

SOME ALGEBRAIC TOPOLOGY

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1 The Fundamental Group and Covering Space

Theorem 1.1 (van Kampen). *Let $X = \bigcup_{\alpha} A_{\alpha}$ where A_{α} are path-connected open sets with a basepoint x_0 . Let all $A_{\alpha} \cap A_{\beta}$ are path-connected, then consider*

$$\begin{array}{ccc} \pi_1(A_{\alpha} \cap A_{\beta}) & \xrightarrow{i_{\alpha\beta}} & \pi_1(A_{\alpha}) \\ i_{\beta\alpha} \downarrow & & \downarrow j_{\alpha} \\ \pi_1(A_{\beta}) & \xrightarrow{j_{\beta}} & \pi_1(X) \end{array}$$

where all maps induced by inclusions. Then j_{α} induce $\Phi : *_{\alpha}\pi_1(A_{\alpha}) \rightarrow \pi_1(X)$ is surjective. If $A_{\alpha} \cap A_{\beta} \cap A_{\gamma}$ are path-connected, then $\ker \Phi$ is a normal subgroup generated by all elements of form $i_{\alpha\beta}(w)i_{\beta\alpha}(w)^{-1}$ for $w \in \pi_1(A_{\alpha} \cap A_{\beta})$.

Remark 1.1. *In the case of two open sets U, V with $U \cap V$ path-connected, we have the following. In the category of groups \mathfrak{Grp} , we can describe pushout of $f : G \rightarrow A$ and $g : G \rightarrow B$. We let $A *_G B$ as $A * B / (f(a)g(a)^{-1})_{a \in G}$, then we have the following universal property in \mathfrak{Grp} :*

$$\begin{array}{ccc} G & \xrightarrow{g} & B \\ f \downarrow & & \downarrow \\ A & \xrightarrow{\quad} & A *_G B \end{array} \quad \begin{array}{c} B \\ \searrow \\ A *_G B \\ \searrow \\ H \end{array} \quad \begin{array}{c} \exists! \\ \dashrightarrow \end{array}$$

We call it the amalgamated product of A and B with amalgam G . So in the van Kampen theorem with U, V , we have

$$\pi_1(X) \cong \pi_1(U) *_{\pi_1(U \cap V)} \pi_1(V).$$

2 Homology

2.1 Singular Homology

Theorem 2.1 (Excision Theorem). *Let $Z \subset A \subset X$ where $\text{cl}(Z) \subset \text{int}(A)$, then the inclusion $(X - Z, A - Z) \hookrightarrow (X, A)$ induce $H_n(X - Z, A - Z) \cong H_n(X, A)$.*

If now we let $B = X - Z$ we have $H_n(B, A \cap B) \cong H_n(X, A)$.

Proposition 2.1. *For good pairs (X, A) , map $q : (X, A) \rightarrow (X/A, A/A)$ induce $q_* : H_n(X, A) \cong H_n(X/A, A/A) \cong \tilde{H}_n(X/A)$.*

Proof. Let V be the open set deformation retracts into A , consider

$$\begin{array}{ccccc} H_n(X, A) & \xrightarrow{f} & H_n(X, V) & \xleftarrow{g} & H_n(X - A, V - A) \\ q_* \downarrow & & q_* \downarrow & & q_* \downarrow \\ H_n(X/A, A/A) & \xrightarrow{u} & H_n(X/A, V/A) & \xleftarrow{v} & H_n(X/A - A/A, V/A - A/A) \end{array}$$

f, u are isomorphisms by the long exact sequences of triples (X, V, A) and $(X/A, V/A, A/A)$. And g, v are isomorphisms directly by excision. The right hand q_* is isomorphism. So is the left. \square

2.2 Cellular Homology

Theorem 2.2 (Hairly Ball). S^n has a continuous field of nonzero tangent vectors iff n is odd.

