

HOMEWORK EXERCISES

ALGEBRAIC TOPOLOGY

EXERCISE 1:

Martina Girelli
02287129
Matteo Durante
02303760

Make every step in the computation of the homology of spheres from chapter 3 of the lecture notes explicit by giving chains that represent generators for each of the spaces written there. You only have to do this for $H_0(S^0)$ and $H_1(S^1)$ and the (pairs of) spaces used to compute those. Use your explicit generators to compute the degree of the map $S^1 \ni z \mapsto z^n \in S^1$, where we identified \mathbb{R}^2 with the complex plane.

Throughout you may work with coefficient group $A = \mathbb{Z}$.

Solution:

$$H_0(S^0) = \frac{C_0(S^0)}{\text{im}(\partial_1: C_1(S^0) \rightarrow C_0(S^0))}$$

$$C_0(S^0) = \mathbb{Z}[S(S^0)_0] \text{ and } S(S^0)_0 = \{\sigma: \Delta^0 \rightarrow S^0\} = \{\alpha, \beta\}$$

$$\text{where } \alpha: \Delta^0 \rightarrow S^0, \quad \beta: \Delta^0 \rightarrow S^0$$

$\bullet \xrightarrow{\quad} \bullet$
 $\quad \quad \downarrow \quad \downarrow$
 $\quad \quad -1 \quad 1$

$\bullet \xrightarrow{\quad} \bullet$
 $\quad \quad \downarrow \quad \downarrow$
 $\quad \quad -1 \quad 1$

$$\Rightarrow C_0(S^0) \cong \mathbb{Z}\alpha \oplus \mathbb{Z}\beta$$

Now we study $\text{im}(\partial_1)$:

$$C_1(S^0) = \mathbb{Z}[S(S^0)_1] \text{ and } S(S^0)_1 = \{\sigma: \Delta^1 \rightarrow S^0\} = \{\alpha', \beta'\}$$

$$\text{where } \alpha': \Delta^1 \rightarrow S^0 \text{ and } \beta': \Delta^1 \rightarrow S^0$$

$\text{---} \xrightarrow{\quad} \bullet$
 $\quad \quad \downarrow \quad \downarrow$
 $\quad \quad -1 \quad 1$

$\text{---} \xrightarrow{\quad} \bullet$
 $\quad \quad \downarrow \quad \downarrow$
 $\quad \quad -1 \quad 1$

because these are the only continuous maps $\Delta^1 \rightarrow S^0$.

Hence $\text{im}(\partial_1) = 0$, since $\partial_1(\alpha') = 0 = \partial_1(\beta')$.

Therefore $H_0(S^0) = C_0(S^0) \cong \mathbb{Z}\alpha \oplus \mathbb{Z}\beta \cong \mathbb{Z} \oplus \mathbb{Z}$

$$\begin{aligned} \alpha &\longmapsto (1, 0) \\ \beta &\longmapsto (0, 1) \end{aligned}$$

Now we study $H_1(S^1)$ repeating the passages of ^{the} proof for $H_1(S^1) \cong \mathbb{Z}$ and finding chains representing generators.

In the proof of $H_1(S^1) \cong \mathbb{Z}$ we have used the following chain of isomorphisms: (as in proposition 3.21)

$$H_1(D^1, S^0; \mathbb{Z}) \xrightarrow[\uparrow \text{homotopy}]{\cong} H_1(S^1 - \{x\}, S^1 - \{x, y\}; \mathbb{Z}) \xrightarrow{\cong}$$

$$\xrightarrow[\uparrow \text{excision}]{\cong} H_1(S^1, S^1 - \{y\}; \mathbb{Z}) \xleftarrow[\uparrow \text{homotopy}]{\cong} H_1(S^1, \{x\}; \mathbb{Z}) \xleftarrow{\cong} H_1(S^1; \mathbb{Z})$$

Therefore we first of all ~~only~~ find generators for $H_1(D^1, S^0; \mathbb{Z})$:

$$H_1(D^1, S^0; \mathbb{Z}) = \frac{\ker(\bar{\partial}_1: \frac{C_1(D^1; \mathbb{Z})}{C_1(S^0; \mathbb{Z})} \rightarrow \frac{C_0(D^1; \mathbb{Z})}{C_0(S^0; \mathbb{Z})})}{\text{im}(\bar{\partial}_2: \frac{C_2(D^1; \mathbb{Z})}{C_2(S^0; \mathbb{Z})} \rightarrow \frac{C_1(D^1; \mathbb{Z})}{C_1(S^0; \mathbb{Z})})}$$

$$C_1(D^1; \mathbb{Z}) = \mathbb{Z}[S(D^1)_1] =$$

$$= \mathbb{Z}[\{ \text{---} \xrightarrow{\quad} \cup, \text{---} \xrightarrow{\quad} \cup, \text{---} \xrightarrow{\quad} \cup \}]$$

