Topology I

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Table des matières

List of Theorems

1 Homology Theories

Lecture 1: Introduction

Mon 10 Oct

Aim : Study further algebraic invariants of topological spaces.
We want to assign to pairs of topological spaces abelian groups.

$$h_n : T \to \mathrm{Ab} \quad \forall n \in \mathbb{Z}$$

and to pairs continuous maps, we want to assign a map $h_n(f) : h_n(X) \to h_n(Y)$ which is functorial. Here T is the category of pairs of topological spaces $A \subset X$ with morphisms $f : (X, A) \to (Y, B)$ such that $f(A) \subset B$.
To relate h_n for different $n \in \mathbb{N}$, we will construct connecting morphisms $\partial_n : h_n(X, A) \to h_{n-1}(A, \emptyset)$.

Axiom 1 (Eilenberg-Steenrod Axiom)
A (generalised) homology theory consists of functors $h_n : T \to \mathrm{Ab}$ and natural connecting homomorphisms $\partial_n : h_n(X, A) \to h_{n-1}(A, \emptyset)$ [1] *satisfying*

— *Homotopy invariance :*
If $f, g : (X, A) \to (Y, B)$ are homotopic continous maps of pairs then the induced maps $h_n(f) = h_n(g)$. Here homotopy of pairs means that there exists $H : X \times [0, 1] \to Y$ such that $H(A \times [0, 1]) \subset B$

— *Long exact sequence of a pair (LES) :*
Given a pair of topological spaces (X, A) there is a long exact sequence of abelian groups.
Denote $i : (A, \emptyset) \to (X, \emptyset)$ and $j : (X, \emptyset) \to (X, A)$, then

$$h_n(A, \emptyset) \xrightarrow{h_n(i)} h_n(X, \emptyset) \xrightarrow{h_n(j)} h_n(X, A) \xrightarrow{\partial_n} h_{n-1}(A, \emptyset)$$

— *Excision*
Given $B \subset A \subset X$ subspaces such that $\overline{B} \subset A^o$, the inclusion induces a group isomorphism

$$h_n(X \setminus B, A \setminus B) \to h_n(X, A)$$

We add another axiom to "make things easier"

— *Additivity :*
Given a family of pairs of spaces $(X_i, A_i)_{i \in I}$, the inclusions induce an isomorphism

$$\bigoplus h_n(X_i, A_i) \to h_n(\coprod X_i, \coprod A_i)$$

This is the end of the axioms for a generalised homology theory, the homology theory is called an ordinary homology theory if the <u>Dimension Axiom</u> holds, namely

$$h_n(pt) = 0 \forall n \neq 0$$

1. From now on, we write $h_n(A) \coloneqq h_n(A, \emptyset)$

The abelian group $h_0($ pt $)$ is the called the coefficient group of (h_n, ∂_n)

Lemma 2
If $f : X \to Y$ is a homotopy equivalence, then $\forall n \in \mathbb{Z}$ we obtain $h_n(f) : h_n(X) \to h_N(Y)$ to be an isomorphism for any homology theory (h_n, ∂_n)

Proof
Choose $g : Y \to X$ such that $g \circ f \simeq \mathrm{Id}_X$ and $f \circ g \simeq \mathrm{Id}_Y$, then by functoriality and homotopy invariance $\mathrm{Id}_{h_n(X)} = h_n(\mathrm{Id}_X) = h_n(g) \circ h_n(f)$, by symmetry, $h_n(f)$ and $h_n(g)$ are inverses. □

Similarly, if $f : (X, A) \to (Y, B)$ is a homotopy equivalence of pairs, then the same result holds.