Proof. Consider such vector field $v(x)$ and view it as centering at origin. Let $|v(x)| = 1$ via $v(x)/|v(x)|$. Consider $f_t(x) = (\cos t)x + (\sin t)v(x)$. Then $\deg(-\text{id}) = \deg(\text{id}) = 1$, so $(-1)^{n+1} = 1$, so n is odd.

Conversely if $n = 2k - 1$, then let $v(x_1, \dots, x_{2k}) = (-x_2, -x_1, \dots, -x_{2k}, -x_{2k-1})$. \square

Now we consider CW complex X with k -skeleton X_k . We have the following elementary conclusion:

Lemma 2.1. (a) $H^k(X_n, X_{n-1})$ is zero when $k \neq n$ and free abelian with basis of n -cells of X when $k = n$;

(b) $H_k(X^n) = 0$ for $k > n$;

(c) Inclusion $X^n \hookrightarrow X$ induces $H_k(X^n) \cong H_k(X)$ for $k < n$.

$$\begin{array}{ccccccc}
 & & & & & & 0 \\
 & & & & & \nearrow & \\
 & & 0 & & H_n(X^{n+1}) = H_n(X) & & \\
 & & \downarrow & & \nearrow & & \\
 & & H_n(X^n) & & & & \\
 \nearrow \partial_{n+1} & & \downarrow j_n & & & & \\
 \cdots \rightarrow H_{n+1}(X^{n+1}, X^n) & \xrightarrow{d_{n+1}} & H_n(X^n, X^{n-1}) & \xrightarrow{d_n} & H_{n-1}(X^{n-1}, X^{n-2}) & \rightarrow \cdots \\
 & & \searrow \partial_n & & \nearrow j_{n-1} & & \\
 & & & & H_{n-1}(X^{n-1}) & & \\
 & & & & \uparrow & & \\
 & & & & 0 & &
 \end{array}$$

Theorem 2.3 (Cellular Boundary Formula). The map d_n in above diagram we have $d_n(e_\alpha^n) = \sum_\beta \deg(S_\alpha^{n-1} = \partial e_\alpha^n \rightarrow X^{n-1} \rightarrow S_\beta^{n-1}) e_\beta^{n-1}$ where the map is the attaching map of e_α^n with the quotient map collapsing $X^{n-1} - e_\beta^{n-1}$ to a point.

2.3 Mayer-Vietoris

Theorem 2.4 (Mayer-Vietoris Sequence). Let $A, B \subset X$ with $X = \text{int}(A) \cup \text{int}(B)$. Then we have

$$0 \longrightarrow C_n(A \cap B) \xrightarrow{x \mapsto (x, -x)} C_n(A) \oplus C_n(B) \xrightarrow{(x, y) \mapsto x + y} C_n(A + B) \longrightarrow 0$$

Then induce the long exact sequence

$$\begin{array}{ccc}
 \cdots \longrightarrow H_n(A \cap B) \xrightarrow{(i_{1*}, -i_{2*})} H_n(A) \oplus H_n(B) & \xrightarrow{g_* + j_*} & H_n(X) \\
 & & \downarrow \partial \\
 & \longleftarrow & H_{n-1}(A \cap B)
 \end{array}$$

where $i_1 : A \cap B \rightarrow A, i_2 : A \cap B \rightarrow B$ and $g : A \rightarrow X, j : B \rightarrow X$.

Theorem 2.5 (Mapping Torus and Mayer-Vietoris Sequence). *Let $f, g : X \rightarrow Y$ and let $Z = X \times I / ((x, 0) \sim f(x), (x, 1) \sim g(x))$ be the mapping torus, then we have*

$$\begin{array}{ccccc} \cdots & \longrightarrow & H_n(X) & \xrightarrow{f_* - g_*} & H_n(Y) & \xrightarrow{i_*} & H_n(Z) \\ & & & & & & \downarrow \\ & & & & \cdots & \longleftarrow & H_{n-1}(X) \end{array}$$

More special case, we let $f : A \cap B \rightarrow A, g : A \cap B \rightarrow B$, then we can get the traditional Mayer-Vietoris sequence.