↑
singular 1-simplices
whose image
is something
like \cup

↑
singular
1-simplices
whose image
is a point

↑
singular 1-simplices
~~are~~ generated by
the simplex:

$$\begin{aligned} [0, 1/2] &\rightarrow \text{---} \cup \\ [1/2, 1] &\rightarrow \text{---} \cup \end{aligned}$$

$$C_1(S^0; \mathbb{Z}) = \mathbb{Z}[\{\alpha', \beta'\}] \text{ defined before}$$

Therefore $\frac{C_1(D^1; \mathbb{Z})}{C_1(S^0; \mathbb{Z})} = \mathbb{Z}[S(D^1)_1] + \{m\alpha' + n\beta' \mid m, n \in \mathbb{Z}\}$

Now we notice that:

$$\partial_1(\text{---} \rightarrow \bigcup) = 0 \text{ and } \partial_1(\text{---} \rightarrow \bigcup) = 0.$$

Moreover $Co(S^0) = \mathbb{Z}[\alpha'', \beta'']$ where

$$\alpha'': \Delta^0 \rightarrow S^0, \quad \beta'': \Delta^0 \rightarrow S^0$$

and $\partial_1(\text{---} \rightarrow \bigcup) \neq 0$, but

$$\partial_1(\text{---} \xrightarrow{\frac{1}{\partial_1}} \bigcup) = \beta'' - \alpha'' \in Co(S^0) \Rightarrow$$

$$\Rightarrow \overline{\partial}_1(\sigma_1) = 0.$$

Consequently $\ker(\overline{\partial}_1) = \mathbb{Z}[\sigma_1, \text{---} \rightarrow \bigcup, \text{---} \rightarrow \bigcup]$

Now we have to understand which of these lie inside $\text{im}(\overline{\partial}_2)$: consider first of all the singular 2-simplex $x: \Delta^2 \rightarrow D^1$ s.t. its image is just one point,

$$\text{then } \partial_2(x) = x(s_0) - x(s_1) + x(s_2) = \text{---} \rightarrow \bigcup \in \text{im}(\partial_2)$$

$$\text{Consider now } y: \Delta^2 \rightarrow D^1 \text{ s.t. } y(s_i) = \text{---} \rightarrow \bigcup \quad \forall i=0,1,2$$

$$\Rightarrow \partial_2(y) = y(s_0) - y(s_1) + y(s_2) = y(s_2) = \text{---} \rightarrow \bigcup \in \text{im}(\partial_2)$$

On the other hand, $\sigma_1 \notin \text{im}(\partial_2)$, hence $\overline{\sigma}_1 = [\sigma_1 + \{m\alpha' + n\beta' \mid m, n \in \mathbb{Z}\}]$ is the generator of $H_1(D^1, S^0; \mathbb{Z})$.

We now study $H_1(S^1, \{x\}, \bullet S^1, \{x, y\}; \mathbb{Z}) =$

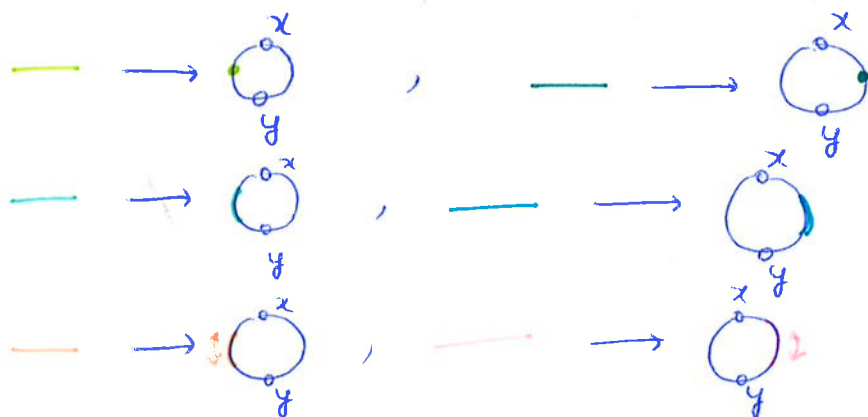
$$= \frac{\ker(\overline{\partial}_1: \frac{C_1(S^1, \{x\})}{C_1(S^1, \{x, y\})} \rightarrow \frac{Co(S^1, \{x\})}{Co(S^1, \{x, y\})})}{\text{im}(\overline{\partial}_2: \frac{C_2(S^1, \{x\})}{C_2(S^1, \{x, y\})} \rightarrow \frac{C_2(S^1, \{x\})}{C_1(S^1, \{x, y\})})}$$

$$C_1(S^1, \{x\}) = \mathbb{Z}[S(S^1, \{x\})_1] \text{ and}$$

$$S(S^1, \{x\})_1 = \left\{ \begin{array}{c} \text{---} \xrightarrow{x} \bigcirc \\ \uparrow \\ \text{sing. 2-simplices} \\ \text{whose image is} \\ \text{1 point} \end{array}, \begin{array}{c} \text{---} \xrightarrow{x} \bigcirc \\ \uparrow \\ \text{all the sing.} \\ \text{2-simplices of} \\ \text{this type} \end{array}, \begin{array}{c} \text{---} \xrightarrow{x} \bigcirc \\ \uparrow \\ \text{all the singular} \\ \text{2-simpl. generated} \\ \text{by this one} \end{array} \right\}$$