Example
For any such homology theory

$$h_n(\mathbb{R}^k) \simeq h_n(\text{ } pt \text{ }) \simeq h_n(D^k)$$

Lecture 2: Homology Theories

Wed 12 Oct

Recall that the natural homomorphisms ∂_n are natural, in the sense that the compositions

$$h_{n-1}(f) \circ \partial_n : h_n(X, A) \to h_{n-1}(A) \to h_{n-1}(B)$$

and

$$\partial_n \circ h_n(f) : h_n(X, A) \to h_n(Y, B) \to h_{n-1}(B)$$

coincide.
Today, we compute the homology groups $h_*(S^k)$ for $k \geq 0$ for a given ordinary homology theory h_* Here, the k-sphere is defined as a subspace of $\mathbb{R}^{k+1}$.
Recall from the exercises that $h_*(pt \coprod pt) = h_*(pt) \oplus h_*(pt)$ for ordinary homology theories concentrated in degree 0.
There are two maps $\pm : pt \to S^0$ and one natural map $S^0 \to pt$ called the "fold" map.
By functoriality, the composition $h_*(pt) \to h_*(S^0) \to h_* pt$ is the identity.
To compute $h_*(S^k)$, we use two LES

$$\ldots \xrightarrow{\partial_{n+1}} h_n(S^k) \xrightarrow{h_* \iota} h_n(D^{k+1}) = 0 \xrightarrow{h_* \iota} h_n(D^{k+1}, S^k) \to h_{n-1}(S^k) \to h_{n-1}(D^{k+1}) = 0 \ldots$$

As $h_n(D^{k+1}) = 0$ for $n \neq 0$, we have an isomorphism $\partial_n : h_n(D^{k+1}, S^k) \to h_{n-1}(S^k)$.
The inclusion $D^k \subset S^k$ (as the upper hemisphere) gives rise to another LES

$$0 = h_n D^k \xrightarrow{h_* \iota} h_n S^k \xrightarrow{h_* \iota} h_n(S^k, D^k) \xrightarrow{\partial_n} h_{n-1} D^k = 0 \to h_{n-1} S^k \ldots$$

And thus we also get an isomorphism $h_n\iota : h_n S^k \to h_{n-1}D^k$ The inclusion of the north pole $pt \subset D^k \subset S^k$ induces, using excision, the isomorphism $h_n(S^k \setminus pt, D^k \setminus pt) \simeq h_n(S^k, D^k)$ of the following diagram

$$\begin{tikzcd}
h_n(D^k, S^{k-1}) \arrow[d, "\simeq\partial_n"'] & h_n(S^k \setminus pt, D^k \setminus pt) \arrow[l, "\simeq"'] \arrow[r, "\simeq"] \arrow[d, "\partial_n"'] & h_n(S^k, D^k) \arrow[d, "\partial_n"] \\
h_{n-1}(S^{k-1}) \arrow[r, "h_*\iota"'] & h_{n-1}(D^k \setminus pt) \arrow[r] & h_{n-1}(D^k)
\end{tikzcd}$$

We know that the bottom row of this diagram is an ES.
In particular $h_n(D^k, S^{k-1}) \simeq h_n(S^k, D^k)$.
The isomorphism $\partial_n : h_n(D^k, S^{k-1}) \to h_{n-1}(S^{k-1})$ now almost allows us to use induction to find the homology groups.
We now consider the case $n \in \{0, 1\}$

$$h_1(D^k) = 0 \to h_1S^k \to h_1(S^k, D^k) \xrightarrow{\partial_1} h_0D^k \to h_0S^k \to h_0(S^k, D^k) \to h_{-1}D^k = 0$$

The case $n \in \{0, 1\}$ gives a split short exact sequence

$$0 \to h_0D^k \to h_0S^k \to h_0(S^k, D^k) \simeq h_0(D^k, S^{k-1}) \to 0$$

The homotopy equivalence $pt \to D^k$ gives a split of this exact sequence $h_0S^k \to h_0pt \to h_0D^k$.
The boundary homomorphism $h_1(S^k, D^k) \to h_0D_k$ being 0 using results from the exercise sheet.