Theorem 2.6 (Relative Mayer-Vietoris Sequence). *Let $(X, Y) = (A \cup B, C \cup D)$ with $C \subset A, D \subset B$. Then we have*

$$\begin{array}{ccccccc} \cdots & \longrightarrow & H_n(A \cap B, C \cap D) & \longrightarrow & H_n(A, C) \oplus H_n(B, D) & \longrightarrow & H_n(X, Y) \\ & & & & & & \downarrow \\ & & & & \cdots & \longleftarrow & H_{n-1}(A \cap B, C \cap D) \end{array}$$

derived by nine lemma and long exact sequence.

2.4 More Applications

2.4.1 Embedding and Homology

Theorem 2.7 (Invariance of Domain). *Let M and N are both n -dimensional topological manifolds and $f : M \rightarrow N$ is one-one and continuous, then f is open.*

Proof. See [1] page 235. □

Corollary 2.1. *If $f : U \subset \mathbb{R}^m \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^n$ is continuous injective map where U is open, then $m \leq n$.*

Proof. If not, we let $m > n$. Consider $g : U \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^n \times \mathbb{R}^{m-n}$ with $x \mapsto (f(x), 0)$. By invariance of domain, the image of g , which is $f(U) \times \{0\}$, is open in \mathbb{R}^m which is impossible. □

Remark 2.1. *But unfortunately, for any $m, n > 0$, there is a continuous surjective map $f : \mathbb{R}^m \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^n$. See [Existence of a continuous surjective function].*

2.4.2 Borsuk-Ulam Type Theorem

Theorem 2.8 (Borsuk). *A map $f : S^n \rightarrow S^n$ with $f(-x) = -f(x)$ must have odd degree.*

Corollary 2.2 (Borsuk-Ulam). *Every map $g : S^n \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^n$, there exists a point $x \in S^n$ with $g(x) = g(-x)$.*

Corollary 2.3. *Whenever S^n is expressed as the union of $n + 1$ closed sets A_0, \dots, A_n , then at least one of these sets must contain a pair of antipodal points.*

Proof. We define $d_i : S^n \rightarrow \mathbb{R}, x \mapsto \inf_{y \in A_i} |x - y|$. Let $g : S^n \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^n, x \mapsto (d_1(x), \dots, d_n(x))$. By Borsuk-Ulam theorem, it obtaining a pair of antipodal points $x, -x$ with $d_i(x) = d_i(-x), i = 1, \dots, n$. If either of these distances is 0, then well done. If not, $x, -x \in A_0$, well done. □

2.4.3 The Lefschetz Fixed Point Theorem

Theorem 2.9 (Lefschetz). *If X is a finite simplicial complex, or more generally a retract of a finite simplicial complex and $f : X \rightarrow X$ is a map with $\tau(f) = \sum_n (-1)^n \text{tr}(f_* : H_n(X) \rightarrow H_n(X)) \neq 0$, then f has a fixed point.*

3 Cohomology

3.1 Orientations

Theorem 3.1. *Let M be a closed connected n -manifold. Then*

- (a) *If M is R -orientable, then the map $H_n(M; R) \rightarrow H_n(M|x; R) \cong R$ is an isomorphism for all $x \in M$;*
- (b) *If M is not R -orientable, then the map $H_n(M; R) \rightarrow H_n(M|x; R) \cong R$ is injective for all $x \in M$ with image $\{r \in R : 2r = 0\}$.*

By the isomorphism $H_n(M; R) \rightarrow H_n(M|x; R) \cong R$, the element in $H_n(M; R)$ is called fundamental class if its image in any $H_n(M|x; R) \cong R$ is a generator.

Theorem 3.2. *Let M be a manifold of dimension n and let $A \subset M$ be a compact subset. Then for any section $(x \mapsto \alpha_x) \in \Gamma(M, M_R)$ there exists a unique class $\alpha_A \in H_n(M|A; R)$ whose image in $H_n(M|x; R)$ is α_x for all $x \in A$. Moreover, $H_i(M|A; R) = 0, i > n$.*

Sketch of the Proof. More details see [3]. Our method is to reduce the case in to simple one.

