rightarrow \pi_1(K)$  is trivial, and use the covering  $\mathbb{R}^2 \rightarrow K$ .

37 (Nielsen–Schreier theorem). Show that every subgroup of a free group is free. Proceed as follows:

A 1-dimensional CW complex is topological space  $X$  which is homeomorphic to space obtained by attaching any number of 1-cells to a discrete space, i.e.

$$X \cong X_0 \cup_{\varphi} \bigsqcup_{\lambda \in \Lambda} D^1$$

where  $X_0$  is a discrete space,  $\Lambda$  is an index set,  $D^1 = [-1, 1]$  denotes the 1-dimensional disk,  $\varphi: \bigsqcup_{\lambda \in \Lambda} S^0 \rightarrow X_0$  is a (continuous) map, and  $S^0 = \partial D^1 = \{-1, 1\}$  denotes the 0-dimensional sphere. Both,  $X_0$  and  $\Lambda$ , may be infinite. Thus, a 1-dimensional CW complex is the same thing as a graph.

- (i) Show that 1-dimensional CW complexes are locally contractible, whence locally path connected and semi locally simply connected.
- (ii) Show that every covering of a 1-dimensional CW complex is a 1-dimensional CW complex.
- (iii) Show that any compact subset of  $X$  intersects only finitely many of the attached disks.
- (iv) Show that the fundamental group of a connected 1-dimensional CW complex is free. Hint: Use the lemma of Zorn and (iii) to show that there exists a subset  $\Lambda' \subseteq \Lambda$  such that  $T := X_0 \cup_{\varphi} \bigsqcup_{\lambda \in \Lambda'} D^1$  is simply connected (maximal tree); observe that  $X/T \cong \bigvee_{\lambda \in \Lambda \setminus \Lambda'} S^1$ ; and show that the canonical projection,  $X \rightarrow X/T$ , is a homotopy equivalence.

Given a subgroup  $G$  of a free group  $F$ , construct a connected 1-dimensional CW complex  $X$  such that  $\pi_1(X) \cong F$ , consider a covering  $\tilde{X} \rightarrow X$  with characteristic subgroup  $G$ , and recall that  $\pi_1(\tilde{X}) \cong G$ .

38. Determine all 2 and 3-sheeted connected coverings of  $S^1 \vee S^1$ . Which of these coverings are normal? Hint: Determine all conjugacy classes of subgroups in  $\mathbb{Z} * \mathbb{Z}$  of index 2 and 3.

39 (Orientation bundle). Let  $p: E \rightarrow X$  be a real vector bundle of rank  $k$ .<sup>4</sup> The orientation bundle of  $E$  is a 2-fold covering,  $\mathcal{O}_E \rightarrow X$ , which can be described in either of the following ways:

- (i)  $\mathcal{O}_E = \bigsqcup_{x \in X} \mathcal{O}_{E_x}$ , where  $\mathcal{O}_{E_x}$  denotes the set (with two elements) of orientations of the vector space  $E_x$ . The topology is defined using vector bundle charts  $E|_U \cong U \times \mathbb{R}^k$  and declaring the induced bijections,  $\mathcal{O}_E|_U = \bigsqcup_{x \in U} \mathcal{O}_{E_x} \cong U \times \mathcal{O}_{\mathbb{R}^k}$ , to be homeomorphisms.
- (ii)  $\mathcal{O}_E = P/\sim$ , where  $P$  denotes the frame bundle<sup>5</sup> of  $E$ , and two frames over  $x \in X$  are considered equivalent iff they define the same orientation of the vector space  $E_x$ .
- (iii)  $\mathcal{O}_E = (\Lambda^k E \setminus 0)/\mathbb{R}^+$ , where  $\Lambda^k E \setminus 0$  denotes the  $k$ -fold exterior product<sup>6</sup> with the zero section removed, and the group  $\mathbb{R}^+$  acts by scalar multiplication on (the fibers of)  $\Lambda^k E$ .

Show that these definition actually describe the same, i.e. canonically isomorphic, 2-fold coverings of  $X$ . Moreover, show that the following are equivalent:

- (iv) One can choose orientations of each fiber  $E_x$  which depend continuously on  $x \in X$ , in the sense of (i).
- (v) The covering  $\mathcal{O}_E \rightarrow X$  is trivializable.
- (vi) The line bundle<sup>7</sup>  $\Lambda^k E$  is trivializable.
- (vii)  $E$  admits a vector bundle atlas whose transition functions take values in  $\mathrm{SL}(\mathbb{R}^k)$ .
- (viii)  $E$  admits a vector bundle atlas whose transition functions take values in  $\mathrm{GL}_+(\mathbb{R}^k)$ .

