

HOMEWORK EXERCISES

ALGEBRAIC TOPOLOGY

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Give a CW-complex ^{structure} compute all homology groups with integer coefficients and compute the Euler characteristic of the following topological spaces:

- (a) A sphere S^2 in which all points on its equator S^1 are identified antipodally
- (b) $S^1 \times (S^1 \vee S^1)$, where \vee is the wedge sum (given two topological spaces X, Y with preferred base points $x_0 \in X, y_0 \in Y$, the wedge sum of X and Y is $X \vee Y = X \amalg Y / (x_0 \sim y_0)$).

Solution:

- (a) First of all we try to give a CW-complex structure to the space $X = S^2$ in which we are identifying the points on the equator through the antipodal relation.

We define $X_{-1} = \emptyset$ and we obtain X_0 by attaching one 1-cell to X_{-1} , therefore X_0 is basically a point:

$$\begin{array}{ccc} \partial D^0 = \emptyset & \longrightarrow & X_{-1} = \emptyset \\ \downarrow & & \downarrow \\ D^0 & \longrightarrow & X_0 = D^0 \cup_{\partial D^0} X_{-1} = D^0 \end{array}$$

We now construct X_1 by attaching one 1-cell to X_0 :

$$\begin{array}{ccc} \partial D^1 \xrightarrow{f} X_0 & & \\ \downarrow & & \downarrow \\ D^1 & \longrightarrow & X_1 = X_0 \cup_{\partial D^1} D^1 \end{array}$$

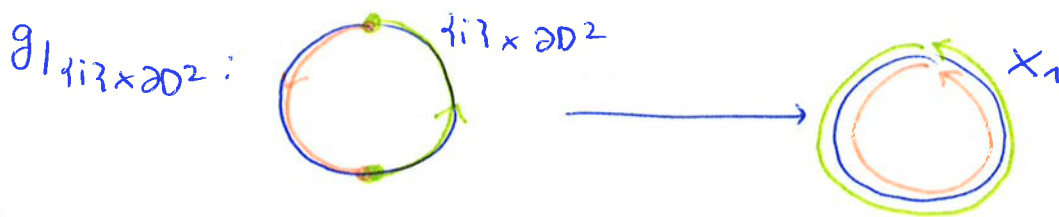
Since X_0 consists of just one point, f is the constant map ~~and~~ and the two points of ∂D^1 are identified in X_1 , which is therefore S^1 .

Finally we construct X_2 by attaching two 2-cells to X_1 :

$$\begin{array}{ccc} \{1,2\} \times \partial D^2 & \xrightarrow{g} & X_1 \\ i \downarrow & & \downarrow \\ \{1,2\} \times D^2 & \longrightarrow & X_2 = X_1 \cup_{\{1,2\} \times \partial D^2} \{1,2\} \times D^2 \end{array}$$

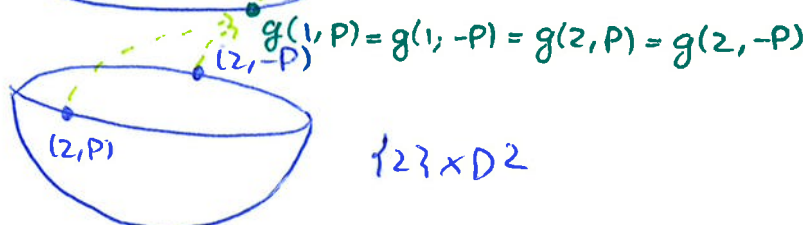
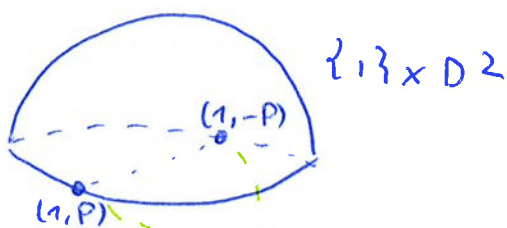
where g acts in the following way:

$$g|_{\{i\} \times \partial D^2} : \{i\} \times \partial D^2 \longrightarrow X_1 \cong S^1, \quad \forall i=1,2, \quad \partial D^2 \xrightarrow{z^1} z^2$$



Therefore we obtain $g(i,P) = g(i,-P) \quad \forall P \in \partial D^2, i=1,2$
(where $-P$ indicates the antipodal point of P).