Now we study $C_1(S^1, \{x, y\}) = \mathbb{Z}[S(S^1, \{x, y\})_1]$:

$S(S^1, \{x, y\})_1$ is composed by ~~the~~ mix different types of singular 1-simplices:



$$\Rightarrow \frac{C_1(S^1, \{x\})}{C_1(S^1, \{x, y\})} = \mathbb{Z}[\{ \text{green line} \rightarrow \text{circle with } x, y, \text{green dot at } y \}, \text{blue line} \rightarrow \text{circle with } x, y, \text{blue dot at } x \}, \text{green line} \rightarrow \text{circle with } x, y, \text{green loop at } y \}] + C_1(S^1, \{x, y\})$$

Now we check $\ker(\bar{\partial}_1)$:

$$\partial_1(\text{green line} \rightarrow \text{circle with } x, y, \text{green dot at } y) = 0 \Rightarrow \bar{\partial}_1(\text{green line} \rightarrow \text{circle with } x, y, \text{green dot at } y) = 0 \quad \bar{\partial}_1(\text{blue line} \rightarrow \text{circle with } x, y, \text{blue dot at } x) = 0$$

$$\partial_1(\text{green line} \rightarrow \text{circle with } x, y, \text{green loop at } y) = (\text{green line} \rightarrow \text{circle with } x, y, \text{green dot at } y) - (\text{green line} \rightarrow \text{circle with } x, y, \text{green dot at } x) \in \text{span} C_1(S^1, \{x, y\})$$

$$\text{and } \partial_1(\text{blue line} \rightarrow \text{circle with } x, y, \text{blue loop at } x) = 0 \Rightarrow \bar{\partial}_1(\text{blue line} \rightarrow \text{circle with } x, y, \text{blue loop at } x) = 0$$

$$\Rightarrow \ker(\bar{\partial}_1) = \frac{C_1(S^1, \{x\})}{C_1(S^1, \{x, y\})}$$

Now we have to study $\text{im}(\bar{\partial}_2)$:

obviously as before $\text{green line} \rightarrow \text{circle with } x, y, \text{green dot at } y$ and $\text{blue line} \rightarrow \text{circle with } x, y, \text{blue loop at } x \in \text{im}(\partial_2)$

and so they $\in \text{im}(\bar{\partial}_2)$, while $\tau_2 := (\text{green line} \rightarrow \text{circle with } x, y, \text{green loop at } y) \notin \text{im}(\partial_2)$

and $\bar{\tau}_2 = [\tau_2 + C_1(S^1, \{x, y\})]_{H_1}$ is the generator of $H_1(S^1, \{x\}, S^1, \{x, y\}; \mathbb{Z})$.

Notice that $\bar{\tau}_2$ is the equivalence class of all the singular 1-simplices of the type: $\text{green line} \rightarrow \text{circle with } x, y, \text{green loop at } y$, since the difference between two of them is $\text{green line} \rightarrow \text{circle with } x, y, \text{green dot at } y$ and it lies in $C_1(S^1, \{x, y\}; \mathbb{Z})$.

We can now study $H_1(S^1, S^1 \setminus \{y\}; \mathbb{Z})$:

$$H_1(S^1, S^1 \setminus \{y\}; \mathbb{Z}) = \frac{\ker(\bar{\partial}_1: \frac{C_1(S^1)}{C_1(S^1 \setminus \{y\})} \rightarrow \frac{C_0(S^1)}{C_0(S^1 \setminus \{y\})})}{\text{im}(\bar{\partial}_2: \frac{C_2(S^1)}{C_2(S^1 \setminus \{y\})} \rightarrow \frac{C_1(S^1)}{C_1(S^1 \setminus \{y\})})}$$

$$C_1(S^1; \mathbb{Z}) = \mathbb{Z}[S(S^1)_1], \text{ where}$$

$$S(S^1)_1 = \left\{ \begin{array}{l} \text{all the singular} \\ \text{1-simplices whose} \\ \text{image is just one} \\ \text{point} \end{array} \rightarrow \text{circle}, \begin{array}{l} \text{all the singular} \\ \text{1-simplices} \\ \text{of this type} \end{array} \rightarrow \text{circle}, \begin{array}{l} \text{all the} \\ \text{singular 1-} \\ \text{simplices} \\ \text{of this type} \end{array} \rightarrow \text{circle}, \begin{array}{l} \text{all the} \\ \text{singular} \\ \text{1-simplices} \\ \text{whose image} \\ \text{is the whole } S^1 \\ \text{and the edges} \\ \text{coincide} \end{array} \rightarrow \text{circle} \right\}$$