(i) **If this hold for $A, B, A \cap B$, then this is also hold of $A \cup B$.** Use the MV-principle, we have:

$$0 = H_{n+1}(M|A \cap B) \rightarrow H_n(M|A \cup B) \rightarrow H_n(M|A) \oplus H_n(M|B) \rightarrow H_n(M|A \cap B)$$

then this is easy to see;

(ii) **Reduce to the case $M = \mathbb{R}^n$.** Actually we can let $A = \bigcup_{i=1}^m A_i$ where A_i in some \mathbb{R}^n . Then use MV-principle and induction, well done;

(iii) **Consider the case $M = \mathbb{R}^n$ and $A = \bigcup_{i=1}^m A_i$ where A_i is convex.** Use the MV-principle as (ii) we can let A is convex. Then the result is trivial by $H_i(\mathbb{R}^n|A) \cong H_i(\mathbb{R}^n|x)$ naturally;

(iv) **Consider the case $M = \mathbb{R}^n$ and A be any compact.** Let $\alpha \in H_i(\mathbb{R}^n|A)$ represented by z and let $C \subset \mathbb{R}^n - A$ be the union of the images of the singular simplices in ∂z . Then one can cover some closed balls over A outside of C . Let K be the union of these balls and we see that the relative cycle z defines an element $\alpha_K \in H_i(\mathbb{R}^n|K)$ mapping to the given $\alpha \in H_i(\mathbb{R}^n|A)$. Use (iii) to $H_i(\mathbb{R}^n|K)$, well done. \square

Corollary 3.1. *Let M be a closed connected n -manifold. The torsion subgroup of $H_{n-1}(M; \mathbb{Z})$ is trivial if M is orientable and $\mathbb{Z}/2\mathbb{Z}$ if M is nonorientable.*

Proof. If M is orientable and if $H_{n-1}(M; \mathbb{Z})$ contained torsion, then by universal coefficient, we have

$$0 \rightarrow \mathbb{Z}/2\mathbb{Z} \rightarrow H_n(M; \mathbb{Z}/2\mathbb{Z}) \rightarrow \text{Tor}_1^{\mathbb{Z}}(H_{n-1}(M), \mathbb{Z}/2\mathbb{Z}) \rightarrow 0$$

Then $H_n(M; \mathbb{Z}/2\mathbb{Z})$ is bigger than $\mathbb{Z}/2\mathbb{Z}$ which is impossible.

If M is nonorientable, we let $H_{n-1}(M) = F \oplus \bigoplus_j \mathbb{Z}/p_j\mathbb{Z}$, then we have

$$\begin{array}{ccccccc} 0 & \longrightarrow & 0 & \longrightarrow & H_n(M; \mathbb{Z}/2\mathbb{Z}) & \longrightarrow & \bigoplus_j \text{Tor}_1^{\mathbb{Z}}(\mathbb{Z}/p_j\mathbb{Z}, \mathbb{Z}/2\mathbb{Z}) \longrightarrow 0 \\ & & & & & & \parallel \\ & & & & & & \bigoplus_j \frac{p_j\mathbb{Z} \cap 2\mathbb{Z}}{2p_j\mathbb{Z}} \end{array}$$

then we have $H_{n-1}(M) = \mathbb{Z}/2\mathbb{Z}$. □

Proposition 3.1. *If M is a connected noncompact n -manifold, then $H_i(M; R) = 0$ for all $i \geq n$.*

Proof. Let z be a cycle represent an element of $H_i(M; R)$. It has a compact image and we let U be an open set cover it with compact closure. Let $V = M - \text{cl}(U)$ and consider $(M, U \cup V, V)$ we have

$$\begin{array}{ccccc} 0 = H_{i+1}(M, U \cup V; R) & \longrightarrow & H_i(U \cup V, V; R) & \longrightarrow & H_i(M, V; R) = 0 \\ & & \uparrow \cong & & \uparrow \\ & & H_i(U; R) & \longrightarrow & H_i(M; R) \end{array}$$

When $i > n$ we have $H_i(U; R) = 0$ so z is a boundary in U and so in M , so $H_i(M; R) = 0$.