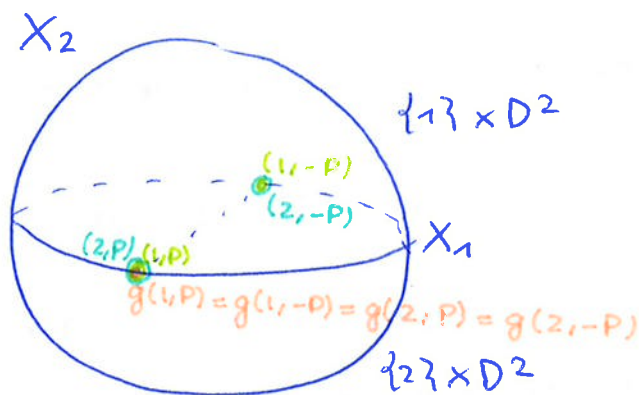
Hence $i(1,P) = (1,P) \sim g(1,P) = g(1,-P) \sim i(1,-P)$
 $i(2,P) = (2,P) \sim g(2,P) = g(2,-P) \sim i(2,-P) \quad \forall P \in \partial D^2$



$(1,P), (1,-P), (2,P)$ and $(2,-P)$ are all identified in X_2

$\{2\} \times D^2$

Thus we obtain a sphere with the antipodal relation on the equator:



Hence we have endowed X of a CW-structure:

$$X_{-1} = \emptyset \subset X_0 \subset X_1 \subset X_2 = X$$

By corollary 9.6 we have that:

$$\tilde{C}_0(X; \mathbb{Z}) = H_0(X_0, X_{-1}; \mathbb{Z}) \cong \mathbb{Z}$$

$$\tilde{C}_1(X; \mathbb{Z}) = H_1(X_1, X_0; \mathbb{Z}) \cong \mathbb{Z}$$

$$\tilde{C}_2(X; \mathbb{Z}) = H_2(X_2, X_1; \mathbb{Z}) \cong \mathbb{Z}^2$$

$$\tilde{C}_m(X; \mathbb{Z}) = H_m(X_m, X_{m-1}; \mathbb{Z}) = 0 \quad \forall m > 2$$

Thus by theorem 9.7 we have that

$$H_m(X; \mathbb{Z}) \cong H_m(\tilde{C}(X; \mathbb{Z})) = 0 \quad \forall m > 2$$

In the same way we have:

$$H_0(X; \mathbb{Z}) \cong H_0(\tilde{C}(X; \mathbb{Z})) = \frac{\tilde{C}_0(X)}{\text{im}(\tilde{\partial}_1)} \cong \mathbb{Z} / \text{im}(\tilde{\partial}_1)$$

We try now to find the image of $\tilde{\partial}_1: \tilde{C}_1(X) \rightarrow \tilde{C}_0(X)$. Since $\tilde{C}_1(X) \cong \mathbb{Z}$, we just have to compute the image of its generator.

So let e^1 be a generator for $\tilde{C}_1(X; \mathbb{Z})$, we have by corollary 10.1 that

$$\tilde{\partial}_1(e^1) = d \cdot e^0 \quad \text{where } e^0 \text{ is a generator for } \tilde{C}_0(X) \cong \mathbb{Z}$$

and $d = \deg(h_0 \circ q_0 \circ q \circ \chi_1|_{\partial D^1})$ by theorem 10.4

$$\partial D^1 \xrightarrow{\chi_1|_{\partial D^1}} X_0 \xrightarrow{q} X_0/X_{-1} \xrightarrow{q_0} D^0/\partial D^0 \xrightarrow{h_0} \partial D^1$$

