

6.2. Homotopy Equivalence

1. Prove that a discrete space consisting of m points is homotopy equivalent to a discrete space consisting of n points if and only if $m = n$.
2. Write down a homotopy equivalence between $(0, 1)$ and $[0, 1]$.
3. Show that a space X is contractible iff every map $f : X \rightarrow Y$, for arbitrary Y , is nullhomotopic. Similarly, show X is contractible iff every map $f : Y \rightarrow X$ is nullhomotopic.
4. List all homotopy classes of maps $(0, 1) \rightarrow (0, 1)$.
5. A space X is said to be contractible if the identity map $i_X : X \rightarrow X$ is nullhomotopic.
 - (a) Show that I and \mathbb{R} are contractible.
 - (b) Show that a contractible space is path-connected.
 - (c) Show that if Y is contractible, then for any X , the set $[X, Y]$ has a single element.
 - (d) Show that if X is contractible and Y is path connected, then $[X, Y]$ has a single element.
6. Show that composition of homotopy equivalences $X \rightarrow Y$ and $Y \rightarrow Z$ is a homotopy equivalence $X \rightarrow Z$. Conclude that homotopy equivalence is an equivalence relation.
7. If X and Y are topological spaces and $f, g : X \rightarrow Y$ are homotopic homeomorphisms, prove that their inverses f^{-1} and g^{-1} are also homotopic.
8. Suppose that X and Y are nonempty spaces such that $X \times Y$ is contractible. Prove that both X and Y are contractible.
9. Suppose that we are given continuous mappings $f, g : X \rightarrow \mathbb{S}^n$ such that $f(x) \neq -g(x)$ for all x . Prove that f is homotopic to g .
10. Suppose that $0 < a \leq 1$ and consider the off center circle in $\mathbb{C} \setminus \{0\}$ defined by $\phi_a(z) = z + 1$. Prove that if $a < 1$ then ϕ_a is homotopic to ϕ_1 in $\mathbb{C} \setminus \{0\}$.
11. Let $f_1 : X_1 \rightarrow Y_1$ and $f_2 : X_2 \rightarrow Y_2$ be homotopy equivalences of topological spaces. Prove that the product map $f_1 \times f_2 : X_1 \times X_2 \rightarrow Y_1 \times Y_2$ is also a homotopy equivalence.