<sup>4</sup>Recall that a real vector bundle of rank  $k$  is a continuous map  $p: E \rightarrow X$  together with the structure of a  $k$ -dimensional real vector space on each fiber  $E_x := p^{-1}(x)$ ,  $x \in X$ , which is locally trivial in the following sense: Every point in  $X$  admits a neighborhood  $U$  such that there exists a fiberwise linear homeomorphism  $\varphi: E|_U := p^{-1}(U) \rightarrow U \times \mathbb{R}^n$ , i.e.  $\mathrm{pr}_1 \circ \varphi = p|_U$  and  $\varphi_x: E_x \rightarrow \{x\} \times \mathbb{R}^n = \mathbb{R}^n$  is a linear isomorphism, for all  $x \in U$ .

<sup>5</sup> $P := \{(e_1, \dots, e_k) \in E \times \dots \times E \mid \exists x \in X : e_1, \dots, e_k \text{ is a basis of } E_x\}$  with the topology induced from  $E \times \dots \times E$ .

<sup>6</sup> $\Lambda^q E := \bigsqcup_{x \in X} \Lambda^q E_x$  is a vector bundle over  $X$  obtained by replacing each fiber  $E_x$  with its  $q$ -fold exterior product. The topology on  $\Lambda^q E$  can be described by using vector bundle charts  $E|_U \cong U \times \mathbb{R}^k$  and declaring the induced fiber wise linear bijections,  $\Lambda^q E|_U = \bigsqcup_{x \in U} \Lambda^q E_x \cong U \times \Lambda^q \mathbb{R}^k = U \times \mathbb{R}^{\binom{k}{q}}$  to be vector bundle charts for  $\Lambda^q E$ .

<sup>7</sup>i.e. vector bundle of rank 1.



If these equivalent conditions are satisfied, then the vector bundle  $E$  is called orientable. Any trivialization  $\mathcal{O}_E \cong X \times \{\pm 1\}$  of the orientation bundle (covering) is called an orientation of  $E$ . How many orientations, does an orientable vector bundle possess? Provide conditions on  $X$  which ensure that every vector bundle over  $X$  is orientable.

40. Let  $M$  be a smooth manifold of dimension  $n$ . The covering  $\tilde{M} := \mathcal{O}_{TM}$  of  $M$  is called the orientation covering of  $M$ , cf. the last problem. Show that the following are equivalent:

- (i)  $M$  admits an oriented atlas, i.e. an atlas with orientation preserving transition functions.
- (ii)  $TM$  admits a vector bundle atlas whose transition functions take values in  $\mathrm{GL}_+(\mathbb{R}^n)$ .
- (iii)  $TM$  admits a vector bundle atlas whose transition functions take values in  $\mathrm{SL}(\mathbb{R}^n)$ .
- (iv) The line bundle  $\Lambda^n TM$  is trivialisable.
- (v) The orientation covering  $\tilde{M} \rightarrow M$  is trivialisable.

Conclude that every simply connected manifold is orientable. More generally, if  $M$  is connected and its fundamental group does not admit a subgroup of index two, then  $M$  is orientable.

41. Let  $\tilde{M} \rightarrow M$  be the orientation covering of a smooth  $n$ -manifold  $M$ . Show that  $\tilde{M}$  is orientable. Is the non-trivial deck transformation,  $\tilde{M} \rightarrow \tilde{M}$ , orientation preserving or reversing?

42 (Algebraic Morse inequalities). Let  $C_*$  be a finitely generated chain complex. Show that

$$(-1)^k \sum_{q \leq k} (-1)^q b_q(C) \leq (-1)^k \sum_{q \leq k} (-1)^q \mathrm{rank}(C_q)$$

for all  $k$ . Here  $b_q(C) := \mathrm{rank}(H_q(C))$  denotes the  $q$ -th Betti number of  $C_*$ . What do we get for  $k \rightarrow \infty$ ?