We can notice that $\chi_1|_{\partial D^1} = f$ which is the constant map. Moreover, since the grade is multiplicative, we have

$$d = \deg(h_0 \circ q_0 \circ q \circ \chi_1|_{\partial D^1}) = \deg(h_0 \circ q_0 \circ q) \underbrace{\deg(f)}_{=0} = 0$$

$$\Rightarrow \text{im}(\tilde{\partial}_1) = 0 \Rightarrow H_0(X; \mathbb{Z}) \cong \mathbb{Z}$$

Using again theorem 9.7, we try to compute $H_1(X; \mathbb{Z})$ and $H_2(X; \mathbb{Z})$:

$$H_1(X; \mathbb{Z}) \cong H_1(\tilde{C}(X; \mathbb{Z})) = \frac{\ker(\tilde{\partial}_1)}{\text{im}(\tilde{\partial}_2)} \cong \mathbb{Z} / \text{im}(\tilde{\partial}_2)$$

$\tilde{\partial}_1$ is the zero-map
because $\text{im}(\tilde{\partial}_1) = 0$

As before we compute the image of $\tilde{\partial}_2$ computing the image of the two generators of $\tilde{C}_2(X; \mathbb{Z})$: e_1^2 and e_2^2 by corollary 10.1 and theorem 10.4

$$\tilde{\partial}_2(e_1^2) = d_1 \cdot e^1 \quad \text{and} \quad \tilde{\partial}_2(e_2^2) = d_2 \cdot e^1$$

where $d_1 = \deg(h_0 \circ q_1 \circ q \circ \chi_1|_{\partial D^2})$ and

$$d_2 = \deg(h_0 \circ q_1 \circ q \circ \chi_2|_{\partial D^2})$$

$$\partial D^2 \xrightarrow{\chi_1|_{\partial D^2}} X_1 \xrightarrow{q} X_1/X_0 \xrightarrow{q_1} D^1/\partial D^1 \xrightarrow{h_1} \partial D^2$$

Notice that $\chi_1|_{\partial D^2} = g_1 \circ \chi_1|_{\partial D^2} \circ \partial$

$$\deg(\chi_1|_{\partial D^2}) = 2$$

Since X_0 is simply a point, q is the identity.

It is easy to see that q_1 and h_1 are basically the identity too,

$$\text{so } d_1 = \deg(h_1 \circ q_1 \circ q \circ \chi_1|_{\partial D^2}) = 2$$

At the same ^{way} $d_2 = \deg(h_1 \circ q_1 \circ q \circ \chi_2|_{\partial D^2}) = 2$, since

$$\chi_2|_{\partial D^2} = g_{1,2,3} \times \partial D^2, \text{ which acts in the same way as}$$

$$g_{1,1,3} \times \partial D^2 = \chi_1|_{\partial D^2}.$$

Hence we obtain that $\tilde{\partial}_2(e_1^2) = 2e^1$ and $\tilde{\partial}_2(e_2^2) = 2e^1$

$\Rightarrow \text{im}(\tilde{\partial}_2) \cong 2\mathbb{Z}$, therefore

$$H_1(X; \mathbb{Z}) \cong \frac{\ker(\tilde{\partial}_1)}{\text{im}(\tilde{\partial}_2)} \cong \mathbb{Z}/2\mathbb{Z}$$

Now we can compute

$$H_2(X; \mathbb{Z}) \cong H_2(\tilde{C}(X; \mathbb{Z})) = \frac{\ker(\tilde{\partial}_2)}{\text{im}(\tilde{\partial}_3)} = \ker(\tilde{\partial}_2) \cong \mathbb{Z}$$

$$\ker(\tilde{\partial}_2) = \langle e_1^2 - e_2^2 \rangle$$

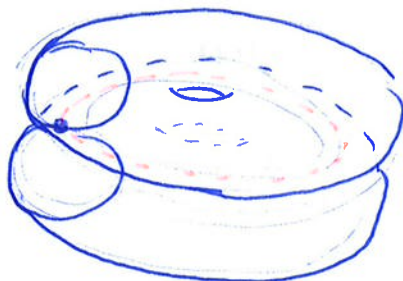
As a consequence of corollary 9.8 we have that

$$\begin{aligned} \chi(X) &= \sum_{m \geq 0} (-1)^m \dim_{\mathbb{Z}} H_m(X) = \dim_{\mathbb{Z}} H_0(X) - \dim_{\mathbb{Z}} H_1(X) + \dim_{\mathbb{Z}} H_2(X) \\ &= 1 - 0 + 1 = 2. \end{aligned}$$