$$C_1(S^1 \setminus \{y\}; \mathbb{Z}) \cong \left\{ \begin{array}{l} \text{all the} \\ \text{singular} \\ \text{1-simplices} \\ \text{whose image} \\ \text{is one point} \end{array} \rightarrow \text{circle with } y, \begin{array}{l} \text{all the singular} \\ \text{1-simplices of} \\ \text{these two types} \end{array} \rightarrow \text{circle with } y \right\}$$

$$\frac{C_1(S^1; \mathbb{Z})}{C_1(S^1 \setminus \{y\}; \mathbb{Z})} \cong \left\{ \begin{array}{l} \text{all the singular} \\ \text{1-simplices whose} \\ \text{image is just one point} \end{array} \rightarrow \text{circle}, \begin{array}{l} \text{all the singular} \\ \text{1-simplices} \\ \text{of this type} \end{array} \rightarrow \text{circle}, \begin{array}{l} \text{all the singular} \\ \text{1-simplices} \\ \text{whose image is the whole } S^1 \\ \text{and the edges coincide} \end{array} \rightarrow \text{circle} \right\} + C_1(S^1 \setminus \{y\}; \mathbb{Z})$$

Now we check what is in the kernel of $\bar{\partial}_1$:

$$\bar{\partial}_1(\text{all the singular 1-simplices whose image is just one point}) = 0 = \bar{\partial}_1(\text{all the singular 1-simplices of this type}) = \bar{\partial}_1(\text{all the singular 1-simplices whose image is the whole } S^1 \text{ and the edges coincide})$$

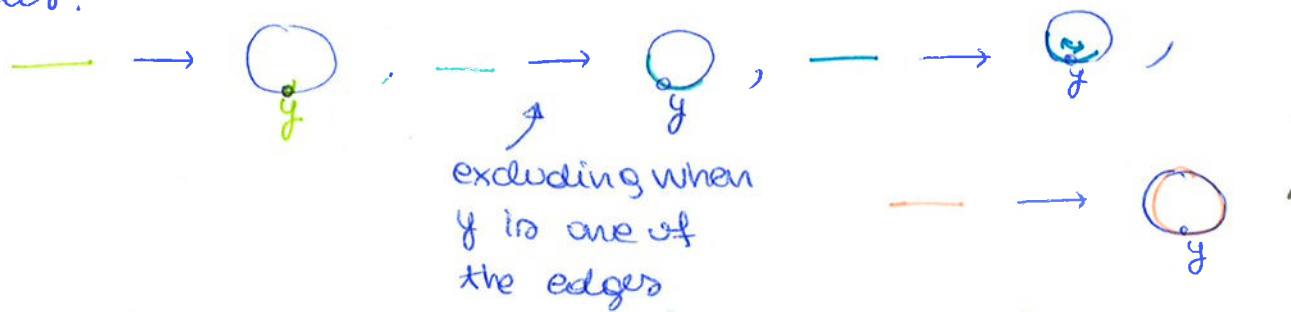
$$C_0(S^1 \setminus \{y\}) = \{ \text{all the singular 0-simplices whose image is just one point} \}$$

$$\bar{\partial}_1(\text{all the singular 1-simplices whose image is just one point}) = (\text{all the singular 0-simplices whose image is just one point}) - (\text{all the singular 0-simplices whose image is just one point}) \in C_0(S^1 \setminus \{y\})$$

except if $\sigma: \text{all the singular 1-simplices whose image is just one point} \rightarrow \text{all the singular 0-simplices whose image is just one point}$, i.e. $\sigma(e_0) = y$ or $\sigma(e_1) = y$.

$$\text{Therefore } \bar{\partial}_1(\text{all the singular 1-simplices whose image is just one point}) = 0.$$

So $\ker(\bar{\alpha}_1)$ is formed by all the following singular 1-dim =
pieces:

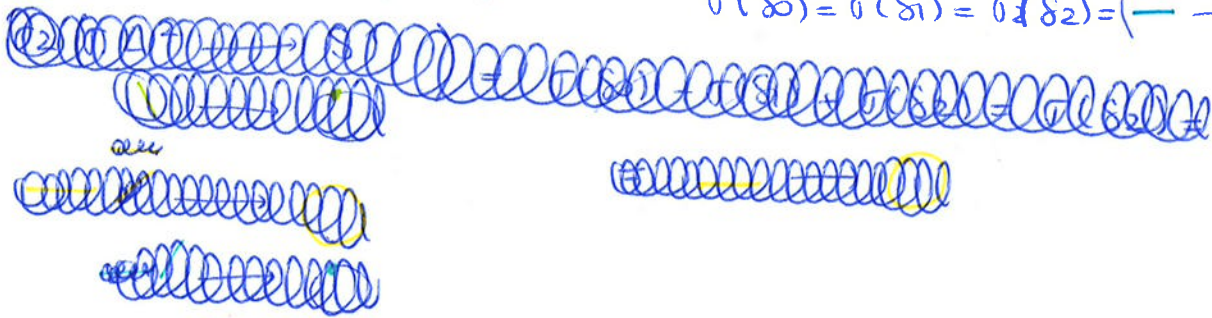


As before we have that:

$$\partial_2(\Delta^2 \rightarrow \text{circle with } y) = \text{line} \rightarrow \text{circle with } y$$

$\partial_2(\sigma) = \text{---} \rightarrow \text{---}$ where σ is a singular 2-simplex st.

$$\sigma(s_0) = \sigma(s_1) = \sigma(s_2) = \left(- \rightarrow \begin{array}{c} \text{ } \\ \text{ } \end{array} \right)$$



Whereas $\beta_1: \text{---} \rightarrow \bigcirc \notin \text{im}(\partial_2)$, ∞

$\sqrt{3} : [(- \rightarrow \text{circle with } y) + C_1(S^1 - \{y\})] \text{ in } H_1$

the generation of $H_1(S^1, S^1, \{y\}; \mathbb{Z})$.

As before, in the equivalence class of $\overline{13}$, we have all the singular 1-simplices of the type $\text{---} \rightarrow \bigcirc_y$ and also $\text{---} \rightarrow \bigcirc_x$.

Consequently, while the first isomorphism maps $\overline{\Gamma}_1$ to $\overline{\Gamma}_2$, the second one maps $\overline{\Gamma}_2$ to $\overline{\Gamma}_3$.

We are now ready to ~~compute~~ find the generators of $H_1(S^1, \{x\}; \mathbb{Z})$:

$$H_1(S^1, \{x\}; \mathbb{Z}) := \frac{\ker(\partial_1: \frac{C_1(S^1; \mathbb{Z})}{C_1(\{x\}; \mathbb{Z})} \longrightarrow \frac{C_0(S^1; \mathbb{Z})}{C_0(\{x\}; \mathbb{Z})})}{\text{im}(\partial_2: \frac{C_2(S^1; \mathbb{Z})}{C_2(\{x\}; \mathbb{Z})} \longrightarrow \frac{C_1(S^1; \mathbb{Z})}{C_1(\{x\}; \mathbb{Z})})}$$

$C_1(S^1; \mathbb{Z})$ we ~~also~~ have already studied it before

$$C_1(\{x\}) = \mathbb{Z}[\text{---} \rightarrow \text{---} \circlearrowleft^x \text{---}]$$

$$\frac{C_1(S^1; \mathbb{Z})}{C_1(\{x\}; \mathbb{Z})} = \mathbb{Z}[\text{---} \rightarrow \text{---} \circlearrowleft^x \text{---}, \text{---} \rightarrow \text{---} \circlearrowleft^x \text{---}, \text{---} \rightarrow \text{---} \circlearrowleft^x \text{---}, \text{---} \rightarrow \text{---} \circlearrowleft^x \text{---}]$$

\uparrow all the singular 1-simplices whose image is just one point except for x
 \uparrow all the singular 1-simplices of these types
 \uparrow the starting and ending points coincide

$+ C_1(\{x\}; \mathbb{Z})$

Now we notice that $\partial_1(\text{---} \rightarrow \text{---} \circlearrowleft^x \text{---}) = 0 = \partial_1(\text{---} \rightarrow \text{---} \circlearrowleft^x \text{---}) =$
 $= \partial_1(\text{---} \rightarrow \text{---} \circlearrowleft^x \text{---})$, while $\partial_1(\text{---} \rightarrow \text{---} \circlearrowleft^x \text{---}) \notin C_1(\{x\}; \mathbb{Z}) \Rightarrow$
 $\Rightarrow (\text{---} \rightarrow \text{---} \circlearrowleft^x \text{---}) \notin \ker(\partial_1)$

We now investigate the image of ∂_2 :

$$\partial_2(\Delta^2 \xrightarrow{\sigma} \text{---} \circlearrowleft^x \text{---}) = \text{---} \rightarrow \text{---} \circlearrowleft^x \text{---} \text{ where } \sigma(t) = \frac{x}{2} \in S^1 \forall t \in \Delta^2$$

Let now $\sigma \in S(S^1)_2$ st. $\sigma(s_0) = \sigma(s_1) = \sigma(s_2) = \text{---} \rightarrow \text{---} \circlearrowleft^x \text{---}$
 then $\partial_2(\sigma) = \text{---} \rightarrow \text{---} \circlearrowleft^x \text{---}$.