When $i = n$, class $[z] \in H_n(M; R)$ defines a section $x \mapsto [z]_x$ of M_R . This section determined by the value in single point since M is connected. Also consider

$$\begin{array}{ccccc} 0 = H_{n+1}(M, U \cup V; R) & \longrightarrow & H_n(U \cup V, V; R) & \longrightarrow & H_n(M, V; R) \\ & & \uparrow \cong & & \uparrow \\ & & H_n(U; R) & \longrightarrow & H_n(M; R) \end{array}$$

Then since M is noncompact and z has a compact image, there must have some point x such that $[z]_x = 0$, so $[z]_x = 0$ for all $x \in M$. Then $[z] = 0$ in $H_n(M, V; R)$, so is in $H_n(U; R)$ and then in $H_n(M; R)$. We win. □

3.2 Cap product and the Duality Theorem

First consider cohomology with compact supports.

Definition 1. Let $C_c^i(X; G)$ be the subgroup of $C^i(X; G)$ consisting of cochains $\phi : C^i(X) \rightarrow G$ for which there exists a compact set $K = K_\phi \subset X$ such that ϕ is zero on all chains in $X - K$. Note that $\delta\phi$ is then also zero on chains in $X - K$, so $\delta\phi$ lies in $C_c^{i+1}(X; G)$ and the $C_c^i(X; G)$'s for varying i form a subcomplex of the singular cochain complex of X . The cohomology groups $H_c^i(X; G)$ of this subcomplex are the cohomology groups with compact supports.

Another way we let compact $K \hookrightarrow L$ induce $(X, X - L) \hookrightarrow (X, X - K)$, then we have $C^i(X, X - K; G) \hookrightarrow C^i(X, X - L; G)$ and $H^i(X, X - K; G) \rightarrow H^i(X, X - L; G)$.

Proposition 3.2. *Since $K \subset X$ are compact sets form a direct system via inclusions. Then we have*

$$\varinjlim H^i(X, X - K; G) \cong H_c^i(X; G).$$

Theorem 3.3 (Poincaré Duality). *Let M be a R -oriented n -manifold. First we define a map $D_M : H_c^k(M; R) \rightarrow H_{n-k}(M; R)$. Consider compact sets $K \subset L \subset M$, we have*

$$\begin{array}{ccccc} H_n(M|L; R) & \xrightarrow{\times} & H^k(M|L; R) & \xrightarrow{\cap} & H_{n-k}(M; R) \\ i_* \downarrow & & i^* \uparrow & \nearrow & \cap \\ H_n(M|K; R) & \xrightarrow{\times} & H^k(M|K; R) & & \end{array}$$

By previous theorem we can find unique elements $\mu_K \in H_n(M|K; R), \mu_L \in H_n(M|L; R)$ restricting to a given orientation of M at each point of K and L , respectively.

So we have $i_*(\mu_L) = \mu_K$ and $\mu_K \cap x = i_*(\mu_L) \cap x = \mu_L \cap i^*(x)$ for all $x \in H^k(M|K; R)$.

So when K vary, we also have $H^k(M|K; R) \xrightarrow{\mu_K \cap (-)} H_{n-k}(M; R)$ which induce

$$D_M : H_c^k(M; R) = \varinjlim H^i(X|K; G) \cong H_{n-k}(M; R).$$

Remark 3.1. When M is a closed R -oriented n -manifold, if $[M]$ is the fundamental class, we have isomorphism

$$D_M : H^k(M; R) \xrightarrow{[M] \cap (-), \cong} H_{n-k}(M; R).$$

Proposition 3.3. *A closed manifold of odd dimension has Euler characteristic zero.*

Proof. If M is orientable, then $\text{rank}(H_i(M; \mathbb{Z})) = \text{rank}(H^{n-i}(M; \mathbb{Z})) = \text{rank}(H_{n-i}(M; \mathbb{Z}))$ by Poincaré duality and universal coefficient theorem. If n is odd, well done.