(b) First of all we try to understand what the space $S^1 \times (S^1 \vee S^1)$ is:

$$S^1 \vee S^1 = \text{two circles meeting at a point}, \text{ hence:}$$

$$X = S^1 \times (S^1 \vee S^1) =$$



We have two tori intersecting in a circumference.

Now we try to construct a structure of CW-complex for X , but first we investigate the structure of CW-complex of a single torus:

$X_{-1} = \emptyset$, X_0 is obtained by attaching one 0-cell to X_{-1} .

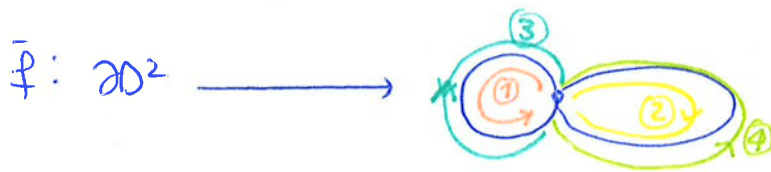
X_1 is obtained by attaching two 1-cells to X_0 , so that we obtain:



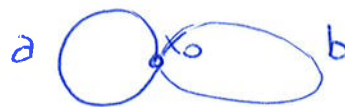
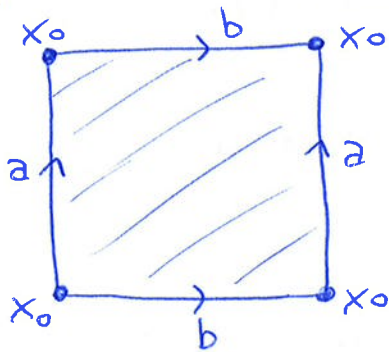
Now ~~we~~ to get a torus we should attach one 2-cell in the following way:

$$\begin{array}{ccc} \partial D^2 & \xrightarrow{\bar{f}} & X_1 \\ \downarrow & & \downarrow \\ D^2 & \xrightarrow{\quad} & X_2 \end{array}$$

where \bar{f} acts in the following way:



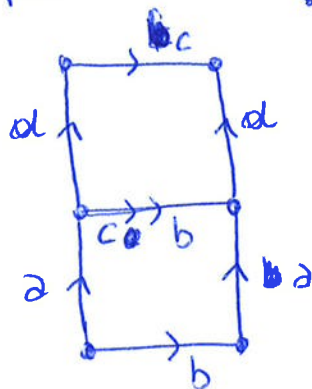
in fact a torus can also be represented as



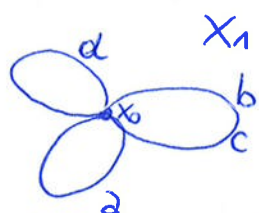
hence to fill the square we should attach one 2-cell with the orientation $aba^{-1}b^{-1}$ of the boundary.

Now that we have studied the base case, it is much easier to study X :

X can be represented as:



So it is easy to see that we should start by attaching to $X_{-1} = \emptyset$ one 0-cell and obtain X_0 , which is just one point. Since the sides b and c of the figure coincide, we construct X_1 by attaching just three 1-cells:



$$\{1,2,3\} \times \partial D^1 \xrightarrow{f} X_0$$



$$\{1,2,3\} \times D^1 \longrightarrow X_1$$

(f is the constant map)

Finally we construct X_2 by attaching two 2-cells to X_1 :