43. For an endomorphism of a finitely generated abelian group,  $\varphi: A \rightarrow A$ , define its trace by

$$\mathrm{tr}(\varphi) := \mathrm{tr}_{\mathbb{Q}}(A \otimes_{\mathbb{Z}} \mathbb{Q} \xrightarrow{\varphi \otimes \mathrm{id}_{\mathbb{Q}}} A \otimes_{\mathbb{Z}} \mathbb{Q}).$$

Show that this trace has the following properties:

- (i)  $\mathrm{tr}(\varphi) \in \mathbb{Z}$ .
- (ii)  $\mathrm{tr}(\mathrm{id}_A) = \mathrm{rank}(A)$ .
- (iii)  $\mathrm{tr}(\varphi + \psi) = \mathrm{tr}(\varphi) + \mathrm{tr}(\psi)$ , for any two endomorphisms  $\varphi, \psi: A \rightarrow A$ .
- (iv)  $\mathrm{tr}(\varphi \circ \psi) = \mathrm{tr}(\psi \circ \varphi)$ , for any two endomorphisms  $\varphi, \psi: A \rightarrow A$ .

(v)  $\text{tr}(\varphi) + \text{tr}(\rho) = \text{tr}(\psi)$ , for every commutative diagram

$$\begin{array}{ccccccc} 0 & \longrightarrow & A & \longrightarrow & B & \longrightarrow & C \longrightarrow 0 \\ & & \downarrow \varphi & & \downarrow \psi & & \downarrow \rho \\ 0 & \longrightarrow & A & \longrightarrow & B & \longrightarrow & C \longrightarrow 0 \end{array}$$

of finitely generated abelian groups with exact rows.

For an endomorphism of a finitely generated graded abelian group,  $\varphi: A_* \rightarrow A_*$ , define its graded (super) trace as  $\text{str}(\varphi) := \sum_q (-1)^q \text{tr}(\varphi_q: A_q \rightarrow A_q)$ . Spell out and prove analogous properties of this graded trace.

44. Suppose  $\varphi: C_* \rightarrow C_*$  is a chain map on a finitely generated chain complex, and let  $\varphi_*: H_*(C) \rightarrow H_*(C)$  denote the induced homomorphism in homology. Show that

$$\text{str}(\varphi: C_* \rightarrow C_*) = \text{str}(\varphi_*: H_*(C) \rightarrow H_*(C)).$$

*Hint:* Apply the graded version of Problem 43(v) to

$$\begin{array}{ccccccc} 0 & \longrightarrow & B_* & \longrightarrow & Z_* & \longrightarrow & H_*(C) \longrightarrow 0 \\ & & \downarrow \varphi|_{B_*} & & \downarrow \varphi|_{Z_*} & & \downarrow \varphi_* \\ 0 & \longrightarrow & B_* & \longrightarrow & Z_* & \longrightarrow & H_*(C) \longrightarrow 0 \end{array}$$

and

$$\begin{array}{ccccccc} 0 & \longrightarrow & Z_* & \longrightarrow & C_* & \xrightarrow{\partial} & (\Sigma B)_* \longrightarrow 0 \\ & & \downarrow \varphi|_{Z_*} & & \downarrow \varphi & & \downarrow \Sigma\varphi \\ 0 & \longrightarrow & Z_* & \longrightarrow & C_* & \xrightarrow{\partial} & (\Sigma B)_* \longrightarrow 0 \end{array}$$

where  $(\Sigma B)_q := B_{q-1}$ . What do we get for  $\varphi = \text{id}_{C_*}$ ?

45 (Nine Lemma). Consider a commutative diagram of abelian groups

$$\begin{array}{ccccccc} & & 0 & & 0 & & 0 \\ & & \uparrow & & \uparrow & & \uparrow \\ 0 & \longrightarrow & A & \longrightarrow & B & \longrightarrow & C \longrightarrow 0 \\ & & \uparrow & & \uparrow & & \uparrow \\ 0 & \longrightarrow & D & \longrightarrow & E & \longrightarrow & F \longrightarrow 0 \\ & & \uparrow & & \uparrow & & \uparrow \\ 0 & \longrightarrow & G & \longrightarrow & H & \longrightarrow & I \longrightarrow 0 \\ & & \uparrow & & \uparrow & & \uparrow \\ & & 0 & & 0 & & 0 \end{array}$$

with exact rows. Show that if two of the three columns are exact, then so is the third.