If M is not orientable, the similar argument we have $\sum_i (-1)^i \dim H_i(M; \mathbb{Z}/2\mathbb{Z}) = 0$. Now we claim that $\sum_i (-1)^i \dim H_i(M; \mathbb{Z}/2\mathbb{Z}) = \sum_i (-1)^i \text{rank}(H_i(M; \mathbb{Z}))$. Each \mathbb{Z} summand of $H_i(M; \mathbb{Z})$ gives $\mathbb{Z}/2\mathbb{Z}$ summand of $H_i(M; \mathbb{Z}/2\mathbb{Z})$; each $\mathbb{Z}/m\mathbb{Z}$ (where m even) of $H_i(M; \mathbb{Z})$ gives $\mathbb{Z}/2\mathbb{Z}$ summands of $H_i(M; \mathbb{Z}/2\mathbb{Z})$ and $H_{i+1}(M; \mathbb{Z}/2\mathbb{Z})$ which canceled; each $\mathbb{Z}/m\mathbb{Z}$ (where m odd) of $H_i(M; \mathbb{Z})$ contribute nothing. Well done. \square

3.3 Connection with Cup Product

By some calculation we have

$$\psi(\alpha \cap \phi) = (\phi \smile \psi)(\alpha)$$

where $\alpha \in C_{k+l}(X; R), \phi \in C^k(X; R), \psi \in C^l(X; R)$. So we have

$$\begin{array}{ccc} H^l(X; R) & \xrightarrow{h} & \text{Hom}_R(H_l(X; R), R) \\ \phi \smile \downarrow & & (\cap \phi)^* \downarrow \\ H^{k+l}(X; R) & \xrightarrow{h} & \text{Hom}_R(H_{k+l}(X; R), R) \end{array}$$

For closed R -orientable n -manifold M , consider an important pair:

$$\begin{aligned} H^k(M; R) \times H^{n-k}(M; R) &\longrightarrow R \\ (\phi, \psi) &\longmapsto (\phi \smile \psi)[M] \end{aligned}$$

Proposition 3.4. *This pair is nonsingular for closed R -orientable manifolds when R is a field or when $R = \mathbb{Z}$ and torsion in $H^*(M; \mathbb{Z})$ is factored out.*

Corollary 3.2. *If M is a connected closed R -orientable n -manifold, then for each element $\alpha \in H^k(M; \mathbb{Z})$ of infinite order that is not a proper multiple of another element, there exists an element $\beta \in H^{n-k}(M; \mathbb{Z})$ such that $\alpha \smile \beta$ is a generator of $H^n(M; \mathbb{Z}) \cong \mathbb{Z}$. With coefficients in a field the same conclusion holds for any $\alpha \neq 0$.*

Example 3.1 (Cohomology Ring of Projective Space). *We will show that $H^*(\mathbb{C}P^n; \mathbb{Z}) \cong \mathbb{Z}[\alpha]/(\alpha^{n+1})$, $|\alpha| = 2$. Similar we have $H^*(\mathbb{R}P^n; \mathbb{Z}/2\mathbb{Z}) \cong \mathbb{Z}/2\mathbb{Z}[\alpha]/(\alpha^{n+1})$, $|\alpha| = 1$. Inclusion $\mathbb{C}P^{n-1} \hookrightarrow \mathbb{C}P^n$ induce the same cohomology group of degree less than $2n-2$, so by induction on n we have $H^{2i}(\mathbb{C}P^n; \mathbb{Z})$ is generated by α^i for $i < n$. By the corollary we can find $m\alpha^{i-1}$ such that $\alpha \smile m\alpha^{i-1} = m\alpha^i$ generates $H^{2i}(\mathbb{C}P^n; \mathbb{Z})$, so $m = \pm 1$, well done.*