On the other hand, $\overline{\tau}_4 = \text{---} \rightarrow \text{---} \circlearrowleft^x \text{---} \notin \text{im}(\partial_2)$

so $\overline{\tau}_4 = [\tau_4 + C_1(\{x\}; \mathbb{Z})]_{H_1}$ is the generator of $H_1(S^1, \{x\}; \mathbb{Z})$.

and the isomorphism in the chain maps $\overline{\tau}_4$ to $\overline{\tau}_3$.

Finally, we can prove the last isomorphism, considering the following exact sequence:

$$\dots \rightarrow H_1(\{x\}; \mathbb{Z}) \rightarrow H_1(S^1; \mathbb{Z}) \xrightarrow{i} H_1(S^1, \{x\}; \mathbb{Z}) \xrightarrow{\delta} H_0(\{x\}; \mathbb{Z}) \rightarrow \dots$$

First of all $H_1(\{x\}; \mathbb{Z}) = 0$ and $H_0(\{x\}; \mathbb{Z}) \cong \mathbb{Z}$.

Since we know the generators for $H_1(S^1, \{x\}; \mathbb{Z})$, we can study $\text{im}(\delta)$: let $i: C_0(\{x\}; \mathbb{Z}) \hookrightarrow C_0(S^1; \mathbb{Z})$, then

$$\partial_1(\overline{\tau}_4) = 0 = \partial_1(\tau_4) + C_0(\{x\}) \Rightarrow 0 = \partial_1(\tau_4) \in C_0(\{x\}; \mathbb{Z})$$

$$\Rightarrow \delta(\overline{\tau}_4) = \partial_1(\tau_4) + C_0(\{x\}; \mathbb{Z}) = 0 + C_0(\{x\}; \mathbb{Z})$$

Consequently, $\text{im}(g) = 0 \Rightarrow \ker(g) = H_1(S^1; \mathbb{Z})$.

Since $\ker(g) = 0$ (because $H_1(\{x\}; \mathbb{Z}) = 0$), then g is an isomorphism.

We now find the generator for $H_1(S^1; \mathbb{Z})$.

$$H_1(S^1; \mathbb{Z}) = \frac{\ker(\partial_1: C_1(S^1; \mathbb{Z}) \rightarrow C_0(S^1; \mathbb{Z}))}{\text{im}(\partial_2: C_2(S^1; \mathbb{Z}) \rightarrow C_1(S^1; \mathbb{Z}))}$$

$$\ker(\partial_1) = \mathbb{Z}[\text{yellow line} \rightarrow \text{circle}, \text{green line} \rightarrow \text{circle}, \text{blue line} \rightarrow \text{circle with arrow}]$$

~~Let~~ Let $\sigma: \Delta^2 \rightarrow S^1$ s.t. $\text{im}(\sigma) = \text{point} \Rightarrow$

$$\Rightarrow \partial_2(\sigma) = \text{yellow line} \rightarrow \text{circle}$$

Let $\bar{\sigma}: \Delta^2 \rightarrow S^1$ s.t. $\bar{\sigma}(S^1) = \text{blue line} \rightarrow \text{circle with arrow} \Rightarrow$

$$\Rightarrow \partial_2(\bar{\sigma}) = \text{blue line} \rightarrow \text{circle with arrow}$$

Hence $\text{yellow line} \rightarrow \text{circle}, \text{blue line} \rightarrow \text{circle with arrow} \in \text{im}(\partial_2)$, while

~~regular~~ $\sigma_S := \text{green line} \rightarrow \text{circle} \notin \text{im}(\partial_2) \Rightarrow \bar{\sigma}_S = \sigma_S + \text{im}(\partial_2)$ is

the generator of $H_1(S^1; \mathbb{Z})$.

We now compute the degree of $f: S^1 \rightarrow S^1$, $z \mapsto z^m$.

We have to find $\deg(f)$, s.t.

$$\deg(f)a = f_*(a) = f \circ a \quad \forall a \in \tilde{H}_1(S^1) = H_1(S^1).$$

Since we already know the generator of $H_1(S^1)$, it is sufficient to compute it for $a = \sigma_S: \Delta^1 \rightarrow S^1$.

$$\deg(f)\sigma_S = f(\sigma_S(t)) = f(e^{2\pi i t}) = e^{2\pi i m t} \quad t \mapsto e^{2\pi i t}$$

$$= m \cdot \sigma_S(t) \Rightarrow \deg(f) = m.$$

EXERCISE 2:

Let $m \geq 1$ be an integer and let \sim be the equivalence relation on $\mathbb{R}^{m+1} \setminus \{0\}$ defined by:

$x \sim x'$ if and only if there exists a $\lambda \in \mathbb{R} \setminus \{0\}$ with $\lambda x = x'$.
 Let $\mathbb{R}P^m = (\mathbb{R}^{m+1} \setminus \{0\}) / \sim$ be the resulting quotient space (which is called the real projective space of dimension m). Show that $\mathbb{R}P^{m+1}$ can be obtained from $\mathbb{R}P^m$ by attaching an $(m+1)$ -cell.