46 (Simplicial homology). Let  $\Delta$  be a finite abstract simplicial complex. Let  $S_q(\Delta)$  denote the (finite) set of  $q$ -simplices of  $\Delta$  and let  $C_q(\Delta) := \mathbb{Z}[S_q(\Delta)]$  denote the free abelian group generated by  $S_q(\Delta)$ . For each  $q$ , fix an ordering of the vertices of each  $q$ -simplex  $\sigma \in S_q(\Delta)$ , i.e.  $v_0^\sigma, \dots, v_q^\sigma$  shall be all vertices of  $\sigma$ . For  $\tau \in S_{q-1}(\Delta)$  with  $\tau \subseteq \sigma$  we put  $\varepsilon(\sigma, \tau) := 1$  if  $v_0^\tau, \dots, v_{q-1}^\tau$  followed by the one missing vertex of  $\sigma$  coincides with the ordering of the vertices  $v_0^\sigma, \dots, v_q^\sigma$  up to an even permutation, and  $\varepsilon(\sigma, \tau) := -1$  otherwise.<sup>8</sup> Suppose  $\rho \in S_{q-2}(\Delta)$  and  $\sigma \in S_q(\Delta)$  such that  $\rho \subseteq \sigma$ . Show that there exist precisely two simplices  $\tau \in S_{q-1}$  such that  $\rho \subseteq \tau \subseteq \sigma$ . Denoting these two simplicies by  $\tau'$  and  $\tau''$ , respectively, show that

$$\varepsilon(\sigma, \tau')\varepsilon(\tau', \rho) + \varepsilon(\sigma, \tau'')\varepsilon(\tau'', \rho) = 0.$$

Define a homomorphism  $\partial: C_q(\Delta) \rightarrow C_{q-1}(\Delta)$  on basis elements  $\sigma \in S_q(\Delta)$  by

$$\partial\sigma := \sum_{\tau \in S_{q-1}(\Delta), \tau \subseteq \sigma} \varepsilon(\sigma, \tau)\tau.$$

Show that  $\partial^2 = 0$  and define simplicial homology of  $\Delta$  as the homology of this (simplicial) complex,  $H_q(\Delta) := H_q(C_*(\Delta), \partial)$ . Conclude that

$$\sum_q (-1)^q \text{rank } H_q(\Delta) = \sum_q (-1)^q \#S_q(\Delta).$$

One can show that  $H_q(|\Delta|) = H_q(\Delta)$  and thus  $\chi(|\Delta|) = \sum_q (-1)^q \#S_q(\Delta)$ .

47. Compute the simplicial homology of the simplicial complexes  $\Delta^n$  and  $\dot{\Delta}^n$  in Problem 28. Hint: Consider the chain homotopy  $h: C_q(\Delta^n) \rightarrow C_{q+1}(\Delta^n)$  defined on generators  $\sigma \in S_q(\Delta^n)$  by

$$h(\sigma) := \sum_{\rho \in S_{q+1}(\Delta^n), \sigma \subseteq \rho} \varepsilon(\rho, \sigma)\rho$$

and show that  $\partial h + h\partial = (n+1)\text{id}$  on  $C_q(\Delta^n)$ , for all  $q \geq 1$ .

48. Choose an abstract simplicial complex  $\Delta$  such that  $|\Delta| \cong \mathbb{RP}^2$  and compute  $H_*(\Delta)$ .

49 (Finite dimensional Hodge decomposition). Let

$$\cdots \leftarrow V_{q-1} \xleftarrow{\partial_q} V_q \xleftarrow{\partial_{q+1}} V_{q+1} \leftarrow \cdots$$

be a complex of finite dimensional real/complex vector spaces, i.e. each  $V_q$  is finite dimensional and  $\partial_q \partial_{q+1} = 0$ . Suppose each  $V_q$  is equipped with a Euklidean/Hermitian inner product, and let  $\partial_q^*: V_{q-1} \rightarrow V_q$  denote the adjoint of

<sup>8</sup>Note that these signs  $\varepsilon(\sigma, \tau)$  only depend on the orientation of the simplices  $\sigma$  and  $\tau$  spezified by the ordering of their vertices.

$\partial_q: V_q \rightarrow V_{q-1}$ . Moreover, put  $\Delta_q := \partial_{q+1}\partial_{q+1}^* + \partial_q^*\partial_q$ . Show that we have an orthogonal decomposition

$$V_q = \text{img}(\partial_q^*) \oplus \underbrace{\ker(\Delta_q) \oplus \text{img}(\partial_{q+1})}_{\ker(\partial_q)}.$$

Conclude that each homology class in  $H_q(V) := \ker(\partial_q)/\text{img}(\partial_{q+1})$  has a unique (harmonic) representative in  $\ker(\Delta_q)$ , that is,  $H_q(V) = \ker(\Delta_q)$ .