Now by induction, $h_nS^k = 0$ for all $n < 0$ and $h_0S^k = h_0(pt)$ for all $k > 0$.
We also have that $h_nS^1 \simeq h_{n-1}S^0$ for $n \notin \{0, 1\}$.
What about h_1S^1 ?

$$h_1(D^1, S^0) \to h_1(S^1, D^1) \to h_0(D^1)$$

and

$$h_1(D^1, S^0) \to h_0S^0 \to h_0(D^1)$$

Where the last morphism is induced by the fold map, namely $h_0S^0 = h_0pt \oplus h_0pt \to h_0(pt)$ and $(x, y) \mapsto x + y$.
We have

$$h_1D^1 \to h_1(D^1, S^0) \to h_0S^0 = h_0pt \oplus h_0pt \to h_0D^1$$

We were able to show isomorphisms $h_nS^k \simeq h_{n-1}S^{k-1}$ for $n \notin \{0, 1\}$, $h_0S^k \simeq h_0pt$ for $k > 0$ and $h_1S^1 \simeq h_0pt$.
What about h_1S^k for $k > 1$?
We have isomorphisms

$$h_1S^k \to h_1(S^k, D^k) \xrightarrow{\partial} h_0D^k \simeq h_0S^k$$

and
$$h_1(D^k, S^{k-1}) \simeq h_1(S^k, D^k) \to h_0 S^{k-1} \simeq h_0 D^k$$
and thus $h_1 S^k = 0$ for $k > 1$.

Proposition 4

FOr any ordinary homology theory (h_*, ∂_*), the following holds

$$h_n S^k = \begin{cases} h_0 pt \oplus h_0 pt \ \textit{if} \ k = 0 = n \\ 0, k > 0, n \notin \{0, k\} \\ h_0 pt \ \textit{if} \ k > 0 \ \textit{and} \ n \in \{0, k\} \\ 0, else \end{cases}$$

We add one additional assumption, that there exists an ordinary homology theory with coefficient group $h_0 pt \simeq \mathbb{Z}$

Corollary 5

S^k and S^l are not homotopy equivalent for $k \neq l$

Proof

$$h_k S^k \simeq h_0 pt \neq h_k S^l = 0$$ □

Corollary 6 (Brouwer fixed point theorem)

Any continuous map $f : D^n \to D^n$ has a fixed point.

Proof

Assume $f : D^n \to D^n$ is a map without a fixed point.
Consider $g : D^n \to S^{n-1}$ sending $x \mapsto \frac{x - f(x)}{\|x - f(x)\|}$, by assumption, this is continuous.
Next, we claim that $g|_{S^{n-1}}$ is homotopic to $\mathrm{Id}_{S^{n-1}}$ via the map

$$H(x, t) := \frac{x - tf(x)}{\|x - tf(x)\|}$$

If $t = 1$, the denominator is $\neq 0$, if $t < 1$

$$\|tf(x)\| = t\,\|f(x)\| < \|f(x)\| \leq 1$$

Hence, $\|x - tf(x)\| \neq 0$ and H is a well defined continuous map.
Now, consider

$$h_{n-1} S^{n-1} \xrightarrow{ind} h_{n_1} D^n \xrightarrow{h_{n-1}(g)} h_{n-1} S^{n-1}$$

By homotopy equivalence $h_{n-1}(g) \circ ind$ is the identity.
For $n > 1$, this implies that the identity factors through 0, which is a contradiction.
The special case $n = 1$ gives

$$h_0 S^0 \to h_0 D^1 \to h_0 S^0$$

If the coefficient group is $\mathbb{Z}$, this is a contradiction. □

2 Constructing singular homology

We want to construct a (ordinary) homology theory.
The idea is to study X by mapping topological simplices into X, here the topological n simplex is defined as

$$\Delta^n = \left\{ (t_0, \ldots, t_n) | t_i \geq 0 \forall i, \sum_i t_i = 1 \right\} \subset \mathbb{R}^{n+1}$$

We define

$$Sing_n(X) = \{ f : \Delta^n \to X \text{ continuous } \}$$

in general, this set is huge.