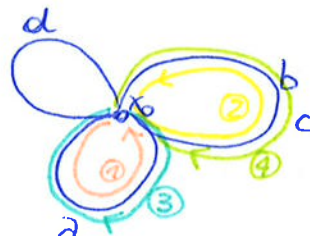
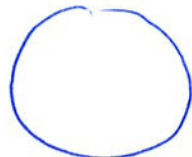
$$\{1,2\} \times \partial D^2 \xrightarrow{g} X_1$$



$$\{1,2\} \times D^2 \longrightarrow X_2$$

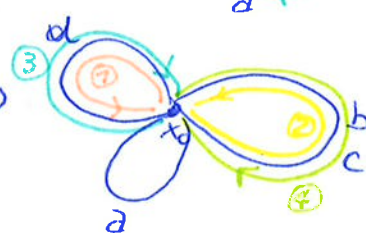
where

$$g|_{\{1\} \times \partial D^2} :$$



and

$$g|_{\{2\} \times \partial D^2} :$$



Thus we have obtained a CW-complex structure for X :

$$X_{-1} = \emptyset \subset X_0 \subset X_1 \subset X_2 = X$$

We are now ready to compute its homology groups:

by corollary 9.6 we have:

$$\tilde{C}_0(X) = H_0(X_0, X_{-1}; \mathbb{Z}) \cong \mathbb{Z}$$

$$\tilde{C}_1(X) = H_1(X_1, X_0; \mathbb{Z}) \cong \mathbb{Z}^3$$

$$\tilde{C}_2(X) = H_2(X_2, X_1; \mathbb{Z}) \cong \mathbb{Z}^2$$

$$\text{while } \tilde{C}_m(X) = H_m(X_m, X_{m-1}; \mathbb{Z}) = 0 \quad \forall m > 2.$$

By theorem 9.7 $H_m(X; \mathbb{Z}) \cong H_m(\tilde{C}(X; \mathbb{Z})) = 0 \quad \forall m > 2$,

now we try to compute $H_0(X; \mathbb{Z})$, $H_1(X; \mathbb{Z})$ and $H_2(X; \mathbb{Z})$:

$$H_0(X; \mathbb{Z}) \underset{\text{th. 9.7}}{\cong} H_0(\tilde{C}(X; \mathbb{Z})) = \frac{\tilde{C}_0(X)}{\text{im}(\tilde{\partial}_1)} \cong \mathbb{Z} / \text{im}(\tilde{\partial}_1)$$

We study the image of $\tilde{\partial}_1$ computing the image of the 3 generators of $\tilde{C}_1(X)$ through $\tilde{\partial}_1$:

let e_1^1, e_2^1 and e_3^1 be the generators of $\tilde{C}_1(X)$, then

$$\tilde{\partial}_1(e_1^1) = d_1 e^0, \quad \tilde{\partial}_1(e_2^1) = d_2 e^0 \quad \text{and} \quad \tilde{\partial}_1(e_3^1) = d_3 e^0$$

where e^0 is the generator of $\tilde{C}_0(X)$ and

$$d_i = \deg(h_0 \circ q_0 \circ q_1 \circ \chi_i|_{\partial D_1}) \text{ by theorem 10.4.}$$

But now we can notice that $\chi_i|_{\partial D_1} = f|_{\{i\} \times \partial D_1} = \text{const}$

It is constant, which means that $\deg(\chi_i|_{\partial D_1}) = 0 \quad \forall i$
 $\Rightarrow d_i = 0 \quad \forall i = 1, 2, 3$. Therefore $\text{im}(\tilde{\partial}_1) = 0$ and

$$H_0(X; \mathbb{Z}) \cong \mathbb{Z}.$$

$$H_1(X; \mathbb{Z}) \cong H_1(\tilde{C}(X; \mathbb{Z})) = \frac{\ker(\tilde{\partial}_1)}{\text{im}(\tilde{\partial}_2)} \cong \mathbb{Z}^3 / \text{im}(\tilde{\partial}_2)$$

$\tilde{\partial}_1$ is the zero-map because $\text{im}(\tilde{\partial}_1) = 0$

As always we find $\text{im}(\tilde{\partial}_2)$ by computing the image of the two generators of $\tilde{C}_2(X)$ ($\tilde{\partial}_2: \tilde{C}_2(X) \cong \mathbb{Z}^2 \rightarrow \tilde{C}_1(X) \cong \mathbb{Z}^3$).