3.4 Other Duality

Example 3.2 (Euler Characteristic of Boundaries). *Let W be a compact $(2m+1)$ -dimensional manifold, then $\chi(\partial W) = 2\chi(W)$.*

Proof. Consider $W \times I$ as a $(2m+2)$ -manifold with $\partial(W \times I) = (W \times \{0\}) \cup (M \times I) \cup (W \times \{1\})$. Let $M = \partial W$. Let $U = \partial(W \times I) - (W \times \{1\})$ and $V = \partial(W \times I) - (W \times \{0\})$. Then U, V are open in $\partial(W \times I)$. Both U, V are open in $\partial(W \times I)$. Moreover $U, V \simeq W, U \cap V \simeq M$. So by MV sequence

$$\begin{array}{ccccccc} H_{i+1}(U \cup V) & \longrightarrow & H_i(U \cap V) & \longrightarrow & H_i(U) \oplus H_i(V) & \longrightarrow & H_i(U \cup V) \\ \downarrow \cong & & \downarrow \cong & & \downarrow \cong & & \downarrow \cong \\ H_{i+1}(\partial(W \times I)) & \longrightarrow & H_i(M) & \longrightarrow & H_i(W) \oplus H_i(W) & \longrightarrow & H_i(\partial(W \times I)) \end{array}$$

Since $\chi(\partial(W \times I)) = 0$ since $\dim \partial(W \times I)$ is odd. So

$$2\chi(W) = \chi(M) + \chi(\partial(W \times I)) = \chi(M),$$

well done. □

Corollary 3.3. *If $M = \partial W$ for some compact manifold W , then $\chi(M)$ is even.*

Example 3.3 (Boundary of Orientable Manifold is Orientable). *Let M be a R -orientable n -manifold with boundary ∂M , then ∂M is R -orientable.*

Proof. See [2]. Consider a coordinate $U \cong \mathbb{H}^n$ of $x \in \partial M$. Let $V = \partial U = u \cap \partial M$, and choose $y \in \text{int}(U) = U - V$. We consider R -coefficient homology group, then we have

$$\begin{aligned} H_n(\text{int}(M), \text{int}(M) - \text{int}(U)) &\xrightarrow{R\text{-orientable}, \cong} H_n(\text{int}(M), \text{int}(M) - y) \\ &\xrightarrow{\text{Homotopy by boundary collar}, \cong} H_n(M, M - y) \\ &\xrightarrow{R\text{-orientable}, \cong} H_n(M, M - \text{int}(U)) \\ &\xrightarrow{\partial, \cong} H_n(M - \text{int}(U), M - U) \\ &\xrightarrow{\text{Homotopy by boundary collar}, \cong} H_n(M - \text{int}(U), M - \text{int}(U) - x) \\ &\xrightarrow{\text{Excision of } \text{int}(M) - \text{int}(U), \cong} H_n(\partial M, \partial M - x) \\ &\xrightarrow{R\text{-orientable}, \cong} H_n(\partial M, \partial M - V). \end{aligned}$$

Well done. □

Remark 3.2. In smooth case, we can calculate the transition function. See Theorem 1.3 in <http://staff.ustc.edu.cn/~wangzuoq/Courses/21F-Manifolds/Notes/Lec24.pdf>.

Theorem 3.4 (Poincaré Duality with Boundaries). Suppose M is a compact R -orientable n -manifold whose boundary ∂M is decomposed as the union of two compact $(n-1)$ dimensional manifolds A and B with a common boundary $\partial A = \partial B = A \cap B$. Take fundamental class $[M] \in H_n(M, \partial M; R)$. Then for all k we have isomorphism $D_M : H^k(M, A; R) \xrightarrow{[M] \frown (-), \cong} H_{n-k}(M, B; R)$.