Solution:

Let $D^m := \{x \in \mathbb{R}^m \mid \|x\| \leq 1\}$.

We say that $\mathbb{R}P^{m+1}$ arises from $\mathbb{R}P^m$ attaching an $(m+1)$ -cell if there is a pushout square:

$$\begin{array}{ccc} \partial D^{m+1} & \xrightarrow{f} & \mathbb{R}P^m \\ i \downarrow & & \downarrow \alpha \\ D^{m+1} & \xrightarrow{g} & \mathbb{R}P^{m+1} \end{array}$$

where we can define the following maps:

$$\alpha: \mathbb{R}P^m \longrightarrow \mathbb{R}P^{m+1}$$

$$[x_0, \dots, x_m]_{\sim} \mapsto [x_0, \dots, x_m, 0]_{\sim}$$

$$f: \partial D^{m+1} \longrightarrow \mathbb{R}P^m$$

$$(x_0, \dots, x_m) \mapsto [x_0, \dots, x_m]_{\sim}$$

$$g: D^{m+1} \longrightarrow \mathbb{R}P^{m+1} \quad (\text{continuous map})$$

$$(x_0, \dots, x_m) \mapsto [x_0, \dots, x_m, \sqrt{1 - x_0^2 - \dots - x_m^2}]_{\sim}$$

$$i: \partial D^{m+1} \longrightarrow D^{m+1} \quad \text{inclusion}$$

$$(x_0, \dots, x_m) \mapsto (x_0, \dots, x_m)$$

First of all we check that this diagram is commutative:

$$d(f(x_0, \dots, x_m)) = d([x_0, \dots, x_m]_\sim) = [x_0, \dots, x_m, 0]_\sim$$

$$\forall (x_0, \dots, x_m) \in \partial D^{m+1}$$

$$\begin{aligned} g(i(x_0, \dots, x_m)) &= g(x_0, \dots, x_m) = [x_0, \dots, x_m, \sqrt{1-x_0^2-\dots-x_m^2}]_\sim \\ &= [x_0, \dots, x_m, 0]_\sim \text{ because } (x_0, \dots, x_m) \in \partial D^{m+1} \Rightarrow \\ &\Rightarrow \|(x_0, \dots, x_m)\| = 1 \end{aligned}$$

We can now consider the two canonical continuous maps:

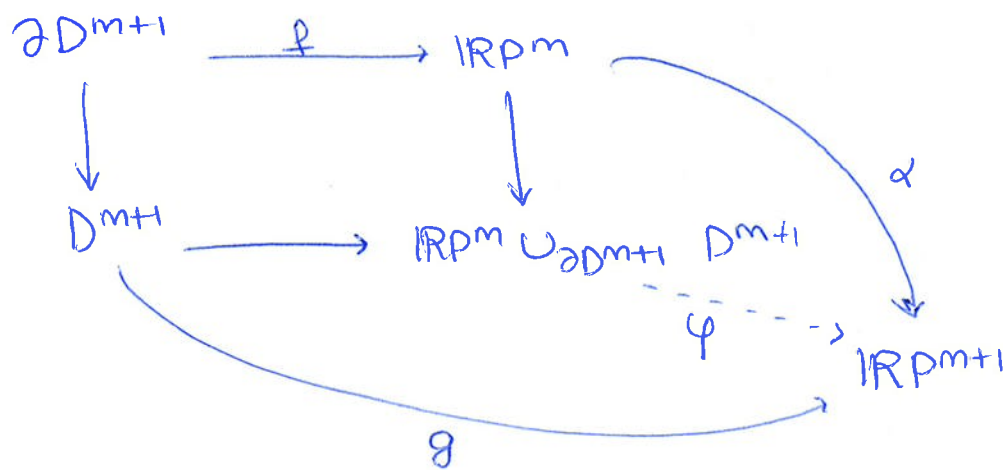
$$\mathbb{R}P^m \longrightarrow \mathbb{R}P^m \cup_{\partial D^{m+1}} D^{m+1} \text{ and}$$

$$D^{m+1} \longrightarrow \mathbb{R}P^m \cup_{\partial D^{m+1}} D^{m+1}$$

By the universal property of the pushout, we have that there exists a unique map

$$\varphi: \mathbb{R}P^m \cup_{\partial D^{m+1}} D^{m+1} \longrightarrow \mathbb{R}P^{m+1}$$

st. the following diagram is commutative:



We have to show that φ is a homeomorphism, where φ is obviously defined as follows:

$$\varphi([x_0, \dots, x_m]_\sim \in \partial D^{m+1}) = [x_0, \dots, x_m, 0]_\sim$$

$$\text{and } \varphi([(x_0, \dots, x_m)]_{\partial D^{m+1}}) = [x_0, \dots, x_m, \sqrt{1-x_0^2-\dots-x_m^2}]_\sim$$

• surjectivity;

let $x = [x_0, \dots, x_{m+1}]_\sim \in \mathbb{R}P^{m+1}$, then:

$$[x_0, \dots, x_{m+1}]_{\sim} = \left[\frac{x_0}{\|x\|}, \dots, \frac{x_{m+1}}{\|x\|} \right]_{\sim}$$

We can now notice that:

$$\frac{x_{m+1}}{\|x\|} = \frac{\sqrt{\|x\|^2 - x_0^2 - \dots - x_m^2}}{\|x\|} = \sqrt{1 - \left(\frac{x_0}{\|x\|}\right)^2 - \dots - \left(\frac{x_m}{\|x\|}\right)^2}$$

$$\text{Hence } \left[\frac{x_0}{\|x\|}, \dots, \frac{x_{m+1}}{\|x\|} \right]_{\sim} = \varphi \left(\left[\frac{x_0}{\|x\|}, \dots, \frac{x_m}{\|x\|} \right]_{\partial D^{m+1}} \right),$$

$$\text{in fact } \left(\frac{x_0}{\|x\|}, \dots, \frac{x_m}{\|x\|} \right) \in D_0^{m+1}:$$

$$\sqrt{\frac{x_0^2}{\|x\|^2} + \dots + \frac{x_m^2}{\|x\|^2}} = \sqrt{\frac{x_0^2 + \dots + x_m^2}{x_0^2 + \dots + x_{m+1}^2}} \leq 1$$

• injectivity;

$$\text{let } [(x_0, \dots, x_m)]_{\partial D^{m+1}}, [(x_0', \dots, x_m')]_{\partial D^{m+1}} \in \mathbb{R}P^m \cup D_0^{m+1}$$

$$\text{st. } \varphi([(x_0, \dots, x_m)]_{\partial D^{m+1}}) = \varphi([(x_0', \dots, x_m')]_{\partial D^{m+1}}), \text{ i.e.,}$$

$$[x_0, \dots, x_m, \sqrt{1 - x_0^2 - \dots - x_m^2}]_{\sim} = [x_0', \dots, x_m', \sqrt{1 - x_0'^2 - \dots - x_m'^2}]_{\sim}$$

~~if and only if~~

This happens if and only if $\exists \lambda \in \mathbb{R}$ st.

$$\begin{cases} x_0 = \lambda x_0' \\ \vdots \\ x_m = \lambda x_m' \\ \sqrt{1 - x_0^2 - \dots - x_m^2} = \lambda \sqrt{1 - x_0'^2 - \dots - x_m'^2} \end{cases}$$

If $1 - x_0^2 - \dots - x_m^2 \neq 0$, then $\lambda > 0$ and:

$$\begin{cases} x_0 = \lambda x_0' \\ \vdots \\ x_m = \lambda x_m' \\ \lambda^2 - 1 = 0 \end{cases} \rightarrow \begin{cases} x_0 = x_0' \\ \vdots \\ x_m = x_m' \\ \lambda = 1 \end{cases}$$

If $1 - x_0^2 - \dots - x_m^2 = 0$, then

$$\begin{cases} x_0 = \lambda x_0' \\ \vdots \\ x_m = \lambda x_m' \end{cases} \Rightarrow [x_0, \dots, x_m]_{\sim} = [x_0', \dots, x_m']_{\sim} \Rightarrow \\ \Rightarrow [(x_0, \dots, x_m)]_{\partial D^{m+1}} = [(x_0', \dots, x_m')]_{\partial D^{m+1}}$$

As a consequence φ is a bijection.

Obviously φ is continuous, since d and g are continuous.

Moreover D^{m+1} and $\mathbb{R}P^m$ are compact spaces, hence

$D^{m+1} \cup_{\partial D^{m+1}} \mathbb{R}P^m$ is a compact space.

Furthermore $\mathbb{R}P^{m+1}$ is Hausdorff, because

S^{m+1} is Hausdorff and we can identify $\mathbb{R}P^{m+1}$ with S^{m+1} under the action of the antipodal map, which is proper, therefore quotienting S^{m+1} with the relation given by the antipodal map, we obtain an Hausdorff space.

We can now use the following result:

Let X be a compact topological space, Y an Hausdorff topological space and $f: X \rightarrow Y$ a continuous bijection, then f is a homeomorphism.

Therefore we obtain that φ is a homeomorphism.