Let e_1^2 and e_2^2 be the two generators of $\tilde{C}_2(X)$, then

$$\tilde{\partial}_2(e_1^2) = d_{11}e_1^1 + d_{12}e_2^1 + d_{13}e_3^1 \quad \text{and}$$

$$\tilde{\partial}_2(e_2^2) = d_{21}e_1^1 + d_{22}e_2^1 + d_{23}e_3^1$$

where

$$d_{1i} = \deg(h_1 \circ q_i \circ q \circ \chi_1|_{\partial D^2}) \quad \forall i=1,2,3 \quad \text{and}$$

$$d_{2i} = \deg(h_1 \circ q_i \circ q \circ \chi_2|_{\partial D^2}) \quad \forall i=1,2,3$$

First we study $\tilde{\partial}_2(e_1^2)$:

$$\partial D^2 \xrightarrow{\chi_1|_{\partial D^2}} X_1 \xrightarrow{q} X_1/X_0 \xrightarrow{q_i} D^1/\partial D^1 \xrightarrow{h_1} \partial D^2$$

$\chi_1|_{\partial D^2}$ is just $g|_{\{1,2,3\} \times \partial D^2}$, q is the identity since X_0 is just one point and h_1 is just the identity.

As for q_i , it is the projection

$$q_i: X_1/X_0 \cong \{1,2,3\} \times D^1 / \{1,2,3\} \times \partial D^1 \longrightarrow \{i\} \times D^1 / \{i\} \times \partial D^1$$

Thus if $i=1$, then

$$h_1 \circ q_1 \circ q \circ \chi_1|_{\partial D^2}: \text{circle} \xrightarrow{q \circ \chi_1|_{\partial D^2}} \text{figure 8} \xrightarrow{h_1 \circ q_1} \text{circle with two loops}$$

which is homotopic to the constant map, so $d_{11} = 0$

If $i=2$, then

$$h_1 \circ q_2 \circ q \circ \chi_1|_{\partial D^2}: \text{circle} \longrightarrow \text{circle with one loop}, \text{ hence } d_{12} = 0.$$

And if $i=3$, then

$$h_1 \circ q_3 \circ q \circ \chi_1|_{\partial D^2}: \bigcirc \longrightarrow \bigcirc$$

is the constant map, $\Rightarrow d_3 = 0$

$$\Rightarrow \tilde{\partial}_2(e_1^2) = 0.$$

Applying the same reasoning for $\tilde{\partial}_2(e_2^2)$, we have that

~~the map~~
$$h_1 \circ q_1 \circ q \circ \chi_2|_{\partial D^2}: \bigcirc \longrightarrow \bigcirc$$

is the constant map $\Rightarrow d_2 = 0$,

while

$$h_1 \circ q_2 \circ q \circ \chi_2|_{\partial D^2}: \bigcirc \longrightarrow \bigcirc$$

$$h_1 \circ q_3 \circ q \circ \chi_2|_{\partial D^2}: \bigcirc \longrightarrow \bigcirc$$

are both homotopic to the constant map, hence

$$d_{22} = 0 = d_{23}.$$

As a consequence $\text{im}(\tilde{\partial}_2) = 0$ and $H_1(X; \mathbb{Z}) \cong \mathbb{Z}^3$.

Finally $H_2(X; \mathbb{Z}) \cong H_2(\tilde{C}_2(X; \mathbb{Z})) = \frac{\ker(\tilde{\partial}_2)}{\text{im}(\tilde{\partial}_3)} = \ker(\tilde{\partial}_2) = \mathbb{Z}^2$

The Euler characteristic of X is:

$$\chi(X) = \dim H_0(X; \mathbb{Z}) - \dim H_1(X; \mathbb{Z}) + \dim H_2(X; \mathbb{Z}) = 0.$$