Corollary 3.4 (Lefschetz Duality). Suppose M is a compact R -orientable n -manifold and take fundamental class $[M] \in H_n(M, \partial M; R)$. Then for all k we have isomorphism $D_M : H^k(M, \partial M; R) \xrightarrow{[M] \frown (-), \cong} H_{n-k}(M; R)$ and $D_M : H^k(M; R) \xrightarrow{[M] \frown (-), \cong} H_{n-k}(M, \partial M; R)$.

Theorem 3.5 (Alexander Duality). If K is a compact, locally contractible subspace of S^n , then for all i and any abelian group G , we have

$$\tilde{H}_i(S^n - K; G) \cong \tilde{H}^{n-i-1}(K; G).$$

Example 3.4 (Jordan Curve). Actually we view $S^1 \subset \mathbb{R}^2$ as one-point compactification $S^1 \subset S^2$, then we use Alexander duality as

$$\tilde{H}_0(S^2 - S^1; \mathbb{Z}) \cong \tilde{H}^1(S^1; \mathbb{Z}) \cong \mathbb{Z},$$

so $H_0(S^2 - S^1; \mathbb{Z}) \cong \mathbb{Z}^2$, well done.

Example 3.5 (Jordan-Brouwer Separation Theorem). If $S \subset \mathbb{R}^n$ be a connected compact hypersurface, then $\mathbb{R}^n - S$ has two components.

Proof. Also we let it as in one-point compactification $S \subset S^n$. Now we didn't know whether S is orientable or not, we consider $\mathbb{Z}/2\mathbb{Z}$ as coefficient, then we use Alexander duality and Poincaré duality

$$\tilde{H}_0(S^n - S; \mathbb{Z}/2\mathbb{Z}) \cong \tilde{H}^{n-1}(S; \mathbb{Z}/2\mathbb{Z}) \cong H_0(S; \mathbb{Z}/2\mathbb{Z}) \cong \mathbb{Z}/2\mathbb{Z},$$

well done. □

Example 3.6 (Compact Hypersurface as Boundary). If $S \subset \mathbb{R}^n$ be a connected compact hypersurface, then S be the boundary of some domain in \mathbb{R}^n .

Proof. Trivial by Jordan-Brouwer. □

Example 3.7 (Compact Hypersurface in \mathbb{R}^n is Orientable). If S be a connected compact hypersurface S in \mathbb{R}^n is orientable.

Proof 1. Since $\dim S = n-1$, we have to calculate $H_{n-2}(S; \mathbb{Z})$. Also we let it as in one-point compactification $S \subset S^n$. WLOG we let $n > 1$. If S is not orientable, we have $H_{n-1}(S; \mathbb{Z}) = 0$ and $H_{n-2}(S; \mathbb{Z}) = \mathbb{Z}/2\mathbb{Z}$, then we have

$$\begin{aligned} \mathbb{Z} &\cong \tilde{H}_0(S^n - S; \mathbb{Z}) \cong H^{n-1}(S) \\ &\cong \text{Hom}_{\mathbb{Z}}(H_{n-1}(S; \mathbb{Z}), \mathbb{Z}) \oplus \text{Ext}_{\mathbb{Z}}^1(H_{n-2}(S; \mathbb{Z}), \mathbb{Z}) \\ &\cong \text{Ext}_{\mathbb{Z}}^1(H_{n-2}(S; \mathbb{Z}), \mathbb{Z}) \cong \mathbb{Z}/2\mathbb{Z} \end{aligned}$$

which is impossible. Well done. □

Proof 2. Here we give another method. Take $x \in S$ and $u \in N_x(\mathbb{R}^n/S)$ with $\|u\| = 1$. By Jordan-Brouwer separation theorem we may let u always in the same component when x is varying on S . Consider a non-trivial vector field $X(x) = u(x)$. Now $i_X(\text{vol})$ restricted to S is a volume form on S where vol is the canonical volume form on \mathbb{R}^n . \square

Proof 3. Moreover we could prove that the normal bundle of S is trivial. See <https://math.stackexchange.com/questions/863960/orientation-of-hypersurface>. \square

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